

Notice of Approved Boundary Change

Biodiversity Conservation Strategy Conservation Area 2

Conservation Area 2- Kororoit Creek North Herb-rich Grasslands, Ravenhall.

Summary

The Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (BSC) identifies conservation area 2 as a nature conservation area. In limited circumstances DELWP will consider proposed changes to conservation area boundaries where they meet the criteria identified in the Guidance note: Implementing the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Melbourne's Growth Corridors. Changes to the boundaries of a nature conservation area are considered necessary if the adjustment is required to address one or more of the following site specific issues:

- urban infrastructure shown in the Growth Corridor Plans (GAA, 2013)
- existing or proposed new infrastructure of state significance
- urban planning objectives of a precinct structure plan, such as appropriate urban form, roads, bridges, water management and other infrastructure
- land made inaccessible as a result of a conservation area
- existing buildings or other infrastructure on or near the boundary of a conservation area
- Errors in mapping

The approved adjustment to conservation area 2 removes land already encumbered for road and utilities purposes. It also removes an area buffering incorrect species records (errors in mapping) in the south west providing a more practical management area. The approved changes remove 0.24ha of Natural Temperate Grassland from the conservation area. This reduction is considered acceptable as offsets for loss of Natural Temperate Grasslands are met by the Western Grassland Reserves and the prescription does not require the protection of this community within the BCS conservation areas. The approved boundary change also results in 0.27 hectares of Seasonal Herbaceous Wetland being excised from the conservation area, however it will retain its protection within a waterway reserve and local park through the draft Kororoit Precinct Structure Plan (The PSP). The PSP does not plan to physically separate the wetland from the conservation area boundary by utilising the road reserve, rather a local road will align with the western boundary of the waterway reserve and local park. DELWP is satisfied that the adjusted boundary meets the boundary change criteria for nature conservation reserves. The proposed change has been approved by the Commonwealth Minister.

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Background Information and relevant commonwealth approvals

Table 1 provides information on the conservation area

Key Information	
Conservation area name and number	BCS Conservation Area 2 – Kororoit Creek Herb-rich Grasslands, Ravenhall
Type of conservation area	Nature Conservation
Precinct name	Kororoit
Council area	Melton City Council
Applicant	DELWP
Landowner/land manager	Multiple owners – see below
Property addresses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">137-235 Sinclairs Road, Plumpton (freehold)905-959 Taylors Road, Plumpton (utilities easement)1027A Taylors Road, Plumpton (road reserve)
Were new surveys undertaken to inform the proposal?	Yes

Any changes to the boundary of conservation area 2 require the approval of the Commonwealth Minister. The approval conditions relating to this condition are identified in the table below.

Table 2 provides information on the commonwealth approval conditions for changes to conservation area boundaries

MSA Commonwealth approval	
Relevant approval	September 2013 (2010 Urban Growth Boundary expansion of the Western Growth corridor)
Relevant approval condition	Condition 4
Is approval required?	Yes
Reason approval is required	Condition 4 requires Commonwealth Ministerial approval boundary changes to conservation area 2.

Approved Boundary Changes and Assessment Criteria

DELWP will consider supporting applications of proposed adjustments to nature conservation areas in limited circumstances, prior to submitting them to the Commonwealth Minister for consideration. The Guidance Note: Implementing the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Melbourne's Growth Corridors suggests boundary changes may be necessary to allow for existing or proposed infrastructure where it is identified in existing precinct structure plans or is of state significance.



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Table 3 provides information on how the approved boundary change meets the boundary change criteria

Boundary Change Criteria

Changes to the boundaries of a 'nature conservation' or 'existing public land' conservation area are considered necessary if the adjustment is required to address one or more of the following site specific issues:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ urban infrastructure shown in the Growth Corridor Plans (GAA, 2013)▪ existing or proposed new infrastructure of state significance▪ urban planning objectives of a precinct structure plan, such as appropriate urban form, roads, bridges, water management and other infrastructure▪ land made inaccessible as a result of a conservation area▪ existing buildings or other infrastructure on or near the boundary of a conservation area▪ Errors in mapping | <p>The boundary change removes land already encumbered for road and utilities purposes. The changes remove the inclusion of a road reserve and a utilities easement (power line) while aligning the east and west boundaries with the adjoining property boundaries. This allows for more practical conservation area management.</p> <p>The boundary change also amends mapping errors in the BCS by correcting an error buffering incorrect species records to provide for more practical management of the conservation area without reducing protection of the MNES species.</p> <p>The 0.27 hectares of Seasonal Herbaceous Wetland removed will retain its protection within a waterway reserve and local park through the draft Kororoit Precinct Structure Plan (The PSP). The PSP does not plan to physically separate the wetland from the conservation area boundary by utilising the road reserve, rather a local road will align with the western boundary of the waterway reserve and local park.</p> |
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Commonwealth Government Approval

DELWP is satisfied that the proposed boundary change meets the boundary change criteria identified in the Guidance note: Implementing the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Melbourne's Growth Corridors and has received approval from the Commonwealth Minister.



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Appendix 1: Map of proposed boundary change and site values, which has been approved by the Commonwealth

