19/01/2006 VC37

SCHEDULE 2 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as ESO2

CRAIGIEBURN GRASSLANDS

1.0 19/01/2006 VC37

Statement of environmental significance

The Craigieburn Grasslands are of National significance for flora and fauna conservation (Conservation Assessment for Craigieburn Grasslands, Craigieburn, Victoria P Peake, D Frood, G Carr, A Muir, L Ward and C Beardsell 1996). The main factor leading to the overall assessment is the size and continuity of the site with respect to its many significant botanical and zoological features.

The grasslands support nine vegetation communities including; Plains Grassland, Pasture, Stony Knoll Grassland, Escarpment Shrubland, Weedy Sward, Riparian Scrub, Grey-clay Drainage-line Complex, Grassy Wetland, Stony Knoll Wetland and an extensive range of fauna.

2.0 19/01/2006 VC37

Environmental objective to be achieved

To provide for the long term preservation of the flora and fauna of the Craigieburn Grasslands, an area of national significance. Management practices for the land aim to achieve the following:

- Maintain the environmental and rural character.
- Minimise adverse effects on the grasslands habitat and fauna corridors.
- Any development to be in keeping with the preservation of grasslands of national significance.
- Conserve and restore natural patterns of vegetation, landscape quality and remaining natural ecosystems.
- Conserve soil resources.
- Conserve indigenous flora and fauna.
- Conserve water quality and watercourse capacity.
- Minimise fire risk.
- Preserve sites of aboriginal and cultural heritage and scientific significance.

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Permit requirement

No permit is required to remove, destroy or lop vegetation, which is not native vegetation.

No permit is required for works associated with a road within a Road Zone, Category 1 required for the Hume Freeway between the Metropolitan Ring Road and the Hume Highway north of Craigieburn.

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Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application to use or subdivide land, construct a building or construct or carry out works the responsible authority must consider the purpose and decision guidelines of the relevant underling zone.

WHITTLESEA PLANNING SCHEME

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

- The conservation and enhancement of the area including visual amenity.
- Preservation of, and impact on the natural environment and the need to prevent erosion.
- The preservation and protection of significant vegetation.
- The management of vegetation to minimise fire hazard.