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June 2016

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1. BACKGROUND

1.1 What is Roadside Vegetation?

Local councils in South Australia are responsible, under the Local Government Act 1991, for approximately 75,000 kilometres of roads. While the Commissioner of Highways controls and maintains the trafficable section of major arterial roads under the Highways Act 1926, local councils are responsible for the remainder of the road reserve, including the roadside vegetation, as well as all other roads within their district.

The definition of a Road (from Roads (Opening and Closing) Act 1991) is —

a) a public road within the meaning of Section 4 of the Local Government Act 1999; or
b) (ab) an alley, laneway, walkway or other similar thoroughfare vested in a council; or

c) in relation to a part of the State not within a council area—

(i) a road or street delineated and shown on a public map or plan of the State as laid out for public purposes by the Crown; or

(ii) a road or street opened under this Act or any other Act relating to the opening of new roads and streets; or

(iii) a road or street transferred or surrendered to the Minister of Local Government or the Crown by the owner or lessee for use as a public road or street; or

(iv) a road or street declared or dedicated under any other Act to be a public road or street,

d) and includes part of a road.

For the purposes of this plan:

Roadside - is defined as the strip of land between the road formation and the boundary of the road reserve. [Where the road formation is the surface of the finished earthworks, excluding cut or fill batters (Austroads, 2010)].

Roadside vegetation - is any vegetation growing on a road reserve, and includes vegetation on a roadside (the area adjacent to a formed road), and vegetation growing on an unmade or undeveloped road reserve; this ranges from native vegetation of conservation value to vegetation dominated by introduced species.
1.2 Why is Roadside Vegetation Important?

Native roadside vegetation is important for a variety of reasons. From a conservation perspective, it often has significant value, as much of the native vegetation within the State has been removed or highly disturbed. In some areas roadsides support virtually the only remaining example of the original vegetation. Roadside vegetation also provides functional and social benefits.

Survey work in 1978 revealed, “South Australia’s native roadside vegetation has been severely depleted through clearance and through several forms of ongoing disturbance. Despite this, many important areas remain, some of which are in very good condition and need to be kept free of disturbance as much as possible, while others require active management to ensure that their features are not gradually degraded”.

The benefits of preserving native vegetation on roadsides can be summarised as follows (Breckwoldt and others (1990), and Saunders and Hobbs (1991), provide further background information):

1. Functional benefits
   - Native vegetation on roadsides helps to lower local water tables that may affect the road formation and pavement.
   - Intact native vegetation also acts as an effective, low cost form of weed control by preventing the establishment of weeds in the roadside. Roadsides heavily infested with weeds can be a threat to adjacent properties and may increase wildfire risk.
   - Native vegetation on roadsides can provide valuable shelter for livestock and crops in adjacent land.
   - Native vegetation can also help to define curves, creating a safer driving environment.
   - Retention of native vegetation reduces the velocity of water runoff, thus reducing scour and erosion of batters and embankments.
   - Shade from native vegetation keeps the road cool for road users, particularly pedestrians and cyclists, and provides shade at rest stops for travellers.
   - Predatory insects (‘farmers helpers’) are commonly found on native vegetation.

2. Conservation benefits
   - Substantial areas of native vegetation can still be found along roadsides even in highly modified areas of the state. In some areas, native vegetation in road reserves is virtually the only remnant of the original vegetation.
   - For the most part, roadsides are areas that have never been grazed or cultivated, and therefore may contain plant species – often threatened - that aren’t found in the surrounding scrub areas.
   - Along with other remnant vegetation and scattered paddock trees, roadside vegetation can facilitate movements of wildlife, particularly birds, through the landscape and in turn assisting pollination of plants that may otherwise become isolated.
   - Roadside trees can be very old and contain resources (e.g. hollows) less common in younger surrounding vegetation.
   - Roadside vegetation can also provide an important seed source for revegetation projects.

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3. Social benefits

- In areas that have been extensively cleared, remnant vegetation on roadsides provides important aesthetic visual interest to the general landscape – once referred to as the “Front Garden of the Nation” by Edna Walling in 1952⁵.
- Scenic quality is important to motorists: roadside vegetation can contribute to driver alertness by offering relief from boredom.
- Remnant vegetation in road reserves often contains attractive wildflower species contributing to the natural character and tourist appeal of a district.
- In cleared areas, road reserves often represent an historical reminder of the variety of vegetation types that occurred across the landscape prior to settlement.
- Roadside vegetation can be used as an educational tool to highlight to the general public the varieties of habitats that used to belong in the area.
- It could also be said that “we, the community, have a duty to exercise foresight in our treatment of the environment which we will hand on to our successors”⁶.

Figure 3: Examples of vegetation commonly found along roadsides

1.3 How is Roadside Vegetation Protected?

Native roadside vegetation in South Australia is protected or regulated under State and Commonwealth legislation.

1.3.1 Native Vegetation Act 1991 and Native Vegetation Regulations 2003

In South Australia, the clearance of native vegetation, including that along roadsides, is controlled under the **Native Vegetation Act, 1991** and the **Native Vegetation Regulations 2003** (Figure 4). This means that any clearance of native vegetation on roadsides requires the permission of the Native Vegetation Council (NVC) unless a specific Regulation applies.

**Regulation 5(1)(y) – Roadside Vegetation.** allows for clearance by a local council, or someone acting on behalf of the local council, if the vegetation is growing on a road reserve in the area of the council and the person undertaking the clearance complies with either:

- a management plan prepared by the local council and approved by the Native Vegetation Council; or
- with Native Vegetation Council guidelines for the Management of Roadside Vegetation.

Some roadside activities such as clearance for new road works, fire prevention, public safety and service provision are dealt with under other Regulations (Figure 3). Some require the clearance to be compensated for through either on-ground native vegetation restoration or revegetation works, or payment into a fund that supports those works elsewhere in the region.

Figure 4: Roadside Vegetation Clearance mechanisms under the Native Vegetation Act 1991


1.3.2 Other statutes relevant to the protection and management of native fauna and flora on roadsides

- The **Local Government Act 1999** (Section 221) where any works on road reserves require permission of the local council.
- The **National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972**, which prohibits the removal of native vegetation without a permit from reserves, wilderness protection zones, Crown land, public land or forest reserves in South Australia.
- The **Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999**, which promotes the conservation of biodiversity by providing strong protection for nationally listed species of threatened indigenous plants and animals and important habitats. Any action that will have a significant effect on these species or habitats requires assessment and Commonwealth approval.
- The **Natural Resources Management Act 2004**, which promotes sustainable and integrated management of the State’s natural resources and makes provision for the protection of the State’s natural resources.
1.4 Threats to Roadside Native Vegetation

Purely because of its linear nature, roadside vegetation is susceptible to gradual degradation through a range of activities. This degradation can be compounded if soils are disturbed or compacted by machinery or if low native shrubs or native grasses are unintentionally driven over or cleared. Not only can native plants be unnecessarily destroyed, but conditions can also be made unsuitable for natural regeneration and management problems can also be created for adjoining landholders.

Examples of the types of threats to native vegetation on roadsides include:

- inappropriate fire prevention methods (e.g. boom spraying, ploughing)
- pesticide drift from neighbouring property
- clearing for fence replacement (excessive or inappropriate method)
- clearing for new driveways (excessive or poorly located)
- weed invasion from neighbouring property
- excessive seed harvesting
- firewood collecting
- disposal of rubbish and waste materials
- inappropriate or insensitive weed control methods
- inappropriate or insensitive vermin control methods
- poorly designed new road construction (realignments, widening)
- poorly managed roadwork activity (e.g. stockpiles, turning areas)
- incremental clearance along road edge when grading unsealed roads.
- inappropriate vegetation control methods for sight distance
- poor management of grading spoil (placement in roadside or table drain)
- excessive drain clearing or inappropriate disposal of drain spoil
- installation of services where cleared land exists elsewhere
- insensitive methods used to maintain services
- planting within intact native vegetation (e.g. trees in native grassland, or sedgeland)
- grazing by stock or rabbits
- off-road vehicles
- plant disease (e.g. Phytophthora, Mundulla Yellows)
- inappropriate fire regimes
- changes to hydrology
- dryland salinity
- lack of active management
- senescence (old age)

These activities can occur for a number of reasons, but can be grouped into four categories, each which may require a different approach to minimise or eliminate the risk. Threats to roadside native vegetation can occur due to:

- ignorance of the law – e.g. clearance for fencelines by adjacent landholders, or seed collection;
- accidental clearance – e.g. vehicles parking on roadside, grading a little wider each time, or inappropriate weed control methods;
- illegal use – e.g. domestic waste and weed dumping, or sheep and cattle grazing; and
- inaction – e.g. weeds and pests spread over time if not actively controlled.

Figure 5: Left to right - Spoil heaps; garden escapes; and grassy weeds
1.5 How Can Roadside Vegetation be Managed?

Native bushland is an efficient, self-sustaining system and, after any ground disturbance, it may take a number of years to return to a stable state. Major disturbance can unbalance the system (e.g., through serious weed infestation) and cause long-term and sometimes irreversible damage. In many instances inappropriate management activities can set up the next round of maintenance problems.

Native vegetation along roadsides needs careful management if it is to be conserved for future generations. Good roadside management practices can also generate potential savings in local council road maintenance budgets.

Low-impact management of roadside vegetation is an integral part of efficient and effective maintenance of roads.

The most important step to manage roadside native vegetation is to identify where and what it is, through roadside vegetation surveys or opportunistic observations.

Preventative measures (such as the Roadside (Blue) Marker system, protocols for road workers, and information to landowners) should then be implemented to prevent direct clearance and physical damage to identified vegetation.

Ideally, management measures should also extend to improving the quality and quantity of the vegetation on roadsides, through weed and pest control works, rehabilitation and revegetation.

1.6 What is a Roadside Vegetation Management Plan?

A roadside vegetation management plan (RVMP) is a reference document encompassing a range of actions that occur on roadsides, which is prepared and owned by a local council for the purpose of promoting good management of roadside vegetation.

Implementation of the plans objectives and guidelines, combined with local council commitment and support, can result in good management outcomes for roadside vegetation, and usually with little impact on council and other users’ activities on roadsides.

RVMPs need to be endorsed by the Native Vegetation Council under the Native Vegetation Act 1991 in order to fulfil a legal requirement under Regulation 5(1)(y). This Regulation allows for clearance of native vegetation by a local council, or someone acting on behalf of the local council, where the clearance complies with a roadside management plan that has been approved by the Native Vegetation Council.

Councils ARE NOT obliged to have an endorsed RVMP, but if they don’t, they must follow the Native Vegetation Council’s “Guidelines for the Management of Roadside Vegetation”.

Figure 6: Roadside markers highlighting the presence of native plants in a weed-infested roadside - this can help road workers or weed control contractors avoid accidental damage to native plants.
2. CONTEXT OF ROADSIDE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

2.1 Area Covered by Plan

The Tatiara District Council covers an area of 6,525 square kilometres and supports a population of 6,582 people. The main townships include Bordertown in the east and Keith in the west (Figure 7).

The Tatiara District Council has a total of 856 kilometres of sealed roads (including DPTI controlled roads), 1257 km of rubble surfaced or formed roads, and 779 km of undeveloped road reserves, and is responsible for the roadside vegetation along all bar the DPTI controlled roads, including major arterial roads, the trafficable section of which is managed by the Commissioner of Highways, under the Highways Act 1926. Of this, 328 kilometres of sealed roads and 1044 kilometres of unsealed roads have been surveyed.

Under the Local Government Act 1999, the Tatiara District Council has a responsibility to ensure that roads not only provide for the safe movement of traffic, but also is required to facilitate sustainable development and the protection of the environment and to ensure a proper balance within its community between economic, social, environmental and cultural considerations.

Within the Tatiara District Council area local roads are classified as follows

- Category 1: DPTI Sealed Roads
- Category 2: Tatiara District Council Sealed Roads
- Category 3: Tatiara District Council rubble surfaced roads
- Category 4: Tatiara District Council formed roads
- Category 5: Tracks and road reserves not maintained by council.

Categories 1, 2 and 3 contain the largest proportion of surveyed roads within the Tatiara District Council boundaries.

See Section 2.5 for more details. [Note in South Australia, roads are classified according to the “Guidelines for the determination of road classification in South Australia” (Local Roads Advisory Committee, March 2008. These Guidelines are based on whether the road is ‘arterial’ or ‘local’, that is, whether they are the responsibility of ‘state’ or ‘local’ government respectively. Subsequent hierarchies within those groups are then developed by the relevant road authority].

The Tatiara District Council area is considered a transition zone between Mallee and Eucalypt Woodlands. Distribution of vegetation is driven by soil type, groundwater depth, groundwater salinity and climate.

Prior to European settlement the more northerly areas of the district were characterised by heathland and mallee vegetation, much of this remains today. These vegetation types alternate on dunes of nutrient poor deep sands and limestone. Heath vegetation is characterised by low woody shrubs such as Grass Trees (Xanthorrhoea sp.), Tea Tree (Melaleuca uncinata and M. acuminata), Banksia (Banksia ornata) and shrubby Sheoaks (Allocasuarina pustilla). The limestone areas are dominated by Mallee vegetation including Ridge-fruited Mallee (Eucalyptus incrassata) Yarrell (E. gracilis) and Narrow-leaf Red Mallee (E. leptophylla).

Prior to European settlement the central zone was formed by ancient transgressions of the sea creating flats of karstic limestone such as the Jip Jip Watercourse alternating with Limestone dunes such as the Black Range in the Hundred of Willalooka. Much of the vegetation in the central zone has been cleared due to high productivity values except in the wettest areas where wetland vegetation continues to be found and in Coastal dune areas dominated by rocky limestone outcrops. Prior to European settlement the flats were dominated by sedges and rushes surrounded by Paperbark Tea Tree (M. halmaturorum) or Red Gum (Eucalyptus camaldulensis var. camaldulensis) whilst the rocky outcrops would have been dominated by Coastal Mallee (E. diversifolia). Isolated patches of heathland also occurred in this central zone with many of these remaining today.

The most southerly area of the district is characterised by poorly drained soils that originate from the underlain limestone. Botanically much of this area was and continues to be described as Gilgai country. Prior to European settlement this area was dominated by Eucalypt Woodlands (E. camaldulensis var. camaldulensis, E. leucoxylon, E. arenacea and E. fasciculosa). In areas of heavy clay soils Eucalypt woodlands were dominated by Greybox (E. microcarpa) often in association with Buloke (Allocasuarina luehmannii). In the most southerly areas parallel dunes of deep, wind blow sand were and continue to be vegetated by Sand Stringybark (E. arenacea), Blue Gum (E. leucoxylon), Buloke (A. luehmannii), Grass Tree (Xanthorrhoea sp.), Banksia (B. marginata) and shrubby sheoak (A. pustilla).

Isolated patches of Heathland were found across the district and small patches of Eucalypt Open Woodlands were found in the central and more southern areas of the district.

Given the transitional nature of vegetation communities within the Tatiara District Council significant patches of biodiversity were and continue to be found in the area. This is particularly so in the more northerly areas.

The original range of vegetation types are still represented within the council boundaries, however particularly in the southern and central areas are largely reduced to small patches of remnant vegetation, scattered remnant stands and isolated paddock stands. The dominant vegetation communities in the district are: Heath (125,580ha), Mallee Woodland and Shrubland (20,063ha), Eucalyptus Woodland (11,400ha) and Other Shrubland (9,400ha). Other vegetation communities that are still represented include Eucalyptus Open Woodland (7,195ha), Chenopod Shrub, Samphire Shrub
and Forbland (490ha), Casuarina Forest and Woodland (368ha), Other Sedgeland, Herland and Grassland (101ha) and Tussock Grasslands (1ha). There is an additional 5,175ha of remnant vegetation that has not been classified into vegetation communities.

Today, approximately 179,786 ha (27.5%) of native vegetation remains, much of this occurs in Ngarkat, Mt Rescue and Mt Shaugh Conservation Parks. There is also numerous significant patches of remnant vegetation on private land, many of which are protected by Heritage Agreements or other conservation agreements.

Native vegetation cover is greatest in the north. More productive land in the central and southern areas have resulted in these areas being extensively cleared for agricultural pursuits.

The range of original vegetation types is reasonably well represented within the surveyed road reserve system of the council district however the quality varies from degraded vegetation with little conservation value (730 kms) through to vegetation associations of high biodiversity value (36 kms) based on the vegetation categories described in Table 1 as required by the Native Vegetation Council.

Table 1: Description of the categories of overall vegetation significance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Should not be disturbed; contains a high priority vegetation association in excellent or good condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Should not be disturbed; contains a high priority vegetation association in moderate condition or a lower priority association in excellent condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Disturbance should be avoided wherever possible; contains a high priority vegetation association in poor condition or a lower priority association in moderate condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>May be disturbed, subject to further assessment and planning; contains limited native vegetation in poor condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>May be disturbed; very little or no native vegetation present.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 7: Location of Tatiara District Council
2.2 Council Roadside Vegetation Policy Statement

The philosophy of the Tatiara District Council RVMP is in accordance with best practices, to identify the risks and opportunities for the effective management of roadside native vegetation from possible damaging activities without compromising other essential functions of roadsides through integrating appropriate planning procedures. Council acknowledges that removal of vegetation may require Native Vegetation Council approval and will identify offsets or make a payment into the significant environmental benefit fund to offset this clearance. Council will endeavour to offset any clearance with plantings.

2.3 Key Objectives for Roadside Vegetation

The Tatiara District Council key objectives for roadside vegetation are to:

- meet legal requirements for both the provision and maintenance of a safe road network and the protection of roadside vegetation
- maintain and enhance the species diversity, genetic diversity, vegetation associations and habitat types currently occurring within existing roadside vegetation
- maintain and enhance the habitat and corridor value for indigenous flora and fauna
- minimise the adverse impacts of activities occurring within the roadside vegetation corridor
- clearly identify unauthorised activity in road reserves
- improve the awareness of roadside vegetation management issues for local council staff and contractors, the community and other authorities
- to achieve appropriate pest plant and vermin control
- identify possible locations across the council area for future planting of native vegetation

2.4 What This Plan Does

This Roadside Vegetation Management Plan (RVMP) has been developed to provide the Tatiara District Council with a consistent, integrated approach to managing roadside vegetation along all municipal controlled roads. Roadside Vegetation Management Plans can:

- outline what can be legally cleared on road reserves without Native Vegetation Council approval;
- outline the ecological value of roadside native vegetation in the region – e.g. what plant associations are present, their conservation significance and quality; the location of any threatened species, and the distribution of weed species of significance;
- identify the threats to roadside native vegetation in the region;
- promote protection of roadside native vegetation from direct damage (e.g. roadworks), by either
  - processes and procedures (codes of practice, guidelines, fact sheets) and/or
  - plant identification by vegetation survey, mapping, database, Geographic Information System (GIS) and roadside markers for the entire region, OR, on a case-by-case basis by council staff, local experts, or Department of Environment Water and Natural Resources staff;
- promote the protection of roadside native vegetation from indirect damage (e.g. weeds, pests, old age/senescence) and present opportunities for environmental enhancement of the road network such as guidelines and programs for weed control; weed hygiene procedures; Bushcare work and Principles and other restoration works;
- set clear policies and guidelines for activities affecting roadsides - this applies not only to road works but also to other uses of roadsides such as service provision, pest animal and plant control, property access and bushfire prevention;
- enhance local council and community awareness of issues affecting roadside vegetation;
- provide a means for local councils to demonstrate due diligence in our responsibility to protect and maintain native vegetation on roadsides; and
- if sufficient detail is included, the RVMP can remove the need for case-by-case consultation associated with some activities (e.g. by setting out how a particular pest will be tackled in a way which minimises the impact on native vegetation, and showing how any damage will be offset through replanting or natural regeneration at the completion of the work, councils may be able to avoid the requirement to obtain individual clearance approval for each case of that pest).

However, a Roadside Vegetation Management Plan is not:

- a means of avoiding liability if native vegetation clearance offences do occur;
• an appropriate mechanism to obtain environmental approval for large road construction works;
• an approval for all roadside vegetation clearing; or
• a stand-alone document in isolation to other management structures and controls over activities that occur in road reserves for which the Tatiara District Council has jurisdiction.

2.5 How this Plan was Prepared
This Plan was developed by Rural Solutions SA in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer and Manager Technical Services, to ensure it complies with the Native Vegetation Act 1991, other relevant legislative requirements and Council’s plans and objectives.

As part of the consultative process, issues and activities affecting roadside vegetation within the district have been identified and management actions established to ensure compatibility with existing council policies and objectives. This includes development of standard operating procedures for managing roadside activities where those activities are likely to affect roadside native vegetation.

This RVMP was formally approved by the Native Vegetation Council on 15/06/2016 and endorsed by the Tatiara District Council on 14/06/2016.

2.6 What this Plan Contains
This Roadside Vegetation Management Plan contains:
• details of the Tatiara District Council’s roadside vegetation survey and roadside marker scheme (Section 2);
• a discussion of management issues (activities) that may affect roadside vegetation, including procedures for approval prior to implementation of activities, and Guidelines for undertaking these activities (Section 3); and

On endorsement of this plan, Tatiara District Council will develop a series of fact Sheets for council staff field use and / or landholders and / or the general public to support implementation of the plan.

2.7 How to use this Roadside Vegetation Management Plan
This RVMP will be used as a working reference document within the Tatiara District Council. The implementation of the RVMP is linked to Council’s Strategic and Development Plans and associated performance measures.

The Tatiara District Council’s Natural Resource Officer will be responsible for administering its implementation.

It will be kept on the Councils website, at the following address www.tatiara.sa.gov.au

Hard copies will be kept in loose-leaf form to enable amendments to be made without replacing the whole document.

Council staff and contractors will be trained to ensure they can interpret the plan and implement the roadwork practices required to minimise damaging impacts on roadside vegetation and improve the protection of remnant vegetation.

2.8 Distribution of this Roadside Vegetation Management Plan
A total of 33 copies of this RVMP will be produced and they will be distributed to:
• all relevant Council staff (Asset Coordinator, Manager Technical services, Chief Executive Officer, Manager Development and Inspectorial Services, Operations Manager, 3 Supervisors and General Inspector);
• all elected members (10);
• committees or local community groups that may have an interest in roadsides e.g. Rotary, or any group that may conduct activities on roadsides (clean-ups, tidy-town, town planning etc) (1);
• the Native Vegetation Management Unit (1);
• Department for Environment Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) office at Mount Gambier and
• at the Tatiara District Council office for public viewing as well as on the website.

It is the responsibility of the Manager Technical Services to ensure the plan is kept current and to promote the contents to Council staff and the community.

2.9 How this Plan will be Reviewed
To ensure that compliance with the objectives of this RVMP have been met, this RVMP will be internally reviewed by Council every five years to provide an opportunity for Council to determine if the RVMP needs updating or not. The Native Vegetation Management Unit (NVMU) should be contacted prior to the internal review, to enable any recent name changes or policy changes to be included in the review.

Once the internal review has been completed, the RVMP will be forwarded to the NVMU, who will then prepare a minute for the Native Vegetation Assessment Panel, who will then consider any significant changes, and re-endorse the plan for another set time period.
3. ROADSIDE VEGETATION SURVEY

3.1 Why roadside vegetation has been surveyed

The Tatiara District Council has surveyed a selection of its roadsides to provide important information about the location, composition and conservation value of native plant communities and species along roadsides, and the extent of weed invasion and other disturbances.

Tatiara District Council is responsible for approximately 1800km of road reserve. A survey of approximately 496km of roads (992km of road reserve) was conducted in 2001 by URS (using external funding sought through the Native Vegetation Council) using the standard drive-by roadside methodology, “Roadside Vegetation Survey Methodology in South Australia”. This method enables the rapid, systematic collection of data describing the ecological value and conservation significance of vegetation in road reserves, and provides information necessary for making appropriate roadside management decisions (Stokes et al, 2006). Additional surveys have been completed using the same (or similar) methodology by varying divisions within Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure. This included the Upper South East DoT (189km of road in 1997), Dukes Highway TSA (16.5km of road in 1999), South East TSA/DTEI (114.6km of road in 2000), Railway Corridor South East TSA (34.6km of road in 2002), Eastern Region Roads TSA (61km of road in 2004 and 127km of road in 2005)) and South East TSA/DTEI (65km of road in 2008). This gives a total of approximately 1104km of roads (or 2208km of road reserve) surveyed.

Data collected in the field was entered into and maintained in the Roadside Vegetation Database (RVD) which is a database linked to the Geographical Information System (GIS) within the State Environment Department. The standard methodology allows the data collected to be incorporated into a state-wide layer of roadside vegetation mapping. The RVD is part of the Environmental Database of South Australia (EDBSA) and is therefore linked to the bulk of the biological survey data in South Australia.

The recognised advantages of using this survey methodology are many, including:

- contractors undertaking different regional surveys need not spend time developing their own methodology;
- local councils that instigate a roadside survey do not have to develop their own database or mapping system;
- plant names are automatically updated if the taxonomy of a species is changed in the future; and
- data can be efficiently accessed to search for and spatially display segments of roadside that match certain characteristics (such as threatened species records, pre-European mapping, etc).

3.2 What were the end products of the roadside vegetation survey?

The survey has provided Council with an inventory of the condition and quality of roadside vegetation, and will be used to assist Council in the development of strategies for the protection and management of roadside vegetation.

The outputs of the Tatiara District Council vegetation survey are:

- Maps displaying the information collected during the “drive-by” assessment – in particular, data collected from the roadside vegetation survey have been analysed and mapped according to the five vegetation categories described in Table 2 (Section 3.3) below.
- Copies of all the data and analysis of results will be extracted and loaded onto Tatiara District Council personal computers enabling Council to customise its own outputs, while still obtaining updates of data from DEWNR when necessary.
- Computer generated reports that summarise the data collected such as vegetation association statistics (distance, condition), lists of species recorded on the survey, and roadside marker report required to determine locations for placing roadside markers under the Roadside Marker Scheme.

Outcomes stemming from the survey results are proposed:

- on-ground identification – roadside marker signs;
- informing Council’s planning programs for road construction and road maintenance activities of the location of high value vegetation so that alternative routes can be considered at the planning stage;
- educational and promotional material (signage and/or council website or pamphlets) about conserving important areas;
- identifying potential Significant Environmental Benefit (SEB) areas should any proposed clearance of native vegetation for road work activities be required; and
- identifying suitable sites for intensive management to protect and enhance biodiversity values (eg Trees for Life “Bushcare” sites).
Such measures to minimise the impact of activities on roadside vegetation are likely to contribute to lower, long-term roadside and road verge maintenance costs.

3.3 Roadside Reserve Classifications

Roadside vegetation survey data has been used to conduct an assessment of the relative ecological value of the vegetation in each road segment surveyed.

The overall significance rating provides a simple summary of the relative ecological value of the vegetation in each segment. This is based on a combination of two attributes: the conservation priority rating for the vegetation association, and the overview condition (extent of weed invasion) rating for the segment.

There are five categories of roadside vegetation based on its overall significance (Table 2). These range from Category A with high priority vegetation association in excellent or good condition to Category E with little or no native vegetation present.

A map of the vegetation categories for the road network within the Tatiara District Council can be found below.

Table 2: Description of the categories of overall vegetation significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Should not be disturbed; contains a high priority vegetation association in excellent or good condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Should not be disturbed; contains a high priority vegetation association in moderate condition or a lower priority association in excellent condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Disturbance should be avoided wherever possible; contains a high priority vegetation association in poor condition or a lower priority association in moderate condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>May be disturbed, subject to further assessment and planning; contains limited native vegetation in poor condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>May be disturbed; very little or no native vegetation present.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Even though some categories “may be disturbed”, this only means that disturbance of areas without native vegetation can occur, e.g. soil disturbance, and compaction by machinery or other means. Native vegetation in ALL categories (even D and E) must not be cleared, unless specifically outlined in this plan.
3.5 Hierarchical Road Classification System

The hierarchical road classification system (combined with roadside reserve classifications – above) is a useful tool to identify and recognise roads within the network containing high quality roadside vegetation to avoid the loss of vegetation that may occur through the reclassification of a road and application of a higher clearance envelope standard (i.e. increase of clearance width). The width of roadsides supporting good quality native vegetation should be maintained by recognising the roads where this occurs. A system of road classification based on functional use, including the roadside environment, allows for a consistent treatment of all roads in a network (Table 2).

An important factor to consider for route location, and therefore road classification, is the quality of roadside vegetation. This may require the examination of several alternative routes and a detailed evaluation based on environmental and social, as well as traffic considerations. A road classification system based on routes designated for specific traffic needs and providing for protection of roadside vegetation will ensure that ad hoc management decisions at the expense of roadside vegetation can be avoided. For example, isolated requests to clear roadside vegetation for movement of over-dimension farm machinery can be dealt with strategically and more efficiently.

The roadside environment should therefore be recognised as an important functional element of roads and road reserves. The vegetation, for example, cannot be considered independently of the soil and water that support it, and these in turn cannot be considered in isolation of the pavement.

A map of the road hierarchy for the Tatiara District Council can be found below (Figure 9).

The four hierarchical road classification categories within the Tatiara District Council are shown in Table 3.

| Table 3: Hierarchical road classification categories. |
| --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Description** |
| 1 | These sealed roads are main roads that link South Australia or National road networks or links between regional centres. |
| 2 | These are sealed roads used by residents to connect between local roads and arterial roads. |
| 3 | These roads often allow a direct route for traffic between smaller towns and may allow a passage for vehicles to access the main sealed roads. |
| 4 | These are predominantly undeveloped tracks used by adjoining property owners. |
4. MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The following sections outline the management issues relevant to the Tatiara District Council that may impact on native vegetation on roadsides and provides guidelines to reduce likely impacts, as well as any consultation or assessment procedures that are required. The purpose of a risk assessment is to identify the key threats to roadside vegetation and their likelihood of occurring in order to develop appropriate control measures to minimise or eliminate the risk.

The guidelines that follow include a standard section entitled Consultation and Approval Procedures. Within this section there is reference to the need for clearance approval. This should be interpreted as follows:

- native vegetation clearance approval is needed under the Native Vegetation Act;
- the Native Vegetation Management Unit should be the first point of contact regarding such clearance, as the Unit may be able to approve clearance of a small amount of vegetation known to be common to an area and that would not impact on the biodiversity of the area;
- the Unit will determine whether the proposed clearance requires formal clearance approval from the Native Vegetation Council in the form of a Clearance or Regulation Application.

Both the Native Vegetation Management Unit and the Native Vegetation Council can be contacted at:

GPO Box 1047 ADELAIDE 5001
Telephone (08) 8303 9777
Facsimile (08) 8303 9780
Email nvc@sa.gov.au
### Quick reference guide to the legal requirements under the Native Vegetation Act 1991

The table below is a quick reference guide to the legal requirements of clearing native roadside vegetation, as detailed more fully in the “Guidelines for the Management of Roadside Vegetation” (NVC, 2012).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>CLEARANCE APPROVAL</th>
<th>RELEVANT SECTION IN PLAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>Maintenance of existing clearance with low impact methods</td>
<td>Increased clearance or high impact methods to be used</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Roadworks</td>
<td>Very minor clearance e.g. pruning of branches or removal of one or two saplings or shrubs known to be common in the area</td>
<td>All but very minor clearance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pest Plant and Animal Control</td>
<td>Very minor clearance e.g. pruning for access</td>
<td>All but very minor clearance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bushfire Prevention</td>
<td>Maintenance of legally established existing breaks.</td>
<td>Any other clearance for fire prevention Unless in accordance with a District Bushfire Management Plan under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005, or through an application to the CFS Regional Prevention Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fencelines</td>
<td>Trees on boundary; branches over/through fence; bushes within 1m if they are growing through fence</td>
<td>Any clearance exceeding standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Adjoining Land</td>
<td>Maximum 5m wide – normal access. Maximum 10m wide – machinery. (Careful site selection to minimise clearance)</td>
<td>Any clearance exceeding standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grazing (Leased Roads)</td>
<td>Long-standing grazing practices.</td>
<td>Any direct clearance or increased pressure on native vegetation through changed grazing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grazing (general)</td>
<td>No native vegetation or only trees &amp; exotic grasses present</td>
<td>Where understorey or regenerating vegetation present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removal of Plant Material</td>
<td>Dead vegetation other than that defined in the Native Vegetation Regulations</td>
<td>Live timber, flowers or other vegetation removed e.g. brush-cutting Clearance of dead plants of a class declared by Regulation to be included in the definition of native vegetation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintaining Diversity</td>
<td></td>
<td>Any measures involving burning, lopping or other disturbance of native vegetation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** As well as the above requirements under Native Vegetation Act 1991, ANY removal of roadside native vegetation needs local council approval and may require approval under other legislation, e.g. Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

If in doubt about any of these requirements, consultation with the relevant authority is recommended.
4.1 New Roadworks

Objectives

1. To ensure road construction activities meet road safety standards whilst ensuring minimum disturbance to roadside native vegetation.
2. Where significant vegetation is present Tatiara District Council will consider modifying the road construction to reduce or avoid critical impact.

Information

The Tatiara District Council sometimes needs to undertake new roadworks that involve clearance of mature or relatively undisturbed native vegetation. Such new roadworks include:

- construction of new roads along previously undeveloped road reserves,
- widening or realignment of existing roads,
- construction of new drains, borrow-pits, and stockpile sites, and
- any other new works incidental to road construction or roadworks as defined in the Local Government Act 1999.

These activities could have significant environmental impact and it is important that the vegetation be assessed prior to the works. If significant vegetation is present it may be possible to modify the roadworks to reduce or avoid critical impact. Particular attention needs to be given to shrub and groundcover plants, as these types of plants include many of the State’s threatened species.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR NEW ROADWORKS

Clearance approval under Regulation 5(1)(d)* is required for new roadworks (such as construction, widening, realignment, new drains, borrow pits or stockpile sites) that involve clearance of native vegetation. Where clearance is required for public safety, Regulation 5(1)(lb) may apply.

NOTE: (1) This requirement does not apply to very minor and localised clearance, such as pruning of branches or removal of one or two tree saplings or shrubs that are known to be common in the area. If in doubt as to what constitutes minor clearance, consultation with the Native Vegetation Management Unit is recommended.

(2) Prior to any work being undertaken, it is recommended that the Native Vegetation Management Unit or a suitably qualified person with good plant identification skills be consulted. It is possible that the site may contain small, visually insignificant plant species, such as orchids or native grasses that are of particular conservation significance.

Local councils are asked to contact the NVMU early in the planning and design stages of new roadworks, in order to obtain information about potential native vegetation issues and any associated clearance approval requirements under the Native Vegetation Act 1991, therefore minimising delays.

* Under the Native Vegetation Regulations 2003, Regulation 5(1)(d) permits clearance of native vegetation for new road works provided that it is located such that it avoids or minimises the impact on significant areas of native vegetation. In particular, new road works or widening activities should seek to avoid areas containing an intact stratum of native vegetation. These types of activities require specific NVC approval and require an SEB to offset the clearance.

Guidelines

Road Design

Tatiara District Council will consider the following design principles when planning new roadworks (prior to obtaining NVC approval):

- Avoid vegetation communities of high conservation significance.
- One wide roadside is preferable to two narrow roadsides.
- If widening is necessary where native vegetation is present on both sides, widening on the narrow roadside is preferred.
- The value of roadside vegetation is greater where there is native vegetation adjacent (outside the road reserve).
- Drainage systems and batters will be designed to minimise sedimentation of water courses, minimise discharge into disease-susceptible plant communities, and control erosion.
- To minimise potential environment impacts of new roadworks, SEB requirements and the necessary clearance approvals, the Tatiara District Council will consult with DEWNR during the planning phase. If significant vegetation is present council will investigate possible options to modify the roadworks to reduce or avoid critical impacts.

Road Construction

Once approval has been obtained from the NVC, the Tatiara District Council will minimise the impact of construction on vegetation by abiding by the following guidelines:

- Clearly identify and mark with stakes or tape any significant or protected vegetation, habitat areas and sensitive areas prior to the commencement of works
- Always stay within the construction zone
- Keep machinery and stockpiles on previously cleared land
- Limit soil disturbances on roadside
- Only remove vegetation approved by the NVC
- Identify the exact location of proposed stockpiles, plant compounds, access roads and turning areas to avoid any incidental vegetation damage
- Borrow pits must be located where native vegetation will not be disturbed
- Materials for construction works to be taken from disease and weed free sites
- Equipment should be cleaned on site before moving on to other sites: this particularly applies where machinery is operating in weed-infested areas
- Only use the appropriate type and minimum size of machinery for the job
- Chip light material from tree removal and use as mulch to spread local seed; dispose of other waste materials at an appropriate site or leave as habitat for wildlife (hollow logs, and other woody material may be left on site if they are spread widely and not left in a pile)
- If there is no alternative to burning of prunings, do not burn close to native vegetation
- Strip and stock-pile topsoil from areas of good vegetation, and re-use as soon as possible
- Avoid “cleaning-up” vegetation after construction: retain stumps, and dead wood
- If unsure about any environmental controls, contact the site supervisor or Council Environment Officer

Road Design Standards

Standards for new road construction adopted by the Tatiara District Council, will be carried out subject to approval from the NVC under Regulation 5(1)(d).

Tatiara District Council follows the AustRoads Part 3 – Geometric Design Guidelines for the design of its road network. Following is a summary of the sections that is applicable to selection of Lane Width, Shoulder Width and Verge Width which in turn will govern the extent of vegetation clearance required for new roads as well as maintaining clearance for existing roads.

Rural Road Widths (Section 1.2.6 in AustRoads Part 3)

Majority of Council’s road are a single carriageway and the lane widths will be selected from Table 4 below. Depending on the road classification the total carriageway will vary from 8.7 metres to 10 metres.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Design A ADT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 - 150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic lanes (1)</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(1 x 3.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Shoulder</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Shoulder Seal (2)(3)(4)(5)(6)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Carriageway</td>
<td>8.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reference:
1. Tatiara District Council Roadside Vegetation Management Plan (June 2016)
Shoulders (Section 4.3 in Austroads Part 3)

Shoulder width depends on the type of road and varies from 1.5 to 2.5 metres as stated in Table 4 above. Council has adopted 0.5 metre width for its sealed shoulder.

### Table 5: Shoulder width (m) (Table 4.7 in AustRoads Part 3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function of Shoulder</th>
<th>Minimum Sealed Width</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lateral support of pavement</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control of moisture or on outside of curves</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial recovery area</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discretionary stopping:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cars</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trucks</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle demand</td>
<td>2.0 / 3.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Verge (Section 4.4 in AustRoads Part 3)

Majority of Council’s road have a verge of 1.0 metre and is selected from Table 6 below.

### Table 6: Verge width (m) (Table 4.9 in AustRoads Part 3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Width</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shoulder support and locate guide posts</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traversable transition between the shoulder and the batter slope (depending on how steep the superelevaton and/or batter might be and what batter rounding is required)</td>
<td>1.0 to 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behind kerb and channel (measured to line of kerb)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut and fill</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To provide a space for installation of road safety barrier (extra for terminals)</td>
<td>Calculated where required (Refer Section 5.4))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To achieve horizontal sight distance, or to balance cut and fill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion

Following from the above Austroad Standard, the roadside vegetation clearance required are summarised in Table 7.

### Table 7: Roadside vegetation clearance Requirements for construction of new Roads (m)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Lane Width (m)</th>
<th>Shoulder Width (m)</th>
<th>Verge (m)</th>
<th>Total Clearance (m)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sealed Roads</td>
<td>7.0 (2 x 3.5)</td>
<td>3.0 (*2 x 1.5)</td>
<td>2.0 (2 x 1.0)</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsealed Roads</td>
<td>6.2 (2 x 3.1)</td>
<td>3.0 (2 x 1.5)</td>
<td>2.0 (2 x 1.0)</td>
<td>11.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Total shoulder width is 1.5m either side of the road, and at times 0.5m of the 1.5m may be sealed.
4.2 Roadside Maintenance

Objectives

1. To ensure a safe and efficient road system whilst ensuring minimum disturbance to roadside native vegetation.
2. To ensure best management practices for vegetation maintenance works on roadsides are understood and adhered to.

Information

Roadside Maintenance refers to the clearance of regrowth vegetation (native and introduced) in order to maintain a road corridor or other established cleared or disturbed areas on road reserves.

Adequate vertical and lateral clearance of roadside vegetation is needed for the safe movement of legal height vehicles across the full width of the traffic lanes and additional clearance is usually needed at intersections, crests, the inside of curves and around roadside furniture such as signs and delineation devices. The degree of clearance needed will vary according to the standard of the road, the type and amount of traffic and the characteristics of the vegetation.

Along most rural roads, clearance to the necessary safety standard has already taken place, but regrowth may be encroaching back into the clearance space, often referred to as the clearance envelope (across the full width of the carriageway) or secondary clearance envelope (adjacent to the carriageway). Regrowth may also be occurring on cleared or disturbed sites such as borrow-pit sites and designated spoil heap sites. This regrowth may be removed without clearance approval, provided that low-impact methods are used (e.g. slashing, rolling, chainsaws) and the regrowth vegetation is less than 5 years old.

In areas where there are concerns about the rapid growth of vegetation into the clearance space, it is desirable that specific management strategies be developed in consultation with the Native Vegetation Management Unit, and approved in this Plan by the Native Vegetation Assessment Panel. Low shrubs, native grasses and groundcovers generally do not affect road safety and, where possible, should be retained in the clearance areas. These species help prevent weed invasion and erosion and can reduce roadside management costs.

**CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR ROADSIDE MAINTENANCE**

a) Clearance approval is not generally needed for maintenance of existing roadside vegetation clearances by low-impact methods if the vegetation is less than 5 years old.

b) Clearance approval is needed where:
   - clearance exceeding previously established safety standards is proposed, such as construction of new open drains; new stockpiles or work areas outside approved clearance envelope; or other maintenance requiring increased clearance, in which case:
     - regrowth vegetation between 5 and 10 years old requires consultation with, and approval from, the Native Vegetation Management Unit - In situations where a longer clearance cycle can be justified it is likely to be approved and noted on file; and
     - regrowth vegetation older than 10 years usually requires assessment and Native Vegetation Council approval either under Regulation 5(1)(lb)(for safe sight distance) or 5(1)(d) (for reasons other than safe sight distance);
   - regrowth has reached the stage where high-impact methods (e.g. bulldozing) are proposed; OR
   - new works are proposed (see Section 4.1).

If in doubt, check with the Native Vegetation Management Unit for advice.

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*Excluding regrowth on the road formation including the shoulder and other areas where existing methods are high-impact, in which case high-impact can continue to be used, however, where possible low-impact methods should be considered in order to reduce soil disturbance and associated weed growth.*
Guidelines

Any clearance proposed here is not meant to imply or establish safety standards.

Usually, clearance to the necessary safety standards has already taken place, and regrowth encroaching back into these clearance spaces can be cleared without approval from the NVC (see consultation and approval procedures – above). If in doubt, check with the Manager Technical Services, and/or contact the NVCS office for advice.

Code of Practice

The following code of practice will be implemented by the Tatiara District Council with the delegated responsible officer being the Council Construction Supervisor (ph: 0409 694 330) If unsure about any environmental controls, contact the site supervisor.

1. Minimise Weed and Disease Spread
   - clean down machinery in appropriate areas before entering and leaving work site
   - program works to begin with clean machinery in high conservation areas and work toward degraded sites
   - only use soil or fill from a weed or disease free site

2. Turn-around Points
   - on narrow roads of high or medium conservation value, identify machinery turn-around points where native vegetation will not be damaged
   - locate stockpiles, turn-out or lay-down areas on existing cleared land

3. Grading and Drain Cleaning Operations
   - avoid damage to roots, bark and limbs
   - avoid working inside the drip line of trees, and where root damage and soil compaction may occur
   - remove drain spoil and dispose of appropriately
   - the grader must not intrude beyond the existing carriageway width (grading a little further each time can have significant impact over a number of years)

4. Herbicides
   - only use herbicides where vegetation control by mechanical methods is inappropriate
   - avoid over-spray by not spraying in windy conditions

5. Vegetation Removal
   - avoid “cleaning up” vegetation and retain stumps, and dead wood where possible
   - carefully prune trees using low impact methods in accordance with recognised arboriculture standards
   - avoid damaging undergrowth when removing trees
   - dispose of waste materials at an appropriate site or leave as habitat for wildlife (hollow logs, and other woody material may be left on site if they are spread widely and not left in a pile)
   - Low shrubs, native grasses and groundcovers generally do not affect road safety and, where possible, will be retained to help prevent weed invasion and erosion.
   - Particular care to be taken at sites with Significant Roadside Marker signs.

6. Machinery Use
   - only use the appropriate type and minimum size of machinery for the job

7. Erosion Control
   - remove as little vegetation as possible and encourage the growth of native vegetation on batters, maintain drainage systems, and minimise soil disturbance.

Clearance Envelopes

A clearance envelope is an area where vegetation clearance is required to allow for the passage of legal height (4.6 m) vehicles across the full width of the carriageway.
To allow for regrowth between pruning and sagging of branches caused by wet or windy conditions, a minimum clearance height of 5.0 m will be maintained.

**Sealed Roads:**

A clearance envelope is to be maintained up to a vertical height of 5m from the edge of the sealed carriageway (Figure 13a). Clearance beyond this height will require NVC approval. Lateral clearance width depends on the function / type of the road. Refer to Section 4.1 for road standards.

**Unsealed Roads:**

A clearance envelope is to be maintained to a vertical height up to 5m from the edge of the grader line (Figure 13a). Clearance beyond this height will require NVC approval. Every effort must be made to limit grading to the pre-existing width, and where possible this width should be documented for future maintenance works. Lateral clearance width depends on the function / type of the road. Refer to Section 4.1 for road standards.

![Diagram of clearance envelope](image)

**Figure 13a: Maintenance of clearance envelope**

**Secondary Clearance Envelopes**

Secondary clearance envelopes are further areas to be kept clear of regrowth vegetation adjacent to the carriageway for adequate visibility of other traffic, signs and other roadside furniture.

- Secondary clearance envelopes extending up to 500 mm around roadside furniture can be maintained (Figure 13b).
- Additional clearance envelopes may be maintained on the approach side of signs and delineation devices to ensure they are clearly visible from a distance equivalent to the stopping sight distance for the speed environment of the road (Figure 13c).
- At road intersections where corners are created, existing verge clearance can be maintained for safe sight distance according to Austroad standards.

Any new clearance for safe sight distance (i.e., clearance exceeding previously established safety standards) requires written approval under Regulation 5(1)(lb) [see Section 4.3].

Low growing native plant species within the road verge that will not impair sight distance or pose a significant risk to vehicle safety are to be retained and promoted. The presence of these species can help prevent weed invasion and soil erosion, maintain a level of biodiversity in the area and can reduce roadside management costs.

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8Reference to maintaining a minimum, does not suggest that an increased level of clearance can automatically occur. In some cases roads may have historically been maintained with a higher vertical clearance, and can continue to do.
Figure 13b. Secondary Clearance Envelope maintained around existing roadside furniture

Figure 13c. (left): Secondary clearance envelope around a sign
Figure 13d. (right): Secondary Clearance Envelope along Road
4.3 Public Safety

Objectives

1. To balance roadside protection of native vegetation and public safety.
2. To address any issues of public safety over and above those currently addressed (see Roadside Maintenance section) in accordance with the NVC ‘Managing Native Vegetation - A Framework for the Application of Regulation 5(1)(lb), for Clearance Along Roads, Intersections and at Rail Crossings for Public Safety Purposes’.

Information

Maintenance of existing clearances for road safety, can occur under Regulation 5 (1)(y) (see section on Road maintenance), but any clearance greater than this needs approval either under 5(1)(lb) where clearance is necessary to protect public safety, or under 5(1)(d) for infrastructure clearance (new road construction, widening or re-alignment).

Once any additional areas are authorised under Regulation 5(1)(lb), then these will be incorporated into the Maintenance section of this RVMP (either as an erratum, or added when the plan is next due for review).

This section of the RVMP summarises the requirements for Council when considering new clearance for the purpose of increasing levels of road safety under Regulation 5(1)(lb) in accordance with the NVC ‘Managing Native Vegetation - A Framework for the Application of Regulation 5(1)(lb), for Clearance Along Roads, Intersections and at Rail Crossings for Public Safety Purposes’. However, contact should be made with the NVM Unit for advice.

Consultation and Approval Procedures for Clearance for Public Safety

Maintenance of existing roadside vegetation clearances (clearance envelopes) by low impact methods can generally proceed without clearance approval.

New vegetation clearance for sight distance at intersections, or any other clearance for public safety, needs to occur according to Austroad Standards and requires written approval under Regulation 5(1)(lb).


Guidelines – Public Safety Clearance

If clearance greater than that considered exempt in Section 3.2 - Roadside Maintenance, is proposed -

- Firstly contact the NVMU,
- Acting on their advice, provide the necessary data for the NVMU to make an assessment of whether 5(1)(lb) is applicable or whether clearance falls under Regulation 5(1)(d).
4.4 Installation and Maintenance of Services

Objectives

1. To minimise the impact of installation and maintenance of services to native vegetation within road reserves.
2. To maintain a safe operating environment for services.

Information

Traditionally, services such as powerlines, water supplies, gas and telecommunications have often been established along road reserves. Construction of these services can involve clearance of native vegetation, as can ongoing maintenance of those services. Some service providers have their own external codes of practice for installation and maintenance of their service, for example the “Telecommunications Code of Practice 1997”.

The Tatiara District Council expects that utility companies will work within their own guidelines and within Section 221 of the Local Government Act 1999.

This section describes how the use of road reserves for installation and maintenance of power, water, telecommunications and gas services is controlled.

Guidelines – Installation and Maintenance of Services

New Services

Any new services require a submission to the Native Vegetation Council under Native Vegetation Regulation 5(1)(d) – Building or provision of infrastructure. This regulation permits clearance of native vegetation for the construction or expansion of a building or infrastructure that the Minister for Environment and Conservation considers to be in the public interest, provided that it is located such that it avoids or minimises the impact on significant areas of native vegetation.

Note: For Telecommunications, a carrier authorised by the Australian Communications Authority under the Telecommunications Act 1997 to install a low impact facility (e.g. underground cable) is immune from some State and Territory laws, and environmental laws, including the Native Vegetation Act 1991. However, the carrier must comply with the requirements of the Telecommunications Act and the Telecommunications Code of Practice 1997.

Maintenance of services

Maintenance works associated with electricity supply and other infrastructure, such as water and gas, are permitted under Native Vegetation Regulations 5(1)(f) – Maintenance works associated with electricity supply and 5(1)(g) – Repair or Maintenance of Infrastructure. See A Guide to the Regulations under the Native Vegetation Act 1991 for more information, http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/Conservation/Native_vegetation/Managing_native_vegetation.

Tatiara District Council requirements

Tatiara District Council expects that Utility Companies will work within their own guidelines and within relevant legislation. Tatiara District Council has an agreement with SA Power Networks regarding trimming and /or lopping of trees in the vicinity of power lines.

Tatiara District Council has developed an application form for any person or organisation proposing to alter road verges. This requires approval prior to construction beginning. This application covers

- Alter the construction or arrangement of the road to facilitate access to/from property;
- Erect or install a structure (including pipes, wires, cables, fixtures, fittings or other objects) in, on, across, under or over the road;
- Change or interfere with the construction, arrangement or materials of the road;

Figure 15: Tree pruning may be required to maintain powerlines along roadsides
- Change, interfere with or remove a structure (including pipes, wires, cables, fixtures, fittings or other objects) associated with the road;
- Plant, interfere with or remove a tree or vegetation from the road.

Tatiara District Council expects that remnant vegetation along roadsides is protected wherever possible and the use of roadsides or other land supporting native vegetation is avoided where reasonable alternatives exist to use cleared land. Tatiara District Council will take steps to ensure all service providers are aware of this RVMP and that they will follow the policies and guidelines outlined when working within roadside reserves.
4.5 Pest Plant and Animal Control

Objectives
1. Reduce the establishment of new pest plants and animals in road reserves.
2. Reduce the spread of existing pest plants and animals and their range and numbers.
3. Reduce the impacts of pest plants and animals on roadside native vegetation.
4. Minimise disturbance and damage to native vegetation.

Information

Pest plants and pest animals are also commonly known as ‘weeds’ and ‘feral animals’. They can invade rural land or natural habitats and because of their characteristics and/or location, they can cause economic, ecological, physical or aesthetic problems, often with significant potential impacts on local and regional biodiversity.

The linear and semi-disturbed nature of many roadsides means that they are susceptible to invasion by plant and animal pests. Without appropriate control and preventative measures in place, weeds in particular can invade and degrade native vegetation areas both on and adjacent to the roadside, as well as more distant areas via the road network.

Pest plants and animals can be categorised as those that require control under legislation (‘declared’ species) and those that, whilst still damaging, are not considered significant enough to warrant legislative control at this stage.

The control of declared species on roadsides falls under the jurisdiction of the local Natural Resources Management (NRM) Boards under the guidance of the Natural Resource Management Council.

Under the Natural Resources Management Act 2004 (the NRM Act) landholders are responsible for the control of pest species on their land and NRM Boards (or NRM Groups, where they exist) have the responsibility to control declared pest plants or pest animals on road reserves.

Within some local council areas, landholders are required to contribute to the control of pests on adjacent roadsides. Where landholders opt to control the pests on adjacent roadsides they must seek approval of the NRM Board and the local council. Local councils can only give consent if they are acting in accord with the Native Vegetation Act 1991 and have the relevant approvals or exemptions regarding clearance. In Tatiara District Council, it is policy that landowners control pests on roadsides. If it is likely that native vegetation will be damaged, landowners are required to gain prior authorisation.

There is a legal requirement under the NRM Act (Chapter 8 – Control of plants and animals, Section 192—Protection of certain vegetation and habitats) that a person must, in taking measures for the control of animals or plants, take all reasonable steps to ensure:

a. that native vegetation is not cleared except in accordance with guidelines prepared by the Native Vegetation Council under section 25 of the Native Vegetation Act 1991; and
b. that damage to or destruction of other vegetation is kept to a minimum (unless the vegetation is subject to destruction or control under this Chapter).

A wide range of low-impact methods has been developed. For example, for rabbit control, using a combination of poisoning, ripping accessible warrens, and fumigation of inaccessible warrens makes it possible to control rabbits economically and provide adjacent crop protection without causing undue damage to roadside vegetation. 9

It is also important to note that plants other than declared pest plants can create management problems on roadsides. These include pasture grasses and non-local Australian natives. While there is no requirement that these plants be controlled, it is important that they be controlled to reduce competition with the local native plants.

Advice on pest control methods is freely available from the local NRM Board.

According to the numerous roadside vegetation surveys undertaken within the Tatiara District Council the most common pest plant and animal species are Canary Grass (Avena barbata) and European rabbits (Oryctolagus cuniculus). Of particular concern is the invasion of Bridal Creeper (Asparagus asparagoides) and Olive (Olea europaea ssp.) in Category A-C areas. Bridal Creeper has been recorded along the Dukes and Riddoch Highways, Sugarloaf, Emu Flat, Black Joes, Cannawigara, Mt Monster, Nankivels, Wagenknechts, Willalooka Road, Carew Range, Range Road, Rowney Road, McGrice Road, Bordertown-Pinnaroo Road, Bordertown-Naracoorte Road, Bordertown-Frances Road, and Road 108. Olives have been recorded along Bordertown- Frances Road and Rowney Road. Tatiara District Council have invested significant time and money in Olive control in recent years and are of the opinion that in many areas where they were a concern the issue has been resolved. In some areas around Keith, African Lovegrass (Eragrostis curvula) has become a problem. Council will undertake a targeted management program over the next 5 years to eradicate African lovegrass. This will be done in partnership with the Tatiara and Coorong Local Action Planning Group.

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Council will investigate opportunities to develop a Weed Management Plan. This will be done with local Authorised Officers and regional Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources staff.

Although Council does not have a weed management plan they have developed guidelines to enable a consistent approach to rabbit control in roadside vegetation areas:

(1) Where native vegetation is present, landholders may take measures for the destruction or control of animals and plants and the destruction of rabbit warrens on roadsides, only under the supervision of an officer of the South East Natural Resources Management Board and only after obtaining the approval of Council. The provisions of the NRM Act shall be observed at all times.

(2) The destruction of rabbit warrens on roadsides should be in accordance with the following guidelines:
   (a) Where rabbit warrens are in native vegetation but in a relatively open situation, vegetation clearance is to consist of minimal damage in gaining access to the site (eg. pruning of branches) and minimal disturbance of bushes and groundcover plants at the site itself.
   (b) Where rabbit warrens are in native vegetation but in a relatively inaccessible situation, one of the following techniques may be used under the supervision of an authorised officer of the NRM Board:
      (i) In dense health (eg. Banksia) vegetation, the bush over the actual warren may be pushed off the area and stockpiled alongside. Following the warren destruction work, the cleared vegetation is to be pushed back over the site and then burnt at a suitable time. This technique should promote natural regeneration of native species on the site. Any weeds which become established as a result of the work are to be strictly controlled.
      (ii) The area of the warren may be selectively patch-burnt to open it up and provide access to the warren. The method then used should be as in (a) above. Natural regeneration of native species should then be allowed to proceed and any weeds establishing as a result of the work must be controlled.

(3) Sites where either of these techniques are used are to be recorded and, at a representative number of such areas, photopoints should be established so that the results can be assessed over time.

(4) “The above techniques (i) and (ii) are only to be used where prior assessment of the vegetation has shown that the species present are common in the district and are not of particular conservation significance.”

(5) Trimming of trees should usually comply with the following guidelines:
   (a) Branches should be cut back to the nearest main fork, leaving a collar about 10cm long and cut so as to avoid tearing of bark etc on the timer being retained;
   (b) With Mallee-form trees, branches which need to be removed should usually be cut back to the base of the free.

(6) Formal Native Vegetation Council approval for vegetation clearance will be required when high-impact vegetation control measures are necessary, rare or threatened species are present, or clearance in excess of that detailed in the endorsed RVMP are proposed.

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**CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR PEST PLANT AND ANIMAL CONTROL**

(a) Clearance approval is required where a proposed animal or plant control program is likely to cause significant damage to native roadside vegetation.

   “Significant” in this context includes:
   - ripping of warrens where native vegetation will be affected;
   - non-selective spraying in mixed weeds/native vegetation; and
   - burning of native vegetation to assist pest control.

   It does not include minor damage, such as removal of branches to gain access to pests.

   The NVM Unit is able to determine whether the proposed clearance is of a sufficiently significant nature to warrant referral on to the NVC for decision.

(b) In districts where there are serious problems with roadside pest control, local Boards are encouraged to develop overall management strategies in consultation with the Native Vegetation Management Unit. This can avoid the need for consultation with the Unit on a case-by-case basis. This approach has been adopted in several local council areas.

(c) Where pest control works are planned that could affect roadside native vegetation, the local authorised Natural Resources Management Officer should be the first point of contact. The need for consultation with the Native Vegetation Management Unit can then be determined.
Guidelines – Pest Plant and Animal Control

Some important basic principles are:

- small infestations of weeds may be best dealt with using minimum disturbance techniques such as hand-pulling (while still minimising soil disturbance) and ‘cut-and-swab’ with herbicide;
- it is usually best to work from the best areas of bush or areas of low weed infestation towards denser infestations;
- spot-spray and selective herbicides should be used carefully to avoid off-target damage of native plants;
- where natural regeneration of native species is not occurring, revegetation with local native species can be an effective long-term means of weed control.
- pest-control methods usually require an integrated approach using several methods to both control the pests, and minimise impacts on native vegetation.

General Guidelines

- Under Section 221 of the Local Government Act, 1999, it is illegal for landholders to undertake pest plant and animal control work on the road reserve adjoining their property without authority from the relevant local council. Some local councils give authorisation for adjacent landholders to conduct declared animal and plant control on road reserves, on the proviso that landowners consult the relevant NRM Board before undertaking the work. Tatiara District Council does this.
- Where adjoining landholders are planning roadside pest control that could affect native vegetation, the local authorised NRM officer should be the first point of contact. The need for consultation with the Native Vegetation Conservation Section can then be determined.
- The Tatiara District Council controls pest plants other than declared species.
- In districts where there are serious problems with roadside pest control, local NRM Boards are encouraged to develop overall management strategies in consultation with the Native Vegetation Management Unit. This can avoid the need for consultation with the Unit on a case-by-case basis.
- Suitably qualified contractors or council staff trained in the identification of native vegetation and weeds will be used to implement control procedures that minimise disturbance and damage to native vegetation.
- Impacts to native vegetation during control works must be minimised in accordance with the requirements of the Natural Resources Management Act 2004, and also comply with NVC guidelines ‘Clearance of Native Vegetation associated with the Control of Plant and Animal Pests’ (excerpt below) – see the Native Vegetation Council (NVC) website for full details:

“The clearance of native vegetation during programs for control of declared animals and plants must be kept to the minimum needed for effective pest control (in accordance with advice from the local NRM / State Authorised Officer or NRM Board) and must be in accordance with these guidelines.”

1 Pruning of Native Vegetation

The pruning of native vegetation, if essential to provide access for pest animal and plant control, is acceptable provided that it is kept to a minimum and does not affect the overall viability of the plant(s) involved.

2 Spraying of Herbicides in Native Vegetation

Spraying of declared plants in native vegetation is acceptable provided that a careful and selective approach is used (e.g. spot-spraying) and damage to nearby native vegetation is avoided or minimised. The use of herbicides must be in strict accordance with NRM advice and with instructions for use provided by the manufacturer.

Any broader spraying program in native vegetation (e.g. boom-spraying) requires the endorsement of the Native Vegetation Management Unit (NVMU), DEWR, and may require the consent of the Native Vegetation Council through a clearance application.

3 Removal of Entire Native Plants

The removal of entire native plants (if considered essential to facilitate animal and plant control) must be discussed with and endorsed by the NVMU.

This consultation can take one of two main forms:

a) Case-by-case consultation
Minor clearance of native species known to be common in a district may be resolved through verbal or electronic communication without the need for site assessment by NVMU staff. For larger scale clearance, or for cases where the identity of the native plants is unclear, a site inspection will usually be undertaken.

NOTES:

i. In this situation, either the landholder undertaking the work or the State authorised officer (the authorised officer) should initiate the consultation by contacting the NVMU.

ii. Whether a proposed clearance is “minor” (and therefore not warranting a site inspection) will be determined through discussion between the NVMU and the landholder / authorised officer. As a guide, the clearance of up to 10 Kangaroo Thorn (Acacia paradoxa) for rabbit control in the South East, or up to 10 Nitre Bush (Nitraria billardierei) for rabbit or boxthorn control in northern areas could be regarded as “minor”.

iii. Where minor clearance is agreed without a NVMU inspection, it will be recorded by notation on the appropriate file. By notifying the NVMU, any reports of illegal clearance can be managed or dispelled rapidly. Where a NVMU inspection is undertaken, any endorsement is to be advised in writing.

iv. If, as a result of the above consultation, the NVMU determines that a clearance proposal is of particular environmental significance or sensitivity, the proposal is to be referred as a clearance application to the NVC.

This may occur, for example, where a substantial area of native vegetation is involved, or where the clearance involves plant species of particular conservation significance.

b) Consultation based upon a broader planning approach

o Broader planning arrangements may be developed between NRM Boards and the NVC.

o For example, it may be agreed that certain methods will be applied within a Board district for control of pests often associated with particular native species - such as boxthorn or rabbits associated with Nitre Bush, or rabbits associated with Banksia-heath vegetation. This would be in the form of a management plan initiated by the local board and prepared in consultation with the NVMU. Once endorsed by the NVC, the plan could be put into effect and the need for consultation with the NVMU about each program would be avoided.

o It is envisaged that plans of this type would normally be prepared on a Board basis. However, there may be issues and management approaches of State-wide relevance, in which a State-wide management plan could be prepared, presumably at the initiation of the NRM Board.

4. The control of declared animals and plants in native vegetation should also take the following factors into account:

o the removal of tree saplings or more mature trees is not normally necessary for pest control;

o very localised pest control issues might be manageable with hand-held equipment rather than heavier machinery which could have greater environmental impact;

o there is an increasing range of pest control equipment available, some of which has less environmental impact than the equipment used more traditionally;

o any control method involving soil disturbance has the potential to promote further establishment of declared plants or other introduced plants which may disrupt the ecology of the native vegetation: Soil disturbance should be minimised and control works should be followed with site monitoring and selective eradication of any introduced plants which re-establish; and

o fire has some potential for inclusion in pest control programs in native vegetation to improve access, reduce the bulk of declared plants, and possibly to promote the regeneration of native species; however, the issues associated with fire can be complex and any such burning in native vegetation should be discussed with the NVMU to avoid the possibility of a breach of the Act.
4.6 Plant diseases

Objectives

1. To minimise the spread of Phytophthora and other soil-borne diseases in the local council area.
2. To manage infected areas in such a way as to minimise the effect on the environment and on recreational activities.
3. To protect uninfected areas and minimise the risk of them becoming infected.
4. To promote a “whole of Community” approach to the management of Phytophthora (and/or other diseases) in the local council area.

Information

Diseases of native plants such as Phytophthora and Mundulla Yellows (MY) can occur along road reserves.

Phytophthora

‘Dieback caused by the root-rot fungus Phytophthora cinnamomi’ is listed as a ‘key threatening process’ in Schedule X to the Commonwealth’s Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

Phytophthora is a microscopic, soil and water borne organism that attacks the roots and basal stem tissue of some native and introduced plants. It is often referred to as a “fungus”. Phytophthora infects the roots and basal stem tissue preventing the uptake of water and nutrients by the plant, causing dieback and death. Any movement of soil, water and/or plant material has the potential to spread Phytophthora to new areas. Once an area is infested with Phytophthora it is always infested. There are many species, but the most widespread and destructive to native vegetation in South Australia is Phytophthora cinnamomi (P. cinnamomi).

Vulnerable areas are those sites where susceptible vegetation is present and where environmental conditions are such that there is the potential for P. cinnamomi to become established. Such conditions include average annual rainfall of 400mm or more and neutral to acid soils, and soil with poor drainage and temperature of at least 15 degrees Celsius.

In South Australia P. cinnamomi has been identified at locations throughout the Mount Lofty Ranges, Fleurieu Peninsula, Kangaroo Island, and possibly in the lower Eyre Peninsula. In 2011 it was identified near Broken Hill in sandy soil over clay following a higher than average annual rainfall.

The best way to control Phytophthora is to prevent the transfer of infested soil or plant material. Councils in vulnerable areas should follow Phytophthora Management Guidelines[10], which provides a framework for the management of Phytophthora by all Government and non-government organisations, landholders, community groups and individuals.

Mundulla Yellows

Mundulla Yellows is a relatively recent plant die-back syndrome known to predominantly affect eucalypt species and other native plant species. Mundulla Yellows was first discovered in the southeast of South Australia in the 1970’s, and has since been recorded in other parts of the state and interstate. Eucalypts with Mundulla Yellows are identifiable initially by the presence of small clusters of bright yellow leaves (actually yellowing between the veins of the leaves) within the tree canopy, followed by a progression of yellowing towards the trunk and a progressive dying back of the tree (or shrub), and a slow deterioration in health, before death. The symptoms exhibited by plants affected by Mundulla Yellows are similar to symptoms presented due to other environmental factors, hence diagnosis can be difficult.

In South Australia, Mundulla Yellows is generally found on alkaline soils.

For further information on Phytophthora and Mundulla Yellows contact the DEWNR’s Biosecurity Ecologist, Nature Conservation Unit on 8552 0306 or contact the Native Vegetation Management Unit for advice.

Guidelines – Plant Diseases

Permission

- Any activity occurring within a road reserve infested with a soil-borne plant disease such as Phytophthora requires consent of the Tatiara District Council.
- Consent will only be granted if work is conducted according to appropriate guidelines of best practice.

Management Guidelines

Phytophthora

- The Tatiara District Council has been identified in a vulnerable area for Phytophthora, and will follow ‘Phytophthora Management Guidelines’ by the Phytophthora Technical Group (2006, 2nd edition).
- This provides a framework for the management of Phytophthora by all Government and non-government organisations, landholders, community groups and individuals.

Some general principles include:

- avoid driving, riding or walking in areas when soils are wet and sticky;
- stay on designated roads and track because vehicles, bikes and people moving off roads into infested areas may pick up infested soil and transfer it to uninfested areas;
- brush soil off vehicles, bikes, boots and camping gear before entering an uninfested area and after leaving an infested area - do not take them home to clean;
- obey road signs because roads and tracks may be closed, sometimes permanently, to help stop the spread of Phytophthora;
- use wash down or hygiene stations when provided;
- protect your bush and your garden by ensuring that purchased plants are free of Phytophthora; and
- report any unusual plant death.

Please report the death of groups of susceptible native plants to your local Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources office.

Mundulla Yellows

- The Tatiara District Council has concerns with Mundulla Yellows in the area, and will discuss the matter with the Native Vegetation Management Unit if and when appropriate.

For further information on Phytophthora and Mundulla Yellows contact the DEWNR’s Biosecurity Ecologist, Nature Conservation Unit on 8552 0306 or contact the Native Vegetation Management Unit for advice.
4.7 Clearance for Fencelines

Objectives

1. To enable landholders to gain appropriate access to fencelines for maintenance and construction purposes.
2. To minimise the impact and disturbance of native vegetation by clearance for fenceline construction and maintenance.
3. To encourage alternative approaches for erecting fences that minimises clearance of roadside native vegetation.

Information

A landholder who wishes to clear native vegetation on a road reserve, to enable construction or maintenance of a boundary fence, requires consent of the Tatiara District Council under the Local Government Act 1999 (Section 221), and may, depending on the amount of vegetation involved, also require formal Native Vegetation Council approval.

Consultation with the Native Vegetation Management Unit should occur through the local council.

Figure 18: Example of vegetation retained adjacent to fence lines

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR CLEARANCE FOR FENCELINES

NVC Approval Requirements

Clearance approval from the NVC is required for any vegetation clearance along fencelines that exceeds the following standards:

- Where the roadside vegetation consists largely of trees, only branches protruding through or overhanging the fence, or trees growing on the actual fence alignment, can be removed.
- Where shrubs or bushes are growing through the fenceline, those plants growing within one metre of the fence alignment can be removed.

Note: These standards take into account that the adjoining landholder can usually clear up to five metres width on the private land abutting the road, thus allowing for vehicular access to the fence (see Regulation 5(1)(s) – NOTE that this does not provide an automatic right to clear a five-metre strip along a fence. If vegetation on an adjacent property is located within five metres but does not impede reasonable access to the fence, the regulation cannot be used to clear that vegetation).

Guidelines – Fenceline Clearance

If rare or threatened plant species\(^\text{11}\) are present, reasonable care should be taken to protect them. If necessary, contact the NVMU for advice.

Permission

- Removal of native vegetation on a road reserve for the purpose of construction or maintenance of a boundary fence requires consent of the Tatiara District Council.
- Council will only approve clearance which complies with the standards outlined above under NVC Approval Requirements. Council will refer any applications that propose clearance above the standards to the NVMU.
- Any unauthorised clearance will be referred by Tatiara District Council staff to the NVMU.

Clearance methods

- Low impact methods of clearance (e.g. minimal ground disturbance, cutting cleanly rather than breaking branches, slashing, trimming, mowing, or rolling) should only be used when clearing vegetation according to these standards, to reduce potential weed invasion and erosion problems.

\(^{11}\)Threatened species are those plant and animal species considered to be at risk of extinction in the wild.
- Cleared vegetation should not be deposited on or amongst other native vegetation but should be disposed of in a manner that does not affect native vegetation, unless it is useful as habitat for wildlife, or is scattered sparsely amongst the remaining vegetation.

**Re-locating Fences**

- Landholders wanting to replace boundary fences may consider re-locating the new fencing a few metres into their properties to minimise potential impacts on roadside vegetation. This can also potentially reduce construction and maintenance costs. The narrow strip between the old and the new fence can be maintained clear of any regrowth to minimise impacts on the new fence, and also act as a firebreak between the roadside and the property.

- An alternative to the removal of trees in line with the property boundary may include constructing a simple strut arrangement that allows a fence to deviate a short distance around a tree. Wires are not attached directly to the tree, thus minimising potential damage to the tree (Figure 19).

Note: the above approach may not be appropriate for smaller trees, and an effort should be made to avoid structural roots when placing the post hole for the strut next to the tree.

![Figure 19. Fenceline strut arrangement](image)

Left and middle: A simple strut arrangement that allows a fence to deviate a short distance around a tree. Wires are not attached directly to the tree, thus minimising potential damage to the tree.

Right: The same strut arrangement seen from the side. The strut holding the wires away from the tree is directly behind the trunk. The wires are in place, but cannot be seen due to the light at the time the photo was taken.
4.8 Clearance for Access to Adjoining Land

Objectives
1. To minimise the loss of native vegetation through the construction of property access points.
2. To provide safe and appropriate access to properties adjacent to road reserves.

Information
From time to time a new access point will be needed from the road to adjoining land. For rural areas, a primary producer may need new access to a paddock, possibly to cater for wide farm machinery. In other situations (e.g. semi-urban) it may be normal vehicular access to a residential allotment.

In these situations, the safety of the access-user needs to be the primary consideration, but the conservation of native vegetation is also a high consideration. If there is more than one option which will provide safe access, the option which involves least disturbance of native vegetation or vegetation of lower conservation significance, should be selected.

In addition to obligations under the Native Vegetation Act 1991, clearance for this purpose requires approval from local councils.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR ACCESS TO ADJOINING LAND

Clearance of roadside vegetation to provide access to adjoining land requires the consent of the Tatiara District Council.

If there is more than one option which will provide safe access, the option which involves least disturbance of native vegetation or vegetation of lower conservation significance, should be selected.

Where some clearance of native vegetation is unavoidable, this should not exceed the following standards:

- For normal vehicle access: five metres wide plus minimum clearance along the road reserve needed to provide adequate sight distance;
- For wider farm vehicles: ten metres wide plus minimum clearance along the road reserve needed to provide adequate sight distance.

If rare or threatened plant species are present, reasonable care should be taken to protect them. If necessary, contact the Native Vegetation Management Unit for advice.

Approval is needed through the Native Vegetation Management Unit for any proposed clearance of native vegetation for access that exceeds the above standards.

Guidelines – Clearance for access to Adjoining land

Permission
- Removal of native vegetation on a road reserve to provide access to adjoining land requires consent of the Tatiara District Council.
- Clearance approval from the NVC is required for any native vegetation clearance that exceeds the above standards.
Any unauthorised clearance will be referred by Tatiara District Council staff to the NVMU.

Clearance methods

- Low impact methods of clearance (e.g. minimal ground disturbance, cutting cleanly rather than breaking branches, slashing, trimming, mowing, or rolling) should only be used when clearing vegetation according to these standards, to reduce potential weed invasion and erosion problems.
- Cleared vegetation should not be deposited on or amongst other native vegetation but should be disposed of in a manner that does not affect native vegetation, unless it is useful as habitat for wildlife, or is scattered sparsely amongst the remaining vegetation.

Avoiding unnecessary clearance

- Care must be taken to avoid plant communities of conservation significance and naturally open areas such as native grassland, sedgeland and wetland.
- Where possible, access points will not be permitted on Category “A” (i.e. best quality) road reserves.
- A suitably qualified person(s) will conduct an inspection to assess options for access points, and negotiate an access point that is safe and minimises disturbance to native vegetation.
4.9 **Bushfire Protection**

**Objectives**

1. To take reasonable steps to inhibit the outbreak of fire on roadsides and the spread of fire through roadsides.
2. To minimise the adverse effects of fire management on roadside native vegetation.
3. To outline the process for undertaking bushfire protection works within roadside vegetation to protect life and assets.

**Information**

*Tatiara District Council* is required to adhere to the *Fire and Emergency Service Act 2005*. This Act places the responsibility on *Tatiara District Council* to take reasonable steps to prevent or inhibit the outbreak and spread of fire on council owned land, including roadsides, i.e. Part 4A of the *Fire and Emergency Service Act 2005*, Division 3105G, states:

1) A council that has the care, control or management of land—
   a) in the country; or
   b) in a designated urban bushfire risk area,
      must take reasonable steps—
   c) to prevent or inhibit the outbreak of fire on the land; and
   d) to prevent or inhibit the spread of fire through the land; and
   e) to protect property on the land from fire; and
   f) to minimise the threat to human life from a fire on the land.

In accordance with the *Native Vegetation Regulations 2003*, there are provisions to enable clearance and management of native vegetation for Bushfire Protection works. This applies to road reserves.

A Bushfire Management Plan (BMP) or a Bushfire Management Area Plan (BMAP) (or equivalent) under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* that has been endorsed by the Regional Bushfire Management Committee is the best mechanism for strategic planning of bushfire protection works across the district and landscape.

If any proposed bushfire prevention works are not included under such a plan, advice and written approval from the SA CFS Regional Prevention Officer is required.

**CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR BUSHFIRE PROTECTION**

Native Vegetation Regulations 2003 provide provisions to enable clearance and management of native vegetation for Bushfire Protection works, i.e. under:

- Regulation SA Part 1 (b)—Fire Prevention and Control, native vegetation can be cleared if—
  
  (I) the purpose of the clearance is to reduce combustible material on land; and
  
  (II) the clearance:
    
    (A) is required or authorised by, and undertaken in accordance with, a bushfire prevention plan (equivalent to a Bushfire Management Plan under the Fire and Emergency Service Act 2005); or
    
    (B) is undertaken in accordance with the written approval of the Chief Officer of SACFS;

**Guidelines – Bushfire Hazard Reduction**

All bushfire protection works on roadsides should link in with the Council’s Bushfire Management Plan for the district that has been endorsed by the Regional Bushfire Management Committee.

Bushfire Management planning is focused on risk assessment of life, property and environmental values threatened by bushfire, followed by planning and implementation of strategies to mitigate those risks.
Planning includes: strategic placement of fuel breaks and fire access tracks in accordance with GAFLC Guidelines\textsuperscript{12}; adoption of Zoning Principles in response to risk assessment; and consultation with the SA CFS to plan and evaluate fire prevention works that provide the best practices for the conservation and fire prevention on roadsides.

**Permission**

- Removal of native vegetation on a Council managed road reserve to reduce bushfire hazard requires consent of the Tatiara District Council. In granting any consent, Council will comply with Regulation 5A part (b)(ii) as outlined above under Consultation and Approval Procedures.
- Clearance approval from the NVC is required for any native vegetation clearance which exceeds that allowable under Regulation 5A of the Native Vegetation Act 1991.
- Any unauthorised clearance will be referred by Council staff to the Native vegetation Management Unit.

**Clearance methods**

- Low impact methods of clearance (e.g. minimal ground disturbance, cutting cleanly rather than breaking branches, slashing, trimming, mowing, or rolling) should be used wherever possible when clearing vegetation to reduce potential weed invasion and erosion problems.
- Grazing and herbicide use should only be contemplated where no or minimal impact upon native vegetation is likely (such as where there are mature trees over exotic grasses (i.e. no native understorey and no evidence of natural regeneration of the tree species).
- Limit the use of herbicides to spraying:
  - around furniture
  - for selective control of particular weeds where it is the most appropriate means of control
  - to control growth of potentially serious weeds on firebreaks (subject to the approval of the SA CFS Regional Prevention Officer), or
  - when weather conditions will minimise the likelihood of spray drift affecting non-target plants.
- Only remove vegetation that is referred to in the approved Bushfire Management Plan (e.g. strategic clearance, removal of fine fuel), and retain all other vegetation including dead timber.
- Such work should preferably be combined with a native vegetation re-establishment program.
- In the vast majority of cases, adequate fuel reduction on roadsides can be achieved by selective planning focusing on the removal of exotic vegetation. Particular care should be taken to avoid areas of native grasses, which can be difficult to distinguish from exotic grasses.

**Prescribed Burning for Fuel Reduction**

- Prescribed burning of native vegetation if followed up with weed control methods such as selective spraying or hand weeding, can be a useful management tool for lowering fuel levels thereby minimising threat of a bushfire burning vast areas across the landscape.
- Careful planning and management is required before implementing a prescribed burn including preparation of a prescribed burn plan that is approved by the SA CFS Regional Prevention Officer. [Fire can also encourage weed invasion, thus increasing fire hazard within a short time, and if used too frequently or at the wrong time or intensity, can lead to loss of biodiversity over time].
- Advice can be sought from the CFS Regional Prevention Officer.

**Other considerations**

- Where a well-vegetated road reserve adjoins cleared farmland, any required fuelbreak should be established on the cleared land rather than through clearance of roadside vegetation.
- Any applications to revegetate roadsides must be assessed and approved by the Council Fire Prevention Officer to ensure bushfire risk is not increased for areas that are designated as strategic fuel reduced zones.
- Design weed slashing programs to begin with clean machinery in areas of good vegetation condition and work towards the more degraded sites. This will assist in the prevention of further spread of weeds.

4.10 Grazing

Objectives

1. To minimise any impact of grazing by stock on roadside reserves where native vegetation is present.

Information

Grazing of stock in areas of native vegetation can have severe impact: damaging plants, assisting weed invasion, preventing natural regeneration and compacting and polluting the soil. The Native Vegetation Act 1991 controls the grazing of native vegetation. Roadside grazing can also be controlled by local councils using by-laws under the Local Government Act 1999.

Grazing of roadsides devoid of native vegetation requires only the consent of the Tatiara District Council. Grazing can be an acceptable form of roadside management in some situations, such as where exotic grasses like Phalaris have replaced native understorey and have created a fire hazard.

Grazing of areas comprising native species (including native grasslands) requires clearance approval under the Native Vegetation Act 1991. Native grasslands in particular may be difficult to distinguish from introduced grasses, and care must also be taken to avoid small or visually insignificant species such as annuals, orchids and other small native ground cover species.

Many undeveloped road reserves are leased to adjoining landholders for grazing or cropping. Where grazing has historically occurred, then this may continue at the same frequency and duration without NVC approval, however, any change of stock, or increase in frequency or duration of grazing, or grazing of areas without any previous history of grazing, requires NVC approval.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR GRAZING OF ROADSIDES

Clearance approval is required for any grazing (other than associated with droving – see next section) likely to cause damage to native roadside vegetation. This includes roadsides where:

- native shrub and understorey species are present; or
- there is evidence of recent or periodic regeneration of native plant species.

Modification of native vegetation on leased roads, by changed grazing practice that increases the pressure on native vegetation, also needs clearance approval from the NVC.

Proposals to graze roadside vegetation are subject to a local council permit application process with referral to NVC in cases where grazing impact may occur.

The Tatiara District Council will permit landholders to graze their stock in unused, cleared road reserves devoid of roadside native vegetation.

Where important native vegetation is identified on leased roads, it will be protected through a management agreement or through removal of the area from the lease.

Grazing on roadsides does not require approval where:

- no native vegetation is present; or
- there are native trees over only exotic shrub and understorey species.

Consultation with, and confirmation from, the Native Vegetation Management Unit is recommended.

Guidelines – Grazing

Permission

- Council does not allow stock to graze within native roadside vegetation.
- Grazing on a road reserve requires consent of the Tatiara District Council.
- The Tatiara District Council has a permit application process in place to assess individual proposals for grazing on roadsides.
• On undeveloped road reserves that are leased to adjoining landholders for grazing where grazing has historically occurred, then this may continue at the same frequency and duration without NVC approval, however, any change of stock, or increase in frequency or duration of grazing, or grazing of areas without any previous history of grazing, requires NVC approval.

• Any unauthorised clearance caused by grazing will be referred by Council staff to the NVMU.

Clearance methods

• Stock must be free of pest plants and disease.

Fire Prevention

• Proposals for grazing of native roadside vegetation to aid in fuel reduction for fire prevention should be referred to the SA Country Fire Service Regional Prevention Officer for a decision.

Avoiding unnecessary clearance

• If the roadside vegetation has not yet been surveyed, a suitably qualified person(s) will conduct an inspection to make sure that no native vegetation is present prior to undertaking any grazing on roadsides or on road reserves.

• Particular care must be taken to identify and avoid plant communities of conservation significance and naturally open areas such as native grassland, sedgeland and wetland.
4.11 Drovers Stock

Objectives

1. To manage potential damage to roadside native vegetation from the droving of stock.
2. To protect roadside native vegetation of high conservation significance from the impacts of droving stock.

Information

The droving or movement of stock on roadsides occurs within the Tatiara District Council region. It is recognised as a necessary practice within some areas of the region as part of normal farm management.

The droving or movement of stock does not require approval under the Native Vegetation Act 1991. However, routes that contain important stands of native vegetation should be avoided as much as possible so as to minimise damage to native roadside vegetation.

If there is no practical alternative, and stock are to travel though native vegetation, then stock must be kept moving at all times to minimise incidental grazing and subsequent damage to native vegetation (otherwise may constitute breach of Native Vegetation Act 1991 – see grazing section).

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR DROVING STOCK

No NVC approval is required if stock are to be kept moving at all times, and areas of native vegetation of particular conservation significance are avoided as much as possible.

Movement of stock on roadsides does not require the consent of Tatiara District Council, however the following guidelines apply.

Guidelines – Drovers Stock

Permission

- Drovers of stock on a road reserve does not require the consent of the Tatiara District Council.
- The movement of livestock that is part of normal farm management, from one property to another is permitted if there are no practical alternatives to avoiding the road reserve.
- Where the movement of livestock is over a long distance, consultation shall be held with Tatiara District Council, the local Natural Resource Management Authorised Officer, and the Native vegetation Management Unit.
- Any unauthorised clearance caused by stock droving will be referred by Tatiara District Council staff to the Native vegetation Management Unit.

Clearance methods

- Stock must be kept moving at all times.
- Stock must be free of pest plants and disease.

Avoiding unnecessary clearance

- Movement of stock along Category A and B roadsides (see Table 4 for list of roads), or roadsides containing known populations of threatened species, plant communities of conservation significance or naturally open areas such as native grassland and sedgeland, should instead be diverted where possible along roadsides containing vegetation of lesser value, i.e. Category E, D, and as last preference C.
- If the roadside vegetation has not yet been surveyed, a suitably qualified person(s) will conduct an inspection to identify vegetation along the proposed route.

Signage

- Appropriate signage must be placed an adequate distance from stock moving along roads warning vehicles of the potential hazard.
4.12 Recreational Trails on Road Reserves

Objectives -

1. To minimise the impacts of recreational activities on native roadside vegetation.

Information

Road reserves (both developed and undeveloped) are subject to a range of recreational pressures. For example, there is an expanding network of walking trails on roadsides in many areas of the State. Horse and bike trails are being established on some roadsides.

All of these activities have the potential to significantly disturb native vegetation. Recreational vehicle activities on roadsides are not permitted, but walking and horse trails may be acceptable provided that certain principles and practices are adhered to (see guidelines below), and NVC approval is sought.

Guidelines – Recreational Use

Permission

- Any planned recreational event within a road reserve requires consent of the Tatiara District Council.
- Any unlawful off-road activities within road reserve areas will be reported to Tatiara District Council, Police, and if damage to native vegetation occurs, the Native Vegetation Council.

Proposals for walking and/or horse trails may be acceptable if the following principles are adhered to:

- Any trails need to be part of an overall district or regional trails plan developed with the local council.
- Trails should not be established where clearance of native vegetation would result. ONLY if the trail is a vital part of a network and if there is no reasonable alternative should any clearance of native vegetation be contemplated. Should any proposed trail pass through or immediately adjacent to native vegetation, consultation with the Native Vegetation Management Unit must occur, and clearance approval is required for any clearance of native vegetation.
- Trails must not be established where their use is likely to introduce weeds or assist the spread of weeds on the road reserve unless there is a clear commitment to a weed control program.
- Effective monitoring programs must be incorporated into any trail development.
- Existing or planned recreational trails along A and B roadsides, or roadsides containing known populations of threatened species, plant communities of conservation significance or naturally open areas such as native grassland and sedgeland, should instead be diverted where possible along roadsides containing vegetation of lesser value, i.e. Category E, D, and as last preference C.
- If the roadside vegetation has not yet been surveyed, a suitably qualified person(s) will conduct an inspection to identify vegetation along the proposed trail route.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR RECREATIONAL TRAILS ON ROAD RESERVES

The development of any recreational trails along road reserves must include consultation with the local council and with the Native Vegetation Management Unit where the trail would pass through or immediately alongside native vegetation.

Under the Native Vegetation Act 1991, clearance approval is required for any trail development involving clearance of native vegetation.

The Tatiara District Council does permit recreational vehicle activities on roadsides containing native vegetation, and will allow lawfully established walking and horse trails provided that certain principles and practices contained in this RVMP are adhered to.

Figure 24: Recreation trail in road reserve
Existing trails

- Maintenance of existing trails only requires the consent of the Tatiara District Council.
- The location of existing trails should be reviewed in light of the guidelines above, to ensure that where possible, important areas of native vegetation are protected and/or enhanced.
4.13 Cultivation and Cropping

Objectives

1. To manage potential damage to roadside native vegetation from cultivation and growing of agricultural crops.

Information

Cultivation of roadsides (for fire prevention, weed control, or cropping) can have devastating impacts on any remaining remnant native vegetation through the physical removal of plant species, run-off from fertilisers and pesticides altering the nutrient status of the soil and exposing fallowed soil to weed invasion and erosion potential. Cultivation and growing crops on roadsides is only a technique for consideration on roadsides without, or adjacent to areas without, remnant vegetation.

Within the Tatiara District Council there are many surveyed road reserves which have never been developed as roads. Many of these undeveloped road reserves are leased to adjoining landholders for cropping purposes. Some are totally cleared and pass unmarked through farm paddocks. These areas may be suitable for cropping or for revegetation projects. Other undeveloped road reserves have relatively undisturbed native vegetation and are of high conservation value. In these areas cropping practices will not be permitted.

Tatiara District Council has developed a policy regarding cropping of roadsides:

It is noted that some roadsides in the district including the Wolseley area have been cropped for a number of years. Carrying out such activities on council controlled road reserves requires the approval of Council. Before carrying out such work landowners will apply to Council for a permit. Before granting a permit council staff will inspect the site to ensure that:

- Native vegetation including native grasses will not be damaged by any proposed cultivation and cropping.
- The proposed cropping does not create a road hazard.
- The applicant has met council’s insurance requirements.

**CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR CULTIVATION AND CROPPING**

Under the Native Vegetation Act 1991, approval is required for cultivation or cropping on roadsides where native understorey or regenerating native vegetation is present.

Permits for cropping practices will only be given by the Tatiara District Council for roadsides with no remaining native vegetation.

Guidelines – Cultivation and Cropping

Permission

- Cultivation or cropping within a road reserve requires consent of the Tatiara District Council.
- Any unauthorised clearance of road reserve native vegetation caused by cultivation or cropping will be referred by Council staff to the Native vegetation Management Unit.

Existing cultivation and cropping –

- Landholders currently cropping in road reserve areas require ongoing permission from the Tatiara District Council.
- Where cropping on roadsides is used as a firebreak, consider phasing out, and instead encourage perennial summer growing native grasses as an alternative cover.
4.1.4 Removal of Plant Material

Objectives
1. To promote the statutory requirements for retaining roadside native vegetation.
2. To limit the extent of damage caused by removal of roadside native vegetation.
3. To ensure that only a sustainable amount of native vegetation is removed from road sides.

Information
The removal of plant material from roadsides includes:
- collection of dead timber for firewood;
- cutting of live timber;
- brush-cutting *(Melaleuca uncinata)*;
- seed collection; and
- flower harvesting.

All such activities require the consent of the local council and other constraints may also apply – as set out below.

**CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR REMOVAL OF PLANT MATERIAL**

Removal of plant material from road reserves requires consent from the *Tatiara District Council*, and in the following instances, also requires clearance consent under the *Native Vegetation Act 1991*:
- removal of “dead plants” as defined under the *Native Vegetation Regulations 2003*;
- cutting of live timber (outside the scope of the guidelines in this RVMP);
- the cutting of brush *(Melaleuca uncinata)* unless it is undertaken in accordance with other guidelines in this RVMP; and
- the harvesting of flowers.

In the case of seed collection, a permit is also needed from the *Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, Permit Unit*, who can also provide guidance as to how collect seed.

The *Tatiara District Council* will ensure that removal of plant material from roadsides is undertaken in accordance with the guidelines in this plan and that appropriate permits have been issued.

Tatiara District Council has developed the following policy regarding removal of plant material:

1. Harvesting of live timber shall be permitted only as provided by these guidelines.
2. Brush cutting and the harvesting of native flowers requires the consent of the *Native Vegetation Council Secretariat, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources*.
3. Collection of seeds shall be permitted for re-vegetation programs but only after consulting the *Tatiara District Council and the nearest National Parks and Wildlife Office*.
4. Fallen dead solid timber may be removed for firewood purposes for personal use but is not permitted along roads of Category A and B (see Table 4 for list of Category A and B roads). Standing material and hollow logs may not be removed.

Dead trees within the Tatiara District Council potentially provide important habitat for the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo *(SE Form)*, a threatened species under the Commonwealth’s *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. As such, in Tatiara DC area, a dead tree of a species indigenous to South Australia and occurs naturally (or has been planted in accordance with the *Native Vegetation Act*) is considered native vegetation under the Act.

Clearance of a dead tree that is defined and protected as “native vegetation” may only occur through an appropriate exemption under a Regulation or by application to the NVC for consideration and approval. For further information refer to the NVC fact sheet is included in *Appendix 1*, or visit [http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/managing-natural-resources/Native_vegetation/Managing_native_vegetation/Clearance_guidelines](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/managing-natural-resources/Native_vegetation/Managing_native_vegetation/Clearance_guidelines).

**Guidelines – Removal of Plant Material**

**Permission**
- Removal of plant material within a road reserve as set out below requires consent of the *Tatiara District Council*. 
Any unauthorised clearance of road reserve native vegetation caused by activities will be referred by Tatiara District Council staff to the Native vegetation Management Unit.

**Collection of Dead Timber**

- Dead timber generally refers to woody debris from standing or fallen dead trees or branches. It does not usually encompass fine fuels\(^ {13} \) – which generally refer to grass, leaves, bark and twigs less than 6mm in diameter. Useful information on the value of dead timber and alternatives to the collection of timber from road reserves can be found at:

- Dead timber on roadsides is not controlled under the Native Vegetation Act 1991, except in the case of dead plants in some parts of the state that provide habitat for nationally threatened species, which are defined as native vegetation under Section 3(1) of the Native Vegetation Act 1991\(^ {14} \). Contact the Native vegetation Management Unit for further details, including a fact sheet “Dead trees as native vegetation”.

- Despite this, Tatiara District Council controls this activity under the Local Government Act 1999, as dead timber, both standing and fallen, provides cover and foraging places for native fauna, shelters young seedlings and small plants adapted to and protected by the sheltered conditions provided by fallen timber, i.e., protects from severe sunshine and drying winds, may protect small plants physically from grazing by rabbits, kangaroos etc., and also provide optimal conditions for survival – darker and moister micro-habitats, and is also important in the recycling of nutrients. The development of hollow timber takes many years and is a limited resource for wildlife, and therefore should not be collected for firewood. Retention of dead timber (and fallen leaves, bark and twigs) is also encouraged so that soil disturbance and the creation of open areas suitable for weed invasion is minimised.

- Dead timber should not be “tidied up” on roadsides, and is not permitted unless outlined as necessary for fuel reduction in the approved Limestone Coast Bushfire Plan – see Bushfire Hazard Reduction section of this Plan, to assist rabbit control, or to remove timber which is hazardous to traffic or fencing.

- Tatiara District Council has developed a policy for collection of firewood (Appendix 1). Tatiara District Council has no objection to collection of dead timber for personal use subject to conditions outlined in Appendix 1. Where dead timber is collected care must be taken to prevent damaging surrounding native vegetation in the process of removal, dead timber with hollows must be

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\(^ {13} \) [http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/home.jsp](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/site/home.jsp)

\(^ {14} \) “Dead plants (under the definition of native vegetation in Section 3(1) of the Act), means the class of plants, or parts of plants, comprising trees of a species indigenous to South Australia –
  
  a) that have a trunk circumference (measured at a point 300 millimetres above the base of the tree) of –
    
    i) in the case of a tree located on Kangaroo Island – 1 metre or more; or
    
    ii) in any other case – 2 metres or more; and
  
  b) that provide or have the potential to provide, or are a part of a group of trees or other plants (whether alive or dead) that provide, or have the potential to provide, a habitat for animals of a listed threatened species under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 of the Commonwealth, is declared to be included in that definition.
left on the ground, and where possible, collection will not be permitted in areas of vegetation of high conservation significance.

- If any damage or clearance of native vegetation occurs during the collection of firewood activities, Council staff will notify the NVMU.

**Cutting of Live timber**

- Any cutting of live timber outside of the scope of guidelines in this plan requires the consent of the **Tatiara District Council** and also clearance consent under the **Native Vegetation Act 1991**.

**Brush-cutting**

- The cutting of brush (*Melaleuca uncinata*) on roadsides requires clearance approval unless it is undertaken in accordance with other guidelines in this plan.

**Seed Collection (Cuttings and Specimens)**

- Revegetation programs using local species are strongly supported and roadsides are often ideal sites for seed collection. However, care is needed to minimise damage to the parent plant and to avoid depleting the seed supply to such an extent that natural regeneration of plants on the roadside is affected.

- The collection of seeds, cuttings and specimens from native vegetation from roadsides, requires the consent of the local council. A permit is also needed under the **National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972** and can be requested from the Permit Unit, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, (08) 8463 4841, or online at [http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/Do_It_Online/Plant_permits](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/Do_It_Online/Plant_permits). The Unit can also provide guidance on seed collection methods.

- The collection of seeds, cuttings or other specimens from native plants does not require consent from the Native Vegetation Council provided that damage to the plant is not substantial. As a guide, cutting a substantial branch off a tree or bush to collect seed would not be regarded as exempt; nor would the removal of virtually all harvestable seed from a single plant.

- Nevertheless, the **Tatiara District Council** will give preference to seed collecting permits associated with local revegetation projects, and tree trimming programs (for verge maintenance) will be undertaken in consultation with local revegetation groups to facilitate the collection of seed from trimmed vegetation.

**Flower Harvesting**

- The harvesting of flowers from roadsides requires the consent of the local council and clearance consent from the Native Vegetation Council. The local council should be the first point of contact.

- In general, harvesting of roadside flowers, particularly for commercial purposes, is not favoured because of its impact on the vegetation and on the landscape or amenity of the area.
4.15 Maintaining Biodiversity on Roadsides

Objectives

1. To promote community interest and involvement in maintaining and where possible, enhancing, roadside biodiversity (plants and animals).

Information

Along some roadsides there is evidence of a steady decline of native vegetation not associated with direct clearance. Several factors may be contributing to this, many of which are exacerbated by the long narrow shape of roadside vegetation. These include, but are not limited to:

2. senescence (old age) and lack of natural regeneration;
3. herbicides or other chemicals used on adjoining farmland, or used for weed control on roadsides;
4. animal pests and methods used to control them;
5. root-rot fungi such as Phytophthora cinnamomi;
6. mistletoe infestation;
7. lerp infestation;
8. competition from exotic species (garden escapees, illegal dumping of garden waste, invasion from adjacent land);
9. inappropriate fire regimes; and
10. Mundulla Yellows (see Section 4.6).

In some cases a form of disturbance (such as burning or pollarding (pruning)) may be proposed as a means of enhancing vegetation health or diversity in the longer term. Such activities actually constitute clearance in terms of the Native Vegetation Act 1991 and therefore require clearance approval under the Act or the Native Vegetation Regulations 2003. For example burning an area may be required to promote natural regeneration in an area where species are declining. Or, removal of mistletoe or lopping of limbs may be proposed as a short-term means of protecting unhealthy host trees heavily infested with mistletoe.

Such activities must be carefully planned and the results must be monitored.

There are Regulations that allow for the clearance of native vegetation to address some of these problems. Refer to A Guide to the Regulations under the Native Vegetation Act 1991 for more information, http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/Conservation/Native_vegetation/Managing_native_vegetation.

ECOLOGICAL PRESCRIBED BURNING

Prescribed burning for ecological purposes requires careful planning and management. Proposed works are to be carried out under a management plan that has been approved by the Native Vegetation Council. The following is a list of information that should be included in the plan:

- a clear demonstrated focus on biodiversity outcomes, such as a tool for managing threatened species, enhancing ecological communities, managing pest species, maintaining a diversity of vegetation age classes or preventing large areas of habitat burning across the landscape in a single fire event;
- site survey information identifying flora and fauna species present;
- detailed aerial map(s) identifying vegetation communities, topography and areas identified for burning;
- an environmental risk assessment table identifying impacts and mitigating actions;
- any Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) matters also need to be addressed;
- a logistic prescribed burn plan to be approved by SA Country Fire Service; and
• a monitoring program that will assist in the evaluation of the effects of fire on vegetation communities and for planning future adaptive management strategies.

Advice can be sought from the Native Vegetation Management Unit.

MISTLETOE INFESTATION

Mistletoes are flowering plants that use other plants to obtain water and mineral nutrients; but provide their own photosynthetic products.

The species of mistletoe along rural roadsides are native to South Australia and are protected under the Native Vegetation Act 1991. They provide important habitats for many fauna species, such as birds, butterflies, possums, ants and other insects. In particular, mistletoes are a summer food source for nectar feeding animals such as honeyeaters, and a food source for native butterflies like the rare Genoveva Azure whose larvae eat the leaves and flowers of the Box Mistletoe (Amyema miquelii) on Eucalyptus species, and Drooping Mistletoe (Amyema pendula ssp. pendula) on Stringybark Eucalypts and Blackwood.

In some areas of the State, mistletoe infestations appear to be contributing significantly to tree decline. The factors involved in these infestations are not well understood but appear to be linked with the extent of general vegetation clearance and the accompanying loss of wildlife habitat. An imbalance has somehow been created. Often trees are in poor health due to degradation of surrounding vegetation, and are perhaps more susceptible to the impacts of mistletoe. Higher germination and establishment rates of mistletoe on trees with less canopy, and greater dispersal of seed by the Mistletoebird in open woodlands, have also been suggested as possible explanations of the association of high levels of mistletoe on trees that are in poor health (Ward and Paton, 2004)15.

In severe cases, the removal of mistletoe or lopping of affected limbs may be acceptable as a short-term means of protecting the host tree. These actions constitute clearance, and require clearance approval under the Native Vegetation Act 1991 or the Native Vegetation Regulations 2003 (photos may be emailed to the Native vegetation Management Unit who can then issue advice or grant clearance approval). Protection and/or enhancement of the health of affected trees, by fencing-off from livestock grazing and restoring the affected area through natural regeneration or revegetation with a range of indigenous plants, is seen to be the best overall approach.

Lerp infestations

Lerp insects are native leaf-sucking insects which frequently attack red gums (e.g. in the Mt Lofty Ranges) and pink gums (e.g. in the South East). The visual impact can be severe with entire trees being defoliated. In some cases, trees already stressed by other factors may die, but usually they will recover.

In a natural bushland setting, lerps are generally kept in check by native birds such as pardalotes, which feed on the waxy scale like covering (the "lerp"), beneath which the immature stage of the insect shelters and feeds. In disturbed environments such as roadsides – and particularly where understorey plants have been reduced – bird populations are depleted and problems such as lerp infestations are more likely to occur. Restoration of roadsides is therefore the recommended management approach.

Garden escapees

Intentional dumping of garden waste on roadsides can create new weed infestations.

Garden plants can also escape into bushland and onto roadsides adjacent to properties. Residents adjacent to good roadside vegetation should select garden plants with a low potential to spread.

or consider using local native species instead.

**CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR MAINTAINING BIODIVERSITY ON ROADSIDES**

Maintaining roadside biodiversity (plants and associated fauna) can be a complex issue and close consultation with the Native Vegetation Management Unit is recommended.

Where modification of roadside vegetation using measures such as lopping, burning or other disturbance of native vegetation is proposed as a tool in maintaining diversity, clearance approval is required from the Native Vegetation Council.

**Guidelines – Maintenance of Vegetation Diversity**

**Permission**
- Modification of roadside vegetation (e.g. by burning or pollarding) within a road reserve for the purpose of maintenance of vegetation diversity requires consent of the Tatiara District Council, and the Native Vegetation Council.
- Any unauthorised clearance of road reserve native vegetation caused by activities will be referred by Tatiara District Council staff to the Native vegetation Management Unit.

**Proposals**
- Any proposals involving disturbance of native vegetation to maintain vegetation diversity will be developed in close consultation with the Native vegetation Management Unit.
- Revegetation of the affected area with a range of indigenous plant species should be considered in combination with or instead of disturbance, for example, in the case of mistletoe and lerp attack.

**Clearance Methods**
- These activities will be carefully planned and the results must be monitored.
- Trimming or pruning of vegetation using appropriate, low impact cutting tools is required - consult with the NVM Unit for advice for all proposals to help determine best practice.

**Prevention**
Opportunities to promote interest in roadside vegetation biodiversity will be developed where possible, e.g. providing information to rate-payers - discouraging illegal dumping and explaining the consequences of weed spread, clear guidelines for activities such as weed control and firewood collection, and promote the importance of roadside vegetation in partnership with other organisations.
Figure 34: Biodiversity on roadsides
4.16 Protection of Native Vegetation of High Conservation Significance

Objectives

1. To identify, record and protect roadside native vegetation of high conservation significance.
2. To reverse the deterioration of roadside native vegetation by improving management practices.

Information

Roadsides may contain plants or vegetation types of high conservation significance (i.e. Threatened at a national, state, or local level, and/or vegetation classed as Category A and B). It is important that these locations are identified, recorded and protected. See Table 4 for roads with Category A and B vegetation.

While all native vegetation on roadsides is protected and must not be cleared unless clearance is considered exempt as defined in this plan, vegetation of high conservation significance requires:

- extra precautions (such as signage) to prevent accidental damage; and
- active management (such as Bushcare work) to prevent decline in quality (also see next section – Restoration).

Vegetation of high conservation significance is important to the region as it can:

- provide habitat for native animals and plants, including endangered species;
- assist the movement of native animals to move from one habitat area to another; and
- provide unique genetic reference areas for sourcing seed for revegetation projects.

The Tatiara District Council has assessed approximately 2,744 kilometres of its roadside vegetation (includes left and right so 1,372 km of roadside) and aims to assess additional areas of roadside vegetation through a series of roadside vegetation surveys and has identified and will continue to identify the conservation significance for roads throughout its region. Of the surveyed roadides, the Tatiara District Council area contains:

668.5kms of roadways that are considered to support native plants or vegetation associations of high conservation significance (Table 4).

A total of sixty five plant species of conservation significance were recorded during the roadside vegetation survey (Table 5). This includes seven nationally recognised threatened plant species have been recorded along roadides, and 65 species threatened at a state level and 63 at a regional (SE and/or Murraylands) level have also been recorded (Table 5).

There are also 2 vegetation associations that are listed as threatened at the national level whilst 1 is critically endangered, 4 are endangered and 3 are considered vulnerable at the state level. Within the Southeast, 4 are considered endangered and 2 are considered to be vulnerable (Table 6).

### CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR ACTIVITIES IN AREAS OF VEGETATION OF HIGH CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANCE

Any activity in areas of high conservation significance requires consent from the Tatiara District Council.

Any activity in areas of high conservation significance involving native vegetation clearance also requires clearance approval from the Native Vegetation Council.
Table 8: Roadsides containing vegetation of conservation significance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Road Name</th>
<th>Road Category</th>
<th>Length (km)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangham to Francis (sic) / Bangham Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>33.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bordertown – Frances (sic) / Frances Road</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bordertown – Frances (sic) / Frances Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>22.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bordertown to Desert Camp (sic) / Rowney Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bordertown to Hynam (sic) / Frances Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>5.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bordertown to Naracoorte (sic) / Naracoorte Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>16.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadview</td>
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<td>Carousel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Desert Camp-Kingston (sic) / Rowney Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>11.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dukes Highway</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>5.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dukes Highway</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dukes Highway</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>Gap</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>Gap</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grubbed</td>
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<td>2.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hundred of Makin</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>8.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hynam – Frances (sic) / Frances Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>0.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jip Jip</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keith - Desert Camp (sic) / Riddoch Highway</td>
<td>A</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Keith – Padthaway (sic) / Riddoch Highway</td>
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<td>Kilmorey</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>Kochs</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>0.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learmouths/Danbys (sic) / Danbys Road</td>
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<td>Learmouths/Danbys (sic) / Danbys Road</td>
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<td>4.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lockharts (sic) / Lockhart Rd</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milnes (sic) / Milne Rod</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Monster</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>4.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Mi Mi</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Mi Mi</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>18.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petherick</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>6.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinaroo – Bordertown / (now Ngarkat Highway)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>40.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Hill East (sic) / Langley Rod</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>0.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Hill North (sic) / Pine Hill Rd</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>16.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinnaroo – Bordertown (sic) / Ngarkat Hwy</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>32.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Playfairs (sic) / Playfair Rd</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>9.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>2.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Bluff</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>4.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Name</td>
<td>Road Category</td>
<td>Length (km)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Bluff Road South (sic) / Red Bluff Rd</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>11.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riddoch Highway</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>10.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road 108 (sic) / McGrice Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuberts (sic) / Schubert Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>2.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior (sic) / Senior Rd</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>0.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior - Tatiara Hundred Line (sic) / Skinner Rd</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stotts (sic) / Stott Rd</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>5.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>0.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>6.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wagenknechts (sic) / Wagenknechts Rd</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wicks</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>10.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willalooka</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>0.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winters (sic) / Winter Rd</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>0.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolseley to Mount Gambier (sic) / Bangham Rd ?</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>8.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolseley to Mount Gambier (sic) / Bangham Rd ?</td>
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<td>47.43</td>
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<td>Yallamurray</td>
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**Table 9: Flora species of conservation significance along surveyed roadsides**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Common name</th>
<th>Conservation Status</th>
<th>Aus</th>
<th>SA</th>
<th>SE</th>
<th>Murraylands</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Montia australisica</em></td>
<td>White Purslane</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>RA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ranunculus robertsonii</em></td>
<td>Slender Buttercup</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>VU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Myriophyllum glomeratum</em></td>
<td>Clustered Milfoil</td>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Allittia cardiocarpa</em></td>
<td>Swamp Daisy</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>VU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Schoenus tesquorum</em></td>
<td>Grassy Bog-rush</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>RA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Caladenia cucullata</em></td>
<td>Hooded Caladenia</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>RA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Baumea acuta</em></td>
<td>Pale Twig-rush</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>LC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>VU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Allittia uliginosa</em></td>
<td>Wet-heath Daisy</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>VU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Eucalyptus fasciculosa</em></td>
<td>Pink Gum</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>NT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Microtis orbicularis</em></td>
<td>Swamp Onion-orchid</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>EN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Triglochin alcockiae</em></td>
<td>Alcock’s Water-ribbons</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>RA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>VU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Caladenia colorata</em></td>
<td>Coloured Spider-orchid</td>
<td>EN</td>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>EN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Swainsona procumbens</em></td>
<td>Broughton Pea</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>YU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Utricularia beaugleholei</em></td>
<td>Beauglehole’s Bladderwort</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>EN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>VU</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Crassula peduncularis</em></td>
<td>Purple Crassula</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>RA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>EN</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Goodenia gracilis</em></td>
<td>Grampians Goodenia</td>
<td>V</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Eleocharis atricha</em></td>
<td>Tuber Spike-rush</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>RA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>VU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Gratiola pumila</em></td>
<td>Dwarf Brooklime</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>YU</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Potamogeton ochreatus</em></td>
<td>Blunt Pondweed</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>VU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>EN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Pterostylis tasmanica</em></td>
<td>Golden Billy-buttons</td>
<td>V</td>
<td>VU</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Caladenia bicalliata ssp. bicalliata</em></td>
<td>Western Daddy-long-legs</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>RA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Caladenia clavigera</em></td>
<td>Plain-lip Spider-orchid</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>EN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>RE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Dianella longifolia var. grandis</em></td>
<td>Pale Flax-lily</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>VU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>VU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16 R/RA: Rare, EN: Endangered, VU: Vulnerable, CR: critically rare, LC: least concern
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Common name</th>
<th>Conservation Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microtis atrata</td>
<td>Yellow Onion-orchid</td>
<td>R EN EN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exocarpos strictus</td>
<td>Pale-fruit Cherry</td>
<td>R EN RA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dipodium pardinum</td>
<td>Leopard Hyacinth-orchid</td>
<td>V CR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Templetonia stenophylla</td>
<td>Leafy Templetonia</td>
<td>V VU VU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juncus radula</td>
<td>Hoary Rush</td>
<td>V VU VU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craspedia paludicola</td>
<td>Swamp Buttons</td>
<td>V VU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micromyrtus ciliata</td>
<td>Fringed Heath-myrtle</td>
<td>R NT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acacia dodoneifolia</td>
<td>Hop-bush Wattle</td>
<td>R LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daviesia benthamii ssp. humilis</td>
<td>Mallee Bitter-pea</td>
<td>R RA VU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austrostipa gibbosa</td>
<td>Swollen Spear-grass</td>
<td>R VU RA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bathriochloa macra</td>
<td>Red-leg Grass</td>
<td>R LC LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pratia concolor</td>
<td>Poison Pratia</td>
<td>R NT RA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ptilotus nobilis ssp. semilanatus</td>
<td>Lamb's Tails</td>
<td>E</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melaleuca wilsonii</td>
<td>Wilson's Honey-myrtle</td>
<td>R RA LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pycnosorus chrysanthes</td>
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<td>E EN EN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dianella tarda</td>
<td>Late-flowered Flax-lily</td>
<td>E EN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goodenia heteromera</td>
<td>Spreading Goodenia</td>
<td>R EN VU</td>
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<td>Ranunculus sessiliflorus var. pilulifer</td>
<td>Annual Buttercup</td>
<td>V VU EN</td>
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<td>Mentha satureioides</td>
<td>Native Pennyroyal</td>
<td>R RA</td>
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<td>Ergatostis infecunda</td>
<td>Barren Cane-grass</td>
<td>R RA VU</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amphibromus macrorhinus</td>
<td>Long-nosed Swamp Wallaby-grass</td>
<td>R VU EN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eryngium vesiculosum</td>
<td>Prostrate Blue Devil</td>
<td>R VU EN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brachyscome basaltica var. gracilis</td>
<td>Swamp Daisy</td>
<td>R VU RA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Schoenus sculptus</td>
<td>Gimlet Bog-rush</td>
<td>R VU DD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thelymitra matthewsi</td>
<td>Spiral Sun-orchid</td>
<td>VU E EN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spyridium spathulatum</td>
<td>Spoon-leaf Spyridium</td>
<td>R RA RA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caladenia necrophylla</td>
<td>Late Spider-orchid</td>
<td>R RA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acacia trineura</td>
<td>Three-nerve Wattle</td>
<td>E EN CR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acacia enterocarpa</td>
<td>Jumping-jack Wattle</td>
<td>EN E VU EN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grevillea angustiloba ssp. wirregaensis</td>
<td>Dissected Holly-leaf Grevillea</td>
<td>E EN EN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acacia glandulicarpa</td>
<td>Hairy-pod Wattle</td>
<td>VU E CR</td>
</tr>
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<td>Olearia picridifolia</td>
<td>Rasp Daisy-bush</td>
<td>R VU RA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thelymitra epipactoides</td>
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<td>EN E EN RA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leucopogon clevelandii</td>
<td>Cleland's Beard-heath</td>
<td>R NT RA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucalyptus wimmerensis</td>
<td>Wimmera Mallee</td>
<td>R RA NE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phebalium loweanense</td>
<td>Lowan Phebalium</td>
<td>VU V VU VU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olearia pannosa ssp. pannosa</td>
<td>Silver Daisy-bush</td>
<td>VU V EN VU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acacia simmonsiana</td>
<td>Hall's Wattle</td>
<td>R EN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucalyptus behriana</td>
<td>Broad-leaf Box</td>
<td>R VU RA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grevillea angustiloba ssp. angustiloba</td>
<td>Dissected Holly-leaf Grevillea</td>
<td>E* VU VU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prasophyllum occultans</td>
<td>Hidden Leek-orchid</td>
<td>R VU RA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pimelea williamsonii</td>
<td>Williamson's Riceflower</td>
<td>R RA</td>
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Table 10: Vegetation Communities of significance along surveyed roadsides

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<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Common name</th>
<th>Conservation Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allocasuarina luehmannii</td>
<td>Buloke Woodland</td>
<td>EN EN EN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eucalyptus microcarpa woodland</td>
<td>Grey box woodland</td>
<td>EN EN EN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucalyptus leucoxylon +/- E. fasciculosa Woodland</td>
<td>Blue Gum (+/- Pink gum) Woodland</td>
<td>V V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucalyptus odorata</td>
<td>Peppermint Box</td>
<td>EN EN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gahnia filum sedgeland</td>
<td>Saw Sedge sedgeland</td>
<td>CE V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Themeda triandra grassland</td>
<td>Kangaroo Grass Grassland</td>
<td>EN EN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucalyptus camaldulensis var. camaldulensis woodlands</td>
<td>River Red Gum Woodland</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucalyptus fasciculosa woodlands (+/- E. leucoxylon)</td>
<td>Pink Gum (+/- Blue Gum) Woodland</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Guidelines – Protection of Vegetation of High Conservation Significance

**Permission**
- Any activity occurring in areas of high conservation significance requires consent from the Tatiara District Council, and if native vegetation clearance is proposed, then consent is also required from the Native Vegetation Council.
- Any unauthorised clearance of road reserve native vegetation caused by activities will be referred by Tatiara District Council staff to the Native Vegetation Management Unit.

**Roadside surveys**
- Assistance with funding for surveys will be and has been sought from the NVC, and/or other funding body.
- Roadside vegetation surveys will be and have been undertaken using the standard DEWNR roadside vegetation survey methodology to determine where significant species or vegetation occur.
- The overall ecological significance of sections of roadside vegetation will be / has been determined.

**** Note: A Vegetation Survey is not required for a basic level Roadside Vegetation Management Plan. Vegetation surveys over part of the council area are acceptable, either over high conservation / biodiversity valued roadside vegetation, areas that are more likely to be developed or in areas where threatened species are known to occur. A vegetation survey does not have to be over the entire council area and joint efforts between neighbouring councils are encouraged.

**Database**
- A site register or database for significant roadside flora will be developed, and will be used to aid Council to manage and conserve areas of high conservation significance. The database will enable Council to prioritise areas for remedial work, revegetation activities and identify areas where external funding may be used. Council may also use the database to guide future efforts for SEB plantings.

**Roadside markers and Bushcare work**
- A site marking system to identify significant sites “Roadside Marker System (RMS)”, particularly for local council staff or contractors, will be implemented to ensure protection of significant sites.
- In consultation with the Tatiara Roadside Vegetation Management Group and/or Landscape Ecologist, Bushcare sites (see next section – Restoration) will also be encouraged wherever possible to help actively manage these important areas of native vegetation.

**Roadside Activities**
- Training programs for local council staff and others (e.g. contractors), and development of work procedures to ensure protection of significant sites, will be implemented. Following endorsement of this plan, Tatiara District Council will engage a consultant to provide a training workshop to its outside staff.
- A map of the vegetation categories for the road network within the Tatiara District Council will be used to minimise or avoid any loss or disturbance of native vegetation of conservation significance by locating proposed development or roadside works away from these areas.

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17 EN: Endangered, V: Vulnerable, CE: critically endangered,
If it is not possible to avoid loss of native vegetation when planning roadworks, Tatiara District Council will use the data collected and associated maps to identify areas of roadside vegetation that can be managed better as a way of providing an SEB offset which would be a requirement for clearance of vegetation associated with any new works under Native Vegetation Regulation 5 (1)(d) of the Native Vegetation Act 1991.
4.17 Restoration of Roadside Vegetation

Objectives

1. To prevent further degradation within road reserves giving high priority to rehabilitation works along roadsides containing native vegetation of high conservation significance.

2. To encourage the re-establishment of native vegetation along roadsides in parts of the local council area where native vegetation has been identified as cleared or degraded.

Information

Roadside vegetation within the Tatiara District Council varies from Category A vegetation with very high conservation value (pristine remnant vegetation) to Category E vegetation with low conservation value.

The Tatiara District Council is committed to roadside restoration where external funding permits. Council recognises the ecological and aesthetic importance of restoring, maintaining and enhancing roadside native vegetation as areas of habitat for wildlife, to increase the biological diversity and seed stock of the area, and to create linkages for wildlife movement. Other benefits include improving the amenity of an area, reducing the risk of soil erosion and soil salinity, and possibly reducing the risk of fire through appropriate fire management practices.

The Tatiara District Council is located within the South region, and intends to follow the South East NRM plan and work with the South East NRM Board in managing existing vegetation and in planning any restoration programs.

The long-term strategy for the Tatiara District Council is to give first priority to roadsides of high conservation significance when rehabilitating roadsides. Roadsides with Category A and B vegetation (see Table 4) are considered by Council as the highest priority areas to manage. Roadsides of Category C, D and E are considered to be of lower priority. Council may consider undertaking revegetation and weed control projects in these areas if external funding allows.

Council will consider allowing areas of degraded vegetation to rehabilitate through natural regeneration and carefully controlled management practices. Council will consider in previously cleared or degraded roadsides using local native species to establish linkages with remnant bushland areas in the district. If further information on revegetation strategies in the region become available (such as revegetation plans), this RVMP will incorporate the recommendations wherever possible.

Within the Tatiara District Council there are a number of locations where roadside vegetation is being actively managed by community groups using minimal disturbance techniques to maintain biological diversity, or to promote regeneration of native species. In the Tatiara District Council area this mainly involves rubbish collection. The map in Appendix 3 shows potential roadside sites for restoration and management.

General advice regarding restoration can be obtained from local NRM Boards and organisations such as Trees For Life (Bush Care Sites), and advice about local native species can be obtained from the Native vegetation Management Unit. Further information can also be found in ‘Habitat Restoration Planning Guide for Natural Resource Managers’ on the State government website:


CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL PROCEDURES FOR RESTORATION OF ROADSIDE VEGETATION

It is essential (and a legal requirement) that the permission of the Tatiara District Council be obtained for roadside revegetation programs. Planned revegetation programs will be conducted under Council’s authorisation and will incorporate other Council maintenance policies aimed at minimising soil disturbance and associated weed establishment, control introduced plants and animals, and restrict grazing or development along roadside areas in the district.

Proposals must also take into account the existing native vegetation present, and consultation with the Native Vegetation Council is required where revegetation is to occur within areas of existing vegetation, particularly open areas (i.e. areas possessing few if any trees or shrubs) as some areas of the State naturally had areas of open grassland, sedgeland and wetland.

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Guidelines – Restoration of Roadside Vegetation

Permission

- Any activity occurring in rehabilitated and revegetated areas requires consent from the Tatiara District Council, and if native vegetation\(^9\) clearance is proposed, then consent is also required from the Native Vegetation Council.
- Any unauthorised clearance of road reserve native vegetation caused by activities will be referred by Tatiara District Council staff to the Native vegetation Management Unit.

Roadside rehabilitation and restoration

- Rehabilitation of existing roadside vegetation is usually seen as the priority for restoration work, however, depending on the desired goals, reconstruction of habitat from scratch may be implemented.
- The Tatiara District Council encourages others and will undertake the rehabilitation and revegetation of suitable, degraded areas of road reserve through natural regeneration of native plant species and through utilising local native species.
- Restoration and rehabilitation programs will only be undertaken after the overall ecological significance of sections of roadside vegetation has been determined as per the Vegetation Survey (see section 3 and table 4).
- Revegetation programs on rural roadsides should use seed collected from the local area (preferably within 10km of the site). Using non-local plants will disrupt the roadside ecology and may displace local species. Within townships, a wider range of plants may be used, but care is needed to avoid species which could spread into bushland.
- Replanting near powerlines must comply with the legislation and guidelines of ETSA Utilities (while at the same time selecting local native plant species where possible).
- On roadsides containing some remnants of native vegetation it may be possible to encourage natural regeneration through control of exotic weeds and grasses.
- Direct seeding of native species, using seed collected locally, can be a cheap and effective approach.
- Particular care is needed in dealing with open areas (i.e. areas possessing few if any trees or shrubs) as some areas of the State naturally had areas of open grassland, sedgeland and wetland. It may be inappropriate to plant trees and shrubs in those sites. These naturally occurring open areas may be difficult to recognise if the site is now a cleared roadside. Disturbance in these areas may constitute clearance under the Native Vegetation Act.
- Revegetation or rehabilitation programs should have a clear goal and appropriate monitoring in place in order to determine if the goal is being achieved.

Database

- Rehabilitated sites will be recorded on the site register or database.
- Sites will be monitored with photo-point photos.

Roadside markers and Bushcare work

- Roadside Revegetation Sites will be added to the “Roadside Marker System (RMS) to ensure protection of significant sites.
- In consultation with the NRM Board, and/or Trees for Life, “Bushcare” sites will also be encouraged wherever possible to help actively manage these important areas of native vegetation.
- The Tatiara District Council will continue to encourage and promote the maintenance and improvement of roadside vegetation diversity through the support of existing groups, and, where appropriate, the establishment of more local community groups, to undertake restoration activities.

\(^9\)Native Vegetation includes any pre-European or vegetation that has naturally regenerated (i.e. by itself). It does not include vegetation that has been directly propagated and planted by hand. In other words, under the Native Vegetation Act approval for clearance of revegetated areas is not required, unless the area has naturally regenerated from original native vegetation, or if it is an area that was required to be planted as a requirement for a previous clearance approval under the Act (i.e. SEB or set-aside area).
5. MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

This section outlines actions with a program for implementation that will further enhance management of roadside vegetation in the Tatiara District Council area.

The Action Plan for the Tatiara District Council is presented below, with Actions listed in the order that the Management Issues are addressed in Section 4.

The action plans and guidelines from this document will become a standard reference within Council for Works Managers, works tenders and contracts etc. The RVMP should be read in conjunction with councils Development Plans and Strategic Plan. Each action has been prioritised using the following timeframes:

- **High** Priority will be completed within 2 years.
- **Medium** Priority will be completed within 5 years.
- **Low** Priority will be completed within 10 years or re-assessed within this timeframe.
- **Ongoing** actions which will become effective immediately.

Action Plan for the Tatiara District Council – Actions are listed below each Management Issue, with priority for each action.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Action Statement</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Road Works</td>
<td>Refer to vegetation category mapping or, where vegetation has not been surveyed, conduct a vegetation survey, along proposed new roadworks to determine if works are likely to have significant impact on native vegetation. Consult with the NVMU.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder Consultation</td>
<td>Consult with relevant stakeholders (Council’s Natural Resource Officer, NVC) prior to planning development , and road infrastructure, to ensure that (in particular) damaging activities along Category A and B (see Table 4) roadside vegetation can be avoided, and routes can be selected along areas without roadside vegetation.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modify Works</td>
<td>Once routes are settled on, further modify design to minimise vegetation impacts.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity Building</td>
<td>Train workers and contractors in erosion control, vegetation removal and vegetation protection measures prior to commencement of works.</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roadside Maintenance</td>
<td>Maintenance of clearance envelopes to provide adequate sight distance will be based on previous clearance envelopes. However, upper limit should be bound by the nominal width of the road in accordance with the function or hierarchy of the road</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Inspections</td>
<td>Conduct site inspections with all interested parties prior to commencement of maintenance activities to reduce potential impacts of maintenance works on native vegetation</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>Conduct road safety audit to identify roads with a high risk to public safety</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category A-C Site Assessments</td>
<td>Site assessments on roads with Category A-C vegetation will be conducted to ensure appropriate low impact clearance methods are used to minimise damage to vegetation of high conservation significance.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation and Maintenance of Services</td>
<td>Council to provide service authorities with the appropriate information regarding permit requirements before any proposed new works on roadsides commence</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permits requirements</td>
<td>Ensure that contractors and staff from service authorities involved in the installation or maintenance of services (particularly on high conservation)</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Action Statement</td>
<td>Priority</td>
<td>Page No.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mapping</td>
<td>Map potential routes for new or replacement services to identify cleared land or low conservation value roadside vegetation</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification</td>
<td>Notify adjacent landholders if proposed works are likely to have an impact on their land</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pest Plant and Animal Control</td>
<td>Liaise and work with SE NRM Board and Tatiara Local Action Plan Committee</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All related activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Plant Diseases**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Action Statement</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contain and minimise the spread</td>
<td>Map and monitor locations of Phytophthora and Mundulla Yellows in the local council area</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimise effect on the environment and on recreational activities</td>
<td>Use appropriate hygiene procedures when undertaking roadworks to prevent spread from infected areas, Erect signage on site to identify Phytophthora and Mundulla Yellows locations, Promote information on locations and methods to be used (web site/council office/papers)</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treat plants with Mundulla Yellows</td>
<td>Where high priority vegetation is threatened, consider administering treatments.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raising community awareness</td>
<td>Dissemination of information relating to Phytophthora in affected areas (letters/website)</td>
<td>Medium – High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dissemination of information relating to Mundulla Yellows in affected areas (letters/website)</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fenceline Clearance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Action Statement</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raising Community Awareness</td>
<td>Ensure landholders understand the requirements for clearing on roadsides. Encourage landholders to ensure that all litter and rubbish (such as fencing wire, packets) is removed from the roadside at completion of works and is properly disposed.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approval Process</td>
<td>Provide information to landholders notifying any removal of roadside vegetation for maintenance/ construction of fence lines requires council approval</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Clearance for access to adjoining land**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Action Statement</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimal impacts to vegetation</td>
<td>Provide property access to landholders through council control road reserves that have minimal impact on native vegetation</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sight triangles</td>
<td>Ensure safe sight distance triangles for the clearance of native vegetation meet the required standards</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bushfire Protection**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Action Statement</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bushfire Management Plan</td>
<td>Undertake bushfire management actions in accordance with a Bushfire Management Plan (BMP) or a Bushfire Management Area Plan (BMAP) (or equivalent) under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 that has been endorsed by the Regional Bushfire Management Committee.</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect Category A-C Vegetation</td>
<td>In the BMP ensure Category A-C vegetation sites are identified and techniques are appropriate to protect these areas</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tatiara District Council Roadside Vegetation Management Plan (June 2016)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Action Statement</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Page No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sites</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct Ecological Burns</td>
<td>Will require a Management Plan endorsed by the NVC.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grazing</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grazing Licences</td>
<td>The issuing of grazing licenses will only be granted roadsides where there are no native shrub or understorey species present, and where there is no evidence of recent or periodic regeneration of native plant species</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeveloped Road Reserves</td>
<td>Grazing of native vegetation in undeveloped road reserves requires clearance approval from the NVC if there is any change in grazing practice which increases the pressure on native vegetation. Important native vegetation to be protected through a management agreement, or through removal of the area from the lease.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Droving Stock</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raising community awareness</td>
<td>Promote landholders understanding about the value of roadside vegetation and of the potential impact stock droving has on roadside vegetation.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring impacts</td>
<td>Monitor impacts of stock droving on roadside native vegetation</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category A and B vegetation</td>
<td>Discourage the droving of stock along Category A - C vegetation except where no suitable alternative route is found</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational Use of Road Reserves (Including Undeveloped Roads)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raising Community Awareness</td>
<td>Promote communities understanding of the value of roadside vegetation and of the potential impact recreational use of road reserves has on roadside vegetation. Discourage the recreational use of road reserves in Category A - C vegetation</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring Impacts</td>
<td>Monitor impacts of recreational use of road reserves on roadside native vegetation</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotion</td>
<td>Promote the environmental and tourist benefits of lawfully established and recognised public recreational tracks.</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cultivation and Cropping</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permit requirements</td>
<td>Ensure landholders comply with council permit requirements before any proposed cropping works on roadsides commence.</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community awareness</td>
<td>Ensure landholders are aware of the roadside cropping best management practices for minimising external impacts on native vegetation.</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention</td>
<td>Landholders will not be permitted to crop roadsides with native vegetation, including native grasslands.</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Removal of Plant Material</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permits</td>
<td>Permits for seed collection on roadsides will be given preference for local revegetation projects</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree Trimming</td>
<td>Tree trimming programs (for verge maintenance) will be undertaken in consultation with local revegetation groups to facilitate the collection of seed from trimmed vegetation.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Awareness</td>
<td>Distribute information to landholders on the guidelines for removal of plant material on road reserves</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Action Statement</td>
<td>Priority</td>
<td>Page No.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Maintenance of Biodiversity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Awareness</td>
<td>Promote community interest and involvement in roadside vegetation management;</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Involvement</td>
<td>Involve local people and appropriate tertiary, government or other institutions in roadside disturbance / vegetation maintenance projects.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expertise</td>
<td>Provide the local community with direct access to local expertise</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring</td>
<td>Monitor the effectiveness of roadside management techniques and ascertain any changes in condition</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority Setting</td>
<td>Identify high and medium conservation value roadsides to aid in maintenance of vegetation diversity.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Protection of Native Vegetation of High Conservation Significance</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roadside Vegetation Surveys</td>
<td>Conduct roadside vegetation surveys to determine where significant species or vegetation occurs.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roadside Marker System</td>
<td>Establish and manage a Roadside Marker System to identify significant sites (vegetation of high ecological value), particularly for local council staff or contractors,</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Register</td>
<td>Develop a comprehensive Register of sites showing all threatened or significant vegetation and fauna areas linked to standard Council databases.</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>Conduct training programs for local council staff and others (e.g. contractors)</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ensure all contractors and service providers are aware of the roadside quality and sites of significance before any works commence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Procedures</td>
<td>Develop work procedures to ensure the protection of significant sites</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring</td>
<td>Monitor signed sites and review management (if necessary) in consultation with NVC, the local community, field expert or the site nominator.</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bushcare</td>
<td>In consultation with Trees For Life, Bushcare sites will be encouraged wherever possible to help actively manage important areas of native vegetation.</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Restoration of Roadside Vegetation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority Areas</td>
<td>Priority will be given to roadsides of high conservation significance</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Targeted revegetation programs will link good quality but fragmented remnants to provide continuous vegetation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Group Participation</td>
<td>Involve Landcare and Community groups in programs for the planting of indigenous vegetation on roadside corridors.</td>
<td>High</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raising Community Awareness</td>
<td>Provide information such as indigenous species lists and potential growers to the community to encourage authorised planting of local indigenous species on roadsides.</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed Collection</td>
<td>Tender for collection of local native seed for annual revegetation program</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. REFERENCES


Austroads publications relating to Road design:


On DEWNR website (see “Roadside Vegetation Manual”):

Transport SA. Environmental Code of Practice for Road Maintenance.


7. ABBREVIATIONS & DEFINITIONS

Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEWR</td>
<td>Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGA</td>
<td>Local Government Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRM</td>
<td>Natural Resources Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NVMU</td>
<td>Native vegetation Management Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NVC</td>
<td>Native Vegetation Council as established by the Native Vegetation Act, 1991.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RVMP</td>
<td>Roadside Vegetation Management Plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Definitions

Some of the terms commonly used in relation to roadside vegetation management in South Australia are listed below and, in the case of road construction, illustrated in the following diagram [except where specifically referenced, these terms are defined for the purpose of these guidelines]:

**Biological diversity** or **biodiversity**—means the variety of life forms represented by plants, animals and other organisms and micro-organisms, the genes that they contain, and the ecosystems and ecosystem processes of which they form a part (Native Vegetation Act 1991).

**Carriageway**—That portion of a road or bridge devoted particularly to the use of vehicles, inclusive of the shoulders and auxiliary lanes (Austroads, 2010).

**Catch drain**—a surface channel constructed along the high side of a road or embankment, outside the batter to intercept surface water (Austroads, 2010).

**Clearance** (from the Native Vegetation Act 1991) means—

a) the killing or destruction of native vegetation;

b) the removal of native vegetation;

c) the severing of branches, limbs, stems or trunks of native vegetation;

d) the burning of native vegetation;

e) any other substantial damage to native vegetation,

and includes the draining or flooding of land, or any other act or activity, that causes the killing or destruction of native vegetation, the severing of branches, limbs, stems or trunks of native vegetation or any other substantial damage to native vegetation.

**Clearance envelope**—the area where vegetation clearance is required to allow for the passage of legal height vehicles across the full width of the carriageway.

[Secondary clearance envelopes are further areas required to be kept clear of vegetation adjacent to the carriageway for adequate visibility of other traffic, signs and other roadside furniture.]

**Dead plants** (under the definition of native vegetation in Section 3(1) of the Native Vegetation Act 1991), means the class of plants, or parts of plants, comprising trees of a species indigenous to South Australia—
a) that have a trunk circumference (measured at a point 300 millimetres above the base of the tree) of –
   i) in the case of a tree located on Kangaroo Island – 1 metre or more; or
   ii) in any other case – 2 metres or more; and
b) that provide or have the potential to provide, or are a [part of a group of trees or other plants (whether alive or dead) that provide, or have the potential to provide, a habitat for animals of a listed threatened species under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 of the Commonwealth, is declared to be included in that definition.

Dead timber (firewood) – in this plan generally refers to woody debris from standing or fallen dead trees or branches. It does not usually encompass fine fuels – which generally refer to grass, leaves, bark and twigs less than 6mm in diameter (SA CFS web-site).

Droving or Movement of Stock– Moving stock, usually cattle or sheep, from one place to another by driving them slowly on foot along roadways or stock routes.

Formation– The surface of the finished earthworks, excluding cut or fill batters (Austroads, 2010).

Grazing of Stock – Using a particular area for grazing rather than for movement of livestock.

Indigenous (or Native) Vegetation – Local (naturally established) native vegetation species of the type occurring prior to European settlement in this district.

Local council – in these guidelines has the same meaning as “council” under the Local Government Act 1999; i.e. a council constituted under that Act; the principal role being “…to provide for the government and management of its area at the local level and, in particular—
   a) to act as a representative, informed and responsible decision-maker in the interests of its community; and
   b) to provide and co-ordinate various public services and facilities and to develop its community and resources in a socially just and ecologically sustainable manner; and
   c) to encourage and develop initiatives within its community for improving the quality of life of the community; and
   d) to represent the interests of its community to the wider community; and
   e) to exercise, perform and discharge the powers, functions and duties of local government under this and other Acts in relation to the area for which it is constituted”.

Native Vegetation– under Section 3(1) of the Native Vegetation Act 1991, “native vegetation means a plant or plants of a species indigenous to South Australia including a plant or plants growing in or under waters of the sea but does not include—
   a) a plant or part of a plant that is dead unless the plant, or part of the plant, is of a class declared by regulation to be included in this definition; or
   b) a plant intentionally sown or planted by a person unless the person was acting—
      i) in compliance with a condition imposed by the Council under this Act or by the Native Vegetation Authority under the repealed Act, or with the order of a court under this Act or the repealed Act; or
      ii) in pursuance of a proposal approved by the Council under Part 4 Division 2; or
      iii) in compliance with a condition imposed by a Minister, statutory authority or prescribed person or body under—
         A) the River Murray Act 2003; or
         B) the Water Resources Act 1997; or
         C) any other Act prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this paragraph;”

Natural Regeneration – New growth of indigenous native plants from seed or sucker growth.

Pavement – That portion of a road designed for the support of, and to form the running surface for, vehicular traffic (Austroads, 2010).

Public road(from Section 4 of the Local Government Act 1999), is —
   a) any road or land that was, immediately before the commencement of this Act, a public street or road under the repealed Act; or
   b) any road—
      i) that is vested in a council under this or another Act; or
      ii) that is placed under a council’s care, control and management as a public road after the commencement of this Act, but not including an alley, laneway, walkway or other similar thoroughfare vested in a council; or
Any road or land owned by a council, or transferred or surrendered to a council, and which, subject to this Act, is declared by the council to be a public road; or

Any land shown as a street or road on a plan of division deposited in the Lands Titles Registration Office or the General Registry Office and which is declared by the council to be a public road; or

Any land transferred or surrendered to the Crown for use as a public road that was, immediately before the transfer, held by a person in fee simple or under a lease granted by the Crown,

(and includes any such road that is within the boundaries of a public square);

**Property Line** – The boundary between a road reserve and the adjacent land (Austroads, 2010).

**Remnant Vegetation** – Surviving indigenous vegetation.

**Road (from Roads (Opening and Closing) Act 1991)** is —

a) a public road within the meaning of Section 4 of the Local Government Act 1999; or

ab) an alley, laneway, walkway or other similar thoroughfare vested in a council; or

b) in relation to a part of the State not within a council area—

i) a road or street delineated and shown on a public map or plan of the State as laid out for public purposes by the Crown; or

ii) a road or street opened under this Act or any other Act relating to the opening of new roads and streets; or

iii) a road or street transferred or surrendered to the Minister of Local Government or the Crown by the owner or lessee for use as a public road or street; or

iv) a road or street declared or dedicated under any other Act to be a public road or street,

and includes part of a road.

**Roadside** – Is defined as the strip of land between the road formation and the boundary of the road reserve.

**Roadwork (from the Local Government Act 1999)** means—

a) the construction of a road; or

b) the maintenance or repair of a road; or

c) the alteration of a road; or

d) the construction of drains and other structures for the drainage of water from a road; or

e) the installation of fences, railings, barriers or gates; or

f) the installation of traffic control devices, traffic islands or parking bays; or

h) the improvement of a road including (for example)—

i) landscaping and beautification; or

ii) installation of road lighting; or

i) the installation of amenities or equipment on or adjacent to a road for the use, enjoyment or protection of the public; or

j) the installation of signs on or adjacent to a road for the use or benefit of the public;

**Road furniture** – A general term covering all signs, streetlights and protective devices for the control, guidance and safety of traffic, and the convenience of road users.

**Road reserve**— Refers to land set aside for a road, whether constructed or not, and extends from property boundary on one side to property boundary on the other side.

**Roadside vegetation**— Is any vegetation growing on a road reserve, and includes vegetation on a roadside (the area adjacent to a formed road), and vegetation growing on an unmade or undeveloped road reserve; this includes native vegetation of conservation value and vegetation dominated by introduced species.

**Secondary clearance envelopes**— Are areas required to be kept clear of vegetation adjacent to the carriageway for adequate visibility of other traffic, signs and other roadside furniture.

**Shoulder**— The portion of formed carriageway that is adjacent to the traffic lane and flush with the surface of the pavement (Austroads, 2010).

**Sight Triangle**— The area of land between two intersecting roadways over which vehicles on both roadways are visible to each driver (Austroads, 2010).
Significant Environmental Benefit – The Native Vegetation Act 1991 includes provisions requiring the clearance of native vegetation to be offset by an environmental gain, referred to by the legislation as a ‘Significant Environmental Benefit’ (SEB).

- The rationale for an SEB offset recognises that clearance of native vegetation will result in the loss (even temporary) of habitat, biodiversity and/or other environmental values, in a landscape that has already been significantly modified by human settlement.
- The SEB provides a mechanism to minimise that loss by managing, restoring or re-establishing areas of native vegetation that result in a better outcome for the environment.

Table drain – The side drain of a road adjacent to the shoulder, having its invert lower than the pavement base and being part of the formation (Austroads, 2010).

Threatened Species – Threatened species are those plant and animal species considered to be at risk of extinction in the wild.

Travelled way – That portion of a carriageway ordinarily assigned to moving traffic, and exclusive of shoulders and parking lanes (Austroads, 2010).

Traffic Lane – A portion of the carriageway allocated for the use of a single line of vehicles. (Austroads 2010)

Unmade road – Means a road that is not sealed with bitumen (or other surfacing material) for use by motor vehicles. (Roads (opening and closing) Regulations 2006).

Undeveloped road – A surveyed road reserve which has never been developed as a road. Some are totally cleared and pass unmarked through farm paddocks, and others retain native vegetation.

Verge – That portion of the formation not covered by the carriageway or footpath (Austroads, 2010).
APPENDIX 1: FIREWOOD COLLECTION POLICY

TATIARA DISTRICT COUNCIL

COLLECTION OF FIREWOOD FROM ROAD RESERVES POLICY
1. PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

The Tatiara District Council ("the Council") supports the collection of firewood from Council roadsides by members of its Community for domestic use with minimal risk to Council and the Community by regulating firewood collection.

This Policy is in line with Council’s Roadside Vegetation Management Plan which requires Council to control the removal of plant material from its road reserves.

2. SCOPE

This policy specifically deals with the collection of firewood from Council roadsides in an endeavour to maintain environmental values and sustainability of road reserves.

This Policy does not apply to Commons, Stone or Water Reserves, Parklands or Conservation Parks and private land holdings.

3. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy:

- Council - is the Tatiara District Council
- Firewood – is dead fallen timber to be used as fuel.
- Roadside – strip of land between road formation and boundary of the road reserve
- Roadside Vegetation – any vegetation growing on road reserves.
- DEWNR – Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources

4. DETAILS

Residents and ratepayers of the Tatiara District Council may apply to the Council for a permit to collect firewood from certain Council roadsides, by completion of a permit authorisation (refer Attachment A). Once issued, a permit will be valid for a period of one (1) month and is subject to the following conditions:

- The permit does not provide for cutting down and/or removal of any standing tree or limb irrespective of whether it is living or dead. No hollow logs are permitted to be cut, removed, or tampered with in any way.

- Permits will not be issued during the fire danger season. Additionally, collection or cutting of fallen timber will not be permitted during any period which has been declared a Total Fire Ban.

- Council does not accept responsibility for any actions or claims resulting from this permit.

- Firewood collection is for personal use only and is not to be sold or given to any other persons.

- Firewood collected is only allowed on approved Council road reserves (refer Appendix B for a list of Council Roads, Appendix C for a list of Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure Roads where wood collection is not permitted). Map indicating the Roads where collection is not permitted is included in Appendix D.
5. RESPONSIBILITIES

Pursuant to section 44 of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council hereby delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to assess and decide on applications made under this policy. The CEO has sub-delegated these powers and functions to the Manager Technical Services and Manager Development and Inspectorial Services.

6. LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 1999, Section 221:

1) A person (other than the council or a person acting under some other statutory authority) must not make an alteration to a public road unless authorised to do so by the council.

2) A person makes an alteration to a public road if the person: (e) plants a tree or other vegetation on the road, interferes with vegetation on the road, or removes vegetation from the road.


7. REVIEW

It is the responsibility of the Manager Technical Services to monitor the adequacy of this policy and recommend appropriate changes. This Collection of Firewood Policy shall be reviewed by the Tatiara District Council at minimum every four (4) years, within 12 months of a general election (or on significant change to legislation or other matters which could affect this policy).

**RECORD OF AMENDMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Revision No</th>
<th>Reason For Amendment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>August 2016</td>
<td>Rev: 00</td>
<td>Draft Document prepared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th August 2016</td>
<td>Rev: 01</td>
<td>Policy adopted by Council</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX “A”

Permit to Collect Fallen Timber from Roadsides

Applicant Name: ...........................................................................................................

Postal Address: ...........................................................................................................

Pursuant to Section 221 of the Local Government Act 1999, approval is granted to take dead fallen timber from the roadside on those roads within the Tatiara District Council that are not excluded under the Council’s Collection of Firewood from Road Reserves Policy (a copy of which is available on Council’s website or by request).

The issuing of this permit is subject to the following conditions:-

1. The permit is valid from one (1) month from the date of issue (expiring on.../...../.........)

2. The permit does not under any circumstances allow for the cutting down or removal of any standing tree or limb irrespective of whether it is living or dead. No hollow logs are permitted to be cut, removed, or tampered with in any way.

3. Avoid any damage to any other native vegetation as well as to property belonging to adjoining landowners e.g. fences.

4. Any remaining branches and foliage are to be left in a neat and tidy manner.

5. Permit holders are not permitted to enter any fenced area or private property to collect fallen timber.

6. Collection or cutting of fallen timber will not be permitted during the fire danger season or during any period which has been declared a Total Fire Ban.

7. Firewood collection is for personal use only and is not to be sold or given to any other persons.

8. Timber must be stacked safely and securely on vehicles and/or trailers so that nothing falls off on the journey home.

9. Payment of the permit fee of five dollars ($5) per permit or as set out by Council in its annual Fees and Charges.

10. Permit holders agree to indemnify and keep indemnified the Tatiara District Council, its servants and agents and each of them from and against all actions, costs, claims, damages charges and expenses whatsoever which may be brought or made or claimed against them or any of them arising out of or in relation to the issuing of this permit.

11. Permit holders must keep a copy of this permit in their possession at all times whilst they are in the process of collecting and/or removing any fallen timber from the roadside, and must produce it on demand.

12. When parked on a roadside for the purpose of collecting and/or removing any fallen timber from the roadside, permit holders will comply at all times with the Road Traffic Act 1961.

13. This approval does not apply to Commons, Stone or Water Reserves, Parklands and Conservation Parks.

Signed for an on behalf of Tatiara District Council

Name: ...........................................................................................................

Position: ............................................................................................................

Signature: .........................................................................................................
APPENDIX “B”

Council Roads where Wood Collection is NOT PERMITTED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Road Name</th>
<th>Road Category</th>
<th>Length (km)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangham to Francis (sic) / Bangham Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>33.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadview</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>4.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Browns</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>0.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunbury</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>5.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadell</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>18.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannawigara</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannawigara</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carew</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>14.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carousel</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark Island Well</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>13.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emu Flat</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>28.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gap</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gap</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>26.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grubbed</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>2.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hundred of Makin</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>8.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jip Jip</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilmarey</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kochs</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>0.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learmouths/Danbys (sic) / Danbys Road</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learmouths/Danbys (sic) / Danbys Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>4.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lockharts (sic) / Lockhart Rd</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>1.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milnes (sic) / Milne Rod</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Monster</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>4.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Mi Mi</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>2.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My Mi Mi</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>18.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petherick</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>6.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Hill East (sic) / Langley Rod</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>0.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Hill North (sic) / Pine Hill Rd</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>16.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playfairs (sic) / Playfair Rd</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>9.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>2.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Bluff</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>4.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### APPENDIX “C”

**Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure Roads where Wood Collection is NOT PERMITTED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Road Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dukes Highway</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>5.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dukes Highway</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>20.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dukes Highway</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>5.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bordertown – Frances (sic) / Frances Road</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bordertown – Frances (sic) / Frances Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>22.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bordertown to Desert Camp (sic) / Rowney Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bordertown to Hynam (sic) / Frances Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>5.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bordertown to Naracoorte (sic) / Naracoorte Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>16.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desert Camp-Kingston (sic) / Rowney Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>11.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hynam – Frances (sic) / Frances Road</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>0.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith – Desert Camp (sic) / Riddoch Highway</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>0.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith – Desert Camp (sic) / Riddoch Highway</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>29.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith – Padthaway (sic) / Riddoch Highway</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>11.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinaroo – Bordertown / (now Ngarkat Highway)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>40.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pinnaroo – Bordertown (sic) / Ngarkat Hwy</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>32.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX “D”

Map of Roadside Vegetation Classifications
APPENDIX 2: NVC FACT SHEET – DEAD TREES INCLUDED AS NATIVE VEGETATION

Dead Trees Included as Native Vegetation

Native Vegetation Information Sheet No.28
Updated May 2013

BACKGROUND
Native vegetation in South Australia is protected by the Native Vegetation Act 1991 (the Act) and the Native Vegetation Regulations 2003 (the Regulations). The legislation prevents broad-scale clearance and minimises smaller-scale clearance; enhances and restores the State’s native vegetation; and outlines certain procedures and assessments that need to be undertaken before any clearance of native vegetation can proceed.

The Native Vegetation Council (NVC) is established under the Act and is responsible for advising the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation about the preservation and enhancement of the State’s native vegetation, including determining clearance applications.

Within the Act, ‘native vegetation’ includes all naturally occurring local native plants, from small ground covers and native grasses to large trees. It also includes both freshwater and saltwater vegetation and certain dead trees. Plants may be isolated or part of a larger group or community.

DEFINITION OF A ‘DEAD TREE’ UNDER THE NATIVE VEGETATION ACT
A ‘dead tree’ is deemed to be native vegetation under the Native Vegetation Regulations 2003, Regulation 3A, where:

- the circumference of the trunk of the tree at 300 mm from the base of the tree is
  - in the case of a tree located on Kangaroo Island – 1 metre or more;
  - in any other case – 2 metres or more; and
- the tree provides or has potential to provide, or is part of a group of trees or other plants (whether alive or dead) that provides, or has potential to provide, a habitat for animals of a listed threatened species under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).

This definition only applies to trees that are of a species indigenous to South Australia and occur naturally or have been planted in accordance with the Act, and then only to trees that provide, or have the potential to provide, habitat for threatened species as listed under the Commonwealth’s EPBC Act.

The Act recognizes the importance of habitat. Hollows in dead trees can provide important nesting and roosting sites for native fauna. For example, Glossy Black-Cockatoos often nest in hollows in dead eucalypts on Kangaroo Island. Hollows are formed mainly in living trees by termites, which enter via the trunk. A dead tree with a rotten butt has the potential to expose suitable hollows once smaller branches have dropped.

Clearance of a dead tree that is defined and protected as ‘native vegetation’ may only occur through an appropriate exemption under a Regulation or by application to the NVC for consideration and approval.

FAUNA SPECIES OF CONCERN IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA
In South Australia four birds and one mammal listed as threatened species under the Australian Government’s EPBC Act use, or potentially use, large dead trees as habitat:

- Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (SE Form) Calyptorhynchus banksii graptoigne
- Glossy Black-Cockatoo (K1 Form) Calyptorhynchus lathami hainmaturus
- Regent Parrot (SE Form) Polytelis anthopeplus anthopeplus
- Princess Parrot Polytelis alexandrae
- South-eastern Long-eared Bat Nyctophilus corbini

The following pages provide more information about these species, their distribution and potential use of dead trees as habitat.

Landholders are encouraged to leave any dead trees where possible, especially trees with hollows, as these also provide valuable habitat for other native fauna.

APPENDIX 3: POTENTIAL SITES MAP