



Department of  
Primary Industries

Invasive Species Biosecurity

## NSW Parkinsonia Strategic Plan

[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au)

**Published by the NSW Department of Primary Industries**

NSW Parkinsonia Strategic Plan

First published September 2022

**More information**

Jill O'Grady / Weeds Biosecurity / Bathurst

**[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au)**

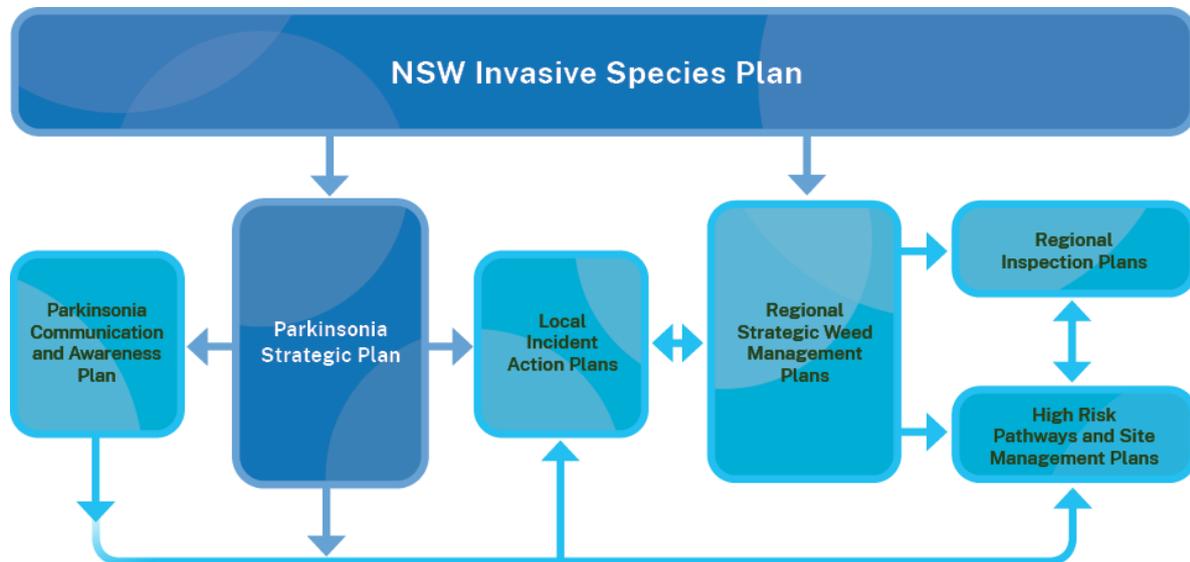
CM9 Ref OUT22/4072

---

© State of New South Wales through Regional NSW 2022. The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (September 2022). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Regional NSW or the user's independent adviser.

---

## Planning hierarchy



## Mission

**To keep New South Wales free from self-sustaining populations of parkinsonia.**

This will be achieved by preventing new incursions in NSW and rapidly detecting and eradicating all populations from NSW. This includes intercepting propagules traveling along high-risk pathways such as riverine floodplains and roadways, reinspecting historic plantings, improving awareness and identification skills, and destroying all new infestations within 7 days.

Parkinsonia (*Parkinsonia aculeata*) will be managed in accordance with the requirements of the Biosecurity (Parkinsonia) Control Order 2022 and the Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans with the aim to destroy infestations in NSW, by preventing future seeding and removing all plants. Progress towards extirpation and this plan will be reviewed every two years.

## Biosecurity duties

Parkinsonia is regulated under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and the Biosecurity (Parkinsonia) Control Order 2022 (the order) is established by the Minister.

The Parkinsonia Control Zone (the zone) is established for all land within the state.

An owner or occupier of land on which there is parkinsonia must immediately destroy all parkinsonia, ensure that subsequent generations are destroyed and the land is kept free of parkinsonia. The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed.

Anyone who deals with a carrier of parkinsonia must take all reasonable steps to ensure that any seeds and propagules are not moved from the land and notify the local control authority.

## Risk and impact

Parkinsonia grows in arid to wet-dry tropical climates with rainfall from 250 to 1400 mm/year. It is a hardy plant and tolerates a wide range of conditions and soil types. Parkinsonia forms dense, spiny thickets that restrict access to land and waterways.

Wetlands and floodplains are very susceptible to invasion. Parkinsonia also grows well on open grasslands and rangelands.

Parkinsonia plants usually produce about 5000 seeds/year from two years of age. Seeds are spread by flood waters as well as birds and animals that eat the seeds. Seeds can also be spread in mud attached to machinery, vehicles, footwear or animals.

As of July 27th, 2022, 139.89 hectares of parkinsonia and 11 infested premises have been recorded in NSW.

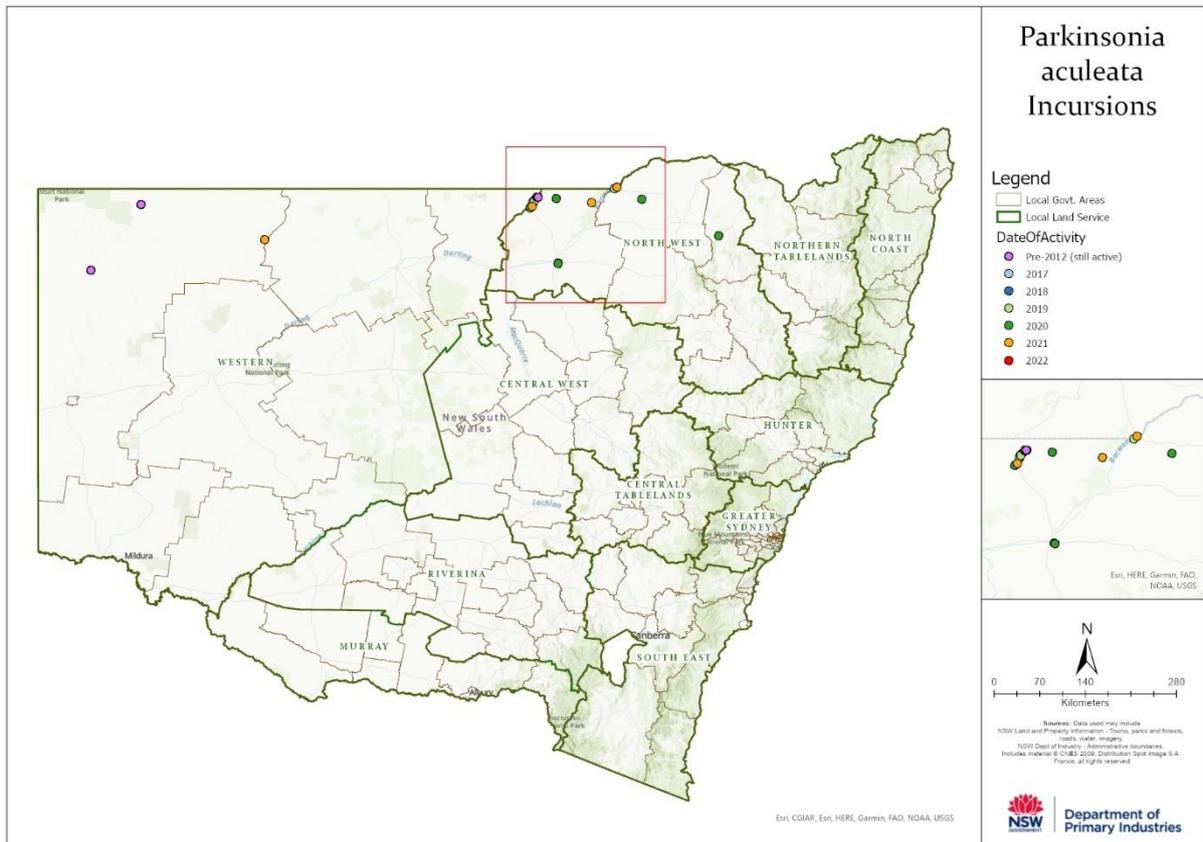
## Biosecurity Risk Case study

*"If left undetected and untreated parkinsonia is a species that will migrate downstream along the Narran River towards the Narran Lake Nature Reserve. The high value RAMSAR wetland situated at the end of the Narran River supports three wetland-dependent threatened species and 40 migratory bird species, all of which may be in jeopardy if a parkinsonia population establishes."*

Ian Bate, NPWS

## Current extent in NSW

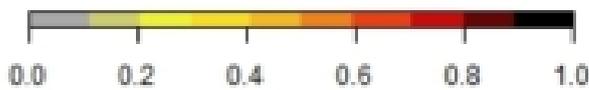
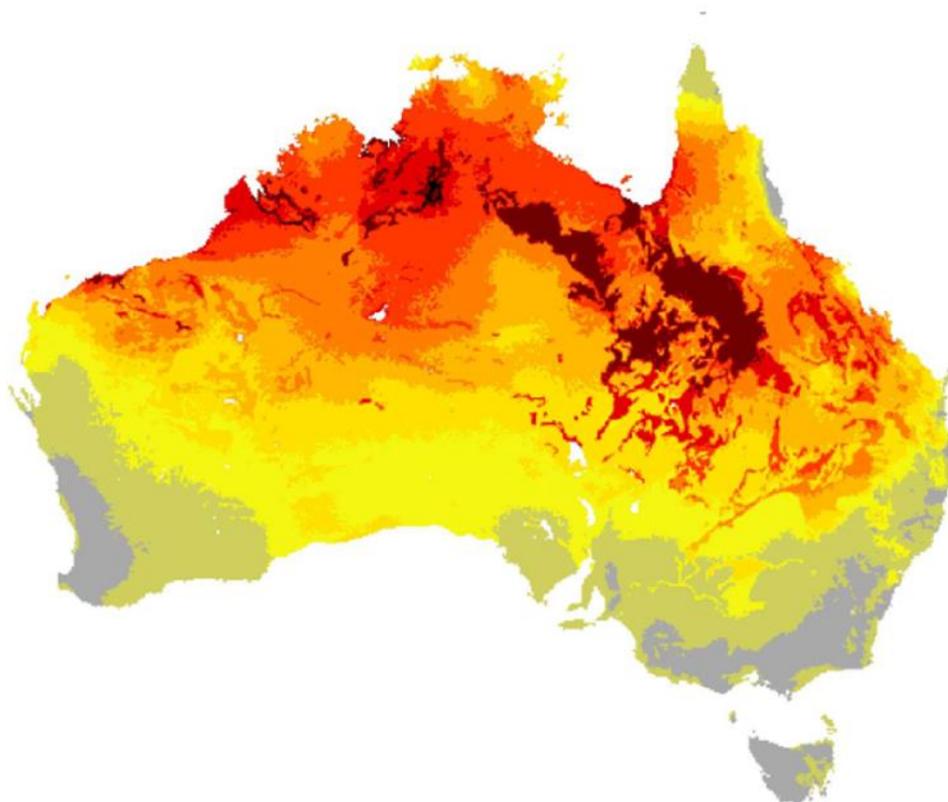
The majority of parkinsonia detections occur in river flood prone areas in the North West Local Land Services region. Several incursions that were detected prior to 2012 are also depicted on the map as they are still being actively monitored.



Map 1. Parkinsonia incursions in NSW

## Current suitable habitat in Australia

Weed Futures suggests the extent of suitable habitat for parkinsonia in Australia is shown in Map 2 where the potential for population establishment and expansion is most concentrated in the dark red areas. Weed Futures also indicates that 48% of NSW is suitable habitat for parkinsonia to establish self-sustaining populations.



Unsuitable

Most Suitable

Map 2. Current suitable habitat scale (Weed Futures)

## Management Objectives

1. Early detection of new infestations
2. Extirpation of infestations
3. Spread and movement are minimised
4. Biosecurity duties are met
5. Coordinated governance

### Objective 1 Early detection of new infestations

#### Key Performance Indicators:

Success	Performance indicator	Basis for Comparison
Early detection of infestations makes eradication practicable.	The proportion of known infestations detected early enough that eradication is practicable.	Improvement over time – increased percentage of infestations detected early enough that eradication is practicable.

#### Strategies and Deliverables:

	How	By when	Who	Output/Activity
1.1	Include parkinsonia high risk sites and pathways in regional inspection plans.	By first Friday in May each year (corresponding to the NSW Weeds Action Program guidelines).	North West, Western and Central West RWCs	Parkinsonia high risk sites and pathways are included in regional inspection plans.
1.2	Communicate with cross border contacts for information exchange and collaboration on high-risk pathway inspections.	Prior to and/or during each taskforce meeting.	DPI	Cross border contacts exchange information and collaborate on high-risk pathway inspections.
1.3	Develop and implement an awareness and communications plan.	Working draft by end of August 2023	DPI	An awareness and communications plan is developed and implemented.

	<b>How</b>	<b>By when</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Output/Activity</b>
1.4	Train weeds professionals and land managers to recognise parkinsonia and similar looking prickly bushes, inspect high risk sites and pathways and educate them on biosecurity duties for parkinsonia.	Ongoing.	DPI, LLS & LCAs	Trained people inspect high risk sites and pathways, recognise parkinsonia and understand biosecurity duties.
1.5	Consider the use of helicopters, drones and Artificial Intelligence modelling for surveillance of high-risk sites and pathways.	Ongoing	LCAs, DPI & North West, Western and Central West RWCs	The effectiveness of where and how technologies can assist with surveillance of high-risk sites and pathways is determined.

## Objective 2      Extirpation of infestations

### Key Performance Indicators:

Success	Performance indicator	Basis for Comparison
Timely responses to destroy infestations make extirpation of infestations practicable.	The proportion of infestations destroyed within 7 days of confirmation.	Increase in percentage of timely responses.

### Strategies and Deliverables:

	How	By when	Who	Output/Activity
2.1	Report suspected new infestations to weeds@dpi.nsw.gov.au.	Within 5 working days of discovery.	LCAs	100% of new infestations reported within 5 working days of discovery.
2.2	LCAs confirm all new infestations are destroyed within 7 working days of confirmation.	Within 7 days of confirmation.	LCA	100% of new infestations are destroyed within 7 days of confirmation.
2.3	Undertake delimiting surveys around all new infestations and destroy any plants found within 2 weeks of confirmation.	Within 2 weeks of confirmation.	LCA	100% of delimitation surveys are undertaken and new plants found are destroyed within 2 weeks of confirmation.
2.4	Within the parkinsonia control zone, inspect all infestations at least once each year over the growing season prior to seed set and destroy any new seedlings to ensure extirpation at each site will be achieved.	Annually before seed set.	LCA	100% of infestations have been inspected at least once over the growing season each year and any new seedlings destroyed. Annual inspections to continue to confirm proof of freedom.

### Objective 3 Spread and movement are minimised

#### Key Performance Indicators:

Success	Performance indicator	Basis for Comparison
Reduction in spread and movement caused by human vectors.	Number of new infestations traced to human-vector.	Decrease over time.

#### Strategies and Deliverables:

	How	By when	Who	Output/Activity
3.1	Identify and engage stakeholders to practice hygiene protocols.	Ongoing.	DPI, LLS, LCAs, NPWS, CL.	Stakeholders are practicing hygiene protocols.

### Objective 4 Biosecurity duties are met

#### Key Performance Indicators:

Success	Performance indicator	Basis for Comparison
Stakeholders meet biosecurity duties.	Proportion of stakeholders meeting biosecurity duties either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Voluntarily,</li> <li>after receiving a direction or providing an undertaking,</li> <li>after receiving a penalty infringement notice.</li> </ul>	Improvement over time.

#### Strategies and Deliverables:

	How	By when	Who	Output/Activity
4.1	Support stakeholders with infestations and/or whose activities spread parkinsonia to meet their biosecurity requirements, through providing best practice management advice and using compliance tools where necessary.	As required.	LCA	Stakeholders are adequately supported to meet their biosecurity duties.

## Objective 5 Coordinated governance

### Key Performance Indicators:

Success	Performance indicator	Basis for Comparison
The NSW Prickle Bush Taskforce operates in accordance with the Terms of Reference.	The annual report shows best progress.	Taskforce minutes inform the operational plan and progress towards success of this strategic plan.

### Strategies and Deliverables:

	How	By when	Who	Output/Activity
5.1	Operate a state taskforce to implement this plan.	Two meetings held per annum	DPI, Taskforce	A minimum of 80% of Taskforce members attend meetings.  Members complete all agreed actions at meetings.  Taskforce members endorse Terms of Reference.
5.2	Provide situation reports to the taskforce and the State Weeds Committee.	Annually (post-season) and as required when new infestations occur.	LCAs DPI	BIS record entered for all inspections and control activities relating to parkinsonia.  Situation reports are provided to the taskforce and the State Weeds Committee.
5.3	Review this plan every 2 years within the scope of the NSW Invasive Species Plan	Every two years.	DPI, Taskforce	Parkinsonia Strategic Plan is reviewed every 2 years and updated as required.

## Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

The State Prickle Bush Taskforce will evaluate stakeholder progress against this strategy by each September. This strategy will be reviewed every 2 years and revised on a needs basis.

## Acronyms

BIS – Biosecurity Information System

DPI - New South Wales Department of Primary Industries

LCA – Local Control Authority

LLS – Local Land Services

CL – Crown Lands

NPWS – National Parks and Wildlife Service

NSW – New South Wales

Taskforce – State Prickle Bush Taskforce

RWC – Regional Weed Committee

## Additional information

Invasive Species Plan:

[NSW Invasive Species Plan 2018-2021](#)

NSW *Biosecurity Act 2015*:

[Biosecurity Act 2015 No 24 - NSW Legislation](#)

NSW WeedWise profile:

[NSW WeedWise](#)

Local Land Services:

<https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/>

Parkinsonia Weed Management Guide:

[Parkinsonia \(\*Parkinsonia aculeata\*\) - Weed Management Guide](#)

Biosecurity (Parkinsonia) Control Zone 2017:

[Biosecurity \(Parkinsonia\) Control Order 2022](#)

Parkinsonia situation reports (for weeds professionals on the DPI Weeds Extranet):

[Parkinsonia Sitrep No. 1](#)

Taskforce Terms of Reference (for weeds professionals on the DPI Weeds Extranet):

[State Priority Prickly Bush Taskforce Terms of Reference](#)

Weed risk assessments and Biosecurity Information System records in WIDX (for weeds professionals on the DPI Weeds Extranet):

[WIDX \(Production\) \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

BIS-Weeds Dashboard for parkinsonia (for weeds professionals on the DPI Weeds Extranet):

(Link to come)

Weed Futures

[Parkinsonia suitable habitat](#)