

Slender Thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*)- Statutory Weed Management Plan

***Carduus pycnocephalus* L.**

Interpretation:

In this Weed Management Plan (approved 30 August 2003):

(amendments approved 21 June 2011):

- "Act" means the *Weed Management Act 1999*.
- "Approved quarantine place" means a place approved by the Secretary under section 70 of the *Plant Quarantine Act 1997* for the purpose of examining any prescribed matter imported into or to be exported out of the State.
- "Court fine" means a prescribed penalty for breaches against the Act. Court fines may be imposed if a person is convicted of any offence against the Act.
- "DPIPWE" means the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tasmania.
- "Infringement fine" means a prescribed penalty for breaches against the Act. Infringement fines are imposed by way of an infringement notice that may be issued by a Weed Inspector.
- "Inspector" means a Weed Inspector appointed under section 34 of the Act.
- "Penalty unit" means the basic unit of the fine for which persons who fail to comply with any prohibition or requirement under the Act may be liable. See [values of penalty units](#) under the *Penalty Units and Other Penalties Act 1987* for more details.
- "Quarantine Tasmania" means that branch of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment that, in cooperation with the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service, maintains both overseas and interstate quarantine barriers for this State.
- "Regional Weed Management Officer" means a person employed in the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment under that specific title.
- "Regulations" means the *Weed Management Regulations 2007*.
- "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment.
- "Zone A" includes those Tasmanian municipalities for which eradication of a declared weed is the principal management objective. These municipalities are either free of the declared weed, host only small, isolated infestations, or host larger infestations which are deemed eradicable because a strategic management plan exists and the resources required to implement it have been or are likely to be secured. See [Management of slender thistle by municipality](#) (Section 12) for details.
- "Zone B" includes those Tasmanian municipalities for which containment of the declared weed is the principal management

objective. Such municipalities host large, widespread infestations of the declared weed that are not deemed eradicable because the feasibility of effective management is low at this time. These municipalities lack a strategic management plan for the weed and/or resources to undertake control actions at a level required for eradication have not been secured. See [Management of slender thistle by municipality](#) for details.

- "Slender thistle" means *Carduus pycnocephalus* L. and includes the whole plant or plant parts. It does not include products such as tablets, lotions, tinctures or other preparations that contain extracts of this plant or other dead, non-reproductive *Carduus pycnocephalus* materials. People who are uncertain about whether certain products (e.g. dried materials) contain plant parts capable of producing a living plant should contact a [Regional Weed Management Officer](#).

1. Purpose of this management plan:

The purpose of this Weed Management Plan for slender thistle is to:

- Provide direction upon the implementation of the *Act* with respect to slender thistle.
- Encourage and facilitate an increase in the effectiveness with which slender thistle is managed throughout Tasmania.
- Provide legislative support to regional and local efforts to manage slender thistle in a strategic and integrated manner.

2. Area covered by this management plan:

The State of Tasmania is covered by this management plan. Refer to [Management of slender thistle by municipality](#) (Section 12) for direction on how this plan is to be implemented in Zone A and Zone B municipalities in Tasmania.

3. Description and distribution of the weed:

Slender thistle is a spiny, erect herb that commonly grows to between 60 cm and 100 cm high.

This plant is an important agricultural weed in many temperate areas of the world. In Australia, it is a serious weed of pasture and cropping areas of New South Wales and Victoria that receive high rainfall. It also occurs in wetter agricultural regions of Western Australia but is considered less problematic. It is rare in South Australia.

Slender thistle is a widely distributed, serious weed in Tasmania. It occurs in most agricultural areas but is particularly troublesome in sheep grazing areas. It invades pastures, crops and neglected areas with moderate to highly fertile soils that receive more than 500 mm

rainfall per year. Slender thistle establishes readily on disturbed sites. Refer to [Management of slender thistle by municipality](#) (Section 12) for information on the distribution of slender thistle by municipality.

A close relative of slender thistle, *Carduus tenuiflorus*, is also present in Tasmania. *C. tenuiflorus*, which is also known as winged thistle, is far less common. The limited distribution of this plant suggests that it is a candidate for eradication across the State. However, it is extremely difficult to differentiate between the two *Carduus* species because they look very similar. Accordingly, both are zoned for either eradication or containment depending on their weed status in any particular municipality. Due to its separate declaration and despite similar management objectives, the *Act* requires an individual Weed Management Plan for *C. tenuiflorus*. This Weed Management Plan should be consulted alongside the Weed Management Plan for *C. pycnocephalus*.

See the DPIPWE [Slender Thistle Information Page](#) for more information on slender thistle.

4. Importation of declared weed:

(1) A person must not import or allow to be imported into Tasmania any slender thistle.

It is an offence against section 57(1) of the Act to fail to comply with this prohibition. A person found committing that offence may incur an infringement fine of 4 penalty units. A person convicted in court of that offence may be liable to a fine not exceeding 50 penalty units.

The Secretary may exempt a person from this prohibition under section 60 of the Act.

Refer to [Management of slender thistle by municipality](#) (Section 12) for direction on how this prohibition is to be implemented in Zone A and Zone B municipalities in Tasmania.

Actions to assist compliance in this matter could include but are not limited to the following:

- Persons travelling to Tasmania, in particular from areas infested with slender thistle, such as New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, should conduct thorough searches for the presence of the plant and apply appropriate hygiene measures, such as clothing, vehicle, machinery and baggage inspection and cleaning. Questions or concerns about weed hygiene issues should be directed to Quarantine Tasmania

- personnel before or directly upon disembarkation in Tasmania.
- Persons importing items to Tasmania that may contain slender thistle should have these checked for the presence of the plant. This can be arranged through Quarantine Tasmania.

(2) Feed grain may be imported according to specifications in the Plant Quarantine Manual (Tasmania), Import Requirement 30 – Declared Weeds, Pests and Diseases in Feed Grain. This document establishes requirements for importing feed grain in order to minimise the risk of declared weed seed entry and establishment. Import Requirement 30 should be consulted by all existing and prospective feed grain importers.

(3) A person must not import any livestock that may be carrying slender thistle otherwise than in accordance with any measures prescribed under the Regulations.

It is an offence against section 57(3) of the Act to fail to comply with this prohibition. A person found committing this offence may incur an infringement fine of 4 penalty units. A person convicted of that offence in court may be liable to a fine not exceeding 50 penalty units.

The Secretary may exempt a person from this prohibition under section 60 of the Act.

The prescribed measures for importing stock under regulation 5 of the Regulations are as follows:

- a) the length of hairs in the coat is not to exceed 25 mm;
- b) seeds are not to adhere to the coat or anywhere else on the livestock;
- c) a permit for importation is obtained from the Secretary, DPIPWE;
- d) importation is direct to an approved facility for slaughter.

Actions to assist compliance in this matter could include but are not limited to the following:

- Persons importing livestock to Tasmania should liaise with suppliers on the subject of possible slender thistle contamination of stock.
- Persons purchasing livestock imported from areas infested with slender thistle should ensure their animals are confined to holding pens until they have undergone thorough external inspections and complete bowel evacuation. Pens should be checked subsequently for the emergence of slender thistle.
- Anyone importing stock to Tasmania should make him/herself familiar with regulation 5 of the Regulations.

Note: The importation of this species into Tasmania is also restricted under the Plant Quarantine Act 1997. Quarantine Tasmania should be contacted for information on the relevance and application of the Plant Quarantine Act 1997 to activities concerning plant species.

5. Procedures for notification of the occurrence of the weed:

Inspectors shall notify a [Regional Weed Management Officer](#) of any slender thistle occurrences in municipalities where the weed is not yet recorded.

Refer to Table 1 (Zone A municipalities) and Table 2 (Zone B municipalities) in [Management of slender thistle by municipality](#) (Section 12) for distribution of slender thistle by municipality and for direction on how notification is to be implemented in Zone A and Zone B municipalities in Tasmania.

6. Sale, purchase, propagation, use, &c., of declared weed:

(1) A person must not:

(a) sell slender thistle or any material or thing containing or carrying slender thistle; or

(b) purchase or offer to purchase slender thistle or any material or thing containing or carrying slender thistle; or

(c) grow, propagate or scatter slender thistle; or

(d) store slender thistle or any material or thing containing or carrying slender thistle; or

(e) hire or offer for hire any material or thing containing or carrying slender thistle; or

(f) use slender thistle or any material or thing containing or carrying slender thistle; or

(g) deal with slender thistle or any material or thing containing or carrying slender thistle in any manner that is likely to result in the spread of the declared weed.

It is an offence against section 56(1) of the Act to fail to comply with this prohibition. A person found committing that offence may incur an infringement fine of 4 penalty units. A person convicted of that offence in court may be liable to a fine not exceeding 50 penalty units.

The Secretary may exempt a person from this prohibition under section 60 of the Act.

Refer to [Management of slender thistle by municipality](#) (Section 12) for direction on how this prohibition is to be implemented in Zone A and Zone B municipalities in Tasmania.

Actions to assist compliance in this matter could include but are not limited to the following:

- Persons giving away, bartering or selling, purchasing, growing, propagating or scattering, storing, using, or otherwise dealing with agricultural produce (e.g. wool, fodder) likely to be contaminated with slender thistle should ensure that appropriate production hygiene and inspection measures are undertaken. These include practicing integrated slender thistle control in pastures or crops likely to be harvested for sale or distribution, careful inspection of the product prior to sale or distribution and forgoing the sale and distribution of produce grown in areas where slender thistle control has not been undertaken successfully.
- Persons involved in the giving away, bartering or selling, purchasing, storing, hiring, using, or otherwise dealing with agricultural or roading machinery likely to be contaminated with slender thistle should ensure that appropriate inspection and hygiene measures are undertaken. These include introducing thorough visual checks and cleaning of machinery as routine tasks when preparing these items for sale or distribution.
- Persons involved in the giving away, bartering or selling, purchasing, storing, hiring, using, or otherwise dealing with livestock that may be carrying slender thistle should ensure appropriate hygiene measures are undertaken to prevent spread of this weed. These include cleaning stock externally and penning them for a suitable period to ensure they have emptied their bowels prior to transport from infested properties.
- Persons involved in the giving away, bartering or selling, purchasing, storing, using, or otherwise dealing with soil, gravel, lime or other such materials from areas infested with slender thistle should ensure appropriate hygiene and inspection measures are undertaken. These include practicing integrated control of the weed in quarries, stockpile areas, wholesale or retail outlets and other places from which these materials are sold or distributed.
- Persons involved in the giving away, bartering or selling, purchasing, growing, propagating or scattering, storing, hiring,

using, or otherwise dealing with agricultural produce, agricultural or roading machinery, stock, soil, gravel or other such materials likely to be contaminated with slender thistle should take direction from any local, regional or State agricultural hygiene programs being implemented in the municipality.

- Persons purchasing or hiring any items (agricultural produce, machinery, livestock, soil, gravel or other such materials) likely to be contaminated with slender thistle should liaise with suppliers on the subject of slender thistle contamination and keep accurate records of their purchase transactions. Buyers discovering slender thistle contamination post-purchase should implement practices that reduce the potential for slender thistle establishment and spread. These include, creating dedicated areas for the wash down of purchased machinery and vehicles, feeding out purchased fodder and grain in specified, small areas, penning suspect stock for external inspection and bowel evacuation, and carefully monitoring any suspect soil, gravel or other such materials for the emergence of this weed.

(2) Section 56(1) of the Act does not apply in respect of feed grain for animals that is:

(a) carrying a declared weed; and

(b) imported into Tasmania in accordance with any measures prescribed for the purpose of section 57(2) of the Act and as detailed in part 4(2) of this Management Plan.

(3) It is a defence in proceedings for an offence under section 56(1) of the Act if the defendant establishes that he or she took all reasonable actions to prevent the commission of the offence.

7. Measures to reduce the number of slender thistle plants, eradicate slender thistle from an area or restrict slender thistle to a particular area:

An Inspector may, by serving a notice on the owner of any place, require that owner to implement any of the measures described in this part of the Weed Management Plan or any other measures consistent with it.

It is an offence against section 13(3) of the Act to fail to comply with a requirement notice issued by an Inspector. A person who fails to comply with that notice may be issued with an infringement fine of 8 penalty units. A person convicted of that offence in court may be liable to a fine not exceeding 100 penalty units and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further fine not exceeding 5 penalty units for each day during which the offence continues.

Refer to [Management of slender thistle by municipality](#) (Section 12) for direction on how this requirement is to be implemented in Zone A and Zone B municipalities in Tasmania.

Actions to assist compliance in this matter by persons or organisations upon whose properties slender thistle occurs could include but are not limited to the following:

- Planning and implementation of a property management plan. Such a plan should be based on integrated weed management principles and include an inventory of slender thistle infestations in the area to which the plan relates, well-defined objectives, practicable control actions, follow-up actions, a realistic timeline and a budget, as a minimum. [Regional Weed Management Officers](#) or Inspectors may be contacted for advice on developing a property management plan for this plant.
- Control of the plant over the entire property in a manner commensurate with the slender thistle management zone objective (ie. Zone A or B) of the municipality in which the property occurs.
- Control of the plant, with the aim of preventing spread to neighbouring properties, within 50 metres of property boundaries.
- Control of the plant, with the aim of preventing spread to neighbouring properties, within 50 metres of waterways, drainage lines, roadways and other transport corridors.
- Seek information about supporting any council endorsed plans relating to slender thistle management in their municipality.
- Seek cooperation with neighbouring property owners when slender thistle control measures are being planned or implemented.

Other general actions to assist compliance:

- Persons or organisations responsible for managing land that is currently free of slender thistle should undertake prevention measures, especially when that land is suited to slender thistle establishment. Such prevention measures include:
 - Developing an ability to identify the plant;
 - Noting its occurrence and progress on nearby properties or transport corridors;
 - Undertaking control of small outbreaks without delay;
 - Arranging on-site quarantine for, or not bringing or allowing onto the property livestock, agricultural produce, vehicles, machinery, soil, gravel, lime or other such material that may be contaminated with slender thistle.

A [Regional Weed Management Officer](#) may be contacted for advice on keeping areas slender thistle free.

- Persons performing contract work of an agricultural, utility maintenance, roading or earthmoving nature, on-site consultations or assessments, deliveries or other visits in areas or properties infested with slender thistle should undertake appropriate hygiene measures. This also applies to owners of more than one property, who move vehicles, machinery, agricultural produce, livestock, gravel, soil, lime or other materials between these properties, when one or more property is infested. Hygiene measures include thorough visual checks upon clothing, footwear, vehicles and machinery and, cleaning of the same, prior to leaving the infested property. Developing a check-list will help ensure such routines are rigorous and consistent. Materials or items likely to be contaminated with slender thistle should not be moved from slender thistle infested areas or to slender thistle free areas until any contamination risks have been minimised.
- Persons wishing to conduct on-site disposal of slender thistle or any thing contaminated with slender thistle should contact an Inspector or a [Regional Weed Management Officer](#) first, in order to receive direction upon how best to do this.
- Persons considering transporting slender thistle or any thing contaminated with slender thistle for the purpose of disposal, should first seek advice from an Inspector or a [Regional Weed Management Officer](#) as to whether removal of the material from the site is the preferred option. If on-site disposal is not appropriate and transport to a suitable disposal facility is recommended, this should be undertaken in a manner that does not permit the release of seeds or other material. Note that municipal waste disposal facilities vary in their acceptance and handling of declared weeds. Municipal waste disposal managers should be contacted for details.

8. Storage in a specified area of any thing contaminated with the declared weed:

Any thing found to be contaminated with slender thistle may be removed to storage at an appropriate approved quarantine place. A [Regional Weed Management Officer](#) will determine whether removal to storage at any of these facilities or treatment/destruction of material in situ is most appropriate.

Failure to comply with this requirement is an offence against section 51(1) of the Act. A person found committing that offence may incur an infringement fine of 4 penalty units. A person convicted of that offence in court may be liable to a fine not exceeding 50 penalty units.

The Secretary may exempt a person from this requirement under section 60 of the Act.

Refer to [Management of slender thistle by municipality](#) (Section 12) for

direction on how this requirement is to be implemented in Zone A and Zone B municipalities in Tasmania.

Actions to assist compliance in this matter could include but are not limited to the following:

- A person who discovers or suspects he/she possesses any thing, (e.g. fodder, livestock, machinery, soil, gravel) contaminated with slender thistle should contact an Inspector or a [Regional Weed Management Officer](#). The contaminated thing should not be moved, disturbed, treated or disposed of prior to making this contact. If slender thistle is confirmed, the person will be directed and advised in the proper management, including storage or disposal options, of the contaminated thing.

9. Any other measures the Minister considers appropriate to control the weed:

There are no other measures appropriate for the management of slender thistle in Tasmania at this time.

10. Exemptions:

A person may apply for an exemption from any of provisions of the *Act* that relate to slender thistle. He/she should contact a [Regional Weed Management Officer](#) to discuss the reasons for seeking the exemption and obtain an exemption application form.

Persons granted an exemption should ensure they understand fully, any conditions specified in the exemption. Queries can be directed to a [Regional Weed Management Officer](#).

11. Review of this Weed Management Plan:

A review of this Weed Management Plan may be undertaken at least once every five years if it is necessary and desirable to do so. The review will incorporate consultation with stakeholders deemed appropriate by the Secretary, DPIPWE.

12. Management of slender thistle by municipality:

Slender thistle presents a complex weed management challenge for Tasmanians. This complexity results in part from:

- the varied distribution of the plant across the State;
- its similarity to the less common but very similar *Carduus tenuiflorus*;
- its impacts in agricultural environments;

- its effective means of spread by seed;
- different perceptions of its importance as a weed and the need to manage it;
- different management capabilities and priorities at the State agency, municipal, local and individual property levels.

Accordingly, it is unlikely that attempts at uniform application and enforcement of measures in this Statutory Weed Management Plan for slender thistle would result in appropriate, fair or workable management outcomes. However, this Weed Management Plan can be implemented effectively if the differences listed above are taken into account, at least at the local government level. One means of doing this is to identify clear, distinct management objectives suitable at a municipal scale and then specify the manner in which the measures outlined in this Weed Management Plan should be undertaken in order to achieve those objectives.

Each Tasmanian municipality is classified into one of two management zones (Zones A or B) for the purposes of implementing this Weed Management Plan for slender thistle.

Zone A Municipalities - eradication: Eradication is the most appropriate management objective for Zone A municipalities which have little or no slender thistle, or when a credible plan for eradicating existing infestations is being developed and implemented. The ultimate management outcome for Zone A municipalities is achieving and maintaining the total absence of slender thistle from within municipal boundaries.

Zone B municipalities - containment: Containment is the most appropriate management objective for Zone B municipalities which have problematic infestations but no plan and/or resources to undertake control actions at a level required for eradication. The management outcome for Zone B municipalities is ongoing prevention of the spread of slender thistle from existing infestations to areas free or in the process of becoming free of slender thistle.

The decision regarding which category is most appropriate for a particular municipality at a particular time is made jointly by DPIPW and each municipality. Municipalities may change categories over time. For example, a Zone B municipality may decide to develop and implement a strategic plan for slender thistle, with eradication as the objective. Provided the plan is credible, this municipality would qualify for inclusion in Zone A. Conversely, a Zone A municipality with widespread infestations may decide to stop supporting a strategic plan for slender thistle eradication, in which case it would be re-classified as Zone B.

Zone A Municipalities

Table 1 lists the distribution and management measures for slender thistle in Tasmanian municipalities currently classified as Zone A for slender thistle.

Table 1. Distribution and management measures for slender thistle in municipalities classified as Zone A at 01/2011.

Distribution based on Tasmanian Herbarium and DPIPWE records.

Municipality	Slender thistle distribution	Management measures*
King Island	Localised infestations	Implement integrated control program for eradication and prevent future occurrences
West Coast	Localised infestations	Implement integrated control program for eradication and prevent future occurrences

* When a DPIPWE approved weed management strategy that has local council endorsement exists, management of this declared weed in the municipality concerned should occur with direct reference to that strategy.

The following four distribution categories are used in Table 1:

“None recorded”. This means the plant is not known to be naturalised in the municipality, either from the records of the Tasmanian Herbarium or from DPIPWE databases. In cases where the plant was known to be naturalised at a previous time but is not known there currently, the description “Previously recorded, none known now” is used.

“Isolated occurrences”. This means the species is uncommon in the municipality, with populations limited to one or a few. The number of plants is generally small and/or populations cover small areas.

“Localised infestations”. This means the species is present in the municipality in moderate proportions, with populations numbering several. The number of plants is also moderate and/or populations cover moderate-sized areas.

“Widespread infestations”. This means the species is very common in the municipality, with many populations present. The number of plants present is generally large and/or populations cover large areas.

Note that the distribution descriptions presented in Tables 1 and 2 apply to naturalised populations of the plant only. They do not include amenity, garden, horticultural or other deliberate plantings unless

specified. The descriptions are relative and provide a general indication only of the spatial status of the plant in the municipality. Detailed location information may be obtained by contacting a [Regional Weed Management Officer](#). In addition, if you have reason to believe any of the distribution information presented in Table 1 or Table 2 is incorrect, please advise a [Regional Weed Management Officer](#).

Application of this Weed Management Plan for slender thistle in Zone A municipalities.

In order to achieve eradication of slender thistle in each of the municipalities in Table 1, the measures specified under the following clauses of this Weed Management Plan, whenever they apply, should be undertaken and enforced to a high degree, as a minimum effort. The clauses are:

- 4 (Importation of declared weed);
- 5 (Notification of declared weed);
- 6 (Sale, purchase, propagation, use, &c., of declared weed);
- 7 (Measures to reduce, eradicate or restrict declared weed) and;
- 8 (Storage of declared weed)

Further measures, provided they are consistent with this Weed Management Plan, may also be promoted and enforced where appropriate.

Zone B Municipalities

Table 2 lists the distribution and management measures for slender thistle in Tasmanian municipalities currently classified as Zone B for slender thistle. Distribution categories as for Table 1.

Table 2. Distribution and management measures for slender thistle in municipalities classified as Zone B at 01/2011.

Distribution based on Tasmanian Herbarium and DPIPWE records.

Municipality	Slender thistle distribution	Management measures*
Break O'Day	Widespread infestations	Containment within municipal boundaries, protection of specified areas within municipal boundaries, prevention of spread to Zone A municipalities. This applies to all Zone B municipalities.
Brighton	Widespread infestations	
Burnie	Widespread infestations	

Central Coast	Widespread infestations	
Central Highlands	Widespread infestations	
Circular Head	Widespread infestations	
Clarence	Widespread infestations	
Derwent Valley	Widespread infestations	
Devonport	Localised infestations	
Dorset	Widespread infestations	
Flinders	Localised infestations	
George Town	Widespread infestations	
Glamorgan/Spring Bay	Widespread infestations	
Glenorchy	Localised infestations	
Hobart	Localised infestations	
Huon Valley	Widespread infestations	
Kentish	Widespread infestations	
King Island	Localised infestations	
Kingborough	Widespread infestations	
Latrobe	Widespread infestations	
Launceston	Widespread infestations	
Meander Valley	Widespread infestations	
Northern Midlands	Widespread infestations	
Sorell	Widespread infestations	
Southern Midlands	Widespread infestations	
Tasman	Widespread infestations	
Waratah/Wynyard	Widespread infestations	
West Tamar	Widespread infestations	

*See note under Table 1.

Application of this Weed Management Plan for slender thistle in Zone B municipalities.

For the purposes of applying this Weed Management Plan for slender thistle in Zone B municipalities, two requirements must be satisfied. These are:

- The spread of slender thistle from the municipality must be prevented.
- The spread of slender thistle to the Zone B landholdings listed in

Table 3 must be prevented:

Table 3. Zone B landholdings requiring protection from slender thistle.

a) Any Zone B property sharing a border with a Zone A municipality
b) Any slender thistle free property within Zone B.
c) Any group of properties within Zone B for which the owners have developed and are implementing a local integrated Weed Management Plan for slender thistle.
d) Any property within Zone B where slender thistle is impacting negatively upon any community or flora or fauna species listed under the Commonwealth <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> and/or the Tasmanian <i>Threatened Species Protection Act 1995</i> .

The measures described in clauses 4 (Importation of declared weed) and 6 (Sale, purchase, propagation, use, &c., of declared weed) of this Weed Management Plan are to be undertaken and enforced throughout Zone B municipalities to a high degree. Failure to do so increases the threat of slender thistle to Zone B landholdings listed in Table 3 and to Zone A municipalities. It also increases the likelihood of slender thistle problems in Zone B municipalities becoming worse.

The measures specified under clauses 5 (Notification of declared weed), 7 (Measures to reduce, eradicate or restrict declared weed) and 8 (Storage of declared weed) of this Weed Management Plan are to be undertaken and enforced to prevent the spread of the plant to the four specific types of landholding listed above. Equally, enforcement of these measures will also apply to activities in Zone B municipalities that increase the risk of slender thistle spread to Zone A municipalities. The examples that follow indicate how these measures apply.

Examples of implementation of this Weed Management Plan for slender thistle in Zone B municipalities.

Procedures for notification of the occurrence of the weed (clause 5).

Example: New slender thistle occurrences in Zone B municipalities are to be reported when they increase the likelihood of spread of the plant to any of the areas listed in Table 3. For example, a group of Zone B landholders attempting to implement a slender thistle management plan for their catchment or local area may report new occurrences of slender thistle on municipal roads passing through their area, in order that these be targeted for control. Established, well-known slender thistle infestations are not to be reported.

Measures to reduce the number of slender thistle plants, eradicate slender thistle from an area or restrict slender thistle to a particular area (clause 7).

Example: Owners of Zone B properties sharing a boundary with landholdings listed in Table 3 are required to undertake property boundary control and control along waterways, drainage lines, roadways and other transport corridors, as described in clause 7. Zone B properties bordering Zone A municipalities are also required to undertake boundary control of slender thistle along the shared boundary or along waterways, roads and other transport corridors which extend into any Zone A municipality.

Owners of Zone B properties with slender thistle infestations are not required to undertake boundary control if their neighbours also have slender thistle infestations but do not fall into the landholding categories described in Table 3.

Example: Agricultural contractors, utility maintenance crews, roading and earthmoving contractors, delivery people and any other persons visiting Zone B properties infested with slender thistle are required to undertake the basic hygiene measures described in clause 7. Failure to do so increases the likelihood of slender thistle spread to Zone A municipalities and to Zone B landholdings listed in Table 3. It also increases the chance of existing slender thistle problems becoming worse.

Example: Transport and disposal of slender thistle or any thing contaminated with slender thistle should occur in Zone B municipalities in accordance with suggested measures described in clause 7. Failure to do so increases the likelihood of slender thistle spread to Zone A municipalities and to Zone B landholdings listed in Table 3. It also increases the chance of existing slender thistle problems becoming worse.

Storage in a specified area of any thing contaminated with the declared weed (clause 8).

Example: Any thing contaminated with slender thistle may not be required to be stored in an approved quarantine place if the contaminated thing occurs and will remain in a Zone B municipality. If the problem cannot be dealt with on site, storage in an approved quarantine place may be required when the contaminated thing is destined for or threatens any of the areas listed in Table 3 or any Zone A municipality.