



Gorse and broom control

Crown Range and Cardrona Valley

What is the problem?

Introduced gorse and broom (common and Montpellier) are listed as pest species in the Otago Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029 (RPMP) as they produce massive numbers of seeds, mature and grow rapidly, and are able to establish in a range of habitats.

These species can outcompete native vegetation and prevent stock from grazing, and are generally seen as a threat to economic and environmental values. Their seeds can remain dormant in the soil for 40–80 years, meaning that established infestations can be expensive and time consuming to manage.

Gorse and broom must be managed through a sustained control programme.

The RPMP aims to:

- keep identified 'Gorse and Broom Free Areas' free of these species; and
- prevent infestations from affecting neighbouring properties that are free from, or actively controlling, gorse and broom.

What do I need to do to comply with the rules?

Landowners and occupiers within 'Gorse and Broom Free Areas' (GABFA*) must eliminate gorse and broom infestations in line with RPMP rules.

*The new GABFA includes the original area plus the extension areas that came into effect on 31 October 2024.

What is Otago Regional Council doing?

ORC had been monitoring infestations through aerial surveillance.

Due to increasing spread in priority areas, ORC is moving to a focused compliance programme in the Crown Range and Cardrona Valley GABFA.

Biosecurity Compliance Officers will visit properties to check compliance with the RPMP rules.

What are we hoping to achieve?

- Coordinated community pest management for gorse and broom.
- Collaboration with key stakeholders to prioritise control in the free area.
- Full compliance with regional pest management rules across the project area.



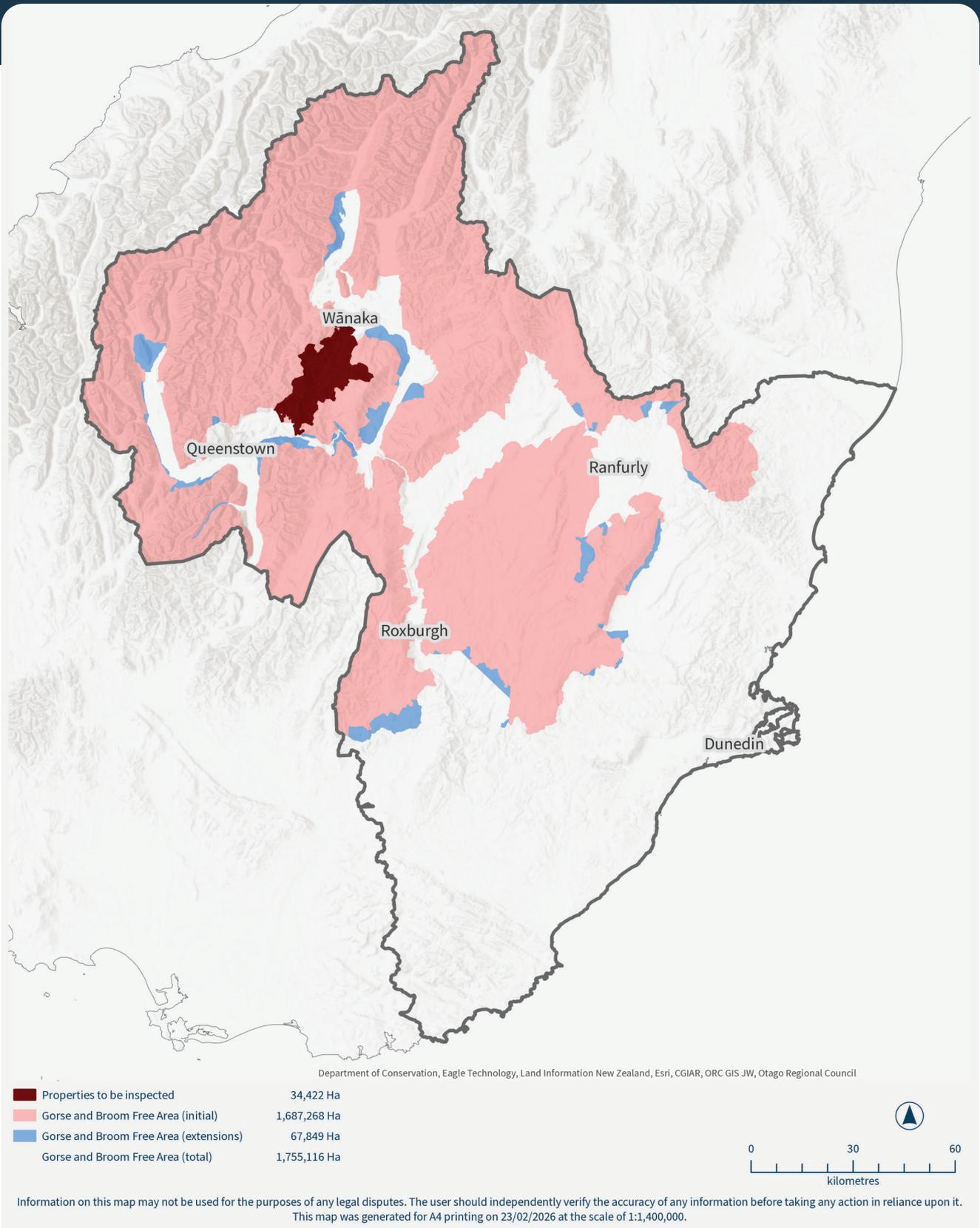
Gorse



Broom

Gorse and broom RPMP

Proposed Inspections 2025/2026
Crown Range and Cardrona Valley



For more information, visit orc.govt.nz/gorseandbroom