

19/01/2006
VC37

SCHEDULE 1 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **ESO1**.

LAKE ENVIRONS AND WETLANDS

1.0

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Statement of environmental significance

The Loddon Shire, especially the northern area centred on Boort, contains a significant and unique network of lakes and wetlands associated with the Loddon and Avoca River flood plains.

These lakes and wetlands are significant for:

- the provision of habitat and the contribution to biodiversity
- for water storage
- and, in the case of wet lands, their contribution to the improvement of water quality via filtration

The Boort Lakes, Lake Marmal, Tang Tang Swamp and Lake Yando are some of the more significant of the lakes and wetlands of the Shire. Lake Boort and Lake Marmal are being considered for inclusion of the Register of the National Estate.

These lakes and wetlands support significant fauna such as Brolgas, Ibis, Marsh Frogs and Tortoises.

2.0

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Environmental objective to be achieved

To recognise the important function and significance of existing lakes in the land pattern

To protect the visual and environmental quality and character of the lakes and their environs.

To provide for appropriate development on land adjacent to Lake Boort and Laanecoorie Reservoir, consistent with the inherent use of the area for tourist, holiday and recreational purposes, while protecting the natural beauty and amenity of the land and quality of the lakes themselves.

To maintain the function of the lakes as a flood control basin.

To protect the natural beauty of the area.

To protect the habitat provided by specific wetlands.

To protect wetlands from drainage, and from the impacts of land forming.

To protect water quality.

3.0

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Decision guidelines

The responsible authority is to give consideration to the following matters prior to making a decision on a planning permit application:

- The comments of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Parks Victoria or any other relevant authority
- The effect of any development on botanical, zoological or geological values, including the desirability of maintaining existing remnant vegetation and protecting water quality

- The desirability of excluding stock from wetlands to enhance the environmental values
- The need to revegetate the wetland areas with appropriate indigenous plant species
- The compatibility of the development with the condition of the existing natural environment