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# SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 42.02 VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY

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

## SIGNIFICANT TREELINES

### 1.0 Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected

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Treelines within roadside reserves, along streamlines and within properties form important habitat and landscape elements on the Mornington Peninsula. Treelines often act as habitat corridors linking other, more substantial, areas of remnant vegetation. These factors are emphasised in the Shire's Road Side Management Strategy. Many treelines, including those composed of non-indigenous trees, such as Monterey or Radiata Pines, are culturally significant elements of the Peninsula landscape.

### 2.0 Vegetation protection objectives to be achieved

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To protect and conserve native vegetation and habitat areas, including those of rare, threatened and endangered flora and fauna species, along roadsides, streamlines, linear reserves and other treelines.

To maintain the high landscape quality of roadsides and other areas.

To maintain and enhance the habitat value and corridor function of treelines.

To ensure consideration of the cultural and landscape significance of all treelines, including those composed of introduced vegetation species, such as Monterey or Radiata Pines.

To ensure that proposals for replacement planting have regard to both environmental and cultural landscape values.

To encourage strategic replanting programs, using suitable species, to provide for the long term maintenance of landscape values.

### 3.0 Permit requirement

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A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation, except for:

- The removal of vegetation which is to be carried out in conjunction with a development approved under a planning permit and in accordance with an endorsed plan.
- The removal of vegetation necessary for the construction of a dwelling, dwelling extension or outbuilding where no planning permit is required and provided that:
  - A building permit has been granted for the proposed development.
  - Vegetation is only removed from the building footprint or within 2 metres of the proposed building.
  - No tree with a trunk circumference greater than 0.35 metres is removed within 6 metres of a road frontage.
- The removal of vegetation, not within a road reserve, to enable the formation of a single crossing and access driveway with a maximum width of 3.7 metres.
- The removal of vegetation which presents an immediate risk of personal injury or damage to property including the culling of single trees located within 3 metres of a dwelling or outbuilding, or which overhangs a boundary line.
- The removal of any dead timber or branch which has occurred through natural circumstances, fire or the spread of noxious weeds.
- The removal of any tree or branch of a tree which impairs the access of motor vehicles along any existing or approved access track, provided that such access track has a width no greater than 3.7 metres.
- The removal of vegetation specified in the schedule to Clause 52.17.

## 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:

- An application to remove vegetation must indicate:
  - The total extent of vegetation on the property and the extent of proposed clearing.
  - The location of any watercourse on the property, and, if relevant, the location of areas where the ground slope exceeds 20 percent.
  - The purpose of the proposed clearing and any proposals for revegetation, including proposed species, and ground stabilisation.

## 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 vegetation protection objectives of this schedule.
- Any relevant regional catchment strategy or regional vegetation plan.
- The need for a report, by a properly qualified person and to the satisfaction of the responsible authority, on the vegetation and habitat significance of the vegetation to be removed.
- The cultural landscape value and visual prominence of the treeline, including the extent to which it remains intact and the condition and health of the trees.
- The botanical and environmental value of the treeline, including the age and condition of the trees and the extent to which the tree line forms part of a habitat area or habitat corridor.
- The need to maintain the connectivity of habitat corridors.
- The extent of the proposed vegetation removal and its likely effect on the stability of the site, particularly along streamlines or in erosion prone areas.
- The effect of retaining the treeline on agricultural pursuits and whether there is any reasonable alternative means of managing the land or siting buildings and works in order to conserve the vegetation of the area and better meet the objectives of this schedule.
- The extent to which the removal of vegetation is necessary to achieve proper fire management
- The benefit of conditions requiring replanting.
- The need for replacement vegetation to be of an appropriate species, having regard to the link between the species and the cultural landscape values of the treeline, the need to exclude environmental weeds and the proximity of the site to bushland areas. Where a treeline is near to bushland areas it is necessary to consider the potential for invasion of bushland by introduced species and the possibility of replacing introduced species with native species of a similar form.
- The comments of any relevant coastal management, fire prevention, catchment protection, land management or soil conservation authority.