

Jim McBirnie
Development Director
Corio Projects
22-24 Junction Street
Forest Lodge NSW 2037
Supplied by email

20 May 2025

Re: BDAR Waiver, 2-10, 12 and 18-32 Junction Street (Lot A, Lot B & Lot C // DP 439209, Lot 1 // DP 1092420, Lot 1 // DP 1035720, Lot 1 // DP 613650, Lot 1 // DP 584394, Lot B // DP 87371 and Lot 1 // DP 575200), Forest Lodge, NSW 2037

Dear Jim

This BDAR waiver request has been prepared for the proposed State Significant Development (SSD) at 2-10, 12 and 18-32 Junction Street, Forest Lodge.

Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), all development applications for SSD projects must be accompanied by a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR). As outlined in Part 7 of the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act), a waiver for the BDAR can be issued, if the Planning Agency Head and the Environment Agency Head determine that the proposal is not likely to have any significant impact on biodiversity values.

Please find below an assessment of the likely impacts on biodiversity values as defined under the BC Act and the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017* (BC Regulation), that will result from the proposal. The result of the assessment is that **the proposal is unlikely to have any significant impact on biodiversity values.**

If you require any further information, please contact me on the details provided below.

Sincerely,



Declan Moylan

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BConsBio (Hons I)
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Background

Table 1 is based on the BDAR waiver determinations factsheet (DPE 2018), which outlines the information required within a BDAR waiver.

Table 1: BDAR waiver information requirements.

Proponent name and contact details	Corio Projects Pty Jim McBirnie Development Director – Corio Projects Address: 22-24 Junction Street Forest Lodge NSW 2037 Phone: 0409 782 764 Email: jim.mcbirnie@coriodevelopments.com.au
Project ID number and stage in assessment process	Project ID number: SSD-75493483 Stage in assessment process: Pre-submission
Name and ecological qualifications of person completing the BDAR waiver	Declan Moylan Field Ecologist BConsBio (Hons I) (Dean's Schol) M: 0458 567 090 E: declan.moylan@ecoplanning.com.au
Street address, lot and DP, local government area	The site is located at 2-10, 12 and 18-32 Junction Street (Lot A, Lot B & Lot C // DP 439209, Lot 1 // DP 1092420, Lot 1 // DP 1035720, Lot 1 // DP 613650, Lot 1 // DP 584394, Lot B // DP 87371 and Lot 1 // DP 575200), Forest Lodge NSW 2037, within the City of Sydney Local Government Area.
Description of existing development site	Currently, the site consists of office buildings, a shed and associated hardstand, with a small amount of predominantly non-native vegetation on the eastern and western boundaries of the site.

Site map	See Figure 1 .
Location map showing the development site in the context of surrounding areas and landscape features	See Figure 2 .
Project description	<p>The proposed works involve the construction and operation of a Seniors Housing Facility, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthworks, involving cut and fill • Augmentation of existing services and infrastructure such as water, power and sewerage • Construction of car parking, comprising 79 parking spaces on the Lower Ground Floor and Ground Floor • Construction of a 5-storey building containing a Residential Aged Care Facility (RACF) and Independent Living Units (ILUs), including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 71 Independent Living Units, 4 one-bedroom units, 43 two-bedroom units and 24 three-bedroom units. ○ A Residential Care Unit consisting of 12 beds. ○ Staff administration area ○ Amenities including a cinema, hair salon, café, courtyard, and multipurpose space. • Construction of publicly accessible open space located at the rear of the building, expanding on the existing Larkin Street Reserve • Construction of a paved accessway along the north boundary of the site • Construction of a dedicated pedestrian laneway along the south boundary of the site • Provision of associated landscaping. <p>The proposed development will require the demolition of existing buildings and the removal of some vegetation onsite.</p>
Proposed site plan	See Figure 4 .

Biodiversity assessment

This section determines if the proposed development is likely to cause any significant impact on biodiversity values as described within the BC Act and BC Regulation.

The following biodiversity values are defined under Section 1.5 of the BC Act:

- **Vegetation integrity** – being the degree to which the composition, structure and function of vegetation at a particular site and the surrounding landscape has been altered from a near natural state.
- **Habitat suitability** – being the degree to which the habitat needs of threatened species are present at a particular site.

The following biodiversity values are defined under Clause 1.4 of the BC Regulation:

- **Threatened species abundance** – being the occurrence and abundance of threatened species or threatened ecological communities, or their habitat, at a particular site.
- **Vegetation abundance** – being the occurrence and abundance of vegetation at a particular site.
- **Habitat connectivity** – being the degree to which a particular site connects different areas of habitat of threatened species to facilitate the movement of those species across their range.
- **Threatened species movement** – being the degree to which a particular site contributes to the movement of threatened species to maintain their lifecycle.
- **Flight path integrity** – being the degree to which the flight paths of protected animals over a particular site are free from interference.
- **Water sustainability** – being the degree to which water quality, water bodies and hydrological processes sustain threatened species and threatened ecological communities at a particular site.

In addition, Section 6.1 of the BC Regulation lists the following prescribed biodiversity impacts:

- impacts of development on the following habitat of threatened species or ecological communities:
 - karst, caves, crevices, cliffs and other geological features of significance,
 - rocks,
 - human made structures,
 - non-native vegetation.
- impacts of development on the connectivity of different areas of habitat of threatened species that facilitates the movement of those species across their range,

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- impacts of development on movement of threatened species that maintains their lifecycle,
 - impacts of development on water quality, water bodies and hydrological processes that sustain threatened species and threatened ecological communities (including from subsidence or upsidence resulting from underground mining or other development),
 - impacts of wind turbine strikes on protected animals,
 - impacts of vehicle strikes on threatened species of animals or on animals that are part of a threatened ecological community.

Background

Table 1 is based on the BDAR waiver determinations factsheet (DPE 2018), which outlines the information required within a BDAR waiver.

Table 1 provides the required information about the proposal and **Table 2** addresses the potential impacts of the proposal to the biodiversity values listed above. **Appendix A** and **Appendix B** detail the flora and fauna species recorded onsite. **Appendix C** details the BioNet database search results within 5km of the site and a likelihood of occurrence for each species.



Table 2: Impacts of the proposed development on biodiversity values.

Biodiversity value	Relevant	Impacts
Vegetation integrity – 1.5(2) (a) BC Act	✓	<p>No native vegetation has been mapped on the site (DCCEEW 2020). The site and surrounding landscape have been previously cleared and developed, with no remnant native vegetation communities present within or immediately adjacent to the site.</p> <p>The site contained no native vegetation, except for a single <i>Ficus rubiginosa</i> (Port Jackson Fig) on the eastern boundary and a single <i>Ficus macrophylla</i> (Moreton Bay Fig) sapling growing from cracked hardstand. These species are likely to have grown following the historic clearing of the site and do not represent a remnant native vegetation community. Most of the site comprises buildings and hardstand areas. The limited vegetation within the site was almost entirely planted or invasive exotic species, dominated by <i>Murraya paniculata</i> (Orange jessamine), <i>Celtis occidentalis</i> (Hackberry) and <i>Platanus hispanica</i> (Hybrid Plane) (Appendix A).</p> <p>As no native vegetation community has been mapped or occurs on the site, and the flora on site does not have the natural structural or floristic characteristics of a natural vegetation community, the vegetation integrity of the site is negligible. Therefore, the proposal would not have a significant impact on vegetation integrity as there is limited native vegetation onsite and the extent of native vegetation in the surrounding locality is very low.</p>
Habitat suitability – 1.5(2) (b) BC Act	✓	<p>The habitat onsite is unlikely to be suitable for the threatened species that have been recorded within a 5 km radius of the site, as the site does not support a native vegetation community (Figure 3). Non-native trees and shrubs and the single <i>Ficus rubiginosa</i> on the site may provide foraging habitat or shelter for the threatened Grey-headed Flying-fox (<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>). However, the site is not a known roosting camp for this species, nor is it considered to be important foraging habitat.</p> <p>Threatened microbat species may roost in the exposed ceiling cavity of the shed onsite (Photo 1), however this is considered highly unlikely, given the absence of an exposed wall cavity and that microbats would need to first enter the internal shed space before accessing the ceiling cavity (Photo 2). As a precaution, an inspection of the ceiling cavity and rafters immediately prior to demolition would ensure the absence of roosting microbats.</p> <p>The existing habitat suitability of the site is very low.</p>

Biodiversity value	Relevant	Impacts
Threatened species abundance – 1.4(a) BC Regulation	✓	No threatened species, populations or communities have been historically recorded within the site, and it unlikely that they would occur (Appendix C). Threatened species have been recorded within urban vegetation across the locality (Figure 3), however, these species are unlikely to utilise the site as negligible foraging or breeding habitat is present. As a precautionary measure, an inspection of the ceiling cavity of the shed would ensure that threatened microbats are not roosting in this space.
Vegetation abundance – 1.4(b) BC Regulation	✓	No native vegetation communities occur within the site. One mature <i>Ficus rubiginosa</i> occurs on the boundary of the site, however, this is likely to be retained under the proposed development. One sapling <i>Ficus macrophylla</i> and several planted exotic ornamental trees may require removal or trimming, however, the impact of the proposal on vegetation abundance is negligible given historical disturbance and minimal quantity of vegetation onsite.
Habitat connectivity – 1.4(c) BC Regulation	✓	The site has been subject to historical clearing and development and occurs within a highly developed landscape. The site is unlikely to be important for any threatened species recorded in the locality and the proposal is unlikely to restrict the movement of these species.
Threatened species movement – 1.4(d) BC Regulation	✓	The current lack of suitable habitat within the site does not facilitate the movement of any threatened species across their range. Consequently, the proposed works will not impact the movement of any threatened species to maintain their lifestyle.
Flight path integrity – 1.4(e) BC Regulation	✓	The site is not considered to be significant to the flight paths of protected species as these species are also likely to utilise other similar vegetation in the landscape. Therefore, the proposal is unlikely to significantly impact on the ability of flying species to move throughout their range within the locality.
Water sustainability – 1.4(f) BC Regulation	NA	There are no water bodies or hydrological processes within the site that are important for threatened species.

Biodiversity value	Relevant	Impacts
Specific habitats for threatened species or ecological communities – 6.1(1)(a) BC Regulation	✓	<p>The site does not contain any karsts, caves, crevices, cliffs or other geological features of significance, nor significant rock formations. Human made structures are present within the site, however, they are unlikely to provide habitat for threatened species recorded in the locality. As a precautionary measure, the ceiling cavity of the shed onsite should be inspected prior to demolition to ensure the absence of roosting microbats.</p> <p>The site does contain non-native vegetation, some of which may be removed or trimmed under the proposal. However, the non-native vegetation onsite is unlikely to be utilised by threatened species, given the small quantity on site and the prevalence of similar vegetation in the locality.</p>
Connectivity – 6.1(1)(b) BC Regulation	✓	<p>As noted above, the site has been previously cleared and developed, and no native plant community occurs onsite. The limited ornamental trees onsite exist in a highly urbanised and fragmented landscape, and as the site does not currently provide habitat connectivity between intact patches of native vegetation, the proposed development would not have an impact on connectivity.</p>
Movement of threatened species – 6.1(1)(c) BC Regulation	✓	<p>As described above, the site has been historically cleared and developed. The limited vegetation onsite may provide foraging habitat for Grey-headed Flying-fox, however, given the prevalence of similar ornamental street trees in the locality, the proposed impact to the limited vegetation onsite is unlikely to impact the movement of this species.</p> <p>The vegetation onsite is unlikely to support the movement of other threatened species across their range and therefore the proposal is unlikely to impact the life-cycle processes of threatened species in the locality.</p>
Water quality – 6.1(1)(d) BC Regulation	NA	<p>The proposal would not have any significant impact on water quality, water bodies or hydrological processes that sustain threatened species or threatened ecological communities, as the development would consist of an above-ground construction in a previously cleared area.</p>

Biodiversity value	Relevant	Impacts
Wind turbine strikes – 6.1(1)(e) BC Regulation	NA	The proposal does not involve wind turbines and therefore there will be no impact from wind turbine strikes.
Vehicle strikes – 6.1(1)(f) BC Regulation	✓	The proposal is located in an area that has been previously cleared and is unlikely to provide habitat for threatened fauna. It is unlikely that vehicle movements associated with the construction or ongoing operation of the proposed development would impact threatened species or any animals that are part of threatened ecological communities.

References

NSW Department Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) (2020). NSW State Vegetation Type Map. Accessed at: <https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/nsw-state-vegetation-type-map>

NSW Department Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) (2024). BioNet Atlas Accessed at: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/atlaspublicapp/UI_Modules/ATLAS_/AtlasSearch.aspx

NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) (2018). Biodiversity development assessment report waiver determinations for SSD and SSI applications. Accessed at: <https://majorprojects.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/prweb/PRRestService/mp/01/getContent?AttachRef=EXH-1009%2120190515T061052.367%20GMT>

WMK Architecture (2024). 23110 - 22 to 32 Junction Street, Forest Lodge.



2-10, 12 and 18-32 Junction Street (Lot A, Lot B & Lot C // DP 439209, Lot 1 // DP 1092420, Lot 1 // DP 1035720, Lot 1 // DP 613650, Lot 1 // DP 584394, Lot B // DP 87371 and Lot 1 // DP 575200), Forest Lodge, NSW 2037



Figure 1: Site map.

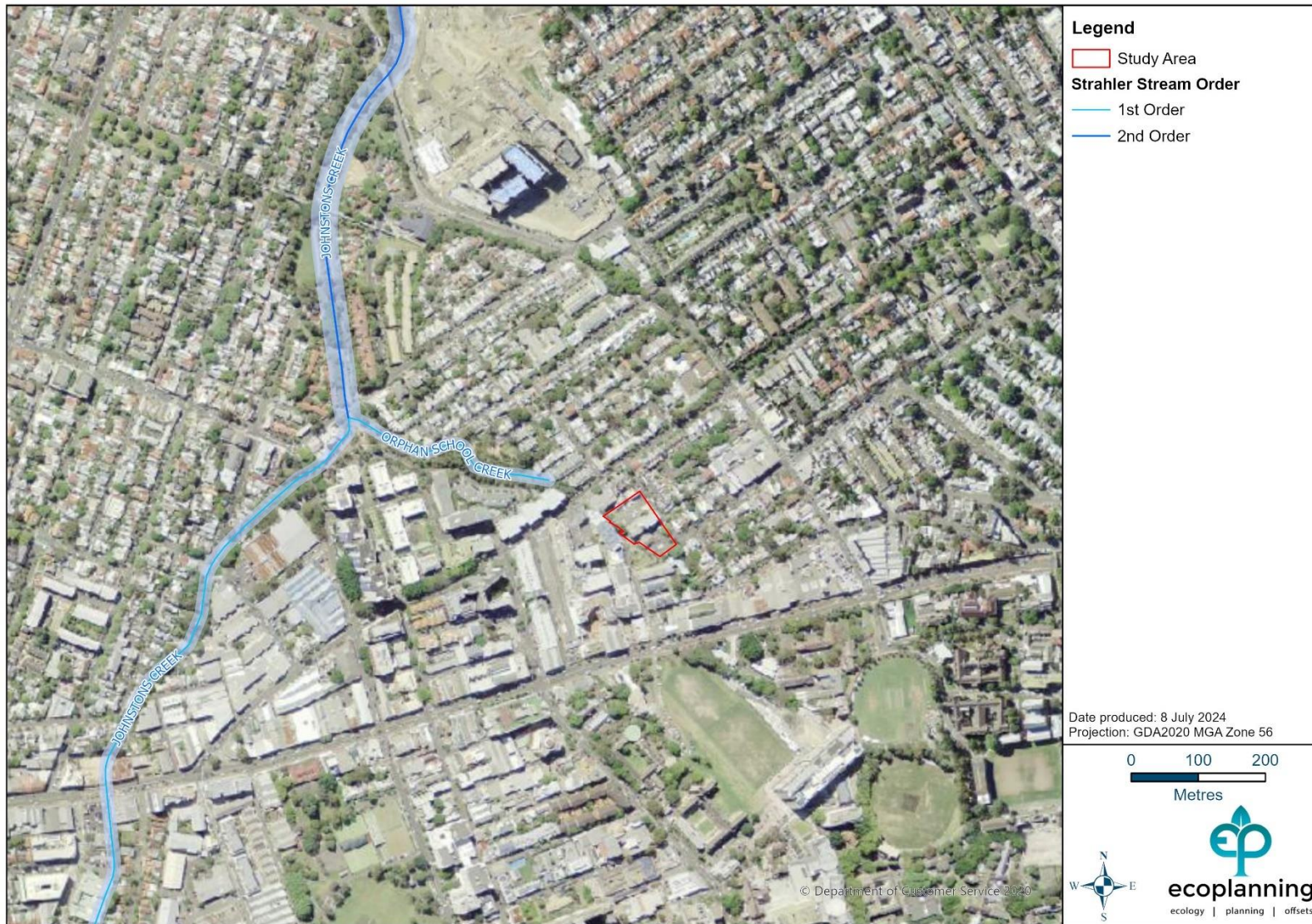


Figure 2: Location map.

2-10, 12 and 18-32 Junction Street (Lot A, Lot B & Lot C // DP 439209, Lot 1 // DP 1092420, Lot 1 // DP 1035720, Lot 1 // DP 613650, Lot 1 // DP 584394, Lot B // DP 87371 and Lot 1 // DP 575200), Forest Lodge, NSW 2037

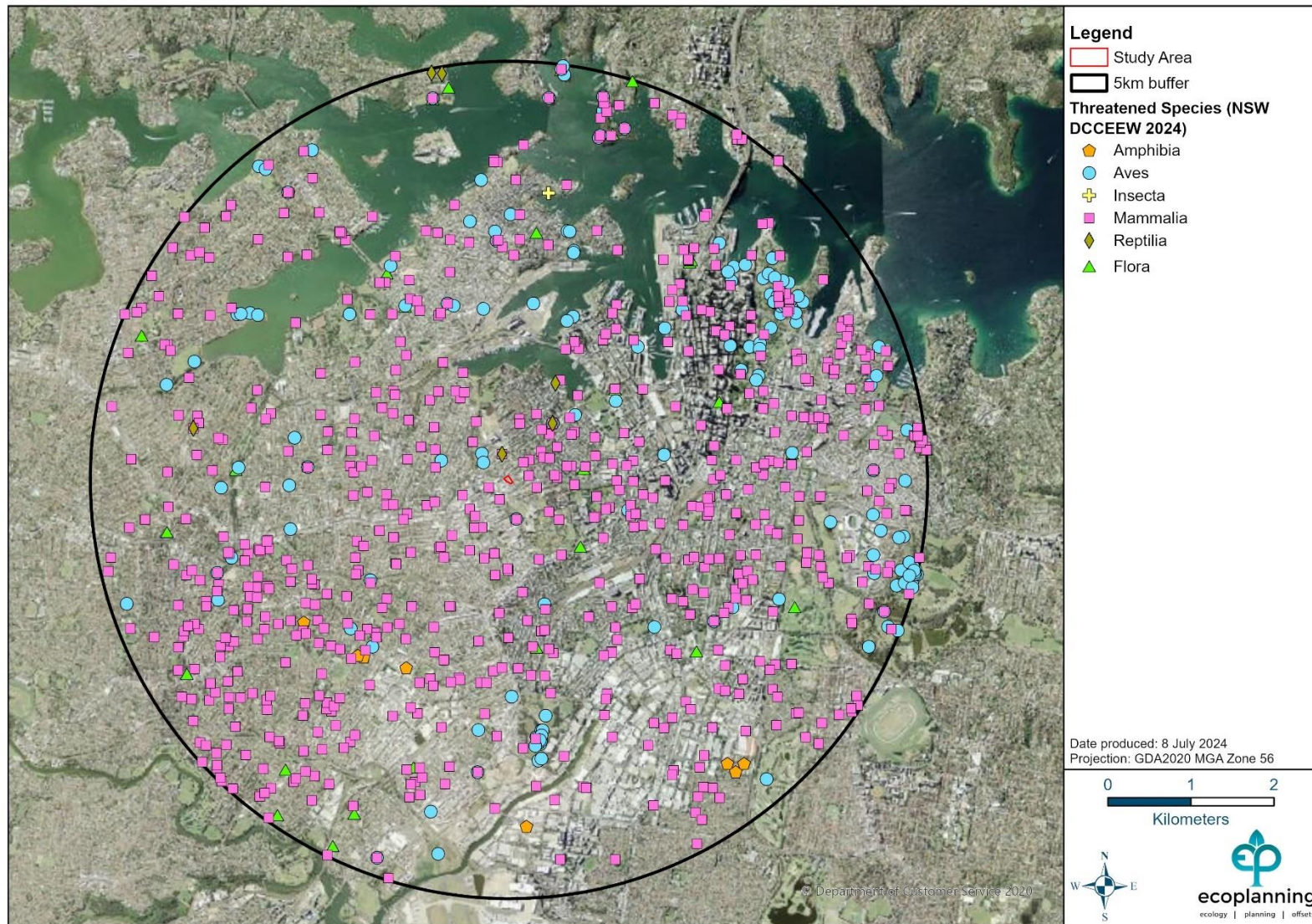
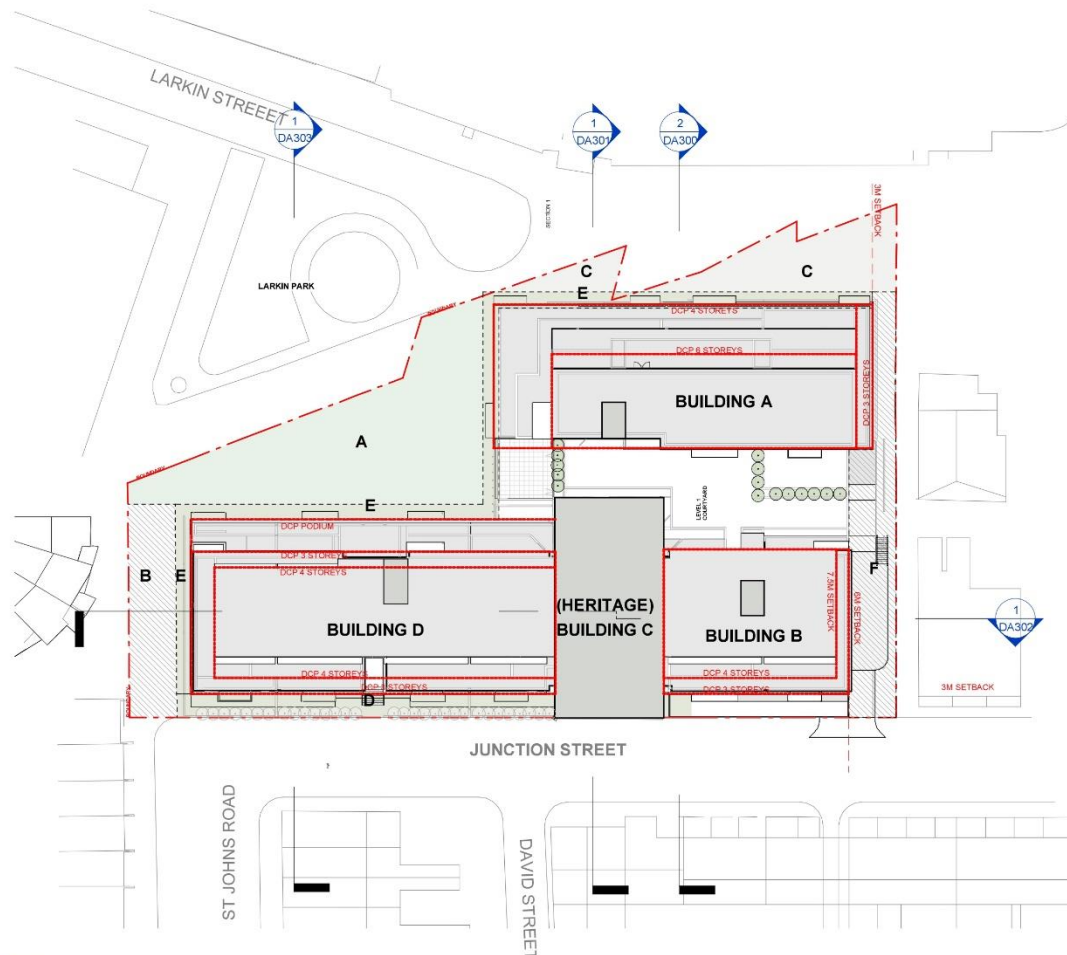
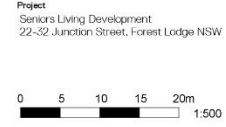


Figure 3: Threatened species records in the locality (DCCEEW 2024).



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Issue	Description	Date	Client
Q	Revision 1	Date 1	CORIO PROJECTS



Project
 Seniors Living Development
 22-32 Junction Street, Forest Lodge NSW

Title
 SITE PLAN - DCP SET BACKS



Drawing No. DA010	Issue Q
Scale 1:500	Drawing Size A3
Project No. 23110	Drawn By JT
CAD Reference Autodesk Civil 3D/2010 - 23-32 Junction St, Forest Lodge/23110-23-32 JUNCTION ST, FOREST LODGE, NSW, [CLOUD]8/12/2024 4:11:00 PM	

Figure 4: Proposed works (WMK Architecture)



Photo 1: Shed located within the site.



Photo 2: Exposed ceiling cavity in the shed onsite.

Appendix A Flora list

Family	Scientific name	Common name	Native/Exotic
Apocynaceae	<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander	Exotic
Asteraceae	<i>Bidens pilosa</i>	Cobbler's Pegs	Exotic
	<i>Conyza</i> sp.	A Fleabane	Exotic
	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Common Sowthistle	Exotic
Caryophyllaceae	<i>Stellaria media</i>	Common Chickweed	Exotic
Davalliaceae	<i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>	Fishbone Fern	Exotic
Malaceae	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Loquat	Exotic
Moraceae	<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>	Moreton Bay Fig	Native
	<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i>	Port Jackson Fig	Native
Plantaginaceae	<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	Ivy-leaved Toadflax	Exotic
Platanaceae	<i>Platanus hispanica</i> 'Acerifolia'	Hybrid Plane	Exotic
Poaceae	<i>Chloris gayana</i>	Rhodes Grass	Exotic
Rutaceae	<i>Murraya paniculata</i>	Orange jessamine	Exotic
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Black-berry Nightshade	Exotic
Ulmaceae	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Hackberry	Exotic

Appendix B Fauna list

Scientific name	Common name	Exotic/Native
Aves		
<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Indian Myna	Exotic
<i>Columba livia</i>	Rock Dove	Exotic
<i>Manorina melanocephala</i>	Noisy miner	Native
<i>Trichoglossus moluccanus</i>	Rainbow lorikeet	Native
Mammalia		
<i>Felis catus</i>	Domestic cat	Native

Appendix C Likelihood of threatened species occurrence

Scientific Name (Common Name)	Common Name	Legal Status	Number of records	Likelihood of occurrence
KINGDOM: Animalia; CLASS: Amphibia				
<i>Litoria aurea</i>	Green and Golden Bell Frog	BC Act = E1 EPBC Act = V	11	Low
KINGDOM: Animalia; CLASS: Aves				
<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	Regent Honeyeater	BC Act = E4A EPBC Act = CE	1	Low
<i>Apus pacificus</i>	Fork-tailed Swift	EPBC Act = C,J,K	1	Low
<i>Ardenna grisea</i>	Sooty Shearwater	EPBC Act = J	1	Low
<i>Ardenna pacifica</i>	Wedge-tailed Shearwater	EPBC Act = J	8	Low
<i>Ardenna tenuirostris</i>	Short-tailed Shearwater	EPBC Act = C, J, K	5	Low
<i>Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus</i>	Dusky Woodswallow	BC Act = V	2	Low
<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>	Australasian Bittern	BC Act = E1 EPBC Act = E	1	Low
<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>	Bush Stone-curlew	E1	5	Low
<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	EPBC Act = C, J, K	35	Low

Scientific Name (Common Name)	Common Name	Legal Status	Number of records	Likelihood of occurrence
<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper	BC Act = E1 EPBC Act = CE, C, J, K	8	Low
<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami</i>	South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo	BC Act = V EPBC Act = V	1	Low
<i>Erythrotriorchis radiatus</i>	Red Goshawk	BC Act = E1 EPBC Act = E	1	Low
<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Latham's Snipe	EPBC Act = J, K	17	Low
<i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i>	Little Lorikeet	BC Act = V	1	Low
<i>Grantiella picta</i>	Painted Honeyeater	BC Act = V EPBC Act = V	1	Low
<i>Haematopus longirostris</i>	Pied Oystercatcher	BC Act = E1	4	Low
<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	BC Act = V	20	Low
<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail	BC Act = V EPBC Act = C, J, K	1	Low
<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Caspian Tern	EPBC Act = J	1	Low
<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Swift Parrot	BC Act = E, EPBC Act = CE	1	Low
<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Bar-tailed Godwit	EPBC Act = C, J, K	49	Low
<i>Lophoictinia isura</i>	Square-tailed Kite	BC Act = V	1	Low

<i>Scientific Name (Common Name)</i>	Common Name	Legal Status	Number of records	Likelihood of occurrence
<i>Ninox strenua</i>	Powerful Owl	BC Act = V	349	Low
<i>Petroica boodang</i>	Scarlet Robin	BC Act = V	1	Low
<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	Pacific Golden Plover	EPBC Act = C, J, K	2	Low
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Grey Plover	EPBC Act = C, J, K	4	Low
<i>Ptilinopus regina</i>	Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove	BC Act = V	1	Low
<i>Ptilinopus superbus</i>	Superb Fruit-Dove	BC Act = V	5	Low
<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Common Tern	EPBC Act = C, J, K	3	Low
<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	Little Tern	BC Act = E1 EPBC Act = C, J, K	1	Low
<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	Crested Tern	EPBC Act = J	18	Low
<i>Tyto novaehollandiae</i>	Masked Owl	BC Act = V	1	Low
KINGDOM: Animalia; CLASS: Insecta				
<i>Petalura gigantea</i>	Giant Dragonfly	BC Act = E1	1	Low
KINGDOM: Animalia; CLASS: Mammalia				
<i>Arctocephalus forsteri</i>	New Zealand Fur-seal	BC Act = V	1	Low
<i>Cercartetus nanus</i>	Eastern Pygmy-possum	BC Act = V	1	Low

<i>Scientific Name (Common Name)</i>	Common Name	Legal Status	Number of records	Likelihood of occurrence
<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	Large-eared Pied Bat	BC Act = V EPBC Act = E	2	Low
<i>Dasyurus maculatus</i>	Spotted-tailed Quoll	BC Act = V EPBC Act = E	4	Low
<i>Falsistrellus tasmaniensis</i>	Eastern False Pipistrelle	BC Act = V	5	Low
<i>Micronomus norfolkensis</i>	Eastern Coastal Free-tailed Bat	BC Act = V	1	Low
<i>Miniopterus australis</i>	Little Bent-winged Bat	BC Act = V	12	Low
<i>Miniopterus orianae oceanensis</i>	Large Bent-winged Bat	BC Act = V	37	Low
<i>Myotis macropus</i>	Southern Myotis	BC Act = V	10	Low
<i>Perameles nasuta</i>	Long-nosed Bandicoot population in inner western Sydney	BC Act = E2	24	Low
<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	Koala	BC Act = E1 EPBC Act = E	9	Low
<i>Pseudomys gracilicaudatus</i>	Eastern Chestnut Mouse	BC Act = V	1	Low
<i>Pseudomys novaehollandiae</i>	New Holland Mouse	EPBC Act = V	1	Low
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox	BC Act = V EPBC Act = V	1802	Low
<i>Saccolaimus flaviventris</i>	Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail-bat	BC Act = V	6	Low
KINGDOM: Animalia; CLASS: Reptilia				

<i>Scientific Name (Common Name)</i>	Common Name	Legal Status	Number of records	Likelihood of occurrence
<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Loggerhead Turtle	BC Act = E1 EPBC Act = E	5	Low
<i>Hoplocephalus bitorquatus</i>	Pale-headed Snake	BC Act = V	1	Low
KINGDOM: Plantae				
Acacia pubescens	Downy Wattle	BC Act = V EPBC Act = V	1	Not present
Acacia terminalis subsp. Eastern Sydney	Sunshine wattle	BC Act = E1 EPBC Act = E	8	Not present
Caladenia tessellata	Thick Lip Spider Orchid	BC Act = E1 EPBC Act = V	2	Low
Dichanthium setosum	Bluegrass	BC Act = V EPBC Act = V	1	Low
Eucalyptus nicholii	Narrow-leaved Black Peppermint	BC Act = V EPBC Act = V	4	Not present
Eucalyptus pulverulenta	Silver-leafed Gum	BC Act = V EPBC Act = V	1	Not present
Hibbertia puberula		BC Act = E1	1	Low
Macadamia integrifolia	Macadamia Nut	EPBC Act = V	2	Not present
Melaleuca deanei	Deane's Paperbark	BC Act = V EPBC Act = V	3	Not present



<i>Scientific Name (Common Name)</i>	Common Name	Legal Status	Number of records	Likelihood of occurrence
Persoonia hirsuta	Hairy Geebung	BC Act = E1 EPBC Act = E	3	Low
Prostanthera marifolia	Seaforth Mintbush	BC Act = E4A EPBC Act = CE	3	Low
Rhodamnia rubescens	Scrub Turpentine	BC Act = E4A EPBC Act = CE	1	Not present
Syzygium paniculatum	Magenta Lilly Pilly	BC Act = E1 EPBC Act = V	21	Not present
Tetraloche juncea	Black-eyed Susan	BC Act = V EPBC Act = V	7	Low

DECLAN MOYLAN



ECOLOGIST

QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor of Conservation Biology (Hons I)

BIOGRAPHY

Declan is a terrestrial ecologist with over four years of industry experience in environmental consultancy and flora and fauna surveying. He completed a Bachelor of Conservation Biology (Hons 1st Class) (Dean's Scholar) at the University of Wollongong, undertaking Honours research with the Centre for Environmental Risk Management of Bushfires (CERMB). Following graduation, Declan worked with CERMB as a research assistant, gaining further experience in ecological survey.

Declan has worked for Ecoplanning since February 2020, gaining diverse field experience on projects across New South Wales. In this time, Declan has developed a sound knowledge of environmental and planning legislation, and has gained skills in targeted threatened species surveys, systematic flora surveys, and flora and fauna identification.

RECENT RELEVANT PROJECTS

Parramatta Council Fauna Surveys

Ecoplanning were engaged to undertake systematic fauna surveys across the Parramatta LGA. Declan deployed and analysed data from remote cameras, audible Song Meters and ultrasonic (Anabat) recording devices and authored the report.

Biodiversity Credit Assessments – South Coast

Ecoplanning were engaged to undertake targeted threatened species surveys on multiple properties on the South Coast of NSW. Declan undertook targeted surveys for Forest Owls, Greater Gliders and Giant Burrowing Frogs. This also involved extensive hollow-bearing tree mapping.

Plains Wanderer Captive Bird Release and Tracking

Ecoplanning were engaged to use radio trackers to monitor released Plains Wanderers in the Riverina. Declan used a handheld UHF receiver and antenna to track several Plains Wanderers.

Royal National Park, Heathcote NP and Garrawarra Conservation Area Vegetation Surveys

Ecoplanning were engaged to validate vegetation communities and establish long-term monitoring plots within National Parks and Conservation Areas in the Sydney Basin. Declan contributed to full floristic surveys and undertook rapid floristic assessments designed to map Plant Community Types in these areas. Declan also analysed ultrasonic audio data to determine microbat species presence and activity.

Winter Bird Surveys in the Gunnedah Basin and Pilliga

Ecoplanning have been engaged to conduct annual winter bird surveys on biodiversity offset properties across the Gunnedah Basin and Pilliga. Prior to systematic surveys, Declan undertook surveys of budding and flowering eucalypts and opportunistic bird surveys at several sites.

Ecological Constraints Assessment (ECA) and Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) – Blacktown, NSW

Ecoplanning were engaged to prepare an ECA and consequently a BDAR for a proposed subdivision and residential development in Blacktown, NSW. Declan conducted full floristic surveys and undertook incidental fauna and flora surveys for this project.

Ecological Constraints Assessment (ECA) and Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) – Exeter, NSW

Ecoplanning were engaged to prepare an ECA and consequently a BDAR for a proposed subdivision and residential development in Exeter, NSW. Declan contributed to full floristic surveys and undertook incidental fauna and flora surveys for this project.

Quarterly Weed Surveys - Gunnedah Basin and Pilliga

Ecoplanning have been engaged to conduct quarterly weed surveys for Whitehaven Coal as part of their Biodiversity Management Plan. Declan has conducted multiple priority weed surveys across the Whitehaven Coal Biodiversity Offset sites in the Gunnedah Basin and Pilliga.

Macropod Population Estimates and Feral Animal Monitoring - southern NSW and northern Victoria

Ecoplanning were engaged to estimate the macropod population and feral animal density within several enclosed Defence sites. Declan undertook walked line transects, vegetation and ground cover assessments on Defence Estate land.

St. Georges Basin Vegetation Management Plan

Ecoplanning were engaged to prepare a Vegetation Management Plan for a proposed subdivision at St. Georges Basin, NSW. Declan conducted a preclearance survey, a targeted threatened fauna survey and was onsite for clearance supervision.

Tullimbar Ecological Assessment

Ecoplanning were contracted by Cardno Limited to prepare an Ecological Assessment for development at Tullimbar, NSW. Declan conducted preclearance spotlighting surveys and hollow bearing tree surveys for this project.

Kentlyn Flora and Fauna Assessment

Ecoplanning were engaged to prepare a Flora and Fauna Assessment to accompany a development application relating to an extension of a residence at Kentlyn, NSW. Declan conducted the flora and fauna survey and contributed to the Vegetation Management Plan.