ecology & heritage partners

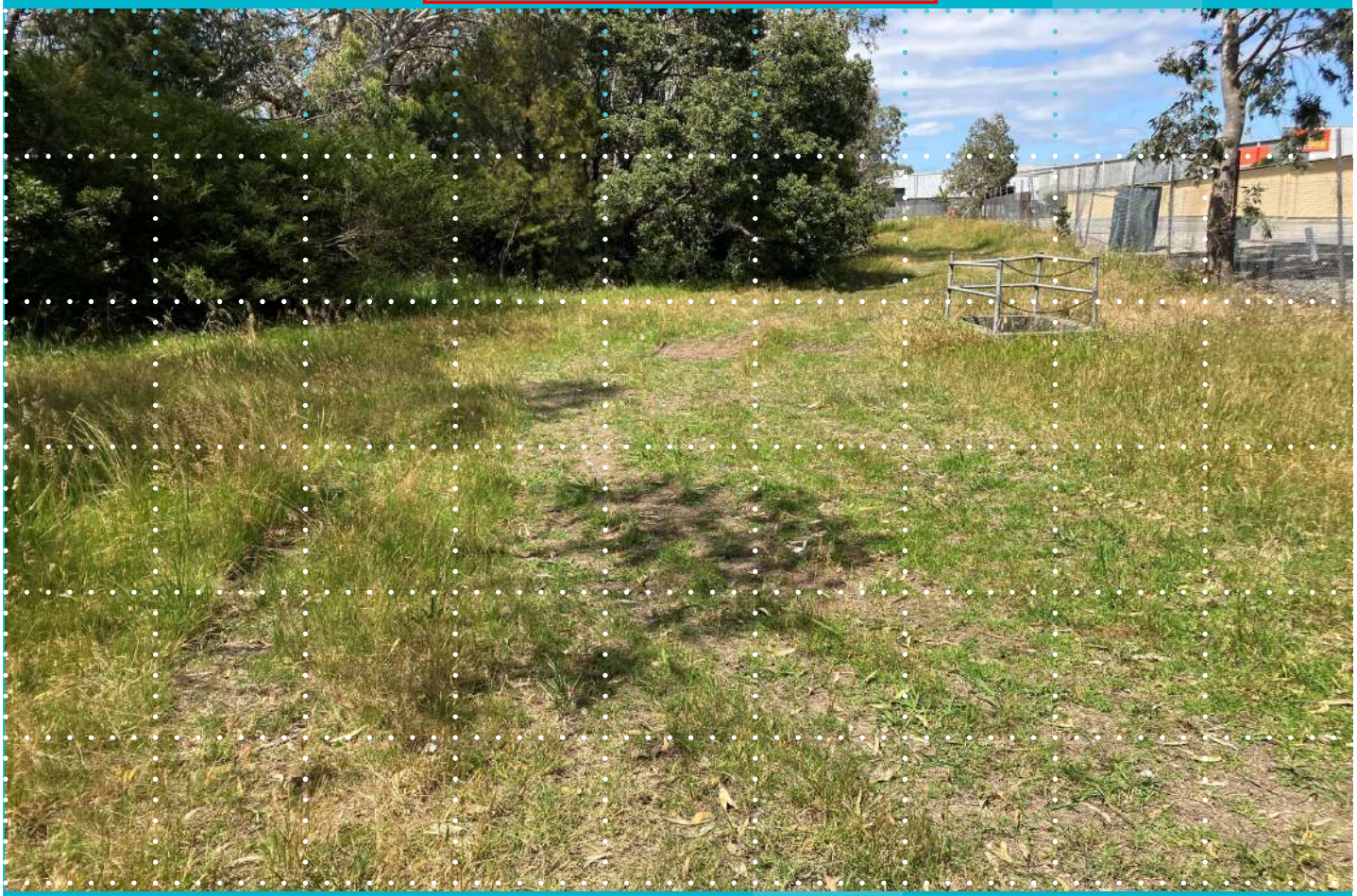
Final Report

Biodiversity Assessment of a Pipeline Installation at 33 Princes Highway, Dandenong South, Victoria

Prepared for

Aliro Group

May 2024



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Ecology and Heritage Partners acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the country we live and work on, and we pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

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SUMMARY OF CLAUSE 52.17 APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Table S1. Application requirements for a permit to remove native vegetation (Victoria Planning Provisions Clause 52.17; DELWP 2017)

No.	Application Requirement	Response
Application requirements under the Intermediate Assessment Pathway		
1	Information about the native vegetation to be removed, including: • The assessment pathway and reason for the assessment pathway; • A description of the native vegetation to be removed; • Maps showing the native vegetation and property in context; and • The offset requirement that will apply if the native vegetation is approved to be removed.	Refer to Section 3.1, Section 5, Figure 1 and Appendix 2 (NVR Report)
2	Topographic and land information relating to the native vegetation to be removed, showing ridges, crests and hilltops, wetlands and waterways, slopes of more than 20 percent, drainage lines, low lying areas, saline discharge areas, and areas of existing erosion, as appropriate.	Refer to Section 1.2 and Figure 1
3	Recent dated photographs of the native vegetation to be removed.	Refer to Section 3.1
4	Details of any other native vegetation that was permitted to be removed on the same property with the same ownership as the native vegetation to be removed, where the removal occurred in the five-year period before the application to remove native vegetation is lodged.	No removal of native vegetation has been removed by the proponent within the property within the past five years.
5	An avoid and minimise statement. The statement describes any efforts to avoid the removal of and minimise the impacts on the biodiversity and other values of native vegetation, and how these efforts focussed on areas of native vegetation that have the most value.	Refer to Section 4.1
6	A copy of any Property Vegetation Plan contained within an agreement made pursuant to section 69 of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* that applies to the native vegetation to be removed.	Not applicable
7	Where the removal of native vegetation is to create defendable space, a written statement explaining why the removal of native vegetation is necessary. This statement must have regard to other available bushfire risk mitigation measures. This statement is not required when the creation of defendable space is in conjunction with an application under the Bushfire Management Overlay.	Not applicable as the vegetation clearance is not for defendable space
8	If the application is under Clause 52.16, a statement that explains how the proposal responds to the Native Vegetation Precinct Plan considerations at decision guideline 8.	Not applicable as the application responds to Clause 52.17
9	An offset statement providing evidence that an offset that meets the offset requirements for the native vegetation to be removed has been identified and can be secured in accordance with the Guidelines.	Refer to Section 4.3 and Appendix 3.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd was commissioned by Aliro Group to undertake a Biodiversity Assessment for 33 Princes Highway, Dandenong South, Victoria. We understand that Aliro Group are proposing to submit a planning application in order to facilitate the upgrade of a stormwater drainage pipeline at 33 Princes Highway, Dandenong South. It is understood that the existing 1200 millimetre drain pipe will be replaced with two 1200 millimetre drain pipes, which will sit side by side, to support the increasing stormwater flows expected for the area.

The purpose of this assessment was to identify the extent and type of native vegetation present within the study area and to determine the likely presence of significant flora and fauna species and/or ecological communities. This report presents the results of the assessment and discusses the potential ecological and legislative implications associated with the proposed action.

1.2 Study Area

The study area is located at 33 Princes Highway, Dandenong South and is approximately 30 kilometres south-east of Melbourne's CBD (Figure 1). The study area covers approximately 0.06 hectares and is bound by Princes Highway to the north, Pakenham – City (Flinders Street) Heavy rail line to the south, industrial processing (timber) to the west and Eumemmerring Creek to the east.

The study area includes a portion of the Eumemmerring Creek corridor and is generally flat, with no ridges or crests present. Eumemmering Creek immediately borders the study area in the east (Figure 2).

According to the Victorian Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) NatureKit Map (DEECA 2024a), the study area is located within the Gippsland Plain bioregion, Melbourne Water Catchment Management Authority (CMA) and City of Greater Dandenong municipality.

2 METHODS

2.1 Desktop Assessment

Relevant literature, online-resources and databases were reviewed to provide an assessment of flora and fauna values associated with the study area. The following information sources were reviewed:

- The DEECA NatureKit Map (DEECA 2024a) and Native Vegetation Regulation (NVR) Tool (DEECA 2024b) for:
    - Modelled data for location risk, native vegetation patches, scattered trees and habitat for rare or threatened species; and,
    - The extent of historic and current Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs).
- EVC benchmarks (DEECA 2024c) for descriptions of EVCs within the relevant bioregion;
- The Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (VBA) for previously documented flora and fauna records within the project locality (DEECA 2024d);
- The Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) for matters of National Environmental Significance (NES) protected under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) (DCCEEW 2024);
- Relevant listings under the Victorian *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act), including the latest Threatened (DEECA 2024e) and Protected (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning [DELWP] 2019a) Lists;
- The online VicPlan Map (DTP 2024) to ascertain current zoning and environmental overlays in the study area; and,
- Aerial photography of the study area.

2.2 Field Assessment

A field assessment was undertaken on 22nd November 2023 to obtain information on flora and fauna values within the study area. The study area was walked, with all commonly observed vascular flora and fauna species recorded, significant records mapped, and the overall condition of vegetation and habitats noted. Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) were determined with reference to DEECA pre-1750 and extant EVC mapping (DEECA 2024a) and their published descriptions (DEECA 2024c).

Native vegetation that qualified as either a patch or scattered tree (Figure 2) was mapped to the full extent within the study area and a habitat hectare assessment to determine the quality was undertaken.

2.3 Removal, Destruction or Lopping of Native Vegetation (the Guidelines)

Under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987,* Clause 52.17 of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme requires a planning permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation. The assessment process for the clearing of vegetation follows the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (the Guidelines) (DELWP 2017).

2.4 Assessment Qualifications and Limitations

This report has been written based on the quality and extent of the ecological values and habitat considered to be present or absent at the time of the desktop and/or field assessments being undertaken.

The 'snapshot' nature of a standard biodiversity assessment, that migratory, transitory or uncommon fauna species may have been absent from typically occupied habitats at the time of the field assessment. In addition, annual or cryptic flora species such as those that persist via underground tubers may also be absent.

A comprehensive list of all terrestrial flora and fauna present within the study area was not undertaken as this was not the objective of the assessment. Rather a list of commonly observed species was recorded to inform the habitat hectare assessment and assist in determining the broader biodiversity values present within the study area.

Ecological values identified within the study area were recorded using a hand-held GPS or tablet with an accuracy of +/- 3 metres. This level of accuracy is considered to provide an accurate assessment of the ecological values present within the study area; however, this data should not be used for detailed surveying purposes.

The terrestrial flora and fauna data collected during the field assessment and information obtained from relevant desktop sources is considered to inform an accurate assessment of the ecological values present within the study area.

3 RESULTS

3.1 Vegetation Condition

One patch of native vegetation was recorded within the study area. The remainder of the study area comprised introduced and planted vegetation, present as mowed grass and ornamental trees.

Twenty-eight (28) flora species were observed within the study area, including 15 indigenous and 13 non-indigenous species. A list of all flora species recorded during the field assessment are provided in Appendix 1.1. Specific details relating to observed EVCs are provided below.

3.1.1 Patches of Native Vegetation

Native vegetation in the study area is representative of Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56). The presence of this EVC is generally consistent with the modelled extant (2005) native vegetation mapping (DEECA 2024a).

The results of the habitat hectare assessment are provided in Appendix 1.2.

Floodplain Riparian Woodland EVC

Floodplain Riparian Woodland is characterised as an open eucalypt woodland, growing to 20 metres tall over a medium to tall shrub layer. The ground layer typically contains aquatic and amphibious herbs and sedges in higher quality occurrences. This EVC occurs along banks and floodplains of meandering rivers and major creeks where rainfall is relatively low and soils are fertile. Periodic flooding and inundation events also occur (DEECA 2024c).

One patch of low-quality Floodplain Riparian Woodland vegetation was identified within the study area (Appendix 1.2; Figure 1). The patch of native vegetation formed a portion of the larger vegetation remnant which borders Eumemmerring Creek. Despite comprising native species within each vegetation strata, including canopy, sub-canopy, middle and ground layer, flora species diversity was relatively low. The canopy layer entirely comprised River Red-gum *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* trees, which were predominately large (Plate 1). The sub-canopy layer comprised a moderate cover of small River Red Gums and the occasional Blackwood *Acacia melanoxylon* and Black Sheoak *Allocasuarina littoralis* (Plate 2). The middle layer comprised Yarra Burgan *Kunzea leptospermoides*, Hedge Wattle *Acacia paradoxa* and scattered Hop goodenia *Goodenia ovata.* Native vegetation in the ground layer was sparse, comprising occasional Wallaby Grasses including Tasmanian Wallaby Grass *Rytidosperma semiannualare*, Common Wallaby Grass *Rytidosperma caespitosum* and Spear Grass *Austrostipa* sp. (Plate 3). The Eumemmerring Creek waterbody was largely devoid of native vegetation, with sporadic occurrences of Common Reed *Phragmites australis*. Exotic species including Kikuyu *Cenchrus clandestinus*, Blue periwinkle *Vinca major* and Blackberry *Rubus fruticosus* spp. agg. dominated the water's edge (Plate 4).

Plate 1. River Red Gum canopy layer within the study areas east (Figure 2) (Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd 22/11/2023).

Plate 2. Middle layer of Floodplain Riparian Woodland within the study areas south (Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd 22/11/2023).

Plate 3. Native patch of Floodplain Riparian Woodland either side of the existing drainage pipeline (Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd 22/11/2023).

Plate 4. Scattered Common Reed among dominant cover of exotic flora along Eumemmerring creek (Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd 22/11/2023).

3.1.2 Large Trees in Patches

A total of five Large Trees (LTs) in Floodplain Riparian Woodland patches were present (Figure 2). All of which were River Red-gum (Plate 5; Plate 6; Appendix 1.3).

Plate 5. Large River Red-gum within a patch of Floodplain Riparian Woodland in the study areas east (Tree 2 on Figure 2) (Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd 22/11/2023).

Plate 6. Large River Red-gum within a patch of Floodplain Riparian Woodland native vegetation (Tree 4 on Figure 2) (Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd 22/11/2023).

3.1.3 Scattered Trees

No scattered trees were recorded within the study area.

3.1.4 Introduced and Planted Vegetation

The study area's ground layer comprised a high cover (90%) of exotic grass species, common of highly urbanised landscapes (Plate 7). Scattered native grasses were generally present in these areas, however they did not have the required 25% relative cover to be considered a patch (Plate 8).

One distinct row of River Red Gums was identified within the study area's west (Plate 9; Trees 6-10; Figure 2). These trees are located within the 31 Princes Highway private property and have been considered to have been planted for amenity based the specimens straight line arrangement (i.e. windrow), distinctly even spacing and similarity of age, height and size.

Noxious weeds, as defined under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* (CaLP Act), were present predominately within the study area's east, with Blackberry (Plate 10) recorded. Blackberry is also a Weed of National Significance (WoNS).

Plate 7. Ornamental lawn grasses dominating the ground layer within the study area's west (Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd 22/11/2023).

Plate 8. Mixture of introduced and native grasses within the understorey layer along the existing pipeline alignment. (Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd 22/11/2023).

Plate 9. Row of planted River Red-gum trees within the 31 Princes Highway private property within the study area's west (Trees 6-10 on Figure 2) (Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd 22/11/2023).

Plate 10. Blackberry, a Weed of National Significance, within the study area's east (Ecology and Heritage Partners Pty Ltd 22/11/2023).

3.2 Fauna Habitat

The study area comprised a relatively modified waterway corridor, containing poor to moderate flora diversity and a high cover of exotic grasses and Blackberry throughout the ground layer. Although some River Red Gum trees were present (both large and small), no hollows were identified. The study area is likely to be utilised by common generalist avifauna adapted to a highly urbanised landscape as these trees may provide a stop-over point for mobile fauna transitioning between higher quality areas of more suitable habitat. The remaining native vegetation was generally confined to the middle layer, serving as a foraging resource for common generalist bird species. Fauna observed using this habitat included; Australian Magpie *Cracticus tibicen*, Common Blackbird *Turdus merula*, Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca* and House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*.

Eumemmerring Creek flows from north to south in the study areas east, which is likely to provide habitat for a range of common wetland bird species. Habitat variables were assessed within the study area during the field assessment, such as the presence and cover of fringing, floating, submerged and emergent vegetation, and the availability of refuge sites (e.g. rock piles, native vegetation).

The entire length of the Eumemmerring Creek corridor, which resides within 33 Princes Highway, was walked with no native fringing, floating and/or submerged vegetation identified within the creek. Common Reed was the sole native species identified within the waterbody, occasionally emerging from the middle of the waterway. While fringing vegetation bordered the entire section of the Eumemmerring Creek, the vegetation was not considered to be suitable habitat for significant aquatic or semi-aquatic species, including amphibious frogs (e.g. Growling Grass Frog *Litoria raniformis major*).

3.3 Significance Assessment

3.3.1 Flora

The VBA contains records of six nationally significant and 22 State significant flora species previously recorded within 10 kilometres of the Sites (DEECA 2023a) (Figure 3). The PMST nominated an additional 15 nationally significant species which have not been previously recorded but have the potential to occur in the locality (DCCEEW 2024).

Although one record (1993) of the EPBC Act listed (vulnerable) River Swamp Wallaby Grass *Amphibromus fluitans* occurs four kilometres south of the study area (Figure 3), no specimens were identified within the study area during the site assessment completed during the species flowering period (November – March).

No national or State significant flora were recorded during the site assessment, and based on the modified nature of the study area, landscape context and the proximity of previous records, significant flora species are considered unlikely to occur due to the high level of disturbance, environmental and noxious weed coverage and the absence of suitable habitat.

3.3.2 Fauna

The VBA contains records of 28 nationally significant and 39 State significant fauna species previously recorded within 10 kilometres of the Sites (DEECA 2023a) (Figure 4). The PMST nominated an additional 33 nationally significant species which have not been previously recorded but have the potential to occur in the locality (DCCEEW 2024).

Growling Grass Frog

The VBA contains one species occurrence record from 1970 approximately four kilometres southwest of the study area (DEECA 2023a; Figure 4).

Growling Grass Frog is largely associated with permanent or semipermanent still and slow flowing waterbodies (i.e. streams, lagoons, farm dams and old quarry sites) (Barker et al. 1995). Individuals can also use temporarily inundated waterbodies for breeding purposes provided they contain water over the breeding season (Organ 2010). The species is typically associated with waterbodies supporting an extensive cover of emergent, submerged and floating vegetation (Robertson et.al. 2002; Heard et.al. 2010). Emergent vegetation provides

basking sites for frogs and protection from predators, while floating vegetation provides suitable calling stages for adult males, breeding and oviposition (egg deposition) sites (Heard et.al. 2004). Terrestrial vegetation (grasses, sedges), rocks and other ground debris around a wetland perimeter also provide foraging, dispersal and over-wintering sites for frogs (Heard et.al. 2010). Waterbodies supporting the aforementioned habitat characteristics, and which are located within close proximity to each other are more likely to support a population of Growling Grass Frog, compared with isolated sites lacking important habitat features.

While fringing vegetation was identified along the Eumemmerring Creek waterbody, these flora species (Blue Periwinkle, Black Berry and Kikuyu) are not considered suitable for breeding or foraging for the growling Grass Frog or any other significant amphibian species. Further, the habitat survey undertaken during the site assessment found inadequate habitat features due to a lack of floating, submerged and emergent vegetation, and refuge sites (e.g. rock piles, native vegetation). Further, based on visual assessments, water within Eumemmerring creek was highly turbid.

Dwarf Galaxias

The VBA contains 23 species occurrence records predominately from 2005 (most recent from 2022) approximately 2 kilometres southwest of the study area (DEECA 2024a; Figure 4).

Dwarf Galaxias *Galaxiella pusilla* generally prefer to stay in close proximity to the waterbody edge, seeking protection from predators in native rushes and sedges (e.g. *Juncus* sp. or *Lepidosperma* sp.) (Saddlier et al. 2006). None of these flora groups were present within the study area or observed within adjacent areas of Eumemmerring Creek.

Dwarf Galaxias are thought to inhabit ephemeral water bodies (water bodies that temporary or partially dry up), via specialised dormancy. The species is only able to do so when the water body also contains burrowing crayfish *Geocharax* sp., where they utilise the crayfish holes. No evidence of burrowing crayfish was identified during the field assessment (i.e. burrow holes) and no records of burrowing crayfish *Geocharax* species are within 10 kilometres of the study area.

Implications

No national or State significant fauna were recorded during the site assessment, and based on the modified nature of the study area, landscape context and the proximity of previous records, significant fauna species are considered unlikely to rely on habitat within the study area for foraging or breeding purposes due to the lack of suitable and/or important habitat features.

Although one Growling Grass Frog record (1970) occurs 4 kilometres to the study areas southwest and multiple Dwarf Galaxias (2022) records are present 2 kilometres southeast of the study area, these species are not expected to occur within the study area due to the lack of suitable habitat features. Further, the implementation of water protection measures within an adopted Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) would mitigate impacts to any potentially present species.

Impacts to water quality can be mitigated via the implementation of an Environmental or Construction Management Plan (EMP or CMP). For recommended mitigation measures to include in a CEMP see Section 6.

3.3.3 *Ecological Communities*

Three nationally listed ecological communities are predicted to occur within 10 kilometres of the Sites (DCCEEW 2024):

- Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands (Freshwater) of the Temperate Lowland Plains;
- Natural Damp Grassland of the Victorian Coastal Plains; and
- White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived native Grassland.

However, no vegetation within the study area met the condition thresholds that define any national or State-significant communities due to the absence of key indicator species, the low diversity of native flora and high cover of exotic vegetation.

4 REMOVAL, DESTRUCTION OR LOPPING OF NATIVE VEGETATION (THE GUIDELINES)

4.1 Avoid and Minimise Statement

Efforts to avoid and minimise impacts to patches of native vegetation and Large trees were explored in consultation with Ecology and Heritage Partners and Arbor Survey, however due to the scope of the project (capacity upgrade of existing stormwater pipeline) it is not possible to avoid impacts to native vegetation and Large trees entirely due to the engineering and pit safety standards required to facilitate the pipeline installation. However, impacts have been minimised as much as reasonably practical through only constructing the pit as wide as required to meet safety standards. Furthermore, the native vegetation proposed to be removed largely consists of shrubby and graminoid species. When the works are completed and the pit filled in again, it is highly likely that these species will revegetate the disturbed ground relatively quickly and restore the habitat values of this area.

It is understood that the study area comprises existing stormwater drainage infrastructure including;

- Stormwater Pit (approximately one metre by two metres);
- One 1200 millimetre diameter drainage pipeline; and
- Drainage pipeline outfall with headwall.

The existing stormwater infrastructure crosses the study area from west to east, feeding into Eumemmerring Creek in the east. The study area is primarily contained within the Eumemmerring Creek corridor which is within the Urban Floodway Zone (UFZ) and is subject to the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO). The proposal to replace the existing 1200 millimetre diameter pipeline with two side by side 1200 millimetre in diameter pipes is considered an important measure to ensure the adjacent landscape is not negatively impacted during high rainfall and flooding events. The stormwater pipeline duplication would increase surface water management capacity and ensure present and future surface water flows can be adequately managed across the landscape. The proposal meets the purpose of the UFZ and LSIO by appropriately managing flows which will in turn minimise flood damage, soil erosion, sedimentation and silting. Further, the proposal will protect water quality by managing urban stormwater, minimising risk to the degradation of environmental water quality and groundwater.

The proposed siting location for the pipeline duplication is restricted to the existing stormwater infrastructure and makes use of a previously cleared area within the Eumemmerring Creek corridor. No further opportunities to avoid and minimise impacts to native vegetation exist.

4.2 Residual Impacts to Native Vegetation

The below clearing scenario is based on the minimal width of the pipeline trench to be constructed and has been prepared based on a proposed development footprint by the proponent in consultation with the Project Arborist following the implementation of the avoid and minimise principals. The development footprint indicates that all the native vegetation disturbance will occur at the eastern end of the study area in the patch

of Floodplain Riparian Woodland (Figure 2). It is understood that the impact footprint includes a two metres buffer around all works to compensate for any unintended impacts during construction.

4.2.1 *Vegetation proposed to be removed*

The study area is within Location 1, with 0.022 hectares of native vegetation proposed to be removed. As such, the permit application falls under the Intermediate assessment pathway (Table 1).

Condition scores for vegetation proposed to be removed are provided in Appendix 1.2.

Table 1. Removal of Native Vegetation (the Guidelines) (DELWP 2017).

Assessment pathway	Intermediate
Location Category	1
Total Extent (past and proposed) (ha)	0.022
Extent of past removal (ha)	0.000
Extent of proposed removal (ha)	0.022
Large Trees (scattered and in patches) to be removed (no.)	2
Small scattered trees to be removed (no.)	0
EVC Conservation Status of vegetation to be removed	Endangered (Floodplain Riparian Woodland)

4.2.2 *Offset Targets*

The offset requirements for native vegetation removal for the proposed development are 0.006 General Habitat Units and 2 Large Trees.

A summary of proposed vegetation losses and associated offset requirements is presented in Table 2 and the Native Vegetation Removal (NVR).

Table 2. Offset Targets.

General Offsets Required	0.006 General Habitat Units
Large Trees	2
Vicinity (catchment/council)	Melbourne Water CMA / City of Greater Dandenong municipality
Minimum Strategic Biodiversity Value*	0.200

*The minimum Strategic Biodiversity Value is 80% of the weighted average score across habitat zones where a General offset is required.

4.3 Offset Strategy

According to DEECAs Native Vegetation Offset Register (DEECA 2024f), there are 31 offset sites within the Melbourne Water CMA or City of Greater Dandenong municipality that can be used to satisfy the General Habitat Unit and Large tree offset requirements.

An offset register search statement identifying the relevant offsite sites is provided in Appendix 3, which provides evidence that the offset obligation can be secured without any difficulty should a permit be provided for the project.

5 LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Commonwealth)

The proposed action is highly unlikely to have a significant impact on any matter of NES. As such, a referral to the Commonwealth Environment Minister is unlikely to be required regarding matters listed under the EPBC Act.

5.2 *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (Victoria)

There are no confirmed records of species or ecological communities listed as Threatened or Protected under the FFG Act being within the study area.

5.3 *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (Victoria)

5.3.1 Local Planning Scheme

The study area is located within the City of Greater Dandenong. The following zoning and overlays apply (DTP 2024):

- Urban Floodway Zone (UFZ)
- Land Subject to Inundation (LSIO)

Planted Vegetation Exemption

The planted vegetation exemption applies to *native vegetation that is to be removed, destroyed or lopped that was either planted, or grown as a result of direct seeding,* as detailed within the supplementary document to the Guidelines (DEECA 2017a), Exemptions from requiring a planning permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation – Guidance (DEECA 2017b).

The purpose of the planted vegetation exemption is to not require a permit for the removal of native vegetation which has either been planted (e.g. planting a seedling or an established plant) or grown from direct seeding (e.g. placing a seed in the ground in any manner).

The planted vegetation exemption does not apply to native vegetation planted or managed with public funding for the purpose of land protection or enhancing biodiversity unless the removal, destruction or lopping of the native vegetation is in accordance with written permission of the agency (or its successor) that provided the funding. **Biodiversity purposes include improving rare and threatened species habitat, improving the condition or extent of native vegetation or improving the functioning of an ecosystem and its delivery of ecosystem services.*

This exemption is of relevance to native vegetation that has been planted within the study area (Trees ID 6-8) ('Planted' on Figure 2). While tree 6 will be 'lost' via TPZ encroachment (Arbor Survey 2024), this tree is within private property and has likely been planted for amenity purposes, thereby qualifying as exempt from requiring a permit under Clause 52.17 of the City of Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme.

5.3.2 *The Guidelines*

The State Planning Policy Framework and the decision guidelines at Clause 12.01 Biodiversity and Clause 52.17 Native Vegetation require Planning and Responsible Authorities to have regard for the Guidelines (DELWP 2017).

5.3.3 *Implications*

The study area is within Location 1, with 0.022 hectares of native vegetation proposed to be removed from the impact area. As such, the permit application falls under the Intermediate assessment pathway. The offset requirement for native vegetation removal is 0.006 General Habitat Units and 2 Large Trees. A planning permit from the City of Greater Dandenong is required to remove, destroy or lop any native vegetation under Clause 52.17 of the Greater Dandenong planning scheme.

5.4 *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* (Victoria)

One weed listed as noxious under the CaLP Act was recorded during the assessment (Blackberry). Blackberry is also a Weed of National Significance (WoNS) and should be appropriately controlled throughout the study area.

5.5 *Wildlife Act 1975* and Wildlife Regulations 2013 (Victoria)

Any persons engaged to remove, salvage, hold or relocate native fauna during construction must hold a current Management Authorisation under the *Wildlife Act 1975* or under any other Act issued by DEECA.

5.6 *Water Act 1989* (Victoria)

The existing stormwater infrastructure directs water into the Eumemmerring Creek via an existing outfall and headwall present within the waterways western embankment.

A 'works on waterways' permit from the Melbourne Water CMA is likely to be required where any action impacts on waterways within the study area. Additionally, where structures are installed within or across waterways that potentially interfere with the passage of fish or the quality of aquatic habitat, these activities should be referred to DEECA with the Melbourne Water CMA included for comment.

6 MITIGATION MEASURES

6.1.1 General Mitigation Measures

Recommended measures to mitigate impacts upon terrestrial values present within the study area may include:

- Minimise impacts to native vegetation and habitats through construction and micro-siting techniques, including fencing retained areas of native vegetation. If indeed necessary, trees should be lopped or trimmed rather than removed.
- All contractors should be aware of ecologically sensitive areas to minimise the likelihood of inadvertent disturbance to areas marked for retention. Native vegetation (areas of sensitivity) should be included as a mapping overlay on any construction plans;
- Tree Protection Zones (TPZs) must be implemented to prevent indirect losses of native vegetation during construction activities (DSE 2011). A TPZ applies to a tree and is a specific area above and below the ground, with a radius 12 x the Diameter at Breast Height (DBH). At a minimum standard a TPZ should consider the following:
    - A TPZ of trees should be a radius no less than two metres or greater than 15 metres;
    - Construction, related activities and encroachment (i.e. earthworks such as trenching that disturb the root zone) should be excluded from the TPZ;
    - Where encroachment is 10% or more of the total area of the TPZ, the tree should be considered as lost and offset accordingly (unless an arboricultural report specifies otherwise);
    - Directional drilling may be used for works within the TPZ without being considered encroachment. The directional bore should be at least 600 millimetres deep;
    - The above guidelines may be varied if a qualified arborist confirms the works will not significantly damage the tree (including stags / dead trees). In this case the tree would be retained, and no offset would be required; and,
    - Where the minimum standard for a TPZ has not been met an offset may be required.
- Removal of any habitat trees or shrubs (particularly hollow-bearing trees or trees/shrubs with nests) should be undertaken between February and September to avoid the breeding season for most fauna species. If any habitat trees or shrubs are proposed to be removed, this should be undertaken under the supervision of an appropriately qualified zoologist to salvage and translocate any displaced fauna. A Fauna Management Plan may be required to guide the salvage and translocation process;
- Where possible, construction stockpiles, machinery, roads, and other infrastructure should be placed away from Eumemmerring Creek, areas supporting native vegetation and Large Trees; and,
- As indigenous flora provides valuable habitat for indigenous fauna, it is recommended that any landscape plantings that are undertaken as part of the proposed works are conducted using indigenous species sourced from a local provenance, rather than exotic deciduous trees and shrubs.

In addition to the general mitigation measures above, the following site-specific mitigation measures are expected to be considered during the planning and design phases and incorporated into the final design and CEMP where appropriate.

6.1.2 Site-specific Mitigation Measures

- A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) should be developed to ensure impacts to ecological values are to the minimum extent necessary and no unintended impacts to native vegetation occur during construction. The CEMP should be developed once project design is finalised with consideration for potential impacts to water quality, native vegetation and potentially present (common) fauna species. The mitigation measures detailed within Section 6 of this report and the relevant EPA guidelines should be consulted during CEMP development.
- Ensure that best practice sedimentation and pollution control measures are undertaken at all times, in accordance with Environment Protection Authority (EPA) guidelines (EPA 2020a; EPA 2020b; Victorian Stormwater Committee 1999) to prevent impacts to Eumemmerring Creek and downstream waterways.
- When the works are completed and the pipeline is covered over, it is highly likely that adjacent introduced grass species will invade the disturbed area. To prevent this, native seed characteristic of the area should be broadcast immediately after construction activity has finished. A mix of native seed should include ground layer species such as Wallaby Grass *Rytidosperma* spp., Spear Grass *Austrostipa* spp., Common Tussock Grass *Poa labillardierei*, Windmill Grass *Chloris truncata* and Weeping Grass *Microlaena stipoides* to restore the habitat values of this area.

7 SUMMARY OF PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

Further requirements associated with development of the study area, as well as additional studies or reporting that may be required, are provided in Table 3.

Table 3. Further requirements associated with development of the study area.

Relevant Legislation	Implications	Further Action
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999	The proposed action is highly unlikely to have a significant impact on any matter of NES. As such, a referral to the Commonwealth Environment Minister is unlikely to be required regarding matters listed under the EPBC Act.	No further action required.
Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988	There are no confirmed records of species or ecological communities listed as Threatened or Protected under the FFG Act being within the study area.	No further action required.
Planning and Environment Act 1987	The study area is within Location 1, with 0.022 hectares of native vegetation proposed to be removed within the impact area. The offset requirement for native vegetation and Large tree removal is 0.006 hectares and 2 large trees. A planning permit from the City of Greater Dandenong is required to remove, destroy or lop any native vegetation under Clause 52.17 of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme.	Prepare and submit a Planning Permit application.
Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994	One weed species listed under the CaLP Act was recorded within the study area (Blackberry). To meet requirements under the CaLP Act, listed noxious weeds should be appropriately controlled throughout the study area.	Blackberry should be appropriately controlled throughout the study area.
Wildlife Act 1975	Any persons engaged to conduct salvage and translocation or general handling of terrestrial fauna species must hold a current Management Authorisation.	Ensure wildlife specialists hold a current Management Authorisation.
Water Act 1989	A 'works on waterways' permit is likely to be required from the Melbourne Water CMA where any action impacts on waterways within the study area.	Obtain a 'works on waterways' permit from the Melbourne Water CMA.

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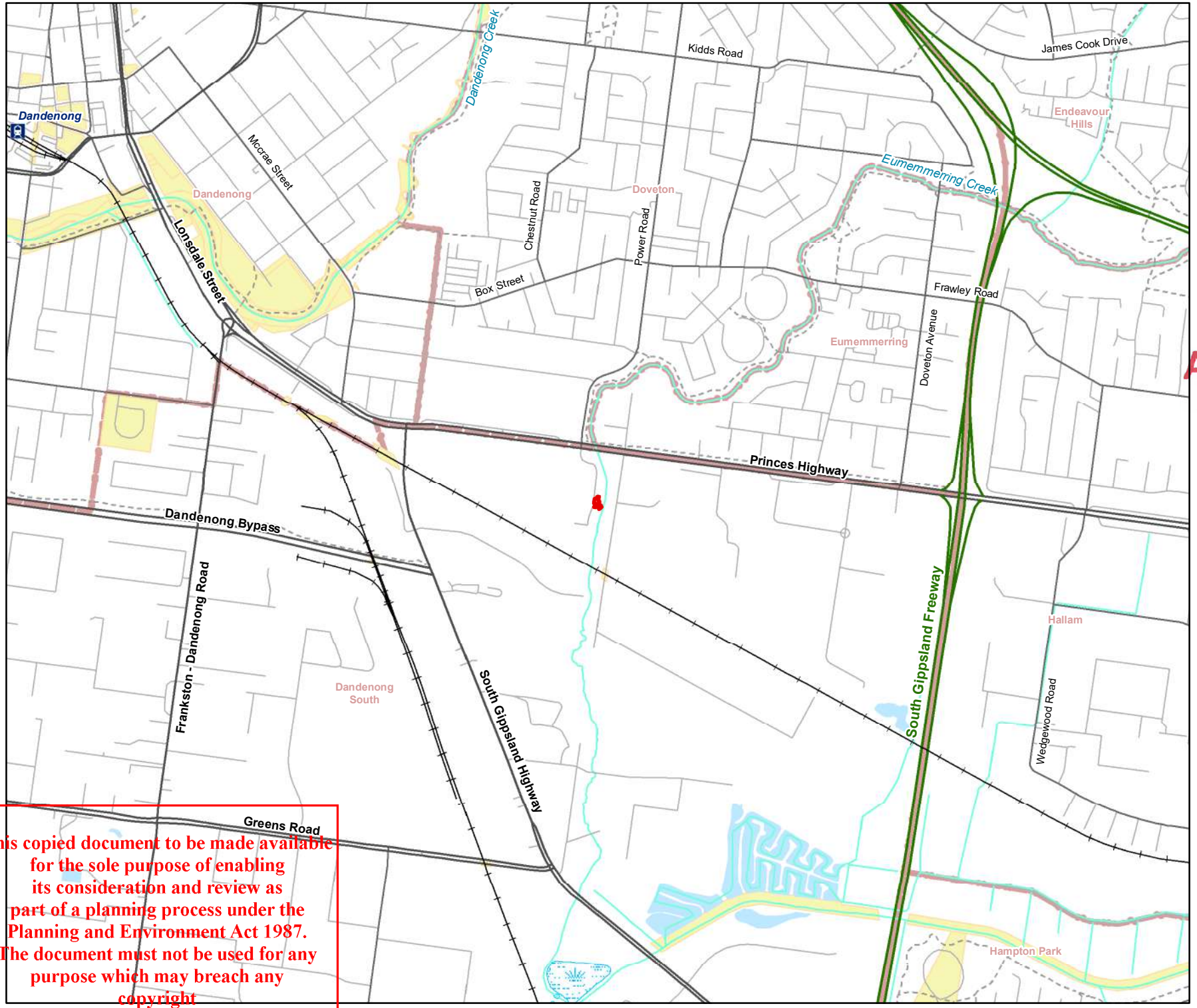


Legend

- Study Area
- Railway
- Freeway
- Major Road
- Collector Road
- Minor Road
- Proposed Road
- Minor Watercourse
- Permanent Waterbody
- Wetland/Swamp
- Crown Land
- Localities

Figure 1

Location of the study area

Vegetation Assessment for Drainpipe Installation 31 Princes Highway, Dandenong South

0 250 500
Metres

Map Scale: 1:20,000 @ A4
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

ecology & heritage partners

17860_Fig01_StudyArea 21/11/2023 dvaladares

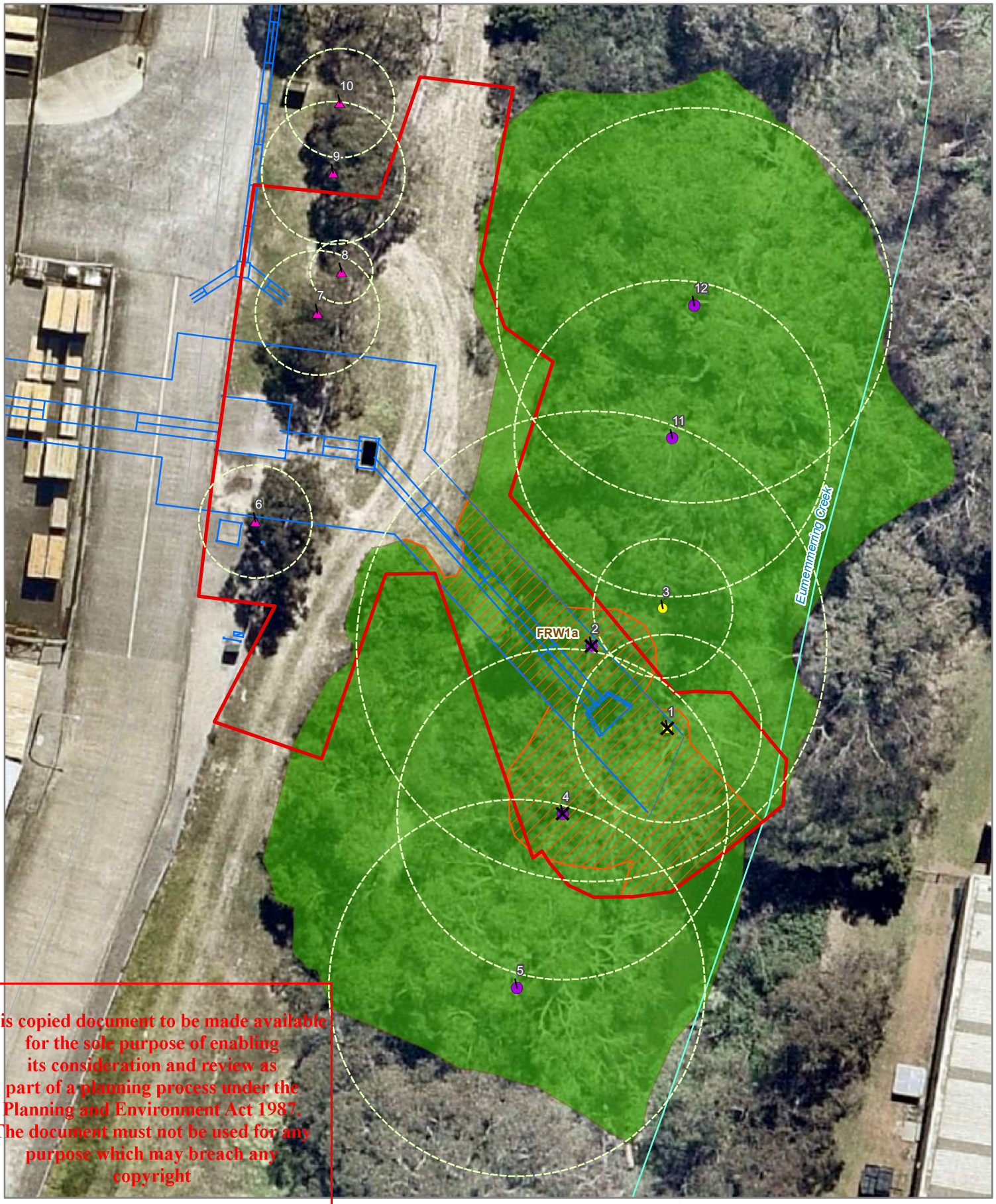


Figure 2

Ecological features

Vegetation Assessment for Drainpipe Installation 31 Princes Highway, Dandenong South

Legend

- Study Area
- Development footprint
- Large Tree in patch
- Small Tree in patch
- Planted Tree
- Tree impacted
- Tree Protection Zone

Ecological Vegetation Class

- Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
- Impacted vegetation

N

0 3 6

Metres

Map Scale: 1:320 @ A4
Coordinate System: GDA2020 MGA Zone 55

ecology & heritage partners

17860_Fig02_EcoFeat_PG20 14/02/2024 psorensen

Aerial source: Nearmap 2023

Legend

Study Area

Significant flora

- Giant Honey-myrtle
- Grey Billy-buttons
- Pale Swamp Everlasting
- Purple Blown-grass
- River Swamp Wallaby-grass
- Riverina Bitter-cress
- Spotted Gum
- Sticky Wattle
- Studley Park Gum
- Yarra Gum

Figure 3

Previously documented significant flora within 5km of the study area

Vegetation Assessment for Drainpipe Installation 33 Princes Highway, Dandenong South

0 1 2

Kilometres

Map Scale: 1:38,000 @ A3
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

ecology & heritage partners

ADVERTISED PLAN

Legend

Study Area

Significant fauna

- Australasian Bittern
- Australasian Shoveler
- Australian Painted-snipe
- Blue-billed Duck
- Dwarf Galaxias
- Eastern Great Egret
- Freckled Duck
- Gang-gang Cockatoo
- Grey Goshawk
- Grey-headed Flying-fox
- Growling Grass Frog
- Hardhead
- Lewin's Rail
- Little Egret
- Musk Duck
- Painted Honeyeater
- Plumed Egret
- Powerful Owl
- Southern Toadlet
- White-bellied Sea-Eagle
- Yellow-bellied Glider

Figure 4

Previously documented significant fauna within 5km of the study area

Vegetation Assessment for Drainpipe Installation 33 Princes Highway, Dandenong South

0 1 2

Kilometres

Map Scale: 1:38,000 @ A3
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

APPENDIX 1 FLORA

Appendix 1.1 Flora Results

Legend:

^ Naturally growing (i.e. non-planted) indigenous species to the study area

+ Naturally growing indigenous species that also occurs as planted indigenous vegetation to the study area

** Planted indigenous species to the study area

Planted Victorian (non-indigenous) and Australian species

* Listed as a noxious weed under the CaLP Act

w Weed of National Significance

Table A1.1. Flora within the study area.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
INDIGENOUS SPECIES		
Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood	**
Acacia paradoxa	Hedge Wattle	**
Allocasuarina littoralis	Black Sheoak	**
Austrostipa spp.	Spear grass	^
Elymus scaber	Common Wheat grass	^
Eucalyptus camaldulensis	River Red-gum	+
Exocarpus cupressiformis	Cherry Ballart	**
Goodenia ovata	Hop Goodenia	**
Juncus spp.	Rush	^
Kunzea leptospermoides	Yarra Burgan	^
Phragmites australis	Common Reed	^
Rytidosperma caespitosum	Common Wallaby grass	^
Rytidosperma semiannualare	Tasmanian Wallaby grass	^
NON-INDIGENOUS OR INTRODUCED SPECIES		
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal-grass	-
Bromus diandrus	Great Brome	-
Bromus hordeaceus subsp. *hordeaceus*	Soft Brome	-
Cenchrus clandestinus	Kikuyu	-
Dactylis glomerata	Cocksfoot	-
Ehrharta erecta var. *erecta*	Panic Veldt-grass	-
Ehrharta longiflora	Annual Veldt-grass	-
Malva parviflora	Small-flower Mallow	-

Scientific Name	Common Name	Notes
Medicago polymorpha	Burr Medic	-
Rubus fruticosus spp. agg.	Blackberry	*w
Solanum nigrum s.l.	Black Nightshade	-
Sonchus oleraceus	Common Sow-thistle	-
Vinca major	Blue periwinkle	-
Taraxacum officinale spp. agg.	Garden Dandelion	-

Appendix 1.2 Habitat Hectare Assessment

Table A1.2. Habitat Hectare Assessment Table.

Vegetation Zone		FPRW1
Bioregion		Gippsland Plain
EVC		Floodplain Riparian Woodland
EVC Number		56
EVC Conservation Status		Endangered
Patch Condition	Large Old Trees /10	10
	Canopy Cover /5	5
	Under storey /25	5
	Lack of Weeds /15	0
	Recruitment /10	5
	Organic Matter /5	3
	Logs /5	0
	Treeless EVC Multiplier	1.00
	Subtotal =	28
Landscape Value /25		2
Habitat Points /100		30
Habitat Score		**0.30**

Appendix 1.3 Scattered Trees and Large Trees in Patches

Table A1.3. Scattered Trees and Large Trees in Patches.

Tree # (Figure 2)	Species Name	Common Name	DBH (cm)	Size Class	Scattered / Patch / Planted	Status
1	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*	River Red-gum	50	Small	Patch	**Removed***
2	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*	River Red-gum	130	Large	Patch	**Removed***
3	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*	River Red-gum	37	Small	Patch	Retain
4	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*	River Red-gum	88	Large	Patch	**Removed***
5	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*	River Red-gum	100	Large	Patch	Retain
6	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*	River Red-gum	30	Small	Planted	Removed
7	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*	River Red-gum	33	Small	Planted	Retain
8	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*	River Red-gum	16	Small	Planted	Retain
9	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*	River Red-gum	38	Small	Planted	Retain
10	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*	River Red-gum	29	Small	Planted	Retain
11	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*	River Red-gum	84	Large	Patch	Retain
12	*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*	River Red-gum	105	Large	Patch	Retain

*Trees to be removed which require a planning permit under Clause 52.17 of the Greater Dandenong planning scheme.

Native vegetation removal report

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 report **is not an assessment by DELWP** 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.

Date of issue: **20/02/2024**
Time of issue: **9:10 pm**

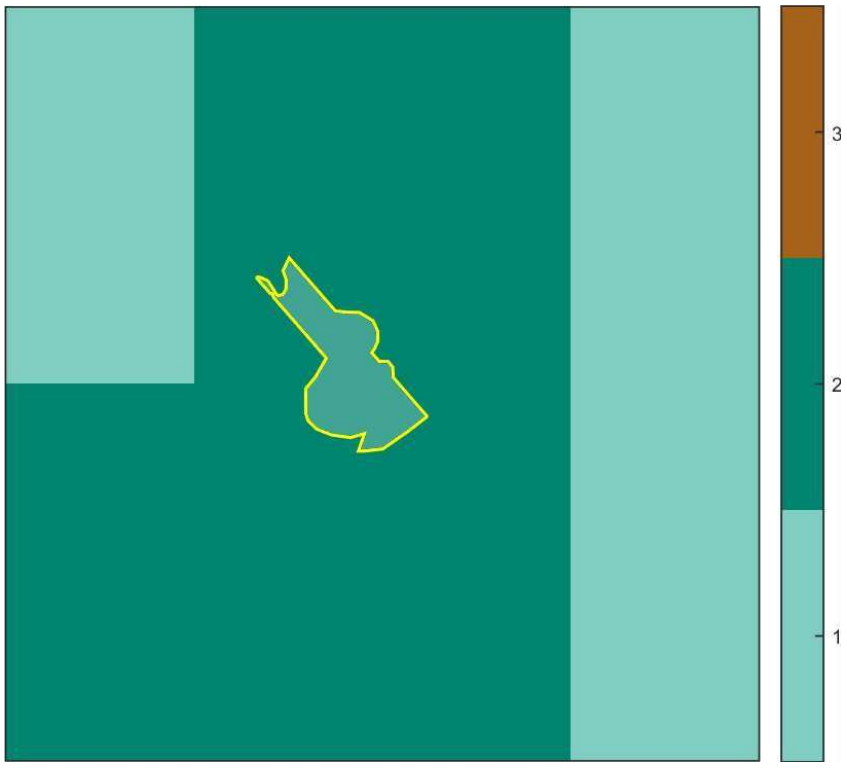
Report ID: EHP_2024_027

Project ID	EHP17860_DandenongSth_VG94

Assessment pathway

Assessment pathway	**Intermediate Assessment Pathway**
Extent including past and proposed	0.022 ha
Extent of past removal	0.000 ha
Extent of proposed removal	0.022 ha
No. Large trees proposed to be removed	2
Location category of proposed removal	Location 2 The native vegetation is in an area mapped as an endangered Ecological Vegetation Class (as per the statewide EVC map). Removal of less than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation in this location will not have a significant impact on any habitat for a rare or threatened species.

1. Location map



Offset requirements if a permit is granted

Any approval granted will include a condition to obtain an offset that meets the following requirements:

General offset amount[1]	0.006 general habitat units
Vicinity	Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority (CMA) or Greater Dandenong City Council
Minimum strategic biodiversity value score[2]	0.200
Large trees	2 large trees

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

Appendix 1 includes information about the native vegetation to be removed

Appendix 2 includes information about the rare or threatened species mapped at the site.

Appendix 3 includes maps showing native vegetation to be removed and extracts of relevant species habitat importance maps

1 The general offset amount required is the sum of all general habitat units in Appendix 1.

2 Minimum strategic biodiversity score is 80 per cent of the weighted average score across habitat zones where a general offset is required

Next steps

Any proposal to remove native vegetation must meet the application requirements of the Intermediate Assessment Pathway and it will be assessed under the Intermediate Assessment Pathway.

If you wish to remove the mapped native vegetation you are required to apply for a permit from your local council. Council will refer your application to DELWP for assessment, as required. **This report is not a referral assessment by DELWP.**

This *Native vegetation removal report* must be submitted with your application for a permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation.

Refer to the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native* vegetation (the Guidelines) for a full list of application requirements This report provides information that meets the following application requirements:

- The assessment pathway and reason for the assessment pathway
- A description of the native vegetation to be removed (met unless you wish to include a site assessment)
- Maps showing the native vegetation and property
- The offset requirements determined in accordance with section 5 of the Guidelines that apply if approval is granted to remove native vegetation.

Additional application requirements must be met including:

- Topographical and land information
- Recent dated photographs
- Details of past native vegetation removal
- An avoid and minimise statement
- A copy of any Property Vegetation Plan that applies
- A defendable space statement as applicable
- A statement about the Native Vegetation Precinct Plan as applicable
- An offset statement that explains that an offset has been identified and how it will be secured.

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

For more information contact the DELWP Customer Service Centre 136 186

www.delwp.vic.gov.au

Appendix 1: Description of native vegetation to be removed

All zones require a general offset, the general habitat units each zone is calculated by the following equation in accordance with the Guidelines:

General habitat units = extent x condition x general landscape factor x 1.5, where the general landscape factor = 0.5 + (strategic biodiversity value score/2)

The general offset amount required is the sum of all general habitat units per zone.

Native vegetation to be removed

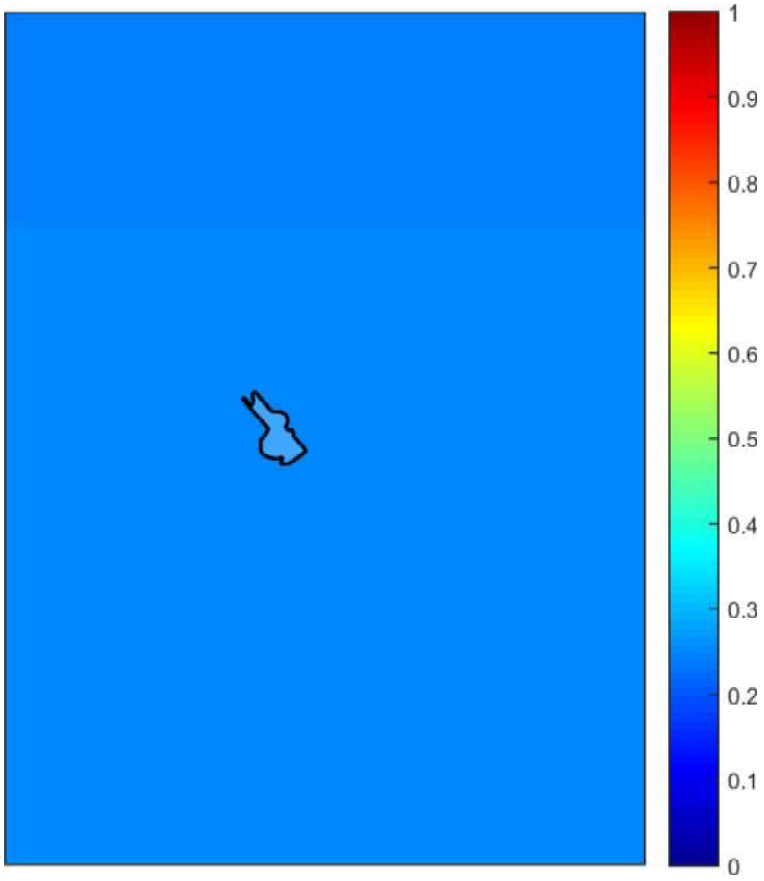
Information provided by or on behalf of the applicant in a GIS file							Information calculated by EnSym					
Zone	**Type**	**BioEVC**	**BioEVC conservation status**	**Large tree(s)**	**Partial removal**	**Condition score**	**Polygon Extent**	**Extent without overlap**	**SBV score**	**HI score**	**Habitat units**	**Offset type**
1-A	Patch	gipp0056	Endangered	2	no	0.300	0.022	0.022	0.250		0.006	General

Appendix 2: Information about impacts to rare or threatened species' habitats on site

This is not applicable in the Intermediate Assessment Pathway.

Appendix 3 – Images of mapped native vegetation

2. Strategic biodiversity values map



3. Aerial photograph showing mapped native vegetation

4. Map of the property in context

Yellow boundaries denote areas of proposed native vegetation removal.

Report of available native vegetation credits

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

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

Date and time: 21/02/2024 09:31

Report ID: 22937

What was searched for?

General offset

General habitat units	Strategic biodiversity value	Large trees	Vicinity (Catchment Management Authority or Municipal district)	
0.006	0.2	2	CMA	Melbourne Water
			or LGA	Greater Dandenong City

Details of available native vegetation credits on 21 February 2024 09:31

These sites meet your requirements for general offsets.

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	CMA	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
BBA-0277	2.520	443	Melbourne Water	Mornington Peninsula Shire	No	Yes	No	Abezco, Ethos, VegLink
BBA-0670	16.287	107	Melbourne Water	Cardinia Shire	No	Yes	No	Abezco, VegLink
BBA-0677	9.507	1443	Melbourne Water	Whittlesea City	No	Yes	No	Abezco, VegLink
BBA-0678	43.374	2602	Melbourne Water	Nillumbik Shire	No	Yes	No	VegLink
BBA-0678_02	0.562	58	Melbourne Water	Nillumbik Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Abezco, VegLink
BBA-0931	0.034	2	Melbourne Water	Moorabool Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets
BBA-2774	0.014	9	Melbourne Water	Greater Geelong City	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
BBA-2789	1.317	14	Melbourne Water	Baw Baw Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Contact NVOR
BBA-2790	2.911	116	Melbourne Water	Baw Baw Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Contact NVOR
BBA-2853	0.010	46	Melbourne Water	Greater Geelong City	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
BBA-2870	2.544	431	Melbourne Water	Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
BBA-2871	16.335	1668	Melbourne Water	Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
TFN-C1636	0.045	111	Melbourne Water	Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Yarra Ranges SC
TFN-C1663	0.011	20	Melbourne Water	Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yarra Ranges SC
TFN-C1664	1.243	56	Melbourne Water	Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Yarra Ranges SC

TFN-C1962	0.006	8	Goulburn Broken, Melbourne Water	Macedon Ranges Shire	No	Yes	No	Contact NVOR
VC_CFL-0838_01	0.184	648	Melbourne Water	Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3016_01	0.034	22	Melbourne Water	Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3084_01	0.015	14	Melbourne Water	Cardinia Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3084_02	0.038	38	Melbourne Water	Cardinia Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3687_01	0.278	61	Melbourne Water	Baw Baw Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Baw Baw SC
VC_CFL-3705_01	0.008	3	Melbourne Water	Melton City	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3708_01	0.198	507	Melbourne Water	Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3709_01	0.139	395	Melbourne Water	Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3710_01	6.468	322	Melbourne Water	Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3729_01	0.016	6	Melbourne Water	Melton City	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3740_01	0.022	57	Melbourne Water	Cardinia Shire, Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets
VC_CFL-3740_01	0.085	16	Melbourne Water	Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	Bio Offsets
VC_CFL-3744_01	1.309	362	Melbourne Water	Macedon Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3762_01	0.047	79	Melbourne Water	Moorabool Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink
VC_CFL-3764_01	5.332	7	Melbourne Water	Yarra Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink

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

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

There are no sites listed in the Native Vegetation Credit Register that meet your offset requirements when applying the alternative arrangements as listed in section 11.2 of the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.

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

Credit Site ID	GHU	LT	CMA	LGA	Land owner	Trader	Fixed price	Broker(s)
VC_CFL-3746_01	4.962	563	Melbourne Water	Macedon Ranges Shire	Yes	Yes	No	VegLink

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@delwp.vic.gov.au	www.environment.vic.gov.au/native-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.vic.gov.au	www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au

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