

BUFFEL GRASS ACTION PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26

PROGRESS TOWARDS THE BUFFEL GRASS WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026-2036 (THE PLAN) OBJECTIVES

Ensure owners and occupiers of land are aware of their legal obligations to manage buffel grass under the Plan and the Act <i>Information regarding legal obligations to manage buffel grass is easily accessible.</i>	By 2026: Communications Plan for the Buffel Grass Weed Management Plan is developed.	✓
	By 2026: Fact sheet regarding management requirements is developed and publicly available.	✓
Protect priority environmental and cultural assets from the impacts of buffel grass <i>Buffel grass management and spread prevention measures are employed at priority environmental and cultural assets.</i>	By 2028: 75% of landholders or occupiers in conservation areas have provided buffel management plans to the Weed Management Branch (WMB).	⚙️
	By 2028: 75% of landholders or occupiers in conservation areas have provided their standard access permit or contract clauses to the WMB.	⚙️
Reduce buffel grass spread along transport corridors <i>Buffel grass spread prevention measures are employed along transport corridors.</i>	By 2028: 75% of transport corridor managers have provided weed spread prevention plans or updated environmental management plans to the WMB.	⚙️
Implement transparent and accountable compliance, monitoring and reporting processes <i>Transparent and accountable compliance and reporting processes are implemented.</i>	Annually: Buffel grass status updates are reported to the Minister and publicly available.	✓
	By 2026: Communications Plan for the Buffel Grass Weed Management Plan is developed.	✓
Implement transparent and accountable compliance, monitoring and reporting processes <i>Buffel monitoring processes are strengthened.</i>	Ongoing: Knowledge of buffel grass distribution is increased, measured via a reduction in areas with an 'unknown' distribution'.	⚙️
	Ongoing: New infestations are reported to the WMB by landholders or occupiers.	⚙️
Support the achievement of the objectives of the Buffel Grass Management Strategy: Central Australia 2024-2030 (Strategy) <i>Principles of the Strategy are incorporated into the Plan.</i>	By 2026: Strategy reviewed and considered by Weed Advisory Committee as part of the WMP's development.	✓
	Annually: Operational action plans to support delivery of the Strategy are developed and implemented.	✓
	In 2029: Strategy to be reviewed and aligned with the term of the WMP.	⚙️

BUFFEL GRASS ACTION PROGRAM ACTIVITIES DELIVERED

 COORDINATION AND PLANNING	 BUILDING CAPACITY AND SUPPORTING LAND MANAGERS	 MONITORING AND RESEARCH
One Buffel Grass Weed Advisory Committee meeting supported.	Provided technical advice, mapping and planning support, and/or free herbicide and equipment loans to over 25 individual landholders and organisations.	Buffel Grass Economic Impact Assessment completed and made publicly available nt.gov.au/buffel .
Finalised the <i>Buffel Grass Weed Management Plan 2026-2036</i> , including undertaking extensive community and stakeholder consultation .	Delivered 'Buffelpalooza', a buffel grass management workshop targeting existing land managers to improve knowledge, management skills, and collaboration.	Supported buffel grass population genetic analysis led by interstate research partners.
Permit to enable continued use, transport and spread of buffel grass on lands subject to the <i>Pastoral Lands Act 1992</i> issued by the Minister.	Produced and distributed the Buffel grass control guide and Buffel grass control quick guide .	Supported a pilot project led by the Flora and Fauna Division to assess remote sensing techniques for predictive mapping of buffel grass distribution .
One permit to import buffel grass into the Northern Territory approved by the Minister.	Facilitated a free Chemical Training Course in Tennant Creek.	Developed a mapping application for land managers to capture and report buffel grass field data.
 PROTECTING PRIORITY ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL ASSETS	 PREVENTING SPREAD	
Provided buffel grass management advice, support and resources to conservation land managers at eight priority conservation areas.	Supported Parks and Wildlife NT with six Alice Springs Junior Ranger activities.	Commenced initial scoping work, stakeholder liaison and project planning.
Supported strategic buffel grass control at priority threatened species sites.	Delivered buffel grass management workshops to Parks and Wildlife NT Rangers and Alice Springs Town Council staff.	
	Held a public information stall at the Alice Springs Earth Day market.	
	Published a range of buffel grass management related articles and social media posts.	



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