

Roadside Weeds and Pests Control Program

Municipality Details

Council Name:	Northern Grampians Shire Council
Key Contact Name:	Shawna Dominelli
Position:	Weed and Pest Officer
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Regional Context of Noxious Weed and Pest Animal Management

The Shire of Northern Grampians is located in the Wimmera in western Victoria and covers approximately 5,918 square kilometers. The landform consists of rich fertile soils, dryland areas, mountain ranges, large scale open plan pastoral areas, nature conservation reserves and lakes. The southern end of the shire is bordered by the Grampians National Park and the Kara Kara National Park is located in the north.

Major towns in the area are Stawell (pop. 6,032 *Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016*) and St Arnaud (pop. 2,193 *Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016*) and smaller townships include the popular tourist locations Halls Gap, Great Western, Deep Lead, Glenorchy, Marnoo, Navarre and Stuart Mill.

The area is predominantly rural and includes large production farms down to smaller hobby farms. The local economy is based on a diverse range of industries including agriculture, tourism, wine production, gold mining, brick manufacturing and meat production.

The Northern Grampians Shire Council is responsible for the management of approximately 3,400 km of local

road network and is dedicated to managing weed infestations on council managed land and committed to the early prevention and control of weed species newly identified in the area.

Through past State Government funding initiatives, the Northern Grampians Council has treated approximately 2,016 km of roadsides for Regionally Controlled and Regionally Prohibited weeds and established pest animals. Please refer to Table 1 for a list of current target species.

Community Consultation

The Northern Grampians Shire has established links with the community to stay informed of current and emerging weed and rabbit issues in the area.

The partnership with two Landcare Network Managers (Project Platypus and the Buloke and Northern Grampians Landcare Network) encompasses feedback from landholders across the Shire and results in a collaborative approach to weed and rabbit control activities.

A representative from Northern Grampians Shire attends quarterly meetings of the Invasive Plants and Animals sub-committee facilitated by Project Platypus which community representatives, Parks Vic, Department of Land, Water, Environment and Planning (DELWP), neighboring shires (Horsham Rural City Council and Ararat Rural City Council) attend.

The community are able to report weed and rabbit concerns directly to the Shire either person, by phone call or via the Shire website. The website has information regarding Roadside Weeds and Control Project and invites people to report infestations and provide feedback on draft management strategies.

Stakeholder Consultation

List key stakeholders who have been consulted in the development of this plan.

- James Rowe, Biosecurity Area Manager, Agriculture Victoria (DJPR)
- Project Platypus, Upper Wimmera Landcare
- Local Landcare Groups, including Buloke and Northern Grampians Landcare Network
- Wimmera Catchment Management Authority
- North Central Catchment Management Authority

Relevant Local, Regional Policies and Strategies and submissions

List policies, strategies and submissions relevant to this plan.

State

- [Invasive Plants and Animal Policy Framework](#)
- Invasive species laws and the [Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994](#)
- [Catchment and Land Protection Regulations 2012](#)
- [Other relevant laws](#)

Regional

- [Wimmera Invasive Plant and Animal Strategy 2019](#), Wimmera Catchment Management Authority (WCMA)
- [North Central Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy 2010-2015](#), North Central Catchment Management Authority (NCCMA)

Local

- [Northern Grampians Shire Council's Roadside Weeds and Pests Control Plan 2019-2020](#)
- [Kara Kara Conservation Network's Strategic Plan 2019-2023](#)
- Project Platypus - [Upper Wimmera Landcare Strategic Plan 2019-2021](#)

Objectives of the Plan

Provide a general overview of Council's objectives, activities, outputs and expected outcomes.

Plan objectives are to contribute to the Shire's ongoing roadside weed and rabbit management program, to complement past investments made by Northern Grampians Shire enabled through State Government initiative funding and to assist with preventing the spread and introduction of invasive plant and animal species across the Shire and the region as a whole.

Northern Grampians Shire Council's overall roadside weed and rabbit management objective is the effective and proactive management of invasive species on Council managed roadsides across the Shire. Investment of funds will be aligned to:

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



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Term of the Plan

Outline the term for which the plan is to operate.

The plan will run from 15 October 2020 (date of commencement) to 31 December 2021.

Funding

Outline how council plans to fund the implementation of the plan.

- Roadside Weeds & Pests Program (RWPP) - \$75,000

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Table 1: Target Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	CaLP classification	PRIORITY RATING (1 highest – 4 lowest)	Reasons for Management
European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	Established Pest Animal	1	- In response to DJPR control programs, frequent ratepayer requests and support community and stakeholder action
Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	NCCMA - Regionally Prohibited Weed WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	1	- To support community and stakeholder action
Cape Tulip (two-leaf)	<i>Moraea miniata</i>	NCCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed WCMA - Regionally Prohibited Weed	1	- To support previous investment by Shire, DJPR compliance programs and community and stakeholder action .
Serrated Tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	NCCMA & WCMA - Regionally Prohibited Weed	1	- To support previous investment by Shire, DJPR compliance programs and community and stakeholder action.
Soldier Thistle	<i>Picnoman acarna</i>	NCCMA - Regionally Prohibited Weed WCMA - Restricted Weed	1	- In response to DJPR control programs, to support the DJPR and their efforts in controlling the spread of the weed.

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African Boxthorn	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	NCCMA & WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	2	- To support community and stakeholder action
Bathurst Burr	<i>Xanthium Spinosum</i>	NCCMA & WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	2	- To support community and stakeholder action
Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	NCCMA & WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	2	- To support DJPR compliance programs as well as community and stakeholder action.
Cape Tulip (one-leaf)	<i>Moraea flaccida</i>	NCCMA & WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	2	- To support community and stakeholder action
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	NCCMA & WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	2	- To support previous investment by Shire
Horehound	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	NCCMA & WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	2	- To support community and stakeholder action
Paterson's Curse	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	NCCMA & WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	2	- To support community and stakeholder action

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Spiny Rush	<i>Juncus acutus</i>	NCCMA & WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	2	- To support community and stakeholder action
St John's Wort	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	NCCMA & WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	2	- To support community and stakeholder action and previous investment by Shire
Sweet Briar	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	NCCMA & WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	2	- To support community and stakeholder action
Bridal Creeper	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	NCCMA & WCMA - Restricted Weed	3	- To support community and stakeholder action - To support Project Platypus, Landcare groups and Wimmera CMA control works
Cape Broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	NCCMA - Restricted Weed WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	3	- To support community and stakeholder action.
Flax-Leaved Broom	<i>Genista linifolia</i>	NCCMA - Restricted Weed WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	3	- To support community and stakeholder action
Spiny Broom	<i>Calicotome spinosa</i>	NCCMA - Restricted Weed WCMA - Regionally Controlled Weed	3	- To support community and stakeholder action

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Table 2: Control Measures and Target Roadsides (this table can be used as part of Council's yearly or acquittal report to LGV)

Common Name*	Control Measures (to be based on accepted best practice management of the target species)	Location of where works will be done (location of proposed works should be specified, and a map where possible should accompany the plan)	Estimate of length of roadside to be treated annually over 2 years (Km = length of road along which both sides are treated. Where only one side is treated halve the figure)	Approximate Annual Timing of Treatment	Estimated Cost
Rabbit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mechanical ripping of warrens Fumigation of warrens where mechanical ripping is deemed inappropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Widespread in the Northern Grampians Shire Locations to be treated as reported by community 	10km	All Year	\$1571
Boneseed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label Physical removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bulgana, Stawell Locations to be treated as reported by community 	6km	June - Sept	\$911

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Cape Tulip (two-leaf)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stawell ● Locations to be treated as reported by community 	1km	Jun - Sept	\$157
Serrated Tussock	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 3. Cultivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Glenorchy, Deep Lead ● Locations to be treated as reported by community 	1km	Feb - Oct	\$157
Soldier Thistle	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Banyena, Gray's Bridge, Slaty Creek, St. Arnaud, Stuart Mill, Wal Wal, Swanwater area, Gooroc area, Marnoo area ● Areas to be treated as reported by DJTR ● Areas to be treated as reported by the community 	75km	June - Oct	\$11,777
African Boxthorn	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Widespread in the Northern Grampians Shire ● Locations to be treated as reported by community 	37km	Jan - May & Sep - Dec	\$5,689

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Bathurst Burr	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 3. Cultivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locations to be treated as reported by community 	1km	Nov - Dec	\$157
Blackberry	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 3. Mulching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Range, Great Western, Stuart Mill, Carapooee, Halls Gap • Locations to be treated as reported by community 	3km	Jan - Apr & Sep - Dec	\$454
Cape Tulip (one-leaf)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stawell, Black Range, Lake Fyans, Moolerr, Sutherland • Locations to be treated as reported by community 	8kms	Apr - Aug	\$1,139

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Gorse	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Cultivation 3. Physical removal 4. Mulching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stuart Mill, Black Range, Great Western, Landsborough West, Navarre, Stawell • Locations to be treated as reported by community 	13km	All Year	\$1,937
Horehound	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 3. Cultivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widespread in the Northern Grampians Shire • Locations to be treated as reported by community and in conjunction with Landcare and landholder treatment programs 	141km	May - Oct	\$22,078
Paterson's Curse	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swanwater West • Locations to be treated as reported by community 	4km	May - Sep	\$523

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Spiny Rush	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Western, Deep Lead, Fyans Creek • Locations to be treated as reported by community 	33km	Aug - Nov	\$5,052
St John's Wort	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widespread in the Northern Grampians Shire • Locations to be treated as reported by community 	12kms	Dec - Feb	\$1,838
Sweet Briar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 3. Cultivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widespread in the Northern Grampians Shire • Locations to be treated as reported by community and in conjunction with Landcare and landholder treatment programs 	9km	Sep - Nov	\$1,318

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Bridal Creeper	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widespread in Northern Grampians Shire • Locations to be treated as reported by community 	77km	May - Dec	\$12,091
Cape Broom	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Arnaud, Stuart Mill, Stawell • Locations to be treated as reported by community 	1km	July - Nov	\$157
Flax-Leaved Broom	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widespread in Northern Grampians Shire • Locations to be treated as reported by community 	33km	Mar - Sep	\$5,142

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<p>Spiny Broom</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label 2. Physical removal 3. Cultivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shays Flat, Navarre, Joel South, Landsborough West, Concongella, Deep Lead • Locations to be treated as reported by community 	<p>19km</p>	<p>Aug - Dec</p>	<p>\$2,847</p>
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Maps

Map 1: Proposed location of control works.

Map 2: Proposed locations for control works for Soldier Thistle as recommended by DJPR.

Statement of Responsibilities

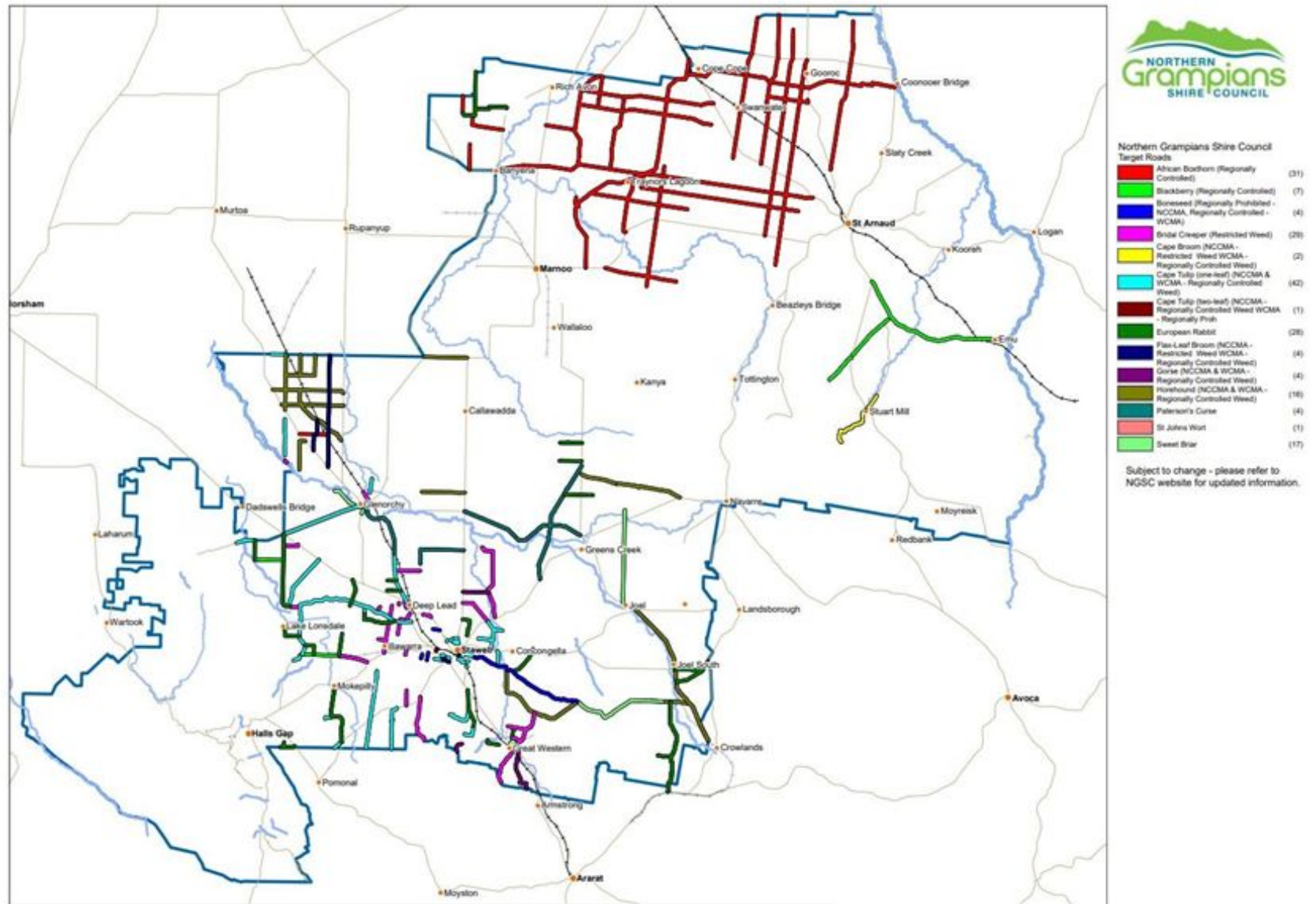
Council will:

- Publish this approved plan (or approved variation to this plan if relevant) on its website within 28 days of approval and ensure copies are available for public inspection at Council's office/s.
- Coordinate the implementation of this plan on Council managed roadsides in accordance with the investment principles stated in this plan and the control measures specified in Table 2.
- Implement best practice weed hygiene principles and protocols.
- Maintain accurate records sufficient to provide evidence that the plan has been carried out and provide these to Local Government Victoria on request.
- Obtain approval from DJPR before substantially modifying or varying the plan.
- Carefully consider any proposals from DJPR to modify or vary the plan in response to changed circumstances.
- Provide a completion report to Local Government Victoria within 30 days from expiry of this plan outlining the outcomes of the control measures undertaken.

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Appendix

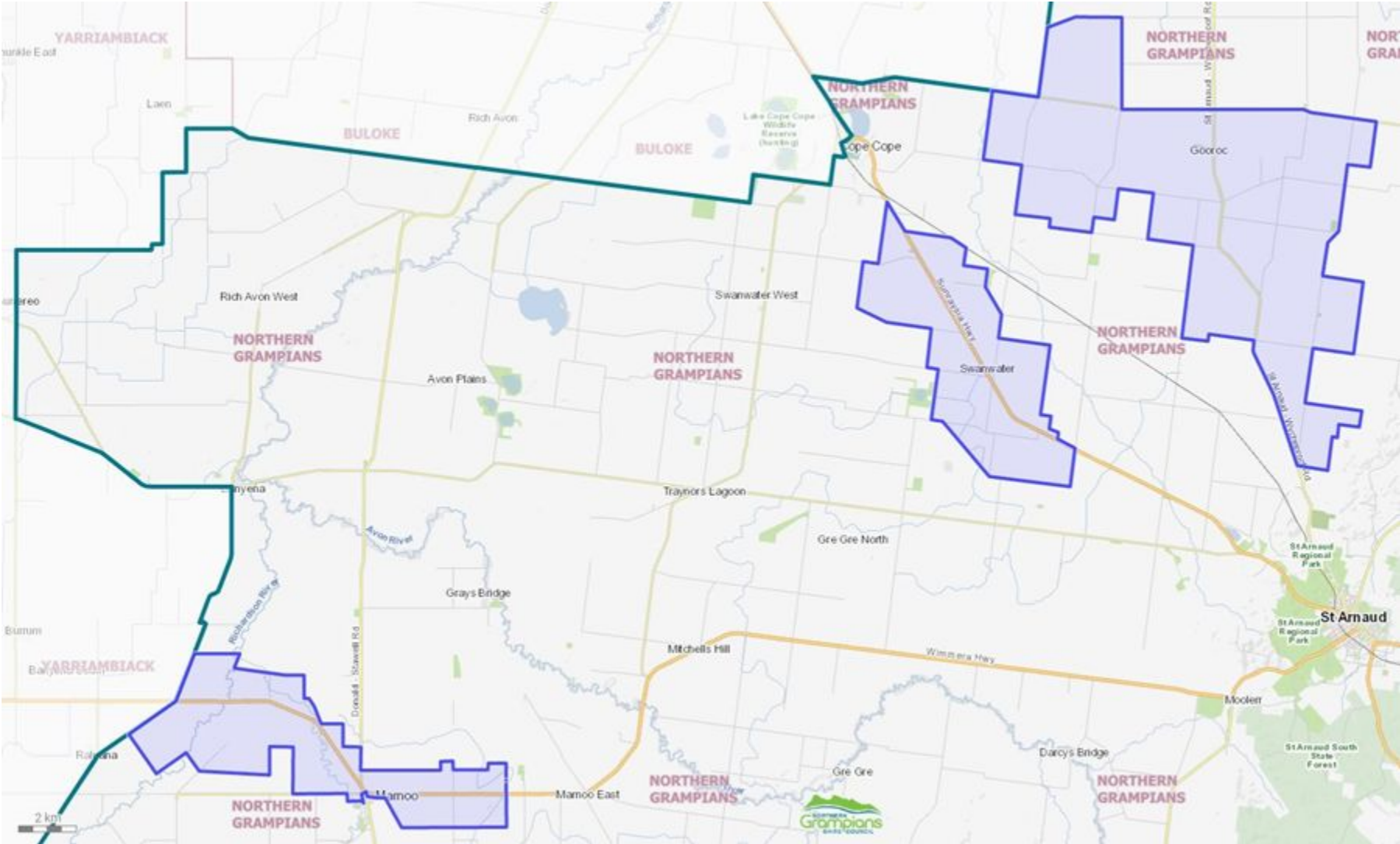
Map 1: Proposed location of control works



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Appendix

Map 2: Proposed locations for control works for Soldier Thistle as recommended by DJPR



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DJPR Endorsement

I declare that I am an authorised representative and that this plan has been reviewed and aligns with eligible activities.

Biosecurity Manager - Agriculture Victoria, Biosecurity and Agriculture Services - Plants, Chemicals & Invasives Unit

Name: James Rowe

Email: james.rowe@agriculture.vic.gov.au

Date: 08/01/2021

Signature:



Declaration

I declare that I am an authorised representative and the information given on this form is complete and correct

Weed and Pest Officer

Key Contact Name: Shawna Dominelli

Email: shawna.dominelli@ngshire.vic.gov.au

Date: 08/01/2021

Signature:



Council CEO

Name: Liana Thompson

Date: 12/01/2021

Signature:





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