

19/01/2006
VC37

SCHEDULE 2 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as ESO2.

BECKETT PARK ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE AREA

1.0

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Statement of environmental significance

Much of the near eastern suburbs of Melbourne once supported a grassy woodland which included *Eucalyptus melliodora* as a characteristic co-dominant. There are no intact stands of this vegetation type remaining, although similar woodlands still occur at the Watsonia Military area. The open canopy included *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, above an open shrub layer in which various *Acacia* species were common. The field layer was apparently dominated by various grasses. This site is a disturbed remnant of that field layer. Scattered *E. camaldulensis* occur at the site, though many trees have been removed and the former shrubs are now uncommon.

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Environmental objectives to be achieved

- To encourage the conservation and enhancement of the characteristic vegetation type.
- To prevent inappropriate siting of buildings and works.
- To encourage the use of the area for education purposes.

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Permit requirement

A permit is not required to construct or carry out any of the following:

- Buildings or works shown in an incorporated plan which applies to the land.
- Works carried out by or behalf of a public land manager under the Local Government Act 1989, the Reference Areas Act 1978, the National Parks Act 1975, the Fisheries Act 1995 and the Forests Act 1958.
- Works carried out by or on behalf of Melbourne Parks and Waterways under the Water Industry Act 1994, the Water Act 1989 and the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978.
- Works carried out by the floodplain management authority.
- Routine repairs or maintenance to existing buildings or works. This does not include increasing the height of a levee bank, embankment or road.
- Post and wire and rural type fencing.
- Underground sewerage, water and gas mains, oil pipelines, underground telephone lines and underground power lines provided they do not alter the topography of the land and are in accordance with plans prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.
- A television or radio antenna.
- A chimney, flue pipe or cooling or heating appliance.
- Telephone or power lines provided they do not involve the construction of towers or poles.

A permit is not required to remove, destroy or lop any of the following vegetation:

- A tree with a trunk circumference of less than 0.35 metre at a height of one metre above the ground level and which is less than 6 metres high.
- Pruning (including vegetation overhanging a dwelling or within 2 metres of a dwelling).
- Pruning a tree to assist its regeneration.
- Removal, destruction or lopping to prevent damage to service infrastructure in the opinion of the responsible authority.

- Removal of environmental weeds.
- The pruning or removal of a tree or root pruning to prevent damage to works when in the opinion of the responsible authority damage to a pipeline, electricity or telephone transmission line cable or other service has occurred or is likely to occur.

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Decision guidelines

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

- The existing development of the area.
- The effect of any potential development or vegetation removal on the natural ecosystems of the area, including the need to retain native vegetation which has flora value or value for fauna habitat.
- The effect of any potential development or vegetation removal on pest plant infestations and pest animal populations.
- The preservation of, and impact on, the natural environment and ecosystems and the need to prevent erosion of the land.
- The management of vegetation to minimise fire hazard.
- The need to retain a buffer strip of vegetation within a specified distance of roads, property boundaries and adjoining parkland.
- The need for planting, replanting, removal of weeds or other treatment of any part of the land, including the need for planting with native or indigenous species.
- Any proposed landscape plan or agreement to replant areas of vegetation on the site.

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Reference documents

Department of Conservation and Environment, 1990 "Remnant Native Grasslands and Grassy Woodlands of the Melbourne Area"

Sites of Faunal and Habitat Significance in North East Melbourne, Cam Beardsell, 1997

City of Boroondara Open Space Policy 1996

Carr, J Yugovic and K. Robinson, 1992, 'Environmental Weed Invasions in Victoria' Department of Conservation and Environment and Ecological Horticulture Pty Ltd, Melbourne