



Southern Grampians
SHIRE COUNCIL


ROADSIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN

RELEASED 13 January 1999

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APPROVED	Chief Executive Officer	Michael Tudball	
DATED	26 June 2019		

2. INTRODUCTION

Councils are responsible for the majority of the road reserves in their municipality and therefore must manage each road and adjoining roadside in an appropriate manner.

Road reserves were initially established to provide access and a route from one place to another, but have since evolved to cover a range of other activities. Service corridors for gas, electricity, drainage, sewage and communications are usually located on roadsides, and roadsides also play an important role in minimising the risk and impact of fires.

With the advent and recognition of the conservation movement, many roadsides are now highly valued for their remnant vegetation and contribution towards flora and fauna conservation, especially when the native vegetation on adjacent private land has been cleared. As a consequence, this remnant vegetation has become an important environmental asset and often heavily protected under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act). Therefore protecting and enhancing this asset while maintaining the other functions of roadsides can be a difficult and conflicting task.

The plan addresses issues involved in roadside management throughout the Shire and establishes policies and procedures to deal with issues as they arise in the future.

The plan will aim to guide the management of roadsides to:

- Protect and enhance the safe and efficient function of roads
- Protect and enhance the function and values of roadsides
- Manage risks to roadsides
- Meet Council's legislative responsibilities
- Promote the value and function of roadsides in the community

This plan covers all local roads and unused roads under the control of Council in rural areas of Southern Grampians Shire. Urban roads unless specifically identified have not been considered. Regional Roads Victoria, as the responsible authority for state highways, arterial roads and tourist roads, has its own management programs.

The plan will remain the responsibility of Council to manage, implement and review as deemed necessary.

3. BACKGROUND

Roadside management planning in the Southern Grampians Shire originated in the work of the former Shire of Wannon which now comprises the western sector of the municipality.

The Shire of Wannon Roadside Management Strategy was adopted in 1989 and provides a successful model which has achieved local support.

In contrast, the former Shire of Dundas' approach was to erect signage designating areas of significance.

The Southern Grampians Shire Council commenced work on a new Roadside Management Plan in 1995 with a Roadside Assessment Study which covered all 2,176 kilometres of roads excluding highways and tourist roads.

In addition to the Shire of Wannon and Dundas approaches, a number of more recent Local Government plans across the State were considered in conjunction with the Victorian Roadside Conservation Advisory Committee's (RCAC) Roadside Management Planning Kit.

The Southern Grampians Shire Council commissioned a new survey of all rural roads by consultants Biodiversity Services between February and June 2011. A combination of the standard Roadside Conservation Advisory Committee (RCAC) and the North Central CMA methods was employed. This survey informed a revision of the Roadside Management Plan that was completed in October 2011.

4. CATEGORISATION OF ROADS

Victoria’s Road Management Act 2004 and Local Government Act 1989 define the status of particular roads and the organisation responsible for management.

The following road categories and distances are located in the Southern Grampians Shire Council area



*Unused roads are a component of unclassified roads and encompass those roads which have never been or are no longer maintained for transportation purposes. These road reserves remain the responsibility of Council unless transferred to Department of Environment Land Water and Planning (DELWP) (usually to be licensed to adjacent landholders for grazing purposes).

5. MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The following Australian and Victorian legislation sets out responsibility for roads and roadsides:

- *Road Management Act 2004*
- *Planning and Environment Act 1989*
- *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
- *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*
- *Water Act 1989*
- *Country Fire Authority Act 1958*
- *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*

These are administered by the following agencies:

Regional Roads Victoria (Formerly VicRoads)

Regional Roads Victoria is recognised as the relevant agency to manage roadsides adjoining freeways, highways, arterial roads, tourist roads and some forest roads and is responsible for:

- Maintenance
- Fire prevention and control
- Eradication of Regionally Prohibited Weeds and control of Regionally Controlled Weeds and Established Pest Animals on these roads

In some cases, Regional Roads Victoria has entered arrangements to transfer the responsibility for managing an arterial road to local government.

Catchment Management Authority (CMA)

The *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* identifies a number of objectives relating to integrated catchment management including the protection of waterways and soils, and the management of pest plants and animals. The Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority (GHCMA) was formed in 1997, encompassing the SGSC area, and implements a number of plans and projects in relation to native vegetation management, including roadside management.

Local Government

Councils are responsible for roadside management on:

- All municipal roads
- Arterial roads where they operate under contract to Regional Roads Victoria (none at present)

For Southern Grampians Shire Council this amounts to the responsibility for the management of approximately 2,700 kilometres across the Shire.

Local Government also has the capacity to create local laws for a range of activities on roadsides and is the Responsible Authority for removal of native vegetation requiring a Planning Permit.

As Land Manager, the Municipality is responsible for the control of Regionally Prohibited Weeds and Regionally Controlled Weeds and Established Pest Animals on roadsides and unused roads under its management.

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)

DELWP is a referral agency in some circumstances for the removal of native vegetation from roadsides. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is signed between SGSC and DELWP to apply for a Road Safety exemption in the planning scheme under Clause 52.17. The written agreement between the secretary of DELWP and the responsible road authority enables the maintenance and low impact construction works associated with road safety to be undertaken without the need for a planning permit.

Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) formerly Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Training and Resources (DEDJTR)

DJPR is responsible for the implementation of the pest plant and animal aspects of the *Catchment and Land Protection Act* and implements a biosecurity approach to weed management recognising that all land managers and many agencies have a key role in weed management.

Country Fire Authority (CFA)

All roadside fire prevention works must be in accordance with the Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP). This Plan reflects the CFA Roadside Fire management guidelines.

Other Legislation

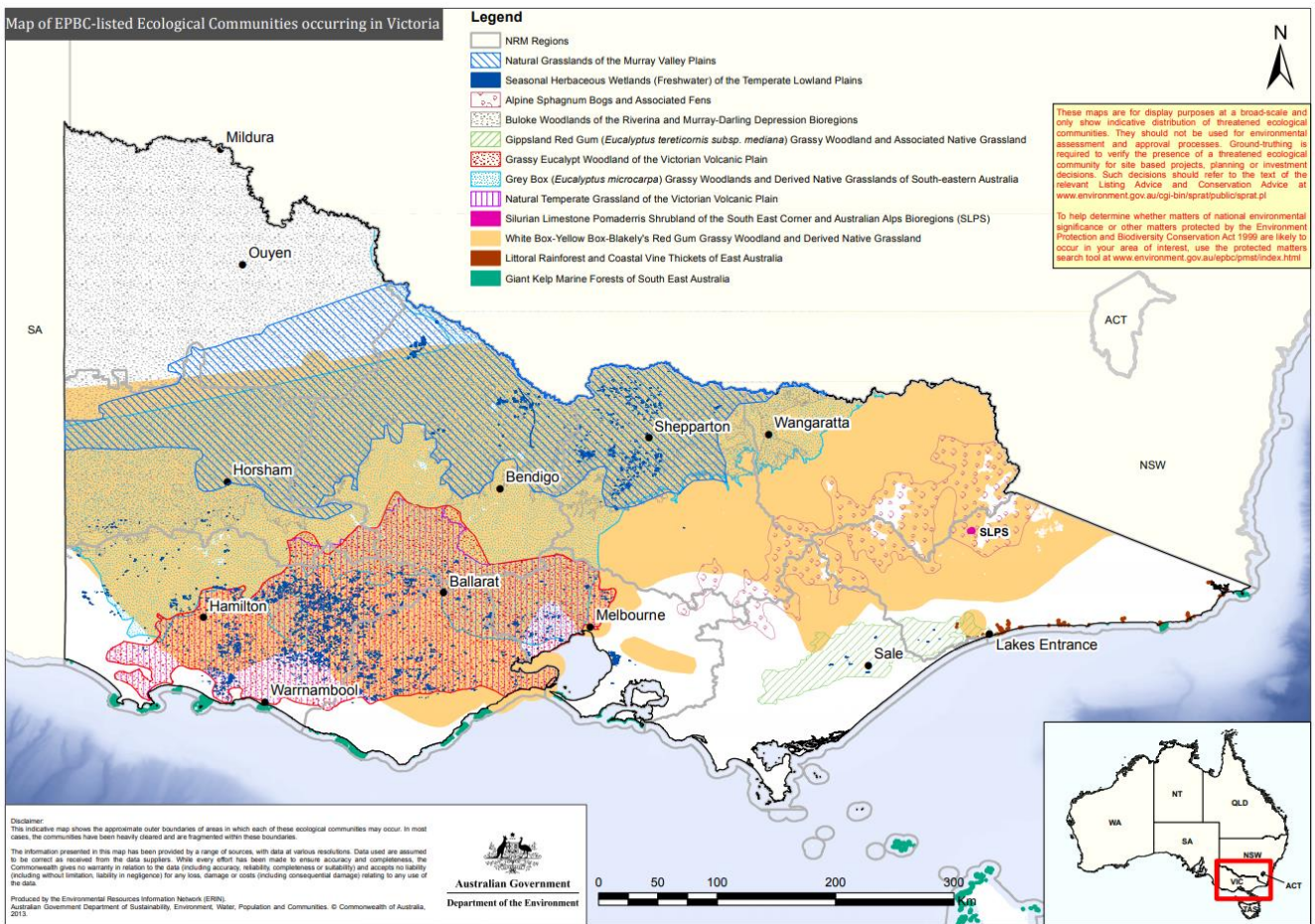
Numerous other Federal and State Laws impact on managing roadside vegetation. Some of this legislation may place conflicting demands on the management of roadside remnants. Managers responsible for roadsides need to remain aware of and understand such legislation as it may regulate the type of activity that can occur on roadsides.

Of particular note are two Commonwealth Acts, the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

The EPBC Act provides for the listing of threatened species and ecological communities, of which five vegetation communities are occurring in the Southern Grampians Shire Council area.

- Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain
- Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain
- Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South Eastern Australia
- White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland
- Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands (Freshwater) of the Temperate Lowland Plains

Unauthorised destruction of listed species/communities carries heavy penalties.



The *Telecommunications Act 1997* provides exemptions from gaining land manager approval for the installation of low-impact facilities. These facilities, including cabling, are often located on roadsides.

A summary of major legislation and policies is shown in Attachment 1. Plans and guidelines applicable to roadsides e.g. Municipal Fire Prevention Plans, local conservation strategies and Local Laws must also be taken into account. A summary of local strategies is shown in Attachment 2.

A complex and sometimes conflicting web of road uses, values and issues, around land management and landscape values, community relationships and economics will affect the implementation of this Roadside Management Plan.

6. DEFINITIONS

It is necessary to define common terms used in roadside management such as road reserve, formation and roadside (or road verge).

Terminology	Definition
Road Reserve	The Road Reserve is the total strip of land reserved for transportation purposes comprising the road formation and the roadside. It usually has a clearly defined boundary (e.g. a fence), but in some situations, (e.g. in forests or arid agricultural areas) the boundary may not be easily identifiable.
Formation	The Formation includes the trafficable area, road shoulders and drainage lines.
Roadside (or road verge)	The roadside is the strip of land between the road formation and the boundary of the adjacent property. Roadsides are usually located on either side of the road formation and are sometimes referred to as verges.

Accepted Uses of Roadsides

Road reserves were originally intended to provide access to homestead and farm properties and for the movement of people and goods. There are however a variety of additional important functions required of road reserves. Accommodating these activities and uses and achieving consensus presents a challenge for management.

Some of the additional activities and uses of Roadsides include:

- Sites for remnant vegetation and threatened flora and fauna
- Habitats for native fauna and flora
- Corridors to enable movement of fauna
- Service corridors for gas, electricity, water, sewage, telecommunications
- Fire prevention and suppression
- Rest areas for motorists
- Stockpile sites
- Paths or footways for pedestrians, bicycles and other users
- Horse trails
- Safety buffer zones for errant vehicles
- Historic, cultural or archaeological sites
- Haymaking and grazing (subject to Council approval)
- Movement of livestock (subject to Council approval)

Native Vegetation

Native vegetation means the plants that are indigenous to Victoria. This includes all trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses that are endemic to any part of Victoria. Native vegetation may include revegetation of local provenance.

Weeds of National Significance

Thirty two Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) have been agreed by Australian governments based on an assessment process that prioritised these weeds based on their invasiveness, potential for spread and environmental, social and economic impacts. Consideration was also given to their ability to be successfully managed. A list of 20 WoNS was endorsed in 1999 and a further 12 were added in 2012.

State Prohibited Weeds

State prohibited weeds are the highest category of declared noxious weeds in Victoria. By definition they are either not yet in Victoria, or are here in small numbers, where their eradication is still possible. Under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994, it is an offence to buy, sell, display or transport a State prohibited weed within Victoria. Agriculture Victoria aims to prevent the introduction of State prohibited weeds into Victoria and to detect and eradicate any infestations before they become widespread.

Regionally Prohibited Weeds

Regionally prohibited weeds are not widely distributed in a region but are capable of spreading further. It is reasonable to expect that they can be eradicated from a region and they must be managed with that goal. Land owners, including public authorities responsible for crown land management, must take all reasonable steps to eradicate Regionally Prohibited Weeds on their land.

Regionally Controlled Weeds

These invasive plants are usually widespread in a region. To prevent their spread, ongoing control measures are required. Landowners have the responsibility to take all reasonable steps to prevent the growth and spread of Regionally Controlled Weeds on their land.

Restricted Weeds

This category includes plants that pose an unacceptable risk of spreading in this State and are a serious threat to another State or Territory of Australia. Trade in these weeds and their propagules, either as plants, seeds or contaminants in other materials is prohibited.

See Attachment 4 for the list of weed species classified in the Southern Grampians Shire.

7. OBJECTIVES OF ROADSIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Roadside management planning is undertaken within the context of a set of objectives. These objectives can be simplified as - Infrastructure Provision, Fire Prevention, Conservation, Habitat Networks and Culture and Recreation.

The conservation of native vegetation is one of the key underpinnings in the development of a roadside management plan. Strategic and site-specific planning is necessary for the long term protection of remnant vegetation on rural roads and the maintenance of the functional roles of roads and roadsides.

The objectives of the Southern Grampians Shire Council Roadside Management Plan are as follows:

Objective	
Protect	Indigenous vegetation Rare or threatened flora or fauna Cultural or heritage assets
Enhance	Indigenous vegetation communities Fauna habitats and corridors
Maintain	Safe functioning of the road Indigenous vegetation communities Fauna habitats and corridors Visual amenity and landscape qualities Water quality
Minimise	Land degradation Spread of weeds and vermin Spread of soil borne pathogens Risk and impact of fire Site specific conflicts Maintenance costs Disturbance during installation/maintenance of service assets Threats to community assets from fire

A Roadside Management Plan is a document which provides a framework for the management of roadsides. The success of the plan will be judged by the degree to which it influences decision making and the implementation of those decisions.

8. ROLE OF VICTORIAN ROADSIDES CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

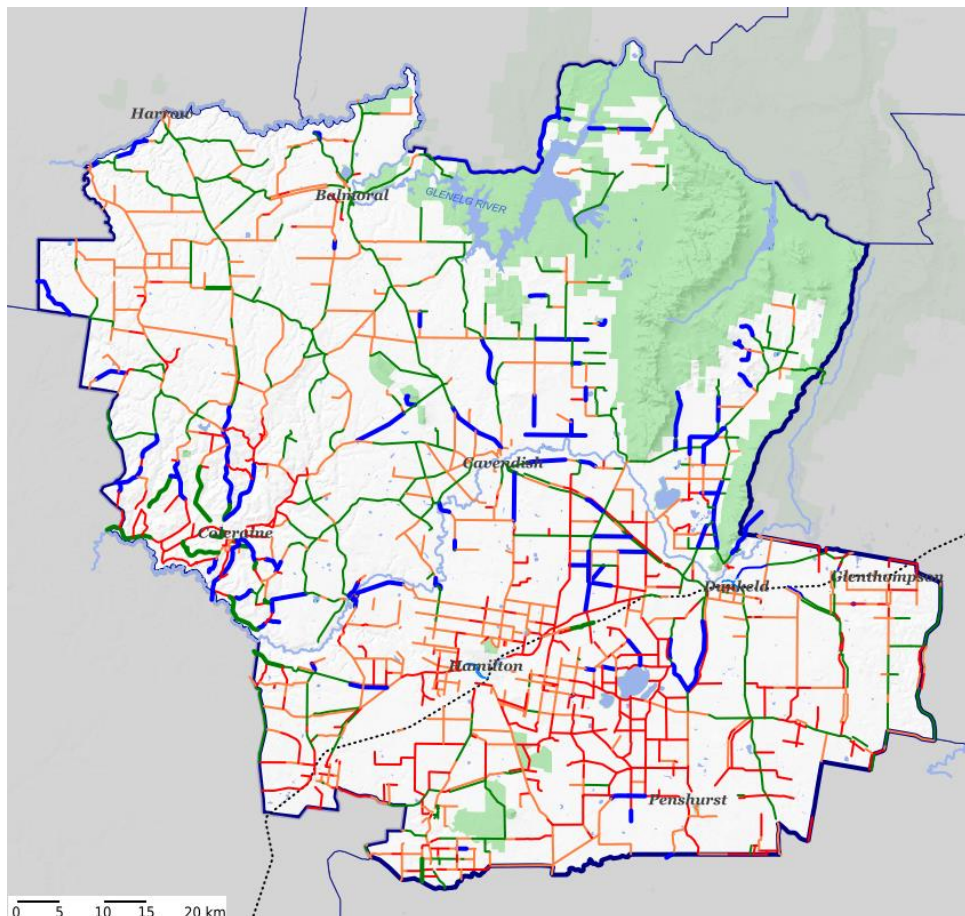
The Victorian Roadsides Conservation Advisory Committee (RCAC) was established in 1975 to provide a forum for government, agency and community organisations involved in natural resource management on linear reserves. The Committee was the catalyst for formalised Roadside Management Planning in Victoria.

The Committee no longer operates but the standard assessment methodology it developed still forms the basis of most roadside mapping in Victoria.

9. ROADSIDE ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the importance placed on the conservation value of Roadside Reserves, an assessment involving 2,176 kilometres of roadsides within the Shire has been undertaken in 2011 - a combination of the standard Roadside Conservation Advisory Committee (RCAC) and the North Central CMA methods was employed. Highways and tourist roads were not included.

Roadside scoring in the standard RCAC method allots roadsides to three categories: score 1-7 low conservation (red), 8-14 Medium conservation Value (orange), 15+ high Conservation Value (green). At the request of DELWP a fourth category is shown on the map layer (blue) for Very High Conservation roadsides with a score >20. These roadsides almost invariably contain a listed (rare or threatened) species. It is important that there is no confusion arising from a low conservation roadside being depicted as high due to the presence of a listed species. To help prevent this outcome a new field has been added to the database which is the roadside conservation score without the 15 extra points from the presence of the listed species. This allows a map layer of habitat value or intactness to be created as well as conservation value map.



Blue – Very High, Green – High, Orange – Medium, Red – Low

The definitions for Very High, High, Medium, and Low Conservation Value are as follows:

Very High Conservation Value

The vegetation is near to its natural condition comprised predominantly of indigenous vegetation with few introduced species. All naturally occurring strata are present (and may include ground cover, shrub layer and tree canopy) with evidence of rare, vulnerable, or significant flora/fauna species. These roadsides almost invariably contain a listed (rare or threatened) species.

High Conservation Value

The vegetation is near to its natural condition comprised predominantly of indigenous vegetation with few introduced species. All naturally occurring strata are present (and may include ground cover, shrub layer and tree canopy) or with evidence of rare, vulnerable, or significant flora/fauna species or remnant vegetation not common locally.

Medium Conservation Value

The vegetation is in a semi-natural condition comprised predominantly of indigenous vegetation with a moderate cover of introduced species. One or more storeys of vegetation may be missing from a multi-storey vegetation type. Wildlife habitat may be present or has considerable potential to be enhanced.

Low Conservation Value

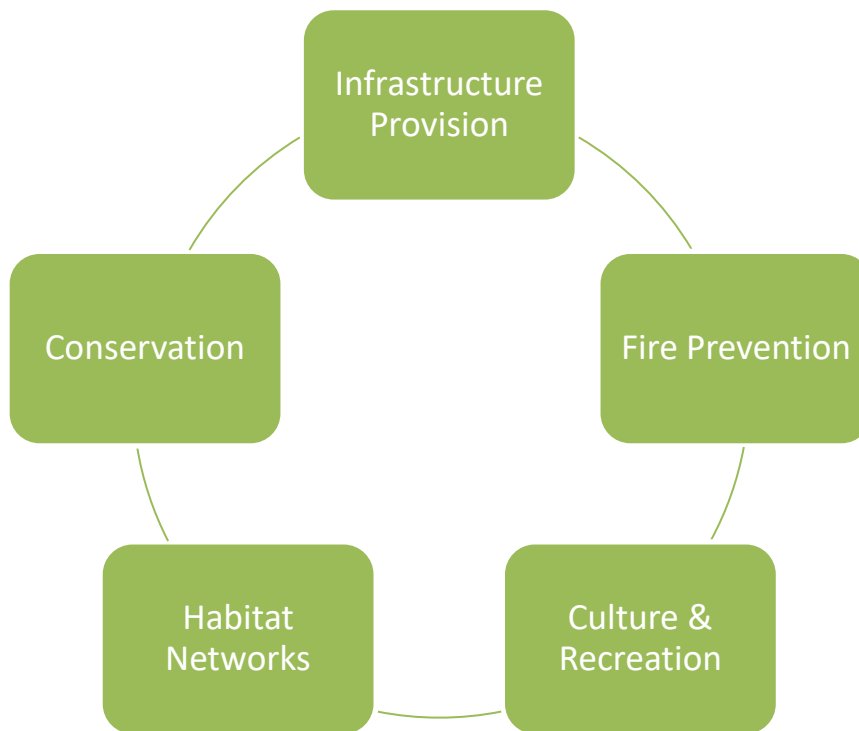
The area is degraded or substantially modified with little or no indigenous vegetation and a dense cover of introduced species. Wildlife habitats are non-existent or small.

- Updates to DELWP Biodiversity mapping must be taken into consideration when applying these categories.
- A re-assessment of conservation status on roads having had any significant changes should be undertaken on an ongoing basis, a review of all conservation values and management directions should be undertaken every 10 years.

A summary of the Assessment Report is shown in Attachment 3.

10. GUIDELINES AND STRATEGIES

The Guidelines and Strategies Section has been divided into five parts based upon the objectives which underpin roadside management planning. These objectives were earlier identified as:



Each objective will be considered in conjunction with a set of guidelines. From these guidelines, detailed policies have been developed, see Attachment 5.

On-going operational training for Council staff and Contractors regarding appropriate techniques to ensure compliance with the policies will be undertaken.

Management Prescriptions have been prepared for every Ecological Vegetation Class in the Shire and for each condition (high, medium and low) that the EVC is recorded in.

10.1 INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION

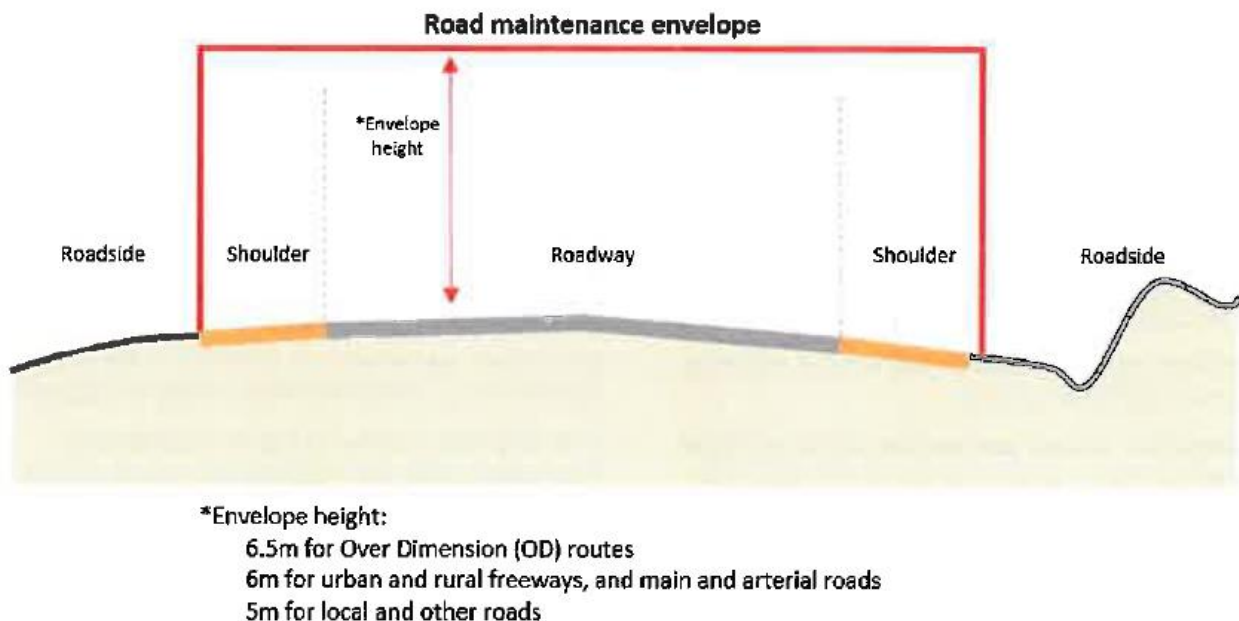
10.1.1 Road Maintenance

Council has responsibility for the care and management of all municipal roads within the Shire. Key requirements are listed below, for full commitments refer to the Southern Grampians Shire Council's Road Management Plan 2017-2021 and the Road Safety Exemptions MoU with DELWP.

The Road Safety Exemptions MoU with DELWP allows Council to maintain the safe function of roads via the removal or lopping of vegetation within the road envelope (as per figure below) as well as managing table drains and sight lines without the need to pay for offsets, except for large (40cm+ diameter) canopy species. Low impact construction works are also included in this exemption if they are less than 0.5 hectares and are enhancing the safe and efficient functioning of an existing road. For full details of the exemptions and limitations see:

https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0024/408480/RoadSafetyProcedure.pdf

Figure 1: Road maintenance envelope



- 1 Table drains will be constructed and maintained to reduce water velocity and run off and to prevent water from flooding the road and roadsides within acceptable limits for the road classification.
- 2 Table drains will be maintained to reduce the incursion of inappropriate vegetation (including saplings) with due regard to significant vegetation.

- 3 Native vegetation will be avoided when locating or maintaining drain 'cut off points where practicable.
- 4 Maintenance vehicles and machinery will be parked in low conservation areas, wayside stops or on suitably identified areas of private property.
- 5 Machine turning points will not occur in areas of indigenous vegetation.
- 6 Machinery will be operated within the road formation where possible.
- 7 An appropriate size of machinery will be selected to minimise impact on the site.
- 8 Where machinery must be serviced on a roadside, care will be taken to ensure that no spillage results.
- 9 Hygiene protocols will be adopted for works in all areas in order to minimise the spread of weeds, invertebrate pests and pathogens.
- 10 Stack sites. Refer to 10.1.6
- 11 Regional Roads Victoria Code of Practice should be considered when working on Regional Roads Victoria managed roads.

10.1.2 Road Construction

Council has the responsibility for the construction of all local roads. Key requirements are listed below, for full commitments refer to the Southern Grampians Shire Council's Road Management Plan 2017-2021.

- 1 A planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation, including grasslands for road construction works outside the existing formation. A permit may also be required under an overlay such as Environmental Significance Overlay, Vegetation Protection Overlay, Significant Landscape Overlay, Heritage Overlay, Salinity Management Overlay, Erosion Management Overlay or Public Acquisition Overlay.
- 2 Consultation with DELWP will be undertaken prior to the preparation of detailed designs when it is likely that native vegetation will be affected.
- 3 Road design shall ensure the minimum vegetation loss within the appropriate road design standards.
- 4 The boundary for a works area will be clearly defined prior to the commencement of any work.
- 5 Any siltation from a work site shall be strictly controlled.
- 6 Where a new road is to be constructed or realigned, preference shall be given to placing the carriageway to one side of the road reserve after due consideration of existing vegetation values.

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- 7 Vegetation removed during roadworks shall be the minimum required.
 - 8 Council may permit the salvage of native ground flora not required for re-establishment at the roadwork site. Where possible the harvesting of native grasses from proposed works sites may also be permitted.
 - 9 Debris from roadworks such as rocks, branches etc. should be removed quickly to prevent fire hazards and hindrances to other works.
 - 10 Disposal of spoil should be to an acceptable location in a Low Conservation Value area.
 - 11 Where roadside clearing takes place, the timber can be either a nuisance or an asset depending upon location and the nature of the cut timber. If logs have been cut and the area is Very High, High or Medium conservation significance, then, where possible, they should remain *in situ* for wildlife habitat. If vegetation cut is more in the nature of leaves and pruning's, then they should not be pushed onto the roadside where they can create a fire hazard, but rather heaped and burnt on areas of Low conservation significance or otherwise disposed of.
 - 12 Trees or shrubs with trunks greater than 100mm in diameter should not be retained or planted close to a traffic lane. The safe distance shall depend on the design of the road and likelihood of vehicles leaving the carriageway. Specific "safe distances" shall be to the satisfaction of the Council and shall be specified for various categories of roads.
 - 13 Trees overhanging the roads provide an attractive canopy effect. However where limbs over roads are dangerous they should be removed. Correct pruning (refer to AS 4374-2007 Pruning of Amenity Trees) is preferable to removing the tree altogether. Where continual pruning would be required, removal of problem trees and their replacement by smaller species or ones which do not shed limbs may be desirable. Any new plantings should comply with any DELWP policy on revegetation.
 - 14 Following roadwork completion disturbed areas shall be revegetated as soon as possible.
 - 15 Stack sites for road making material. (Refer to 10.1.6)
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10.1.3 Installation & Maintenance of Services

Where areas of native vegetation are likely to be impacted, utility service providers will be encouraged to investigate alternative alignments including adjoining private land.

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- 1 A Council planning permit is required when vegetation is to be removed during installation of new services unless an exemption exists.
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- 2 Services should be confined to Low Conservation Value roadsides or areas within road reserves wherever possible.
- 3 Utility Service Providers will be requested to consider the following options when planning routes or maintenance activities:-
 - Undergrounding
 - Sharing trenches
 - Using aerial bundled cables
 - Utilising private land
- 4 In the event that it is proposed to remove vegetation, the Utility Service Provider(s) may be required to consult with affected landholders.
- 5 The Code of Practice for Electric Line Clearance 2015 which outlines the minimum removal of vegetation to maintain clearance zones around power lines shall be strictly adhered to.
- 6 In the event that it is proposed to remove vegetation, the Utility Service provider(s) will consult with affected landholders and local interest groups.

10.1.4 Vegetation and Timber Removal

Vegetation and Timber removal may be necessary however strict controls are required.

- 1 All works proposals to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation on roadsides not exempt under the Clause 52.17 of the Victorian Planning Provisions (Planning and Environment Act 1987) will require a Council planning permit.
- 2 All proposals shall ensure that the removal of native vegetation necessary to undertake required works is kept to a minimum.
- 3 Dead trees and limbs provide a useful habitat for wildlife and should be retained unless they pose a significant hazard. Where removal is considered necessary, Council approval shall be required.
- 4 Removal of seeds, cuttings and whole plants from roadsides is prohibited unless permission is granted by Council. If the species involved is protected flora, a Flora and Fauna Guarantee (FFG) permit is required from DELWP.
- 5 The salvage of native ground flora from sites which will be disturbed by road construction is encouraged. In general, however, permission to remove whole plants from roadsides will not be granted.

10.1.5 Stockpiles, Dump Sites and Waste Management

When undertaking roadworks, stockpiles and dump sites require management.

- 1 Stockpile or dump sites should only be located at designated strategic locations which are not Very High, High or Medium Conservation Value roadsides or on drainage lines, floodways and culvert areas. Selection of these sites shall also take into account visual amenity and landscape value as well as potential impacts on adjoining areas and the spread of weeds.
- 2 All statutory authorities and contractors will be required to use the designated sites, the boundaries of which shall be clearly marked and recorded in Council's Asset Management system.
- 3 Existing stockpile sites located on Very High, High or Medium Conservation Value roadsides shall not be enlarged and where practicable their usage discontinued
- 4 Damage to trees and other native vegetation shall be avoided when managing stockpiles or dump sites. Extension of the site into indigenous vegetation areas shall also be avoided and will require a Planning Permit.
- 5 Weeds shall be controlled before stockpiling materials on a new site.
- 6 Stockpile or dump sites will be monitored for weed growth and pathogens with the application of controls when necessary.

10.2 FIRE PREVENTION

Council has responsibilities and obligations regarding fire management on roadsides.

- 1 All fire prevention works on roadsides will be undertaken only in accordance with the Municipal Fire Management Plan.
- 2 The Municipal Fire Management Plan will recognise and consider the implications of the designated conservation values assigned to roadsides and wildlife corridors when determining strategic firebreaks.
- 3 Consultation with the CFA and DELWP, through the Municipal Fire Planning Committee, will occur on an annual basis to monitor and evaluate fire prevention works to assess the effectiveness in relation to conservation and fire management objectives.
- 4 Fire Prevention works on Very High and High Conservation Value roads should wherever possible be contained within the area between the shoulder of the road and the table drain, or where there is no clearly defined table drain should not extend any more than two metres from the road shoulder except for burning.
- 5 The Municipal Fire Management Plan shall support and recognise the need to protect native vegetation during fuel reduction burns, e.g. allow time adequate for seed set before burning.
- 6 The use of herbicides in fire prevention works shall be permitted in accordance with the Municipal Fire Management Plan.
- 7 Ploughing and grading of firebreaks is only permitted in accordance with the Municipal Fire Management Plan. In native grassland areas any firebreaks are to be limited to 3.5 metres width as close as possible to the fenceline. On wooded roadsides breaks may be extended to 4 metres width to accommodate fire appliances with cabin protection systems.
- 8 Grazing on roadsides is prohibited, except with permission in writing from the Council* and such permission will only be granted as a fire prevention measure, and on Medium, High and Very High Conservation Value roadsides only where it can be demonstrated that no other fire prevention works would be suitable or feasible.
- 9 A landholder abutting a Council managed road is permitted to undertake slashing adjacent to a vehicle access point and adjacent to any dwellings in accordance with the procedure in Attachment 6.

* Refer Community Local Law No. 1 2015

10.3 CONSERVATION

Roadside reserves are significant as habitats and for their remnant plant and animal communities.

10.3.1 Regeneration

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- 1 Indigenous vegetation shall be protected and efforts made to promote its regeneration.
 - 2 Disturbed sites shall be allowed to regenerate by seed germination or by suckering in preference to revegetation (i.e. tree planting) to ensure that local adaptation and processes are conserved as much as possible.
 - 3 As grazing, slashing, ploughing or broad-scale application of herbicide can destroy regenerating plants these techniques should be avoided.
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10.3.2 Vegetation Communities

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- 1 Areas of remnant vegetation shall be protected and enhanced. e.g. by burning, weed control.
 - 2 Grassland areas shall not be planted with trees and shrubs unless ecologically justified and approved by DELWP.
 - 3 The GH CMA has developed a Habitat Network Action Plan, which identifies important linkages that can be made throughout the landscape to facilitate the dispersal of native plants and animals.
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10.3.3 Wetlands

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- 1 Wetland areas shall be protected and enhanced.
 - 2 Artificial wetland areas on roadsides shall be retained if they do not have a detrimental effect on flora and fauna, including not detrimentally altering the hydrology of linked habitats away from the roadside.
 - 3 DELWP and Glenelg Hopkins CMA must be consulted prior to undertaking any works which would change a natural wetland area.
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10.3.4 Threatened or significant Flora & Fauna & Communities

- 1 Council shall maintain a register of Very High, High, Medium and Low Value roadside locations. These classifications will be reviewed as new information becomes available.
- 2 The register shall be referred to when planning any roadside works programs.
- 3 The register shall be available to all relevant agencies or parties.
- 4 Natural Temperate Grasslands and Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands of the Victorian Volcanic Plains have been listed as critically endangered ecological communities under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and all appropriate protection measures are necessary to protect, enhance and maintain these areas.

10.3.5 Wildlife Habitat

- 1 Restoration or revegetation programs may be permitted on roadsides which contribute to the formation of strategic wildlife corridors. Revegetation must be undertaken with local native species with approval from Council.
- 2 All habitat components shall be retained (unless they pose a significant hazard as specified by the Municipal Fire Management Plan).
- 3 Dead trees or limbs containing hollows (which have fallen naturally) shall be retained or moved to another site to provide habitat wherever possible.
- 4 DELWP shall be consulted when a threatened or significant species of fauna is located on a roadside to determine the best method of management.

10.3.6 Roadside Marking of Special Environmental Areas to assist with Good Operational Outcomes.

- 1 Sites marked with approved environmental markers may be permitted by Council and the location and extent of such sites included in Council's Asset Management System.
- 2 Sites identified by environmental markers shall be monitored and the management reviewed on a regular basis in conjunction with DELWP and other relevant parties

10.3.7 Pests Plant and Animal

- 1 The method of weed control on Very High, High or Medium Conservation Value roadsides shall be approved by Council.
 - 2 Slashing may be undertaken to control exotic plants subject to advice from DELWP and DJPR, avoiding areas of regenerating indigenous vegetation
 - 3 Environmental weeds on Very High, High or Medium Conservation Value roadsides should be controlled. Planning will be undertaken in conjunction with adjacent landholders and DELWP, seeking advice from DJPR as required
 - 4 Only non-residual herbicides will be used to control weeds on roadsides unless specific advised to the contrary by DELWP, seeking advice from DJPR as required
 - 5 Control of animal pests on Very High, High or Medium Conservation Value roadsides will be undertaken in a manner which causes the least disturbance to indigenous vegetation. Planning will be undertaken in conjunction with adjacent landholders
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10.3.8 Firewood Collection, Timber & Seed Harvesting

Firewood collection, timber and seed harvesting from roadsides requires careful management.

- 1 Seed harvesting on Shire roadsides is prohibited unless a Permit is obtained from DELWP.
 - 2 Permits for the collection of firewood on roadsides of Medium, High and Very High Conservation may not be granted. Residual timber generated as a result of necessary clearing, tree pruning or asset protection should only be removed with the consent of the Shire
 - 3 Exotic woody weeds can be cleared from roadsides, subject to approval for safety. This management mechanism can reduce both fuel loads and weediness of roadsides while dealing with the trees when smaller. Cut at ground level to reduce further hazards
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10.4 HABITAT NETWORKS

As well as providing immediate conservation benefits, roadside vegetation also provides vital strategic links for the whole region. Large blocks of native habitat e.g. the Grampians, are largely cut off from other vegetated areas by cleared farmland and there is limited opportunity for movement and adaptation of plant and animal communities. The need for connection, adaptation and movement is becoming more pressing as climate change influences the region.

In order to better meet this need, this Plan and associated map of Very High, High, Medium and Low conservation value roadsides will be used to determine the suitability of:

- Habitat Networks – the objectives of a habitat network are to: maintain, improve and extend the landscape linkages throughout the region through the maintenance, improvement and development of habitat corridors, stepping stones and mosaics ; and
- Strategic vegetation corridors linking major environments in this bioregion and beyond (particular attention to be paid to actual and potential north-south corridors)

10.4.1 Rehabilitation and Revegetation Programs

1 Consultation with DELWP will be undertaken prior to commencing any revegetation works.

2 Plans for rehabilitation or revegetation on roadsides must be detailed for Council consideration to ensure:

- Compliance with Council's Roadside Management Plan
- Compatibility with any current or future service provision
- All services are clearly marked and identified on the ground
- Weed control is appropriate to the site
- Correct indigenous vegetation is being used
- Responsibility for maintenance of the revegetation is achievable
- The long term maintenance of the site has been adequately considered
- Roadside maintenance and road safety is not affected; and
- Avoid conflict with fire prevention measures
- There is no adverse effect on native vegetation

Refer to 10.3.7 above for policy guidance on the use of herbicides and control of pest animals.

3 Plans for revegetation works will be referred to all relevant agencies to ascertain compliance with relevant Codes of Practice.

4 Indigenous vegetation shall be left to regenerate on roadsides.

10.4.2 Farming and Associated Activities

- 1 All works on roadsides are prohibited except with Council approval.
- 2 Cropping of roadsides is prohibited.
- 3 Grazing on roadsides is permitted in accordance with 10.2
- 4 Farm irrigation water must be prevented from flowing onto roadsides
- 5 The discharge of water from sub-soil drainage systems onto road reserves is prohibited except with Council approval
- 6 Cutting of hay is prohibited on all roads without Council or DELWP approval, approval will only be granted for Low Conservation Roads
- 7 Hay bale storage is to be limited to Low and Medium Conservation Roadsides, with bales stacked safely away from the road surface
- 8 Landholders are required to obtain written permission from Council for vegetation clearance to repair or replace boundary fences. The clearing along the road reserve is limited to the minimum required area (not exceeding one metre) from the boundary subject to:
 - An on-site inspection from an authorised Council officer
 - All material resulting from such clearance shall be disposed of by the landholder
 - If an native understory is present, damage to this layer must be minimal
 Permits will be issued from the Director of Shire Infrastructure or appropriate delegate with necessary conditions.
- 9 Where fallen timber is remnant vegetation, Council accepts no responsibility to remove the vegetation or repair fence lines.

10.4.3 Livestock on Road Reserves

Council's Community Local Law No. 1 of 2015 provides for the control of livestock travelling along Council managed roads within the Shire.

- 'Moving livestock' means the individual or regular movement of livestock from one property to another where the properties are occupied by one farming enterprise and the movement cannot be facilitated through the use of internal gates or laneways. Moving livestock is considered day to day operation and occurs in a timely manner.
- 'Droving' means moving livestock along Council managed roads with the intent to graze along the way.
- 'Grazing' means the holding of livestock for a period of time or restraining them in one area to allow them to feed on vegetation on a roadside or on a reserve as distinct from droving or moving livestock.

-
- 1 Movement of livestock is permitted from one part of a property to another along the shortest route possible and ensuring no adverse damage to ecological values on the roadside.
 - 2 A grazing permit can be applied for on Low Conservation Value roadsides and in accordance with 10.2 to assist with fire prevention. Grazing permit conditions must stipulate the hours grazing can occur, timeframe, signage and supervision.
 - 3 A permit from Council is required to drive livestock on a journey of more than 24 hours duration. Permits may be issued only in respect of applications which provide a genuine destination and clearly demonstrate why it is necessary and/or desirable to drive livestock along Council managed roads.
 - 4 Every permit shall specify the route to be followed and the duration of the permit. When assessing applications for permits and determining the route to be taken, consideration shall be given to the environmental impact on roadsides.
 - 5 Permits to drive livestock along roads identified as containing areas of High or Medium Conservation Value will only be granted where there is no reasonably suitable alternative and may be subject to direct supervision by an authorised officer of the Council.
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10.5 CULTURAL & RECREATIONAL VALUES

10.5.1 Wayside Stops

- 1 When determining the location of wayside stops, Council shall encourage consideration of the natural, scenic, cultural or historic features associated with the roadside.
- 2 No wayside stops will be located on Very High and High Conservation Value roadsides. It is Council's aim to promote the location of new wayside stops on sites which will have a minimal impact on the surroundings i.e. preferably Low Conservation Value roadsides already cleared of vegetation.
- 3 Consultation with the community, DELWP, road design engineers and any other relevant parties will be undertaken in relation to proposed wayside stops in Very High, High or Medium Conservation Value roadsides.
- 4 Council shall manage wayside stops to avoid fire risk and waste disposal.

10.5.2 Horse Riding

- 1 Commercial trail ride operators and pony clubs wishing to use roadsides must consult with Council.
- 2 Trail rides along Very High and High Conservation Value roadsides will be strongly discouraged.

10.5.3 State Forests, National Parks and Reserves

- 1 DELWP, Parks Victoria, Council departments and relevant community groups will be consulted prior to undertaking works on roadsides which abut or which are located in Public Reserves.

10.5.4 Significant Landscapes, Trees and Sites

- 1 Significant landscapes, vegetation, isolated trees and sites of heritage or cultural value will be maintained on Council's mapping system
- 2 Environmental Significance Overlay, Landscape Overlays and Vegetation Protection Overlays will be considered when planning roadside works

11. ATTACHMENTS

1. Major Legislation
2. Local Strategies
3. Assessment Sheet
4. Weeds of National Significance and Declared Weeds
5. Relevant Southern Grampians Shire Council Policies
6. Procedure for Permitted Slashing of Roadside Vegetation by Adjoining Landholders around Dwellings and Vehicle Access Points

ATTACHMENT 1

Summary of Major Legislation and Policies

Commonwealth Legislation

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

This legislation provides for significant penalties for interfering with protected matters such as declared environmental and national estate values.

Victorian Legislation

Protecting Victoria's Environment - Biodiversity 2037 (2017)

A package of strategic directions and new funding approaches to conserve and manage Victoria's biodiversity. Various aspects of the package are currently being rolled out with unclear implications for roadside management.

The third part "Directions in Management" provides details of the biodiversity in each of Victoria's bioregions and outlines the management responses required to protect, enhance and restore them.

Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act (1988)

The Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988, aims to ensure that Victoria's flora and fauna can survive, flourish and retain their potential for evolutionary development in the wild. It places a responsibility on Government, business organisations and the community to act in such a way so as to conserve Victoria's flora and fauna and their genetic diversity.

Local Government Act (1989)

Under Section 203, Local Government is responsible for the care and management of roads. Councils have power to create certain local laws relating to roadsides.

Country Fire Authority Act (1958)

Under Section 43(1), every Local Government and Public Authority is to take all practicable steps to prevent the occurrence of fires on, and to minimise the danger of the spread of fire on or from any land, highway, road, street, land or thoroughfare under its control or management.

Forests Act (1958)

Council has control and management of all trees, saplings, shrubs undergrowth and timber in or upon any road (except which passes through or is within any State Forest or is between and adjoining any State Forest) under the care and management of Council.

Catchment and Land Protection Act (1994)

A road manager must take all reasonable steps to prevent the spread of weeds and pest animals on a roadside under their control.

Conservation, Forests and Land Act (1987)

Prior to works which may disturb crucial habitat, a plan of works must be submitted to the Secretary of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

Crown Land (Reserves) Act (1978)

Gives Crown ownership rights over vegetation on roadsides.

Environmental Protection Act (1970)

Provides for the control of polluted runoff.

Land Act (1958)

Sections 121 and 130 provide for the leasing or licencing of unused roads for agricultural purposes.

The Act also allows prosecution for removal of timber from roadsides.

Electricity Safety Act (1998)

Authorises the "Code of Practice for Electric Line Clearance" and provides for Energy Safe Victoria to grant approval for alternative compliance mechanisms.

Road Management Act (2004)

Outlines the agencies responsible for management of various road categories and the management of road infrastructure and ancillary values such as roadside vegetation.

Planning and Environment Act (1987)

Sets requirements and exemptions for the removal of native vegetation from roadsides under the Victorian Planning Provisions.

ATTACHMENT 2

Local Strategies

The following are local level strategies which influence the policy environment in which the Roadside Management Plan will operate.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Plan

The Southern Grampians Shire Council Plan for 2017 - 2021 has as its vision:

That Southern Grampians Shire will be recognised as a well-connected, dynamic Regional Centre, supporting a vibrant, healthy and inclusive community.

Southern Grampians Planning Scheme

The Scheme has a Local Provision policy which states that the significance of roadside conservation areas, stands of native vegetation, remnant grass areas and identified canoe trees will be considered.

Municipal Fire Management Plan

The Municipal Fire Management Plan is revised annually.

The aim of the Municipal Fire Management Plan is to define the areas of risk and set out measures by which areas can be protected and to identify the arrangements which have been developed to limit the occurrence of wildfire and to protect all life, property and community assets.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Local Laws

Council's Local Laws

Community Local Law No. 1 of 2015

(Relevant Clauses: cover Driving Livestock and Roadside Grazing).

Catchment Management Authority

The Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 defines ten catchment management regions in Victoria. The Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority's Regional Catchment Strategy sets directions for the region's land, water and biodiversity resources. A range of subsidiary strategies and plans include Landcare action, soil health and indigenous participation but with a focus on water resources, waterways and floodplains.

Condition of Biodiversity Values on Roadsides in South West Victoria

This review of the condition of biodiversity values on roadsides and rail reserves in south-west Victoria, commissioned by the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority (GHCMA) and Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) lead

to an on-going Linear Reserves program including strategic weed control and agency/contractor training.

Glenelg Hopkins CMA Habitat Network Action Plan – identifies all existing and potential linear corridors that would contribute towards an overall network across the Glenelg Hopkins region. This has a large focus on use of linear (roadside) reserves and waterways.

Grasslands Web Portal – an interactive mapper that shows all roadsides in the Victorian Volcanic Plain and works that have been done on them, including their conservation listing, time of burning, time of chemical weed control and presence of threatened species

ATTACHMENT 3

ROADSIDE ASSESSMENT REPORT

SiteCode: **SGR002** Road Name: **Absolams Lane** Date: 4/08/2011

Management Zones (Sections) **By Waypoints** Species by Road (Full Sitelist)

ZoneID: **48567** ZoneName: **Absolams Lane**

Zone Rating **WayPoints In Zone** MapPoints In Zone Images

EVC: **719** **Grassy Woodland/Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland Mosaic** Date: 19/05/2011 10:12:34 AM

RCAC Scoring

RCAC Width:
 RCAC-Trees With Hollows:
 RCAC-Trees And Shrubs:
 RCAC-Grasses, groundlayer:
 RCAC-Grassland Integrity:
 RCAC-Leaf Litter:
 RCAC-Logs:
 RCAC-Rocks Crevices:
 RCAC-Wetlands:
 RCACMax Fauna Habitat(5):
 RCAC-Regeneration:
 RCAC-Wildlife Corridor:
 RCAC-Weed Cover:
 RCAC-Site Disturbance:
 RCAC-Rare Species:
 RCAC Score: **14**
 RCAC Score (Ignore Rare Species):
 RCACCons. Value: **Medium**
 Habitat Score Estimate: **14**
 Non Weedy Site
 Canopy Continuity Code:

ZoneDescription: **many inappropriate plantings**
 Comments:
 Comments 2:
 Recommendations:
 AssessorCode: **Kristin Monie & Tim D'Ombrian**
 EVC Field Notes: **3/175 [Light soils, non B]**
 Major weeds:
 EVC Source: **Survey** Management Prescription: **719M.pdf**

Habitat Elements

Hollow Trees Logs:
 Large Old Trees:
 Trees:
 Logs Woody Debris:
 Shrubs:
 Mistletoe:
 Ground Flora:
 Biotic Soil Crust:
 Leaf Mulch Litter:
 Rocks:
 Cracks Crevices:
 Disturbance Regimes:

L Road Width:
 R Road Width:
 Road Width (m): Width Varies

Tree Structure:
 Shrub Structure:
 Ground Structure:
 Over storey:
 Mid-storey:
 Groundlayer:
 Erosion type:
 Basic Soil Type:
 Landform (LSys):
 Landform (LSys):

Vegetation Modification

Burning
 Cultivation/Cropping
 Herbicide Application (Sprayed)
 Mowing Slashing
 Mistletoe Excess
 Non Indigenous Species Introduction
 Lopping Pruning Felling Excess
 Timber Removal (fallen)
 Fertiliser Application/Nutrient Run-On
 Gardening Horticulture

Biomass Reduction:

Road Type:
 Origin:
 Travel Direction:
 Length (m):

Fire Management

GroundFuel:
 ElevatedFuel:
 BarkHazard:
 OverallFuelHazard:
 RecentlyBurnt
 sectionmarked:
 brigade:
 PFB SFB:

Fauna Issues

Rabbit Infestation
 Pesticide Application(notHerb)
 Animal Pests (not Stock or Rabbits)
 Grazing
 Invertebrate Pests
 Livestock Pugging Trampling Compaction

Site Modification

Altered Hydrology Waterlogging (induced)
 Dumping Of Fill Stockpile Rubbish Dumping
 Erosion Salinity
 Ripping
 Soil Sand Gravel Rock Extraction
 Other Utility Construction
 Vehicle Parking Compaction Tracking
 Drain Channel
 Fence Construction Fenced
 Underground Cabling Pipeline
 Road Const Maint Activity
 Sedimentation Siltation
 F. Bank Collapse

Adjoining Revegetation
 Revegetation present
 UnNatural Regeneration

ATTACHMENT 4

DECLARED WEEDS OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Common Name	Scientific Name
Alligator Weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>
Gamba Grass	<i>Andropogon gayanus</i>
Pond Apple, Pond-apple Tree, Alligator Apple, Bullock's Heart, Cherimoya, Monkey Apple, Bobwood, Corkwood	<i>Annona glabra</i>
Madeira Vine, Jalap, Lamb's-tail, Mignonette Vine, Anredera, Gulf Madeiravine, Heartleaf Madeiravine, Potato Vine	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>
Asparagus Fern, Ground Asparagus, Basket Fern, Sprengi's Fern, Bushy Asparagus, Emerald Asparagus	<i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i>
Climbing Asparagus, Climbing Asparagus Fern	<i>Asparagus africanus</i>
Bridal Creeper, Bridal Veil Creeper, Smilax, Florist's Smilax, Smilax Asparagus	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>
Bridal Veil, Bridal Veil Creeper, Pale Berry Asparagus Fern, Asparagus Fern, South African Creeper	<i>Asparagus declinatus</i>
Climbing Asparagus-fern	<i>Asparagus plumosus</i>
Asparagus Fern, Climbing Asparagus Fern	<i>Asparagus scandens</i>
Prickly Pears	<i>Austrocylindropuntia spp.</i>
Cabomba, Fanwort, Carolina Watershield, Fish Grass, Washington Grass, Watershield, Carolina Fanwort, Common Cabomba	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>
Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera</i>
Bitou Bush	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. rotundata</i>
Rubber Vine, Rubbervine, India Rubber Vine, India Rubbervine, Palay Rubbervine, Purple Allamanda	<i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i>
Prickly Pears	<i>Cylindropuntia spp.</i>
Broom, English Broom, Scotch Broom, Common Broom, Scottish Broom, Spanish Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>
Cat's Claw Vine, Yellow Trumpet Vine, Cat's Claw Creeper, Funnel Creeper	<i>Dolichandra unguis-cati</i>
Water Hyacinth, Water Orchid, Nile Lily	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>
Flax-leaved Broom, Mediterranean Broom, Flax Broom	<i>Genista linifolia</i>
Montpellier Broom, Cape Broom, Canary Broom, Common Broom, French Broom, Soft Broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>
Hymenachne, Olive Hymenachne, Water Stargrass, West Indian Grass, West Indian Marsh Grass	<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>
Cotton-leaved Physic-Nut, Bellyache Bush, Cotton-leaf Physic Nut, Cotton-leaf Jatropha, Black Physic Nut	<i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i>

Lantana, Common Lantana, Kamara Lantana, Large-leaf Lantana, Pink Flowered Lantana, Red Flowered Lantana, Red-Flowered Sage, White Sage, Wild Sage	<i>Lantana camara</i>
African Boxthorn, Boxthorn	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>
Mimosa, Giant Mimosa, Giant Sensitive Plant, Thorny Sensitive Plant, Black Mimosa, Catclaw Mimosa, Bashful Plant	<i>Mimosa pigra</i>
Chilean Needle grass	<i>Nassella neesiana</i>
Serrated Tussock, Yass River Tussock, Yass Tussock, Nassella Tussock (NZ)	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>
Prickly Pears	<i>Opuntia spp.</i>
Parkinsonia, Jerusalem Thorn, Jelly Bean Tree, Horse Bean	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>
Parthenium Weed, Bitter Weed, Carrot Grass, False Ragweed	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>
Mesquite, Algaroba	<i>Prosopis spp.</i>
Blackberry, European Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus aggregate</i>
Delta Arrowhead, Arrowhead, Slender Arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>
Willows except Weeping Willow, Pussy Willow and Sterile Pussy Willow	<i>Salix spp. except S.babylonica, S.x calodendron & S.x reichardtii</i>
Salvinia, Giant Salvinia, Aquarium Watermoss, Kariba Weed	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>
Fireweed, Madagascar Ragwort, Madagascar Groundsel	<i>Senecio madagascariensis</i>
Silver Nightshade, Silver-leaved Nightshade, White Horse Nettle, Silver-leaf Nightshade, Tomato Weed, White Nightshade, Bull-nettle, Prairie-berry, Satansbos, Silver-leaf Bitter-apple, Silverleaf-nettle, Trompillo	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>
Athel Pine, Athel Tree, Tamarisk, Athel Tamarisk, Athel Tamarix, Desert Tamarisk, Flowering Cypress, Salt Cedar	<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>
Gorse, Furze	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>
Prickly Acacia, Blackthorn, Prickly Mimosa, Black Piquant, Babul	<i>Vachellia nilotica</i>

VICTORIAN NOXIOUS WEEDS LIST
ALPHABETICAL BY COMMON NAME

Current 20 July 2017

SCHEDULE 1	
State Prohibited Weeds	
Common name	Scientific name
Alligator weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i> (Mart.) Griseb.
Bear-skin fescue	<i>Festuca gautieri</i> (Hack.) K. Richt.
Black knapweed	<i>Centaurea nigra</i> L.
Branched broomrape	<i>Orobanche ramosa</i> L.
Camel thorn	<i>Alhagi maurorum</i> Medik.
Giant knotweed	<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i> (F. Schmidt ex Maxim) Ronse Decr.
Giraffe thorn	<i>Acacia erioloba</i> E. Mey
Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium</i> spp.
Horsetail	<i>Equisetum</i> L. spp.
Ivy-leafed sida	<i>Malvella leprosa</i> (Ortega) Krapov.
Japanese knotweed	<i>Fallopia japonica</i> (Houtt.) Ronse Decr.
Japanese knotweed hybrid	<i>Fallopia x bohemica</i> (Chrtk & Chrtkova) J.P.Bailey
Karoo thorn	<i>Acacia karroo</i> Hayne
Lagarosiphon	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i> (Ridl.) Moss
Lobed needle grass	<i>Nassella charruana</i> (Arechav.) Barkworth
Marijuana	<i>Cannabis sativa</i> L.
Mesquite	<i>Prosopis</i> spp.
Mexican feather grass	<i>Nassella tenuissima</i> (Trin.) Barkworth
Nodding thistle	<i>Carduus nutans</i> L.
Parthenium weed	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i> L.
Perennial ragweed	<i>Ambrosia psilostachya</i> DC.
Poverty weed	<i>Iva axillaris</i> Pursh.
Salvinia	<i>Salvinia molesta</i> D.S. Mitch.
Tangled hypericum	<i>Hypericum triquetrifolium</i> Turra
Water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> (Mart) Solms

SCHEDULE 2		
Regionally Prohibited Weeds (P), Regionally Controlled Weeds (C), or Restricted Weeds (R)		
Common name	Scientific name	Glenelg Hopkins
African boxthorn	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i> Miers	C
African daisy	<i>Senecio pterophorus</i> DC.	C
African feather grass	<i>Pennisetum macrourum</i> Trin.	C
African love grass	<i>Eragrostis curvula</i> (Schrad.) Nees	R
Amsinckia	<i>Amsinckia</i> spp.	P
Angled onion	<i>Allium triquetrum</i> L.	R
Apple of Sodom	<i>Solanum linnaeanum</i> Hepper & P.-M.L. Jaeger	R
Arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria</i> L. spp.	P
Artichoke thistle	<i>Cynara cardunculus</i> L.	R
Asparagus fern	<i>Asparagus scandens</i> Thunb.	R
Athel pine/ tamarisk	<i>Tamarix aphylla</i> (L.) H. Karst.	R
Bathurst burr	<i>Xanthium spinosum</i> L.	C
Bellyache bush	<i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i> L.	R
Bindweed	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> L.	R
Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> L. agg.	C
Boneseed/ Bitou bush	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> (L.) Norl.	C
Bridal creeper	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i> (L.) Druce	R
Bridal veil creeper	<i>Asparagus declinatus</i> L.	R
Buffalo burr	<i>Solanum rostratum</i> Dunal	R
Californian/ Perennial thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i> (L.) Scop.	C
Caltrop	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> L.	C
Cape broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i> (L.) L.A.S. Johnson	R
Cape tulip (one-leaf)	<i>Moraea flaccida</i> (Sweet) Steud.	C
Cape tulip (two-leaf)	<i>Moraea miniata</i> Andrews	C
Cat's claw creeper	<i>Dolichandra unguis-cati</i> (L.) L.G. Lohmann	R
Chilean cestrum	<i>Cestrum parqui</i> L'Her.	R
Chilean needle grass	<i>Nassella neesiana</i> (Trin. & Rupr.) Barkworth	R
Climbing asparagus	<i>Asparagus plumosus</i> Baker	R
Devil's claw (purple-flower)	<i>Proboscidea louisianica</i> (Mill.) Thell.	C
Devil's claw (yellow-flower)	<i>Proboscidea lutea</i> (Lindl.) Stapf	C
Dodder	<i>Cuscuta</i> L. spp.	R
English broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> (L.) Link	R
Fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i> Mill.	R
Fireweed	<i>Senecio madagascariensis</i> Poir.	R
Flax-leaved broom	<i>Genista linifolia</i> L.	R
Gamba grass	<i>Andropogon gayanus</i> Kunth	R

Golden thistle	<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i> L.	P
Gorse/ Furze	<i>Ulex europaeus</i> L.	C
Great mullein	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i> L.	R
Ground asparagus	<i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i> L.	R
Hardheads/ Russian knapweed	<i>Rhaponticum repens</i> (L.) Hildalgo	P
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> Jacq.	R
Hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i> L.	R
Hoary cress	<i>Lepidium draba</i> L.	R
Horehound	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i> L.	C
Hymenachne, Olive hymenachne	<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i> (Rudge) Nees	R
Illyrian thistle	<i>Onopordum illyricum</i> L.	R
Khaki weed	<i>Alternanthera pungens</i> Kunth.	R
Lantana	<i>Lantana camara</i> L.	R
Madeira vine	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i> (Ten.) Steenis	R
Mimosa, giant sensitive plant	<i>Mimosa pigra</i> L.	R
Noogoora burr/ Californian burr	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i> L.	C
Opuntoid cacti	<i>Austrocylindropuntia</i> Backeb. spp.	R
Opuntoid cacti	<i>Cylindropuntia</i> (Engelm.) F. M. Knuth spp.	R
Opuntoid cacti	<i>Opuntia</i> Mill. spp. (except <i>O. aurantiaca</i> Lindl., <i>O. monacantha</i> Haw., <i>O. robusta</i> H.L. Wendl. ex Pfeiff., <i>Opuntia stricta</i> (Haw.) Haw., <i>O. ficus-indica</i> (L.) Mill.)	R
Ornamental asparagus	<i>Asparagus africanus</i> Lam.	R
Ox-eye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> Lam.	R
Pampas lily-of-the-valley	<i>Salpichroa origanifolia</i> (Lam.) Thell.	R
Parkinsonia/ Jerusalem-thorn	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i> L.	R
Paterson's curse	<i>Echium plantagineum</i> L.	C
Pond apple	<i>Annona glabra</i> L.	R
Prairie ground cherry	<i>Physalis hederifolia</i> A. Gray	R
Prickly acacia	<i>Acacia nilotica</i> (L.) Delile subsp. <i>indica</i> (Benth.) Brenan	R
Prickly pear (drooping)	<i>Opuntia monacantha</i> Haw.	R
Prickly pear (erect)	<i>Opuntia stricta</i> (Haw.) Haw.	R
Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i> L.	C
Rubber vine	<i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i> R. Br.	R
Saffron thistle	<i>Carthamus lanatus</i> L.	R
Sand rocket/ Sand mustard	<i>Diploaxis tenuifolia</i> (L.) DC.	C
Scotch/ Heraldic thistle	<i>Onopordum acanthium</i> L.	C

Serrated tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i> (Nees.) Hack. ex Arechav.	P
Silverleaf nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i> Cav.	P
Skeleton weed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i> L.	C
Slender/ Shore thistle	<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i> Curtis/ <i>C. pycnocephalus</i> L.	R
Soldier thistle	<i>Picnomon acarna</i> (L.) Cass.	R
Soursob	<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i> L.	R
Spear thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (Savi) Ten.	R
Spiny broom	<i>Calicotome spinosa</i> (L.) Link	R
Spiny burr grass/ Gentle Annie	<i>Cenchrus longispinus</i> (Hack.) Fernald	P
Spiny emex	<i>Emex australis</i> Steinh.	R
Spiny rush	<i>Juncus acutus</i> L.	C
St Barnaby's thistle	<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i> L.	P
St. John's wort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i> L.	C
St. Peter's wort	<i>Hypericum tetrapterum</i> Fr.	R
Star thistle	<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i> L.	R
Stemless thistle	<i>Onopordum acaulon</i> L.	R
Stinkwort	<i>Dittrichia graveolens</i> (L.) Greuter	R
Sweet briar	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i> L.	C
Thorn apple (common)	<i>Datura stramonium</i> L.	C
Thorn apple (long-spine)	<i>Datura ferox</i> L.	C
Thorn apple (recurved)	<i>Datura inoxia</i> Mill.	C
Tiger pear	<i>Opuntia aurantiaca</i> Lindl.	P
Topped lavender	<i>Lavandula stoechas</i> L.	R
Tree of heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i> (Mill.) Swingle	C
Tufted honeyflower	<i>Melianthus comosus</i> Vahl	R
Tutsan	<i>Hypericum androsaemum</i> L.	R
Variegated thistle	<i>Silybum marianum</i> (L.) J. Gaertn.	R
Viper's bugloss	<i>Echium vulgare</i> L.	C
Wheel cactus	<i>Opuntia robusta</i> H.L. Wendl. ex Pfeiff.	R
Wild garlic	<i>Allium vineale</i> L.	R
Wild mignonette	<i>Reseda luteola</i> L.	R
Wild teasel	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i> L. subsp. <i>fullonum</i>	R
Wild watsonia	<i>Watsonia meriana</i> (L.) Mill. var <i>bulbillifera</i> (J.W. Mathews & L. Bolus) D.A. Cooke	R

<p>Willows</p>	<p><i>Salix</i> spp. (except <i>Salix alba</i> var. <i>caerulea</i> (Sm.) Sm., <i>Salix alba</i> x <i>matsudana</i>, <i>Salix babylonica</i> L., <i>Salix</i> X <i>calodendron</i> Wimm., <i>Salix caprea</i> L. ‘Pendula’, <i>Salix matsudana</i> Koidz ‘Aurea’, <i>Salix matsudana</i> Koidz ‘Tortuosa’, <i>Salix myrsinifolia</i> Salisb., and <i>Salix</i> X <i>reichardtii</i> A. Kern.)</p>	<p>R</p>
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ATTACHMENT 5



Department of Environment,
Land, Water & Planning

PO Box 500
East Melbourne Victoria
Telephone: (03) 9637 8000
ABN 90 719 052 204

David Moloney
Director Shire Infrastructure
Southern Grampians Shire Council
1 Market Place
HAMILTON VIC 3300

Dear David

WRITTEN AGREEMENT TO RELY ON THE ROAD SAFETY EXEMPTION

Thank you for your request dated 13 December 2018 seeking written agreement from the Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) to rely on the *Road safety* exemption within Victoria's local planning schemes. I am authorised on behalf of the Secretary to perform this duty.

By this letter, I provide Southern Grampians Shire Council with conditional written agreement to rely on the *Road safety* exemption within the following clauses of the local planning scheme:

- Clauses 52.16 and 52.17 **provided** native vegetation removal is undertaken in accordance with the *Procedure to rely on the road safety exemption in planning schemes* (DELWP 2018) (Road safety procedure), and
- Clauses 42.01, 42.02, 42.03, 44.01 and 44.02 **provided** that before any vegetation removal you notify the relevant responsible authority before seeking endorsement for construction works.

To enable the efficient implementation of the Road safety procedure, regional DELWP contacts and the *Exempt Project Endorsement Form* template are included with this letter. I remind you that non-compliance may result in suspension or withdrawal of this written agreement.

DELWP will publish (<https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/native-vegetation/exemptions>) a list of all road authorities that have written agreement to rely on the *Road safety* exemption. Annual native vegetation removal data for endorsed construction works will also be published in the native vegetation removal regulations annual report. If you have any questions contact the Native vegetation regulation team at nativevegetation.support@delwp.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Warrick McGrath
Director Regulatory Strategy and Design

13/12/18

ATTACHMENT 6

PROCEDURE FOR PERMITTED SLASHING OF ROADSIDE VEGETATION BY ADJOINING LANDHOLDERS AROUND DWELLINGS AND VEHICLE ACCESS POINTS

Unless otherwise notified in writing by Council, landholders may undertake slashing to maintain safe access and egress under the following conditions:

ADJOINING DWELLINGS (including ancillary buildings, garages, garden sheds, etc)

Where an adjoining landholders' dwelling is less than 30 metres from the roadside boundary fence, the landholder may slash the road reserve from fenceline to top of table drain for a distance of 30 metres each side of the dwelling's principal vehicle entrance (drive). Slashing shall be to a minimum height of 10 centimetres.

Where the dwelling is between 30 and 50 metres from the roadside boundary fence, slashing for a distance of 10 metres each side of the principal entrance is permitted to a minimum height of 10 centimetres.

OTHER VEHICLE ACCESS POINTS TO THE PROPERTY

Where a dwelling is more than 50 metres from the road, or a vehicle access point relates to farm buildings or general paddock access, slashing to a maximum of 5 metres each side of the access track is permitted to a minimum height of 10 centimetres.

NOTES:

Council may notify a landholder in writing if significant values or road safety concerns preclude granting of this permission. In such cases Council officers will meet with the landholder (if requested) to negotiate alternative roadside vegetation management outcomes.

Slashing over larger areas or away from dwellings and access points may be permitted where road safety, conservation, landscape and cultural values are not compromised. Contact Council for permission.

Slashing of roadside vegetation specifically authorised for fire prevention purposes by the Municipal Fire Prevention Plan is permitted.

Spraying or application (by any means) of herbicides, insecticides or fertilisers is not permitted without written permission from Council. Earthworks such as ploughing, ripping or discing, and the sowing or planting of crops or other plants are not permitted without written approval from Council.

12. AMENDMENTS

Released and Adopted	January 1999
Minor revision	June 2002
Minor revision	April 2003
Minor revision	May 2004
Revised and Adopted	November 2008
Minor revision	October 2011
Revised	August 2013
Revised and Adopted	March - June 2019