

## Policy 3.04 Biosecurity and Weed Management

<b>Directorate</b>	Community Environment and Planning
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Director Community, Environment and Planning

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### Record of Administrative Amendments

Amendment Version No.:	Description of Administrative Amendment	Date Reviewed
<u>1.2</u>	<u>Review of policy in accordance with Section 165 of the Local Government Act 1993</u> <u>Placed on Public Exhibition 23 July 2025</u>	<u>July 2025</u>
<u>1.1</u>	<u>Review of policy in accordance with Section 165 of the Local Government Act 1993</u> <u>Workshopped with Councillors May 2025</u>	<u>May 2025</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>Adopted by Council</u>	<u>04 September 2013</u>

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Scope

Weed management is an essential biosecurity activity on all land within the Bega Valley Shire.

Council is directly responsible for priority weed management and ~~weed~~ control on all roadside areas, public reserves, Council owned lands, and land under Council control. Weeds are classified as priority species under Schedule 2 of the Biosecurity Act 2015, along with those listed in the South East Regional Strategic Weeds Management Plan.

Council is also required under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* to ensure that private and Crown landholders are taking reasonable and effective measures to manage biosecurity risk associated with priority weeds.

The scope of this policy demonstrates direct commitment to the following strategic guiding principles:

- Accountable | clear accountability; explaining and answering for the consequence of decisions; clear roles and responsibilities; commitment to risk management and compliance and proactive consultation and engagement organisation wide; proactive consultation and engagement internally between business areas and externally with key stakeholders.
- Financially sustainable | provision of services is fit for purpose and equivalent to 'best on offer'; asset management focus on resilience, future capability and sustainability; proactive consultation and engagement with community and stakeholders on defining service standards.
- Transparent | decision making processes are clearly outlined, including how a decision is made and who is involved; commitment to open communication; nurturing a trusting and supportive partnership with community, local businesses, and funding partners.
- Effective and Efficient | proactive improvement to service delivery processes, adapting innovative practices in service delivery including a focus of effectiveness and sustainability; clear connection between policy and implementation; improved collaboration and partnership with community, business, neighbouring councils and other government bodies.

## 1.2 Purpose

Effectively manage biosecurity risk associated with priority weeds on all land tenure.

## 1.3 Definitions

Nil

# 2 Legislation

*Biosecurity Act 2015*

## 3 Implementation

### 3.1 Policy Statement

Bega Valley Shire Council will systematically address biosecurity risk associated with priority weedweed management by:

- Developing and implementing programs to actively control and regulate priority weeds on public lands including high risk pathways and sites.
- Ensuring landowners and occupiers manage the biosecurity risk posed by weedpriority weeds in accordance with the requirements of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and that management actions are undertaken in an environmentally responsible manner especially in or near waterways.
- Ensuring weed management is an integral part of the establishment and maintenance of Council assets and facilities.
- Providing education and awareness programs to encourage landholders and occupiers to better manage biosecurity risk caused by weedpriority weeds and to increase awareness of the general biosecurity duty required by the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

### 3.2 Responsibilities

#### 3.2.1 Elected Council

Ensure a biosecurity and weed management policy is in place.

#### 3.2.2 3.2.2 Council land managers

Ensure weed management is an integral part of the establishment and maintenance of Council assets and facilities.

#### 3.2.23.2.3 Biosecurity and Invasive Species Coordinator

Ensure biosecurity and weed management activities are undertaken in accordance with this policy, including education as well as controlling and regulating priority weeds.

## 54 Supporting documents

### 5.1.14.1.1 BVSC procedures that relate to this policy

Procedure No.:	Procedure Name	External or Internal Procedure
	There are no procedures sitting under this policy	

### 5.1.24.1.2 BVSC policies that relate to this policy

Policy No.:	Policy Name
3.02	Environment Management
3.06	Pesticide Use
4.03	Public Regulation
4.05	Enforcement and Compliance

**Note:-** Policy details may change from time to time. To ensure you are viewing the most recent version please view Council's adopted Policies and Procedures on Council's website: [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au)