



G W Y D I R
SHIRE COUNCIL

LATE ITEM

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Item 3 Additional Executive Services Monthly Report

FILE REFERENCE 21/16658

DELIVERY PROGRAM

GOAL: 5. Organisational Management

OUTCOME: 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

STRATEGY: 5.1.3 Administrative functions - GM - internal

AUTHOR General Manager

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

This report is for notation.

TABLED ITEMS Nil

COMMENT

GWYDIR LEARNING REGION

The Living Classroom

- Armidale Catholic Diocese teachers from across the New England / North West held a meeting at TLC.
- The National Parks and Wildlife Service held a meeting at TLC.
- The feed rations for the steers at The Red Shed Livestock Facility has been delivered and placed into the feed bins on site.
- Another batch of biochar was 'cooked' at TLC in the ground 'Contiki' oven. The biochar product will be for use in plant propagation and composting.



Mark Everett tending the Contiki Biochar Oven.

- Jared Harrison from Sydney University and Black Duck Foods visited TLC to talk about indigenous food projects in the region and in particular the role that TLC might play. He is looking to bring Undergraduate student groups to the region.
- Bingara Central School Culture Day saw 33 students and 6 teachers visit TLC. They took a stroll around the grounds and cooked some 'weeping grass' johnnie cakes flavoured with several bush foods and spices. The weeping grass flour was provided by Dr Angela Pattison from the I.A Watson Grain's Research Centre in Narrabri. Part of the new research being done there is to produce native grass flour and other 'bush tucker'. TLC is seeking to further explore options for this partnership which will include Black Duck Enterprises considering the expansion of indigenous foods.

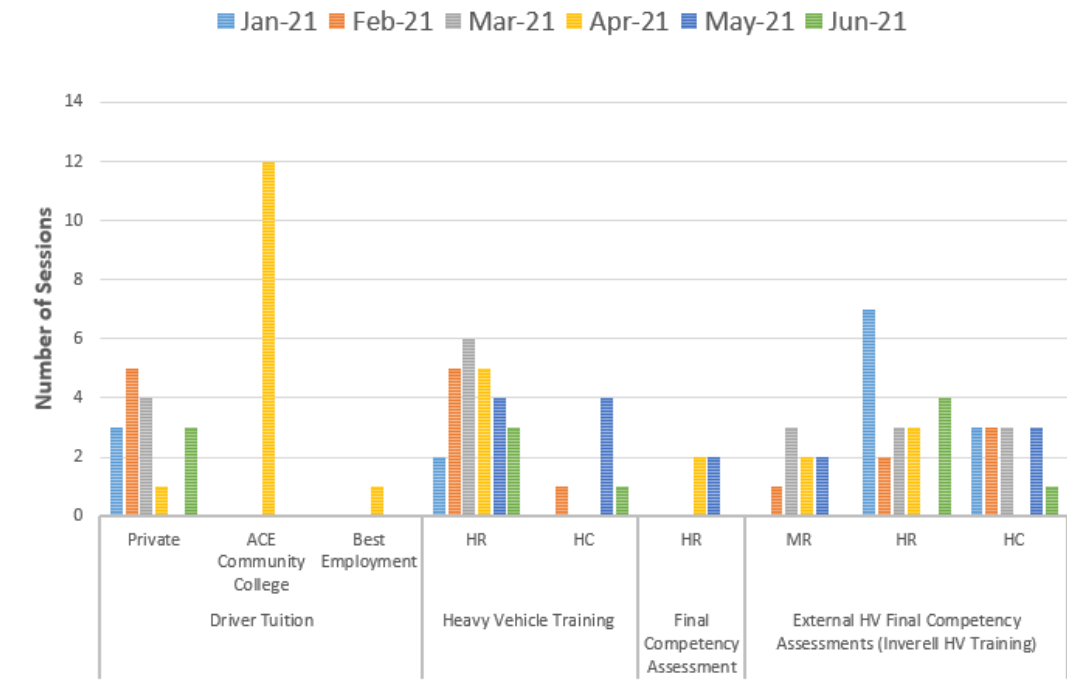


Weeping Grass Johnnie Cakes flavoured with bush foods and spices.

- Public Works Advisory and Regional Development - Team Leadership meeting was held at TLC over two days.
- Warialda Garden Club held a gathering and morning tea at The Red Shed and were given a conducted tour of TLC.
- Natural Resource Management Group – had a tour of TLC grounds.
- The North West Theatre Company conducted a play reading at TLC.
- The Orange Festival Student exchange was cancelled. However, the Deputy Mayor of Willoughby City Council and his family stayed at TLC Bunkhouse during the festival period.
- TLC had a plants stall at the Orange Festival of plants propagated in the Nursery.

GLR Automotive Trade Training Centre (ATTC)

**GLR TRAINING
LEARNER DRIVER &
HEAVY VEHICLE TRAINING & ASSESSMENT**

**Heavy Vehicle Training and Assessment**

Heavy Vehicle Training numbers throughout June have decreased due to Training Services NSW requirement to complete all smart and skilled funded training by 31st May 2021. The new activity schedule will commence in July 2021, this will enable submissions for funding to recommence.

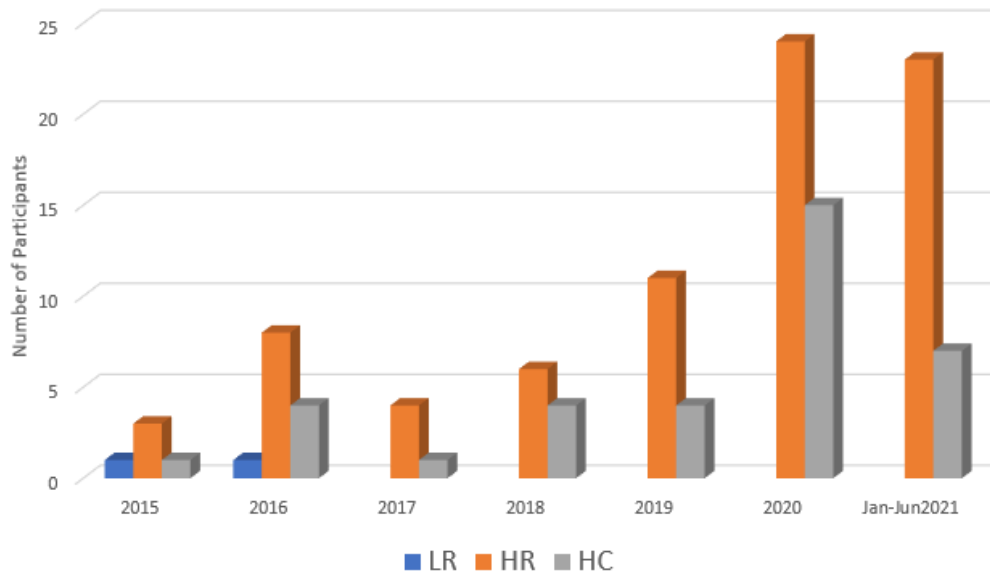
Throughout June four (4) clients have undertaken heavy vehicle training, three (3) clients have completed their HR (heavy rigid) training with one (1) completing their HC (heavy combination) licence.

One participant obtained full funding through Training Services NSW Smart and Skilled Program.

Council's assessors also completed five (5) Final Competency Assessments for Inverell Heavy Vehicle Training (IHVT) clients (4 x HR & 1 HC). In accordance with Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) and Transport for NSW regulations, where practical, final competency assessments are not carried out by the trainer.

This arrangement has been in place for some time and is mutually convenient for both Council and IHVT.

GLR TRAINING
HEAVY VEHICLE TRAINING



Learner Driver Tuition

As illustrated in the graph, three (3) learner driver sessions were provided throughout the month June 2021.

Staff Training in May

Training	Provider	Venue	Number of Participants
Authority Training and Skills Register Workshop	Civica	Online	2
First Aid	Community College – Northern Inland	Warialda	1
Licence to Operate Forklift (including White Card)	Community College – Northern Inland	Warialda	2

Traineeship Completion



Brodie McLachlan

Brodie McLachlan and Brandan Austin have recently completed their Plant Operator Traineeship and received their Certificate III in Local Government Operational Works. The theory component of their traineeships was provided by Australian Training and Consulting (ATAC).

Prior to his completion, Brodie was successful in obtaining a permanent position with Council as a Plant Operator.

NSW Training Awards – New England Region

Training Services NSW New England Region hosted another very successful annual training awards presentation on Friday 18th June 2021 at Tamworth Regional Entertainment Centre. The awards recognised outstanding achievement in the vocational education and training sector.

This year Gwydir Shire Council was fortunate to have two regional finalists, Ruby Mitchell and Anthony Francis.



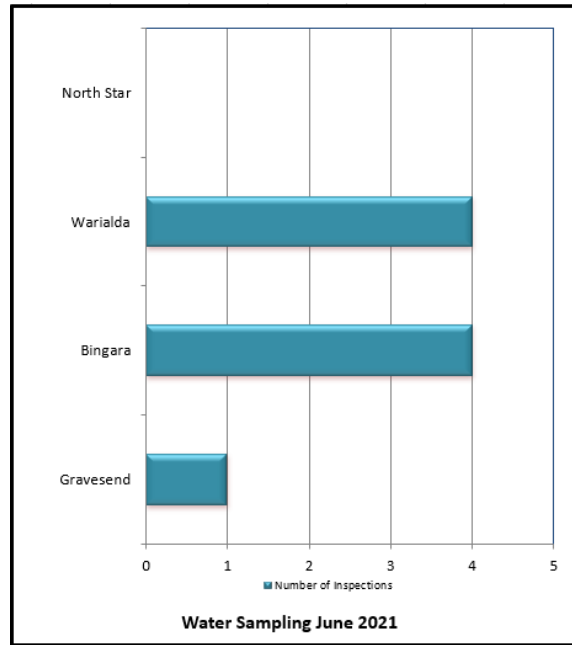
Environment & Sustainability Department

The Department continues to receive enquiries and provide advice on a range of health matters including

- Overgrown properties
- Food premises design and fit-out
- Food handling practices
- Mobile food vendors
- Licensing
- Water carting
- Pet Ownership

Water Surveillance

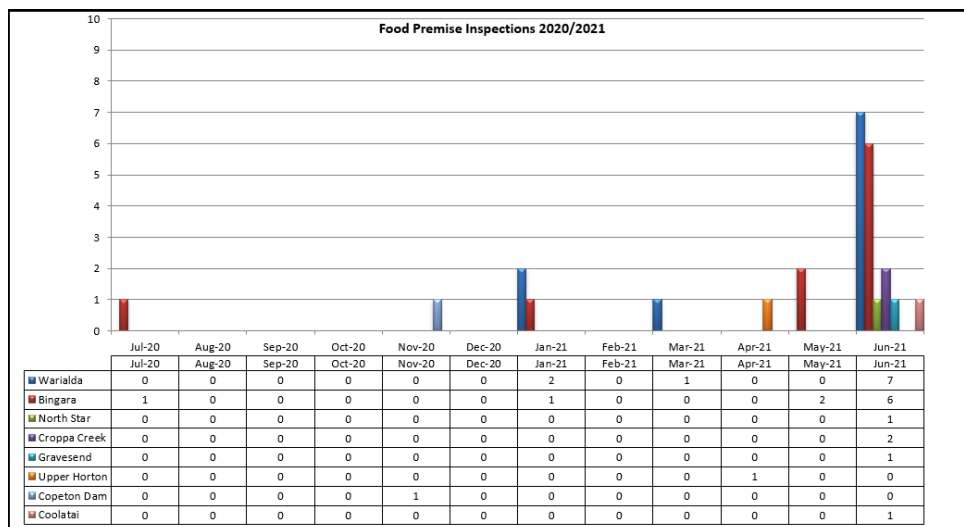
The Department continues to carry out routine weekly microbiological sampling of the water supply in the towns of Warialda and Bingara, fortnightly sampling of Gravesend and monthly sampling at North Star.



Food Premise Inspections/Re-inspections

Food Premise Inspections are carried out on an annual basis for each food business. There are approximately 35 registered food service businesses within the Council area including supermarkets, clubs/pubs, motels, bakeries, cafés and takeaway food shops, mobile food vendors and school canteens. Depending on the nature of the food being served some businesses are exempt from inspection unless a complaint or issue arises.

The graph below shows inspections that have been carried for the current financial year. Enquiries or complaints are actioned as necessary.



Warialda Off Leash Dog Park

After some delays in the delivery of materials and the wet weather, the Warialda Off Leash Dog Exercise Area is well underway. Regulatory staff, with some assistance from technical services staff, are fencing 275 lineal meters of Triangle Park. This will create a secure area for residents to take their dogs and let them run around. The area will also feature secure pedestrian entry spaces where leashes can be taken off and put back on without the pets running off.

The site will also include signage, seating, a human and dog watering station, exercise obstacles for the dogs and the landscape planting of native flora.



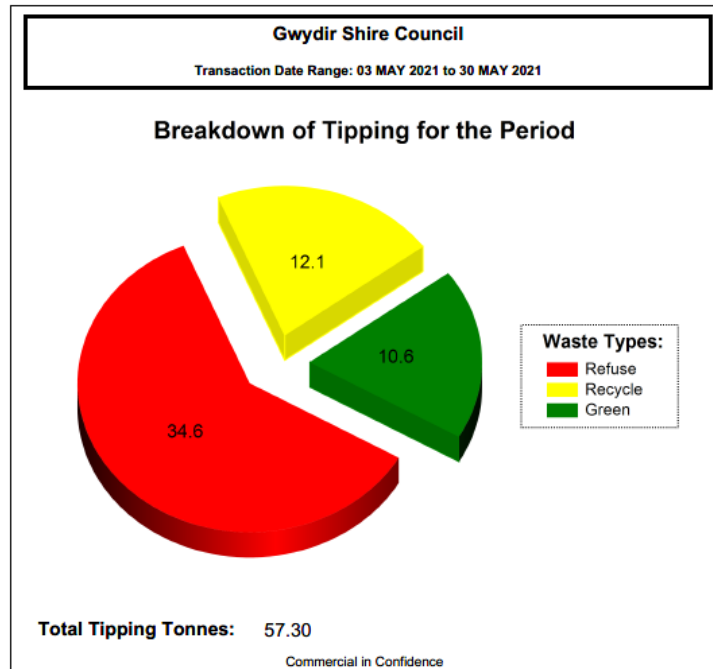
Warialda Off Leash Dog Exercise Area



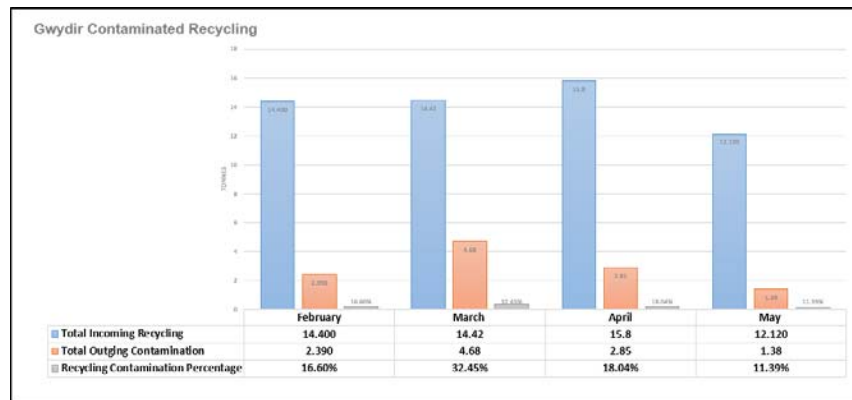
Warialda Off Leash Dog Exercise Area

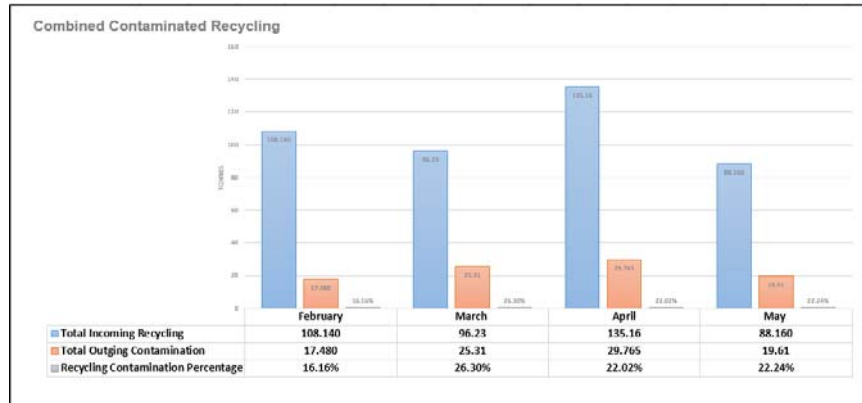
Waste Contract Services – May 2021

Scheduled curbside collection of waste, recycling and green waste was carried out throughout the Shire. Customer service requests are processed and actioned as necessary.

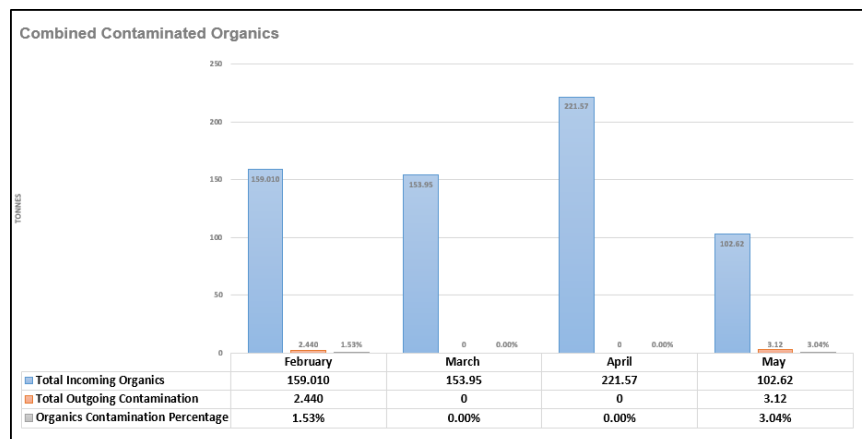
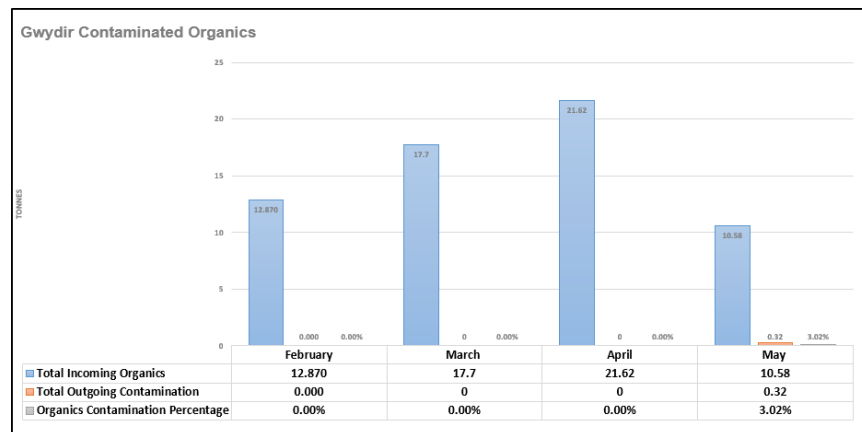


Recycling Contamination





Organics Contamination



Comment from Cleanaway for May 2021

“Gwydir Shire Council recycling contamination has dropped, in line with continued contamination audits. Narrabri Shire Council recycling contamination has also seen further reduction, continue with contamination audits to help further reduce. Moree Plains Shire Council has seen an

unexpected increase, the contamination trial has been carried out in May and we expected to see a reduction in contamination.

Cleanaway will Toolbox the contamination procedure with all operators in Moree, Narrabri & Gwydir Shires in June.

Organics in Narrabri remained consistent. Organics in Moree and Gwydir had an increase due to the sorting of the incoming green waste over the flood period being conducted and finalized”.

Priority Weed Control

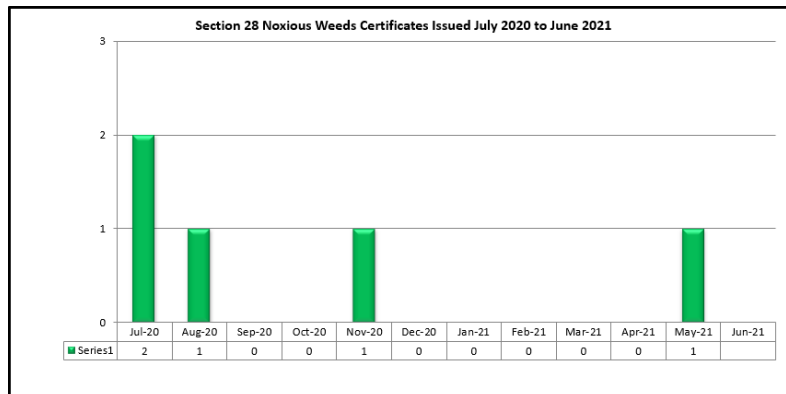
Property Inspection Program

Staff continue to assist farmers and the community with:

- Funding advice
- Noxious weeds advice
- Property inspections
- Spraying of noxious weeds
- Property inspections are currently being undertaken in Section D.

Section 28 Noxious Weeds Certificates

No Section 28 Certificates was issued for the month of June 2021. The graph below shows the Section 28 Certificates issued for the current financial year.



Weeds Inspections

Property inspections are being undertaken in Section E during 2021 with property owners being offered support and advice on managing weeds.

The following graphs and charts show the noxious weeds inspections carried out in 2020/2021.



Parthenium Weed – Rapid Response at Croppa Creek

NSW has been relatively Parthenium free since 1982. But there have now been 35 incursions of parthenium weed found in NSW, with one of those being identified at Croppa Creek during August 2020.

Since that time Council's Biosecurity Officers have participated in a rapid response program in association with the Department of Primary Industries, North West Local Land Services and neighbouring LGAs to get this outbreak under control and prevent it spreading further.

Ongoing inspections and re-inspection are carried out frequently and Council Officers have been in constant contact with landholders in the surrounding area to ensure that they are ever vigilant and encouraging them to check areas where hay, grain or seed has been fed to pets, livestock or chickens, inspect roadsides and areas with bare soil, where soil or compost has been delivered or any earthworks have taken place.

Parthenium Weed spreads rapidly and poses a danger to livestock and reduces crop values. Any contact with the plant may cause a serious allergic reaction in humans.



North West Regional Best Practice Guide: Parthenium Weed

Botanical Name: *Parthenium hysterophorus*
Common Name: Parthenium Weed
Priority Weeds Objective – Prevention (Whole of State): This weed is not currently found in some parts of the state, it poses significant biosecurity risks, and prevention of the biosecurity posed by this weed is a reasonably practical objective.

Parthenium Weed: Adversely affects human and animal health and can cause respiratory problems, severe dermatitis and meat can be tainted, if stock eat the plant within one month of slaughter. Landowners are advised to never touch the plant with bare hands and always use a dust mask if working near the weed for extended periods. Allergic reactions are not always experienced with the first contact with the plant but can develop after a number of exposures. Once a reaction to parthenium weed develops, some individuals may show similar reactions to related plants such as sunflowers. This reaction can be so severe that allergic people can be forced to move away from parthenium weed-infested areas.



Photo: Don Mackenzie

General Biosecurity Duty – Biosecurity Act 2015
 A general biosecurity duty applies to all dealings (as defined) with this species. Any person who deals with this species who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk posed by the plant, a carrier or a dealing, has a duty to ensure the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.

Regional Recommended Measure
Outcomes to demonstrate compliance with GBD
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.
Mandatory Measure (Division 8, Clause 35, Biosecurity Regulation, 2017)-
Parthenium weed carriers-machinery and equipment:
 (1) This clause applies to the following equipment:
 (a) Grain Harvesters (including the comb or front)
 (b) Comb Trailers (including the comb or front)
 (c) Bins used for holding grain during harvesting operations
 (d) Augers or similar equipment used for moving grain
 (e) Vehicles used for transporting grain harvesters

(f) Vehicles used as support vehicles with grain harvesters and that have been driven in paddocks during harvest operations
 (g) Mineral exploration drilling rigs and vehicles used for transporting those rigs
 (2) A person must not import into the State from Queensland any equipment to which this clause applies

Gwydir Shire Council Local Control Requirements
 1. The land is kept free of the plant, and
 2. Land managers will mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land.

Penalty for not complying with the general biosecurity duty or a direction issued under the Biosecurity Act 2015
 The maximum penalty is:
 • in the case of an individual—\$220,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of \$55,000 for each day the offence continues, or
 • in the case of a corporation—\$440,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of \$110,000 for each day the offence continues.
 The maximum penalty for an offence that is committed negligently is:
 • in the case of an individual—\$1,100,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of \$137,500 for each day the offence continues, or
 • in the case of a corporation—\$2,200,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of \$275,000 for each day the offence continues.

PARTHENIUM WEED CONTROL CALANDER											
JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
GROWTH CYCLES											
SEEDS GERMINATE						SEEDS GERMINATE					
FLOWER AND SEED SET						FLOWER AND SEED SET					
ACTIVE GROWTH						ACTIVE GROWTH					
INTERGRATED CONTROL TECHNIQUES AND ALTERNATIVES											
PHYSICALLY REMOVE PLANTS AND DESTROY BY BURNING ANYTIME THROUGHOUT THE YEAR											
HERBICIDE USE											
FOLLOW UP ANY REGROWTH AS IT APPEARS AND DESTROY BY PHYSICAL REMOVAL OR SPRAY WITH HERBICIDES											

Registered Herbicide Application Rates:
 2,4-D 300 g/L + Picloram 75 g/L (Tordon® 75-D) Rate: 125 mL per 100 L of water Comments: Spot spray, Rosette stage when plants are actively growing.
 2,4-D 300 g/L + Picloram 75 g/L (Tordon® 75-D) Rate: 3.0 L/ha. **Atrazine 900 g/kg** (Various products) Rate: 3.3 L/ha Comments: Protects against emerging seedlings.
Dicamba 500 g/L (Kamba® 500) Rate: 40 mL per 100 L of water Comments: Spot spray, **Dicamba 500 g/L** (Kamba® 500) Rate: 600 mL/ha Comments: Boom spray, Apply to young, actively growing plants. **Hexazinone 250 g/L** (Velpar® L) Rate: 70 mL per 100 L of water Comments: Apply uniformly over the area. When spraying single plants treat soil for 1 m around. Do not use near desirable trees. **Metsulfuron-methyl 300 g/kg + Aminopyralid 375 g/kg** (Singer™) Rate: 10 g per 100 L of water Comments: Hand gun application. **Metsulfuron-methyl 600 g/kg** (Brush-off®) Rate: 5 g per 100 L of water Comments: Thoroughly wet all foliage to the point of run-off.

Critical Comments:
 > Apply when plants are actively growing.
 > Consult your LCA Biosecurity Officer- Weeds for application tips.
 > Always read and follow the Label instructions and SDS of respective herbicides.
NOTE:
 (a) All Control Techniques involving herbicide use, must comply with the directions on the herbicide label or the conditions set out in a current permit to use a nominated herbicide.
 (b) All chemical control programs must be carried out in accordance with the *Pesticides Act 1999* and Pesticide Regulation 2017.
 (c) All Chemical application programs used must be undertaken by or be designed and supervised by an appropriately Certified and Accredited Chemical user.
 (d) Growth patterns and the changes to optimum treatment times will vary with seasonal conditions due to air temperature changes that may coincide with soil and moisture availability.
Disclaimer:
 This document has been prepared by the North West Regional Weed Committee and Local Government Control Authorities in good faith and on the basis of best available information. Users of this document must obtain their own advice and conduct their own investigations and assessments of their individual circumstances.

<p>Linkage to Plans/Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North West Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022 NSW Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2021 NSW Biosecurity Act 2015 NSW Invasive Species Plan 2018- 2021 <i>Pesticides Act 1999</i> and Pesticide Regulation 2017 <p>References</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSW DPI Website /WeedWise/ NSW Weed Control Handbook 2018 7th Edition 	<p>For Further Information Contact: Gwydir Shire Council 33 Maitland Street Bingara NSW 2404 PH: (02) 6724 2000</p>
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Document Last Updated: 04-07-2018

Parthenium Fact Sheet

Noxious Weeds Inspections for the Month of June 2021

<i>Areas Inspected</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Ha</i>	<i>Rd km</i>	<i>Weeds Present</i>
Private Property	8	3956.3	-	African Boxthorn, Harissa Cactus, Tree Pear
Private Property – High Risk	5	7444	-	Mother of Millions, Harissa Cactus, Tree Pear, African Boxthorn
Private Property – High Risk Re-inspection	3	2529	-	Parthenium Weed
Waterways – High Risk Pathways	2	80	16	Green Cestrum, African Boxthorn, Blackberry
Roadsides	7	572.15	114.4 3	Mother of Millions, Tiger Pear, Patersons Curse, Tree Pear, Common Pear, Blackberry, Sweet Briar, African Boxthorn
Roadsides – High Risk Pathways	18	1187.2	377.7 5	African Boxthorn, Mimosa Bush, Common Pear, Tree Pear, Patersons Curse, Mother of Millions, Harissa Cactus, Sweet Briar, Blackberry, Parthenium Weed
Council Lands	2	17.5	-	Patersons Curse, Mother of Millions, Blackberry, Common Pear
Crown Lands	1	4.5	-	African Boxthorn
NWLLS Reserves	1	16	-	Parthenium Weed, Mother of Millions, Blackberry, Common Pear
ARTC – Railway Land	2	28.6	-	Harissa Cactus, African Boxthorn, Mimosa Bush, Tree Pear

Noxious Weeds Control Works for June 2021

Road/Property	Weed Code	Area Ha	Road km	High Risk Road	Council Road	Other
Bingara Common Tip Area	African Boxthorn	5	-	-	-	1
Caroda Rd	African Boxthorn	184.5	36.9	-	1	-
Eulourie Rd	African Boxthorn	176.5	35.3	-	1	-
Moreena Mail Rd	Patersons Curse	59	11.8	-	1	-
Eulourie Rd	Patersons Curse	176.5	35.3	-	1	-
Bingara Landfill	General Weeds	5	-	-	-	1
Thornleigh Rd	Patersons Curse, Mother of Millions	86	17.2	-	1	-
Campbell Lane	Patersons Curse, Mother of Millions	21.6	4.32	-	1	-

The Environment and Sustainability Department report for June 2021 was compiled with information available at the time of preparing the report.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.