Parks staff will attack weeds from the air

Posted by Dane Pickering - 06 May 2011 08:48

AIR raids will be the tactic of choice for National Parks and Wildlife Service staff on Monday in their war against noxious weeds in Bouddi National Park.

If the weather holds out, parks staff will use helicopters to spray herbicide on infestations of bitou bush growing along the cliffs from Boxhead to MacMasters Beach.

The service's regional manager Tom Bagnat said boom-spraying by helicopter would enable staff to target otherwise inaccessible areas.

"The program aims to treat about 8ha of bitou bush over 14km of coastline," Mr Bagnat said.

Bitou bush is listed as a nationally significant weed and its proliferation along coastal areas threatens many native plants and animals.

"The aerial spraying program has been running for several years.

Putty Beach Picnic Area, Little and Tallow Beach camping areas, Maitland Bay and some other sections of the park adjacent to the spraying zones will be temporarily closed while aerial spraying is under way.

Weather permitting the closures will only be for a short period.

Article: Central Coast Express Advocate, Friday May 6 2011

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