

REVIEW OF PROGRESS TOWARDS THE BITOU BUSH & BONESEED STRATEGIC PLAN 2006-2007

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Executive Summary

This report outlines progress towards the vision of the Bitou Bush and Boneseed Strategic Plan: Working together to arrest the spread and minimise the impact of bitou bush and boneseed in natural ecosystems. In 2006/07, the Australian Government invested over \$1.35M in the bitou bush and boneseed program, while investment from six States, Natural Resource Management Regions, local government and community volunteers exceeded \$5.2M. National coordination directed this investment towards nationally strategic goals, enabling the achievement of significant outcomes over the past year.

Preventing the spread of bitou bush and boneseed

- The Western Australia Boneseed Eradication Program now protects over 37 million hectares of Western Australia from the threat of boneseed, including global biodiversity hotspots containing rare flora.
- South Australia is preventing the spread of boneseed into Australia's west by establishing the National Western Boneseed Containment Line at the current western boneseed invasion front on the Eyre Peninsula.
- Strategic control of outlier boneseed infestations in Tasmania is engaging landowners in long-term follow-up control, while halting further spread.
- Southern NSW groups are eliminating boneseed from the region and containing northward spread at the NSW-Victoria border.

Minimising adverse impacts of bitou bush and boneseed on biodiversity

- NSW partners are reducing the threat of bitou bush to biodiversity by implementing the NSW Bitou Bush Threat Abatement Plan. The plan identifies 158 native plants and 26 communities at risk from bitou bush invasion. Control is occurring at over 300 sites to protect this biodiversity.
- The boneseed leaf buckle mite is currently being reared for release in Spring 2008.

Maintaining national commitment to management of bitou bush and boneseed

- The National Program continues to foster consistent management approaches through the distribution of best practice guidelines for aerial spraying of bitou bush in NSW and the Boneseed Management Manual, as well as initiating development of the Bitou Bush Management Manual, which will be available in 2008.
- The National Coordinator initiated a project with NSW education experts to develop an interactive school resource that educates children about the threat of weeds. The "*Weeds Attack!*" resource increases student's awareness by integrating weed science principles into the school curriculum. In 2007 trials, uptake was excellent, with teachers and students engaging enthusiastically. The computer-based resource will be available to all NSW schools by June 2008.

These and a range of other activities were made possible by substantial contribution from all partners, however commitment is still needed to build on current programs and capitalise on the investment to date. Future priorities for the program include establishing eastern boneseed containment zones, facilitating research into seed longevity, and developing and enhancing biological control programs for bitou bush and boneseed.

Introduction

This report outlines progress towards the vision of the Bitou Bush and Boneseed Strategic Plan: Working together to arrest the spread and minimise the impact of bitou bush and boneseed in natural ecosystems.

History and impact of bitou bush and boneseed in Australia

Bitou bush and boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp. *rotundata* and *C. monilifera* subsp. *monilifera*, respectively) are highly invasive environmental weeds that endanger Australia's natural ecosystems. Bitou bush threatens coastal plant communities in New South Wales (NSW), Victoria and SE Queensland, while boneseed poses a serious threat to native bushland across NSW, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia.

Bitou bush and boneseed are native to South Africa. Boneseed was first recorded as a garden plant in Sydney in 1852 and by 1948 it was present in all southern states. Infestations appear to have resulted from garden escapes. The earliest records of bitou bush are from the Newcastle area in 1908, where it was accidentally introduced in ballast. From 1946 to 1968, bitou bush was planted along the NSW and Queensland coasts to reduce dune erosion and assist in post-mining rehabilitation. These plantings contributed significantly to spread, and bitou bush now infests over 80% of the NSW coastline.

Bitou bush and boneseed pose a major threat to Australia's biodiversity because they reduce the abundance and diversity of native species and adversely affect the structure and function of natural ecosystems. Over 200 plant species and ecological communities in Australia are negatively impacted by these weeds (ARMCANZ *et al.* 2000; DECC 2006) and large areas of Australia are still susceptible to invasion. Predictions indicate that these weeds have the potential to invade over 120 million hectares of Australia if effective control and containment programs are not implemented and maintained (see maps Appendix C).

A national solution

In 2000, the Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand and the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council and Forestry Ministers approved the Bitou Bush and Boneseed Strategic Plan (ARMCANZ *et al.* 2000). This plan targets resources to the most critical issues through a range of agreed actions involving all levels of government and the community. The focus is on improving control techniques, refining and adopting integrated management strategies and coordinating actions at national, state, regional and local levels. Priority is given to enhancing community involvement by developing partnerships between stakeholders, with specific recognition of the important role of volunteers.

The Australian Government and the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change support the National Coordinator and the National Bitou Bush and Boneseed Management Group (NBBBMG), who oversee national

implementation of the Strategic Plan. In addition, state agencies and Natural Resource Management (NRM) bodies in NSW, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia provide considerable support to the program. The National Coordinator and NBBBMG work to develop lasting partnerships between these agencies and community stakeholders to ensure continued support for the Strategic Plan. Successful implementation of the Plan will require long-term commitment of resources and enduring community support. These resources must largely be provided from government agencies and community volunteers, as bitou bush and boneseed primarily impact environmental assets on public land.

Progress to date

Current activities build on a range of actions undertaken over the past six years (see previous progress reports for further details). Investment from the Australian Government, state agencies, regional bodies and the community enabled many achievements:

- Bitou bush is no longer spreading southward in Australia: the national southern bitou bush containment zone established in 2002 has successfully moved over 100 km north and work continues to maintain areas south of the containment zone bitou bush free while moving the containment line north.
- The Queensland government has eliminated all bitou bush infestations in the state and annually searches for and controls any new infestations as part of the ongoing surveillance and control program. Partners in NSW maintain the national northern bitou bush containment line at the NSW border to prevent bitou bush spread into Queensland.
- State and regional strategies support bitou bush and boneseed control in high priority sites. Regional weed working groups and task forces bring stakeholders together to jointly enact programs. In addition, many NRM regions now include boneseed and bitou bush control in their long-term strategic plans.
- *C. monilifera* is not on the AQIS permitted plants list. Legislation to prevent sale and movement of *C. monilifera* is in place in all States and Territories.
- National Priority Action Frameworks for bitou bush and boneseed are available to assist stakeholders with strategic project planning.
- New national and state maps for bitou bush and boneseed and revised potential distribution maps allow for more efficient strategic planning and identify regions at risk from these weeds across Australia.
- Best practice management is reinforced and refined through publications such as *Best practice guidelines for the aerial spraying of bitou bush in NSW* and the *Boneseed Management Manual*.
- A full-time National Coordinator has been managing the program since January 2005 and the position is funded through December 2008, enabling more efficient delivery of actions in the National Strategy and facilitation of nationally coordinated projects.
- The biological control program continues. With the support of the Australian Government, research is currently underway on the boneseed leaf-buckle mite and the boneseed rust. The bitou seed fly, tip moth and leaf-roller moth are established on bitou bush in NSW and re-distribution efforts are ongoing.

Successful implementation of containment programs, availability of effective control options and widespread community support offer considerable hope for the future.

Goals and achievements in 2006-07

In 2006-07, the National Coordinator worked together with the National Bitou Bush and Boneseed Management Group and a range of stakeholders across Australia to achieve significant progress towards goals in the Strategic Plan. In 2006/07, the Australian Government invested over \$1,372,000 in the bitou bush and boneseed program, while investment from six States, Natural Resource Management Regions, local government and community volunteers exceeded \$5,192,000 (see Appendix A). A short summary of the significant outcomes in 2006-07 is presented below.

Goal 1: Preventing the spread of bitou bush and boneseed

Boneseed is being eradicated in Western Australia

The National Boneseed Program coordinated with the Western Australia (WA) government and five NRM regions in WA to develop and implement the Western Australia Boneseed Eradication Strategy. This strategy engages stakeholders in the eradication of all boneseed infestations in Western Australia (to date, there are only 35 discrete sites known). Following workshops held throughout southwest WA in May 2007, stakeholders committed to ongoing eradication at known boneseed sites. All infestations were mapped and assessed, and an intensive "Boneseed Blitz" awareness campaign is soliciting assistance from the public to report new infestations. The 2006 Blitz resulted in five new infestations being identified, which are now under control. Land managers and community members are engaged in development of individual site plans and long-term control and monitoring. The strategy ensures long-term commitment and establishes an action plan for new incursions. The eradication program is currently being implemented with strong state and regional support. Successful implementation of the WA Boneseed Eradication Program will strongly support the National Boneseed Containment Line in western South Australia and will protect over 37 million hectares of Western Australia from the threat of boneseed.

National Boneseed Containment in South Australia

A partnership between the Eyre and Northern & Yorke NRM regions and the Australian Government is preventing further spread of boneseed into Australia's west. Land managers are establishing the National Western Boneseed Containment Line at the current national invasion front in western South Australia to protect susceptible regions to the west and support the Western Australia Boneseed Eradication Program. Project participants are coordinating and implementing on-ground work to control all 190 hectares of boneseed west of the containment line. The NRM regions will maintain a 10-year commitment to contain and control boneseed and enact community awareness campaigns to inform the public on the threat of boneseed, thus encouraging increased support for control.

Strategic control of boneseed across Tasmania

Tasmanian NRM bodies and State agencies are implementing the priority project “Nationally strategic control of outlying boneseed infestations across Tasmania.” This project supports ongoing boneseed containment efforts in Tasmania by eliminating priority outlier populations, controlling boneseed at priority sites and promoting programs that engage private landholders in boneseed control. The National Coordinator, together with representatives from the three NRM regions, state agencies and non-government organisations, developed the statewide project and formed the Tasmanian Boneseed Steering Committee. The committee identified priority outlier sites for boneseed control across Tasmania, and control will occur throughout 2007/08. The unique program provides for initial boneseed control while also engaging property managers and private landowners in follow-up control on their land for three subsequent years. Thus, the program empowers landowners to prevent reinvasion, stops further spread of boneseed, increases community awareness and supports the hard work of community volunteers.

Protecting the Great Ocean Road from the threat of boneseed

The Victorian Government is supporting community volunteers by funding control of boneseed in inaccessible areas of the Great Otways National Park. Community groups have worked for years to protect this rare coastal heathland from invasion by boneseed and other weeds but they have been unable to access boneseed on the steep cliffs, thus hampering efforts to prevent reinvasion. The Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment’s “Weeds and Pests on Public Land” program has provided funds to Parks Victoria to control these plants and protect high value conservation assets while also increasing community capacity to manage weeds. Parks Victoria and ANGAIR (the local community group) are implementing a boneseed control program along the Great Ocean Road between Eastern View and Spout Creek. The program coordinates and implements on-ground work and engages neighbouring private landholders in boneseed control. Parks Victoria is committed to the long-term containment of boneseed in the Great Otway National Park, which is protecting threatened species like the Rufous Bristlebird and minimising the movement of boneseed across the public and private land interface.

Regional groups unite to stop the spread of boneseed in NSW

The Eastern and Western Riverina Noxious Weeds Advisory Groups in southern NSW now recognise boneseed as an emerging threat to their regions following an awareness campaign run by the National Coordinator and results of recent mapping. Revised potential distribution mapping in 2005 indicated that boneseed could affect the majority of the Riverina, however very few infestations currently exist. The National Coordinator is working with NSW Department of Primary Industries and the regional advisory groups to develop a boneseed management strategy and pursue a more stringent legislative listing for boneseed in the region. The goals are to eradicate boneseed from the region and prevent further spread. In the long term, these efforts will potentially enable the establishment of boneseed containment lines at the NSW-Victoria border, thus preventing northward spread into NSW. In

the future, the National Coordinator will work to garner support for this program from the ACT and adjoining regions in NSW.

Goal 2: Minimising adverse impacts of bitou bush and boneseed on biodiversity

NSW is reducing the threat of bitou bush to biodiversity

Implementation of the NSW Bitou Bush Threat Abatement Plan (TAP) has resulted in coordinated bitou bush control for biodiversity protection across NSW. The TAP identifies 158 native plant species and 26 ecological communities at risk from bitou bush invasion and prioritises 349 sites for protection based on biodiversity conservation, independent of land tenure. The five coastal Catchment Management Authorities in NSW, the Department of Environment and Climate Change, NSW Department of Lands and numerous local governments, as well as the Australian Government National Heritage Trust program, have provided funding to implement bitou bush control at many priority sites in the TAP. A full-time TAP coordinator works with stakeholders to ensure that they are involved and maintain commitment through the development of site-specific management plans and standardised monitoring guidelines. DECC maintains a website with best practice resources and is currently developing a native species identification guide for the 158 species at risk from bitou bush in NSW. This guide will be free to all community groups and volunteers working with bitou bush in NSW and will help to limit off-target damage to native species during bitou bush control. The TAP project brings together over 38 different groups of land managers, including national, state, regional and local groups to ensure protection of priority biodiversity by controlling bitou bush at key sites (see DEC 2006).

Better maps to ensure good management

The collation of distribution information for bitou bush and boneseed has identified gaps and allowed us to refine risk assessment and awareness activities. The National Coordinator worked closely with the National Land and Water Resource Audit to create nationally agreed, robust, 100km-grid national maps for bitou bush and boneseed. Consultation with regional weed managers greatly enhanced information exchange by generating much discussion regarding bitou bush and boneseed distribution, and new boneseed infestations were identified. Consequently, we have identified additional areas at risk from boneseed in NSW and are taking action to prevent spread in those areas.

Department of Agriculture and Food officers in Western Australia worked with the National Coordinator to run public awareness campaigns that led to the discovery of several boneseed new infestations. These infestations were mapped and documented to ensure long-term control and monitoring of each site as part of the Western Australian eradication program. Good maps provide a sound basis for best practice management and are critical to the success of the National program as well as regional control and eradication efforts. Ongoing maintenance and updating of information is also essential.

School students empowered to protect biodiversity

NSW Department of Primary Industries Weed Warriors Coordinator and the National Bitou Bush Coordinator are enhancing community involvement and developing partnerships between state and regional bodies, NSW school students and the community. Together, these partners are implementing the Weed Warriors program for bitou bush and other weeds in NSW. Ten NSW schools are currently running the bitou bush program and work continues with Catchment Management Agencies (CMAs) and the Department of Education and Training to implement the program in schools across the state. The Weed Warriors program empowered students to act on weed issues and reduces the impact of bitou bush by rearing, releasing and monitoring the Tortrix leaf-roller moth at sites in their community. This provides critical support for the bitou bush biocontrol program by further distributing successful agents to new sites in NSW. Students also develop increased awareness of the impacts of bitou bush and are able to reduce those impacts using biological control agents. Students share this message with their parents and the wider community, thus raising their awareness of the weed problem.

Controlling boneseed to protect biodiversity in the Green Triangle

The South-East NRM Region and the Glenelg-Hopkins CMA, with support from the Australian Government, are implementing control of boneseed in high priority conservation areas of the biodiversity-rich "Green Triangle" region, which spans southwestern Victoria and southeastern South Australia. Weed control resources are strategically targeted to protect high priority conservation areas, irrespective of tenure. This cross-border, integrated environmental weed management program provides high biodiversity conservation benefit and improved best practice management by educating private landholders in effective control of environmental weeds.

Progress continues on the Boneseed Biocontrol Program

The Victorian Department of Primary Industries and Tasmanian Institute of Agricultural Research are implementing the national program for the release of the boneseed leaf-buckle mite, with funding from the Australian Government. The mite is currently being reared for initial release and project partners are engaging community groups in Victoria and Tasmania for future assistance with rearing and release of the mite. Mite establishment, dispersal and impact assessment studies are also included in this project. The program is also identifying release sites for the mite in spring 2007.

The Defeating the Weed Menace Research and Development Program and CSIRO are supporting continued work on a potentially important biocontrol agent, the boneseed rust. This project aims to improve the effectiveness of the biological control program against boneseed using a rust species likely to bring good results. In addition, the National Coordinator has been liaising with CSIRO researchers and land managers on the NSW north coast to investigate an apparent bitou bush pathogen recently found in that area.

The National Boneseed Program continues to support biocontrol efforts by linking researchers with the community and facilitating training of community groups and regional land managers in the effective implementation of

biocontrol. Successful biocontrol agents will be a key factor in reducing the impact and extent of boneseed invasions across Australia.

Research funded to investigate bitou bush invasion dynamics

Support from the Defeating the Weed Menace Research and Development Program has allowed researchers at Wollongong University in NSW to undertake the project "Understanding and determining mechanisms to prevent invasion in coastal vegetation." This project is studying bitou bush and other weed invasions to develop guidelines for sustainable weed control and ecosystem restoration. Researchers will be able to refine regional prioritisation criteria for weed control based on an improved understanding of native community dynamics and native species interactions with weed invaders. This will assist with prioritising bitou bush and boneseed control and subsequent revegetation efforts.

Future priorities for boneseed research include seed longevity studies, which are critical to boneseed eradication programs. The National Coordinator is working with researchers at University of Queensland and University of Wollongong to initiate that research in 2007.

Goal 3: Maintaining national commitment to coordination and management of bitou bush and boneseed

The National Bitou Bush and Boneseed Management Group

In 2006/07, the Group continued to support and prioritise management actions across Australia. In November 2006, the Group met in conjunction with the South Coast Bitou Bush Task Force and members of the Jervis Bay/Wreck Bay Aboriginal community in NSW and in April 2007, with the Tasmanian Boneseed Steering Committee in Launceston. These meetings and subsequent field trips to the management sites allowed the Group to support and better understand regional containment efforts and advise on project implementation. Mr Peter McGlone, the Tasmanian community representative, served as Chair from May 2006 through June 2007 and community representatives from Victoria and Western Australia joined the Group in 2006. The Group is currently comprised of agency and community representatives from Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, and South Australia (Appendix B).

Fostering consistent approaches to bitou bush and boneseed management

The Department of Environment and Climate Change NSW (DECC), with sponsorship from the Australian Government, completed the Boneseed Management Manual in September 2006. The Manual fills an imperative need for complete up-to-date technical information on the best practice management of boneseed in Australia, in a concise easy-to-read guide. We have distributed over 1800 hard copies of the Manual and it is freely available on the Web.

In June 2007, the Australian Government provided funding to DECC to develop a Bitou Bush Management Manual. DECC has appointed a project officer to complete the manual by June 2008. In addition, funds are available

to revise national mapping of bitou bush as part of the manual project. This will allow for better strategic planning and increased ability to gauge success of current control programs.

In addition to these manuals, the DECC also completed the *Best practice guidelines for aerial spraying of bitou bush* in NSW in April 2006. Together these materials provide a foundation for stakeholders to achieve consistent approaches to the management of bitou bush and boneseed.

Engaging stakeholders in WONS in Western Australia

In May 2007, the National Coordinator, in conjunction with the National Willows and Bridal Creeper Coordinators, planned and implemented 6 major awareness workshops throughout southwest Western Australia. The Coordinators worked with NRM regions to act as 'hosts' for the workshops, thus further engaging the regions in the WONS program. Over 150 participants attended the workshops and developed an increased understanding of boneseed, willows and bridal creeper and the potential impact of these weeds in their region and nationally. Participants represented a large range of stakeholders, many of whom are now actively engaged in the WA Boneseed Eradication Program. Evaluation forms completed before and after the workshops indicated a very strong increase in knowledge of boneseed and willows, as well as better capacity to manage bridal creeper. In addition, as a direct result of these workshops, regional stakeholders formed new partnerships and are now initiating regional 'working groups' to facilitate more coordinated weed management across regions.

Coordinating actions at all levels

In 2006/07, the National Coordinator worked to achieve coordinated action towards national strategy goals. Examples of activities include:

- Working with stakeholders to develop four national Defeating the Weed Menace projects (detailed above). Successful funding of these projects has enabled targeting of resources to the most critical National Strategy goals.
- Maintaining and utilizing a communication network of individuals, communities and agencies working with bitou bush and boneseed. New contacts from the WA boneseed workshops were incorporated into an extensive network to facilitate the boneseed eradication project.
- Organising and implementing over 15 workshops to promote best practice management, increase the awareness of boneseed impacts on biodiversity, develop an increased understanding of bitou bush and boneseed priorities, coordinate regional stakeholders in national projects and develop partnerships to progress national action.

Goal 4: Raising awareness of bitou bush and boneseed

Educating our children about the threat of weeds

Education experts from the NSW Department of Education are developing an upper primary, lower secondary school resource that increases awareness

and recognition of the threat of bitou bush and other weeds. The Department of Education and Training (Centre for Learning Innovation), in conjunction with NSW DPI and the National Bitou Bush Program, are developing the Weeds: Educate to Eradicate project, which was successfully funded through the Defeating the Weeds Menace program in June 2007. A series of weed resources will teach students about the impacts of weeds on biodiversity and what they can do to manage the weed problem. Teachers in NSW schools can use these resources to impart weed management principles and the importance of integrated weed management. The program fits within the NSW science curriculum and links directly with the Weed Warriors program that is currently being implemented in schools in NSW, thus adding value to an already successful program. Bitou bush will be used as a case study in the first iteration of the program, which is called "Weeds Attack: Invasion of the bitou bush!" The resource will be adaptable to other WoNS and weeds across Australia. This project recognises the importance of educating our children and will lead to increased weed awareness through integration of weed science principles into the school curriculum.

National Coordinator promotes awareness and better management

During 2006/07, the National Bitou Bush and Boneseed Coordinator worked to raise awareness and encourage nationally consistent best practice management. Activities included:

- Organised and supported the statewide "Tasmanian Boneseed Blitz" in October 2006. This event included the national launch of Weedbuster Week and the *Boneseed Management Manual* by Minister Eric Abetz, as well as radio and print media coverage and boneseed control and awareness activities by over 50 community groups across Tasmania;
- Organised workshops in Western Australia and Victoria to relay best practice information and educate stakeholders about the threats to biodiversity posed by boneseed, as well as distribute information, including the Manual, boneseed flyers and Weedeck information cards;
- Prepared and distributed 30,000 Western Australia boneseed awareness flyers to inform stakeholders on the threat of boneseed and provide information on how to identify and report boneseed;
- Presented papers during a special "national initiatives" section at the 15th Australian Weeds Conference to increase awareness of bitou bush and boneseed (1) "*National Weed Containment and Eradication Zones: Challenges, Successes, and Lessons Learned,*" and (2) "*Is it all just WoNS and the same? Successes and challenges in the management of WoNS across Australia*" (Cherry *et al.* 2006; Holland-Clift *et al.* 2006). Organised the launch of five WoNS Management Manuals, including the boneseed manual by Minister Abetz during the conference. In addition, a WoNS brochure, bitou bush and boneseed flyers, and boneseed posters were also distributed to the 400 conference delegates.
- Published boneseed and bitou bush articles in a range of newsletters;
- Participated in radio interviews to promote boneseed awareness, and
- Continually provided new information on the Weeds Australia webpage [www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/bitoubush], including the Boneseed Management Manual, the TAP, the WA Boneseed Eradication Strategy, updated distribution maps, education and awareness materials, and a range of other best practice materials.

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Appendices

Appendix A – Investment Information July 2006 – June 2007

Significant bitou bush and boneseed projects: July 2006 – June 2007

<u>Project Location</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Project Partners</u>	<u>State, regional local and community investment</u>	<u>Australian Government investment</u>
National	Establishment of a national program for the release of Boneseed leaf buckle mite	Vic DSE/DPI TAS TIAR DWM	\$141,000	\$139,557
National	Boneseed Rust: A highly promising candidate for biological control.	CSIRO DWM	\$120,241	\$115,929
National	Bitou Bush WONS Management Manual	DECC NSW DWM	\$80,400	\$86,475
National	National Bitou Bush and Boneseed Management Coordinator	DECC NSW DWM	\$158,710	\$112,060
NSW Coast	Bitou Bush Threat Abatement Plan Saving threatened coastal communities in NSW through targeted bitou bush control	DECC NSW 5 NSW Coastal CMA's NHT	\$1,605,000	\$525,000
NSW Coast	Understanding and determining mechanisms to prevent invasion in coastal vegetation.	Wollongong University, DECC NSW DWM	\$96,298	\$143,163
NSW	Weeds: Educate to Eradicate	NSW DET, DECC & DPI DWM	\$30,167	\$28,435
South Australia	National Containment & Strategic Control of Boneseed in South Australia	NYAD and EP NRM DWM	\$49,088	\$48,600
Tasmania	Nationally Strategic Control of Outlying Boneseed Infestations Across Tasmania	Southern, Northern and Cradle Coast NRM, DWM	\$203,737	\$154,275
TOTAL	Investment in significant bitou bush and boneseed projects		\$2,484,641	\$1,353,494
Additional investment	Local, state, regional & community programs in addition to projects listed above	NSW, QLD, SA, TAS, VIC and WA	\$2,707,866	
Grand Total			\$5,192,507	\$1,353,494

Budget Statement: National Coordination of Bitou Bush and Boneseed Program 2006

2006		Planned budget		Actual Expenditure	
Employees & Positions Held		Recipient's Contributions (without GST)	Funds paid by the Commonwealth (without GST)	Recipient's Contributions Expended (without GST)	Commonwealth Funds Expended (without GST)
Co-ordinator salary and on-costs			\$83,860		\$83,860
Management, admin support					
NRM groups, state /territory community support inputs		\$158,710		\$175,500	
A	Total Employment Costs	\$158,710	\$83,860	\$175,500	\$83,860
Operating Cost Items		Recipient's Contributions (without GST)	Funds be paid by the Commonwealth (without GST)	Recipient's Contributions Expended (without GST)	Commonwealth Funds Expended (without GST)
Management Group travel & meeting expenses			\$12,500		\$11,500*
General operating costs			\$13,200		\$12,200*
Community Awareness			\$2,500		\$4,500*
B	Total Operating costs		\$28,200		\$28,200
					* ~10% of funds from Mgmt Group and General Operating were reallocated to Comm. Awareness category
C	Total Cost (without GST) (A+B)	\$158,710	\$112,060	\$175,500	\$ 112,060
D	GST (10%)	\$15,871	\$11,206	\$17,550	\$11,206
E	Total Cost (including GST)	\$174,581	\$123,266	\$193,050	\$123,266

Appendix B - Bitou Bush & Boneseed Management Committee Members

National Bitou Bush and Boneseed Coordinator

Hillary Cherry, NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change

Chair and NSW Community Representative

Bruce Thom, Visiting Professor University of Sydney

NSW Local Government/Community Representative

Ian Turnbull, Bellingen Shire Council

NSW Agency Representative

Paul Downey, NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change

QLD Agency Representative

Clyde McGaw, Department of Primary Industries, Biosecurity Queensland

SA Community Representative

Peter Tucker, Rural Solutions SA

SA Agency Representative

Dennis Gannaway, Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation

TAS Community Representative

Jamie Cooper, Feral Management Solutions

Outgoing TAS Community Representative and Chairperson

Peter McGlone, Flagstaff Gully Landcare Group (May 2006-June 07)

TAS Agency Representative

David Lane, Department of Primary Industries and Water

VIC Community Representative

Margaret Macdonald, ANGAIR – Friends of Aireys Inlet Wetlands

VIC Agency Representative

Anne Dennis, Department of Sustainability and Environment

David Roberts, Parks Victoria – You Yangs Regional Park

WA Representative

(currently vacant)

Research (Biological Control) Representative

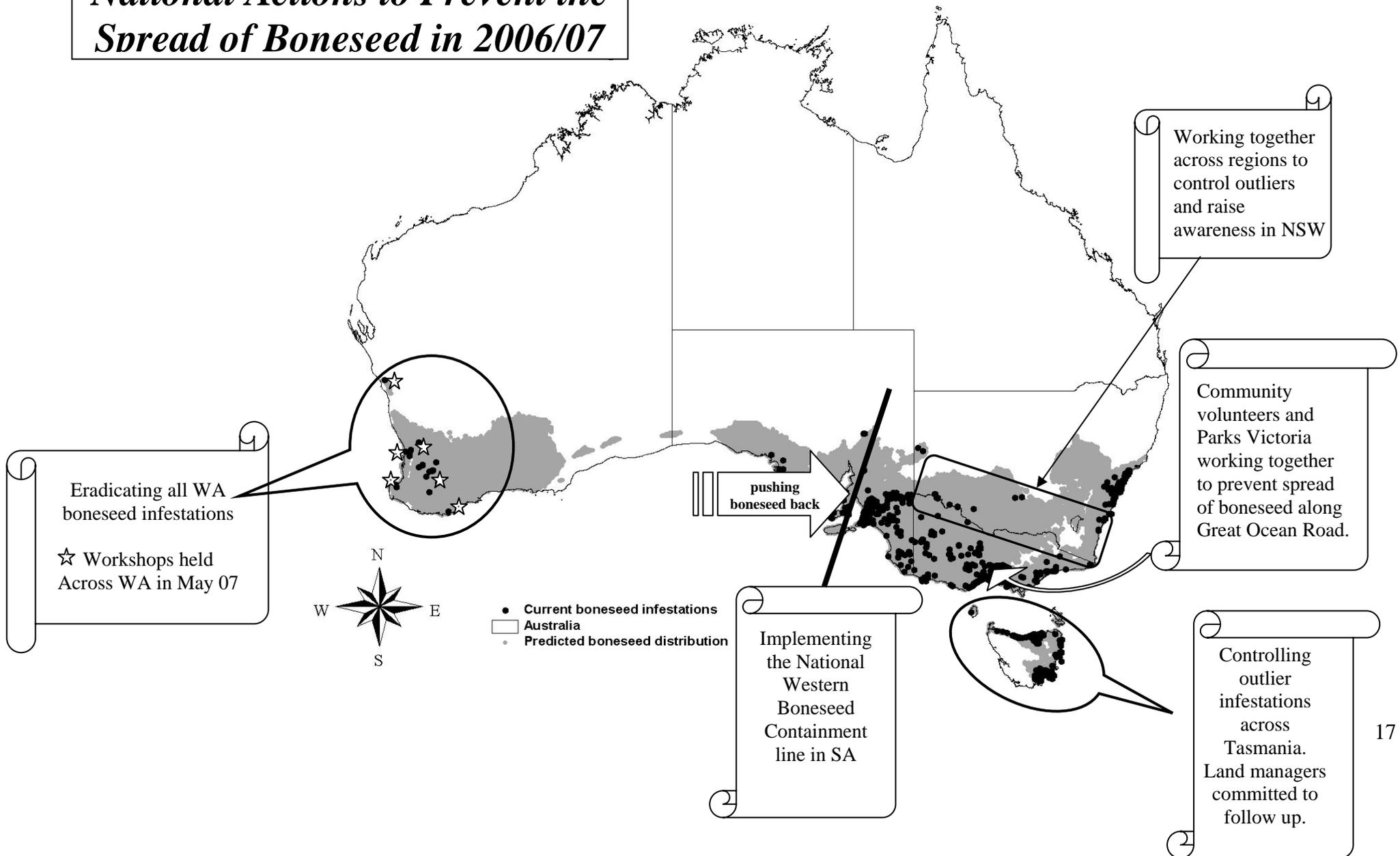
Tom Morley, Department of Primary Industries - Frankston

National Weeds Coordinator (ex-officio member)

John Thorp, National Weeds Management Facilitator

Appendix C – Maps illustrating program success

National Actions to Prevent the Spread of Boneseed in 2006/07



National Actions to Prevent the Spread of Bitou Bush in 2006/07

