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Australian Native Plants Society Canberra Region Inc

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Mick Gentleman MLA
Minister for Planning and Land Management
Legislative Assembly of the ACT

gentleman@act.gov.au

Dear Minister

RE: Recent weed budget statements

Firstly, congratulations on your appointment to the portfolio as Minister for Planning and Land Management and ANPS looks forward to working with you in the future.

The Australian Native Plants Society – Canberra Region (ANPS) was established in 1962. ANPS is a non-profit, voluntary community organisation dedicated to the growing, conservation, preservation, promotion and appreciation of Australian native plants. ANPS has over 250 members, including many working in a professional capacity in many spheres of native plants (e.g. ecology, botany, horticulture, entomology).

We refer you to Attachment A of this correspondence, which is a copy of a letter sent to you (with attachments) by the Conservation Council ACT Region, and co-signed by the President of Friends of Grasslands, dated 24 February 2016. The correspondence deals with recent weed budgetary statements issued by the former Minister, Shane Rattenbury, and an analysis of those statements. ANPS was also involved in the preparation of the correspondence.

As such, ANPS advises you that we fully support the content of the said correspondence, and have faith that the ACT government will realise the strength of community concern surrounding this issue, and allocate recurrent funding for weed management as requested in the letter (i.e. \$2.5 mill). This will enable most of the objectives of the ACT Weed Strategy 2009-2019 to be met, and more appropriate levels of weed management to continue.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Butler
ANPS Conservation Officer
on behalf of
Lucinda Royston
President – ANPS Canberra Region

26 February 2016