

30/05/2013
C71**SCHEDULE 1 TO THE SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPE OVERLAY**

Shown on the planning scheme map as **SLO1**

NINETY MILE BEACH**1.0****Statement of nature and key elements of landscape**30/05/2013
C71

Ninety Mile Beach is the longest stretch of uninterrupted beach in the country and the second longest in the world. This unparalleled linear landscape with its combination of sandy beaches, low dunes, peninsulas, and wetlands is set against the wild seas of Bass Strait, is visually of State significance, and potentially of national significance in that context.

Ninety Mile Beach is protected by a series of official designations - National Park, Wildlife Reserve, and Coastal Park - that recognise the remarkable ecological and scenic values of this area. The landscape is characterised by large swathes of indigenous vegetation including coastal heath, mangroves, and dune grasses, and there are vast ocean views along its entirety.

Ninety Mile Beach is listed by the National Trust as regionally significant, as part of the Gippsland Lakes region. Due to its iconic landscape features and extent, Ninety Mile Beach is an international visitor destination, featuring strongly in Victoria's tourism promotion. Lake Reeve is a bird habitat of international importance that is recognised under the Ramsar Convention, and the area includes Rotamah Island, a bird observatory managed by the Royal Australian Ornithologists Union. The area is also important for its Aboriginal cultural heritage significance, the dunal systems still containing many remnants and evidence of indigenous settlements.

2.0**Landscape character objective to be achieved**30/05/2013
C71

To strengthen and protect indigenous coastal vegetation and ensure that it is the dominant feature of the landscape at the coastal edge.

To protect locally significant views and vistas, including natural and unbuilt views along Ninety Mile Beach.

To ensure that development in and around existing settlements does not impact on the characteristics of the landscape, including the natural and unbuilt character along Ninety Mile Beach.

To reduce the visual impact of buildings and structures at the coastal edges of large settlements.

To minimise any increase in development visible above the dunes and coastal vegetation outside settlements, when viewed from the beach, foreshore or offshore.

To avoid buildings set high on dunes or development that will be visible on the skyline.

To minimise the visual impact of signage and infrastructure adjacent to Ninety Mile Beach or in areas of high visibility.

To protect landscape character and attributes that are consistent with the Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the area.

To recognise, and protect, the landscape of the Ninety Mile Beach as a place of significant Aboriginal cultural heritage value.

3.0**Permit requirement**30/05/2013
C71

A permit is required for all buildings and works, except farm access tracks.

A permit is required to construct a fence other than timber post and wire fencing up to a height of 1.5 metres.

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

4.0

30/05/2013
C71

Decision guidelines

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

- Whether the proposal includes the use of indigenous vegetation in favour of exotic for all landscaping works in this area.
- Whether the contrast between the landscape and the proposed development is minimised for any proposal within 500 metres of important scenic lookouts.
- The cumulative impact of developments visible from all key viewing corridors (e.g. touring routes, highways) and scenic lookouts on the natural landscape character of these views, and the availability of scenic views to the ocean, or lakes.
- Whether the visual intrusion of development is minimised by utilising low scale building forms, tucked into the landscape with colours and materials that reduce contrast and distant visibility.
- Whether buildings are sited within existing settlements wherever possible. Where buildings cannot be avoided outside settlements, whether the proposed development is inappropriately located too close to a main road or key touring route.
- Whether the visibility of proposed buildings or structures is minimised from the foreshore on the Bass Strait coast by setting new development back from the coast and natural coastal landforms. Where development within the coastal strip cannot be prevented, whether the proposal:
 - is sited on the inland slope of dunes (avoid buildings protruding above the dune ridgeline);
 - is set among existing vegetation, maximising the retention of coastal vegetation;
 - utilises appropriate indigenous vegetation to further integrate the development with the landscape;
 - is designed to follow the contours or step down the site and avoid visually dominant elevations;
 - minimises overlooking of the foreshore; and
 - avoids access in highly visible or undisturbed areas.

5.0

30/05/2013
C71

Reference Documents

State Overview Report, *Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study* (Planisphere, 2006)

Wellington Shire Municipal Reference Document, *Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study* (Planisphere, 2006).

The Siting and Design Guidelines for Structures on the Victorian Coast (Victorian Coastal Council, 1998).