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## **Dederang BESS**

Ecological Assessment Mint Renewables Pty Ltd Reference: P524537

11-October-2024



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## Document control record

Document prepared by:

**T** +61 3 9975 3000 **F** +61 3 9975 3444

W aurecongroup.com

#### Aurecon Australasia Pty Ltd

ABN 54 005 139 873 Aurecon Centre Level 8, 850 Collins Street Docklands, Melbourne VIC 3008 PO Box 23061 Docklands VIC 8012 Australia

E melbourne@aurecongroup.com

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Client contact	Cara Layton	Client reference			

Approval				
Author signature	Lesheenn	Approver signature	ath	
Name	Leah Mann	Name	Greta Thraves	
Title	Senior Consultant, Environment and Planning	Title	Associate, Environment and Planning	

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## **Executive Summary**

Aurecon Pty Ltd (Aurecon) was commissioned by Mint Renewables Pty Ltd (Mint Renewables, 'the Proponent') to undertake an ecological assessment to inform the development of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in Dederang, Victoria.

The investigation identified that the Project area has been heavily altered from its natural state and is largely dominated by sown pasture grasses as a result of agricultural practices. Despite the heavily altered nature of the ground layer, the site contained several patches of native vegetation and remnant native eucalypts, some of which are classified as large trees.

The study area for the ecological investigation included the Project area, as well as additional land to the south and west, and an additional section of Yackandandah-Dederang Road. The following native vegetation was recorded in the study area:

- 0.34 ha of Valley Grassy Forest (Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC 47)) across 11 patches (including three large trees in a patch); and
- 16 scattered trees (including 10 large and six small).

The following table provides a summary of the policy/legislation and the actions required.

Policy/legislation	Summary and actions required	
Commonwealth		
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)	<ul> <li>No EPBC Act listed threatened ecological communities or threatened flora species were identified in the Study area of are considered likely to occur. for the sole purpose of enabling</li> <li>Fort threatened fauna species were considered to have a moderate likelihood of orretting of mithers budy area of are considered to have a moderate likelihood of orretting of within the Study area of previous and powerful over the sole purpose of enabling.</li> <li>Fort threatened fauna species were considered to have a moderate likelihood of orretting of within the Study area of are considered to have a moderate likelihood of orretting of within the Study area of the previous and Powerful Owl (<i>Ninox strepus</i>). However, while some individuals of each species may occasionally visit the tree distant in the Study area, the extent of habitat would not present important proposed tree removal required for the Project.</li> <li>Consideration of the relevant significant impact criteria outlined under the EPBC Act has determined the Project is unlikely to result in a significant impact on any Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES). As such, based on the impacts proposed, a referral under the EPBC Act is unlikely to be required for the Project.</li> <li>No action required.</li> </ul>	
State		
<i>Environment Effects Act 1978</i> (EE Act)	The Project is not likely to trigger a referral under the EE Act regarding impacts to flora, fauna and/or ecological communities due to poor quality habitat and minor nature of impacts. <b>No action required.</b>	
<i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act</i> 1988 (FFG Act)	<ul> <li>One FFG Act listed restricted use protected flora species was recorded in the Study area - Black Wattle (<i>Acacia mearnsii</i>). This species is not proposed to be impacted by the works, and as such, a 'Permit to Take' is not required.</li> <li>No action required.</li> </ul>	



Policy/legislation	Summary and actions required
<i>Planning and Environment Act</i> 1987 (P&E Act)	The proposal requires the removal of scattered trees (the amount depending on the access track option chosen) within the Study area that would trigger planning approval under Clause 52.17 (Native Vegetation) of the Alpine Shire Planning Scheme.
	The extent of impact to native vegetation is dependent on the access track option chosen as follows:
	<ul> <li>AusNet Option – Would result in the removal of 0.174 ha of native vegetation.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Unused Road Reserve Option – Would result in the removal of 0.203 ha of native vegetation.</li> </ul>
	Submit a planning permit application for the removal of native vegetation.
<i>Guidelines for the removal, destruction and lopping of native vegetation</i> (DELWP, 2017)	Offsets are required in accordance with the <i>Guidelines for the removal, destruction and lopping of native vegetation</i> (DELWP, 2017). The amount of offsets required is dependent on the access track option chosen as follows:
	AusNet Option:
	0.049 general habitat units with the following requirements:
	<ul> <li>must be located in the North East Catchment Management Authority (CMA) or Alpine Shire Council Local Government Area (LGA)</li> </ul>
	- have a minimum strategic biodiversity value (SBV) of 0.697
	- include the protection of five large trees.
	Access track Unused Road Reserve Option:
	0.057 general habitat units with the following requirements:
	<ul> <li>must be located in the North East Catchment Management Authority (CMA) or Alpine Shire Council Local Government Area (LGA)</li> </ul>
	- have a minimum strategic biodiversity value (SBV) of 0.686
	- include the protection of four large trees.
	An online search of the Native Vegetation Credit Register (NVCR) on 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2024 has shown that a sufficient amount of general habitat units are readily available in the North East CMA. Currently, the median price for one general habitat unit (with the protection of trees) for the North East CMA is ~\$197,727, resulting in an approximate offset cost for the site of \$9,689 (AusNet Option) or \$11,270 (Unused Road Reserve Option).
	Secure the required onsets for the removal of hative vegetation.



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## 1 Introduction



Aurecon Pty Ltd (Aurecon) was commissioned by Mint Renewables Pty Ltd (Mint Renewables, 'the Proponent') to undertake an ecological assessment to inform the development of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in Dederang, Victoria (herein referred to as 'the Project').

This report has been prepared to provide an ecological impact assessment to support the planning permit application and to determine the implications of the Project under the relevant environmental legislation, particularly *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act), *Environment Effects Act 1978* (Vic) (EE Act) and *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (Vic) (FFG Act).

## 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this ecological assessment is to provide an assessment of the biodiversity values at the project site, including an assessment of any potential impacts to native vegetation and/or significant flora, fauna and ecological communities. This assessment identifies the approvals that may be triggered under relevant Commonwealth and state environmental legislation.

The scope of the assessment was to:

- Undertake a review of existing ecological information for the project site, including preparation of database searches for native vegetation, flora and fauna
- Undertake an ecological field survey to confirm the type, extent and quality of native vegetation and fauna habitat present in the Study area
- Identify any significant ecological values (including threatened species or communities) that have potential to occur in the Study area
- Identify the implications for the Project based on relevant biodiversity legislation and policy
- Identify the need for any future targeted surveys.

### **1.2** Assumptions and limitations

The outcomes of this report are limited to the ecological assessment undertaken for the project site and immediate surrounds.

This report is limited to the scope defined in Section 1.1. Should further information become available regarding the conditions at the project site, Aurecon reserves the right to review the report in the context of the additional information.

Ecological assessments can be undertaken at any time of year, however seasonal variations can result in some flora and fauna not being detectable at certain times. Particularly, many flowering plant species are only detectable when producing flowers or fruits. In general, spring is considered the optimal period to undertake ecological field assessments in Victoria, particularly when assessing grassy sites. The spring timing of the ecological field survey that informed this assessment was suitable to ascertain the extent and condition of native vegetation and habitat in the Study area.

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## 2 The Project

## 2.1 Background

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During the initial constraints and risk analysis phase of the Project, an indicative development layout was provided by the Proponent which included a BESS footprint and potential access options. A study area for the ecological investigation was then developed to incorporate the indicative development layout and all access options. Ecological assessment was then undertaken to identify any ecological values within this study area, so to influence the Project layout and design with the intent to avoid and minimise any impacts to ecological values. The ecological study area is shown in Figure 4-1.

Refinement of Project layout resulted in a disturbance footprint as described in Section 2.2. The Project area, which encompasses the extent of proposed development for the Project is shown in Figure 2-1.

## 2.2 Project description

The Proponent is proposing to build a BESS with a nominal installed capacity of 400MWh, with an indicative development footprint of approximately 9.5 ha, including 4 ha for the BESS site and 5.5 ha for access tracks and associated infrastructure.

The indicative project design includes:

- BESS units, inverters and transformers;
- Civil and structural works including laying of crushed rock;
- Construction of internal access roads and access (and egress) points
- Underground cabling (33kV) to provide a connection between the battery units and inverters and on-site substation
- On-site substation (including transformer to step up from 33 kV to the connection voltage (either 220 kV or 330 kV) and potential reactive power equipment)
- Underground cabling (220kV or 330kV) to connect the onsite substation to the adjoining Dederang Terminal Station (DDTS)
- Permanent Operations and Maintenance Facility
- Water storage (including firefighting water supply and fire water runoff containment)
- Temporary disturbance for construction compound and laydown and work areas
- Security fencing
- Car parking
- Business identification signage, at site entry.



Additionally, works are likely to be required within the DDTS site (e.g. installation of high voltage electrical equipment and associated permanent and temporary buildings and works). The Project will also include noise mitigation solutions (noise wall or other) and landscape mitigation measures, as required. The final location of infrastructure will be determined through the detailed design, once a BESS supplier has been selected.

Vehicle access to the Site is proposed from Yackandandah-Dederang Road, which runs east to west along the northern site boundary. Access is proposed via one of two primary site access points (for construction and operations), including:

1. AusNet access option: Access via land adjacent to the DDTS, outside the fenced terminal station through AusNet owned land. The track is proposed to be 6 m wide and located approximately 135 m south of the DDTS.



2. Unused Road Reserve access option: Access via the unused road reserve which runs between the AusNet owned land and adjoining property. The track is proposed to be 6 m wide and located approximately 155 m south of the DDTS.

The two options are being pursued to allow AusNet to reserve the right to use their currently unused land for upgrades to terminal station. As such, two indicative footprints have been considered in this assessment (see Figure 5-1 in Section 5).

The final location of the BESS infrastructure and access track will be determined through detailed design, and once a BESS supplier has been selected, in accordance with commitments made in the planning application.

The Project area and indicative layout is shown in Figure 2-1.

### 2.3 Project area

The Project Area is located in Dederang, in north-eastern Victoria, approximately 2km northwest of the Dederang town centre. The Project Area sits within the Alpine Shire Council area.

The Project area occurs adjacent to the Dederang Terminal Station (DDTS) which is owned and operated by AusNet, with several transmission lines running through the Project area into the DDTS.

The study area for this ecological investigation incorporated the Project area, as well as additional land to the south and west, and an additional section of Yackandandah-Dederang Road.











	Project area
	BESS Bench
	Run-off pond
	Run-off pond BESS Substation Bench
	BESS Substation Bench
	Temporary laydown or construction area
	Water storage
::::	Disturbance footprint
•	Electricity cable - UG
	Access track - AusNet option
	Access track - Unused road reserve option
	Internal access track
	Watercourse
	Road

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#### Notes:

Basemap: Vicmap, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS

Other data: DELWP, Aurecon

Date: 25/09/2024

Version: 7

Dederang BESS Project Area and Indicative Layout

## 3 Methodology

3.1 Desktop assessment

The desktop assessment comprised a review of current databases for information on native vegetation and threatened flora, fauna and ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act and FFG Act.

The methods adopted for the database search, likelihood of occurrence and impact assessment are outlined in the following sections.

#### 3.1.1 Database search

The database searches undertaken for the Project provided a shortlist of the potential flora, fauna and ecological communities that may occur within 5 km of the Study area. Database information was obtained from a circular search area with a radius of 5 km centred on the Study area (coordinates: latitude 36° 27' 22.3" S and longitude 146° 59' 21.2" E).

Records from the following databases were collated and reviewed for the search area:

- Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) of the Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) for matters protected by the EPBC Act (DCCEEW 2023a, See Appendix G)
- The Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (VBA) (Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action [DEECA] 2023a) for records of listed threatened flora and fauna species.

**Note:** VBA records greater than 30 years old were considered no longer current and were excluded from consideration. This ensured only the most up-to-date and relevant records were reviewed.

The following information was also reviewed for the study area as part of the desktop assessment:

- NatureKit (DEECA 2023b)
- VicPlan (Department of Transport and Planning [DTP] 2023)
- Aerial imagery.

#### 3.1.2 Likelihood of occurrence analysis for threatened flora and fauna

The likelihood of occurrence of all threatened flora and fauna species collated in the database search was considered for the Study area. The following threatened species were considered as part of this assessment:

- Flora listed as threatened under the EPBC Act
- Fauna listed as threatened and/or migratory under the EPBC Act
- Flora and fauna listed as threatened under the FFG Act.

Each of these species were considered against the suitability of habitat, to determine their likelihood of occurrence in the Study area. The likelihood of a species occurring within the Study area was classified as 'Negligible', 'Low', 'Moderate' or 'High' based on the consideration of:

- The presence/absence of previous records in the search region (as returned from the database search)
- The known habitat requirements and distribution of the species
- The suitability of habitat in the Study area (based on the findings of the overview field assessment, and previous reports for the site).

The likelihood of occurrence of ecological communities are also considered in this report.

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Details of the ranking criteria used to determine likelihood of occurrence of threatened flora and fauna in the Study area is provided in Table 3-1 and Table 3-2 respectively. Those determined to have a high to moderate likelihood of occurrence in the Study area are considered further and discussed in Sections 4.2.4 and 4.2.5.

Likelihood of Occurrence	Criteria
High	Recent records of the species in the local vicinity (i.e. within the last 10 years)
	Known resident in the area based on site observations, database records or expert advice and/or the study area contains high quality habitat
Moderate	Previous records of the species in the local vicinity and/or the study area contains moderate quality habitat
Low	Limited previous records of the species in the local vicinity; and/or, the study area contains poor or limited habitat. May also be considered low if other environmental factors are present such as fragmented or isolated habitat
Negligible	No suitable habitat and/or the study area falls outside the known species range

Table 3-2: Likelihood	of occurrence	criteria	for threatened	and m	igratory	fauna s	enecies
Table 3-2. Likelilloou	of occurrence	Cillena	ior timeateneu	anum	igratory	iauna a	sheries

Likelihood of Occurrence	Criteria				
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High	Known res <mark>ident in <b>fibe the a blased up site observations</b>, database records or expert advice</mark>				
	its consideration and review as				
	Recent records (within 5) years) of the species in the lengel area				
	The study area contains the species' preferred habitat The study area contains the species' preferred habitat The document must not be used for any				
Moderate	The species is likely to visit the study are a regularly (v.e., at least seasonally)				
	Previous records of the species in the local area				
	The study area contains some characteristics of the species' preferred habitat				
Low	The species is likely to visit the study area occasionally or opportunistically whilst en-route to more suitable sites				
	There are only limited or historical records of the species in the local area (>20 years old)				
	The study area contains few or no characteristics of the species' preferred habitat				
Negligible	No previous records of the species in the local area				
	Previous records of the species exist in the local area but >30 years old				
	The species may fly over the area when moving between areas of more suitable habitat				
	Out of the known species' range				
	No suitable habitat present within the study area				
	Species is known to be regionally extinct				

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## 3.2 Field assessment

The ecological field assessment was undertaken on the 13 and 14 November 2023. The assessment included:

- Detailed assessment of all patches of native vegetation, including detailed mapping of extent, classification to Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) and habitat hectare assessment to determine a Condition Score for each patch
- Mapping, identification to species and assessment of diameter at breast height (DBH) of all scattered trees and large trees within patches
- Mapping and assessment of habitats considered suitable to support threatened species and/or classify as threatened ecological communities
- Compilation of a detailed flora species list for the Study area
- Compilation of an incidental fauna species list for the Study area
- Assessment of the likelihood of occurrence for threatened species based on assessment of the presence and quality of habitats within the Study area.
- Further details of the various elements of the detailed ecological investigation are provided below.

#### 3.2.1 Native vegetation assessment

The native vegetation assessment was undertaken by two suitably experienced ecologists, Leah Mann (Senior Ecologist) and Lauren Slaughter (Ecologist), with appropriate skills in the identification of Victoria's flora and fauna. Leah Mann **heriswight deveditation of bundattake the bes**essment of native vegetation as listed on DEECA's Vegetation Quality **Assessment for appetencyline** gister. The assessment was undertaken on foot. Parts of the site that were lacking indevalogical value ivere assessed more rapidly based on observations from a vehicle. **part of a planning process under the** 

All native vegetation (including patches and scattered trees) recorded in the Study area was mapped using Esri ArcGIS applications (Collector/Field Maps) on a device with in-built GPS (with 4-5 metre accuracy). Patches of native vegetation were classified to Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC), a Vegetation Quality Assessment (VQA) was undertaken, and a determination was made as to whether the patch fulfilled either FFG Act and/or EPBC Act listed Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) criteria. All scattered trees were identified to species and their diameter at breast height (DBH) was measured. The assessment of native vegetation undertaken was consistent with Victoria's Habitat hectare method (DSE 2004) and the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (DELWP 2017a) (herein referred to as 'the Guidelines').

#### Flora survey

A detailed vegetative description of the Study area was recorded along with a list of the flora species observed. The presence of any suitable habitat for threatened flora species was recorded and mapped to inform the likelihood of occurrence analysis and the potential requirement for future targeted species surveys.

#### Fauna survey

Areas of potential fauna habitat were recorded through general observations of habitat condition. The presence of any suitable habitat for threatened fauna species was recorded and mapped to inform the likelihood of occurrence analysis as well as the requirements for targeted fauna surveys.



## 4 Results



This section of the report presents the integrated results of the database review and ecological field assessment.

## 4.1 Database review

The review of the relevant databases (PMST and VBA) returned 6 listed threatened flora species and 43 listed threatened and/or migratory fauna species (including 25 birds, 6 mammals, 3 frogs, 5 fish, 2 invertebrates and 2 reptiles) in the 5 km search area. Details of each of these species habitat requirements as well as an analysis of the likelihood of occurrence in the Study area is provided in Appendix E and Appendix F.

The Study area lies within the Northern Inland Slopes bioregion and falls within the North East Catchment Management Authority (CMA) area and the Alpine Shire Local Government Area. The Study area is covered by an Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO), as set out in the Alpine Shire Planning Scheme.

## 4.2 Ecological assessment

#### 4.2.1 Site description

The Study area largely includes soup pasture paddocks (approximately 15 ha, Photo 1), with two small farm dams connected by an unnamed tributant and a provide strength a provide strength and ocks. The land owned by AusNet directly adjacent to the eastern side of the ADD Stippludes receive introduced pasture grasses and some scattered trees. Additionally, sections of the Yackan pancels Dederang Road road reserve includes small, isolated patches of native vegetation and save tal southand trace 1966, wider landscape is characterised by cropped agricultural farmland, fidweder there are stwool abge as the formation of the Study arearpose which may breach any



Photo 1 Sown pasture grasses covering most of the Study area, with the DDTS shown in the background (facing northeast)

Generally, the Study area comprised of the following four areas:

- Agricultural land
  - Comprised entirely of sown pasture grasses and no native vegetation. These areas have been highly disturbed by grazing animals and agricultural practices.
- Creek and farm dams

A small creek runs through the centre of the Study area, lined with introduced trees such as Poplar (*Populus sp.*) and Willow species (*Salix sp.*). Vegetation lining the creek was also introduced, comprised largely of Slender Thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*) and Spear Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*). Two dams were also situated in the south-east of the Study area dominated by Cumbungi (*Typha sp.*).

#### AusNet parcel

- Land east of the DDTS, outside the fenced terminal station, containing a mix of native, planted and introduced species including 13 scattered trees. Native species included Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*), Southern Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus globulus subsp. bicostata*), Manna Gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) and Blakely's Red Gum (*Eucalyptus blakelyi*), as well as a few planted Spotted Gums (*Corymbia maculata*).
- Road reserve
  - Yackandandah-Dederang Road runs along the northern extent of the Study area. All patches of native vegetation within the Study area were identified along the road reserve between the DDTS and Goonan Lane (west of the Study area) and are discussed below in Section 3.2.2.





Photo 2 Agricultural land within Study area, facing north

Photo 3 Farm dam containing emergent native vegetation (Cumbungi), facing west



Photo 4 Patch of Black Wattles along road reserve, facing north-east



Photo 5 Patch of Yellow Box along road reserve, facing north-east

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Photo 6 AusNet parcel within Study area, with a large remnant Southern Blue Gum to the right of the photo, facing southwest

#### 4.2.2 Native vegetation

Types of native vegetation that may be present within the Study area were ascertained through the database review (DEECA 2023b; DEECA 2023c). This review noted the presence of two main pre-1750 modelled vegetation communities within and nearby to the Study area namely Grassy Dry Forest (EVC 22) and Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47) which have to bia regional conservation status of depleted and endangered respectively. Planning and Environment Act 1987.

Only Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47) Was found to be previous and current land uses, this vegetation type has been neavily modified and generally presents as degraded patches of 'forest' with high coverage of exotic vegetation and lack of species diversity.

#### Patches of native vegetation

As per the assessment methodology outlined in the Guidelines, areas of uniform quality for each EVC within patches are termed 'habitat zones' and are assessed separately. Eleven habitat zones of Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47) were identified along the Yackandandah-Dederang Road reserve, totalling an area of 0.207 hectares of native vegetation.

All of the patches recorded within the Study area were degraded, resulting in low habitat quality scores mainly due to low understorey species diversity and high weed cover. These patches comprised of small areas of degraded 'forest' that have been cleared for agricultural purposes (Photo 4 and Photo 5). This has led to high weed cover which has evidently suppressed understorey species resulting in low native grass and herb species diversity and cover.

The majority of the patches of native vegetation identified in the Study area included a canopy cover of eucalypt species, predominantly Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*), with a mid-storey including the native FFG Act protected species Black Wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*) and introduced Plum (*Prunus sp.*). The ground layer was dominated by introduced flora.

Of the 11 patches of native vegetation recorded, four (HZ1, HZ2, HZ5 and HZ8) contained no overstorey species and comprised a mid-storey of Black Wattle with a completely introduced understorey.

A total of three large trees were recorded in patches. All patches of native vegetation, as well as all large trees are shown in Figure 4-1. Details of each habitat zone and large trees in patches are provided in Table 4-1 below, with detailed results of the vegetation quality assessment provided in Appendix B.

Table 4-1 Details of native vegetation (habitat zones) recorded in the Study area

Habitat Zone ID	Area (ha)	EVC	Number of large trees in a patch	Habitat score (out of 100)
1	0.007		0	0.18
2	0.007		0	0.18
3	0.095		0	0.27
4	0.023		0	0.20
5	0.005		0	0.18
6	0.011	Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47)	0	0.14
7	0.009		0	0.11
8	0.015		0	0.16
9	0.014		0	0.19
10	0.021		1	0.24
11	0.140		2	0.37
Totals	0.347	N/A	3	N/A



Photo 7 HZ1 dominated by Black Wattle

Photo 8 HZ4 immature Yellow Box and Black Wattle







#### **Scattered trees**

In addition to native vegetation recorded in patches, 16 scattered trees were recorded in the Study area. Scattered trees recorded are considered to once have comprised the canopy component of Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47). A summary of scattered trees recorded is provided in Table 4-2 below. Of the 16 scattered trees recorded, 10 were classified as large (i.e. with a diameter at breast height [DBH] of ≥70cm).

Tree ID	Species	Size	DBH
ST1	Yellow Box (Eucalyptus melliodora)	Large	91
ST2	Yellow Box (Eucalyptus melliodora)	Large	106
ST3^	Eucalyptus sp. (Dead)	Large	83
ST4^	Southern Blue Gum (Eucalyptus globulus subsp. bicostata)	Large	130
ST5	Manna Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> )	Large	160
ST6	Ironbark ( <i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i> )	Small	44
ST7	Yellow Box (Eucalyptus melliodora)	Large	77
ST8	Yellow Box (Eucalyptus melliodora)	Large	111
ST9	Blakely's Red Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i> )	Large	97
ST10	Blakely's Red Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i> )	Small	16
ST11	Blakely's Red Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i> )	Small	9.5
ST12	Blakely's Red Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i> )	Small	11
ST13	Eucalyptus sp.	Large	71
ST14	Eucalyptus sp.	Small	63
ST15	Eucalyptus sp.	Small	60
ST16	Southern Blue Gum (Eucalyptus globulus subsp. bicostata)	Large	87

Table 4-2 Summary of scattered trees recorded in the Study area

^ Heavily lopped since Aurecon's Ecology site visit.

It is understood that since the time of Aurecon's ecology site investigation, two of the scattered trees recorded in the AusNet portion of the Study area (ST3 and ST4) have been heavily lopped (entire canopies removed) during AusNet tree maintenance works in the area. Aurecon were provided with evidence in mid August 2024 confirming the lopping of trees ST3 and ST4. While both these two trees now lack a canopy, as both trunks remain and stand >3m tall, both still meet the definition of a scattered tree as per the Guidelines, and therefore would still require a permit for removal.







A3 scale: 1:8,000 Metres 0 50 100

Job No: P524537 Coordinate System: GDA2020 MGA Zone 55





#### Legend

Г

Project area
Study area
 Watercours
 Road

#### **Ecological values**

$\triangle$
0
0

- Large tree in patch Large scattered tree Small scattered tree TPZ
- Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47)

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Notes:

Basemap: Vicmap, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS

Other data: DELWP, Aurecon, Mint Renewables



Date: 4/10/2024

Version: 3

## Dederang BESS Ecological Values

## ADVERTISED PLAN

#### 4.2.3 Threatened ecological communities

Two EPBC Act listed threatened ecological communities (TECs) were listed in the PMST as known or likely to occur within 5 km of the Study area (DCCEEW 2023a). These included:

- Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens (Endangered)
- White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (Critically Endangered)

No native vegetation that matched the criteria for either of the above EPBC Act listed TECs occurred in the Study area.

There were no FFG Act listed ecological communities identified during the desktop assessment. This was confirmed during the ecology field assessment of the Study area.

It is confirmed that no EPBC Act or FFG Act listed TECs occur in the Study area.

#### 4.2.4 Flora

During the field assessment 36 flora species were recorded. Of these, 19% were native species, with the remaining 81% being introduced species. A full list of the flora species recorded in the Study area is provided in Appendix C, and all threatened flora records within 5 km of the Study area can be seen in Figure 4-2 below (DEECA, 2023a). No threatened flora species were recorded within the Study area. The likelihood of the threatened flora species which were detected in the database searches occurring within 5 km of the Study area was considered in Appendix E.

Based on the analysis presented in Appendix E, no threatened flora species were considered to have a moderate or high likelihood of occurrence in the Study area. The threatened species recorded within 5 km of the Study area (Grey Rice-flower and Swamp Fern), were not considered to have suitable habitat on site due to the historic disturbance and modification to the vegetation and ground layer. As such, these species were considered unlikely to occur.

#### 4.2.5 Fauna

A total of 15 fauna species were incidentally recorded in the Study area during the ecology field assessment, most of which were native species. Given a significant portion of the Study area comprised of sown pasture grasses, the Study area lacks extensive areas of habitat to support threatened fauna species. Fauna habitats present within the Project include:

- Trees and areas with planted vegetation provides habitat for common bird species
- Aquatic habitat provides habitat for common aquatic species (e.g., Common Yabby [Cherax destructor]).

A full list of the fauna species recorded in the Study area is provided in Appendix D, and all threatened fauna records within 5 km of the Study area can be seen in Figure 4-2 below (DEECA, 2023a). No threatened fauna species were recorded within the Study area. The likelihood of the listed fauna species detected in the database searches occurring within 5 km of the Study area was considered in Appendix F.

Based on the analysis presented in Appendix F, four threatened/migratory fauna species were considered to have a moderate likelihood of occurrence within the Study area and are discussed further in Section 5.2.2.

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Job No: P524537 Coordinate System: GDA2020 MGA Zone 55





#### Legend

	Project area		
	Study area		
ſ_¬	Study area 5km buffer		
	Watercourse		
	Road		
	Threatened fauna		
•	Threatened flora		

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## ADVERTISED PLAN

Notes:

Cundowing Road

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Other data: DELWP, Aurecon, Mint Renewables

Date: 4/10/2024

Version: 2

## Dederang BESS Threatened Species Records

## ADVERTISED PLAN

## 5 Proposed impacts and implications

## 5.1 Details of the proposed development

The Proponent is seeking planning approval from the Minister for Planning to construct a BESS with a nominal installed capacity of 400MWh and an indicative development footprint of approximately 9.5 hectares (Figure 5-1). The BESS site is proposed to be located within the southern section of the Project area, with vehicle access proposed from Yackandandah-Dederang Road (two primary access options being considered). The remaining infrastructure associated with the development is described in Section 2.2.

The following sections outline the potential impacts to ecological values based on the disturbance footprint (Section 5.2) as well as the implications under relevant environmental legislation and policy (Section 5.3). This report also provides recommendations to minimise impacts to ecological values to consider during Project development.

Details on how the proposed design has adopted the approach of 'avoid and minimise' is provided in Section 5.3.4. Further recommendations to assist the planning and development of the Project are provided in Section 5.4.

## 5.2 Impacts on ecological values

## 5.2.1 Proposed impacts to native vegetation ailable

The proposed BESS site is situated in cropped agricultural faithland comprising entirely of sown pasture grasses and no native vegetation. This area has been highly disturbed by grazing animals and agricultural practices. The majority of both of the proposed access tracks also fail within these disturbed areas, however, the first sections that divert off from Yackandan-Dederang Road for both options pass through or adjacent to the AusNet parcel, which contains a number of scattered trees.

Guidance outlined in DELWPs Assessors Handopski@ELWP, 2018) has been considered to determine impacts to trees. The Handbook states that "unless an arborist report indicates otherwise, a tree, or trees will be deemed lost if the encroachment (of compaction and excavation) into the TPZ is greater than 10 per cent or is inside the SRZ (Structural Root Zone)".

Impacts to native scattered trees are detailed below in Table 5-1 for both access track options. Where the development footprint encroaches by >10% into the TPZ of a tree, this tree has been considered lost. There may be opportunities to retain such trees in consultation with an arborist.

Tree ID	Species	AusNet Option	Unused Road Reserve Option
ST1	Yellow Box ( <i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i> )	No impacts	No impacts
ST2	Yellow Box ( <i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i> )	No impacts	No impacts
ST3	Eucalyptus sp. (Dead)	<b>Removed</b> – Tree in access track footprint	<b>Considered lost</b> based on >10% encroachment into TPZ by access track footprint
ST4	Southern Blue Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> subsp. bicostata)	<b>Removed</b> – Tree in access track footprint	<b>Considered lost</b> based on >10% encroachment into TPZ by access track footprint
ST5	Manna Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> )	<b>Removed</b> – Tree in access track footprint	No impacts
ST6	Ironbark (Eucalyptus sideroxylon)	No impacts	No impacts

Table 5-1: Proposed impacts to native scattered trees as per the two access track options

Tree ID	Species	AusNet Option	Unused Road Reserve Option
ST7	Yellow Box ( <i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i> )	<b>Considered lost</b> based on >10% encroachment into TPZ by access track footprint	No impacts
ST8	Yellow Box ( <i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i> )	No impacts	No impacts
ST9	Blakely's Red Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus blakelyi)</i>	No impacts	No impacts
ST10	Blakely's Red Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus blakelyi)</i>	No impacts	No impacts
ST11	Blakely's Red Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus blakelyi)</i>	No impacts	No impacts
ST12	Blakely's Red Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus blakelyi)</i>	No impacts	No impacts
ST13	Eucalyptus sp.	No impacts	Considered lost based on >10% encroachment into TPZ by access track footprint
ST14	Eucalyptus sp.	No impacts	Considered lost based on >10% encroachment into TPZ by access track footprint
ST15	Eucalyptus sp.	No impacts	<b>Removed</b> – Tree within edge of access track footprint
ST16	Southern Blue Gum (Eucalyptus globulus subsp. bicostata) is copied do	Considered lost based on >10% encroachment into TPZ by access cument to phin made available	<b>Removed</b> – Tree within edge of access track footprint

its consideration and review as

As detailed above the following treas would having acted tos and mining acted tos including: Planning and Environment Act 1987.

- AusNet Option (Figure 5-2): Durpose which may breach
  - Five large scattered trees (ST3, ST4, Strap Strap and ST16)

Unused Road Reserve Option (Figure 5-3): 

- Four large scattered trees (ST3, ST4, ST13 and ST16)
- Two small scattered trees (ST14 and ST15)

In accordance with the Guidelines, all native vegetation removal, including scattered trees, is converted into an equivalent hectare area. Large scattered trees and small scattered trees are mapped as circular polygons with a radius of 15 m (0.0703 ha) and 10 m (0.0313) respectively. The total extent of proposed native vegetation removal is determined based on the Native Vegetation Removal Reports (NVRRs) for each option (Appendix H). The NVRRs outline that the following amount of native vegetation removal is required to accommodate the proposed access tracks including:

- AusNet Option: 0.174 ha
- Unused Road Reserve Option: 0.203 ha.

Some of these trees could be retained following refinement of the footprint during detailed design. If impacts to these trees cannot be avoided, then it is recommended that an arborist is engaged to assess the impacts under the Australian Standard AS4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites. The Standards state that if the TPZ is encroached by >10%, the arborist must demonstrate that the tree would remain viable. The area lost to this encroachment should be compensated for elsewhere and contiguous with the TPZ. It's likely if the SRZ is not encroached, then with arborist supervision during works, the trees could be retained.



#### 5.2.2 Potential impacts to listed matters

Potential impacts to threatened species and threatened ecological communities against the proposed project footprint (including both access track options) have been considered below.

As detailed in Section 4.2.5, the following threatened fauna species were initially considered to have a moderate likelihood of occurrence in the Project area:

- Diamond Firetail (EPBC Act; FFG Act)
- Painted Honeyeater (EPBC Act; FFG Act)
- White-throated Needletail (EPBC Act; FFG Act)
- Powerful Owl (FFG Act).

These species are discussed below regarding the potential for impacts from the proposed project footprint.

#### **Diamond Firetail**

Diamond Firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*), listed as 'Vulnerable' under both the EPBC Act and FFG Act, is found in a variety of different habitats, including grassy open eucalypt woodlands, open forests, mallee, Natural Temperate Grasslands, riparian areas and in secondary grasslands derived from other communities (DPE 2023). The species feeds exclusively on the ground on ripe native perennial grasses, herb seeds, green leaves and on insects (DPE 2023). The species has been listed as vulnerable under both the EPBC Act and FFG Act due to reduction in habitat, mainly due to large-scale agriculture that has removed important nesting and breeding habitats and transitioning from native perennial grass, an important food source, to exotic annual grasses, which do not provide a year-round foraging resource.

Although no records occur within 5 km, this species was initially considered to have a moderate likelihood of occurrence due to the presence of suitable treed habitat occurring within the road reserve. However, the Project area lacks high quality woodland habitat which would provide the nesting and breeding opportunities for the species. Additionally, due to the heavily ellered ground layer within dominated by introduced grasses, there would be limited on-ground for going opportunities for the species with minimal protection from predators.

Given the above, the species is likely to prefer **Monetary** ality habitat within the nearby remnant forests given the presence of more contiguous high quality habitat. Whilst the species may occasionally utilise the Project area for foraging, Diamond Firetail is unlikely to be reliant on the habitats in the Project area.

#### **Painted Honeyeater**

The Painted Honeyeater (*Grantiella picta*), listed as 'Vulnerable' under both the EPBC Act and FFG Act, can be found in dry, open forests and woodlands containing mistletoe. Small patches of Yellow Box and Mistletoe were found along the road reserve which may provide occasional foraging habitat for the species. The limited availability of preferred habitat within the Project area is unlikely to be regularly utilised by the species, given the abundance of more suitable habitat in the surrounding reserves. Therefore, the Project is considered unlikely to have a significant adverse impact on Painted Honeyeater.

#### White-throated Needletail

White-throated Needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*), listed as 'Vulnerable' under both the EPBC Act and FFG Act, is almost exclusively aerial and can occupy a wide range of habitats. A total of 12 records were identified within a 5 km radius of the Project area. These records are likely due to incidental observations of the species flying overhead. As a predominantly aerial species, White-throated Needletail is unlikely to utilise the habitat within the Project area, and therefore the Project should not adversely impact the species.



#### **Powerful Owl**

Powerful Owl (*Ninox strenua*), listed as 'Vulnerable' under the FFG Act, occurs in open forests and woodlands, favouring sheltered gullies in wet forests with dense understoreys, especially along watercourses (Birdlife Australia 2022). Powerful Owl requires old growth trees with suitable hollows for nesting, though is known to forage and roost in suitable trees with dense cover in parks and suburban areas.

Appropriate breeding habitat (large tree hollows) was not recorded in the Project area. However, the treed vegetation in the Project area may be occasionally utilised by Powerful Owl for foraging or roosting. In summary, the habitat in the Project area does not support core habitat for the species but may be used occasionally when moving between larger reserves in the landscape. As such, the Project is considered unlikely to have an adverse impact on Powerful Owl.

Based on assessment against the significant impact criteria (DoE 2013), it is considered unlikely that works within the proposed project footprint would result in a significant impact on any of the above EPBC Act listed species. Additionally, given no EPBC Act or FFG Act listed ecological communities occur in the Project area, none would be impacted.

#### Summary

Consideration has been given to the relevant significant impact criteria outlined under the EPBC Act (DoE 2013) for the potential impacts of the Project on the above bird species. The proposed removal of scattered trees in the access tracks footprints (both options) will result in the loss of potential occasional foraging habitat for these species. However, works within the proposed project footprint are unlikely to result in the removal of habitat critical to the survival of any of these species.

Additionally, the site is not considered to provide important breeding and nesting habitats for these species, due to the amount of disturbance and modification. Given higher quality and better-connected habitats exist in the alpine regional parks surrounding the Project area, it is considered foraging opportunities will largely be maintained at a local scale for these species, and similar open treed habitats also exist broadly throughout the region that would continue to provide foraging opportunities for these species as they move through the landscape.

Based on assessment against the significant impact criteria (DoE 2013), it is considered unlikely that construction and operation of the Project would result in a significant impact on any of the above EPBC Act listed species. Additionally, given no EPBC Act or FFG Act listed ecological communities occur in the Project area, none would be impacted.











	Project area
	BESS Bench
	Run-off pond
	Run-off pond BESS Substation Bench
	BESS Substation Bench
	Temporary laydown or construction area
	Water storage
::::	Disturbance footprint
•	Electricity cable - UG
	Access track - AusNet option
	Access track - Unused road reserve option
	Internal access track
	Watercourse
	Road

## ADVERTISED PLAN

#### Notes:

Basemap: Vicmap, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS

Other data: DELWP, Aurecon

Date: 25/09/2024

Version: 7

Dederang BESS Project Area and Indicative Layout











	Project area
	Study area
· · · · ·	Disturbance footprint
	Watercourse
	Road
Ecolo	ogical values
$\land$	Large tree in patch
igodol	Large scattered tree
0	Small scattered tree
X	Large scattered tree to be removed
×	Small scattered tree to be removed
	TPZ
	Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47)

## ADVERTISED PLAN

Basemap: Vicmap, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS

Other data: DELWP, Aurecon, Mint Renewables

Date: 4/10/2024

Version: 4

**Dederang BESS** Proposed Development and Impacts to Ecological Values - AusNet Option









	Project area
	Study area
· · · · ·	Disturbance footprint
	Watercourse
	Road
Ecolo	ogical values
$\land$	Large tree in patch
igodol	Large scattered tree
0	Small scattered tree
X	Large scattered tree to be removed
×	Small scattered tree to be removed
	TPZ
	Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47)

## ADVERTISED PLAN

Basemap: Vicmap, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS

Other data: DELWP, Aurecon, Mint Renewables

Date: 4/10/2024

Version: 4

**Dederang BESS** 

# 5.3 Potential implications under relevant environmental legislation and policy

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

The EPBC Act is Commonwealth legislation that provides a legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places, termed Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES). Under the EPBC Act, an action that has, will have, or is likely to have, a significant impact on a MNES must be referred to the Commonwealth Minister for Environment and Water. The Minister will then determine whether the proposed action requires formal assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.

The results from the database search of the EPBC Act PMST identified multiple MNES potentially occurring within a 5 km radius search area. The MNES relevant to the Project area are summarised in Table 5-1, with threatened and migratory species tabulated in Appendix E and Appendix F. The likelihood of occurrence of each relevant MNES are summarised in the following subsections.

Table 5-2 Summary of Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) relevant to the search area

Matters of National Environmental Significance	MNES relevant to the project search area
World Heritage Properties	N/A
National Heritage Places	N/A
Wetlands of International Importance	7
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	N/A
Commonwealth Marine Area	N/A
Listed Threatened Ecological Communities	1
Listed Threatened Species	38
Listed Migratory Species	10

#### Wetlands of international importance (Ramsar)

Seven wetlands of international importance were identified in the EPBC Act PMST report, these include:

- Banrock Station and Wetland Complex
- Barmah Forest
- Gunbower Forest
- Hattah-kulkyne lakes
- NSW Central Murray State Forests
- Riverland
- The Coorong, and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Wetland.

These wetlands were identified within a broader area located more than 150km from the Project area. Given this, it is considered highly unlikely that works within the Project area would result in a significant impact to any wetland of international importance.

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#### Listed Threatened and migratory species



Threatened and migratory species listed under the EPBC Act are considered in Section 5.2.2. Four threatened/migratory fauna species were considered to have a moderate likelihood of occurrence within the Project area - Diamond Firetail, Painted Honeyeater, White-throated Needletail and Powerful Owl.

As detailed in Section 5.2.2, while these species may occasionally visit the Project area, the Project is considered unlikely to result in a significant impact on these species.

#### 5.3.2 Environment Effects Act 1978

The *Ministerial Guidelines for Assessment of Environmental Effects under the Environment Effects Act 1978* (DTP 2023) outlines the triggers for referral of a project to the Victorian Minister for Planning who will determine if an Environment Effects Statement (EES) is required. Criteria relevant to flora and fauna are broadly summarised to include:

- Extensive removal of native vegetation (>10 hectares)
- Specified significant impacts to threatened species listed in Victoria
- Long term changes to Ramsar wetlands.

Based on the results of the ecological assessment and the limited amount of vegetation and habitat removal, the Project will not trigger a referral under the EE Act based on any criteria specifically relevant to flora, fauna or biodiversity. Other criteria beyond those relating to flora and fauna have not been considered as part of this assessment.

## 5.3.3 Flora and Fabina Collaboration of the sole purpose of enabling

The FFG Act is the key piece of Victoriam signation for the conservation of threatened species and communities and for the management of applentially threatening prodesses. Under the FFG Act a permit is required from DEECA to take (kill, injure gaistur for cottex), ttractel Reep, move or process threatened or protected flora species from public ideatment must not be used for any

The Act distinguishes between three types of take, copyright

- Incidental take is where plants are taken to make space for something else for example, clearing for the construction or maintenance of a building, road, or pipeline; clearing for grazing or cropping; or clearing to construct bushfire fuel break. Any take where the intent is not to obtain a specimen of the plant, but to simply remove it, is incidental take.
- **Take for sale** includes take for the purpose of making the plant available for sale, regardless of whether it has actually been sold.
- **Take for personal use** includes any other reason for obtaining a specimen of the plant for example, to collect or propagate, for use as food or fibre, for research or display.

It is an offence to take *generally protected* flora for any of the three reasons identified above (without a permit). It is an offence to take *restricted use* protected flora for the purposes of sale or personal use (without a permit), but incidental take is not an offence, and does not require a permit.

One FFG Act restricted use protected flora was recorded on public land in the study area – Black Wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*), namely within patches of native vegetation recorded along Yackandandah-Dederang Road. However, this species is not proposed to be impacted by the works. If this species were to be impacted, the works fall within the 'incidental take' definition and occur within private land; therefore, a permit is not required for removal of this species.

#### 5.3.4 Planning and Environment Act 1987

The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* controls the planning and development of land in Victoria and provides for the development of planning schemes for all municipalities under the Planning Scheme and

Planning Policy Framework. A permit is required to remove, destroy, or lop native vegetation under Clause 52.17 of the Alpine Shire Planning Scheme.

Significant Landscape Overlay One environmental overlay affects the entirety of the Project area, the Significant Landscape Overlay – Schedule 1 - Upper Kiewa Valley Significant Landscape Area (SLO1). The objective of this overlay is to preserve the landscape of the Upper Kiewa Valley which has distinct character and majestic views, particularly of Mount Bogong. Under SLO1, a permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation.

Alpine Shire Planning Scheme Clause 12.01-2S (Native vegetation management) and Clause 52.17 (Native Vegetation) of the Alpine Shire Planning Scheme requires that the removal of native vegetation results in no net loss in the contribution made by native vegetation to Victoria's biodiversity, and that this is achieved by applying the three-step approach outlined in Victoria's 'Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation' (the Guidelines):

- 1. Avoid the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.
- 2. Minimise impacts from the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation that cannot be avoided.
- 3. Provide an offset to compensate for the biodiversity impact if a permit is granted to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation.

A planning permit is required under Clause 52.17 to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation, including dead native vegetation unless an exemption applies. Decision guidelines must be considered by the Referral and Responsible Authorities when considering the planning permit application. Exemptions to the requirement for a permit to remove native vegetation are specified in Clause 52.17 and includes regrowth, dead vegetation and planted vegetation.

The Guidelines are incorporated into the Victorian Planning Provisions to regulate the clearance of native vegetation across the state. The Guidelines use a risk based approach to determine the significance of native vegetation based on the extent, guility and location of vegetation proposed to be removed. Further details on the application of the guidelines are provided in Appendix A.

Under Clause 66.02-2 'Use and **Development Reteinant Nutrive Vegetation**)' a permit application to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation is equipated by the following apply:

The application triggers the Detailed Assessment Pathway

copyright ssment Pathway



- A property vegetation plan applies to the site
- The native vegetation is on Crown land which is occupied or managed by the Responsible Authority.

None of the above applies to the site, therefore, the planning permit application <u>is not</u> required to be referred to DEECA.

#### Impacts to native vegetation and implications under the Guidelines

Based on the impacts detailed in Section 4.2 and shown in Figure 5-1, the proposed works will result in the following impacts to native vegetation:

- AusNet Option Five large scattered trees which equates to 0.174 ha of native vegetation
- Unused Road Reserve Option Four large scattered trees and two small scattered trees which equates to 0.203 ha of native vegetation.

Details of the scattered trees are provided in Table 4-2, photos are provided in Section 4.2.2, and their location is shown in Figure 5-2.

Removal of this native vegetation would trigger the need for planning approval under Clause 52.17-7 of the Alpine Shire Planning Scheme. This report has been prepared to respond to the application requirements of the Guidelines.

It is understood that no native vegetation has been approved for removal on the property within the last five years.

#### Avoid and minimise statement

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In accordance with the requirements under the Guidelines, any application to remove native vegetation requires the preparation of an 'avoid and minimise statement'. This statement is required to clearly identify the actions undertaken and efforts made throughout the planning process to avoid the removal of, and minimise impacts on, the biodiversity and other values of native vegetation.

On a strategic level, the proposed location for the BESS has been selected due to the location of the existing DDTS. The DDTS provides the BESS with connection to the electricity grid. Therefore, it is beneficial for the BESS to be located close to the existing DDTS.

During the early planning phase of the Project, three potential subject sites were being considered. These three potential sites and the access tracks were considered as part of the initial ecological assessment (as discussed in Section 4.2 of this report). The assessment identified several patches of native vegetation and scattered trees of varying quality along the northern section of the Study area, and several scattered trees within the AusNet parcel within the eastern section of the Study area (Figure 4-1). The results of the ecological assessment were then used to inform the selection of the preferred BESS location.

The preferred location is within the southern section of the Study area within cropped agricultural farmland comprised entirely of sown pasture grasses and no native vegetation. Therefore, the patches of native vegetation and scattered trees along the northern section of the Study area have been avoided. The only native vegetation proposed to be impacted is up to six scattered trees within the AusNet parcel to accommodate the access tracks. Impacts to these trees could be avoided or minimised further through further Project footprint refinement during detailed design and/or assessment by an arborist. The Project footprint has been designed to avoid as much of the ecological values identified across the Study area as possible without undermining the key objectives of the Project.

# Native vegetation offsetsThis copied document to be made availablefor the sole purpose of enabling<br/>its consideration and review as

Native vegetation offsets would be required to compensate for any approved removal of native vegetation. Two NVRRs have been acquired from DEECA to detail the relevant offset requirements and are provided in Appendix H. The document must not be used for any

A summary of the native vegetation removal details and offset requirements as per the NVRRs is provided in Table 5-2 below.

Removal and offset details	Information requirement	Project information from NVRR
AusNet Option		
Removal details	Risk based pathway	Intermediate
	Total extent of native vegetation removal	0.174 ha
	Location Category	Location 2
Offset details	Offset requirements	0.075 general habitat units, with the following requirements: must be located in North East CMA or Alpine Shire Council must have minimum strategic biodiversity value (SBV) of 0.697 must include the protection of 5 large trees.
Unused Road Reserve Option		

Table 5-3 Summary of information from the NVRRs

# Removal details Risk based pathway Intermediate Intermediate 0.203 ha Intermediate 0.203 ha Intermediate Intermediate

Offset details Offset requirements	0.057 general habitat units, with the following requirements: must be located in North East CMA or Alpine Shire Council must have minimum strategic biodiversity value (SBV) of 0.686 must include the protection of 4 large trees.
------------------------------------	--

#### **Offset statement**

An online search of the Native Vegetation Credit Register (NVCR) on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024 has shown that the required general offset is currently available for purchase for either access option (DEECA, 2024). Evidence that the required offset is available is provided in Appendix I. The required offset would need to be secured prior to commencement of the proposed action.

#### 5.3.5 Wildlife Act 1975 and Wildlife Regulations 2002

The main legislation for protecting and managing fauna in Victoria is the *Wildlife Act* 1975. This covers indigenous vertebrate species (except declared pest species), invertebrate species listed under the FFG Act and some introduced game species. A Management Authorisation permit would be required under the Act if salvage and relocation of fauna are to be undertaken as part of any removal of habitat associated with the works. Dependent on the final project design, a Management Authorisation permit may be required.

#### 5.3.6 Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994

The Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CaLP Act) identifies and classifies certain species as noxious weeds or pest animals and provides a system of controls on hoxious species. for the sole purpose of enabling

The CaLP Act also provides a legislative fisiche wtich fantherviewage ment of private and public land and sets out the responsibilities of lard managers, stating itigat they must have been also be

- Avoid causing or contributing to land degradation which causes or may land owner
   Planning and Environment Act 1987.
   Iand owner
   Planning and Environment Act 1987.
   Cause damage to land of another purpose which may breach any
- Protect water resources

rpose which may breach copyright

- Conserve soil
- Eradicate regionally prohibited weeds
- Prevent the growth and spread of regionally controlled weeds
- Prevent the spread of, and as far as possible eradicate, established pest animals.

The Study area contains the following noxious weeds listed as regionally controlled within the North East CMA region:

- Blackberry (Rubus fruticosus spp. agg)
- Montpellier Broom (Genista monspessulana)
- Slender Thistle (*Carduus spp.*)
- Soursob (Oxalis pes-caprae)
- Spear Thistle (Cirsium vulgare).

Appropriate weed control and hygiene measures should be outlined in the Environmental Management Plan for the Project.

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## 5.4 Recommendations

Both access track options are likely to impact scattered trees within the AusNet land parcel. However, Option 2 requires removal of more trees which results in a slightly larger area of impacted native vegetation. Regardless of the option decided, it is recommended that an arborist is engaged to assess the scattered trees proposed to be impacted, as there may be an opportunity to retain them depending on the extent of TPZ encroachment.

The following recommendations are provided to further assist the detailed design of the Project:

- Engage a suitably qualified wildlife handler to inspect all trees approved for removal to determine presence and/or suitability for nesting fauna.
- At the time of approved tree removal, a suitably qualified wildlife handler should be onsite to undertake salvage and translocation of any nesting fauna. This is likely to be a condition of any permit for tree removal.
- Implement appropriate TPZs around trees to be retained in the Project area to ensure these values are not impacted during construction.
- Implement appropriate weed control and hygiene measures to ensure high threat weeds are not spread during construction.



## 6 References

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# Appendix A: Permitted clearing assessment (the Guidelines)

#### **Risk-based Pathway**

In Victoria, a permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation under Clause 52.17 of the Victorian Planning Provisions (VPP) empowered by the Victorian *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. These provisions are outlined in various guidelines discussed below.

In December 2017, the Victorian State Government released a set of reforms to regulate the approval and conditions associated with vegetation clearing.

The *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (the Guidelines) outline how impacts on Victoria's biodiversity are assessed and the appropriate risk based pathway when an application to remove native vegetation is lodged (DELWP 2017a). The Guidelines are an incorporated document in all Victorian Planning Schemes and are applied alongside other requirements of the planning scheme when an application for a permit to remove native vegetation is considered by the responsible authority.

The risk based pathway approach categorises an application into one of three pathways. Taken from DELWP 2017a:

- Basic limited impacts on biodiversity.
- Intermediate could impact on large trees, endangered EVCs, and sensitive wetlands and coastal areas.
- Detailed could impact on large trees, endangered EVCs, sensitive wetlands and coastal areas, and could significantly impact on habitat for rare or threatened species.

The location of the vegetation removal is then assessed in terms of significance for biodiversity. Three location categories have been assigned by DELWP (2017a) and in terms of importance include:

- 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 (section 3.2.1) and are not included in Location 3.
- Location 1 includes all remaining locations in Victoria.

Once the risk pathway and the location significance are known the application assessment pathway can be determined as per the table below.

Extent of native vegetation to be removed Content	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

The vegetation removal pathway then determines the level of assessment and information required in an application to remove, lop or destroy native vegetation.




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# Appendix B: Vegetation Quality Assessment (VQA) results

Habitat	Hectare Criteria	Maximum Score	HZ1	HZ2	HZ3	HZ4	HZ5	HZ6	HZ7	HZ8	HZ9	HZ10	HZ11
Site condition	Area (ha)	1	0.0069	0.0073	0.0950	0.0230	0.0046	0.0110	0.0091	0.0150	0.0140	0.0210	0.06
	Number of Large Trees in P	atch	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
	Bioregion		Northern Inland Slopes										
	Ecological Vegetation Class	s (EVC)		Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47)									
	Large Old Trees 10		0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	9
	Canopy Cover	5	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
	Lack of Weeds 15		This <sup>0</sup> copie	d docume	nt to <sup>0</sup> be n	nade <sup>0</sup> avai	able <sup>0</sup>	0	0	0	7	4	7
	Understorey	25	5 for t	he sole pu onsiderat	rpose of a ion and re	enabling view as	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
	Recruitment	10	part of	a pl <b>ā</b> nnir	g process	under th	e 5	3	0	5	0	0	5
	Organic Litter	5	The docu	g and En iment mu	st not be	t Act 198 used for a	/. 4 ny 4	2	2	2	3	2	3
	Logs	5	<sub>0</sub> purp	ose yhicl	n may bre	ach any	C	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total Site Score		14	14	23	16	14	10	7	12	15	20	33
	Standardiser		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Standardised Score		14	14	23	16	14	10	7	12	15	20	33
Landscape Value	Patch Size	10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Neighbourhood	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Distance to Core Area	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	Total Landscape Score			4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Final Score	Habitat Score (out of 100)	100	18	18	27	20	18	14	11	16	19	24	37
	Condition Score (out of 1)	1	0.18	0.18	0.27	0.2	0.18	0.14	0.11	0.16	0.19	0.24	0.37

# Appendix C: Flora recorded in the Study area

Table C-1 Flora recorded in the Study area

Origin	Conser	vation Status	Common Name	Scientific Name	
	EPBC Act	FFG Act			
*			Annual Veldt-grass	Ehrharta longiflora	
*			Barley-grass	Hordeum leporinum	
		Protected	Black Wattle	Acacia mearnsii	
*, N			Blackberry	Rubus fruticosus spp. agg.	
			Blakely's Red Gum	Eucalyptus blakelyi	
*			Blanketweed	Galeania pubescens	
			Southern Blue Gum	Eucalyptus globulus subsp. bicostata	
*			Broad-leaved Privet	Ligustrum lucidum	
*			Brome	Bromus sp.	
*			Cape weed	Arctotheca calendula	
*			Cat's-ear	Hypochaeris radicata	
*			Cocksfoot	Dactylis glomerata	
*			Common Sow-thistle	Sonchus oleraceus	
	This co	nied document to	Cumbungi be made available	Typha sp.	
*	f	or the sole purpose	6reasing as a second seco	Rumex crispus	
*	j	ts consideration a	Flowering Quince	Flowering Quince	
	pai Pla	nning and Environ	Ironbark Act 1987.	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	
	The	document must not	MansedSion any	Eucalyptus viminalis	
	l	purpose which may	breach any Mistletoe	Amyema sp.	
*, N		copyrigi	Montpellier Broom	Genista monspessulana	
*			Panic Veldt-grass	Ehrharta erecta	
*			Plum	Prunus sp.	
*			Poplar	Populus sp.	
*			Ribwort	Plantago lanceolata	
			Rush	Juncus spp.	
*			Rye Grass	Lolium spp.	
*, N			Slender Thistle	Carduus spp.	
*, N			Soursob	Oxalis pes-caprae	
*			Spearmint	Spearmint	
*, N			Spear Thistle	Cirsium vulgare	
*			Spiny Rush	Juncus acutus subsp. acutus	
*			Spotted Gum	Corymbia maculata	
*			Toowoomba Canary- grass	Phalaris aquatica	
*			Weeping Willow	Salix babylonica	
*			Willow	Salix sp.	
			Yellow Box	Eucalyptus melliodora	
*			Yorkshire Fog	Holcus lanatus	

**Legend**: \* = Introduced, N = noxious weed, # = uncertain origin; FFG Act (Status under the FFG Act): P = Protected

# Appendix D: Fauna recorded in the Study area

Table D-1 Fauna recorded in the Study area

Origin	Conservation	n Status	Common Name	Scientific Name
	EPBC Act	FFG Act		
Amphibi	ans			
			Common Eastern Froglet	Crinia signifera
Birds				
			Australian Magpie	Gymnorhina tibicen
			Crested Pigeon	Ocyphaps lophotes
			Golden-headed Cisticola	Cisticola exilis
			King Parrot	Alisterus scapularis
			Laughing Kookaburra	Dacelo novaeguineae
			Little Raven	Corvus mellori
			Masked Lapwing	Vanellus miles
			New Holland Honeyeater	Phylidonyris novaehollandiae
			Pacific Black Duck	Anas superciliosa
			Red Wattlebird	Anthochaera carunculata
			Superb Fairy-wren	Malurus cyaneus
			Welcome Swallow	Hirundo neoxena
			Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Coracina novaehollandiae
Inverteb	rates			
*			Cabbage White Butterfly	Pieris rapae

**Legend**: \* = Introduced, # = uncertain origin; EPBC Act (Status under the EPBC Act): CR = critically endangered, EN = endangered, VU = vulnerable; FFG Act (Status under the FFG Act): CR = critically endangered, EN = endangered, VU = vulnerable.

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### Appendix E: Likelihood of Occurrence Analysis of Threatened Flora

Table E-1 Likelihood of occurrence assessment of threatened flora

Common Name	Scientific	Conservation Status		Habitat preference	Number of	Most recent	Likelihood of	
	Name	EPBC Status	FFG Status		records within 5km	record within 5km	occurrence within the Study area	
Crimson Spider- orchid	Caladenia concolor	VU	EN	Sporadic and uncommon in dry open-forests, mostly of north-eastern Victoria, on ridges and slopes in well-drained shallow stony or skeletal soils.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area, no suitable habitat recorded on site.	
Grey Rice-flower	Pimelea treyvaudii	EN	EN	Grows in the far north-east (Strathbogie Ranges to Walwa area), often on dry rocky slopes.	2	2012-02-01	<b>Low</b> – Although there are two fairly recent records, the Study area contains poor quality habitat.	
Mignonette Leek-orchid	Prasophyllum morganii	VU	EX	Known only from subalpine herbfields on the Nunniong Plateau and near Cobungra (type locality) from where not recorded since 1933.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area, no suitable habitat recorded on site.	
River Swamp Wallaby-grass	Amphibromus fluitans	VU		Permanent swamps, lagoons, billabongs and dams.	None	PMST	<b>Low</b> – No records within 5km of the Study area, some suitable habitat recorded on site (farm dams).	
Small Purple-pea	Swainsona recta	EN	CR	An endangered species, previously recorded in Victoria from low hill country in north and north-east but known only from 1 recent (1995) collection near Glenrowan.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area, no suitable habitat recorded on site.	
Swamp Fern	Thelypteris confluens	CR	CR	Known only from one locality in Victoria, a peaty swamp near Tawonga in the Kiewa Valley.	1	2003-05-03	<b>Low</b> – one recent record, however, no suitable habitat recorded on site.	

Legend: EPBC Act (Status under the EPBC Act): CR = critically endangered, EN = endangered, VU = vulnerable; FFG Act (Status under the FFG Act): EX = extinct, CR = critically endangered, EN = endangered, EN = endangered, VU = vulnerable

Note: Records greater than 30 years old were removed as it's unlikely the species is still present within the area.

# Appendix F: Likelihood of Occurrence Analysis of Threatened Fauna

Table G-1 Likelihood of occurrence assessment of threatened fauna

Name     EPBC Act     FFG Status     records within 5km       Amphibians     Growling Grass Frog     Litoria raniformis     VU     VU     Persists in waterways and other aquatic habitats in the greater Melbourne merican Melbourne for the second sec	5km	the Study area
Amphibians         Growling Grass Frog       Litoria raniformis       VU       VU       Persists in waterways and other aquatic habitats in the greater Melbourne region (for the bit is the provide of the sector)       None		
Growling Grass Frog         Litoria raniformis         VU         VU         Persists in waterways and other aquatic habitats in the greater Melbourne region for the bitat for the set.         None		
region. Key nabitat reatures for the species includes submerged vegetation for egg-laying, rocks and logs for basking, permanent freshwater lageons for breeding and cracks, as well as Thidebrisiad data may agree to the species of the Thidebrisiad data may agree to the species of the species includes submerged vegetation for breeding and cracks, as well as	PMST	<b>Low -</b> No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.
Sloane's Froglet       Crinia sloanei       EN       EN       Inland NSW and During send available with the towershare with temporary and permaphenershare with temporary and permaphenershare with temporary and permaphenershare with temporary and permaphenershare with the pybaws off streets and civer and structure frog points and the pybaws off streets and civer and structure frog points and the used for any constructed frog points and temporary studies. It prefers wethands that contain ripartery studies. It prefers wethands that contain ripartery must had be had b	PMST	<b>Low</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.
Spotted Tree FrogLitoria spenceriCRCROnly 12 populations have been located in Victoria; these occur predominantly to the north-western side of the Great Dividing Range, between the Central Highlands of Victoria and Mt Kosciusko in NSW. Spotted Tree Frog inhabit naturally vegetated, rocky, swift-flowing upland streams in dissected mountainous country, between 280 and 1110 metres above sea level.None	PMST	Low - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.



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Common	Scientific Name	Conservation	Status	Habitat Preference	Number of	Most recent	Likelihood of occurrence within	
Name		EPBC Act	FFG Status		records within 5km	record within 5km	the Study area	
Australasian Bittern	Botaurus poiciloptilus	EN	CR	Frequents reedbeds, and other vegetation in water such as cumbungi, lignum and sedges.	None	PMST	<b>Low</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. Some suitable habitat occurs in the Study area (cumbungi present in the farm dams).	
Australian Painted- Snipe	Rostratula australis	EN	CR	Inhabits shallow terrestrial freshwater (occasionally brackish) wetlands, including temporary and permanent lakes, swamps and claypans. Also use inundated or waterlogged grassland or saltmarsh, dams, rice crops, sewage farms and bore drains.	None	PMST	<b>Low</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Blue-winged Parrot	Neophema chrysostoma	VU	Т	hinbopited dangawénabutabe fmade avail coastal theb or a final and interchals final right through to semi-arid zones, ew as Throughout their tange they favour grassiands and grass proceds tuster the passiands and grass proceds tuster the passiands and found reamontands 1987 Thethoeanter coastant intermed for a zon for pose which may breach any	abløre e 7. ny	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Brown Treecreeper	Climacteris picumnus	VU		Found in the drieppseiglofests and woodlands	Nore	PMST	<b>Low</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos	М	VU	Utilises a wide range of coastal wetlands and some inland wetlands, with varying levels of salinity, and is mostly found around muddy margins or rocky shores and rarely on mudflats.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Curlew Sandpiper	Calidris ferruginea	CR, M	CR	Intertidal mudflats in sheltered coastal areas. Non-tidal swamps, lakes and lagoons near the coast, and ponds in saltworks and sewage farms.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Diamond Firetail	Stagonopleura guttata	VU	VU	Found in open grassy woodland, heath and farmland or grassland with scattered trees	None	PMST	<b>Moderate</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area however suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	

Common	Scientific Name	Conservation	Status	Habitat Preference	Number of	Most recent	Likelihood of occurrence within	
Name		EPBC Act	FFG Status		records within 5km	record within 5km	the Study area	
Eastern Curlew	Numenius madagascariensis	CR, M	CR	Largest shorebird in Australia. Breeds in Russia and north-eastern China, arrives back to Australia in August to feed on crabs and molluscs in intertidal mudflats on the coast.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Fork-tailed Swift	Apus pacificus	М		Almost exclusively aerial. In Australia, they mostly occur over inland plains but sometimes above foothills or in coastal areas	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Gang-gang Cockatoo	Callocephalon fimbriatum	EN	EN	During summer, the Gang-gang Cockatoo is found in tall mountain forests and woodlands, with dense hishrupby dudaratoreys to beinter deargail gangs will make bulgware diffudes intog drier, more open forests and eview as woodlands. At this time, they may be seen by roadsides and in parks and er the Barens grandal areas mey report 1987 That the share shard owst be used for an	None able ny	PMST	<b>Low</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Grey Falcon	Falco hypoleucos	VU	VU	Us Pully Peseric birds share ach any grassland and wooderightercourses of arid and semi-arid regions, although it is occasionally found in open woodlands near the coast.	Nore	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Latham's Snipe	Gallinago hardwickii	М		Occurs in a range of permanent and ephemeral wetlands including freshwater wetlands with low, dense vegetation (e.g. swamps, flooded grasslands or heathlands, around bogs and other water bodies)	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Painted Honeyeater	Grantiella picta	VU	VU	Found in dry open forests and woodlands, and is strongly associated with mistletoe.	None	PMST	<b>Moderate</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. Some suitable habitat occurs in the Study area (mistletoe present within some scattered trees).	



Common	Scientific Name	Conservation	Status	Habitat Preference	Number of	Most recent	Likelihood of occurrence within	
Name		EPBC Act	FFG Status		records within 5km	record within 5km	the Study area	
Pectoral Sandpiper	Calidris melanotos	М		Prefers shallow fresh to saline wetlands and is found at coastal lagoons, estuaries, bays, swamps, lakes, inundated grasslands, saltmarshes, river pools, creeks, floodplains and artificial wetlands.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Pilotbird	Pycnoptilus floccosus	VU	VU	Found in wet and dry sclerophyll forests with dense undergrowth and woodlands occupying dry slopes and ridges	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Powerful Owl	Ninox strenua		VU	Occurs in open forests and woodlands, as well as along sheltered gullies in wet nto cents with denaccurder the myade avail especially along water set. The avail sometimes be found in open areas near forests such as parks and suburban areas. Needs old growth trees to near the	2 able	1996-06-21	<b>Moderate</b> - Recent records within 5km of the Study area. Some suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Regent Honeyeater	Anthochaera phrygia	CR	CR	Primming and Environment Act 198/ Primarily occurs in box-ironbark the drive occurs in box-ironbark woodland, but also occurs in other forest types. Malkiy fleads bhriectaany from eucalypts and missibles with movements governed by the flowering of select eucalypt species.	Nore	PMST	<b>Low</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Rufous Fantail	Rhipidura rufifrons	М		Inhabits wet sclerophyll forests, often in gullies dominated by tall eucalypts, usually with a dense shrubby understorey and ferns.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Satin Flycatcher	Myiagra cyanoleuca	М		Inhabits heavily vegetated gullies in eucalypt-dominated forests and taller woodlands	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Calidris acuminata	М		Prefers muddy edges of shallow fresh or brackish wetlands, with inundated or emergent sedges, grass, saltmarsh or other low vegetation.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	

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Common	Scientific Name	Conservation	Status	Habitat Preference	Number of	Most recent	Likelihood of occurrence within
Name		EPBC Act	FFG Status		records within 5km	record within 5km	the Study area
South- eastern Hooded Robin	Melanodryas cucullata cucullata	EN	VU	Found in lightly timbered woodland, mainly dominated by acacia and/or eucalypts.	None	PMST	<b>Low</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.
Southern Whiteface	Aphelocephala leucopsis	VU		Dry open forests and woodland and inland scrubs of mallee, mulga and saltbush are the preferred habitat of Southern Whiteface, especially areas with fallen timber or dead trees and stumps.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.
Swift Parrot	Lathamus discolor	CR	CR	Breeds in Lasmania and overwinters in Victoria. Found in dry sclerophyll in resident of woods and so the man of a science of the sole of t	None able e 7.	PMST	<b>Low</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.
White- throated Needletail	Hirundapus caudacutus	VU	VU	Almost exclusively level over a widey variety of habitats copyright	12	1997-12-06	<b>Moderate</b> – May occasionally visit the area, however, given the species almost exclusive aerial habit, it is unlikely to be reliant on the habitats in the Study area.
Yellow Wagtail	Motacilla flava	М		Data deficient in Australia. Typically, in Europe where the species favours wet meadows, marshland, grassy and muddy lakeshores. Occurs in fields and often near livestock during migration.	None	PMST	<b>Low</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.
Fish							
Flathead Galaxias	Galaxias rostratus	CR	VU	Only known from the southern half of the Murray-Darling Basin system where it inhabits a variety of habitats including billabongs, lakes, swamps and rivers, with a preference for still or slow flowing waters.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.



Common	Scientific Name	Conservation	Status	Habitat Preference	Number of	Most recent	Likelihood of occurrence within	
Name		EPBC Act	FFG Status		records within 5km	5km	the Study area	
Macquarie Perch	Macquaria australasica	EN	EN	Across the Murray-Darling Basin and in an east coast catchment, within small and geographically separated populations	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Murray Cod	Maccullochella peelii	VU	EN	Distributed throughout the Murray- Darling Basin.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Southern Pygmy Perch	Nannoperca australis Murray- Darling Basin lineage	VU	VU	Occurs in low-gradient waterways and floodplains with slow-flowing or still water, in the Murray-Darling basin	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Trout Cod	Maccullochella macquariensis	EN	EN	Limited to a single population on the Multing the sole purpose of enabling its consideration and review as part of a planning process under the		PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Invertebrates				Planning and Environment Act 1987 The document must not be used for a	·			
Alpine Stonefly	Thaumatoperla alpina	EN	EN	Endemic to the Bogong High Plains in north-east Victoria. The species is known to occur at 12 stees, separated by natural and anthropogenic barriers in the Kiewa River catchment. Six of these sites occur within the Alpine National Park, five within Falls Creek Alpine Resort and one occurs within state forest. The species is restricted to high altitude, first order alpine streams from 760 m above sea level.	Nore	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Golden Sun Moth	Synemon plana	VU	VU	Occurs in grassy areas in the greater Melbourne region, mainly in areas dominated by native grasses such as wallaby grass and spear grass, but also in areas of introduced grasses such as Chilean Needle-grass.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Mammals								



# ADVERTISED PLAN

Common	Scientific Name	Conservation	Status	Habitat Preference	Number of	Most recent	Likelihood of occurrence within	
Name		EPBC Act	FFG Status		records within 5km	record within 5km	the Study area	
Grey-headed Flying-fox	Pteropus poliocephalus	VU	VU	Requires foraging resources and roosting sites. The primary food source is blossom from Eucalyptus and related genera but commonly forages on fruit trees in urban areas. Two known Flying Fox camps occur in the greater Melbourne region including one at Yarra Bend and one at Doveton.	None	PMST	<b>Low</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Smoky Mouse	Pseudomys fumeus	EN	EN	Occurs in a wide variety of habitats, from heath to dry sclerophyll forest, especially along ridgetops. Prefers areas of dense ground cover, such as in heaths, or in areas with grass fue society, bocky and for the scherophylic for the scherophylic	None able	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Southern Greater Glider	Petauroides volans	EN	EN	Greater Gliders are distributed throughout forested parts of eastern Victoria, including manuarity souther the Planoting Ordal Dividing manual souther the Planoting Ordal Dividing The Souther the Planoting Or	4 e v. ny	2005-10-15	<b>Low</b> - No recent records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable forest habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Spot-tailed Quoll	Dasyurus maculatus maculatus	EN	EN	Temperate and subtropical rainforests in mountain areas wet schlerophyll forest lowland forests open and closed eucalypt woodlands.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Yellow- bellied Glider	Petaurus australis australis	VU	VU	Found at altitudes between sea level to 1400 m above sea level and has a widespread but patchy distribution from south-eastern QLD to near the SA-Vic border in eucalypt-dominated woodlands and forests, including both wet and dry sclerophyll forests.	2	1996-06-21	<b>Low</b> - No recent records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Reptiles								

Common Name	Scientific Name	Conservation Status		Habitat Preference	Number of	Most recent	Likelihood of occurrence within	
		EPBC Act	FFG Status		records within 5km	skm	the Study area	
Pink-tailed Worm-lizard	Aprasia parapulchella	VU	EN	Habitat includes rocky outcrops or scattered partly buried rocks in grassland and woodland in south- east Australia.	None	PMST	<b>Negligible</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	
Striped Legless Lizard	Delma impar	VU	EN	Inhabits intact grassland habitats where it shelters in grass tussocks, under rocks and in cracks in the soil	None	PMST	<b>Low</b> - No records within 5km of the Study area. No suitable habitat occurs in the Study area.	

Legend: EPBC Act (Status under the EPBC Act): CR = critically endangered, EN = endangered, VU = vulnerable, M = migratory; FFG Act (Status under the FFG Act): CR = critically endangered, EN = endangered, EN = endangered, VU = vulnerable

Note: Records greater than 30 years old were removed as it's unlikely the species is still present within the area.

## ADVERTISED PLAN

# Appendix G: EPBC Act Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) Report





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: 27-Jun-2024

Summary Details Matters of NES Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act Extra Information

**Caveat** 

**Acknowledgements** 



# 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	7
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:	None
Commonwealth Marine Area:	None
Listed Threatened Ecological Communities:	2
Listed Threatened Species:	38
Listed Migratory Species:	10

# ADVERTISED PLAN

### 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 <a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/parks-heritage/heritage">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/parks-heritage/heritage</a>

A <u>permit</u> 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:	None
Commonwealth Heritage Places:	None
Listed Marine Species:	16
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:	None
Regional Forest Agreements:	1
Nationally Important Wetlands:	None
EPBC Act Referrals:	6
Key Ecological Features (Marine):	None
Biologically Important Areas:	None
Bioregional Assessments:	None
Geological and Bioregional Assessments:	None

# Details

# Matters of National Environmental Significance

Wetlands of International Import	ance (Ramsar Wetlands)		[Resource Information]
Ramsar Site Name		Proximity	Buffer Status
Banrock station wetland complex		600 - 700km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area
Barmah forest		150 - 200km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area
Gunbower forest	This copied document to be made available for the sole purpose of enabling its consideration and review as	200 - 300km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area
Hattah-kulkyne lakes	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	400 - 500km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area
Nsw central murray state forests		150 - 200km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area
<u>Riverland</u>		600 - 700km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area
The coorong, and lakes alexandrina and albert wetland		600 - 700km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area

### 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
Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated	Endangered	Community likely to	In buffer area only
Fens		occur within area	

White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland

#### Critically Endangered

Community likely to In feature area occur within area

Listed Threatened Species

[Resource Information]

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	Foraging, feeding or related behaviour likely to occur within area	In feature area
Aphelocephala leucopsis Southern Whiteface [529]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Botaurus poiciloptilus Australasian Bittern [1001]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Callocephalon fimbriatum Gang-gang Cockatoo [768]	This copied document to be made availal for the sole purpose of enabling its consideration and review as ราการสาญาณิชาติ 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 known to occur within area	In feature area
<u>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</u> Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern) [67062]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Falco hypoleucos Grey Falcon [929]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u>Gallinago hardwickii</u> Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863]	Vulnerable	Species or species	In feature area

within area

Grantiella picta Painted Honeyeater [470]

Vulnerable

Species or species In feature area habitat likely to occur within area

Hirundapus caudacutus White-throated Needletail [682]

Vulnerable

Species or species In feature area habitat likely to occur within area



Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Lathamus discolor			
Swift Parrot [744]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Melanodryas cucullata cucullata			
South-eastern Hooded Robin, Hooded Robin (south-eastern) [67093]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Neophema chrysostoma			
Blue-winged Parrot [726]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Pvcnoptilus floccosus			
Pilotbird [525]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Rostratula australis			
Australian Painted Snipe [77037]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Stadonopleura duttata			
Diamond Firetail [59398]	This copied document to be made availal for the sole purpose of enabling its consideration and review as part of a planning process under the Planning and Environment Act 1987.	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
FISH	The document must not be used for any purpose which may breach any		
Galaxias rostratus	copyright		
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
	AD	VERTISED	
Maccullochella macquariensis		PLAN	
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	In buffer area only

nabitat known to occur within area

Macquaria australasica Macquarie Perch [66632]

Endangered

Species or species In feature area habitat may occur within area

Nannoperca australis Murray-Darling Basin lineage Southern Pygmy Perch (Murray-Darling Vulnerable Basin lineage) [91711]

Species or species In feature area habitat likely to occur within area



Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<u>Crinia sloanei</u> Sloane's Froglet [59151]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur	In buffer area only
		within area	
Litoria raniformis Southern Bell Frog,, Growling Grass Frog, Green and Golden Frog, Warty Swamp Frog, Golden Bell Frog [1828]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Litoria anoncori			
Spotted Tree Frog [25959]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
INSECT			
Synemon plana			
Golden Sun Moth [25234]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Thaumatoperla alpina			
Alpine Stonefly [25289]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
MAMMAL	This conied document to be made availab		
Dasyurus maculatus maculatus (SE mai	lan & bogold at ions of enabling		
Spot-tailed Quoll, Spotted-tail Quoll, Tiger Quoll (southeastern mainland population) [75184]	The document must not be used for any copyright	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Petauroides volans			
Greater Glider (southern and central) [254]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Petaurus australis australis			
Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern) [87600]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Pseudomys fumeus			
Smoky Mouse, Konoom [88]	Endangered	Species or species	In feature area

within area

Pteropus poliocephalus Grey-headed Flying-fox [186]

Vulnerable

Foraging, feeding or In feature area related behaviour likely to occur within area

PLANT



Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Amphibromus fluitans River Swamp Wallaby-grass, Floating Swamp Wallaby-grass [19215]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Caladenia concolor Crimson Spider-orchid, Maroon Spider- orchid [5505]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Prasophyllum morganii Mignonette Leek-orchid, Cobungra Leek-orchid, Dense Leek-orchid [13804]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
Swainsona recta Small Purple-pea, Mountain Swainson- pea, Small Purple Pea [7580]	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 may occur within area	In feature area
Delma impar Striped Legless Lizard, Striped Snake- lizard [1649]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
Listed Migratory Species		[ Res	source Information 1
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Migratory Marine Birds			Dunci Otatus
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 likely to occur	In feature area

#### within area

### Motacilla flava Yellow Wagtail [644]

Myiagra cyanoleuca Satin Flycatcher [612] 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 In feature area habitat may occur within area

Species or species In feature area habitat likely to occur within area



Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Rhipidura rufifrons Rufous Fantail [592]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
Migratory Wetlands Species			
Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Calidris acuminata			
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Calidris ferruginea			
Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may 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 likely to occur within area	In feature area

# Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

Listed Marine Species		[ <u>R</u>	esource Information ]
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Bird			
Actitis hypoleucos			
Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area

### Apus pacificus

### Fork-tailed Swift [678]

Bubulcus ibis as Ardea ibis Cattle Egret [66521] 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 In feature area habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area

Species or species In feature area habitat may occur within area overfly marine area



Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Calidris acuminata			
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Calidris ferruginea			
Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Calidris melanotos			
Pectoral Sandpiper [858]	ADVERTISED PLAN	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Gallinago hardwickii			
Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863	3] Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Haliaeetus leuconaster			
White-bellied Sea-Eagle [943]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Hirundapus caudacutus			
White-throated Needletail [682]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Lathamus discolor			
Swift Parrot [744]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
Merops ornatus			
Rainbow Bee-eater [670]		Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area

Motacilla flava Yellow Wagtail [644]

### Myiagra cyanoleuca Satin Flycatcher [612]

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Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area

### In feature area

Species or species In feature area habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status	
Neophema chrysostoma Blue-winged Parrot [726]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area	
<u>Rhipidura rufifrons</u> Rufous Fantail [592]	ADVERTISED PLAN	Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area	
Rostratula australis as Rostratula Australian Painted Snipe [77037]	<u>benghalensis (sensu lato)</u> Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area	

# Extra Information

Regional Forest Agreements	[Resource Information]
Note that all areas with completed RFAs have been included. Please	e see the associated resource information
for specific caveats and use limitations associated with RFA bounda	ry information.

RFA Name	State	Buffer Status
North East Victoria RFA	Victoria	In feature area

EPBC Act Referrals			[Resou	rce Information ]
Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status	Buffer Status
Controlled action				
The Modified Operation of the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District	2009/5123	Controlled Action	Post-Approval	In feature area
Not controlled action				
Biodiversity Impacts Audit	2011/6191	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In feature area
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 Completed In feature area Action

Not controlled action (particular manne	er)			
INDIGO Marine Cable Route Survey (INDIGO)	2017/7996	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval	In feature area
	This copied docur for the sole its consider part of a plan Planning and I The document n purpose wh c	nent to be made available purpose of enabling ation and review as ning process under the Environment Act 1987. nust not be used for any ich may breach any opyright		

Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status	Buffer Status	
Not controlled action (particular manne	r)				
Myrtleford-Corryong aerial baiting 2006/2650 field trials		Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval	In feature area	



# 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.

#### 2 DISCLAIMER

ADVERTISED PLAN

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 are 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

#### 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

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

#### 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
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.

# 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

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-American Museum of Natural History

-Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Inveresk, Tasmania

-Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania

-Other groups and individuals

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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# Appendix H: Native Vegetation Removal Reports for access track options

AusNet Option





### NVRR ID: 300\_20240731\_C7X

This report provides information to support an application to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation in accordance with the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (the Guidelines). This report is **not an assessment by DEECA** of the proposed native vegetation removal. Native vegetation information and offset requirements have been determined using spatial data provided by the applicant or their consultant.

### **Report details**

Date created: 31/07/2024

Local Government Area: ALPINE SHIRE

Shapefile name: P524537\_DederangBESS\_EnSym\_RevA\_Option1\_20240731.shp

Site assessor name: Leah Mann

**Registered Aboriginal Party:** 

Coordinates: 146.99412, -36.45463

Address: 1402 YACKANDANDAH-DEDERANG ROAD DEDERANG 3691



**Regulator Notes** 

Removal polygons are located:





Assessment pathway	Intermediate Assessment Pathway						
Location category	Location 2 The native vegetation extent map indicates that this area is typically characterised as supporting native vegetation. Additionally, it is modelled as encompassing an endangered Ecological Vegetation Class, sensitive wetland or sensitive coastal area. The removal of less than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation in this area will not require a Species Offset.						
Total extent including past and proposed removal (ha) Includes endangered EVCs (ha): 0.174	0.174	Extent of past removal (ha) Extent of proposed removal - Patches (ha) Extent of proposed removal - Scattered Trees (ha)	0 0.000 0.174				
No. Large Trees proposed to be removed	5	<i>No. Large Patch Trees</i> <i>No. Large Scattered Trees</i>	0 5				
No. Small Scattered Trees	0		1				

### Offset requirements if approval is granted

Any approval granted will include a condition to secure an offset, before the removal of native vegetation, that meets the following requirements:

General Offset amount <sup>1</sup>	0.049 General Habitat Units
Minimum strategic biodiversity value score <sup>2</sup>	0.6973
Large Trees	5
Vicinity	North East CMA or ALPINE SHIRE LGA

NB: values within tables in this document may not add to the totals shown above due to rounding

The availability of third-party offset credits can be checked using the Native Vegetation Credit Register (NVCR) Search Tool - <u>https://nvcr.delwp.vic.gov.au</u>



<sup>1.</sup> The General Offset amount required is the sum of all General Habitat Units in Appendix 1.

<sup>2.</sup> Minimum strategic biodiversity value score is 80 per cent of the weighted average score across habitat zones where a General Offset is required.

<sup>3.</sup> The Species Offset amount(s) required is the sum of all Species Habitat Units in Appendix 1.

### **Application requirements**

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.

#### **Application Requirement 1 - Native vegetation removal information**

If the native vegetation removal is mapped correctly, the information presented in this Native Vegetation Removal Report addresses Application Requirement 1.

#### Application Requirement 2 - Topographical and land information

This statement describes the topographical and land features in the vicinity of the proposed works, including the location and extent of any ridges, hilltops, wetlands and waterways, slopes of more than 20% gradient, low-lying areas, saline discharge areas or areas of erosion.

#### Application Requirement 3 - Photographs of the native vegetation to be removed

Application Requirement 3 is not addressed in this Native Vegetation Removal Report. All applications must include recent, timestamped photos of each Patch, Large Patch Tree and Scattered Tree which has been mapped in this report.

part of a planning process under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987.** 

#### Application Requirement 4 TRaster Application Requirement 4

If past removal has been considered correctly, the information presented in this Native Vegetation Removal Report addresses Application Requirement 4.

#### **Application Requirement 5 - Avoid and minimise statement**

This statement describes what has been done to avoid and minimise impacts on native vegetation and associated biodiversity values.

#### **Application Requirement 6 - Property Vegetation Plan**

This requirement only applies if an approved Property Vegetation Plan (PVP) applies to the property Does a PVP apply to the proposal?

#### **Application Requirement 7 - Defendable space statement**

Where the removal of native vegetation is to create defendable space, this statement:

Describes the bushfire threat; and



• Describes how other bushfire risk mitigation measures were considered to reduce the amount of native vegetation proposed for removal (this can also be part of the avoid and minimise statement).

This statement is not required if, If the proposed defendable space is within the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO), and in accordance with the 'Exemption to create defendable space for a dwelling under Clause 44.06 of local planning schemes' in Clause 52.12-5.

#### **Application Requirement 8 - Native Vegetation Precinct Plan**

This requirement is only applicable if you are removing native vegetation from within an area covered by Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (NVPP), and the proposed removal is not identified as 'to be removed' within the NVPP.

Does an NVPP apply to the proposal?

#### **Application Requirement 9 - Offset statement**

This statement demonstrates that an offset is available and describes how the required offset will be secured. The Applicant's Guide provides information relating to this requirement.

### ADVERTISED PLAN



### Next steps

Applications to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation must address all the application requirements specified in the Guidelines. If you wish to remove the mapped native vegetation you are required to apply for approval from the responsible authority (e.g. local Council). This Native vegetation removal report must be submitted with your application and meets most of the application requirements. The following requirements need to be addressed, as applicable.

#### Application Requirement 3 - 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, Patch Tree or Scattered Tree, 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.

#### **Application Requirement 6 - Property Vegetation Plan**

If a PVP is applicable, it must be provided with the application.



### **Appendix 1: Description of native vegetation to be removed**

General Habitat Units for each zone (Patch, Scattered Tree or Patch Tree) are calculated by the following equation in accordance with the Guidelines

# <u>General Habitat Units = extent without overlap x condition score x general landscape factor x 1.5, where the general landscape factor = 0.5 + (strategic biodiversity value score/2)</u>

The General Offset amount required is the sum of all General Habitat Units per zone.

#### Native vegetation to be removed

Information provided by or on behalf of the applicant								Information calculated by NVR Map					
Zone	Туре	DBH (cm)	EVC code	Bioregiona conservation st	This cop for atus its part	ied document t Partial the sole purpo Removal consideration of a planning p	o be made avail Condition se of enabling and review as rocess under th	able Ti e	.arge ree(s)	Polygon extent (ha)	Extent without overlap (ha)	SBV score	General Habitat Units
ST16- e	Scattered Tree	87	NIS_0047	Endangered	Plann The do pu	ing and Enviro cumentomust n rpose which ma	nment Act 198 ot be@æ@for a ay breach any	7. ny	1	0.070	0.054	0.880	0.015
ST3-a	Scattered Tree	83	NIS_0047	Endangered		copyri no	ght 0.200		1	0.070	0.026	0.880	0.007
ST4-b	Scattered Tree	130	NIS_0047	Endangered	1	no	0.200		1	0.070	0.019	0.880	0.005
ST5-c	Scattered Tree	160	NIS_0047	Endangered	1	no	0.200		1	0.070	0.025	0.880	0.007
ST7-d	Scattered Tree	77	NIS_0047	Endangered	1	no	0.200		1	0.070	0.050	0.851	0.014



### Appendix 2: Images of mapped native vegetation

#### 1. Property in context



- Proposed Removal
- Past Removal
  Partial Removal
- Property Boundaries



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# ADVERTISED PLAN





#### 2. Aerial photograph showing mapped native vegetation

Proposed Removal
 Past Removal
 Partial Removal



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# ADVERTISED PLAN
### 3. Location Risk Map



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### 4. Strategic Biodiversity Value Score Map



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0.21 - 0.40



### 5. Condition Score Map



Proposed Removal
 Past Removal
 Partial Removal

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



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### 6. Endangered EVCs



Endangered 1750 Ecological Vegetation Classes



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# **Unused Road Reserve Option**





# NVRR ID: 300\_20240731\_WQQ

This report provides information to support an application to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation in accordance with the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (the Guidelines). This report is **not an assessment by DEECA** of the proposed native vegetation removal. Native vegetation information and offset requirements have been determined using spatial data provided by the applicant or their consultant.

# **Report details**

Date created: 31/07/2024

Local Government Area: ALPINE SHIRE

Shapefile name: P524537\_DederangBESS\_EnSym\_RevA\_Option2\_20240731.shp

Site assessor name: Leah Mann

**Registered Aboriginal Party:** 

Coordinates: 146.99393, -36.45500

Address: 1402 YACKANDANDAH-DEDERANG ROAD DEDERANG 3691



**Regulator Notes** 

Removal polygons are located:





Assessment pathway	Intermediate Assessment Pathway						
Location category	Location 2 The native vegetation extent map indicates that this area is typically characterised as supporting native vegetation. Additionally, it is model as encompassing an endangered Ecological Vegetation Class, sensitive wetland or sensitive coastal area. The removal of less than 0.5 hectare native vegetation in this area will not require a Species Offset.						
Total extent including past and proposed removal (ha) Includes endangered EVCs (ha): 0.203	0.203	Extent of past removal (ha) Extent of proposed removal - Patches (ha) Extent of proposed removal - Scattered Trees (ha)	0 0.000 0.203				
No. Large Trees proposed to be removed	4	<i>No. Large Patch Trees</i> <i>No. Large Scattered Trees</i>	0 4				
No. Small Scattered Trees	2						

# Offset requirements if approval is granted

Any approval granted will include a condition to secure an offset, before the removal of native vegetation, that meets the following requirements:

General Offset amount <sup>1</sup>	0.057 General Habitat Units
Minimum strategic biodiversity value score <sup>2</sup>	0.6857
Large Trees	4
Vicinity	North East CMA or ALPINE SHIRE LGA

NB: values within tables in this document may not add to the totals shown above due to rounding

The availability of third-party offset credits can be checked using the Native Vegetation Credit Register (NVCR) Search Tool - <u>https://nvcr.delwp.vic.gov.au</u>



<sup>1.</sup> The General Offset amount required is the sum of all General Habitat Units in Appendix 1.

<sup>2.</sup> Minimum strategic biodiversity value score is 80 per cent of the weighted average score across habitat zones where a General Offset is required.

<sup>3.</sup> The Species Offset amount(s) required is the sum of all Species Habitat Units in Appendix 1.

# **Application requirements**

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.

### **Application Requirement 1 - Native vegetation removal information**

If the native vegetation removal is mapped correctly, the information presented in this Native Vegetation Removal Report addresses Application Requirement 1.

### Application Requirement 2 - Topographical and land information

This statement describes the topographical and land features in the vicinity of the proposed works, including the location and extent of any ridges, hilltops, wetlands and waterways, slopes of more than 20% gradient, low-lying areas, saline discharge areas or areas of erosion.

### Application Requirement 3 - Photographs of the native vegetation to be removed

Application Requirement 3 is not addressed in this Native Vegetation Removal Report. All applications must include recent, timestamped photos of each Patch, Large Patch Tree and Scattered Tree which has been mapped in this report.

part of a planning process under the **Planning and Environment Act 1987.** 

### Application Requirement 4 TRaster Application Requirement 4

If past removal has been considered correctly, the information presented in this Native Vegetation Removal Report addresses Application Requirement 4.

### **Application Requirement 5 - Avoid and minimise statement**

This statement describes what has been done to avoid and minimise impacts on native vegetation and associated biodiversity values.

### **Application Requirement 6 - Property Vegetation Plan**

This requirement only applies if an approved Property Vegetation Plan (PVP) applies to the property Does a PVP apply to the proposal?

### **Application Requirement 7 - Defendable space statement**

Where the removal of native vegetation is to create defendable space, this statement:

Describes the bushfire threat; and



• Describes how other bushfire risk mitigation measures were considered to reduce the amount of native vegetation proposed for removal (this can also be part of the avoid and minimise statement).

This statement is not required if, If the proposed defendable space is within the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO), and in accordance with the 'Exemption to create defendable space for a dwelling under Clause 44.06 of local planning schemes' in Clause 52.12-5.

### **Application Requirement 8 - Native Vegetation Precinct Plan**

This requirement is only applicable if you are removing native vegetation from within an area covered by Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (NVPP), and the proposed removal is not identified as 'to be removed' within the NVPP.

Does an NVPP apply to the proposal?

### **Application Requirement 9 - Offset statement**

This statement demonstrates that an offset is available and describes how the required offset will be secured. The Applicant's Guide provides information relating to this requirement.

# ADVERTISED PLAN



# Next steps

Applications to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation must address all the application requirements specified in the Guidelines. If you wish to remove the mapped native vegetation you are required to apply for approval from the responsible authority (e.g. local Council). This Native vegetation removal report must be submitted with your application and meets most of the application requirements. The following requirements need to be addressed, as applicable.

### Application Requirement 3 - 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, Patch Tree or Scattered Tree, 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.

### **Application Requirement 6 - Property Vegetation Plan**

If a PVP is applicable, it must be provided with the application.



# **Appendix 1: Description of native vegetation to be removed**

General Habitat Units for each zone (Patch, Scattered Tree or Patch Tree) are calculated by the following equation in accordance with the Guidelines

# <u>General Habitat Units = extent without overlap x condition score x general landscape factor x 1.5, where the general landscape factor = 0.5 + (strategic biodiversity value score/2)</u>

The General Offset amount required is the sum of all General Habitat Units per zone.

### Native vegetation to be removed

		Informat	tion provid	ed by or on behalf	Information calculated by NVR Map								
Zone	Туре	DBH (cm)	EVC code	Bioregiona conservation st	This cop I foi atus its part	ied document t Partial the sole purpo Removal consideration of a planning p	o be made avai Condition se of enabling and review as rocess under th	lable Tı	arge ee(s)	Polygon extent (ha)	Extent without overlap (ha)	SBV score	General Habitat Units
ST13- d	Scattered Tree	71	NIS_0047	Endangered	Planı The do pu	ning and Enviro cumentomust n rpose which ma	nment Act 198' ot beQi200for a iy breach any	7. ny	1	0.070	0.070	0.814	0.019
ST14- e	Scattered Tree	63	NIS_0047	Endangered		copyrig no	ght 0.200		-	0.031	0.000	0.880	0.000
ST15- f	Scattered Tree	60	NIS_0047	Endangered		no	0.200		-	0.031	0.008	0.880	0.002
ST16- c	Scattered Tree	87	NIS_0047	Endangered		no	0.200		1	0.070	0.054	0.880	0.015
ST3-a	Scattered Tree	83	NIS_0047	Endangered		no	0.200		1	0.070	0.027	0.880	0.008
ST4-b	Scattered Tree	130	NIS_0047	Endangered		no	0.200		1	0.070	0.043	0.880	0.012



# Appendix 2: Images of mapped native vegetation

### **1. Property in context**



- Proposed Removal
  Past Removal
- Partial Removal
- Property Boundaries

200 m

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2. Aerial photograph showing mapped native vegetation

Proposed Removal
 Past Removal
 Partial Removal



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📃 Partial Removal

<b>0</b> 001 1000
0.61 - 0.80
0.41 - 0.60
0.21 - 0.40
0.00 - 0.20

35 m

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Proposed Removal
 Past Removal
 Partial Removal



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### 6. Endangered EVCs



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# Appendix I: Search for native vegetation offsets availability

AusNet Option



# Report of available native vegetation credits



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: 12/08/2024 03:20

Report ID: 25810

### What was searched for?

#### General offset

General habitat units	Strategic biodiversity value	Large Vicinity (Catchment Management Authority or Municipal district) These opied document to be made available
0.049	0.697	5 for threasole purpresease f enabling its consideration and review as
		part of a planning process under the
		Planning and Environment Act 1987.

# Details of available native vegetation credits on 12 August 2024 03:20

copyright

#### These sites meet your requirements for general offsets.

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	СМА	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
VC_CFL- 3074_01	15.112	2888	North East	Towong Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL- 3789_01	10.102	201	North East	Towong Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Ethos, VegLink

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

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	СМА	LGA	Land	Trader	Fixed	Broker(s)
					owner		price	

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	СМА	LGA	Land	Trader	Fixed	Broker(s)
					owner		price	

There are no potential sites listed in the Native Vegetation Credit Register that meet your offset requirements.

LT - Large Trees

CMA - Catchment Management Authority

LGA - Municipal District or Local Government Authority



### **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@d elwp.vic.gov.au	www.environment.vic.gov.au/nativ e-vegetation
Ecocentric	Ecocentric Environmental Consulting	0410 564 139	ecocentric@me.com	Not avaliable
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.vi c.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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Obtaining this publication does not guarantee that the credits shown will be available in the Native Vegetation Credit Register either now or at a later time when a purchase of native vegetation credits is planned.

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 the Victoria Planning Provisions and Victorian planning schemes

# ADVERTISED PLAN

# **Unused Road Reserve Option**



# Report of available native vegetation credits



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: 12/08/2024 03:21

Report ID: 25811

### What was searched for?

#### General offset

General habitat units	Strategic biodiversity value	Large Vicinity (Catchment Management Authority or Municipal district) These opied document to be made available
0.057	0.686	4 for the sole purposes of enabling its consideration and review as
		part of a planning process under the
		Planning and Environment Act 1987.

# Details of available native vegetation credits on 12 August 2024 03:21

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#### These sites meet your requirements for general offsets.

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	СМА	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
VC_CFL- 3074_01	15.112	2888	North East	Towong Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL- 3789_01	10.102	201	North East	Towong Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Ethos, VegLink

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

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	СМА	LGA	Land	Trader	Fixed	Broker(s)
					owner		price	

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	СМА	LGA	Land	Trader	Fixed	Broker(s)
					owner		price	

There are no potential sites listed in the Native Vegetation Credit Register that meet your offset requirements.

LT - Large Trees

CMA - Catchment Management Authority

LGA - Municipal District or Local Government Authority



### **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@d elwp.vic.gov.au	www.environment.vic.gov.au/nativ e-vegetation
Ecocentric	Ecocentric Environmental Consulting	0410 564 139	ecocentric@me.com	Not avaliable
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.vi c.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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#### **Document prepared by**

### Aurecon Australasia Pty Ltd

ABN 54 005 139 873 Aurecon Centre Level 8, 850 Collins Street Docklands, Melbourne VIC 3008 PO Box 23061 Docklands VIC 8012 Australia

T +61 3 9975 3000
 F +61 3 9975 3444
 E melbourne@aurecongroup.com
 W aurecongroup.com

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