

**SCHEDULE 2 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY**

Shown on the planning scheme map as **ESO2**

**GROUNDWATER RECHARGE PROTECTION AREA****1.0 Statement of environmental significance**

Groundwater is an important source of fresh water and is therefore a significant part of the environment which needs to be carefully managed. Good quality groundwater can be used for potable supply, irrigation, industry and stock water. Salinity is a major management issue for groundwater in the municipality.

Groundwater quality is threatened by contamination with pollutants.

**2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved**

To promote the appropriate management of groundwater recharge areas.

To prevent high levels of groundwater recharge.

To limit consequent saline discharge.

To maintain groundwater quality and groundwater resources, and the potential for groundwater use.

To encourage revegetation of areas which contribute to high groundwater recharge.

**3.0 Permit requirement**

A permit is not required for:

- Repairs and routine maintenance of existing buildings and works.
- Buildings and works associated with Minor utility installation.
- Buildings and works associated with Informal outdoor recreation.
- A sign.
- Works ancillary to a Dwelling, except for an effluent disposal system.
- Construction of a pergola or patio.

**4.0 Application requirements**

An application must include details of: -

- Existing vegetation cover and proposed revegetation including species information.
- Proposals for effluent disposal and drainage.
- Proposals for dams and water storage.
- Source of proposed water supply.
- Soil types and geological features.
- Details of current and proposed land use.
- Topographic information highlighting significant ridges, hilltops, crests, drainage lines, watercourses and wetlands on or in proximity to the site.

## 5.0 Decision guidelines

Before deciding on any application, the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- The capability of the land to accommodate the proposal.
- The need to maintain existing vegetation cover and to enhance vegetation cover.
- The impact of any proposed landforming.
- The State Environment Protection Policy, “Waters of Victoria”.
- The relevant Regional Catchment Salinity Management Plan.
- The recommendations of the North Central Regional Catchment Strategy.
- The recommendations of the relevant Regional Vegetation Strategy.
- A Local Government Planning Guide for Dry Land Salinity, Department of Natural Resources and Environment.
- Any relevant Whole Farm Plan prepared in accordance with Department of Natural Resources and Environment guidelines.
- The potential of the development to add to the groundwater recharge through effluent disposal.