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Ecological Assessment
20 Hattam Street Golden Square
28 May 2026

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Report:	Ecological Assessment - 20 Hattam Street Golden Square - May 2026
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1 Introduction

Ranges Environmental Consulting have been engaged by Pacific Blue to conduct an ecological impact assessment in relation to 20 Hattam Street Golden Square (formerly known as 91-109 Allingham Street Bendigo).

A recently approved 2 lot subdivision has been issued by the City of Greater Bendigo (Permit no. DS/448/2024). All native vegetation is expected to be removed to facilitate this development.

The proposal involves a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) on the southern lot as indicated in Figure 1. The proposed native vegetation removal to facilitate the BESS has already been assessed and approved under the subdivision permit. This report specifically supports and addresses the BESS application area.

The BESS development requires impact to 0.891 ha of native vegetation, exactly consistent with the approved subdivision's 'stage 2' removal. Thus, this BESS application does not represent any increase in native vegetation impacts to that already approved. Although a crossover from Coonoor Street was not originally planned for the subdivision, the proposed crossover will not lead to increased vegetation removal.

Figure 1. BESS Concept Plan



This report addresses the following:

- Native vegetation regulations outlined in clause 52.17 of the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and the incorporated 'Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation' (DELWP 2017) (referred to herein as the 'Native Vegetation Guidelines').
- Implications of the proposal under Victoria's Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988
- Implications of the proposal under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

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1.1 Background

The property at 20 Hattam Street is 8.75 hectares and is located in the Goldfields Bioregion and the North Central Catchment Management Region. However, the study area relevant to this report is within stage 2, as well as the Coonooer St road reserve, which is approximately 5 hectares (refer to figure 2 on the following page). Stage 1 of the subdivision is being undertaken by another party and therefore not relevant to this report.

The study area is within the Industrial 1 Zone (IN1Z) and the majority of stage 2 is subject to the Bushfire Management Overlay.

The construction of a road for secondary access / emergency access purposes, within the Coonooer Street road reserve (currently an informal track), is required for this BESS project and was also assessed and approved as part of Stage 2 of the approved subdivision.

The approved subdivision permit contemplates staged subdivision, including staged removal of native vegetation. As such, the approved 'Stage 2' native vegetation removal aligns with impacts associated with this BESS project.

Permit Conditions relevant to this ecological impact assessment include (though not limited to):

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Stage 1 removal

19 (e) To offset the removal of 0.898 hectares of native vegetation the permit holder must secure a native vegetation offset(s) that meets all the following:

- A general offset of 0.268 general habitat units located within the North Central Catchment Management Authority boundary or City of Greater Bendigo municipal district:
- have a Strategic Biodiversity Value score of at least 0.208

Stage 2 removal

19 (f) To offset the removal of 0.891 hectares of native vegetation the permit holder must secure a native vegetation offset(s) that meets all the following:

- A general offset of 0.298 general habitat units located within the North Central Catchment Management Authority boundary or City of Greater Bendigo municipal district
- have a Strategic Biodiversity Value score of at least 0.325
- provide protection for at least three (3) large trees

Condition 19 (i) requires evidence that the required offset has been secured must be provided before any native vegetation is removed for Stages 1 and 2.

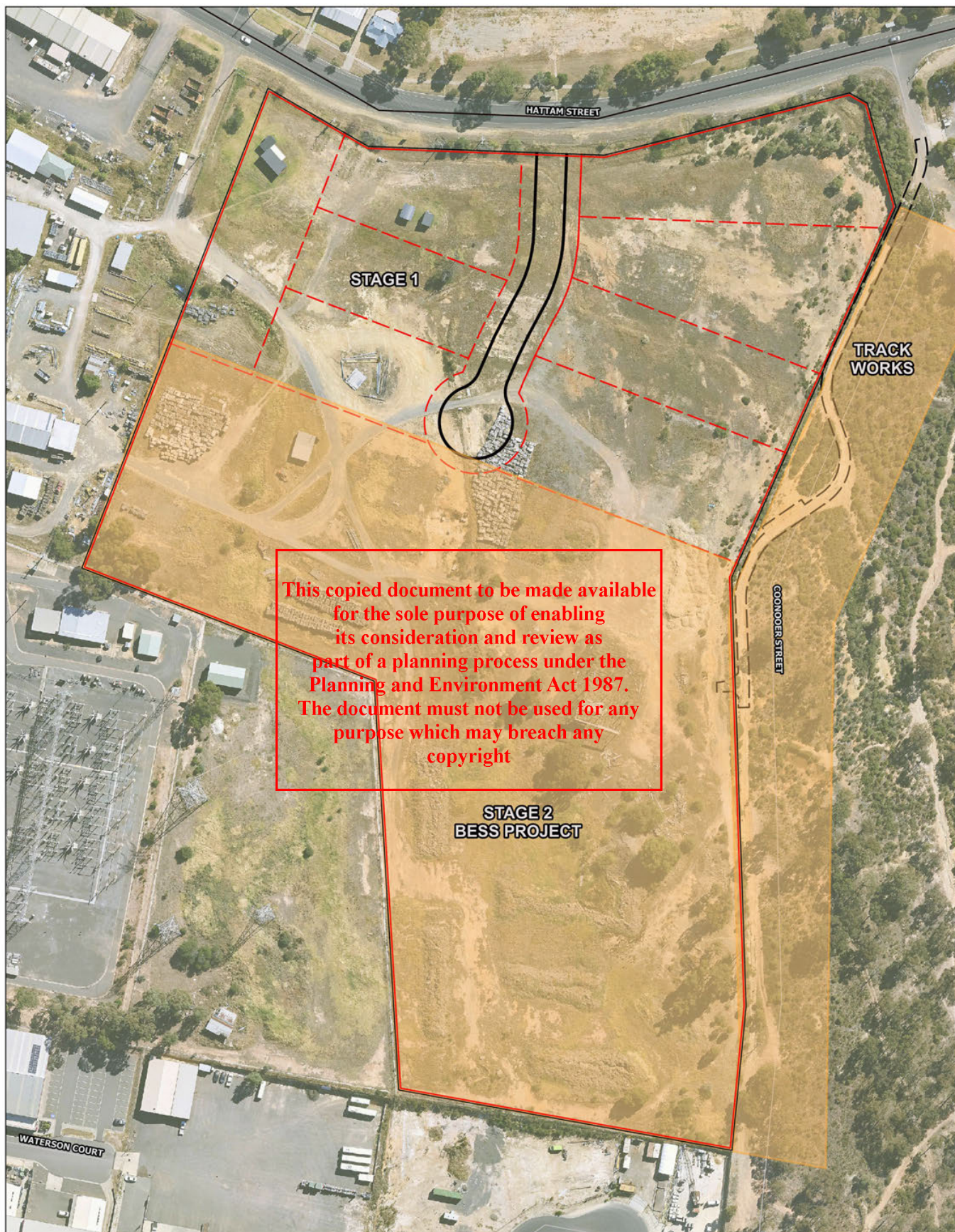


Figure 2
20 Hattam Street Golden Square

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
|  CFA Accessway |  20 Hattam Street Golden Square | Stage 1 Subdivision |
|  Study Area |  Lot Boundary |  Internal Road |

1.2 Permit Requirements and Exemptions

A range of local, state and federal regulations may apply to proposals to remove native vegetation in Victoria. Various permit requirements may or may not be triggered based on the land area, land tenure, local planning schemes (including the relevant planning zones, overlays or specific provisions) and permit exemptions.

A summary of regulations that are considered in context of the proposed development is outlined below.

Level	Regulations	Description	Relevance
Victorian Planning Provisions	Clause 52.17	A permit is required for the removal, lopping or destruction of native vegetation.	Applicable
State Legislation	The Flora and Fauna Guarantee ACT 1988	Generally, applies to public land unless private land is listed as critical habitat for a species or ecological community.	Not Applicable
Federal Legislation	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)	May apply to private land if a listed species or ecological community is present.	Not Applicable

Section 2 outlines the results of the ecological assessment.

Section 3 outlines potentially-occurring threatened species

Section 4 details development implications based on Clause 52.17 and the incorporated *Native Vegetation Guidelines*.

Appendix 1 provides a series of maps to illustrate native vegetation and the proposed works.

Appendix 2 provides a list of flora species observed during the site assessment.

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2 Ecological Assessment

A site assessment was undertaken by *Ranges Environmental Consulting* on 7 June 2024. Habitat Hectare Assessments were undertaken by William Tester and checked by Greg James (both are VQA accredited assessors). The study area included all vegetation within the property and the eastern boundary to the Coonooer Street road reserve. The site assessment considered biodiversity values and criteria in accordance with:

- The Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (DELWP 2017) referred to herein as the Native Vegetation Guidelines.
- The Habitat Hectare Method as per the Vegetation Quality Assessment Manual (DSE 2009).
- Threatened species under both the FFG Act 1988 and EPBC Act 1999.

The type and extent of native vegetation was mapped onsite using QField 2.8 with a GPS receiver.

2.1 Native Vegetation Assessment Criteria

Native vegetation is assessed in accordance with the *Native Vegetation Guidelines*, which defines native vegetation in two categories:

Native vegetation patch

A patch of native vegetation is either

- an area of vegetation where at least 25 per cent of the total perennial understory plant cover is native
- any area with three or more native canopy trees where the drip line of each tree touches the drip line of at least one other tree, forming a continuous canopy, or
- any mapped wetland included in the current wetlands map, available in DELWP systems and tools.

Scattered tree

A scattered tree is a native canopy tree that does not form part of a Native Vegetation Patch.

Note: A canopy tree is a mature tree that is greater than three metres in height and is normally found in the upper layer of a vegetation type.

Vegetation that is neither a native vegetation patch nor a scattered tree is not applicable to the *Native Vegetation Guidelines* e.g. scattered native shrubs, introduced pasture, planted woodlots and cultivated gardens.

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Ecological Vegetation Classes

An Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) is a native vegetation type classified based on its floristic, life form, environmental and ecological characteristics (DEPI 2013). The benchmark for an EVC describes the attributes of the vegetation type in its mature natural state, which reflects conditions prior to European settlement.

Modelled 1750 EVC mapping produced by DEECA and accessible via [Nature Kit Online](#), indicates that Box Ironbark Forest (EVC 61) previously occurred in and around the study area.

The site assessment revealed that a number of fragmented patches of Box Ironbark Forest occur in varying condition across the study area.

Site Condition Assessments

Site condition assessments are a key measure of native vegetation impact assessments and offset requirements. Where a native vegetation patch (or habitat zone) is identified, a site condition assessment can be attained by applying one of two methods below:

- The modelled site condition score using the NVIM online tool (basic and intermediate applications only)
- A habitat Hectare assessment undertaken by an accredited Native Vegetation Assessor

Habitat Hectare assessments apply a defined EVC benchmark as per standardised methodology (DSE 2004). The assessment combines 7 site-based measures and 3 landscape-based measures to generate a site condition score between 0 and 1 that represents vegetation quality as a percentage of the optimum benchmark.

Habitat Zones are separated where there is clear disconnection between one patch and the next, or where two types of EVCs are observed or where significant differences in condition occur within an EVC.

Habitat Hectare assessments were undertaken to inform vegetation quality as the application is expected to fall within the detailed assessment category.

Large Tree Benchmark

The Large Tree benchmark for Box Ironbark Forest is 70 cm when measured at breast height (1.3m above the ground). Impacts to large trees are a key consideration of the *Native Vegetation Guidelines*.

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2.2 Native Vegetation Assessment

Flora Species

During site assessments across both stages of the subdivision, a total of 79 flora species were observed. This includes 41 species of exotic origin, 36 local native species and 2 Victorian natives occurring outside their natural range.

Limitations

The timing of the flora survey in winter is not ideal for the identification of many flora species. It is expected that further grasses, herbs and lilies might be detected if surveyed in spring. However, it is predicted that assessments undertaken across different seasons would yield similar results in terms of flora diversity and ecological condition.

2.2.1 Habitat Hectare Assessments

Assessment results are limited to native vegetation identified in Stage 2 of the subdivision (i.e. the study area). Information pertaining to Stage 1 is documented in the *Ecological Assessment - 91-109 Allingham Street Bendigo* (Ranges Environmental Consulting October 2024).

As shown in Map 1, five patches of Box Ironbark Forest were identified and assessed within the study area. These patches (or Habitat Zones) are described below.

Habitat Zone 3

This area includes Zones 3a, 3B and 3C along the eastern boundary of the study area and into the Coonooer Street road reserve. Vegetation quality is similar on the eastern side of the existing track within the road reserve and has therefore been assessed as one zone and mapped as Habitat Zone 3B and 3C. Mature canopy in all zones is very sparse and well below benchmark levels.

A moderate cover of understorey shrubs occurs throughout the zone consisting predominantly of Totem Poles *Melaleuca decussata* and Rough Wattle *Acacia aspera*. Other shrubs including but not limited to Hedge Wattle *Acacia paradoxa*, Mallee Wattle *Acacia montana* and Bushy Needlewood *Hakea decurrens* are also present. The sparse understorey contains grasses such as Short-hair Plume-grass *Dichelachne sciurea* and Supple Spear-grass *Austrostipa mollis*. A number of herbs also persist scattered throughout the zone including Shiny Everlasting *Xerochrysum viscosum* and Common Raspwort *Gonocarpus tetragynus*.

Weed cover occurs at approximately 20% with high-threat woody and grassy species present including Sallow Wattle *Acacia longifolia* and Cocksfoot *Dactylis glomerata*.

Organic litter cover is moderate although logs are absent. The proximity to Bendigo Regional Park contribute to Habitat Zone 3 receiving a condition score of 41% of the EVC benchmark.

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Figure 2. Immature *Eucalyptus microcarpa* in northern extent of Habitat Zone 3 (facing east)



Figure 3. Eastern extent of Habitat Zone 3, within the Coonooer Street road reserve. (facing south)

Habitat Zone 4

Habitat Zone 4 occurs as a fragmented patch of native vegetation occurring in 5 areas that are separated by sections dominated by weedy grasses or separated by gravel accessways. These areas are all patches with very limited diversity consisting almost exclusively of Wallaby Grass *Rytidosperma* sp. with scattered Berry Saltbush *Atriplex semibaccata* also present.

Weed cover occurs at moderate levels (30-40%) in the zone and habitat features are absent.

The lack of canopy, diversity, connectivity and habitat features contribute to Habitat Zone 4 receiving a condition score of 14% of the EVC benchmark.

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Figure 4. *Rytidosperma* spp. and *Atriplex semibaccata* in Habitat Zone 4A (facing northeast)



Figure 5. Gravel track separating Habitat Zones 4B and 4C (facing north)

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Habitat Zone 5

Habitat Zone 5 has been separated into two areas as it is dissected by a gravel accessway. Two Red Ironbark *Eucalyptus tricarpa* occur at the southern extent of the zone with one being a large specimen.

The understorey contains an array of scattered shrubs predominantly consisting of Golden Wattle *Acacia pycnantha*, Spreading Wattle *Acacia genistifolia* and Drooping Cassinia *Cassinia sifton* also present. As in the majority of Zones, the ground layer is comprised mainly of Wallaby Grasses *Rytidosperma spp.* and Common Raspwort *Gonocarpus tetragynus*.

Weed cover is moderate (30-40%) with high threat weeds such as Bridal Creeper *Asparagus asparagoides* and Gazania *Gazania sp.* contributing to the majority of cover.

Organic litter cover is moderate however logs are absent. The moderately diverse understorey and large Red Ironbark allows Habitat Zone 5 to receive a condition score of 32% of the EVC benchmark.



Figure 6. Understorey shrubs in Habitat Zone 5A (facing southeast)



Figure 7. Moderate native understorey cover and canopy trees in Habitat Zone 5B (facing south)

Habitat Zone 6

Habitat Zone 6 occurs in the southwestern corner of the study area.

While a canopy is absent, scattered individuals of Spreading Wattle *Acacia genistifolia* occur in the understorey. The ground layer contains a high cover of Common Wallaby Grass *Rytidosperma caespitosum* and sparse patches of Fussy New Holland Daisy *Vittadinia cuneata* and Berry Saltbush *Atriplex semibaccata*.

Weed cover is moderate (30-40%) with high threat weeds present such as Montpellier Broom *Genista monspessulana* and Couch *Cynodon dactylon*.

Organic litter cover is extremely limited and logs are absent. This along with low landscape scores contribute to Habitat Zone 6 receiving a condition score of 20% of the EVC benchmark.

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Figure 8. High cover of *Rytidosperma caespitosum* in Habitat Zone 6 (facing north)



Figure 9. *Rytidosperma caespitosum* and *Genista monspessulana* in Habitat Zone 6 (facing east)

Habitat Zone 7

Habitat Zone 7 occurs on the southern end of the eastern boundary. This zone contains the most intact canopy in the study area however no large trees are present.

Understorey shrubs persist including but not limited to Hedge Wattle *Acacia paradoxa*, Drooping Cassinia *Cassinia Sifton* and Gorse Bitter-pea *Daviesia uniflora*. A moderate cover and diversity of graminoids and herbs occurs in the groundlayer including Slender Wallaby Grass *Rytidosperma racemosum*, Black-anther Flax-lily *Dianella revoluta* and Shiny Everlasting *Xerochrysum viscosum*.

Weed cover is low (<20%) predominantly consisting of weedy grasses including Annual Veldt-grass *Ehrharta longiflora* and leaf litter occurs at moderate levels.

The location on the edge of Bendigo Regional Park contributes to Habitat Zone 7 receiving a condition score of 48% of the EVC benchmark.



Figure 10. Small patch of canopy trees below benchmark height within Zone 7



Figure 11. Low shrub cover within Zone 7

Habitat Hectare Results

Habitat Zone			3	4	5	6	7
Benchmark criteria		Max. Score	EVC				
			Box Ironbark Forest (EVC 61)				
Site condition	Large Old Trees	10	0	0	6	0	0
	Canopy cover	5	0	0	3	0	5
	Understorey	25	15	5	10	10	15
	Lack of weeds	15	7	4	4	4	7
	Recruitment	10	3	0	1	1	3
	Organic litter	5	3	0	3	0	5
	Logs	5	0	0	0	0	0
		1x	28	9	27	15	35
Multiplier		100%		9	27	15	35
Patch Size			8	1	1	1	8
Neighbourhood			2	1	1	1	2
Distance to Core			3	3	3	3	3
			13	5	5	5	13
Habitat quality score		100	13	14	32	20	48
Habitat score as above = #/100			0.13	0.14	0.32	0.20	0.48

Non-Native Vegetation

The majority of the property is dominated by non-native vegetation. Weedy grasses and herbs make up the majority of vegetation in this area including Toowoomba Canary-grass *Phalaris aquatica*, *Paspalum dilatatum* and *Gazania sp.*



Figure 12. Large patch of *Gazania sp.*



Figure 13. Exotic grasses dominating western extent.

2.3 Fauna Habitat

Vegetation within the study area is highly modified from its original state and heavily fragmented due to a history of land clearing, mining and industrial use. However, some patches of vegetation provide suitable habitat features for a range of locally-occurring fauna species.

Canopy trees that occur predominantly in the southeastern corner provide some nesting, perching and foraging opportunities for a range of birds including Red Wattlebird *Anthochaera carunculata*, Eastern Rosella *Platycercus eximius* and Grey Currawong *Strepera versicolor*. Arboreal mammals such as the Sugar Glider *Petaurus breviceps* may also use canopy trees in the study area for foraging.

Understorey habitat is extremely limited across the site. However, some small patches of understorey shrubs occur in both the northeastern and southeastern corners. These areas provide suitable habitat for a range of locally-occurring scrub birds including Superb Fairy-wren *Malurus cyaneus*, Weebill *Smicronis brevirostris* and Striated Pardalote *Pardalotus striatus*.

A small, heavily vegetated seasonal pond containing dense cover of Rushes *Juncus spp* and Bullrush *Typha sp* provides some habitat for amphibians such as the Southern Bullfrog *Limnodynastes dumerilii* and Common Froglet *Crinia signifera*.

Vegetation along the eastern boundary of the site is contiguous to Bendigo Regional Park. This connectivity further increases the likelihood of local fauna to utilise these areas. However, connectivity does not occur in other directions of the study area, limited the likelihood of fauna species utilising the property as part of a corridor to move across the landscape.

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Figure 14. The western extent of Bendigo Regional Park, bordering the east of the study area



Figure 15. Moderate cover of vegetation and structural diversity in Habitat Zone 7

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2.4 Large Trees

A total of 5 large trees were identified in the study area as summarised in Table 1 and shown on Map 1. Trees 4 and 5 are in the neighbouring reserve must be protected during the construction of the fire access track (as well as other native vegetation on the margins of the track).

Table 1. Large Trees in the study area

DBH – Diameter at Breast Height

No.	Scientific Name	Common Name	DBH	Type	Stage 2
1	<i>Eucalyptus tricarpa</i>	Red Ironbark	75	In Remnant Patch	Remove
2	<i>Eucalyptus tricarpa</i>	Red Ironbark	86	Scattered Tree	Remove
3	<i>Eucalyptus tricarpa</i>	Red Ironbark	85	Scattered Tree	Remove
4	<i>Eucalyptus tricarpa</i>	Red Ironbark	110	In Remnant Patch	Retain
5	<i>Eucalyptus tricarpa</i>	Red Ironbark	75	In Remnant Patch	Retain

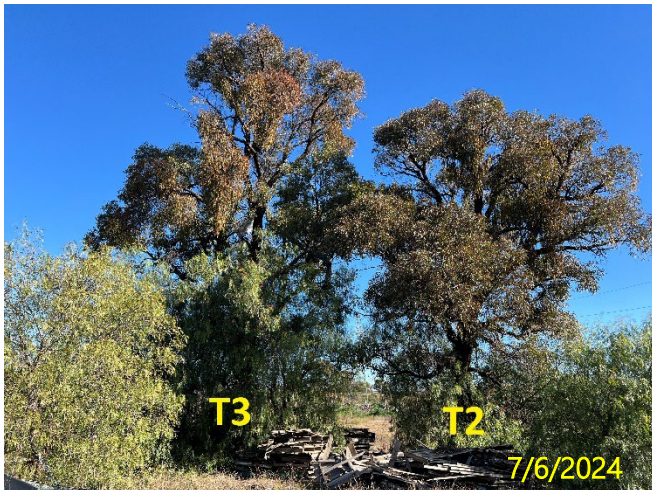


Figure 16. Trees 2 and 3 (facing southwest)



Figure 17. Tree 1 (facing southeast)

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3 Potentially Occurring Threatened Species

There are two key pieces of biodiversity legislation that list threatened species in Victoria: The Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) and the Victorian Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (FFG Act). These Acts provide the legislative framework for the protection of threatened species.

A search of the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (VBA) within 5km of the study area was undertaken to determine locally-recorded threatened species. Further to this, the EPBC Protected Matters Search Tool was used to determine potentially occurring threatened species within 5km of the study area.

Based on the results of these database searches, and the native vegetation and habitat assessment in the study area, the potential occurrence of threatened flora and fauna was determined and is discussed below.

3.1 Threatened Flora Assessment

The results of the VBA and PMST searches revealed 25 threatened flora species that occur or may occur within 5km of the study area. 23 of these species are deemed to have a Low likelihood of occurrence within the study area. This is due to a combination of no or very few records, lack of suitable habitat, or the species occurs outside its known range. The remaining two species are deemed to have a moderate likelihood of occurrence in the vicinity of the development and the likelihood of significant impact is discussed below.

The likelihood of occurrence assessment table for all threatened flora relevant to the study area is provided in Appendix 3.

Ausfeld's Wattle (FFG: Endangered)

Ausfeld's Wattle *Acacia ausfeldii* has been recorded 22 times in the surrounding landscape with the most recent record occurring 3 kilometers south of the study area near the Spring Gully Reservoir. The closest record occurs 1.7 kilometers south within the Bendigo Regional Park.

Small areas on the eastern boundary of the property provide suitable habitat for the species and the local records indicate that it may occur in these areas. However, the flora survey did not detect any specimens and it is therefore deemed unlikely for the proposal to impact on the species.

Goldfields Grevillia (FFG: Endangered)

The VBA search revealed 11 records for Goldfields Grevillea *Grevillea dryophylla* with the most recent occurring in 2022. The great majority of these records occur south of the study area within contiguous vegetation of the Bendigo Regional Park.

While some suitable habitat occurs in the study area and the species is known to occur in contiguous vegetation, the flora survey was undertaken with consideration of threatened species and it was not detected. It is therefore considered that the species is unlikely to be impacted by the proposal.

3.2 Threatened Fauna Assessment

The combined results of the VBA and PMST searches revealed 30 threatened terrestrial fauna species that occur or may occur within 5km of the study area. Due to the lack of waterbodies within the study area, wetland birds marine species and fish are excluded from this list.

Of the 30 species assessed, 24 are deemed to have a Low likelihood of occurrence within the study area. This is due to a combination of no or very few records, lack of suitable habitat or the study area is outside the species known range. The assessment of potential for significant impacts as a result of the proposal for the remaining nine species are discussed below.

The likelihood of occurrence assessment table for all threatened fauna relevant to the study area is provided in Appendix 4.

Appendix 5 shows the results of the EPBC Protected Matters Search query.

Brown Treecreeper (EPBC: Vulnerable)

Likelihood of Occurrence: Moderate

Likelihood of Impact: Low

The 139 records of Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus* revealed by the VBA occur more than 2.5 kilometers from the study area in various directions with the most recent occurring in 2019 within the Spring Gully Reservoir, approximately 3 kilometers south.

Vegetation in the adjoining Bendigo Regional Park provides some suitable habitat for the species and the recent records within contiguous bushland increase the likelihood of occurrence. However, suitable habitat features within the study area are limited. Therefore, the species is unlikely to be significantly impacted by the proposal.

Swift Parrot (FFG: Critically Endangered, EPBC: Endangered)

Likelihood of Occurrence: Moderate

Likelihood of Impact: Low

The VBA query revealed 17 records for Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor* in the surrounding 5 kilometers with the most recent occurring in 2006. Many of these records occur south of the study area within the Bendigo Regional Park which is contiguous to box ironbark forest in the south and east of the study area. Vegetation in these areas is considered as suitable habitat for the species.

Although many records have occurred in contiguous bushland to the south of the study area. The extent of suitable habitat within the study area is extremely limited and no records have occurred in the last 18 years. It is therefore considered unlikely that the proposal will have a significant impact on the species.

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Crested Bellbird (FFG: Endangered)

Likelihood of Occurrence: Moderate

Likelihood of Impact: Low

The VBA query revealed 44 records of the Crested Bellbird *Oreoica gutturalis*, the most recent of which occurring in 2018. The majority of these records occur within the Bendigo Regional Park which is contiguous to box ironbark forest in the south and east of the study area. The acacia shrubland and woodland vegetation type in the Bendigo Regional Park and small parts of the study area are considered suitable habitat for the species.

Given the recent records of the species within vegetation contiguous to the study area, it is likely that the species may occur in the study area. However, given the limited suitable habitat within the study area, it is unlikely that the species would make significant use of the site and therefore is not expected to be impacted by the proposal.

Brush-tailed Phascogale (FFG: Vulnerable)

Likelihood of Occurrence: Low-Moderate

Likelihood of Impact: Low

The Brush-tailed Phascogale *Phascogale tapoatafa* has been recorded through the VBA 34 times in the surrounding 5 kilometers. The majority of these records occur within vast areas of remnant bushland of the Bendigo Regional Park due to the suitable rough-barked box ironbark forest preferred by the species. Given the large range of the species and location within contiguous bushland, it is considered likely that the species may occur within the small area of box ironbark forest in the south of the study area.

However, provided that no trees containing habitat hollows are impacted, it is unlikely that the development will impact on the species.

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Brown Toadlet (FFG: Endangered)

Likelihood of Occurrence: Moderate

Likelihood of Impact: Low

The VBA query revealed 40 records of Brown Toadlet *Pseudophryne bibronii* within 5km of the study area. The vast majority of these records occurred within the Bendigo Regional Park to the south of the study area, with the closest record occurring 250 meters away.

Some moderate although not optimal habitat occurs in the south of the study area in the form of a small, vegetated dam, however, leaf litter is minimal in and around the area and a lack of seasonally inundated drainage lines with suitable protective cover further reduces the likelihood that the species makes significant use of the site. It is therefore considered unlikely that the development will significantly impact on the species.

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Diamond Firetail (FFG: Vulnerable)

Likelihood of Occurrence: Moderate **Likelihood of Impact:** Low

The VBA query revealed 39 records for Diamond Firetail *Stagonopleura guttata* which predominantly occurred within the Bendigo Regional Park south of the study area. The shrubby, open woodland vegetation type provides suitable habitat for the species. The most recent record for the species occurred over 20 years ago less than 500 meters from the study area.

While some suitable habitat occurs on the south and eastern extent of the study area, it is unlikely that the species makes significant use of the site and therefore expected that the development will not significantly impact on the species.

3.3 EPBC listed Threatened Ecological Communities

EPBC listed Threatened Ecological Communities were also considered based on the results of the Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST). The PMST revealed 3 Threatened Ecological Communities that are known or predicted to occur within 5km of the study area:

- Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions
- Grey Box (Eucalyptus microcarpa) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of SE Australia
- White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland

A summary of Threatened Ecological Communities criteria in relation to the proposed development is outlined below.

EPBC Act Community	Descriptions	Is diagnostic criteria and condition thresholds met?
Grey Box Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia		
Diagnostic Criteria		
A tree canopy is present, except in the derived grassland state, discussed below. The canopy layer is dominated by Eucalyptus microcarpa (Grey Box). Other tree species are often present and may be co-dominant with Grey Box at some site.	Yes: Grey Box is present within the Study Area	
Derived Grassland		
Includes patches of derived grassland, where the tree canopy and mid layer has been removed to less than 10% crown cover, but the native ground layer remains largely intact. In order for the derived grassland to be included in the ecological community, a canopy or mid layer should formerly have been present that was consistent with the ecological community as described above.	Yes: elements of derived grassland is present	
Condition Thresholds		

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EPBC Act Community	Descriptions	Is diagnostic criteria and condition thresholds met?
1a. The minimum patch size is 0.5 hectare		
1b. The canopy layer contains Grey Box (<i>E. microcarpa</i>) as the dominant or co-dominant tree species		Yes: for Zones 3 and 7. No for Zones 4, 5 and 6. Zone 4 and 6 are treeless
1c. The vegetative cover of non-grass weed species in the ground layer is less than 30% at any time of the year.		Yes: for Zones 3 and 7. No for Zones 4-6

Based on this criteria Zones 4-6 are not part of the listed ecological community

Zone 3 and 7

2. Is the patch bigger than 2 ha?	Zones 3A and 7 are connected and forms a combined patch greater than 0.5 hectares (1.14 hectares in total). The patch is larger when considering the connecting road reserve vegetation (Zones 3B and 3C) between the vehicle track and Bendigo Regional Park. However, the vehicle track separates zone 3A and 3B-C with separation width varies from 2-9 metres.
3. Are there at least 8 trees/ha: a) that contain hollows, or b) have a diameter >60 cm at 1.3 m above ground level?	No: the tree cover within Zones 3 and 7 and the interface of the Regional Park is very sparse, and canopy species mostly consist of young regrowth. No hollow bearing trees were observed in these zones
4. Are there at least 20 live trees/ha with a diameter >12 cm at 1.3 m above ground level?	No, over the 1.14 hectares within Stage 1 and 2 (Zone 3A), there are 14-15 trees that meet this criteria. Several smaller Eucalypt recruits are less than 10cm diameter and there are large treeless patches between smaller patches of canopy trees. The assessed road reserve vegetation (Zones 3B-C) has a sparser cover compared to Zone 3A. It appears this zone has experienced long term management as a fire break beneath the powerline easement.

Based on this Criteria, Zones 3A-C and 7 are not part of the listed ecological community

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Figure 18. Facing North into Zone 3A – no mature canopy present



Figure 19. Central area of zone 3A with no canopy present

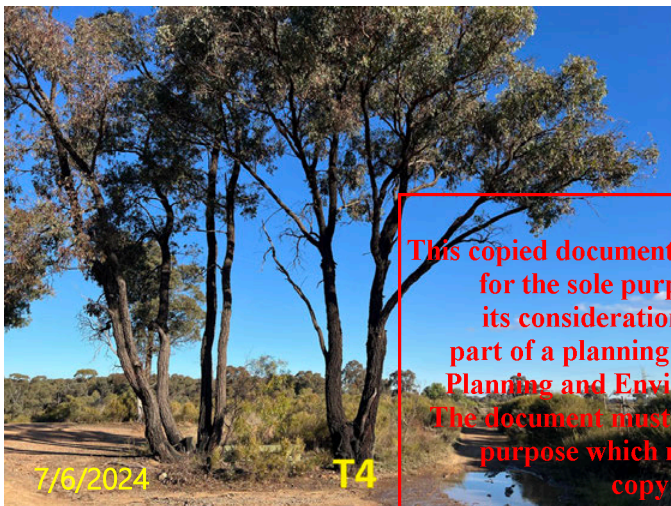


Figure 20. Facing South near Hattam Street within Zone 3B – Mature trees in the foreground and virtually no trees over the next 100 metres



Figure 21. Facing north from within Zone 3C – 2 mature trees in the foreground and virtually no trees over the next 100 metres



Figure 22. North edge of Zone 3A with young regrowth less than 10cm DBH.

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EPBC Act Community	Descriptions	Is diagnostic criteria and condition thresholds met?
White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland		
Diagnostic Criteria and Identification		

Diagnostic Criteria

The ecological community can occur either as woodland or derived native grassland (i.e. grassy woodland where the tree overstorey has been removed). It is characterised by a species-rich understorey of native tussock grasses, herbs and scattered shrubs (where shrub cover comprises less than 30% cover), and a dominance or prior dominance of White Box (*Eucalyptus albens*) and/or Yellow Box (*E. melliodora*) and/or Blakely's Red Gum (*E. blakelyi*) trees. In the Nandewar bioregion, Grey Box (*E. microcarpa* or *E. moluccana*) may also be dominant or codominant. In the woodland state, tree cover is generally discontinuous and of medium height with canopies that are clearly separated.

Yes: Although Grey Box is present within the Study Area, the Ecological Community specifies that Grey Box is only considered in the Nandewar bioregion (New South Wales).

No other character canopy species are present. Furthermore the surrounding 2.5km radius has been well sampled in the VBA register in the last 40 years and there are no confirmed records of White Box, Yellow Box or Blakely's Red Gum.

Commonly found Eucalypts in this search area include Red Box (*Eucalyptus polyanthemus*), Bundy (*Eucalyptus goniocalyx*) and Red Ironbark (*Eucalyptus tricarpa*), none of which are characteristic of this ecological community.

Based on this criteria, no vegetation within the study area is part of the listed ecological community

Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions**Diagnostic Criteria**

The ecological community must be, or have previously been, dominated or co-dominated by Buloke (*Allocasuarina leuhmannii*). Other trees that may be prominent in Buloke Woodlands include: Slender Pine (*Callitris gracilis*), White/Murray Pine (*Callitris glaucophylla*) Black Box (*Eucalyptus largiflorens*), Waxy Yellow Gum (*E. leucoxylon subsp. pruinosa*), Grey Box (*E. microcarpa*).

Other than the presence of Grey-Box, there appears to be no past or present species correlation between this listed community and the characteristics of the study area. The only character species recorded within 5km is Buloke (on 1 occasion) and Waxy Yellow Gum (2 occasions). Given the few records within a well-sampled area (>4700 flora records), it appears that these species are not a dominant feature of the surrounding landscape

Based on this criteria, no vegetation within the study area is part of the listed ecological community

4 Implications of the Native Vegetation Removal Guidelines

Clause 52.17 is the principle clause under the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme that regulates native vegetation protection and permitted removal. The *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (DELWP 2017) (the *Native Vegetation Guidelines*) is the primary reference document under this clause. Native Vegetation is regulated under all Victorian Planning Schemes and is defined in Clause 73 as:

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

Clause 52.17 regulates clearing of native vegetation by achieving no net loss to Victoria’s biodiversity. This is achieved through the following approaches:

- Avoid the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.
- Minimise impacts from the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation that cannot be avoided.
- Provide an offset to compensate for the biodiversity impact if a permit is granted to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation.
- To manage the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation to minimise land and water degradation.

4.1 Native Vegetation Impact

As outlined in the Assessors Handbook (DELWP 2018), the Native Vegetation Impact assessment must account for direct, indirect and consequential native vegetation loss. Table 2 outlines all potential impacts as relevant to the development proposal.

Table 2. Accounting for native vegetation loss

– Ancillary works and uses around a new dwelling assumes 100% loss of native vegetation within 10 metres from the building	na
– Impacts to Tree Protection Zones (generally $\geq 10\%$ though exceptions may apply)	na
– The full canopy extent of all trees deemed to be impacted	✓
– The need for firebreaks or defensible space to reduce bushfire risk	na
– Installation of services and utilities	✓
– Impacts of construction activity, compaction and excavation	✓
– Septic treatment systems and stormwater runoff	na
– Exemptions triggered from approved dwellings or subdivisions	na

Proposed Native Vegetation Removal

The total extent of impact associated with stages 1 and 2 amounts to 1.789 hectares of Box Ironbark Forest. Both stages of the development have been approved under permit DS/448/2024, subject to conditions.

As shown in Map 2, the current proposal is for the construction of the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and emergency access in the Coonooer Street road reserve. The track will require widening and clearing of some shrubs to achieve the required emergency access standards. The BESS and track works requires impact to 0.891 ha of native vegetation, consistent with the approved subdivision's 'stage 2' removal. Thus, this BESS application does not represent any increase in native vegetation impacts to that already approved.

Impact to 0.891 hectares of native vegetation includes 1 large tree in Zone 1B and 2 large scattered trees.

Past Native Vegetation Removal

The Native Vegetation Guidelines considers past removal for proposed development applications where:

- Native vegetation was removed in the five year period before the permit application is lodged
- This includes approved native vegetation removal on the same property or on contiguous land in the same ownership as the applicant or,
- Native vegetation removal without the required approvals.

Native vegetation permitted for removal has not yet been removed by the proponent. To the author's knowledge, no approved or unauthorised native vegetation removal has occurred in the study area in the last five years.

4.2 Assessment Category

The assessment category of an application is determined in accordance with Table 3. The location category is a biodiversity mapping unit that has been determined across Victoria and is represented in three categories:

- **Location 3** – includes locations where the removal of less than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation could have a significant impact on habitat for a rare or threatened species.
- **Location 2** – includes locations that are mapped as endangered EVCs and/or sensitive wetlands and coastal areas are not included in Location 3
- **Location 1** – includes all remaining locations in Victoria.

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Table 3. Determining the assessment Category

Extent of Native Vegetation	Location Category		
	Location 1	Location 2	Location 3
Less than 0.5 hectares and not including any large trees	Basic	Intermediate	Detailed
Less than 0.5 hectares include one or more large trees	Intermediate	Intermediate	Detailed
0.5 hectares or more	<u>Detailed</u>	Detailed	Detailed

Source: Table 3, *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (DEPI 2017)

The proposed works occur within Location 1 and impact is greater than 0.5 hectares. The application therefore falls within the Detailed assessment pathway.

4.3 Biodiversity Impact and Offset Requirements

The native vegetation removal (NVR) report was generated by DEECA based on provision of spatial data from the impact assessment. The offset requirement that applies to approved native vegetation removal for each Stage is described below:

Stage 1

Offset Type	General Offset
Offset Amount	0.268 general habitat units
Vicinity	North Central CMA Region or Greater Bendigo City Council Area
Minimum SBV Score	0.208
Large Trees	0

Stage 2

Offset Type	General Offset
Offset Amount	0.298 general habitat units
Vicinity	North Central CMA Region or Greater Bendigo City Council Area
Minimum SBV Score	0.325
Large Trees	3

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The DEECA NVR Report verifies the results of the impact and offset assessment, which is provided in Attachment 1.

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4.3.1 Offset Strategy

A native vegetation offset works on the principle of providing an ecological gain equivalent to the value of native vegetation loss. There are two ways in which an offset can be secured:

- Through legal protection, conservation management and forfeit of rights to the use the land (e.g. grazing and firewood collection) on the same property, providing sufficient areas of native vegetation is available or,
- Purchase of a third-party native vegetation offset. This is typically purchased through an accredited broker trading under the State's Native Vegetation Credit Register

No opportunities are available for a first-party offset. Third party offsets are available as shown in Attachment 2 (Stage 1) and Attachment 3 (Stage 2).

4.3.2 Avoid and Minimise Statement

As required for all applications, an avoid and minimise statement is provided below to demonstrate how the application has reduced impacts on biodiversity and other values of native vegetation.

Strategic Level Planning¹

Strategic Level Planning was considered in this assessment with references to:

1. VicPlan Online mapshare.vic.gov.au which maintains records on planning scheme amendments or changes to zones or overlays (dating back to July 2017)
2. Native Vegetation Precinct Plans relevant to the municipality (as outlined in Schedules to Clause 52.16)
3. Sites under the Melbourne Strategic Assessment Levy Area

Based on these sources, no information is available that pertains to Strategic Level Planning initiatives that affect the subject site.

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Site Level Planning²

1. The vast majority of native vegetation impacted within the study area is fragmented, of low quality and already under threat from existing industrial land use.
2. The development is consistent with the purpose of the Industrial Zone
3. The Coonooer Street CFA accessway has been realigned to follow the existing track where possible to minimise impact to native vegetation
4. There are no feasible opportunities to further avoid and minimise impacts on native vegetation without undermining the key objectives of the proposal. The civil works involved in the subdivision does not allow for the retention of large trees within internal roads.

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¹ Strategic level planning is any regional or landscape scale planning process that the site has been subject to that avoided and minimised impacts on native vegetation across a region or landscape

² Site level planning refers to how the proposed use or development has been sited or designed to avoid and minimise impacts on native vegetation

5 Conclusion and Recommendations

The proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) within Stage 2 of the recently approved subdivision will result in impact to 0.891ha of Box Ironbark Forest (EVC 61) of low to moderate quality. The impacts within each stage generate the following offsets:

Stage 1

Offset Type	General Offset
Offset Amount	0.268 general habitat units
Vicinity	North Central CMA Region or Greater Bendigo City Council Area
Minimum SBV Score	0.208
Large Trees	0

Stage 2

Offset Type	General Offset
Offset Amount	0.298 general habitat units
Vicinity	North Central CMA Region or Greater Bendigo City Council Area
Minimum SBV Score	0.325
Large Trees	3

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Notably, these impacts and offsets are exactly consistent with those considered and approved as 'stage 2' removal under the approved subdivision. Although a crossover from Coonooer Street was not originally planned for the subdivision, the proposed crossover will not lead to increased vegetation removal. Offsets are currently available via the native vegetation credit register and a list of available offsets for each stage is included in Attachments 2 and 3.

The two large trees on the margins of the Coonooer street road reserve is to be retained and protected. Given that the emergency accessway is situated on the existing track it is expected that construction is above grade and using semi-permeable surface such as crushed rock, with vegetation impact limited to pruning of shrubs to allow for width clearance requirements. Should excavation be required (>100mm) or non-permeable material be used, the tree will be impacted and a permit required.

Threatened Species and Ecological Communities

No threatened flora was identified during the site assessment and given the historical industrial land use and particular consideration for threatened species during the flora survey, it is considered unlikely that any threatened flora will be impacted by the proposal.

The fragmented and modified nature of vegetation within the study area, as well as extremely limited suitable habitat, makes it unlikely that any threatened fauna will be directly impacted by the proposal.

Based on the diagnostic criteria applied to vegetation within the study area, it is deemed that no listed EPBC threatened Ecological Communities are present.

There are no anticipated development implications in relation to the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act (FFG) or the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC).

Fauna Monitoring and Potential Salvage

Although threatened fauna is most unlikely to occur on the impact site, it is possible that common fauna species utilise the limited habitat within the study area. To mitigate potential displacement or injury to resident fauna, it is recommended that prior to tree removal, all trees are checked to determine if resident fauna is present. Mitigation measures to identify, capture and relocate resident fauna is a requirement under the Wildlife Act 1975. The typical process for fauna monitoring, handling and relocation include:

Step 1: Within 2-3 days of planned clearing, a suitably qualified zoologist/wildlife handler must undertake a pre-clearance surveys of habitat to be removed. This includes inspections of canopy trees and the lower midstorey. Pre-clearing nocturnal and diurnal surveys will provide the opportunity for zoologists to identify fauna activity and the use of nesting sites. Where feasible, fauna will be trapped and captured on the days before clearing and relocated to nearby habitat following completion of works.

Step 2: Although the zoologist's capacity for fauna salvage and relocation will be limited prior to clearing, the surveys will inform a strategy to fauna salvage and relocation during vegetation removal works and provide an opportunity to discuss the strategy with the works contractors.

Step 3: Prior to the day of planned vegetation removal, local veterinary clinics and local wildlife carers will be contacted about the potential for injured wildlife, and a list of providers will be obtained for any orphaned wildlife or animals with non-life threatening injuries.

Step 4: A qualified zoologist is to be present on site during removal of trees that are suspected of harbouring fauna. Instruction will be given to vegetation removal contractors on the best approach to fell or clear the trees/vegetation to minimise damage to fauna.

Step 5: Injured wildlife that can be captured will be taken directly to the nearest veterinary clinic for a medical check. If the animal is found to have life threatening injuries or cannot be successfully rehabilitated, it will be euthanised by the veterinarian after consultation.

Step 6: Displaced animals that are unharmed during felling will be held during the day in a cool, dark and quiet environment. In this instance, the same procedures will be employed for animals trapped prior to tree removal. Displaced animals will be returned to the nearest available habitat in the evening of the same day.

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FFG Protected Flora

The proposed development will result in 'Incidental Take' of declared protected flora. However, all protected flora observed on the site is classed as 'Restricted Use Protected Flora'. As outlined in the *Declared Protected Flora Guidelines* (DEECA 2024), Restricted Use Protected Flora does not require a permit as a result of Incidental Take.

6 References

DEECA (2024) *Declared Protected Flora Guidelines*, the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

DELWP (2017) *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation*, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, December 2017

DELWP (2017b) *Assessors Handbook – Applications to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation* (the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, December 2017

DELWP (2019) *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 Protected Flora List November 2019* Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

DEPI (2014b) *Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) Benchmarks for each Bioregion*. Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Government of Victoria. Accessed via: <http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/conservation-and-environment/native-vegetation-groups-for-victoria/ecological-vegetation-class-evc-benchmarks-by-bioregion>

DSE (2009) *Vegetation Quality Assessment Manual–Guidelines for applying the habitat hectares scoring method*. Version 1.3. Victorian Government Department of Sustainability and Environment, Melbourne.

Online References

Birdlife Australia, <https://birdlife.org.au>

DELWP, *Nature Kit Online*, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, East Melbourne. <http://maps.biodiversity.vic.gov.au/viewer/?viewer=NatureKit>

DELWP, *Victorian Biodiversity Atlas*, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, East Melbourne. Available from: <https://vba.dse.vic.gov.au>.

DCCEEW, *Protected Matters Search Tool*, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australian Government, Canberra, <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/protected-matters-search-tool>

DCCEEW, *Species Profile and Threats (SPRAT) Database*, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australian Government, Canberra, <https://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/sprat.pl>

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, *Flora of Victoria*, <https://vicflora.rbg.vic.gov.au/>

SWIFFT, *Threatened Flora and Fauna in Victoria*, State Wide Integrated Flora and Fauna Teams, https://www.swifft.net.au/cb_pages/threatened_species.php

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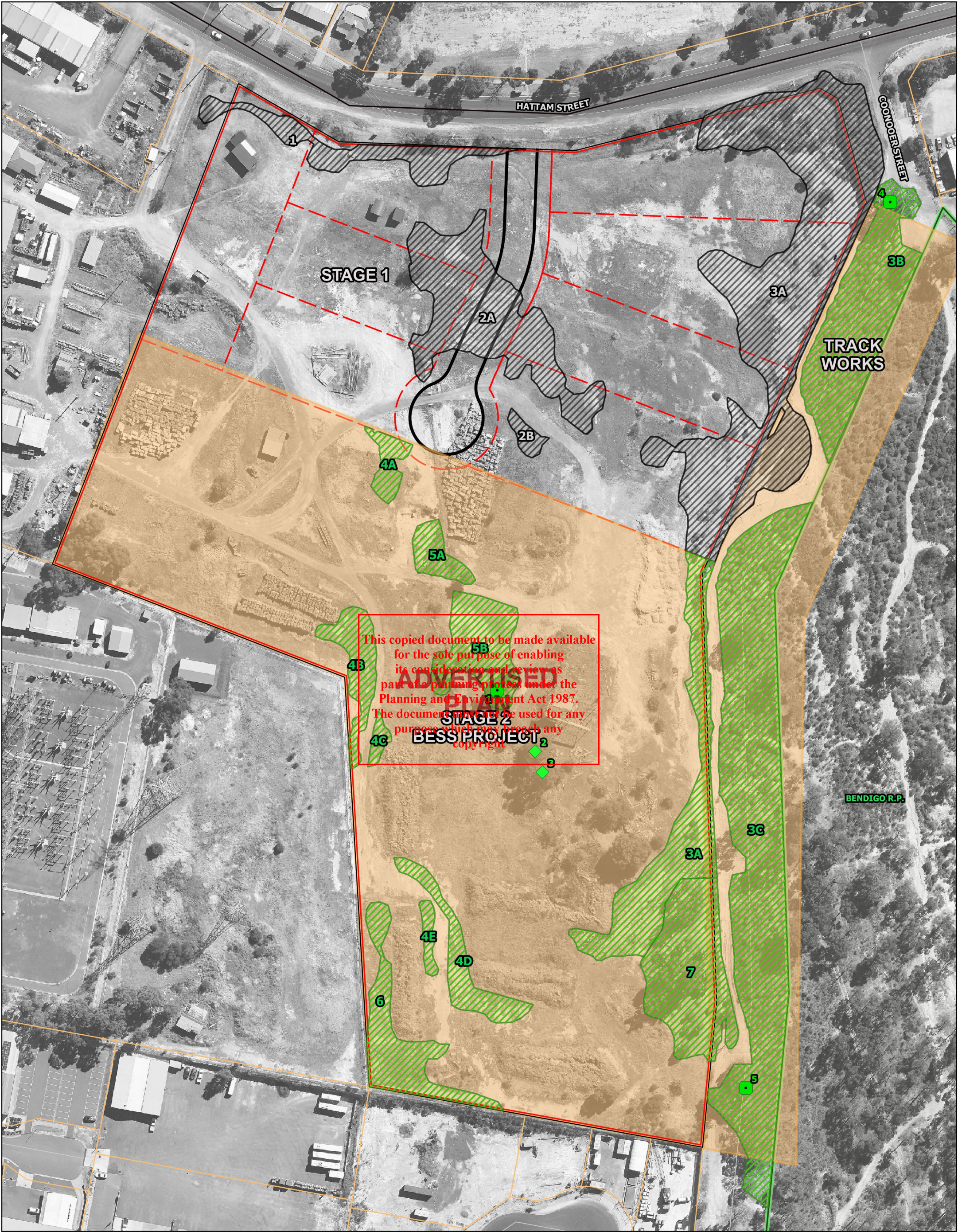
Appendix 1 – Maps and Plans

The following maps were produced using QGIS 3.34 and developed from various datasets including:

- Aerial photography available through Google Earth (AusMap) and Metromap
- VicMap layers (Parcel, Roads, Waterways and Local Government Boundaries)
- Development plans provided by Tomkinson

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Map 1 - Existing Conditions
20 Hattam Street Golden Square

Created by: Greg James
Date: 27/05/2026
Map Program: QGIS 3.4



Large Trees

- In Remnant Patch
- ◆ Scattered Tree

0 25 50 m

Native Vegetation Patch (Habitat Zones 1-7)

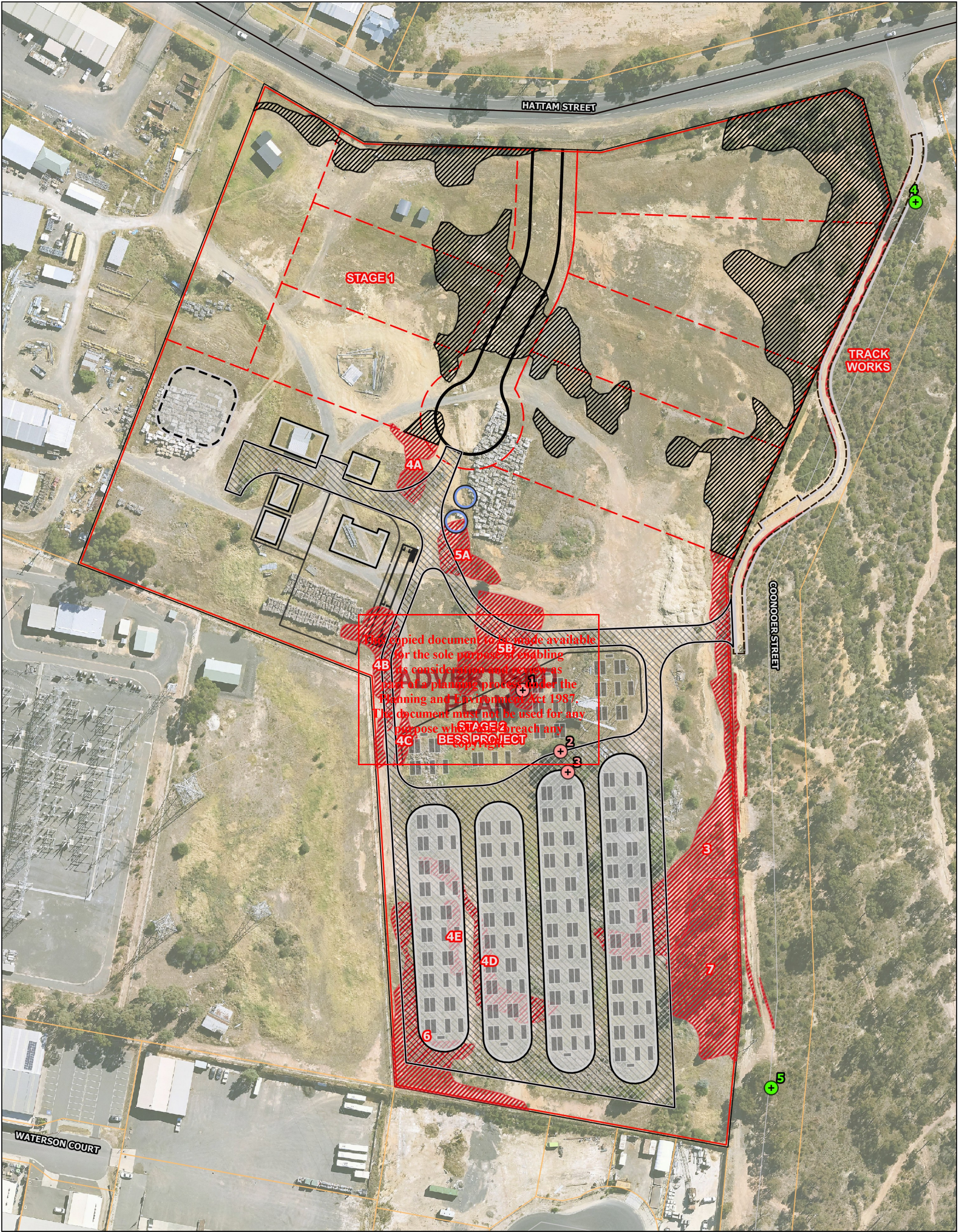
- Stage 1
- Stage 2

 20 Hattam Street Golden Square

- Study Area
- Bendigo Regional Park Boundary



Scale (A3)
1:1,400



Map 2 - Native Vegetation Impacts
20 Hattam Street Golden Square

Created by: Greg James
Date: 27/05/2026
Map Program: QGIS 3.4



Scale (A3)
1:1,400



- Approved Native Vegetation Removal
- Stage 1
 - Stage 2
 - Large Tree to be removed

- Development Layout
- Battery Energy Storage System
 - Detention Storage
 - CFA Access Road

- Internal Road
- Structures
- Fire Water Tank

- Large Tree to be Retained

0 25 50 m

Appendix 2 – Flora List

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* - Exotic Origin # - Victorian native occurring outside natural range C - CaLP Act Regionally Controlled Weed

Origin	Scientific Name	Common Name	Lifeform
	Acacia acinacea s.l.	Gold-dust Wattle	Medium shrub
	Acacia aspera	Rough Wattle	Medium shrub
*	Acacia baileyana	Cootamundra Wattle	Medium shrub
	Acacia genistifolia	Spreading Wattle	Medium shrub
#	Acacia longifolia subsp. longifolia	Sallow Wattle	Understorey tree or large shrub
	Acacia mearnsii	Black Wattle	Understorey tree or large shrub
	Acacia paradoxa	Hedge Wattle	Medium shrub
	Acacia pycnantha	Golden Wattle	Medium shrub
*	Arctotheca calendula	Cape Weed	Medium herb
*	Asparagus asparagoides	Bridal Creeper	Scrambler or climber
	Atriplex semibaccata	Berry Saltbush	Small or prostrate herb
	Austrostipa mollis	Supple Spear-grass	Large tufted graminoid
	Austrostipa scabra	Rough Spear-grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Brassica spp.	Turnip	Medium herb
*	Briza maxima	Large Quaking-grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Bromus hordeaceus	Soft Brome	Medium to small tufted graminoid
	Carex spp.	Sedge	Medium to small tufted graminoid
	Cassinia sifton	Drooping Cassinia	Medium shrub
*	Cenchrus clandestinus	Kikuyu	Large non-tufted graminoid
	Chloris truncata	Windmill Grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Chrysanthemoides monilifera	Boneseed	Medium shrub
*	Cortaderia selloana subsp. selloana	Pampas Grass	Large tufted graminoid
#	Cynodon dactylon	Couch	Medium to tiny non-tufted graminoid
*	Cynosurus echinatus	Rough Dog's-tail	Medium to tiny non-tufted graminoid
*	Cyperus eragrostis	Drain Flat-sedge	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Dactylis glomerata	Cocksfoot	Medium to tiny non-tufted graminoid
	Daviesia ulicifolia	Gorse Bitter-pea	Medium shrub
	Dianella revoluta s.l.	Black-anther Flax-lily	Medium to small tufted graminoid
	Dichelachne sciurea spp. agg.	Short-hair Plume-grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
* C	Echium plantagineum	Paterson's Curse	Large herb
*	Ehrharta longiflora	Annual Veldt-grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
	Einadia nutans	Nodding Saltbush	Medium herb
	Eragrostis brownii	Common Love-grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Erodium cicutarium	Common Heron's-bill	Medium herb
	Eucalyptus microcarpa	Grey Box	Understorey tree or large shrub
	Eucalyptus tricarpa	Red Ironbark	Understorey tree or large shrub
*	Galenia pubescens	Galenia	Medium herb
*	Genista monspessulana	Montpellier Broom	Medium shrub
	Gonocarpus tetragynus	Common Raspwort	Medium herb
	Hakea decurrens	Bushy Needlewood	Medium shrub
	Helminthotheca echioides	Ox-tongue	Medium herb

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Origin	Scientific Name	Common Name	Lifeform
*	Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog	Large non-tufted graminoid
*	Hordeum spp.	Barley Grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Hypochaeris radicata	Flatweed	Medium herb
* C	Juncus acutus subsp. acutus	Spiny Rush	Large tufted graminoid
	Juncus spp.	Rush	Medium to small tufted graminoid
	Juncus subsecundus	Finger Rush	Medium to small tufted graminoid
	Lachnagrostis filiformis s.s.	Common Blown-grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Lactuca serriola	Prickly Lettuce	Large herb
*	Lolium rigidum	Wimmera Rye-grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
	Lomandra filiformis	Wattle Mat-rush	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Malva parviflora	Small-flower Mallow	Large herb
* C	Marrubium vulgare	Horehound	Small shrub
	Melaleuca decussata	Totem-poles	Medium shrub
*	Modiola caroliniana	Red-flower Mallow	Small or prostrate herb
*	Nassella neesiana	Chilean Needle-grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Orobanche minor	Lesser Broomrape	Medium herb
*	Oxalis pes-caprae	Soursob	Medium herb
	Panicum spp.	Panic	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Paspalum dilatatum	Paspalum	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Phalaris aquatica	Two-woolbush Canary-grass	Large tufted graminoid
	Plantago coronopus subsp. coronopus	Buck's-horn Plantain	Medium herb
*	Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort	Large herb
*	Prunus spp.	Prunus	Medium shrub
*	Romulea rosea	Onion Grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Rosa rubiginosa	Sweet Briar	Medium shrub
*	Rumex crispus	Curled Dock	Large herb
	Rytidosperma caespitosum	Common Wallaby-grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
	Rytidosperma racemosum var. racemosum	Slender Wallaby-grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
	Rytidosperma setaceum var. setaceum	Bristly Wallaby-grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
	Rytidosperma spp.	Wallaby Grass	Medium to small tufted graminoid
*	Salix spp.	Willow	Understorey tree or large shrub
*	Schinus molle	Pepper Tree	Understorey tree or large shrub
*	Solanum nigrum s.l.	Black Nightshade	Large herb
	Styphelia humifusa	Cranberry Heath	Prostrate shrub
	Typha spp.	Bulrush	Large non-tufted graminoid
*	Vicia sativa	Common Vetch	Scrambler or climber
	Vittadinia cuneata var. cuneata	Fuzzy New Holland Daisy	Medium herb
	Xerochrysum viscosum	Shiny Everlasting	Large herb

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Appendix 3 – Threatened Flora Occurrence Likelihood

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Conservation Status	Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (VBA) Records
EX: Extinct	Last Record: within 5km of the study area
CR: Critically endangered	No. Records: within 5km of the study area
EN: Endangered	
VU: Vulnerable	

EPBC	FFG	Scientific name	Common name	No. recs	Latest Rec	Habitat/species notes	Occurrence Likelihood	Likelihood Reasoning
	EN	<i>Acacia ausfeldii</i>	Ausfeld's Wattle	18	2019	Scattered through north-central Victoria where it grows in dry forest and mallee communities (Walsh and Entwisle 1999).	Moderate	Suitable habitat, multiple records
	VU	<i>Allocasuarina luehmannii</i>	Buloke	1	2012	5-15m understorey tree. Found in <i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i> woodland in north, northwest and west Victoria. Flowering Sep-Nov (VicFlora Online)	Low	Sub-optimal habitat, conspicuous species
	VU	<i>Amphibromus fluitans</i>	River Swamp Wallaby-grass,	-	-	Moist soils, usually confined to permanent swamps, lagoons, billabongs and dams, tolerating inundation. Occurs principally along the Murray River between Wodonga and Echuca, uncommon to rare in the south. Flowers between November - March (Flora of Victoria Online).	Low	Minimal sub-optimal habitat, no records
	EN	<i>Austrostipa breviglumis</i>	Cane Spear-grass	1	2018	Rare in lowland forest to subalpine grassland in eastern Victoria, formerly near Melbourne. Moist depressions in plains grassland (Australian Plants Society Maroondah 2001).	Low	No suitable habitat
	EN	<i>Caladenia audasii</i>	Mclvor Spider-orchid, Audas' Spider-orchid	-	-	Flowering plant 11–19 cm tall. Endemic to Victoria where known only from the west and central goldfields in woodland on shallow stony soils. Flowers Sep.–Nov. (VicFlora 2023)	Low	Moderate habitat, no records
	VU	<i>Caladenia concolor</i>	Crimson Spider-orchid, Maroon Spider-orchid	-	-	Sporadic and uncommon in dry open-forests, mostly of north-eastern Victoria, on ridges and slopes in well-drained shallow stony or skeletal soils. Flowers Sep.–Oct. (Flora of Victoria Online)	Low	Moderate habitat, no records

EPBC	FFG	Scientific name	Common name	No. recs	Latest Rec	Habitat/species notes	Occurrence Likelihood	Likelihood Reasoning
VU	EN	<i>Caladenia ornata</i>	Ornate Pink Fingers	-	-	Flowers in October, apparently confined to western Victoria, from Portland to Stawell, growing in heathy and grassy woodland. An uncommon orchid, most readily distinguished from the similar taxa by the bright red labellum that has darker red bars. Endemic to Victoria (Jeanes and Backhouse 2006).	Low	Outside known range, no records
EN		<i>Caladenia tensa</i>	Greencomb Spider-orchid, Rigid Spider-orchid	-	-	In Victoria found mainly in the Little Desert area (also with an isolated record for near Wood Wood) in Eucalyptus/Callitris woodland on well-drained sandy soil. A poorly known taxon that requires further study to clarify its circumscription (Flora of Victoria Online)	Low	Outside known range, no records
VU	EN	<i>Caladenia versicolor</i>	Candy Spider-orchid	-	-	Restricted to the western part of the Midlands region in the vicinity of Stawell, in woodland on winter-wet sandy loam (Flora of Victoria Online)	Low	Outside known range, no records
	EN	<i>Cassinia diminuta</i>	Dwarf Cassinia	2	1998	Erect aromatic subshrub to 1m. A subshrub of the understorey of Eucalyptus behriana mallee and E. tricarpa woodland on sandy-clay soils mostly in the Whipstick and Kambrook Forests. Also from near Rushworth where it occurs in E. tricarpa Eucalyptus woodland. Flowers Jan.-Mar. (VicFlora 2023)	Low	Moderate habitat, No recent records
	CR	<i>Dianella tarda</i>	Late-flower Flax-lily	1	2012	On clayey or loam soils, mostly on old floodplains, often in Eucalyptus camaldulensis riverine forest or woodland (National Herbarium of New South Wales, 2016. Present in Wimmera, Northern Inland Slopes, Murray Fans, Victorian Riverina, Victorian Volcanic Plain, Goldfields and Central Victorian Alps Bioregions. {VicFlora Online}	Low	Sub-optimal habitat, minimal records
	EN	<i>Eryngium paludosum</i>	Long Eryngium	1	2012	Rare in Victoria, confined to heavy soils of lake margins and river floodplains in the north and north-west (e.g. Robinvale, Warracknabeal, Kerang, Numurkah districts). Flowers Oct.-Jan. {Walsh, 1999 #2869}.	Low	Sub-optimal habitat, minimal records
EN	EN	<i>Eucalyptus crenulata</i>	Buxton Gum	1	2018	Confined to swampy areas along the foothills of the Great Dividing Range. The largest population occurs in Buxton in the Buxton Silver Gum Reserve but other records occur in Yering, Narbethong, and Yarra Glen. Species has naturalised at a number of locations beyond this range (Flora of Victoria Online).	Low	Sub-optimal habitat, minimal records
	EN	<i>Grevillea dryophylla</i>	Goldfields Grevillea	11	2019	1.2m medium shrub. Found in dry Eucalyptus forests in stony soil in Bendigo, St. Arnaud, Maryborough and Castlemaine districts. Flowering in Aug-Nov (VicFlora Online)	Moderate	Suitable habitat, multiple records

EPBC	FFG	Scientific name	Common name	No. recs	Latest Rec	Habitat/species notes	Occurrence Likelihood	Likelihood Reasoning
EN	EN	<i>Lepidium monoplacoides</i>	Winged Pepper- cress	-	-	Uncommon in north-western quarter of State, mostly on heavy soils near lakes and watercourses (VicFlora 2019)	Low	No suitable habitat, no records
VU	CR	<i>Myriophyllum porcatum</i>	Ridged Water- milfoil	-	-	Flowers Sep.–Dec. Rare and restricted to northern and north-western Victoria where it has been recorded growing in temporary waterholes, lagoons, farm dams and rock holes, and on clay pans. {Walsh, 1996 #2868}	Low	No suitable habitat
	EN	<i>Olearia tubuliflora</i>	Rayless Daisy- bush	2	2013	Slender erect shrub 1-2m scattered through north-central Victoria (e.g. Maryborough, Bendigo, Avoca) and southern parts of Brisbane Ranges. Usually in box ironbark forest on poor gravelly soil {Walsh, 1999 #2869}.	Moderate	Suitable habitat, Minimal records
CR	CR	<i>Pimelea spinescens</i>	Spiny Rice- flower	-	-	1m small shrub. Found in grassland, open shrubland and woodland on basalt soils to the west of Melbourne as far as Horsham and north to Echuca (VicFlora Online)	Low	Sub-optimal habitat, no records
	CR	<i>Pterostylis maxima</i>	Large Rusthood	2	2013	Scattered through central and western Victoria, where it grows in box ironbark forest, dry woodland and mallee; flowers Oct–Dec {Jeanes, 2006 #5964}.	Moderate	Suitable habitat, Minimal records
EN	CR	<i>Senecio behrianus</i>	Stiff Groundsel, Behr's Groundsel	-	-	Exceedingly rare and threatened, Act 1987. Extinct until 1991 when rediscovered between Rochester and Stanhope. Apparently confined to heavy, winter-wet, clayey soils. Formerly known from Casterton, Swan Hill, Barnham areas, with specimens from the 'Wimmera', and You Yangs near Lara of uncertain affinity, but closest to <i>S. behrianus</i> . Flowers Mar.–Jun. {Walsh, 1999 #2869}	Low	Sub-optimal habitat, no records
VU	CR	<i>Senecio macrocarpus</i>	Large-fruit Fireweed, Large- fruit Groundsel	-	-	70cm sprawling or erect shrub. Found in basalt Themeda grasslands from western Melbourne to Skipton. Flowering in Aug-Oct (VicFlora Online)	Low	No suitable habitat, no records
VU	EN	<i>Swainsona murrayana</i>	Slender Darling- pea	-	-	Extremely rare in northern and western Victoria, with an isolated southern recorded labelled 'Wannon River'. Usually found in seasonally inundated flats and around lakes (VicFlora 2019)	Low	No suitable habitat, no records
VU	EN	<i>Thelymitra matthewsii</i>	Spiral Sun- orchid	-	-	Widely distributed but rare, in coastal sandy flats or slightly elevated sites (to 400 m) in well-drained soils (sandy loams to gravelly limestone soils) in open forest. Plants colonise disturbed sites and slowly disappear as these sites stabilise (Flora of Victoria Online)	Low	Sub-optimal habitat, no records

Appendix 4 – Threatened Fauna Occurrence Likelihood

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Conservation Status	Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (VBA) Records
EX: Extinct	Last Record: within 5km of the study area
CR: Critically endangered	No. Records: within 5km of the study area
EN: Endangered	
VU: Vulnerable	

EPBC	FFG	Scientific name	Common name	Last Record	No. recs	Taxon Type	Likelihood occurrence	Likelihood Reasoning	Habitat and species
	vu	Anseranas semipalmata	Magpie Goose	1	2017	Bird	Low	No suitable habitat, minimal records	Most of the populations of this species has been re-introduced. They breed colonially and build platform nests over water, usually among tall rushes or reedbeds. The Magpie Goose feeds by digging in mud or by up-ending in shallow water, they have also been seen grazing and digging well away from water (Marchant and Higgins 1990).
CR	cr	Anthochaera phrygia	Regent Honeyeater	2	1990	Bird	Low	Some suitable habitat, minimal records	Formerly more widely distributed in south-eastern mainland Australia from Rockhampton to Adelaide. The Regent Honeyeater is now confined to Victoria and New South Wales and is strongly associated with the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range. The Regent Honeyeater is found in eucalypt forests and woodlands, particularly in blossoming trees and mistletoe. It is also seen in orchards and urban gardens (Birdlife Australia).

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EPBC	FFG	Scientific name	Common name	Last Record	No. recs	Taxon Type	Likelihood occurrence	Likelihood Reasoning	Habitat and species
	vu	Ardea alba modesta	Eastern Great Egret	50	2020	Bird	Low	No suitable habitat	The Eastern Great Egret is widespread in Australia and has been observed in a wide range of wetland habitats. They prefer shallow water, particularly when flowing, but may be seen on any watered area, including damp grasslands. Great Egrets can be seen alone or in small flocks, often with other Egret species, and roost at night in groups. (Birdlife Australia)
	vu	Biziura lobata	Musk Duck	81	2020	Bird	Low	No suitable habitat	Usually seen in small numbers on the deep waters of well vegetated fresh to saline lakes, swamps and occasionally shallow inlets and bays. Nests formed in low vegetation in areas sheltered by surrounding vegetation (Birdlife Australia).
	vu	Calamanthus pyrrhopygius	Chestnut-rumped Heathwren	14	2019	Bird	Low	Sub-optimal habitat	Endemic to south-eastern mainland states, the Chestnut-rumped Heathwren occurs mostly on the seaward and inland slopes of the Great Divide, but is generally absent from the intervening tablelands. They mainly forage on the ground or low branches of dense shrubs. (Birdlife Australia)
VU	vu	Climacteris picumnus	Brown Treecreeper	139	2019	Bird	Moderate	Some suitable habitat, and many records	Occurs in eucalypt woodlands, particularly open woodland lacking a dense understorey (Higgins, Peter and Steele 2001). It is sedentary and nests in tree hollows within permanent territories, breeding in pairs or communally in small groups. Birds forage on tree trunks and on the ground amongst leaf litter and on fallen logs for ants, beetles and larvae (Higgins, Peter and Steele 2001).
	en	Egretta garzetta	Little Egret	8	2019	Bird	Low	No suitable habitat	Inhabits terrestrial wetlands and shallow margins of tidal estuaries and inland lakes and rivers. Feed in shallow water and nest colonially, often with other

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EPBC	FEG	Scientific name	Common name	Last Record	No. recs	Taxon Type	Likelihood occurrence	Likelihood Reasoning	Habitat and species
									waterbirds. Stick-nests are usually built in trees over water, although occasionally in reedbeds (Birdlife Australia).
VU	vu	Falco hypoleucos	Grey Falcon	1	2000	Bird	Low	Sub-optimal habitat, minimal records	During summer, the Gang-gang Cockatoo is found in tall mountain forests and woodlands, with dense shrubby understoreys. In winter, Gang-gangs will move to lower altitudes into drier, more open forests and woodlands (Birdlife Australia).
	en	Haliaeetus leucogaster	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	2	2020	Bird	Low	Minimal records. May occasionally forage or fly over site	Occurs along the coast, especially the forested coasts of the East Gippsland Plains, on coastal islands, around coastal lakes and along some inland rivers and lakes. They build stick-nests in tall eucalypts, particularly River Red Gum, Forest Red Gum and Southern Mahogany (Birdlife Australia).
	vu	Hieraaetus morphnoides	Little Eagle	4	2000	Bird	Low	Limited Habitat and No Recent Records	The Little Eagle is widespread in mainland Australia and occupies areas of woodland and open forest, extending to open country and tends to avoid areas of dense forest and rainforest. Nesting occurs in mature living trees often in open woodland or tree-lined watercourses. (Birdlife Australia)
VU	vu	Hirundapus caudacutus	White-throated Needletail	8	2019	Bird	Low	No suitable habitat	In Australia, the White-throated Needletail is almost exclusively aerial, from heights of less than 1 m up to more than 1000 m. Because they are aerial, conventional habitat descriptions are inapplicable. Although they are probably recorded most often above wooded areas, including open forest and

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EPBC	FFG	Scientific name	Common name	Last Record	No. recs	Taxon Type	Likelihood occurrence	Likelihood Reasoning	Habitat and species
									rainforest, and may also fly between trees or in clearings (DCCEEW SPRAT Profile).
CR	cr	Lathamus discolor	Swift Parrot	17	2006	Bird	Moderate	Some suitable habitat, multiple records	The Swift Parrot migrates to the south-eastern mainland states in winter after breeding in Tasmania. Found mainly in dry forest and woodland of the box-ironbark region on the inland slopes of the Great Dividing Range. Key Eucalypt species include Yellow Gum, Red Ironbark, Yellow Box and Grey Box (Birds Australia 2011)
	vu	Lichenostomus cratitius	Purple-gaped Honeyeater	1	2017	Bird	Low	Sub-optimal habitat, minimal records	Found predominantly in mallee woodland and heathland across southern states. It is also occasionally recorded in River Red Gums bordering waterways.
	vu	Lophoictinia isura	Square-tailed Kite	10	2019	Bird	Low	Moderate habitat, May occasionally forage or fly over site	Prefers open forests and woodlands and is a specialist canopy hunter, taking insects, small birds, birds' eggs and nestlings. Not known to occur in dense forests and in treeless inland areas (>250km from the coast). Migrates to south-eastern Australia over spring-summer (SWIFFT).
	cr	Miniopterus orianae oceanensis	Eastern Bent-winged Bat	1	2025	Bats	Low	No suitable habitat	Habitat preference is associated with the availability of foraging areas and proximity to suitable roosting caves, for example many of the roosting caves are located near coastal cliffs, old mine shafts and rock caves. Foraging areas include forested areas, Volcanic Plains, wetlands and coastal vegetation including

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EPBC	FFG	Scientific name	Common name	Last Record	No. recs	Taxon Type	Likelihood occurrence	Likelihood Reasoning	Habitat and species
									beaches up to 30km from roosting caves (SWIFFT 2023)
VU	vu	Neophema chrysostoma	Blue-winged Parrot	3	1998	Bird	Low	Sub-optimal habitat, minimal records	The Blue-winged Parrot inhabits a range of habitats from coastal, sub-coastal and inland areas, right through to semi-arid zones. Throughout their range, they favour grasslands and grassy woodlands. They are often found near wetlands both near the coast and in semi-arid zones (Birdlife Australia).
	cr	Ninox connivens	Barking Owl	1	1999	Bird	Low	Moderate habitat, no recent records	The Barking Owl inhabits open woodland forest habitats where forests adjoin farmlands, with drier woodlands, particularly box-ironbark woodlands being the most frequented habitat. Prefers habitats with large trees and large hollows suitable for nesting, particularly close to wetlands and waterways. (SWIFFT 2022)
	vu	Ninox strenua	Powerful Owl	4	2019	Bird	Low	Sub-optimal habitat, Low records	Widespread in foothill and coastal forests where they especially favour gullies with large old growth trees which contain live hollow bearing trees. The species have extremely large territories vary in size, from 300 ha up to 1500 ha in more forested environments (SWIFFT).
	en	Oreoica gutturalis	Crested Bellbird	97	2020	Bird	Moderate	Moderate habitat, multiple records	The Crested Bellbird occurs west of the Great Dividing Range from semi-arid coastlines to the arid interior. They are found in acacia shrublands, eucalypt

EPBC	FFG	Scientific name	Common name	Last Record	No. recs	Taxon Type	Likelihood occurrence	Likelihood Reasoning	Habitat and species
									woodlands, spinifex and chenopod (saltbush) plains or dunes. (Birdlife Australia)
EN	en	<i>Paralucia pyrodiscus lucida</i>	Eltham Copper Butterfly	10	2023	Invertebrates	Low	Sub-optimal habitat, minimal records	In the Australasian region, the species occupies inshore and offshore waters (Latham 1980; Storr 1964; Swanson 1983), particularly where there are calm seas and light winds (Cox 1973; Storr 1964)
VU	VU	<i>Pedionomus torquatus</i>	Plains-wanderer	-	-		Low	No suitable habitat, no records	A small ground-dwelling bird found in the low-land native grasslands in the Riverina region, in Northern Victoria and smaller numbers are found in south-western and central Queensland. It is effectively extinct in south-west Victoria, south-east South Australia, eastern New South Wales and south-east Queensland (Department of Environment and Energy) (DoEE)
	vu	<i>Phascogale tapoatafa</i>	Brush-tailed Phascogale	34	2024	Mammals	Low-Moderate	Some suitable habitat, multiple records	Occurs in a wide range of dry eucalypt forests and woodlands from the coastline to snowline with a preference for open woodlands with a sparse understorey. Relies on tree hollow for nesting. Due to having large home ranges, small populations live in extensive areas of habitat (SWIFFT 2022).
	en	<i>Pseudophryne bibronii</i>	Brown Toadlet	40	2024	Amphibians	Moderate	Some suitable habitat, multiple records	The Brown Toadlet utilises a wide variety of habitats, including dry forests, woodland, shrubland, grassland, coastal swamps, heathland, and sub-alpine areas. They live in areas that are likely to be inundated after rain and shelter in damp areas under leaf litter, logs, or other forms of cover (SWIFFT 2023).

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EPBC	FFG	Scientific name	Common name	Last Record	No. recs	Taxon Type	Likelihood occurrence	Likelihood Reasoning	Habitat and species
VU	vu	Pteropus poliocephalus	Grey-headed Flying-fox	109	2025	Bats	Low	Moderate habitat, May occasionally forage or fly over site	The Grey-headed Flying-fox requires foraging resources and roosting sites. It is a canopy-feeding frugivore and nectarivore, which utilises vegetation communities including rainforests, open forests, closed and open woodlands. (DoEE SPRAT Profile). There are at least 11 roosting areas of camps in Victoria, 8 of which are in East Gippsland. The largest camp occurs at Karbethong, with the second largest camp being at Yarra Bend in Melbourne. The species usually travel 5-15km from their roosting site, but occasionally travel up to distances of 50km, feeding on nectar and pollen of native canopy species currently in flower (SWIFFT 2021).
	en	Pyrrholaemus sagittatus	Speckled Warbler	4	2017	Bird	Low	Some suitable habitat, Low records	Mainly found in northern foothills of the Great Divide, occurring in box-ironbark and Broad-leaved Peppermint forests, dry woodlands and wooded farmlands (especially those containing Yellow Box), where there is a scattered shrub cover of acacias, Blackberries or low eucalypts regrowth. Nests are built in small depressions in the ground, usually concealed by grass tussocks, fallen branches or low shrubs (Higgins and Peter 2002).
	vu	Sminthopsis murina murina	Common Dunnart	2	2021	Mammals	Low	Limited habitat and records	Habitats encountered include Mallee scrub, forests, woodlands and dry heath. In Victoria, these areas have sparse ground and shrub cover but have dense leaf and bark litter. (ALA 2023)

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EPBC	FFG	Scientific name	Common name	Last Record	No. recs	Taxon Type	Likelihood occurrence	Likelihood Reasoning	Habitat and species
	vu	<i>Spatula rhynchotis</i>	Australasian Shoveler	39	2019	Bird	Low	No suitable habitat	The Australasian Shoveler occurs mainly on large well vegetated wetlands and lakes, occasionally including areas with saline waters. Populations are found in higher numbers on permanent, well-vegetated freshwater swamps with areas of open water. This species nests in grass nests on the ground, usually in dense cover and near water (SWIFFT).
VU	vu	<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	Diamond Firetail	11	2003	Bird	Moderate	Some suitable habitat, multiple records	Endemic to south-eastern Australia, the Diamond Firetail ranges from Carnarvon Ranges in Queensland to the Eyre Peninsula and Kangaroo Island in South Australia. Prefers habitat types of open grassy woodland, heath and farmland or grassland with scattered trees. (Birdlife Australia)
	en	<i>Stictonetta naevosa</i>	Freckled Duck	54	2019	Bird	Low	No suitable habitat	The Freckled Duck is found primarily in the south east and south west of Australia. It prefers permanent fresh water swamps and creeks with heavy growth of cumbungi, lignum or tea-tree. During drier times, the Freckled Duck moves from ephemeral breeding swamps to more permanent waters such as lakes, reservoirs, farm dams and sewerage ponds. (Birdlife Australia)

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Attachment 1 – DEECA NVR Report

Provided on the overleaf

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Report of available native vegetation credits

This report lists native vegetation credits available to purchase through the Native Vegetation Credit Register.

This report is **not evidence** that an offset has been secured. An offset is only secured when the units have been purchased and allocated to a permit or other approval and an allocated credit extract is provided by the Native Vegetation Credit Register.

Date and time: 16/10/2024 02:01

Report ID: 26848

What was searched for?

General offset

General habitat units	Strategic biodiversity value	Large trees	Vicinity (Catchment Management Authority or Municipal district)
0.298	0.325	3	North Central

Details of available native vegetation credits on 16 October 2024 02:01

These sites meet your requirements for general offsets.

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	CMA	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
BBA-3006	16.941	3	North Central	Greater Bendigo City	No	Yes	No	Ethos
BBA-3031	2.766	92	North Central	Pyrenees Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
BBA-3052_01	6.917	167	North Central	Northern Grampians Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
TFN-C1702	16.952	16	North Central	Gannawarra Shire	Yes	Yes	No	TFN
VC_CFL-3056_01	7.677	108	North Central	Loddon Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3071_01	2.140	104	North Central	Loddon Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3076_01	8.071	46	North Central	Pyrenees Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets
VC_CFL-3773_01	1.305	552	North Central	Macedon Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CLO-2451_01	2.519	15	North Central	Greater Bendigo City	No	Yes	No	Ethos
VC_TFN-09554_01	13.396	383	North Central	Macedon Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets

These sites meet your requirements using alternative arrangements for general offsets.

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Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	CMA	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
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There are no sites listed in the Native Vegetation Credit Register that meet your offset requirements when applying the alternative arrangements as listed in section 11.2 of the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.

These potential sites are not yet available, land owners may finalise them once a buyer is confirmed.

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	CMA	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
VC_CFL-3701_01	10.574	18	Goulburn Broken, North Central	Greater Bendigo City	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets
VC_CFL-3742_01	12.301	410	North Central	Loddon Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink

LT - Large Trees

CMA - Catchment Management Authority

LGA - Municipal District or Local Government Authority

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Next steps

If applying for approval to remove native vegetation

Attach this report to an application to remove native vegetation as evidence that your offset requirement is currently available.

If you have approval to remove native vegetation

Below are the contact details for all brokers. Contact the broker(s) listed for the credit site(s) that meet your offset requirements. These are shown in the above tables. If more than one broker or site is listed, you should get more than one quote before deciding which offset to secure.

Broker contact details

Broker Abbreviation	Broker Name	Phone	Email	Website
Abezco	Abzeco Pty. Ltd.	(03) 9431 5444	offsets@abzeco.com.au	www.abzeco.com.au
Baw Baw SC	Baw Baw Shire Council	(03) 5624 2411	bawbaw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au	www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au
Bio Offsets	Biodiversity Offsets Victoria	0452 161 013	info@offsetsvictoria.com.au	www.offsetsvictoria.com.au
Contact NVOR	Native Vegetation Offset Register	136 186	nativevegetation.offsetregister@deeca.vic.gov.au	www.environment.vic.gov.au/native-vegetation
Ecocentric	Ecocentric Environmental Consulting	0410 564 139	ecocentric@me.com	Not available
Ethos	Ethos NRM Pty Ltd	(03) 5153 0037	offsets@ethosnrm.com.au	www.ethosnrm.com.au
Nillumbik SC	Nillumbik Shire Council	(03) 9433 3316	offsets@nillumbik.vic.gov.au	www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au
TFN	Trust for Nature	8631 5888	offsets@tfn.org.au	www.trustfornature.org.au
VegLink	Vegetation Link Pty Ltd	(03) 8578 4250 or 1300 834 546	offsets@vegetationlink.com.au	www.vegetationlink.com.au
Yarra Ranges SC	Yarra Ranges Shire Council	1300 368 333	biodiversityoffsets@yarraranges.vic.gov.au	www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au

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For more information contact the DEECA Customer Service Centre 136 186 or the Native Vegetation Credit Register at nativevegetation.offsetregister@delwp.vic.gov.au

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Attachment 2 – Available Native Vegetation Credits (Stage 1)

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Report of available native vegetation credits

This report lists native vegetation credits available to purchase through the Native Vegetation Credit Register.

This report is **not evidence** that an offset has been secured. An offset is only secured when the units have been purchased and allocated to a permit or other approval and an allocated credit extract is provided by the Native Vegetation Credit Register.

Date and time: 16/10/2024 01:58

Report ID: 26847

What was searched for?

General offset

General habitat units	Strategic biodiversity value	Large trees	Vicinity (Catchment Management Authority or Municipal district)
0.268	0.208	0	North Central

Details of available native vegetation credits on 16 October 2024 01:58

These sites meet your requirements for general offsets.

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	CMA	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
BBA-0741	1.691	0	North Central	Pyrenees Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets, VegLink
BBA-3006	16.941	3	North Central	Greater Bendigo City	No	Yes	No	Ethos
BBA-3031	2.766	92	North Central	Pyrenees Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
BBA-3052_01	6.917	167	North Central	Northern Grampians Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
TFN_2-C1626	22.893	0	North Central	Gannawarra Shire	No	Yes	No	VegLink
TFN-C1662_3	1.468	0	North Central	Gannawarra Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
TFN-C1702	16.952	16	North Central	Gannawarra Shire	Yes	Yes	No	TFN
TFN-C1970	4.931	0	North Central	Greater Bendigo City	No	Yes	No	Contact NVOR
TFN-C1970_2	0.271	0	North Central	Greater Bendigo City	No	Yes	No	Ethos
VC_CFL-3056_01	7.677	108	North Central	Loddon Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3071_01	2.140	104	North Central	Loddon Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3076_01	8.071	46	North Central	Pyrenees Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets
VC_CFL-3773_01	1.305	552	North Central	Macedon Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink

VC_CFL-3785_01	1.986	0	North Central	Mount Alexander Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CLO-2451_01	2.519	15	North Central	Greater Bendigo City	No	Yes	No	Ethos
VC_TFN-09554_01	13.396	383	North Central	Macedon Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets

These sites meet your requirements using alternative arrangements for general offsets.

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	CMA	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
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There are no sites listed in the Native Vegetation Credit Register that meet your offset requirements when applying the alternative arrangements as listed in section 11.2 of the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.

These potential sites are not yet available, land owners may finalise them once a buyer is confirmed.

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	CMA	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
VC_CFL-3701_01	10.574	18	Goulburn Broken, North Central	Greater Bendigo City	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets
VC_CFL-3742_01	12.301	410	North Central	Loddon Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink

LT - Large Trees

CMA - Catchment Management Authority

LGA - Municipal District or Local Government Authority

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Next steps

If applying for approval to remove native vegetation

Attach this report to an application to remove native vegetation as evidence that your offset requirement is currently available.

If you have approval to remove native vegetation

Below are the contact details for all brokers. Contact the broker(s) listed for the credit site(s) that meet your offset requirements. These are shown in the above tables. If more than one broker or site is listed, you should get more than one quote before deciding which offset to secure.

Broker contact details

Broker Abbreviation	Broker Name	Phone	Email	Website
Abezco	Abzeco Pty. Ltd.	(03) 9431 5444	offsets@abzeco.com.au	www.abzeco.com.au
Baw Baw SC	Baw Baw Shire Council	(03) 5624 2411	bawbaw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au	www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au
Bio Offsets	Biodiversity Offsets Victoria	0452 161 013	info@offsetsvictoria.com.au	www.offsetsvictoria.com.au
Contact NVOR	Native Vegetation Offset Register	136 186	nativevegetation.offsetregister@deeca.vic.gov.au	www.environment.vic.gov.au/native-vegetation
Ecocentric	Ecocentric Environmental Consulting	0410 564 139	ecocentric@me.com	Not available
Ethos	Ethos NRM Pty Ltd	(03) 5153 0037	offsets@ethosnrm.com.au	www.ethosnrm.com.au
Nillumbik SC	Nillumbik Shire Council	(03) 9433 3316	offsets@nillumbik.vic.gov.au	www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au
TFN	Trust for Nature	8631 5888	offsets@tfn.org.au	www.trustfornature.org.au
VegLink	Vegetation Link Pty Ltd	(03) 8578 4250 or 1300 834 546	offsets@vegetationlink.com.au	www.vegetationlink.com.au
Yarra Ranges SC	Yarra Ranges Shire Council	1300 368 333	biodiversityoffsets@yarraranges.vic.gov.au	www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au

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For more information contact the DEECA Customer Service Centre 136 186 or the Native Vegetation Credit Register at nativevegetation.offsetregister@delwp.vic.gov.au

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Attachment 3 – Available Native Vegetation Credits (Stage 2)

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Report of available native vegetation credits

This report lists native vegetation credits available to purchase through the Native Vegetation Credit Register.

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Date and time: 16/10/2024 02:01

Report ID: 26848

What was searched for?

General offset

General habitat units	Strategic biodiversity value	Large trees	Vicinity (Catchment Management Authority or Municipal district)
0.298	0.325	3	Greater Bendigo City

Details of available native vegetation credits on 16 October 2024 02:01

These sites meet your requirements for general offsets.

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	CMA	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
BBA-3006	16.941	3	North Central	Greater Bendigo City	No	Yes	No	Ethos
BBA-3031	2.766	92	North Central	Pyrenees Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
BBA-3052_01	6.917	167	North Central	Northern Grampians Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
TFN-C1702	16.952	16	North Central	Gannawarra Shire	Yes	Yes	No	TFN
VC_CFL-3056_01	7.677	108	North Central	Loddon Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3071_01	2.140	104	North Central	Loddon Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3076_01	8.071	46	North Central	Pyrenees Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets
VC_CFL-3773_01	1.305	552	North Central	Macedon Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CLO-2451_01	2.519	15	North Central	Greater Bendigo City	No	Yes	No	Ethos
VC_TFN-09554_01	13.396	383	North Central	Macedon Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets

These sites meet your requirements using alternative arrangements for general offsets.

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Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	CMA	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
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There are no sites listed in the Native Vegetation Credit Register that meet your offset requirements when applying the alternative arrangements as listed in section 11.2 of the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.

These potential sites are not yet available, land owners may finalise them once a buyer is confirmed.

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	CMA	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
VC_CFL-3701_01	10.574	18	Goulburn Broken, North Central	Greater Bendigo City	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets
VC_CFL-3742_01	12.301	410	North Central	Loddon Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink

LT - Large Trees CMA - Catchment Management Authority LGA - Municipal District or Local Government Authority

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Next steps

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If you have approval to remove native vegetation

Below are the contact details for all brokers. Contact the broker(s) listed for the credit site(s) that meet your offset requirements. These are shown in the above tables. If more than one broker or site is listed, you should get more than one quote before deciding which offset to secure.

Broker contact details

Broker Abbreviation	Broker Name	Phone	Email	Website
Abezco	Abzeco Pty. Ltd.	(03) 9431 5444	offsets@abzeco.com.au	www.abzeco.com.au
Baw Baw SC	Baw Baw Shire Council	(03) 5624 2411	bawbaw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au	www.bawbawshire.vic.gov.au
Bio Offsets	Biodiversity Offsets Victoria	0452 161 013	info@offsetsvictoria.com.au	www.offsetsvictoria.com.au
Contact NVOR	Native Vegetation Offset Register	136 186	nativevegetation.offsetregister@deeca.vic.gov.au	www.environment.vic.gov.au/native-vegetation
Ecocentric	Ecocentric Environmental Consulting	0410 564 139	ecocentric@me.com	Not available
Ethos	Ethos NRM Pty Ltd	(03) 5153 0037	offsets@ethosnrm.com.au	www.ethosnrm.com.au
Nillumbik SC	Nillumbik Shire Council	(03) 9433 3316	offsets@nillumbik.vic.gov.au	www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au
TFN	Trust for Nature	8631 5888	offsets@tfn.org.au	www.trustfornature.org.au
VegLink	Vegetation Link Pty Ltd	(03) 8578 4250 or 1300 834 546	offsets@vegetationlink.com.au	www.vegetationlink.com.au
Yarra Ranges SC	Yarra Ranges Shire Council	1300 368 333	biodiversityoffsets@yarraranges.vic.gov.au	www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au

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Attachment 4 - Protected Matters Search Tool Results

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Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

This report provides general guidance on matters of national environmental significance and other matters protected by the EPBC Act in the area you have selected. Please see the caveat for interpretation of information provided here.

Report created: 26-May-2026

[Summary](#)

[Details](#)

[Matters of NES](#)

[Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act](#)

[Extra Information](#)

[Caveat](#)

[Acknowledgements](#)

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Summary

Matters of National Environment Significance

This part of the report summarises the matters of national environmental significance that may occur in, or may relate to, the area you nominated. Further information is available in the detail part of the report, which can be accessed by scrolling or following the links below. If you are proposing to undertake an activity that may have a significant impact on one or more matters of national environmental significance then you should consider the [Administrative Guidelines on Significance](#).

World Heritage Properties:	None
National Heritage Places:	None
Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar	6
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:	None
Commonwealth Marine Area:	None
Listed Threatened Ecological Communities:	3
Listed Threatened Species:	48
Listed Migratory Species:	8

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Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

This part of the report summarises other matters protected under the Act that may relate to the area you nominated. Approval may be required for a proposed activity that significantly affects the environment on Commonwealth land, when the action is outside the Commonwealth land, or the environment anywhere when the action is taken on Commonwealth land. Approval may also be required for the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies proposing to take an action that is likely to have a significant impact on the environment anywhere.

The EPBC Act protects the environment on Commonwealth land, the environment from the actions taken on Commonwealth land, and the environment from actions taken by Commonwealth agencies. As heritage values of a place are part of the 'environment', these aspects of the EPBC Act protect the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place. Information on the new heritage laws can be found at <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/parks-heritage/heritage>

A [permit](#) may be required for activities in or on a Commonwealth area that may affect a member of a listed threatened species or ecological community, a member of a listed migratory species, whales and other cetaceans, or a member of a listed marine species.

Commonwealth Lands:	3
Commonwealth Heritage Places:	None
Listed Marine Species:	17
Whales and Other Cetaceans:	None
Critical Habitats:	None
Commonwealth Reserves Terrestrial:	None
Australian Marine Parks:	None
Habitat Critical to the Survival of Marine Turtles:	None

Extra Information

This part of the report provides information that may also be relevant to the area you have

State and Territory Reserves:	17
Regional Forest Agreements:	None
Nationally Important Wetlands:	None
EPBC Act Referrals:	18
Key Ecological Features (Marine):	None
Biologically Important Areas:	None
Bioregional Assessments:	None
Geological and Bioregional Assessments:	None

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Details

Matters of National Environmental Significance

Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Wetlands)		[Resource Information]
Ramsar Site Name	Proximity	Buffer Status
Banrock station wetland complex	400 - 500km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area
Gunbower forest	50 - 100km upstream from Ramsar site	In buffer area only
Hattah-kulkyne lakes	200 - 300km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area
Nsw central murray state forests	50 - 100km upstream from Ramsar site	In buffer area only
Riverland	400 - 500km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area
The coorong, and lakes alexandrina and albert wetland	300 - 400km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area

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Listed Threatened Ecological Communities

[Resource Information]

For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are derived from recovery plans, State vegetation maps, remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.

Status of Vulnerable, Disallowed and Ineligible are not MNES under the EPBC Act.

Community Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions	Endangered	Community may occur within area	In buffer area only
Grey Box (Eucalyptus microcarpa) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia	Endangered	Community likely to occur within area	In feature area
White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland	Critically Endangered	Community likely to occur within area	In feature area

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Status of Conservation Dependent and Extinct are not MNES under the EPBC Act.
Number is the current name ID.

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
BIRD			
Anthochaera phrygia Regent Honeyeater [82338]	Critically Endangered	Breeding known to occur within area	In feature area
Aphelocephala leucopsis Southern Whiteface [529]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Botaurus poiciloptilus Australasian Bittern [1001]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Callocephalon fimbriatum Gang-gang Cockatoo [768]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Climacteris picumnus victoriae Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern) [67062]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Falco hypoleucos Grey Falcon [929]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Gallinago hardwickii Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Grantiella picta Painted Honeyeater [470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area

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Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Hirundapus caudacutus White-throated Needletail [682]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Lathamus discolor Swift Parrot [744]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Melanodryas cucullata cucullata South-eastern Hooded Robin, Hooded Robin (south-eastern) [67093]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Neophema chrysostoma Blue-winged Parrot [726]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Pedionomus torquatus Plains-wanderer [906]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Polytelis swainsonii Superb Parrot [738]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Rostratula australis Australian Painted Snipe [77037]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Stagonopleura guttata Diamond Firetail [59398]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
FISH			
Galaxias rostratus Flathead Galaxias, Beaked Minnow, Flat-headed Galaxias, Flat-headed Jollytail, Flat-headed Minnow [84745]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Maccullochella macquariensis Trout Cod [26171]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
Maccullochella peelii Murray Cod [66633]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area

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Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Nannoperca australis Murray-Darling Basin lineage			
Southern Pygmy Perch (Murray-Darling Basin lineage) [91711]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
FROG			
Crinia sloanei			
Sloane's Froglet [59151]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Ranoidea raniformis listed as Litoria raniformis			
Southern Bell Frog, Growling Grass Frog, Green and Golden Frog, Warty Swamp Frog, Golden Bell Frog [94668]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
INSECT			
Paralucia pyrodiscus lucida			
Eltham Copper Butterfly [66766]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Synemon plana			
Golden Sun Moth [25234]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
MAMMAL			
Dasyurus maculatus maculatus (SE mainland population)			
Spot-tailed Quoll, Spotted-tail Quoll, Tiger Quoll (southeastern mainland population) [75184]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
Nyctophilus corbeni			
Corben's Long-eared Bat, South-eastern Long-eared Bat [83395]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
Pteropus poliocephalus			
Grey-headed Flying-fox [186]	Vulnerable	Roosting known to occur within area	In feature area
PLANT			
Amphibromus fluitans			
River Swamp Wallaby-grass, Floating Swamp Wallaby-grass [19215]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Caladenia audasii			
Mclvor Spider-orchid, Audas' Spider-orchid [11727]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area

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Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Caladenia concolor Crimson Spider-orchid, Maroon Spider-orchid [5505]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Caladenia ornata Ornate Pink Fingers [76213]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
Caladenia tensa Greencomb Spider-orchid, Rigid Spider-orchid [24390]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Caladenia versicolor Candy Spider-orchid [24392]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
Dodonaea procumbens Trailing Hop-bush [12149]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Glycine latrobeana Clover Glycine, Purple Clover [13910]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Lepidium monolocoides Winged Pepper-cress [9190]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
Myriophyllum porcatum Ridged Water-milfoil [19919]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Pimelea spinescens subsp. spinescens Plains Rice-flower, Spiny Rice-flower, Prickly Pimelea [21980]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Prasophyllum validum Sturdy Leek-orchid, Mount Remarkable Leek-orchid [10268]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Senecio behrianus Stiff Groundsel, Behr's Groundsel [14030]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area

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Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Senecio macrocarpus Large-fruit Fireweed, Large-fruit Groundsel [16333]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Swainsona murrayana Slender Darling-pea, Slender Swainson, Murray Swainson-pea [6765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
Thelymitra matthewsii Spiral Sun-orchid [4168]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Westringia crassifolia Whipstick Westringia [21314]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
REPTILE			
Aprasia parapulchella Pink-tailed Worm-lizard, Pink-tailed Legless Lizard [1665]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Delma impar Striped Legless Lizard, Striped Snake-lizard [1649]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Listed Migratory Species [Resource Information]			
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Migratory Marine Birds			
Apus pacificus Fork-tailed Swift [678]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Migratory Terrestrial Species			
Hirundapus caudacutus White-throated Needletail [682]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Motacilla flava Yellow Wagtail [644]	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	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Migratory Wetlands Species			
Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Gallinago hardwickii Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

Commonwealth Lands

[[Resource Information](#)]

The Commonwealth area listed below may indicate the presence of Commonwealth land in this vicinity. Due to the unreliability of the data source, all proposals should be checked as to whether it impacts on a Commonwealth area, before making a definitive decision. Contact the State or Territory government land department for further information.

Commonwealth Land Name	State	Buffer Status
Australian Broadcasting Corporation Lot 1 of Plan LP221320P [AGPR202]	VIC	In buffer area only
Australian Postal Corporation Lot 0 PC353372E [AGPR7260]	VIC	In buffer area only
Department of Defence AGO Annex - Bendigo [DD_5009]	VIC	In buffer area only

Listed Marine Species

[[Resource Information](#)]

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Bird			
Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Apus pacificus Fork-tailed Swift [678]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area

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Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Bubulcus ibis as Ardea ibis Cattle Egret [66521]		Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858]	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	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Chalcites osculans as Chrysococcyx osculans Black-eared Cuckoo [83425]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Gallinago hardwickii Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Haliaeetus leucogaster White-bellied Sea-Eagle [943]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Hirundapus caudacutus White-throated Needletail [682]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Lathamus discolor Swift Parrot [744]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Merops ornatus Rainbow Bee-eater [670]	ADVERTISED PLAN	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Motacilla flava Yellow Wagtail [644]	ADVERTISED PLAN	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Myiagra cyanoleuca Satin Flycatcher [612]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Neophema chrysostoma Blue-winged Parrot [726]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Rhipidura rufifrons Rufous Fantail [592]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Rostratula australis as Rostratula benghalensis (sensu lato) Australian Painted Snipe [77037]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area

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Extra Information

State and Territory Reserves			[Resource Information]
Protected Area Name	Reserve Type	State	Buffer Status
Bendigo East B.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Bendigo West B.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
California Gully B.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Charcoal Gully B.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Comet Hill N.F.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Flora Hill B.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Greater Bendigo	National Park	VIC	In buffer area only
Holly Street N.F.R	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only

Protected Area Name	Reserve Type	State	Buffer Status
Jackass Flat N.C.R.	Nature Conservation Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Kangaroo Flat B.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Kangaroo Flat Lockwood Road B.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Maiden Gully B.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Mickey Mouse Hill B.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Solomon Gully N.C.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Sparrowhawk Gully B.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Specimen Hill B.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only
Spring Gully B.R.	Natural Features Reserve	VIC	In buffer area only

EPBC Act Referrals		[Resource Information]		
Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status	Buffer Status
Controlled action				
Carshalton Mine Expansion	2003/974	Controlled Action	Post-Approval	In buffer area only
Residential Subdivision (38 Lots)- Crown Allotment 13H and Part 13G of Section H	2002/792	Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
Residential Subdivision-Crown Allotments 12,12A, 12B, 13H, 17 & parts of 17A and	2002/789	Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
Residential Subdivision of Part Crown Allotment 13G of Section H in the Parish o	2002/790	Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
The Modified Operation of the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District	2009/5123	Controlled Action	Post-Approval	In feature area
Not controlled action				
Improving rabbit biocontrol: releasing another strain of RHDV, sthrn two thirds of Australia	2015/7522	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In feature area
INDIGO Central Submarine Telecommunications Cable	2017/8127	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In feature area

Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status	Buffer Status
Not controlled action				
Regional Fast Rail Project - Bendigo Country Works Package	2002/675	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In feature area
residential subdivision (9 Lots) on Crown Allotments 12, 12A, 12B & 17A of Secti	2002/886	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
Spring Gully Reservoir embankment & associated structures upgrade	2002/559	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
Spring Gully Residential Development	2000/30	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
Upgrade of Calder Highway	2003/1281	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
upgrade of Crusoe Reservoir embankment and associated structures	2002/557	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
Not controlled action (particular manner)				
drainage, trenching and cable laying works	2003/1132	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval	In feature area
INDIGO Marine Cable Route Survey (INDIGO)	2017/7996	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval	In feature area
Regional Fibre Optic Project (RFOP)	2003/978	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval	In feature area
Referral decision				
All actions taken in response to the current severe bushfires in Victoria.	2009/4787	Referral Decision	Completed	In feature area
Castlemaine Link and Harcourt Modernisation Project, VIC	2011/5931	Referral Decision	Completed	In buffer area only

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Caveat

1 PURPOSE

This report is designed to assist in identifying the location of matters of national environmental significance (MNES) and other matters protected by the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) which may be relevant in determining obligations and requirements under the EPBC Act.

The report contains the mapped locations of:

- World and National Heritage properties;
- Wetlands of International and National Importance;
- Commonwealth and State/Territory reserves;
- distribution of listed threatened, migratory and marine species;
- listed threatened ecological communities; and
- other information that may be useful as an indicator of potential habitat value.

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2 DISCLAIMER

This report is not intended to be exhaustive and should only be relied upon as a general guide as mapped data is not available for all species or ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act (see below). Persons seeking to use the information contained in this report to inform the referral of a proposed action under the EPBC Act should consider the limitations noted below and whether additional information is required to determine the existence and location of MNES and other protected matters.

Where data is available to inform the mapping of protected species, the presence type (e.g. known, likely or may occur) that can be determined from the data is indicated in general terms. It is the responsibility of any person using or relying on the information in this report to ensure that it is suitable for the circumstances of any proposed use. The Commonwealth cannot accept responsibility for the consequences of any use of the report or any part thereof. To the maximum extent allowed under governing law, the Commonwealth will not be liable for any loss or damage that may be occasioned directly or indirectly through the use of, or reliance on the contents of this report.

3 DATA SOURCES

Threatened ecological communities

For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are generated based on information contained in recovery plans, State vegetation maps and remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.

Threatened, migratory and marine species

Threatened, migratory and marine species distributions have been discerned through a variety of methods. Where distributions are well known and if time permits, distributions are inferred from either thematic spatial data (i.e. vegetation, soils, geology, elevation, aspect, terrain, etc.) together with point locations and described habitat; or modelled (MAXENT or BIOCLIM habitat modelling) using point locations and environmental data layers.

Where little information is available for a species or large number of maps are required in a short time-frame, maps are derived either from 0.04 or 0.02 decimal degree cells; by an automated process using polygon capture techniques (static two kilometre grid cells, alpha-hull and convex hull); or captured manually or by using topographic features (national park boundaries, islands, etc.).

In the early stages of the distribution mapping process (1999-early 2000s) distributions were defined by degree blocks, 100K or 250K map sheets to rapidly create distribution maps. More detailed distribution mapping methods are used to update these distributions when time permits.

4 LIMITATIONS

The following species and ecological communities have not been mapped and do not appear in this report:

- threatened species listed as extinct or considered vagrants;
- some recently listed species and ecological communities;
- some listed migratory and listed marine species, which are not listed as threatened species; and
- migratory species that are very widespread, vagrant, or only occur in Australia in small numbers.

The following groups have been mapped, but may not cover the complete distribution of the species:

- listed migratory and/or listed marine seabirds, which are not listed as threatened, have only been mapped for recorded breeding sites; and
- seals which have only been mapped for breeding sites near the Australian continent

The breeding sites may be important for the protection of the Commonwealth Marine environment.

Refer to the metadata for the feature group (using the Resource Information link) for the currency of the information.

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Acknowledgements

This database has been compiled from a range of data sources. The department acknowledges the following custodians who have contributed valuable data and advice:

- [-Office of Environment and Heritage, New South Wales](#)
- [-Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Victoria](#)
- [-Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tasmania](#)
- [-Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, South Australia](#)
- [-Department of Land and Resource Management, Northern Territory](#)
- [-Department of Environmental and Heritage Protection, Queensland](#)
- [-Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia](#)
- [-Environment and Planning Directorate, ACT](#)
- [-Birdlife Australia](#)
- [-Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme](#)
- [-Australian National Wildlife Collection](#)
- Natural history museums of Australia
- [-Museum Victoria](#)
- [-Australian Museum](#)
- [-South Australian Museum](#)
- [-Queensland Museum](#)
- [-Online Zoological Collections of Australian Museums](#)
- [-Queensland Herbarium](#)
- [-National Herbarium of NSW](#)
- [-Royal Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium of Victoria](#)
- [-Tasmanian Herbarium](#)
- [-State Herbarium of South Australia](#)
- [-Northern Territory Herbarium](#)
- [-Western Australian Herbarium](#)
- [-Australian National Herbarium, Canberra](#)
- [-University of New England](#)
- [-Ocean Biogeographic Information System](#)
- [-Australian Government, Department of Defence](#)
- [Forestry Corporation, NSW](#)
- [-Geoscience Australia](#)
- [-CSIRO](#)
- [-Australian Tropical Herbarium, Cairns](#)
- [-eBird Australia](#)
- [-Australian Government – Australian Antarctic Data Centre](#)
- [-Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory](#)
- [-Australian Government National Environmental Science Program](#)
- [-Australian Institute of Marine Science](#)
- [-Reef Life Survey Australia](#)
- [-American Museum of Natural History](#)
- [-Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Inveresk, Tasmania](#)
- [-Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania](#)
- Other groups and individuals

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The Department is extremely grateful to the many organisations and individuals who provided expert advice and information on numerous draft distributions.

Please feel free to provide feedback via the [Contact us](#) page.

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