

19/01/2006
VC37

SCHEDULE 3 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as ESO3

WATER COURSE PROTECTION

1.0

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Statement of environmental significance

High quality natural or revegetated stream frontages are important in maintaining clean water, soil stability and diversity of flora and fauna. There are virtually no unmodified streams in the municipality and 50% of the Wimmera River frontage is rated as poor to very poor with respect to its environmental condition, as a result of the impact of grazing, weeds, pest animals and salt.

2.0

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Environmental objective to be achieved

To maintain the quality and quantity of water within the watercourse

To maintain the ability of streams and watercourses to carry natural flows

To prevent erosion of banks, streambeds, adjoining land and the siltation of watercourses, drains and other features

To protect and encourage the long term future of flora and fauna habitats along watercourses

To prevent pollution and increased turbidity of water in natural watercourses

To prevent increased surface run-off or concentration of surface water run-off leading to erosion or siltation of watercourses

To conserve existing wildlife habitats close to natural watercourses and, where appropriate, to allow for generation and regeneration of habitats

To minimise the potential damage caused to human life, buildings and property by flood waters

3.0

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Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, the responsible authority will consider:

- The possible effect of the development on the quality and quantity of water;
- The preservation of and impact on soils and the need to prevent erosion;
- The need to prevent or reduce the concentration or diversion of floodwater or stormwater;
- The conservation of natural habitats and the preservation of native fauna, fish and other marine life;
- The protection of the area for its recreation value;
- The potential for flooding to occur;
- The effect of any development on the flow of flood waters and flood control measures, and
- The proper management of the land as a floodplain.

4.0

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Referral

All applications must be referred in accordance with Section 55 of the Act to the referral authority specified in Clause 66.04 or a schedule to that clause.