

Strategic & Action Plan 2019 - Tarrangower Cactus Control Group Inc.

Goal	To effect and support the eradication of Wheel Cactus (<i>Opuntia robusta</i>) on private and public lands.
-------------	---

Over-all Objectives	Short-term: to treat 50% of the current major infestations of Wheel Cactus, and prevent any new infestations, in the Maldon, Baringhup and Nuggetty areas.
	Long-term: to eradicate all major Wheel Cactus infestations from the Maldon, Baringhup and Nuggetty areas.

Area of Concern	Area is bounded by Cairn Curran Reservoir to the west, Bradford Road to the north, Maldon-Lockwood Road and Maldon-Newstead Road to the east, and Trudgeons Road to the south.
------------------------	--

Strategies	Increase the number of landowners actively controlling Wheel Cactus infestations on their properties.
	Encourage volunteers to actively control Wheel Cactus on private and public land in our area of concern.
	Provide 6 community field days per year to educate, demonstrate techniques, and motivate.
	Promote and financially sustain our group.
	Assess the effectiveness of control methods and develop improved integrated management strategies.
	Encourage the participation of other groups, such as local environment and community groups and government work crews.
	Develop and maintain partnerships, such as Parks Victoria, Mt. Alexander Shire, DEWLP, DEDJTR, NCCMA, Weed Society Victoria.

Actions

Community Awareness & Support	Education and Information	Group Promotion & Sustainability	Research and Development	Partnerships and Support
1. Conduct 6 monthly field days each year (May to Oct) to raise awareness & demonstrate effective control techniques to our community members. 2. Maintain injecting & digging equipment & the supply of herbicides.	1. Produce and distribute brochures to inform and educate landowners & community members. 2. Update technical advice in brochures on best practise to destroy & dispose of wheel cactus plants. 3. Maintain an up-to-date and informative website.	1. Prepare calendar of available grants and maintain a group template. 2. Maintain annual budget. 3. Seek funding from various funding bodies. 4. Participate in local fundraising events. 5. Promote group at local community events.	1. Investigate improvements in integrated management strategies, using biological control, herbicide and manual techniques. 2. Share practical knowledge with other cactus groups. 3. Attend appropriate workshops & conferences.	1. Seek Wheel Cactus control support from other local Landcare groups. 2. Maintain partnership with Parks Victoria to control infestations in local parks. 3. Seek and host available government work crews.

<p>3. Provide local landowners with free equipment loans.</p> <p>4. Provide individual control advice and support as requested to property owners in our area.</p> <p>5. Encourage and appreciate our volunteers.</p> <p>6. Provide free disposal of wheel cactus plants at the Maldon Transfer Station.</p>	<p>4. Reply to email enquiries.</p> <p>5. Warn nearby communities of the threat of wheel cactus using local media.</p> <p>6. Erect Wheel Cactus warning signs on local property fences.</p>	<p>6. Promote group with sale of 'cactus warrior' t-shirts, pens & coffee mugs.</p> <p>7. Promote group using regular media releases.</p>	<p>4. Collate photographic records & documents of wheel cactus interest.</p> <p>5. Collate map of site locations of treated wheel cactus infestations.</p> <p>6. Monitor growth at trial cochineal sites & distribute cochineal to new locations.</p> <p>7. Maintain a Cochineal Nursery.</p>	<p>4. Collaborate with Mount Alexander Shire to treat local roadsides.</p> <p>5. Collaborate with Local Government to increase compliance of local By-laws.</p> <p>6. Collaborate with State Government and other groups to increase compliance of 'Catchment and Land Protection' Act.</p>
--	---	---	---	---

Measures

<p>1. Record property location & number of volunteer participants at field days & before- after photographs at field day sites.</p> <p>2. Maintain record of equipment & herbicide purchases.</p> <p>3. Maintain a register of equipment loans.</p> <p>4. Record landowners who contact group for information or assistance.</p> <p>5. Provide rewards and end of year celebration with volunteers in November.</p> <p>6. Maintain record of disposal volumes from Maldon Transfer Station records.</p>	<p>1. Record number of brochures distributed via field days, mail-outs & events.</p> <p>2. Maintain file of updated technical brochures.</p> <p>3. Check number of views and subscribers of website.</p> <p>4. Record of email enquiries and responses.</p> <p>5. Publication of press releases in local newspapers and newsletters, and radio and T.V. interviews.</p> <p>6. Distribute more farm fence warning signs to local property owners.</p>	<p>1. Maintain and update grant calendar and group template.</p> <p>2. Present monthly and annual financial reports at committee meetings.</p> <p>3. Submit regular grant applications for funding.</p> <p>4. Record participation in fundraising events (such as the Maldon Market).</p> <p>5. Record participation in local community events (such as Maldon Easter Parade).</p> <p>6. Record sales of t-shirts, pens & coffee mugs.</p> <p>7. Record monthly publication of articles in local newspapers and newsletters.</p>	<p>1. Complete 'Integrated Management' project and file results, publish results on website and media, and present reports and results.</p> <p>2. Attend field trips with other wheel cactus groups.</p> <p>3. Document conference & workshop attendances & presentations.</p> <p>4. Maintain electronic and hardcopy files of documents & photographs of interest.</p> <p>5. Maintain NCCMA web-based map of treated site locations.</p> <p>6. Photographic & map records of cochineal growth & spread at trial sites.</p> <p>7. Establish a permanent cochineal nursery.</p>	<p>1. Provide field day demonstrations with local Landcare groups.</p> <p>2. Record control works performed in collaboration with PV in our local parks.</p> <p>3. Document activities by work crews.</p> <p>4. Photograph and maintain maps of treated local roadsides.</p> <p>5. Record meetings and correspondence with Mount Alexander Shire personnel.</p> <p>6. Record meetings and correspondence with DEDJTR personnel and other environment groups.</p>
---	--	--	--	--