

Roadside Weeds and Pests Program Control Plan 2023-2026

PYRENEES SHIRE COUNCIL

Contact:

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Regional context of noxious weed and pest animal management:

Roadside weeds are significant throughout the Shire. The species change from heavily infestations of gorse, broom & blackberries in the South to horehound, sweet briar, serrated tussock & cape tulip in the north. There is a scattering of other species from Paterson's curse, bridal creeper, hawthorn & tree of heaven across the Shire.

The main pest is rabbits and they are most prevalent in the north of the Shire. Council works with Landcare groups & property owners to arrange control through a variety of measure including; fumigation, ripping & baiting. Council has worked closely with Brian Howlett when Ag Vic were undertaking rabbit control programs.

Council has worked diligently to control weeds & pests over the years but many species are very persistent and keep returning. Council is grateful for the funds it receives from Local Government Services and utilises these funds in the most efficient and effective way possible.

Community Consultation:

Council liaises closely with Landcare groups and meets with community groups on a regular basis, we get input & feedback from our Customer Request System and through our website and direct contact by phone.

Council has liaised closely with Agriculture Victoria, Landcare groups and property owners to ensure a co-operative approach towards weed & pest control on roadsides that complements the work they are undertaking on private land.

Council has worked diligently with landowners on their rabbit control programs within the Shire, especially in the Glenlofty and Nowhere Creek areas.

Council continues its co-operative work with the Gorse Task Force by developing programs that complement each other in their targeted areas.

The RWPP funding has allowed Council to set the example for the community by spraying & mulching weeds and destroying warrens on neighbouring roadsides. This work encourages adjacent landowners to treat weeds and pests on their own properties.

Council has identified and treated priority areas around many townships within the Shire including Landsborough, Natte Yallock, Avoca, Waubra, Evansford, Waterloo, Snake Valley & Beaufort.

Stakeholder Consultation:

[Key stakeholders who have been consulted in the development of this plan.](#)

Community

Landcare groups

CMA's

Property Owners

Local Ag Vic representatives

Gorse Task Force

Relevant Policies, Strategies and Submissions:

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

Catchment and Land Protection Act

Invasive Plants and Animals Policy Framework (State)

The Pyrenees Shire covers 4 CMAs – Glenelg Hopkins, Corangamite, Wimmera & North Central.

All have Regional Catchment Strategies with sections on invasive plants & animals and lists of weed categories.

Weeds of the Pyrenees Region (Pyrenees Shire Council)

Pyrenees Shire Roadside Management Strategy.

One pillar of the Council Plan is Environment, an element of this is to consider and enhance biodiversity in all operations by controlling weeds and pests.

Objectives of the Plan:

Provide a general overview of council's objectives, activities, outputs and expected outcomes, ensuring that investment of RWPP funds will be aligned to:

- treating 'regionally prohibited weeds' on municipal rural roadsides;
- controlling and preventing the spread of 'regionally controlled weeds' and the control of rabbits on municipal rural roadsides that align with DJPR compliance project areas and/or support community-led weed and pest control activities;
- follow-up treatment works for projects funded in councils' previous roadside weeds and pests control plans;
- control activities for 'regionally controlled weeds' and rabbits on municipal rural roadsides that support other investment for integrated landscape protection projects or address community concerns.
- control activities for 'restricted weeds' on municipal rural roadsides where there has been demonstrated widespread community concern;
- undertaking planning, mapping, and community consultation for the control of 'regionally prohibited weeds', 'regionally controlled weeds' and 'restricted weeds'

The Pyrenees Shire Council is responsible for the management of approximately 2,083km of local road reserves. The PSC is strongly committed to managing weed infestations, an integral part of this strategy is rapid detection and control of newly identified weeds and early prevention activities.

Pyrenees Shire Council shall endeavour to control or eradicate rabbits, regionally controlled and regionally prohibited weeds to support DEECA compliance programs, community-led action and protect high value environmental and economic assets within the Shire. All work programs shall incorporate best practice methods and shall be undertaken in a manner that carefully considers the impacts to the natural, economic and cultural heritage values of the areas treated.

The Strategy will provide a framework and set of objectives to enable Pyrenees Shire Council and all contracted staff to meet or exceed the yearly targets whilst undertaking RWPP management activities. It is intended to provide clear direction and purpose for proactive management instead of an ad-hoc approach to invasive plant and animal management.

The Strategy has been designed to ensure relevance of the document against the legislative requirements, the needs of the community and to reflect a sound understanding of pest plant and animal control in sensitive environmental areas.

Term of the Plan:

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

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.

Yearly Expenditure

Category	FTE
Planning/finance/operations	0.3
Contractors:	Use a number of contractors depending on where the work is located.
Spraying	0.5
mulching	0.05
Ripping/baiting	0.05
Total	0.9

Target Species:

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

Serrated tussock *Nassella trichotoma* *Regionally Prohibited Weed* 1 To support Agriculture Victoria compliance programs

Common Name	Scientific Name	CaLP Act Classification	Priority Rating <i>1 highest - 4 lowest</i>	Reason for Management
Serrated tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	RPW	1	Support Ag Vic program
English broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	RW	1	Control further spread
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	RCW	1	Control further spread, GTF
Horehound	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	RCW	2	Control further spread
Bathurst Burr	<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>	RCW	3	Control further spread
Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	RCW	1	Control further spread
Bridal creeper	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	R	2	Control further spread
Cape broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	R	2	Control further spread
Cape tulip 1	<i>Moraea flaccida</i>	RCW	3	Control further spread
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	R	4	Eradicate from location

Pattersons curse	Echium plantagineum	RCW	3	Control further spread
Spiny broom	Caliotome spinosa	R	2	Control further spread
St john's wort	Hypericum perforatum	RCW	2	Control further spread
Stinkwort	Dittrichia graveolens	R	3	Control further spread
Sweet Briar	Rosa rubiginosa	RCW	2	Control further spread
Tree of heaven	Ailanthus altissima	R	4	Control further spread

Control Measures and Target Roadsides:

List the control measures and target roadsides; eg.

Serrated tussock *Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label* *Smith Road, Smithville* *5km* *Feb – Oct*

Common Name	Control Measures	Location of Proposed Works	Estimated Length of Roadside to be Treated Annually	Approximate Annual Timing of Treatment
	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	
Serrated tussock	Removal by hand	Ext Jeffrey Lane	2.0	September
Serrated tussock	Removal by hand	Barkly Redbank Rd	0.5	September
English Broom	Spray	Glenlogie	0.5	November

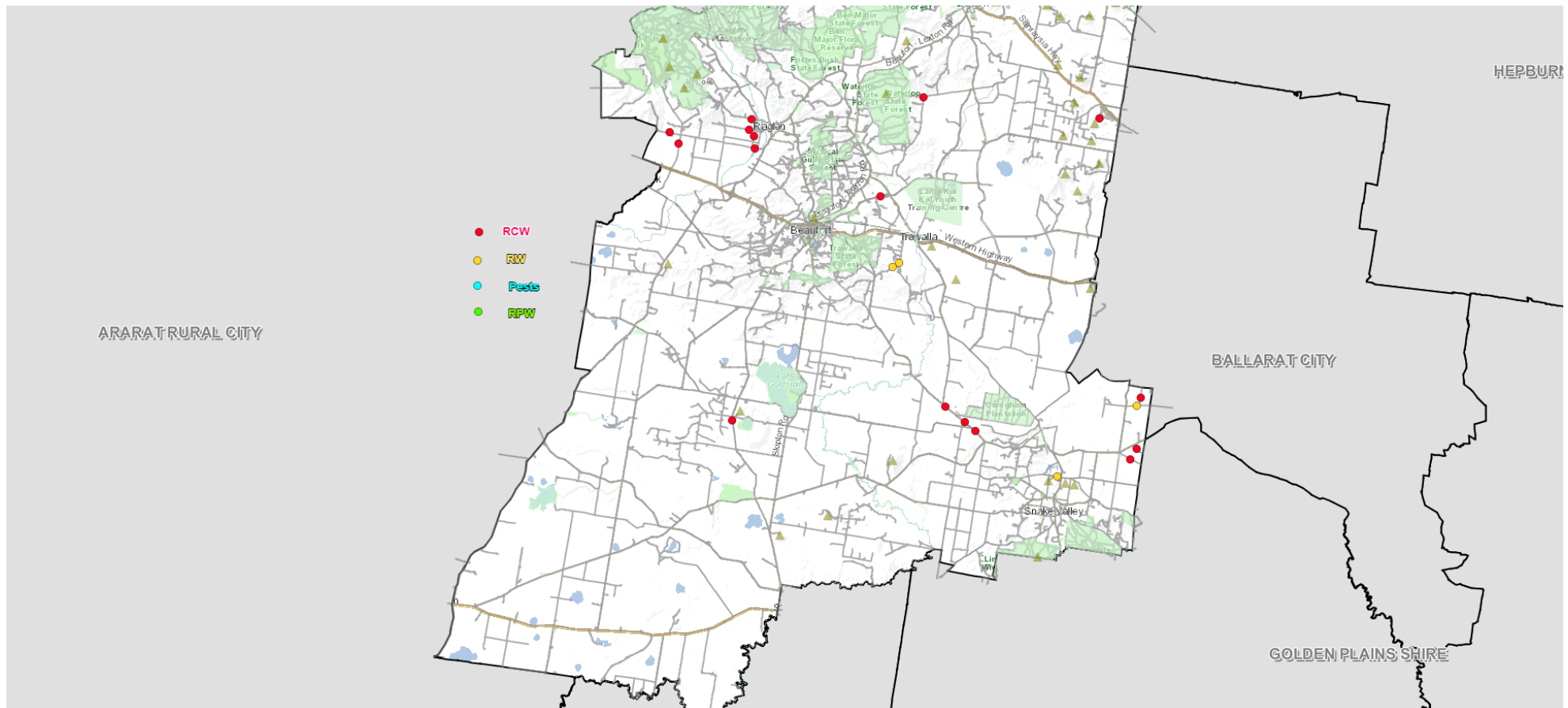
English Broom	Spray	Modesty lane	1.2	November
Horehound	Spray	3 Chain, Mills Lane	0.8	December
Bathurst Burr	Spray	Waubra Talbot Rd	1.3	December
Blackberry	Spray	Around townships	5.3	January
Bridal creeper	Spray	Egans, Mills, Ethels Crt	2.9	January
Cape broom	Spray	Church Rd	2.4	February
Cape tulip 1	Spray	Gaylards, Scotts Rd	1.3	February
Hawthorn	Mech	Golf C Rd	0.5	November
Patternsons curse	Spray	Wilcar, Forestry Rd	4.2	December
Spiny broom	Spray	Gillidays Rd	0.7	January
St john's wort	Spray	Stockyard, Waubra Talbot	3.6	November
Stinkwort	Spray	Rowe St	1.1	March
Sweet Briar	Spray	Browns, Dawsons, Mine	3.8	March
Tree of heaven	Spray	Allan Rd	0.4	November
Gorse	Spray	White, Hillcrest, Haddon	4.3	October

Gorse	Spray	Beaufort Carngham	5.1	October
Gorse	Spray	Drews, Panthers, Tip	4.6	October
Gorse	Spray	Race Course, Jones	3.1	December
Gorse	Spray	Ferntree, Listons	2.9	February
Rabbits	1080	Glenlofty	3.7	March
Rabbits	Ripping	No Where Creek	2.3	March

Maps:

Provide the following maps to support the control plan information:

- Map 1 Proposed location of classified weeds and control works.



- Map 2 Known infestations of Regionally Prohibited Weeds, Regionally Controlled Weeds, established pest animals and Restricted Weeds.

