53 Halladale Road, Peterborough, Victoria.

Biodiversity Assessment: Intermediate Assessment Pathway for a proposed development



Report for December 2024



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(Landowner) for site and project information.



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Beacon Ecological acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of this nation, particularly the Eastern Maar people on whose land the field work was completed, and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

DISCLAIMER

The author advises that the information presented in this report, including any management advice, has been prepared with all due diligence and care, and based on the best available knowledge and research.

However the author takes no responsibility for any loss, injury or financial damage resulting from the reliance and/or application of management advice provided in the report.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Α	CKN	OWLEDGEMENTS	2
TÆ	ABLE (OF CONTENTS	3
Sl	JMM	ARY	5
	MET	HODOLOGY	5
	RESI	JLTS	5
	FUR1	THER REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	6
1	INT	RODUCTION	7
	1.1	SCOPE OF WORKS	7
	1.2	STUDY AREA	7
2	MET	THODOLOGY	8
	2.1	DATABASE REVIEW	8
	2.2	MAPPING AND OTHER LITERATURE	8
	2.3	FIELD ASSESSMENT	8
	2.4	BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT	8
	2.5	LIMITATIONS	9
3	RES	ULTS	. 11
	3.1	FLORA SPECIES	. 11
	3.2	VEGETATION QUALITY ASSESSMENT	. 11
	3.3	NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT FLORA SPECIES	. 15
	3.4	FAUNA HABITAT ASSESSMENT	. 15
	3.5	NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT FAUNA SPECIES	. 15
	3.6	SIGNIFICANT ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES	. 15
4	REL	EVANT LEGISLATION AND POLICIES	. 17
	4.1	NATIONAL	.17
	4.2	STATE	.17
	4.3	LOCAL AND REGIONAL	. 18
5	BIO	DIVERSITY ASSESSMENT	. 20
6	REG	QUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	. 23
	6.1	REQUIREMENTS	. 23
	6.2	RECOMMENDATIONS	. 23
FI	GURE	ES	. 25
	FIGL	JRE 1. LOCATION OF THE STUDY AREA	. 26
	FIGL	JRE 2. ECOLOGICAL VALUES AND VEGETATION DISTURBANCE	. 27
RE	FERE	NCES	. 28
A	PPEN	DICES	. 29
	APP	ENDIX 1. FLORA SPECIES RECORDED WITHIN THE STUDY AREA DURING THE CURRENT ASSESSMENT	. 30



APPENDIX 2. EPBC ACT LISTED FLORA PREVIOUSLY RECORDED OR PREDICTED TO OCCUR WITH	IIN A FIVE
KILOMETRE RADIUS OF THE STUDY AREA	32
APPENDIX 3. EPBC ACT LISTED FAUNA SPECIES PREVIOUSLY RECORDED OR WITH POTENTIAL HABIT, A FIVE KILOMETRE RADIUS OF THE STUDY AREA (EPBC ACT MIGRATORY AND MARINE SPE EXCLUDED)	CIES ARE
APPENDIX 4. NATIVE VEGETATION REMOVAL REPORT	



SUMMARY

Beacon Ecological was engaged by **Ecological** to undertake a Biodiversity Assessment for a proposed development at 53 Halladale Road, Peterborough, Victoria. The site is proposed to be subdivided into four lots, retaining the existing dwelling within one of the lots.

The development will result in the removal, destruction and lopping of native vegetation to create access to Old Peterborough Road and as such will require a permit under *Clause 52.17 Native Vegetation* and Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO2 – Peterborough Coastal and Estuary Area) of Victoria's *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

This report provides permit application requirements for the intermediate assessment pathway as per the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (the Guidelines) (DELWP 2017).

METHODOLOGY

A field assessment was undertaken within the study area by qualified botanist, Luke Hynes (Vegetation Quality Assessment Accreditation Number: 077) on 2 August 2024. Flora taxa and habitat types within the study area were noted and areas of native vegetation were mapped where appropriate.

RESULTS

The field visit revealed that the property is dominated by introduced vegetation with a strip of native vegetation in the Old Peterborough Road reserve with affinities to Damp Heath Scrub (EVC165), (Figure 2).

Previous and current records and habitat requirements for *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* listed species from state and federal databases were reviewed. Given the available habitat and amount of survey effort, it is considered unlikely that the proposed works will have a significant impact on any matters of national environmental significance.

BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT

The current application is of the intermediate assessment pathway as less than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation (0.002 hectares) is proposed to be impacted within location 2.

Avoid and minimisation statement

The majority of the study area is dominated by introduced vegetation. A small amount of native vegetation is proposed to be impacted (0.002 hectares) for the construction of a crossover onto Old Peterborough Road. The crossover has been designed to avoid native vegetation as best as possible including altering the alignment to avoid impacts greater than 10% to the Tree Protection Zones of Drooping Sheoak trees.

Proposed Losses

A total of 0.002 hectares of native vegetation is proposed to be impacted. The Strategic Biodiversity Value is 0.650 and the modelled condition score is 0.30.

Offset Requirements



- General Offset amount: 0.001 general habitat units.
- Vicinity: Corangamite Catchment Management Authority or Moyne Shire Council
- Minimum strategic biodiversity value score: 0.52 (at least 80 per cent of the strategic biodiversity score of the native vegetation to be removed).
- Large Trees: 0 large trees.

FURTHER REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following actions are required to satisfy requirements for the proposed development:

- A permit to remove native vegetation from the Moyne Shire Council is required under Clause 52.17 Native Vegetation and Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO2 – Peterborough Coastal and Estuary Area). As per Clause 52.17, the application has been classed as an intermediate assessment pathway.
- To ensure *no net loss* to Victoria's biodiversity **0.001 general habitat units with a minimum strategic score of 0.52** within the Corangamite Catchment or Moyne Shire Council is required.

Recommendations to further avoid and minimise impacts to ecological values during and after the proposed works are detailed in Section 6.2. Offsets will be purchased through an accredited third party offset broker.



1 INTRODUCTION

Beacon Ecological was engaged by **Ecological** to undertake a Biodiversity Assessment for a proposed development at 53 Halladale Road, Peterborough, Victoria. The site is proposed to be subdivided into four lots, retaining the existing dwelling within one of the lots.

The development will result in the removal, destruction and lopping of native vegetation to create access to Old Peterborough Road and as such will require a permit under *Clause 52.17 Native Vegetation* and Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO2 – Peterborough Coastal and Estuary Area) of Victoria's *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

This report provides permit application requirements for the intermediate assessment pathway as per the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (the Guidelines) (DELWP 2017).

1.1 SCOPE OF WORKS

The following tasks were completed during the vegetation assessment:

Background Literature Review: Relevant documentation pertaining to the study area was reviewed.

Vegetation Quality Assessment: A qualified and experienced botanist traversed the site to determine the extent of native vegetation and other ecological values.

Mapping: A site plan, using aerial photography detailing the location of the proposed works areas and vegetation proposed for removal and retention has been prepared for inclusion in the report. The mapping also includes, site location, boundaries, area of removal (in hectares), and ecological values using aerial photography and GPS (if required).

Report Production: A report was prepared to detail the:

- Results of the field assessment.
- Calculations of native vegetation losses and offsets if required.
- Recommendations to protect and conserve ecological values within the site during each construction phase.

1.2 STUDY AREA

The study areas is located at 53 Halladale Road, Peterborough (Figure 1) and is an irregularly shaped block of 0.52 hectares . The study area is dominated by mown introduced grasses and planted ornamental garden plants withs some remnant native vegetation within the road reserve adjacent to Old Peterborough Road in the west. The study area topography is generally flat and is bounded by Halladale Street to the east, Old Peterborough Road to the west and residential properties to the north and south. The surrounding landscape is generally dominated by introduced pasture with remnant coastal vegetation in the Coastal Reserve to the south and Curdies Inlet to the east.

The property is located within General Residential Zone (GRZ1) of the Moyne Shire Council planning scheme and is covered by a Design and Development Overlay (DDO24), Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO2 – Peterborough Urban Coastal Area and Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO2 – Peterborough Coastal and Estuary Area) (DTP 2024). The property is within the Warrnambool Plain Bioregion and Corangamite Catchment Management Authority Boundaries and modelled as Location Risk 1 and 2 by DEECA location risk modelling (DEECA 2024b).



2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 DATABASE REVIEW

The following databases were reviewed to obtain background information on the study area:

- **Nature Kit** for pre-1750 (pre European settlement) and 2005 (extant) native vegetation modelling and significant flora and fauna species previously recorded within a five-kilometre radius of the study area (DEECA 2024a).
- Victorian Biodiversity Atlas for significant flora and fauna species previously recorded within a fivekilometre radius of the study area (DEECA 2024c).
- **Protected Matters Search Tool** for nationally significant ecological values that are predicted to occur within five kilometres of the study area (DCCEEW 2024).
- **Planning Schemes Online** for information regarding planning provision overlays and zones pertaining to native vegetation and ecological values within the study area (DTP 2024).

2.2 MAPPING AND OTHER LITERATURE

Relevant literature, such as Bioregional Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) Benchmarks and national/state/local policies and legislation were also reviewed as part of the investigation (DEECA 2024a, DEECA 2024b). The following were also reviewed:

- 53 Halladale Road, Peterborough. Town Planning Concept Drawings (DP Planning 2024)
- Stormwater Management Plan for 53 Halladale Road, Peterborough. (Sitec Consulting Engineers 2024).

2.3 FIELD ASSESSMENT

A field assessment was undertaken within the study area by qualified botanist, Luke Hynes (Vegetation Quality Assessment Accreditation Number: 077) on 2 August 2024.

The area proposed to be impacts was traversed in order to:

- Note flora taxa naturally occurring. Plant taxonomy follows the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (VBA) (DEECA 2024c).
- Note any habitat types and distribution.
- Map the extent of native vegetation and habitat present.
- Undertake a Vegetation Quality Assessment (VQA) within areas of native vegetation that meet the assessment criteria thresholds.

2.4 **BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT**

The Guidelines (DELWP 2017) are incorporated into the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes in Victoria. The purpose of the Guidelines is to set out and describe the application of Victoria's statewide policy in relation to assessing and compensating for the removal of native vegetation.



The three-step approach (avoid, minimise, offset native vegetation) is the key policy in relation to the removal of native vegetation to achieve no net loss to biodiversity. To determine extent of native vegetation, *remnant patch* or *scattered tree* are used as defined below:

Patch

A patch of d, native vegetation is:

- An area of vegetation where at least 25 per cent of the total perennial understorey plant cover is native, or
- Any area with three or more native canopy trees where the drip line of each tree touches the drip line of at least one other tree, forming a continuous canopy, or
- Any mapped wetland included in the Current wetlands map, available in DELWP systems and tools.

Scattered tree

A scattered tree is:

• A native canopy tree that does not form part of a patch.

Applications to remove native vegetation are categorised in to one of three assessment pathways with corresponding application requirements and decision guidelines.

- **Basic:** limited impacts on biodiversity.
- Intermediate: could impact on large trees, endangered EVCs, and sensitive wetlands and coastal areas.
- **Detailed:** could impact on large trees, endangered EVCs, sensitive wetlands and coastal areas, and could significantly impact on habitat for rare or threatened species

The assessment pathway is determined by considering the extent and location risk modelling of the native vegetation to be removed as per Table 1 below.

Extent of native vegetation	Location 1	Location 2	Location 3
Less than 0.5 hectares and not including any large trees	Basic	Intermediate	Detailed
Less than 0.5 hectares and including one or more large trees	Intermediate	Intermediate	Detailed
0.5 hectares or more	Detailed	Detailed	Detailed

Table 1. Determining the assessment pathway.

The current application is considered to be of the intermediate assessment pathway as less than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation (0.002 hectares) is proposed to be cleared within location 2 (See Appendix 4 for the Native Vegetation Removal report).

2.5 LIMITATIONS

Field surveys provide an indication of what is present at the time of survey (i.e. a 'snapshot') and as such may not include species that may be dormant or absent due to seasonal or climatic conditions. As such, some species may be dormant or not displaying diagnostic characteristics at the time of survey.



A fauna survey (i.e. the identification of all fauna species present onsite) was not within the scope of works during the assessment.

However, the survey effort and review of existing relevant information is considered sufficient to provide adequate information to undertake a Biodiversity Assessment.



3 RESULTS

3.1 FLORA SPECIES

The field visit identified 56 species occurring within the study area. Of these 20 are considered native species and 36 introduced. See Appendix 1 for a list of species recorded within the study area.

No nationally or state significant species were noted in the study area. Two introduced species noted within the study area are listed as regionally controlled noxious weed within the Corangamite Catchment (DPI 2008):

- African Boneseed Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera
- Spear Thistle Cirsium vulgare

3.2 VEGETATION QUALITY ASSESSMENT

Vegetation Modelling

Pre-1750 (prior to European settlement) EVC modelling and indicates that the property is likely to have been dominated by Damp Heathland/Damp Heathy Woodland Mosaic (EVC 746). 2005 (extant) mapping indicates that the study area is likely devoid of native vegetation (DEECA 2024a).

The field visit revealed that the property is dominated by introduced grasses and planted ornamental garden plants withs some remnant native vegetation within the road reserve adjacent to Old Peterborough Road in the west. Native vegetation in the road reserve displays an affinity to Damp Heath Scrub (EVC 165) See below for a description of vegetation noted within the study area.



Damp Heath Scrub

EVC Number: 165

Damp Heath Scrub is described as a shrubland to three metres tall with occasional emergent eucalypts. Occurs on flat to gently sloping terrain, on or near coastal sites (DEECA 2024b)

Within the study area this vegetation type is confined to the Old Peterborough Road reserve and is dominated by native shrubs including Prickly Moses Acacia verticillata, Prickly Tea-tree Leptospermum continentale, Coast Beard-heath Leucopogon parviflorus, Common Boobialla Myoporum insulare and Seaberry Saltbush Rhagodia candolleana subsp. candolleana (Plate 1). The understorey is dominated by native species including Bidgee-widgee Acaena novae-zelandiae, Black-anther Flax-lily Dianella admixta, Climbing Lignum Muehlenbeckia adpressa, Common Tussock-grass Poa labillardierei, Austral Bracken Pteridium esculentum subsp. esculentum, Common Wallaby-grass Rytidosperma caespitosum, Cranberry Heath Styphelia humifusa and Kangaroo Grass Themeda triandra. Introduced species cover is low (5%-25% cover) and includes Brown-top Bent Agrostis capillaris, African Boneseed Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera, Mirror Bush Coprosma repens, Cocksfoot Dactylis glomerata, Coast Tea-tree Gaudium laevigatum, Giant Honey-myrtle Melaleuca armillaris subsp. armillaris, Karo Pittosporum crassifolium and Sweet Pittosporum Pittosporum undulatum.



Plate 1. Damp Heath Scrub within the study area.



A patch of Drooping Sheoak Allocasuarina verticillata was noted in the road reserve of the neighbouring property (Plate 2). This vegetation supports scattered Seaberry Saltbush, Boobialla and Bower Spinach Tetragonia implexicoma with a moderate cover of Kikuyu Cenchrus clandestinus and African Boneseed. The proposed crossover access to Old Peterborough Road has been designed to avoid greater than 10% impact to the Tree Protection Zones of all Drooping Sheoak.



Plate 2. Damp Heath Scrub dominated by Drooping Sheoak within the study area.



Introduced Vegetation

The majority of the study area is dominated by introduced vegetation, particularly mown Kikuyu with planted ornamental trees and shrubs including Tuart *Eucalyptus gomphocephala*, Bog Gum *Eucalyptus kitsoniana*, Camellia Camellia spp., Begonia Begonia spp., Karo and Sallow Wattle (Plate 3).



Plate 3. Introduced vegetation within the study area



3.3 NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT FLORA SPECIES

Appendix 2 presents flora species listed on the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) that have previously been recorded and/or are predicted to occur within a five-kilometre radius of the study area by the VBA or the Protected Matters Search tool (DEECA 2024c, DCCEEW 2024).

Three flora species of national significance listed under the EPBC Act has previously been recorded within a five-kilometre radius of the study area (DEECA 2024c). An additional 10 species listed under the EPBC Act are predicted to occur, or have habitat predicted to occur within a five-kilometre radius of the study area (DCCEEW 2024), (Appendix 2).

Given the available habitat and amount of survey effort, it is considered unlikely that the study area provides habitat for any flora species of national significance.

3.4 FAUNA HABITAT ASSESSMENT

A habitat assessment was undertaken which revealed the presence of two fauna habitats, mown lawns and scrub vegetation.

Mown lawns provides low quality fauna habitat. Typically, introduced grasslands provide few resources for native fauna and are used by relatively few species due to the highly modified nature of this habitat. Ground-foraging birds and woodland birds may forage on seeding grasses and herbs within these areas.

Scrub vegetation provides a variety of habitat niches that are likely to be used by a range of small mammals, native birds and reptiles for nesting, foraging and shelter. Insectivorous birds can forage underneath bark, on leaves and flowers, and in leaf litter on the ground. The groundcover provides moderate quality habitat for small mammals and birds. The coarse woody debris (e.g. branches, logs, stumps) and leaf litter often found beneath mature trees may provide shelter and foraging habitat for small marsupials, reptiles and frogs.

3.5 NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT FAUNA SPECIES

Appendix 3 presents fauna species listed on the EPBC Act that have previously been recorded and/or are predicted to occur within a five kilometre radius of the study area by the VBA (DEECA 2024c) or the DEE Protected Matters Search tool (DCCEEW 2024).

Twenty-one fauna species of national significance, listed under the EPBC Act, have previously been recorded within the five-kilometre VBA search area (DEECA 2024c, Appendix 3). The Protected Matters Search Tool identified an additional 41 species, listed under the EPBC Act, that may occur or for which habitat may occur in the site (DCCEEW 2024, Appendix 3).

Given the habitat type present and previous records, it is considered unlikely that the study area provides significant habitat for any fauna species of national significance. Some species may flyover or forage within the study area on an occasional basis.

3.6 SIGNIFICANT ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES



A review of information and databases maintained by DELWP and DEE identified the following ecological communities as occurring within the study area or within a five-kilometre radius of the study area.

Ramsar Wetlands (listed under the EPBC Act)

The Protected Matters Search Tool reported the study area is not near any Ramsar sites of international significance (DCCEEW 2024).

Ecological Communities (listed under the EPBC Act)

The Protected Matters Search Tool reported two nationally significant ecological communities that may occur within five-kilometres of the study area (DCCEEW 2024):

- Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh
- Assemblages of species associated with open-coast salt-wedge estuaries of western and central Victoria ecological community

These communities were not noted within the study area.

Ecological Communities (listed under the FFG Act)

No ecological communities listed under the FFG Act were noted within the study area.



4 RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND POLICIES

The following policies and legislation were taken into consideration during the assessment.

4.1 NATIONAL

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)

The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (the EPBC Act) is the central piece of national environmental legislation in Australia. The Act provides a legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places — defined in the Act as matters of national environmental significance (SEWPAC 2013).

Under the EPBC Act an action will require approval from the Minister if the action has, will have, or is likely to have, a significant impact on a matter of national environmental significance. The EPBC Act Significant Impact Guidelines (SEWPAC 2013) provide information on whether an action (e.g. a project, a development, an undertaking, an activity or a series of activities) requires a referral.

Implications –

The proposed works are unlikely to pose a significant impact on any matters of national significance. A referral under the EPBC Act is not required.

4.2 STATE

The Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (FFG Act)

The FFG Act is the key state legislation for the conservation of threatened species and communities and for the management of potentially threatening processes. The FFG Act provides for the listing of taxa (genera, species, subspecies, varieties) and communities of flora and fauna that are threatened (Threatened List); potentially threatening processes (Processes List); and flora that have legal protection (Protected Flora List).

A permit is required from DEECA if an action on public land proposes to collect, kill, injure or disturb protected flora.

Implications -

As the proposed works are not on public land and the proposed vegetation removal in the road reserve does not impact any FFG Act protected species, a permit under the FFG Act is not required from DEECA.

Planning and Environment Act 1987 (PE Act)

The Planning and Environment Act 1987 (PE Act) establishes a framework for planning the use, development and protection of land in Victoria. The PE Act provides for the Minister to prepare a set of standard provisions for municipal planning schemes called the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP).



Under Clause 52.17 of the VPP a planning permit is required from the responsible authority (local council) to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation on land unless the action is exempt. Clause 52.17 also specifies that applications must also be classified as basic, intermediate or detailed assessment pathway as defined in the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (DELWP 2017). Each assessment pathway has specific application requirements and decision guidelines that must be considered.

Under Clause 66 Referral and Notice Provisions of planning schemes, the following applications are referred to the Secretary to DEECA (DELWP 2017):

- To remove, destroy or lop native vegetation in the Detailed Assessment Pathway
- To remove, destroy or lop native vegetation if a PVP applies to the site
- To remove, destroy or lop native vegetation on Crown land which is occupied or managed by the responsible authority.

Implications –

A planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation under *Clause 52.17 Native Vegetation* from the Moyne Shire Council. Under Clause 52,17 the application has been classed as an intermediate assessment pathway as less than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation (0.002 hectares) within location 2 is proposed to be impacted. Note that a six metre wide crossover has been accounted for to meet the *Vehicle access from public roads* exemption from *Clause 52.17-7 Table of exemptions*. The proposed crossover is less than this width.

Application information requirements of this pathway are detailed in Section 5. In this instance DEECA is not considered a recommending authority.

4.3 LOCAL AND REGIONAL

Planning Scheme

Each municipality in Victoria is covered by a planning scheme, which sets out policies and provisions for the use, development and protection of land (zones and overlays). They are legal documents, sourced and constructed according to the VPP, prepared by the local council or Minister and approved by the Minister. Particular zones and overlays (such as Environmental Significance Overlays and Green Wedge Zones) in the planning scheme may stipulate additional conditions and requirements for applications proposing to remove native vegetation.

A **zone** is a planning provision that reflects the primary character of land (such as residential, industrial or rural) and indicates the type of use and development, which may be appropriate in that zone (DSE 2010d).

An **overlay** is also a planning provision, but one which is in addition to the zone. Overlays ensure that important aspects of the land are recognised (such as areas of significant vegetation). Overlays indicate the type of development and/or protection, which may be appropriate in that area (DSE 2010d).

Implications –



One overlay pertaining to ecological values covers the site: Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO2 – Peterborough Coastal and Estuary Area). A permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation is required under this overlay. See Table 2 below for a response to the decision guidelines of this overlay.

Table 2. Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO2 – Peterborough Coastal and Estuary Area) decisionguidelines and responses.

ESO2 Decision Guideline	Design response
The existing use or development of the land	The proposed development complements the
The existing use or development of the land.	existing use of the land (residential development).
The impact of the development on other	The proposed development will not significantly
properties.	impact other properties and impacts only 0.002
	hectares of native vegetation in the road reserve.
The degree of dependence of the development	The proposed development does not depend on
on the coastal environment.	the coastal environment.
The soil stability of the subject land and the need	The soil within the subject land is generally stable
to prevent soil erosion.	and on flat topography. Soil erosion is not
	envisaged to be an issue.
The likelihood of pollution and/or siltation of any	The proposed development is unlikely to cause
watercourse.	pollution and/or siltation.
The amount of natural vegetation to be removed	The proposed development will impact only 0.002
through the construction of any buildings or	hectares of native vegetation in the road reserve
works.	for the construction of a crossover.
Whether adequate provision has been made for	Landscaping will be considered as part of the
the landscaping and treatment of the site.	proposed subdivision.
The value of any native vegetation to be	The native vegetation proposed to be impacted,
removed in terms of its physical condition, rarity or	Damp Heath Scrub has a bioregional
variety.	conservation status of vulnerable. The vegetation
	proposed to be impacted is of good condition.
The protection and enhancement of the	The proposed works do not significantly impact
landscape.	on the landscape
The desirability of retaining a buffer strip of native	The proposed works retain the majority of the
vegetation along roads, watercourses and	buffer strip of native vegetation along Old
property boundaries.	Peterborough road with the crossover mostly in
	an area of cleared vegetation.
The need to protect the environmental values of	No limestone depressions were noted within the
limestone depressions including avoidance of the	study area.
draining and filling of limestone depressions.	
The desirability of maintaining natural drainage	No natural drainage features were noted within
features	the study area.



5 BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT

 Table 3. Application requirements and responses for proposed vegetation clearance under the intermediate assessment pathway.

#	Application Poquiroment	
	Application Requirement	Response
1	Information about the native vegetation to be re	
	The assessment pathway and reason for the assessment pathway. This includes the location category of the native vegetation to be removed.	Intermediate Assessment Pathway Less than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation (0.002 hectares) within location 2 is proposed to be disturbed.
	 A description of the native vegetation to be removed that includes: Whether it is a patch or a scattered tree (or both). The extent (in hectares). The number and circumference (in centimetres measured at 1.3 metres above ground level) of any large trees within a patch. The number and circumference (in centimetres measured at 1.3 metres above ground level) of any scattered trees, and whether each tree is small or large. The strategic biodiversity value score The condition score. If it includes endangered Ecological Vegetation Classes. 	 A total of 0.002 hectares of native vegetation is proposed to be impacted that requires a planning permit under <i>Clause 52.17</i>. Strategic Biodiversity Score: 0.650. Condition Score: Modelled condition score of 0.3. The native vegetation to be removed does not include any endangered vegetation classes. The native vegetation to be removed does not include any sensitive wetland or coastal areas.
	 Maps showing the native vegetation and property in context and containing: Scale, north point and property boundaries Location of any patches of native vegetation and the number of large trees within the patch proposed to be removed Location of scattered trees proposed to be removed, including their size 	See Figure 3 for locations of patches of native vegetation. No large trees within patches or scattered trees were noted.
	The offset requirement, determined in accordance with section 5 of the Guidelines, that will apply if the native vegetation is approved to be removed	 General Offset amount: 0.001 general habitat units. Vicinity: Corangamite Catchment Management Authority or Moyne Shire Council



#	Application Requirement	Response
		 Minimum strategic biodiversity value score: 0.52 (at least 80 per cent of the strategic biodiversity score of the native vegetation to be removed). Large trees: 0 large trees.
2	Topographic and land information relating to the native vegetation to be removed, showing ridges, crests and hilltops, wetlands and waterways, slopes of more than 20 percent, drainage lines, low lying areas, saline discharge areas, and areas of existing erosion, as appropriate. This may be represented in a map or plan.	The native vegetation proposed to be removed is on sloping topography less than 20 percent. There are no saline discharge or erosion areas.
3	Recent, dated photographs of the native vegetation to be removed.	See Section 3.2 of this report.
4	Details of any other native vegetation approved to be removed, or that was removed without the required approvals, on the same property or on contiguous land in the same ownership as the applicant, in the five year period before the application for a permit is lodged.	No other native vegetation has been approved to be removed, or was removed without the required approvals, on the same property or on contiguous land in the same ownership as the applicant, in the five year period before the application for a permit is lodged.
5	 An avoid and minimise statement. The statement describes any efforts to avoid the removal of, and minimise the impacts on the biodiversity and other values of native vegetation, and how these efforts focussed on areas of native vegetation that have the most value. The statement should include a description of the following: Strategic level planning – any regional or landscape scale strategic planning process that the site has been subject to that avoided and minimised impacts on native vegetation across a region or landscape Site level planning – how the proposed use or development has been sited or designed to avoid and minimise impacts on native vegetation. That no feasible opportunities exist to further avoid and minimise impacts on native 	Strategic level planning: The study area has not been considered as part of any strategic level planning. Site level planning: The majority of the study area is dominated by introduced vegetation. A small amount of native vegetation is proposed to be impacted (0.002 hectares) for the construction of a crossover onto Old Peterborough Road. The crossover has been designed to avoid native vegetation as best as possible including altering the alignment to avoid impacts greater than 10% to the Tree Protection Zones of Drooping Sheoak trees. Additional ecological protection measures are detailed in Section 6.2.



#	Application Requirement	Response
	vegetation without undermining the key objectives of the proposal.	
6	A copy of any Property Vegetation Plan contained within an agreement made pursuant to section 69 of the Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987 that applies to the native vegetation to be removed.	No Property Vegetation Plan applies to the study area.
7	Where the removal of native vegetation is to create defendable space, a written statement explaining why the removal of native vegetation is necessary. This statement must have regard to other available bushfire risk mitigation measures. This statement is not required when the creation of defendable space is in conjunction with an application under the Bushfire Management Overlay.	The removal of native vegetation is not to create defendable space in conjunction with an application under the Bushfire Management Overlay.
8	If the application is under Clause 52.16, a statement that explains how the proposal responds to the Native Vegetation Precinct Plan considerations at decision guideline 8.	The application is not under Clause 52.16.
9	An offset statement providing evidence that an offset that meets the offset requirements for the native vegetation to be removed has been identified, and can be secured in accordance with the Guidelines. A suitable statement includes evidence that the required offset: • Is available to purchase from a third party, or • Will be established as a new offset and has the agreement of the proposed offset provider, or • Can be met by a first party offset	See the attached quote for the offset requirement from an accredited offset broker.



6 REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 REQUIREMENTS

The following actions are required as part of the proposed works:

- A permit to remove native vegetation from the Moyne Shire Council is required under Clause 52.17 Native Vegetation and Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO2 – Peterborough Coastal and Estuary Area). As per Clause 52.17, the application has been classed as an intermediate assessment pathway.
- To ensure *no net loss* to Victoria's biodiversity **0.001 general habitat units with a minimum strategic score of 0.52** within the Corangamite Catchment or Moyne Shire Council is required.

6.2 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following actions are highly recommended to further avoid and minimise impacts to ecological values during and after the proposed works.

Native Vegetation

- Ensure any contractors on-site are aware of, and educated about areas of native vegetation to be retained within the adjacent roadside and enforce penalties for those who enter into or disturb these areas.
- Exclusion areas and 'no go' zones should be established and protected where appropriate (i.e. use high visibility para-webbing to delineate areas of ecological value). Stockpiles, machinery and personnel rest areas should be placed in designated areas away from native vegetation.
- Ensure any proposed works remain within the permitted construction footprint (i.e. do not disturb or remove areas of native vegetation outside this footprint).
- Any revegetation or landscaping will use locally indigenous species.

Sedimentation and Pollution

- Inform contractors that drainage lines are areas of ecological value or pathways to areas of ecological values (e.g. rivers, oceans and wetlands).
- Ensure best practice sedimentation and pollution control measures, to the satisfaction of the Environment Protection Authority (EPA 1991), are undertaken at all times to prevent off-site impacts.
- Ensure waste stockpiles, skips and personnel rest areas are located away from drainage areas to prevent accidental movement of rubbish and construction materials within waterways.

Weed and Biosecurity

• Any imported soil or gravel must be weed free to prevent importation of weed seed into the study area.



53 Halladale Road, Peterborough, Victoria –Biodiversity Assessment.

• Control the placement of any soil stockpiles and green waste outside areas of native vegetation.



53 Halladale Road, Peterborough, Victoria –Biodiversity Assessment.

FIGURES





Figure 2: Ecological features of the study area

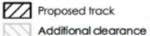




Damp Heath Scrub

Damp Heath Scrub (Sheoak)

Vegetation to be removed



Study area





REFERENCES

- DELWP 2017. Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation. Published by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
- DEECA 2024a. *Nature Kit.* Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Change website. <u>www.delwp.vic.gov.au</u>.

DEECA 2024b. Ecological Vegetation Class Benchmarks. Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning website. <u>www.delwp.vic.gov.au</u>.

DEECA 2024c. Victorian Biodiversity Atlas. www.vba.dse.vic.gov.au.

- DEECA 2024d. Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Change website <u>www.land.vic.gov.au</u>
- DCCEEW 2024. Protected Matters Online Search Tool. Department of Climate Change, Energy, The Environment and Water website. www.dcceew.gov.au
- DP Planning 2024. 53 Halladale Road, Peterborough. Town Planning Concept Drawings.
- DSE 2004. Vegetation Quality Assessment Manual: Guidelines for applying the habitat hectares scoring method. Department of Sustainability and Environment, East Melbourne, Victoria.
- EPA 1990 Construction Techniques for Sediment Pollution Control. Published by Environmental Protection Agency Victoria.
- SEWPAC 2013 The EPBC Act Significant Impact Guidelines. Published by the Department of

Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities

Sitec Consulting Engineers 2024. Stormwater Management Plan for 53 Halladale Road, Peterborough.



APPENDICES



APPENDIX 1. FLORA SPECIES RECORDED WITHIN THE STUDY AREA DURING THE CURRENT ASSESSMENT

Notes: CaLP – denotes Catchment and Land Protection Act regionally controlled listed weed within the Corangamite Catchment.

- Native to Australia but located outside natural distribution.

Scientific Name	Common Name
NATIVE SPECIES	
Acacia verticillata	Prickly Moses
Acaena novae-zelandiae	Bidgee-widgee
Allocasuarina verticillata	Drooping Sheoak
Dianella admixta	Black-anther Flax-lily
Eucalyptus obliqua	Messmate Stringybark
Geranium spp.	Crane's Bill
Leptospermum continentale	Prickly Tea-tree
Leucopogon parviflorus	Coast Beard-heath
Lotus spp.	Trefoil
Myoporum insulare	Common Boobialla
Muehlenbeckia adpressa	Climbing Lignum
Olearia axillaris	Coast Daisy-Bush
Poa labillardierei	Common Tussock-grass
Pteridium esculentum subsp. esculentum	Austral Bracken
Rhagodia candolleana subsp. candolleana	Seaberry Saltbush
Rytidosperma caespitosum	Common Wallaby-grass
Rytidosperma spp.	Wallaby Grass
Styphelia humifusa	Cranberry Heath
Themeda triandra	Kangaroo Grass
INTRODUCED SPECIES	
#Acacia longifolia subsp. longifolia	Sallow Wattle
Agrostis capillaris	Brown-top Bent
Allium triquetrum	Angled Onion
Arctotheca calendula	Cape Weed
Bellis perennis	English Daisy
Cenchrus clandestinus	Kikuyu
Centaurium erythraea	Common Centaury
CaLP Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera	African Boneseed
CaLP Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle
Coprosma repens	Mirror Bush

Scientific Name	Common Name
Cortaderia selloana subsp. selloana	Pampas Grass
Cotoneaster pannosus	Velvet Cotoneaster
Dactylis glomerata	Cocksfoot
Dipogon lignosus	Common Dipogon
Ehrharta erecta	Panic Veldt-grass
Fumaria spp.	Fumitory
#Gaudium laevigatum	Coast Tea-tree
Hedera helix s.l.	English Ivy
Helminthotheca echioides	Ox-tongue
Hypochaeris radicata	Flatweed
Lepidium spp.	Peppercress
Medicago polymorpha	Burr Medic
#Melaleuca armillaris subsp. armillaris	Giant Honey-myrtle
Melaleuca diosmifolia	Green Honey-myrtle
Pittosporum crassifolium	Karo
#Pittosporum undulatum	Sweet Pittosporum
Plantago coronopus	Buck's-horn Plantain
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort
Poa annua s.l.	Annual Meadow-grass
Romulea rosea	Onion Grass
Sonchus oleraceus	Common Sow-thistle
Stellaria media	Chickweed
Stenotaphrum secundatum	Buffalo Grass
Taraxacum officinale spp. agg.	Garden Dandelion
Urtica urens	Small Nettle
Vicia sativa	Common Vetch



APPENDIX 2. EPBC ACT LISTED FLORA PREVIOUSLY RECORDED OR PREDICTED TO OCCUR WITHIN A FIVE KILOMETRE RADIUS OF THE STUDY AREA

LISTING:

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act):

Х	Extinct
CR	Critically Endangered
EN	Endangered
VU	Vulnerable
Habitat	Habitat predicted to occur within 5
nubiui	kilometre radius

Likelihood of occurring: Recorded, Potential Habitat, Unlikely, No Habitat.

Source: Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (DEECA 2024c) and (H) = Potential habitat predicted by the Protected Matters Search Tool (DCCEEW 2024)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Total Records	EPBC Act	Likelihood of Occurrence
Glycine latrobeana	Clover Glycine	2	VU	No habitat
Pterostylis tenuissima	Swamp Greenhood	6	VU	No habitat
Thelymitra epipactoides	Metallic Sun-orchid	2	EN	No habitat
Thelymitra orientalis	Hoary Sun-orchid	-	CR	No habitat
Lepidium hyssopifolium	Basalt Pepper-cress	-	EN	No habitat
Pterostylis cucullata	Leafy Greenhood	-	VU	No habitat
Senecio psilocarpus	Swamp Fireweed	-	VU	No habitat
Xerochrysum palustre	Swamp Everlasting	-	VU	No habitat
Prasophyllum spicatum	Dense Leek-orchid	-	VU	No habitat
Haloragis exalata subsp. exalata	Wingless Raspwort	-	VU	No habitat
Lepidium aschersonii	Spiny Peppercress	-	VU	No habitat
Pterostylis chlorogramma	Green-striped Greenhood	-	VU	No habitat
Amphibromus fluitans	River Swamp Wallaby-grass	-	VU	No habitat



APPENDIX 3. EPBC ACT LISTED FAUNA SPECIES PREVIOUSLY RECORDED OR WITH POTENTIAL HABITAT WITHIN A FIVE KILOMETRE RADIUS OF THE STUDY AREA (EPBC ACT MIGRATORY AND MARINE SPECIES ARE EXCLUDED)

LISTING:

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act):

Х	Extinct
CR	Critically Endangered
EN	Endangered
VU	Vulnerable
Habitat	Habitat predicted to occur within 5
nabilai	kilometre radius

Likelihood of occurring: Recorded, Potential Habitat, Unlikely, No Habitat.

Source: Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (DEECA 2024c) and (H) = Potential habitat predicted by the Protected Matters Search Tool (DCCEEW 2024)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Total Records	EPBC Act	Likelihood of Occurrence
Thinornis cucullatus	Hooded Plover	165	VU	No habitat
Gallinago hardwickii	Latham's Snipe	22	VU	No habitat
Isoodon obesulus obesulus	Southern Brown Bandicoot	10	EN	No habitat
Neophema chrysostoma	Blue-winged Parrot	10	VU	No habitat
Botaurus poiciloptilus	Australasian Bittern	9	EN	No habitat
Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper	5	CR	No habitat
Limosa lapponica	Bar-tailed Godwit	4	EN	No habitat
Thalassarche cauta	Shy Albatross	4	EN	No habitat
Thalassarche melanophris	Black-browed Albatross	4	VU	No habitat
Numenius madagascariensis	Eastern Curlew	2	CR	No habitat
Tringa nebularia	Common Greenshank	2	EN	No habitat
Antechinus minimus maritimus	Swamp Antechinus	2	VU	No habitat
Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	2	VU	No habitat
Hirundapus caudacutus	White-throated Needletail	2	VU	No habitat
Pluvialis squatarola	Grey Plover	2	VU	No habitat
Potorous tridactylus trisulcatus	Long-nosed Potoroo	2	VU	No habitat



Scientific Name	Common Name	Total Records	EPBC Act	Likelihood of Occurrence
Neophema chrysogaster	Orange-bellied Parrot	1	CR	No habitat
Calidris tenuirostris	Great Knot	1	VU	No habitat
Charadrius leschenaultii	Greater Sand Plover	1	VU	No habitat
Halobaena caerulea	Blue Petrel	1	VU	No habitat
Sternula nereis	Fairy Tern	1	VU	No habitat
Anthochaera phrygia	Regent Honeyeater	-	CR	No habitat
Lathamus discolor	Swift Parrot	-	CR	No habitat
Miniopterus orianae bassanii	Southern Bent-wing Bat	-	CR	No habitat
Callocephalon fimbriatum	Gang-gang Cockatoo	-	EN	No habitat
Dasyurus maculatus maculatus (SE mainland population)	Spot-tailed Quoll	-	EN	No habitat
Diomedea sanfordi	Northern Royal Albatross	-	EN	No habitat
Lissolepis coventryi	Swamp Skink	-	EN	No habitat
Macronectes giganteus	Southern Giant-Petrel	-	EN	No habitat
Mastacomys fuscus mordicus	Broad-toothed Rat (mainland)	-	EN	No habitat
Nannoperca obscura	Yarra Pygmy Perch	-	EN	No habitat
Pterodroma leucoptera leucoptera	Gould's Petrel	-	EN	No habitat
Rostratula australis	Australian Painted Snipe	-	EN	No habitat
Thalassarche chrysostoma	Grey-headed Albatross	-	EN	No habitat
Ardenna grisea	Sooty Shearwater	-	VU	No habitat
Calidris canutus	Red Knot, Knot	-	VU	No habitat
Climacteris picumnus victoriae	Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern)	-	VU	No habitat
Diomedea antipodensis	Antipodean Albatross	-	VU	No habitat



Scientific Name	Common Name	Total Records	EPBC Act	Likelihood of Occurrence
Diomedea epomophora	Southern Royal Albatross	-	VU	No habitat
Diomedea exulans	Wandering Albatross	-	VU	No habitat
Falco hypoleucos	Grey Falcon	-	VU	No habitat
Grantiella picta	Painted Honeyeater	-	VU	No habitat
Litoria raniformis	Southern Bell Frog	-	VU	No habitat
Macronectes halli	Northern Giant Petrel	-	VU	No habitat
Pachyptila turtur subantarctica	Fairy Prion (southern)	-	VU	No habitat
Petaurus australis australis	Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern)	-	VU	No habitat
Phoebetria fusca	Sooty Albatross	-	VU	No habitat
Prototroctes maraena	Australian Grayling	-	VU	No habitat
Pseudomys novaehollandiae	New Holland Mouse	-	VU	No habitat
Pterodroma mollis	Soft-plumaged Petrel	-	VU	No habitat
Pteropus poliocephalus	Grey-headed Flying- fox	-	VU	No habitat
Stagonopleura guttata	Diamond Firetail	-	VU	No habitat
Thalassarche bulleri	Buller's Albatross	-	VU	No habitat
Thalassarche bulleri platei	Northern Buller's Albatross	-	VU	No habitat
Thalassarche carteri	Indian Yellow-nosed Albatross	-	VU	No habitat
Thalassarche impavida	Campbell Albatross	-	VU	No habitat
Thalassarche salvini	Salvin's Albatross	-	VU	No habitat
Thalassarche steadi	White-capped Albatross	-	VU	No habitat

APPENDIX 4. NATIVE VEGETATION REMOVAL REPORT





NVRR ID: 354_20240918_702

This report provides information to support an application to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation in accordance with the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (the Guidelines). This report is **not an assessment by DEECA** of the proposed native vegetation removal. Native vegetation information and offset requirements have been determined using spatial data provided by the applicant or their consultant.

Report details

Date created: 18/09/2024 Local Government Area: MOYNE SHIRE Shapefile name: Hallandale_NVRMap_Removal_Patches.shp Site assessor name: Luke Hynes Registered Aboriginal Party: Eastern Maar Coordinates: 142.87402, -38.60007 Address:





Assessment pathway	Intermediate Assessment Pathway				
Location category	Location 2 The native vegetation extent map indicates that this area is typically characterised as supporting native vegetation. Additionally, it is modelled as encompassing an endangered Ecological Vegetation Class, sensitive wetland or sensitive coastal area. The removal of less than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation in this area will not require a Species Offset.				
Total extent including past and proposed removal (ha) Includes endangered EVCs (ha): 0	0.002	Extent of past removal (ha) Extent of proposed removal - Patches (ha) Extent of proposed removal - Scattered Trees (ha)	0 0.002 0.000		
No. Large Trees proposed to be removed	0	<i>No. Large Patch Trees</i> <i>No. Large Scattered Trees</i>	0 0		
No. Small Scattered Trees	0		_		

Offset requirements if approval is granted

Any approval granted will include a condition to secure an offset, before the removal of native vegetation, that meets the following requirements:

General Offset amount ¹	0.001 General Habitat Units		
Minimum strategic biodiversity value score ²	0.5200		
Large Trees	0		
Vicinity	Corangamite CMA or MOYNE SHIRE LGA		

NB: values within tables in this document may not add to the totals shown above due to rounding

The availability of third-party offset credits can be checked using the Native Vegetation Credit Register (NVCR) Search Tool - <u>https://nvcr.delwp.vic.gov.au</u>

^{1.} The General Offset amount required is the sum of all General Habitat Units in Appendix 1.

^{2.} Minimum strategic biodiversity value score is 80 per cent of the weighted average score across habitat zones where a General Offset is required.

^{3.} The Species Offset amount(s) required is the sum of all Species Habitat Units in Appendix 1.

Application requirements

Applications to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation must include all the below information. If an appropriate response has not been provided the application is not complete.

Application Requirement 1 - Native vegetation removal information

If the native vegetation removal is mapped correctly, the information presented in this Native Vegetation Removal Report addresses Application Requirement 1.

Application Requirement 2 - Topographical and land information

This statement describes the topographical and land features in the vicinity of the proposed works, including the location and extent of any ridges, hilltops, wetlands and waterways, slopes of more than 20% gradient, low-lying areas, saline discharge areas or areas of erosion.

Application Requirement 3 - Photographs of the native vegetation to be removed

Application Requirement 3 is not addressed in this Native Vegetation Removal Report. <u>All applications must</u> include recent, timestamped photos of each Patch, Large Patch Tree and Scattered Tree which has been mapped in this report.

Application Requirement 4 - Past removal

If past removal has been considered correctly, the information presented in this Native Vegetation Removal Report addresses Application Requirement 4.

Application Requirement 5 - Avoid and minimise statement

This statement describes what has been done to avoid and minimise impacts on native vegetation and associated biodiversity values.

Application Requirement 6 - Property Vegetation Plan

This requirement only applies if an approved Property Vegetation Plan (PVP) applies to the property Does a PVP apply to the proposal?

Application Requirement 7 - Defendable space statement

Where the removal of native vegetation is to create defendable space, this statement:

• Describes the bushfire threat; and

• Describes how other bushfire risk mitigation measures were considered to reduce the amount of native vegetation proposed for removal (this can also be part of the avoid and minimise statement).

This statement is not required if, If the proposed defendable space is within the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO), and in accordance with the 'Exemption to create defendable space for a dwelling under Clause 44.06 of local planning schemes' in Clause 52.12-5.

Application Requirement 8 - Native Vegetation Precinct Plan

This requirement is only applicable if you are removing native vegetation from within an area covered by Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (NVPP), and the proposed removal is not identified as 'to be removed' within the NVPP.

Does an NVPP apply to the proposal?

Application Requirement 9 - Offset statement

This statement demonstrates that an offset is available and describes how the required offset will be secured. The Applicant's Guide provides information relating to this requirement.



Next steps

Applications to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation must address all the application requirements specified in the Guidelines. If you wish to remove the mapped native vegetation you are required to apply for approval from the responsible authority (e.g. local Council). This Native vegetation removal report must be submitted with your application and meets most of the application requirements. The following requirements need to be addressed, as applicable.

Application Requirement 3 - Photographs of the native vegetation to be removed

Recent, dated photographs of the native vegetation to be removed **must be provided** with the application. All photographs must be clear, show whether the vegetation is a Patch of native vegetation, Patch Tree or Scattered Tree, and identify any Large Trees. If the area of native vegetation to be removed is large, provide photos that are indicative of the native vegetation.

Ensure photographs are attached to the application. If appropriate photographs have not been provided the application is not complete.

Application Requirement 6 - Property Vegetation Plan

If a PVP is applicable, it must be provided with the application.

Appendix 1: Description of native vegetation to be removed

General Habitat Units for each zone (Patch, Scattered Tree or Patch Tree) are calculated by the following equation in accordance with the Guidelines

<u>General Habitat Units = extent without overlap x condition score x general landscape factor x 1.5, where the general landscape factor = 0.5 + (strategic biodiversity value score/2)</u>

The General Offset amount required is the sum of all General Habitat Units per zone.

Native vegetation to be removed

Information provided by or on behalf of the applicant						Information calculated by NVR Map					
Zone	Туре	DBH (cm)	EVC code	Bioregional conservation status	Partial Removal	Condition score	Large Tree(s)	Polygon extent (ha)	Extent without overlap (ha)	SBV score	General Habitat Units
1- CDSa	Patch	-	WaP_0160	Depleted	no	0.516	-	0.002	0.002	0.650	0.001

Appendix 2: Images of mapped native vegetation

1. Property in context



- Proposed Removal
- Past Removal
- Partial Removal
- Property Boundaries





2. Aerial photograph showing mapped native vegetation



Proposed Removal
 Past Removal
 Partial Removal



3. Location Risk Map









0.21 - 0.40







0.21 - 0.40





Not Applicable

 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$ The State of Victoria Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action 2024

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