

# Addendum Review of Environmental Factors (carpark and electrical)

## Tamworth Regional Skywalk



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# Executive Summary

A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the Tamworth Regional Skywalk, involving construction of a skywalk connecting a new carpark on Endeavour Drive to the Oxley Scenic Lookout in Tamworth, NSW, was endorsed by Tamworth Regional Council on 30 July 2024.

An Addendum REF was subsequently prepared for the skywalk alignment refinement and additional ancillary areas, to accommodate a temporary crane pad and areas for vehicle movements. The Addendum REF was endorsed by Tamworth Regional Council on 30 May 2025.

Since approval of the REF and Addendum REF, additional car parking and electrical works have been proposed for inclusion in the construction works.

Assessment of the amended Activity area and the vegetation proposed to be removed was not included in the assessment under the endorsed REF and Addendum REF; therefore, this Addendum REF to assess the refined footprint, additional area, and vegetation removal has been completed.

This Addendum REF specifically addresses any variations in environmental impacts and statutory and planning framework associated with the amendment of the Activity. This Addendum REF should be read in conjunction with the approved REF and any preceding addendums.

Overall, the additional Activity area and vegetation removal presented in this REF Addendum results in a nominal increase in biodiversity impacts and minor changes in key impacts associated with the Activity. Additional environmental safeguards for biodiversity have been included under this Addendum REF. No other environmental impacts have been varied as a result of the amended Activity.

The proposed variation in Activity area and vegetation removal does not vary the statutory and planning framework. The amended Activity does not trigger further consultation requirements under State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021, nor does it require referral to the Commonwealth Environment Minister and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW).



# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background and Activity Identification

A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the Tamworth Regional Skywalk was prepared by GeoLINK Pty Ltd for Tamworth Regional Council (TRC) and was endorsed on 30 July 2024.

The approved Activity described in the REF was the construction of a skywalk from the beginning of Endeavour Drive to Oxley Scenic Lookout. The approved Activity consisted of a combination of boardwalks, viewing platforms, and elevated walkways. Designated on street car parking was also approved to be constructed near the start of Endeavour Drive at the base of the hill.

An Addendum REF was prepared for the project and endorsed on 30 May 2025 by Council. The addendum captured additional potential impacts resulting from a refined location of the skywalk pathway and additional ancillary areas for a crane pad and for facilitating vehicle movements and access. The approved Activity currently consists of the combined works described in the determined REF and Addendum REF.

This Addendum REF is required to describe the potential impacts resulting from the addition of a car parking area on the northern side of Endeavour Drive and the inclusion of electrical works. The electrical works include an overhead powerline across Long Gully, connecting the car park and an existing substation, and rerouting overhead powerlines to underground at the new bridge crossing. The upgrading of the substation to support the additional electrical load for the Long Gully line is also included in this scope. The additional impacts were not included in the determined REF and previous Addendum REF and therefore, need to be addressed in this Addendum REF.

This Addendum REF has been prepared on behalf of TRC to determine any changes to the environmental impacts as identified within the approved REF dated 24 July 2024 and approved Addendum REF dated 29 May 2025. For the purposes of these works, TRC is the proponent and the determining authority under Part 5, Division 5.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

## 1.2 Purpose of the Addendum REF

The purpose of this Addendum REF is to describe the amended Activity, assess the likely altered impacts of the amended Activity on the environment and to detail any changes to the safeguards to be implemented to mitigate impacts.

This Addendum REF only addresses the changes to the approved Activity. For an understanding of the entire Activity, this Addendum REF should be read in conjunction with the approved REF and previous Addendum REF.

The description of the amended Activity and associated altered environmental impacts have been undertaken in the context of section 171(1) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 (EP&A Regulation) and the associated *Guidelines for Division 5.1 Assessments* (DPE 2022) approved under Section 170 of the EP&A Regulation, the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act), the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (FM Act), and the Australian Government *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

The assessment contained within the Addendum REF has been prepared having regard to:

- whether the amended Activity is likely to have a significant impact on the environment and therefore the necessity for an environmental impact statement to be prepared under Division 5.1, Subdivision 3 of the EP&A Act or approval to be sought from the Minister for Planning under Division 5.2 of the EP&A Act;
- the significance of any impact on threatened species as defined by the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) and/ or the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (FM Act), in relation to Section 1.7 of the EP&A Act and therefore the requirement for a Species Impact Statement, or if the Proponent so elects - a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR); and
- the potential for the amended Activity to significantly impact Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) on Commonwealth land and the need to make a referral to the Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water for a decision on whether assessment and approval is required under the EPBC Act.

The Addendum REF helps to fulfil the requirements of section 5.5 of the EP&A Act, which requires that Council examine, and take into account to the fullest extent possible, all matters affecting, or likely to affect, the environment by reason of the amended Activity.

## 2. Proposed Amended Activity

### 2.3 Approved Activity Description

The approved Activity was described as the construction of a 1.64 km long skywalk and associated carpark, commencing near the north-western corner of Lot 7300 DP 1152789 and Lot 1 DP 1108482 and zig zagging in a south-eastern direction up to Oxley Scenic Lookout. The skywalk would consist of a combination of boardwalk, viewing platforms, and elevated walkway.

An addendum to the Activity described the updated Activity as including a crane pad and additional areas for vehicle access required for construction.

### 2.4 Site Location

The approved Activity site is located from the base of Endeavour Drive and zig-zags through the natural landscape up to Oxley Scenic Lookout. The site is located approximately 1.8 km north-east of Tamworth town centre. Refer to **Illustration 2.1** for the site locality.

The amended Activity is within Lot 7300 DP 1152789 and Lot 1 DP 1108482 described in the determined REF. The addition of car parking on the northern side of Endeavour Drive results in an expanded clearing impact footprint. The overhead powerline would travel across Long Gully and the power poles would be situated in the grassy area for the carpark and in the maintained lawn adjacent to the road and carpark next to the Tamworth Men's Shed. The powerlines to be relocated from overhead to underground are along Scenic Drive. The additions to the construction scope result in an increased Activity footprint.

The approved REF and Addendum REF extent of works boundary and the amended Activity area are provided in **Illustration 2.2**.

### 2.5 Amended Activity Description and Need

Post determination of the REF and Addendum REF, car parking was added to the design to be located on the northern side of Endeavour Drive, close to where the original car parking was designated. The design of the car parking included in the endorsed REF has been modified to complement the additional car parking (refer to **Appendix B**). Electrical connection has also been added to connect the project to the existing substation located adjacent to the Tamworth Men's Shed. A pole would be placed on either side of Long Gully, one close to the new car parking and the other close to the existing substation, and the powerline would be strung between the two. As part of the connection, the main switchboard and substation would be upgraded to allow for the additional load. To accommodate the bridge crossing across Scenic Drive, overhead powerlines are to be rerouted underground along Scenic Drive. Refer to **Illustration 2.2** for the endorsed extent of works boundary and the amended Activity area.

The car park works will require the removal of one hollow-bearing tree, direct removal of up to 0.03 ha of high condition PCT 3521 – Northwest White Box Woodland and up to 0.24 ha of poor condition PCT 3521 derived grassland. The electrical works at Long Gully will include disturbance of up to 0.09 ha of high condition PCT 3521 – Northwest White Box Woodland and up to 0.03 ha of poor condition PCT 3521 derived grassland for the overhead lines. The overhead power poles will require direct removal of up to 0.03ha of mowed and maintained grassland. The high condition PCT 3521 – Northwest White



Box Woodland comprises known Bluegrass habitat and the poor condition PCT 3521 derived grassland comprises potential Bluegrass habitat (refer to **Appendix C**).

As the endorsed REF and Addendum REF scope of work did not include the changes mentioned above, portions of the updated construction footprint lie outside of the approved Activity extent of works boundary. Therefore, the changed and added area to the construction footprint has not been previously assessed and needs to be accounted for in the addendum. This Addendum REF only describes and assesses the proposed modifications, being the additions, amended Activity area, and clearing impacts. The addendum should be read in conjunction with the endorsed REF and Addendum REF.

## 2.6 Construction Activities

The amended Activity for the car parking would require the same construction methodology and hours as described in the endorsed REF. Section 2.3 of the approved REF describes the approved Activity in more detail.

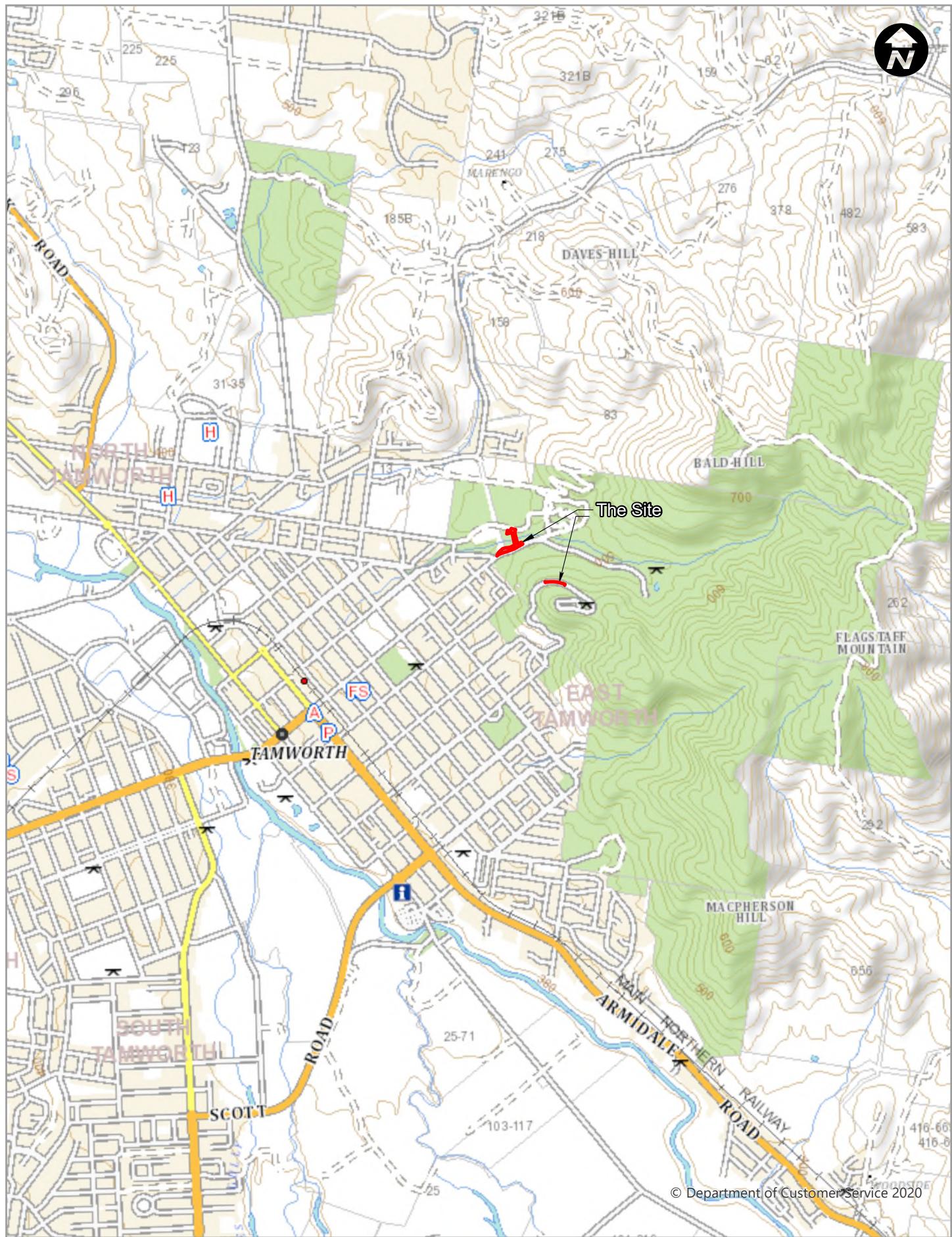
The amended Activity for the powerline would include the following construction methodology:

- Auger/ Drill pole holes in cleared area on north side of gully beside pad mount substation board and south side of the gully south of vegetated area in the cleared space north of the carpark.
- Install timber poles.
- Walk out LV cable across gully.
- Affix LV cable to pole and tension to required amount to achieve design sag in LV line across gully.
- Trench cable from poles to pad mount substation connection on north side and Skywalk main switchboard connection point on the south side.
- Trim any existing vegetation to maintain any clearances as required by AS3000 (private service) with assistance from TRC Enviro/ TRC Greening Coordinator/arborist contractor as required.

Ongoing operational requirements for the powerline would be maintaining the vegetation clearance requirements for the cable, which would be the same as the clearances during construction. This would be undertaken by a licensed contractor with assistance from TRC Enviro/ TRC Greening Coordinator/ arborist contractor as required.

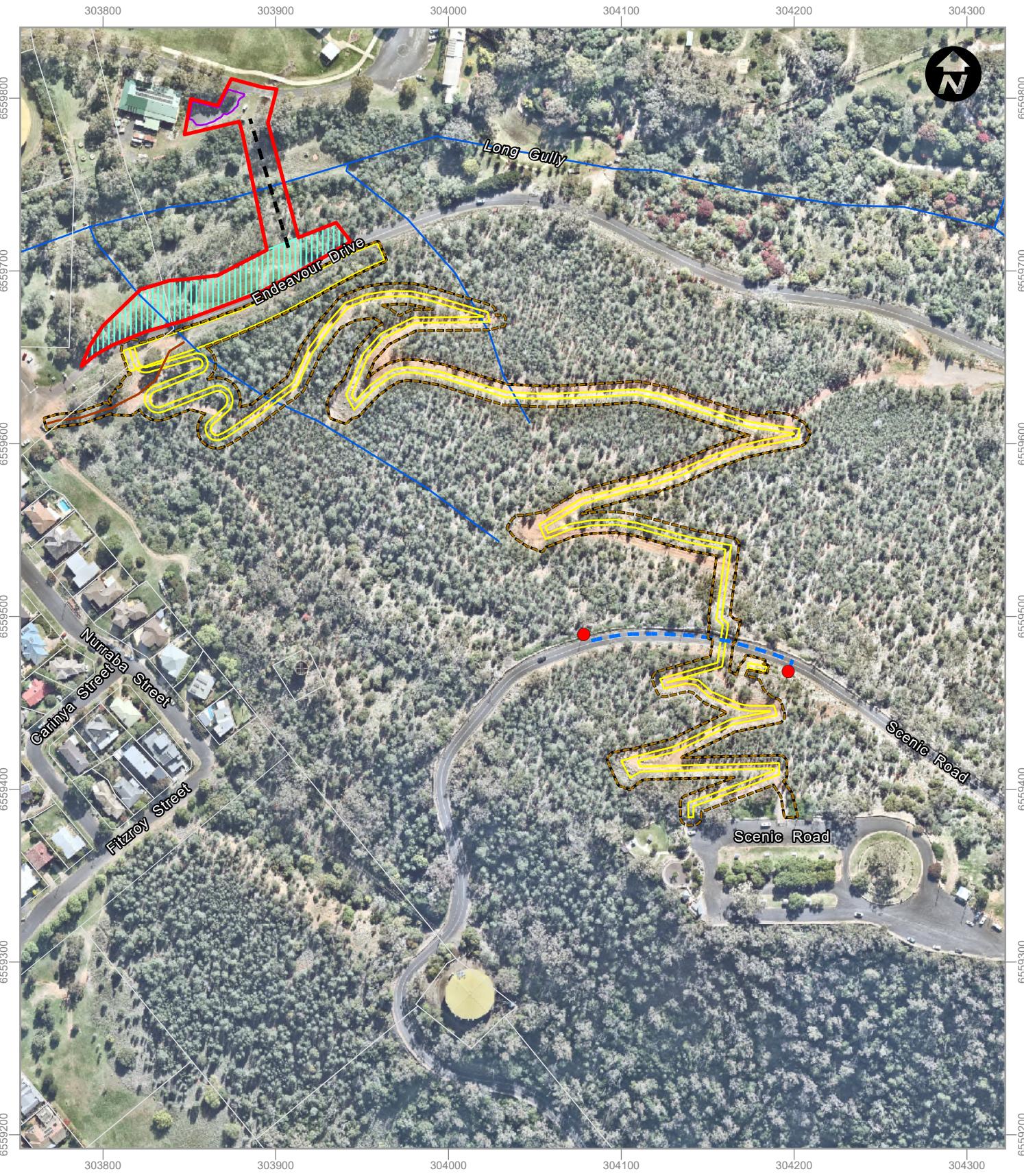
The rerouted powerlines along Scenic Drive would include the following works:

- Removing three existing power poles.
- Replace the two outer poles and restring to existing overhead conductors to either side.
- Trench between poles in middle of uphill travel lane for underground relocation of conductors.



0 600 Metres

## Site Locality - Illustration 2.1



#### LEGEND

- The site
- Cadastre
- Proposed carpark
- Cleared carpark
- Impact area
- Determined skywalk footprint
- Scenic Drive electrical works
- Endeavour Drive electrical works
- Vehicle access track
- Watercourse

- Existing poles



## 3. Statutory Framework

As per Section 3.2 of the endorsed REF, car parks to be carried out by or on behalf of a public authority are permissible on reserve land without consent pursuant to Section 2.73 of the SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure). In addition, development for the purpose of an electricity transmission or distribution network may be carried out by or on behalf of a public authority without consent pursuant to Section 2.44 of the SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure).

### 3.3 Consultation

Section 4 of the approved REF provides a summary of the consultation undertaken for the original proposal.

This Addendum REF does not include additions that significantly alter the original intent of the approved REF nor a significant change that requires further community consultation or consultation under the provisions of the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP.

## 4. Environmental Assessment

Any likely impacts relating to the amended Activity from those presented in the endorsed REF and Addendum REF have been considered and are identified in **Table 4.1**. Key environmental impacts related to this Addendum REF have been discussed further in this section and in **Appendix C** to **Appendix E**. A full list of safeguards relating to the project, combining the endorsed REF and Addendum REF safeguards and those added as a result of this Addendum REF, are provided in **Appendix A**.

**Table 4.1 Summary of Environmental Impacts Reviewed in Relation to Approved REF**

Environmental Impact	Response/ Assessment	Additional Assessment Required
Biodiversity	Additional vegetation clearing including an increase in the removal of mapped Bluegrass ( <i>Dichanthium setosum</i> ) area and removal of a hollow-bearing tree. An additional safeguard was added for the hollow-bearing tree.	Refer to <b>Section 4.1</b> and <b>Appendix C</b>
Visual	A VIA Addendum determined the changes do not significantly change the impact assessment as impacts would be comparable.	Refer to <b>Section 4.2</b> and <b>Appendix D</b>
Aboriginal Heritage	An Aboriginal Heritage Addendum letter was issued and provided recommendations, which have been included as safeguards in the previous Addendum REF. It was determined that the changes would not result in substantial change of impacts from the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report version 2C issued September 2024 (issued post REF). Additional due diligence assessment was conducted for the addition of the electrical works.	Refer to <b>Section 4.3</b> and <b>Appendix E</b>
European Heritage	No change – changes to the Activity does not change the impact assessment as impacts would be comparable, and will require the same safeguards as described in approved REF.	Nil
Bushfire	No substantial change – changes to the Activity does not significantly change the impact assessment as impacts would be comparable, and will require the same safeguards as described in approved REF.	Nil
Soils, Erosion and Sedimentation	No substantial change – changes in clearing areas and the earthworks for the additional car parking area would cause a minor increase to the risk of erosion and sedimentation. The additional works does not significantly change the impact assessment and will require the same safeguards as described in approved REF.	Refer to <b>Section 4.4</b>
Noise and Vibration	No change – changes in the Activity does not change the impact assessment as impacts would be comparable, and will require the	Nil



Environmental Impact	Response/ Assessment	Additional Assessment Required
	same safeguards as described in approved REF.	
Traffic, Access, and Parking	The additional car parking area has been added to the scope of works as part of this Addendum. Impacts resulting from the car parking is not anticipated to result in significant impact.	Refer to <b>Section 4.5</b>
Air Quality	No change – changes to the Activity does not change the impact assessment as impacts would be comparable, and will require the same safeguards as described in approved REF.	Nil
Socio-economic	No change – changes to the Activity does not change the impact assessment as impacts would be comparable, and will require the same safeguards as described in approved REF.	Nil
Waste	No substantial change – changes to the Activity does not significantly change the impact assessment as impacts would be comparable, and will require the same safeguards as described in approved REF.	Nil
Water Quality	No change – changes to the Activity does not change the impact assessment as impacts would be comparable, and will require the same safeguards as described in approved REF.	Nil
Climate Change	No substantial change – changes to the Activity does not significantly change the impact assessment as impacts would be comparable, and will require the same safeguards as described in approved REF.	Nil
Cumulative Impacts	No substantial change – changes to the Activity does not significantly change the impact assessment as impacts would be comparable, and will require the same safeguards as described in approved REF.	Nil
Ecologically Sustainable Development	No substantial change – changes to the Activity does not significantly change the impact assessment as impacts would be comparable, and will require the same safeguards as described in approved REF.	Nil

## 4.3 Biodiversity

A Biodiversity Assessment Report (BAR) Addendum report was prepared by GeoLINK to accompany this REF Addendum (refer to **Appendix C**).

Overall, the amended Activity area and vegetation removal presented in this BAR Addendum results in a nominal increase in biodiversity impacts associated with the Activity.

Bluegrass was found during the site visits for the additional Activity area, confirming the area north of Endeavour Drive is also considered potential habitat for the flora. An Assessment of Significance has



been completed for this species. Although the car park and electrical works would result in a minor increase to impact to the Bluegrass, based on the presence of similar or better-quality habitat directly adjacent to the site and within the broader locality, and minor area of Bluegrass to be removed, the Activity will not significantly impact threatened Bluegrass or its habitat within the meaning of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

The amended Activity will also require the removal of one hollow-bearing tree. An additional safeguard is recommended to mitigate any potential impact during its removal.

Overall, the amended Activity will result in some impacts to local biodiversity; however, these are not likely to be significant and can be effectively managed/ ameliorated through the implementation of the safeguards and mitigation measures recommended in the endorsed BAR and Addendum BAR. Additional safeguards for Long Gully have been included to minimise impacts to the found Bluegrass.

Refer to the BAR Addendum at **Appendix C** for the detailed biodiversity assessment of the amended Activity.

#### 4.3.1 Safeguards and Mitigation Measures

The following measures were recommended by the BAR Addendum to ensure the Activity's potential biodiversity impacts are minimised as far as practical:

3. The presence of an ecologist (spotter/ catcher) on site during clearing of the habitat tree to check hollows and undertake fauna capture/ relocation if required.

### 4.4 Visual

A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) Addendum report was prepared by GeoLINK to accompany this REF Addendum (refer to **Appendix D**).

An additional viewpoint was assessed in the VIA Addendum, which was in relation to the additional car parking and overhead powerline added to the northern side of Endeavour Drive shortly past the road entrance. The assessment determined that no significant visual impacts are anticipated for this viewpoint.

Overall, the visual impact assessment indicates that the additional car parking and electrical works would cause no significant detriment to visual amenity, whether viewed from the public or private realm. The Activity is reasonable and acceptable from a visual impact perspective and no additional recommendations have been proposed.

Refer to the VIA Addendum at **Appendix D** for the detailed visual impact assessment of the amended Activity.

### 4.5 Aboriginal Heritage

An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Addendum letter was prepared by Heritage Management & Planning to inform and accompany the previous Addendum REF and this Addendum REF (refer to **Appendix E**). The letter provided additional advice relating to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage investigation and approval requirements for the Activity.

The assessment area included the proposed car parking area located on the northern side of Endeavour Drive.



The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Addendum letter confirmed the amended Activity is permissible under the Due Diligence approval pathway, subject to the recommended safeguards and mitigation measures.

For more detailed information, please refer to the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Addendum letter at **Appendix E**.

The electrical works across Long Gully and Scenic Drive would disturb the ground in areas that have previously been disturbed. The relocation of the overhead powerlines to underground would be within the previously disturbed road reserve of Scenic Drive. The power pole adjacent to the substation and substation upgrade would be within the vicinity of the existing substation and car parking of the Tamworth Men's Shed. An AHIMS search returned no known Aboriginal sites recorded in the vicinity around the Men's Shed (refer to **Appendix F**). As per the *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, 2010), based on the works occurring in disturbed land and no recorded Aboriginal sites, it is reasonable to conclude that it is unlikely for objects or sites to occur at the electrical work sites. Safeguards and mitigation measures as included in the endorsed REF and Addendum REF would be relevant and are to be implemented for the additional areas, in particular for unexpected finds.

## 4.6 Soils, Erosion and Sedimentation

The additional car parking area would require earthworks to create an appropriately flattened area for the car park and associated access. This will result in batters on the northern side of the car park. If not managed properly, the earthworks could result in erosion and sedimentation within the nearby waterways. Safeguards and mitigation measures included in the endorsed REF are anticipated to minimise potential impacts.

Overall, the impacts are not anticipated to be significantly more than compared to those assessed in the approved REF. Additional safeguards and mitigation measures are not required.

## 4.7 Traffic, Access, and Parking

The proposed additional car parking would be located across Endeavour Drive from the car parking included in the endorsed REF. The additional car parking on the northern side of the road would include 90-degree parking spaces. The parking on the southern side, included in the endorsed REF, would be reconfigured for parallel bus parking and 90-degree accessible parking spaces. As the general location was assessed for parking, it is not anticipated that the addition of car parking on the northern side and the adjustment to the parking on the southern side would result in additional impacts. Additional safeguards and mitigation measures are not required.

## 4.8 Ecologically Sustainable Development

There is no change to the content of this section in the original REF. The revised proposal would not result in significant ecological or environmental impacts. It does not change the findings of the ecologically sustainable development assessment discussed in the approved original REF.



## 5. Summary of Safeguards

Additions or changes to the approved REF and Addendum REF safeguards, in relation to the amended Activity are provided in **Table 5.1**.

**Table 5.1 Added or Altered Safeguards**

	<b>Safeguard</b>
Biodiversity	3. The presence of an ecologist (spotter/ catcher) on site during clearing of the habitat tree to check hollows and undertake fauna capture/ relocation if required.

Safeguards are to be implemented for the Activity to reduce impacts on the environment. The table combining the approved REF safeguards and the Addendum REF safeguards (shown in red text) is provided in **Appendix A**.

### 5.1 Summary of Impacts

Based on the assessment of the potential environmental impacts of the amended Activity, it is determined that:

- The extent and nature of potential impacts are low/ comparable and will not have significant adverse effects on the locality, community, and the environment.
- These identified impacts do vary from those presented within the approved REF. Where these impacts vary, the relevant assessment has been undertaken and changes to safeguards have been proposed when applicable.
- Potential impacts can be appropriately mitigated or managed to ensure that there is minimal effect on the locality.

## 6. Conclusion and Certification

The Activity is for the construction of the Tamworth Skywalk and car park for pedestrian access from the start of Endeavour Drive to the Oxley Scenic Lookout.

The Activity is permitted without development consent and subject to assessment under Part 5 of the EP&A Act. This REF Addendum has examined and taken into account to the fullest extent possible all matters affecting or likely to affect the environment by reason of the amended proposed Activity. The Activity would result in some impacts; however, these are not likely to be significant and can be effectively managed/ ameliorated through the implementation of the safeguards and mitigation measures recommended in this REF Addendum.

The Activity described will not affect areas of outstanding biodiversity value or Wilderness Areas. The Activity is unlikely to significantly affect threatened species or ecological communities or their habitats, within the meaning of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* or *Fisheries Management Act 1994* and therefore a Species Impact Statement (or Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) if the Proponent elected) is not required. The Activity is also unlikely to affect Commonwealth land or have a significant impact on any matters of national environmental significance in relation to the EPBC Act.

I certify to the best of my knowledge that:

- this REF Addendum provides a true and fair review of the amended Activity in relation to its potential effects on the environment, and
- the assessment satisfies the requirements of Sections 5.5 to 5.7 of the EP&A Act, Section 171 of the EP&A Regulation 2021, and other relevant legislation and guidelines, and
- the assessment has been adequately completed, and
- subject to the inclusion of the safeguards/ measures included in this REF Addendum, it is reasonable to conclude that the project will not likely have a significant impact on the environment during both the construction and operation phases, and
- given the impacts of the Activity are not likely to be significant, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required under Section 5.7 of the EP&A Act, and
- a Species Impact Statement or BDAR is not required, and
- the Activity does not warrant/ require referral to the Australian Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment under the EPBC Act, and
- the Activity is not State Significant Infrastructure and does not require approval under Division 5.2 of the EP&A Act.

<b>REF Prepared by</b>	
<b>Signature:</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	Michelle Campione-van Zetten
<b>Position:</b>	Environmental Planner
<b>REF Reviewed by</b>	
<b>Signature:</b>	
<b>Name:</b>	Denique Murphy
<b>Position:</b>	Senior Environmental Planner

## 7. Determining Authority Sign Off

### Determining Officer (Public Authority) who Approves this REF

I certify to the best of my knowledge and on behalf of Tamworth Regional Council that:

Based on the completed REF Addendum and my knowledge of the project, the assessment has been adequately completed, the project has predictable impacts which would not be significant, the conclusion as to the likely environmental impact of the project is reasonable, and the project can proceed subject to the relevant measures and conditions in this REF Addendum, any approval, license or permit.

The project requires additional environmental assessment.

#### Reasons:

Enter Reasons.

The project should not proceed in its current form.

#### Reasons:

**NOTE:** A site visit may be required depending on the level of confidence and risk to the environment.

#### Reviewed by:

Signature		Date:	31 July 2025
Name	Mark Gardiner		
Position	Manager Project Planning & Delivery		
Determining Authority Name & Position	Paul Bennett, General Manager		
Determined By (signature):			



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## Appendix A

### Full List of Safeguards



Environmental Attribute	Mitigation Measures/ Safeguards
<b>Biodiversity</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Ensure chemicals or other mechanisms used to eradicate weeds do not impact on retained patches of Bluegrass. Herbicide spraying would not be undertaken around the immediate area of Bluegrass occurrence onsite.</li><li>2. Minimising wherever possible the clearing of vegetation which contains Bluegrass.</li><li>3. Flagging and exclusion zones set up around known Bluegrass records/ occurrence.</li><li>4. Safeguards must be communicated to all construction personnel as part of an Environmental Site Induction and repeated where appropriate at Toolbox Sessions prior to commencement of relevant work components.</li><li>5. The extent of the construction footprint must be clearly (i.e. hi-visibility fencing or similar) pegged/ marked on site by a registered surveyor, consistent with final approved plans/ designs to prevent unnecessary disturbance.</li><li>6. Vegetation removal is to be kept to the minimum extent required to undertake the works.</li><li>7. A suitability licenced and experienced fauna spotter-catcher would be on site each day of clearing to undertake pre-clearing surveys and manage any fauna encounters (e.g. capture and relocate animals, temporary buffers until the animal voluntarily moves on, etc).</li><li>8. Where possible, trees must be directionally felled away from adjacent intact vegetation to avoid unnecessary damage.</li><li>9. Topsoil from the site would be retained and reused to encourage regeneration of native species in disturbed areas and minimise opportunities for weeds.</li><li>10. Measures must be implemented during construction works so that machinery and plant do not introduce weed seed or propagules to the site (e.g. by adoption and implementation of the 'Arrive Clean, Leave Clean' guidelines) (Department of the Environment 2015).</li><li>11. Biosecurity risk weeds are to be managed according to requirements under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> and/ or Council management measures.</li><li>12. If unexpected, threatened fauna is detected, then work must stop immediately, and a plan would be formulated by the ecologist to determine the most appropriate course of action.</li><li>13. Contact an animal rescue agency/ wildlife care group or vet in the event that native fauna are injured. WIRES Central Northern: 1300 094 737.</li><li>14. Any landscaping/ rehabilitation of disturbed areas would use native endemic species, with the objective of maintaining native vegetation cover and minimising opportunities for weed growth.</li><li>15. <b>The presence of an ecologist (spotter/ catcher) on site during clearing of the habitat tree to check hollows and undertake fauna capture/ relocation if required.</b></li></ol>
<b>Visual</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>16. Vegetation clearing should be kept as minimal as practical around the works.</li><li>17. Consider the structure finishes in regard to reflectivity and select colours and finishes that will minimise brightness and reduce glare.</li><li>18. Lighting design should keep light pollution and spill to a minimum in accordance with relevant Australian Standards, including AS 4282 Control of the Obtrusive effects of Outdoor Lighting.</li><li>19. During final design development, the location of the proposed car park area would benefit from being shifted up Endeavour Drive in order to provide a sufficient buffer/ setback between the car park and the locally listed heritage items.</li><li>20. Vegetative screening and landscaping measures should be investigated and implemented where feasible to support visual amenity and screen views of the car park where possible.</li><li>21. The placement and direction of light fixtures for the car park should avoid direct lines to residential properties.</li><li>22. Areas required for vehicle/ plant access and the crane pad should be kept as minimal as practical.</li></ol>



Environmental Attribute	Mitigation Measures/ Safeguards
<b>Aboriginal Heritage</b>	<p>23. Where practicable, access routes for vehicles should be placed to avoid tree removal.</p> <p>24. Construction will not commence until after the outcomes and results of the additional archaeological investigations are known and any recommendations have been put in place. Recommendations are to be added to the safeguards and mitigation measures in the Activity's Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP).</p> <p>25. If the additional archaeological investigations finds that an AHIP is required for the site, then construction will not commence until an AHIP is in place.</p> <p>26. All personnel working on site will be inducted and receive information on the required process, should a potential heritage item be found.</p> <p>27. Unexpected Aboriginal objects remain protected by the NPW Act. If any such objects, or potential objects, are uncovered in the course of the activity, the following Aboriginal objects find procedure is to be followed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>work in the surrounding area is to stop immediately, and records are made of the finds via project incident reporting procedures;</li><li>a temporary fence is to be erected around the site and appropriate controls put in place to ensure that no additional ground disturbance happens in the vicinity of the find;</li><li>an appropriate qualified archaeological consultant and a representative of the Tamworth LALC are to be engaged to identify the material and provide an initial assessment of the significance of the object and the likely nature and extent of any associated archaeological sites;</li><li>if the material is found to be of Aboriginal origin, the find must be reported on the AHIMS database;</li><li>in the event that the Aboriginal objects are considered to have been damaged or disturbed, the incident must be reported through the NSW Enviro Hotline; and</li><li>works may only recommence after advice from Heritage NSW on the requirement for an AHIP or where design, engineer, or construction measures are identified to mitigate further damage to the Aboriginal site.</li></ol> <p>28. If suspected human remains are discovered and/ or harmed in, on or under the land within the Project Area, the following actions must be undertaken:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>immediately cease all works in the immediate area;</li><li>the remains must not be harmed/ further harmed or the remains themselves should be left untouched;</li><li>secure the area so as to avoid further harm to the remains.</li><li>notify the nearest police station (Tamworth) as soon as practicable and provide any details of the remains and their location;</li><li>if the remains are found to be of Aboriginal origin and the police do not wish to investigate the site for criminal activities, the Tamworth LALC and Heritage NSW should be consulted as to how the remains should be dealt with; and</li><li>work may only resume after agreement is reached between all parties, provided it is in accordance with all parties' statutory obligations.</li></ol> <p>29. If it is suspected that Aboriginal objects have been uncovered as a result of development activities with the Project Area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>work in the surrounding area is to stop immediately, and records are made of the finds via project reporting procedures;</li><li>a temporary fence is to be erected around the site and appropriate controls put in place to ensure that no additional ground disturbance happens in the vicinity of the find;</li><li>an appropriately qualified archaeological consultant and a representative of the Tamworth LALC are to be engaged to identify the material and provide an initial assessment of the significance of the object and the likely nature and extent of any associated archaeological sites;</li></ol>



Environmental Attribute	Mitigation Measures/ Safeguards
	<p>d. if the material is found to be of Aboriginal origin, the find must be reported on the AHIMS database;</p> <p>e. in the event that the Aboriginal objects are considered to have been damaged or disturbed, the incident must be reported through the NSW Enviro Hotline; and</p> <p>f. works may only recommence after advice from Heritage NSW on the requirement for an AHIP or where design, engineering or construction measures are identified to mitigate further damage to the Aboriginal site.</p> <p>30. Aboriginal sites officers from Tamworth LALC are to be engaged as sub-contractors for early works and vegetation clearing in the vicinity of Endeavour Drive where the early works and clearing are not on ground which has been subject to exiting ground disturbance. The engagement of Aboriginal sites officers is primarily to assist with the implementation of the Aboriginal objects finds procedure.</p> <p>31. In the unlikely event that Human Remains are located at any stage during ground works within the Project Area, all works must halt immediately in the surrounding area. The burial site must be cordoned off and the remains themselves should be left untouched. The nearest Police Local Area Command (Tamworth), the Tamworth LALC, and Heritage NSW (Parramatta) are all to be notified as soon as possible. If the remains are found to be of Aboriginal origin and the police do not wish to investigate the site for criminal activities, the Aboriginal community and the Heritage NSW should be consulted as to how the remains should be dealt with. Work may only resume after agreement is reached between all parties, provided it is in accordance with all parities' statutory obligations.</p>
<b>European Heritage</b>	<p>32. If any suspected archaeological items are uncovered during works associated with the Activity, all works will cease in the vicinity of the material/find. Contact with Council and Heritage NSW will be made immediately. Works would not recommence until clearance is given.</p> <p>33. A buffer zone around the heritage listed items will be established and if possible a side track will be used so that trucks, machinery and equipment do not have to pass under the arch when accessing the site.</p> <p>34. During final design development, the location of the proposed car park area would benefit from being shifted up Endeavour Drive in order to provide a sufficient buffer/ setback between the car park and the locally listed heritage items.</p>
<b>Bushfire</b>	<p>35. The skywalk will be constructed using non-combustible materials.</p> <p>36. TRC will prepare a bushfire emergency management plan according to the RFS A Guide to developing a Bush Fire Emergency Management and Evacuation Plan to ensure the skywalk and lookout are not in use (e.g. use of signage and/ or gates) on days with local fire activity or forecast extreme/ catastrophic fire danger rating.</p>
<b>Soils, Erosion and Sedimentation</b>	<p>37. A progressive, site-specific erosion and sediment control plan would be developed and approved prior to commencement of the works.</p> <p>38. Erosion and sediment controls will be implemented in accordance with the Landcom/ Department of Housing Managing Urban Stormwater, Soils and Construction Guidelines (the Blue Book).</p> <p>39. Works will only commence once all erosion and sediment controls have been established. The controls will be maintained in place until the works are complete, and all exposed erodible materials are stabilised.</p> <p>40. All sediment control measures will be checked and repaired or re-installed (if required) if heavy rainfall was forecast.</p> <p>41. If contaminated land is encountered during the works, works will stop immediately, and relevant procedures outlined in a CEMP will be followed. The EPA will be notified immediately in response to incidents causing or</p>



Environmental Attribute	Mitigation Measures/ Safeguards
	<p>threatening actual or potential harm to the environment in accordance with section 148 of the PoEO Act (via EPA Environment Line on 131 555).</p> <p>42. Only clean equipment and vehicles will be used, with equipment being cleaned down before being brought to the site.</p>
<b>Noise and Vibration</b>	<p>43. Construction activities will be restricted to the following times where possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monday to Friday 7:00 am to 6:00 pm.</li> <li>- Saturday 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.</li> <li>- No work will take place on Sundays or public holidays.</li> </ul> <p>44. Best practice mitigation and management measures will be used to minimise construction noise impacts at sensitive residential receivers; guided by the EPA's Interim Construction Noise Guidelines.</p> <p>45. A Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan shall be prepared by the Contractor as part of the CEMP and implemented for all works accordingly. The management plan will include controls relevant to management and minimise of noise and vibration specific to the proposed works and will address vibration impacts on the locally listed heritage items.</p> <p>46. All employees, contractors and subcontractors will receive an environmental induction. This will include, but not be limited to, all relevant project specific and standard noise and vibration measures; permissible hours of work; location of nearest sensitive receiver(s); any limitation on high noise generating activities; construction parking; loading and unloading areas; and compound site practices.</p> <p>47. Any noise complaints will be recorded and include suitable identification/ description of the noise source (e.g. continual/ impulsive) and general location of the complaint. Any noise complaints will be investigated and actioned as required.</p> <p>48. The most appropriately sized tool for the respective job would be used, keeping in mind that the smaller the tool, the less potential noise generated.</p> <p>49. All vehicles and equipment will be turned off and not left idling when not required for work uses.</p> <p>50. All plant will be fitted with appropriate exhaust systems to ensure compliance with pollution and noise emission standards.</p> <p>51. During detailed design, the final location of the designated on street car park along Endeavour Drive is to be considered in conjunction with the potential vibration impacts on the locally listed heritage items.</p>
<b>Traffic, Access, and Parking</b>	<p>52. All works would be undertaken under an approved Traffic Control Plan (TCP).</p> <p>53. All construction traffic would park on site, entering and exiting onto the public road in a forward motion.</p> <p>54. Where possible, current traffic movements, including private driveway access, would be maintained during the works.</p> <p>55. Regard to public safety would be maintained at all times.</p> <p>56. If required, advanced warning signage, at appropriate and strategic locations, would be established prior to and during the work to ensure road users and pedestrians are made aware of changed traffic/ access conditions.</p> <p>57. In the unlikely event of a requirement to close a road, sufficient and appropriate notification will be provided to the affected road users/ community, and suitable alternative access would be implemented.</p> <p>58. During detailed design, the location of where the proposed skywalk would cross Scenic Drive would benefit from consideration in order to coordinate with the existing power poles and power lines.</p>
<b>Air Quality</b>	<p>59. Vegetation or other materials will not to be burnt on site.</p> <p>60. Vehicles transporting waste or other materials that may produce odours or dust will be covered during transportation.</p> <p>61. Construction works will not be carried out during strong winds or in weather conditions where high levels of dust or air borne particulates are likely.</p>



<b>Environmental Attribute</b>	<b>Mitigation Measures/ Safeguards</b>
	<p>62. Machinery and vehicles not in use during construction will be turned off and not left to unnecessarily run idle.</p> <p>63. Vehicles, machinery and equipment will be maintained in accordance with manufacturer's specifications in order to meet the requirements of the <i>Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i> and associated regulation.</p> <p>64. Dust suppression techniques would be utilised to minimise the potential for dust generation/ dispersal during works, as required.</p>
<b>Socio-economic</b>	<p>65. Contractors/ workers will be mindful of the needs of the local community.</p> <p>66. Any potentially impacted parties or landholders will be consulted prior to construction with a goal of minimising or eliminating any adverse impacts.</p> <p>67. Any changes to public or private roads (including private driveways) as a result of the works will be reinstated to an acceptable standard upon completion of the works.</p>
<b>Waste</b>	<p>68. Working areas will be maintained, kept free of rubbish, and cleaned up at the end of each day.</p> <p>69. Resource management hierarchy principles are to be followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Avoid unnecessary resource consumption as a priority.</li><li>- Avoidance is followed by resource recovery (including re-use of materials, reprocessing, recycling, and energy recovery).</li><li>- Disposal is undertaken as a last resort.</li></ul> <p>70. Waste material will not be left on-site once the works have been completed.</p> <p>71. Any contaminated waste generated would be disposed of in accordance with the EPA approved methods of waste disposal.</p> <p>72. Waste will be disposed of at a licensed waste or recycling facility as appropriate.</p>
<b>Water Quality</b>	<p>73. Works will avoid forecast high rainfall events and works will be planned to occur during a period of no or low flow.</p> <p>74. A spill containment kit will be available during the works. All personnel will be made aware of the location of the kit and trained in its effective deployment.</p> <p>75. Any required fuels and other liquids will be stored in self-safe chemical storage containers.</p> <p>76. If required, all refuelling of plant and equipment will be in appropriately designated areas away from drainage lines or watercourses (at least 40 m) and managed in order to prevent any potential spills leaving the refuelling area (e.g., use of bunded areas).</p> <p>77. Cleaning or washing will not occur near waterways or drainage lines.</p> <p>78. All equipment will be maintained in good working order and operated according to manufacturer's specification.</p> <p>79. No waste and/ or wastewater will be discharged directly or indirectly in waterways.</p> <p>80. If small amounts of groundwater are encountered as a result of excavations, it will be pumped out and discharged to the surrounding area via controls including a silt fence and turkeys' nest.</p> <p>81. Visual monitoring of local water quality (i.e. turbidity, hydrocarbon spills/ slicks) within construction site and adjacent area will be undertaken on a regular basis to identify any potential spills or deficient erosion and sediment controls during construction.</p> <p>82. The Council and EPA will be notified immediately in response to incidents causing or threatening actual or potential harm to the environment in accordance with section 148 of the PoEO Act (via EPA Environment Line on 131 555).</p> <p>83. During final design development, the design of the proposed car park area will take into account existing tributary water lines and provide appropriate infrastructure to maintain drainage and water flows.</p>

Environmental Attribute	Mitigation Measures/ Safeguards
<b>Climate Change</b>	<p>84. Vehicles and equipment will be switched off when not required for direct construction activities.</p> <p>85. Waste will be minimised and is otherwise to be recycled or disposed of appropriately.</p> <p>86. Vegetation removal would be minimised as far as practical.</p>



## Appendix B

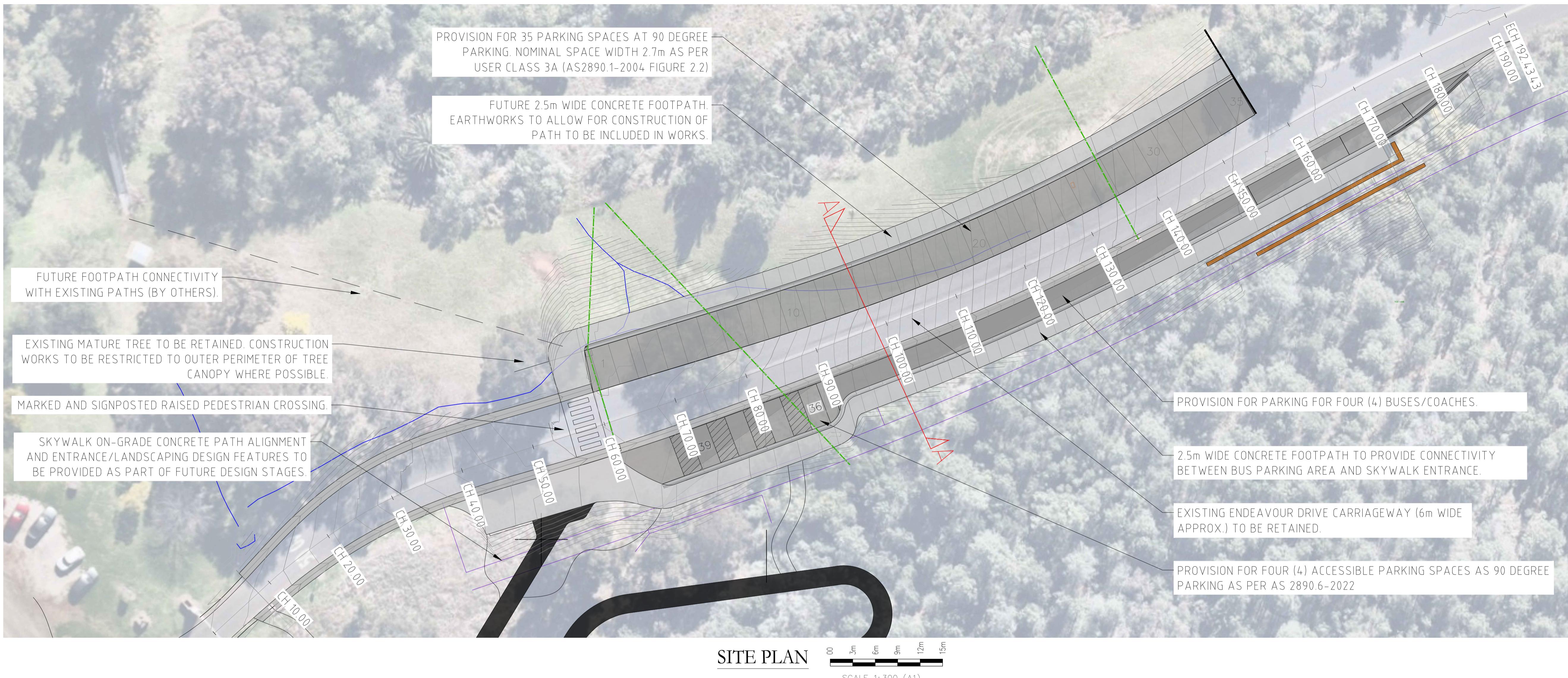
### Car Park Design

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Consulting Civil, Structural  
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CLIENT  
**TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL**

# REGIONAL COUNCIL Tamworth

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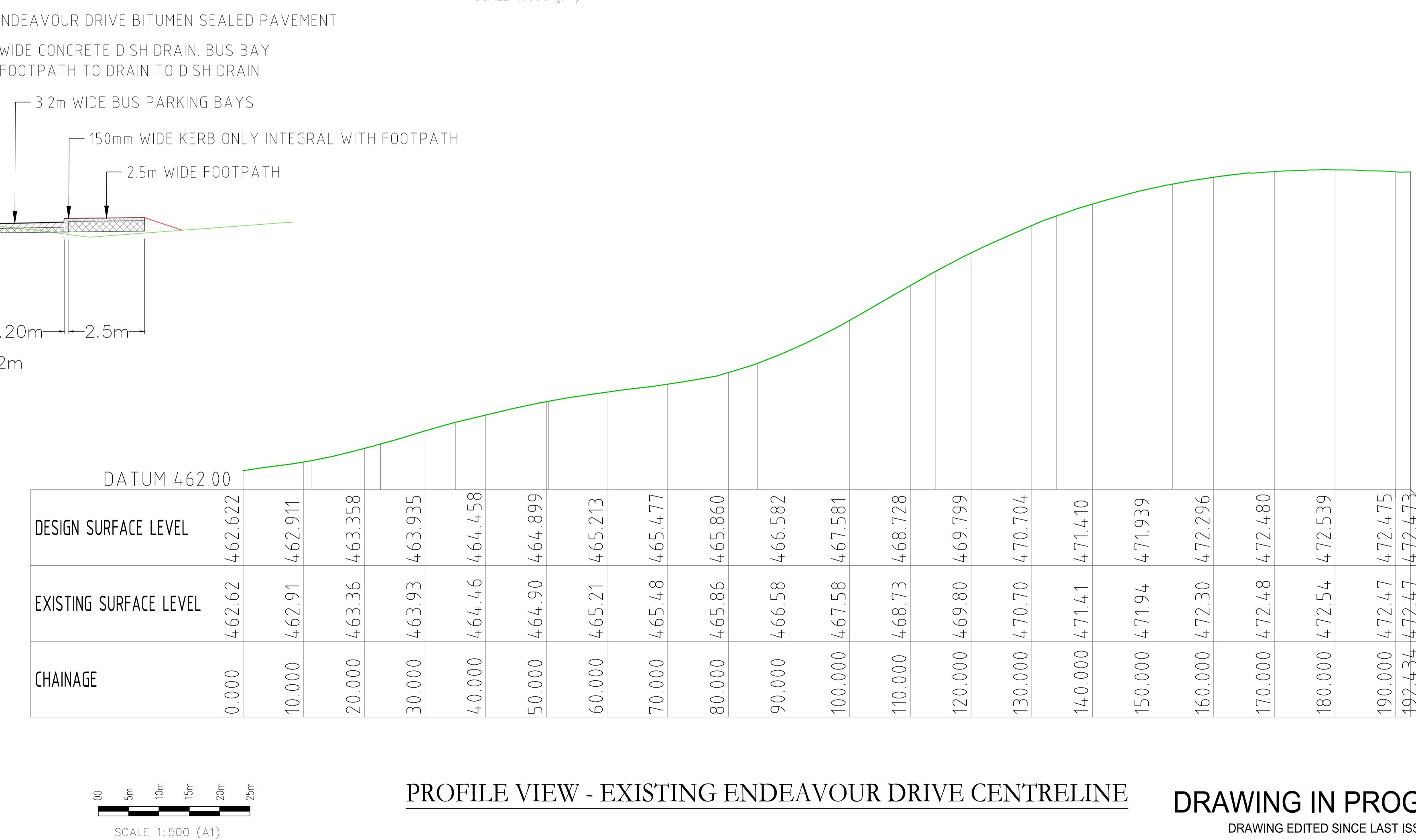
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T2410778 C4.01 A

## SECTION A-A

## NOTES.

NOTES:

1. PAVEMENT DESIGN AS DIRECTED BY TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL.
2. EXISTING PAVEMENT TO BE RETAINED WHERE POSSIBLE.
3. EDGES OF PAVEMENT TO BE SAWCUT TO ENSURE SMOOTH TRANSITION TO NEW PAVEMENT AREAS.
4. EARTHWORKS BATTERS TO BE MAXIMUM 1:3 (V:H) IN BOTH CUT AND FILL CASES.



## PROFILE VIEW - EXISTING ENDEAVOUR DRIVE CENTRELINE

## DRAWING IN PROGRESS

DRAWING EDITED SINCE LAST ISSUE



## Appendix C

### BAR Addendum

# Addendum Biodiversity Assessment Report (car park and electrical)

## Tamworth Regional Skywalk



Quality solutions. Sustainable future.



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# Executive Summary

A Biodiversity Assessment Report (BAR) for the Tamworth Regional Skywalk works was endorsed by Tamworth Regional Council (TRC) on 30 July 2024. The Activity, subject to the BAR, included vegetation clearing associated with construction of a skywalk from the beginning of Endeavour Drive to Oxley Scenic Lookout (the site) and designated on street car parking to be constructed near the start of Endeavour Drive at the base of the hill.

An Addendum BAR was subsequently prepared for refinement of the skywalk alignment and additional ancillary areas, to accommodate a temporary crane pad and areas for vehicle movements. The Addendum BAR was endorsed by Tamworth Regional Council on 30 May 2025.

Since endorsement of the BAR and Addendum BAR, additional car parking and electrical works have been proposed for inclusion in the construction works.

The change in the Activity footprint requires the preparation of an Addendum to assess the amended Activity and the removal and disturbance of vegetation for the car park and electrical works.

This Addendum BAR specifically addresses any variations in environmental impacts associated with the amended Activity. This Addendum BAR should be read in conjunction with the project BAR and any preceding addendums.

Overall, the amended Activity area and vegetation removal presented in this Addendum BAR results in a nominal increase in biodiversity impacts associated with the Activity. Additional environmental safeguards have been included surrounding tree trimming for electrical works and removal of the habitat tree for the car park. The amended Activity described in this Addendum BAR is unlikely to affect areas of outstanding biodiversity value or Wilderness Areas. The amended Activity is unlikely to significantly affect threatened species or ecological communities or their habitats, within the meaning of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) or *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (FM Act) and therefore a Species Impact Statement (SIS) or Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) (if the Proponent elected) is not required. The amended Activity is also unlikely to affect Commonwealth land or have a significant impact on any Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) in relation to the *Environment, Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).



# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background and Activity Identification

A Biodiversity Assessment Report (BAR) for the Tamworth Regional Skywalk was prepared by GeoLINK for Tamworth Regional Council (TRC). The BAR, as part of the REF, was endorsed on 30 July 2024.

The endorsed Activity described in the BAR was the construction of a skywalk from the beginning of Endeavour Drive to Oxley Scenic Lookout. The endorsed Activity consisted of a combination of boardwalks, viewing platforms, and elevated walkways. Designated on street car parking was also endorsed to be constructed near the start of Endeavour Drive at the base of the hill.

An Addendum BAR was prepared for the Activity and endorsed as part of the Addendum REF on 30 May 2025 by Council. The addendum captured additional potential impacts resulting from a refined location of the skywalk pathway and additional ancillary areas for a crane pad and for facilitating vehicle movements and access. The endorsed Activity currently consists of the combined works described in the determined REF and Addendum REF.

This Addendum BAR is required to describe the refined location of the potential impacts resulting from the addition of car parking on the northern side of Endeavour Drive and the inclusion of electrical works. The electrical works include an overhead powerline across Long Gully, connecting the car park and an existing substation, and rerouting overhead powerlines to underground at the new bridge crossing. Upgrading the substation to support the additional electrical load for the Long Gully line is also included in this scope. The additional impacts were not included in the endorsed BAR and therefore, need to be addressed in this Addendum BAR.

This Addendum BAR has been prepared on behalf of TRC to determine any changes to the environmental impacts as identified within the endorsed BAR dated 1 March 2024. For the purposes of these works, TRC is the proponent and the determining authority under Part 5, Division 5.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

## 1.2 Purpose of the Addendum BAR

The purpose of this Addendum BAR is to describe the amended Activity, assess the likely altered impacts of the amended Activity on the environment and to detail any changes to the safeguards to be implemented to mitigate impacts.

This Addendum BAR only addresses the changes to the endorsed Activity. For an understanding of the entire Activity, this Addendum BAR should be read in conjunction with the endorsed BAR.

The description of the amended Activity and associated altered environmental impacts have been undertaken in the context of section 171(1) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* (EP&A Regulation) and the associated *Guidelines for Division 5.1 Assessments* (DPE 2022) endorsed under Section 170 of the EP&A Regulation, the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act), the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (FM Act), and the Australian Government *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

The assessment contained within the Addendum BAR has been prepared having regard to:

- whether the amended Activity is likely to have a significant impact on the environment and therefore the necessity for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to be prepared under



Division 5.1, Subdivision 3 of the EP&A Act or approval to be sought from the Minister for Planning under Division 5.2 of the EP&A Act;

- the significance of any impact on threatened species as defined by the BC Act and/ or the FM Act, in relation to Section 1.7 of the EP&A Act and therefore the requirement for a Species Impact Statement (SIS), or if the Proponent so elects - a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR); and
- the potential for the amended Activity to significantly impact *Matters of National Environmental Significance* (MNES) on Commonwealth land and the need to make a referral to the Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) for a decision on whether assessment and approval is required under the EPBC Act.

The Addendum BAR helps to fulfil the requirements of section 5.5 of the EP&A Act, which requires that Council examine, and take into account to the fullest extent possible, all matters affecting, or likely to affect, the environment by reason of the amended Activity.

## 2. Proposed Amended Activity

### 2.1 Endorsed Activity Description

The endorsed Activity was described as the construction of a 1.64 km long skywalk and associated car park, commencing near the north-western corner of Lot 7300 DP 1152789 and Lot 1 DP 1108482 and zig zagging in a south-eastern direction up to Oxley Scenic Lookout. The skywalk would consist of a combination of boardwalk, viewing platforms, and elevated walkway.

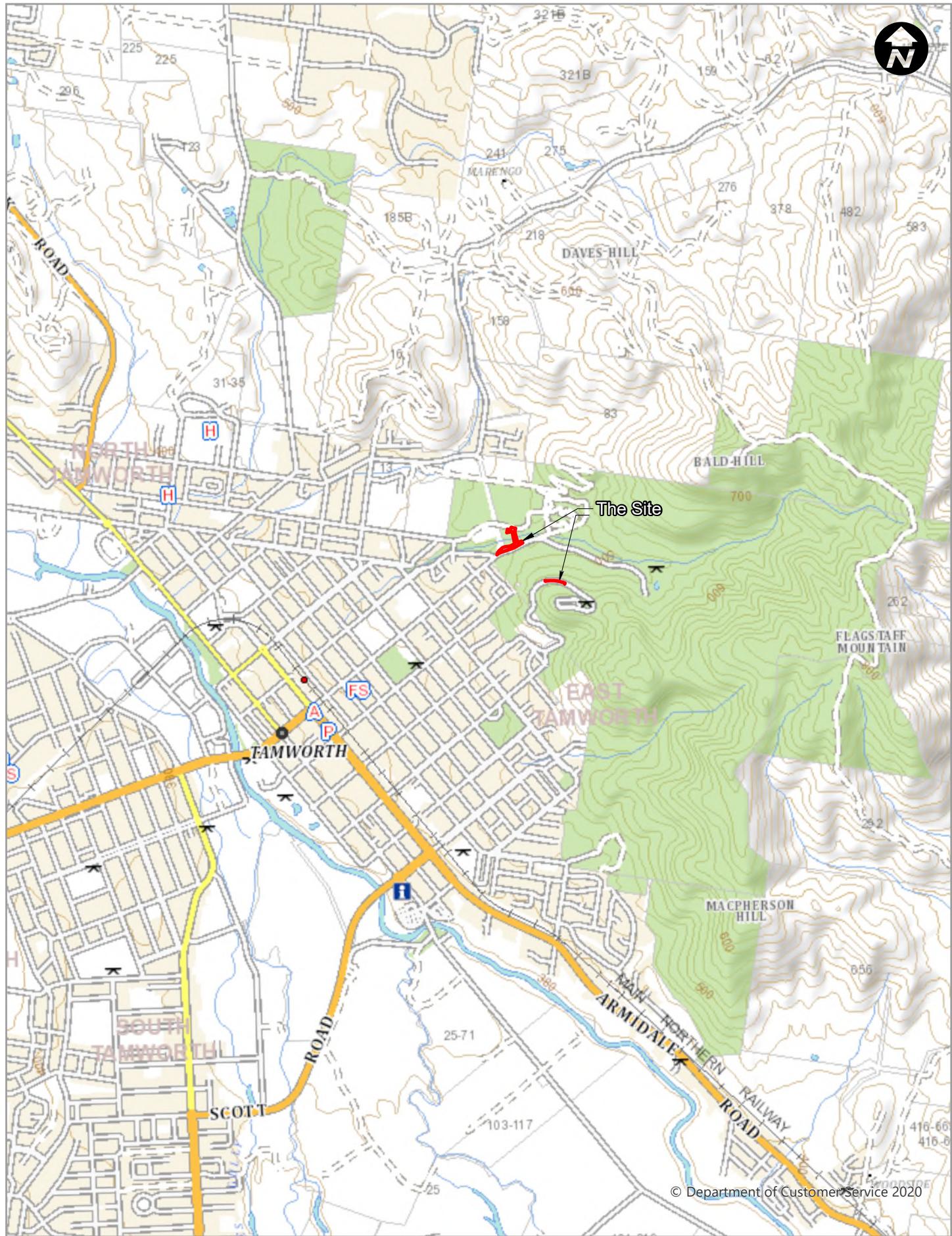
An addendum to the Activity described the updated Activity as including a crane pad and additional areas for vehicle access required for construction.

### 2.2 Site Location

The endorsed Activity site is located from the base of Endeavour Drive and zig-zags through the native landscape up to Oxley Scenic Lookout. The site is located approximately 1.8 km north-east of Tamworth town centre. Refer to **Illustration 2.1** for the site locality.

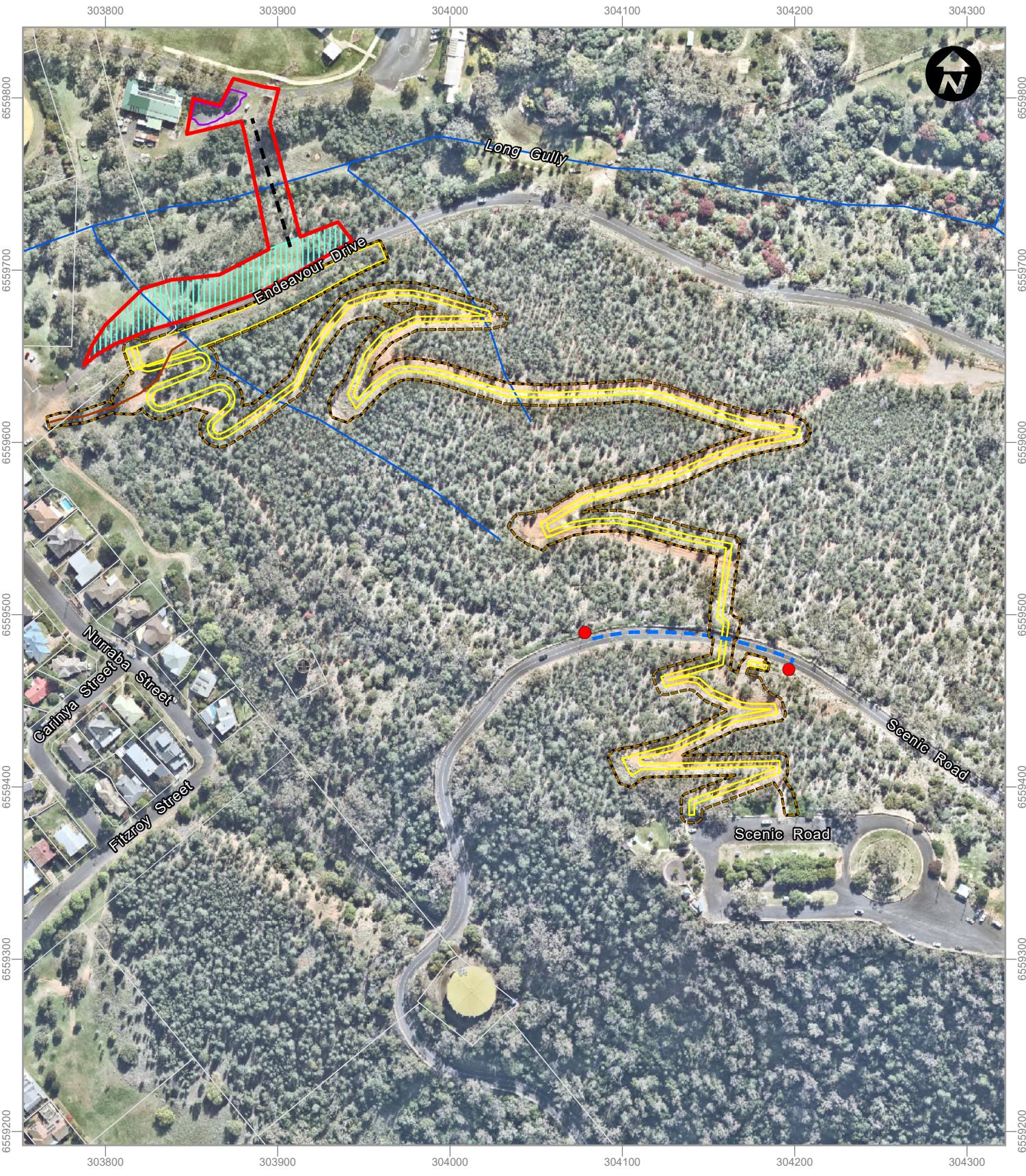
The amended Activity is within Lot 7300 DP 1152789 and Lot 1 DP 1108482 described in the determined REF. The addition of car parking on the northern side of Endeavour Drive results in an expanded clearing footprint. The overhead powerline would travel across Long Gully and the power poles would be situated in the grassy area for the car park and in the maintained lawn adjacent to the road and car park next to the Tamworth Men's Shed. Powerlines along Scenic Drive would be relocated from overhead to underground. The additions to the construction scope result in an increased construction footprint.

The endorsed BAR and Addendum BAR extent of works boundary and the amended Activity area are provided in **Illustration 2.2**.



0 600 Metres

## Site Locality - Illustration 2.1



#### LEGEND

- The site
- Cadastre
- Proposed carpark
- Cleared carpark
- Impact area
- Determined skywalk footprint
- Scenic Drive electrical works
- Endeavour Drive electrical works
- Vehicle access track
- Watercourse

- Existing poles



#### The Site - Illustration 2.2



## 2.3 Amended Activity Description Need

Post determination of the BAR and Addendum BAR, car parking was added to the design to be located on the northern side of Endeavour Drive, close to where the original car parking was designated. Electrical connection has also been added to connect the Activity to the existing substation located adjacent to the Tamworth Men's Shed. A pole would be placed on either side of Long Gully; one close to the new car parking and the other close to the existing substation. The powerline would be strung between the two. As part of the connection, the main switchboard and substation would be upgraded to allow for the additional load. To accommodate the bridge crossing across Scenic Drive, overhead powerlines would be rerouted underground along Scenic Drive. Refer to **Illustration 2.2** for the determined BAR extent of works boundary and the amended Activity areas.

As the endorsed BAR and Addendum BAR scope of work did not include the changes mentioned above, portions of the updated construction footprint lie outside of the endorsed Activity extent of works boundary. Therefore, the modified construction footprint has not been previously assessed. This Addendum BAR only describes and assesses the proposed modifications, being the additions, amended Activity area, and clearing impacts. The addendum should be read in conjunction with the endorsed BAR and Addendum BAR.

## 2.4 Construction Activities

The amended Activity would be subject to the same construction methodology and hours as per the endorsed Review of Environmental Factors (REF). Section 2.3 of the endorsed REF describes the endorsed Activity in more detail.

The amended electrical work would include the following construction methodology:

- Auger/ drill pole holes in cleared area on north side of gully beside pad mount substation board and south side of the gully south of vegetated area in the cleared space north of the car park.
- Install timber poles.
- Walk out LV cable across gully.
- Affix LV cable to pole and tension to required amount to achieve design sag in LV line across gully.
- Trench cable from poles to pad mount substation connection on north side and Skywalk main switchboard connection point on the south side.
- Trim any existing vegetation to maintain clearances as required by AS3000 (private service) with assistance from TRC Enviro/ TRC Greening Coordinator/ arborist contractor as required.

Ongoing operational requirements would involve maintaining vegetation clearance requirements for the cable, which would be the same as the clearances during construction, to be undertaken by a licensed contractor with assistance from TRC Enviro/ TRC Greening Coordinator/ arborist contractor as required.

Rerouting the powerlines along Scenic Drive would include the following works:

- Remove three existing power poles.
- Replace two outer poles and restring to existing overhead conductors to either side.
- Trench between poles in middle of uphill travel lane for underground relocation of conductors.

### 3. Statutory Requirements

The following legislation is relevant to and requires assessment for the modified Activity:

- *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).
- *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act).
- *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (FM Act).
- *Biosecurity Act 2015*.
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

**Table 3.1** provides a review of Commonwealth and State legislation relevant to the modified Activity.

**Table 3.1 Review of Commonwealth and State Legislation Relevant to the Amended Activity**

Legislation	Comment
<i>Commonwealth Legislation</i>	
<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	No change to the conclusion within the project BAR. MNES Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) database searches were undertaken on 23 June 2025 (refer to <b>Appendix A</b> ). No additional species were identified and therefore a potential of occurrence assessment was not required for this addendum. The amended Activity is unlikely to significantly impact threatened species or communities listed under the EPBC Act.
<i>NSW State Legislation</i>	
<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>	No change to the conclusion within the project BAR. BioNet Atlas of NSW Wildlife database searches were undertaken on 23 June 2025 (refer to <b>Appendix A</b> ). No additional species were identified and therefore a potential of occurrence assessment was not required for this addendum. The amended Activity is unlikely to significantly impact threatened species or communities listed under the BC Act.
<i>Fisheries Management Act 1994</i>	Long Gully traverses the site and is mapped as Key Fish Habitat. No change to the conclusion within the project BAR. Long Gully is not associated with any FM Act threatened entities.
<i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>	No change to the conclusion within the project BAR. No additional Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) were identified, no WoNS previously identified within the project BAR were found within or adjacent to the amended area.

In summary, all relevant statutory planning instruments have been examined in relation to the amended Activity. The additional vegetation removed (refer to **Section 4.4**) does not vary the statutory and planning framework associated with the Activity.

The minor variation to the scope of works assessed in this Addendum BAR does not change the findings of the project BAR prepared for the endorsed Activity including five-part tests undertaken in accordance with the BC Act or impacts considered under the EPBC Act.



## 4. Biodiversity

### 4.1 Methodology

The methodology for the Addendum BAR included:

- Review of the project BAR (GeoLINK, 2024).
- Updated desktop searches, including:
  - A search of the BioNet Wildlife Atlas (20 km x 20 km grid centred on the site).
  - A search of the PMST for MNES within a 10 km radius of the site.
  - A search of the Fisheries Spatial Data Portal.
- A site inspection on 11 June 2025 by Ecologist Quinn Green, undertaking the following activities at the site:
  - Meander walking survey to identify and map vegetation and threatened flora or ecological communities listed under the BC Act and/ or EPBC Act.
  - Targeted threatened Bluegrass (*Dicanthium setosum*) survey.
  - Documenting flora species present.
  - Assessing the site's habitat values for threatened fauna, including checking for hollows.

A 20 m buffer was applied to the site to ensure potential impacts on threatened bluegrass were captured.

### 4.2 Desktop Review

#### 4.2.1 BioNet Search

Searches were undertaken of the BioNet Atlas of NSW Wildlife database on 23 June 2025 to identify threatened species recorded within a 20 km x 20 km search area of the site (refer to **Appendix A**). Three threatened flora and 32 threatened fauna species have been recorded within the search area.

#### 4.2.2 EPBC Protected Matters Report

The Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) identified potential habitat for 45 threatened species listed under the EPBC Act within the search area (refer to **Appendix A**).

Eight migratory species listed under the EPBC Act were identified within the search area. No migratory species are likely to be significantly affected by the Activity given that no key areas of breeding habitat for these species would be impacted.

#### 4.2.3 Key Fish Habitat/ Fisheries NSW Spatial Data

Long Gully, a 3rd order stream, traverses the site and is mapped as Key Fish Habitat (KFH). A review of the Fisheries Spatial Data Portal shows Long Gully is not mapped as habitat for any threatened freshwater species. Long Gully is not associated with any other threatened entities or Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs) listed under the FM Act. No further assessment is required.



## 4.3 Existing Environment

### 4.3.1 Vegetation

Vegetation within the amended Activity area is described in **Table 4.1** and comprises Plant Community Type (PCT) 3251 – Northwest White Box Woodland, occurring in a high and poor condition and mowed and maintained grassland. Vegetation mapping is provided at **Illustration 4.1**.

Table 4.1

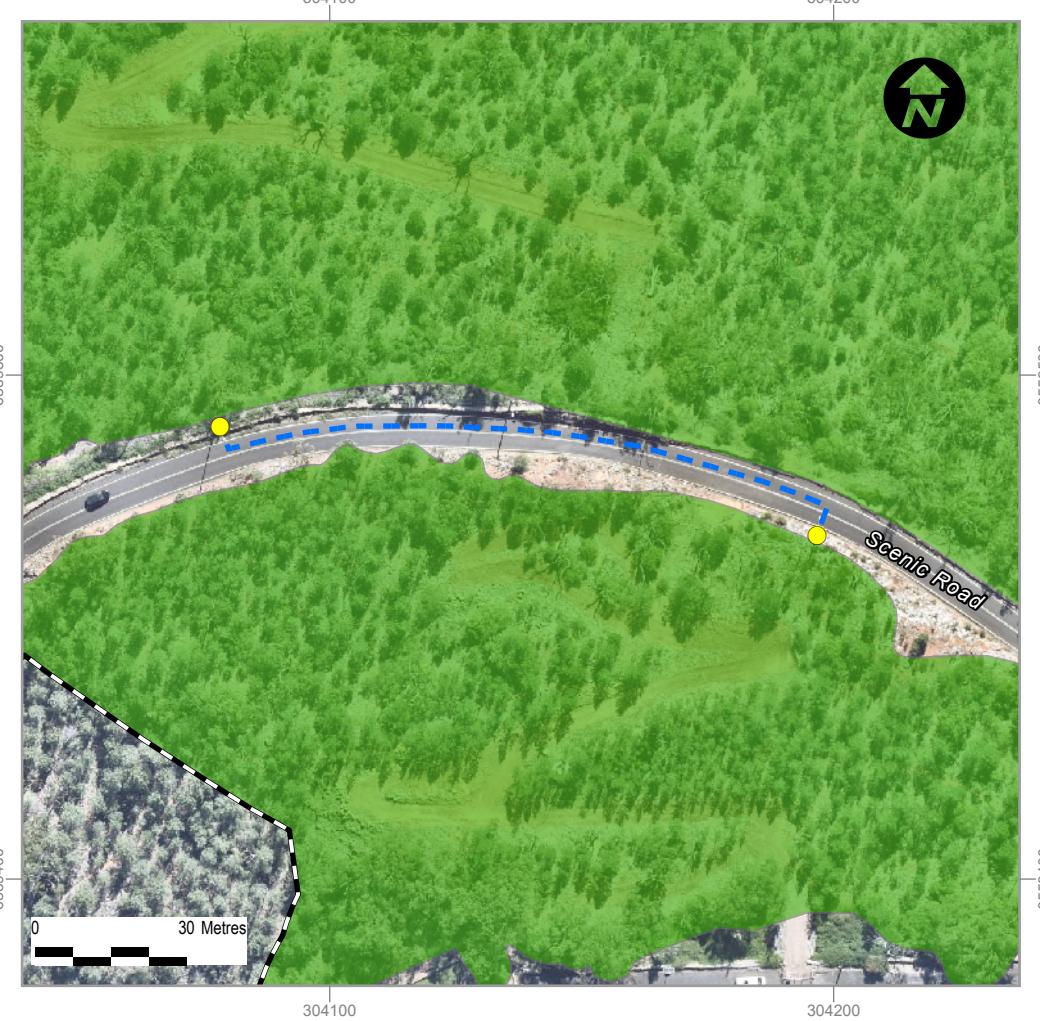
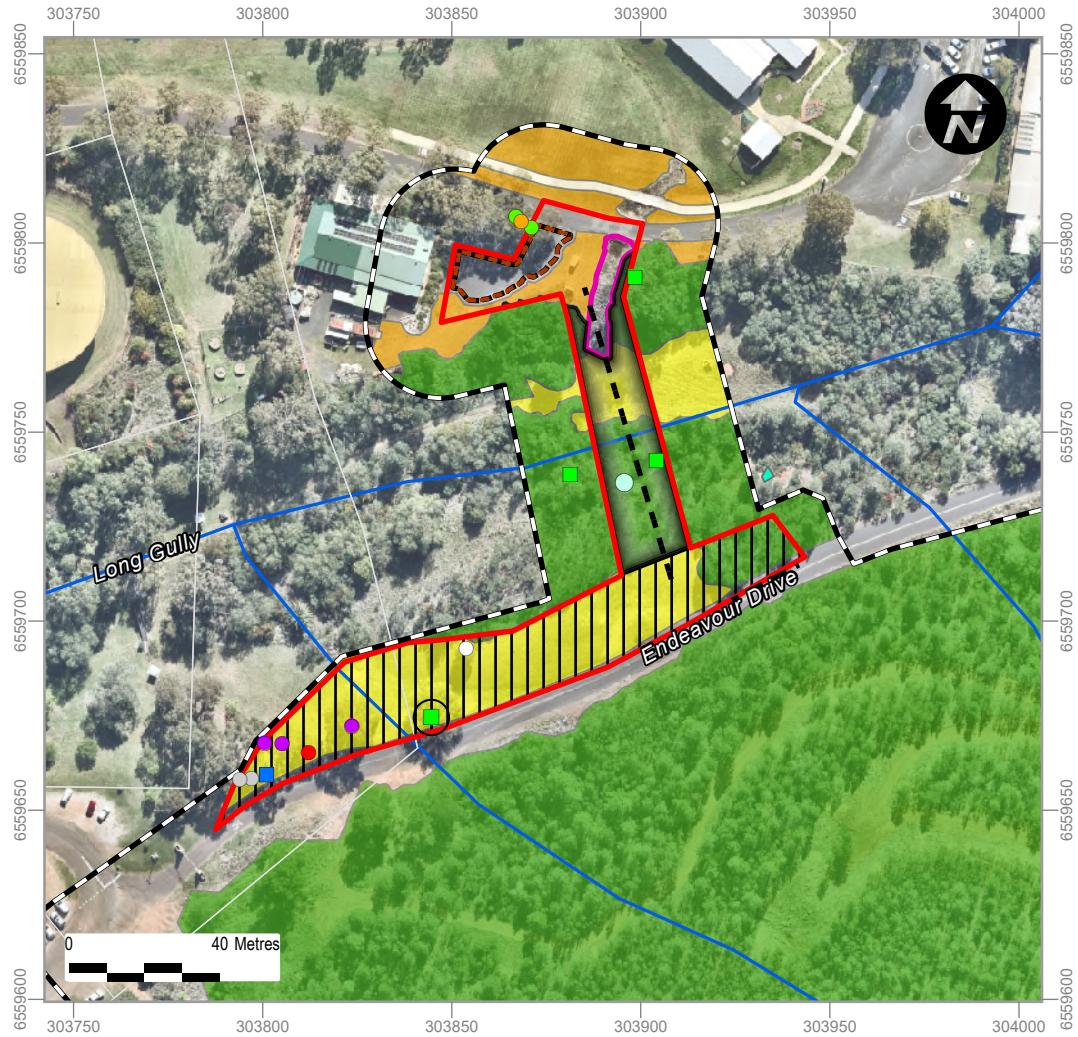
Vegetation Descriptions and Photos

Vegetation Description	Comment	Photo	Impact Area (ha)**
<p><b>PCT 3521 – Northwest White Box Woodland – High Condition</b></p> <p>The canopy is dominated by White Cypress Pine (<i>Callitris glaucocephala</i>). Other canopy species scattered throughout the site include White Box (<i>Eucalyptus albens</i>), Kurrajong (<i>Brachychiton populneus</i> subsp. <i>populneus</i>), Black Cypress Pine (<i>Callitris endlicheri</i>), and Pepper Tree (<i>Schinus molle</i> var. <i>areira</i>)*.</p> <p>The mid-storey comprises Western Silver Wattle (<i>Acacia decora</i>), Velvet Mock Olive (<i>Notelaea microcarpa</i> var. <i>microcarpa</i>), Large-leaved Privet (<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>)*, Native Blackthorn (<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>) and Sticky Hop-bush (<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>).</p> <p>The groundcover comprises Kangaroo Grass (<i>Themeda triandra</i>), Windmill Grass (<i>Chloris truncata</i>), Nightshade (<i>Solanum parvifolium</i> subsp. <i>parvifolium</i>), Slender Bamboo Grass (<i>Austrostipa verticillata</i>), Speargrass (<i>Austrostipa scabra</i>), Purpletop (<i>Verbena bonariensis</i>)*, Goosegrass (<i>Galium aparine</i>)*, Rock Fern (<i>Cheilanthes sieberi</i>), Bluebell (<i>Wahlenbergia</i> spp.), Yellow Burr-daisy (<i>Calotis lappulacea</i>), and Onion Weed (<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>)*.</p>	<p>This community is in good condition providing an intact canopy and mid-storey with a high native species richness.</p>		0.12



Vegetation Description	Comment	Photo	Impact Area (ha)**
<b>PCT 3521 – Northwest White Box Woodland – Poor Condition (Derived Grassland)</b> <p>The canopy comprises scattered planted and remnant trees including White Cypress Pine, Pepper Tree*, Spotted Gum (<i>Corymbia maculata</i>) and Chinese Pistachio (<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>)*.</p> <p>The mid-storey comprises Large-leaved Privet*, <i>Celtis australis</i>*, Green Cestrum (<i>Cestrum parqui</i>)* and Silky Oak (<i>Grevillea robusta</i>).</p> <p>The groundcover comprises Queensland Bluegrass (<i>Dicanthium sericeum</i>), Red Grass (<i>Bothriochloa decipiens</i>) and Dandelion (<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>)*, with occurrences of Western Rat-tail Grass (<i>Sporobolus creber</i>), Spear Grass (<i>Austrostipa scabra</i>), African Lovegrass (<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>)*, and White Clover (<i>Trifolium repens</i>)*, and infrequently Couch Grass (<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>), Windmill Grass (<i>Chloris truncata</i>), <i>Wahlenbergia</i> sp., Cobblers Peg (<i>Bidens pilosa</i>)*, Purpletop (<i>Verbena bonariensis</i>)*, Umbrella Sedge (<i>Cyperus eragrostis</i>)*, Mayne's Pest (<i>Glandularia aristigera</i>)*, Vervain (<i>Salvia verbenaca</i>)*, Wild Mustard (<i>Brassica rapa</i>)*, Lamb's Tongues (<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>)*, Sida spinosa* and Coolatai Grass (<i>Hyparrhenia hirta</i>)*.</p>	This community is in poor condition, lacking an intact canopy and mid-storey, with a high cover of native groundcover species.		0.27
<b>Mowed and Maintained Grassland</b> <p>The canopy and mid-storey are absent.</p> <p>The predominantly exotic ground layer comprises Dandelion*, White Clover*, Couch Grass and Western Rat-tail Grass.</p>	This community is in poor condition, frequently subject to regular maintenance and previous clearing for the Tamworth Mens Shed and road reserve.		0.03

\* denotes exotic species. \*\* Impact areas include both clearing and disturbance quantities from construction works.



## Biodiversity Constraints - Illustration 4.1



#### 4.3.2 Threatened Flora

Bluegrass (*Dicanthium setosum*) listed as Vulnerable under the BC and EPBC Act was recorded at the site (refer to **Plate 4.1** and **Plate 4.2**). Bluegrass samples were taken and placed under a microscope, the species was identified using the PlantNet key with the following key features:

- Sessile spikelets 5–6 mm long;
- Hairs on sessile spikelets to 1 mm long;
- Racemes 1–3, purple in colour;
- Racemes to 8 cm long.

Bluegrass occurs across two patches (total area approx. 7.55 m<sup>2</sup>) with approximately 10 individuals recorded on site and 70 individuals recorded adjacent to the survey area within high quality PCT 3521 (refer to **Illustration 4.2**).

Bluegrass (*Dichanthium setosum*) is also recorded within the broader locality. Bluegrass occurs across two patches in close proximity to the site (total area approx. 915 m<sup>2</sup>) with approximately 1,033 individuals recorded. Approximately 990 individuals were recorded along the disturbed road edge of Scenic Road and approximately 43 individuals were recorded within high quality PCT 3521 north-west of Oxley Scenic Lookout (refer to **Illustration 4.2**).

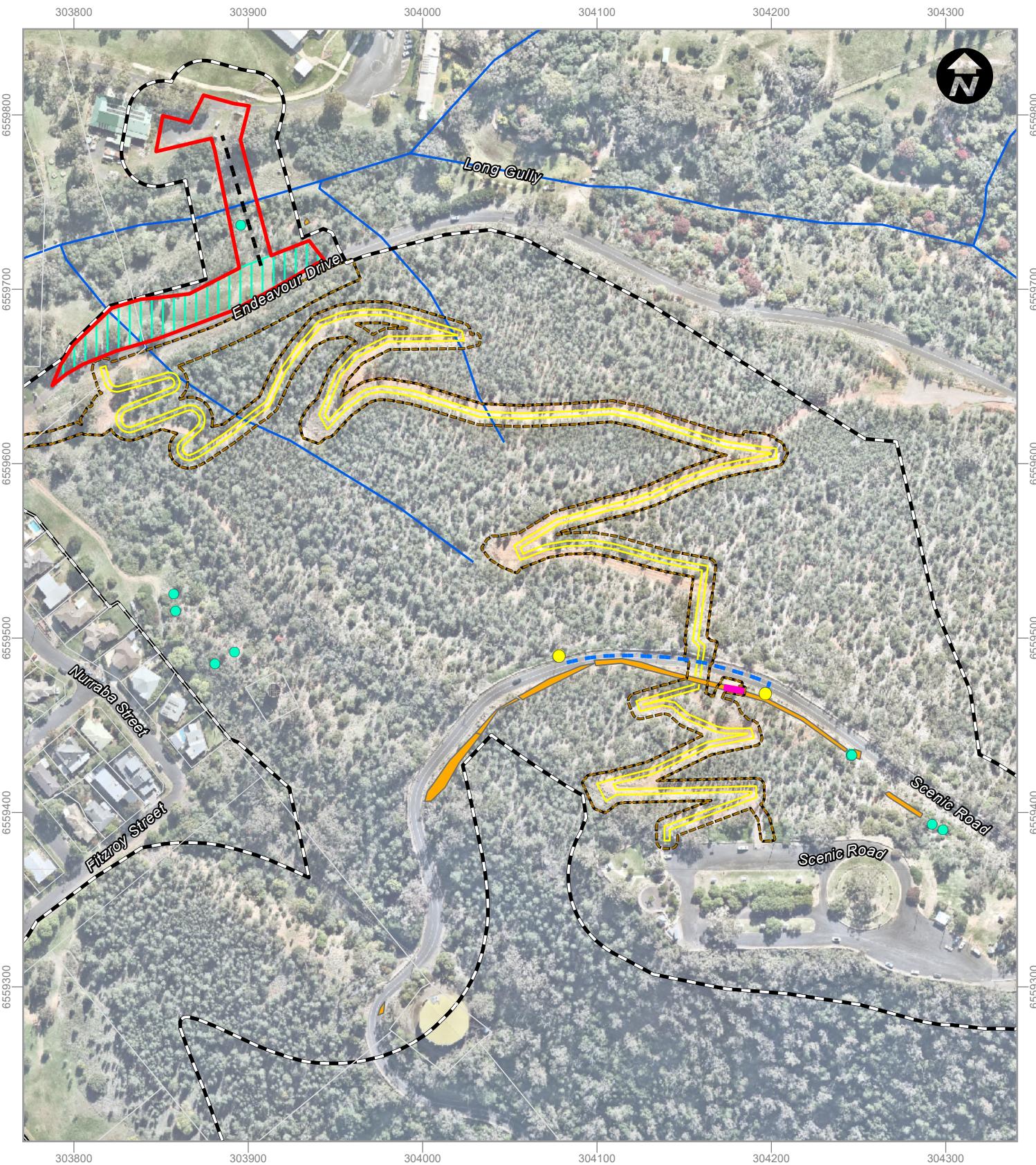
A potential occurrence assessment (refer to **Appendix B**) and an Assessment of Significance (refer to **Appendix C**) has been completed for this species.



**Plate 4.1** Bluegrass raceme purple in colour



**Plate 4.2** Bluegrass with 1-3 racemes and to 8 cm long



Threatened Bluegrass Mapping - Illustration 4.2



### 4.3.3 Threatened Fauna

No threatened fauna species were recorded within or adjacent to the site during the site inspection. No additional fauna species were identified within the revised biodiversity searches and as such a threatened fauna potential occurrence assessment was not included within this addendum.

Three hollow-bearing trees were recorded during field surveys (refer to **Illustration 4.1**), two within the site boundary and one within the survey area. One hollow-bearing tree has been proposed for removal for the car park. Photos of habitat trees have been provided in **Plate 4.3 to 4.6**.

Potential hollow-bearing species that may be affected by the removal and disturbance of the hollow-bearing trees have been previously assessed within the Assessment of Significance and Potential Occurrence table within the original BAR.



**Plate 4.3** Habitat tree (H1) proposed for removal



**Plate 4.4** View of habitat tree (H1) within the car park site



**Plate 4.5** Habitat tree (H2) within the site



**Plate 4.6** Habitat Tree (H3) within the survey area



## 4.4 Summary of Impacts

### 4.4.1 Potential Impacts

Refer to **Illustration 4.1** for biodiversity constraints and clearing.

Potential direct impacts from the amended Activity include:

- Direct removal of up to 0.03 ha of high condition PCT 3521 – Northwest White Box Woodland for the car park.
- Direct removal of up to 0.24 ha of poor condition PCT 3521 (derived grassland) for the car park.
- Disturbance (including tree trimming and walkthrough of the LV Cable) of up to 0.09 ha of high condition PCT 3521 – Northwest White Box Woodland for the overhead powerlines.
- Disturbance of up to 0.03 ha of poor condition PCT 3521 (derived grassland) for the overhead powerlines.
- Direct removal of up to 0.03 ha of mowed and maintained grassland for the overhead power poles.
- Direct removal of one hollow-bearing tree for the car park.

All high condition PCT 3521 – Northwest White Box Woodland comprises known Bluegrass habitat and all poor condition PCT 3521 (derived grassland) comprises potential Bluegrass habitat.

Indirect impacts may include:

- Degradation of adjacent habitat due to potential clearing phase impacts (e.g. erosion and sedimentation impacts or chemical spills).
- Unintentional damage to adjacent habitat during clearing and associated direct mortality or injury to fauna in adjacent vegetation (although considered to be unlikely to occur with implementation of mitigation measures).

### 4.4.2 Safeguards and Mitigation Measures

Based on the assessment of the potential environmental impacts of the amended Activity, it is determined that:

- With effective implementation of safeguards included in the project BAR, the extent and nature of potential impacts are low and are unlikely to have significant adverse effects on the locality, community, and the environment.
- Impacts identified in this Addendum BAR do not significantly vary from those presented within the project BAR. Where these impacts vary, the relevant assessment has been undertaken.
- Additional safeguards not previously identified within the project BAR include:
  - The presence of an ecologist (spotter/ catcher) on site during clearing of the hollow-bearing tree to check hollows and undertake fauna capture/ relocation if required.
  - All vegetation removal must be undertaken by an approved vegetation clearing contractor or competent persons within the TRC work crew. Vegetation removed from the site will be mulched and taken off-site to an appropriately licenced waste facility.
  - Where possible, tree trimming will be performed so that no debris falls into or damages Long Gully.
  - Where possible, tree trimming will be performed so that no debris falls onto or damages recorded habitat trees.

Potential impacts can be appropriately mitigated or managed by the safeguards listed in the project BAR and within this Addendum BAR, to minimise potential impacts.



#### 4.4.3 Conclusion

Based on the limited extent of impacts to native vegetation, retention of similar or better-quality habitat locally, and minor area of Bluegrass to be removed, the Activity is unlikely to significantly impact threatened Bluegrass or its habitat within the meaning of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

The site does not comprise Australian Government DCCEEW defined important habitat for any threatened or migratory species and therefore EPBC Act listed threatened or migratory species are not considered a constraint for the Activity. FM Act listed threatened species are not considered a constraint for the Activity as the site does not contain aquatic habitat.

Biodiversity impacts can be effectively managed through the implementation of the safeguards in the endorsed BAR and within this Addendum BAR.

## 4.5 EPBC Act 1999 (Commonwealth Legislation)

The EPBC Act protects/ regulates matters of national environmental significance (MNES), including:

- World Heritage.
- National heritage places.
- Wetlands of international importance.
- Nationally threatened species and ecological communities.
- Migratory species.
- Commonwealth marine areas.
- The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.
- Nuclear actions (including uranium mining).
- A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development.

Under the EPBC Act, a referral is required to the Australian Government for proposed ‘actions that have the potential to significantly impact on matters of national environmental significance or the environment of Commonwealth land’. A database search was completed on 11 June 2025 encompassing a 10 km radius search area from the centre of the amended Activity (refer to **Appendix A**). Search results following the site assessment are considered in **Table 4.2**.

**Table 4.2 EPBC Act Considerations**

Matter	Impact
<b>Any impact on a World Heritage property?</b>	
No World Heritage properties occur within the search area.	Nil
<b>Any impact on a National Heritage place?</b>	
No World Heritage properties occur at or proximal to the site.	Nil
<b>Any impact on a wetland of international importance?</b>	
No wetlands of international importance (Ramsar Sites) occur at or proximal to the site.	Nil
<b>Any impact on nationally threatened species and ecological communities?</b>	
Habitat for four TECs, 45 threatened species and eight migratory species were listed within the 10 km search area. No Commonwealth listed threatened flora, fauna or TECs are likely to occur at the site or be significantly affected by the Activity (refer to <b>Appendix A</b> ). Mitigation measures have been provided to minimise any potential impacts. No marine habitat would be impacted.	Nil
<b>Any impact on a Nationally Important Wetland?</b>	
Three nationally important wetlands occur approximately 900 – 1200 km from the site. Nationally Important Wetlands are not likely to be affected by the Activity.	Nil
<b>Any impact on Migratory species?</b>	
Based on the minor nature of the works, no listed migratory species are likely to be significantly affected by the Activity.	Nil
<b>Any impact on a Commonwealth marine area?</b>	
No Commonwealth marine areas occur within the search area.	Nil
<b>Any impact on the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?</b>	
The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is distant from the site.	Nil
<b>Does the Proposal involve a nuclear action (including uranium mining)?</b>	
The Activity does not involve a nuclear action.	Nil



Matter	Impact
<b>Any impact on a water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development?</b>	
The Activity does not involve any impact on a water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large mining development.	Nil
<b>Additionally, any impact (direct or indirect) on Commonwealth land?</b>	
The Activity is not expected to impact upon such land.	Nil

The assessment of the impact of the Activity on MNES and the environment of Commonwealth land has found that there is unlikely to be significant impact on relevant MNES. Accordingly, the Activity does not require referral to the Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW).



## 5. Conclusion

This Addendum BAR has been undertaken to assess the changes in the Activity footprint involving vegetation removal for the addition of car parking on the northern side of Endeavour Drive and the overhead powerline across Long Gully. The project BAR was endorsed by Tamworth Regional Council on 30 July 2024.

Results of this Addendum BAR indicate that the amended Activity is unlikely to significantly affect threatened species, ecological communities or their habitats, within the meaning of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* or *Fisheries Management Act 1994*. The amended Activity is also unlikely to affect Commonwealth land or have an impact on any matters of national environmental significance as listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, and therefore, referral to the Commonwealth Environment Minister is not required.

Biodiversity impacts resulting from the amended Activity would not result in a significant impact on any threatened species or communities and these impacts can be minimised through the implementation of the combined mitigation measures in this Addendum BAR, the endorsed BAR, the associated REF and Addendum REF that have been prepared for the Activity.



## References

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## Appendix A

### Database Searches

Data from the BioNet Atlas website, which holds records from a number of custodians. The data are only indicative and cannot be considered a comprehensive inventory, and may contain errors and omissions. Species listed under the Sensitive Species Data Policy may have their locations denatured (^ rounded to 0.1°C; ^^ rounded to 0.01°C. Copyright the State of NSW through the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. Search criteria : Public Report of all Valid Records of Threatened (listed on BC Act 2016) or Commonwealth listed Communities in selected area [North: -30.98 West: 150.85 East: 151.05 South: -31.18] returned 0 records for 14 entities.

Report generated on 23/06/2025 1:49 PM

Kingdom	Class	Family	Species Code	Scientific Name	Exotic	Common Name	NSW status	Comm. status	Records	Info
Community				<i>Brigalow within the Brigalow Belt South, Nandewar and Darling Riverine Plains Bioregions</i>		Brigalow within the Brigalow Belt South, Nandewar and Darling Riverine Plains Bioregions	E3		K	
Community				<i>Carex Sedgeland of the New England Tableland, Nandewar, Brigalow Belt South and NSW North Coast Bioregions</i>		Carex Sedgeland of the New England Tableland, Nandewar, Brigalow Belt South and NSW North Coast Bioregions	E3		K	
Community				<i>Howell Shrublands in the New England Tableland and Nandewar Bioregions</i>		Howell Shrublands in the New England Tableland and Nandewar Bioregions	E3		K	
Community				<i>Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Peneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions</i>		Inland Grey Box Woodland in the Riverina, NSW South Western Slopes, Cobar Peneplain, Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions	E3		K	

Community	<i>McKies Stringybark/Blackbutt Open Forest in the Nandewar and New England Tableland Bioregions</i>	McKies Stringybark/Blackbutt Open Forest in the Nandewar and New England Tableland Bioregions	E3	P	
Community	<i>Mount Kaputar high elevation and dry rainforest land snail and slug community in the Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions</i>	Mount Kaputar high elevation and dry rainforest land snail and slug community in the Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions	E3	K	
Community	<i>Natural grasslands on basalt and fine-textured alluvial plains of northern New South Wales and southern Queensland</i>	Natural grasslands on basalt and fine-textured alluvial plains of northern New South Wales and southern Queensland	CE	K	
Community	<i>New England Peppermint (Eucalyptus nova-anglica) Grassy Woodlands</i>	New England Peppermint (Eucalyptus nova-anglica) Grassy Woodlands	CE	K	
Community	<i>New England Peppermint (Eucalyptus nova-anglica) Woodland on Basalts and Sediments in the New England Tableland Bioregion</i>	New England Peppermint (Eucalyptus nova-anglica) Woodland on Basalts and Sediments in the New England Tableland Bioregion	E4B	K	

Community	<i>Ribbon Gum-Mountain Gum-Snow Gum Grassy Forest/Woodland of the New England Tableland Bioregion</i>	Ribbon Gum-Mountain Gum-Snow Gum Grassy Forest/Woodland of the New England Tableland Bioregion	E3	P	
Community	<i>Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket in the Brigalow Belt South and Nandewar Bioregions</i>	Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket in the Brigalow Belt South and Nandewar Bioregions	E3	K	
Community	<i>Weeping Myall Woodlands</i>	Weeping Myall Woodlands	E	K	
Community	<i>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</i>	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	E4B	K	
Community	<i>White Box-Yellow Box- Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland</i>	White Box-Yellow Box- Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland	CE	K	

Data from the BioNet Atlas website, which holds records from a number of custodians. The data are only indicative and cannot be considered a comprehensive inventory, and may contain errors and omissions. Species listed under the Sensitive Species Data Policy may have their locations denatured (^ rounded to 0.1°C; ^^ rounded to 0.01°C. Copyright the State of NSW through the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. Search criteria : Public Report of all Valid Records of Threatened (listed on BC Act 2016) or Commonwealth listed Animals in selected area [North: -30.98 West: 150.85 East: 151.05 South: -31.18] returned a total of 274 records of 32 species.

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Kingdom	Class	Family	Species Code	Scientific Name	Exotic	Common Name	NSW status	Comm. status	Records	Info
Animalia	Amphibia	Hylidae	3168	<i>Litoria boorooolongensis</i>		Boorooolong Frog	E1,P	E	1	
Animalia	Reptilia	Carphodactylidae	2139	<i>Uvidicolus sphyurus</i>		Border Thick-tailed Gecko	V,P	V	6	
Animalia	Reptilia	Pygopodidae	2144	<i>Aprasia parapulchella</i>		Pink-tailed Legless Lizard	V,P	V	1	
Animalia	Aves	Megapodiidae	0008	<i>Alectura lathami</i>		Australian Brush-turkey population in the Nandewar and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions	E2,P		3	
Animalia	Aves	Accipitridae	0225	<i>Hieraetus morphnoides</i>		Little Eagle	V,P		6	
Animalia	Aves	Accipitridae	0230	^^ <i>Lophoictinia isura</i>		Square-tailed Kite	V,P,3		1	
Animalia	Aves	Falconidae	0238	<i>Falco subniger</i>		Black Falcon	V,P		4	
Animalia	Aves	Cacatuidae	0268	^^ <i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>		Gang-gang Cockatoo	E1,P,3	E	1	
Animalia	Aves	Cacatuidae	8862	^ <i>Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami</i>		South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo	V,P,2	V	3	
Animalia	Aves	Psittacidae	0309	<i>Lathamus discolor</i>		Swift Parrot	E1,P	CE	7	
Animalia	Aves	Psittacidae	0302	^^ <i>Neophema pulchella</i>		Turquoise Parrot	V,P,3		7	
Animalia	Aves	Psittacidae	0260	<i>Parvipsitta pusilla</i>		Little Lorikeet	V,P		8	
Animalia	Aves	Strigidae	0248	^^ <i>Ninox strenua</i>		Powerful Owl	V,P,3		1	
Animalia	Aves	Climacteridae	8127	<i>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</i>		Brown Treecreeper (eastern subspecies)	V,P	V	6	
Animalia	Aves	Acanthizidae	0504	<i>Pyrrholaemus sagittatus</i>		Speckled Warbler	V,P		3	
Animalia	Aves	Meliphagidae	0603	^ <i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>		Regent Honeyeater	E4A,P, 2	CE	1	
Animalia	Aves	Meliphagidae	0598	<i>Grantiella picta</i>		Painted Honeyeater	V,P	V	3	

Animalia	Aves	Meliphagidae	8303	<i>Melithreptus gularis</i> <i>gularis</i>	Black-chinned Honeyeater (eastern subspecies)	V,P	2	
Animalia	Aves	Pomatostomidae	8388	<i>Pomatostomus</i> <i>temporalis temporalis</i>	Grey-crowned Babbler (eastern subspecies)	V,P	3	
Animalia	Aves	Neosittidae	0549	<i>Daphoenositta</i> <i>chrysoptera</i>	Varied Sittella	V,P	4	
Animalia	Aves	Artamidae	8519	<i>Artamus cyanopterus</i> <i>cyanopterus</i>	Dusky Woodswallow	V,P	4	
Animalia	Aves	Petroicidae	8367	<i>Melanodryas cucullata</i> <i>cucullata</i>	South-eastern Hooded Robin	E1,P	E	4 
Animalia	Aves	Estrildidae	0652	<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	Diamond Firetail	V,P	V	8 
Animalia	Mammalia	Dasyuridae	1008	<i>Dasyurus maculatus</i>	Spotted-tailed Quoll	V,P	E	19 
Animalia	Mammalia	Phascolarctidae	1162	<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	Koala	E1,P	E	19 
Animalia	Mammalia	Petauridae	1137	<i>Petaurus norfolkensis</i>	Squirrel Glider	V,P	8 	
Animalia	Mammalia	Macropodidae	1215	<i>Petrogale penicillata</i>	Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby	E1,P	V	1 
Animalia	Mammalia	Pteropodidae	1280	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox	V,P	V	129 
Animalia	Mammalia	Emballonuridae	1321	<i>Saccopteryx flaviventris</i>	Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat	V,P	1 	
Animalia	Mammalia	Molossidae	1329	<i>Micronycteris norfolkensis</i>	Eastern Coastal Free-tailed Bat	V,P	6 	
Animalia	Mammalia	Vespertilionidae	1353	<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	Large-eared Pied Bat	E1,P	E	1 
Animalia	Mammalia	Miniopteridae	3330	<i>Miniopterus orianae</i> <i>oceania</i>	Large Bent-winged Bat	V,P	3 	

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Kingdom	Class	Family	Species Code	Scientific Name	Exotic	Common Name	NSW status	Comm. status	Records	Info
Plantae	Flora	Myrtaceae	4134	<i>Eucalyptus nicholii</i>		Narrow-leaved Black Peppermint	V	V	1	
Plantae	Flora	Myrtaceae	4293	<i>Syzygium paniculatum</i>		Magenta Lilly Pilly	V	V	1	
Plantae	Flora	Poaceae	4895	<i>Dichanthium setosum</i>		Bluegrass	V	V	9	



# EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

This report provides general guidance on matters of national environmental significance and other matters protected by the EPBC Act in the area you have selected. Please see the caveat for interpretation of information provided here.

Report created: 23-Jun-2025

[Summary](#)

[Details](#)

[Matters of NES](#)

[Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act](#)

[Extra Information](#)

[Caveat](#)

[Acknowledgements](#)

# Summary

## Matters of National Environment Significance

This part of the report summarises the matters of national environmental significance that may occur in, or may relate to, the area you nominated. Further information is available in the detail part of the report, which can be accessed by scrolling or following the links below. If you are proposing to undertake an activity that may have a significant impact on one or more matters of national environmental significance then you should consider the [Administrative Guidelines on Significance](#).

<a href="#">World Heritage Properties:</a>	None
<a href="#">National Heritage Places:</a>	None
<a href="#">Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar)</a>	3
<a href="#">Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:</a>	None
<a href="#">Commonwealth Marine Area:</a>	None
<a href="#">Listed Threatened Ecological Communities:</a>	4
<a href="#">Listed Threatened Species:</a>	45
<a href="#">Listed Migratory Species:</a>	8

## Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

This part of the report summarises other matters protected under the Act that may relate to the area you nominated. Approval may be required for a proposed activity that significantly affects the environment on Commonwealth land, when the action is outside the Commonwealth land, or the environment anywhere when the action is taken on Commonwealth land. Approval may also be required for the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies proposing to take an action that is likely to have a significant impact on the environment anywhere.

The EPBC Act protects the environment on Commonwealth land, the environment from the actions taken on Commonwealth land, and the environment from actions taken by Commonwealth agencies. As heritage values of a place are part of the 'environment', these aspects of the EPBC Act protect the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place. Information on the new heritage laws can be found at <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/parks-heritage/heritage>

A [permit](#) may be required for activities in or on a Commonwealth area that may affect a member of a listed threatened species or ecological community, a member of a listed migratory species, whales and other cetaceans, or a member of a listed marine species.

<a href="#">Commonwealth Lands:</a>	44
<a href="#">Commonwealth Heritage Places:</a>	1
<a href="#">Listed Marine Species:</a>	18
<a href="#">Whales and Other Cetaceans:</a>	None
<a href="#">Critical Habitats:</a>	None
<a href="#">Commonwealth Reserves Terrestrial:</a>	None
<a href="#">Australian Marine Parks:</a>	None
<a href="#">Habitat Critical to the Survival of Marine Turtles:</a>	None

## Extra Information

This part of the report provides information that may also be relevant to the area you have

<a href="#">State and Territory Reserves:</a>	None
<a href="#">Regional Forest Agreements:</a>	None
<a href="#">Nationally Important Wetlands:</a>	None
<a href="#">EPBC Act Referrals:</a>	15
<a href="#">Key Ecological Features (Marine):</a>	None
<a href="#">Biologically Important Areas:</a>	None
<a href="#">Bioregional Assessments:</a>	None
<a href="#">Geological and Bioregional Assessments:</a>	None

# Details

## Matters of National Environmental Significance

Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Wetlands)		[Resource Information]
Ramsar Site Name	Proximity	Buffer Status
<a href="#">Banrock station wetland complex</a>	1000 - 1100km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area
<a href="#">Riverland</a>	900 - 1000km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area
<a href="#">The coorong, and lakes alexandrina and albert wetland</a>	1100 - 1200km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area

Listed Threatened Ecological Communities		[Resource Information]
For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are derived from recovery plans, State vegetation maps, remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.		
Status of Vulnerable, Disallowed and Ineligible are not MNES under the EPBC Act.		
Community Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
<a href="#">Natural grasslands on basalt and fine-textured alluvial plains of northern New South Wales and southern Queensland</a>	Critically Endangered	Community likely to occur within area
<a href="#">New England Peppermint (Eucalyptus nova-anglica) Grassy Woodlands</a>	Critically Endangered	Community may occur within area
<a href="#">Weeping Myall Woodlands</a>	Endangered	Community may occur within area
<a href="#">White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland</a>	Critically Endangered	Community likely to occur within area

Listed Threatened Species		[Resource Information]
Status of Conservation Dependent and Extinct are not MNES under the EPBC Act.		
Number is the current name ID.		
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text
<a href="#">BIRD</a>		
<a href="#">Anthochaera phrygia</a>		
Regent Honeyeater [82338]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area
		In feature area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<u><a href="#">Aphelocephala leucopsis</a></u> Southern Whiteface [529]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Botaurus poiciloptilus</a></u> Australasian Bittern [1001]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Calidris acuminata</a></u> Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Calidris ferruginea</a></u> Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami</a></u> South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo [67036]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Climacteris picumnus victoriae</a></u> Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern) [67062]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Falco hypoleucus</a></u> Grey Falcon [929]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Gallinago hardwickii</a></u> Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Grantiella picta</a></u> Painted Honeyeater [470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Hirundapus caudacutus</a></u> White-throated Needletail [682]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Lathamus discolor</a></u> Swift Parrot [744]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<a href="#"><u><i>Melanodryas cucullata cucullata</i></u></a>			
South-eastern Hooded Robin, Hooded Robin (south-eastern) [67093]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Neophema chrysostoma</i></u></a>			
Blue-winged Parrot [726]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Polytelis swainsonii</i></u></a>			
Superb Parrot [738]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Rostratula australis</i></u></a>			
Australian Painted Snipe [77037]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Stagonopleura guttata</i></u></a>			
Diamond Firetail [59398]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<b>FISH</b>			
<a href="#"><u><i>Maccullochella peelii</i></u></a>			
Murray Cod [66633]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In buffer area only
<b>FROG</b>			
<a href="#"><u><i>Litoria boorooolongensis</i></u></a>			
Boorooolong Frog [1844]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<b>MAMMAL</b>			
<a href="#"><u><i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i></u></a>			
Large-eared Pied Bat, Large Pied Bat [183]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Dasyurus maculatus maculatus (SE mainland population)</i></u></a>			
Spot-tailed Quoll, Spotted-tail Quoll, Tiger Quoll (southeastern mainland population) [75184]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Nyctophilus corbeni</i></u></a>			
Corben's Long-eared Bat, South-eastern Long-eared Bat [83395]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Petaurus australis australis</i></u></a>			
Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern) [87600]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<u><a href="#">Petrogale penicillata</a></u> Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby [225]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
<b><u><a href="#">Phascolarctos cinereus (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT)</a></u></b>			
Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory) [85104]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<b><u><a href="#">Pteropus poliocephalus</a></u></b>			
Grey-headed Flying-fox [186]	Vulnerable	Roosting known to occur within area	In feature area
<b>PLANT</b>			
<u><a href="#">Acacia pubifolia</a></u> Velvet Wattle [19799]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
<u><a href="#">Arthraxon hispidus</a></u> Hairy-joint Grass [9338]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
<u><a href="#">Cadellia pentastylis</a></u> Ooline [9828]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Callistemon pungens</a></u> [55581]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Dichanthium setosum</a></u> bluegrass [14159]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Eucalyptus nicholii</a></u> Narrow-leaved Peppermint, Narrow-leaved Black Peppermint [20992]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Euphrasia arguta</a></u> [4325]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Homoranthus prolixus</a></u> [55198]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<u><a href="#">Lepidium aschersonii</a></u> Spiny Pepper-cress [10976]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Lepidium monoplocoides</a></u> Winged Pepper-cress [9190]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Prasophyllum sp. Wybong (C.Phelps ORG 5269)</a></u> a leek-orchid [81964]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Swainsona murrayana</a></u> Slender Darling-pea, Slender Swainson, Murray Swainson-pea [6765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Thesium australe</a></u> Austral Toadflax, Toadflax [15202]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Vincetoxicum forsteri listed as Tylophora linearis</a></u> [92384]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<b>REPTILE</b>			
<u><a href="#">Anomalopus mackayi</a></u> Five-clawed Worm-skink, Long-legged Worm-skink [25934]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Aprasia parapulchella</a></u> Pink-tailed Worm-lizard, Pink-tailed Legless Lizard [1665]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Hemiaspis damelii</a></u> Grey Snake [1179]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Myuchelys bellii</a></u> Western Sawshelled Turtle [86075]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Uvidicolus sphyurus</a></u> Border Thick-tailed Gecko, Granite Belt Thick-tailed Gecko [84578]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<b>Migratory Marine Birds</b>			
<u><a href="#">Apus pacificus</a></u>			
Fork-tailed Swift [678]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<b>Migratory Terrestrial Species</b>			
<u><a href="#">Hirundapus caudacutus</a></u>			
White-throated Needletail [682]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Motacilla flava</a></u>			
Yellow Wagtail [644]		Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<b>Migratory Wetlands Species</b>			
<u><a href="#">Actitis hypoleucus</a></u>			
Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Calidris acuminata</a></u>			
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Calidris ferruginea</a></u>			
Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Calidris melanotos</a></u>			
Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Gallinago hardwickii</a></u>			
Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area

## Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

Commonwealth Lands	[ Resource Information ]
The Commonwealth area listed below may indicate the presence of Commonwealth land in this vicinity. Due to the unreliability of the data source, all proposals should be checked as to whether it impacts on a Commonwealth area, before making a definitive decision. Contact the State or Territory government land department for further information.	
Commonwealth Land Name	State
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	
Commonwealth Land - Commonwealth Bank of Australia [12980]	NSW
Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia	In buffer area only

Commonwealth Land Name	State	Buffer Status
Commonwealth Land - Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia [16080]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia [12972]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia [12958]	NSW	In buffer area only
<b>Communications, Information Technology and the Arts - Australian Postal Corporation</b>		
Commonwealth Land - Australian Postal Commission [12964]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Australian Postal Commission [12993]	NSW	In buffer area only
<b>Communications, Information Technology and the Arts - Telstra Corporation Limited</b>		
Commonwealth Land - Australian & Overseas Telecommunications Corporation [12962]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Australian Telecommunications Commission [12965]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Australian Telecommunications Commission [12963]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Australian Telecommunications Commission [12953]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Australian Telecommunications Commission [12955]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Australian Telecommunications Commission [12954]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Australian Telecommunications Commission [12956]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Australian Telecommunications Commission [12973]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Telstra Corporation Limited [12957]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Telstra Corporation Limited [15957]	NSW	In buffer area only
<b>Defence</b>		
Commonwealth Land - Defence Service Homes Corporation [12968]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Service Homes Corporation [12969]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Service Homes Corporation [12967]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Service Homes Corporation [12966]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Service Homes Corporation [12970]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Service Homes Corporation [12971]	NSW	In buffer area only

Commonwealth Land Name	State	Buffer Status
Commonwealth Land - Defence Service Homes Corporation [12979]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Service Homes Corporation [12975]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Service Homes Corporation [12951]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Director of Defence Service Homes [12978]	NSW	In buffer area only
Defence - TAMWORTH GRES DEPOT ; BEERSHEBA BARRACKS-TAMWORTH [11202]	NSW	In buffer area only

Defence - Defence Housing Authority	State	Buffer Status
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [12960]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [16070]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [15429]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [16158]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [12977]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [12976]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [15427]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [15428]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [16100]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [16103]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [16101]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [16102]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [12959]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [16069]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Defence Housing Authority [12981]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Director of War Service Homes [12961]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Director of War Service Homes [12974]	NSW	In buffer area only

Commonwealth Heritage Places	[ Resource Information ]		
Name	State	Status	Buffer Status
Historic			
<a href="#">Tamworth Post Office</a>	NSW	Listed place	In buffer area only

Listed Marine Species	[ Resource Information ]
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Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<b>Bird</b>			
<u><a href="#">Actitis hypoleucus</a></u> Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Apus pacificus</a></u> Fork-tailed Swift [678]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Bubulcus ibis as Ardea ibis</a></u> Cattle Egret [66521]		Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Calidris acuminata</a></u> Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Calidris ferruginea</a></u> Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Calidris melanotos</a></u> Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Chalcites osculans as Chrysococcyx osculans</a></u> Black-eared Cuckoo [83425]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Gallinago hardwickii</a></u> Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Haliaeetus leucogaster</a></u> White-bellied Sea-Eagle [943]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Hirundapus caudacutus</a></u> White-throated Needletail [682]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<u><a href="#">Lathamus discolor</a></u>			
Swift Parrot [744]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Merops ornatus</a></u>			
Rainbow Bee-eater [670]		Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Motacilla flava</a></u>			
Yellow Wagtail [644]		Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Myiagra cyanoleuca</a></u>			
Satin Flycatcher [612]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Neophema chrysostoma</a></u>			
Blue-winged Parrot [726]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Pterodroma cervicalis</a></u>			
White-necked Petrel [59642]		Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Rhipidura rufifrons</a></u>			
Rufous Fantail [592]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Rostratula australis</a></u> as <u><a href="#">Rostratula benghalensis</a></u> ( <i>sensu lato</i> )			
Australian Painted Snipe [77037]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area

## Extra Information

EPBC Act Referrals	[ Resource Information ]			
Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status	Buffer Status

Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status	Buffer Status
<a href="#">Chaffey Dam Pipeline Project</a>	2022/09314		Completed	In buffer area only
<a href="#">Oaklands Estate Residential Development</a>	2025/10125		Referral Decision	In buffer area only
<b>Controlled action</b>				
<a href="#">Hills Plain subdivision</a>	2005/2432	Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
<a href="#">One Tree Hill Estate - Stage 13</a>	2003/1142	Controlled Action	Post-Approval	In feature area
<a href="#">Operation of Peel River Drought Protection Works</a>	2019/8590	Controlled Action	Post-Approval	In buffer area only
<a href="#">Rosewood Estate (Stage 3) Rural Residential Subdivision</a>	2013/7060	Controlled Action	Post-Approval	In buffer area only
<a href="#">Rural residential subdivision, Rosewood Estate, Moore Creek, NSW</a>	2013/6905	Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
<a href="#">Vegetation clearing for a residential subdivision</a>	2013/6812	Controlled Action	Post-Approval	In buffer area only
<b>Not controlled action</b>				
<a href="#">Dubbo - Tamworth Natural Gas Pipeline</a>	2000/32	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
<a href="#">Improving rabbit biocontrol: releasing another strain of RHDV, sthrn two thirds of Australia</a>	2015/7522	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In feature area
<a href="#">Replacement Pipeline between Dungowan Village and Calala</a>	2021/9091	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
<a href="#">Residential Development &amp; Assoc Infrastructure 31 &amp; 41 Panorama Road</a>	2005/2115	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In feature area
<a href="#">Residential Subdivision, Warramunga Avenue</a>	2005/2201	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In feature area
<b>Not controlled action (particular manner)</b>				
<a href="#">Aerial baiting for wild dog control</a>	2006/2713	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval	In feature area
<a href="#">Rural residential subdivision, Lots 172 and 180 DP753851 Barakula Drive, Moore Creek, NSW</a>	2016/7736	Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner)	Post-Approval	In buffer area only

# Caveat

## 1 PURPOSE

This report is designed to assist in identifying the location of matters of national environmental significance (MNES) and other matters protected by the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) which may be relevant in determining obligations and requirements under the EPBC Act.

The report contains the mapped locations of:

- World and National Heritage properties;
- Wetlands of International and National Importance;
- Commonwealth and State/Territory reserves;
- distribution of listed threatened, migratory and marine species;
- listed threatened ecological communities; and
- other information that may be useful as an indicator of potential habitat value.

## 2 DISCLAIMER

This report is not intended to be exhaustive and should only be relied upon as a general guide as mapped data is not available for all species or ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act (see below). Persons seeking to use the information contained in this report to inform the referral of a proposed action under the EPBC Act should consider the limitations noted below and whether additional information is required to determine the existence and location of MNES and other protected matters.

Where data is available to inform the mapping of protected species, the presence type (e.g. known, likely or may occur) that can be determined from the data is indicated in general terms. It is the responsibility of any person using or relying on the information in this report to ensure that it is suitable for the circumstances of any proposed use. The Commonwealth cannot accept responsibility for the consequences of any use of the report or any part thereof. To the maximum extent allowed under governing law, the Commonwealth will not be liable for any loss or damage that may be occasioned directly or indirectly through the use of, or reliance on the contents of this report.

## 3 DATA SOURCES

### Threatened ecological communities

For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are generated based on information contained in recovery plans, State vegetation maps and remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.

### Threatened, migratory and marine species

Threatened, migratory and marine species distributions have been discerned through a variety of methods. Where distributions are well known and if time permits, distributions are inferred from either thematic spatial data (i.e. vegetation, soils, geology, elevation, aspect, terrain, etc.) together with point locations and described habitat; or modelled (MAXENT or BIOCLIM habitat modelling) using point locations and environmental data layers.

Where little information is available for a species or large number of maps are required in a short time-frame, maps are derived either from 0.04 or 0.02 decimal degree cells; by an automated process using polygon capture techniques (static two kilometre grid cells, alpha-hull and convex hull); or captured manually or by using topographic features (national park boundaries, islands, etc.).

In the early stages of the distribution mapping process (1999-early 2000s) distributions were defined by degree blocks, 100K or 250K map sheets to rapidly create distribution maps. More detailed distribution mapping methods are used to update these distributions when time permits.

## 4 LIMITATIONS

The following species and ecological communities have not been mapped and do not appear in this report:

- threatened species listed as extinct or considered vagrants;
- some recently listed species and ecological communities;
- some listed migratory and listed marine species, which are not listed as threatened species; and
- migratory species that are very widespread, vagrant, or only occur in Australia in small numbers.

The following groups have been mapped, but may not cover the complete distribution of the species:

- listed migratory and/or listed marine seabirds, which are not listed as threatened, have only been mapped for recorded breeding sites; and
- seals which have only been mapped for breeding sites near the Australian continent

The breeding sites may be important for the protection of the Commonwealth Marine environment.

Refer to the metadata for the feature group (using the Resource Information link) for the currency of the information.

# Acknowledgements

This database has been compiled from a range of data sources. The department acknowledges the following custodians who have contributed valuable data and advice:

- [Office of Environment and Heritage, New South Wales](#)
- [Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Victoria](#)
- [Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tasmania](#)
- [Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, South Australia](#)
- [Department of Land and Resource Management, Northern Territory](#)
- [Department of Environmental and Heritage Protection, Queensland](#)
- [Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia](#)
- [Environment and Planning Directorate, ACT](#)
- [Birdlife Australia](#)
- [Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme](#)
- [Australian National Wildlife Collection](#)
- Natural history museums of Australia
- [Museum Victoria](#)
- [Australian Museum](#)
- [South Australian Museum](#)
- [Queensland Museum](#)
- [Online Zoological Collections of Australian Museums](#)
- [Queensland Herbarium](#)
- [National Herbarium of NSW](#)
- [Royal Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium of Victoria](#)
- [Tasmanian Herbarium](#)
- [State Herbarium of South Australia](#)
- [Northern Territory Herbarium](#)
- [Western Australian Herbarium](#)
- [Australian National Herbarium, Canberra](#)
- [University of New England](#)
- [Ocean Biogeographic Information System](#)
- [Australian Government, Department of Defence](#)
- [Forestry Corporation, NSW](#)
- [Geoscience Australia](#)
- [CSIRO](#)
- [Australian Tropical Herbarium, Cairns](#)
- [eBird Australia](#)
- [Australian Government – Australian Antarctic Data Centre](#)
- [Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory](#)
- [Australian Government National Environmental Science Program](#)
- [Australian Institute of Marine Science](#)
- [Reef Life Survey Australia](#)
- [American Museum of Natural History](#)
- [Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Inveresk, Tasmania](#)
- [Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania](#)
- Other groups and individuals

The Department is extremely grateful to the many organisations and individuals who provided expert advice and information on numerous draft distributions.

Please feel free to provide feedback via the [Contact us](#) page.

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## Appendix B

# Threatened Species Potential Occurrence Assessment

**Table B1 Threatened Flora Likelihood of Occurrence Criteria**

Likelihood	Criteria
<b>Known</b>	The species was observed in the subject site either during the current survey or during another survey less than one year prior.
<b>High</b>	<p>A species has a high likelihood of occurrence if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The subject site contains or forms part of a large area of high-quality suitable habitat that has not been subject to recent disturbance (e.g. fire), the species is known to form a persistent soil seedbank and the species has been recorded recently (within 10 years) in the locality.</li> <li>■ The species is a cryptic flowering species that has been recorded recently (within 10 years) in the locality and has a large area of high-quality potential habitat within the construction footprint that was not seasonally targeted by surveys.</li> </ul>
<b>Moderate</b>	<p>A species has a moderate likelihood of occurrence if:</p> <p>the species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ has a large area of high-quality suitable habitat in the subject site that has not been subject to recent disturbance (e.g. fire),</li> <li>■ the species is known to form a persistent soil seedbank, but</li> <li>■ the species has not been recorded recently (within 10 years) in the locality.</li> </ul> <p>the species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Has a small area of high-quality suitable habitat or a large area of marginal habitat in the subject site That has not been subject to recent disturbance (e.g. fire).</li> <li>■ The species is known to form a persistent soil seedbank.</li> <li>■ The species has been recorded recently (within 10 years) in the locality.</li> <li>■ The species is a cryptic flowering species, with a small area of high-quality potential habitat or a large area of marginal habitat within the activity footprint, that was not seasonally targeted by surveys.</li> </ul>
<b>Low</b>	<p>A species has a low likelihood of occurrence if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ It is not a cryptic species, nor a species known to have a persistent soil seedbank species and was not detected despite targeted searches.</li> <li>■ The species is a cryptic flowering species, with a small area of high-quality potential habitat or a large area of marginal habitat within the activity footprint, that was not seasonally targeted by surveys as the species has not been recorded within 50 years in the locality.</li> </ul>
<b>None</b>	Suitable habitat is absent from the subject site.

**Table B2 Threatened Flora Potential Occurrence**

Scientific Name	Common Name	BC Act	EPBC Act	Habitat Requirement	Suitability of Site Habitat	Potential Occurrence
<i>Acacia pubifolia</i>	Velvet Wattle	E	V	Rocky granite hillsides, in sandy, stony or loamy soil in eucalypt-scrub woodland or Eucalyptus-Callitris Forest, and shrubby woodland on granite (Hunter Catchment only).	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. No BioNet records within the locality. Test of Significance not required.
<i>Arthraxon hispidus</i>	Hairy Jointgrass	V	V	Moist shady places in or on the edges of rainforest and wet eucalypt forest, often near creeks or swamps.	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. No BioNet records within the locality. Test of Significance not required.
<i>Cadellia pentastylis</i>	Ooline	V	V	Forms a closed or open canopy mixing with eucalypt and cypress pine species. There appears to be a strong correlation between the presence of Ooline and low- to medium-nutrient soils of sandy clay or clayey consistencies, with a typical soil profile having a sandy loam surface layer, grading from a light clay to a medium clay with depth.	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. No BioNet records within the locality. Test of Significance not required.
<i>Callistemon pungens</i>		-	V	In or near rocky watercourses, usually in sandy creek beds on granite or sometimes on basalt.	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. No BioNet records within the locality. Test of Significance not required.
<i>Dichanthium setosum</i>	Bluegrass	V	V	In NSW, occurs on the New England Tablelands, Northwest Slopes and Plains and the Central Western Slopes of NSW, in moderately disturbed areas such as cleared woodland, grassy roadside remnants and highly disturbed pasture.	Known	<b>Species was found within the site and adjacent to the survey area. Test of Significance completed.</b>
<i>Eucalyptus nicholii</i>	Narrow-leaved Peppermint	V	V	Grassy or sclerophyllous woodland on shallow relatively infertile soils on shales and slates. Sparsely distributed but widespread on the New England Tablelands from Nundle to north of Tenterfield, being most common in central portions of its range.	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. Test of Significance not required.
<i>Euphrasia arguta</i>	-	CE	CE	Known from three sites in/near Nundle State Forest in eucalypt forest with a mixed grass and shrub	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. No BioNet records within the

Scientific Name	Common Name	BC Act	EPBC Act	Habitat Requirement	Suitability of Site Habitat	Potential Occurrence
				understorey. Habitat includes open forest country around Bathurst in subhumid places, grassy country near Bathurst and in meadows near rivers.		locality. Test of Significance not required.
<i>Homoranthus prolixus</i>	Granite Homoranthus	V	V	Occurs in woodland and heath on shallow sandy skeletal soil on and around granite or acid volcanic outcrops.	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. No BioNet records within the locality. Test of Significance not required.
<i>Lepidium monoplocoides</i>	Winged Peppercress	E	E	Occurs on seasonally moist to waterlogged sites, on heavy fertile soils, with a mean annual rainfall of around 300-500 mm. Predominant vegetation is usually an open woodland dominated by <i>Allocasuarina luehmannii</i> (Bullock) and/or eucalypts, particularly <i>Eucalyptus largiflorens</i> (Black Box) or <i>Eucalyptus populnea</i> (Poplar Box). The field layer of the surrounding woodland is dominated by tussock grasses.	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. No BioNet records within the locality. Test of Significance not required.
<i>Prasophyllum sp. Wybong</i>	-	-	CE	Known to occur in open eucalypt woodland and grassland	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. No BioNet records within the locality. Test of Significance not required.
<i>Swainsona murrayana</i>	Slender Darling-pea	V	V	The species has been collected from clay-based soils, ranging from grey, red and brown cracking clays to red-brown earths and loams. Grows in a variety of vegetation types including bladder saltbush, black box and grassland communities on level plains, floodplains and depressions and is often found with <i>Maireana</i> species. Plants have been found in remnant native grasslands or grassy woodlands that have been intermittently grazed or cultivated.	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. No BioNet records within the locality. Test of Significance not required.
<i>Syzygium paniculatum</i>	Magenta Lilly Pilly	E	V	Occurs in lowland and littoral rainforest.	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. Test of Significance not required.

Scientific Name	Common Name	BC Act	EPBC Act	Habitat Requirement	Suitability of Site Habitat	Potential Occurrence
<i>Thesium australe</i>	Austral Toadflax	V	V	Grassland or grassy eucalypt woodland where <i>Themeda australis</i> is predominant, on grassy headlands.	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. No BioNet records within the locality. Test of Significance not required.
<i>Tylophora linearis</i>		V	E	<i>Tylophora linearis</i> grows in dense shrublands occasionally overtopped by <i>Callitris glauophylla</i> and various species of Eucalyptus. Not previously recorded in Northern Rivers CMA area.	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. No BioNet records within the locality. Test of Significance not required.
<i>Lepidium aschersonii</i>	Spiny Peppercress	V	V	Found on ridges of gilgai clays dominated by Brigalow ( <i>Acacia harpophylla</i> ), Belah ( <i>Casuarina cristata</i> ), Buloke ( <i>Allocasuarina luehmannii</i> ) and Grey Box ( <i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i> ). The species grows as a component of the ground flora, in grey loamy clays. Vegetation structure varies from open to dense, with sparse grassy understorey and occasional heavy litter.	Low	Species was not recorded during field surveys. No BioNet records within the locality. Test of Significance not required.

V = Vulnerable, E = Endangered, CE = Critically Endangered



## Appendix C

### Assessments of Significance



## Assessment of Significance for Threatened Flora

An assessment of significance ('five-part tests') under Section 7.3 of the BC Act has been completed for the following threatened species with potential to occur and be impacted at the site.

**The following is to be taken into account for the purposes of determining whether a proposed development or Activity is likely to significantly affect threatened species or ecological communities, or their habitats:**

**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,**

### Bluegrass (*Dichanthium setosum*)

Bluegrass is an upright grass that grows to less than one metre. It is associated with heavy basaltic black soils and red-brown loams and clay subsoil. It is locally common or found as scattered clumps in broader populations in moderately disturbed areas such as cleared woodland, grassy roadside remnants, and highly disturbed pasture. Bluegrass flowers mostly in summer.

Threatening processes for this species include:

- Heavy grazing by domestic stock.
- Clearing of habitat for pasture improvement and cropping.
- Frequent fires, especially regular burning for agricultural purposes.
- Invasion by introduced grasses such as Coolatai and African Lovegrass and Phalaris, as well as ox-eye daisy.
- Road widening.
- Potential for inappropriate slashing regimes to interrupt reproduction.
- Due to the species low numbers, restricted distribution and recruitment/ germination issues, there is a significantly increased extinction risk.

### *Potential Impacts of the Activity*

The Activity would result in the direct loss up to 1.74 ha of high condition PCT 3521 and up to 0.24 ha of low condition PCT 3521 (derived grassland), and disturb (including tree trimming and LV Cable walkthrough) up to 0.09 ha of high condition PCT 3521 and 0.03 ha of low condition PCT 3521 (derived grassland) that is known and potential habitat for Bluegrass, including the removal of up to including 88.70 m<sup>2</sup> (with an upper limit of 90m<sup>2</sup>) of mapped Bluegrass records. Approximately 1,113 individuals were discovered on site, with approximately 990 individuals found along the disturbed road edge of Scenic Road, approximately 123 individuals in total found within high quality PCT 3521, 43 north west of Oxley Scenic Lookout and 80 north of Endeavour Drive.

Alternative habitat is available of similar or better quality adjacent to the site and within the broader locality that would not be directly impacted by the Activity. Habitat for this species in a local context would not be significantly affected by the works. The Activity would not significantly contribute to risk of competition by weeds with the implementation of safeguards such as 'arrive clean, leave clean', which would reduce the risk of weed material or plant pathogens introduced to the site.

It is considered unlikely that an adverse effect on the distribution of Bluegrass would occur such that a viable local population of the species is likely to be placed at risk of extinction.

**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***
- (ii) ***is likely to substantially and adversely modify the composition of the ecological community such that its local occurrence is likely to be placed at risk of extinction,***

Not applicable - No threatened ecological communities occur at the site.

**c) *in relation to the habitat of a threatened species 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***

The Activity would result in the direct loss up to 1.74 ha of high condition PCT 3521 and up to 0.24 ha of low condition PCT 3521 (derived grassland), and disturb (including tree trimming and LV Cable walkthrough) up to 0.09 ha of high condition PCT 3521 and 0.03 ha of low condition PCT 3521 (derived grassland) in the survey area, that is known and potential habitat for Bluegrass, including 88.70 m<sup>2</sup> (with an upper limit of 90 m<sup>2</sup>) of mapped Bluegrass records.

- (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***

Habitat at the site would not become isolated or significantly fragmented from other areas of habitat such that it would restrict the movement and dispersal of flora and fauna. In addition, the Activity would not significantly affect the potential for cross-pollination to occur between individuals of Bluegrass. Considering the above, no significant fragmentation or isolation of habitat for Bluegrass is likely.

- (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 affected is in both low and high condition. Bluegrass was recorded at the site along the disturbed road edge of Scenic Road and within PCT 3521 north west of Oxley Scenic Lookout and north of Endeavour Drive. Bluegrass is known to occur from a broad distribution from the Victorian to Queensland boarders and predominantly throughout the western slopes. Given the relatively minor area (1.74 ha) of disturbance to habitat, including the minor area (88.70 m<sup>2</sup>, with an upper limit of 90 m<sup>2</sup>) of disturbance to mapped records, for these entities, and the availability of similar or better-quality habitat within the broader locality; the Activity is unlikely to significantly affect the long-term survival of Bluegrass.

- 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),***

No areas of outstanding biodiversity value have been declared in Tamworth LGA.

- 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.***

A key threatening process (KTP) is a process that threatens, or may have the capability to threaten, the survival or evolutionary development of species or ecological communities. The proposed Activity is consistent with the following KTPs:

- Anthropogenic Climate Change: through the generation of carbon dioxide during operation of machinery and vehicles and associated fuel consumption however the impact is not considered significant.
- Clearing of native vegetation: The Activity would remove up to:
  - 0.03 ha of high condition PCT 3521 – Northwest White Box Woodland for the car park.



- 0.24 ha of poor condition PCT 3521 (derived grassland) for the car park.
- 0.03 ha of mowed and maintained grassland for the overhead power poles.

Considering the presence of similar or better-quality habitat within and adjacent to the site, contributions to this KTP are considered low.

- Loss of hollow-bearing trees: The Activity would result in the removal of up to one hollow-bearing tree. Considering the presence of other hollow-bearing trees within and adjacent to the site, contributions to this KTP are considered low.
- Removal of dead wood and dead trees: Removal would be limited to the proposed works extent and constitute a minor impact, as such contributions to this KTP are considered low.

The Activity is such that no other KTPs are considered likely to be substantially contributed to, especially with effective implementation of the mitigation measures in this report.

Overall, the degree that the Activity would contribute to any threatening process is not considered likely to place the local population of the subject species at significant risk of extinction.

### **Conclusion**

It is considered unlikely that the local population of Bluegrass would be significantly impacted by the Activity.



## EPBC Act Assessments of Significance

For threatened biodiversity listed under the EPBC Act, significance assessments have been completed in accordance with the EPBC Act Policy Statement 1.1 Significant Impact Guidelines (Department of the Environment 2013). These significance assessments have been prepared for the following threatened entities:

### Flora

- Bluegrass listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC Act.

## Significant Impact Assessment - Vulnerable species listed under the EPBC Act

**Significant impact criteria:** *An action is likely to have a significant impact on a vulnerable species if there is a real chance or possibility that it will:*

- *lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population,*
- *reduce the area of occupancy of an important population,*
- *fragment an existing population into two or more populations,*
- *adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species,*
- *disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population,*
- *modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline,*
- *result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat,*
- *introduce disease that may cause the species to decline, or*
- *interfere with the recovery of the species.*

Definitions: An 'important population' is a population that is necessary for a species' long-term survival and recovery. This may include populations identified as such in recovery plans, and/or that are:

- *key source populations either for breeding or dispersal,*
- *populations that are necessary for maintaining genetic diversity, and/ or,*
- *populations that are near the limit of the species range.*

An assessment has been completed for one vulnerable species, Bluegrass.

### Bluegrass

Based on the definition above, Bluegrass within the Activity area does not form part of an 'important population' as they:

- Have been reported to occur in inland NSW, Queensland, Western Australia, and Tasmania. In NSW it occurs on the New England Tablelands, North-West Slopes and Plains and the Central Western Slopes of NSW, extending west to Narrabri. It occurs widely on private property, throughout Inverell, Guyra, Armidale, and Glen Innes. There are large populations in the Saumarez area, west of Armidale, east of Guyra and Somerton Road Travelling Stock Route.
- Due to the species' geographic range and high occurrence within the New England Tablelands, plants within the locality would be unlikely to be necessary for maintaining genetic diversity.
- The Activity area and the surrounding locality are not at the extent of the species' distributional limits.



Bluegrass is not considered to meet the definition of an 'important population' as it is unlikely to be a key source population, important for maintaining genetic diversity or is at the limit of its species range. For this reason, not all questions below are considered below.

**An action is likely to have a significant impact on a critically endangered or endangered ecological community if there is a real chance or possibility that it will:**

**■ Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population**

Not applicable for species not a part of an important population (as mentioned above).

**■ Reduce the area of occupancy of an important population**

Not applicable for species not a part of an important population (as mentioned above).

**■ Fragment an existing important population into two or more populations**

Not applicable for species not a part of an important population (as mentioned above).

**■ Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species**

The Activity would result in the direct loss up to 1.74 ha of high condition PCT 3521 and up to 0.24 ha of low condition PCT 3521 (derived grassland), and disturb (including tree trimming and LV Cable walkthrough) up to 0.09 ha of high condition PCT 3521 and 0.03 ha of low condition PCT 3521 (derived grassland) that is known and potential habitat for Bluegrass, including 88.70 m<sup>2</sup> (with an upper limit of 90 m<sup>2</sup>) of mapped Bluegrass records. This is a minor impact given the extent of alternative habitat available of similar or better-quality habitat adjacent to the site and within the broader locality that would not be directly impacted. It is unlikely that the proposed works would adversely affect habitat which would compromise the survival of any of the mentioned species.

**■ Disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population**

Not applicable for species not a part of an important population (as mentioned above).

**■ Modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline**

The Activity would result in the direct loss up to 1.74 ha of high condition PCT 3521 and up to 0.24 ha of low condition PCT 3521 (derived grassland), and disturb (including tree trimming and LV Cable walkthrough) up to 0.09 ha of high condition PCT 3521 and 0.03 ha of low condition PCT 3521 (derived grassland) that is known and potential habitat for Bluegrass, including 88.70 m<sup>2</sup> (with an upper limit of 90 m<sup>2</sup>) of mapped Bluegrass records. Given the extent of alternative habitat available of similar or better-quality habitat adjacent to the site and within the broader locality that would not be directly impacted it is unlikely that the disturbance of habitat would result in a significant impact to the habitat of Bluegrass that it would result in the decline of the species population.

**■ Result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat**

The risk of any invasive species (weeds, pests, or pathogens) affecting habitat for threatened flora is relatively low and would be mitigated by the various biosecurity strategies and mitigation measures prescribed. It is unlikely that the Activity would result in the exacerbation of invasive species than would already exists within the locality.

**■ Introduce disease that may cause the species to decline, or**



The Activity would be unlikely to introduce any disease associated with mentioned threatened flora that may cause the species to decline.

- **Interfere with the recovery of the species.**

In relation to threatened flora, the Activity would be unlikely to interfere with the recovery of the species due to low impacts within substantial areas of high-quality habitat within the surrounding locality.

### **Conclusion**

Overall due to the relatively low extent and magnitude of impacts associated with the Activity, it is unlikely that the proposed Activity would result in a significant impact to threatened Bluegrass.



## Appendix D

### VIA Addendum

# Addendum Visual Impact Assessment (carpark and electrical)

Tamworth Regional Skywalk



**Quality solutions. Sustainable future.**



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# Executive Summary

A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) for the Tamworth Regional Skywalk was completed as a specialist report for the Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the same project. The Activity involves the construction of a skywalk connecting a new car park on Endeavour Drive to the Oxley Scenic Lookout in Tamworth, NSW. The REF was endorsed by Tamworth Regional Council on 30 July 2024.

An Addendum VIA was subsequently prepared as part of an Addendum REF for the skywalk alignment refinement and additional ancillary areas, to accommodate a temporary crane pad and areas for vehicle movements. The Addendum REF was endorsed by Tamworth Regional Council on 30 May 2025.

Since approval of the REF and Addendum REF, additional car parking and electrical works have been proposed for inclusion in the construction works.

Assessment of the amended Activity area and the vegetation proposed to be removed was not included in the assessment under the endorsed REF and Addendum REF; therefore, requiring preparation of this Addendum VIA to assess the refined footprint and additional area.

This Addendum VIA specifically addresses any variations to the visual impact assessment associated with the amendment of the Activity. This Addendum VIA should be read in conjunction with the endorsed REF, associated VIA, the Addendum REF, and any preceding addendums.

Overall, the visual impact assessment indicates that the additional car parking and electrical works would cause no significant detriment to visual amenity, whether viewed from the public or private realm. The Activity is reasonable and acceptable from a visual impact perspective, and no additional recommendations have been proposed.

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background and Activity Identification

A Visual Impact Assessment (VIA), which was associated with a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the Tamworth Regional Skywalk, was prepared by GeoLINK Pty Ltd for Tamworth Regional Council (TRC) and endorsed on 30 July 2024.

The approved Activity described in the VIA was for the construction of a skywalk from the beginning of Endeavour Drive to Oxley Scenic Lookout. The approved Activity consisted of a combination of boardwalks, viewing platforms, and elevated walkways. Designated on street car parking was also approved to be constructed near the start of Endeavour Drive at the base of the hill.

An Addendum VIA was prepared for the project and endorsed as part of a subsequent Addendum REF on 30 May 2025 by Council. The addendum captured additional potential impacts resulting from a refined location of the skywalk pathway and additional ancillary areas for a crane pad and for facilitating vehicle movements and access. The approved Activity currently consists of the combined works described in the determined REF and Addendum REF.

This Addendum VIA is required to assess the potential impacts resulting from the addition of car parking on the northern side of Endeavour Drive and the inclusion of electrical works that require the preparation of another Addendum REF for the Activity. The electrical works include an overhead powerline across Long Gully, connecting the car park and an existing substation, and rerouting overhead powerlines to underground at the new bridge crossing. The upgrading of the substation to support the additional electrical load for the Long Gully line is also included in this scope. The additional impacts were not included in the VIA associated with the determined REF or the Addendum VIA associated with the determined Addendum REF and therefore, need to be addressed in this Addendum VIA to accompany a new Addendum REF.

This Addendum VIA has been prepared on behalf of TRC to inform the Addendum REF of the proposed car park and electrical works. This Addendum VIA will assess and determine if there are any changes to the visual impacts that were identified within the approved VIA (dated 23 July 2024) associated with the determined REF dated 24 July 2024 or the Addendum VIA (dated 28 May 2025) associated with the Addendum REF (29 May 2025).

## 1.2 Purpose of the Addendum VIA

The purpose of this Addendum VIA is to describe the amended Activity, assess the likely altered visual impacts of the amended Activity and detail any changes to the safeguards to be implemented to mitigate impacts.

This Addendum VIA only addresses the changes to the approved Activity. For an understanding of the entire Activity, this Addendum VIA should be read in conjunction with the VIA associated with the approved REF and the subsequent addendum.

The description of the amended Activity and associated altered visual impacts have been undertaken using the same methodology outlined in the VIA dated 23 July 2024, which was developed from consideration of the following key documents:

- Environmental Impact Assessment Practice Note, Guideline for Landscape Character and Visual Impact Assessment (EIA-N04), Centre for Urban Design, Transport for NSW (2020).
- Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (2013).

- Visual Landscape Planning in Western Australia, A Manual for Evaluation, Assessment, Siting and Design, Western Australia Planning Commission (2007).
- The planning principles/ assessment steps established from the Land and Environment Court Case *Tenacity Consulting v Warringah Council (2004) NSW LEC 140* relating to view loss, including:
  - **Step One:** An assessment of the value of views to be affected by reference to their nature, extent, and completeness.
  - **Step Two:** A consideration of how views are obtained and from what part of the property the views are obtained.
  - **Step Three:** A qualitative assessment of the extent of the impact in terms of severity, particularly as to whether that impact is negligible, minor, moderate, severe, or significant.
  - **Step Four:** An assessment of the reasonableness of the Proposal causing the impact, particularly in terms of compliance with applicable planning controls and whether a different or complying design may produce a better result.

The visual assessment scale used in the methodology has been reproduced here in **Table 1.1** for ease of reference.

**Table 1.1 Visual Assessment Scale**

Scale	Value	Visual quality	Visual sensitivity (impact)
0	<b>Negligible</b>	N/A	No negative impact on the pre-existing visual quality of the view.
1	Low	Predominant presence of low-quality manmade features. Minimal views of natural formations (e.g., cliffs, mountains, coastlines, waterways, ridges etc). Uniformity of landform.	A minor negative impact on the pre-existing visual quality of the view. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Minor impacts on natural landscapes.</li><li>- No impact on iconic views.</li><li>- Impacts on a small number of receivers.</li><li>- Significant distance between the development and receiver.</li></ul>
2			
3			
4			
5			
6	Medium	Presence of some natural features mixed with manmade features. Some views of distinct natural formations (e.g., cliffs, mountains, coastlines, waterways, ridges etc).	A medium negative impact on the pre-existing visual quality of the view. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Moderate impacts on iconic views or natural landscapes.</li><li>- Impacts on a moderate number of receivers.</li><li>- Located nearby the receiver.</li></ul>
7			
8			
9			
10			
11	High	Predominantly natural features. Minimal manmade features, however, if present of a high architectural standard. Significant views of distinct natural formations (e.g., cliffs, mountains, coastlines, waterways, ridges etc). Presence of iconic regional views or landmark features.	A high negative impact on the pre-existing visual quality of a view: Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Loss of iconic views.</li><li>- Impacts on a significant number of receivers.</li><li>- Overshadowing effect and visual bulk.</li><li>- Directly adjacent or proximal to the receiver.</li></ul>
12			
13			
14			
15			

## 2. Proposed Amended Activity

### 2.1 Approved Activity Description

The approved Activity was described as the construction of a 1.64 km long skywalk and associated carpark, commencing near the north-western corner of Lot 7300 DP 1152789 and Lot 1 DP 1108482 and zigzagging in a south-eastern direction up to Oxley Scenic Lookout. The skywalk would consist of a combination of boardwalk, viewing platforms, and an elevated walkway.

An addendum to the Activity described the updated Activity as including a crane pad and additional areas for vehicle access required for construction.

### 2.2 Site Location

The approved Activity site is located at the base of Endeavour Drive and zig-zags through the natural landscape up to Oxley Scenic Lookout. The site is located approximately 1.8 km north-east of Tamworth town centre. Refer to **Illustration 2.1** for the site locality.

The amended Activity is within Lot 7300 DP 1152789 and Lot 1 DP 1108482 described in the determined REF. The addition of car parking on the northern side of Endeavour Drive results in an expanded clearing impact footprint. The overhead powerline would travel across Long Gully, and the power poles would be situated in the grassy area for the carpark and the maintained lawn adjacent to the road and carpark next to the Tamworth Men's Shed. The powerlines to be relocated from overhead to underground are along Scenic Drive. The additions to the construction scope result in an increased Activity footprint.

The approved VIA and Addendum VIA extent of works boundary and the amended Activity area are provided in **Illustration 2.2**.

### 2.3 Amended Activity Description and Need

Post determination of the REF and Addendum REF, including the associated VIA and Addendum VIA, car parking was added to the design to be located on the northern side of Endeavour Drive, close to where the original car parking was designated. An electrical connection has also been added to connect the project to the existing substation located adjacent to the Tamworth Men's Shed. A pole would be placed on either side of Long Gully, one close to the new car parking and the other close to the existing substation, and the powerline would be strung between the two. As part of the connection, the main switchboard and substation would be upgraded to allow for the additional load. To accommodate the bridge crossing across Scenic Drive, overhead powerlines are to be rerouted underground along Scenic Drive. Refer to **Illustration 2.2** for the endorsed extent of the works boundary and the amended Activity areas.

The car park works will require the removal of one hollow-bearing tree, direct removal of up to 0.03 ha of high condition PCT 3521 – Northwest White Box Woodland and up to 0.24 ha of poor condition PCT 3521 derived grassland. The electrical works at Long Gully will include disturbance of up to 0.09 ha of high condition PCT 3521 – Northwest White Box Woodland and up to 0.03 ha of poor condition PCT 3521 derived grassland for the overhead lines. The overhead power poles will require direct removal of up to 0.03ha of mowed and maintained grassland. The high condition PCT 3521 – Northwest White Box Woodland comprises known Bluegrass habitat and the poor condition PCT 3521 derived grassland comprises potential Bluegrass habitat.



As the endorsed design did not include the changes mentioned above, portions of the updated construction footprint lie outside of the approved Activity extent of works boundary. Therefore, the changed and added areas of the construction footprint have not been previously assessed and need to be accounted for in the addendum. This Addendum VIA only describes and assesses the proposed modifications, being the additions, amended Activity area, and clearing impacts. The addendum should be read in conjunction with the VIA associated with the endorsed REF and the Addendum VIA associated with the endorsed Addendum REF.

## 2.4 Construction Activities

The amended Activity for the car parking would require the same construction methodology and hours as described in the endorsed REF. Section 2.3 of the approved REF describes the approved Activity in more detail.

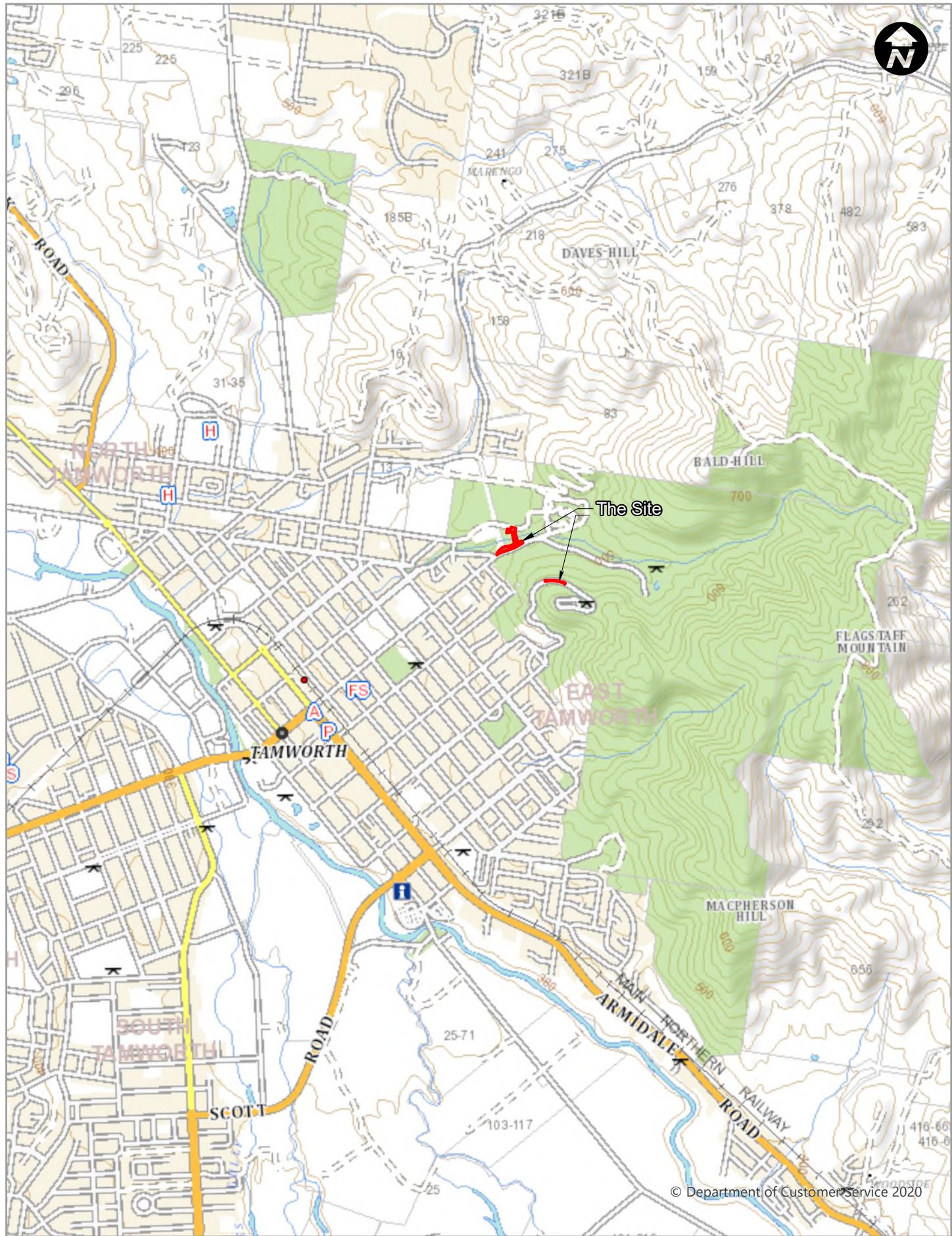
The amended Activity for the overhead powerline across Long Gully would include the following construction methodology:

- Auger/ Drill pole holes in cleared area on north side of gully beside pad mount substation board and south side of the gully south of vegetated area in the cleared space north of the carpark.
- Install timber poles.
- Walk out LV cable across gully.
- Affix LV cable to pole and tension to required amount to achieve design sag in LV line across gully.
- Trench cable from poles to pad mount substation connection on the north side and Skywalk main switchboard connection point on the south side.
- Trim any existing vegetation to maintain any clearances as required by AS3000 (private service) with assistance from TRC Enviro/ TRC Greening Coordinator/arborist contractor as required.

Ongoing operational requirements for the powerline would be maintaining the vegetation clearance requirements for the cable, which would be the same as the clearances during construction. This would be undertaken by a licensed contractor with assistance from TRC Enviro/TRC Greening Coordinator/ arborist contractor as required.

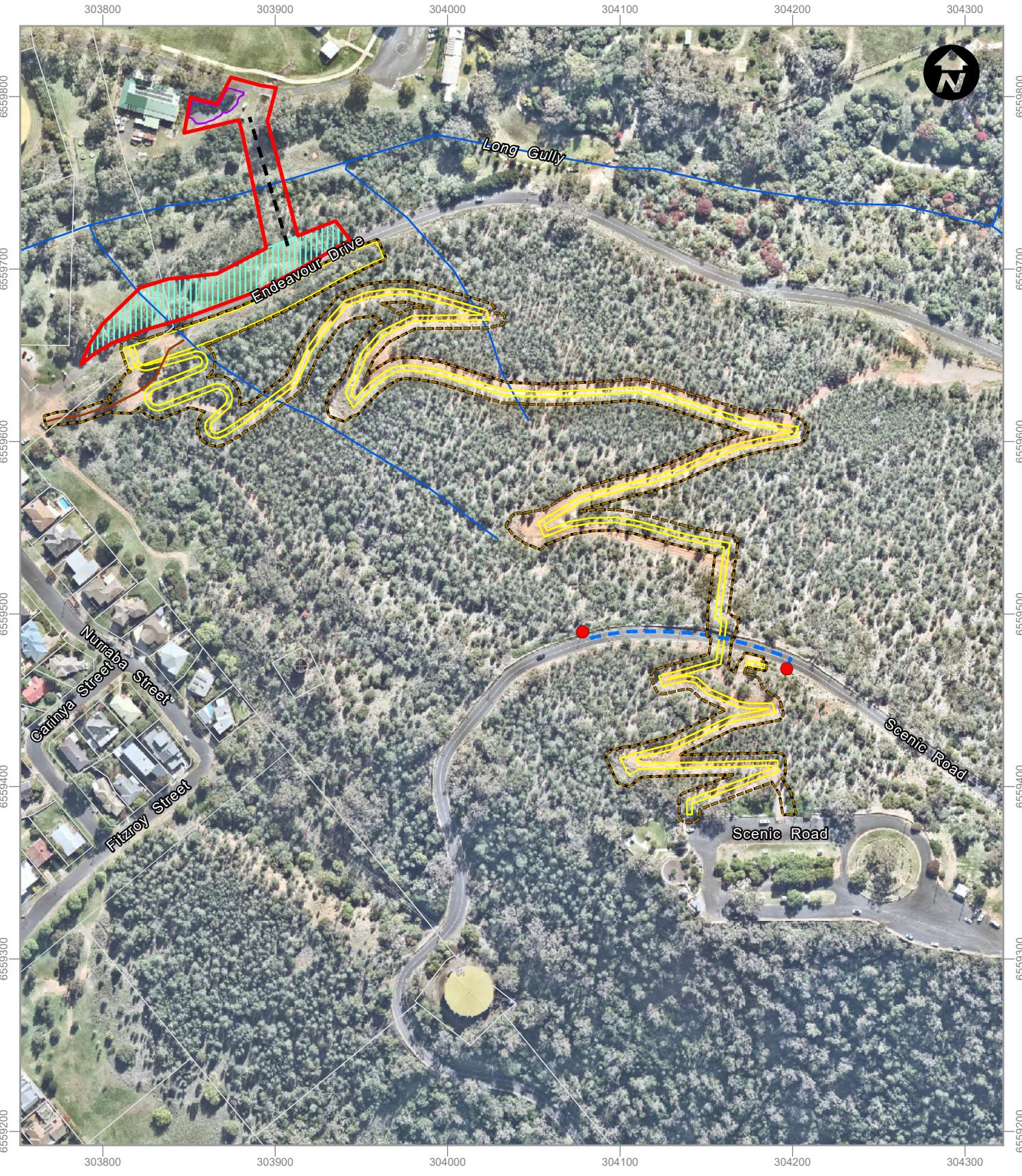
The rerouted powerlines along Scenic Drive would include the following works:

- Removing three existing power poles.
- Replace the two outer poles and restring to existing overhead conductors to either side.
- Trench between poles in the middle of the uphill travel lane for underground relocation of conductors.



0 600 Metres

## Site Locality - Illustration 2.1



#### LEGEND

- The site
- Cadastre
- Proposed carpark
- Cleared carpark
- Impact area
- Determined skywalk footprint
- Scenic Drive electrical works
- Endeavour Drive electrical works
- Vehicle access track
- Watercourse

- Existing poles



## 3. Visual Impact Assessment

### 3.1 Site Context

The wider site context remains as described in Section 4.1 of the VIA dated 23 July 2024.

### 3.2 Site Analysis

The site analysis remains as described in Section 4.2 of the VIA dated 23 July 2024.

The amended Activity area of the car parking and the overhead powerline is located on the northern side of Endeavour Drive. The car parking would be located within a previously cleared area that is periodically maintained, undergoing mowing. Long Gully runs parallel to Endeavour Drive at the Activity site, consisting of similar vegetation to the surrounding areas. On the opposite side of Long Gully is the Tamworth Men's Shed, which includes a building and car parking. The substation is adjacent to the car park in a maintained, cleared area.

The amended Activity area of the underground powerlines along Scenic Drive remains as described in the VIA dated 23 July 2024.

The amended Activity area does not extend into any additional lots.

### 3.3 The Visual Setting and Landscape Context

The visual setting and landscape context for Scenic Drive remains as described in Section 3.3 of the Addendum VIA dated 28 May 2025. The Activity would be within the existing road reserve.

The additional car parking and the overhead powerline would be within the vicinity of the previously described and assessed area of the Endeavour Drive entrance; therefore, the visual setting and landscape context related to the car parking remain as described in Section 4.3 of the VIA dated 23 July 2024. The additional car parking would be located immediately opposite the previously described parking. A large portion of the area is relatively level, with the ground sloping down towards the drainage lines (refer to **Plate 3.1**).



**Plate 3.1 View of proposed car parking on northern side of Endeavour Drive (source: Google Maps)**

The overhead powerline would be positioned so it traverses over and between the vegetation while passing to the other side of Long Gully to avoid the need to remove vegetation and reduce the need for tree trimming. The buildings and substation on the opposite side of Long Gully can be seen from Endeavour Drive and the proposed car park (refer to **Plate 3.2**).



**Plate 3.2 View showing buildings and substation in distance across Long Gully (source: Google Maps)**

As noted in the VIA dated 23 July 2024, the overall quality of the local visual environment in which the proposed skywalk and car park would be located (at the forested/ urban interface) is varied, and comprises both low, medium and high-quality views given the mix of urban and natural features generally present in view frames. The overall visual catchment is considered to be of value to both the local community and individual visual receivers.



## 3.4 Viewpoints/ VSR Impact Assessment

The viewpoints assessed under Section 4.4 of the VIA dated 23 July 2024 and of the Addendum VIA dated 28 May 2025 remain valid.

As the additional construction work on Scenic Road for relocating the powerlines underground is adjacent to works within the determined Activity, this location does not add any significant changes to the visual impacts of the construction. Post construction, the visual change is anticipated to be minimal as the powerlines would be under the road and not visible, with the only visible change relating to the removal of one power pole and the powerlines strung between the three poles. This is considered to be an improvement in the visual landscape as the lines will be removed from the visual environment.

The following subsection assesses the potential visual impacts of the Activity at the publicly accessible viewpoints at the start of Endeavour Drive related to the additional car parking and the overhead powerline. This subsection is to be read in conjunction with the Section 4.4 subsections of the VIA dated 23 July 2024 and Section 3.4 subsection of the Addendum VIA dated 28 May 2025.

### 3.4.1 Viewpoint 32: Northern Side of Endeavour Drive at Entrance

#### 3.4.1.1 Visual Quality

Brisbane Street is located to the north west of the Activity site and becomes Endeavour Drive just past the intersection with Bourke Street on the fringe of the Tamworth urban area and at the edge of the reserve. Endeavour Drive terminates at the Tamworth Marsupial Park. The location of the proposed additional car park is on the northern side of Endeavour Drive in a previously cleared area within the Reserve. There are a few scattered trees within the clearing (refer to **Plate 3.1**) and the site has a flat area that then slopes down towards the unnamed tributaries of Long Gully. Long Gully is located to the north of the proposed car park, which has a vegetated riparian corridor. At the point where the overhead powerline is proposed to cross, the vegetation is naturally low and characterised by shrubs and bushes as opposed to mature trees, and this, coupled with the topography, provides sightlines across the Gully from Endeavour Drive. Buildings and infrastructure on the opposite side of Long Gully can be seen through the vegetation from the proposed car parking area (refer to **Plate 3.2**). The overall quality of the view is conserved **medium (scale 10)** per **Table 1.1**.

#### 3.4.1.2 Visual Sensitivity

Viewpoint 32 is located on the northern side of Endeavour Drive shortly past the junction with Brisbane Street. The car parking and overhead powerline site is located across the road from the car parking included in the endorsed REF and VIA, resulting in car parking on both sides of Endeavour Drive, however, utilising existing clearings and clustering the car parking. The overhead powerline installation location has been proposed to take advantage of the space between the trees that traverse Long Gully to minimise potential tree trimming. Vehicles and machinery constructing the car park and the overhead powerline will be visible from the road and nearby residential properties. As per the previously determined REF and associated VIA, vehicles, machinery, and construction of the Skywalk would be visible from these viewpoints for works at Endeavour Drive immediately past the entrance arch. The visual impacts during the operation of the Skywalk would be as described for the southern side car parking.

Visual sensitivity impact at this locality is considered **low (scale 3)** per **Table 1.1**. The view quality post development would likely only be minorly reduced at the car parking area and remain at about **medium (scale 8)** per **Table 1.1**.

# 4. Visual Impact Summary, Conclusion and Management Measures

A summary of the additional potential impacts of the Activity on the assessed view frames experienced by key accessible viewpoints is provided in **Table 4.1**.

**Table 4.1 Summary of additional key viewpoints**

Viewpoint Location and corresponding photo number	Proximity	Current View Frame Quality	Visual Sensitivity Impact	View Frame Quality with Proposal
Viewpoint 32: Northern Side of Endeavour Drive at Entrance	Distance to Oxley Scenic Lookout: ~ 480 m. Distance to proposed car park: NA.	Medium (scale 10)	Low (scale 3)	Medium (scale 8)

As the endorsed Activity included car parking close to the entrance of Endeavour Drive, it is not expected that the amended Activity and resulting built elements would result in a significant change to the visual aspects assessed at the Endeavour Drive entrance. Some vegetation clearing would result from the installation of the car park, being predominantly grass cover and one tree. Minimal tree trimming is anticipated for the overhead powerlines across Long Gully.

The relocation of the overhead powerlines to underground is anticipated to result in a negligible visual impact as the works would be within the existing road reserve and in the vicinity of the new skywalk bridge.

Overall, the visual impact assessment indicates that the additional car parking and electrical works would cause no significant detriment to visual amenity, whether viewed from the public or private realm. The proposed amendments are reasonable and acceptable from a visual impact perspective.

## 4.1 Visual Impact Management Measures

The measures previously recommended by the VIA as part of the endorsed REF and the Addendum VIA as part of the endorsed Addendum REF, and those included in the Addendum REF and Addendum BAR accompanying this Addendum VIA are considered sufficient to ensure the Activity's potential visual impacts are minimised as far as practical and visual amenity of the site is reasonably managed.



## References

*Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment* (2013), The Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, Taylor & Francis.

NSW Planning Industry & Environment (2022). Soil landscapes from eSpade [Online]. Available: <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/eSpade2WebApp> [Accessed September 2022].

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## Appendix E

### Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Addendum letter



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28 May 2025

**TH016- TRC Oxley Skywalk**

Ms Bronwyn Brennan  
Tamworth Regional Council  
<B.Brennan@tamworth.nsw.gov.au>

Dear Bronwyn

**ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE - ADDENDUM  
OXLEY SKYWALK ANCILLARY WORK AREA, ENDEAVOUR DRIVE, EAST TAMWORTH**

Please find below additional advice relating to the Aboriginal cultural heritage investigation and approval requirements for the revised ancillary site and construction access at Endeavor Drive, East Tamworth, NSW (the Study Area) (see **Figure 1**). It is understood that:

- the Oxley Skywalk project has been determined under Part 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (1979)* (NSW) by Tamworth Regional Council (TRC)
- the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (Version 2C issued September 2024) concluded that the carpark and skywalk would not likely impact on Aboriginal archaeological sites and the project was permissible under the Due Diligence approval pathway (Section 87(2) of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974)* (NSW) (NPW Act)
- the ACHAR included the following project controls:
  - i. Recommendation 1- an unexpected finds procedure across the entire project,
  - ii. Recommendation 2- site monitoring during 'early works and vegetation clearing' in the vicinity of Endeavor Drive, inclusive of the proposed new ancillary work area, and
  - iii. Recommendation 3- a Aboriginal human remains finds procedure
- the carpark area north of Endeavour Drive was noted as having been previously disturbed and was the preferred location of ancillary work areas and the permanent carpark area- the area of fill north of the road was not identified as requiring further assessment (see **Figure 2** for updated car park plan)
- the assessment for the project included archaeological test excavations across the lower slopes south of Endeavour Drive with the Walaaybaa Ranger Program / Tamworth LALC on 3 September 2024 with the following Aboriginal Rangers:
  - i. Karwin Knox
  - ii. Zac Spreadborough, and
  - iii. Hank Flett

- the following describes the outcomes of the archaeological test excavations near Endeavour Drive (see **Figure 3** for locations of test pits):
  - i. no Aboriginal objects/ stone artefacts were identified during the excavation- this is consistent with the findings of the pedestrian survey
  - ii. based on the observations of soils during the excavation east of the gully (test pits 6-9) is relatively intact and comprises an eroding/ deflating hillslope- the proposed excavation of the hillslope south of the road batter will not likely impact on Aboriginal objects
  - iii. the hillslope west of the gully (test pits 1-5) have been subject to a degree of ground disturbance which is consistent with the stockpiling and excavation of soil material from the road reserve- the proposed western carpark and the start/ finish of the walk are located in an area which has visible ground disturbance
  - iv. the previous site surveys in Victoria Park have demonstrated a relatively consistent pattern of archaeological sites whereby stone artefact scatters are associated with outcrops of metamorphic rock and relatively obvious on erosion scours / outcrops of stone on the hillslope- the location of the Study Area to the west of the main gully may account for the absence of stone artefacts if the source of metamorphic rocks suitable for knapping is located in the eroding gully head, and
  - v. based on the depth of the soils and the nature of the clays it is not considered likely that organic material would survive on the hillslope- the soil profile is highly erodible and lighter materials such as charcoal, bone and plant material would likely wash off the hill down into the gully.
- the revised ancillary work area is not within the immediate proximity of a previously recorded Aboriginal archaeological site, being the Garawul Gurar 6 (#29-2-0147) stone artefact scatter (see **Figure 4**) which was recorded by 'Wilson & McAdam' in June 2000 (**Figure 5**)- the following description of the Garawul Gurar 6 site is provided to locate the site (see also the site photo showing the mid/moderate slope **Figure 6**)

The artefact was located on a north-west facing, relatively steep, midslope on the eastern bank of a tributary which runs into Long Gully.

The site is of high archaeological significance as it is part of a complex of sites located along both sides of Long Gully for some 1500 metres along the stream. Site complexes like these are rare within Tamworth City due to the extent of site destruction caused by the development of the city and its infrastructure.

- the revised ancillary area was subject to a inspection, dated 18 March 2025, with representatives of Tamworth Local Aboriginal Land Council and Tamworth Regional Council staff- no stone artefacts were identified on the recently exposed ground surface and the survey team agreed that the recommendation of the ACHA, being the engagement of spotters for any additional groundworks



in the vicinity of Endeavour Drive, should be applied for any ground disturbing works in this area, and

- the site inspection included a walk up the recently excavated boardwalk alignment (**Figure 7**)- no additional finds were made on the track and this area has been subject to significant ground disturbance which significantly reduces the risk of additional finds.

### **Approval requirements**

Section 87(2) of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* (1974) (NSW) (NPW Act), which requires that:

“...the defendant shows that the defendant exercised due diligence to determine whether the act or omission constituting the alleged offence would harm an Aboriginal object and reasonably determined that no Aboriginal object would be harmed.

Based on the existing assessment, specifically the archaeological excavations in 2024 and the site inspection on 18 March 2025, it is not considered likely that the revised ancillary area will impact on the Garawul Gurar 6 site, or other Aboriginal objects which may occur on the lower slope near Long Gully. The survey was not significant constrained by vegetation and the test excavations have demonstrated that this soil is highly erodible and has been subject to historic disturbance.

As such the additional ancillary works are permissible under the Due Diligence approval pathway, subject to the recommendations of the existing ACHA report, issued 5 September 2024. However, having consideration for the additional finds at the Gurawul Gurar 5 site, it is additionally recommended that Aboriginal Sites Officers/ Spotters are additionally engaged for any earthworks/ clearing at locate RA 2 (see **Figure 8**).

For the purposes of this addendum advice, the recommendations are provided below.

### **Recommendation 1: Aboriginal Objects Find Procedure**

It is recommended that if it is suspected that Aboriginal objects have been uncovered as a result of development activities within the Project Area:

- a) work in the surrounding area is to stop immediately and records are made of the finds via project reporting procedures
- b) a temporary fence is to be erected around the site and appropriate controls put in place to ensure that no additional ground disturbance happens in the vicinity of the find
- c) an appropriately qualified archaeological consultant and a representative of the Tamworth LALC are to be engaged to identify the material and provide an initial assessment of the significance of the object and the likely nature and extent of any associated archaeological sites
- d) if the material is found to be of Aboriginal origin, the find must be reported on the AHIMS database
- e) In the event that the Aboriginal objects are considered to have been damaged or disturbed, the incident must be reported through the NSW Enviro Hotline, and
- f) works may only recommence after advice from Heritage NSW on the requirement for an AHIP or where design, engineering or construction measures are identified to mitigate further damage to the Aboriginal site.



**Recommendation 2: Early works and vegetation clearing**

Aboriginal sites officers from Tamworth LALC should be engaged as sub-contractors for early works and vegetation clearing in the vicinity of Endeavour Drive where the early works and clearing are not on ground which has been subject to exiting ground disturbance. The engagement of Aboriginal sites officers is primarily to assist with the implementation of the Aboriginal objects finds procedure.

**Recommendation 3: Aboriginal Human Remains**

It is unlikely that Human Remains will be located at any stage during ground works within the Project Area. However, should this event arise all works must halt in the immediate area. The burial site must be cordoned off and the remains themselves should be left untouched. The nearest Tamworth Police Local Area Command, Tamworth LALC and Heritage NSW (Parramatta) are all to be notified as soon as possible. If the remains are found to be of Aboriginal origin and the police do not wish to investigate the site for criminal activities, the Aboriginal community and the Heritage NSW should be consulted as to how the remains should be dealt with. Work may only resume after agreement is reached between all parties, provided it is in accordance with all parties' statutory obligations.

Please contact me on 0473 033 615 if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely

Tim Hill (BA. Hons)  
Director/ Principal  
Heritage Management & Planning Pty Ltd

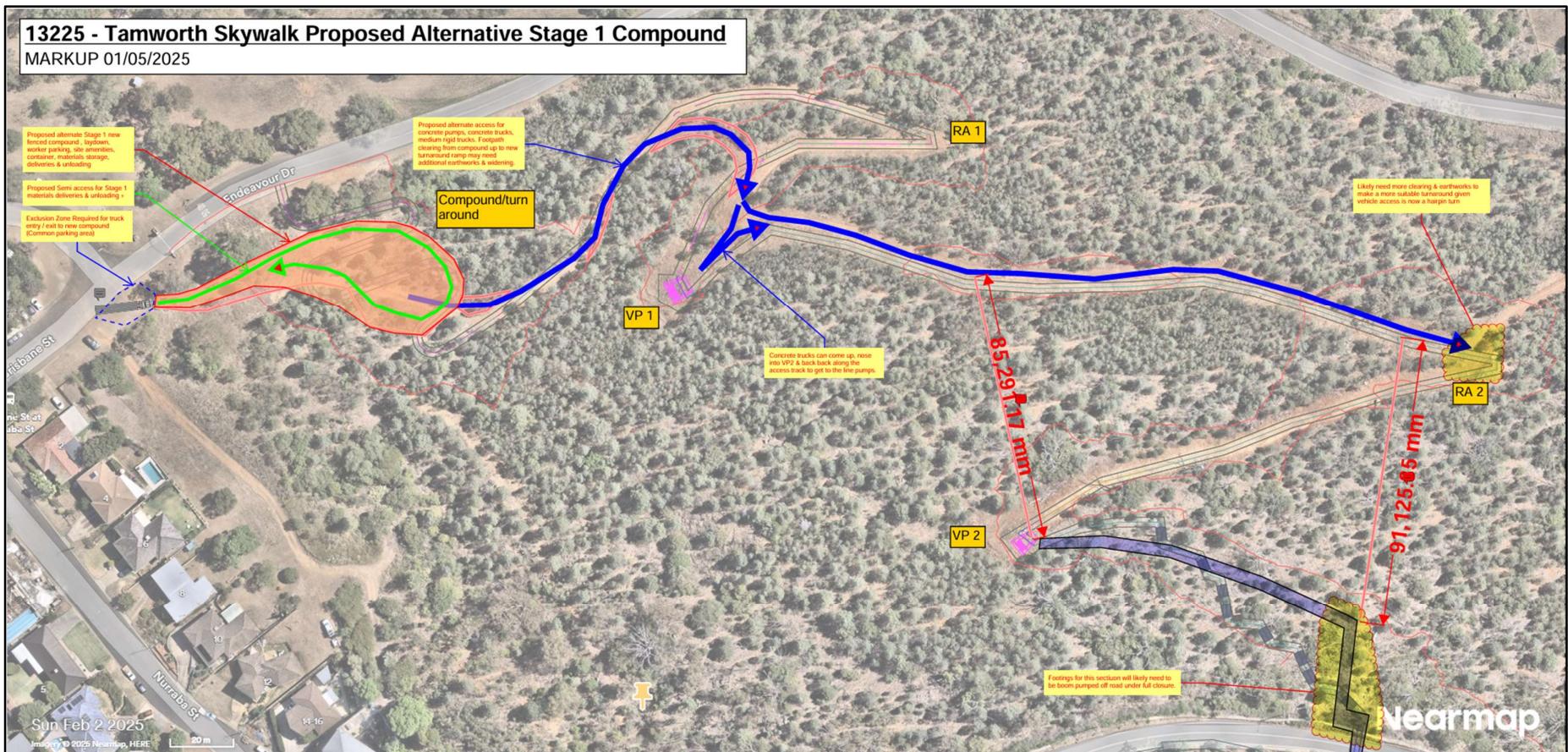
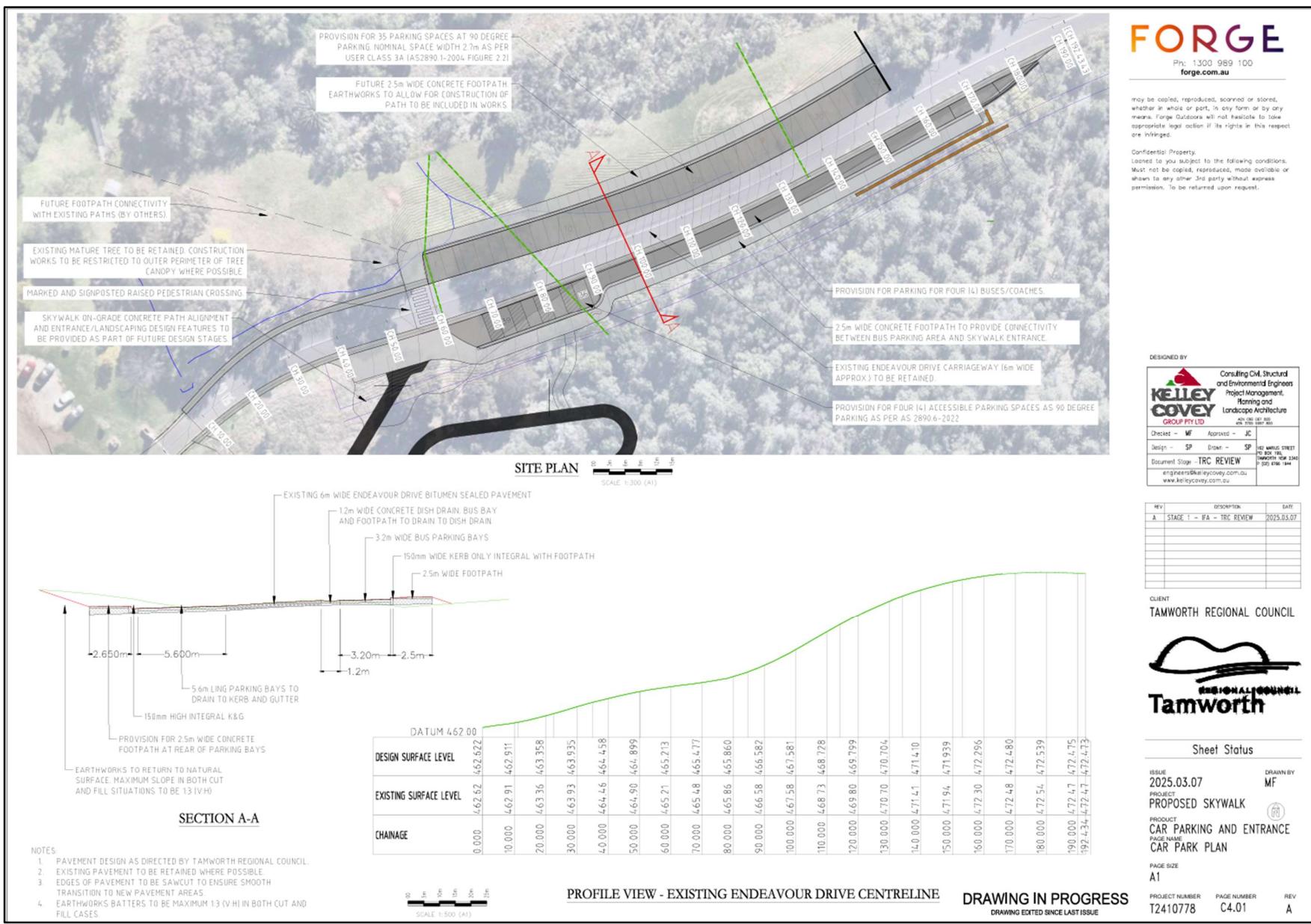


Figure 1: TRC Oxley Skywalk- Revised ancillary work area design



**Figure 2:** Endeavour Drive carpark area- Car park plan

(h)

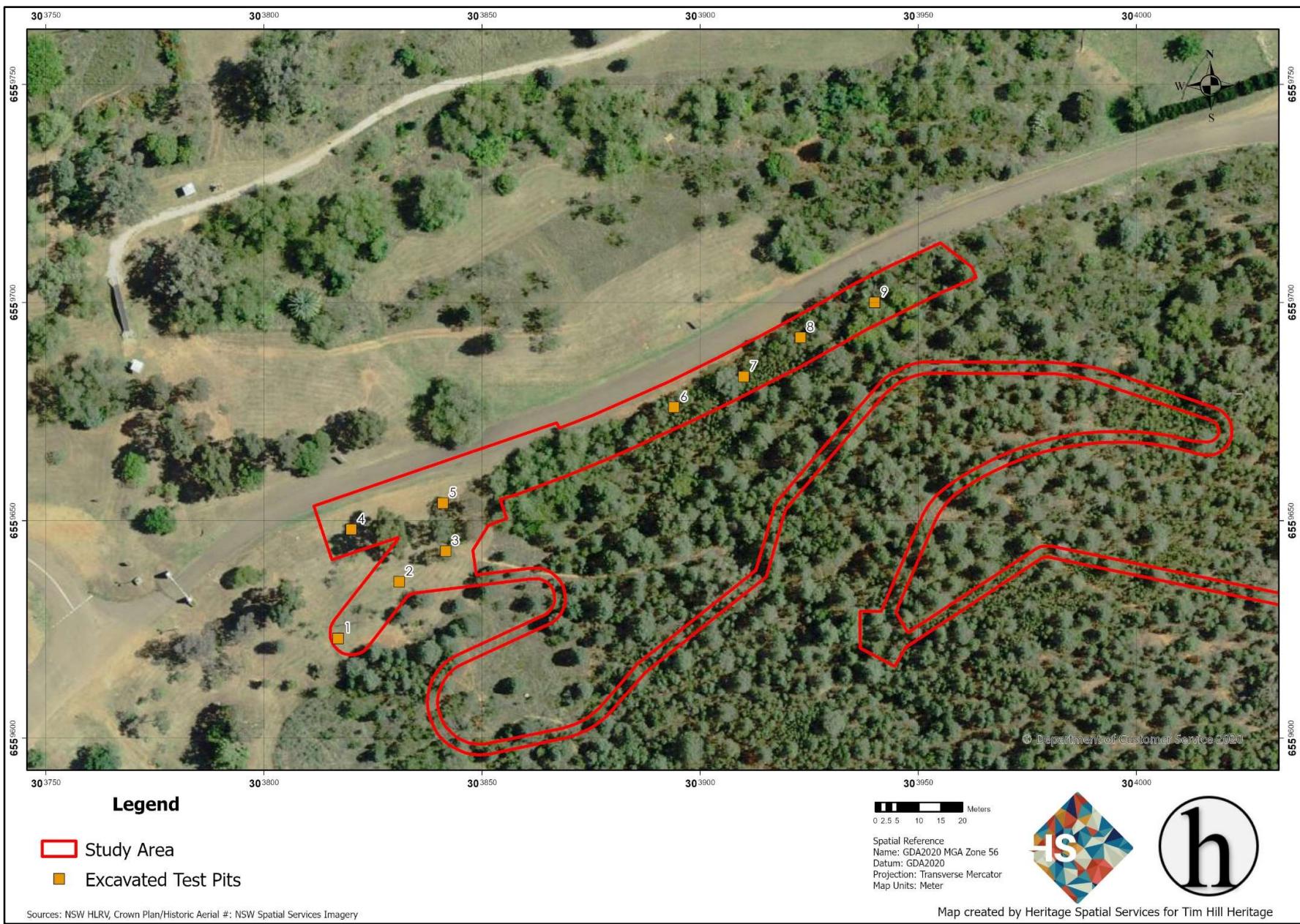


Figure 3: TRC Oxley Skywalk- Location of archaeological test pits near Endeavour Drive

h

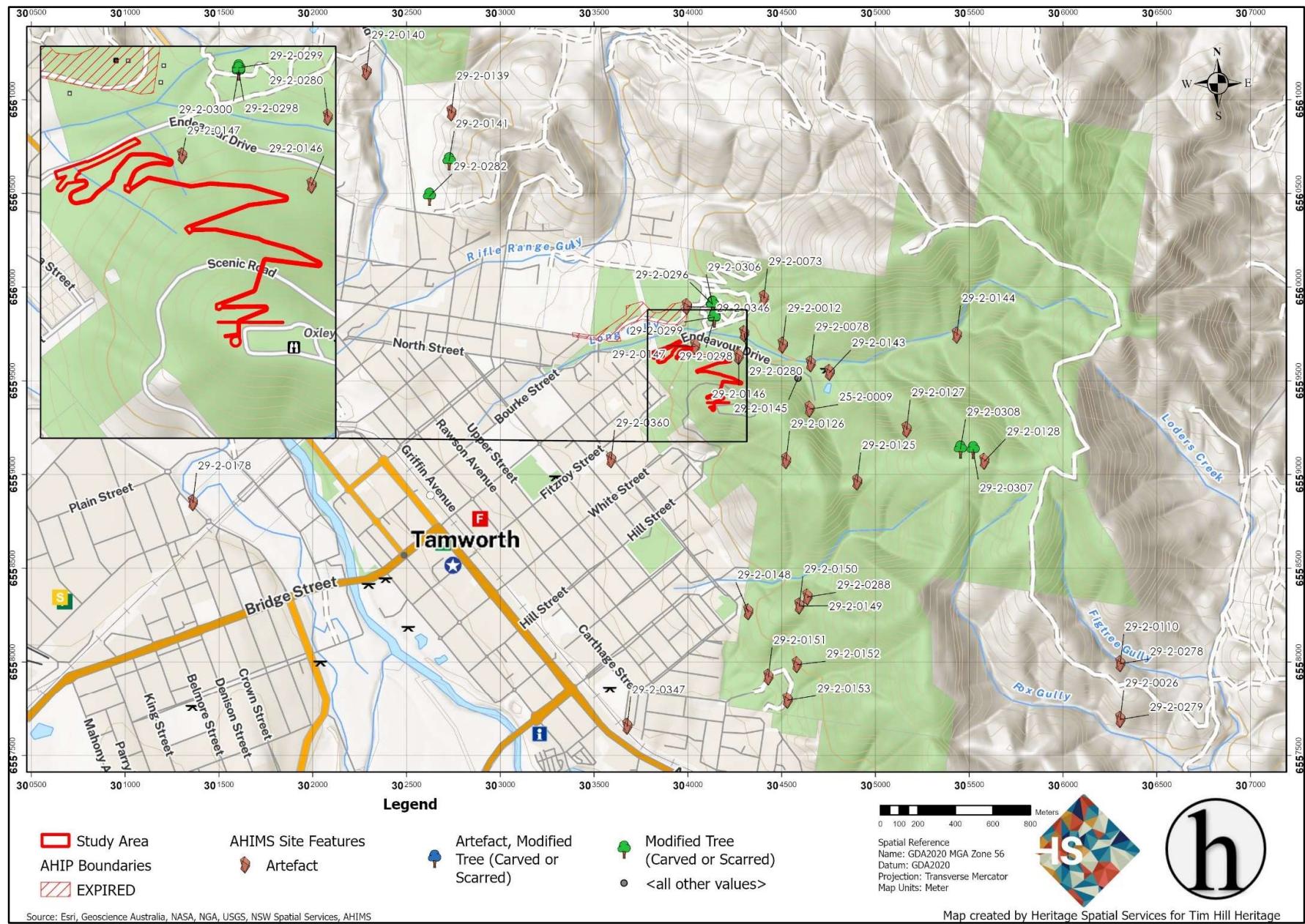


Figure 4: Oxley Skywalk- AHIMS search results (March 2024)



**Figure 5:** Centenary Park- Wilson and McAdam (2000) survey areas



**Figure 6:** Garawul Guarar 6 stone artefact scatter



**Figure 7:** Survey of the existing track/ walk

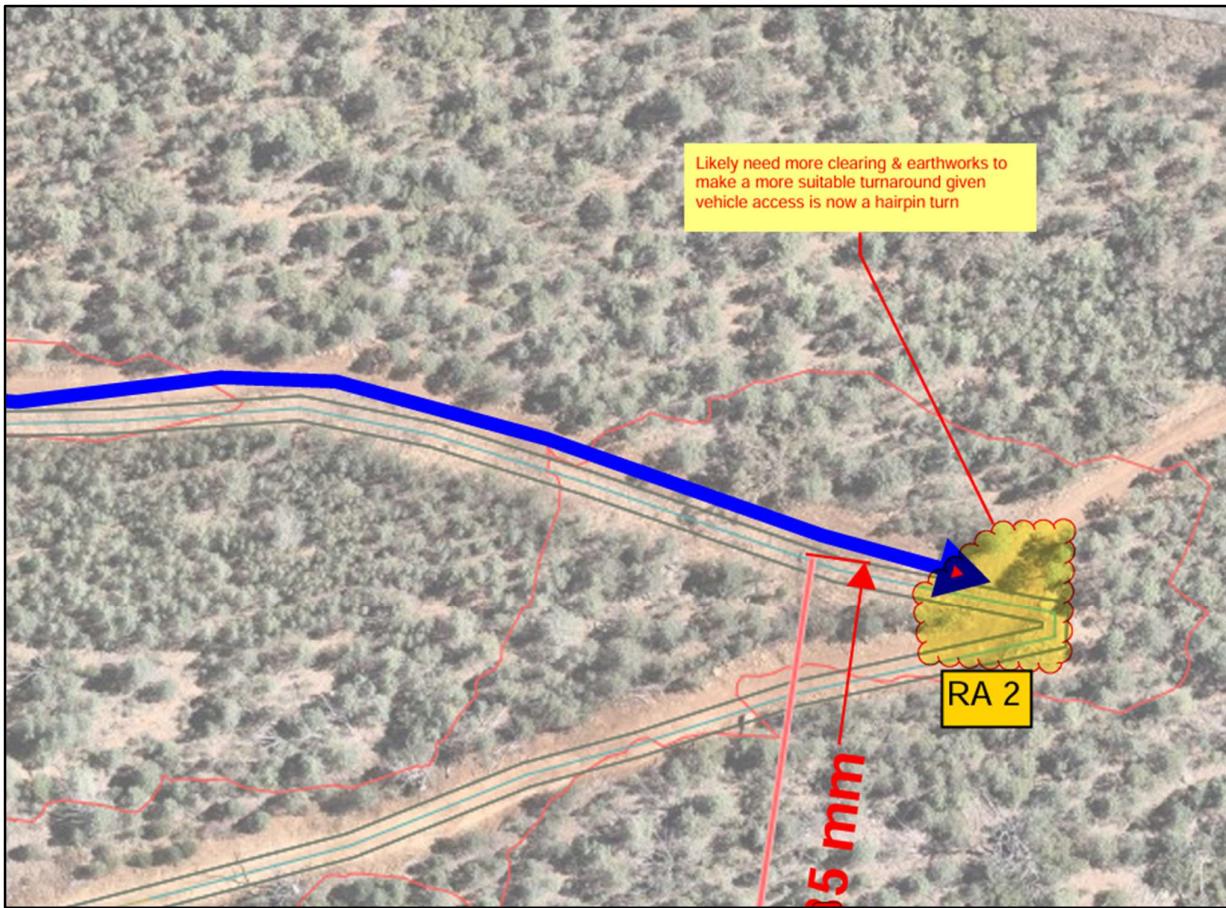


Figure 8: Work area RA2- Location of proposed engagement of Aboriginal Sites Officers/ Spotters



## Appendix F

### AHIMS Search Results

GeoLINK Consulting Pty Ltd

Date: 16 July 2025

PO Box 1446

Coffs Harbour New South Wales 2450

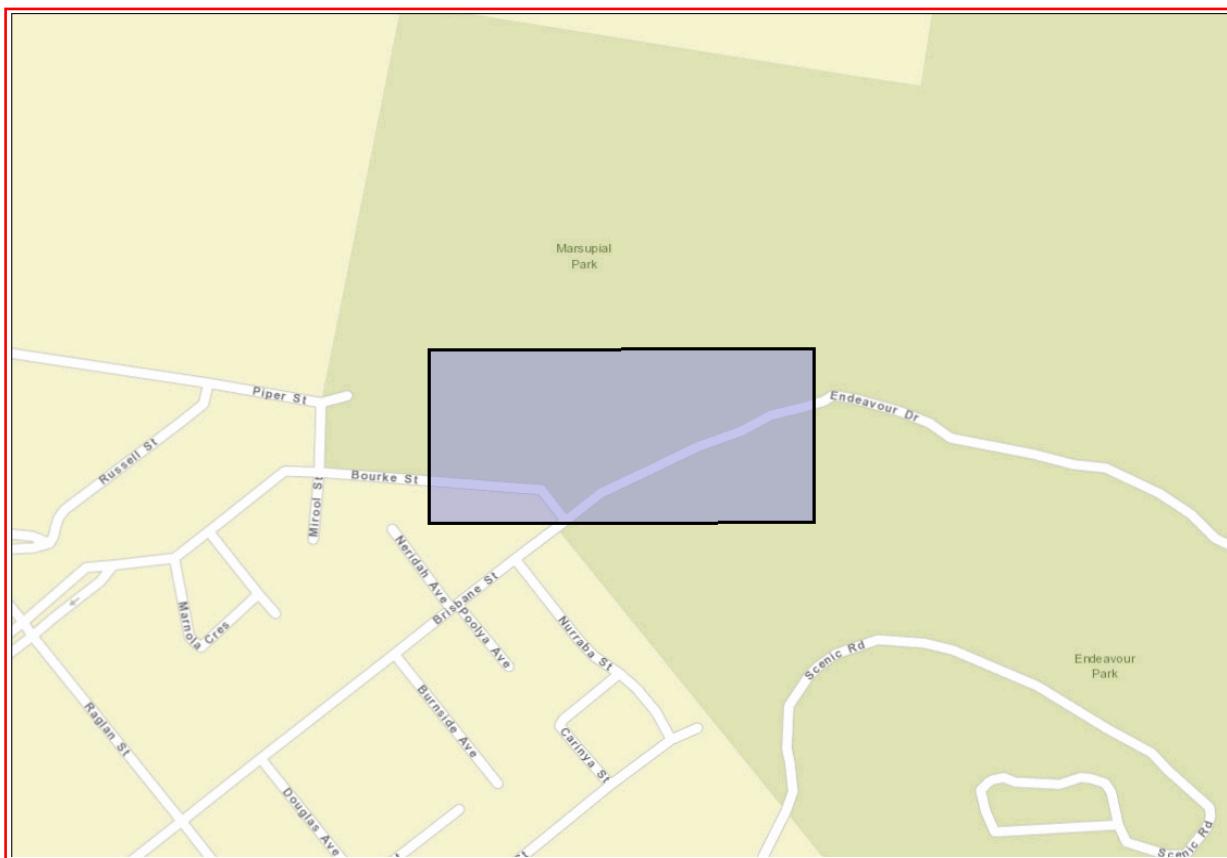
Attention: Michelle Campione-Van Zetten

Email: mcampione-vanzetten@geolink.net.au

Dear Sir or Madam:

**AHIMS Web Service search for the following area at Lat, Long From : -31.0809, 150.9415 - Lat, Long To : -31.0794, 150.9453, conducted by Michelle Campione-Van Zetten on 16 July 2025.**

The context area of your search is shown in the map below. Please note that the map does not accurately display the exact boundaries of the search as defined in the paragraph above. The map is to be used for general reference purposes only.



A search of Heritage NSW AHIMS Web Services (Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System) has shown that:

0	Aboriginal sites are recorded in or near the above location.
0	Aboriginal places have been declared in or near the above location.*

## If your search shows Aboriginal sites or places what should you do?

- You must do an extensive search if AHIMS has shown that there are Aboriginal sites or places recorded in the search area.
- If you are checking AHIMS as a part of your due diligence, refer to the next steps of the Due Diligence Code of practice.
- You can get further information about Aboriginal places by looking at the gazettal notice that declared it. Aboriginal places gazetted after 2001 are available on the [NSW Government Gazette](https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/gazette) (<https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/gazette>) website. Gazettal notices published prior to 2001 can be obtained from Heritage NSW upon request

## Important information about your AHIMS search

- The information derived from the AHIMS search is only to be used for the purpose for which it was requested. It is not be made available to the public.
- AHIMS records information about Aboriginal sites that have been provided to Heritage NSW and Aboriginal places that have been declared by the Minister;
- Information recorded on AHIMS may vary in its accuracy and may not be up to date. Location details are recorded as grid references and it is important to note that there may be errors or omissions in these recordings,
- Some parts of New South Wales have not been investigated in detail and there may be fewer records of Aboriginal sites in those areas. These areas may contain Aboriginal sites which are not recorded on AHIMS.
- Aboriginal objects are protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 even if they are not recorded as a site on AHIMS.
- This search can form part of your due diligence and remains valid for 12 months.