

12.01

31/07/2018
VC148

BIODIVERSITY

12.01-1S31/07/2018
VC148**Protection of biodiversity****Objective**

To assist the protection and conservation of Victoria's biodiversity.

Strategies

Use biodiversity information to identify important areas of biodiversity, including key habitat for rare or threatened species and communities, and strategically valuable biodiversity sites.

Strategically plan for the protection and conservation of Victoria's important areas of biodiversity.

Ensure that decision making takes into account the impacts of land use and development on Victoria's biodiversity, including consideration of:

- Cumulative impacts.
- Fragmentation of habitat.
- The spread of pest plants, animals and pathogens into natural ecosystems.

Avoid impacts of land use and development on important areas of biodiversity.

Consider impacts of any change in land use or development that may affect the biodiversity value of national parks and conservation reserves or nationally and internationally significant sites; including wetlands and wetland wildlife habitat designated under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (the Ramsar Convention) and sites utilised by species listed under the Japan-Australia Migratory Birds Agreement (JAMBA), the China-Australia Migratory Birds Agreement (CAMBA), or the Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (ROKAMBA).

Assist in the identification, protection and management of important areas of biodiversity.

Assist in the establishment, protection and re-establishment of links between important areas of biodiversity, including through a network of green spaces and large-scale native vegetation corridor projects.

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- State biodiversity information maintained by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037* (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2017)
- *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2017)
- Any applicable biodiversity strategies, including the relevant Regional Catchment Strategy (prepared under Part 4 of the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*)

12.01-1L Protection of biodiversity in Surf Coast

40/06/2024 --/--/----
 G436surf Proposed C133surf

Strategies

Promote environmental buffers adjacent the Great Otway National Park that maintain a continuous form of native vegetation and minimise the spread of weed species into the National Park.

Provide and maintain buffers for coastal vegetation communities likely to be impacted by the coastal impacts of climate change that allow for landward migration of the vegetation communities (e.g. Saltmarshes).

Discourage extending settlements or intensifying development in locations containing significant biodiversity assets, unless these assets:

- Will not be fragmented or compromised.
- Will be incorporated into an open space network.

Protect the long term health of vegetation especially in visually prominent areas.

Site and design development to minimise vegetation removal, particularly indigenous vegetation that adds to the landscape character.

Encourage the planting of locally indigenous vegetation species to compensate for the removal of existing native vegetation.

Encourage the removal of environmental weeds identified in the incorporated document *Weeds of the Surf Coast Shire* (Surf Coast Shire, 2013), aiming for their eventual eradication.

Encourage the removal of exotic plant species in Lorne (excluding trees with heritage value).

Encourage the protection of Red Gums in Winchelsea's residential growth areas.

Encourage retention of existing vegetation on private land, roadsides and reserves.

Protect the endangered Merrans Sun Orchid in Aireys Inlet to Eastern View.

Protect the Coastal Moonah Woodland community in Torquay-Jan Juc, Anglesea and Aireys Inlet to Eastern View.

Protect the Bellarine Yellow Gum in Torquay-Jan Juc.

Policy guideline

Consider as relevant:

- A bond to be paid by the property owner or developer for establishing and maintaining new or replacement vegetation or for retaining existing trees, where either:
 - The site is visually prominent.
 - The long term health of vegetation may be compromised, including where special protection measures are needed to protect vegetation from surrounding works.
 - Significant vegetation is proposed to be removed.

Policy document

Consider as relevant:

- *Weeds of the Surf Coast Shire* (Surf Coast Shire, 2013)
- *Indigenous planting guide* (Surf Coast Shire, 2003)

12.01-2S31/07/2018
VC148**Native vegetation management****Objective**

To ensure that there is no net loss to biodiversity as a result of the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.

Strategies

Ensure decisions that involve, or will lead to, the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation, apply the three-step approach in accordance with the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2017):

- Avoid the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.
- Minimise impacts from the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation that cannot be avoided.
- Provide an offset to compensate for the biodiversity impact from the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- State biodiversity information maintained by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2017)
- *Assessor's handbook – applications to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation* (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2017)

