

21.04 ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

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C75

This Clause provides local content to support Clause 13 Environmental Risks and Amenity of the State Planning Policy Framework.

21.04-1 Floodplains

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Context and issues

- Flooding is a major land use issue in the municipality, which has the major floodplain systems of the Ovens River and King River.

Objectives and strategies

Objective 1 To recognise and protect the natural functions of floodplains.

Strategy 1.1 Avoid subdivision, buildings and works in floodplains.

Strategy 1.2 Recognise flood hazards.

Strategy 1.3 Require land use and development within the Ovens Rural Floodplain to incorporate flood mitigation measures.

Implementation

Policy Guidelines

- Ensure all land use and development proposals within the Ovens Rural Floodplain have regard to the recommendations and mitigation measures contained within the *Flood Study and Preparation of a Floodplain Management Plan for the Ovens Floodplain Between Whorouly and Wangaratta Report, July 2003* when assessing proposals within the Ovens River Floodplain.

Further strategic work

- In conjunction with the natural resource management agencies, continue to upgrade natural resource and hazard mapping and planning controls in the planning scheme.
- In conjunction with the North East Catchment Management Authority, undertake further flood studies to inform future flood management plans for the Ovens Rural Floodplain area.
- Encourage Goulburn-Murray Water, the North East Region Water Corporation and the Environment Protection Authority to monitor groundwater, particularly in the rural townships of Milawa and Oxley.

21.04-2 Soil degradation

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Context and issues

- Salinity, acid soils and erosion are issues in the municipality.

Objectives and strategies

Objective 1 To avoid degradation of environmental and agricultural values.

Strategy 1.1 Protect environmental and agricultural values from degradation by erosion.

Strategy 1.2 Avoid degradation of environmental or agricultural values caused by salinity and acidity.

Strategy 1.3 Support activities that deal with degradation of the environmental and agricultural value of land.

21.04-3

Bushfire

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Context and issues

- Bushfire is a risk within the municipality, particularly in areas located on the outskirts of Rural Townships and Rural Settlements, consistent with a highly vegetated natural environment.

Objectives and strategies

Objective 1 Mitigate the risk of Bushfire

Strategy 1.1 Avoid development in areas with high bushfire risk.

Strategy 1.2 Apply the Bushfire Management Overlay to areas that are identified as high bushfire hazard and risk (and meet the criteria for mapping the BMO).

Objective 2 Recognize the value of the vegetation and the natural environment in areas of bushfire risk

Strategy 2.1 Minimise buildings works and development that requires clearing of native vegetation to achieve the required bushfire attack levels (BAL) for the class of construction.

Strategy 2.2 Use design techniques that minimize clearing of native vegetation to establish defensible space distances.

Implementation

Policy Guidelines

- Apply design techniques (for example perimeter roads, vegetation selection and management, appropriate BAL construction standards) to reduce potential impact of bushfire hazard and risk.