

SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS DEDICATED TO ACHIEVING ECOLOGICAL AND ECONOMICAL BALANCE

LEADING THE WAY IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PLAN – BUSHLAND DRIVE, TAREE MURRAY CONSULTING

April 2025

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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
DCP	Development Control Plan
НМС	Home Maker Centre
HTW	High Threat Weeds
LGA	Local Government Area
LLS	Local Land Services
MCC	MidCoast Council
NSW	New South Wales
NRAR	Natural Resource Access Regulator
РСТ	Plant Community Type
REF	Review of Environmental Factors
VMP	Vegetation Management Plan
VRZ	Vegetated Riparian Zone
WoNS	Weeds Of National Significance



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1. Background Information

1.1 Introduction

Biodiversity Australia Pty Ltd was commissioned to prepare a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) for a proposed Development at 202 Bushland Drive, Taree, NSW, 2430 (Lot 1 DP1228883). Previously, Boyds Bay Group Environmental (BBGE) prepared a BDAR (BBGE 2024) in January 2024. A VMP has been prepared as requested for the C2 Environmental Conservation Area, located in the east of the property.

1.2 Development Proposal

The proposal is to create a Home Maker Centre (HMC) on Lot 1 DP1228883 (the Subject Site), by developing a portion of the E4 Zoned land into a Home Maker Centre with sixteen tenancies and associated infrastructure (i.e. car parking, roads and stormwater infrastructure. This development requires consent under Part 4 of the EP&A Act. The Subject Land location is shown in Figure 1.

1.3 Site Description

The subject site is comprised of an abandoned mill and multiple sheds in the southwest of the site, as well as an abandoned railroad track. A large, cleared dirt and gravel area lies to the east of the abandoned buildings. Surrounding the cleared area is a mixture of exotic and native vegetation, conforming to two PCT's (3249 and 4020) (Figure 3). The understorey throughout the site is generally dominated by exotic species lantana and small-leaved privet. Several mapped watercourses appear on the site, including first order streams and second order streams connected to existing stormwater infrastructure, one likely being an urban drain (Boyds Bay Environmental Services, 2024).

The site is relatively flat with elevation ranging from 16 to 20m above sea level. It is bordered by Bushland Drive and rural-residential lots to the north, a Bunnings and several vacant lots to the west, a railroad track and a golf course to the west, and Grey Gum Road and a combination of industrial sheds and a residential neighbourhood to the south. The land was previously owned by Transport Access Holdings Entity (TAHE) and was being used as the Boradze Rail Depot.

1.4 C2 Environmental Conservation Area

The approved vegetation clearing footprint has been reduced to retain existing native vegetation on the eastern boundary of the site. The approved footprints are shown in Figures 1 and 2. As noted within the BDAR, while the proposal will result in a loss of native vegetation, however the proposed retention and restoration of the area zoned as C2 Environmental Conservation Area will not lead to a net loss in habitat connectivity.

1.5 Statement of Intent

The intent of this document is to guide the Vegetation Management within the C2 Environmental Area in accordance with the BDAR (Boyds Bay Environmental Services, 2024) and Guidelines for vegetation management plans within MidCoast Council (MidCoast Council 2024).

This Plan should be implemented for a minimum period of five (5) years or until such time as the outlined performance criteria is achieved, whichever is longer. This plan should be implemented by a suitably qualified or experience bush regeneration contractor. Bush regenerators should either be a member of the Australian Association of Bush Regenerators or possess the required qualifications for membership. It is intended that this report is written and implemented with an adaptive approach so that it can be utilised in perpetuity.





Figure 1: Location of the subject land





Figure 2: Development Layout



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1.6 Vegetation Communities

Previously owned by Transport Access Holdings Entity (TAHE), the subject land was used dominantly as a Boradze Rail Depot. Previous owners had cleared areas of the subject land to accommodate a mill. Natural soil within the subject land consist of a sandy topsoil, with a dense meta-sediment layer. A total of 4.5 ha is set to be cleared, consisting of the PCT's listed within Table 1 and presented within Figure 3. 37% of the subject land is covered in native vegetation cover.

Table 1: Plant Community Types Within Subject Land

PCT ID	PCT Name	Subject Land
0		4.27
3249	Northern Bloodwood-Ironbark Moist Grassy Forest	4.13
4020	Coastal Creekflat Layered Grass-Sedge Swamp Forest	0.1
	Total area	8.5

The C2 Environmental Conservation Area consists of predominately PCT 3249 – moderate, with other areas being PCT 0 – non-native grassland and lantana shrubland. Forest Red Gum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*) and White Mahogany (*Eucalyptus acmenoides*) dominate the canopy, with red bloodwood (*Corymbia intermedia*), spotted gum (*Corymbia maculata*), and northern grey ironbark (*Eucalyptus siderophloia*) also occurring.

Narrow-lead Privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) and Lantana (*Lantana camara*) dominate the mid-stratum, with white dogwood (*Ozothamnus diosmifolius*) also present. The entire Flora species list recorded within the subject land is presented in Appendix A.

1.7 Development Impacts

The Subject site covers an area of 8.5 ha. The area of impact includes the HMC and associated infrastructure The development footprint is zoned as E4 - General Industrial, while the area to be retained is classed as C2 - Environmental Conservation. No development or construction activities are to occur within the C2 - Environmental Conservation Area.

Following development activities, the reserved area will be rehabilitated in accordance with Guidelines for vegetation management plans within MidCoast Council (MidCoast Council 2024). Habitat connectivity will remain intact, due to the eastern vegetation being retained, resulting in connectivity remaining to the adjacent habitat in the east.





Figure 3: Plant community types and Hydrolines within the Subject Land



2. VMP Objectives and Scope

The overarching objective of this VMP is to remediate and restore a fully structure native vegetation community within the are mapped as the e he 2 Environmental Conservation Area (Figure 2). The achievement of this objective will be facilitated by the implementation of revegetation, weed control and adaptive management techniques with the aim of improving ecological health and integrity and habitat values and connectivity.

More specifically, the objective of the VMP is to provide a framework for the ecological restoration of a fully structured native community with species consistent with PCT 3249 Northern Bloodwood-Ironbark Moist Grassy Forest throughout the C2 Environmental Conservation Area.

This VMP encompasses an establishment period assumed to be two (2) years, followed by a three (3) year maintenance period, or until the performance criteria of this VMP are met, whichever is longer. The establishment period of this VMP is defined by the occurrence of construction activities associated with the VMP, preliminary weed control, soil preparation works, revegetation and irrigation. Following the completion of the estimated two-year establishment period, the three-year maintenance period can commence.



3. Construction Activities

3.1.1 Fencing

The development footprint and the boundary of the VMP area should be fenced to prevent the movement of native fauna into the site during construction activities and prevent machinery entering the VMP without a supervising bush regenerator contractor. Fencing should be Koala friendly and not contain any barbed wire.

3.1.2 Vegetation removal

Vegetation removal during development construction is limited to the development footprint (Figure 2). No vegetation is to be removed from the C2 Environmental Conservation Area throughout construction. It is recommended that a preclearance survey be undertaken to determine the location of hollow bearing trees and suitable re-use material (i.e. native seed collection, hollows, rocks, fallen timber etc) for placement within the VMP area to enhance habitat values.

Vegetation removal should be undertaken with a suitably qualified ecologist or wires career present on site to ensure the safety of fauna present on site. Any fauna present on site during vegetation removal should be captured and released in a suitable area and at a suitable time for that species. Any injured fauna should be taken immediately to a vet clinic for further treatment.

Mulch created from vegetation clearing of native vegetation can be utilised on site for incorporation into the soil profile and weed suppression. However, mulch generated from exotic vegetation should be disposed of at an appropriate licensed facility.

3.1.3 Soil Preparation

Following the exclusion of all vehicle movements from the VMP area, areas subject to revegetation will require soil preparation works following the adequate treatment of exotic species. Soil preparation throughout the revegetation areas aims to alleviate compaction, assist with weed control and increase water infiltration. It is recommended that soil testing be undertaken prior to revegetation to determine the appropriate ameliorants such as composts and fertilisers.

Following the incorporation of ameliorants if required, soils should be ripped and cultivated to a minimum depth of 200mm to produce a light and friable consistency suitable for revegetation.

3.1.4 Soil and water management

A stormwater management plan (SWMP) should be prepared to manage stormwater, erosion and runoff throughout the site during construction activities. The SWMP should provide details of soil and water management and control measures throughout construction, to ensure no pollution occurs downstream or to the C2 Environmental Conservation Area.

3.1.5 Hygiene protocols

All imported topsoils should be weed free and compliant with AS4419.2003: Soils for Landscaping and garden use. Additionally, the Biosecurity (Fire Ant) Emergency Order (No. 12) will be adopted throughout the construction process and management measures for flora and fauna pathogens such as *Phytophthora cinnamomic* and the fungus responsible for chytridiomycosis should be implemented during all construction and vegetation management activities.



3.1.6 Habitat Enhancement

During vegetation removal and debris removal, hollow stems or sections of trees if discovered should be translocated to suitable areas within the VMP area. Similarly large woody material (>100mm diameter) removed from the development footprint should be retained within for use within the C2 Environmental Area to create habitat for native fauna and enhance nutrient cycling and soil stability. Logs should be placed in piles to provide microhabitats for multiple fauna species, following placement of these piles, piles should be star picketed and wired to reduce potential for movement. Additionally, mulch created form the removal of native vegetation can be utilised within the VMP area to aid in suppression of exotic species, increase soil organic matter and increase water retention within the soil profile.

3.1.7 Pest Control

Pest control is the responsibility of the landowner, if impacts from pest species are identified during the management of this VMP, impacts are to be assessed to determine if pest control is required. Pest control must be undertaken by a licensed contractor in consultation with Local Land Services representatives.



4. Weed Management

This VMP details the requirements of an untimed establishment period assumed to be three years. This establishment period includes the initial treatment of exotic species throughout C2 Environmental Conservation Area as this area will not be cleared as part of the development work. Treatment of all WoNS, HTW, Priority weeds and weeds of other regional concern must be controlled within the development footprint and within the VMP area to ensure that these species do not spread into the newly revegetated areas within the VMP area.

4.1 Existing weeds

Exotic species recorded in the study area are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: List of notable weed species

Common Name	Scientific Name	Weeds of National Significanc e	Other listing	Obligation under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>
Crofton Weed	Ageratina adenophora	Ζ	HTW	 General Biosecurity Duty
Goat Weed	Ageratum houstonianum	Ν	Local weed	 General Biosecurity Duty
Ground Asparagus	Asparagus aethiopicus	Y	HTW, Class 4.	 General Biosecurity Duty Must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread
Rhodes Grass	Chloris gayana	Ν	HTW	 General Biosecurity Duty
Camphor Laurel	Cinnamomum camphora	Ζ	HTW, Class 4.	 General Biosecurity Duty Must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread
Elastic Grass	Eragrostis tenuifolia	Ν	Other Regional Concern	 General Biosecurity Duty
Lantana	Lantana camara	Y	HTW, State Priority. Class 4.	 General Biosecurity Duty Regional recommendatio n measure – Must not be bought sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.
Broad-leaf Provet	Ligustrum lucidum	N	HTW, Class 4.	 General Biosecurity Duty



	 Must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread
HTW, Class 4.	 General Biosecurity Duty
	 Must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread
HTW	 General Biosecurity Duty
HTW	 General Biosecurity Duty
Local weed	 General Biosecurity Duty
HTW, Class 4.	 General Biosecurity Duty Must be managed in a manner that continuously inhibits the ability of the plant to spread
Local weed	 General Biosecurity
Local weed	 General Biosecurity
Local weed	 General Biosecurity
Local weed	 General Biosecurity
HTW	 General Biosecurity
Local weed	 General Biosecurity
	HTW HTW Local weed HTW, Class 4. Local weed Local weed Local weed Local weed Local weed

Two of the above species, *Lanata camara and Asparagus aethiopicus*, are listed as *Weeds of National Significance (2000)* under the National Weed Strategy and as a State priority weed. Nine weeds are listed as High Threat Weeds, with others considered only local weeds.

The weed species listed above have the potential to impact on potential regeneration of native species and if left unattended would decrease the ecological value of the VMP Area. The treatment of the above weeds is addressed in the following section.



4.1.1 Weed Treatment

Of the weed species that were recorded on the site, two are listed as Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) and is listed under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (Table 2). Additionally, under the Bam-C assessment, nine additional weeds will be prioritised during weed management activities.

The Act also specifies a general biosecurity duty which covers all weed species as follows:

"All plants are regulated with a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable." The listed treatment for weeds under NSW Weedwise is presented below.

Common Name	Species Name	Control method	Treatment
Crofton Weed	Ageratina adenophora	 Physical Removal Chemical Control 	 Fluroxypyr 200g/L (500mL/100 L) Glyphosate 360g/l (1.0L/100L water)
Ground Asparagus	Asparagus aethiopicus	 Hand Pulling Crowning Cut Stump Spot Spraying 	 Fluroxypyr 333g/L (300- 600mL/100 L) Glyphosate (360g/L)(1 part glysophate to 50 parts water)
Camphor Laurel	Cinnamomum camphora	 Mechanical Removal Scrape & Paint Cut Stump 	 Glyphosate (360g/L)(1 part glysophate to 50 parts water) Picloram 100 g/L + Triclopyr 300 g/L + Aminopyralid 8 g/L (350mL or 500mL / 100mL)
Lantana	Lantana camara	 Mechanical Removal Foliar Spray Scrape & Paint Cut Stump 	 Dichlorprop 600 g/L (1.0L/200L water) Glyphosate 360g/l (1.0L/100L water) Metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg (10g/100L)
Broad-leaf Provet	Ligustrum lucidum	Basal BarkCut stump	 Access (Triclopyr 240 g/L + Picloram 120 g/L) (1L/60L Diesel) Vigilant II (Picloram 44.7 g/L + Aminopyralid 4.47 g/L) 3-5mm layer
Narrow-leaved Privet	Ligustrum sinense	Basal BarkCut stump	 Access (Triclopyr 240 g/L + Picloram 120 g/L) (1L/60L Diesel) Vigilant II (Picloram 44.7 g/L + Aminopyralid 4.47 g/L) 3-5mm layer
Ochna	Ochna Serrulata	 Foliar Sray/spot spray 	 Starane Advanced (Fluroxypyr 333g/L) (600ml/100L water)
Fireweed	Senecio madagascariensis	 Hand Pulling Slashing and Mulching Foliar Spray 	 Bromoxynil (200g/L)(1.4L/ha) Bromoxynil 250 g/L + Diflufenican 25 g/L (500mL/ha) Fluroxypyr 140 g/L + Aminopyralid 10 g/L (500mL/100L water)

Table 3: Listed Weed Treatment



Ear leaf nightshade	Solanum mauritianum	 Hand Pulling Mechanical Removal Foliar Spray Cut Stump 	 Glyphosate (360g/L)(10ml/L water) Picloram 100 g/L + Triclopyr 300 g/L + Aminopyralid 8 g/L (350mL/100mL of water)
Brazilian nightshade	Solanum seaforthianum	Hand PullingFoliar Spray	 Glyphosate (360g/L)(10ml/L water)

For weed species that are not listed above but recorded within the management area consultation of NSW Weedwise should be undertaken to determine appropriate treatment regime.

4.2 Weed Control

4.2.1 Weed Control Methods

Recommended weed control works for the project are based on a coordinated approach. The use of a variety of control methods is advised, reducing reliance on herbicides alone and increasing the chances of successful control or eradication.

All ecological restoration works are to be undertaken by Bush Regeneration Professionals accredited or suitably qualified and experienced to enable accreditation by the Australia Association of Bush Regenerators.

The methodology used may vary depending on which treatment is effective for a particular species, as well as which is most efficient, taking into account other site factors such as weather, surrounding vegetation and potential for off target damage to native species. Only herbicides registered for use on each particular weed species are to be used on that species and used at the recommended label rate, unless an applicable off-label permit is available.

The following weed control techniques may be used to treat weeds on the site:

- **Cut/scrape and paint** this technique involves cutting the plant off as close to the base as possible and painting the stump with a 1:1 mixture of Glyphosate and water; or scraping with a knife the top layer of tissue (down to the vascular tissue) at least 50% of the way up each stem of the plant on both sides of the stem and painting the wound with 1:1 Glyphosate to water. This technique is generally used to treat woody weeds.
- **Foliar spraying** A knapsack spray unit is used to apply a water diluted herbicide and dye mixture at the recommended label rate over all the foliage of a plant. This method kills the invasive species but leaves the majority of the plant standing. This is effective when treating stands of Lantana (*Lantana camara*) or other woody weeds, herbaceous, aquatic or grass weeds depending on the herbicide selected.
- **Skirting** Vine stems are cut using loppers or secateurs approximately 30 centimetres from the ground. These stems are treated using the CSP method or foliar spraying. The remainder of the vine is left in place and will die in the tree or shrub canopy.
- Stem injection Herbicide is placed immediately into holes or cuts made by drilling or cutting through the bark into the sapwood tissue in the trunks of woody weeds and trees. The aim is to reach the sapwood layer just under the bark (the cambium), where the chemical will be transported throughout the plant. It is essential to apply the herbicide immediately (within 15 seconds of drilling the hole or cutting the trunk), as stem injection relies on the active uptake and growth of the plant to move the chemical through its tissues. Stem injection methods kill the tree or shrub where it stands, and only trees and shrubs that can



be safely left to die and rot should be treated this way. If the tree or shrub is to be felled, allow it to die completely before felling.

- **Splatter gun** A splatter gun is a modified spray unit which produces a solid stream of large droplets of concentrated herbicide mixture. This unit can be sprayed 6-10 metres from the area which requires treatment. Due to the concentrated nature of the herbicide (1:9) only a small fraction of the total foliage of each plant requires treatment to provide an effective result. This method is employed in dense woody weed thickets and other areas of limited access.
- **Seed Collection** Using knife or secateurs the seed heads of grasses are collected and bagged. The seeds are then safety disposed of in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. The plant is then treated using a herbicide mixture.

4.2.2 Recommended Treatment

Recommended weed control works for the project are based on a coordinated adaptive management approach utilising a variety of control methods. This reduces reliance on herbicides alone and increases the chances of successful control or eradication.

The above methods are recommended to control weeds declared under the NSW *Biosecurity Act 2015* and/or listed as a Weed of National Significance (WoNS). All additional species should be controlled in accordance with the NSW Government - *NSW Weed Control Handbook* – Assisted Regeneration.



5. VMP Management Zones

The VMP area encompasses approximately 1.45 ha of mixed native and exotic vegetation contained solely with the in the C2 zoned land. The VMP area is divided into two separate management zones defined by existing vegetation and revegetation requirements. These management zones are;

- Management Zone 1: Assisted Regeneration
- Management Zone 2: Full Revegetation

5.1 Management Zone 1: Assisted Regeneration

This management area encompasses approximately 0.98 ha of mixed native and exotic vegetation that illustrates natural resilience throughout the northern portion of the VMP area (Figure 4). It is assumed that natural regeneration will occur throughout this management zone. During year two of the VMP revegetation requirements throughout this management zone will be determined within the required monitoring and reporting, revegetation of this if required will be undertaken prior to the completion of Year 2.

5.1.1 Weed management

Weed management throughout this management zone will aim to facilitate natural regeneration of native species. Weed management should initially focus on the removal of woody weeds and priority weeds followed by exotic grasses and groundcovers. Weed Management should be implemented throughout the entire management area initially, lowering efforts to target areas where weeds have a higher impact on regenerating native species

The management of this zone should be undertaken utilising an adaptive management approach to ensure that management actions include consideration for regenerating native vegetation and appropriate timings and methodologies for control of exotic species.

5.2 Management Zone 2: Full Revegetation

This management area encompasses approximately 0.46 ha of primarily exotic vegetation that illustrates minimal natural resilience throughout the southern and northern portions of the VMP area (Figure 4). It is assumed that revegetation will be required throughout this entire zone to restore a fully structured native vegetation community with species consistent with PCT 3249.

5.2.1 Weed management

Weed management throughout this management zone will aim to eradicate all exotic species while retaining existing native species where feasible and facilitate natural regeneration of native species. Weed management should be undertaken initially at a broadscale to alleviate competition and provide a suitable planting area for revegetation to be undertaken. The control of all exotic species should be adequately achieved prior to revegetation activities commencing.

Following revegetation, the management of this zone should be undertaken utilising an adaptive management approach to ensure that management actions include consideration for regenerating native vegetation and appropriate timings and methodologies for control of exotic species.





Figure 4: VMP Management Zones



6. Revegetation

Revegetation will be required throughout all management zones. Management Zone 2 will be revegetated within the first year of the VMP following initial weed control and site preparation. Whereas Management Zone 1 (Assisted Regeneration), will be revegetated where required at the end of year two following 18 months of weed control to allow natural regeneration to occur. The Year 2 Progress report will identify the requirements for revegetation of Management Zone 1. Revegetation will be undertaken as per the assumptions in Section 5 of the VMP and Tables 5 & 6.

Revegetation will be undertaken through the installation of tubestock/hiko or viro cells. All installed tubestock/hiko or viro cells, will include the installation of water crystals and biodegradable tree guards (tree and shrub species only).

Jute matting should be utilised in areas prone to inundation to prevent soil erosion and reduce weed incursion (Particularly throughout management zone 1 adjacent to the existing streams). Jute matting should consist of a 100% biodegradable material with a minimum specification of 650gsm and pegged into the ground with at least 3 pins per m². Mulch should be utilised within the site in areas of revegetation to aid in the suppression of exotic species, water retention and increase soil organic matter. Where required mulch should be laid at an approximate depth of 100mm. Ideally mulch should be sourced from onsite cleared native vegetation although if site mulch is unable to be sourced, mulch can be sourced from a suitable external supplier. All externally sourced mulch should adhere to AS4452: Compost, soil conditioners and mulch. All mulch Should be weed free and be of suitable quality for use within the VMP area.

All installed native vegetation should be sourced from local provenance collected seed i.e. preclearance collection or nearby locations following the Florabank Guidelines (Harrison et al). A recommended planting list can be found from the relevant PCT species list (Bionet).

Zone	Area (m²)	Revegeta tion (%)	Revegetation area (m²)	Jute matting (%)	Jute matting (m²)	Tubestock (%)	Tubestock (m²)
1	9,863	*	*	*	*	*	*
2	4,620	100%	4,620	-	-	100	4,620
Total	14,483	-	4,620	-	0	-	4,620

Table 4: Revegetation Assumptions

*To be determined in the Year 2 Progress Monitoring Report



Zone	Revegetation area (m ²)		Revegetation densities					
		Tree	Shrub	Herbs/vines	Grasses/sedge			
1	*	*	*	*	*	*		
2	4,620	1/75	1/40	1	3	18,726		
Totals	4,620	62	116	4,620	13,860	18,657**		

Table 5: Revegetation Densities

*To be determined in the Year 2 Progress Monitoring Report

**Plus additional tubestock required for MZ1 determined in the Year 2 Progress Monitoring Report

6.1 Irrigation

It is expected that revegetation of the above management area will require initial irrigation via watercarts to allow for the successful establishment of tubestock and seed to achieve the heightened performance criteria. Irrigation will be undertaken for a minimum period of 16 weeks of irrigation for installed tubestock, and as required throughout the maintenance period.

However, average rainfall within the region suggests that during the summer, average monthly rainfall exceed 90mm. The rainfall for this region suggests that irrigation will only be required to supplement natural rainfall to ensure the establishment of vegetation throughout the vegetated riparian zone.

6.2 Maintenance

It is expected to achieve the outlined performance criteria of this VMP, regular maintenance of the VMP areas must be undertaken to ensure compliance. It is expected that maintenance visits will be required at a higher frequency in warmer months (September to May) than in cooler months (June to August).

Maintenance actions will utilise an adaptive management approach to enhance the existing native vegetation and increase regeneration throughout the site. Management actions will be determined by the onsite contractor/ project ecologist but must include at a minimum, rubbish removal, weed removal, vegetation management, infill planting and monitoring and reporting.

6.3 Adaptive management

This VMP describes the implementation of an untimed establishment period (assumed to be two years) with an adjoining maintenance period of three years or until the performance criteria are met. Adaptive management techniques are imperative to the success of vegetation management to encompass variations within the natural ecosystem and site dynamics. Management techniques will be determined by the onsite contractor and adapted to site conditions and requirements of this VMP. In its simplest form, this enables the onsite contractor to trial various methods of vegetation management to determine the best actions to achieve the performance criteria, this may include various weed control techniques, replacement planting of more suitable species and use of various revegetation techniques. Any major departures form this VMP or



requests to alter the performance criteria must be undertaken in consultation with MidCoast Council and NRAR, as they will be taking possession of the area.

Following the completion of the identified three-year maintenance period and the final monitoring report with recommendations for in-perpetuity management requirements of the site must be submitted and approved to council prior to ceasing management works across the site. Rejection of the final monitoring report may result in the extension of the maintenance program for another year until the performance criteria are met. An implementation plan is shown below in Table 6.

Requirement	Actions	Timing	Responsibility
Fencing	Installation of sediment and construction exclusion fencing	Prior to construction works	Civil Contractor
Signage	Instillation of signs along pathway/forest edge	Year 1	Property Manager
Monitoring and reporting	Site inspections including PMPs and flora surveys Inspect natural regeneration VMP compliance inspections	Site inspections, PMPs, Flora survey – Biannually for years 1-2 End of Years 3- 5.	Ecologist
	Monitoring report	Biannually for years 1-2 End of Years 3-5.	Ecologist
Placement of re- use material	Supervision of placement of re-use material within the VMP area	Year 1	Civil Contractor, Ecologist(supervising)
Weed Control	Initial weed control	During the establishment period	Certified Bush Regenerator
	Follow-up weed control	Regular intervals defined by onsite conditions for a minimum of 3 years	Certified Bush Regenerator
Revegetation	Installation of tubestock and hydroseeding	During Year 1 (Management zone 2) During Establishment period (After Year 2- Management Zone 1)	Certified Bush Regenerator
Irrigation	Irrigation of tubestock and hydroseeding	Within the establishment period i.e. 16 weeks from planting date and ongoing as required.	Certified Bush regenerator
Infill Planting	Replacement of failed plantings	Year 2(MZ2), Year 3(MZ1)	Certified Bush regenerator
Long term Weed control	Follow up weed control	In perpetuity maintenance to remove all WoNS, Priority and Weeds of other regional concern	Land holders
Site decommissioning	Removal of all site materials, rubbish and unused construction and sediment fencing	End of establishment	Civil contractor
Revegetation	Installation of tubestock	During Establishment period	Certified Bush Regenerator
Irrigation	Irrigation of tubestock	During establishment period and as required	Certified Bush regeneration
Long term Weed control	Follow up weed control	In perpetuity maintenance to remove all WoNS, Priority and Weeds of other regional concern	Land holders

Table 6: Implementation Plan



Table 7: Implementation Schedule

	Esta	ablish	mer	nt Yea	ar1 E	Establ	ishm	ent Ye	ear 2		Year	3			Year	r 4			Year	5	
ltem		1 :	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Civil construction works																					
Fencing and signage																					
Vegetation Management works																					
Site preparation																					
Revegetation																					
Tube stock supply and install		MZ2	2				1	MZ1													
Infill revegetation							1	MZ2			٦	4Z1									
Irrigation																					
Weed Control																					
Primary																					
Secondary																					
Maintenance																					
Monitoring and reporting	В																				

*B denotes baseline monitoring report

Table 8:Implementation Schedule Key

Civil construction activity RRP activity



7. Monitoring, Reporting and Compliance

7.1 Photo Monitoring

Monitoring for the VMP is recommended to be undertaken as per the requirements listed within the BDAR (BBGE 2024). Photo monitoring will be conducted via a baseline monitoring report followed by biannual inspections (Years 1-2) and annual inspections (Years 3-5) to determine maintenance and infill planting requirements. Photo monitoring must include the following:

- Set up of at minimum 8 photo monitoring points within the VMP Area, with a minimum of 4 PMPs per management zone
- Mark the PMP with a permanent marker (i.e. six-foot star picket)
- Mark the direction of the photograph to be taken
- Record GPS co-ordinates of the PMP
- Take a digital photograph of the PMP with the entire permanent marker in the photo
- Organise digital photographs with a unique referencing system, noting direction, date and time photo was taken

7.2 **Reporting Requirements**

Regular reporting is required to be implemented throughout the implementation of the VMP or until the performance criteria are met, whichever is longer. Monitoring reports are to be undertaken biannually for Years 1 and 2 and then annually for the remainder of the VMP maintenance cycle, following the completion of a baseline monitoring report.

- The management period
- Certification of local provenance seed/stock if available
- A summary of works undertaken during the management period
 - Date and time of site visits.
 - Maps and summary of works undertaken.
 - Methodology of works undertaken
 - Number of plants installed if applicable.
- Photo monitoring (including comparisons)
- Site challenges or issues identified
- Details on success of planting and natural regeneration.
- Status of weeds and recommendations for further control where required.
- Details on any feral predator and herbivory sightings, weed infestations, and any controls.
- Details of any management or maintenance issues that need to be addressed.
- Assessment against the performance criteria including compliance/implementation of other measures detailed in the VMP including public access, and recommendations for compliance enforcement.



• Recommendations for improvements that will have to be implemented (with appropriate timelines to allow compliance). Implementation of these measures are to be detailed in the subsequent reports.

7.3 Performance criteria

The performance criteria for this VMP are detailed in Table 9.

Prior to the completion of the outlined maintenance period (3 years following establishment) a monitoring report must be submitted to MidCoast Council and NRAR issuing a statement on the progression of the VMP against the required performance criteria. Failure to achieve the outlined performance criteria will result in an extension of the maintenance period of the VMP until such time that all performance criteria are met. Therefore, maintenance must continue until NRAR and MidCoast Council agrees that the intentions and performance criteria of this VMP has been achieved and the maintenance period can conclude.

The following performance criteria are required to be achieved in perpetuity:

- No new invasive weeds introduced to the site.
- Human access controlled.
- Increase in fauna habitat and connectivity
- Minimum 80% survival rate of each species planted
- Maximum of 5% weed cover
- No woody weeds or Priority weeds allowed to set seed
- No dumped waste within VMP area
- No significant erosion present within the VMP area
- No area greater than 2x2m without surviving native species

7.4 Compliance and Long-term Security

The requirements of the VMP will apply as conditions of development consent through both Council stamping of the plans and inclusion within the consent conditions (table of documents relied upon) and any specific conditions.

The implementation plan listed in this document sets out the specific actions required to be undertaken by responsible authorities to implement the recommendations of the VMP; responsible authorities; and thresholds for completions to monitor implementation of the VMP.

Compliance checks will be undertaken at regular intervals during the maintenance period to assist in the preparation of the VMP monitoring reports results, including the need for follow-up action or contingency measures, will be detailed in the VMP monitoring reports.

The VMP will be deemed successful if monitoring determines that the objective stated in Section 2 is achieved as per the listed specified performance criteria in Table 9.



Table 9: VMP Performance criteria

Management Zone	Year 1 Ye	ear 2	Year 2	Year 3	Year4
All ZOnes	 Completion of all civil construction activities Preliminary removal and disposal of all vegetation within the clearing limits Placement of all suitable re-use material Treatment of all WoNS, Priority and weeds of other concern within the VMP area 				
All Zones	 Completion or projected planning of all red All erosion control measures in place and maint All appropriate signage in place and maint All rubbish and debris removed from the V Use of local provenance stock for revegeta Minimum 80% survival of all installed reveges surviving native vegetation Treatment of any new weed infestations No woody weeds present capable of prod No WoNS, Priority and weeds of other con No erosion or sedimentation within the VM Monitoring and reporting undertaken in ac Removal of any unused or inadequate sed 	maintained tained /MP area ation getation, areas of regenera lucing seed neern capable of producing MP ccordance with section 7	ation/revegetation should not	contain any areas greater	than 2mx2m without
MZ1	 Treatment of all exotic species Visible increase in native regeneration 	Completion of all revegetation activities if required Native species richness no less than 27 (50%BM) Native species cover no less than 50% Exotic cover no greater than 50%	 Completion of all infill planting Native species richness no less than 27 (50%BM) Native species cover no less than 50% Exotic cover no greater than 35% 	 Native species richness no less than 27 (50%BM) Native species cover no less than 50% Exotic cover no greater than 20% 	 Native species richness no less than 27 (50%BM) Native species cover no less than 80% Exotic cover no greater than 5%



	Completion of all reversetation	Completion of all infill	Native species	Native species	Native species
MZ2	 Completion of all revegetation activities Native species richness no less than 27(50%BM) Native species cover no less than 50% Exotic cover no greater than 40% 	 Completion of an infinite planting Native species richness no less than 27(50%BM) Native species cover no less than 60% Exotic cover no greater than 30% 	 Native species richness no less than 27(50%BM) Native species cover no less than 70% Exotic cover no greater than 20% 	 Native species richness no less than 27(50%BM) Native species cover no less than 80% Exotic cover no greater than 10% 	 Native species richness no less than 27(50%BM) Native species cover no less than 90% Exotic cover no greater than 5% No greater than 2% priority weed cover

Table 10: PCT benchmark conditions

PCT PCT name	IBRA	Species Richness		Species Cover			
		Tree	Shrub	Groundcover	Tree	Shrub	Groundcover
3249 Northern Bloodwood-Ironbark Moist Grassy Forest	NSW North Coast	10	11	33	79	20	80





8. Cost and Assumptions

The costings provided within Table 11 are based on the following assumptions. The cost provided within this VMP, does not include CPI and management of the VMP beyond the identified fiveyear VMP period. Costs presented within this VMP are indicative only and should be refined by a bush regeneration contractor based on current conditions and industry prices.

Cost and management of this VMP should be reviewed on the completion of the maintenance period for the requirement of in-perpetuity management of the VMP.

ltem	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Totals
Site preparation	\$6,930					\$6,930
Jute matting/Mulch	\$36,960					\$36,960
Revegetation						-
Tube stock supply and install	\$56,680	TBD				\$56,680
Infill revegetation		\$11,336				\$11,336
Irrigation	\$17,004	\$3,401				\$20,405
Weed Control						-
Primary	\$108,000					\$108,000
Secondary		\$90,000				\$90,000
Maintenance			\$75,000	\$60,000	\$48,000	\$183,000
Monitoring and reporting	\$12,000	\$8,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$32,000
Totals	\$237,574	\$112,737	\$79,000	\$64,000	\$52,000	\$545,310

Table 11: Indicative Costings

8.1 Preliminary weed control

It is assumed that preliminary weed control will be conducted by the certified bush regenerator contractor. No vegetation clearing conducted by the civil construction contractor is permitted within the VMP unless otherwise agreed and supervised by a suitably qualified ecologist or bush regenerator.

8.2 Site and soil preparation

It has been assumed that civil contractor will undertake all fencing, signage, initial vegetation clearing, placement of re-use material, soil testing and amelioration if required prior to soil preparation activities. As such no costs for fencing, signage, initial vegetation clearing, placement of re-use material, soil testing and amelioration and required ecologist supervision have been included within the costings.

It is assumed that MZ2 will require soil preparation and installation of mulch. It is assumed that soil preparation will not be required within MZ1.



8.3 Revegetation

The cost for initial revegetation throughout MZ 2 is provided within this VMP however, the cost for revegetation throughout MZ1 will be based on the assessment conducted at Year 2 Progress Report, once revegetation densities have been determined.

An infill planting rate of 10% will be included for this project and will be installed throughout as required throughout year 2 of the maintenance period. Excluding infill planting for MZ1 Which will be determined following initial revegetation and will be undertaken in Year 3. Infill planting must be undertaken to replace failed plantings with the same species or where the species is unavailable, the species can be replaced with the same strata (i.e. tree for tree) from the attached recommended plantings list or from the PCT species list available on Bionet. Finally, infill planting must not reduce species diversity within the VMP.

8.4 Irrigation

Irrigation has been assumed to be implemented via the installation of a semi-permanent irrigation system and watercarts for a required minimum period of 16 weeks as per the landscape design guidelines. However, it is noted that revegetation should be timed to coincide with the local wet season thus greatly reducing resources required to ensure the establishment of 80% of planted species. Therefore, an initial watering period of 6 weeks following planting has been assumed to be required for this VMP.

8.5 Maintenance

It has been assumed that maintenance will be conducted on a semi-regular basis for a minimum maintenance period of three years. It is assumed that during warmer months maintenance requirements will increase and during cooler months will reduce requirements. The cost of maintenance for this VMP has been calculated from a daily rate of \$3,000 for a team of four appropriately qualified bush regenerators including supervisor, consumables (i.e. herbicide etc.) and disbursements.

8.6 Monitoring and reporting

Based on the long-term lifecycle of this VMP, to ensure that the site will meet the performance criteria and identify management issues in an adequate timeframe, a biannual and annual monitoring regime has been imposed for this project. A total of eight monitoring reports are required to be prepared as part of the compliance of this VMP.

8.7 Pest Management

No allocation has been made for the implementation of pest management throughout the VMP area. The requirement for pest control should be identified within the monitoring reports provided to MCC to determine if further action is required to mitigate impacts to the success of the VMP.



9. Conclusion

This Vegetation Management Plan has been prepared to guide future management actions, restoration activities and monitoring across the on-site conservation area. It has been prepared based on the requirements detailed in the BDAR (BBGE 2024) and in accordance with the NRAR Guideline's for vegetation management.

Several management actions have been listed which aim to achieve positive environmental outcomes and meet the performance criteria for the vegetated environmental conservation area. The management actions outlined within this report outline specific actions to reinstate native vegetation, maintain and improve ecosystem health and habitat quality and connectivity. An implementation plan has been prepared to guide the timing and completion of the required actions.



10. References

Local Land Services 2023. North coast regional weed management plan 2023-2027.

- MidCoast Council, 2024, Development Control Plan, Access at: <u>https://www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au/Development/Plans-policies-and-controls/Local-planning-rules/Current-planning-rules-for-the-MidCoast</u>
- NSW Government NSW Weed Control Handbook A guide to weed control in non-crop, aquatic and bushland situations Seventh Edition, 2018.
- Urban Design Roads and Waterways 2023. Landscape design guideline: Design guideline to improve the quality, safety and cost effectiveness of green infrastructure on streets and roads.
- Boyds Bay Group Environmental, 2024. 202 Bushland Drive, Taree Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. Accessed September 2024.

Appendix A Existing species

Botanical Name	Common Name
Eucalyptus siderophloia	Northern grey ironbark
Eucalyptus propinqua	Small-fruited grey gum
Eucalyptus tereticornis	Forest red gum
Allocasuarina littoralis	Black she-oak
Eucalyptus eugenioides	White stringybark
Glochidion ferdinandi	Cheese tree
Eucalyptus robusta	Swamp mahogany
Cupaniopsis anacardioides	Tuckeroo
Glochidion ferdinandi var. ferdinandi	Cheese tree
Glochidion ferdinandi var. pubens	Cairy cheese tree
Callistemon viminalis	Weeping bottlebrush
Casuarina glauca	Swamp she-oak
Ozothamnus diosmifolius	Rice Flower
Breynia oblongifolia	Coffee bush
Acacia leiocalyx subsp. leiocalyx	Black Wattle
Leucopogon juniperinus	Prickly beard-heath
Pittosporum spp.	
Acacia spp.	Wattle
Themeda triandra	Kangaroo grass
Entolasia stricta	Wiry panic
Panicum buncei	Native panic
Lomandra multiflora subsp. multiflora	Many-flowered Mat-rush
Aristida personata	Purple Wire-grass
Gahnia aspera	Rough saw-sedge
Panicum spp.	
Capillipedium spicigerum	Scented-top grass
Lomandra longifolia	Spiny-head mat-rush
Oplismenus aemulus	Basketgrasses
Digitaria spp.	Crabgrass
Typha orientalis	Bulrush
Lepironia articulata	Grey sedge
Ottochloa gracillima	Pademelon grass
Lomandra spp.	Basket Grass
Oplismenus hirtellus	Creeping Shade Grass
Juncus usitatus	Common rush
Lobelia purpurascens	White root
Centella asiatica	Indian pennywort



Dianella caerulea var. caerulea	Blue flax-lily
Cheilanthes sieberi	Mulga fern
Christella spp.	Fern
Pellara nana	Dwarf sickle fern
Parsonsia straminea	Monkey rope
Geitonoplesium cymosum	Scrambling lily
Maclura cochinchinesis	Cockspur
Glycine microphylla	Small-leaf glycine
Eustrephus latifolius	Wombat berry
Glycine clandestina	Twining glycine

Botanical Name	Common Name
Ageratina adenophora	Crofton weed
Ageratum houstonianum	Goat weed
Asparagus aethiopicus	Ground asparagus
Chloris gayana	Rhodes Grass
Cinnamomum camphora	Evergreen tree
Eragrostis tenuifolia	Elastic grass
Lantana camara	Common Lantana
Ligustrum lucidum	Chinese privet
Ligustrum sinense	Narrow-leaf privet
Ochna serrulata	Ochna
Paspalum mandiocanum	Broad-leaved paspalum
Paspalum urvillei	Vasey's grass
Senecio madagascariensis	Madagascar ragwort
Senna pendula var. glabrata	Cassia
Setaria sphacelata	South African pigeon grass
Solanum mauritianum	Ear leaf nightshade
Solanum nigrum	European black nightshade
Solanum seaforthianum	Brazilian nightshade
Verbena bonariensis	Purple top Vervain



Appendix B Recommended Species

Strata	Botanical name	Common Name
	Acacia binervia	Coast Myall
	Acacia maidenii	Maiden's Wattle
	Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood
	Allocasuarina littoralis	Black She-Oak
	Angophora floribunda	Rough-barked Apple
	Angophora subvelutina	Broad-leaved Apple
	Banksia integrifolia	Coast Banksia
	Corymbia gummifera	Red Bloodwood
	Corymbia maculata	Spotted Gum
	Eucalyptus acmenoides	White Mahogany
	Eucalyptus amplifolia	Cabbage Gum
	Eucalyptus eugenioides	Thin-leaved Stringybark
Tree	Eucalyptus fibrosa	Red Ironbark
	Eucalyptus globoidea	White Stringybark
	Eucalyptus microcorys	Tallowwood
	Eucalyptus moluccana	Grey Box
	Eucalyptus pilularis	Blackbutt
	Eucalyptus propinqua	Small-fruited Grey Gum
	Eucalyptus punctata	Grey Gum
	Eucalyptus resinifera	Red Mahogany
	Eucalyptus tereticornis	Forest Red Gum
	Glochidion ferdinandi	Cheese Tree
	Lophostemon confertus	Brush Box
	Melaleuca quinquenervia	Broad-leaved Paperbark
	Notelaea longifolia	Large Mock-olive
	Breynia oblongifolia	Coffee Bush
	Acacia falcata	
	Acacia floribunda	White Sally
	Acacia implexa	Hickory Wattle
	Acacia longifolia	
	Callistemon salignus	Willow Bottlebrush
Shrub	Daviesia ulicifolia	Gorse Bitter Pea
	Dodonaea triquetra	Large-leaf Hop-bush
	Dodonaea viscosa	Sticky Hop-bush
	Hibbertia obtusifolia	Hoary Guinea Flower
	Indigofera australis	Australian Indigo
	Jacksonia scoparia	Dogwood
	Leucopogon juniperinus	Prickly Beard-heath



	Melaleuca decora						
	Melaleuca linariifolia	Flax-leaved Paperbark					
	Melaleuca nodosa						
	Melaleuca styphelioides	Prickly-leaved Tea Tree					
	Ozothamnus diosmifolius	White Dogwood					
	Pittosporum revolutum	Rough Fruit Pittosporum					
	Trema tomentosa var. aspera	Native Peach					
	Zieria smithii	Sandfly Zieria					
	Cheilanthes sieberi subsp. sieberi	Rock Fern					
	Aristida vagans	Threeawn Speargrass					
	Arthropodium milleflorum	Pale Vanilla-lily					
	Bolboschoenus caldwellii						
	Capillipedium spicigerum	Scented-top Grass					
	Carex inversa	Knob Sedge					
	Centella asiatica	Indian Pennywort					
	Cissus antarctica	Water Vine					
	Clematis aristata	Old Man's Beard					
	Commelina cyanea	Native Wandering Jew					
	Cymbopogon refractus	Barbed Wire Grass					
	Desmodium varians	Slender Tick-trefoil					
	Dianella caerulea	Blue Flax-lily					
	Dianella longifolia	Blueberry Lily					
	Dianella revoluta	Blueberry Lily					
	Dichelachne crinita	Longhair Plumegrass					
oundcover	Dichelachne micrantha	Shorthair Plumegrass					
	Dichondra repens	Kidney Weed					
	Digitaria parviflora	Small-flowered Finger Grass					
	Echinopogon caespitosus	Bushy Hedgehog-grass					
	Echinopogon ovatus	Forest Hedgehog Grass					
	Entolasia marginata	Bordered Panic					
	Entolasia stricta	Wiry Panic					
	Eragrostis brownii	Brown's Lovegrass					
	Fimbristylis dichotoma	Common Fringe-sedge					
	Gahnia aspera	Rough Saw-sedge					
	Glycine clandestina	Twining glycine					
	Glycine microphylla	Small-leaf Glycine					
	Glycine tabacina	Variable Glycine					
	Goodenia hederacea	Ivy Goodenia					
	Hardenbergia violacea	False Sarsaparilla					
	Hibbertia scandens	Climbing Guinea Flower					
	Imperata cylindrica	Blady Grass					



Kennedia rubicunda	Dusky Coral Pea
Lobelia purpurascens	Whiteroot
Lomandra filiformis	
Lomandra longifolia	Spiny-headed Mat-rush
Lomandra multiflora subsp. multiflora	Many-flowered Mat-rush
Microlaena stipoides	Weeping Grass
Oplismenus aemulus	
Oplismenus imbecillis	
Pandorea pandorana subsp. pandorana	Wonga Wonga Vine
Panicum effusum	Hairy Panic
Panicum simile	Two-colour Panic
Poa labillardierei var. labillardierei	Tussock
Poa sieberiana	Snowgrass
Polymeria calycina	
Rytidosperma tenuius	wallaby grass
Themeda triandra	Kangaroo grass
Veronica plebeia	Trailing Speedwell
Viola betonicifolia	Native Violet
Viola hederacea	Ivy-leaved Violet

