Native Vegetation Plan

2020-2024

Mildura Rural City Council

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1. Acknowledgement of Country

Mildura Rural City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, which now comprises the Mildura Rural City municipality. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and celebrate and respect their continuing cultures and acknowledge the memories of their ancestors.

2. Executive Summary

Mildura Rural City Council (Council) is responsible for the management of native vegetation in various natural areas, roadsides and urban areas.

The Native Vegetation Plan 2020-2024 (the Plan) defines MRCC's strategic vision to implement a framework for the ongoing effective management of native vegetation on Council managed land.

For the purposes of this Plan, native vegetation is defined as 'plants that are indigenous to the Council municipality, including trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses'. This Plan complements Council's Invasive Plants and Animals Plan 2020-2024 which provides a framework for the management of weeds and pest animals on Council managed land.

Council's commitment to the management of native vegetation includes the implementation of the following key principles:

- The enhancement of native vegetation and connectivity
- Protection of plant communities and threatened species
- The adoption of best practice management techniques
- Providing education and encouraging community initiative in the management and enhancement of native vegetation.

This Plan will be delivered by Council staff with the support and establishment of partnerships with key stakeholders, other land managers and the wider community.

3. Introduction

3.1 Our Municipality

Mildura Rural City Council is located approximately 500 kilometres north-west of Melbourne in Victoria, covering an area of 22,330 square kilometres and supports a population of around 53,000. Major centres include Mildura, Red Cliffs, Merbein and Ouyen (see Figure 1).

Attractions to the Mildura area include its temperate climate, the Murray and Darling Rivers, National Parks and its services and facilities. The Mildura economy is strong due to the surrounding agricultural base and its location as a regional hub with the Calder Highway from Melbourne crossing the Sturt Highway connecting Sydney to Adelaide.

In 1883 State Government legislation proclaimed that millions of acres of Crown Land in north-west Victoria '….wholly or partially covered with the Mallee plant….' be known as the Mallee Country. Nowadays Mallee Region is the more common usage. The name Mallee is derived

from an Aboriginal word describing the Eucalypt species growing in the country of south eastern Australia.

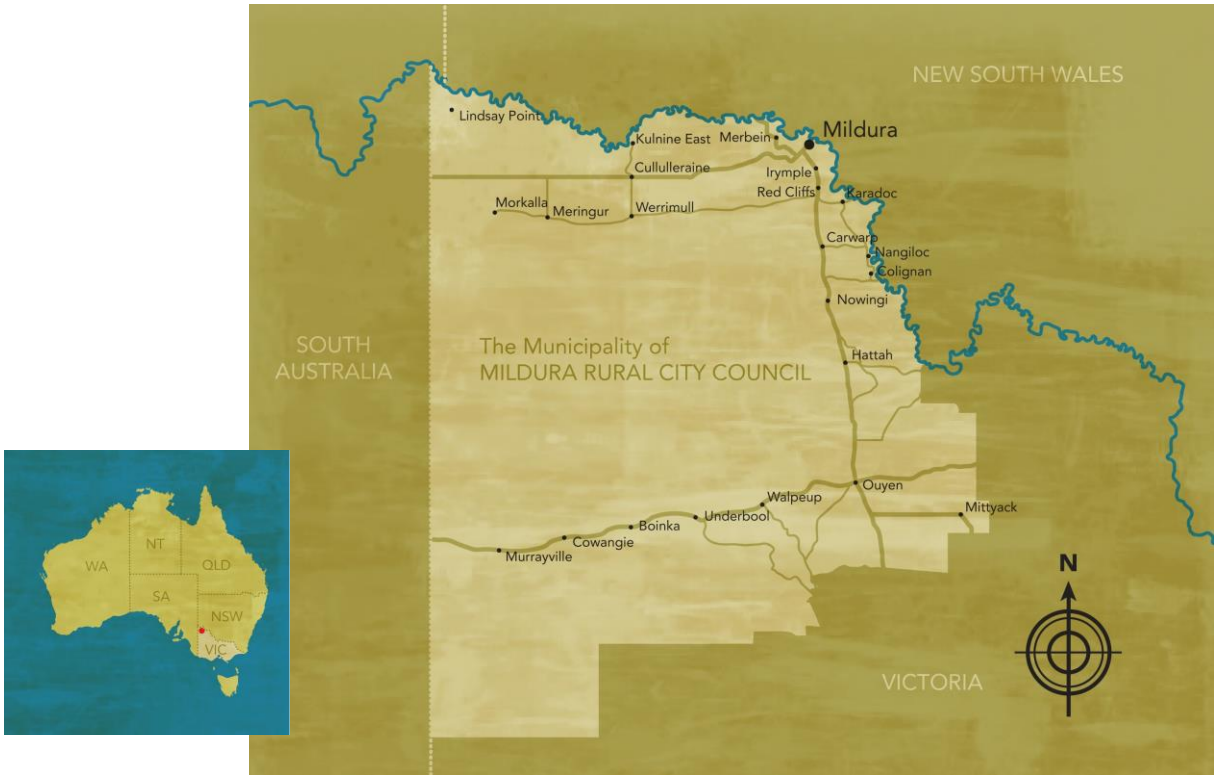


Figure 1. The municipality of Mildura Rural City Council

3.2 Our Vision

The Community and Council Plan 2017-2021 is Council's primary strategic planning document. Council is dedicated to implementing the Community and Council Plan with a commitment to environmental sustainability. Strategic goals of the plan include to 'conserve natural resources' and 'provide a healthy and sustainable environment'.

Council recognises that there is a strong correlation between our natural surroundings, our economy and our quality of life. As a result, positive natural resource management has been captured in the Community and Council Plan as an integral part of ongoing environmental success.

3.3 Our Natural Resources

Our environment and natural resources are key components to the ongoing health and viability of our community and local industries. The dominant natural features within the MRCC municipality include the Murray River and associated floodplain, salt pans, Murray Sunset National Park, Hattah-Kulkyne National Park, a portion of Wyperfeld National Park, Big Desert State Forest and Big Desert Wilderness Park.

A semi-arid climate with annual rainfall averages of 331mm at Walpeup, 282mm at Mildura, 328mm at Hattah and 290mm at Werrimull, extensive limestone landforms, and the influence

of the Murray River and river floodplains all typify the Mallee Region. The features and characteristics of the municipality have produced unique environments, which support a diverse range of ecosystems and associated flora and fauna communities.

Previous land clearing of native vegetation in the municipality for agriculture and urban development has resulted in the natural environment becoming highly modified. Areas of remnant native vegetation are considered of high environmental value.

There are large tracts of State Forest and National and Regional Park reserves scattered throughout the municipality, however remnant native vegetation on private land and roadsides is often the only remaining intact examples of some plant communities.

3.4 Purpose of the Plan

Council has recognised the need for the adoption of a Plan for the collaborative management of native vegetation across Council managed land including various natural areas, roadside reserves and parks.

Council is committed to demonstrating a leadership role in the management of native vegetation, as well as the protection and rehabilitation of our assets. Local assets include high value biodiversity, cultural and heritage sites and visual amenities, which are all important aspects in the continued conservation of this region.

The Plan aims to provide Council with a framework for the long-term successful management of native vegetation through the integration of management between Council, key stakeholders and the community. The adoption of the objectives and management principles within this Plan, along with the support and involvement from other local land managers and the community will ensure the successful implementation of actions defined in this Plan.

4. Background

4.1 General

Historically Council has adopted and delivered various plans and strategies related to native vegetation management. The Significant Linkages Strategy and Sunraysia Remnant Linkages Strategy are key historical documents and have been used to inform subsequent plans, including this plan. Plans that are no longer in use and are related to this plan include The Roadside Management Plan 2010-2014, Vegetation Strategy 2010-2014, Sustainable Urban Landscapes Plan 2010-2015 and the Vegetation Management Plan 2015-2019. These documents include natural area, roadside and urban native vegetation management objectives.

Native vegetation management focuses on the conservation and enhancement of native vegetation communities including managing and reducing threats and revegetating with indigenous species.

Roadside native vegetation management, including threat mitigation and re-vegetation with indigenous native species, aims to increase connectivity between remnant native vegetation patches. This allows for the movement of native fauna and improves/maintains the genetic viability of flora and fauna communities.

Objectives for urban native vegetation management include reducing water use and increasing biodiversity.

This Plan aims to consolidate and streamline the information, objectives and actions from historical plans and strategies to create a comprehensive reporting document for natural area, roadside and urban native vegetation management.

4.2 State and Federal Government Legislation

Relevant state and federal legislation that is applicable in the management of native vegetation are listed below:

- Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006
- Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (Catchment and Land Protection Amendment Bill 2013)
- Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978
- Environment Protection Amendment Act 2018
- Fences Act 1968
- Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988
- Local Government Act 2020
- Road Management Act 2004
- Land Act 1958
- National Parks Act 1975
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
- Parks Victoria Act 2018
- Planning and Environment Act 1987 – Planning Provisions
- Wildlife Act 1975
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

4.3 Existing Plans, Strategies, Policies and Guidelines

Existing plans, strategies, policies and guidelines that relate to this Plan are listed below:

- MRCC Invasive Plants and Animals Plan 2020-2024
- MRCC Native Vegetation Policy – CP065
- Mallee Natural Resource Management Plant for Climate Change, Mallee Catchment Management Authority 2016
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) – Guidelines for the Removal, Destruction or Lopping of Native Vegetation December 2017
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) – Procedure to Rely on the Road Safety Exemption in Planning Schemes August 2018
- Vic Roads Fauna Sensitive Road Design Guidelines 2012
- Vic Roads Roadside Management Strategy 2011
- Mildura Planning Scheme – relevant environmental overlays
- Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia.

5. Council's Native Vegetation Areas

As a land manager Council is responsible for the management of native vegetation across three major groups – natural areas, roadside reserves and urban areas. The majority of the Council managed land containing native vegetation is classified in Council's Planning Provisions to be managed under the Public Conservation and Resource Zone (PCRZ) conditions and Environment and Vegetation Overlay conditions which legally protects this land for the best conservation outcomes.

5.1 Natural Areas

5.1.1 Murray Riverfront Reserves

The Murray River is unique in the world, being one of the few major rivers where the public can freely and openly access the bank (on the Victorian side) along its entire length. This is thanks to some visionary thinking over a century ago, when in 1881, Crown land in Victoria along the Murray River was permanently reserved for public purposes by the Governor in Council under the provisions of The Land Act 1869. The most common width reserved was 'three chains' (approximately 60 metres) from the ordinary winter level of the river.

Council is currently the Committee of Management (CoM) for the majority of the Murray Riverfront Reserve between Cowra Avenue, Mildura and Chaffey Landing, Merbein. This area offers the community recreational access to the river with consideration given to the environmental values of the area. As well as the Murray Riverfront Reserve, Council is also the CoM for a number of large Crown land parcels which contain various native vegetation communities including Mallee, Pine/Belah and Black Box Woodlands.

Throughout the Mallee Region, approximately 400 bushland and crown reserves of differing dimension and native vegetation type occur across the landscape, providing connectivity to the Murray River. These varying native vegetation communities exist on both public and private land and are managed by individual community members and state government agencies.

5.1.2 Lakes

Council has management responsibilities for two major lakes in the municipality – Lake Ranfurly and Lake Cullulleraine. Lake Ranfurly is freehold Council owned land. Council has some CoM area surrounding Lake Cullulleraine. Operational Management Plans have been developed for both of these lakes. These plans guide the day-to-day operational activities at these sites and provide recommendations for actions when funding is available.

Lake Ranfurly is a shallow hyper-saline lake with national environmental significance. Like the nearby Lake Hawthorn, it was once part of the Murray River floodplain but has been levied off from the River and used as a Salt Interception Scheme evaporation basin. The lake currently supports a wide variety of flora and fauna species including vulnerable Ecological Native

Vegetation Communities (EVC); Lake Bed Herbland and Semi-arid Woodland and depleted EVC's; Lignum Swampy Woodland, Riverine Chenopod Woodland, Semi-arid Chenopod Woodland and Low Chenopod Shrubland.

Several rare or threatened plant species have also been recorded in the area with the lake being listed as a significant wetland for Japan Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (JAMBA) and China Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (CAMBA) (figure 2). The Hooded Scaly-foot – *Pygopus schraderi* (figure 3) has also been found at Lake Ranfurly which is listed as threatened by the Victorian Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988, recognised as Critically Endangered in Victoria.

Figure 2. Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – *Calidris acuminata*
International Migratory Bird
Photo Courtesy of Allan Taylor

Figure 3. Eastern Hooded Scaly-foot – *Pygopus schraderi*
Photo Courtesy of Alex Holmes

Lake Cullulleraine is a popular visitor destination. A large number of activities are undertaken on and around the lake, and amenities are provided for a range of uses for sporting groups and visitors in general. The land has areas of high, moderate and low biodiversity value and consists of Black Box Woodland and Chenopod Shrubland in the Murray Scroll Belt Bioregion. The lake has wetland values and threatened flora and fauna have been recorded in the area. There are also likely to be cultural heritage sites present given the lake was formerly an ephemeral wetland which connected to the Murray River.

Council has constructed several trails through the reserve and installed educational signage. The reserve is and has been subject to many pressures and threatening processes since European settlement, such as grazing by sheep and rabbits, significant clearing of trees, invasion by weeds and exotic plants and disturbance by vehicles, earthworks and human access (Lake Cullulleraine Operational Management Plan 2012).

5.1.3 Constructed Wetlands

Council manages two major constructed wetlands as natural areas – Etiwanda Wetlands and Bob Corbould Wetlands. These wetlands are managed with the primary purpose of restoring a natural environment whilst maintaining environmental stormwater management outcomes. The majority of the native vegetation at the wetlands is remnant or naturally regenerated, complemented by native revegetation programs.

The wetlands are important to improve resources for flora and fauna, as well as facilitate the passive treatment of stormwater. The wetlands function as areas that enhance species diversity and abundance by maintaining and improving native vegetation and microhabitat complexity, and providing suitable breeding sites and food resources. The principle functions of the wetlands in relation to land management are as follows:

- Littoral native vegetation and reed beds provide important habitat, breeding and nesting sites for wildlife
- Open water areas provide habitat for aquatic species as well as refuge and landing areas for waterbirds
- Wetland native vegetation provides food, cover and shelter for fauna and enhances stabilisation of banks
- Enhancing floral diversity and structure increases faunal diversity
- Excess nutrients and chemicals in stormwater being filtered by wetland plants.

5.1.4 Bushland Reserves

Council manages some parcels of Bushland Reserve that contain significant remnant native vegetation. These parcels provide linkages to adjoining bushland areas and are primarily managed for the preservation of remnant native vegetation. Maintenance activities in these areas include invasive plant and animal control and rubbish removal, most commonly from illegal dumping.

5.2 Roadsides

The Mallee Region of Victoria contains several unique and expansive native vegetation blocks. These include the Murray River Corridor, Hattah Kulkyne National Park, Murray Sunset National Park, Big Desert Wilderness Park, Big Desert State Forrest and Wyperfeld National Park.

The National Parks, which represent approximately 38 per cent of the landscape in the municipality, and other smaller native vegetation blocks are predominantly bordered by extensively cleared land utilised for dryland agriculture (which occupies approximately 61 per cent of the landscape, almost 3 million hectares). Agricultural development has resulted in the fragmentation and isolation of native vegetation, leaving only narrow linear roadside native vegetation linkages between them. The extensively cleared dryland agricultural areas of the Mallee Region contain less than 5 per cent of the original landscape native vegetation, most of which exists as roadside corridors.

Council manages approximately 5,100 kilometres of roadside reserves (includes both sides) containing native vegetation of varying dimension and condition. Controlling threats such as invasive plants and animals on roadsides is beneficial to native flora and fauna and the adjacent landholder. Council has identified significant native vegetation corridors (within the dryland areas); and zones (within the irrigated areas) based on:

- The presence of threatened native vegetation communities
- The health of the native vegetation
- The location of key native vegetation communities within the landscape.

The significant native vegetation areas identified in Appendices 1 to 3 are a priority for enhancement through strategic native revegetation and targeted invasive plant and animal control. Strategic Biodiversity Values provided by Nature Print can be referenced to provide information on highest value areas including threatened flora and fauna, and vegetation types and condition within the priority areas.

Roadsides can play an important role in supporting rare and threatened plant populations. Council maintains a Significant Roadside Register including all known rare or threatened species sites. These sites are regularly monitored and maintained.

5.2.1 Irrigated Farming Areas

Originally the irrigation district was located adjacent to the Murray River but now extends across a large area that includes urban development, irrigated farming zones and natural areas. The pressure of urbanisation, horticultural development and public activity along adjacent riparian zones has resulted in the decline and fragmentation of native vegetation communities. The remaining remnant native vegetation mainly persists along roadside corridors, the Murray River floodplain, on railway and channel land, on private land and within bushland reserves.

Council offers native vegetation tube stock to landowners that have native vegetation remnants close to their road reserve, on the condition the landowners agree to maintain the plantings. The species used for revegetation are matched to the native vegetation community already present in nearby remnants. Prior to revegetation, threats such as invasive plants and animals are identified and controlled.

Roadsides in the zones identified in Appendix 1 are targeted for the management of threats such as invasive plants or animals or enhancement by revegetation. These zones in the irrigated farming area are identified as providing the greatest opportunity for roadside vegetation corridors from the riverine environment to inland blocks of vegetation.

5.2.2 Dryland Farming Areas

The municipality has a variety of land systems and associated native vegetation communities located in the dryland cropping and grazing land-use areas. Of particular importance is the retention and protection of poorly represented communities such as the threatened native vegetation communities of Pine/Belah/Buloke woodlands, native Grassland, Black Box woodland and old growth Mallee on roadsides. Protecting the threatened communities on roadsides benefits native species richness and threatened populations, for example the Regent Parrot.

The roads considered to have the greatest potential to provide valuable native vegetation corridors (see Appendix 2 and 3 – Significant Northern/Southern Roadside Native Vegetation Corridors) are targeted for the management of threats such as invasive plants or animals or enhancement by revegetation.

5.3 Urban Areas

Council maintains parks, gardens and open space throughout the municipality located in Mildura, Red Cliffs, Merbein, Irymple, Nangiloc, Cardross, Nichols Point, Lake Cullulleraine, Werrimull, Ouyen, Walpeup, Underbool, Cowangie and Murrayville.

There are two broad landscape treatments that focus on native vegetation. The broad categories and some examples are included in the table below.

Category	Landscape treatment	Example locations
Gardens	Native gardens	The Alfred Deakin Centre, Rio Vista Park, Walpeup Dryland Garden
Neighbourhood Parks	Grassed passive areas and garden areas	Green Pines (Mildura), Blackburn Park (Ouyen)

Native vegetation aids in creating sustainable urban landscapes which is a priority for Council. A sustainable landscape is one that meets the needs of the present and future generations. Some important considerations in the development of a sustainable landscape include:

- Appropriate to the local climate and environment
- Biodiversity and habitat for native birds and animals
- Water efficiency and drought tolerance
- Low maintenance
- Meets the expectations of the community
- Aesthetically appealing
- Requires minimal or no chemical or fertilisers.

5.3.1 Gardens

The plant composition of gardens varies depending on the outcome required for the specific areas. Council utilises a wide range of plants including exotic, Australian native and indigenous plants. The major criteria for plant selection is suitability to our local climate.

There is a distinct advantage in planting native or indigenous plants as these plants provide habitat for native animals in the urban environment. When designed and structured correctly, these landscapes provide beauty and amenity while enhancing the biodiversity of our urban environment.

5.3.2 Neighbourhood Parks

Neighbourhood parks are located throughout residential areas to provide passive recreational open space for local residents. The traditional approach to the development of this type of open space has been to establish irrigated turf across the entire park. Grassed areas in neighbourhood parks are an important component to facilitate recreational activities such as ball sports and other active pursuits. Council recognises the importance of providing grassed areas for this purpose however there is further potential for the development of vegetated areas in neighbourhood parks.

Neighborhood parks should be designed to be water efficient, incorporating a minimum of 60% mulched area / low water use garden area landscaped with native or indigenous, drought tolerant species and maximum 40 per cent turf (60/40 concept). This will reduce unnecessary grassed areas and water consumption.

6. Management Principles and Objectives

This Plan aims to promote Council's partnerships with government departments, landowners, land managers and the local community to achieve the objective of effective and efficient management of native vegetation across the municipality.

Implementation of on-ground works for the successful management of native vegetation on Council managed land will be carried out where possible in conjunction with adjoining land managers to create opportunities to extend and connect native vegetation communities.

A Native Vegetation Bushland Watch Program has been developed to encourage the community to report threats to native vegetation in Council managed areas. Threats may include vandalism, recreational pressures (litter, off track driving), invasive plants and animals, removal of fire wood and roadside clearing.

The performance of this Plan will be determined through quarterly and annual reporting.

6.1 Stakeholders

Native vegetation management can involve various stakeholders including land managers (agencies and individuals), private landholders, community groups and providers. Implementing the most effective way to manage native vegetation collaboratively involves identifying opportunities with stakeholders. The following table details stakeholders and the land they manage and/or services provided.

Stakeholder	Role	Land Managed
Aboriginal Victoria	Administer the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.	Traditional Owners.
Traditional Owners	Engage with Council in accordance with existing agreements and requirements.	Traditional Owners.
Australian Rail Track Operation, V/Line, Pacific National	Manage native vegetation on leased land.	Land leased from Vic Track.
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)	Administer acts for the protection and enhancement of native vegetation including rare communities and species.	Public Land including State Forests, Crown Land.
Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions, Agriculture Victoria	Protects, manages and commercialises new technologies generated by the agriculture research and development divisions of the department.	No land under direct management.
Environment Protection Authority	Preventing waste and pollution impacts.	No land under direct management.
Iluka Mining Company	Manage native vegetation (site rehabilitation) on responsible land.	Private and public (offsets) land.
Landcare/Community Groups	Management of native vegetation across public and private landscapes for agricultural and environmental benefit.	No land under direct management.
Landholders/Land Managers	Manage native vegetation on own land and/or in conjunction with other local landholders/managers.	Private land.

Stakeholder	Role	Land Managed
Local Nursery Owners/Managers	Supply of seedlings and materials to land owners and managers.	No land under direct management. Supply to public/private land.
Local Seed Collectors/Managers	Supply of indigenous native seed to land owners and managers.	No land under direct management. Collect on public/private land.
Lower Murray Water, Goulburn Murray Water, Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water	Manage native vegetation on responsible land in conjunction with other land owners/managers.	Land under ownership/management.
Mallee Catchment Management Authority (Mallee CMA)	Administrate State Government funding. Consult and support the community.	No land under direct management.
Mildura Rural City Council	Manage native vegetation on responsible land in conjunction with other land owners/managers.	Council parks and reserves, urban riverfront areas, Council owned/managed land, municipal roads and roadsides.
Parks Victoria	Manage native vegetation on responsible land in conjunction with other land owners/managers.	Public land including National Parks, Flora and Fauna Reserves, State Parks and most river frontage areas.
Sunraysia Institute of TAFE	Conservation and Land Management students gain skill in managing bushland, natural parks, water catchments and public spaces.	No land under direct management.
Trust for Nature	Manage native vegetation on responsible land in conjunction with other land owners/managers.	Owner and land manager of Ned's Corner Station.
Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF)	Provide support and information to farmers for agricultural and environmental benefit.	No land under direct management.

Stakeholder	Role	Land Managed
Vic Roads	Manage native vegetation on responsible land in conjunction with other land owners/managers.	Victorian freeways and arterial roads including the roadsides.
Vic Track	Manage native vegetation on responsible land in conjunction with other land owners/managers.	Vic Track owned land.
Recreational Groups and Tourists/Visitors	Utilise Council's vegetated areas and are responsible for creating minimal disturbance to native vegetation.	No land under direct management.

6.2 Objectives and Management Principles

Successful native vegetation management involves a number of objectives and ongoing management principles. Objectives and management principles for native vegetation management which support the Action Plan are detailed in the table below.

Objectives	Principles
Foster partnerships and build knowledge among stakeholders and the community.	Continue to engage and build relationships with community groups that assist in the protection and enhancement of native vegetation e.g. Landcare, Schools.
	Continue to engage and build relationships with other public land managers (including Department of Environment Land Water and Planning and Parks Victoria) and other natural resource management agencies including the Mallee Catchment Management Authority.
	Support and promote the adoption of Council's Open Spaces and Natural Areas by community groups.
Promote Council as a custodian and protector of plant communities, threatened species and cultural assets.	Continue to engage with Aboriginal Victoria and Traditional Owners for the effective management of cultural assets on Council land.
	Incorporate information on the status and cultural importance of native vegetation for native revegetation projects and to create public awareness.

Objectives	Principles
	Identify and effectively manage rare and threatened species and their communities as listed in relevant federal and state legislation and acts.
Ensure best practice techniques are adopted for the management and protection of native vegetation.	Ensure all native vegetation maintenance works undertaken are best practice measures. All pruning, hedging etc. are delivered to industry standard and are best practice measures causing minimal disturbance to species and native vegetation communities.
	Adopt maintenance practises to enhance the biodiversity of sites including pruning for habitat techniques and other sustainable design principles.
	Undertake native revegetation in natural areas and along roadside reserves in accordance with best practice guidelines and consideration of existing native vegetation types and structures (Ecological Vegetation Communities).
	Ensure native vegetation protection is included in the conditions for hoarding permits and road opening permits issued by Council.
	Ensure targeted compliance against regulatory requirements for illegal native vegetation clearing on Council managed and private land.
	Ensure licencee or leasee of Council managed land is aware of required management when licence/lease is located within a Public Conservation and Resource Zone and/or Environmental or Vegetation Overlay.
Ensure best practice is adopted for the development and management of native vegetation within urban, industrial and retail precincts and landscapes.	Designs for new gardens incorporate sustainable design principles.
	Incorporate drought tolerant native plant species into all new garden and streetscape designs to encourage and support native fauna where possible.
	Extent of turf for all new designs to meet minimum requirements using 60/40 model as a guide.

7. Action Plan

The MRCC Native Vegetation Plan aims to implement Community and Staff Education, Management and Monitoring, Review and Reporting actions for an integrated approach to successful native vegetation management. These actions guide the focus for the successful attainment of each goal and are detailed in the table below.

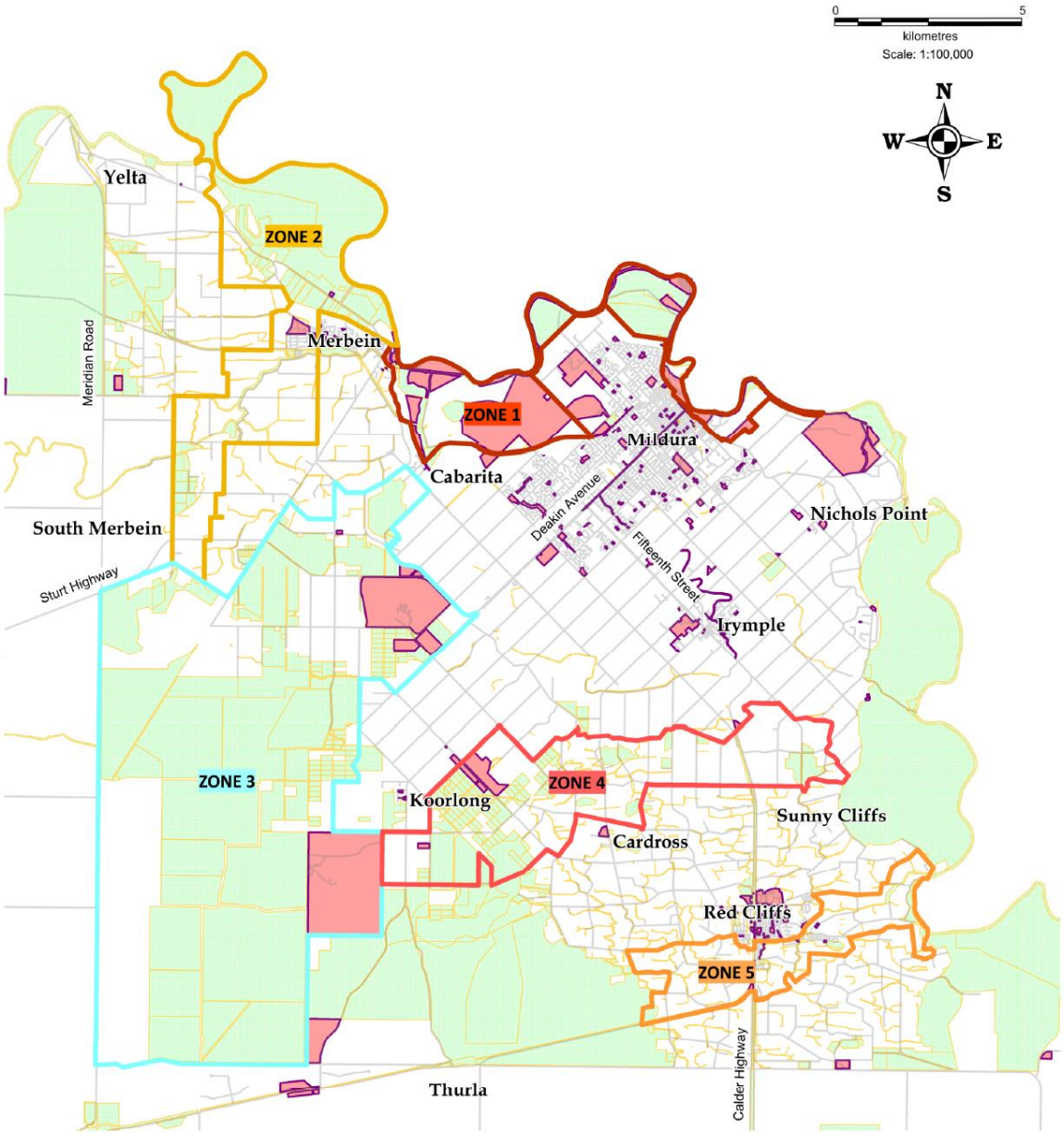
Theme	Goal	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Community and Staff Education	Support public awareness programs on drought tolerant plants and native vegetation.	Deliver two public events to raise awareness of drought tolerant and native vegetation.	CF	Annually
		Deliver the Low Water Use Nature Strip Program to twenty sites.	PAWS	Annually
	Encourage stewardship over native vegetation near private property.	Encourage the community to report to Council if they identify any threats that may degrade native vegetation through promoting the Bushland Watch Program.	CF	Annually
		Assist internal staff and the community with biodiversity enquires and keep a record of this.	CF	Ongoing
	Increase community awareness about native vegetation clearing regulations.	Review the native vegetation clearing communication material and run campaigns to promote information.	CF	Annual
	Increase staff awareness on the effective management of native vegetation.	Deliver training to Parks Services, Works and Engineering Services and Strategic/Statutory Planning to recognise threats and minimise damage to native vegetation.	CF	Annually

Theme	Goal	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
Management	Enhance native vegetation communities and their connectivity.	Identify and implement revegetation of natural areas, lakes and constructed wetlands in consideration of environmental conditions using best practice revegetation.	CF	Annually
		Deliver native revegetation programs to enhance biodiversity on roadside reserves in dryland areas outside townships using best practice revegetation.	CF	Annually
		Deliver native revegetation programs on rural irrigation roadside reserves in conjunction with the local community using best practice revegetation.	CF	Annually
		Review and develop operational guidelines for natural areas, rural roadsides, lakes and constructed wetlands.	CF	Year 1
	Ensure a consistent approach is taken when developing new urban landscape areas.	Create guidelines and policy for the development of new urban landscapes to increase the use and extent of native vegetation.	PAWS	Year 1
	Provide an effective service for native vegetation clearance.	Review Council processes relating to native vegetation management and clearance controls and measures.	CF, DS	Year 1
Monitoring, Review and Reporting	Identify opportunities for improving native vegetation and rehabilitation programs.	Monitoring of natural areas Lease/Licence Agreements in Public Conservation Resource Zones and support the Lease/Licence Agreement holder to comply with environmental conditions.	CF	Annually
		Undertake trials of new native plant species/varieties suitable for sustainable urban landscapes.	CF, PAWS	Annually

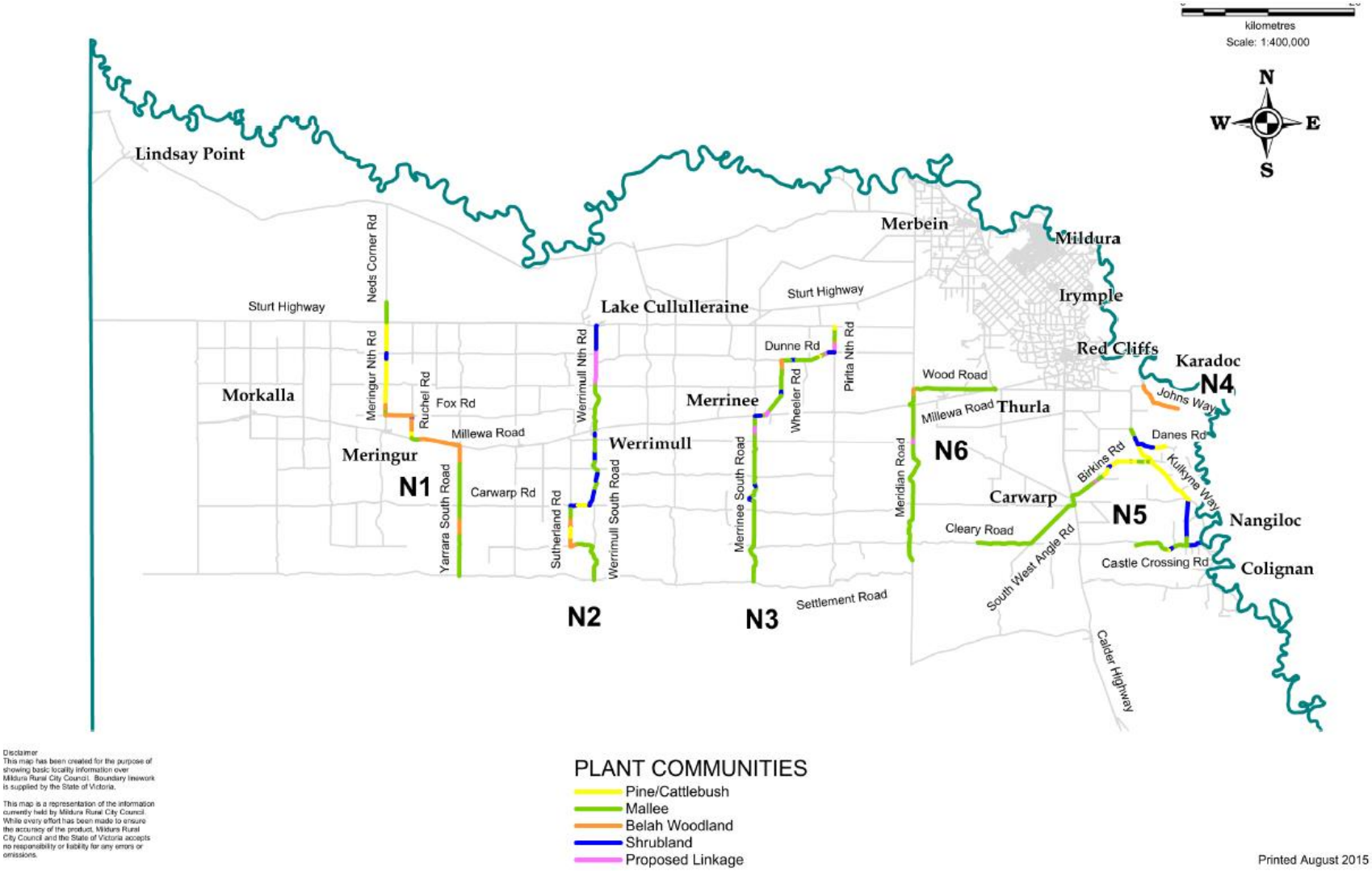
Theme	Goal	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
		Update and review Council's plant list outlining native plant species suited to various landscapes and vegetation communities.	CF, PAWS	Annually
		Document the impacts of climate change by carrying out annual monitoring programs at targeted sites.	CF	Annually
		Develop and implement project site monitoring for revegetation and regeneration sites.	CF	Annually
	Demonstrate works undertaken by Council to revegetate and rehabilitate native vegetation communities.	Record information on native vegetation planting projects undertaken in natural areas and roadsides. Publish results in the Annual Environmental Sustainability Report.	CF	Annually
		Monitor current Significant Roadside sites and recommend additional sites as they are identified.	CF	Annually

CF – Community Futures
PAWS – Parks and Waste Services
DS – Development Services

Appendix 1 – Significant Remnant Vegetation Zones



Appendix 2 – Significant Northern Roadside Vegetation Corridors



Appendix 3 – Significant Southern Roadside Vegetation Corridors