



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY



ACT NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL



ACT Weeds Forum – Turning back the tide

Friday March 9, 2012

9:00am – 3:30pm

The Bradman Room, Manuka Oval, Manuka Circle, Griffith ACT

Weeds are one of the most intractable and challenging biosecurity issues affecting the ACT. Our rural lands, conservation areas, roadsides, urban areas, and river corridors are increasingly affected by weeds, and in some cases, choked by monocultures of particular weed species. Despite the recent efforts of the ACT Government, land managers and volunteer communities, we do not seem to be stemming this tide and climate change is only likely to exacerbate the problem.

Is it time for some fresh thinking around weed control? If so, what might we do that is more innovative, cost effective and sustainable? How do we bring all stakeholders and the broader community along with us on this journey? The ACT Natural Resource Management Council is convening this forum to begin to answer these questions and to look at what can be done to have a more enduring impact on weeds in the Territory.

The workshop has two specific goals: firstly, to draw on and distil the expertise, experience and practical insights of leading scientists, land managers, weed policy specialists, rural landholders, parkcarers and landcarers; and secondly, to explore and flesh out some well targeted, innovative actions to further help reduce the prevalence and spread of existing weeds and the incursion of new weed species in the ACT as the climate changes. The ACT Weeds Forum is supported by the Australian Government's Caring for our Country program and the ACT Government.

To RSVP for the Forum please phone: Anna van Dugteren: 62052914 or email: anna.vandugteren@act.gov.au

Timing	Topic	Speaker
8:45-9:00am	<i>Registration and coffee</i>	
<i>Key-note speakers – setting the scene – challenging the norm</i>		
9:00 – 9:20am	Welcome/Introduction/Purpose of Workshop	Dr Sarah Ryan, Chair of the ACT Natural Resources Management Council
9:20 – 9:45am	Weeds, biodiversity and climate change – current and future challenges for the ACT	Dr Paul Downey, Faculty of Applied Science University of Canberra
9:45 – 10:10am	Challenging the paradigms for weed management	Dr Ken Hodgkinson, CSIRO

Timing	Topic	Speaker
10:10 – 10:35am	Who's involved with weeds? A social network analysis of the Australian weeds governance network	Dr Lyndal-Joy Thompson Scientist, Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences
10:35 – 10:45am Morning Tea		
10:45 – 11:00am	Q&A with Key-note speakers	Dr Paul Downey Dr Ken Hodgkinson Dr Lyndal-Joy Thompson
Weed control in the ACT and beyond – current practicalities – future possibilities		
11:00 – 11:05am	Operationalising the ACT Weeds Strategy 2009-2019 – gaps and opportunities	Kathryn Tracy, Senior Manager, Natural Environment, ACT Environment and Sustainable Development (ESDD)
11:05 – 11:25am	Weed control in the ACT's non-urban areas – priorities, challenges, opportunities and community expectations	Steve Taylor, Senior Weed Management Officer, ACT Parks and Conservation, Territory and Municipal Services Directorate (TAMSD)
11:25 – 11:40am	Weed control, mowing in the ACT's urban areas – priorities, challenges, opportunities and community expectations	Jane Carder, Manager, Place Management, Parks and City Services Division, Territory and Municipal Services (TAMSD)
11:40 – 11:55am	Establishing weed management priorities for biodiversity conservation at the NRM level: insights from NSW CMAs	Dr Paul Downey, University of Canberra (UC)
11:55 – 12:10pm	Weed control in the ACT – Parkcarer perspective	Vaughn Cox, Friends of the Pinnacle Nature Reserve (FOTPIN)
12:10 – 12:25pm	Weed control in the ACT – Rural Landholder perspective	Michael Shanahan, ACT Rural Landholders Association (RLA)
12:25 – 12:35pm	Update on Candidate Weeds of National Significance Species	Bronwen Wicks, National Serrated Tussock Coordinator, Department of Primary Industries
12:35 – 12:45pm	Q & A with speakers from this session	Kathryn Tracy, ESDD Steve Taylor, TAMSD Jane Carder, TAMSD Dr Paul Downey, UC Vaughn Cox, FOTPIN Michael Shanahan, RLA Bronwen Wicks, NSW DPI
1:00 pm - 1:45pm Lunch		
Preparing for the future, now		
1:45 – 2:15pm	Review of the morning/Brainstorming - Facilitated discussion	
2:15 – 3:00pm	Workshopping Session – Participants will break up into workshop groups and address the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the critical actions we can take to reduce the quantum of weeds in the ACT? What will make a difference? 	
3:00 - 3:30pm	Report Back and Prioritisation of key actions Workshop Close	