



Niall Blair

Minister for Primary Industries
Minister for Lands and Water

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 31 August 2015

NEW STATE STRATEGY TO MANAGE INVASIVE SPECIES

Minister for Primary Industries, Lands and Water Niall Blair has today announced a new plan for managing invasive species in NSW is now open for public consultation.

“Invasive species are one of the greatest threats to biodiversity and primary production in NSW, and the cost Australia more than \$5 billion per year,” Mr Blair said.

“This plan provides the direction to ensure that everyone in this state fosters and supports a cooperative culture and contributes to minimising the impacts of invasive species in NSW.

Invasive species affect us all: government, industry, landholders and the community. This plan further clarifies roles and responsibilities for everyone in invasive species management.

The *NSW Invasive Species Plan 2015–2022* provides actions to prevent and effectively manage the introduction and spread of invasive species including weeds, vertebrate and invertebrate animal pests, freshwater and marine aquatic pests.

A review of the existing NSW Invasive Species Plan 2008-2015 was undertaken to ensure NSW is best placed to tackle pest animals and weeds.

Landholders and the community are asked to provide valuable feedback on the new plan to ensure we have correctly identified priorities and to help guide future investment in invasive species management.

The plan will help farmers boost profitability and reduce the impacts of weeds and pests on their bottom line.

The draft plan has been developed by a working committee with expertise in all facets of invasive species management, including the Department of Primary Industries, Local Land Services, Crown Lands, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, NSW Farmers, Weeds Officers Association, Local Government NSW and the Noxious Weeds Advisory Committee.

Feedback can be submitted to invasive.species@dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Public consultation on the draft plan closes on 2 October 2015.