

NATIVE VEGETATION CONSERVATION FACTSHEETS

ADDING VALUE TO THE NATURAL ASSETS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

What is the Riverina Highlands Regional Vegetation Management Plan 2003?

NUMBER **TWO**

ISBN 0 7347 5357 8

MAY 2003

What lands does the Plan apply to?

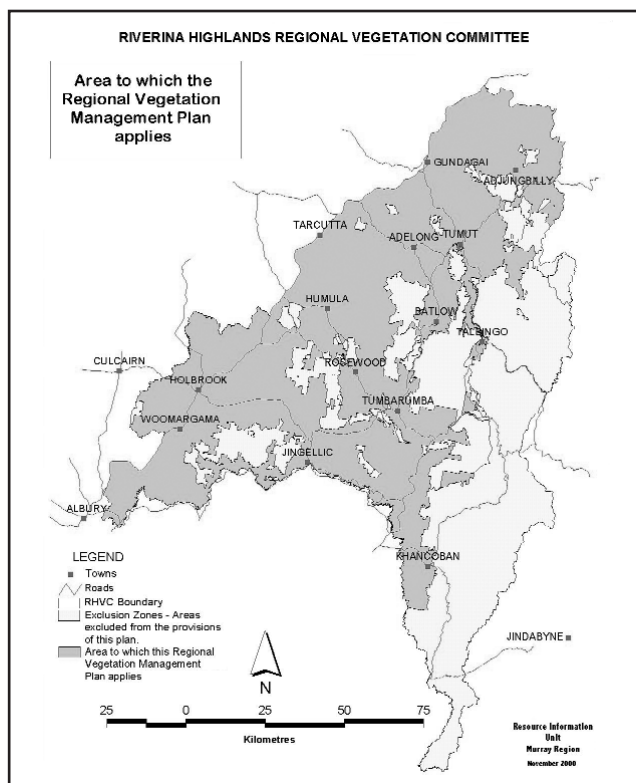
The Riverina Highlands Native Vegetation Region includes land within the New South Wales local government areas of Tumut, Tumbarumba and Holbrook Shires and those parts of Hume and Gundagai Shires and Wagga Wagga City that lie east of the Hume Highway.

The region is bordered by the Hume Highway in the west, Kosciusko National Park in the east, the Murrumbidgee River to the north, and the Murray River to the south.

The *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997* (NVC Act), and thus the Plan does not apply to:

- land zoned “residential”, “village”, township”, “industrial” or “business” under an environmental planning instrument; and
- land that is a State Forest, National Park, flora reserve or timber reserve.

The Riverina Highlands Regional Vegetation Management Plan (RHRVMP) applies to the land shown on the map below.



Why a Plan and a Strategy?

Both the Plan and the Strategy have the goal of stemming, and reversing, the decline of native vegetation, so that there will be ‘no net loss’ in its quality and quantity. The RHRVMP outlines the local regulation of land clearing.

The Regional Strategy outlines the background to the Plan, targets for the retention, protection and re-establishment of native vegetation in priority areas including high conservation value areas, Regional Protected Lands, and recharge areas to address problems associated with salinity and the recommendations regarding incentives to landholders to enable them to look after native vegetation (see Factsheet 3).

What does the Plan contain?

The Plan identifies four management areas or categories referred to as:

- Regional Protected Lands – Steep and Erodible ;
- Regional Protected Lands – Streamsides;
- Land within a regional linear reserve; and
- Unclassified Land.

For each of these Management Areas, the Plan lists and defines the activities which:

- are allowed without development consent
- allowed after development consent is obtained; and
- those which are not allowed by this plan.

Factsheet 6 has information about the exclusions and exemptions under the RHRVMP

The following guidelines have been developed by the Riverina Highlands RVC to further explain aspects of the Plan:

- Explanatory Note 1: Applying for development consent;
- Guidelines: How to minimise the environmental impacts of clearing in the Riverina Highlands; and
- Beneficial Conservation Management Exemption Guidelines for the Riverina Highlands; and
- How to develop a Property Vegetation Plan (PVP) in the Riverina Highlands; and
- Guidelines for sustainable harvesting of dry to moist open sclerophyll forest within the Riverina Highlands.

Summary Clearing Control Table - Clearing of native vegetation involved in carrying out any of the following as defined in Schedule 4 of the RVMP and subject to any relevant conditions imposed in that Schedule:

Management areas	1 - Clearing allowed without development consent	2 - Clearing allowed only with development consent	3 - Clearing not allowed by this Plan
Regional Protected Lands - Steep and Erodible Lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintenance of fence lines on regional protected land, • eucalyptus leaf cutting, • horticultural harvesting or pruning, • indigenous cultural practices, • minimal tree cutting, • noxious weed eradication, • public utility clearing, • regrowth removal (2 hectare maximum), • stock fodder provision 	Any clearing of regional protected land not included in 1 or 3	<p>Clearing, on any property in any one calendar year, of a total of more than 2 hectares of grassy white box woodland in good condition (as defined below), excluding any clearing allowed by item 1.</p> <p>Clearing of any regional protected land within sites of threatened flora or ecological communities, being sites identified in recovery plans approved under Part 4 of the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995, if not included in item 1.</p>
Regional Protected Lands – Streamsides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • beneficial conservation management, • indigenous cultural practices, • noxious weed eradication, • public utility clearing, • maintenance of fence lines on regional protected land. 	<p>Clearing from regional protected land of exotic vegetation, if not included in item 1.</p> <p>Clearing from regional protected land of standing dead timber, if not included in item 1.</p> <p>Clearing from regional protected land of vegetation for the construction of public utility infrastructure and rural structures on streamsides (including ramp sites, bridges and pumps), if not included in item 1.</p>	Any clearing not included on 1 or 2
Regional Linear Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • beneficial conservation management, • indigenous cultural practices, • noxious weed eradication, • pest control, • public utility clearing. 	Any clearing of native vegetation not included in 1 or 3	<p>Clearing, within any regional linear reserve in any one calendar year, of a total of more than 1 hectare of high conservation value native vegetation, excluding any clearing allowed by item 1.</p> <p>In this item, high conservation value native vegetation means native vegetation that the consent authority is satisfied is of high conservation value, as defined in Schedule 3.</p>
Unclassified Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clearing for rural structures on unclassified land, • eucalyptus leaf cutting, • horticultural harvesting or pruning, • indigenous cultural practices, • minimal tree cutting, • noxious weed eradication, • pest control, • planted native vegetation, • private native forestry, • public utility clearing, • regrowth removal, • stock fodder provision. 	Any clearing of native vegetation not included in 1 or 3	<p>Except where included in item 1, clearing on any property in any one calendar year, of a total of more than 2 hectares of:</p> <p>(a) grassy white box woodland in good condition, or</p> <p>(b) grassy yellow box woodland in good condition, or</p> <p>(c) River Red Gum communities, in each case, as defined below.</p> <p>Clearing of native vegetation within sites of threatened flora or ecological communities, being sites identified in recovery plans approved under Part 4 of the <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i>.</p>

Further information

Department of Sustainable Natural Resources **Albury** PO Box 829, ALBURY NSW 2640 Ph (02) 6041 6777

Fax (02) 6021 8405 **Wagga Wagga** PO Box 10, WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650 Ph (02) 6923 0400 Fax (02) 6921 7308