FLORA AND FAUNA MANAGEMENT PLAN

PREPARED FOR
MARTINS CREEK QUARRY

STATION STREET
MARTINS CREEK

APRIL 2016
REF: 5008

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Conacher Consulting Pty Ltd

Environmental and Land Management Consultants

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PREFACE

Conacher Consulting has been engaged to prepare a Flora and Fauna Management Plan for the proposed Martins Creek Quarry Extension Project (Application Number SSD 6612) as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) documentation for the Project.

PROJECT TEAM

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DOCUMENT DETAILS	
Project Name	Martins Creek Quarry Extension Project (SSD 6612)
Our Reference No.	5008
Status	Final Report
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1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1.1 BACKGROUND

Conacher Consulting has been engaged to prepare a Flora and Fauna Management Plan for the proposed Martins Creek Quarry Extension Project (Application Number SSD 6612) as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) documentation for the Project.

The Biodiversity Assessment Report prepared by Conacher Consulting (2016) was reviewed as part of the preparation of this Management Plan.

1.2 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION

The development assessed in this report is the Martins Creek Quarry Expansion Project. The proposal involves:

- Expanding into new extraction areas and clearing of vegetation;
- Increasing the hours of operation
- Consolidating existing operations and approvals; and
- Rehabilitating the site.

The subject site location in the context of the locality is shown in Figure 1.1. The study site and development footprint location are shown in Figure 1.2.

1.3 STUDY AREA DETAILS

The planning and cadastral details of the study area are provided in Table 1.1.

TABLE 1.1
SITE DETAILS

Study Area	Lots 2, 5 & 6 DP 242210, Lot 42 DP 815628, Lot 21 DP 773220, Lot 1 DP 1006375 & Lot 1 DP 204377
Study Area Size	125 ha approx.
Proposed Development Footprint / Subject Site	32.4 ha
Local Government Area	Dungog
Major Catchment Area	Hunter – Central Rivers
Existing Land Use	Extractive industries

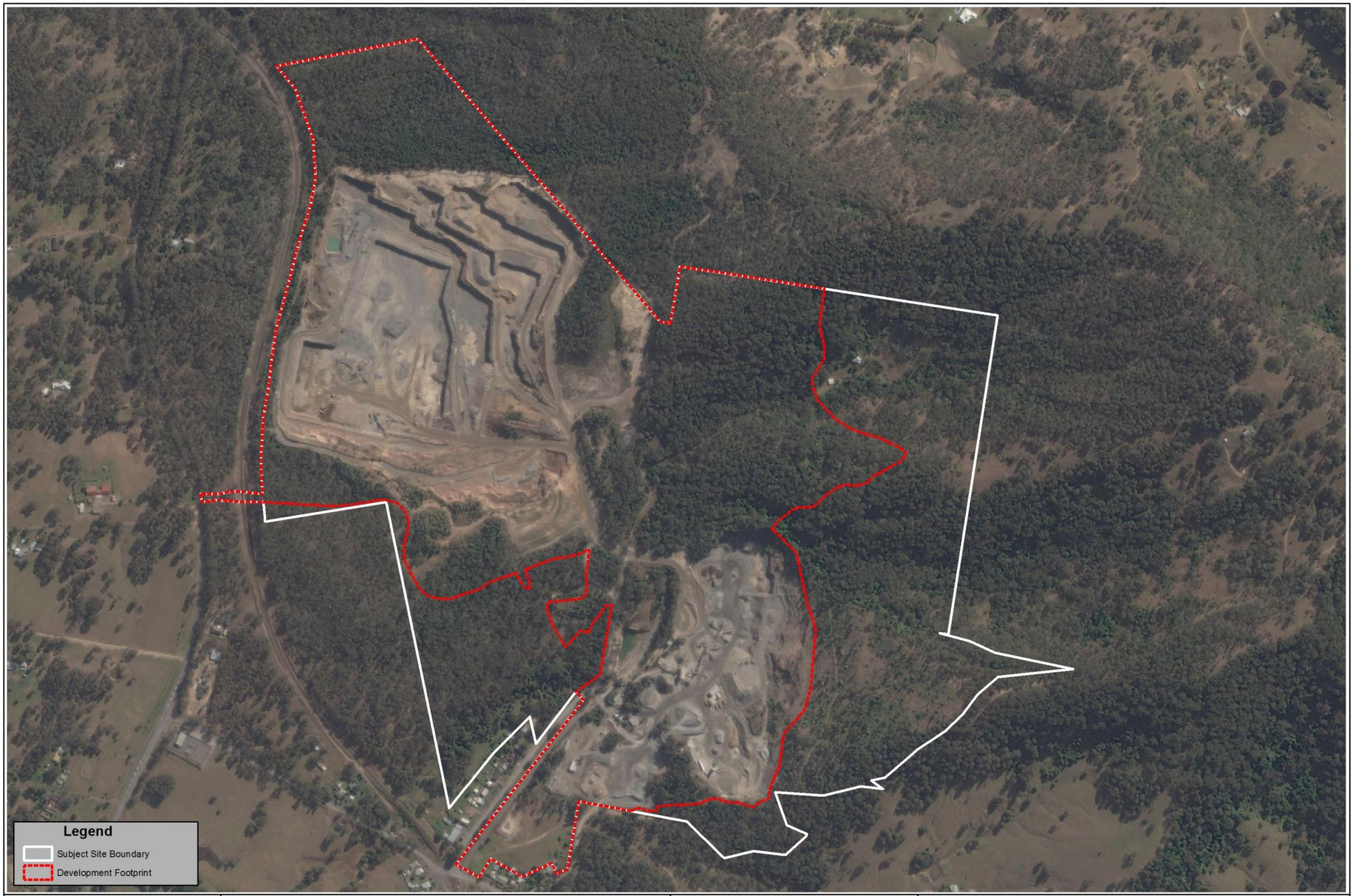

Figure 1.1
Subject Site Location
Marins Creek Quarry

2. HABITAT CLEARING MANAGEMENT MEASURES

2.1 Pre-clearing

Induction of Personnel
All supervising contractors involved in vegetation clearing works will require an environmental site induction by the project ecologist to in relation to the importance of the correct ecological protocols for site clearing works.

Vegetation and Tree Protection Measures
Trees and vegetation to be retained in close proximity to works areas are to be protected by the erection of temporary fencing in accordance with direction of the project ecologist.

Identification of Fauna Habitats
A search for hollow bearing trees, trees containing nesting fauna is to be undertaken prior to site clearing works. All habitat trees identified are to be marked for further treatment during clearing works.

Fauna Relocation
Prior to site clearing works a search is to be undertaken for sedentary fauna species. Clearing is not to occur until any fauna encountered has been moved out of the clearing area.

Pre-clearing trapping for fauna species is also to be undertaken prior to clearing works, with any fauna captured to be relocated to site areas proposed for retention.

2.2 Clearing

Vegetation and Tree Protection Measures
Clearing works are to be undertaken in a manner which avoids damage to retained vegetation and habitats.

Fauna Protection Protocol
The following procedures are to be observed during all site clearing works:

- Any hollow bearing trees in the areas to be cleared will be identified and marked;
- Marked hollow bearing trees will be left after initial vegetation clearing for a period of at least 24 hours (to encourage any resident fauna to disperse into adjacent uncleared habitat);
- Immediately prior to any clearing a diurnal survey is to be undertaken by the project ecologist to capture and remove ground fauna that have potential to be disturbed by clearing activities.
- After the 24 hour waiting period standing hollow bearing trees may also be felled commencing with the most distant trees from secure habitat;
- A machine is to be used for hollow bearing tree removal. The machine operator will tap the tree with the machine several times in an effort to encourage resident fauna to leave hollows and find refuge elsewhere. The tree will then be nudged over by the machine grabbing the trunk or holding the root bowl in an effort to lower the tree as gently as possible. Once the tree is lowered all hollows will be inspected by the consulting ecologist with the assistance of an arborist if necessary and any resident fauna is to be cared for or released.
- Displaced fauna species will be checked for injury. If fauna is injured during vegetation clearing operations they will be immediately transported to the nearest convenient veterinary hospital for appropriate treatment. If immature fauna species are displaced and a deemed unable to care for themselves then they will be handed over to local wildlife career organizations such as WIRES or Wildlife Arc for care and rehabilitation. If captured, healthy displaced fauna will be released into a nest box temporarily placed on the subject site.

3. REPORTING

3.1 Reporting Requirements

A record of displaced fauna including species and health is to be maintained for compliance reporting purposes. The project ecologist is to provide a monitoring report after the completion of each stage of site clearing which is to be submitted with annual compliance reporting documentation.

REFERENCES

Conacher Consulting (2016) Biodiversity Assessment Report, Martins Creek Quarry, Station Street Martins Creek.