ISLAND SOLUTIONS

Weed Control Report — Okura Sites, March–April 2026

Date of Works	March – April 2026
Total Hours	121.5 hours
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Report Date	April 2026

Overview

Weed control was conducted across five management units at the Okura sites during March and April 2026, completing 121.5 hours of fieldwork. Work followed on from the 2025 control programme (detailed in the Island Solutions January 2026 report), with target sites and species selected accordingly. The entire area of each management unit was surveyed, with all primary target weeds identified and controlled, and a broad range of other weed species addressed where encountered.

Summary of Work

Management Unit	General Approach
MU1A West Chenier	Surveyed all and controlled selected weeds
MU1B East Chenier	Surveyed all and controlled selected weeds
MU1C Sandspit	Surveyed all and controlled selected weeds
MU1D Chenier Margin	Controlled smilax adjacent to East Chenier
MU6 Southern Esplanade	Controlled selected weeds at specific sites and inspected Kanuka Forest

Methodology

A combination of control methods was employed, selected according to species type, plant size, and proximity to sensitive habitats and waterways:

- Knapsack foliar application — primary method for the majority of target species, with herbicide mixes tailored to each species
- Cut stump treatment — applied to woody stems immediately after felling to prevent resprouting
- Drill and fill — used for established woody species including privet, cotoneaster, and boneseed

MU1A — West Chenier

The entire area was surveyed. All primary target weeds found were controlled. Many occurrences of other selected weeds were also controlled, with emphasis maintained on primary targets.

Primary Targets

Primary Target	2025 Abundance & Distribution	2026 Control Work	Notes
Climbing Asparagus	Common throughout	All plants found sprayed	Mostly small plants
Japanese Honeysuckle	Rare at west end	None found	—
Periwinkle	Abundant at west end (old homestead site)	All plants found sprayed	Reasonable results from 2025
Smilax	Common throughout	All plants found sprayed	Mostly small plants

Other Weeds

Other Weed	2025 Abundance & Distribution	2026 Control Work	Notes
Agapanthus	Occasional S end	All plants found controlled	—
Arum	Occasional throughout	—	None found
Banana Passionfruit	Rare – seedlings	—	None found
Black Passionfruit	Rare – 2 seedlings	All plants found controlled	—
Boneseed	Occasional throughout, mostly seedlings, several adult plants fruiting	All plants found controlled	Better to control before Nov to prevent seed development
Chinese Privet	Seedlings common throughout, one tree	Many seedlings controlled	No larger plants found
Climbing Dock	Rare near NE corner	—	None found
Gorse	Common	Nil	—
Large-leaved Cotoneaster	Seedlings rare	Most controlled	Only seedlings and small plants present
Late Cotoneaster	Seedlings rare	Most controlled	Only seedlings and small plants
Loquat	Seedlings rare throughout	All plants found pulled out	Seedlings
Moth Plant	Seedlings common, larger plants occasional in N half	All seedlings and 2 larger plants controlled	4 pods removed. Recommended high priority
Pale Galingale	Common in S half	Nil	Too difficult to control meaningfully
Stinking Iris	Several seedlings in northern central area	Several seedlings identified and controlled	Leaves tore like stinking Iris; odour varies throughout year. Monitor carefully
Taiwan Cherry	Seedlings occasional throughout	Several seedlings controlled	No larger plants found
Tree Lupin	Adults and seedlings occasional in open areas	Isolated plants controlled	Recommended high priority
Tree Privet	Occasional throughout	Many seedlings controlled	No larger plants found
Woolly Nightshade	Seedlings occasional, larger plants rare	Some plants controlled, especially adults	Recommended high priority – large plants at minimum

Warwick cutting boneseed, West Chenier

Pete treating smilax, West Chenier

MU1B — East Chenier

The entire area was surveyed thoroughly. All primary target weeds found were controlled. Most or all occurrences of other selected weeds were also found and controlled.

Primary Targets

Primary Target	2025 Abundance & Distribution	2026 Control Work	Notes
Climbing Asparagus	Common throughout	All plants found controlled	Mostly small plants
Japanese Honeysuckle	Rare at west end	None found	—
Smilax	Common throughout	All plants found controlled	Mostly small plants

Other Weeds

Other Weed	2025 Abundance & Distribution	2026 Control Work	Notes
Agapanthus	Not seen 2025. One plant found 2026	All plants found controlled	—
Arum	Occasional throughout	None found	—
Boneseed	Occasional throughout, mostly seedlings, several adults fruiting	All plants found controlled	—

Other Weed	2025 Abundance & Distribution	2026 Control Work	Notes
Buffalo Grass	Occasional, southern half	Few outliers controlled	Difficult to determine appropriate level of control without clearer abundance data
Chinese Privet	Seedlings common throughout, one tree	Many seedlings controlled	No larger plants found
Gorse	Common	Nil	—
Large-leaved Cotoneaster	Seedlings rare	Most controlled	Only seedlings present
Late Cotoneaster	Seedlings rare	Most controlled	Only seedlings present
Loquat	Seedlings occasional throughout	All plants found controlled	—
Macrocarpa	Seedlings occasional in open areas	Many plants pulled out	—
Moth Plant	Seedlings occasional, larger plants rare in N half	All plants found controlled	All seedlings
Pale Galingale	Common in S half	Nil	Too difficult to control meaningfully
Pine	Seedlings occasional in open areas	Many plants pulled out	—
Rubber Plant	One small plant top of beach mid S coast	Nil	Not invasive; fragment may have washed ashore. Still present Mar 2026
Strawberry Guava	One plant mid north coast	Controlled	Large but unripe fruit present
Sweet Pea Shrub	One small plant on SW coast	None found	—
Taiwan Cherry	Seedlings occasional throughout	All plants found controlled	—
Tree Lupin	Adults and seedlings occasional in open areas	Isolated plants controlled	Recommended high priority
Tree Privet	Occasional throughout	Many seedlings controlled	No larger plants found
Tuber Ladder Fern	Occasional in central areas	All plants found controlled	One site only
Woolly Nightshade	Seedlings occasional, larger plants rare	Some plants controlled	—

Pete treating climbing asparagus, East Chenier

Pete treating smilax, East Chenier

Pete treating Chinese privet, East Chenier

Pete treating strawberry guava, East Chenier

MU1C — Sandspit

The landward area outside the bird breeding zone was surveyed thoroughly.

Weeds Targeted

Weed	Abundance & Distribution	Control Work	Notes
Gorse	Small shrubs occasional	Nil	No sizeable plants found
Pampas	Occasional	All plants found controlled, except northern tip	Northern tip not sprayed to avoid spray drift onto lagoon. Recommended high priority
Pine	Seedlings occasional	All plants found controlled	—

Other Weeds

Other Weed	Abundance & Distribution	Control Work	Notes
Smilax	Occasional throughout	Nil	Recommended high priority for next visit

Warwick treating pampas, Sandspit

Pete treating ginger, Chenier Margin

MU1D — Chenier Margin

Smilax was sprayed in the area adjacent to East Chenier, utilising residual herbicide and available time at the close of the East Chenier operations.

MU6 — Southern Esplanade

The area was walked to the mouth of the largest branch of the estuary. The Kanuka Forest was briefly inspected: few weeds were found, all seedlings, with a small number controlled.

Weed	Abundance & Distribution	Control Work	Notes
Japanese Honeysuckle	Rare, but over a wide area	All plants found controlled	Two isolated patches controlled: one ~10m², another ~300m². Smaller area than 2025
Tuber Ladder Fern	Rare	Large infestation between public track and Okura Stream controlled. One isolated plant found and controlled	Curious distribution. Only noted in management plan along margin of Okura Stream

Recommendations

- Moth plant — high priority for all management units. Early season control recommended to prevent pod development
- Tree lupin — high priority across West and East Chenier; adults and seedlings to be addressed systematically
- Woolly nightshade — high priority; established plants at minimum should be targeted in all units
- Pampas (MU1C Sandspit) — high priority; northern tip to be addressed with care to avoid spray drift onto lagoon
- Smilax (MU1C Sandspit) — high priority for next visit
- Gorse — present across multiple units but not controlled in this round; strategic approach recommended
- Pale galingale — present across multiple units; review of feasible control options recommended
- Kanuka Forest track — becoming rapidly overgrown, especially in the middle section. Regular maintenance (at least twice yearly) recommended. Opening the track along the full esplanade length would improve vegetation monitoring and may support extension of the trap network

Follow-up Visits — April 2026

Friday 17 April

Smilax was controlled across the Sandspit, East Chenier, and West Chenier. Pampas was also treated on East Chenier.

Monday 20 April

Pampas on East and West Chenier received a further treatment. Woolly nightshade and privet were controlled across East and West Chenier.

Herbicide Use

All herbicide applications were carried out by registered chemical applicators in accordance with label directions and applicable regional council requirements.

Visit / Site	Glyph 360 (ml)	Glyph 510 (ml)	Haloxyfop (ml)	Metsulfuron-Methyl (g)	Penetrant (ml)	Trichlopyr (ml)
March — MU1A West Chenier	0	749	0	10	50	100
March — MU1B East Chenier	0	840	0	—	20	0
March — MU1C Sandspit	0	0	150	—	0	0
March — MU1D Chenier Margin	200	56	0	5	0	0
March — MU6 Sth Esplanade	320	0	0	18	110	296
Fri 17 Apr — Sandspit, E & W Chenier	0	245	60	—	—	—
Mon 20 Apr — E & W Chenier	0	0	60	5	—	—

Visit / Site	Glyph 360 (ml)	Glyph 510 (ml)	Haloxyfop (ml)	Metsulfuron-Methyl (g)	Penetrant (ml)	Trichlopyr (ml)
TOTAL	520	1,890	270	38	180	396