

# Year 1 Nature Plan Activities Overview

The table below details the Actions identified to commence in year one. The cost estimates are reflective of the duration of the action. There are many actions that are also able to be scaled in response to available funding and priorities. For example, Action 2.4 focuses on restoration activities across the Council bushland reserve network and the activities for this could be scaled to reflect available resourcing and priorities.

Priority actions are **bold** and marked with a \*. Further detail has been provided around some actions using subgroups A, B, C etc after the action number to provide more defined cost estimates. \$0 actions are covered by existing resources.

Theme	Action #	Action	Timeframe	Council Investment Estimate	Grant Funded Estimate	Year 1 Total
Landscapes and Ecosystems	<b>1.2*</b>	Develop a prioritisation matrix to identify biodiversity hotspots and focal areas across the municipality.	1	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$40,000
	<b>1.3*</b>	Undertake vegetation surveys to measure change in native vegetation cover across Yarra Ranges to report on our target.	1, 5 & 10	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
	<b>1.4*</b>	Establish an opt-in monitoring program of biodiversity assets on private land within Yarra Ranges, to better understand the ecological values and inform decision making for statutory and strategic planning.	1-10	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
	<b>1.6*</b>	Support restoration of waterway corridors, billabongs and floodplain habitat within the municipality through cross-promotion and facilitated engagement with landowners and action on Council-managed reserves.	1-10	\$0	\$0	\$0
	1.9	Complete Flora and Fauna Guarantee (FFG) Act listed species impact statement and review of the goals of the State Government's Biodiversity 2037 Strategy to address the new Public Authority Duty required by recent amendment to the FFG Act.	0-3	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000
	1.10	Undertake strategic review of Council's Biodiversity Offset Program (BOP) to determine future direction in line with strategic objectives.	1-2	\$0	\$0	\$0

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Land Use and Changing Climate	2.3*	Implement sustainable bushfire reduction works which achieve net biodiversity benefit in collaboration with relevant agencies. Incorporate cultural burning practices to support biodiversity improvements.	1-10	\$85,000	\$0	\$85,000
	2.4A*	(2.4) Increase restoration and revegetation activities across the existing bushland reserve network with a focus on improving conservation values, enhancing habitat corridors and supporting threatened species and their habitats through the municipality. (A) For the 559 Bushland managed sites this will be an increase from an average of \$2,400 per site per annum, to \$3,000.	1-10	\$334,325	\$0	\$334,325
	2.4B*	(B) A 15% increase in plant numbers and increased maintenance and pest exclusion to ensure long term climate success.	1-10	\$58,689	\$0	\$58,689
	2.4C*	(C) Control of foxes and rabbits on council land. Foxes and rabbits are not currently managed on council land and there are obligations as land managers under the CALP Act.	1-10	\$40,000	\$0	\$40,000
	2.5*	Foster strong collaboration with other land managers, conservation organisations, Landcare, and community environment groups through representation on multi-agency collaborative committees	1-10	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2.10	Support permanent protection of private land with conservation covenanting in key locations across the municipality. Investigate expansion of program, for identified properties of high ecological value, or deemed inappropriate for development.	1-10	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2.11	Develop an urban greening program, through delivery of Council's Tree Strategy to increase canopy cover.	1-10	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2.12	Review of the Restructure Overlay Plans to determine value proposition from view of future additions to Council's Bushland reserve network.	1-2	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2.15	Support community to undertake annual bushfire preparedness in a biodiversity sensitive manner through delivery of educational material and resources.	1-10	\$0	\$0	\$0
	2.18	Undertake a process review of "First Party Offsets" that utilise a Planning Section 173 Agreement. Process improvements are required to ensure efficiency, best environmental outcomes and compliance with legal obligations by all parties.	1-2	\$0	\$0	\$0

Theme	Action #	Action	Timeframe	Council Investment Estimate	Grant Funded Estimate	Year 1 Total
Pest Plants and Animals	3.2B*	(B) Collaborate with land managers to address the prevalence of feral deer across Yarra Ranges, through partnerships, funding programs and education of residents to achieve an overall reduction in the impact of deer on the environment.	1-10	\$0	\$0	\$0
	3.4*	Promote Yarra Ranges cat curfew and deliver supporting community education regarding impact of cats on wildlife. Investigate mechanisms for enforcement of existing local laws.	1-10	\$0	\$0	\$0
	3.6	Advocate to State Government for listing of feral deer as pests under the CALP Act and provision of adequate funding to support monitoring, control and research within the region.	1-10	\$0	\$0	\$0
People and Nature	4.1*	Support the development of areas suitable for the application of contemporary concepts of Indigenous Ways of Knowing, Being & Doing such as cultural burning. Enhance opportunities for Council and community connection through delivery of cultural awareness program.	1-10	\$0	\$0	\$0
	4.3*	Enhance biodiversity in urban townships through increase in street tree cover and habitat planting, along with expanding community support through Gardens 4 Wildlife	1-10	\$101,500	\$43,500	\$145,000
	4.7	Promote and foster greater uptake in Citizen Science opportunities that align with Council's objectives of obtaining greater understanding of biodiversity values across the Shire.	1-10	\$0	\$0	\$0
	4.8	Enhance environmental interpretation and education opportunities along key tourist destinations, trails and reserves.	1-10	\$0	\$0	\$0
	4.10	Partner with Early Years and Sustainability Teams to develop increased nature-based education opportunities in early learning programs.	1-10	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL (24 Actions)</b>				<b>\$759,514</b>	<b>\$63,500</b>	<b>\$823,014</b>