

Appendix E – Legislation, policy and strategies for invasive plant management

The legislative policy and strategy documents identified in the following table, modified from the *Port Phillip and Western Port Invasive Plant and Animal Strategy*, July 2011, are all relevant to the management of weed species.

Australian Government

Legislation

Legislation	Summary
Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Administration Act 1992	This Act provides for controls in relation to the evaluation, registration, and use of agricultural chemicals including pesticides for the control of weeds and pest animals. This Act is complemented by State legislation relating to the use, application, and sale of agricultural chemicals
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC)	The EPBC Act provides a legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places which are defined in the Act as matters of national environmental significance. Threat abatement plans are generated under the EPBC Act to provide for the research, management, and any other actions necessary to reduce the impact of a listed key threatening process on native species and ecological communities. Plans have been developed for a number of species, including foxes, rabbits, feral cats, 'unmanaged' goats and feral pigs.
Quarantine Act 1908	The Commonwealth agency Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) established under the Quarantine Act manages quarantine controls at our borders to minimise the risk of exotic pests, animals, weeds and diseases entering the country. The risk assessments of importing individual species are undertaken by Biosecurity Australia.

Strategy

Strategy	Summary
Australian Weeds Strategy 2017-2027	The AWS has three overarching goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To prevent the development of new weed problems. • To reduce the impacts of existing weed problems of national significance. • To provide the framework and capacity for ongoing management of weed problems of national significance

Victorian Government

Legislation

Act	Summary
Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act (1992) Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals(Victoria) Act	These Acts complement Commonwealth legislation on the registration of agricultural chemicals including the use, application and sale of pesticides used for the control of weeds and invasive animals.
Catchment and Land Protection Act (1994) (CaLP Act)	The CaLP Act provides the power to declare noxious invasive plants and invasive animals if the Minister is satisfied that the species has or has the potential to become a serious threat to primary production, Crown land, the environment, or community health.
Conservation Forests and Land Act (1987)	This Act enables the Minister to establish Codes of practice including eradication and control procedures for weeds and pest animals. The Act also provides for the establishment of land management cooperative agreements including the provision of grants and rate relief.
Crown land Reserves Act (1978)	The Act provides for the permanent or temporary reservation and management of Crown Lands for a range of public purposes. Committees of management are appointed to manage, improve, maintain, and control the land for the purposes for which it was reserved
Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act (1988) (FFG Act)	The FFG Act aims to guarantee that all Victorian taxa of flora and fauna can survive, flourish, and retain their potential for evolutionary development in the wild. Invasive plants and invasive animals present a major threat to flora, fauna and natural communities. Environmental weeds and some pest animals (eg feral cat) are listed as potentially threatening processes for native flora and fauna under FFG. FFG action statements provide land managers with a choice of procedures that can be used for the management of potentially threatening processes.
Land Act (1958)	The Land Act requires lessees and holders of agricultural licenses to control and keep the licensed land free of invasive animals and invasive plants.
Local Government Act (1989) Planning and Environment Act (1987)	These Acts provide opportunities for local councils to become involved in and enforce weed and pest animal control through local laws and planning permit conditions.
National Parks Act (1975)	The Act requires national and State parks to be managed in a manner that protects natural condition of the park. Managers are required to eradicate or control exotic species in all parks managed under the Act.
Road Management Act (2004)	Provides for the management of the road reserves including the protection of significant roadside

Act	Summary
	vegetation. It provides for the preparation of voluntary roadside management plans. At least nine acts make provision for the management of invasive plants and invasive animals along roadsides. These include the CaLP Act, Forests Act 1958, Transport Act 1983 and the Country Fire Authority Act 1958.
Sustainable Forests (Timber) Act (2004)	The Sustainable Forests Act (2004) inserted new clauses into the Forests Act (1958) including the provision for the use of fire to control weeds and animals in State Forests, National parks and protected public land. Fire may also be used to protect and enhance the ecology of these lands.
Water Act (1989)	The purpose of the Water Act is to provide means for the protection and enhancement of the environmental quality of waterways and for the protection of catchment conditions. This includes controls on the introduction of exotic species and the protection of land and waterways

Policy

Title	Summary
Code of Practice for Fire management on Crown Land	The Code requires that wherever possible the introduction and spread of weeds and pest animals is to be avoided or addressed within appropriate timeframes by effective Machinery hygiene practices.
Code of Practice for timber production (2007)	A mandatory requirement of the code is to identify and mitigate against potential threats such as invasive plants, pest and pathogens.
Environmental Policy for Victoria's State Forests	The policy identifies the seven objectives for the management of State forests in Victoria.
Invasive Pest Plant and Animal Policy Framework (IPAPF)	The policy provides a revision of the Victorian Pest Management Framework. It represents the Victorian Government's approach to managing existing and potential invasive species across the whole of Victoria.
Sustainability Charter for Victoria's State Forests	The charter sets objectives for the sustainability of public native forests and the timber harvesting industry on public land in Victoria. It has strong links with the Environmental Policy for Victoria's State Forests.

Strategies

Title	
Biosecurity Strategy for Victoria	The strategy covers threats to primary industries, the environment, social amenity and human health, across Victorian public and private land, freshwater and marine habitats, caused by plant and animal pests and diseases, and invasive plants and animals. The strategy focuses on new and emerging threats
Victorian Biodiversity Strategy	Victoria's Biodiversity Strategy fulfils commitments in the national strategy for the Conservation of Biodiversity and requirements under Victoria's FFG Act 1998.

Guidelines

Title	Summary
Guidelines and Procedures for managing environmental impacts of invasive plants on public land in Vic 2007	The Guidelines propose a priority setting framework for managing the environmental impact of invasive plants and gives highest priority to new and emerging invasive plants and the next priority to protecting the highest value assets at greatest risk.

Other

Title	Summary
Securing our natural future: A white paper for land and biodiversity at a time of climate change	The White Paper is a long-term, strategic framework to secure the health of Victoria's land, water and biodiversity in the face of ongoing pressures and a changing climate over the next fifty years

Regional

Strategies

Title	Summary
Port Phillip and Western Port Regional Catchment Strategy 2004-2009	The Port Phillip and Western Port RCS is the region's overarching strategy for natural resource management. The following documents are sub-strategies of the RCS
Port Phillip and Western Port Native Vegetation Plan 2006	The Port Phillip and Western Port NVP is a strategic guide for regional native vegetation management to achieve a reversal of the long-term decline in the extent and quality of native vegetation leading to a 'Net Gain'.
Port Phillip and Western Port Regional River Health Strategy 2006	This strategy identifies waterway values (catchment based), threats to waterway values, and actions to address these threats. It provides a five-year blueprint for Melbourne Water, the Port Phillip and Westernport CMA, councils, community groups and environmental and industry associations to work together to improve our rivers and creeks.

Local

Strategies

Title	Summary
Cardinia Shire Council Plan (2018–22)	Commits to 'long-term sustainability of the built and natural environment' within an overall framework that plans for 'future generations to enjoy and experience the diverse and distinctive characteristics of our municipality'. Of the major challenges raised over the Council Plan life, 'Managing our environment' features as one of four corner-stones.
Sustainable Environment Policy (2018-2028)	A roadmap for the future direction of Council's environmental sustainability. It identifies environmental challenges facing the municipality and provides an overarching framework to ensure a consistent and holistic approach. The policy focuses on the areas of: Biodiversity, Climate change, Waste, Water
Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (2019-2029)	The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy has been developed as part of Cardinia Shire's commitment to protect, manage and enhance biodiversity within the municipality as identified within the Council Municipal Strategic Statement. The Strategy provides a strategic 10 year plan to achieve a protected, well managed and connected landscape on private and public land with a community who values our natural environment. The Strategy provides a vision and direction for the conservation management of biodiversity assets on Council land, initiatives to build community

Title	Summary
	engagement, awareness and education to conserve our biodiversity and an action plan for future initiatives to realise conservation outcomes on private and public land.
Cardinia Shire Liveability Plan (2017-2029)	Recognises Council's role in coordinating local public health planning, by bringing together a range of organisations and local groups to collectively protect, improve and promote the health and wellbeing of all Cardinia Shire residents