As part of Wakatipu’s annual weed control program, aerial spot spraying for Gorse and Broom has been planned for the Rees and Dart Riverbed. Spraying was to occur within the next week, but due to the current and long-range forecast, the work is now planned to occur within the next month when the weather is suitable. Spraying is expected to take only one day, and signs will be placed at access sites to the riverbed the week prior.

Plants will be spot sprayed from helicopter to ensure only the target species are controlled. By using a spot spray method, spray is localised to the target plant, removing risk of spray drift or runoff. These species are being controlled in order to protect riverbed habitat for native bird species and prevent the spread of invasive weeds.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Department of Conservation’s Queenstown Office on 034427933.

