

APPENDIX I DEFINITION OF VEGETATION ZONES AND EEC

Zone ID	Vegetation zones	Condition class	EEC status?	Area (ha) within development footprint	Survey effort (number of plots completed)	Site value score (current)	Vegetation zone clarification	Justification for EEC status
1	PCT #281 BVT #CW111 Rough-barked Apple – Red Gum – Yellow Box Woodland on alluvial clay to loam soils on valley flats in the NSW SWS and BBS Bioregions	Moderate - good	Yes	0	2	66.67	Overstorey present >25% of lower benchmark with high diversity native understorey	EEC in good condition
2	PCT #281 BVT #CW111 Rough-barked Apple – Red Gum – Yellow Box Woodland on alluvial clay to loam soils on valley flats in the NSW SWS and BBS Bioregions	Moderate - Good	Yes	0.99	3	67.33	Overstorey present >25% of lower benchmark with exotic dominated understorey and occasional disturbance tolerant natives	EEC based on presence of overstorey
3	PCT #281 BVT #CW111 Rough-barked Apple – Red Gum – Yellow Box Woodland on alluvial clay to loam soils on valley flats in the NSW SWS and BBS Bioregions	Low	Yes	16.14	3	47.33	Overstorey present <25% of lower benchmark with exotic dominated understorey and occasional disturbance tolerant natives	EEC based on presence of overstorey albeit low density

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4	PCT #281 BVT #CW111 Rough-barked Apple – Red Gum – Yellow Box Woodland on alluvial clay to loam soils on valley flats in the NSW SWS and BBS Bioregions	Low	No	95.04	3 (+2)	10.00	Derived grassland in low condition. Exotic dominated understorey and occasional disturbance tolerant natives	The NSW Scientific Committees determination for the EEC states that <i>“The understorey may be highly modified by grazing history and disturbance... Disturbed remnants are still considered to form part of the community including remnants where the vegetation, either understorey, overstorey or both, would, under appropriate management, respond to assisted natural regeneration, such as where the natural soil and associated seed bank are still at least partially intact”</i> . The areas mapped as Low condition derived grassland are considered unlikely to respond to assisted natural regeneration. There was no evidence of natural overstorey regeneration in these areas and given the very low density and diversity of native species, the seed bank appears to be mostly depleted. Weed loads are very high, particularly of annual species which flourish in spring and autumn and die off to form a dense cover of litter in summer and winter which is likely to inhibit the further establishment of perennial native ground covers. The

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								conservation value of these areas is considered to be very low and they are not considered to be part of the Box-Gum Woodland EEC.
5	<p>PCT #281 BVT #CW111 Rough-barked Apple – Red Gum – Yellow Box Woodland on alluvial clay to loam soils on valley flats in the NSW SWS and BBS Bioregions</p> <p><u>Revised to</u> PCT#400 BVT #CW248 Riparian sedgeland rushland wetland of the Pilliga to Goonoo sandstone forests, Brigalow Belt South Bioregion</p>	Moderate - good	No	17.89	3	20.67	Originally considered derived grassland, native and exotic dominated, but with the native component is dominated by wet area species such as <i>Eleocharis</i> , <i>Juncus</i> , <i>Isolepis</i> and <i>Carex</i> . Further consideration of the species composition and topographic context has determined that this community is more representative of PCT400 then typical of a grassy woodland such as PCT281.	Originally not considered to be an EEC based on the species composition not being typical of a grassy woodland such as Box-Gum Woodland as described in the Scientific Committees determination for the community. Further consideration of this aspect along with consideration of topographic context has determined that the PCT was more appropriately classified as PCT400. This PCT is not associated with any EECs. The habitats provided by this PCT within the development site are considered unlikely to support any threatened species. As this PCT is not considered an EEC or threatened species habitat within the development site, it is maintained (as concluded in the BAR) that offsets are not required for impacts to this vegetation in accordance with Section 9 - Table 4 of the FBA.

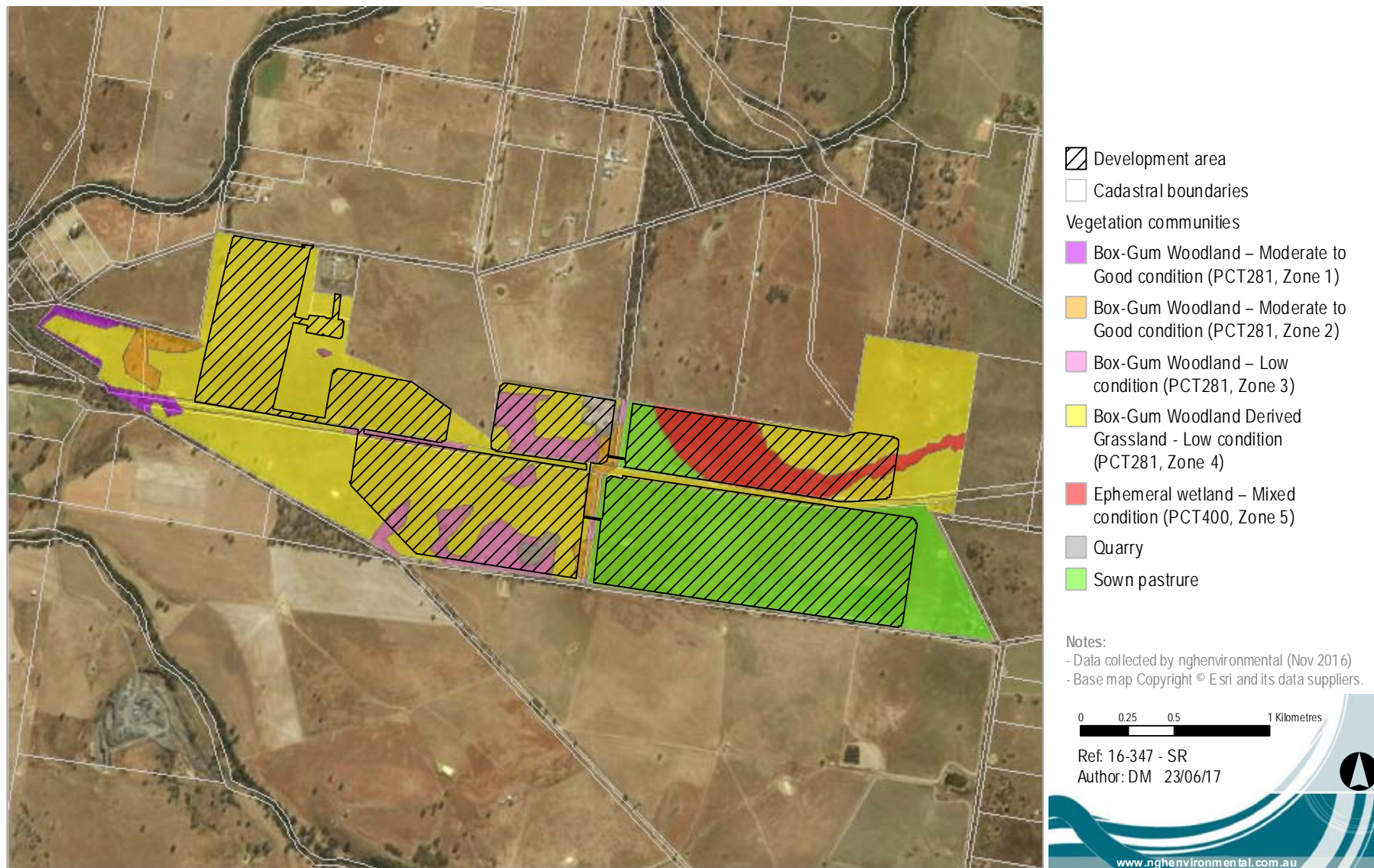


Figure 8-2 Updated Biodiversity Assessment Report Vegetation zones