

Native Vegetation Assessment

Project Planning Summary:

Application	YR-2022/1106
Location	Road reserve of #134 Hereford Road Mount Evelyn
Proposal	Removal of 8 native trees
Zone	Green Wedge A Zone
Relevant Overlays	Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 1 Significant Landscape Overlay 6

Project Scope:

Councils Planning Department requested a Native Vegetation Assessment be completed on a proposal to remove 8 indigenous trees located on the road reserve of #134 Hereford Road Mount Evelyn.

Vegetation assessment and impacts

This assessment includes 8 trees identified as #3, 4, 8, 16, 17, 19, 21 & 22. Refer to Arboriculture report dated 28 September 2022 and the following excerpt (figure 1) showing tree locations and table 1 showing tree data.

2. Tree Plan

Road Reserve North of 134 Hereford Road, Mt Evelyn Planning Application Site Plan (proposed trees circled in red and tagged onsite)



Figure 1: excerpt from Arborist report dated 28 September 2022 showing tree locations.

Table 1: Tree Data

Proposed Impact	Tree ID	Species:	Origin:	DBH (cm)	Tree Circumference at 1.3m (cm)*	Proposed Offset:
Remove	3	<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Indigenous	80	251.3	NVIM
Remove	4	<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Indigenous	70	219.9	NVIM
Remove	8	<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Indigenous	66	207.3	NVIM
Remove	16	<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Indigenous	84	263.9	None – within 10 m of dwelling
Remove	17	<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Indigenous	70	219.9	None – within 10 m of dwelling
Remove	19	<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Indigenous	77	241.9	None – within 10 m of dwelling
Remove	21	<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Indigenous	45	141.4	None – within 10 m of dwelling
Remove	22	<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Indigenous	60	188.5	NVIM

*Note: Tree Circumference column added by author the remaining data is sourced from Arboriculture report dated 28 September 2022.

The proposed removal of 8 indigenous canopy trees has been assessed using the Victorian Department of Environment Land, Water and Planning’s (DELWP) Permitted Clearing of native vegetation - Biodiversity Assessment Guidelines and the Native Vegetation Information Management (NVIM) tool.

As 4 of these trees are located within 10m of a dwelling they have been excluded from offset calculations as per Clause 52.12 Bushfire Protection Exemptions. Refer to table 1 above.

The entire Project site is mapped as Location Risk A – and the removal of 4 indigenous Canopy trees results in an Intermediate Assessment Pathway with an extent of 0.148 hectares proposed to be removed including 2 large trees.

An appropriate offset would be the purchase of 0.025 general habitat units from the Port Phillip and Western Port CMA with a minimum strategic biodiversity score of 0.205 including 2 large trees.

A DELWP Native Vegetation Removal Report (NVR) has been created and is attached.

Credits for these offsets are available for purchase from the YRC Biodiversity Offset Program (BOP).

Avoid & Minimise Summary

Nothing known – refer to applicant

Report completed by

Environmental Assessment Officer – Council Projects
Yarra Ranges Council

03/01/2023

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 report **is not an assessment by DELWP** 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.

Date of issue: 23/12/2022
Time of issue: 2:12 am

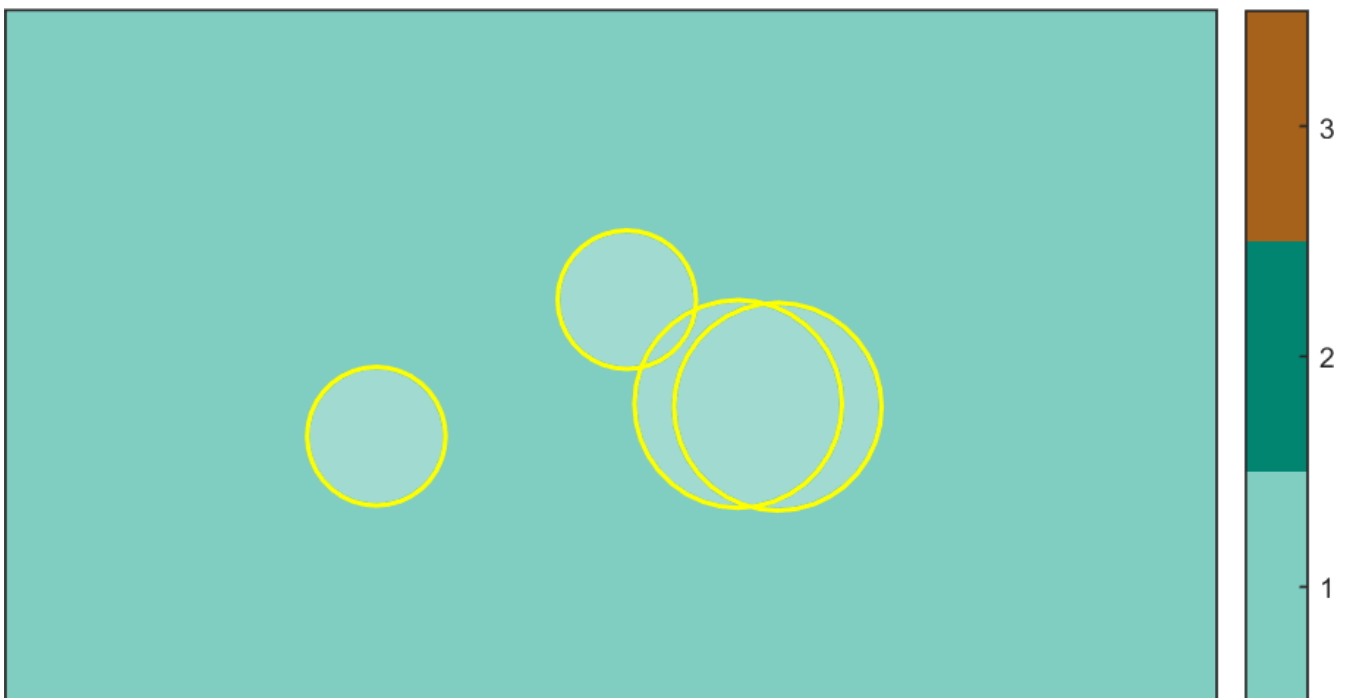
Report ID: GEN_2022_296

Project ID	featureclass_101738
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Assessment pathway

Assessment pathway	Intermediate Assessment Pathway
Extent including past and proposed	0.148 ha
Extent of past removal	0.000 ha
Extent of proposed removal	0.148 ha
No. Large trees proposed to be removed	2
Location category of proposed removal	Location 1 The native vegetation is not in an area mapped as an endangered Ecological Vegetation Class (as per the statewide EVC map), sensitive wetland or coastal area. Removal of less than 0.5 hectares in this location will not have a significant impact on any habitat for a rare or threatened species

1. Location map



Offset requirements if a permit is granted

Any approval granted will include a condition to obtain an offset that meets the following requirements:

General offset amount¹	0.028 general habitat units
Vicinity	Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority (CMA) or Yarra Ranges Shire Council
Minimum strategic biodiversity value score ²	0.205
Large trees	2 large trees

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

Appendix 1 includes information about the native vegetation to be removed

Appendix 2 includes information about the rare or threatened species mapped at the site.

Appendix 3 includes maps showing native vegetation to be removed and extracts of relevant species habitat importance maps

¹ The general offset amount required is the sum of all general habitat units in Appendix 1.

² Minimum strategic biodiversity score is 80 per cent of the weighted average score across habitat zones where a general offset is required

Next steps

Any proposal to remove native vegetation must meet the application requirements of the Intermediate Assessment Pathway and it will be assessed under the Intermediate Assessment Pathway.

If you wish to remove the mapped native vegetation you are required to apply for a permit from your local council. Council will refer your application to DELWP for assessment, as required. **This report is not a referral assessment by DELWP.**

This *Native vegetation removal report* must be submitted with your application for a permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation.

Refer to the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (the Guidelines) for a full list of application requirements. This report provides information that meets the following application requirements:

- The assessment pathway and reason for the assessment pathway
- A description of the native vegetation to be removed (met unless you wish to include a site assessment)
- Maps showing the native vegetation and property
- The offset requirements determined in accordance with section 5 of the Guidelines that apply if approval is granted to remove native vegetation.

Additional application requirements must be met including:

- Topographical and land information
- Recent dated photographs
- Details of past native vegetation removal
- An avoid and minimise statement
- A copy of any Property Vegetation Plan that applies
- A defensible space statement as applicable
- A statement about the Native Vegetation Precinct Plan as applicable
- An offset statement that explains that an offset has been identified and how it will be secured.

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Obtaining this publication does not guarantee that an application will meet the requirements of Clauses 52.16 or 52.17 of the Victoria Planning Provisions and Victorian planning schemes or that a permit to remove native vegetation will be granted.

Notwithstanding anything else contained in this publication, you must ensure that you comply with all relevant laws, legislation, awards or orders and that you obtain and comply with all permits, approvals and the like that affect, are applicable or are necessary to undertake any action to remove, lop or destroy or otherwise deal with any native vegetation or that apply to matters within the scope of Clauses 52.16 or 52.17 of the Victoria Planning Provisions and Victorian planning schemes.

Appendix 1: Description of native vegetation to be removed

All zones require a general offset, the general habitat units each zone is calculated by the following equation in accordance with the Guidelines:

$$\text{General habitat units} = \text{extent} \times \text{condition} \times \text{general landscape factor} \times 1.5, \text{ where the general landscape factor} = 0.5 + (\text{strategic biodiversity value score}/2)$$

The general offset amount required is the sum of all general habitat units per zone.

Native vegetation to be removed

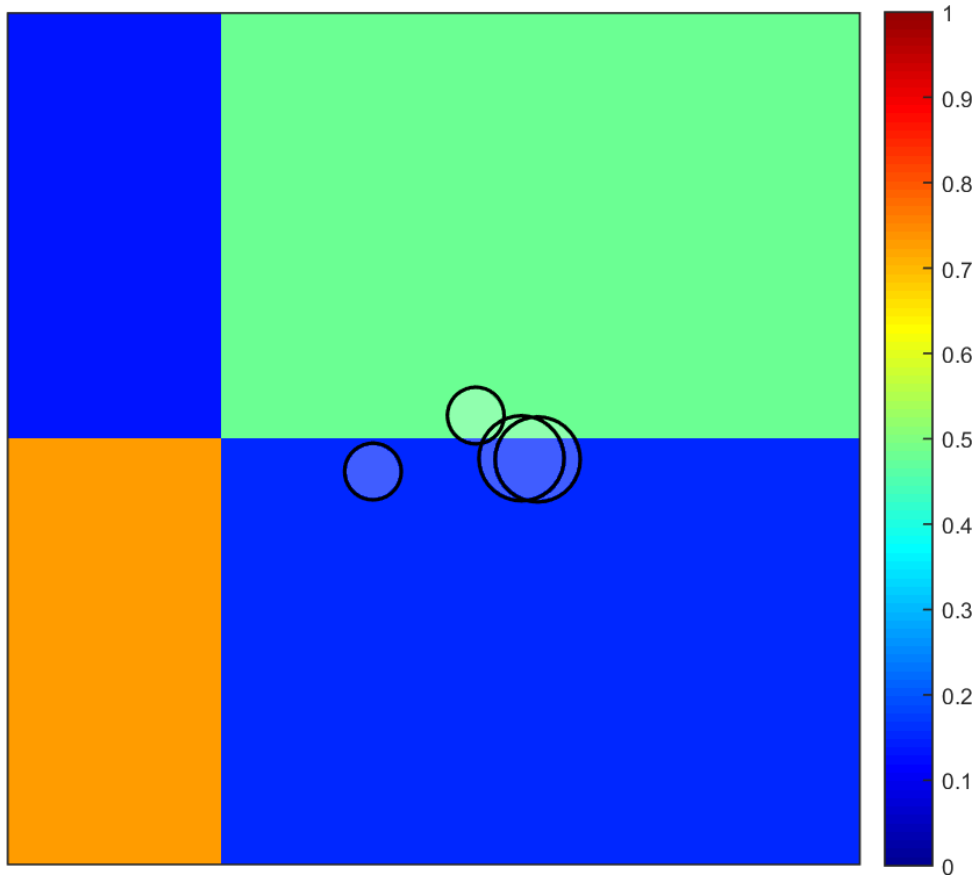
Information provided by or on behalf of the applicant in a GIS file						Information calculated by EnSym						
Zone	Type	BioEVC	BioEVC conservation status	Large tree(s)	Partial removal	Modelled Condition score	Polygon Extent	Extent without overlap	SBV score	HI score	Habitat units	Offset type
3-A	Scattered Tree			0	no	0.200	0.031	0.029	0.468		0.006	General
5-A	Scattered Tree			0	no	0.200	0.031	0.031	0.150		0.005	General
1-A	Scattered Tree			1	no	0.200	0.070	0.044	0.216		0.008	General
2-A	Scattered Tree			1	no	0.200	0.070	0.044	0.230		0.008	General

Appendix 2: Information about impacts to rare or threatened species' habitats on site

This is not applicable in the Intermediate Assessment Pathway.

Appendix 3 – Images of mapped native vegetation

2. Strategic biodiversity values map



3. Aerial photograph showing mapped native vegetation



4. Map of the property in context



Yellow boundaries denote areas of proposed native vegetation removal.