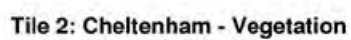
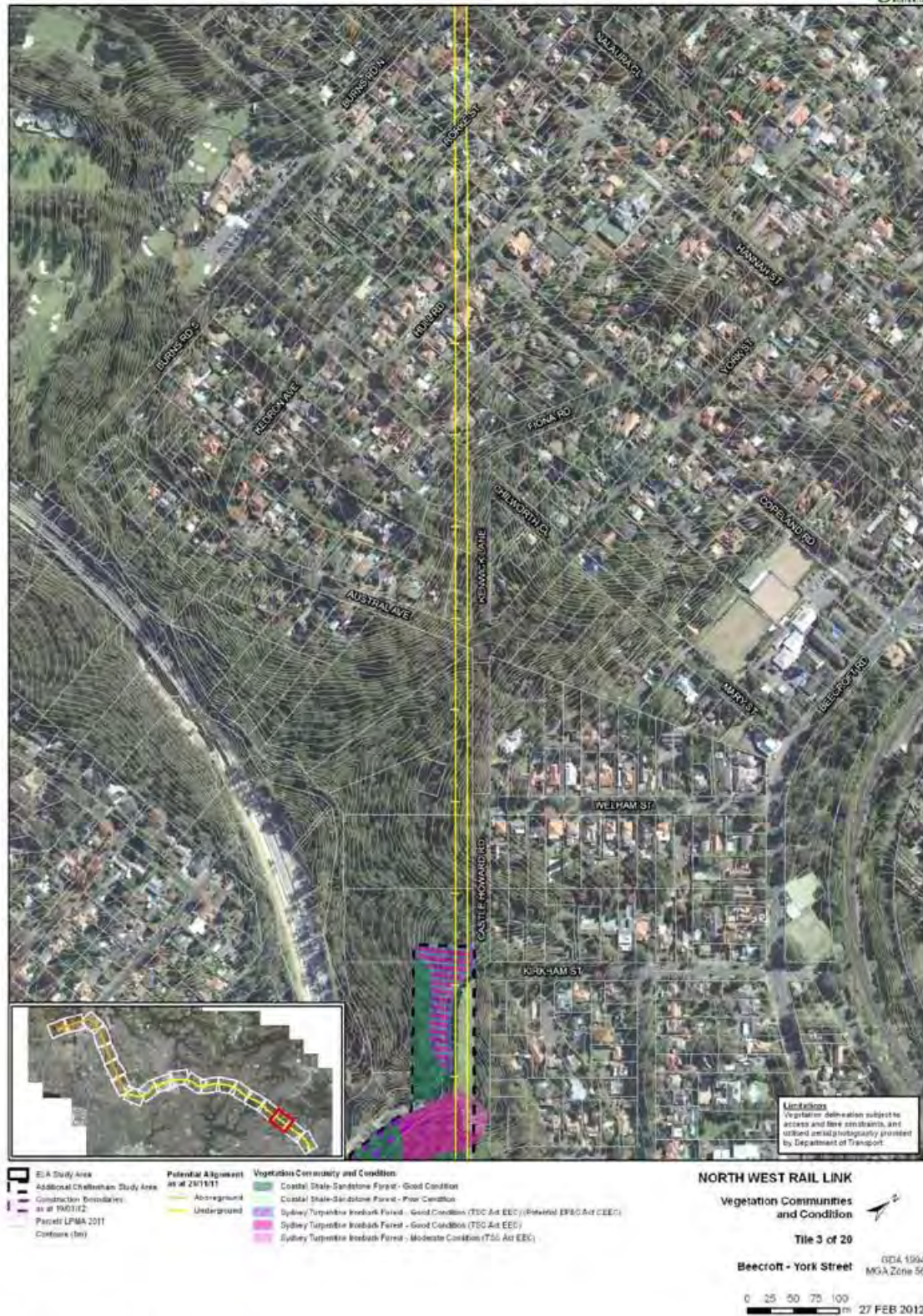


Appendix C Vegetation Maps



Title 1: Epping - Vegetation





Title 3: Beecroft - Vegetation



Tile 4: Beecroft - Vegetation



Title 5: Vegetation



EIA Study Area
Construction Boundaries
as of 10/01/12
Parcel LPA 231
Contours (1m)

Potential Alignment
as of 08/11/11
Aboveground
Underground

Vegetation Community and Condition
Blue Gum High Forest - Good Condition (TSC Act CEC) (EPBC Act CEC)
Blue Gum High Forest - Fair Condition (TSC Act CEC) (EPBC Act CEC)
Blue Gum High Forest - Poor Condition (TSC Act CEC)
Blue Gum High Forest - Fair Condition (TSC Act CEC) (Fair View - Access Restricted)
Cumberland Plain Woodland - Poor Condition (TSC Act CEC)
Parkland/Grass

NORTH WEST RAIL LINK

Vegetation Communities and Condition

Tile 6 of 20

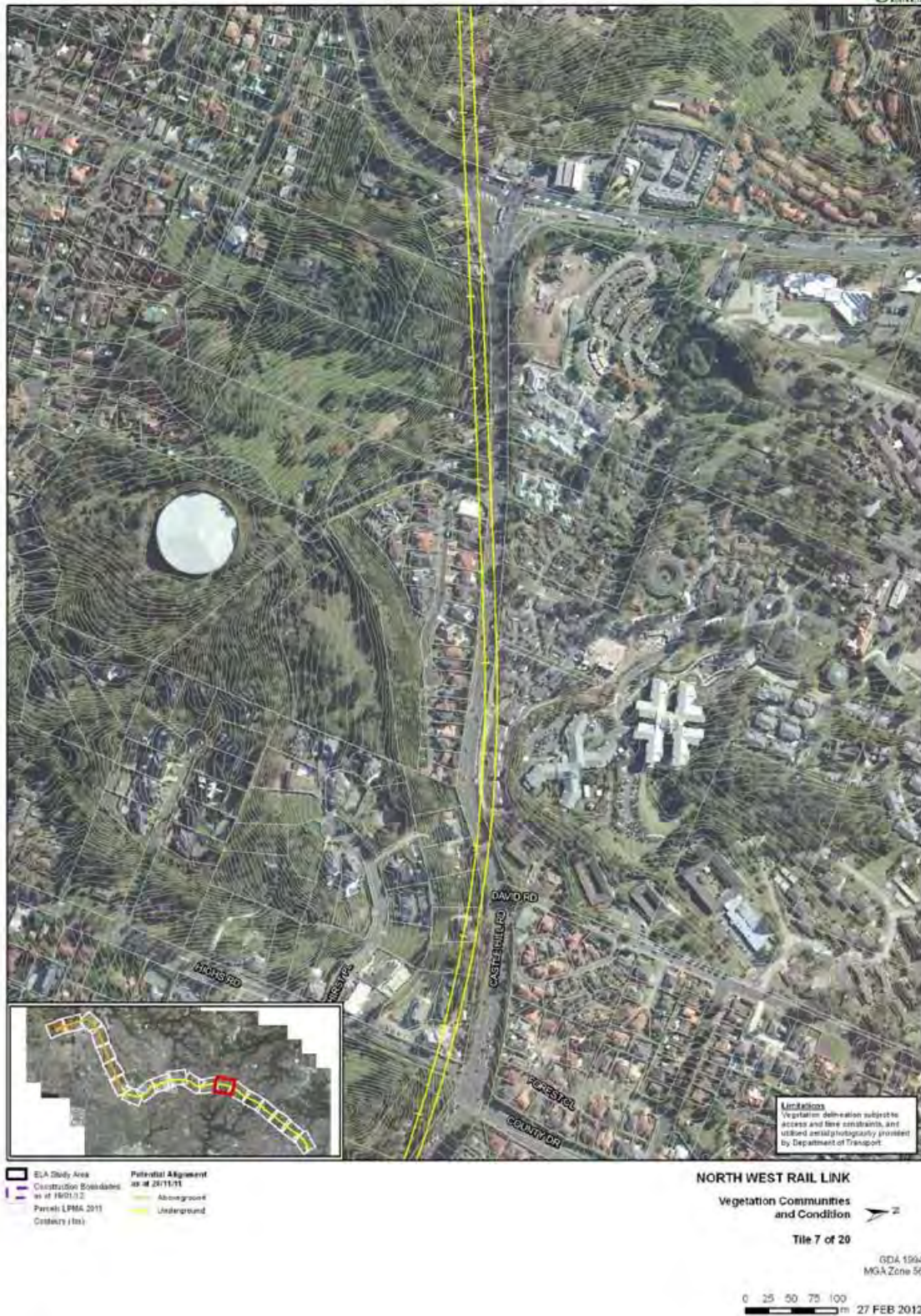
Cherrybrook Station

GD4 1364
MGA Zone 56

0 25 50 75 100
m

27 FEB 2012

Tile 6: Cherrybrook - Vegetation



Tile 7: Vegetation



Tile 8: Castle Hill - Vegetation



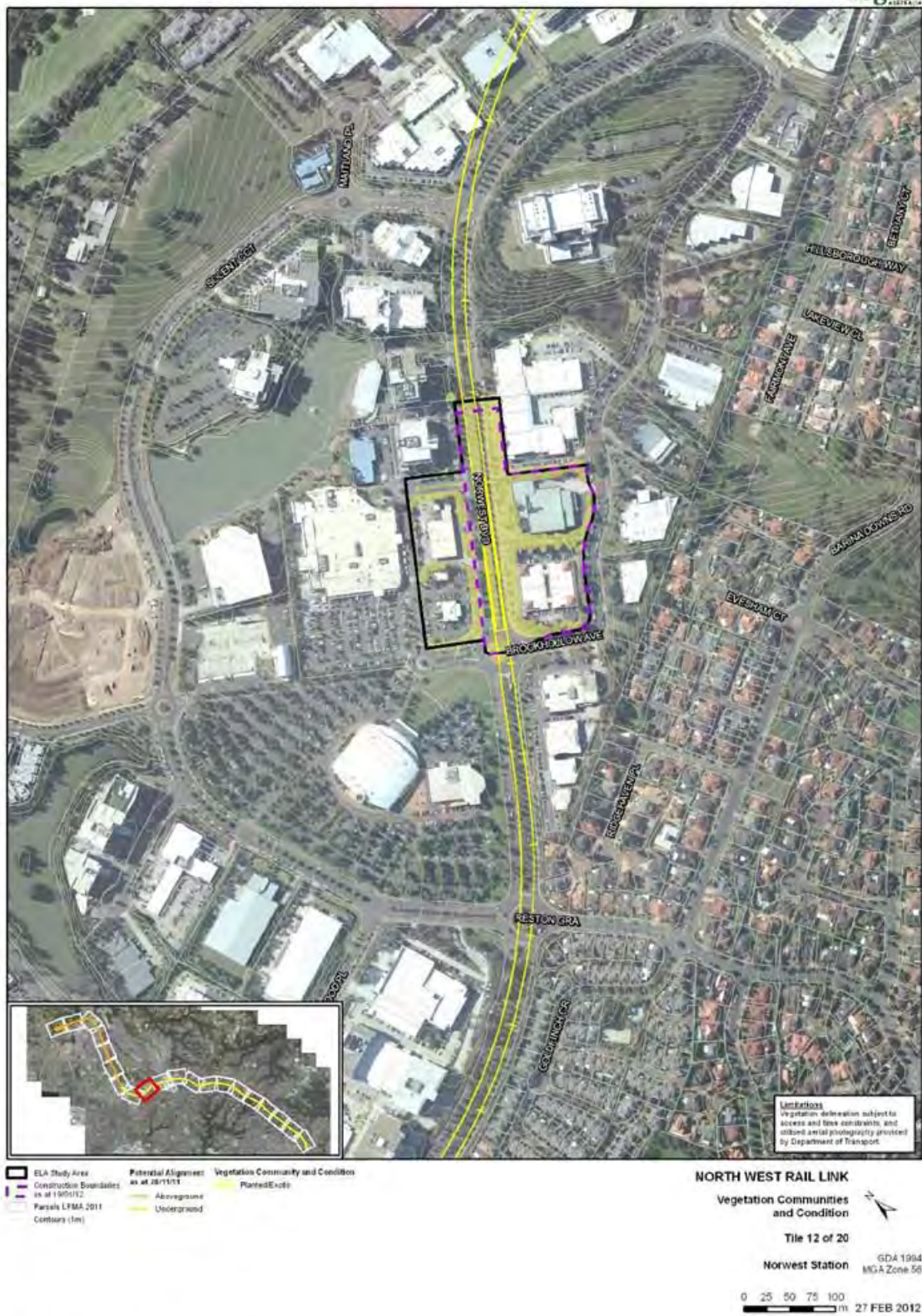
Tile 9: Vegetation



Tile 10: Hills Centre - Vegetation



Tile 11: Vegetation



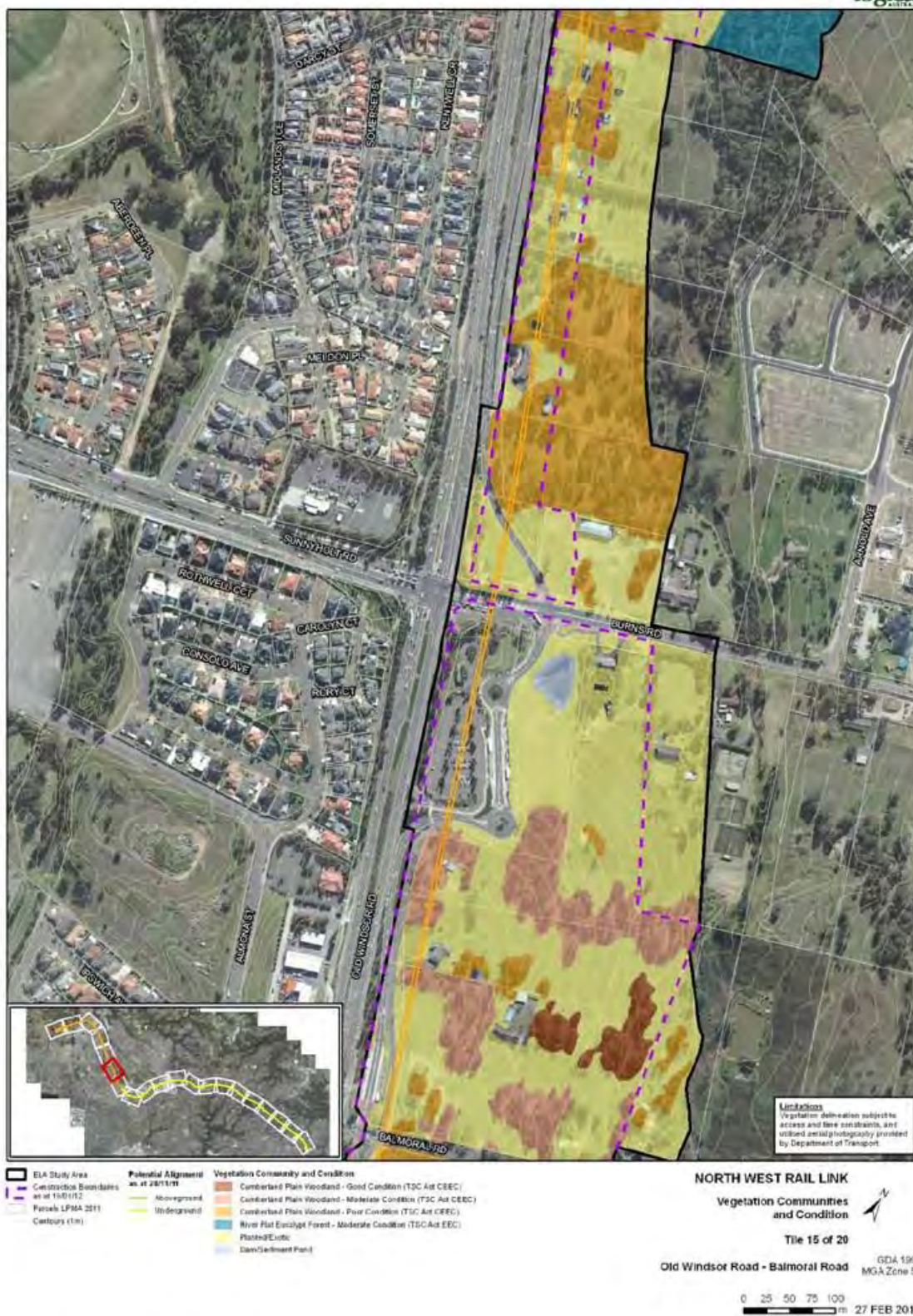
Tile 12: Norwest - Vegetation



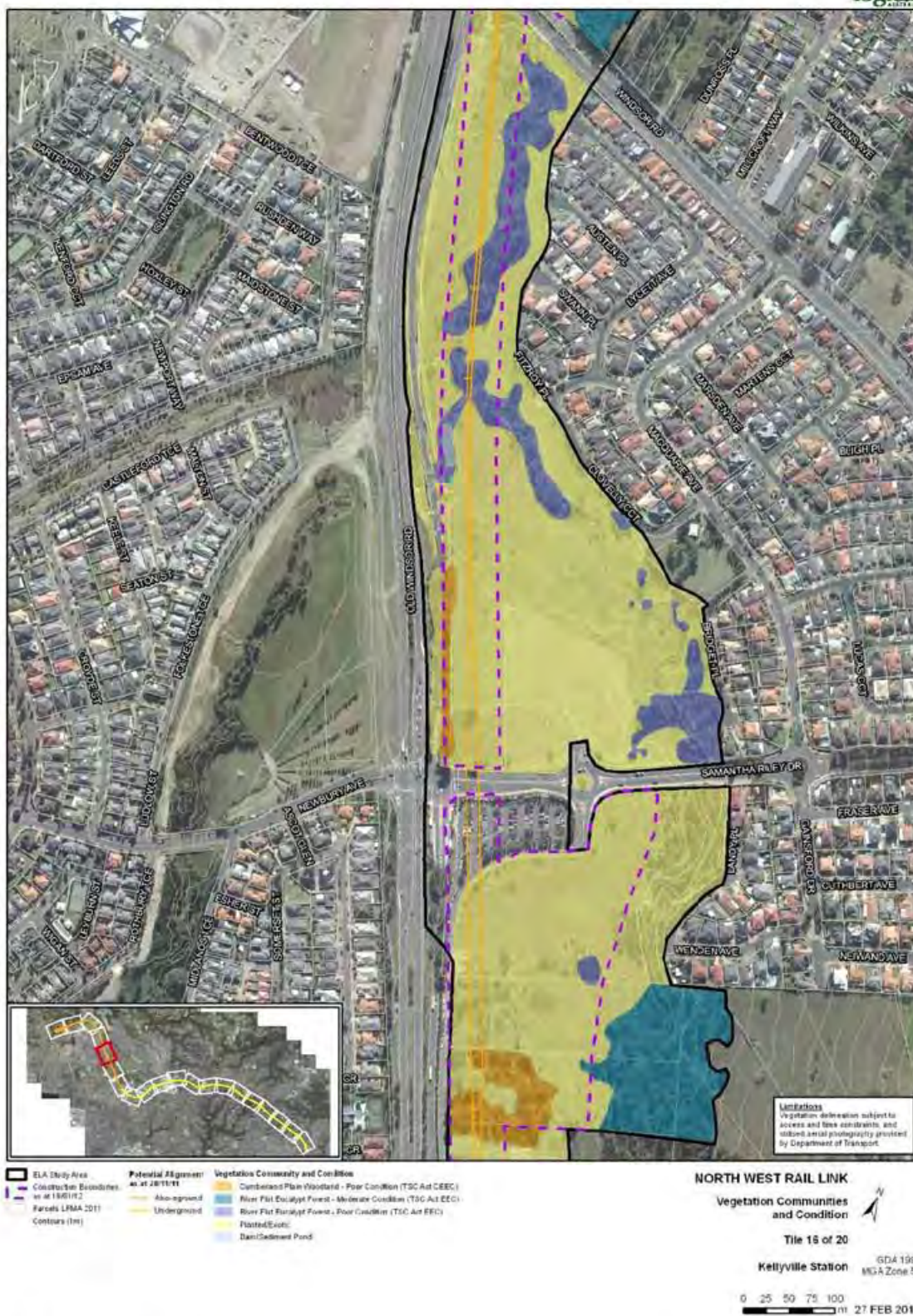
Tile 13: Northridge Avenue - Vegetation



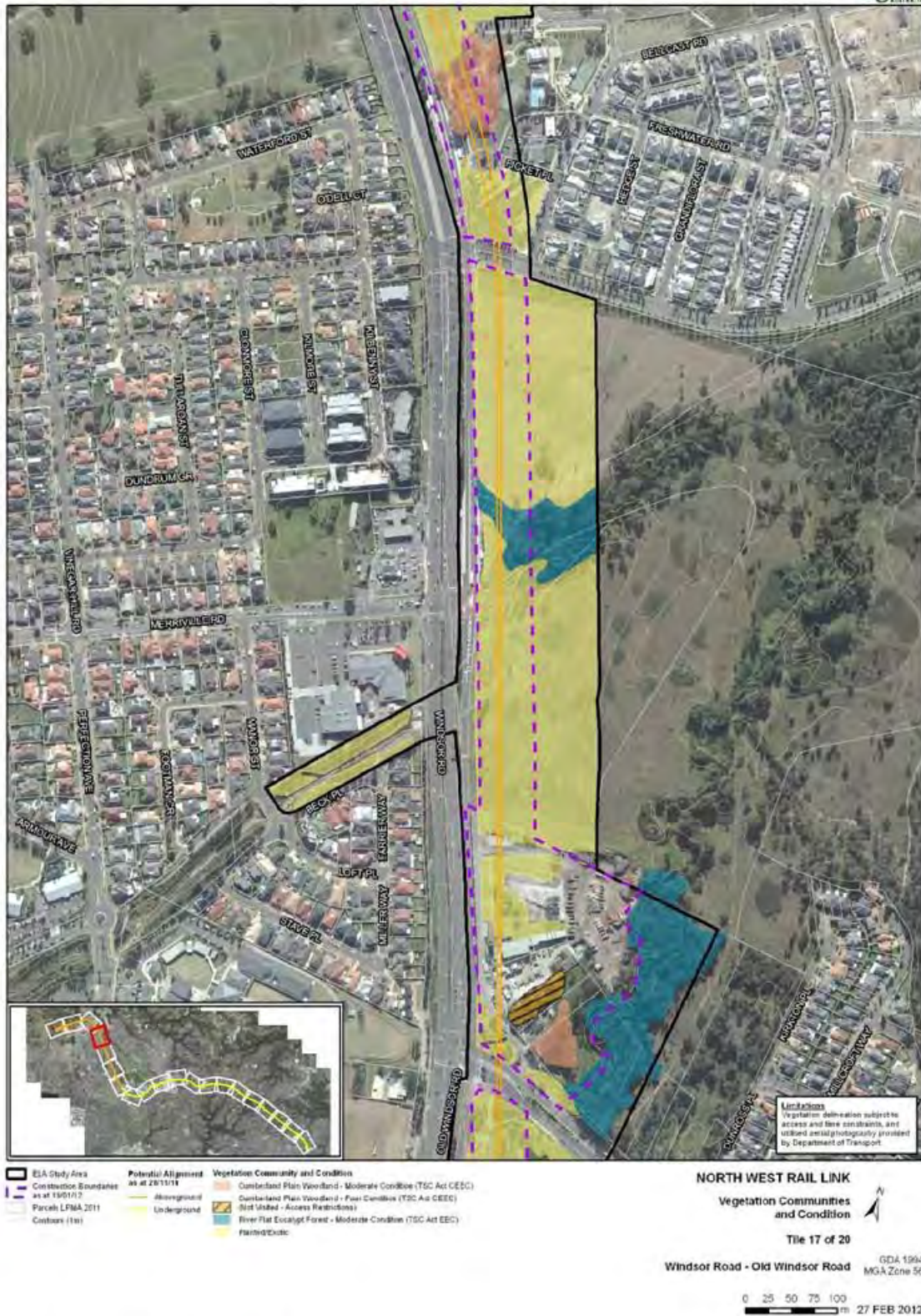
Tile 14: Balmoral Road - Vegetation



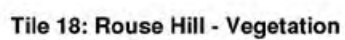
Tile 15: Old Windsor Road - Vegetation

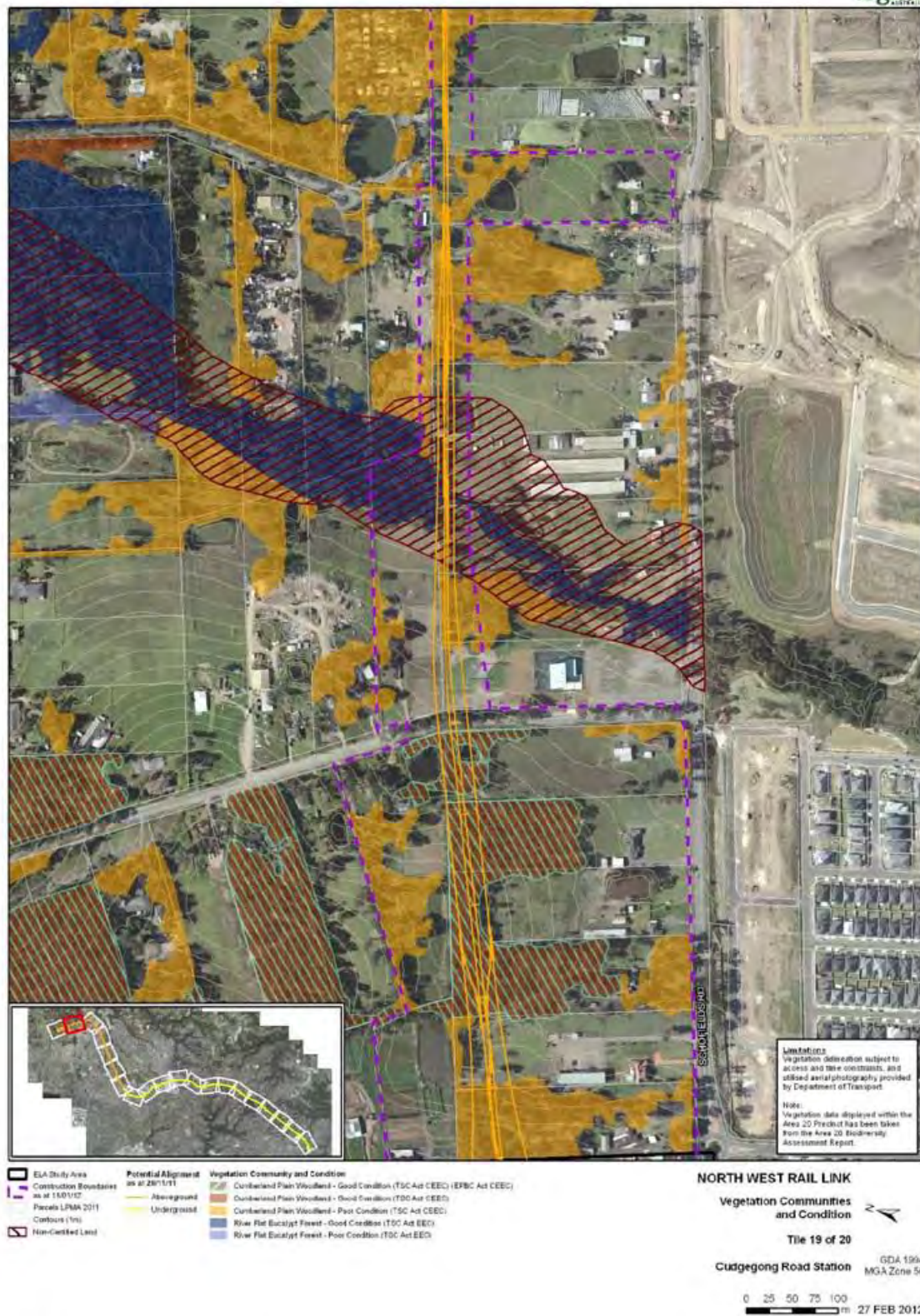


Tile 16: Kellyville - Vegetation



Tile 17: Windsor Road - Vegetation





Title 19: Cudgong - Vegetation



Appendix D Flora Survey Maps





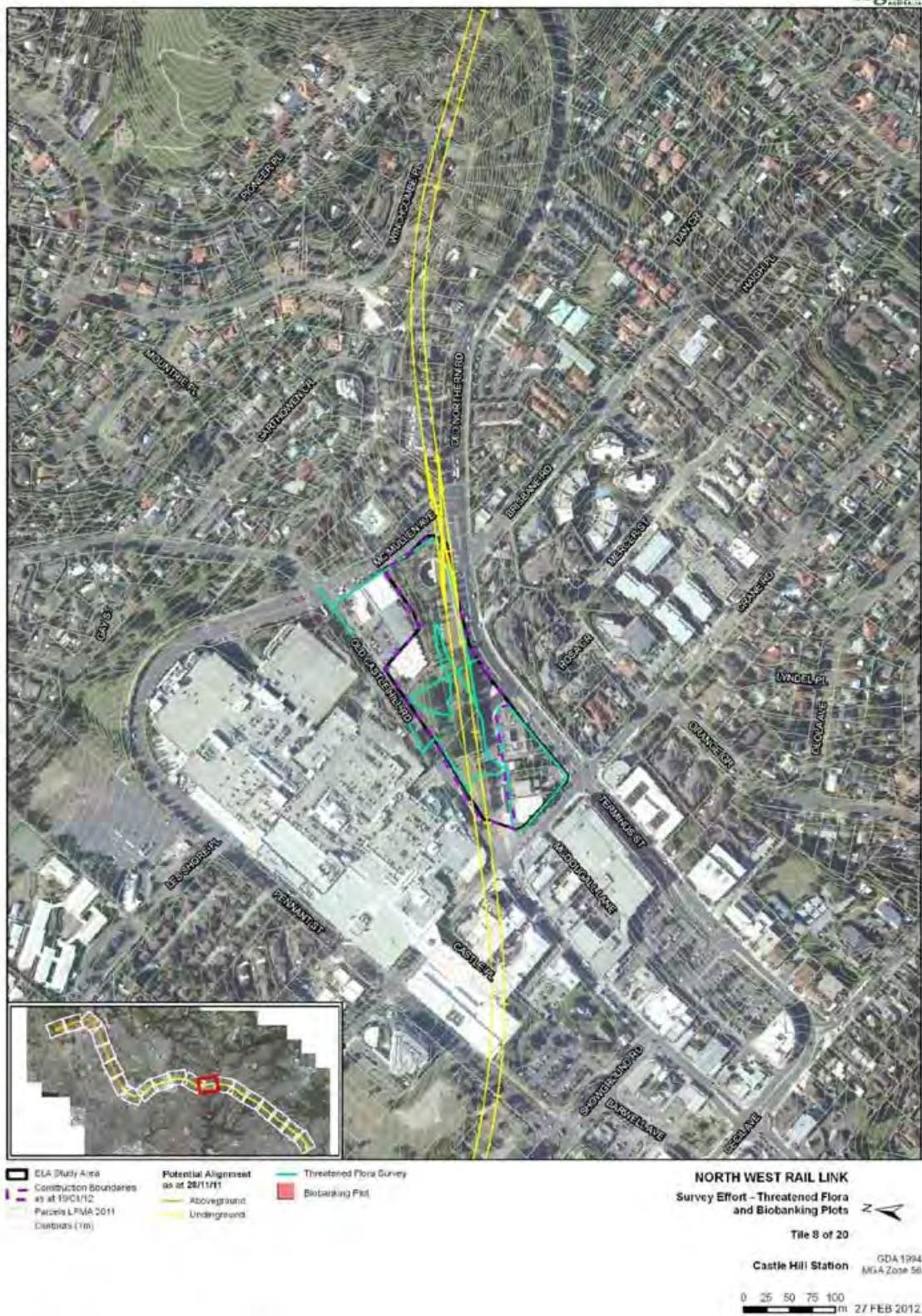
Cheltenham – Threatened Flora Survey



Beecroft – Threatened Flora Survey



Cherrybrook – Threatened Flora Survey



Castle Hill – Threatened Flora Survey



- ELA Study Area
- Construction Boundaries as at 19/01/12
- Parcels LPIA 2011
- Contours (1m)
- Potential Alignment as at 22/11/11
 - Aboveground
 - Underground
- Threatened Flora Survey
- Botanic Plot

NORTH WEST RAIL LINK

Survey Effort - Threatened Flora and Botanic Plots



Tile 10 of 20

Hills Centre Station GDA 1994
MGA Zone 56

0 25 50 75 100
m 27 FEB 2012

Hills Centre – Threatened Flora Survey



NORTH WEST RAIL LINK
Survey Effort - Threatened Flora
and Bioscience Plots

Tile 12 of 20

Norwest Station GDA 1994
MGA Zone 56

0 25 50 75 100
m 27 FEB 2012

Norwest – Threatened Flora Survey

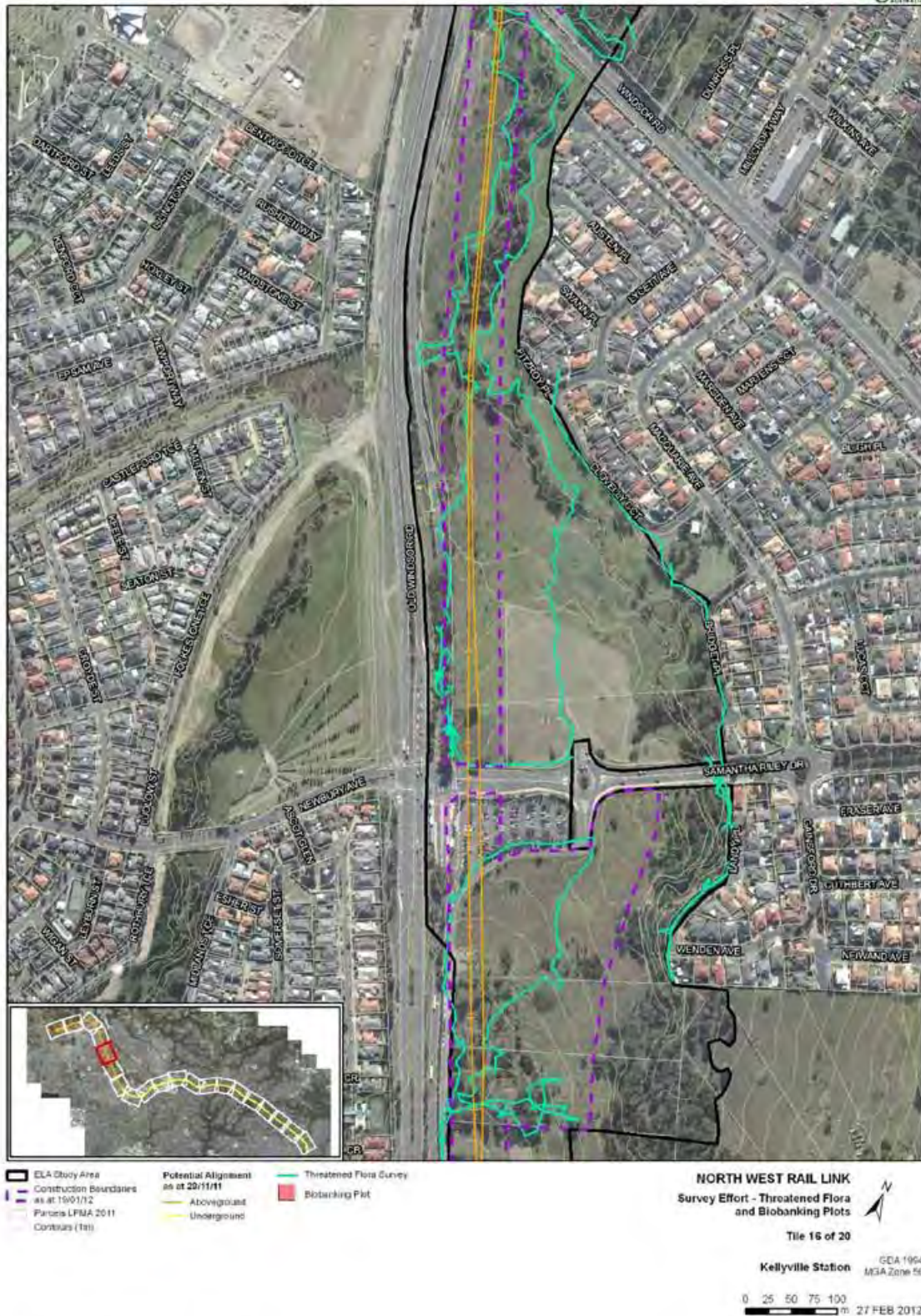
GDA 1994
MGA Zone 56

27 FEB 2012

© ECO LOGICAL AUSTRALIA PTY LTD



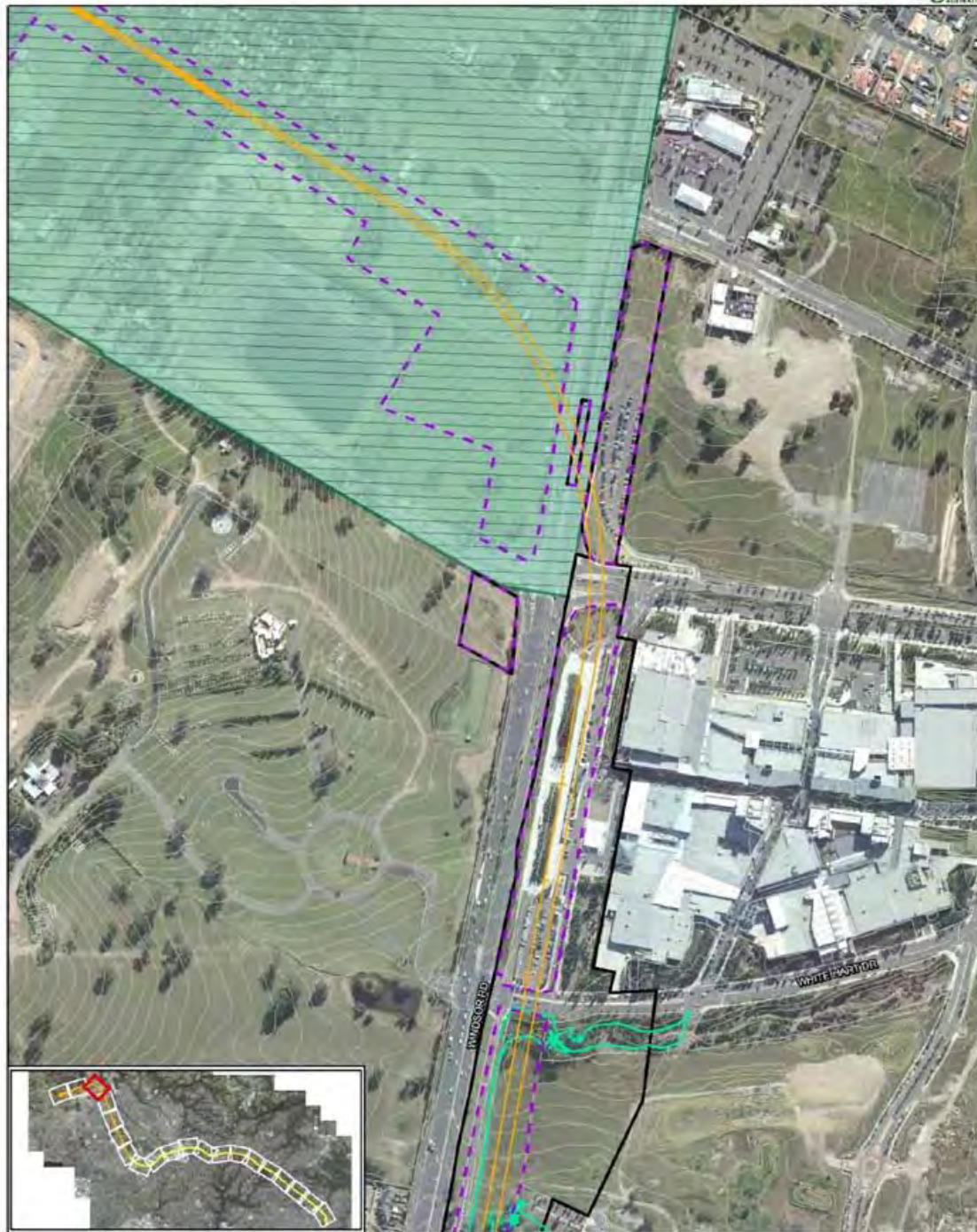
Old Windsor Road – Threatened Flora Survey



Kellyville – Threatened Flora Survey



Windsor Rd – Threatened Flora Survey



NORTH WEST RAIL LINK
Survey Effort - Threatened Flora and Biobanking Plots

Tile 18 of 20

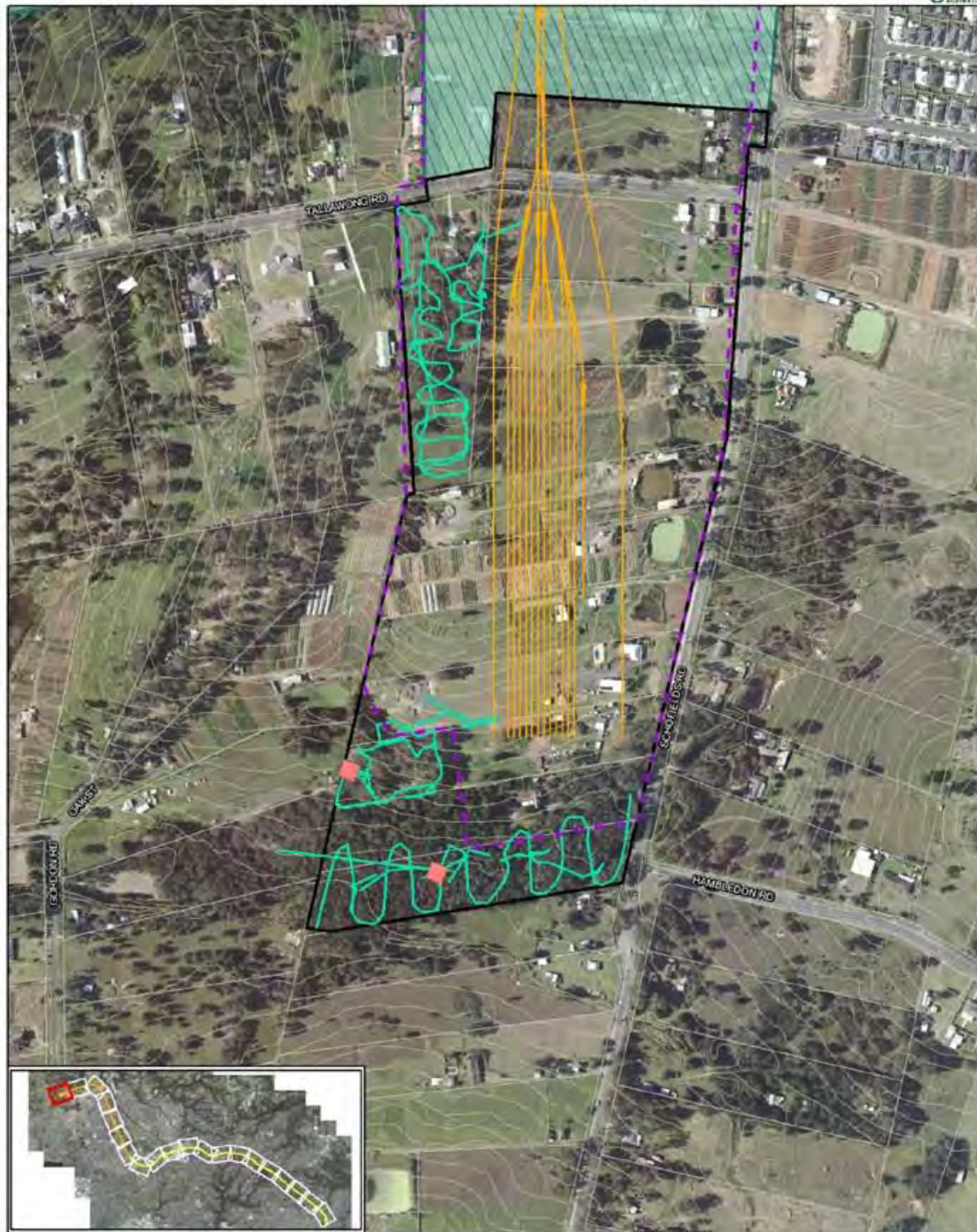
Rouse Hill Station GDA 1994
MGA Zone 56

0 25 50 75 100 m 27 FEB 2012

Rouse Hill – Threatened Flora Survey



Cudgong – Threatened Flora Survey



- ELA Study Area
- Construction Boundaries as at 15/9/12
- Panels UPMA 2011
- Contours (1m)
- Potential Alignment as at 28/11/11
- Aboveground
- Underground
- Threatened Flora Survey
- Biobanking Plot
- Refer to the Area 20 Biodiversity Assessment Report for Detailed Survey Information

NORTH WEST RAIL LINK
Survey Effort - Threatened Flora and Biobanking Plots

Tile 20 of 20

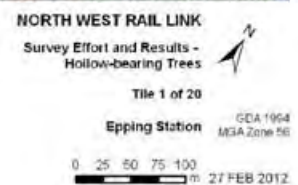
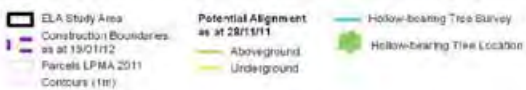
First Ponds Creek - Tallawong Road

GDA 1994
MGA Zone 56

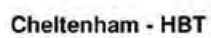
0 25 50 75 100 m
27 FEB 2012

First Ponds Creek – Threatened Flora Survey

Appendix E Hollow Bearing Tree Maps



Epping - HBT





NORTH WEST RAIL LINK

Survey Effort and Results -
Hollow-bearing Trees

Title 6 of 20

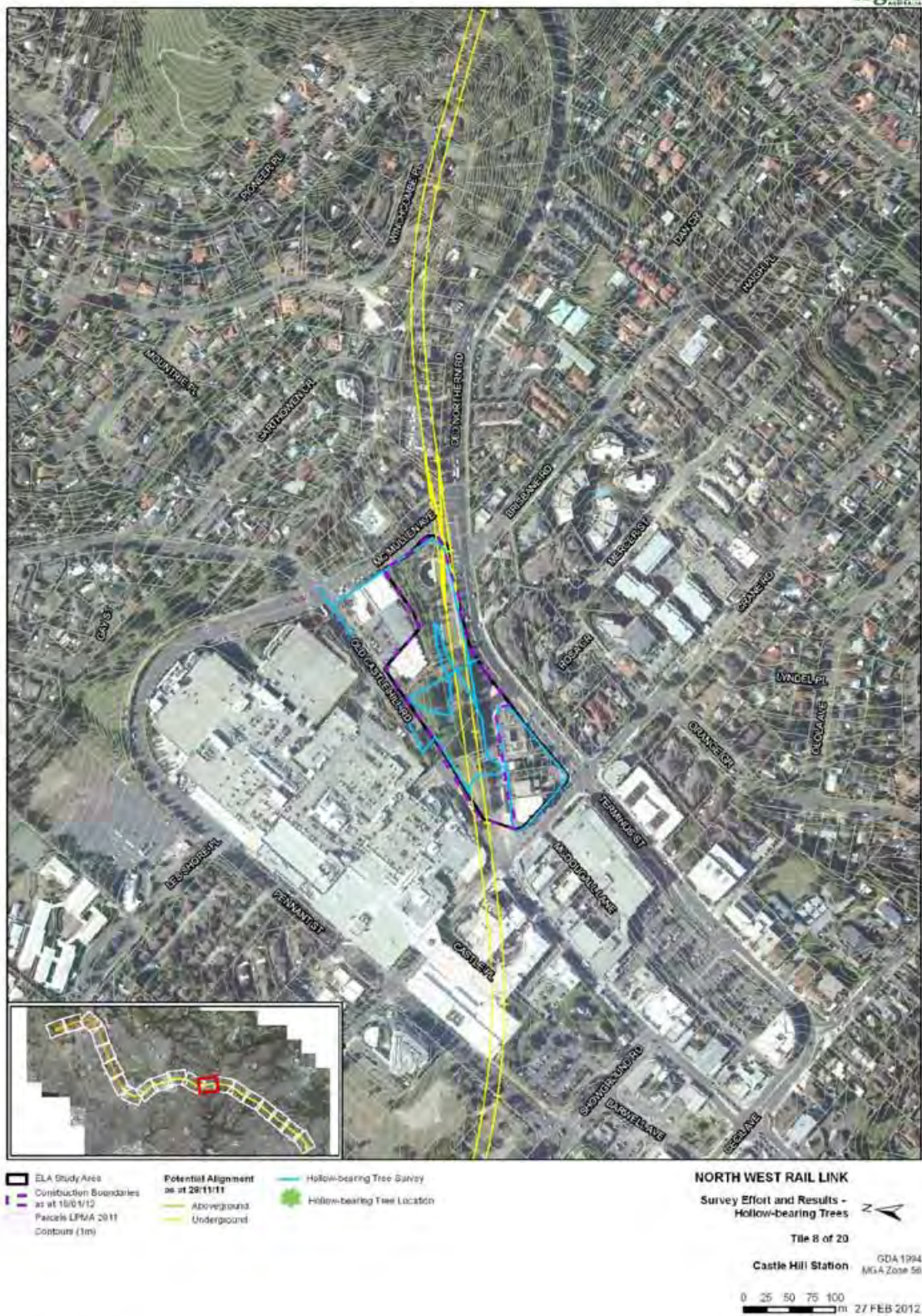
Cherrybrook Station

GDA 1964
MGA Zone 56

0 25 50 75 100

m 27 FEB 2012

Cherrybrook - HBT



Castle Hill - HBT



NORTH WEST RAIL LINK

Survey Effort and Results -
Hollow-bearing Trees



Tile 10 of 20

Hills Centre Station

GDA 1994
MGA Zone 56

0 25 50 75 100
m

27 FEB 2012

Hills Centre - HBT



- ELA Study Area
Construction Boundaries
as at 15/01/12
Packets LPM/A 2011
Contours (1m)
- Potential Alignment
as at 28/11/11
Aboveground
Underground
- Hollow-bearing Tree Survey
Hollow-bearing Tree Location

NORTH WEST RAIL LINK
Survey Effort and Results -
Hollow-bearing Trees

Tile 12 of 20

Norwest Station

GDA 1994
MGA Zone 56

0 25 50 75 100
m

27 FEB 2012

Norwest - HBT





NORTH WEST RAIL LINK
Survey Effort and Results -
Hollow-bearing Trees

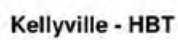
Tile 15 of 20

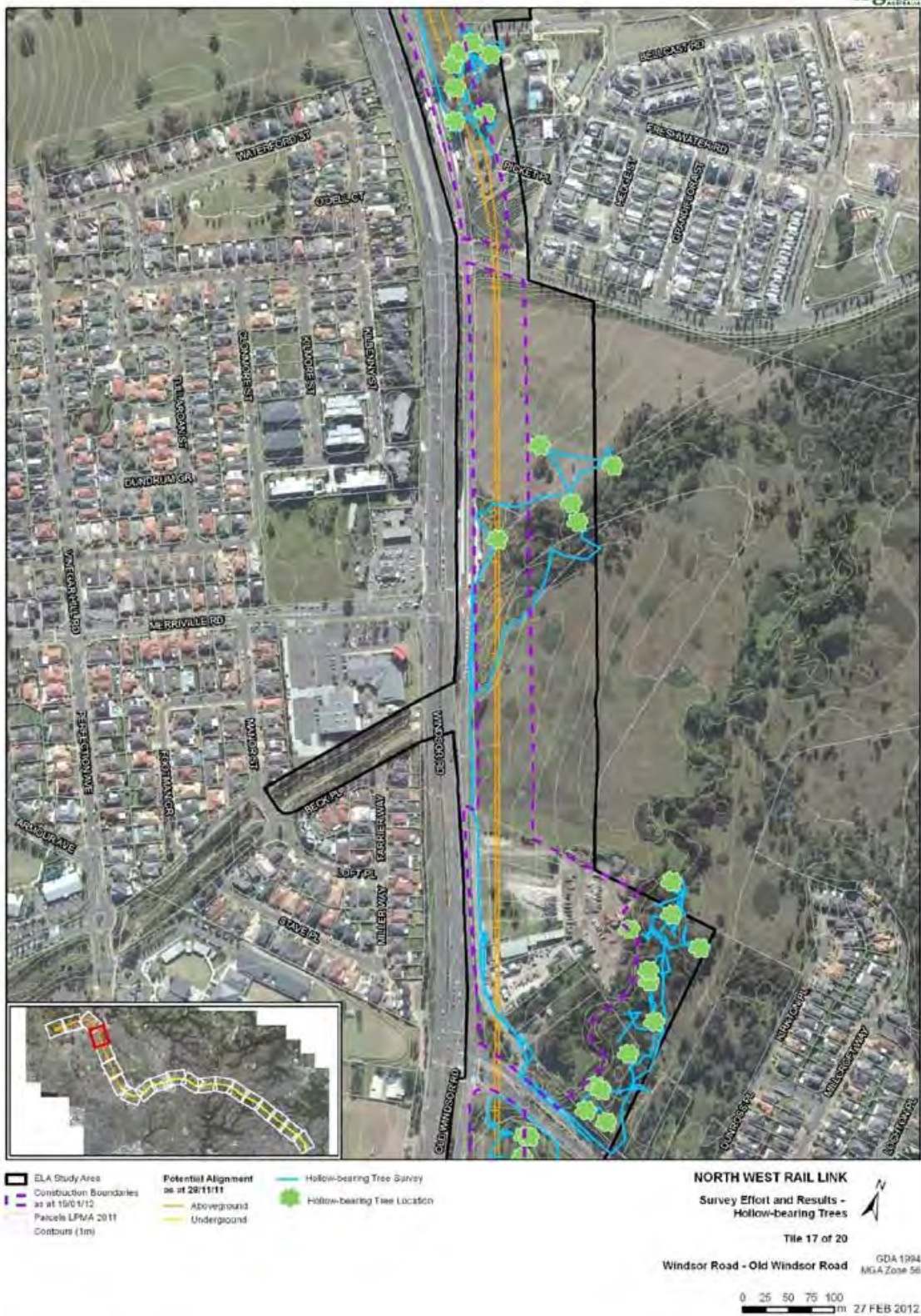
Old Windsor Road - Balmoral Road

GDA 1994
 MGA Zone 56

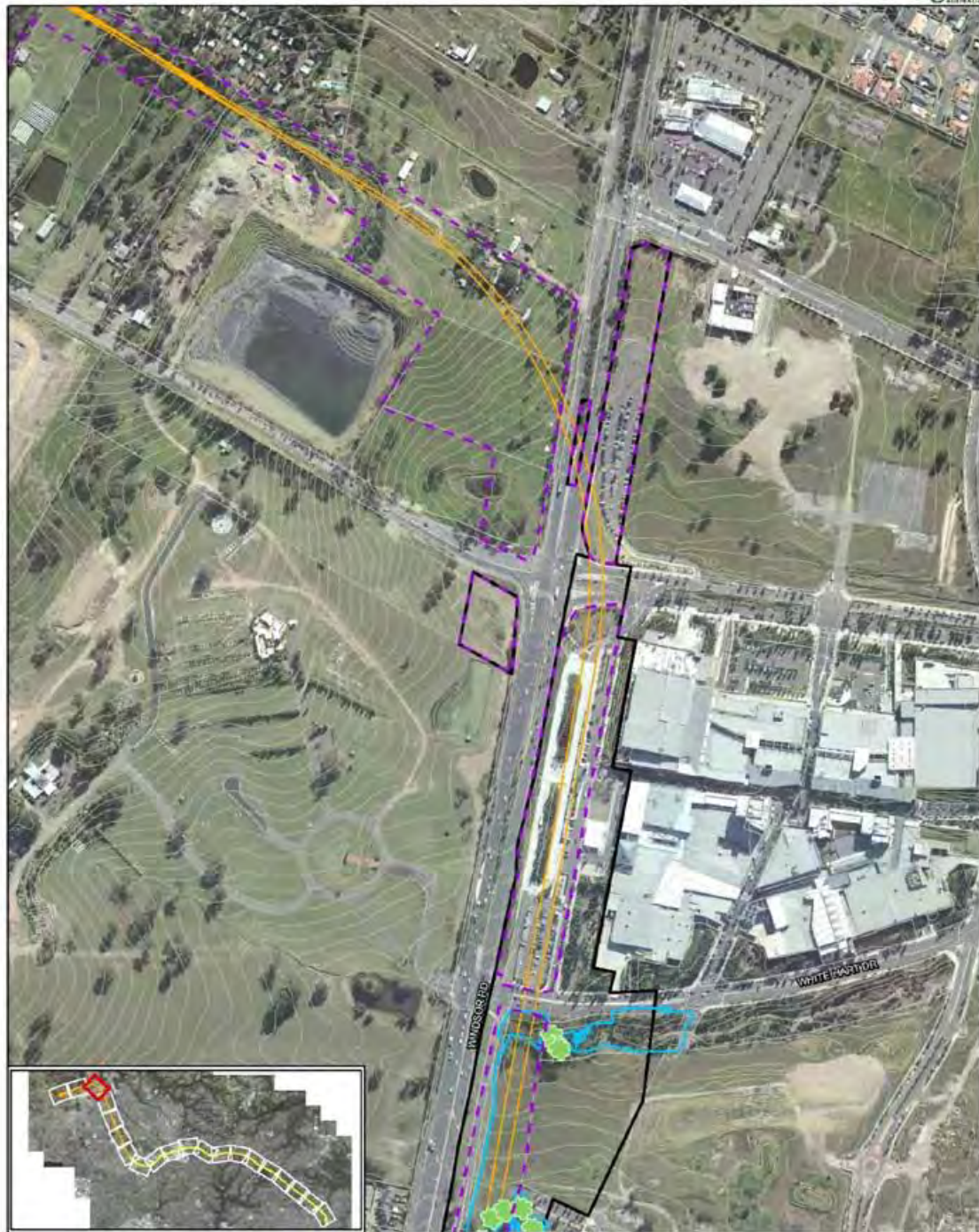
0 25 50 75 100
 m 27 FEB 2012

Old Windsor Road - HBT





Windsor Road - HBT



■ ELA Study Area
 ■ Construction Boundaries as at 18/01/12
 ■ Parcels LPSMA 2011
 ■ Contours (1m)
 ■ Potential Alignment as at 28/11/11
 ■ Aboveground
 ■ Underground
 ■ Hollow-bearing Tree Survey
 ■ Hollow-bearing Tree Location

NORTH WEST RAIL LINK

Survey Effort and Results -
Hollow-bearing Trees

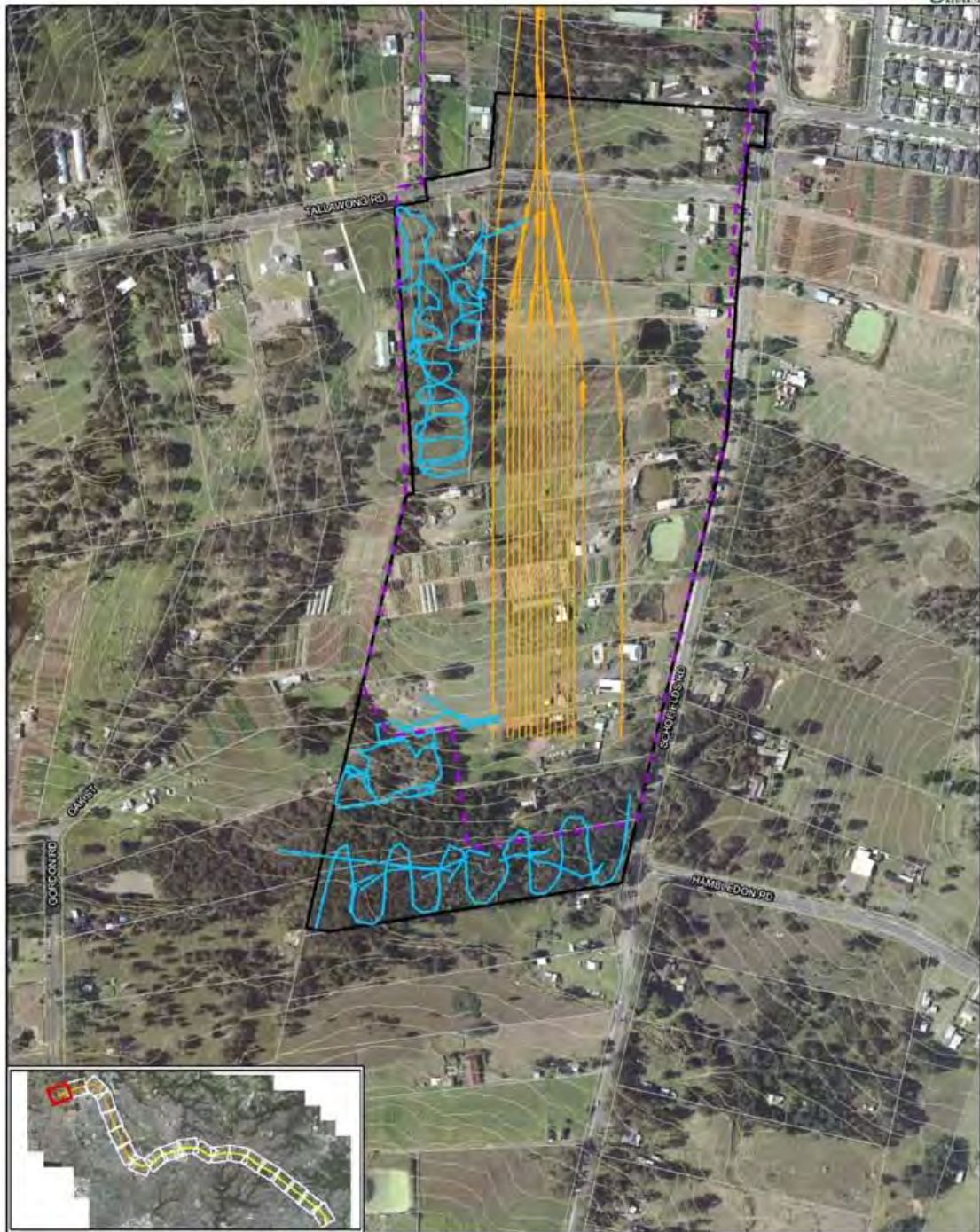
Tile 18 of 20

Rouse Hill Station

GDA 1994
MGA Zone 56

0 25 50 75 100
m 27 FEB 2012

Rouse Hill - HBT



ELA Study Area
 Construction Boundaries
 as at 15/01/12
 Parcels LPA/A 2011
 Contours (1m)

Potential Alignment
 as at 28/11/11
 Aboveground
 Underground

Hollow-bearing Tree Survey
 Hollow-bearing Tree Location

NORTH WEST RAIL LINK

**Survey Effort and Results -
Hollow-bearing Trees**

Tile 20 of 20

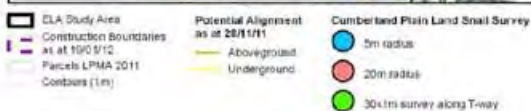
First Ponds Creek - Tallawong Road

GDA 1994
MGA Zone 56

0 25 50 75 100
m 27 FEB 2012

First Ponds Creek - HBT

Appendix F Cumberland Plain Land Snail Survey Maps



NORTH WEST RAIL LINK

Survey Effort - Cumberland Plain Land Snail

Title 14 of 20

Balmoral Road - Northridge Avenue

GDA 1994
MGA Zone 56

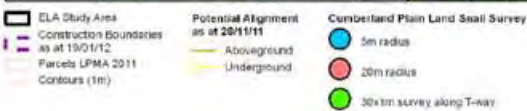
0 25 50 75 100
m 27 FEB 2012

Balmoral Road - Cumberland Plain Land Snail



Kellyville - Cumberland Plain Land Snail





NORTH WEST RAIL LINK

Survey Effort - Cumberland Plain Land Snail

Tile 20 of 20

First Ponds Creek - Tallawong Road

GDIA 1094
MGA Zone 56

0 25 50 75 100 m 27 FEB 2012

First Ponds - Cumberland Plain Land Snail

Appendix G Green & Golden Bell Frog Survey Results

G.1 Survey Site Selection

A Green and Golden Bell Frog (GGBF) site / habitat suitability assessment was undertaken on 18th November 2011. This assessment endeavoured to confirm the presence of suitable GGBF habitat and to rank the habitat quality and map the extent of habitat at the various sites. Primary and secondary habitat is identified in the GGBF habitat maps (see Appendix H).

This preliminary site assessment included a desktop assessment of known GGBF records from the surrounding areas and a recent aerial photo analysis, as well as an on-ground assessment of habitat features. Potential for connectivity with the nearest GGBF population was also taken into account in determining the prioritisation of potential habitat areas for survey.

Whilst suitable potential foraging habitat was found across all areas of the proposed NWRL corridor, only certain sections had suitable permanent water bodies that were considered suitable as potential breeding habitat, and which also had suitable shelter/foraging habitat. Some of these better habitat areas also possessed, in some instances, additional potential ephemeral breeding habitat. These areas were targeted during field surveys and identified in the survey effort maps (Appendix H).

G.2 Field Surveys

Each of the land parcels identified as priority sites for targeted GGBF investigation were individually surveyed using the full suite of survey techniques documented as the preferred survey methodologies for GGBF (NPWS 2003b, DEWHA 2009). Methods included diurnal searches scanning for basking individuals amongst emergent vegetation, searches beneath ground cover for sheltering individuals, as well as dip-netting to detect and identify any tadpoles or fish present. Call imitation was also selectively applied diurnally in an endeavour to elicit a call response from basking, but otherwise undetected, males. Nocturnal searches of the same habitat areas were also undertaken. This included using spotlights and headlamps to scan potential habitat areas for active and foraging individuals, frog auditory survey for calling males, recorded call playback to attempt to elicit a response from non-calling males as well as call imitation for the same purpose.

The application of the above survey methodology was timed to occur within the species' preferred activity period (August to March, NPWS 2003b; DEWHA 2009), as well as timed within this period to occur during suitable climatic conditions (warm to hot temperatures following or during rain events, NPWS 2003b; DEWHA 2009). The survey methodology was repeated over four nights in accordance with DEWHA (2009) survey guidelines. The preferred survey periodicity of four consecutive nights was varied in this instance due to cold nocturnal temperatures (11 °C) experienced on the third survey night and the forecast for high temperatures and substantial rain several days later, which eventuated.

The rationale behind the recommended GGBF survey guidelines (NPWS, 2002; DEWHA 2009) is to endeavour to time surveys to intersect temporally with the GGBF activity period and the breeding activity component of the species' lifecycle when it is most detectable, and when dispersed individuals are more likely to congregate. Furthermore, GGBF tadpoles are quite distinctive and, following spawning, are likely to be present, and therefore detectable, for a substantial period (approximately 12 weeks) when adults may be dispersed and / or absent. Metamorphlings are also likely to remain in the

vicinity of the breeding pond and surrounds for a period after metamorphosis (Pers. Obs. R. Wellington). A further test of this rationale was applied during this survey by undertaking two visits to the nearest GGBF reference site at Riverstone (3 km away in the First Ponds Creek sub-catchment). Both of these visits revealed that GGBF were active and calling the day/night before the current surveys were undertaken, indicating the likely detectability of GGBF at the subject survey sites if present.

Field Survey Results

Surveys of the identified priority habitat areas revealed *Litoria fallax* (Dwarf Green-Tree Frogs) present diurnally from intermittent calls and from a few individuals observed basking. Searches of habitat that included ground cover, where present, around each of the habitat areas revealed *Litoria peronii* (Brown Tree Frogs), and *Limnodynastes peronii* (Brown Striped Marsh Frog). Intermittent diurnal calls revealed *Limnodynastes tasmaniensis* (Spotted Marsh Frogs), *Litoria dentata* (Bleating Tree Frogs), and *Crinia signifera* (Brown Toadlets). Dip netting for tadpoles detected three species of frogs; *Litoria peronii* (Brown Tree Frog), *Limnodynastes peronii* (Brown Striped Marsh Frogs), and Spotted Marsh Frog. Dip netting and diurnal survey of water bodies also revealed the presence of exotic fish and fresh water eels, with Common Carp and Koi Carp varieties of *Cyprinus carpio* being detected in water bodies on properties within First Ponds Creek drainage (Schofields Road sites) and Plague Minnow *Gambusia holbrooki* in water bodies within the Caddies Creek drainage (Windsor Road sites). *Anguilla cf australis* (Freshwater Eels) were visually detected in both sub-catchments. Nocturnal surveys revealed all of the above species, as well as *Litoria verreauxii* (Whirring Tree Frogs) (on the third coolest survey night), *Litoria tyleri* (Tyler's Brown Tree Frog), and the *Uperoleia fusca* (Dusky Brown Toadlet), by call during/following heavy rain, but also visually verified by triangulated capture method. No other frog species or their tadpoles were detected during the diurnal and nocturnal searches of the targeted habitat areas. The results of the field survey are summarised in section 3.3.3.

As the priority sites along the NWRL corridor are not known to have any GGBF records, a single replicate of the GGBF survey guideline methodology (DEWHA 2009; NPWS 2003b) was undertaken, as the more onerous recommended replication of survey effort is only considered necessary in known locations of GGBF records.

Table 28: Green & Golden Bell Frog Survey Results

| SURVEY SITE | ADDRESS & CO-ORDINATES | DIURNAL SURVEY EFFORTS | | NOCTURNAL SURVEY EFFORTS | |
|---|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| | | DATE / TIME | RESULTS | DATE / TIME | RESULTS |
| Tallawong Road to Firts Ponds Creek (Tile 20) | 57 Scholfields Rd, Rouse Hill 33°41'44.00"S; 150°53'53.86"E | 21/11/2011 Start 1630 Finish 1650 | No frogs were observed or heard calling. Incidental Observations – <i>Lampropholis delicata</i> , <i>Lampropholis guichenoti</i> , <i>Chelodina longicollis</i> | 21/11/2011 Start 2045 Finish 2115 | Auditory Survey and Spotlight/Headlamp search detected: <i>Litoria fallax</i> – 15+; <i>Litoria peronii</i> – 6+; <i>Litoria tyleri</i> – 1; <i>Crinia signifera</i> – 2; <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> – 5 No other frogs were detected from visual observations, searching of ground cover or from call imitation/call playback. |
| | | 22/11/2011 Start 1445 Finish 1515 | No frogs or tadpoles were detected | 22/11/2011 Start 2030 Finish 2100 | <i>Litoria peronii</i> 4+; <i>Litoria fallax</i> 1; <i>Crinia signifera</i> 1; |
| | | 23/11/2011 Start 1520 Finish 1550 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> calling Incidental Observations: <i>Lampropholis delicata</i> , <i>Eulamprus quoyii</i> , Welcome Swallow, Red-rumped Grass Parrot, Australian Raven, Little Grebe, Black Duck, Dusky Moorehen, Chestnut Teal, Masked Lapwing, Sulfur-crested Cockatoo, Indian Mynah | 23/11/2011 Start 2015 Finish 2040 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> 9; <i>Litoria fallax</i> 2 (called in response to disturbance only) |
| | | 29/11/2011 Start 1540 Finish 1610 | <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> ; <i>Litoria peronii</i> (calling and tadpoles) Incidental Observations: Chestnut Teal, Pee Wee, Channel-billed Cuckoo, Red-rumped Grass Parrots, Indian Mynah, Starling | 29/11/2011 Start 2015 Finish 2045 | <i>Litoria fallax</i> 12+; <i>Litoria peronii</i> 8; <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> 6; <i>Crinia signifera</i> 5 |
| | 59 Scholfields Road, Rouse Hill 33°41'43.11"S; 150°53'56.07"E | 21/11/2011 Start 1650 Finish 1715 <i>Southern habitat area</i> | No frogs observed but two unidentified tadpoles (single species) were collected. No other frogs were detected from visual observations, searching of ground cover or from call imitation Incidental Observations: Koi Carp <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> | 21/11/2011 Start 2115 Finish 2145 | <i>Litoria peronii</i> 6+ calling and an amplexing pair observed and 1 active male observed; <i>Litoria fallax</i> 8+ calling and observed by spotlight. No other frogs were detected from visual observations, searching of ground cover or from call imitation/call playback. |
| | | 21/11/2011 Start 1720 Finish 1745 Northern ephemeral habitat area 0305094; 6269869 GDA 94 Z 56 | <i>Litoria dentata</i> heard calling, two tadpole specimens collected, one tadpole was of the Brown Striped Marsh Frog <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> , the other <i>Limnodynastes tasmaniensis</i> . No other frogs were detected from visual observations, searching of ground cover or call imitation. | | |
| | | 22/11/2011 Start 1515 Finish 1545 | No Frogs or tadpoles detected Incidental Observations: Koi Carp <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> ; <i>Lampropholis delicata</i> ; <i>Raftus raftus</i> | 22/11/2011 Start 2100 Finish 2130 | <i>Litoria peronii</i> 5+; <i>Litoria fallax</i> 5; |
| | | 23/11/2011 Start 1600 Finish 1630 | <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> , <i>Litoria dentata</i> , <i>Limnodynastes tasmaniensis</i> (tadpoles) Incidental Observations: <i>Eulamprus quoyii</i> , <i>Tiliqua scincoides</i> , <i>Lampropholis delicata</i> , <i>Lampropholis guichenoti</i> , Koi Carp, Magpie, Kookaburra, Double-barred Finch, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Common Bronzewing Pigeon, Pee Wee, Masked Lapwing, Restless Flycatcher, Superb Blue Wren, | 23/11/2011 Start 2040 Finish 2100 | <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> 8; <i>Uperoleia fusca</i> 3; <i>Litoria peronii</i> 3; <i>Crinia signifera</i> 6; <i>Litoria dentata</i> 6+ (at a distance from the site) Incidental Observations: Barn Owl <i>Tyto alba</i> |

| SURVEY SITE | ADDRESS & CO-ORDINATES | DIURNAL SURVEY EFFORTS | | NOCTURNAL SURVEY EFFORTS | |
|---|------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| | | DATE / TIME | RESULTS | DATE / TIME | RESULTS |
| 61 Schofields Rd, Rouse Hill 33°41'42.17"S; 150°53'58.11"E | | 29/11/2011 Start 1610 Finish 1650 | House Sparrow, Starling <i>Litoria fallax</i> , <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> (juvenile and tadpoles) Incidental Observations: <i>Lampropholis delicata</i> , <i>Tiliqua scincoides</i> , Little Corella, Indian Mynah, Common Carp <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> , Magpie, Indian Turtle Dove, House Sparrow, Starling | 29/11/2011 Start 2045 Finish 2115 | <i>Litoria peronii</i> 5+; <i>Litoria fallax</i> 8; <i>Litoria dentata</i> 3; <i>Uperoleia fusca</i> 2; |
| | | 21/11/2011 Start 1745 Finish 1805 | <i>Litoria fallax</i> calling; <i>Crinia signifera</i> calling, no other frogs were detected from visual observations, searching of ground cover or from call imitation. Incidental Observations: Common Carp <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> 'Fry' collected during dip-netting and dead adults observed in dried out ephemeral overflow depression; Freshwater Eel <i>Anguilla cf australis</i> . | 21/11/2011 Start 2145 Finish 2205 | <i>Litoria fallax</i> – 6; <i>Litoria peronii</i> – 4 detected calling. No other frogs were detected from visual observations using spotlight/headlamp or from call imitation/call playback. |
| | | 22/11/2011 Start 1545 Finish 1610 | No frogs or tadpoles detected Incidental Observations: Koi Carp and Common Carp <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> ; | 22/11/2011 Start 2130 Finish 2200 | <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> 1; <i>Crinia signifera</i> 1; <i>Litoria fallax</i> 1; |
| | | 23/11/2011 Start 1730 Finish 1800 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> , <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> Incidental Observations: <i>Lampropholis delicata</i> , Red-whiskered Bul Bul, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Magpie, Brown Wood Swallow, White-napped Honeyeater, Channel-billed Cuckoo | 23/11/2011 Start 2100 Finish 2120 | <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> 6; <i>Crinia signifera</i> 11; <i>Litoria peronii</i> 1 |
| 68 Schofields Rd, Rouse Hill 33°41'41.56"S; 150°54'10.54"E | | 29/11/2011 Start 1700 Finish 1730 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> Incidental Observations: Common Carp (fry) and Koi (adult) <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> , Black-faced Cuckoo Shrike, House Sparrow, Restless Flycatcher, Red-whiskered Bul Bul, White-napped Honeyeater, Magpie, Superb Blue-wren, | 29/11/2011 Start 2115 Finish 2130 | <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> 12+; <i>Crinia signifera</i> 20+; <i>Litoria fallax</i> 3 |
| | | 21/11/2011 Start 1810 Finish 1830 – main dam; Start 1830 Finish 1845 - Typha pond | Tadpoles of <i>Litoria peronii</i> were collected during dipnetting in main dam. No other frogs were detected from visual observations, searching of ground cover or from call imitation around main dam. <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> was detected from calls throughout the Typha pond but no other frogs were detected from visual observations, searching of ground cover or from call imitation around the Typha pond. Incidental Observations: Eastern Water Skink <i>Eulamprus quoyii</i> , <i>Lampropholis delicata</i> | 21/11/2011 Start 2210 Finish 2240 AEDST | <i>Litoria fallax</i> 30+; <i>Litoria peronii</i> 15+; <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> 15+ calling from sullage pond with Typha on property boundary; <i>Litoria tyleri</i> 2; <i>Litoria verreauxii</i> 1; |
| | | 22/11/2011 Start 1615 Finish 1645 | <i>Litoria peronii</i> tadpoles collected; <i>Litoria fallax</i> calling | 22/11/2011 Start 2200 Finish 2230 | <i>Litoria peronii</i> 8; <i>Litoria verreauxii</i> 1; <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> 8+; <i>Limnodynastes tasmaniensis</i> 1; <i>Litoria fallax</i> 10+; <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> foamy eggmass detected. |
| | | 23/11/2011 Start 1800 Finish 1830 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> , <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> (calling) and metamorphosing captured, <i>Limnodynastes tasmaniensis</i> , <i>Litoria dentata</i> | 23/11/2011 Start 2120 Finish 2140 | <i>Litoria peronii</i> 2; <i>Crinia signifera</i> 6; <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> 8; <i>Limnodynastes tasmaniensis</i> 3; <i>Litoria verreauxii</i> 1 |

| SURVEY SITE | ADDRESS & CO-ORDINATES | DIURNAL SURVEY EFFORTS | | NOCTURNAL SURVEY EFFORTS | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| | | DATE / TIME | RESULTS | DATE / TIME | RESULTS |
| Samantha Riley Drive to Windsor Road (Tile 16) | Caddies Creek (Northern site) 33°42'32.78"S; 150°56'40.47"E | | Incidental Observations: Red-rumped Grass Parrot, Magpie, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, White-napped Honeyeater, Red Wattle Bird, Reed Warbler, Welcome Swallow, Silver Eye, Red-browed Finch, Starling, Rabbit | | |
| | | 29/11/2011 Start 1730 Finish 1800 | <i>Litoria fallax</i> ; <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> , <i>Litoria peronii</i> (tadpoles) Incidental Observations: <i>Eulamprus quoyii</i> 3; <i>Pseudechis porphyriacus</i> ; Dusky Moorehen, Australian Raven; Reed Warbler | 29/11/2011 Start 2130 Finish 2155 | <i>Litoria peronii</i> 15; <i>Litoria fallax</i> 20+; <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> 30+; <i>Crinia signifera</i> 1; |
| | | 21/11/2011 Start 1815 Finish 1845 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> calling; <i>Litoria fallax</i> calling; <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> calling from drain leading to ox-bow. | | |
| | | 22/11/2011 Start 1855 Finish 1720 | Incidental Observations: Plague Minnow <i>Gambusia holbrooki</i> detected by dip netting and visually. <i>Crinia signifera</i> calling | 22/11/2011 Start 2240 Finish 2300 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> 6; <i>Litoria fallax</i> 6 |
| | | 23/11/2011 Start 1840 Finish 1900 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> calling; <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> calling Incidental Observations: Plague Minnow <i>Gambusia holbrooki</i> (fry), <i>Lampropholis delicata</i> , Large Black Cormorant, Little-plum Cormorant, Red-rumped Grass Parrot, Starlings | 23/11/2011 Start 2155 – 2220 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> 2 |
| | | 29/11/2011 Start 1800 Finish 1830 | No frogs or tadpoles detected Incidental Observations: Plague Minnow <i>Gambusia holbrooki</i> ; Red-rumped Grass parrots, Starlings, Indian Mynah | 29/11/2011 Start 2210 Finish 2230 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> 6; <i>Limnodynastes peronii</i> 5; <i>Litoria fallax</i> 6 |
| | | 21/11/2011 Start 1850 Finish 1915 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> calling; no other frogs or tadpoles detected. Incidental Observations: Plague Minnow <i>Gambusia holbrooki</i> detected by dip netting and visually. | | |
| | | 22/11/2011 Start 1725 Finish 1745 | No frogs or tadpoles detected | 22/11/2011 Start 2305 Finish 2325 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> 2; No other frogs detected. |
| | | 23/11/2011 Start 1905 Finish 1930 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> Incidental Observations: Plague Minnow <i>Gambusia holbrooki</i> , Rainbow Lorikeets, Little Corella, Galah, Magpie, Eastern Rosella | 23/11/2011 Start 2230 Finish 2250 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> 1; <i>Litoria verreauxii</i> 1 (calling at a distance) |
| | | 29/11/2011 Start 1830 Finish 1900 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> , <i>Litoria dentata</i> , Incidental Observations: Plague Minnow <i>Gambusia holbrooki</i> ; Little Corella, Galah, Eastern Rosella, Magpie, Indian Mynah | 29/11/2011 Start 2235 Finish 2300 | <i>Crinia signifera</i> 5; <i>Litoria fallax</i> 2; |
| Chellenham (Tile 2) | Devil's Creek 33°45'42.19"S; 150°40'20.92"E | Start 1815 Finish 1830 | Site totally unsuitable for GGBF. Forest vegetation with warm temperate rainforest understorey species in heavily shaded gully. Creek with high flow velocity. Veracity of previous GGBF record from vicinity of this site is highly questionable. The site does not warrant any further survey effort for this species and no additional effort was applied. | | |

G.3 Comments

The Riverstone East Precinct of the NWGC is the nearest and most recent sighting of GGBF records, (approximately 3 km from the Schofields Road sites of the NWRL corridor). Drainage from the western-most sections of the NWRL corridor is part of the First Ponds Creek sub-catchment of Eastern Creek, which drains to the north-west through Riverstone to Eastern Creek. The identified Riverstone GGBF element of the Western Sydney GGBF Key Population was identified in the Draft GGBF Recovery Plan (NPWS 2003b) however no regional key population management plan has, as yet, been prepared for this key population though actioned under the Draft GGBF Recovery Plan and Priority Action Statement (PAS) for the species.

One component of the 'biocertification' process was to undertake rigorous targeted GGBF surveys within a specified area at Riverstone (Eco Logical Australia, 2007). This study confirmed the presence of GGBF at Riverstone, and validated all the previous observations in that locality. The study found that GGBF were concentrated at a single location at Riverstone, where a semi-captive colony exists. It also concluded that additional GGBF records from the immediate vicinity were likely emanating from the focal distribution point. Specimens observed were considered likely dispersing individuals and the study triggered additional follow up surveys at other historical western Sydney GGBF sites but the GGBF failed to be redetected (Jurd, 2008).

Consequently there is a desire, as expressed in the Recovery Plan, as well as in each of the nine subsidiary Key Population Management Plans (DECC 2007; 2008), that habitat creation, retention and rehabilitation are desirable outcomes where the GGBF is recorded or known from nearby. Nevertheless there are no known GGBF records in recent times (after 1975) from the immediate proximity of the NWRL study site. However, it is impossible to rule out the possibility of GGBF moving to or from or through the subject corridor lands from time to time but the potential habitat on site is unremarkable. The most suitable areas of habitat observed are artificial human constructed earth walled dams along existing ephemeral/intermittent drainages or modified ox-bows and constructed detention basins. These structures have become vegetated to varying extents with fringing emergent *Typha*, *Juncus*, *Cyperus* and *Eleocharus* spp. that are recognised for their values to the GGBF for shelter and foraging as well as possible basking potential. These same structures may also provide breeding habitat values, although these values are lessened by the proliferation of Plague Minnow *Gambusia holbrooki* and varieties of exotic Carp *Cyprinus carpio*.

GGBF have in more recent times been recorded more regularly successfully breeding in ephemeral locations of which there are few on the subject corridor lands. This phenomenon is thought to be the consequence of the prevalence of Frog Chytrid caused by the pathogen *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* that renders more permanent bodies of water less suitable due to the persistence of this pathogen (a Key Threatening Process) in permanent water that does not experience drying episodes which is believed to eliminate it.

Whilst it is not possible to rule out an occasional presence of GGBF from time to time, it is unlikely that the species is present currently. The likelihood of occasional utilisation of the site is most reasonably determined by connectivity to the nearest known site. The extent of roads and other development between the subject land and the Riverstone distribution node, except via drainage lines, makes this consideration unlikely especially for the sites within the Caddies and Elizabeth Macarthur Creek component of the NWRL corridor.

G.4 Recommendations

Where possible, and cognisant of other rehabilitation priorities, GGBF habitat re-creation should be

incorporated into rehabilitation of riparian areas impacted by the NWRL. OEH has prepared a Best Practice Guide to habitat construction (DECC 2007).

Appendix H Green & Golden Bell Frog Habitat Maps



- ELA Study Area
- Construction Boundaries as at 19/01/12
- Parcels LPMA 2011
- Contours (1m)

- Potential Alignment as at 26/11/11
- Aboveground
- Underground

- Green and Golden Bell Frog Habitat
- Primary Habitat
- Secondary Habitat

NORTH WEST RAIL LINK

Green and Golden Bell Frog Habitat

Tile 14 of 20

Balmoral Road - Northridge Avenue

GDA 1994
MGA Zone 56

0 25 50 75 100
m 27 FEB 2012

Balmoral Rd - GGBF



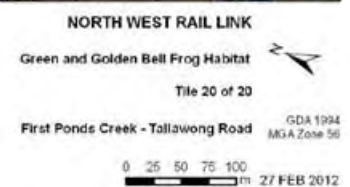
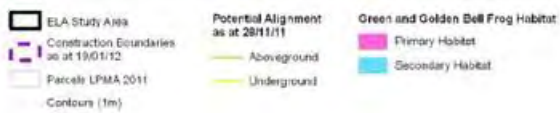
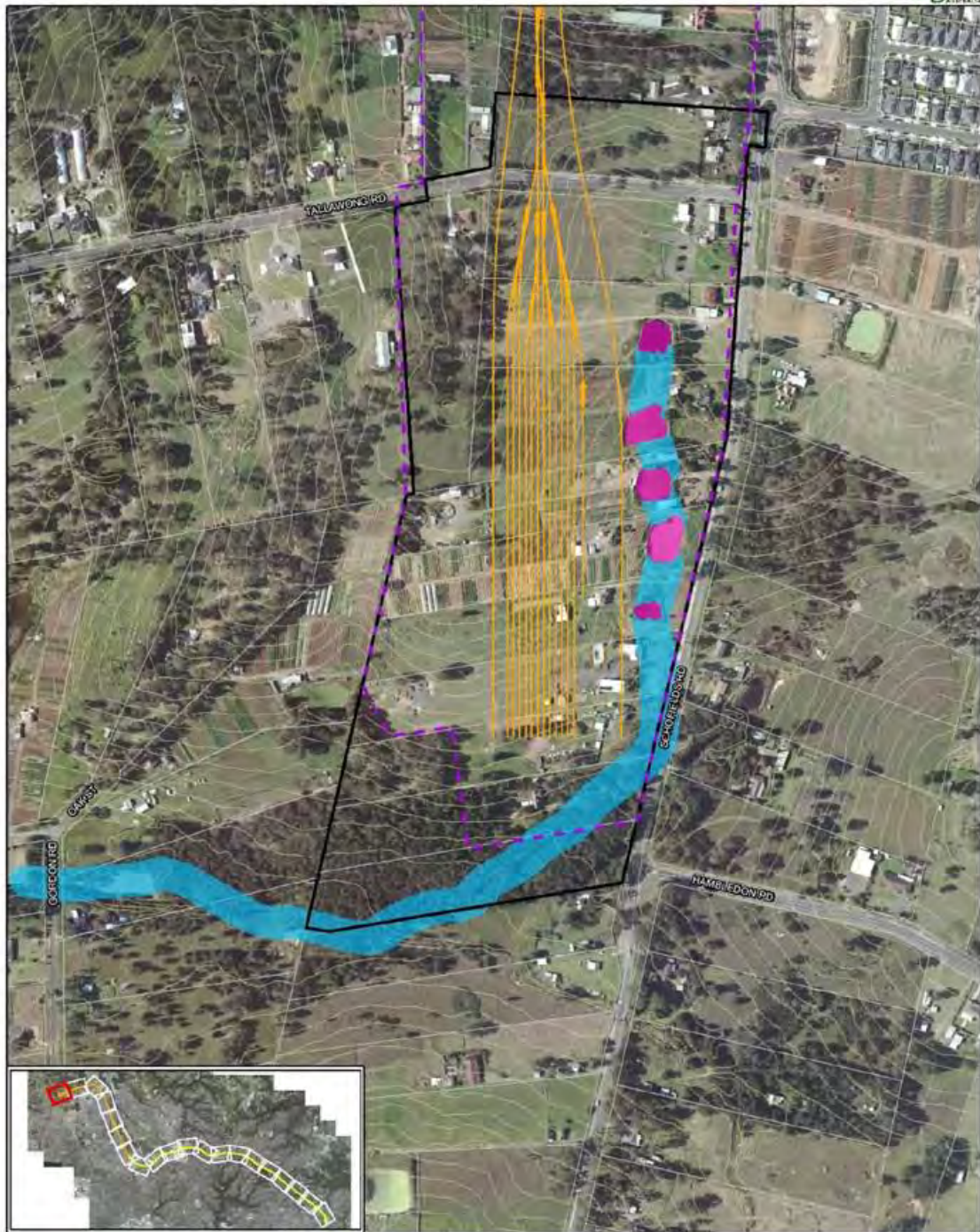
Old Windsor Road - GGBF



Kellyville - GGBF



Windsor Rd - GGBF



First Ponds creek - GGBF

Appendix I Opportunistic Sightings



ELA Study Area
 Construction Boundaries
 as at 15/01/12
 Parcels LPMA 2011
 Contours (1m)
 Opportunistic Sighting
 Cattle Egret (Migratory)

NORTH WEST RAIL LINK
Results - Opportunistic Sightings
 Tile 14 of 20
 Balmoral Road - Northridge Avenue
 GDA 1994
 MGA Zone 56
 0 25 50 75 100
 m 27 FEB 2012

Balmoral Road – Opportunistic Sightings



ELA Study Area
 Construction Boundaries as at 19/01/12
 Parcels LPIA 2011
 Contours (1m)

Opportunistic Sighting
▲ Japanese Eriops (Migratory)

NORTH WEST RAIL LINK
Results - Opportunistic Sightings

Tile 16 of 20

Kellyville Station GDA 1984
MGA Zone 58

0 25 50 75 100 m 27 FEB 2012

Kellyville – Opportunistic Sightings