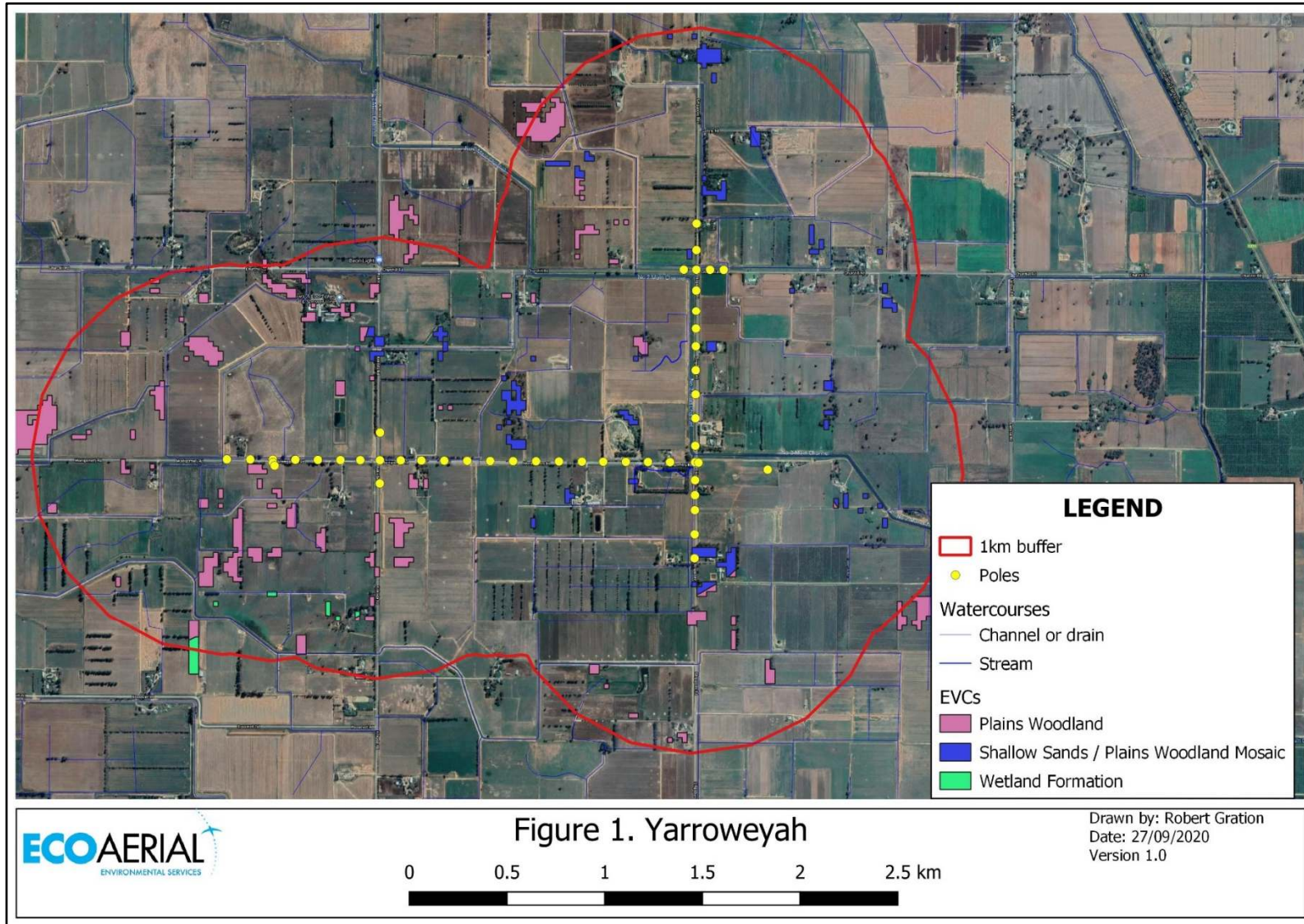


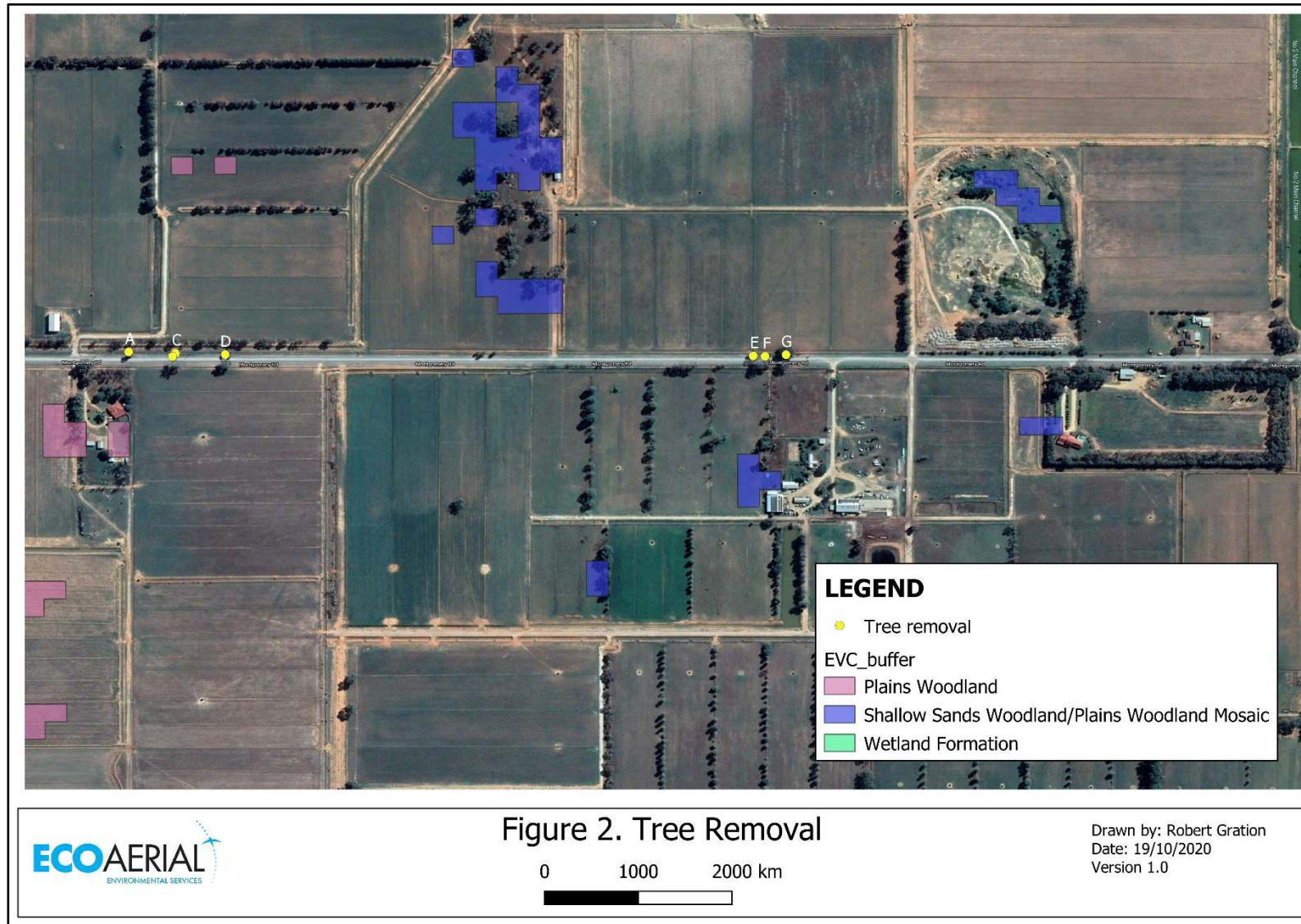
## Biodiversity Snapshot

<b>STUDY AREA NAME:</b> Montgomery Rd, Yarroweyah		<b>Date:</b> 19/10/2020
<b>BIOREGION</b>	Murray Fans	
<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA</b>	Moirra Shire	
<b>Catchment Management Area</b>	Goulburn Broken CMA	
<b>SUMMARY / COMMENTS</b>		
<b>Summary of findings and recommendations</b>	<p><b>Summary</b></p> <p>Three ecological vegetation classes (EVC) are modelled to occur within 1km of the project alignment, none of which occurred within the alignment (refer to Figure1). There are 15 scattered trees associated with the Plains Woodland EVC_803. Seven trees of various size (10cm~85cm) will require removal.</p> <p>The removal of the 7 Grey Box will require an offset amount (general habitat units) of 0.038. Powercor is in the process of paying for the purchase of vegetation offsets from Vegetation Link.</p> <p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilise existing roads / tracks to access pole locations.</li> <li>• Timing of operations is confined to dry ground conditions.</li> </ul>	
<b>DESKTOP REVIEW RESULTS</b>		
<p><b>* EPBC Act Protected Matters Search (DoEE)</b></p> <p><i>Source: Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) 1km buffer</i></p> <p><i>Results include terrestrial species / communities only</i></p>	<p>Threatened Ecological Communities: <b>4</b></p> <p>Listed Threatened Species: <b>25</b></p> <p>Migratory Species: <b>11</b></p>	
<b>Proximity to significant wetlands/ waterways</b>	N/A	
<b>Habitat Corridors</b>	N/A	
<b>Surrounding land use</b>	Agriculture	

<p><b>EVC's &amp; Significant flora and fauna records</b></p> <p><i>Source: NatureKit &amp; VBA (DELWP).</i></p> <p><i>Refer to Figure 1</i></p>	<p>Ecological Vegetation Class: 2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Wetland Formation EVC_74 (Endangered)</li> <li>2. Plains Woodland EVC_803 (Endangered)</li> <li>3. Shallow Sands Woodlands / Plains Woodland Mosaic EVC_867 (Endangered)</li> </ol> <p>Threatened Flora:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. N/A</li> </ol> <p>Threatened Fauna:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. N/A</li> </ol>
<p><b>Reviewed report/s</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS</b></p>	
<p><b>EPBC Act 1999</b></p>	<p>No EPBC listed species have been recorded within 1km of the alignment.</p> <p><i>There are no obligations under the EPBC Act.</i></p>
<p><b>EES Act 1978</b></p>	<p>An EES would be required if the impacts were deemed to potentially have a detrimental effect for species / communities of regional or state significance.</p> <p><i>An EES is <u>not required</u> as there is not a 'trigger' of any referral criterion (refer to Appendix 2 for trigger criteria).</i></p>
<p><b>FFG Act 1988</b></p>	<p>No FFG listed species have been recorded within 1km of the alignment. <i>No species will be impacted by the proposed works.</i></p>
<p><b>Permitted clearing of native vegetation Clause 52.17</b></p>	<p><i>Analysis of the assessment pathway indicates that the removal of the 7 scattered trees will require the sourcing of 0.033 general habitat units. Refer Figure 2, NVIM report in Appendix 4 and offset quote in Appendix 5.</i></p>
<p><b>Catchment Management Authority Regional Strategies</b></p>	<p>Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Strategy 2013-2019.</p>
<p><b>Local Government Environmental Planning Overlays</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>

\* Search results for EPBC Act threatened species is based on the likelihood of suitable habitat to occur in the search area only. It does not imply that there has been a definite record for the species.





## Database Searches

***Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act Protected Matters Search*** – An online tool, provided by the Commonwealth Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts which identifies matters of national environmental significance that *may* occur in, or *may* relate to the area nominated.

***Victorian Biodiversity Atlas*** - data provided from the DELWP, lists all the flora and fauna species which have been identified within the search area from previous studies.

***Naturekit*** - data provided from the DELWP, provides GIS layers and information on the presence of Ecological Vegetation Class's and general flora and fauna data. A vegetation classification system developed by DSE for Victoria. EVCs are groupings of vegetation communities based on floristic, structural and ecological features. It should be noted that this database is incomplete and used only as a guide.

## Legislation

### ***Environmental Effects Act 1978***

The *Environmental Effects Act 1978* provides for assessment of proposed projects (works) that can have a significant effect on the environment. The Act does this by enabling the Minister administering it to decide that an Environmental Effects Statement (EES) should be prepared.

The Minister might typically require a proponent to prepare an EES when:

- there is a likelihood of regionally or State significant adverse effects on the environment
- there is a need for integrated assessment of potential environmental effects (including economic and social effects) of a project and relevant alternatives, and
- normal statutory processes would not provide a sufficiently comprehensive, integrated, and transparent assessment.

The EES process provides for the analysis of potential effects on environmental assets and the means of avoiding, minimising, and managing adverse effects. It also includes public involvement and the opportunity for an integrated response to a proposal.

### ***Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

Any action that has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on a matter of national environmental significance, as defined under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) requires approval from the Commonwealth Environment Minister. Matters of National Environmental Significance relevant to this study may include nationally threatened species (plants and animals), migratory species, and endangered ecological communities.

### ***Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988***

The provisions of the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act) bind all public agencies, public landowners, and land managers. Removal of any native plants protected under the FFG Act requires a permit from the DSE, where this occurs on public land. It is understood that such a permit is not required for such works on private land. The Act allows for the listing of potentially threatening processes. Any actions that may result in a potentially threatening process should be avoided or managed appropriately.

### ***Clearing of native vegetation- Biodiversity assessment guidelines***

In Victoria, a planning permit is usually required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation. Landholders / managers must apply for a planning permit from their local council. If a permit is granted, a native vegetation offset must be obtained before the native vegetation is removed, to compensate for the impact of the removal on biodiversity.

The Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (2017) are incorporated into the Victoria Planning Provisions and all planning schemes in Victoria. The Guidelines replace the previous incorporated document titled Permitted clearing of native vegetation – Biodiversity assessment guidelines (Department of Environment and Primary Industries, September 2013).

There are three assessment pathways for an application to remove native vegetation: Basic, Intermediate and Detailed. The assessment pathway reflects the potential impact the removal has on biodiversity. These pathways are determined by:

- amount of native vegetation (in hectares)
- whether any large trees are to be removed, and
- location of the native vegetation.

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 and including one or more large trees	Intermediate	Intermediate	Detailed
0.5 hectares or more	Detailed	Detailed	Detailed

Proponents can refer to the online-tool Native Vegetation Information Management to understand which risk-pathway the application will be assessed under. The biodiversity report produced by NVIM can be used as part of an application under a Basic and Intermediate risk pathway, whereas a site assessment by an accredited quality vegetation assessor is required as part of an application under the Detailed-risk pathway.

**Catchment Management Authority – Regional Catchment Strategies**




A primary function of a Catchment Management Authority is to prepare a Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) for its region and coordinate and monitor its implementation. The strategies describe the natural assets of a region, and how they are interrelated, outlining what needs to be done to manage and use the assets in a sustainable way.

The RCS is an important planning and working document for all organisations and people involved in natural resource management in the region, including government agencies and councils, water authorities, industry, Landcare, and community groups. Its focus is the land, water and biodiversity in the region. It provides a framework for effort, an investment guide, a means of integrating policy and an action plan for catchment works.

**Local Government – Environmental Planning Overlays / Vegetation Protection Overlays**

Not applicable.



## Appendix 1- Site Photographs




ID	Site Photograph Montgomery Rd	Comments
IMG_20201001_142631		<p>Pole 19 approx. 630m west of Kokoda Rd looking east.</p> <p>Ground flora dominated by introduced species e.g. Capeweed, Ryegrass, wild oats, bromus sp and Patterson's curse.</p>
IMG_20201001_142101		<p>Pole 1 on southern side of Montgomery Rd, approx. 630m west of Kokoda Rd. Looking south to Pole 2.</p> <p>Ground flora dominated by introduced species e.g. Ryegrass and wild oats.</p>
IMG_20201001_142759		<p>Pole 18 approx. 530m west of Kokoda Rd looking east.</p> <p>Ground flora dominated by introduced species e.g. capeweed, ryegrass, wild oats and bromus sp.</p>



<p>IMG_20201001_143432</p>		<p>Pole 16 approx. 310m west of Kokoda Rd looking east.</p> <p>Ground flora dominated by introduced species e.g. capeweed, ryegrass, wild oats, bromus sp and Patterson's curse.</p>
<p>IMG_20201001_143706</p>		<p>Pole 174 replacement at the north-east intersection of Kokoda and Montgomery Rd looking east.</p> <p>Ground flora dominated by introduced species e.g. ryegrass, wild oats and bromus sp.</p>
<p>IMG_20201001_144236</p>		<p>Grey Box tree approx. 250m east of Kokoda Rd requiring removal.</p> <p>Ground flora dominated by barley grass and Patterson's curse.</p> <p>Tree A in NVIM report.</p>

<p>IMG_20201001_144544</p>		<p>Grey Box trees approx. 305m east of Kokoda Rd requiring removal. Ground flora dominated by barley grass, curled dock and capeweed.</p> <p>Trees B, C and D in NVIM report.</p>
<p>IMG_20201001_150307</p>		<p>Multi stemmed Grey Box tree approx. 650m west of Singapore Rd requiring removal. Ground flora dominated by barley grass and capeweed.</p> <p>Tree E in NVIM report.</p>
<p>IMG_20201001_150351</p>		<p>Grey Box trees approx. 625m west of Singapore Rd requiring removal. Ground flora dominated by barley grass and capeweed.</p> <p>Trees F and G in NVIM report.</p>

<p>IMG_20201001_151437</p>		<p>Pole 2 approx. 250m west of Singapore Rd.</p> <p>Ground flora dominated by introduced species e.g. capeweed, ryegrass, wild oats, bromus sp and Patterson's curse.</p>
<p>Singapore Rd</p>		
<p>IMG_20201001_151814</p>		<p>Pole 14 approx. 480m south of Montgomery Rd looking north.</p> <p>Ground flora between Pole 14 to Pole 11 dominated by introduced species e.g. phalaris, sow thistle, veldt grass, capeweed, ryegrass and wild oats.</p>
<p>IMG_20201001_153128</p>		<p>Pole 11 approx. 165m south of Montgomery Rd looking north.</p> <p>Ground flora between Pole 11 to Pole 8 dominated by introduced species e.g. phalaris, sow thistle, veldt grass, ryegrass and Patterson curse.</p>

<p>IMG_20201001_153340</p>		<p>Pole 8 approx. 92m north of Montgomery Rd looking north.</p> <p>Ground flora between Pole 8 to Pole 8 dominated by introduced species e.g. phalaris, wild oats, sow thistle, veldt grass and ryegrass.</p>
<p>IMG_20201001_154031</p>		<p>Pole 6 approx. 350m north of Montgomery Rd looking north.</p> <p>Ground flora between Pole 6 to Pole 43 at intersection of Singapore and Churchill Rd dominated by introduced species e.g. phalaris, curled dock and spear thistle.</p>
<p>IMG_20201001_155640</p>		<p>Pole 42A on Churchill Rd approx. 145m east of Singapore Rd looking west.</p> <p>Ground flora dominated by introduced species e.g. phalaris, veldt grass and Patterson's Curse.</p>

<p>IMG_20201001_155916</p>		<p>Pole 1 approx. 100 north of Churchill Rd looking south.</p> <p>Ground flora dominated by introduced species e.g. wild oats, barley grass, malva and ryegrass.</p>
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## Appendix 2- EES Act Triggers

### **Referral criteria: individual potential environmental effects**

Individual types of potential effects on the environment that might be of regional or State significance, and therefore warrant referral of a project, are:

- potential clearing of 10 ha or more of native vegetation from an area that:
  - is of an Ecological Vegetation Class identified as endangered by the Department of Sustainability and Environment (in accordance with Appendix 2 of Victoria's Native Vegetation Management Framework); or
  - is, or is likely to be, of very high conservation significance (as defined in accordance with Appendix 3 of Victoria's Native Vegetation Management Framework); and
  - is not authorised under an approved Forest Management Plan or Fire Protection Plan
- potential long-term loss of a significant proportion (e.g. 1 to 5 percent depending on the conservation status of the species) of known remaining habitat or population of a threatened species within Victoria
- potential long-term change to the ecological character of a wetland listed under the Ramsar Convention or in 'A Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia'
- potential extensive or major effects on the health or biodiversity of aquatic, estuarine or marine ecosystems, over the long term
- potential extensive or major effects on the health, safety or well-being of a human community, due to emissions to air or water or chemical hazards or displacement of residences
- potential greenhouse gas emissions exceeding 200,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per annum, directly attributable to the operation of the facility.

### **Referral criteria: a combination of potential environmental effects**

A combination of *two or more* of the following types of potential effects on the environment that might be of regional or State significance, and therefore warrant referral of a project, are:

- potential clearing of 10 ha or more of native vegetation, unless authorised under an approved Forest Management Plan or Fire Protection Plan
- matters listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*:
  - potential loss of a significant area of a listed ecological community; or
  - potential loss of a genetically important population of an endangered or threatened species (listed or nominated for listing), including as a result of loss or fragmentation of habitats; or
  - potential loss of critical habitat; or
  - potential significant effects on habitat values of a wetland supporting migratory bird species
- potential extensive or major effects on landscape values of regional importance, especially where recognised by a planning scheme overlay or within or adjoining land reserved under the *National Parks Act 1975*
- potential extensive or major effects on land stability, acid sulphate soils or highly erodible soils over the short or long term
- potential extensive or major effects on beneficial uses of waterbodies over the long term due to changes in water quality, streamflows or regional groundwater levels
- potential extensive or major effects on social or economic well-being due to direct or indirect displacement of non-residential land use activities
- potential for extensive displacement of residences or severance of residential access to community resources due to infrastructure development
- potential significant effects on the amenity of a substantial number of residents, due to extensive or major, long-term changes in visual, noise and traffic conditions
- potential exposure of a human community to severe or chronic health or safety hazards over the short or long term, due to emissions to air or water or noise or chemical hazards or associated transport
- potential extensive or major effects on Aboriginal cultural heritage
- potential extensive or major effects on cultural heritage places listed on the Heritage Register or the Archaeological Inventory under the *Heritage Act 1995*.



## **Appendix 3 - Permitted vegetation clearing pathways**

**Step 1**  
**Do I need a permit?**

Local council can confirm if you need a permit to remove native vegetation. Organise a pre-application meeting with your local council to help answer the following questions:

- Am I removing native vegetation? Appendix 1 will help you to determine if the vegetation is native.
- Do I qualify for an exemption? There are a range of exemptions that mean a permit is not required to remove native vegetation. Refer to the exemption guidance on the [DELWP website](#).
- Are there any other requirements? Check with your local council whether any schedule, Native Vegetation Precinct Plan or environmental overlay applies. Also check whether the vegetation could be protected under other local, state or federal legislation.

*If you need a permit to remove native vegetation, continue to Step 2.*

**Step 2**  
**What is my assessment pathway?**

Use the Native Vegetation Information Management removal tool ([NVIM removal tool](#)) to map the native vegetation and determine your assessment pathway: <https://nvim.delwp.vic.gov.au/>.

*Note: If you are removing 0.5 ha or more of native vegetation you are automatically in the Detailed Assessment Pathway. This is approximately a rectangle of 100 metres long and 50 wide or 7 large scattered trees or 16 small scattered trees.*



**Step 3**  
**Do I need an accredited native vegetation assessor?**

If you are in the Basic or Intermediate Assessment Pathway you do not need to appoint an accredited native vegetation assessor. You can complete the application yourself using [the NVIM removal tool](#).

You need an accredited native vegetation assessor to complete a site assessment report.

**Step 4**  
**Can I reduce my impacts, offset requirements and costs?**

Use information in the NVIM removal tool to minimise impacts on native vegetation. Try not to remove areas of native vegetation with higher condition and strategic biodiversity value scores, large trees (allow space for a tree protection zone within 15 metres of the tree trunk) and areas shown as Location 2 and 3 on the *Location map*.

Use information from the site assessment and work with the accredited native vegetation assessor to minimise impacts.

**Step 5**  
**Prepare the application**

Follow the prompts in the NVIM removal tool to provide additional information that is required for your application. The tool will calculate your offset requirement and you must decide how you will secure the offset – on your own property, or purchased through a broker. Check the costs to secure the offset before proceeding with the application. Download the *Native vegetation removal report* (NVR report). The report will form part of your planning permit application.

Obtain a NVR report for the Detailed Assessment Pathway from the accredited native vegetation assessor. Work with the accredited assessor to complete the application.

**Step 6**  
**Lodge the application**

Check you have completed all application requirements and attached any necessary information. Examples of statements you could use in the application are provided in Appendix 4 of guidelines. Lodge the planning permit application with your local council.

## Appendix 4- NVIM Report

# Native vegetation removal report

## A report to support an application to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation in the **Intermediate Assessment Pathway** using the modelled condition score

This report provides information to support an application to remove native vegetation in accordance with the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation*. The report is not an assessment by DELWP or local council of the proposed native vegetation removal. Biodiversity information and offset requirements have been calculated using modelled condition scores contained in the *Native vegetation condition map*.

**Date and time:** 19 October 2020 09:41 AM

**Lat./Long.:** -35.9640799402469,145.566571731485

**Native vegetation report ID:**

**Address:** Address unknown

347-20201019-002

## Assessment pathway

### The assessment pathway and reason for the assessment pathway

Assessment pathway	Intermediate Assessment Pathway
Extent of past plus proposed native vegetation removal	0.188 hectares
No. large trees	0 large tree(s)
Location category	Location 2  The native vegetation is in an area mapped as an Endangered Ecological Vegetation Class. Removal of less than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation will not have a significant impact on any habitat for a rare or threatened species.

## Offset requirement

### The offset requirement that will apply if the native vegetation is approved to be removed

Offset type	General offset
Offset amount	0.033 general habitat units
Offset attributes	
Vicinity	Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (CMA) or Moira Shire Council
Minimum strategic biodiversity value score	0.112
Large trees	0 large tree(s)

## Biodiversity information about the native vegetation

### Description of any past native vegetation removal

Any native vegetation that was approved to be removed, or was removed without the required approvals, on the same property or on contiguous land in the same ownership, in the five year period before the application to remove native vegetation is lodged is detailed below.

Permit/PIN number	Extent of native vegetation (hectares)
None entered	0 hectares

### Description of the native vegetation proposed to be removed

Extent of all mapped native vegetation	0.188 hectares
Condition score of all mapped native vegetation	0.200
Strategic biodiversity value score of all mapped native vegetation	0.140
Extent of patches native vegetation	0.000 hectares
Extent of scattered trees	0.188 hectares
No. large trees within patches	0 large tree(s)
No. large scattered trees	0 large tree(s)
No. small scattered trees	7 small tree(s)

### Additional information about trees to be removed, shown in Figure 1

Tree ID	Tree circumference (cm)	Benchmark circumference (cm)	Scattered / Patch	Tree size
A	41	126	Scattered	Small
B	10	126	Scattered	Small
C	15	126	Scattered	Small
D	21	126	Scattered	Small
E	45	126	Scattered	Small
F	20	126	Scattered	Small
G	85	126	Scattered	Small

## Other information

---

Applications to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation must include all the below information. If an appropriate response has not been provided the application is not complete.

### Photographs of the native vegetation to be removed

Recent, dated photographs of the native vegetation to be removed must be provided with the application. All photographs must be clear, show whether the vegetation is a patch of native vegetation or scattered trees, and identify any large trees. If the area of native vegetation to be removed is large, provide photos that are indicative of the native vegetation.

Ensure photographs are attached to the application. If appropriate photographs have not been provided the application is not complete.

### Topographical and land information

Description of the topographic and land information relating to the native vegetation to be removed, including any ridges, crests and hilltops, wetlands and waterways, slopes of more than 20 percent, drainage lines, low lying areas, saline discharge areas, and areas of existing erosion, as appropriate. This may be represented in a map or plan. **This is an application requirement and your application will be incomplete without it.**

Roadside reserve next to channel in parts.

### Avoid and minimise statement

This statement describes what has been done to avoid the removal of, and minimise impacts on the biodiversity and other values of native vegetation. **This is an application requirement and your application will be incomplete without it.**

The removal of trees is required for the installation of 1 km of new powerlines between existing powerlines. Pruning is always considered as a first option however the 7 trees in question would require pruning to the extent that they are unlikely to survive. As a consequence they pose a risk of falling onto the powerlines.

### Defendable space statement

Where the removal of native vegetation is to create defendable space, a written statement explaining why the removal of native vegetation is necessary. This statement must have regard to other available bushfire risk mitigation measures. This statement is not required if your application also includes an application under the Bushfire Management Overlay.

Not applicable.

### Offset statement

An offset statement that demonstrates that an offset is available and describes how the required offset will be secured. **This is an application requirement and your application will be incomplete without it.**

A quote has been sourced from vegetation link and is in the process of being paid for by the proponent. A copy of the quote is attached in Appendix 5 of site report.

## Next steps

Applications to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation must address all the application requirements specified in *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation*. If you wish to remove the mapped native vegetation you are required to apply for a permit from your local council. This *Native vegetation removal report* must be submitted with your application and meets most of the application requirements. The following needs to be added as applicable.

### Property Vegetation Plan

Landowners can manage native vegetation on their property in the longer term by developing a Property Vegetation Plan (PVP) and entering into an agreement with DELWP.

If an approved PVP applies to the land, ensure the PVP is attached to the application.

### Applications under Clause 52.16

An application to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation is under Clause 52.16 if a Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (NVPP) applies to the land, and the proposed native vegetation removal is not in accordance with the relevant NVPP. If this is the case, a statement that explains how the proposal responds to the NVPP considerations must be provided.

If the application is under Clause 52.16, ensure a statement that explains how the proposal responds to the NVPP considerations is attached to the application.

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Authorised by the Victorian Government, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne.

For more information contact the DELWP Customer Service Centre 136 186

[www.delwp.vic.gov.au](http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au)

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Obtaining this publication does not guarantee that an application will meet the requirements of Clauses 52.16 or 52.17 of planning schemes in Victoria or that a permit to remove native vegetation will be granted.



Notwithstanding anything else contained in this publication, you must ensure that you comply with all relevant laws, legislation, awards or orders and that you obtain and comply with all permits, approvals and the like that affect, are applicable or are necessary to undertake any action to remove, lop or destroy or otherwise deal with any native vegetation or that apply to matters within the scope of Clauses 52.16 or 52.17 of planning schemes in Victoria.

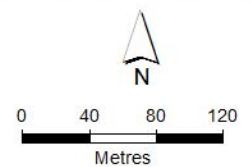
**Figure 1 – Map of native vegetation to be removed, destroyed or lopped**

Mapped native vegetation to be removed, lopped or destroyed



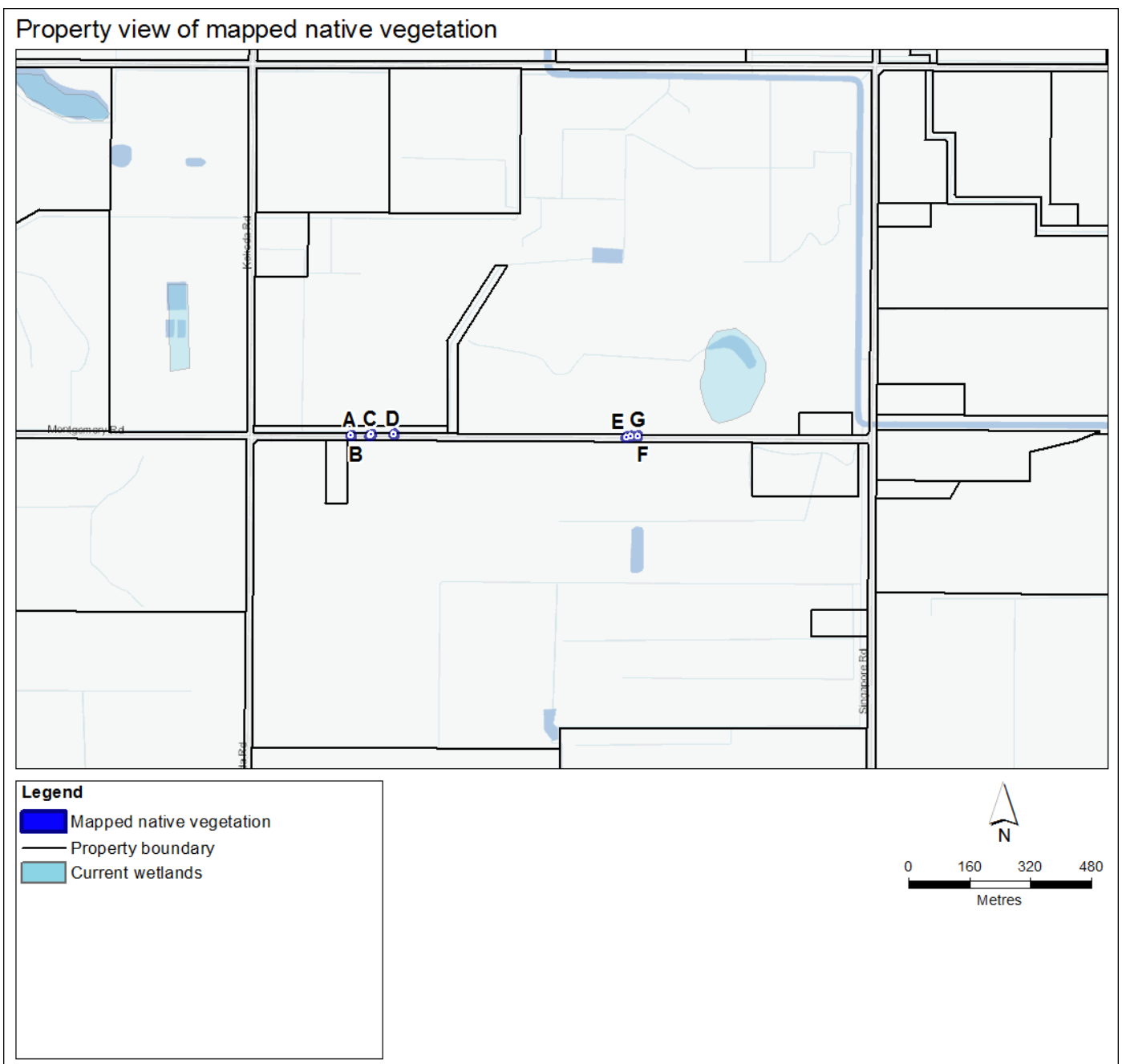
**Legend**

-  Mapped native vegetation
-  Property boundary

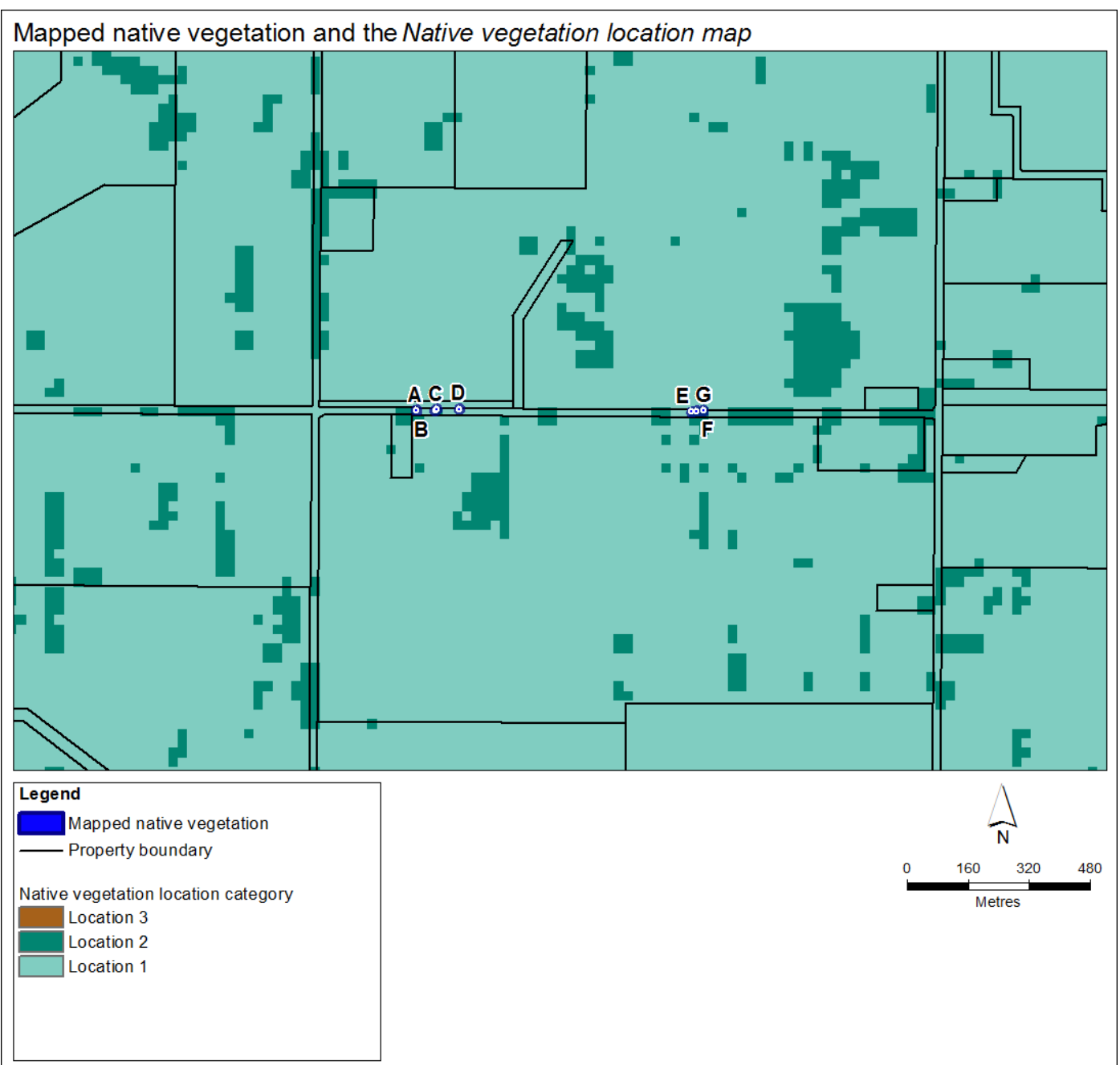




## Figure 2 – Map of property in context

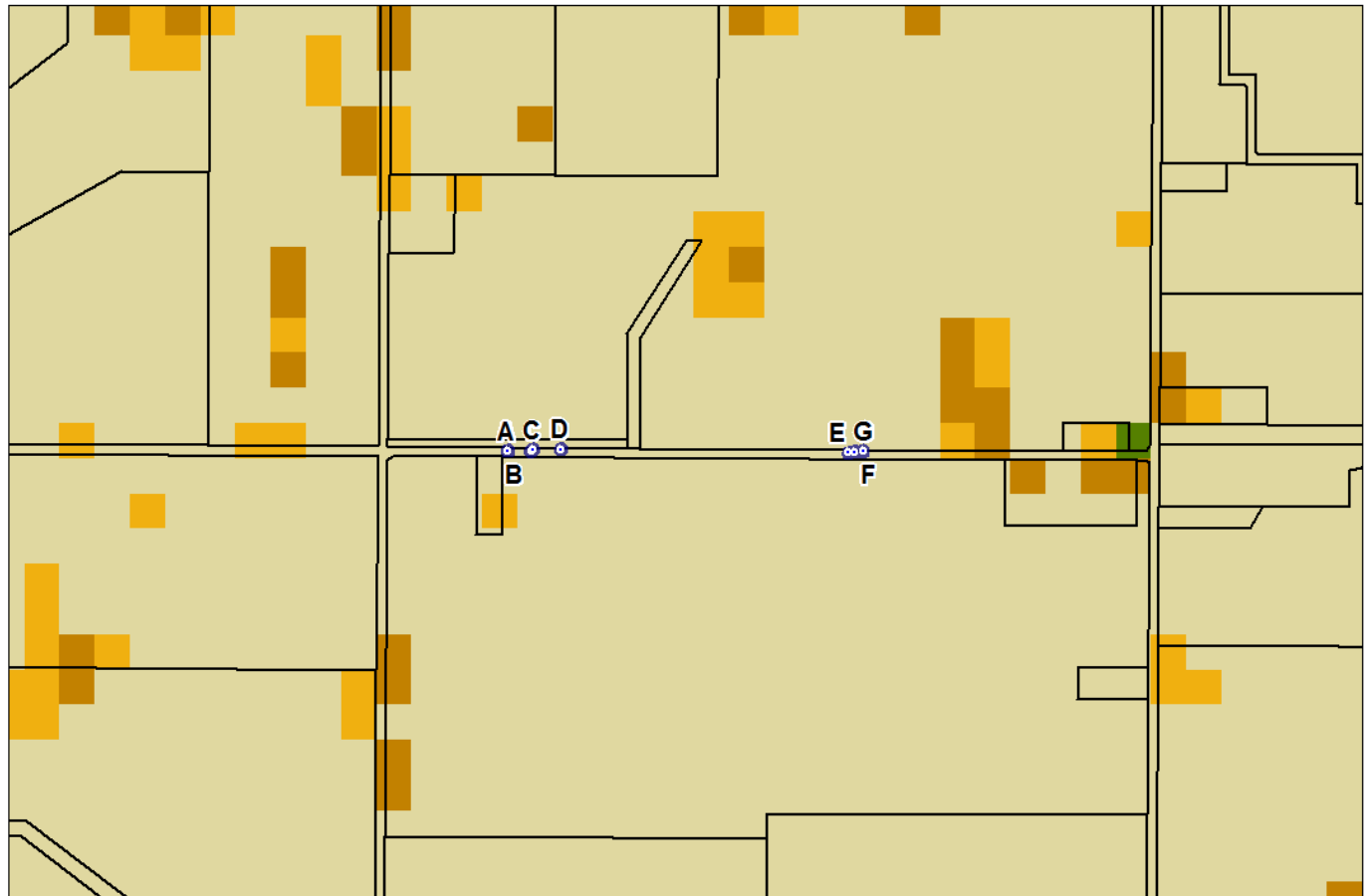


## Figure 3 – Biodiversity information maps





# Native vegetation removal report






Mapped native vegetation and the *Native vegetation condition map*



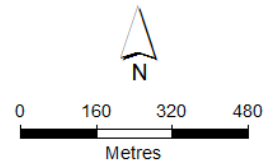
## Legend

-  Mapped native vegetation
-  Property boundary

## Native vegetation condition\*

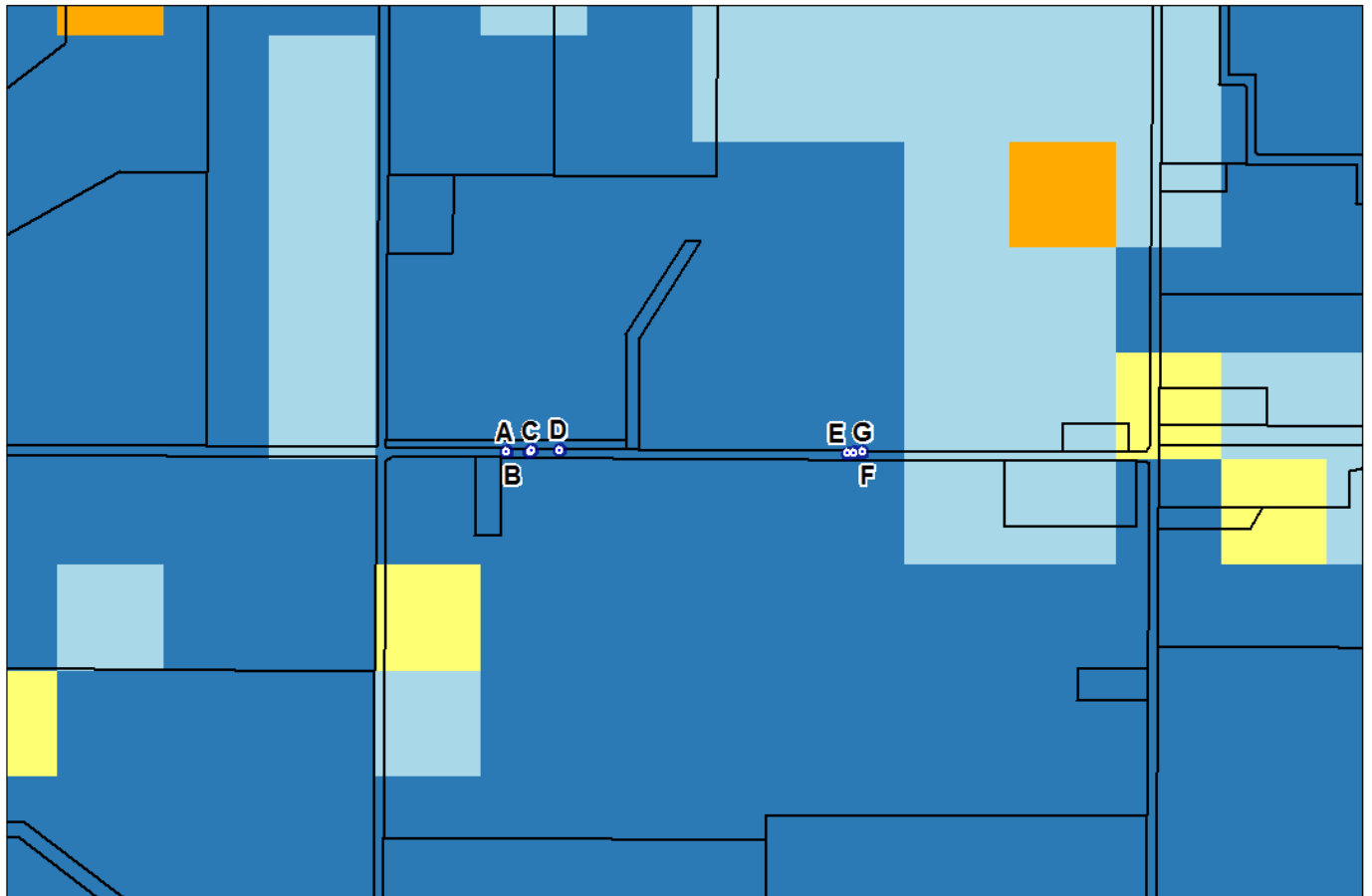
-  0.81 - 1.00
-  0.61 - 0.80
-  0.41 - 0.60
-  0.21 - 0.40
-  0.00 - 0.20

\* These classes are for display purposes only





# Native vegetation removal report






Mapped native vegetation and the *Strategic biodiversity value map*



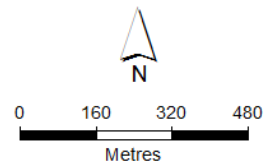
## Legend

-  Mapped native vegetation
-  Property boundary

## Strategic biodiversity value\*

-  0.81 - 1.00
-  0.61 - 0.80
-  0.41 - 0.60
-  0.21 - 0.40
-  0.00 - 0.20

\* These classes are for display purposes only



## Appendix 1 - Details of offset requirements

### Native vegetation to be removed

<b>Extent of all mapped native vegetation (for calculating habitat hectares)</b>	0.188	The area of land covered by a patch of native vegetation and/or a scattered tree, measured in hectares. Where the mapped native vegetation includes scattered trees, each tree is assigned a standard extent and converted to hectares. A small scattered tree is assigned a standard extent defined by a circle with a 10 metre radius and a large scattered tree a circle with a 15 metre radius.  The extent of all mapped native vegetation is an input to calculating the habitat hectares.
<b>Condition score*</b>	0.200	The condition score of native vegetation is a site-based measure that describes how close native vegetation is to its mature natural state. The condition score is the weighted average condition score of the mapped native vegetation calculated using the <i>Native vegetation condition map</i> .
<b>Habitat hectares</b>	0.038	Habitat hectares is a site-based measure that combines extent and condition of native vegetation. It is calculated by multiplying the extent of native vegetation by the condition score:  <b>Habitat hectares = extent x condition score</b>
<b>Strategic biodiversity value score</b>	0.140	The strategic biodiversity value score represents the complementary contribution to Victoria's biodiversity of a location, relative to other locations across the state. This score is the weighted average strategic biodiversity value score of the mapped native vegetation calculated using the <i>Strategic biodiversity value map</i> .
<b>General landscape factor</b>	0.570	The general landscape factor is an adjusted strategic biodiversity value score. It has been adjusted to reduce the influence of landscape scale information on the general habitat score.
<b>General habitat score</b>	0.022	The general habitat score combines site-based and landscape scale information to obtain an overall measure of the biodiversity value of the native vegetation. The general habitat score is calculated as follows:  <b>General habitat score = habitat hectares x general landscape factor</b>

\* **Offset requirements for partial removal:** If your proposal is to remove parts of the native vegetation in a patch (for example only understorey plants) the condition score must be adjusted. This will require manual editing of the condition score and an update to the calculations that the native vegetation removal tool has provided: habitat hectares, general habitat score and offset amount.

### Offset requirements

<b>Offset type</b>	General offset	A general offset is required when the removal of native vegetation does not have a significant impact on any habitat for rare or threatened species. All proposals in the Basic and Intermediate assessment pathways will only require a general offset.
<b>Offset multiplier</b>	1.5	This multiplier is used to address the risk that the predicted outcomes for gain will not be achieved, and therefore will not adequately compensate the biodiversity loss from the removal of native vegetation.
<b>Offset amount (general habitat units)</b>	0.033	The general habitat units are the amount of offset that must be secured if the application is approved. This offset requirement will be a condition to any permit or approval for the removal of native vegetation.  <b>General habitat units required = general habitat score x 1.5</b>
<b>Minimum strategic biodiversity value score</b>	0.112	The offset site must have a strategic biodiversity value score of at least 80 per cent of the strategic biodiversity value score of the native vegetation to be removed. This is to ensure offsets are located in areas with a strategic biodiversity value that is comparable to the native vegetation to be removed.
<b>Vicinity</b>	Goulburn Broken CMA or Moira Shire Council	The offset site must be located within the same Catchment Management Authority boundary or municipal district as the native vegetation to be removed.
<b>Large trees</b>	0 large tree (s)	The offset site must protect at least one large tree for every large tree removed. A large tree is a native canopy tree with a Diameter at Breast Height greater than or equal to the large tree benchmark for the local Ecological Vegetation Class. A large tree can be either a large scattered tree or a large patch tree.



## **Appendix 5- Quotation for the Supply of Vegetation Offsets**

12 October 2020

Our Reference: VLQ-6182  
Your Reference: Yarroweyah

Keeley Martin  
Spiire  
Email: keeley.martin@spiire.com.au

Dear Keeley,

**RE: Quotation for the supply of Native Vegetation Credits**

Vegetation Link is an accredited offset provider with the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP). We offer a specialised brokerage service to enable permit holders and developers to identify suitable native vegetation credits to meet their planning permit offset requirements.

Based upon the information you provided, I understand you require the following native vegetation offset:

Offset Type	Attributes	General Habitat Units (GHU)	Min. Strategic Biodiversity Value (SBV)	Large Trees
General	Goulburn Broken CMA	0.038	0.112	0

To meet your offset requirements, you can purchase native vegetation credits from a third party as per the option quoted below<sup>1</sup>. This quotation is valid for 14 days, subject to credit availability and landholder pricing.

<b>Fixed Price Trade Pathway - offset site located in the Greater Shepparton City area (approx. 2-3 week turnaround from acceptance of quote)</b>	
Cost of Native Vegetation Credits – invoiced by DELWP	\$3,610.00
Transaction Fees – invoiced by Vegetation Link	\$790.00
<b>Total (ex GST)</b>	<b>\$4,400.00</b>
Total (Inc. GST)	\$4,840.00

If you would like to purchase credits let us know that you accept the quote, and return the attached Purchaser Details Form by email. Upon receipt of the form, we will begin the trade process. Further details of the process for credit allocation is in the FAQ below.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us on (03) 5470 5232 or email [offsets@vegetationlink.com.au](mailto:offsets@vegetationlink.com.au).

Sincerely,



**Tesha Mahoney**  
Biodiversity Offset Broker

<sup>1</sup> Note that the Transaction Fee includes DELWP NVOR transfer and allocation fees and a Vegetation Link fee



## FAQs:

### What is a third party offset?

A third party offset is an offset site owned by another landowner who manages and protects native vegetation on their land. Landowners who establish these offset sites are required to:

- Enter into a Landowner Agreement for the specified offset site. A landowner agreement is in perpetuity and is binding upon the current and future landowners of the site. It permanently restricts use of the site for many purposes.
- Implement a detailed 10-year Management Plan endorsed by the DELWP Native Vegetation Offset Register to manage and improve the biodiversity values of the site.

### How is the price of Native Vegetation Offset Credits (GHUs, GBEUs etc.) determined?

Landowners who own offset sites set their own price for native vegetation credits. They determine the price based on numerous factors. This includes but not limited to site establishment, the cost to manage the site in perpetuity (e.g., maintain fencing, control pest species), foregone use cost, and administrative costs. Depending on how the site is registered, the credit fee may be paid to either DELWP or directly to the landowner.

Further information about the work some of our landowners are doing can be found here:

<https://www.vegetationlink.com.au/landowner-profiles>

Further information on pricing can be found here:

[https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0030/329466/Info-sheet-Pricing-native-vegetation-credits.pdf](https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0030/329466/Info-sheet-Pricing-native-vegetation-credits.pdf)

### What is the process after I accept the Quote?

After you accept the quote and return the Purchaser Table, the following steps will be undertaken:

1. We will set up a contract between the parties involved and send the contract out for signing by all parties.
2. Once the contract is signed by all parties, invoices will be issued for the fees listed in the quotation. We will send you two invoices, one for our transaction fee invoiced by Vegetation Link and one for the credit fee, usually to be paid to DELWP or the landowner. We recommend providing remittances for your payments.
3. Once payments are received, Vegetation Link will send you an Allocated Credit Extract from the Native Vegetation Offset Register and your Executed Contract as evidence that you have purchased the offset.

### How long will the process take? When will I get my credits?

Generally the process from quote acceptance to having evidence of allocated credits takes between 2-6 weeks. This is dependent on a range of factors including the type of landholder

agreement, contract types and organisational workflows. We work as quickly as possible to get your credits to you within this time period.

We note that you cannot remove vegetation until you have been given permission by the Responsible Authority (usually the Council that has issued your permit).

### What happens if I don't have a permit yet?

When people are buying credits before a permit is issued the following three options are most common:

1. You can pay for the offsets before the planning permit is available, and then the offsets are allocated to the permit when it is available. This will incur an additional \$50 fee from DELWP. When considering this option, it is important to realise that your estimated offset requirements may be different than the actual permit requirements.
2. You can wait for the planning permit to be approved first and then request a quote to meet the requirements in your permit. Should credits be available, you can then start the offset purchase process. We then use the planning permit number for allocating the credits. Allocating credits to the permit is evidence that you have purchased your offset.
3. You can request a quote to confirm availability and to get an idea of the cost of offsetting before you apply for a permit. Once you receive the planning permit you can request an updated quote. It is at this point that you can then go through the offset purchase process.

We cannot guarantee credit availability until a) contracts are executed, or b) credits have been held via a pending trade lodged with DELWP Native Vegetation Offset Register.

We cannot guarantee price until a) a quote has been accepted within 14 days, and b) a Credit Trading Agreement is signed within 21 days, and c) the invoice for the Credits is paid within 28 days of the date the invoice is issued.

### If I sign the contract, does that mean I MUST pay for the credits?

Yes, you have entered into a contract agreeing to pay for the offset credits therein and are required to pay for those credits. The Credits must be paid for within 28 days of the date of the invoice.

### Can you hold the credits for me, as I want to pay later?

We are unable to hold credits for later payment. Please also see 'What happens if I don't have a permit yet?' above.

For further information, see our website or look at the DELWP website:

<http://www.vegetationlink.com.au/> OR <https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/native-vegetation/native-vegetation/offsets-for-the-removal-of-native-vegetation>