

## DRAFT

### Submission in support of *Acacia longifolia* control – via biological control, and specifically the introduction of a gall forming wasp

To: The Environmental Protection Authority.

#### Contact Details:

**Organisation:** Environment Network Manawātū (ENM)  
**Contact Person:** Nelson Harper  
**Address for service:** 145 Cuba St, Palmerston North 4410  
**Phone:** (06) 355 0126  
**Email:** manawatu.river@source2sea.org.nz

#### Overview:

A submission on behalf of the Manawātū River Source to Sea collective of Environment Network Manawatu in support of *Acacia longifolia* control – via biological control, and specifically the introduction of a gall forming wasp

#### Background:

Environment Network Manawatu (ENM) is the environment hub for the Manawātū Region with the key purpose of facilitating and enabling communication, cooperation, and increasing collective action amongst its member groups and the wider community. ENM provides leadership by underpinning, fostering, and encouraging environmental initiatives in the region and our 60 current member groups are from throughout the Manawātū River Catchment with interests including biodiversity regeneration, freshwater management, citizen science, food security and resilience, sustainable living, alternative energies, and active transport. The network is organised into two collective focus areas: Manawātū Food Action Network and Manawātū River Source to Sea.

#### Manawātū River Source to Sea (S2S)

Manawātū River Source to Sea (S2S) is a collective of ENM member groups working together with the vision of engaging the community in collective action to enhance biodiversity and the mauri of the river in the Manawātū River catchment, and to build community wellbeing. The collective is currently delivering two projects, The Plastic Pollution Challenge and the Southern Ruahine Kiwi Habitat Restoration Project.



**ENM’s constitutional purposes are to:**

- coordinate and communicate the efforts of the member groups to enhance the local environment;
- actively protect, maintain, restore and enhance the environment of the Manawatū;
- promote ideas to the wider community to encourage them to participate in environmental projects;
- develop concerted long-term plans of action to enhance the environment and actively progress the implementation of these plans;
- encourage the provision of “green” areas for passive recreation;
- work together to identify, initiate, support, implement and maintain environmental projects that benefit the wider community;
- initiate, develop, implement and participate in environmental education;
- act as a central point of access to environmental information;
- advocate for ecological sustainability and matters of agreed environmental significance;
- work in partnership with iwi to recognise kaitiakitanga and environmental aims and objectives in common;
- liaise with similar organisations elsewhere in Aotearoa New Zealand and around the world as appropriate to source and share ideas for environmental projects and issues.

**Submission:**

There are risks associated with the introduction of the gall wasp and risks associated with no action and spread of wattle in New Zealand if it is not addressed.

We support the introduction of gall wasps as long as EPA and other scientific research considers that introduction of the control agent is environmentally safe. I would like to know what other species (flora and fauna) that have been identified as impacted by the gall wasp in Australia.

