APPENDIX C

ECOLOGICAL DUE DILIGENCE ASSESSMENT

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8 May 2025

Our ref: 25WOL10433

Bookham Wind Farm Pty Ltd
171-173 Mounts Bay Road
Perth, Western Australia

Attention: Nigel Barton

Dear Nigel,

Ecological due diligence assessment - preliminary geotechnical investigations

Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd (ELA) understands that Squadron Energy Pty Ltd propose to drill approximately 23 boreholes and 43 test pits within the Bookham Wind Farm Development Corridor, for which a Development Application (DA) is required. As part of their internal due diligence process, Squadron Energy requested an ecological due diligence assessment in the areas where the geotechnical drilling works are proposed. This letter provides an ecological assessment of potential impacts to threatened entities listed under the New South Wales (NSW) *Biodiversity Conservation* Act 2016 (BC Act), and Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) listed under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Should you have any questions about any aspect of this guidance document, please contact me on the telephone number above.

Regards,

Liam Scanlan
Senior Ecologist

1. Background

The Bookham Wind Farm Project will generate significant benefits to the Bookham community and wider South East region, producing enough electricity to power the equivalent of 321,000 NSW homes and prevent 322,000 tonnes of emissions annually.

ELA conducted field validation of the vegetation within the Development Corridor in 2024 for the Scoping Report and EPBC referral. Additional field surveys are currently in progress for the Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) which will also be prepared by ELA for the Bookham Wind Farm Project. Field data and vegetation mapping prepared for the Scoping Report (ELA 2024) and BDAR has been used for this assessment.

ELA understands that these works are considered exempt development in accordance with Division 4, Clause 2.41(2) of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 (Transport and Infrastructure SEPP), if the general requirements listed in Clause 2.20 (2)(i) applies. The proposed works may be considered to comply with this requirement to be exempt development, as effects to native vegetation are extremely minor in nature, as outlined below. However, as very small areas of Derived Native Grassland will be affected, our of an abundance of caution, ELA has conducted a review of impacts to threatened species, including a Test of Significance and consideration of Significant Impact Criteria for *Ammobium craspedioides* (Yass Daisy).

2. Proposed works

The proposed works include drilling approximately 23 boreholes and excavating 43 test pits within the Bookham Wind Farm survey corridor ('Development Corridor') (Figure 1). A brief description of the proposed work is provided below.

Access to the work area will be undertaken along existing roads/farm tracks as far as feasibly possible prior to moving toward investigation locations. No clearing of native vegetation (as defined by the NSW *Local Land Services Act 2013*) to gain access is proposed.

No native woody vegetation including trees are proposed be to be removed for the boreholes and test pits.

2.1. Borehole drilling

A description of the proposed works at each of the borehole location is provided below:

- Coring barrels, augers, extension tubes and other accessories are typically stored on the drill rig.
- Maximum auger hole size is 150 mm diameter.
- A 'mud tank' is placed next to borehole which cycles water used to flush the hole while drilling, typically 300-500 L in volume.
- Upon target drill depth, the water in the mud tank is sprayed and spread evenly to dry around the borehole area.
- Hole is backfilled with drill cuttings, or groundwater well is installed. Groundwater well install involves feeding various PVC blank and screen pipes in to the borehole, backfilling the hole with clean sand and sealing the top with bentonite.

2.2. Test pit excavation

A description of the proposed works at each of the test pit excavations are provided below:

- Excavator typically uses various bucket types with toothed buckets for excavation and a wide 'mud' bucket to push stockpiled material from the test pit around or back in to the test pit in completed. Test pit area will be maximum 1 m wide by 3 m long.
- Soil is typically placed adjacent to test pit hole in stockpiles ordered in sequence of material type as it is removed from the test pit.
- Excavator backfills test pit with the material in the same sequence it came out (i.e. material from the bottom goes back in first) and levels ground around location to remove trip hazards or potential for holes as the test pit backfill settles.
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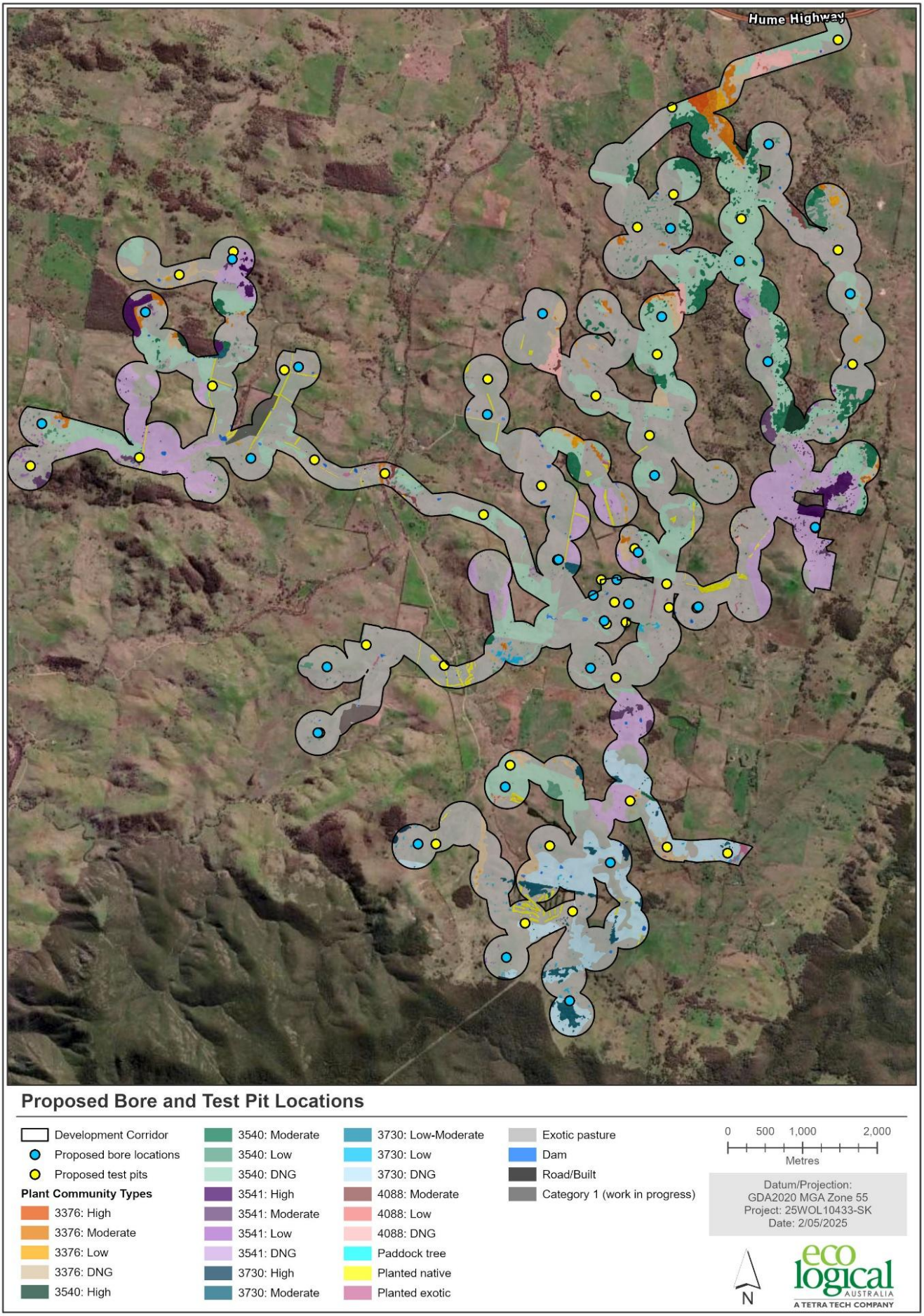

Figure 1: Proposed bore and test pit locations within the Development Corridor and associated Plant Community types mapped by ELA (2024 - 2025)

3. Methods

3.1. Desktop assessment

3.1.1. Likelihood of occurrence assessment

A literature review was conducted to identify potential threatened flora and fauna species, populations or threatened ecological communities (TECs) which may be impacted by the proposed works.

A list of threatened entities that may occur in the Development Corridor was generated from the protected matters search tool (PMST), accessed May 2025 (DCCEEW 2025) and review of NSW BioNet records and species profiles. The EPBC PMST search was based on a 10 km buffer of the Development Corridor. Records of threatened species within a 10 km radius of the Development Corridor were accessed via the NSW BioNet Species Sightings database (NSW DCCEEW 2025a). The datasets were then combined into a likelihood of occurrence table to assess the potential impacts of the proposed works on threatened entities.

The following information sources were used as part of the likelihood of occurrence assessment:

- NSW BioNet Species Sightings data for threatened species within 10 km of the Development Corridor (NSW DCCEEW 2025a)
- NSW BioNet Threatened Biodiversity Data Collection (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)
- NSW Biodiversity Values Map (NSW DCCEEW 2025c)
- NSW BioNet Vegetation Classification (NSW DCCEEW 2025d).

The likelihood of occurrence assessment is provided in Appendix A.

3.2. Review of field survey data

Field surveys across the Bookham Wind Farm Development Corridor have been undertaken between May 2024 - April 2025 surveys across six weeks of field surveys. To date, ELA has validated the vegetation within the Development Corridor and mapped to the best-fit Plant Community Type (PCT) and condition. A total of 169 full-floristic vegetation plots has been conducted.

To inform this due diligence assessment, a desktop assessment of field data was undertaken to:

- Identify PCTs (and potential associated TECs) that may be impacted by the proposed work.
- Identify the presence of threatened entities, or their potential habitat, within the Development Corridor that may be impacted by the proposed work.
- Assess potential impacts to threatened entities associated with the proposed work.

3.3. Review of habitat assessment

Habitat assessments have been undertaken during vegetation validation (May 2024 – April 2025). A review of the habitat assessments was conducted to determine the suitability of the Development Corridor to provide habitat for threatened species.

Important habitat features, such as hollow bearing trees (HBTs), trees containing large cracks or fissures or flaky bark, culverts, bridges, rock outcrops, burrows and wetlands, were recorded during previous surveys (ELA 2024 - 2025). This information was recorded spatially using the ESRI Maps application on a

smartphone, along with detail about the extent / abundance of habitat feature, and other important detail (e.g. tree species, height, diameter at breast height (DBH), height of lowest hollow.

3.4. Survey limitations

This assessment was not intended to provide an inventory of all species across the Development Corridor. Instead, it provides an overall assessment of the ecological values of the Development Corridor with emphasis on threatened species, populations and communities, and key fauna habitat features such as hollow bearing trees.

3.4.1. Extent of impacts

The extent of impact was calculated by generating a list of proposed drill and bore holes in each PCT. Each borehole is estimated to result in approximately 0.018 m^2 (150 mm hole diameter) of ground disturbance and each test pit is estimated to result in approximately 3 m^2 of temporary ground disturbance.

4. Results

4.1. Likelihood of occurrence

The likelihood of occurrence assessment identified 57 threatened species listed under the BC Act, and 52 MNES species recorded or potential to occur within the proposed bore and test pit sites (Appendix A). One of these species, *Ammobium craspedioides* (Yass Daisy), listed under vulnerable under the BC Act and EPBC Act, has been previously recorded by ELA within the Development Corridor. Habitat for this species has potential to be impacted during the excavation works. The majority of test pit/bore hole locations have no records within the immediate vicinity, however, the closest Yass Daisy record to a test pit/borehole is 136 m (Figure 2).

An Assessment of Significance (AoS) was undertaken in accordance with the EPBC Act significant impact criteria for *Ammobium craspedioides* (Yass Daisy). A precautionary approach was taken to assess this species, as it is known to occur within the Development Corridor (Appendix A; Appendix B).

The AoS determined that no direct impacts to MNES including *A. craspedioides* (Appendix A) are likely to occur because of the proposed works.

It is anticipated that the impacted groundcover vegetation will quickly recover following the works and installation of permanent groundwater wells do not represent a significant impact. Overall, the impacts associated with the proposed works are considered to be negligible. Therefore, a referral to the Commonwealth is not recommended for the proposed works.

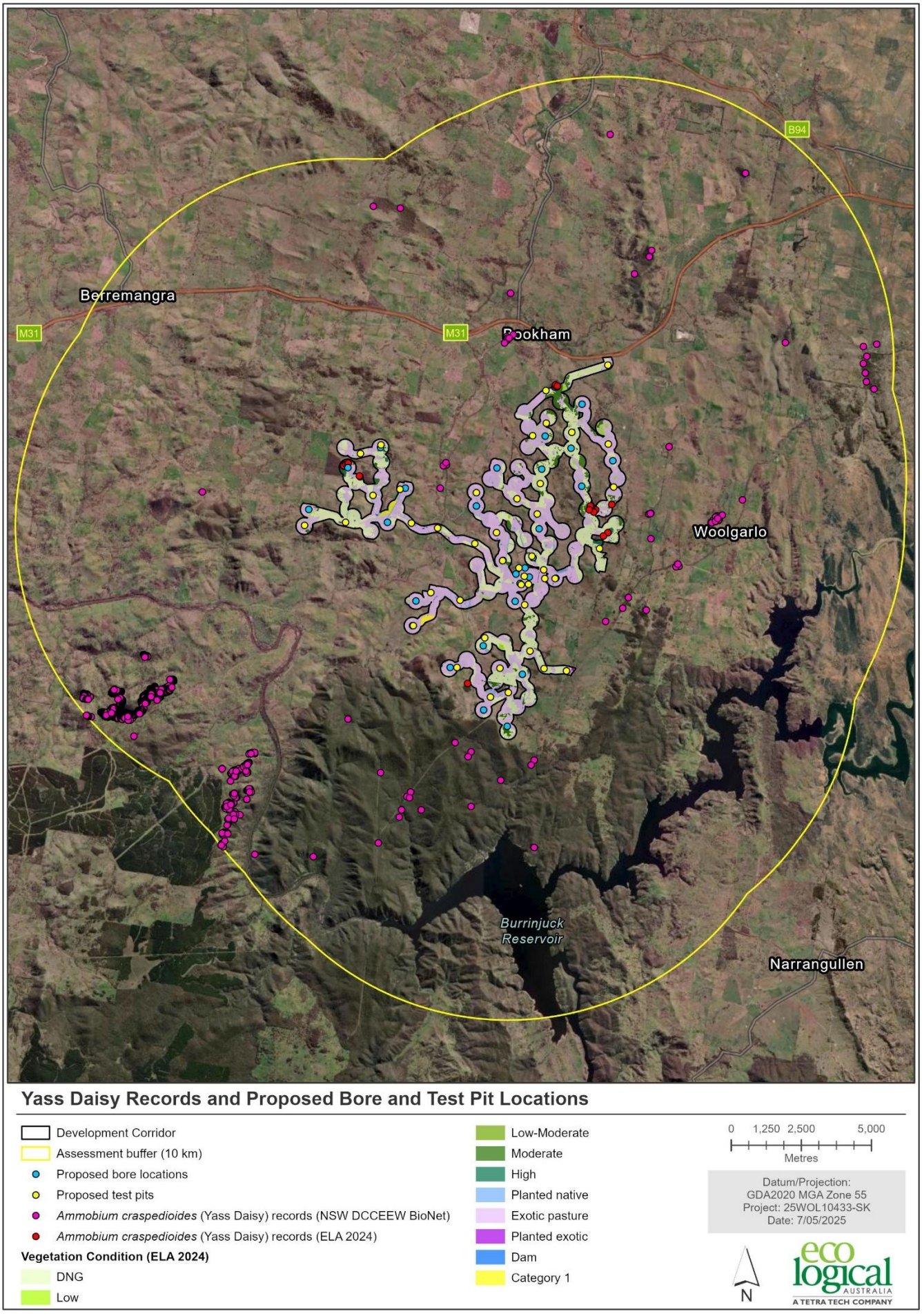

Figure 2: Yass Daisy records and proposed bore and test pit locations

4.2. Vegetation communities

The literature review identified that the proposed works occur within three PCTs mapped within the Development Corridor. The PCTs and their condition are provided below:

- PCT 3540 Southwest Foothills Stringybark-Box Grassy Forest – derived native grassland (DNG)
- PCT 3541 - Southwest Ranges Stringybark Exposed Forest - DNG
- PCT 3730 - Bondo Slopes Dry Stringybark Forest – DNG.

A description of the validated plant community types associated with the proposed work are provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Description of plant community types within the proposed works footprint

Plant community type	Condition	Description	Listing status	Photograph
3540 - Southwest Foothills Stringybark-Box Grassy Forest	Derived native grassland	The ground layer is predominantly grassy with *Rytidosperma racemosa*, *Aristida ramosa*, *Bothriochloa macra*, *Lomandra filiformis*, and forbs such as *Hypericum gramineum*. Commonly recorded exotic species include *Cirsium vulgare* and *Centaurea calcitrapa*.	No associated TECs	
3541 - Southwest Ranges Stringybark Exposed Forest	Derived native grassland	Ground layer commonly includes fine tussocks of *Poa sieberiana* and other native groundcovers including *Lomandra filiformis* and *Lepidosperma laterale*. Exotic species include *Centaurea calcitrapa* and *Conyza* sp.	No associated TECs	

Plant community type	Condition	Description	Listing status	Photograph
3730 - Bondo Slopes Dry Stringybark Forest	Derived native grassland	The ground cover consists of a high coverage of *Pteridium esculentum*, *Poa sieberiana*, *Lomandra filiformis*, and *Hypericum gramineum*. Exotic species include *Conyza* sp., *Cirsium vulgare*, *Carduus tenuiflorus* and *Centaurea calcitrapa*.	No associated TECs	
Exotic pasture	Cleared – does not conform with a PCT	These areas are heavily modified with up to 80% cover of exotic species including *Cirsium vulgare*, *Carduus tenuiflorus*, *Centaurea calcitrapa*, *Conyza* sp and *Rubus fruticosa*. Sparse native cover includes *Lomandra filiformis Lepidosperma laterale* and *Centaurea calcitrapa.*	No associated TECs	

4.3. Threatened ecological communities

According to the BioNet Vegetation Classification, none of the PCTs identified in the proposed works area are associated with a threatened ecological community (NSW DCCEEW 2025d).

4.4. Biodiversity Values mapping

None of the proposed test pit or borehole locations are within land mapped on the biodiversity values (NSW DCCEEW 2025c).

4.5. Habitat assessment

No fauna habitat associated with woody vegetation (such as tree hollows, nectar/fruit producing trees, or trees suitable for stick nests) will be impacted by the proposed works.

No aquatic habitat is proposed to be impacted by the proposed works.

No logs or rocky areas will be impacted by the proposed works.

The proposed works may involve removal of native and exotic grass cover, and nectar/fruit producing herbs and forbs. A total of 0.013 ha of native vegetation in a DNG condition will be impacted. These impacts are systematically spread out across the Development Corridor which is approximately 3,621.18 ha. The proposed works are likely to be temporary in nature. Several of the bore holes will be retained permanently as groundwater wells. Due to the absence of habitat features in the proposed works, no threatened fauna species are likely to be impacted by the works. Therefore, no further assessment of threatened entities are required for the proposed works.

4.6. Extent of disturbance

The proposed works are in land predominantly mapped as cleared and exotic pasture grasslands, which do not represent part of a native vegetation community (Table 1).

The proposed works will result in a total of 0.013 ha of groundcover vegetation subject to disturbance during exaction works (Table 1). The works are proposed to occur scattered across the Development Corridor which is approximately 3,621.18 ha. The impacts at each test pit/bore location are unlikely to contribute to a cumulative impact.

Most of the proposed disturbance (approximately 72% of locations) is in areas of cleared, exotic pasture. The remaining 28% of the disturbance area is located within DNG which does not contain trees or large shrubs.

Table 2: Number of proposed test pit and bore locations and approximate area of disturbance for test pits and bore holes

Plant community type	Number of test pit locations	Number of bore locations	Area of disturbance (m^2)
3540: DNG	6	6	18.11
3541: DNG	3	3	9.05
3730: DNG	3	0	9.00
Exotic pasture	31	21	93.37
Total	43	30	129.53 m^2 (0.013 ha)

5. Summary of assessment and recommendations

A likelihood of occurrence assessment has been undertaken for recorded and potential MNES within the Development Corridor and proposed drill/excavation sites (a total of 52 species) (Appendix A).

An assessment was undertaken in accordance with the EPBC Act significant impact criteria for *Ammobium craspedioides* (Appendix A; Appendix B).

Based on the minimal impacts proposed, it has been determined that no impacts are likely to occur to MNES including *A. craspedioides* (Appendix B).

It is anticipated that the impacted groundcover vegetation will quickly recover following the works and installation of permanent groundwater wells do not represent a significant impact. Overall, the impacts associated with the proposed works are considered to be negligible.

The following recommendations are provided to further reduce any potential impacts to MNES and fauna habitat/vegetation condition in general:

- Utilise existing access tracks where possible.
- Avoid disturbance to woody debris and rocky areas.
- Ensure all machinery and equipment is clean and free from soil and weed propagules prior to entering the site.
- Avoid work during or after significant rainfall events which may result in sedimentation of the soils.
- Provide contractors with a description and photographs of *A. craspedioides*. Contractors or project manager to inspect borehole/test pit locations. If *A. craspedioides* is observed, relocate boreholes/test pits to avoid direct impacts on individuals. Advise works of locations where *A. craspedioides* is known within 136 m of proposed borehole (BH12).

References

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW). 2025. Protected Matters Search Tool: Interactive Map. Accessed May 2025. Available: https://pmst.environment.gov.au/

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (NSW DCCEEW). 2025a. NSW BioNet Atlas - Species sightings search. Available: https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/biodiversity/nsw-bionet/about-bionet-atlas/species-sightings-data

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Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (NSW DCCEEW) 2025c. 'Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold Tool. Accessed July 2024. Available: https://www.lmbc.nsw.gov.au/Maps/index.html?viewer=BOSETMap

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Appendix A – Likelihood of occurrence

A likelihood of occurrence assessment for BC Act and EPBC Act listed species that may occur within 10 km of the Development Corridor is provided in Table 3.

Table 3: Likelihood of occurrence for MNES predicted to occur within 10 km of the Development Corridor

Scientific Name	Common Name	Class	BC Act status	EPBC Act status	Records within 10 km (NSW DCCEEW 2025a)	Distribution (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Habitat (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Likelihood of Occurrence	Impact Assessment Required
Anthochaera phrygia	Regent Honeyeater	Bird	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered	0	Inland slopes of south-east Australia, and less frequently in coastal areas. In NSW, most records are from the North-West Plains, North-West and South-West Slopes, Northern Tablelands, Central Tablelands and Southern Tablelands regions; also recorded in the Central Coast and Hunter Valley regions.	Eucalypt woodland and open forest, wooded farmland and urban areas with mature eucalypts, and riparian forests of *Casuarina cunninghamiana* (River Oak).	Low	No - no areas of mapped important habitat
Aphelocephala leucopsis	Southern Whiteface	Bird	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	3	Occurs across most of mainland Australia south of the tropics from the north-eastern edge of WA wheatbelt, east to the Great Dividing Range.	Usually in habitats dominated by acacias or eucalypts on ranges, foothills and lowlands, and plains. Critical habitat includes relatively undisturbed open woodlands and shrublands with an understorey of grasses or shrubs, or both. Habitat with low tree densities and an herbaceous understory litter cover with provides essential foraging habitat. Living and dead trees with hollows and crevices which are essential for roosting and nesting.	Low - may fly over grasslands	No - limited suitable habitat present within the Project Site and only three records of the species within 10 km.
Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus	Dusky Woodswallow	Bird	Vulnerable	Not listed	31	Widespread in NSW from coast to inland including the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range and farther west. Species have also been recorded in southern and southwestern Australia.	Woodlands and dry open sclerophyll forest, usually eucalypts and mallee associations. Also have recordings in shrub and heathlands and various modified habitats, including regenerating forests. In western NSW, this species is primarily associated with River Red Gum/Black Box/Coolabah open forest/woodland and associated with larger river/creek systems.	Low	No - while there are 31 existing records of this species within 10 km of the Project Site there is limited suitable habitat present as there will be no direct impacts to woodland vegetation.
Botaurus poiciloptilus	Australasian Bittern	Bird	Endangered	Endangered	0	Found over most of NSW except for the far north-west.	Permanent freshwater wetlands with tall, dense vegetation, particularly Typha spp. (bullrushes) and Eleocharis spp. (spikerushes).	Low	No – species is not known from the region.
Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Bird	Not listed	Vulnerable	0	Summer migrant. Widespread in most regions of NSW, especially in coastal areas, but sparse in the south-central Western Plain and east Lower Western Regions.	Shallow fresh or brackish wetlands, with inundated or emergent sedges, grass, saltmarsh or other low vegetation.	Low	No – species is not known from the region.
Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper	Bird	Endangered	Critically Endangered	0	Occurs along the entire coast of NSW, and sometimes in freshwater wetlands in the Murray-Darling Basin.	Littoral and estuarine habitats, including intertidal mudflats, non-tidal swamps, lakes and lagoons on the coast and sometimes inland.	Low	No – species is not known from the region.
Callocephalon fimbriatum	Gang-gang Cockatoo	Bird	Endangered	Endangered	19	In NSW, distributed from the south-east coast to the Hunter region, and inland to the Central Tablelands and south-west slopes. Isolated records known from as far north as Coffs Harbour and as far west as Mudgee.	Tall mountain forests and woodlands in summer; in winter, may occur at lower altitudes in open eucalypt forests and woodlands, and urban areas.	Low - may fly over grasslands	No – Species may fly over grassland however there no are proposed impacts on breeding habitat or foraging resources

Scientific Name	Common Name	Class	BC Act status	EPBC Act status	Records within 10 km (NSW DCCEEW 2025a)	Distribution (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Habitat (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Likelihood of Occurrence	Impact Assessment Required
Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami	South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo	Bird	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	In NSW, widespread along coast and inland to the southern tablelands and central western plains, with a small population in the Riverina.	Open forest and woodlands of the coast and the Great Dividing Range where stands of sheoak occur.	Low	No - potential habitat is present within the Project Site however, the proposed bore and test pit locations are located within grasslands, do not provide potential habitat, and an assessment of significance is not required. No records within 10 km buffer.
Chthonicola sagittata	Speckled Warbler	Bird	Vulnerable	Not listed	6	The Speckled Warbler has a patchy distribution throughout south-eastern Queensland, the eastern half of NSW and into Victoria, as far west as the Grampians. The species is most frequently reported from the hills and tablelands of the Great Dividing Range, and rarely from the coast.	The Speckled Warbler lives in a wide range of Eucalyptus dominated communities that have a grassy understorey, often on rocky ridges or in gullies. Typical habitat would include scattered native tussock grasses, a sparse shrub layer, some eucalypt regrowth and an open canopy.	Low	No - limited suitable habitat present within the Project Site and only six records within 10 km.
Circus assimilis	Spotted Harrier	Bird	Vulnerable	Not listed	2	The Spotted Harrier occurs throughout the Australian mainland, except in densely forested or wooded habitats of the coast, escarpment and ranges, and rarely in Tasmania. Individuals disperse widely in NSW and comprise a single population.	Occurs in grassy open woodland including Acacia and mallee remnants, inland riparian woodland, grassland and shrub steppe. It is found most commonly in native grassland, but also occurs in agricultural land, foraging over open habitats including edges of inland wetlands.	Low	No - while there is some suitable foraging habitat present within the Project Site in the form of native grasslands, there are only two existing records of the species within 10 km. There are no impacts proposed to woodland or potential breeding habitat.
Climacteris picumnus victoriae	Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern)	Bird	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	103	From eastern through central NSW, west to Corowa, Wagga Wagga, Temora, Forbes, Dubbo and Inverell.	Eucalypt woodlands and dry open forest.	Low - may fly over grasslands	No - numerous existing records of the species within 10 km of the Project Site. However, limited habitat present as no potential foraging habitat is proposed for removal.
Daphoenositta chrysoptera	Varied Sittella	Bird	Vulnerable	Not listed	9	The Varied Sittella is sedentary and inhabits most of mainland Australia except the treeless deserts and open grasslands. Distribution in NSW is nearly continuous from the coast to the far west. The Varied Sittella's population size in NSW is uncertain but is believed to have undergone a moderate reduction over the past several decades.	Inhabits eucalypt forests and woodlands, especially those containing rough-barked species and mature smooth-barked gums with dead branches, mallee and Acacia woodland.	Low	No - no suitable habitat present within the Project Site. No proposed impacts to potential foraging habitat for the species.
Falco hypoleucos	Grey Falcon	Bird	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	Arid and semi-arid zones. In NSW, found chiefly throughout the Murray-Darling Basin, with the occasional vagrant east of the Great Dividing Range.	Shrubland, grassland and wooded watercourses, occasionally in open woodlands near the coast, and near wetlands.	Low	No – species is not known from the region.
Gallinago hardwickii	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe	Bird	Not listed	Vulnerable	0	Migrant to east coast of Australia, extending inland west of the Great Dividing Range in NSW.	Freshwater, saline or brackish wetlands up to 2000 m above sea-level; usually freshwater swamps, flooded grasslands or heathlands.	Low	No - potential habitat is present within the Project Site however, the proposed bore and test pit locations are located within grasslands, do not provide potential habitat, and an assessment of significance is not required. No records within 10 km buffer.
Glossopsitta pusilla	Little Lorikeet	Bird	Vulnerable	Not listed	1	The Little Lorikeet is distributed widely across the coastal and Great Divide regions of eastern Australia from Cape York to South Australia. NSW provides a large portion of the species' core habitat, with lorikeets found westward	Forages primarily in the canopy of open Eucalyptus Forest and woodland, yet also finds food in Angophora, Melaleuca and other tree species. Riparian habitats are particularly used, due to higher soil	Low	No - only one record of this species within 10 km of the Project Site and no suitable habitat present.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Class	BC Act status	EPBC Act status	Records within 10 km (NSW DCCEEW 2025a)	Distribution (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Habitat (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Likelihood of Occurrence	Impact Assessment Required
						as far as Dubbo and Albury. Nomadic movements are common, influenced by season and food availability, although some areas retain residents for much of the year and 'locally nomadic' movements are suspected of breeding pairs.	fertility and hence greater productivity.		
Grantiella picta	Painted Honeyeater	Bird	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	Widely distributed in NSW, predominantly on the inland side of the Great Dividing Range but avoiding arid areas.	Boree, Brigalow and Box-Gum Woodlands and Box-Ironbark Forests.	Low	No – species is rare in the region and has not been recorded within a 10 km radius of the Project Site.
Haliaeetus leucogaster	White-bellied Sea Eagle	Bird	Vulnerable	Not listed	5	The White-bellied Sea-eagle is distributed around the Australian coastline, including Tasmania, and well inland along rivers and wetlands of the Murray Darling Basin. In New South Wales it is widespread along the east coast, and along all major inland rivers and waterways.	Habitats are characterised by the presence of large areas of open water including larger rivers, swamps, lakes, and the sea.	Low	No - no suitable habitat present for this species within the Project Site.
Hieraaetus morphnoides	Little Eagle	Bird	Vulnerable	Not listed	7	The Little Eagle is found throughout the Australian mainland excepting the most densely forested parts of the Dividing Range escarpment. It occurs as a single population throughout NSW.	Occupies open eucalypt forest, woodland or open woodland. Sheoak or Acacia woodlands and riparian woodlands of interior NSW are also used.	Low	No - very limited potential foraging habitat present for the species within the Project Site. No impacts to woodland or potential breeding habitat proposed.
Hirundapus caudacutus	White-throated Needletail	Bird	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	All coastal regions of NSW, inland to the western slopes and inland plains of the Great Divide.	Occur most often over open forest and rainforest, as well as heathland, and remnant vegetation in farmland.	Low	No - There are no records of species occurrence with a 10 km radius of the Project site, however species is almost exclusively aerial in Australia; the proposed bore and test pit locations are located within grasslands, do not provide potential habitat, and an assessment of significance is not required.
Lathamus discolor	Swift Parrot	Bird	Endangered	Critically Endangered	0	Migrates from Tasmania to mainland in Autumn-Winter. In NSW, the species mostly occurs on the coast and south west slopes.	Box-ironbark forests and woodlands.	Low	No - potential habitat is present within the Project Site however, the proposed bore and test pit locations are located within grasslands, do not provide potential habitat, and an assessment of significance is not required.
Lophochroa leadbeateri leadbeateri	Major Mitchell's Cockatoo	Bird	Not listed	Endangered	0	Occur in the Murray-Darling, Eyre and Bulloo River basins, from Isisford and Roma in the north, through western NSW to north-west VIX and west to eastern SA.	Inhabits arid and semi-arid woodlands dominated by mulga (*Acacia aneura*), mallee and box ecualypts, slender cypress pine (*Callitris gracilis*) or belah (*Casuarina cristata*).	Low	No – species is not known from the region.
Melanodryas cucullata cucullata	South-eastern Hooded Robin, Hooded Robin (south-eastern)	Bird	Endangered	Endangered	3	Found throughout much of inland NSW, with the exception of the extreme north-west, where it is replaced by subspecies picata.	Open eucalypt woodland, acacia scrub and mallee, often in or near clearings or open areas.	Low - may fly over grasslands	No - only three records within 10 km and limited suitable habitat present.
Melithreptus gularis gularis	Black-chinned Honeyeater	Bird	Vulnerable	Not listed	1	The Black-chinned Honeyeater has two subspecies, with only the nominate (gularis) occurring in NSW. The other subspecies (laetior) was formerly considered a separate species (Golden-backed Honeyeater) and is found in northern Australia between central Queensland west to the Pilbara in Western Australia. The eastern subspecies extends south from central Queensland, through NSW, Victoria	Occupies mostly upper levels of drier open forests or woodlands dominated by box and ironbark eucalypts, especially Mugga Ironbark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*), White Box (*E. albens*), Inland Grey Box (*E. microcarpa*), Yellow Box (*E. melliodora*), Blakely's Red Gum (*E. blakelyi*) and Forest Red Gum (*E. tereticornis)*.	Low	No - no suitable habitat present for the species within the Project Site and only one existing record within 10 km.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Class	BC Act status	EPBC Act status	Records within 10 km (NSW DCCEEW 2025a)	Distribution (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Habitat (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Likelihood of Occurrence	Impact Assessment Required
						into south eastern South Australia, though it is very rare in the last state. In NSW it is widespread, with records from the tablelands and western slopes of the Great Dividing Range to the north-west and central-west plains and the Riverina. It is rarely recorded east of the Great Dividing Range, although regularly observed from the Richmond and Clarence River areas. It has also been recorded at a few scattered sites in the Hunter, Central Coast and Illawarra regions, though it is very rare in the latter.			
Neophema chrysostoma	Blue-winged Parrot	Bird	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	A partial migrant, during the non-breeding period, from autumn to early spring, birds are recorded from northern VIC, eastern SA, south-western QLD and western NSW, with some birds reaching south-eastern NSW and eastern VIC. The species breeds in TAS, coastal south-eastern SA and southern VIC in spring-summer.	The species inhabits a range of habitats from coastal, sub-coastal and inland areas, through to semi-arid zones. Prefers grasslands and grassy woodlands and are often found near wetlands both near the coast and in semi-arid zones	Low	No – species is not known from the region.
Ninox connivens	Barking Owl	Bird	Vulnerable	Not listed	1	The Barking Owl is found throughout continental Australia except for the central arid regions. Although still common in parts of northern Australia, the species has declined greatly in southern Australia and now occurs in a wide but sparse distribution in NSW. Core populations exist on the western slopes and plains and in some northeast coastal and escarpment forests. Many populations crashed as woodland on fertile soils was cleared over the past century, leaving linear riparian strips of remnant trees as the last inhabitable areas. Surveys in 2001 demonstrated that the Pilliga Forest supported the largest population in southern Australia. The owls sometimes extend their home range into urban areas, hunting birds in garden trees and insects attracted to streetlights. Extensive wildfires in 2019-20 reduced habitat quality further, burnt many old, hollow-bearing trees needed as refuge by prey species and reduced the viability of some regional owl populations.	Inhabits woodland and open forest, including fragmented remnants and partly cleared farmland. It is flexible in its habitat use, and hunting can extend in to closed forest and more open areas. Sometimes able to successfully breed along timbered watercourses in heavily cleared habitats (e.g. western NSW) due to the higher density of prey found on these fertile riparian soils.	Low	No - while there is some limited potential foraging habitat present for this species within the Project Site there is only one record within 10 km and no impacts proposed to potential breeding habitat.
Ninox strenua	Powerful Owl	Bird	Vulnerable	Not listed	1	The Powerful Owl is endemic to eastern and south-eastern Australia, mainly on the coastal side of the Great Dividing Range from Mackay to south-western Victoria. In NSW, it is widely distributed throughout the eastern forests from the coast inland to tablelands, with scattered records on	The Powerful Owl requires large tracts of forest or woodland habitat but can occur in fragmented landscapes as well. The species breeds and hunts in open or closed sclerophyll forest or woodlands and occasionally hunts in open habitats. It roosts by day in dense vegetation	Low	No - while there is some limited potential foraging habitat present for this species within the Project Site there is only one record within 10 km and no impacts proposed to potential breeding habitat.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Class	BC Act status	EPBC Act status	Records within 10 km (NSW DCCEEW 2025a)	Distribution (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Habitat (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Likelihood of Occurrence	Impact Assessment Required
						the western slopes and plains suggesting occupancy prior to land clearing. Now at low densities throughout most of its eastern range, rare along the Murray River and former inland populations may never recover. Recent increases in population density across Sydney and some other semi-urban areas do not seem to be solely due to increased awareness of this flagship species.	comprising species such as Turpentine (*Syncarpia glomulifera)*, Black She-oak (*Allocasuarina littoralis)*, Blackwood (*Acacia melanoxylon)*, Rough-barked Apple (*Angophora floribunda)*, Cherry Ballart (*Exocarpus cupressiformis)* and a number of eucalypt species.		
Petroica boodang	Scarlet Robin	Bird	Vulnerable	Not listed	22	The Scarlet Robin is found from south east Queensland to south east South Australia and also in Tasmania and south west Western Australia. In NSW, it occurs from the coast to the inland slopes. After breeding, some Scarlet Robins disperse to the lower valleys and plains of the tablelands and slopes. Some birds may appear as far west as the eastern edges of the inland plains in autumn and winter.	The Scarlet Robin lives in dry eucalypt forests and woodlands. The understorey is usually open and grassy with few scattered shrubs.	Moderate - potential to forage in grasslands	No - while there is some suitable foraging habitat present within the Project Site and 22 existing records within 10 km, there are no impacts proposed to potential breeding habitat and large areas of suitable habitat within the broader landscape.
Petroica phoenicea	Flame Robin	Bird	Vulnerable	Not listed	9	The Flame Robin is endemic to south eastern Australia, and ranges from near the Queensland border to south east South Australia and also in Tasmania. In NSW, it breeds in upland areas and in winter, many birds move to the inland slopes and plains. It is likely that there are two separate populations in NSW, one in the Northern Tablelands, and another ranging from the Central to Southern Tablelands.	Breeds in upland tall moist eucalypt forests and woodlands, often on ridges and slopes. Prefers clearings or areas with open understoreys. The groundlayer of the breeding habitat is dominated by native grasses and the shrub layer may be either sparse or dense.	Moderate - potential to forage in grasslands	No - while there is some suitable foraging habitat present within the Project Site and nine existing records within 10 km, there are no impacts proposed to potential breeding habitat and large areas of suitable habitat within the broader landscape.
Polytelis swainsonii	Superb Parrot	Bird	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	7	In NSW, occurs on inland slopes of the Great Divide and on adjacent plains, especially along the major river-systems.	Box-gum woodland, Box-Cypress-pine and Boree Woodlands and River Red Gum Forest.	Low - may fly over grasslands	No - limited suitable habitat present within the Project Site and only seven records of the species within 10 km.
Pycnoptilus floccosus	Pilotbird	Bird	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	Endemic to south-east Australia. Upland Pilotbirds occur above 600 m in the Brindabella Ranges in the ACT, and in the Snowy Mountains in NSW and north-east VIC. Lowland Pilotbirds occur in forests from the Blue Mountains west of Newcastle, around the wetter forests of eastern Australia, to Dandenong near Melbourne.	Strictly terrestrial, living on the ground in dense forests with heavy undergrowth. Largely sedentary, they are typically seen hopping briskly over the forest floor and foraging on damp ground or among leaf-litter. Flight is described as fairly weak, though, if disturbed, birds can sometimes ascend into shrubs.	Low	No – species is not known from the region.
Rostratula australis	Australian Painted Snipe	Bird	Endangered	Endangered	0	In NSW most records are from the Murray-Darling Basin. Other recent records include wetlands on the Hawkesbury River and the Clarence and lower Hunter Valleys.	Swamps, dams and nearby marshy areas.	Low	No – species is not known from the region.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Class	BC Act status	EPBC Act status	Records within 10 km (NSW DCCEEW 2025a)	Distribution (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Habitat (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Likelihood of Occurrence	Impact Assessment Required
Stagonopleura guttata	Diamond Firetail	Bird	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	23	Widely distributed in NSW, mainly recorded in the Northern, Central and Southern Tablelands, the Northern, Central and South Western Slopes and the North West Plains and Riverina, and less commonly found in coastal areas and further inland.	Grassy eucalypt woodlands, open forest, mallee, Natural Temperate Grassland, secondary derived grassland, riparian areas and lightly wooded farmland.	Moderate - potential to forage in grasslands	No - there is potential foraging habitat present for the species within the Project Site and numerous records of the species within 10 km. However, the majority of the proposed total impacts will occur in areas not containing suitable habitat and the areas containing potential foraging habitat represent a small portion of the available habitats within the broader area.
Euastacus armatus	Murray Crayfish	Crustacean	Not listed	Vulnerable	0	*Euastacus armatus* is endemic to lotic waters of the southern Murray-Darling Basin. Historically their range was even greater extending from sea level, through semi-arid areas, to subalpine areas. The species has experienced declines in distribution and abundance. Since at least the mid-1980s, the species has been considered absent from the Murray River downstream of Mildura (for 779 km) and rare downstream of Barmah (upstream of Echuca) and in the Murrumbidgee River, for 720 km downstream of Darlington Point	Given its widespread distribution in stream habitat occurring through pasturelands to sclerophyll forest, and its occurrence in waterways on a spectrum from large rivers to small creeks, and particularly its broad altitudinal range, it appears that the species is tolerant of a variety of in-stream habitat conditions. At a microhabitat scale, the species prefers cool, flowing-water habitats (lotic) proximal to clay banks for burrowing, and wood or rock cover is characteristic of occupied areas	Low	No impacts to aquatic habitat are proposed
Bidyanus bidyanus	Silver Perch, Bidyan	Fish	Not listed	Endangered	0	Silver perch are endemic to the Murray-Darling system (including all states and sub-basins) (Allen et al., 2002; Lintermans, 2007). Hatchery-bred silver perch are also stocked out of their range in a number of impoundments on east coast river systems, where they seemingly fail to reproduce. However, a self-sustaining population of silver perch occurs in Cataract Dam in the Hawkesbury Nepean system.	Silver perch are consistently reported by anglers and researchers to show a general preference for faster-flowing water, including rapids and races, and more open sections of river, throughout the Murray-Darling Basin (Clunie and Koehn, 2001). In the upper Murrumbidgee River during the 1960s and 1970s, the species was renowned for migrating into clear fast-flowing rapids in summer, in which anglers observed and targeted them (Pratt, 1979).	Low	No impacts to aquatic habitat are proposed
Maccullochella macquariensis	Trout Cod	Fish	Not listed	Endangered	0	The Trout Cod is endemic to the Murray-Darling River system in south-eastern Australia, with records from the Murray River (SA & NSW), Murrumbidgee River (NSW & ACT), Macquarie River (NSW) and the Goulburn, Broken, Campaspe, Ovens, King, Buffalo and Mitta Mitta Rivers (Vic). At present only two potentially sustainable, breeding populations of Trout Cod are known: a naturally occurring population in the Murray River (NSW) downstream of the Yarrawonga Weir between Yarrawonga and Barmah (Cadwallader & Gooley 1984; Ingram et al. 1990; Douglas et al. 1994), and the translocated population in Seven Creeks below Polly McQuinns Weir (Vic)	The Trout Cod is a riverine species, inhabiting a variety of flowing waters in the mid to upper reaches of rivers and streams with cover in the form of woody debris or boulders.	Low	No impacts to aquatic habitat are proposed

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Maccullochella peelii	Murray Cod	Fish	Not listed	Vulnerable	0	Murray Darling Basin.	Diverse range of habitats from clear rocky streams, such as those found in the upper western slopes of to slow-flowing, turbid lowland rivers. Frequently found in the main channels of rivers and larger tributaries. The species is, therefore, considered a main-channel specialist.	Low	No impacts to aquatic habitat are proposed
Macquaria australasica	Macquarie Perch	Fish	Not listed	Endangered	0	In New South Wales, extant populations are known to occur in the upper reaches of the Lachlan, Murrumbidgee and Murray catchments in the Murray-Darling Basin, and in the Hawkesbury/Nepean catchment on the east coast (Lintermans, 2007).	n the Murray-Darling Basin, the species was once typically found in the cool, upper reaches of drainage systems located in southern New South Wales, the Australian Capital Territory and northern Victoria.	Low	No impacts to aquatic habitat are proposed
Crinia sloanei	Sloane's Froglet	Frog	Endangered	Endangered	0	Floodplains of the Murray-Darling Basin, with the majority of records in the Darling Riverine Plains, NSW South Western Slopes and Riverina bioregions in NSW.	Periodically inundated areas in grassland, woodland and disturbed habitats.	Low	No - no suitable habitat present and no records within 10 km of the Project Site.
Litoria booroolongensis	Booroolong Frog	Frog	Endangered	Endangered	7	Restricted to NSW and north-eastern Victoria, predominantly along the western-flowing streams of the Great Dividing Range. Several populations have recently been recorded in the Namoi catchment.	Permanent streams with some fringing vegetation cover such as ferns, sedges or grasses.	Low	No - no suitable habitat present and only seven records within 10 km of the Project Site.
Litoria raniformis	Southern Bell Frog, Growling Grass Frog, Green and Golden Frog, Warty Swamp Frog, Golden Bell Frog	Frog	Endangered	Vulnerable	0	In NSW, only known to exist in isolated populations in the Coleambally Irrigation Area, the Lowbidgee floodplain and around Lake Victoria. A few recent unconfirmed records have also been made in the Murray Irrigation Area.	Permanent or ephemeral Black Box/Lignum/Nitre Goosefoot swamps, Lignum/Typha swamps and River Red Gum swamps or billabongs along floodplains and river valleys. Also found in irrigated rice crops.	Low	No - no suitable habitat present and no records within 10 km of the Project Site.
Keyacris scurra	Key's Matchstick Grasshopper	Insect	Endangered	Endangered	0	Key's Matchstick grasshopper was originally distributed from Victoria to Orange (NSW) across the wheat/sheep belt, typically recorded in native grasslands and grassy woodland. Its northern boundaries are poorly defined, with its Victorian distribution most notable in the Omeo district, and it has been found in remnant vegetation with sympathetic management including private land, cemeteries, along railway easements, travelling stock routes and more recently conservation reserves in the ACT.	Typically found in native grasslands and grassy woodlands but it has also been recorded in other vegetation associations usually containing a native grass understory (especially kangaroo grass Themeda triandra) and known food plants (particularly Asteraceae).	Low	No - limited suitable habitat present within the Project Site and no existing records within 10 km.
Synemon plana	Golden Sun Moth	Insect	Endangered	Vulnerable	4	NSW populations are found in the area between Queanbeyan, Gunning, Young and Tumut.	Natural Temperate Grasslands and grassy Box-Gum Woodlands in which groundlayer is dominated by Austrodanthonia spp. (wallaby grasses).	Low	No - limited suitable habitat present within the Project Site and only four existing records within 10 km.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Class	BC Act status	EPBC Act status	Records within 10 km (NSW DCCEEW 2025a)	Distribution (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Habitat (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Likelihood of Occurrence	Impact Assessment Required
Chalinolobus dwyeri	Large-eared Pied Bat, Large Pied Bat	Mammal	Endangered	Endangered	0	Recorded from Rockhampton in Qld south to Ulladulla in NSW. Largest concentrations of populations occur in the sandstone escarpments of the Sydney basin and the NSW north-west slopes.	Wet and dry sclerophyll forests, Cyprus Pine dominated forest, woodland, sub-alpine woodland, edges of rainforests and sandstone outcrop country. Roosts in caves, rock overhangs and disused mine shafts and as such is usually associated with rock outcrops and cliff faces. It also possibly roosts in the hollows of trees.	Low	No - no existing records within 10 km of the Project Site and no suitable habitat present.
Dasyurus maculatus maculatus (SE mainland population)	Spot-tailed Quoll, Spotted-tail Quoll, Tiger Quoll (southeastern mainland population)	Mammal	Vulnerable	Endangered	1	Found on the east coast of NSW, Tasmania, eastern Victoria and north-eastern Qld.	Rainforest, open forest, woodland, coastal heath and inland riparian forest, from the sub-alpine zone to the coastline.	Low	No - only one existing records within 10 km of the Project Site and limited suitable habitat present.
Mastacomys fuscus mordicus	Broad-toothed Rat (mainland), Tooarrana	Mammal	Vulnerable	Endangered	0	Scattered records cross the Great Dividing Range from near Warburton (Vic) to the Brindabella Range (ACT) and around Barrington Tops.	A terrestrial and mostly nocturnal rodent found in alpine and subalpine heathlands, grasslands adjacent to boulder outcrops, swamps, sedgelands, coastal grassy or shrubby dunes, and sometimes forests with grassy understories. Preferred habitats are those with rocks and shrubs including Phenalium and Prostanthera sp.	Low	No - no existing records within 10 km of the Project Site and no suitable habitat present.
Miniopterus orianae oceanensis	Large Bent-winged Bat	Mammal	Vulnerable	Not listed	1	Large Bent-winged Bats occur along the east and north-west coasts of Australia.	Caves are the primary roosting habitat, but also use derelict mines, storm-water tunnels, buildings and other man-made structures. Hunt in forested areas, catching moths and other flying insects above the tree tops.	Low	No - there is potential that the species could forage over the Project Site, however this species prefers to forage over woodland. No impacts proposed to breeding habitat and only one record within 10 km.
Myotis macropus	Southern Myotis	Mammal	Vulnerable	Not listed	1	The Southern Myotis is found in the coastal band from the north-west of Australia, across the top-end and south to western Victoria. It is rarely found more than 100 km inland, except along major rivers.	Generally roost in groups of 10 - 15 close to water in caves, mine shafts, hollow-bearing trees, storm water channels, buildings, wharves, bridges and in dense foliage. Forage over streams and pools catching insects and small fish by raking their feet across the water surface.	Low	No - no suitable habitat for this species within the Project Site and only one record within 10 km.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Class	BC Act status	EPBC Act status	Records within 10 km (NSW DCCEEW 2025a)	Distribution (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Habitat (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Likelihood of Occurrence	Impact Assessment Required
Nyctophilus corbeni	Corben's Long-eared Bat, South-eastern Long-eared Bat	Mammal	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	Distribution coincides approximately with the Murray Darling Basin; the Pilliga Scrub region is the distinct stronghold for this species.	Mallee, Allocasuarina luehmannii (bulloke) and box eucalypt-dominated communities, especially box/ironbark/cypress-pine vegetation. Roosts in tree hollows, crevices, and under loose bark. Slow flying agile bat, utilising the understorey to hunt non-flying prey - especially caterpillars and beetles - and will even hunt on the ground.	Low	No - no existing records within 10 km of the Project Site and no suitable habitat present.
Petauroides volans	Greater Glider (southern and central)	Mammal	Endangered	Endangered	0	Eastern Australia, from the Windsor Tableland in north Queensland through to central Victoria (Wombat State Forest).	Eucalypt forests and woodlands. It is typically found in highest abundance in taller, montane, moist eucalypt forests with relatively old trees and abundant hollows.	Low	No - no existing records within 10 km of the Project Site and no suitable habitat present.
Petaurus australis australis	Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern)	Mammal		Vulnerable	1	Along the eastern coast to the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range, from southern Qld to Victoria.	Tall mature eucalypt forest generally in areas with high rainfall and nutrient rich soils.	Low	No - only one existing records within 10 km of the Project Site and limited suitable habitat present.
Phascolarctos cinereus (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT)	Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory)	Mammal	Endangered	Endangered	1	In NSW it mainly occurs on the central and north coasts with some populations in the west of the Great Dividing Range. There are sparse and possibly disjunct populations in the Bega District, and at several sites on the southern tablelands.	Eucalypt woodlands and forests.	Low	No - only one existing records within 10 km of the Project Site and limited suitable habitat present.
Pseudomys fumeus	Smoky Mouse, Konoom	Mammal	Critically Endangered	Endangered	0	In south-east NSW occurs at a small number of sites in Kosciuszko NP, Bondo SF and Ingbyra SF, and around Mt Poole, Nullica SF and South East Forests NP.	Sclerophyll forest, heathland and open-forest, mainly on ridgetops but sometimes occurs in ferny gullies.	Low	No - no existing records within 10 km of the Project Site and no suitable habitat present.
Pteropus poliocephalus	Grey-headed Flying-fox	Mammal	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	Along the eastern coast of Australia, from Bundaberg in Qld to Melbourne in Victoria.	Subtropical and temperate rainforests, tall sclerophyll forests and woodlands, heaths and swamps as well as urban gardens and cultivated fruit crops.	Low	No - no existing records within 10 km of the Project Site and no suitable habitat present.
Ammobium craspedioides	Yass Daisy	Plant	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	1,064	Found from near Crookwell on the Southern Tablelands to near Wagga Wagga on the South Western Slopes.	Moist or dry forest communities, Box-Gum Woodland and secondary grassland.	High	**Yes - this species has previously been detected during targeted survey within the broader windfarm Development Corridor. While there are no proposed impacts to known locations of this species, there is potential for individuals not detected during field survey to be impacted within areas containing derived native grassland. An impact assessment has been undertaken.**
Amphibromus fluitans	River Swamp Wallaby-grass, Floating Swamp Wallaby-grass	Plant	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	In NSW, recorded recently in lagoons beside the Murray River near Cooks Lagoon, Mungabarina Reserve, East Albury, at Ettamogah, Thurgoona, near Narranderra, near Mathoura, and near Laggan.	Swamp margins, dam and tank beds and in semi-dry mud of lagoons with Potamogeton and Chamaeraphis species.	Low	No - there are no existing records of this species within 10 km of the Project Site. Further, no potential habitat of the species is proposed to be impacted for digging of the bore holes and test pits.
Caladenia concolor	Crimson Spider-orchid, Maroon Spider-orchid	Plant	Endangered	Vulnerable	7	Currently known from 3 populations in the vicinity of Cootamundra, Lake Burrinjuck and Albury.	Sclerophyll forest on clay loams or gravelly soils, regrowth woodland on granite ridges.	Low	No - while there are seven existing records of this species within 10 km of the Project Site these are all located in National Park containing higher quality habitat. There is limited suitable habitat present within the Project Site.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Class	BC Act status	EPBC Act status	Records within 10 km (NSW DCCEEW 2025a)	Distribution (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Habitat (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Likelihood of Occurrence	Impact Assessment Required
Grevillea iaspicula	Wee Jasper Grevillea	Plant	Critically Endangered	Endangered	24	Wee Jasper area and on the shores of Lake Burrinjuck near Burrinjuck village on the border of the Southern Tablelands and South Western Slopes.	Rocky outcrops, cave entrances and cliff bases in limestone country.	Low	No - this species is only known from the Wee Jasper area and the shores of Lake Burrinjuck. While there are numerous records within 10 km of the Project Site, there is no suitable habitat present.
Lepidium aschersonii	Spiny Peppercress	Plant	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	In NSW, occurs in the marginal central-western slopes and north-western plains regions (and potentially the south western plains).	Found on ridges of gilgai clays dominated by Acacia harpophylla (Brigalow), Casuarina cristata (Belah), Allocasuarina luehmanii (Buloke) and Eucalyptus microcarpa (Grey Box).	Low	No - there are no existing records of this species within 10 km of the Project Site. Further, no potential habitat of the species is proposed to be impacted for digging of the bore holes and test pits.
Pimelea bracteata	--	Plant	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered	0	Pimelea bracteata is endemic to New South Wales where it is currently known from the Southern Tablelands. The main areas of occurrence of P. bracteata are in the northern area of Kosciuszko National Park, Scabby Range Nature Reserve, neighbouring State Forests and freehold land.	Pimelea bracteata occurs in wetlands and along waterways and stream edges in high altitude treeless subalpine valleys. It can also occur in wet heathland and closed heath.	Low	No - there are no existing records of this species within 10 km of the Project Site. Further, no potential habitat of the species is proposed to be impacted for digging of the bore holes and test pits.
Pomaderris cotoneaster	Cotoneaster Pomaderris	Plant	Endangered	Endangered	0	Recorded in NSW from the Nungatta area, northern Kosciuszko National Park (near Tumut), the Tantawangalo area in South-East Forests National Park and adjoining freehold land, Badgery's Lookout near Tallong, the Yerranderie area, the Canyonleigh area and Ettrema Gorge in Morton National Park.	Generally dry sclerophyll forest, often on skeletal soil.	Low	No - there are no existing records of this species within 10 km of the Project Site. Further, no potential habitat of the species is proposed to be impacted for digging of the bore holes and test pits.
Prasophyllum petilum	Tarengo Leek Orchid	Plant	Endangered	Endangered	0	Four sites in NSW: at Boorowa, Captains Flat, Ilford and Delegate. Also experimentally introduced at Bowning Cemetery NSW.	Natural Temperate Grassland, grassy woodland, and Box-Gum woodland.	Low	No - there are no existing records of this species within 10 km of the Project Site. Further, limited potential habitat of the species is proposed to be impacted for digging of the bore holes and test pits.
Senecio garlandii	Woolly Ragwort	Plant	Vulnerable		1	This daisy is found between Temora, Bethungra and Albury and possibly Burrinjuck near Yass. The largest populations are at The Rock and Mt Tabletop (and surrounds). There is a single population in Victoria at Chiltern.	Woolly Ragwort occurs on sheltered slopes of rocky outcrops.	Low	No - there is only one existing record of this species within 10 km of the Project Site and none identified during targeted flora surveys.
Senecio macrocarpus	Large-fruit Fireweed, Large-fruit Groundsel	Plant		Vulnerable	0	One population has been discovered near Gundaroo, NSW with other populations found in more abundance in Yorke Peninsula western SA and across to Victoria between Wimmera and Melbourne.	NSW populations occur in partly cleared dry forests and box-gum woodlands which transition to Brittle Gum Forest with a relatively undisturbed understorey of native grasses, forbes and subshrubs. The species is associated with other EPBC listed species including Thelymitra epipactoides, T. matthewsii, Olearia pannosa spp. pannosa, Rutidosis leptorrhynchoides and Comesperma polygaloides.	Low	No - there are no existing records of this species within 10 km of the Project Site. Further, limited potential habitat of the species is proposed to be impacted for digging of the bore holes and test pits.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Class	BC Act status	EPBC Act status	Records within 10 km (NSW DCCEEW 2025a)	Distribution (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Habitat (NSW DCCEEW 2025b)	Likelihood of Occurrence	Impact Assessment Required
Swainsona recta	Small Purple-pea, Mountain Swainson-pea, Small Purple Pea	Plant	Endangered	Endangered	0	Queanbeyan and Wellington-Mudgee areas. Historically also recorded at Carcoar, Culcairn and Wagga Wagga.	Grassland, open woodland and open forests dominated by Eucalyptus blakelyi (Blakely's Red Gum), E. melliodora (Yellow Box), E. rubida (Candlebark Gum) and E. goniocalyx (Long-leaf Box).	Low	No - there are no existing records of this species within 10 km of the Project Site. Further, limited potential habitat of the species is proposed to be impacted for digging of the bore holes and test pits.
Thesium australe	Austral Toadflax, Toadflax	Plant	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	In eastern NSW it is found in very small populations scattered along the coast, and from the Northern to Southern Tablelands.	Grassland on coastal headlands or grassland and grassy woodland away from the coast.	Low	No - there are no existing records of this species within 10 km of the Project Site. Further, limited potential habitat of the species is proposed to be impacted for digging of the bore holes and test pits.
Aprasia parapulchella	Pink-tailed Worm-lizard, Pink-tailed Legless Lizard	Reptile	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	In NSW, only known from the Central and Southern Tablelands, and the South Western Slopes.	Sloping, open woodland areas with predominantly native grassy groundlayers, rocky outcrops or scattered, partially-buried rocks.	Low	No - no existing records of the species within 10 km of the Project Site. Limited suitable habitat to be impacted by the proposal.
Delma impar	Striped Legless Lizard, Striped Snake-lizard	Reptile	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	0	In NSW, occurs in the Southern Tablelands, the South West Slopes and possibly on the Riverina.	Natural Temperate Grassland, secondary and modified grassland, open Box-Gum Woodland.	Low	No - no existing records of the species within 10 km of the Project Site. Limited suitable habitat to be impacted by the proposal.

Appendix B - EPBC Act Significant impact criteria (*Ammobium craspedioides* (Yass Daisy))

Ammobium craspedioides (Yass Daisy) was recorded within the Development Corridor during preliminary field surveys for the BDAR (Figure 2). Potential habitat in the form of PCTs 3376, 3540, 3541 and 3730 was present within the Development Corridor. The proposed work may impact up to 36.16 m^2 (0.0036 ha) of potential *A. craspedioides* habitat across the 3,621.18 ha Development Corridor through the drilling of bore holes and excavation of test pits. Considering that this species occurs in the Development Corridor, and may occur in DNG habitat affected by the proposed work, the significant impact criteria was applied with respect to the *A. craspedioides* and concluded that the proposed work is unlikely to result in a significant impact to this species.

Table 4: EPBC Act - Significant impact criteria for Yass Daisy

Criteria	Response
An action is likely to have a significant impact on a vulnerable species if there is a real chance or possibility that it will:	
lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population* of a species	*Ammobium craspedioides* occurs in dry forest, Box-Gum Woodland and secondary grassland derived from clearing of these communities (DEWHA 2008). Records of *A. craspedioides* occur within the Development Corridor, with known populations occurring outside of the Development Corridor in the surrounding landscape. Six clusters of *A. craspedioides* have been observed during preliminary field survey of the Development Corridor, though individual species numbers were not documented (Figure 2). The removal/modification of this potential habitat may lead to a long-term decrease in the size of the identified population within the Development Corridor. However, this is not considered an important population for the species.
reduce the area of occupancy of an important population	The proposed works may affect 36.16 m^2 (0.0036 ha) of potential Yass Daisy habitat in DNG condition. across the 3,621.18 ha Development Corridor. The species is known to occur, with six (6) clusters having been identified in areas mapped as 'High' condition vegetation within the Development Corridor. Further, individuals identified within the Development Corridor are not considered important populations for the species. Therefore, the proposed work is unlikely reduce the area of occupancy of an important population for the *A. craspedioides.*
fragment an existing important population into two or more populations	The proposed works will result in small areas of disturbed groundcover vegetation. This would not create any barriers to dispersal of pollen or propagules for this species. Additionally, the individuals off *A. craspedioides* recorded within the Development Corridor are not considered to be an important population for the species. Therefore, the proposed works will not result in the fragmentation of an existing important population into two or more.
adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species	The Approved Conservation Advice for the *A. craspedioides* does not specify what constitutes habitat critical to the survival of this species. For this assessment, a precautionary approach has been undertaken and assumed that the population present may be important for maintaining genetic diversity and long-term development for the species. The Development Corridor therefore may contain habitat critical to the survival of A. craspedioides. The proposed works may affect 36.16 m^2 (0.0036 ha) of DNG habitat for *A. craspedioides*, however, all test pits and the majority of bore holes will be backfilled and allowed the regenerate. Consequently, the proposed works are unlikely to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of *A. craspedioides* to the extent which would be considered a significant impact.
disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population	The Conservation Advice for the species does provide details on the species breeding cycle (DEWHA 2008). However, no important population is known to occur within the Development Corridor. Therefore, the Proposed Action will not disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population of *A. craspedioides*.
modify, destroy, remove or isolate or decrease the availability or quality of	The proposed works may affect 36.16 m^2 (0.0036 ha) of potential habitat for *A. craspedioides* across an area of 3,621.18 ha.. This scale of habitat modification or removal is considered minor in comparison to the habitat available in the Development Corridor

Criteria	Response
habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline	and the surrounding landscape, and is not considered to be an extent that the species is likely to decline.
result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat	The Approved Conservation Advice highlights the *Nassella trichotoma* (Serrated Tussock), *Onopordum acanthium* (Scotch Thistle) and *Hypericum perforatum* (St John's Wort) as invasive species which present a threat to *A. craspedioides* (DEWHA 2008). Given the surrounding landscape is heavily modified by historical farming practices, it is unlikely that the proposed work would increase the likelihood of invasive species becoming established in potential habitat for *A. craspedioides* above existing levels. The disturbance to soils may stimulate the growth of weeds. Weed hygiene would ensure that no new weed species are introduced to the site, and existing weeds are not spread around the site.
introduce disease that may cause the species to decline	There are no currently listed diseases known to threatened *A. craspedioides* (DEWHA 2008). The proposed work is unlikely to introduce a disease which will result in the species' decline.
interfere substantially with the recovery of the species.	The proposed work may interfere with the recovery of *A. craspedioides*. The conservation advice previously listed ensuring the development of another wind farm (Conroy's Gap) does not have a significant impact on *A. craspedioides* as a local priority for the recovery of the species (DEWHA 2008).
Conclusion – is there likely to be a significant impact?	No – the proposed works may temporarily impact 36.16 m^2 (0.0036 ha) of potential DNG habitat for *A. crasepedioides*. This is not considered significant for the following reasons: • This species is a perennial herb, known from roadsides, grazed areas and disturbed areas and appears to tolerate a low degree of disturbance • All test pits, and the majority of bore holes will be backfilled, leaving the soil seed bank intact, along with any propagules of *A. crasedioides* that may be present. • The area of disturbance is considered to be low in comparison to the area of suitable habitat in the surrounding landscape.
*An 'important population' is a population that is necessary for a species' long-term survival and recovery. This may include populations identified as such in recovery plans, and/or that are: • key source populations either for breeding or dispersal • populations that are necessary for maintaining genetic diversity, and/or • populations that are near the limit of the species range.	

Appendix C - BC Act Test of Significance

Considering that this species occurs in the Development Corridor, and may occur in DNG habitat affected by the proposed work, BC Act test of significance a was applied with respect to *A. craspedioides* and concluded that the proposed work is unlikely to result in a significant impact to this species (Table 5).

Table 5: BC Act - Test of Significance for Yass Daisy

BC Act	Question	Response
7.3.1 a)	In the case of a threatened species: whether the proposed development or activity is likely to have an adverse effect on the life cycle of the species such that a viable local population of the species is likely to be placed at risk of extinction	*Ammobium craspedioides* (Yass Daisy) was recorded within the Development Corridor during preliminary field surveys for the BDAR. Potential habitat in the form of PCTs 3376, 3540, 3541 and 3730 was present within the Development Corridor. The proposed work may impact up to 36.16 m² (0.0036 ha) of potential *A. craspedioides* habitat across the Development Corridor through the drilling of bore holes and excavation of test pits. The area of impacts proposed within the Project Site is not of a scale that the life cycle of the local population of this species is likely to be placed at risk of extinction.
7.3.1 b) i	In the case of an endangered ecological community or critically endangered ecological community, whether the proposed development or activity: Is likely to have an adverse effect on the extent of the ecological community such that its local occurrence is likely to be placed at risk of extinction, or	Not applicable.
7.3.1 b) ii	In the case of an endangered ecological community or critically endangered ecological community: Whether the proposed development or activity is likely to substantially and adversely modify the composition of the ecological community such that its local occurrence is likely to be placed at risk of extinction.	Not applicable.
7.3.1 c) i	In relation to the habitat of a threatened species or ecological community: The extent to which habitat is likely to be removed or modified as a result of the proposed development or activity	The proposed works may affect 36.16 m² (0.0036 ha) of DNG habitat. This impact is spread out across the Development Corridor which is approximately 3,621.18 ha (Figure 2). The majority of test pits and bore holes will be backfilled and allowed to regenerate and the overall extent of the habitat modification is considered to be minor.
7.3.1 c) ii	In relation to the habitat of a threatened species or ecological community: Whether an area of habitat is likely to become fragmented or isolated from other areas of habitat as a result of the proposed development or activity	The proposed works will result in small areas of disturbed groundcover vegetation (a total of approximately 36.16 m² (0.0036 ha)) across 3,621.18 ha. This would not create any barriers to dispersal of pollen or propagules for this species, and the proposed works are unlikely to result in the habitat becoming fragment ed or isolated from other areas of habitat.

BC Act	Question	Response
7.3.1 c) iii	In relation to the habitat of a threatened species or ecological community: The importance of the habitat to be removed, modified, fragmented or isolated to the long-term survival of the species, population or ecological community in the locality.	Not applicable.
7.3.1 d)	Whether the proposed development or activity is likely to have an adverse effect on any declared area of outstanding biodiversity value (either directly or indirectly).	The proposed activity will not impact on any declared areas of outstanding biodiversity values.
7.3.1 e)	Whether the proposed development or activity is or is part of a key threatening process or is likely to increase the impact of a key threatening process.	Threats to this species relevant to the proposed works include invasion of weeds, and vehicle disturbance, Given the surrounding landscape is heavily modified by historical farming practices, it is unlikely that the proposed work would increase the likelihood of invasive species becoming established in potential habitat for *A. craspedioides* above existing levels. The disturbance to soils may stimulate the growth of weeds. Weed hygiene would ensure that no new weed species are introduced to the site, and existing weeds are not spread around the site. Existing tracks will be utilised to access the test pits and drill holes. Any resulting impacts are considered to be negligible to potential DNG habitat for this species due to the very small scale of the impacts proposed, and the high area of equivalent habitat in the Development Corridor and in the surrounding landscape.
Conclusion	**Is there likely to be a significant impact?**	No – the proposed works may temporarily impact 36.16 m^2 (0.0036 ha) of potential DNG habitat for *A. crasepedioides*. This is not considered significant for the following reasons: • This species is a perennial herb, known from roadsides, grazed areas and disturbed areas and appears to tolerate a low degree of disturbance • All test pits, and the majority of bore holes will be backfilled, leaving the soil seed bank intact, along with any propagules of *A. crasedioides* that may be present. • The area of disturbance is considered to be low in comparison to the area of suitable habitat in the surrounding landscape.