

Roadside Weeds and Pests Program Control Plan 2023-2026

1: Council Name: Strathbogie Shire Council

2: Contact Details:

Name: Molly O'Connor

Position: Environment and Waste Coordinator

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Email: molly.o'connor@strathbogie.vic.gov.au

3: Regional context of noxious weed and pest animal management:

The Strathbogie Shire Council is located in the northeast of Victoria and covers approximately 1,111 square kilometres. The landform consists of sparsely treed granite hills and fertile river flats. The area is predominantly rural and includes large production farms down to small hobby farms, weekenders owned by Melbourne residents or unoccupied bushland protected under Crown or Covenant. There are also low density settlements surrounding the rural townships of Violet Town, Strathbogie, Ruffy, Avenel and Longwood and urban settlements in the major regional centres of Euroa and Nagambie.

Strathbogie Shire Council is responsible for the management of approximately 3,000kms of local road network and is dedicated to managing weed infestations on council managed land and committed to the early prevention and control of weed species newly identified in the area.

4: Community Consultation:

Council works closely with our 11 Landcare Groups to implement the Roadside Weed and Pest Program, holding regular meetings with all groups to receive and give updates, troubleshoot issues, run and participate in workshops and support landowners in their sustainable farming and noxious pest eradication endeavours. The Landcare Groups will also be engaged as part of the development of the plan.

5: Stakeholder Consultation:

List key stakeholders who have been consulted in the development of this plan.

- Internal Council Stakeholders
- Balmattum- Sheans Creek Landcare Group
- Strathbogie Tablelands Landcare
- Creightons Creek Landcare Group
- Gooram Valley Landcare Group
- Sheep Pen Creek Land Management Group
- Longwood East Landcare Group
- Warrenbayne Boho Land Protection Group
- Burnt Creek Landcare
- Nagambie Landcare Group
- Hughes Creek and Upper Hughes Creek Landcare
- Surrounding Councils
-

6: Relevant Policies, Strategies and Submissions:

List policies, strategies, and submissions relevant to this plan (State, regional, and local).

State

Invasive Plants and Animal Policy Framework

Regional

GBCMA Invasive Animals and Plants Strategy 2019 – 2025

Local

Strathbogie Shire Council Roadside Management Plan

Strathbogie Roadside Conservation Assessments

Strathbogie Shire Council Climate Change Action Plan

7: Objectives of the Plan:

To contribute the Shire's ongoing roadside weed and rabbit management program and to complement past works that have been completed by Strathbogie Shire, various Landcare groups and the State Government. Assist with the preventing the spread and introduction of invasive plant and animal species across the Shire and the region as a whole.

Strathbogie Shire Council's overall roadside weed and rabbit management objective is the effective and proactive management of invasives species on Council managed roadsides across the Shire. Investment of grant funds will be aligned to:

1. Treatment for the eradication of Regionally Prohibited Weed infestations
2. Treatment for the containment or reduction in area infestations of Regionally Controlled Weeds and pests, particularly where these align to projects being undertaken by other organisations (ie Landcare, DoT)
3. Supporting community group investment in declared weed and pest control projects
4. Contributing to other previous investment in the control of Regionally Controlled and Regionally Prohibited Weeds and pests
5. Protect identified assets such as significant roadside vegetation under threat from weed invasion or other significant roadside infrastructure
6. Support weed and pest animal management projects being undertaken by land owners
7. Addressing other roadside declared noxious weed infestations of concern to the Shire's community including Restricted Weeds declared under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CaLP Act 1994)

8: Term of the Plan:

The plan will run for a maximum three year period to 30 June 2026.

9: Full time equivalent (FTE) resourcing:

Provide an estimate of the full time equivalent (FTE) number of staff and contractors who will be working on achieving control plan outcomes. Include both office and field based staff and contractors.

Staff Member	Time	Duties
Environment and Waste Coordinator (Strathbogie Shire Council)	0.3 FTE	Managing contractors Mapping Invoices Tracking of management works Liaising with Landcare Groups
Contractors	As required	Undertaking control works Mapping
Landcare groups	Various	Identifying priority infestations Reporting

10: Target Species:

List the species that will be targeted during the duration of this control plan; eg.

<i>Serrated tussock</i>	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	<i>Regionally Prohibited Weed</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>To support Agriculture Victoria compliance programs</i>
Common Name	Scientific Name	CaLP Act Classification	Priority Rating	Reason for Management
<i>1 highest - 4 lowest</i>				
Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	Establish Pest Animal	1	To support community and stakeholder action
Gorse/Furze	<i>Ulex europaeas L.</i>	Regionally Controlled Weed	1	To support community and stakeholder action
Blackberry	<i>Rubus Fruticosus L. (agg.)</i>	Regionally Controlled Weed	2	To support community and stakeholder action
Paterson's curse	<i>Echium plantagineum L.</i>	Regionally Controlled Weed	2	To support community and stakeholder action
Serrated tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma (Nees.) Hack. Ex Arechav.</i>	Regionally Prohibited Weed	1	To contain, eradicate and prevent long term establishment of roadside infestations
Bridal Creeper	<i>Asparagus asparagiodes</i>	Restricted Weed	3	To support community and stakeholder action

Chilean Needle Grass	<i>Nassella neesiana</i> (Trin. & Rupr.) Barkworth	Restricted Weed	3	To support community and stakeholder action and to prevent long term establishment of roadside infestations
Prickly pear	<i>Opuntia monacantha</i> Haw. And <i>Opuntia stricta</i> (Haw.)	Regionally Controlled Weed	3	To support community and stakeholder action
St Johns Wort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i> L.	Regionally Controlled Weed	3	To support community and stakeholder action
Cape Tulip (one leaf and two leaf)	<i>Moraea flaccida</i> (sweet) Steud. & <i>Moraea miniate</i> Andrews	Regionally Prohibited Weed	1	To support community and stakeholder action To contain, eradicate and prevent long term establishment of roadside infestations
Caltrop	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> L.	Regionally Controlled Weed	4	To contain, eradicate and prevent long term establishment of roadside infestations

11: Control Measures and Target Roadsides:

List the control measures and target roadsides; eg.

Common Name	Control Measures	Location of Proposed Works	Estimated Length of Roadside to be Treated Annually	Approximate Annual Timing of Treatment
<i>Serrated tussock</i>	<i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	<i>Smith Road, Smithville</i>	<i>5km</i>	<i>Feb – Oct</i>
	To be based on accepted best practice management of the target species	Location of proposed works should be specified, and a map where possible should accompany the plan	Km = length of road along which both sides are treated. Where only one side is treated halve the figure	
Rabbit	Fumigation or mechanical ripping of warrens where appropriate	Brookleigh Road (Strathbogie) Polly McQuinns Road (Strathbogie) Merton Strathbogie Road (Strathbogie)	10	Sept - Dec
Gorse/Furze	Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	Morgans Lane (Tabilk) Nagambie Locksley Road (Nagambie)	3	Sept - Feb
Blackberry	Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	Creighton’s Creeks Road (Creightons Creek) Buntings Hill Road (Ruffy)	6	Sept - May

		Sinclair Lane (Ruffy) Killeens Hill Road (Ruffy) Ankers Road (Strathbogie) Boundary Hill Road (Strathbogie) Merton Strathbogie Road (Strathbogie)		
Paterson's curse	Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	Racecourse Road (Nagambie) Cahill Road (Nagambie) Dargalong Road (Nagambie)	9	Sept - Feb
Serrated tussock	Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	Nagambie, Avenel Euroa	2	Oct - June
Bridal Creeper	Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	Pointings Lane (Nagambie) Heathcote Nagambie Road (Nagambie) Faithful Road (Locksley) Carmondys Road (Locksley)	30	Nov - April

Chilean Needle Grass	Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	Euroa Strathbogie Road (Euroa) Boho Church Road (Balmattum)	1	Oct - June
Prickly pear	Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	McDiarmids Road (Violet Town) High Street (Violet Town)	8	Dec - June
St Johns Wort	Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	Creighton's Creeks Road (Creightons Creek) Buntings Hill Road (Ruffy) Sinclair Lane (Ruffy) Killeens Hill Road (Ruffy) Tames Road (Strathbogie) Spring Creek Road (Strathbogie) Coach Road (Strathbogie)	6	Oct - May
Cape Tulip (one leaf and two leaf)	Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	Tarcombe Road (Euroa) Euroa Tip Road (Euroa)	3	June - Sept
Caltrop	Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in	Temple Court (Miepoll)	7	May - August

accordance with the product
label

Thorndyke Drive (Miepoll)
Tracey Court (Miepoll)

12: Maps:

Provide the following maps to support the control plan information:

- Map 1 Proposed location of control works.
- Map 2 Known infestations of Regionally Prohibited Weeds, Regionally Controlled Weeds, established pest animals and Restricted Weeds.

13: Declarations:

Council will:

- Publish this approved plan (or approved variation to this plan if relevant) on its website within 28 days of approval and ensure copies are available for public inspection at Council's office(s). Any personal information contained in the control plan should be redacted prior to publishing. The signatures on the approved control plan may also be redacted prior to publishing.
- Coordinate the implementation of this plan on council managed roadsides in accordance with the investment principles stated in this plan and the control measures specified.
- Implement best practice weed hygiene principles and protocols.
- Maintain accurate records sufficient to provide evidence that the plan has been carried out and provide these on request.
- Obtain approval from Agriculture Victoria before substantially modifying or varying the plan.
- Carefully consider any proposals from Agriculture Victoria to modify or vary the plan in response to changed circumstances.

Council Declaration

I declare that I am an authorised representative and the information given on this form is complete and correct

Key Council Contact Name: Molly O'Connor

Date: 24/01/2024

Signature: 

Council CEO Name:

Date: 24/01/2024

Signature: 

Agriculture Victoria Endorsement

I declare that I am an authorised representative and that this plan has been reviewed and aligns with eligible activities.

Agriculture Victoria Regional Biosecurity Manager – Plants, Chemicals and Invasives

Name: BEN PERRY

Date: 31/1/24

Signature: Ben Perry