

19/01/2006  
VC37

## **SCHEDULE 1 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY**

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

### **WETLAND AND ASSOCIATED DRYLAND HABITAT PROTECTION**

#### **1.0**

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#### **Statement of environmental significance**

Areas mapped are considered significant because one or more of the following apply:

- The site contains habitat associated with wetlands and waterways of local, regional, state or national significance.
- The site is protected under an international wetland agreement.

#### **2.0**

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#### **Environmental objective to be achieved**

To protect and ensure the long term future of terrestrial and aquatic habitat for native flora and fauna.

To protect and ensure the long term future of threatened species of flora and fauna.

To maintain the physical and biological integrity and functioning of natural systems including:

- the ability of watercourses to carry natural flows.
- the maintenance of natural flooding regimes.
- the natural opening and closing of coastal wetlands and estuaries.
- the filtering of nutrients and other pollutants.
- the recharge and discharge of ground waters.

To protect water quality and prevent water pollution in watercourses, water bodies, wetlands and groundwater.

To prevent accelerated erosion and siltation or sedimentation.

To prevent further loss of wetland habitat

To protect wetlands identified in international agreements.

To encourage ecological restoration, regeneration and revegetation with indigenous species, within and adjoining habitat areas.

To protect cultural (including aboriginal and non-aboriginals heritage) values, and visual quality of habitat areas.

**3.0**19/01/2006  
VC37**Permit requirement****Vegetation**

A permit is not required to remove, destroy or lop exotic vegetation.

A permit is not required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation where:

- The vegetation is on the building side of a vertical line 2 metres from the outer edge of the roof of a building, except where an approved landscape plan or site plan specifies the retention of the vegetation.
- The vegetation is listed as an environmental weed in Table 1 of Clause 22.01.
- The vegetation removal is in accordance with an approved Whole Farm Plan.
- The vegetation is grass or pasture to be removed in association with the use of the land for agriculture and is more than 30 metres from a waterway.

**Referral of application**

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.

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VC37**Decision guidelines**

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

- Any comments by the Department of Sustainability and Environment.
- Existing use of land and the reason for the development in relation to that use.
- The availability of alternative land suitable for the proposed development outside the overlay area.
- Whether all sewage, sullage and other wastes will be treated and disposed of in a manner that will not be detrimental to habitats and natural systems, where connection to a reticulated sewage system is not available.
- Possible effect of the proposal on water quality and quantity.
- Potential threats to the quality, life cycle processes or functioning of aquatic and terrestrial habitats.
- Potential impacts on soils and salinity and the need to prevent erosion.
- The potential to contribute to the spread of noxious weeds or pest plants.
- The compatibility of the proposed development with potential drainage or flooding hazards.
- Potential effects of the proposal on the flow of flood waters and on flood control measures.
- The function of the wetland, watercourse or habitat area as part of a broader natural system.
- The need for measures to control erosion and sedimentation during construction works and/or associated with the proposed use.

- The need for ecological restoration works, fencing or revegetation using indigenous species.
- The need to ensure that buildings or works do not disturb known sites of Aboriginal heritage or areas likely to contain Aboriginal heritage or archaeological sites
- Where native vegetation is to be removed, the reasons for removal, and the practicality of other options which do not require removal of native vegetation.
- The need for the conditions on the permit to minimise the detrimental impact of the development on the hydrological regime, water quality, flora or fauna habitat, or scenic, cultural heritage or recreational values.
- The need for an agreement under the Act with the land owner or a conservation covenant on title to protect significant habitat and whether this should be a condition of the permit.
- Any relevant Department of Sustainability and Environment Action Statements for endangered species and communities and threatening process.
- Any endorsed management plan.
- Department of Sustainability and Environment Biodiversity Map.
- The *Thompsons Creek Catchment Plan* (1998).