



Roadside Conservation Committee

The Roadside Conservation Committee (RCC) terms of reference are:

'to coordinate and promote the conservation and effective management of rail and roadside vegetation for the benefit of the environment and the people of WA'



Roadside vegetation is remnant vegetation.



What Is Happening to WA's Roadside Vegetation?

Native vegetation along roadsides in Western Australia is in a general state of decline due to many forms of disturbance. This is of concern because it is a valuable and irreplaceable resource.

The roadside environment is so valuable because of the biological, cultural, aesthetic and Landcare values contained within it.

The Roadside Conservation Committee has been working with local communities, volunteer groups, Landcare practitioners and Local Government since the early 1980's.



Continually burning roadsides eventually kills native vegetation and encourages weed invasion.

One of the most important initiatives of the RCC has been the roadside survey project.



Clearing native vegetation has denuded this roadside and created an ideal environment for weed invasion.



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Roadside Surveys

The aim: To assess and map all of the roadsides within the south-west land division and outlying regions.

Roadside surveys are a 'snapshot' of roadside conservation values. These surveys record a number of attributes of road reserves such as width, type of vegetation, number of different native species, extent of weed cover, use of adjoining land and value as a biological corridor. They have been designed to allow people with limited botanical knowledge to participate.

Roadside surveys completed in more than 40 Shires, with >75,000 km of roadsides surveyed.

Community volunteers, NRM groups and Landcare coordinators mostly carry out the survey work. Thanks to those people who have already taken part! But we still need more assistance. To become involved or find out more about roadside surveys in your area, contact Kate Jackson on 9334 0174 or email katej@calm.wa.gov.au

Purpose of the Roadside Survey and Roadside Conservation Value Map

- ✓ Provide an inventory of the condition of roadside vegetation.
- ✓ A Management and Planning tool, i.e. used in setting priorities and making recommendations.
- ✓ Reference; prior to roadworks and maintenance activities.
- ✓ Develop wildflower drives/Flora Roads for tourism,
- ✓ Integrate into revegetation projects, and other Landcare projects,
- ✓ Assist with NRM funding applications,
- ✓ Baseline data, useful for measuring changes over time.

