Native Plants Revegetation Guide – Moira Communities

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This document is to be used as a guide for revegetation activities in Moira towns that are currently underutilised and are already disturbed.

The plantings identified in this document will provide a number of benefits to the community in the long term, including:

- 1. Improved public amenity
 - a. Shade
 - b. Shelter
 - c. Aesthetics
- 2. Reduce the work load of operations crews
 - a. Less mowing
 - b. Less weed control
- 3. Improve the environmental value
 - a. Habitat and food for wildlife
 - b. Reduce pollutants and nutrients
 - c. Cooling effect creation of micro-climates and abate the heat island effect

General Tips

Ensure good site preparation prior to planting

- 1. Rip ground (0.5m)
- 2. Spray weeds and consider an emergent spray
- 3. Plant May to August
- 4. Consider mulching for water saving purposes
- 5. Consider planting trees first to outcompete weedy grasses. Plants understory vegetation later down the track (e.g. 5 years).

Planting

- 1. Seed or tube stock is preferable, larger plants often go into shock
- 2. Water in plants

- 3. Guard plants where predation (e.g. rabbits or kangaroos) is likely
 - a. Choose cardboard cartons in preference to plastic products
 - b. Don't guard aquatic vegetation or grasses

First 12 months following planting

- 1. Ensure plants receive a good soak on a monthly basis (watering prior to summer is critical)
- 2. Control weeds to reduce competition for water
- 3. Consider filling gaps where losses have occurred
 - a. Select planting different species or species that have shown high survivability rates

Longer term management

- 1. Occasional trim as required
- 2. Removal of rubbish
- 3. Consider ecological thinning where appropriate
- 4. Weed control
- 5. Further revegetation

Spray Seed

Use a native seed mix used e.g. redgrass (*Bothriochloa macra*) and wallaby grass (*Rytidosperma caespitosum* and *R. setaceum*). Exotic grasses should be avoided. These grasses will also tolerate hot and dry conditions, clay and lack of top soil.

Red grass is green in summer (good to minimise fire risks). It also self-seeds and is fairly low cost.

Wallaby grasses (*Rytidosperma caespitosum* and *R. setaceum*) for winter and spring ground cover.

A mix would be advisable in case some seed survives better in some areas and not so well in other.

Aquatic Spaces



There are a limited number of plants available for planting in the riparian and aquatic zones. Keep in mind the height that they can grow to and location that the community will be viewing them from.

The aquatic zone is an area that will be wet for long periods of time. This area can periodically dry out and the plants have mechanisms to cope with these changes.

The riparian zone is the area between the aquatic and terrestrial zones. It fluctuates between wet and dry. This zone is highly variable.

Riparian and aquatic zones				
Common	Botanical	Height	t Position Density	
Common nardoo	Marsilea drummondii	30cm	Riparian – aquatic zone	20cm spacing's
Common water	Triglochin procerum	50cm	Riparian – aquatic zone	20cm spacing's
ribbons				
Slender monkey	Mimulus gracilis	20cm	Riparian – aquatic zone	20cm spacing's
flower				
Streaked water	Triglochin striatum	20cm	Riparian – aquatic zone	20cm spacing's
ribbons				
Jointed leaf rush	Juncus holoschoenus	50cm	Riparian zone	20cm spacing's
Pale rush	Juncus pallidus	1m	Riparian zone	20cm spacing's
Hollow rush	Juncus amabilis	1m	Riparian zone	20cm spacing's
Yellow rush	Juncus flavidus	1m	Riparian zone	20cm spacing's
Common spike	Flooobaric aquita		Riparian zone	20cm spacing's
sedge	Eleocharis acuta	1.5m		
Tall spike sedge	Eleocharis sphacelata	1.5m	Riparian zone	20cm spacing's
Giant rush	Juncus ingens	4m	Riparian zone	20cm spacing's
	Schoenoplectus		Riparian zone	20cm spacing's
Club rush	tabernaemontani	3m		

Select a minimum of 2 different species for planting. The plants will migrate and survive in areas most suited to them. Plant somewhat randomly within the riparian and aquatic zones.

Reserves

These areas are areas where you do not require a perfectly manicured look. A more natural bushland setting. A space that would benefit from shade and shelter, requiring minimal maintenance.

Grasses

Consider planting in groups or sporadically. Select 2 or more species from the list below. Consider flax lilies as they are a native long lived flower that will grow in clumps similar to the native grasses.

Grasses and other understory vegetation				
Common Name	Botanical name	Height	Density	
Tussock grass	Poa labillardierei	1.5m	20cm spacing's	
Grey tussock grass	Poa sieberiana	1m	20cm spacing's	
Common wallaby –			20cm spacing's	
grass	Austrodanthonia caespitosa	70cm		
Kangaroo grass	Themeda triandra	1.5m	20cm spacing's	
Black-antler flax lily	Dianella revoluta	1m	20cm spacing's	
Late-flowered Flax- lilly	Dianella tara	50cm	20cm spacing's	
Common Eutaxia	Eutaxia microphylla	50cm	50 cm spacing's	
Spreading Eutaxia	Eutaxia microphylla var.			
	diffusa			
Berry Saltbush	Atriplex semibaccata	Prostrate	50cm spacing's	
Ruby Saltbush	Enchylaena tomentosa	Prostrate	50cm spacing's	

Shrubs

Plant somewhat randomly throughout the space. Provide appropriate gaps between plants. Select 4 or more shrubs from the list below with variable heights and genera (the first word in the botanical name below *e.g.* Acacia).

Shrubs				
Common name	Botanical name	Height	Density	
Wedge leaf hop bush	Dodonaea cuneata	2m	1m spacing's	
Emu bush	Eremophila glabra	1m	1m spacing's	
Emu bush	Eremophila maculate	1m	1m spacing's	
Hedge Saltbush	Rhagodia spinescens	1m	1m spacing's	
Common Fringe-myrtle	Calytrix tetragona	0.5-3m	1m spacing's	
Gold-dust wattle	Acacia acinacea	2-3m	1m spacing's	
Waterbush	Myoporum montanum			
Varnish wattle	Acacia verniciflua	1-4m	1m spacing's	
Mallee wattle	Acacia montana	2-3m	1m spacing's	
Hakea wattle	Acacia hakeoids	2-4m	1m spacing's	
Hedge Wattle	Acacia paradoxa	2-4m	1m spacing's	
Grey mulga	Acacia brachbotrya	1-3m	1m spacing's	
Desert Cassia	Cassinia arcuata	1-2m	1m spacing's	
Austral indigo	Indigofera australis	2.5m	1m spacing's	
	Senna artemisioides ssp.		1m spacing's	
Desert cassia	Zygophylla	1-3m		
Waterbush	Myoporum montanum	2-3m	1m spacing's	
Sweet Quandong	Santalum acuminatum			
Northern Sandalwood	Santalum lanceolatum			
Prickly Bottlebrush	Callistemon brachyandrus	2-3m	1m spacing's	
Scarlet Bottlebrush	Callistemon rugulosus	2-3m	1m spacing's	
River bottle brush*	Callistemon sieberi ¹	3m	1m spacing's	
Spotted Emu-bush	Eremophila maculata	2.5m	1m spacing's	
Emubush	Eremophila longifolia	4-8m	2m spacing's	
	Pittosporum		2m spacing's	
Weeping pittosporum	angustifolium	2-6 m		
Silver banksia	Banksia marginata	1-12m	2m spacing's	
Weeping wattle	Acacia salicina	3-13m	2m spacing's	
	Melaleuca lanceolate ¹	3-10m		
Golden wattle	Acacia pycnantha	3-10m	2m spacing's	
Sweet bursaria	Bursaria spinosa	3-8m	2m spacing's	
		Can grow to 30m,	3m spacing's	
Silver wattle*	Acacia dealbata	generally 3-5m		
Lightwood	Acacia implexa	3-15m	3m spacing's	
River coobah*	Acacia stenophylla	3-20m	3m spacing's	
Hooked needlewood	Hakea tephrosperma	8m	3m spacing's	
¹ Consider planting in area	as where water will sit.			
² Threatened species				

General rule of thumb – the smaller the plant the shorter the life expectancy.

Trees

When selecting a tree for planting consider the maximum height that the tree may reach within its life. Trees will generally live for 50-250 yrs plus. Plants trees in and amongst the shrub grid. The shrubs depending upon the species will only survive for a short period of time (5yrs to 50yrs).

Tree				
Common name	Botanical name	Height	Density	
Congoo mallee	Eucalyptus dumosa	5m	5m spacing's	
Pointed mallee	Eucalyptus socialis	5m		
Drooping sheoak	Allocasuarin verticillata	4-10 m		
Buloke ²	Allocasuarina luehmannii	10-20m	10m spacing's	
Swamp Sheoak ¹	Casuarina obesa ¹	10-15	between trees	
Black box ¹	Eucalyptus largiflorens	10-20m		
Sugarwood	Myoporum platycarpum			
Kurrajong	Brachychiton populneus	10-20m		
White cypress-pine ³	Callitris glaucophylla	10-20m		
Murray cypress Pine ⁴	Callitris gracilis	10-20m		
Iron bark	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	15m		
Yellow box ³	Eucalyptus melliodora	30m	20m spacing's	
Grey box1,4	Eucalyptus macrocarpa	25m	between trees	
River Red Gum ^{1&\$}	Eucalyptus camaldulensis	25m		
Yellow Gum	Eucalyptus leucoxylon	20m		
¹ Consider planting in areas where water will sit.				
² Threatened species				
³ Sandy soils				
⁴ Clay Soils				

W (West) = Barmah, Picola, Nathalia C (Central) = Numurkah, Cobram, Katamatite E (East) = Tungamah, Wilby

Scientific Name Common Name Preferred sites Regions Notes **TALL TREES** W,C,E Eucalyptus camaldulensis Locate where branch drop is not an issue **River Red Gum** where extra water is available Eucalyptus melliodora W,C,E lighter soils, drier sites Yellow Box Locate where branch drop is not an issue Eucalyptus microcarpa W,C,E heavier soils, damp or dry sites Grey Box Locate where branch drop is not an issue MEDIUM TREES Eucalyptus largiflorens Black Box W heavier soils, damp or dry sites Smaller than other eucalypts Brachychiton populneus C,E dry sites Kurrajong W Sugarwood Myoporum platycarpum dry sites Allocasuarina leuhmannii Buloke W,C,E heavier soils W,C,E lighter soils, drier sites Callitris glaucophylla White Cypress-pine SMALL TREES Lightwood W,C,E lighter soils Acacia implexa Acacia stenophylla River Cooba W in flood zone Along watercourses Weeping Pittosporum Pittosporum angustifolium W,C,E drier heavy soils Callistemon seiberi **River Bottlebrush** Along major watercourses E plant in watercourse Santalum acuminatum Sweet Quandong W,C,E lighter soils, drier sites Plant with acacias as they are semiparasitic Plant with acacias as they are semiparasitic Santalum lanceolatum Northern Sandalwood Е lighter soils, drier sites SHRUBS Rhagodia spinescens **Thorny Saltbush** W,C dry sites W,C,E Myoporum montanum Waterbush dry sites Wedge-leaf Hop-bush W,C,E dry sites Dodonaea viscosa ssp. cuneata Eutaxia microphylla var. diffusa Spreading Eutaxia heavy soils W,C,E Senna artemisioides Cassia W.C dry sites W,C,E lighter soils Prickly Bursaria spinosa Sweet Bursaria W.C lighter soils Acacia brachybotrya Grey Mulga **GROUND COVERS** Eremophila debilis Amulla Е heavy soils Ensure local provenance! Calocephalus citreus Lemon Beauty-heads W,C,E Requires maintenance* W,C,E Chrysocephalum apiculatum Requires maintenance* Common Everlasting Dianella revoluta var. revoluta Black-anthered Flax-lilv W,C,E most sites Dianella tarda Late-flowered Flax-lily W,C,E most sites

Eutaxia microphyllum var. microphyllum	Common Eutaxia	C,E	dry sites	
Chenopodium desertorum ssp. microphyllum	Frosted Goosefoot	W,C,E	dry sites	Very flat, silvery green
Atriplex semibaccatum	Berry Saltbush	W,C,E	dry sites	
Enchylaena tomentosa	Ruby Saltbush	W,C	dry sites	Ensure local provenance!
Teucrium racemosum	Grey Germander	W,C	heavy soils	Plant with other ground covers
Carex tereticaulis	Swamp Sedge		in flood zone	
Carex appressa	Tall Sedge		damp sites	
Carex inversa	Knob Sedge		damp sites	Small but green all year

*There are other grasses and herbs that can be used as ground covers, but they will take more effort to establish (weed control, watering) and more effort to maintain (weeding, removing dead material).