

SCHEDULE 3 TO THE VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **VPO3**

ROADSIDE REMNANT VEGETATION

1.0 Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected

Roadside vegetation is an important feature within the City of Greater Bendigo. In areas of cleared farmland, roadside vegetation often makes up a large part of the remaining natural environment. Many roadsides throughout the municipality contain pockets of remnant indigenous vegetation which includes rare, vulnerable and significant flora species. Some of the roadsides provide a valuable source of native seed stock and important habitat and corridors for wildlife.

2.0 Vegetation protection objective to be achieved

To protect and preserve indigenous vegetation and rare and endangered flora and fauna species on linear reserves.

To achieve high landscape quality on roadsides.

To maintain and enhance habitat and corridor values for indigenous fauna.

To protect trees with hollows used by indigenous fauna.

3.0 Permit requirement

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation.

This does not apply to:

- Vegetation which is not native.
- Lopping or removal of individual trees/shrubs that are a significant risk to road users.

4.0 Decision guidelines

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

- The conservation and enhancement of the area.
- The effect of any clearing on the habitat value and long term viability of remnant bushland areas.
- The effect of clearing or roadworks on understorey plants including native grasses.
- The necessity for machinery hygiene practices to minimise the spread of weeds.
- The presence of mature trees or trees with hollows used for nesting.
- The conservation ranking and other aspects of the Roadside Management Guidelines, 1995.
- The significance of the vegetation in terms of quality, diversity and rarity.
- The purpose of removing native vegetation and alternative ways of carrying out development on the land.
- The sensitive location of driveways or crossings over roadside reserves.