

CASE STUDY



ROAD NETWORKS

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

SUCCESSFULLY MANAGING VEGETATION ON HIGH RISK ROAD NETWORKS

Transport and Main Roads (TMR) have a set standard for maintenance of the vegetation throughout their road network to ensure line of sight and signage visibility for motorists is not hampered. In 2008, TMR awarded Technigro a 4 year Road Maintenance Performance Contract (RMPC) to manage all vegetation requirements for the network of roads on the western side of the M1 in their South Coast Hinterland District.

CHALLENGE

Maintaining this particular network of major roads required planning and coordination of activities on regular rotations with seasonal implications. The practices required for this type of high risk asset includes clearing, mowing, herbicide application, declared weed management and other specialist activities such as management of litter, roadside trees and integrated traffic management.

SOLUTION

Technigro undertook a site assessment process which included a vegetation and weed survey and preparation of a detailed agronomic report. Building on this, an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and site specific programs for each road were then developed and implemented. Technigro also became a TMR Registered Traffic Control Provider and implemented traffic management training for all crew members.

For weed management, new products and application methods were introduced to improve the desirable to undesirable species ratio.

Grass cutting was integrated with other aligned activities on a programmed basis to increase efficiency and improve quality of the grass cut by using appropriate equipment for varying grass types. In built up urban areas, night work was undertaken utilising quiet, electric powered equipment to reduce disruption to the public and maximise efficiency. In order to reduce the build-up of vegetation outside mowing maintenance zones,

Technigro conducted fire threat risk assessments on all network roads and developed fire threat programs to reduce fuel loads for bushfires.

RESULTS

Through integrating activities, including the application of appropriate herbicides and site specific mowing practices, Technigro was able to reduce the ongoing cost of maintenance, while significantly improving the desirable to undesirable species ratio.

The EMP promoted safe systems of work across the 4 years of the contract and enabled the completion of works with zero incidents or accidents.

OUTCOMES

- ▶ Highest possible rating across all categories in Contract Performance Report.
- ▶ ZERO incidents or accidents.
- ▶ Road verges adjacent to National Parks and vegetation reserves were maintained without negative impact.

WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS SAY:

“Transport and Main Roads have found the works and approach to the vegetation contract by Technigro over the past 4 years to be professional and enthusiastic.”

Project Manager
Queensland Department of Main Roads

CONTACT OUR HIGH RISK VEGETATION SPECIALIST

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