

Flora & Fauna Impact Assessment

7 Rex St, Goulburn



30 May 2025

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Signed:

Date: 30th May 2025

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Location and Setting

The property is situated at 7 Rex St, Goulburn (Lot 83 DP 10309) in the north-eastern area of Goulburn, in the Goulburn Mulwaree Local Government Area (LGA). The property is approximately 4,000 m² in size. The property is generally level with an elevation of approx. 645m AHD. The nearest watercourse is a 2nd order stream (Strahler) that passes approx. 200m to the south-west of the property. It flows eastwards to join the Wollondilly River approx. 650m to the south-east of the property. The NSW Government eSPADE database indicates the property is within the Monastery Hill Soil Landscape. The Monastery Hill Soil Landscape Report states “Prairie Soils (Gn4.42), Grey Clays (Ug6.2) and Alluvial Soils (Um1) occur on footslopes and in drainage lines.” Figure 1-1 shows the property on a topographic map. Figure 1-2 shows the property on an aerial image.

1.2 Description of Development Proposal

The proposed development is to demolish the existing dwelling and build a group home. The development is illustrated in Figure 1-3 below. Plan drawings of the proposal (Tim Leigh Architects, 2025) are provided in Appendix A. Photographs of the site are provided in Appendix B.

1.3 Biodiversity Offset Scheme

1.3.1 Biodiversity Values Map

No part of the property is shaded on the NSW Government’s Biodiversity Values Map (BVM). Therefore, the BVM does not trigger the Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS).

1.3.2 Area of Clearing Threshold

Under the Goulburn-Mulwaree Local Environmental Plan 2009 the minimum lot size for the property is 700 m². Therefore, under Clause 7.2 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017* the area of clearing threshold for triggering the BOS is 2,500 m². The proposal would clear approx. 1,086 m² of native vegetation. Therefore, the proposal does not exceed the area of clearing threshold.

1.3.3 Significant Impact on a Threatened Entity

As discussed below in this report the proposal would not have a significant impact on any threatened entity. Therefore, the proposal would not trigger the BOS.

1.4 Purpose of this Report

This report provides the flora and fauna impact assessment for the proposed development. It describes the flora and fauna habitat on the property and discusses the likely impacts of the proposal. The report identifies species, populations or communities listed under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) and/ or the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) that occur or may occur on the project site. Where the proposal is likely to impact on these the report includes the mandatory assessments of significance.

1.5 Assessment Methodology

Background information was collated from relevant sources and databases including, but not limited to the NSW Government vegetation mapping, NSW Government SEED website, BioNet Atlas of NSW Wildlife database, NSW Government Six Viewer website, Google Maps, Google Street View, etc.

A site assessment was undertaken on the 10th April 2025. The site assessment involved inspecting vegetation and fauna habitat over the entire property. All observed species of flora were identified, vegetation community types were identified, fauna habitat described, any opportunistic sightings of fauna documented, and any significant flora or fauna features described. A brief examination of the vegetation in the adjoining and surrounding areas was undertaken to establish the local context for vegetation and fauna habitat on the site. Digital photographs and GPS coordinates were taken for later reference and for inclusion in this report.

The results of the site assessment were analysed with reference to relevant information sources and databases including, but not limited to, the NSW Flora Online PlantNET database, NSW Threatened Species Profiles, NSW Scientific Committee Determinations, Commonwealth Listing Advices, and Threatened Species Assessment of Significance Guidelines (DECC, 2007).

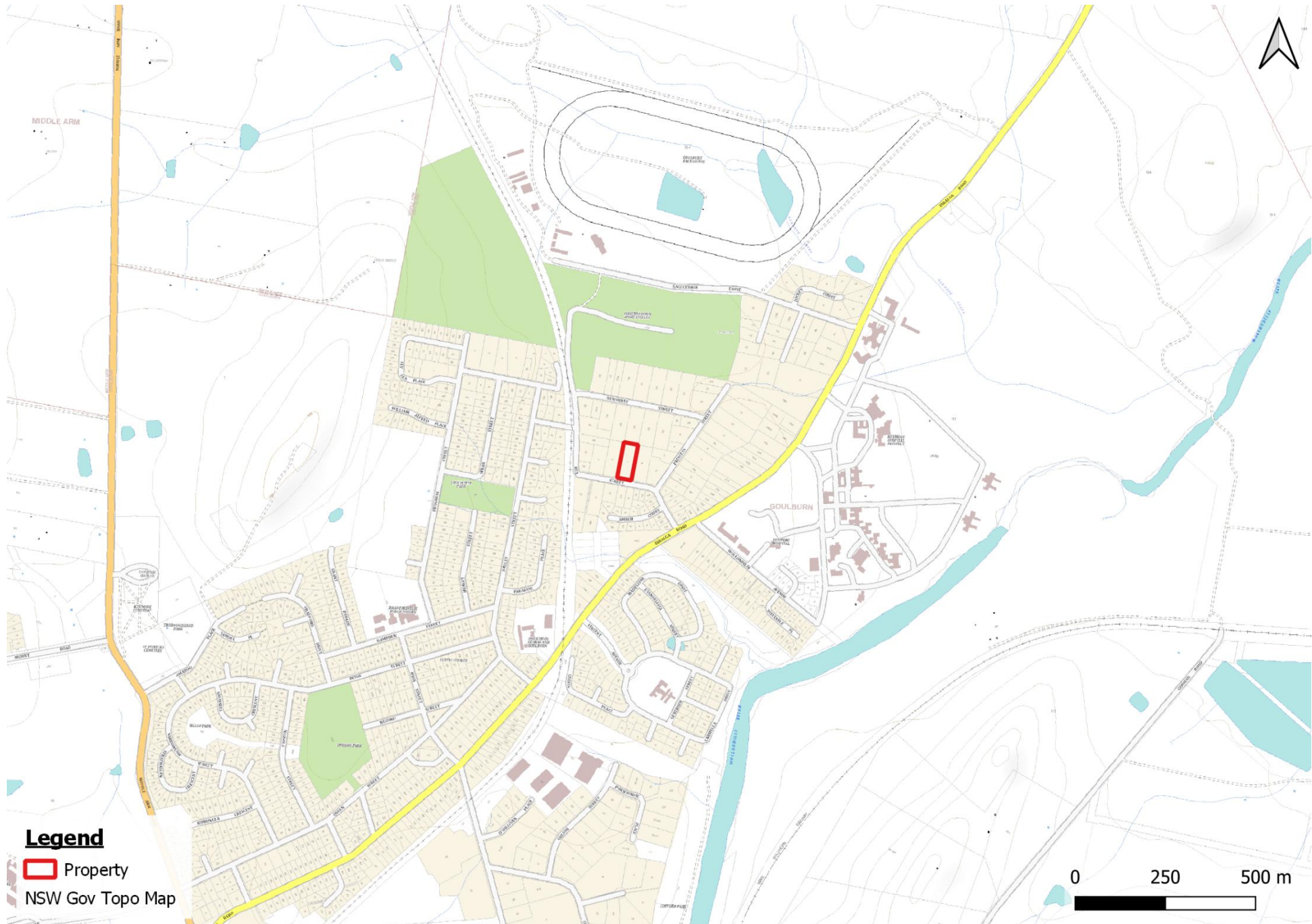


Figure 1-1: Topographic map of the local area with the property marked.



Figure 1-2: Aerial image of the local area with the property marked.



Figure 1-3: Aerial image of the property.

2 EXISTING FLORA AND FAUNA

2.1 Flora

2.1.1 Flora on the Project Site

The State Vegetation Type Map (DCCEEW, 2024) does not map any native vegetation on the project site. The mapping is provided below in Figure 2-1.

The site assessment determined that the vegetation on the property comprises non-native lawn with weeds with a small number of scattered, isolated native grasses and forbs. Also, fourteen Eucalyptus trees occur, and three non-native trees.

The Eucalyptus trees comprise six trees that are remnants of the original vegetation of the area, and eight planted trees of non-local species. The locally occurring Eucalypts are Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*) and Blakely's Red Gum (*E. blakelyi*). These are components of Plant Community Type (PCT) 3376 Southern Tableland Grassy Box Woodland that is mapped as occurring nearby. The PCT is associated with the 'White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Woodland' ecological community listed as Critically Endangered under both the Commonwealth EPBC Act and NSW BC Act. All the locally occurring Eucalypts are mature established trees and three are old trees with Diameters at Breast Height (DBH) of approx. 1,000 cm to 1,100 cm.

The lawn is comprised mainly of Goose Grass (*Eleusine tristachya**), Cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomerata**), Prairie Grass (*Bromus catharticus**), Paspalum (*Paspalum dilatatum**), Couch (*Cynodon dactylon*) and Panic Veldt Grass (*Ehrharta erecta**). Weeds include, for example, Buck's-horn Plantain (*Plantago coronopus**), Common Plantain (*Plantago lanceolata**), Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale**), etc. Some native grasses occur, mostly within the front lawn beneath the Eucalypts. These include Windmill Grass (*Chloris truncata*), Wallaby Grass (*Rytidosperma racemosum*), Rough Speargrass (*Austrostipa scabra*), Umbrella Grass (*Digitaria divaricatissima*) and Red Grass (*Bothriochloa macra*). A small shrub of the native Hickory (*Acacia implexa*) occurs in the north-west corner of the backyard.

The complete list of species observed on the project site is provided in Appendix C. Photos are provided in Appendix B.

2.1.2 Species Listed under BC Act and EPBC Act

A search of the DPE Atlas of NSW Wildlife database (on 9/04/2025) indicated that eight (8) species of flora listed under the BC Act and/ or EPBC Act has been recorded within a 10km x 10km square centred on the project site. The species are listed in Table 2-1 below. The table indicates the likelihood of a species being present on site and the reason for the stated likelihood. Where a species has a medium or high likelihood of occurring on the site a Test of Significance for that species is provided in Appendix D.



Figure 2-1: State Vegetation Type mapping.

Table 2-1: Species of flora listed under the BC Act or EPBC Act recorded within a 10km x 10km square centred on the property.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat	BC Act/ EPBC Act Status *	Likelihood of the Species Occurring on the Site	Reason for Stated Likelihood
<i>Leucochrysum albicans</i> var. <i>tricolor</i>	Hoary Sunray	Occurs in a wide variety of grassland, woodland and forest habitats, generally on relatively heavy soils. Can occur in modified habitats such as semi-urban areas and roadsides. Highly dependent on the presence of bare ground for germination. In some areas, disturbance is required for successful establishment.	E/ E	Low	Not observed during site assessment
<i>Rutidosia leptorrhynchoidea</i>	Button Wrinklewort	Occurs in Box-Gum Woodland, secondary grassland derived from Box-Gum Woodland or in Natural Temperate Grassland; and often in the ecotone between the two communities. Grows on soils that are usually shallow, stony red-brown clay loams; tends to occupy areas where there is relatively less competition from herbaceous species (either due to the shallow nature of the soils, or at some sites due to the competitive effect of woodland trees). Exhibits an ability to colonise disturbed areas (e.g. vehicle tracks, bulldozer scrapings and areas of soil erosion). Normally flowers between December to March; plants do not usually flower until their second year. Has regenerative buds at the surface of the soil but not below, so plants do not have the ability to resprout from underground structures; the stems usually die back in late summer or autumn and new basal leaves are evident by early winter. Thought to be insect pollinated, although the specific vectors are not known. Observed flourishing at a site a few years after the area was burnt by a wildfire. Apparently susceptible to grazing, being retained in only a small number of populations on roadsides, rail reserves and other un-grazed or very lightly grazed sites.	E/ E	Low	Not observed during site assessment
<i>Bossiaea oligosperma</i>	Fee-seeded Bossiaea	Occurs on stony slopes or ridges on sandstone in the Yerranderie area. Occurs in low woodland on loamy soil in the Windellama area. Nothing is known about its ecology but it probably has hard-coated seeds that respond well to fire and soil disturbance.	V/ V	Low	Not suitable habitat and not observed during site assessment
<i>Eucalyptus macarthurii</i>	Camden Woollybutt	Occurs on grassy woodland on relatively fertile soils on broad cold flats.	E/ E	Low	Not observed during site assessment
<i>Eucalyptus nicholii</i>	Narrow-leaved Black Peppermint	Typically grows in dry grassy woodland, on shallow soils of slopes and ridges. Found primarily on infertile soils derived from granite or metasedimentary rock. Seedling recruitment is common, even in disturbed soils, if protected from grazing and fire. Tends to grow on lower slopes in the landscape.	V/ V	Low	Its natural area of distribution is the Northern Tablelands.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat	BC Act/ EPBC Act Status *	Likelihood of the Species Occurring on the Site	Reason for Stated Likelihood
<i>Diuris aequalis</i>	Buttercup Doubletail	Recorded in forest, low open woodland with grassy understorey and secondary grassland on the higher parts of the Southern and Central Tablelands (especially on the Great Dividing Range). Like most <i>Diuris</i> species, the flowers mimic native pea flowers to attract pollinators; in this case the model is a small-flowered wedge-pea (<i>Gompholobium</i> sp.), with which it always grows. Leaves die back each year and resprout just before flowering. Populations tend to contain few, scattered individuals; despite extensive surveys, only about 200 plants in total, from 20 populations are known.	E/ V	Low	Site is disturbed and there are relatively vast areas of similar and better-quality habitat locally.
<i>Persoonia oxycoccoides</i>		<i>Persoonia oxycoccoides</i> is endemic to New South Wales where it is currently known from the Wingecarribee Shire in the south-eastern portion of the Central Tablelands, with the easternmost records in the municipality of Kiama, and a south-western outlier at Tallong in Goulburn-Mulwaree Shire in the Southern Tablelands. The historical northern limit of distribution is Colo Vale; the eastern limit is Budderoo National Park and environs (between Jamberoo and Robertson); and the southern and western limits are Tallong. It is known from Budderoo and Morton National Parks, Upper Nepean State Conservation Area and Stingray Swamp Flora Reserve.	E/ -	Low	Outside of it's know area of distribution Not observed during site assessment.
<i>Pomaderris delicata</i>	Delicate Pomaderris	Delicate <i>Pomaderris</i> is known from only two sites; between Goulburn and Bungonia and south of Windellama (Cullula). At both known sites the Delicate <i>Pomaderris</i> grows in dry open forest dominated by <i>Eucalyptus sieberi</i> with a dense she-oak understorey. Soils are shallow and derived from sandstone and siltstone. Nothing is known about the response of the species to fire and other disturbance.	CE/ CE	Low	Not suitable habitat.

* V = Vulnerable; E = Endangered; CE = Critically Endangered.

2.2 Fauna

2.2.1 Fauna Habitat at the Project Site

The property comprises a dwelling, lawn and trees. The lawn provides little habitat for native fauna, other than invertebrates. Small lizards may occur in places, for example, on boundary fences and the bases of trees. The trees provide habitat for birds and foraging habitat for bats. Three of the trees contain numerous hollows of varying size. Council has approved, on 19 September 2023, a Tree Removal Application for two of these hollow-bearing trees. The remaining hollow-bearing tree provides potential roosting and nesting habitat for birds, microbats and arboreal mammals such as possums. This potentially includes any of six species of threatened fauna that have been recorded in the area, comprising two species of bird and four species of microbat (refer to following section). The location of the property within a largely cleared residential area greatly limits the variety of native species that might utilise the habitat that is present, since most native fauna are shy and avoid humans, or require more natural habitat. Two species of bird were observed during the site assessment. Namely, the Red Wattlebird (*Anthochaera carunculata*) and Australian Magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*), two species commonly found in urban environments.

2.2.2 Species Listed under BC Act and EPBC Act

A search of the DPE Atlas of NSW Wildlife database (on 9/04/2025) indicated that nineteen (19) species of fauna listed under the BC Act and/ or EPBC Act have been recorded within a 10km x 10km square centred on the project site. The species are presented in Table 2-2 below. The table indicates the likelihood of a species being present on site and the reason for the stated likelihood. Where a species has a medium or high likelihood of utilising habitat on the site a Test of Significance for that species is provided in Appendix D.

Table 2-2: Species of fauna listed under the BC Act or EPBC Act recorded within a 10km x 10km square centred on the project site.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat	TSC Act/ EPBC Act Status *	Likelihood of Species Occurring on the Site	Reason for Stated Likelihood
Amphibians					
<i>Litoria aurea</i>	Green and Golden Bell Frog	Inhabits marshes, dams and streamsides, particularly those containing bullrushes (Typha sp.) or spikerushes (Eleocharis sp.). Optimum habitat includes waterbodies that are unshaded, free of predatory fish, have a grassy area nearby and diurnal sheltering sites available.	E/ V	Low	Suitable habitat not present
Reptiles					
<i>Suta flagellum</i>	Little Whip Snake	The Little Whip Snake is found within an area bounded by Crookwell in the north, Bombala in the south, Tumbarumba to the west and Braidwood to the east. Occurs in Natural Temperate Grasslands and grassy woodlands, including those dominated by Snow Gum Eucalyptus pauciflora or Yellow Box E. melliodora. Also occurs in secondary grasslands derived from clearing of woodlands. Found on well drained hillsides, mostly associated with scattered loose rocks. Most specimens have been found under rocks or logs lying on, or partially embedded in the soil. Little is known about the habits of this small snake as it is primarily nocturnal. Feeds on lizards and frogs. Up to seven live young are born between September and February.	V/ -	Low	Suitable habitat not present
Birds					
<i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i>	Little Eagle	Occupies open eucalypt forest, woodland or open woodland. She-oak or Acacia woodlands and riparian woodlands of interior NSW are also used. Nests in tall living trees within a remnant patch, where pairs build a large stick nest in winter. Preys on birds, reptiles and mammals, occasionally adding large insects and carrion. Single population in NSW.	V/ -	Low	There are relatively vast areas of similar and better-quality habitat in the local area. Also, unlikely in urban environment.
<i>Falco subniger</i>	Black Falcon	The Black Falcon is widely, but sparsely, distributed in New South Wales, mostly occurring in inland regions. Some reports of 'Black Falcons' on the tablelands and coast of New South Wales are likely to be referable to the Brown Falcon. In New South Wales there is assumed to be a single population that is continuous with a broader continental population, given that falcons are highly mobile, commonly travelling hundreds of kilometres (Marchant & Higgins 1993). The Black Falcon occurs as solitary individuals, in pairs, or in family groups of parents and offspring.	V/ -	Low	There are relatively vast areas of similar and better-quality habitat in the local area. Also, unlikely in urban environment.
<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Latham's Snipe	Foraging habitat and diet: Latham's snipe feed in soft mudflats or shallow water typically at night, early morning, or evening (BirdLife Australia 2021). The species is omnivorous and feeds on seeds and other plant material (mainly from species in	-/ V	Low	Suitable habitat not present

Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat	TSC Act/ EPBC Act Status *	Likelihood of Species Occurring on the Site	Reason for Stated Likelihood
		families such as Cyperaceae, Poaceae, Juncaceae, Polygonaceae, Ranunculaceae and Fabaceae), and on invertebrates including insects (mainly flies and beetles), earthworms, spiders, and occasionally molluscs, isopods, and centipedes (Frith et al. 1977; Todd 2000). The species feeds by thrusting its long bill into mud with an up and down 'sewing machine' action. Roosting habitat: Latham's snipe can roost singly and in aggregations. They shelter during the day in small wetlands including urban water bodies, saltmarshes, as well as creek edges, where there is adequate shallow flooded or inundated substrate. They also use crops and pasture. They mostly are found among dense cover comprising sedges, grasses, lignum, reeds, and rushes. The bird tends to disperse after dusk to forage over larger areas. Breeding habitat: Latham's snipes breed in Hokkaido and highland areas of Honshu in Japan, and in Sakhalin and the nearby Kuril Islands of far eastern Russia. Breeding occurs in a variety of grassland habitats including meadowlands, croplands, dry reed and sedge fields, clearings and edge			
<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	Gang-gang Cockatoo	In summer, generally found in tall mountain forests and woodlands, particularly in heavily timbered and mature wet sclerophyll forests. In winter, may occur at lower altitudes in drier more open eucalypt forests and woodlands, and often found in urban areas. Nests in tree hollows, often near water. Eucalypt trees and acacia shrubs are used for foraging. Feeds on seeds mostly from eucalypts and wattles, though it eats some seeds of introduced trees and shrubs around human settlements in winter, and also insect larvae (galls, sawflies).	V/ -	Low	There are relatively vast areas of similar and better-quality habitat in the local area.
<i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i>	Little Lorikeet	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 fertility and hence greater productivity. Nests in proximity to feeding areas if possible, most typically selecting hollows in the limb or trunk of smooth-barked Eucalypts. Entrance is small (3 cm) and usually high above the ground (2–15 m). These nest sites are often used repeatedly for decades, suggesting that preferred sites are limited. Riparian trees often chosen, including species like Allocasuarina.	V/ -	Low	Note: Council has given approval for the removal of two hollow-bearing trees on the property. The third hollow-bearing tree would be retained.
<i>Chthonicola sagittata</i>	Speckled Warbler	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. Large, relatively undisturbed remnants are required for the species to persist in an area.	V/ -	Low	Suitable habitat not present. Unlikely in urban environment.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat	TSC Act/ EPBC Act Status *	Likelihood of Species Occurring on the Site	Reason for Stated Likelihood
<i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i>	Varied Sittella	Inhabits eucalypt forests and woodlands, especially those containing rough-barked species and mature smooth-barked gums with dead branches, mallee and Acacia woodland. Feeds on arthropods gleaned from crevices in rough or decorticating bark, dead branches, standing dead trees and small branches and twigs in the tree canopy. Builds a cup-shaped nest of plant fibres and cobwebs in an upright tree fork high in the living tree canopy, and often re-uses the same fork or tree in successive years.	V/ -	Low	Suitable habitat not present. Unlikely in urban environment.
<i>Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus</i>	Dusky Woodswallow	The eastern population is found from Atherton Tableland, Queensland south to Tasmania and west to Eyre Peninsula, South Australia. This population migrates north in autumn. The Dusky Woodswallow is found in open forests and woodlands, and may be seen along roadsides and on golf courses. The Dusky Woodswallow feeds on insects taken on the wing, as well as from foliage and on the ground. It also eats nectar from flowers. The Dusky Woodswallow nests colonially in 'neighbourhoods'. The nest is a loose bowl of twigs, grass and roots, lined with fine grass, and is placed in a tree fork, behind bark, in a stump hollow or in a fence post, about 1 m - 10 m above the ground. Each pair builds the nest, incubates the eggs and feeds the young.	V/ -	Low	Suitable habitat not present. Unlikely in urban environment.
<i>Petroica boodang</i>	Scarlet Robin	The Scarlet Robin lives in dry eucalypt forests and woodlands. The understorey is usually open and grassy with few scattered shrubs. This species lives in both mature and regrowth vegetation. It occasionally occurs in mallee or wet forest communities, or in wetlands and tea-tree swamps. Scarlet Robin habitat usually contains abundant logs and fallen timber: these are important components of its habitat. In autumn and winter many Scarlet Robins live in open grassy woodlands, and grasslands or grazed paddocks with scattered trees.	V/ -	Low	Suitable habitat not present. Unlikely in urban environment.
<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	Diamond Firetail	Found in grassy eucalypt woodlands, including Box-Gum Woodlands and Snow Gum Eucalyptus pauciflora Woodlands. Also occurs in open forest, mallee, Natural Temperate Grassland, and in secondary grassland derived from other communities. Often found in riparian areas (rivers and creeks), and sometimes in lightly wooded farmland.	V/ -	Low	Suitable habitat not present. Unlikely in urban environment.
Mammals					
<i>Petrogale penicillata</i>	Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby	Occupy rocky escarpments, outcrops and cliffs with a preference for complex structures with fissures, caves and ledges, often facing north. Browse on vegetation in and adjacent to rocky areas eating grasses and forbs as well as the foliage and fruits of shrubs and trees. Shelter or bask during the day in rock crevices, caves and overhangs and are most active at night. Highly territorial and have strong site fidelity with an average home range size of about 15 ha.	E1/ V	Low	Suitable habitat not present.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat	TSC Act/ EPBC Act Status *	Likelihood of Species Occurring on the Site	Reason for Stated Likelihood
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox	Roosting camps are generally located within 20 km of a regular food source and are commonly found in gullies, close to water, in vegetation with a dense canopy. Can travel up to 50 km from the camp to forage; commuting distances are more often <20 km. Feed on the nectar and pollen of native trees, in particular Eucalyptus, Melaleuca and Banksia, and fruits of rainforest trees and vines.	V/ V	Low	There are relatively vast areas of similar and better-quality habitat in the local area.
<i>Saccolaimus flaviventris</i>	Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail-bat	Roosts singly or in groups of up to six, in tree hollows and buildings; in treeless areas they are known to utilise mammal burrows. When foraging for insects, flies high and fast over the forest canopy, but lower in more open country. Forages in most habitats across its very wide range, with and without trees; appears to defend an aerial territory.	V/ -	Low	There are relatively vast areas of similar and better-quality habitat in the local area. Note: Council has given approval for the removal of two hollow-bearing trees on the property. The third hollow-bearing tree would be retained.
<i>Micronomus norfolkensis</i>	Eastern Coastal Free-tailed Bat	Occur in dry sclerophyll forest, woodland, swamp forests and mangrove forests east of the Great Dividing Range. Roost mainly in tree hollows but will also roost under bark or in man-made structures. Usually solitary but also recorded roosting communally, probably insectivorous.	V/ -	Low	
<i>Falsistrellus tasmaniensis</i>	Eastern False Pipistrelle	Prefers moist habitats, with trees taller than 20 m. Generally roosts in eucalypt hollows, but has also been found under loose bark on trees or in buildings. Hunts beetles, moths, weevils and other flying insects above or just below the tree canopy. Hibernates in winter.	V/ -	Low	
<i>Miniopterus australis</i>	Little Bent-winged Bat	Moist eucalypt forest, rainforest, vine thicket, wet and dry sclerophyll forest, Melaleuca swamps, dense coastal forests and banksia scrub. Generally found in well-timbered areas. Little Bentwing-bats roost in caves, tunnels, tree hollows, abandoned mines, stormwater drains, culverts, bridges and sometimes buildings during the day, and at night forage for small insects beneath the canopy of densely vegetated habitats. They often share roosting sites with the Common Bentwing-bat and, in winter, the two species may form mixed clusters. In NSW the largest maternity colony is in close association with a large maternity colony of Eastern Bentwing-bats (<i>Miniopterus schreibersii</i>) and appears to depend on the large colony to provide the high temperatures needed to rear its young. Maternity colonies form in spring and birthing occurs in early summer. Males and juveniles disperse in summer. Only five nursery sites /maternity colonies are known in Australia.	V/ -	Low	
<i>Miniopterus orianae oceanensis</i>	Large Bent-winged Bat	Caves are the primary roosting habitat, but also use derelict mines, storm-water tunnels, buildings and other man-made structures. Form discrete populations centred on a maternity cave that is used annually in spring and summer for the birth and rearing of young. At other times of the year, populations disperse within about 300 km range of maternity caves. Hunt in forested areas, catching moths and other flying insects above the tree tops.	V/ -	Low	Suitable habitat not present.

* V = Vulnerable, E = Endangered.

3 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 Flora

The proposal would remove a small number of plants of several common native grass and forb species, and one small shrub. It would also remove one Yellow Box from the rear yard and five non-local, planted Eucalyptus trees in the front yard. The Yellow Box has a Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) of approx. 450mm and contains no tree hollows. The two other nearby Yellow Box in the rear yard of slightly larger size would be retained. Note: Council has already given, on 19 September 2023, approval (GMC, 2023) for the removal of two large, old hollow-bearing Yellow Box on the property, one in the rear yard and one in the front yard. These trees are yet to be removed.

None of the species that would be impacted are listed as threatened. However, the Yellow Box tree and a small number of native groundcover species, are part of the 'White Box - Yellow Box - Blakely's Red Gum Woodland' critically endangered ecological community (CEEC). There are many Yellow Box trees nearby and the native groundcover species are common species. Therefore, there would be no significant impact to the CEEC from the proposal. This is confirmed in a Test of Significance (5-part test) provided in Appendix D.

While there would be no significant impact on flora there would be some impact. To mitigate this impact, it is recommended to re-plant on the property an equal number of Eucalyptus trees to those being removed. The trees to be re-planted should be locally occurring species of the 'White Box - Yellow Box - Blakely's Red Gum Woodland' ecological community.

3.2 Fauna

The proposal would remove six Eucalyptus trees. None of these trees are old or contain tree hollows. There are relatively vast areas of similar and better-quality foraging habitat for native fauna locally. There would be no significant impact on fauna from the removal of these trees.

Fauna, potentially including threatened species, may use hollows in the Blakely's Red Gum tree to be retained. It would be important to ensure that construction activities for the project do not interfere with any breeding activities of threatened fauna that may be occurring at that time. Therefore, it is recommended that the tree be assessed to identify what species, if any, utilise the tree so that planning for the construction activities can avoid impacting on threatened fauna.

4 CONCLUSION

The subject property comprises a dwelling, lawn of mostly introduced grasses and weeds, one small shrub, and trees of varying size. Three large, old, hollow-bearing trees occur. Council has already approved the removal of two of these trees. The third tree would be retained. Seven of the other Eucalyptus trees on the property would also be retained. Five trees of non-local species of Eucalypt would be removed. All native species of flora impact are common species.

Some of the native vegetation that would be removed is part of the White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely’s Red Gum woodland ecological community that is listed as Critically Endangered under both the Commonwealth EPBC Act and NSW BC Act. Since only a single relatively young tree, a small shrub and a small number of common groundcover plants would be removed, the proposal would not have a significant impact on the ecological community.

The vegetation impacted by the proposal provides potential habitat for invertebrates and potential foraging habitat for birds and bats. Fauna impacted is likely to be the common species one typically encounters in the urban environment around Goulburn.

There would be no significant impact on flora or fauna from the proposal.

While there would be no significant impact there would be some impact on flora. To mitigate this impact the following recommendation is made. Another recommendation is made to ensure that construction activities do not adversely impact on the breeding activities of any threatened fauna that may be utilising the hollow-bearing tree to be retained in the front yard.

Recommendations

1. Re-plant on the property as part of the development six Eucalyptus trees. The trees should be locally occurring species of the ‘White Box - Yellow Box - Blakely’s Red Gum Woodland’ ecological community.
2. Assess the hollow-bearing Blakely’s Red Gum in the front yard to identify what species, if any, are utilising the tree so that planning for the construction activities can avoid impacting the breeding activities of any threatened species of fauna that may be using the tree.

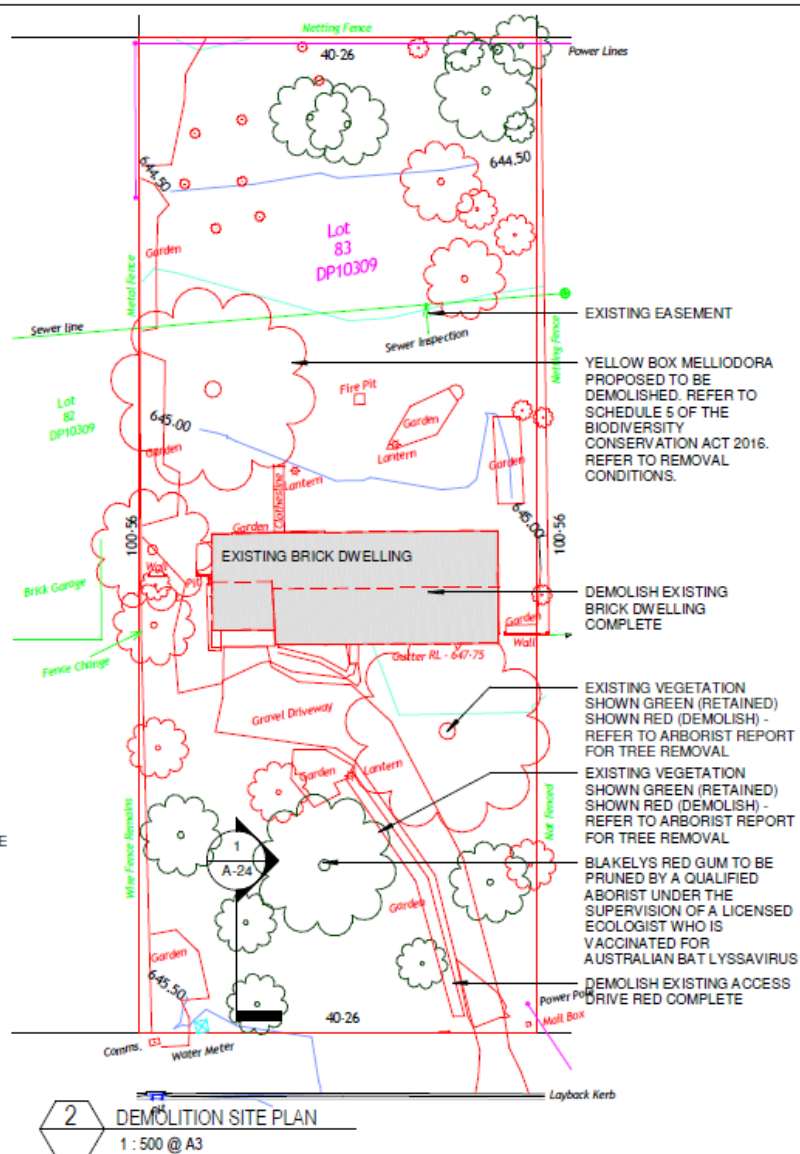
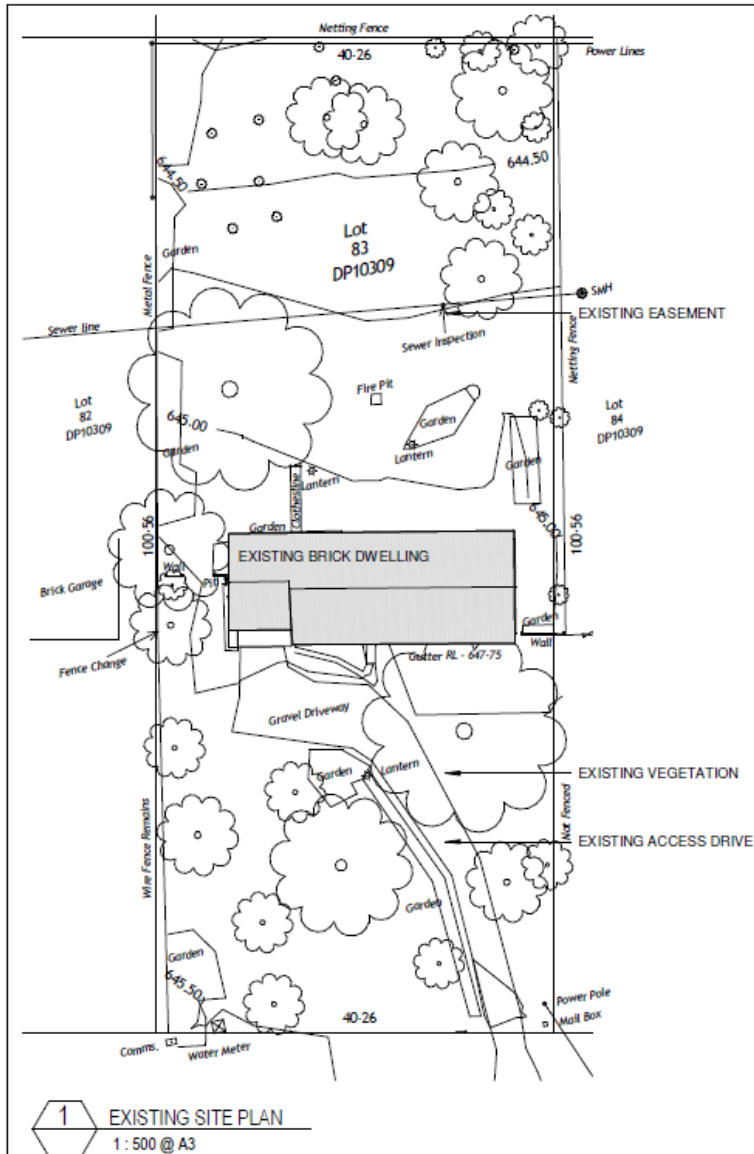
5 REFERENCES

- DCCEEW, 2024. *State Vegetation Type Map - NSW Extant PCT vC2.0.M2.1*. NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.
- DECC, 2007. *Threatened Species Assessment Guidelines - The Assessment of Significance*. NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change.
- GMC, 2023. *Tree Removal Application Determination*. Document dated 19 September 2023. Goulburn Mulwaree Council.
- Tim Leigh Architects. *Existing and Demolition Site Plan*. Sheet 1024-1723 A-03. Dated 14/02.2025.
- Tim Leigh Architects. *Proposed Site Plan*. Sheet 1024-1723 A-04. Dated 14/02.2025.

Appendices

APPENDIX A

PLAN DRAWINGS OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

**DEMOLITION:**

- ANY DAMAGE RESULTING FROM THE WORKS MUST BE IMMEDIATELY RECTIFIED BY THE CONTRACTOR AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE.
- DEMOLITION SHALL BE CARRIED OUT SO AS TO CAUSE NO DISTURBANCE TO SURROUNDING STRUCTURES. CARE TO BE TAKEN BELOW SLAB LEVEL.
- LOCATE AND PREVENT ANY DAMAGE TO EXISTING SERVICES. IMMEDIATELY RECTIFY ANY DAMAGE OR INTERFERENCE TO THESE SERVICES AND PROVIDE TEMPORARY SERVICES WHILE REPAIRS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT.
- ALL NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS SHALL BE TAKEN TO PREVENT DAMAGE TO ALL ADJACENT WORK. SHOULD ANY DAMAGE OCCUR, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL MAKE GOOD TO THE STANDARD OF THE ORIGINAL.
- IF AND WHEN OPENING UP ANY WORK, ANY CONDITIONS ARE FOUND TO BE UNSOUND OR UNSAFE THE CONTRACTOR SHALL STOP WORK AND NOTIFY THE ARCHITECT FOR THEIR INSTRUCTIONS.
- PEG AND LABEL ALL CUT / REDUNDANT SERVICES FOR LATER IDENTIFICATION.
- PROVIDE AS CONSTRUCTED DRAWINGS INDICATING LOCATION OF ALL SERVICES.
- THE CONTRACTOR SHALL REMOVE FROM SITE ALL DEBRIS AND ASSOCIATED WASTE.
- ONCE DEMOLITION'S ARE COMPLETED AND PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDS TAKEN, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PREPARE AREAS FOR NEW WORK.
- CONTRACTOR TO REFER TO SPECIFICATION FOR ITEMS TO BE SALVAGED.

YELLOW BOX MELLIODORA PROPOSED TO BE DEMOLISHED. REFER TO SCHEDULE 5 OF THE BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 2016. REFER TO REMOVAL CONDITIONS.

DEMOLISH EXISTING BRICK DWELLING COMPLETE

EXISTING VEGETATION SHOWN GREEN (RETAINED) SHOWN RED (DEMOLISH) - REFER TO ARBORIST REPORT FOR TREE REMOVAL

EXISTING VEGETATION SHOWN GREEN (RETAINED) SHOWN RED (DEMOLISH) - REFER TO ARBORIST REPORT FOR TREE REMOVAL

BLAKELY'S RED GUM TO BE PRUNED BY A QUALIFIED ARBORIST UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED ECOLOGIST WHO IS VACCINATED FOR AUSTRALIAN BAT LYSSAVIRUS

DEMOLISH EXISTING ACCESS DRIVE RED COMPLETE

CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE



ISSUED FOR
DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

DRAWING AMENDMENTS			PROJECT TITLE		 TIM LEE ARCHITECTS residential commercial industrial P: 02 4822 5934 ABN: 71425067537 ROSS PLACE GOULBURN NSW 2580 NOMINATED ARCHITECT: TIM LEE NSW REG. 7304 ACT REG. 1030		
REVISION	DESCRIPTION	DATE	CLIENT	DRAWING TITLE		DRAWING'S COMMENTED	DRAWING'S CHECKED BY
A	DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION	23/10/2020	S.JONES	EXISTING & DEMOLITION SITE PLAN		12/24	TL
				LOT 83 DP 10309		As indicated	AH
						A3 SHEET	1024-1723

APPENDIX B

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: The front yard of the subject property. The hollow-bearing tree in the centre would be retained.



Photo 2: The rear yard of the subject property. The Yellow Box to be removed is hidden behind the Bur Oak.



Photo 3: The Yellow Box in the rear yard to be removed. The one behind would be retained.



Photo 4: The old, hollow-bearing Blakely's Red Gum in the front yard to be retained.



Photo 5: A large hollow in the tree to be retained in the front yard.

APPENDIX C

SPECIES LISTS

FLORA

Trees

*Acer buergerianum**
*Citrus × limon**
Eucalyptus blakelyi
Eucalyptus melliodora
Eucalyptus nicholii
Eucalyptus rubida
Eucalyptus sp.
*Fraxinus excelsior**
*Quercus macrocarpa**
*Ulmus parvifolia**

Trident Maple
 Lemon Tree
 Blakely's Red Gum
 Yellow Box
 Narrow-leaved Black Peppermint
 Candlebark
 Stringybark
 European Ash
 Bur Oak
 Chinese elm

Shrubs and Brambles

Acacia implexa
*Ilex aquifolium**
*Pyracantha angustifolia**
Rubus fruticosus sp. agg.*

Hickory
 European Holly
 Orange Firethorn
 Blackberry

Groundcovers, Climbers and Mistletoes

*Agapanthus praecox**
Austrostipa scabra
Bothriochloa macra
*Bromus catharticus**
Chloris truncata
*Cirsium vulgare**
*Dactylis glomerata**
Digitaria divaricatissima
*Ehrharta erecta**
*Eleusine tristachya**
*Hedera helix**
*Hypochaeris radicata**
*Modiola caroliniana**
*Oxalis corniculata**
*Paronychia brasiliiana**
*Paspalum dilatatum**
*Plantago coronopus**
*Plantago lanceolata**
*Polygonum aviculare**
Rytidosperma racemosum
*Solanum lycopersicum**
*Sonchus oleraceus**
*Stellaria media**
*Taraxacum officinale**
Viola hederacea

Blue Lily
 Rough Speargrass
 Red Grass
 Prairie Grass
 Windmill Grass
 Spear Thistle
 Cocksfoot
 Umbrella Grass
 Panic Veldt-grass
 Goose Grass
 English Ivy
 Catsear
 Red-flowered Mallow
 Creeping Oxalis
 Brazilian Whitlow
 Common Paspalum
 Buck's-horn Plantain
 Common Plantain
 Wireweed
 Wallaby Grass
 Tomato
 Common Sowthistle
 Chickweed
 Dandelion
 Ivy-leaved Violet

FAUNA

Birds

Anthochaera carunculata
Gymnorhina tibicen

Red Wattlebird
 Australian Magpie

* = Introduced species.

APPENDIX D

TESTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Test of Significance (5-part test) for ‘White Box - Yellow Box – Blakely’s Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland in the NSW North Coast, New England Tableland, Nandewar, Brigalow Belt South, Sydney Basin, South Eastern Highlands, NSW South Western Slopes, South East Corner and Riverina Bioregions’

(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,

N/A.

(b) in the case of an endangered ecological community or critically endangered ecological community, whether the proposed development or activity:

- (i) 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*

Figure D-1 below shows the State Vegetation Type Map mapping of PCTs 3376 and 3373 within the study area (a 1,500m radius around the property). Both PCTs are associated with the White Box, Yellow Box, Blakely’s Red Gum Woodland TEC. The mapping indicates there is 69.4 ha of the TEC within the study area. The proposal would remove approx. 1,086 m² (or 0.11 ha) of the TEC on the subject property. This represents less than 1% (0.16%) of the State Vegetation Type mapped TEC within the study area. Importantly also, as shown in Figure D-2 below, there is a large patch of the TEC approx. 20 ha in size within a Crown Reserve approx. 300 m to the north-west of the project site. Considering the presence of these relatively large areas of the TEC in close proximity to the project site the removal of one relatively young tree and some common groundcover plants is not likely to place at risk of extinction the local occurrence of the TEC.

- (i) 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,*

The proposed development would remove a single Yellow Box tree, a small shrub and some groundcover plants of a small number of species. The species are all common native species and are likely to occur in many other parts of the local area. The removal of these species from the project site is unlikely to modify the composition of the local occurrence such that it is likely to be placed at risk of extinction.

(c) in relation to the habitat of a threatened species, population or ecological community:

- (i) the extent to which habitat is likely to be removed or modified as a result of the proposed development or activity, and*

Only a small area of habitat of the TEC would be removed, less than approx. 250m². As mentioned above there is approx. 70 ha of the TEC within the study area according to the State Vegetation Type Map (DCCEEW, 2024) and a 20 ha patch occurs approx. 300m from the subject property within a crown reserve.

- (ii) 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, and*

No areas of habitat would become fragmented or isolated as a result of the proposed development. There are patches of the TEC scattered throughout the local area and the project site does not provide important connection for any of these areas.

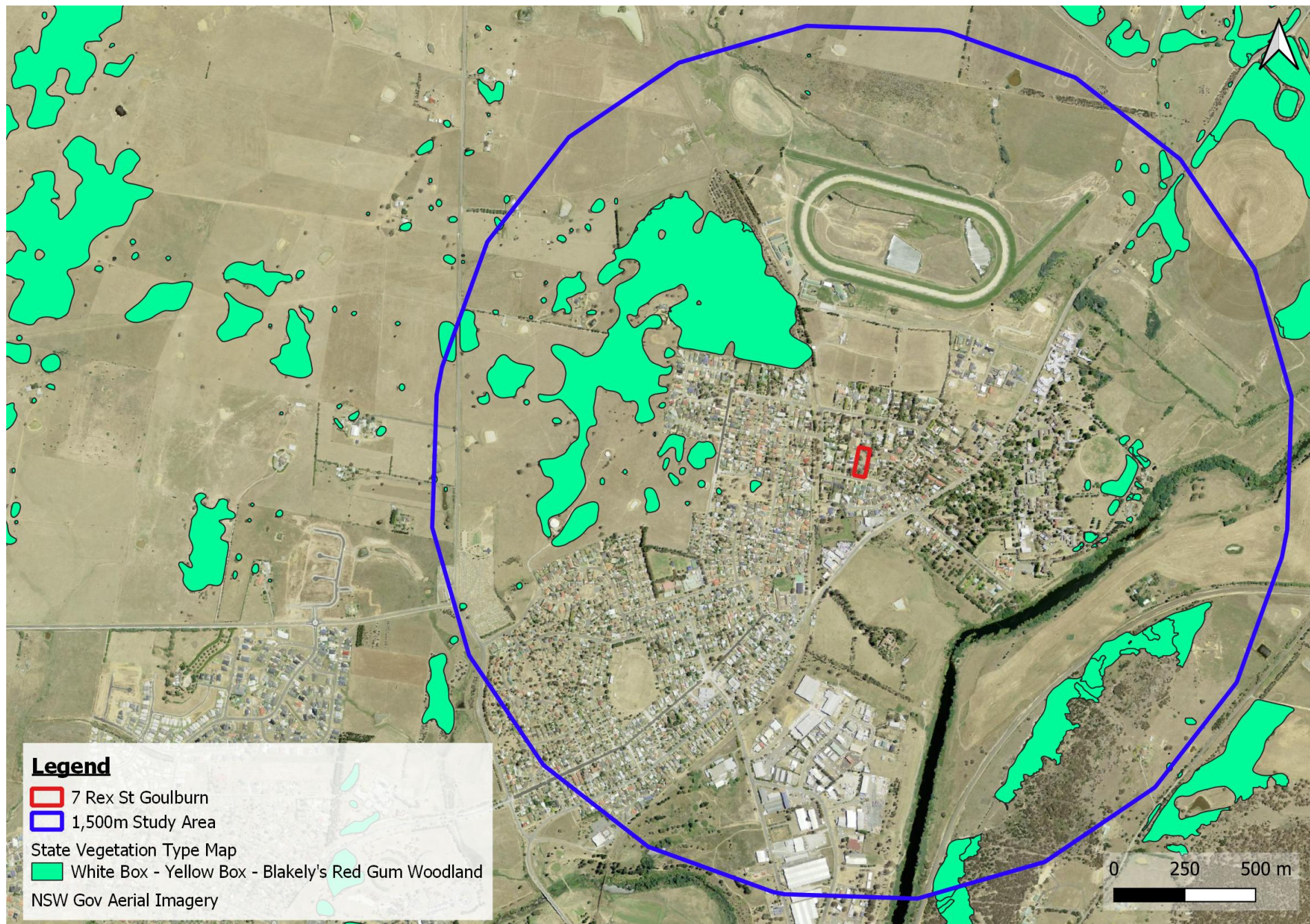


Figure D-1: State Vegetation Type Mapping of PCTs 3376 and 3373 within the study area.

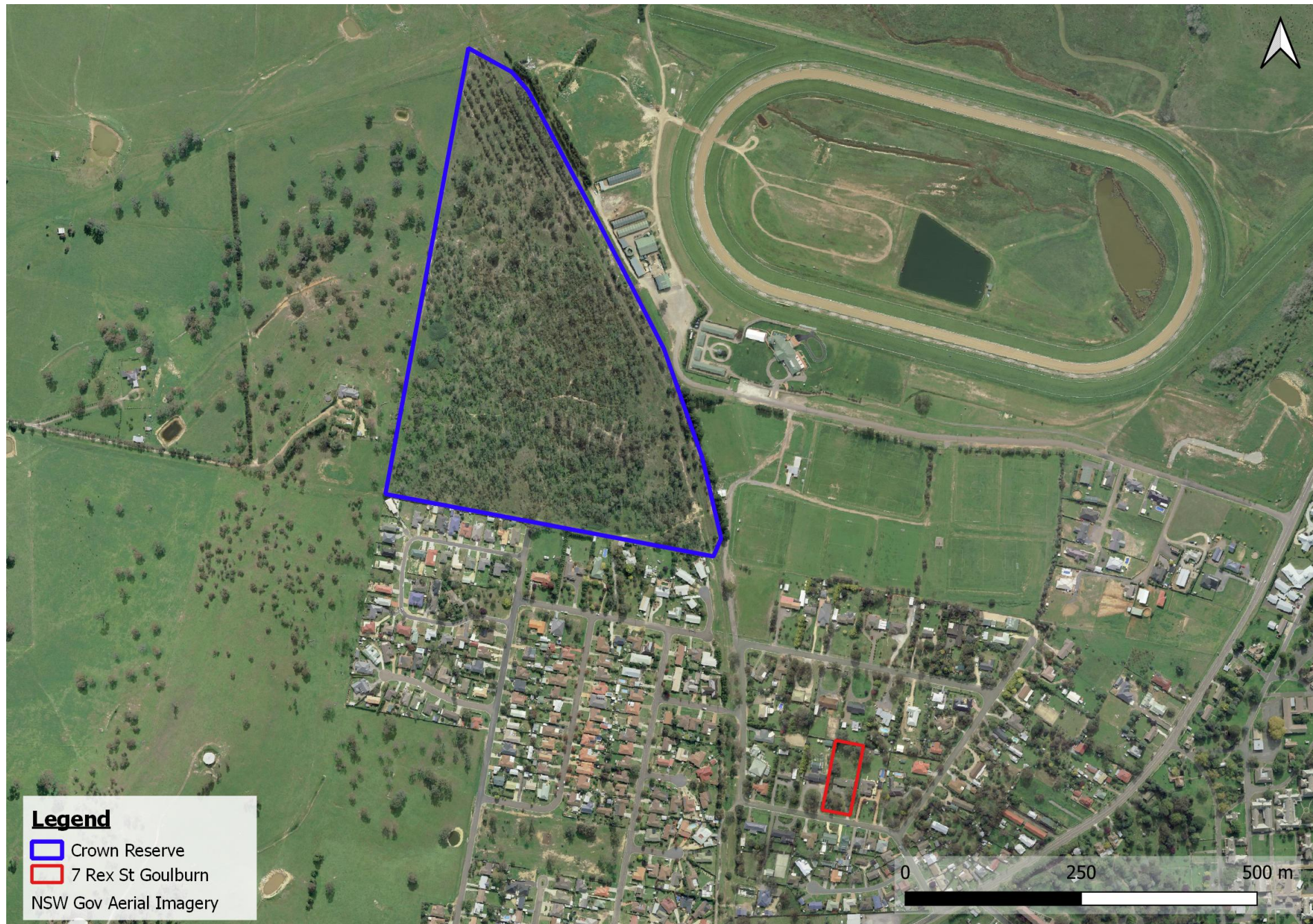


Figure D-2: Area of Crown Reserve containing the TEC relative to location of subject property.

- (iii) *the importance of the habitat to be removed, modified, fragmented or isolated to the long-term survival of the species or ecological community in the locality,*

The habitat to be removed is not important for the long-term survival of the ecological community in the locality. There are many trees, shrubs and groundcover plants of the same species to that proposed for removal in the locality, and the number of plants of these species impacted is very small relative to that which occurs in the locality.

- (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),*

Four declared 'Areas of Outstanding Biodiversity Value' exist in New South Wales. These are:

- Critical habitat for the Gould's Petrel at Cabbage Tree Island, and to a lesser extent, Boondelbah Island, off the coast of Port Stephens.
- Little Penguin population in Sydney's north harbour.
- Mitchell's Rainforest Snail in Stotts Island Nature Reserve, on the NSW north coast.
- Wollemi Pine in the Wollemi National Park, north-west of Sydney.

The proposal would not affect any declared areas of outstanding biodiversity value.

- (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.*

The proposal involves the 'clearing of native vegetation' that is identified as a key threatening process. However, only a small area of already largely cleared native vegetation would be removed.

Conclusion

Based on the above assessment it is concluded that the proposed development would not have a significant impact on '*White Box - Yellow Box – Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland in the NSW North Coast, New England Tableland, Nandewar, Brigalow Belt South, Sydney Basin, South Eastern Highlands, NSW South Western Slopes, South East Corner and Riverina Bioregions*'.

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