

## Policy 3.02 Environmental Management

<b>Directorate</b>	Community, Environment and Planning
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Manager Planning and Sustainability

### Table of Contents

1.1	Introduction	2
1.1.1	Scope	2
1.1.2	Purpose	2
1.2	Definitions	2
1.3	Legislation	2
1.4	Implementation	2
1.4.1	Policy statement	2
1.4.2	Responsibilities	3
1.5	Supporting documents	3
1.5.1	BVSC procedures that relate to this policy	3
1.5.2	BVSC policies that relate to this policy	3

Under Review

## 1.1 Introduction

### 1.1.1 Scope

This policy defines Council's commitment to protect the shire's natural environment through best practice planning processes, internal activities, land and asset management, and public education.

### 1.1.2 Purpose

To actively and responsibly manage the shire's natural environment to maintain its quality and effectively manage environmental impact rehabilitate degraded areas and enhance biodiversity.

## 1.2 Definitions

Nil

## 1.3 Legislation

*Local Government Act 1993*

*Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*

*Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

*Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*

*Biosecurity Act 2015*

## 1.4 Implementation

### 1.4.1 Policy statement

Bega Valley Shire Council will actively and responsibly undertake environmental management in a systematic manner by:

- complying with relevant environmental law and regulations and by adhering to applicable codes of practices and guidelines
- developing, implementing, monitoring and reviewing procedures that help maintain, manage and enhance the environment as a key asset of the shire
- leading by example and supporting action for sustainability by reducing wherever possible the use of resources
- ensuring the adequate resourcing of environmental management initiatives complemented by the ongoing Environment Levy
- monitoring, evaluating and reporting on environmental outcomes and performance via the Annual Report
- managing for clean and healthy waterways, beaches and wetlands with healthy marine life and cleaner stormwater run-off through integrated water cycle management that recognises the inter-relationships between water, wastewater and the receiving natural systems
- committing to a low waste future by implementing the principles of best practice disposal: 'avoid, reduce, reuse, and recycle'
- establishing an understanding and acceptance of environmental best practice throughout Council, agencies and the community through environmental education and capacity building including:
  - a. provision of training for staff on environmental best practice and implementation of work practices that meet or exceed statutory requirements

- b. including environmental requirements in the procurement process and ensuring contractors are complying with relevant environmental legislation
- engaging and working with the community as a key partner with government and relevant agencies in planning, biodiversity conservation and management, and encourage participation in activities that improve the natural environment
- recognising and representing Aboriginal peoples' spiritual and cultural values and associations in our conservation of remnant landscapes and natural systems.

## 1.4.2 Responsibilities

### 1.4.2.1 Elected Council

Ensure decision making considers the principles of environmental management outlined in this policy.

### 1.4.2.2 Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Leadership Executive Group (LEG)

Responsible for leading organisation wide adoption of this policy in the every day operations of Council.

### 1.4.2.3 Environment and Sustainability Section

Work across the organisation to embed the principles of environmental management in service delivery, design, decision making and customer service.

## 1.5 Supporting documents

### 1.5.1 BVSC procedures that relate to this policy

Procedure No.:	Procedure Name	External or Internal Procedure
3.02.2	Tree assessment	Internal
3.02.3	Environment Levy	Internal

### 1.5.2 BVSC policies that relate to this policy

Policy No.:	Policy Name
3.01	Development Administration
3.03	Soil and Water Management
3.04	Biosecurity and Weed Management
3.05	Environmental Sustainability for Council Operations
3.06	Pesticide Use

**Note:** Policy details may change from time to time. To ensure you are viewing the most recent version please view Council's adopted Policies and Procedures on Council website: [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au)