



Jack Turner  
Team Leader  
Dept Planning Housing & Infrastructure  
Email: [Jack.Turner@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Jack.Turner@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Jack,

**Subject: Mod 8 - Link Road Realignment Adjustment (SSD-5170-Mod-8)**

Thank you for your Major Projects Portal request dated 11 December 2025 seeking advice from the Conservation Programs, Heritage & Regulation Group (CPHR) of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) on the Link Road Realignment Adjustment (SSD-5170-Mod-8).

CPHR has reviewed the Modification Report (dated 28 November 2025) and Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (dated 25 November 2025) for Bengalla Mine Modification 8.

The BDAR does not satisfy the requirements of the Biodiversity Assessment Method 2020 (BAM). The key issues with the Modification are as follows:

- the BDAR does not meet the requirements of a Modification under the BC Act
- the BDAR does not adequately detail the avoid, minimise and offset hierarchy in accordance with the BAM
- the BDAR assessment does not meet the requirements of the BAM (Stage 1)
- targeted flora and fauna searches do not meet the requirements of the BAM
- the spatial data supplied does meet minimum data requirements of the BAM

As such CPHR have only completed a preliminary review, as Stage 2 components of the BDAR cannot be fully assessed until Stage 1 is completed in accordance with the BAM, TBDC and relevant survey guidelines.

CPHR considers that further assessment and information is required prior to recommending this proposal to proceed. These issues identified are further detailed in **Attachment 1**.

The consent authority should be aware that offsets required under condition 28 of the consent are yet to be secured under an appropriate long term conservation mechanism, such as a biodiversity stewardship agreement.

If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact the Conservation Planning and Assessment team at [hcc.planning@dcceew.nsw.gov.au](mailto:hcc.planning@dcceew.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Kerry Richardson

**Director, Conservation Planning and Assessment  
Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation Group  
NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water**

2 February 2026

Enclosure: Attachment 1

## Attachment 1 - CPHR Comments

### Mod 8 - Link Road Realignment Adjustment (SSD-5170-Mod-8)

In preparing this advice CPHR has reviewed the following documents:

- *Bengalla Mine Modification 8, Modification Report* prepared by Xenith, dated 28 November 2025
- *Appendix D – Biodiversity Development Assessment Report, Bengalla Mine Modification 8*, prepared by Cumberland Ecology, dated 25 November 2025.
- *Continuation of Bengalla Mine Project: Ecological Impact Assessment*, prepared by Cumberland Ecology, dated September 2013

#### Key Assessment Issues

1.	<p><b>The modification application does not meet the minimum requirements of the BAM 2020</b></p>	<p>In accordance with the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> (BC Act) and <a href="#">The Department's website</a>, the Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) must be prepared following the Biodiversity Assessment Method 2020 (BAM) and in accordance with the requirements for modifications. To achieve this the BDAR must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• outline available information about the original impact of the development and consider any measures already taken to avoid, minimise or offset the impact on biodiversity values in connection with the previous approval before the proposed modification</li> <li>• identify those offset obligations that have been discharged with documentary evidence</li> <li>• identify new offset requirements and any new measures to avoid and minimise impacts in accordance with the BAM</li> </ul> <p>The BDAR does not outline the original impact of the development and/or detail any measures already taken to avoid, minimise or offset.</p> <p>The EIS documents the original disturbance footprint in comparison to the modification footprint in section 6.3.4.8, but this needs to be included along with the criteria listed above within the BDAR.</p> <p>The BDAR does not provide documentary evidence of offsets that have been discharged.</p> <p><b>Recommended action:</b></p> <p>Update the BDAR to include the minimum information requirements for modifications.</p>
	<i>Extent and Timing</i>	Pre-determination

2.	<p><b>Inadequate avoidance and minimisation of Biodiversity issues</b></p>	<p>The BDAR does not adequately address the avoid, minimise and offset hierarchy set out in section 6.3A of the BC Act. In particular, the BDAR does not adequately avoid significant habitat and threatened entities (as required by Stage 2 of the BAM) that are proposed to be directly impacted, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 63.41 ha of BC Act listed EEC, the Central Hunter Grey Box Ironbark Woodland</li> </ul>
----	--	--

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 39.42 ha of EPBC Act listed CEEC, Central Hunter Valley Eucalypt Forest and Woodland</li> <li>• 64 hollow bearing trees</li> <li>• 63.41 hectares of Hunter Valley Delma habitat</li> <li>• 17.06 hectares of Southern Myotis habitat</li> </ul> <p>The BDAR must clearly document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the evolution of the proposal to avoid biodiversity values on developable land</li> <li>• thorough exploration of the feasibility of alternative options (including cost–profit analyses)</li> <li>• spatial identification of relevant avoided areas (including maps and digital files)</li> <li>• analyses (including data), and explanations or justifications to support avoid and minimised decisions.</li> </ul> <p>The BDAR references previous reports and options (for example, ‘no areas of significantly lower ecological quality were identified within reasonable proximity to the existing alignment’) but this needs to be identified further within the BDAR. Please include maps of other options and alignments to further explain the evolution of the design and why there are no feasible alternatives with lower ecological impact in this BDAR.</p> <p>The BDAR does not demonstrate how the significant findings of the Stage 1 BAM assessment have informed the avoid and minimise strategy and led to avoidance of impacts to biodiversity (including the avoidance of TEC, hollow bearing trees, and threatened species habitat).</p> <p>Demonstrating reasonable avoid and minimise measures on developable land is required for the BDAR to comply with the BAM.</p> <p>CPHR recommends a review of the locations of the proposed ‘Construction Laydown Areas’ depicted in Figure 17 of the BDAR, to avoid the removal TECs, hollow bearing trees, and threatened species habitat.</p> <p><b>Recommended action:</b></p> <p>Amend the BDAR to demonstrate genuine avoidance, particularly of areas of CEEC and important habitat features.</p>
	<i>Extent and Timing</i>	Pre-determination

3.	<p><b>Inadequate justification for exclusion of candidate species</b></p>	<p>The BDAR confirms that Eastern Cave Bat was recorded within the subject site via acoustic recording and Large-eared Pied Bat has been recorded within the locality.</p> <p>CPHR considers the justification for the exclusion of both species from further assessment in the BDAR and the BAM-C inadequate.</p> <p>Figure 14 shows the study area is more than 2 km from rocky areas containing caves, overhangs, escarpments and cliffs, however no evidence is provided that there are no old mines, tunnels, old buildings or sheds within 2 km of the study area.</p>
----	---	--

		<p>Both species can breed and inhabit old buildings and sheds, old mines, culverts, and derelict concrete buildings, as stated in the TBDC.</p> <p>Further assessment is required for both species. All potential habitat (both breeding and foraging) needs to be assessed, discussed and mapped in relation to the subject site as per the TBDC and the <i>'Species credit' threatened bats and their habitats – NSW guide for the Biodiversity Assessment Method</i>. The BDAR needs to include details of on ground habitat searches and desktop habitat assessments within 2 km of the study area.</p> <p>In regard to the Eastern Cave Bat, the <i>'Species credit' threatened bats and their habitats – NSW guide for the Biodiversity Assessment Method</i> states, <i>'if acoustic detectors are the only survey method used and the target species is detected, breeding must be assumed, and all potential breeding habitat mapped as breeding habitat.'</i> The TBDC further states that <i>'When the species is present on the subject land and the proposed impact is not a potential SAll, standard species credits will be generated.'</i> The BDAR must comply with these requirements.</p> <p>A species credit profile for the Eastern Cave Bat must be presented in the BDAR. There are numerous BioNet records of this species previously recorded in the locality of the subject site, indicating its ongoing use of this area.</p> <p>As per the guide, the survey period for both bat species is November to January. CPHR notes the survey effort for microbats for this project has occurred in February and March, outside the recommended survey period. The survey effort completed does not meet the requirements of the BAM 2020 for either bat species.</p> <p><b>Recommended action:</b></p> <p>Revise the BDAR to meet the requirements of the BAM 2020. An assessment needs to be undertaken in accordance with the <i>'Species credit' threatened bats and their habitats – NSW guide for the Biodiversity Assessment Method</i> to confirm the Eastern Cave Bat and Large-eared Pied Bat are not using the subject land for foraging or breeding habitat.</p> <p>The BDAR should be updated, and maps and data provided to demonstrate appropriate assessment and survey effort in accordance with the TBDC and the guideline.</p> <p>SAll assessments should be prepared for these species if impacts to breeding habitat are predicted and/or assumed.</p>
	<i>Extent and Timing</i>	Pre-determination

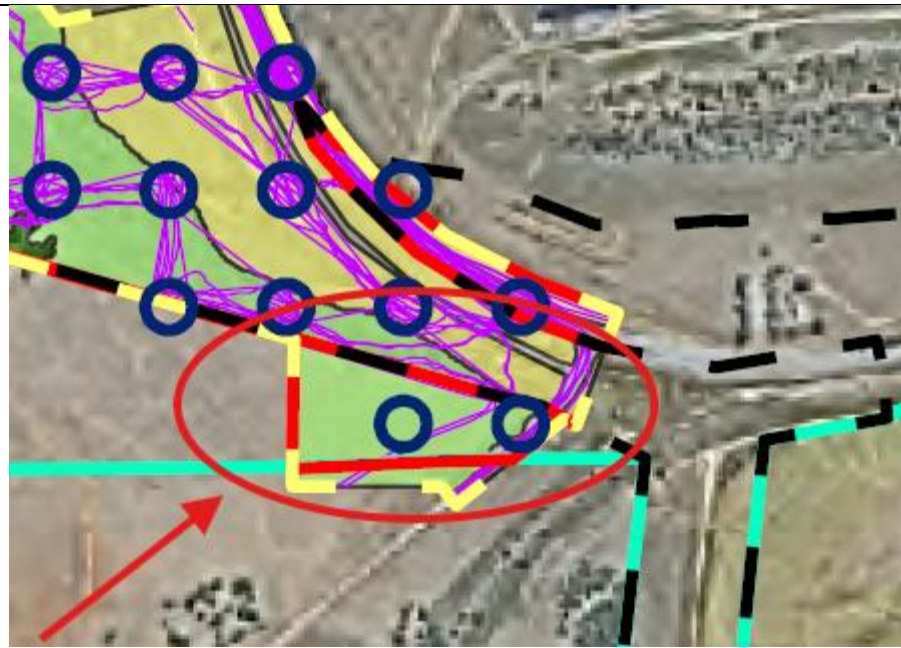
4.	<b>BDAR does not meet the requirements set out in the BAM (Stage 1)</b>	<p><b>PCT and TEC determination does not meet the minimum requirements set out in the BAM</b></p> <p>As a requirement of the BAM, CPHR requires the raw BAM plot survey data and a full flora species list, in order to review the PCT and TEC justification. The BDAR should also include a shortlist of other PCTs considered, detail the process used for identifying the PCT</p>
----	---	--

		<p>selected, and explain why the remaining PCTs were not selected. The BDAR also needs to include BAM plot photos.</p> <p>The BDAR has identified TECs occurring within the subject land but has not described the process for their selection. When identifying TECs the BDAR should include a comparison of PCT description and other attributes to Final Determination and relevant SPRAT profile.</p> <p>Provision of quantitative and qualitative data to support PCT and TEC selection a requirement of the BAM.</p> <p>CPHR also notes that Cumberland Ecology previously mapped a significant portion of the subject site as Upper Hunter White Box – Ironbark Grassy Woodland, in the <i>Ecological Assessment for the Continuation of Bengalla Mine</i> (September 2013). CPHR requests further clarification to why the vegetation community has now been mapped differently to what was originally reported in 2013.</p> <p>At this stage, the BDAR does not meet the minimum requirements of the BAM, so CPHR has only completed a preliminary review given the information provided.</p> <p><b>Habitat suitability assessment does not meet the minimum requirements set out in the BAM</b></p> <p>The BDAR should include a list of all ecosystem and candidate species predicted to occur within the subject site. This should include the source of information for each species listed, for example populated by BAM-C, incidental observation, BioNet records, etc. The BDAR should also include further discussion regarding habitat assessment, for example hollow bearing trees, nests, bush rock, waterbodies, flowering and nectar species observed, and include photos of such habitats within the BDAR.</p> <p><b>Recommended action</b></p> <p>Update the BDAR with detailed PCT and TEC justification and include the BAM plot flora list so this selection can be reviewed by CPHR. Ensure the justification includes both quantitative and qualitative data and provide reference to mapping provided in ecological assessment in 2013 and to why now the vegetation within the subject site differs.</p> <p>Ensure the BDAR has a list of both ecosystem and candidate species predicted to occur within the subject site, including the sources of this information.</p>
	<i>Extent and Timing</i>	Pre-determination

5.	<p><b>Spatial Data supplied does meet the requirements of BAM 2020.</b></p>	<p>Appendix D of <i>BAM 2020 Operational Manual – Stage 2</i> – outlines the requirements of the data submission with a BDAR.</p> <p>At this stage CPHR has only completed a preliminary review of the data, as a considerable amount survey data provided does not meet the minimum attribute requirements as described in Appendix D of the <i>BAM 2020 Operational Manual – Stage 2</i>. Examples of this include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘Fauna Survey Locations’ data does not meet minimum attribute requirements of the BAM. For example, the data is missing the date, time, survey duration and target species.</li> </ul>
----	---	---

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘Survey Tracks RP2’ data does not meet minimum attribute requirements of the BAM. For example, the data does not identify which tracks are for flora or fauna survey. The data is missing the date, survey type (e.g. transect, two-phase grid, incidental) and the target species (scientific name). Multi-species flora searches should be restricted to a maximum of five species in the same stratum (i.e. search for five ground species, five mid-layer species or five canopy species) per traverse in accordance with <i>Surveying threatened plants and their habitats - NSW survey guide for the Biodiversity Assessment Method</i>.</li> <li>• Stick and mud nests are recorded within spatial data, but these are not discussed within the BDAR.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recommended action:</b></p> <p>Ensure all spatial data files include the minimum attributes for as described Table 7 Appendix D of <i>BAM 2020 Operational Manual – Stage 2</i>.</p> <p>Include discussion of all species and habitat features identified in spatial data within the BDAR.</p>
	<i>Extent and Timing</i>	Pre-determination

6.	<b>Targeted flora and fauna searches have not been completed in accordance with the BAM, Threatened Biodiversity Database Collection (TBDC) and relevant survey guidelines</b>	<p>Targeted flora searches have not been completed in accordance with the BAM. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For <i>Diuris tricolor</i> – endangered population, and <i>Prasophyllum sp. Wybong</i>, the TBDC states ‘<i>Survey in Sep. If not found during survey, survey again in Oct.</i>’ No survey has occurred for these species in September, therefore the survey effort is not in accordance with the BAM.</li> <li>• For <i>Prasophyllum petilum</i>, <i>Prasophyllum sp. Wybong</i>, and <i>Pterostylis Chaetophora</i> the recommended survey period reported in the BDAR (Table 3) is incorrect. Please update Table 3 of the BDAR with the correct recommended survey periods for each species.</li> <li>• No survey for any flora species has been completed in the south-eastern corner of the subject site. See <b>Image 1</b> below.</li> </ul>
----	--	--

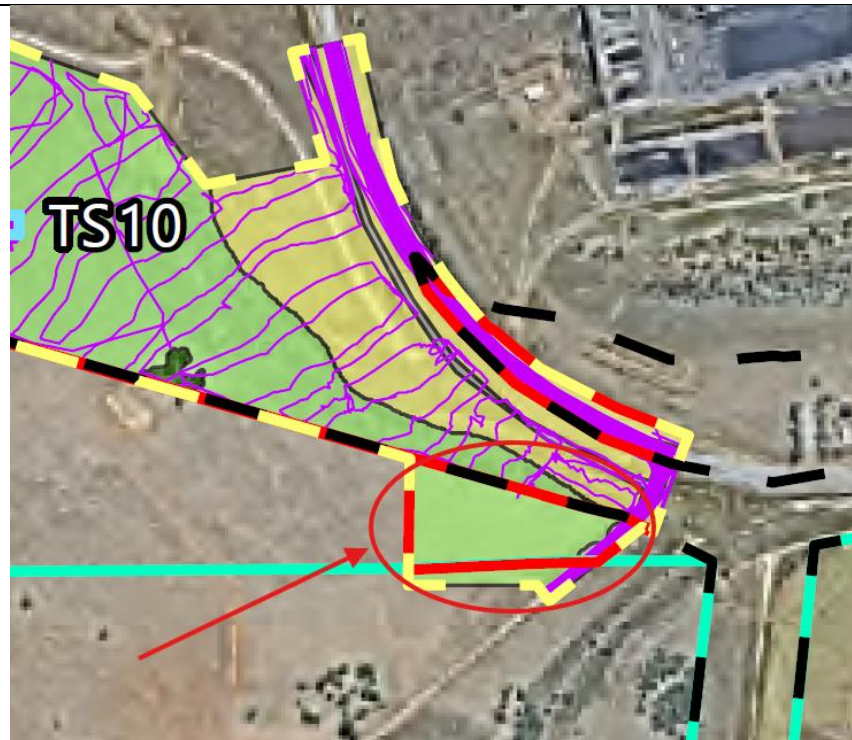


**Image 1** - No Targeted Flora Survey within the southeastern corner of the subject site

Targeted fauna searches have not been completed in accordance with the BAM, TBDC and relevant guidelines. Examples include:

- Pink-tailed Legless Lizard – since early 2024 the TBDC guidance has required an expert report for this species. Please provide expert report as per TBDC guidance. Pink-tailed Legless Lizard is not a candidate species listed in the BAM-C for this project. The BDAR should include the justification that led to the inclusion of this species into the species candidate list.
- Gang-gang Cockatoo and Glossy Black Cockatoo - survey effort described in the BDAR does not meet survey requirements for either species. Please refer to the TDBC, update the BDAR with the recommended survey methodology, and complete additional survey effort for both species as required.
- Birds of prey (i.e. eagles, Eastern Osprey, Square-tailed Kite) – there is no information provided as to whether stick nests were observed, where they were located and what species were using them in the BDAR. However, there are stick nest locations provided within the spatial data. Update the BDAR to include this information.
- Pale-headed Snake – survey effort described in the BDAR currently does not meet the requirements of BAM. Please confirm if surveys were completed in accordance with the *Threatened reptiles – Biodiversity Assessment Method survey guide*. The BDAR needs to clearly detail the total number of trap nights and survey minutes.
- Squirrel Glider, Southern Greater Glider and Brush-tailed Phascogale – camera trap survey effort does not meet survey requirements of the BAM 2020. The deployment of 6 cameras per 40 ha of suitable habitat does meet the requirements of the BAM. In addition to this, the BDAR does not detail camera type, bait composition, if cameras were checked/rebaited, any malfunctions, deployment time etc. CPHR recommend contacting the BOS Help Desk, as per TBDC guidance, to confirm survey approach for areas where the subject land is greater than 10 ha. Please refer to

		<p>the TDBC and other relevant survey guidance, and either complete further survey, or alternatively seek an expert report or assume presence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barking Owl, Powerful Owl and Masked Owl – the BDAR does not clearly identify when the 6 nights of call playback occurred, and which calls where played. The spatial data also fails to provide this information. The method does not state whether the volume of calls was gradually increased. No details are provided on which hollow bearing trees were searched and when. The BDAR needs to clearly detail survey effort.</li> <li>• Common Planigale – survey effort does not meet the survey requirements of the BAM 2020. Only 5 pitfall trap arrays were set up across the site, which is not BAM compliant. The TDBC requires at least 10 pitfall arrays per 10 ha of habitat. Please refer to the TDBC and other relevant survey guidance and complete additional survey effort for this species. Alternatively seek an expert report or assume presence.</li> <li>• Koala – BDAR states that subject land comprises of approximately 40 ha of suitable habitat for Koala. The incorrect grid spacing and survey effort have been applied. The Koala (<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>) - <i>Biodiversity Assessment Method Survey Guide</i> states that 150 m grid spacing should be applied to areas of suitable habitat &lt;50 ha, and that approximate number of hectares needs to be divided by 2.25. The BDAR states 40 hectares of habitat and therefore approximately 18 Spot Assessment Technique (SAT) sites are required, instead of the 8 completed. In terms of spotlighting the BDAR does not provide information that survey effort complied with the BAM. The guide states 2 x 200m transects are required for every 5 ha of suitable habitat. Given there is 40 ha of suitable habitat, then 16 x 200 m spotlighting transects are required. Update the BDAR to include this information as per the guide and provide spatial data to confirm survey effort.</li> <li>• Grey-headed Flying-fox - survey effort described in the BDAR currently does not meet the requirements of BAM. Surveys must be undertaken and survey methodology provided, as per the Threatened Bat Survey Guide.</li> <li>• CPHR notes that no survey for any fauna species has been completed in the southeastern corner of the subject site. See <b>Image 2</b> below.</li> </ul>
--	--	---



**Image 2** - No Targeted Fauna Survey within the southeastern corner of the subject site

At this stage CPHR has only completed a preliminary review of the BDAR. Further information, assessment and survey is required for several species to meet the requirements of the BAM 2020.

Currently it is not possible to determine if BAM survey requirements have been met, or how many species were surveyed simultaneously in a transect, or what species was targeted at any one time or event.

The BDAR needs to clearly detail survey effort, what was targeted on what dates and using what method, and supply georeferenced data to confirm this. CPHR recommends updating Table 4 to clearly identify the dates that certain survey methods were used. Provide supporting data that meets the minimum requirements of the BAM, as described in Appendix D of *BAM 2020 Operational Manual – Stage 2*.

**Recommended action:**

To meet requirements of the BAM 2020:


- provide adequate justification and evidence to ensure survey for threatened flora and fauna has been completed in accordance with the BAM, TBDC and relevant survey guidelines. Alternatively, seek concurrence from BOS Help Desk or provide justification e.g. citation of peer-reviewed literature of survey method, effort and timing if the approach differs from the department’s taxa-specific survey guides, or where no relevant guideline has been published, or presence can be assumed, or an expert report can be provided.
- survey effort needs to be described with adequate detail and presented in a concise way, which describes survey dates, survey effort and survey method. The date, start and end time and number of survey repeats must be reported to accurately for CPHR to review survey effort. Update survey methodologies described in Section 2.4 and 2.5 of the BDAR, including both Table 3 and Table 4 to include such details.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>data supplied needs to meet the requirements of the BAM, as described in Appendix D of <i>BAM 2020 Operational Manual – Stage 2</i>.</li> </ul>
	<i>Extent and Timing</i>	Pre-determination

7.	<b>Species Polygons need to be revised</b>	<p><b>Southern Myotis Species Polygons</b></p> <p>Figure 16 and the data provided for the Southern Myotis species polygon equals 27 ha in area, where only 17 ha of habitat for the Southern Myotis has been entered into the BAM-C. Update the BAM-C and BDAR to report correct area of potential habitat for this species.</p> <p>Revise the species polygon for Southern Myotis (Figure 16 of the BDAR), as it is unclear which waterbodies have been buffered. It is a requirement to show the identified waterbodies and the 200 m buffers around these waterbodies. Please refer to guidance provided in <i>Species credit threatened bats and their habitat – NSW guide for the Biodiversity Assessment Method</i>.</p> <p><b>Recommended action:</b></p> <p>Update BAM-C to reflect the correct habitat calculation for the Southern Myotis.</p> <p>Update Figure 16 of the BDAR, Southern Myotis species polygon map as per the guidance.</p>
	<i>Extent and Timing</i>	Pre-determination

8.	<b>Errors or inconsistencies within the BDAR and the BAM-C</b>	<p>The BDAR identifies the vegetation that corresponds with Central Hunter Valley Eucalypt Forest and Woodland, which is listed as CEEC under the EPBC Act. However, this is not entered into the BAM-C, as shown in <b>Image 3</b> below. Please update the BAM-C.</p> <p>Plant community types (PCT) &amp; ecological communities</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Formation *</th> <th>Class *</th> <th>Plant community type *</th> <th>PCT % cleared</th> <th>Associated TEC *</th> <th>BC Act listing status</th> <th>EPBC Act listing status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Dry Sclerophyll Forests (Shrub/grass sub-formation)</td> <td>Hunter-Macleay Dry Sclerophyll Forests</td> <td>3431 - Central Hunter Ironbark Grassy Woodland</td> <td>86</td> <td>Central Hunter Grey Box-Ironbark Woodland in the New South Wales North Coast and Sydney Basin Bioregions</td> <td>Endangered Ecological Community</td> <td>Not Listed</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><a href="#">ADD ANOTHER PCT</a>   <a href="#">SEARCH PCT OUTSIDE IBRA</a></p> <p><b>Image 3 - EPBC listed status missing within the BAM-C.</b></p> <p>Differing amounts of Vegetation Zone 1 PCT 3431 – Woodland are reported within the BDAR, 39.31 ha and 39.42 ha. Please confirm and update BDAR and BAM accordingly.</p> <p>Remove references to <i>Delma impar</i> throughout as <i>Delma vescolineata</i> has replaced this species in the BDAR.</p>	Formation *	Class *	Plant community type *	PCT % cleared	Associated TEC *	BC Act listing status	EPBC Act listing status	Dry Sclerophyll Forests (Shrub/grass sub-formation)	Hunter-Macleay Dry Sclerophyll Forests	3431 - Central Hunter Ironbark Grassy Woodland	86	Central Hunter Grey Box-Ironbark Woodland in the New South Wales North Coast and Sydney Basin Bioregions	Endangered Ecological Community	Not Listed
Formation *	Class *	Plant community type *	PCT % cleared	Associated TEC *	BC Act listing status	EPBC Act listing status										
Dry Sclerophyll Forests (Shrub/grass sub-formation)	Hunter-Macleay Dry Sclerophyll Forests	3431 - Central Hunter Ironbark Grassy Woodland	86	Central Hunter Grey Box-Ironbark Woodland in the New South Wales North Coast and Sydney Basin Bioregions	Endangered Ecological Community	Not Listed										

		<p><b>Recommended action</b></p> <p>Update the BAM-C to include the EPBC Act listed CEEC recorded species: the Central Hunter Valley Eucalypt Forest and Woodland.</p> <p>Revise and update BDAR and BAM-C to remove inconsistencies.</p>
	<i>Extent and Timing</i>	Pre-determination

9.	<p><b>Prescribed impacts need to be further considered</b></p>	<p>The BDAR needs to further identify and assess the prescribed impacts that will result from the proposal.</p> <p>Human-made structures are not discussed in section 8.4 of the BDAR, when discussing prescribed impacts. Structures such as sheds and derelict buildings, as well as culverts could be suitable habitat. Further discussion is required to confidently conclude that these structures are not present within or adjacent to the subject site.</p> <p>CPHR completed a desktop review of the subject site and noted a building and shed likely be impacted by the proposal just adjacent to subject site. See <b>Image 4</b> below. Please provide further detail within the BDAR regarding Human-made structures and prescribed impacts.</p>  <p><i>Image 4 - Building and shed adjacent to disturbance footprint.</i></p> <p>Waterbodies and hydrological processes need to be further assessed. Three farm dams will be decommissioned by the modification. In section 8.4.3.4, the BDAR states that no threatened fauna will be impacted by these potential changes. This needs to be revised to consider the impact the proposal will have on Southern Myotis and other threatened entities.</p> <p>0.38 hectares of non-native vegetation will be impacted by the proposal. CPHR request that this area of exotic grassland is included in the species polygon for Hunter Valley Delma (<i>Delma vescolineata</i>), if it is contiguous with areas of recorded habitat, as this species is known to inhabit exotic grassland within the region.</p>
----	--	---

		<p>CPHR recommends further consideration be given to the impacts of vehicle strike on fauna, and the BDAR include additional mitigation measures to minimise these impacts. This could include a map showing the locations of potential vehicle strike, or locations that would be suitable for additional mitigation measures like fauna fencing or fauna crossings.</p> <p><b>Recommended action:</b></p> <p>Revise the BDAR to adequately identify and assess the prescribed impacts that will result from the proposal.</p> <p>Adjust the species polygon for Hunter Valley Delma (<i>Delma vescolineata</i>) and update the BAM-C and BDAR accordingly.</p>
	<i>Extent and Timing</i>	Pre-determination

10.	<b>Additional mitigation measures should be considered</b>	<p>A number of additional mitigation measures should be included to minimise risk of impacts to threatened fauna. These are described below (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in regard to the displacement of resident fauna, a comparative habitat assessment should be conducted on clearing sites and proposed release sites to ensure that habitat features are available in the released sites</li> <li>• release sites should be identified and mapped prior to clearing and all appropriate approvals granted by the landholders</li> <li>• tree clearing should not be conducted above 35°C in the interests of animal welfare</li> <li>• clearing should be conducted sequentially and directionally towards areas of refuge to prevent the creation of vegetation islands</li> <li>• felled trees should be positioned so that hollows are facing upwards and out to allow fauna to escape overnight.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recommendation:</b></p> <p>Additional mitigation measures should be considered and detailed in the BDAR.</p>
	<i>Extent and Timing</i>	Pre-determination