

# Roadside corridor management in regional New South Wales

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Linear reserve environments such as roadside, rail and power corridors cover 5% of the NSW landscape NSW; equivalent to approximately two thirds of the total land area of NSW National Parks.

These valuable environments contain ecologically significant remnant vegetation which provides ecological corridors and connectivity through landscapes, preventing land degradation and maintaining ecosystems and threatened species.

Vegetation, weed control, threatened species, fire, soil and water management are just some of the challenges faced by land managers working at the interface between environmental management and construction works that are inevitably done along these corridors.

This presentation describes how Mid-Western Regional Council moved to best practice in its roadside corridor management.

The Mid-Western region comprises over 9,000 km<sup>2</sup> stretching from Wollemi National Park in the east to Lake Burrendong in the west and from Goulburn National Park in the north to the Macquarie River in the south and includes the towns Gulgong, Kandos, Mudgee and Rylstone.

The council is responsible for 6000 hectares of roadside corridors along 2,400 km of rural roads. These corridors contain 25 listed threatened flora species and 91 different vegetation communities with three listed as endangered ecological communities.

Working over a number of years, in partnership with the Hunter Central Rivers CMA, council implemented a comprehensive roadside corridor program designed to facilitate the effective management of roadsides in all areas, at all levels. This program included:

- Roadside corridor survey
- GIS data sets
- Vegetation assessment report
- Management issues prioritisation
- Roadside management guidelines
- Cross-organisational training
- Mapping upload to vehicle navigation systems
- Herbarium
- Onground roadside marker system

**Biography:**

Prior to joining Molino Stewart; senior associate, Shireen Baguley worked as the Mid-Western Regional Council Environment Manager where she implemented this program.