

Roadside Weeds & Pests Program Control Plan 2017-2019

Municipality Details

Council Name: Pyrenees Shire Council

Key Contact Name: Terry McAliece

Position: Environment & Sustainability Officer

Contact Details:

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Regional Context of Noxious Weed and Pest Animal Management

The Pyrenees Shire Council (PSC) municipality covers an area of approximately 3,500 km² with a population of 6,885 residents. The Shire has a relatively small population base with the largest towns being Beaufort and Avoca, with smaller townships at Amphitheatre, Landsborough, Lexton, Moonambel, Snake Valley and Waubra (Appendix 1). The landscape is dominated by large blocks of forest on the high elevation sites with poor soils, while most of the fertile soils lower in the landscape have been cleared and modified as a result of settlement, mining and agriculture. Land is used largely for agriculture, particularly cereal and hay crops, with wool, viticulture and forestry also being important industries.

The Pyrenees Shire Council is responsible for the management of approximately 2,083km of local road reserves. The PSC is strongly committed to managing weed infestations; an integral part of this strategy is rapid detection and control of newly identified weeds and early prevention activities.

Pyrenees Shire Council shall endeavour to control or eradicate rabbits, regionally controlled (RC) and regionally prohibited (RP) weeds to support DEDJTR compliance programs, community-led action and protect high value environmental and economic assets within the Shire. All work programs shall incorporate best practice methods, and shall be undertaken in a manner that carefully considers the impacts to the natural, economic and cultural heritage values of the areas treated.

The PSC municipal area falls within four catchment management areas; Wimmera, North Central, Glenelg/Hopkins and Corangamite (Appendix 2) as it relates to Invasive Plant and Animal (IPA) management areas. This region currently lists 31 RC weed species and 10 RP weed species. The listed species occur in varying densities from very low to very high, over a widespread area.

All work programs shall incorporate best practice methods, and shall be undertaken in a manner that carefully considers the impacts to the natural, economic and cultural heritage values of the areas treated.

Through past State Government funding initiatives Council has treated approximately 900 km of roadsides for Regionally Controlled and Regionally Prohibited weeds and established pest animals.

Refer to Table 1 for a list of current target species.

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Community Consultation

A series of meetings have been held across the Shire to gain feedback regarding the type, location and density of weed and pest infestations. From this information priority areas were identified and put forward for overall consideration as part of the framework of the developing plan.

In addition to the above meetings Council Staff keep in regular contact with community concerns via attendance at meetings (Landcare), phone calls, Council website and correspondence from individuals on a day to day basis. All these interactions are documented and assessed and integrated back into our operations control plan providing an active and living document.

Council has advised the community via our website that a Roadside Weed & Pest Control Plan is being prepared for the 2017-2019 period and views are invited to provide feedback on any concerns or priorities they may have. Any comments received from the community will be considered thoroughly and incorporated into the plan as appropriate.

Some of the information required to develop this plan had already been obtained during development of other Shire plans eg. Council Plan, Community Action Plans, Road Management Plan & the Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

Stakeholder Consultation

The Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP) is the principal contact authority for weeds and pests, and throughout the formulation of this plan close liaison was undertaken with relevant staff. Further consultation was undertaken with the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources (DEDJTR) and the four Catchment Management Authority within the Shire; Wimmera, Glenelg/Hopkins, North Central and Corangamite.

DEDJTR will require Council involvement where there is a compliance control program(s) being undertaken on private property adjacent to Council managed roadsides/land. Council will support the program(s) through this grant funding in order to assist private landowners comply with their legal obligations under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*.

Pyrenees Shire Council is bordered by Northern Grampians, Central Goldfields, Hepburn, City of Ballarat, Golden Plains, Corangamite and Rural City of Ararat Shire Councils. Shared boundaries may have shared weed and rabbit problems that would require cross border interaction to control. It is intended that all neighbouring municipalities shall be notified of any works adjacent to their areas of responsibility and any issues reported in a timely manner. Some management areas may have the potential to impact on areas of cultural heritage sensitivity.

Dja Dja Wurrung and Wathaurung are registered Aboriginal Parties (RAP) for the Bendigo and Ballarat areas (which includes the PSC) and can be consulted on matters of cultural heritage significance.

Engagement with Aboriginal Affairs Victoria (AAV) is required where a Cultural Heritage Management Plan or Cultural Heritage Permit is required under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.

Public land-Private land interface areas can be problematic to manage as one manager can often work independently of the other. To facilitate better management of these areas, a cooperative management arrangement will be encouraged between adjoining land owners.

Landcare groups are recognised as valuable contributors to environmental projects. PSC has consulted widely with Landcare groups in the region and will support groups that have the capacity to deliver pest plant and animal control programs.

Committees of Management (COM's) are also recognised as valuable contributors to environmental projects. As with Landcare groups, PSC will consult early with COM when they have a vested interest in the proposed treatment site or operations are likely to impact on their area of responsibility.

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Relevant Local, Regional Policies and Strategies and submissions

National:	Australian Pest Animal Strategy & Australian Weeds Strategy
State:	Invasive Plants and Animals Policy Framework; Biosecurity Strategy for Victoria
Regional:	Catchment Management Authorities Invasive Plant and Animal Strategies 2015-2018:- Wimmera, Glenelg Hopkins, North Central and Corangamite
PSC:	Roadside Management Strategy; Council Plan 2017-2021; Environmental Management Plan for Roads Construction & Roads Maintenance; Strategic Risk Management Framework.

Objectives of the Plan

This Control Plan will contribute to the Shire's ongoing roadside weed and rabbit management program and complement past investments made by the Pyrenees Shire enabled through State Government initiative funding. Assist with preventing the spread and introduction of invasive plant and animal species across the Shire and the region as a whole.

Pyrenees Shire Council's overall roadside weed and rabbit management objective is the effective and proactive management of invasive species on Council managed roadsides across the Shire. Investment of funds will be aligned to:

1. Treatment for the eradication of Regionally Prohibited Weed infestations.
2. Treatment for the containment or reduction in area infestations of Regionally Controlled Weeds and rabbits – aligned to DEDJTR weed and rabbit compliance project area.
3. Supporting community group investment in weed and pest control projects.
4. Contributing to other previous investment in the control of Regionally Controlled and Regionally Prohibited Weeds and rabbits.
5. Protect identified assets such as significant roadside vegetation under threat from weed invasion or other significant roadside infrastructure.
6. Support weed and pest animal management programs being undertaken by land owners.
7. Addressing other roadside declared noxious weed infestations of concern to the Shire's community including Restricted Weeds declared under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994.

Term of the Plan

This control plan will run for a **two year period** from 1 July 2017 (date of commencement) to 30 June 2019.



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Funding

The following funds will be available to implement the Control Plan.

• RWPP Allocation	\$48,000	2017-2018
	\$48,000	2018-2019
• Drought Allocation	\$40,000	July 2017 – Dec 2017
• Council inkind	\$23,000	2017-2018
	\$23,000	2018-2019
Total	\$182,000	

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Table 1: Target Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	CaLP classification	PRIORITY RATING (1 highest – 4 lowest)	Reasons for Management
Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	Established Pest Animal	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To support DEDJTR compliance programs. - Support landowners on roadsides
Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus (agg.)</i>	Regionally Controlled Weed	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In response to frequent ratepayer requests, support community and stakeholder action.
Sweet Briar	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	Regionally Controlled Weed	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In response to frequent ratepayer requests, support community and stakeholder action.
English Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Regionally Prohibited Weed	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To support DEDJTR compliance programs.
Serrated tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	Regionally Prohibited Weed	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To support DEDJTR compliance programs
Bridal Creeper	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	Restricted Weed	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In response to frequent ratepayer requests, support community and stakeholder action.
Cape tulip	<i>Moraea flaccida</i> (1 leaf)	Regionally Controlled Weed	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To support community and stakeholder action.
Cape tulip	<i>Moraea miniata</i> (2 leaf)	Regionally Controlled Weed	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To support community and stakeholder action.

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Table 1: Target Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	CaLP classification	PRIORITY RATING (1 highest – 4 lowest)	Reasons for Management
<i>Gorse</i>	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	<i>Regionally Controlled weed</i>	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To support DEDJTR compliance programs - Contribute to previous investment by community & stakeholders - In response to frequent ratepayer requests.
<i>Hawthorn</i>	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	<i>Restricted Weed</i>	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To support community and stakeholder action.
<i>Horehound</i>	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	<i>Regionally Controlled Weed</i>	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In response to frequent ratepayer requests, support community and stakeholder action.
<i>Patersons Curse</i>	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	<i>Regionally Controlled Weed</i>	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To support community and stakeholder action.
<i>Spiny broom</i>	<i>Calicotome spinosa</i>	<i>Restricted Weed</i>	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To support community and stakeholder action.
<i>Stinkwort</i>	<i>Dittrichia graveolens</i>	<i>Restricted Weed</i>	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In response to frequent ratepayer requests, support community and stakeholder action.
<i>Tree of Heaven</i>	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	<i>Restricted Weed</i>	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In response to frequent ratepayer requests, support community and stakeholder action.

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Table 2: Control Measures and Target Roadsides (this table can be used as part of Council's yearly or acquittal report to LGV)

Common Name*	Control Measures (to be based on accepted best practice management of the target species)	Location of where works will be done	Estimate of length of roadside to be treated annually over 2 years	Approximate Annual Timing of Treatment	Estimated Cost
Rabbit	- Mechanical ripping of warrens & fumigation	- Predominantly on Landsborough Elmhurst Rd	13km	Jan -Apr	\$7000
Blackberry	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label - Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate	- Predominantly on Main Lead Rd and Beaufort/Waubra outskirts - Moonambel/Redbank	7km 4km	Nov - Feb	\$7500
Sweet Briar	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	- Predominantly on Eurambeen Rd - Racecourse Rd	6km 5km	Nov - Feb	\$6300
English Broom	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label - Mechanical removal	- Predominantly on Main Lead Rd and Raglan Elmhurst Rd - Pittong/Snake Valley Rd	14km 8km	Nov -Feb	\$11700
Serrated tussock	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label - Manual removal of isolated plants	- Predominantly on Redbank Barkly Rd - Waubra Talbot Rd - Landsborough	1km Spot 2km	Feb -Apr Nov-Jan	\$3500
Bridal Creeper	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	- Egans, Mills Lane - Maryborough-St Arnaud Rd	1km	Nov-Dec	\$2000

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Common Name*	Control Measures (to be based on accepted best practice management of the target species)	Location of where works will be done	Estimate of length of roadside to be treated annually over 2 years	Approximate Annual Timing of Treatment	Estimated Cost
<i>Cape tulip (1 leaf)</i>	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Gaylards, 3 Chn Lane</i> - <i>Moonabel Natte Rd</i>	<i>2km</i>	<i>Nov -Dec</i>	<i>\$1500</i>
<i>Cape tulip (2 leaf)</i>	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Homebush Rd</i>	<i>1km</i>	<i>Nov - Dec</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Gorse</i>	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i> - <i>Mechanical removal where herbicide application is inappropriate</i>	- <i>Beaufort Carngh Rd</i> - <i>Racecourse Rd</i> - <i>North South Rd</i> - <i>Carngh Streath Rd</i> - <i>Carngham Linton Rd</i> - <i>Mortchup Rd</i> - <i>Trawalla Rd</i>	<i>17km</i> <i>5km</i> <i>4km</i> <i>2.5km</i> <i>7.5km</i> <i>5.0km</i> <i>4.5km</i>	<i>Dec – Mar</i> <i>Mar – May</i> <i>Nov – Dec</i> <i>Feb – May</i> <i>Jan – Apr</i> <i>Jan – Mar</i> <i>Mar - Jun</i>	<i>\$8000</i> <i>\$3500</i> <i>\$3000</i> <i>\$2800</i> <i>\$5500</i> <i>\$3000</i> <i>\$4500</i>
<i>Hawthorn</i>	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Main Lead Rd</i> - <i>Eurambeen Rd</i>	<i>0.5km</i> <i>0.5km</i>	<i>Nov –Feb</i>	<i>\$1500</i>
<i>Horehound</i>	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Predominantly on 3 Chain, Long Gully Rd</i> - <i>Landsborough</i>	<i>3km</i> <i>1km</i>	<i>Feb –Apr</i>	<i>\$2800</i>

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Table 2: Control Measures and Target Roadsides (this table can be used as part of Council's yearly or acquittal report to LGV)

Common Name*	Control Measures (to be based on accepted best practice management of the target species)	Location of where works will be done (location of proposed works should be specified, and a map where possible should accompany the plan)	Estimate of length of roadside to be treated annually over 2 years <small>(Km = length of road along which both sides are treated. Where only one side is treated halve the figure)</small>	Approximate Annual Timing of Treatment	Estimated Cost
<i>Spiny broom</i>	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Gillidays Rd</i> - <i>Glenpratrack Rd</i>	1.5km 2.5km	<i>Dec – Mar</i> <i>Dec - Mar</i>	\$3700
<i>Stinkwort</i>	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Rowe St</i>	0.5km	<i>Dec - Mar</i>	\$500
<i>Paterson's Curse</i>	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Landsborough</i> <i>Mt William Rd Settlement Rd</i> <i>Eurambeen Streatham Rd</i>	2km 5.5km	<i>Nov-Feb</i>	\$4200
<i>Tree of Heaven</i>	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Lamplough</i>	0.5km	<i>Feb - Mar</i>	\$500

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Table 2: Control Measures and Target Roadsides (this table can be used as part of Council's yearly or acquittal report to LGV)

Common Name*	Control Measures (to be based on accepted best practice management of the target species)	Location of where works will be done. DEDJTR compliance program, Hopkins Land Mgt Group & G-H CMA Fiery Ck project	Estimate of length of roadside to be treated annually over 2 years (Km = length of road along which both sides are treated. Where only one side is treated halve the figure)	Approximate Annual Timing of Treatment	Estimated Cost
Gorse	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Andersons Rd - Francis Rd - Stars Rd - Lucardies Rd - Panthers Rd - Drews Rd - Eurambeen Raglan Rd - Guys Rd - Crockers Lane - Streatham Eurambeen Rd - Middle Ck Rd - Summer Middle Ck Rd - Ballyrogan Rd - Geelong Rd - Other Rds as Identified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0.8km 0.3km 0.8km 0.3km 0.1km 0.9km 1.2km 1.3km 0.2km 0.2km 4.0km 3.0km 1.5km 1.0km 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dec – Mar Dec – Mar Dec – Mar Dec – Mar Dec – Mar Dec – Mar Dec – Mar Dec – Mar Mar – Jun Mar – Jun Mar – Jun Mar – Jun Mar – Jun Mar – Jun Mar – Jun 	\$12500
Total					96,000

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Table 3: Control Measures and Target Roadsides for Drought Impacted Shires

Common Name	Control Measures (to be based on accepted best practice management of the target species)	Location of where works will be done	Estimate of length of roadside to be treated annually	Approximate annual timing of treatment	Estimated Cost
Blackberry	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	- Beaufort/Waubra Rd	1.5km	Feb/Mar	\$1600
	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	- Waubra/Talbot Rd	4.0km	Feb/Mar	
	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	- SV/Chepstowe Rd	0.5km	Feb/Mar	
	- Mulch	- Racecourse Rd	4.1km	Mar/Apr	\$1700
		- Church Rd	1.9km	Fed/Mar	\$800
Rabbit	- Mechanical ripping of warrens & fumigation	- Nowhere Ck Rd	5.7km	Mar/Apr	\$4800
		- Frenchmans	3.6km	Mar/Apr	
Sweet Briar	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	- Eurambeen Rd	4.1km	Feb/Mar	\$3200
		- Waubra/Talbot	2.6km	Feb/Mar	
English Broom	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	- Amphitheatre Rd	5.7km	Apr/May	\$2800
		- Beau/Elmhurst Rd	3.4km	Apr/May	
		- Panthers Lane	2.1km	Apr/May	
Hawthorn	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	- Waubra/Talbot Rd	2.7km	Feb/Mar	\$2300
		- Beau/Waubra Rd	0.9km	Feb/Mar	
Horehound	- Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label	- Natte Yallock	1.1km	Mar/Apr	\$1100
		- Moonambel	0.8km		
	-				

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Table 3: Control Measures and Target Roadsides for Drought Impacted Shires

Common Name	Control Measures (to be based on accepted best practice management of the target species)	Location of where works will be done	Estimate of length of roadside to be treated annually	Approximate annual timing of treatment	Estimated Cost
<i>Pattersons Curse</i>	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Rathscar West</i> - <i>Homebush</i>	<i>1.1km</i> <i>0.6km</i>	<i>Mar/Apr</i> <i>Mar/Apr</i>	<i>\$800</i> <i>\$500</i>
<i>Gorse</i>	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Modesty Lane</i> - <i>Cheesemans Rd</i>	<i>1.3km</i> <i>2.7km</i>	<i>Feb/Mar</i> <i>Feb/Mar</i>	<i>\$2300</i> <i>\$1200</i>
	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Langi Kal Kal Rd</i> - <i>Thompson Rd</i>	<i>2.6km</i> <i>2.4km</i>	<i>Feb/Mar</i> <i>Feb/Mar</i>	<i>\$1100</i> <i>\$3400</i>
	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Vinoca Rd</i> - <i>Perceydale Rd</i>	<i>1.2km</i> <i>2.9km</i>	<i>Mar/Apr</i> <i>Mar/Apr</i>	<i>\$1200</i> <i>\$2400</i>
	- <i>Spot spray application of a registered herbicide in accordance with the product label</i>	- <i>Retallicks Rd</i> - <i>Oddies Rd</i>	<i>2.9km</i> <i>1.3km</i>	<i>Apr/May</i> <i>Apr/May</i>	<i>\$2500</i> <i>\$2900</i>
	- <i>Mulch</i>	- <i>Bulls Rd</i>	<i>0.5km</i>	<i>Feb/Mar</i>	<i>\$1200</i>
	-	-			
Total	-	-			\$40,000
	-	-			

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Maps

Map 1 Pyrenees Shire

Map 2 CMA Boundaries

Map 3 Proposed location of control works.

Statement of Responsibilities

Council will:

- Publish this approved plan on its website within 28 days of approval and ensure copies are available for public inspection at Council's office/s.
- Coordinate the implementation of this plan on Council managed roadsides in accordance with the investment principles stated in this plan and the control measures specified in Table 2 & 3.
- Implement best practice weed hygiene principles and protocols.
- Maintain accurate records sufficient to provide evidence that the plan has been carried out and provide these to DEDJTR on request.
- Obtain approval from DEDJTR before substantially modifying or varying the plan.
- Carefully consider any proposals from DEDJTR to modify or vary the plan in response to changed circumstances.

Provide a completion report to DEDJTR within 30 days from expiry of this plan outlining the outcomes of the control measures undertaken.

DEDJTR Endorsement

I declare that I am an authorised representative and that this plan has been reviewed and aligns with eligible activities.

**DEDJTR Regional Manager - Plants, Chemicals
& Invasive Species**

Name:

Signature:

Date:



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Declaration

I declare that I am an authorised representative and the information given on this form is complete and correct

Key Contact Name: Terry McAliece

Date: 27/9/2017

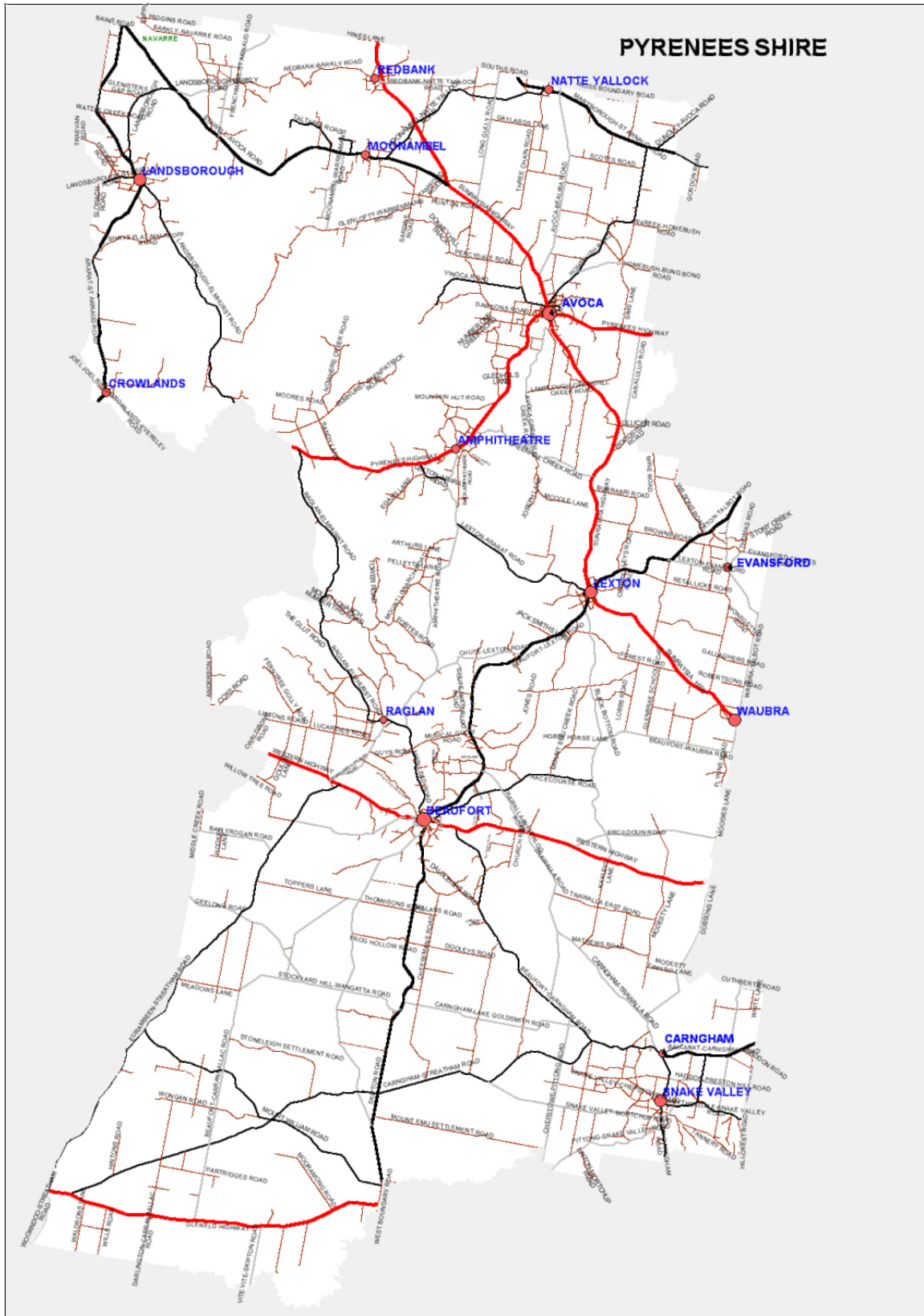
Signature:

Council CEO Name: Jim Nolan

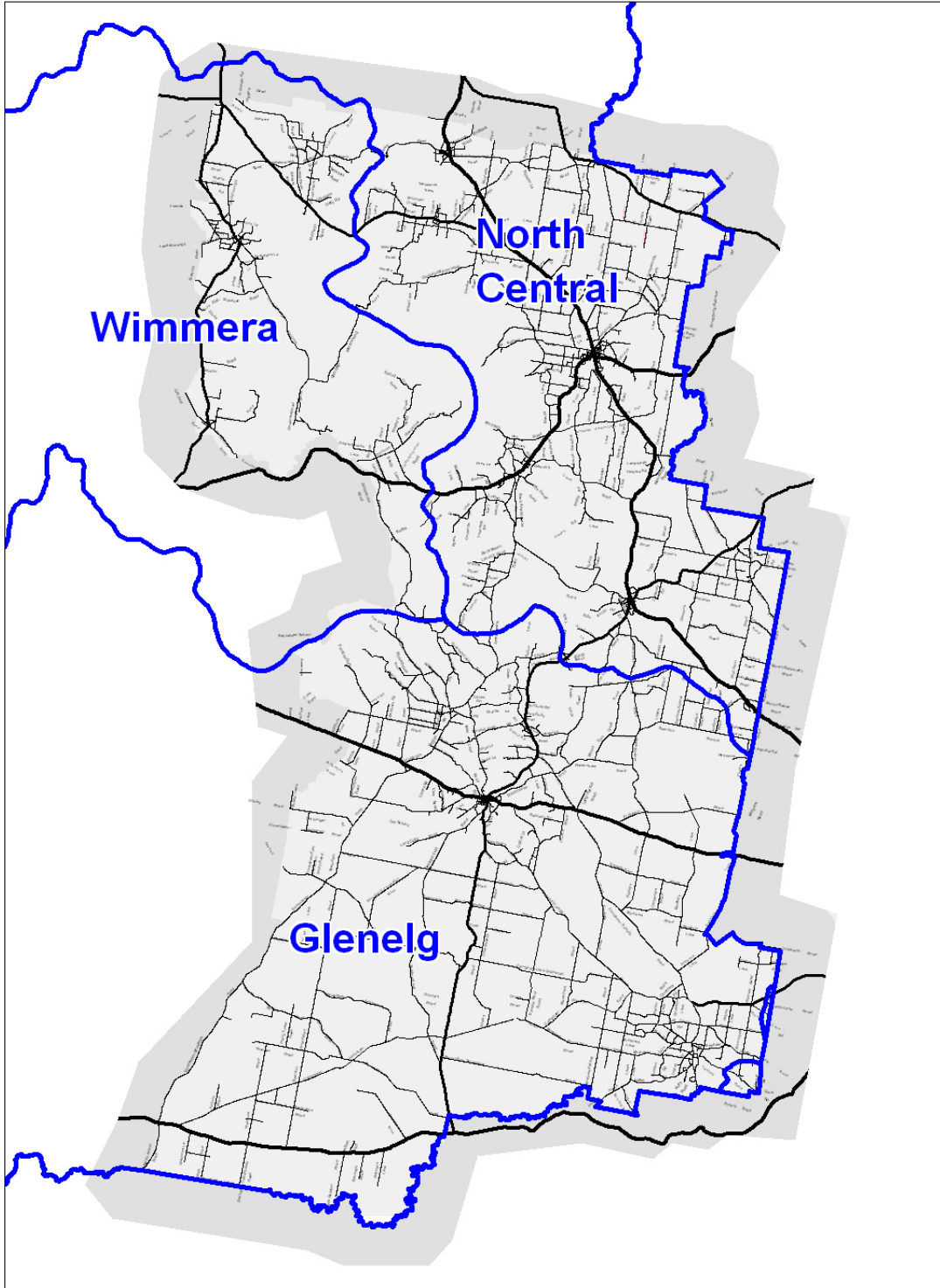
Signature:

Date: 27/9/2017

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Map 2



Catchment Authority Boundaries

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