



Biosecurity Strategy (Weeds) 2026.

Uralla Shire Council

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Introduction

This plan focuses on how Uralla Shire Council will manage weeds and improve the region's biosecurity. It will outline the weed management priorities, which will help protect the regions environment, economy and the local community from adverse impacts from weeds. This plan is supported by the NSW Biosecurity Strategy, the NSW Invasive Species Plan 2023-2028, the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015, NSW Biosecurity Regulations 2017 and alongside other state and regional strategic weed management plans, it creates a clear framework that effectively weed management consistently in a constant manner.

Weeds are a massive threat and are causing significant damage to the Australia native environment. They do this by creating monocultures, out competing native species and transforming the landscape around them to better support their growth requirements. Weeds in agricultural areas can out completing crops and pasture species, taking up valuable land, degrading animal value and their products, resulting in lower economic returns. As part of the NSW Invasive species plan 2023-2028, it has been estimated that currently the cost of weed impacts and weed management to the NSW agriculture sector is around \$1.8 billion per annum.

To help mitigate this damage that is being done to our region it requires all people to come together and share the responsibility to control weeds. The vision of shared responsibly is: 'Government, industry and the people of NSW working together to protect the economy, environment and community from the negative impacts of animal and plant pests, diseases and weeds for the benefit of the people of NSW'. (NSW Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2021).

This plan priorities weeds under The Biosecurity Act 2015 section 15 that:

- out-compete other organisms for resources
- cause harm to other organisms through toxicity
- otherwise reduce the productivity of agricultural systems or the value of agricultural products
- damage infrastructure
- reduce the amenity or aesthetic value of premises
- harm or reduce biodiversity

To ensure responsibility is shared across government, community and industry, the plan applies equally to all people and all land in Uralla Shire Council area.

This plan provides the basis for the co-operative and co-ordinated approach to weed management as it outlines how government agencies, community groups and individual landholders will work together and share the responsibility to prevent, eradicate, contain and manage the impact of weeds.

The Goals

The four goals outlined in the NSW invasive Species Plan and adopted in this plan are:



GOAL 1:
EXCLUDE



GOAL 2:
**ERADICATE OR
CONTAIN**



GOAL 3:
**EFFECTIVELY
MANAGE**



GOAL 4:
**BUILD CAPACITY
AND CAPABILITY**

Goal 1: Exclude – prevent the establishment of new invasive species.

Goal 2: Eradicate or contain – eliminate or prevent the spread of new invasive species.

Goal 3: Effectively manage – reduce the impacts of widespread invasive species.

Goal 4: Capacity building – ensure NSW has the ability and commitment to manage invasive species.

Each of these goals have key strategies that help guide investment and resource allocation for the prevention and management activities of these invasive species in the Uralla Shire Council area.

NSW Biosecurity Act 2015

The NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 (the Act) is the key legislation directing weed management and the implementation of this plan. This Act is administered by NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and is delivered by the Local Control Authority, which is the Uralla Shire Council for the Uralla local government area.

The NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 provides a framework for the prevention, elimination and minimisation of biosecurity risks posed by:

- biosecurity matter such as weeds
- dealings with biosecurity matter such as weeds
- carriers of biosecurity matter.

It:

- promotes the principle of government, industry and the community sharing responsibility for biosecurity risks (including weeds)
- applies equally to all land in the state, regardless of tenure, and to all people
- is premised on the concept of risk, so that weed management investment and response is appropriate to the risk.

Local control authorities have weed control functions under s.371 of the Act, and must:

- prevent, eliminate, minimise and manage the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by weeds on their lands
- develop, implement, coordinate and review weed control programs
- inspect land in connection with their functions under the Act
- keep records about the exercise of their functions under the Act
- report to the Secretary about the exercise of their functions under the Act.

Local control authorities appoint authorised officers who can exercise the powers available under the Act. This enables the local control authority to deliver these functions.

Local control authority is the council of a local government area is the local control authority for land within that local government area unless the weed control functions for that area have been conferred on a county council or joint organisation (within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1993) under any other Act.

General biosecurity duty

In keeping with its premise that biosecurity is a shared community, industry and government responsibility, the Act introduces the legally enforceable concept of a general biosecurity duty.

Under the Act, all people who deal with plants through their commercial, professional, volunteer, recreational or lifestyle activities have a duty to be aware of the impacts the plants they deal with might cause, and must take action to remove or reduce the likelihood of those impacts occurring. (See section 22 of the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015).

All pest plants are regulated with a **general biosecurity duty** to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.

Section 22 of the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 states:

“Biosecurity duty—dealings with biosecurity matter and carriers

Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.”

Non-compliance with a general biosecurity duty may be an offence under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 and carries penalties.

Dealings.

The definition of “dealings” includes keep, have possession, care, custody or control of, produce, manufacture or supply, import, acquire, buy, sell, swap, dispose of, move, release, use, breed, propagate, grow, raise, feed or culture, experiment with, display, enter into an agreement or other arrangement which another person deals with, agree to deal with, cause or permit a dealing with or anything prescribed by the regulations as a dealing with, or engaging in a dealing with, biosecurity matter or a carrier. (See section 12 of the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015).

Authorised Officers

Authorised officers are appointed under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 by local control authorities. They carry out local control authority functions by exercising the powers and regulatory tools available to them under the Act and implement compliance programs.

There are a large range of different tool available that an authorised officers under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 and the NSW Biosecurity Regulation 2017 use to manage weed risk. These include:

- **Prohibited matter:** It is an offence to deal with any prohibited weed species listed in Schedule 2, Part 1 of the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015. People have a legally enforceable duty to prevent, eliminate, and minimise the biosecurity risk posed by prohibited matter. People must notify the local control authority about the presence of prohibited matter or suspected prohibited matter.

- **Control order:** Control orders establish control zones and related measures to prevent, eliminate, minimise or manage a biosecurity risk or impact. Species regulated under a control order must be immediately destroyed and the land kept free of that species. Control orders are used to manage weeds under approved eradication programs and last for a maximum duration of five years (or can be renewed for longer-term eradication programs).

- **Biosecurity zone:** Biosecurity zones specify the measures (eradication, destruction or suppression of spread) that must be taken in a defined area to manage the weed. Biosecurity zone regulation is used to manage weeds that pose a medium risk over an extended period where the focus is on eradication and containment and on minimising the risk of spread and impact in the affected area. It is used where different management actions are required in different parts of NSW or to protect a portion of the state from the introduction of a particular biosecurity risk.

- **Mandatory measures:** Mandatory measures require people to take specific actions with respect to certain weeds or carriers of weeds. It is prohibited to sell or import weeds listed in Schedule 3 of the NSW Biosecurity Regulation 2017. It is prohibited to import farm equipment from Queensland into NSW including grain harvesters, comb trailers, bins used for holding grain during harvest operations, augers, vehicles used for transporting grain harvesters, support vehicles for grain harvesters and mineral exploration drilling rigs and vehicles used to transport those rigs. It is prohibited to import into the state new species of vascular plants not currently present in the state.

- **General biosecurity duty:** Any person who deals with a plant that poses a risk of causing an adverse effect on the economy, the environment or the community and who knows, or ought to know about the risk the plant poses, has a legally enforceable duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise the risk of that impact occurring.

- **Biosecurity direction:** An authorised officer may issue a biosecurity direction that directs a person or class of persons to do or to cease doing something, if the officer reasonably believes it is necessary to prevent, eliminate or minimise a biosecurity risk or to prevent, manage or control a biosecurity impact. It is an offence not to comply with a biosecurity direction.

- **Biosecurity undertaking:** A biosecurity undertaking is a written undertaking by a person, that specifies the measures a person agrees to implement to remedy a contravention, likely contravention, or suspected contravention of the Act and a date by which those measures will be implemented by. It is an offence to contravene a biosecurity undertaking.

Biosecurity Risk

Weeds are regulated under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 according to the risk they pose to the environment, community and the economy. The higher level of risk and the feasibility of being controlled are called priority weeds and vary depending on where they are in the state. Weed risk is determined by a weed risk assessment that considers the invasiveness, impact and potential distribution of a weed.

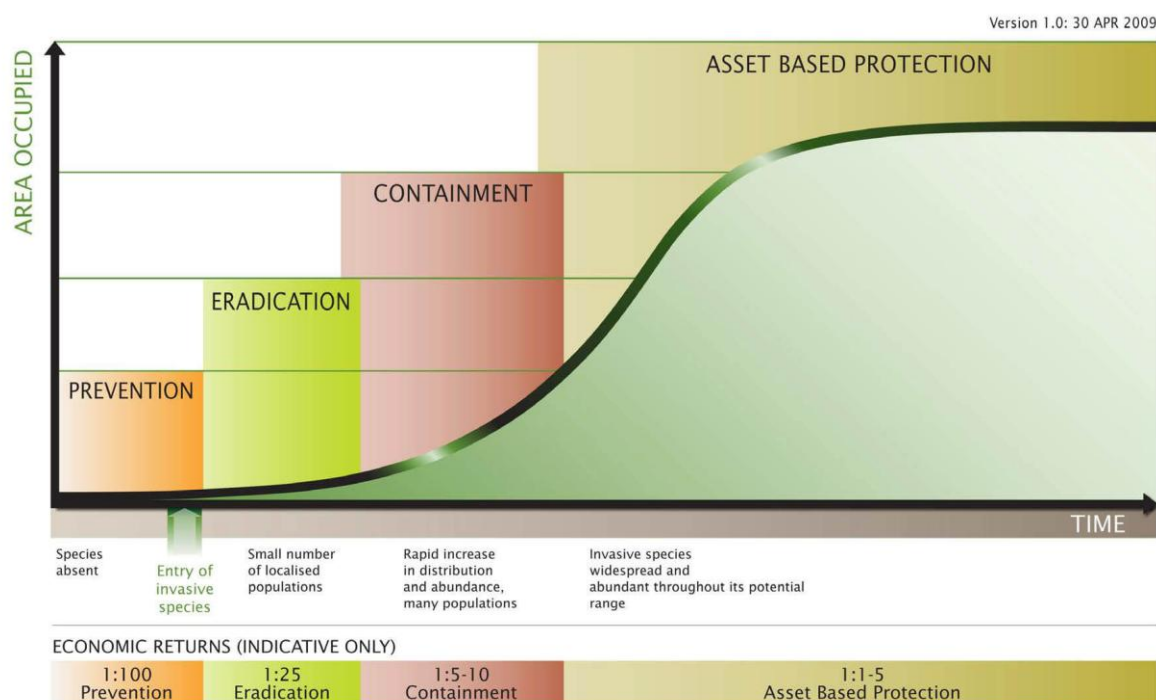
- Invasiveness: what is the weeds ability to establish, reproduce and spread?
- Impacts: what is the economic, environmental and social effects the weed would cause?
- Potential distribution: What is the total area the weed could spread to?

The feasibility of control is determined by the control cost, wiliness of coordinated control, persistence and the weeds current distribution. Once this has been completed the priority weeds are classed into for 4 categories. These four categories are Prevention, Eradication, Containment and Asset based protection.

Management actions, investment and compliance effort to control weeds will be directed towards where they are in each category of priority weed. This is determined by using risk-based decision making and weed prioritisation that will ensure that weed management response is reasonably practicable, matched to the degree of risk posed and is flexible and non-prescriptive.

This plan is guided by managing new weeds earlier while they are in low numbers so that it most efficient and cost-effective. This will ensure to protect local communities, our natural environment and vital industry from the long-term impacts of weeds.

GENERALISED INVASION CURVE SHOWING ACTIONS APPROPRIATE TO EACH STAGE



Inspections

Inspections are carried out across the Uralla Shire Council area, by authorised officers. Authorised officers are appointed under section 372 of the Biosecurity Act 2015 and have associated powers (see part 8, 9 and 10 of the Biosecurity Act 2015) to help fulfil their duty to help prevent, eliminate or minimise biosecurity risks across the Uralla Shire Council area. Inspection will be carried out via a number of different methods, utilising a range of different tools, depending on where the property is location, terrain of the property, time of year and weather conditions. Inspections are captured using an app-based system with an online portal, which is only accessible by authorised individuals. Inspection information is sent monthly directly to the Department of Primary Industry and Regional Development Biosecurity Information System (BIS). These BIS records contain 19 data fields that collect uniform data across all inspection in NSW. These fields are:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| - Local land Services Region | - Number of Plants |
| - Invasive Species Plan Goal | - Latitude |
| - Biosecurity Activity Type | - Longitude |
| - Land Tenure | - Density |
| - Date | - Area Infested (Hectares) |
| - Local Control Authority | - Biosecurity Advice |
| - Authorised Officer | - Biosecurity Direction Issued (Yes/No) |
| - Weeds Present (Yes/No) | - Biosecurity Undertaking (Yes/No) |
| - Weed Common Name | - General Comments |
| - Weed Botanical Name | |

Inspections are done on a risk-based priority order which is:

- All state incursion sites and traceback and forwards sites and pathways in accordance with state strategy or site management plans.
- Regional High Priority incursions in accordance with Regional Inspection Plan.
- All high-risk sites and high-risk pathways (in accordance with Northern Tablelands Regional Inspection Plan 2024-2027)
- Other regional priority sites
- Programmed and random inspections
- Infested land that could harm LCA credibility.

State priority weeds

State priority weeds are set by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and are outlined in the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 and NSW Biosecurity Regulations 2017, which provides the specific legal requirements. The species on the state priority weed list are rated to have a high to medium biosecurity risk to the entire state. The state priority weeds list is regulated as prohibited matter, or biosecurity zones, or control orders, or have mandatory measures that apply to each species. For each highly invasive weed species on this list below you will find the management propriety, and the specific requirements for its management (as stated in the Biosecurity Act 2015 and the Biosecurity Regulations 2017). For a detailed description of each species and the legal requirements, visit the Department of primary Industries website and see NSW WeedWise for more information.

State priority weed category – PREVENTION: The following weeds have not established self-sustaining populations in NSW and pose a significant biosecurity risk to the state. Prohibiting these weeds from the state to prevent the biosecurity risk posed is a reasonably practical objective.

Common name	Scientific name	Biosecurity Act requirements and strategic response in the region
All species of vascular plant Tracheophyta	Tracheophyta	Mandatory Measure (Division 8, Clause 34) Duty to notify on importation of plants into the state: 1. A person must not import into the State a species of vascular plant (Tracheophyta) if the species is not currently present in the State unless the person has, at least 20 working days before the plant is imported into the state, notified the species of plant and its proposed location within the State. 2. The notification is to be given to the Secretary and is to be given in accordance with Part 6. 3. A species of plant is taken not to be present in the state if the National Herbarium of New South Wales does not show it as being present in the state. Note: See http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au

State priority weed category – PREVENTION: The following weeds have not established self-sustaining populations in NSW and pose a significant biosecurity risk to the state. Prohibiting these weeds from the state to prevent the biosecurity risk posed is a reasonably practical objective.

Common name	Scientific name	Biosecurity Act requirements and strategic response in the region
Anchored water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia azurea</i>	Prohibited Matter (Part 4, Biosecurity Act, 2015) A person who deals with any biosecurity matter that is Prohibited Matter throughout the State is guilty of an offence. A person has a biosecurity duty to ensure that so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk posed by prohibited matter is prevented, eliminated or minimised. A person who becomes aware of, or suspects, that a prohibited matter event has occurred, is occurring or is about to occur has a biosecurity duty to immediately notify the local control authority about the prohibited matter event. Regional strategic response: • Implement quarantine and/or hygiene protocols. • Undertake high risk sites and pathways analysis to identify potential introduction areas and preventative options. • Trigger rapid response protocol. • Surveillance and mapping to locate all infested properties. • Monitor progress towards eradication for Meadow knapweed <i>Centaurea x moncktonii</i>.
Bridal veil creeper	<i>Asparagus declinatus</i>	
Broomrape	<i>Orobanche</i> spp. (all species except the native <i>O. cernua</i> var. <i>australiana</i> and <i>O. minor</i>)	
Eurasian water milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	
Frogbit / Spongeplant	<i>Limnobium</i> spp. (all species)	
Gamba grass	<i>Andropogon gayanus</i>	
Hawkweed	<i>Pilosella</i> spp (all species) in addition to <i>Hieracium</i> spp (all species except <i>Hieracium murorum</i>)	
Hydrocotyl/ Water pennywort	<i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>	
Karoo acacia	<i>Vachellia karroo</i> (syn. <i>Acacia karroo</i>)	
Kochia	<i>Bassia scoparia</i> (excluding subsp. <i>trichophylla</i>)	
Koster's curse	<i>Clidemia hirta</i>	
Lagarosiphon	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	
Meadow knapweed	<i>Centaurea x moncktonii</i>	
Mexican feather grass	<i>Nassella tenuissima</i> (syn. <i>Stipa tenuissima</i>)	
Miconia	<i>Miconia</i> spp. (all species)	
Mikania vine	<i>Mikania micrantha</i>	
Mimosa	<i>Mimosa pigra</i>	
Pond apple	<i>Annona glabra</i>	
Prickly acacia	<i>Vachellia nilotica</i> (syn. <i>Acacia nilotica</i>)	
Rubber vine	<i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i>	
Siam weed	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>	
Spotted knapweed	<i>Centaurea stoebe</i> subsp. <i>australis</i>	
Water caltrop	<i>Trapa</i> spp. (all species)	
Water soldier	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	
Witchweed	<i>Striga</i> spp. (except the native <i>S. parviflora</i>)	
Yellow burrhead	<i>Limnocharis flava</i>	

State priority weed category – PREVENTION: The following weeds have not established self-sustaining populations in NSW and pose a significant biosecurity risk to the state. Prohibiting these weeds from the state to prevent the biosecurity risk posed is a reasonably practical objective.

Common name	Scientific name	Biosecurity Act requirements and strategic response in the region
Parthenium weed	Parthenium hysterophorus	Prohibited Matter (Part 4, Biosecurity Act, 2015) A person who deals with any biosecurity matter that is Prohibited Matter throughout the state is guilty of an offence. A person has a biosecurity duty to ensure that so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk posed by prohibited matter is prevented, eliminated or minimised. A person who becomes aware of, or suspects, that a prohibited matter event has occurred, is occurring or is about to occur has a biosecurity duty to immediately notify the local control authority about the prohibited matter event. Mandatory Measure (Division 8, Clause 35, Biosecurity Regulation, 2017) - parthenium weed carriers – machinery and equipment - This clause applies to the following equipment: - grain harvesters (including the comb or front) - comb trailers (including the comb or front) - bins used for holding grain during harvest operations - augers or similar equipment used for moving grain - vehicles used for transporting grain harvesters - vehicles used as support vehicles with grain harvesters and that have been driven in paddocks during harvest operations - mineral exploration drilling rigs and vehicles used for transporting those rigs. - A person must not import into the State from Queensland any equipment to which this clause applies.

State priority weed category – ERADICATION: The following weeds are present in limited distribution and abundance and pose a medium to high biosecurity risk to NSW. The measures established under the control orders are necessary to prevent, eliminate, minimise or manage the biosecurity risk or biosecurity impact

Common name	Scientific name	Biosecurity Act requirements and strategic response in the region
Boneseed	Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera	The boneseed control zone is the whole of NSW The parkinsonia control zone is the whole of NSW The tropical soda apple control zone is the whole of NSW Control measure - owners and occupiers of land 1. The owner or occupier of land in the control zone on which there is a new infestation of boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple must notify the local control authority for that land as soon as practicable of the following information: (a) the person's full name and contact details, including a telephone number (b) the address of the land, including the lot and deposited plan number and the property identification code for the land (if these are known) (c) any other information that is requested by the local control authority. 2. The owner or occupier of the land must ensure that the land is kept free of boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple by immediately destroying all boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple on the land. This requirement applies to any new infestation as well as any subsequent generations of boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple on that land. 3. The owner or occupier does not need to comply with subclause (1) if they know that notification of the new infestation on the land has already been given to the local control authority of that land. Control measure – persons dealing with carriers: A person who deals with a carrier of boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the carrier is not moved from the land with any boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple on it, attached to it, or contained in it, before the carrier is moved from the land. Control measure – persons moving boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple and carriers of boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple (excluding a human): 1. A person who moves boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple or a carrier of boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple (excluding a human) to another property, must notify the local control authority for that other property as soon as practicable before moving the boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple of the following information: (a) the person's full name and contact details (b) the addresses of the land the boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple is coming from and going to, including the lot and deposited plan number and the property identification code for the land (if these are known). 2. A person who moves boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple or a carrier of boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple (excluding a human) does not need to comply with subclause (1) if they know that notification of the movement has already been given to the local control authority for that other property. Note. Examples of when boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple or a carrier of boneseed, parkinsonia or tropical soda apple (excluding a human) may need to be moved include, but are not limited to, the movement of vehicles, soil, or livestock as well as movement for disposal.
Parkinsonia	Parkinsonia aculeata	
Tropical soda apple	Solanum viarum	

State priority weed category – ERADICATION: The following weeds are present in limited distribution and abundance and pose a medium to high biosecurity risk to NSW. The measures established under the control orders are necessary to prevent, eliminate, minimise or manage the biosecurity risk or biosecurity impact.

Common name	Scientific name	Biosecurity Act requirements and strategic response in the region
Chinese violet	Asystasia gangetica subspecies. micrantha	Control order – (Chinese Violet Control Zone) 1. Control measures for owners and occupiers of land Pursuant to section 62(1)(b) of the Act, an owner or occupier of land in the Chinese Violet Control Zone on which there is Chinese violet must: (a) notify the local control authority for the area if the Chinese violet is part of a new infestation of Chinese violet on the land: - as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the new infestation - verbally or in writing - giving the following: - the person's full name and contact number - the location of the Chinese violet, including the property identification code for the land (if this is known) - any other information reasonably requested by the local control authority (b) Destroy all Chinese violet on the land, including fruit (c) ensure that subsequent generations of Chinese violet are destroyed (d) That the land is kept free of Chinese violet (e) The owner or occupier does not need to comply with (a) above if they know that notification of the infestation on the land has already been given to the local control authority for the area. 2. Control measures for persons dealing with carriers: Pursuant to section 62(1)(b) of the Act, a person who deals with a carrier of Chinese violet in the Chinese Violet Control Zone, in circumstances where the person knows or ought reasonably to know of the presence of Chinese violet on the land or in or on the carrier, must: (a) ensure that Chinese violet (including any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land (b) immediately notify the local control authority for the area: - as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the presence of Chinese violet - verbally or in writing - giving the following: - the person's full name and contact number - the location of the Chinese violet, including the property identification code for the land (if this is known) - any other information reasonably requested by the local control authority. (c) The person who deals with a carrier of Chinese violet does not need to comply with (b) above if they know that notification of the infestation on the land has already been given to the local control authority for the area.

State priority weed category – ERADICATION AND/OR CONTAINMENT: The following weeds pose a medium to high biosecurity risk to NSW and vary in distribution and abundance in different parts of the state. The principal object of a biosecurity zone regulation is to provide for the long-term management of a biosecurity risk or biosecurity impact.

Species	Land area where requirements apply	Biosecurity Act requirements and strategic response in the region
Alligator weed (<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>)	A biosecurity zone, to be known as the Alligator Weed Biosecurity Zone, is established for all land within the state except land in the following regions: a) Greater Sydney, b) Hunter (but only in respect of land in the local government area of City of Lake Macquarie, City of Maitland, City of Newcastle or Port Stephens).	Alligator Weed Biosecurity Zone (Biosecurity Regulation 2017 - Part 5, Division 2) An owner or occupier of land in the Alligator Weed Biosecurity Zone on which there is the weed <i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i> (alligator weed) must: (a) if the weed is part of a new infestation of the weed on the land, notify the local control authority for the land as soon as practicable in accordance with Part 6 (b) eradicate the weed or if that is not practicable destroy as much of the weed as is practicable and suppress the spread of any remaining weed. Mandatory Measure (Division 8, Clause 33, Biosecurity Regulation 2017) A person must not import into the state or sell. Regional Strategic Response: • develop a region-wide coordinated campaign for collaborative management • detailed surveillance and mapping to locate all infestations • high level analysis of pathways analysis to identify potential introduction areas and preventative options • implement quarantine and/or hygiene protocols • monitor progress towards eradication.
Bitou bush (<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> subsp. <i>rotundata</i>)	A biosecurity zone, to be known as the Bitou bush Biosecurity Zone, is established for all land within the state except land within 10 kilometres of the mean high-water mark of the Pacific Ocean between Cape Byron in the north and Point Perpendicular in the south.	Bitou Bush Biosecurity Zone (Biosecurity Regulation 2016 - Part 5, Division 3) An owner or occupier of land in the Bitou Bush Biosecurity Zone on which there is the weed <i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> subsp. <i>rotundata</i> (bitou bush) must: (a) if the weed is part of a new infestation of the weed on the land, notify the local control authority for the land as soon as practicable in accordance with Part 6 (b) eradicate the weed or if that is not practicable destroy as much of the weed as is practicable and suppress the spread of any remaining weed. Mandatory Measure (Division 8, Clause 33, Biosecurity Regulation 2017) A person must not import into the state or sell. Regional Strategic Response: Implement Bitou Bush State Strategic Plan.
Water hyacinth (<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>)	A biosecurity zone, to be known as the Water Hyacinth Biosecurity Zone, is established for all land within the State except land in the following regions: (a) Greater Sydney or North Coast (b) Northwest (but only land in those regions that is in the local government area of Moree plains) (c) Hunter (but only land in that region that is in the local government area of City of Cessnock, City of Lake Macquarie,	Water Hyacinth Biosecurity Zone (Biosecurity Regulation 2017 - Part 5, Division 4) An owner or occupier of land in the Water Hyacinth Biosecurity Zone on which there is the weed <i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> (water hyacinth) must: (a) if the weed is part of a new infestation of the weed on the land, notify the local control authority for the land as soon as practicable in accordance with Part 6 (b) eradicate the weed, or if that is not practicable destroy as much of the weed as is practicable and suppress the spread of any remaining weed. Mandatory Measure (Division 8, Clause 33, Biosecurity Regulation 2017):

	Mid-Coast, City of Maitland, City of Newcastle or Port Stephens) (d) Southeast (but only land in that region that is in the local government area of Eurobodalla, Kiama, City of Shellharbour, City of Shoalhaven or City of Wollongong).	A person must not import into the State or sell. Regional Strategic Response outside the biosecurity zone: • develop a region-wide coordinated campaign for collaborative management • identification of key sites/assets in the geographic area • species managed in accordance with published weed management plans.
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State priority weed category – CONTAINMENT AND/OR ASSET PROTECTION: These weeds are widely distributed in some areas of the state. As **Weeds of National Significance**, their further spread through trade should be minimised to protect priority assets.

Common name	Scientific name	Biosecurity Act requirements and strategic response in the region
African boxthorn	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	Mandatory Measure (Division 8, Clause 33, Biosecurity Regulation 2017): A person must not import into the State or sell.
Asparagus weeds	<i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i> , <i>A. africanus</i> , <i>A. asparagoides</i> including the Western Cape form*, <i>A. densiflorus</i> , <i>A. plumosus</i> , and <i>A. scandens</i>	
Athel pine	<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>	
Bellyache bush	<i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i>	
Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> spp. agg. (except the varieties Chester Thornless, Dirksen Thornless, Loch Ness, Silvan, Black Satin, Murrindindi, Smooth Stem, Thornfree and Chehalem)	
Brooms	<i>Genista monspessulana</i> , <i>G. linifolia</i> , <i>Cystisus scoparius</i>	
Cabomba	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	
Cat's claw creeper	<i>Dolichandra unguis-cati</i>	
Chilean needle grass	<i>Nassella neesiana</i>	
Fireweed	<i>Senecio madagascariensis</i>	
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	
Hymenachne	<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	
Lantana	<i>Lantana camara</i>	
Madeira vine	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	
Mesquite	<i>Prosopis</i> spp.	
Prickly pears	<i>Opuntia</i> spp. (excluding <i>O. ficus-indica</i>), <i>Cylindropuntia</i> spp. and <i>Austrocylindropuntia</i> spp.	
Sagittaria	<i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>	
Salvinia	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	
Serrated tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	
Silver-leaf nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	
Willows	<i>Salix</i> species except <i>S. babylonica</i> , <i>S. X calodendron</i> and <i>S. X reichardtiji</i> (willows except weeping willows, pussy willow and sterile pussy willow)	

Regional Priority Weed List

The regional priority weed list for Northern Tablelands LLS region, which includes the Uralla shire area. This priority weed list is created through extensive weed risk assessment that is carried out by Biosecurity officers across the region and taken to the Northern Tablelands Regional Weed Committee. This committee is comprised of Local control authorises, state government agencies and external stakeholders. This committee considered many candidates of introduced invasive plant species for inclusion within this plan. This priority weed list will ensure that the limited resources that are available are used to best effect at the regional level. The priority weed listing is based on an assessment not just of the weed risk, but the feasibility of coordinated control. There are a number of weeds assessed as having a high or very high weed risk but the feasibility of coordinated control in the region is considered negligible or low. As a result, these weeds have not been considered a priority in the Northern Tablelands. These weeds are still subject to the general biosecurity duty but are more likely to be controlled by land managers as a private benefit. This priority weed list will be reviewed and update in 2027, by the Northern Tablelands Regional Weed Committee.

Uralla Shire Council Priority Classification

Category	Objection
Prevention	These weeds are currently not in the region and all land managers should be actively trying to prevent these weeds species arriving and becoming established. These weeds pose significant biosecurity risk and prevention of the biosecurity risk posed by these weeds is a reasonably practical objection.
Eradication	Weeds are present in limited distribution and abundance in some parts of the region. These weeds should be permanently removed and its propagules from the region. Elimination of the biosecurity risk posed by these weeds is a reasonably practical objective.
Containment	To prevent the further spread of these species as they may be widely distributed in some parts of the region. While broad scale elimination is not practicable, minimisation of the biosecurity risk posed by these weeds is reasonably practicable. (When not located within a core infestation, plant should be eradicated).
Asset Protection	Widely distributed in some areas of the region. Their spread should be minimised to protect priority assets. These means preventing the spread of these weeds to key sites/assets of high environmental, social and economic value, or to reduce their impact on these sites if the weed species are already present.

Uralla Shire Council Priority Weeds

Prevention species:	
Plant common name	Plant Scientific Name
Hudson Pear	Cylindropuntia pallida
Kidney-leaf mud plantain	Heteranthera reniformis
Red cestrum	Cestrum elegans
Outcomes to demonstrate compliance with General Biosecurity Duty:	Strategic response in the Northern Tablelands region:
- Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. - Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. - Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. - A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. - Notify local control authority if found.	- Implement quarantine and/or hygiene protocols. - Undertake high risk sites and pathways analysis to identify potential introduction areas and preventative options. - Have a collaborative rapid response protocol in place.

Eradication Species:	
Plant common name	Plant Scientific Name
Gorse	Ulex europaeus
Yellow Water lily	Nymphaea mexicana
Montpellier/Cape broom	Genista monspessulana
Scotch/English broom	Cytisus scoparius subsp. scoparius
Sticky nightshade	Solanum sisymbriifolium
Water lettuce	Pistia stratiotes
Wheel Cactus	Opuntia robusta
Outcomes to demonstrate compliance with General Biosecurity Duty:	Strategic response in the Northern Tablelands region:
- Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. - Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. - Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. - A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. - Notify local control authority if found.	- Establish agreed quarantine and/or hygiene protocols. - Surveillance and mapping to locate all infested properties. - Monitor progress towards eradication. - High level analysis of pathways to identify potential introduction areas and preventative options.

Containment - Regional Recommended Measure:		
Plant Common Name	Plant Scientific Name	Requirements
Green cestrum	Cestrum parqui	No core infestation in Uralla Shire Council.
Harissa cactus	Harissa species (all species)	No core infestation in Uralla Shire Council.
Honey locust	Gleditsia triacanthos	Core infestation area comprising lands with the Uralla Shire Council riparian area of the Gwydir River.
Osage orange	Maclura Pomifera	No core infestation in Uralla Shire Council.
Serrated tussock	Nassella trichotoma	Core infestation area comprising lands with the Uralla Shire Council.
Silverleaf nightshade	Solanum elaeagnifolium	No core infestation in Uralla Shire Council.
Outcomes to demonstrate compliance with General Biosecurity Duty:		Strategic response in the Northern Tablelands region:
Whole of region: Land managers mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land.		Within exclusion zone: - Establish agreed quarantine and/or hygiene protocols. - Surveillance and mapping to locate all infested properties and - maintain currency of exclusion zone and objectives. - Monitor change in current distribution to ensure containment - of spread. - High level analysis of pathways to identify potential - introduction areas and preventative options
Within exclusion zone: - Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. - A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. - Notify local control authority if found.		
Within core infestation: - Land managers should mitigate spread of the plant from their land. - Land managers should reduce the impact of the plant on assets of high economic, environmental and/or social value. - A person should not buy, sell, move, carry or release the plant into the environment.		Within core infestation area: - Identification of key sites/ assets in the geographic area. - Identification of regional containment zones where required. - Develop region-wide coordinated campaigns for collaborative - management. - Species managed in accordance with published weed - management plan. - Core infestations should be contained and reduced in extent. - All outlier infestations should be continuously suppressed and - destroyed

Asset Protection - Regional Recommended Measure	
Plant Common Name	Plant Scientific Name
Blackberry	Rubus fruticosus spp. agg
Nodding thistle	Carduus nutans subsp. nutans
Sweet briar	Rosa rubiginosa
Yellow bells	Tecoma stans
Outcomes to demonstrate compliance with General Biosecurity Duty:	Strategic response in the Northern Tablelands region:
- Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. - Land managers should mitigate spread of the plant from their land. - A person should not buy, sell, move, carry or release the plant into the environment. - Land managers should reduce the impact of the plant on assets of high economic, environmental and/or social value.	- Identification of key sites/assets. - Species managed in accordance with published weed management plan. - Land managers should implement best practice measures that suppress spread.