

ATTN: Andrew Pender
apender@pmdl.com.au

Ecological Site Inspection
ADE Tender Reference Number: A403021.1611.00

Dear Andrew,

Please find attached the results of the site inspections at 48 Victoria Road, Rozelle and 2 A/B Gordon Street, Rozelle. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me on 0424001726.

Yours sincerely,



Elizabeth Buckby
Senior Ecologist
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Background

ADE Consulting Group was engaged by PMDL to undertake an Ecological Site inspection and Biodiversity Assessment Report (BDAR) Waiver to support the refurbishment of two offsite Campus facilities for St Aloysius College, in Rozelle NSW. The site locations are as follows:

- Site 1: 48 Victoria Road, Rozelle NSW 2039 (Being Lot 1DP82780 & Lot 2DP65961)
- Site 2: 2 a/b Gordon Street, Rozelle NSW 2000 (Being Lot 1DP169780)

The sites will herein be referred to as “Site 1” and “Site 2”.

Site 1 contains 21 trees to be impacted by site works. These trees, as well as the building will be assessed as part of this works.

Site 2 involves the refurbishment of an existing building which has been unoccupied since January 2021.

This report will details the results of the site inspection. The BDAR Waiver report will be provided separately.

Methods

An onsite Ecological Inspection was undertaken on 11th October. The site works involved the inspection of all vegetation and unoccupied buildings within Site 1 and Site 2. The site inspection was undertaken to determine whether any fauna is utilising the area (i.e., nests, dreys, feeding resources, shelter resources etc.). Any fauna habitat found on site will need to be managed to reduce the impact of works on resident fauna.

As buildings in Site 1 and Site 2 have both been unoccupied for a number of months, an internal inspection was done to determine whether any fauna have taken up residence in the buildings. This inspection involved searching cupboards and nooks within the buildings for scats and snake skins.

Results

Site 1

Site 1 contains a mixture of large (>10m) and medium (5-10m) native trees with a shrubby understorey in the existing car park and planted garden beds (**Photo 1**). The large and medium tree species present on site include:

- *Acacia parvipinnula*
- *Callistemon viminalis*
- *Corymbia maculata*
- *Casuarina glauca*
- *Eucalyptus robusta*
- *Eucalyptus botryoides*
- *Glochidion ferdinandi*



Photo 1: Site view of a planted garden bed, with Eucalyptus canopy and shrubby understory

These large and medium trees make up the canopy present and have the potential to provide habitat and feeding resources to locally common mammals and bird species. It was noted that most of the large trees on site had their root balls covered in bitumen. This is likely responsible for some plant die off experienced on site. The shrubby understory provides habitat for a range of common reptile species, including skinks, small snakes and dragons.

There are a number of minor habitat features scattered around the site. These features will be discussed below.

Habitat Features on Site

Leaf Litter

The site contains areas of dense leaf litter. The leaf litter present on the concreted areas does have any habitat value, however the leaf within the garden beds provides shelter resources for reptile species such as skinks (**Photo 2**).



Photo 2: Leaf litter within garden bed



Photo 3: Flaking bark on site

Shrubby vegetation

Densely growing vegetation provides suitable habitat for a range of reptile species. The larger dense shrubs on site can act as suitable habitat for Common Ringtail Possum *Pseudocheirus peregrinus* dreys. Drey's are a Ringtail Possum nest made up of sticks. Although a drey was not spotted on site, they could occur within very densely packed shrubs, such as those in **Photo 1**.

Flaking Bark

Flaking bark acts as refuge habitat for a range of gecko species. One tree on site contains large sections of flaking bark which could provide habitat for locally common geckoes (**Photo 3**).

Hollows

One hollow bearing tree is present on site (**Photo 4**). Although the hollow is small, it provides shelter habitat for small reptile and mammal species.

Buildings

The buildings provide very limited fauna habitat. The only fauna signs present in the building at Site 1 were rodent scats. No evidence of native fauna was present in the building.

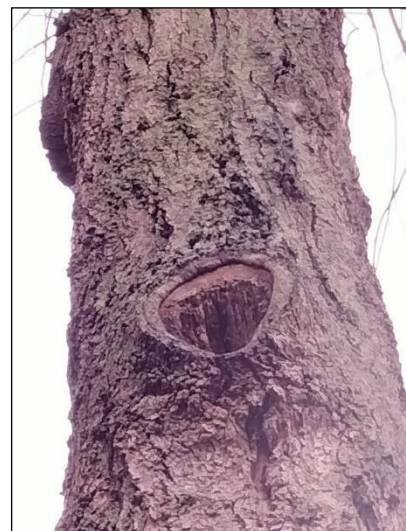


Photo 4: Hollow on site

Ground debris

The shrub dieback present on site provides areas of timber piles which provide potential habitat for reptiles, frogs and small mammals.

Fauna Usage on Site

Nests

One old uninhabited stick nest was found on site on the fork of a dead tree (**Photo 5**). As the nest was not being used during the site inspection in spring (peak nesting season), it is unlikely to be in use during the works period.

Scratches

The only scratches present onsite were found on the large *Corymbia maculata* at the centre of the site. The scratches appear to belong to a small to medium sized arboreal mammal, such as a ringtail possum. No scats were found at the base of the tree, indicating the scratches may be old.



Photo 5: Stick nest within dead tree



Photo 6: Scratches on *Corymbia maculata*

Site 2

Site 2 did not contain any vegetation to be impacted during works. The building was inspected for signs of fauna activity, with none being found.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Due to the presence of fauna habitat throughout the site it is recommended that if any vegetation has to be cleared as a part of works that a suitably qualified fauna spotter is engaged to manage any fauna impacted by works.