

# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

## Municipality Details

Council Name:

Key Contact Name: Deidre Andrews

Position: Waste and Sustainability Coordinator

Contact Details: 03 5355 0200 or 0400397019

dandrews@ararat.vic.gov.au

## Regional Context of Noxious Weed and Pest Animal Management

The Shire of Ararat is located in central/south-west Victoria – the catchment is predominately Glenelg-Hopkins and has a small portion, in the north of the shire, which is in the Wimmera; and covers approximately 13.6km<sup>2</sup>s. The landform consists of sparsely treed rolling hills; closer to the Grampians National Park region, dry river flats, at the beginning of the Wimmera River, Endangered Victorian Volcanic Plains, in the south and steep sedimentary hills around Ararat. The area is predominantly rural and includes medium to large production farms down to smaller hobby farms. There are also low density settlements surrounding the rural townships of Lake Bolac, Moyston, Pomonal, Elmhurst and urban settlements in the major regional centre of Ararat.

Ararat Rural City Council is responsible for the management of approximately 2,362km of local road network (sealed and un-sealed) and is dedicated to managing weed and rabbit infestations on council managed land and committed to the early prevention and control of pest plant and animal species newly and historically identified in the area.

Through past State Government funding initiatives, Council has treated approximately 4,280 km of Council managed area inclusive of roadsides (both sides), tracks, reserves and aerodrome 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

The Ararat Rural City Council has sustained links with the community to stay attuned to the current and emerging weed and rabbit issues in the area.

The partnership between Ararat Rural City with the Upper Hopkins Land Management Group, Beyond Bolac Catchment Action Group, Ararat, Project Platypus and Moyston Landcare Group and encompasses feedback from landholders across the Shire and results in a collaborative approach to weed and rabbit control activities.

Council's Waste and Sustainability Coordinator attends quarterly meetings of the *Invasive Plants and Animals sub-committee* facilitated by Project Platypus together with community representatives, Parks Victoria, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR),

# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

neighbouring shires (Horsham Rural City Council and Northern Grampians Shire Council) and Wimmera CMA. The community are encouraged to report weed and rabbit concerns directly to the Council either in person, by phone enquiry, through the website or via direct email. The website contains information regarding Council's weed identification booklet – available to the public and provides legislative responsibility information to landholders. Ararat Rural City Council Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Roadside Management Strategy incorporate Roadside Pest Plant and Animal control works.

## Stakeholder Consultation

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

- Biosecurity, Agriculture Victoria (DJPR)
- Project Platypus, Upper Wimmera Landcare Network
- Wimmera Catchment Management Authority
- Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority
- Upper Hopkins Land Management Group
- Ararat Landcare Group/Biolinks Project
- Moyston Landcare Group
- Beyond Bolac Catchment Action Group
- Council Roads and Infrastructure Field Staff

## 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

- Wimmera Invasive Plant and Animal Strategy 2010-2015, Glenelg Hopkins Invasive Animals Strategy 2010-2014 and Glenelg Hopkins Regional Weed Plan 2007-2012 – Wimmera and Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authorities

### Local

- Ararat Rural City Council Plan 2017-2021
- Ararat Rural City Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2010-2020
- Ararat Rural City Council's Roadside Management Plan 2005
- Ararat Rural City Council's Fire Prevention Plan
- Project Platypus – Upper Wimmera Landcare Strategic Plan 2015-2018

### Submissions

# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

*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.

Contribute to the Ararat Rural City Council's ongoing roadside weed and rabbit management program and complement past investments made by the Council enabled through State Government initiative funding and Council contribution; to assist with preventing the spread and introduction of invasive plant and animal species across the municipality and the region as a whole.

Ararat Rural City Council's overall roadside weed and rabbit management objective is the effective and proactive management of invasive species on Council managed roadsides across the Shire. Investment of 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 rabbits – aligned to DJPR weed and rabbit compliance project area.
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 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 Shire's community including Restricted Weeds declared under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CaLP Act). This includes but is not limited to Gorse, Spiny Rush, Paterson's Curse, St John's Wort, Serrated Tussock, Blackberry, Amsinckia, Broom (English and Flax-leaved), Cape Tulip (one-leaf and two-leaf), Bridal Creeper, Boneseed, Sweet Briar, African Box-thorn and Horehound

## Term of the Plan

July 2019-June 2020

## Funding

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

- Roadside Weeds and Pests Program – \$63,628

# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

**Table 1: Target Species**

Outline the target species and reasoning for management.

Common Name	Scientific Name	CaLP classification	PRIORITY RATING (1 highest – 4 lowest)	Reasons for Management
Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	Established Pest Animal	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To support DEDJTR compliance programs – Elmhurst Rabbit Compliance Project</li> <li>- To support community and stakeholder actions.</li> </ul>
Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus (agg.)</i>	Regionally Controlled Weed	1 & 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To support DEDJTR compliance programs &amp; previous community investment</li> </ul>
Sweet Briar	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	Regionally Controlled Weed	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support community and stakeholder action.</li> </ul>
Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	Regionally Prohibited Weed	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To support previous investment by Council</li> </ul>
Serrated tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	Regionally Prohibited Weed	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To support DEDJTR compliance programs</li> </ul>
Bridal Creeper	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	Restricted Weed	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support community and stakeholder action.</li> </ul>
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Regionally Controlled Weed	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To support DEDJTR compliance programs = Upper Hopkins Gorse Compliance Project</li> <li>- In response to ratepayer requests, support community and stakeholder action.</li> </ul>

## Roadside Weeds & Pests Program

**Table 1: Target Species**

Outline the target species and reasoning for management.

Common Name	Scientific Name	CaLP classification	PRIORITY RATING (1 highest – 4 lowest)	Reasons for Management
African Box Thorn	<i>Lycium ferocissimum Miers</i>	Regionally Controlled Weed	2	<i>Support community and stakeholder action</i>
Flax-leaved Broom	<i>Genista Linifolia L.</i>	Regionally Controlled/Restricted Weed	2	<i>Support community and stakeholder action</i>
Amsinckia	<i>Amsinckia spp</i>	Regionally Prohibited/Restricted Weed	1	<i>Support community and stakeholder action</i>
Paterson's Curse	<i>Echium plantagineum L.</i>	Regionally Controlled Weed	2	<i>Support community and stakeholder action</i>
St John's Wort	<i>Hypericum perforatum L.</i>	Regionally Controlled Weed	2	<i>Support community and stakeholder action</i>
Spiny Rush	<i>Juncus acutus L.</i>	Regionally Controlled	2	<i>Support community and stakeholder action</i>
Horehound	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	Regionally Controlled Weed	2	<i>Support community and stakeholder action</i>

# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

Table 2: Control Measures and Target Roadsides (this table can be used as part of Council's yearly or acquittal report to LGV) – Commonwealth Roadside Weeds and Pests Funding for Drought Affected Areas

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
	- <i>Weed mapping surveys</i>	<i>Municipality</i>	<i>2,362km</i>		<i>\$5,000</i>
<i>Rabbit</i>	- <i>Fumigation</i>				<i>\$10,000</i>
<i>Various- See below</i>	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate</i>	<i>Municipality DJPR 2019 Gorse Compliance area including: Old Geelong Rd, Hillside Rd- Geelong Rd, Buangor-Ben Nevis Rd, Andersons Rd &amp; Cobb Rd, Price Rd, Gravel Route Rd, Main St Buangor, Yerrabbin Rd School Rd, Challicum Rd, Buangor Rd</i>	<i>40km</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>\$15,000</i>

# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

**Table 3: 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	- fumigation	Elmhurst-roadsides Moyston, Crowlands, Previous investment – Gt Western, Black Range, Jallukar Landcare projects Other areas as advised/reported on inspection	200km	Sept - Feb	5,000
Blackberry	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label - Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate	Mount Callicum Rd	30km	Nov - Feb	3,000
Sweet Briar	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	Bald Hill, Chatsworth-Lake Bolac, Wickliffe, Delacombe, Doery's, Echidna, Geelong, Graham, Hucker, Jackson's Creek, Kangaroo Point, Kerr, Kinnersley, MacInnes, Major Mitchell, McCarthy's, McMasters, Mount Challicum, Mount Pleasant, Moyston-Dunkeld, Narrapumelap, Nerrin Nerrin, Nevilles, Norbank, North Crk, Old Brewery, Parupa Park, Parupa, Porter's Bridge, Sandhills, Simpson,	6km	Nov - Feb	1,500

# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

		South Beach, Spittle, Taylors, Thistle, Whites Williamson Roads/Streets/Lanes			
Boneseed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</li> <li>- Cut-stump herbicide application</li> <li>- Manual removal of seedlings</li> </ul>	Council areas around known infestation sites surrounding Ararat Regional Park	5km	Jun – Oct	1,000
Serrated tussock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</li> <li>- Manual removal of isolated plants</li> </ul>	Wickliffe, Maroona, Dobie, Lake Bolac	5km	Aug-Feb	1,000
Amsinckia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</li> </ul>	Watgania & Lake Bolac Pinky Point, Muirhead, Sandhills, Yarram Gap Rds Armstrong, Wickliffe/Chatsworth Rd	10km	Mar-Aug	3,000
Flax-leaved Broom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</li> <li>- Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate</li> </ul>	Blackie, Burke, Chalambar, Common, George, Golf Links, Jacksons Creek, McNeill, Montgomery, Moyston-Great Western, Picnic, Saw Pit Flat Tobin streets/roads	50km	Dec-Mar	2,000
African Box Thorn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</li> <li>- Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate</li> </ul>	McMasters Rd, Porters Bridge Rd, Settlement Rd, Yarram Gap Rd	20km		1,000
Bridal Creeper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</li> <li>- Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate</li> </ul>	Muirhead Rd	20km		1,000
Gorse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</li> <li>- Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate</li> </ul>	DJPR Gorse Compliance area including: Old Geelong Rd, Hillside Rd, Geelong Rd, Buangor-Ben Nevis Rd, Andersons Rd & Cobb Rd.	40km	Mar-Oct	10,000



# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

		<p>Mile Post Rd, Waldrons Rd, Yerrabbin Rd, Summer Rd, Goulds Lane, Middle Creek Rd, Ballyrogan Rd, O'Loughlan R, Chaillicum Rd, Dip Rd, Pickford Rd, Wire Lane, Willow Tree Rd, Robert Rd, Belfast Rd, Hookes Rd, Coxs Rd, Rocky Hill Rd, Mt William Rd and Tatyoon Rd Ritchies Bridge Rd/Mininera Rd between Rossbridge-Streatham Rd and Yall-Y-Poora Roads</p> <p>Willaura-Moyston Rd btwn Burrumbeep/Andrews Lne, Tatyoyyn Nrth Rd, Geddes Rd, Mt William extension Rd, Reid Rd</p> <p>Throughout the Council protecting previous investment in – DEDJTR Compliance project areas.</p>			
Horehound	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</li> <li>- Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate</li> </ul>	<p>Bald Hill, Darlington-Carraballac, Edgarley Estate, McKenzies, Moreton, Mount Challicum, Moyston-Dunkeld, Norbank, North Crk, Pagels streets/roads/lanes</p>	10km		500

# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

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
<i>St John's Wort</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</li> <li>- Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate</li> </ul>	Roadsides in vicinity of Ararat Regional Park Chalambar, Warings road/lane	10km		128
<i>English Broom</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</li> <li>- Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate</li> </ul>	Better Route Rd, Cathcart	1km	Dec-Mar	1,500
<i>Spiny Rush</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</li> <li>- Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate</li> </ul>	North part of the ARCC	20km		2,000
<i>Paterson's Curse</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</li> <li>- Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate</li> </ul>	Chatsworth-Wickliffe Rd near Karmala Lane Mt William Road Upper Hopkins Upper Wimmera, Warings Lne	3km	Jul-Nov	1,000
					<b>\$63,628</b>

# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

## Maps

As part of this program, weed mapping data collection will occur to update significant weed infestations across the municipality.

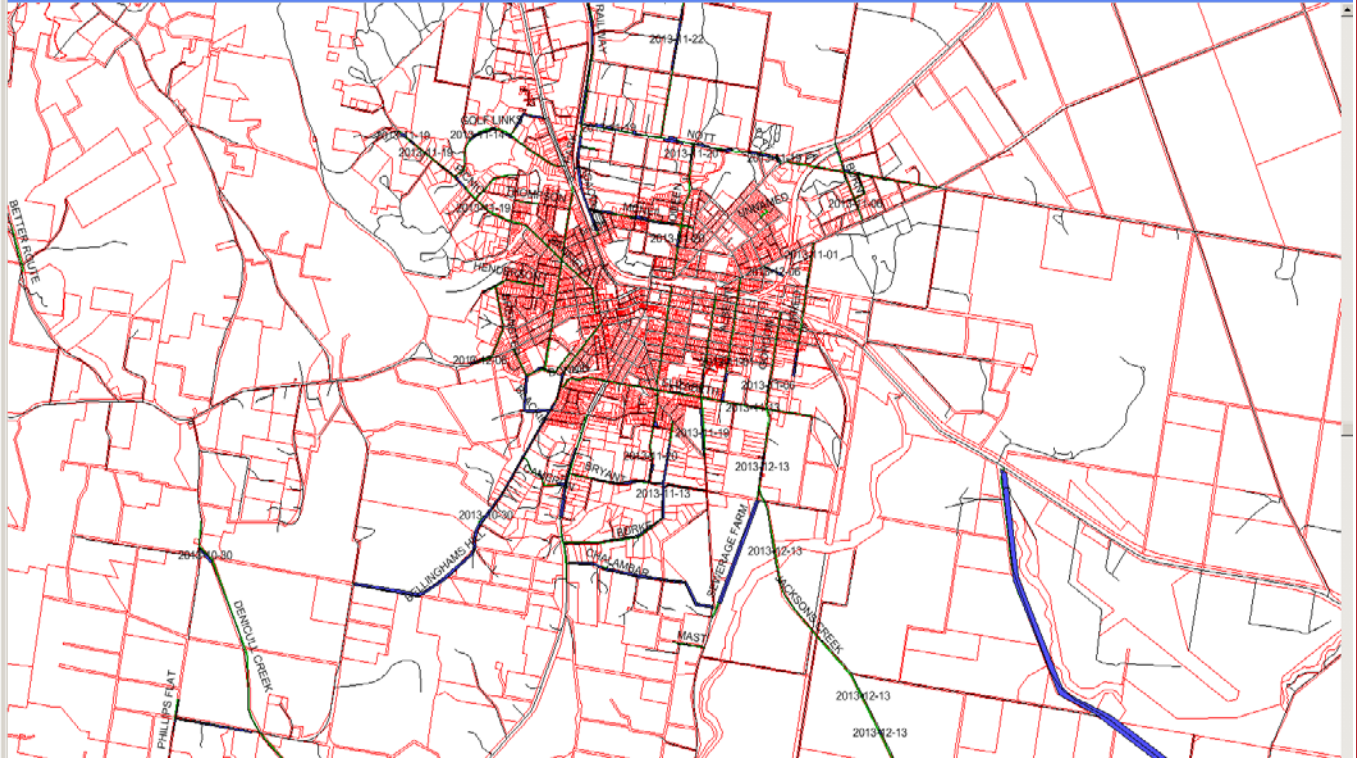


Figure 1 Proposed location of control works - Ararat township

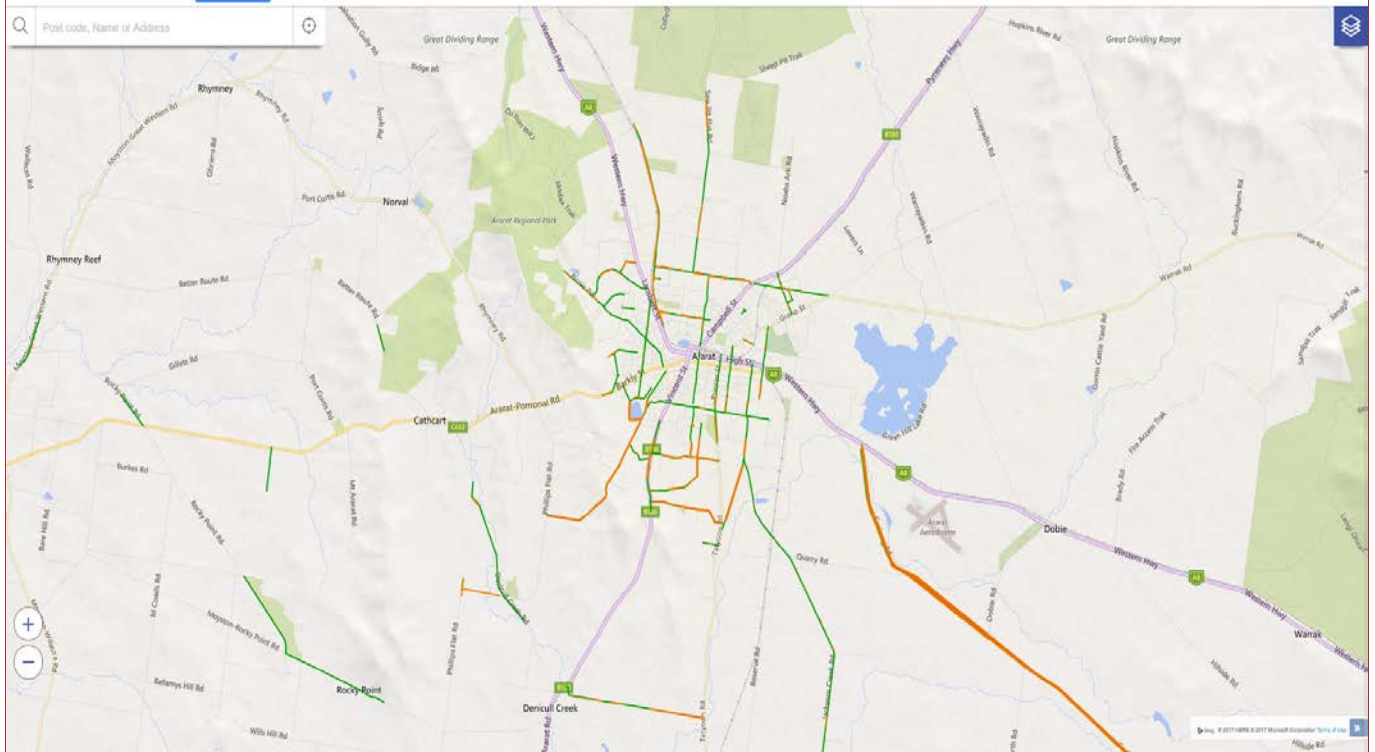


Figure 2 Known infestations of Regionally Prohibited Weeds, Regionally Controlled Weeds and established pest animals and restricted weeds



# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

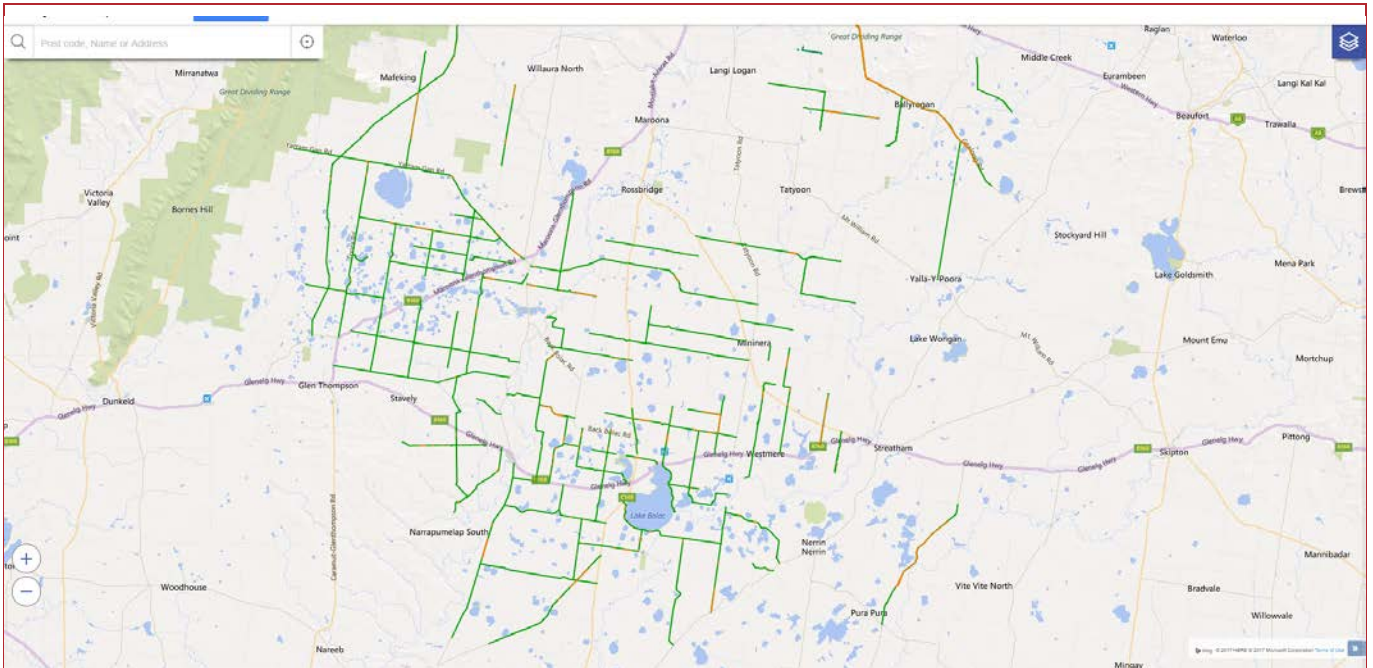


Figure 3 Known infestations of Regionally Prohibited Weeds, Regionally Controlled Weeds and established pest animals and restricted weeds

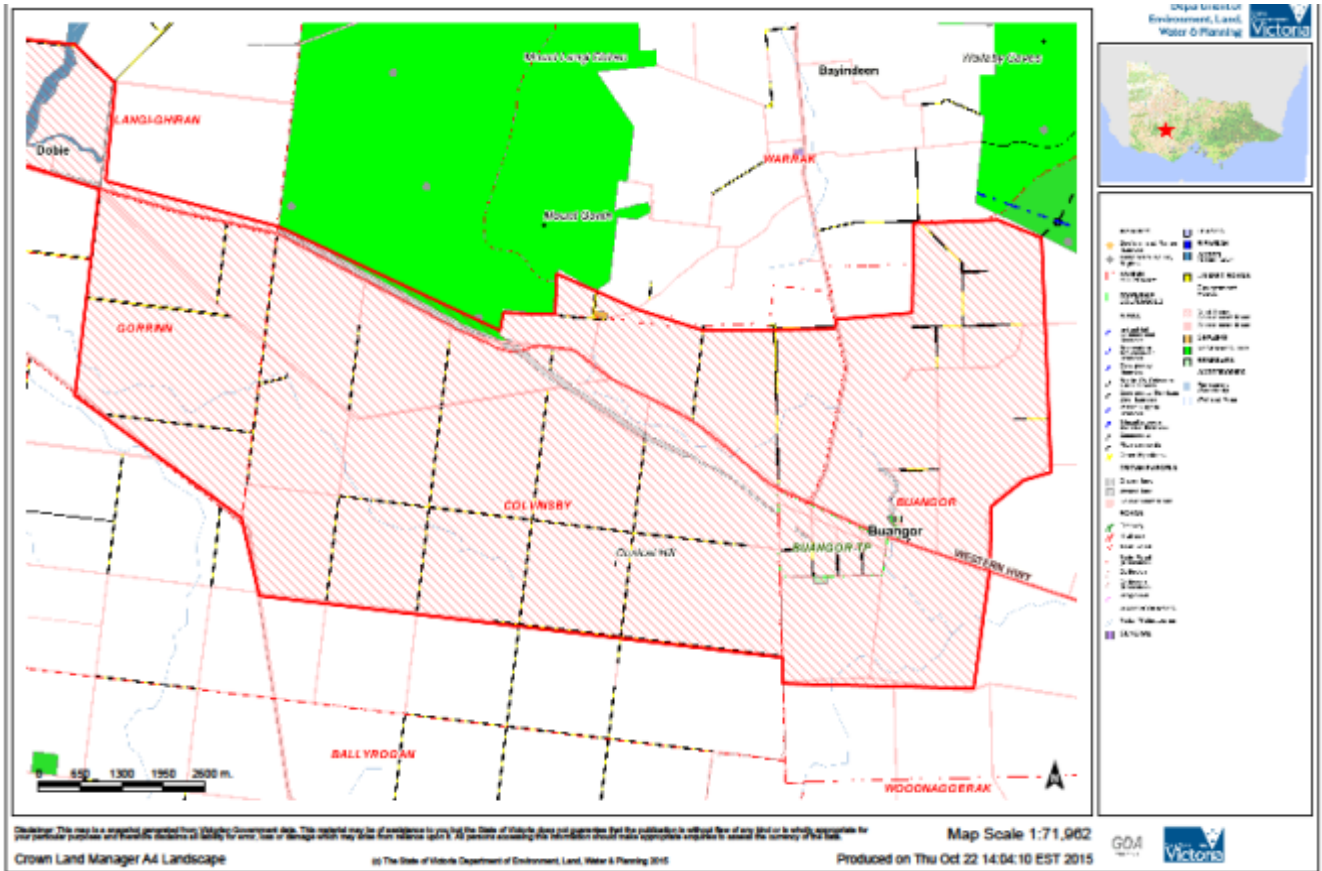


Figure 4 DEDJTR Gorse Compliance Project Area

# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

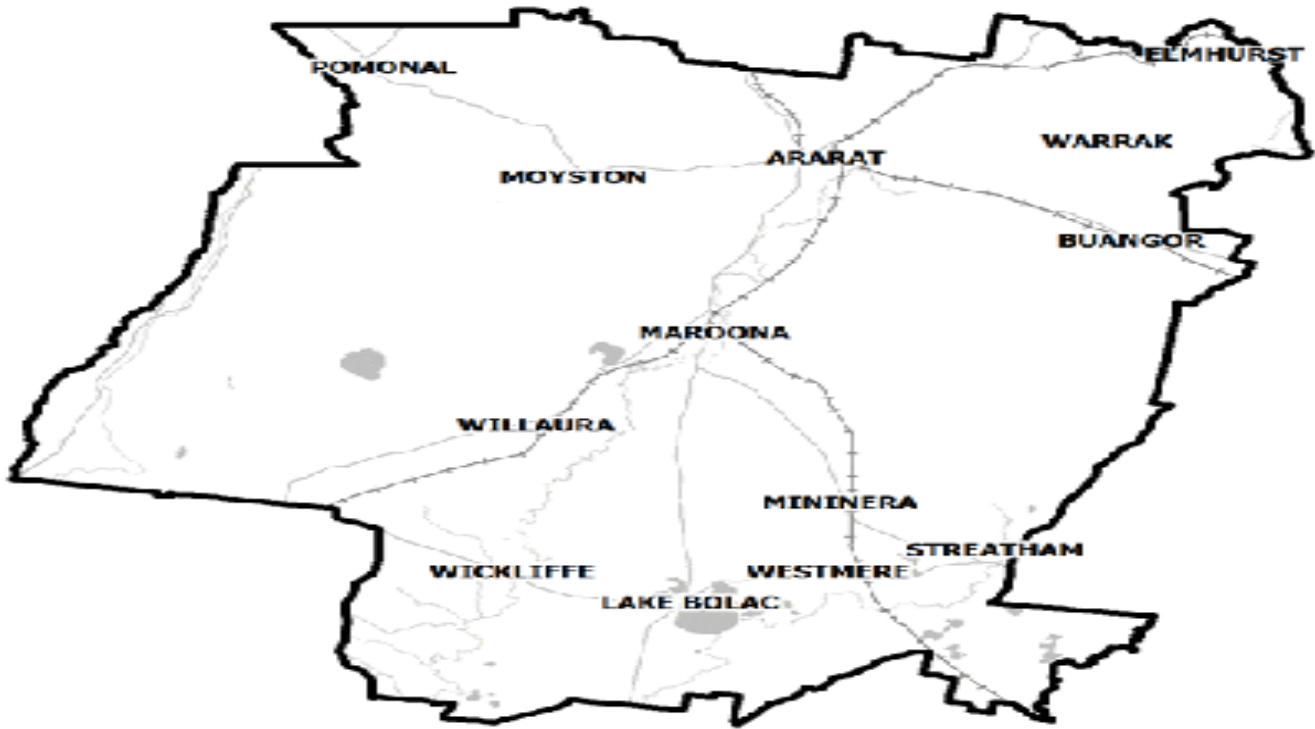


Figure 5 Proposed locations of weed control works shire wide

## 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 DJPR before substantially modifying or varying the plan.
- Carefully consider any proposals from DJPR 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.

# Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan

## DJPR Endorsement

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

**DJPR 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:** Deidre Andrews

Date: 31/08/2019

Signature:



**Council CEO Name:** Tim Harrison

Signature:

Date: