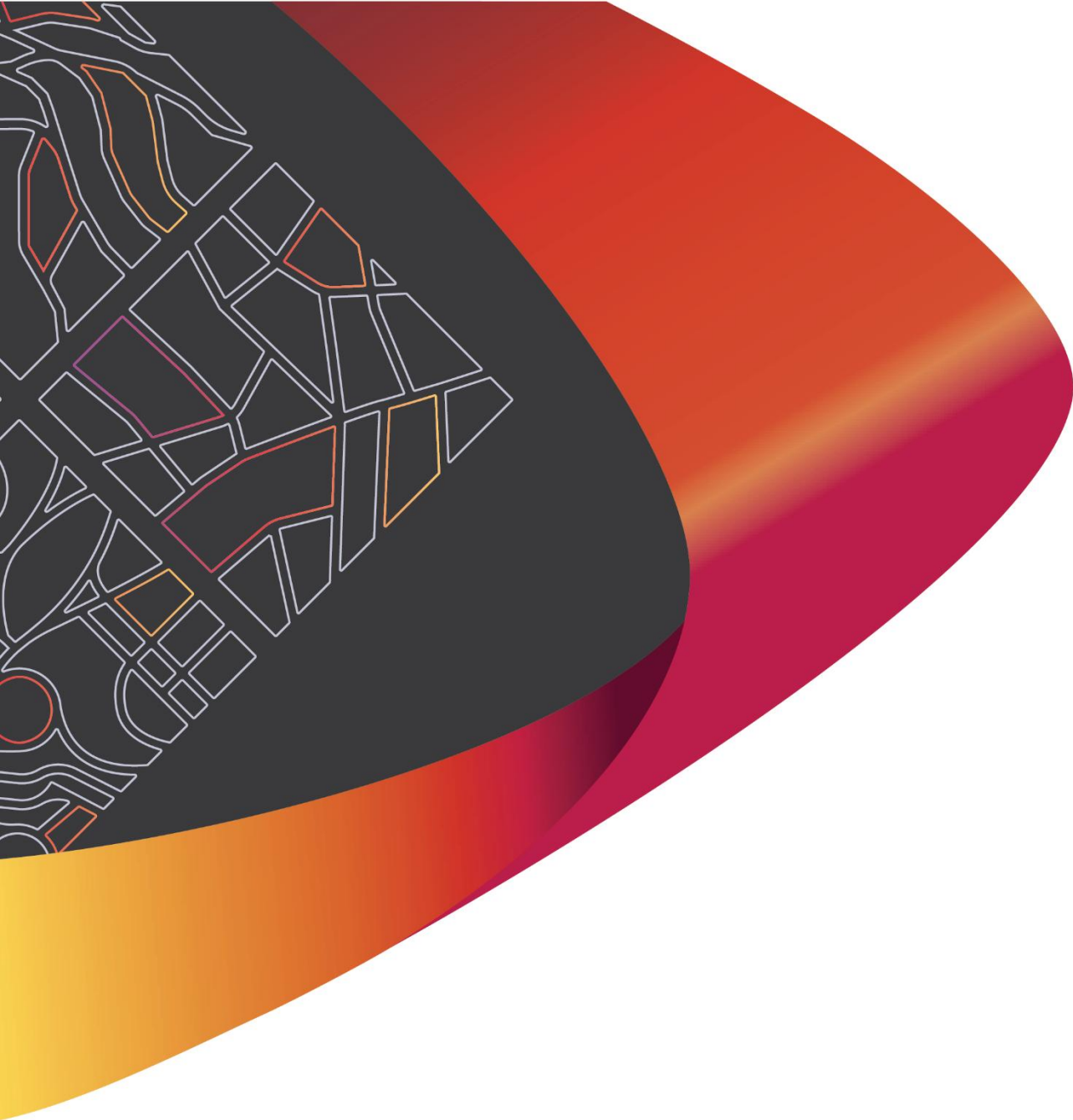




RIDGEY CREEK BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM

Biodiversity Management Plan

Potentia Energy

Job No: P001697

Rev: E

15 January 2026



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Document Authorisation					
Revision	Revision Date	Details			
A	15/04/2025	Draft BMP (Potentia Energy review)			
B	7/07/2025	Draft BMP (Potentia Energy review)			
C	9/09/2025	For issue			
D	29/10/2025	For re-issue to address CPHR consultation			
E	15/01/2026	Responding to DPHI comments			
Prepared by		Reviewed by		Authorised by	
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GLOSSARY AND ABBREVIATIONS

AEP	Annual Exceedance Probability
AHD	Australian Height Datum
Adjacent retained vegetation	Roadside vegetation to be retained which is located outside the approved clearing area
Applicant	Ridgey Creek BESS Pty Ltd, or any person entitled to carry out the development approved under the instrument of consent
Annual reporting window	A 12-month period from the commencement of the pre-construction phase or as advised by CPHR
Approved clearing area	Land defined by the development footprint on Figure 1 in Appendix 1 of the IoC
BAM-C	Biodiversity Assessment Method Calculator
BC Act	<i>Biodiversity and Conservation Act 2016</i> (NSW)
BCS	Biodiversity Conservation and Science (superseded by CPHR)
BDAR	Biodiversity Development Assessment Report
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
BESS area	The portion of the site that includes the battery storage as shown in Appendix 1 of the IoC
BMP	Biodiversity Management Plan
BOS	Biodiversity Offsets Scheme
CoC	Conditions of Consent
CPHR	Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation (previously BCS)
DA	Development Application
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
Ecologist	A suitably qualified, licensed and trained Ecologist or fauna specialist with a wildlife handling license
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority
EP&A Act 1979	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i>
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Commonwealth)
FRNSW	Fire and Rescue NSW
ha	Hectares
Habitat features	Koala use trees, tussock grasses, hollow-bearing trees, woodland and shrubs.

HBT	Hollow-bearing Tree
HSE	Health, Safety and Environment Officer
HTW	High Threat Weeds
IoC	Instrument of Consent
IPA	Inner Protection Area
Km	Kilometre
LLS Act	<i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i>
m	Metre
MNES	Matters of National Environmental Significance
MW	Megawatt
MWh	Megawatt hour
NHVR	National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
NSW	New South Wales
PCT	Plant Community Type
RFS	Rural Fire Service
Site	Land defined by the site boundary on Figure 1 in Appendix 1 of the instrument of consent
SSD	State Significant Development
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community
WIRES	NSW Wildlife Information Rescue and Education Service
WONS	Weed of National Significance

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Ridgely Creek Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is a State Significant Development (SSD) (SSD-48756517) assessed under Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act 1979) and was approved by the delegate of the Minister of Planning and Public Space on 23 May 2025. The project is known as the Ridgely Creek BESS.

The consent allows for the construction of a 130 Megawatt (MW) / 260 Megawatt hour (MWh) utility scale battery, located approximately 10 kilometres (km) west of Parkes, New South Wales (NSW) on Lot 504 DP750152. The Ridgely Creek BESS would connect to the nearby Transgrid Parkes substation, located at Lot 1 DP717829, via an approximately 500 metre (m) long 132-kilovolt underground and aboveground cable crossing the Henry Parkes Way Road reserve (via horizontal direct drilling) and Lot 409 DP750152 (by aboveground transmission lines). An additional bay at the TransGrid substation would be constructed to accommodate the project.

The area of the site is 5.89 hectares (ha) while the BESS area is 4.5 ha. The site of the Ridgely Creek BESS is defined by the consent as the land indicated by the site boundary in Appendix 1 of the consent, reproduced in **Figure 1** of this plan. The BESS area is defined by the consent as the portion of the site that includes the battery storage as shown in Appendix 1 of the consent. The approved clearing area is defined by the development footprint boundary as shown in Appendix 1 of the consent.

The approved development layout of the Ridgely Creek BESS is as per Appendix 1 of the Instrument of Consent (IoC) is provided in Figure 1.



Figure 1 - Approved Development Layout (Appendix 1 of instrument of consent)



1.2 Applicant

The applicant for the Ridgely Creek BESS is defined by the Instrument of Consent as "Ridgely Creek BESS Pty Ltd, or any person who seeks to carry out the development approved under this consent".

Potentia Energy Group Pty Ltd (Potentia Energy) (ABN: 41 618 296 030) has acquired the Ridgely Creek BESS and will be developing, constructing and operating the Ridgely Creek BESS. The address of Potentia Energy is Suite 23.05, One International Towers, 100 Barangaroo Ave, Sydney NSW 2000.

For the purposes of the BMP the applicant for the Ridgely Creek BESS is Potentia Energy.

1.3 Scope

This Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) has been prepared to satisfy Condition B14 of Schedule 2 of SSD-48756517.

A conditions compliance table detailing where relevant Conditions of Consent (CoC) are addressed in this document is provided in **Table 1** and **Table 2**.

Table 1 - Conditions Compliance Table

Condition		Comment / Section Addressed									
BIODIVERSITY											
Vegetation Clearance											
B11	<i>The Applicant must not clear any native vegetation or fauna habitat located outside the approved disturbance areas described in the EIS.</i>	Section 8.1									
Biodiversity Offset											
B12	<i>Prior to carrying out any development that could directly or indirectly impact the biodiversity values requiring offset, the Applicant must retire biodiversity credits as specified in Table 1 below.</i> <i>The retirement of these credits must be carried out in accordance with the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme and can be achieved by:</i> > <i>acquiring or retiring 'biodiversity credits' within the meaning of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016;</i> > <i>making payments into an offset fund that has been developed by the NSW Government; and/or</i> > <i>funding a biodiversity conservation action that benefits the entity impacted and is listed in the ancillary rules of the biodiversity offsets scheme.</i> Table 1: Ecosystem Credit Requirements <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Vegetation Community</th><th>PCT ID</th><th>Credits Required</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Western Grey Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on loam soil on alluvial plains of NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion and Riverina Bioregion</td><td>PCT 80</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr> <td>Western Grey Box - Poplar Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on red loams mainly of the eastern Cobar Penneplain Bioregion</td><td>PCT 82</td><td>4</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Vegetation Community	PCT ID	Credits Required	Western Grey Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on loam soil on alluvial plains of NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion and Riverina Bioregion	PCT 80	11	Western Grey Box - Poplar Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on red loams mainly of the eastern Cobar Penneplain Bioregion	PCT 82	4	Section 5.1
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Western Grey Box - Poplar Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on red loams mainly of the eastern Cobar Penneplain Bioregion	PCT 82	4									

Condition		Comment / Section Addressed
B13	<i>Prior to carrying out any development that could directly or indirectly impact the biodiversity values requiring offset, the Applicant must provide evidence to the Planning Secretary that biodiversity credits have been retired.</i>	Section 5.1
Biodiversity Management Plan		
B14	<i>Prior to carrying out any development that could directly or indirectly impact biodiversity values, the Applicant must prepare a Biodiversity Management Plan for the project in consultation with CPHR, and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:</i>	As below
	<i>a) be prepared in accordance with the Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (dated 17 January 2025);</i>	Section 4
	<i>b) include a description of the measures and timeframes that would be implemented for:</i>	As below
	<i>(i) protecting vegetation and fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance areas;</i>	Section 8.1-8.4
	<i>(ii) managing and enhancing the remnant vegetation and fauna habitat within the development footprint;</i>	Section 8
	<i>(iii) minimising clearing and avoiding unnecessary disturbance of vegetation that is associated with the construction and operation of the development;</i>	Section 8.1 and 8.4
	<i>(iv) minimising the impacts to fauna on site and implementing fauna management protocols, including the design of temporary fencing;</i>	Section 8.1-8.6
	<i>(v) rehabilitating and revegetating temporary disturbance areas with native species that are appropriate to the site's ecology and conditions within 3 months following the completion of construction or upgrade;</i>	Section 8.10
	<i>(vi) maximising the salvage of vegetative and soil resources within the approved disturbance area for beneficial reuse in the enhancement or the rehabilitation of the site; and</i>	Section 8.3 and 8.4
	<i>(vii) controlling weeds, feral pests and pathogens on site;</i>	Section 8.8
	<i>c) include a program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of mitigation measures and report to CPHR following each annual reporting window;</i>	Section 1.7, 9 and 10.4
	<i>d) include an incidental threatened species finds protocol to identify the avoid and/or minimise and/or offset options to be implemented if additional threatened species are discovered on site; and</i>	Section 8.5
	<i>e) include details of who would be responsible for monitoring, reviewing and implementing the plan.</i>	Section 8.11 and 9
	<i>Following the Planning Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Biodiversity Management Plan.</i>	Noted

Table 2 - EIS Mitigation Measure Compliance Table

Mitigation Measure		Comment / Section Addressed
Visual		
V2	<i>Existing vegetation will be retained wherever possible, particularly along Henry Parkes Way.</i>	Section 8.1
Biodiversity		
B1	<i>The construction environmental management plan will contain the following elements:</i> > soil management strategy > water management strategy > waste management strategy > air quality management strategy > biodiversity management strategy > bushfire management strategy > noise management strategy > biosecurity management strategy > that all people working on the project are inducted on site environmental procedures	Noted
B2	<i>Clearing of trees will be avoided in spring where practicable.</i>	Section 8.2
B3	<i>Fallen timber will be used for habitat outside the Project Area where possible and subject to landholder consent.</i>	Section 8.4
B4	<i>The boundary of vegetation clearing will be physically identified and effectively communicated.</i>	Section 8.1

1.4 Term definition

Consistent with the development consent, the following defined terms are used throughout this BMP (**Table 3**).

Table 3 - Defined terms

Term	Definition
Site	As indicated by the Site Boundary on the figure in Appendix 1 and listed in Appendix 2 of the development consent (Figure 1)
BESS area	The portion of the site that includes the battery storage as shown in Appendix 1 of the development consent (Figure 1)
Development footprint	The area within the site on which the components of the project will be constructed (shown in Appendix 1 of the development consent [Figure 1])
Parkes substation and connection works	Shown in Appendix 1 of the development consent (Figure 1)
Project	Development, operation and decommissioning of the Ridgely Creek BESS

1.5 Consultation

In preparing this BMP, consultation with appropriate regulatory stakeholders has occurred to ensure the document accurately reflects expected outcomes.

The details of consultation throughout the preparation of the final document are outlined in **Appendix A**.

1.6 Plan objectives

Potentia Energy has the approval to design, construct, operate, upgrade and decommission the Ridgely Creek BESS in compliance with the development consent. RJE have been engaged as the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractor for the Project on behalf of the Applicant for the construction stage, as well as the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) contractor during the operation stage.

Schedule 2 CoC A2 states:

A2. The development may only be carried out:

- (a) in compliance with the conditions of this consent;*
- (b) in accordance with all written directions of the Planning Secretary;*
- (c) generally in accordance with the EIS; and*
- (d) generally in accordance with the Development Layout in Appendix 1.*

The objective of the BMP is therefore to comply with the IoC and mitigation measures outlined in Appendix C of the Ridgely Creek BESS Amendment Report Responses to these requirements are detailed throughout this BMP, with specific references provided in Sections corresponding to **Table 1** and **Table 2**.

Potentia Energy commits to implementing this BMP, once approved, for the life of the project.

1.7 Review and Revision

The BMP is a living document and is to remain consistent with the operation of the project. The Applicant is responsible for reviewing the implementation of this plan and ensuring it remains applicable to operations undertaken. In accordance with CoC C2 (a), the applicant will update the strategies, plans or program required under the CoC to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary prior to carrying out any upgrading or decommissioning activities on site.

In accordance with CoC B14 (c) of the IoC, the Applicant is required to review and update the BMP throughout the life of the project. A periodic annual review of the BMP shall be carried out to ensure that the BMP remains relevant and effective to address emergency events. The findings of the internal annual BMP review and a summary of ongoing environmental monitoring (**Section 8.11** and **Section 9**) will be provided to CHPR following each annual reporting window to monitor and report on the effectiveness of mitigation measures. The annual reporting window is defined as a 12-month period from the commencement of the pre-construction phase or as advised by CPHR.

The Applicant shall additionally conduct ongoing reviews and (if necessary) revise this BMP to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary, within three (3) months of:

- > An annual internal review of the BMP;
- > An incident report relating to the operation of the Ridgely Creek BESS;

- > The outcome of auditing completed to address CoC C13;
- > Changes to position titles and contact details
- > Any modifications to the IoC.

Revisions will be classified as either 'major' or 'minor' according to the scope of changes required. Major and minor revisions are discussed in the following sections.

1.7.1 MAJOR REVISION

Table 4 lists all revisions of the BMP. Major revisions shall be identified by a whole number in the document version number (i.e., 001, 002, 003) and be recorded for the following:

- > Changes to processes, the addition of new procedures or improvement actions
- > Changes made in response to an incident; and
- > Changes made in response to request made by a regulatory authority, including Rural Fire Service (RFS), Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) and SafeWork NSW.

1.7.2 MINOR REVISION

Minor revisions shall be identified by alphabetical order in document version number (i.e., 001A, 001B, 002A...) and be recorded for the following:

- > Minor typing and grammar corrections;
- > Changes to position titles and contact details;
- > Updates to any recording forms used as part of the sites operations; and
- > The addition and change of documents appended to this plan.

The history of plan revisions will be captured in **Table 4**.

Table 4 - Plan Revision History

Update No.	Type (major/minor)	Section(s) of the plan	Version No.	Date issued

1.8 Structure

The structure and scope of this BMP has been prepared to be consistent with the specifications with DPHI's consent to facilitate cross referencing for review.

- > **Section 2** identifies the statutory approvals that apply to the project.
- > **Section 3** describes the role, responsibility, authority and accountability of all key personnel involved in the environmental management of the project.
- > **Section 4** describes the purpose and objectives of the BMP and identifies relevant documents.
- > **Section 5** identifies offset obligations and national, state and regional strategic frameworks.

- > **Section 6** describes the existing environment of the site including Plant Community Types (PCTs) and threatened species likely to occur on the site as per the Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR).
- > **Section 7** describes direct, indirect and prescribed impacts of the project as per the BDAR.
- > **Section 8** describes biodiversity management protocols and procedures including measures, targets, resources, timing and responsibility.
- > **Section 9** summarises biodiversity management protocol and procedures, performance criteria, triggers and additional actions, monitoring and reporting requirements, timing and responsibility.
- > **Section 10** identifies compliance management regarding training, auditing and reporting.
- > **Section 0** identifies adaptive management strategy opportunities following BMP review.

2. STATUTORY APPROVALS

Statutory approvals include licences, permits, consents and/or authorisations that are required, pursuant to legislative obligations, prior to undertaking specific activities.

Approvals relevant to the BESS are listed in **Table 5**.

Table 5 - Statutory Approvals

Approval	Legislation	Comment
Part 4 Development Consent	Section 4.38 EP&A Act 1979	Development Consent (SSD 48756517) was granted by a delegation of the Minister for Planning and public Spaces under Section 4.38 of the EP&A Act 1979.
Road Opening Permit	S 138 Roads Act 1993	Consent is required from Parkes Shire Council (with concurrence from Transport for NSW) for any works required on Henry Parkes Way.
Construction and Occupation Certificates	Part 6 EP&A Act 1979	For proposed building works.
<i>Local Government Act 1993</i>	Section 68 Approvals	A Section 68 Approval would be required to install a septic system (if required) at the O&M building (prior to operations).
<i>Rural Fires Act 1997</i>	Section 99 Exemption during Total Fire Ban	An exemption must be obtained from the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service prior to conducting any Hot Works during a Total Fire Ban period.
<i>Electricity Supply Act 1995</i>	Section 45 Notice of Proposal	Work carried out by a network operator and comprising the erection, installation, extension or alteration of electricity works on any land is exempt from the requirement for an approval under the Local Government Act 1993, except in relation to buildings.
<i>Heavy Vehicle (Adoption of National Law) Act 2013</i>	Access Route	Relevant permits under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (NSW) for the use of over-dimensional vehicles on the road network will be required. National Heavy

Approval	Legislation	Comment
		Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) permits will be obtained by contractors for deliveries to site.
<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>	Section 6.27 Retirement of Biodiversity Credits	Biodiversity credits have been retired and documented in the Biodiversity Management Plan.
<i>Water Management Act 2000</i>	Water Access Licences	Water will be provided via private commercial agreements with parties who have obtained the relevant Water Access Licences, Water Supply Work Approvals and Water Use Approvals.

3. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This section of the BMP describes the roles and responsibilities for all relevant parties involved in the construction of the Ridgely Creek BESS, including relevant environmental due diligence induction provisions for ensuring that all employees, contractors and sub-contractors are aware of their environmental and compliance obligations.

3.1 Applicant

Potentia Energy is the applicant of the project and as such has ultimate responsibility and accountability to ensure that the BESS is designed, constructed, operated, upgraded and decommissioned in accordance with the CoC.

Potentia Energy's project manager has full authority to ensure these obligations are met.

3.2 EPC Contractor

RJE Global (RJE) is the principal contractor with the responsibility to build and install the Ridgely Creek BESS development for the applicant. Key roles and responsibilities throughout the project are listed in **Table 6**.

RJE's contractual obligations include the design, construction activities including pre-construction and operation of the BESS.

Table 6 - Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibilities	Reports To
Construction Phase		
Principal Contractor Project Manager	> Overall responsibility to ensure contractual obligations are met in relation to the execution of engineering, procurement, and construction works. > Ensure works comply with all relevant regulatory and project requirements. > Ensure this BMP is fully implemented. > Liaise with regulatory bodies. > Ensure that all personnel understand, accept and fully carry out their obligations for environmental protection and that they are adequately trained, instructed and resourced to fulfil their obligations.	The Applicant

Role	Responsibilities	Reports To
	> Exercise a duty of care to the environment > Ensure relevant approvals have been obtained in relation to required works or changes to site conditions outside of project approvals. > Assist with environmental compliance audits and incident investigations as required. > Direct that works be stopped immediately where there is an actual or potential risk of environmental harm.	
Principal Contractor Construction Manager	> Plan and organise works to reduce the risk of adverse environmental impacts. > Ensure works comply with all relevant regulatory and project requirements. > Exercise a duty of care to the environment. > Identify and report any required works or changes to site conditions outside of the approved project that may require additional approvals. > Assist with environmental compliance audits and incident investigations as required. > Ensure that tool-box talks are held weekly. > Participate in pre-start meetings and tool-box talks. > Direct that works be stopped immediately where there is an actual or potential risk of environmental harm.	Principal Contractor Project Manager
Site Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) Officer	> Ensure works comply with all relevant regulatory and project requirements. > Exercise a duty of care to the environment. > Ensure all onsite personnel are familiar with this BMP and act in accordance with the requirements of all regulatory and project requirements. > The procedures and requirements of this BMP are implemented to ensure environmental impacts are managed appropriately. > Conduct monitoring and frequent inspections to check and evaluate the effectiveness of the BMP. > Report all incidents, complaints and other work-related environmental issues. > Overall person responsible for managing the environmental aspects of the project. > Coordinate environmental monitoring, BMP reviews and compliance audits as required by the BMP. > Ensure all personnel have completed a site induction prior to starting work. > Stop works where there is an actual or potential risk of environmental harm and notify the Principal Contractor's Project Manager and Construction Manager.	Principal Contractor Construction Manager
Other personnel	> Understand and comply at all times with the requirements of this BMP. > Report all incidents, complaints and other work-related environmental issues to the site HSE officer.	Principal Contractor Construction

Role	Responsibilities	Reports To
	> Actively participate in tool-box talks and site meetings. > Exercise a duty of care to the environment. > Keep work areas clean and organised. > Undertake works as instructed by their relevant supervisor and in accordance with the BMP. > Assist with environmental compliance audits and incident investigations as required. > Stop works where there is an actual or potential risk of environmental harm and notify the Principal Contractor's Construction Manager and Site HSE Officer.	Manager and Site HSE Officer
Operational Phase		
Operations Manager	> Ensure all onsite personnel are familiar with this BMP and act in accordance with the requirements of all regulatory and project requirements. > Ensure day to day operational works comply with all relevant regulatory and project requirements. > Exercise a duty of care to the environment. > Ongoing liaison with regulatory bodies and other relevant stakeholders. > Conduct monitoring and frequent inspections to check and evaluate the effectiveness of the BMP. > Coordinate environmental monitoring, BMP reviews and compliance audits as required by the BMP.	The Applicant
Maintenance Supervisor	> Ensuring maintenance activities are conducted in accordance with the BMP to minimise environmental impact. > Implement environmental management plans and safeguards during maintenance, such as spill prevention, noise control, and waste management. > Manage and document the safe handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials. > Ensuring that maintenance staff are trained in environmental procedures and best practices. > Collaborate with environmental officers to address any incidents related to equipment failure or environmental breaches.	Operations Manager
Site HSE Officer	> Overall person responsible for managing the environmental aspects of the project. > Ensure operations comply with all relevant regulatory and project requirements. > Exercise a duty of care to the environment. > Ensure all onsite personnel are familiar with this BMP and act in accordance with the requirements of all regulatory and project requirements.	Operations Manager



Role	Responsibilities	Reports To
	> Conduct monitoring and frequent inspections to check and evaluate the effectiveness of the BMP. > Report all incidents, complaints and other project related environmental issues. > Coordinate environmental monitoring, BMP reviews and compliance audits as required by the BMP. > Provide the findings of the internal annual BMP review and a summary of ongoing environmental monitoring (Section 8.11 and Section 9) to CHPR following each annual reporting window to monitor and report on the effectiveness of mitigation measures.	
Operational Staff	> Ensure operations comply with all relevant regulatory and project requirements. > Exercise a duty of care to the environment. > Assist with environmental compliance audits and incident investigations as required. > Assist with monitoring and BMP reviews.	Operations Manager and Maintenance Supervisor

According to CoC B14 of Schedule 2 of the Ridgely Creek BESS IoC, prior to carrying out any development that could directly or indirectly impact biodiversity value, the Applicant must prepare a BMP for the project in consultation with the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation (CPHR) division (previously known as Biodiversity Conservation and Science [BCS]), and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. The BMP is a supporting document of the Environmental Management Strategy (EMS) (Premise, 2025).

4. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this BMP is to provide a consolidated implementation plan for the monitoring and management of adjacent retained vegetation (i.e., roadside vegetation to be retained which is located outside the approved clearing area), resident fauna, and potential threatened flora and fauna species and their habitat within the site, in accordance with CoC B14 of Schedule 2 of the IoC. The BMP will identify the objectives, roles and responsibilities, and timing of biodiversity management and mitigation measures required to reduce the impact on biodiversity throughout pre-construction, construction and operation phases of the project.

The key objective of the BMP is to ensure that all biodiversity-related conditions, procedures, mitigation measures and permit requirements are clearly described, scheduled and assigned to the appropriate responsible parties, as outlined in:

- > NSW DPHI IoC (NSW DPHI, 2025)
- > Biodiversity Development Assessment Report – SSD-48756517 Ridgely Creek Battery Energy Storage System (Area, 2025).
- > Ridgely Creek BESS Amendment Report (Atria, 2025)
- > Ridgely Creek BESS Environmental Management Strategy (Premise, 2025).
- > Environmental Impact Statement – Ridgely Creek Battery Energy Storage System (Envoca, 2024).

5. STATE AND COMMONWEALTH OBLIGATIONS AND FRAMEWORKS

5.1 Offset Obligations

According to CoC B12 of Schedule 2 of the IoC, prior to carrying out any development that could directly or indirectly impact the biodiversity values requiring offset, the Applicant must retire biodiversity credits in accordance with the NSW *Biodiversity and Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) Biodiversity Offsets Scheme (BOS). The Applicant must then provide evidence to the Planning Secretary that biodiversity credits have been retired, as per CoC B13 of Schedule 2 of the IoC.

The BDAR (Area, 2025), identified a total of 15 ecosystem credits associated with the project as per the BOS, including:

- > PCT 80 Western Grey Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on loam soil on alluvial plains of NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion and Riverina Bioregion – 11 ecosystem credits; and
- > PCT 82 Western Grey Box - Poplar Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on red loams mainly of the eastern Cobar Peneplain Bioregion – 4 ecosystem credits.

The Applicant will meet the obligation under Condition B12 by making a payment into the NSW Government Offset Trust Fund. The Applicant will complete this process before any activity that may impact vegetation or habitat.

No threatened species were recorded on the site and, therefore there are no species credits associated with the project.

5.2 Relevant Commonwealth Approval Conditions

No Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) were considered likely to be significantly impacted by the project (Area, 2025). Therefore, a Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) referral was not completed for the project.

5.3 Strategic Framework

5.3.1 NATIONAL

According to the Australia's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010-2030 (Commonwealth Government, 2010), there are three (3) national priorities for biodiversity conservation action, including:

- > Engaging all Australians in biodiversity conservation through:
 - Mainstreaming biodiversity.
 - Increasing Indigenous engagement.
 - Enhancing strategic investments and partnerships.
- > Building ecosystem resilience in a changing climate by:
 - Protecting diversity.
 - Maintaining and re-establishing ecosystem function.
 - Reducing threats to biodiversity.
- > Getting measurable results through:



- Improving and sharing knowledge.
- Delivering conservation initiatives efficiently.
- Implementing robust national monitoring, reporting and evaluation.

The BMP considers the above national priorities by identifying biodiversity values associated with the project, describing biodiversity management and mitigation measures, and outlining roles and responsibilities to reduce direct and indirect impacts on biodiversity values throughout the pre-construction, construction and operation phases of the project. The Principal Contractor and other project personnel will collaborate as part of a broader effort to promote awareness, protection, and enhancement of biodiversity values in accordance with the CoC B14 of Schedule 2 of the IoC.

5.3.2 STATE

The NSW Biodiversity Outlook Report 2024 (NSW DCCEE, 2024) outlines themes and indicators used for the conservation of biodiversity and ecological integrity in NSW. These themes and indicators are based on the NSW Biodiversity Indicator Program and include:

- > Expected survival of biodiversity: listed threatened species and ecological communities, and all known and undiscovered species.
- > State of biodiversity: all known species, state of biodiversity including undiscovered species, and field monitoring of species and ecosystems.
- > Ecosystem quality: habitat condition and pressures.
- > Ecosystem management: management responses, management effectiveness and capacity to sustain ecosystem quality.
- > Ecological integrity: capacity to retain biological diversity and capacity to retain ecological functions.

The BMP considers the above state-wide indicators by describing offset obligations (**Section 5.1**) and biodiversity management and mitigation measures to monitor the condition of species and ecosystems (i.e., Pre-construction Checklist [**Appendix B**], Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure [**Appendix D**], and Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure [**Appendix E**]).



6. EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

Details of the existing environment are provided below and have been informed by the BDAR (Area, 2025), the EIS (Envoca, 2024) and the Amendment Report (Atria, 2025).

6.1 Landform, Geology and Soils

The site is typical of the plains west of Parkes, which are characterised by level to gently undulating plains. The topography of the area is generally flat, with elevations ranging from 274 m to 277 m AHD, gently sloping towards the west.

The site occurs within the Brolgan Plain Soil Landscape which is dominated by deep (>100 cm), imperfectly drained Red Brown Earths and Non-calcic Brown Soils (NSW Government, 2025). Moderately well-drained Red Podzolic Soils and Red Earths also occur on some plains with poorly drained Yellow Solodic Soils occupy small drainage lines and drainage depressions.

6.2 Biodiversity Values

The site does not occur on the Biodiversity Values Map (NSW DCCEEW, 2025a).

6.3 Vegetation Communities

6.3.1 PLANT COMMUNITY TYPE

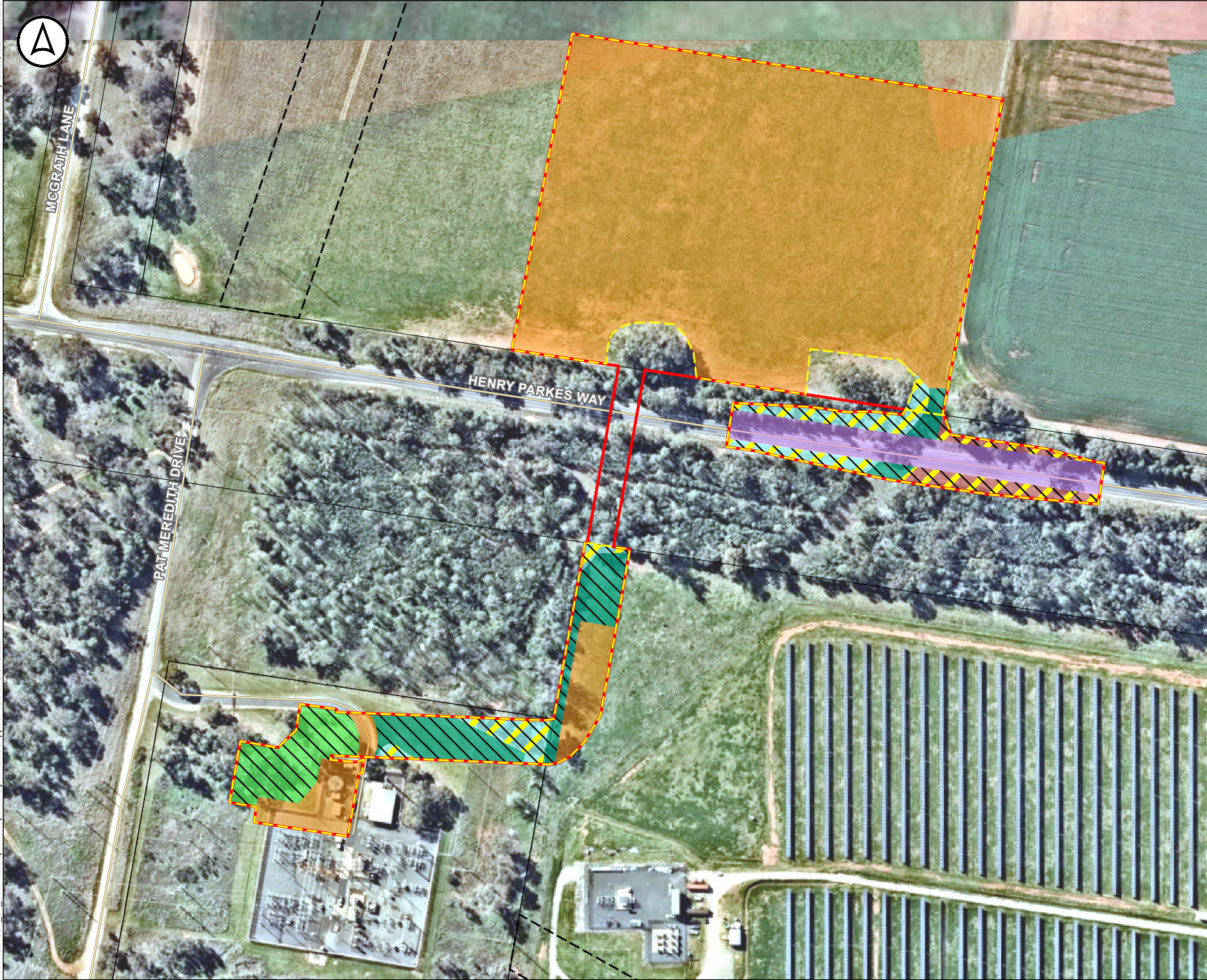
The site is located in a predominately cleared, agricultural landscape and is zoned as RU1 Primary Production. Historically, the site was used for dryland cropping and grazing (Envoca, 2024).

Most of the site is cleared exotic-dominated grassland (0.35 ha), disturbed ground (0.37 ha), and Category 1-Exempt Land (4.55 ha) as assessed under the *Local Land Services Act 2013* (LLS Act). Native vegetation is limited to retained woodland in poor to moderate condition, located along Henry Parks Way and in proximity to the new bay. These areas are regularly disturbed by maintenance activities (i.e., mowing) and weeds.

Two (2) PCTs were identified on the site in the BDAR (**Figure 2**):

- > PCT 80 Western Grey Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on loam soil on alluvial plains (0.84 ha)
- > PCT 82 Western Grey Box - Poplar Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on red loams mainly of the eastern Cobar Peneplain Bioregion (0.13 ha)

All vegetation zones of PCT 80 and PCT 82 (0.97 ha) meet the Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) criteria for *Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Peneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions Endangered Ecological Community* (EEC) listed under the BC Act. One vegetation zone of PCT 80 and PCT 82 (0.38 ha) meet the TEC criteria for *Grey Box (Eucalyptus microcarpa) Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland of South-eastern Australia EEC* listed under the EPBC Act.



POTENTIA ENERGY

Ridge Creek BESS

Figure 2 Existing Environment

Legend

- Site Boundary
- Development Footprint
- Lot
- Road

Vegetation

PCT 80 - Western Grey Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on loam soil on alluvial plains

- Zone 1: PCT 80 - Moderate
- Zone 2: PCT 80 - Disturbed
- Zone 3: PCT 80 - Cleared

PCT 82 - Western Grey Box - Poplar Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on red loams mainly of the eastern Cobar Penneplain Bioregion

- Zone 4: PCT 82 - Moderate

Non-native Vegetation

- Category 1 - Exempt Land
- Disturbed Ground

Threatened Ecological Communities

- Grey Box (*Euclayptus microcarpa*) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-Eastern Australia Endangered Ecological Community listed under the EPBC Act
- Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Penneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions Endangered Ecological Community listed under the BC Act

0 50 100m

6.4 Threatened Flora and Fauna

6.4.1 FLORA

The BDAR identified two (2) threatened flora species as likely to occur on the site due to the presence of suitable habitat in the form of native vegetation within PCT 80 (0.84 ha) and PCT 82 (0.13 ha). These species were retained as species credit species in the Biodiversity Assessment Method Calculator (BAM-C):

- > Oaklands Diuris (*Diuris* sp. [Oaklands, D.L. Jones 5380]) – Endangered (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Sand-hill Spider Orchid (*Caladenia arenaria*) – Endangered (BC Act and EPBC Act).

Targeted searches were completed for the above species and no individuals were recorded within the site.

6.4.2 FAUNA

The BDAR noted 27 threatened fauna species were considered likely to occur on the site for foraging purposes due to the presence of habitat features (i.e., Koala use trees, tussock grasses, hollow-bearing trees [HBT], woodland and shrubs). These threatened species were retained in the BAM-C to generate ecosystem credits and include:

- > Black Falcon (*Falco subniger*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Black-chinned Honeyeater (eastern sub-species) (*Melithreptus gularis gularis*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Brolga (*Grus rubicunda*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Corben's Long-eared Bat (*Nyctophilus corbeni*) – Vulnerable (BC Act and EPBC Act).
- > Diamond Firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*) – Vulnerable (BC Act and EPBC Act).
- > Dusky Woodswallow (*Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Flame Robin (*Petroica phoenicea*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Gilbert's Whistler (*Pachycephala inornata*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Grey Falcon (*Falco hypoleucos*) – Vulnerable (BC Act and EPBC Act).
- > Grey-crowned Babbler (eastern subspecies) (*Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > South-eastern Hooded Robin (*Melanodryas cucullata cucullata*) – Endangered (BC Act and EPBC Act).
- > Little Eagle (*Hieraaetus morphnoides*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Little Pied Bat (*Chalinolobus picatus*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Pink Cockatoo (*Lophochroa leadbeateri*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Endangered (EPBC Act).
- > Painted Honeyeater (*Grantiella picta*) – Vulnerable (BC Act and EPBC Act).
- > Pied Honeyeater (*Certhionyx variegatus*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Scarlet Robin (*Petroica boodang*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Southern Whiteface (*Aphelocephala leucopsis*) – Vulnerable (BC Act and EPBC Act).
- > Speckled Warbler (*Chthonicola sagittata*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Spotted Harrier (*Circus assimilis*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Superb Parrot (*Polytelis swainsonii*) – Vulnerable (BC Act and EPBC Act).
- > Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor*) – Endangered (BC Act) and Critically Endangered (EPBC Act).

- > Turquoise Parrot (*Neophema pulchella*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > Varied Sittella (*Daphoenositta chrysoptera*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > White-bellied Sea-Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).
- > White-throated Needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*) – Vulnerable (BC Act and EPBC Act).
- > Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail-bat (*Saccolaimus flaviventris*) – Vulnerable (BC Act) and Not Listed (EPBC Act).

The BDAR also identified two (2) threatened fauna species as likely to occur on the site for breeding purposes:

- > Sloane's Froglet (*Crinia sloanei*) – Endangered (BC Act and EPBC Act).
- > Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor*) – Endangered (BC Act) and Critically Endangered (EPBC Act).

However, these were excluded from further consideration due to absent habitat constraints. Therefore, targeted surveys were not required and no species credit threatened species were retained in the BAM-C.

According to the BDAR, potential breeding habitat in the form of one HBT is present in Zone 4 (VI Plot 3). Other potential breeding habitats such as nest trees or rocks and woody debris are absent from the site.

6.4.3 MIGRATORY SPECIES

Nine (9) migratory species listed under the EPBC Act were considered likely to occur on the site based on a database review of the Protected Matters Search Tool (Cth DCCEEW, 2025). The BDAR noted (Area, 2025), the project is unlikely to have a significant impact on any migratory species due to the limited suitable habitat present on the site.

6.5 Weeds, Feral Pests and Pathogens

Five (5) High Threat Weeds (HTW) were recorded on the site including: Paspalum (*Paspalum dilatatum*), Kikuyu Grass (*Cenchrus clandestinus*), African Lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula*), Great Brome (*Bromus diandrus*) and African Boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*) (Area, 2025; NSW DCCEEW, 2025c). Of these one (1) is considered a priority weed for the Central West (NSW Department of Primary Industries [DPI], 2025a) and a Weed of National Significance (WONS) (Cth DAFF, 2025): *Lycium ferocissimum*. Weed species most commonly occur along Henry Parkes Way and in proximity to the new bay. However, weeds present within the site were also recorded in adjacent vegetation.

Feral pests including the domestic mouse, fox and feral cat were recorded within the site along Henry Parkes Way and in proximity to the new bay.

Dieback caused by Root-rot Fungus (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*) is a key threatening process listed under the BC Act and EPBC Act. *Phytophthora cinnamomi* is known to occur within the Parkes region and it is unknown whether this pathogen is present on the site.

6.6 Regional Connectivity

The BDAR detailed the following in regard to connectivity:

"Habitat connectivity is poor within the local landscape where cropping and grazing activities occur. Remnant vegetation is largely limited to road corridors and on Crown Land and along waterways. This limited connectivity does however connect the subject land to Gunningbland Nature Reserve about five kilometres west of the proposal" (Area, 2025).

7. BIODIVERSITY IMPACTS

7.1 Project Activities

The project will undertake numerous construction activities that are likely to impact biodiversity including, but are not limited to:

- > Clearing native vegetation and potential threatened species habitat within the approved clearing area.
- > Topsoil removal and storage.
- > Construction of the BESS and associated infrastructure (i.e., underground cables, sediment basin, security fencing, laydown area, access works and internal access road, and the new bay and construction access and work area near the Transgrid Substation).
- > General earthworks near retained vegetation which may increase erosion and sedimentation.
- > Use of chemicals and fuels which may contaminate retained vegetation.
- > Increased heavy vehicles and number of vehicles.

The project is unlikely to have a significant impact on biodiversity during the operation phase as operational activities may include general maintenance, inspections and vegetation management (i.e., mowing). According to the EIS, during operation, traffic generation of <2 light vehicle movements per day and one (1) heavy vehicle movement per month will have a negligible impact on the traffic environment (Envoca, 2024).

7.2 Direct Impacts

Direct impacts refer to impacts to vegetation or habitat present within the site. Potential direct impacts of the project include (Area, 2025):

- > Clearing of up to 0.97 ha of Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Peneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) listed under the BC Act.
- > Clearing of up to 0.38 ha of Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*) Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland of South-eastern Australia EEC listed under the EPBC Act.
- > The loss of non-HBT within vegetation zones 1 and 2.
- > The loss of one (1) HBT in zone 1.
- > Removal of groundcover vegetation including the direct loss of native flora and fauna habitat.

7.3 Indirect Impacts

Indirect impacts refer to potential inadvertent impacts to retained vegetation, TECs or threatened species habitat adjacent to the site. Potential indirect impacts of the project include (Area, 2025):

- > Displacement of resident fauna, injury to wildlife and vehicle strike during construction and operation of the project due to vegetation removal and increased vehicle movements.
- > The introduction and spread of weeds, feral pests or pathogens from the site to adjacent vegetation.
- > Dust, noise and vibration impact to surrounding vegetation and habitat values.
- > Inadvertent clearing of native vegetation outside the approved clearing area.
- > Contamination, erosion, exposed soil and stockpiles during vegetation removal and construction.

Mitigation measures to reduce the impact of direct and indirect impacts are outlined in Section 8.4 of the BDAR (Area, 2025) and will be discussed further in **Section 8** of the BMP.

7.4 Prescribed Impacts

Potential prescribed impacts of the project include (Area, 2025):

- > The loss of habitat connectivity and associated fauna movement throughout home ranges through the removal of 0.97 ha of native vegetation.
- > The increased risk of fauna vehicle strike during construction activities due to increased vehicle movements and vegetation removal which may encourage dispersal throughout home ranges.

7.5 Key Threatening Processes

The project is unlikely to contribute to a key threatened process as no threatened flora or fauna species were identified on the site. Given the small scale of clearing, the project is unlikely to significantly contribute to cumulative habitat loss, nor will it increase habitat fragmentation or reduce connectivity in the local area.

8. BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES

8.1 Marking Limits of Clearing

According to CoC B11 and B14 (Section b[i] and b[iii]) of Schedule 2 of the IoC, the Applicant must:

- > not clear any native vegetation or fauna habitat located outside the approved clearing area;
- > protect vegetation and fauna habitat outside the approved clearing areas; and
- > minimise clearing and avoid unnecessary disturbance of vegetation that is associated with the construction and operation of the project.

The boundaries of the approved clearing area will be clearly marked by boundary fencing and signage, during the pre-construction phase to ensure disturbance to native vegetation and potential threatened species habitat is restricted to within the approved clearing area. All temporary fencing is to be designed to exclude barbed wire to minimise impacts to fauna traversing the site, as per CoC B14 (Section b[iv]) of Schedule 2 of the IoC. Vegetation and potential habitat outside the approved clearing area must not be directly impacted by the project.

Boundaries to be identified in-situ include (Figure 3):

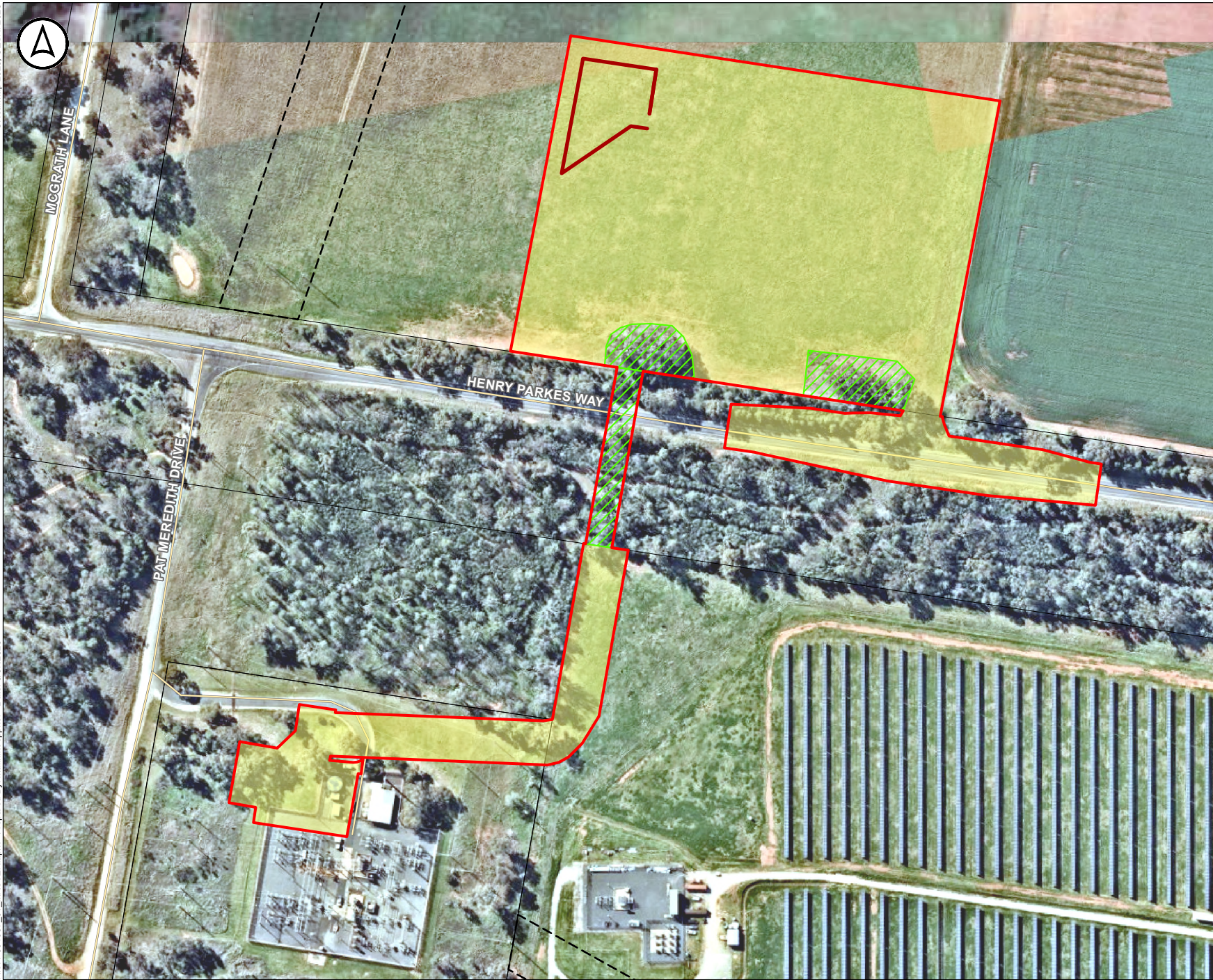
- > Approved clearing area
- > Exclusion zones (i.e., areas to be retained within the site boundary), including the vegetation exclusion zone (retained woodland along Henry Parkes Way).

Procedures for establishing approved clearing boundaries include:

- > Boundaries are to be marked out by a qualified surveyor, and high visibility temporary fencing is to be installed by the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer no more than seven (7) days before clearing commencement.
- > Installation of signage to inform personnel of the purpose of the temporary fencing. Signs should display criteria such as 'Exclusion Zone' and 'Laydown Area' and be visible from a distance of 20 metres (m).
- > All temporary fencing is maintained and remains in-situ during clearing procedures.
- > Site inductions during staff onboarding in the pre-construction phase will identify the approved clearing area and the importance of the exclusion fencing. During the construction phase, weekly tool-box talks will occur to identify the approved clearing area and vegetation to be cleared that week.

The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer is responsible for the removal of fencing within seven (7) days of clearing conclusion in the operation phase.





POTENTIA ENERGY

Ridgey Creek BESS

Figure 3
Clearing Boundaries

- Legend**
- Site Boundary
 - Lot
 - Road
 - Approved Clearing Area
 - Exclusion Zone - Vegetation
 - Laydown Area

8.2 Habitat and Vegetation Protection

Numerous habitat and vegetation protection procedures will be utilised to protect retained vegetation within exclusion zones and outside the approved clearing area along Henry Parks Way and in proximity to the Transgrid Substation including:

- > Construction materials, equipment and parking of vehicles are to be restricted to the designated laydown area, avoiding the dripline of any mature trees.
- > The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will ensure any topsoil that is removed during the construction phase will be stored within the site excluding the area impacted by a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) flood event (i.e., the laydown area identified on Figure 1).
- > Adjacent retained native vegetation and fauna habitat outside the approved clearing area will be protected from inadvertent impacts via temporary exclusion fencing (i.e., boundary fencing around the approved clearing area and the vegetation exclusion zone identified on Figure 3).
- > Vegetation clearing is to occur between 7am to 6pm on weekdays and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays (as per CoC B15 of Schedule 2 of the IoC) and clearing of trees will be avoided in spring where practicable (as per CoC B2 in the Amendment Report [Atria, 2025]).
- > Site speed limits of 20 km/hour will be enforced to reduce the risk of fauna vehicle strikes.

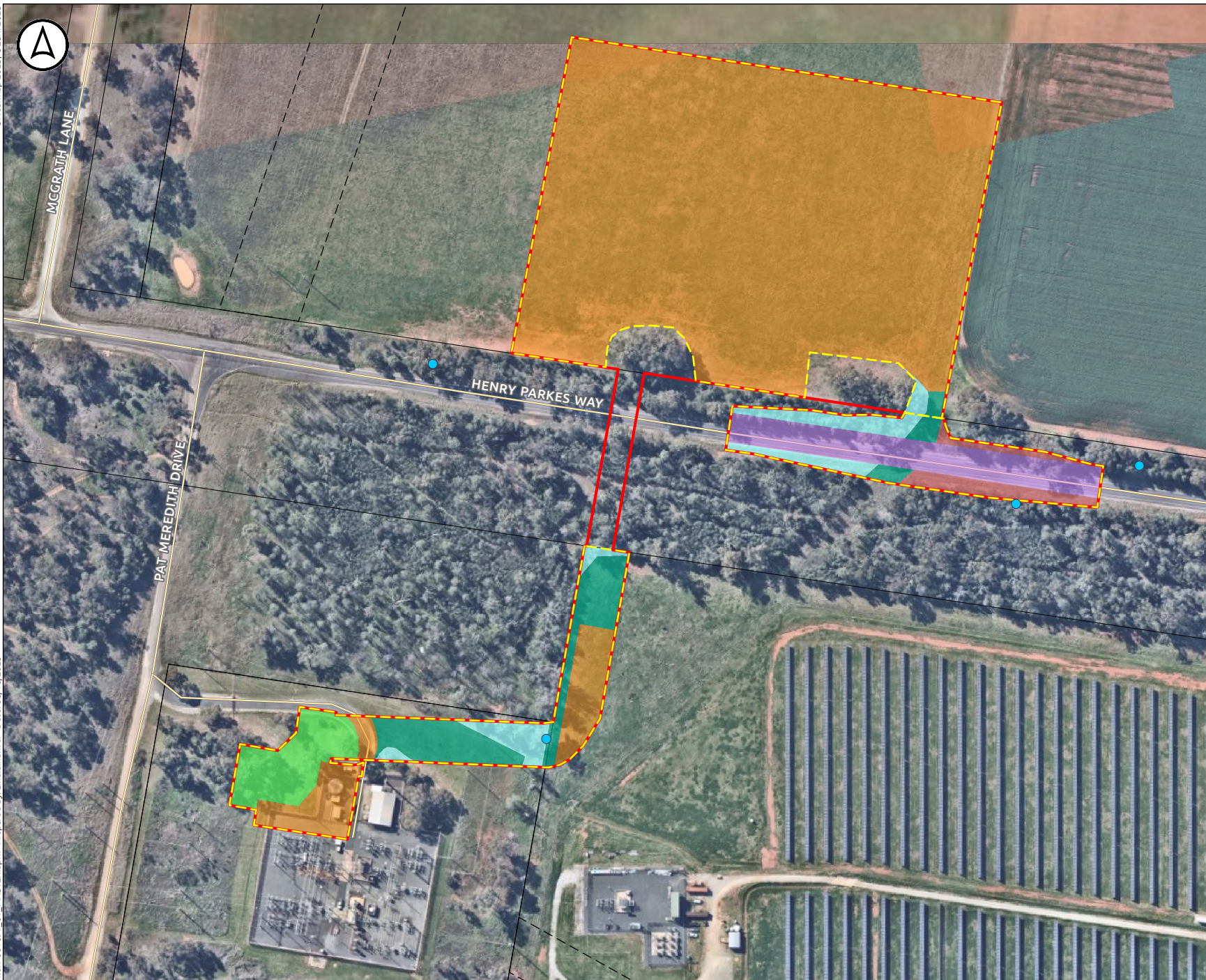
8.3 Hollow-bearing Trees

Four (4) HBTs were identified by the BDAR and are shown on **Figure 4**.

As detailed in **Section 7.2**, the BDAR has determined that the project would result in a direct impact to one (1) HBT situated in Zone 1: PCT 80 – Moderate. This HBT is located along the alignment of the electrical transmission route to facilitate a connection between the BESS and the Transgrid Substation.

Guidelines for the removal of the HBT are detailed in **Section 8.4.3**. The removal of the HBT will be avoided in spring (i.e., the breeding period for most threatened species), where practicable. Consultation with CPHR is required if the HBT will be removed during spring.





POTENTIA ENERGY

Ridge Creek BESS

Figure 4 Vegetation Zones and Hollow Bearing Trees

Legend

- Site Boundary
- Development Footprint
- Lot
- Easement
- Road
- Hollow Bearing Trees

PCT 80 - Western Grey Box - White Cypress
Pine tall woodland on loam soil on alluvial
plains

- Zone 1: PCT 80 - Moderate
- Zone 2: PCT 80 - Disturbed
- Zone 3: PCT 80 - Cleared

PCT 82 - Western Grey Box - Poplar Box -
White Cypress Pine tall woodland on red
loams mainly of the eastern Cobar Peneplain
Bioregion

- Zone 4: PCT 82 - Moderate

Non-native Vegetation

- Category 1 - Exempt Land
- Disturbed Ground

0 50 100m

8.4 Clearing Protocols and Surveys

The project will employ clearing protocols to reduce the overall impact of native vegetation removal on biodiversity. The general clearing principles are outlined below:

- > No clearing is to occur outside the approved clearing area at any time during construction or operation, as per CoC B14 (Section b[i]) of Schedule 2 of the IoC.
- > The Ecologist refers to a suitably qualified, licensed and trained Ecologist or fauna specialist with a wildlife handling license. The Ecologist is required to be present for the duration of all native vegetation clearing during the construction phases.
- > The Ecologist, in consultation with the Construction Manager, will ensure suitable habitat resources, including but not limited to felled timber and scattered surface rocks, are relocated to similar adjacent habitat as habitat enhancement prior to clearing, where possible and subject to landholder consent.
- > A four-stage clearing approach will be undertaken to reduce impacts to biodiversity as described further in the following sections.

8.4.1 PRE-CONSTRUCTION SURVEYS (STAGE 1)

The purpose of pre-construction surveys is to identify and minimise the impact of clearing on native species and habitat. Pre-construction surveys are required to be undertaken prior to commencing clearing to reduce the risk of inadvertent impacts on biodiversity (i.e., fauna injury, distress or death) and identify opportunities for habitat enhancement (i.e., relocation of habitat resources).

The following pre-construction protocols will be implemented:

- > Pre-construction surveys are to be undertaken by the Ecologist prior to the clearing of any native vegetation using the Pre-construction Checklist (**Appendix B**). The Pre-construction Checklist is to be completed prior to native vegetation clearing commencing and the Ecologist is required to be present for the duration of native vegetation clearing. It is the responsibility of the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer to ensure pre-construction surveys are undertaken in compliance with the BMP.
- > No more than seven (7) days prior to clearing, the following will occur:
 - Boundaries approved for clearing will be confirmed and marked out by a qualified surveyor, before high visibility temporary fencing is to be installed. The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer and Construction Manager will be made aware of these boundaries and effectively communicate the boundaries with all personnel.
 - The Ecologist will identify and mark with flagging tape any potential habitat features within the site (i.e., fallen logs or scattered surface rocks) suitable for relocation as habitat enhancement. The Ecologist will describe the method of habitat removal and relocation, as well as the final location of habitat features to the Construction Manager.
 - The Ecologist will identify and mark with a 'H' the HBT within Zone 4 of the site for staged clearing. The Ecologist will describe the method of habitat removal and relocation, as well as the final location of habitat features to the Construction Manager.
 - Outbreaks of priority weeds, WONS or HTW will be recorded and suitable disposal methods identified. New occurrences of weed species will be documented in the Trigger Action Response Plan – Weeds (**Appendix H**). Weed management is discussed further in **Section 8.8**.



- Targeted searches for threatened flora and fauna species will be conducted for species identified in **Section 6.4.1** and **Section 6.4.2**, as per the Threatened Species Profiles (**Appendix F**). In the event a threatened species is identified by the Ecologist during the pre-construction phase, the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (**Appendix D**) and Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure (**Appendix E**) are to be applied.
- The local vet or wildlife rescue organisation will be contacted by the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer more than seven (7) days before clearing commencement to confirm a local wildlife carer is available in the event of inadvertent wildlife injury or stress as per the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (**Appendix D**).
- > Resident fauna may be relocated to similar, adjacent habitat by the Ecologist prior to the commencement of clearing in the pre-construction phase or as required during the construction phase, as per the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (**Appendix D**).
- > The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will provide a summary of this mitigation measure to CPHR following each annual reporting window, as per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC.

8.4.2 CLEARING PROCEDURE (STAGE 2)

The project will operate under clearing protocols to manage the removal of native vegetation and reduce the overall impact on biodiversity. The following clearing protocols are to be implemented and overseen by the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer:

- > The Ecologist will be present on the site for the duration of all native vegetation clearing during the construction phase to supervise the works.
- > Machinery operators are to be informed daily during site inductions of the clearing boundary, exclusion zones, habitat features (including methods of removal, relocation and final location) and the HBT to be cleared in Stage 3.
- > Clearing will occur during daylight hours as specified in **Section 8.2** and clearing of native trees will be avoided in spring, where possible (i.e., outside the breeding period of most threatened species).
- > The Ecologist with assistance from the machinery operator will relocate fallen timber to adjacent suitable habitat outside the Inner Protection Area (IPA) immediately prior to vegetation clearing, where possible and subject to landholder consent, as habitat enhancement.
- > Details of fauna rescue and release will be documented in the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (**Appendix D**) by the Ecologist on the same day as fauna rescue and release was required during the construction phase. The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will provide a summary of this mitigation measure to CPHR following each annual reporting window, as per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC.
- > In the event a threatened species is observed on the site during the construction phase (as identified using the Threatened Species Profiles [**Appendix F**]), the Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure (**Appendix E**) is to be applied by the Ecologist on the same day the threatened species is observed. The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will provide a summary of this mitigation measure to CPHR following each annual reporting window, as per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC.
- > Part 5 of the Australian Standard 4373-2007 Pruning of amenity trees (Standards Australia, 2007) is to be applied during the construction phase, if the pruning of mature trees is required.
- > Any topsoil that is removed during the construction phase will be stored within the site, however outside the area impacted by a 1% AEP flood event as identified in the Amendment Report. This topsoil will be sown to native perennial grass within three (3) months following the completion of construction or upgrade and maintained free from any significant agricultural or environmental weeds.

- > Trees will be felled in a controlled manner using an excavator to minimise damage to the tree during the construction phase.
- > Felled trees identified for habitat enhancement by the Ecologist will be relocated to adjacent suitable habitat, outside the IPA, the day of clearing and in consultation with relevant landholders.
- > If not able to be salvaged for habitat or revegetation purposes, felled trees shall be mulched and reused onsite for erosion and sediment controls within seven (7) days of the clearing conclusion during the construction phase.
- > HBTs must only be cleared in accordance with **Section 8.4.3**.

8.4.3 HOLLOW-BEARING TREE CLEARING (STAGE 3)

At the completion of Stage 2 (**Section 8.4.2**), only one HBT (marked with 'H') will remain within the clearing boundary. Stage 3 clearing will be overseen by the Principal Contractor's HSW Officer and involves:

- > Using an excavator, the machine operator shall gently tap the HBT five (5) times to encourage any resident fauna to vacate the tree without further intervention. This is to occur the day before clearing commences of the HBT. If the tree is not cleared within 48 hours of being tapped, the tree is to re-tapped at least the day prior to removal.
- > The Ecologist will be present on the site for the duration of all native vegetation clearing to supervise the works. Immediately prior to clearing the HBT, the Ecologist must observe for signs of animal movement in the HBT and must be able to communicate directly with plant operators.
- > Immediately prior to clearing the HBT, an excavator shall tap the trunk as high up as possible five (5) times at 30 second intervals. This process shall be repeated several times.
- > Non-hollow bearing limbs shall be removed first, followed by hollow-bearing limbs.
- > The Ecologist must inspect each hollow within the hollow-bearing limb on the ground for signs of wildlife before the next limb is removed.
- > Details of fauna rescue and release will be documented in the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (**Appendix D**).
- > In the event a threatened species is observed on the site during clearing (as identified using the Threatened Species Profiles [**Appendix F**]), the Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure (**Appendix E**) is to be applied.
- > The Ecologist with assistance from the machinery operator will temporarily relocate all salvaged fallen hollows to adjacent habitat where they will remain in-situ until the following day for further inspection by the Ecologist to verify no fauna is present. The Ecologist will then assess the suitability of salvaged fallen hollow for habitat enhancement. If the salvage fallen hollow is unsuitable for revegetation purposes, the Ecologist will recommend the fallen hollow is mulched and reused on site for erosion and sediment controls within seven (7) days of the clearing conclusion during the construction phase.
- > The Ecologist will relocate salvaged hollows to adjacent suitable habitat outside the IPA, where possible and subject to landholder consent, as habitat enhancement by fastening the salvaged hollow to younger trees. This will occur within two (2) days of hollow removal. The selection of suitable hollows for relocation is at the discretion of the Ecologist. A GPS coordinate and a photo record of the location of salvaged hollows will be taken by the Ecologist the day of permanent relocation.
- > The tree will be felled in a controlled manner with an excavator to minimise break up of tree and impact/crushing risk to fauna.



8.4.4 POST-CONSTRUCTION SURVEYS (STAGE 4)

Post-construction surveys are to be undertaken by the Ecologist following the daily completion of construction using the Post-construction Checklist (**Appendix C**). The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will provide a summary of this mitigation measure to CPHR following each annual reporting window, as per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC.

8.5 Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure

The Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (**Appendix D**) provides a guideline of actions to be implemented if resident fauna is encountered on the site during pre-construction and construction. All fauna rescue and relocation will be undertaken by an Ecologist with a wildlife handling license. Relocation is to occur within similar, adjacent habitat (i.e., retained woodland along Henry Parkes Way). Documentation of the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (**Appendix D**) will be completed by the Ecologist the same day the procedure is applied during the pre-construction and construction phases. The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will provide a summary of this mitigation measure to CPHR following each annual reporting window, as per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC.

8.6 Threatened Species Management and Unexpected Finds

Site inductions are required to educate personnel on key physical characteristics of threatened species likely to occur on the site as described in the Threatened Species Profiles (**Appendix F**). If any threatened species are identified on the site by the Ecologist or other personnel during pre-construction or construction phases of the project, the Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure (**Appendix E**) is to be implemented which includes an immediate stop of all works until corrective actions and additional mitigation measures have been implemented. Documentation of the Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure (**Appendix E**) will be completed by the Ecologist the same day the procedure is applied during the pre-construction or construction phases. The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will provide a summary of this mitigation measure to CPHR following each annual reporting window, as per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC.

8.7 Threatened Ecological Community Management

Two TECs are present on the site: *Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Peneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions EEC* listed under the BC Act and *Grey Box (Eucalyptus microcarpa) Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland of South-eastern Australia EEC* listed under the EPBC Act. Of the 0.97 ha classified as *Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Peneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions EEC* listed under the BC Act, 0.38 ha is also classified as *Grey Box (Eucalyptus microcarpa) Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland of South-eastern Australia EEC* listed under the EPBC Act. The 0.97 ha of TEC will be directly impacted native vegetation clearance during the construction phase.

Monitoring and mitigation measures to reduce the likelihood of indirect impact and inadvertent clearing to adjacent TECs includes:

- > No clearing is to occur outside the approved clearing area at any time during construction or operation (**Section 8.1**).
- > Boundaries of the approved clearing area and exclusion zones (i.e., areas to be retained within the site boundary, including vegetation along Henry Parkes Way) are to be marked out by a qualified surveyor, and high visibility temporary fencing is to be installed by the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer no more than seven (7) days before clearing commencement.

- > Site inductions during staff onboarding in the pre-construction phase will identify the approved clearing area and the importance of the exclusion fencing. During the construction phase, weekly tool-box talks will occur to identify the approved clearing area and vegetation to be cleared that week.
- > Construction materials, equipment and parking of vehicles are to be restricted to the designated laydown area, avoiding the dripline of any mature trees (**Section 8.2**).
- > The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will ensure any topsoil that is removed during the construction phase will be stored within the site excluding the area impacted by a 1% AEP flood event (i.e., the laydown area identified on Figure 1).
- > The Ecologist is required to be present for all native vegetation clearing and may undertake the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (**Appendix D**) or the Unexpected Threatened Species Finds Procedure (**Appendix E**) as required during the pre-construction and construction phases (**Section 8.5** and **Section 8.6**).
- > Suitable habitat resources, including but not limited to felled timber, fallen logs and scattered surface rocks are to be relocated to similar adjacent habitat outside the IPA by the Ecologist as habitat enhancement, where possible and subject to landholder consent (**Section 8.4**).

8.8 Weed and Pathogen Management

According to CoC B14 (Section b[vii]) of Schedule 2 of the IoC, the Applicant must implement weed and pathogen control measures to minimise the risk of weeds and pathogens to adjacent vegetation and fauna habitat. The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer, in consultation with the Applicant, will implement the following measures to prevent the introduction or spread of weeds and pathogens on site:

- > Weed and pathogen monitoring will be undertaken by the Ecologist less than seven (7) days prior to clearing during the pre-construction phase, weekly during earthmoving activities (construction phase) and annually (operation phase).
- > Site inductions during staff onboarding in the pre-construction phase and weekly tool-box talks during the construction phase will communicate the location of weeds and pathogens, risks and controls in place, as well as the general obligation to prevent the introduction and spread of weeds inside and outside the site as per the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.
- > Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will ensure all earthmoving equipment, light vehicles and other vehicles are cleaned of any soil and vegetation at car wash facilities by Principal Contractors prior to entering the site.
- > The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will oversee hygiene inspections of vehicles and equipment being transported to site immediately prior to their arrival on site during the pre-construction, construction and operation phase and the Hygiene Declaration Form will be implemented (**Appendix G**). The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will provide a summary of this mitigation measure to CPHR following each annual reporting window, as per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC.
- > Any topsoil that is removed during the construction phase will be stored within the site, however outside the area impacted by a 1% AEP flood event as identified in the Amendment Report. This topsoil will be sown to native perennial grass within three (3) months following the completion of construction or upgrade and maintained free from any significant agricultural or environmental weeds.
- > Within seven (7) days of weed monitoring, the NSW DPI published control procedures will be implemented by the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer to reduce the spread of weeds during pre-construction, construction and operation phases (NSW DPI, 2025b) (**Table 7**).



- > Chemicals used on-site will be stored and used in accordance with the requirements of all relevant Australian Standards, and the NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Storing and Handling of Liquids: Environmental Protection – Participants Handbook.
- > The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will review site activities in sensitive areas (i.e., retained vegetation along Henry Parks Way) weekly during earthmoving activities in the construction phase to reduce unnecessary disturbance and document incidences as per Section 6 of the EMS.
- > Utilisation of mobile disinfectant pump packs to address pathogen risk, where required within seven (7) days of pathogen monitoring during pre-construction, construction and operation phases.
- > If vegetation dieback is noted on site or in adjacent retained vegetation due to potential pathogens during the pre-construction, construction or operation phases, access will be restricted to the area, hygiene measures implemented (i.e., inspections of vehicles and equipment) and Local Land Services will be consulted within seven (7) days of identifying the dieback to inform monitoring, mapping and adaptive management (investigation of the spread, prohibiting access, revising hygiene measures).
- > The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will provide a summary of weed monitoring and management to CPHR following each annual reporting window to report on the effectiveness of mitigation measures, as per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC.
- > In the event of an inconsistency between the requirements of the Australian Standards and NSW EPA's Storing and Handling of Liquids: Environmental Protection – Participants Handbook, the most stringent requirement will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

Table 7 - Weed Control Measures (NSW DPI, 2025b)

Species Name	Control Measure
Paspalum (<i>Paspalum dilatatum</i>)	Herbicide control Glyphosate 360 g/L or Flupropanate 745 g/L using a foliar spray technique during times of active growth from November to April.
Kikuyu Grass (<i>Cenchrus clandestinus</i>)	Herbicide control: Glyphosate 360 g/L or Flupropanate 745 g/L using a foliar spray technique during times of active growth from November to April.
African Lovegrass (<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>)	Herbicide control: Flupropanate 745 g/L or Glyphosate 360 g/L. Heavy infestations can be burnt before spraying the regrowth
Great Brome (<i>Bromus diandrus</i>)	Herbicide control: Glyphosate 360 g/L using a foliar spray technique during times of active growth.
African Boxthorn (<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>)	Non-chemical options: Mechanically remove mature bushes/thickets when soil is wet (winter) and spray regrowth. Herbicide control: Glyphosate 360 g/L or Glyphosate 360 g/L. Stem inject or stem scrape application on mature plants and foliar spray on young plants.

8.8.1 WEED MONITORING

The key objective of weed monitoring is to document the presence/absence and distribution of weeds on the site to minimise the spread of weeds throughout the construction and operation of the project. The weed monitoring and management methodology present in **Table 8** is to be overseen by the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer and implemented by the Ecologist throughout the lifetime of the project.

Table 8 - Weed Monitoring Methodology

Objective
To document the presence/absence and distribution of weeds on the site, to inform weed control methodology and to minimise the spread of weeds throughout the construction and operation of the project.
Sampling Units
Weed species, abundance and spatial distribution.
Method
> Preliminary weed monitoring will be undertaken by the Ecologist within the site less than seven (7) days prior to clearing during the pre-construction surveys to establish baseline weed species, abundance and spatial distribution. > Weekly weed monitoring will be undertaken by the Ecologist within the site during earthmoving activities in the construction phase. > Annual weed monitoring will be undertaken by the Ecologist within the site during the operation phase for the lifetime of the project. > The spatial distribution of weeds will be mapped after each monitoring round to quantify the spread, suppression or removal of weeds between monitoring periods. > Field data and mapping will be updated each monitoring period to monitor the weed species, abundance and spatial distribution of weeds on the site, and the effectiveness of management applied.
Location
Within the site.
Timing, Effect and Frequency
Pre-construction phase: less than seven (7) days prior to clearing commencement. Construction phase: weekly inspections during earthmoving activities. Operation phase: yearly inspections.
Targeted Weed Species
Weed species identified in the BDAR include Paspalum (<i>Paspalum dilatatum</i>), Kikuyu Grass (<i>Cenchrus clandestinus</i>), African Lovegrass (<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>), Great Brome (<i>Bromus diandrus</i>) and African Boxthorn (<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>).
Data Analysis
An excel spreadsheet of weed species, abundance and extent of cover across the site is to be maintained by the Ecologist to quantify the spread, suppression or removal of weeds between monitoring periods in comparison to the baseline data.
Triggers for Adaptive Management
A Trigger Action Response Plan – Weeds (Appendix H) will be implemented in the event previously unrecorded weed species are present within the site. This procedure includes adaptive management actions for weed control including further investigation into the source of the weed spread. The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will provide a summary of this mitigation measure to CPHR following each annual reporting window, as per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC.

8.9 Feral Pest Management

According to CoC B14 (Section b[vii]) of Schedule 2 of the IoC, the Applicant must implement feral pests control measures to minimise the risk of pests to adjacent vegetation and fauna habitat. The following measures will be implemented by the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer to prevent the introduction or spread of feral animals present in the site into adjacent retained vegetation:

- > Feral pest monitoring will be undertaken by the Ecologist less than seven (7) days prior to clearing during the pre-construction phase to identify the location of pest species.
- > Barrier exclusions and covers will be implemented within and surrounding construction work sites in conjunction with construction fencing, particularly where monitoring has identified pest species. This will occur in the pre-construction phase within seven (7) days prior to construction commencing and remain in-situ for the duration of the construction phase.
- > Materials or practices that may encourage the presence of pests or improve potential pest habitat will be avoided during the pre-construction, construction and operation phase.
- > A Waste Management Plan will be prepared as part of the CEMP, OEMP and DEMP more than seven (7) days before the pre-construction phase commences, to identify opportunities to store waste in a manner that is inaccessible to pests, minimise waste, maximise recovery, and effectively manage waste that cannot be recycled or repurposed.

Additional monitoring for pest species during the construction and operation phases will be determined in consultation with the Ecologist.

8.10 Rehabilitation

8.10.1 GROUNDCOVER MANAGEMENT OF TEMPORARY DISTURBANCE AREAS

CoC B14 (Section b-v) of Schedule 2 of the IoC requires the Applicant to rehabilitate and revegetate temporary disturbance areas with native species that are appropriate to the site's ecology and conditions within three (3) months following the completion of construction or upgrade.

The temporary disturbance areas are those areas within the site boundary where the construction of permanent structures will be excluded (**Figure 5**). These areas include vegetation between the site boundary and the following features:

- > BESS Area.
- > New Bay.
- > Proposed external road edge and internal road.
- > Underground cables.

These areas currently occur as non-native, Category 1 – Exempt Land and moderate, disturbed or cleared native vegetation classified as PCT 80 or PCT 82 which are regularly mown

The objective of revegetation is to achieve, within three (3) months of the completion of the construction phase or an upgrading during the operation phase, a native species richness of five (5) native groundcover species in all temporary disturbance areas. All revegetation works are to align with Appendix 4 of *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019*.



The following revegetation methodology is recommended:

- > Revegetation works are to commence within two (2) weeks of the clearance of temporary disturbance area in the construction phase.
- > Prior to revegetation, WONS, HTW and priority weeds for the Central West are to be controlled in accordance with methods outlined in **Section 8.8**.
- > Soil is to be prepared using an auger with an arm attachment to bore trench lines or holes to create a suitable seed bed.
- > Seed is to be sourced locally and include native groundcover species characteristic of PCT 80 and PCT 82. Examples of suitable species are identified in **Table 9**. Species may vary depending on nursery availability.
- > The nursery will be contacted and seed ordered more than three (3) months prior to revegetation works commencing in the construction phase to ensure plant availability.
- > Erect temporary fencing around the revegetation areas immediately following installation of seeds to minimise disturbance (i.e., native herbivory).
- > Groundcover seeds should be watered twice a week for the first three (3) weeks or as required based on rainfall until grasses and/or forbs become established.
- > Groundcover regeneration will be monitored weekly for one (1) month, then every two (2) weeks until three (3) months. If at the three (3) month mark, the groundcover vegetation has not successfully established (i.e., <50% native vegetation cover), the groundcover monitoring assessments shall be provided to CPHR as per CoC B14 (Section c) of Schedule 2 of the IoC. At this time, as per advice from CPHR, the BMP will be revised to include a Revegetation Management Plan to provide additional mitigation measures (i.e., additional erosion controls, management and plantings). The Revegetation Management Plan will be prepared as a revision to the BMP, in consultation with CPHR, and approved by, DPHI.
- > Revegetated areas are to be maintained as per Appendix 4 of the Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2019 (i.e., grass should be kept mown and leaves and vegetation debris should be removed).
- > All revegetated areas are to be maintained free of significant weeds as per **Section 8.8**.

Table 9 - Native Species Characteristic of PCT 80 and PCT 82

Scientific Name	Common Name	Growth Form	Suitable Planting Area
<i>Austrostipa scabra</i>	Speargrass	Grass	All temporary disturbance areas
<i>Rytidosperma setacea</i>	Small-flowered Wallaby Grass	Grass	All temporary disturbance areas
<i>Rytidosperma caespitosa</i>	Ringed Wallaby Grass	Grass	All temporary disturbance areas
<i>Artistida ramosa</i>	Purple Wiregrass	Grass	All temporary disturbance areas
<i>Enteropogon acicularis</i>	Curly Windmill Grass	Grass	All temporary disturbance areas
<i>Calotis cuneifolia</i>	Purple Burr-Daisy	Forb	All temporary disturbance areas
<i>Calotis lappulacea</i>	Yellow Burr-Daisy	Forb	All temporary disturbance areas
<i>Dichondra sp.</i> <i>Inglewood</i>	N/A	Forb	All temporary disturbance areas
<i>Sida corrugata</i>	Corrugated Sida	Forb	All temporary disturbance areas
<i>Rumex brownii</i>	Swamp Dock	Forb	All temporary disturbance areas

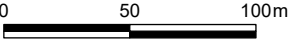


POTENTIA ENERGY

Ridgely Creek BESS

Figure 5
Temporary Disturbance

- Legend**
- Study Area
 - Road
 - Approved Clearing Area
 - Temporary Clearing Area
 - BESS Area
 - Internal Road
 - New Bay
 - 132 kV HDD Underground Cable
 - 132 kV Underground Cable



8.11 Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures

The biodiversity management and mitigation measures outlined in **Section 8** have been summarised in **Table 10**. The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will provide a summary of ongoing internal monitoring and reporting will be provided to CPHR following each annual reporting window to monitor and report on the effectiveness of mitigation measures as per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC.

In the event of an inconsistency between the requirements of the Australian Standards and NSW EPA's Storing and Handling of Liquids: Environmental Protection – Participants Handbook, the most stringent requirement will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.

Table 10 - Biodiversity Management and Mitigation Measures

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
General							
B12 and B13	N/A	The 15 ecosystem credits are required to be retired by the Applicant in accordance with the BOS prior to commencing construction. The Applicant must provide evidence to the Planning Secretary that biodiversity credits have been retired. Credits will be retired through the making of	> No unauthorised clearing.	> BDAR (Area, 2025)	> Pre-construction	> At least one (1) month prior to the pre-construction phase	> Applicant

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
		payments into the NSW Government offset trust fund.					
B11 and B14 (Section b [i, iii, iv and vii])	B4	Site inductions will identify the requirements of the BMP including: > the extent of clearing, including TEC areas to be removed. > the importance of the exclusion fencing. > key physical characteristics of threatened species likely to occur on the site as described in the Threatened Species Profiles (Appendix F). > the presence of weeds in the site and the personnel	> No unauthorised clearing. > No staff, contractors or visitors entering the site without an induction.	> Project inductions	> Pre-construction	> Single occurrence during staff onboarding.	> Principal Contractor's Construction Manager

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
		responsible for weed control. > The general obligation to prevent the introduction and spread of weeds inside and outside the site as per the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>.					
B11 and B14 (Section b [i, iii])	B4	Site tool-box talks will identify: > The approved clearing area. > Vegetation to be cleared each day.	> No unauthorised clearing. >	> Project inductions	> Construction	> Weekly.	> Principal Contractor's Construction Manager
B14 (Section e)	N/A	A suitably qualified, licensed and trained Ecologist or fauna specialist with a wildlife handling license is required to be present for the	> No unauthorised clearing. > No injury or death inflicted on wildlife due to the project construction.	> Ecologist	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Duration of all native vegetation clearing	> Principal Contractor's Construction Manager

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
		duration of all native vegetation clearing.					
Habitat, Vegetation and TEC Protection and Clearing							
B11 and B14 (Section b [i and iii])	B4	The boundary of the approved clearing area and exclusion zones will be physically identified using boundary fencing and signage, and effectively communicated.	> No unauthorised clearing. > No staff, contractors or visitors entering the site without an induction.	> Project inductions > Qualified surveyor > Approved clearing area > Fencing > Signage	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Boundary fencing and signage will be installed less than seven (7) days before clearing commencement. > The approved clearing area and exclusion zones will be communicated during staff onboarding site inductions and weekly tool-box talks.	> Principal Contractor's Construction Manager
B11 and B14 (Section b [i and iii])	B4	Removal of boundary fencing and signage identifying the boundary of the approved clearing area and exclusion zones.	> No unauthorised clearing.	> Project inductions > Qualified surveyor > Approved clearing area > Fencing > Signage	> Operation	> Within one (1) week of clearing conclusion	> Principal Contractor's Construction Manager

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
B14 (Section b [i, ii, iii and iv])	V2	Existing vegetation will be retained wherever possible, particularly along Henry Parkes Way. The boundary of vegetation exclusion zones will be identified in-situ with temporary fencing and signage.	> No unauthorised clearing. > No staff, contractors or visitors entering the site without an induction.	> Approved clearing footprint	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Throughout the construction phase. > The approved clearing area and exclusion zones will be communicated during staff onboarding site inductions and weekly tool-box talks.	> Principal Contractor's Construction Manager
B14 (Section b [i-iv and vi] and e)	N/A	Clearing procedure outlined in Section 8.4 of this BMP will be implemented including pre-construction surveys, staged clearing, post-construction surveys and supervision by the Ecologist.	> No unauthorised clearing.	> Ecologist. > Appendix B: pre-construction checklist > Appendix C: post-construction checklist	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Ongoing.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
B14 (Section b [i, ii and iv])	B2	Clearing of trees and the HBT will be avoided in spring, where practicable to avoid the main breeding period for	> Avoid clearing in spring where possible.	> Approved clearing area	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Outside spring. > Between 7am to 6pm on weekdays and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
		most threatened species.					
B14 (Section b [vi])	B3	Fallen timber, including salvaged hollows, will be used for habitat outside the site boundary, where possible and subject to landholder consent. A GPS coordinate and photo record of the location of salvaged hollows will also be taken.	> Successful relocation of habitat resources for habitat enhancement	> Section 8.4 > Ecologist > Flagging tape.	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Suitable habitat for relocation will be identified during pre-construction surveys, less than seven (7) days before clearing commencement. > Temporary relocation of felled hollows will occur the same day as vegetation clearing and remain in-situ overnight. > Permanent relocation of salvaged hollows for habitat enhancement will occur within two (2) days of hollow removal. > Permanent relocation of habitat resources (i.e., fallen logs or scattered surface	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
						rocks) will be relocated immediately prior to vegetation clearing. > Documentation: the day of permanent hollow relocation.	
B14 (Section b [vi])	N/A	If not able to be salvaged for habitat or revegetation purposes, removed vegetation shall be mulched and reused onsite for erosion and sediment controls.	> No uncontrolled erosion and sedimentation	> N/A	> Construction	> Within seven (7) days of the clearing conclusion.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
B14 (Section b [vi])	N/A	Application of Part 5 of the Australian Standard 4373-2007 Pruning of amenity trees (Standards Australia, 2007), if pruning is required.	> No inadvertent damage to the IPZ.	> Australian Standard 4373-2007 Pruning of amenity trees (Standards Australia, 2007)	> Construction	> As required during vegetation clearing.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
B14 (Section b [i-iii])	N/A	Construction materials, equipment and parking of vehicles are to be restricted to the designated laydown area, avoiding the dripline of any mature trees.	> No inadvertent damage to mature trees.	> N/A	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Duration of pre-construction and construction phases.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
B14 (Section b [vi])	F2	Any topsoil that is removed during the construction phase will be stored within the site boundary but outside the area impacted by a 1% AEP flood event. This topsoil will be sown to native perennial grass within three (3) months following the completion of construction or upgrade and maintained free from any significant agricultural or environmental weeds.	> No loss of topsoil.	> EIS	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Within three (3) months of the completion of the construction phase.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer



IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
		The salvage of soil resources may also be used in the rehabilitation of the site.					
B11	N/A	Review of site activities in sensitive areas (i.e., retained vegetation along Henry Parks Way)	> No unauthorised clearing.	> Approved clearing area > Fencing > Signage	> Construction	> Weekly during clearing and earthmoving activities.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
Wildlife Protection							
B14 (Section b [I and iv])	N/A	The local vet or wildlife organization will be contracted to confirm the local wildlife carer is available in the event of inadvertent wildlife injury or stress as per the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (Appendix D).	> No inadvertent damage to threatened species, non-threatened fauna or habitat for relocation.	> Appendix D: Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure > Ecologist > Local vet > Wildlife rescue organisation	> Pre-construction > Construction	> More than seven (7) days before clearing commencement.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
B14 (Section b [i-iv])	N/A	Pre-construction surveys are to be undertaken by a suitably qualified	> No inadvertent damage to threatened species, non-	> Appendix B: Pre-construction checklist	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Less than seven (7) days before clearing commencement.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
		ecologist with wildlife handling license using the Pre-construction Checklist (Appendix B).	threatened fauna or habitat for relocation.	> Ecologist		> Documentation: the same day the procedure is applied.	
B14 (Section b [i, iii and iv])	N/A	Where fauna is identified that requires handling or rescue, follow the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (Appendix D).	> No inadvertent damage or destruction of resident fauna.	> Appendix D: Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure > Ecologist > Local vet > Wildlife rescue organisation	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Immediately prior to vegetation clearing or as required during the construction phase. > Documentation: the same day the procedure is applied.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
B14 (Section b [i, iii and iv])	N/A	Post-construction surveys are to be undertaken by the Ecologist using the Post-construction Checklist (Appendix C).	> No inadvertent damage to threatened species, non-threatened fauna or habitat for relocation.	> Appendix C: Post-construction checklist > Ecologist	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Daily following the conclusion of clearing. > Documentation: the same day the procedure is applied.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
B14 (Section b [i and ii])	N/A	Site speed limits of 20 km/hour will be enforced to reduce fauna vehicle strikes	> No fauna vehicle strikes	> Project inductions > Signage	> Pre-construction > Construction > Operation	> Ongoing	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
							> Principal Contractor's Maintenance Supervisor
B14 (Section b [i and iii])	N/A	Using an excavator, the machinery operator shall gently tap the HBT five (5) times to encourage any resident fauna to vacate the tree without further intervention.	> No inadvertent damage to threatened species, non-threatened fauna or habitat for relocation.	> Appendix D: Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure > Ecologist > Local vet > Wildlife rescue organisation	> Construction	> Tapping is to occur the day before clearing commences for the HBT and must be re-tapped if clearing does not occur within 48 hours of being tapped.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
B14 (Section b [i and iii])	N/A	The Ecologist will observe for signs of animal movement in the HBT to be cleared.	> No inadvertent damage to threatened species, non-threatened fauna or habitat for relocation.	> Appendix D: Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure > Ecologist > Local vet > Wildlife rescue organisation	> Construction	> Immediately prior to clearing the HBT.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
B14 (Section b [i and iii])	N/A	After initial tree tapping the previous day, the machinery operator will tap the trunk of the HBT again five (5) times at 30 second intervals.	> No inadvertent damage to threatened species, non-threatened fauna or habitat for relocation.	> Appendix D: Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure > Ecologist > Local vet > Wildlife rescue organisation	> Construction	> Immediately prior to clearing the HBT.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
B14 (Section b [i and iii])	N/A	The Ecologist will inspect each felled hollow-bearing limb for resident fauna.	> No inadvertent damage to threatened species, non-threatened fauna or habitat for relocation.	> Appendix D: Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure > Ecologist > Local vet > Wildlife rescue organisation	> Construction	> Immediately after the hollow-bearing limb is removed and prior to the next hollow-bearing limb removal.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
Unexpected Threatened Species							
B14 (Section d)	N/A	Where threatened species are unexpectedly identified during pre-construction, or	> No inadvertent damage to or destruction of threatened species	> Appendix E: Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Less than seven (7) days before clearing commencement.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
		construction, follow the Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure (Appendix E).		> Ecologist		> Documentation: the same day the procedure is applied.	
Weed, Feral Pests and Pathogens Management							
B14 (Section b [ii and vii])	N/A	Identification of outbreaks of priority weeds, WONS or HTW and suitable disposal methods via weed monitoring.	> No spread or introduction of significant weeds	> Appendix G: Hygiene Declaration Form > Appendix H: Trigger Action Response Plan - Weeds > Ecologist	> Pre-construction > Construction > Operation	> Pre-construction: Less than seven (7) days before clearing commencement. > Construction: weekly during earthmoving activities. > Operation: annually.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer > Principal Contractor's Maintenance Supervisor
B14 (Section b [ii and vii])	N/A	Implementation of NSW DPI published control procedures for weeds or mobile disinfectant pump packs to address pathogens.	> No spread or introduction of significant weeds	> Appendix G: Hygiene Declaration Form > Appendix H: Trigger Action Response Plan – Weeds > Table 7	> Pre-construction > Construction > Operation	> Within seven (7) days of weed or pathogen monitoring.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer > Principal Contractor's Maintenance Supervisor

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
				> Ecologist			
B14 (Section b [ii and vii])	L3	Equipment and vehicles will be cleaned of soil and vegetation at car wash facilities prior to entering the site.	> No spread or introduction of significant weeds	> Appendix G: Hygiene Declaration Form > Ecologist	> Pre-construction > Construction > Operation	> Immediately prior to entering the site.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer > Principal Contractor's Maintenance Supervisor
B14 (Section b [ii and vii])	L3	All earthmoving equipment and vehicles will be inspected as clean prior to entering the site and the Hygiene Declaration Form (Appendix G) will be implemented.	> No spread or introduction of significant weeds	> Appendix G: Hygiene Declaration Form > Ecologist	> Pre-construction > Construction > Operation	> Immediately prior to entering the site.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer > Principal Contractor's Maintenance Supervisor
B14 (Section b [ii and vii])	N/A	All project vehicles are to remain on designated access tracks.	> No spread or introduction of significant weeds	> N/A	> Pre-construction > Construction > Operation	> Ongoing.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer > Principal Contractor's Maintenance Supervisor

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
B14 (Section b [v])	L1	Topsoil will be sown to native perennial grass within three (3) months following completion of construction or upgrade and maintained free from any significant agricultural or environmental weeds.	> No loss of topsoil for revegetation	> CEMP > Erosion and Sediment Control Plan	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Within three (3) months of the completion of the construction phase.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
B14 (Section b [vii])	N/A	Feral pest monitoring.	> No spread or introduction of pest animals	> Ecologist	> Pre-construction	> Less than seven (7) days before clearing commencement.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
B14 (Section b [vii])	N/A	Implementation of barrier exclusions and covers within and surrounding construction work sites, and the avoidance of materials or practices that may encourage the presence of pests or improve potential pest habitat.	> No spread or introduction of pest animals	> Ecologist	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Less than seven (7) days before clearing commencement. > Ongoing.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
B14 (Section b [vii])	WS7	Organic waste will be appropriately stored and inaccessible to pest animals, and dispose offsite by a licensed waste contractor	> No spread or introduction of pest animals	> Waste Management Plan	> Pre-construction > Construction > Operation	> Ongoing. > Waste Management Plan: more than seven (7) days before the pre-construction phase commencement.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer > Principal Contractor's Maintenance Supervisor
B14 (Section b [vii])	N/A	If vegetation dieback is noted on site or in adjacent retained vegetation due to potential pathogens, access will be restricted to the area, hygiene measures implemented (i.e., inspections of vehicles and equipment) and Local Land Services will be consulted regarding monitoring, mapping and adaptive management (investigation of the spread, prohibiting	> No spread of pathogens	> Ecologist	> Pre-construction > Construction > Operation	> Within seven (7) days of identifying the dieback.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer > Principal Contractor's Maintenance Supervisor

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
		access, revising hygiene measures).					
B14 (Section b [ii and vii])	N/A	Requirements for the storage and handling of hydrocarbons and chemicals (in accordance with Australian Standards) and a spill management plan.	> No spills	> Spill kits > Spill Management Plan	> Pre-construction > Construction > Operation	> Ongoing	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer > Principal Contractor's Maintenance Supervisor
Site Restoration and Revegetation							
B14 (Section b [v])	L1 and W1	Seed stock will be ordered from a local nursery.	> A >50% planting survival rate within three (3) months following the completion of construction or upgrade. > A native species richness of 5 native groundcover species in all temporary	> Revegetation Management Plan (if applicable)	> Construction > Operation	> More than three (3) months prior to revegetation works commencing.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
			disturbance areas. > Seed is sourced locally and include native species characteristic of PCT 80 and PCT 82.				
B14 (Section b [v])	L1	Topsoil will be sown to native perennial grass within three (3) months following the completion of construction or upgrade and maintained free from any significant agricultural or environmental weeds.	> No loss of topsoil for revegetation	> CEMP > Erosion and Sediment Control Plan	> Within three (3) months following completion of construction or upgrade	> Within three (3) months of the completion of the construction phase.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
B14 (Section b [v])	W1	Where practicable, works will be staged and progressively rehabilitated (or covered in stable	> No loss of topsoil	> CEMP > Erosion and Sediment Control Plan	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Commencement: Less than two (2) weeks after the completion of clearing in	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
		surfacing) to minimise the disturbed area.				temporary disturbance areas.	
B14 (Section b [v])	N/A	Revegetation of temporary disturbance areas.	> A >50% planting survival rate within three (3) months following the completion of construction or upgrade. > A native species richness of 5 native groundcover species in all temporary disturbance areas. > Seed is sourced locally and include native species characteristic of PCT 80 and PCT 82.	> Appendix H: Trigger Action Response Plan - Weeds > Biosecurity Management Strategy > Revegetation Management Plan (if applicable)	> Construction > Operation	> Commencement: Less than two (2) weeks after the completion of clearing in temporary disturbance areas. > Ongoing monitoring: weekly for one (1) month, then every two (2) weeks until the three (3) month mark. > Completion: Within three (3) months following the completion of construction or upgrade.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
B14 (Section b [v])	N/A	Maintenance of groundcover revegetation efforts including watering and erecting a temporary fence to minimise herbivory.	> A >50% planting survival rate within three (3) months following the completion of construction or upgrade. > A native species richness of 5 native groundcover species in all temporary disturbance areas.	> Revegetation Management Plan (if applicable)	> Construction > Operation	> Watering: twice a week for the first tree (3) weeks or as required based on rainfall. > Erect temporary fencing: immediately following the installation of seeds.	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
Annual Reporting to CPHR							
B14 (Section c)	N/A	Consultation with CPHR regarding the effectiveness of groundcover revegetation for temporary disturbance areas	> A >50% planting survival rate within three (3) months following the completion of	> Revegetation Management Plan (if applicable)	> Construction > Operation	> Three (3) months following the completion of the construction phase or an upgrade during the operation phase if the objective of revegetation (i.e., a	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
			construction or upgrade. > A native species richness of 5 native groundcover species in all temporary disturbance areas.			native species richness of five (5) native groundcover species in all temporary disturbance areas) or success rate (>50% native vegetation cover) is not achieved.	
B14 (Section c)	N/A	Annual reporting including weed monitoring and management, implementation of the Pre-construction Procedure (Appendix B), Post-construction Checklist (Appendix C), Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (Appendix D), Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure (Appendix E), Hygiene Declaration Form (Appendix G)	> A program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of mitigation measures and report to CPHR following each annual reporting window.	> Ecologist > Pre-construction Procedure (Appendix B) > Post-construction Checklist (Appendix C) > Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (Appendix D) > Unexpected Threatened Species	> Pre-construction > Construction > Operation	> Annual	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

IoC Reference	Amendment Report Mitigation Measure Reference	Measure	Targets	Resources	Project Phase	Frequency	Responsibility
		and Trigger Action Response Plan (Appendix H) will be provided to CPHR following each reporting window to report on the effectiveness of mitigation measures.		- Procedure (Appendix E) > Hygiene Declaration Form (Appendix G) > Trigger Action Response Plan (Appendix H)			

9. MONITORING AND INSPECTIONS

Activities with the potential to impact biodiversity over the duration of the project have been identified in **Section 7. Table 11** summarises the protocol or procedure requirements for monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of mitigation measures. A summary of ongoing internal monitoring and reporting will be provided to CPHR following each annual reporting window to monitor and report on the effectiveness of mitigation measures as per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC.

Table 11 - Summary of Performance Criteria, Triggers for Action and Responses for Biodiversity Management Protocols and Procedures

Management Protocol or Procedure	Performance Criteria	Trigger for Additional Actions	Action Proposed	Monitoring and/or Reporting Requirements	Timing	Responsibility
Clearing protocol and surveys	> No more than 0.97 ha of native vegetation and no more than 4.92 ha of non-native vegetation will be removed. > No more than one HBT will be removed. > Pre-construction surveys conducted. > Habitat feature relocation conducted, where possible. > No impact on exclusion zones. > No impact on vegetation and	> Clearing outside the approved clearing area > Pre-construction surveys not completed > Habitat feature relocation not completed > Clearing of trees or fauna habitat outside the approved clearing area > Injury or death to native fauna during clearing > Lack of environmental incident	> Amend the pre-construction survey process to require additional authorising signatures (i.e., Principal Contractor's Construction Manager and Project Manager) to confirm clearance boundaries are correct > The surveyor who marks the clearing boundary is to consult with the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer and Construction Officer, so the extent is effectively communicated to all personnel.	> The Ecologist will complete the Pre-construction Survey (Appendix B) and provide the document to the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer. > The Ecologist will complete the Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure (Appendix E) or the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (Appendix D) and provide the documents to the	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

Management Protocol or Procedure	Performance Criteria	Trigger for Additional Actions	Action Proposed	Monitoring and/or Reporting Requirements	Timing	Responsibility
	fauna habitat outside the approved clearing area. > Post-construction surveys completed.	notification where required. > Post-construction surveys not completed.	> Undertake incident investigation and document the outcomes. > Include doing onboarding site inductions the extent of clearing, the clearing process and excluded areas where vegetation is to be retained outside the site. > Complete site inductions to identify the extent of clearing, potential risks to biodiversity in adjacent habitat and the role of the Ecologist. > Amend the post-construction survey process to require additional authorising signatures (i.e., Principal Contractor's Construction Manager and Project Manager) to signoff and confirm completion.	Principal Contractor's HSE Officer. > The Ecologist will complete the Post-construction Survey (Appendix B) and provide the document to the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer. > The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will ensure any non-compliance with the performance criteria are actioned in accordance with the corrective actions documented in Appendix B.		

Management Protocol or Procedure	Performance Criteria	Trigger for Additional Actions	Action Proposed	Monitoring and/or Reporting Requirements	Timing	Responsibility
Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure	> Pre-construction surveys conducted. > The Ecologist must be present during all clearing to rescue and relocate fauna where required. > No injury or death to fauna. > All fauna interactions are recorded in the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (Appendix D).	> Pre-construction surveys are not completed. > Fauna is not relocated by the Ecologist. > Fauna is injured. > Fauna interaction is not recorded in the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (Appendix D).	> Review the onboarding site induction protocol to confirm the roles and responsibilities of the Ecologist. > Undertake incident investigation and document the outcomes in the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (Appendix D). > Complete additional environmental awareness training regarding the purpose of the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (Appendix D).	> The Ecologist will complete the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (Appendix D) and provide the document to the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer. > The Ecologist will ensure actions identified in Appendix D are completed in accordance with the procedures detailed.	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure	> The Ecologist must complete the Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure (Appendix E) if a threatened species is found. > No harm to threatened species.	> Site inductions not completed. > Previously unrecorded threatened species found to be present on the site.	> Undertake incident investigation. > Complete the Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure (Appendix E), documenting all threatened species encounters. > Complete site inductions to increase awareness of	> The Ecologist will complete the Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure (Appendix E) and provide the document to the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer.	> Pre-construction > Construction	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

Management Protocol or Procedure	Performance Criteria	Trigger for Additional Actions	Action Proposed	Monitoring and/or Reporting Requirements	Timing	Responsibility
			threatened species likely to be encountered and their general physical characteristics as per the Threatened Species Profiles (Appendix F).	> The Ecologist will ensure actions identified in Appendix E are completed in accordance with the procedures.		
Hygiene Protocols	> All earthmoving equipment and vehicles will be clean prior to entering the site. > Implementation of hygiene protocols and documentation in Hygiene Declaration Form (Appendix G).	> Hygiene protocols unimplemented	> Complete site inductions to discuss the hygiene protocol. > Complete weekly checks to confirm the implementation of hygiene protocols for all equipment and vehicles. > Undertake incident investigation. > Complete the Hygiene Declaration Form (Appendix G).	> The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will complete the Hygiene Declaration Form (Appendix G). > The Principal Contractors HSE Officer will monitor hygiene protocols during construction and implement any remedial actions identified in Appendix G.	> Pre-construction > Construction > Operation	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer
Revegetation of Temporary Disturbance Areas	> A >50% planting survival rate (% groundcover) within three (3) months of construction.	> A <50% planting survival rate (% groundcover) within three (3) months of construction.	> Preparation of a Revegetation Management Plan and revision of the BMP in consultation with CPHR and approval by DPHI.	> The Ecologist will prepare the Revegetation Management Plan in consultation with CPHR.	> Operation	> Principal Contractor's HSE Officer

Management Protocol or Procedure	Performance Criteria	Trigger for Additional Actions	Action Proposed	Monitoring and/or Reporting Requirements	Timing	Responsibility
	> A native species richness of 5 native groundcover species in all temporary disturbance areas > Seed is sourced locally and includes native species characteristic of PCT 80 and PCT 82. > Implementation of weed control measures outlined in Section 8.8.	> Establishment of <5 native groundcover species in all temporary disturbance areas > Seed is not sourced locally and include native species uncharacteristic of PCT 80 and PCT 82. > Weed control measures are unimplemented.	> Undertake incident investigation. > Perform weekly checks to support planting survival success. > Undertake the Trigger Action Plan – Weeds (Appendix H)	> The Ecologist will amend the BMP. > The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer will complete the Trigger Action Plan – Weeds (Appendix H). > The Ecologist will monitor revegetation weekly for one (1) month, then every two (2) weeks until three (3) months using the performance criteria (>50% survival rate and at least 5 native species established). > Annual monitoring for a minimum of 5 years will be undertaken to ensure rehabilitation is successful.		

10. COMPLIANCE MANAGEMENT

10.1 Roles and Responsibilities

Section 3 details roles and responsibilities specific to the implementation of the BMP. In summary, the Principal Contractor's HSE Officer is responsible for the implementation, review and annual updates of the BMP (**Section 10.4**), as per CoC B14 (e) of the IoC.

10.2 Training

In accordance with the condition A12 of the IoC, the applicant will ensure all employees and contractors undertake onboarding site inductions to comply with the conditions relevant to their activities. The details on induction and training requirements are provided in Section 4.2 of the EMS, and the biodiversity-related requirements are provided below:

- > The existence, purpose and requirements of the BMP.
- > Relevant legislation (**Section 2**).
- > The extent of the approved clearing area vegetation exclusion zones as per **Section 8.1**.
- > The four-stage clearing procedure as outlined in **Section 8.4**.
- > Threatened species likely to occur on the site and key identifying physical characteristics (Threatened Species Profiles [**Appendix F**]).
- > The Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure (**Appendix E**) including the role of the Ecologist and the stop works process.
- > Environmental awareness regarding the purpose and implementation of the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (**Appendix D**) by the Ecologist.
- > Relevant roles and responsibilities, including those of the Ecologist as per Section 3, and **Table 10** and **Table 11**.
- > Site speed limits of 20 km/hour and their purpose to reduce the risk of fauna vehicle strikes.
- > Vehicle and equipment hygiene protocols, biosecurity risks and obligations as per the Hygiene Declaration Form (**Appendix G**).
- > Erosion and sediment management measures.
- > Weed and pathogen control measures, including the obligation to prevent the introduction and spread of weeds inside and outside the site as per the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.
- > Feral pest control measures.

10.3 Auditing

Internal and external audits will be conducted to assess the effectiveness of biodiversity management processes and protocols, and compliance with the BMP, as well as other relevant legislation, guidelines and approvals, as outlined in CoC C13. Auditing will be undertaken in accordance with the *Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements* (2020), as amended from time to time and published on the Department's website. The initial audit will be undertaken within 12 weeks of commencing construction, with subsequent audits conducted at intervals not greater than 26 weeks from the date of the initial Independent Audit, or as agreed by the Planning Secretary.

10.4 Reporting

The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer is responsible for coordinating environmental monitoring, internal annual BMP reviews and compliance audits as required by the BMP. The Principal Contractor's HSE Officer is also responsible for providing the findings of the internal annual BMP review and a summary of ongoing environmental monitoring (**Section 8.11** and **Section 9**) to CHPR for a formal review following each annual reporting window, as per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC. Examples of ongoing environmental monitoring to be summarised include but are not limited to:

- > Results from weed monitoring and management.
- > Pre-construction Procedure (**Appendix B**).
- > Post-construction Checklist (**Appendix C**).
- > Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (**Appendix D**).
- > Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure (**Appendix E**).
- > Hygiene Declaration Form (**Appendix G**).
- > Trigger Action Response Plan (**Appendix H**).
- > Results from groundcover revegetation for temporary disturbance areas

The annual review serves to monitor and report on the effectiveness of mitigation measures and may identify opportunities for adaptive management (**Section 0**).

- > By reference to CoC C10, the Applicant will notify the Department within 24 hours of becoming aware of an incident. Incident reports and notification will include the following information: Time, date and location of incident;
- > Brief description of occurrence and classification as an incident;
- > Description of immediate steps taken; and
- > A contact person for further communication relating to the incident.

An incident report will be completed as soon as practical following an incident. Records of incidents experienced during the operation of the Ridgely Creek BESS and any associated corrective actions will be detailed and maintained in an Incident Register for the duration of the facilities operation. Within 7 days of notification and reporting of an incident to DPHI, a subsequent incident report will be submitted to DPHI which will include the following information:

- > Details of how the incident was detected;
- > When the applicant became aware of the incident;
- > Identify any actual or potential non-compliance with conditions of consent;
- > Further actions to be taken in relation to the incident; and
- > Summary of the incident, including outcomes of the investigation, details of corrective and preventative actions to be implemented, and details of communication to stakeholders.

The Applicant will publish all required project information, including the EIS, approved plans, statutory approvals, compliance reports, audits, and complaint procedures, on its website and ensure this information remains current throughout the development.

By reference to CoC C12, the Applicant will notify the Department in writing in the event of a non-compliance via the NSW planning portal (Major Projects). The Applicant will carry out the following five steps:



- > Control and correct the non-compliance, manage any consequences, and prepare the required written notification for the Department within seven days;
- > Review the non-compliance, determine why the condition of consent was not met, and confirm whether similar risks exist;
- > Carry out the actions identified in the notification to return the development to compliance;
- > Check whether the corrective actions are effective and prevent recurrence; and
- > Update the BMP where (or if) needed to reflect revised controls and responsibilities.

To note: a non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance.

11. ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

As per CoC B14 (c) of the IoC, the BMP will undergo an annual internal review to monitor the effectiveness of mitigation measures and assess the consistency of this report with current environmental policies, objectives and targets. This will identify opportunities for adaptive management. The adaptive management strategy will be designed in consultation with CPHR to:

- > Re-evaluate management objectives, desired outcomes and performance indicators.
- > Identify opportunities to improve environmental management protocols, procedures and performance in line with this BMP.
- > Evaluate the cause of incidents or non-conformance with the CoC.
- > Establish a plan to identify and assess the effectiveness of corrective and preventative actions for incidents and non-conformances.
- > Evaluate the effectiveness of biodiversity management processes and adjust where necessary to enhance effectiveness.
- > Document changes to biodiversity management processes or procedures.



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APPENDIX A

CONSULTATION SUMMARY

Table A1. Consultation Summary

Consultation	Regulator Comments	Premise Response to Comment
A draft of the BMP was provided to CPHR via the Major Projects portal on 9 September 2025. A response was received from CPHR on 24 September 2025	1. Include a map of zones and the location of the hollow-bearing tree in the revised BMP.	Refer Figure 4
	2. Update mitigation measure B2 in Table 10 to 'avoid clearing in spring where possible'.	This change was made
	3. Specify on-site speed limits in Table 10.	This detail was added to Table 10
	4. Specify the minimum number of taps required for hollow-bearing trees in Table 10 and in the tree clearing protocol	This detail was added to Table 10
	5. Ensure on-ground actions and ongoing monitoring are included in Table 11.	This detail was added to Table 11
An updated copy of the BMP was submitted to DPHI on 29 October 2025	Provided in the following pages of this appendix	Provided in the following pages of this appendix

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Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Document: Ridgely Creek BESS - Biodiversity Management Plan

Revision: Revision D (30 Oct 2025)

Reviewed: 28 November 2025

Condition	Sufficient (Yes/No/ Partial)	Document reference and comment	Action Required	Company Response
SCHEDULE 2				
PART A ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS				
TERMS OF CONSENT				
A2. The development may only be carried out: (a) in compliance with the conditions of this consent; (b) in accordance with all written directions of the Planning Secretary; (c) generally in accordance with the EIS; and (d) generally in accordance with the Development Layout in Appendix 1.	Partial	Section 1.6 (Plan Objectives) Section 1.6 states: <i>'In the context above, the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) includes mitigation measures summarised in Appendix C of the Ridgely Creek BESS Amendment Report. The objective of the BMP is therefore to comply with the loC and mitigation measures'.</i> These statements are difficult to understand. Is the second sentence referring to the EIS mitigation measures or the mitigation measures in Section 8.11 of the BMP?	If this is referring to the EIS Mitigation Measures, it is recommended that you update the wording in Section 1.6 to state: <i>'The objective of the BMP is therefore to comply with the loC and mitigation measures outlined in Appendix C of the Ridgely Creek BESS Amendment Report.'</i> It is also recommended that you reference Table 2 (EIS Mitigation Measure Compliance Table) from Section 1.3 (Scope) of the BMP.	Wording and references to Table 2 have been updated in accordance with the Department's suggestions.
COMPLIANCE				
A12. The Applicant must ensure that all of its employees, contractors (and their sub-contractors) are made aware of, and are instructed to comply with, the conditions of this consent relevant to activities they carry out in respect of the development.	Partial	Section 10.2 (Training) states: <i>'The details on induction and training requirements are provided in Section 4.2 of the EMS and the biodiversity-related requirements are provided below:</i>	Recommend including a statement in Section 10.2 that addresses Condition A12.	Changed wording according to department suggestions.
EVIDENCE OF CONSULTATION				
A13. Where conditions of this consent require consultation with an identified party, the Applicant must: (a) consult with the relevant party prior to submitting the subject document to the Planning Secretary for approval; and	No	Appendix A (Consultation Summary contains a table (Table A1 – Consultation Summary) of the consultation undertaken with CPHR. However, the table is not filled in. As part of this BMP review, consultation details from CPHR were provided which shows that consultation has taken place.	Update Appendix A with the details of consultation that was undertaken with CPHR.	Appendix A updated



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(b) provide details of the consultation undertaken including: (i) the outcome of that consultation, matters resolved and unresolved; and (ii) details of any disagreement remaining between the party consulted and the Applicant and how the Applicant has addressed the matters not resolved.				
PART B ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS				
BIODIVERSITY				
Vegetation Clearance B11. The Applicant must not clear any native vegetation or fauna habitat located outside the approved disturbance areas described in the EIS.	Yes	Section 8.1 (Marking Limits of Clearing) and Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures)		
Biodiversity Offsets B12. Prior to carrying out any development that could directly or indirectly impact the biodiversity values requiring offset, the Applicant must retire biodiversity credits as specified in Table 1 below. The retirement of these credits must be carried out in accordance with the <i>NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme</i> and can be achieved by: (a) acquiring or retiring 'biodiversity credits' within the meaning of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> ; (b) making payments into an offset fund that has been developed by the NSW Government; and/or (c) funding a biodiversity conservation action that benefits the entity impacted and is listed in the ancillary rules of the biodiversity offsets scheme.	Partial	Section 5.1 (Offset Obligations) and Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures) both address Condition B12 (a). However, the BMP does not list which delivery mechanism (either Condition B12 (b and c)) that will be undertaken.	Recommend updating Section 5.1 and 8.11 to list the how the retirement of biodiversity credits will be achieved.	Sections have been updated to address the delivery mechanism for retiring biodiversity credits.



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<i>Table 1: Ecosystem Credit Requirements</i> <table><tr><th>Vegetation Community</th><th>PCT ID</th><th>Credits Required</th></tr><tr><td>Western Grey Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on loam soil on alluvial plains of NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion and Riverina Bioregion</td><td>PCT 80</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>Western Grey Box - Poplar Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on red loams mainly of the eastern Cobar Peneplain Bioregion</td><td>PCT 82</td><td>4</td></tr></table>	Vegetation Community	PCT ID	Credits Required	Western Grey Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on loam soil on alluvial plains of NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion and Riverina Bioregion	PCT 80	11	Western Grey Box - Poplar Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on red loams mainly of the eastern Cobar Peneplain Bioregion	PCT 82	4				
Vegetation Community	PCT ID	Credits Required											
Western Grey Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on loam soil on alluvial plains of NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion and Riverina Bioregion	PCT 80	11											
Western Grey Box - Poplar Box - White Cypress Pine tall woodland on red loams mainly of the eastern Cobar Peneplain Bioregion	PCT 82	4											
B13. Prior to carrying out any development that could directly or indirectly impact the biodiversity values requiring offset, the Applicant must provide evidence to the Planning Secretary that biodiversity credits have been retired.	Yes	5.1 and Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures)											
Biodiversity Management Plan B14. Prior to carrying out any development that could directly or indirectly impact biodiversity values, the Applicant must prepare a Biodiversity Management Plan for the project in consultation with CPHR, and to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. This plan must:	Partial	Section 3.2 (EPC Contractor) states <i>‘According to CoC B14 of Schedule 2 of the Ridgely Creek BESS IoC, the Applicant must prepare a BMP for the project in consultation with the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation (CPHR)...’</i>. Section 3.2 does not state that the BMP will be prepared to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary <i>‘Prior to carrying out any development that could directly or indirectly impact biodiversity values’</i> Consultation with CPHR has been undertaken. However, details of the consultation are not provided in the BMP.	Recommend including a statement that the BMP will be prepared to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary <i>‘Prior to carrying out any development that could directly or indirectly impact biodiversity values’</i> Provide details of the consultation undertaken with CPHR in Appendix A.	Section 3.2 has been updated in accordance with the Department’s suggestions. Appendix A has been updated									
(a) be prepared in accordance with the Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (dated 17 January 2025);	Yes	Section 4 (Purpose and Objectives)											

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(b) include a description of the measures and timeframes that would be implemented for:		As below		
(i) protecting vegetation and fauna habitat outside the approved disturbance areas;	Yes	Section 8.1 (Marking Limits of Clearing) - Section 8.4 (Clearing Protocols and Surveys) and Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures)		
(ii) managing and enhancing the remnant vegetation and fauna habitat within the development footprint;	Yes	Section 8 (Biodiversity Management Protocols and Procedures)		
(iii) minimising clearing and avoiding unnecessary disturbance of vegetation that is associated with the construction and operation of the development;	Yes	Section 8.1 (Marking Limits of Clearing), Section 8.4 (Clearing Protocols and Surveys) and Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures)		
(iv) minimising the impacts to fauna on site and implementing fauna management protocols, including the design of temporary fencing;	Yes	Section 8.1 (Marking Limits of Clearing) – Section 8.6 (Threatened Species Management and Unexpected Finds) and Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures)		
(v) rehabilitating and revegetating temporary disturbance areas with native species that are appropriate to the site's ecology and conditions within 3 months following the completion of construction or upgrade;	Yes	Section 8.10 (Rehabilitation) and Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures)		
(vi) maximising the salvage of vegetative and soil resources within the approved disturbance area for beneficial reuse in the enhancement or the rehabilitation of the site; and	Yes	Section 8.4 (Clearing Protocols and Surveys) and Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures)		
(vii) controlling weeds, feral pests and pathogens on site;	Yes	Section 8.8 (Weed and Pathogen Management), Section 8.9 (Feral Pest Management) and Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures)		

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(c) include a program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of mitigation measures and report to CPHR following each annual reporting window;	Yes	Section 1.7 (Review and Revision), Section 9 (Monitoring and Inspection), Section 10.4 (Reporting) and Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures)		
(d) include an incidental threatened species finds protocol to identify the avoid and/or minimise and/or offset options to be implemented if additional threatened species are discovered on site; and	Yes	Section 8.6 (Threatened Species Management and Unexpected Finds) and Appendix E (Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure)		
(e) include details of who would be responsible for monitoring, reviewing and implementing the plan.	Yes	Section 3.2 (EPC Contractor), Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures), Section 9 (Monitoring and Inspections), Section 10.1 (Roles and Responsibilities) and Section 10.4 (Reporting)		
Following the Planning Secretary's approval, the Applicant must implement the Biodiversity Management Plan.	Yes	Section 1.6 (Plan Objectives) and Section 10.1 (Roles and Responsibilities)		
Storage and Handling of Dangerous Goods B28. The Applicant must store and handle all chemicals, fuels and oils used on-site in accordance with: (a) the requirements of all relevant Australian Standards; and (b) the NSW EPA's <i>Storing and Handling of Liquids: Environmental Protection – Participants Handbook</i> if the chemicals are liquids. In the event of an inconsistency between the requirements (a) and (b) above, the most stringent requirement must prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.	Partial	Section 8.8 (Weed and Pathogen Management) and Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures). However, neither sections address the following part of condition B28: <i>'In the event of an inconsistency between the requirements (a) and (b) above, the most stringent requirement must prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.'</i>	Recommend including; <i>'In the event of an inconsistency between the requirements of the Australian Standards and NSW EPA's Storing and Handling of Liquids: Environmental Protection – Participants Handbook, the most stringent requirement will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency.'</i>	Updated the section 8.8 according to department suggestions.
PART C ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, REPORTING AND AUDITING				
Revision of Strategies, Plans and Programs C2. The Applicant must:	No	Not addressed.	Recommend including a statement in Section 1.7 (Review	Updated the section 1.7 according to department suggestions.

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(a) update the strategies, plans or programs required under this consent to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary prior to carrying out any upgrading or decommissioning activities on site; and			and Revision) that addresses Condition C2(a).	
(b) review and, if necessary, revise the strategies, plans or programs required under this consent to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary within 3 months of the: (i) submission of an incident report under condition C10 of Schedule 2; (ii) submission of an audit report under condition C13 of Schedule 2; or (iii) any modification to the conditions of this consent.	Partial	Section 1.7 (Review and Revision). However, the BMP does not state that the plan will be revised 'to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary'. Section 1.7 also does not address Condition C2, (b), (ii)	Recommend including reference to the revision of the BMP being to the satisfaction of the Planning Secretary. Recommend including Condition C2, (b), (ii).	Updated the section 1.7 according to department suggestions.
COMPLIANCE				
Incident Notification C10. The Applicant must notify the Department within 24 hours of becoming aware of an incident. The notification must be made via the NSW planning portal (Major Projects) and address details of the incident including: (a) date, time and location; (b) a brief description of what occurred and why it has been classified as an incident; (c) a description of what immediate steps were taken in relation to the incident; and (d) identifying a contact person for further communication regarding the incident.	No	Not addressed. Section 10.4 (Reporting) states: <i>'Other reporting requirements and responsibilities, including incident and non-compliance reporting, have been identified in Section 11 of the EMS.'</i>	Recommend including a section in the BMP that outlines the procedure to be undertaken when incidents are identified and the reporting requirements that address Condition C10.	Section 10.4 has been updated in accordance with the Department's suggestion regarding incident reporting, which is also addressed in Section 11 of the Environmental Management Strategy (EMS).
C11. The Applicant must provide the Department with a subsequent incident report in accordance with Appendix 7 (Incident Notification and Reporting Requirements).	No	Not addressed	As per Condition C10.	Section 10.4 has been updated in accordance with the Department's suggestion regarding incident reporting, which is also addressed

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				in Section 11 of the Environmental Management Strategy (EMS).
Non-Compliance Notification C12. Within seven days of becoming aware of a non-compliance, the Applicant must notify the Department of the non-compliance. The notification must be in writing and must be submitted via the NSW planning portal (Major Projects). The notification must identify the development (including the development application number and name), set out the condition of this consent that the development is non-compliant with, why it does not comply, the reasons for the non-compliance (if known), and what actions have been undertaken, or will be undertaken, and when, to address the non-compliance. <i>Note: A non-compliance which has been notified as an incident does not need to also be notified as a non-compliance.</i>	No	Not addressed. Section 10.4 (Reporting) states: <i>'Other reporting requirements and responsibilities, including incident and non-compliance reporting, have been identified in Section 11 of the EMS.'</i>	Recommend including a section in the BMP that outlines the procedure to be undertaken when non-compliances are identified and the reporting requirements that address Condition C12.	Updated section 10.4 according to department suggestion on incident reporting, which is also addressed in Section 10 of the EMS
INDEPENDENT ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT				
C13. Independent Environmental Audits of the development must be conducted and carried out in accordance with the <i>Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements</i> (2020) or as updated from time to time and published on the Department's website.	No	Not addressed. Section 10.3 (Auditing) refers the reader to the EMS for audit requirements.	Recommend expanding on Section 10.3 to include details of Independent Audits to address Condition C13.	Updated the section 10.3 according to department suggestion on auditing, which is also addressed in Section 9 of the EMS
ACCESS TO INFORMATION				
C14. The Applicant must: (a) make the following information publicly available on its website as relevant to the stage of the development: (i) the EIS; (ii) the final layout plans for the development; (iii) current statutory approvals for the development;	No	Not addressed	Recommend including a section in the BMP that addresses Condition C14.	Section 10.4 has been updated to address the Department's suggestion on access to information.

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(iv) approved strategies, plans or programs required under the conditions of this consent (other than the Fire Safety Study and Emergency Plan); (v) the proposed staging plans for the development if the construction, operation or decommissioning of the development is to be staged; (vi) how complaints about the development can be made; (vii) a complaints register; (viii) compliance reports; (ix) any independent environmental audit prepared in accordance with condition C13, and the Applicant's response to the recommendations in any audit; and (x) any other matter required by the Planning Secretary; and (b) keep this information up to date.				
CPHR Recommendations				
1. Include a map of zones and the location of the hollow-bearing tree in the revised BMP.	Yes	Section 8.3 (Hollow-Bearing Trees) contains Figure 5 (Vegetation Zones and Hollow Bearing Trees) which addresses this recommendation.		
2. Update mitigation measure B2 in Table 10 to 'avoid clearing in spring where possible'.	Yes	Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures), Table 10 (Biodiversity Management and Mitigation Measures), Mitigation Measure B2 addresses this recommendation.		
3. Specify on-site speed limits in Table 10.	Yes	Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures), Table 10 (Biodiversity Management and Mitigation Measures) includes a Measure that states		

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		<i>'Site speed limits of 20 km/hour will be enforced to reduce fauna vehicle strikes'</i>		
4. Specify the minimum number of taps required for hollow-bearing trees in Table 10 and in the tree clearing protocol.	Yes	Section 8.11 (Summary of Management and Mitigation Measures), Table 10 (Biodiversity Management and Mitigation Measures) includes two separate Measure that state: <i>'Using an excavator, the machinery operator shall gently tap the HBT five (5) times to encourage any resident fauna to vacate the tree without further intervention.'</i> <i>'After initial tree tapping the previous day, the machinery operator will tap the trunk of the HBT again five (5) times at 30 second intervals.'</i> Section 8.4.3 (Hollow-Bearing Tree Clearing (Stage 3) also addresses this recommendation.		
5. Ensure on-ground actions and ongoing monitoring are included in Table 11.	Yes	Section 9 (Monitoring and Inspections), Table 11 (Summary of Performance Criteria, Triggers for Action and Responses for Biodiversity Management Protocols and Procedures) includes two columns titled 'Action Proposed' and 'Monitoring and/or Reporting Requirements' which when combined, address this recommendation.		
General Comments			Action Required	Company Response

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Glossary and Abbreviations section abbreviates Australian Height Datum to ADH. This is incorrect.			Recommend amending abbreviation to AHD.	Corrected
Glossary and Abbreviations section refers to DPI. DPI no longer exists as a standalone agency.			Instead of DPI you should now use DPIRD.	Corrected
Glossary and Abbreviations section lists EPA as being the Environmental Protection Agency. This is incorrect.			Recommend amending the full term of EPA to Environmental Protection Authority.	Corrected
Glossary and Abbreviations section lists the acronym of 'Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979' as EP&A. This is incorrect.			Recommend updating the acronym of Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 To EP&A Act 1979.	Corrected
Table 2 – EIS Mitigation Measure Compliance Table is provided without any context within the previous sections.			Recommend updating Section 1.3 (Scope) to include context around Table 2.	Corrected
Appendix A has not been updated to include the feedback provided by CPHR.			Recommend including Consultation with CPHR in Appendix A (Consultation Summary).	Appendix A has been updated
Section 1.6 (Plan Objectives) uses the same acronym (O&M) for both 'Operation and Maintenance' and 'operation stage'.			Recommend removing the acronym O&M from 'operation stage'.	Corrected
Table 4 – Plan Revision History is presented without previous reference to it in the BMP. It is unclear if this table is an example that will remain blank or if it is going to remain in Section 1.7.2 of the BMP and be updated with every update that is made.			Recommend including a reference to Table 4 in Section 1.7.2 (Minor Revision).	Corrected
Tables throughout the BMP are provided without any intext reference.			Recommend including cross referencing within BMP sections to relevant Tables.	Corrected
Section 2 (Statutory Approvals) lists a consent that is not associated with this project (SSD 35160796).			Recommend updating Table 5 of Section 2 with the correct consent.	Corrected
Section 6.1 (Landform, Geology and Soils) uses both the Australian Height Datum (AHD) and Above Sea Level (ASL) as measurement references.			Recommend using AHD and using this measurement consistently throughout the BMP.	Corrected

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Section 6.5 (Weeds, Feral Pests and Pathogens). Paragraph 3 states ' <i>Phytophthora cinnamomic</i> is known to occur within the Parkes region and is it unknown whether this pathogen is present on the site.'			Recommend amending sentence to be ' <i>Phytophthora cinnamomic</i> is known to occur within the Parkes region and it is unknown whether this pathogen is present on the site.'	Corrected
Figures 4 and 5 captions do not match their in-text references.			Update figure references	Corrected
Table 10 – Biodiversity Management Mitigation Measures uses the acronym 'NSE' without providing the full definition.			Recommend providing full definition and including the acronym in the Acronyms and Abbreviations Section of the BMP.	Corrected
Table E1. Threatened Species Interaction Report column 6 heading is ' <i>Intervention viz Rescue or Veterinary Services?</i> '. Viz is not a word.			Recommend correcting the spelling to via if this was the intention.	Corrected

APPENDIX B

PRE-CONSTRUCTION CHECKLIST



Table B1. Pre-construction Checklist

Inspection Date:		Time:	
Ecologist Name:		Location:	
Accreditation and Wildlife Handling License:			
Number	Control Measure	Completion Status (Yes, No or N/A)	Comments / Corrective Action
1.	Is the clearing boundary fenced, including exclusion zones?		
2.	Has signage been installed?		
3.	Has the pre-construction survey been completed?		
4.	Have site inductions occurred notifying all staff of the clearing limit and advised on threatened species likely to occur on the site, and Fauna Rescue and Release and Unexpected Threatened Species Procedures?		
5.	Have habitat features suitable for relocation been identified?		
	Have habitat features been relocated for habitat enhancement?		
6.	Have hollow-bearing trees been identified and marked with a 'H' for staged clearing?		
7.	Have hollow-bearing trees been checked for inhabiting fauna?		
8.	Have all equipment and vehicles been cleaned and inspected as clean from soil or vegetation material prior to entering the site?		
9.	Are sediment and erosion controls in place?		
10.	Hollows are to be felled 24 hours after the non-habitat vegetation has been cleared, then felled in a controlled manner and inspected by the Ecologist for presence of fauna that needs to be relocated and potential injuries. All hollows have the potential to support fauna and should be placed in adjacent		

	habitat overnight for further inspection by the Ecologist to verify no fauna is present. If possible, suitable hollows may be permanently relocated in adjacent areas at the discretion of the Ecologist. Has this been done?		
11.	Any other comments or issues		



APPENDIX C

POST CONSTRUCTION CHECKLIST



Table C1. Pre-construction Checklist

Inspection Date:		Time:	
Ecologist Name:		Location:	
Accreditation and Wildlife Handling License:			
Number	Control Measure	Completion Status (Yes, No or N/A)	Comments / Corrective Action
1.	Was vegetation cleared within the approved clearing boundary?		
2.	Were any hollow-bearing trees, logs and/or scattered surface rocks impacted?		
3.	Were any fauna or habitat features (i.e., nests) impacted?		
4.	Were any fauna shocked, injured or killed as a result of the clearing works?		
5.	Were the Fauna Rescue and Release and Unexpected Threatened Species Procedures followed? If yes, what actions were taken?		
6.	Any other comments or issues?		

APPENDIX D

FAUNA RESCUE AND RELEASE PROCEDURE



D.1 PURPOSE

The Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure provides a guideline of actions to be implemented if resident fauna is encountered on the site during pre-construction and construction.

All fauna rescue and relocation is to be undertaken by an Ecologist with a wildlife handling license. Relocation is to occur within similar, adjacent habitat (i.e., retained woodland along Henry Parkes Way).

D.2 SCOPE

This procedure is applicable to all native and introduced fauna identified on the site, including injured, shocked, juvenile and other animals.

The Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure does not apply to threatened species which are to be assessed and action taken as per the Unexpected Threatened Species Protocol (**Appendix E**).

D.3 INDUCTION AND TRAINING

The Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure is to be provided to all site personnel during onboarding site inductions, so all staff are aware of actions to be taken in the event fauna is identified on the site, including the role and responsibilities of the Ecologist.

D.4 PROCEDURE

If fauna is identified within the site during pre-construction surveys or construction, the following measures are to be implemented:

1. Stop all work immediately in the vicinity of the fauna and notify the HSE Advisor. The HSE Officer is then to notify Ecologist who will be on-site for all clearing activities, and the Construction Manager and Project Manager.
2. Where possible, allow fauna to leave the site without interaction if it is safe to do so (i.e., no machinery in the vicinity) and the animal appears to be free from injury or shock.
3. In the event an injured, shocked or juvenile animal is identified on the site, the appropriate wildlife rescue agency is to be notified (**Table D1**). Once the rescue agency arrives at the site, they are responsible for the animal.
4. Work is only to re-commence at the discretion of the HSE Officer after consultation with the rescue agency and/or Ecologist.

Table D1. Organisation Contact Details

Organisation	Contact Number
Ecologist	To be confirmed
Wildlife Information Rescue and Education Service (WIRES)	1300 094 737
Parkes Veterinary Clinic	6862 2527

In the event the rescue service and/or local veterinary clinic cannot be contacted, the Ecologist will be responsible for the animal until it can be provided to the relevant agency. The recommended handling procedure is as follows:

1. Cover the animal in a towel and place them in a cardboard box with a cloth lining (i.e., birds and eggs) or a calico bag (i.e., marsupials, bats, snakes, lizards and frogs). The calico bag should be tied at the top for small animals and snakes.
 - a. Attempts should be made to minimise stress for the animal by keeping the animal in a quiet, warm, ventilated and dark place away from causes of stress (i.e., construction noise).
 - b. Snakes should only be handled by a qualified handler. If a snake is encountered, allow the snake to vacate the site without intervention or identify the location of the snake to notify the handler when they arrive.
 - c. If handling bats, the handler must be vaccinated against the Australian Bat Lyssavirus, which is a form of rabies.
 - d. Fauna rescue equipment (i.e., calico bags, gloves and transport boxes) will be kept in designated areas on site (i.e., site office and site vehicle) for use by the Ecologist.
2. If the animal cannot be handled, vacate all personnel from the area, record the location of the animal and contact the rescue agency.
3. If threatened species are found on the site which are not included in the BMP, the HSE Officer must:
 - a. Cease work immediately in the vicinity of the threatened species.
 - b. Contact the rescue organisation if the fauna is injured.
 - c. Implement the Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure (**Appendix E**).
4. If the fauna is to be released, the Ecologist must identify nearby suitable habitat.
5. All fauna rescue and release events must be documented in **Table D2**.



Table D2. Fauna Interaction Report

Date	Time	Location	Fauna Species	Status (healthy, injured or deceased)	Intervention via Rescue or Veterinary Services?	Released (Yes or No)	Release Location	Comments



APPENDIX E

UNEXPECTED THREATENED SPECIES PROCEDURE



E.1 PURPOSE

The Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure provides a guideline of actions to be implemented if threatened flora or fauna are encountered on the site during pre-construction and construction.

E.2 SCOPE

This procedure is applicable to any threatened flora and fauna identified on the site and activities considered likely to impact the threatened species. The presence of threatened species is to be confirmed by the Ecologist as per the Threatened Species Profiles (**Appendix F**). If threatened fauna require handling or rescue, refer to the Fauna Rescue and Release Procedure (**Appendix D**).

E.3 INDUCTION AND TRAINING

Onboarding site inductions are required to educate personnel on key physical characteristics of threatened species likely to occur on the site as described in the Threatened Species Profiles (**Appendix F**). The role and responsibilities of the Ecologist and all workers with regards to this procedure will be identified. A copy of the Unexpected Threatened Species Procedure will be provided to all site personnel.

E.4 PROCEDURE

If threatened species are identified within the site during pre-construction surveys, construction or operation phases of the project, the following measures are to be implemented:

1. Stop all work immediately in the vicinity of the threatened species and notify the HSE Officer who will notify the Ecologist, Project Manager and Applicant. The Applicant will then notify relevant agencies (i.e., CPHR), as required.
2. The Ecologist will confirm the threatened species using the Threatened Species Profiles (**Appendix F**) and record the species in **Table E1**. The Ecologist will document the likely impact of the project and appropriate management actions (i.e., rescue and release), in consultation with the Applicant.
3. Obtain relevant license, permits or approvals if the Ecologist determines the project is likely to have a significant impact on the threatened species.
4. Construction works may recommence at the discretion of the HSE Officer once the following has been completed:
 - a. Relevant license, permits or approvals have been obtained.
 - b. Corrective actions and mitigation measures have been implemented.
 - c. Site inductions and clearing exclusion zones have been updated as required to include the threatened species.
 - d. Information is provided to the Applicant to update ecological monitoring and/or biodiversity offset requirements.



Table E1. Threatened Species Interaction Report

Date	Time	Location	Threatened Species	Status (healthy, injured or deceased)	Intervention via Rescue or Veterinary Services?	Released (Yes or No)	Release Location	Comments



APPENDIX F

THREATENED SPECIES PROFILES



Table F1. Threatened Species Profiles

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
FLORA				
Oaklands Diuris (<i>Diuris</i> sp. [Oaklands, D.L. Jones 5380]).	Endangered	Not listed	Oaklands Diuris is related to the Victorian species <i>D. fragrantissima</i> but differs from it in a number of characteristics: it is much more robust and has larger leaves; the flower-stem is to 50 cm tall, compared to 20 cm; there are up to nine (9) flowers per flower-stem, compared to six (6); the flowers are slightly fragrant compared to being intensely fragrant with a strong spicy scent. It also has longer lateral sepals and a larger column. Unlike many species in the genus, which are yellow (often in combination with purple) in colour, the flowers of Oaklands Diuris are white and purple.	

¹ Threatened Biodiversity Profile Search (NSW DCCEEW, 2025d)

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Sand-hill Spider Orchid (<i>Caladenia arenaria</i>)	Endangered	Endangered	Sand-hill Spider Orchid is from a group of orchids characterised by five (5) long, spreading petals and sepals around a broad down-curved labellum ('lip'). Its densely hairy leaves are reddish at the base, up to 10 cm long and 6 mm wide. The flower stalk is up to 40 cm tall and has 1 or 2 pale yellow flowers. The petals and lateral sepals are stiffly spread into a cross shape; the tips of all are red and hairy. The labellum is only 8 mm across when flattened out and without lobes; this combination of flower characters is unique. The flowers appear between September and November.	
FAUNA				
Black Falcon (<i>Falco subniger</i>)	Vulnerable	Not listed	The Black Falcon is a large (45-55 cm in length), very dark falcon with pale grey cere, eye-rings and feet. It is uniformly dark brown to sooty black, with a pale throat and an indistinct black streak below each eye. Some individuals have faint, narrow barring under the wings and tail. The Brown Falcon can be distinguished from Black Falcons by its double cheek-mark, longer legs, bicoloured, barred underwings and comparatively slow flight.	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Black-chinned Honeyeater (eastern sub-species) (<i>Melithreptus gularis gularis</i>)	Vulnerable	Not listed	The Black-chinned Honeyeater is 17 cm in length. The cap is black, with a white crescent around the nape, and there is a diagnostic black 'chin' beneath the bill and extending down the white throat. There is a small crescent of blue skin above the eye. The back and wings are a dull olive-green and the tail is greyish-brown. The underparts are white, with a greyish-buff tint on the breast. The bill is short, black and slightly downcurved. The call is a ringing, bubbling trill, repeated several times.	
Brolga (<i>Grus rubicunda</i>)	Vulnerable	Not listed	The Brolga is quite unmistakable in southern Australia. It is a huge bird - one of Australia's largest flying birds - standing 1.3 m tall with a wingspan of nearly 2.5 m. It is pale bright grey with a broad band of bare red skin from the beak round the nape of the neck and a black dewlap under the chin. The long legs are black. Young birds are darker, without the red band or the dewlap. The call is a far-carrying brassy trumpeting.	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Corben's Long-eared Bat (<i>Nyctophilus corbeni</i>)	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Corben's Long-eared Bat is uniformly dark grey-brown. The ears are about 3 cm long and larger than the head. It has a low ridge of skin running between the eyes and across the nose. It has a head and body length of 5 - 7 cm and weighs about 14 grams.	
Diamond Firetail (<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>)	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	The Diamond Firetail is a large (length 10 to 12 cm, weight 17 grams), striking finch with a bright red bill, and red eyes and rump. The white throat and lower breast are separated by a broad black breast-band that extends into the strongly white-spotted, black flanks. It has a grey back and head, and ashy-brown wings. The call is a plaintive, drawn-out, nasal 'twoo-wheree'. Flight is low and direct, with slight undulations.	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Dusky Woodswallow (<i>Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus</i>)	Vulnerable	Not listed	The Dusky Woodswallow is a medium-sized bird (16-19.5 cm, 35 g), with a longish tail. Mostly dark grey-brown, merging to blackish on the tail, with a small black-brown mask. Bluish bill with a black tip. Upper-wings are a dark blue-grey with a white leading edge. Conspicuous white corners on the tail. In flight the dark grey-brown under-body contrasts with the whitish under-wing. Juveniles may be distinguished by white streaking on the body and whitish tips on wing feathers. Immature individuals are similar to adults but retain pale-tipped wing feathers. Calls consist of brassy chirps, chirups, a soft low 'vut vut' and a brisk 'peet peet'.	
Flame Robin (<i>Petroica phoenicea</i>)	Vulnerable	Not listed	The Flame Robin reaches 14 cm in length. The male has a dark grey head and upperparts, a small white forehead patch, and white wing stripes and white tail-edges. The male has a bright orange-red throat, breast and upper-belly. The lower belly is white. The female is brown, darker above, and has a whitish throat and lower belly. The whitish mark on the female's forehead is inconspicuous. Female Flame Robins also have white and buffish marked wings and tail. Immature males resemble females. The main call of the Flame Robin is a thin, pretty, piping descending song.	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Gilbert's Whistler (<i>Pachycephala inornata</i>)	Vulnerable	Not listed	The Gilbert's Whistler is a stocky whistler (17 to 20 centimetres), possessing a short but robust bill. The male is a brownish-grey, with a black patch between the red eyes and bill (the lores), and a distinctive orange-rufous chin and throat. The female is more uniformly brownish-grey, lacking the male's lore and throat pattern and has a pale eye-ring. The Gilbert's Whistler usually occurs singly or in pairs and can be unobtrusive. Its powerful song is complex and far-carrying (up to 900 metres) and often consists of a series of 'chop' and 'er-whit' calls.	
Grey Falcon (<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>)	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	The Grey Falcon is a medium-sized, compact, pale falcon with a heavy, thick-set, deep-chested appearance. It is smaller than the Peregrine Falcon but similar in shape and flight, although with longer wings. Upperparts are uniform light grey, shading to blackish on the primaries, forming conspicuous dark wing tips. The tail has narrow blackish bars. The chin, throat and cheeks are white, and the rest of the underbody is pale grey. The eye-ring, cere and base of the bill are bright orange-yellow, and the tip of the bill black.	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Grey-crowned Babbler (eastern subspecies) (<i>Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis</i>)	Vulnerable	Not listed	The Grey-crowned Babbler (30 cm long) has scimitar-shaped, long and heavy bill with a broad white eyebrow and a pale grey crown-stripe. A dark band passes from the bill through the eye, separating the pale throat and brow to giving a 'masked' look. It has dark greyish-brown upperparts and is paler brown on the underparts, grading to a whitish throat. It is distinctive in flight, showing white tips to the tail feathers, and orange-buff patches in the broad, rounded wings. Young birds have dark brown eyes, with the iris becoming paler with age, reaching a yellow colour by about three (3) years. The Grey-crowned Babbler is distinctly larger than the three (3) other babbler species and is also the only one to possess the distinctive rufous wing patches.	
Hooded Robin (south-eastern form) (<i>Melanodryas cucullata cucullata</i>)	Endangered	Endangered	The Hooded Robin reaches 17 cm in length. The male is strikingly marked in black and white, with a bold black hood extending down a white breast. The back is black with distinct white shoulder and wing-bar. The tail is black, with prominent white side-panels. Females and immatures are duller, with light brownish-grey upperparts, but the same striking black and white wings. Flight is short and swiftly undulating. The call is a series of descending, fading, mellow notes. The adult male is unmistakable but the female and young males may be confused with other species, such as the Jacky Winter. Hooded Robins are distinguished by their larger size, distinctive white wing bar and different shaped tail markings ('hourglass' shaped).	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Little Eagle (<i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i>)	Vulnerable	Not Listed	The Little Eagle is a medium-sized bird of prey that occurs in two colour forms: either pale brown with an obscure underwing pattern, or dark brown on the upper parts and pale underneath, with a rusty head and a distinctive underwing pattern of rufous leading edge, pale 'M' marking and black-barred wingtips. Both forms have a black-streaked head with a slight crest, a pale shoulder band on the upperwings, a rather short and square-tipped barred tail, and feathered legs.	
Little Pied Bat (<i>Chalinolobus picatus</i>)	Vulnerable	Not Listed	The Little Pied Bat is a distinctive black and white bat that weighs four (4) to eight (8) grams. The head and body are about 4.5 cm in length; the tail 3.5 cm. The fur is glossy black on the back, grey on the belly, with white fur along the flanks forming a 'V' in the pubic area.	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Pink Cockatoo (<i>Lophochroa leadbeateri</i>)	Vulnerable	Endangered	An unmistakable cockatoo of the dry inland, the Pink Cockatoo is the only Australian cockatoo that is salmon-pink below and white above. It is smaller than the Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, but slightly larger than a Galah. Its most prominent feature is its large white-tipped crest that is banded in red and gold. Its call is a distinctive stammering whinny.	
Painted Honeyeater (<i>Grantiella picta</i>)	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	The Painted Honeyeater is small (16 cm) and distinctive, with a black head and back and white underparts with dark streaks on the flanks. The wings and tail are black with bright yellow edgings. The distinctive bill is pink with a dark tip. The female is greyer or browner than the male on the upperparts and has less streaking on the flanks. Juvenile colouration is even paler than females, appearing brown rather than black, with paler yellow edgings, and a brown bill.	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Pied Honeyeater (<i>Certhionyx variegatus</i>)	Vulnerable	Not Listed	The male Pied Honeyeater is a distinctive small, black and white honeyeater with white wing-bar, rump and tail-panels, abdomen and a bluish-grey wattle below the eye. The female is greyish-brown with a white abdomen, with a strong pattern of pale edging to feathers on the wing. The bill is long and curved and males possess a bare eye patch that is pale blue in colour. Females and young males have a less conspicuous bare eye patch than mature males.	
Scarlet Robin (<i>Petroica boodang</i>)	Vulnerable	Not Listed	The Scarlet Robin reaches 13 cm in length. The male has a black head and upperparts, with a conspicuous white forehead patch, white wing stripes and white tail-edges. The male has a bright scarlet-red chest and a white belly. The female is pale brown, darker above, and has a dull reddish breast and whitish throat. The whitish mark on the female's forehead is smaller than the male's. The female Scarlet Robin also has white wing and tail markings. Immature males resemble females. The main call of Scarlet Robin is a soft, warbling trill.	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Southern Whiteface (<i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i>)	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	The Southern Whiteface is a small, stocky bird resembling a thornbill. It has a brown back, dark brown wings, and a black tail tipped with a narrow band of white. Its underparts are mostly white, though a grey wash on the belly and a grey or rufous tinge on the flanks may be present. A distinctive feature of this species is its facial pattern: a white band stretches across the forehead, bordered on top by a darker streak—typical of its genus. Adults measure around 11.5 cm in length and have cream-colored eyes, grey legs, and a short, dark grey, finch-like bill. Males and females look alike, while juveniles can be recognized by the absence of the black facial band at the rear (Cth DCCEEW, 2023).	
Speckled Warbler (<i>Pyrrholaemus sagittatus</i>)	Vulnerable	Not Listed	The Speckled Warbler is a small well-camouflaged very heavily streaked ground-dwelling bird, reaching a length of 13cm. The back, wings and tail are grey-brown, with soft dark streaks. The black crown is distinctively streaked with buff. The underparts are pale and particularly heavily streaked. The face is off-white with streaking on the ear coverts. The male has a black upper margin to the brow, while the female has a rufous upper edge to the brow. The dark tail is held horizontally, although in flight the spread tail shows a wide black band above white tips of the outer tail feathers. The call is an undulating rich, trilled, warbling mix of clear sharp whistles and mellow notes. The alarm call is a harsh churring chatter.	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Spotted Harrier (<i>Circus assimilis</i>)	Vulnerable	Not Listed	The Spotted Harrier is a medium-sized, slender bird of prey having an owl-like facial ruff that creates the appearance of a short, broad head, and long bare yellow legs. The upperparts are blue-grey with dark barring, and the wingtips are black. The face, innerwing patch, and underparts are chestnut. The long tail is boldly banded, with a wedge-shaped tip. Juveniles are mottled and streaked ginger and brown, with prominent ginger shoulders, fawn rump and banded tail.	
Superb Parrot (<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>)	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	The Superb Parrot is a distinctive medium-sized, bright grass-green parrot with a long, narrow tail and sharply back-angled wings in flight. Males have yellow foreheads and throats and a red crescent that separates the throat from the green breast and belly. Females are slightly duller green and have a dull, light blue wash in place of the males' red and yellow markings.	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Swift Parrot (<i>Lathamus discolor</i>)	Endangered	Critically Endangered	The Swift Parrot is small parrot about 25 cm long. It is bright green with red around the bill, throat and forehead. The red on its throat is edged with yellow. Its crown is blue-purple. There are bright red patches under the wings. One of most distinctive features from a distance is its long (12 cm), thin tail, which is dark red. This distinguishes it from the similar lorikeets, with which it often flies and feeds. Can also be recognised by its flute-like chirruping or metallic "kik-kik-kik" call.	
Turquoise Parrot (<i>Neophema pulchella</i>)	Vulnerable	Not Listed	The male Turquoise Parrot is a highly distinctive bird with bright green upperparts and a turquoise-blue crown and face. Its shoulders are turquoise-blue, grading to deep blue at the flight-feathers. It has a chestnut-red patch on the upper-wing. The upper-breast of the Turquoise Parrot has an orange tint, while the yellow abdomen may have an orange centre. Females and immature individuals are generally duller, have whitish lores, a green, rather than yellow throat and breast and no red on the shoulder and upper-wing area. The call of the Turquoise Parrot in flight is a tinkling sound, while at other times it may emit a sharp "sit-sit" alarm call.	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
Varied Sittella (<i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i>)	Vulnerable	Not Listed	The Varied Sittella is a small (10 cm) songbird with a sharp, slightly upturned bill, short tail, barred undertail, and yellow eyes and feet. In flight the orange wing-bar and white rump are prominent. In NSW most individuals have a grey head and are streaked with dark brown, but in the extreme north-east they have a white head, and in the extreme south-west a black cap. Varied Sittellas are more active and acrobatic among branches than the larger treecreepers. They fly into the heads of trees, typically working their way down branches and trunk with constant motion.	
White-bellied Sea-Eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>)	Vulnerable	Not Listed	The White-bellied Sea-Eagle is a large bird of prey, measuring 75–85 cm in length with a wingspan of 180–220 cm. It has long, broad wings and a short, wedge-shaped tail. Adults are mainly white and grey, with a white head, breast, belly, and legs. The back and upper wings are grey, while the underwings are greyish-black with a strip of white along the leading edge. The tail is grey at the base with a white tip. They have a large, hooked grey bill with a darker tip, dark brown eyes, cream-white legs and feet, and long black talons. Males and females look alike, though females are larger. Juveniles are mostly brown with paler markings.	

Threatened Species	BC Act	EPBC Act	Identification ¹	Photo
White-throated Needletail (<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>)	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Large swift with approx. 50 cm wingspan and short, square tail. Predominantly dark, with white throat, forehead and undertail coverts. The name refers to the short spines that extend beyond the feathers of the tail.	
Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail-bat (<i>Saccolaimus flaviventris</i>)	Vulnerable	Not Listed	The Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail-bat is a very distinctive, large, insectivorous bat up to 87 mm long. It has long, narrow wings, a glossy, jet-black back, and a white to yellow belly extending to the shoulders and just behind the ear. Characteristically, it has a flattened head and a sharply-pointed muzzle. The tail is covered with an extremely elastic sheath that allows variation in the tail-membrane area. Males have a prominent throat pouch; females have a patch of bare skin in the same place.	

APPENDIX G

HYGIENE DECLARATION FORM TEMPLATE

Table G1. Hygiene Declaration Form

Part A: Information	
Date	
Time	
Description of Equipment / Vehicle	
Make / Model	
Registration Number	
Name of Operator / Driver	
Travelling From	
Travelling To	
Part B: Washdown Log	
Location of washdown and Inspection	
Is the equipment or vehicle clean (i.e., free from soil and vegetation, biohazards such as insects, animals and nests etc)?	
If travelling from outside the project site, has the equipment or vehicle been disinfected prior to entering the site? If so, with what?	
Part C: Declaration	
I, the undersigned declare that the information provided in this declaration is true and correct.	
Name	
Signature	
Date	
Part D: Check at Site Entry	
Is the equipment or vehicle clean and disinfected?	
Name	

Signature	
Date	
If no, what remedial action is required?	
Part E: Remedial Action Check at Site Entry	
Have the remedial actions been completed?	
Name	
Signature	
Date	
Part F: Attach Photos of Inspection and Remedial Action Requirements	
Date	



APPENDIX H

TRIGGER ACTION RESPONSE PLAN - WEEDS



H.1 PURPOSE

A Trigger Action Response Plan – Weeds will be implemented in the event previously unrecorded weed species are present within the site. This procedure includes adaptive management actions for weed control including further investigation into the source of the weed spread.

H.2 PROCEDURE

1. Potential new weed species is identified within the site.
2. Review the location of the weed in comparison to the previous inspection result data.
 - a. If the weed species was previously unrecorded on the site or is classified as a WONS, HTW or priority weed, the finding is to be reported to the HSE Officer and Project Manager. The Ecologist will survey the area and the HSW Officer is to notify CPHR.
 - b. If the weed species was previously recorded on the site or is not classified as a WONS, HTW or priority weed, the extent of the infestation will be mapped by the Ecologist to inform ongoing monitoring.
3. Further actions include:
 - a. Investigate the source of the weed species.
 - b. Provide an environmental report to the Applicant detailing the weed species observations and potential sources.
 - c. Investigate potential weed control and management options with the Ecologist.
 - d. Review weed management procedures on site and update the procedures as necessary.



