



# NRM for Local Government

2015/16  
Central West  
Local Land Services  
Incentive Funding

ROADSIDE VEGETATION TRAINING FOR LACHLAN SHIRE COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

# Roadside Vegetation Management Plan

## Lachlan Shire Council

The Lachlan Shire Local Government Area (LGA) is in the Central West region of New South Wales, located either side of the Lachlan River, stretching west beyond Lake Cargelligo and north beyond Tottenham. The Lachlan LGA is the largest in Central NSW, with an area of 15,000km<sup>2</sup> and has approximately 4,000km of roads.

## Roadside Vegetation

The significance of roadside vegetation in the Lachlan LGA is the fact that it often represents the only remnant vegetation in much of the shire area and provides connectivity for a range of fauna species.

Lachlan Shire Council, with the assistance of Central West Local Land Services, have previously engaged a consultant to complete an assessment of the composition and condition of roadside vegetation in the region.

This assessment of the roadside vegetation has been condensed into a comprehensive pair of

complementary documents being:

- Lachlan Shire Council Roadside Vegetation Management Guidelines; and
- Lachlan Shire Council Roadside Vegetation Assessment and Prioritisation for Rehabilitation.

## Project Activities

This project will provide targeted training to more than 40 staff members at Lachlan Shire Council enabling them to:

- understand and interpret these documents;
- recognise areas of high, medium and low conservation value;
- understand their obligations in relation to the management of these areas; and
- understand the legislative requirements and associated penalties related to native vegetation management.



## Endangered Ecological Communities

Lachlan Shire Council is home to a total of 8 confirmed Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs) with a further 2 EECs predicted to occur across the Shire. These EECs are well represented in roadside reserves across the Lachlan region.



## Landscape Connectivity

Roadside vegetation provides a vegetative linkage throughout the landscape and can act as a wildlife corridor. In heavily cleared landscapes, roadside vegetation may be the only area of intact native vegetation.

# Roadside Vegetation Management Plan



## Lachlan Shire Council

The NSW Roadside Environment Committee (REC) is the peak body for linear reserves across NSW. This organisation encourages all Councils across NSW to develop and adopt Roadside Vegetation Management Plans and assists the process through the development of templates, fact sheets and other pertinent information.

## What is a Linear Reserve?

Linear reserves are areas of narrow, elongated land that can include roadsides, Travelling Stock Reserves, rail corridors and infrastructure easements such as electricity and gas easements.

As many of these linear reserves have never been cleared for agriculture, housing or other uses, the vegetation that remains is often representative of a natural, intact environment.

## Why are Linear Reserves Important?

The REC estimate that there are approximately 180,000km of public

roads in NSW. When considered in conjunction with other linear reserves such as Travelling Stock Reserves etc., approximately 6% of the area of NSW is captured in linear reserves.

This total area is roughly equivalent to the land volume protected in National Parks and other flora and fauna reserves across the state.

## What Can You Do to Help?

Members of the public are reminded that all flora and fauna within roadside reserves are protected. This means that it is prohibited to collect or remove standing or fallen timber, bush rock, plants, animals, soil and sand.



## More Information

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## NRM for Local Government

The Central West Local Land Services incentive funding supports land managers and community with improving and managing the health of our landscape. Working together to enhance our natural resources and build productive, profitable and robust communities.

The Natural Resource Management (NRM) for Local Government Project aims to assist the Councils of the Central West Local Land Services region, to protect, enhance or maintain natural resources in their area.

The project will support on ground actions or community education

and engagement activities relating to natural resource management outcomes that exhibit best management practice and innovative solutions to existing issues.

Councils must be members of the Central West Councils Environment & Waterways Alliance to be eligible for funding.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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