



# High Risk Pathway Management Plan for Preventing Weed Spread in the Lachlan Region



### 1. What is a Pathway?

Weeds can be transported to new sites intentionally by humans, accidentally by humans and by natural means such as water, wind, and native animals. The routes that these methods of transport move along are called pathways of spread. Some pathways pose a higher risk than others, depending largely on natural events and changing trends.

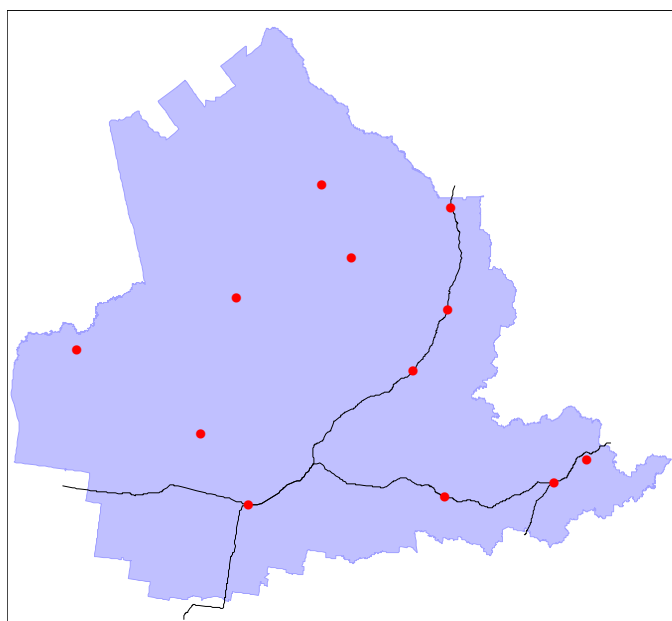
High risk pathways and sites of spread were identified under the Lachlan Regional Weed Management Project.

Pathways		Sites
Roads	State highways	Travelling Stock Reserves (TSR)
	State roads	Nurseries
	Regional roads	Landscape/gravel suppliers
	Local sealed roads	Lakes/reservoirs/dams
	Local unsealed roads	Wetland/marsh areas
Water Courses	Rivers	Bridge crossings
	Creeks	Boat ramps
	Irrigation channels	Public parks adjacent to water bodies/courses
Infrastructure Lines	Railway corridors	Pet shops, aquarium suppliers
	Telephone lines	Saleyards
	Gas lines	Airports
	Power lines	Other

The following pathways and sites have been identified as high risk by the weed officers that are responsible for inspecting more than 4,000,000 hectares of NSW.

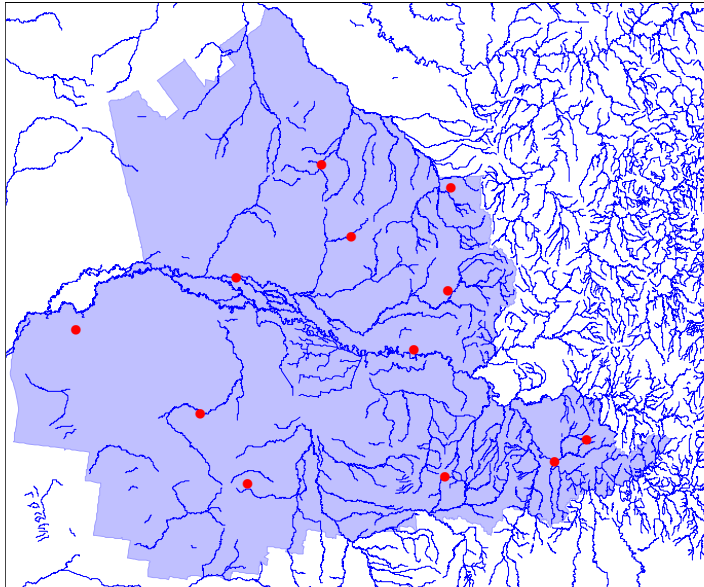
#### Roads

State highways (shown)	437 km
State roads	302 km
Regional roads	1,591 km
Local sealed roads	3,220 km
Local unsealed roads	8,643 km
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,194 km</b>



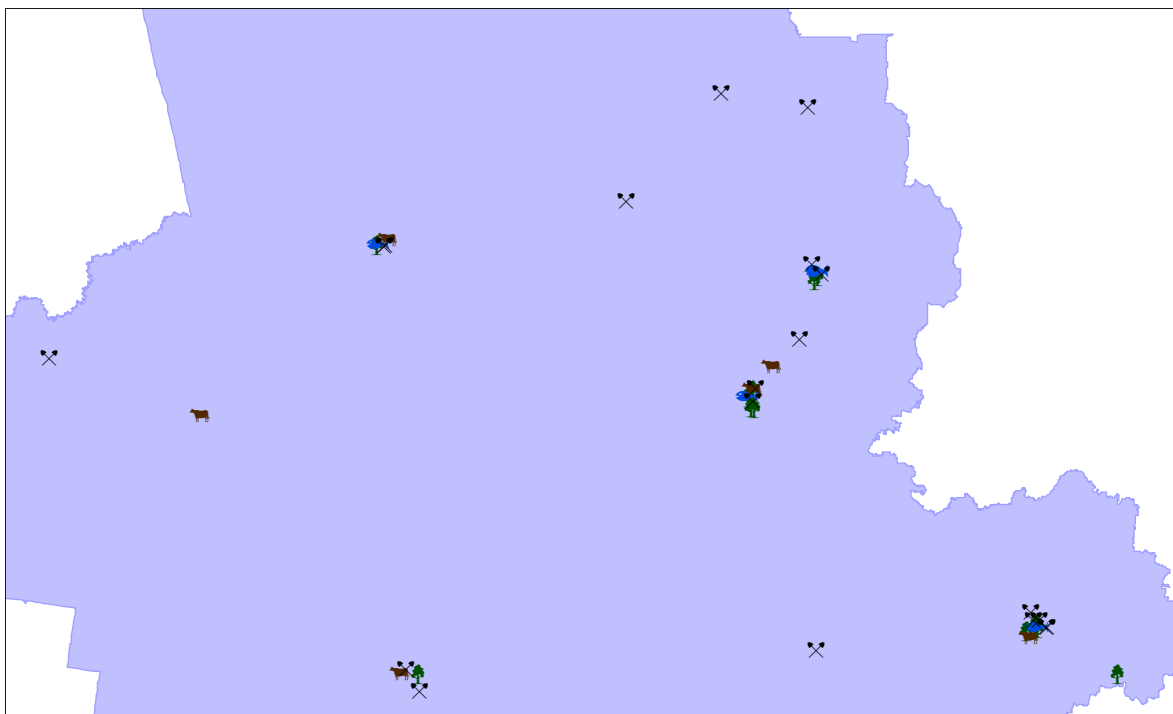
Water

Rivers / Creeks / Streams	7,602 km
Major Lakes / Dams / Reservoirs	13 sites
Wetlands / Marshes	6 sites
Boat ramps	9 sites
Bridge crossings	71 sites




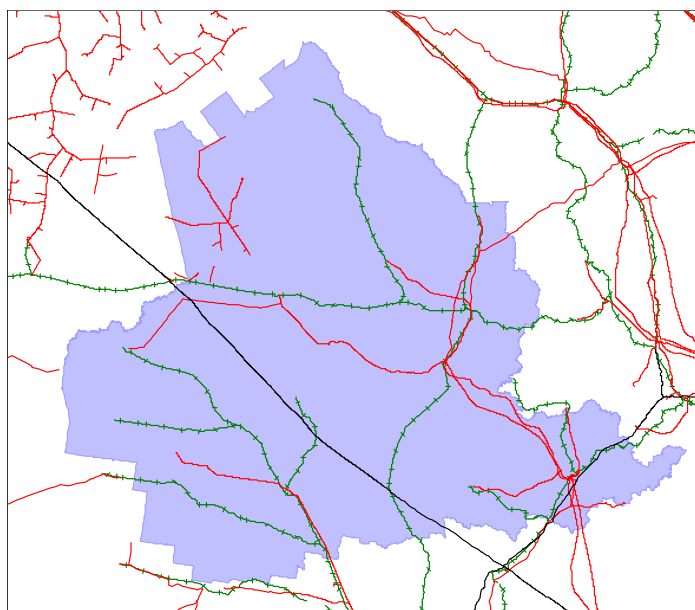
Commercial

Petshops / Aquarium suppliers	5 sites
Nurseries	13 sites
Gravel / Soil suppliers	31 sites
Saleyards	8 sites



**Infrastructure**

Railway corridors	1,001 km	
Gas pipelines	227 km	
Electricity transmission lines	5,864 km	

**2. Aim**

Prevent new weeds entering the Lachlan region, and prevent existing weeds from spreading within and out of the Lachlan region

**3. Management Levels**

Local Control Authorities (LCA's) were asked to rank each pathway and site according to their experience and personal opinion.

Rank 1	Historically no new incursions have been found along this pathway or at this site AND/OR In your opinion, potential for any new incursion to occur here in the future is relatively low.
Rank 2	Historically new incursions have rarely been found along this pathway or at this site AND/OR In your opinion, potential for any new incursion to occur here in the future is relatively low.
Rank 3	Historically new incursions have occasionally been found along this pathway or at this site AND/OR In your opinion, potential for any new incursion to occur here in the future is medium AND/OR In your opinion, potential for a new incursion of a high priority weed (such as Parthenium weed or aquatic weeds) to occur here in the future is relatively low.
Rank 4	Historically new incursions have occasionally been found along this pathway or at this site AND/OR In your opinion, potential for any new incursion to occur here in the future is high AND/OR In your opinion, potential for a new incursion of a high priority weed (such as Parthenium weed or aquatic weeds) to occur here in the future is medium.
Rank 5	Historically new incursions have frequently been found along this pathway or at this site AND/OR In your opinion, potential for a new incursion of a high priority weed (such as Parthenium weed or aquatic weeds) to occur here in the future is high.

The results of these surveys were analysed and categorised:

Priority	Pathway	Management level
Highest	State highways, state roads, rivers	Annual inspection program to cover at least 80% of total state highway and road sides, and 40% of total river banks
Medium	Regional roads, local roads, creeks, rail corridors	Annual inspection program to cover at least 60% of total regional and local roadsides, and 20% of total creeks and rail corridors
Lowest	Irrigation channels, telephone, power and gas lines	Annual inspections of these pathways is at the discretion of the LCA

Priority	Site	Management level
Highest	TSR's, nurseries, landscape/gravel suppliers, water bodies, boat ramps, saleyards	Annual inspection program to cover at least 90% of total number of sites
Medium	Wetlands, bridges, public parks adjacent to water bodies/courses, airports	Annual inspection program to cover at least 40% of total number of sites
Lowest	Pet shops and aquarium suppliers	Annual inspections of these sites is at the discretion of the LCA

#### 4. Private Property Inspections

Local Control Authorities have obligations to inspect private properties for noxious weeds. They are also required by NSW Primary Industries to report on those activities. Below is an example of the report they may provide, additional to the reporting requirements under the Weeds Action Program.

Private property inspections	Ground	Aerial	TOTAL
Rural			0
Rural reinspections			0
Rural/Residential			0
Rural/Residential reinspections			0
Urban			0
Urban reinspections			0
TOTAL inspections	0	0	0
TOTAL reinspections	0	0	0
Target inspections set out in submission:			
Target reinspections set out in submission:			

Target reached / ## remaining

Target reached / ## remaining

#### 5. Related Documents

- Lachlan Regional Weed Management Project
- Lachlan Regional Weed Strategy
- NSW Invasive Species Plan

## Appendix 1. Council Weeds Inspection Program Policy - template

### 1. Overview

This policy sets out Councils noxious weeds inspection program

### 2. Background

Council has demonstrated it's commitment to achieving inspectorial targets by becoming a participating partner of the Lachlan Regional Weed Management Project (LRWMP).

### 3. Policy

#### 3.1 Employment of inspectors

Council will employ at least **1 (one)** appropriately qualified weeds inspector at all times, or make every effort to ensure the position is filled as soon as possible after becoming vacant.

#### 3.2 Property inspections

Council weed inspector(s) will ensure every residential and rural property within the Council area is inspected for weeds at least **once** during a **3 (three)** year period.

The target number of inspections of properties, as well as businesses and Council managed lands, per year are set out in Council's submission to LRWMP under the Weeds Action Program (WAP). Council will make every effort to reach these targets each year.

#### 3.3 High risk sites & pathways of weed spread

Council will ensure inspections of high risk sites and pathways are carried out and the targets set out in the LRWMP submission are met. High risk sites and pathways include but are not limited to:

Pathways		Sites
Roads	State highways	Travelling Stock Reserves (TSR) Nurseries Landscape/gravel suppliers Lakes/reservoirs/dams Wetland/marsh areas
	State roads	
	Regional roads	
	Local sealed roads	
	Local unsealed roads	
Water Courses	Rivers	Bridge crossings Boat ramps Public parks adjacent to water bodies/courses
	Creeks	
	Irrigation channels	
Infrastructure Lines	Railway corridors	Pet shops, aquarium suppliers Saleyards Airports Other
	Telephone lines	
	Gas lines	
	Power lines	

### 4. Related Documents

- Lachlan Regional Weed Management Project submission
- Lachlan Regional Weed Strategy
- NSW Invasive Species Plan