

25/09/2014
C190**SCHEDULE 2 TO THE VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY**

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

SIGNIFICANT VEGETATION**1.0**19/01/2006
VC37**Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected**

The vegetation of the City of Greater Bendigo has been extensively cleared due to European settlement, agricultural land uses and exploitation of forests during the gold-rush era. The remaining vegetation is significant for its diversity and environmental value in providing habitat areas of state, national and international significance. In particular, large areas of remnant and regrowth box-ironbark forests surround Bendigo and Heathcote.

Extensive areas remain in public ownership in the Whipstick and Kamarooka State Parks, One Tree Hill and Eaglehawk Regional Parks, Maiden Gully, Marong, Wellsford and Mandurang State Forests, Diamond Hill Historic Reserve and various flora, fauna and bushland reserves. However, important tracts of forest are also in private ownership and subject to development pressures.

Remnant vegetation often contains mature trees and/or trees with hollows which are rare in this area and vital for fauna conservation.

Remnant vegetation is a key feature of Bendigo's landscapes and the scenic recreational value for local and regional communities.

Retaining vegetation is also critical to catchment management in terms of both surface and ground water quality, the control of salinisation, acidity and waterlogging and prevention of erosion.

2.019/01/2006
VC37**Vegetation protection objective to be achieved**

To protect remnant native vegetation and habitat, including understorey, and facilitate natural revegetation.

To promote the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity.

To encourage maintenance and development of linkages between existing remnant vegetation.

To recognise the catchment-wide land and water management benefits resulting from vegetation retention.

To maintain and enhance Bendigo's scenic and recreational landscape assets.

3.025/09/2014
C190**Permit requirements**

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

This does not apply to:

- Vegetation which is not native vegetation.
- The removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation, the minimum extent necessary, for works undertaken by or on behalf of VicRoads required for construction of the new Calder Highway between Faraday and Ravenswood on land within a Road Zone, Category 1 or covered by a Public Acquisition Overlay.

- A permit is not required for the removal of vegetation in accordance with an approved Atisha Comprehensive Development Plan, Atisha Centre Development Plan and Environmental Management Plan.
- For the removal, destruction or lopping of all vegetation including trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses, to the minimum extent necessary for works undertaken by or on behalf of Coliban Water required for the construction of the Goldfields Superpipe Project in accordance with the approved Project Impact Assessment, the Environmental Management Plan and the native vegetation offset plan approved by the Secretary of the Department of Sustainability and Environment.
- For the removal, destruction or lopping of all vegetation including trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses, to the minimum extent necessary for works undertaken by or on behalf of Central Highlands Water required for the construction of the Goldfields Superpipe Project in accordance with the Project Impact Assessment and Environmental Management Plan approved by the Secretary of the Department of Sustainability and Environment and the native vegetation offset plan approved by the Minister for Environment.
- The removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation in accordance with the *Native Vegetation Precinct Plan for land at 244 Edwards Road, Maiden Gully*, June 2014.

4.0 Application requirements

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An application to remove native vegetation must:

- Indicate the total extent of native vegetation on the site and adjacent to the site, the extent of proposed clearing on the site, the location of any river, stream, watercourse, wetland or channel on the site, and if relevant, the location of areas with a slope exceeding 25%.
- Explain the purpose of the proposed clearing.
- Demonstrate that the need for removal, destruction or lopping of remnant native vegetation has been reduced to the maximum extent that is reasonable and practicable.
- Specify proposals for revegetation following disturbance or restoration of an alternate site, including proposed species and ground stabilisation.
- If the area of proposed clearing exceeds 0.4 ha. A report on the vegetation and habitat significance of the area to be cleared, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority and the Department of Environment and Primary Industries.

5.0 Notice requirement

30/10/2008
C107

Before deciding on an application, notice must be given under section 52(1)(c) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to the person or body specified as a person or body to be notified in Clause 66.06 or a schedule to that clause.

6.0 Decision guidelines

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

- The need to retain remnant vegetation and conserve flora and fauna habitats including habitat corridors and biolinks.
- The significance of the vegetation in terms of physical condition, rarity and variety.
- The purpose of removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation and alternative ways of carrying out development on the site.

- The effect of removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation on resident and migratory fauna and the need to retain trees (live and dead) with hollows for habitat value.
- Impacts on soil, water, flora, fauna, air and ecosystems.
- The future use of the land and whether it is appropriate to include conditions requiring planting, replanting or other treatment of any part of the site.
- Any comments from the Department of Environment and Primary Industries.