

# Native vegetation

## Permit process to remove native vegetation

### Offset options available



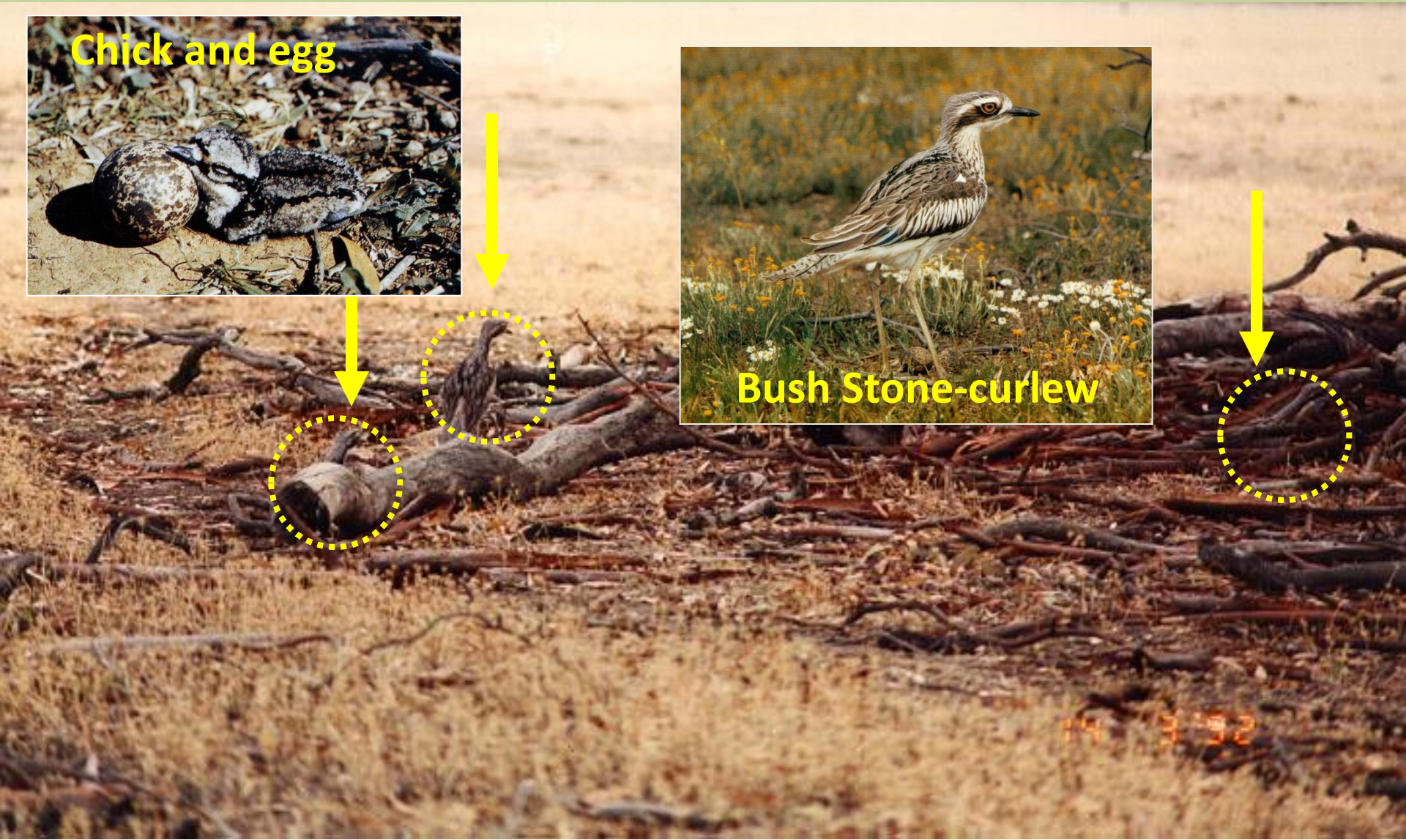
# Existing habitat on farms

- Single mature trees
  - Standing dead trees
  - Fallen logs and branches
- 
- Wetlands
  - Semi-permanent creeks and waterholes
  - Native pastures and grassland
  - Rocks, crevices, caves
  - Woodland/plantations





# Fallen logs and branches





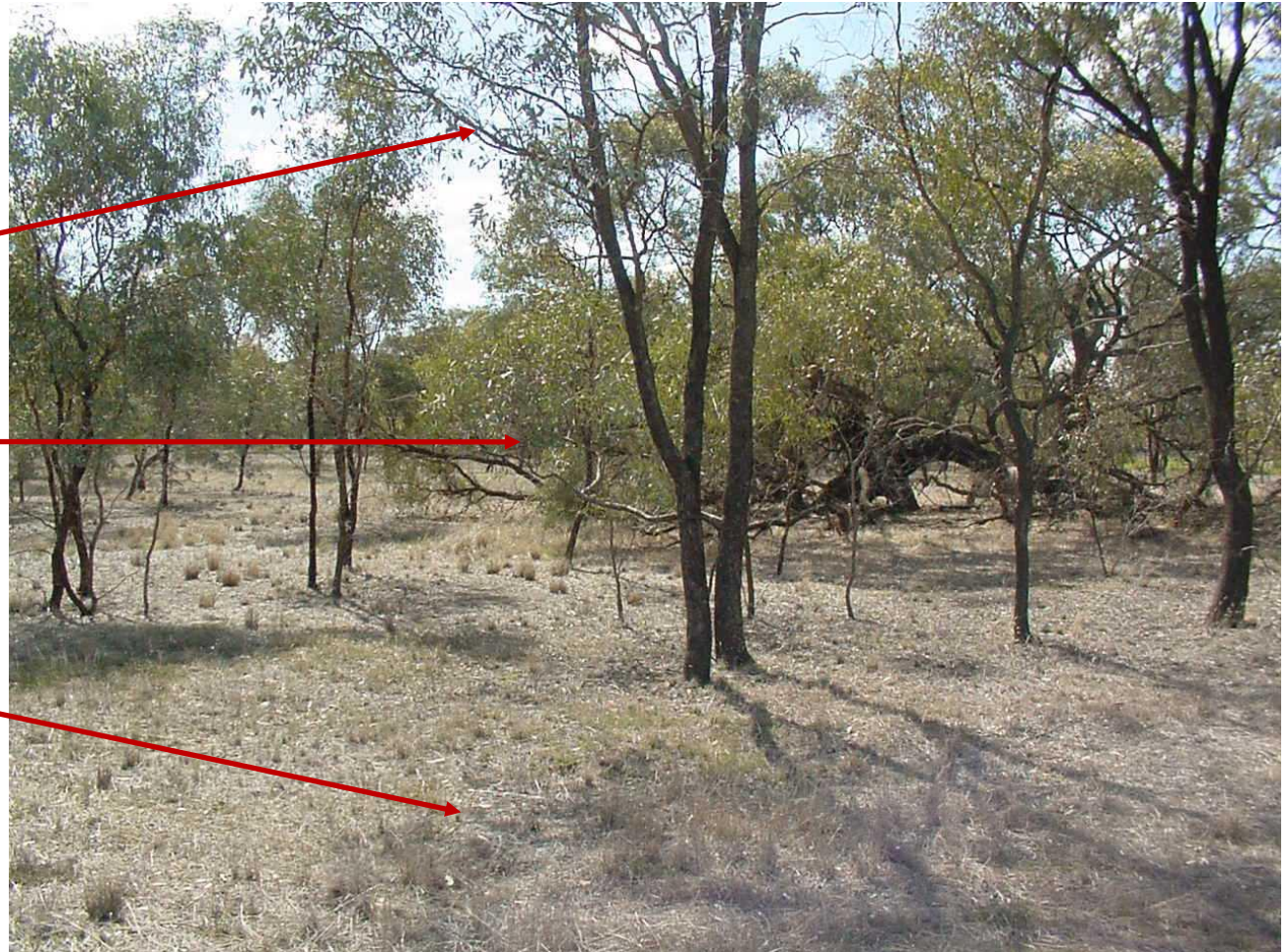
# What is Native Vegetation?

Remember  
to look:

1. Up

2. Across  
and

3. Down



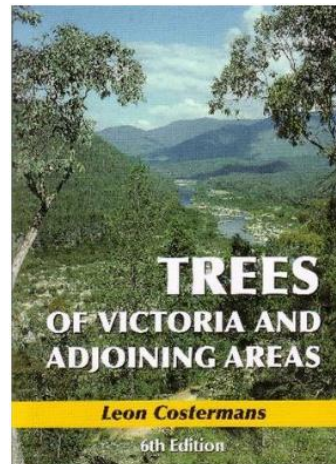
# What is Native Vegetation?

Plants that are indigenous to Victoria including trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses

We are here to help

If in doubt:

- Check a guide or book
- Check online
- Ask a DELWP Biodiversity Officer
- Hire a consultant



## Trees of Victoria and Adjoining Areas Pocket Book

★★★★★ | Be the first to write a review

By: [Leon Costermans](#)

Paperback

Published: 1st September 2006

✓ IN STOCK

SHIPS 1-2 DAYS

RRP \$17.95

**\$14.95**

17% OFF

f Like 0

G+1 0

Pin it



# What is Native Vegetation?

## ‘Remnant Patches’





# What is Native Vegetation?

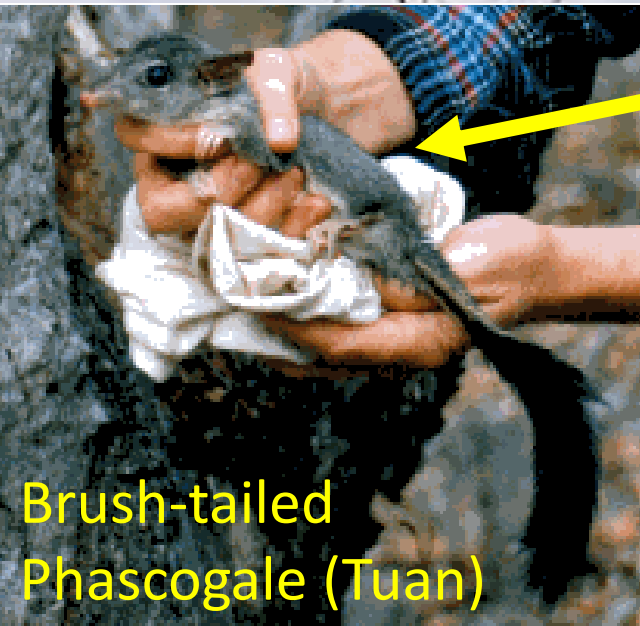
## 'Scattered Trees'



# Single mature trees



Little Forest Bat



Brush-tailed  
Phascogale (Tuan)



Barking Owl



# If no exemption applies, apply for a permit with your local council

## Permitted clearing of native vegetation

Low risk-based pathway permit applicant's kit: March 2014

In Victoria, a planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation.

Landholders wishing to remove native vegetation need to apply for a permit from their local council.

The *Permitted clearing of native vegetation – Biodiversity assessment guidelines – Sept 2013* (the Guidelines) are incorporated into all Victorian planning schemes and guide the assessment of biodiversity consideration of the permitted clearing regulations. The Guidelines set out how impacts on Victoria's biodiversity are assessed when an application for a permit to remove native vegetation is considered.

### Purpose of this kit

This kit assists landholders prepare an application for a permit to remove native vegetation and meet the permit application requirements set out in the Clause 52.16 and Clause 52.17 of Victorian planning schemes and the Guidelines.

By following the steps outlined in this kit an applicant can:

- confirm if a permit is required to remove native vegetation
- classify the native vegetation proposed to be removed
- use the online tool to help prepare an application in the low risk-based pathway
- provide any additional application information required under Clause 52.16 or Clause 52.17.

The kit includes an application form that should be completed and lodged with the local council as part of a planning permit application.

### What this kit does not cover

This kit assists landholders to prepare permit applications which will be assessed in the low risk-based pathway, as outlined in Clause 52.17. This kit must not be used to prepare applications in the moderate and high risk-based pathway. See the [Meeting the moderate and high risk-based pathway applications requirements](#) information sheet for details on how to prepare these applications.

Applicants may be required to provide additional information to meet other requirements of the relevant planning scheme. This may include:

- relevant planning overlays.

Applicants should contact their local council to determine if additional information is required.

### Requirements for using this kit

To prepare an application using this kit an applicant needs to:

- know the extent of native vegetation to be removed
- have access to the internet and a printer.

## Permitted clearing of native vegetation – Meeting the moderate and high risk-based pathway application requirements

Information Sheet: March 2014

### Overview

#### Purpose

This document guides the preparation of applications for permits to remove native vegetation that are in the moderate and high risk-based pathways, as defined by *Permitted clearing of native vegetation – biodiversity assessment guidelines* (the Guidelines). The document details what is required to meet the additional application requirements for moderate and high risk-based pathway applications. This document should be used by applicants (and anyone assisting them) when preparing a moderate or high risk-based pathway application for a permit to remove native vegetation.

#### Use of this document

Before using this document please ensure that:

- the vegetation proposed to be removed meets the definition of native vegetation in the Guidelines
- a permit is required to remove the native vegetation
- a *Biodiversity assessment report* using the online Native Vegetation Information Management (NVIM) tool has determined that the application falls in the moderate or high risk-based pathway.

### Contents

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# On-line mapping system

**NVIM**

HomeContact DELWP

VICTORIA  
State Government

Environment,  
Land, Water  
and Planning

< Back to Native vegetation permitted clearing regulations

## Identify your proposal

Please enter a valid address or parcel SPI

Search

Identify native vegetation

Delete all

Map layers & legend

Mildura

Ouyen

Swan Hill

Kerang

Warrackbeal

St Arnaud

Horsham

Stawell

The Grampians

Ararat

Hamilton

Portland

Warrambol

Campendown

Colac

Southern Ocean

Bass Strait

Educa

Bendigo

Manborough

Castlemaine

Seymour

Alexandra

Geelong

Warragul

Monbulk

Traralgon

Leongatha

Wonthaggi

Shepparton

Wangaratta

Benalla

Bright

Omeo

The Great Dividing Range

Bairnsdale

Sale

Wodonga

Corryong

Melbourne

## NVIM Quick Reference Guide

### General guide

#### What is NVIM?

NVIM stands for Native Vegetation Information Management and is a system to access Victoria's native vegetation information.

#### Accessing NVIM

NVIM is a web-based system available to the public – <http://nvim.delwp.vic.gov.au>. The home page provides information about the system and tools available.

#### Search for property

- Enter a full property address or a Standard Parcel Identifier (SPI) in the Search bar (note: SPI is separated using "\")
- Address will be displayed in information panel on the left and marked on map (Note: several options may appear – choose one and the map zooms to display the parcel)



#### Advanced search

Advanced search is a quick way to locate an area of interest. Once selected the map zooms in (layers do not need to be active). Select what you are searching for either by using the drop down boxes provided or by typing in the box (using predictive text to search):

- Search for:** – select a specific category
- By:** – select a pre-determined attribute (note some may have only one attribute to choose from)
- Show:** – select the specific name or number of the attribute

Note – to remove a search you will need to select the Clear button.

#### Select a template

- In the left information panel select a topic that may best suit the information you are seeking (grey box)
- Choose a template from the drop down list (blue text)



#### Selecting layers

- Select the Layers tab from the menu at the top right of the map
- Switch on or off different layers to change the map
- Use the Legend tab to identify different vegetation types on the map
- Aerial imagery is available to assist in identifying native vegetation on property



#### Drawing tools

- Select a drawing tool from the Select draw tool drop list at the top of the map
- Drawing tools available in NVIM include:
  - Draw a polygon to mark up an area
  - Draw a line to indicate a fence line
  - Place a point to mark out a feature
  - Mark a circle to outline a 15m radius circle around a point or a scattered tree
- All areas marked up will be numbered and should be clearly identified.



#### Edit drawings

Start editing your map drawings by selecting the Edit button on the top of the map. To:

- change the shape of a polygon or line – click on the shape then choose a vertices (circles on the polygon or line) and drag to new position
- move a polygon, line or point – click on the shape and hold down the mouse key and move it to new position
- finish editing – click on the Finish Editing button



# Developing an application...

- Applications are prepared on-line using the NVIM tool
- Native Vegetation Information Management

## Identify your proposal

Please enter a valid address or parcel SPI

Search

### When proposal is identified, click "Proceed to results"

When you have finished marking the native vegetation that you plan to remove, click "Proceed to results".

#### Summary of marked native vegetation

##### Address:

7909 DONALD-STAWELL ROAD STAWELL  
3380

##### Remnant patch:

1 0.861 ha

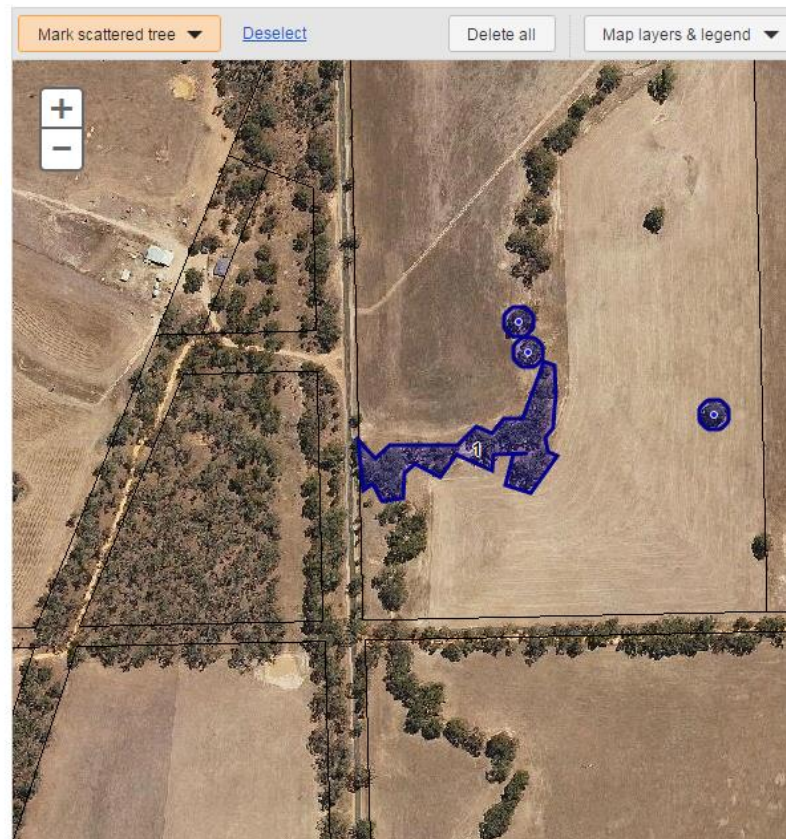
Scattered trees: 3 trees

**Total extent: 1.074 ha** ?

Location risk: C

Risk-based pathway: High

Proceed to results





# Removal of 3 trees to make a roundabout

## Biodiversity impact and offset requirements report

**Property address** NATIMUK-HAMILTON ROAD CLEAR LAKE 3409  
Address unknown

### Summary of marked native vegetation

Risk-based pathway	Low	<b>Removal of 3 trees</b>  <b>Condition score = 0.626</b>
Total extent	3 trees	
Scattered trees	3 trees	
Location risk	A	

See Appendix 1 for risk-based pathway details

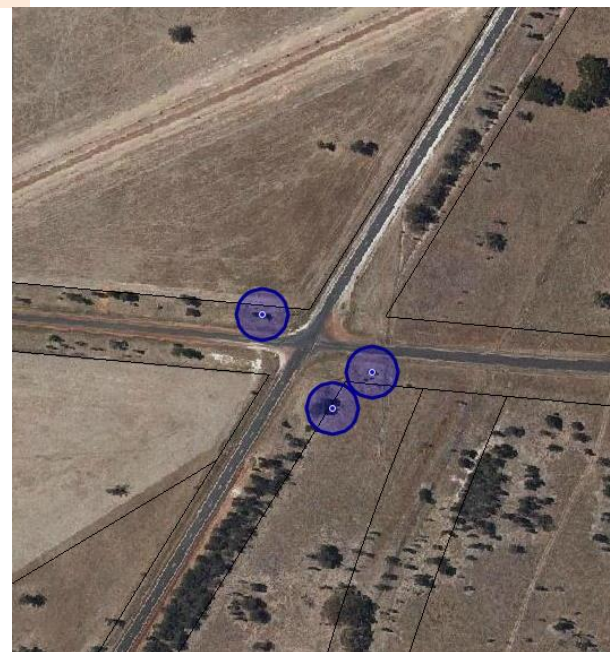
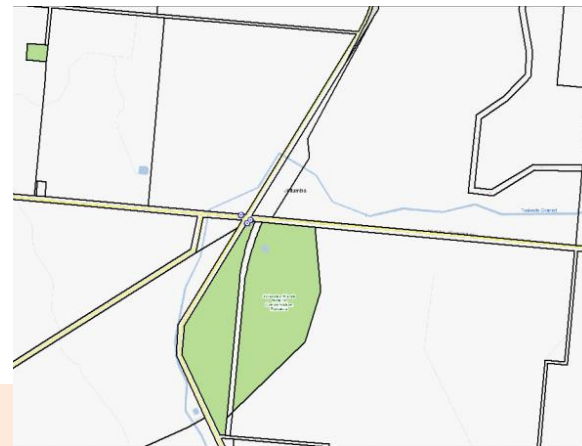
**Strategic Biodiversity Score = 0.299**

### Offset requirements

If a permit is granted to remove the marked native vegetation, a requirement to obtain a native vegetation offset will be included in the permit conditions. The offset must meet the following requirements:

Offset type	General offset	<b>Offset requirements</b> <b>0.060 GBEU</b>
Offset amount (general biodiversity equivalence units)	0.060	
Offset attributes		
Vicinity	Wimmera Catchment Management Authority (CMA)	
Minimum strategic biodiversity score	0.239	
Strategic biodiversity score of marked native vegetation	0.299	

See Appendix 2 for offset requirements details



# The current market rate is \$100K for 1 General Biodiversity Equivalence Unit (GBEU)

## Biodiversity impact and offset requirements report

### Summary of marked native vegetation

<b>Risk-based pathway</b>	<b>Low</b>
<b>Total extent</b>	0.984 ha
Remnant patches	
1	0.984 ha
<b>Location risk</b>	<b>A</b>

Removal of 0.984ha

Condition Score of 0.406

See Appendix 1 for risk-based pathway details

### Offset requirements

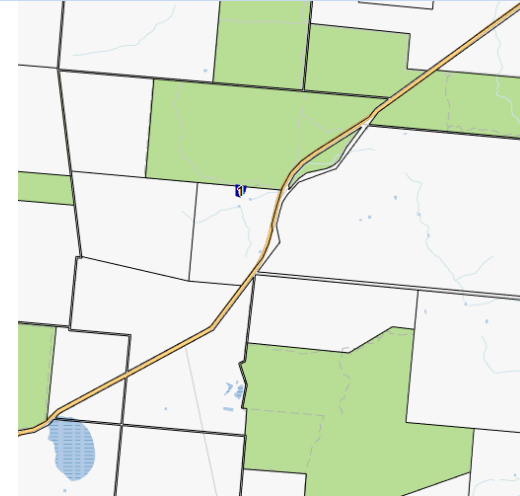
Strategic biodiversity score of 0.667

If a permit is granted to remove the marked native vegetation, a requirement to obtain a native vegetation offset will be included in the permit conditions. The offset must meet the following requirements:

<b>Offset type</b>	General offset
<b>Offset amount (general biodiversity equivalence units)</b>	0.401
<b>Offset attributes</b>	
Vicinity	Wimmera Catchment Management Authority (CMA)
Minimum strategic biodiversity score	0.534
<b>Strategic biodiversity score of marked native vegetation</b>	0.667

Offset requirement  
0.401 GBEUs

See Appendix 2 for offset requirements details





# Offsets



- Native vegetation removed as part of a planning permit is required to be offset  
*“up front” – prior to native vegetation removal*
- Offsets can be achieved in a number of ways:
  - First party offset
    - Permit holders can deliver offsets on their own land
  - Third party offset
    - Purchase a native vegetation credit from a third party

# Offsets



- First Party Offset:
  - On title security agreement on your own land
    - Section 173 with council
    - Section 69 with department “bush broker / credit register”
    - Trust for Nature covenant
  - Management of the land
  - Reporting once a year for 10 years

*“up front” – prior to native vegetation removal*



# Check whether other laws apply

- Other legal requirements about native vegetation removal may apply under:
  - Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988
  - Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

It can be complicated. If you're not sure contact DELWP or your local Shire **before** you remove any vegetation