

## WEED CONTROL PROGRAM

### Section 371 (1) (b) of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*

This Weed Control Program is a Council endorsed document under Section 371 (1) (b) of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, and describes how a person must discharge the person's general biosecurity duty for the biosecurity matter (weed) described.

#### PLANT SPECIES

Common name(s): Scotch Broom, Montpellier/Cape Broom, Flax Leaf Broom

Scientific name(s): *Cytisus scoparius*, *Genista monspessulana*, *Genista linifolia*

#### AREA OF OPERATION

Local government area of Eurobodalla Shire.

#### SPECIES INFORMATION

Brooms are perennial leguminous shrubs in the Fabaceae (pea family) which have numerous, flexible, broom-like young branches that give rise to their common name. They commonly grow to 2–3 m tall but can grow to 3–6 m. All Brooms have bright yellow flowers, produce hard-coated seeds in pea-like pods and have seeds that are light brown to very dark, almost black, around 2.5–3 mm long, with an edible growth on the end of the seed (called an aril) that is attractive to ants.

Brooms have invaded over one million hectares of Australia and have naturalised in many other parts of the world, including North and South America, Asia and New Zealand. Seeds are naturally dispersed from the plant by explosive pods that can flick seeds up to 3 m, though the majority of the seed lands within 1 m of the parent plant. Once on the ground, seeds are readily moved long distances by water, humans or animals. Mature Broom plants can produce thousands of seeds each year and these seeds can remain dormant in the soil for 30 years or more before germinating.

Brooms invade native vegetation, forestry and pastoral systems in Australia where they cause significant environmental and economic impacts. Brooms establish rapidly after disturbance such as fire, grazing or forestry harvesting, but can also invade relatively undisturbed areas.

#### LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

(1) Scotch Broom, Montpellier/Cape Broom, Flax Leaf Broom are biosecurity matter declared under Schedule 3 of the *Biosecurity Regulation 2017*.

(2) A person must not import into the State or sell any plant listed in Schedule 3.

#### WEED RISK ASSESSMENT

Feasibility of control: Very high.

Objective: Eradication.

### **COUNCIL CONTROL REQUIREMENTS**

(1) Destroy all plants, or if that is not practicable, destroy as many plants as is practicable and stop the spread of any remaining plants from the property in a manner agreed to, or dictated by, Council.

(2) The landholder must prevent spread from their land.

### **ENFORCEMENT**

A person who fails to discharge the person's general biosecurity duty is guilty of an offence.

In the event that the general biosecurity duty is not discharged, Council may:

- charge a reinspection fee
- issue a penalty notice (refer to *Biosecurity Regulation 2017* (NSW) Schedule 6 - Penalty Notice Offences)
- enter the property, perform weed direction works and recoup all costs and expenses incurred.

### **REVIEW DATE**

28 August 2019, or when required.

### **CONTACT DETAILS**

Invasive Species Supervisor – *Biosecurity Act 2015* Authorised Officer

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