

28/01/2010
C129(Part 1)

SCHEDULE 1 TO THE VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **VPO1**

SIGNIFICANT ROADSIDES AND LINEAR RESERVES

1.0

19/01/2006
VC37

Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected

The vegetation subject to this schedule is:

- Remnant grassland or other significant vegetation which is classified as depleted, rare or threatened at a Statewide level.
- Habitat of Victorian rare or threatened (VROT) flora or fauna species or communities as identified in the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988.
- Vegetation connecting significant remnant habitat.
- Identified in the Selected Biodiversity Components Map, Local Government Area of the City of Greater Geelong, Natural Resource Systems Project Ref. P6285.
- Identified in the Roadside Management Manual for the former Bellarine District of the City of Greater Geelong 1994; Roadside Management Manual for the former South Barwon District of the City of Greater Geelong 1995; Remnant Vegetation Assessment of the former Corio District of the City of Greater Geelong 1993 and The Indigenous Vegetation of the South Geelong to Drysdale Railway Reservation 1995 as having high conservation value or vegetation forming significant wildlife corridors.

2.0

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Vegetation protection objective to be achieved

- To protect areas of significant indigenous vegetation.
- To maintain habitat corridors for indigenous flora and fauna.
- To ensure that all development and works minimise the loss of indigenous vegetation.

3.0

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Permit requirement

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation except where:

- The removal of vegetation is carried out in conjunction with an approved development in accordance with an endorsed plan.
- The removal of vegetation is to enable the formation of a single crossing and access driveway with a maximum width of 4.2 metres. Consultation is still required with the responsible authority to minimise the loss of significant indigenous vegetation.
- The vegetation presents an immediate risk of personal injury or damage to property including the culling of single trees within 3 metres of a dwelling or outbuilding.
- Any tree or branch of a tree impairs the access of motor vehicles along any existing or approved access track, provided that such access track has a width no greater than 4 metres.
- It is not native vegetation or listed within the incorporated document *Environmental Weeds*, City of Greater Geelong, September 2008.

An application for permit must:

- Specify the purpose for the removal of the vegetation.
- Demonstrate that the need for removal, destruction or lopping of remnant native vegetation has been reduced to the maximum extent that is reasonable and practicable.
- Be accompanied by a vegetation management plan which clearly indicates all existing vegetation on the site, the extent of vegetation removal and the species and location of flora to be removed.
- Specify proposals for revegetation following disturbance or restoration of an alternate site, including proposed species and ground stabilisation.

4.0

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Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- The vegetation protection objectives of this schedule.
- The value of the flora to be removed in terms of its habitat, landscape and environmental values, age, physical condition, rarity or variety.
- The likely effect of removal or lopping of vegetation on resident or migratory fauna.
- The need to retain trees, both live and dead, with hollows for habitat value.
- The need to retain the connectivity in a local or regional context of linear remnants.
- The purpose of removing or lopping the native vegetation and whether there are alternative options on less significant road reserves.
- Appropriate measures to prevent invasion after the development or works by environmental weeds.
- The future use of the land and whether it is appropriate to include conditions requiring planting, replanting or other treatment of the land.