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SCHEDULE 2 TO THE VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as VPO2.

BIOLINK CORRIDOR – ROADSIDE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

1.0

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Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected

The Hindmarsh Shire contains many high conservation roads which together form an extensive ‘Biolink’ corridor between the Big and Little Deserts. The roadsides support various rare, threatened and locally uncommon plants, including the Hairy Pod Wattle (*Acacia glandulicarpa*) and Jumping Jack Wattle (*Acacia enterocarpa*). Between 1998 and 2002 many of the gaps in this Biolink corridor were revegetated under ‘Project Hindmarsh’ and the ‘Biolink Project’.

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Vegetation protection objective to be achieved

- To identify and protect native vegetation communities, rare and uncommon plants and native grasses along roadsides.
- To maintain habitat corridors for indigenous fauna.
- To continue to manage weed and rabbit infestations on all roads/roadside reserves.

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Permit requirement

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation. An application for this purpose should:

- Specify the reason why the vegetation concerned should be removed, destroyed or lopped.
- Demonstrate that the need for removal, destruction or lopping of the vegetation concerned has been reduced to the maximum extent that is reasonable and practicable.
- Specify revegetation proposals.

A permit is required to slash, cultivate, burn, graze or undertake any related works on all roadsides.

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Decision guidelines

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

- The value of the vegetation in terms of physical condition, rarity or variety.
- The purpose of removing, destructing or lopping the vegetation concerned, and whether there are alternative options.
- The likely effect of removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation on resident and migratory fauna.
- The need to maintain the connectivity in a local or regional context of linear remnants and biolinks.
- A permit to cultivate ‘fire breaks’ will not be issued for high or medium conservation value roads / roadside reserves.
- A permit for grazing will not be issued for high or medium conservation value roads / roadside reserves.
- Whether it is appropriate to include conditions requiring planting, replanting or other treatment of any part of the land as a condition of the approval.

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Reference Documents

West Wimmera Roadside Vegetation Inventory and Management Plan.

HINDMARSH PLANNING SCHEME

Hindmarsh Roadside Management Handbook.

Municipal Strategic Fire Prevention Plan.

Native Vegetation Management Frameworks.

Western Highway Roadside Management Plan.