MANAGING PHALARIS IN THE GROUND LAYER
Phalaris in revegetation can be a management issue – ideally this should be dealt with BEFORE you plant with good site preparation in the Spring prior to planting.

If the objective of this site was to establish a high diversity of species, trees and large and small understorey, the phalaris should have been controlled across the whole site and the planting density adjusted.
If the objective was a crash graze area, then this outcome is OK, but the grazing needs to be maintained.

POOR GRAZING MANAGEMENT
Grazing too hard and long – see the damage to the trees and none of the smaller shrubs have survived.
Groundcover should be at least 70% at all times. This level of disturbance encourages weeds.

GOOD GRAZING MANAGEMENT
Crash grazing but still maintain groundcover to at least 70% (100% on slopes) and pull them out before they start to damage trees – a good balance here. Young trees need to be treated carefully for until they are at least 5 years old, or above the browse height.

STOCK TRACKING
Try and anticipate management issues in the design by fencing similar land management units together - if fencing a wet gully, put ALL the wet areas inside the fence so it can be managed the same way. Protect vulnerable crossing and traffic areas with gravel. Simple placement of timber, wing fences, even just a visual barrier can stop this happening. Once water is running down a gutter like this, some drainage work may be required to prevent more serious erosion.

SHORT-LIVED WATTLES—IS THAT A PROBLEM?
Some wattle species are short-lived—they are a coloniser plant that has evolved to grow quickly and fix soil nitrogen and make soil conditions better for other plants. They drop as much seed as they can, then the adults die. This is great for biodiversity!! Small birds love the dense undergrowth and dead branches. Manage the effects of this by trying to not plant wattles close to the fence, and use herbicide on your annual maintenance run to keep regrowth clear of the fenceline.
**Fire**

**Fire as a threat** – Design strategic breaks and separation from assets to reduce the fire risk. Position breaks to protect from stubble burning.

**Fire as a tool** - Using fire to manage weeds, pests is really only safe in mature plantations. Young trees can be easily killed. More mature trees can withstand cool fires, and may sprout again after a severe fire.

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**Weeds and Pests**

Revegetation areas as “a harbour for weeds and pests” is a self-fulfilling prophecy - If you put your revegetation areas on the bottom of the weed priority list every year, then they WILL harbour pests and weeds!

- Don’t worry too much about the annual weeds (eg. annual grasses, thistles)-- these will drop out over the first few years
- Perennial and woody weeds may need to be managed – check through every year and maintain a program.
- Pest animals need to be managed regularly – maintain annual baiting for foxes and rabbits.

- In 2008, CSIRO looked at the effects of revegetation on foxes
- Yes—there can be increases in fox activity, but the benefits to production far outweighed the impact and effective control programs were successful

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**Wombats**

Over the long term, we have made conditions drier in our gullies and flats and increased the areas suitable for wombats. There is no question that they can have an impact on infrastructure if they choose to burrow in some locations, however they are part of the ecosystem.

Contact the Department of Environment in NSW for more information about the options for wombat management http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/animals/LivingWithWombats.htm

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**Kangaroos**

Overgrazing of the groundlayer in remnant or revegetation areas by Kangaroos may be an issue for biodiversity and erosion, especially in droughts. If there is an increased risk to your site from kangaroo grazing, consult the Department of Environment about your options to manage roo numbers.

This is a revegetation area that was planted in 1999 on top of a hill in Thugga catchment. This site has developed into a fantastic biodiversity area