Arborist Assessment Report

at

Lot 2 DP516738 & Lot 3 DP1187097

108 and 114 Rawlinson Street, Bega NSW 2550

Date: November 2023 – V2

Contents

1 Introduction

1.1 Preamble

The purpose of this report is to determine the ecological values present within the study area and assess the ecological impacts of the proposal on threatened species and ecological communities pursuant to the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act) and Section 7.3 of the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act).

The proposal does not trigger the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme (BOS) under the BC Act as the native vegetation clearing threshold for the property (0.25 ha) is not exceeded; no areas mapped as Biodiversity Values (DPE 2022a, Appendix A) will be affected; and the proposal is not likely to result in a significant impact to any threatened entities.

Terry Parkinson Native Australian Expert and Arborist from Wirin Wirra Nursey Tomerong identified the trees proposed for removal in section 4.4 of this report.

1.2 Subject Site and Surrounding Locality

The subject site is located at 108 and 114 Rawlinson Street, Bega, legally described as Lot 2 DP516738 and Lot 3 DP1187097. The site is comprised of two (2) irregular shaped allotments with a total site area of 9585m^2.

Proposed Lots	Distance	Adjoining Property
Lot 2 DP516738		
Northern	20.905m	Road frontage to Rawlinson Street
	19.33m	110 Rawlinson Street.
Eastern	99.855m	106 Rawlinson Street.
Southern	40.235m	9,13,15 Prospect Street
Western	32.706m	110 Rawlinson Street.
Lot 3 DP1187097		
North	23.275m	Road frontage to Rawlinson Street.
	18.29m	118 Rawlinson Street.
	19.845m	116 Rawlinson Street.
	19.17m	112 Rawlinson Street.
East	36.065m	112 Rawlinson Street.
Southern	80.615m	17,19,21,23,25 Prospect Street
Western	69.85m	92, 94 Ravenwood Street and 120 Rawlinson Street.

Figure 1 – The subject site 108 -114 Rawlinson Street, Bega

2 Proposal

The proposal is seeking approval for tree removal associated with Residential Accommodation under State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021 situated at 108 – 114 Rawlinson Street, Bega.

2.1 Disturbances

The subject site has been modified by historic clearing. The plantings are a mix of native and exotic species, with lawn areas comprised of exotic grasses with large patches of bare earth. The subject site is surrounded by residential development containing scattered native trees with no substantial habitat connectivity throughout the residential area.

2.2 Potential Impacts

The following direct impacts on flora and fauna are anticipated from the proposal:

- the removal of approximately 265.87m^2 or 0.026587ha of tree canopy.
- the removal of exotic garden plants and exotic lawns.

2.3 Opportunities

The proposed landscaping will be a selection of appropriate native trees and shrubs species suitable for the climate, soil conditions and ongoing maintenance. The colour, texture, height, and blooming seasons were all considered during the design process. Please refer to the landscape plan.

3 Methodology

3.1 Fauna and Flora Survey

The survey involved traversing the full extent of the site. The following tasks were undertaken:

- Random Meander flora inventory (Cropper 1993).
- Searches for specific, non-cryptic threatened flora species in appropriate habitats using the Random Meander technique.

These methods were used to gather the data necessary to describe the vegetation communities with reference to the classifications of Plant Community Types (PCT). General observations were made of the wider area.

3.2 Targeted Survey

A habitat assessment for terrestrial orchids (particularly *Pterostylis ventricosa*) was undertaken during the flowering period for *P. ventricosa*. No likely orchid habitat was found due to high levels of groundcover modification and no similar Pterostylis leaves were observed.

No other targeted surveys for threatened flora species were undertaken due to the highly modified habitat present in the subject site.

3.3 Survey Limitation

The survey recorded characteristic species and is not a comprehensive or exhaustive species list. The techniques used in this investigation are considered adequate to gather the data necessary to assess the impacts of the proposal on the flora species and vegetation communities found in the study area.

3.4 Fauna Habitat Survey

Field investigations for fauna habitats were conducted within the study area. This involved searches for habitats or resources relevant to threatened fauna species with the potential to occur within the study area. These resources included potential feed trees and other foraging resources and any evidence of foraging activity, water sources, hollow-bearing trees, and other sheltering resources.

4 Results

4.1 Surrounding flora

The subject site is highly modified from historic clearing with no dominant vegetation communities present onsite. Native vegetation within the site is limited and mostly comprised of exotic plant species. The surrounding vegetation communities within 1 km radius of the site are concentrated to the west, well beyond the site boundaries.

- Southeast Gorge Dry Forest ID3331
- Southeast Lowland Grassy Woodland ID3332
- Southern Escarpment River Oak Forest ID4084
- Southern Lower Floodplain Freshwater Wetland ID3975
- South Coast Temperate Gully Rainforest ID3045

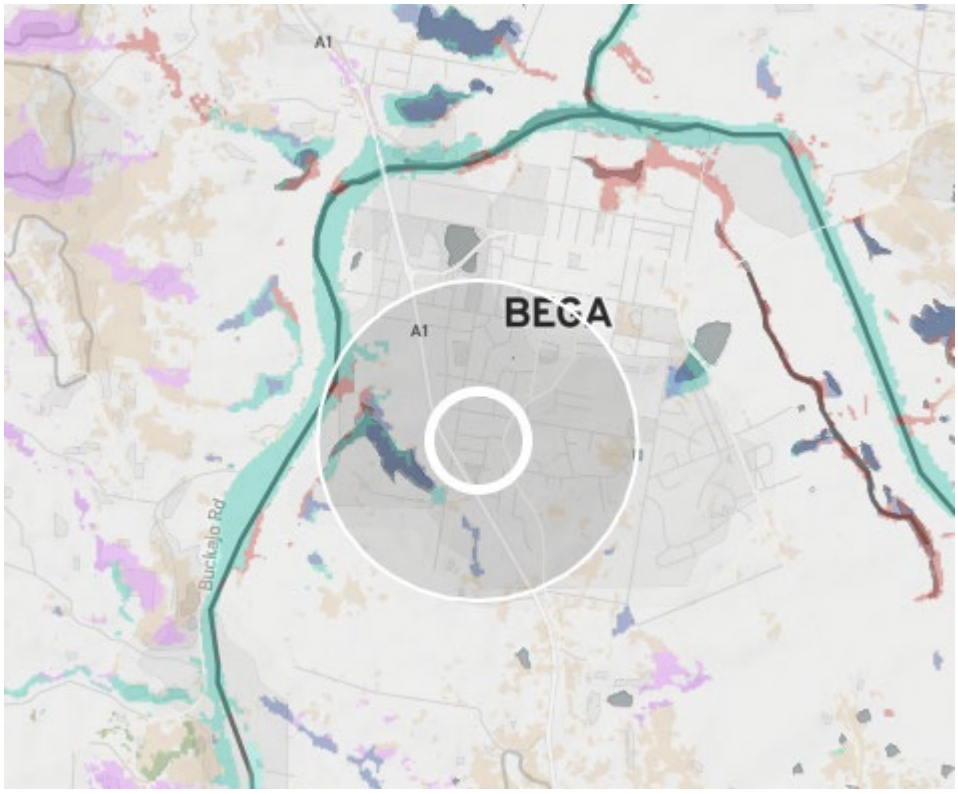

Figure 2 - Vegetation Community Types - Trees Near Me NSW

4.2 Threatened Ecological Communities

The vegetation in the study area is not associated with any threatened ecological community known to occur within the locality.

4.3 Biodiversity Offset Scheme

A Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS) Entry Threshold Report shows that the developments impact area does not trigger the threshold requiring further biodiversity assessment.

The proposed development will not result in the loss of any critical habitat, or significant impact on any endangered or threatened flora or fauna. Assessment against the provisions of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 is not required in this case.

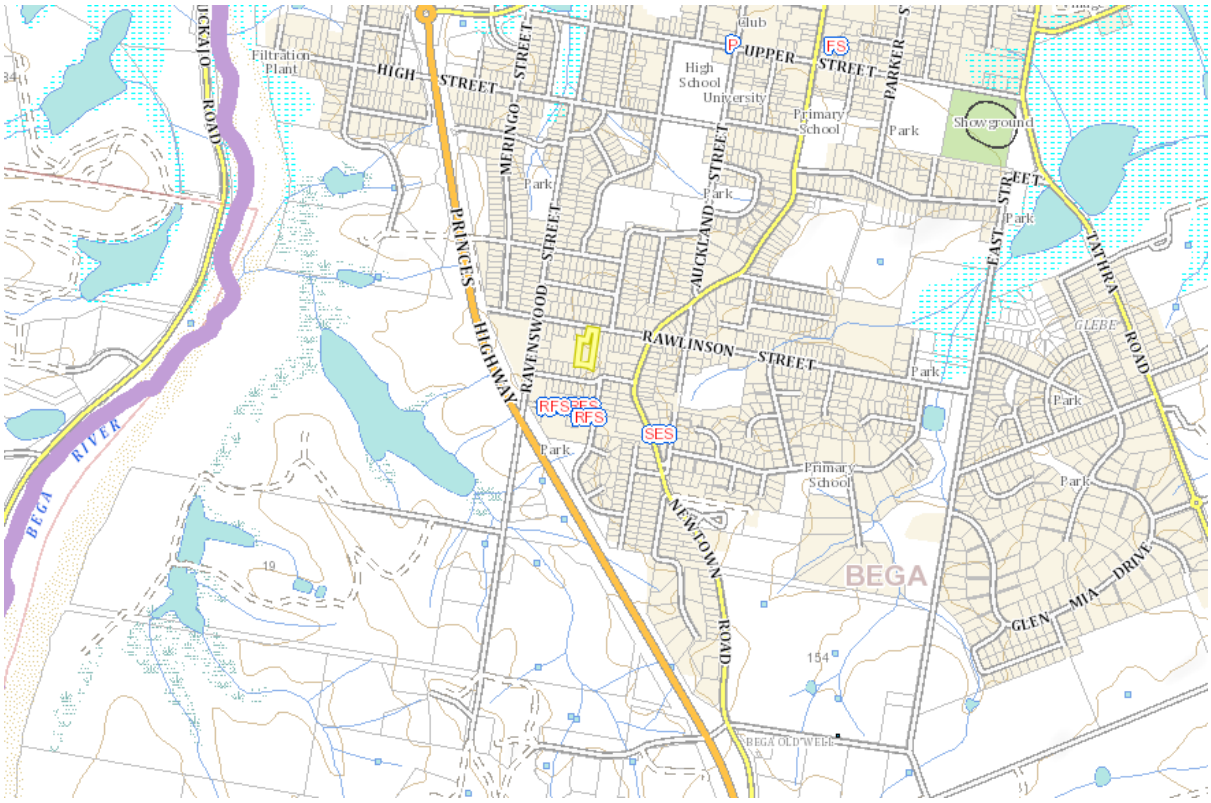

Figure 3 – Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold Tool

4.4 Tree Identification

Tree Number	Plant Species
1	Tree Retained.
2	Tree Retained.
3	Remove - Eucalyptus pillularis - Blackbutt
4	Tree Retained.
5	Tree Retained.
6	Remove - Schinus molle - Peppercorn
7	Remove - Arbutus unedo - Strawberry tree
8	Remove - Magnolia Figo – Banana shrub
9	Remove - Magnolia Liliiflora – Mulan Magnolia
10	Remove - Syringa vulgaris – Lilac
11	Remove - Morus nigra – Black Mulberry
12	Tree Retained.

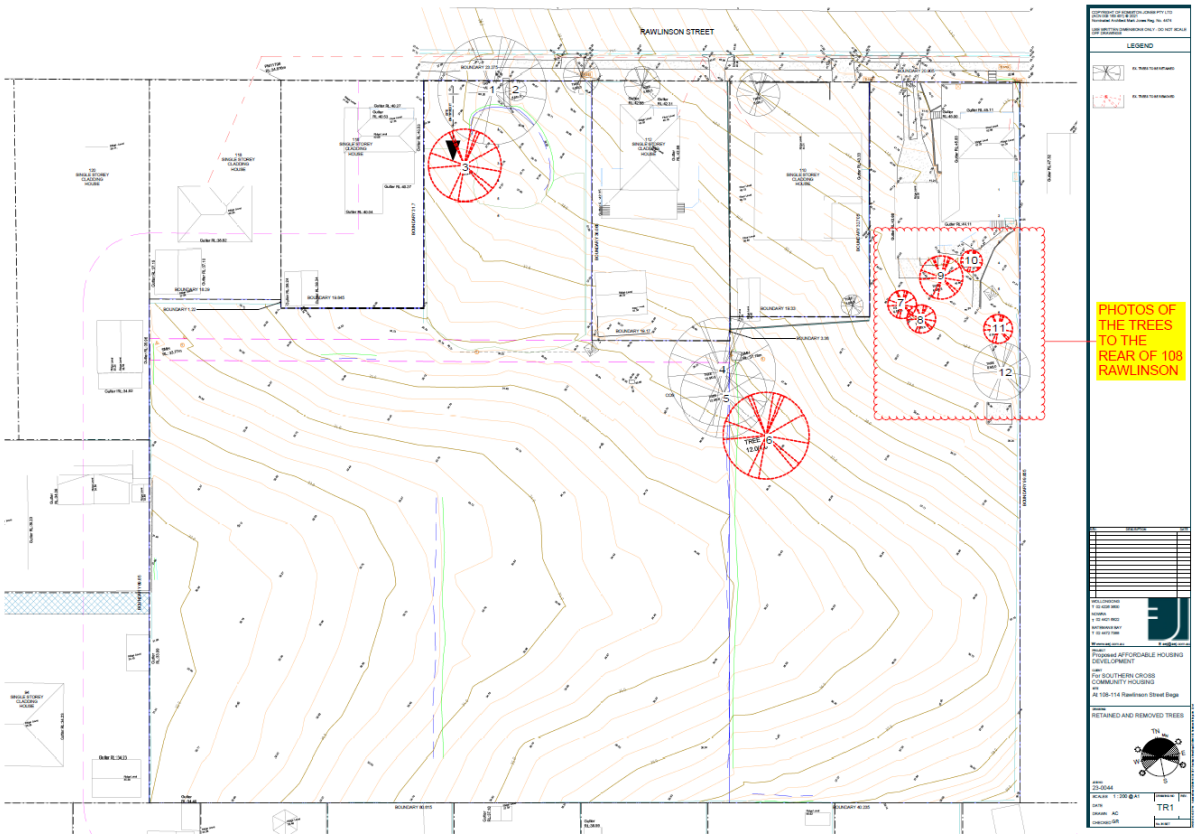

Figure 4 – Trees for removal and retention plan prepared by Edmiston Jones

4.5 Threatened Flora Species

No naturally occurring threatened flora species were recorded within the study area.

4.6 Fauna Species

Fauna habitats are limited due to the highly modified nature of the study area.

4.7 Fauna Habitats

A limited range of common bird species were detected during the survey. No threatened fauna species were detected or evidence of threatened fauna. Threatened fauna are highly unlikely to shelter or breed in the subject land.

5 Recommendations

5.1 Vegetation and Habitat Management

The mature tree to be retained at the rear, must be protected during demolition and construction phases.

5.2 Water and Sediment Management

Appropriate sediment control measures should be implemented and retained to stabilise soils. Clearing works should not be scheduled if heavy rainfall is forecast.

5.3 Landscape Plan

Implementation of the landscaping plan shall occur prior to occupation certificate.

6 Conclusion

This report assesses the potential impacts on fauna and flora. The proposed development includes removal of seven (7) trees and retention of five (5) trees. Tree removal is required to accommodate the proposed development and is unlikely to have a significant effect on threatened species, populations or endangered ecological communities or their habitats.

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Figure 5 – Tree 3

Figure 6 – Trees 4,5,6

Figure 7 – Tree 7

Figure 8 – Tree 8, 9, 10, 11