

**SCHEDULE 1 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY**

Shown on the planning scheme map as **ESO 1**.

***Burramys parvus*****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 is listed as threatened on Schedule 2 of the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*.

The distribution of Mountain Pygmy-possum is correlated closely with the distribution of periglacial boulder/rock screes formed during the last ice age. These rock screes may support a variety of vegetation communities depending on the type of rock, aspect and depth of scree. The most distinctive 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 are deposited. On drainage lines where the boulders are almost buried *Carex Poa* sedgeland may predominate. These habitat types are disjunct throughout the range of the species. They are extremely sensitive to trampling, disturbance and burial by deposition of soil.

The Department of Natural Resources is mapping the habitat of the Mountain Pygmy-possum throughout the Mt Buller Alpine Resort. The habitat in Mt Buller 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 to the Department of Natural Resources & Environment pursuant to Section 55 of the Act.

## 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 Natural Resources and Environment pursuant to Section 55 of the Act.