

BushBroker[®]

Standards for management - Weeds

Information sheet No. 8

Weeds can out-compete native species and reduce the quality of the habitat for native animals.

Under BushBroker the following minimum standards apply for weed control.

- You are required to comply with requirements to control or eradicate weeds listed under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*. For more information, visit www.dpi.vic.gov.au/weeds and click 'Weed Information Notes'.
- You are required to control or eradicate weeds beyond your current obligations as established under legislation or as stated in licence or other agreements already in place.
- Focus management activities on the control or eradication of high-threat weeds as specified in your BushBroker Landowner Agreement (Landowner Agreement).
- Eliminate all woody weeds (to less than one percent) within two to three years of the commencement of the Landowner Agreement.
- Ensure that grass and herbaceous weed cover does not increase beyond current levels or eliminate (to less than one percent) if specified in the Landowner Agreement.
- Monitor and eliminate any new or emerging weeds.
- Prevent or minimise disturbance to native vegetation.
- Minimise soil disturbance.
- Stagger the removal of weeds (especially woody shrubs such as Boxthorn) that provide habitat for native animals where it is otherwise absent (this will be specified in the Landowner Agreement if applicable). If possible, plant indigenous (local native) shrubs prior to removing the weeds so that there is no net loss of habitat.
- Aim to control weed populations before seeds are set.
- Apply herbicide during active growth (i.e. avoid periods when plants are drought-stressed).
- Always read the herbicide label prior to use.
- Use an aquatic-friendly herbicide around creek-line areas.
- If chemicals are being used, you are required to comply with the current legislation. Visit www.dpi.vic.gov.au/chemicalstandards for more information.

Actions for management of Woody weeds

Felling/ringbarking	Use on trees and large shrubs that won't resprout (e.g. pines).
Cut and paint with suitable herbicide	Use on trees and shrubs that are likely to resprout from cut stumps. Cut stem and paint cut stump immediately (within 20 seconds) with systemic herbicide.
Drill or frill and fill with suitable herbicide	Use on trees and shrubs that are likely to resprout. Drill a number of holes or make horizontal cuts at an angle of 45 degrees into the sapwood (moist wood below bark) and immediately fill hole with systemic herbicide.

Standards for management - Weeds

Actions for management of Grass/Herbaceous weeds

Spot-spraying and wick-wiping	Spot spraying or wiping selected weeds with appropriate herbicide (refer to herbicide label) ensuring that due care is taken to minimise impacts on non-target species (useful for perennial grass/herb control).
Slashing and mowing	May be used to stop seed set and to allow for easier herbicide application (use only where there is a dense weed infestation and where included in the Landowner Agreement).
Hand weeding	Removing selected plants by hand or chipping (useful where populations are small or where herbicide use is not desirable).
Grazing	Grazing by domestic stock to control the further spread of dense weed infestations. This method is only used when ecologically appropriate and there is no commitment to stock exclusion in the Landowner Agreement. Using grazing as a management tool will require that livestock be kept in a holding paddock outside the site for a minimum period of 24 hours prior to entry to reduce the risk of weed introduction and spread.
Spot-burning	Using a hand-held weed burner before seed set (useful for destroying seed heads of annual/perennial herbs), mindful of environmental conditions. Burning will not be recommended if it poses an unacceptable risk.

Health and safety

You are responsible for ensuring all works required in implementing the management actions are conducted in a safe manner and comply with the lawful requirements of any Authority, and with all Acts, regulations and other laws which may be applicable to the BushBroker Landowner Agreement.

To determine whether there are any underground pipes or cables on your property, you may wish to consider calling 1100 - "Dial before you dig". This is a free referral service from anywhere in Australia.

Further information

For more information on weeds and weed control methods visit the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) website www.dpi.vic.gov.au/weeds and www.dpi.vic.gov.au/chemicalstandards.

For further information on BushBroker, please contact the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) Customer Service Centre on **136 186** or visit the DSE website at: www.dse.vic.gov.au/nativevegetation. All BushBroker Information Sheets are available on the website.

BushBroker is a registered trademark of the State of Victoria (Department of Sustainability and Environment)
Published by the Victorian Government Department of Sustainability and Environment, Melbourne, September 2009
© The State of Victoria Department of Sustainability and Environment 2009
This publication is copyright. No part may be reproduced by any process except in accordance with the provisions of the *Copyright Act 1968*.
Authorised by the Victorian Government, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne
Printed by Stream Solutions
ISBN 978-1-74242-181-0 (print - set)
ISBN 978-1-74242-182-7 (online - set)

For more information contact the DSE Customer Service Centre 136 186

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.