



# Roadside Conservation Committee

## Roadside Survey Project:

Shire of  
Augusta-  
Margaret River



# Where Are Roadside Corridors?

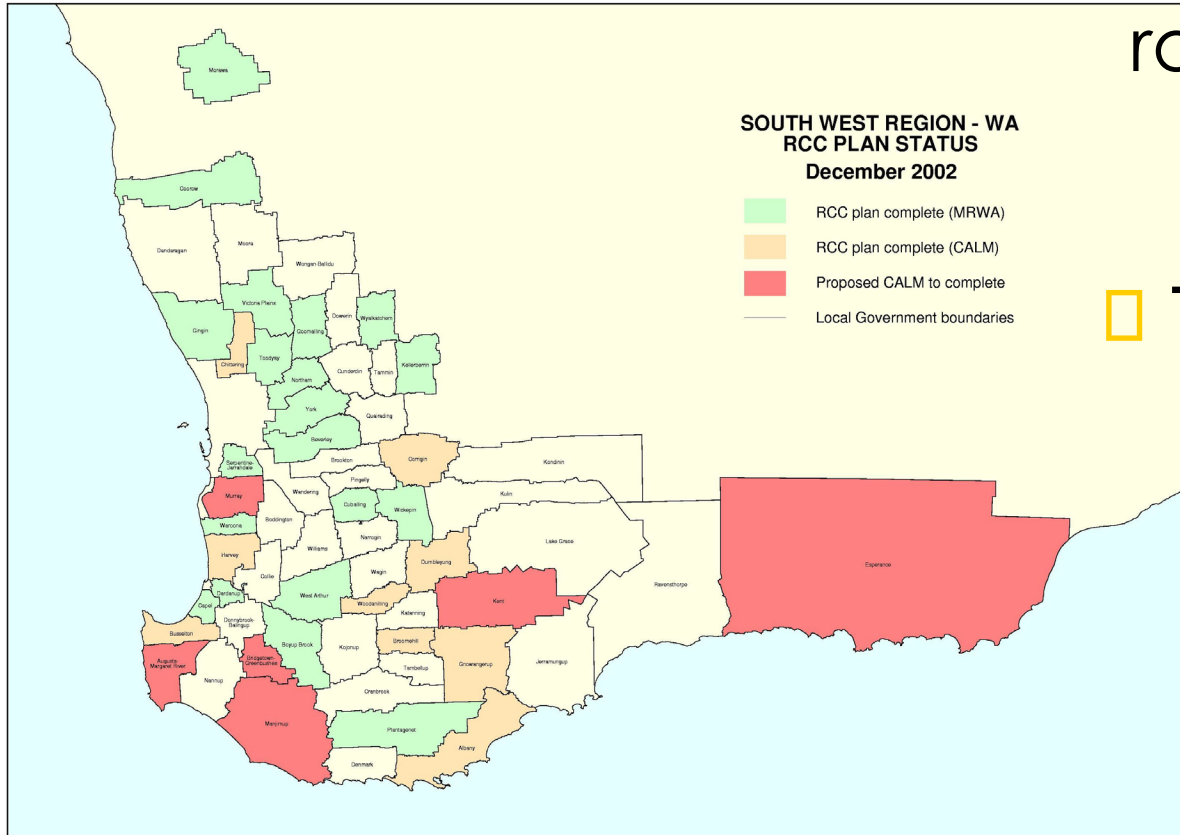
□ Since **1989**, the RCC has been working with local communities, volunteer groups, Local Government and Landcare practitioners.

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



# Where Are Roadside Corridors?

- Surveys completed in more than **35 shires** with > 75,000 kms of roadside surveyed



- The survey work is mostly carried out by **local volunteers**

# Who were the surveyors?



**Merryn Delaney**  
**Peter Little**

**Anne Matai**  
**Georgina Theile**  
**Sally Wylie**  
**Wendy Alpers**

**Richard Davies**  
**Susan Little**  
**Amanda Downes**  
**Lucille Hodgson**  
**Maureen Munro**  
**Jackie Hasler**



# Why Survey and Map Roadsides?

- Increase awareness of the conservation status of roads in your local area, an inventory.



**High conservation value:**  
scenic, weed-free, diverse in native plants and may connect remnants.



Weedy roadsides have a **lower conservation value.**

- Enables more effective management.

# Why Survey and Map Roadsides?

White-tailed Black Cockatoo's rely upon roadside vegetation



- Assists in the protection, conservation and rehabilitation of roadside vegetation,

- Identifies sensitive areas, important for those carrying out roadworks and maintenance activities within the road reserve.



# Purpose of the Roadside Conservation Value Map:



- Provides an inventory of the condition of roadside vegetation.

- Incorporated as a Management and Planning tool.

- Referenced prior to roadworks and maintenance activities.



# Purpose of the Roadside Conservation Value Map:

- ❖ Develop wildflower drives for tourism,
- ❖ Integrate into revegetation projects, and other landcare projects,
- ❖ Assist with NRM funding applications,
- ❖ Baseline data, useful for measuring changes over time.





# Purpose of the Roadside Conservation Value Map:

- ❖ Fire control: the maps have been used to develop regional or district fire management plans,



- ❖ The weed overlays are especially useful in determining fire threats throughout the seasons.

# Purpose of the Roadside Conservation Value Map:



❖ Changes to the E.P Act.

❖ Assist in the development of Shire *Roadside Vegetation Management Plans*, and in obtaining approval to clear vegetation for maintenance and construction.

❖ The maps and survey information will be used as a reference, in setting recommendations and in planning.

# What Information Is Collected?



- Width of road reserve,
- Width of vegetation on roadside,
- Structure and extent of native vegetation,
- Diversity of flora,
- Weeds (general and nominated),
- Adjoining land use,
- Utilities,
- Fauna observed,
- General comments.

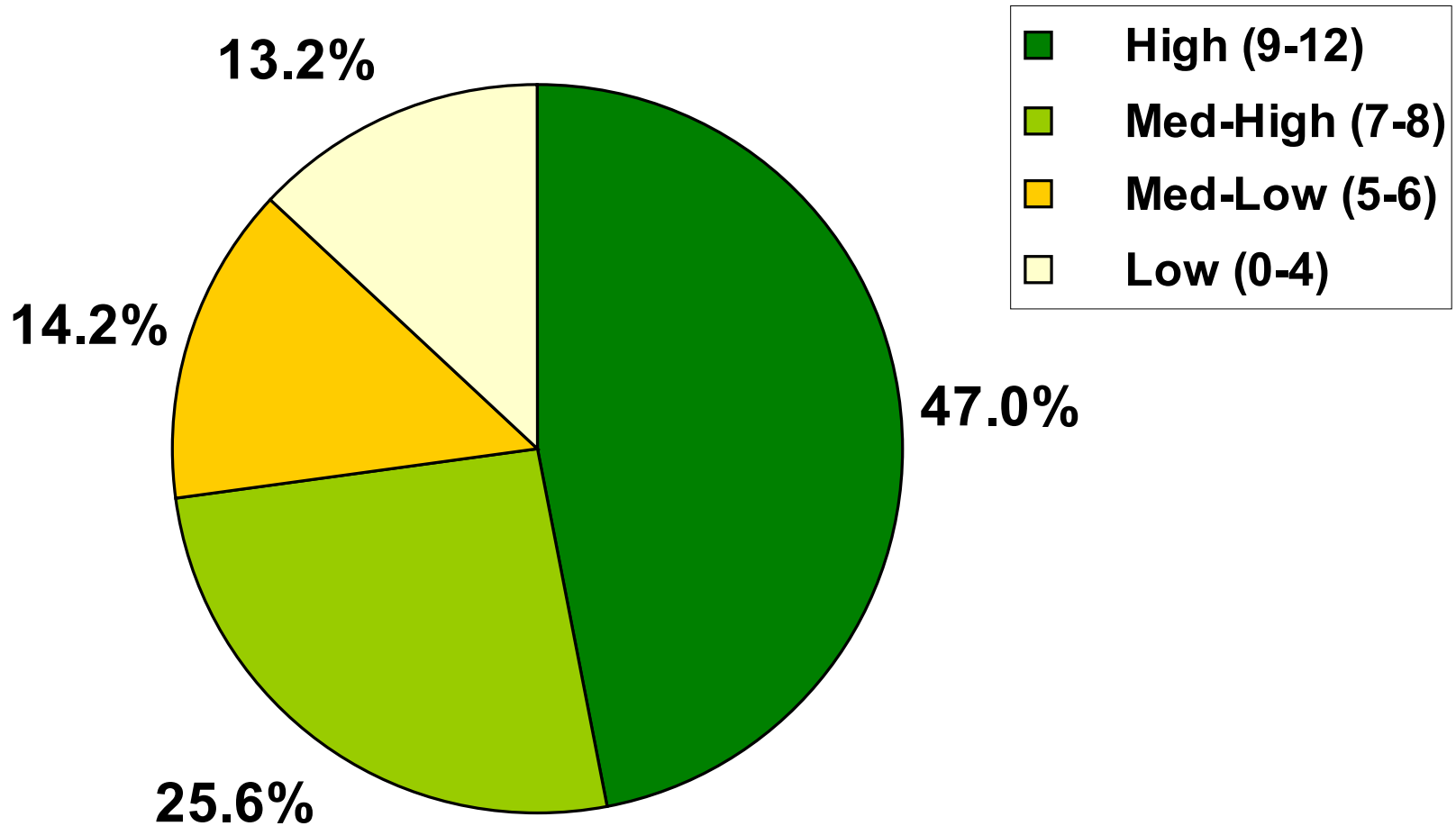


# Roadside Conservation in the Shire of Augusta Margaret River...



- From June 2001 to April 2003,
- 556.2 km of roadsides surveyed.
- 61 % of all the roads in the shire surveyed and mapped.

# Roadside Conservation Values



# High Conservation Value Roadsides:



Miamup Road

Cowaramup Bay Road

Clews Road

Fiftyone Road

Ellenbrook Road

Fisher Road

Governor Broome Road

Sebbes Road

Bessell Road

Caves Road

Greenhill Road

Schroeder Road

Stockdill Road

Rosa Glen Road

Rosa Brook Road

- Redgate Road

- West Calgardup Road

- Boodjinup Road

- Cusack Road

- Sunshine Avenue

- Osmongton Road

- Courtney Road

- Bullant Drive

- Low Road

- Milyeanup Coast Road

- McLeod Creek Road

- Darch Road

- Brittain Road

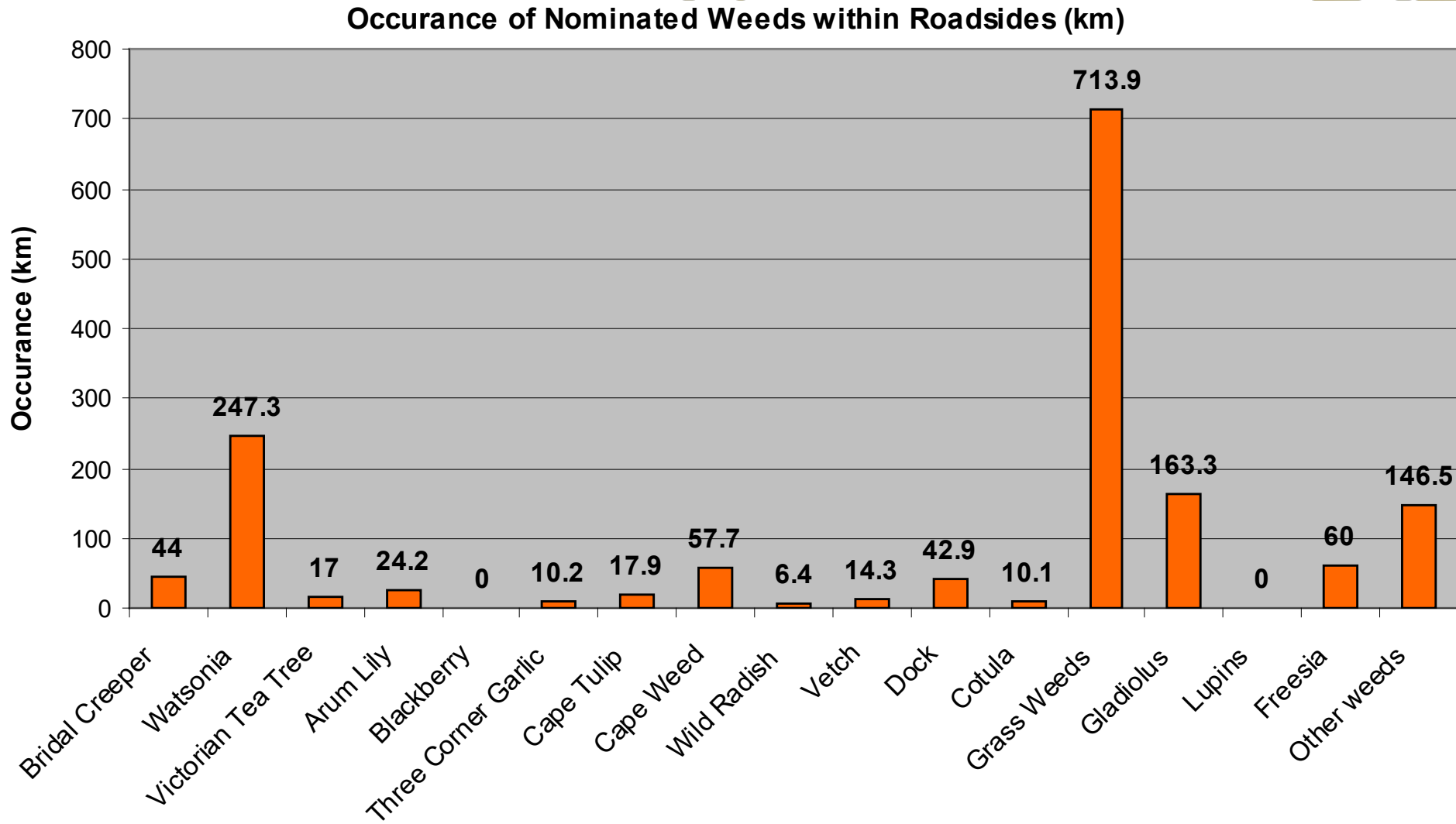


# Weeds and Roadsides

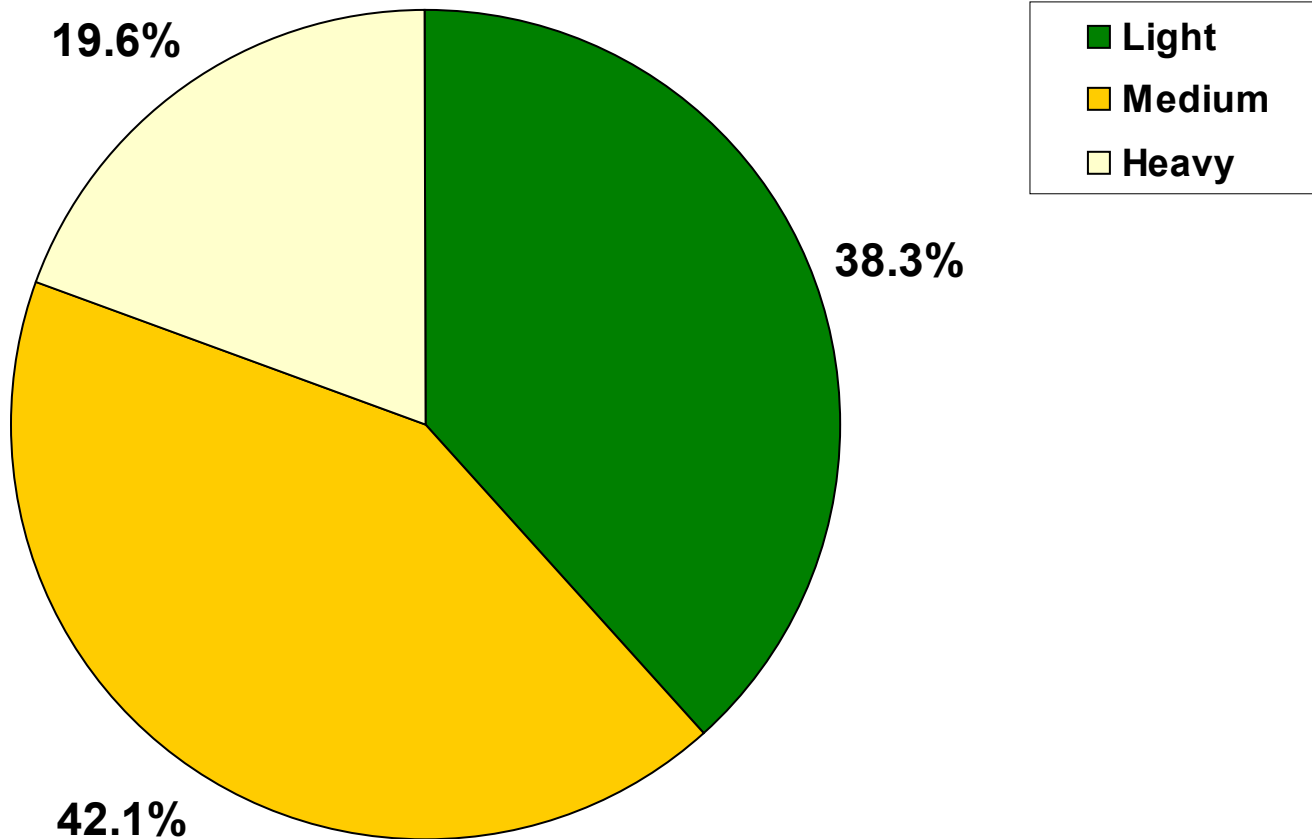


- Most commonly recorded weeds were:
  - ★ Grass weeds,
  - ★ Watsonia,
  - ★ Gladiolus,
  - ★ Freesia,
  - ★ Capeweed,
  - ★ Bridal Creeper,
  - ★ Dock,
  - ★ Arum Lily,
  - ★ Cape Tulip,
  - ★ Victorian Tea Tree.

# Weed Occurrence Along Roadsides

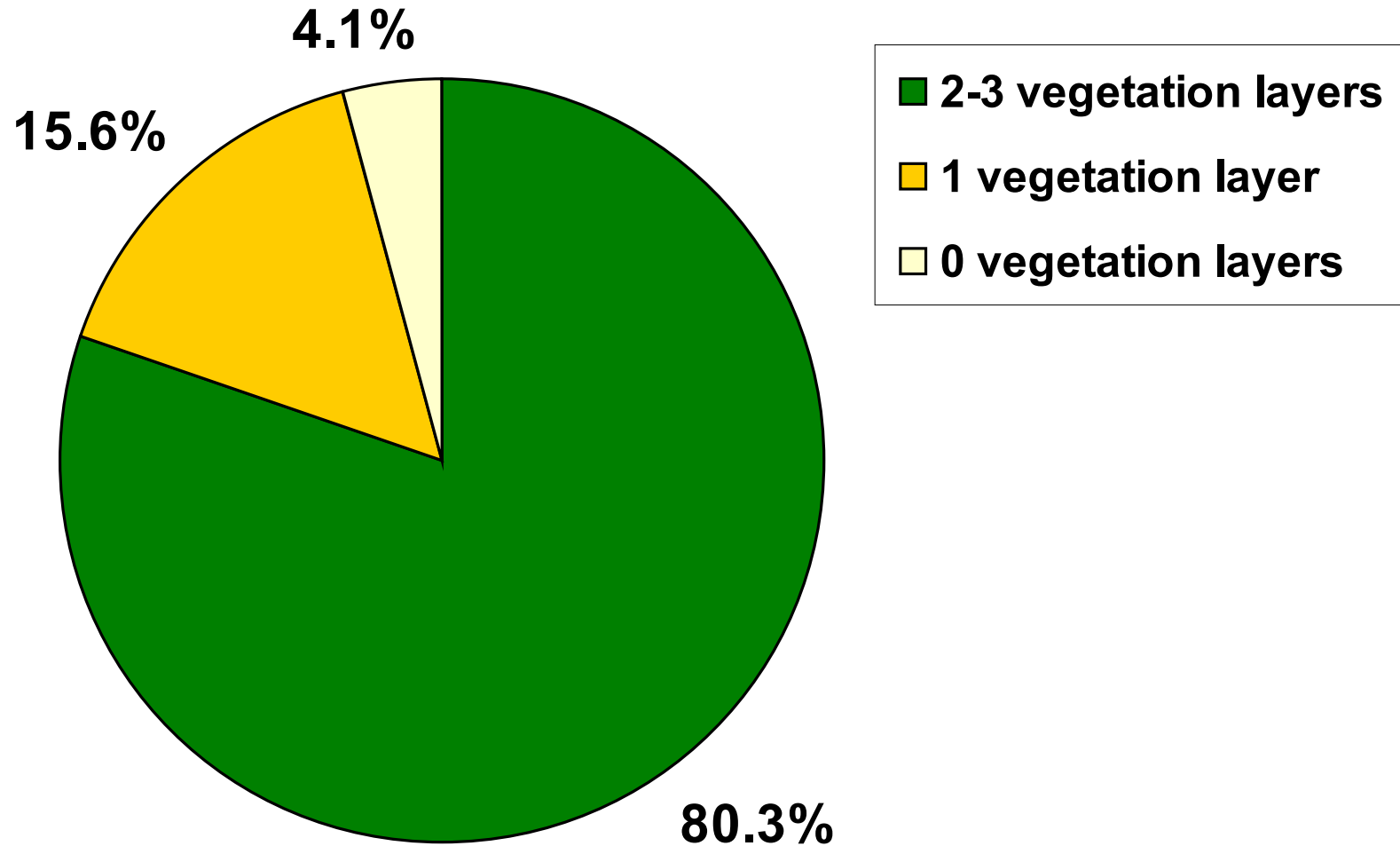


# General Weeds

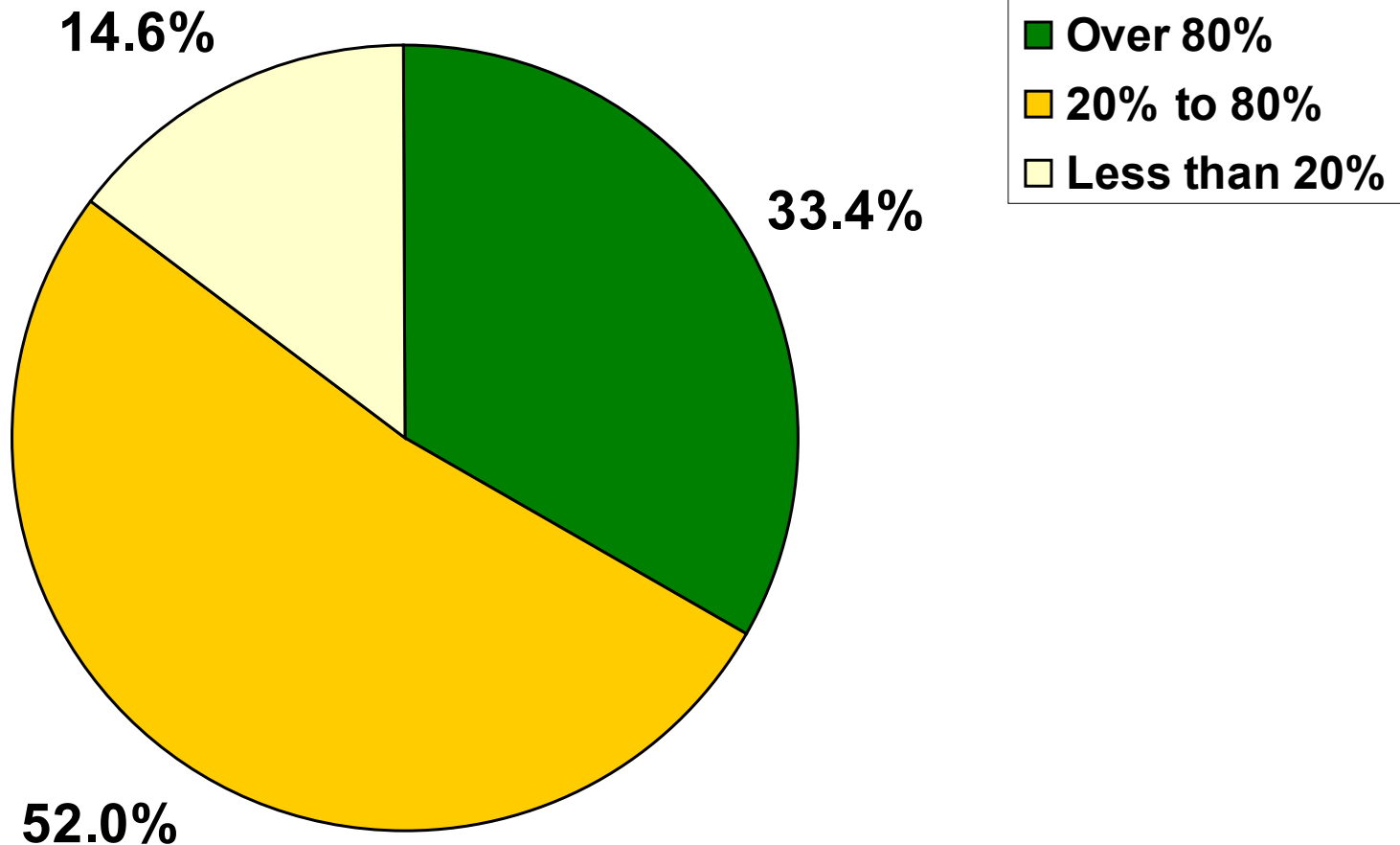




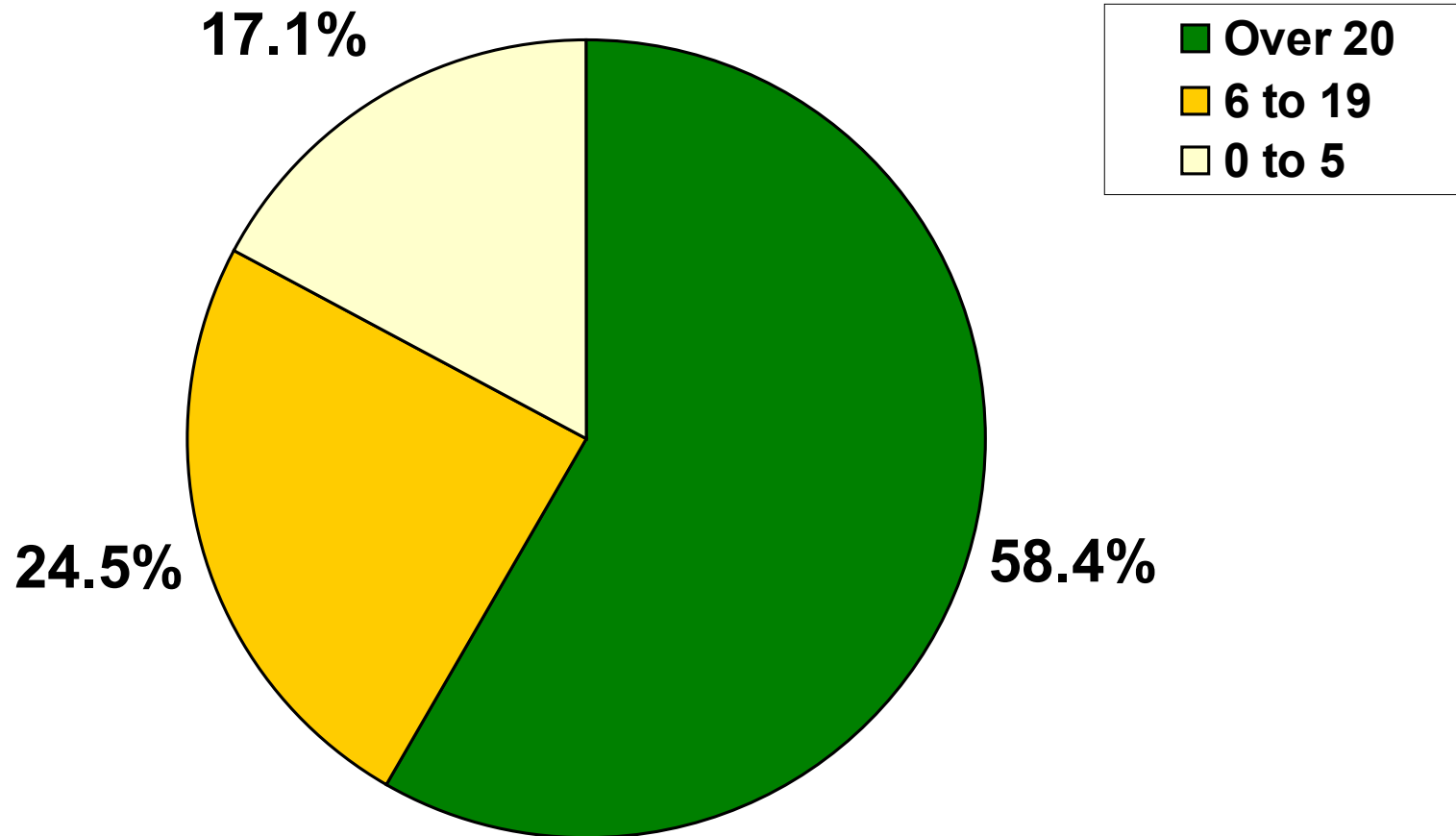
# Native Vegetation on Roadsides



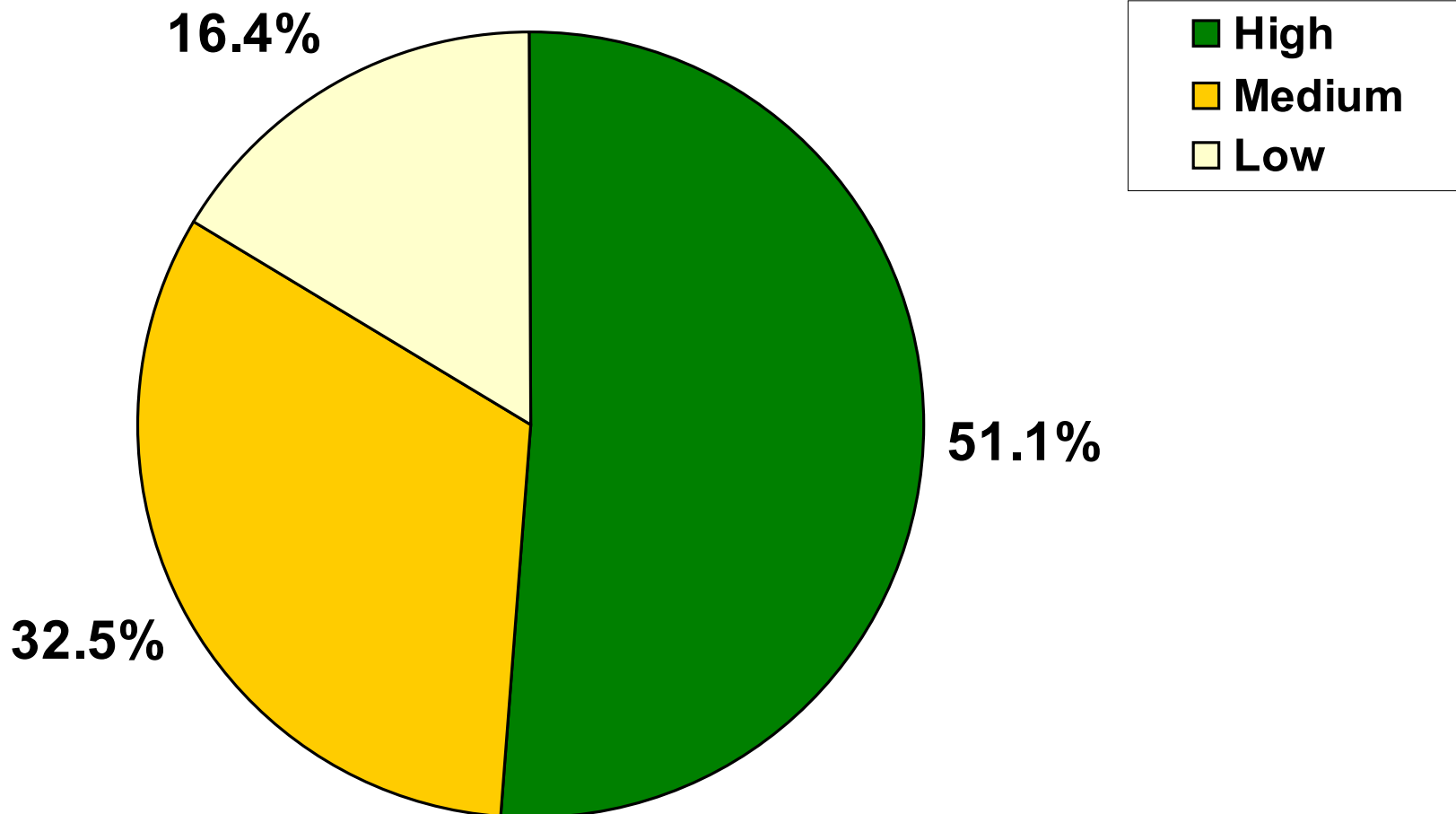
# Extent of Native Vegetation



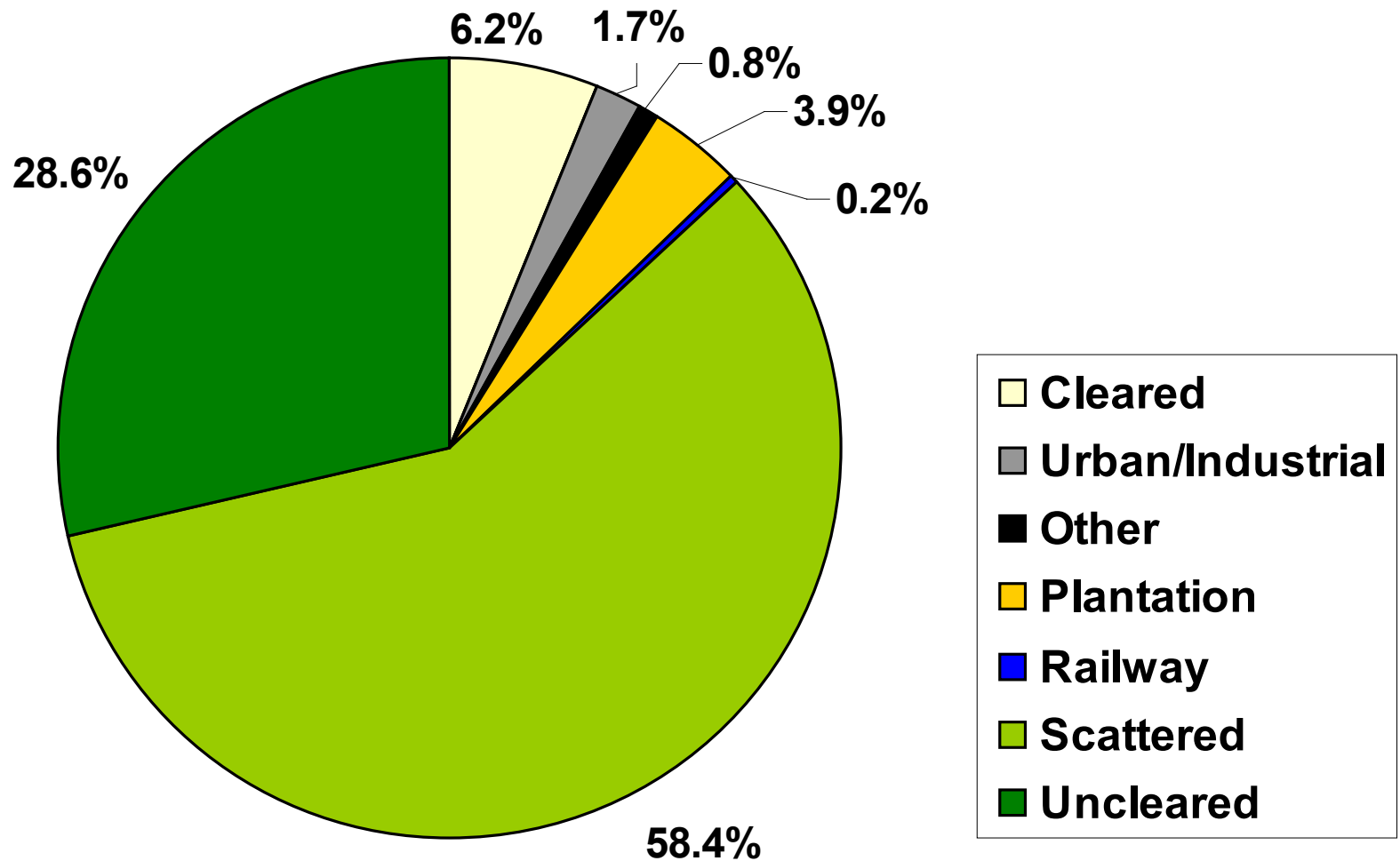
# Number of Native Species



# Value As a Biological Corridor



# Predominant Adjoining Landuse

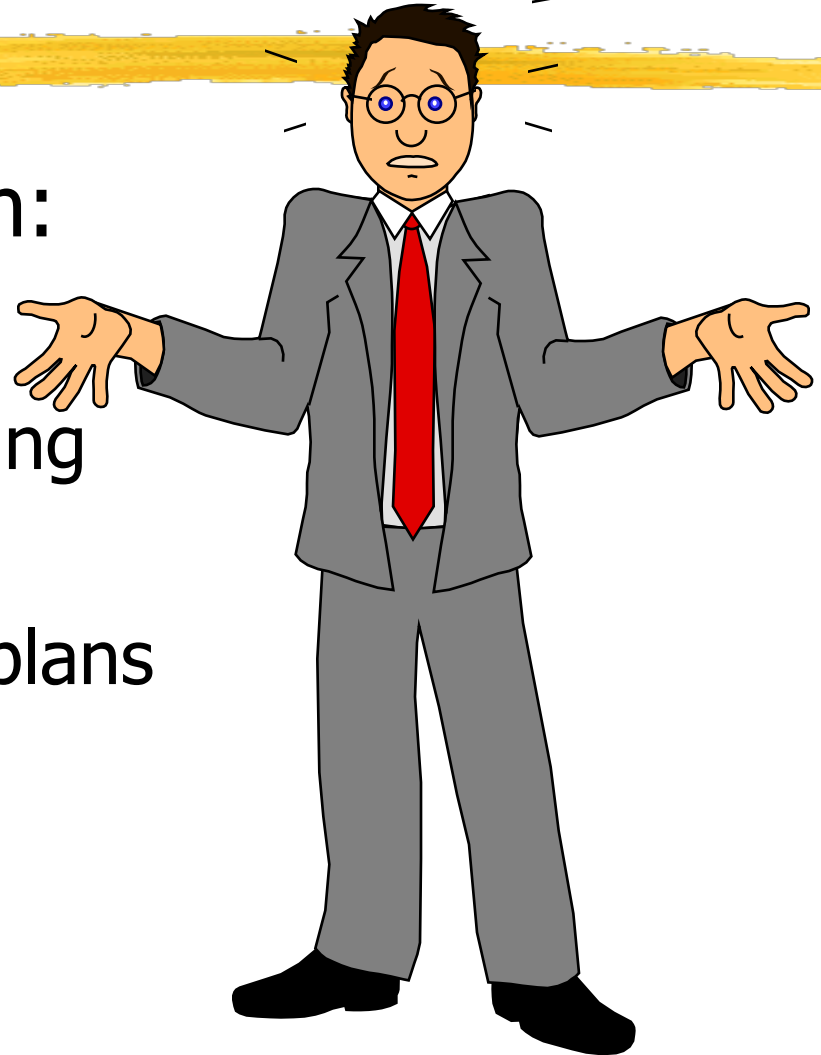




# Where to From Here?



## ➤ Utilising the information:

- Management and Planning
- On the ground projects
- Roadside Management plans



# Management and Planning

- Adopt specialised management techniques for different categories of roads.

High conservation value roadside:		
Management Goal		Maintain, enhance native plant communities
Management Guidelines		Minimise disturbance

- Develop Roads Register: Roads important for Conservation
- Follow RCC Code of Practice

# A Management and Planning Tool

Example: Degraded roadside areas  
(low conservation value)

Watsonia  
infestations  
require ongoing  
weed control

- **may be identified as areas important for rehabilitation, or**
- **as areas in need of specific management techniques, such as weed control programs.**



# A Management and Planning Tool

## Utilities:

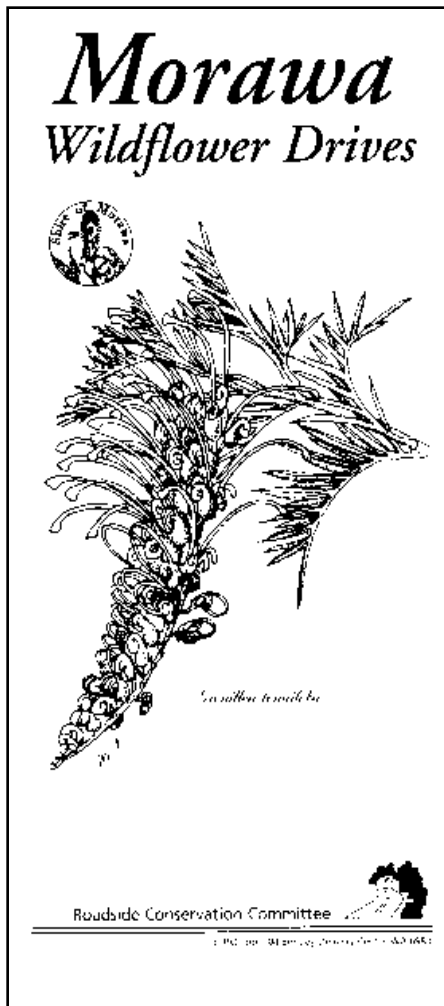
- Placement of pipelines, telecommunications, gas and power lines to avoid high conservation value roadsides.



# A Management and Planning Tool

## The Map can be used for:

- Developing regional or district fire management plans,
- Planning tourist routes,
- Identifying key areas for Landcare and Bushcare projects.
- Identifying importance of roads to the Shire's overall conservation network.





# On the Ground:

- **Revegetation projects,**
- **Protect and enhance wildlife corridors,**



- **Promote significant wildflower areas, historical and cultural sites for tourism,**





# On the Ground:

- **Weed control programs,**
- **Planning roadside maintenance activities.**



# Management Plans



- Changes to the EP Act (*EP Amendment Bill 2002*):
  - ★ Will introduce a new system to regulate clearing,
  - ★ Activities that include clearing will require submission of a management plan to gain approval,
  - ★ Roadside maps assist in the preparation of management plans.
  - ★ RCC Officer David Mickle can assist LGA's and Utilities in developing Management Plans.

# Other Information...



## Report and Management Guidelines :

- Results of the roadside survey
- Legislation
- Dieback, DRF, Weeds
- Management Techniques
- Tree roads, Flora roads, Special Environment Areas
- Roadside Planning, Strategies and Action Plans



# Thank you...

## **Contact**

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*Roadsides are a vital link...  
and a priceless community asset*