

**12.01-1L**28/05/2021  
C122latr**Protection of biodiversity****Strategies**

Adopt the precautionary principle where there are threats of environmental damage, such as damage or destruction of habitat.

Protect habitats that contain indigenous flora and fauna, particularly where those species are threatened.

Ensure that the enhancement of biodiversity outcomes does not pose an unacceptable increase in bushfire risk to community and infrastructure.

Facilitate the creation of a biolink from the Strzelecki Ranges bioregion to the Southern Fall bioregion, as shown on the Rural Framework Plan in Clause 02.04.

Protect the environmental features and habitat values of the Boolarra-Mirboo North Rail Trail (Areas 2, 3 & 4 of the Boolarra Town Structure Plan in Clause 11.01-1L).

Protect roadside vegetation, especially in the Strzelecki Ranges from Boolarra to Gormandale, that provides linkages between public and private remnant native vegetation.

Retain native vegetation on roadsides, waterways and public and private land to facilitate healthy habitats to improve biodiversity.

**Policy guideline**

Consider as relevant:

- Encouraging rural landholders to pursue a target of 30 per cent of native vegetation coverage across their properties and the landscape as a critical threshold for biodiversity conservation, particularly within the Strzelecki – Alpine bio-link.