

Bass Coast Landcare Network Invasive Pest Plant & Animal Control Strategy 2011-2016



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Executive summary

The Bass Coast Landcare Network Pest Plant and Animal Control Strategy (BCLN IPPACS) sets the direction for invasive plants and animals management priorities in the Bass Coast Landcare Network area.

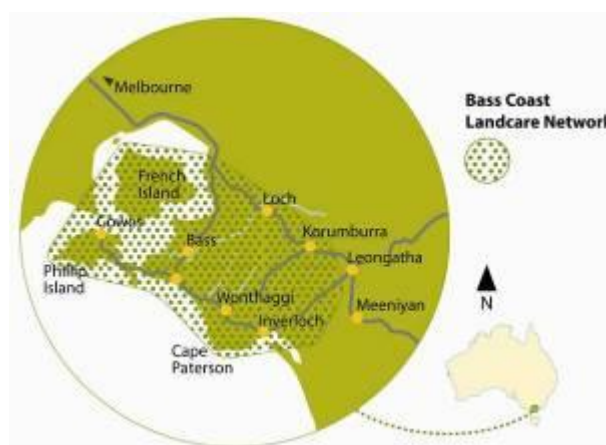
The Biosecurity Strategy for Victoria (Government of Victoria, 2009) and the Invasive Plants and Animals Policy Framework (DPI, 2010) provide the approach and policy behind invasive plants and animals management in Victoria, whilst the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CaLP Act 1994) provides a legislative framework and defines general duties of landholders and management of noxious weeds and pest animals.

The BCLN PPACS is both a broader strategic approach to pest plant and animal control in the region and also an operational plan guiding on-going Program activities. The document guides general direction for investment and effort. It provides objectives and descriptions of how to achieve objectives over a 5 year period with the provision for review and modification as determined by the BCLN Board.

Development of the BCLN PPACS was overseen by the BCLN Community Pest Plant and Animal Control Program Officer, Staff and Landcare Groups in the BCLN. The completed document was approved by the BCLN Board in December 2011.

Bass Coast Landcare Network Community Pest Plant and Animal Control Program Overview

The Bass Coast Landcare Network (BCLN) was formed in 2003 to promote land use and management that ensures the integrity and sustainability of land, water and biodiversity. The BCLN has 7 Landcare Groups in the WGCMA region and another 3 Landcare Groups in the PP&WPCMA region.



The Bass Coast Landcare Network manages a number of pest plant and animal control projects. These projects are funded by Federal, State and local government and on occasion 'special projects' that are funded by other organisations or agencies. The BCLN work co-operatively with partner organisations and agencies on a number of projects with a key focus on protecting and enhancing the regions biodiversity and agricultural assets.

The Bass Coast Landcare Network consider a number of invasive pest plants to be a significant threat to biodiversity and agricultural assets in the region. The Network manage and collaborate on a number of pest plants and animal control projects that are critical to the management of these species - with eradication the ultimate objective.

Current projects are aimed at the control of over 40 pest species on roadsides, reserves, private agricultural land and some urban areas, with the support of project partners, landholders and volunteers. Education and on-ground works are the key focus activities with between 5 and 10 projects operational each year.

Rabbits are the main pest animal species targeted in the BCLN area along with Foxes, Hares and Feral Cats whilst Gorse, Blackberry, Broom, Ragwort and Bridal Creeper are among at least 15 weeds that are the highest pest plant priorities for control.

The BCLN employ a 'Community Pest Plant and Animal Control Officer' and actively incorporate PPA control aspects into broader projects with support from other staff. The BCLN Board are the overarching supervisory group for any project initiatives.

Who can utilise the BCLN's Invasive Pest Plant & Animal Control Strategy 2011-2016 ?

- Funding bodies
- Agencies
- Landcare Groups and Networks
- Community Groups and individuals
- Landholders
- Educational Institutions



Awareness raising weed identification field days are an important way to educate the community.

Overall Vision for the BCLN Community Pest Plant and Animal Control Program

The Bass Coast Landcare Network consider effective pest plant and animal control a significant factor in ensuring the success of maintaining and enhancing the natural conservation and agricultural assets in the region.



Co-operation between project stakeholders ensures landholders are able to access required resources such as Pindone to control rabbits

Key Goals of the BCLN PPACS

The BCLN have developed a range of local priorities at Landcare Group meetings since 2009. Those priorities and actions for each group are listed in the appendices of this document. Key goals that were derived from the meetings with those Landcare Groups are encapsulated in the broader goals listed below and the section 'Assets and threats'.

GOAL 1 – Community Awareness

Prepare the community to respond to existing and new invasive plants and animals and prevent from establishing in the BCLN.

GOAL 2 – Eradication

Control with a view to eradicate high priority invasive plants and animals in the early stages of establishment.

GOAL 3 – Containment

Contain and reduce the infested area of high priority established invasive plants and animals on public and private land

GOAL 4 – Protecting BCLN assets

Protect key biodiversity and other natural resource assets and their values from the impact of invasive plants and animals.

GOAL 5 – Co-ordination and Partnerships

Coordinate and integrate invasive plants and animal control management across all land tenures in conjunction with partner organisations. .

GOAL 1 – Community Awareness

Prepare the community to respond to existing and new invasive plants and animals and prevent from establishing in the BCLN.

- Include PPA Control in all Landcare Group action planning sessions
- Organise and host Field days and Workshops related to PPA Control
- Ensure regular publicity related to effective PPA management including regular BCLN newsletter articles and project updates
- support delivery by DPI of Regional Weed Alert program
- support delivery by DPI of High Risk Invasive Animal Program
- support Federal Government in the delivery of WoNs and other National PPA projects
- Participate in processes that will identify any potential high priority PPA issues in each Landcare Group area and reduce their pathways of spread.
- ensure lists of high risk species (both declared and others) are widely communicated to support surveillance and reporting activities by Groups and the broader community.
- convene and organize the BCLN PPA Forum with stakeholders from within the catchment and relevant neighboring areas to assist with communication and coordination of PPA work
- encourage participation by schools, farmer training groups, other community groups and individuals in PPA Control projects
- ensure maps are available of high priority PPA infestations in the BCLN



Communities become educated and enthused in PPA control by attending field days. Here Thierry Rolland explains Parks Victoria's Ramsar Fox Control Project

GOAL 2 – Eradication

Control with a view to eradicate high priority invasive plants and animals in the early stages of establishment.

- Encourage and educate BCLN Groups and the broader community to be vigilant regarding potential new and emerging pest plants and animals
- support delivery by DPI of Regional Weed Alert program
- support delivery of High Risk Invasive Animal program
- support on-ground work on infestations of declared or non-declared species targeted for eradication in the BCLN.
- participate in processes that will identify high risk PPA's in the region and their pathways of spread into, and within, the region.
- participate in state level assessments of species that could be targeted for eradication
- ensure lists of high risk species (both declared and others) are widely communicated to
- support surveillance and reporting activities.
- Convene and organize the BCLN PPA Forum with stakeholders from within the catchment and relevant neighboring areas to assist with communication and coordination of PPA work.
- Treat and map species targeted for eradication as a highest priority of PPA Officer



Boneseed is an invasive species that could be eradicated from some areas within the BCLN.

GOAL 3 – Containment

Contain and reduce the infested area of high priority established invasive plants and animals on public and private land

- Include PPA Control in all Landcare Group action planning sessions
- Ensure where possible – funding is available for ‘contiguous projects’ so specific weed species are targeted for at least 3 years or more.
- Map and define the boundary or limit of high priority infestations.
- target and reduce spread ‘pathways’ thereby minimising movement beyond current infested areas
- Prioritise the eradication of small satellite infestations as well as treating larger core infestations of the same species.
- Reduce the abundance and density of core infestations where this helps to prevent spread.
- participate in state level assessments of species that could be targeted for containment
- support and encourage DPI compliance programs to ensure all Regionally Prohibited Weed infestations and some significant Regionally Controlled Weed infestations are treated.
- Coordinate (seek, source) funding targeted at Weeds of National Significance, Regionally Prohibited and Regionally Controlled species.



It is not realistic to expect to eradicate species such as Gorse from the BCLN within 5 years – however control projects such as burning followed by spraying can reduce the infestation and contain the spread. Funding to support these works is essential to the ongoing success of these initiatives.

GOAL 4 – Protecting BCLN Assets

Protect key biodiversity and other natural resource assets and their values from the impact of invasive plants and animals.

- Include PPA Control in all Landcare Group action planning sessions
- Address and act on actions derived from ‘assets and threats’ of groups each year
- Seek funding to support projects in line with ‘assets and threats’ from each BCLN group
- Map infestations of high priority invasive pest plants and animals for each group in BCLN
- Ensure assets, their values and PPA threats are identified and regularly reviewed by groups. Reassess these assets and threats to determine their overall priority for immediate action as part of ongoing review of BCLN PPACS
- Promote and publicise the effectiveness of PPA control works that protect Assets in each BCLN area.
- Implement ‘operational plans’ for partner organisations with a focus on PPA control works

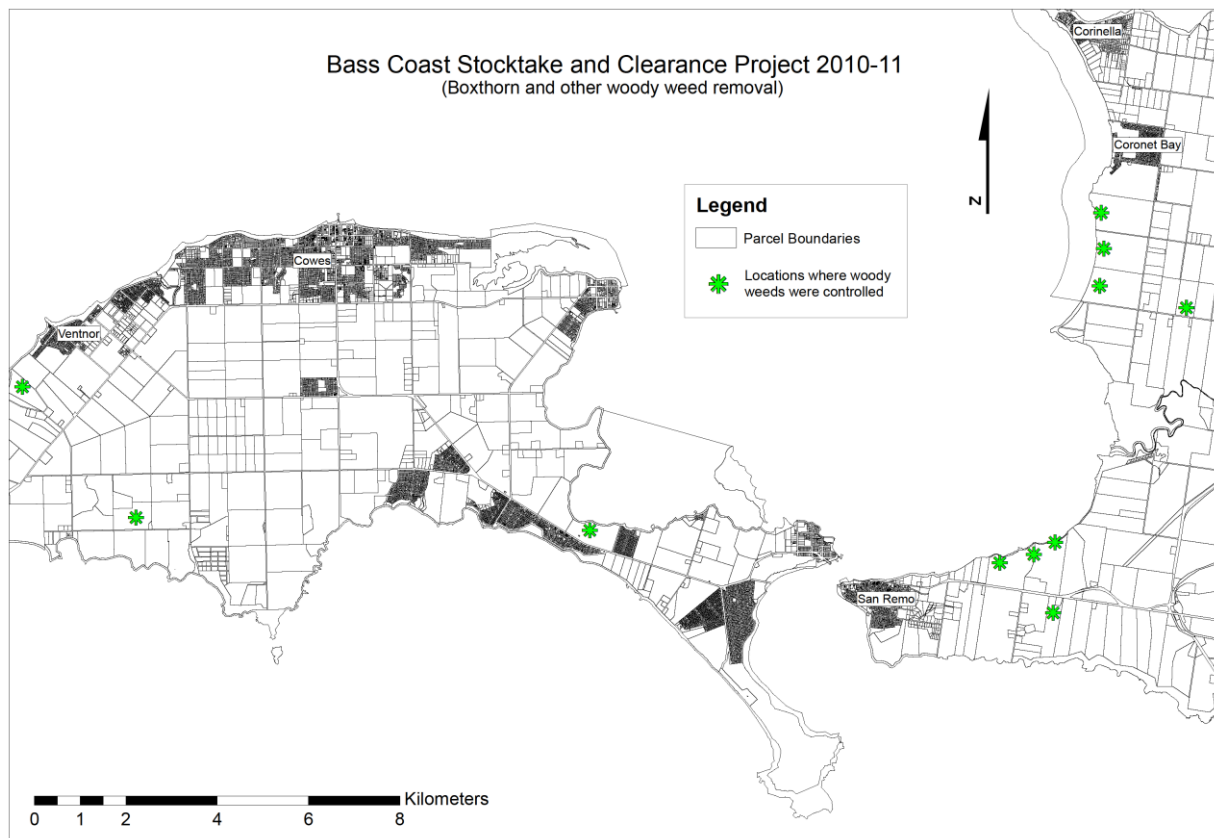


By removing threats like invasive Boxthorn from this area the ‘asset’ (natural habitat) can be better protected and enhanced. Boxthorn is also part of a threatening process as it is a potential harbor for foxes and rabbits.

GOAL 5 – Co-ordination and Partnerships

Coordinate and integrate invasive plants and animal control management across all land tenures in conjunction with partner organisations. .

- Plan, act and review PPA Control projects with partner organisations
- Negotiate with stakeholders to effectively integrate projects that result in timely, efficient, successful outcomes
- Ensure partners are supported with PPA Projects within the BCLN area
- Ensure strong linkages and collaborative works with neighboring regions – reducing opportunities for invasion of PPA species from those areas and visa versa.
- Integrate PPA into broader agricultural / conservation landholder training programs
- Proactively seek funding and links to achieve successful outcomes for the BCLN PPA Program
- ensure broader BCLN and agency programs include invasive plants and animals management
- ensure integration of invasive plants and animals management programs with other programs that aim to protect and enhance catchment assets; ensure these programs consider introduction and spread pathways
- encourage the employment of land management practices that prevent the establishment or spread of invasive plants and animals (e.g. Whole Farm Planning, Environmental Management Systems (EMS) and industry directed programs)
- Continue to host the BCLN PPA Forum as a means of engaging stakeholders from across the Region.
- support and coordinate community action to treat invasive plants and animals species at the public/private land interface
- ensure funds allocated for invasive plants and animals management support coordinated community effort on public and private land
- Develop and implement project management plans for individual projects and actively engage the BCLN Groups in shaping those projects.
- ensure information resources on PPA management are maintained and widely available
- support local communities that are actively managing PPA species in their area
- support reviews of roles and responsibilities to reduce complexity and inefficiencies.



Mapping pest plant and animal infestations and associated works is an important attribute to Projects. Maps enable Project Managers to showcase works and evaluate longer term success. The map below shows locations of Boxthorn removal with sites identified.

Bass Coast Landcare Network Assets and Threats

Asset-based protection is focused on reducing the impact of all pest plant and animal threats to our high value assets and their values the BCLN area. Our Landcare Groups have identified a range of assets and the threats that impact on them. The assets provide a range of environmental, social and/or economic services.

An asset-based approach to management prevents the introduction of new pests to protect all assets, ensures early detection and rapid response to new pests to protect all assets, and the reduction and containment of established pests to protect highest priority assets. The information provided in this strategy can then be fed into the project development process to prioritise works that will protect these assets.

Protecting and secure habitat, Landscape and habitat connectivity, Improved ecological processes, including gene and energy flows, Improved habitat quality, Increased viability of threatened ecological vegetation classes, Enhanced social and recreational experiences for locals and visitors and Increased farm production were broadly identified by BCLN Groups as being of critical importance during the consultation period.

The following BCLN Landcare Groups identified assets and threats in their areas. This list is not restrictive – but includes assets and threats that were defined at meetings with a priority order resulting in only unanimous suggestions and recommendations mentioned in this strategy.

Assets

Anderson Inlet – Bunurong Coast / Wonthaggi Wetlands and Heathlands / Mangroves around Screw Creek / Pound Creek / Screw creek / Anderson Inlet / threatened grasslands / Koala's / Tourism / small rural towns eg. Jumbunna

Phillip Island Landcare Group - wildlife / productive pastures / reserves / remnant vegetation / foreshores / RAMSAR wetlands / tourism

Three Creeks Landcare Group – the three creeks / productive farmland (beef / dairy / vines) / Kilcunda Foreshore / George Bass walk / Mouth of Powlett River / tourism / landscape scenery (eg. Kilcunda Ridge Rd) / Wetland Forest (EVC)

Korumburra Landcare Group – Foster Creek / Outrim Reserve / Kongwak Reserve / Railway Reserves / Productive farmland

French Island Landcare Group - Isolation and relatively restricted access / no foxes and few rabbits / National Park / majority native flora and fauna / coastline mangrove colonies / relatively low weed density.

Wonthaggi Urban Landcare Group – Intact remnant bushland / accessibility for townspeople / Optimistic regeneration outlook - realistic (good chance for successful regeneration with accompanying works) / Shire support / good volunteer numbers / public education opportunities/ potential for water management for Wonthaggi.

Powlett Project – Daintree area at junction of Archies Creek and the Powlett River / Productive Farmland within the catchment / Foster Creek / The 1.2 million seedlings planted in the the Powlett Catchment

Archies Creek Landcare Group – established revegetation sites / small landholdings (diversity) / culture of improved weed control.

Threats

Anderson Inlet – Foxes and the inability to bait / Feral Cats on wildlife / lack of shooting due to urban sprawl / Pittosporums threatening conservation areas

Phillip Island Landcare Group - Cats / Rabbits / emerging and current garden escapees / WoNs weeds / pest animal harbour eg. Gorse / Ignorance by some members of community who do not value assets.

Three Creeks Landcare Group – Blackberry (in productive farmland, conservation, riparian areas) / pasture weeds (Barley Grass , Doc etc) / Rabbits / Foxes (to biodiversity specifically native rats and small native animals) / new emerging weeds increasing /farmers poor vigilance when purchasing hay.

Korumburra Landcare Group - Thistles / Ragwort / Blackberries / Rabbits / Foxes / environmental weeds such as Pittosporum, Wandering Jew, Bluebell Creeper / Willows / erosion / pollution / lack of DPI, Shire enforcement of recalcitrant landholders.

French Island Landcare Group - Developers (of both land and water environments) / introduction of unwanted pests by "off-islanders" / Cinnamon Fungus / introduction of or failure to tackle existing weeds / variable responsibility taken by landholders for PPA management.

Archies Creek Landcare Group - Foxes / Rabbits (small numbers) / farmers blaming revegetation for weeds / Blackberry / Ragwort / Hemlock / Watsonia / Blue Periwinkle in creeks / Broome / Cypress trees and other exotics being planted on roadsides.

Wonthaggi Urban Landcare Group – general weeds (garden escapees) / Pittosporum/ Broom / Watsonia / householders overly concerned about fire risk /Feral Cats/ Foxes in town.

Powlett Project - Recalcitrant property owners / Wandering Dew in riparian areas / Lack of follow up weed control in Revegetated areas / Blackberries/ Thistles/ Boxthorn / Ragwort (lack of enforcement)

Bass Coast Landcare Network group priorities for 2011-2016

Philip Island Landcare Group

Target – maintain sustainable farmland by minimising the impacts of pest plants and animals / improve biodiversity by reducing the impacts of pest plants and animals.

Actions – control Gorse, Boxthorn, Kikuyu, Rabbits, Barley Grass, Chilean Needlegrass, Thistles, Hares, Capeweed, Pampas Grass, Feral Cats, Foxes, Bridal Creeper, Garden escapees, Pittosporum, Mirror Bush, Agapanthus and Blackberry / continue Rural Rate Rebate as a tool for enforcement and compliance / raise awareness / collaborate with Friends of Groups and Coastcare

Resources – Rural Rate Rebate / Land stewardship / Contractors / Schools / friends of groups and Coastcare / Urban Landcare / rabbit bait / Volunteers

Responsibility – Landholders / PILG / BCLN Project Officer / PINP / VicRoads / BCSC

Timelines - (by July 2012) – roadside spraying at appropriate times for priority weeds / consolidate rabbit proof fence and increase efforts to clear out sector B.

Bass Valley Landcare Group

Target – The effective control and management of roadside weeds / comprehensive control of pest animals in the Bass Valley / effective implementation of the Rural Rate Rebate and it's management.

Actions – control priority weeds on roadsides / control Blackberry and Boxthorn on private land / remove Fox habitat / Strategic baiting of Foxes and Rabbits / control of all known Gorse each year / raise awareness about Feral Cats / use mapping programs to target works / initiate BVLG and volunteers working on weed control on roadsides.

Resources – utilise Rick Oldham for mapping aspects / BCSC IT department / BCLN works crew and contractors / DESAL funding / VicRoads funding / Water authority funding / BVLG and volunteers / local schools / Bendigo Bank

Responsibility – BCLN Project Officer / BCSC / VicRoads / DPI / Rick Oldham

Timelines - (by July 2012) – mapping system established / roadside spraying at appropriate times for priority weeds / initiate volunteer works on roadsides / initiate baseline monitoring by University student

French Island Landcare Group

Target – reduce the impact of pest plants and animals on French Island

Actions – control Feral Cats, Rabbits, Indian Minor's and Starlings, Broom, Cape Tulip, Blackberry, Pittosporum, Inkweed, Boxthorn, Hawthorn, Thistles, Gorse, Hemlock, Ragwort / training for Roads contractors

Resources – WoNs funding / Friends of French island / Landholders and Contractors / Provision of Rabbait by BCLN / ParksVic funded projects (cat and bird traps, mechanical weed removal and rabbit warren ripping) BCLN works crew / BCLN Project Officer / FI roadside management plan

Responsibility – BCLN Project Officer / Parks Vic / BCSC / DPI / DSE (roadside weeds)

Timelines - (by July 2012) – works to be undertaken on priority weeds at appropriate times / Rabbit baiting, shooting and harbour removal to be undertaken all year round / training for Roads contractors as soon as possible

Korumburra Landcare Group

Target – eradicate all pest plants and animals / educate recalcitrant landholders

Actions – address issue of recalcitrant landholders / control Rabbits, Foxes, Blackberry, Thistles, Pittosporum and Ivy / increase roadside spraying / utilise public notices to raise awareness / develop local weed brochure for SGSC / increase control of weeds on VLine land / hold field day for Fox and Rabbit control / recruit landholders to bait Foxes / ACUP training

Resources – Korumburra spray unit / contractors / BCLN works crew / BCLN Project Officer / Landholders and Volunteers / DPI Officers / TAFE or other training institutions

Responsibility – Brian Embom, BCLN Project Officer and KLG (develop plan for group to undertake working bee's) DPI (to supply baits for Fox baiting) SGSC (roadside weed control via chemical handout) BCLN Project Officer and DPI (recalcitrant landholder and Vline issues)

Timelines - (by July 2012) – Fox Field day April 2012 / Rail Trail works / SGSC weed brochure / ACUP course as soon as possible

Anderson Inlet Landcare Group

Target – effective control of pest plants and animals

Actions – control Foxes, Rabbits and Feral Cats / comprehensive control of Pittosporum / ongoing control of priority roadside weeds on roadsides / continued awareness raising

Resources – BCLN works crew and contractors / AILG members and other landholders / BCSC, DPI and VicRoads funding / links to revegetation projects

Responsibility – BCLN Project Officer / AILG members / BCSC / VicRoads / DPI

Timelines - (by July 2012) – extensive campaign to reduce Pittosporum infestation by 50% / organise ACUP training for Fox baiting / control priority weeds on roadsides at appropriate times

Three Creeks Landcare Group

Target – effective control of pest plants and animals

Actions – control of Blackberry, Ragwort, Rabbits and Foxes / address concerns regarding recalcitrant landholders / control of threats to riparian areas

Resources – TCLG and landholders / BCLN works crew and contractors / potential sources of funding / DPI Officers / volunteers

Responsibility – BCLN Project Officer / TCLG / DPI

Timelines - (by July 2012) – visit significant Ragwort and Blackberry infested properties / Blackberry spraying on roadsides / ACUP training for Fox control

Archies Creek Landcare Group

Target – minimise the impacts of pest plants and animals on agriculture and biodiversity assets

Actions – control Foxes and small Rabbit numbers / control roadside weeds including Watsonia, Broom and Blackberry / initiate control of Blue Periwinkle

Resources – BCLN works crew and contractors / DPI / BCSC

Responsibility – BCLN Project Officer / ACLG and landholders / BCSC

Timelines - (by July 2012) – control Blackberries, Watsonia, Broom and Blue Periwinkle on roadsides and near watercourses / initiate action by BCSC to minimise exotic vegetation being planted on roadsides / work to encourage landholders to control weeds in revegetation areas.

Wonthaggi Urban Landcare Group

Target – effective control of pest plants and animals in an urban environment

Actions – control Pittosporum, Broom, Watsonia and garden escapees / raise awareness about Feral Cats and Foxes in town.

Resources – BCLN works crew and contractors / BCLN Project Officer / WULG and volunteers / media

Responsibility – WULG / BCLN Project Officer

Timelines - (by July 2012) – publicise impacts of Feral Cats on environment / organise working bee's at local reserves

Powlett Project Landcare Group

Target – control of pest plants and animals in the catchment of the Powlett River

Actions – increase efforts to control Ragwort and Blackberry on recalcitrant landholders properties / conduct effective spraying of priority weeds on roadsides / control weeds in riparian areas

Resources – BCLN works crew and contractors / PPLG / DPI

Responsibility – BCLN Project Officer / PPLG and landholders

Timelines - (by July 2012) – visit significantly infested Ragwort and Blackberry properties / initiate control of weeds that threaten riparian areas.

Catchment Management Group

Target - eradicate all pest plants and animals / educate recalcitrant landholders

Actions - Implement Candowie Management plan action activities as defined in appendices

Description of current pest plant and animal activities

State Prohibited Weeds - (SPW) Prevention, surveillance, planning, treatment of known infestations of SPWs e.g. Weed Alert Program. Managed by the Department of Primary Industries (DPI)

Regionally Prohibited Weeds (RPW) - DPI identifies all infestations of RPWs and ensures they are treated for eradication

Regionally Controlled Weeds - Land managers (public and private) are responsible for control over all tenures. Some support exists through various funding sources. Local examples include Gorse and Blackberry.

Priority Regionally Controlled Weeds Program - Focus for Landcare Groups under Second Generation Landcare grants.

Good Neighbour Program - Focus on public/private land interface; works on public land. Generally provided to DPI and Parks Vic to run projects.

WONS - Weeds of National Significance (currently 20 species) Willows, Boneseed, Blackberry and others that could impact on the ecological character of for example Westernport Bay.

Environmental Weeds - not proclaimed noxious weeds but still of varying degrees of concern to the BCLN and project partners. Species include Agapanthus, Pittosporum, Capeweed and around 50 others in the BCLN area.

Declared established Pest Animals and high priority BCLN Pest Animals: Foxes, Hares, Feral Cats, Rabbits. Responsibility of Land manager to control with some funding opportunities present – particularly for Fox control on Phillip Island.

Other strategies and linkages













- WGCMA IPA Strategy
- Victorian Government (see DSE Website)
- PPWPCMA Pest Strategies
- Melbourne Water / WesternPort Water
- BCSC municipal strategic plan
- roadside management plans
- Group action plans for individual groups
- Weeds of National significance strategies

Appendices (following)












- Pest plant and animal descriptive tables
- Landcare Group PPA actions and short term objectives (to be revised annually)





Bass Coast Landcare Network pest plants table




Key




	• Weeds located in Port Phillip/Western Port Catchment management authority
	• Weeds located in West Gippsland Catchment management authority
	• Noxious status in Port Phillip/ Western Port catchment management authority
	• Noxious status in West Gippsland catchment management authority
	• Environmental weed
	• Bass Coast Landcare Network highest priority weeds
	• Zero Tolerance Weeds
	• Weeds of National significance
	• State Prohibited declared noxious weeds
	• Regionally Prohibited declared noxious weeds
	• Regionally controlled declared Noxious weeds
	• Restricted declared Noxious weeds




Bass Coast Landcare Network Pest Plant Table




Plant name	Description								
Agapanthus <i>Agapanthus praecox</i> 	Isolated infestations in Bass Coast region. Sleeper species- capable of spreading quickly.								
Angled Onion <i>Allium triquetrum</i> 				R	R				
African corn- flag <i>Chasmanthe floribunda</i> 									




<p>Apple of Sodom <i>Solanum linnaeanum</i></p> 				C	C				
<p>Arum Lily <i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i></p> 									
<p>Asparagus Fern <i>Asparagus</i> spp.</p> 									
<p>Bathurst Burr <i>Xanthium spinosum</i> L</p> 				C	C				




Blackberry <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> L. agg. 				C	C				
Bluebell creeper <i>Sollya heterophylla</i> 									
Blue Butterfly Bush <i>Psoralea pinnata</i> 									




Blue Periwinkle <i>Vinca major</i> 	A major threat to the Powlett project. Small number of infestations throughout the Bass Coast.								
Boneseed <i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> 	Located in coastal areas of Bass Coast. Known sites of concern are Cape Paterson and Cowes.			C	C				
Boxthorn <i>Lycium ferocissimum</i> 				C	C				




<p>Briar Rose <i>Rosa rubiginosa</i></p> 				C	C				
<p>Bridal Creeper <i>Asparagus asparagoides</i></p> 				R	R				
<p>Buffalo Grass</p> 									




<p>Cape Broom <i>Genista</i> spp.</p> 	<p>Mainly located on roadsides. Potential to invade remnant woodlands & coastal reserves.</p>			C	C				
<p>Cape Ivy <i>Delairea odorata</i></p> 									
<p>Cape Tulip (one leaf) <i>Moraea flaccida</i></p> 				C	C				




<p>Cape Wattle <i>Paraserianthos lophantha</i></p> 									
<p>Cape Weed <i>Arctotheca calendula</i></p> 									
<p>Cedar Wattle <i>Acacia elata</i></p> 									




<p>Chilean Needle-grass <i>Nassella neesiana</i></p> 	<p>Found on Phillip Island mainly near Sunset Strip. Containment to Phillip Island is a high priority.</p>			R	R				
<p>Climbing Groundsel <i>Senecio angulatus</i></p> 									
<p>Cotoneaster <i>Cotoneaster</i> spp.</p> 									




<p>Dolichos pea <i>Dipogon lignosus</i></p> 									
<p>English Ivy <i>Hedera helix</i></p> 									
<p>Fennel <i>Foeniculum vulgare</i></p> 				R	R				




<p>Flax-leaved Broom <i>Genista linifolia</i></p> 	<p>Mainly located on roadsides. Potential to invade remnant woodlands and reserves.</p>			C	C				
<p>Forget me not</p> 									
<p>Freesia <i>Freesia alba</i> x <i>F. leichtlinii</i></p> 									




<p>Gazania <i>Gazania linearis</i></p> 									
<p>Gorse <i>Ulex europaeus</i></p> 	Major infestation on Phillip Island, with a small number of properties infested in other parts of Bass Coast.			C	C				
<p>Hawthorn <i>Crateagus monogyna</i></p> 	Extensive control program in the Glen Alvie, Almurta, and Kongwak areas.			C	C				




<p>Hemlock <i>Conium maculatum</i></p> 									
<p>Horehound <i>Marrubium vulgare L.</i></p> 									
<p>Inkweed <i>Phytolacca octandra</i></p> 									




<p>Japanese Honeysuckle</p> 									
<p>Kikuyu grass <i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i></p> 									
<p>Mirror Bush <i>Coprosma repens</i></p> 									



<p>Montbretia <i>Crocsmia X crocosmiliflora</i></p> 									
<p>Morning Glory <i>Ipomoea spp.</i></p> 									
<p>Pampas Grass <i>Cortaderia selloana</i></p> 									

<p>Parrots Feather <i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i></p> 									
<p>Paterson's Curse <i>Echium plantagineum</i></p> 				C	C				
<p>Pine <i>Pinus radiata</i></p> 									




<p>Pittosporum <i>Pittosporum undulatum</i></p> 									
<p>Polygala <i>Polygala myrtifolia</i></p> 									
<p>Prickly Pear <i>Opuntia stricta</i></p> 				C	P				


<p>Ragwort <i>Senecio jacobaea</i></p> 	<p>Target of extensive control program in Bass Hills over last 10 years. Has potential to reinvade quickly.</p>			C	C				
<p>Sea spurge <i>Euphorbia paralias</i></p> 									
<p>Serrated Tussock <i>Nassella trichotoma</i></p> 				C	C				

<p>St John's Wort <i>Hypericum perforatum</i></p> 				C	C				
<p>Tree Tobacco <i>Solarnum mauritianum</i></p> 									
<p>Wandering Jew <i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i></p> 									

<p>Watsonia <i>Watsonia meriana</i> var. <i>bulbillifera</i></p> 	<p>Most infestations are located on roadsides. Has the potential to invade conservation areas.</p>			C	C				
<p>Willow <i>Salix</i> spp.</p> 				R	R				

Bass Coast Landcare Network pest animals table

Pest Animal Name	Description	Local description	Control options
Foxes <i>Vulpes vulpes</i> 	<p>Foxes prey on native fauna and have played a major role in the decline of a number of these species. They are also a pest to farmers, as they prey on newborn lambs.</p>	<p>Foxes on Phillip Island are believed to number between 5-15 due to an extensive eradication program led by the Phillip Island Nature Park. On the mainland foxes are in large numbers and are a significant threat to agricultural production and biodiversity.</p>	<p>Shooting / Den fumigation / Harbour removal (Blackberry, Boxthorn, Gorse etc) / baiting</p>
Rabbits <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i> 	<p>Originating from Spain and southern France, the European Rabbit was introduced to Australia when the first fleet arrived.</p>	<p>A large scale rabbit control program has been underway in the Bass Coast for a number of years however rabbit populations are still high – particularly on Phillip Island. A recent survey of some localities on the mainland resulted in very low numbers of sightings which is encouraging</p>	<p>Baiting / shooting / ferreting / harbour removal (see above) / biological control</p>
Feral Cats <i>Felis catus</i> 	<p>Feral Cats are wild descended from escaped or dumped domesticated cats. They adapt quickly to their surroundings and are skilled hunters</p>	<p>Feral cats prey on small birds and animals which reduce biodiversity values. The Bass Coast Landcare Network and Phillip Island Nature Park are investigating the potential to undertake significant works to reduce the threat of feral cats on Phillip Island and some Landcare Groups are keen to initiate community awareness</p>	<p>Trapping / shooting / compulsory de-sexing of domestic cats (and associated prevention)</p>

		campaigns to limit the potential for cat dumping or roaming domestic cats.	
Hares <i>Lepus europaeus</i> 	A native of Europe and Asia this mostly nocturnal animal has become a pest species in Argentina, Australia and North America although in Australia it is not considered as invasive a species as the rabbit.	Locally Hares do significant damage to tree plantings and direct seeding projects. Hares are usually only controlled by shooting – so effective management is difficult particularly near urban areas. Hare numbers are reported to have recently increased on Phillip Island but are stable on the mainland.	Shooting / baiting (limited success) / Harbour removal (long grass)

Targets and associated actions for the Bass Coast Landcare Networks Groups 2012-2016

Phillip Island Landcare Group

Target 1 - maintain sustainable farmland by minimising the impacts of pest plants and animals

Target 2 - improve biodiversity by reducing the impacts of pest plants and animals.

Activities	Steps	Timing	Who	Resources
Participate in monitoring the Rural Rate Rebate Scheme	Matt to attend RRR meetings as a staff representative of BCLN Inspect properties as part of annual spot monitoring Follow-up on any issues arising from audits	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing	PPA Project Officer	2 days per year
Co-ordinate volunteers to control weeds on roadsides	Investigate legalities of volunteers working on roadsides Co-ordinate weeding activity for volunteers Supervising volunteers on-ground collate information and mapping aspects engage BCSC to mulch debris	Date set by PILG	PPA Project Officer BCLN Works crew/ PILG	2 working bee's in each year. Supply equipment.
Organise roadside spraying at appropriate times for priority weeds	Engage contractors define works monitor and map report to funding organisations	ongoing	Project Officer	3 days per year
consolidate rabbit proof fence and increase efforts to clear out sector B.	engage landholders recruit support from PINP and VicRoads undertake shooting, baiting and harbour removal	2011-2012	Project Officer	10 days per year
Provide 'Rabbait' to community	organise supply supply community monitor results	As required	Project Officer	10 days per year

French Island Group

Target 1 - reduce the impact of pest plants and animals on French Island

Activities	Steps	Timing	Who	Resources
Co-ordinate volunteers to control weeds on roadsides	Investigate legalities of volunteers working on roadsides Co-ordinate weeding activity for volunteers Supervising volunteers on-ground	Early 2012	Project Officer / FILG	2 days working bee's
works to be undertaken on priority weeds at appropriate times	assist FILG to ensure control of priority weeds	ongoing	Project Officer	3 days per year
Rabbit baiting, shooting and harbour removal to be undertaken all year round	organise contractors and recreational shooters seek funding to support FILG to undertake works collaborate with ParksVic on project	ongoing	Project Officer	3 days per year
training for FI Roads contractors	assist with recruitment of staff for contractor training via BCSC	Early 2012	FILG / Project Officer	1 day
Weed control on private property	assist FILG to encourage increased control of priority weeds on FI	ongoing	Project Officer	2 days

Bass Valley Landcare group

Target 1 - The effective control and management of roadside weeds

Target 2 - Comprehensive control of pest animals in the Bass Valley

Target 3 - Effective implementation of the RRR.

Activities	Steps	Timing	Who	Resources
Participate in monitoring the Rural Rate Rebate Scheme	Matt to attend RRR meetings as a staff representative of BCLN Inspect properties as part of annual spot monitoring Follow-up on any issues arising from audits	Ongoing Ongoing	PPA Project Officer	2 days
Co-ordinate volunteers to control weeds on roadsides	Investigate legalities of volunteers working on roadsides Co-ordinate weeding activity for volunteers Supervising volunteers on-ground	Early 2012	Matt Works crew,/ BVLG	Two field days and equipment provided.
Establish mapping system	collect data and produce maps of priority weeds	By Feb 2012	Project Officer and BVLG	2 days
roadside spraying at appropriate times for priority weeds	Engage contractors define works monitor and map report to funding organisations	ongoing	Project Officer	3 days per year
initiate baseline monitoring by University student	recruit student develop monitoring parameters assist student undertake monitoring	2012	Project Officer and BVLG	2 days

Three Creeks Landcare Group

Target 1 - effective control of pest plants and animals

Activities	Steps	Timing	Who	Resources
Participate in monitoring the Rural Rate Rebate Scheme	Matt to attend RRR meetings as a staff representative of BCLN Inspect properties as part of annual spot monitoring Follow-up on any issues arising from audits	Ongoing Ongoing	Project Officer	4 days
Co-ordinate volunteers to control weeds on roadsides	Investigate legalities of volunteers working on roadsides Co-ordinate weeding activity for volunteers Supervising volunteers on-ground	2012	Matt Works crew,/ BVLG	Provide equipment 3 days
visit significant Ragwort and blackberry infested properties	establish properties to visit in consultation with group visit properties negotiate with landholders potential referral to DPI	January – Feb 2012	Project Officer	4 days
ACUP training for Fox control	organise training sessions recruit attendees	March 2012	Project officer	1 day
Blackberry spraying on roadsides	ensure continuation of Blackberry spraying on roadsides	Dec – Feb 2011-2012	Project officer works crew contractors	1 day

Powlett Project Landcare Group

Target 1 - control of pest plants and animals in the catchment of the Powlett River

Activities	Steps	Timing	Who	Resources
Participate in monitoring the Rural Rate Rebate Scheme	Matt to attend RRR meetings as a staff representative of BCLN Inspect properties as part of annual spot monitoring Follow-up on any issues arising from audits	Ongoing Ongoing	Project Officer	4 days/year 12
Co-ordinate volunteers to control weeds on roadsides	Investigate legalities of volunteers working on roadsides Co-ordinate weeding activity for volunteers Supervising volunteers on-ground	Early 2012	Matt Works crew,/ BVLG	Bow saws 2
visit significantly infested Ragwort and Blackberry properties	establish properties to visit in consultation with group visit properties negotiate with landholders potential referral to DPI	Jan – Feb 2012	Project Officer / DPI Officer/s	2 days
initiate control of weeds that threaten riparian areas.	schedule and undertake spraying of Blue Periwinkle and Wandering Jew at priority sites	Autumn 2012	Project Officers	2 days

Anderson Inlet Landcare Group

Target 1 - effective control of pest plants and animals

Activities	Steps	Timing	Who	Resources
Participate in monitoring the Rural Rate Rebate Scheme	Matt to attend RRR meetings as a staff representative of BCLN Inspect properties as part of annual spot monitoring Follow-up on any issues arising from audits	Ongoing Ongoing	Project Officer	4 days/year 12
Co-ordinate volunteers to control weeds on roadsides	Investigate legalities of volunteers working on roadsides Co-ordinate weeding activity for volunteers Supervising volunteers on-ground	Early 2012	Matt Works crew,/ BVLG	Bow saws 2
extensive campaign to reduce Pittosporum infestation by 50% control priority weeds on roadsides at appropriate times	define control areas organise contractors, works crew and volunteers engage landholders or organisations hold working bee's	Jan – June 2012	Project Officer / AILG	3 days
Hold field day on spraying	organise contractor to attend attend field day and talk about weed control	Feb 2012	Project Officer	1 day
organise ACUP training for Fox baiting	organise training sessions recruit attendees	March 2012	Project Officer	1 day

Archies Creek Island Landcare

Target 1 - minimise the impacts of pest plants and animals on agriculture and biodiversity assets

Activities	Steps	Timing	Who	Resources
Participate in monitoring the Rural Rate Rebate Scheme	Matt to attend RRR meetings as a staff representative of BCLN Inspect properties as part of annual spot monitoring Follow-up on any issues arising from audits	Ongoing Ongoing	Project Officer	4 days/year 12
control blackberries, watsonia, broom and blue periwinkle on roadsides and near watercourses	Align with existing spraying program	Dec 2011 – June 2012	Project Officer / Works Crew	2 days
initiate action by BCSC to minimise exotic vegetation being planted on roadsides	Consult BCSC and devise action	Feb 2012	Project Officer	1 day
work to encourage landholders to control weeds in revegetation areas.	Consult landholders engaged by Powlett Project and similar programs and deliver extension	Feb 2012	Project Officers	2 days

Wonthaggi Urban Island Landcare

Target 1 - effective control of pest plants and animals in an urban environment

Activities	Steps	Timing	Who	Resources
Participate in monitoring the Rural Rate Rebate Scheme	Matt to attend RRR meetings as a staff representative of BCLN Inspect properties as part of annual spot monitoring Follow-up on any issues arising from audits	Ongoing Ongoing	Project Officer	4 days/year 12
Co-ordinate volunteers to control weeds on roadsides	Investigate legalities of volunteers working on roadsides Co-ordinate weeding activity for volunteers Supervising volunteers on-ground	Feb 2012	Project Officer/ Works crew,/ BVLG	2 days
publicise impacts of feral cats on environment	Provide press release to local papers	Feb 2012	Project Officer	1 day
Working bee's at local reserves – weed control	Organise volunteers / contractors / works crew	ongoing	WUIL / Project Officers	2 days

Korumburra Landcare Group

Target 1 - eradicate all priority pest plants and animals

Target 2 - educate recalcitrant landholders

Activities	Steps	Timing	Who	Resources
Co-ordinate volunteers to control weeds on roadsides	Investigate legalities of volunteers working on roadsides Co-ordinate weeding activity for volunteers Supervising volunteers on-ground	Feb 2012	Matt Works crew,/ Landcare Group	2 days / Works Crew
Fox Field day	Organise and hold FD with BVLG	March 2012	Project Officer and KLG	1 day
ACUP course	Organise course and recruit	March 2012	Project Officer	1 day
VLINE weed control Pittosporum works in conservation areas	Organise spraying of priority weeds on SGRT line Organise Pittosporum removal at 3 sites	Dec 2011 – Jan 2012	Project Officer / CWT / Works Crew / KLG	3 days



Catchment Management Group
Target 1 - eradicate all pest plants and animals
Target 2 - educate recalcitrant landholders

Activities	Steps	Timing	Who	Resources
Implement Candowie Management plan action	Distribute weed information to landholders	Feb 2012	Project Officer / CMG	Mailout – 1 day
	Encourage fox and rabbit control – field day	March 2012	Project Officer / CMG	Joint FD with BVLG area – 1 day
	Undertake spotlighting and provide feedback to group	Feb 2012	Project Officer / Works Crew	1 day
	Supply landholders with list of contractors / shooters	ongoing	Project Officer	1 day