

The economic evaluation is based on the 2005–06 cost of implementation, which we have assumed to be constant over the five years of the TAP. But the actual costs may vary over the years. The process for monitoring the TAP includes measuring the actual costs, thus the actual expenditures can be determined in future and the analysis can be repeated as a standard *ex post* assessment. Irrespective of these uncertainties, the Threat Abatement Plan appears to be a cost-effective strategy for protecting biodiversity and a sound investment. Given that this is the first such strategy for a weed species in Australia, such strategies should therefore be considered for other weed species that pose significant threats to biodiversity because they deliver weed control targeted at biodiversity conservation in a cost effective manner.

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## Projecting the impact of climate change on bitou bush and boneseed distributions in Australia

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### Summary

Global climate change will have significant implications for the management of invasive species in Australia and throughout the world. Changes to temperature and precipitation regimes may influence the fecundity, recruitment and competitive ability of invasive species leading to expansions or contractions of species distributions. Using point localities derived from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), and NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service survey data we have

modelled projections of the potential future bioclimatic ranges of the widespread weeds bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp. *rotundata* (DC.) Norl.) and boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp. *monilifera* (L.) Norl.) within Australia. Uncertainty exists in estimates of future climate, due to differences in projections derived from alternate climate models. Also, the severity of climate change will depend on emissions scenarios that will be influenced by human population levels, socio-economic conditions and

technological changes. To address some of the uncertainty surrounding future climate, we projected species distributions onto scenarios derived from two climate models (CSIRO MK2 and NCAR) and two emissions scenarios (A1f and B1) for the year 2030. Through investigating the potential for climate change to alter the distribution of bitou bush and boneseed, managers can make informed decisions when developing strategies with a long term perspective.