

23 September 2025

Conservation Council ACT Region: Submission on the Monaro Rock Quarry (SSD-27223807)

The Conservation Council ACT Region (the Conservation Council) is pleased to provide input to the public consultation on the Monaro Rock Quarry.

The Conservation Council is the leading environmental advocacy organisation in Canberra and hub for over 40 community groups. Our mission is to protect nature and safeguard ecosystems in the ACT and region. We also support broader initiatives to counter regional and global climate change.

We are a non-profit, non-government organisation that runs campaigns, promotes and upskills local groups, undertakes research, advocates passionately, and engages and informs our community.

This submission has been drafted by the Conservation Council's Biodiversity Working Group.

Comments

On the Council's behalf, I have reviewed the Executive Summary of the proponent's Environmental Impact Statement (**EIS**)¹ and the submission by Friends of Grasslands (**FOG**).² The Council supports the submission by FOG, i.e., we object to this project.

As FOG notes, the project's integrated form, large scale and lengthy duration will result in serious, irreversible direct and indirect impacts to critically endangered

¹ the proponent's EIS, pp. ES 1-38

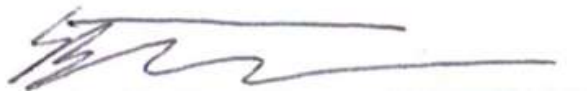
² <https://www.fog.org.au/Submissions/20250919.htm>

Box-Gum Woodland (**BGW**) and all the species within it. It will push a grassy forest community closer toward a threatened status. These impacts are simply unacceptable.

The Council is aware of the need for rock to support the sensible development of our region; however, in this case, the proponent is clear, rock is available elsewhere. The EIS states the site is geologically “well-suited”.³ Nowhere however does the EIS state that this site is the only place where suitable rock can be sourced.

If the NSW Government is serious about achieving nature positive outcomes, start here. Prevent this sort of free riding on nature. The proponent’s proposal should be refused and another less-damaging option considered.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Simon Copland', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Dr Simon Copland
Chief Executive, Conservation Council ACT Region

23 September 2025

³ the proponent’s EIS, p. ES 36