Vegetation Management Plan

Woodlawn Zinc Copper Mine

Document Review/Change History

Date	Summary of review and changes	Revision No.	Authors	
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Glossary

Acronym	Definition
AEMR	The Annual Environmental Management Report
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change Environment Energy and Water
DEVELOP	The Company
EA	Environmental Assessment
EMS	Environmental Management Strategy
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
EPL	Environmental Protection License
Ha	Hectares
LFA	Landscape Function Analysis
NSW	New South Wales
OEH	NSW Environment and Heritage
PCT	Plant Community Types
Project	Woodlawn Mine
VMP	Vegetation Management Plan
REVEG	Revegetation area
RMP	Rehabilitation Management Plan
SML	Special Mining Lease
TSF	Tailings Storage Facility

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

The Woodlawn Zinc-Copper mine (the Project) is located approximately 7 km northwest of Tarago in New South Wales (NSW) within Special (Crown and Private Land) Mining Lease no. 20 (SML20) as shown in Plan 1, Appendix 1. The original Woodlawn mine operated from 1978 to 1998 and processed 13.8Mt of ore from the Woodlawn open pit, underground and minor satellite deposits. Following its prolonged closure, the Project was acquired by ASX-listed Heron Resources who secured Project Approval in July 2013 following the public exhibition of the Projects Environmental Assessment (EA). Heron completed the construction of the project and developed the new underground mine in accordance with the Project Approval before it was put on care and maintenance in March 2020. Heron was placed in administration in July 2021. Develop Global Limited (DEVELOP) completed its acquisition of the Project in May 2022 and Tarago Operations Pty Limited which holds Special Mining Lease (SML) 20 and (EPL) 20821. Veolia operates an eco-precinct, including a licensed landfill, within SML20 but separated from the project and has separate EPL's as shown in Plan 1, Appendix 1.

The Project is within the Southeastern Highlands Bioregion in an area that has been disturbed twice since European settlement. The first involved extensive clearing to produce low to medium quality grazing land while the second involved mining. The landscape today remains highly fragmented and disturbed due to these previous land uses. Therefore, the underpinning Project EA (Parsons Brinkerhoff 2012) only investigated the area of the proposed Project where biodiversity impacts would occur. This was identified as 'Hickory's Paddock' which is where the administration area and Tailings Storage Facility 4 (TSF4) are located (refer to Plan 1, Appendix 1).

With the construction phase of the Project, as approved by the original Project Approval and associated Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) now complete, this Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) provides updates for the site and Project going forward including the revegetation area. In addition, this plan is the first version whereby rehabilitation has been segregated, more detail on this is included in Section 1.1.1.

This VMP includes vegetation and fauna management for the Project and forms one component of the of the Projects overall Environmental Management Strategy (EMS). The EMS includes several commitments and component management plans which together form the basis for the ongoing operation of the Project. The EMS and component management plans will be updated as required to reflect any changes to the Project.

1.1.1. Integration with the Rehabilitation Management Plan

Prior to 2024 the Project operated under a combined Vegetation and Rehabilitation Management Plan. Due to the complex nature of the site, and regulatory rehabilitation reforms it is necessary to separate these documents. The Rehabilitation Management Plan (RMP) specifically deals with areas disturbed by past and current mining activities, whereby this VMP covers the ongoing maintenance of remnant vegetation, previously revegetated areas within the mine site and vegetation enhancements within the revegetation area. The intended outcome will be to:

- Ensure a consistent approach to final vegetation community structure and floristics.
- Ensure that rehabilitation effort is afforded maximum benefits from natural regeneration from surrounding native vegetation.
- Enable fauna habitat to improve and in particular, faunal corridors established where possible.

Now that project construction has been completed this VMP covers the revegetation area (refer to Plan 1, Appendix 1), all other existing vegetation and any new areas revegetation as part of rehabilitation activities. The establishment of new vegetation outside of the revegetation area is covered under the RMP.

1.2. Scope and objectives

The purpose of this VMP is to document the control measures and management initiatives to minimise the Projects impact and attempt enhance the biodiversity on site. The overall objectives are to:

- Implement the commitments made in the EA including specific conditions of approval and the Statement of Commitments.
- Ensure compliance with relevant environmental legislation.
- Manage vegetation risks associated with the Project.
- Provide for continuous improvement in vegetation performance.
- Provide a mechanism to identify and correct areas of non-compliance.

1.3. Consultation

This plan was originally drafted by Heron following consultation with government and non-government organisations including OEH. The original Vegetation and Rehabilitation Management Plan was initially approved in 2017 (Appendix 3) prior to construction commencing. With construction completed prior to DEVELOP acquisition of the site this plan has been revised with additional consultation where required and applicable depending on the update. A consultation log is provided in Appendix 2 which will be updated as required during the Project.

1.4. Legislative requirements

Legislation relevant to the VMP includes:

- *Biosecurity Act 2015*
- *NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*
- *Rural Fires Act 1997*
- *Pesticides Act 1999* (as applicable to herbicides and pesticides)

The Project is governed by the following:

- Project Approval: as issued in 2013 and amended in 2016 and 2017. Document ID: 07_0143MOD2
- Environment Protection License (EPL): 20821 as issued by the NSW Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Special Mining Lease (SML): 20

1.5. Guidelines and standards

NSW government provide a range of guidelines, fact sheets and standards regarding the management of vegetation and pests. These provide general information on the control systems as well as methods to achieve current best practice. These sources are presented in Section 9 and have been referred to in the preparation of this Plan where applicable.

1.6. Project approval requirements

This VMP has been developed in accordance with the Project Approval environmental commitments which are listed in Table 1-1 which includes a reference to where each of the conditions are addressed in this management plan. Statement of Commitments (SoC) relevant to the operational phase of the Project that were made as part of the Project EA are also included within Table 1-1.

Table 1-1 Consent conditions relating to Vegetation

Condition ID	Condition description	Where addressed
Schedule 3 Condition 6	The Proponent shall rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of the Secretary. This rehabilitation must be generally consistent with the proposed rehabilitation plan described in the EA (and reproduced in Appendix 4), and comply with the rehabilitation objectives in Table 2. *Table 2: Rehabilitation Objectives* ***Feature*** / ***Objectives*** Revegetation area • Establish at least 71 hectares of the Western Tablelands Dry Forest vegetation community shown in Appendix 3.	Section 5
Schedule 4 Condition 20	The Proponent shall prepare and implement a Vegetation Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Director-General. This plan must:	This plan
	(a) be prepared in consultation with OEH and submitted to the Director-General for approval prior to commencing construction;	Completed, refer to Section 1.3
	(b) describe how the additional 71 hectares of revegetation area (shown in Appendix 3) would be integrated with the overall rehabilitation of the site	Section 5.3
	(c) describe the short, medium, and long term measures that would be implemented to: • manage the remnant vegetation and habitat on the site and in the revegetated area/s; and • implement revegetation, including detailed performance and completion criteria;	Section 3.6 Section 5.3
	(d) include a detailed description of the procedures to be implemented for: • minimising the impacts on fauna on site, including pre-clearance surveys; • enhancing the quality of existing vegetation and fauna habitat; • restoring native vegetation and fauna habitat on the revegetated area through focusing on assisted natural regeneration, targeted vegetation establishment and the introduction of fauna habitat features, including establishing and maintaining bat habitat for the Eastern Bent-wing Bat and Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat; • establishing a revegetation planting density that is consistent with the rehabilitation objectives in Table 2 of Schedule 3; • maximising the salvage of resources within the approved disturbance area – including vegetative and soil resources – for beneficial reuse in the rehabilitation of the site; • collecting and propagating seed; • bushfire management;	As per previous CEMP, Section 3, Section 4, Section 6

Condition ID	Condition description	Where addressed
	• controlling weeds, feral pests, erosion and access to the revegetation areas; and	
	(e) include a seasonally-based program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures, and progress against the detailed performance and completion criteria; and	Section 7
	(f) include details of who would be responsible for monitoring, reviewing and implementing the plan.	Section 7.1
Schedule 4 Condition 21	The Proponent shall carry out rehabilitation of the site progressively, that is, as soon as reasonably practicable after disturbance. All reasonable and feasible measures must be taken to minimise the total area exposed for dust generation at any time. Interim rehabilitation strategies shall be employed when areas prone to dust generation cannot be permanently rehabilitated until later in the project life. Note: It is accepted that some parts of the site that are progressively rehabilitated may be subject to further disturbance at some later stage of the project.	Section 3.2
Schedule 4 Condition 28	The Proponent shall: (a) establish a vegetation screen along the fence line next to Collector Road within 6 months of commencement of construction;	Section 3.4
Schedule 4 Condition 30	The Proponent shall: (a) ensure that the project is suitably equipped to respond to any fires on site; and (b) assist the Rural Fire Service and emergency services as much as possible if there is a fire in the surrounding area.	Section 6
Schedule 6, Condition 3	The Proponent shall ensure that the management plans required under this approval are prepared in accordance with any relevant guidelines, and include: (a) a description of: • the relevant statutory requirements (including any relevant approval, license or lease conditions); • any relevant limits or performance measures/criteria; • the specific performance indicators that are proposed to be used to judge the performance of, or guide the implementation of, the project or any management measures;	Section 1.4 & 1.5 Section 7
	(b) a description of the measures that would be implemented to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, limits, or performance measures/criteria;	Section 7
	(c) a program to monitor and report on the: • impacts and environmental performance of the project; • effectiveness of any management measures (see b above);	This plan & overarching EMS
	(d) a contingency plan to manage any unpredicted impacts and their consequences and to ensure that ongoing impacts reduce to levels below relevant impact assessment criteria as quickly as possible;	Section 7.7

Condition ID	Condition description	Where addressed
	(e) a protocol for managing and reporting any: • incidents and complaints; • non-compliances with statutory requirements and exceedances of the impact assessment criteria and/or performance criteria; and	Section 8
	(f) a protocol for periodic review of the plan.	Section 8.5
Schedule 6, Condition 7	The Proponent shall notify the Secretary and any other relevant agencies of any incident associated with the project as soon as practicable after the Proponent becomes aware of the incident. Within seven days of the date of the incident, the Proponent shall provide the Secretary and any relevant agencies with a detailed report on the incident.	Section 8.4
Schedule 6, Condition 8	The Proponent shall provide regular reporting on the environmental performance of the project on its website, in accordance with the reporting arrangements in any approved plans of the conditions of this approval.	Section 8.2
EA Statement of Commitments 9A	Flora and Fauna Management Plan or MOP to include the following measures: • delineation of development envelopes • pre-clearing survey protocols • implementation of sediment control measures prior to construction • vegetation clearing protocols, including salvage and relocation of suitable dead logs • protection of waterways, and aquatic and riparian habitats • ongoing monitoring of the operations in regard to the Project Site's retained habitats, including water quality	Included in previous CEMP And water management plan
EA Statement of Commitments 11D	A Landscape Plan would be prepared for the Project prior to construction. This would focus on minimising visual impacts from Collector Road and would include, as a minimum: • planting that includes a mix of drought tolerant native species that reinforce the existing and desired future character (after site remediation) of the locality • planting of tall vegetation along fence boundaries to filter views of the Project Site along Collector Road • softening of the visual appearance of the Project processing facility and administration block through vegetation planting and design • planting of shrubs and grasses along the boundaries of the new facilities to soften their visual texture.	As per CEMP Section 3.2

2. EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

2.1. Landscape context

The Project is located within the central part of the South Eastern Highlands Bioregion. Overall, the lower slopes and valleys of the locality have been largely cleared of eucalypt woodlands for grazing and agriculture, with larger remaining areas of vegetation occurring on the hilly ridge line areas, or as roadside vegetation (refer to Appendix 4).

Vegetation within the Project and greater SML is highly fragmented with large expanses of cleared land surrounding predominantly isolated remnants along the rocky ridges and roadsides. Although some of the highly degraded remnant vegetation patches are of sufficient size to maintain viable populations for some small mammals, amphibians and reptiles, they are likely to be of limited value within the wider landscapes.

2.2. Vegetation communities

Five vegetation communities were identified during the ecological survey which was completed as part of the Project EA. Vegetation communities identified include:

- Hickory Wattle Low Open Forest
- Black She-oak Low Open Forest
- Mixed Wattle and Planted Open Scrub
- Derived Grassland
- Grassland/Sedgeland Soaks

Hickory Wattle Low Open Forest and Black She-oak Low Open Forest are typically natural regrowth communities that comprise small, isolated remnants of the broadscale community mapped by Tindal et al (2004) as Western Tablelands Dry Forest. This has since been transformed into Plant Community Types (PCT's) in Section 3.1. Further detail on the communities is contained within the EA which concluded that there were no threatened species of plant recorded within the Project area.

2.3. Fauna

Two broad fauna habitat types were identified in the ecological survey area as part of the Project EA, including:

- Open scrub – consisting of Hickory Wattle Low Open Forest, Black She-oak Low Open Forest and Mixed Wattle and Planted Open Scrub

- Cleared/open grassland – consisting of Derived Grassland.

Given the level of previous land clearing, there is little remaining natural habitat for fauna. In its present condition, it provides only marginal foraging habitats for transient species such as birds and bats which was evident by the conclusions made in the EA and as summarised below.

During the ecology survey as part of the EA, a total of 56 species of animal were recorded, comprising predominately of birds, followed by reptiles and mammals. Out of this, two were identified as threatened species, including:

- Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat – *Saccolaimus flaviventris*.
- Eastern Bentwing-bat – Miniopterus schreibersii oceanensis.

Evidence of Glossy Black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami*) feeding within the ecological survey area was recorded in the form of chewed *Allocasuarina* cones. Although there were six additional threatened species identified with the potential to occur based on suitable habitat, further assessments concluded that this was considered unlikely within the survey area because either:

- No habitat was recorded in the ecological survey area, or
- The area is outside the normal range of the species and records are likely to be of vagrants or invalid, or
- The species is considered locally extinct.

Waterbodies, including dams were present within the ecological survey area as part of the Project EA. They were observed to support native vegetation and provided suitable habitat for common amphibians such as the Spotted Marsh Frog *(Limnodynastes tasmaniensis),* which was recorded in each of the farm dams during spotlight surveys. No species of waterbird were observed using these waterbodies during the field surveys. Artificial, ephemeral drainage lines, associated with each of the waterbodies, provide a corridor for the movement of frogs and reptiles across the ecological survey area. These drainage lines also provide marginal habitat for larger birds including the White-faced Heron *(Egretta novaehollandiae),* which was observed foraging amongst the grassland. Contoured drainage lines, on hill slopes in the south-west corner of the ecological survey area, also provided suitable habitat for frog species. These drainage lines are the result of rehabilitation strategies during historic mining practices.

No species of fish were recorded during the EA field surveys and it was considered unlikely that waterbodies surveyed would provide suitable habitat.

3. FLORA MANAGEMENT

3.1. Plant Community Types (PCT's)

'Western Tablelands Dry Open Forest' is not a term currently used when assessing Plant Community Types (PCT). Instead, NSW planning and assessment now use PCTs as the master community level typology which is maintained in the BioNet Vegetation Classification application. Five PCT's have been associated with the site:

- Goulburn Tableland Box-Gum Grassy Forest (ID 3373)
- Southern Tablelands Dry Sclerophyll Forests (ID 3744)
- Goulburn Tableland Frost Hollow Grassy Woodland (ID 3338)
- Southern Tableland Red Grass-Spear Grass Grassland (ID 3415)
- Monaro Snowgrass-Kangaroo Grass Grassland (ID 3414)

The species in each of the above are included in the species list presented in Appendix 4. The list includes those included in previous versions of VMP's as sourced from Tozer et al (2006). Therefore, when the term 'Western Tablelands' is used in reference to a plant community it is defined to refer to the PCTs above and the associated species list. The specific species which will be used in the rehabilitation and revegetation of the site will be further refined as site knowledge and experience in sourcing, collecting, propagating and planting out seeds and seedlings progresses.

3.2. Revegetation

In accordance with Condition 21 of Schedule 4 of the Project Approval, DEVELOP will carry out rehabilitation of the site progressively, that is, as soon as reasonably practicable after disturbance. All reasonable and feasible measures will be taken to minimise the total area exposed for dust generation at any time. Interim rehabilitation strategies shall be employed when areas prone to dust generation cannot be permanently rehabilitated until later in the project life.

3.2.1. Methods

There are four separate revegetation methods to be implemented which are described in more detail in Table 3-2.

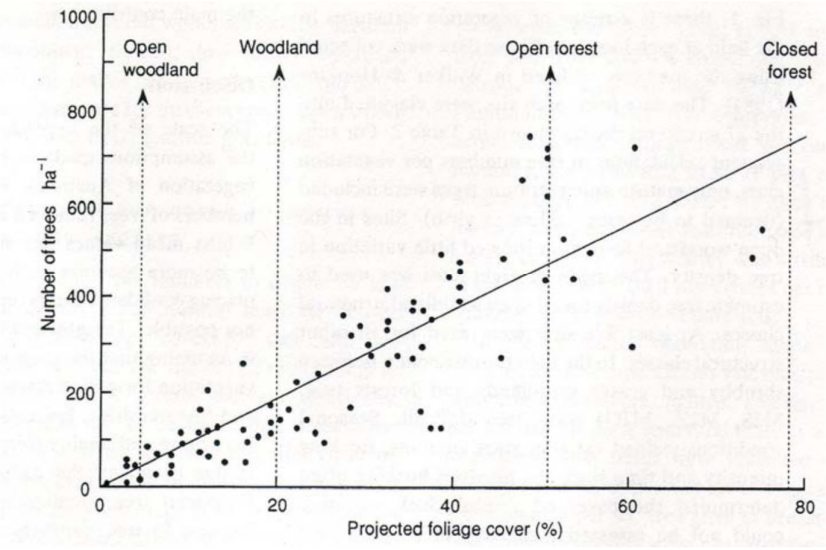
Table 3-2 Revegetation methods

Revegetation method	Detail
Spray seeding	This method involves active stabilisation of slopes, and will be achieved by spray seeding with an application of straw, anionic bitumen, seed and fertiliser. This is an active form of revegetation as it provides an instantaneous cover in the form of straw which is effectively bound to the surface by the bitumen. It is only used on batter slopes where active control is required during the construction phase. The seed mix consists of fast growing, sterile species, such as oats, combined with a fertiliser application. This provides a quick and substantial grass cover which, when combined with the straw enhances erosion control and provides organic matter to the surface topdressing material. Native grass species will also be included in the mix, which will provide a successive cover as the initial coloniser grass dies.

Revegetation method	Detail
Direct sowing with cultivation	This is the most common method used on mine sites or where large areas of disturbance are rehabilitated. It is also used in the agricultural industry to plant crops or for pasture improvement. It involves use of a seed drill and plough which provides minor surface tilling while setting seed at the required depth. The seed mix can include the full range of target trees and shrubs but can also include an initial sterile grass mix to assist with removal of weeds. When replacing pasture with native forest, it may be necessary to first apply a general herbicide before planting with native species to reduce competition from non-native grasses and weed species. This method is most likely to be used in the revegetation area.
Tube stock Planting	Direct planting of tube stock can be used by itself or as an adjunct to direct sowing. The advantages of tube stock planting is that the species being planted and the density of planting can be planned in advance to ensure that the correct species diversity is created. Direct sowing and natural regeneration can result in dominance of species that are not compatible with the target community. Planting tube stock can correct imbalances in the species mix and can include trees, shrubs and even groundcovers. Each tube stock will be staked and surrounded by tree guards and planted with slow-release fertilizer pellets. Depending on final mature size, tube stock can be planted in “woodlot” arrangements or along rip lines. Spacing of rip lines are generally 6 m apart and tube stock planted at 2 m intervals along the rip lines. This is equivalent to approximately 420 stems per hectare which would be in the higher range of the required canopy density.
Brushmatting and natural regeneration	This involves cutting down chosen vegetation from nearby existing target vegetation and laying it over prepared areas. The timing of this work is important to ensure that the chosen species contain viable seed. This seed is then deposited into the soil surface for germination, while the cut vegetation provides a cover of mulch and assists in surface stabilisation. This is a more natural method of encouraging the spread of native vegetation from existing remnants to wider infill areas. It also provides locally provenance seed which assists in preserving the genome of the original vegetation of the region. Brushmatting using cuttings of flowering target natives within SML 20 will be used as an adjunct to each revegetation method noted above as a means of maximising the use of local seed.

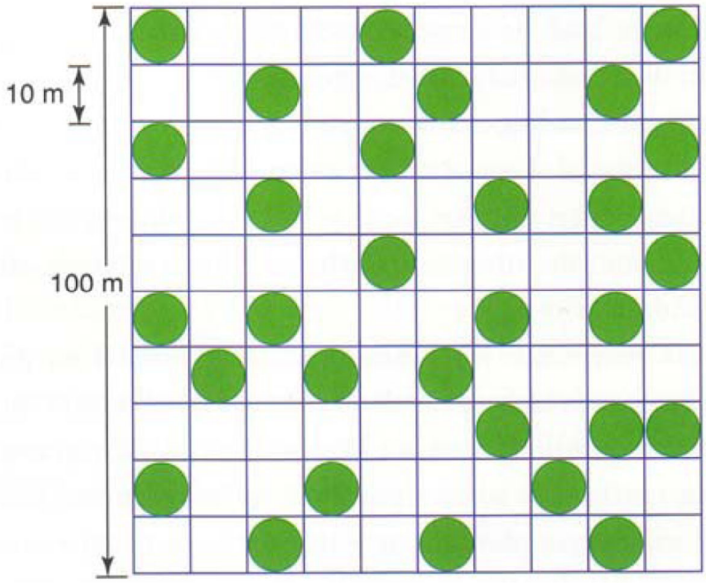
3.2.2. Density and structure

There is little data available on the original structure of Western Tablelands Dry Open Forest, however, Graph 3-1 below shows a general structure of Australian woodlands and forests.



Graph 3-1 Trees per ha and projected foliage (Walker et al 1993)

When considering mature trees which contribute to total canopy percentage, a much smaller number of stems per ha generally occurs. Graph 3-2 below indicates a typical Eucalypt Woodland, what would be considered a grassy woodland and is associated with a density of 30 trees/ha. An Open Forest structure would have a medium density, generally comprising between 30-70% of trees with a height of 10 to 30 m.



Graph 3-2 Typical Eucalypt Woodland Density 30 trees/ha (McIntyre 2002)

3.3. Erosion management

Site soils and erosion controls are documented in the water management plan. This includes the erosion control structures that exists across the project. In addition and in reference to this plan, erosion in revegetation areas will be prevented and managed by:

- Using suitable methods that are better at preventing erosion in known susceptible areas such as spray seeding
- Planting and ripping along the contour of the slope rather than perpendicular to it.
- Using any available cleared vegetation placed in key eroded prone areas
- Using erosion and sediment control structures specific to the soil type and slope such as sediment fences, contour and graded banks, diversion banks and channels, absorption banks and level spreaders, sediment ponds, energy dissipaters and check dams.
- Creating an erosion register to document areas being managed and track treatments.

The rehabilitation management plan includes a rehabilitation risk assessment which identified serval actions relating to erosion including:

- Use of spray-grass or equivalent methods to rapidly stabilise areas deems vulnerable to erosion
- The final overburden landform will be designed to integrate with the surrounding landscape, with batters and slopes designed to minimise erosion risk and promote long-term stability
- Maintenance work to prevent or repair erosion around site
- Ongoing periodic monitoring and documentation will include inspections of vegetation condition, erosion features, and the presence of weeds to assess rehabilitation performance and identify any areas requiring corrective action

The site is still in the process of planning rehabilitation activities which will be further documented in the rehabilitation management plan.

3.4. Vegetation screen

As required by Condition 28, Schedule 4 of the Project Approval, a separate vegetation screen along the fence line next to Collector Road was planted in 2019. This included a total of 450 trees (one planted every 2 m in rip lines, and generally 6 m apart). Species planted were selected based on the Western Tablelands Dry Forest vegetation community including E*. viminalis, E. Maniffera, E. pauciflora, E. Rubida, E. Blakelyi, E. dives, E. rossii, C. Littoralis, L continental, L. juniperinum, C. pallidus, S. linearifolum and B. bulbosa.* It is noted that this area is also within the revegetation area (refer to Section 5) and although the screen is completed the area may require additional plantings and infilling in order to meet the specifications of the revegetation area described in Section 3.2.

3.5. Seed collection and sources

Primarily seed will be collected locally within the SML20 area to produce tube stock and to keep local seed provenance. Due to practicality and availability of natural vegetation to harvest seeds from, supplementary supplies of seeds and tube stock will be sourced from nearby nurseries.

3.6. Management of remnant vegetation

Both within and adjacent to areas to be rehabilitated or revegetated are examples of native regrowth. These patches were surveyed as part of the original EA and found to be highly disturbed and not entirely characteristic of the original Western Tablelands Dry Open Forest that would have existed in the region prior to clearing for agricultural activities. Through mining of the area, some of the original cleared agricultural land has been allowed to naturally regenerate due largely to the exclusion of stock. This is generally a good method to manage remnant vegetation as it allows the natural soil seed bank to germinate without the ongoing pressure from grazing, and normal agricultural land management practices.

The following management practices will be employed for all existing regrowth vegetation under the control of DEVELOP:

- Short term: Maintain exclusion of stock through adequate fencing in the short term. Areas designated for grazing within SML20 will have separately fenced vegetation patches where necessary.
- Short to medium term: All areas identified as the revegetation area will be fully fenced to exclude stock.
- Short to medium term: Remnant vegetation patches will be regularly inspected to determine growth and vigour, species diversity, evidence of seeding and seedling development.
- Short term: Removal of woody weeds by mechanical methods to reduce competition with native vegetation.
- Medium to long term: Natural seeding of selected individual plants will be enhanced by brush matting methods over the medium to long term. This will include removal of a portion of seeded branches of identified target species to encourage propagation in bare areas.

The long-term goal will be to establish, through natural mechanisms, the original Western Tablelands Dry Open Forest over areas not required for ongoing uses on site. Where fences are deemed a necessary control for the management of remanent vegetation within the sites boundary a maintenance schedule will be developed. Currently there are no such areas identified. Fences adequate for stock exclusion remain the responsibility of the surrounding landholders so they can be installed and maintained more specifically for their intended purpose.

3.7. Vegetation clearing protocol

The operational phase of the Project does not anticipate any major clearing. Only minor amounts of clearing of re-growth is expected for ongoing operation and bushfire risk mitigation (refer to Section 6). This will be managed by the implementation and use of a Clear Land and Vegetation Permit (CLVP) included in Appendix 6. This permit specifies that pre-clearing protocols must be completed for the protection of flora and fauna before such a permit can be granted including:

- Delineation of area
- Pre-clearing assessment to determine the conservation status of vegetation
- Checks for nesting birds, reptiles and other wildlife
- Relocation of wildlife before the works and/or allowing adequate time for fauna to escape should they be disturbed during the clearing

Depending on the assessment a clearing specific management plan may be required to be implemented which will necessitate additional controls where hollows are required to be cleared including hollow checks, spotter catchers and the salvage of logs and hollows.

3.8. Resource salvage

Although the initial construction phase of the Project has finished, soil disturbance may be additionally required in the future. In order to salvage resources, the following will be implemented for topsoil and vegetation reuse.

Any topsoil stripped will be stockpiled in low mounds. The mounds will be no higher than 2 m and no wider than 10 m to avoid creating anaerobic conditions. Soil will be reused as soon as practicable on prepared completed surfaces such as dam walls and batter slopes or rehabilitation purposes as they also contain a natural seed bank. Should topsoil need to be stockpiled for periods greater than 6 months they will be sown with a sterile cover crop such as ryegrass (Spring to Summer) or oats (Autumn to Winter). Using a sterile seed will ensure that regeneration of the crop will not occur.

Any cleared vegetation will be windrowed initially. If not in a suitable location, cleared vegetation may be spread over rehabilitated and/or revegetated areas. It is intended that this material will gradually decompose to return nutrients to the soil, as well as provide habitat for small marsupials. Cleared vegetation may also be used in areas to prevent erosion.

3.9. Weed management

The Project will control priority weed species in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act (2015).* The Project is located within the *South East Regional Weed Management Plan 2023 – 2027* which provides a framework for regional weed management as part of the regional implementation of the *NSW Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2021*, *Invasive Species Plan 2018-2021* and the *NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.*

Currently, there are no Southeast Region priority weeds, as identified in the Weed Management Plan which are known to either currently or historically exist within the Project area. Any new weeds identified on site, however, will be cross-checked with this management plan as it describes the method of control required.

There are State priority weeds which are known to be associated with the site and will continue to be managed. These include:

- Blackberry *(Rubus fruiticosus)*
- Serrated tussock *(Nassella trichotoma)*
- Brooms *(Genista monspessulana, G. linifolia, Cystisus scoparius)*

All other pest plants identified in areas under the control of DEVELOP and not mentioned above will be managed with the Project's general biosecurity duty. Weed controls will be implemented on an as needed basis in accordance with the *Pesticides Act 1999* as applicable to herbicides and pesticides. Weed control is documented in terms of which weeds are treated, what location they are in and with what herbicide. The presence and types of weeds on-site are heavily influenced by climatic patterns with weed control reliant on observations which are regularly made across site. A summary of the known weeds which occur on site and their associated treatment is presented in Table 3-3. DEVLEOP controls weeds according to Table 3-3 in their operational area as depicted in the legal co-operation agreement between the parties. Veolia, as the landholder, are responsible for the remaining areas and the surrounding land. DEVELOP, as the mine lease holder rather than land holder, has no oversight over Veolia's program.

Table 3-3 Weed annual treatment

Weed	Treatment	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Blackberry	Woody weeds, Picloram + Triclopyr, glyphosate, penetrant.	X	X	X								X	X
Serrated Tussock	Glyphosate when green actively growing (before seeding), between March & June.			X	X	X					X	X	X
	Flupropanate			X	X	X	X						
African Turnip weed	Glyphosate for early stages, Picloram+Triclopyr if larger. Use a penetrant.					X	X	X	X				
Fleabane	Picloram + Triclopyr, or Kamba M before seeding. Glyphosate not particularly useful.	X	X	X	X	X					X	X	X
Illyrian Thistle	Kamba M on smaller plants, Glyphosate on larger plants & at seedhead stage.									X	X	X	X
Scotch Broom	Glyphosate or Picloram + Triclopyr preferably before pod set. Use a penetrant.									X	X	X	X
Scotch Thistle	Kamba M on smaller plants, Glyphosate on larger plants & at seedhead stage.			X	X	X				X	X	X	X
Silverleaf Nightshade	Picloram+Triclopyr, Glyphosate (apply at early flowering at or before berry set stage)	X	X							X	X	X	X
Pampas grass	Glyphosate, preferably before seed set	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X
Blackberry nightshade	Picloram+Triclopyr, Glyphosate can be used but less effective	X	X	X	X							X	X

4. FAUNA MANAGEMENT

4.1. Overview

Findings from the Project EA show that the Project will have minimal impact on existing native fauna. Construction and associated clearing as per the EA and CEMP has also been completed. Although minimal, DEVELOP will implement additional management measures that are reasonable and feasible to further minimise the impact on fauna. These include:

- Pre-clearing survey protocol which includes a permit (Appendix 6) that considers risk to fauna including relocation controls.
- Vegetation clearing protocols, including salvage and relocation of suitable dead logs;
- Fencing to exclude fauna from accessing hazardous areas such as plastic lined dams;
- Protection of waterways, and aquatic and riparian habitats;
- Ongoing monitoring of the operations retained habitats, including water quality, and
- Management of weed invasion.

4.2. Wombats

Common Wombats are known to be present within the Project area. Wombat burrows tend to appear in sandy type soils within SML20 and have previously caused a reportable environmental incident whereby comprising a significant stormwater diversion drain around one of the sites historical tailings dams. To manage this risk, key areas of site are regularly inspected for wombat activity and burrows during dam inspections as part of the sites Dam Safety Management System. Depending on the severity and risk of impact, the following management measures may be required:

- Burrow removal: Should a burrow require removal; it will first be confirmed as being vacant either by:
    - Installation of a wildlife camera; or
    - Observing burrow activity daily for at least one week; or
    - Placement of sticks at the entrance or the entrance raked smooth to identify animal activity.

    Once confirmed that the burrow is vacant the entrance to the burrow would be collapsed.
- Physical deterrents: Such as rock fill or mesh to physically deter or prevent burrow activity.
- Scent deterrents: Such as those provided by organic fertiliser such as blood and bone. Applied similarly, or in addition to physical deterrents.

4.3. Snakes

Snakes within the Project area will only be relocated whereby they are in a location which poses a threat to the snake or presents a hazard for workers. This will be done in compliance with the internal Catching and Relocating Snakes Procedure with authorised and qualified personnel and will only apply within the Project area in DEVELOP controlled areas.

4.4. Pest animal control

Pests are regulated under the *NSW Biosecurity Act 2015*. Pest animals create a negative effect on the land, destroying native vegetation; degrading soils, landscapes and waterways; altering habitats, competing with or causing the demise of native animals; and supporting the spread of weeds. The South *East Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan 2024-2028* provides a framework for regional pest animal management as part of the regional implementation of the *NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.*

As Veolia own the land on which the project is located and the surrounding land it is practical to integrate with their management practices regarding feral animal control. DEVELOP will contribute to this program on an as needed or as requested basis, including areas under its control as applicable and seek guidance from the Local Landcare services (LLS) if required. DEVELOP is unable to complete a pest animal control program and will instead utilise exclusion fencing where required to control access and damage from pests where deemed necessary.

4.5. Injured fauna

If injured fauna is identified within the Project site, the following options are available:

- Southern Tablelands WIRES (1300 094 737): Call WIRES, or refer to the emergency rescue advice located on the WIRES website https://www.wires.org.au/wildlife-rescue.
- Goulburn Vet Clinic (02 4822 1533): If the animal can be moved, the Goulburn Vet Clinic is able to assess injured wildlife during opening hours. If they are injured, they will work with WIRES to organise treatment.

4.6. Trapping and relocation

All native animals are protected under the *NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and will not be removed or relocated. However, licenses are available where protected native animals are shown to be a threat to human safety, damaging property and/or causing economic hardship. In this instance a license must be obtained, and all conditions of an approved license complied with.

4.7. Habitat enhancement

The Woodlawn site is frequented by several bird and bat species, however previous studies have indicated that given the lack of native vegetation and the highly disturbed nature of the remnant vegetation patches on site that no core or critical habitat exists. The site does, however, provide opportunistic feeding and transient foraging habitat for several woodland birds and bats.

Preferred habitat consists generally of grassy woodland and proposed enhancement of vegetation towards the original Western Tablelands Dry Open Forest community would be the most ideal habitat. Both the Eastern Bent-wing Bat and Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat travel large distances to forage and use forest and grassland communities as a source of insects. Bent-wing bats tend to roost in caves often in small colonies while the Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat is more solitary and roosts in tree hollows. Although there are no caves nearby, there are caves within 12 km of the site at Mount Fairy which provide roosting colonies of the Eastern Bent-wing Bat occurs.

As the revegetation area matures (refer to Section 5), tree hollows will be created which will provide habitat for the Eastern Bent-wing Bat and Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat along with woodland bird species. Based on comments received from Conservation Programs, Heritage & Regulation on V11, DEVLEOP will review whether bat boxes should be considered in the interim and seek advice on the placement for these noting that the EA specified that greater habitat resources were available adjacent to the project area and did not identify nest boxes as a mitigation measure.

5. REVEGETATION AREA

5.1. Overview

The reopening of the Woodlawn Mine Project presented an opportunity to assess the Project as if it was a greenfield project. Although the site has been previously cleared for agricultural activities and then subsequently disturbed by mining, it was considered appropriate to establish a revegetation area for the entire historic operation. This was considered best practice at the time of project approval (2013) as it brought the original (pre-2000's) operation in line with more recent approval conditions.

DEVELOP is required to establish at least 71 ha of revegetation in accordance with Condition 6, Schedule 3 of the Project Approval as per Appendix 3 which is reproduced in Figure 5-1 below. DEVLEOP has subsequently digitised this polygon to a spatial file in order to show this area on Plan 1, Appendix 1 overlain onto aerial imagery. DEVELOP is also required to establish a vegetation screen along the fence next to Collector Road. The screen area is located within and considered as part of the re-vegetation area in terms of ongoing monitoring and maintenance.

APPENDIX 3
REVEGETATION AREAS

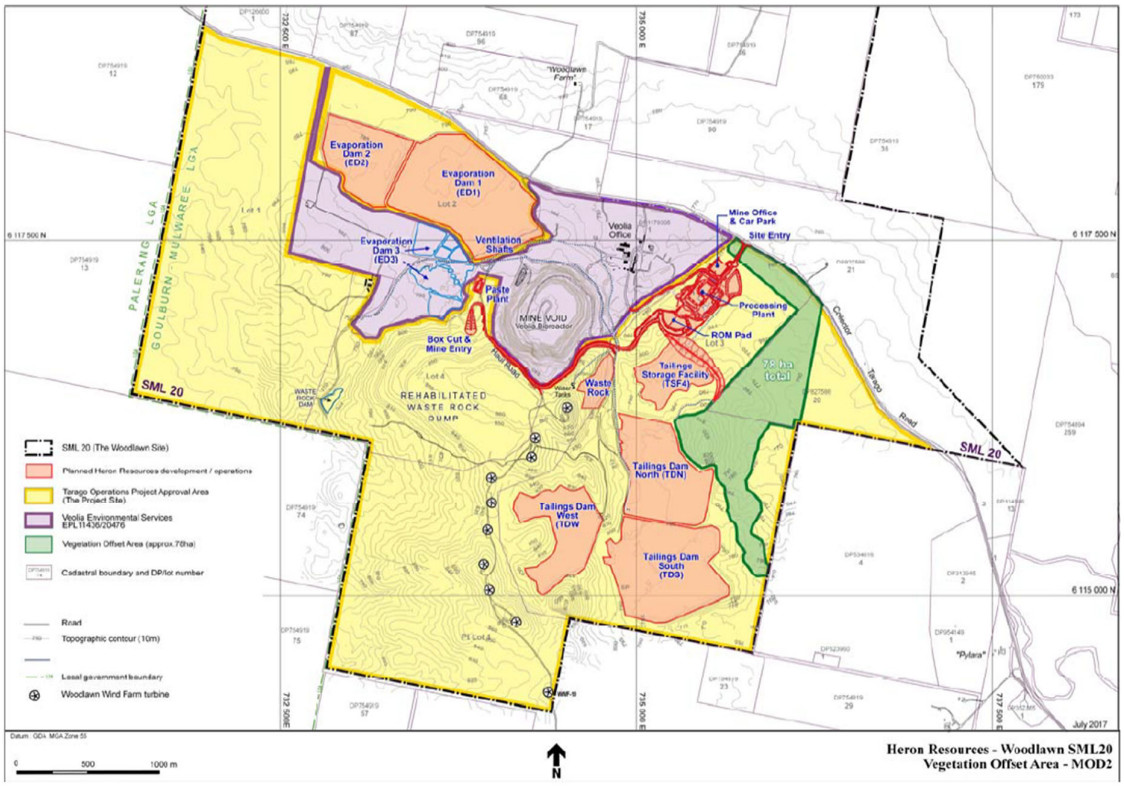


Figure 5-1 Revegetation areas as per the consent

The re-vegetation area in Figure 5-1 and Plan 1, Appendix 1 is approximately 78 ha, however, it is noted that the consent condition is 71 ha. Several factors have been considered in determining an appropriate revegetation area including:

- Existing agricultural activities and value of grazing enterprises, particularly the neighbouring Pylara property.
- The quality of the grazing land considering agricultural suitability which includes consideration of soil quality, erosion potential and land slope.
- Existing remnant vegetation resources.
- Natural regeneration of areas within the SML20 footprint that were not directly impacted by mining.
- Potential habitat links and corridors.
- Operational requirements.
- Landowner requirements.

The result is the selection of a location which includes components of the remanent vegetation community along with agricultural land which is isolated from neighbouring grazing land. The revegetation area aims to revegetate previously cleared agricultural land to the Western Tablelands Dry Forest vegetation community similar to what would have once occupied the site. The revegetation area will be planted with the species, methods and structures as that described in Section 3.2.

As the establishment of the revegetation area represents a long-term project, some variations will arise over time. These changes will be incorporated into any revisions to this VMP.

5.2. Implementation

Implementation and success of the revegetation area will be tracked by:

- Population with the target species (Section 3.1)
- Achievement of the density and structure targets (Section 3.2.2)
- Ongoing management of remnant and newly established vegetation (Section 3.6)
- Biodiversity monitoring (Section 7)

As evident in Plan 2, Appendix 1 the 78 ha comprises of:

- Former cleared grazing
- Existing remnant and re-growth vegetation

DEVELOP will revegetated at least 71 ha of this 78 ha area as per the approval condition. The initial priority will be the revegetation of the cleared grazing land with progress to be reported in the Annual Review each year. Once completed, the remaining existing remnant and regrowth vegetation areas will be similarly assessed to determine what works are required to meet the rehabilitation aims. Ongoing monitoring within both areas will continue as described in Section 7.

5.3. Completion criteria

Completion criteria are used as a basis of determining the success of each commitment made in the original EA, project approval conditions, project statement of commitments, and any subsequent management plans. Data used to assess compliance with the completion criteria will be provided in the Annual Review. The completion criteria for the re-vegetation area is summarised in Table 5-4.

Table 5-4 Completion criteria

Aspect	Details
Objective	Establish at least 71 ha of Western Tablelands Dry Forest vegetation community as per Schedule 3, Condition 6
Integration with the overall rehabilitation of the site	Final vegetation community consistent with surrounding natural native vegetation shrub and grassland community consistent with Western Tablelands Dry Forest vegetation community
Performance indicator	Self-sustaining, ecosystem
Completion criteria	Vegetation community to be self-sustaining and consistent with surrounding rehabilitated areas as determined by the biodiversity monitoring (Section 7) including: • Population with the target species (Section 3.1) • Achievement of the density and structure targets (Section 3.2.2)
Validation methods	Short term: Vegetation planting records post each planting event. Medium to long term: LFA (refer to Section 7) monitoring completed annually or bi-annually. Medium term: Survival rates of each planting events. Medium to long term: Before and after photographic record. Long term: Photographic records. Long term: Independent field verification.

6. BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT

6.1. Regulations

Under the *Rural Fires Act 1997,* there are a number of obligations that must be met with respect to managing the land. In summary, these include:

- Occupiers of land are to extinguish fires or notify fire-fighting authorities immediately.
- It is the duty of the owner or occupier of land to take practicable steps to prevent the occurrence of bush fires on, and to minimise the danger of the spread of bush fires on or from that land.

6.2. Mitigation

The following measures will be employed at the site to ensure that obligations under the *Rural Fires Act 1997* are met:

- Water storages on site will be available for fire-fighting purposes if required. This will include on site dams and water tanks.
- Firebreaks will be constructed as appropriate.
- The amount of dead timber on site will be kept to minimum to reduce the fire hazard.
- Fire-fighting equipment will be placed at strategic stationary positions.
- All Project related activities will be undertaken, where practicable, in cleared areas.
- Adherence to total fire ban conditions where applicable.
- All work areas will be equipped with suitable fire extinguishers which are maintained in accordance with standards.

In addition, the Project owns and maintains a fire truck on site and has trained emergency response personnel who are able to assist the RFS and emergency services as much as possible if there is a fire in the surrounding area.

6.3. Fire danger rating

The Project is within the Southern Ranges Fire Weather Area. The RFS website communicates fire danger ratings, and total fire ban days (https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fire-information/fdr-and-tobans). The ratings are determined each afternoon for the following day with an indicative forecast available for the following three days. The NSW RFS Ratings are:

- Moderate: Plan and prepare
- High: Be ready to act
- Extreme: Take action now
- Catastrophic: For your survival leave bush fire risk area

Emergency responses and process regarding fire are further detailed within the Emergency Response Control Plan (HSW-PCP-003).

7. BIODIVIERSITY MONITORING

7.1. Implementation

The environment and compliance superintendent is responsible for monitoring, reviewing and implementing this Vegetation Management Plan including the biodiversity monitoring subsequently described.

7.2. Reference sites

An important component in the monitoring program is to establish the base case for the final revegetation. Although the target Western Tablelands Dry Forest is a relatively widespread community, there are no actual remaining examples on site. The difficulty in this situation is that the natural soils and landform at Woodlawn is unique as it has developed on a volcanic intrusion with sulphide mineralisation resulting in naturally elevated metals and acidic soils. It is assumed that the vegetation community would not necessarily be of the same form and structure as typical Western Tablelands Dry Forest that has developed in the same area but on different geology.

It is considered preferable to establish a local analogue site in the first instance in order to best reflect the pre-existing variations. Assessing the analogue sites is generally considered an integral part of monitoring rehabilitation and is used to generate a “band” of values depending on seasonal effects as well as stochastic events like storms, droughts, and fire. In addition, data recording the response and recovery dynamics to stochastic disturbances of the analogue site (e.g. fire, storm) would provide a test of the resilience of a rehabilitated site (rate of recovery of function after specified disturbance). Analogue sites are identified in Section 7.3.

7.3. Landscape Function Analysis

Rehabilitation monitoring for the Project will be completed primarily through Landscape Function Analysis (LFA). This method was developed by the CSIRO and is based on the Ecosystem Function Analysis (EFA) tool (Tongway & Hindley, 2004). The LFA methodology created indices based on simple field indicators that reflect the measured variables of stability, water infiltration and nutrient cycling in turn monitoring the functional status of the landscape. The methodology used does not replace the traditional methods of monitoring vegetation and fauna but adds a functional interpretation to link vegetation structure and organisation more closely with soil function and the development of habitat for native fauna.

Utilising the LFA method, scientifically robust data is provided on the rehabilitation sites, which when compared to the data collected from background sites, accurately reflects if the site is on a trajectory towards a sustainable ecosystem. The interpretation of this data enables the development of land management recommendations to address those sites having lower LFA rankings.

Transects have been established around the site corresponding to key features to be monitored including:

- Rehabilitated Waste Rock Dump (RWRD)
- The revegetation area (REVEG)
- The rehabilitated trial area located in the northernmost section of TDN (TRIAL) and discussed further in the RMP

- Reference sites for the purpose of Section 7.1 which are sites which have previously either been revegetated or left undisturbed by historical mining activities. These sites are also located in the revegetation area (REVEG-REF)
- A control site located in grazing land adjacent to the mining lease to baseline the results obtained from the other categories to (CONTROL)

Table 7-5 LFA locations

ID	Location	Easting	Northing	Transect Bearing (º)	Position in landscape
LFA01	RWRD	734188	6116528	350	Upper
LFA02	RWRD	733790	6116489	240	Upper
LFA03	RWRD	733617	6116512	250	Crest
LFA04	RWRD	734101	6116156	220	Upper
LFA05	RWRD	733466	6116672	310	Upper
LFA06	RWRD	733292	6116454	240	Upper
LFA07	RWRD	733729	6116683	360	Upper
LFA08	RWRD	734130	6116478	200	Crest
LFA09	RWRD	734588	6115872	290	Upper
LFA10	REVEG-REF	735507	6116032	90	Upper
LFA11	REVEG-REF	735326	6116147	270	Mid
LFA12	REVEG-REF	735537	6116219	10	Mid
LFA13	REVEG-REF	735637	6115869	110	Mid
LFA14	REVEG	736125	6116764	220	Upper
LFA15	REVEG	736207	6116847	120	Upper
LFA16	REVEG	735705	6116478	20	Upper
LFA17	REVEG	735768	6116558	90	Upper
LFA18	TRIAL	735073	6116152	180	Crest
LFA19	TRIAL	735242	6116137	180	Crest
LFA20	TRIAL	734915	6116252	0	Crest
LFA21	REVEG	735542	6116324	100	Crest
LFA22	CONTROL	737504	6114787	330	Crest

Initially LFA surveys are proposed to occur 6-monhtly (end of summer and end of winter), however, may revert to annually if there are minimal changes between monitoring rounds. Additional metrics will also be monitored at each of the LFA locations, these include:

- Soil surface cover (refer to Section 7.4)
- Vegetation, if present (refer to Section 7.5)

7.4. Soil surface cover

The start of each LFA site is delineated with star pickets whereby a 1 x 1 m quadrat is placed. The quadrat is broken up into 10 cm grids which facilitates observations to be made at each of the intersecting grid points. This facilitates a determination of how much of the soil surface within quadrat is vegetated or bare. This value is then able to be compared to other sites and over time.

7.5. Vegetation

Flora presence and health is useful to monitor to success of past revegetation and rehabilitation. Metrics used to monitor may include:

- Status of plant: alive or dead
- Tree or shrub species present
- Diameter (for trees): either Diameter at Breast height (DBH) ~1.3m above the ground or DB10 10cm above the ground for trees that are less than 1.3m tall.
- Total height
- Total width

7.6. Visual assessment

Visual assessments will also be used for a range of attributes which are then compared over time to determine changes. The following is an example of data that will be collected during operations. Some of these are collected during LFA transects (refer to Section 7.6) and others on an ad-hoc or as needed basis:

- Photographs
- An estimate of the percentage of bare ground present.
- The dominant species present.
- Evidence of natural regeneration.
- Presence/absence of feral animals.
- Any observable impacts of the reprocessing operations.
- General health and sustainability of vegetation as indicated by presence/absence of flowering/fruiting adult plants.
- Data relating to site disturbance including fire, weed invasion, stock presence, unauthorised vehicle access and impact and rubbish.
- An estimate of weed cover and the principal species present, especially declared noxious weeds.
- The presence of micro habitat such as fallen timber, rocks and mistletoe.
- The type and extent of any erosion present.

7.7. Trigger, Action and Response Plan

The Trigger, Action and Response Plan (TARP) for vegetation aspects of the Project are presented in Table 7-6. It is noted that vegetation can be affected by many other environmental aspects which are further considered in other applicable management plans including the water management plan, rehabilitation management plan and waste rock management plan.

Table 7-6 Vegetation TARPs

Trigger	Action/Response
Planting failure	Investigation to determine likely cause, rectify and replace plantings
Increasing trend of soil bare patches	Investigate, complete soil testing, apply soil ameliorants
Vegetation monitoring shows sustainability curve not being achieved after 3 years after revegetation activities have been finalised	Targeted plantings using tube stock or seed. Test soil to determine any limiting factors
Livestock from neighboring properties are accessing revegetation areas causing damage	Identify location and repair fencing
Pest animals are damaging revegetation or rehabilitation areas	Installation of fences or check of existing ones
Density and structure targets below target	Targeted plantings using tube stock or seed

8. COMMUNICATION, REPORTING AND REVIEWS

8.1. Communication

Effective communication with government agencies, the workforce and the community are important features of the overall Environmental Management Strategy for Woodlawn mine and therefore a key component of each environmental Management Plan.

DEVELOP is committed to consulting with the wider community and strives to achieve a high standard of community awareness and communication. A Community Consultation Committee (CCC) was established in 2015 as part of the construction phase of the Project and continues to meet regularly to discuss the Project. Further detail regarding stakeholder liaison in included in the Project EMS.

8.2. Reporting

All environmental monitoring requirements specified in EPA licences and approvals are undertaken and the data maintained on site in data management systems. Copies are provided for internal review as required by the General Manager. A summary of the data is provided to regulatory authorities as required by statutory approvals. Other data collected as part of projects or auditing procedures are reported internally in accordance with the Environmental Management Strategy verification procedures.

In accordance with Project Approval Schedule 6 Condition 4 an Annual Review will be prepared in accordance with the Department of Planning *Post Approval requirements for state significant mining development Annual Review Guideline* dated October 2015 (or more recent edition if appropriate). A copy of the Annual Review will be made available on the DEVELOP web site as follows: http://develop.com.au/Woodlawn-sustainability/. While vegetation monitoring is completed and tracked seasonally, reporting of results occurs annually within the annual review.

Monitoring data required by the EPL will be reported on the company's web page in accordance with EPA requirements for public disclosure, and as per Schedule 6 Condition 11 of the Project Approval http://develop.com.au/Woodlawn-sustainability/.

8.3. Complaints

Operational related complaints may be received:

- Directly via the Community Hotline (available 24/7): 1800 371 124
- Directly via the website: https://www.develop.com.au/contact-us/
- Directly via the CCC
- Indirectly via government agencies

Following receipt of a vegetation related complaint DEVELOP would investigate and respond as detailed in the Environmental Management System. A complaints register is updated monthly and is publicly available on the DEVELOP website.

8.4. Incident reporting

In the event that an exceedance does occur and is attributable to the project, it will be reported to DPHI within 24 hours of the completion of the investigation. A detailed report will be subsequently provided within 7 days. Corrective and/or preventative actions will be assigned to relevant Company personnel. Actions will be communicated internally through planning meetings and toolbox talks and outstanding actions will be monitored for their effectiveness upon completion. A copy of the investigation report and regular updates on the status of the identified corrective and/or preventative actions will be provided to the relevant government agencies and, if required, the complainant.

8.5. Review and continuous improvement

The VMP will be reviewed and updated annually or in the case of a significant operational change. The review will include an assessment of the effectiveness of control measures and performance against the Plan's objectives. The objectives of a review are to:

- Maintain compliance with statutory requirements.
- Identify opportunities for improvement in the management plan.
- Incorporate community considerations.

The VMP review will include:

- This document.
- Legislation, approval, license changes.
- Community complaints and enquiries.

As per Schedule 6 Condition 5, DEVELOP will review, and if necessary, revise the VMP within 3 months of:

- the submission of an annual review;
- the submission of an incident report;
- the submission of an audit report; or
- any modification to the conditions of this approval.

Where the review leads to revisions in the VMP, then within 4 weeks of the review the revised document will be submitted to the Secretary for approval.

9. REFERENCES

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Appendix 1 Plans

732000 736000 740000

6120000

6116000

SML20 (Woodlawn Mine Site)
Drainage Catchment Boundary
Revegetation Area
Underground Workings
Railways
WindfarmTurbines
EPL20436 (Infigen Energy)
EPL 20821 (Tarago Operations)
EPL 20476 (Veolia MBT)
EPL 11436 (Veolia Bioreactor)
GOULBURN MULWAREE COUNCIL
QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG REGIONAL COUNCIL

ALLIANCE/NYIGA CREEK
COULBURN MULWAREE LGA
LAKE GEORGE CATHMENT
QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG REGIONAL LGA
EVAP. DAM 2 (ED2)
EVAP. DAM 1 (ED1)
COLLECTOR ROAD
Woodlawn Farm
CRISPS CREEK
Paste Plant
Veolia Bioreactor
Box Cut
Rehabilitated Waste Rock Dump
Processing Plant
Tailings Dam (TSF 4)
Tailings Dam North (TDN)
Tailings Dam West (TDW)
Tailings Dam South (TDS)
Cowley Hills
HAWKESBURY CATHMENT
BONGARALAB
BRAIDWOOD ROAD
Tarago
GOULBURN STREET
MULWAREE
Pylara Homestead
CRISPS CREEK
BUNGENDORE ROAD
MULWAREE RIVER

SYDNEY
SML20
CANBERRA

1 2 km

Scale: 1:32,000 MGA94 (Zone 55)

VTX-JOB-0473-MAP-02

Date: 2025-6-26 | Rev: 02 | @A3

DEVELOP

Author: C Hobbs | Requested By: K Crook

WOODLAWN ZINC COPPER PROJECT

Site Plan

735000 735500 736000 736500 737000

6117500 6117000 6116500 6116000 6115500 6115000

Revegetation Area 78 ha
SML20 Boundary (The Woodlawn Site)
EPL 20821 (Tarago Operations)
EPL 11436 (Veolia Bioreactor)

CRISPS CREEK
COLLECTOR ROAD
Cowley Hills
PROCESSING PLANT
TAILINGS DAM (TSF4)
TAILINGS DAM NORTH (TDN)
TAILINGS DAM SOUTH (TDS)

0 250 500 m

Scale: 1:8,000 @A3	Coordinate system: MGA Zone 55 GDA94	Date: 2025-10-20	
Drawn by: C Hobbs	Requested by: K Crook	Map No: VTX-JOB-0417-MAP-06	Version 01

DEVELOP

WOODLAWN ZINC COPPER PROJECT

Revegetation Area

Appendix 2 Consultation log – VMP

Date	Form / Agency	Comments and Outcomes	Response
19/09/2025	Biodiversity Conservation Division	VMP sent to info@environment.nsw.gov.au, response received that it has been received and forwarded on to Biodiversity Conservation Division	Comments received from Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation on 10/09/2025, DOC25/813744. Comments actioned in V11 Rev1 as detailed in the response to comments table provided with this version uploaded to the major projects portal
7/09/2025	Heritage NSW	Vegetation Management plan V10 sent to heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au requesting review	Confirmation received 18/09 that Heritage NSW do not need to review the Vegetation Management Plan
17/12/2024	Iberdrola	Briefing the Iberdrola representative for the Capital Renewable Energy Precinct	Copy of presentation sent. No comments requiring action.
17/12/2024	Veolia	Briefing Woodlawn Veolia environment manager on project re-start and updates being proposed for management plans.	Copy of presentation sent. Request to review draft plans when done.
9/12/2024	Online meeting with EPA Queanbeyan	Briefing with EPA to outline updates being proposed for management plans. Included: air quality, water, noise, waste rock and rehabilitation.	No comments / noted. Recommendation to re-engage with EPA if technical input or advice is required for any of the plans at any point.
15/11/2024	DPHI	Briefing DPHI on complex site historical context and re-start timeline with high level discussion on timing and process of management plan submission and approval.	Agreed with approach to re-draft and re-submit management plans.
15/03/2017	Email from EPA re EPL	Updated Woodlawn Mine EPL for comment	Various emails and calls to finalise EPL and attachments
20/10/2016	Letter from EPA re draft EPL	Provision of second draft EPL 20821 for the Heron operation	Noted

Date	Form / Agency	Comments and Outcomes	Response
12/10/2016	Letter to DPE re additional Experts	Letter from Heron Resources requesting approval of additional experts engaged in management plan preparation	Noted and approved by DPE
12/10/2016	Email from EPA re licence application	First draft EPL provided for comment with request for additional plans	6 emails to and from EPA and various phone calls in relation to comments on draft EPL
12/10/2016	Letter from Alison Treweek OEH	Comments provided on Vegetation and Rehabilitation Management Plan.	Noted and addressed
10/08/2016	EPL Application to EPA	Application for new EPL covering Woodlawn Mine construction and operation	Noted
27/05/2016	Email to Allison Treweek OEH seeking comments on Vegetation Management Plan. Email also sent to EPA, DPI, Goulburn Council and WaterNSW	Copy required for review and comment. Copy provided to other agencies as this plan includes the Tailings Rehabilitation Strategy, Vegetation Management Plan and Rehabilitation Management Plan	Noted
9/03/2016	Meeting with Community Consultation Committee	Presentation to Woodlawn Community Consultation Committee which included overview of project, monitoring program, construction program, workforce numbers, exploration and environmental management plan preparation and content.	Draft EMPs provided on web page for download by committee members
13/10/2014	Meeting with EPA and OEH Queanbeyan Office	General Project briefing, need for EPL separation with Woodlawn Bioreactor (Veolia) EPL, monitoring conditions, lack of archaeology sites and impact, need to define vegetation offset area and outcomes	Ongoing negotiation with EPA in relation to licensing requirements
13/10/2014	Meeting with EPA and OEH Queanbeyan Office	General project briefing, need for EPL separation with Veolia EPL, monitoring conditions, lack of archaeology sites and impact, need to define vegetation offset area and outcomes	Ongoing negotiation with EPA in relation to licensing requirements
9/10/2014	Email to Sandie Jones OEH	Copy of Planning Approval and plans of development area	Noted
18/09/2014	Site meeting with DRE	General briefing and site inspection, outline of Management Plans, finalised scope of MOP, Need for rehabilitation trials, standard environmental management provisions, control of acid generation	Noted
11/09/2014	Letter to DPE (Department of Planning and Environment)	Seeking approval of Experts engaged in relevant management Plan	Approval provided
23/07/2014	Meeting with Goulburn City Council	General Management and Planning Manager, general briefing no specific feedback	Noted

Date	Form / Agency	Comments and Outcomes	Response
7/07/2014	Letter from Trade and Investment	Requested meeting and briefing on site and staged approach to preparation and approval of management plans	On site meeting held
3/07/2014	Initial consultation letter to: • NSW Trade and Investment • Environment Protection Authority • NSW Office of Water • Sydney Catchment Authority • Office of Environment and Heritage • Department of Planning and Environment (DPE)	These letters were the initial consultation and sought specific advice from each agency according to the respective relevant management plan.	None required
21/04/2014	Letter from OEH	Acknowledging consultation and provision of contact details covering vegetation management and heritage issues.	Noted
19/01/2014	Email to Fran Kelly and James Caddey SCA	Copy of Woodlawn EMS provided, Project Approval, and Construction Environmental Management Plan (EMP)	None required

Appendix 3 Plan Approval

Resource Assessments
Contact: Stephen Shoesmith
Phone: 9274 6164
Email: stephen.shoesmith@planning.nsw.gov.au

Mr Andrew Lawry
Chief Operating Officer
Heron Resources Limited
WOODLAWN MINE PROJECT

By email to: ALawry@HeronResources.com.au

Dear Mr Lawry

Woodlawn Mine Project (07_0143)
Approval of Environmental Management Plans

I refer to your letter dated 30 March 2017 seeking the Secretary's review and approval of the:

- Vegetation and Rehabilitation Management Plan (incorporating the Tailings Management Strategy, Vegetation Management Plan and Rehabilitation Management Plan);
- Noise and Blast Management Plan;
- Water Management Plan;
- Heritage Management Plan; and
- Air Quality Management Plan.

The Department has reviewed the revised versions of these documents, dated May 2017 and is satisfied that they address the requirements of Condition 2 in Schedule 3 and Conditions 4, 7, 12, 17, 20, 22, and 27 in Schedule 4 of project approval 07_0143. Accordingly, the Secretary approves the revised management plans.

Please ensure that a copy of the approved plans is placed on your website as soon as possible.

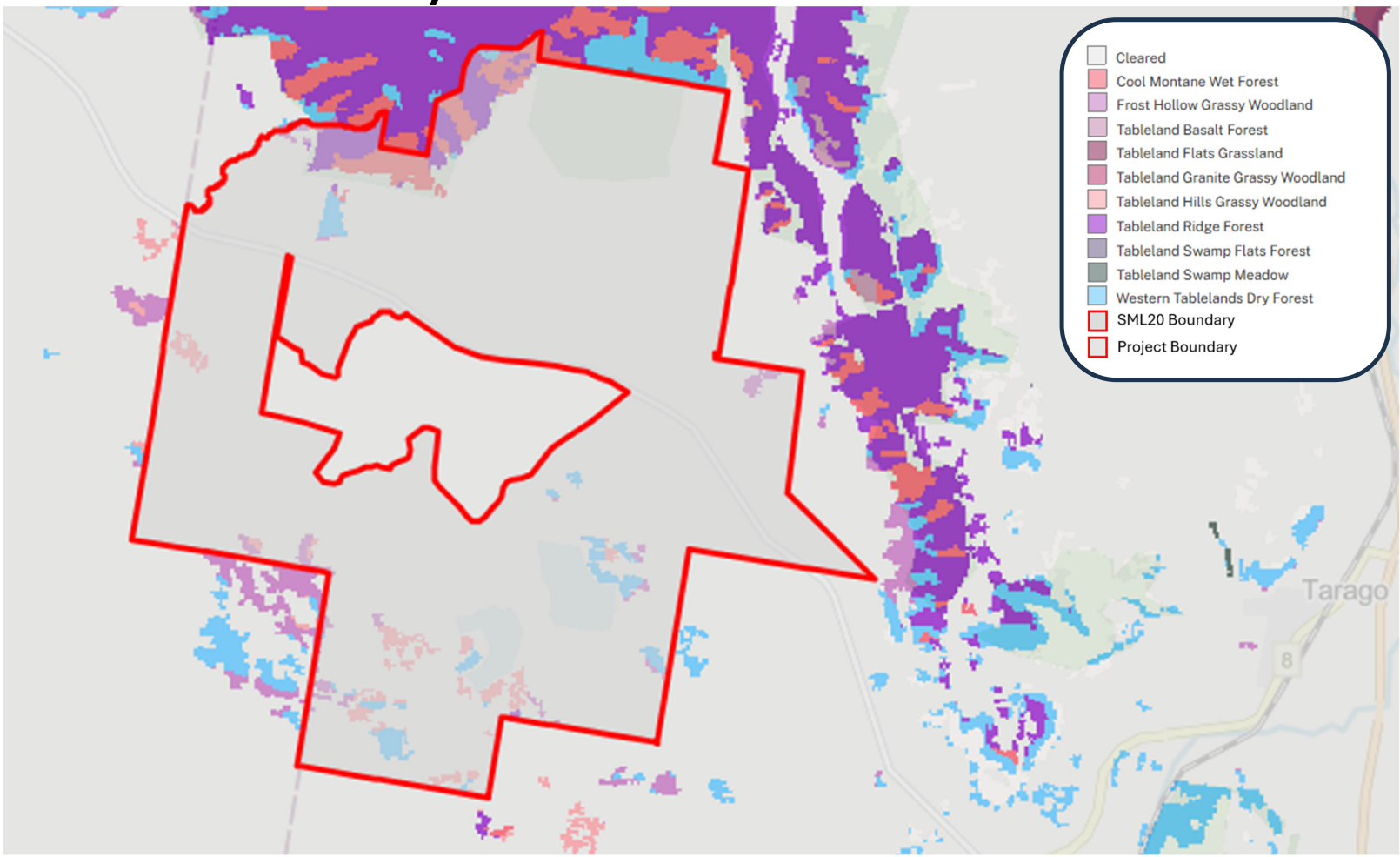
If you require further information, please contact Stephen Shoesmith on 9274 6164 or by email to stephen.shoesmith@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Preshaw 12/5/17

Clay Preshaw
A/Director
Resource Assessments
As nominee of the Secretary

Appendix 4 Vegetation map of southeast NSW (Source: SEED DCCEEW)



Appendix 5 Species list

Species	Growth form	Species	Growth form
Acacia dealbata	Tree	Gompholobium huegelii	Shrub
Acacia decurrens	Tree	Gompholobium minus	Shrub
Acacia falciformis	Tree	Gonocarpus tetragynus	Forb
Acacia genistifolia	Shrub	Goodenia hederacea subsp. Hederacea	Forb
Acacia gunnii	Shrub	Hakea decurrens	Shrub
Acacia mearnsii	Tree	Hardenbergia violacea	Climber
Acacia rubida	Shrub	Hibbertia obtusifolia	Shrub
Acrotriche serrulata	Shrub	Hibbertia riparia	Shrub
Allocasurina littoralis	Tree	Hydrocotyle laxiflora	Forb
Aristida jerichoensis var. jerchoensis	Grass	Hypercium gramineum	Forb
Asperula scoparia	Forb	Juncus australis	Rush
Austrostipa mollis	Grass	Juncus filicaulis	Rush
Banksia marginata	Shrub	Kunzea ericoides	Shrub
Banksia spinulosa	Shrub	Kunzea parvifolia	Shrub
Brachyloma daphnoides	Shrub	Lepidosperma gunnii	Rush
Cassinia aculeata	Shrub	Leptospermum myrtifolium	Shrub
Cassinia laevis	Shrub	Leptospermum obovatum	Shrub
Cassinia longfolia	Shrub	Leucopogon virgatus	Shrub
Cassinia uncata	Shrub	Lissanthe strigosa	Shrub
Daucus glochidiatus	Forb	Lomandra filiformis subsp. coriacea	Forb
Daviesia latifolia	Shrub	Lomandra filiformis subsp. filiformis	Forb
Daviesia leptophylla	Shrub	Lomandra longifolia	Forb
Daviesia ssp. mimosoides	Shrub	Lomandra multiflora subsp. multiflora	Forb
Dianella revoluta var. revoluta	Forb	Luzula densiflora	Forb
Dichelachne inaequiglumis	Grass	Melichrus urceolatus	Shrub
Dichelachne sieberiana	Grass	Microlaena stipoides	Grass
Dillwynia phylicoides	Shrub	Monotoca scoparia	Shrub
Dillwynia sericea	Shrub	Persoonia mollis subsp. Livens	Shrub
Eucalyptus blakelyi	Tree	Poa sieberiana var. cyanophylla	Grass

Species	Growth form	Species	Growth form
Eucalyptus bridgesiana	Tree	Poa sieberiana var. sierberiana	Grass
Eucalyptus cinerea	Tree	Pultanaea subspicata	Shrub
Eucalyptus dives	Tree	Pultenaea microphylla	Shrub
Eucalyptus goniocalyx	Tree	Pultenaea procumbens	Shrub
Eucalyptus macrorhyncha	Tree	Rhytidosporum procumbens	Shrub
Eucalyptus mannifera	Tree	Rytidosperma sp	Grass
Eucalyptus melliodora	Tree	Senecio prenanthoides	Forb
Eucalyptus pauciflora	Tree	Senecio tenuiflorus	Forb
Eucalyptus polyanthemos subsp. Polyanthemos	Tree	Stylidium graminifolium	Forb
Eucalyptus radiata ssp. radiata	Tree	Stypandra glauca	Forb
Eucalyptus rubida	Tree	Themeda triandra	Grass
Eucalyptus viminalis	Tree	Wahlenbergia luteola	Forb
Exocarpus strictus	Shrub	Whahlenbergia stricta subsp. Stricta	Forb
Galium gaudichaudii	Forb		

Appendix 6 Vegetation Clearing Permit

Clear Land and/or Vegetation Permit

Form Criteria
To be completed by permit holder or applicant and submitted for approval to Environment Department.

Part 1 - General Information						
Description and purpose of ground disturbance / vegetation clearing:						
Location (Include a map below or attached highlighting the area/trees the permit application applies to)						
Vegetation description (types, height, ecological significance)						
Disturbance area map/plan attached					☐ Yes	☐ Attached
Total disturbance area or total number of trees to be removed:						
Estimated topsoil depth to be disturbed (mm):						
Estimated topsoil volume to be cleared (m3):						
Machinery to be used:						
Expected duration of disturbance	**From:**	**Date:**		**To:**	**Date:**	
		Time:			**Time:**	

Part 2 – Permit Documents				
Supporting Documents	☐	Jon Hazards Analysis (JHA)	☐	Safety Data Sheet (SDS)
	☐	Safe Work Instruction (SWI)	☐	Equipment (eg excavator/dozer) VOC
	☐	Asbestos Removal Plan	☐	Chain saw operation VOC
	☐	Other(specify)		

Part 3 – Approval / Authorisation

Permit Holder By signing below, I certify that I have discussed this work with the Permit Authoriser and understand all aspects of the task. I shall comply with all requirements of this permit and shall discuss these requirements and all other relevant information to all persons involved in this task.	
All approvals to clear land or vegetation have been provided below by the environmental department team.	☐Yes
I accept all conditions as stated on this Clear Land and/or Vegetation Permit and confirm all associated supporting documents are true and correct.	☐Yes
I have checked the competency of the operators, and they have the necessary training to undertake the task.	☐Yes
Ground engaging machinery is certified weed and seed free.	☐Yes
Any unauthorised clearing outside the disturbance boundary is to be immediately reported to the Environment & Compliance Superintendent.	☐Yes
If any heritage items are identified, works will stop immediately, and the Environment & Compliance Superintendent will be notified.	☐Yes
I will allow adequate time for native fauna to escape should they be disturbed during the clearing operation.	☐Yes
I will ensure that the permit use will be managed with the sign in/sign out sheet **Part 3** I have read and understood the conditions of this Form and will comply with requirements. I understand that if there is another work party in my work area, I will identify suitable controls to manage the risk.	☐Yes

Name		**Signature**		**Date**		**Time**	

Permit Authoriser - This MUST be a person appointed for the role of issuing/approval for clear land and/or vegetation permit.	
I have reviewed the scope of work, and all associated supporting documents provided by the permit holder.	☐Yes
A pre-clearing assessment has been conducted to determine the conservation status of vegetation and whether any State and/or Local Government clearing permits are required or if the proposed works covered by an exemption or existing government approval.	☐Yes
An assessment has been conducted to determine the risk to fauna including nesting birds, presence of reptiles and wildlife. Relocation has been completed if required.	☐Yes
A management plan is/is not required for the management of any threatened fauna or flora.	☐Yes
Vegetation to be cleared is clearly delineated on attached maps and in the field and can be clearly delineated compared to any exclusion areas	☐Yes
Exclusion areas such as trees/vegetation/soil to be retained to be shown on attached maps (as applicable) and clearly delineated at the site where necessary with barricades or fencing	☐Yes
I confirm no areas of cultural heritage are located within the permit area.	☐Yes
I have inspected the work area with the Clear Land and/or Vegetation permit holder in field.	☐Yes
I authorise the Permit Holder to perform the task within the date and time on the designated location listed in this Permit to clear land and/or vegetation in accordance with this permit and any special conditions details below:	☐Yes
Additional permit conditions	

Name		**Signature**		**Date**		**Time**	

Part 4 – Permit Sign In and Out				
Name	**Time In**	**Sign On**	**Time Off**	**Sign Off**

Part 5 - Permit Completion / Close Out							
Permit Holder							
All work associated with this Permit has been.						☐ Completed	☐ Cancelled
The work has been completed in accordance with the permit							☐ Yes
The permit has been returned to the Environmental Department							☐ Yes
Name		**Signature**		**Date**		**Time**	
Permit Authoriser – Environmental Department							
I accept completion or cancellation of the work, and the permit holder has finalised all work in the permit area.							☐ Yes
I have inspected the area and am satisfied the work has been completed in accordance with the permit.							☐ Yes
The work area and adjacent areas have been inspected and there is no risk of erosion or off-site contamination							☐ Yes
The site has been remediated/rehabilitated, or a rehabilitation plan has been prepared							☐ Yes
Name		**Signature**		**Date**		**Time**	