

19/01/2006
VC37

SCHEDULE 2 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as ESO2

NATIMUK DOUGLAS WETLANDS

1.0

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Statement of environmental significance

The Natimuk-Douglas Wetlands consist of more than 30 saline and freshwater lakes. The lakes are seasonally visited by substantial numbers of migratory water birds and on this basis have been nominated as wetlands of international significance under the RAMSAR Convention. Grazing and other activities in the vicinity of the lakes have threatened plant species and habitat values.

2.0

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Environmental objective to be achieved

To protect, maintain and enhance the environmental qualities of the Natimuk-Douglas Wetlands

To ensure the Natimuk Douglas Wetlands are preserved as a haven for migratory birds

To limit the impact of farming and other activities upon the Natimuk Douglas Wetlands, by encouraging the fencing of wetlands from stock

To encourage the revegetation of wetlands where appropriate, in consultation with the Department of Sustainability and Environment

3.0

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Decision guidelines

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

- The effect of any development on botanical, zoological or geological values;
- The desirability of maintaining existing remnant vegetation;
- The desirability of excluding stock from wetlands to enhance environmental values; and
- The need to revegetate the wetland areas with appropriate indigenous plant species.
- Natural waterflows.