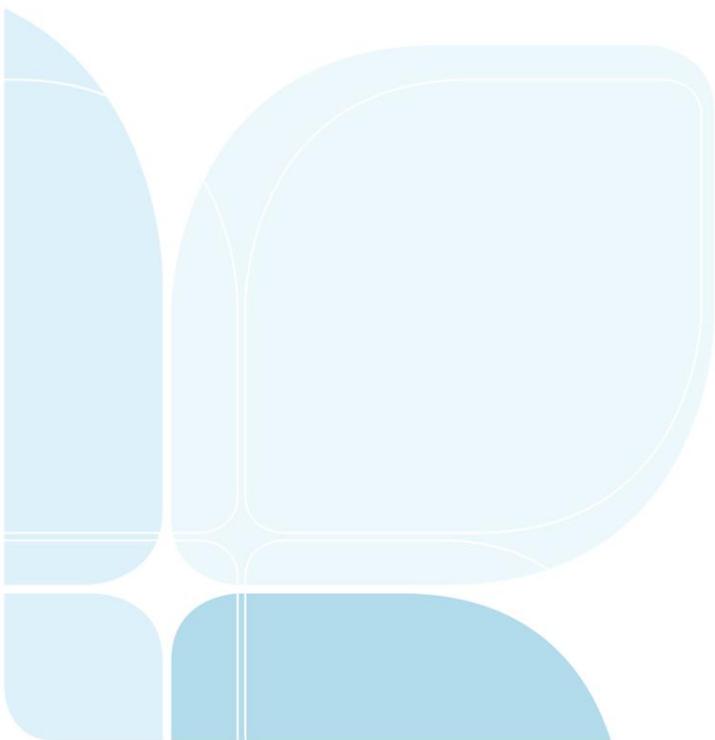




Local Land
Services

Western Weed Management Program

Guidelines and conditions for weed
management projects



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1. About the program

The Western Weed Management Program seeks to improve and sustain the condition of natural resources in the Western region by implementing control measures for weeds.

The Western Weed Management Program will also compliment the Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022. This plan identifies and categorises known weed risks in the Western region along with setting the following goals:

- Goal 1: Responsibility for weed biosecurity is shared by all people of the Western region
- Goal 2: Weed biosecurity supports profitable, productive and sustainable primary industries
- Goal 3: Weed biosecurity supports healthy, diverse and connected natural environments
- Goal 4: Weed biosecurity is supported by coordinated, collaborative and innovative leadership

The priority weed listing set out by the Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan will be used to guide investment priorities for this program. Please see Appendix B for the priority weed listing applicable to the Western region. For more information on the Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans please visit www.lls.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/weed-control.

Funds for this program have been provided under Catchment Action NSW (CANSW) and the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

Funding from the National Landcare Program has been provided to Western Local Land Services to address invasive species, specifically African Boxthorn, which threaten the condition of the Coolibah Black-Box Endangered Ecological Community. Western Local Land Services staff will confirm with you if your project is included in the Coolibah Black-Box priority area. Please note that all projects not included in this priority area are still eligible for the CANSW funding.

Please note; if you are considering using mechanical treatment methods (i.e; front-end loader/back hoe) to remove plants and there is a possibility of soil disturbance, it is our responsibility to ensure due diligence takes place with respect to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Values. Therefore, please indicate your intended treatment method in your Expression of Interest. If a cultural heritage assessment is required, it will be arranged by Western Local Land Services at no cost to the landholder.

2. What can I apply for?

As part of your application you need to provide a detailed budget table outlining the total cost of the project. Note also that the funding contribution may be negotiated for projects that identify a targeted weed species classified as "Prevent" under the Western Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan.

All the figures included in the budget must be GST exclusive and based on quotes.

- If you are budgeting for chemicals, you must source quotes for chemicals and attach them to your application. If your application is successful, there is no allowance for price increases.
- If a contractor of any form is to be used, contractor rates will be calculated at \$40.00/hr.
- A quote must be provided from a contractor with your budget.
- Labour (without machinery) will be calculated using the set hourly rate of \$40.00/hr OR
- All machinery rates will be \$40hr inclusive of labour.

Eligible activities and expenses

As projects are funded for the whole project, all costs associated with completing the intended project should be included in the application. These include:

Labour & Machinery	Includes landholders' own labour or employees, plant and equipment; however, all are costed at a static rate.
Contractor	Includes labour, plant or equipment but is limited to a static rate.
Chemical	If chemical is being used for weed control this must be included in the budget costings. Diesel mixed with chemical for application should also be budgeted.
Other	Costs associated with other products that align with a best practice, integrated control program.

Ineligible activities and expenses

The following activities and/or expenses are considered ineligible under the Western Weed Management Program:

- purchase of capital equipment, e.g a spray units
- the purchase of items that do not align with best practice management of the identified weed
- activities or items that pose a high risk or hazard to causing an injury, illness or disease or damage/loss to property, plant or equipment
- training or administrative costs, including but not limited to ChemCert accreditation courses
- projects that focus control works on Invasive Native Scrub. The control of native species is not a priority for this funding and is considered ineligible.

3. Applicant eligibility

The program is available to:

- Individual landholders or organisations operating at a property scale. Note that the applicant must be the landowner, or have written permission from the landowner to apply.
- Non-for profit groups applying to undertake works on public land (e.g.Crown Reserves, Commons).

All works must be carried out on properties located within the Western Local Land Services Region.

If unsure of your Local Land Services region, please refer to;

www.lls.nsw.gov.au/our-regions/whats-my-region or contact one of the Western Local Land Service staff listed in Section 11.

The program is not available to:

- Individual landholders or organisations with an outstanding monitoring activity with Western Local Land Services or the former Catchment Management Authority.
- Individual landholders or organisations with outstanding contracts with Western Local Land Services, including incomplete weed management contracts.
- Individual landholders or organisations with outstanding debt, including rates, owing to Local Land Services.
- Applicants applying for works proposed on land located outside the Western region.
- Group applications.

4. Conflict of interest

Local Land Services staff and board members are required to identify and declare conflicts of interest so that they can be managed in an open and transparent way. This policy extends to external parties or individuals who may be associated with Local Land Services staff or Local Land Services board members through immediate family relationships, close friendships or business relationships. All applicants will be required to complete a brief checklist in the application form which will identify any such conflicts. Should a conflict be identified, a conflict of interest declaration form will be provided to the applicant to complete.

5. Conditions of funding

If your application is successful, the following conditions of funding will apply:

- you must formally commit to undertaking your project by entering into a Funding Agreement with Western Local Land Services
- the term of the funding agreement will be for a period of five years
- Western Local Land Services will fund **80%** of the total cost of your project. The maximum amount of funding available per project is \$8000
- payment of 25 per cent will be made up front on acceptance of the funding agreement, the second payment of 25 per cent will be paid upon confirmation of 50 per cent of works completed and final payment of 50 per cent upon successful completion and a final inspection conducted by a Western Local Land Services staff member of the contracted works
- you must supply a correctly rendered tax invoice and statutory declaration (where required) for each payment when it becomes due.
- all contracted works must be completed by **7th May 2021**. Note that a inspection will be carried out by Western Local Land Services staff to verify the successful completion of the project
- variations to the funding agreement must be requested via email or in writing to the project manager and will be assessed on a case by case basis
- you must agree to allow Western Local Land Services to publish information about you and your project on our website, Facebook page and other communication channels and products as required
- you must provide invoices supporting the expenditure of outlined budget items, e.g. contractor costs, chemical purchase, etc.
- you must complete and submit a survey following the successful completion of contracted works, note that final payment will not be made until this requirement has been fulfilled
- projects funded through the National Landcare Program will require groundcover monitoring, Western Local Land Services staff will conduct monitoring required
- you must complete and submit a follow-up survey five years following the completion of contracted works.

It is recommended that you do not apply for funding if you're not able to meet these conditions

6. How to apply:

Interested landholders are required to complete the following application process:

1. To apply, you must complete the Western Weed Management Program **Expression of Interest** form, available from www.ils.nsw.gov.au/western or contact the Western Local Land Services staff listed in **Section 11** to request a form. **Expressions of Interest must be submitted by May 29th, 2020**
2. Following the closure of expressions of interest a Western Local Land Services staff member will be assigned to work with you on your project proposal. They will conduct a property visit, assisting you to prepare a management plan for your project and complete a project map. You will also be required to complete an application, applicant eligibility checklist, budget and risk assessment. **Application and supporting documents must be submitted by June 26th, 2020 via email to ruth.stevens@ils.nsw.gov.au or post to: Western Weed Management Program, PO Box 307 Cobar, NSW 2835**

7. Assessment and notification process

Following the submission of management plans, proposals will be assessed by a panel of industry experts, independent landholders and Western Local Land Services staff. The panel will assess each project against the following questions:

1. Does the project area overlap the Coolabah Black-Box Endangered Ecological Community?
2. To what extent has the applicant demonstrated an awareness of the properties current weed status?
3. To what extent has the applicant demonstrated an understanding of weed incursion risks?
4. To what extent has the applicant identified and implemented biosecurity practices for managing weed spread and incursion prevention?
5. To what extent do the proposed control methods align with known best practice treatment methods?
6. To what extent has the applicant demonstrated a strategic and cost-effective approach in terms of control and targeted area?
7. The targeted species is considered a priority in the Regional Weed Strategic Plan (scoring against the following: Prevent, Eradicate, Contain, Asset Protection, Unlisted non-native).

Applications will be scored and ranked accordingly. Funds will be allocated as per the ranking order of eligible projects until funds are exhausted.

You will receive notification from Western Local Land Services when your application has been assessed and to inform you about the outcome of your application and the next steps (if your application is successful).

8. Application feedback

If your application is not successful you can ask for feedback about why it was not supported. To receive feedback, please contact the Western Weed Management Program - Regional Coordinator: Brian Dohnt. Contact details are provided at **Section 11**.

9. How your information is used

The information you provide to Western Local Land Services in your application will be stored and used in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988. If you have concerns about the amount or type of information, we require in the application form, please contact the Regional Program Coordinator listed below in **Section 11**.

Projects with a Western Local Land Services financial contribution greater than \$150,000 are required to be listed on a public register. By signing the funding agreement, you provide consent for Western Local Land Services to publish the following information on the public register:

- the applicants name and location
- the amount of funding granted
- a brief description of the project.

Western Local Land Services will also use this information to communicate to the public about the program. This may include publishing communication articles on our website, Facebook page and other communication channels and products, as required.

10. How to submit your application

Email your **Expression of Interest** to: ruth.stevens@lls.nsw.gov.au. Alternatively, you can post your **Expression of Interest** to: Western Weed Management Program, PO Box 307 Cobar, NSW 2835

Expressions of interest must be submitted by May 29th 2020

11. More information: Project officers

For more information about the Western Weed Management Program or for advice on your project idea please contact:

Location	Staff Contact	Phone	Email	Address
Regional Program Coordinator (Cobar)	Brian Dohnt	(02) 6836 1575 0455 901 258	brian.dohnt@lls.nsw.gov.au	62 Marshall Street/ PO Box 307 Cobar NSW 2835
Buronga	Karin Sluiter	0447 325 418	karin.sluiter@lls.nsw.gov.au	32 Enterprise Way Buronga NSW
Hillston	Andrea Cashmere	0417 050 138	andrea.cashmere@lls.nsw.gov.au	180 High Street Hillston NSW
Broken Hill	Claudia Bryant	0448 796 109	claudia.bryant@lls.nsw.gov.au	Adelaide Road Broken Hill NSW
Bourke	Peter Irish	0438 103 489	peter.irish@lls.nsw.gov.au	21 Mitchell Street Bourke

Appendix A

Priority weeds for the Western region				
Species name	Control objective			
	Prevent	Eradicate	Contain	Asset protection
State determined priority weeds				
Lantana - <i>Lantana camara</i>				
Madeira vine - <i>Anredera cordifolia</i>				
Mesquite - <i>Prosopis spp.</i>				
Mexican feather grass - <i>Nassella tenuissima</i> (syn. <i>Stipa tenuissima</i>)				
Miconia - <i>Miconia spp.</i> (all species)				
Mikania vine - <i>Mikania micrantha</i>				
Mimosa - <i>Mimosa pigra</i>				
Opuntoid cacti - <i>Opuntia spp.</i> , <i>Cylindropuntia spp.</i> , <i>Austrocylindropuntia spp.</i> (Excludes <i>O. ficus-indica</i>) (opuntoid cacti)				
Parkinsonia - <i>Parkinsonia aculeate</i>				
Parthenium weed - <i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>				
Pond apple - <i>Annona glabra</i>				
Prickly acacia - <i>Vachellia nilotica</i> (syn. <i>Acacia nilotica</i>)				
Rubber vine - <i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i>				
Sagittaria - <i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>				
Salvinia - <i>Salvinia molesta</i>				
Serrated tussock - <i>Nassella trichotoma</i>				
Siam weed - <i>Chromolaena odorata</i>				
Silver-leaf nightshade - <i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>				
Spotted knapweed - <i>Centaurea stoebe subsp. micranthos</i>				
Tropical soda apple - <i>Solanum viarum</i>				
Vascular plant (all species) - <i>Tracheophyta spp.</i>				
Water caltrop - <i>Trapa spp.</i> (all species)				
Water hyacinth - <i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>				

Priority weeds for the Western region				
Species name	Control objective			
	Prevent	Eradicate	Contain	Asset protection
State determined priority seeds				
Water milfoil - <i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>				
Water soldier - <i>Stratiotes aloides</i>				
Witchweed - <i>Striga spp.</i> (except the native <i>S. parviflora</i>)				
Yellow burrhead - <i>Limnocharis flava</i>				
Region determined priority weeds				
African boxthorn - <i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>				
Bitou bush - <i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>				
Boxing glove/coral cactus - <i>Cylindropuntia fulgida</i>				
Bridal creeper – <i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>				
Burr ragweed - <i>Ambrosia confertiflora</i>				
Clock weed - <i>Oenothera curtiflora</i>				
Coolatai grass - <i>Hyparrhenia hirta</i>				
Devil's rope - <i>Cylindropuntia imbricata</i>				
Giant reed - <i>Arundo donax</i>				
Harrisia cactus - <i>Harrisia martinii</i>				
Hudson pear - <i>Cylindropuntia rosea</i>				
Mesquite - <i>Prosopis spp</i>				
Mother of millions - <i>Bryophyllum spp. and hybrids</i>				
Prickly pears - <i>Opuntia spp*</i> . *Including wheel cactus, prickly pear, velvet tree pear, tiger pear, Riverina pear, smooth tree pear) (Note: excludes Indian fig – see above)				
Sagittaria – <i>Sagittaria calycina</i> (Arrowhead), <i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i> (Sagittaria)				
Silver-leaf nightshade - <i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>				
Spiny burrgrass - <i>Cenchrus longispinus</i> , <i>Cenchrus spinifex</i> (syn. <i>C. incertus</i>)				
Water hyacinth - <i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>				
Willow rhus - <i>Searsia lancea</i>				

Appendix B

Sample Budget

Activity/Item/Product	Quantity	Cost per Item (GST excl.)	Total Cost (GST excl.)	Quotes Provided	LLS Contribution 80% of Total cost not greater than \$10,000
Labour	150hrs	\$40.00	\$6,000		\$4,800
Contractors	hrs	\$40.00	\$		
Tordon Granules	5 x 5kg	\$165	\$825	Yes	\$660
Total			\$6,825		\$5,460

The Western Weed Management Program is delivered by Western Local Land Services through funding provided by the Australian Government National Landcare Program and Catchment Action New South Wales.



Australian Government

**National
Landcare
Program**

