NATIMUK DOUGLAS WETLANDS

Statement of environmental significance
The Natimuk-Douglas Wetlands consist of more than 30 saline and freshwater lakes. The lakes are seasonally visited by substantial numbers of migratory water birds and on this basis have been nominated as wetlands of international significance under the RAMSAR Convention. Grazing and other activities in the vicinity of the lakes have threatened plant species and habitat values.

Environmental objective to be achieved
To protect, maintain and enhance the environmental qualities of the Natimuk-Douglas Wetlands
To ensure the Natimuk Douglas Wetlands are preserved as a haven for migratory birds
To limit the impact of farming and other activities upon the Natimuk Douglas Wetlands, by encouraging the fencing of wetlands from stock
To encourage the revegetation of wetlands where appropriate, in consultation with the Department of Sustainability and Environment

Decision guidelines
Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority will consider:
- The effect of any development on botanical, zoological or geological values;
- The desirability of maintaining existing remnant vegetation;
- The desirability of excluding stock from wetlands to enhance environmental values; and
- The need to revegetate the wetland areas with appropriate indigenous plant species.
- Natural waterflows.