

Monday 4 August 2025	
4:00pm	Registrations open
5:30–7:30pm	Welcome reception at the Glass House Port Macquarie Sponsored by the NSW Weeds Officer Association

Tuesday 5 August 2025			
8:30am	Welcome to Country, Uncle Bill O'Brien, Birpai Elder		
	Welcome and opening from dignitaries		
9:25am	Keynote speaker Dr Pete Turner <i>Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development</i> Weed management in NSW is a collective. Understanding the Why, What and How		
10:00am	Morning tea and trade display		
10:20am	Keynote speaker Dr Marion Healy <i>Independent Biosecurity Commission of NSW</i> How can we manage weeds more effectively and sustainably?		
10:50am	Keynote speaker Ben Rusell <i>NSW Natural Resources Commission</i>		
	Concurrent sessions		
	Prohibited matter	Western Weeds	Weeds in the Herbarium
11:20am	How can environmental DNA be used in weed biosecurity? The case of Amazon frogbit. Dr Karen Bell	What a few wet years has done for Parkinsonia in NSW Andrea Fletcher-Dawson and Matt Savage	An annotated, curated checklist of the alien flora of New South Wales Dr Patricia Lu-Irving
11:40am	Stopping the purple plague Angel Marotte and Shannon Smedley	Weeds west of the Bogan Damien Wray	Unlocking an Historic Weed Herbarium Collection Dr Aniuzka Kazandjian Salazar
12:00pm	NSW DPIRD Agriculture and Biosecurity Surveillance Exercises: Mouse-ear hawkweed in Kosciuszko National Park Matthew McGrath	Taming the wild west: Surveillance, Control and Progress within the Unincorporated Area of Western NSW Brook Hooson	Building a reference collection of priority weeds Marie-B Foyard
12:20pm	Lunch, trade display and networking Weeds Officer Association AGM		
	Concurrent sessions		
	Biological control	Strategy and planning	
1:10pm	From research to release: A pipeline approach to sustaining environmental weed biocontrol in NSW Dr Ben Gooden	WAP UNVEILED: Achievements and path forward Jodie Lawler	
1:30pm	It takes a village: community-enabled release and monitoring of classical biocontrol agents for environmental weeds Caroline Delaisse	Initial results from Local Control Authority biosecurity audits Observations and recommendations for all weeds program partners Phil Blackmore	
1:50pm	Implementing Biocontrol of Cabomba caroliniana in NSW Fritz Heystek	Revving up Regional Inspection Plans Dr Marita Sydes	
2:10pm	Salvinia and biocontrol responses to increasing salinity in light and shade Amy Stephens	Strategic approaches to support large-scale conservation weed management Julia Rayment	

2:30pm	Afternoon tea and trade display	
	Concurrent sessions	
	Coastal Weeds	Weedy solanums
2:50pm	Reduction of Bitou Bush in Northern NSW through stakeholder long term persistence and collaboration. Rhonda James	Tropical Soda Apple - 15 Years On Rod Ensbey
3:10pm	Weed management to support the migration of intertidal habitats with sea level rise Dr Kate Buckley	Tropical soda apple best practice manual: Engaging stakeholders and empowering action Terry Bignell and Greg Egan
3:30pm	Turning the tide: An outstanding example of coastal habitat restoration Sue Baker	Cut it, and it comes back stronger: the asexual regeneration mystery of Tropical Soda Apple Dr Asad Asaduzzaman
3:50pm	Managing weeds to protect biodiversity on Sydney's northern beaches Sonja Elwood	Effective herbicide options for sticky nightshade management Dr Hanwen Wu
4:10pm	Rebuilding Penguin Paradise: Restoring Snapper Island for a Brighter Future Paul Martin	Regenerative Potential and Emergence of Sticky Nightshade (<i>Solanum sisymbriifolium</i> Lam): Implications for Weed Management Md Shoriful Islam
4:30pm	End Day 1	
4:30-5:00pm	Weed Society of NSW AGM	
6:30–10:00pm	Social Networking Dinner at the Westport Club	

Wednesday 6 August 2025			
	Keynote speakers		
8:30am	Keynote speaker Dr Simon Brooks <i>Invasive Plant and Animal Science, Biosecurity Queensland Department of Primary Industries</i> Progress of the National Tropical Weeds Eradication Program		
9:00am	Keynote speaker Fiona Sutton <i>Invasive Species Council & Arthur Rylah Institute for Environment Research</i>		
9:30am	Keynote speaker Dr Andy Baker <i>Wildsite Ecological Services</i>		
10:00am	Morning tea and trade display		
	Lightning talks		
	Successful weed management	Working with multiple stakeholders	What’s new?
10:20am	Introductions from the chairs		
10:30am	Katrina Underwood A collaborative approach to weed and pest animal management at Windamere Dam	Elisa Plati Lessons learned in collaborative control, a behavioural insight from the Good Neighbours program	Rosie McVeigh Remote sensing for the monitoring, detection, and mapping of Scotch Broom in the sub-alpine of NSW
10:40am	Stuart Mackay Regulation through education and engagement – Tropical Soda Apple	Peter Rowlands Working without tenure - a Good Neighbours Perspective	Shauna Potter Update on the National Weed Biocontrol Pipeline Strategy
10:50am	Leann Gunton Education is an Officers Power	Matt Bell Biosecurity blind spots	Sarah Baker 3D models for invasive grass identification
11:00am	Benjamin Mott Bribbaree Velvety Tree Biocontrol Program	Ashley Donges A day in the life of a regional weed coordinator	Matt Sheehan Completing the set: final five best practice management manuals for WoNS
11:10 - 11:20am	Matt Kenedy Development of the Hunter Aquatic Weed Eradication Strategy	Dayna Mellor Challenges of Co-ordinated Weed Management in a highly urbanised Region	Baxter Massey AI Tools for Smarter Weed Management
11:30am-4:30pm	Field Trips		
1:00-2:30pm	Workshop at the Glass House What is that water weed? With Paul Marynissen		
6:30-11:00pm	Conference Dinner and Awards at Panthers Port Macquarie Sponsored by the Weed Society of NSW		

Thursday 7 August 2025			
7:30–8:45am	BBQ Breakfast and Trackz aerial surveillance demonstration - Westport Park		
	Workshops		
9:00am	Introduction to collecting plant specimens and understanding botanical name changes Dr Patricia Lu-Irving and Dr Stephen Johnson with Kevin Jaeger and Marie-Benedicte Foyard	Brainstorming solutions for management of problematic Solanums Dr Marita Sydes, Rod Ensbey and Sarah Pearson	Developing an environmental weed biocontrol monitoring and evaluation system for NSW Dr Jens Froese
10:30am	Morning tea and trade display		
	Concurrent sessions		
	Cacti	Surveillance	
11:00am	Host-range testing of <i>Catorhintha schaffneri</i> as a potential biocontrol agent for <i>Pereskia aculeata</i> in Australia Dr Andrew McConnachie	Weed remote sensing: a case study in ‘finding a needle in a haystack’ Mark Hamilton	
11:20am	Alerting the community to the nightmare of <i>Harrisia Cactus</i> Debi Bancroft	Innovating pest plant management with automated field data collection Harley Schinagl	
11:40am	The joys, amazement, and disbelief of dealing with cacti species. New findings and biocontrol Damien Wray	Scent Detection Dogs - Done Dirt Cheap Bill Davidson	
12:00am	Tackling a wheelie big cactus problem - Wheel Cactus (<i>Optunia robusta</i>) in the Northern Tablelands. Brent Klohk	Utilising random forests in the modelling of <i>Eragrostis curvula</i> presence in an Australian grassland system Dr Jed Brown	
12:20pm	Lunch and trade display		
	Concurrent sessions		
	Community engagement	Herbicides	Training & what?
1:10pm	From Weeds to Wins: Building Partnerships in Sticky Nightshade Management in the Central Tablelands Sarah Pearson	Trezac™ Arylex™ active Herbicide – new registration for boomspray control of fireweed in ryegrass pasture Greg Wells	Invasive species training – meeting industry needs Jodie Bartlett-Taylor
1:30pm	Weed Management on Aboriginal owned Land in the Northern Tablelands Beth Brown	Alternatives to diesel for basal bark herbicide treatment Jyri Kaapro (LT)	Moving people towards action – practical skills for the workplace Wendy Gibney
		Sponsors’ herbicide talks	
1:50pm	Managing Online Trading of Weeds in NSW Charlie Mifsud	Sponsors’ herbicide talks	TBA
2:15pm	Prohibited Matter Competition Draw Conference thank you and wrap up speech		
2:30pm	Afternoon tea		
3:00pm	End of conference		