



**MINUTES PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

**GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL**

**THURSDAY 9 JULY 2020**

**COMMENCING AT 9.09AM**

**ROXY MEETING ROOM, BINGARA**

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**Present:**

**Members:** Cr. John Coulton (Mayor), Cr. Catherine Egan (Deputy Mayor), Cr Marilyn Dixon OAM, Cr. Jim Moore, Cr. Geoff Smith, Cr. David Coulton, Cr Stuart Dick, Cr Tiffany Galvin. Cr Frances Young and Alex Eddy (Manager, Engineering Services)

**Staff:** Max Eastcott (General Manager), Leeah Daley (Deputy General Manager) and Helen Thomas (Manager, Finance)

**Public:** Nil

**Visitor:** Nil

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**OFFICIAL OPENING AND WELCOME – MAYOR**

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

**THAT the Minutes of the previous Public Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on Thursday 14 May 2020 as circulated be taken as read and CONFIRMED.**

**(Moved Cr Smith, seconded Cr Dick)**

**PRESENTATION Nil**

**CALL FOR THE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST Nil**

**Item 1 Monthly Technical Services Report for June 2020**

**FILE REFERENCE** 20/15133

**DELIVERY PROGRAM**

**GOAL:** 5. Organisational Management

**OUTCOME:** 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

**STRATEGY:** 2.1.1 Plan for and develop the right assets and infrastructure - TS -external

**AUTHOR** Manager, Engineering Services

**STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST** Nil

**IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION**

**BACKGROUND**

The monthly Technical Services report has been identified by Council as the process of reporting the activities carried out monthly by the Technical Services Department.

**COMMENT**

**ENGINEERING SERVICES**

2019/2020 Roads to Recovery Program

Engineering staff completed the 2019/2020 Roads to Recovery funded works in June. Council expended the \$1,773,336 allocation by carrying out over 60km of gravel resheeting across the local road network. Resheeting projects finalised in June included 4km of SR13 Oregon Road, 1km of SR114 Lewis Road and 1km of SR215 Nooroo Road.

2020/2021 Works Program

Following recent funding announcements, the 2020/2021 works program is currently under revision.

MR63 Segment 5240 Linwood

Construction work continues on the Sub base layer of MR63 near Linwood. This will be tested and then work will begin on the final Base layer



*MR63 Linwood Construction*

MR 462 Bruxner Way Rehabilitation

Construction staff commenced a 2.7km long super patch, pavement stabilisation during June. This project is funded via the RMS Block Grant and will continue into the 2020/2021 financial year. The works commence from the intersection of Bruxner Way and Peates Road and address a failed section of pavement towards the Moree Plains Shire Boundary. The construction methodology used allows recycling of existing pavement, resulting in a more cost-effective rehabilitation than a traditional overlay rehabilitation.

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*Bruxner Way Stabilisation*

The Living Classroom

Earthworks have commenced on the building site of the Wellness and Interpretive Centre. Imported granite will form the foundations for the concrete slab of the new buildings.



*Earthworks at The Living Classroom*

Myall Creek Memorial

Staff have commenced placing sandstone blocks in place for the seating at the Myall Creek Memorial. Once this is completed a layer of shale will be spread and compacted for the base.

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Maintenance

Staff have recently completed pouring two new Plinths at the Bingara Cemetery. Routine maintenance activities including roadside spraying and whipper snipping continued throughout June.



*Bingara Cemetery Plinth*

Maintenance Grading

Grading has been carried out on SR13 Oregon Road, SR41 County Boundary Road, SR9 IB Bore Road, SR80 Ottley Road, SR16 Trevallyn Rd, SR57 Currangandi Rd, SR111 Kiora Rd, SR91 Cracknells Rd, SR56 Glenelg Rd and SR18 Gineroi Rd.

Seal Maintenance

Seal maintenance is ongoing on all State, Regional and Local roads.

Slashing

Roadside slashing was carried out on the following roads during June:

RR7705 North Star Road, RR63 Warialda Road, MR462 Bruxner Way, Bingara Airstrip, SR1 Copeton Dam Rd and SR2 Bundarra Rd.

**DESIGN and ASSETS**

Copeton Dam Road and Bingara Road Intersection

Signs have been removed and updated at this intersection to improve the safety of the intersection. Further works identified in a road safety audit of this intersection, including resealing and additional line marking, are programmed for the 20/21 financial year. These works were identified from a Safety Audit and will be funded from the Traffic Facilities block grant.

Safety Inspections

Night time inspections of Elcombe Road and Copeton Dam Road were conducted during June. These inspections aim to identify any safety issues faced by drivers at night, such as poor signage or insufficient guideposts. The findings of these inspections will be used to create a plan for how to improve the night safety on Council managed roads in future.

Croppa Moree Road Causeway

Survey and design have been completed of the causeway along Croppa - Moree Road, west of the Buckie Road intersection. This causeway has been identified as a safety issue due to poor vertical alignment.

Cunningham Park Toilet Block

Due to issues with water inundation during moderate rainfall, a survey of this site has been completed to provide an engineering design for better drainage. It is expected that the stormwater issues can be resolved to avoid the construction of a new toilet block in a different location within Cunningham Park.

Roads Maintenance Council Contract – Works Orders issued by RMS

All Work Orders issued by RMS are quality assurance schedule of rates projects carried out by Council staff under the Roads Maintenance Council Contract with Roads and Maritime Services.

Works are coming to an end in segment 5340 on MR63 Fossickers Way where pavement rehabilitation has been underway for the past 10 weeks. Crews have now placed the base layer over the conforming sub-base layer and are in the process of final trimming and preparing for testing in early July. Once tested, a 7mm primer-seal will be laid, scheduled to take place in mid-July. Once sealed, all works will be completed until a 14mm reseal is undertaken during the reseal season.

Design reviews have now been submitted to the RMS and feedback received for three segments programmed for rehabilitation next financial year. These segments include 5150 and 5255 on MR63 Fossickers Way and 8270 on HW12 Gwydir Highway. Segment 5255 design has been approved and construction will begin in late July, expected to take 4-6 weeks to complete. These works will involve reshaping the existing pavement, including a 100mm overlay, ripped and recompactd at 150mm deep, followed by 150mm base layer overlay and 7mm primer seal. Remaining designs require intersection detail for driveways and additional guardrail detail, likely to be completed over the next two weeks. Further to our programmed segments of rehabilitation next financial year, RMS are undertaking works at present to see 3-4 additional segments brought forward and completed next financial year also. These segments are currently in the survey and design stage.

Heavy patching works are now completed for this financial year. No reseals are programmed for completion this financial year. Routine maintenance continues each week undertaking inspections, rest area services, vegetation control and bitumen repairs.

Next financial year will see our usual RMCC maintenance program completed throughout the year, as well as the resealing of approximately 13 segments throughout the Shire as well as approximately 4 weeks of heavy patching and a further 4 weeks of reseal preparation. This will all be in addition to the previously mentioned rehabilitation projects throughout MR63 Fossickers Way and HW12 Gwydir Highway.



**TOWN UTILITIES and PLANT**

Water and Sewerage

During June, water and sewerage operators attended 14 service line repairs, 11 water main breaks and 13 sewer blockages. Works were undertaken on the Bingara caravan park, Bingara swimming pool, Gwydir oval, Roxy theatre, Naroo Aged Hostel, public amenities, and sewer pump stations No 2 and 3 in Warialda. A water bubbler and refill station was installed in Fays Park, Bingara in June.

Meter reading was undertaken during the second week of June and several faulty meters were replaced. A major power upgrade was undertaken at the Bingara sewerage treatment plant with 100 metres of overhead cable removed and new cable installed underground. Two power service connections were combined into one. The power upgrade replaced original 1970's connections and switchboards providing a much safer workplace for staff and is preliminary to installing solar to the site, which will be undertaken during July.

Telemetry upgrades were undertaken at Bingara Water Treatment Plant, Bingara reservoir and the Gravesend bore and reservoir during June. Council's old telemetry system is no longer supported and has major reliability issues. These four sites have now been improved and are operating with combined radio and 3G communication back to the BWTP SCADA system. The other water and sewerage sites will be merged onto this system in a staged approach over the next two years.

Parks and Gardens

All parks and gardens continue to be maintained. Council's playgrounds that were closed due to Covid 19 restrictions were re-opened on 15 May 2020. Council staff are undertaking a weekly inspection and clean of handrails and touch areas. Mowing, weed control, irrigation, hedging and trimming were undertaken during June. Several dead trees were removed during June and stumps have been ground. Parks and Gardens staff will be planting a range of trees in the town streets over the next three months. Some additional children's play equipment was installed at all Abilities Park and Captain Cook park in Warialda during June. Three sets of bike racks were installed in Maitland and Cunningham streets, Bingara street during June.

A pontoon was installed upstream of the bridge on the Gwydir River in Bingara. This was funded under Big River dreaming project. Works to follow include a foot path to link up to the swimming pool and caravan park.



*Pontoon upstream of Gwydir River Bridge*

Warialda cemetery had two new brick columbarium walls installed during June and Bingara cemetery had two new plinths installed in the lawn cemetery.



*Warialda cemetery columbarium*

Drought Casuals

During June the drought recruitment team installed the Bingara town street bins, seats at the Bingara cemetery columbarium, a seat at the Bingara lookout and the new shelter at the Bingara Anglers club area near the boat ramp.

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*Bingara cemetery columbarium seat*



*Seat at Batterham's Lookout, Bingara*

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*Bingara Anglers club shelter*

### Gwydir Oval Amenities

The new amenities building at Gwydir Oval is 80% complete with electrical work, painting and wet area bedding installed during June. The building crew has been working on several other projects during June. The change room showers will be tiled and partitions installed at the amenities in July.

### Bingara Showground

The showground is being maintained. Materials have been ordered for Phase 1 Stimulus funding projects and will be completed by the end of September. Three projects for Phase 2 Stimulus funding were submitted as indicated in the table below:

Description	Estimate
1. Extension and refurbishment of existing amenity building at Bingara Showground.	\$142,590.76
2. Supply and installation of LED field lighting at the Bingara Showground arena ring.	\$225,309.88
3. Removal of asbestos lining and refurbishment of Bingara showground Grandstand.	\$85,378.25
TOTAL	\$453,278.89

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Two projects will be submitted for the Crown Reserves funding that closes on 12 July.

1. Kitchen pavilion extension
2. Replacement of the caretaker's cottage

Plant and Workshop

Major workshop repairs carried out during June included:

- Fabrication of new walkway for Bingara water pump station ready for industrial galvanising
- Plant 1065 loader – fit crankshaft seal
- Plant 1473 grid roller – fit roller bearing seals
- Plant 1474 pad foot roller – air conditioning repairs
- Plant 1713 jet master – fit new air compressor
- Plant 1476 roller - fit two new heater hoses and alternator repairs
- Plant 1936 tractor - PTO shaft repairs

**ENVIRONMENT and SUSTAINABILITY DEPARTMENT**

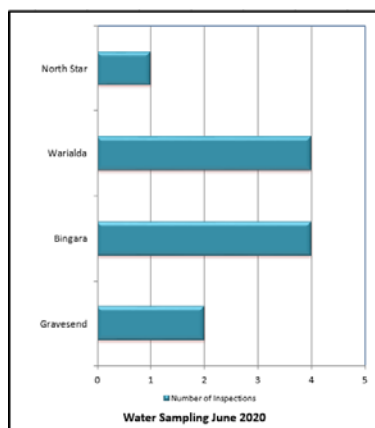
The Department continues to receive enquiries and provide advice on a range of health matters including:

- Overgrown properties
- Food premises design and fit-out
- Food handling practices
- Mobile food vendors
- Licensing
- Water carting
- Pet Ownership

Water Surveillance

The Department continues to carry out routine weekly microbiological sampling of the water supply in the towns of Warialda and Bingara, fortnightly sampling of Gravesend and monthly sampling at North Star.

**Health Related Inspections**



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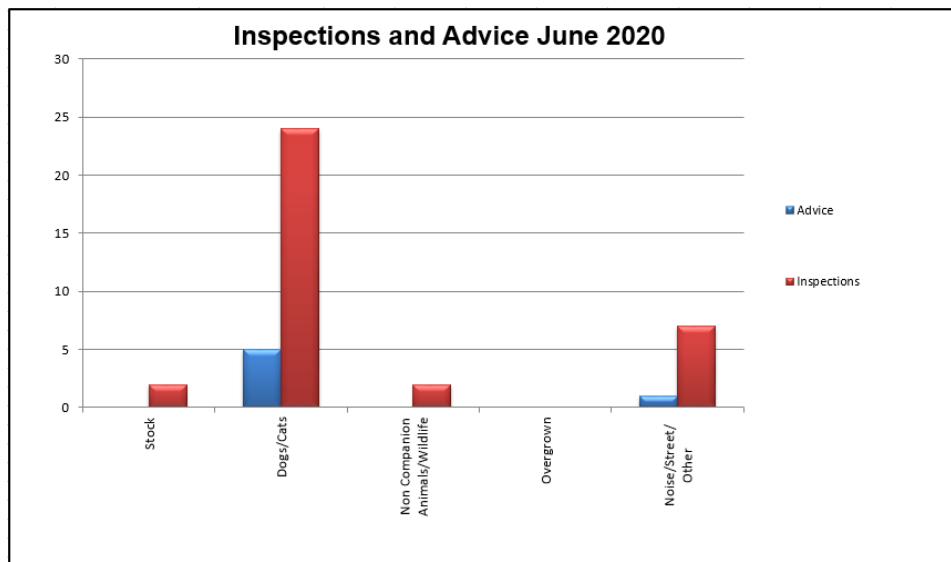
Food Premise Inspections/Re-inspections

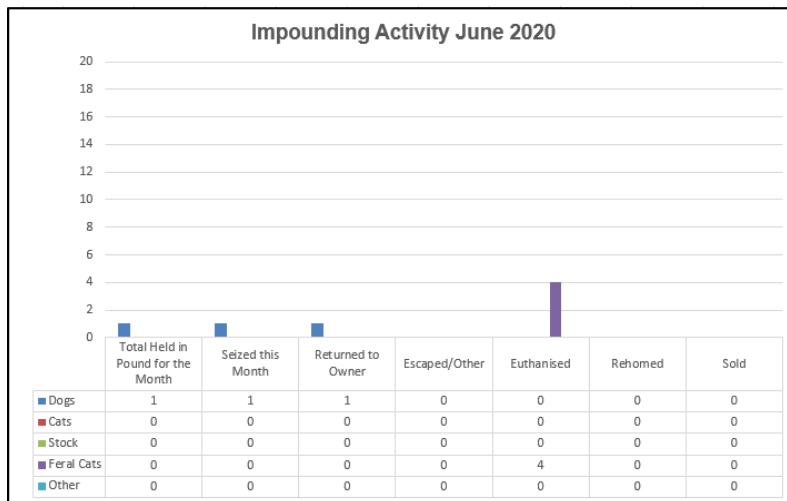
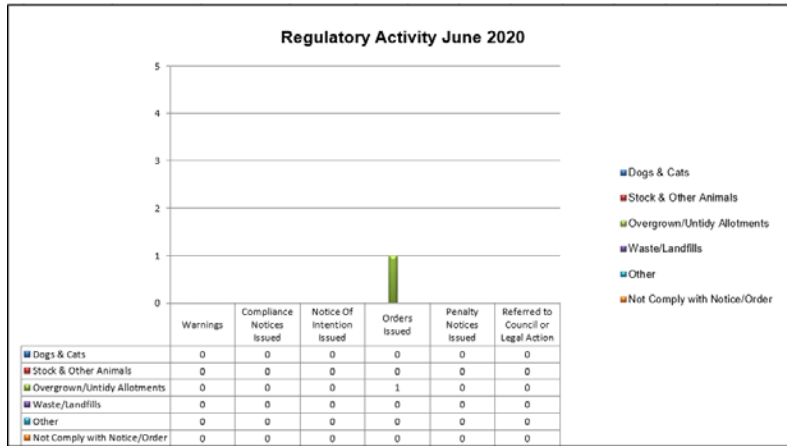
Food Premise Inspections are carried out on an annual basis for each food business. The graph below shows inspections that have been carried for the previous 6 months. Enquiries or complaints are actioned as necessary.



Compliance and Regulatory Control

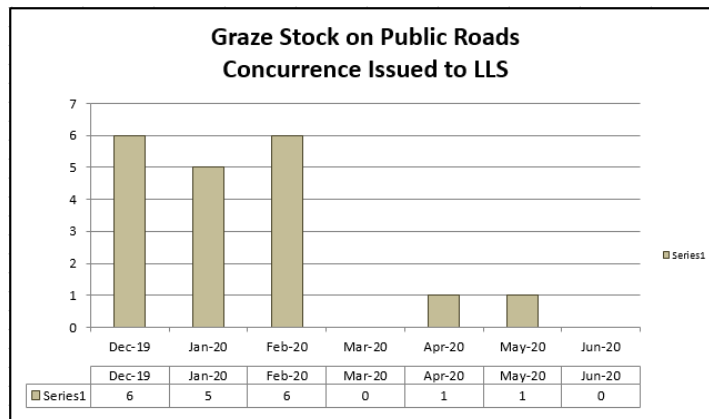
Council received complaints regarding roaming stock and dogs, noise, the keeping of animals and other concerns during the month of June 2020. These are investigated and actioned as necessary and are detailed in the following tables.





**Grazing Permits**

As the Consent Authority for road reserves, Council has not issued concurrence to the North West Local Land Services for any Roadside Grazing Permits during the month of June 2020. Recent favourable conditions have provided welcome relief in the district and the demand for roadside grazing has eased. The following graph shows the applications received June 2020 compared to the previous 6 months.



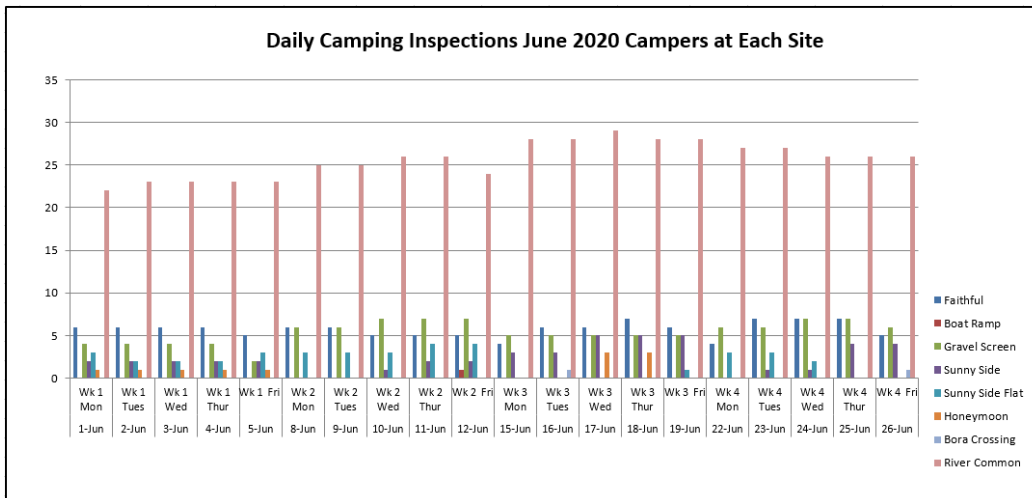
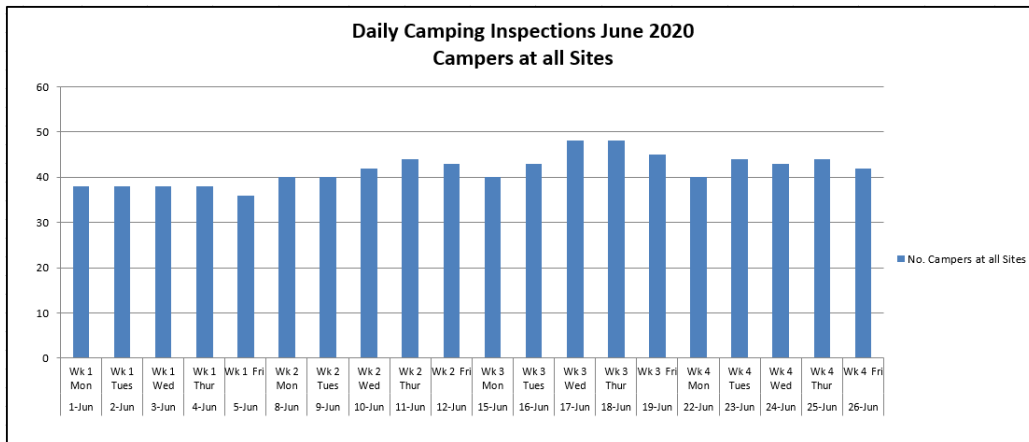
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Riverside Camping

Council’s Compliance Officer aims to carry out daily checks along the Gwydir River to ensure that camping is being conducted in a safe and hygienic manner. Flyers promoting local events and services are distributed to campers and enquires from campers are addressed as necessary. The graphs below show total numbers of campers and the distribution of campers at the different campsites.

Campgrounds re-opened on 1 June and saw campers immediately arriving on the riverbank. The first day there were 38 campers at the various sites and since the second week there have been constantly over 40 campers staying at the various sites along the Gwydir River.



Waste Services

Scheduled kerbside collection of waste, recycling and green waste was carried out throughout the Shire. Customer service requests are processed and actioned as necessary.

All Waste Recovery Centres in the Shire continue to be supervised/monitored and maintained. Staff continue to make changes to the site layout and signage to improve onsite operation and access for residents unloading waste

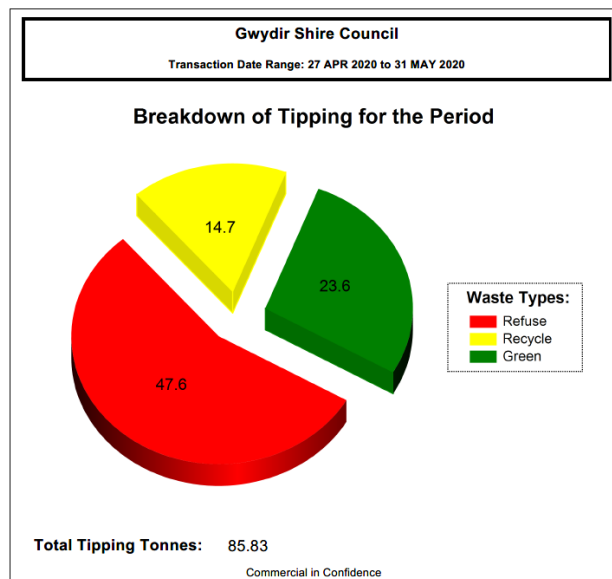
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and recyclable materials. Council is continuing to supply mulch from chipped green waste to residents.

Breakdown of Waste Collection

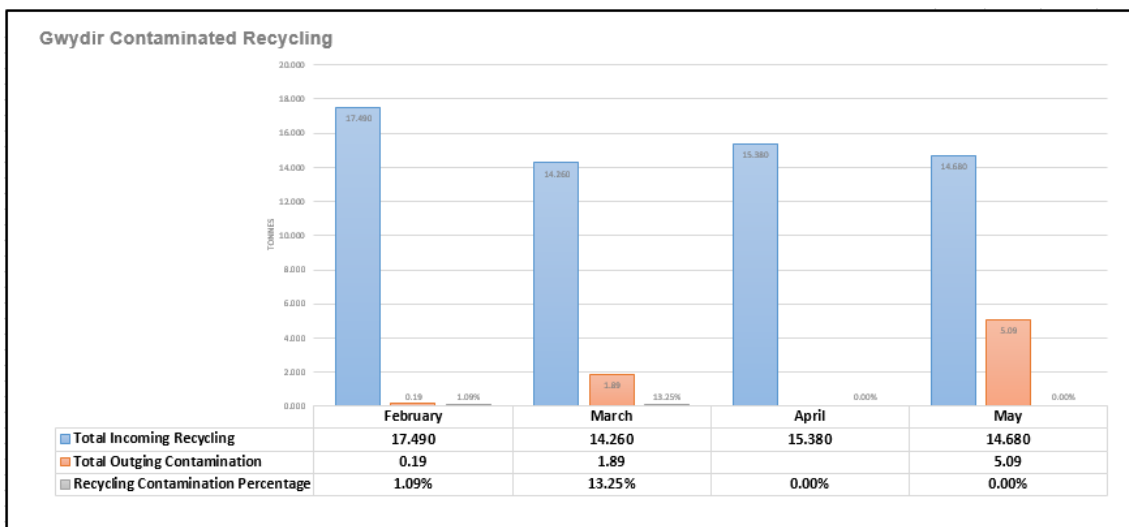


Contamination Reporting

Cleanaway has refined the collection of their contamination data and now reports on contamination rates for each Council area (Moree, Narrabri and Gwydir). This gives an accurate reflection of the contamination rate for waste generated within the Gwydir Shire area, rather than the previously reported statistics, which were unable to accurately report which LGA was experiencing problems with contamination in the recycling and organics waste collections.

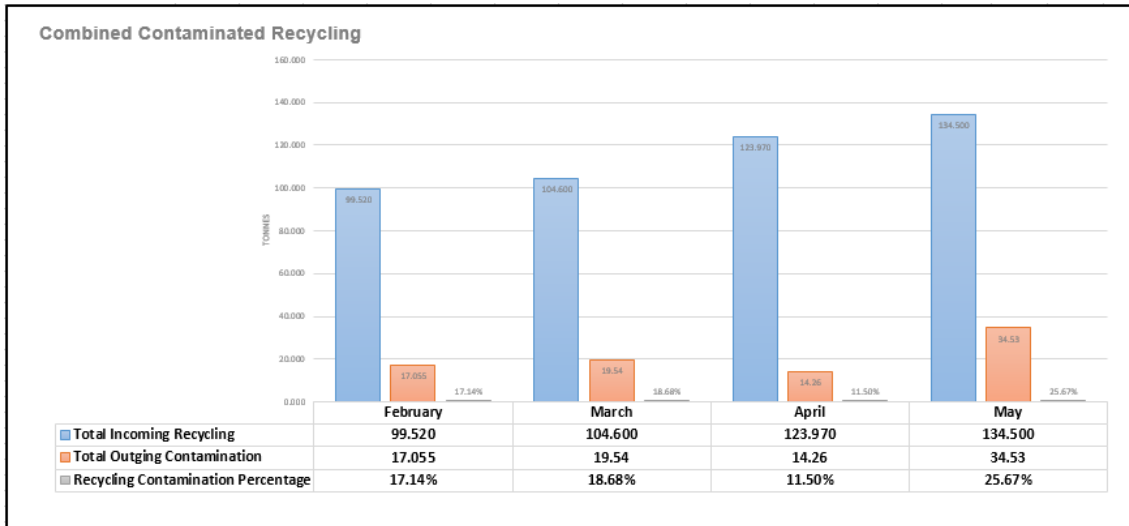
The graphs below show contamination rates for both the Gwydir Shire and the combined collections area for the month of June compared to the previous 3 months.

Recycling Contamination

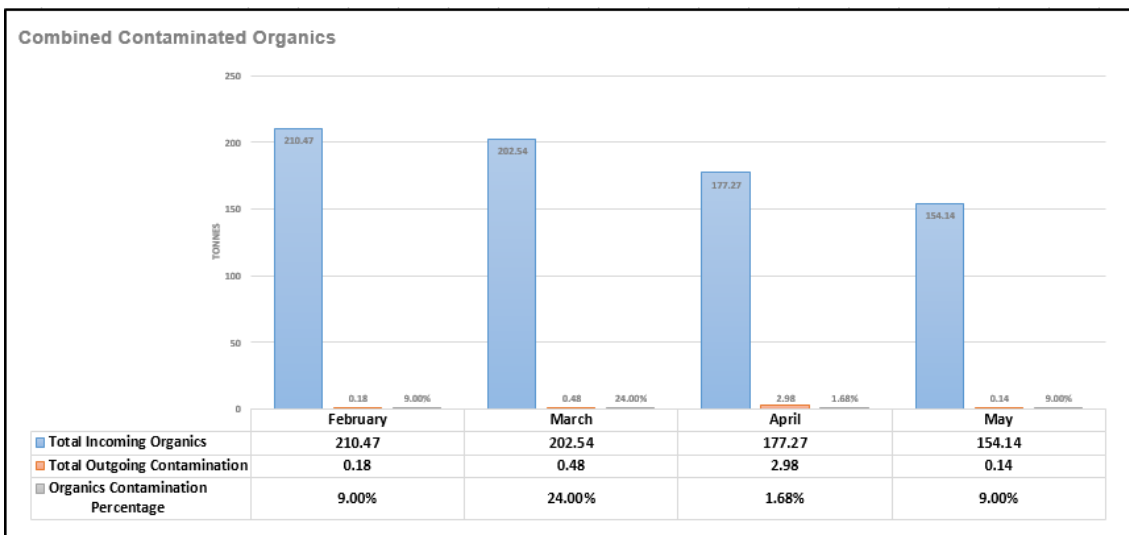
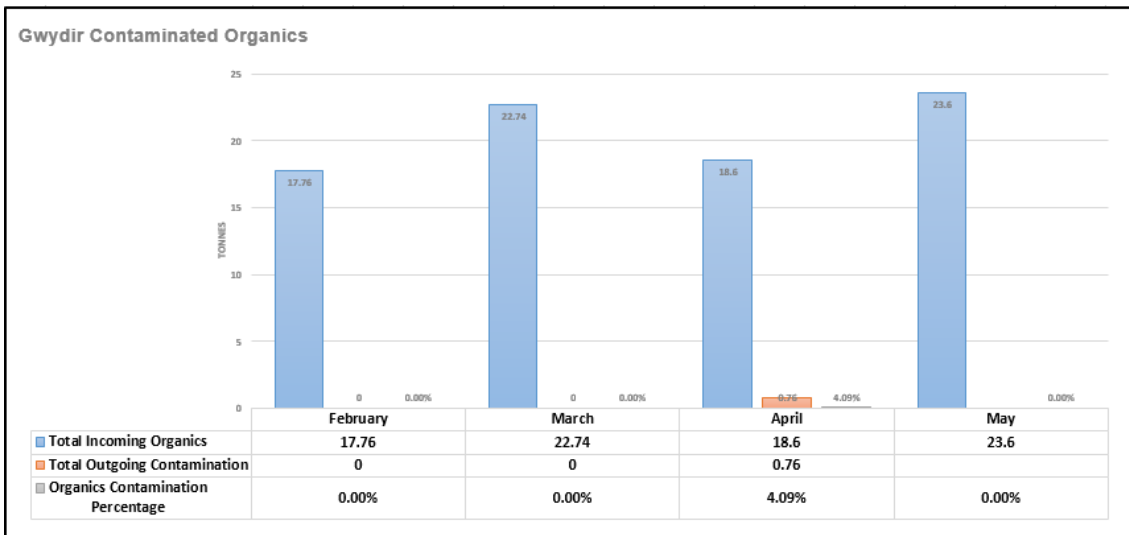


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Organics Contamination



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Comment from Cleanaway

**“Recycling** - Moree have seen a decrease in the recycling contamination. We did landfill a portion of the Moree recycling after the transfer station fire so that could account for some of the reduction. Overall across the 3 shires there has been an increase in the Recycling Contamination and we are visibly seeing this through the transfer stations and processing facilities for the month of May, also note a substantial increase in Narrabri Recycling Contamination Letters inline with this. Hopefully the increased stickering & letters for May will see an overall reduction in recycling contamination for the following months.

**NOTE:** Regular ride alongs have been re-approved moving forward so it will be easier to ensure more stickering & public interaction and education is happening to help reduce the contamination. Moree recycling contamination has generally consisted of general household waste, clothing, paint tins & soft plastic bags. Gwydir recycling contamination was mainly general household waste & soft plastics. Narrabri contamination generally consists of car parts, metal, green waste, nappies, foam & general waste. Matt from Challenge has confirmed he has visually noticed a decrease in the last 7-10 days in the Narrabri Recycling contamination- Monday (Boggabri) & Thursday (Narrabri) seems to be quite clean now so the stickers & letters are working.

**Organics** - Contamination in the organics has overall reduced this month, the main contaminants we see coming through the green waste is plastics bags. We have split the reportable organic contamination to show the residual organic contamination - this is the contamination that comes out of the back of the trommel when we are processing the compost, we can not segregate this into shires because we process the FOGO materials from all shires mixed. April residual organic contamination is so high because it is was a stockpile from the last calendar year that was in the yard pushed up after processing. Tahra approved for this to go to Landfill and we have reported on this separately and will continue to do so monthly, this will allow us to give accurate contamination tonnages to individual shires of all incoming organics.”

**NOXIOUS WEEDS CONTROL**Property Inspection Program

Staff continue to assist farmers and the community with:

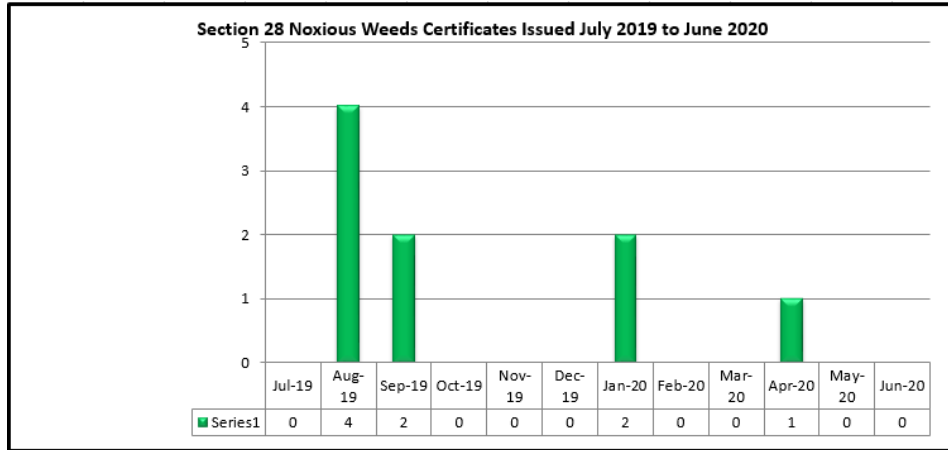
- Funding advice
- Noxious weeds advice
- Property inspections
- Spraying of noxious weeds
- Property inspections are currently being undertaken in Section D.

Section 28 Noxious Weeds Certificates

No certificates were issued for the month of June 2020. The graphs below show the noxious weeds certificates issued for the past 12 months.

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Weeds Inspections

Property inspections are currently being undertaken in Section D, with property owners being offered support and advice on managing weeds during the current adverse conditions.

The following graphs and charts show the noxious weeds inspections carried out in 2020:



**Noxious Weeds Inspections for the Month of June 2020**

<b>Areas Inspected</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Ha</b>	<b>Rd km</b>	<b>Weeds Present</b>
Private Property	3	1350	-	None found
Private Property – High Risk	26	26137.4	-	Harissa Cactus, Tree Pear, Parthenium Weed, Cats Claw Creeper, Green Cestrum, Westwood Pear
Private Property – High Risk Re-Inspection	2	7200	-	Parthenium Weed
Roadside	30	1925	385	None Found
Roadside – High Risk Pathways	13	2179.6	435.92	None Found
Waterways – High Risk	1	198	-	Cats Claw Creeper, Green Cestrum

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**Noxious Weeds Control Works for June 2020**

Road/Property	Locality	Weed Code	Area Ha	Road km	High Risk Road	Council Road	Other
Betts Quarry	Bingara	pc	10				1
Killarney Gap Rd	Bingara	pc	332.5	66.5		1	
Horton Village	Upper Horton	pc	65				1
Whitlow Rd	Whitlow	pc	115.15	23.03		1	
Upper Whitlow Rd	Whitlow	pc	39.2	7.84		1	
Devils Elbow	Cobbadah	mv	5				1
Oregon Rd	Warialda	Coobah Trees	236.55	47.31	1		

The Environment and Sustainability Department report for June 2020 was compiled with information available at the time of preparing the report.

**DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING SERVICES**

The Department continues to receive enquiries and provide advice on a range of planning and building matters including:

- Minor structure construction e.g. sheds
- Commercial opportunities and construction
- Basix (Building Sustainability Index)
- Bushfire requirements
- Building construction standards and requirements
- Stormwater
- Licensing and owner builder requirements
- Fees and charges

The following Construction Certificate (C/C), Building Information Certificate (BIC) and S68 applications have been approved for the month.

No.	Property Description	Development/ Work	\$	C/C	BIC	S68
14/2020	79 Finch Street BINGARA NSW 2404 Lot: C DP:342773	10m x 8m enclosed shed	27,480	✓		

There were no Construction Certificate (C/C) applications approved by a Private Certifier and lodged with Council during the month.

**ILLEGAL ACTIVITY**

ACTIVITY	No	ACTION TAKEN					
		Inspected	Letter Sent	Application/ Certificate Lodged	Penalty Notice	Legal Action	Refer to Council
Complaint received regarding possible illegal building works	1	TBA	Letter sent to owner to contact Council to arrange an appropriate time for an inspection of the suspected illegal building works.	NA	NA	NA	NA

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**NO. OF COMPLAINTS/INSPECTIONS**

Type	No.	Yr. to Date	Actioned	Pending
Building	23	170	165	5

**BUILDING MAINTENANCE**

The Department continues to receive requests to carry out minor maintenance and these are generally dealt with in a timely manner. Otherwise the works are scheduled into maintenance staff building activities including new works for attention.

Staff worked on the following projects during June:

- Croppa Creek decking – 50% of work is complete.
- Gwydir Oval amenities – 85% of work is complete.
- Bingara Museum – 90% of work is complete.
- Warialda Memorial Hall Kitchen Upgrade – complete.
- Warialda Gym wall cladding removal on outside in preparation for installation of air conditioning – complete.

**CONCLUSION**

The activities carried out by the Technical Services Department are in line with the 2019/2020 Management Plan and otherwise directed.

**CONSULTATION**

Consultation is carried out within the Technical Services Department during the monthly Technical Services team meetings and other relevant persons.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the monthly Technical Services Report for June be received

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments for this report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**

**THAT the monthly Technical Services Report for June be received.  
(Moved Cr D Coulton, seconded Cr Galvin)**

**Meeting closed 9.33 am**

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