

# Planning and Development (Conditional Environmental Significance Opinion – Block 363, Paddys River – Cultural Scar Tree Installation) Notice 2018 (No 2)

Notifiable Instrument NI2018-331

Made under the

**Planning and Development Act 2007 s 138AD (Requirements in relation to environmental significance opinions)**

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## 1 Name of instrument

This instrument is the *Planning and Development (Conditional Environmental Significance Opinion – Block 363, Paddys River – Cultural Scar Tree Installation) Notice 2018 (No 2)*.

## 2 Conditional Environmental Significance Opinion

(1) On 7 June 2018, the ACT Heritage Council, pursuant to section 138AB(4) of the *Planning and Development Act 2007* (the **Act**), gave the Applicant a conditional environmental significance opinion in relation to construction, on Block 363, District of Paddys River, at the Namadgi National Park Visitor Information Centre of a cultural scar tree interpretive installation and associated landscape work.

(2) In this section:

***Conditional environmental significance opinion*** means the opinion in the schedule.

*Note* Under section 138AD(6) of the Act, the conditional environmental significance opinion and this notice expire 18 months after the day the notice is notified.

Ben Ponton  
Chief Planning Executive  
22 June 2018

**Schedule**

(see section 2(2))



ACT Heritage Council

**HERITAGE ADVICE**

***Environmental Significance Opinion***

ACTPLA Reference: 201800024  
Heritage Reference: Paddys River-B363  
Contact Officer: Meaghan Russell  
Received by Council: 31 May 2018  
Due date: 6 July 2018

**TO:** ACT planning and land authority  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate  
[EPDCustomer Services@act.gov.au](mailto:EPDCustomerServices@act.gov.au)

Status of Place: Aboriginal Object  
Description of Works: Cultural Tree Installation and Interpretation  
Council Advice provided by: Secretary / ACT Heritage Manager

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Pursuant to Section 138AB of the *Planning and Development Act 2007* and Section 60 of the *Heritage Act 2004*, the ACT Heritage Council advises that:

- The proposal is unlikely to have a significant adverse impact, subject to compliance with the conditions described below.

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**Background:**

On 31 May 2018, the ACT planning and land authority referred an Environmental Significance Opinion (ESO) application to the ACT Heritage Council (the Council), relating to the installation and interpretation of an Aboriginal cultural tree at the Namadgi Visitor's Centre.

The culturally modified tree (a *Eucalyptus melliodora*) was previously located at the Outward Bound property at Tharwa, where it is thought to have been felled in the 1970s and cut into four separate pieces – a large section of the trunk, which contains the three metre cultural scar in its entirety, two short sections of the trunk and the tree's root ball.

In accordance with the wishes of Representative Aboriginal Organisations, the ACT Government funded the relocation of the cultural tree to the Namadgi National Park visitors centre for conservation, display and interpretation. To this end, the cultural tree was moved to a temporary location at the Namadgi Visitors Centre in May 2018 for conservation works; in accordance with a *Heritage Act 2004* approval issued on 8 May 2018.

As set out in the ESO application, a location for the installation and interpretation of the cultural tree has been selected within Block 363 Paddys River, along the existing woodland walk adjacent to the Visitors Centre. Here, the cultural tree is to be installed up to one metre above the ground on supports of locally sourced stone, next to a pathway, garden and informal seating area. Interpretive signage will also be incorporated into the site once landscaping works have been completed.

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[heritage@act.gov.au](mailto:heritage@act.gov.au)

### **Advice and Conditions:**

The Council advises that the proposed activity is unlikely to have a significant adverse impact, subject to compliance with the following conditions:

1. All heritage management actions for the cultural tree are to be undertaken in accordance with the Statement of Heritage Effect approved by the Council on 8 May 2018;
2. Representative Aboriginal Organisations are to be consulted about and endorse the detailed design for the installation and interpretation of the cultural tree; and
3. The detailed design for the installation and interpretation of the cultural tree is to be submitted to and endorsed by the Council prior to the commencement of those works.



Jennifer O'Connell  
**Secretary (as delegate for),  
ACT Heritage Council**

7 June 2018