06/06/2022
C220gdan

SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 42.02 VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **VPO1** .

NATIVE VEGETATION IN THE MAIN PORTION OF THE GREEN WEDGE

1.0 Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected

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Indigenous and native vegetation, and in particular River Red Gums, provide a rich and connected habitat for fauna which in turn supports the biodiversity of the broader area.

Due to the general lack of development in the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge since European settlement, there are some important remnant vegetation and landscape features present.

Whilst the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge does not provide specific habitat corridor values, it does provide a stepping stone for more mobile fauna such as migratory birds.

The remaining significant vegetation provides both visual appeal as well as cultural and landscape value.

2.0 Vegetation protection objectives to be achieved

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To protect existing ecological values.

To maintain the quality of the remaining fauna habitat in the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge and to create additional habitat and connectivity.

To ensure that vegetation remains a significant part of the character and visual amenity of the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge.

To promote the retention and establishment of vegetation.

3.0 Permit requirement

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A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation. This does not apply to:

- The removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation which is less than 2 metres in height or has a single trunk circumference of less than 0.5 metre at a height of 1 metre above ground level.
- Pruning of vegetation to remove that part of any branch which overhangs an existing dwelling or is within 2 metres of an existing dwelling.
- The minimum extent necessary to maintain utility services for the transmission of water, sewage, gas, electricity, electronic communications of the like, provided that the removal, destruction or lopping is with the written consent of the responsible authority.
- The necessary maintenance by the City of Greater Dandenong Council and/or relevant Public Land Manager of works including road, drain, essential service or public facility.
- The vegetation is seedlings or regrowth less than 5 years old, the land has been previously lawfully cleared and the land is being maintained for cultivation or pasture.
- The removal, destruction or lopping is by or on behalf, or with the written permission of the Secretary of the Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning.
- The removal, pruning, destruction or lopping of planted vegetation at the Southern Metropolitan Cemetery which is necessary to undertake the requisite daily tasks.

4.0 Application requirements

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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:

- A photograph of the vegetation and a site plan (drawn to scale) showing the boundaries of the site, the existing vegetation and the vegetation to be removed, destroyed or lopped.
- A description of the vegetation, including the species, extent, number and size.
- A written explanation of the steps that have been taken to:
  - Avoid the removal of vegetation, where possible.
  - Minimise the removal of vegetation.
  - Any actions to contribute to the ongoing management of existing vegetation on the site.
- Details of any proposed revegetation, including species to be planted and the source of the plants.

5.0 Decision guidelines

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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:

- The effect of the proposed removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation on the habitat value and the fragmentation of wildlife corridors.
- The significance of the vegetation to be removed.
- The reason for the proposed removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation and the practicality of alternate options which do not require removal, destruction or lopping.
- The effect of any proposed replanting.
- *Greater Dandenong Green Wedge Management Plan* (revised, January 2017).