

North Coast WEED READ

No.19 WINTER 2009

Newsletter for the NSW North Coast Weeds Advisory Committee

We circulate each March, June, September and December. Please send information to the Secretary in the month before publication.

Now, what's going on in weeds....

COURSES, WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES

Practical Weed Identification and Control

Techniques. 29th July 2009. Kyogle Showground. 9am-noon. Morning tea supplied. Please RSVP to Northern Landcare Support Services Bob Jarman 0429 320 012 or Tara Patel 0428 270 123 by 27th July.

12th International River Symposium

21-24 September 2009. Brisbane. For the streams that are the source of rivers to the estuaries leading to the sea, the condition of each element is vital to the health of its river. The Symposium will be full of vibrant discussions and forums on activities affecting different areas of catchments. Themes will include: upstream effects on downstream communities (including a talk on willows), estuarine health, water quality, urban waters, effects of agriculture on water and community engagement (including river restoration). Early bird registrations still available. For further info including a draft program visit www.riversymposium.com

15th Biennial NSW Weeds Conference

15-17th September, 2009. The Crossing Theatre, Narrabri. This years theme is "The Old and the New: changes in weed management" and aims to provide attendees with a history of weed management (success, failure, change), current weed control activities, and a vision of the future for weed management as a result of changing technologies, demographics in rural and urban areas and improved transport as a result of trade globalisation. This event brings together weeds experts from government, business, academic and volunteer backgrounds and is a key focal point for the exchange of info and making new contacts. The program includes keynote speakers, trade displays, field trips and an outdoor expo. For further info visit www.weedsconference.com or ring Elissa James, Event & Tourism Officer, Narrabri Shire Council 6799 6760

Chemcert training

31 July & 7 August 2009. Grafton
7 & 14 August 2009. Lismore
4 & 11 September 2009. Coffs Harbour
9am-4.30pm. From 1 Sep 2003, training became compulsory under the Pesticides Act 1999 for commercial users of herbicides. Herbicides can be dangerous if incorrectly applied or managed. Training aims to minimize mistakes being made so that workers, their families, the community and the environment are protected. Refresher courses are required every five years. Contact 6621 9588 or email lismore@envite.org.au

2009 NSW Landcare Catchment Management Forum including NSW State Landcare Awards.

9-11th September 2009. The Glasshouse, Port Macquarie. The Forum, held every two years, is the premier event for Landcarers in NSW. The 2009 Forum will bring together around 400 natural resource managers, Landcare volunteers and landholders from across the state. The agenda will include presentations and debate on current issues such as landscape challenges, water and biodiversity. For further info on the Forum including accommodation, program and registration visit the Greater Port Macquarie Events website www.hastings.nsw.gov.au/www/html/2587-event-details.asp?intEventID=4655

Big Scrub Rainforest Day. 20th September 2009. Bangalow Showground, Bangalow. This day, one of the biggest Landcare community education and information events in Australia, aims to provide a forum for education on the Big Scrub Rainforest. The Big Scrub rainforest was Australia's largest continuous area of subtropical rainforest, covering 75,000 hectares prior to European settlement. Ninety nine percent of this has now been cleared. The focus of the day is on inspiring and motivating groups to become active in rainforest conservation and restoration. For further info contact Ken Dorey on bigscrub@ozemail.com.au or Tony Parkes on tony.parkes@westnet.com.au

Island Arks Symposium. 7-11th December 2009. Whitsunday Islands, Qld. This symposium will be Australia's first National conference on Island Ecosystem Management. Sustainable use of island ecosystems requires strong interdisciplinary knowledge bases including terrestrial and marine ecology, invasive species

All communications to the Secretary

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management, fire ecology, coastal engineering, waste management, communication and environmental economics. The symposium aims to bring together practitioners in these disciplines to identify, discuss and resolve management challenges; identifying pathways for long-term conservation of island ecosystems including sustainable use. Keynote speakers include Bob Pressey, Raymond Nias, John Woinarski, Graeme Wood and Andrew Burbidge. For further info visit www.islandarks.com.au

Whats New in Weeds.....

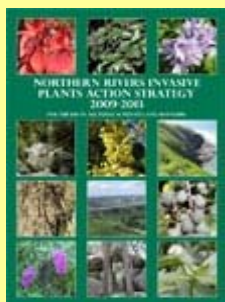
Northern Rivers Invasive Plants Action Strategy. This Strategy, written by Meri Oakwood after over a year of consultation with a wide range of stakeholders across the region, was funded by the NRCMA and published by the NCWAC in May 2009. The Strategy was officially launched on the 14th May by Judy Henderson NRCMA Board Chair.



Gordon Braithwaite (Chair NCWAC), Judy Henderson (Chair NRCMA) and Meri Oakwood

The aims of the Strategy are:

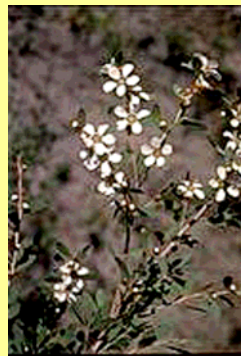
- 1) to provide strategic direction for the management of weeds in the NRCMA region (spreading over 18 Local Government Areas) by providing a comprehensive list of specific actions
- 2) to promote a coordinated approach to weed management across the region by providing a basic decision making system based on prioritisation of weed species and sites.



Copies can be obtained from Reece Luxton 6643 3820 or from the website: www.northcoastweeds.org.au

Coastal TeaTree listed as Feral Native Species

Coastal Teatree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*) has finally been listed as a Feral Native Species under Clause 17 of the *Native Vegetation Regulation 2005*. This species can only be removed on specified land as part of a vegetation management plan that must be endorsed in writing by the General Manager of the Northern Rivers CMA before onsite works commence. For further info please contact your local CMA office. Visit www.northern.cma.nsw.gov.au for contact details



This order applies to the Tweed, Byron, Ballina, Richmond Valley, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour and Bellingen shires and in the coastal zone.

MERV trial

EnvITE, Big Scrub Rainforest Centre and Byron Shire Council have developed a customised database for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Restoration of Vegetation (MERV). The package has been funded by the Natural Resources Advisory Council and has recently undergone a formal trial by NRM practitioners. MERV is free to download. Hopefully, MERV will improve monitoring, evaluation and reporting of NRM project outcomes. For further info visit <http://envite.org.au/MERV.html> or contact Paul O'Connor on 6621 9588 or by emailing paulo@envite.org.au

SOME UPCOMING FUNDING

Northern Rivers CMA Integrated Incentives Project Funding has been earmarked for an Integrated Incentives Project (IPP) in 2009-2010. This project will incorporate the development and implementation of natural resource plans (Property, River Reach, Biodiversity Management, Estuary or Coastline) at three scales - small, medium, large. This project will strive to fund integrated projects that produce outputs that achieve multiple Caring for Country, State and Catchment Action Plan targets. This project will be advertised on the NRCMA website and in the NRCMA Enews as soon as the investors confirm their agreement. Keep watching the website

NEW BOOKS, CD-ROMs etc HOT OFF THE PRESS!!!

Resource Kit for Rural Landholders (Northern Rivers version). This kit, written by Julie Mousley, was launched in June 2009. The aim is to provide information that will assist landholders, particularly those that are new to the North Coast region. The kit briefly describes natural resources (soils, water, native vegetation and pastures) of the area and major factors that impact them (climate, drought, flood, fire and weeds). These factors play major roles in determining the potential and limitations of rural land and how the land needs to be managed. Questions such as "Can I pump water from the river", "What's that weed in my paddock and do I need to control it" are addressed.



The kit also provides a comprehensive list of resources and contacts that help landholders to understand their land and which organisations that they need to deal with. The Resource kit is free and available from Clarence Landcare and all Northern Rivers CMA offices across the region. Please ring 6643 5009 or email landcare@ceinternet.com.au

The Biology of Australian Weeds Volume 3
Edited by Dane Panetta. This book includes reviews of 16 of Australia's worst weeds: Madeira vine, Bridal Creeper, Mother of Millions, Rubber Bush, Hairy Fleabane, Bellyache Bush, Creeping Lantana, Leucaena, Privet (narrow leaf & broad leaf), Japanese Honeysuckle, Cat's Claw Creeper, Sweet Pittosporum, Clumped Bindweed, Mesquite, Silver leaf Nightshade, and Chinese Apple. Available from the publishers RG and FJ Richardson at www.weedinfo.com.au or 03 5286 1533.

USEFUL RESOURCES

National Gorse Best Practice Manual

The second edition of this Manual is now available. If you would have gorse in your area and would like a copy please contact Michael Rowland, Weeds of National Significance National Coordinator (Gorse), DPIW Hobart. Phone (03) 6233 3197 or email Michael.Rowland@dpiw.tas.gov.au

Great house, poor food: effects of exotic leaf litter on shredder densities and caddisfly growth in six subtropical Australian streams.

Authors Judy Davies and Andrew Boulton. Published 2009 in the Journal of the North American Benthological Society. This study examined the effect of camphor laurels growing in riparian areas on aquatic invertebrates in the water below. In forested streams, leaf litter is a major source of food for stream fauna and is broken down by shredding invertebrates. Shredder densities were found to be lower in streams where camphor laurel constituted greater than 38% of the benthic leaf litter. Caddisfly larvae growth was found to be retarded by feeding them camphor laurel alone, compared to those reared on native leaf litter. Reduced shredder density has repercussions for energy transfer to higher trophic levels (e.g. predatory fish), negatively impacting the entire aquatic ecosystem. The paper recommends carefully managed river restoration, removing camphor laurels to allow recovery by native vegetation. For further info about this project email Judy Davies on jda33500@bigpond.net.au

Weed Spotters Qld website

This newly established website will have newsletters and up-to-date information on weeds, particularly new and emerging weeds. For example, the autumn newsletter features Mexican Feather Grass and Bog Moss, the latter being a new aquatic weed in northern Qld. There are also links to other resources to assist with weed identification.

www.epa.qld.gov.au/weedspotters

NSW DPI free weed resources

Most of the Agfacts/Primefacts, Agnotes, Weed Alerts and posters can be viewed from the web at www.dpi.nsw.gov/weeds. Printed copies can be ordered by ringing 1800 028 374 or emailing bookshop@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Safe Hands Tool Kit

This toolkit is a safety management system designed for community groups involved in practical conservation. The Manual includes Occupational Health and Safety Policy, Risk Assessment and how to induct volunteers. For further info ring 1800 032 501 or visit www.conservationvolunteers.com.au/assisting-projects/in-safe-hands-toolkit.htm

White Blackberry is on the move...

White Blackberry (*Rubus niveus*), an Asian Blackberry species, has recently been confirmed as being naturalised in the Coffs Harbour/ Bellingen area by members of the Ulitarra Society. Infestations have been detected at Karangi, Nana Glen and Bonville. This species is native to southern Asia being widely spread from Afghanistan to the Philippines. White Blackberry is a significant weed in sub-tropical and tropical climates in the Galapagos Islands and Hawaii, and the NSW Department of Primary Industries considers the species to be a high weed risk with a high feasibility for control at this early stage of invasion.

While this plant has occurred locally for as long as 10-15 years, these isolated plants are now starting to spread at some sites. "This shift from isolated plants to self-sustaining populations spreading from seed, within a well known weedy genus like *Rubus*, is of concern", said Craig Stehn from Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare.

Dr Dane Panetta, from Biosecurity Queensland, is an expert in invasion ecology and has researched the emergence and establishment of many weed species. "Many species that eventually become serious, widespread weeds may not be very abundant for quite some time. Early intervention is the most cost-effective way of dealing with these plants", Dr Panetta said.

There are many notable examples of these "sleeper" weeds amongst the *Weeds of National Significance* list. One example of such a weed is Rubber Vine; a plant that was first planted in the 1860s, was reported as naturalized in 1917, and now infests 700,000 ha. Another well known example is Mimosa. This species was planted in the Darwin Botanical Gardens in 1891 and was not considered a serious threat until 1952. These two weeds now cost over 27 million dollars in lost production and control per year.

White blackberry can be distinguished from other blackberry species by the white powdery coating that occurs on new canes, its' compound leaf with seven (sometimes nine) leaflets, and its' deep pink flowers.

If you have this blackberry on your property please contact Craig Stehn at Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare (CHRL) on 6651 1308, so that he can arrange for someone to confirm identification and undertake control for you. If you wish to remove this plant yourself please still contact Coffs Landcare to allow mapping of the distribution of this species.

Thanks to Craig Stehn

WEED ALERT

WHITE BLACKBERRY *Rubus niveus*



(Photo credit: Craig Stehn)

White Blackberry, also known as Mysore Raspberry or Ceylon Raspberry, is a shrub with waxy white stems covered in stout hooked prickles. Unlike most *Rubus* species whose leaves are palmate, the leaves of the White Blackberry are pinnate. Native raspberry and the rose-leaf bramble also have pinnate leaves.

White Blackberry has been observed flowering in July and November: it is currently unclear whether flowering time is highly variable or whether this species flowers twice/year. The flowers are small (10-15mm), dark pink and clustered. The fruit is a berry (8-12mm), purple/black when mature. Seed can be produced from the age of six months. Although most fruit falls to the ground directly beneath from plant, some berries are dispersed by birds. Seed can remain dormant in the soil for at least ten years, and although germination is stimulated by light and rain, the species also tolerates shade. White Blackberry also reproduces vegetatively by suckers.



(Photo credit: Forest and Kim Starr)

Please contact CHRL on 6651 1308 for details of control methods.

Tweed, Byron, Ballina, Lismore, Kyogle & Richmond Valley LGA (Far North Coast Weeds area) update

Class 1 Weeds

Miconia – draft proposal for surveillance program submitted to Tropical Weeds Management Group. Program commenced in June 2009 and will continue for five years after the discovery of the last mature (seed-bearing tree). A further site has been identified on the QLD side of the border.



Miconia (Photo credit: Des Boorman)

Hymenachne – a new site of infestation has been located in Tweed Shire. Information obtained on sites where landowners trialed ponded pasture grasses in the 1980s. Inspection program planned for properties in the vicinity of these trial sites. Control works completed on all known existing sites. Field days planned for May 28 (Lismore) and 11-13 June (Casino).

Water lettuce – New sites continue to be detected, warranting ongoing vigilance, rapid response and a strengthened awareness program. Landowner awareness and engagement is essential for effective control. FNCW is developing cooperative arrangements with landowners whose properties front common water bodies. Constant monitoring and follow-up is essential for effective control (four day return treatment program). Use of Immerse with kerosene proved highly effective.

Class 2 Weeds

Alligator Weed – A systematic detection and control program continues in Wilson/Byron Creek. Water-based surveillance and treatment is proving highly effective in managing high-risk sites close to the water. A systematic, property-by-property search of adjacent lands is also underway. The Rocky Mouth Creek infestation is contained and no new sites have been detected in the mid and lower Richmond this

year. A further surveillance exercise is planned for coming months. FNCW conducted a Field Day on May 26th at Woodburn.

Class 3 Weeds

Salvinia – This weed continues to be problematic in Tweed Shire. More effective water-based treatments have been trialed with good success.

Weed control staff have developed and implemented a GPS-based weed detection system for roadside infestations. A surveillance program (carried out on wet days) provides valuable information for planning and managing roadside weed control programs.

Class 4 Weeds

FNCW has recently adopted a new Weed Control Management Plan for Class 4 Weeds. This approach clarifies landowner responsibilities and obligations for weed control.

Bitou bush – NSW NPWS conducted an aerial control operation in the north of Byron Shire on 18 May in cooperation with FNCW and Byron Shire Council. This exercise targeted bitou bush in coastal dunes and adjacent parks.

Funding Submissions

NSW DPI - These have been prepared in line with the agreed contribution schedule from other NCWAC members. Priority weed funding has also been sought for Alligator Weed, Hymenachne and Water Lettuce.

Other funding – FNCW has received WoNS funding to run targeted field days for both Alligator Weed and Hymenachne. In addition, FNCW has also received funding through the NRCMA for Celtis control, targeting significant infestations on private property in Tweed, Lismore and Byron Shires. The funding is contingent upon a significant landowner contribution. Funding for Miconia detection is also being provided through the Tropical Weeds Management Group.

CMA6 Projects

Cat's Claw Creeper – A project to control Cat's Claw Creeper along riparian areas near Bentley has commenced. Land Management Agreements have been developed for landowners either side of the creek, covering approximately eight kilometres of the creek.

Mysore thorn – A separate project targeting control of Mysore Thorn near Dunoon has commenced.

Cooperation with constituent councils

FNCW is embarking on an information and awareness program to raise awareness of constituent councils on who we are and what we do. There is considerable scope for improving the efficiency of roadside weed control programs. The aim is to build more effective working relationships with our constituents.

Vehicle inspections

FNCW has recently conducted a vehicle inspection on request from a contractor involved in the Ballina Bypass. The vehicle was about to be moved to Yass and could not gain entry to the new site without a Vehicle Hygiene Certificate signed by an authorized weed inspector. A simple inspection checklist formed the basis of the inspection.

Clarence Shire Update

Noxious Weed Co-ordination and Inspection

- Over 500 new inspections were undertaken during this report period. Many properties contained lantana, however, the lesser incidences of Groundsel and similar class 3 weeds were pleasing to note. Most of these properties have since been re-inspected to ascertain that control measures have been swiftly carried out.
- Weed Warriors program at Woolli Public School involved students in the monitoring of *Tortrix* sp. eggs on bitou bush along the dunes in close proximity of their school yard. Follow-up on progress soon.
- Request that consideration be given for Easter senna *Senna pendula* to be made a declared noxious weed for the North Coast, after an increase in distribution identified in the Clarence region.

Operational

Council Road Reserves - General noxious weeds including Groundsel bush, Lantana, Privet and Camphor laurel, were controlled on numerous road reserves. Extreme rain periods hampered these programs at times, however, most roadways had some work undertaken along their lengths.

Bitou Bush - TAP projects at Woolli and Angourie were completed with strategic control of Bitou Bush completed and monitoring of impact on threatened species being undertaken. The annual Bitou Bush control program has just commenced - several crews are deployed in VCL and council reserves working from Iluka to Woolli.

Cat's Claw Creeper - A Cat's Claw Creeper trial site was established at the Whiteman Creek

reserve with the aim of being used as a field site for the NSW DPI workshop in mid May. Several control techniques were utilised, representing the various means for control for most terrains and application preferences.

Internal Council Projects - Earlier in this report period, general weed control on Council's Shannon Creek Dam and open-spaces urban areas continued to monopolise the Weed Department's time and resources. This problem has now been alleviated with the recent appointment of Terry Barnes as Weed Control Operator. Terry is responsible for general weed spraying in urban areas.

Bitou Bush – 10 days
Camphor laurel – 15 days
Giant Parramatta Grass/Giant Rat's Tail Grass – 8 days
Groundsel bush – 54 days
Lantana – 8 days
Privet – 5 days
Prickly pear – 2 days
Salvinia and Water Hyacinth – 5 days
Other Council Projects (various) – 20 days

Planned Works

- Bitou bush control on council reserves and VCL areas.
- Follow up treatment in coastal reserves – Glory Lily, Painted Spurge (within Bitou Bush area)

DECC - Clarence

On-ground works

- Mt Pikapene National Park - Lantana and Cat's Claw control
- Bundjalung National Park
Esk River area Groundsel bush control
Bitou Bush control Ten Mile beach
Woody Head rainforest weed control
Iluka peninsula Lantana control
Iluka Bluff Turkey Rhubarb and Kikuyu control
- Yuraygir National Park
Angourie Tea Tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*) control and revegetation
Sandon and Station Creek Groundsel Bush control
Sandon and Diggers Camp Glory Lily control
- Susan Island Nature Reserve
Rainforest weed control: Lantana, Moonflower, Balloon vine, Moth vine.

Planned works

Bitou Bush control throughout Yuraygir and Bundjalung, both ground and aerial works
Susan Island: further rainforest weed control
Bush Regeneration Bitou Bush TAP sites at Sandon and Diggers Camp, Yuraygir National

Park Bush Regeneration Lantana TAP sites at Bundjalung National Park (Iluka) and Yamba (Clarence Estuary Nature Reserve).

NSW DPI – Grafton Weeds Unit

Noxious weed grant applications are currently being assessed, with 40 new Group projects being received, along with the Continuing projects, WCC and State project applications. Recommendations for project funding will be presented to the next NWAC meeting in August.

A new Noxious Weeds grants process is currently being developed to be implemented in the 2010/11 financial year. Much of the detail of the new program will be presented at the September NSW Weeds Conference in Narrabri. NSW DPI will be rolling out a training and implementation program for the new grants process during the second half of the year.

The **Cat's Claw Creeper field day** held on the 14th of May at Grafton was a successful event with 75 people attending, from as far a field as Gloucester, Armidale and Kyogle. Thanks to the informative speakers and presenters and the sponsorship from the North Coast and Mid North Coast Weeds Advisory Committees, the Northern Rivers CMA and the DPI staff that assisted on the day.

Coffs Harbour Update

Inspectorial

The principal weeds targeted between January and March were Groundsel Bush, Chinese Celtis, Lantana and Broad Leaf Pepper Trees. Sixty-two Noxious Weed Notices were issued, including four entries.

Ongoing wet weather curtailed both inspectorial and operational progress and was favourable to the flowering of Groundsel Bush.

Council was recently successful with an application in conjunction with Far North Coast Weeds to subsidise the removal of Chinese Celtis Trees from private property. This complements a similar successful project conducted in 2002-03 which saw the removal of twenty-seven (27) trees in Coffs Harbour. Large seed trees are the main target for removal.



Celtis

Photo credit: Rod Ensbey

A restructure within Council has seen Barry Powell's position change to Strategic rather than Operational and resulted in his moving to the Marcia Street Depot.

Operational

Roadside Weeds – when possible, the roadside program continued, targeting Groundsel Bush, Lantana and Crofton Weed.

VCL and Council Reserves – cutting and painting of major tree weeds including Yellow Bells, Chinese Celtis and Camphor Laurel in the Coffs Harbour urban area and Broad Leaf Pepper Tree in Sawtell was the main focus.

Aquatics

Between January and March, aquatic weed control was postponed due to flooding. Once river systems returned to a normal flow, the current location of infestations could be determined and control could recommence.

Riparian vine weeds

On-ground works for CMA6 riparian vine weeds project commenced in May.

Future Activities

- CMA Celtis removal project to be completed by June
- Aerial and ground spraying of Bitou Bush
- Fireweed herbicide trials to be conducted in conjunction with NSW DPI with funds provided as a result of the Fireweed Scoping Study Report
- Further development of the Weed Alliance with Bellingen Council
- Japanese Sunflower to be controlled in the Korora / Sapphire area

Bellingen Shire Update

No report received.

Nambucca Shire Update

Noxious Weed Co-ordination and Inspection

Property inspections throughout January were conducted throughout various areas of the Nambucca Shire, with some Groundsel bush infestations located in the South Arm and Newee Creek areas. Subsequent inspections have revealed that all property owners with these infestations have initiated control programs to control this invasive Class 3 Noxious Weed species. Noogoora Burrs were also found to be established within some properties throughout the Shire, with one infestation in an old banana plantation being approximately two hectares in size.

Extreme rainfall events hampered some of the planned inspectorial activities during February and March. Record rainfall was experienced. This weather also hindered weed control activities on both private and public lands during this time. Some of the known infestations of Salvinia and Water Hyacinth were flushed out of their freshwater habitats into the main river system during flood events, which may provide an opportunity to initiate control programs, depending on accessibility to these areas.

One Paterson's Curse plant was located in a garden in the Talarm area, west of Macksville; the suspected vector was sheep manure from the landholder's relative's property.

Operational

Weather events between January and March severely hampered many of the planned weed control activities throughout the Shire. All known Groundsel Bush infestations on Council owned or managed lands were treated. Some control was also carried out on Lantana, Privets, Camphor Laurel and weedy grass species, during breaks in the inclement weather.

Planned works

Initiation of the Bitou Bush control program throughout the coastal reserve system and catching up on other weed control programs were deferred due to unfavourable weather conditions.

Completed works

- Roadside spraying to control Lantana, Crofton Weed, Camphor Laurel and other woody weeds in Chaelundi, Wild Cattle Ck, Nana Ck, Bagawa, Pine Ck & Tuckers Nob State Forests.
- Plantation trail slashing carried out in Pine Creek, Wedding Bells, Tuckers Nob, Tarkeeth, Conglomerate & Newry State Forests to knock down Crofton weed, Lantana, Camphor Laurel & other woody weeds.

Current works

- Work on Bell Miner Associated Dieback trials is continuing including increased ecological burning for lantana control. Investigating the relationship between forest dieback and lantana invasion of the understorey.

Planned works

- Follow up inspection of Mysore Thorn spraying in Pine Brush State Forest and Dalmorton State Forest planned for coming quarter
- Commitment to provide funding (approx. \$9000) for EnviTE to control Cat's Claw Creeper in Whiporie State Forest in the 2009/2010 financial year
- Roadside spraying to control woody weeds/Lantana along edges of Forest Roads in N. E. R region

The information contained in this Newsletter is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing / compiling (20 July 2009). However, because of advances in knowledge, readers are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer from the NCWAC or appropriate member organization or the user's independent adviser.

When using herbicides always read and follow the label and ensure that the herbicide is registered or there is an appropriate permit for the intended use.