

2 May 2022

Our ref: 22SUT-1783

Frasers Property
Level 2, 1C Homebush Bay Drive
Rhodes NSW 2138 Australia

Attention: Chris Koukoutaris

Dear Chris,

Modification to SSD 8903 Stage 1 of Ivanhoe Estate (Midtown), Macquarie Park - Ecological impact assessment

Eco Logical Australia (ELA) understands that Frasers Property Australia seek a modification to SSD 8903 to allow removal of an additional seven trees. This letter provides an ecological assessment of that proposal modification.

The table below describes the trees proposed to be removed. The need to remove them was considered by an AQF level 5 arborist and is described in the accompanying arborist advice (dated 2 May 2022). Figure 1 shows their location. These trees were not considered in the original ecological assessment of the development, as they are located on the neighbouring property and are situated approximately 2m above the existing driveway.

Table 1: Trees to be removed

Tree Number	Botanical Name	Common Name	Native or Exotic	Height (m)	Spread (m)
934	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Brush Box	Native	10	3
935	<i>Eucalyptus microcorys</i>	Tallowwood	Native	14	7
936	<i>Ficus microcarpa</i>	Chinese Banyan	Exotic	11	10
938	<i>Eucalyptus microcorys</i>	Tallowwood	Native	13	7
1015	<i>Eucalyptus microcorys</i>	Tallowwood	Native	19	7
1016	<i>Ficus microcarpa</i>	Chinese Banyan	Exotic	15	10
1017	<i>Ficus microcarpa</i>	Chinese Banyan	Exotic	15	10

The seven trees are in a linear pattern along the top of a crib wall, indicating they were planted for landscaping purposes. These planted trees do not form part of any Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) nor any TEC under the Commonwealth *Environment protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The seven trees are not threatened species under the BC Act or EPBC Act. Threatened fauna such as Grey-headed flying fox may

forage on ficus species, however there is no evidence that Grey-headed Flying Fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) have ever used these particular trees or any others nearby as a camp.

The original biodiversity assessment for the Concept approval (SSD 8707) mapped this stand of trees as low condition Plant Community Type ME041 which included other native planted trees throughout the existing development. Ficus do not form part of this community, however the methodology (Framework for Biodiversity Assessment, OEH, 2014)) required allocation to a plant community type. Approximately 1.1 ha of this vegetation unit was approved to be removed. The proposed modification would result in an additional 0.05 ha (approx.) of removal, which is an increase of 5% of this vegetation zone. The removal of the 1.1 hectares did not require offsetting due to the poor condition of planted vegetation. Since the three exotic ficus dominate this particular area, the biodiversity loss would be negligible and should also not require offsetting.

The removal of the seven trees would not have a significant impact on biodiversity values and would not require offsetting under the original Framework for Biodiversity Assessment. Nor would it require offsetting under the new Biodiversity Assessment Method as they are planted vegetation.

We trust this information will assist the Department of Planning and Environment assess the proposed modification.

Yours sincerely



David Bonjer

Principal Consultant

& Alex Pursche (Accredited assessor number 17021)

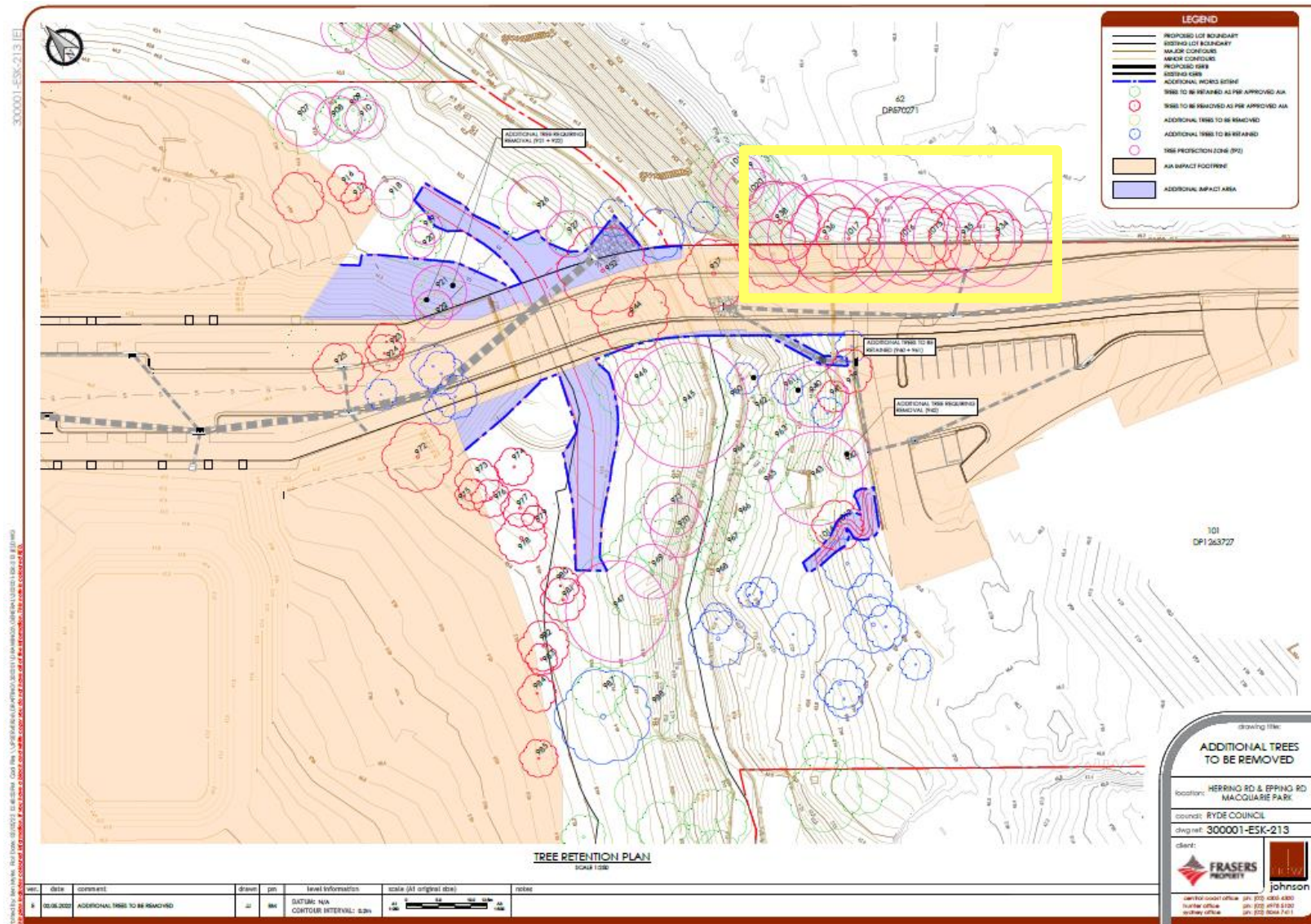


Figure 1: Approved Stamped Plans (NSW Planning Industry & Environment 2021), showing the 6 trees (outlined in yellow) as trees to be retained



Figure 2: Boundary crib wall (ELA AIA v6 28 February 2020)



Figure 3: Large roots traversing down crib wall (photo provided by Christie Civil on 3 March 2022)