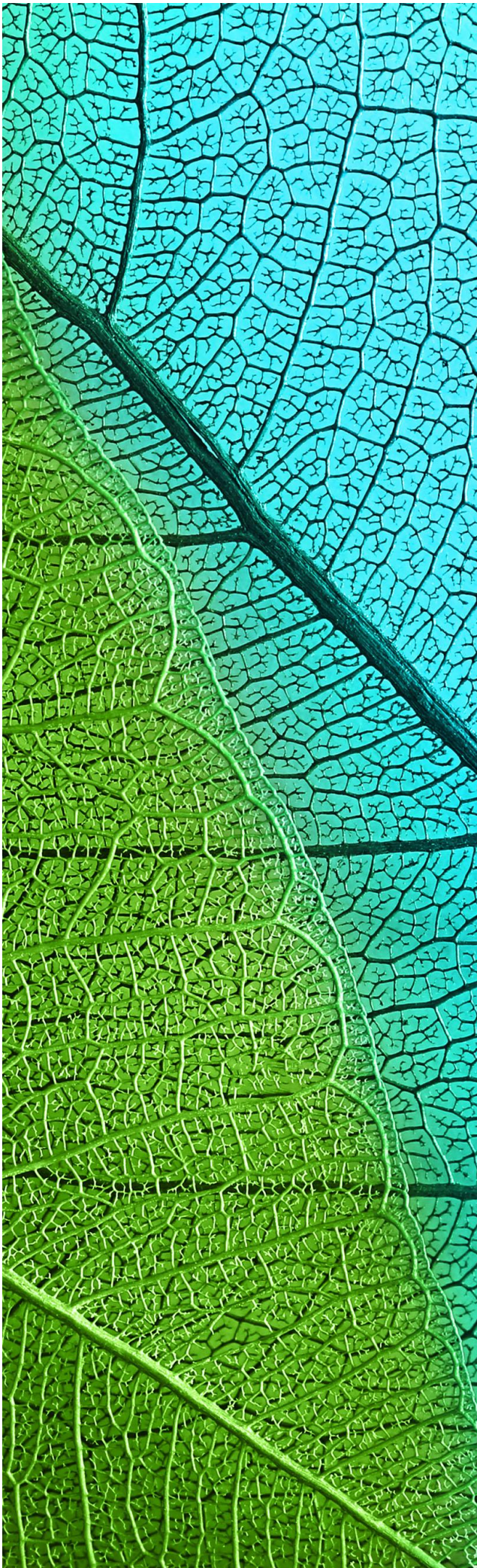




ADVERTISED PLAN

**BAPS Hindu Mahā-
Mandir, Melbourne**

**1390–1450 Western
Port Highway,
Cranbourne South**

Wildlife Management Plan

**This copied document to be made available
for the sole purpose of enabling
its consideration and review as
part of a planning process under the
Planning and Environment Act 1987.
The document must not be used for any
purpose which may breach any
copyright**

**Prepared for BAPS Swaminarayan
Sanstha, Australia Ltd**
C/- URBIS

April 2026
Report No. 24184.07 (1.2)



**Nature
Advisory**

5/61-63 Camberwell Road
Hawthorn East, VIC 3123
PO Box 337, Camberwell VIC 3124
(03) 9815 2111
www.natureadvisory.com.au

Nature Advisory acknowledges the traditional owners and sovereign custodians of the land on which we work from – the Wurundjeri people of the Woi Wurrung language group. We extend our respect to their Ancestors and all First Peoples and Elders past and present.

Executive summary

This Wildlife Management Plan (WMP) has been prepared to guide the management of fauna for the proposed development at Western Port Highway, Cranbourne South. The plan addresses the full range of habitats present, including grassy groundcover, drainage lines, aquatic habitats, and treed areas. It includes measures that support reptiles, amphibians, arboreal mammals, and woodland bird species that depend on complex woody vegetation and are sensitive to disturbance. These species, such as the Fan-tailed Cuckoo, Superb Fairy-wren, Striated Pardalote, Eastern Yellow Robin, Grey Shrike-thrush, and Brown Thornbill, are experiencing a broader regional decline due to habitat loss and simplification (Lindenmayer et al. 2010; Watson et al. 2020). The Glossy Grass Skink (*Pseudemoia rawlinsoni*) is the only threatened species known to occur on site. The entire extent of its confirmed habitat is proposed to be retained, as such, it is not anticipated to be impacted.

Surveys confirmed approximately 0.88 ha of Glossy Grass Skink habitat along the site's southern drainage line. This habitat will not be impacted by the development and will instead be enhanced in accordance with a separate Land Management Plan, creating additional and higher-quality habitat for the species.

The WMP sets out a four-stage framework, spanning pre-construction through to post-construction:

1. Creation of wetlands and revegetated areas as additional habitat.
2. Monitoring to confirm created habitat meets suitability criteria (dense grassy groundcover, stable hydrology, minimal canopy cover), with adaptive management if this does not eventuate.
3. Monitoring to confirm that GGS naturally disperses to and occupies the created wetlands and revegetated areas, with adaptive management if this does not eventuate.
4. Follow-up monitoring in Years 1, 3, and 5 post-construction, to check that the GGS population does not decline significantly, with adaptive management if this occurs.

Performance criteria are defined for each stage, including measurable thresholds for vegetation cover, hydrology, canopy cover, and monitoring outcomes. Success will be demonstrated by the persistence and breeding of Glossy Grass Skink in their current and future additional habitat, compliance with legislative requirements, and broader protection for native fauna during and after construction.

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

Contents

1.	Introduction	4
	Contributions.....	4
2.	Existing information	5
2.1.	Field assessments.....	5
2.2.	Fauna recorded and threatened species identified	5
2.3.	Site description	5
2.3.1.	Glossy Grass Skink habitat	5
	Species ecology	5
	Site-specific habitat description	6
	Impact considerations.....	6
2.3.2.	Other grassy groundcover habitat	6
	Habitat description	6
	Fauna use	6
	Impact and salvage considerations.....	6
2.3.3.	Aquatic 'open waterbody' habitat.....	7
	Habitat Description.....	7
	Fauna use	7
	Site-specific habitat description	7
	Impact and salvage considerations.....	7
2.3.4.	Treed habitat	7
	Habitat Description.....	7
	Fauna use	8
	Site-specific habitat description	8
	Impact and salvage considerations.....	8
3.	Wildlife Management Plan	9
3.1.	Staging framework – overview	9
3.2.	Stage 1: Fauna habitat creation.....	9
3.3.	Stage 2: Created habitat monitoring.....	10
3.4.	Stage 3: Baseline GGS Monitoring.....	11
3.5.	Stage 4: Construction-phase Mitigation Measures	11
3.5.1.	Construction Mitigation Measures for GGS	11
3.5.2.	Other grassy groundcover habitat Salvage	11
3.5.3.	Treed Habitat Salvage.....	12

3.5.4. Aquatic 'open waterbody' Habitat Salvage	13
3.6. Stage 5: Post-construction GGS monitoring	13
4. References	16

Appendices

Appendix 1: Fauna species recorded in the study area	17
Appendix 2: Glossy Grass Skink Identification guide	19
Appendix 3: Notice to workers for when fauna is encountered in the construction area.....	20
Appendix 4: Species Expert Endorsment Letter	20

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

1. Introduction

BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha, Australia Ltd. (herein referred to as ‘the client’) engaged Nature Advisory Pty Ltd to prepare a Wildlife Management Plan (WMP) for an approximately 43-ha parcel of land at 1390, 1400, 1410, 1420, 1430, 1438, 1440, 1442, 1444 and 1450 Western Port Highway in Cranbourne South (herein referred to as ‘the study area’). Construction of a Hindu Mahā-Mandir is proposed for the study area.

This Wildlife Management Plan (WMP) has been prepared to support the planning permit application for the proposed development and to ensure compliance with relevant biodiversity legislation and policies. It builds on the findings of the Flora and Fauna Assessment (Nature Advisory 2026a), which assessed the study area against national, state, and local legislation.

The Glossy Grass Skink (GGs, *Pseudemoia rawlinsoni*), listed as Vulnerable under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act; DCCEEW 2026) and Endangered under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act; DEECA 2025a), was confirmed within the study area. No habitat for this species will be removed by the proposed development.

This WMP outlines strategies to avoid potential impacts to GGS as well as to provide additional high quality habitat for the species. In addition to targeted actions for this species, many of the measures, such as habitat retention, revegetation, and the reuse of woody material, will also benefit other fauna species. These include reptiles, amphibians, arboreal mammals, and woodland birds.

Woodland birds, in particular—such as fairy-wrens, pardalotes, robins, and thornbills—are known to be vulnerable to habitat loss and simplification across south-eastern Australia (Lindenmayer et al. 2010; Watson et al. 2020). As such, the management actions outlined in this WMP will help maintain and enhance their habitat values.

Contributions

This management plan has been developed by a team from Nature Advisory comprising Michael Sebastian (Zoologist), Sarah Dunn (Botanist), Dr Joab Wilson (Senior Ecologist & Project Manager), Cody Hajnal (Botanist) and Chris Armstrong (Property Development and Conservation Team Lead).

A GGS species expert, Jules Farquhar, was engaged to provide advice and guidance on best-practice management approaches to improve outcomes for the GGS population within the study area. To provide this advice, the species expert undertook the following:

- Reviewed the initial WMP and associated Land Management Plan (LMP) to identify gaps and opportunities for improvement;
- Provided written and verbal recommendations during meetings and a site visit to tailor management actions to the site’s specific context; and
- Conducted a final review of the updated reports to confirm that the advice had been incorporated, and provided an endorsement letter in support of the project’s approach.

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

2. Existing information

2.1. Field assessments

Nature Advisory has undertaken a series of ecological surveys across the study area:

- A Flora and Fauna Assessment was conducted on 19 September 2024, 30 October 2024, and 21 January 2025 (Nature Advisory 2026a).
- Targeted surveys for Swamp Skink (*Lissolepis coventryi*) and GGS were undertaken between 4 December 2024 (tile grid installation) and 11 February 2025 (final summer tile checks) (Nature Advisory 2026b). No Swamp Skinks were detected; however, GGS was confirmed.
- An additional site assessment specific to this Wildlife Management Plan was conducted on 19 August 2025.
- A detailed habitat assessment was undertaken on 13 January 2026 to identify foraging, breeding and roosting habitat for Swift Parrot, Gang-gang Cockatoo and Blue-winged Parrot.
- A targeted Dwarf Galaxias Survey was undertaken by Aquatica Environmental (Aquatica Environmental 2025).

2.2. Fauna recorded and threatened species identified

Across the Flora and Fauna Assessment and targeted surveys, a total of 54 fauna species were recorded (Nature Advisory 2026a). This included:

- 35 birds
- 8 mammals
- 6 amphibians
- 5 reptiles (Appendix 1)

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

The GGS was the only threatened fauna species confirmed during these assessments. Other fauna species, while not threatened, are addressed in this plan where salvage measures are required to avoid harm during construction.

2.3. Site description

The study area comprises approximately 43 ha of private land at Cranbourne South, bordered by Homewood Road to the north, agricultural land to the south and east, and the Western Port Highway to the west. It lies approximately 45 km south-east of the Melbourne CBD.

For the purposes of this plan, fauna habitats are grouped into four categories relevant to varying management actions:

- Glossy Grass Skink habitat
- Other grassy groundcover habitat
- Aquatic 'open waterbody' habitat (dams and pond)
- Treed habitat (remnant and planted vegetation)

2.3.1. Glossy Grass Skink habitat

Species ecology

GGs occurs in four disjunct Victorian subpopulations, with the study area forming part of the Port Phillip Bay population (DCCEEW 2026). It favours densely vegetated, moist groundcover at the margins of creeks, swamps, and depressions (DCCEEW 2026). Occupied sites typically provide thermal and moisture buffering but have little overstorey canopy, ensuring open conditions that support groundcover development (DCCEEW 2026). The species is most active from spring to autumn, with breeding occurring in late summer and live births the following summer (see Appendix 2 for an identification guide) (DCCEEW 2026).

Site-specific habitat description

Within the study area, GGS was found along the southern drainage line (Nature Advisory 2026b) within the study area. This habitat varied from flowing or saturated sections to ephemeral depressions that temporally dry. Vegetation along the drainage line consists largely of pasture grasses and rushes, with margins that are seasonally inundated and swampy. The quality of this habitat varies across properties, influenced by grazing, mowing, and drainage condition, but all persist in a highly modified state owing to historical use as a market garden and equestrian facility. The habitat occupied a total extent of 0.88 hectares.

Impact considerations

Construction buffers, habitat retention and other mitigation measures are to be implemented to ensure the GGS habitat will not be impacted by the development, through the delineation and fencing off confirmed habitat prior to construction. These measures are outlined in this report but will be detailed in a separate Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP). As such, salvage for GGS is not required as no ground-disturbance works are required. The construction of wetlands and additional areas of habitat is to occur adjacent to, but not within, currently occupied habitat.

The design and management of additional habitat areas (constructed wetlands, revegetation zones) to ensure the project results in a net benefit to the species is detailed in a separate LMP.

The WMP focusses on baseline monitoring of the GGS population to ensure the existing population remains and that there is evidence that they are dispersing into and occupying the created additional habitat. Additionally, post-construction monitoring will be undertaken to check that the population does not begin to significantly decline to identify if adaptive management measures are required.

2.3.2. Other grassy groundcover habitat

Habitat description

Other grassy groundcover habitats (beyond GGS habitat) occur across the study area, broadly defined as a mon-culture of exotic pasture grasses such as Kikuyu, Brown-top Bent and Cocksfoot. The quality of this habitat is low, as it persists in a highly modified state owing to historical use as a market garden and equestrian facility influenced by grazing, mowing, and drainage condition.

Fauna use

This habitat provides shelter and foraging opportunities for a variety of fauna:

- **Reptiles**, such as small skinks and snakes, using dense groundcover for shelter and basking.
- **Amphibians**, breeding and sheltering in temporarily damp areas.
- **Ground-dwelling mammals**, such as Wombats, Kangaroos and smaller mammals such as Agile Antechinus, which forage and den in dense grassy cover.

Impact and salvage considerations

Other grassy ground cover habitat (beyond the GGS habitat) will be lost or modified by development. Prior to impacting these habitat areas, salvage protocols (Section 3.5.2) must be undertaken to ensure amphibians, reptiles and small mammals are captured and relocated into suitable retained habitats within the site (i.e. the conservation area). Many species (particularly larger mammals) have the ability to passively move prior to construction or actively (when construction commences) into retained areas of habitat and will not require any assistance.

2.3.3. Aquatic 'open waterbody' habitat

Habitat Description

Six waterbodies were identified in the study area: five farm dams and one pond, with habitat quality ranging from bare-banked, ephemeral dams to small wetlands with fringing sedges and rushes. These features are scattered across the site and vary in permanence and ecological value, noting that all areas of habitat persist in a degraded nature owing to historical use as a market garden and equestrian facility.

Fauna use

Aquatic habitats provide important resources for:

- **Amphibians**, such as Common Froglet and Southern Brown Tree Frog, which breed and shelter in shallow, vegetated margins.
- **Reptiles**, such as Tiger Snake, which forage along grassy and sedge-lined banks.
- **Birds and mammals**, which use these waterbodies for drinking and opportunistic foraging.

Site-specific habitat description

- *Northern dams*: Steep, bare banks dominated by pasture grasses and floating ferns, offering limited habitat value.
- *Property 1430 dam*: Grassy margins but found dry during surveys, unsuitable for aquatic-dependent fauna.
- *Property 1440 dam and 1442 pond*: Best-quality habitats, supporting emergent sedges, rushes, and floating ferns, though still limited by a lack of basking features such as logs and rocks.

Impact and salvage considerations

The following aquatic open waterbody habitats throughout the site will be lost or modified by development:

- All northern dams will be removed to accommodate the development footprint,
- Dam at 1430 Western Port Hwy will be modified to support and maintain the current hydrology of the GGS habitat.

Prior to impacting these habitat areas, salvage protocols (Section 3.5.4) must be undertaken to ensure amphibians and reptiles are captured and relocated into suitable retained habitats within the site (i.e. the retained dam and pond at 1440 and 1442 Western Port Hwy or the created wetlands from the development).

2.3.4. Treed habitat

Habitat Description

Treed habitats occur in scattered patches across the study area, including remnant vegetation in the south-east corner and along the Western Port Highway, as well as rows and clusters of planted trees in the western half of the site. Hollow-bearing trees are uncommon but present in some remnant areas.

Fauna use

Treed habitats support a wide range of fauna:

- **Birds**, using foliage for foraging, nesting, and roosting.
- **Arboreal mammals**, such as Common Brushtail Possum, which utilise hollows and canopy cover.
- **Bats**, foraging along edges and occasionally roosting in tree hollows.

Site-specific habitat description

- *Remnant vegetation*: Concentrated in the south-east corner and drainage line patches, with some hollow-bearing trees retained.
- *Planted trees*: Rows along fence lines and around existing buildings in the western site, generally lacking hollows.

Impact and salvage considerations

While most birds and bats are highly mobile and expected to disperse naturally, active nests and hollow-bearing trees require careful management. The majority of impacts are limited to planted trees, with higher quality remnant woodland habitat (containing the majority of hollow-bearing trees) being retained and managed for conservation purposes in the southern portion of the site. Prior to impacting this habitat salvage protocols (Section 3.5.1) will ensure arboreal mammals and birds are appropriately managed.

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

3. Wildlife Management Plan

3.1. Staging framework – overview

The WMP outlines a multi-stage process to minimise and mitigate impacts to fauna during the development. While all GGS habitat is being avoided and therefore does not require species specific salvage, several other non-threatened species including reptiles, amphibians, birds and small mammals that occupy grassy groundcover, open waterbody aquatic, and treed habitats are vulnerable to impacts to their habitat. As such, the measures provided below will provide general protection and salvage procedures for these species.

The plan encompasses the period from pre-construction through post-construction, integrating habitat creation, salvage, translocation, and monitoring. Success is defined by the persistence and breeding of GGS within their original and future additional habitats, together with the safe relocation and protection of non-threatened fauna encountered during works.

Replacement planting and placement of woody material outside of areas designated as GGS habitat will also support woodland bird species by restoring dense and protective understorey vegetation, reducing the risk of smaller species being displaced by aggressive competitors. Woody plantings within designated GGS habitat areas are inappropriate as shading of their habitat is known to be detrimental to the species.

The WMP stages are summarised in Table 1, with each expanded in Sections 3.2 to 3.5.

3.2. Stage 1: Fauna habitat creation

Objective

Enhance existing and establish additional suitable habitat for GGS and other fauna species. This must be in accordance with the specifications detailed in the Land Management Plan (Nature Advisory 2026c).

Ecological rationale

GGS requires dense grassy or sedgy groundcover near shallow water with minimal canopy cover (DCCEEW 2026). Other fauna, such as frogs, woodland birds and arboreal mammals, require structurally diverse aquatic and treed habitats.

Key actions

Broad objectives of habitat enhancement are described below, with specific targets and objectives detailed in the Land Management Plan.

- GGS habitat creation: Construct wetlands with damp margins and revegetate using Mat Grass (*Hemarthria uncinata*), Weeping Grass (*Microlaena stipoides*), sedges, and rushes. Avoid woody vegetation plantings in designated areas of GGS habitat.
- Retained aquatic habitat enhancement: Enhance wetlands with fringing vegetation, basking logs, and gradual banks to support GGS, amphibians and aquatic reptiles.
- Treed habitat enhancement: Salvage any hollow-bearing trees and large logs during tree removal works and relocate into the conservation area. Plant indigenous shrubs and understorey species to support woodland birds and arboreal mammals, including establishment of dense ground cover.

Success criteria

Compliance with the objectives of the LMP.

3.3. Stage 2: Created habitat monitoring

Objective

The additional created and enhanced habitat will be confirmed to meet relevant performance thresholds, ensuring it is suitable for use by non-threatened fauna, including snakes and frogs. At this stage, the habitat is not required to meet the specific quality requirements for GGS, as no translocation of GGS is required given that all suitable existing habitat will be retained.

It is critical that the wetland habitat is established prior to the removal of aquatic “open waterbody” habitat. This will ensure that suitable alternative habitat is available within the conservation area for the translocation of salvaged fauna, such as frogs and snakes.

The establishment period for the wetland habitat is anticipated to be approximately 12 months; however, this timeframe is indicative only, and the actual duration may vary depending on site conditions and ecological response.

Ecological rationale

GGS and other fauna require specific vegetation structure, moisture levels, and microclimate conditions. Monitoring identifies habitat suitability and triggers adaptive management if needed (i.e. if more or less water is required to be discharged through the GGS habitat).

Key actions

- Conduct quarterly monitoring of:
 - Grassy groundcover: Native groundcover density, canopy cover, soil moisture.
 - Aquatic habitat: Water depth, permanence, vegetation structure, frog activity.
 - Treed habitat (for areas not designated as GGS habitat): Shrub growth, canopy connectivity, presence of nesting birds or arboreal mammals.
- Implement adaptive management (supplementary planting, additional weed control, hydrological adjustment) if thresholds are not achieved.
- Monitoring to occur every 3 months and only progress to Stage 3: Baseline GGS monitoring once criteria have been verified.
- Onsite checks to assess fauna activity within aquatic and treed habitat within the conservation area.

Success criteria

- ≥80% dense grassy/sedgy groundcover within designated areas of GGS habitat.
- Dense grassy/sedgy groundcover is always, at a minimum, >20 cm high within designated areas of GGS habitat.
- Standing water present in wetlands during spring–summer, with 20–30 cm depth in parts, within designated areas of GGS habitat.
- No revegetation of canopy cover within designated areas of GGS habitat.
- Frog and other aquatic fauna activity observed in created wetland habitats.
- Woodland bird and other fauna activity observed in created woodland habitats outside of the GGS habitat.

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

3.4. Stage 3: Baseline GGS Monitoring

Objective

Demonstrate through monitoring that the GGS population have naturally dispersed to and occupy the additional created and enhanced habitat and establish a population baseline dataset against which the population levels during post-construction monitoring may be measured.

Key actions

- GGS: Tile grid surveys once the additional created and enhanced habitat areas meet the success criteria detailed in Section 3.3 and the LMP. Laying of tiles may be done from early September-mid-January. Six weekly tile checks to be undertaken between October-March (DSE 2010).

Success criteria

GGS detected in their original habitat areas as well as the additional created and enhanced habitat areas.

3.5. Stage 4: Construction-phase Mitigation Measures

The steps for managing native fauna groups during construction are divided into four subsections to address tailored measures for GGS, and for other fauna in grassy groundcover, treed and aquatic open waterbody habitats.

3.5.1. Construction Mitigation Measures for GGS

Objective:

No GGS mortalities or damage to GGS habitat occurs due to construction works.

Key actions:

1. Construction Buffers (Proponent):
 - Construction of all permanent structures is to be located >30 m from GGS habitat, allowing a 30 m “no-go zone” buffer to be maintained and clearly demarcated. This helps avoid GGS mortality from construction occurring too close to habitat and reduces hydrological impacts on their habitat.

3.5.2. Other grassy groundcover habitat Salvage

Objective:

Safely remove fauna which occur in grassy groundcover within the study area prior to habitat modification. Note that salvage activities will not occur within areas of mapped GGS habitat, as these areas will be retained and protected.

Key steps:

Pre- clearance survey and salvage

- Undertake a pre-clearance survey to identify habitat features that may be providing refuge for fauna (i.e. dense ground cover, fallen logs and branches, rubbish, damp depressions etc).
- Use nets and hand capture to remove any native fauna such as frogs, reptiles and small mammals to salvage and relocate into areas of similar habitat to where they were salvaged from.

Constructed assisted salvage:

- Within a week (and ideally within 24 hours of the pre-clearance survey), remove pre-clearance salvaged habitat. Ensure that a suitability qualified ecologist is on site during earthworks to salvage any remaining individuals that were not salvaged as part of the pre-clearance survey.

- Commence earthworks and construction from the north to south to encourage passive and active movement of more mobile fauna into the conservation area without assistance.
- Once cleared, the area will need to remain devoid of suitable habitat (i.e. regrowing vegetation and stockpiles of branches) to minimise the likelihood of fauna recolonising the habitat post translocation.

Success Criteria:

- Disturbed fauna safely relocated into suitable and similar habitat within the conservation area
- Salvage outcomes documented and reported.

3.5.3. Treed Habitat Salvage**Objective:**

Safely relocate arboreal fauna such as microbats, possums, and nesting birds prior to vegetation clearing.

Key actions:**1. Pre-clearance Inspections (Ecologist):**

- Conduct hollow-bearing tree inspections for arboreal mammals (e.g., possums), and identify locations of drays;
- Identify active bird nests with eggs or chicks where possible;
- Identify locations with the aid of an endoscope inspection cameras of potential microbat roost sites under loose bark and in tree crevices.

2. Mitigation Measures:

- For active bird nests, the optimum outcome is to delay clearing until chicks have fledged. If it is not practical to delay, consult with zoologist for alternative measures.
- Occupied hollows must be salvaged with assistance from an arborist under supervision from an ecologist. The salvage methodology would be case specific but could include trapping the animal within the hollow, careful removal of the hollow section of the tree and placement into the conservation area to allow fauna to safely disperse.
- Possum drays are to be removed from trees and placed within the conservation area. Any disturbed possums should be attempted to be caught and relocated into the conservation area.
- Bats can disperse by flying, however it can be useful to assist them by tapping trees that may support roost sites with machinery, so they can passively disperse without being captured prior to removing the tree.
- Ecologist to supervise clearing of trees and groundcover to capture and relocate any encountered fauna.

Success Criteria:

- All hollow-dependent fauna safely relocated.
- Avoid disturbance to active nests (where possible).
- Salvage outcomes documented and reported.

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

3.5.4. Aquatic 'open waterbody' Habitat Salvage

Objective:

Safely remove aquatic fauna from waterbodies within the study area (dams and ponds) prior to draining and habitat modification. Note that salvage activities will not occur within areas of mapped GGS habitat, as these areas will be retained and protected.

Key steps:

Supervised draining:

- Drain waterbodies under ecologist supervision.
- Use dip-netting and hand capture to remove any native fauna such as frogs, reptiles, turtles and fish to relocate into the created wetlands or existing retained aquatic habitats.
- Once drained the area will need to remain empty then infilled within a week to ensure fauna do not recolonise the habitat post translocation.

Success Criteria:

- Disturbed fauna safely relocated into aquatic habitat (created or existing) within the conservation area
- Salvage outcomes documented and reported.

3.6. Stage 5: Post-construction GGS monitoring

Objective

Demonstrate through monitoring the continued health of the GGS population, including survival rates, breeding, and long-term persistence in the enhanced and created habitat. The objective is also to assess the effectiveness of habitat enhancements for other fauna.

Key actions

- GGS: Tile grid surveys in Years 1, 3, and 5 post-construction; record all individuals, taking particular care to note any juveniles and gravid females.

Success criteria

- GGS detected in Years 1, 3, and 5 with evidence of persistence and breeding, and no evidence of a significant population decline.
- Additional created and enhanced habitat continues to meet vegetation and hydrology performance thresholds.

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

Table 1: Performance criteria and success indicators for the Wildlife Management Plan for Glossy Grass Skink (*Pseudemoia rawlinsoni*) and other native fauna.

Action	Performance Criteria	Success Indicators
Stage 1: Additional habitat creation and enhancement	- Constructed wetlands established in SE corner of study area. - Existing drainage line habitat enhanced to provide higher quality GGS habitat. - Revegetation prioritised to create GGS habitat (wetlands), then establish woodland habitat, then enhance existing GGS habitat (once there is evidence of GGS utilising created habitat).	- Wetlands and revegetation areas established with dense grassy/sedgy cover. - Hydrology consistent with existing levels is achieved. - Habitat development consistent with design objectives.
Stage 2: Additional created and enhanced habitat monitoring	- Quarterly monitoring by ecologist for 12 months (or until criteria met). ≥80% dense grassy/sedgy/rush groundcover in all designated GGS habitat. - Dense sedgy/grassy groundcover is, at a minimum, always >20 cm high. - Surface water maintained at ≥20–30 cm depth in parts of wetland. - Inundation of adjoining vegetation ≥2–3 times/year. - Onsite checks to assess fauna activity within aquatic and treed habitat within the conservation area. - Adaptive management triggered if thresholds not met.	- Vegetation, hydrology, and canopy cover meet thresholds. - Monitoring shows stability over ≥2 consecutive visits. - No revegetation of canopy cover within designated areas of GGS habitat. - Frog and other aquatic fauna activity observed in created wetland habitats. - Woodland bird and other fauna activity observed in created woodland habitats outside of the GGS habitat.
Stage 3: Baseline GGS monitoring	2 tile grids (50 tiles each) in original habitat. ≥1 tile grid/ha of additional created/enhanced habitat. - Six weekly checks within Oct–Mar season. - Checks aligned with optimal weather.	GGS detected in original and additional created/enhanced habitat.
Stage 4: Construction-phase mitigations	30-m buffer zones around GGS habitat are established and clearly demarcated. - Construction and operations staff undergo WMP induction. - Translocation into appropriate habitat within conservation area of any salvaged fauna in accordance with appropriate methods. Report prepared that documents outcomes.	- Native fauna identified in aquatic and treed habitats safely relocated. - Report includes habitat salvaged, individuals found/translocated, mortalities, and non-target species

Action	Performance Criteria	Success Indicators
Stage 5: Post-construction GGS monitoring	▪ Tile grid monitoring in created habitat at Years 1, 3, and 5. ▪ 2 tile grids (50 tiles each) in original habitat . ▪ ≥ 1 tile grid/ha of additional created/enhanced habitat. ▪ Six weekly checks within Oct–Mar season. ▪ Checks aligned with optimal weather.	▪ GGS detected in original and additional created/enhanced habitat in Years 1, 3, and 5. ▪ Evidence of persistence and breeding (juveniles/gravid females). ▪ Additional created and enhanced habitat continues to meet vegetation and hydrology performance thresholds.

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

4. References

- Aquatica Environmental 2025, *BAPS, 1390–1450 Western Port Highway, Cranbourne South – Targeted Dwarf Galaxias Survey* - Ref 000565, Aquatica Environmental, Lower Plenty, consultant letter report prepared for BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha Australia Ltd.
- DCCEEW 2026, *Conservation Advice for glossy grass skink (Pseudemoia rawlinsoni)*, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW), Canberra.
- DEECA 2025a, *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 - Threatened List*, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, East Melbourne.
- DEECA 2025b, *Victorian Biodiversity Atlas 3.2.8*, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, East Melbourne, Victoria, viewed March 2023, <https://vba.dse.vic.gov.au>.
- DSE 2010, *Biodiversity Precinct Structure Planning Kit*, Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE), Melbourne.
- Farquhar JE, Wotherspoon L, Porter H and Chapple DG 2024, Habitat loss and degradation reduce the abundance of the glossy grass skink, *Pseudemoia rawlinsoni*, *Wildlife Research* 51, WR23102. doi:10.1071/WR23102.
- Nature Advisory 2026a, *BAPS Hindu Mahā-Mandir, Melbourne, 1390-1450 Western Port Highway, Cranbourne South*, Flora and Fauna Assessment, Report No. 24184.01 (2.4), Nature Advisory Pty Ltd, Hawthorn East, consultant report prepared for BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha Australia Ltd.
- Nature Advisory 2026b, *BAPS Hindu Mahā-Mandir, Melbourne 1390–1450 Western Port Highway, Cranbourne South: Swamp Skink and Glossy Grass Skink Assessment* - Report No. 24184.04 (2.3), Nature Advisory Pty Ltd, Hawthorn East, consultant report prepared for BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha Australia Ltd.
- Nature Advisory 2026c, *BAPS Hindu Mahā-Mandir, Melbourne 1390–1450 Western Port Highway, Cranbourne South*, Melbourne 1390-1450 Western Port Highway, Cranbourne South: Land Management Plan - Report No. 24184.06 (1.2), Nature Advisory Pty Ltd, Hawthorn East, consultant report prepared for BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha, Australia Ltd.
- Lindenmayer DB, Bennett AF & Hobbs RJ 2010, *Temperate Woodland Conservation and Management*, CSIRO Publishing, Melbourne.
- Watson DM, Doerr VAJ & Banks SC 2020, *Woodland bird declines in south-eastern Australia: drivers, trajectories, and policy implications*, *Pacific Conservation Biology* 26(3): 214–229.

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

Appendix 1: Fauna species recorded in the study area

Origin	Common name	Scientific name	EPBC-T	EPBC-M	FFG-T
Birds					
	Australasian Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i>			
	Australian Magpie	<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>			
	Australian White Ibis	<i>Threskiornis Molucca</i>			
	Australian Wood Duck	<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>			
	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>			
	Brown Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza pusilla</i>			
	Chestnut Teal	<i>Anas castanea</i>			
*	Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>			
	Common Bronzewing	<i>Phaps chalcoptera</i>			
*	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>			
*	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>			
	Crested Pigeon	<i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i>			
	Eastern Rosella	<i>Platycercus eximius</i>			
	Eastern Yellow Robin	<i>Eopsaltria australis</i>			
	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>			
	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis flabelliformis</i>			
	Grey Butcherbird	<i>Cracticus torquatus</i>			
	Grey Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albiscapa</i>			
	Grey Shrike-thrush	<i>Colluricincla harmonica</i>			
	Laughing Kookaburra	<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>			
	Magpie-lark	<i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i>			
	Masked Lapwing	<i>Vanellus miles</i>			
	New Holland Honeyeater	<i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i>			
	Noisy Miner	<i>Manorina melanocephala</i>			
	Pacific Black Duck	<i>Anas superciliosa</i>			
	Rainbow Lorikeet	<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>			
	Raven spp.	<i>Corvus spp.</i>			
	Red Wattlebird	<i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>			
	Red-browed Finch	<i>Neochmia temporalis</i>			
*	Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>			
	Straw-necked Ibis	<i>Threskiornis spinicollis</i>			
	Striated Pardalote	<i>Pardalotus striatus</i>			
	Superb Fairy-wren	<i>Malurus cyaneus</i>			
	Welcome Swallow	<i>Hirundo neoxena</i>			

Origin	Common name	Scientific name	EPBC-T	EPBC-M	FFG-T
Mammals					
	Agile Antechinus	<i>Antechinus agilis</i>			
*	Black Rat	<i>Rattus rattus</i>			
	Common Brush-tailed Possum	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>			
*	Domestic Cat (Feral)	<i>Felis catus</i>			
	Eastern Grey Kangaroo	<i>Macropus giganteus</i>			
*	European Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>			
*	House Mouse	<i>Mus musculus</i>			
*	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>			
Reptiles					
	Blotched Blue-tongued Skink	<i>Tiliqua nigrolutea</i>			
	Common Blue-tongued Skink	<i>Tiliqua scincoides scincoides</i>			
	Garden Skink	<i>Lampropoholis guichenoti</i>			
	Glossy Grass Skink	<i>Pseudemoia rawlinsoni</i>	Vulnerable		Endangered
	Tiger Snake	<i>Notechis scutatus</i>			
Frogs					
	Common Froglet	<i>Crinia signifera</i>			
	Peron's Tree Frog	<i>Litoria peronii</i>			
	Pobblebonk Frog	<i>Limnodynastes dumerillii</i>			
	Southern Brown Tree Frog	<i>Litoria ewingii</i>			
	Striped Marsh Frog	<i>Limnodynastes peronii</i>			
	Whistling Tree Frog	<i>Litoria verreauxii</i>			

* = introduced to Victoria.

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

Appendix 2: Glossy Grass Skink Identification guide

Glossy Grass Skink (DCCEEW 2025): Small striped lizard with very glossy scales, generally coloured light olive-brown to rich reddish-brown with distinct and continuous longitudinal striping. Dark stripe often runs along the centre of the back from the neck to the tail but may be reduced or absent. Pale cream dorsolateral stripe (located at junction of back and side of body) centred on third scale row from centre of back (key diagnostic feature, distinguishes it from closely related species). Another pale stripe runs from the upper lip, along the side of the body and onto the tail. Paired, rather than fused frontoparietal scales (distinguishes it from most unrelated species). Has eyelids with a transparent disc in the centre. All limbs are well-developed and have five digits. Males shorter than females but have larger heads. Head and body length up to 6.5 cm.



Photo 1: Glossy Grass skink. Credit: Liz Browne.

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

Appendix 3: Notice to workers for when fauna is encountered in the construction area

If you see wildlife in the construction area

- Let the wildlife leave of its own accord.
- Don't herd it – it is an offence under the *Wildlife Act 1975*; it can stress and confuse the wildlife and make it behave erratically, resulting in it and people being injured.
- Try to identify where the wildlife entered the construction area (temporarily widening the entry point might encourage wildlife to leave through it); if the wildlife leaves, securely close off the entry point as soon as possible.
- Report sighting to the Site Manager and fill out a sighting form.
- If regular sightings occur, the Development Project Manager must notify the Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action (DEECA) on 136 186.
- If there are things attracting wildlife (such as grassed areas, shade, water sources) in the construction area, contact the Development Project Manager to have these removed under an approved or amended Management Plan.
- If wildlife is injured, or will not leave of its own accord, contact one of these agencies for advice:
 - Help for Wildlife (0477 555 611)
 - Wildlife Victoria (1300 094 535)
 - BADGAR emergency 24-hour wildlife rescue centre (1300 223 427)
 - Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action (136 186)

Note: All persons must obey standard construction area speed limits.

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

[Appendix 4: Species Expert Endorsement Letter](#)

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**

Jules Farquhar
Principal Ecologist
Squamata Ecology
Ballarat, VIC 3800, Australia

TELEPHONE: 0439 242 889
EMAIL: jules.farquhar@monash.edu
ABN: 12 322 390 317

10th April 2026

Jenna Barker
Project Manager & Zoologist
Nature Advisory Pty Ltd
5/61–63 Camberwell Road
Hawthorn East, VIC 3123
Ph: (03) 9815 2111
Email: jennab@natureadvisory.com.au

***RE: Review of management documents pertaining to Glossy Grass Skink for 1390–1450
Western Port Highway, Cranbourne South***

Dear Jenna,

I have reviewed the final versions of the Wildlife Management Plan and Land Management Plan prepared for the proposed BAPS development at Cranbourne South, and I confirm that I support and endorse the Glossy Grass Skink (GGS) management approach. The final plans reflect the key recommendations I provided as an independent species expert and, in my view, provide an appropriate and defensible approach for avoiding and minimising impacts to GGS while seeking to achieve positive long-term conservation outcomes for the species on site.

My advice throughout this process has focused on protecting the known GGS habitat associated with the drainage line, maintaining the hydrological and habitat conditions that support that population, and ensuring that management actions are calibrated to the fine-scale ecological requirements of the species. I have also visited the site in collaboration with a hydrologist to assess GGS habitat and the hydrological plans for the site. This provided me with a clearer understanding of the project and the habitat, and allowed me to better assess the opportunities for conservation, as well as the opportunities to maintain and enhance connectivity between the existing GGS habitat and the drainage line further east of the site, where connectivity would currently benefit from improvement. In particular, I have emphasised the importance of retaining habitat integrity, avoiding excessive disturbance within occupied or suspected habitat, maintaining hydrological connectivity, applying a staged and conservative approach to habitat management, and establishing an appropriate protection zone around the habitat to reduce risks from construction and ongoing site activities.

It is encouraging that the project has adopted an avoidance-based approach, with confirmed GGS habitat to be retained and protected, and with the Land Management Plan also aiming to improve habitat condition and create additional suitable habitat for over time. This is a positive outcome, particularly in the context of a site that has a long history of disturbance and modification. The commitment to habitat protection, hydrological management, staged enhancement, monitoring, and adaptive management provides a sound basis for reducing risk to the existing population and supporting its persistence.

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**



Accordingly, I endorse the management approach set out in the management plans, on the understanding that the measures they specify are implemented in full for the life of the project, including the protection of the mapped GGS habitat and buffer area, the maintenance of site hydrology, and ongoing monitoring of both habitat condition and the GGS population to confirm that the species is not adversely affected by the development and associated works.
Sincerely,

Jules Farquhar
Squamata Ecology
10th April 2026

**ADVERTISED
PLAN**