Roadside Fallen Timber Collection Policy

Strategic Reference	Outcome 4 - Environment Strategy 1.1 – Work with community and relevant State departments to identify opportunities to protect and manage native vegetation.
File reference	AR20/11419
Responsibility	Community & Corporate Department
Revision Number	3
Effective date	July 2020
Last revised date	December 2024
Minutes reference	349/24, 198/21, 162/20
Next review date	December 2027
Applicable Legislation	Local Government Act 1999 221 Native Vegetation Act and Regulations Fire and Emergency Services Act and Regulations
Related Policies	Nil
Related Documents	Coorong District Council Fees & Charges Schedule Section 221 Authorisation

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Roadside Fallen Timber Collection Policy is to regulate and provide best practice and a consistent approach for the removal of timber from roadsides within the district. This Policy is also aimed to minimise damage to native vegetation on roadsides by persons interfering or removing vegetation from the roadside.

2. Policy Statement

Coorong District Council acknowledges dead timber will be found fallen on roadsides within the district and provides this Policy to ensure best practices are performed in relation to the various issues associated. This includes consideration towards the Native Vegetation Act, Fire and Emergency Services Act and Regulations, flora and fauna, habitat and safety for all within the vicinity, e.g. the permit holder and other road users.

3. Requirements/conditions for the collection of timber from roadsides

3.1 Authorisations for the collection of timber from roadsides within the Coorong District Council area will only be issued to residents or property owners of the Coorong District Council and must be for own private use by residents or property owners of the Coorong District Council.

3.2 Timber collected is not to be re-sold.

3.3 Prior to the collection of timber from roadsides, persons must receive a Section 221 authorisation approval from Council.

3.4 A fee, as set out in Council's Schedule of Fees & Charges applies to a Section 221 permit for the collection of fallen timber from the roadside. Permits approved are valid for a period of one (1) calendar month from the date of payment of the fee. The permit states that the holder of the permit will agree to indemnify and to keep indemnified the Council, its servants and agents and each of them from and against all actions, costs, claims, damages, charges and expenses whatsoever which may be brought or made or claimed against them or any of them arising out of or in relation to the issuing of the permit.

3.5 Permit holders must hold current public liability insurance ($10 million coverage) and the insurance policy must be applicable to the activity being conducted.

3.6 Timber collection is only permitted on approved Council road reserves under classes 4B and 5 of Council's road hierarchy network. Collection is not permitted on class 2, 3 and/or 4A roads as listed at Appendix 1.

3.7 This Policy does not permit the cutting of live timber or the cutting down and/or removal of any standing tree (or attached branch) irrespective of whether the tree (or attached branch) is living or dead.

3.8 No hollow logs are to be cut, removed or tampered with in any way.

3.9 No cutting and/or collection of fallen timber is to occur on Total Fire Ban Days.

3.10 Use of any mechanical equipment, e.g. chainsaws are prohibited during the Fire Danger Season. The Fire and Emergency Services Act and Regulations must be adhered to.

3.11 Upon arrival, during removal and upon departure from collecting fallen timber from roadsides, care must be taken not to damage any surrounding native vegetation. Any vehicle, trailer or activity must not damage or destroy native vegetation along the roadside.

3.12 All applicable road rules must be followed whilst accessing areas along the roadside. The vehicle and/or trailer used must be parked in an appropriate manner that does not create a hazard to other road users whilst collecting fallen timber.

3.13 It is the responsibility of the permit holder to ensure a safe system of work is implemented for the gathering, loading and removal of timber from the roadside and in adherence with the Road Traffic Act 1961.

The permit holder MUST have the permit in their possession at all times whilst in the process of collecting and/or removing any fallen timber form roadsides or reserves.

4. Definitions

Roadside - Strip of land between the road formation and the boundary of the road which is usually the boundary fence of the adjoining property.

Road - Is a road within and under the control of the Coorong District Council but does not include a road under the control of the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure.

5. Availability/Accessibility

This policy is available for inspection at Council's offices during normal business hours & Council's website and will be emailed to interested parties on request (please lodge request in writing via email to council@coorong.sa.gov.au).

6. Document History

This policy will be reviewed at least every three (3) years or more frequently if legislation or Council requires.

Version	Adopted	Minute No	Description of change(s)
1	21 July 2020	162/20	New policy
2	21 September 2021	198/21	Cyclical review New policy requirements inserted: - Permit changed to a one month window (down from twelve months) - Permit holders to hold appropriate public liability insurance Roads not permitted for timber collection listed as an appendix Policy review date extended out to three (3) years
3	17 December 2024	349/24	No changes made to current policy in line with report to Council resulting from motion 120/24 (refer Council agenda 17 December 2024 for full details)

Appendix 1 – Council road reserves not approved for timber collection

Timber collection cannot occur on Class 2, 3 and 4A roads of Council's road hierarchy network, which include:

- Alexandrina Drive
- Boothby Road
- Carcuma Road
- Cold and Wet Road
- Darwin Road
- Ferry Road
- Granites Road
- Gypsum Road
- Heinrich Road
- Kulde Road
- Kulkawurra Road
- Ladara Bore Road
- Loveday Bay Road
- Mallee Highway (service road)
- Narrung Road
- Netherton Road
- Nine Mile Road
- Old Dukes Highway
- Poltalloch Road
- Railway Terrace (Sherlock)
- Raukkan community
- Seven Mile Road
- Tauragat Well Road
- Tynan Road
- Woods Well Road
- Yarindale Road
- Yumali Road