

## **How environmental weeds threaten bushland: ‘weeds or wildflowers’**

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### INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Weeds Action Network was formed out of concern for the damage being done to Australia’s natural environment through the invasion of environmental weeds

**Aims** The Network aims to promote through education community and practical action the retention and management of the Australia’s natural bushland by limiting the invasion of weed species

The program carried out by the Environmental Weeds Action Network (Inc.) (EWAN) with the community includes the following activities:

- Working to raise awareness of environmental weeds both within community and government.
- Encouragement of weed control programs through partnership with community, landowners and managers.
- Promotion of the social aspects of environmental weed management.
- Assisting volunteer participation in the control of environmental weeds.
- Supporting the work of volunteers and raising their standing within the community.
- Conducting workshops on weed management for volunteer groups and local government
- Encouraging implementation of biocontrol programs.
- Providing reliable and practical information that will ensure best practice weed management.
- Producing information brochures on managing weeds in bushland.

The State of the Environment Report with the State Weed Plan (Department of Agriculture 2001) promotes ‘Healthy and resilient landscapes where weed impacts on environmental values and primary production are minimised’.

EWAN posters are available for display purposes for presentation to the general public at the Nursery and Garden Industry’s Garden Week, Perth Royal Show, the Wildflower Society of Western Australia’s Spring Fling, Botanic Parks and Gardens Wildflower Festival, country shows and field days, public libraries and numerous environmental field days.

The display poster presented at this conference is complimented with a series of ‘Weed Management in Bushland’ handout pamphlets published by EWAN from information gathered from its NHT ‘Weeds management in local bushland’ project carried out on several sites on the Swan and Avon River Catchment Areas.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Environmental Weeds Action Network (Inc.), PO Box 380, Greenwood, Western Australia 6924. (Website: <http://members.iinet.net.au/~ewan/>).

### REFERENCES

- Department of Agriculture (2001). ‘A weed plan for Western Australia’. (State Weed Plan Steering Committee, Kensington, WA).
- Hussey, B.M.J., Keighery, G.J., Cousens, R.D., Dodd J. and Lloyd, S.G. (1997). ‘Western weeds, a guide to the weeds of Western Australia’. (Plant Protection Society of Western Australia).