

Biodiversity Development Assessment Report

PLC's Grey House Precinct - 20 Avon Rd, Pymble NSW 2073

By Ecological Consultants Australia Pty Ltd TA

Kingfisher Urban Ecology and Wetlands

September 2021



About this document

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Statement of Authorship

This study and report was undertaken by Ecological Consultants Australia at Studio 1/33 Avalon Parade, Avalon. The author of the report is Geraldene Dalby-Ball with qualifications BSc. majoring in Ecology and Botany with over 20 years' experience in this field and Luke Johnson with qualifications B EnvSc.

Limitations Statement

Information presented in this report is based on an objective study undertaken in response to the brief provided by the client. Any opinions expressed in this report are the professional, objective opinions of the authors and are not intended to advocate any particular proposal or pre-determined position.

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Distribution:	Kate Bimson Pymble Ladies' College kbimson@pymblelc.nsw.edu.au and Allan Stewart General Manager Pymble Ladies' College Avon Road, Pymble NSW 2073 T: +61 2 9855 7604 M: +61 437 737 553

Signed: Geraldene Dalby-Ball – Director of Ecological Consultants Australia



Executive Summary

Introduction

Ecological Consultants Australia (ECA) has been contracted by Kate Bimson of Pymble Ladies' College to provide a **Biodiversity Development Assessment Report** for a proposal at Grey House Precinct – 20 Avon Road, Pymble NSW 2073 within the Ku-ring-gai Council Local Government Area (LGA).

Trigger for a formal BDAR under the BC Act 2016:

The proposed development area impacts areas identified by the Biodiversity Values map published by the Chief Executive of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

Stage 1: Biodiversity Assessment

- On-ground survey took place in September 2021 by Ecologist Luke Johnson.
- Data was gathered across two BAM plots located in each vegetation zone at the site.
- Flora and fauna observations were recorded on-site using binoculars and physical examination. Notes, photos and samples of flora species were taken to assess ecological health and value of the site.
- Bionet searches were performed for flora, fauna and endangered populations to identify if there were previous records of threatened species occurring within the local area using a 10km radius around the site.

Results

Stage 2: Impact Assessment

- The impact calculations were made based on there being direct impacts to vegetation from the proposed development. The impact area and/or areas of modification has been calculated as 0.06ha within the 0.65ha site.
- Survey plot 1 was within the planted garden vegetation located within the development footprint and assessed as vegetation community Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest STIF (PCT1281).
- Survey plot 2 was within the proposed site accessway and assessed as vegetation community Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF) (PCT1281).
- STIF is listed as an Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) under the NSW BC Act (2016) and Critically Endangered Ecological Community (CEEC) under the Commonwealth EPBC Act (1999).
- Vegetation onsite has been significantly altered such that the site does not reflect the natural structural attributes of the STIF.
- Vegetation is structurally and functionally poor due to previous clearing onsite. Thus, the proposed development assessed in this BDAR is not expected to significantly contribute to loss of STIF.
- No threatened species were recorded during the site surveys.

Stage 3: Improving Biodiversity values

- Fauna refuge zone
- Delineation of work areas
- Vegetation clearing control measures

- Weed Management and removal
- Native seed collection
- Preservation of habitat
- Nest boxes
- Native species landscaping

See recommendations section for a detailed explanation as to how these recommendations improve biodiversity values.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- The proposed development will have an approximate impact area of 0.06ha on Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF) (PCT1281). This vegetation has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state.
- The site has been managed as the Pymble Ladies College since the 1916. The site has a long history of vegetation clearing, habitat fragmentation and on-going disturbance, via development. A majority of vegetation on site is regrowth or has been planted by the school. There is little to no remnant vegetation left within the site.
- The grand total cost to offset both ecosystem credits and species credits generated by this development is \$24,823.92 (including GST), assuming payment will be made into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund.
- Measures including but not limited to; nest boxes, native species landscaping, delineation of works zones, weed removal, tree protection and fauna refuge zones should all be used to mitigate any impacts associated with the proposal and increase habitat opportunities in the area.

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Stage 1: Biodiversity Assessment

1 Introduction

Ecological Consultants Australia (ECA) has been contracted by Kate Bimson of Pymble Ladies' College to provide a **Biodiversity Development Assessment Report** for a proposal at Grey House Precinct – 20 Avon Road, Pymble NSW 2073 within the Ku-ring-gai Local Government Area (LGA).

1.1 Site information and general description

The Subject Site (the "Site") is the area of direct and likely indirect impacts and is defined as the whole of the proposed future Grey House Precinct.

This area has been assessed in the Biodiversity Assessment Method Calculator (BAM-C) from which offset credits have been generated.

Table 1.1 - Site Administrative Information

Category	Details
Title Reference (Lot/DP)	1/-/DP69541
Total Site Area (ha)	0.65 ha
Street Address	20 Avon Road, Pymble NSW 2073
LGA	Ku-ring-gai Council
Land Zoning	SP2: Infrastructure



Figure 1.1 Aerial – Pymble Ladies College (red) and surrounds.



Figure 1.2 Site location of the future Grey House Precinct and accessway vegetation. Image source: SixMaps 2021

1.2 Site history

The site has been managed as grounds of the Pymble Ladies College since the 1916. Native vegetation would have once covered the area although ongoing modification and disturbance has resulted in the site no longer retaining many natural attributes. The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state due to a long history of vegetation clearing, habitat fragmentation and on-going development within the school grounds.

The vegetation on site consist of cleared open space with garden landscaped areas. A mix of exotic and native canopy species are scattered throughout. Arborcultural assessment report (Arborsafe, 2021) determines that a number of the mature native trees within the site are likely to have been planted. However, due to the age and structure some individuals within Vegetation Zone 2 (accessway) are expected to be remnant and form part of the original vegetation community. Exotic species are dominant across the site and current management practices are preventing the recovery of the original plant community.

1.3 Proposed actions

The proposed development include:

- Demolition of existing buildings (single story demountables).
- Vegetation removal within the proposed building footprint (see figure 1.4)
- Construction of a new building (dotted outline in figure 1.3).
- Integrated open space and landscaping to provide outdoor learning and support well-being.
- Proposed construction access is located along an existing paved footpath. The accessway requires a minimum 4m width and this results in 4 trees requiring removal and minor canopy trimming.

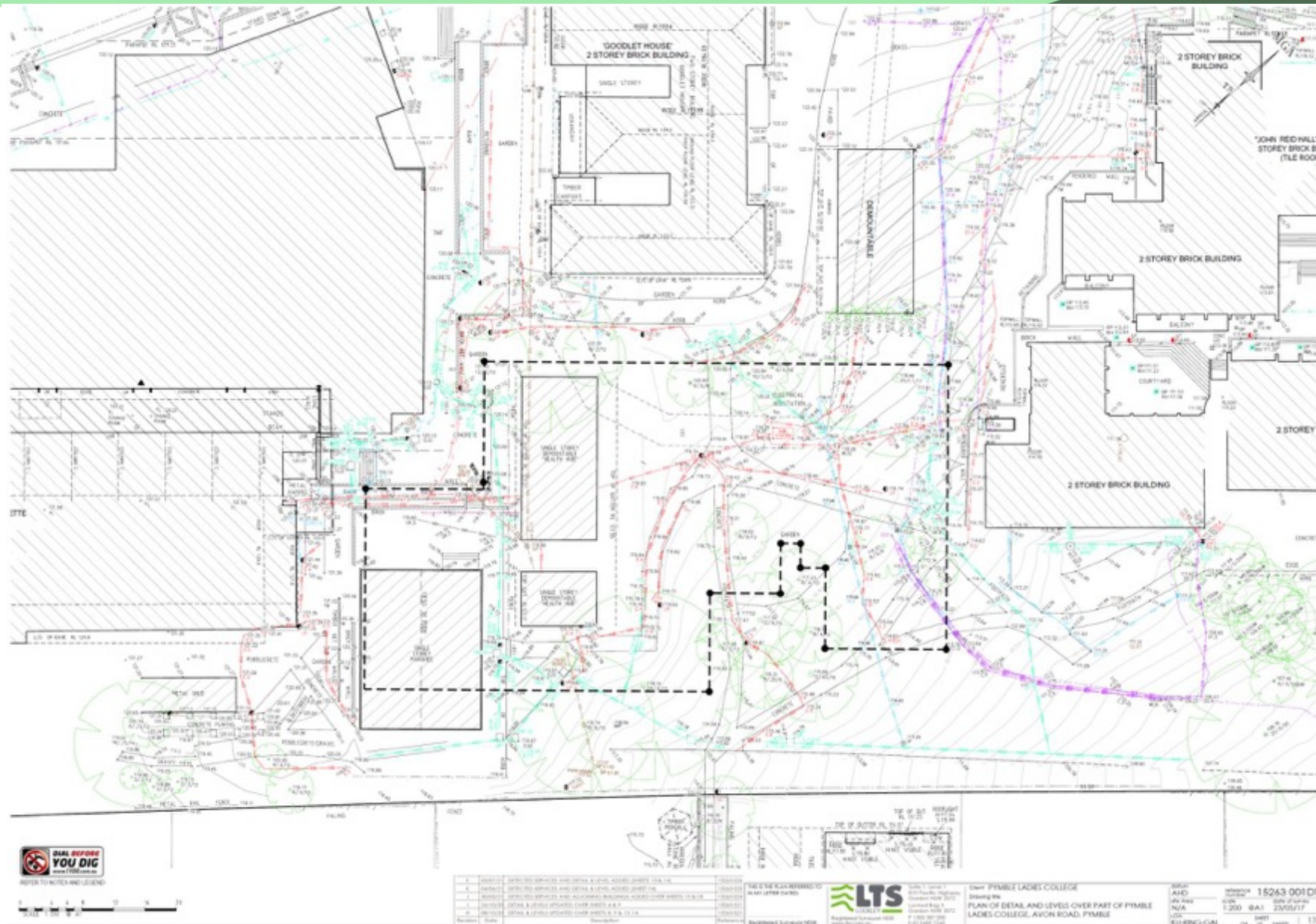


Figure 1.3. Plan of Detail and Levels over part of PLC, Avon Rd, Pymble. Source: LTS Lockley 03/07/21 Rev K.

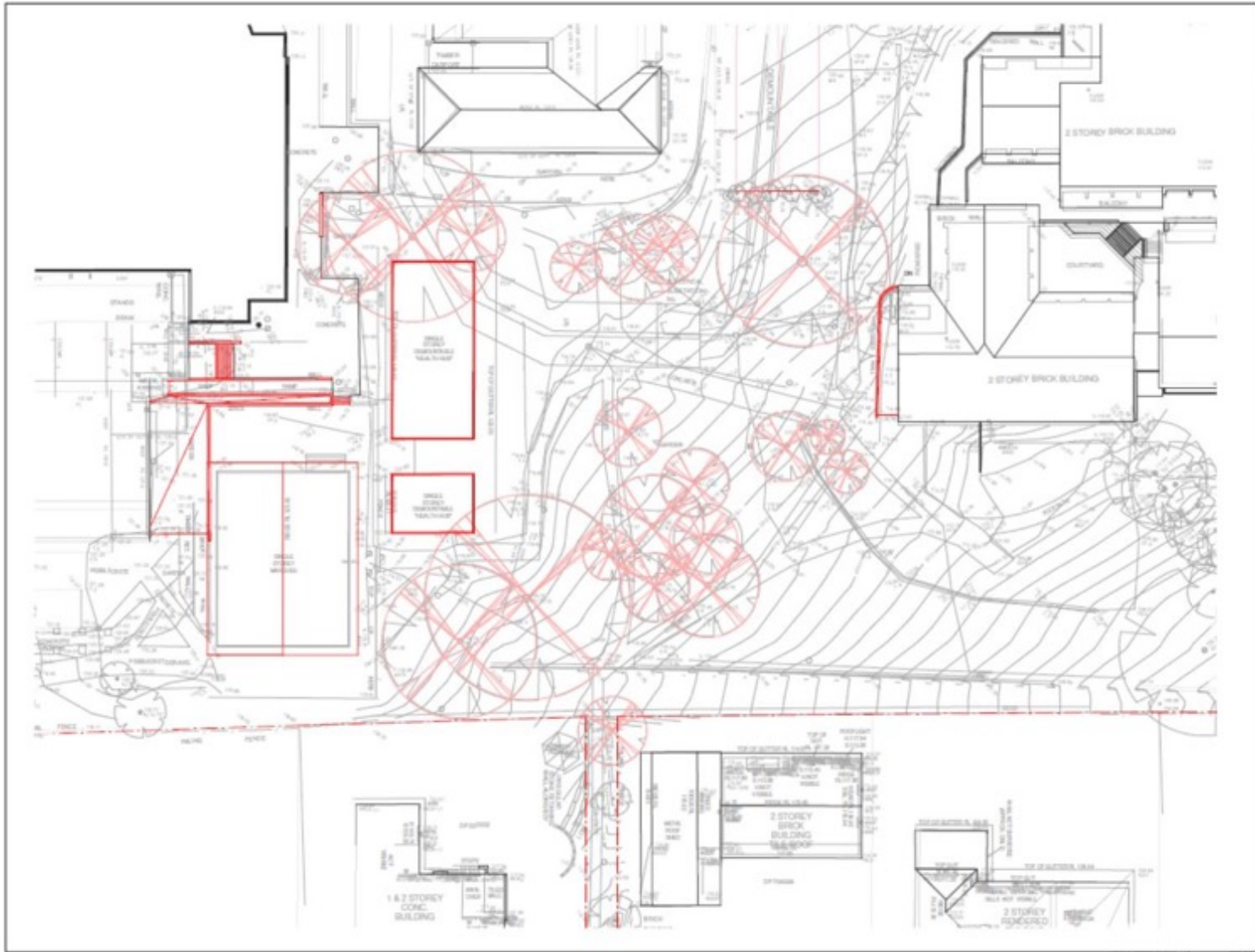


Figure 1.4. Demolition Plan. Source: BVN, 11 May 2021.

1.4 Sources of information used in the assessment

The following sources of information were used for this assessment:

- SeedMaps 2021
- SydneyMetroArea_v3.1_E-VIS_4489 OEH (2016)
- BioNet DPIE (2021)
- Planning for Bush Fire Protection (PBP) NSW RFS 2019.
- Environmental Impact Statement. glendinning minto & associates p/l, December 2012.
- Arboricultural Impact Assessment. ArborSafe, 17 June 2021.
- PLC Grey House Precinct Council Presentation, 29 March 2021.
- Proposed Layout Plans. LTS Lockley, 03/07/21 Rev K.

1.5 Legislative context and statutory requirements

1.5.1 NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* institutes and sets out a system for environmental planning and assessment in NSW, and includes Part 4 which deals with development applications on private land and state significant development.

This proposal falls under a Part 4 development and requires development consent and associated environmental assessment.

1.5.2 NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and associated documents

The *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act 2016) is the key legislation that enables the conservation of biodiversity within the state of New South Wales. The BC Act 2016 facilitates the assessment and on-going protection of flora and fauna, including threatened species and ecological communities. The BC Act 2016 outlines assessment and offsetting requirements for activities with the potential to impact on threatened species and ecological communities in NSW, and the clearing of native vegetation which exceeds the threshold.

The BC Act also:

- Outlines the licences required under the BC Act to harm protected flora and fauna;
- Lists Threatened species and ecological communities in Schedules 1 and 2;
- Sets out monetary and imprisonment penalties for offences relating to the harming of protected flora and fauna;
- Under Part 7 (s7.4), introduces a list of activities/proposal that exceeds the biodiversity offsets scheme threshold.

The NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017* sets out the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme entry threshold for Part 4 developments under the EP&A Act 1979. If the development triggers as least one (1)

entry threshold, the development must be assessment under The BC Act using the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) (OEH 2017). See also <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/biodiversity/entryrequirements.htm>

The development does not trigger the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme entry threshold. Thus the assessment type used in the BAM-C is Part 4 Developments (Small Area). The paddock tree assessment tool (appendix I – BAM (2017) was not used in this assessment. Vegetation zones have annexed the appropriate areas of native vegetation which will be modified or removed. Thus, an adequate BDAR has is provided to the consent authority.

1.5.3 NSW State Environmental Planning Policy Koala Habitat Protection 2021.

The State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) (Koala Habitat Protection) 2021 applies to the proposed development as there is no approved Koala Plan of Management which applies. The subject land is greater than one hectare and the land is identified on the Koala Development Application Map (DPIE, 2020). A separate Koala Assessment Report has been conducted. The site was not considered likely to provide core koala habitat nor is suitable/core habitat within the site proposed to be irreversibly impacted. See Appendix V for EPBC act Consideration Koala Habitat Assessment and refer to Koala assessment report for further assessment and recommendations.

The assessment should assist the consent authority in determining any potential impacts on the species. This assessment addresses aspects of criteria outlined in the Koala Habitat Protection Guideline (DPIE, 2020) as detailed by the State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) (Koala Habitat Protection) 2021.

1.5.4 Commonwealth Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) is applicable if it was considered that an impact on a 'matter of National Environmental Significance (NES)' were likely, thus providing a trigger for referral of the proposal to the Department of Environment and Heritage.

Matters of national environmental significance identified in the Act are:

- world heritage properties;
- national heritage places;
- Ramsar wetlands;
- nationally threatened species and communities;
- migratory species protected under international agreements;
- the Commonwealth marine environment; and
- nuclear actions.

The Commonwealth Government has published Significant Impact Guidelines (DE 2013) to assist in the determination of whether an action is likely to have a significant impact on a matter of NES. The proposal is not expected to significantly impact any MNES.

1.5.5 Ku-ring-gai Local Environmental Plan (KLEP) 2015

Sections of vegetation within the site is identified as “Biodiversity” on the Terrestrial Biodiversity Map as published by Ku-ring-gui Council. (Map Identification Number: Terrestrial Biodiversity Map - Sheet BIO_008).

As identified in KLEP (2015) the aim of section 6.3 Biodiversity Protection, Clause 1 is to maintain terrestrial biodiversity by—

- (a) protecting biological diversity of native fauna and flora, and
- (b) protecting the ecological processes necessary for their continued existence, and
- (c) encouraging the recovery of threatened species, communities, populations and their habitats, and
- (d) protecting, restoring and enhancing biodiversity corridors.

The proposal will include revegetation areas and biodiversity strategies which will satisfy and contribute to the objectives of part 6.3, clause 1 in the KLEP. Mitigation measures are outlined in section 10 of this report.



Figure 1.5. The site is situated on vegetation mapped as “Biodiversity” and on the Terrestrial Biodiversity Map as published by Ku-ring-gui Council.

1.6 Biodiversity Offsets Scheme threshold

The Biodiversity Offsets Scheme applies to:

local development (assessed under Part 4 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979) that triggers the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme threshold (see section 1.6) or is likely to significantly affect threatened species based on the test of significance in section 7.3 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016.

1.6.1 BOS Area Clearing Threshold

The proposal does not trigger the area clearing threshold as per the BOS entry requirements as the impact area does not exceed the clearing area threshold. Area clearing thresholds are determined by minimum lot size and guidelines outlined in BAM (OEH 2017) (figure 1.6).

Table 1.2. Minimum lot size and threshold which the development exceeds.

Minimal lot size or actual lot size (*where there is no minimum lot size provided for the relevant land under the LEP)	14.58 ha
Threshold for clearing, above which the BAM and offsets scheme apply	0.5 ha
Impact area	0.06 ha

Area clearing threshold

The area threshold varies depending on the minimum lot size (shown in the Lot Size Maps made under the relevant Local Environmental Plan (LEP)), or actual lot size (where there is no minimum lot size provided for the relevant land under the LEP).

Minimum lot size associated with the property	Threshold for clearing, above which the BAM and offsets scheme apply
Less than 1 ha	0.25 ha or more
1 ha to less than 40 ha	0.5 ha or more
40 ha to less than 1000 ha	1 ha or more
1000 ha or more	2 ha or more

Figure 1.6. The area clearing threshold as per the BOS entry requirements.

1.6.2 Biodiversity Values Map

The proposed development area impacts areas identified by the Biodiversity Values map published by the Chief Executive of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

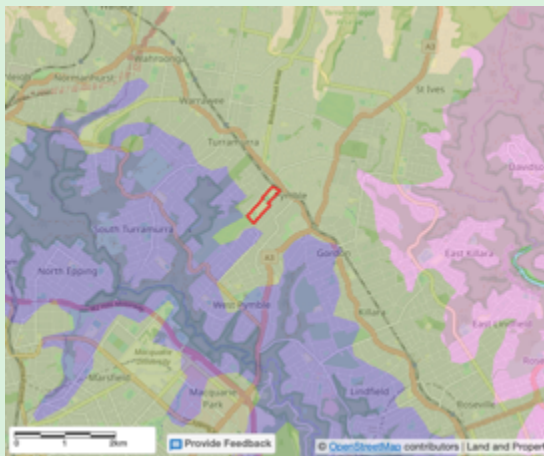


Figure 1.7. Biodiversity Map – Site in red. Source: <https://www.lmbc.nsw.gov.au/Maps/index.html?viewer=BOSETMap>

2 Landscape features and site context

The site is located within residential and open spaces for passive recreation setting. The surrounding properties are made up of medium density residential and patches of native bushland.

Table 2.1 - Site Biodiversity Information

Category	Details
Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA)	Sydney Basin
IBRA Sub Region	Cumberland
NSW Landscape	<p>Pennant Hills Ridges Phr</p> <div>  <p>☆ Mitchell Landscapes v3.1 - Ecosystem Meso Grouping</p> <p>Ecosystem Meso Grouping: SB Hornsby Landscape Code: Phr Landscape Name: Pennant Hills Ridges Over Cleared Status: Over-cleared Estimate Fraction Cleared: 0.88</p> </div>
% Native vegetation cover	25% in the 1500m radius circle See Figure 1.8
Landscape features	
Rivers and streams	A drainage gully exists adjacent to the current access path along the boundary of the site, although it is not considered a waterway and should not be classified as such. The drainage gully does not contain an observable channel, banks or fluvial bed forms.
Wetlands	N/A
Connectivity features	Vegetation on site is connected to adjoining bushland via patches of remnant/exotic trees and inconsistent structural layers. Currently within the site native planted screening provides minimal connectivity between patches of mature canopy species.

Areas of geological significance and soil hazard features	No
Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value identified under the BC Act	No
Geology and Soil	<p>“Glenorie” is the identified soil landscape for the site as per eSpade2.0 (DPIE, 2020).</p> <p>Glenorie is categorised by low rolling and steep hills. Local relief 50–120 m, slopes 5–20%. Convex narrow (20–300 m) ridges and hillcrests grade into moderately inclined side slopes with narrow concave drainage lines. Moderately inclined slopes of 10–15% are the dominant landform elements</p> <p>Soil - shallow to moderately deep (200 cm) Yellow Podzolic Soils and Gleyed Podzolic Soils along drainage lines.</p>

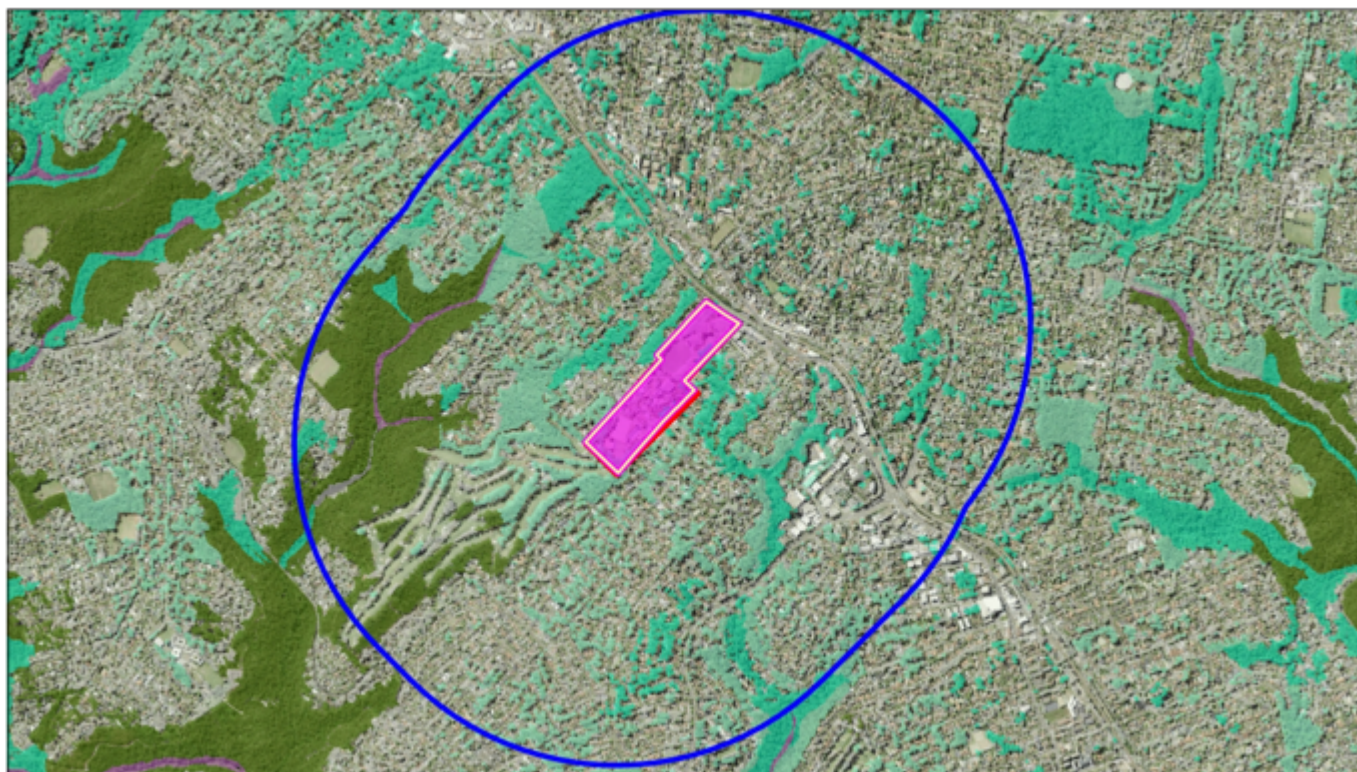


Figure 2.1 Native vegetation cover within 1500m buffer around the site. Seedmap, 2021.

3 Native vegetation

3.1 Desktop and Survey results – Plant Community Types (PCTs)

A review of the most up-to-date vegetation mapping, SydneyMetroArea_v3.1_VIS__4489 DPIE (2016), identified two (2) plant community types (PCTs) within site. The PCT is identified as; *Turpentine - Grey Ironbark open forest on shale in the lower Blue Mountains, Sydney Basin Bioregion* (PCT1281); and *Sydney Blue Gum - Blackbutt - Smooth-barked Apple moist shrubby open forest on shale ridges of the Hornsby Plateau, Sydney Basin Bioregion* (PCT1237).

Table 3.1 – Table of vegetation community synonyms as per NSW and Commonwealth legislation.

NSW PCT Code	NSW PCT Name	BC Act 2016	EPBC Act 1999
1281	Turpentine - Grey Ironbark open forest on shale in the lower Blue Mountains, Sydney Basin Bioregion	Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest State Conservation: Endangered Ecological Community (EEC)	Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest Commonwealth Conservation: Critically Endangered (CE)
1237	Sydney Blue Gum - Blackbutt - Smooth-barked Apple moist shrubby open forest on shale ridges of the Hornsby Plateau, Sydney Basin Bioregion	Blue Gum High Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion State Conservation: Critically Endangered Ecological Community (CEEC)	Blue Gum High Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion Commonwealth Conservation: Critically Endangered (CE)

3.1.1 Field Survey

The field survey assisted in verifying the distribution and quality of vegetation at the site. Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF) (PCT1281) is mapped across the site via *The Native Vegetation of the Sydney Metropolitan Area - Version 3.1 (OEH, 2016) VIS_ID 4489*.

Approximately 80% of the vegetation onsite has been previously disturbed. The canopy is discontinuous onsite with scattered canopy trees. The mid stratum is primarily absent within site boundaries. The ground stratum has been highly disturbed, with much of the site dominated by exotic turf grasses and 'High Threat Exotic' (HTE) species. Vegetation adjacent to the access path is displaying signs of natural regeneration although this is being hindered by current land use practices.

Whilst canopy species in the proposed development footprint are associated with PCT 1281, the lack of remnant ground species and historical development results in this vegetation not being assessed as a part of the STIF EEC in the BAM-C. Historical clearing and previous development of this area including ground leveling, hard landscaping, paving roads and creation of building foundations would have irreversibly impacted on the original plant community to the point that it is not able to recover.

Vegetation Zone 2 has been assessed as Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF) (PCT1281) in the BAM-C. This finding was concluded following desktop investigations and field assessments. See section 5 for a description of vegetation zones and the impact assessment.

Stratification and plot dimensions

Plots were as per the BAM Method with 20 x 20 and 10 x 40 plots (400m²) for assessing structure and composition with a centre line extending 50m and 100m to create a 20 x 50 and 10 x 100 plot (1000m²) to assess function. See Biodiversity Assessment Method Operational Manual – Stage 1 (OEH 2018) page 26-28 for methods used.

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/-/media/OEH/Corporate-Site/Documents/Animals-and-plants/Biodiversity/biodiversity-assessment-method-operational-manual-stage-1-180276.pdf>



Figure 3.1 Fragmented vegetation across the surrounding landscape.



Figure 3.2 Previously mapped EEC/CEEC BGHF orange and STIF blue. *The Native Vegetation of the Sydney Metropolitan Area - Version 3.1 (OEH, 2016) VIS_ID 4489*

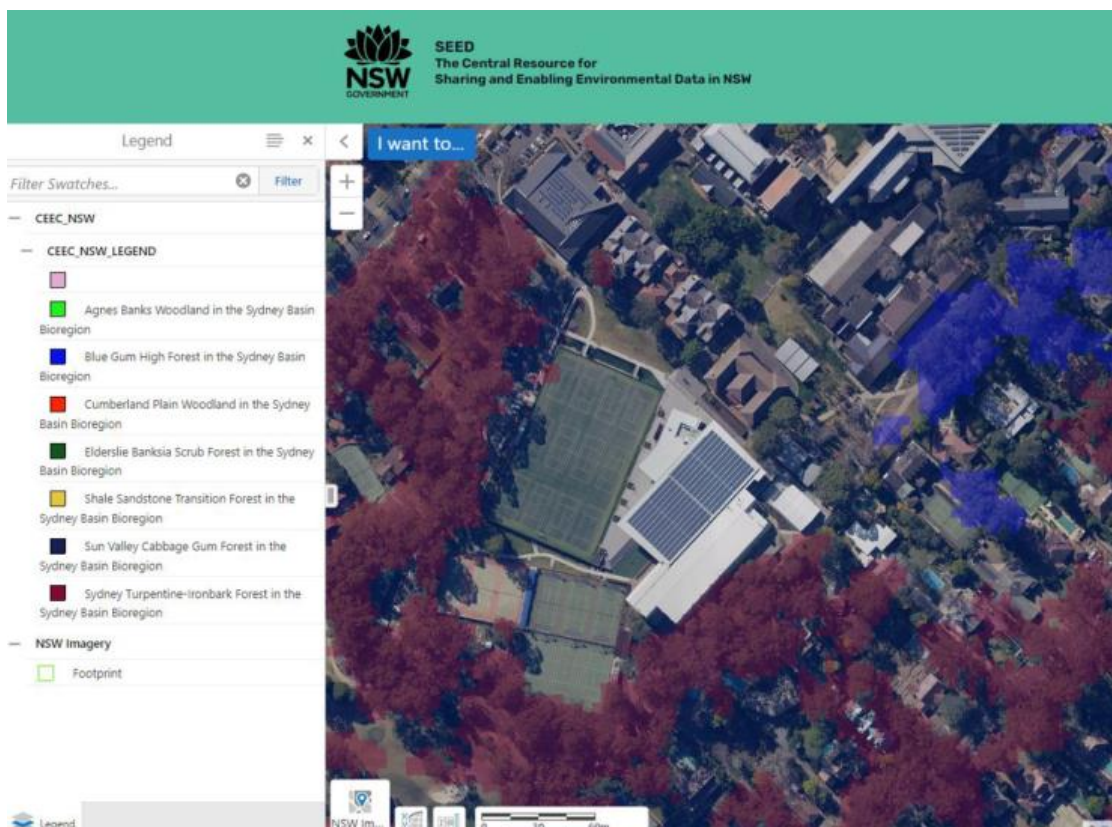


Figure 3.3 Extract from SEED has the area of proposed works mapped as STIF. This includes mapping of the canopy cover over the existing path/road

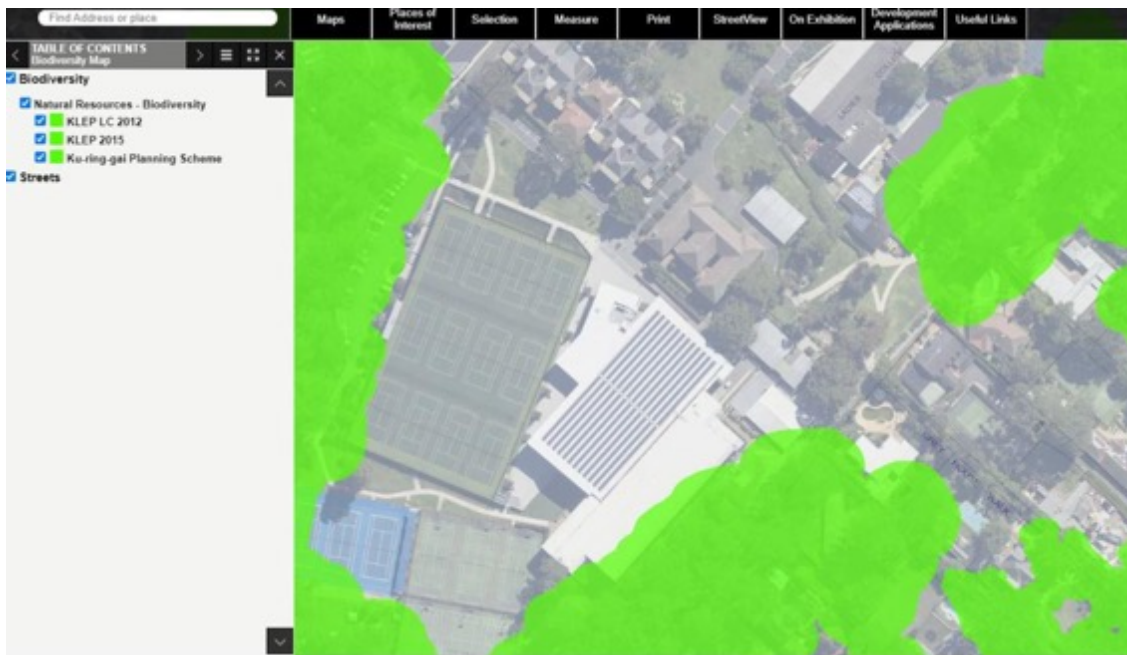


Figure 3.4 Ku-ring-gai online map viewer has the area marked as the biodiversity layer. Source: Ku-ring-gai Council 2021.

Ground truthing shows the area mapped as STIF includes existing built form/road and has canopy species of STIF over this accessway. The vegetation condition map in Figure 3.5 shows the area (above the accessway) as 'built-form' and the adjoining vegetation (canopy trees and occasional *Pittosporum undulatum*) in fair condition.



Figure 3.5 Current vegetation condition onsite.

NB: there is no native vegetation communities in the school grounds in good or excellent condition. The school has already been undertaking bush regeneration in the areas of BGHF and STIF (this doesn't include the proposed development area as this is not bushland).

The two Endangered Ecological Communities onsite; Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF) and Blue Gum High Forest (BGHF), continue to support a range of native flora and fauna. Weeds infestations are present in most areas, however through ongoing bushland management these areas can be re-established as pristine examples of their respective communities.

3.1.2 Site Photos

The following photos were collected during two site visits by Ecologist Luke Johnson.

Plate 3.1 Plot 1 (Demolition and site footprint)

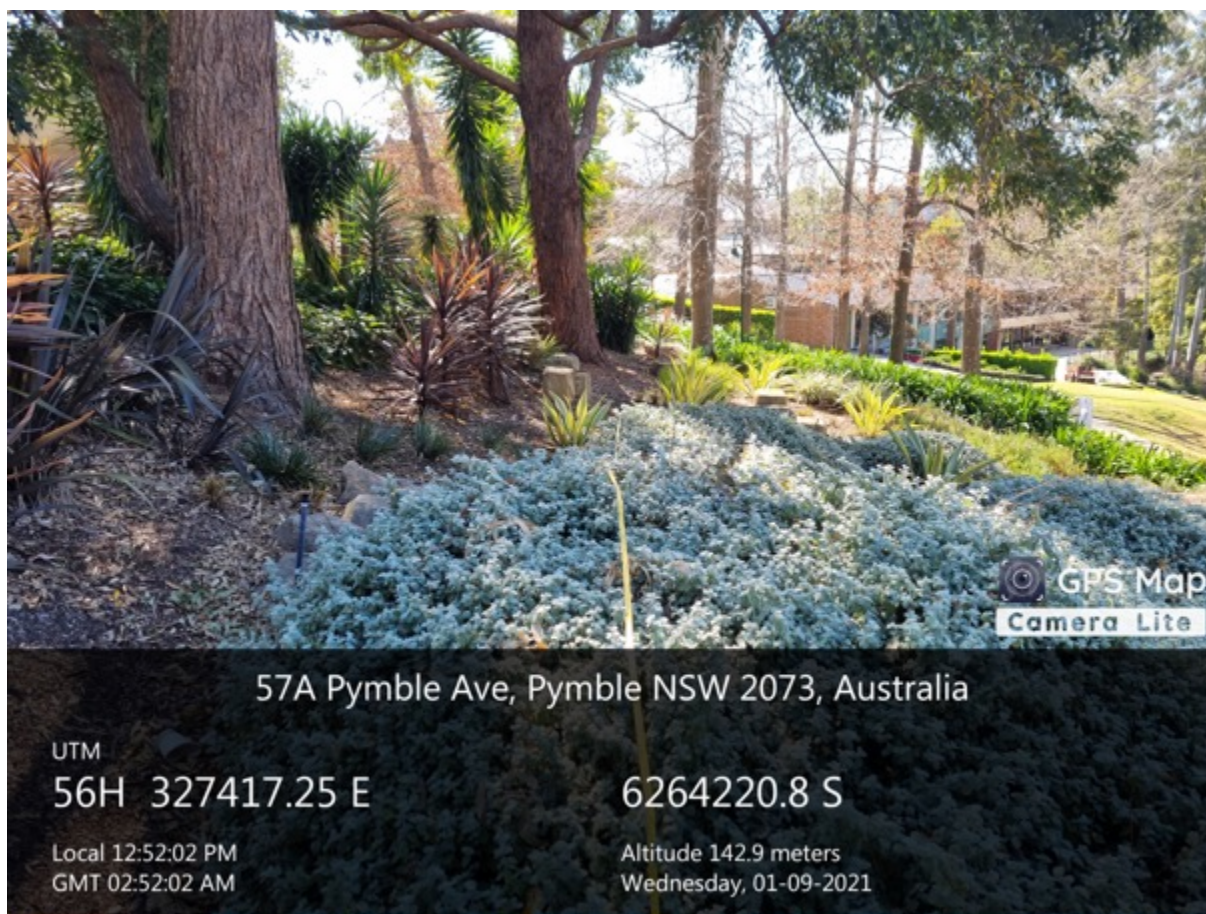


Plate 3.1.1 Plot 1 Location: Development footprint.



Plate 3.1.2 Vegetation is dominated by a mix of native and exotic planted species.



Plate 3.1.3 Vegetation is dominated by a mix of native and exotic planted species.



Plate 3.1.4 Approximately 50% of the development footprint has been cleared of all native vegetation

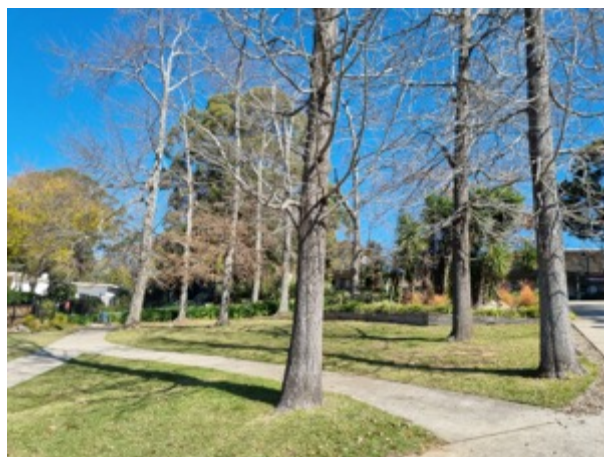


Plate 3.1.5 Approximately 50% of the development footprint has been cleared of all native vegetation



Plate 3.1.6 Planted exotic garden



Plate 3.1.7 Planted native *Acacia pendula*



Plate 3.1.8 Exotic vegetation within plot



Plate 3.1.9 *Carpobrotus* sp. within plot



Plate 3.1.10 Mixed vegetation within building footprint



Plate 3.1.11 Mulch and garden management have inhibited native regeneration



Plate 3.1.12 Footpaths and exotic garden species within building footprint



Plate 3.1.13 Nest box located on tree proposed for removal. Nest box is improperly hung and in a state of disrepair. Currently uninhabited by fauna.



Plate 3.1.14 Cleared area with exotic grass and canopy species proposed for removal

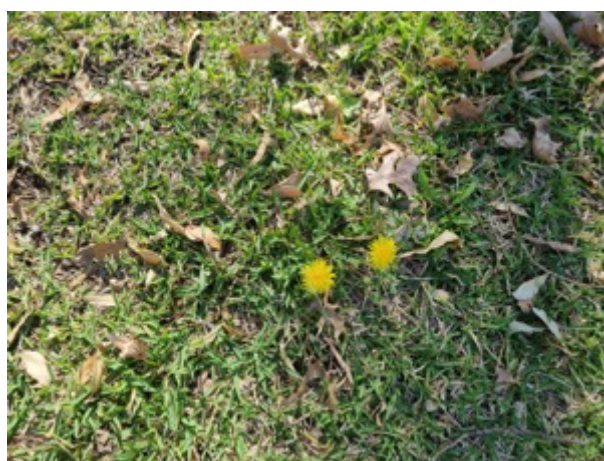


Plate 3.1.15 Cleared area with exotic grass species proposed for removal

Plate 3.2 Plot 2 (Site access path)



Plate 3.2.1 Plot 2 Location: Site access path



Plate 3.2.2 Vegetation consists of exotic turf grasses and canopy species associated with STIF plant community.



Plate 3.2.3 Vegetation within plot is a mix of exotic ground species with no clear middle stratum.



Plate 3.2.4 Weed species within plot 2.



Plate 3.2.5 drainage channel running southwest along the current access path



Plate 3.2.6 High abundance of *Tradescantia flumensis* within the vegetation and channel.



Plate 3.2.7 Western side of the access path is showing signs of regeneration.



Plate 3.2.8 Example of dominant ground vegetation within plot 2.



Plate 3.2.9 Mixed vegetation adjacent to the access path.



Plate 3.2.10 Hollow bearing tree within proximity to access path (proposed retention and tree protection)



Plate 3.2.11 Hollow bearing tree



Plate 3.2.12 Two smaller Turpentine trees proposed for removal due to impacts from widening requirements of the access way.



Plate 3.2.13 Canopy vegetation consistent with STIF plant community.



Plate 3.2.14 T829 Proposed for removal due to impacts from access widening requirements.



Plate 3.2.15 T839 Proposed for removal due to impacts from access widening requirements.

Plate 3.3 Broader Vegetation and site characteristics.



Plate 3.3.1 Planted native border vegetation proposed to be retained.



Plate 3.3.2 Landscaping rock present throughout the garden landscaping.



Plate 3.3.3 Example of landscaped native garden in plot 1 with placed rock habitat.



Plate 3.3.3 Example of landscaped native garden along boundary garden with placed rock habitat.



Plate 3.3.4 Planted non-local native species along the southeast border of the site.



Plate 3.3.5 Blue Gum High Forest located northeast of the proposed Grey House Precinct development



Plate 3.3.6 High Weed abundance along the eastern border of the site.



Plate 3.3.7 STIF community and location of plot 2: access path.

4 Threatened Species

4.1 Flora and Flora Field Survey

No threatened flora or fauna species were identified during Kingfisher 2021 field surveys.

4.1.1 Opportunistic Flora and Fauna survey methods

During opportunistic surveys, notes and photos were taken of the vegetation types and flora and fauna present onsite were recorded. Surveys were general and opportunistic in nature and were performed by traversing the site.

4.1.2 Diurnal Bird Surveys

Diurnal bird surveys occurred during mid-afternoon. Opportunistic observations of birds were made during vegetation surveys. Several species which are known to nest in hollows were predicted at the site and a dedicated effort was made to traverse the impact area to understand if hollows are present and if they are suitable for predicted bird species.

The site survey for birds primarily focused on their breeding habitat requirements such as hollows, waterways onsite, nests that are present and other features which BAM identified bird species may use for breeding purposes. It was concluded that the impact area hosts potential foraging habitat for all birds species listed in the BAM calculator. Therefore, all bird species identified in the BAM calculator were retained in the assessment for foraging purposes.

However, it is unlikely that threatened avifauna would use the impact area for breeding purposes, due to lack of optimal breeding habitat (suitable hollows, suitable waterways). Justification for species exclusion in the BAM-C can be found in appendix I. Searches and call playback was not conducted for forest owls and no individuals were observed on site.

4.1.3 Microbats

The impact area hosts marginal foraging habitat for threatened microbat species which are identified in the BAM calculator for the site. All microbat species have been retained in the BAM calculator for foraging purposes. The site survey for microbats primarily focused on their breeding habitat requirements such as caves, outcrops, hollows and other features which microbat species may use for breeding purposes.

It has been concluded that while microbat species may use the site for foraging purposes they are unlikely to use the site for breeding purposes due to lack of optimal breeding opportunities within the impact area. Therefore, impact assessment on microbat breeding habitat has been excluded from the BAM assessment.

4.1.4 Mammal Surveys

Mammal surveys occurred during the mid-afternoon. The proposed development is not expected to significantly impact upon breeding or foraging purposes for any mammal species identified in the BAM Calculator as there are no optional habitat features within the development area.

4.1.5 Amphibian Surveys

Amphibian surveys occurred during the mid-afternoon. Opportunistic observations of amphibians were made during vegetation surveys. Any potential habitat features were investigated however no threatened

amphibian species identified in the BAM calculator were identified onsite. Habitat requirements for all threatened amphibian species identified in the BAM calculator are marginal within the impact area.

4.1.6 Reptile and Snail surveys

Reptile and Snail surveys were undertaken by thorough investigation of potential habitat including:

- Leaf litter
- Bark litter
- Stick piles
- Native ground cover vegetation
- Rocks
- Rubbish

Targeted searches were conducted for the Dural Land Snail (*Pommerhelix duralensis*) and Cumberland Plain Land Snail (*Meridolum corneovirens*). Although no threatened Reptile or Snail species were identified during site investigations.

4.1.7 Koala assessment summary

The proposal is unlikely to have a significant impact on the Koala or areas of critical habitat for the species. It is unlikely that the species would occur on site due to the degraded nature of vegetation and habitat, as such, there is a low likelihood of occurrence for the species.

Desktop (Bionet, ALA) and on-ground surveys were conducted to determine the presence / absence of the species. The on-ground survey also contributed to information regarding habitat availability within the site. Direct observation surveys for the species were generally opportunistic in nature, however no individuals were observed on site. Indirect survey methods including; scat and scratching's searches (outlined in DotE; 2014) were conducted. No evidence of the species was found on site.

4.2 Threatened Flora - Desktop

A total of 31 threatened flora species have been recorded within 10km of the study site according to BioNet records. These species are currently listed as vulnerable or endangered under state and/or commonwealth legislation (see Table 4.1). The vulnerable and endangered species to focus on-site searches for can be seen in Table 4.1 below highlighted in bold. This is based on likelihood of occurrence.

Table 4.1. Threatened flora observed in previous ecological surveys within a 10km radius of the study site. NSW DPIE Bionet 2021.

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	NSW status	Comm. status	Records
Fabaceae (Mimosoideae)	<i>Acacia bynoeana</i>	Bynoe's Wattle	E1	V	2
Fabaceae (Mimosoideae)	<i>Acacia clunies-rossiae</i>	Kanangra Wattle	V		1

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	NSW status	Comm. status	Records
Fabaceae (Mimosoideae)	<i>Acacia pubescens</i>	Downy Wattle	V	V	2
Myrtaceae	<i>Callistemon linearifolius</i>	Netted Bottle Brush	V,3		6
Orchidaceae	<i>Cryptostylis hunteriana</i>	Leafless Tongue Orchid	V,P,2	V	1
Myrtaceae	<i>Darwinia biflora</i>		V	V	389
Myrtaceae	<i>Darwinia peduncularis</i>		V		1
Poaceae	<i>Deyeuxia appressa</i>		E1	E	3
Ericaceae	<i>Epacris purpurascens</i> var. <i>purpurascens</i>		V		36
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus camfieldii</i>	Camfield's Stringybark	V	V	8
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus nicholii</i>	Narrow-leaved Black Peppermint	V	V	2
Rubiaceae	<i>Galium australe</i>	Tangled Bedstraw	E1		1
Orchidaceae	<i>Genoplesium baueri</i>	Bauer's Midge Orchid	E1,P,2	E	51
Orchidaceae	<i>Genoplesium plumosum</i>	Tallong Midge Orchid	E4A,P,2	E	1
Grammitidaceae	<i>Grammitis stenophylla</i>	Narrow-leaf Finger Fern	E1,3		6
Proteaceae	<i>Grevillea caleyi</i>	Caley's Grevillea	E4A,3	CE	1
Proteaceae	<i>Grevillea juniperina</i> subsp. <i>juniperina</i>	Juniper-leaved Grevillea	V		1
Haloragaceae	<i>Haloragodendron lucasii</i>		E1	E	27
Dilleniaceae	<i>Hibbertia spanantha</i>	Julian's Hibbertia	E4A,2	CE	5
Malvaceae	<i>Lasiopetalum joyceae</i>		V	V	4
Myrtaceae	<i>Leptospermum deanei</i>		V	V	12
Proteaceae	<i>Macadamia integrifolia</i>	Macadamia Nut		V	17

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	NSW status	Comm. status	Records
Proteaceae	<i>Macadamia tetraphylla</i>	Rough-shelled Bush Nut	V	V	1
Myrtaceae	<i>Melaleuca deanei</i>	Deane's Paperbark	V	V	38
Proteaceae	<i>Persoonia hirsuta</i>	Hairy Geebung	E1,P,3	E	3
Thymelaeaceae	<i>Pimelea curviflora</i> var. <i>curviflora</i>		V	V	5
Lamiaceae	<i>Prostanthera marifolia</i>	Seaforth Mintbush	E4A,3	CE	1
Orchidaceae	<i>Rhizanthella slateri</i>	Eastern Australian Underground Orchid	V,P,2	E	1
Myrtaceae	<i>Rhodamnia rubescens</i>	Scrub Turpentine	E4A		7
Myrtaceae	<i>Syzygium paniculatum</i>	Magenta Lilly Pilly	E1	V	36
Elaeocarpaceae	<i>Tetratheca glandulosa</i>		V		75

Note: E = Endangered, V = Vulnerable, P = Protected.

4.3 Threatened Fauna - Desktop

A total of 46 threatened fauna species have been recorded within 10km of the study site according to BioNet records. These species are currently listed as vulnerable or endangered under state and/or commonwealth legislation (see Table 4.2). The vulnerable and endangered species to focus on-site searches for can be seen in Table 5 below highlighted in bold. This is based on likelihood of occurrence.

Table 4.2. Threatened fauna observed in previous ecological surveys within a 10km radius of the study site. NSW DPIE Bionet 2021.

Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	NSW Status	Comth . Status	No. of records
Amphibia	<i>Heleioporus australiacus</i>	Giant Burrowing Frog	V,P	V	2
Amphibia	<i>Litoria aurea</i>	Green and Golden Bell Frog	E1,P	V	6
Amphibia	<i>Pseudophryne australis</i>	Red-crowned Toadlet	V,P		95
Aves	<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	Regent Honeyeater	E4A,P	CE	6

Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	NSW Status	Comth Status	No. of records
Aves	<i>Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus</i>	Dusky Woodswallow	V,P		11
Aves	<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>	Australasian Bittern	E1,P	E	2
Aves	<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	Gang-gang Cockatoo	V,P,3		49
Aves	<i>Calyptrorhynchus lathami</i>	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	V,P,2		24
Aves	<i>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</i>	Brown Treecreeper (eastern subspecies)	V,P		1
Aves	<i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i>	Varied Sittella	V,P		4
Aves	<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>	Black-necked Stork	E1,P		1
Aves	<i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i>	Little Lorikeet	V,P		17
Aves	<i>Haematopus fuliginosus</i>	Sooty Oystercatcher	V,P		3
Aves	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	V,P		11
Aves	<i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i>	Little Eagle	V,P		8
Aves	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail	P	V,C,J,K	43
Aves	<i>Ixobrychus flavicollis</i>	Black Bittern	V,P		5
Aves	<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Swift Parrot	E1,P,3	CE	10
Aves	<i>Limicola falcinellus</i>	Broad-billed Sandpiper	V,P	C,J,K	1
Aves	<i>Lophoictinia isura</i>	Square-tailed Kite	V,P,3		14
Aves	<i>Neophema pulchella</i>	Turquoise Parrot	V,P,3		1
Aves	<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>	Cotton Pygmy-Goose	E1,P		4
Aves	<i>Ninox connivens</i>	Barking Owl	V,P,3		6

Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	NSW Status	Comth Status	No. of records
Aves	<i>Ninox strenua</i>	Powerful Owl	V,P,3		790
Aves	<i>Pandion cristatus</i>	Eastern Osprey	V,P,3		2
Aves	<i>Petroica boodang</i>	Scarlet Robin	V,P		3
Aves	<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>	Superb Parrot	V,P,3	V	1
Aves	<i>Ptilinopus superbus</i>	Superb Fruit-Dove	V,P		6
Aves	<i>Tyto novaehollandiae</i>	Masked Owl	V,P,3		2
Gastropoda	<i>Pommerhelix duralensis</i>	Dural Land Snail	E1	E	3
Mammalia	<i>Cercartetus nanus</i>	Eastern Pygmy-possum	V,P		84
Mammalia	<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	Large-eared Pied Bat	V,P	V	5
Mammalia	<i>Dasyurus maculatus</i>	Spotted-tailed Quoll	V,P	E	4
Mammalia	<i>Falsistrellus tasmaniensis</i>	Eastern False Pipistrelle	V,P		10
Mammalia	<i>Isoodon obesulus obesulus</i>	Southern Brown Bandicoot (eastern)	E1,P	E	2
Mammalia	<i>Micronomus norfolkensis</i>	Eastern Coastal Free-tailed Bat	V,P		26
Mammalia	<i>Miniopterus australis</i>	Little Bent-winged Bat	V,P		59
Mammalia	<i>Miniopterus orianae oceanensis</i>	Large Bent-winged Bat	V,P		195
Mammalia	<i>Myotis macropus</i>	Southern Myotis	V,P		18
Mammalia	<i>Petauroides volans</i>	Greater Glider	P	V	2
Mammalia	<i>Petaurus australis</i>	Yellow-bellied Glider	V,P		1
Mammalia	<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	Koala	V,P	V	5

Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	NSW Status	Comth Status	No. of records
Mammalia	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox	V,P	V	1308
Mammalia	<i>Saccolaimus flaviventris</i>	Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat	V,P		8
Mammalia	<i>Scoteanax rueppellii</i>	Greater Broad-nosed Bat	V,P		15
Reptilia	<i>Varanus rosenbergi</i>	Rosenberg's Goanna	V,P		18

Note: E = Endangered, V = Vulnerable, P = Protected.

4.2 Endangered population

One (1) endangered population have been recorded to occur within 10km of the site. Table 4.3 below displays the populations.

Table 4.3. Endangered population observed in previous ecological surveys within a 10km radius of the study site. NSW DPIE Bionet 2021.

Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	NSW status	Comm. status	Records
Aves	<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	Gang-gang Cockatoo population in the Hornsby and Ku-ring-gai Local Government Areas	E2,V,P,3		48

Likelihood of occurrence

See Appendix I for a 'Rationale for Likelihood of Occurrence', which outlines why species have been retained or omitted from BAM calculations. Reasons for inclusion or removal are based on species habitat preferences, site investigations, species survey, Bionet records and expert opinion. During the survey, none of the above threatened species were observed on-site. Marginal foraging habitat for several species is present onsite. Thus, all predicted species were retained in the BAM-C and several candidate species generated species credit species due to the impact on foraging habitat.

Stage 2: Impact Assessment

5 BAM Calculator

5.1 Vegetation Zones and Integrity Scores

Vegetation zones were determined on species composition at the site. The vegetation zones cover areas in which native vegetation is proposed for removal and/or modification. The two vegetation zones have been divided into management zones.

Future vegetation integrity (F-VI) scores in the BAM-C. Within the accessway, species diversity is expected to remain as per current survey results. However, the structural attributes of the vegetation will be modified in the accessway, therefore F-VI scores were adjusted accordingly. The complete vegetation removal management zones have a F-VI score of 0.

Data for the BAM-C was gathered across two BAM plots located in each vegetation zone at the site.

Vegetation Zone One (Building Footprint)

Zone one is the area proposed for the new building footprint and would require clearing to facilitate the development. This area has undergone previous clearing and development. Currently this zone consists of:

- Cleared ground with exotic turf and;
- Landscaped garden dominated by exotic species and cultivated natives and footpaths;
- Planted mature native canopy in the form of a mix of six mature trees *E. pilularis*, *E. microcorys* and *E. saligna* are present throughout the garden and proposed for removal. (ground cover of approximately 0.04 ha)

The poor structural diversity is reflected in the low vegetation integrity score. Vegetation is not mapped as any PCT however, prior to development would have once likely consisted as STIF transition to BGHF. Aborcultural impact assessment (ArborSafe, 2021) states the native canopy trees in this area were planted approximately 60 years prior. It is highly degraded; it does not reflect the natural attributes of the STIF community and therefore was not assessed as contributing to the STIF EEC in the BAM-C. Due to previous development of this area involving; landscaping, exotic species planting, mulch application and ongoing maintenance it is unlikely the original vegetation community would recover. The vegetation zone has been left as one management zone within the BAM-C. This will reflect the future actions; complete vegetation removal (0.02ha).

Zone Two (Site Accessway)

Zone two runs southwest of zone 1 and the site of the proposed development. This zone is proposed to be used as site access for vehicles and plant equipment. The zone consists of:

- A paved footpath (approximately 2m wide) with cleared understory and;
- Ground cover with high abundance of HTE;
- Native canopy trees associated with the STIF plant community.

Vegetation is mapped as STIF although marginally reflects attributes of the community due to disturbances. The area has a highly modified under and mid storey, which is not indicative of the original vegetation community. The ground vegetation is dominated by exotic grasses and high threat exotics. While signs of

resilience are apparent through the presence of juvenile *Elaeocarpus* and *Pittosporum* species, high weed abundance and ongoing site management is inhibiting natural regeneration of this zone. The canopy is a mix of native species, with *E. paniculate* and *S. glomulifera* the dominant natives. The vegetation zone has been left as one management zone within the BAM-C. This will reflect the future actions; widening of the access path to a minimum of 4m to facilitate the proposed development and partial canopy tree removal in the form of 4 trees and canopy trimming. Currently the paved path is 2m wide along the majority of the 100m long accessway. The disturbance area is calculated as vegetation removal of 1m either side of the paved path for length of the accessway (0.02ha).

Table 5.1 Table of current vegetation integrity scores for vegetation zones on site.

PCT	Vegetation Zone	Area (Ha)	Vegetation Integrity Score
1218 (STIF)	One – Building Footprint (Figure 5.2)	0.04	18.5
1281 (STIF)	Two – Accessway (Figure 5.3)	0.02	28.4
Total		0.06	

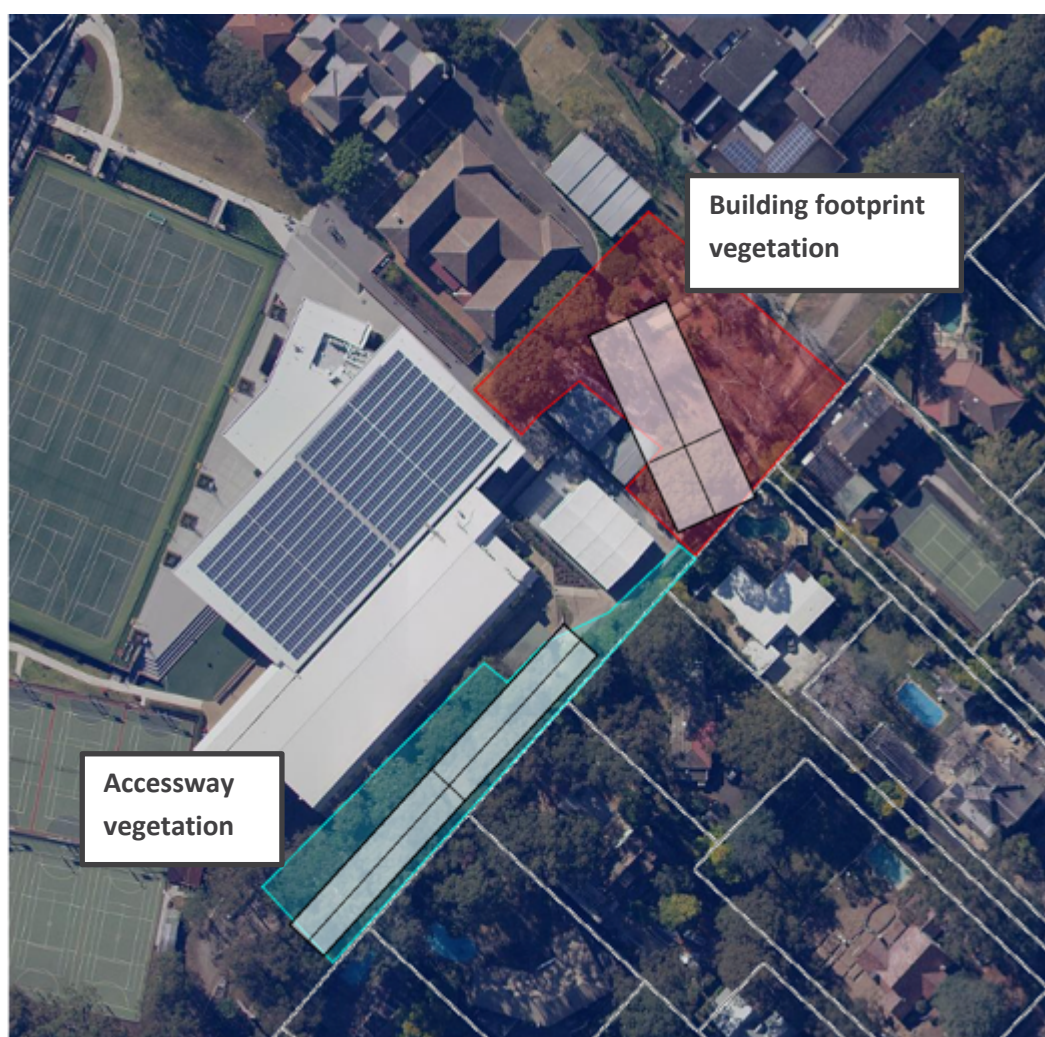


Figure 5.1. Vegetation zones and BAM plot locations on site. Six Maps, 2021.



Figure 5.2 Impact Area of native Vegetation in Zone 1 Building Footprint.

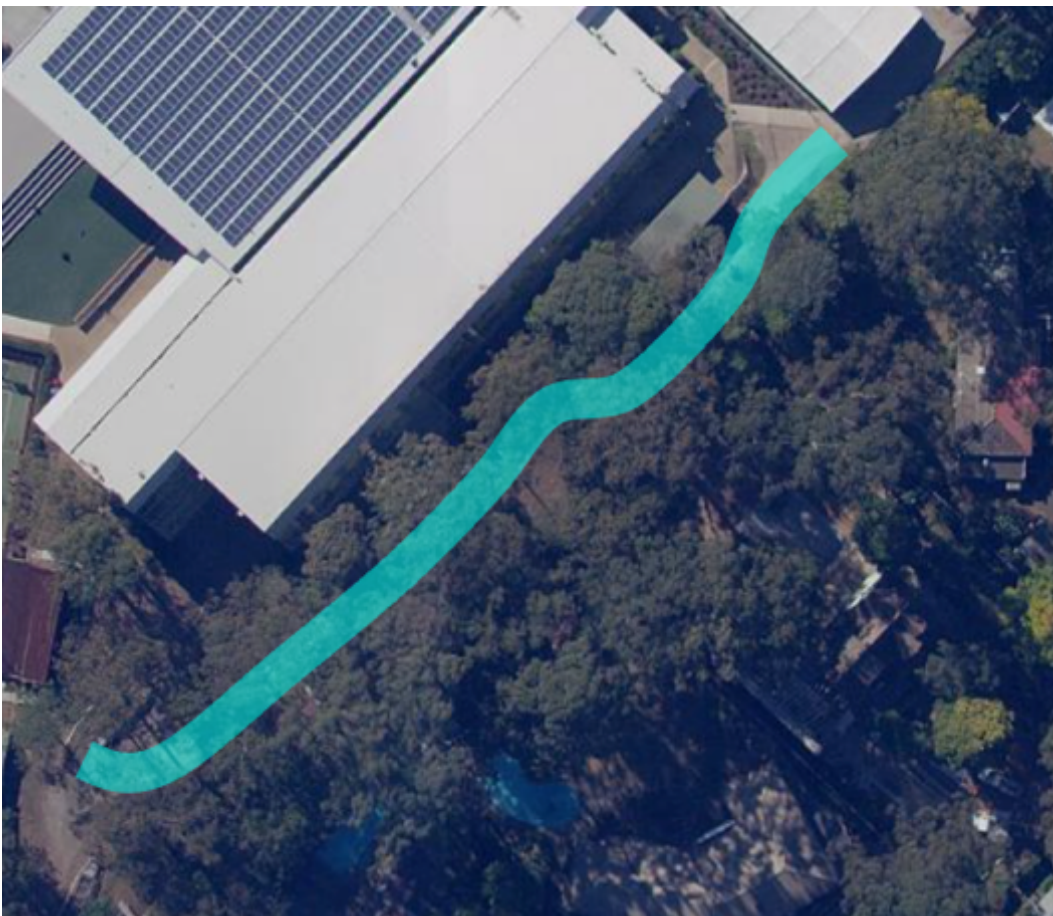


Figure 5.3 Impact Area in Native Vegetation in Zone 2 Accessway.

5.2 Species and Ecosystem Credits

The grand total cost to offset both ecosystem credits generated by this development is \$23,751.76 (including GST), assuming payment will be made into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund. A credit is a unit used to measure the impact of a development. Credits have a price and are traded by the Biodiversity Conservation Trust (BCT) under the Biodiversity Conservation Scheme (BOS). A credit may be created due to a number of factors including but not limited to, amount of vegetation removed, critical habitat removed and alteration of the landscape.

5.2.1 Ecosystem Credit Species derived from BAM

The development and associated works generated two ecosystem credits for the site. This is a reflection of the very poor vegetation integrity at the site. See below, figure 5.1 for the ecosystem credit summary.

Ecosystem credits for plant communities types (PCT), ecological communities & threatened species habitat

IBRA sub region	PCT common name	Threat status	Offset trading group	Risk premium	Administrative cost	Methodology adjustment factor	Price per credit	No. of ecosystem credits	Final credits price
Cumberland	1281 - Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest	Yes	Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	18.83%	\$302.25	1.7832	\$9,281.37	1	\$9,281.37
Cumberland	1281 - Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest	No	Northern Hinterland Wet Sclerophyll Forests >90%	20.69%	\$394.94	1.6277	\$12,311.14	1	\$12,311.14
							Subtotal (excl. GST)		\$21,592.51
							GST		\$2,159.25
							Total ecosystem credits (incl. GST)		\$23,751.76

Figure 5.1. Ecosystem credit summary from the BAM calculator.

5.2.2 Species Credit Species derived from BAM

The development and associated works generated species credits for one species including; Large-eared pied bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*).

In total the cost to offset the species credits generated will be \$1,072.16 (including GST), assuming payment will be made into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund. The individual credit price for each species can be seen below in figure 5.2. Species polygon was assessed as the whole of management zone 2.

Species credits for threatened species

Species profile ID	Species	Threat status	Price per credit	Risk premium	Administrative cost	No. of species credits	Final credits price
10157	<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i> (Large-eared Pied Bat)	Vulnerable	\$741.31	20.6900%	\$80.00	1	\$974.69
Subtotal (excl. GST)							\$974.69
GST							\$97.47
Total species credits (incl. GST)							\$1,072.16

Figure 5.2. Species credit summary from the BAM calculator.

It has been concluded that not all land within the impact area holds suitable habitat for threatened species. Thus, some species have been excluded due to severe habitat degradation.

Appendix I lists the species credit species predicted by the BAM Calculator and details whether the species have been further assessed based on site suitability (i.e. Habitat constraints and/or habitat degradation within the development site). Under Section 6.4.1.13 of the BAM, species credit species can be excluded from further assessment if an assessment of habitat constraints and microhabitats determines that the habitat within the development site is substantially degraded such that the species credit species is unlikely to occur. See section “6.1.2 BAM Candidate Species for Further Assessment”.

The species credits generated in this BDAR were generated in the areas of “complete vegetation removal” and site “accessway widening”. The two vegetation zones were divided into these areas as the activities within the accessway area are not expected to significantly degrade or remove breeding habitat features (including hollows) for the species credit species. This method is in accordance with the BAM Section 6.4 (steps 3 - 6).

6 Direct Impacts

6.1.1 Vegetation disturbance and Loss

A mix of 29 native and exotic trees are required to be removed to facilitate both the footprint and access requirements for the proposal (see Figure 6.1). Arboricultural impact statement (Arborsafe 2021) determines that all trees proposed for removal are non-remnant and were previously planted.

Recommendation	Category A High retention value		Category B Moderate retention value		Category C Low Retention value		Category U No retention value	
	Qty	Tree numbers	Qty	Tree numbers	Qty	Tree numbers	Qty	Tree numbers
Remove for development	2	410, 411	13	45, 47, 48, 49, 50, 52, 392, 393, 399, 400, 401, 404, 406	14	51, 54, 394, 398, 402, 829, 839, 841, 882, 1758, 1759, 2007, 2008, 2009	0	

Figure 6.1 Tree removal plan. Arborsafe, 2021

Vegetation Zone 1 (Building footprint)

A total of 0.04 ha of vegetation within the building footprint (Vegetation Zone 1) will undergo complete removal. As discussed in Section 5 vegetation in this area consists of landscaped gardens and turfed lawn separated by paved footpaths. The ground vegetation is dominated by exotic ornamental species with a mix of local and non-local native species throughout. This area is substantially degraded such that the original vegetation community is unlikely to recover. Areas of potential habitat for STIF will be lost, although the site has been subject to vegetation removal and modification for the previous 100 years.

A total of 25 trees are required to be removed, of which 10 are planted natives. Table 6.2 below lists the trees proposed for removal in this area. *Trees in **bold** are native.*

Table 6.2 Trees proposed for removal in Vegetation Zone 1 Development footprint.

<i>T45 Cinnamomum camphora</i>	<i>T400 Quercus palustris</i>
<i>T47 Stenocarpus sinuatus</i>	<i>T401 Quercus palustris</i>
<i>T48 Eucalyptus microcorys</i>	<i>T402 Quercus palustris</i>
<i>T49 Eucalyptus saligna</i>	<i>T404 Quercus palustris</i>
<i>T50 Eucalyptus microcorys</i>	<i>T406 Quercus palustris</i>
<i>T51 Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	<i>T410 Eucalyptus microcorys</i>
<i>T52 Jacarana mimosifolia</i>	<i>T411 Eucalyptus microcorys</i>
<i>T54 Arbutus unedo</i>	<i>T1758 Eleocarpus emundii</i>
<i>T392 Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	<i>T1759 Eleocarpus emundii</i>
<i>T393 Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	<i>T2007 Yucca filifera</i>
<i>T394 Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	<i>T2008 Eucalyptus pilularis</i>
<i>T398 Quercus palustris</i>	<i>T2009 Prunus persica</i>
<i>T399 Quercus palustris</i>	

Vegetation Zone 2 (Accessway/construction entry road)

A total of approximately 0.02 ha of this area will be impacted as the development will require the widening of the existing paved footpath for vehicle access to the site, however currently most of the 4m wide access way is a combination of cleared ground/paved footpath (see site photos in section 3.1.2). Vegetation disturbance within the accessway will consist of the removal of 4 native trees (see table 6.3 below) and minor trimming of the canopy to facilitate the site access. The removal of these trees and subsequent canopy trimming has been calculated as a loss of 5% canopy cover in the future integrity calculations in the BAM-C.

Vegetation on both sides of the footpath are showing signs of resilience, however high weed abundance and ongoing management practices are hindering revegetation of the surrounding STIF plant community. Depending on the design of the access way impacts would not be irreversible. Current species diversity, whilst low, is expected to not to be impacted.

Table 6.3 Trees proposed for removal in Vegetation Zone 2 Site Accessway

<i>T882 Eucalyptus paniculatum</i>	<i>T839 Syncarpia glomulifera</i>
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T841 *Syncarpia glomulifera*

T829 *Syncarpia glomulifera*

7 Indirect Impacts

7.1.1 Weed growth and invasion

Weed species are present and must be properly managed so they do not spread.

At the direct works zone weeds are to be managed by stopping seed spread on machinery, tools, equipment and worker clothes (e.g. boots). Additionally, after weed removal around the perimeter area of the construction, there must be continuous maintenance of the site otherwise it may result in increased weed growth, exacerbated by the high abundance of weeds present pre-works.

Weeds will colonize and pioneer on any cleared grounds so must be managed throughout the duration of the project as well as on-going post works.

7.1.2 Introduction of pathogens

The introduction of pathogens may occur into the site, and surrounding remnant bushland, via machinery, tools, equipment and worker clothing (e.g. boots). Diseases to watch out for include Phytophthora (also known as Root Rot – type of water mold) and Myrtle Rust (*Puccinia psidii* – type of fungus). See Appendix for Bushland Hygiene Protocols for Phytophthora.

7.1.3 Soil disturbance and erosion

The removal of vegetation and trees can result in soil disturbance. The soil appears to be sodic thus erosion can occur at a faster rate. Soil compaction could occur from machinery use. It is recommended that soil compaction in non-built upon areas is to be avoided and not to occur within the trees to be retained. Replacement of woody debris and a covering of organic matter over the cleared site will prevent erosion and thus is highly recommended.

7.1.4 Water Quality

There are no streams present onsite however the proposed actions may result in transport of sediment from the work zones because of increased storm water runoff to areas downstream. Which may impact water quality, riparian vegetation and aquatic fauna. Recommendations to maintain and improve water quality on site have been listed in section 10 below.

8 Serious and Irreversible Impact Assessment (SAII)

The following section provides details which address section 10.2 of the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) and thus has referenced the guiding document *Guidance to assist a decision-maker to determine a serious and irreversible impact* in order to satisfy BAM requirements.

The document *Guidance to assist a decision-maker to determine a serious and irreversible impact* outlines the steps taken to determine serious and irreversible impacts in section 3.2. The steps are as follows;

1. Step one: Identify relevant entities at risk of a SAII

2. Step two: Evaluate the extinction risk of the entity to be impacted
3. Step three: Detail measures taken to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts on the entity
4. Step four: Evaluate a serious and irreversible impact
5. Step five decision making

8.1.1 Step one - Identify relevant entities at risk of a SAI

Following 3.2.1 in *Guidance to assist a decision-maker to determine a serious and irreversible impact*;

The Biodiversity Assessment Report (BAR) will identify species or ecological communities at risk of a SAI that are likely to be affected by the proposal. These entities are identified in the BAM Calculator (BAM-C). The front page of the credit report provided by the BAM-C will also identify all the entities that are considered to be at risk of a SAI and are impacted on by the proposal.

The BAM-C Credit report can be found in appendix IV.

The following section identifies SAI entities recognised by the BAM Calculator as being at risk of a serious and irreversible impact. Description of the principles for the Listed entities are available in the *Guidance to assist a decision-maker to determine a serious and irreversible impact* and are summarised as:

- Principle 1 – species or ecological community currently in a rapid rate of decline
- Principle 2 – species or ecological communities with a very small population size
- Principle 3 – species or area of ecological community with very limited geographic distribution
- Principle 4 – species or ecological community that is unlikely to respond to management and is therefore irreplaceable

The list of SAI entities identified by the document was accessed via;

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/biodiversity/biodiversity-offsets-scheme/serious-and-irreversible-impacts>

Table 8.1 All SAI entity recognised by the BAM Calculator for the site.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Principles			
		1	2	3	4
Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF) (PCT1281).	Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF) (PCT1281).	X	X		
<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	Large-eared Pied Bat				X

8.1.2 Step two - Evaluate the extinction risk of the entity to be impacted

- **Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF)**

Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF) satisfies Principle 1 and 2 of SAI criteria;

- Principle 1 – species or ecological community currently in a rapid rate of decline
- Principle 2 – species or ecological communities with a very small population size

The proposed development will have a direct impact area of 0.02ha on STIF EEC through clearing and modification of the canopy associated with widening of the access path to the site. This impact is within a patch of approximately 1.57ha of mapped STIF within the lot (DP69541 Lot 1) associated with the development. As of 2017 it is estimated that 2300 ha of STIF remains (Bionet Vegetation Classification). Bionet PCT classification identifies the PCT has undergone 90% clearance since pre-European arrival. The removal of approximately 0.02ha attributes to the loss of <0.001 of the current extent.

Vegetation on site has been significantly altered such that the site does not reflect the natural structural attributes of STIF. Vegetation marginally reflects attributes of the STIF community, this is primarily due historical actions on site including; clearing, erosion, grazing and exotic species. A majority of vegetation on site is regrowth or has been planted by property management. Exotic species are dominant across the site and are preventing the recruitment of the original vegetation community. The impacts will not be irreversible.

Thus, the proposed development is not expected to significantly contribute to loss of STIF due to the degraded nature of the site.

- **Large-eared Pied Bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*)**

Habitat removal for the Large eared pied bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*) is a serious concern as the species is unlikely to respond to management (Principle 4). Optimal maternity or breeding habitat is not present for the species within the impact area or the site. Breeding habitat such as caves, outcrops, suitable hollows and other features which microbat species may use for breeding purposes for were not identified within the impact area. Evidence of avoiding and mitigating of impacts is detailed in section 9.

The species is known to roost in caves, overhangs, cliffs and mud nests of the Fairy Martin (*Petrochelidon ariel*). None of these features were identified within the impact area. An opportunistic survey of the surrounds revealed that the site is not in close proximity to optimal roosting habitat. The species was retained and assumed present in the BAM-C as the species may occasionally visit the site to forage. The SAI threshold for SAI in the Bionet TBDC is 'Breeding habitat identified by survey'.

The impact area hosts marginal foraging habitat for microbats in the form of canopy cover and insect abundance. Trees are expected to be removed within the Accessway footprint, resulting in a further loss of marginal foraging habitat. Alterations and degradation of habitat on site pre BDAR would have caused a greater disruption to the species than the proposed development.

Foraging habitat will be lost within the footprint, however it is expected that the trees are not significantly contributing towards the long-term survival of the species, as it is considered to be marginal habitat, only to be used occasionally or opportunistically. It is expected that the local population of Large eared pied bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*) will not be significantly affected by the proposed development as they are highly mobile and may only use the site occasionally.

8.1.3 Step three - Detail measures taken to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts on the entity

- **Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF)**

The proposal is expected to have a negligible impact upon STIF as core habitat for STIF will not be removed. The vegetation proposed for removal is in poor condition and it is unlikely that the original vegetation community would recover without assistance.

The proposal includes a potential habitat corridor along the drainage line and boundary which is to be revegetated using species selected from the STIF planting list. Delineation of works areas and exclusion zones for all vegetation to remain have been recommended.

- **Large-eared Pied Bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*)**

It has been established that maternity or breeding habitat is not present within the impact area for the Large eared pied bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*). The impact area hosts marginal foraging habitat for the species in the form of canopy cover and insect abundance. To avoid additional disturbance on potential foraging habitat, only vegetation which requires removal because of proximity to the proposed building or the need to conform the bushfire protection requirements will be removed or modified.

Three microbat nest boxes are recommended for installation within the site boundaries. This will increase the potential for microbats to roost in the area post development. Native species landscaping across the site is also recommended to increase potential habitat area for the Large eared pied bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*).

8.1.4 Step four - Evaluate a serious and irreversible impact

- **Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF)**

The proposed development assessed in this BDAR is not expected to significantly contribute to loss of STIF due to the poor condition of vegetation onsite. Vegetation is both structurally and functionally poor due to historical actions on site. The impact to STIF vegetation will not be irreversible and post-construction bush regeneration management is recommended to ensure recovery of the impacted 0.02 ha and improve the surrounding STIF vegetation. It is unlikely that this proposal would place STIF at risk of extinction or cause a serious or irreversible impact.

- **Large-eared Pied Bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*)**

Maternity or breeding habitat is not present for any of the species within the impact area or on site. The impact area hosts marginal foraging habitat for microbats in the form of canopy cover and insect abundance. Foraging habitat will be lost within the dwelling footprint, however it is expected that the trees are not significantly contributing towards the long-term survival of the species, as it is considered to be marginal habitat, only to be used occasionally or opportunistically. It is expected that the proposal will not cause a disruption to the lifecycle to the Large eared pied bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*). Therefore, the species will not be placed at risk of a serious or irreversible impact.

Stage 3: Improving Biodiversity Values

9 Avoid and minimise impacts

The development will not significantly impact features outlined in table 8 below. The proposed actions will not affect water quality as there will be erosion and silt management controls onsite to prevent runoff. Below is a table showing the potential impact the development would have on features that threatened species or communities can be dependent on.

Table 8. Expected impact on potential habitat onsite.

Feature	Present	Description of feature characteristics and location	Potential Impact	Threatened species or community using or dependent on feature	Section of the BAR where prescribed impact is addressed.
Karst, caves, crevices, cliffs or other geologically significant feature	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rocks	Yes	Landscaping rocks within the garden	Negligible	N/A	N/A
Human made structure	Yes	Demountable within the development site	Negligible	N/A	N/A
Non-native vegetation	Yes	Scattered throughout	Negligible	N/A	N/A

10 Recommendations

10.1.1 Wildlife corridor/ Revegetation

The proposed development site is situated between two previously separated patches of remnant vegetation (See figure 10.1). The planted mature native trees proposed for removal do not provide canopy connectivity between these patches. Whilst the current vegetation within the garden area proposed for removal and eastern property boundary consists of non-local native species, it is unlikely to provide a useful habitat corridor. Poor vegetation density and lack of community structure result in an approximately 100m long exposed area.



Figure 10.1 Potential improvement to habitat corridor within the site. SixMaps, 2021.

Post development native landscaping and revegetation along the boundary of the site would improve habitat connectivity within the site.

Species plantings should aim to restore maximum diversity at the site. This will provide greater foraging and nesting habitat for native species and will deliver greater biodiversity gain outcomes. These species should be selected in consultation with an ecologist for the greatest ecological outcome from a combination of Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF) and Blue Gum High Forest (BGHF) communities.

The drainage line adjacent to the access way and site boundary should be revegetated with species associated with STIF plant community. This can be implemented whilst also ensuring the areas satisfies bushfire protection requirements and footpath access to school facilities. Such measures will also increase habitat connectivity of the surrounding landscape. Shrub and ground covers will also increase the habitat area for other wildlife including small insectivorous and insectivorous birds. Plate 10.1 identifies the proposed locations for revegetation activities. Such actions will increase biodiversity within the site and the immediate landscape.



Plate 10.1 Revegetation is recommended for drainage channel and site boundary.

10.1.2 Weed management

Low impact bushland regeneration methods should be utilised to meet weed control performance criteria in all areas of remnant native vegetation, to prevent unnecessary impacts to native vegetation and disturbance to soil. Low impact bush regeneration methods include the manual removal of herbaceous weeds and their propagules by hand and with hand tools. All bush regeneration activities requiring the use of chemicals must be performed in accordance with the NSW *Pesticides Act 1999*. Herbicides must not be applied whilst exotic plants are setting seeds.

10.1.3 Delineation of work areas

During construction, impacts to the site and adjacent vegetation should be minimised by the delineation of works zones. Access to the site would be best restricted to the development footprint only. An environmental exclusion zone is proposed for vegetation outside work areas.

10.1.4 Vegetation clearing control measures

An ecologist should be present onsite during vegetation clearing to ensure no fauna are harmed as a result of clearing.

10.1.5 Tree Protection

Tree protection will be consistent with the Tree Survey. Main trees to be managed are trees within close proximity to site accessway NB: see final tree survey for details and tree numbers.

10.1.6 Weed Removal Techniques

Weed removal proposed for the site will consist of hand removal techniques, manual/mechanical removal using bush regenerator tools and winter thermal (flame) weeding. This approach will reduce the amount of herbicide used and reduce the amount of off-target damage through spot on application.

Woody perennial weeds less than 2 metres in height will require cut and paint or scrape and paint bush regenerator techniques based on the germinating/epicormic behaviour of the plant (especially plants that tend to coppice or sucker).

It is recommended that seed heads are removed prior to commencement of primary works. This would be best performed carefully by hand with secateurs with the aim of avoiding the spread flowers or seeds into planting zones.

See Appendix II for further details.

10.1.7 Native Seed Collection

Any native trees or shrubs being removed for the construction works should be checked for seeds during removal works. If seeds are present, they should be collected and used off-site. Suitable locations currently exist within the site of Pymble Ladies College currently undergoing bush regeneration activities.

10.1.8 Nest boxes

Installation of a 3 nest boxes designed for microbats should be added to the site to increase roosting opportunities in the area.

Image from: nestboxes.com.au



10.1.9 Pathogen prevention

To prevent the introduction of pathogens, Bushland Hygiene Protocols outlined in Appendix III should be followed. The site is considered to be an area which may promote the spread of Phytophthora (a group of fungus-like diseases affecting plants) due to its moist soil and proximity to the drainage channel. It is recommended that Bushland Hygiene Protocols be followed closely.

11 Conclusions

The proposed development will have an approximate impact area of 0.02 ha on Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF) (PCT1281). This vegetation has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. Vegetation onsite has been significantly altered such that the site does not reflect the natural structural attributes of STIF. The grand total cost to offset both ecosystem credits and species credits generated by this development is \$24,823.92 (including GST) assuming payment will be made into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund.

12 Appendices

12.1 Appendix I – Rationale for Likelihood of Occurrence

Rationale for Likelihood of Occurrence all Species Credit Species (candidate species) predicted by the BAM Calculator (BAM-C) and details whether the species have been retained or omitted from the calculator.

Where a species has a specific habitat constraint, which is not present within the subject land, or if the species is a vagrant within the IBRA subregion, the species is considered unlikely to occur and no further assessment is required. Additionally, in accordance with section 6.4.1.17 of the BAM, a candidate species credit species can be considered unlikely to occur within the subject land (or specific vegetation zones) where habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area. As discussed in Sections 2 and 3, much of the vegetation within the subject land and 1,500 m buffer has been previously cleared, fragmented and is subject to ongoing disturbance.

A predicted candidate species credit species that is not considered to have suitable habitat on the subject land (or specific vegetation zones) in accordance with section 6.4.1.17 of the BAM does not require further assessment on the subject land (or specific vegetation zones). The reasons for determining that a predicted species credit species is unlikely to have suitable habitat on the subject land (or specific vegetation zones) has been included below for each Candidate Species for the BDAR.

Table 12.1 Potential Species Credit Species generated by the BAM-C, all the following species were candidate threatened species for the site. All BAM-C predicated species were retained.

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat Requirements	Retained in BDAR Calculator	Site Suitability
Orchidaceae	<i>Caladenia tessellata</i>	Thick Lip Spider Orchid	The Thick Lip Spider Orchid is from a group of orchids characterised by five long spreading petals and sepals around a broad down-curved labellum ('lip'). It has cream-	Veg Zone 1: No	Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area.

			coloured petals with reddish stripes, and the yellowish labellum is broad with a few darker stripes. The long, sparsely-hairy, narrow leaf is about 6 cm long and 5 mm wide. Column base with two prominent yellow glands. Generally found in grassy sclerophyll woodland on clay loam or sandy soils, though the population near Braidwood is in low woodland with stony soil. The single leaf regrows each year. Flowers appear between September and November (but apparently generally late September or early October in extant southern populations). Within NSW, <i>Caladenia tessellata</i> is currently known from two disjunct areas; one population near Braidwood on the Southern Tablelands and three populations in the Wyong area on the Central Coast. The total population size is estimated to be less than 50 individuals.	Veg zone 2: No	Species was not identified during flora survey. The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It has a long history of clearing, fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.
Proteaceae	<i>Persoonia hirsuta</i>	Hairy Geebung	Usually found in sandy soils in dry sclerophyll open forest, woodland and heath on sandstone. Usually	Veg Zone 1: No	Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded

			present as isolated individuals or very small populations. Habitat Preferences: It also favours disturbed heath, shrubby thickets and sandstone scrubs	Veg zone 2: No	<p>such that the species is unlikely to utilise area.</p> <p>Species was not identified during flora survey.</p> <p>The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It has a long history of clearing, fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.</p>
Myrtaceae	<i>Rhodamnia rubescens</i>	Scrub Turpentine	Found in littoral, warm temperate and subtropical rainforest and wet sclerophyll forest usually on volcanic and sedimentary soils. This species is characterised as highly to extremely susceptible to infection by Myrtle Rust. Myrtle Rust affects all plant parts.	<p>Veg Zone 1: No</p> <p>Veg zone 2: No</p>	<p>Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area.</p> <p>Species was not identified during flora survey.</p> <p>The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It has a long history of clearing,</p>

					fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.
Clavariaceae	<i>Camarophyllopsis kearneyi</i>		Known only from its type locality in Lane Cove Bushland Park in the Lane Cove local government area in the Sydney metropolitan region. Its occurrence appears to be limited to the Lane Cove Bushland Park. Surveys in potentially suitable habitats elsewhere in the Sydney Basin Bioregion have failed to find <i>Camarophyllopsis kearneyi</i> . Does not produce basidiomes (above-ground fruiting structures) all year, but may be present only as non-reproductive hyphal structures below ground.	Veg Zone 1: No Veg zone 2: No	Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area. Whilst the species was not detected during the flora survey, this is not the determining factor due to the cryptic nature of fruiting fungi. The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It has a long history of clearing, fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.
Gyrostemonaceae	<i>Gyrostemon thesioides</i>		Occurs in open sclerophyll forest dominated by <i>Eucalyptus sieberi</i> . The species occurs on gentle east and south-facing slopes and on ridges in shallow sandy soil. Flowers September to December.	Veg Zone 1: No Veg zone 2: No	Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area.

					<p>Species was not identified during flora survey. And the site lacks key habitat features associated with the species.</p> <p>The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It has a long history of clearing, fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.</p>
Hygrophoraceae	<i>Hygrocybe anomala</i> var. <i>ianthinomarginata</i>		<p>Occurs in gallery warm temperate forests dominated by Lilly Pilly (<i>Acmena smithii</i>), Grey Myrtle (<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i>), Cheese Tree (<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>) and Sweet Pittosporum (<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>). Associated with alluvial sandy soils of the Hawkesbury Soil Landscapes with naturally low fertility and erodible. Occur as individuals or in groups, terrestrial rarely on wood and only if extremely rotten; substrates include soil, humus, or moss. Does not produce above ground fruiting bodies (fungus) all year round. Fruiting bodies begin appearing</p>	<p>Veg Zone 1: No</p> <p>Veg zone 2: No</p>	<p>Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area.</p> <p>Whilst the species was not detected during the flora survey, this is not the determining factor due to the cryptic nature of fruiting fungi.</p> <p>The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It has a long history of clearing, fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.</p>

			mid May to mid July sometimes to August.		
Hygrophoraceae	<i>Hygrocybe aurantipes</i>		Occurs in gallery warm temperate forests dominated by Lilly Pilly (<i>Acmena smithii</i>), Grey Myrtle (<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i>), Cheese Tree (<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>) and Sweet Pittosporum (<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>). Associated with alluvial sandy soils of the Hawkesbury Soil Landscapes with naturally low fertility and erodible. Occur as individuals or in groups, terrestrial rarely on wood and only if extremely rotten; substrates include soil, humus, or moss. Does not produce above ground fruiting bodies (fungus) all year round. Fruiting bodies begin appearing mid May to mid July sometimes to August.	Veg Zone 1: No Veg zone 2: No	<p>Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area.</p> <p>Whilst the species was not detected during the flora survey, this is not the determining factor due to the cryptic nature of fruiting fungi.</p> <p>The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It has a long history of clearing, fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.</p>
Agaricomycetes	<i>Hygrocybe austropratensis</i>		Occurs in gallery warm temperate forests dominated by Lilly Pilly (<i>Acmena smithii</i>), Grey Myrtle (<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i>), Cheese Tree (<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>) and Sweet Pittosporum (<i>Pittosporum</i>	Veg Zone 1: No Veg zone 2: No	<p>Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area.</p>

			<p><i>undulatum</i>). Associated with alluvial sandy soils of the Hawkesbury Soil Landscapes with naturally low fertility and erodible. Occur as individuals or in groups, terrestrial rarely on wood and only if extremely rotten; substrates include soil, humus, or moss. Does not produce above ground fruiting bodies (fungus) all year round. Fruiting bodies begin appearing mid May to mid July sometimes to August.</p>		<p>Whilst the species was not detected during the flora survey, this is not the determining factor due to the cryptic nature of fruiting fungi.</p> <p>The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It has a long history of clearing, fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.</p>
Agaricomycetes	<i>Hygrocybe collucera</i>		<p>Occurs in gallery warm temperate forests dominated by Lilly Pilly (<i>Acmena smithii</i>), Grey Myrtle (<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i>), Cheese Tree (<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>) and Sweet Pittosporum (<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>). Associated with alluvial sandy soils of the Hawkesbury Soil Landscapes with naturally low fertility and erodible. Occur as individuals or in groups, terrestrial rarely on wood and only if extremely rotten; substrates include soil, humus, or moss. Does not produce above ground fruiting</p>	<p>Veg Zone 1: No</p> <p>Veg zone 2: No</p>	<p>Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area.</p> <p>Whilst the species was not detected during the flora survey, this is not the determining factor due to the cryptic nature of fruiting fungi.</p> <p>The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It has a long history of clearing,</p>

			bodies (fungus) all year round. Fruiting bodies begin appearing mid May to mid July sometimes to August.		fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.
Agaricomycetes	<i>Hygrocybe griseoramosa</i>		Occurs in gallery warm temperate forests dominated by Lilly Pilly (<i>Acmena smithii</i>), Grey Myrtle (<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i>), Cheese Tree (<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>) and Sweet Pittosporum (<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>). Associated with alluvial sandy soils of the Hawkesbury Soil Landscapes with naturally low fertility and erodible. Occur as individuals or in groups, terrestrial rarely on wood and only if extremely rotten; substrates include soil, humus, or moss. Does not produce above ground fruiting bodies (fungus) all year round. Fruiting bodies begin appearing mid May to mid July sometimes to August.	Veg Zone 1: No Veg zone 2: No	Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area. Whilst the species was not detected during the flora survey, this is not the determining factor due to the cryptic nature of fruiting fungi. The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It has a long history of clearing, fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.
Agaricomycetes	<i>Hygrocybe lanecovensii</i>		Occurs in gallery warm temperate forests dominated by Lilly Pilly (<i>Acmena smithii</i>), Grey Myrtle (<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i>), Cheese	Veg Zone 1: No	Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area.

			Tree (<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>) and Sweet Pittosporum (<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>). Associated with alluvial sandy soils of the Hawkesbury Soil Landscapes with naturally low fertility and erodible. Occur as individuals or in groups, terrestrial rarely on wood and only if extremely rotten; substrates include soil, humus, or moss. Does not produce above ground fruiting bodies (fungus) all year round. Fruiting bodies begin appearing mid May to mid July sometimes to August.	Veg zone 2: No	<p>Whilst the species was not detected during the flora survey, this is not the determining factor due to the cryptic nature of fruiting fungi.</p> <p>The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It has a long history of clearing, fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.</p>
Agaricomycetes	<i>Hygrocybe reesiae</i>		Occurs in gallery warm temperate forests dominated by Lilly Pilly (<i>Acmena smithii</i>), Grey Myrtle (<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i>), Cheese Tree (<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>) and Sweet Pittosporum (<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>). Associated with alluvial sandy soils of the Hawkesbury Soil Landscapes with naturally low fertility and erodible. Occur as individuals or in groups, terrestrial rarely on wood and only if extremely rotten; substrates	<p>Veg Zone 1: No</p> <p>Veg zone 2: No</p>	<p>Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area.</p> <p>Whilst the species was not detected during the flora survey, this is not the determining factor due to the cryptic nature of fruiting fungi.</p> <p>The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It</p>

			include soil, humus, or moss. Does not produce above ground fruiting bodies (fungus) all year round. Fruiting bodies begin appearing mid May to mid July sometimes to August.		has a long history of clearing, fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.
Agaricomycetes	<i>Hygrocybe rubronivea</i>		Occurs in gallery warm temperate forests dominated by Lilly Pilly (<i>Acmena smithii</i>), Grey Myrtle (<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i>), Cheese Tree (<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>) and Sweet Pittosporum (<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>). Associated with alluvial sandy soils of the Hawkesbury Soil Landscapes with naturally low fertility and erodible. Occur as individuals or in groups, terrestrial rarely on wood and only if extremely rotten; substrates include soil, humus, or moss. Does not produce above ground fruiting bodies (fungus) all year round. Fruiting bodies begin appearing mid May to mid July sometimes to August.	Veg Zone 1: No Veg zone 2: No	Likelihood of occurrence for the species is low. Habitat is substantially degraded such that the species is unlikely to utilise area. Whilst the species was not detected during the flora survey, this is not the determining factor due to the cryptic nature of fruiting fungi. The site has been significantly altered and degraded from its natural state. It has a long history of clearing, fragmentation and on-going disturbance. No further assessment required.

Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat Requirements	Retained in BDAR Calculator	Site Suitability
Aves	<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	Regent Honeyeater	The species inhabits dry open forest and woodland, particularly Box-Ironbark woodland, and riparian forests of River Sheoak. Regent Honeyeaters inhabit woodlands that support a significantly high abundance and species richness of bird species. These woodlands have significantly large numbers of mature trees, high canopy cover and abundance of mistletoes. This species has been seen foraging in flowering coastal Swamp Mahogany and Spotted Gum forests.	No	Species is unlikely to occur within the site. Vegetation within the site is highly disturbed and lacks a middle and ground vegetation. Site also lacks key habitat features associated with the species such as an abundance of mistletoes and bird richness. No further assessment required.
Mammalia	<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	Large-eared Pied Bat	Large-eared Pied Bat roosts in caves (near their entrances), crevices in cliffs, old mine workings and in the disused, bottle-shaped mud nests of the Fairy Martin (<i>Petrochelidon ariel</i>), frequenting low to mid-elevation dry open forest and woodland close to these features.	Veg Zone 1 : Yes Veg Zone 2 : Yes	Moderate likely hood of occurrence. The Site contains potential foraging habitat for the species in the form of tree canopy within Vegetation zone 2. Caves and crevices are likely within 2km of the site. Species retained in calculator for Management zone 2.




Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat Requirements	Retained in BDAR Calculator	Site Suitability
Mammalia	<i>Miniopterus orianae oceanensis</i>	Large Bent-winged Bat	Primarily roosts in caves but will utilise mine shafts, storm-water tunnels, buildings and other man-made structures. Forms colonies within a maternity cave and disperse within a 300km range. Forage in forested areas in the tree canopy.	Breeding : No Foraging: Veg zone 1: Yes Veg Zone 2: Yes	Moderate likely hood of occurrence. The site contains potential foraging habitat for the species in the form of adequate tree canopy within Vegetation zone 2. Two demountable structures are proposed to be removed, however these structures are currently in use and are well maintained. No potential breeding habitat is located within the disturbance area. No further assessment required.
Mammalia	<i>Miniopterus australis</i>	Little Bent-winged Bat	Moist eucalypt forest, rainforest or dense coastal banksia scrub. Little Bentwing-bats roost in caves, tunnels and sometimes tree hollows during the day, and at night forage for small insects beneath the canopy of densely vegetated habitats. They often share	Breeding : No Foraging: Veg zone 1: Yes	Moderate likely hood of occurrence. The site contains potential foraging habitat for the species in the form of adequate tree canopy within Vegetation zone 2.



Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat Requirements	Retained in BDAR Calculator	Site Suitability
			roosting sites with the Common Bentwing-bat and, in winter, the two species may form mixed clusters. In NSW the largest maternity colony is in close association with a large maternity colony of Common Bentwing-bats (<i>M. schreibersii</i>) and appears to depend on the large colony to provide the high temperatures needed to rear its young.	Veg Zone 2: Yes	The site lacks key breeding habitat requirements associated with the species. Vegetation within both zones of the site is highly disturbed and lacks midstory vegetation. A single hollow was identified within Management zone 2 in a tree proposed for retention. No further assessment required.
Aves	<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Swift Parrot	On the mainland they occur in areas where eucalypts are flowering profusely or where there are abundant lerp (from sap-sucking bugs) infestations. Favoured feed trees include winter flowering species such as Swamp Mahogany <i>Eucalyptus robusta</i> , Spotted Gum <i>Corymbia maculata</i> , Red Bloodwood <i>C. gummifera</i> , Mugga Ironbark <i>E. sideroxylon</i> , and White Box <i>E. albens</i> . Commonly used lerp infested trees include Grey Box <i>E. microcarpa</i> , Grey	Breeding: No Foraging: Yes	Potential to occur within the site. The site displays moderate key foraging habitat requirements in the form of Eucalypt canopy species; <i>E. pilularis</i> in Vegetation zone 2. Breeding occurs within Tasmania and returns to mainland foraging sites on a cyclic basis.

Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat Requirements	Retained in BDAR Calculator	Site Suitability
			Box <i>E. moluccana</i> and Blackbutt <i>E. pilularis</i> . Return to home foraging sites on a cyclic basis depending on food availability.		No further assessment required.

12.2 Appendix II– Key Weed Removal Methods

Physical removal

Technique	Method	Equipment
Hand Removal 	<p>Seedlings and smaller weed species where appropriate will be pulled out by hand, without risk of injury to workers. The size that this can occur varies throughout the treatment area. Generally, it ranges from post seed to approximately 300mm in height.</p> <p>Rolling and raking is suitable for larger infestations of Wandering Jew. The weed can be raked and stems and plants parts rolled. The clump of weed material can then be bagged and removed from site.</p>	<p>Tools: Gloves, Rakes, Knife and Weed Bags</p>
Crowning 	<p>Plants that possess rhizomes or bulbs might not respond to various removal techniques and may need to be treated with crowning.</p> <p>A knife, mattock or trowel is to be driven into the soil surrounding the bulb or rhizome at an angle of approximately 45 degrees with surrounding soil, so as to cut any roots that may be running off. This is to occur in 360 degrees around the bulb/rhizome. The rhizome or bulb is to be bagged and removed from the site and disposed of at an appropriate waste recycling facility</p> <p>Soil disturbance is to be kept to a minimum when using this technique.</p>	<p>Tools: Knife, mattock, trowel, impervious gloves, and all other required P.P.E.</p>
Cut and Paint Stems 	<p>Weed species deemed unsuitable for hand removal shall be cut. Those that have persistent or vigorous growth will be cut and painted with Roundup® Biactive Herbicide or equivalent.</p> <p>Juvenile and smaller weed species will be cut with secateurs at base of plant, and herbicide applied via applicator bottle. Stem to be cut horizontally as close to the ground as possible, using secateurs, loppers or a pruning saw. Horizontal cuts to be made on top of stem to prevent the herbicide running off the stump.</p> <p>Apply herbicide to the cut stem immediately, within 10-20 seconds, before the plant cells close and the translocation of the herbicide is limited. Herbicide is not to reach sediment or surrounding non-targeting plants.</p>	<p>Tools: loppers, secateurs, pruning saw, herbicide applicator/sprayer, impervious gloves, Roundup® Biactive Herbicide and all other required P.P.E.</p>

Technique	Method	Equipment
<p>Scrape and Painting</p> 	<p>More resilient weed species, where other techniques are less reliable are to be scraped with a knife or chisel and painted with undiluted Roundup® Biactive Herbicide. Works to be carried out by a contractor with a current herbicide license.</p> <p>Weed species will be scraped with a knife or chisel up the length of the trunk, and herbicide applied via applicator bottle. Scrape the trunk from as close to the ground as possible to approximately ¾ of the plants height. Where trunk diameters exceed approximately 5 cm a second scrape shall be made on the other side of the trunk.</p> <p>Apply undiluted herbicide to the cut trunk immediately, within 10-20 seconds, before the plant cells close and the translocation of the herbicide is limited. All care must be taken by the contractor not to spill herbicide onto sediment or surrounding non-targeting plants.</p> <p>Follow up treatment may be required. If plants resprout, scrape and paint the shoots using the same method after sufficient regrowth has occurred.</p>	<p>Tools: knife, chisel, protective clothing, safety glasses herbicide applicator/sprayer, impervious gloves, Roundup® Biactive Herbicide, and all other required P.P.E.</p>
<p>Cut with a Chainsaw and Paint</p> 	<p>Larger size weed species, too large for cutting with hand tools, shall be cut with a chainsaw and painted with undiluted Roundup® Biactive Herbicide. Works to be carried out by a contractor with a current chainsaw and herbicide license.</p> <p>Larger weed species will be cut with a chainsaw at base of plant, and herbicide applied via applicator bottle. Cut the stem horizontally as close to the ground as possible, using the chainsaw. Remove upper branches to reduce bulk of plant.</p> <p>If cutting at the base is impractical, cut higher to get rid of the bulk of the weed, then cut again at the base and apply herbicide. Make cuts horizontal to prevent the herbicide running off the stump. Apply undiluted herbicide to the cut trunk immediately, within 10-20 seconds, before the plant cells close and the translocation of the herbicide is limited. Ensure there is no runoff of poison. All care must be taken by the contractor not to spill herbicide into water, onto sediment, or surrounding non-targeting plants.</p> <p>Follow up treatment will be required. If plants resprout, cut and paint the shoots using the same method.</p>	<p>Tools: chainsaw, ear muffs, protective clothing, safety glasses herbicide applicator/sprayer, impervious gloves, Roundup® Biactive Herbicide, and all other required P.P.E.</p>

Technique	Method	Equipment
Spot Spraying	<p>Spot spraying involves spraying non-seeding annuals and grasses, and for regrowth of weeds once an area has been cleared or brushcut. Works to be carried out by a contractor with a current herbicide license.</p> <p>Herbicide will be mixed up according to the manufacturer's directions for the particular weed species being targeted. Mixed herbicide shall be applied to the targeted weed species with a backpack sprayer. All care must be taken by the contractor not to spill herbicide onto sediment or surrounding non-targeting plants.</p>	<p>Tools: protective clothing, safety glasses, herbicide sprayer, impervious gloves, Herbicide, and all other required P.P.E.</p>

Flame Weeding

Thermal (flame) weeding is a method where high temperatures are applied to weeds, causing the plant to die. Thermal weeding is particularly useful in situations where conservation or health considerations are high and weed density is low such as waterways where herbicide use is not permitted.

While flame weeding is not suited to most streetscapes due to the fire hazard nor can it be used on materials such as soft fall and similar playground equipment it is noted that 'flame' weeding in waterways allows weed management in areas where herbicides are not permitted.

Also for native vegetation areas thermal weeding, with a flame weeder, has been shown to stimulate germination of native plants while killing the seeds of annual weeds such as Devils Pitchfork, *Bidens pilosa*. Flame weeding is also effective in killing persistent weeds like Mother of Millions.

Best results are obtained when follow up weed control is undertaken 4-6 weeks after treatment. In addition, weed control should be conducted periodically after that for example to control weeds over a period of a year it is likely that between 3-5 applications will be necessary, depending on rainfall and the extent of the weed seed bank. This method is most effective on young annual weeds and least effective on older perennial weeds. In some cases, control of perennial weeds will be ineffective however this depends on the species present and its age.

FLAME WEEDER – ECO BURN

Case Study: Weed
Mgt and Eco-burn
Glenorie in the
Hills Shire Council



Images provided by Dragonfly
Environmental

Flame weeding should be undertaken outside of the fire seasons. Flame weeding allows for the mimicking of a burn in areas where a control burn could not be undertaken. See native plants regenerating after flame weeding.



12.3 Appendix III– Bushland Hygiene Protocols for Phytophthora (Hornsby Council Recommendations)

- Always assume that the area you are about to work in is free of the disease and therefore needs to be protected against infection.
- And, always assume that the activity you are about to undertake has the potential to introduce the disease.
- Arrive at site with clean shoes, i.e.: no dirt encrusted on them.
- If you arrive with shoes that are encrusted with dirt, they will have to be completely soaked in metho or disinfectant and allow a few minutes to completely soak in. NEVER scrape untreated dirt off your shoes onto the ground.
- Before you move onto the site spray the bottom of your shoes with 70 % metho. Bleach solution (1% strength) or household/commercial disinfectant (as per label) are also suitable.
- Check all tools and equipment that comes in contact with soil are clean before entering the area (they should have been cleaned on site at the end of the previous work session). If there is any dirt on them, spray them with 70% metho.
- Clean all tools at the end of each work session while still on site ensuring this is done away from drainage lines and adjacent work areas. Knock or brush off encrusted dirt and completely spray with 70 % metho. Replace in storage/transport containers.
- Preferably compost all weed material on site.
- Never drag vegetation with exposed roots and soil through bushland.
- When removing weeds from site, remove as much soil as possible from them in the immediate work area and carefully place vegetative material into plastic bags.
- Try not to get the bag itself dirty; don't put it on/in a muddy area.
- Always work from the lower part of a slope to the upper part.
- Always work in areas known to be free of the pathogen before working in infected areas.
- Minimise activities wherever possible when the soil is very wet.
- Vehicles should not be driven off track or into reserves (unless vehicle decontamination is carried out before and after entering a single work site)
- Only accredited supplies of plants/mulch to be used.

Kit should contain: 1 bucket, 1 scrubbing brush, 1 spray bottle (metho 70% solution), 1 bottle tap water, 1 bottle methylated spirits.

Contact Hornsby Bushcare if you require any refills or replacements of your Phytophthora Kits on 9484 3677 or bushcare@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Facts about Phytophthora

Phytophthora cinnamomi (Phytophthora) is a microscopic, soil borne, water-mould that has been implicated in the death of remnant trees and other plants in Australian bushland. Phytophthora is not native to Australia. It is believed to have been introduced sometime after European settlement. Phytophthora is a national problem and is listed as a key threatening process under the Commonwealth's Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

Symptoms including Dieback

"Dieback" simply means dying or dead plants. There are many causes of dieback; Phytophthora is just one of them. Often dieback is the result of a combination of factors such as; changed drainage patterns and nutrient loads (e.g.: increased stormwater run-off) or changed soil conditions (e.g.: dumped fill or excavation of/near root zone). Plants that are stressed are more vulnerable to Phytophthora.

Initial symptoms of Phytophthora include; wilting, yellowing and retention of dried foliage, loss of canopy and dieback. Infected roots blacken and rot and are therefore unable to take-up water and nutrients. Severely infected plants will eventually die. Symptoms can be more obvious in summer when plants may be stressed by drought. If you suspect that Phytophthora is on your site, please contact the Bushcare team to collect a soil sample to be lab tested. This is usually done in the warmer months where conditions are optimum for the disease.

Infection

There is no way of visually telling if Phytophthora is present in the soil as its structures and spores are microscopic (invisible to the naked eye). Phytophthora requires moist soil conditions and warm temperatures for infection, growth and reproduction. Spores travel through moist soil and attach to plant roots. Once Phytophthora has infected a host plant it can grow inside plant root tissue independent of external soil moisture conditions. After infection, Phytophthora grows through the root destroying the tissue which is then unable to absorb water and nutrients.

12.4 Appendix IV– BAM –C; Reports and Data

12.4.1 Payment Report.



Biodiversity payment summary report

Assessment Id	Payment data version	Assessment Revision	Report created
00027998/BAAS19008/21/00028108		0	21/09/2021
Assessor Name	Assessor Number	Proposal Name	BAM Case Status
Geraldene Susan Dalby-Ball	BAAS19008	Pymble Ladies College - Grey House Precinct	Finalised
Assessment Type	Date Finalised	BOS entry trigger	
Part 4 Developments (Small Area)	21/09/2021	BOS Threshold: Biodiversity Values Map	

PCT list

Price calculated	PCT common name	Credits
Yes	1281 - Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest	1
Yes	1281 - Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest	1

Species list

Price calculated	Species	Credits
Yes	<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i> (Large-eared Pied Bat)	1

Ecosystem credits for plant communities types (PCT), ecological communities & threatened species habitat

Assessment Id	Proposal Name	Page 1 of 3
00027998/BAAS19008/21/00028108	Pymble Ladies College - Grey House Precinct	



Biodiversity payment summary report

IBRA sub region	PCT common name	Threat status	Offset trading group	Risk premium	Administrative cost	Methodology adjustment factor	Price per credit	No. of ecosystem credits	Final credits price
Cumberland	1281 - Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest	Yes	Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	18.83%	\$302.25	1.7832	\$9,281.37	1	\$9,281.37
Cumberland	1281 - Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest	No	Northern Hinterland Wet Sclerophyll Forests >90%	20.69%	\$394.94	1.6277	\$12,311.14	1	\$12,311.14
Subtotal (excl. GST)									\$21,592.51
GST									\$2,159.25
Total ecosystem credits (incl. GST)									\$23,751.76

Species credits for threatened species

Species profile ID	Species	Threat status	Price per credit	Risk premium	Administrative cost	No. of species credits	Final credits price
10157	Chalinolobus dwyeri (Large-eared Pied Bat)	Vulnerable	\$741.31	20.6900%	\$80.00	1	\$974.69

Assessment Id
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Proposal Name
Pymble Ladies College - Grey House Precinct

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Biodiversity payment summary report

	Subtotal (excl. GST)	\$974.69
	GST	\$97.47
Total species credits (incl. GST)		\$1,072.16
	Grand total	\$24,823.92

Assessment Id

00027998/BAAS19008/21/00028108

Proposal Name

Pymble Ladies College - Grey House Precinct

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12.4.2 Credit Summary Report.



BAM Credit Summary Report

Proposal Details

Assessment Id	Proposal Name	BAM data last updated *
00027998/BAAS19008/21/00028108	Pymble Ladies College - Grey House Precinct	10/06/2021
Assessor Name	Report Created	BAM Data version *
Geraldene Susan Dalby-Ball	21/09/2021	45
Assessor Number	BAM Case Status	Date Finalised
BAAS19008	Finalised	21/09/2021
Assessment Revision	Assessment Type	BOS entry trigger
0	Part 4 Developments (Small Area)	BOS Threshold: Biodiversity Values Map

* Disclaimer: BAM data last updated may indicate either complete or partial update of the BAM calculator database. BAM calculator database may not be completely aligned with Bionet.

Ecosystem credits for plant communities types (PCT), ecological communities & threatened species habitat

Zone	Vegetation zone name	TEC name	Current Vegetation integrity score	Change in Vegetation integrity (loss / gain)	Area (ha)	BC Act Listing status	EPBC Act listing status	Species sensitivity to gain class (for BRW)	Biodiversity risk weighting	Potential SAI	Ecosystem credits
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Assessment Id
00027998/BAAS19008/21/00028108

Proposal Name
Pymble Ladies College - Grey House Precinct

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BAM Credit Summary Report

Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest											
1	1281_fair	Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	28.4	2.5	0.02	Critically Endangered Ecological Community	Critically Endangered	High Sensitivity to Potential Gain	2.50	TRUE	1
										Subtotal	1
Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest											
2	1281_Poor	Not a TEC	18.5	18.5	0.04			High Sensitivity to Potential Gain	2.50		1
										Subtotal	1
										Total	2

Species credits for threatened species

Vegetation zone name	Habitat condition (Vegetation Integrity)	Change in habitat condition	Area (ha)/Count (no. individuals)	BC Act Listing status	EPBC Act listing status	Biodiversity risk weighting	Potential SAll	Species credits
Chalinolobus dwyeri / Large-eared Pied Bat (Fauna)								
1281_fair	2.5	2.5	0.02	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	3	True	1
							Subtotal	1

12.4.3 Predicted species report.



BAM Predicted Species Report

Proposal Details

Assessment Id	Proposal Name	BAM data last updated *
00027998/BAAS19008/21/00028108	Pymble Ladies College - Grey House Precinct	10/06/2021
Assessor Name	Report Created	BAM Data version *
Geraldene Susan Dalby-Ball	21/09/2021	45
Assessor Number	Assessment Type	BAM Case Status
BAAS19008	Part 4 Developments (Small Area)	Finalised
Assessment Revision	BOS entry trigger	Date Finalised
0	BOS Threshold: Biodiversity Values Map	21/09/2021

* Disclaimer: BAM data last updated may indicate either complete or partial update of the BAM calculator database. BAM calculator database may not be completely aligned with Bionet.

Threatened species reliably predicted to utilise the site. No surveys are required for these species. Ecosystem credits apply to these species.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Vegetation Types(s)
Barking Owl	Ninox connivens	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Black-chinned Honeyeater (eastern subspecies)	Melithreptus gularis gularis	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Dusky Woodswallow	Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Eastern Coastal Free-tailed Bat	Micronomus norfolkensis	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Flame Robin	Petroica phoenicea	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Gang-gang Cockatoo	Callocephalon fimbriatum	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Glossy Black-Cockatoo	Calyptorhynchus lathami	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Grey-headed Flying-fox	Pteropus poliocephalus	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Hooded Robin (south-eastern form)	Melanodryas cucullata cucullata	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest

Assessment Id	Proposal Name	Page 1 of 2
00027998/BAAS19008/21/00028108	Pymble Ladies College - Grey House Precinct	



BAM Predicted Species Report

Koala	<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Large Bent-winged Bat	<i>Miniopterus orianae oceanensis</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Little Bent-winged Bat	<i>Miniopterus australis</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Little Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Little Lorikeet	<i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Masked Owl	<i>Tyto novaehollandiae</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
New Holland Mouse	<i>Pseudomys novaehollandiae</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Painted Honeyeater	<i>Grantiella picta</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Powerful Owl	<i>Ninox strenua</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Regent Honeyeater	<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Rosenberg's Goanna	<i>Varanus rosenbergi</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Scarlet Robin	<i>Petroica boodang</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Speckled Warbler	<i>Chthonicola sagittata</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Spotted-tailed Quoll	<i>Dasyurus maculatus</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Square-tailed Kite	<i>Lophoictinia isura</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Swift Parrot	<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Turquoise Parrot	<i>Neophema pulchella</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Varied Sittella	<i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
White-throated Needletail	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail-bat	<i>Saccolaimus flaviventris</i>	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest

Threatened species assessed as not within the vegetation zone(s) for the PCT(s)

Refer to BAR for detailed justification

Common Name	Scientific Name	Justification in the BAM-C
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Assessment Id
00027998/BAAS19008/21/00028108

Proposal Name
Pymble Ladies College - Grey House
Precinct

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12.4.4 Candidate species report



BAM Candidate Species Report

Proposal Details

Assessment Id	Proposal Name	BAM data last updated *
00027998/BAAS19008/21/00028108	Pymble Ladies College - Grey House Precinct	10/06/2021
Assessor Name	Report Created	BAM Data version *
Geraldene Susan Dalby-Ball	21/09/2021	45
Assessor Number	Assessment Type	BAM Case Status
BAAS19008	Part 4 Developments (Small Area)	Finalised
Assessment Revision	Date Finalised	BOS entry trigger
0	21/09/2021	BOS Threshold: Biodiversity Values Map

* Disclaimer: BAM data last updated may indicate either complete or partial update of the BAM calculator database. BAM calculator database may not be completely aligned with Bionet.

List of Species Requiring Survey

Name	Presence	Survey Months
<i>Caladenia tessellata</i> Thick Lip Spider Orchid	No (surveyed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Jan <input type="checkbox"/> Feb <input type="checkbox"/> Mar <input type="checkbox"/> Apr <input type="checkbox"/> May <input type="checkbox"/> Jun <input type="checkbox"/> Jul <input type="checkbox"/> Aug <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sep <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oct <input type="checkbox"/> Nov <input type="checkbox"/> Dec <input type="checkbox"/> Survey month outside the specified months?
<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i> Large-eared Pied Bat	Yes (assumed present)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jan <input type="checkbox"/> Feb <input type="checkbox"/> Mar <input type="checkbox"/> Apr <input type="checkbox"/> May <input type="checkbox"/> Jun <input type="checkbox"/> Jul <input type="checkbox"/> Aug <input type="checkbox"/> Sep <input type="checkbox"/> Oct <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nov <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dec <input type="checkbox"/> Survey month outside the specified months?



BAM Candidate Species Report

<i>Persoonia hirsuta</i> Hairy Geebung	No (surveyed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Jan <input type="checkbox"/> Feb <input type="checkbox"/> Mar <input type="checkbox"/> Apr <input type="checkbox"/> May <input type="checkbox"/> Jun <input type="checkbox"/> Jul <input type="checkbox"/> Aug <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sep <input type="checkbox"/> Oct <input type="checkbox"/> Nov <input type="checkbox"/> Dec <input type="checkbox"/> Survey month outside the specified months?
<i>Rhodamnia rubescens</i> Scrub Turpentine	No (surveyed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Jan <input type="checkbox"/> Feb <input type="checkbox"/> Mar <input type="checkbox"/> Apr <input type="checkbox"/> May <input type="checkbox"/> Jun <input type="checkbox"/> Jul <input type="checkbox"/> Aug <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sep <input type="checkbox"/> Oct <input type="checkbox"/> Nov <input type="checkbox"/> Dec <input type="checkbox"/> Survey month outside the specified months?

Threatened species assessed as not on site

Refer to BAR for detailed justification

Common name	Scientific name	Justification in the BAM-C
Camarophyllopsis kearneyi	Camarophyllopsis kearneyi	Habitat degraded
Gyrostemon thesioides	Gyrostemon thesioides	Habitat degraded
Hygrocybe anomala var. ianthinomarginata	Hygrocybe anomala var. ianthinomarginata	Habitat degraded
Hygrocybe aurantipes	Hygrocybe aurantipes	Habitat degraded
Hygrocybe austropratensis	Hygrocybe austropratensis	Habitat degraded
Hygrocybe collucera	Hygrocybe collucera	Habitat degraded
Hygrocybe griseoramosa	Hygrocybe griseoramosa	Habitat degraded
Hygrocybe lanecovensii	Hygrocybe lanecovensii	Habitat degraded
Hygrocybe reesiaae	Hygrocybe reesiaae	Habitat degraded
Hygrocybe rubronivea	Hygrocybe rubronivea	Habitat degraded
Large Bent-winged Bat	Miniopterus orianae oceanensis	Habitat constraints
Little Bent-winged Bat	Miniopterus australis	Habitat constraints
Regent Honeyeater	Anthochaera phrygia	Habitat degraded
Swift Parrot	Lathamus discolor	Habitat constraints

Assessment Id

00027998/BAAS19008/21/00028108

Proposal Name

Pymble Ladies College - Grey House Precinct

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12.4.5 Biodiversity Credit Report (Like for Like)



BAM Biodiversity Credit Report (Like for like)

Proposal Details

Assessment Id	Proposal Name	BAM data last updated *
00027998/BAAS19008/21/00028108	Pymble Ladies College - Grey House Precinct	10/06/2021
Assessor Name	Assessor Number	BAM Data version *
Geraldene Susan Dalby-Ball	BAAS19008	45
Proponent Names	Report Created	BAM Case Status
Kate Bimson	21/09/2021	Finalised
Assessment Revision	Assessment Type	Date Finalised
0	Part 4 Developments (Small Area)	21/09/2021
BOS entry trigger	* Disclaimer: BAM data last updated may indicate either complete or partial update of the BAM calculator database. BAM calculator database may not be completely aligned with Bionet.	
BOS Threshold: Biodiversity Values Map		

Potential Serious and Irreversible Impacts

Name of threatened ecological community	Listing status	Name of Plant Community Type/ID
Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	Critically Endangered Ecological Community	1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest
Species		
Chalinolobus dwyeri / Large-eared Pied Bat		

Additional Information for Approval

Assessment Id	Proposal Name	Page 1 of 4
00027998/BAAS19008/21/00028108	Pymble Ladies College - Grey House Precinct	



BAM Biodiversity Credit Report (Like for like)

PCTs With Customized Benchmarks

PCT

No Changes

Predicted Threatened Species Not On Site

Name

No Changes

Ecosystem Credit Summary (Number and class of biodiversity credits to be retired)

Name of Plant Community Type/ID	Name of threatened ecological community	Area of impact	HBT Cr	No HBT Cr	Total credits to be retired
1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest	Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion	0.0	1	0	1
1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest	Not a TEC	0.0	0	1	1

Assessment Id

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1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest	Like-for-like credit retirement options					
	Name of offset trading group	Trading group	Zone	HBT	Credits	IBRA region
	Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion This includes PCT's: 1183, 1281, 1284	-	1281_fair	Yes	1	Cumberland, Burragorang, Pittwater, Sydney Cataract, Wollemi and Yengo. or Any IBRA subregion that is within 100 kilometers of the outer edge of the impacted site.
1281-Sydney Turpentine - Ironbark forest	Like-for-like credit retirement options					
	Class	Trading group	Zone	HBT	Credits	IBRA region
	Northern Hinterland Wet Sclerophyll Forests This includes PCT's: 1281, 1845	Northern Hinterland Wet Sclerophyll Forests >=90%	1281_Poor	No	1	Cumberland, Burragorang, Pittwater, Sydney Cataract, Wollemi and Yengo. or Any IBRA subregion that is within 100 kilometers of the outer edge of the impacted site.

Species Credit Summary

Species	Vegetation Zone/s	Area / Count	Credits
Chalinolobus dwyeri / Large-eared Pied Bat	1281_fair	0.0	1.00

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Credit Retirement Options

Like-for-like credit retirement options

Chalinolobus dwyeri / Large-eared Pied Bat	Spp	IBRA subregion
	Chalinolobus dwyeri / Large-eared Pied Bat	Any in NSW

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12.5 Appendix V– EPBC Act Considerations

The following section includes an assessment of potential impacts to the Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) which is a listed species as per Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES).

This assessment has used the *Significant impact guidelines 1.1- Matters of National Environmental Significance – page 11* to conclude whether the proposed activity will have a significant and irreversible impact on the species. The following section addresses significant impact criteria which applies to vulnerable species (including the Koala) listed on the EPBC Act 1999.

Survey effort.

The survey guidelines suggested within the Koala Habitat Protection Guideline (DPIE, 2020) and EPBC Act Referral Guidelines for the vulnerable koala published by Commonwealth Department of Environment (DotE; 2014) were used as a general guide. A targeted on-ground survey for the Koala was conducted on the site with each tree being directly observed. Binoculars were available for use however the trees are so distant and the canopies clear that a Koala would have been seen if present. Searches were also made in accessible surrounding land holdings and along road ways, binoculars were used here to facilitate clear sight into inaccessible areas (including some private property). Off-site observational surveys for Kolas were opportunistic in nature and focused primarily where potential habitat is greatest (and accessible).

Desktop (Bionet, ALA) and on-ground surveys were conducted to determine the presence / absence of the species. The on-ground survey also contributed to information regarding habitat availability within the site. Indirect survey methods including; scat and scratching's searches (outlined in guiding documents) were conducted. No evidence of Koalas was found on site.

On site, detailed observations were made within all patches of vegetation. Individual trees were inspected at their base for koala scat, scratching's and presence / absence within each tree. No individuals were observed during the survey both on and off site.

An action is likely to have a significant impact on a vulnerable species if there is a real chance or possibility that it will:

Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of a species

There is a low likelihood of occurrence for the species. It is unlikely that the species would occur on site due to the degraded nature of vegetation and habitat. No individuals (nor an important population) would be expected to occur on site. The site has been significantly altered such that it does not reflect natural attributes of the original vegetation community. Therefore, the proposal is unlikely to lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population.

Reduce the area of occupancy of an important population

The species or an important population of the species is unlikely to occur on site due to habitat degradation. Vegetation surveys revealed a low abundance of koala use trees within the impact area. As such the area is unlikely to be occupied by the Koala and the proposal is unlikely to reduce the area of occupancy of an important population.

Fragment an existing important population into two or more populations.

No important population for the species has been recorded in the assessment area. It is expected that the proposal will have a negligible impact upon individuals within the vicinity of the proposed development area.

Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species.

No *Core koala habitat* is proposed to be impacted as a result of the development. See Koala Assessment Report for further impact assessment and recommendations.

Conclusion

The proposal is unlikely to have a significant impact on the Koala or areas of critical habitat for the species. The *Koala habitat assessment tool* (DotE; 2014) was used to determine the importance of habitat on site for the Koala. Targeted surveys resulted in no evidence of Koala activity within the site. See Koala Assessment Report for further impact assessment and recommendations.

13 Expertise of authors

With over 20 years wetland and urban ecology experience, a great passion for what she does, and extensive technical and on-ground knowledge make Geraldene a valuable contribution to any project.

Geraldene has over 8 years local government experience as manager of environment and education for Pittwater Council. Geraldene presented papers on the topic at the NSW Coastal Conference, Sydney CMA and Hawkesbury Nepean forums. Geraldene is a Technical Advisor Sydney Olympic Park Wetland Education and Training (WET) panel.

Geraldene has up to date knowledge of environmental policies and frequently provides input to such works. Geraldene was a key contributor to the recent set of Guidelines commissioned by South East Queensland Healthy Waterways Water Sensitive Urban Design Guidelines. Geraldene's role included significant contributions and review of the Guideline for Maintaining WSUD Assets and the Guideline for Rectifying WSUD Assets.

Geraldene is a frequent contributor to many community and professional workshops on ecological matters particularly relating to environmental management. She is an excellent Project Manager.

Geraldene is a joint author on the popular book Burnum Burnum's Wildthings published by Sainty and Associates. Author of the Saltmarsh Restoration Chapter Estuary Plants of East Coast Australia published by Sainty and Associates (2013). Geraldene's early work included 5 years with Wetland Expert Geoff Sainty of Sainty and Associates. Geraldene is an expert in creating and enhancing urban biodiversity habitat and linking People with Place.

Geraldene Dalby-Ball DIRECTOR



SPECIALISATIONS

- Urban Ecology – and habitat rehabilitation and re-creation.
- Urban waterway management – assessing, designing and supervising rehabilitation works
- Saltmarsh and Wetland re-creation and restoration – assessment, design and monitoring
- Engaging others in the area of environmental care and connection
- Technical Advisor – environmental design, guidelines and policies
- Sound knowledge and practical application of experimental design and statistics
- Project management and supervision
- Grant writing and grant assessment
- Budget estimates and tender selection
- Expert witness in the Land and Environment Court

CAREER SUMMARY

- **Director and Ecologist**, Ecological Consultants Australia. 2014-*present*
- **Director and Ecologist**, Dragonfly Environmental. 1998-*present*
- **Manager** Natural Resources and Education, Pittwater Council 2002-2010
- **Wetland Ecologist** Sainty and Associates 1995-2002

QUALIFICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- **Bachelor of Science with 1st Class Honors**, Sydney University
- WorkCover WHS General Induction of Construction Industry NSW White Card.
- Senior First Aid Certificate.
- **Practicing member and vice president** Ecological Consultants Association of NSW

Luke is a passionate ecologist who has experience across both the government and private sectors to deliver sustainable environmental outcomes. He has contributed to projects with major construction contractors and has been able to deliver creative environmental solutions on time and within budget.

Luke's passion for fauna was discovered through volunteer work handling microbats in Victoria. Those skills have been honed through the work with ECA as a fauna spotter during vegetation clearing activities in NSW.

As an undergraduate student, he interned with the Bureau of Meteorology to conduct research identifying traditional ecological knowledge of severe weather events in communities in the Pacific.

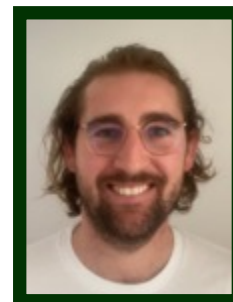
He has exceptional customer communication skills and builds long lasting professional relationships with his clients. He has a working knowledge of current NSW and Commonwealth environmental legislation. He is also competent in the practical application of flora and fauna surveying and monitoring techniques.

Key Projects Include:

- Monitoring of Endangered Species, various locations of NSW and VIC
- Fauna spotter during vegetation clearing
- Conducted environmental impact assessments for state infrastructure projects and Department of Defence
- Passion for traditional ecological knowledge including researching for the Bureau of Meteorology's COSPAC program

Luke Johnson

ECOLOGIST



SPECIALISATIONS

- Urban and landscape ecology
- Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA)
- Flora and Fauna Assessments
- Habitat tree assessment, marking and mapping
- GIS mapping
- Fauna spotting

CAREER SUMMARY

- **Ecologist**, Ecological Consultants Australia. 2020-present
- **Environmental Consultant**, Hibbs & Associates. 2019-2020
- **Field Ecologist**, Biosis 2018-2019
- **Volunteer**, Microbat box monitoring and handling including assisting in tagging

QUALIFICATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- Bachelor of Environmental Management and Ecology, Victoria University
- First aid certificate
- Asbestos awareness training
- WHS General Induction of Construction Industry NSW White Card