

Was the native vegetation planted on my property publicly funded?



Information for residents of Greater Shepparton, Moira and Campaspe Shire Councils

An applicant wants to consider removal of minimal native* vegetation on private property and research if the planted vegetation exemption under Clause 52.17-7 applies.

Have you read the Guidelines for removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (2017)?
See QR code overleaf for further information.

Applicant/or their consultant contacts their Local Government (Environment or Planning Department) to seek information on whether plantations were publicly funded and what other rules may apply.

Moira Shire Council
E: info@moira.vic.gov.au
T: (03) 5871 9222

Campaspe Shire Council
E: shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au
T: (03) 5481 2200

Greater Shepparton City Council
E: council@shepparton.vic.gov.au

Council (or recommend the applicant to) seek information from the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (GB CMA) as to whether they funded the plantations.
Note: the GB CMA is only one organisation and other checks may be required e.g. Landcare, DELWP.

Council will respond directly to the applicant regarding the outcome.

Plantation/s were publicly funded and therefore a planning permit is required (via Council);

OR

Plantation/s were not publicly funded and Council agrees the exemption (to permit) applies, but may stipulate other requirements that must be followed (e.g. minimum extent necessary).

Council will consider the information provided by the applicant.

Information to be provided to the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (GBCMA) when requesting advice on publicly funded native vegetation plantations:

Email reveg.exemption@gbcma.vic.gov.au with the following details:

- Name of current property owner
- Name of previous property owner (if recent purchase)
- Name of requester (property owner must be aware of request)
- Location of property (address)
- Map of property boundary
- Location of the plantations on the property
- Any details of the plantings (e.g. species, age)

Note: The GBCMA have mapped records of many public revegetation works (but not all). Landholders are advised to look for other indications such as signage, previous landholder knowledge, and Landcare group knowledge.

A response will be provided (either YES GB CMA have a record of public funding, or NO they don't) by the GB CMA to the person who asked for the information (Council and/or landholder/consultant).

This information must be shown to the responsible Local Government. Further information may also be sought prior to a YES/NO.

Purpose of this flyer

The purpose of this flyer is to assist an applicant who may want to consider removal of minimal native* vegetation plantations on private property, to research if the planted vegetation exemption under Clause 52.17-7 applies.

What is the exemption for planted native vegetation?

Exemption for 'Planted vegetation' under Clause 52.17-7:

"Native vegetation that is to be removed, destroyed or lopped that was either planted or grown as a result of direct seeding. This exemption does not apply to native vegetation planted or managed with public funding for the purpose of land protection or enhancing biodiversity unless the removal, destruction or lopping of the native vegetation is in accordance with written permission of the agency (or its successor) that provided the funding."

The process on the other side of this flyer outlines the steps to assist a private landholder or their advisor, to determine if an exemption applies with the necessary authorities.

*What is native vegetation and why is it important?

Native vegetation is defined as plants that are indigenous to Victoria, including trees, shrubs (e.g. wattles), herbs and grasses.

Native vegetation provides habitat for plants and animals and delivers a range of ecosystem services that make land more productive and contribute to human well-being. There is an increasing public and business market to encourage the retention of native vegetation on farms, including green credentials, carbon, soil health and biodiversity markets. It is protected in Victoria by law and cannot be removed without necessary approvals or an exemption.

In the Shepparton Irrigation Region planted native vegetation does not include species such as Peppercorns or Sugar Gums, but does include native species that are indigenous to the local area such as:

- **Trees**
e.g. River Red Gum, Grey Box, Yellow Box, Black Box, Yellow Gum, White Box, Murray Pine, Buloke, Silver Wattle, Black Wattle, Lightwood Wattle, Willow Wattle
- **Shrubs**
e.g. Wattles
- **Grasses and Herbs**
e.g. Saltbush, Native Grasses.



For further information scan the QR code or go to:
www.environment.vic.gov.au/native-vegetation/native-vegetation

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