

## 2.55 Roadside Vegetation Management

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POLICY TITLE: ROADSIDE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

FILE REF: R40-107

EXPIRY DATE: AUGUST 2025

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### OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this policy are:

- To protect the integrity of the environmental assets that are present within the Council's roadside reserves and meet Council's legislative obligations regarding roadside vegetation.
- To support decision making during planning of Council projects by incorporating the principles and recommendations outlined in the Lockhart Roadside Vegetation Management Plan.

### BACKGROUND

The Lockhart Shire Roadside Vegetation Survey and Recommendations, which was created in 1997 and previously endorsed by Council, set forth conservation objectives for roadside vegetation in the Lockhart Shire, and applied conservation values to sites of significance. Council staff used this document to support decision making with respect to local approvals, permits, roadside environment preservation projects and engineering works. The Lockhart Roadside Vegetation Management Plan, referenced in this Policy, replaces the Lockhart Shire Roadside Vegetation Survey and Recommendations.

### LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

Council is obligated to comply with State and Federal legislation (and associated regulations) relating to the management of roadside reserves. This includes:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
- NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
- NSW Fisheries Management Act 1994
- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- NSW Heritage Act 1977
- NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997
- NSW Water Management Act 2000
- NSW Roads Act 1993
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007
- NSW Local Land Services Act 2013
- NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.

### POLICY CONTENTS

To preserve the natural resources within Lockhart local government area, and to comply with legislative obligations, the principles and recommendations outlined in the Lockhart Roadside Vegetation Management Plan will be incorporated into Council's work-related activities by:

1. Identifying sites of significant environmental value, particularly endangered ecological communities, and threatened species and their habitats.
2. Providing road-specific conservation values for the completion of the engineering project management plan prior to the initiation of works within the Shire, when addressing environmental considerations.
3. Providing guidance to minimise detrimental effects to roadside vegetation during routine maintenance work.
4. Providing base data to address customer requests, specifically those involving the maintenance and installation of

## **2.55 Roadside Vegetation Management (cont'd)**

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infrastructure and telecommunications.

5. Providing guidance in the improvement of degraded vegetation and increasing connectivity of habitat within the Lockhart LGA.
6. Providing supportive documentation for funding applications, ecological promotion and community education.

### RELEVANT POLICIES

2.17 Local Roads Classification & Maintenance.

2.35 Collection of Firewood from Council Road Reserves and Dead Standing Trees.

2.45 Stock Movement and Grazing Policy.

### RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

CTENVIRONMENTAL (2019) Lockhart Roadside Vegetation Management Plan. Prepared for Lockhart Shire Council. Wagga Wagga, Australia.

Bull, L (1997) Roadside Vegetation Survey and Recommendations for Lockhart Shire. Albury, Australia.

### POLICY ADMINISTRATION

The administration of this policy is the responsibility of Council's Engineering department.

Adopted by Council 15 August 2022  
Refer Minute 170/22

Adopted by Council 20 May 2019  
Refer Minute 119/19