

18 February 2022

Our ref: 18SYD-11929

Russell Hogan
Mirvac
Level 28, 200 George Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Re: Summary of revisions to Aspect Industrial Estate Biodiversity Development Assessment Report

Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd (ELA) has been engaged by Mirvac to prepare a summary of updates that have been made to the Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) since preparing the response to the submissions (February 2021).

The BDAR was updated (version 5) following the response to submissions. There have since been two revisions to the BDAR (versions 6 and 7). These revisions were required to incorporate additional areas of footprint along Mamre that were not assessed in previous versions of the BDAR. Specifically, the additional survey was required to incorporate construction works and ground disturbance outside the Aspect Industrial Estate boundary. The revised extent includes the Signalised Intersection, Temporary Construction Access, access to the Sydney Water Interim Operating Plant and any associated lead-in infrastructure (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

ADDITIONAL FIELD SURVEYS

Additional site inspections were undertaken by ELA ecologist Stacey Wilson on 10 September 2021 and 21 January 2021 to verify the presence of native vegetation, threatened ecological communities, and threatened species and / or their habitat. Where the boundaries of vegetation communities differed from existing vegetation mapping, these were modified on ArcGIS Collector mobile application.

The vegetation identified consists of *Eucalyptus tereticornis* (Forest red Gum) and *Angophora floribunda* (Rough-barked Apple), *Eucalyptus moluccana* (Grey Box), *Casuarina glauca* (Swamp Sheoak). A native midstorey was absent and the understorey dominated by exotic species, including, *Cenchrus clandestinus* (Kikuyu Grass), *Verbena bonariensis* (Purpletop), *Bromus catharticus* (Prairie Grass), *Senecio madagascariensis* (Fireweed), *Chloris gayana* (Rhodes Grass), *Cynodon dactylon* (Couch) and *Paspalum dilatatum* (Dallis grass), *Sisymbrium officinale* (hedge Mustard) and *Senecio Solanum pseudocapsicum* (Winter Cherry). The vegetation was in poor condition as it was subject to disturbance and weed invasion from the road and is highly fragmented from patches of River-flat Eucalypt Forest in the locality. There was also a drainage channel under Mamre Road which contained a small amount of native *Typha orientalis* (Bulrush) within the wet areas. This was included in the vegetation mapping for River-flat Eucalypt Forest.

The vegetation identified within the road reserve conforms to *PCT 835 - Forest Red Gum – Rough-barked Apple grassy woodland on alluvial flats of the Cumberland Plain, Sydney Basin Bioregion*. This PCT is listed as a threatened ecological community (TEC) under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act). River-flat Eucalypt Forest is also listed as a critically endangered TEC under the EPBC Act: *River-flat eucalypt forest on coastal floodplains of southern NSW and eastern Victoria*. It was determined that the River-flat Eucalypt Forest within the road reserve does not meet the condition criteria under the Conservation Advice for River-flat Eucalypt Forest to be listed under the EPBC Act as the native vegetation cover does not contain the required ground cover richness (40% native perennial understorey and >4 native species per 0.04 ha sample plot and does not occur in a patch that is >0.5 ha within a larger area of native vegetation >5ha) (DAWE 2020b).

Fauna habitat

Two small stick nests were recorded in two trees within the road reserve. One small hollow, (5 cm x 5 cm diameter) was recorded and one tree with deep fissure which could potentially serve as roosting habitat for hollow-dwelling microbats. Within the wet drainage areas a few *Crinia signifera* (Common Eastern Froglet) were heard calling.

UPDATES TO THE BDAR

Revisions 6 and 7 included:

- updated mapping to show the increase in extent of the footprint
- updated vegetation mapping
- updated summary of habitat features present
- updates to species polygons (if required)
- updated description of works
- updates to the BAM-C calculator and any associated credit requirements.

CONCLUSION

All updates made to the BDAR were completed consistent with the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) and the Biodiversity Assessment Method.

Regards,



Alex Gorey
Senior Ecologist

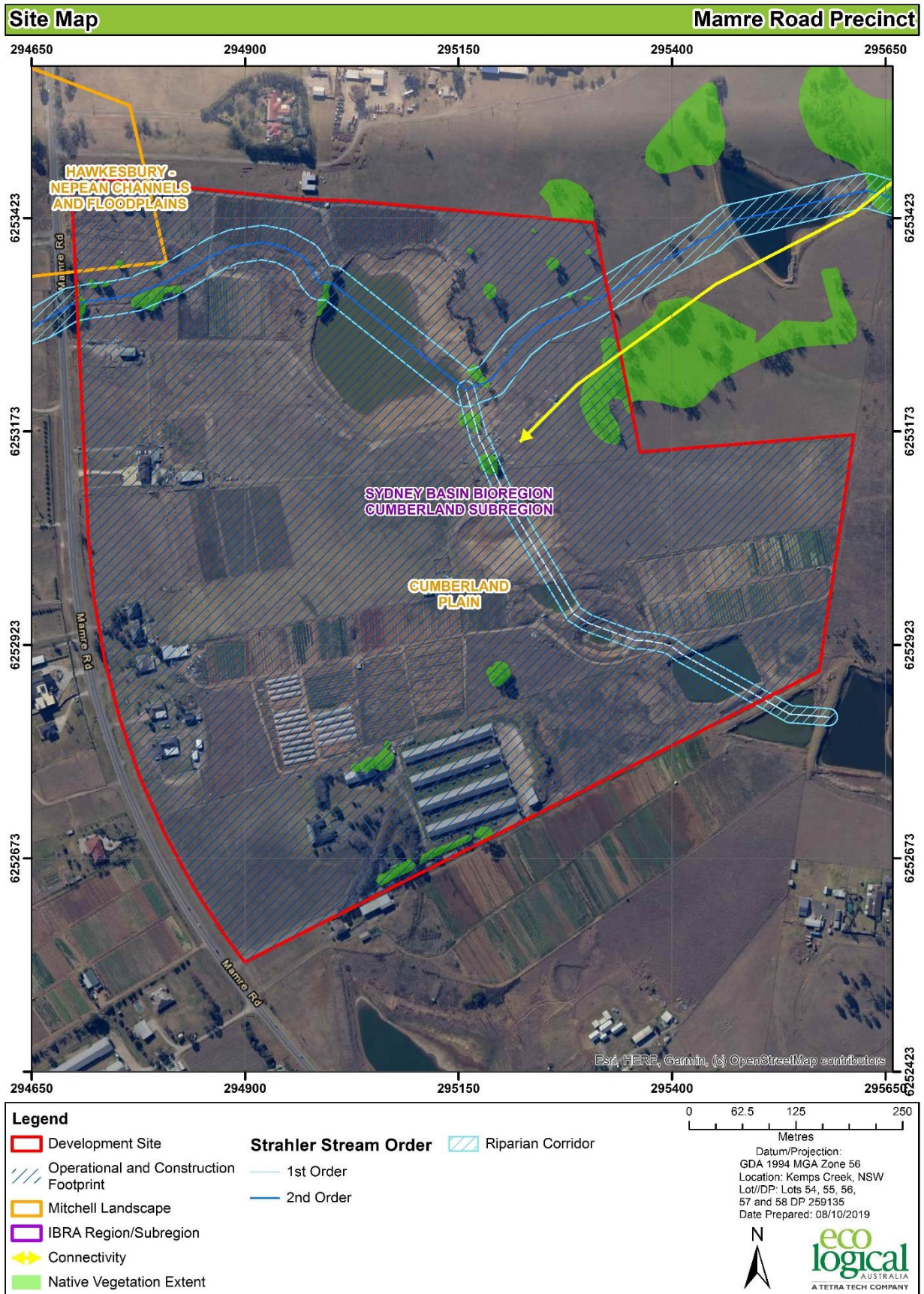


Figure 1: Version 5 development site

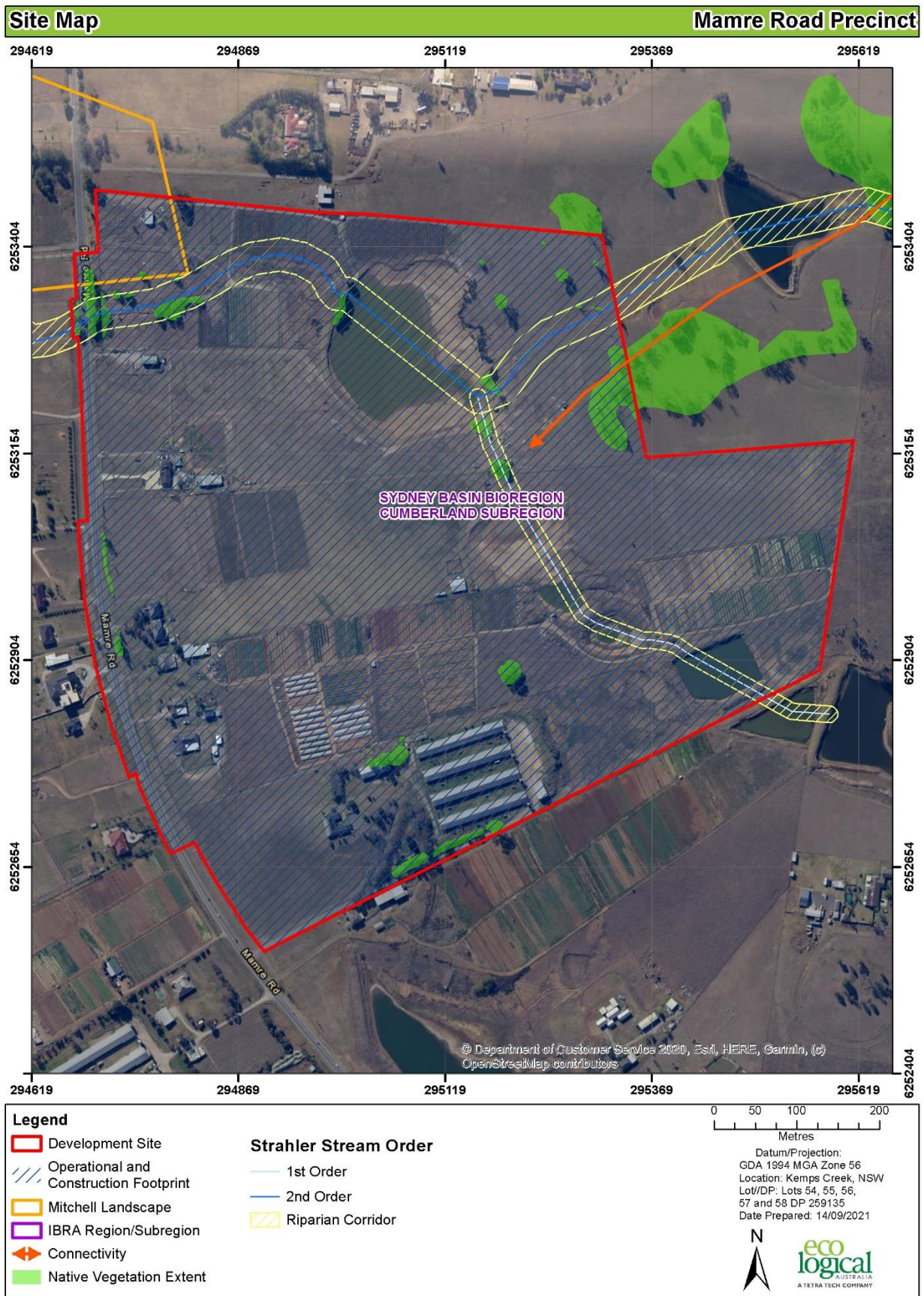


Figure 2: Version 7 development site