

02/02/2017  
C69**SCHEDULE 2 TO THE VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY**

Shown on the planning scheme map as **VPO2**.

**ROADSIDE VEGETATION OF CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANCE****1.0**02/02/2017  
C69**Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected**

The municipality has several distinct biogeographical regions (bioregions) that contain more than 20 different vegetation types or communities: known as Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs). In particular, several EVCs are listed as 'high priority for protection and management' by the North East Catchment Management Authority and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. Some of these areas are located along roadsides (used or unused), and may also be important habitat for rare, threatened or endangered fauna species. Roadside vegetation also contributes to the quality of travel and tourism experiences and towards the appeal of the visual and natural environment of the area.

**2.0**02/02/2017  
C69**Vegetation protection objectives to be achieved**

- To protect and preserve roadside native vegetation of 'high conservation' significance identified in the *Rural City of Wangaratta Roadside Conservation Management Plan 2014*.
- Maintain and enhance flora and fauna habitat corridors.

**3.0**02/02/2017  
C69**Permit requirement**

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation on land designated by this overlay. This does not apply to:

- the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation necessary for the erection of a lawful sign by VicRoads or Council.
- the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation necessary for works intending to maintain or improve the significance of the area as a flora and/or fauna conservation site by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning or local LandCare Group.
- the trimming or lopping of vegetation to the minimum extent necessary for the purpose of maintaining an existing boundary fence adjoining a road reserve subject to authorisation from the relevant public land manager.
- the trimming or lopping of vegetation to the minimum extent necessary to safely maintain an existing vehicle access to a property boundary from a public road, subject to authorisation from the relevant public land manager.
- The trimming, lopping or removal of vegetation to the minimum extent necessary for the purpose of maintaining water supply and sewerage infrastructure by North East Water.

**4.0**02/02/2017  
C69**Application requirements**

An application to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation must:

- Indicate the purpose and total extent of all proposed works.
- Demonstrate that the need for works has been reduced to the minimum extent that is reasonable and practicable given the circumstances of the proposed works.

**5.0**

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**Comments on applications**

Any application to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation may be forwarded to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning for comment.

**6.0**

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**Decision guidelines**

Before deciding on a permit application, Council must consider as appropriate:

- The Rural City of Wangaratta Roadside Conservation Management Plan 2014.
- Any alternative ways of carrying out the proposed works that would nullify or reduce impacts.
- The need for replacement compensatory planting and the most appropriate way of implementation.
- The landscape, recreational and amenity values of the vegetation.
- The need to protect vegetation from damage and disturbance by mowing, burning, grazing, droving, cultivation, spraying, grading, road formation and drainage works.
- Pest plant and animal control.
- Maintaining sight distance and clearance to fixed objects for road or rail safety.
- Any relevant fire management plan.
- Any comments of the Department of Environment, Land, Water, and Planning.

**7.0**

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**Policy reference**

*Rural City of Wangaratta Roadside Conservation Management Plan 2014.*