

MS 02: ALIEN INVASIVE MANAGEMENT ON THE PROPERTY

DESCRIPTION OF TASKS AND SUBORDINATE ACTIONS

The purpose of this method statement is to describe the method which will be used for the control and eradication of alien invasive plants (AIP) as well as the disposal of plant material on the property.

PRE-WORK REQUIRED

Demarcation of the development footprint as per the EMPr (Section 7.10.4 of the EMPr).

Environmental awareness training as per the EMPr (Section 7.5.1 of the EMPr)

If the use for herbicide is necessary, herbicide preparation. Only herbicides which have been certified safe for use in wetland/aquatic environments by an independent testing authority may be considered.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK TO BE DONE: WHAT, WHEN, WHERE AND HOW

The site is currently relatively clear of alien invasive plant species. Alien invasive plant species that may be found on site include: *Acacia saligna* (Port Jackson), *Acacia cyclops* (Rooikrans), *Acacia Mearnsii* (Black Wattle). Refer to Addendum 1.

- Alien and invasive plant species should be removed manually as far as possible, from the construction footprint as well as any areas on the property. All work will be done by hand (manually), either by pulling, using shears, hand saws or chainsaws (depending on the size of the tree). The use of vehicles or mechanical means for alien removal will be prohibited within the riparian zone.
- The use of herbicides should be avoided. However, only herbicides which have been certified and proved for wetland/ aquatic environments by an independent testing authority may be considered.
- The stump of larger trees will be left “*in-situ*”.
- As per the freshwater specialist recommendations, removed alien plant material should be covered when transported to prevent it from being blown away.
- Removed alien plant material should be burned on a bunded surface where no stormwater runoff is expected, away from the unchanneled valley bottom wetland, with the necessary fire permits in place.
- Wood can be used as firewood.

MONITORING:

After the initial clearing yearly follow-ups must be done by the applicant to control seedlings and regrowth.

ACCESS TO AND FROM THE SITE

No additional access required (there is existing access to the site).

MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN: METHOD STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE AND ONGOING TASKS

Actions	Responsibility	Potential impacts of these actions	Severity of impacts <i>High: Disturbance of area with important conservation value; destruction of rare or endangered species. No possible mitigation or mitigation is difficult, expensive, and time-consuming.</i> <i>Medium: Disturbance of area with potential conservation value or of use as a resource; complete change in species occurrence or variety.</i> <i>Low: Disturbance of degraded area with little conservation value; minor change in species occurrence or variety. Mitigation easily achieved or little required.</i>	Measures to mitigate the severity of these impacts	Corrective/remedial measures if mitigation measures are not properly implemented on site
Control of AIP by hand	ECO/ trained personnel	Waste plant material may accumulate and block the unchanneled valley bottom wetland Removal of the wrong plants	Medium / Low Medium	Remove all waste plant material from the wetland area Training of personnel to ensure the correct plants are being removed	Remove all waste plant material from the wetland area Recovering plants that have been removed erroneously.
Herbicide application	ECO/ trained personnel	Incorrect application may result in damage to natural wetland vegetation.	Medium	Use only the correct herbicide in the correct concentrations. Avoid using foliar spray options as far as possible; rather use cut-stump application. Only apply foliar spray to the intended plant on wind still days.	Re-plant the affected area with indigenous plant species natural to the area
Disposal of AIP	ECO/ trained personnel	The burning of certain typed of IAP can lead to the spread of seeds.	Medium	Ensure personnel is trained with regards to	

MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT PLAN: METHOD STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE AND ONGOING TASKS

		<i>Failing to cover waste plant material when transporting can lead to the spread of seeds.</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>the correct management and disposal methods.</i> <i>Ensure AIPs are burnt in bunded areas. Revisit the areas to control seedling and regrowth. Ensure waste plant material is covered when transported.</i>	<i>Remove new seedlings</i>
Monitoring	<i>ECO/ trained personnel</i>	<i>Negligence in monitoring AIPs can lead to the spread of AIP which threaten the balanced ecological functioning of the local habitat.</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Yearly follow-ups will be done to control seedlings and regrowth</i>	<i>Recovering the local environment by removing all IAPs and ensure monitoring programme is adhered to.</i>

ADDENDUM 1: Potential alien invasive plants that can be expected on site that should be removed



Figure 1: Acacia aligna (Port Jackson)



Figure 2: Acacia cyclops (Rooikrans)



Figure 3: Acacia mearnsii (Black Wattle)