



UPPER HUNTER COUNTY COUNCIL

Policy No C4/11 – Class 4 Control Policy

This policy outlines the requirements for the control of plants declared Class 4 noxious weeds by private occupiers of land in the area of operation of the Upper Hunter County Council which consists of the local government areas of the Upper Hunter, Muswellbrook and Singleton Shire Councils.

1.1 Objectives of Class 4 Declaration.

To minimise the negative impact of those plants on the economy, community or the environment of NSW

1.2 Declaration as per Order 28 Noxious Weed Act 1993

The growth of the plant must be managed in a manner that reduces its numbers and spread and incidence and continually inhibits its reproduction.

1.3 Legal obligations of Landholders- Section 12, Noxious Weed Act 1993

Private occupiers of land must control noxious weeds on land.

An occupier (other than a public authority or a local control authority) of land to which a weed control order applies must control noxious weeds on the land as required under the order.

Note: If an occupier fails to comply with obligations under a weed control order, those obligations may be enforced against the owner of the land as well as the occupier by a weed control notice issued under section 18

2.0 Prescribed Control Measures

The growth and spread of Class 4 plants **must** be controlled to the extent specified in the following control measures.

2.1 All Class 4 plants within 50 metres of any property boundary or recognised watercourse must be prevented from producing viable seed by either using a registered herbicide as per label and/or mechanically removed (see Note 1).

2.2 On properties where infestations cover an area exceeding 10 hectares, infestations must be reduced by 20% annually. Control measures which may be used are:

- The application of a registered herbicide as per label, or
- Mechanic removal (see Note 1), or
- The introduction of perennial grasses and a grazing management program, together with the use of a biological control agent. Occupiers using this method are required to submit a copy of their control plan to Council for approval.

2.3 On properties where infestations cover an area of less than 10 hectares:

- All plants must be prevented from producing viable seed by either using a registered herbicide as per label, or
- Mechanic means such as slashing or hand pulling (see Note 1).

2.4 Occupiers of land may submit a noxious plant management plan to Council for approval.

Note 1: Occupiers who use mechanical removal as a method of control **must** collect and dispose of all plant material by burying it below 30 cm in a pit dug for the purpose.