

23/09/2010
C89(Part 1)

SCHEDULE 5 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **ESO5**.

PROTECTION OF REMNANT VEGETATION

1.0

Statement of environmental significance

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Within the City of Greater Bendigo there are a number of significant native flora and fauna habitat areas of geological and natural importance on private properties.

Many of these sites contain depleted native species (under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988), rare and vulnerable species within Australia and Victoria, excellent species diversity, shallow gully lines, and excellent connectivity to reserves, National and Regional Parks, vegetation corridors and other public land.

2.0

Environmental objective to be achieved

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To protect, conserve and enhance natural resources and the biodiversity of the area, in particular remnant vegetation.

To protect and enhance geological and natural interest areas of flora and fauna habitat.

To encourage development of land which is consistent with sustainable land management, and which takes into account the conservation values and environmental sensitivity of the locality.

To ensure that development does not impact on the environmental significance of the land.

3.0

Permit requirement

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A permit is not required to remove, destroy or lop vegetation, including dead vegetation, which is not native to Victoria.

4.0

Referral/Comment

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Any application 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.

A referral agreement between the responsible authority and the referral authority may be in place that may affect the above requirement.

5.0

Application requirements

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An application must be accompanied by the following information, as appropriate:

- A description of the native vegetation on and adjacent to the site.
- The location, extent and purpose of any native vegetation to be removed, destroyed or lopped.
- An assessment of how any native vegetation to be removed, destroyed or lopped meets *Victoria's Native Vegetation Management - a Framework for Action* (2002) and how the three step approach has been applied.

6.0

Decision guidelines

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

- The conservation status, significance, quality, rarity and diversity of the native vegetation and the impact of its removal, destruction or lopping.
- Whether the native vegetation contributes to the character and appearance of the landscape.
- The impact of the development on the native vegetation, biodiversity, soil, water, air, ecosystems, and aesthetic values of the area.
- The capability of the land to accommodate the proposed development.
- How the proposal has minimised potential adverse impacts of siting, design on landscape features and biodiversity values.
- Whether the siting of buildings or infrastructure may cause demands in the future for vegetation removal or tree lopping.
- The location and design of existing and proposed infrastructure services.
- Whether the proposal includes any revegetation, which contributes to the development of linkages between existing native vegetation.
- Whether the proposal will cause weed invasion of the area.