Proposed Snowmaking Upgrades, Upper Supertrail to Lower Sundance, Thredbo Alpine Resort Biodiversity Development Assessment Report

Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd

Department of Planning
Housing and Infrastructure

Issued under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Approved Application No DA 24/11845

Granted on the 17 January 2025

Signed S Butler

Sheet No 4 of 32

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DOCUMENT TRACKING

Project Name	Proposed Snowmaking Upgrades, Upper Supertrail to Lower Sundance, Thredbo Alpine Resort
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Project Manager	Ryan Smithers
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Prepared by	Ryan Smithers
Reviewed by	Dave Coombes
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Template 2.8.1

Executive Summary

Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd was engaged by Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd to prepare a BDAR for the proposed snowmaking fan gun installation on the Upper Supertrail to Lower Sundance ski runs, within Thredbo Alpine Resort.

This report has been prepared to meet the requirements of the Biodiversity Assessment Method 2020 established under Section 6.7 of the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act). Some of the native vegetation within the development site is mapped on the Biodiversity Values map.

The proposed development has been located to take advantage of existing disturbed areas and minimise the required clearing. As a result, it is anticipated that the proposal will involve the clearing or further modification of only 0.0162 ha of native vegetation, the bulk of which is located on the edge of tree islands within existing ski slopes.

The development footprint supports one Plant Community Type (PCT) PCT 3381 Kosciuszko Alpine Sally Woodland in one condition state; good. PCT 3381 does not conform to any Endangered Ecological Communities (EEC) listed under the NSW BC Act or the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

One threatened fauna species, *Mastacomys fuscus* (Broad-toothed Rat), was considered likely to occur within the development site. Another species, *Cercartetus nanus* (Eastern Pygmy-possum) was assumed to be present. A number of other threatened fauna species are known to occur in adjoining habitats and/or have the potential to occur within the development site, such as *Petroica phoenicea* (Flame Robin).

This BDAR outlines the measures taken to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts to the vegetation and habitats present within the development footprint during the design, construction and operation of the development. The residual unavoidable impacts of the proposed development were calculated in accordance with the BAM by utilising the Biodiversity Assessment Method Credit Calculator. A total of one ecosystem credit and two species credits are required to offset the unavoidable impacts to the vegetation and habitats present within the development footprint.

Serious and Irreversible Impact (SAII) values have been considered as part of this assessment. The proposal will not result in any SAII.

Following consideration of the administrative guidelines for determining significance under the EPBC Act, it is concluded that the proposal is unlikely to have a significant impact on matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) or Commonwealth land, and a referral to the Commonwealth Environment Minister is therefore not recommended.

Contents

List of Figures

List of Tables

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
BAM	Biodiversity Assessment Method
BAMC	Biodiversity Assessment Method Credit Calculator
BC Act	NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*
BDAR	Biodiversity Development Assessment Report
CEEC	Critically Endangered Ecological Community
DCCEEW	Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DCCEEW (NSW)	NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
EEC	Endangered Ecological Community
ELA	Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd
EP&A Act	NSW *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*
EPBC Act	Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
FM Act	NSW *Fisheries Management Act 1994*
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Global Positioning System
IBRA	Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia
LGA	Local Government Area
NPWS	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
NSW	New South Wales
NRAR	NSW Department of Natural Resources Access Regulator
PCT	Plant Community Type
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community
VIS	Vegetation Information System

1. Introduction

This Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) has been prepared by Ryan Smithers, an Accredited Person (BAAS17061) to apply the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act). All credit calculations have been undertaken using the BAM Calculator (BAMC) version 2020 in case number 48719. Consistent with the BAM, the streamlined (small area) assessment module has been used for this assessment.

Definitions of terminology used throughout this report are presented in Appendix A.

1.1. General description of the development site

The development site is located between the Upper Supertrail ski run and the lower parts of Sundance ski run and predominately comprises existing ski slopes, with only a small portion comprising remnant native vegetation or native tree plantings. The proposed works commence just above Kareela Hutte and terminate on Lower Sundance, just above the base of Valley Terminal.

This report includes two base maps, the Location Map (Figure 1) and the Site Map (Figure 2).

1.2. Brief description of the proposal

The development involves replacement of existing snowmaking infrastructure and the installation of new snowmaking mains (water and air pipes, power and dialog cables), laterals, snowmaking (lance and fan) pits and guns on the Upper Supertrail, Rossi Racecourse, and Sundance ski runs.

The proposed works involve:

- Trenching for installation of snowmaking mains (water and air pipes, power and dialog cables) (1.4 m wide trench, 1.2 m deep).
- Trenching for laterals, including water, power and data cables to new pits (0.8 m wide and 1 m deep trench).
- Excavation and installation of pits and guns (lance and fan) (3 x 3m wide x 1.6 m deep).
- Site rehabilitation

To avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts, the proposed works will be located almost entirely within existing ski slopes and other highly disturbed areas. In 28 locations new or replacement pits will require the clearing of up to 9 m^2 of native vegetation during installation. Several of these locations are in areas mapped within the Biodiversity Values Map, as shown in Figure 3-5. The proposed works are expected to affect up to 162 m^2 (0.0162 ha) of native vegetation, predominately shrubs and groundcovers that have regrown around existing snowmaking guns. For the purpose of this assessment this area has been increased to 0.02 ha as the smallest area that can be added into the BAMC is 0.01 ha.

1.3. Development site footprint

The development footprint includes all the proposed works which will be located almost entirely within existing ski slopes and other highly disturbed areas. However, that part of the development footprint that will impact native vegetation is the focus of this assessment. It is anticipated that the proposed development will result in the removal or modification of 0.02 ha of native vegetation.

The development site footprint is identified in Figure 2. The proposal is identified in Figures 3-5 and Photos 1-10.

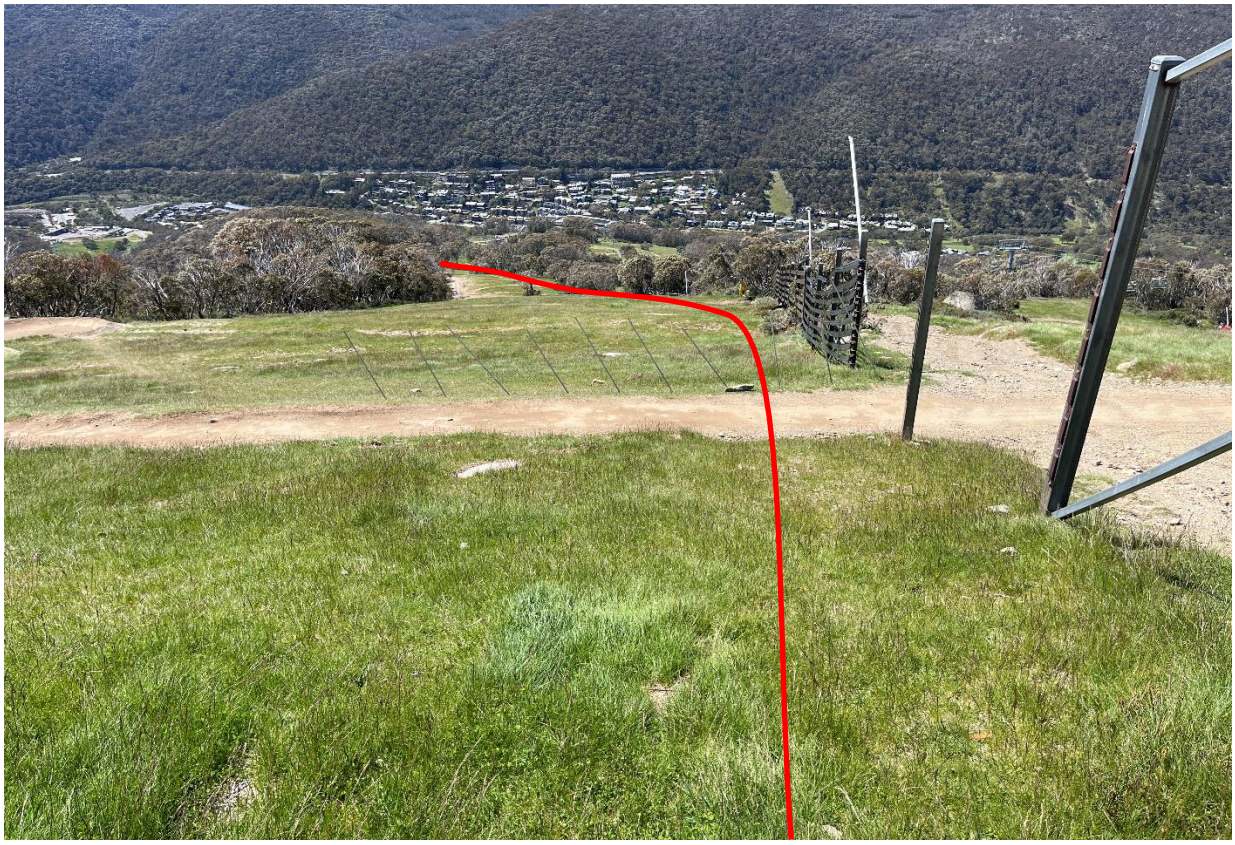

Photo 1: The proposed works are almost entirely located within "super-groomed" ski runs, which comprise exotic grassland. The new snowmaking mains (indicative location on Upper Supertrail shown in red) and laterals will not affect native vegetation. Eighteen of the snowmaking guns to be installed or replaced will encroach slightly upon native vegetation or plantings, some of which is mapped on the Biodiversity Values map thus triggering the BOS.

Photo 2: Replacement of snowmaking gun and pit 803 near the Catwalk tie in, will require some native shrub removal.

Photo 3: At the top of Rossi Racecourse the new main and laterals will be located in cleared areas however two new snowmaking guns/pits will encroach upon native vegetation.

Photo 4: The new main and laterals on Rossi Racecourse will be located in cleared areas however most of the new snowmaking guns/pits will encroach upon native vegetation.

Photo 5: Most of the snowmaking guns/pits to be installed or replaced on Rossi Racecourse will encroach slightly upon native shrubs on the edge of a tree island that is mapped on the Biodiversity Values map.

Photo 6: The new pit/gun location on the lower parts of Rossi Racecourse will require the removal and/or pruning of a few tree plantings.

Photo 7: Most of the snowmaking guns/pits to be installed or replaced on the upper parts of Sundance ski run will encroach slightly upon native shrubs on the edge of a tree island that is mapped on the Biodiversity Values map.

Photo 8: Replacement of snowmaking gun/pits on the upper parts of Sundance will require some native shrub removal.

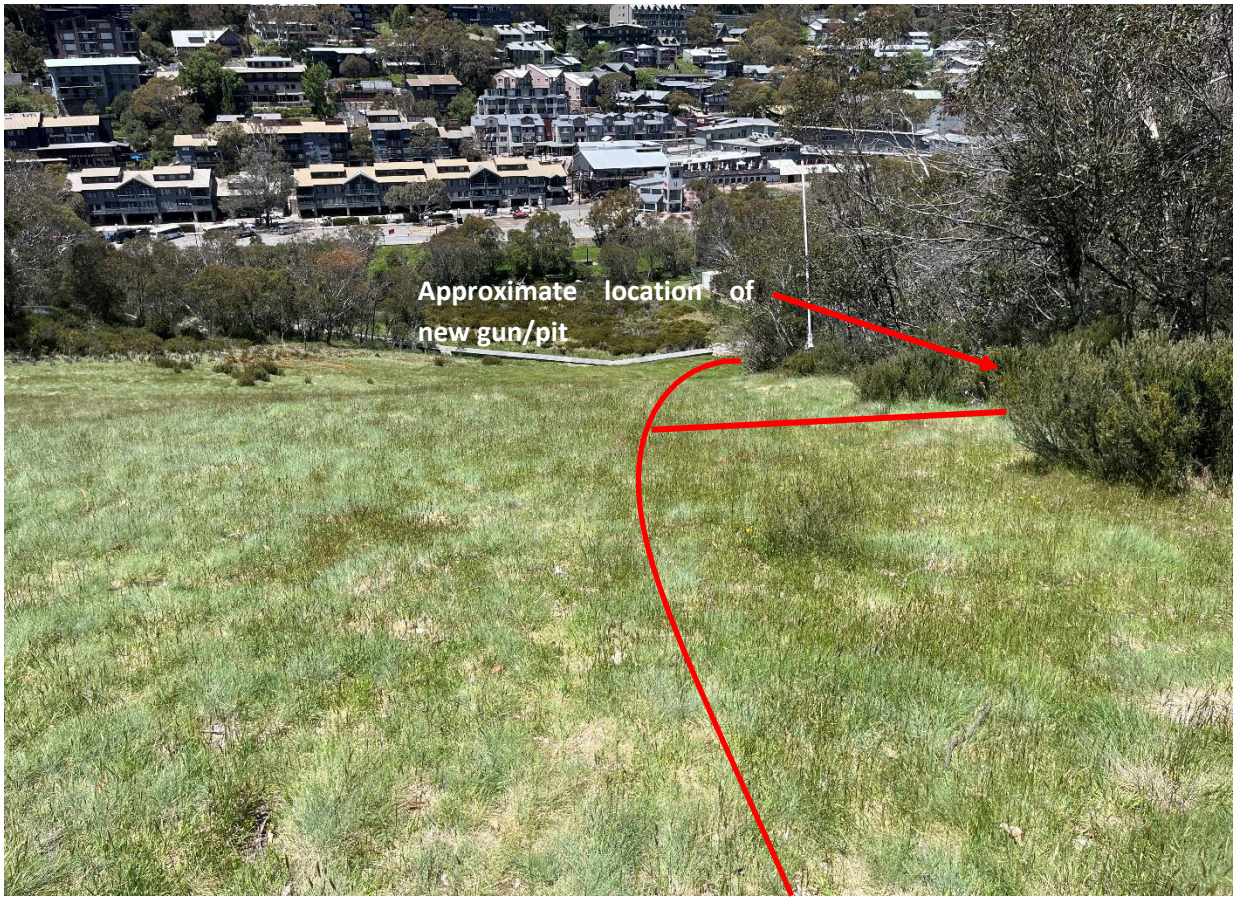

Photo 9: Two new snowmaking gun/pits are proposed on the lower parts of Sundance and will require some native shrub removal.

Photo 10: Two new snowmaking gun/pits are proposed on the lower parts of Sundance and will require some native shrub removal.

1.4. Sources of information used

The following data sources were reviewed as part of this report:

- BioNet Vegetation Classification
- BioNet Atlas Database
- Threatened Biodiversity Data Collection
- Additional GIS datasets including cadastre, contours, imagery and drainage.

1.5. Legislative context

Legislation relevant to the development site is outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Legislative context

Name	Relevance to the project	Report Section
Commonwealth		
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999	Matters of national Environmental Significance (MNES) have been identified on or near the development site. This report assesses impacts to MNES and concludes that the development is unlikely to have a significant impact on MNES.	Appendix D
State		
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979	The proposed development requires consent and is to be assessed under Part 4 of the EP&A Act. The EP&A Act places a duty on the determining authority to adequately address a range of environmental matters including the maintenance of biodiversity and the likely impact to threatened species, populations and communities.	-
Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016	The proposed development involves clearing of vegetation identified as high conservation value on the Biodiversity Values Land Map and thus requires submission of a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report.	-
Environmental Planning Instruments		
Precincts - Regional SEPP 2021	State Environmental Planning Policy (Precincts—Regional) 2021 (Precincts-Regional SEPP) facilitates a planning framework for Special Activation Precincts (Precinct/s) in regional NSW, streamlining planning processes and guiding the delivery of the precincts. The Precincts-Regional SEPP identifies the Minister for Planning as the determining authority for development within the NSW Alpine Resorts. Precincts-Regional SEPP requires the Minister for Planning to refer for comment any development application in the Alpine Resorts to the Director General of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS).	-
Snowy River Shire Local Environment Plan 2013	The subject site is zoned C1 National Parks and Nature Reserves under the Snowy River Shire Local Environment Plan 2013.	-

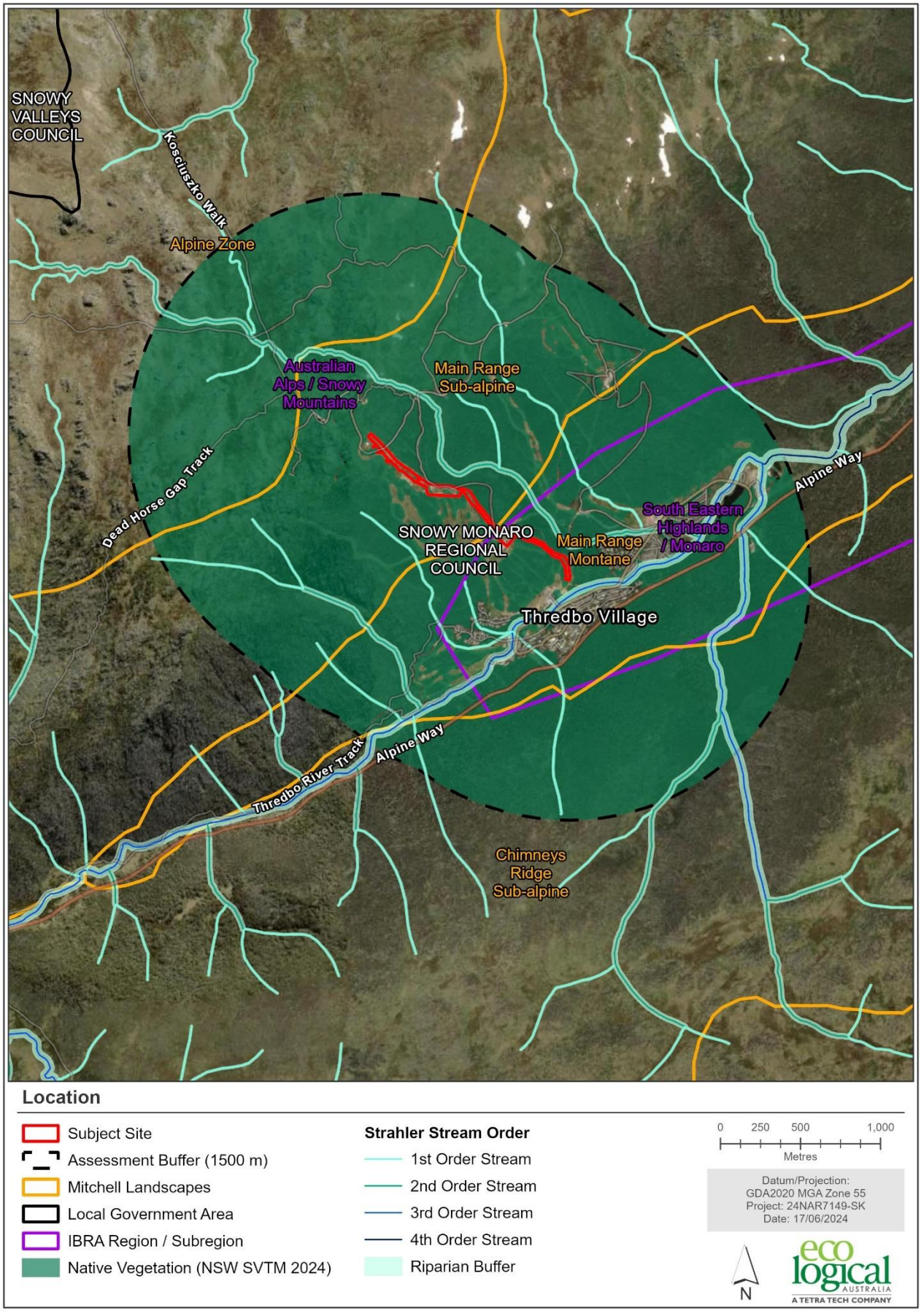

Figure 1: Location Map

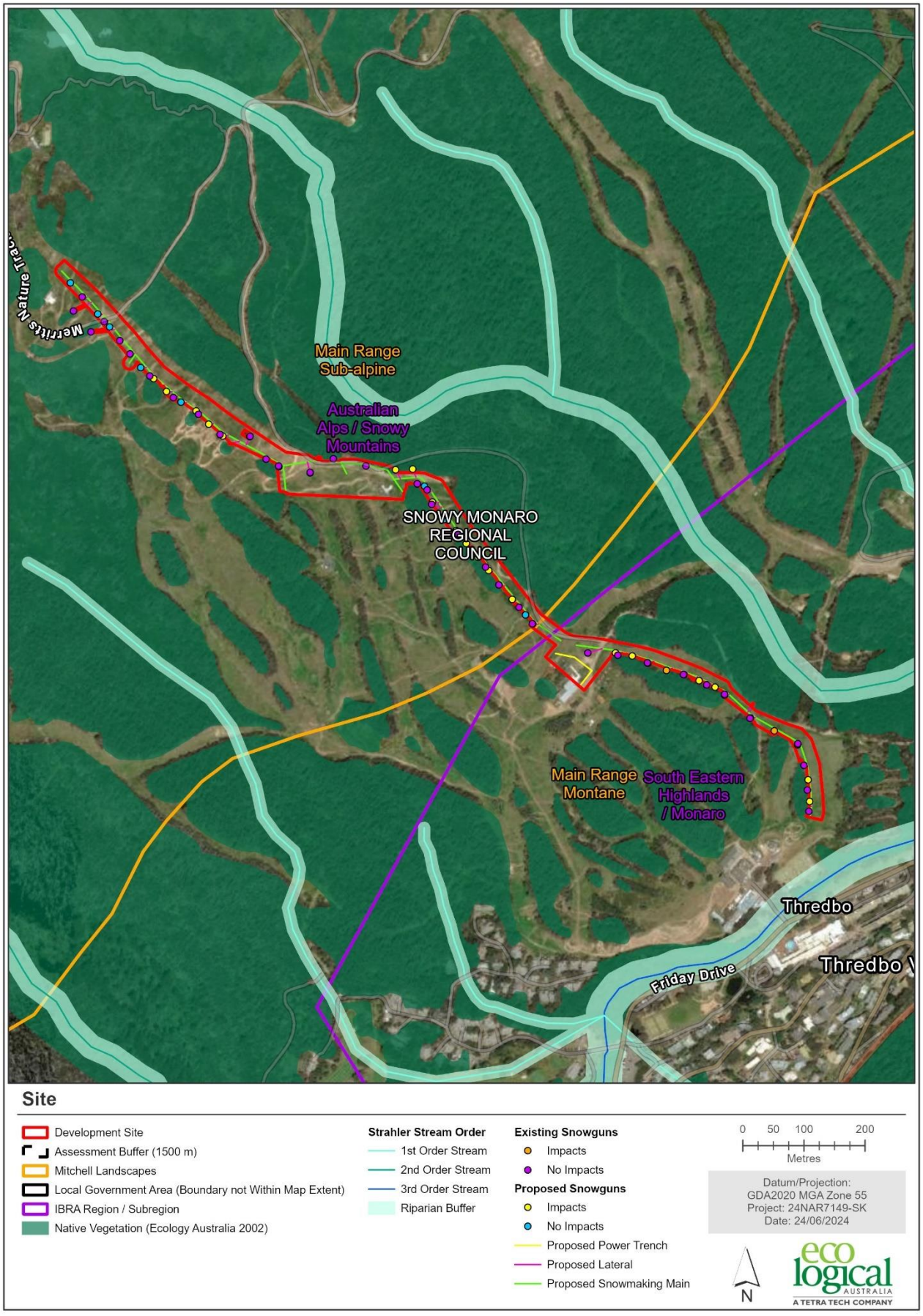

Figure 2: Site Map

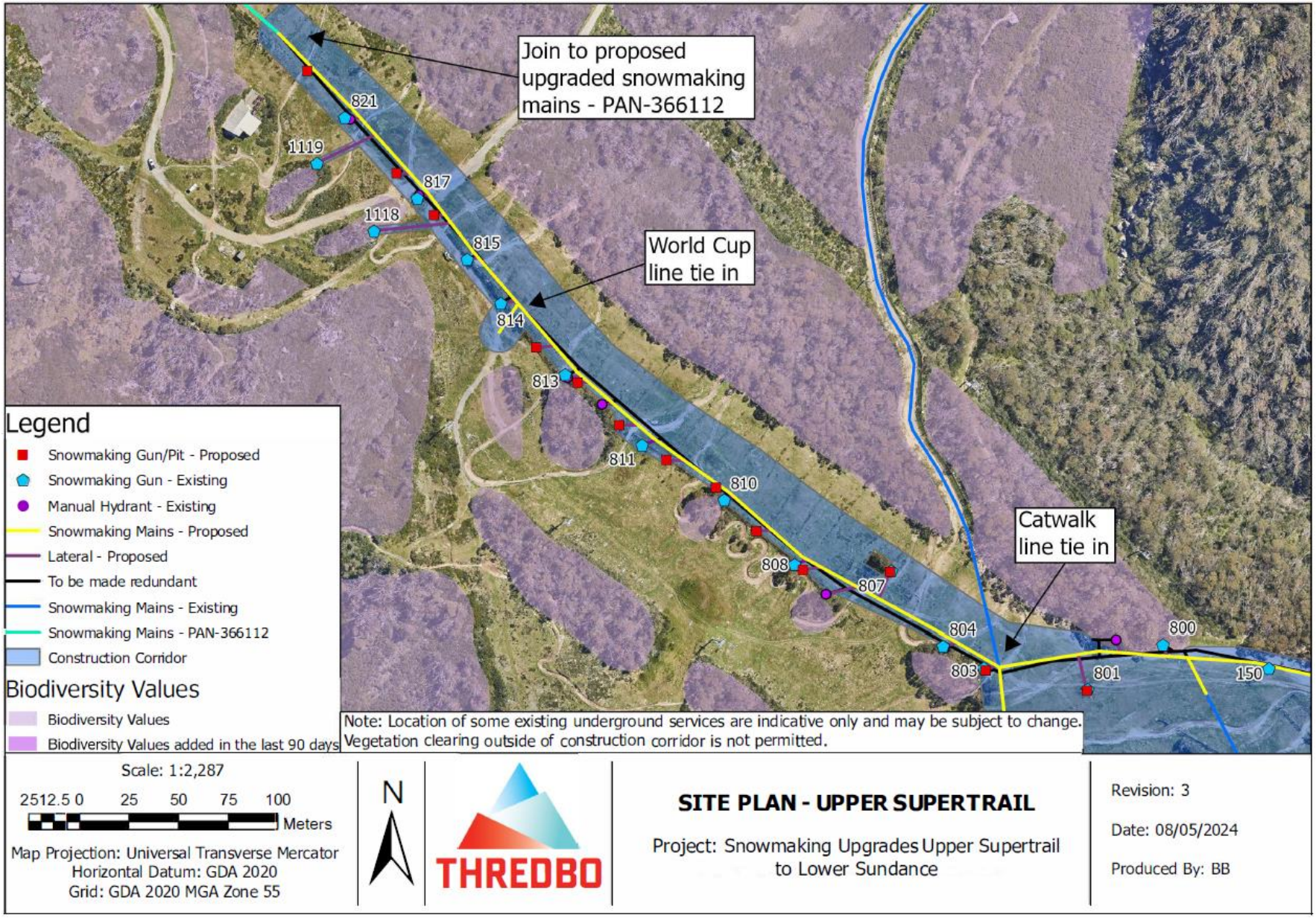

Figure 3: The proposal – Upper Supertrail

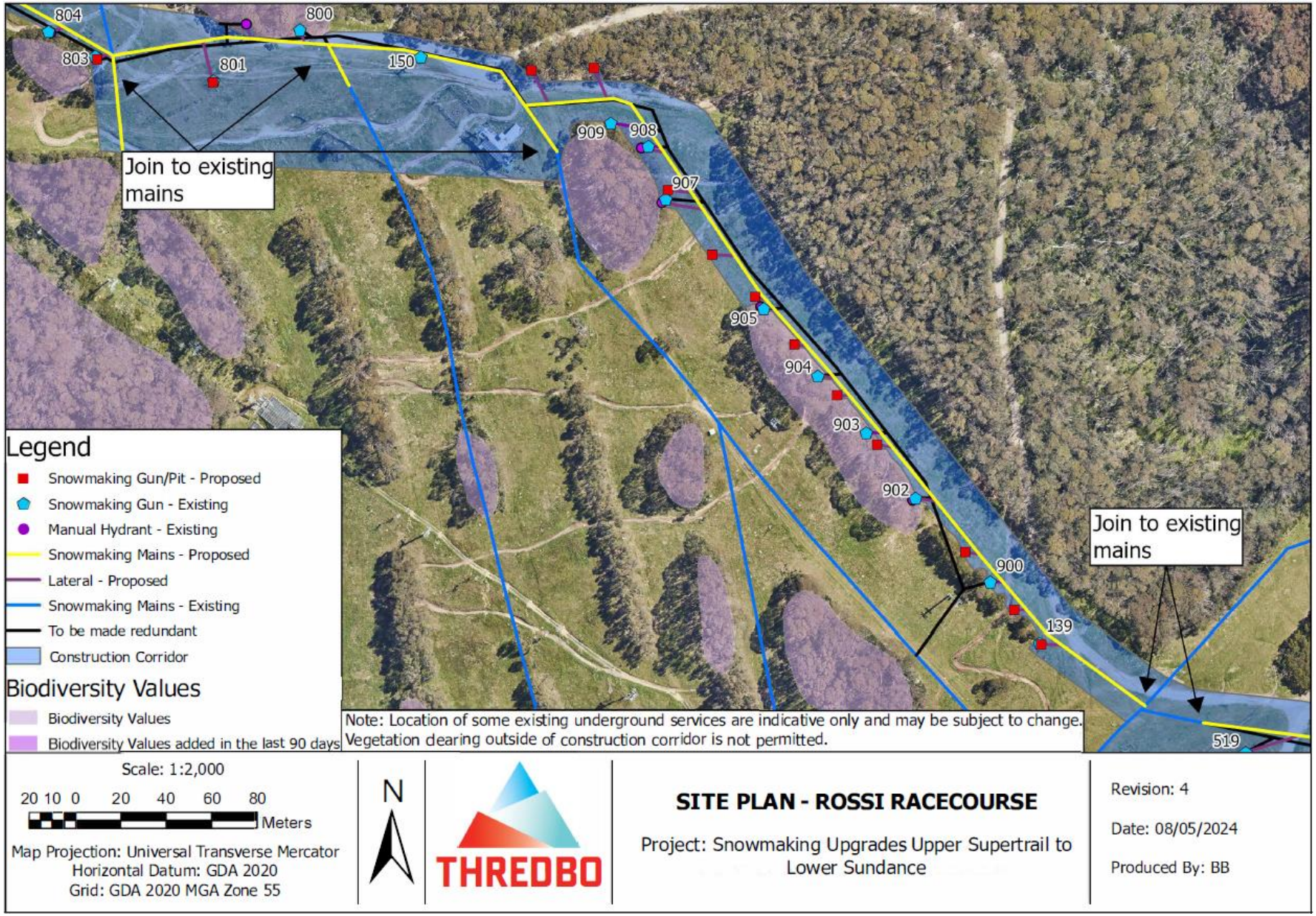

Figure 4: The proposal – Rossi Racecourse

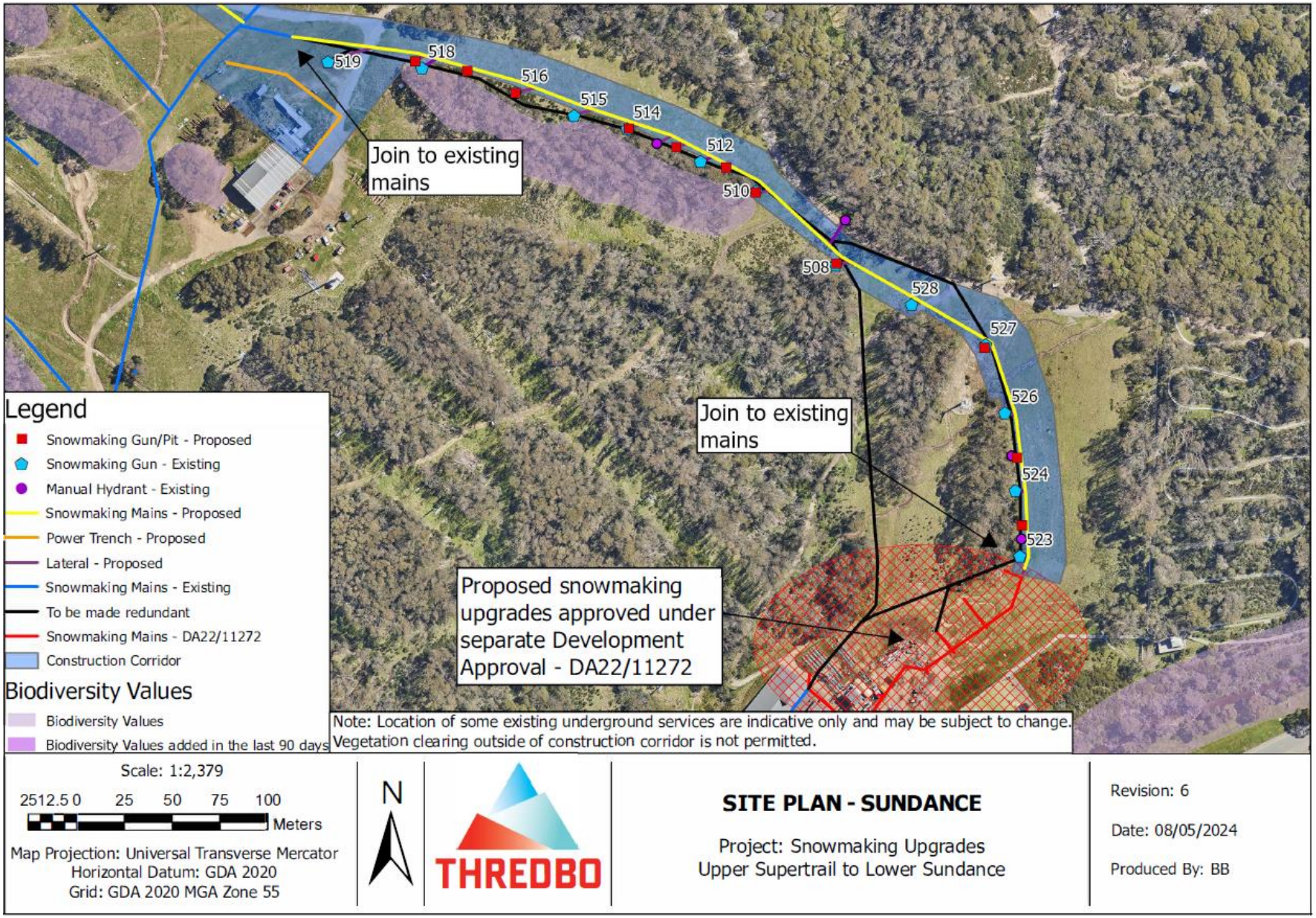

Figure 5: The proposal - Sundance

2. Landscape features

The site-based method was applied for this assessment. As such, the assessment area is the 1,500 m buffer surrounding the outside edge of the development footprint.

The landscape features considered for this assessment are presented in Table 2, Figure 1 and Figure 2.

Table 2: Landscape features

Landscape feature	Development Site	Assessment Area	Data source
IBRA Region(s)	South Eastern Highlands	South Eastern Highlands and Australian Alps	Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia, Version 7
IBRA subregion(s)	Monaro	Monaro and Snowy Mountains	Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia, Version 7
Rivers and streams	No	The Thredbo River and tributaries.	NSW LPI Waterway mapping
Estuaries and wetlands	No	No	NSW directory of important wetlands
Connectivity of different areas of habitat	The development site is connected to vast areas of native vegetation.	No	Aerial imagery
Geological features of significance and soil hazard features	No	The rock outcropping in the Assessment Area is very typical of the locality and not of any particular geological significance	Site observation
Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value	No	No	Register of Declared Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value (DPIE 2020)
NSW (Mitchell) Landscapes	Main Range Subalpine	-	NSW (Mitchell) Landscapes - version 3.1 (DPIE 2016)
Percent (%) native vegetation extent	92	There are no substantial differences between the mapped vegetation extent and the aerial imagery	Calculated using aerial imagery and ArcGIS software

3. Native Vegetation

3.1. Survey Effort

A vegetation plot that was undertaken in a tree island just to the south of the development site was used for this assessment. This vegetation plot was collected as part of the Kosciuszko Flow Trail Upgrades BDAR (ELA 2019). This plot was used to assess the composition, structure and function components of the vegetation zone within the development site in accordance with the BAM.

All field data collected at full-floristic and vegetation integrity plots is included in Appendix B and Appendix C.

Table 3: Full-floristic PCT identification plots

PCT ID	PCT Name	Number of plots surveyed
3381	Kosciuszko Alpine Sally Woodland	1

3.2. Native vegetation extent within the development site

There are no substantial differences between the extent of native vegetation within the development site as identified in recent aerial imagery and that identified during the vegetation survey.

3.3. Plant Community Types present

One PCT was identified within the development site as shown in Table 3. Further detail with respect to the PCT identified within the development site is presented in Table 4, and its distribution identified in Figures 6-9.

Table 4: Plant Community Types

PCT ID	PCT Name	Vegetation Class	Vegetation Formation	Area within the development site (ha)	Percent cleared
3381	Kosciuszko Alpine Sally Woodland	Subalpine Woodlands	Grassy Woodland	0.02	5

3.3.1. Plant Community Type selection justification

In determining the PCTs for the development site, various attributes were considered in combination to assign vegetation to the best fit PCT. Attributes included dominant species in each stratum and relative abundance, community composition, soils and landscape position. Reference was made to the PCT descriptions in the BioNet Vegetation Classification. There are only a small number of PCTs in the montane and sub-alpine so no other potential PCT options were considered appropriate, as shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Potential PCTs

Selected PCT ID	PCT Name	Other PCT options
3381	Kosciuszko Alpine Sally Woodland	-

3.4. Threatened Ecological Communities

PCT 3381 does not comprise any TEC which is listed on the BC Act or EPBC Act, as identified in Table 6.

Table 6: Threatened Ecological Communities

PCT ID	BC Act			EPBC Act		
	Listing status	Name	Area (ha)	Listing status	Name	Area (ha)
3381	Not listed	-	-	Not listed	-	-

3.5. Vegetation integrity assessment

3.5.1. Vegetation zones

One vegetation zone was identified within the development site based on the broad condition state of PCT 3381. A total of one vegetation integrity survey plot was collected, which is consistent with the BAM (Table 7). A description of the vegetation zone within the development site is provided in Table 8.

3.5.2. Patch size

Patch size was calculated using available vegetation mapping for all patches of intact native vegetation on and adjoining the development site. Patch size was assigned to one of four classes (<5 ha, 5-24 ha, 25-100 ha or ≥100 ha). A patch size ≥100 ha was determined for the development site.

3.5.3. Assessing vegetation integrity

A vegetation integrity assessment using the BAM Calculator (BAMC) was undertaken and the results are outlined in Table 9.

Table 7: Vegetation zones and vegetation integrity survey plots collected adjacent to the development site

Vegetation Zone	PCT ID	PCT Name	Condition	Area (ha)	Patch Size	Vegetation Integrity Survey Plots required	Vegetation Integrity Survey Plots collected
1	3381	Kosciuszko Alpine Sally Woodland	Good	0.02	101	1	1
			Total	0.02	101	1	1

Table 8: Zone 1 PCT 3381 Good Condition

3381 Kosciuszko Alpine Sally Woodland			
Vegetation formation	Grassy Woodlands		
Vegetation Class	Subalpine Woodlands		
Conservation status	Widespread and well conserved. Not listed as a TEC on the BC Act or EPBC Act		
Description	This community is common in the locality and generally in good condition.		
Characteristic canopy trees	*Eucalyptus niphophila*, *Eucalyptus pauciflora*		
Characteristic mid-storey	*Prostanthera cuneata, Nematolepis ovatifolia, Ozothamnus secundiflorus, Olearia phlogopappa, Oxylobium ellipticum.*		
Characteristic groundcovers	*Acaena sp, Asperula gunni , Carex breviculmis, Lycopodium fastigiatum, Pimelea alpina, Poa fawcettiae, Poa ensiformis, Polystichum proliferum, Senecio gunnii.*		
Mean native richness	25		
Exotic species / HTW cover	*Acetosella vulgaris, Agrostis capillaris*		
Condition	Good		
Variation and disturbance	PCT 3381 is in good condition within the zone.		
No. sites sampled	1		
Threatened flora species	-		
Fauna habitats	Broad-toothed Rat and Flame Robin.		
Composition	**Structure**	**Function**	**Vegetation Integrity Score**
77.5	80	74.7	77.4

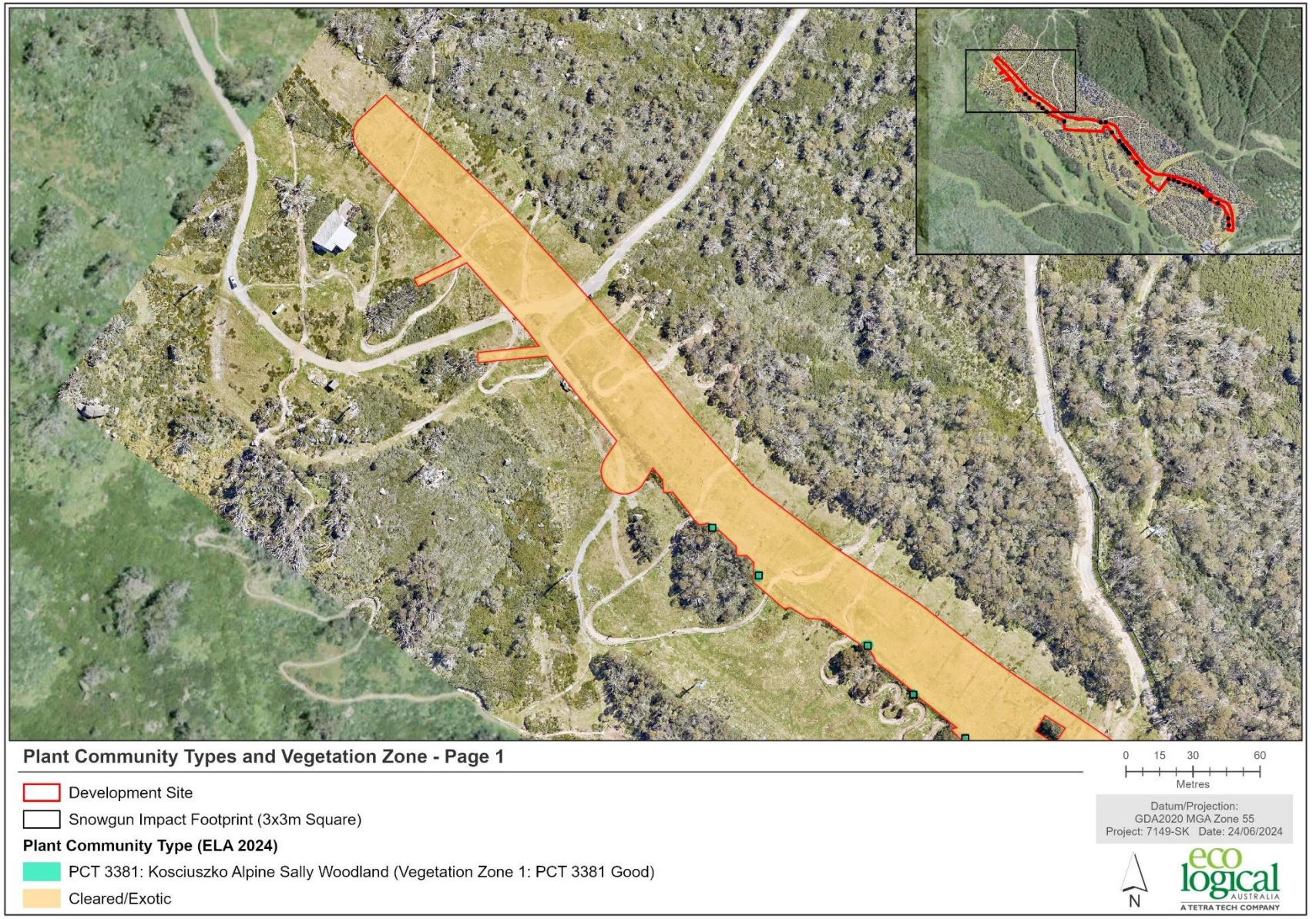

Figure 6: Plant Community Types and Vegetations Zones within the development site – Page 1

Figure 7: Plant Community Types and Vegetations Zones within the development site – Page 2

Figure 8: Plant Community Types and Vegetations Zones within the development site – Page 3

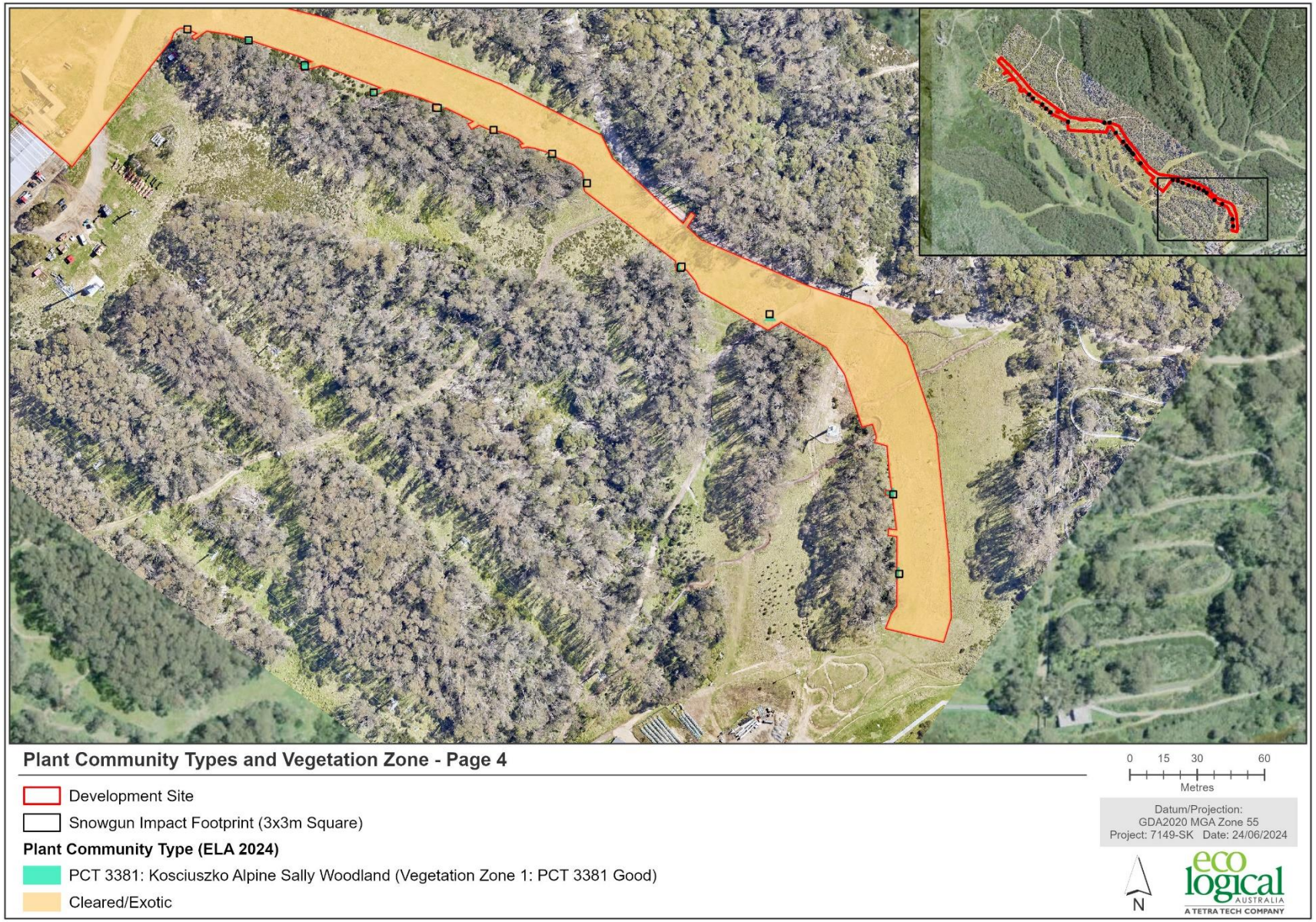

Figure 9: Plant Community Types and Vegetations Zones within the development site – Page 4

Table 9: Vegetation integrity scores

Veg Zone	PCT ID	Condition	Area (ha)	Composition Condition Score	Structure Condition Score	Function Condition Score	Presence of Hollow bearing trees	Current vegetation integrity score
1	3381	Good	0.02	77.5	80	74.7	No	77.4

3.6. Use of local data

Use of local data instead of benchmark integrity scores is not proposed.

4. Threatened species

4.1. Ecosystem credit species

Ecosystem credit species predicted to occur within the development site are generated by the BAMC following the input of VI data and the PCTs identified within Chapter 3. Ecosystem credit species predicted to occur at the development site, their associated habitat constraints, geographic limitations and sensitivity to gain class are included in Table 10.

4.2. Species credit species

4.2.1. Identification of species credit species

Species credit species that require further assessment within the development site (i.e. candidate species), their associated habitat constraints, geographic limitations and sensitivity to gain class are included in Table 11.

Table 10: Predicted ecosystem credit species

Species	Common Name	Habitat Constraints	Geographic limitations	Sensitivity to gain class	NSW listing status	EPBC Listing status
Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus	Dusky Woodswallow	-	-	Moderate	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Callocephalon fimbriatum (foraging)	Gang-gang Cockatoo	-	-	Moderate	Vulnerable	Endangered
Chthonicola sagittata	Speckled Warbler	-	-	High	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Circus assimilis	Spotted Harrier	-	-	Moderate	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Climacteris picumnus victoriae	Brown Treecreeper (eastern subspecies)	-	-	High	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Daphoenositta chrysoptera	Varied Sittella	-	-	Moderate	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Dasyurus maculatus	Spotted-tailed Quoll	-	-	High	Vulnerable	Endangered
Falco subniger	Black Falcon	-	-	Moderate	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Falsistrellus tasmaniensis	Eastern False Pipistrelle	-	-	High	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Haliaeetus leucogaster (Foraging)	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	N/A Waterbodies Within 1km of a rivers, lakes, large dams or creeks, wetlands and coastlines	-	High	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Hieraaetus morphnoides (Foraging)	Little Eagle	-	-	Moderate	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Hirundapus caudacutus	White-throated Needletail	-	-	High	Not Listed	Vulnerable
Lophoictinia isura (Foraging)	Square-tailed Kite	-	-	Moderate	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Melanodryas cucullata cucullata	South-eastern Hooded Robin	-	-	Moderate	Endangered	Endangered

Species	Common Name	Habitat Constraints	Geographic limitations	Sensitivity to gain class	NSW listing status	EPBC Listing status
Pachycephala olivacea	Olive Whistler	-	-	Moderate	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Petroica boodang	Scarlet Robin	-	-	Moderate	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Petroica phoenicea	Flame Robin	-	-	Moderate	Vulnerable	Not Listed

Table 11: Candidate species credit species

Species	Common Name	Habitat Constraints	Geographic limitations	Sensitivity to gain class	NSW listing status	EPBC Listing status
Cercartetus nanus	Eastern Pygmy-possum	-	-	High	Vulnerable	Not Listed
Litoria spenceri	Spotted Tree Frog	Waterbodies River environments with rocky habitat or with 500m of rocky river	-	Very High	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered
Mastacomys fuscus	Broad-toothed Rat	-	-	High	Endangered	Endangered
Pseudomys fumeus	Smoky Mouse	-	-	High	Critically Endangered	Endangered
Pseudophryne corroboree	Southern Corroboree Frog	NA/Swamps Within 200 m of high montane and sub-alpine bog or ephemeral pool environments	above 1000 m asl	Very High	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered
Pseudophryne pengilleyi	Northern Corroboree Frog	-	above 700 m asl	Moderate	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered

4.2.2. Assessment of habitat constraints and vagrant species

Justification for the exclusion of candidate species credit species is provided in Table 12.

Table 12: Justification for exclusion of candidate species credit species

Species	Common Name	NSW listing status	EPBC Listing status	Sensitivity to gain class	Justification for exclusion of species
Litoria spenceri	Spotted Tree Frog	Critically Endangered	Endangered	Very High	The species is known only from two locations in NSW on the western side of the Great Dividing Range where it is restricted to fast flowing upland streams and rivers.
Pseudomys fumeus	Smoky Mouse	Critically Endangered	Endangered	High	The nearest records of the Smoky Mouse are old records are more than 15 km to the south of the development site at lower elevations. It is considered highly unlikely that it would occur within the development site and it was not detected there opportunistically.
Pseudophryne corroboree	Southern Corroboree Frog	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered	Very High	The Southern Corroboree Frog is limited to sphagnum bogs of the northern Snowy Mountains, in a strip from the Maragle Range in the northwest, through Mt Jagungal to Smiggin Holes in the south. Its range is entirely within Kosciuszko National Park. This species is all but extinct in the wild. It is no longer present at its former southern limit at Smiggin

Species	Common Name	NSW listing status	EPBC Listing status	Sensitivity to gain class	Justification for exclusion of species
					Holes. It is considered highly unlikely that it would occur within the development site and it was not detected there opportunistically.
Pseudophryne pengilleyi	Northern Corroboree Frog	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered	Moderate	The Northern Corroboree Frog does not occur within the locality, being limited to the northern parts of the Snowy Mountains and Brindabella Range.

4.2.3. Candidate species requiring further assessment

One species credit species required further assessment following site survey to assess the condition of the development site and the presence of microhabitats: *Mastacomys fuscus* (Broad-toothed Rat).

4.3. Targeted surveys

The streamlined assessment method only requires targeted surveys for candidate SAII species. The development site does not meet the habitat constraints of any of the candidate species credit species that are candidate SAII species. Two species credit species, the Broad-toothed Rat, which is well know from similar habitats within the Thredbo Resort area, and *Cercartetus nanus* (Eastern Pygmy-possum) were added as candidate species, as shown in Table 13.

Table 13: Species credit species included in the assessment

Species	Common Name	Species presence	Geographic limitations	Habitat (ha) / count	Biodiversity Risk Weighting
Mastacomys fuscus	Broad-toothed Rat	Yes	-	0.02	2
Cercartetus nanus	Eastern Pygmy-possum	Assumed	-	0.02	2

4.3.1. Species credit species included in the assessment

Two species credit species, the Broad-toothed Rat and Eastern Pygmy-possum, have been included in the assessment as the proposed development will impact on habitat for these species. A species polygon for the Broad-toothed Rat and Eastern Pygmy-possum is included in Figures 10-13.

4.4. Identification of prescribed additional biodiversity impact entities

The proposed development does not include any prescribed additional biodiversity impact entities.

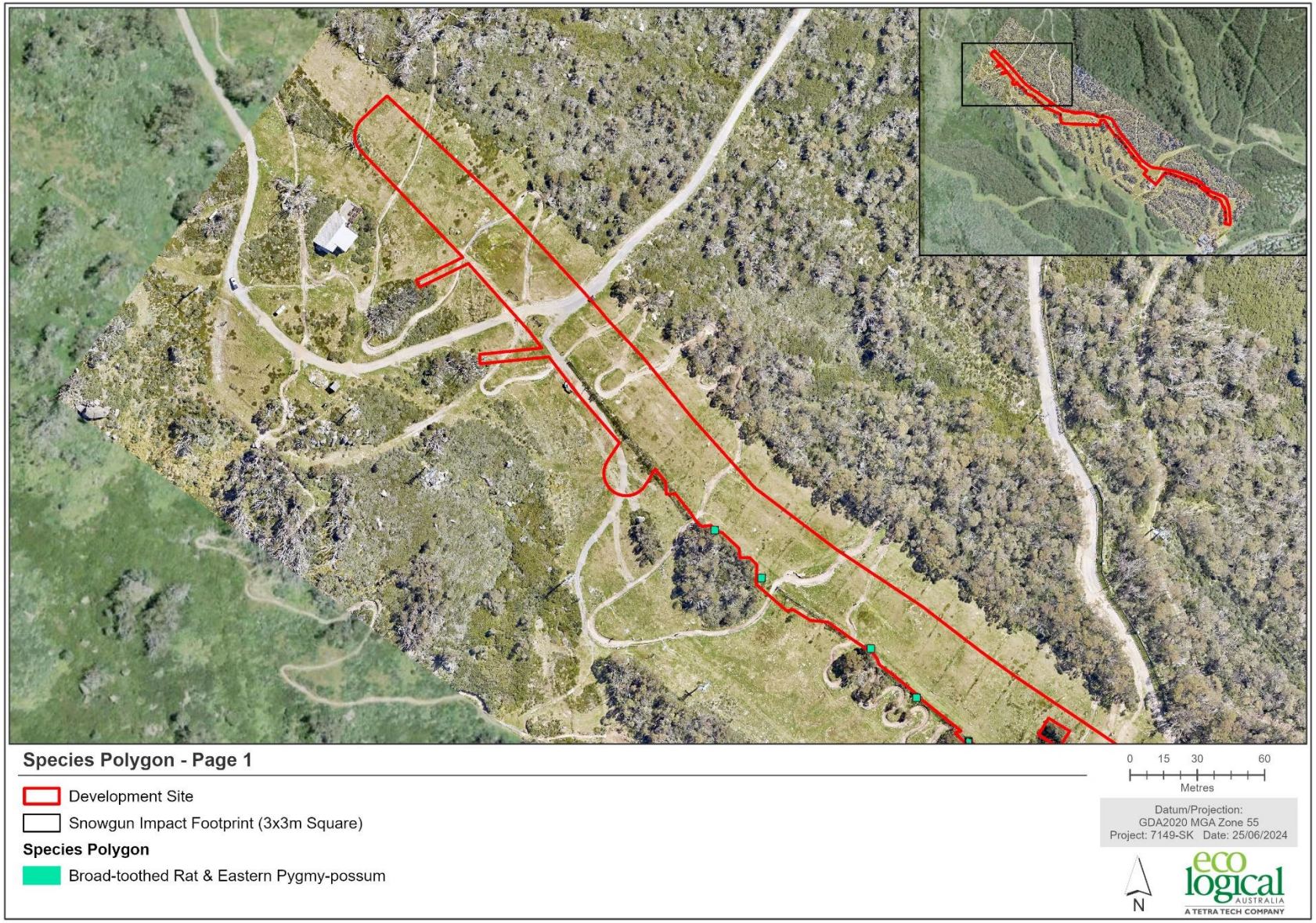

Figure 10: Species polygons -Page 1

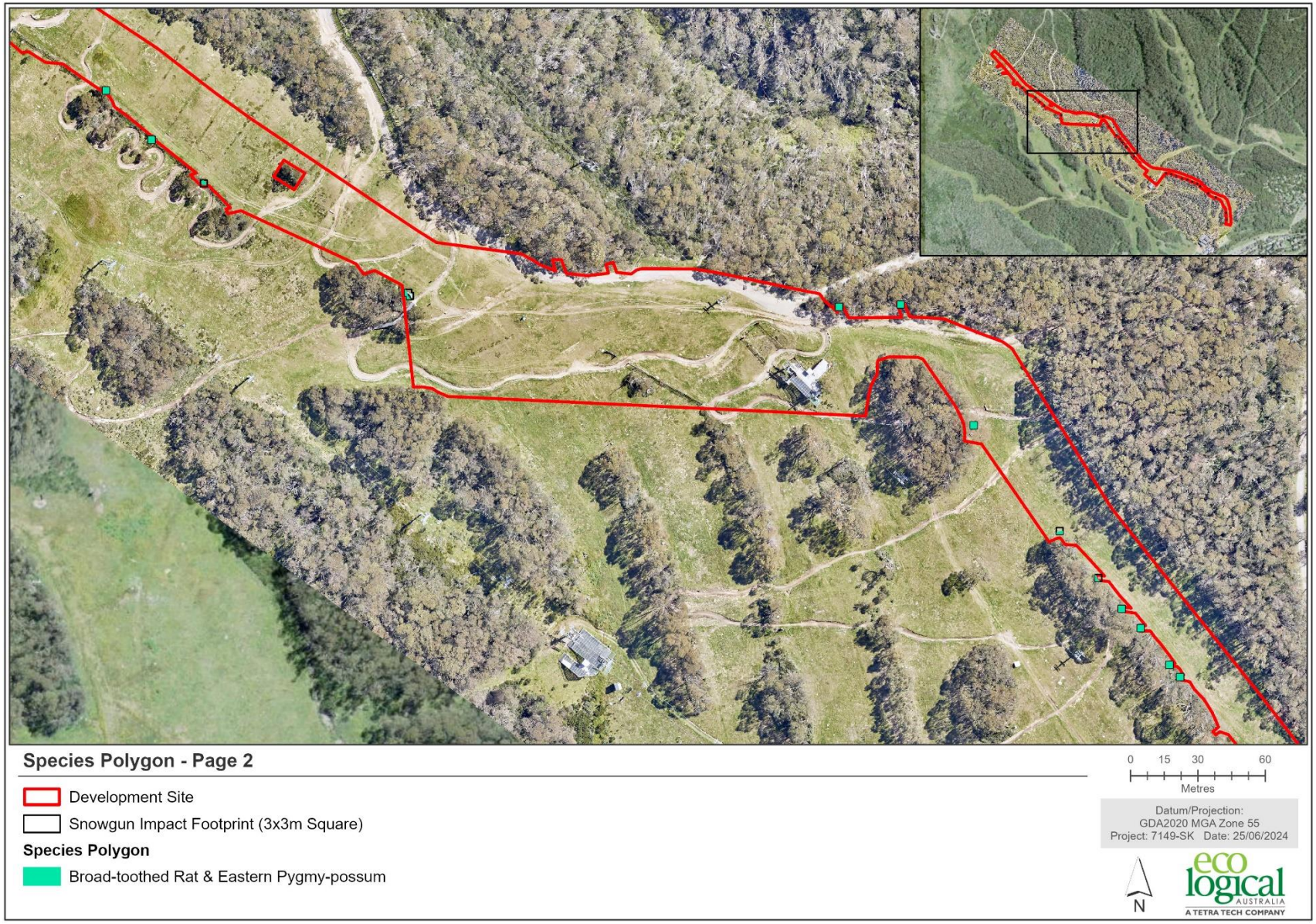

Figure 11: Species polygons -Page 2

Figure 12: Species polygons -Page 3

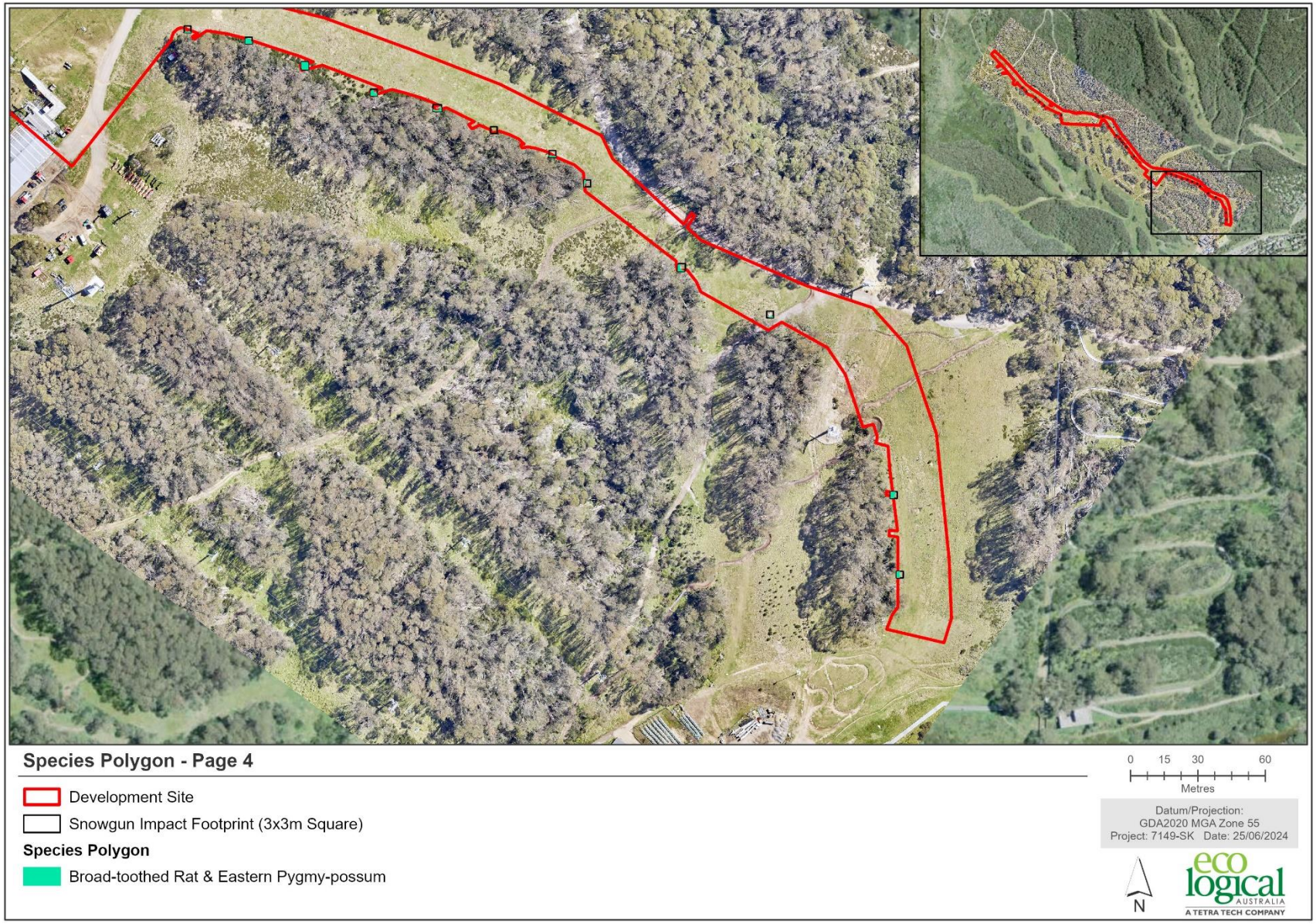

Figure 13: Species polygons -Page 4

5. Avoiding and Minimising Impacts on Biodiversity Values

5.1. Locating a project to avoid and minimise impacts on biodiversity values

5.1.1. Direct and indirect impacts

The proposal has been designed to avoid and minimise direct and indirect impacts. In particular, this has involved:

- Locating the proposed works predominately in disturbed areas.
- Minimising the disturbance footprint associated with construction.
- Using low impact construction methods.
- Undertaking post construction rehabilitation.

5.1.2. Prescribed biodiversity impacts

The proposal does not involve any prescribed biodiversity impacts.

5.2. Designing a project to avoid and minimise impacts on biodiversity values

5.2.1. Direct and indirect impacts

The proposal has been designed to avoid and minimise direct and indirect impacts on biodiversity values as described in Section 5.1.1.

5.2.2. Prescribed biodiversity impacts

Prescribed biodiversity impacts have been avoided and minimised by incorporating the design features identified in Section 5.1.1.

6. Assessment of Impacts

6.1. Direct impacts

The direct impacts of the development on:

- Native vegetation are outlined in Table 14.
- Threatened species and threatened species habitat is outlined in Table 15.
- Prescribed biodiversity impacts is outlined in Section 6.4.

Table 14: Direct impacts to native vegetation

PCT ID	PCT Name	BC Act listing	EPBC Act listing	Direct impact (ha)
3381	Kosciuszko Alpine Sally Woodland	Not listed	Not Listed	0.02

Table 15: Direct impacts on threatened species and threatened species habitat

Species	Common Name	Direct impact number of individuals / habitat (ha)	BC Act listing status	EPBC Act Listing status
Mastacomys fuscus	Broad-toothed Rat	0.02	Endangered	Endangered
Cercartetus nanus	Eastern Pygmy-possum	0.02	Vulnerable	Not Listed

6.2. Change in vegetation integrity

The change in vegetation integrity as a result of the development is outlined in Table 16.

Table 16: Change in vegetation integrity

Veg Zone	PCT ID	Condition	Area (ha)	Current vegetation integrity score	Future vegetation integrity score	Change in vegetation integrity
1	3381	Good	0.02	77.4	0	-77.4

6.3. Indirect impacts

The indirect impacts of the development are outlined in Table 17. Given the nature of the proposed development, and the proposed mitigation measures, indirect impacts (in the form of increased light and wind penetration) are only anticipated to extend a maximum of 5 m into vegetation surrounding the proposed development site. Indirect impact zones are shown on Figure 14Figure 14.

6.4. Prescribed biodiversity impacts

The proposal does not involve any prescribed biodiversity impacts.

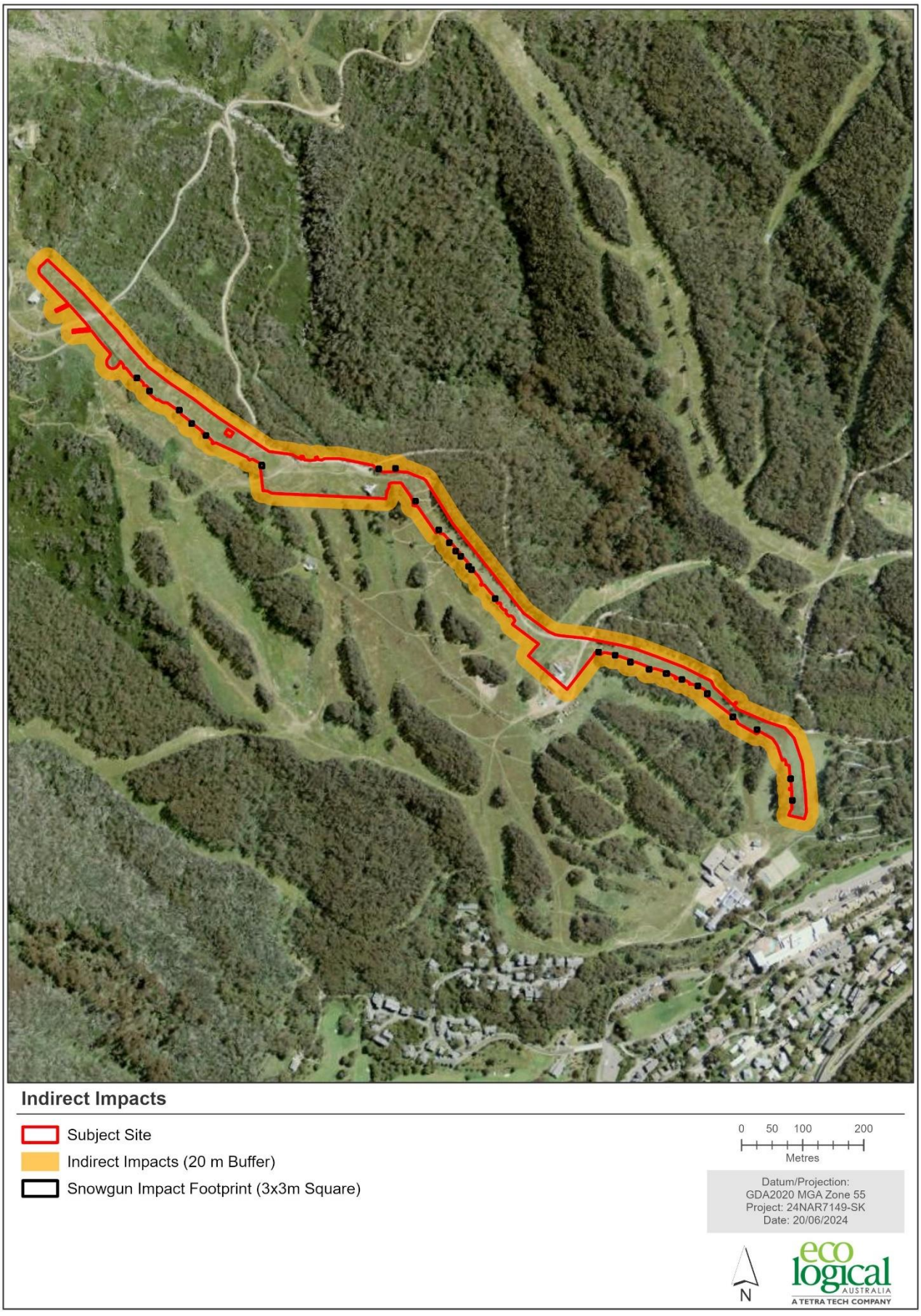

Figure 14: Indirect impact zones

Table 17: Indirect impacts

Indirect impact	Project phase	Nature	Extent	Frequency	Duration	Timing
Sedimentation and contaminated and/or nutrient rich run-off	Construction and post construction	Minor potential for sedimentation during and immediately post-construction. However, the proposed sediment control measures have been effective during the many other similar developments that have been undertaken within the alpine resorts in recent years.	Minor	During and after any heavy rainfall	12 month maximum	Intermittently during and post construction phase
Noise, dust or light spill	Construction	Minor during construction.	Minor	Intermittently during construction phase	During construction	Intermittently during construction phase
Inadvertent impacts on adjacent habitat or vegetation	Construction	Minor. The construction methods used at Thredbo have been effective at preventing impacts on adjacent vegetation during the many other similar developments that have been undertaken in recent years.	Minor	Not expected, but possible	During construction	Not expected
Transport of weeds and pathogens from the site to adjacent vegetation	Construction	Not expected. The development site includes and abuts areas that are already heavily modified and which support weeds which are common within the Thredbo Resort area and elsewhere within the NSW Alps. The proposal will include post construction rehabilitation and weed control.	Not expected	Not expected, but possible	Not expected	Not expected
Vehicle strike	Construction	Minor. It is considered unlikely that the proposal will include vehicle strike impacts. Any vehicles used during construction will be travelling at very slow speeds within the development site and the noise and vibration associated with vehicle movements is expected to deter any fauna within or adjoining the development site from the path of any vehicles.	Not expected	Not expected, but possible	During construction	Not expected
Trampling of threatened flora species	Construction	Minor. There are no threatened flora species within the development site.	Minor	Not expected	During construction	Not expected
Rubbish dumping	Construction	Not expected. Construction materials will be removed from the site regularly and no rubbish will be dumped or otherwise left to pollute the surrounding environment.	Not expected	Not expected	Not expected	Not expected
Wood collection	Construction	Not expected.	Not expected	Not expected	Not expected	Not expected

Indirect impact	Project phase	Nature	Extent	Frequency	Duration	Timing
Bush rock removal and disturbance	Construction	Minor. A relatively small amount of rock will be removed as part of the development. No additional indirect impacts are expected.	Minor	Intermittently during construction phase	During construction	Intermittently during construction phase
Increase in predatory species populations	Construction and post construction	Not expected. The proposed development occurs on the edge of an already disturbed area and will not increase the populations of predatory species such as foxes and cats.	Not expected	Not expected	Not expected	Not expected
Increase in pest animal populations	Construction and post construction	Not expected.	Not expected	Not expected	Not expected	Not expected
Increased risk of fire	Construction	Minor potential for increased risk of fire during construction.	Minor	Intermittently during construction phase	During construction	Intermittently during construction phase
Disturbance to specialist breeding and foraging habitat, e.g. beach nesting for shorebirds	Construction and post construction	Not expected as none as none are known to be present.	Not expected	Not expected	Not expected	Not expected

6.5. Mitigating and managing direct and indirect impacts

Measures proposed to mitigate and manage impacts at the development site before, during and after construction are outlined in Table 18.

6.6. Mitigating prescribed impacts

The development does not have any prescribed biodiversity impacts.

6.7. Adaptive management strategy

This section is required for those impacts that are infrequent, cumulative or difficult to predict. Impacts associated with the proposed development have been considered extensively and addressed in Section 5 and Section 6. Further consideration of infrequent, cumulative or difficult to predict impacts is not considered to be necessary.

Table 18: Measures proposed to mitigate and manage impacts

Measure	Risk before mitigation	Risk after mitigation	Action	Outcome	Timing	Responsibility
Displacement of resident fauna	Medium	Low	NPWS should be contacted if any animals are disturbed or injured during the proposed works.	Direct impacts on resident fauna will be reduced	During construction	Thredbo
Timing works to avoid critical life cycle events such as breeding or nursing	Low	Low	None proposed.	NA	NA	NA
Instigating clearing protocols including pre-clearing surveys, daily surveys and staged clearing, the presence of a trained ecologist or licensed wildlife handler during clearing events	Low	Low	None proposed.	NA	NA	NA
Clearing protocols that identify vegetation to be retained, prevent inadvertent damage and reduce soil disturbance; for example, removal of native vegetation by chainsaw, rather than heavy machinery, is preferable in situations where partial clearing is proposed	Medium	Low	Identify with flagging tape the limits of clearing for the proposed works prior to construction	Risk of disturbance beyond proposed disturbance footprint is reduced	Prior to construction	Thredbo
Sediment barriers or sedimentation ponds to control the quality of water released from the site into the receiving environment	Medium	Low	Sediment control measures as necessary such as fencing and hay bales	Risk of sedimentation of water quality impacts substantially reduced	During and post-construction	Thredbo
Noise barriers or daily/seasonal timing of construction and operational activities to reduce impacts of noise	Low	Low	Restrict work to daylight hours	Noise impacts mitigated	During construction	Thredbo
Light shields or daily/seasonal timing of construction and operational activities to reduce impacts of light spill	Low	Low	Restrict work to daylight hours	Light impacts mitigated	During construction	Thredbo
Adaptive dust monitoring programs to control air quality	Low	Low	None proposed	NA	NA	NA
Programming construction activities to avoid impacts; for example, timing construction activities for when migratory species are absent from the site, or when particular species known	Low	Low	None proposed	NA	NA	NA

Measure	Risk before mitigation	Risk after mitigation	Action	Outcome	Timing	Responsibility
to or likely to use the habitat on the site are not breeding or nesting						
Temporary fencing to protect significant environmental features such as riparian zones	Low	Low	Identify with flagging tape the limits of clearing for the proposed works prior to construction	Protection of vegetation and habitats beyond the disturbance footprint	Prior to and during construction	Thredbo
Hygiene protocols to prevent the spread of weeds or pathogens between infected areas and uninfected areas	Medium	Low	Any machinery or vehicles involved with the proposed works that are not owned by Thredbo will be washed down to remove all soil and vegetative matter before entering the site to limit spread of weeds and disease such as *Phytophthora cinnamomi*	Risk of weed or pathogen spread substantially reduced	Prior to and during construction	Thredbo
Staff training and site briefing to communicate environmental features to be protected and measures to be implemented	Medium	Low	Brief all workers as to limit of disturbance footprint and other environmental safeguards	Risk of disturbance beyond proposed disturbance corridor is reduced	Prior to and during construction as necessary	Thredbo
Making provision for the ecological restoration, rehabilitation and/or ongoing maintenance of retained native vegetation habitat on or adjacent to the development footprint	Medium	Low	Post construction rehabilitation consistent with standard Thredbo rehabilitation strategies	Post construction vegetation within the development footprint with high medium-term recovery potential	Immediately post construction	Thredbo
Monitoring	Low	Low	None proposed	NA	NA	NA

7. Impact summary

Following implementation of the BAM and the BAMC, the following impacts have been determined.

7.1. Serious and Irreversible Impacts (SAII)

The development does not have any Serious and Irreversible Impacts (SAII).

7.2. Impacts requiring offsets

The impacts of the development requiring offset for native vegetation are outlined in Table 19 and shown on Figures 15-18. The impacts of the development requiring offset for species credit species and their habitats are outlined in Table 20 and on Figures 15-18.

Table 19: Impacts to native vegetation that require offsets

Vegetation Zone	PCT ID	PCT Name	Vegetation Class	Vegetation Formation	Direct impact (ha)
1	3381	Kosciuszko Alpine Sally Woodland	Subalpine Woodlands	Grassy Woodlands	0.02

Table 20: Impacts on threatened species and threatened species habitat that require offsets

Species	Common Name	Direct impact number of individuals / habitat (ha)	BC Act listing status	EPBC Act Listing status
Mastacomys fuscus	Broad-toothed Rat	0.02	Endangered	Endangered
Cercartetus nanus	Eastern Pygmy-possum	0.02	Vulnerable	Not Listed

7.3. Impacts not requiring offsets

All the impacts of the development on native vegetation and on the Broad-toothed Rat and Eastern Pygmy-possum require offsets. The impacts of the proposed development on non-native vegetation do not require offsets, as shown in Figures 19-22.

7.4. Areas not requiring assessment

Those parts of the proposed development footprint that will not impact native vegetation as they are located within existing ski slopes and other highly disturbed areas do not require assessment.

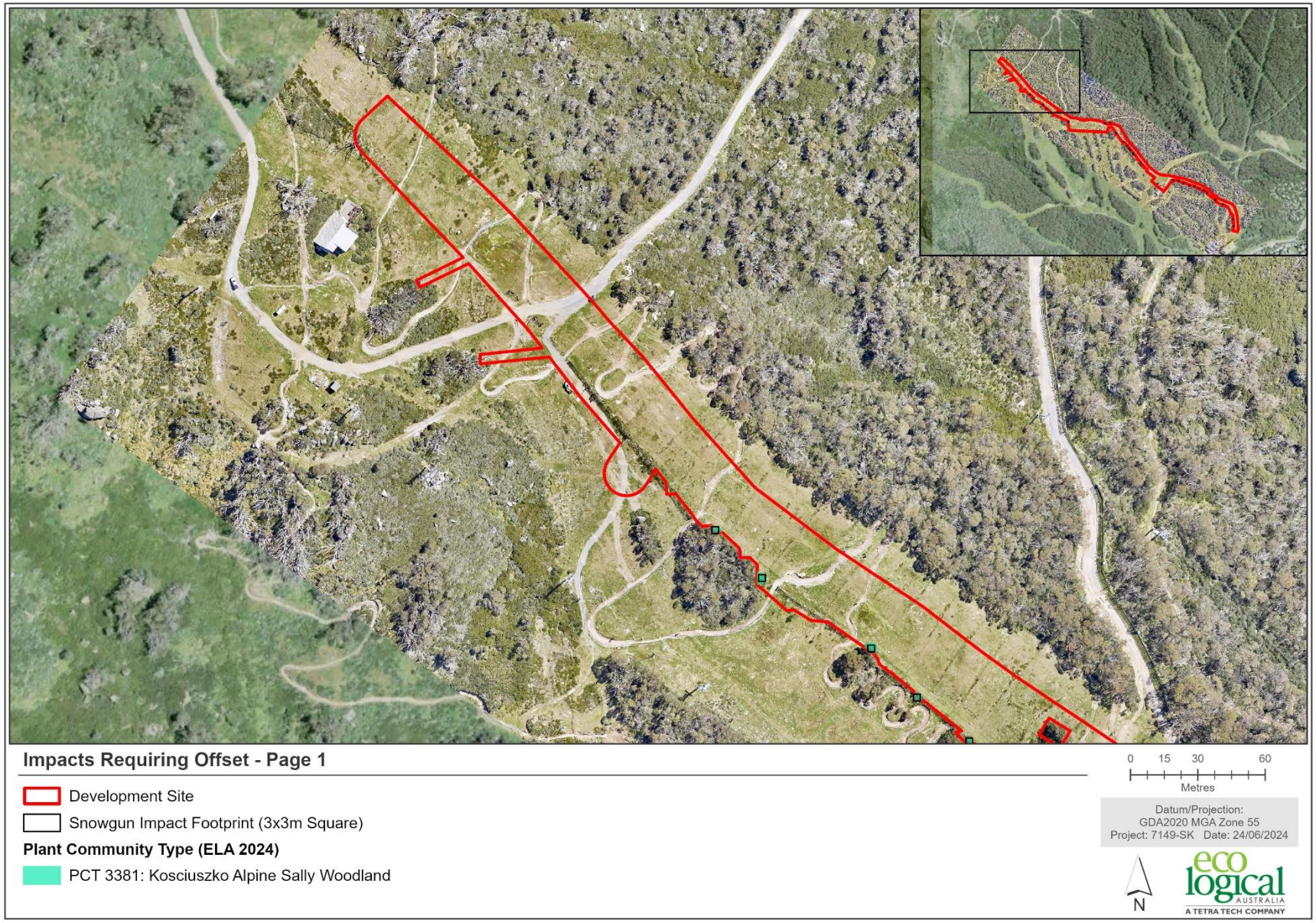

Figure 15: Impacts requiring offset – Page 1

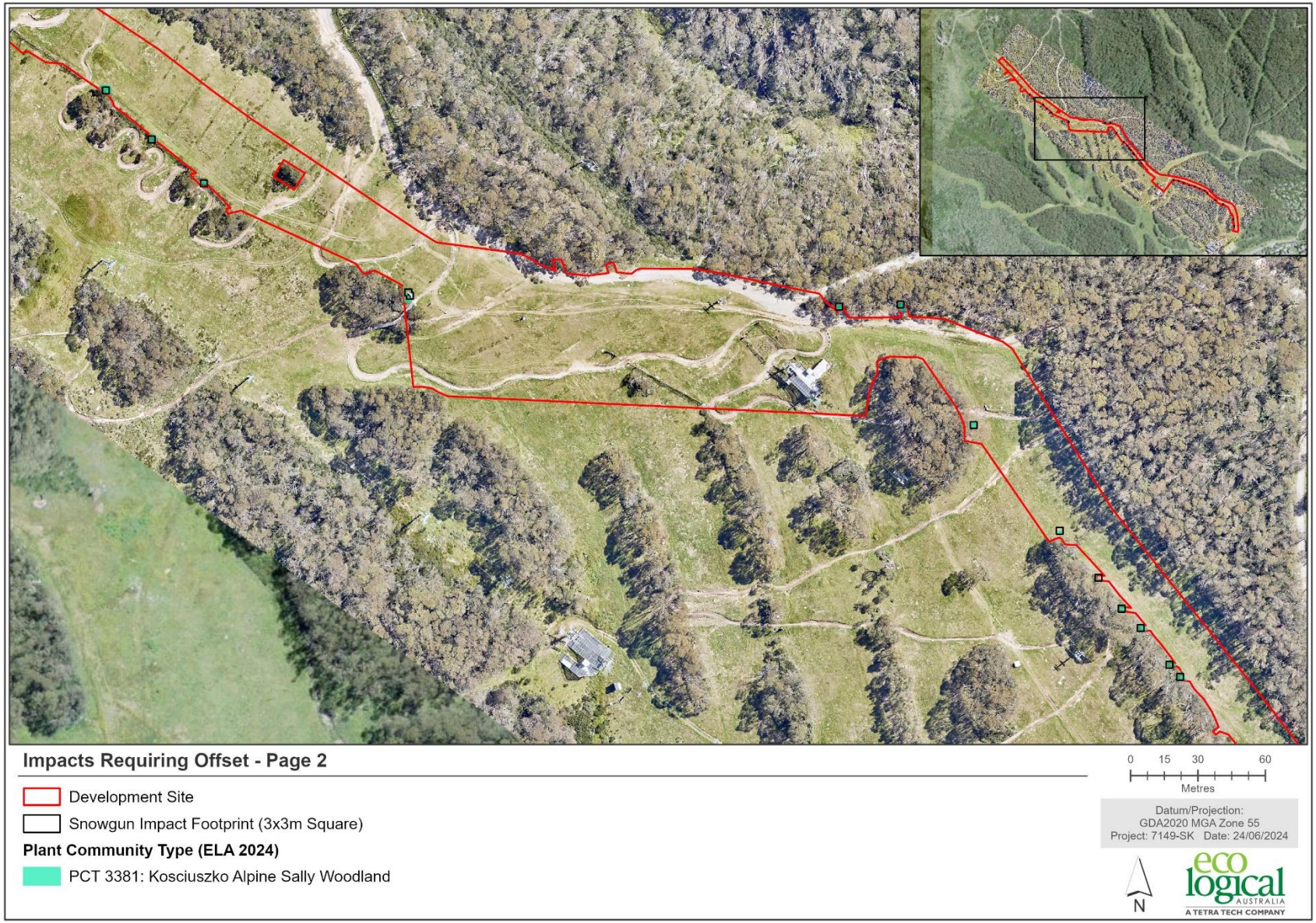

Figure 16: Impacts requiring offset – Page 2

Figure 17: Impacts requiring offset – Page 3

Figure 18: Impacts requiring offset – Page 4

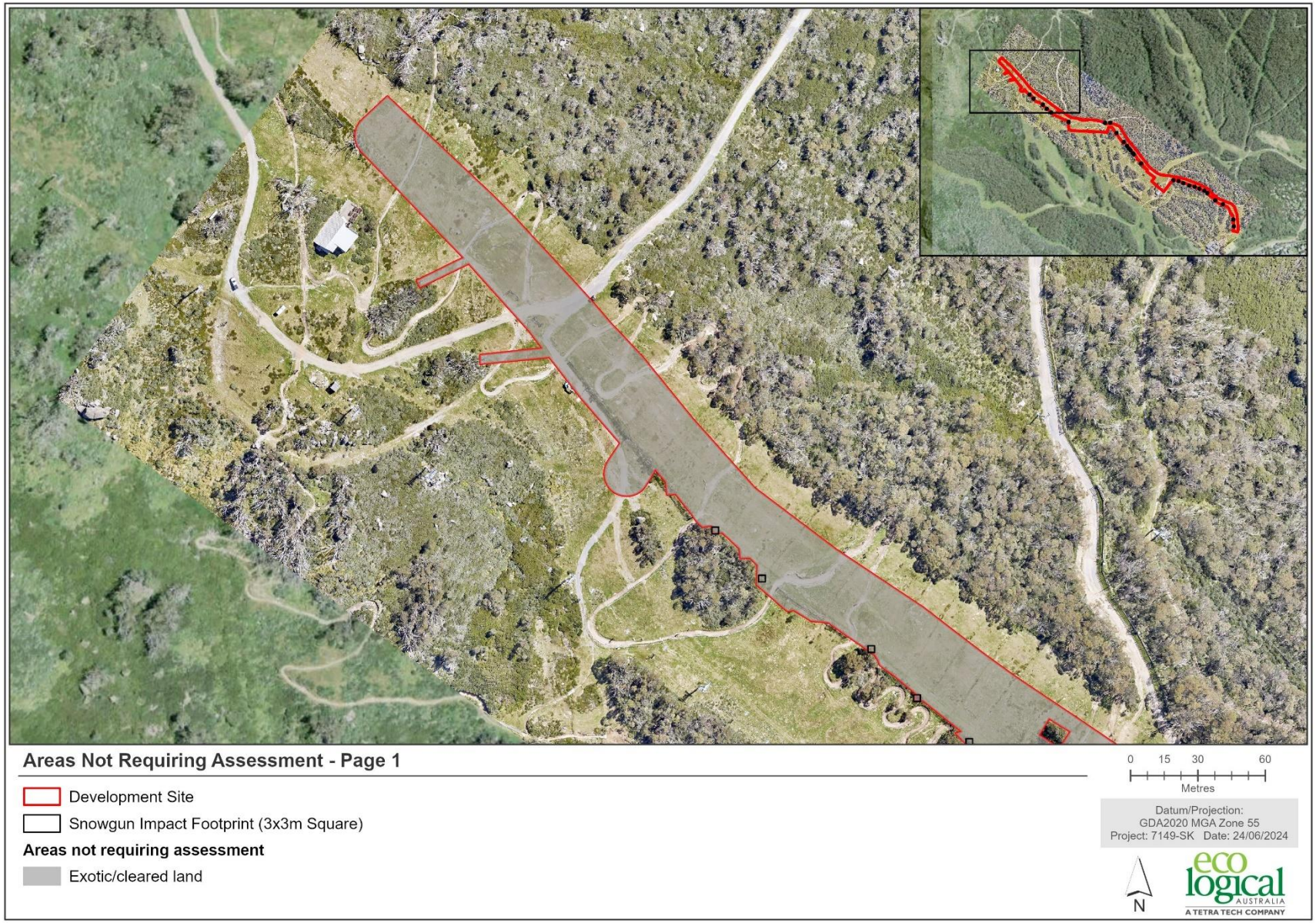

Figure 19: Areas not requiring assessment – Page 1

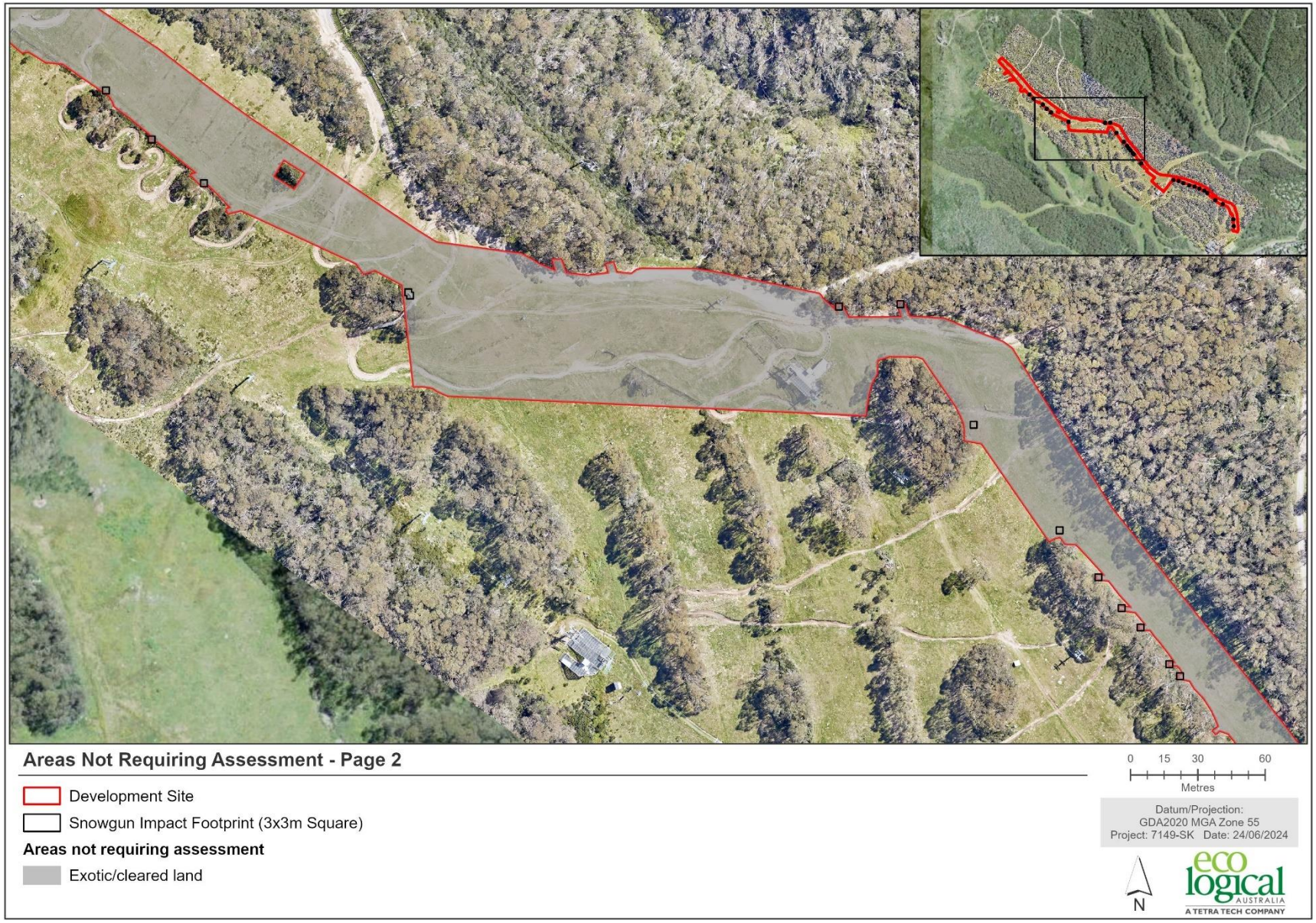

Figure 20: Areas not requiring assessment – Page 2

Figure 21: Areas not requiring assessment – Page 3

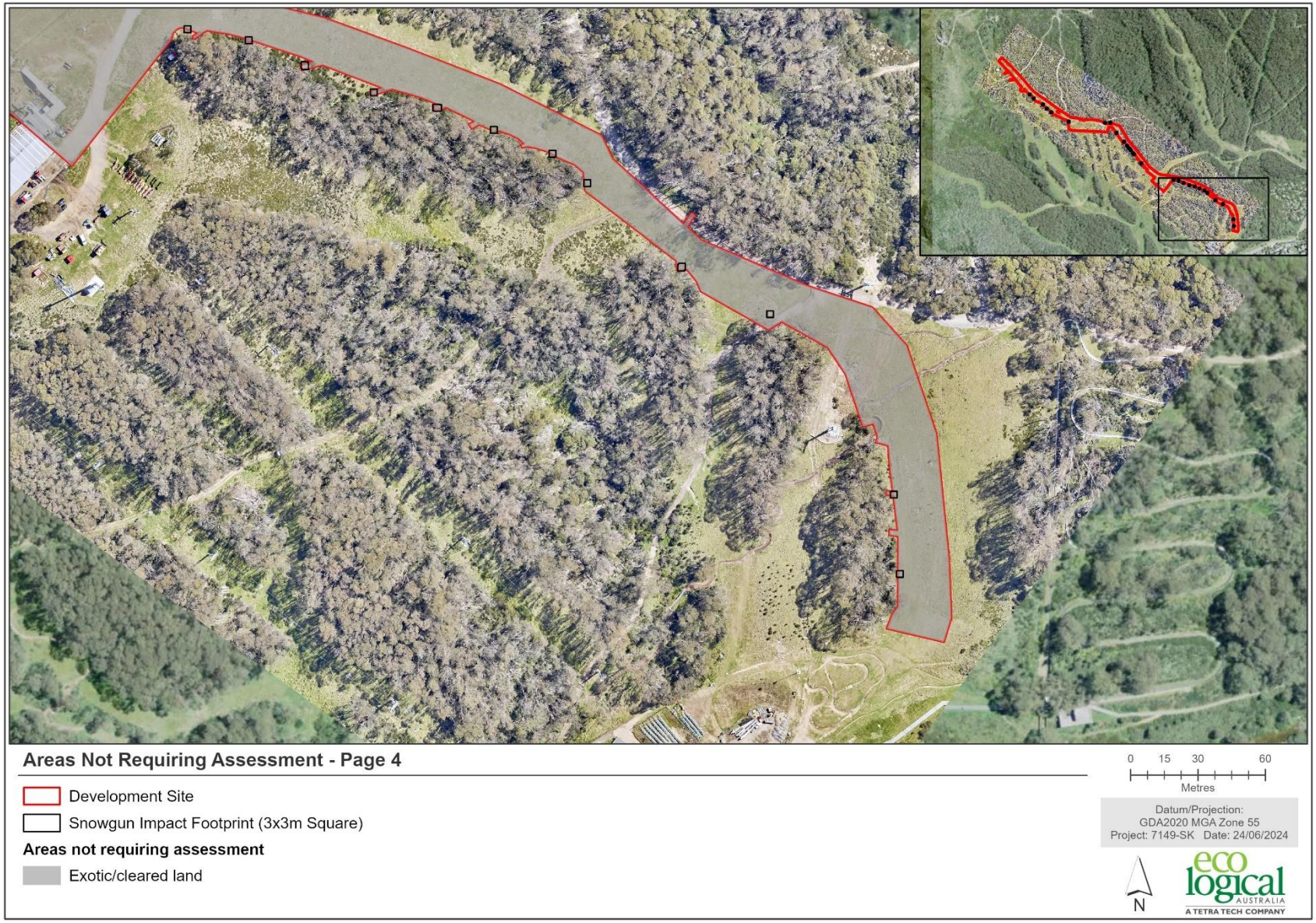

Figure 22: Areas not requiring assessment – Page 4

7.5. Credit summary

The number of ecosystem credits required for the development are outlined in Table 21.

The number of species credits required for the development are outlined in Table 22.

A biodiversity credit report is included in Appendix F.

Table 21: Ecosystem credits required

Vegetation Zone	PCT ID	PCT Name	Condition	Credit Class	Direct impact (ha)	Credits required
1	3381	Kosciuszko Alpine Sally Woodland	Good	Grassy Woodlands	0.02	1

Table 22: Species credit summary

Species	Common Name	Direct impact number of individuals / habitat (ha)	Credits required
Mastacomys fuscus	Broad-toothed Rat	0.02	1
Cercartetus nanus	Eastern Pygmy-possum	0.02	1

8. Consistency with legislation and policy

8.1. Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*

An impact assessment under the EPBC Act was undertaken on MNES known to occur within the development footprint or immediate surrounds or with potential to occur there. These MNES were:

- Broad-toothed Rat

The outcome of this assessment was that it is highly unlikely that the development would significantly impact on the Broad-toothed Rat (Appendix D).

A referral to the Commonwealth under the EPBC Act is not recommended.

9. Recommendations

To further ameliorate the potential impacts of the proposed development and to improve environmental outcomes, the following recommendations for impact mitigation and amelioration are suggested as modifications to the proposal and/or as conditions of consent.

- The mitigation measures identified in Table 18 should be incorporated into the proposal.

10. Conclusion

Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd was engaged by Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd to prepare a BDAR for the proposed snowmaking fan gun installation on the Upper Supertrail to Lower Sundance ski runs, within Thredbo Alpine Resort.

This report has been prepared to meet the requirements of the BAM 2020 established under Section 6.7 of the BC Act.

This BDAR outlines the measures taken to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts to the vegetation and habitats present within the development footprint during the design, construction and operation of the development. The residual unavoidable impacts of the proposed development were calculated in accordance with the BAM by utilising the BAMC. The BAMC calculated that a total of one ecosystem credit and two species credits are required to offset the unavoidable impacts to the vegetation and fauna habitats present within the development footprint.

SAII values have been considered as part of this assessment. The proposal will not result in any SAII.

Following consideration of the administrative guidelines for determining significance under the EPBC Act, it is concluded that the proposal is unlikely to have a significant impact on MNES or Commonwealth land, and a referral to the Commonwealth Environment Minister is therefore not recommended.

11. References

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Appendix A - Definitions

The following terminology has been used throughout this report for the purposes of describing the impacts of the proposal in the context of a biodiversity assessment in accordance with the NSW Biodiversity Assessment Method 2020. This terminology may or may not align with other technical documents associated with the proposed development.

Terminology	Definition
Biodiversity credit report	The report produced by the Credit Calculator that sets out the number and class of biodiversity credits required to offset the remaining adverse impacts on biodiversity values at a development site, or on land to be biodiversity certified, or that sets out the number and class of biodiversity credits that are created at a biodiversity stewardship site.
BioNet Atlas	The BioNet Atlas (formerly known as the NSW Wildlife Atlas) is the OEH database of flora and fauna records. The Atlas contains records of plants, mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, some fungi, some invertebrates (such as insects and snails) and some fish.
Broad condition state	Areas of the same PCT that are in relatively homogenous condition. Broad condition is used for stratifying areas of the same PCT into a vegetation zone for the purpose of determining the vegetation integrity score.
Connectivity	The measure of the degree to which an area(s) of native vegetation is linked with other areas of vegetation.
Credit Calculator	The computer program that provides decision support to assessors and proponents by applying the BAM, and which calculates the number and class of biodiversity credits required to offset the impacts of a development or created at a biodiversity stewardship site.
Development	Has the same meaning as development at section 4 of the EP&A Act, or an activity in Part 5 of the EP&A Act. It also includes development as defined in section 115T of the EP&A Act.
Development footprint	The area of land that is directly impacted on by a proposed development, including access roads, and areas used to store construction materials.
Development site	An area of land that is subject to a proposed development that is under the EP&A Act.
Ecosystem credits	A measurement of the value of EECs, CEECs and threatened species habitat for species that can be reliably predicted to occur with a PCT. Ecosystem credits measure the loss in biodiversity values at a development site and the gain in biodiversity values at a biodiversity stewardship site.
Extent of occurrence (EOO)	Measures the spatial spread of a taxon to determine the degree to which risks from threatening factors could impact an entire population, and is not intended to be an estimate of the amount of occupied or potential habitat.
High threat exotic plant cover	Plant cover composed of vascular plants not native to Australia that if not controlled will invade and outcompete native plant species.
Hollow bearing tree	A living or dead tree that has at least one hollow. A tree is considered to contain a hollow if: (a) the entrance can be seen; (b) the minimum entrance width is at least 5 cm; (c) the hollow appears to have depth (i.e. you cannot see solid wood beyond the entrance); (d) the hollow is at least 1 m above the ground. Trees must be examined from all angles.
Important wetland	A wetland that is listed in the Directory of Important Wetlands of Australia (DIWA) and Coastal Wetlands.
Linear shaped development	Development that is generally narrow in width and extends across the landscape for a distance greater than 3.5 kilometres in length.
Local population	The population that occurs in the study area. In cases where multiple populations occur in the study area or a population occupies part of the study area, impacts on each subpopulation must be assessed separately.
Local wetland	Any wetland that is not identified as an important wetland (refer to definition of Important wetland).

Terminology	Definition
NSW (Mitchell) landscape	Landscapes with relatively homogeneous geomorphology, soils and broad vegetation types, mapped at a scale of 1:250,000.
Multiple fragmentation impact development	Developments such as wind farms and coal seam gas extraction that require multiple extraction points (wells) or turbines and a network of associated development including roads, tracks, gathering systems/flow lines, transmission lines.
Operational Manual	The Operational Manual published from time to time by DPIE, which is a guide to assist assessors when using the BAM.
Patch size	An area of intact native vegetation that: a) occurs on the development site or biodiversity stewardship site, and b) includes native vegetation that has a gap of less than 100 m from the next area of native vegetation (or ≤30 m for non-woody ecosystems). Patch size may extend onto adjoining land that is not part of the development site or stewardship site.
Proponent	A person who intends to apply for consent to carry out development or for approval for an activity.
Reference sites	The relatively unmodified sites that are assessed to obtain local benchmark information when benchmarks in the Vegetation Benchmarks Database are too broad or otherwise incorrect for the PCT and/or local situation. Benchmarks can also be obtained from published sources.
Regeneration	The proportion of over-storey species characteristic of the PCT that are naturally regenerating and have a diameter at breast height <5 cm within a vegetation zone.
Residual impact	An impact on biodiversity values after all reasonable measures have been taken to avoid, minimise or mitigate the impacts of development. Under the BAM, an offset requirement is determined for the remaining impacts on biodiversity values.
Retirement of credits	The purchase and retirement of biodiversity credits from an already-established biobank site or a biodiversity stewardship site secured by a biodiversity stewardship agreement.
Riparian buffer	Riparian buffers applied to water bodies in accordance with the BAM.
Sensitive biodiversity values land map	Development within an area identified on the map requires assessment using the BAM.
Site attributes	The matters assessed to determine vegetation integrity. They include: native plant species richness, native over-storey cover, native mid-storey cover, native ground cover (grasses), native ground cover (shrubs), native ground cover (other), exotic plant cover (as a percentage of total ground and mid-storey cover), number of trees with hollows, proportion of over-storey species occurring as regeneration, and total length of fallen logs.
Site-based development	A development other than a linear shaped development, or a multiple fragmentation impact development.
Species credits	The class of biodiversity credits created or required for the impact on threatened species that cannot be reliably predicted to use an area of land based on habitat surrogates. Species that require species credits are listed in the Threatened Biodiversity Data Collection.
Subject land	Is land to which the BAM is applied in Stage 1 to assess the biodiversity values of the land. It includes land that may be a development site, clearing site, proposed for biodiversity certification or land that is proposed for a biodiversity stewardship agreement.
Threatened Biodiversity Data Collection	Part of the BioNet database, published by DPE and accessible from the BioNet website.
Threatened species	Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable threatened species as defined by Schedule 1 of the BC Act, or any additional threatened species listed under Part 13 of the EPBC Act as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable.

Terminology	Definition
Vegetation Benchmarks Database	A database of benchmarks for vegetation classes and some PCTs. The Vegetation Benchmarks Database is published by OEH and is part of the BioNet Vegetation Classification.
Vegetation zone	A relatively homogenous area of native vegetation on a development site, land to be biodiversity certified or a biodiversity stewardship site that is the same PCT and broad condition state.
Wetland	An area of land that is wet by surface water or ground water, or both, for long enough periods that the plants and animals in it are adapted to, and depend on, moist conditions for at least part of their life cycle. Wetlands may exhibit wet and dry phases and may be wet permanently, cyclically or intermittently with fresh, brackish or saline water.
Woody native vegetation	Native vegetation that contains an over-storey and/or mid-storey that predominantly consists of trees and/or shrubs.

Appendix B - Vegetation Floristic Plot Data

Table 23: Species recorded in the plots and incidentally elsewhere within the development site or immediate surrounds.

Family	Species	Common Name	Exotic	High Threat Weed	Growth Form Group	Plot 1		
						Stratum & Layer	Cover	Abundance
Rosaceae	*Acaena* sp. Thredbo River Gorge (L.A.S.Johnson & E.F.Constable s.n., 19 Jan 1951)	-	-	-	Forb (FG)	g	1	100
Polygonaceae	*Acetosella vulgaris*	Sheep Sorrel	Yes	Yes	-	g	0.1	50
Poaceae	*Agrostis capillaris*	Browntop Bent	Yes	Yes	-	g	1	500
Rubiaceae	*Asperula gunnii*	Mountain Woodruff	-	-	Forb (FG)	g	1	100
Fabaceae (Faboideae)	*Bossiaea foliosa*	Leafy Bossiaea	-	-	Shrub (SG)	m	35	100
Caryophyllaceae	*Cerastium* sp.	-	Yes	-	-	g	0.2	50
Phormiaceae	*Dianella tasmanica*	-	-	-	Forb (FG)	g	2	50
Myrtaceae	*Eucalyptus niphophila*	-	-	-	Tree (TG)	u	45	30
Poaceae	*Festuca rubra*	-	Yes	-	-	g	0.1	20
Geraniaceae	*Geranium potentilloides* var. *potentilloides*	-	-	-	Forb (FG)	g	0.2	20
Haloragaceae	*Gonocarpus montanus*	-	-	-	Forb (FG)	g	0.1	1
Apiaceae	*Hydrocotyle algida*	Pennywort	-	-	Forb (FG)	g	0.1	5
Asteraceae	*Hypochaeris radicata*	Catsear	Yes	-	-	g	0.1	5
Ericaceae	*Leucopogon gelidus*	-	-	-	Shrub (SG)	m	0.1	2
Juncaceae	*Luzula novae-cambriae*	-	-	-	Grass & grasslike (GG)	g	0.1	5
Asteraceae	*Olearia phlogopappa*	-	-	-	Shrub (SG)	m	3	30
Apiaceae	*Oreomyrrhis eriopoda*	Australian Carraway	-	-	Forb (FG)	g	0.1	5
Asteraceae	*Ozothamnus secundiflorus*	Cascade Everlasting	-	-	Shrub (SG)	m	15	50

Family	Species	Common Name	Exotic	High Threat Weed	Growth Form Group	Plot 1		
						Stratum & Layer	Cover	Abundance
Thymelaeaceae	*Pimelea ligustrina*	-	-	-	Shrub (SG)	m	0.1	5
Poaceae	*Poa fawcettiae*	Smooth Blue Snowgrass	-	-	Grass & grasslike (GG)	g	0.2	5
Poaceae	*Poa helmsii*	Broad-leaved Snowgrass	-	-	Grass & grasslike (GG)	g	0.2	5
Poaceae	*Poa ensiformis*	Purple-sheathed Tussock-grass	-	-	Grass & grasslike (GG)	g	25	500
Podocarpaceae	*Podocarpus lawrencei*	Mountain Plum Pine	-	-	Shrub (SG)	m	1	5
Dryopteridaceae	*Polystichum proliferum*	Mother Shield Fern	-	-	Fern (EG)	g	0.1	5
Rosaceae	*Prunus* sp.	-	Yes	-	-	m	0.1	1
Ranunculaceae	*Ranunculus lappaceus*	Common Buttercup	-	-	Forb (FG)	g	0.1	20
Rosaceae	*Rubus parvifolius*	Native Raspberry	-	-	Shrub (SG)	g	0.1	1
Asteraceae	*Senecio gunnii*	-	-	-	Forb (FG)	g	0.1	1
Caryophyllaceae	*Stellaria pungens*	Prickly Starwort	-	-	Forb (FG)	g	0.3	10
Winteraceae	*Tasmannia xerophila* subsp. *xerophila*	Alpine Pepperbush	-	-	Shrub (SG)	m	20	50

Appendix C - Vegetation Integrity Plot Data

Table 24: Plot location data

Plot no.	PCT	Condition	Easting	Northing	Bearing
1	3381	Good	616252	5959665	120

Table 25: Vegetation integrity data (composition)

Composition (number of species)						
Plot	Tree	Shrub	Grass	Forb	Fern	Other
1	1	8	4	10	1	0

Table 26: Vegetation integrity data (Structure)

Structure (Total cover)						
Plot	Tree	Shrub	Grass	Forb	Fern	Other
1	45	74	26	5	0	0

Table 27: Vegetation integrity data (Function)

Function											
Plot	Large Trees	Hollow trees	Litter Cover	Length Fallen Logs	Tree Stem 5-9	Tree Stem 10-1 9	Tree Stem 20-29	Tree Stem 30-49	Tree Stem 50-79	Tree Regen	High Threat Weed Cover
1	1	0	59	110	1	1	1	1	1	1	2

Appendix D - EPBC Act Significant Impact Criteria

The EPBC Act Administrative Guidelines on Significance (DoE 2013) set out 'Significant Impact Criteria' that are to be used to assist in determining whether a proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance. Matters listed under the EPBC Act as being of national environmental significance include:

- Listed threatened species and ecological communities
- Listed migratory species
- Wetlands of International Importance
- The Commonwealth marine environment
- World Heritage properties
- National Heritage places
- Nuclear actions
- Great Barrier Reef.

Specific 'Significant Impact Criteria' are provided for each matter of national environmental significance except for threatened species and ecological communities in which case separate criteria are provided for species listed as endangered and vulnerable under the EPBC Act.

The Commonwealth listed species which are known or considered to have the potential to occur within the study area are the:

- Broad-toothed Rat.

The relevant Significant Impact Criteria have been applied to determine the significance of impacts associated with the proposal.

Matters to be considered	Impact
Any environmental impact on a World Heritage Property or National Heritage Places	No. The proposed action does not impact on a World Heritage Property or a National Heritage Place - (listed natural: Australian Alpine National Parks and Reserves; nominated historic: Snowy Mountains Scheme NSW).
Any environmental impact on Wetlands of International Importance	No. The proposal will not affect any part of a wetland of international importance.
Any impact on Commonwealth Listed Critically Endangered or Endangered Species;	Yes. The study area provides potential habitat for one Commonwealth listed endangered species: the Broad-toothed Rat. The significant impact criteria for endangered species are discussed below: a. lead to a long-term decrease in the size a population of a species, Whilst the proposed action will affect a small area of known habitat for the Broad-toothed Rat, it will affect only a very small amount (0.02 ha) of the habitat for the species spread over multiple locations predominately on the edge of tree islands. As such, the proposal is considered highly unlikely to adversely affect a significant proportion of the home range of one or more Broad-toothed Rat individuals and will not result in habitat fragmentation which could isolate individuals or a population of the Broad-toothed Rat. Under these circumstances, it is considered highly unlikely that the proposed action will lead to a long-term decrease in the size of the Broad-toothed Rat population. b. reduce the area of occupancy of the species The proposed action will be limited to the loss or further modification of 0.02 ha of native vegetation which is a small amount of habitat in the context of the extent of similar habitats in the locality generally. The proposed works will not affect any key habitat resources for the

Matters to be considered	Impact
	Broad-toothed Rat; nor affect the species ability to access habitats within or beyond the study area. c. fragment an existing population into two or more populations The proposed action will be limited to the loss or further modification of 0.02 ha of native vegetation which is a small amount of habitat in the context of the extent of similar habitats in the locality generally. The proposed works will not affect any key habitat resources for the Broad-toothed Rat; nor affect the species ability to access habitats within or beyond the study area. Under these circumstances, the proposed action will not fragment an existing population of the Broad-toothed Rat into two or more populations. d. adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species No habitat within the development site is considered likely to be critical to the survival of the Broad-toothed Rat. There are thousands of hectares of similar habitats in the alpine and subalpine zones of the Australian alps, including contiguous areas within the Thredbo Resort area. The habitats to be affected, whilst utilised by the Broad-toothed Rat, are relatively dry and away from the wet heath, bog and creek-side habitats that the species is most strongly associated with. The Broad-toothed Rat continues to occur within the Thredbo Resort Area despite a long history of similar and more extensive disturbances. e. disrupt the breeding cycle of a population It is considered highly unlikely that the proposed works would disrupt the breeding cycle of the local population of the Broad-toothed Rat given the small area of habitat to be affected relative to the extensive area of similar and superior habitat contiguous with the development site. f. modify, destroy, remove or isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline The proposed action will modify a very small area of habitat for the Broad-toothed Rat, but this area is unlikely to be important to the species in the context of the extent of potential habitat in the locality. Under these circumstances it is highly unlikely that the proposed action would modify- destroy- remove or isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the Broad-toothed Rat is likely to decline. g. result in invasive species that are harmful to an endangered species becoming established in the endangered or critically endangered species' habitat The proposed action is unlikely to result in invasive species that are harmful becoming established in potential habitat of the Broad-toothed Rat. Species such as cats or foxes are already present in the landscape and are subject to control programs within the resort. h. introduce disease that may cause the species to decline The proposed action is unlikely to introduce disease that may cause the Broad-toothed Rat to decline. i. interfere with the recovery of the species. As the proposed action is not considered to decrease or fragment any existing populations the recovery of the Broad-toothed Rat is unlikely to be adversely impacted.
Any impact on Commonwealth Listed Vulnerable Species;	No. The study area does not provides potential habitat for any Commonwealth listed vulnerable species.
Any impact on a Commonwealth Endangered Ecological Community	No endangered ecological communities occur within the development site.
Any environmental impact on Commonwealth Listed Migratory Species;	No. The proposed action will not have any adverse impacts on any listed migratory species.

Matters to be considered	Impact
Does any part of the Proposal involve a Nuclear Action;	No. The project does not include a Nuclear Action.
Any environmental impact on a Commonwealth Marine Area;	No. There are no Commonwealth Marine Areas within the study area.
In addition- any direct or indirect impact on Commonwealth lands	No. The project does not directly or indirectly affect Commonwealth land.

Appendix E - Staff CVs

CURRICULUM VITAE

Ryan Smithers

SENIOR ECOLOGIST

QUALIFICATIONS

BEnvSc (Land Resources Management)- University of Wollongong with 1st Class Honours 1995.
Accredited BBAM- FBA- and BAM Assessor
Alpine Ecology Course Australian Alpine Institute and La Trobe University
Senior First Aid- St. Johns Ambulance.

Ryan brings to ELA 30 years' experience in ecology and natural resource management. He has extensive practical experience in flora and fauna surveying- fire-fighting- planning and land management throughout southern NSW and has undertaken numerous flora and fauna surveys- biodiversity plans- environmental impact assessments- vegetation management plans- fire management plans and weed management plans.

Ryan has extensive experience in general and targeted fauna surveys using a diverse range of survey techniques. Ryan has undertaken many flora and fauna surveys on the NSW south coast- southern tablelands and in the Australian Alps- and in other parts of Australia including in the Northern Territory.

Ryan is an accredited Biobanking (BBAM)- Framework for Biodiversity Assessment (FBA) and Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) assessor and has undertaken may surveys using BBAM-BAM and DPIE Vegetation Survey Standard or very similar methodologies. Ryan project managed ELAs contributions to the Full-floristic Vegetation Survey and Condition Assessment for the South-east Highlands and Australian Alps of the Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment and South-east Corner Biometric Benchmark projects which involved the collection of more than 250 plots.

Ryan has particular ecological expertise in the NSW southern tablelands and Alps- gained from 15 years of survey and assessment across the Alps- including many assessments within the Charlotte Pass- Thredbo and Perisher Ski Resorts- and assessments on the Monaro including around Jindabyne.

Ryan has undertaken assessments in the region for a broad range of clients including NSW NPWS, Local Land Services, Biodiversity Conservation Trust, Kosciuszko Thredbo, Vail Resorts and Charlotte Pass Ski Resort.

RELEVANT PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Monaro and Werriwa Snow Gum Woodland and Grasslands Conservation Tender
Monaro Grasslands Conservation Tender
Kosi Walk Realignment Review of Environmental Factors
Diggings Campground Upgrade Review of Environmental Factors
Mount Perisher Chairlift Biodiversity Development Assessment Report
Merritts Gondola Biodiversity Development Assessment Report
Corin Forest Ski Slope Assessment
Montane Peatlands Strategic Action Plan
Perisher Guthega Skink Targeted Surveys
Numerous Mountain Bike Ecological Assessments at Thredbo
Leichardt Chairlift Ecological Assessment
Thredbo Masterplan Ecological Assessment
Guthega Quad Chair Flora and Fauna Assessment
Thredbo Chairlift Constraints Analysis
Friday Flat Ecological Assessment
Sponars Traverse Flora and Fauna Assessment
Lobs Hole Review of Environmental Factors
Lake Wallace Flora and Fauna Assessment for Cooma Monaro Shire at Nimmitabel
Numerous Impact Assessments in alpine and sub-alpine environments for OEH- Vail- Kosciuszko- Thredbo and Charlotte Pass Ski Resorts
Boco Rock Wind Farm Ecological Assessment and Offsets Analysis
South-east Highlands and Australian Alps of the Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment Full Floristic Survey and Condition Assessment
South-east Corner Biometric Benchmark Project
Queanbeyan Biodiversity Study
Mount Jerrabomberra Ecological Assessment
Eurobodalla Bio-certification Project
Jervis Bay Biodiversity Assessment
Broulee and South Moruya Biocertification Project
North Moruya Biodiversity Study
Eurobodalla Vegetation Mapping Validation
Eurobodalla Biodiversity Study for future Urban Expansion Lands
Merimbula STP Upgrade Terrestrial Ecological Assessment
Cobowra LALC Lands Biobanking Assessment
Upper Lachlan Shire Biodiversity Planning Framework
Parkes- Cabonne- Bland- Upper Lachlan and Temora Shires Biodiversity Assessment and NRM Projects
Old Comma Road deviation Species Impact Statement
Flora and Fauna Assessment Edwin Lane Parkway Extension
Ecological Studies – Proposed Googong township
Tarrawonga Biobanking Assessment – Boggabri
Katherine to Gove Pipeline – Mitchell Ranges fauna surveys
Darwin regional flora and fauna survey RAAF Darwin- defence establishment Berrimah and Shoal Bay receiving station.

Appendix F - Biodiversity credit report

BAM Biodiversity Credit Report (Like for like)

Proposal Details

Assessment Id
00048718/BAAS17061/24/00048719

Assessor Name
Ryan Smithers

Proponent Names

Assessment Revision
0

BOS entry trigger
BOS Threshold: Biodiversity Values Map

Proposal Name
Upper Supertrail

Assessor Number
BAAS17061

Report Created
30/07/2024

Assessment Type
Part 4 Developments (Small Area)

BAM data last updated *
14/03/2024

BAM Data version *
67

BAM Case Status
Finalised

Date Finalised
30/07/2024

* Disclaimer: BAM data last updated may indicate either complete or partial update of the BAM calculator database. BAM calculator database may not be completely aligned with Bionet.

Potential Serious and Irreversible Impacts

Name of threatened ecological community	Listing status	Name of Plant Community Type/ID
Nil		

Species
Nil

Additional Information for Approval

PCT Outside Ibra Added

None added

PCTs With Customized Benchmarks

PCT
No Changes

Predicted Threatened Species Not On Site

Name
No Changes

Ecosystem Credit Summary (Number and class of biodiversity credits to be retired)

Name of Plant Community Type/ID	Name of threatened ecological community	Area of impact	HBT Cr	No HBT Cr	Total credits to be retired
3381-Kosciuszko Alpine Sally Woodland	Not a TEC	0.0	0	1	1

BAM Biodiversity Credit Report (Like for like)

3381-Kosciuszko Alpine Sally Woodland	Like-for-like credit retirement options					
	Class	Trading group	Zone	HBT	Credits	IBRA region
	Subalpine Woodlands This includes PCT's: 1191, 1196, 3379, 3380, 3381, 3382, 3383, 3384, 3385	Subalpine Woodlands <50%	3381_Good	No	1	Snowy Mountains, Bondo, Monaro, Murrumbateman, Snowy Mountains and South East Coastal Ranges. or Any IBRA subregion that is within 100 kilometers of the outer edge of the impacted site.

Species Credit Summary

Species	Vegetation Zone/s	Area / Count	Credits
Cercartetus nanus / Eastern Pygmy-possum	**3381_Good**	0.0	1.00
Mastacomys fuscus / Broad-toothed Rat	**3381_Good**	0.0	1.00

Credit Retirement Options

Like-for-like credit retirement options

Cercartetus nanus / Eastern Pygmy-possum	Spp	IBRA subregion
	Cercartetus nanus / Eastern Pygmy-possum	Any in NSW

Mastacomys fuscus / Broad-toothed Rat	Spp	IBRA subregion
	Mastacomys fuscus / Broad-toothed Rat	Any in NSW

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1300 646 131
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