

25/09/2014
C190

SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 42.02 VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **VPO2**.

SIGNIFICANT VEGETATION

1.0
11/01/2024
C247gben

Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected

The vegetation of the City of Greater Bendigo has been extensively cleared due to European settlement, agricultural land uses and exploitation of forests during the gold-rush era. The remaining native vegetation is significant for its diversity and environmental value in providing habitat areas of state, national and international significance. In particular, large areas of remnant and regrowth box-ironbark forests surround Bendigo and Heathcote.

Extensive areas remain in public ownership in the Whipstick and Kamarooka State Parks, One Tree Hill and Eaglehawk Regional Parks, Maiden Gully, Marong, Wellsford and Mandurang State Forests, Diamond Hill Historic Reserve and various flora, fauna and bushland reserves. However, important tracts of forest are also in private ownership and subject to development pressures.

Remnant native vegetation often contains mature trees and/or trees with hollows which are rare in this area and vital for fauna conservation.

Remnant native vegetation is a key feature of Bendigo's landscapes and the scenic recreational value for local and regional communities.

Retaining native vegetation is also critical to catchment management in terms of both surface and ground water quality, the control of salinisation, acidity and waterlogging and prevention of erosion.

2.0
18/12/2020
C245gben

Vegetation protection objectives to be achieved

To protect remnant native vegetation and habitat, including understorey, and facilitate natural revegetation.

To promote the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity.

To encourage maintenance and development of linkages between existing remnant vegetation.

To recognise the catchment-wide land and water management benefits resulting from vegetation retention.

To maintain and enhance Bendigo's scenic and recreational landscape assets.

3.0
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Permit requirement

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any native vegetation which is not:

- In accordance with an approved Atisha Comprehensive Development Plan, Atisha Centre Development Plan and environmental management plan.
- In accordance with the *Native Vegetation Precinct Plan for land at 244 Edwards Road, Maiden Gully*, June 2014.

4.0
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Application requirements

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.02, in addition to those specified elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- Indication of the total extent of native vegetation on the site and adjacent to the site, the extent of proposed clearing on the site, the location of any river, stream, watercourse, wetland or channel on the site, and if relevant, the location of areas with a slope exceeding 25 per cent.
- Explanation of the purpose of the proposed clearing.

- Demonstration that the proposed removal, destruction or lopping of remnant native vegetation has been reduced to the maximum extent that is reasonable and practicable.
- Details of proposed revegetation following disturbance, or restoration of an alternate site, including proposed species and ground stabilisation.

5.0
11/01/2024
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Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.02, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.02 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- Whether the proposal protects remnant native vegetation and habitat, including understorey, and facilitates natural revegetation.
- Whether the proposal promotes the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity.
- Whether the proposal encourages maintenance and development of linkages between existing remnant vegetation.
- Whether the proposal recognises the catchment-wide land and water management benefits resulting from vegetation retention.
- Whether the proposal maintains and enhances Bendigo's scenic and recreational landscape assets.
- Whether all options have been considered which may reduce the need for vegetation clearance.