





## PUBLIC GATES AND GRIDS ON COUNCIL ROADS

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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Background .....</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1	Repairs and Replacement.....	4
1.2	Roadworks.....	5
1.3	Fencing out Roads.....	5
1.4	Standards .....	5
1.5	Warning signs .....	5
1.6	Indemnity.....	6
1.7	Revoke permission.....	6
<b>2</b>	<b>General Principles .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Agreement.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Public Gate Register .....</b>	<b>7</b>
4.1	Register of Public Gates .....	7
<b>5</b>	<b>Appendices .....</b>	<b>7</b>
5.1	Standard Drawing .....	7
5.2	Current Location Rating of Grids .....	10

## Scope

This policy applies to the management of public gates and grids on Council controlled roads.

## Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to manage the safety of public roads by assisting landowners to locate and install public gates and grids, allowing the movement of livestock across road reserves without causing an adverse effect on road access.

This shall be achieved by developing and maintaining a systematic approach to approval, inspection, evaluation, maintenance and repair of all public gates and grids as identified in the Public Gate and Grids Register.

The policy also outlines the construction and management practices for the provision of public gates and grids.

## Definitions

**Council** means Murrumbidgee Council.

**Councillor** means a person elected to the governing body of Murrumbidgee Council as per Section 222 of the Local Government Act 1993.

**Council officer** means the staff of Murrumbidgee Council.

**The Landowner** means any person in lawful possession of land, including occupants.

**Grids** means a steel grid and associated support structures, barriers, warning signs, and fencing. Grids and grates have the same meaning.

**Public Gates** means the provision of wide gates to one side of the grid to enable wider vehicles to safely passage past a grid.

## Reference Documents

Specification for construction of public gates and grids across public roads under Council control.

Standard agreement for the provision of public gates and grids.

## Legislative Requirements

- Local Government Act 1993
- Roads Act 1993
- Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

## **1 Background**

Public gates and grids are structures constructed on a road for the purpose of controlling stock movements and to manage safe passage along Council roads for all road users.

Public gates and grids primary purpose is to control stock. Public gates and grids benefit adjoining landowners as they enable their livestock to travel across the road reserve unrestricted.

Public gates and grids are a structure across a road and therefore are under the regulatory control of the Council. All public gates and grids are required to be constructed and maintained to a standard acceptable to Council and Australian Standards.

Ownership and responsibility of the structure and all associated items, including signs, shall be vested in the landowner or their successor in title, as per the Roads Act 1993 Part 9 Division 3 and Clauses 67 to 70 of the Roads (General) Regulation 2000. Should no owner for a structure be identified, Council shall be entitled to remove the structure.

Applications for the installation of public gates and grids in new locations require Council approval and are considered by Council each on its own merit.

### **1.1 Repairs and Replacement**

In line with the requirements of the Roads Act 1993 Part 9 Division 3, the owner of the public gates and grids or their successor in title is responsible for the satisfactory state of repair of the grid structure.

This includes twenty (20) metres of roadway on either side of the public gates and grids, associated fencing, and the gates located within the road reserve. That for every grid there must be an associated gate beside or no further than 5 metres from grid, so failure of grid access still available, gates cannot be locked.

Maintenance of the grid and associated items are the responsibility of the landholder. This includes contacting Council if repairs are required, for approval to carry out work.

The landowner can request Council to undertake repairs and/or replacement of public gates and grids subject to an agreement being entered into by the Applicant and Council. Arrangements will be based on all costs being repaid to Council as set out in an agreement.

If a road pavement inspection by Council identifies that works are required to the public gates and grids, Council will notify the owner in writing and the owner shall rectify any problems immediately. If the works are not carried out within thirty (30) days of the date of the letter, then Council may perform the works or remove the public gates and grids, and invoice the landowner. If Council deems the public gates and grids to be unsafe or that it may require urgent maintenance work, Council will carry out these works and invoice the landowner for all works once the works are complete.

Where existing public gates and grids are, in the opinion of Council's engineer, in such a state of disrepair as to constitute a danger to traffic, they will be removed or replaced at the cost of the landowner.

## **1.2 Roadworks**

If Council is renewing its road at a Public Gates and Grids location, the grid will be upgraded to meet Council's current specifications Standard Drawing No SD- PG 01.

The responsibilities in such a case are as follows:

### ***Landowner***

- To pay Council for the purchase of public gates and grids and associated items that meets Council's approval, and for public gates and grids signage as per specification as per Standard Drawing No SD- PG 01 if required.
- The supply of materials and installation of any gates and fencing.

### ***Council***

- The removal of abutments and delivery to a mutually agreeable location.
- Transport of public gates and grids to site.
- Installation of public gates and grids and signage (supplied by the landowner).
- Under an agreement with council that the council will contribute 30% of the cost to all the existing Grids to be renewed to Standard Drawing No SD- PG 01
- Construct a temporary side-track with appropriate signage for the duration of the works.
- Complete associated roadworks.
- Seal both approaches to the public gates and grids for a length of twenty (20) metres on gravel roads.

In respect of any structure which is re-located by the Council under the terms of this policy, the landowner/s concerned shall be responsible for all subsequent maintenance, including replacement when necessary.

## **1.3 Fencing out Roads**

Where the landowner chooses to fence out the road reserve and remove existing public gates and grids in place as at the date of the adoption of this policy, in this instance Council will remove the existing public gates and grids free of charge and undertake all works to repair the road pavement.

## **1.4 Standards**

All works to construct and maintain the public gates and grids must comply with the requirements of the Specification of Construction of Public Gates and Grids across Public Roads. Council Standard Drawing No SD- PG 01

## **1.5 Warning signs**

Warning signs and associated measures to increase the visibility of structures across public roads shall be erected on each approach in such a position as to be readily seen from a vehicle approaching the structure. Such safety measures shall be of the materials, height, size, design, and appearance prescribed in AS1742.2. The cost of the signage will be borne by the landowner.

## **1.6 Indemnity**

The landowner shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Council from and against all claims and demands when arising through any act or omission on the part of the occupant in and about the construction, reconstruction, repairs, or failure to repair the said structure, gate/gates, fencing, or other associated items, whether arising out of any direction for the Council, or agents or otherwise. The landowner must provide Council with evidence that this is in effect on an annual basis.

## **1.7 Revoke permission**

Council at any time may revoke any permission granted under this policy for private structures on public roads and the person by whom the structure was erected or his successor in title shall, within the time specified in the notice of revocation served on them by the Council, remove the structure and warning signs displayed in connection therewith and take such steps as the Council may require ensuring the safety of persons using the road.

If this permission is revoked because of a lack of maintenance of the public gates and grids, then the landowner will be fully liable for all costs involved.

## **2 General Principles**

The installations, including the work of construction and maintenance, shall comply with the Standard Drawing No SD- PG 01 and specifications prescribed from time to time by Murrumbidgee Council, Transport for NSW (TfNSW), Australian Standards, and as in the following attachment:

*"Specification for construction of Public Gates and Grids across public roads under Council Control"*

## **3 Agreement**

An Agreement for construction of a structure across a road under Council control shall be lodged by the landowner with Council, requesting permission to construct a Public Gates and Grids and associated items or any such structure, before commencing work. The conditions relating to contributions and granting of permission by the Council are set out in a formal agreement.

Council's long term goal shall be for the fencing of all dedicated roads with a view to the ultimate elimination of ramps/grids and gates on dedicated public roads.

## 4 Public Gate Register

### 4.1 Register of Public Gates

Example:

Public Gate Permit Number: 355  
Applicants Name: A.R. GATEOWNER  
Date of Application: 6-11-2002  
Date of Advertisement: 10-1-2003  
Date of Determination: 10-2-2003  
Construction and Grid Requirements: Public Gate and Grid  
Location of Public Gate: Grid Rd 1234m from Bypass Rd  
Boundary of Lot 2 DP 123456 and Lot 5 DP 654321  
Responsible Land Parcel: Lot 2 DP 123456

## 5 Appendices

### 5.1 Standard Drawing

No SD- PG 01 of a Public Gate and Grid in Bypass Combination

Notes:

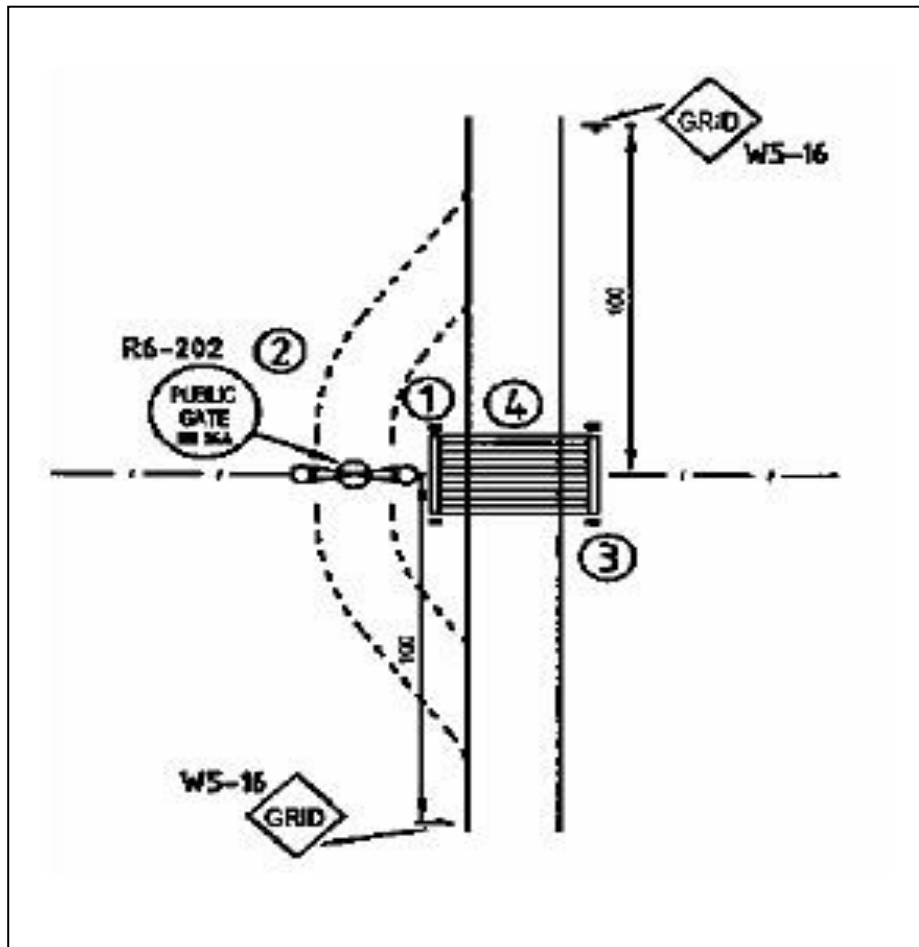
4m Concrete base measures 4.0 x 2.1 metres. Mesh sides bolt to end bar. May be joined to form 6m grid.

The **Light Grid** - 7.5 tonne per axle (W7 & T44 loadings)

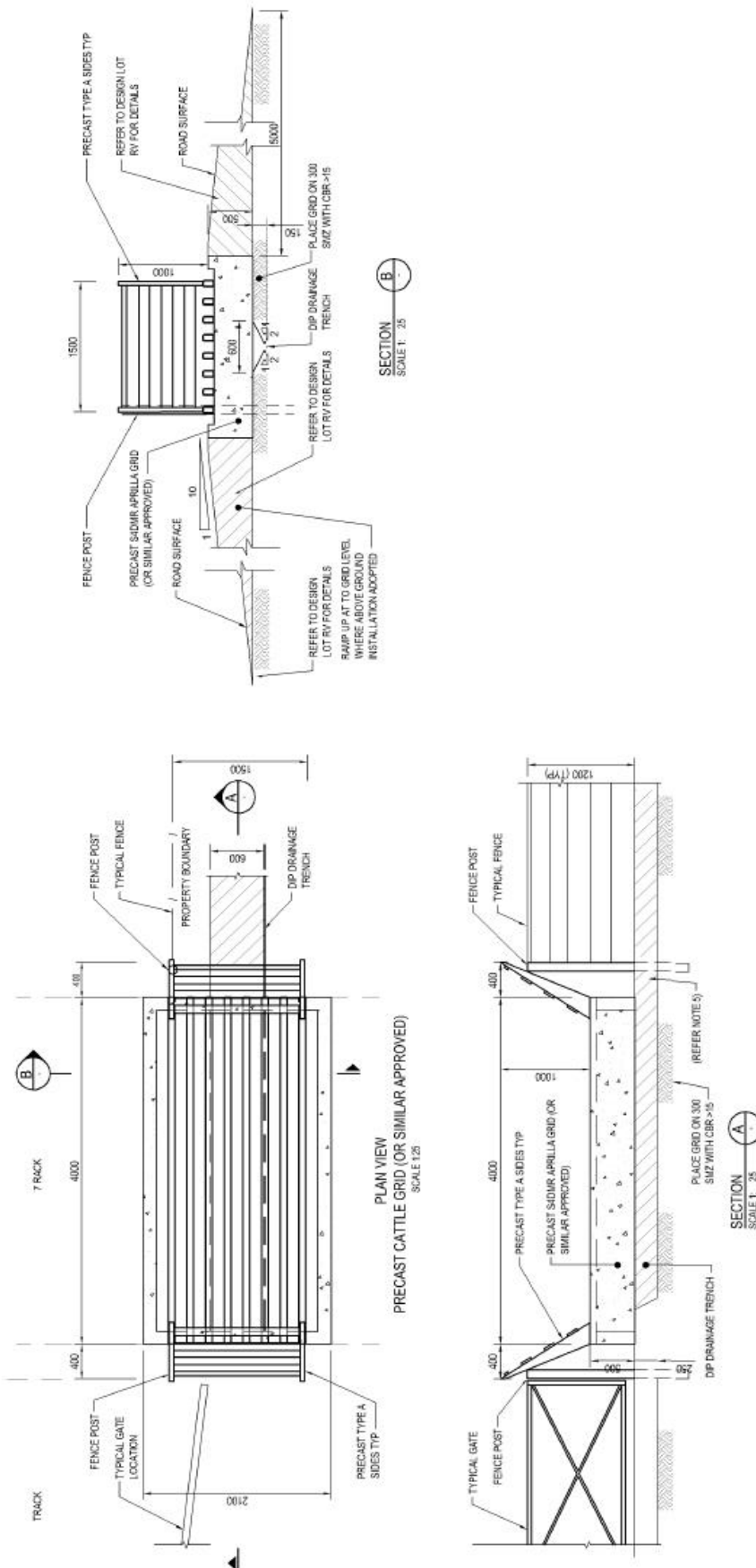
The **Medium Grid** AS 5100.02.2017 (A140) 14 tonne per axle W7 & T44

The **Heavy Grid** AS 5100.02.2017 compliant grid

- i. Public Gate to be registered and kept painted white by land owner.
- ii. All signs at land owner's cost.
- iii. Guide posts with reflectors either side (4)
- iv. Grid to be 4m wide on narrow gravel road, 6m wide on two lane gravel road and not permitted on a bitumen sealed road.







#### NOTES

1. ALIGN GRID (OR SIMILAR APPROVED PRODUCT) WITH ROAD DIRECTION AND NOT FENCE LINE.
2. ON STEEPLY SLOPING SITES, SLOPE GRID WITH SLOPE OF THE ROAD, AND FORM A DIP IN THE TRACK ON THE INSIDE TO DETECT WATER CARRYING SILT AWAY FROM GRID.
3. GRIDS CAN BE INSTALLED ABOVE GROUND OR IN-GROUND SUBJECT TO PROPERTY OWNER PREFERENCE.
4. INSTALL TO MANUFACTURERS SPECIFICATIONS.
5. DIP DRAINAGE TRENCH TO BE LOCATED ON THE LOW SIDE.
6. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETRES UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
7. FOR GENERAL NOTES SEE SHEET RE-000100.

ACCEPTED FOR CONSTRUCTION



(SAMPLE PHOTO 2 OF 2)



(SAMPLE PHOTO 1 OF 2)

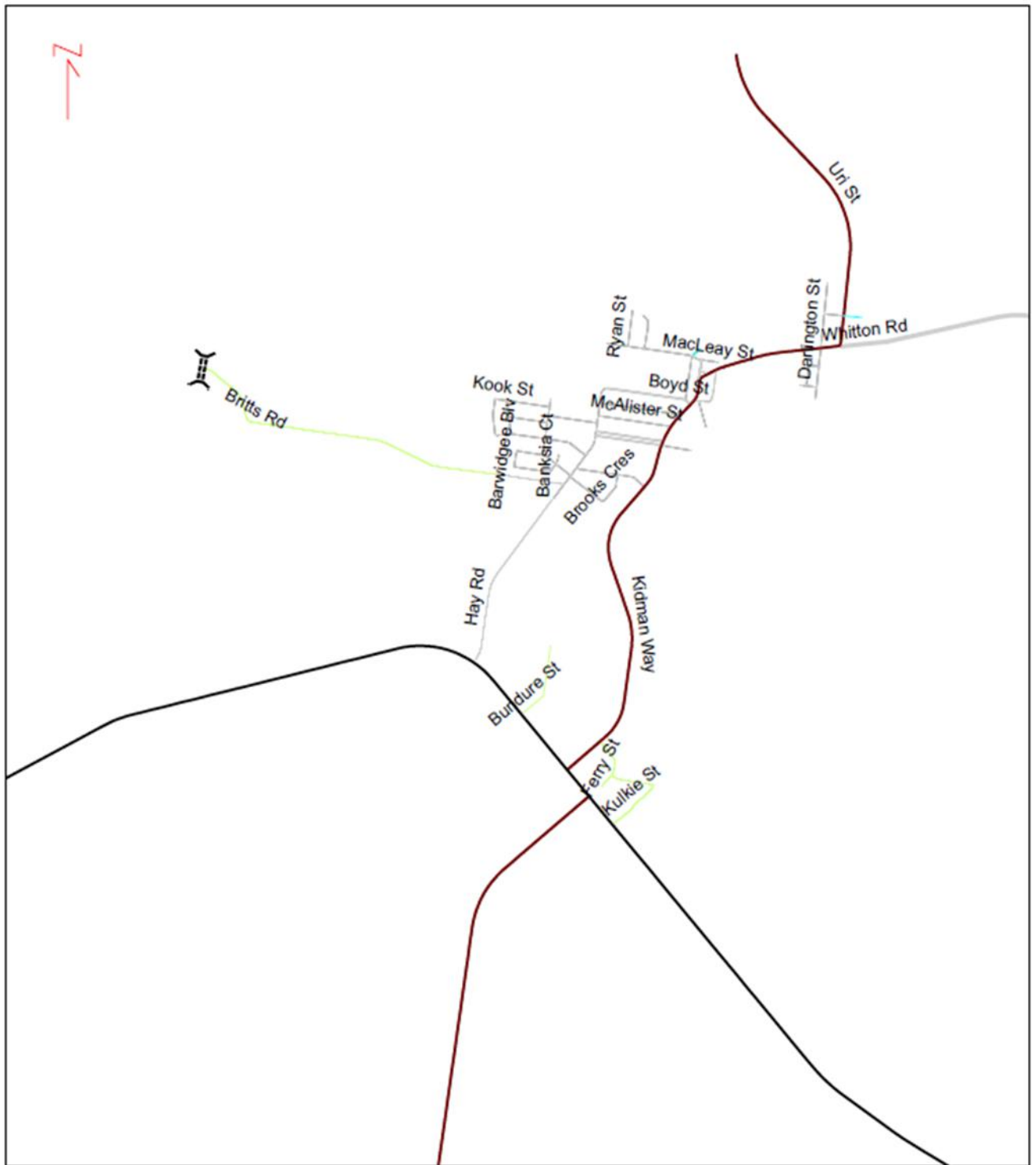


## 5.2 Current Location Rating of Grids

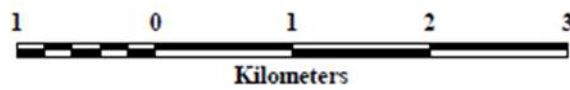
Grids	Primary Location	Length (m)	Width (m)	Comments	Condition Assessment
1	Wilson - Goolgumbla Road	8	3300	Fences on both sides South of the grid	3
2	Gum Creek Road (Sealed)	2.05	4200	No fences either side of road	5
3	Oolambeyan Road	2.2	3100	No fences on either side of the road	3
4	Oolambeyan Road	2.3	3050	Fence on northern side of the road	3
5	Oolambeyan Road	2.2	3200	Entrance to property	5
6	Oolambeyan Road	2.2	2750	Fence on southern side of road looking to move grid away from bend	3
7	Oolambeyan Road	2.3	3050	Fences on both sides	3
8	Townsend Lane - Gum Creek Road	2.55	3600	No fences northern side of road, property access	2
9	Gum Creek Road (Unsealed)	1.9	4300	No fences western side of road	4
10	Gum Creek Road (Unsealed)	2.25	3100	No fences western side of road	3
11	Britts Road	2.25	3100	No fences western side of road	3

## Current Location Rating of Grids

# Stock Grid Murrumbidgee LGA- Britt's Rd



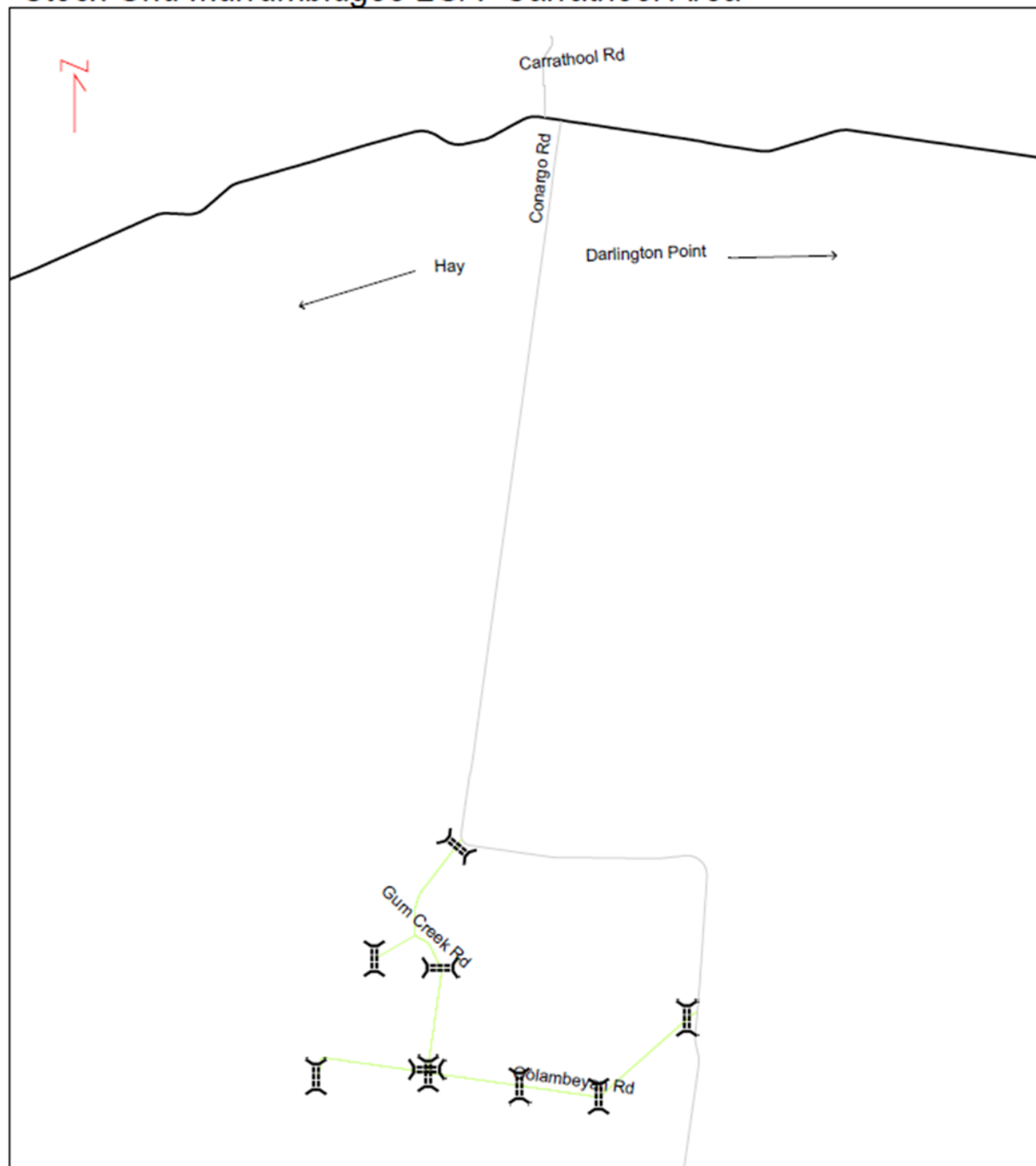
Map prepared by Stephen Goodall September 2021  
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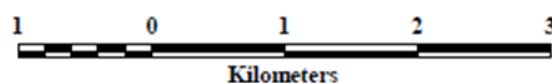
Scale: 1:50,000



# Stock Grid Murrumbidgee LGA- Carrathool Area



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Scale: 1:50,000

## Legend

-  Stock Grid
-  Unsealed Road
-  Sealed Rd
-  Highway

# Stock Grid Murrumbidgee LGA- Wilson Rd

