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MANAGEMENT PLAN
For
BLACKBERRY
(***Rubus fruticosus*** aggregate species)

BACKGROUND

Description: Blackberry is an erect shrub, growing in thickets, with numerous curved or straight prickles approximately 3mm to 12mm in length. Blackberry reproduces by seed, root suckering and 'tip rooting' or layering at the stem tips. Fruit is produced on second-year canes, and the seeds are mainly dispersed by birds and foxes. Blackberry can easily cover large areas with a dense canopy, and out-compete other vegetation.

Declaration: Blackberry is classified as a Class 4 noxious weed in the Tamworth Regional Council area.
Under the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* as amended:

- The control objective of Class 4 noxious weeds is that they must be managed in such a manner as to 'minimise the negative impact of the weed on the economy, community or the environment of New South Wales'.
- The growth and spread of the plant must be controlled according to the measures specified in a Management Plan published by Tamworth Regional Council.
- The plant may not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed.

CONTROL MEASURES

Tamworth Regional Council will control Blackberry, on lands for which it has the responsibility to control weeds under the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993*, using herbicides registered for this purpose.

Owners/Occupiers of land are required to actively control Blackberry. This means to prevent Blackberry from spreading and to reduce the numbers of infestations and their density. All or any of the following control methods must be used to achieve Blackberry control.

CONTROL METHODS

Chemical: Blackberry is to be treated with a registered herbicide developed for this purpose. The product is to be used according to the product label.
Mechanical: Blackberry is to be hoed, grubbed or ploughed to remove the crowns OR slashed OR otherwise cut.
Cultural: Blackberry is to be grazed with either sheep or goats to consistently defoliate the plants and to control emerging seedlings.