

Managing bitou and boneseed on Long Reef Headland

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Summary Long Reef Headland is located on Sydney's Northern Beaches approximately 15 km from the Sydney CBD between the suburbs of Dee Why and Collaroy. The area of Long Reef is approximately 70 hectares and known in the land register as Griffith Park. Long Reef's natural area contains a distinctive coastal headland and cliffs, beaches and rock platforms, wetlands, coastal heath and threatened Themeda grasslands all of which combine to form an area of unique landscape. Bitou bush and Boneseed invasion has been a major threat to biodiversity on Northern Beaches headlands since its introduction in the 50s and 60s. The invasion and establishment of bitou bush in the area was recognised as a key

threatening process and Long Reef Headland was listed as a priority 1 Bitou Threat Abatement Plan (TAP) site. As part of a Sydney wide Bitou and Boneseed management plan, a control program commenced at Long Reef Headland in 2004.

This presentation will show how strategic and coordinated weed control management can achieve long term results. It will demonstrate by what means Council has been able to oversee community interaction of sensitive ecological areas in a more sustainable manner.

Keywords Weed management, bitou, boneseed, Northern Beaches.