

Gamba grass weed advisory committee meeting #22

A summary of activities tabled at meeting 22, undertaken in the period 4 February 2026 to 26 May 2026 to progress implementation of the [Weed Management Plan Gamba Grass 2020 – 2030](#). Activities are those undertaken by the Gamba Grass Weed Advisory Committee members and Weed Management Branch.

Time 9:00am – 3:00pm

Date: Wednesday, 27 May 2026

Gamba Grass Weed Advisory Committee members present		
Diego Alvarez	(Proxy) Representing the Northern Land Council (NLC)	DA
Susanne Casanova	Chair – Representing Territory Natural Resource Management	SC
Natasha Clayton	Representing the Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association (NTCA)	NC
Gary Fischer	(Proxy) Representing the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI)	GF
Danniel Steele	(Proxy) Bushfires NT (new member to be appointed)	AM
Matthew Phillips	Representing the Northern Territory tourism industry	MP
Dr Natalie Rossiter-Rachor	Representing Charles Darwin University (CDU) / National Environmental Science Program (NESP)	NR-R
Sam Washusen	Representing the Department of Tourism and Hospitality (DTH) (Parks and Wildlife)	SW
Gamba Grass Weed Advisory Committee apologies		
Adrian McKenzie	Bushfires NT representative	AM
Kerri O'Brien	Representing the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment (DLPE), (Vacant Crown Land)	KB
Tom Price	Representing the Northern Land Council (NLC)	TP
Shane Tepper	Representing the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI) (tentative new member)	ST
Other attendees present:		
Emma Burcher	Weeds Planning Officer – Weed Management Branch (WMB), DLPE	EB
Roni Opden	Manager Planning and Science, WMB, DLPE	RO
Shelley Inglis	Manager Compliance and Operations, WMB, DLPE	SI
Karl Tattersall	Gamba Coordinator Parks and Wildlife, DTH	KT
Alex Tomlinson	Country Manager, Parks Australia	AT
Liesl Wilson	Director Weed Management, DLPE	LW

#To demonstrate progress against the [Weed Management Plan for Gamba Grass 2020 – 2030](#), the objectives of the 2020 – 2030 Gamba Plan being implemented have been noted beside each outcome listed below.

Summary of key outcomes against the Weed Management Plan for Gamba Grass 2020 – 2030: (committee member updates included where updates were provided)

Objective of plan	Key outcomes this quarter
1a, 2a, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 4b	<u>Territory Natural Resource Management (TNRM)</u> <u>Land for Wildlife (LFW) Top End</u> Gamba treatment support provided to seven privately owned properties registered in the LFW Top End program hosted and funded by TNRM. Support included mapping infestations and glyphosate

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	spraying as well as drafting individual weed management plans for property owners using the NTG template available online. TNRM support for NLC GBEC project Gamba grass ecology and ID workshop delivered to rangers in Gapuwiyak, to increase understanding of gamba grass population ecology, seedbanks, establishment and invasion/spread risk.
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WMB Updates:

Objective of plan	Key outcomes this quarter
1d, 1e	Review gamba grass Class A/B zone boundary and permits Review documents updated after gamba WAC meeting 21 and redistributed to gamba WAC out of session. Comments on permits review document to be discussed further in meeting 22.
2a, and 2c-2f	Gamba Action Program Program completed with 3200 land holders participating this season.
4a, 4b, 5b	Communications - Ongoing as per the Gamba Action Program. - Country Hour interview with gamba compliance officer. - Survey to inform gamba management in the Class B zone finalised at Fred's Pass GAP distribution centre.
2a, 2d, 2e, 4b	Gamba Litchfield Neighbours Project (GLNP) - Meeting with Coomalie Council and consultant about weed plan for Coomalie Council funded through the GLNP. - Markets stalls.
5a	Compliance Program targeting Class B zone - Compliance program ongoing. - Stakeholder meetings with roads and railway ongoing. - WMB participated in railway survey with Aurizon and Gamba Eradication and Biodiversity Conservation (GEBC) Project staff for gamba grass and other weeds from Darwin to Elliot in May 2026.