



MANSFIELD SHIRE

# MANSFIELD SHIRE COUNCIL



# COMMUNITY ROADSIDE HANDBOOK



*This project received funding support from the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority through the Commonwealth Natural Heritage Trust program*



<b>1.0 INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1 What Is a Roadside? .....	3
1.2 Why is Roadside Conservation Important? .....	4
<b>2.0 GENERAL PRINCIPLES.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3.0 CONSERVATION VALUE OF ROADSIDES.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4.0 RISKS TO ROADSIDE BIODIVERSITY .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5.0 GUIDELINES FOR ROADSIDE ACTIVITIES .....</b>	<b>6</b>
5.1 Summary of Guidelines for Roadside Activities.....	6
5.2 Fencing .....	8
5.3 Fire Management .....	8
5.4 Firewood Collection .....	9
5.5 Livestock Movement, Grazing and Droving.....	9
5.6 Pest Animals .....	9
5.7 Pest Plants (Weeds).....	10
5.8 Property Access .....	12
5.9 Recreation Vehicles .....	12
5.10 Revegetation/Rehabilitation .....	12
5.11 Seed, Foliage and Wild Flower Collection.....	13
5.12 Signs .....	13
5.13 Slashing .....	13
5.14 Spraying .....	14
5.15 Vegetation Removal .....	15
<b>Appendix 1 – Agency Contact Details.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Appendix 2 – Rare or Threatened Flora and Fauna list for the Goulbourn Broken Catchment .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Appendix 3 – Revegetation Checklist and References List .....</b>	<b>24</b>

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Prior to European Settlement a diverse range of native vegetation types existed across Mansfield Shire including; Valley Grassy Forests, Plains Grassy Woodlands, Herb-Rich Foothill Forests, Riparian Woodlands and Riparian Forests.

This native vegetation, especially in the lower valley and plains areas, has been extensively cleared for agriculture and timber production. Most remnants in these areas now only remain on road reserves. These remnants provide some of the few remaining examples of natural ecosystems and contribute significantly to wildlife habitat and corridors between isolated areas of bushland.

A key strategic objective of Mansfield Shire Council's Council Plan 2006-2009 is a Sustainable Environment, being to *"embrace our responsibility as custodian of community resources by aiming to achieve maximum benefit to the community from all our resources while valuing and enhancing our natural environment."* A strategy of this objective is to *"develop and implement environment strategies to provide a framework for improved environmental practices Shire-wide that protect and enhance the natural and heritage values."*

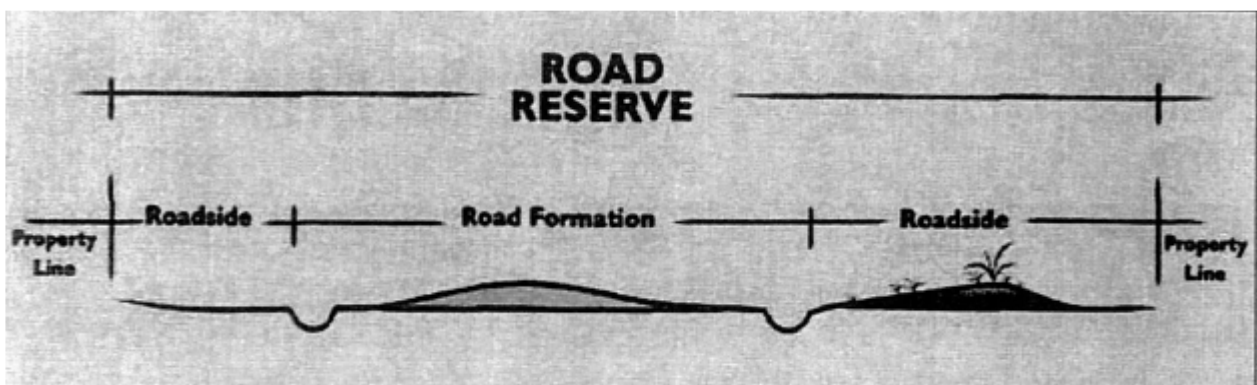
These environmental values have been carried on in the Mansfield Shire Council Plan 2013-2017 which refers to different themes, identifying a wide range of community aspirations, with the leading theme being "improving Our Built and Natural Environment". A stated goal of this plan is *"our businesses, residents, ratepayers and visitors act responsibly and proactively to protect and enhance the environmental features we value"*.

The Victorian State Government's primary goal for the management of native vegetation is *"a reversal of the long-term decline in the extent and quality of native vegetation, leading to a Net Gain across the entire landscape."*

The Community Roadside Handbook is 1 of 3 documents that council's roadside conservation management actions are guided by. All the documents aim to incorporate principles of conservation into Council's strategy and community involvement in roadside management.

### 1.1 What Is a Roadside?

A road reserve is established to provide a safe and effective network for vehicle movement and access for utility services. The roadside is usually the area between a property boundary and the road drain as detailed in the diagram below.



Picture sourced from Patrick Connor and Murray Ralph, 2006, *Environmental Handbook for Roadsides*, Land Connect Australia

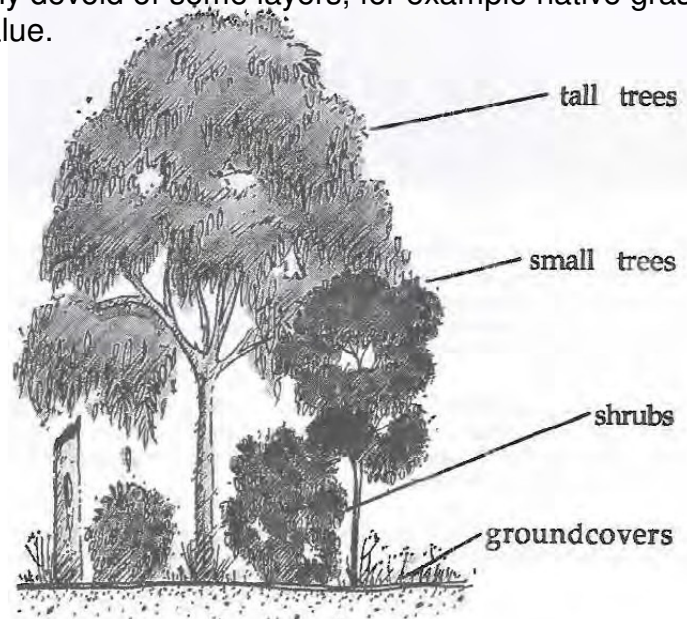
## 1.2 Why is Roadside Conservation Important?

- Undisturbed roadsides support a high diversity of native animals and plants.
- Native vegetation on roadsides can include many of the few remaining examples of intact habitat in highly developed landscapes.
- Roadsides often provide the only wildlife corridors to other vegetation remnants.
- In the Goulburn Broken Catchment there are native vegetation species known only to remain on roadsides and native wildlife that would otherwise not exist in some areas without roadside habitats.
- Native vegetation is easier to manage than introduced vegetation.
- Native grasses have lower fuel loads and therefore lower fire risk than introduced species.

## 2.0 GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Trees are good – bush is better!

Native Vegetation includes trees, shrubs, grasses and groundcovers. Some vegetation habitats are naturally devoid of some layers, for example native grasslands. All layers of bush have equal value.



Picture sourced from Patrick Connor and Murray Ralph, 2006, *Environmental Handbook for Roadsides*, Land Connect Australia


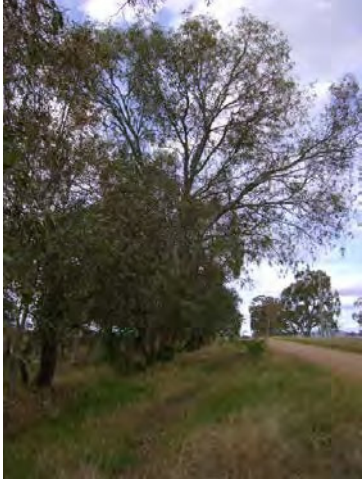

Principles of roadside conservation are:

- Ensure the safe function of roads for vehicle transit.
- Conserve existing native vegetation.
- Encourage re-establishment of native vegetation by conserving regeneration.
- Revegetate priority roadsides to create wildlife corridors and protect rare and threatened plants and animals.
- Acknowledge the importance that roadside vegetation plays in providing habitat for native wildlife.
- Use best practice vegetation management to ensure safety of road users
- Conserve and protect rare and threatened plants and animals.

## 3.0 CONSERVATION VALUE OF ROADSIDES

A vehicle-based assessment of all roads outside townships, for which Council is the responsible authority, has been undertaken to determine a conservation value of high medium or low as outlined in the table below.

Council has developed a Roadside Conservation Values Map Booklet. Please contact Council for more information.

<p><b>High Conservation Value</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Low disturbance</li> <li>▪ Canopy, mid and lower native vegetation layers present (including regeneration)</li> <li>▪ Low weed presence</li> <li>▪ Native vegetation occurs across majority of roadside</li> <li>▪ Includes a range of habitats</li> <li>▪ May form a wildlife corridor</li> <li>▪ May provide habitat for rare or threatened species</li> <li>▪ Generally requires little maintenance</li> </ul>	 <p>Rifle Butts Road, Mansfield</p>
<p><b>Medium Conservation Value</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Moderate disturbance</li> <li>▪ Native vegetation occurs mainly in patches</li> <li>▪ Some regeneration</li> <li>▪ Few habitat features</li> </ul>	 <p>Mt Battery Road, Mansfield</p>
<p><b>Low Conservation Value</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Substantially disturbed or modified</li> <li>▪ Predominately non-native vegetation</li> <li>▪ Little to nil regeneration</li> <li>▪ Few habitat features</li> <li>▪ Potentially an increased fire risk</li> </ul>	 <p>Pollards Road, Boorolite</p>

## 4.0 RISKS TO ROADSIDE BIODIVERSITY

The Reference Group of a joint local government and Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority project, *Goulburn Broken Catchment Roadside Biodiversity Risk Management Protocols*, of which Mansfield Shire Council is a member, have identified 7 activities that have the potential for the greatest impacts on biodiversity on roadsides. The table below outlines these activities and associated level of risk.

**Table 1: Risk Score\* Summary**

Potential Impact	Program						
	Road construction & maintenance	Fire prevention works	Livestock movement & grazing	Slashing & spraying	Fence & property access	Roadside rehabilitation	Firewood collection
Native vegetation removed/effected	9	9	9	8	8	8	8
Loss or damage to habitats	9	9	9	8	8	8	8
Accidental pest spread, weeds etc	8	8	8	9	7	7	6
Contamination run-off sediments dust	7	7	7	6	5	5	5
Altered water regimes, drainage etc	6	5	4	4	4	4	4

\*Score range is 2-10. Scores of 2-4 indicate lowest risk, 5-7 moderate risk and 8-10 high risk.

Table sourced from *Goulburn Broken Catchment Roadside Biodiversity Risk Management Protocols Report, December 2007*.

## 5.0 GUIDELINES FOR ROADSIDE ACTIVITIES

### 5.1 Summary of Guidelines for Roadside Activities

Written consent is required from Council before undertaking works in a road reserve under the *Road Management Act 2004*. Mowing of nature strips in residential areas by adjoining landowners does not require consent.

<b>Activity in Municipal Road Reserve</b>	<b>Approval Required</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Fencing	-Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit -Planning Permit may be required if native vegetation removal is involved	Council – 5775 8555
Fire Management	-Must align with Municipal Fire Management Plan -Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit -Planning Permit may be required if native vegetation removal is involved	Council – 5775 8555
Collection of Firewood	-Firewood Collection Permit required -Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit	Council – 5775 8555
Droving, grazing or movement of livestock	-Local Laws Permit	Council – 5775 8555
Pest Animals	-Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit	Council – 5775 8555
Property Access	-Planning Permit may be required if native vegetation removal is involved -Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit	Council – 5775 8555
Recreation Vehicles	-Local Laws Permit	Council – 5775 8555
Revegetation (planting any trees, shrubs or grasses)	-Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit	Council – 5775 8555
Seed Collection	-Seed Collection Permit -Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit	DEPI Office Benalla - 57611611 Council – 5775 8555
Mowing/slashing	-Planning Permit may be required if native vegetation removal is involved	Council – 5775 8555
Signs	-Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit	Council – 5775 8555
Spraying	-Planning Permit may be required if native vegetation removal is involved	Council – 5775 8555
Remove, destroy or lop native vegetation	-Planning Permit may be required -Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit	Council – 5775 8555
Remove exotic trees or shrubs not listed as noxious weeds	-Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit	Council – 5775 8555

## 5.2 Fencing

Council requires third parties undertaking fencing works on a road reserve boundary to obtain a Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit (*Road Management Act 2004*).

A Planning Permit may be required if native vegetation is being removed, destroyed or lopped as a result of the fencing works (Mansfield Planning Scheme).

### Guidelines:

- The fence line should be re-aligned, relocated or vegetation incorporated into the fence design before native vegetation removal is considered (avoid removal).
- Consult Council's Planning Unit if native vegetation removal is deemed unavoidable.
- Works and machinery operation must be conducted from the property side of the road reserve boundary.
- The extent and location of works must be clearly defined and understood by those undertaking the work.
- Waste must not be left on the road reserve.
- Erosion and sediment control measures must be in place.
- Biodiversity assets and roadside conservation value must be identified and understood by those undertaking the work.
- A minimum extent of grass can be slashed along the fence line (minimum of 100mm high for native grasses) if impeding work. The area must not be graded or ploughed.

## 5.3 Fire Management

Council requires third parties undertaking fire management activities to obtain a Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit (*Road Management Act 2004*). Only works in accordance with the Municipal Fire Management Plan, the Road Management (Works & Infrastructure) Regulations 2005 and approved by Council's Fire Prevention staff will be permitted on road reserves. A Planning Permit may be required if native vegetation is to be removed, destroyed or lopped.

Roadsides do not need to be cleared, 'cleaned up' or mowed to provide reasonable fire precautions.

Native grasses have lower fuel loads than introduced grasses.

Heavier fuels like branches and logs (greater than 25mm in diameter) are slower to ignite than fine fuels and give off heat more slowly, therefore can be retained in road reserves while maintaining an effective firebreak.

Dead and fallen timber is very important habitat for many native mammals, birds, reptiles and insects. Fire prevention activities on roadsides significantly contribute to the decline of some species due to the removal of timber debris.

### Guidelines:

- No ploughed or graded firebreaks to be constructed by landowners on roadsides
- Landowners are encouraged to undertake fire prevention works on their own property.
- See section 5.13 on slashing

## 5.4 Firewood Collection

Council requires third parties undertaking firewood collection to obtain a Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit (*Road Management Act 2004*) and a Firewood Collection Permit is required.

Firewood collection on roadside in State Forests is only allowed in a designated firewood collection area. Contact DEPI for further information.

VicRoads do not allow firewood collection on roadsides they manage.

### Guidelines:

- Firewood collection is not permitted on high conservation value roadsides.
- Only fallen timber can be collected, standing vegetation, dead or alive, must not be cut down.

Dead and fallen timber is very important habitat for many native mammals, birds, reptiles and insects. Firewood collection on roadsides significantly contributes to the decline of some species.

## 5.5 Livestock Movement, Grazing and Drovers

Council acknowledges that livestock make an important contribution to the Shire's economy. However, management of livestock activities on roadsides must achieve a balance between economic, safety and environmental factors. The Roadside Conservation Management Plan addresses environmental factors in particular, while Local Laws address safety issues.

A Local Laws Permit is required for livestock movement, grazing and droving on municipal roadsides (Mansfield Shire Council Community Local Law 2008).

### Guidelines:

- Droving or grazing on High Conservation Value roadsides is not permitted.
- Droving or grazing on Medium Conservation Value roadsides can be permitted where ecological benefits such as weed control can be demonstrated, or to reduce fuel in accordance with the Municipal Fire Management Plan.
- Droving or grazing on Low Conservation Value roadsides can be permitted if feed is at sufficient levels to prevent soil compaction which can lead to erosion.
- Conditions will be placed on permit holders when given approval to graze/drove livestock.

## 5.6 Pest Animals

Council requires third parties undertaking pest animal control works on a road reserve boundary to obtain a Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit (*Road Management Act 2004*).

A Planning Permit may be required if native vegetation will be removed or destroyed as a result of pest animal control works.

A pest animal is an introduced animal with an established self-supporting population in the wild (also known as *feral*) that is a threat to human health, primary production and/or the natural environment.

Responsibility for management of established pest animals on private land is that of the landowner. The management of Rabbits on roadsides (except roads managed by VicRoads) is to be undertaken in association with Council's endorsed Roadside Weed and Rabbit Control Plan.

## Guidelines:

- Consult local Department of Primary Industries Pest Management Officer for most effective pest animal control techniques.
- Operate machinery from the private property side of the road reserve boundary wherever possible.
- Machinery hygiene must be undertaken to reduce spread of weeds.

## 5.7 Pest Plants (Weeds)

Council requires third parties undertaking pest plant (weed) control works on a road reserve boundary to obtain a Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit (*Road Management Act 2004*).

A Planning Permit may be required if native vegetation will be removed or destroyed as a result of pest plant (weed) control works.

A weed is a plant that requires some form of action to reduce its harmful effects on the economy, the environment, human health and amenity. Weeds may be native plants that have spread in response to changed conditions, but are often plants that have been introduced from outside Australia.

**Declared noxious weeds** are plants that have been proclaimed under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* to be a serious threat to agriculture and/or the environment. These weeds are classified as State Prohibited, Regionally Prohibited, Regionally Controlled or Regionally Restricted.

**State Prohibited Weeds** either do not yet occur in Victoria but pose a significant threat if they invade, or are present, and do pose a serious threat and that it is reasonable to expect that they can be eradicated from Victoria. Control of these weeds is the responsibility of the Department of Primary Industries wherever they occur throughout Victoria.

**Regionally Prohibited Weeds** are not widely distributed across Victoria, but are capable of spreading. It is reasonable to expect that they can be eradicated from a region. Private landholders are responsible for control on private land but not on roadsides adjoining their property, which are the responsibility of Local Government or VicRoads, depending on the class of road.

**Regionally Controlled Weeds** are widespread and established in a region. To prevent their spread, continuing control measures are required. Landholders have the responsibility to take all reasonable steps to control and prevent the spread of these weeds on their land but not on roadsides adjoining their property, which are the responsibility of Local Government or VicRoads, depending on the class of road.

**Regionally Restricted Weeds** are a serious threat to primary production, Crown Land, the environment or community health in another State or Territory of Australia, which have the potential to spread into and within Victoria, and pose an unacceptable risk of spreading in this State or to other parts of Australia if they were to be sold or traded in Victoria. Trade in these weeds and material containing them is prohibited.

Weed Category	Weeds Classified in the Goulburn Broken Catchment	
State Prohibited	Alligator Weed Black Knapweed Camel thorn Ivy leaf Sida Mesquite Parthenium Weed Salvinia Water Hyacinth Bear-skin fescue Branched broomrape Giant knotweed Giraffe thorn Hawkweed Japanese knotweed	Japanese knotweed hybrid Horsetail Karoo thorn Lagarosiphon Lobed needle grass Marijuana Mesquite Mexican feather grass Nodding thistle Perennial Ragweed Poverty weed Tangled Hypericum
Regionally Prohibited	Ragwort Serrated Tussock Wild Garlic African daisy African feather grass	Artichoke thistle Cape tulip (one-leaf) Cape tulip (two-leaf) Illyrian thistle Wild garlic
Regionally Controlled	African boxthorn African Love Grass Amsinckia Bathurst burr Blackberry Boneseed Buffalo burr Caltrop Cape broom Chilean cestrum Devil's claw (purple flower) Devil's claw (yellow flower) Dodder English Broom Gorse Golden thistle Gorse Great mullein Hardheads Hawthorn Hemlock Horehound Khaki weed	Noogoora burr Ox-eye daisy Paterson's Curse Perennial thistle Prairie Ground Cherry SaffronThistle Scotch thistle Silverleaf nightshade Spiny burr grass Spiny emex Spiny rush St Barnaby's thistle St.John'sWort Sweet Briar Thorn apple (common) Thorn apple (long-spine) Thorn apple (recurved) Tree of heaven Tufted honey flower Tutsan Variegated thistle Viper's bugloss

Source: Department of Environment and Primary Industries: <http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/agriculture-and-food/pests-diseases-and-weeds/weeds/invasive-plant-classifications/weed-classification-victoria> (Jan 2014)

**Environmental weeds** are plants that threaten natural ecosystems, including both introduced plants and native plants that originally come from other areas of Australia. They are capable of invading native plant communities and out-competing native species; resulting in a reduction of plant diversity and loss of habitat for native fauna.



Outbreak of Environmental Weed *Agapanthus*

**Guidelines:**

To avoid the spread of weeds:

- Minimise disturbance.
- Learn to identify weeds of the region.
- Vehicles and machinery spread weeds; before using machinery or vehicles on roadsides, all soil and vegetation is to be removed with a high-pressure water hose or by scraping and brushing.
- Do not dump garden waste, plough or grade roadside.
- Do not plant environmental weeds, especially near roadsides.

**Weed control:**

- Early intervention is most cost effective.
- On high or medium conservation value roadsides, consult local Department of Primary Industries Pest Management Officer for best weed control methods.
- Apply control treatments at optimum times.
- Revegetate treated areas with indigenous plant species to minimise recurrence; see section 5.10 Revegetation or contact Council for further information.
- Work with neighbouring landholders for a coordinated approach.
- Treat small outbreaks and isolated patches first, isolate major infestations and work from outside to centre of the infestation.

See section 5.13 Slashing and 5.14 Spraying for more information and guidelines.

**5.8 Property Access**

Council requires a Works on Municipal Road Reserve Permit for third parties undertaking property access works (*Road Management Act 2004*).

A Planning Permit is required for native vegetation removal (*Planning and Environment Act 1987*).

**Guidelines:**

- Choose a location that will cause the least impact on biodiversity.
- Operate machinery from the private property side of the road reserve boundary wherever possible.
- If machinery operation is necessary on the roadside, ensure that it has been cleaned with a high pressure water pump or brushed to reduce the possibility of weed spread.
- Implement erosion and sediment control measures.
- Undertake weed control following the installation of the access.
- Remove all rubbish and spare construction materials from the roadside.

**5.9 Recreation Vehicles**

A Local Laws Permit is required to operate recreation vehicles on roadsides (Mansfield Shire Council Community Local Law 2008).

A Planning Permit is required for native vegetation removal (*Planning and Environment Act 1987*).

**Guidelines:**

- Remain on existing tracks.
- Minimise site disturbance.

**5.10 Revegetation/Rehabilitation**

Priorities for managing native vegetation at a State and regional level are:

- Retain and protect existing remnants.
- Enhance existing remnants.
- Connect existing remnants by Biolinks (Wildlife Corridors).

Projects should reflect this approach by:

- Enhancing existing remnants through weed and pest animal control and adding habitat features such as logs.
- Supplementing existing remnants by planting shrubs and understorey indigenous species.
- Establishing wildlife corridors in appropriate locations.

Most activities associated with revegetation on roadsides would be considered as works under the Road Management Act 2004 and therefore Council requires a Works in Municipal Road Reserve Permit. Revegetation works must not compromise road safety.

**Guidelines:**

- Contact Council to assess suitability of planting.
- Submit plans for the revegetation project to Council at least two months prior to works commencing.
- Adjacent landholders must be consulted.
- Plantings should not be undertaken on Fuel Reduced Corridors or within the cleared areas of Priority Access Roads designated in the Municipal Fire Management Plan.
- Only use species relevant to the Ecological Vegetation Class of the area.
- Trees or shrubs should not be planted in native grasslands.
- Non-native species must not be planted under any circumstances.
- Vegetation should not obscure traffic sight lines and visibility. Do not plant trees with a mature trunk diameter of 100mm at base within sight lines. Council can advise on appropriate set backs for road safety aspects as specified in the VicRoads Design Guidelines.
- Follow up weed control must be undertaken.

### **5.11 Seed, Foliage and Wild Flower Collection**

Council requires a Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit (*Road Management Act 2004*).

A permit is also required from DEPI Benalla Office (*Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*).

**Guidelines:**

- Ensure ecologically sustainable seed collection practices are used; see [www.florabank.org.au](http://www.florabank.org.au)
- Avoid disturbance to site.

### **5.12 Signs**

Council requires a Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit (*Road Management Act 2004*) and in some cases a Planning Permit (*Planning and Environment Act 1987*).

**Guidelines:**

- Avoid affixing signs directly to trees as this can cause the tree to decline in health.
- This includes real estate signs.

### **5.13 Slashing**

Slashing on roadsides has a high risk of:

- removing or destroying native vegetation.
- loss of or damage to habitats.
- accidental spread of weeds.

Slashing of native vegetation may require a Planning Permit (*Planning and Environment Act 1987*).

**Guidelines:**

- Due to the potential serious risks to biodiversity, mowing/slashing on roadsides outside of townships should be avoided wherever possible, especially on roadsides of high conservation value.
- Identify native vegetation prior to mowing or slashing; consult Council if unsure.
- Slashing for fire prevention must comply with the Municipal Fire Management Plan and be undertaken just prior to the commencement of the Fire Hazard Period.
- Slasher blades must be set at a minimum height of 100mm when slashing native grass.
- Clean contaminated machinery after working in known areas of weed infestation to avoid weed spread.
- Dead vegetation created by spraying works can be left to undergo decomposition.

**5.14 Spraying**

Spraying on roadsides has a high risk of removing or destroying native vegetation, incurring loss of, or damage to, wildlife habitat and causing accidental spread of weeds.

Council requires a Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit (*Road Management Act 2004*).

Dead vegetation created by spraying works can be left to undergo decomposition, or if considered a fire hazard, mulch and spread back over the area rather than being 'cleaned up'.

**Guidelines:**

- Consult Council or the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) if you are unsure if there is native vegetation present on a roadside you are going to treat and consult with DEPI's Pest Management Officer for most effective weed control methods.
- Herbicides should only be used to control weeds when other alternatives are not suitable.
- Persons undertaking herbicide application must have appropriate qualifications (Chemcert/ACUP).
- Damaging plants other than weeds can cause greater weed problems due to disturbance. This risk can be reduced by:
  - Identifying native vegetation with highly visible tape.
  - Spraying weeds from a close distance.
  - Using low pressure and large droplet size to minimize drift.
  - Spraying in calm and dry weather conditions.
- Broad scale spraying targeting all ground cover vegetation on roadsides should occur.
- In instances where weeds sit among native vegetation, make sure weed control techniques are specific, such as:
  - Drilling and filling, or cutting and painting.
  - Using target specific herbicides.
  - Using spray hoods where possible to eliminate spray drift.
  - Hand pulling (where weed occurrence is minimal).
- While conducting weed control works, consideration must be given to managing spread of weeds. This can be controlled by:
  - Washing/brushing down machinery before leaving weed infested areas.
  - Washing/brushing down machinery before entering areas which have low weed infestation.
  - Beginning work in areas of low infestation then moving to areas of high infestation.

## 5.15 Vegetation Removal

A Works in a Municipal Road Reserve Permit (*Road Management Act 2004*) is required for any vegetation removal (native or exotic) on municipal roadsides, this includes dead vegetation.

A Planning Permit is required under the Mansfield Planning Scheme in accordance with the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation, some exemptions apply. Contact Council Planning staff for guidance and advice.

### **Guidelines:**

- Native vegetation applications will be assessed based on avoid, minimise and offset principles.
- Vegetation removal for maintenance of road envelope or risk management must be coordinated by Council.
- Coordination and costs associated with vegetation removal required for other approved roadside works or activities is the responsibility of the applicant.
- Third-parties must engage a qualified Arborist to undertake approved vegetation removal.
- Council may refer applications for native vegetation removal on roadsides to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries for approval.

## Appendix 1 – Agency Contact Details

### Department of Environment and Primary Industries

<u>General Enquires</u>	136 186
<u>Alexandra</u> Native Vegetation Officer – referral for native vegetation removal applications	03 5772 0200
<u>Benalla</u> Native vegetation seed and flower harvesting permits Wild-dog management	03 5761 1611 0428 503 169
<u>Mansfield</u> Game hunting permit Timber harvesting operation licences	03 5733 1200
<u>Tatura</u> Weed control management	03 5833 5222
<u>Toolangi</u> Wildlife management	0429 978 286
<u>Snobs Creek</u> Pest animals (non native)	03 5774 2217
<b>Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority</b>	
<u>Shepparton (head office)</u> Referral for works in waterways applications	03 5820 1100
<u>Yea</u> Local office for revegetation works along waterways	03 5736 0100

## APPENDIX 2 – RARE & THREATENED FLORA AND FAUNA LIST FOR THE GOULBURN BROKEN CATCHMENT

### FAUNA

<p><b>Presumed extinct</b> Southern Bettong White-footed Rabbit-rat</p> <p><b>Regionally extinct</b> Southern Purple-spotted Gudgeon Rufous Bettong Rufous-bellied Pademelon</p> <p><b>Critically Endangered</b> Barred Galaxias Bluenose Cod (Trout Cod) Plains-wanderer Australian Painted Snipe Australian Bustard Regent Honeyeater Spotted Bowerbird Mountain Pygmy-possum Small Ant Blue Golden Sun Moth Helmeted Honeyeater Giant Bullfrog Spotted Tree Frog Alpine Tree Frog</p> <p><b>Endangered</b> Broad-shelled Turtle Gippsland Burrowing Crayfish Dwarf Galaxias Macquarie Perch Freshwater Catfish Malleefowl Gull-billed Tern Curlew Sandpiper Bush Stone-curlew Little Egret Intermediate Egret Little Bittern Australasian Bittern Freckled Duck Blue-billed Duck Grey Falcon Barking Owl Masked Owl Superb Parrot Swift Parrot</p>	<p><b>Endangered continued</b> Grey-crowned Babbler Spot-tailed Quoll Squirrel Glider Leadbeater's Possum Broad-toothed Rat Smoky Mouse Striped Legless Lizard Lace Monitor Alpine Bog Skink Large Ant Blue Carpet Python Brown Toadlet Rugose Toadlet Growling Grass Frog</p> <p><b>Vulnerable</b> Murray-Darling Rainbowfish Australian Grayling Flat-headed Galaxias Murray Cod Yarra Pygmy Perch Silver Perch Southern Pygmy Perch (Murray-Darling lineage) Planarian Red-chested Button-quail Lewin's Rail Baillon's Crake Fairy Prion Black-browed Albatross Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross Shy Albatross Pacific Golden Plover Inland Dotterel Eastern Curlew Wood Sandpiper Common Sandpiper Common Greenshank Marsh Sandpiper Brolga Eastern Great Egret Australasian Shoveler Hardhead Musk Duck</p>
---	---

**Vulnerable continued**

Grey Goshawk  
 White-bellied Sea-Eagle  
 Square-tailed Kite  
 Black Falcon  
 Powerful Owl  
 Sooty Owl  
 Major Mitchell's Cockatoo  
 Regent Parrot  
 Scarlet-chested Parrot  
 White-throated Needletail  
 Ground Cuckoo-shrike  
 Chestnut-rumped Heathwren  
 Speckled Warbler  
 Painted Honeyeater  
 Purple-gaped Honeyeater  
 Brush-tailed Phascogale  
 Common Dunnart  
 Greater Glider  
 Grey-headed Flying-fox  
 Eastern Horseshoe Bat  
 Bearded Dragon  
 Glossy Grass Skink  
 Bandy Bandy  
 Tussock Skink  
 Black-tailed Godwit  
 Southern Toadlet

**Near threatened**

Murray Spiny Crayfish  
 Golden Perch  
 Emu  
 Little Button-quail  
 Diamond Dove  
 Common Diving-Petrel  
 Pied Cormorant  
 Whiskered Tern  
 Caspian Tern  
 White-fronted Tern  
 Latham's Snipe  
 Australian Pratincole  
 Glossy Ibis  
 Royal Spoonbill  
 Nankeen Night Heron  
 Magpie Goose  
 Spotted Harrier

**Near threatened continued**

Turquoise Parrot  
 Azure Kingfisher  
 Red-backed Kingfisher  
 Black-eared Cuckoo  
 Hooded Robin  
 Crested Bellbird  
 Spotted Quail-thrush  
 Diamond Firetail  
 Long-toed Stint  
 Pectoral Sandpiper  
 White-footed Dunnart  
 Fat-tailed Dunnart  
 Eastern Pygmy-possum  
 Southern Myotis  
 Woodland Blind Snake  
 Pacific Gull  
 Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern ssp.)

Source: Victorian Biodiversity Atlas, Species Summary List, Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Jan 2014.

## FLORA

### Presumed extinct

Buffalo Leek-orchid

Mount Hope Guinea-flower

### Endangered

Yarran Wattle

Weeping Myall

Mueller Daisy

Bald-tip Beard-orchid

Yellow Hyacinth-orchid

Buxton Gum

White-budded Red-gum

Rough Eyebright

Winged Peppercross

Lanky Buttons

Round-leaf Pomaderris

Small Scurf-pea

Tough Scurf-pea

Long-tail Greenhood

Southern Sandalwood

Stiff Groundsel

Large-headed Fireweed

Violet Swainson-pea

Slender Darling-pea

Red Swainson-pea

Mountain Swainson-pea

Downy Swainson-pea

Plump Swamp Wallaby-grass

Pale Plover-daisy

Small-leaf Bluebush

Turnip Copperburr

Crimson Spider-orchid

Purple Eyebright

Slender Water-milfoil

Swamp Leek-orchid

Spiny-fruit Saltbush

Jericho Wire-grass

Grey Billy-buttons

Lima Stringybark

Purple Wire-grass

Spiny Rice-flower

Matted Flax-lily

Slender Love-grass

Selma Saddle Grevillea

Lace Leek-orchid

Petite Leek-orchid

### Vulnerable

Ausfeld's Wattle

Western Silver Wattle

Nealie

Mallee Golden Wattle

Jerry-jerry

Buloke Mistletoe

Native Wintercress

Austral Moonwort

Dookie Daisy

Water Shield

Western Water-starwort

Plump Windmill Grass

Small Milkwort

Downs Nutgrass

Lax Flat-sedge

Straw Wallaby-grass

Silky Umbrella-grass

Umbrella Grass

Golden Cowslips

Swamp Diuris

Purple Diuris

Trailing Hop-bush

Cane Grass

Long Eryngium

Spotted Gum

Common Fringe-sedge

Clover Glycine

Narrow Goodenia

Cottony Cassinia

Slender Club-sedge

Silver Tea-tree

Button Rush

Salt Paperbark

Ridged Water-milfoil

Wavy Marshwort

Velvet Daisy-bush

Australian Broomrape

Tree Geebung

Dainty Phebalium

Grey Rice-flower

Sharp Mountain Tussock-grass

Green Leek-orchid

Sparkling Mint-bush

Leafy Greenhood

**Vulnerable continued**

Scented Bush-pea  
 Swamp Buttercup  
 Alpine Pennywort  
 Twiggy Sida  
 Western Rat-tail Grass  
 Crimson Sun-orchid  
 Austral Toad-flax  
 Yellow-tongue Daisy  
 Wine-lipped Spider-orchid  
 Swamp Star  
 Beechworth Silver Stringybark  
 Striped Water-milfoil  
 Stony Bush-pea  
 Large Rustyhood  
 Riverina Daisy  
 Pale Swamp Everlasting  
 Pepper Grass  
 Silky Swainson-pea  
 Eastern Bitter-cress  
 Euroa Guinea-flower  
 Late-flower Flax-lily  
 Austral Crane's-bill  
 Delicate Crane's-bill  
 Fireweed Groundsel (Euroa variant)  
 Arching Flax-lily  
 Pale Hickory-wattle  
 Timbertop Wattle  
 Midlands Spider-orchid  
 Pale Flax-lily

**Rare**

Rough Daisy-bush  
 Sharp Greenhood  
 Silky Golden-tip  
 Alpine Wattle  
 Deane's Wattle  
 Bent-leaf Wattle  
 Dwarf Silver Wattle  
 Hickory Wattle  
 Spur-wing Wattle  
 Whirrakee Wattle  
 Snow Aciphyll  
 Alpine Blown-grass  
 Mueller's Bent  
 Rough Blown-grass  
 Common Spleenwort

**Rare continued**

Narrow-leaf Star-hair  
 Mealy Saltbush  
 Mountain Banksia  
 River Leafless Bossiaea  
 Baw Baw Daisy  
 Tiny Daisy  
 Winged Water-starwort  
 Blue Burr-daisy  
 Yellow Burr-daisy  
 Alpine Marsh-marigold  
 Forest Sedge  
 Alpine Sedge  
 Carpet Sedge  
 Broad-leaf Flower-rush  
 Bronze Bird-orchid  
 Common Sour-bush  
 Alpine Colobanth  
 Turquoise Coprosma  
 Snow Coprosma  
 Bear's-ear  
 Brittle Bladder-fern  
 Crag Wallaby-grass  
 Small-flower Wallaby-grass  
 Thick Bent-grass  
 Brown Beetle-grass  
 Snow Pennywort  
 Australian Anchor Plant  
 Broad-lip Diuris  
 Hairy Hop-bush  
 Alpine Sundew  
 Mountain Coral Heath  
 Snow Heath  
 Bald-seeded Willow-herb  
 Mountain Willow-herb  
 Coccid Emu-bush  
 Spotted Emu-bush  
 Common Pipewort  
 Silver Stringybark  
 Kamarooka Mallee  
 Mallee Ash  
 Omeo Gum  
 Spinning Gum  
 Blue Mallee  
 Yarra Gum  
 Hairy Eyebright

**Rare continued**

Veiled Fringe-sedge  
Small-flower Mud-mat  
Mat Cudweed  
Cliff Cudweed  
Spiked Goodenia  
Western Golden-tip  
Creeping Grevillea  
Mountain Needlewood  
Ovens Everlasting  
Sky Lily  
Stalked Guinea-flower  
Fir Clubmoss  
Slender Violet-bush  
Hydrilla  
Fog Club-sedge  
Tufted Club-sedge  
Sickle-leaf Rush  
Sand Rush  
Broom Scale-rush  
Chinese Lespedeza  
Sharp-leaf Woodrush  
Tussock Woodrush  
Spreading Clubmoss  
Giant Honey-myrtle  
Small Monkey-flower  
Smooth Minuria  
Spiny Lignum  
Waterbush  
Stalked Adder's-tongue  
Tuft-rush  
Alpine Tuft-rush  
Snowdrop Wood-sorrel  
Mountain Phebalium  
Rock Tussock-grass  
Long Podolepis  
Broad Shield-fern  
Golden Pomaderris  
Dense Mint-bush  
Sikh's Whiskers  
Scaly Greenhood  
Alpine Bush-pea  
Small-leaf Bush-pea  
Flat-leaf Bush-pea  
Cupped Bush-pea

**Rare continued**

Strawberry Buttercup  
Eichler's Buttercup  
Gunn's Alpine Buttercup  
Dwarf Buttercup  
Serpent Heath  
Dwarf Bitter-cress  
Mossy Knawel  
Branching Groundsel  
Alpine Groundsel  
Cane Spear-grass  
Alpine Spear-grass  
Smooth Rice-grass  
Long Pink-bells  
Crested Sun-orchid  
Fringed Sun-orchid  
Alpine Trachymene  
Small Burr-grass  
Rye Beetle-grass  
Lilac Berry  
Grassland Velleia  
Milfoil Speedwell  
Alpine Westringia  
Baw Baw Berry  
Glandular Early Nancy  
Dark Wire-grass  
Tadgell's Daisy  
Naked Beard-orchid  
Dwarf Brooklime  
Gippsland Hemp Bush  
Golden Sour-bush  
Broom Bitter-pea  
Bristly Greenhood  
Mallee Annual-bluebell  
Rosemary Grevillea  
Short-bristle Wallaby-grass  
Deane's Wattle  
Common Spleenwort  
Subalpine Baeckea  
Velvet Apple-berry  
Slender Pink-fingers  
Mugga  
Avon Tussock-grass  
Parsley Xanthosia  
Alpine Sunray

**Rare continued**

Victorian Snow-daisy  
Carpet Snow-daisy  
Green Billy-buttons  
Small-flower Mat-rush  
Baw Baw Pepper  
Dusty Daisy-bush  
Dwarf Sickle-fern  
Alpine Phebalium  
Forest Phebalium  
Squat Picris  
Alpine Bootlace Bush  
Fringed Rice-flower  
Highland Bush-pea  
Silver Stringybark  
Southern Swainson-pea  
Alpine Trachymene  
Slender Water-ribbons  
Riverina Bitter-cress  
Forest Bitter-cress  
Fuzzy New Holland Daisy  
Rising Star Guinea-flower  
Woolly Wattle  
Snowfield Groundsel  
Large-leaf Cinnamon-wattle  
Green Scentbark  
Goldfield Boronia  
Mountain Cassinia  
Soft Crane's-bill  
Pale-flower Crane's-bill  
Toothed Leionema  
Royal Grevillea  
Lake Mountain Grevillea  
Alpine Buttons  
Cotton Sneezeweed  
Moroka Candlebark  
Tall Apple-moss  
Crisped Mitre-moss  
Brown's Mitre-moss  
Cliff Waxwort  
Wavy Fork-moss  
Floodplain Fireweed  
Rough Cassinia  
Dwarf Cassinia

**Poorly Known**

Large River Buttercup  
Eastern Speedwell  
Common Joyweed  
Swamp Water-starwort  
Slender Bitter-cress  
Green-top Sedge  
Yelka  
Cotton Panic-grass  
Pale Spike-sedge  
Granite Love-grass  
Summer Fringe-sedge  
Short-awned Wheat-grass  
Hypsela  
Bundled Peppergrass  
Native Peppergrass  
Austral Trefoil  
Leafless Bluebush  
Smooth Nardoo  
Netted Daisy-bush  
Woolly Knotweed  
Galvanized Burr  
Narrawa Burr  
Rough Twig-sedge  
Bluish Raspwort  
Single Bladderwort  
Water Blinks  
Curved Rice-flower  
Native Couch  
Perennial Blown-grass  
Pale Grass-lily  
Frosted Goosefoot  
Slender Tick-trefoil  
Curved Rice-flower  
Plain Quillwort  
Yellow Star  
Tall Club-sedge  
Grey Spike-sedge  
Blue-leaf Tussock-grass  
Ferny Small-flower Buttercup  
Annual Buttercup  
Black Roly-poly  
Dark Roly-poly  
Sticky New Holland Daisy  
Plains Joyweed

**Poorly Known continued**

Common Cinnamon-wattle  
Greenish-flower Vanilla-lily  
Slender Bindweed  
Swan-neck Moss  
Wimmera Bundy  
Snowy Colobanth  
Desert Bedstraw

**Species listed under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (FFG Act)****Fauna**

Ancient Greenling  
Common Bent-wing Bat  
Apostlebird

**Flora**

Buloke  
Hairy Tails

Source: Victorian Biodiversity Atlas, Species Summary List, Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Jan 2014.

### Appendix 3 – Revegetation Checklist and References List

<b>Checklist</b>	✓
Plans for the revegetation project have been submitted to Council at least two months prior to works and permission has been granted	
Adjacent landholders have been consulted and approve	
Indigenous plants are being sourced for use in the project	
The project includes weed control for two years after planting	
Trees are good, bush is better – are trees, shrubs, groundcovers/ grasses being planted?	
Is the project consistent with planting densities outlined in the Revegetation Guide for the Goulburn Broken Catchment?	
Plantings under powerlines will need approval from the responsible authority (SP Ausnet)	
Plantings must not obscure traffic sight lines and visibility. Trees with a mature trunk diameter of 100mm at base are not to be planted within sight lines. Council can advise on appropriate setbacks for road safety aspects.	
Plantings are not to be undertaken on high conservation value roadsides, except for enrichment plantings of significant specific species, undertaken by people with suitable experience and qualifications	

## **Revegetation References List**

Local Plants, A guide for the Mansfield Shire, Upper Goulburn Landcare

Network, 2006. Revegetation Guide for the Goulburn Broken Catchment,

Department of Natural  
Resources and Environment, 2001.

Weeds of the Goulburn Broken, A field guide to terrestrial and aquatic weeds, 3<sup>rd</sup>  
edition, Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and Department of  
Primary Industries, 2008.

### Websites:

- [www.gbcma.vic.gov.au](http://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au)
- [www.seedbank.org](http://www.seedbank.org)
- [www.depi.vic.gov.au](http://www.depi.vic.gov.au)
- [www.mansfield.vic.gov.au](http://www.mansfield.vic.gov.au)