

# Modification Application Supporting Report

DA 22/458 Friday Flat and Middle Slopes, Thredbo – Snowmaking Infrastructure



NSW

Department of Planning and Environment

Issued under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Approved Section 4.55 (1A) Modification Application No 22/13512 granted on the 17January 2023

In respect to DA 22/458

Signed M Brown

Sheet No 11 of 13



#### **Document Control**

Revision	Date	Revision Type	Author	Approved by
Α	22.08.2022	Draft	C.Chalk	P.Fleming
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#### Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd

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#### 1 Introduction

This Modification Application (MOD) relates to the Development Application (DA) 22/458 (PAN-174161) which was granted development consent on 31 March 2022. The Applicant for the MOD is Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd (KT) (ABN 95 000 139 015).

The Development site is located at Middle Slopes (skiers right of the Supertrail run) within Thredbo Alpine Resort (Thredbo) (**Appendix A**), approximately 30 kilometres (km) south-west of Jindabyne, New South Wales (NSW). The site is located on land formally described as Lot 876/DP 1243112.

#### 2 Description of Modification

#### 2.1 Background / Context

#### 2.1.1 Approved Development under DA 22/458

DA 22/458 permitted the following works within Middle Slopes:

- Installation of four (4) manual hydrants;
- Trench for electrical services; and
- Trench for new short lateral snowmaking pipe; and
- Rehabilitation works.

#### 2.2 Justification for Modification

KT operate a snowmaking system which provides air and water via pipes to a network of snowmaking guns to produce snow across the resort. These guns are broadly grouped into the categories of lance or fan guns. Lance guns rely on the supply of air, water and electricity, whilst fan guns can be configured with onboard air compressors, relying only on water and electricity to operate enabling vastly increased flexibility for early season operations.

The improved technology of fan guns to increase efficiencies and performance has been at the forefront of snowmaking companies research and development within recent years. The fan guns allow for a higher snow output, optimum energy efficiency as well as resource conservation (TechnoAlpin 2021). Due to the effective operation of the TT10 fan guns which were installed at Friday Flat in summer 2021/22, KT has made the decision to install TT10 fan guns within Middle Slopes instead of manual hydrants which would have serviced mobile fan guns. Permanent fan guns will allow for better use of suitable temperatures without the need to move mobile guns into position which can take up valuable snowmaking time.

#### 2.3 Development components subject to this MOD Application

This MOD relates to the installation of four (4) concrete pits (**Appendix B**) and four (4) TT10 fan guns (**Appendix C**) at Middle Slopes, instead of the manual hydrants that were proposed under DA 22/458.

The disturbance footprint of a single concrete pit is  $3 \times 3 \text{ m} \times 1.6 \text{ m}$  deep. The TT10 fan guns are located within the concrete pit disturbance footprint.



The proposed disturbance footprint for the four (4) manual hydrants in this location was 4  $m^2$  (refer Table 1 of Statement of Environmental Effects (SEE) prepared for DA 22/458). The proposed disturbance footprint for the four (4) concrete pits is 36  $m^2$ . The proposed modification will result in an additional 32  $m^2$  area of disturbance which is considered minor.

#### 2.4 Project Timing

The anticipated construction period is February-March 2023, with operation to commence as required during the 2023 winter season.

#### 3 Statutory Framework

Sections 4 and 5 of the SEE for DA 22/458 provided a review and assessment against key legislation and planning instruments applicable to the Development. Construction of the proposed modification will be largely the same as the approved development under DA 22/458 (i.e. installation of TT10 fan guns were approved for Friday Flat). The works subject to this MOD do not trigger any integrated development requirements.

Additional statutory considerations relevant to this MOD are provided below.

#### 3.1 Section 100 of EP&A Act – Content of a Modification Application

A cross-reference to the requirements for a modification application in accordance with Section 100 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* (EP&A Regulation) is provided in **Table 1**.

Table 1: Content of modification application

Content of modification application (Section 100 of EP&A Regulation)	Response		
(1) A modification application must contain the following information—			
(a) the name and address of the	Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd		
applicant,	2 Friday Drive, Thredbo NSW 2625		
(b) a description of the development that will be carried out under the development consent	A description of the proposed works is provided in <b>Section 2</b> .		
(c) the address and folio identifier of the	The Development site within Middle Slopes is located on the		
land on which the development will be	skiers right of the Supertrail run, within the head lease		
carried out,	allotment, on land formally described as Lot 876/DP 1243112.		
(d) a description of the modification to the development consent, including the name, number and date of plans that have changed, to enable the consent authority to compare the development with the development originally approved,	A description of the modification is provided in <b>Section 2</b> . A cross-reference to approved plans which have been amended is provided in <b>Section 4</b> .		
<ul><li>(e) whether the modification is intended to—</li><li>(i) merely correct a minor error,</li></ul>	This MOD relates to the installation of concrete pits and TT10 fan guns instead of manual hydrants within Middle Slopes.		
misdescription or miscalculation, or	The installation of concrete pits and TT10 fan guns were		
(ii) have another effect specified in the modification application,	described in DA 22/458 relating to the Friday Flat area. The proposed modification will result in a slightly increased		



	disturbance area of 32 m <sup>2</sup> within Middle Slopes, however the level of environmental impact is assessed as minor.
(f) a description of the expected impacts of the modification,	Section 5 of the SEE (Rev2) for DA 22/458 outlined the assessment method for the Development which remains applicable to this MOD. The level of environmental impact determined in Section 7 of the SEE (Rev2) also remains relevant.
	Ecological considerations The works will not impact on any undisturbed native vegetation adjacent to the ski run. The new concrete pits will be located entirely within the existing disturbed / managed ski run. Any excess excavated material from the pit excavations will be removed offsite and managed in accordance with approved Site Environmental Management Plan. Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd (ELA) were engaged as part of DA 22/458 to assess the level of ecological impact from the Development. The level of impact that was determined by ELA (2021) remains applicable to this proposal i.e. the proposed works will not result in any adverse impacts on threatened species, populations or ecological communities and will not have a significant impact on these entities pursuant to the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2016 or the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
	Waterfront land considerations DA 22/458 was nominated integrated development for the works associated with Friday Flat. The site subject to this MOD is not located within 40 m of a watercourse (waterfront land). Therefore, no further assessment is required.
	Geotechnical considerations As the proposed modification comprises a greater excavation than what was originally proposed for the manual hydrants, KT have re-engaged Asset Geotechnical Engineering Pt Ltd (AssetGeoEnviro) to review the geotechnical risk associated with the proposed modification. AssetGeoEnviro (2022) determined the geotechnical impact from the concrete pits is minimal, and no further assessment or updating of the geotechnical report is considered necessary. A copy of the Form 4 – Minimal Impact Certification is provided in Appendix D.
(g) an undertaking that the modified development will remain substantially the same as the development originally approved,	See comment against (e).
(h) for a modification application that is accompanied by a biodiversity development assessment report—the biodiversity credits information,	Not applicable.
(i) if the applicant is not the owner of the land—a statement that the owner consents to the making of the modification application,	KT is the applicant for this modification application.



<ul><li>(j) whether the modification application is being made to—</li><li>(i) the Court under the Act, section 4.55,</li></ul>	This modification application is being made to the consent authority under the EP&A Act.
or (ii) the consent authority under the Act, section 4.56.	This modification involves minimal environmental impact. The modification is substantially the same as the development for which the consent was originally granted.
(2) Subsection (1)(i) does not apply if the consent of the owner is not required under section 98.	KT is the applicant for this modification application.
(3) If a modification application under the Act, section 4.55(1A) or (2) relates to BASIX development, or BASIX optional development if the development application was accompanied by a BASIX certificate, the application must be accompanied by—	Not applicable.
(a) the BASIX certificate, or	
(b) a new BASIX certificate if the current	
BASIX certificate is no longer consistent with the development.	

#### 3.2 Snowy Mountains SAP Master Plan

The Snowy Mountains Special Activation Precinct Master Plan (DPE 2022) (Snowy SAP Master Plan) sets out the vision, principles, and precinct-wide performance criteria to support the planning controls in three Environmental Planning Instruments (EPIs).

Thredbo is nominated as one (1) of the nine (9) Alpine sub-precincts included in the Snowy Mountains Special Activation Precinct (SAP). The Development site is located outside of the Structure Plan development areas and is located within existing disturbed areas. The site was assessed by Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd (ELA) as part of DA 22/458 to ensure potential impacts to biodiversity are first avoided, then minimised and mitigated through a range of measures implemented during construction and operation.

The protection of the natural, cultural and social values of KNP is a primary focus of the Snowy Mountains Special Activation Precinct. As demonstrated in the original SEE (KT 2022) and supporting technical reports, the Development will not result in any significant adverse impacts on natural values. The Development will not adversely impact on any cultural values.

The Snowy SAP Master Plan describes the future desired character of Thredbo as –

"Thredbo is the densest alpine village among the alpine resorts, meaning future infrastructure improvements will focus on pedestrian connectivity within the resort and long-term public transport solutions at the Alpine Precinct scale. Developments and renewal within the village will continue to support a strong alpine design character, village heart and year-round uses".

The Development is consistent with the desired future character of Thredbo, and will contribute to improved snow cover during winter operations.



# 4 Amendments to Approved Documents and Plans for DA 22/458

A cross-reference is provided in **Table 2** to highlight the approved plans under DA 22/458 that have been amended to support this MOD.

Table 2: Amendments to Approved Documents and Plans under DA 22/458

Document	Title / Description	Author / Prepared by	Document Reference	Amended Plan Reference
Plan	Universal Concrete Pit Drawing	TechnoAlpin, prepared by Ambrosini. S	CHRC007, Version A	No changes
Plan	TT10 Fan Gun Dimensions	Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd, sourced from TechnoAlpin	-	No changes
Statement of Environmental Effects / Plan	Statement of Environmental Effects: Friday Flat and Middle Slopes Fan Gun Project, Thredbo Alpine Resort, Kosciuszko National Park – Figure 4: Project site – Middle Slopes	Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd, prepared by C.Chalk	Revision 2	Middle Slopes Fan Guns Site Plan, Revision A, 19/08/2022, prepared by KOS

#### 5 Conclusion

This MOD relates to the installation of concrete pits and TT10 fan guns within the general location of existing snowmaking infrastructure at Middle Slopes. The fan guns will allow KT to improve the efficiency of its snowmaking operation, as well as the quality and reliability of snow cover within Middle Slopes.

This MOD has considered the potential impacts of the proposal on the human, built and natural environment in accordance with relevant statutory requirements. The level of environmental impact determined in DA 22/458 remains applicable to the works subject to this MOD.

The proposal will result in an increased disturbance footprint of 32 m<sup>2</sup>, resulting in minimal environmental impact. The works are substantially the same as the development for which the consent was originally granted. With the implementation of appropriate environmental controls that were approved under DA 22/458, the impacts of the proposal are considered acceptable.

In response to the challenges posed by the sustainability of natural snow fall within a changing climate, the TT10 fan guns will contribute to improved seasonal length and viability of snow cover on Middle Slopes. Therefore, the infrastructure is considered fundamental for the winter operations in the resort.



#### 6 References

Asset Geotechnical Engineering Pt Ltd (2022), Friday Flat & Middle Slopes Fan Gun Project, Thredbo NSW Geotechnical Assessment.

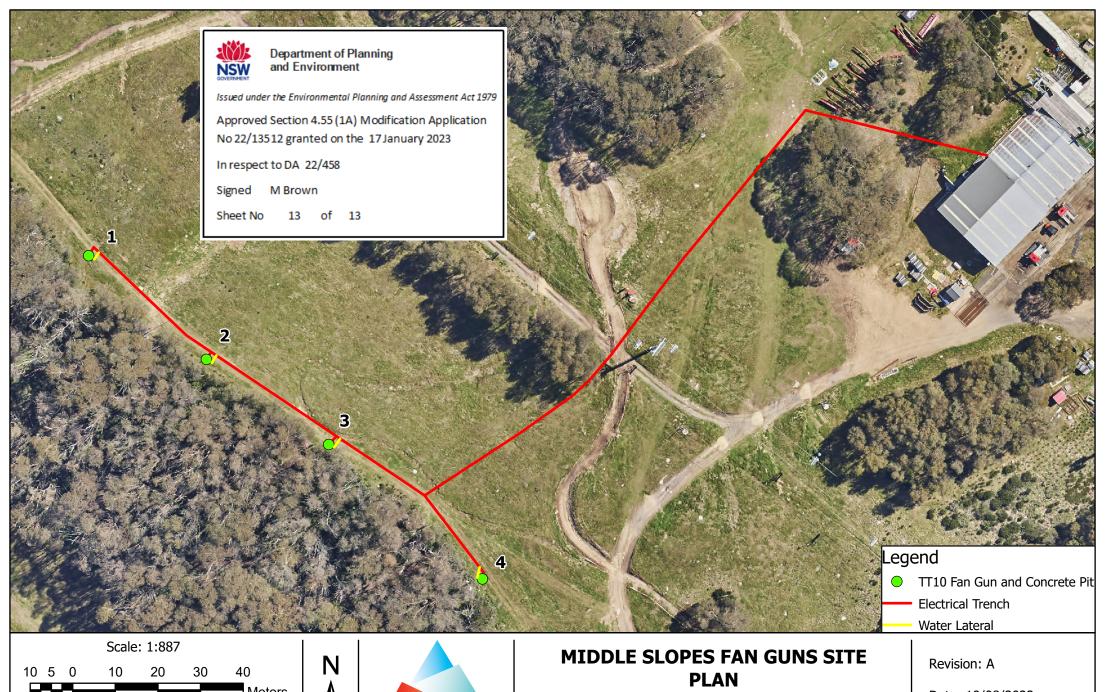
Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd (ELA) 2021, *Snowmaking Works, Friday Flat and Middle Slopes, Thredbo*, 7 December 2021, reference: 20761

Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd (KT) 2022, Statement of Environmental Effects – Friday Flat and Middle Slopes Fan Gun Project, Thredbo Alpine Resort, Kosciuszko National Park.



## 7 Appendices

## Appendix A Middle Slopes Fan Guns Site Plan



Map Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator Horizontal Datum: GDA 2020 Grid: GDA 2020 MGA Zone 55



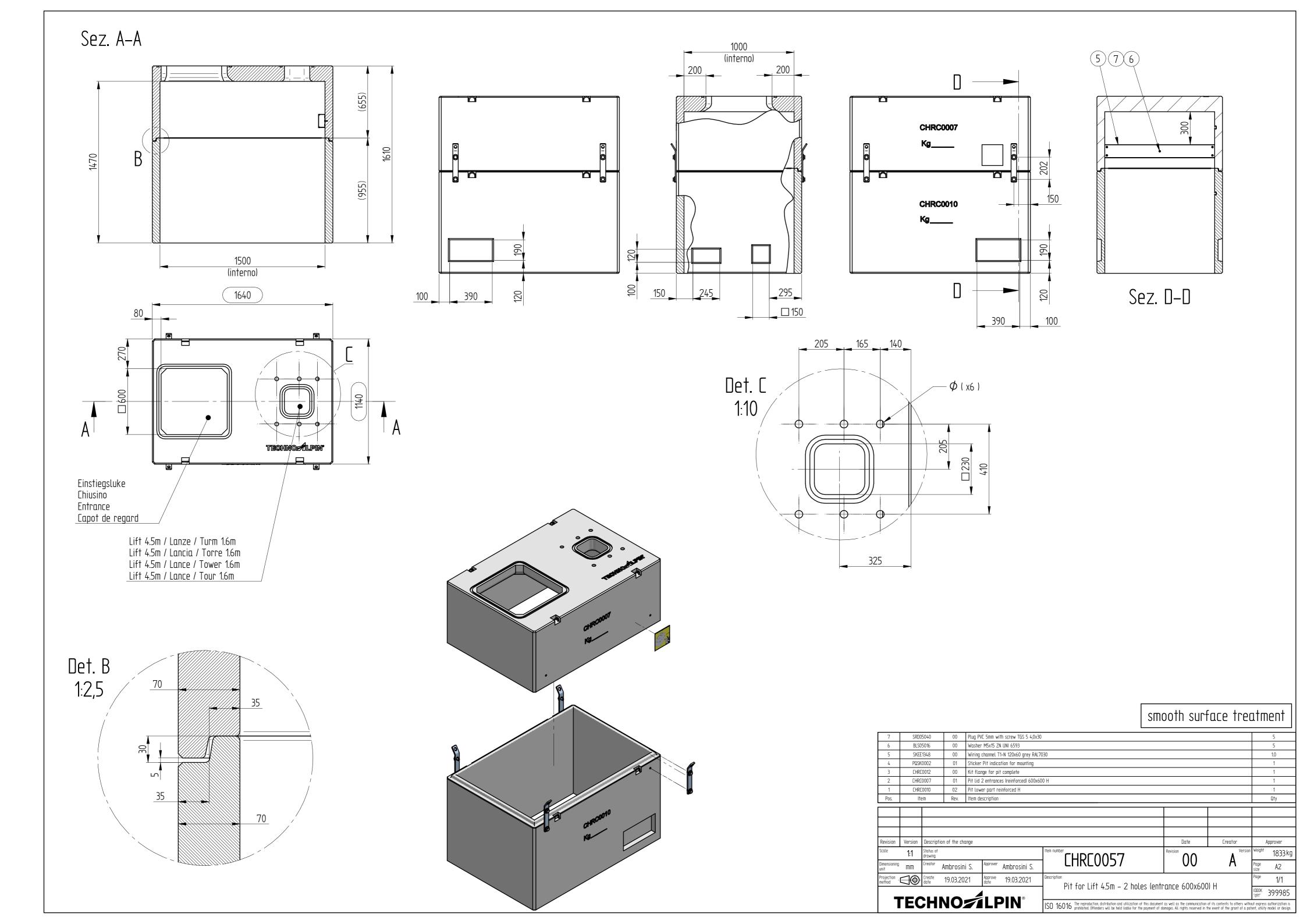
Project: DA 22/458 Modification Application

Date: 19/08/2022

Produced By: KOS



## **Appendix B** Concrete Pit Drawing

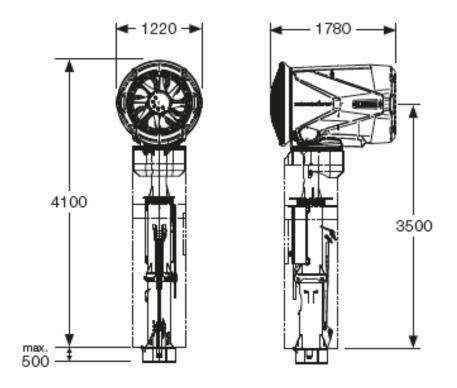




## Appendix C TT10 Fan Gun Dimensions

### **TT10 Fan Gun Dimensions**





(Source: TechnoAlpin 2020)



# Appendix D Geotechnical Form 4 – Minimal Impact Certification



# Geotechnical Policy Kosciuszko Alpine Resorts

#### Form 4 – Minimal Impact Certification

DA Number: <u>DA 22/458</u>				
This form may be used where minor construction works which present minimal or no geotechnical impact on the site or related land are proposed to be erected within the "G" line area of the geotechnical maps.				
A geotechnical engineer or engineering geologist must inspect the site and/or development documentation to determine if the proposed development required be prepared to accompany the development application. Where the geotechnical that such a report is not required then they must complete this form and attact where required. A copy of Form 4 with design recommendation, if required, in development application.	es a geotechnical report to nical engineer determines h design recommendations			
Please contact the Alpine Resorts Team in Jindabyne for further information	ation - phone 02 6456 1733.			
To complete this form, please place a cross in the appropriate boxes $\square$ and com-	plete all sections.			
1. Declaration made by geotechnical engineer or engineering relation to a nil or minimal geotechnical impact assessmiclassification				
I, Mr X Ms Mrs Dr Other				
First Name Family Name				
Mark Bartel				
OF Company/organisation				
AssetGeoEnviro				
certify that I am a geotechnical engineer /engineering geologist as defir have inspected the site and reviewed the proposed development known				
Friday Flat & Middle Slopes Fan Gun Project				
As a result of my site inspection and review of the following documenta	tion			
(List of documentation reviewed) – and attached to the report				
Friday Flat Fan Gun Project				
Middle Slopes Fan Guns Site Plan - Rev A dated 19/8/2022 (attached)				
Concrete Pit Plans by Techno Alpin (attached)	Department of Planning NSW and Environment			
TT10 gun details (attached)	Issued under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 19 Approved Section 4.55 (1A) Modification Application No 22/13512 granted on the 17 January 2023 In respect to DA 22/458 Signed M Brown Sheet No 12 of 13			

I have determined that:

- the current load-bearing capacity of the existing building will not be exceeded or adversely impacted by the proposed development, and
- the proposed works are of such a minor nature that the requirement for geotechnical advice in the form of a geotechnical report, prepared in accordance with the "Policy", is considered unnecessary for the adequate and safe design of the structural elements to be incorporated into the new works, and
- in accordance with AS 2870.1 Residential Slabs and Footings, the site is to be classified as a type

(insert classification type)

Class 'P'

☐ I have attached design recommendations to be incorporated in the structural design in accordance with this site classification. Not applicable, no structural design. See below

I am aware that this declaration shall be used by the Department as an essential component in granting development consent for a structure to be erected within the "G" line area (as identified on the geotechnical maps) of Kosciuszko Alpine Resorts without requiring the submission of a geotechnical report in support of the development application.

Signature	Chartered professional status
Mark Bartel	CPEng 35641 NER (Civil)
Name	Date
Mark Bartel	22 August 2022

#### 3. Contact details

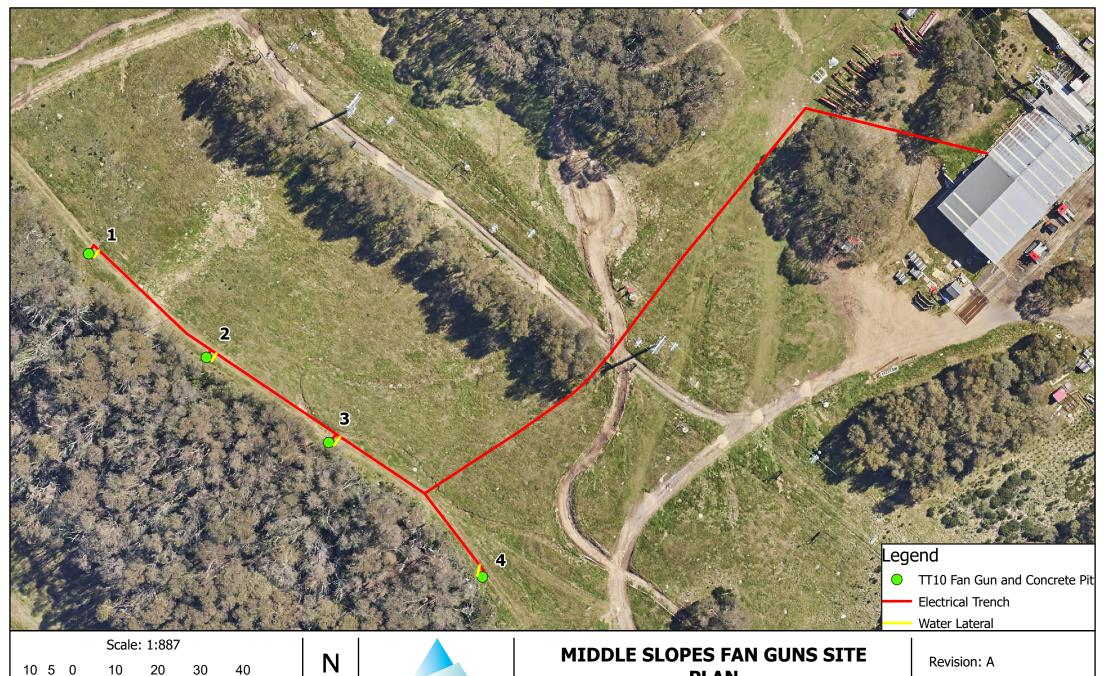
#### **Alpine Resorts Team**

Shop 5A, 19 Snowy River Avenue P O Box 36, JINDABYNE NSW 2627

Telephone: 02 6456 1733 Facsimile: 02 6456 1736

Email: alpineresorts@planning.nsw.gov.au

The Modification Application for DA 22/458 involves installation of four concrete pits and four TT10 fan guns at Middle Slopes, instead of the manual hydrants that were proposed under DA 22/458. The disturbance footprint of a concrete pit is 3 x 3 m x 1.6 m deep. The geotechnical impact from the pits is minimal, and no further assessment or updating of the geotechnical report is considered necessary.



Map Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator Horizontal Datum: GDA 2020 Grid: GDA 2020 MGA Zone 55



# **PLAN**

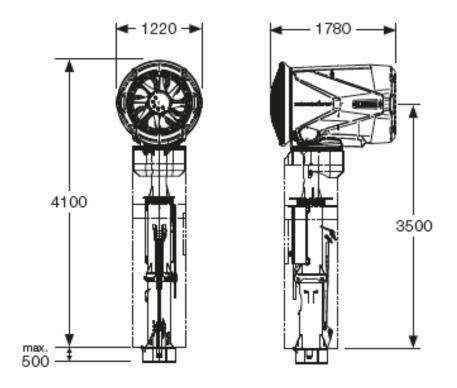
Project: DA 22/458 Modification Application

Date: 19/08/2022

Produced By: KOS

### **TT10 Fan Gun Dimensions**





(Source: TechnoAlpin 2020)

