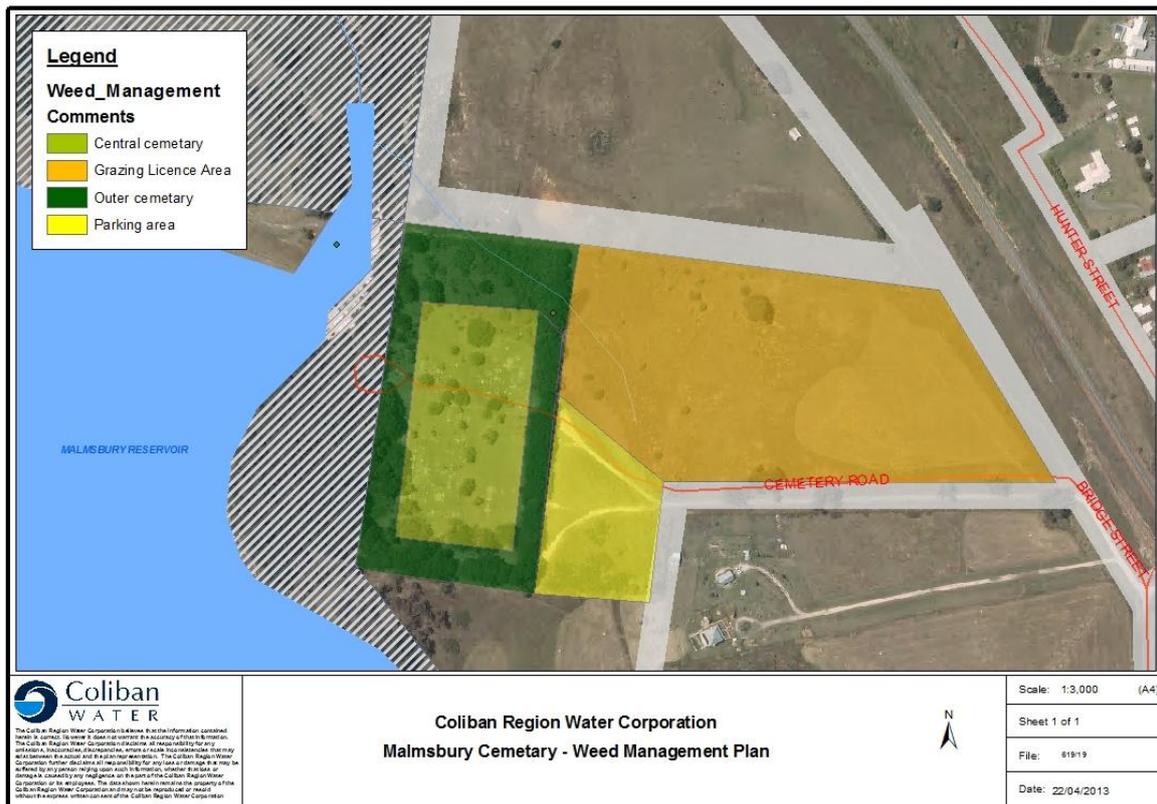


Malmsbury Cemetery Trust – Weed management Plan

The Malmsbury cemetery site is situated on the Malmsbury Reservoir; it is guarded by large Monterrey Pines to the west and a line of mature oak trees to the east. The site contains significant infestations of invasive plant and animal species. The below brief outlines what exotic species are present at the site and how these species could be controlled.



Inner cemetery

Headstones

The following woody weeds are growing up through and over monuments:

- Hawthorne Blackberry
- Briar rose
- Broom
- Gorse
- Immature monterrey pines

These should all be cut, then immediately painted with concentrate roundup according to label recommendations.

Some herbaceous weeds including blue periwinkle that can be controlled through spraying, however keep in mind that there is some Kangaroo grass growing through a select few of the monuments; this would be good to protect.

Pest animals

Signs of rabbits are common throughout the site, and there could possibly be other pest animals. To combat this issue, the lower branches of trees and shrubs around the site could be pruned as to remove harbour for these animals.

Coliban Water is implementing summer run baiting programs on the adjacent land on the Malmsbury Spillway. These programs are most effective when all adjacent land managers run a coordinated baiting and fumigation programs to ensure control of pest rabbits. Therefore, when this baiting program is in the planning phase for 2014 Coliban Water will coordinate baiting plans with the Malmsbury Cemetery Trust.

However, please note removal of native vegetation may require a permit from local council.

Outer cemetery

Large patches of blue periwinkle on the southern edge of the site. Large patches of broom surround the entire site. These are creeping inwards onto some headstones. Suggestion is for tanker spraying in these areas; this might be more suitable for weed spray contractors rather than the Youth Justice Centre.

Pine saplings are starting to spread around the cemetery property. Large branches of pines are hanging close to headstones on the western side of the site. It would be advantageous for these to be pruned.

Hawthorne is maturing mainly around the northern outer edge of the cemetery. Suggestion is to control smaller plants, and only removal large hawthorns where they are starting to displace native vegetation.

Large eucalypt north of entrance gate (Eastern edge) – should be protected as much as possible by removing any hawthorns growing close to it.

Grazing area

Immature and mature Hawthorne growing throughout grazing area; Suggestion is to control only the small hawthorns (<2.5m) before land carrying capacity is affected. Leave large Hawthorns for stock shelter until native species become established.

There is a patch of gorse, broom and hawthorn in Southern section of the site. This is best controlled through either cutting (painting with herbicide) or spraying before the infestation spreads.

Parking area and driveway

Mature gorse is spreading throughout the southern section of the parking area. This can be controlled through either mechanical removal or tanker spraying. Since gorse is spread via wind, aiming to control this infestation to the road would be beneficial in reducing the risk of weed spread.

Methods of control-

Spraying

Vinca Major – large scale (tanker spraying may be required) – a mix of Starane advanced and roundup is recommended for this species; abiding by the product label recommendations for mixing and concentration.

Gorse, Broom, Rosa – Garlon600 is recommended for this species; abiding by the product label recommendations for mixing and concentration.

When graves are completely treated for weeds, if desired a residual herbicide maybe used to prevent further weed growth. This spraying should only be initiated where absolutely no vegetative growth is desired.

Cut and Paint –

Cut and Paint is suitable for most woody weeds growing around the cemetery including Blackberry, Gorse, Hawthorne, Rosa and Broom.

The chemicals recommended for use for cut and paint are: roundup concentrate, with Metsulphuron (Brushoff) mix in dabber bottles. Always abide by label recommendations when applying herbicides.

Pile off-cuts in position agreed on by Cemetary Trust for subsequent burning.

Pruning and Trimming -

Large pine branches coming close to very old headstones in west of site should trim just these branches to protect headstones.

Prune lower branches on ALL shrubs as these provide harbour for rabbits. Pile off-cuts in a burn pile with cut weeds.