

The Road Ahead

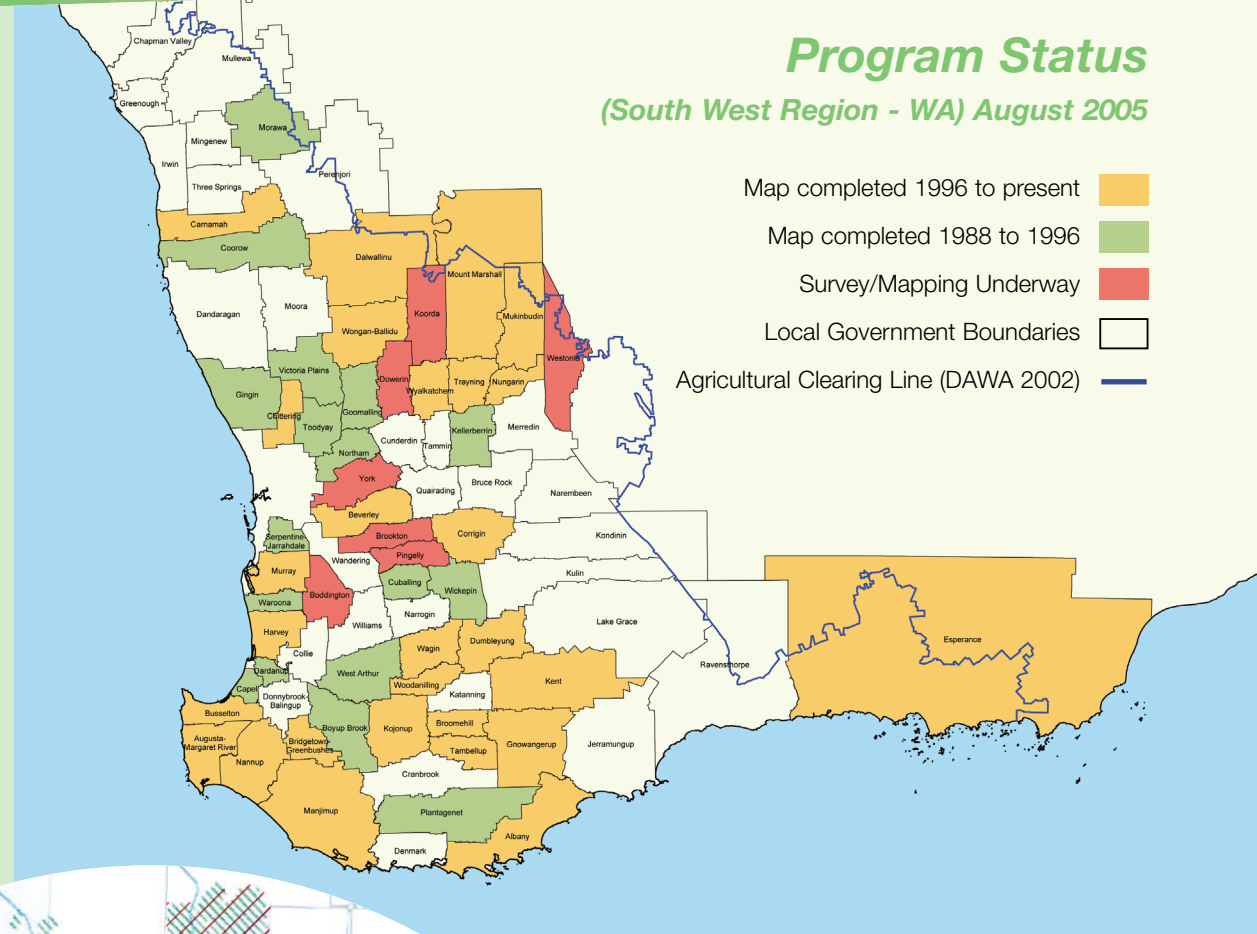
Roadside vegetation mapping as an important tool for natural resource management

Benefits of the roadside vegetation survey & mapping program...

- Promotes local community involvement and ownership.
- A quick, reliable and relatively cost-effective method that provides a snap-shot of the resource condition.
- Produces a landscape-scale planning tool that is easy to interpret.
- Assists road managers in producing road reserve management plans, policies and strategies.
- Ability to measure changes in conditions over time.
- Applicable to Regional, Sub-regional and local biodiversity conservation plans and actions.
- People without a high level of botanical knowledge can participate.
- Encourages partnerships with a range of stakeholders: Local Government, Landcare and Natural Resource Management groups, State Government Agencies, community organisations and individuals.

Program Status

(South West Region - WA) August 2005



Map completed 1996 to present

Map completed 1988 to 1996

Survey/Mapping Underway

Local Government Boundaries

Agricultural Clearing Line (AWA 2002)

Applications of the program...

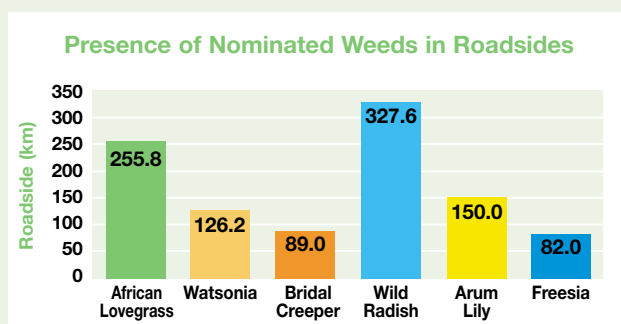
Identify low conservation value roadsides: they generally have little or no native vegetation and are dominated by weeds.



Roadside weed control: target control effort in these sections to limit extent and prevent further spread of 'weed x' into high value roadsides and adjoining remnant vegetation.

Budgeting for weed control: roadside mapping provides data that allows road managers to calculate budgets for weed control based on kilometres of road.

Quantify weed occurrence: we can measure the total extent of up to 6 weed species on roadsides at a Shire scale.



Identify high conservation value roadsides: they generally have an intact natural structure, high diversity of native flora and few weeds.



Identify priorities: landscape-scale mapping can be used to identify strategic areas for protection, rehabilitation and weed control. For example; targeted rehabilitation in these sections of medium low value roadside would improve landscape connectivity and its effectiveness as a habitat corridor.

Benefits of roadside vegetation: this section of roadside may be effective as a windbreak and shelter for stock, thus benefiting adjoining landowners.

Manage and plan road works: identify impacts, take conservation values into account and consider alternatives at early stages.

Identify potential wildflower drives and scenic tourist routes: roadsides are one of the most accessible places to view wildflowers and the landscape.

Roadside Conservation Value Map

LEGEND

- Low
- Medium Low
- Medium High
- High
- CALM Estates
- Remnant Vegetation
- Weed X

Roadside Conservation Committee



For more information, please contact the Roadside Conservation Committee:

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