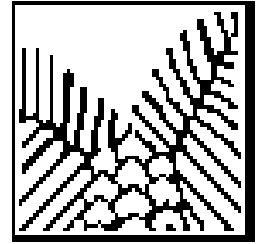


Maras Holdings Pty Ltd

[REDACTED]
As Trustee of the Burrawang Unit Trust
Trading as the Burrawang Coastal Club



5 September 2014

Team Leader
Landscape Conversation
NSW Office of Environment & Heritage
PO Box A290
Sydney South NSW 2000

Attention: [REDACTED]

Cc [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Gold,

Thank you for your letter seeking submissions regarding the 'Private Land Conservation: Native Vegetation and Wildlife Management' Review.

Unfortunately, our Natural Environmental Coordinator has not been able to prepare a formal submission in the time allowed; however, I would be grateful if you could take the following comments into consideration.

As a landholder, the Burrawang Coastal Club undertakes extensive weed control on the property on a continuous basis. We also hold four major weeding weeks each year where our voluntary members try and control the more stubborn weeds. This work is supplemented by paid professionals who are employed to remove the more persistent weeds such as, but not limited to, Turkey Rhubarb, Paddy's Lucerne and Inkweed.

This task is an ongoing requirement which requires constant vigilance as the problem of weed control is hampered by encroachment of weeds from Council administered land that adjoins the Burrawang property.

And while Council does undertake weed control programs it is our belief that much more funding needs to be provided to Councils so that the control programs can be boosted to a level that will, if not eradicate the weeds, at least provide appropriate ongoing control.

As an example of the work being undertaken by the Burrawang Coastal Club I attach a recent article regarding the work undertaken by our volunteers at our June Weeders Week.

In closing, I apologise for not providing a formal submission but ask that the above comments be considered and that we be included in future correspondence.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'E.O. Day', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Esther O'Day
Company Secretary/Director
On Behalf of the Burrawang Coastal Club
Maras Holdings Pty Ltd

Silent invaders

Landcare at Burrawang includes meticulous, hard physical work, ripping out silent invaders, including turkey rhubarb Paddy's lucerne and inkweed.



Turkey rhubarb

Did someone say party? Our small group of four hardy weeders (Frances, Alan, Judy and Jill) warmed up with a sweep along the cleared area beside George Bass Drive and along the road to Barlings Beach, removing young inkweed and cobbler's pegs, thistles and lots of purple top along the campground site. We also attacked thick patches of Paddy's lucerne (*Sida rhombifolia*) from the bottom of the track up to Burrawang from the beach, choosing to cut and paint with glyphosphate because the sida is extremely dense and mixed with other weeds and natives which made access difficult. We managed to remove most of it from the side away from the beach.

In the afternoon we moved across the road to the creek bed to wage war on the ongoing problem of turkey rhubarb, moth vine, thistles and passionfruit. Although not on Burrawang land, this area is the source of many of our weedy problems at Burrawang, involving underground tubers and aerial seed pods blowing seeds across the road and up the hill. We bagged the seed heads and tuberous roots and removed them from the site. Alan and Judy opted for a change of scene and took to the slopes above the caravan park in a mission to remove as many juvenile palms as they could. The rapidly growing palms are an ongoing problem; birds are responsible this time, dropping seeds from above which grow quickly in the sandy soil.

They came back with an impressive head count of despatched palms and a huge trophy plant which Alan carried off home gleefully. Robin spent many hours discussing the best approach to removing these weeds in cooperation with Peter Gow of Local Land Services and Paul Martin, Noxious Species Eradication for (not of) the Council as well as other Landcare groups. Money from successful grant applications is being used to assist with difficult weeds such as blackberry.

A local contractor, Michelle Tribolet, is doing a lot of the work for us and also advising on appropriate use of poisons and the risks involved, particularly around waterways.

Weeding's no party



Calling for reinforcements

Weeders Week, 22 to 27 June



Robin leads a botanical tour for Burrawang guests in February

The Burrawang Bush Benefactors are in need of reinforcements during Weeders Week from 22nd to 27th June (booking in Sunday and departing Friday afternoon). The plan is to work on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in groups doing transects across the patches into which I have divided the property, removing whatever weeds we can and mapping the location of those we can't.

As the result of a grant application we have secured the services of a spraying contractor for 48 hours to help control blackberry, turkey rhubarb and an invasive, introduced passionfruit. It is important to locate the plants so as to most efficiently use the contractors time as well as enabling us to check on the effectiveness of the spraying afterwards. For plants like turkey rhubarb with underground tubers, repeated spraying is necessary if all the tubers cannot be removed (which is rarely possible - they hide under rocks and roots).

For those who do not wish to work across the transects, there are plenty of areas that will benefit from some close personal attention. On the Wednesday I have arranged for The Noxious Species Eradication Officer and the Landcare Coordinator from the Council, the Rural Fire Service representative and a ranger from the Marine Park to speak to us in the morning. We will all lunch together in the Zimmer followed by a presentation by Peter Gow, the Local Land Services representative and our two in-house experts Ted and Richard.

It would be wonderful if we could cover the whole property. We have managed it before. Please help to achieve this again. If you are not able to come for the whole week, then please join us for whatever part of the week you are available