

SCHEDULE 1 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **ESO1**

Burramys parvus* (Mountain Pygmy-possum)*1.0 Statement of environmental significance**

The Mountain Pygmy-possum (*Burramys parvus*) is the only Australian mammal restricted to the alpine and sub-alpine environment. It was discovered in 1966 as a living animal at Mt Higginbotham, Victoria.

The Mountain Pygmy-possum (*Burramys parvus*) is listed as threatened on Schedule 2 of the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*.

The distribution of Mountain Pygmy-possum (*Burramys parvus*) is correlated closely with the distribution of periglacial boulder/rock scree formed during the last ice age. These rock scree may support a variety of vegetation communities depending on the type of rock, aspect and depth of scree. The most common floristic community is *Podocarpus* heathland. There are several forms of this vegetation community ranging from more or less exclusively *P lawrencei* (Mountain Plum Pine) over deep scree, to more diverse flora as soil and leaf litter is deposited. On drainage lines where the boulders are almost buried *Carex Poa* sedgeland may predominate. These vegetation species/communities are extremely sensitive to trampling, disturbance and burial by deposition of soil.

The Department of Sustainability and Environment has mapped the habitat of the Mountain Pygmy-possum throughout the Alpine Resorts. The habitat requires conservation and protection from inappropriate development.

2.0 Environmental objectives to be achieved

- To preserve and enhance *Burramys parvus* habitat and identified linkages.
- To prevent the destruction and fragmentation of the existing *Burramys parvus* habitat.
- To provide movement corridors for the *Burramys parvus*.
- To ensure development does not have an adverse impact upon *Burramys parvus* habitat.

3.0 Permit requirement

A permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works.

A permit is required to construct a fence.

An application to construct a building or construct or carry out works that is consistent with a comprehensive development plan, incorporated into this scheme, is exempt from the decision requirements of Sections 64(1), (2) and (3) and the appeal rights of Section 82(1) of the Act.

4.0 Referrals

An application must be referred in accordance with Section 55 of the Act to the referral authority specified in Clause 66.04 or a schedule to that clause.

5.0 Decision guidelines

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

- The objective of the schedule.
- The general management prescriptions and guidelines in the *Management Strategy and Guidelines for the conservation of the Mountain Pygmy-possum (Burramys parvus) in Victoria* Mansergh IM, Kelly P and Scotts DJ (1989) Technical Report 66, Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research, Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands, Melbourne.
- Action Statement No. 2 Mountain Pygmy-possum (*Burramys parvus*), Department of Natural Resources and Environment.
- The extent to which the proposed development or works will impact upon existing habitat areas.
- The views of the Department of Sustainability and Environment pursuant to Section 55 of the Act.