

Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc



ABN 38 686 119 087

PO Box 29 Wentworth Falls NSW 2782

Phone: 0490 419 779

E-Mail: bmcs@bluemountains.org.au Web Site: www.bluemountains.org.au

Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow

Dr Rosemary Dillon
CEO
Blue Mountains City Council
Civic Place Katoomba
council@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

25 November 2024

SALE OF ENVIRONMENTAL WEEDS

Dear Dr Dillon

Blue Mountains Conservation Society (the Society) is a community-based volunteer organisation with over 850 members. The Society's mission to help protect, conserve and advocate for the natural environment of the Greater Blue Mountains. The Society has a long-standing interest in the protection of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area from the degrading impacts of invasive plants.

The Society congratulates Council on the passing of its resolution on Environmental Weeds at the August 2024 meeting of councillors. In this resolution, Council has adopted a clear stance on the impact of environmental weeds and the need for greater regulation.

Council's current Bushland Nursery Incentive scheme is an excellent initiative that encourages nurseries to do the right thing. To their credit, the eleven accredited nurseries undertake to not sell local priority weeds. But the Society maintains that for a nursery to be fully environmentally friendly, it should not sell any of the environmental weeds listed in Blue Mountains DCP 2015. Some of these non-priority environmental weeds may have an even greater detrimental impact on the bushland and World Heritage Area than many local priority weeds.

We note that it was agreed that the accreditation scheme will be reviewed as part of the Weed Management Strategy Review. We urge Council to undertake this review as soon as possible. The Society would be interested to learn of the planned timetable for the review.

The Society strongly recommends that the Bushland Nursery Incentive scheme be expanded, to include all environmental weeds, as listed in DCP 2015. The Society looks forward to making a submission to the review process.

Thank you for considering the Society's proposals and position on this issue. I may be contacted on my email address: president@bluemountains.org.au

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'A. Cam'.

Mrs Annette Cam
President
Blue Mountains Conservation Society
president@bluemountains.org.au