

Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

Municipality Details

Council Name:

Key Contact Name: Ken Cox

Position: Supervisor Trails & Waterways

Contact Details:

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Regional Context of Noxious Weed and Pest Animal Management

To assist Local Government Victoria in gaining an understanding of the regional perspective, briefly provide a summary of noxious weeds and pest animal management on council managed roadsides in your municipality.

The City of Ballarat is located in the northeast of Victoria and covers approximately 1,111 square kilometres. The landform consists of sparsely treed rolling hills and fertile river flats. The area is predominantly rural and includes large production farms down to smaller hobby farms. There are also low-density settlements surrounding the rural townships of Buninyong, Learmonth, Burrumbeet and North-East Ballarat and urban settlements in the major regional centres of Ballarat.

The City of Ballarat Council is responsible for the management of approximately 3,000km 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.

Through past State Government funding initiatives Council has treated approximately 1,574 km of roadsides for Regionally Controlled and Regionally Prohibited weeds and established pest animals. Please refer to Table 1 for a list of current target species.

Community Consultation

Briefly describe how Council stays informed of community priorities for weed and rabbit management. Examples may include; relevant public meetings, feedback/comment via Council website, meetings with relevant groups, recording of correspondence.

It is expected that prior to drafting the plan, Council will have notified the community that a plan is to be prepared and views are invited on what the plan should address. Views from the community should be considered.

The City of Ballarat stays in close touch with community concerns via attendance at meetings of [land care or other groups] and via phone calls and correspondence from individuals. The Council has also specifically requested community

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views on this issue via [local newspaper, council web site, radio interviews] and maintains a record of feedback. Much of the information required to develop this plan had already been obtained during development of the City of Ballarat's Environment Strategy & Roadside Management Plan [relevant existing plans or strategies].

Stakeholder Consultation

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

- Landcare Coordinator, Upper Reaches Landcare Network
- Catchment Planning Officer, Catchment Management Authority
- Regional Landcare Groups
- Community Groups

Relevant Local, Regional Policies and Strategies and submissions

List policies, strategies and submissions relevant to this plan.

State

- Invasive Plants and Animal Policy Framework

Regional

- Upper Reaches CMA Regional Weed Plan

Local

- The City of Ballarat Council's Environment Strategy (Action 3.2.1)
- The City of Ballarat Council's Roadside Management Plan

Submissions

Any submissions received by Council relating to RPWs, RCWs, EPAs or Restricted Weeds.

Objectives of the Plan

Provide a general overview of Council's objectives, activities, outputs and expected outcomes.
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Contribute to the Council's ongoing roadside weed and rabbit management program and complement past investments made by The City of Ballarat enabled through State Government initiative funding. Assist with preventing the spread and introduction of invasive plant and animal species across the Council and the region as a whole.

The City of Ballarat Council's overall roadside weed and rabbit management objective is the effective and proactive management of invasive species on Council managed roadsides across the Council. Investment of funds will be aligned to:

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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 rabbits – aligned to DEDJTR weed and rabbit compliance project area.*
3. *Supporting community group investment in weed and pest control projects.*
4. *Contributing to other previous investment in the control of Regionally Controlled and Regionally Prohibited Weeds and rabbits.*
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 programs being undertaken by land owners.*
7. *Addressing other roadside declared noxious weed infestations of concern to the Council's community including Restricted Weeds declared under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CaLP Act). [list any relevant local examples]*

Term of the Plan

Outline the term for which the plan is to operate.

*The plan will run for a **two year period** from 1 July 2017 (date of commencement) to 30 June 2019*

Funding

Outline how council plans to fund the implementation of the plan.

- *RWPP Allocation - \$20,504 per year*
- *Council Contribution - \$65,000 per year*
- *Other funding.*

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Table 1: Target Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	CaLP classification	PRIORITY RATING (1 highest – 4 lowest)	Reasons for Management
<i>Rabbit</i>	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	<i>Established Pest Animal</i>	1	- <i>To support community and stakeholder action.</i> - <i>To support DEDJTR compliance programs</i>
<i>Pattersons Curse</i>	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	<i>Regionally Controlled Weed</i>	1	- <i>To support DEDJTR compliance programs</i>
<i>Blackberry</i>	<i>Rubus fruticosus (agg.)</i>	<i>Regionally Controlled Weed</i>	1 & 2	- <i>To support DEDJTR compliance programs.</i>
<i>Boneseed</i>	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	<i>Regionally Controlled Weed</i>	1	- <i>To support previous investment by Council</i>
<i>Gorse</i>	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	<i>Regionally Prohibited Weed</i>	1	- <i>To support DEDJTR compliance programs</i>
				-

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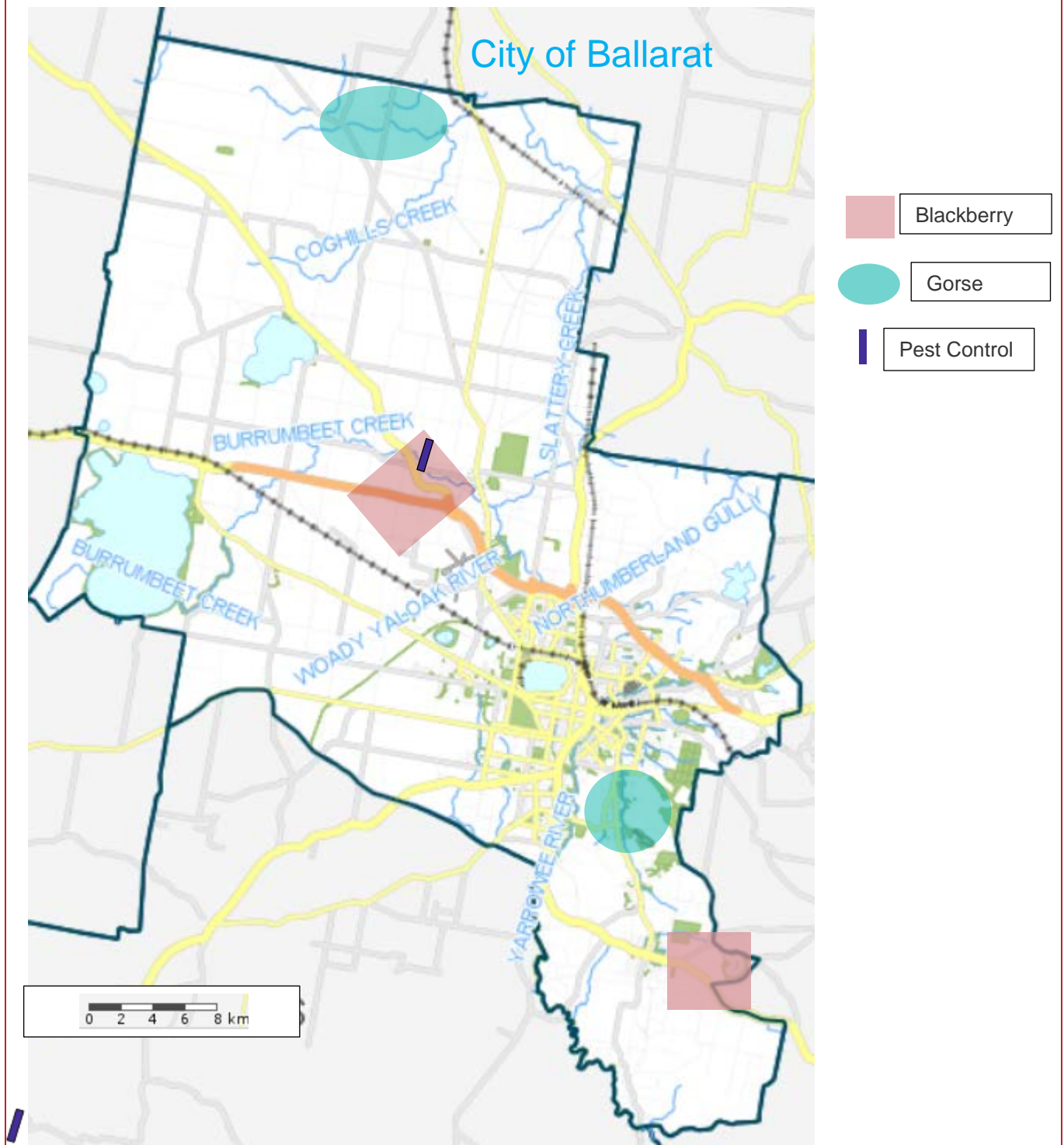
Table 2: Control Measures and Target Roadsides (this table can be used as part of Council's yearly or acquittal report to LGV)

Common Name*	Control Measures (to be based on accepted best practice management of the target species)	Location of where works will be done (location of proposed works should be specified, and a map where possible should accompany the plan)	Estimate of length of roadside to be treated annually over 2 years (Km = length of road along which both sides are treated. Where only one side is treated halve the figure)	Approximate Annual Timing of Treatment	Estimated Cost
Rabbit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gassing of warrens - Mechanical ripping of warrens where appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Predominantly on Slatterys Rd 		Sept - Feb	\$10,504
Pattersons Curse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label - Manual removal of isolated plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As required by community requests - Midas Rd Miners Rest 		Nov-Dec	\$10,000
Blackberry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label - Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Predominantly in the Mount Bolton & Mount Buninyong areas - Eastern Peck Rd & Mt Bolton Rd - Webbs Hill Rd & Blackberry Lane - As required by community requests 		Nov - Mar	\$20,000
Boneseed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label - Cut-stump herbicide application - Manual removal of seedlings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As required by community requests 		Jun – Oct All year	\$5,504
Gorse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label - Manual removal of isolated plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Predominantly in Miners Rest, Windermere & Mount Helen areas - Moss Ave & Shire Ave - As required by community requests 		Nov – Mar All year	\$25,000

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Maps

Map 1 Proposed location of control works.



Map 2 Known infestations of Regionally Prohibited Weeds, Regionally Controlled Weeds and Established Pest Animals and Restricted Weeds.

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Statement of Responsibilities

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.
- 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 in Table 2.
- 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 to Local Government Victoria on request.
- Obtain approval from DEDJTR before substantially modifying or varying the plan.
- Carefully consider any proposals from DEDJTR to modify or vary the plan in response to changed circumstances.

Provide a completion report to Local Government Victoria within 30 days from expiry of this plan outlining the outcomes of the control measures undertaken.

DEDJTR Endorsement

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

**DEDJTR Regional Manager - Plants, Chemicals
& Invasive Species**

Name:

Signature:

Date:

Declaration

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

Key Contact Name:

Date:

Signature:

Council CEO Name:

Signature:

Date: