



## **Environment Advisory Committee Meeting**

4 May 2022

# **Minutes**

To: Environment Advisory Committee Meeting Members and Councillors.

Here within are the Meeting Minutes of the Environment Advisory Committee Meeting, held on the above-mentioned date in the Shire of Toodyay Council Chambers, 15 Fiennes Street, Toodyay WA 6566.

Tabitha Bateman

**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



## Preface

When the Chief Executive Officer approves these Minutes for distribution they are in essence "Unconfirmed" until the next Committee Meeting, where the Minutes will be confirmed subject to any amendments made by the Committee.

The "Confirmed" Minutes are then signed off by the Presiding Person.

Attachments that formed part of the Agenda, in addition to those tabled at the Meeting are incorporated into separate attachments to these Minutes.

## Unconfirmed Minutes

These minutes were approved for distribution on 6 May 2022.



Tabitha Bateman

**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

## Confirmed Minutes

These minutes were confirmed at a meeting held on 3 August 2022.

Signed:  .....

*Note: The Presiding Member at the meeting at which the minutes were confirmed is the person who signs above.*

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## 1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

Cr P Hart, Chairperson, declared the meeting open at 4.09pm.

### 1.1 ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

### 1.2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

#### Members

Cr P Hart	Councillor / Chair (attending via zoom)
Cr R Madacsi	Shire President
Cr D Wrench	Councillor
Mr B Foley	Community Member
Ms J Hart	Community Member
Ms E Hall	Community Member
Mr J Von Perger	Community Member

#### Staff

Mr H de Vos	Manager Development and Regulation
Mr G Warburton	Reserves Management Officer
Mrs M Rebane	Executive Assistant

#### Visitors

Cr C Duri

#### Apologies

Nil

### 1.3 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

The Chairperson advised that no disclosures of interest in the form of a written notice had been received prior to the commencement of the meeting.

## 2 MINUTES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### 2.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### 2.1.1 Minutes of Meeting held on 2 February 2022

OFFICER'S EAC007/05/22	RECOMMENDATION/EAC	RESOLUTION	NO.
<b>MOVED</b>	Cr R Madacsi		
That the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Environment Advisory Committee Meeting held on 2 February 2022 be confirmed.			
<b>MOTION CARRIED 7/0</b>			

## 2.2 REVIEW OF STATUS REPORT

### 2.2.1 Review of Status Report

Attachments:	1. Review of EAC Status Report
	<b>Attachments</b>
	1 Updated Status Report

The status report to be reviewed.

## 2.3 INWARD/OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE

Nil.

## 3 BUSINESS LEFT OVER FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (IF ADJOURNED)

Nil.

## 4 OFFICER REPORTS

### 4.1 Update on Local Biodiversity Strategy

Date of Report:	29 April 2022
File Reference:	COC14
Author:	H de Vos – Manager Development and Regulation
Responsible Officer:	H de Vos – Manager Development and Regulation
Attachments:	Nil

## PURPOSE

To provide an update on the Draft Local Biodiversity Strategy.

## BACKGROUND

The Shire of Toodyay continues to work with the Environment Advisory Committee to prepare a Local Biodiversity Strategy.

## COMMENTS AND DETAILS

The collaborative approach through MS Teams has it has allowed all committee members to have an opportunity to continue to work on the document in the background – without waiting for a specific workshop or committee meeting every three months.

### **Timeframes**

The Shire staff have had to divert attention and time resources away from the strategy development in recent months. This is due to matters such as compliance and policy review taking priority.

The draft document will be finalised with the committee through the MS Teams group in the week beginning 2 May 2022 and then will be send back to JBS&G Strategen for any final work prior to being sent up to the Council to adopt for advertising at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 25 May 2022. The strategy remains on schedule to be completed in the second half of this year.

### **CONSULTATION**

There is no statutory basis outlining a set consultation manner and duration and therefore guidance has been taken from the Shire of Toodyay's M.2 Public Consultation – Formal Matters policy which states that a Level F – District approach should be applied.

It is recommended that the following methods are utilised:

- Newspaper advertising
- Signage and displays in relevant locations
- Media releases – press, radio.
- Notice to be displayed on Shire's website and on Facebook.

The Shire of Toodyay may consider other methods as required.

#### **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION/EAC RESOLUTION NO. EAC008/05/22**

**MOVED** Cr R Madacsi

That the Environment Advisory Committee notes the following:

- The draft strategy will be finalised informally with the EAC through MS Teams and forwarded to JBS&G Strategen for any final work; and
- The final draft strategy will be provided to Council to adopt for advertising at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 25 May 2022.

**MOTION CARRIED 7/0**

**4.2 Update on Verge Flora Survey**

Date of Report:	2 May 2022
File Reference:	COC14
Author:	H de Vos – Manager Development and Regulation
Responsible Officer:	H de Vos – Manager Development and Regulation
Attachments:	1. Assessing Roadsides: A guide for rating conservation value

**PURPOSE**

To provide an update on the Verge Flora Survey

**BACKGROUND**

This matter was previously addressed by the Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) back in June 2021, where it was noted:

*“The concept of the Community Verge Flora Survey is based upon the premise of proactive, community and committee-based resources. Verge flora is an important part of maintaining the Shires flora and fauna diversity, tourism wildflower displays and our amenity. Unfortunately, it is constantly under threat from, clearing, fire mitigation, roadside works and property owners.*

*Largely, this occurs in ignorance and because the verge diversity has not been defined.*

*The intent is to utilise the community by running a program over winter and spring, encouraging every property owner to photograph their verge flora, identify the property and road location.*

*The EAC committee has the expertise to identify, collate and draft by road the locations of key areas. This road list with locations of key flora can be used by Works and contractors and in development applications or tourism promotion.”*

In subsequent months, the EAC commenced development of an awareness campaign, however, this was put on hold towards the end of the year primarily because it is only a targeted campaign for winter and spring months.

**COMMENTS AND DETAILS**

The EAC needs to reengage now and develop a communications strategy to allow this project to progress further.

It is suggested that the EAC develop a communications plan for this survey and for the various roles, responsibilities and functions to be delegated to committee members based on skills and availability to perform these tasks.

This should then be communicated and actioned through the MS Teams group environment to prevent further delays. A reference document – ‘Assessing Roadsides: A guide for rating conservation value’ can be viewed as Attachment 1.

An update should be available by the August EAC meeting.

Clarification was sought.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION/EAC RESOLUTION NO. EAC009/05/22**

**MOVED** Cr R Madacsi

**SECONDED** Mr B Foley

That the Environment Advisory Committee:

1. notes, in relation to the information within this report, the update on the progress of the Verge Flora Survey.
2. That the EAC meet through MS Teams and contact be made with various Environmental Groups in Toodyay by 18 May 2022.

**MOTION CARRIED 7/0**



**4.3 Significant Trees Policy**

Date of Report:	2 May 2022
File Reference:	COC14
Author:	H de Vos – Manager Development and Regulation
Responsible Officer:	H de Vos – Manager Development and Regulation
Attachments:	1. City of Fremantle - LPP2.23 Register Of Significant Trees and Vegetation Areas

**PURPOSE**

To discuss the viability and appropriateness of a future Significant Trees Policy

**BACKGROUND**

The Shire of Toodyay has been approached by Dr Andrew St John of the Safe and Scenic Toodyay Road (SASTR) community group querying if the Shire would consider developing a Significant Tree Policy in the future.

An example of the purpose of such a policy would be to:

- Define criteria for the inclusion or removal of trees and vegetation areas on the Significant Trees and Vegetation Areas Register ('the Register').
- Provide guidance for the assessment of development applications for sites including trees and vegetation areas listed on the Register.

**COMMENTS AND DETAILS**

This kind of policy is currently being utilised in other Local Government Areas and an example of one – the City of Fremantle's '*Local Planning Policy 2.23 Register Of Significant Trees And Vegetation Areas*' has been provided as Attachment 1.

There are some merits to such a proposal, however some resources would need to be diverted to survey the Shire and create the register of these areas. It is unclear at this stage how much this would involve.

Whilst a standalone policy may be beneficial, at this stage it is not a priority as other projects remain critical such as the Local Biodiversity Strategy and general policy review.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION/EAC RESOLUTION NO. EAC010/05/22**

**MOVED** Ms J Hart

That the Environment Advisory Committee notes that, subject to the completion of the Shire's general policy review, the creation of a significant Tree and Vegetation Register will commence in the latter half of the 2022/23 financial year.

**MOTION CARRIED 7/0**

**5 OTHER BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE**

Cr Madacsi – Update on Matter to next meeting we include a regular item in the Agenda of an update of the biosecurity issues including pigs, corellas, and other issues the Shire District is having at any moment.

**5.1 BIOSECURITY REPORT TO COMMITTEE REGULARLY**

Cr Madacsi raised the importance of having a regular report in the Agenda of an update of the biosecurity issues including pigs, corellas, and other issues the Shire District is having at any moment.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION/EAC RESOLUTION NO. EAC011/05/22**

**MOVED** Cr R Madacsi

**SECONDED** Ms E Hall

The EAC approves that a regular Biosecurity Report be included in all future EAC Meetings, providing an update of any relevant biosecurity issues.

**MOTION CARRIED 7/0**

**6 CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Environment Advisory Committee is scheduled to be held on 3 August 2022 commencing at 4.00pm.

**7 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 5.07pm.



# **ATTACHMENTS MINUTES**

**Environment Advisory Committee  
Meeting**

**Wednesday, 4 May 2022**



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**EAC STATUS REPORT**  
Environmental Advisory Committee

Supporting Officer  
Manager Development & Regulation



Meeting Date	Purpose	Resolution / Other Comment	Target date for completion	Actioned by	Completion Date	Meeting Commentary and record of Council Meeting Resolution No.
6/12/2021	Status Report	Acting Manager Development and Regulatory Services to liaise with Consultants engaged with respect to the Biodiversity Strategy.	By next meeting	AMDR	T.B.A.	Update 4 May 22 Meeting: One of the Agenda Items at this May Meeting. Re-engaged with them. Set up the MS Teams environment and working on draft policy for the last few months. Item we have reiterates it. We are at a stage where we are ready to take it to the Council. Council would then adopt the strategy for advertising.
6/12/2021	Lot 3 (No. 34) Stirling Terrace, Toodyay – Proposed removal of mature trees.	That Council: 1. Approves the application for the removal of the Mugga ironbark (Tree 4) as indicated in the attached plans. 2. Does not approve the removal of the Lemon-Scented Gums (Tree 1 & 2) nor the removal of the River Red Gum (Tree 3). 3. Supports the remedial measures such as branch removal for Trees 1, 2 & 3 as indicated in the report from the arborist attached to this report. 4. Advises the Applicant consider replacement of Tree 4 with native hedging or another native species indigenous	ASAP	AMDR	T.B.A.	Update 4 May 22 Meeting: Applicant lodged an application. Advice sought from Heritage Council. That will be brought to Council this month.  Heritage Council have no issues with removal

**EAC STATUS REPORT**  
Environmental Advisory Committee

Supporting Officers  
MDR/RMO



Meeting Date	Purpose	Resolution / Other Comment	Target date for completion	Actioned by	Completion Date	Meeting Commentary and record of Council Meeting Resolution No.
		to the area.				of the tree.  Significant tree register intended to be developed for future applications and assessment.
6/12/2021	Update on Community Verge Flora Survey	That the EAC uses this hiatus in the Verge Flora project to do further preparation and refinement of the project and plan in order to resume the survey in Autumn 2022.	ASAP	AMDR	T.B.A.	Today's meeting indicates the work to be commenced regarding organisation of communication and gathering of information.

# Assessing Roadsides:

## A guide for rating conservation value



Compiled by Kate Jackson

Published by the Western Australian Roadside Conservation Committee

**Roadside  
Conservation  
Committee**





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**Roadside  
Conservation  
Committee**



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# Part 1

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## Introduction to Roadsides



*The total length of Australian roads would circle  
the equator more than 40 times.*

## 2 **Part 1 – Introduction to roadsides**

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### THE VALUE OF ROADSIDES

In addition to their primary purpose as transport routes, road reserves play a vital role in the overall conservation of our landscape and environment. The roadside environment is so valuable because of the biological, cultural, aesthetic, and landcare values contained within it.

- Roadsides are often the only remaining example of the original vegetation communities within extensively cleared areas. This is particularly true in agricultural landscapes, where almost 98% of the vegetation in some areas has been cleared. As such, roadsides also support many populations of threatened species of flora.
- Roadside vegetation provides shelter, food and nesting sites for a range of native fauna.
- Well-vegetated roadsides provide connectivity between patches of remnant vegetation.
- Roadsides provide the basis for our important wildflower tourism industry. In addition to this, they often contain sites of historical or cultural significance.
- Where surrounding bush has been extensively cleared, roadsides are a vital source of local seed for revegetation projects (A CALM permit and permission from the land manager is required).
- Roadsides provide a benchmark for the study of soil change during agricultural development.
- In agricultural areas, most roadsides have the capacity to act as windbreaks and provide shelter for stock on adjoining farmland.
- Roadsides are easier to maintain and generally less fire prone than introduced vegetation.

## HABITAT FRAGMENTATION

The mass clearing of natural vegetation for settlements, roads and agriculture converted the landscape into a complex matrix, with only small pockets of natural bushland remaining. The result is a pattern of fragmented remnants across the landscape.

These often small, isolated remnants are far more vulnerable, particularly to the effects of fire and competition from weeds and feral animals. For management and conservation to be effective in sustaining Western Australia's flora and fauna, it is necessary to provide linkages to other remnants. This enables plants and animals to move between remnants to find shelter, ecological niches, nesting sites and breeding areas.



*The clearing of native vegetation for agriculture has left a scattered patchwork of remnants often lacking connectivity. (Photo Department of Agriculture)*

## 4 Part 1 – Introduction to roadsides

### WILDLIFE CORRIDORS

The long-term sustainability of plants and animals living in fragmented landscapes is dependent upon their ability to move between areas to search for food and nesting sites, attract mates and to reproduce. Movement between areas may be necessary on a daily, seasonal or infrequent basis, and also on a local, regional or, as in the case of migratory birds, an international scale. Many birds and insects will move locally from patch to patch, following the shrubs as they come into bloom.

Roadside vegetation, therefore, is extremely important, as it forms linear strips of vegetation (and habitat) between other remnants. Often known as wildlife corridors, they assist the movement of native animals and plants between remnants. They also provide habitat in themselves for many native plants, mammals, reptiles, invertebrates and bird-life.

The density, width and connectivity of roadside vegetation affect its potential as a wildlife corridor. Generally, wider, more continuous stretches of vegetation act more effectively as corridors and provide more shelter and food than narrower ones. The concept of the 'edge effect' applies to roadsides that are quite narrow, and have a large edge:area ratio. Edge effects include greater invasion of weeds, higher proportion of common birds, such as crows, and higher exposure to wind, rain and heat.



*Vegetated roadsides often form linear corridors, linking other remnants throughout the landscape, allowing for the movement of plants and animals. (Photo MRWA)*

## RARE AND THREATENED SPECIES

Roadsides are often the last refuges for species of plants that have become extinct in other locations.

Of the hundreds of plant species declared as rare (threatened) under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950-1979*, many are known to exist in roadside populations. Roadsides also contain rare or threatened animals.



*Grevillea scapigera* (Photo by Sue Patrick)



*Meelup Mallee – Eucalyptus phylacis* (Photo by Sue Patrick)



## 6 Part 1 – Introduction to roadsides

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### WHERE ARE ROADSIDE CORRIDORS?

In 1989, the Roadside Conservation Committee initiated a method of surveying roadsides for their conservation values. The survey program is ongoing, and aims to assist Shires and communities in the protection, maintenance and improvement of roadside vegetation.

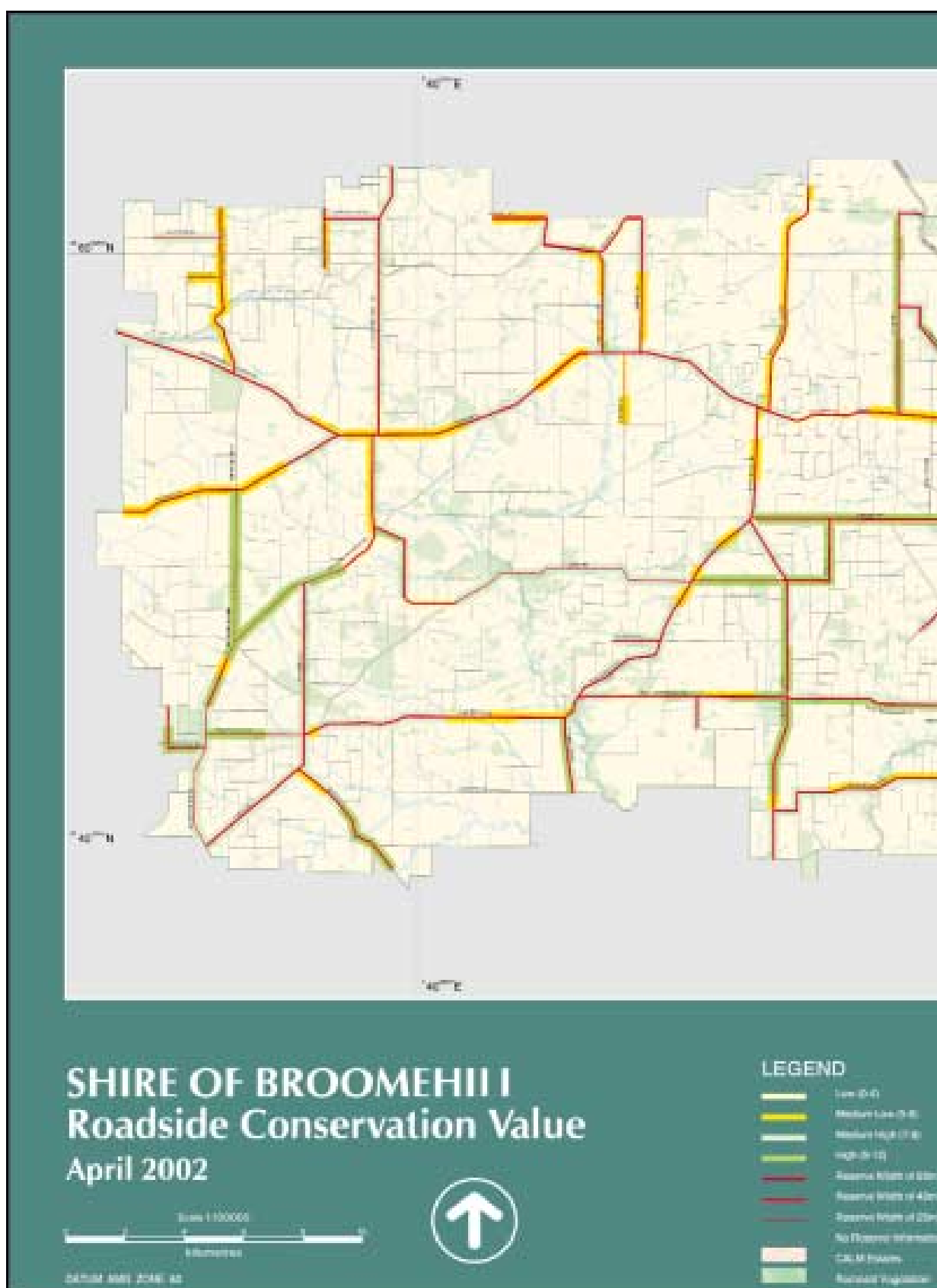
In order to effectively manage and conserve roadside corridors, it is vital that road managers are aware of the conservation status and regional significance of roadsides under their control.

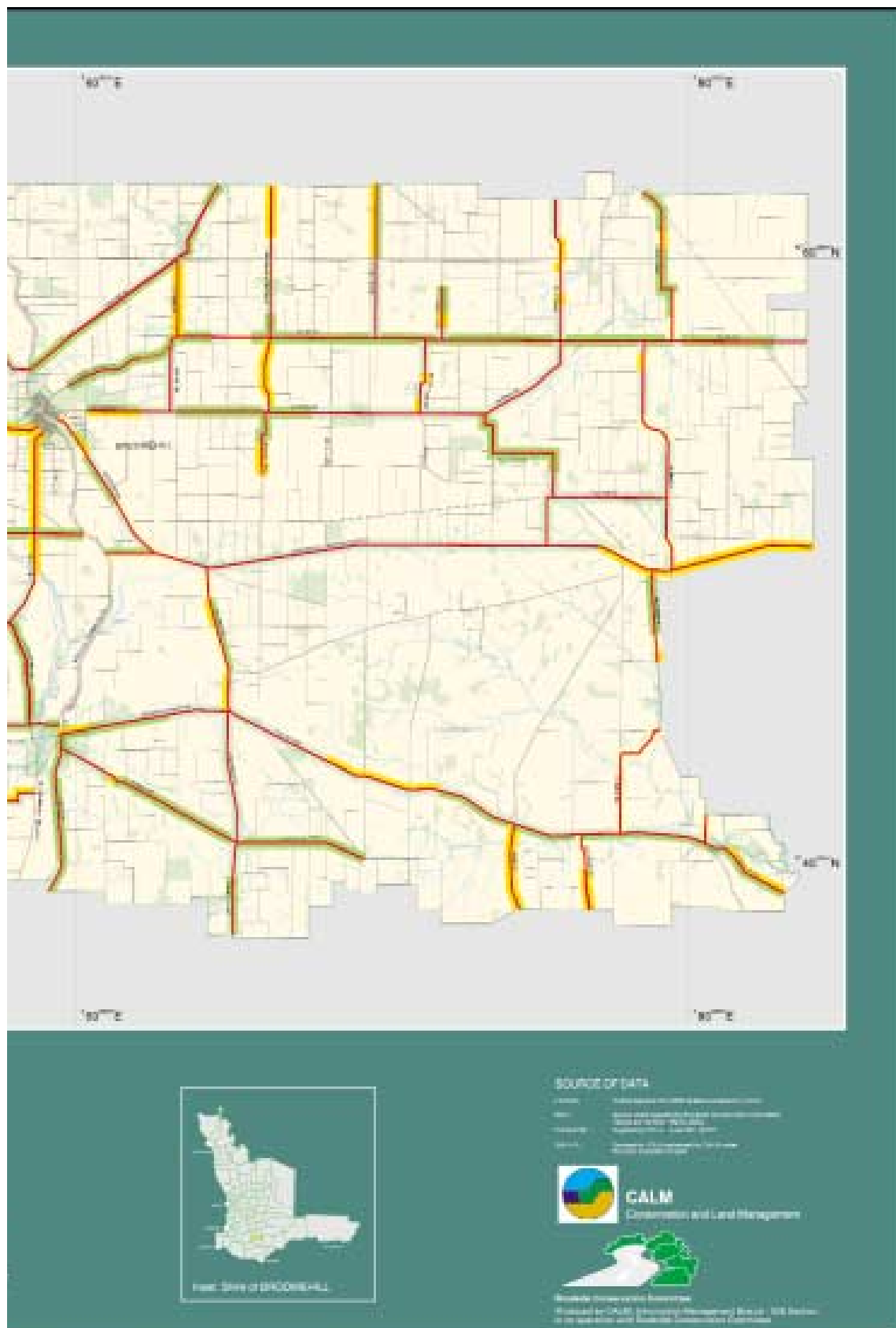
For this to be achieved, roadside vegetation in Western Australia should be assessed and mapped. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) provide a powerful and useful method of mapping data collected from roadside inventories and this can be utilised by all agencies and community groups with an interest in roadside values.

In Western Australia, the managers of roads and road verges are The Department of Conservation and Land Management, Main Roads Western Australia and Local Government.

Roadside surveys are simple to do, and this booklet contains some helpful advice to assist with making the process relatively easy and efficient.

*Roadside conservation value map for the Shire of Broomehill. Sections of road have been coloured to indicate their conservation value. Dark green represents high conservation value, light green represents medium high, dark yellow represents medium low and light yellow represents low conservation value.*







## 8 Part 1 – Introduction to roadsides

### WHY SURVEY ROADSIDE VEGETATION?

The assessment of roadside vegetation is a vital step in measuring the conservation value of particular roadsides, and in developing strategies for their management.

Roadsides are used for a number of functions other than transport, eg. sites for power, telecommunications and pipeline construction, stockpiling road making material and for manoeuvring and parking machinery.

Collecting information about the general condition of a road reserve helps target these activities and plan road construction and maintenance to avoid areas of high conservation value, so that regional vegetation linkages are protected.

The roadside survey records a number of attributes, such as width, diversity of vegetation, number of native species present, extent of weed cover and adjoining land use. These characteristics are scored to produce a 'conservation score' for that section of road. The resulting map shows the pattern of roadside conservation values (high, medium high, medium low, low) and how those values vary across a district.

The scores are used by road managers to establish which areas need priority attention or protection. The survey results can be used in the following ways:

- to target weed control,
- as a general roadside inventory,
- to protect wildlife corridors,
- to promote significant wildflower areas, historical and cultural sites for tourism,
- to plan roadside maintenance activities,
- to target strategic revegetation.



*Roadside surveys provide important information about conservation values and weed infestation. (Photo by Graeme Rundle)*

## THE ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY

The Roadside Conservation Committee is coordinating surveys in partnerships with local communities with the aim of mapping all of the roadsides within the southwest land division.

Surveys have been completed in many Shires, with most of the data collection being gathered by community volunteers.

### Individuals can:

- Approach the appropriate management bodies in the area. Bring the value of roadside vegetation to their attention.
- Participate in the preparation of management plans.
- Volunteer to coordinate, organise or carry out a roadside survey program.
- Work with community members to further develop a conservation network of corridors across the landscape.

### Local Government can:

- When preparing town-planning schemes, ensure they allow for the conservation and management of roadside vegetation.
- Ensure plans meet community expectations for roadside management, taking into account the multiple benefits of roadsides.
- Include roadside survey programs as an integral component of many local government projects, eg. fire management plans, wildflower tours, weed management, etc.
- Provide assistance (use of facilities, vehicles and equipment) to community groups carrying out roadside surveys.
- Discuss roadside management objectives with other stakeholders such as Landcare, field naturalist groups, tourist bureau and conservation and historical groups.



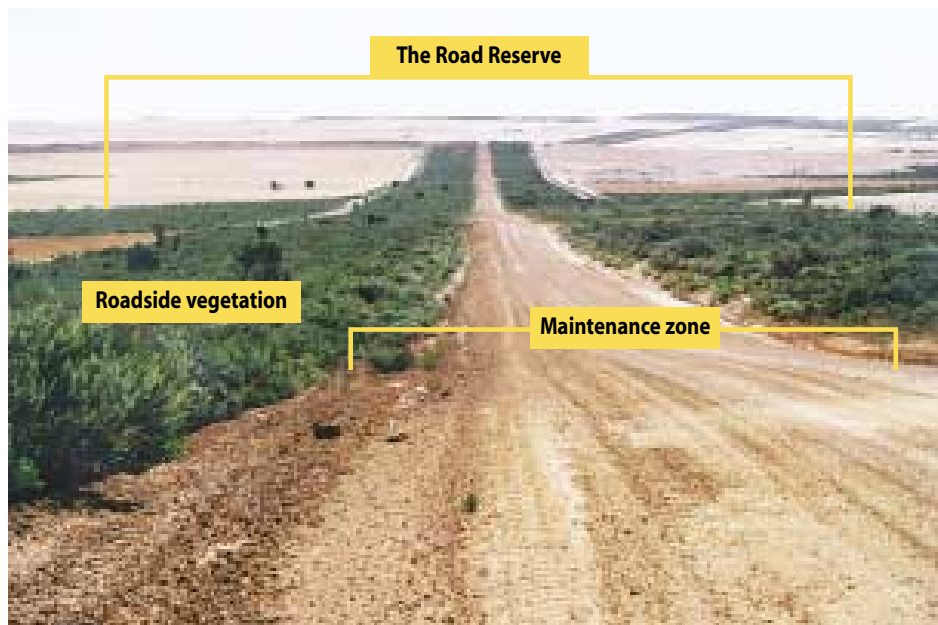
*Many communities value their native vegetation.  
(Photo by David Lamont)*

10 **Part 1 – Introduction to roadsides**

## DEFINITIONS

### THE ROAD RESERVE

When a public road is created, a corridor of land is dedicated for this purpose and called the road reserve.



*A typical road reserve with maintenance zone and roadside vegetation consists of road verge, table drain, shoulders and running surface. (Photo by David Lamont)*

The care, control and management of the road reserve is the responsibility of the organisation in which the road reserve is vested – usually Main Roads Western Australia or a Local Government Authority.

In order to plan their roadworks so that important areas of roadside vegetation are not disturbed, road managers should be aware of these areas.

### ROADSIDE

The road formation and its associated drainage works are accommodated for within the road reserve. The remaining space is called the roadside or road verge. Therefore, the roadside is the strip of land between the road formation (beyond the drainage area), and the boundary of the adjacent property.



*The roadside, or road verge, is the area between the fenceline and the apex of the backslope or batter. (Photo by David Lamont)*

## VEGETATION LAYERS (TREES, SHRUBS AND GROUND COVER)

Native vegetation is made up of different layers, consisting of ground covers (herbs and grasses), shrubs, and trees (see page 20). Generally, there should be a range of juvenile and mature plants, so the ‘layers’ may not be all that distinctive.

## VEGETATION TYPES

Remnant vegetation is vegetation composed of the original native species that would have grown in the area, and which still has a structural arrangement that reflects the natural vegetation.

Vegetation classed as “remnant vegetation” has one or more of the following characteristics

- Most closely reflects the natural state of vegetation for a given area.
- Has an intact understorey (if forest or woodland).
- Has minimal disturbance by agents of human activity.
- Has the ability to regenerate.



## 12 **Part 2 – Surveying roadsides**

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*Scattered vegetation is commonly seen adjoining roadsides in agricultural areas.  
(Photo by Kate Jackson)*

Vegetation classed as “scattered vegetation” has:

- No native understorey
- Parkland cleared ie scattered single trees.
- No significant signs or chance of regeneration.

# Part 2

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## Surveying Roadsides



## 14 Part 2 – Surveying roadsides

### BEFORE YOU START THE SURVEY

The first section on the Roadside Conservation Committee's roadside survey sheet provides important information that is crucial to processing the data collected on it accurately. It is very important to fill in this section completely and correctly, as it is used to identify the section of roadside being surveyed and the direction of travel. This information is vital for producing an accurate map of the Shire or region.

Other information that needs to be recorded here includes:

- Date
- Name of observer(s)
- Road name
- Shire
- Odometer readings at start and end points.



*All sections of survey form need to be filled in  
(Photo by David Lamont)*

There are 13 separate categories, some are used to assess the conservation status of the road section as being either high, medium high, medium low or low, and others, such as observations, are used as supplementary information.

Aim to work in teams of two people, where one person is the driver, one is the recorder. This should be compulsory for occupational health & safety and duty of care.

### TIMING

Spring is the ideal season to survey roadside vegetation, as a high majority of plants flower at this time and are more easily identified. This is not essential, however, for people familiar with the vegetation in their region.

Allow some time to complete the assessment, anywhere between 2 and 4 months, depending upon the size of the area, total length of roads and the number and expertise of the surveyors.

It may take some time to get used to the survey sheet, but it will become easier the more you do. Roadsides with a higher diversity will take longer to assess than others with lower diversity.

## TRAINING

Before carrying out the roadside survey, it is recommended that a training session should be organised with the Roadside Conservation Committee to familiarise the surveyors with the survey procedure.

This will ensure that roadside vegetation surveys are conducted using the same criteria, and following the same procedure.

## GATHERING INFORMATION

It is helpful if surveyors have access to relevant information such as:

- Native vegetation communities and characteristic species of the area.
- Commonly occurring animals and birds.
- Aerial photographs to identify where roadside vegetation links up with remnants to form wildlife corridors.
- Maps showing local roads, location of historic monuments or cultural sites.
- Common weed species and weed identification guides.

Local representatives of government agencies, naturalist clubs and community groups can assist with this.

## COORDINATING YOUR SURVEY

An overall coordinator should be nominated to be available throughout the duration of the survey project. This person's duties may include:

- Contacting the Roadside Conservation Committee to organise a training session, and to find out which roads have already been surveyed in that region.
- Coordinating the collection of any relevant information, such as weed lists.
- Dividing the survey area into a number of workable sections (simply divide the number of roads by the number of teams). Shire wards make for a useful division of Shires.



*Make sure you know your left from your right!  
(Photo by David Lamont)*

## 16 Part 2 – Surveying roadsides

- Allocate teams of two people to survey particular sections of the Shire together. Teams may choose to survey roads close to their own properties, or roads they regularly travel.
- Organise ‘survey kits’ containing
  - survey sheets,
  - pens and paper clips,
  - a compass,
  - a map, and
  - field guides to identify local plants and weeds.

## SURVEY PROCEDURE

### *Arrival at road:*

Always start at an intersection, this will ensure the information can be used later during the GIS map formation.

At the start point, set your odometer to 0.0. You don’t need to alter the odometer during assessment of a road. Only change it back to 0.0 when you start a new road.

### *Beginning the survey:*

Fill in the general information block first, recording details such as the road name, observer(s) name, date, direction of travel and section number. Record the odometer start point.

The survey is **retrospective**, that is, you fill in most of the details once you reach the end of the road or section, rather than doing it as you go.



*The survey is vehicular based, always be aware of other road users. (Photo by David Lamont)*

Survey the left and right hand sides of the road as you go. Drive along at a steady speed, stopping where necessary. You may need to stop to look more closely at the dominant native plants and weeds, the number of native plants, or roadside width.

Record the odometer reading when you reach the end of a road or section of road (when there is a significant change in the quality of native vegetation, or some other feature of the roadside, start a new survey sheet, see next section). Subtract the ending point odometer reading from the starting point odometer reading to

determine the total length of the section surveyed. Take note that the previous odometer 'finish' is recorded on the next sheet as the odometer 'start' for the next section or road. Section 2 will continue until another marked change is observed, then section 3 will begin, and so on. **Always start a new survey sheet for a new road.**

Occasionally note down the odometer reading for some identifiable point, such as a side road. (This is very useful as an office check on the accuracy of your odometer!)

## CHANGING SECTIONS

For your first few sheets, deciding when to start a new section may take some consideration. Use one survey sheet for each new section of road and number each section respectively on the survey sheet.

Some roadsides may be uniform along their length, and so need only one survey sheet. On other roads, the features may change significantly and require you to begin a new survey sheet. As a general rule, a new survey sheet is started when there is a change in the **quality** of the roadside vegetation. Ignore small changes, ie. over a distance less than of 500m.

Some other significant changes may be:

- a change in the road reserve width, say from 20m to 60m,
- the road passing from State forest into farmland, or
- the roadside changing from mostly native vegetation to mostly weeds.

If changes such as these occur (over a distance greater than 500m) start a new survey sheet.



*Disturbances or changing land use require the start of a new section.  
(Photo by Graeme Rundle)*

## 18 **Part 2 – Surveying roadsides**

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Don't change to a new survey sheet if there's only a change in native vegetation type. Many wheatbelt roads repeatedly cross a whole range of vegetation types, which is related to the underlying geological and topographical conditions.

For example, the vegetation may change from kwongan (scrub) on the sandy lateritic uplands, through to woodlands on the fertile red soils, to salt scrub in valleys.

Clip together all sheets pertaining to one particular road.



*Roadsides are often considered in a negative manner.*

## COMPLETING THE SURVEY SHEET

### WIDTH OF ROAD RESERVE

Historically, road widths were measured in chains (approx 20m). Early roads were usually one chain wide, or a multiple of this. Road reserve widths are therefore normally 20, 40, 60 or 100m wide.

With a little practice, it is easy in agricultural regions to recognise these, as fences delineate the edges of the road reserve. However, in uncleared land, such as forest, it may be difficult to tell on the ground where the road reserve stops and the forest starts. In this case, write “unknown”.

### WIDTH OF VEGETATED ROADSIDE

This is a measure of how much land is left along the roadside. Again, with practice, it is easy to recognise the width categories.

Ignore this section where the road passes through unfenced land such as national park, State forest, etc.

<b>WIDTH OF ROAD RESERVE (m)</b>		
<hr/>		
<b>WIDTH OF VEGETATED ROADSIDE</b>		
	<b>Left</b>	<b>Right</b>
<b>1-5 m</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>5-20 m</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>over 20 m</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## NATIVE VEGETATION ON ROADSIDE

Undisturbed native vegetation in Western Australia can be broadly categorised as either forest, woodland, mallee, kwongan (scrub or sandplain) or grassland.

Most of these vegetation formations contain more than one layer. For example, woodlands have not only trees, but also a scrub layer and a ground layer that contains plants such as reeds, everlasting daisies and orchids.



*Observe all stratas of the vegetation. (Photo by Kate Jackson)*

If one or more of the expected layers is missing, the conservation value of the area is reduced. In the wheatbelt, for example, roadside woodland is often represented only by trees and introduced grasses forming the ground layer. For some vegetation (eg. Salmon Gum woodlands) this may, however, be normal.

NATIVE VEGETATION ON ROADSIDE		
	Left	Right
Tree layer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shrub layer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground layer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## RARE FLORA

Roadsides are often the last refuges for species of plants that have become endangered or extinct in other locations.

If you know of rare flora growing on the roadside, please note it in the general comments.

## EXTENT OF NATIVE VEGETATION ALONG ROADSIDE

Roadside vegetation can be extremely variable, some roadsides may be comprised of dense and diverse bush for many kilometres, while others may have inconsistent distribution of native vegetation.

Note whether the native vegetation is continuous along the road section, or interrupted by weeds or other disturbances.



*The extent of native vegetation changes from less than 20% to more than 80%. In this case, begin a new survey sheet (ie. a new section). (Photo by Kate Jackson)*

EXTENT OF NATIVE VEGETATION ON ROADSIDE		
	Left	Right
Less than 20%	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20-80%	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over 80%	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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### **NUMBER OF DIFFERENT NATIVE SPECIES**

Generally, highly diverse systems have a greater resilience to changes and disturbance. These areas are extremely important for conservation of native plants and animals. This section is a measure of the diversity of the vegetation, and so, of its conservation value.

Make an average estimate over a 100m length of roadside. It does not have to be done in detail.

Please do not list the dominant species unless you are sure of your identification (common names will do).

### **WEEDS**

Weeds are plants that are growing outside their natural range and competing with native plants for nutrients, space, water and light. Weeds often invade bushland and interfere with the growth and survival of native plants: they pose a serious threat to all natural environments.

Estimate an average “weediness” over the section being considered. It should be estimated as a percentage of total plants along the section.

On some roadsides, especially those with York Gum and Jam, there may be good tree and shrub cover but the ground layer is totally weeds. Please note this.



*African Lovegrass on the Brand Highway north of Muchea. (Photo by Penny Hussey)*

WEEDS	Left	Right
Few weeds (<20% total plants)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Half weeds (20-80% total)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mostly weeds (>80% total)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground layer totally weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## TYPES OF WEEDS

This information can be used to produce an overlay map of weed infestation. Complete this section (found on the reverse side of the survey sheet) if you know the names of weeds present. It should be an estimate of the percentage of total weeds along the section.

	Left	Right
<b>Wildoats</b>		
<20% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20-80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
>80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Lovegrass</b>		
<20% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20-80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
>80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Bridal Creeper</b>		
<20% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20-80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
>80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Others (provide approx. % of weeds)</b>		

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### FAUNA OBSERVED

Roadside vegetation provides habitat for birds, reptiles, insects and mammals. The most commonly seen are birds, and depending upon the location of your Shire, these will usually be characteristic to the area.

Record any fauna that was observed while conducting the survey. Brief notes only, please.

#### FAUNA OBSERVED


This survey can also be used to identify the presence of rabbits. Rabbits are often present in bush areas, the presence of droppings and warrens or burrows signals their presence. Indicate if there is any evidence of rabbit activity.

	Left	Right
<b>Rabbits (evidence of)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Roadsides often provide habitat to native fauna and pest species.



*Spotted pardlote*  
(Photo by Jiri Lockman)



*Red Tailed phascogale*  
(Photo by Jiri Lockman)



*Rabbits are present within some roadsides.* (Photo Department of Agriculture)

## VALUE AS A BIOLOGICAL CORRIDOR

In cleared areas, the road reserve plays a very important role in acting as a wildlife corridor. Corridors assist the movement of native animals – especially birds – enabling them to seek out feeding and nesting areas.

It is important to know if such corridors link areas of remnant bush to one another, as this increases the roads' conservation value. Aerial photographs may be helpful to clearly show roads that link remnants to one another.



Roadside vegetation links the landscape. (Photo MRWA)

VALUE AS A BIOLOGICAL CORRIDOR		
	Left	Right
Connects uncleared areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flowering shrubs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Large trees with hollows	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hollow logs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## PREDOMINANT ADJOINING LANDUSE

The road reserve is most valuable as a conservation area in an otherwise cleared landscape, where it serves as a corridor of remnant vegetation. Through pastoral regions, unless the road reserve is fenced to exclude grazing stock, roadside conservation values can be considered a reflection of the surrounding land. Where a road runs through or alongside a national park or nature reserve, that area represents the main conservation area and the road reserve merely compliments it. If a rail or drain reserve runs parallel to the road, record the land use on the far side of it also.



*Agricultural land use (crop or pasture) adjoins many roadsides. They are often completely cleared of native vegetation. (Photo Department of Agriculture)*

Ignore small land use changes (less than 500m long).

PREDOMINANT ADJOINING LAND USE		
	Left	Right
<b>Agricultural crop or pasture:-</b>		
- completely cleared	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- scattered	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Uncleared land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plantation of non-native trees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Urban or industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Railway Reserve parallel to road	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drain Reserve parallel to road	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other</b>		



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Part 2 – Surveying roadsides

## UTILITIES/DISTURBANCES

The road reserve is often used as a site to locate public service utilities. Water pipelines, electricity lines and telegraph lines are often built on the roadside. To construct and maintain them, native vegetation may be destroyed and so their presence is detrimental to the conservation value of the roadside.

Vegetation may be destroyed in discrete areas for other uses, such as gravel or sand quarry, metal dumps or hardstanding for machinery.

Some landowners have ploughed the roadside outside their fence to act as a firebreak. This not only destroys native vegetation, but the disturbance enhances weed growth.

Ignore disturbances if they are not obvious.



*Pipelines form a continuous disturbance along roadsides. (Photo by Peter Thorn)*

Utilities/Disturbances	Left	Right
Disturbances continuous	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disturbances isolated	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disturbances absent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Type		

## CONSERVATION VALUE

Conservation values can be assigned to an area by considering a number of characteristics, such as, vegetation structure and diversity, presence/absence of weeds and level of disturbance.

Another important characteristic in determining conservation value is whether the area links patches of remnant bush.

What is your opinion of the conservation value of the road and why? For example, are there a number of different vegetation types along the road?



*A low conservation roadside typically has a high density of weeds.  
(Photo by Kate Jackson)*

Conservation Value		
	Left	Right
High	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reasons		

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Part 2 – Surveying roadsides

## LANDSCAPE VALUE

The scenic quality of a road is important to many road users. An avenue of trees contributes greatly to the scenic effect of the road, especially if they arch over the road and form a tunnel.

What is your opinion of the road's landscape value?



*Picturesque roadsides have high landscape value. (Photo by Penny Hussey)*

Landscape Value		
	Left	Right
High	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reasons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## GENERAL COMMENTS

You may like to write in further details, for example, presence of wildlife or unusual plant species.

### GENERAL COMMENTS

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Notes

## Notes

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Notes



**SURVEY TO DETERMINE THE CONSERVATION VALUE OF ROADSIDES IN  
SHIRE OF .....**

Date .....

Observer(s) .....

Road Name .....

Shire .....

Nearest named Place .....

Direction of travel (N,S,E,W) .....

Section No. ....

Starting Point .....

odometer reading .....

Ending Point .....

odometer reading .....

Length of section .....

**WIDTH OF ROAD RESERVE (m)** .....

Side of the road Left Right

**WIDTH OF VEGETATED ROADSIDE**

1 – 5 m ☐ ☐

5 – 20 m ☐ ☐

over 20 m ☐ ☐

**NATIVE VEGETATION ON ROADSIDE**

Tree layer ☐ ☐

Shrub layer ☐ ☐

Ground layer ☐ ☐

**EXTENT OF NATIVE VEGETATION ON  
ROADSIDE**

Less than 20% ☐ ☐

20 – 80% ☐ ☐

over 80% ☐ ☐

**No. OF DIFFERENT NATIVE**

0 – 5

6 – 19

Over 20

Dominant species (if known) .....

**WEEDS**

Few weeds (<20% total per

Half weeds (20 - 80% total)

Mostly weeds (>80% total)

Ground layer totally weeds

Complete the reverse side if  
weed species present

**FAUNA OBSERVED**

Rabbits (evidence of)

**VALUE AS A BIOLOGICAL**

Connects uncleared areas

Flowering shrubs

Large trees with hollows

Hollow logs



THE		Roadside Conservation Committee c/- Locked Bag 104 Benlley Delivery Centre WA 8983		Phone: (08) 9334 0423 Fax: (08) 9334 0199	
<u>THE SPECIES</u>		<u>PREDOMINANT ADJOINING LANDUSE</u>			
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		Agricultural crop or pasture. <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		- completely cleared <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		- scattered <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Uncleared land <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Plantation of non-native trees <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Urban or industrial <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Railway Reserve parallel to road <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Drain Reserve parallel to road <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Other <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		<u>Utilities / Disturbances</u>			
		Disturbances continuous <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Disturbances isolated <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Disturbances absent <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Type <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		<u>Conservation Value</u>			
		High <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Medium <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Low <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Avenue of trees <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Reasons <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		<u>Landscape Value</u>			
		High <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Medium <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Low <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Avenue of trees <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
		Reasons <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		<u>GENERAL COMMENTS</u>			
<u>LAND CORRIDOR</u>					
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>					
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		<u>OFFICE USE ONLY</u>			
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>					
<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>		Conservation value score <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>			

**TYPE OF WEEDS**

< 20% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20 – 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

< 20% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20 – 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

< 20% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20 – 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

< 20% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20 – 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

< 20% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20 – 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

< 20% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20 – 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

< 20% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20 – 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
> 80% total weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## CITY OF FREMANTLE

### LOCAL PLANNING POLICY 2.23

#### REGISTER OF SIGNIFICANT TREES AND VEGETATION AREAS

**ADOPTION DATE:** 27 February 2019 (Council adoption)

**AUTHORITY:** LOCAL PLANNING SCHEME NO.4 and PLANNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT (LOCAL PLANNING SCHEMES)  
REGULATIONS 2015

#### STATUTORY BACKGROUND

The Schedule 2 Deemed Provisions of the Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 are to be read as though part of City's Local Planning Scheme (LPS4).

Clause 67 of the Deemed Provisions defines matters to be considered by local government in determining a development application and includes, amongst other things:

- *whether any trees or vegetation should be preserved; and*
- *any local planning policy for the Scheme area.*

Clause 3 of the Deemed Provisions allows local government to prepare a local planning policy in respect of any matter relating to the planning and development of the Scheme area.

Schedule A of LPS4 makes provision for Council to create and maintain a register:

#### *Clause 13A Conservation of Significant Trees or Vegetation Areas*

- (1) The Council may establish and maintain a register of significant trees to identify those trees or vegetation areas within the Scheme area considered worthy of conservation under the provisions of the Scheme, together with a description of each tree or vegetation area and the reasons for its entry.*
- (2) In considering a proposal to include a place on the register of significant trees, the Council shall –*
  - (a) notify in writing the owner and occupier of the place where the tree is located and provide them with a copy of the description referred to in clause 4.1 and the reasons for the proposed entry,*
  - (b) invite submissions on the proposal from the owner and occupier of the place within 21 days of the date specified in the notice,*
  - (c) carry out such other consultations as it thinks fit, and*

- (d) *consider any submissions made and resolve to enter the place on the register of significant trees with or without modification or reject the proposal after consideration of the submissions.*

Local Planning Policy 1.4 Development exempt from approval under Local Planning Scheme No. 4 permits tree and vegetation removal on private land without approval unless the tree or vegetation is identified on a significant tree or vegetation register:

**POLICY**

*The following uses and development are exempt from the requirement to obtain development approval under Local Planning Scheme No. 4:*

**Demolition and Removal**

30. *Removal of trees or vegetation areas except where those which are identified on the Register of Significant Trees or Vegetation Areas, or where required to be retained on a site through a condition of development approval.*

This policy applies as a Local Planning Policy prepared under Clause 3 of the Deemed Provisions.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Define criteria for the inclusion or removal of trees and vegetation areas on the Significant Trees and Vegetation Areas Register ('the Register').
- Provide guidance for the assessment of development applications for sites including trees and vegetation areas listed on the Register.

**APPLICATION**

This policy applies to land subject to the provisions of LPS4. Land and development outside the control of LPS4 (including works on reserved land by a public authority) are not bound by the provisions of LPS4 or this policy and so there is a presumption against inclusion of trees and vegetation areas on the Register which are not on zoned land.

**POLICY**

**1. Criteria for Inclusion on Significant Trees and Vegetation Areas Register**

- 1.1 Nominations for trees or vegetation areas must be authorised by the owner(s) of the land on which the tree is located at the time of nomination.
- 1.2 Nominations will be assessed against the following criteria:
- a) Healthy specimen with ongoing viability.
  - b) Species not a weed of national interest.
  - c) Particular significance based on at least one of the following:

**i. Botanic/Horticultural value**

Tree(s) or vegetation may:

- be a rare or endangered species;
- be of a significant size or specimen for its species; or
- have special scientific value.

**ii. Visual/Aesthetic/Landmark value**

Tree(s) or vegetation may:

- have significant visual and aesthetic qualities e.g. size/form/shape/ colour/texture; or
- create a significant landmark.

**iii. Heritage value**

Tree(s) or vegetation may:

- be of high cultural heritage significance defined against historic, social, spiritual, rarity and representativeness values.

**iv Ecological value not otherwise protected through environmental legislation**

Tree(s) or vegetation may:

- provide significant habitat and/or seed source;
- represent remnant pre-European tree or vegetation;
- have special ecological significance; or
- provide substantial canopy cover.

**v. The potential of a juvenile tree to become significant by virtue of height at maturity, native food source and rarity.**

Species will only to be considered if endemic to the area, listed in the Urban Forest Plan and a minimum of 6m of height.

1.3 In assessing the ongoing viability of the nominated tree / vegetation, consideration may be given to the following:

- The development potential of the site and prospects for retaining the tree or vegetation in future development.
- Proximity to and impact on buildings and / or infrastructure.
- Proximity to boundary and impact on neighbouring property.
- The root structure and attributes of the plant and its propensity to be affected by changes to the environment outside the lot boundaries (e.g. development on neighbouring land).

Trees with a limited prospect of long term retention or lifespan will not be included.

- 1.4 In assessing the ecological value of trees and vegetation areas, consideration will be given to proximity to recognised ecological linkages or biodiversity corridors.
- 1.5 Nominations for inclusion, and requests for removal of trees and vegetation areas from the Register made independent of a development application will be assessed annually, in accordance with any applicable procedure.

**2. Development Application for Sites including a Tree / Vegetation Area on the Register**

- 2.1 Development shall avoid detrimental impact on the registered tree / vegetation where feasible.
- 2.2 Applications to remove a tree or vegetation area on the Register not associated with other development will be assessed against the criteria and considerations listed in 1 above. Withdrawal of the support of the owner of the land (or subsequent owner of the land) will not be considered sufficient reason for removal.
- 2.3 Applications for other forms of development involving or likely to result in removal of a tree or vegetation areas on the Register will be considered under the following circumstances:

- (i) Where retention is likely to cause damage or injury to infrastructure, services, buildings or health and safety

Tree/vegetation removal is permissible where it has been clearly demonstrated that the tree/vegetation roots and/or branches are likely to cause damage or injury to –

- a. water, stormwater, power, gas, telecommunications or sewer lines, or
  - b. the structural integrity of a building or structure of value, or
  - c. the safe and efficient operation of an existing public road, private road, right-of-way, or formed accessway, or the integrity of a base course of an existing public road, private road, right-of-way, or formed vehicle accessway; or
  - d. health and safety of a person/s; and
  - e. all other reasonable remedial treatments have been determined to be ineffective.
- (ii) Where the tree or vegetation is structurally unsound or in poor health  
Tree/vegetation removal is permissible where it has been clearly demonstrated that the tree / vegetation is:
    - a. imminently dangerous (refer Exempted Development below); or

- b. in poor health with a low chance of survival; and
  - c. all other reasonable remedial treatments have been determined to be ineffective.
- (iii) Where the retention of tree/vegetation on a development site would preclude permissible development  
Tree/vegetation removal is permissible where it has been clearly demonstrated that the location of the tree / vegetation:
  - a. renders development of the site in accordance with its zoned purpose unfeasible.
- 2.4 In assessing proposals, applicants may be requested to provide professional evidence such as an aboricultural report or a structural engineers report demonstrating compliance with the above criteria.
- 2.5 Where removal is supported, replacement of the tree or vegetation in a suitable location may be sought as a condition of approval.
- 2.6 Development on lots containing registered tree or vegetation shall comply with AS 4970 – 2009 Protection of trees on development sites.

**ADVISORY NOTES:**

**Exempt Development:** Works urgently necessary for public safety, safety or security of plant or equipment, maintenance of essential services, or protection of the environment is exempt from the requirement to obtain development approval under LPS4. Demonstration of compliance with this definition may be sought where works are undertaken without approval.

**Pruning:** Pruning of a tree or vegetation on the Register is permitted where it does not constitute removal. Pruning is encouraged to comply with Australian Standards (AS 4373- 2007 Pruning of amenity trees) and may:

- (i) Involve removal of dead wood, treatment of disease, or is in the general interests of the health of the tree; or
- (ii) Address risk to public or private safety where other alternatives are not viable; or
- (iii) Address damage to buildings or structures of value where other alternatives are not viable; or
- (iv) Maintain the aesthetic appearance and structural integrity of the tree or vegetation.

**Review information and related documentation**

<b>Reviewing officer:</b>	<b>Manager Strategic Planning</b>
<b>Policy adopted:</b>	<b>27 February 2019 (Council adoption)</b>
<b>Policy amended:</b>	<b>22 May 2019 Item Ref SPT1905-3</b>
<b>Legislation:</b>	<b><i>Planning &amp; Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015</i></b>
<b>Delegations:</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>Related documents:</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>Next review date:</b>	<b>5 yrs from adoption</b>





## Procedure for Administering the Register of Significant Trees and Vegetation Areas

### Part 1 – Nomination and Inclusion of Trees or Vegetation Areas on the Register

The process for nomination and inclusion of a significant tree or vegetation area on the Register is set out in *6.12 Schedule A – Supplementary provisions to the deemed provisions, Clause 13A Conservation of Significant Trees or Vegetation Areas* of Local Planning Scheme No.4 (LPS4). The procedure for including a tree or vegetation area on the Register is as follows:

- (i) Applicant is to complete the *Register of significant trees or vegetation areas on private land nomination form*, as provided in Appendix A, to apply for a significant tree or vegetation to be included on the Register. The application should address the criteria for inclusion listed in the policy.

*Note: The City will not accept an application for a significant tree or vegetation area to be included on the Register without the landowner's consent.*

- (ii) Applicant to lodge the application with the City of Fremantle's strategic planning team by:

Email (preferred method): [planning@fremantle.wa.gov.au](mailto:planning@fremantle.wa.gov.au)

Post: Planning Services, City of Fremantle, PO Box 807, FREMANTLE WA 6959

Hand Deliver: City of Fremantle Administration Building

- (iii) The City will undertake an assessment of nominated trees and vegetation areas in accordance with part one of the policy. This assessment will involve internal referrals to relevant departments (e.g. Parks, Heritage) and may include the commission of an independent arboricultural report. Assessments may be deferred to align with annual reporting [see (v) below].
- (iv) The City will provide the assessment to the landowner and occupier of the place (if applicable) and invite comment from them and immediately adjoining neighbours for a period of 21 days.
- (v) A report on the nominated trees and vegetation areas and public submissions received will be submitted to Council annually (generally between February and April) for a decision on their inclusion on the Register [contained in Appendix B].
- (vi) The landowner, occupier and any person who made a submission on the nomination will be notified of Council's decision, and the City's records (including GIS mapping) will be updated accordingly.

**Part 2 - Removal of trees or vegetation areas from the Register:**

**A. Where removal does not form part of a development application**

- (i) Requests for removal of trees or vegetation from the Register which do not form part of a Development Application should be submitted in writing to the City and be accompanied by justification addressing the criteria listed in part one of the policy including, where appropriate, supporting technical documents such as an arboricultural report or structural engineering report demonstrating relevant criteria are met.
- (ii) The City will undertake an assessment of trees and vegetation areas in accordance with part one of this policy. This assessment may include the commission of an independent arboricultural report. Assessments may be deferred to align with annual reporting (see v above).
- (iii) Where the City's assessment does not support the request for removal, the City will provide the assessment to the landowner and occupier of the place (if applicable) and invite comment from them for a period of 21 days. The City may, at its discretion, also invite comment from adjacent neighbours.
- (iv) A report on trees and vegetation areas requested for removal, along with any public submissions received will be submitted to Council annually (generally between February and April) for a decision on their removal from the Register [contained in Appendix B].
- (v) The landowner, occupier and any person who made a submission on the nomination will be notified of Council's decision, and the City's records (including GIS mapping) will be updated accordingly.

**B. Where removal forms part of a development application**

- (i) The City will undertake an assessment of trees and vegetation areas in accordance with part one of the policy as part of the statutory planning assessment of the development application. This assessment will involve internal referrals to relevant departments (eg Parks, Heritage) and may include the commission of an independent arboricultural report and / or consultation with adjacent landowners.
- (ii) All trees or vegetation granted development approval for removal will be automatically removed from the Register without further consultation with the landowner or other parties, and the City's records (including GIS mapping) updated accordingly.



## Appendix A - Nomination Form

### INFORMATION ON TREE/VEGETATION FOR NOMINATION

Please tick appropriate:

- ☐ Single Tree/Plant
- ☐ Group of Trees/Plant. Number of trees / plants in group.....

#### Location of tree/vegetation

Street number..... Lot number .....

Street name.....

Suburb .....

Location on the site.....

#### Tree/vegetation details

Common name.....

Latin/Botanical name.....

Height (approximate) (m).....

Girth 1.4m above ground (m).....

Age (approximate).....

#### Why do you think the tree/vegetation is important (please tick applicable):

- ☐ Botanical/Horticultural value (rare/endangered species or genetic type)
- ☐ Visual/Aesthetic/Landmark value (size/form/colour/texture/landmark)
- ☐ Heritage value (social/spiritual/rarity/representative)
- ☐ Ecological value (provides significant habitat/seed source/remnant of pre European vegetation)

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.....

#### NOMINATED BY

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone .....

Date .....

#### OWNER'S CONSENT

*Consent from the owner(s) of the land upon which the tree or vegetation is located must be obtained when nominating trees/vegetation. The City of Fremantle will not consider a nomination without owner's consent.*

Name ..... Signature.....

(please include additional names and signatures separately where multiple owners exist)

*Cont. overleaf*

**Appendix A - Nomination Form (cont.)**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

To assist the nomination process please provide the following additional information as an attachment to this form:

- ☐ Any additional information to support your nomination  
(e.g. cover letter, media articles, historical information, arboriculturalist report etc.)
- ☐ Photo(s) of the tree(s)/vegetation
- ☐ Site Plan indicating location of the tree(s)/vegetation within the site  
including distance to boundaries, buildings and structures



## Appendix B – Register of Significant Trees and Vegetation Areas

Tree ID	Common and Botanical name	Address (& GPS coordinates)	Brief description of tree(s) or vegetation	Statement of significance (reason for entry)
19-01	Norfolk Island Pine ( <i>araucaria heterophylla</i> )	11 Harvest Road North Fremantle  <b>LONG</b> 115.755134 <b>LAT</b> -32.034814	Tree on private property	Heritage Significance - Originally on MHI & Heritage List  Contributes to the streetscape and has landmark qualities.
19-02	Norfolk Island Pine ( <i>araucaria heterophylla</i> ) and Canary Island palm ( <i>phoenix canariensis</i> )	15 Harvest Road North Fremantle  <b>LONG</b> 115.755661 <b>LAT</b> -32.034396	Tree on private property	Heritage Significance - Originally on MHI & Heritage List  These trees were probably planted in the Inter-War period.
19-03	Black Paperbark ( <i>melaleuca lanceolata</i> ) and Tuart ( <i>eucalyptus gomphocephala</i> )	21 Harvest Road North Fremantle  <b>LONG</b> 115.755806 <b>LAT</b> -32.033955	Trees on private property	Heritage Significance - Originally on MHI & Heritage List  These trees were probably planted after the Second World War.
19-04	Moreton Bay Fig Tree ( <i>ficus macrophylla</i> )	195 High Street Fremantle  <b>LONG</b> 115.750800 <b>LAT</b> -32.053268	Tree on private property	Heritage Significance - Originally on MHI & Heritage List  It is claimed by some that the Moreton Bay Fig tree is the progenitor of many of the Moreton Bay

				Fig trees in Fremantle, including the Proclamation Tree (which was planted in 1890). Webster is also credited with planting the Moreton Bay Fig trees around Kings Square and St John's Church grounds.
19-05	Trees, Henderson Street	45 Henderson Street Fremantle <b>LONG</b> 115.750100 <b>LAT</b> -32.054580	Trees on private property	Heritage Significance - Originally on MHI & Heritage List  This place includes: police station, lock-up, lock-up keepers cottage, constable houses, immigration depot, drill hall, court house, police station, and trees.
19-06	Rose Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus grandis</i> )	7/18 John Street, North Fremantle <b>LONG</b> 115.758 <b>LAT</b> -32.033	Tree on private property	Visual/aesthetic value, habitat provided for local fauna.
19-07	River Red Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> )	7/18 John Street, North Fremantle <b>LONG</b> 115.758 <b>LAT</b> -32.033	Tree on private property	Visual/aesthetic value, habitat provided for local fauna.

Last Updated: 28 October 2020  
(As per Committee decision 21 October 2020 - SPT 2010-02)

NOTE: Also refer to the State Register of Heritage Places, City of Fremantle Heritage List, and federal and state environmental legislation for other listings