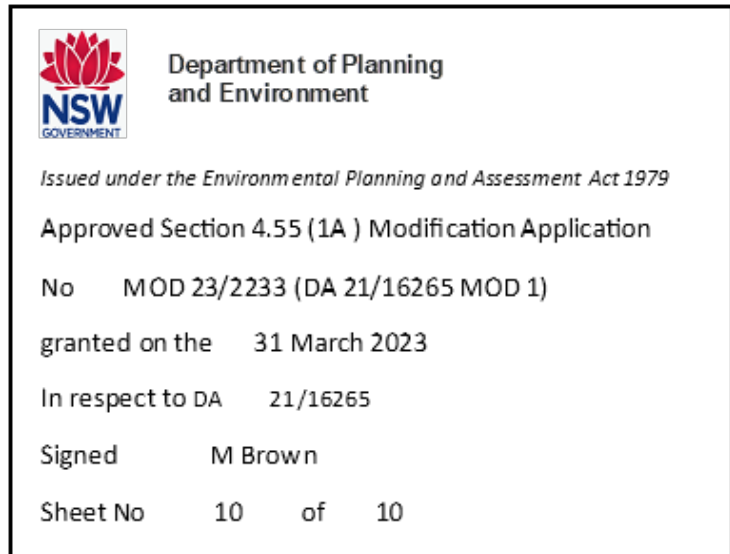


Date: 7 March 2023

Our ref: 18801

Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd
1 Friday Drive
Thredbo NSW 2625

Attention: Chloe Chalk



Dear Chloe,

Request for Further Information – MOD 23/2233 Cruiser Blue Mountain Bike Trail, Thredbo

As requested, I have reviewed the Request for Further Information (RFQ) in relation to the abovementioned development.

As identified in the supporting report for the modification (Kosciuszko Thredbo 2023), the five areas where the trail was constructed outside of the approved corridor resulted in an additional 125.5 m² of vegetation impacts, 60 m² of which was on ski slopes dominated by exotic grassland. The total additional impact on native vegetation comprised 40 m² of Good condition PCT 645 (Zone 1) and 24 m² of Moderate condition PCT 645 (Zone 2).

These minor additional impacts do not result in any change to the outcome of the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) assessment undertaken for the approved development, as the minimum area that can be defined in the BAM Calculator is 100 m². As such, the biodiversity credit obligation of the constructed trail is the same as the biodiversity credit obligation of the approved trail. I note that the credit obligation has already been acquitted by payment into the Biodiversity Conservation Fund (BCF).

The additional impacts were the result of a number of factors, in particular deficiencies in the process of mapping the trail alignment. Improvements to this process, and liaison with NPWS during construction, are recommended to avoid similar issues in the future. I note that all impacts beyond the approved corridor were inadvertent, and undertaken with the intent of avoiding, minimising and mitigating biodiversity impacts.

I am satisfied that the additional impacts associated with the modification are very minor in nature and extent, and consistent with the BAM and the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act), are appropriately offset by the retirement of the number and type of biodiversity credits required by the development consent for the approved trail. As stated above, I understand that this has already been completed by payment to the BCF.

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

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan Smithers', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ryan Smithers
Principle Ecologist and Accredited BAM Assessor

References

Kosciuszko Thredbo 2023. *Modification Application Supporting Report DA 21/16265 Cruiser Blue Mountain Bike Trail.*