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From: Lindy Stacker <lindystacke@yaho.com.au>

Sent: Friday, 28 June 2019 4:45 PM

To: Love, Karen <klove@byron.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: Re Integrated Pest Management

Dear Councillors & Mayor, My family and I moved to the area (after 30 yrs of thinking about it) some 2 yrs ago now. One of the MAIN reasons we moved was because Byron was a progressive and innovative council. We did NOT want to move to an area that used chemical pesticides & herbicides, that simple really. All recent information for example in relation to Roundup , has substantiated it's massive health risks. This is proof by the sheer fact that Monsanto (now Bayer) has paid out millions to litigants suing Monsanto for their cancer related illnesses. This type of litigation takes a whole mass of evidence to win against such a dishonest/ irresponsible company with billions of dollars for defence lawyers. We urge Council not to use Roundup (glyphosate ) at all in the future & in the worst case scenario , phase out it's use ASAP. We are appreciative that Council has pledged to do this within 5 yrs , but change could come sooner. In today's world many alternatives to lethal pesticides & herbicides are available as you would be well acquainted with. The more scientific evidence that is forthcoming from INDEPENDENT sources, substantiates just how dangerous the use of herbicides and pesticides are. If this progressive & sensible policy of council was to change, we would consider moving. We would hate to do this & since our arrival have volunteered with many local NGO groups like Bangalow Koalas. We LOVE it here and are most GRATEFUL for a 'Green ' Council, even though, we are concerned that some of council's decisions are becoming 'less green' sadly.

Yours sincerely

Lindy Stacker & family  
Bangalow

6687 1154

Byron Shire Council  
Integrated Pest Management Strategy  
2019-2029

Submission 31 July 2019  
Barbara Stewart

While I am happy to have my name listed as having reviewed draft documents, I would like it to be quite clear that this does not indicate support for the document as it stands. I do not support this document. Please add a statement that responsibility for the final document rests with Council (or similar).

The mayor's message upfront indicates that there is an intention to minimise pesticide use as an overall aim (at odds with the title of the document), and implies that pest management is something to be carried out reluctantly because it is a requirement from higher levels of government. Anyone who attempts to manage pests on the ground knows that it is an enormous task which must be done efficiently if it is to be done at all. The consequences of inefficient pest management will be a future need for increased pesticide use – so completely counter-productive.

Lumping rural roadsides with urban parks and sports grounds is not a sensible approach as the two require completely different weed management. By all means steam weed and use alternative measures in urban areas if funding is available and the results are acceptable.


Rural roadsides, on the other hand, are havens for serious environmental weeds, many of which are spread by council machinery. From the roadside, they spread to adjacent private and public land. A pest management strategy should include the preferred use of low toxicity pesticides whenever this will result in improved efficiency, as well as machinery wash down and identification of no slash areas. Where is the long awaited roadside management plan? Instead, we have the statement in the plan that pesticides are currently not in use on rural roadsides. "All Council managed rural roadsides are currently pesticide free" This is not true, as spraying is conducted by Rous County Council (and possibly others) on our roadsides. Any roadside spraying is noted by sections of the community who will find that it is impossible to reconcile their observation with statements in the plan. So, we have further lack of trust and polarisation around issues of biodiversity threat management. I can see that the decision tree will allow some pesticide use in the future, but it wont cover all threatening environmental weeds and many circumstances where efficiency should be paramount. Because the anti-chemical people have been humoured by the processes to date, any use of pesticide will be unnecessarily divisive again.

Incidentally, the document "Rous County Council (2019) Local Priority Weed Management Strategy 2018-2025. Lismore, NSW." was not available online and I had no response to an emailed inquiry. Transparency please.

It was, by the way, very difficult to locate this document i.e. Byron Shire Council

Integrated Pest Management Strategy 2019-2029 on Council's website. Wouldn't it logically be in the Have Your Say section as well as buried in many layers under Services? Not sure you will get many submissions. Is this deliberate?

I find it personally distressing to see Council tying itself in knots trying to appease largely irrational community perceptions, promote a mythical image of the Shire for marketing purposes (why?) while erecting obstacles to efficient pest management and reduction in threats to our native biodiversity.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara Stewart". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B'.

Barbara Stewart  
Wilsons Creek

**From:** [Ben Gordon](#)  
**To:** [submissions](#)  
**Subject:** Pest management strategy  
**Date:** Friday, 2 August 2019 12:27:17 AM

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To whom it may concern,

There has been more and more information coming out in recent times about the damaging properties of pesticides such as Glyphosate and Acephate. They are a major health risk, damage soil and kill insects and bees that are vital to the ecosystem.

I read the councils strategy and see that the goal is to minimise the use of pesticides which is a great thing. Hopefully sooner rather than later.

I would like to make a submission in favour of council to use as little pesticides as possible with the goal to eradicate them completely. I would particularly like to see the end spraying from the air which blows over vast distances and has many side effects.

Regards,

Ben Gordon

**From:** [Graeme](#)  
**To:** [submissions](#)  
**Subject:** Submission regarding Integrated Pest Management Strategy  
**Date:** Tuesday, 30 July 2019 8:15:47 PM

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To BSC,

It is my opinion that the original policy proposals have been watered down and mainstream attitudes have prevailed over strategies that utilise alternative methodologies that have the potential to mitigate adverse environmental pressures.

In the original motion to develop an Integrated Pest Management Strategy for BSC areas, the following were identified:

3. That an Integrated Weed/Pest Management Strategic Action Plan considers:

a) A non organic chemical use audit for weed control, including an outline of where it is used, the types used and the current budget of use. **A LIMITED VERSION OF THIS WAS PROVIDED BY THE INITIAL CONSULTANTS BUT IT IS COMPLETELY ABSENT FROM THE RECENT CONSULTATION**

c) An updated report every two years outlining progress of the goal of ceasing the use of all non organic chemical based herbicides and the repetitive use of non organic chemical pesticides, within 5 years, impediments to this target and possible options that have arisen and that this report compares the relative environmental costs & benefits. **THIS MAY HAVE HAPPENED BUT IF SO IT IS NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC SCRUTINY.**

d) **Within a review, the investigation of different possible management options, within different areas and ecosystems and a prioritisation of areas to be target THIS HAS NOT BEEN INVESTIGATED FOR SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS OR BUSH REGENERATION**

f) Investigation of further opportunities to make significant reductions in non- organic chemical use, for example, rate incentives for organic farmers and subsidising responsible non organic chemical use training for farmers. **GREAT IDEA. WHERE IS THIS AT?**

g) Investigation of using one park or open space within the Shire as a 'trial park' to engage community support and test non chemical methods. **SEE COMMENTS BELOW**

4. That as part of the development of the Integrated Weed/Pest Management Strategic Action Plan:

a) A report be brought to council, within two months, considering the immediate cessation of mowing and brush cutting of all roundabouts in the Shire and **incremental replacement with site appropriate maintenance free landscaping** and that the report includes budget implications. **BSC IPM STRATEGY '30% pesticide' use ie. APPROPRIATE MAINTENANCE-FREE LANDSCAPING NOT COMPLETED**

b) A report be brought to council considering the implementation of an integrated weed/pest management program in all high use Council owned or managed public spaces, including parks, gardens, bus stops, schools, shopping areas, around signs and along natural water courses and drains within 6 months and that the report includes budget implications and an assessment of the applicability of non-chemical methods. **COMPLETED?**

Yours faithfully,

Graeme Batterbury  
PO Box 3040,  
Lismore NSW 2480  
ph: 0413 613 690  
e: [stageone@nrg.com.au](mailto:stageone@nrg.com.au)