

19/01/2006
VC37

SCHEDULE 3 TO THE VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as VPO3

KALKALLO GRASSLANDS

1.0

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Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected

The grassland in Kalkallo is a remnant of Plains Grassland, dominated by a number of threatened plant species, and containing a diversity of reptiles and amphibians. It contains one of the largest concentrations of Common Spadefoot Toads recorded in the area, and serves as a partial habitat link between the Merri Creek and grassland sites near Bald Hill and Craigieburn.

The grassland is significant for its diversity and environmental value in providing a habitat of regional significance.

The ability to maintain the biodiversity and durability of the grassland is dependent on retaining existing vegetation and the revegetation of disturbed areas with indigenous species.

2.0

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Vegetation protection objective to be achieved

To protect and enhance the diversity, concentration and environmental values of this site of regional significance.

3.0

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Permit requirement

A permit is required to remove native vegetation.

An application to remove native vegetation must indicate:

- The total extent of vegetation on the property and the extent of native vegetation proposed to be cleared.
- The purpose of the proposed clearing and any proposals for revegetation, including proposed species, and ground stabilisation.
- A report by a suitable qualified person which describes the vegetation and habitat significance of the site, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

4.0

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Decision guidelines

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

- The effect of the proposed removal of native vegetation on the habitat value and long term viability of remnant grasses in the vicinity.
- The significance of the native vegetation area.
- The reason for removing the vegetation and the practicality of alternative options which do not require removal of the native vegetation.

References

- Sites of Biological Significance in the Merri Corridor - An investigation.

- Sites of Faunal and Habitat Significance in North East Melbourne.
- Remnant Native Grasslands and Grassy Woodlands of the Melbourne area: An action plan for conservation based on biological values.