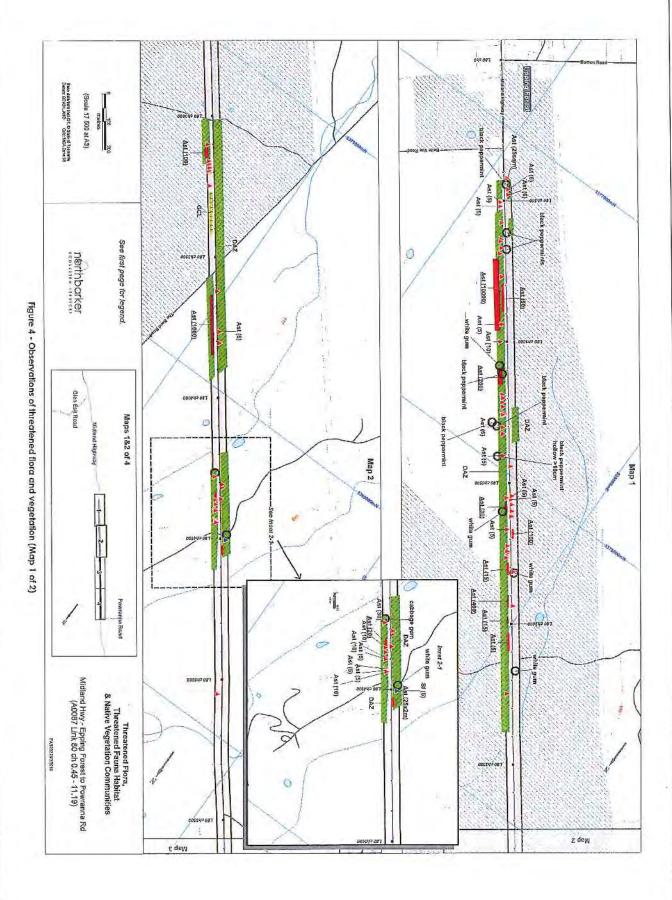
LEGEND Threatened Flora Ast - Arthropodium strictum (r/-) Ast - Arthropodium strictum (r/-) Ast - Arthropodium strictum (r/-) Cc - Caesia calliantha (r/-) Sf - Scleranthus fasciculatus (v/-) Threat status is indicated above as (TSPA/EPBCA) Threatened Flora observations are labelled with code and number of plants (if >4) or area (if >1sqm). Underlined labels refer to threatened flora polygons. Please refer to GIS tables for offset distance (from bitumen). Habitat trees **Native Vegetation Communities** (Using Tasveg 3.0 mapping units) black peppermint (DAZ) E, amygdalina inland forest & woodland on Cainozolo deposits cabbage gum (GCL) Lowland grassland complex white gum Other Study Area Midland Highway, Epping Forest to Powranna Rd (A0087 Link 80 ch 0.45 - 11.19) - roads Centreline showing TRIPS referencing: - labelled with Link number and chainage. - larger symbol every 500m Roadside land excluded from survey (owners not contacted or permission denied) The mapping has been undertaken using a non-differential GPS & interpretation of aerial photography. Average accuracy of data is +/- 10m. Map Index Powranna Road Midland Highway Glen Esk Road Threatened Flora, Threatened Fauna Habitat & Native Vegetation Communities Midland Hwy - Epping Forest to Powranna Rd (A0087 Link 80 ch 0.45 - 11.19) IERD22 26/2/2015

Figure 3 - Map legend



North Barker Ecosystem Services IER022 02/07/2015 FINAL



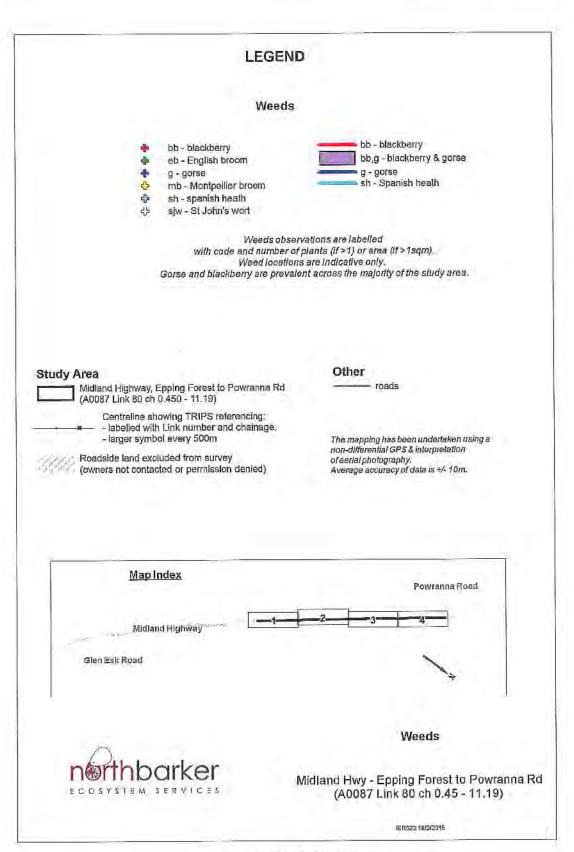
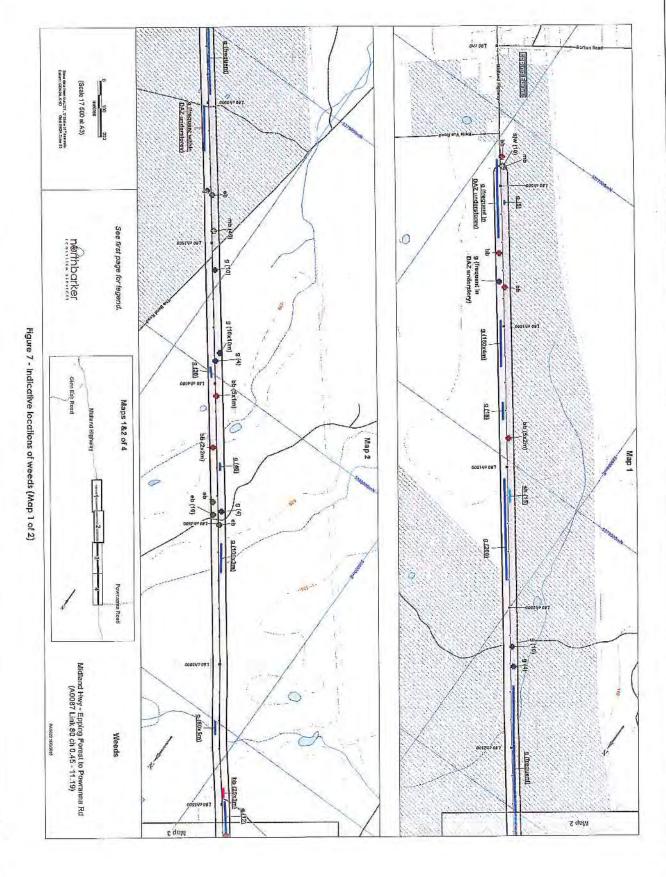
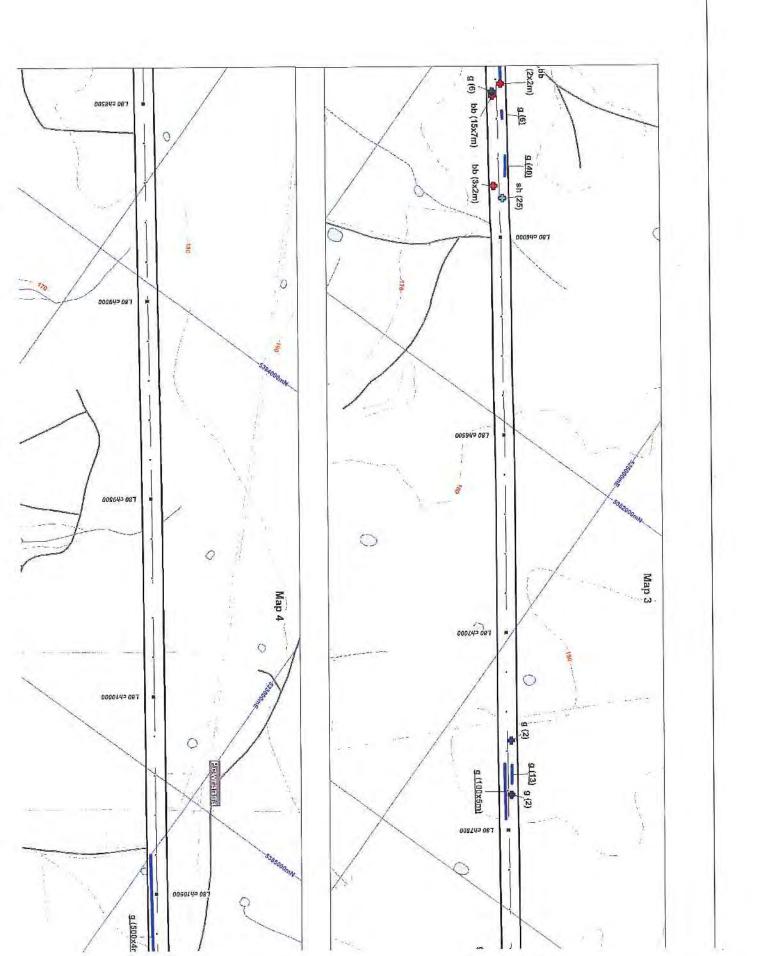


Figure 6 - Weeds Legend



35

North Barker Ecosystem Services IER022 02/07/2015 FINAL



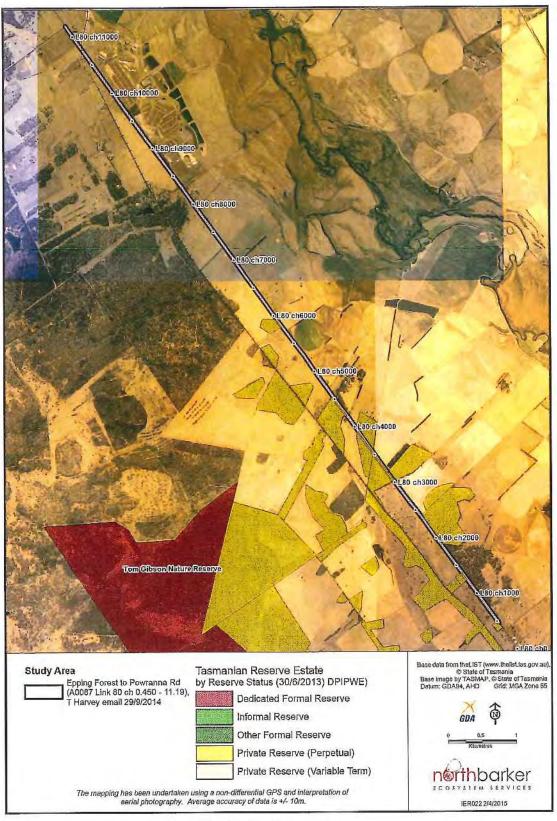


Figure 9 - Location of Reserves

POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF EACH PROJECT

The planning for construction within the Epping Forest to Powranna Rd section of the Midland Highway is still in the concept design stage and therefore field surveys were undertaken prior to any design considerations. Consequently it is not possible to augntify likely impacts accurately. This section identifies key issues that construction may trigger.

Table 5 provides a summary of key issues.

Two state listed rare (Arthropodium strictum and Caesia calliantha) and one state listed vulnerable (Scleranthus fasciculatus) flora species recorded from this site. The population of A. strictum is not likely to be deemed significant given it is up for delisting and offsets also unlikely for this reason. Offset requirements however possible for S. fasciculatus, although maximum impact is to 6 plants.

A final count of numbers impacted would be beneficial post design to finalise actual impact and application for Permit under the TSPA.

Habitat for the nationally vulnerable masked owl and spotted-tailed quall is present in the form of hollows in mature trees. An additional survey to determine the presence/absence of the masked owl (and quall) was undertaken with no evidence of current occupation found for either species. Two mature trees were found to offer hollows that may potentially be used at some time with a number of additional trees that have habitat value however considering the large amount of suitable habitat in the surrounding landscape, road upgrades are unlikely to have any meaningful impact on these species. Impact to identified habitat trees however is recommended to be minimised.

Table 5: Key issues

EPBC MNES	Comment	TSPA Flora /Fauna	Comment	Conclusion
Potential habitat for: spotted tailed quoll (vulnerable) masked owl (vulnerable)	Some mature trees occur within the study area. Limited potential for spothed-tailed quoil dens and no evidence of presence was recorded. No evidence of usage by masked owls was made. Some habitat trees with potential nest hollows within study area. Minimising impact	Iwo flora species listed as rare Arthropodium strictum (c 12500 plants) at various locations Caesia calliantha – one location of 25 plants. A. strictum is currently awaiting the Ministers approval for delisting. One flora species listed as vulnerable	TSPA permit likely requirement. Offsets may be required depending on final impacts for Scleranthus fasciculatus however only a small number are present. Offsets unlikely for chacolate lily as the species is awaiting the Ministers approval for delisting Quantify final impacts post design.	Few constraining issues with care in design Potential for offsets to S. fasciculatus although maximum impact is small (6 plants) Permit to take will be required Prior to construction, consider another free inspection of habitat trees identified for removal to ensure no impact to masked owl (owls may occupy available habitat the initial march).
	to these trees is recommended.	Scleranthus fasciculatus – one location of 6 plants Habitat for one <u>TSPA endangered</u> fauna (mature tree hollows) and one TSPA rare fauna (also in the form of tree hollows) – spotted-tailed quoll (rare)	Avoid impact to majority of habitat trees where possible. NOTE Majority of private land containing DAZ community is under privately managed conservation covenants	post the initial survey)

5. LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

COMMONWEALTH ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 1999

Referral under the EPBC Act is necessary if an action is likely to have a significant impact on listed threatened species and / or ecological communities.

Regarding listed threatened species, the Act states:

'An action has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on a critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable species if it does, will or is likely to (amongst. other things):

- modify, destroy, remove, isolate ar decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline, or
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species.

No nationally listed flora species were recorded. Habitat in the farm of mature trees with hollows is present for the masked owl and spotted-tailed quall (both vulnerable). No evidence of their presence was recorded during both surveys undertaken.

TASMANIAN THREATENED SPECIES PROTECTION ACT 1995 5.2

Three threatened flora species were recorded within the study area. These are as follows:

- Arthropodium strictum (chocolate lily) rare up far delisting
- Caesia calliantha (blue grass lily) rare
- Scleranthus fasciculatus (spreading knawel) vulnerable

A review of impact post design is required to quantify impacts in order to apply for a "permit to take" from DPIPWE. Offsets may be required depending on final impact.

TASMANIAN WEED MANAGEMENT ACT 1999 5.3

Canary/Montpellier & English broom, blackberry and gorse are classed as Zane B 'declared weeds' in the Southern Midlands Municipality while St John's wort and Spanish heath are classed as Zone A.

According to the provisions of the Weed Management Act 1999, Zone A municipalities are those which are either free of the weed or host small isolated infestations which are considered eradicable. The principle management objective should be their eradication. Zone B municipalities are those that host infestations of the 'declared weed' that are not deemed eradicable because the feasibility of effective management is low at this time. Therefore, the objective is containment of infestations. The objective includes preventing spread of the 'declared weed' from the municipality and preventing spread to properties currently free of them. There is a requirement to prevent spread of the 'declared weeds' to properties containing sites for significant flora, fauna and vegetation communities.

Roadside sites are particularly strategic when considering weed management. The road system presents a network for weed spread along roadsides exacerbated by standard roadside management practices such as slashing and the passing traffic which has the potential to act as vectors for weed spread.

Tasmanian Land Use and Planning Approvals Act 1993 5.4

LUPAA states that 'in determining an application for a permit, a planning authority must (amongst other things) seek out the objectives set out in Schedule 1'.

Schedule 1 includes 'The objectives of the Resource Management and Planning System of Tasmania' which are (amongst other things):

'To promote sustainable development of natural and physical resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity'.

Sustainable development includes 'avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment'.

Threatened species issues are adequately dealt with through other legislation. Regulation for impacts to significant vegetation is addressed by the Southern Midlands Planning Scheme 1998.

Regulation for impacts to significant vegetation are addressed by the Northern Midlands Interim Planning Scheme 2013. The Biodiversity Code (Clause of E8) of the Scheme aims to

"protect, conserve and enhance the region's biodiversity in consideration of the extent, condition and connectivity of critical habitats and priority vegetation communities, and the number and status of vulnerable and threatened species; and ensure that development is carried out in a manner that assists the protection of biodiversity by:

- i) minimising vegetation and habitat loss or degradation; and
- ii) appropriately locating buildings and works; and
- iii) offsetting the loss of vegetation through protection of other areas where appropriate.

The provisions of the <u>Biodiversity Code</u> extend to areas identified as Priority Habitat Zones which can be found along the study area (largely in association with the DAZ communities).

E8.6.1 P1: "Clearance or disturbance of native vegetation within priority habitat may be allowed where a flora and fauna report prepared by a suitably qualified person demonstrates that development does not unduly compromise the representation of species ar vegetation communities in the bioregion".

Linear development such as highway upgrades only impact on narrow portions of the priority habitat and so are unlikely to 'unduly compromise the representation of the species or community'.

Assessment against the Biodiversity Code will be necessary following development design.

6. RECCOMENDATIONS

At concept design stage

- Give careful consideration to impact on threatened species while undertaking design.
- Ensure any investigations such as geotechnical and archaeological works, which involve excavations, do not impoct on threatened species sites or habitats.
- Ensure mature trees that are retained are not impacted within the trees drip line and minimise impact to habitat trees mapped in this report.

At detailed design stage

- 1. Undertake an analysis of impact to threatened species to accurately plot and quantify impacts to key threatened flora.
- 2. Review final impact under Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBCA).
- 3. Prepare a permit application in accordance with the Tasmanian Threatened Species Protection Act 1995 (TSPA).
- 4. Ensure no impact to surrounding creeks water quality by construction (ie: sediment and erosion control).

In the works contract

- 1. Prepare a Vegetation Management Plan for the Contract Area to ensure retained sites of threatened flora are protected and managed during the period of the Contract. Protect the significant plant species, vegetation communities and significant trees in the immediate vicinity of works. Specifically:
 - a. identify significant sites in Contract Specifications,
 - b. if avoidance is feasible, tope/flag off the locations of the patches of threatened species habitat that occur within the Controct area to prevent any incursion by machinery or soil material. It is recommended that an experienced Botanist is present during initial site setup to ensure adequate protection of threatened species. This is particularly important in relation to protection of Lepidium hyssopifolium.
 - c. avoid dumping of fill under trees or root compaction by machinery within 4 m of significant trees.
- 2. Prepare a Weed Management Plan that controls 'declared' and environmental weeds, Specifically:
 - a. plan for targeted herbicide spraying of weed infestations that fall outside the footprint of the earthworks prior to commencement of construction work.
 - b. ensure excavated topsoil from weed affected sites is not spread to weed free oreas and preferably buried beneath 0.5 m of fill, and
 - c. include targeted weed treatment on completion of the works.

Ongoing commitment by State Growth

Ensure ongoing control of 'declared weeds'. This should include annual dedicated follow up on the site for four years following completion of works to specifically target weeds likely to have exploited the disturbances associated with earthworks.

1. Undertake any auditing and reporting in accordance with relevant permit conditions. <u>Ideally involvement of the environmental auditor is made from the beginning of the project rather than after completion</u>.

Additional Considerations

- 1. Any specific measures in the Contract for protecting threatened species habitat or native vegetation, revegetating with native species or managing weeds should be reviewed by an ecologist.
- 2. Additional areas determined by the Contractor that may be impacted upon should be assessed appropriately. These could include, but may not be limited to, sites far dumping surplus fill, sources of additional fill (quarries), site office, temporary storage and parking areas and site access roads.
- 3. Ensure the areas of sensitivity are clearly shown and explained to the Contractor. Ensure compliance by the Contractor with conditions on any relevant permits.
- 4. Subsequent to any further survey this report should be updated to reflect the further information.
- 5. Consider a pre-construction tree survey of those habitat trees that are marked for removal. Masked owls may have occupied a hollow after the initial surveys and this check will ensure no impact if clearance of habitat trees occurs.

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Appendix 1 - Species Conservation Values

SPECIES OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Listed in Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The EPBC Act has six categories of threat status for species:

- 1. Extinct If at a particular time there is no reasonable doubt that the last member of the species has died.
- 2. Extinct in the wild If it is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised population well outside its past range; or If it has not been recorded in its known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate seasons, anywhere in its past range, despite exhaustive surveys over a time frame appropriate to its life cycle and form.
- 3. Critically endangered If at a particular time, it is facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.
- 4. Endangered If it is not critically endangered; and it is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.
- 5. Vulnerable If at a particular time it is not critically endangered or endangered; and it is facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.
- 6. Conservation dependent If, at that time, the species is the focus of a specific conservation program, the cessation of which would result in the species becoming vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered within a period of 5 years.

SPECIES OF STATE SIGNIFICANCE

Listed in Tasmanian Threatened Species Protection Act 1995 (TSP Act)

Threatened flora and fauna species in Tasmania are listed in Schedules 3 (extinct or endangered), 4 (vulnerable) or 5 (rare), These three categories are defined in Section 15 of the Act.

- 1. Extinct If no occurrence of the taxon in the wild can be confirmed during the past 50 years.
- Endangered If it is in danger of extinction because long-term survival is unlikely while the factors causing it to be endangered continue operating.
- Vulnerable If it is likely to become an endangered taxon while the factors causing it to be vulnerable continue
 operating.
- 4. Rare If it has a small population in Tasmania that is not endangered or vulnerable but is at risk."

Species that have been nominated and approved by the Scientific Advisory Committee for listing in the Act.

SPECIES OF REGIONAL OR GENERAL SIGNIFICANCE

The following definitions are from three publications: Flora Advisory Committee 1994, Vertebrate Advisory Committee 1994, Invertebrate Advisory Committee 1994.

Flora only - Species listed as rare but not necessarily 'at risk' (r3).

Fauna only - Species requiring monitoring (m).

Both – Species of unknown risk status (k) in Tasmania, or thought to be uncommon within region, or a species having a declining range or populations within the area.

Species considered being outside its normal range or of an unusual form as determined and justified in the body of the report.

Species identified in regional studies as being of conservation significance that are not listed in current legislation.

Species that have been recognised, but have not been formally described in a published journal, that are thought to be significant as determined and justified in the body of the report.

Plant species that are not known to be reserved. To be so it must be known to exist in at least one secure Reserve. Secure reserves include reserves and parks requiring the approval of both Houses of Parliament for their revocation. They include: National Parks, Aboriginal Sites, Historic Sites, Nature Reserves, State Reserves, Game Reserves, Forest Reserves, Wellington Park, and insecure reserves in the World Heritage Area which is protected by international agreement under the World Heritage Convention.

APPENDIX 3 - VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES

Species list - project: **IER022**

ORIGIN STATE SCHEDULE NATIONAL SCHEDULE i - introduced EPBC Act 1999 TSP Act 1995 d - declared weed WM Act e - endangered CR - critically endangered en - endemic to Tasmania EN - endangered v - vulnerable t - within Australia, occurs only in Tas. VU - vulnerable r - rare

Sites:

1	DAZ - E528717, N5377499	17/11/2014 Dave Sayers
2	FAG - E527555, N5379058	18/11/2014 Dave Sayers
3	GCL - E527179, N5379535	18/11/2014 Dave Sayers
4	DAZ with E peuciflora locally dominant - E526440, N5380419	18/11/2014 Dave Sayers

Site	Name	Common name	Status
	DICOTYLEDONAE		
	APIACEAE		
1	Daucus glochidiatus	australian carrot	
	ASTERACEAE		
2	Arctotheca calendula	capeweed	Ĭ
1	Cassinia aculeata subsp. aculeata	dollybush	
123	Chrysocephalum apiculatum	common everlasting	
1	Chrysocephalum semipapposum	clustered everlasting	
2	Cirsium vulgare	spear thistle	i
1	Coronidium scorpioides	curling everlasting	
2	Cotula coronopifolia	water buttons	i
2	Euchiton japonicus	common cottonleaf	
1234	Hypochaeris radicata	rough catsear	_ i
1	Leptorhynchos squamatus	scaly buttons	
2	Senecio quadridentatus	cotton fireweed	
	BRASSICACEAE		
2	Raphanus raphanistrum	wild radish	j
	CAMPANULACEAE		
12	Wahlenbergia sp.	bluebell	
	CARYOPHYLLACEAE		
4	Scleranthus fasciculatus	spreading knawel	Y
	CASUARINACEAE		
12	Allocasuarina littoralis	black sheoak	
	CHENOPODIACEAE		
2	Chenopodium album	fat hen	i
	CLUSIACEAE		
12	Hypericum gramineum	small st johns-wort	
2	Hypericum perforatum subsp. veronense	perforated st johns-wort	d
	CONVOLVULACEAE		
2	Convolvulus angustissimus subsp. angustissimus	blushing bindweed	
	DILLENIACEAE	•	

1	Hibbertia serpyllifolia	thyme guineaflower	
	DROSERACEAE		
2	Drosera pygmaea	dwarf sundew	
1	Drosera sp.	sundew	
	EPACRIDACEAE		
1234	Astroloma humifusum	native cranberry	
1	Epacris impressa	common heath	
1	Leucopogon virgatus var. virgatus	twiggy beardheath	
2	Lissanthe strigosa	peach berry	
	ERICACEAE		
2	Erica lusitanica	spanish heath	d
	FABACEAE		
1	Bossiaea prostrata	creeping bossiaea	
4	Cytisus scoparius	english broom	d
1 4	Daviesia latifolia	hop bitterpea	
12	Dillwynia glaberrima	smooth parrotpea	
2	Genista monspessulana	canary broom	d
1	Hovea heterophylla	winter purplepea	
1	Kennedia prostrata	running postman	
123	Platylobium triangulare	arrow flatpea matted bushpea	
3	Pultenaea pedunculata	-	i
12	Trifolium campestre	hop clover suckling clover	i
12	Trifolium dublum	red clover	i
1	Trifolium pratense	white clover	i
2	Trifolium repens Trifolium subterraneum	subterranean clover	ì
2			d d
123	Ulex europaeus Vicia sativa subsp. sativa	gorse common vetch	i
1		COMMON VEICH	,
	GENTIANACEAE		
1	Centaurium erythraea	common centaury	i
	GERANIACEAE		
2	Erodium moschatum	musky heronsbill	i
2	Geranium dissectum	cutleaf cranesbill	i
2	Geranium retrorsum	grassland cranesbill	
	GOODENIACEAE		
4	Goodenia lanata	trailing native-primrose	
1	Goodenia ovata	hop native-primrose	
	HALORAGACEAE		
12	Gonocarpus tetragynus	common raspwort	
	LAMIACEAE		
1	Leonotis leonurus	lions ear	i
•	LAURACEAE		
		downy dodderlaurel	
1	Cassytha pubescens	obwily doddenadioi	
	LINACEAE		:1
1	Linum bienne	pale flax	it
	LYTHRACEAE		
2	Lythrum hyssopifolia	small loosestrife	
	MIMOSACEAE		
134	Acacia dealbata subsp. dealbata	silver wattle	
1	Acacia mearnsii	black wattle	

	MYRTACEAE		
123	Eucalyptus amygdalina	black peppermint	en
1	Eucalyptus ovata var. ovata	black gum	
124	Eucalyptus pauciflora subsp. pauciflora	cabbage gum	
1 4	Eucalyptus viminalis subsp. viminalis	white gum	
	OXALIDACEAE		
14	Oxalis perennans	grassland woodsorrel	
2	Oxalis purpurea	largeflower woodsorrel	Ť
	PITTOSPORACEAE		
1	Bursaria spinosa subsp. spinosa	prickly box	
	PLANTAGINACEAE		
2	Plantago coroпория	buckshorn plantain	į
2	Plantago major	great plantain	i
	POLYGONACEAE		
2	Acetosella vulgaris	sheep sorrel	i
2	Rumex crispus	curled dock	ì
	PRIMULACEAE		
2	Lysimachia arvensis	scarlet pimpernel	i
	PROTEACEAE		
1 4	Banksia marginata	silver banksia	
	ROSACEAE		
134	Acaena echinata	spiny sheeps burr	
1	Acaena novae-zelandiae	common buzzy	
2	Aphanes arvensis	parsley piert	į.
2	Cotoneaster glaucophyllus var. serotinus	largeleaf cotoneaster	i
2	Rosa rubiginosa	sweet briar	l .
2	Rubus fruticosus	blackberry	d
12	Sanguisorba minor	salad burnet	į
	RUBIACEAE	. "	
1	Asperula conferta	common woodruff	
	SANTALACEAE	If a large	
12	Exocarpos cupressiformis	common native-cherry	
	SAPINDACEAE		
1	Dodonaea viscosa subsp. spatulata	broadleaf hopbush	
	SCROPHULARIACEAE		,
1	Parentucellia latifolia	broadleaf glandweed	į.
1 .	Veronica gracilis	slender speedwell	
	STYLIDIACEAE		
1234	Stylidium graminifolium	narrowleaf triggerplant	
	THYMELAEACEAE		
123	Pimelea glauca	smooth riceflower dwarf riceflower	
12	Pimelea humilis	dwari ncenower	
	GYMNOSPERMAE		
	CUPRESSACEAE		
1	Cupressus macrocarpa	monterey cypress	i
	PINACEAE		
1 4	Pinus radiata	radiata pine	İ
	MONOCOTYLEDONAE		

	CENTROLEPIDACEAE		
2	Centrolepis strigosa	hairy centrolepis, bristlewort	
	CYPERACEAE		
1	Carex breviculmis	shortstem sedge	
1	Cyperus eragrostis	drain flatsedge	i
12	Eleocharis acuta	common spikesedge	
12	Isolepis levynsiana	fan clubsedge	?i
1	Lepidosperma gunnii	narrow swordsedge	
12	Schoenus apogon	common bogsedge	
	IRIDACEAE		
2	Ixia maculata	yellow ixia	i
12	Romulea rosea var. australis	lilac oniongrass	i
· <u>-</u>			
4.0	JUNCACEAE	jointed rush	į
12	Juneus articulatus	rigid rush	en
1	Juncus astreptus Juncus australis	southern rush	GH
2 1.2	Juncus australis Juncus bufonius	toad rush	
1	Juncus effusus	soft rush	į
1 2	Juncus holoschoenus	jointleaf rush	
1	Juneus pallidus	pale rush	
1	Juncus planifolius	broadleaf rush	
,	LILIACEAE		
1	Arthropodium milleflorum	pale vanilla-lily	
1	Arthropodium minus	small vanilla-lily	
123	Arthropodium strictum	chocolate lily	
1	Bulbine glauca	bluish bulbine-lily	
2	Burchardia umbellata	milkmaids	
	<u> </u>	milkmaids blue grasslily	ľ
2 2 1 2	Burchardia umbellata	 	r
2	Burchardia umbellata Caesia calliantha	blue grasslily	, je
2 1 2	Burchardia umbellata Caesia calliantha Dianella revoluta	blue grasslily spreading flaxilly	ť
2 1 2	Burchardia umbellata Gaesia calliantha Dianella revoluta Hypoxis glabella var. glabella	blue grasslily spreading flaxilly	<u> </u>
2 1 2 4	Burchardia umbellata Caesia calliantha Dianella revoluta Hypoxis glabella var. glabella ORCHIDACEAE	blue grasslily spreading flaxilly tiny yellowstar	Ė
2 1 2 4	Burchardia umbellata Caesia calliantha Dianella revoluta Hypoxis glabella var. glabella ORCHIDACEAE Diuris pardina	blue grasslily spreading flaxilly tiny yellowstar leopard orchid tiger orchid autumn orchid	. t
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	F 1 P	tall fescue	i
1	Festuca arundinacea		:
124	Holcus lanatus	yorkshire fog	
2	Hordeum marinum	sea barleygrass	ĺ
1 4	Lolium perenne	perennial ryegrass	İ
3	Lolium rigidum	wimmera ryegrass	ı
1	Phalaris aquatica	toowoomba canarygrass	Ì
12	Poa labillardierei	silver tussockgrass	
2	Poa pratensis	kentucky bluegrass	i
1	Poa sp.	poa	
234	Rytidosperma sp.	wallabygrass	
1234	Themeda triandra	kangaroo grass	
2	Vulpia bromoides	squirreltail fescue	į
2	Vulpia myuros	ratstall fescue	i
	XANTHORRHOEACEAE		
1234	Lomandra longifolia	sagg	
1 2	Lomandra nana	dwarf mat-rush	
	PTERIDOPHYTA		
	TEMBOTTITA		
	DENNSTAEDTIACEAE		
124	Pteridium esculentum subsp. esculentum	bracken	





Midland Highway - Epping Forest to Powranna Rd

ADDENDUM TO FLORA AND FAUNA HABITAT SURVEY

Including additional turning facilities

For Department of State Growth

1st November 2016

IER022



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Fieldwork: Dave Sayers and Grant Daniels, NBES

Report preparation: Dave Sayers, NBES

Mapping: Dave Sayers, NBES

Photographs: Dave Sayers and Grant Daniels, NBES



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1. PROJECT DETAILS

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Background: The Department of State Growth commissioned environmental investigations at the Epping Forest to Powranna Rd section of the Midland Highway. To assist with this planning, North Borker Ecosystem Services (NBES) were engaged by the Department of State Growth to undertake natural values surveys along this section of the Midland Highway. These initial investigations where completed prior to design therefore an additional survey was completed to survey areas not previously investigated and to complete monitoring of habitats identified for threatened fauna.

This addendum documents the results of the assessment and should be read in conjunction with the flora and fauna habitat assessment report¹.

Date of Field Survey: 10th and 11th October 2016.

Field Survey, Report and Photos: Dave Sayers and Grant Daniels.

Methods: Plant species composition of the potential impact footprint² was surveyed using an area search based on the Timed Meander Search Procedure³. Boundaries of TASVEG 3.0 units were determined with the aid of aerial imagery. Trees hollow presence was only assessed from ground layer where applicable.

Masked owl - Song Meter call analysis

A Song Meter SM3 was placed near a tree with potentially suitable hollows between 10/10/2016 and 26/10/2016. The Song Meter was programmed to record calls within the potential frequency range of the Tasmanian masked owl⁴ between half an hour before sunset and up to 2.5 hours after sunset, as well as within the time between half an hour either side of sunrise. The results were then analysed using Song Scope software and a call recogniser compiled from calls collected across Tasmania⁵.

Limitations: The field survey was undertaken in mid Spring. Values that are seasonal may have been overlooked or absent; the potential for this is considered where relevant in the discussion. The presence of tree hollows was assessed from ground level only.

Study area:

Midland Highway A0087 between Epping Forest and Powranna Rd (Link 80 Ch 0.45 to end of Link 80).

This survey focused on land where no landholder permission was given to access land during the 2014 surveys as well as additional areas of impact for turning facilities (Figure 1 and 2). Some small areas of additional impact outside of the 2014 study area where also rechecked largely for new property entrances.

¹ Flora and Fauna Habitat assessment, NBES (2015)

² Limit of impact was derived from the design drawing received from Tory Harvey (Dept of State Growth)

³ Goff et al. 1982

⁴ As taken from Todd 2012, Ecology and habitat of a threatened nocturnal bird, the Tasmanian Masked Owl. Unpublished Doctor of Philosophy thesis, submitted to the University of Tasmania.

⁵ Ibid



Figure 1 – survey locations (map 1)

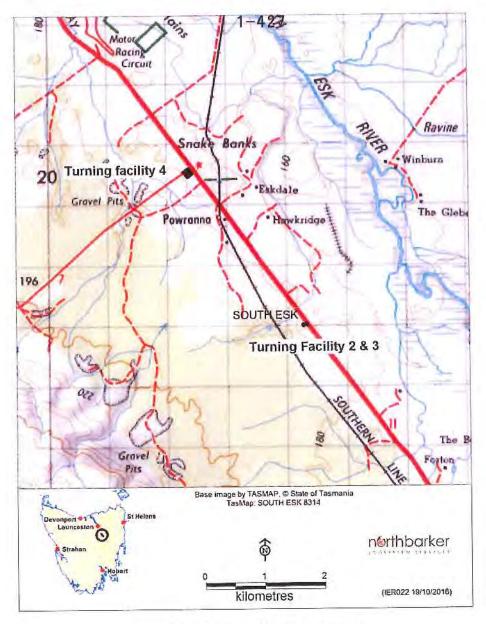


Figure 2 - survey locations (map 2)

2. SITE VALUES

Vegetation (Figure 3 to 6):

The vegetation within the additional survey areas is dominated by introduced species typically associated with agricultural land (FAG). The only change to this is the additional land where no landholder permission was previously granted. The vegetation within this additional area is consistent with findings of the initial report and is Eucalyptus amygdalina inland forest and woodland on Cainozoic deposits (DAZ). The DAZ also occurs near the proposed new entrances to the Fairfield property (Figure 6).

Where DAZ occurs, the canopy is dominated by Eucalyptus amygdalina (black peppermint) as well as Eucalyptus viminalis (white gum). Eucalyptus pauciflora (cabbage gum) is also present. Where the understorey is not dominated by gorse, the more common shrub species include Bossiaea prostrata (creeping bossiaea), Lomandra longiflora (sagg), Daviesia latifolia (hop bitterpea), Platylobium

obtusangulum (common flatpea), Hipbaris prostrata (prostrate guineaflower), Dillwynia cinerascens (grey parrotpea), Goodenia ovata (hop native primrose), Astroloma humifusum (native cranberry) and Epacris impressa (common heath). The more common herbs and graminoids include Arthropodium strictum (chocolate lily), Asperula conferta (common woodruff), Chrysocephalum apiculatum (common everlasting), Leptorhynchos squamatus (scaly buttons), Oxalis spp. (woodsorrel), Stylidium graminifolium (narrowleaf triggerplant), Austrostipa stuposa (corkscrew spear grass), Austrostipa mollis (soft spear grass), Austrostipa sp. (spear grasses), Rytidosperma sp. (wallaby grass) and Dianella revoluta (spreading flaxlily). Occasionally the understorey is also dominated by Allocasuarina littoralis (black sheoak).

The turning facility at Bell Vue road also contains an infestation of *Ulex europaeus* (gorse) which has been mapped as weed infestation (FWU).

DAZ is listed as a threatened community under the Tasmanian Nature Conservation Act 2002 (NCA) but is not listed as a threatened ecological community under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBCA). FAG and FWU are human altered communities and thus not listed.



Plate 1: gorse infestation at the turning facility for corner of Bell Vue Rd and Midland Highway



Plate 2- typical introduced species dominate the turning facilities.



Plate 3 - the turning facility at the corner of Powranna Rd and Midland Highway contains introduced species with some tree planting



Figure 3 - natural values (turning facility 1)

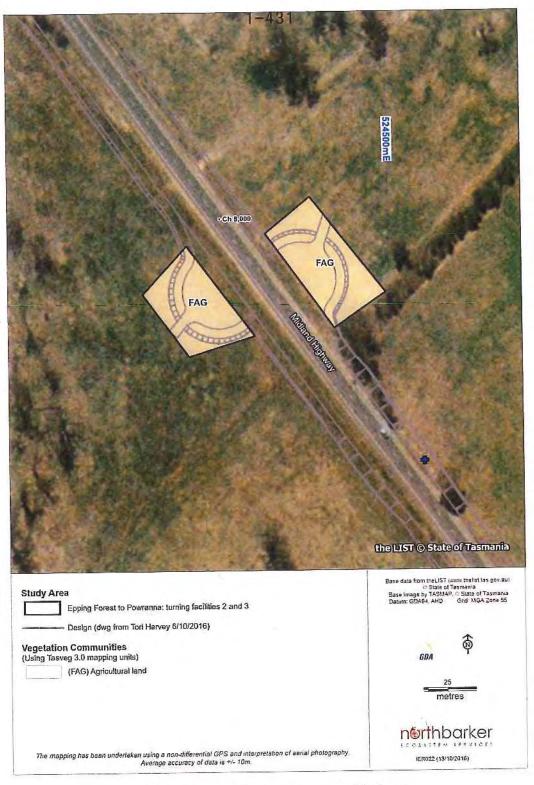


Figure 4 - natural values (turning facility 2 & 3)



Figure 5 - turning facility 4 (corner Powranna Rd)



Figure 6 - new entrances to the Fairfield property

Plant Species of Conservation Significance: 3000 vascular plant taxa were recorded within the whole study area (Appendix 1). No additional threatened flora species were observed in this survey. Arthropodium strictum and Hypoxis vaginata are both present but have been delisted from the TSPA.

The Tasmanian Natural Values Atlas⁶ lists observations of numerous species recorded within 5km of the study area. Given it has been two years since the original survey; an updated report was downloaded and interrogated for new species records. The following table discusses new records not previously considered in the original report.

Table 1: Additional flora species of conservation significance previously recorded within a 5 km radius of the sites 7

Species	Status TSPA/ EPBCA	Potential to Occur*	Observations and Preferred Habitat
	Kno	wn from withi	n 5 km
Alternanthera denticulata lesser joyweed	Endangered/ -	none	This low scrambling herb occurs in a few riparian sites in the central north. No suitable habitat occurs across study area.

Since the 2014 survey, Arthropodium strictum (chocolate lily) has been delisted from the TSPA and is therefore no longer a threatened species. Hypoxis vaginata was also recorded at the Bell Vue Rd turning facility however this has also been delisted.

No new threatened flora species were recorded during this survey.

Threatened Fauna: The 2014 survey identified some habitat trees with potential hollows for use by masked owl or to a lesser degree spotted-tailed quals (next to a Highway is not ideal).

A <u>masked owl</u> song meter was left near a tree observed with potentially suitable nesting habitat. This tree contains a hollow which is estimated at over 10cm in width and thus suitable for nesting. This tree is outside of the planned impact area however. One distant call was detected by the Song Meter between 21/8/2015 and 30/12/2015.

Given the number of maturing trees in the surrounding landscape, it is expected that masked owls frequent the area; however one distant call indicates the habitat tree surveyed is not <u>currently</u> being used for nesting. The balances of trees surveyed do not contain hollows large enough for masked owls with the majority of better habitat trees to remain.

No additional habitat values considered critical to the conservation status of listed threatened fauna were record.

Weeds: No new declared weeds were recorded in this survey. As per the 2014 survey, gorse is very common.

⁶ Natural Values Report nvt_1_19-Oct-2016 - DPIPWE 2015

⁷ Natural Values Report nvr_1_19-Oct-2016 - DPIPWE 2015

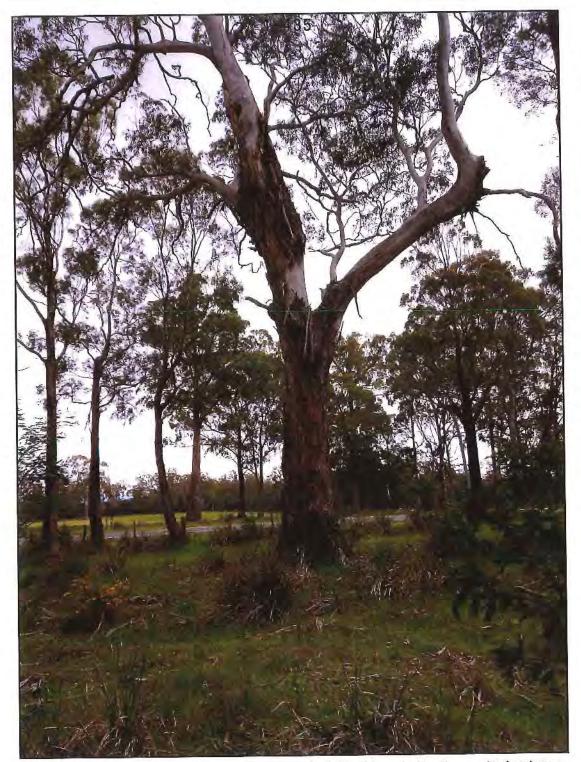


Plate 4 – one of the habitat trees with hollows on private land targeted by the masked owl song meter.



Plate 5- song meter in place



Plate 6: gorse is common within the survey area

3. IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND SCIORS FOR MITIGATION

Vegetation Communities

The final design will have some impact to DAZ which is a threatened vegetation community listed under the NCA.

A maximum extent of 2.9 ha of DAZ has been estimated for impact based on the design. The impact is generally a couple of meters of the current vegetation edge up to 9m in some small sections. Based on an estimated extent of over 17,300 ha of DAZ within the Northern Midlands Council area, this equates to a loss of 0.017%.

To offset this impact to some degree, it is recommended that assistance is considered for weed management work in removal or control of gorse within the DAZ understorey. Gorse is currently quite extensive In locations affecting the value and long term integrity of the vegetation.

Note that much of the DAZ is currently secured under Conservation Covenants.

Threatened Flora Species

The road upgrade will result in the removal of:

- 6 plants of Scleranthus fasciculatus (spreading knawel) TSPA: Vulnerable
- 25 plants of Caesia calliantha (blue grasslily) TSPA: Rare

A permit to take will be required to remove these plants and offsetting for spreading knawel may be required.

Threatened Fauna Habitat and Trees

The road upgrade will result in the removal of a number of trees. Of those marked as providing some current or future potential habitat; seven trees are within the limit of impact as follows:

- 3 Eucalyptus viminalis (white gum)
- 3 Eucalyptus amygdalina (black peppermint)
- 1 Eucalyptus pauciflora (cabbage gum)

The trees with larger hollows or hollows forming are outside of impact. It is inevitable that the road upgrade will impact on some habitat values provided by the trees that are present, however the impact is considered minor given the much larger extent of habitat present in the surrounding landscape and the retention of the trees with larger hollows recorded.

Weeds

Earthworks on site are likely to stimulate germination of the declared weeds observed. Detailed Vegetation and Weed Management Plans should be prepared prior to construction works begin.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

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In the works contract

- 1. Prepare a Vegetation and Weed Management Plan for the Contract Area to ensure weeds are controlled effectively, vegetation communities and trees are protected in the immediate vicinity of works. Specifically:
 - a. Identify limit of impact near bushland and anything outside of this should be excluded from impact. Ensure habitat trees that are to be retained are protected with exclusion fencing.
 - b. avoid dumping of fill under trees or root compaction by machinery within 4 m of significant trees.
 - c. plan for targeted herbicide spraying of weed infestations that fall outside the footprint of the earthworks prior to commencement of construction work.
 - d. ensure excavated topsoil from weed affected sites is not spread to weed free areas and preferably buried beneath 0.5 m of fill, and
 - e. include targeted weed treatment on completion of the works.
 - f. A suitably qualified Ecologist should assist in overseeing the above.

Ongoing commitment by State Growth

Ensure ongoing control of 'declared weeds'. This should include annual dedicated follow up on the site for four years following completion of works to specifically target weeds likely to have exploited the disturbances associated with earthworks.

1. Undertake any auditing and reporting in accordance with relevant permit conditions. <u>Ideally involvement of the environmental auditor is made from the beginning of the project rather than after completion</u>.

Additional Considerations

- 1. Any specific measures in the Contract for protecting threatened species habitat or native vegetation, revegetating with native species or managing weeds should be reviewed by an ecologist.
- 2. Additional areas determined by the Contractor that may be impacted upon should be assessed appropriately. These could include, but may not be limited to, sites for dumping surplus fill, sources of additional fill (quarries), site office, temporary storage and parking areas and site access roads.
- 3. Ensure the areas of sensitivity are clearly shown and explained to the Contractor. Ensure compliance by the Contractor with conditions on any relevant permits.
- 4. This addendum should be read in conjunction with the initial flora and fauna habitat survey report prepared by North Barker Ecosystem Services.
- 5. Should design change and additional habitat trees require clearing, a review of these trees values should in undertaken by an experienced Ecologist.

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1 - 439

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APPENDIX 1 - SPECIES CONSERVATION VALUES

SPECIES OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Listed in Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The EPBC Act has six categories of threat status for species:

- Extinct If at a particular time there is no reasonable doubt that the last member of the species has died.
- 2. Extinct in the wild If it is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised population well outside its past range; or If it has not been recorded in its known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate seasons, anywhere in its past range, despite exhaustive surveys over a time frame appropriate to its life cycle and form.
- 3. Critically endangered If at a particular time, it is facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.
- 4. Endangered If it is not critically endangered; and it is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.
- 5. Vulnerable If at a particular time it is not critically endangered or endangered; and it is facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.
- 6. Conservation dependent If, at that time, the species is the focus of a specific conservation program, the cessation of which would result in the species becoming vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered within a period of 5 years.

SPECIES OF STATE SIGNIFICANCE

Listed in Tasmanian Threatened Species Protection Act 1995 (TSP Act)

Threatened flora and fauna species in Tasmania are listed in Schedules 3 (extinct or endangered), 4 (vulnerable) or 5 (rare). These three categories are defined in Section 15 of the Act.

- 1. Extinct If no occurrence of the taxon in the wild can be confirmed during the past 50 years.
- Endangered If it is in danger of extinction because long-term survival is unlikely while the factors causing it to be endangered continue operating.
- Vulnerable If it is likely to become an endangered taxon while the factors causing it to be vulnerable continue
 operating.
- Rare If it has a small population in Tasmania that is not endangered or vulnerable but is at risk."

Species that have been nominated and approved by the Scientific Advisory Committee for listing in the Act.

SPECIES OF REGIONAL OR GENERAL SIGNIFICANCE

The following definitions are from three publications: Flora Advisory Committee 1994, Vertebrate Advisory Committee 1994, Invertebrate Advisory Committee 1994.

Flora only - Species listed as rare but not necessarily 'at risk' (r3).

Fauna only - Species requiring monitoring (m).

Both — Species of unknown risk status (**k**) in Tasmanie, or thought to be uncommon within region, or a species having a declining range or populations within the area.

Species considered being outside its normal range or of an unusual form as determined and justified in the body of the report.

Species identified in regional studies as being of conservation significance that are not listed in current legislation.

Species that have been recognised, but have not been formally described in a published journal, that are thought to be significant as determined and justified in the body of the report.

Plant species that are not known to be reserved. To be so it must be known to exist in at least one secure Reserve. Secure reserves include reserves and parks requiring the approval of both Houses of Parliament for their revocation. They include: National Parks, Aboriginal Sites, Historic Sites, Nature Reservas, State Reserves, Game Reserves, Forest Reserves, Wellington Park, and insecure reserves in the World Heritage Area which is protected by international agreement under the World Heritage Convention.

APPENDIX 2 - LEGISLATIVE IMPLACATIONS OF THREATENED SPECIES

Tasmanian Threatened Species Protection Act 1995

Threatened flora and fauna species in Tasmania are listed in Schedules 3 (endangered) and 4 (vulnerable) of the Threatened Species Protection Act, 1995. Rare species that are considered to be 'at risk' are listed in Schedule 5 of the Act. These three categories are defined in Section 15 of the Act.

- "An extant taxon of native flora or fauna may be listed as endangered if it is in danger of extinction because long-term survival is unlikely while the factors causing it to be endangered continue operating.
- 2. A taxon of native flora or fauna may be listed as **vulnerable** if it is likely to become an endangered taxon while the factors causing it to be vulnerable continue operating.
- 3. A taxon of native flora or fauna may be listed as rare if it has a small population in Tasmania that is not endangered or vulnerable but is at risk."

The Act provides mechanisms for protecting these species from threatening processes the implementation of 'recovery plans', 'threat abatement plans', 'land management plans', public authority agreements', and 'interim protection orders'.

Section 51 (a) of the TSPA states that: "A person must not knowingly, without a permit - take, trade in, keep or process any listed flora or fauna". The Act defines 'take' as including: 'kili, injure, catch, damage, destroy and collect. A land manager is therefore required to obtain a permit from the Development and Conservation Assessment Branch (DCAB) of the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries and Water (DPIW) to carry out management that may adversely affect any of the species listed in the Act.

Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The EPBC Act establishes a process for assessing actions that are likely to have impacts of *national environmental* significance. Such impacts include World Heritage Areas, RAMSAR Wetland sites of international importance, migratory species protected under international agreements, nuclear actions, the Commonwealth marine environment and nationally threatened species and communities.

Threatened species are defined in several categories:

1. Extinct

If at a particular time there is no reasonable doubt that the last member of the species has died.

2. Extinct in the wild

- If it is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised population well outside its past range; or
- If it has not been recorded in its known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate seasons, anywhere in its past range, despite exhaustive surveys over a time frame appropriate to its life cycle and form.

3. Critically endangered

if at a particular time, it is facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future, as
determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.

4. Endangered

If it is not critically endangered; and it is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future, as
determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.

5. Vulnerable

 If at a particular time it is not critically endangered or endangered; and it is facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.

Conservation dependent

If, at that time, the species is the focus of a specific conservation program, the cessation of which would result
in the species becoming vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered within a period of 5 years.

An action that is likely to affect species that are listed in any of the above categories may require ministerial approval unless the Commonwealth Environment Minister has granted an exemption. The Act establishes a referral process to Environment Australia to determine whether an action requires a formal approval and thus would be required to proceed through the assessment and approval process.

A referral must provide sufficient information to allow the Minister to make a decision. The Minister is then required to make a decision within 20 business days of the referral. The Minister may decide an approval is not necessary if the action is taken in a specified manner. The action may not require approval but may require a **permit** if undertaken on Commonwealth land. If an approval is required then an **environmental assessment** must be carried out. In such instances the environmental assessment approach will be determined by the Minister and may vary from preliminary documentation to a full public inquiry depending on the scale and complexity of the impact.

APPENDIX 3 - VASCULAR PLANTAMECIES

Site Report for Project: IER022 (Replaces original survey list)

Site: 1 DAZ

Grid Reference:

528717E, 5377499N

Accuracy:

GPS (within 10 metres)

Recorder: Date of Survey: Dave Sayers

Trees:

17 Nov 2014
Bursaria spinosa subsp. spinosa, Eucalyptus amygdalina, Eucalyptus ovata var.

ovata, Eucalyptus pauciflora subsp. pauciflora, Eucalyptus viminalis subsp.

Tall Shrubs:

Acacia dealbata subsp. dealbata, Acacia mearnsii, Allocasuarina littoralis,

Banksia marginata, Dodonaea viscosa subsp. spatulata, Exocarpos

cupressiformis

Shrubs:

Bossiaea prostrata, Cassinía aculeata subsp. aculeata, Daviesia latifolia,

Dillwynia cinerascens, Epacris impressa, Goodenia ovata

Low Shrubs:

Astroloma humifusum, Hibbertia serpyllifolia, Leucopogon virgatus var. virgatus,

Pimelea glauca, Pimelea humilis, Platylobium obtusangulum

Herbs:

Acaena echinata, Acaena novae-zelandiae, Arthropodium milleflorum,

Arthropodium minus, Arthropodium strictum, Asperula conferta, Bulbine glauca, Chrysocephalum apiculatum, Chrysocephalum semipapposum, Coronidium scorpioides, Daucus glochidiatus, Dianella revoluta, Diuris pardina, Diuris sulphurea, Drosera peltata, Eriochilus cucullatus, Gonocarpus tetragynus, Hovea

heterophylla, Hypericum gramineum, Kennedia prostrata, Leptorhynchos

squamatus, Oxalis perennans, Stylidium graminifolium, Thelymitra sp., Veronica

gracilis, Wahlenbergia sp.

Cassytha pubescens

Graminoids:

Carex breviculmis, Eleocharis acuta, Juncus astreptus, Juncus bufonius, Juncus

holoschoenus, Juncus pallidus, Juncus planifolius, Lepidosperma gunnii,

Lomandra longifolia, Lomandra nana, Schoenus apogon

Grasses:

Anthosachne scabra, Austrostipa mollis, Poa labillardierei, Poa sp., Themeda

Ferns:

Pteridium esculentum subsp. esculentum

Climbers: Weeds:

Aira caryophyllee, Anthoxanthum odoratum, Avena fatua, Briza maxima,

Centaurium erythraea, Cupressus macrocarpa, Cyperus eragrostis, Dactylis glomerata, Festuca arundinacea, Holcus Ianatus, Hypochaeris radicata, Isolepis levynsiana, Juncus articulatus, Juncus effusus, Leonotis Ieonurus, Linum bienne, Lolium perenne, Parentucellia latifolia, Phalaris aquatica, Pinus radiata, Romulea rosea var. australis, Sanguisorba minor, Trifolium campestre, Trifolium dubium,

Trifolium pratense, Ulex europaeus, Vicia sativa subsp. sative

Site: 2 FAG 1 - 443

Grid Reference:

527555E, 5379058N GPS (within 10 metres)

Recorder: Date of Survey: Dave Savers

18 Nov 2014

Trees:

Eucalyptus amygdalina, Eucalyptus pauciflora subsp. pauciflora

Tall Shrubs: Shrubs:

Accuracy:

Allocasuarina littoralis, Exocarpos cupressiformis

Dillwynia cinerascens

Low Shrubs:

Astroloma humifusum, Hibbertia procumbens, Lissanthe strigosa subsp.

subulata.

Pimelea glauca, Pimelea humilis, Platylobium obtusangulum

Herbs:

Arthropodium strictum, Burchardia umbellata, Caesia calliantha, Centrolepis strigosa, Chrysocephalum apiculatum, Convolvulus angustissimus subsp. angustissimus, Dianella revoluta, Drosera pygmaea, Euchiton Japonicus, Geranium retrorsum, Gonocarpus tetragynus, Hypericum gramineum, Lythrum hyssopifolia, Microtis sp., Senecio quadridentatus, Stylidium graminifolium,

Thelymitra pauciflora, Wahlenbergia sp.

Graminoids:

Eleocharis acuta, Juncus australis, Juncus bufonius, Juncus holoschoenus,

Lomandre longifolia, Lomandra nena, Schoenus apogon

Grasses:

Austrostipa mollis, Austrostipa publinodis, Austrostipa semibarbata, Austrostipa

stuposa, Poa labillardierei, Rytidosperma sp., Themeda triandra

Ferns:

Pteridium esculentum subsp. esculentum

Weeds:

Acetosella vulgaris, Aira caryophyllea, Anthoxanthum odoratum, Aphanes arvensis, Arctotheca calendula, Briza maxima, Briza minor, Bromus diandrus, Bromus hordeaceus, Chenopodium album, Cirsium vulgare, Cotoneaster glaucophyllus ver. serotinus, Cotula coronopifolia, Cynosurus echinatus, Dactylis glomerata, Erica lusitanica, Erodium moschatum, Genista monspessulana, Geranium dissectum. Holcus lanatus, Hordeum marinum, Hypericum perforatum subsp. veronense, Hypochaeris radicata, Isolepis levynsiana, Ixia maculata, Juncus articulatus, Lysimachia arvensis, Oxalis purpurea, Plantago coronopus, Plantago major, Poa pratensis, Raphanus raphanistrum, Romulea rosea var. australis, Rosa rubiginosa, Rubus fruticosus, Rumex crispus, Sanguisorba minor, Trifolium campestre, Trifolium dubium, Trifolium repens, Trifolium subterraneum, Ulex europaeus, Vulpia bromoides, Vulpia myuros

Site: 3 GCL

Grid Reference:

527179E, 5379535N GPS (within 10 metres)

Accuracy: Recorder: Date of Survey:

Dave Sayers 18 Nov 2014

Trees:

Eucalyptus amygdalina

Tall Shrubs:

Acecia dealbata subsp. dealbata

Low Shrubs:

Astroloma humifusum, Pimelea glauca, Platylobium obtusangulum, Pulteneea

Herbs:

Acaena echinata, Arthropodium strictum, Chrysocephalum apiculatum, Stylidium

graminifolium

Graminoids:

Lomandra longifolia

Grasses: Weeds:

Austrostipa mollis, Austrostipa pubinodis, Rytidosperma sp., Themeda triandra Aira caryophyllea, Briza maxima, Hypochaeris radicata, Lolium rigidum, Ulex

europaeus

Site: 4 DAZ with E pauciflora locally dominant

Grid Reference:

526440E, 5380419N

Accuracy:

GPS (within 10 metres)

Recorder: Date of Survey: Dave Sayers 18 Nov 2014

Trees:

Herbs:

Eucalyptus pauciflora subsp. pauciflora, Eucalyptus viininalis subsp. viminalis

Tall Shrubs:

Acacia dealbata subsp. dealbata, Banksia marginata

Shrubs:

Daviesia latifolia

Low Shrubs:

Astroloma humifusum Acaena echinata, Goodenia lanata, Hypoxis glabella var. glabella, Oxalis

perennans, Scleranthus fasciculatus, Stylidium graminifolium

Graminoids:

Lomandra longifolia

Grasses:

Austrostipa mollis, Austrostipa semibarbata, Rytidosperma sp., Themeda triandra

Ferns:

Pteridium esculentum subsp. esculentum

Weeds:

Aira caryophyllea, Anthoxanthum odoratum, Briza maxima, Bromus diandrus, Cytisus scoparius, Dactylis glomerata, Holcus lanatus, Hypochaeris radicata,

Lolium perenne, Pinus radiata

Site: 5 additional species - DAZ

Grid Reference:

528404E, 5377844N

Accuracy:

GPS (within 10 metres)

Recorder: Date of Survey: Dave Sayers 10 Oct 2016

Trees:

Eucalyptus peuciflora subsp. pauciflora

Low Shrubs:

Hibbertia prostrata

Herbs:

Caladenia carnea, Craspedia rosulata, Crassula decumbens var. decumbens, Cyrtostylis reniformis, Glossodia major, Linum marginale, Lotus australis, Millotia tenuifolia var. tenuifolia, Plantago varia, Poranthera microphylla, Senecio sp.,

Wurmbea dioica subsp. dioica

Graminoids: Weeds: Isolepis marginata, Luzula flaccida Genista monspessulana, Gladiolus tristis

Site: 6 FWU (weed infestation) Turning facility 1 - corner Bell Vue Rd

Grid Reference:

Date of Survey:

529016E, 5377117N GPS (within 10 metres)

Accuracy: Recorder:

Dave Sayers 10 Oct 2016

Trees:

Eucalyptus emygdalina

Tall Shrubs:

Acacia dealbata subsp. dealbata, Allocasuarina littoralis, Exocarpos

Low Shrubs:

Hibbertia hirsuta, Lissanthe strigosa subsp. subulata

Herbs:

Acaena ovina, Arthropodium strictum, Centrolepis monogyna, Crassula

decumbens var. decumbens, Drosera peltata, Euchiton japonicus, Gonocarpus

tetragynus, Hypoxis vaginata var. vaginata, Rumex sp., Thelymitra sp.

Graminoids:

Isolepis marginata, Lepidosperma inops, Lepidosperma laterale, Lomandra

Grasses:

Austrostipa sp., Poa labillardierei, Themeda triandra

Weeds:

Acetosella vulgaris, Agrostis stolonifera, Anthoxanthum odoratum, Aphanes arvensis, Arctotheca calendula, Cerastium sp., Cirsium vulgare, Dactylis glomerata, Festuca arundinacea, Holcus lanatus, Hypochaeris radicata, Isolepis levynsiana, Juncus capitatus, Leontodon saxatilis, Lolium perenne, Lysimachia arvensis, Medicago polymorpha, Moenchia erecta, Narcissus tazetta, Panicum capillare, Pinus radiata, Plantago coronopus, Plantago lanceolata, Poa pratensis, Polygonum aviculare, Romulea rosea var. australis, Rubus fruticosus, Sonchus asper subsp. asper, Trifolium repens, Trifolium subterraneum, Ulex europaeus

Site: 7 FAG - new entrances

1-445

Grid Reference:

527382E, 5379213N

Accuracy:

GPS (within 10 metres)

Recorder: Date of Survey: Dave Sayers 10 Oct 2016

Trees:

Eucalyptus amygdalina, Eucalyptus pauciflora subsp. pauciflora, Eucalyptus

viminalis subsp. viminalis

Tall Shrubs:

Acacia dealbata subsp. dealbata

Low Shrubs: Herbs: Hibbertia prostrata, Lissanthe strigosa subsp. subulata, Pimelea humilis Acaena echinata, Acaena novae-zelandiae, Arthropodium strictum, Crassula

decumbens var. decumbens, Crassula sieberiana, Daucus glochidiatus, Drosera

peltate, Euchiton involucratus, Isolepis sp., Kennedia prostrata

Graminoids:

Lomandra longifolia

Grasses:

Austrostipa sp., Themeda triandra Pteridium esculentum subsp. esculentum

Ferns: Weeds:

Acetosella vulgaris, Anthoxanthum odoratum, Arctotheca calendula, Bromus

diandrus, Cardamine hirsuta, Cerastium sp., Cirsium vulgare, Dactylis glomerata, Dysphania pumilio, Festuca arundinacea, Galium aparine, Hypochaenis radicata, Lolium perenne, Moenchia erecta, Myosotis discolor, Papaver somniferum, Plantago lanceolata, Poa annua, Poa bulbosa, Poa compressa, Raphanus raphanistrum, Sanguisorba minor, Sinapis arvensis, Sonchus asper, Sonchus asper subsp. asper, Trifolium repens, Trifolium subterraneum, Triticum aestivum,

Ulex europaeus

Site: 8 FAG - turning facility 2 and 3

Grid Reference:

524393E, 5383257N

Accuracy:

GPS (within 10 metres)

Recorder:

Dave Sayers

Date of Survey:

10 Oct 2016

Trees:

Eucalyptus viminalis subsp. viminalis Acacia dealbata subsp. dealbata

Tall Shrubs:

Lissanthe strigosa subsp. subulata, Pimelea humilis

Low Shrubs: Herbs:

Acaene ovina, Arthropodium strictum, Chrysocephalum apiculatum, Oxalis sp.,

Plantago varia, Rumex sp.

Graminoids:

Isolepis marginata, Lomandra longifolia, Lomandra nana

Grasses:

Austrostipa sp.

Weeds:

Acetosella vulgaris, Agrostis stolonifera, Anthoxanthum odoratum, Arctotheca calendula, Bromus diandrus, Cerastium sp., Dactylis glomerata, Festuca arundinacea, Malva sp., Moenchia erecta, Poa compressa, Raphanus raphanistrum, Romulea rosea var. australis, Rosa rubiginosa, Spergularia sp.,

Trifolium subterraneum, Triticum aestivum, Ulex europaeus

Site: 9 FAG - turning facility 4 cornel Powranna Rd

Grid Reference:

522512E, 5385754N

Accuracy:

GPS (within 10 metres)

Recorder: Date of Survey: Dave Sayers 10 Oct 2016

Trees:

Eucalyptus pauciflora subsp. pauciflora

Tall Shrubs:

Acacia meamsil Pimelea humilis

Low Shrubs: Herbs:

Crassula decumbens var. decumbens, Crassula sieberiana, Rumex sp.

Graminoids:

Juncus australis, Juncus bufonius, Schoenus apogon

Grasses:

Austrostipa sp., Ehrharta stipoides

Weeds:

Aira caryophyllea, Anthoxanthum odoratum, Arctotheca calendula, Avena

barbata,

Brassica Xnapus, Briza minor, Bromus diandrus, Cardamine hirsuta, Cerastium sp., Dactylis glomerata, Erodium cicutarium, Festuca arundinacea, Geranium dissectum, Hordeum sp., Isolepis levynsiana, Juncus capitatus, Lactuca serriola f. serriola, Lolium perenne, Malva sp., Medicago polymorpha, Parentucellia latifolia, Petrorhagia sp., Plantago coronopus, Plantago lanceolata, Poa bulbosa, Polycarpon tetraphyllum, Raphanus raphanistrum, Sisymbrium sp., Sonchus asper, Trifolium subterraneum, Ulex europaeus, Vicia sativa subsp. sativa

Site: 10 FAG - corner of Leighlands Rd

Grid Reference:

517765E, 5394899N

Accuracy:

GPS (within 10 metres)

Recorder: Date of Survey: Dave Sayers 10 Oct 2016

Trees:

Acacia melanoxylon

Tall Shrubs:

Acacia mearnsii

Herbs:

Craspedia sp., Isolepis sp., Rumex sp.

Graminoids:

Juncus sarophorus

Weeds:

Acetosella vulgaris, Anthoxanthum odoratum, Arctotheca calendula, Avena

barbata, Brassica Xnapus, Bromus diandrus, Cirsium vulgare, Conyza

bonariensis, Dactylis giomerata, Dipsacus fullonum, Erodium cicutarium, Festuca arundinacea, Fumaria sp., Galium murale, Geranium dissectum, Holcus lanatus, Hypochaeris radicata, Lolium perenne, Lysimachia arvensis, Malva sp., Papaver somniferum, Poa annua, Poa pratensis, Polycerpon tetraphyllum, Raphanus raphanistrum, Rosa rubiginosa, Sanguisorba minor, Sonchus asper, Sonchus oleraceus, Taraxacum officinale, Trifolium subterraneum, Ulex europaeus, Vicia

sp.

Species list - project: IER022 1-447

Status	codes:		
ORIG	ilN	NATIONAL SCHEDULE	STATE SCHEDULE
i - intr	raduced	EPBC Act 1999	TSP Act 1995
d - declared weed WM Act		CR - critically endangered	e - endangered
en - endemic to Tasmania		EN - endangered	v - vulnerable
t - wit	hin Australia, occurs only ln Tas.	VU - vulnerable	r - rare
Sites:			
1	DAZ - E528717, N5377499		17-11-2014 Dave Sayers
2	FAG - E527555, N5379058		18-11-2014 Dave Sayers
3	GCL - E527179, N5379535		18-11-2014 Dave Sayers
4	DAZ with E pauciflora locally domina	nt - E526440, N5380419	18-11-2014 Dave Sayers
5	additional species - DAZ - E528404,	N5377844	10-10-2016 Dave Sayers
6	FWU (weed infestation) Turning facili	ity 1 - corner Bell Vue Rd -	10-10-2016 Dave Sayers
	E529016, N5377117		
7	FAG - new entrances - E527382, N5	379213	10-10-2016 Dave Sayers
8	FAG - turning facility 2 and 3 - E524393, N5383257		10-10-2016 Dave Sayers
9	FAG - turning facility 4 corner Powra	nna Rd - E522512, N5385754	10-10-2016 Dave Sayers
10	FAG - corner of Leighlands Rd - E51		10-10-2016 Dave Sayers

Site Status	Name	Common name	
	DICOTYLEDONAE		
	APIACEAE		
17	Daucus glochidiatus	australian carrot	
	ASTERACEAE		
26789	Arctotheca calendula	capeweed	j
10			
1	Cassinia aculeata subsp. aculeata	dollybush	
1238	Chrysocephalum apiculatum	common everlasting	
1	Chrysocephalum semipapposum	clustered everlasting	
26710	Cirsium vulgare	spear thistle	İ
10	Conyza bonariensis	flaxleaf fleabane	į
1	Coronidium scorpioides	curling everlasting	
2	Cotula coronopifolia	water buttons	i
5	Craspedia rosulata	billybuttons	en
10	Craspedia sp.	billy-buttons	
7	Euchiton involueratus	star cottonleaf	
26	Euchiton japonicus	common cottonleaf	
12346	Hypochaeris radicata	rough catsear	i
7 10			
9	Lactuca serriola f. serriola	prickly lettuce	Ì
6	Leontodon saxatilis	hairy hawkbit	ì
1	Leptorhynchos squamatus	scaly buttons	
5	Millotia tenuifolia var. tenuifolia	soft bowflower	
2	Senecio quadridentatus	cotton fireweed	
5	Senecio sp.	groundsel	
7 9 10	Sonchus asper	bluegreen prickly sowthistle	Ĭ
67	Sonchus asper subsp. asper	green prickly sowthistle	Ĭ
10	Sonchus oleraceus	common sowthistle	į

10	Taraxacum officinale 1 – BORAGINACEAE	448 common dandelion	i
7	Myosotis discolor	changing forgetmenot	ĺ
	BRASSICACEAE		
9 10	Brassica Xnapus	rape	į
7 9	Cardamine hirsuta	hairy bittercress	i
278910	Raphanus raphanistrum	wild radish	· i
7	Sinapis arvensis	charlock	i
9	Sisymbrium sp.	hedge-mustard	i
1 2	CAMPANULACEAE Wahlenbergia sp.	bluebell	
	CARYOPHYLLACEAE		
6789	Cerastium sp.	mouse-ear chickweed	i
678	Moenchia erecta	erect chickweed	Ì
9	Petrorhagia sp.	pink	j
9 10	Polycarpon tetraphyllum	fourleaf allseed	i
4	Scleranthus fasciculatus	spreading knawel	V
8	Spergularia sp.	sand-spurrey	i
126	CASUARINACEAE Allocasuarina littoralis	black sheoak	
	CHENOPODIACEAE		
2	Chenopodium album	fat hen	i
7	Dysphania pumilio	clammy goosefoot	i
12	CLUSIACEAE Hypericum gramineum	small st johns-wort	
2	Hypericum perforatum subsp. veronens	se perforated st johns-wort	d
2	CONVOLVULACEAE Convolvulus angustissimus subsp. angustissimus	blushing bindweed	
5679	CRASSULACEAE Crassula decumbens var. decumbens	spreading stonecrop	
79	Crassula sieberiana	stone-crop	
	DILLENIACEAE		
6	Hibbertia hirsuta	hairy guineaflower	en
2	Hibbertia procumbens	spreading guineaflower	
57	Hibbertia prostrata	prostrate guineaflower	
1	Hibbertia serpyllifolia	thyme guineaflower	
	DIPSACACEAE		
10	Dipsacus fullonum	wild teasel	i
	DROSERACEAE		
167	Drosera peltata	pale sundew	
2	Drosera pyginaea	dwarf sundew	
	EPACRIDACEAE	native aver beam.	
1234	Astroloma humifusum	native cranberry	
1	Epacris impressa	commoл heath twiggy beardheath	
1 2678	Leucopogon virgatus var. virgatus Lissanthe strigosa subsp. subulata	peachberry heath	
20.0	ERICACEAE	•	

2	Erica lusitanica	1-449 ^{spanish} heath	d
	EUPHORBIACEAE		
5	Poranthera microphylla	small poranthera	
	FABACEAE		
1	Bossiaea prostrata	creeping bossiaea	
4	Cytisus scoparius	english broom	d
14	Daviesia latifolia	hop bitterpea	
12	Dillwynia cinerascens	grey parrotpea	
2 5	Genista monspessulana	canary broom	d
1	Hovea heterophylla	winter purplepea	
1 7	Kennedia prostrata	running postman	
5	Lotus australis	australian trefoil	r
69	Medicago polymorpha	burr medick	i
123	Platylobium obtusangulum	common flatpea	
3	Pultenaea pedunculata	matted bushpea	
12	Trifolium campestre	hop clover	
12	Trifolium dubium	suckling clover	
1	Trifolium pratense	red clover	İ .
267	Trifolium repens	white clover	İ
26789	Trifolium subterraneum	subterranean clover	Ì
10	Clare acceptance	00m20	b
1236 7 8910	Ulex europaeus	gorse	a
19	Vicia sativa subsp. sativa	common vetch	i
10	Vicia sp.	vetch, tare	i
,-	FUMARIACEAE		
10	Fumaria sp.	fumitory	ì
10	·	, interior	'
	GENTIANACEAE		í
1	Centaurium erythraea	common centaury	ŧ
	GERANIACEAE		
9 10	Erodium cicutarium	common heronsbill	!
2	Erodium moschatum	musky heronsbill	l .
2 9 10	Gerenium dissectum	cutleaf cranesbill	ı
2	Geranium retrorsum	grassland cranesbill	
	GOODENIACEAE		
4	Goodenia lanata	trailing native-primrose	
1	Goodenia ovata	hop native-primrose	
	HALORAGACEAE		
126	Gonocarpus tetragynus	common raspwort	
	LAMIACEAE		
1	Leonotis leonurus	lions ear	i
	LAURACEAE	L L L d vol	
1	Cessytha pubescens	downy dodderlaurel	
	LINACEAE		
1	Linum bienne	pale flax	it
5	Linum marginale	native flax	
	LYTHRACEAE		
2	Lythrum hyssopifolia	small loosestrife	
	MALVACEAE		

8 9 10	Malva sp. 1	~450 ^{mallow}	i
	MIMOSACEAE		
13467 8	Acacia dealbata subsp. dealbata	silver wattle	
1910	Acacia mearnsii	black wattle	
10	Acacia melanoxylon	blackwood	
	MYRTACEAE		
12367	Eucalyptus amygdalina	black peppermint	en
1	Eucalyptus ovata var. ovata	black gum	
12457	Eucalyptus pauciflora subsp. pauciflo	ra cabbage gum	
9 1 4 7 8	Eucalyptus viminalis subsp. viminalis	white gum	
	OXALIDACEAE		
1 4	Oxalis perennans	grassland woodsorrel	
2	Oxalis purpurea	largeflower woodsorrel	i
8	Oxalis sp.	woodsorrel	
	PAPAVERACEAE		
7 10	Papaver somniferum	opium poppy, poppy	i
	PITTOSPORACEAE		
1	Bursaria spinosa subsp. spinosa	prickly box	
	PLANTAGINACEAE		
269	Plantago coronopus	buckshorn plantain	i
679	Plantago lanceolata	ribwort plantain	i
2	Plantago major	great plantain	i
58	Plantago varia	variable plantain	
	POLYGONACEAE		
267810	Acetosella vulgaris	sheep sorrel	i
6	Polygonum aviculare	creeping wireweed	İ
2	Rumex crispus	curled dock	ì
68910	Rumex sp.	dock	
	PRIMULACEAE		
2610	Lysimachia arvensis	scarlet pimpernel	Í
	PROTEACEAE		
1 4	Banksia marginata	silver banksia	
	ROSACEAE	·	
1347	Acaena echinata	spiny sheeps burr	
17 68	Acaena novae-zelandiae Acaena ovina	common buzzy downy sheepsburr	
26	Aphanes arvensis	parsley piert	ì
2	Cotoneaster glaucophyllus var. serot	•	i i
2810	Rosa rubiginosa	sweet briar	i
26	Rubus fruticosus	blackberry	ď
12710	Sanguisorba minor	salad burnet	i
12.10	-	Saida = 4,000	
1	RUBIACEAE Asperula conferta	common woodruff	
7	Galium aparine	cleavers	i
10	Galium murale	small bedstraw	i
-	SANTALACEAE		
	VANTALAVEAL		

126	Exocarpos cupressiformis	1-451 common native-cherry	
1	SAPINDACEAE Dodonaea viscosa subsp. spatulata	a broadleaf hopbush	
'		2 Cadical Hopathi	
4.6	SCROPHULARIACEAE	broadle of glandwood	İ
19	Parentucellia latifolia	broadleaf glandweed	1
1	Veronica gracilis	slender speedwell	
1234	STYLIDIACEAE Stylidium graminifolium	narrowleaf triggerplant	
	THYMELAEACEAE		
123	Pimelea glauca	smooth riceflower	
12789	Pimelea humilis	dwarf riceflower	
	GYMNOSPERMAE		
	CUPRESSACEAE		
1	Cupressus macrocarpa	monterey cypress	i
	PINACEAE	, <u>-</u> ,	
146	Pinus radiata	radiala pine	i
1 7 0		radia pare	
	MONOCOTYLEDONAE		
	CENTROLEPIDACEAE		
6	Centrolepis inonogyna	cushion bristlewort	en
2	Centrolepis strigosa	hairy centrolepis, bristlewort	
	CYPERACEAE		
1	Carex breviculmis	shortstem sedge	
1	Cyperus eragrostis	drain flatsedge	j
12	Eleocharis acuta	common spikesedge	
1269	Isolepis levynsiana	fan clubsedge	?i
568	Isolepis marginata	little clubsedge	
7 10	Isolepis sp.	club rush	
1	Lepidosperma gunnii	narrow swordsedge	
6	Lepidosperma inops	fan sedge	en
6	Lepidosperma laterale	variable swordsedge	
129	Schoenus apogon IRIDACEAE	common bogsedge	
5	Gladiolus tristis	evening gladiolus	j
2	lxia maculata	yellow ixia	i
1268	Romulea rosea var. australis	Jilac oniongrass	i
	JUNCACEAE		
12	Juncus articulatus	jointed rush	i
1	Juncus astreptus	rigid rush	en
29	Juncus australis	southern rush	
129	Juncus bufonius	toad rush	
69	Juncus capitatus	capitate rush	i
1	Juncus effusus	soft rush	i
12	Juncus holoschoenus	jointleaf rush	
1	Juncus pallidus	pale rush	
1	Juncus planifolius	broadleaf rush	
10	Juncus sarophorus	broom rush	
5	Luzula flaccida	pale woodrush	
1	LILIACEAE Arthropodium milleflorum	pale vanilla-lily	

1	Arthropodium minus	1-452 ^{smail} vanilla-lily	
12367	Arthropodium strictum	chocolate lily	
8			
1	Bulbine glauca	bluish bulbine-lily	
2	Burchardia umbellata	milkmaids	
2	Caesia calliantha	blue grasslily	r
12	Dianella revoluta	spreading flaxilly	
4	Hypoxis glabella var. glabella	tiny yellowstar	
6	Hypoxis vaginata var. vaginata	sheathing yellowstar	
6	Narcissus tazetta	daffodil	İ
5	Wurmbea dioica subsp. dioica	early nancy	
	ORCHIDACEAE		
5	Caladenia carnea	pink fingers	
5	Cyrtostylis reniformis	small gnat-orchid	
1	Diuris perdina	leopard orchid	
1	Diuris sulphurea	tiger orchid	
1	Eriochilus cucullatus	autumn orchid	
5	Glossodia major	waxlip orchid	
2	Microtis sp.	onion orchid	
2	Thelymitra pauciflora	slender sun-orchid	
16	Thelymitra sp. POACEAE	sun-orchid	
68	Agrostis stolonifera	creeping bent	i
12349	Aira caryophyllea	silvery hairgrass	i
1	Anthosachne scabra	rough wheatgrass	•
12467	Anthoxanthum odoratum	sweet vernalgrass	i
8910	Anthoxammuni oboratani	SWOCE VEHI BIG 233	·
1234	Austrostipa mollis	soft speargrass	
23	Austrostipa pubinodis	tall speargrass	
24	Austrostipa semibarbata	fibrous speargrass	
6789	Austrostipa sp.	speargrass	
2	Austrostipa stuposa	corkscrew speargrass	
9 10	Avena barbata	bearded oat	i
1	Avena fatua	wild oat	i
1234	Briza maxima	greater quaking-grass	j
29	Briza minor	lesser quaking-grass	i
24789	Bromus diandrus	great brome	į
10	DIOTHUS diamorus	great brome	· ·
2	Bromus hordeeceus	soft brome	i
2	Cynosurus echinatus	rough dogstail	i
12467	Dactylis giomerata	cocksfoot	i
8910	Dactyns giornerata	COURSION	•
9	Ehrharta stipoides	weeping grass	
16789	Festuca arundinacea	tall fescue	j
10			
1 2 4 6 10	Holcus lanatus	yorkshire fog	j
2	Hordeum marinum	sea barleygrass	į
9	Hordeum sp.	barley, barley grass	i
14679	Lolium perenne	perennial ryegrass	i
10	•		
3	Lolium rigidum	wimmera ryegrass	l

6	Panicum capillare	1-453common witchgrass	i
1	Phalaris aquatica	toowoomba canarygrass	i
7 10	Роа аппиа	winter grass	[
79	Poa bulbosa	bulbous meadowgrass	i
78	Poa compressa	flatstalk meadowgrass	i
126	Poa labillardierei	silver tussockgrass	
2610	Poa pratensis	kentucky bluegrass	j
1	Poa sp.	poa .	
234	Rytidosperma sp.	wallabygrass	
12346	Themeda triandra	kangaroo grass	
7			
7 8	Triticum aestivum	wheat	į
2	Vulpia bromoides	squirreltail fescue	į
2	Vulpia myuros	ratstail fescue	i
	XANTHORRHOEACEAE		
12346	Lomandra longifolia	sagg	
7 8			
128	Lomandra nana	dwarf mat-rush	
	PTERIDOPHYTA		
	DENNSTAEDTIACEAE		
1247	Pteridium esculentum subsp. escule	ntum bracken	



Midland Highway – Epping Forest to Powranna Rd A0087 Link 80 CH 0.45 to CH 11.20

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

under Northern Midlands Interim Planning Scheme 2013

For Department of State Growth

1st November 2016

IER022

Andrew North anorth@northbarker.com.au Philip Barker pbarker@northbarker.com.au 163 Campbell Street Hobart TAS 7000 Telephone 03, 6231 9788 Facsimile 03, 6231 9877





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The Department of State Growth is planning to undertake road upgrades of the Midland Highway between Epping Forest and Powranna Rd. To assist with this praject, North Barker Ecosystem Services (NBES) was engaged to undertake natural values surveys which began in November 2014 with an additional survey post design in October 2016. NBES have also undertaken targeted orchid and fauna surveys between these dates.

Based on the final design of road upgrades, NBES have been engaged to prepare this campliance statement in consideration of the Northern Midlands Interim Planning Scheme 2013, specifically the Biodiversity Code.

NORTHERN MIDLANDS PLANNING SCHEME - BIODIVERSITY CODE (E8)

The purpose of this code (E8.1) is stated as ta

- a) protect, conserve and enhance the region's biodiversity in consideration of the extent, condition and connectivity of critical habitats and priority vegetation communities, and the number and status of vulnerable and threatened species; and
- b) ensure that development is carried out in a manner that assists the protection of biodiversity by:
 - minimising vegetation and habitat loss or degradation; and
 - appropriately locating buildings and works; and
 - offsetting the loss of vegetation through protection of other areas where appropriate.

Under the Interpretation section (Part B 4), critical habitat and priority vegetation are not defined. Critical habitat is defined in various legislation including the Tasmanian Threatened Species Act 1995 where it means "an area of land defined on a map under section 23 which the Secretary determines as a critical habitat af a listed taxon of flora or fauna". Priority vegetation is considered to exist where the community is listed under the Tasmanian Nature Conservation Act 2002 and / or where the vegetation provides important habitat for threatened species under either State ar Commonwealth legislation.

In regards to critical habitat within the road upgrade, the definition under the TSPA is amiguous. The vegetation community (Eucalyptus amygdalina inland forest and woodland on Cainozoic deposits (DAZ) is threatened under the NCA and provides habitat for various threatened flora and fauna therefore is considered as Priority Habitat as well as some hollow bearing eucalypts.

Threatened vegetation under the code is defined as "a threatened native vegetation community that is listed in Schedule 3A of the Tasmanian Nature Conservation Act 2002 or a threatened native ecological community that is listed under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

The Biodiversity Code applies (E8.2.1):

- a) within the area identified as priority habitat on the planning scheme maps; or
- b) for the removal of native vegetation

The Priority Habitat overlay occurs over the majority of mapped DAZ vegetation and native vegetation will be removed therefore both (a) and (b) occur hence the Biodiversity Code applies in these situations.

Threatened flora species recorded within the study area include:

- Caesia calliantha (blue grass lily) TSPA: Rare 25 plants
- Scleranthus fasciculatus (spreading knawel) TSPA: vulnerable (6 plants)

The following two species have been recently delisted from the Schedules and are present within the study area:

- Arthropodium strictum (chocolate lily)
- Hypoxis vaginata var vaginata (yellow star)

Regarding threatened fauna, potential habitat is present for a variety of species (see NBES fauna and fauna habitat report) however no critical habitat occurs within the road upgrade corridor. Potential habitat is present for the masked owl and spotted-tailed quall in the form of hollow bearing trees with the trees with suitable sized hollows outside of impact (see Addendum to Flora and Fauna Habitat report for masked owl survey).



Figure 1 - Priority Habitat overlay

There are no exemptions to Code E8 therefore E8.6 Development Standards applies.

E8.6.1 HABITAT AND VEGETATION MANSGEMENT

Objective

To ensure that:

- a) vegetation identified as having conservation value as habitat has priority for protection and is appropriately managed to protect those values; and
- b) the representation and connectivity of vegetation communities is given appropriate protection when considering the impacts of use and development.

Acceptable Solution A1

A1.1 Clearance or disturbance of priority habitat is in accordance with a certified Forest Practices Plan **or**;

A1.2 Development does not clear or disturb native vegetation within areas identified as priority habitat.

Comment

A1.1 – No certified Forest Practice Plan exists therefore this does not apply.

Under the Forest Practices Regulations 2007, s 16(6) (iv) states a forest practices plan is not required for the construction and maintenance of public roads.

A1,2 – native vegetation will be cleared or disturbed in the planned road upgrades.

Therefore the Acceptable Solutions are unable to be met and the Performance Criteria apply.

Performance Criteria P1

P1 Clearance or disturbance of native vegetation within priority habitat may be allowed where a flora and fauna report prepared by a suitably qualified person demonstrates that development does not unduly compromise the representation of species or vegetation communities in the bioregion having regard to the:

- a) quality and extent of the vegetation or habitat affected by the proposal, including the maintenance of species diversity and its value as a wildlife corridor; and
- b) means of removal; and
- c) value of riparian vegetation in protecting habitat values; and
- d) impacts of siting of development(including effluent disposal) and vegetation clearance or excavations, in proximity to habitat or vegetation; and
- e) need for and adequacy of proposed vegetation or habitat management; and
- f) conservation outcomes and long-term security of any offset in accordance with the General Offset Principles for the RMPS, Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

Comment

P1 - A flora and fauna habitat survey has been prepared by NBES prior to design with an addendum report post design to investigate additional areas not originally surveyed. Targeted flora and fauna surveys were also completed with results incorporated into the reports. Overall the small impacts from road widening and additional turning facilities and entrances will not unduly compromise representation of species or vegetation communities in the bioregion.

Small edge impacts will occur to DAZ however this level of impact will be insignificant in the context of the surrounding extent of the community. Impacts to threatened flora have been reduced since the delisting of *Arthropodium strictum* (chocolate lily) with removal to the following species:

- Caesia calliantha (25 plants)
- Scleranthus fasciculatus (6 plants)

No trees with observed with hollows suitable for masked owls are within the impact area. One masked owl call was recorded on the sound recorder that was left out for two weeks. No definitive evidence was found of nesting within suitable trees close to the project area. Some habitat for spotted tailed quoll is present however given the level of

1 – 4 sabitat that is present in the area this small widening is deemed very minor with quality habitat remaining.

In summary there are no trees within the works footprint that have hollows of sufficient size for masked owl nesting. There is also limited breeding habitat within the works footprint for spotted-tailed quoll.

Out of the habitat trees recorded, 7 trees are within the impact area including:

- White gums 3
- Cabbage gum 1
- Black peppermint 3

None of these trees contain suitable hollows for masked owls or spotted tailed quoils.

It is estimated that up to 2.9 ha of DAZ will be affected by the road upgrades with the impact restricted to generally less than 9m of the edge of the forest. An estimated 17,300 ha of DAZ remains within the Northern Midlands Council and less than 0.017% will be impacted.

It is not considered necessary that reserving additional DAZ offsite as an offset is required for the road upgrade given the impacts to DAZ are small. It would be beneficial however for some weed management to be provided to assist landholders in controlling Ulex europaeus (gorse) infestations. These infestations are an ongoing issue for the conservation values of DAZ. A weed management plan for the project to effectively control gorse and other declared weeds should also be implemented so that infestations are not made worse post construction.

Based on the values recorded within the study area and surveys undertaken to date, the road upgrades will not compromise the integrity of threatened flora and fauna values to any significant degree. As mentioned there would be a benefit to assisting landholders adjacent to the road upgrade in controlling gorse infestations within and adjacent to the study area as a form off offsetting impacts to the DAZ cammunity.



MIDLAND HIGHWAY (A0087)

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS AND SAFETY UPGRADES **EPPING FOREST TO POWRANNA**

CONTRACT NO. 2367 DESIGN

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