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Defeating the Weed Menace Funding and Other National Issues

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www.weeds.org.au



Natural
Heritage
Trust

Helping Communities
Helping Australia

An Australian Government Initiative

Purpose

- To describe the Defeating the Weed Menace program including eligibility criteria
- Outline national initiatives and programmes for weeds



Defeating the Weed Menace Funding (DWM)

- Liberal Policy, \$40 million over 4 years (currently year 2)
- For nationally significant projects, separate from regions, targets WONS and Alert List, national issues and examples.
- National Weeds Advisory Group
 - Funding split, research, communications/capacity building and cross national & cross regional activity
- Current call closed, over 200 applications received
- Soon to be announced
- Future calls to be determined

DWM Criteria 1

- National Projects
 - Innovative weed management techniques, industry weed management best practice guides,

Or

 - The development of national management and control strategies



DWM Criteria 2

- Cross-Regional Projects
 - Strategic
 - Deal with priority weeds
 - Sustainable benefits across regions
 - Consistent with regional plans and investment strategies
 - Address causes rather than symptoms
 - Consider ongoing arrangements

DWM Criteria 3

- All projects should
 - Be consistent with the National Weeds Strategy
 - Be consistent with NRM plans and strategies
 - Provide long-term outcomes, high public benefit, solutions and/or resolution to the issue
 - Include future preventative measures
 - Place priority on addressing the cause of the problem

Other under used initiatives

- Landcare groups (“friends of”)
 - 70% grants to weeds nationally
- Envirofund up to \$50,000
- National Water Initiatives up to \$50,000
- See www.weeds.org.au



NRM a way forward

- Integrated land management one of the solutions
 - weeds follow disturbance
 - treat the cause, not the effect
- For some species a catchment approach is vital
- Sometimes retaining weedy species is better than the poorly executed alternative action
- Recognise the weed problem in land use planning
- Revegetation must consider the weed threat

National Biosecurity Framework

- National Biosecurity Strategy
- Threatened Species Review
- Invasive species framework
- Revision of the National Weeds Strategy by end of year
- National Vertebrate Pest Strategy in preparation
- Development of BIOSIRT, incident management software for incursions and routine work

Revision of the NWS

- Commenced in April 2005
- Issues workshops, Darwin and Melbourne
- Telephone consultation
- Web based issues paper
- AWC key stakeholders workshop Canberra
- Draft strategy mid May 2006
- NRMSC approval
- Public consultation approximately 2 months
- Redraft and finalise incorporating comments
- Final endorsement by NRMCC

BIOSIRT

BIOSIRT is the overarching IT business process that ties a number of applications together into a functional and effective response mechanism for a large range of routine and all emergency incidents.

Funding \$1.2m via Primary Industries Health Committee



BIOSIRT

BIOsecurity, Surveillance, Incident Response and Tracing

SQCR

Surveillance, Quarantine, Control and Recovery

CRIS

Client Resource Info System

RMP

Resource Management Package

External HR

Human Resources

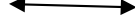
External LIMS

Laboratory Information Management System

External DMS

Document Management System

Integration



Data transfer



National Weeds Audit

- Conducted by NLWRA
- Funded by Audit, AG, states & territories
- Work plan developed
- Expected to cover up to 100 species
- Tenders called by Land & Water Australia
- State & territory consultation & workshops held
- Completed by end 2006

Other National programmes and initiatives

- Review of the Permitted List
- AWC cost sharing for incursions
- Consolidation of weed lists
 - Weeds of National Significance (national)
 - Environmental Weeds List (DEH)
 - Agricultural sleeper weeds (DAFF)
- National Weed Spread Project (Qld.)
- Various reviews

Please! become involved and promote your concerns, contribute to the development of the revised NWS and other national initiatives as they arise.



