

Policy 3.02 Environmental Management

Directorate	Community, Environment and Planning
Responsible Officer	Manager Planning and Sustainability

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	2
1.1	Scope	2
1.2	Purpose	2
1.3	Definitions	2
2	Legislation	2
3	Implementation	<u>23</u>
3.1	Policy statement	<u>23</u>
3.2	Responsibilities	3
3.2.1	Elected Council	3
3.2.2	Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Leadership Executive Group (LEG)	<u>34</u>
3.2.3	Environment and Sustainability Section	<u>34</u>
4	Supporting documents	<u>34</u>
4.1.1	BVSC procedures that relate to this policy	<u>34</u>
4.1.2	BVSC policies that relate to this policy	<u>55</u>

Record of Administrative Amendments

Amendment Version No.:	Description of Administrative Amendment	Date Reviewed
<u>1.2</u>	<u>Review of policy in accordance with Section 165 of the Local Government Act 1993</u> <u>Placed on Public Exhibition 23 July 2025</u>	<u>July 2025</u>
<u>1.1</u>	<u>Review of policy in accordance with Section 165 of the Local Government Act 1993</u> <u>Workshopped with Councillors May 2025</u>	<u>May 2025</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>Adopted by Council</u>	<u>04 September 2013</u>

1 Introduction

1.1 Scope

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

The scope of this policy demonstrates direct commitment to the following strategic guiding principles:

- Transparent | Decision making processes are clearly outlined, including how a decision is made and who is involved
- Responsive | Commitment to serve the needs of the entire community
- Effective and Efficient | Clear connection between policy and implementation

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.

1.3 Definitions

Nil

2 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

3 Implementation

3.1 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 natural 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~~ in the Annual Report
- managing resources 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:
 - provision of training for staff on environmental best practice and implementation of work practices that meet or exceed statutory requirements
 - 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 encouraging 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.

3.2 Responsibilities

3.2.1 Elected Council

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

3.2.2 Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Leadership Executive Group (LEG)

~~Responsible for leading~~ organisational ~~wide~~ adoption of this policy in the every-day operations of Council.

3.2.3 Environment and Sustainability Section

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

4 Supporting documents

4.1.1 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

Under Review

4.1.2 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
<u>3.14</u>	<u>Flood and sea level rise</u>

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 [the](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au) Council website: www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au