

01/10/2015  
C71**SCHEDULE 1 TO THE VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY**

Shown on the planning scheme map as **VPO1**.

**PLENTY RIVER EAST AREA****1.0**01/10/2015  
C71**Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected**

This area contains developed and developing urban areas which have significant natural, habitat and environmental qualities. In recent studies the area has been identified as including areas of state, regional and local faunal and habitat significance. It includes predominantly residential areas supporting substantial remnants of indigenous vegetation of at least local conservation significance, providing habitat for a variety of native birds and arboreal mammals threatened with local extinction. The native vegetation is also recognised as a major contributor to the landscape of the area, its distinctive local character and visual amenity.

The continued viability of the area as a significant environmental resource is under threat from the continued urban development of the area. Many areas of vegetation have been lost or radically altered, despite tree protection covenants in the most recently subdivided areas. The remaining areas of native vegetation have become increasingly fragmented and their habitat value is threatened. Accordingly the protection of the native vegetation and maintenance and enhancement of the habitat for indigenous fauna are of vital importance.

**2.0**19/01/2006  
VC37**Vegetation protection objective to be achieved**

- To conserve the existing pattern of vegetation, landscape quality and ecosystems within the area.
- To address the threatening processes associated with widespread habitat loss and degradation that has occurred in North East Melbourne.
- To protect the area as a habitat for local fauna and as an important habitat link.
- To promote the retention of existing indigenous vegetation wherever possible.
- To ensure that the development, use and management of land is compatible with the existing character and landscape conservation of the area.

**3.0**01/10/2015  
C71**Permit requirement**

A permit is required to remove destroy or lop any native vegetation.

This does not apply:

- To the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation which has been planted for garden or horticultural purposes and which is less than 5 metres high and has a single trunk circumference of less than 0.5 metres at a height of 1 metre above ground level.
- To the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation identified as environmental weed species in *Banyule Weed Management Strategy 2006*
- To the removal or pruning of street trees in accordance with the *Banyule Street Tree Strategy*.
- To the pruning of vegetation to maintain or improve its health, structure or appearance, including regeneration.

- To the pruning or removal of vegetation to prevent damage to works when damage to a pipeline, electricity or telephone transmission line, cable or other service has occurred or is likely to occur.
- To the removal, destruction or lopping of dead vegetation unless the dead vegetation is a habitat tree containing hollows.
- To the pruning, removal or destruction of any vegetation where an agreement exists between a railway carrier and the Department of Sustainability and Environment, or where the pruning, removal or destruction of vegetation is the minimum amount necessary to provide for the safe operation of the rail service for the safety of the travelling public.
- To the removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation carried out in accordance with a management plan prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

*Note: Lopping is defined as the practice of cutting branches or stems between branch unions or internodes.*

*Environmental weed species listed in Schedule 4 to the Environmental Significance Overlay will require a permit under that provision.*

#### **4.0 Decision guidelines**

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Before deciding on an application to remove, destroy or lop any native vegetation, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- Any report on the value or otherwise of the specified vegetation including
  - *An Inventory of Sites of Environmental Significance in the City of Banyule and Adjoining Areas.* Banyule City Council, September 1995,
  - *Sites of Faunal and Habitat Significance in North East Melbourne.* Cam Beardsell, 1997
  - *Wildlife Corridor Program.* Banyule City Council, 2000
  - *Banyule Weed Management Strategy 2006.*
- The benefits of retaining a buffer strip of vegetation within specified distances of watercourses, roads and property boundaries.
- Whether the application includes a landscape plan or agreement to replace areas of vegetation on the land.
- The value of the vegetation to the visual amenity of the area.

#### **5.0 Reference documents**

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*An Inventory of Sites of Environmental Significance in the City of Banyule and Adjoining Areas.* Banyule City Council, September 1995.

*Sites of Faunal and Habitat Significance in North East Melbourne* ,Cam Beardsell, 1997.

*Wildlife Corridor Program*, Banyule City Council, 2000.

*Banyule Weed Management Strategy 2006.*