

1. Introduction

This procedure declares 'invasive environmental weeds' and their control requirements at Sydney Olympic Park. It aims to protect lands with high conservation value from degradation by weeds. It does not address weed management to meet site presentation standards.

SOPA's weed control obligations are established under the *NSW Biosecurity Act 2015*. The Act places a general obligation on all persons and particularly those engaged in land management to be aware of their surroundings and take action to prevent the introduction and spread of pests, diseases, weeds and contaminants.

The [Greater Sydney Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023-27](#) identifies regional priorities and objectives for weed management, and sets out the mandatory weed control measures applicable to State priority weeds (as established under the *NSW Biosecurity Act 2015* and *NSW Biosecurity Regulation 2017*). Under this Plan, weeds identified as regional priorities are assigned a management category of prevention, eradication, containment or asset protection based on their regional distribution and the biosecurity risk they pose at a regional level.

Sydney Olympic Park has high biodiversity values, supporting over 300 hectares of conservation-zoned lands including endangered ecological communities and threatened flora and fauna. Biosecurity risks posed by particular weeds at a local Park level differ from those operating at a state or regional level. Consequently, this procedure identifies SOPA priority weeds that are additional to state and regional priorities, and provides localised management objectives for all priority weeds (SOPA, Regional and State).

2. To whom this procedure applies

Responsibilities for implementation are identified in the table of Required Actions below.

This procedure applies to all employees, consultants and contractors of the Department. It applies to lessees and licensees responsible for open space management at Sydney Olympic Park.

3. Procedure

Priority weeds and weed management categories

Declared 'invasive environmental weeds' and their management requirements at Sydney Olympic Park are listed at Appendix 1. Weed management requirements for each management category are defined at Appendix 2.

'Invasive environmental weeds' at Sydney Olympic Park comprise:

1. State priority weeds and regional priority weeds as listed in the [Greater Sydney Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023-27](#).
 - All mandatory measures for State priority weeds apply as specified in the *NSW Biosecurity Act 2015* and the *NSW Biosecurity Regulation 2017*.

- The local management objective for these weed species is to prevent them from arriving at and establishing within Sydney Olympic Park. The majority are not currently found at Sydney Olympic Park but pose a significant risk to the Park’s ecosystems should they become established. Preventing the establishment of these weed species is a reasonably practical objective.
- For species currently established at Sydney Olympic Park, the management objective is containment and eradication over time. These species are present in localised and known locations and are subject to an ongoing management regime.

2. Sydney Olympic Park priority weeds

- The management objective for these weeds is to prevent new priority weed species from establishing within the Park, or if already established, to prevent them from expanding their distribution within the Park or from being spread to locations outside the Park.
- These weeds pose a high risk to the Park’s ecosystems, and preventing the establishment and spread of these species is a reasonably practical objective.

Required actions:

	Requirement	Responsibility
1	<p>Comply with the ‘general biodiversity duty’ established under the <i>NSW Biosecurity Act 2015</i>:</p> <p><i>Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.</i></p> <p>People who <i>know or ought reasonably to know</i> includes people who work professionally with biosecurity matters such as land managers, landscape maintenance contractors, and landscape architects.</p>	<p>All staff, contractors and lessees/licensees engaged in open space land management</p>
2	<p>Assess biosecurity risks when planning works and developing works specifications.</p> <p>Ensure contract specifications include targeted hygiene protocols that address identified risks.</p> <p>Ensure hygiene protocols are included in the project EMP and toolbox talks and confirm implementation.</p>	<p>All contract managers</p> <p>Lessees / licensees responsible for maintenance of open space</p>
3	<p>Do not plant weed species listed in Appendix 1 within Sydney Olympic Park</p>	<p>All persons commissioning landscape design and planting works</p>

	Requirement	Responsibility
4	Conduct regular surveillance of vegetated landscapes to detect new or spreading weed incursions and enable early eradication	Soft landscape maintenance contract managers Lessees / licensees responsible for open space land management
5	Implement a targeted management program for weed species listed in Appendix 1A (priority weeds that are currently established at the Park) that addresses the management objective for listed weeds (as defined at Appendix 2).	Soft landscape maintenance contract managers Lessees / licensees responsible for maintenance of open space
6	Comply with legislated control requirements for State-priority weeds occurring within Sydney Olympic Park	Soft landscape maintenance contract managers Lessees / licensees responsible for maintenance of open space
7	Submit an annual report to Director Urban Renewal and Environment detailing prevalence, hotspots and trends in declared Invasive Environmental Weeds.	Habitat Management Coordinator

4. Failure to comply with this procedure

Failure to comply with this procedure may result in enforcement action being taken under the *NSW Biosecurity Act 2015*.

5. Review timeframe

SOPA Urban renewal & Environment branch will review this procedure no later than three years from the date the document is approved. The document may be reviewed earlier in response to post-implementation feedback, changes to legislation, or as necessary.

6. Related documents

Other documents that should be read in conjunction with this procedure:

- [Greater Sydney Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023-27](#)

Legislation that should be read in conjunction with this procedure:

- *NSW Biosecurity Act 2015*
- *NSW Biosecurity Regulation 2017*

Procedure metadata

Table 1 – Procedure metadata

Category	Description
Status	Active
Date of approval	25 January 2024
Approver	Director Urban Renewal & Environment
Group	Property, Development and Valuation
Division	Sydney Olympic Park Authority
Policy owner	Manager Environment & Ecology
Branch	Urban Renewal & Environment
Document location	SOPHIE (SOPA Intranet)
Next review date	January 2027
Associated procedure	-
Any additional applicability	-
Superseded document	POL10/05 Invasive Environmental Weeds Policy
Further information	Kerry.darcovich@sopa.nsw.gov.au
Document Reference	PRO24/4

Version control

Table 2 - Version Control

Version Number	Date Issued	Changes
1	April 2010	Approved by CEO
2 – 2.4	2010 – 2021	Review and minor editorial updates
3	November 2023	Conversion to DPHI policy format; Updated to reflect Greater Sydney Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023-27 .

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Sydney Olympic Park declared invasive environmental weeds

Appendix 2 – Definitions of weed management categories

Appendix 1: Sydney Olympic Park declared Invasive Environmental Weeds

Table 1A: Weed species recorded at Sydney Olympic Park of State, Regional or SOPA priority

Name		Priority	Prevalence	Management category
<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	African boxthorn	S	Uncommon	Eradication
<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>	African Lovegrass	SOPA	Widespread	Asset Protection
<i>Olea europaea subsp. Cuspidata</i>	African Olive	R	Scattered, low numbers	Eradication
<i>Agapanthus sp.</i>	Agapanthus	SOPA	Garden plantings Town Centre	Containment / asset protection No new Parklands or Boundary Creek plantings
<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	Alligator weed	S, R	Localised distribution (Narawang Wetland)	Containment / eradication
<i>Asparagus aethiopicus, A. africanus, A. asparagoides, A. densiflorus, A. plumosus, A. scandens</i>	Asparagus	S	Widespread, low numbers	Eradication
<i>Parietaria Judaica</i>	Asthma Weed	SOPA	Widespread, and common	Containment / asset protection
<i>Cardiospermum grandiflorum</i>	Balloon vine	SOPA	Uncommon	Eradication
<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera ssp. Rotundata</i>	Bitou Bush	S	Uncommon	Eradication
<i>Rubus fruticosus (except listed cultivars)</i>	Blackberry	S	Localised distribution (Brickpit and Wilson Park Wetland)	Containment (Brickpit & Wilson Park Wetland); eradication elsewhere
<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera ssp. Monilifera</i>	Boneseed	S (Control Order 2022 applies)	Uncommon	Eradication
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> <i>Genista monspessulana</i> <i>Genista linifolia</i>	Broom (Scotch, English)	S, R	Uncommon (<i>Genista linifolia</i> and <i>G. monspessulana</i>)	Eradication
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Camphor Laurel seedlings and saplings (excluding Newington Armory heritage avenue)	SOPA	Uncommon	Containment

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Name		Priority	Prevalence	Management category
<i>Delairea odorata</i>	Cape Ivy	SOPA	Localised distribution (Woolahra)	Eradication
<i>Dolichandra unguis-cati</i>	Cat's claw creeper	S, R	Localised distribution (Newington Armory & Bennelong Pkwy (adj. Brickpit))	Containment/ Eradication
<i>Nasella neesiana</i>	Chilean needle grass	S	Localised distribution (turf above B47; adj pond Blax 2 at Blaxland Riverside Park)	Containment / eradication
<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	Chinese celtis	SOPA	Widespread in low numbers	Eradication
<i>Triadica sebifera</i>	Chinese tallow	SOPA	Widespread in low numbers	Eradication
<i>Solanum seaforthianum</i>	Climbing nightshade	SOPA	Widespread in low numbers; main distribution in Bicentennial Park	Containment / eradication
<i>Hyparrhenia hirta</i>	Coolatai Grass	SOPA	Localised distribution (Woolahra; Holker Busway P5)	Containment / asset protection
<i>Erythrina crista-galli</i>	Coral tree	SOPA	Wilson Park Wetland (mature trees & seedlings) Uncommon elsewhere	Containment (Wilson Park Wetland); eradication elsewhere
<i>Passiflora suberosa</i>	Corky passionfruit	SOPA	Widespread, low numbers	Containment / asset protection
<i>Cotoneaster sp.</i>	Cotoneaster	SOPA	Widespread, low numbers	Eradication
<i>Ageratina Adenophora</i>	Crofton Weed	SOPA	Widespread, low numbers	Containment / asset protection
<i>Dipogon lignosus</i>	Dipogon	SOPA	Widespread, low numbers	Eradication
<i>Senecia madagascariensis</i>	Fireweed	S	Widespread and common	Containment
<i>Cenchrus setaceus</i>	Fountain grass	SOPA	Widespread, low numbers within parklands; garden plantings in Urban Centre	Containment
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed	R	Local distribution (Triangle Pond)	Eradication
<i>Acacia saligna</i>	Golden wreath wattle	SOPA	Uncommon	Eradication
<i>Cestrum parqui</i>	Green Cestrum	R	Uncommon	Eradication
<i>Megathyrsus maximus</i>	Guinea grass	SOPA	Widespread, main distribution at Kronos Hill, low numbers elsewhere	Containment / asset protection
<i>Rhapiolepis indica</i>	Indian hawthorn	SOPA	Garden plantings	Containment / asset protection No new Parklands & Boundary Creek plantings
<i>Lonicera japonicum</i>	Japanese honeysuckle	SOPA	Uncommon	Eradication
<i>Heteranthera reniformis</i>	Kidney leaf mud plantain	R	Localised distribution (U3 underpass area)	Eradication

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Name		Priority	Prevalence	Management category
<i>Cenchrus clandestinus</i>	Kikuyu <i>excluding lawns</i>	SOPA	Widespread	Containment / asset protection
<i>Lantana camara</i>	Lantana	S	Uncommon	Eradication
<i>Liriope sp.</i>	Lily turf ¹	SOPA	Garden plantings	Containment / asset protection No new Parklands & Boundary Creek plantings
<i>Ludwigia peruviana</i>	Ludwigia	R	Uncommon	Eradication
<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	Madeira vine	S	Widespread, low numbers	Containment / Asset protection
<i>Ipomoea cairica</i> ; <i>I. indica</i> ; <i>I. purpurea</i>	Morning glory	SOPA	Localised distribution (Brickpit and adjacent areas, Powells Ck)	Eradication
<i>Cenchrus echinatus</i>	Mossman river grass	SOPA	Localised distribution (<i>River Walk adj Saltmarsh Nursery</i>)	Eradication
<i>Araujia sericifera</i>	Moth vine	SOPA	Widespread, low numbers	Containment asset protection
<i>Bryophyllum delagoense</i>	Mother of millions	SOPA	Localised distribution (<i>Haslams Creek corridor</i>)	Containment / eradication
<i>Ochna serrulate</i>	Ochna	SOPA	Widespread, low numbers	Eradication
<i>Cortaderia species</i>	Pampas Grass	R	Localised distribution (Brickpit)	Containment / eradication
<i>Salpichroa organifolia</i>	Pampas lily of the valley	SOPA	Localised distribution (Haslams Reach Archery Centre)	Containment
<i>Vinca major</i>	Periwinkle	SOPA	Localised distribution (B47 and adjacent to Newington boundary)	Containment
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	Phoenix palm	SOPA	Mature trees (Wilson Park Wetland; Town Centre). Seedlings elsewhere	Containment
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i> , <i>L. lucidum</i> ; <i>L. vulgare</i>	Privet	SOPA	Widespread, low numbers (seedlings)	Eradication
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	St John's wort	SOPA	Widespread, low numbers	Containment
<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	Salvinia	S	Absent (eradicated)	Prevention
<i>Senna pendula</i>	Senna	SOPA	Widespread, low numbers	Eradication
<i>Juncus acutus</i>	Spiny rush	SOPA	Localised distribution of mature plants (Wilson Park Wetland & Bioremediation compound) Elsewhere there is widespread recruitment of seedlings from the soil seedbank	Containment
<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	Trad	SOPA	Widespread, low numbers	Containment / asset protection

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Name		Priority	Prevalence	Management category
<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>	Tuckeroo	SOPA	Garden plantings; widespread recruitment in adjacent natural areas	Containment / asset protection No new Parklands or Boundary Creek plantings
<i>Acetosa sagittate</i>	Turkey Rhubarb	SOPA	Widespread, main distribution along and adjacent to the Haslams Reach corridor; low numbers elsewhere	Containment
<i>Dietes bicolor</i> ; <i>D. iridioides</i> ; <i>D. grandiflora</i>	Wild iris	SOPA	Garden plantings	Containment / asset protection No new Parklands or Boundary Creek plantings
<i>Tecoma stans</i>	Yellow Bells	SOPA	Uncommon	Eradication

Table 1B Weed species currently absent from Sydney Olympic Park but of State or Regional priority

Name		Priority	Prevalence	Management category
<i>Eichhornia azurea</i>	Anchored water hyacinth	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Asparagus virgatus</i>	Asparagus fern	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>	Athel pine	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i>	Bellyache bush	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Centaurea x moncktonii</i>	Black knapweed	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Salix nigra</i>	Black Willow	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Asparagus declinatus</i>	Bridal veil creeper	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Orobanche spp. (except listed native species)</i>	Broomrape	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Caboomba caroliniana</i>	Caboomba	S, R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Persicaria chinensis</i>	Chinese knotweed	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Asystasia ganetica s. Micrantha</i>	Chinese violet	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Asparagus africanus</i>	Climbing asparagus	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Barleria repens</i>	Coral creeper	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Hygrophila polysperma</i>	East Indian hygrophila	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian water milfoil	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Limnobium spp.</i>	Frogbit / spongeplant	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Andropogon gayanus</i>	Gamba grass	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse	S, R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Solanum chrysotrichum</i>	Giant devil's fig	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Sporobolus pyramidalis</i>	Giant rats tail grass	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Gloriosa superba</i>	Glory lily	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey sallow	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	Groundsel bush	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Senecio glastifolius</i>	Holly-leaved senecio	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Pilosella spp</i>	Hawkweed	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Equisetum spp.</i>	Horsetails	R	Absent	Prevention

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Name		Priority	Prevalence	Management category
<i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>	Hydrocotyl / water pennywort	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Hygrophilia costata</i>	Hygrophilia	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	Hymenachne	S, R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Vachellia karooss, Acacia karroo</i>	Karoo acacia	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Bassia scoparia (exc subspecies trichophylla)</i>	Kochia	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Clidemia hirta</i>	Koster's curse	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	Lagarosiphon	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Prosopis spp.</i>	Mesquite	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Nassella tenuissima; Stipa tenuissima</i>	Mexican feather grass	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Miconia spp.</i>	Miconia	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Mikania micrantha</i>	Mikania vine	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Mimosa pigra</i>	Mimosa	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Caesalpinia decapetala</i>	Mysore thorn	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	Parkinsonia	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	Parthenium weed	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Annona glabra</i>	Pond apple	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Vachellia nilotica</i>	Prickly acacia	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Opuntia spp (excluding listed cultivars)</i>	Prickly pear	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i>	Rubber vine	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>	Sagittaria	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i>	Senegal tea	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	Serrated tussock	S, R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>	Siam weed	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	Silver-leaf nightshade	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Sphagneticola trilobata</i>	Singapore daisy	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Centaurea stoebe s. australis</i>	Spotted knapweed	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Asparagus falcatus</i>	Sicklehorn	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Opuntia aurantiaca</i>	Tiger pear	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Tracheophyta</i>	Tracheophyta	S	Absent	Prevention

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Name		Priority	Prevalence	Management category
<i>Solanum viarum</i>	Tropical soda apple	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Trapa spp</i>	Water caltrop	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Water hyacinth	S, R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Hydrocleys nymphoides</i>	Water poppy	R	Absent	Prevention
<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	Water soldier	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Salix spp except listed cultivars</i>	Willows	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Striga spp. (except native S. parviflora)</i>	Witchweed	S	Absent	Prevention
<i>Limnocharis flava</i>	Yellow burrhead	S	Absent	Prevention

Appendix 2: Definitions of weed management categories

(adapted from: [Greater Sydney Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023-27](#))

Management category	Management objective	Weed characteristic
Prevention	To prevent the weed species arriving in and establishing in Sydney Olympic Park	Weeds not currently occurring at the Park. They pose a significant biosecurity risk and prevention is a reasonably practical objective.
Eradication	To permanently remove the species and its propagules from Sydney Olympic Park OR to destroy infestations to reduce the extent of the weed with the aim of local eradication	Weeds are present in limited abundance at the Park. Elimination of the biosecurity risk posed by these weeds is a reasonably practical objective
Containment	To regularly suppress the species in known locations to reduce its prevalence and remove propagules, and to prevent the ongoing spread of the species within Sydney Olympic Park	Weeds are widely distributed in some areas of the Park. While broad-scale elimination is not practical, minimisation of the biosecurity risk posed by these weeds is reasonably practical.
Asset protection	To prevent the spread of the weed to key areas of high biodiversity value, or to reduce their impact on these sites if spread has already occurred	Weeds are widely distributed in some areas of the Park. Their spread should be minimised to protect conservation areas