

22/03/2023

Mark Brown Senior Planner Alpine Resorts Team Department of Planning and Environment Jindabyne NSW 2627

By email: mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au

# Guthega Carpark Chairlift Uphill Line Replacement – Response to Referral from National Parks and Wildlife Service (DA 23/1923)

Dear Mark,

I write in response to your email providing correspondence from National Parks and Wildlife Service regarding works proposed in DA23/1923 – Guthega Carpark Chairlift Uphill Line Replacement. I can provide the following response to the matters raised in the letter dated 13/03/2023:

- 1. <u>Leasing/Licensing and KNP Pom</u> no action is required on these points from the applicant.
- 2. BC Act
  - 2.1. Email confirmation was provided to NPWS 8/03/2023 regarding the width of the disturbance corridor which is 4metres as per the reference in the BDAR.
  - 2.2. No amended BDAR has been provided as the matters raised have been addressed in the attached correspondence from Ryan Smithers of Ecological.
- 3. <u>Environmental Values of KNP</u> no action is required on these points from the applicant prior to determination. It would be anticipated that conditions of consent would be included in any approval issued by DPE to reflect these requirements.
- 4. Cultural Values of KNP

Matters referenced in 4.1,4.3 and 4.4 do not require action or response from the applicant.

- 4.2. SEMP Figure 1 has been amended demonstrating that the staging areas are not located within areas of identified archaeological potential and is attached.
- 5. Other matters no action or response from the applicant is required on these matters.

Yours sincerely

Sophie Ballinger

**Mountain Planning Manager** 



Date: 22 March 2023

Our ref: 22HNC-4140

Perisher Blue Pty Limited Perisher Centre PO Box 42 Perisher Valley NSW 2624

Attention: Andrew Kennedy



Department of Planning and Environment

Issued under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Approved Application No 23/1923

Granted on the 5 April 2023

Signed S Butler

Sheet No 5 of 5

Dear Andrew,

Guthega Carpark Chairlift Uphill Line Replacement - Response to NPWS comments on the BDAR.

As requested, find below responses to the NPWS comments on the abovementioned BDAR.

### 2.2 (i) Consideration of the potential impacts on the Alpine She-oak Skink.

The BAM streamlined assessment method only requires targeted surveys for candidate SAII species. The Alpine She-oak Skink is not an SAII entity. It has not been recorded within or in close proximity to the development footprint, nor was it detected opportunistically during the surveys undertaken for the BDAR. There is a small amount of potential habitat in the very upper parts of the development footprint, however the habitats within and immediately adjacent to the development footprint are predominately unsuitable for the species, being too shrubby and heavily treed. Furthermore, the narrow linear nature of the disturbance footprint further reduces the likelihood that the proposal would have an adverse impact on the species, if it was present, as does the proposed post construction rehabilitation.

#### 2.2 (ii) Possible displacement of the Broad-toothed Rat

The narrow linear nature of the disturbance footprint reduces the likelihood that the proposal would have an adverse impact on the Broad-toothed Rat, as does the proposed post construction rehabilitation. The Broad-toothed Rat continues to be locally common despite the many similar developments which have occurred within the NSW alps over many years. The species continues to use habitats that have been disturbed within the resort areas, and elsewhere within the national park, including habitats beneath the recently constructed and heavily used Kosi summit walking track.

## 2.2 (iii) Shrubs should be replanted from tubestock

The DA approval should be conditioned to require this.

### 2.2 (iv) Section 5.1.1

A "Do Nothing" approach would result in the chairlift failing its annual engineering certification due to it not having a functioning safety circuit. Installation of the control circuit as an overhead catenary cable is not suitable as this must be part of the engineering design of the lift prior to the lift construction. Factors such as ice and wind loading from a catenary cable was not taken into account when the footing and tower engineering designs were done some 40 years ago.

## 2.2 (iv) References to Thredbo

This was a typographical error in the BDAR. The intention was to refer to the Perisher Resort Area.

Should you require any further information please contact me on 0422 802 447.

Regards,

Ryan Smithers Principal Ecologist

# SEMP Figure 1

