

Constraints Report

223 Scenic Drive, Colongra NSW 2259 Prepared for Woolworths Pty Ltd

August 2012



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Constraints Report

Final Report

223 Scenic Drive, Colongra NSW 2259 | Prepared for Woolworths Ltd

Approved By	David Paull	Approved By
Position	Senior Ecologist	Position
Date	27/08/2012	Date

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Document Control

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 T
 1300 881 869
 F | 1300 881 035

 P
 PO Box 585, Warners Bay NSW 2282

 A
 64 Medcalf Street, Warners Bay NSW 2282

 ABN
 74 114 440 041

www.ecobiological.com.au



Executive Summary

The assessment of ecological constraints within Lot 1 DP1049201 (223 Scenic Drive, Colongra) revealed that:

- 21 threatened flora species and 76 threatened fauna species are known from within 5 km of the study area. Of these, 10 threatened flora species and 25 threatened fauna species are considered likely to utilise habitat such as that found within the study area;
- 2.19 ha of woodland with a "moderate" constraint, due to:
 - 36 hollow-bearing trees were identified as occurring within the study area, some of which were observed being used by Rainbow Lorikeets for nesting and may provide habitat for a number of locally occurring threatened species;
 - One species of Koala preferred feed tree *Eucalyptus haemastoma* (Broad-leaved Scribbly Gum) was identified as occurring within the study area. This tree species constituted more than 15% of the canopy cover and as such the wooded areas on the study area are Potential Koala Habitat under SEPP 44. Subsequent SAT tests assessment showed no sign of Koala activity and there are no records from within 5 km of the site; and
 - The study area lies on the periphery of a large expanse of bushland habitat linking the Colongra wetlands, Lake Munmorah State Conservation Area and west to Olney State Forest.
- 0.9 ha of low constraint, low condition vegetation, unsuitable for most native vertebrate fauna.
- Additional field work is recommended to clarify some of the constraints issues, particularly relating to the presence of hollow-using species and some threatened plant species which may occur on the Lot.



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1. Introduction

1.1. Scope

Kleinfelder/ecobiological was commissioned by Woolworths Ltd, to prepare a constraints assessment of flora, fauna and threatened species at 223 Scenic Drive, Colongra, NSW.

1.2. Regional Context

Colongra is a small suburb within the Wyong LGA approximately 50 km south of Newcastle and is located just in between Lake Munmorah and Budgewoi Lake. Just to the north of the study area is Colongra Power Station (**Figure 1**).

1.3. Study Area

The study area (Lot 1, DP1049201) fronts onto Scenic Drive, which runs south-east from the Pacific Highway to Budgewoi. The majority of the study area is currently vegetated, although evidence of frequent under-scrubbing is evident. Approximately one third of the study area has been cleared and no canopy level vegetation is present within this area. Site access is currently from several dirt tracks on the western boundary.

1.4. Project Description

Woolworths Ltd require a constraints report to determine the suitability of this site for Woolworths commercial purposes.



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1.5. Legislation

This project was undertaken in accordance with and/or consideration of the following Acts and Policies:

- *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* 1999 (EPBC Act);
- NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 (TSC Act);
- NSW Threatened Species Conservation Amendment Act 2002;
- National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NP&W Act);
- *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979 (EP&A Act);
- Noxious Weeds Act 1993 (NW Act);
- Native Vegetation Act 2003 (NV Act);
- Fisheries Management Act 1994 (FM Act);
- *Water Management Act 2000 (WM Act);*
- State Environment Planning Policy 44 (SEPP44) Koala Habitat Protection;
- NSW Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Policy.

1.5.1. Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)

Under the EPBC Act assessment an approval is required for actions that are likely to have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance. An action includes a project, development, undertaking, activity, or series of activities. When a person proposes to take an action they believe may need approval under the EPBC Act, they must refer the proposal to the Australian Government Minister for the Environment. The Act identifies eight matters of national environmental significance:

- 1. World Heritage properties;
- 2. National heritage places;
- 3. Wetlands of international importance (RAMSAR);
- 4. Listed threatened species and communities;
- 5. Migratory species listed under international agreements;
- 6. Great Barrier Reef Marine Park;
- 7. Commonwealth marine areas; and,
- 8. Nuclear actions.

Points 4 and 5 are relevant to the proposal and are assessed in section 4.

1.5.2. NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 (TSC Act)

Schedules 1 and 2 of the TSC Act contain lists of flora and fauna species and communities, which have been determined by the NSW Scientific Committee as being under threat of serious decline that could ultimately lead to extinction. Section 5A of the EP&A Act provides for a seven-part test of significance and impact to be applied to any of these listed species or



communities that are found in an area subject to proposed development. Schedule 3 of the TSC Act contains a list of 'key threatening processes' deemed to be processes that have a negative impact on threatened species, populations or communities.

1.5.3. State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 44 Koala Habitat Protection

The aim of this SEPP is to, as far as possible, preserve Koala habitat in the state. SEPP 44 encourages the proper conservation and management of areas of natural vegetation that provide habitat for koalas to ensure a permanent free-living population over their present range and reverse the current trend of koala population decline.

Under SEPP 44, the identification of Potential Koala habitat and Core Koala habitat is outlined. Potential Koala habitat is defined as areas of native vegetation where the tree species outlined in Table 1 constitute at least 15% of the total number of trees in the upper or lower strata of the tree component.

Preferred Koala Feed Trees	
Common Name	Scientific Name
Eucalyptus tereticornis	Forest Red Gum
Eucalyptus microcorys	Tallowwood
Eucalyptus punctata	Grey Gum
Eucalyptus viminalis	Ribbon or Manna Gum
Eucalyptus camaldulensis	River Red Gum
Eucalyptus haemastoma	Broad-leaved Scribbly Gum
Eucalyptus signata	Scribbly Gum
Eucalyptus albens	White Box
Eucalyptus populnea	Bimble Box or Poplar Box
Eucalyptus robusta	Swamp Mahogany

 Table 1:
 List of SEPP 44 - Schedule 2 preferred Koala Feed Trees.

An assessment of potential impacts on SEPP 44 Koala habitat has been undertaken Section 4.

2. Methods

2.1. Database and Literature Review

To obtain a list of potentially occurring threatened species, populations and ecological communities that have been reported or modelled to occur from within a 25 kilometre radius of the study area, the following databases were searched:

- DECCW's Atlas of NSW Wildlife www.wildlifeatlas.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/wildlifeatlas/watlas.jsp;
- PlantNet (<u>www.plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/</u>);
- A search of Threatened Ecological Communities listed under the TSC Act in the Central Coast Catchment Management Authority (CMA) subregion using the DECCW threatened species website <u>http://www.threatenedspecies.environment.nsw.gov.au/tsprofile/search_advanced</u> <u>form.aspx</u>; and,
- SEWPAC's Protected Matters search tool (www.environment.gov.au/erin/ert/epbc/index.html).

Based on information available concerning habitat requirements of these species, populations and ecological communities; an assessment was made as to the likelihood of any of the reported threatened species, populations and ecological communities occurring on the study area or using the habitat of the study area as an essential part of a foraging range.

2.2. Site Assessment

A site assessment was conducted on the 9th of July 2012 to compile information on the existing vegetation and potential fauna habitat within the study area.

2.2.1. Vegetation community type determination

The identification of vegetation communities was based an assessment of dominant species present in the over-storey, mid-storey, shrub and ground layers as recorded in two 0.04 hectares (20 metres x 20 metres) floristic quadrats and rapid data points (RDP). The species identified within and surrounding the area of the study area were compared to the vegetation descriptions of Lower Hunter Central Coast Regional Environmental Management Strategy (LHCCREMS, NPWS 2000) in order to arrive at an accepted community identity.

The boundaries of each of the identified vegetation communities within the study area were mapped using a combination of rapid data points (RDP) and aerial photo interpretation



2.2.2. Habitat assessment

Ten habitat assessments (Figure 4) were undertaken within the study area. These assessments were made regarding environmental attributes within the site including vegetation structure, presence of water bodies, connectivity, hollow abundance, and leaf litter using a methodology developed by Kleinfelder/ecobiological. The following variables were measured:

Overstorey cover (%), Midstorey cover (%), Groundstorey cover (grasses) (%) Groundstorey cover (Shrubs) (%), Groundstorey cover (other) (%), Litter cover (%), bare ground (%), Exotic plant cover (%), Waterbodies (present/absent), Fallen Logs (present/absent).

2.2.3. Hollow assessment

Hollows are an important resource utilised by a variety of forest fauna. Vertebrate and invertebrate species use hollows as diurnal or nocturnal shelter sites, for rearing young, feeding, thermo-regulation and to facilitate ranging behaviour and dispersal (Gibbons & Lindenmayer 2002). Approximately 400 Australian species potentially use hollows either on a permanent or opportunistic basis. Many threatened species are obligate users, requiring the presence of hollows to survive in the landscape (Gibbons & Lindemayer 2002).

All hollows appearing within the study area were identified and classified according to the size class of the outside cavity:

- Small (0-8 cm);
- Medium (8-20 cm); and
- Large (>20 cm).

2.2.4. Koala Spot Assessment Technique (SAT test)

Under SEPP 44, the identification of Potential Koala habitat and Core Koala habitat is outlined. Potential Koala habitat is defined as areas of native vegetation where the trees of the types outlined in Table 3 constitute at least 15% of the total number of trees in the upper or lower strata of the tree component. One preferred species, *Eucalyptus haemastoma* (Broadleaved Scribbly Gum) represents over 15% of the canopy vegetation within the study area.

In order to determine whether the site supports Core Koala Habitat, use of the Spot Assessment Technique (SAT) (Phillips and Callaghan 2011) is required. The SAT test involves a radial assessment of Koala "activity" within the immediate area surrounding a tree of any species that is known to have been utilised by the species, or otherwise considered to be of some importance for Koala conservation and/or management purposes. In the field the technique is applied as follows:

1. Locate and uniquely mark with flagging tape a tree (the centre tree) that meets one or more of the following selection criteria:



- a. a tree of any species beneath which one or more *P. cinereus* faecal pellets have been observed and/or
- b. a tree in which a *P. cinereus* has been observed and/or
- c. any other tree known or considered to be potentially important for *P. cinereus*, or of interest for other assessment purposes.
- 2. identify and uniquely mark the 29 nearest trees to the centre tree,

3. undertake a search for P. *cinereus* faecal pellets beneath each of the 30 marked trees based on a cursory inspection of the undisturbed ground surface within a distance of 100 centimetres around the base of each tree, followed (if no faecal pellets are initially detected) by a more thorough inspection involving disturbance of the leaf litter

In terms of search effort, an average of approximately two person minutes per tree should be dedicated to the faecal pellet search.

Six SAT assessment circles were conducted at the site (**Figure 2**), 180 trees were searched for sign of Koala activity.



Figure 2 - Surve	Figure 2 - Survey Effort				Ø		
Legend				ecob	Data Sources:		
Study Area	Q	Flora Quadrat				LPMA - 2011 ecobiological - 2011	
Survey Tracks	Survey Tracks R Rapid Data Point			Project Ref:	179-1075		
	H	Habitat Assessment		Plot Date:	27/08/2012 13:12	Disclaimer:This is not an officia map but is for informational use All data was compiled from the	
	•	Koala SAT Test		Revision:	001 (gjoyce)	All data was complied from the available. All boundaries, scale points are approximate.	

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MGA Zone 56



3.1. Threatened Species Database Search

A total of 97 threatened flora and fauna have been previously recorded and/or are modelled to occur within a 25 km radius of the study area (**Table 2**), (**Figure 3**). These include 21 plants, five amphibians, two reptiles, 51 birds, one insect, 17 mammals and two reptiles. In addition, 51 migratory bird species were modelled to potentially occur in the region.

Several species (including solely marine mammals) were omitted from the search results due to the location of the study area and lack of suitable habitat.



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Table 2: Threatened flora, fauna and endangered populations recorded and/or modelled to occur in the study area.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Legal Status (TSC Act)	Legal Status (EPBC Act)	Source	Number of Records	Last Record	Suitable habitat
Flora	1	,					
Acacia bynoeana	Bynoe's Wattle	E1	V	NPWS Atlas	26	23/01/2008	Yes
Angophora inopina	Charmhaven Apple	V	V	NPWS Atlas	103	30/06/2011	Yes
Caladenia porphyrea		E1		NPWS Atlas	6	23/08/2006	Yes
Caladenia tessellata	Thick Lip Spider Orchid	E1	V	NPWS Atlas	6	1/09/1998	Yes
Callistemon linearifolius	Netted Bottle Brush	V		NPWS Atlas	8	9/09/2009	No
Chamaesyce psammogeton	Sand Spurge	E1		NPWS Atlas	1	31/12/1987	No
Clematis fawcettii	Northern Clematis	V		NPWS Atlas	1	30/06/2011	No
Cryptostylis hunteriana	Leafless Tongue Orchid	V	V	NPWS Atlas	15	22/12/2008	Yes
Diuris praecox	Rough Double Tail	V	V	NPWS Atlas	12	4/09/2008	Yes
Eucalyptus camfieldii	Camfield's Stringybark	V	V	NPWS Atlas	28	17/09/2010	No
Eucalyptus parramattensis subsp. parramattensis	Eucalyptus parramattensis C. Hall. subsp. parramattensis in Wyong and Lake Macquarie local government areas	E2		NPWS Atlas	53	6/10/2010	Yes
Genoplesium insignis	Variable Midge Orchid	E1		NPWS Atlas	2	16/09/2000	No
Grevillea parviflora subsp. parviflora	Small-flower Grevillea	V	V	NPWS Atlas	2	27/03/2008	No
Melaleuca biconvexa	Biconvex Paperbark	V	V	NPWS Atlas	41	6/10/2010	Yes
Pelargonium sp. striatellum(G. W. Carr 10345)	Omeo Stork's-bill		E	PMST			No
Pultenaea glabra	Smooth Bush-Pea	V		NPWS Atlas	2	3/06/1994	No
Rutidosis heterogama	Heath Wrinklewort	V		NPWS Atlas	120	20/09/2010	Yes
Streblus pendulinus	Siah's Backbone		E	PMST			No
Syzygium paniculatum	Magenta Lilly Pilly	E1	V	NPWS Atlas	34	21/04/2010	No
Tetratheca juncea	Black-eyed Susan	V	V	NPWS Atlas	432	2/12/2010	Yes
Thelymitra sp. adorata	Wyong Sun Orchid	E4		NPWS Atlas	14	26/08/2010	No
Amphibians							
Crinia tinnula	Wallum Froglet	V		NPWS Atlas	77	27/04/2010	No
Heleioporus australiacus	Giant Burrowing Frog		V	PMST	-	-	No
Litoria aurea	Green and Golden Bell Frog	E1	V	NPWS Atlas, PMST	1	1/01/1993	No
Litoria littlejohni	Littlejohn's Tree Frog		V	PMST	-	-	No

Scientific Name	Common Name	Legal Status (TSC Act)	Legal Status (EPBC Act)	Source	Number of Records	Last Record	Suitable habitat
Mixophyes iteratus	Giant Barred Frog		E	PMST	-	-	No
Birds			·		·	÷	
Anthochaera phrygia	Regent Honeyeater	E4	E	NPWS Atlas, PMST	11	31/05/2002	Yes - foraging
Ardenna carneipes	Flesh-footed Shearwater	V		NPWS Atlas	3	31/12/2010	No
Botaurus poiciloptilus	Australasian Bittern	E1	E	NPWS Atlas, PMST	1	27/09/1997	No
Calidris alba	Sanderling	V		NPWS Atlas	3	14/12/1989	No
Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper	E1		NPWS Atlas	9	28/07/1997	No
Calidris tenuirostris	Great Knot	V		NPWS Atlas	2	31/12/1992	No
Calyptorhynchus lathami	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	V		NPWS Atlas	12	20/03/2009	No
Charadrius mongolus	Lesser Sand-plover	V		NPWS Atlas	2	31/12/1994	No
Daphoenositta chrysoptera	Varied Sittella	V		NPWS Atlas	16	27/11/2008	Yes - foraging
Dasyornis brachypterus	Eastern Bristlebird		E	PMST	-	-	No
Diomedea exulans antipodensis	Antipodean Albatross		V	PMST	-	-	No
Diomedea exulans gibsoni	Gibson's Albatross		V	PMST	-	-	No
Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus	Black-necked Stork	E1		NPWS Atlas	6	16/09/1994	No
Epthianura albifrons	White-fronted Chat	V		NPWS Atlas	1	24/08/1971	No
Erythrotriorchis radiatus	Red Goshawk		V	PMST	-	-	No
Fregetta grallaria grallaria	White-bellied Storm-Petrel (Tasman Sea), Whitebellied Storm-Petrel (Australasian)		V	PMST	-	-	No
Glossopsitta pusilla	Little Lorikeet	V		NPWS Atlas	12	18/08/2009	Yes - foraging
Gygis alba	White Tern	V		NPWS Atlas	2	5/05/1996	No
Haematopus fuliginosus	Sooty Oystercatcher	V		NPWS Atlas	31	28/12/1999	No
Haematopus longirostris	Pied Oystercatcher	E1		NPWS Atlas	12	25/04/2009	No
Hieraaetus morphnoides	Little Eagle	V		NPWS Atlas	1	21/11/2003	No
Ixobrychus flavicollis	Black Bittern	V		NPWS Atlas	3	12/04/1993	No
Lathamus discolor	Swift Parrot	E1	E	NPWS Atlas, PMST	72	28/04/2011	Yes - foraging
Limicola falcinellus	Broad-billed Sandpiper	V		NPWS Atlas	2	14/01/1977	No
Limosa limosa	Black-tailed Godwit	V		NPWS Atlas	1	26/04/1999	No
Macronectes giganteus	Southern Giant Petrel	E1	E	NPWS Atlas, PMST	3	25/12/2007	No
Macronectes halli	Northern Giant Petrel		V	PMST	-	-	No
Neophema pulchella	Turquoise Parrot	V		NPWS Atlas	-	4/09/1966	No

Scientific Name	Common Name	Legal Status (TSC Act)	Legal Status (EPBC Act)	Source	Number of Records	Last Record	Suitable habitat
Ninox connivens	Barking Owl	V		NPWS Atlas	2	9/03/2009	Yes - roosting and foraging
Ninox strenua	Powerful Owl	V		NPWS Atlas	13	25/11/2008	Yes – roosting and foraging
Pandion cristatus	Eastern Osprey	V		NPWS Atlas	9	20/11/2008	No
Petroica boodang	Scarlet Robin	V		NPWS Atlas	1	23/02/1996	No
Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis	Grey-crowned Babbler (eastern subspecies)	V		NPWS Atlas	1	21/01/1986	No
Pterodroma neglecta neglecta	Kermadiec Petrel (western)		V	PMST	-	-	No
Pterodroma leucoptera leucoptera	Gould's Petrel	V		NPWS Atlas	1	6/04/1981	No
Pterodroma solandri	Providence Petrel	V		NPWS Atlas	2	1/01/1989	No
Ptilinopus regina	Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove	V		NPWS Atlas	1	29/05/2008	No
Ptilinopus superbus	Superb Fruit-Dove	V		NPWS Atlas	3	23/05/1996	No
Puffinus assimilis	Little Shearwater	V		NPWS Atlas	1	16/01/1997	No
Rostratula australis	Australian Painted Snipe		V	PMST	-	-	No
Stagonopleura guttata	Diamond Firetail	V		NPWS Atlas	1	22/01/1991	No
Sternula albifrons	Little Tern	E1		NPWS Atlas	14	30/07/2007	No
Sternula nereis nereis	Fairy Tern		V	PMST	-	-	No
Thalassarche bulleri	Buller's Albatross		V	PMST	-	-	No
Thalassarche cauta cauta	Shy Albatross		V	PMST	-	-	No
Thalassarche cauta salvini	Salvin's Albatross		V	PMST	-	-	No
Thalassarche cauta steadi	White-capped Albatross		V	PMST	-	-	No
Thalassarche melanophris	Black-browed Albatross	V		NPWS Atlas	4	27/06/1999	No
Thalassarche malanophris impavida	Campbell Albatross		V	PMST	-	-	No
Tyto novaehollandiae	Masked Owl	V		NPWS Atlas	9	30/03/2008	Yes – roosting and foraging
Tyto tenebricosa	Sooty Owl	V		NPWS Atlas	3	19/01/2007	Yes - marginal roosting and foraging
Insecta							
Petalura gigantea	Giant Dragonfly	E1		NPWS Atlas	1	15/12/2006	Yes
Mammals		1	I	1	I		

Scientific Name	Common Name	Legal Status (TSC Act)	Legal Status (EPBC Act)	Source	Number of Records	Last Record	Suitable habitat
Cercartetus nanus	Eastern Pygmy-possum	v		NPWS Atlas	1	18/05/2005	Yes – roosting and foraging
Chalinolobus dwyeri	Large-eared Pied Bat	V	V	NPWS Atlas, PMST	-	13/04/2004	Yes - foraging
Dasyurus maculatus	Spotted-tailed Quoll	V	Е	NPWS Atlas, PMST	5	1/06/2010	Yes - foraging
Falsistrellus tasmaniensis	Eastern False Pipistrelle	V		NPWS Atlas	4	21/04/2010	Yes – Roosting and foraging
Isoodon obesulus obesulus	Southern Brown Bandicoot (eastern)	E1		NPWS Atlas	1	8/06/1998	No
Miniopterus australis	Little Bentwing-bat	V		NPWS Atlas	19	21/04/2010	Yes – foraging
Miniopterus schreibersii oceanensis	Eastern Bentwing-bat	V		NPWS Atlas	31	10/09/2009	Yes - foraging
Mormopterus norfolkensis	Eastern Freetail-bat	V		NPWS Atlas	24	21/04/2010	Yes – roosting and foraging
Myotis macropus	Southern Myotis	V		NPWS Atlas	19	21/04/2010	Yes - roosting
Petaurus norfolcensis	Squirrel Glider	V		NPWS Atlas	90	27/08/2009	Yes – nesting and foraging
Petrogale penicillata	Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby		V	PMST	-	-	No
Phascolarctos cinereus	Koala	V	V	NPWS Atlas, PMST	8	30/06/2006	Yes – feed trees throughout
Potorous tridactylus tridactylus	Long-nosed Potoroo		V	PMST	-	-	No
Pseudomys novaehollandiae	New Holland Mouse		V	PMST	-	-	No
Pteropus poliocephalus	Grey-headed Flying-fox	V	V	NPWS Atlas, PMST	29	21/04/2010	Yes - foraging
Saccolaimus flaviventris	Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat	V		NPWS Atlas	-	19/09/2005	Yes – roosting and foraging
Scoteanax rueppellii	Greater Broad-nosed Bat	V		NPWS Atlas	21	21/04/2010	Yes – roosting and foraging
Reptiles							
Hoplocephalus bungaroides	Broad-headed Snake		V	PMST	-	-	No
Hoplocephalus stephensii	Stephens' Banded Snake	V		NPWS Atlas	1	15/03/2008	Yes

Source: NPWS Atlas of NSW Wildlife database (NPWS Atlas), EPBC Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST), National Herbarium of NSW spatial search tool (NSW Herbarium) Key: V = Vulnerable, E = Endangered, EP = Endangered Population, CE = Critically Endangered, Ex = Extinct.

		EPBC Listed Migratory Species							
Scientific Name	Common Name	Terrestrial	Wetland	Marine	JAMBA	CAMBA	ROKAMBA	Bonn	Suitable habitat
Actitis hypoleucos	Common Sandpiper		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Anthochaera phrygia	Regent Honeyeater	+							Yes – suitable foraging
Apus pacificus	Fork-tailed Swift			+	+	+	+		No
Ardea alba	Great Egret		+	+	+	+			No
Ardea ibis	Cattle Egret		+	+	+	+			No
Arenaria interpres	Ruddy Turnstone		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Calidris canutus	Red Knot		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Calidris melanotos	Pectoral Sandpiper			+	+		+	+	No
Calidris ruficollis	Red-necked Stint		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Calidris tenuirostris	Great Knot		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Charadrius bicinctus	Double-banded Plover		+	+				+	No
Charadrius leschenaultii	Greater Sand Plover		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Charadrius mongolus	Lesser sand Plover		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Charadrius ruficapillus	Red-capped Plover			+					No
Diomedea exulans antipodensis	Antipodean Albatross			+				+	No
Diomedea exulans gibsoni	Gibson's Albatross			+				+	No
Gallinago hardwickii	Latham's Snipe		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Gallinago megala	Swinhoe's Snipe			+	+	+	+	+	No
Gallinago stenura	Pin-tailed Snipe			+	+	+	+	+	No
Haliaeetus leucogaster	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	+	+	+		+			No
Heteroscelus brevipes	Grey-tailed Tattler		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Himantopus himantopus	Black-winged Stilt			+					No
Hirundapus caudacutus	White-throated Needletail	+		+	+	+	+		No
Lathamus discolor	Swift Parrot	+		+					Yes – suitable foraging
Limicola falcinellus	Broad-billed Sandpiper		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Limosa lapponica	Bar-tailed Godwit		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Limosa limosa	Black-tailed Godwit		+	+	+	+	+	+	No
Macronectes giganteus	Southern Giant Petrel			+	1			+	No
Macronectes halli	Northern Giant Petrel			+				+	No
Merops ornatus	Rainbow Bee-eater	+		+					No
Monarcha melanopsis	Black-faced Monarch			+				+	Yes – suitable foraging
Myiagra cyanoleuca	Satin Flycatcher	+		+				+	No

Table 3: Migratory Species (EPBC Act Protected Matters Search) modelled to occur in the study area.

			EPBC Listed Migratory Species							
Scientific Name	Common Name	Terrestrial	Wetland	Marine	JAMBA	CAMBA	ROKAMBA	Bonn	Suitable habitat	
Numenius madagascariensis	Eastern Curlew		+	+	+	+	+	+	No	
Numenius minutus	Little Curlew		+	+	+	+	+	+	No	
Numenius phaeopus	Whimbrel		+	+	+	+	+	+	No	
Philomachus pugnax	Ruff			+	+	+	+	+	No	
Pluvialis fulva	Pacific Golden Plover		+	+	+	+	+	+	No	
Pluvialis squatarola	Grey Plover		+	+	+	+	+	+	No	
Recurvirostra novaehollandiae	Red-necked Avocet			+					No	
Rhipidura rufifrons	Rufous Fantail	+		+				+	Yes – marginal foraging	
Rostratula benghalensis	Painted Snipe		+	+		+			No	
Sterna albifrons	Little Tern			+	+	+		+	No	
Thalassarche bulleri	Buller's Albatross			+				+	No	
Thalassarche cauta cauta	Shy Albatross			+				+	No	
Thalassarche cauta salvini	Salvin's Albatross			+				+	No	

3.2. Field Survey Results

White-capped Albatross

Campbell Albatross

Marsh Sandpiper

Terek Sandpiper

3.2.1. Flora

Thalassarche cauta steadi

Thalassarche melanophris

impavida

Tringa stagnatilis

Xenus cinereus

A total of 102 flora species were identified during surveys and subsequent identification analysis (**Appendix 1**). No threatened species were identified within the study area.

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Of the flora species identified, 31 are considered exotic species. In addition, two of these species are listed as Class 4 Noxious Weeds within the Wyong LGA under the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993*; these include *Lantana camara* (Lantana) and *Chrysanthemoides monilifera* (Bitou Bush).

3.2.2. Vegetation Community Types

One native vegetation community and one exotic vegetation type were identified within the study area:

- Scribbly Gum Woodland (2.19 ha); and
- Exotic Grassland (0.8 ha).

No

No

No

No

+

+

+

+



These communities are described below and mapped in **Figure 4**. Each vegetation type has been assigned an equivalent map unit from the Lower Hunter Central Coast Regional Environmental Management Scheme (NPWS 2000) and the BioMetric Vegetation Type database (DECCW 2008).

Scribbly Gum Woodland



Plate 1: Scribbly Gum Woodland.

Corresponding Hunter, Central and Lower North Coast Vegetation Classification & Mapping Project Map Unit:

MU 31: Coastal Plains Scribbly Gum Woodland.

Vegetation Formation:

Dry Sclerophyll Forests (Shrubby sub formation).

Vegetation Class:

Sydney Coastal Dry Sclerophyll Forests

Equivalent Biometric Vegetation Type:

Scribbly Gum - Red Bloodwood heathy woodland on the coastal plains of the Central Coast, Sydney Basin.



Conservation Status:

Not listed.

Structure:

Canopy to 20 m with a shrub/grass understory.

General Description:

The dominant canopy species in this community are *Eucalyptus haemastoma* (Scribbly Gum) and *Corymbia gummifera* (Red Bloodwood). *Angophora costata* (Smooth-barked Apple) and *Eucalyptus capitellata* (Brown Stringybark) also occur frequently. *Melaleuca quinquinervia* (Broad-leaved Paperbark) occurs on the eastern side of the study area where this community adjoins the Riparian Paperbark Forest.

The midstorey and shrub layers are sparse within this community due to previous under-scrubbing. Common midstorey species include *Allocasuarina littoralis* (Black She-oak), *Leptospermum trinervium* (Flaky-barked Tea-tree), and *Callistemon linearis* (Narrow-leaved Bottlebrush). The shrub layer consists of a variety of species including *Lambertia Formosa* (Mountain Devil), *Xanthorrhoea latifolia, Banksia oblongifolia* (Fern-leaved Banksia), *Epacris pulchella* (Wallum Heath), *Acacia longifolia* (Sydney Golden Wattle), *Dillwynia retorta, Leptospermum polygalifolium* (Tantoon), and *Hakea bakeriana*.

Native grass species present include *Themeda australis* (Kangaroo Grass), *Echinopogon caespitosus* var. *caespitosus* (Bushy Hedgehog-grass), *Entolasia stricta* (Wiry Panic) and *Aristida vagans* (Threeawn Speargrass). Other native groundcover species present include *Dianella caerulea* (Blue Flax-lily), *Lomandra obliqua, Lomandra filiformis* (Wattle Mat-rush), *Patersonia sericea* (Silky Purple-Flag), *Ptilothrix deusta, Lepidosperma laterale, Hardenbergia violacea* (Purple Coral Pea), and *Lindsaea linearis* (Screw Fern).

A number of exotic species are also present including *Andropogon virginicus* (Whisky Grass), *Axonopus fissifolius* (Narrow-leaved Carpet Grass), *Paspalum urvillei* (Vasey Grass), and *Hypochaeris radicata* (Catsear).

Floristic / Structural Variations:

In the south-east corner of the Scribbly Gum Woodland, there is a small area where *Melaleuca quinquinervia* (Broad-leaved Paperbark) co-occurs in the overstorey with *E.haemastoma* (Scribbly Gum), *A.costata* (Smooth-barked Apple), and *Corymbia gummifera* (Red Bloodwood); the understorey also has a greater proportion of mesic species such as *Melaleuca nodosa* (Prickly-leaved Paperbark), *Breynia oblongifolia* (Coffee Bush), and *Microlaena stipoides* (Weeping Grass). This variant represents an ecotonal area between the Scribbly Gum Woodland on the upper slope and the Swamp-Mahogany – Paperbark Forest in the narrow-drainage line approx. 50m to the east. NPWS (2000) indicates that MU 42 Riparian Melaleuca Swamp Woodland and Scribbly Gum Woodland (MU 31) typically intergrade around narrow drainage lines on the Central Coast (NPWS 2000).

Comparison between quadrat and RDP data collected from this variant and the MU



31 and MU 42 map unit descriptions indicate that this area is floristically similar to both map units, but is more closely aligned to MU 31 Scribbly Gum Woodland due to the overall dominance of key canopy species (*A.costata, E.haemastoma, C.gummifera* and *E.capitellata*).

Condition:

The understorey of this community has been modified through previous clearing and under-scrubbing and the shrub layer is largely absent as a consequence. This previous disturbance and edge effects from the surrounding exotic grassland have also resulted in an abundance of exotic grasses throughout this community, particularly in the southern portion.

Distribution:

This community occurs on the low and undulating topography of the coastal plain on sedimentary geologies, particularly in the Lake Macquarie area. (DECCW 2008). Within the study area, this community is distributed across the northern portion of the site.

Exotic Grassland



Plate 2: Exotic Grassland.

Corresponding Hunter, Central and Lower North Coast Vegetation Classification & Mapping Project Map Unit:

N/A

Vegetation Formation: Grassland.

Vegetation Class: Grassland.

Equivalent Biometric Vegetation Type: Nil.

Conservation Status:

Not listed.

Structure:

Grassland to 1m tall.

General Description:

This community is dominated by exotic grasses and herbs including *Andropogon virginicus* (Whisky Grass), *Pennisetum clandestinum* (Kikuyu), *Axonopus fissifolius* (Narrow-leafed Carpet Grass), *Paspalum dilatatum* (Paspalum), *Hydrocotyle bonariensis, Sida rhombifolia* (Paddy's Lucerne), and *Plantago lanceolata* (Lamb's Tongues). Several scattered exotic trees and shrubs also occur in this community including *Erythrina x sykesii* (Coral Tree), *Ficus elastica* (Rubber Fig), and *Lantana camara* (Lantana).

Distribution:

Within the study area, this community is situated on the southern portion of the site.



Figure 4 - Vegetation Communities

- Study Area
 Dry Forest Paperbark Ecotone
 - Scribbly Gum Woodland
 - Exotic Grassland

		map i rejection.
	Ø	GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56
ecob	iological	Data Sources: LPMA - 2011 ecobiological - 2011
Project Ref:	179-1075	
Plot Date: 27/08/2012 09:33		Disclaimer:This is not an official or a legal map but is for informational use only. All data was compiled from the best sources
Revision:	001 (gjoyce)	available. All boundaries, scale and geographic points are approximate.

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3.2.1. Habitat Assessment

Ten habitat assessments were undertaken across the study area to determine the quality of remnant vegetation and to identify areas of differing quality habitat (**Figure 4**).

Assessments identified the more heavily vegetated areas towards the middle and back of the study area to be of high habitat quality. Although there is a moderate level of disturbance throughout the vegetated areas (mainly from bike riders, illegal fire wood collection and under-scrubbing), this area exhibited multiple habitat layers, a high abundance of hollow bearing mature trees, scattered fallen timber, a high abundance of flowering eucalypts and high internal and external connectivity. The type and quality of this habitat has the potential to support a diverse range of native fauna species in the Colongra area. Multiple fauna species were observed using this area (Appendix 2) and many trees had scratch marks from arboreal mammals.

The boundary between the vegetated portion and the cleared portion of the study area was identified as moderate condition. Remnant trees with some hollows, some fallen timber and limited habitat layers are present; however the edge effects associated with the cleared area (increased numbers of weeds, rubbish, smaller trees) are also evident.

Plates 1 and 3 also show the habitat structure between high and low habitat value areas.

3.2.2. Hollow Assessment

Hollows are an important resource utilised by a variety of forest fauna. Vertebrate and invertebrate species use hollows as diurnal or nocturnal shelter sites, for rearing young, feeding, thermo-regulation and to facilitate ranging behaviour and dispersal (Gibbons & Lindenmayer 2002). Approximately 400 Australian species potentially use hollows either on a permanent or opportunistic basis. Many threatened species are obligate users, requiring the presence of hollows to survive in the landscape (Gibbons & Lindemayer 2002).

An assessment of hollow bearing trees during the site assessment identified 36 hollow bearing trees within the study area (**Figure 5**). Hollows being utilized by native fauna (Rainbow Lorikeets) were observed in some trees.

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4. Constraints Assessment

4.1. Flora Issues

4.1.1. Threatened Species

Of the 21 threatened flora species which have previously been recorded within a 10 km radius of the study area, 10 species have potential habitat on the site. None of these species were detected during the site inspection. However, six of these species (*Acacia bynoeana, Caladenia porphyria, Caladenia tessellate, Cryptostylis hunteriana, Diuris praecox* and *Tetratheca juncea*) are unable to be detected, or difficult to detect, outside their respective flowering periods. Therefore, it is recommended that targeted searches for these species be conducted prior to any clearing of native vegetation during the appropriate seasons (see section 6).

4.2. Fauna Issues

4.2.1. Threatened Species

A number of threatened fauna species are assessed as being likely to occur within the study area due to the presence of suitable habitat.

Species which may use habitat within the study area include the Regent Honeyeater, Varied Sittella, Little Lorikeet, Swift Parrot, Barking Owl, Powerful Owl, Masked Owl, Sooty Owl, Giant Dragonfly, Eastern Pygmy-possum, Large-eared Pied Bat, Spotted-tailed Quoll, Eastern False Pipistrelle, Little Bentwing-bat, Eastern Bentwing-bat, Eastern Freetail-bat, Southern Myotis, Stephens' Banded Snake, Koala, Grey-headed Flying-fox, Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat, Greater Broad-nosed Bat and Squirrel Glider.

An additional two EPBC listed migratory species Black-faced Monarch and Rufous Fantail are also identified as potential users of habitat within the study area.

The relatively large number of threatened fauna species assessed as likely of using the study area is due to the high number of known records in the locality (NPWS Atlas) and the high external connectivity of the habitat within the study area to much larger habitat corridors within the area.

4.2.2. Habitat Hollows

A total of 36 trees were identified as containing habitat hollows during surveys (**Figure 5**). Although the study area was thoroughly traversed, it is still likely that some hollows were missed, so this should be taken into account.

Hollow-bearing trees are one of the most important fauna habitats within the Study area not just for their hollows but for their ability to provide insect and nectar resources for a wide range of fauna including threatened species.



It is recommended that hollow-bearing trees be retained wherever possible, and if this is unavoidable, the implementation of a nest-box programme, ecologically sensitive clearing practices and a monitoring program be undertaken to offset removed hollows.

4.3. Riparian Zones

A number of shallow, ephemeral depressions were observed within the cleared area of the study area. These appeared to be grooves cut by a turning vehicle and would appear to only fill during times of heavy rain. As such these areas are not considered "prescribed streams" they are not subject to the *Water Management Act 2000*.

4.4. SEPP 44 Koala Habitat Protection

A systematic Koala SAT assessment was conducted on the 21 August 2012. Six SAT sites were undertaken (180 trees). The main tree species present in the assessment areas were Scribbly Gum and Smooth-barked Apple.

No sign of Koalas or scats were detected.

4.5. Regional Habitat Corridors

The study area is part of a regional network of remnant vegetation that is an important movement corridor for a wide range of species throughout the Wyong and Lake Macquarie LGAs. Although the study area is located on the outer edge, the remnant trees located on the rear two-thirds of the lot lie within the corridor.

4.6. Constraints Mapping

Based on the above discussion, constraints on the site have been mapped (Figure 5).

- Areas of moderate constraint correspond to the area of Scribbly Gum Woodland containing hollow trees, as this area though having a disturbed understorey, may contain habitat for threatened mature tree-using species (2.19 ha).
- Areas of low constraint correspond to the cleared areas on the block with a small area of highly disturbed woodland on the southern boundary of the remnant vegetation (0.9 ha). There are no ecological impediments to the development of this area.



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The assessment of ecological constraints within Lot 1 DP1049201 revealed that:

- 21 threatened flora species and 76 threatened fauna species are known from within 5 km of the study area. Of these, 10 threatened flora species and 25 threatened fauna species are considered likely to utilise habitat such as that found within the study area;
- 2.19 ha of woodland with a "moderate" constraint, due to:
 - 36 hollow-bearing trees were identified as occurring within the study area, some of which were observed being used by Rainbow Lorikeets for nesting and may provide habitat for a number of locally occurring threatened species;
 - One species of Koala preferred feed tree *Eucalyptus haemastoma* (Broad-leaved Scribbly Gum) was identified as occurring within the study area. This tree species constituted more than 15% of the canopy cover and as such the wooded areas on the study area are Preferred Koala habitat under SEPP 44. However subsequent SAT tests did not reveal any usage by Koalas; and
 - The study area lies on the periphery of a large expanse of bushland habitat linking the Colongra wetlands, Lake Munmorah State Conservation Area and west to Olney State Forest.
- 0.9 ha of low constraint, low condition vegetation, unsuitable for most native vertebrate fauna.

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6. Recommendations

In order to facilitate a future development application for the site, a number of survey and assessments will be required. Below is a summary of the most important issues:

- Any loss or modification of native vegetation within the study area, including the Scribbly Gum Woodland (2.19ha) may require a suitable offset strategy. While Wyong Shire Council is the consent authority, referral to the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) may occur. OEH uses the BioBanking Assessment Methodology (Seidel and Briggs 2009) to determine extent and type of offsets required to offset development. Offset areas would require protection and ongoing management through appropriate management plans;
- For a development application, additional field surveys will be required to:
 - Fulfill the minimum survey requirements of the Flora and Fauna Survey Guidelines: Lower Hunter Central Coast Region (2002);
- Conduct targeted searches for threatened flora species identified as having suitable habitat within the study area which can be detected during their respective flowering periods. This could be achieved through two surveys:
 - September October: Caladenia porphyria, Caladenia tessellata, Diuris praecox and Tetratheca juncea.
 - > December January: Acacia bynoeana and Cryptostylis hunteriana.
- Conduct targeted searches for threatened fauna species identified as having suitable habitat within the study area. In particular, hollow dependent species such as the Squirrel Glider and microchiropteran bats. Determine the location and type of hollows within the remaining areas across the site so that hollow loss may be offset accurately.



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Appendix 1: Flora species recorded within the study area

Quadrat Rating using modified Braun-Blanquet cover-abundance scale

Rating	Cover-abundance
1	< 5% cover, few individuals or sparse occurrence
2	< 5% cover, many individuals
3	5 - 25% cover
4	25 - 50% cover
5	50 - 75% cover
6	75 - 100% cover

Q1: Scribbly Gum Woodland (moist variant)

Q2: Scribbly Gum Woodland

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Q1	Q2
Acanthaceae	Brunoniella australis	Blue Trumpet		2
Apiaceae	Centella asiatica	Indian Pennywort	2	2
Apiaceae	Hydrocotyle peduncularis		2	
Apocynaceae	Parsonsia straminea	Common Silkpod		1
Asteraceae	*Conyza sp.		2	
Asteraceae	*Hypochaeris radicata	Catsear	1	
Asteraceae	*Senecio madagascariensis	Fireweed	1	
Casuarinaceae	Allocasuarina littoralis	Black She-oak		1
Clusiaceae	Hypericum gramineum	Small St John's Wort		1
Cyperaceae	Carex sp		1	
Cyperaceae	Gahnia clarkei	Tall Saw-sedge	1	1
Cyperaceae	Lepidosperma laterale		1	2
Cyperaceae	Ptilothrix deusta			3
Cyperaceae	Schoenus apogon	Common Bog-rush	2	
Cyperaceae	Schoenus villosus	Hairy Bog-rush		1
Droseraceae	Drosera auriculata		1	1
Ericaceae - Styphelioideae	Epacris pulchella	Wallum Heath	1	2
Fabaceae - Faboideae	Glycine clandestina		2	
Fabaceae - Mimosoideae	Acacia brownii	Heath Wattle		1
Fabaceae - Mimosoideae	Acacia longifolia		2	2
Haemodoraceae	Haemodorum planifolium			1
Haloragaceae	Gonocarpus micranthus subsp. micranthus		1	
Iridaceae	Patersonia glabrata	Leafy Purple-flag	1	2
Juncaceae	Juncus usitatus		1	
Lindsaeaceae	Lindsaea linearis	Screw Fern	2	2
Lobeliaceae	Pratia purpurascens	Whiteroot	2	2
Lomandraceae	Lomandra filiformis		1	2

Lomandraceae	Lomandra longifolia	Spiny-headed Mat-rush	2	1
Malvaceae	*Sida rhombifolia	Paddy's Lucerne	2	
Myrtaceae	Angophora costata	Smooth-barked Apple	3	
Myrtaceae	Corymbia gummifera	Red Bloodwood	2	4
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus capitellata	Brown Stringybark		1
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus haemastoma	Scribbly Gum		4
Myrtaceae	Leptospermum polygalifolium	Tantoon	2	
Myrtaceae	Leptospermum trinervium		2	2
Myrtaceae	Leptospermum polygalifolium	Lemon Scented Tea tree	2	2
Myrtaceae	Melaleuca nodosa	Prickly-leaved Paperbark	3	
Myrtaceae	Melaleuca quinquenervia	Broad-leaved Paperbark	4	
Myrtaceae	Melaleuca sieberi		2	
Orchidaceae	Caladenia catenata	White Fingers	2	1
Orchidaceae	Cryptostylis subulata	Large Tongue Orchid	1	1
Orchidaceae	Pterostylis nutans	Nodding Greenhood	1	
Oxalidaceae	Oxalis exilis		1	
Phormiaceae	Dianella caerulea	Blue Flax-lily	2	2
Phyllanthaceae	Breynia oblongifolia	Coffee Bush		
Phyllanthaceae	Glochidion ferdinandi var. ferdinandi	di Cheese Tree		1
Phytolaccaceae	*Phytolacca octandra	Phytolacca octandra Inkweed		
Pittosporaceae	Pittosporum undulatum	Sweet Pittosporum		1
Plantaginaceae	Veronica plebeia	ca plebeia Trailing Speedwell		
Plantaginaceae	*Plantago lanceolata	Lamb's Tongues	2	
Poaceae	*Andropogon virginicus	Whisky Grass	3	3
Poaceae	*Axonopus fissifolius	Narrow-leafed Carpet Grass	3	2
Poaceae	*Ehrharta erecta	Panic Veldtgrass	2	
Poaceae	*Paspalum urvillei	Vasey Grass		2
Poaceae	*Stenotaphrum secundatum	Buffalo Grass		1
Poaceae	Aristida vagans	Threeawn Speargrass		2
Poaceae	Echinopogon caespitosus var. caespitosus	Tufted Hedgehog Grass	2	
Poaceae	Entolasia stricta	Wiry Panic	2	4
Poaceae	Eragrostis brownii	Lovegrass	3	2
Poaceae	Microlaena stipoides var. stipoides	Weeping Grass	4	
Poaceae	Themeda australis	Kangaroo Grass	2	4
Proteaceae	Hakea dactyloides	Broad-leaved Hakea		2
Proteaceae	Lambertia formosa	Mountain Devil		3
Pteridaceae	Cheilanthes sieberi subsp. sieberi	Poison Rock Fern	2	
Restionaceae	Lepyrodia scariosa	1	2	3
Rubiaceae	Opercularia aspera	Coarse Stinkweed		1
Verbenaceae	*Lantana camara	Lantana	3	1
Xanthorrhoeaceae	Xanthorrhoea latifolia subsp. latifolia		3	4

Appendix 2: Opportunistic fauna species recorded within the study area

	Scientific Name	Common Name	Abundance	Comments
	Birds			
1	Anthochaera carunculata	Red Wattlebird	2	
2	Coracina novaehollandiae	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	1	
3	Corvus coronoides	Australian Raven	5	
4	Cracticus tibicen	Australian Magpie	3	
5	Dacelo novaeguineae	Laughing Kookaburra	4	
6	Manorina melanocephala	Noisy Miner	>10	
7	Ocyphaps lophotes	Crested Pigeon	2	
8	Philemon corniculatus	Noisy Friarbird	2	
9	Platycercus elegans	Crimson Rosella	5	
10	Trichoglossus haematodus	Rainbow Lorikeet	>20	Observed nesting
	Mammals			
11	Macropus giganteus	Eastern Grey Kangaroo		Scats
12	Oryctolagus cuniculus	European Rabbit		Scats
	Reptiles			
13	Lampropholis delicata	Garden Skink	>10	

denotes threatened species under the TSC Act 1995

^ denotes threatened species under the EPBC Act 1999

* denotes an introduced species

^M denotes a migratory species

Appendix 3: Habitat Assessments

		Site No.									
	Habitat characteristic	S1	S2	S 3	S4	S 5	S 6	S7	S 8	S 9	S10
1	Remnant patch	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
2	Regrowth/old growth	A	R	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	R
3	% Bare ground	0	30	15	10	10	5	0	10	25	0
4	Number of habitat layers	1	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	3
5	Ground log abundance	A	L	L	L	н	А	А	L	L	A
6	Hollow abundance	A	L	н	н	м	н	н	н	м	L
7	% Litter cover	0	20	20	40	50	20	25	10	30	0
8	% litter around tree bases	0	80	50	50	10	70	20	10	20	0
9	% Rock cover	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	% Herb grass cover	100	70	60	60	60	80	80	80	80	95
11	Dominant tree/shrub height (m)	0	10	10	10	12	10	14	14	11	14
12	Regeneration occurring	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
13	Internal connectivity	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	м
14	External connectivity	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	L
15	Nests present	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N
16	Trunk scratches	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
17	Invertebrate activity	L	L	А	A	A	A	А	А	А	A
18	Level of grazing	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
19	Sediment movement	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
20	Estimate ecosystem integrity	L	м	М-Н	М-Н	М-Н	М-Н	М-Н	М-Н	М-Н	L
21	Dams present	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
22	Manmade wetlands	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
23	Natural wetlands	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
24	Perennial stream present	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
25	Emphemeral waterbodies	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
26	Source/sink landscape	SINK	SINK	SINK	SINK	SINK	SINK	SINK	SINK	SINK	SINK
26	Habitat quality/10	1	4	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	3
27	Capacity for habitat restoration- improvement	L	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	н	м
28	Overall level of constraint	LOW	MOD	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	LOW

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Appendix 4: Contributions and Qualifications of Kleinfelder/ecobiological Staff

Name	Qualification	Title	Contribution
Luke Foster	M. Env Sci (wildlife ecology)	Ecologist (Mammalogist)	Habitat assessments, Report writing.
Aaron Mulcahy	B. Env Sci. & Mgmt	Botanist	Flora survey and report writing (flora)
David Paull	M.Res.Sc (Wildlife Ecology)	Senior Ecologist (Zoologist)	Report Review
Gayle Joyce	B. Sc (forestry)	GIS	Map preparation



Kleinfelder/ecobiological employees involved in the current study are licensed or approved under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* 1974 (License Number: SL100730, Expiry: 31 March 2013) and the *Animal Research Act* 1985 to harm/trap/release protected native fauna and to pick for identification purposes native flora and to undertake fauna surveys.