

Prepared for Murrumbidgee Irrigation and Partnear

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## Minor Works Review of Environmental Factors

### Murrumbidgee Irrigation UCP – Environmental Planning Area 14 – Griffith Lateral 10C

Project Number: 250003

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## Table of contents

1. Introduction.....	1
2. The proposed works.....	2
2.1. Description.....	2
2.1.1. Proposed works location.....	2
2.1.2. Proposed works description.....	4
2.1.3. Objectives .....	6
2.1.4. Ancillary features.....	6
2.1.5. Proposed date of commencement .....	7
2.1.6. Estimated length of construction period .....	7
2.2. Needs and options .....	7
2.2.1. Options / alternatives considered .....	8
2.2.2. Justification for the proposed works .....	8
2.3. Statutory and planning framework .....	10
2.3.1. Other relevant legislation and environmental planning instruments.....	11
2.4. Community engagement and agency consultation.....	16
2.4.1. SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) consultation.....	16
2.4.2. Other agency and community engagement.....	18
3. Environmental assessment.....	20
3.1. Biodiversity .....	20
3.1.1. Biodiversity detailed assessment.....	22
3.1.2. Safeguards and mitigation measures.....	25
3.2. Aboriginal cultural heritage.....	26
3.2.1. Detailed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment .....	26
3.2.2. Safeguards and mitigation measures.....	27
3.3. Non-Aboriginal heritage .....	28
3.3.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures.....	29
3.4. Soil .....	30
3.4.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures.....	31
3.5. Waterways and water quality.....	33
3.5.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures.....	33

3.6. Noise and vibration .....	34
3.6.1. Noise detailed assessment .....	36
3.6.2. Safeguards and mitigation measures .....	43
3.7. Landscape character and visual amenity .....	44
3.7.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures .....	45
3.8. Air quality and climate change .....	46
3.8.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures .....	47
3.9. Traffic and transport .....	48
3.9.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures .....	48
3.10. Socio-economic .....	50
3.10.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures .....	51
3.11. Waste .....	52
3.11.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures .....	52
3.12. Cumulative impacts .....	53
3.12.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures .....	53
<b>4. Summary of proposed safeguards and mitigation measures .....</b>	<b>54</b>
4.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures .....	54
4.2. Licensing and approvals .....	61
<b>5. Summary of impacts .....</b>	<b>62</b>
5.1. Need for further assessment? .....	66
<b>6. Conclusion .....</b>	<b>67</b>
6.1. Justification for the proposed works .....	67
6.2. Overall conclusion .....	67
<b>7. Certification, review and decision .....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>8. References .....</b>	<b>70</b>
G.1 Test of Significance .....	G-I
G.2 Habitat evaluation table .....	G-IV

## Figures

Figure 2-1 Proposed works locality .....	3
Figure 2-2 Proposed works .....	5
Figure 3-1 Plant Community Type (PCT) mapping for the proposed works at EA14 .....	24

Figure 3-2 Noise catchment areas – standard construction works hours.....	41
Figure 3-3 Noise catchment areas – standard construction works hours (nighttime).....	42

## Tables

Table 2-1 Ancillary facilities .....	6
Table 2-2 Consultation required with Council.....	16
Table 2-3 Consultation required with other public authorities.....	17
Table 2-4 Notification of council and occupiers of adjoining land.....	18
Table 2-5 Consultation with Griffith City Council (GCC).....	18
Table 3-1 Biodiversity .....	20
Table 3-2 Aboriginal cultural heritage .....	26
Table 3-3 Summary of assessment for the proposed works in EA14.....	27
Table 3-4 Non-Aboriginal heritage.....	28
Table 3-5 Soil.....	30
Table 3-6 Waterways and water quality .....	33
Table 3-7 Noise and vibration.....	35
Table 3-8 Noise Catchment Areas.....	37
Table 3-9 Residential noise limits for works during standard construction work hours .....	38
Table 3-10 Landscape character and visual amenity.....	44
Table 3-11 Air quality.....	46
Table 3-12 Climate change.....	46
Table 3-13 Traffic and transport.....	48
Table 3-14 Socio-economic.....	50
Table 3-15 Waste .....	52
Table 3-16 Cumulative impacts.....	53
Table 4-1 Summary of proposed safeguards and mitigation measures.....	54
Table 4-2 Summary of licensing and approvals required.....	61

## Appendices

Appendix A Concept plans .....	A-I
Appendix B Construction Methodology Types .....	B-II

Appendix C Database searches.....	C-I
Appendix D Site photographs .....	D-I
Appendix E Construction Noise Estimator Tool (CNET).....	E-I
Appendix F Community and agency consultation .....	F-I
Appendix G Biodiversity Assessment.....	G-I
Appendix H Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment.....	H-I

## Acronyms and abbreviations

ADDA	Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment
AHIMS	Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System
AoS	Assessment of Significance
BA	Biodiversity Assessment
BC Act	<i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW)</i>
Biosecurity Act	<i>Biosecurity Act 2015 (NSW)</i>
CE	Critically endangered
CLM Act	<i>NSW Contaminated Land Management Act 1997</i>
CNET	Construction Noise Estimator Tool
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Cth) (formerly DAWE)
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (NSW) (formerly DPE)
DPHI	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (NSW) (formerly DPE)
E	Endangered
EA	Environmental Areas
EEC	Endangered ecological community – as defined under relevant law applying to the proposal
EIA	Environmental impact assessment
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)</i>
EPL	Environment Protection License
EP&A Act	<i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)</i>
GCC	Griffith City Council

GL	Gigalitres
ha	hectares
HBT	Hollow-bearing tree
Heritage Act	<i>Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)</i>
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
km	kilometres
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LGA	Local government area
LSC	Leeton Shire Council
m	metres
Mm	millimetres
MI	Murrumbidgee Irrigation
MNES	Matters of national environmental significance
MWREF	Minor Works Review of Environmental Factors
NCA	Noise Catchment Area
NES	Matters of National Environmental Significance under the EPBC Act (c.f.)
NML	Noise Management Level
NPW Act	<i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW)</i>
NSW	New South Wales
PCT	Plant Community Type
PMST	Protected matters search tool
POEO Act	<i>NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997</i>
REF	Review of Environmental Factors
RRWIP	Resilient Rivers Water Infrastructure Program

TEC	Threatened ecological community
TfNSW	Transport for New South Wales
TISEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021
ToS	Test of Significance
UCP	Urban Channels Pipeline
WM Act	<i>NSW Water Management Act 2000</i>

## 1. Introduction

The purpose of the Minor Works Review of Environmental Factors (MWREF) is to outline the proposed works, document its potential environmental impacts, detail the mitigation measures to be implemented, and determine whether the proposed works can proceed. For this work, Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) acts as the proponent and determining authority under Division 5.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act) and under Schedule 1 of the *NSW Water Management Act 2000* (WM Act).

The description of the proposed works and the assessment of associated environmental impacts are conducted in accordance with section 171 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021, the Guidelines for Division 5.1 Assessments (DPE, 2022), the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act), the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act) and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Commonwealth) (EPBC Act).

The MWREF helps fulfill the requirements of section 5.5 of the EP&A Act, ensuring that the proponent examines and considers all matters affecting or likely to affect the environment due to the activity.

The findings of the MWREF are considered when assessing:

- Whether the proposal is likely to have a significant impact on the environment, necessitating the preparation of an environmental impact statement and seeking approval from the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces under Division 5.2 of the EP&A Act.
- The significance of any impact on threatened species as defined by the BC Act, in Section 1.7 of the EP&A Act, and the requirement for a Species Impact Statement or a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report.
- The potential for the proposal to significantly impact a matter of national environmental significance, including nationally listed threatened biodiversity matters or the environment of Commonwealth land. If a significant impact is likely on nationally listed biodiversity matters, the proposal must either be reconsidered, or a project Review of Environmental Factors (REF) must be prepared.

## 2. The proposed works

### 2.1. Description

Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) is proposing \$62 million of piping and rationalisation of urban channels, funded as eligible activities under the Resilient Rivers Water Infrastructure Program (RRWIP). The Program is a \$494 million initiative aimed at improving water delivery infrastructure and recovering up to 450 gigalitres (GL) of water annually for environmental purposes within the Murray-Darling Basin (DCCEEW, 2025).

The broader project involves the replacement of approximately 50 kilometres (km) of aging concrete and earthen urban supply channels in and adjacent to existing channels, as well as 1.4km of leaking pipeline, with new pipelines. It also involves rationalisation of 33 escapes, removing and replacing approximately 500 customer outlets, 2 new pump stations, road and rail crossings and a reconfiguration of the network creating greater water delivery efficiency.

#### 2.1.1. Proposed works location

The broader project would be delivered in urban areas within the Griffith and Leeton Local Government Areas (LGAs). The scheduled channels intersect land owned and managed by a variety of stakeholders including MI, Griffith City Council (GCC), Leeton Shire Council (LSC), New South Wales (NSW) Crown Lands, Transport for NSW (TfNSW) and private landholders.

The broader project would be divided into fourteen smaller discrete work locations across the two LGAs, determined by their location and sizes. These have been designated Environmental Areas (EAs), and are as follows:

- Griffith Lateral 92 – EA1
- Griffith Laterals Other – EA2
- Griffith West – EA3
- Griffith Lake Wyangan – EA4
- Griffith Beelbangera – EA5
- Griffith Bilbul – EA6
- Griffith Yenda – EA7
- Griffith Lateral 253 – EA8
- Leeton Lateral 63 – EA9
- Leeton Laterals 5, 99 & 21 – EA10
- Leeton Laterals Other – EA11
- Leeton Corbie Hill Laterals 7, 22, 23, 24 – EA12
- Leeton Wamoon Lateral 73 – EA13
- Griffith Lateral 10C – EA14

This MWREF focuses on the potential environmental impacts and proposed mitigation measures to be implemented relevant to proposed works **Griffith Lateral 10C (EA14)**.

The proposed works for the Griffith Lateral 10C upgrade are located off Chapman Road, Yoogali NSW, in the EA14 locality, as shown in Figure 2-1 below.



Figure 2-1 Proposed works locality

## 2.1.2. Proposed works description

The following construction methodology is proposed:

1. Site establishment, including environmental and cultural heritage protection measures, site amenities, and laydown/stockpile areas, if required
2. Work Health and Safety (WH&S) and traffic control
3. Construction of pipelines using a range of construction methods, including but not limited to:
  - Under boring / horizontal directional drilling (HDD)
  - Trenching within the existing channel profile
  - Trenching to install pipeline next to the existing channel and backfilling the channel following completion
  - New pipelines would be installed at a maximum depth of 2000 millimetres (mm) below the natural surface level
4. Removal and replacement of outlets/customer connection points
5. Removal of redundant channel infrastructure
6. Removal of rationalised supply escape structures
7. Making good to a finished standard, which may include backfilling with topsoil and seeding in specific amenity areas.

For the proposed works across the thirteen areas, four construction approaches would be utilised:

- New pipeline - to be constructed within the specified new alignment.
- Convert existing channels to new pipeline - new pipeline to be constructed beside the existing channel (up to 2000mm)
- Remove and/or decommission existing channel - remove concrete channel and backfill channel to natural ground level.
- Install new drainage channel - construct new channel at a single location - Yenda.
- Infrastructure may also be retained as-is
- Under boring would be utilised in sensitive areas where surface access is unavailable.

For all construction approaches, excavators of varying sizes will be used depending on the proposed works. High Density Poly Ethelene welding machines would be employed for different welding sizes. The pipes would be strung and welded and then lowered into the excavated trenches. Before laying the pipes at the bottom of the pit, bedding material would be placed.

Where outlets and other fittings are involved, they would be welded onto the pipes according to design specifications. All pipelines to be constructed would run across different roads and will be sleeved into existing MI culverts if the design permits. If the design does not allow the use of existing culvert infrastructure, new envelopers or other sleeving materials will be constructed. Refer to Appendix B for concept plans detailing the construction approaches.

For the purposes of this MWREF, a 5m buffer has been applied to either side of the existing channel/pipeline infrastructure to determine the work area and identify the worst-case scenario impacts. A 5m buffer has been chosen opposed to the standard 10m used across the other MWREF's due to the narrow nature of Chapman Road and the limited available space within the road corridor as such the proposed pipeline would be constructed within the existing channel. The final development impact areas are likely to be reduced in nature and contained within the proposed works.



Figure 2-2 Proposed works

### 2.1.3. Objectives

The broader project objectives and anticipated benefits are as follows:

- Significantly increasing customer service levels and system capacity
- Increasing regional productivity through water use efficiency
- Providing further security of water supply to towns and industry
- Investing in regional communities through local contractors
- Enhancing socio-economic outcomes by supplying water for urban green spaces, as well as providing the opportunity for local councils to deliver improved infrastructure
- A reduction in mosquito borne diseases
- Enhanced road safety.

The broader project objectives align with the RRWIP objectives of:

- Provide water recovery for the Murray Darling Basin through improved water use
- Investment in infrastructure that provides:
  - longer-term outcomes
  - multiple benefits
  - water recovery for the environment
- Underpin long-term, climate change resilient primary production (DCCEEW, 2025).

### 2.1.4. Ancillary features

Table 2-1 Ancillary facilities

Ancillary facilities	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Will the proposal require the use or installation of a compound site?</b></p> <p>The 5m buffer either side of the proposed new pipeline has been assessed to be utilised for potential laydown/compound areas for construction plant parking and stockpiling construction materials. Temporary facilities (i.e., toilet, office, lunchrooms) are not required. Additionally, EA14 could utilise the following areas (Figure 2-1), if required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within cleared land Southwest off the intersection of Chapman Road and Morley Road – 0.86ha</li> </ul> <p>It should be noted that the total area of the compound/laydown may not be required to be utilised. The compound/laydown area would be used for plant parking and storing construction machinery while not in use, stockpiling construction materials. This would be accessed through the proposed works 5m buffer.</p>		
<p><b>Will the proposal require the use or installation of a stockpile site?</b></p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Ancillary facilities		
Stockpiles will be located within the proposed works area, or site compound if required.		
<b>Are any other ancillary facilities required (e.g. temporary plants, parking areas, access tracks)?</b>  Any required ancillary facilities will be located within the proposed works area, or site compound if required	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

## 2.1.5. Proposed date of commencement

Proposed works are expected to commence construction in early 2026. The commencement date is indicative and may change.

## 2.1.6. Estimated length of construction period

The proposed works would be expected to take approximately 6 – 12 weeks, weather permitting. Works would be carried out during the following work hours and taking place in certain areas outside of working hours:

Standard construction working hours for Griffith locality as specified by the NSW Interim Construction Noise Guidelines (ICNG) are:

- **Monday to Friday:** 7:00am to 6:00pm
- **Saturday:** 7:00am to 1:00pm

Additional outside of standard work hours will be required:

- **Saturday:** 1:00pm to 6:00pm
- **Sunday:** 7:00am to 6:00pm
- **Public Holidays:** 7:00am to 6:00pm

The construction taking place within additional outside of working hours is considered beneficial to the overall project as it will reduce impact and delays to the local public transport services (e.g. school buses) during the week.

It should be noted that a diesel pump may be required to operate outside the standard working hours (worst-case over a 24hr period), to dewater the existing channels or supply water. The potential impacts have been discussed in Section 3.6 below.

## 2.2. Needs and options

The scale and scoping restriction of the proposed works meant there are limited feasible choices of location and construction approaches. It should be noted that the choice of undertaking the works either within or adjacent to the existing channel, and the use of compound/laydown areas have been based off desktop

assessment and where applicable biodiversity and Aboriginal heritage site surveys within the proposed works locations.

While both options were considered, due to the limited area available, the only feasible option would be to construct the new pipeline within the existing channel.

### **2.2.1. Options / alternatives considered**

#### **Options considered**

The options considered for the proposed works included:

##### **Option 1 – ‘Do nothing’ option**

This option involves leaving the existing channels/pipelines as it, which would result in the status quo of water supply efficiency. This option would not enable any works to occur, and while no immediate or visible impact to the environment would occur as a result, this would not align with the objectives of MI and the RRWIP Program improving water delivery infrastructure within the Griffith and Leeton LGAs.

##### **Option 2 – Undertaking the proposed works**

This option involves undertaking the proposed works as described in this section. As detailed in Section 3 below, the proposed works will avoid impacts to key environmental constraints. Where impacts could not be avoided, appropriate safeguards and mitigation measures have been recommended to minimise any potential impacts.

#### **Preferred option**

The preferred option is:

**Option 2 – Undertaking the proposed works.** This option suits the objectives of the proposed works without leading to significant impacts to environmental factors while supplying irrigation water to customers in a more efficient manner

### **2.2.2. Justification for the proposed works**

The proposed works is required to contribute to wider program objectives to significantly enhance customer service and system capacity through precise water control and delivery, therefore boosting regional productivity via efficient water use.

The infrastructure upgrade would assist the improvement in water supply security for stakeholders by enabling direct connections by stakeholders to the raw water pipeline. The proposed works invests heavily in regional communities.

Socio-economic outcomes would be improved by the RRWIP enabling a more secure supply of water for urban green spaces. Additionally enabling Griffith City Council (GCC) to enhance public infrastructure such as pedestrian paths without impacts the water supply infrastructure. It would reduce mosquito-borne diseases by eliminating open water sources, enhances road safety through better drainage control within the road corridor, and decreases road maintenance needs.

While the proposed works has the potential to impact on the environment, these impacts have been avoided or minimised where possible. Mitigation measures would be implemented to minimise and manage any remaining potential environmental impacts.

## 2.3. Statutory and planning framework

### NSW Water Management Act 2000 (WM Act)

The WM Act governs the sustainable and integrated management of NSW's water resources. The main objects of the Act are to provide the sustainable and equitable use of water resources through water management principles, water sharing plans, access licences, environmental water protection, and compliance (NSW Government, 2000).

Under Chapter 4 Part 1, MI is an irrigation corporation by way of inclusion in Schedule 1 of the Act. Under section 122 of the WM Act, the operating licence for an irrigation corporation authorises the corporation to carry on the business of supplying water provided to it by the Water Administration Ministerial Corporation (the Ministerial Corporation) and to exercise its functions under this Part.

MI would exercise its powers on behalf of the Ministerial Corporation in accordance with its operating licence, and as such, would act as both proponent and determining authority for the MWREF.

### Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)

Under section 5.5 of the EP&A Act, a public authority is compelled to assess and consider the impact of an activity (NSW Government, 1979). Section 5.5 states:

#### **Duty to consider environmental impact** (cf previous s 111)

*For the purpose of attaining the objects of this Act relating to the protection and enhancement of the environment, a determining authority in its consideration of an activity shall, notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act or the provisions of any other Act or of any instrument made under this or any other Act, examine and take into account to the fullest extent possible all matters affecting or likely to affect the environment by reason of that activity.*

As such MI is compelled to prepare an environmental assessment for the proposal and consider the same before proceeding with the activity.

The environmental assessment would be completed in the form of a Minor Works Review of Environmental Factors (MWREF). The MWREF will be completed in accordance with Division 5.1 of the EP&A Act, taking into account the requirements of Section 171(2) of the EP&A Reg (previously Clause 228 Factors of the EP&A Regulation 2000).

The MWREF will describe the approval requirements for the proposal, detail MI's delegation to be the "Determining Authority" and address the requirements of other relevant New South Wales and Commonwealth legislation including the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

### State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021

The State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 (TISEPP) aims to facilitate the effective delivery of infrastructure across the state. This includes water supply and reticulation infrastructure.

The TISEPP provides a streamlined framework for developments in NSW (NSW Government, 2021). The TISEPP takes precedence over the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) when there is conflicting permissibility for

development within the same zoning. If a development is not permissible under the LEP, but is under the TISEPP within the same zoning, the provisions of the TISEPP prevail. Division 24 of the TISEPP relates to water supply infrastructure.

EA14 is not identified as “coastal wetlands” or “littoral rainforest” on the Coastal Wetlands and Littoral Rainforests Area Map and therefore the provisions of section 2.159A of the TISEPP do not apply.

Under Section 2.159(1), development for the purpose of water reticulation systems may be carried out by or on behalf of a public authority without consent on any land. MI would exercise its powers on behalf of the Ministerial Corporation in accordance with its operating licence.

It is also noted under Section 2.161; water reticulation systems may be carried out by any person with development consent on any land.

## Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014

Permissibility under LEPs in NSW outlines the legislation that determines what types of developments are permitted with/without in particular zones within an LGA. The key aspects are:

- Zoning
- Permissible development
- Without consent
- With consent
- Prohibited development
- Development standards
- Assessment criteria.

EA14 falls on land zoned RU1 Primary Production under the Griffith Local Environmental Plan 2014 (Griffith LEP) (NSW Government, 2014).

The proposed works has been defined as a water reticulation system. Under the Griffith LEP, water reticulation systems are permitted without consent within land zoned RU1.

### 2.3.1. Other relevant legislation and environmental planning instruments

#### Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth)

The Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) regulates the assessment and approval of activities that would have or is likely to have a significant impact on Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES), activities by Commonwealth government agencies and activities by any person on Commonwealth land.

Currently MNES include:

- World Heritage properties
- National Heritage places
- Wetlands of international importance (listed under the Ramsar Convention)
- Nationally listed threatened species and ecological communities
- Migratory species (protected under international agreements)

- Commonwealth marine areas
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park
- Nuclear actions (including uranium mines)
- A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development.

An EPBC Act protected matters search was undertaken on March 5, 2025. An assessment of the impacts of the proposal determined that the proposal does not constitute an activity which may have a significant adverse impact on any MNES (Appendix C). MNES relevant to the study area include:

- Nationally listed threatened species and ecological communities
- Migratory species (protected under international agreements)
- Commonwealth Marine Area

A referral is not required for proposed activities that may affect nationally listed threatened species, endangered ecological communities and migratory species. This is because requirements for considering impacts to these biodiversity matters are the subject of a strategic assessment approval granted under the EPBC Act by the Australian Government in September 2015.

Potential impacts to these biodiversity matters are also considered as part of Section 3.1 of this MWREF and Appendix C.

## **Native Title Act 1993 (Commonwealth)**

The *Native Title Act 1993* provides a legislative framework for the recognition and protection of common law native title rights. Native title is the recognition by Australian law that Indigenous people had a system of law and ownership of their lands before European settlement. Where that traditional connection to land and waters has been maintained and where government acts have not removed it, the law recognises the persistence of native title.

A search of the National Native Title Tribunal Registers on 12 June 2025 found no native title holders for the proposal site within the Griffith Local Government Area.

## **Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 (EP&A Regulation)**

The EP&A Regulation sets out the requirements and form for an REF and the consideration of matters to be addressed.

Section 170 refers to the REF Guidelines to be followed.

Section 171(2) refers to the environmental factors to be taken into account in an REF.

Section 171(4) requires publication of an REF for any activity with:

- A capital investment value of more than \$5 million
- An approval or permit for activity that requires approval under:
  - *Fisheries Management Act 1994* (NSW) sections 144, 201, 205 or 219
  - *Heritage Act 1977* (NSW) section 57
  - *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NSW) section 90
  - *Protection of the Environment Operations act 1997* (NSW) sections 47-49 or 122
- If the determining authority considers it to be in the public interest.

This applies to the proposal unless, as noted under section 171(6), it:

- a) Belongs to a class specified by the Planning Secretary in a notice published on the Department's website for the purposes of this section, or
- b) An approved code under Division 6 applies.

Publishing of the REF must be undertaken either:

- a) Before the activity commences, or
- b) As soon as practicable, no later than one month after the activity commences.

The proposed works is likely to have a capital investment value greater than \$5 million, therefore the MWREF would require publication as per Section 171(4) of the Regulation.

Publication of the MWREF would be on the MI webpage.

## **National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW)**

The objectives of the NPW Act are to conserve and preserve nature; conserve objects, places, or features (including biological diversity) of cultural value within the landscape; foster public appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of nature and cultural heritage and their conservation; and provide for the management of land reserved under this Act.

Section 3.2 assesses the potential for the proposal to impact on Aboriginal heritage.

## **Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW)**

The purpose of the NSW BC Act is to maintain a healthy, productive, and resilient environment for the greatest well-being of the community, now and into the future, consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

Section 1.7 of the EP&A Act requires consideration of the significance of any impact on threatened species, defined by section 7.3 of the BC Act, in order to determine the requirement for a Species Impact Statement or a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report.

An assessment of the potential impacts of the proposed activity on threatened species, populations, ecological communities and critical habitat listed in the BC Act must be undertaken. This includes an assessment of the potential for a significant impact under section 7.3 (5-part test) and whether an impact is likely on an area of Outstanding Biodiversity Value.

A Biodiversity Assessment was conducted including a search of the Office of the Environment and Heritage (OEH) BioNet database which was undertaken on March 5, 2025 (refer to Appendix C). The potential for the proposal to impact threatened species, populations and endangered ecological communities is assessed in Section 3.1. Tests of Significance are provided in Appendix G.1.

## **Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)**

The *Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)* (Heritage Act) is a statutory tool developed to conserve the cultural heritage of NSW. It is used to regulate development impacts on the State's heritage assets. Administered by the NSW Heritage Office, the Act details the statutory requirements for protecting historic buildings and places and

includes any place, building, work, relic, movable object or precinct, which may be of historic, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, natural or aesthetic value.

Under the Heritage Act, a person must not disturb or excavate land if they know or have reasonable cause to suspect that they might discover, expose, move or damage a relic unless they have an excavation permit.

Items considered to be significant to the State can be listed on the State Heritage Register (SHR) and cannot be demolished, altered, moved or damaged, or their significance altered, without approval from the Heritage Council of NSW. Other items may be listed on the National and Commonwealth Heritage Lists, State Heritage Inventory (SHI) or by local Councils in LEPs. Additionally, under Section 170 of the Heritage Act, all government agencies are required to identify, conserve and manage heritage items in their ownership or control. Items are typically listed in a Heritage and Conservation Register and may also be included on the SHI.

There are no items of non-Aboriginal heritage within or adjacent to the proposal area.

Section 3.3 addresses potential impacts associated with non-Aboriginal heritage items and places.

## Contaminated Land Management Act 1997 (NSW)

The objectives of the *Contaminated Land Management Act 1997 (NSW)* (CLM Act) are:

- To set out accountabilities for managing contamination if the EPA considers the contamination is significant enough to require regulation under Division 2 of Part 3
- To set out the role of the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) in the assessment of contamination and the supervision of the investigation and management of contaminated sites
- To provide for the accreditation of site auditors of contaminated land to ensure appropriate standards of auditing in the management of contaminated land
- To ensure that contaminated land is managed with regard to the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

Section 3.11 discusses potential impacts associated with contamination.

## Biosecurity Act 2015 (NSW)

The primary objective of the *Biosecurity Act 2015 (NSW)* is to provide a framework for the prevention, elimination and minimisation of biosecurity risks posed by biosecurity matter, dealing with biosecurity matter, carriers and potential carriers, and other activities that involve biosecurity matter, carriers or potential carriers. The biosecurity framework and tools safeguard our economy, environment and community and any land managers and users of land have a responsibility for managing weed biosecurity risks that they know about or could reasonably be expected to know about.

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* repealed the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* and provides a framework for the prevention, elimination and minimisation of biosecurity risks. The Act and supporting Biosecurity Regulation 2017 provide for the establishment and functions of Local Control Authorities for weeds (LGA or County Councils) and weed control obligations on public and private land.

A search of the Department of Primary Industries WeedWise database for regional priority weeds for the Griffith region was undertaken on 12 June 2025 (Appendix C).

Section 3.1 addresses impacts relating to priority weeds.

## Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (NSW)

The *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (NSW)* (POEO Act) is the primary legislation regulating pollution control and waste disposal in NSW. It establishes a structure for regulating polluting activities through Environment Protection Licences (EPLs). Activities listed under Schedule 1 of the POEO Act are scheduled activities which require an EPL.

Section 120 of this Act provides that it is an offence to pollute waters. The relevant consent authority, in this case, MI, must ensure that all stages of proposals are managed to prevent pollution, including pollution of waters.

Section 148 of this Act requires notification of pollution incidents. MI are obliged to notify the relevant authorities (e.g., EPA) when a ‘pollution incident’ occurs that causes or threatens ‘material harm’ to the environment.

Schedule 1 of the POEO Act describes activities for which an EPL is required. The proposed works do not conform with the definition of a scheduled activity under this Act; therefore, a new EPL would not be required.

## Roads Act 1993 (NSW)

The objectives of the *Roads Act 1993 (NSW)* (Roads Act) are to:

- Set out the rights of members of the public to pass along public roads
- Set out the rights of persons who own land adjoining a public road to have access to the public road
- Establish the procedures for the opening and closing of a public road
- Provide for the classification of roads
- Provide for the declaration of TfNSW and other public authorities as roads authorities for both classified and unclassified roads
- Confer certain functions (in particular, the function of carrying out road work) on TfNSW and on other roads authorities
- Provide for the distribution of the functions conferred by this Act between TfNSW and other roads authorities
- Regulate the carrying out of various activities on public roads.

Under Section 138 of the Roads Act, a person must not erect a structure or carry out a work in, on or over a public road, or dig up or disturb the surface of a public road, otherwise than with the consent of the appropriate road’s authority.

The proposal would only affect local roads managed by Council. A such, consultation with GCC would be undertaken as part of this MWREF process.

## 2.4. Community engagement and agency consultation

### 2.4.1. SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) consultation

Table 2-2 Consultation required with Council

Is consultation with Council required under sections 2.10 - 2.12 and 2.14 of the SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure)?		
Are the works likely to have a substantial impact on the stormwater management services which are provided by council?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Are the works likely to generate traffic to an extent that will strain the capacity of the existing road system in a local government area?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Will the works involve connection to a council owned sewerage system? If so, will this connection have a substantial impact on the capacity of the system?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Will the works involve connection to a council owned water supply system? If so, will this require the use of a substantial volume of water?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Will the works involve the installation of a temporary structure on, or the enclosing of, a public place which is under local council management or control? If so, will this cause more than a minor or inconsequential disruption to pedestrian or vehicular flow?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Will the works involve more than a minor or inconsequential excavation of a road or adjacent footpath for which council is the roads authority and responsible for maintenance?  All the proposed works are within the Council managed road reserve. Consultation with GCC has been summarised in Section 2.4.2 below and appended as Appendix F.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a local heritage item (that is not also a state heritage item) or a heritage conservation area in the study area for the works? If yes, does a heritage assessment indicate that the potential impacts to the heritage significance of the item/area are more than minor or inconsequential?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the proposal within the coastal vulnerability area and inconsistent with a certified coastal management program applying to that land?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Are the works located on flood liable land? If so, will the works change flooding patterns to more than a minor extent?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Table 2-3 Consultation required with other public authorities

Is consultation with a public authority (other than Council) required under sections 2.13, 2.15 and 2.16 of the SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure)?		
<b>Are the works located on flood liable land? (to any extent)</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If so, do the works comprise more than minor alterations or additions to, or the demolition of, a building, emergency works or routine maintenance?</b>		
<b>Are the works adjacent to a national park, nature reserve or other area reserved under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>, or on land acquired under that Act?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Are the works on land in Zone C1 National Parks and Nature Reserves or in a land use zone equivalent to that zone?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Do the works include a fixed or floating structure in or over navigable waters?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Are the works for the purpose of residential development, an educational establishment, a health services facility, a correctional facility or group home in bush fire prone land?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Would the works increase the amount of artificial light in the night sky and that is on land within the dark sky region as identified on the dark sky region map? (Note: the dark sky region is within 200 kilometres of the Siding Spring Observatory)</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Are the works on buffer land around the defence communications facility near Morundah? (Note: refer to Defence Communications Facility Buffer Map referred to in clause 5.15 of Lockhart LEP 2012, Narrandera LEP 2013 and Urana LEP 2011).</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Are the works on land in a mine subsidence district within the meaning of the <i>Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961</i>?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Are the works on, or reasonably likely to have an impact on, a part of the Willandra Lakes Region Work Heritage Property?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Are the works within a Western City operational area specified in Schedule 2 of the <i>Western Parkland City Authority Act 2018</i> with a capital value of \$30 million or more?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Table 2-4 Notification of council and occupiers of adjoining land

Do Council and occupiers of adjoining land need to be notified under section 2.111 of the SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure)?		
<b>Does the proposal include a car park intended for the use by commuters using regular bus services?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Does the proposal include a bus depot?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Does the proposal include a permanent road maintenance depot or associated infrastructure, such as garages, sheds, tool houses, storage yards, training facilities and workers amenities?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## 2.4.2. Other agency and community engagement

Table 2-5 Consultation with Griffith City Council (GCC)

TI SEPP Consultation Requirements	Impacts	Consultation Details	Consultation Responses/Outcomes
Griffith City Council	Development with impacts on council-related infrastructure or services	<p>Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) Project Managers and Communications team has discussed the UCP Project on multiple occasions with GCC Officers between March and June 2025. Specifically, a meeting was held on 11 June 2025 and presented the UCP impacts on Council managed land. Items discussed included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engagement and REF process to date</li> <li>• Significant roadside vegetation</li> <li>• Maintenance of MI easements</li> <li>• Flood prone areas</li> <li>• Adequate cover over pipelines within road</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GCC is agreeable with the proposed works and construction process to date</li> <li>• GCC will share roadside vegetation survey, MI will review to ensure that any higher risk rated vegetation areas have been assessed within the MWREF's</li> <li>• The expectation that pipeline easements will be maintained by MI</li> <li>• The finish level of the construction works within flood prone areas will be maintained at the current height.</li> <li>• GCC has requested increased cover over the pipeline to provide for future works. MI has agreed</li> </ul>

TI SEPP Consultation Requirements	Impacts	Consultation Details	Consultation Responses/Outcomes
		<p>reserve for future drainage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A formal letter was also provided to GCC, refer to Appendix F.</li> </ul>	to resolve with engineering design solutions where necessary.

This MWREF will be provided to GCC upon completion by MI to further assess and inform potential associated risks and impacts to council managed reserve as a result of proposed construction works at EA14.

At this stage, consultation with private stakeholders was not required as the proposed works are located within MI or GCC managed land. Consultation and notification in relation to traffic and noise would be undertaken prior to commencement of works.

## 3. Environmental assessment

### 3.1. Biodiversity

Table 3-1 Biodiversity

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts				
<b>Have relevant database searches been carried out?</b>			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BioNet threatened species records within the locality (undertaken June 2025)</li> <li>• Regional vegetation mapping and BioNet Vegetation Classification database (undertaken June 2025)</li> <li>• NSW Seed portal for Plant Community Type (PCT) mapping (undertaken December 2025)</li> <li>• BioNet Vegetation Classification database</li> <li>• <a href="#">NSW WeedWise</a> (DPI) website (undertaken June 2025)</li> <li>• Commonwealth EPBC Act Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) (undertaken March 2025)</li> <li>• </li> <li>• Biodiversity Values Mapping showing areas of outstanding biodiversity value (undertaken December 2025)</li> </ul>				
<b>Did the database searches identify any endangered ecological communities, threatened flora and/or threatened or protected fauna, or migratory species in or within the vicinity of the proposed works? Both Commonwealth and State listed matters must be considered.</b>			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Scientific and common name	Status *	Type of listing (BC Act or EPBC Act)	Distance from works	Potential impacts
Southern Bell Frog ( <i>Litoria raniformis</i> )	<i>E</i> under NSW BC Act <i>V</i> under Commonwealth	BC Act EPBC Act	Approx. 30 km north of the Murrumbidgee River	Southern Bell Frog could potentially use the channel for habitat, and adjacent areas to the channel, as foraging habitat.

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts						
	EPBC Act			Dewatering of the existing channel and excavation to facilitate the construction of the new pipeline would potentially increase the impact. Conducting these works outside of the <i>L. raniformis</i> ' breeding period (September-April) would minimise the potential impact.		
*V= vulnerable, E = endangered						
<b>Does the proposal involve pruning, trimming or removal of any tree/s?</b>			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No <input type="checkbox"/>	
It is possible pruning, trimming and/or removal of trees would be required for the installation of new pipelines. As no native vegetation has been identified within the proposed works the potential pruning, trimming and/or removal of trees would be limited to exotic species.						
<b>Is the proposal likely to impact nationally listed threatened species, ecological communities or migratory species?</b>			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Southern Bell Frog listed under EPBC Act						
<b>Would the proposal require the removal of any other vegetation?</b>			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Discrete patches of exotic grassland within proposed works / laydown areas. The state vegetation mapping within the proposed works area is shown in Figure 3-1.						
<b>Would the proposal require the removal of any tree hollows?</b>			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Are there any known areas of outstanding biodiversity value or areas mapped as 'littoral rainforest' or 'coastal wetland' under chapter 2 of SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) in or within the vicinity of the proposed work?</b>			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
The proposed works is predominately located within the road reserve which is a highly disturbed exotic area. There is no identified native vegetation within the proposed works area.						
<b>Would the proposal provide any additional barriers to the movement of wildlife?</b>			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Impacts would be minor and temporary. Dewatering of the existing channels would						

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts			
<p>potentially impact the Southern Bell Frog by limiting or preventing movement across the channels following dewatering. An allowable time of two weeks following dewatering of existing earthen channels or 1-2 days for existing concrete channels would encourage the Southern Bell Frog offsite.</p>			
<p><b>Would the proposal disturb any natural waterways or aquatic habitat?</b> Fauna could potentially use the channels for habitat, and adjacent areas to the channel, as foraging habitat. The impacts are considered to be minimal and discrete disturbances.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
<p><b>Would the proposal impact (directly or indirectly) any potential microbat roosting or breeding habitat such as on bridges and culverts?</b> Fauna could potentially use the channels for habitat, and adjacent areas to the channel, as foraging habitat. The impacts are considered to be minimal and discrete disturbances.</p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

### 3.1.1. Biodiversity detailed assessment

A Biodiversity Assessment (BA) (as summarised below) was undertaken for the proposed works at EA14. This BA included a search of all the relevant searches as detailed above, as well as a singular Test of Significance (ToS) and Assessment of Significance (AoS) for the Southern Bell Frog. These are attached as Appendix G.1 and Appendix G.2.

#### Potential impacts

There are no hollow-bearing trees (HBTs), visible logs or fallen timber, rocky outcrops, or natural waterways that would provide valuable habitat to threatened species. No direct impacts to any threatened species are expected, with the exception of threatened birds, such as Grey Falcon, Australasian Bittern and Southern Whiteface, that would use the channel for foraging habitat. However, as birds are mobile, these impacts are considered negligible.

Southern Bell Frog (*Litoria raniformis*) could potentially use the channel for habitat, and adjacent areas to the channel, as foraging habitat. There are potential impacts to this species as the proposed works are to be conducted within the existing channels.

Because the new pipeline is constructed within the existing channel, it is assumed that the channel will be drained prior to works commencing. The potential impacts to the species could be reduced by conducting these works outside of the *L. raniformis*' breeding period, as well as implementing the safeguards and mitigation measures relating to dewatering as detailed in Section 3.1.2 below.

The breeding period can be shorter if conditions are not ideal. As the irrigation channel is not a permanent source of water, this is not considered ideal habitat, and therefore any use of the channel by frogs as breeding habitat would be dependent on the channel holding water for long enough between September-April to facilitate breeding.

#### Test of Significance

A Test of Significance (ToS) was completed for all threatened flora and fauna species and threatened ecological communities (TEC) listed under the NSW BC Act and found to have a potential likelihood of impact from the proposed works. The following were assessed:

- Southern Bell Frog (*Litoria raniformis*) – Endangered.

The ToS found that the proposed development is not likely to have a significant impact on the Southern Bell Frog due to the limited habitat suitability that the irrigation channel provides for the species. This is supported by the lack of records within and near the proposed development. The channel provides unsuitable breeding habitat due to the length of time that the irrigation channel holds water not being sufficient to allow growth of tadpoles to adulthood. The irrigation channel provides limited foraging habitat due to the lack of aquatic vegetation and the dominance of exotic vegetation, agricultural disturbed land and residential areas surrounding the proposed development.

### **Assessment of Significance**

An Assessment of Significance (AoS) was complete for all threatened flora and fauna species and TEC's listed under the commonwealth EPBC Act and found to have a potential likelihood of impact from the proposed development. The following were assessed:

- Southern Bell Frog (*Litoria raniformis*) – Vulnerable.

The Southern Bell Frog would have impacts to approximately 0.41ha of potentially suitable habitat within the proposed works. The proposed works impact on this species is not considered to be significant due to the following:

- the Proposed works is not considered to contain critical habitat
- the Proposed works is not considered to have an important population
- there is a lack of records indicating a lower likelihood of occupation.
- the earthen channels are shallow, and concrete based
- the earthen channels' vegetation is restricted to fringing terrestrial habitat which provides limited breeding habitat for the Southern Bell Frog.



Figure 3-1 Plant Community Type (PCT) mapping for the proposed works at EA14

### 3.1.2. Safeguards and mitigation measures

To reduce impacts of the proposed works during construction, the following mitigation measures are recommended:

#### Vegetation

- All fallen timber and deadwood within the proposed works area should be retained or relocated to an adjacent area with the Proposal site.

#### Threatened species and migratory species

- Avoiding undergoing works (as far as practical) in Spring or Summer, which is when Southern Bell Frog are most active and the most likely to utilise the irrigation channels. As reasonable, undergo as much works in Autumn and Winter.
- If works are to be completed in Spring and Summer;
  - a. a fauna spotter catcher can be on site to confirm if Southern Bell Frog is present, only if a recent, significant rise in water has occurred (a significant flooding event). Or;
  - b. If rain events are not significant enough to create a rise in water that would retain water for at least a four-month period (a significant flooding event), no additional mitigation is required
- An allowable time of two weeks following dewatering of existing earthen channel.
- The Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) will include measures to make field staff aware of potential threatened fauna during works and understand the procedures if threatened fauna are detected.

#### Water quality

- Install appropriate sediment controls if there are areas of predicted sediment runoff.
- Soil stockpiles to be kept away from concentrated waterflow and covered if left for extended periods of time.
- Incorporate best management erosion and sediment control practices for the duration of the development.

#### Weeds and pest animals

- Ensure appropriate weed and pest controls are included in the CEMP if applicable.
- Ensure appropriate vehicle and footwear hygiene protocol is included in the CEMP.
- Ensuring the vehicle and footwear hygiene is included in site inductions and toolbox talks.

## 3.2. Aboriginal cultural heritage

Table 3-2 Aboriginal cultural heritage

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
<b>Would the proposal involve disturbance in any area that has not been subject to previous ground disturbances?</b>  The proposed works would comprise of excavation and pipeline works on land that has been subject to previous ground disturbance.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Has an online Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) search been completed?</b>  On 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2025, a search of the AHIMS database was undertaken over an area of approximately 800 km <sup>2</sup> centred on the proposed works. The AHIMS Client Service ID was 984771.  There were 78 Aboriginal sites, and no declared Aboriginal Places recorded within the search area. Sites located in the area included artefact scatters, modified trees, art, hearths, Aboriginal resource and gathering, and stone quarries.  There are no Aboriginal sites recorded within or in close proximity to the Proposed works (Appendix H). The closest recorded site is 450m to the west of the Proposed works. The site is an artefact scatter in Griffith that does not appear to be associated with any Strahler order watercourses with the exception of man-made channels.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is there potential for the proposal to impact on any items of Aboriginal cultural heritage?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Would the proposal involve the removal of mature native trees?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 3.2.1. Detailed Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment

An Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment (ADDA) was prepared for EA14 and is attached as Appendix H, in accordance with the sequence of steps identified in the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage's *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (OEH 2010). The Code of Practice provides a stepped approach to determine if an activity is likely to cause harm to an Aboriginal object, as defined by the *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

The following table outlines the summary of assessment for each section of the proposed works in relation to the potential for Aboriginal heritage items to occur.

Table 3-3 Summary of assessment for the proposed works in EA14

Location	Description	Conclusion
Approximately 400m of new pipeline is proposed within an existing open channel on the western side of Chapman Road	A wide open channel (approximately 5m wide) currently exists on the western side of Chapman Road where the pipeline is proposed. The proposed new pipeline will be placed within the existing channel footprint.	Very low potential for Aboriginal heritage to occur within the existing channel footprint.
Laydown area off Chapman Road on Lot 415 DP751709 measuring approximately 65m x 130m.	The laydown area is located within a cleared lot within RU1: primary production zoned land. The laydown area is bordered to the north, south and east by channels. There does not appear to be any significant ground disturbance and is currently unused with dense grasses.	Low to moderate potential for Aboriginal heritage to occur within the potential compound laydown site.

### 3.2.2. Safeguards and mitigation measures

The proposed work can proceed with caution with the following recommendations:

1. Works can proceed within the laydown area on Lot 415 DP751709.
2. All works must be constrained to the assessed areas. Any activity proposed outside of the current assessment areas should be subject to further assessment.
3. Wherever possible, all works should be confined to those areas between the road and the channel or within the existing channel footprint.
4. If any items suspected of being Aboriginal in origin are discovered during the work, all work in the immediate vicinity must stop. The find will need to be assessed and if found to be an Aboriginal object must be reported to Heritage NSW.

MI is reminded that it is an offence under the *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* to disturb, damage or destroy an Aboriginal object without a valid approval to do so.

### 3.3. Non-Aboriginal heritage

Table 3-4 Non-Aboriginal heritage

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
<b>Have online heritage database searches been completed?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NSW Heritage database</li> <li>Commonwealth Heritage List, established under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)</li> <li>Australian Heritage Places Inventory</li> <li>Local Environmental Plan(s) heritage items.</li> </ul> <p>Searches of the relevant heritage databases were carried out on 29 May 2025. There are no listed non-Aboriginal heritage items in proximity or within the proposed works area.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Are there any items of non-Aboriginal heritage or heritage conservation areas listed on relevant heritage databases/registers that are located within the vicinity of the proposal?</b> <p>The nearest non-Aboriginal heritage listed items are the LEP listed Yoogali Club – I26 approximately 2km northwest of the proposed works and the State Heritage Registered – Our Lady of Pompeii Roman Catholic Church – 01746 approximately 1.8km northwest of the proposed works.</p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal likely to impact trees that form part of a heritage listing or have other heritage value?</b> <p>No trees consisting of any identified or listed local heritage item would be impacted by the proposed works.</p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal likely to occur in or near features that indicate potential archaeological remains?</b> <p>The proposed works are not likely to occur in or near features that indicate potential archaeological remains. The work would predominantly be carried out within the MI managed land or the operational road corridor, which would have undergone disturbance during construction of the original road.</p> <p>The compound/laydown locations are also proposed within existing highly disturbed agricultural areas. Therefore, it is also unlikely for the compound/laydown locations to occur in or near features that indicate potential archaeological remains.</p> <p>The safeguards as provided below and in Section 3.3.1 would be used to manage any potential impacts.</p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### **3.3.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures**

In the event that any unexpected substantial intact historic archaeological relics of State or local significance are unexpectedly discovered during the proposed works, the following management protocols will be implemented:

- Works at that identified heritage location will cease with an appropriate buffer zone of at least 20m to allow for the assessment and management of the find. All site personnel will be informed about the buffer zone with no further works to occur within the buffer zone.
- A heritage specialist shall be engaged to inspect and assess the item.
- For items determined to be historic relics, work must remain ceased in the affected area and the Heritage Council must be notified in writing. This is in accordance with Section 146 of the *Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)*.
- Depending on the nature of the discovery, additional assessment may be required prior to the recommencement of work in the area. At a minimum, any find should be recorded by an archaeologist. In the event of discovery of human remain, contact the local police immediately.

### 3.4. Soil

Table 3-5 Soil

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
<b>Are there any known occurrences of salinity or acid sulfate soils in the area?</b>  Available NSW data sources do not indicate the presence of saline or acid sulfate soils in the area.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Does the proposal involve the disturbance of large areas (e.g., &gt;2ha) for earthworks?</b>  The proposed works (as a worst-case) could require approximately 0.41ha of earthworks. The final area of disturbance for the proposed works is likely to be significantly less. Disturbed soil would be reused with backfilling of topsoil likely occur on completion of works.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Does the site have constraints for erosion and sedimentation controls such as steep gradients or narrow corridors?</b>  The proposed works and compound/laydown areas are located on relatively flat landscapes. The narrow road corridor limits the available work area, with the new pipeline requiring to be constructed within the existing channel. Appropriate erosion and sediment controls (i.e., bunding, or sediment fencing) will be in place to prevent or minimise runoff out of the corridor.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Are there any sensitive receiving environments that are located in or nearby the likely proposal area or that would likely receive stormwater discharge from the proposal?</b>  Sensitive receiving environments include (but are not limited to) wetlands, state forests, national parks, nature reserves, rainforests, drinking water catchments).  The nearest mapped waterway is Mirrool Creek located approximately 3.5km southeast.  The nearest mapped wetlands area is located approximately 10.4km northwest of the proposed works.  There are no wetlands, state forests, national parks, nature reserves, rainforests or drinking water catchments within receiving distance of the proposed works.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is there any evidence within or nearby the likely footprint of potential contamination?</b>  There are no contaminated sites as listed on the EPA's Section 58 register, as of 29 May 2025. There are eight contaminated sites listed on the EPA's Section 60 register for the town of Griffith, with the closest sites including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Former Ampol Depot on Mackey Lane – approx. 3.3km northwest from the</li> </ul>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
<p>proposed works.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liberty Depot on Mackey Lane – approx. 3.7km northwest from the proposed works.</li> </ul> <p>The proposed works are unlikely to impact or disturb any contaminated soil from these sites.</p>		
<b>Is the likely proposal footprint in or nearby highly sloping landform?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No, the proposed works and compound/laydown areas are located on relatively flat landscapes. Any risk of erosion or sedimentation would be minimal and mitigated with the below safeguards.		
<b>Is the proposal likely to result in more than 2.5ha (area) of exposed soil?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The proposed works could require approximately 0.41ha of earthworks if the entirety of the pipeline would be new pipeline constructed adjacent to the existing channel. The final area of disturbance is likely to be significantly less. Exposed soil would be limited and temporary during the construction phase, with backfilling to occur on completion of the proposed works.		
<b>Potential impacts</b>		
Excavated soils will be reused on completion of the works, assuming no contamination is identified. Any erosion risks during excavation would be mitigated with the below safeguards.		

### 3.4.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures

- Site management will incorporate best management erosion and sediment control practices such as those found in the Department of Housing's "Blue Book" (4th Edition) (OEH, 2004) on erosion and sediment control including:
  - At the commencement of the works, and progressively during the work install the required erosion control and sediment measures
  - Regularly inspect erosion and sediment controls, particularly following rainfall.
  - Maintain a register of inspection and maintenance of erosion control and sediment capture measures, where the duration of works at a single location is more than one shift.
  - Ensure that machinery leaves the site in a clean condition to avoid tracking sediment onto public roads.
  - In all excavation activities, separate subsoils and topsoils to ensure that they are replaced in their natural configuration to assist revegetation
  - Manage works in consideration of heavy rainfall events
  - Areas of disturbed soil would be rehabilitated promptly and progressively during investigation works.
  - Ensure a spill procedure is in place
- If contaminated areas are encountered during construction, appropriate control measures will be implemented to manage the immediate risks of contamination. All other works that may impact on the contaminated area will cease until the nature and extent of the contamination has been confirmed and

any necessary site-specific controls or further actions identified in consultation with relevant government agencies

- Classify all excavated material in accordance with the EPA Waste Classification Guidelines (EPA, 2014). Dispose of or reuse material in accordance with its waste classification.

### 3.5. Waterways and water quality

Table 3-6 Waterways and water quality

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
<b>Is the proposal located within, adjacent to or near a waterway?</b>  The nearest mapped natural waterway is Mirrool Creek located approximately 3.5km southeast.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the location known to flood or be prone to water logging?</b>  The area is not known to be impacted by naturally occurring flooding or water logging events.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal located within a regulated catchments covered by chapter 6 of State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021 (SEPP (Biodiversity and Conservation))?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Would the proposal be undertaken on a bridge or ferry?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal likely to require the extraction of water from a local water course (not mains)?</b>  Dewatering of the existing channel would occur as part of the construction process within the proposed works.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
The proposed works involve the disturbance of soils by way excavation for the new pipelines. These works would pose minimal risk to any nearby waterways, and any impacts would be mitigated by following the below safeguards.		

#### 3.5.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures

- No dirty water may be released into drainage lines and/or waterways. The water collected from dewatering the channels will be stored in a licensed water treatment facility.
- Water quality control measures are to be used where relevant to prevent any materials (e.g., concrete, grout, sediment) entering drain inlets or waterways.
- Store any fuels, chemical and hazardous materials in secure, bunded areas and at least 40m from all waterways
- An emergency spill kit will be kept on site at all times. All staff are to be made aware of the location of the spill kit and trained in its use.

### **3.6. Noise and vibration**

A distance-based assessment using the three noisiest plant was undertaken using TFNSW's Construction Noise Estimator Tool (CNET) to determine the extent of noise impacts on the locality. Due to the proximity to road corridors and nearby privately owned premises, the existing noise area is categorised as R2 noise category scenario.

Table 3-7 Noise and vibration

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
<p><b>Are there any residential properties or other noise sensitive areas near the location of the proposal that may be affected by the work (i.e., church, school, hospital)?</b></p> <p>Sensitive receivers have been defined as any private dwelling and/or public/ commercial premises that may be impacted by the proposed works at EA14.</p> <p>There were 14 potential receivers identified within 335m of the proposed works.</p> <p>Noise modelling was undertaken for both daytime standard construction hours and nightworks, and illustrated in the Figure 3-2 and</p> <p>Figure 3-3 below. The noise modelling indicated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>During day construction hours:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 0 receivers are within the Highly Intrusive Noise Catchment Area (NCA1)</li> <li>○ 1 receiver within the Moderately Intrusive NCA2</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>During nightworks:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1 receiver within the Highly Intrusive NCA1</li> <li>○ 2 receivers are within the Moderately Intrusive NCA2</li> <li>○ 4 receivers are within the Clearly Audible NCA3</li> <li>○ 6 receivers are within the Noticeable NCA4</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The above mentioned day and nighttime construction works would be expected to only be temporary, with the duration of works only being 6 – 12 weeks.</p> <p>Through implementing the safeguards and mitigation measures outlined below, the noise impacts for all identified receivers would be expected to be low.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Is the proposal going to be undertaken only during standard working hours?</b></p> <p>Standard construction working hours for Griffith locality as specified by the NSW Interim Construction Noise Guidelines (ICNG) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Monday to Friday:</b> 7:00am to 6:00pm</li> <li>• <b>Saturday:</b> 7:00am to 1:00pm</li> </ul> <p>Additional outside of standard work hours will be required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Saturday:</b> 1:00pm to 6:00pm</li> <li>• <b>Sunday:</b> 7:00am to 6:00pm</li> <li>• <b>Public Holidays:</b> 7:00am to 6:00pm</li> </ul> <p>The construction taking place within additional outside of working hours is considered beneficial to the overall project as it will reduce impact and delays to the local public transport services (e.g. school buses) during the week.</p> <p>It should be noted that a diesel pump may be required to operate outside the standard</p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
working hours (worst-case over a 24hr period), to dewater the existing channels or supply water.		
<b>Is any explosive blasting required for the proposal?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Would construction noise or vibration from the proposal affect sensitive receivers?</b>  The proposed works would have the potential to affect up to 1 sensitive receiver during standard construction hours and up to 13 outside of standard construction hours, as outlined above. It is anticipated that any impacts would be able to be mitigated by the recommended measures, and any residual impacts would be minimal due to the short-term durations of the works.  No vibration intensive equipment listed in the NSW <i>Construction Noise and Vibration Guideline</i> (CNVG) are expected to be used for this proposal. As such, the proposal would not result in vibration being experienced by any surrounding properties or infrastructure.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Would operation of the proposal alter the noise environment for sensitive receivers?</b>  Following completion of the proposal, there would be no operational change in the noise environment.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Would the proposal result in vibration being experienced by any surrounding properties or infrastructure during operation?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 3.6.1. Noise detailed assessment

#### Criteria

For construction, the background noise level (LA90) was determined by the method described in the *NSW Noise Policy for Industry* (EPA, 2017) and in accordance with the ICNG. The “Energy Average Noise Level” during construction activities, evaluated over a measurement period of 15 minutes. This is the main parameter used to assess the construction noise impacts. The LAeq (15 minute) construction noise objectives are based on an allowance margin above the LA90 background noise levels.

The existing noise conditions of the area would be similar to a typical rural agricultural setting. This may include the use of heavy agricultural machinery and existing operational irrigation infrastructure (diesel

pump stations). These are considered to be a common contributors to the existing noise environment. The potential cumulative noise impacts arising from the proposed works have are detailed below.

The Noise Management Level (NML) is determined by the existing noise area R2, which is 55dB(A) for standard hours works and 45dB(A) for night works.

Noise modelling was conducted around the investigation locations, with the areas around these points divided into the following Noise Catchment Areas (NCA) to represent the changes in ambient noise levels and to assess the levels of impact.

Table 3-8 Noise Catchment Areas

Day	
NCA	Description
NCA1 – Highly intrusive (15m)	Noise catchment area directly adjacent to the proposal site with direct line of sight to the construction works and predicted to be exposed to LAeq(15min) construction noise levels >30dB(A) above the applicable construction NML
NCA2 – Moderately intrusive (30m)	Noise catchment area predicted to be exposed to LAeq(15min) construction noise levels that are between 20dB(A) and 30dB(A) above the applicable NML.
NCA3 – Maximum Affected Distance (85m)	Noise catchment area predicted to be the maximum distance from the proposed works where noise level above background may be noticeable but would not require any additional measures for noise mitigation.
Night	
NCA1 – Highly intrusive (35m)	Noise catchment area directly adjacent to the proposal site with direct line of sight to the construction works and predicted to be exposed to LAeq(15min) construction noise levels >30dB(A) above the applicable construction noise management level (NML).
NCA2 – Moderately intrusive (95m)	Noise catchment area predicted to be exposed to LAeq(15min) construction noise levels that are between 30dB(A) and 20dB(A) above the applicable NML.
NCA3 – Cleary audible (220m)	Noise catchment area predicted to be exposed to LAeq(15min) construction noise levels that are between 20dB(A) and 10dB(A) above the applicable NML.
NCA4 – Noticeable	Noise catchment area predicted to be exposed to LAeq(15min) construction noise levels that are <10dB(A) above the applicable NML.

(335m)	
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### Potential impacts

#### Construction

Potential construction noise impacts have been measured from the proposed works maximum area (5m buffer either side of the proposed new pipeline). Noise catchment were identified, the extents of which are outlined in Table 3-8, and displayed in the figures below. Note that vehicle noise from the compound/laydown areas were not modelled, as the vehicle movements to/from the areas would be brief and would not occur in a standard back/forth fashion as with typical works within a road corridor. No materials from the construction of the proposed works would be tipped out/ loaded within the potential compound/ laydown area.

Table 3-9 Residential noise limits for works during standard construction work hours

NCA (Extention from proposed works area)	NML (dB(A))	NML Exceedance dB(A)	Recommended additional mitigation measures*
<b>Day</b>			
NCA1 (15m)	55	>30	N, PC, RO
NCA2 (30m)	55	20<30	N
NCA3 (85m)	55	Nil	Nil
<b>Night</b>			
NCA1 (35m)	45	>30	N, PC, SN
NCA2 (95m)	45	20<30	N, PC, SN
NCA3 (220m)	45	10<20	N
NCA4 (335m)	45	5<10	N

\*AA=Alternative Accomodation, SN=Specific Notifications, N=Notification, PC=Phone Call, RO=Respite Offer, R2=Respite Period 2, DR=Duration Respite

#### Day Time

As shown in Figure 3-2 there would be up to 1 sensitive receiver expected to receive noise impacts from construction works undertaken during standard construction hours. Of these receivers:

- 0 receivers are expected to experience highly intrusive noise impacts (>30 dB(A))
- 1 receiver expected to experience moderately intrusive noise impacts (20<30 dB(A))

The safeguards and mitigation measures set out in Section 3.6.2 would readily mitigate the expected noise impacts. In addition to these measures, the following mitigation measures, as given by the CNET, should be implemented:

- For NCA1
  - As no sensitive receivers were identified within NCA1 for daytime construction noise, no additional mitigation measures for noise are warranted. Should any receiver be affected, the standard complaints procedure prepared as part of the proposals CEMP would be followed.
- For NCA2
  - Notification (letterbox drop or equivalent)

It should be noted that the noise assessment has been determined based off the noisiest plant in operation with clear line of sight to the receiver. The assessment does not take into consideration existing intervening vegetation, structures, and topography. As such, this provides a worst-case scenario with actual noise impacts expected to be lower than those identified.

### **Nighttime**

As shown in

Figure 3-3 here would be up to 13 sensitive receivers expected to receive noise impacts from construction works undertaken outside of the standard working hours (operation of diesel pump). Of these receivers:

- 1 receiver are expected to experience highly intrusive noise impacts ( $>30$  dB(A))
- 2 receivers are expected to experience moderately intrusive noise impacts ( $20 < 30$  dB(A))
- 4 receivers are expected to experience clearly audible noise impacts ( $10 < 20$  dB(A))
- 6 receivers are expected to experience noticeable noise impacts ( $5 < 10$  dB(A))

While there are a large number of sensitive receivers for the nighttime works, the diesel pump would only be operating in discrete locations within the proposed works area, not along the entirety of the pipeline works. Therefore, only a small portion of the total identified sensitive receivers would be impacted and require notification as part of the nighttime construction works. However, as these discrete locations are not yet known, the entirety of the proposed works area was assessed to capture all potential affected sensitive receivers.

The safeguards and mitigation measures set out in Section 3.6.2 would readily mitigate the expected noise impacts. In addition to these measures, the following mitigation measures, as given by the CNET, should be implemented:

- For NCA1
  - Specific notification (letterbox or equivalent) to identified stakeholders no later than five days ahead of construction activities. Specific notification provides additional information when relevant and informative to more highly affected receivers.
  - Notification (letterbox drop or equivalent) of prior warning of works and potential disruptions can assist in reducing the impact on the community. Notification should be a minimum of five working days prior to the start of works.
  - Phone calls detailing relevant information made to identified/affected stakeholders, who have provided their contact details, within seven calendar days of proposed work.
  - Due to the short duration of works, other measures such as verification monitoring, respite periods and duration reductions are not considered practical mitigation options as these would extend the overall duration of works and subsequent noise impacts.

- For NCA2
  - Specific notification (letterbox or equivalent) to identified stakeholders no later than five days ahead of construction activities. Specific notification provides additional information when relevant and informative to more highly affected receivers.
  - Notification (letterbox drop or equivalent) of prior warning of works and potential disruptions can assist in reducing the impact on the community. Notification should be a minimum of five working days prior to the start of works.
  - Phone calls detailing relevant information made to identified/affected stakeholders, who have provided their contact details, within seven calendar days of proposed work.
  - Again, other mitigation measures are not considered practical for NCA2
- For NCA3
  - Notification (letterbox drop or equivalent) of prior warning of works and potential disruptions can assist in reducing the impact on the community. Notification should be a minimum of five working days prior to the start of works.
- For NCA4
  - Notification (letterbox drop or equivalent) of prior warning of works and potential disruptions can assist in reducing the impact on the community. Notification should be a minimum of five working days prior to the start of works.

It should be noted that the noise assessment has been determined based off the noisiest plant operation with clear line of sight to the receiver. The assessment does not take into consideration existing intervening vegetation, structures, and topography. As such, this provides a worst-case scenario with actual noise impacts expected to be lower than those identified.

### **Operation**

As the proposed works would not result in any permanent structures above natural ground level or change to existing structures, there would be no change in the operational noise or vibration environments.

Note this scenario is calculated as a worst-case situation and it is unlikely that the diesel pumps would be operated outside of the standard working areas, as such the above noise assessment is capturing a worst-case scenario.



Figure 3-2 Noise catchment areas – standard construction works hours



Figure 3-3 Noise catchment areas – standard construction works hours (nighttime)

### 3.6.2. Safeguards and mitigation measures

- Implementation of the above recommended additional mitigation measures for receivers affected by standard construction work hours (daytime):
  - Notification in the form of letter box drops and/or individual doorknocking for affected receivers in NCA2
    - Within this notification direct contact details for the construction manager would be provided to potential affected receivers.
- Implementation of the above recommended additional mitigation measures for receivers affected by outside of standard construction work hours (specifically nighttime construction hours):
  - Notification and specific notification in the form of letter box drops for affected receivers in NCA1 and NCA2
  - Phone calls for affected receivers in NCA1
- Utilisation of potential compound/ laydown area will require additional noise catchment assessment and will be included in the CEMP.
- Ensuring that noisy plant and equipment are not operated simultaneously where avoidable.
- Switching off plant and equipment when not in use.
- Consider the use of non-tonal reverse beepers and ambient sensitive alarms (that adjust noise output relative to the ambient level) where practicable.
- All employees, contractors and subcontractors are to receive an environmental induction. The induction must at least include:
  - All project specific and relevant standard noise and vibration mitigation measures
  - Relevant licence and approval conditions
  - Permissible hours of work
  - Any limitations on high noise generating activities
  - Location of nearest sensitive receivers
  - Construction employee parking areas
  - Designated loading / unloading areas and procedures
  - Site opening/closing times
  - Environmental incident procedures

### 3.7. Landscape character and visual amenity

Table 3-10 Landscape character and visual amenity

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
<b>Is the proposed work over or near an important physical or cultural element or landscape? (For example, heritage items and areas, distinctive or historic built form, National Parks, conservation areas, scenic highways etc.)</b>  As stated in Section 3.3, the nearest non-Aboriginal heritage listed items are the LEP listed Yoogali Club – I26 and the State Heritage Registered – Our Lady of Pompeii Roman Catholic Church – 01746 both approximately 2km northwest of the proposed works. As works would be restricted to within the road corridor, there is little risk of impacts from the proposed works.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Would the proposal obstruct or intrude upon the character or views of a valued landscape or urban area? (For example, locally significant topography, a rural landscape or a park, a river, lake or the ocean or a historic or distinctive townscape or landmark)</b>  The proposed works would not result in the construction of any new structures or features that would obstruct or intrude on the character or views of local landscapes. The works would also be temporary, with no lasting impact after the works are complete	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Would the proposal require the removal of mature trees or stands of vegetation, either native or introduced?</b>  Potential trimming or clearing of mature trees could be required for new pipelines. However, do not form part of an important streetscape.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Would the proposal result in large areas of shotcrete visible from the road or adjacent properties?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Would the proposal involve new noise walls or visible changes to existing noise walls?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Would the proposal involve the removal or reuse of large areas of road corridor, landscape, either verges or medians?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Would the proposal involve substantial changes to the appearance of a bridge (including piers, girders, abutments and parapets) that are visible from the road or residential areas?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
If involving lighting, would the proposal create unwanted light spillage on residential properties at night (in construction or operation)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Would any new structures or features to be constructed, result in overshadowing to adjoining properties or areas?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>There would a small impact to landscape character or visual amenity as a result of the proposed works. This would be temporary and limited to the construction period and would not have any lasting impacts on landscape character or visual amenity following the completion of works. It is noted that the removal of the existing channel will be a permanent change the existing landscape character and visual amenity albeit minor.</p>		

### 3.7.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures

- Contain all work within the boundaries designated on the site plan
- Work areas shall be maintained in an orderly manner
- On completion of the works, all vehicles, construction equipment, materials, and refuse relating to the works shall be removed from the work site(s) and any adjacent affected areas
- All exposed areas shall be stabilised with the excavated topsoil being placed back on site as soon as possible. Remove temporary erosion and sediment controls from the site once landforms have been assessed as stable.

### 3.8. Air quality and climate change

Table 3-11 Air quality

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
<b>Is the proposal likely to result in large areas (&gt;2ha) of exposed soils?</b>  The proposed works could require approximately 0.41ha (worst-case scenario) of earthworks if the entirety of the pipeline would be new pipeline constructed adjacent to the existing channel. The final area of disturbance is likely to be significantly less. Disturbed soil would be replaced with backfilling of topsoil likely occur on completion of works.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Are there any dust-sensitive receivers located within the vicinity of the proposal during the construction period?</b>  Depending on the specific location of the proposed works for EA14, soil moisture and weather conditions, there is potential for dust generation resulting in a localised nuisance. The potential impact has been addressed by the proposed safeguards.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is there likely to be an emission to air during construction?</b>  Dust would be produced by the excavations undertaken as part of the proposed works. Similarly, there would be some particulate emissions from the use of plant and equipment.  The potential impact from emissions is expected to be low given the works are not in a high-density residential area and areas of exposed soil would be limited. Any residual impacts from emissions would be managed with the appropriate implementation of safeguards listed below.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Table 3-12 Climate change

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
<b>Is the proposal located in an area likely to be permanently or tidally inundated in the future or subject to increased duration and intensity of flooding?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Have opportunities for reduced energy consumption during construction and operation been considered.</b>  The proposed works will be for a limited time, and as such opportunities for reducing the energy consumption are limited.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

#### Description of existing environmental and potential impacts

Greenhouse gas emissions sources during construction are likely to be largest from:

- Transporting materials to site.
- Operation of plant and equipment.

There would be no operational sources of greenhouse gasses arising from the proposed works

#### 3.8.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures

- Works are not to be carried out during strong winds or in weather conditions where high levels of dust or air borne particulates are likely
- Vegetation or other materials are not to be burnt on site
- Vehicles and vessels transporting waste or other materials that may produce odours or dust are to be covered during transportation
- Vehicles and equipment are to be maintained in good working order
- Measures (including watering or covering exposed areas) are to be used to minimise or prevent air pollution and dust
- Do not leave vehicles idling.

## 3.9. Traffic and transport

Table 3-13 Traffic and transport

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
<p><b>Is the proposal likely to result in detours or disruptions to traffic flow (vehicular, cycle and pedestrian) or access during construction?</b></p> <p>Minor traffic disruptions may occur when plant and equipment is transported to the proposed works location, and when construction activities are conducted across Chapman Road.</p> <p>The proposed works fall wholly within road corridor of Chapman Road, a local road, predominately utilised by resident vehicles and the occasional heavy farm vehicle equipment. Large numbers of daily traffic is not anticipated to occur through Chapman Road.</p> <p>Traffic control would be required when survey staff are undertaking utility surveys in proximity to traffic. A Traffic Management Plan (TMP) would be prepared and would likely involve speed reductions or short lane closures around work sites. Traffic would remain able to pass work sites and access nearby properties throughout the duration of works. Traffic control measures would be demobilised at the conclusion of each work shift.</p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Is the proposal likely to result in detours or disruptions to traffic flow (vehicular, cycle and pedestrian) or access during operation?</b></p> <p>No operational changes would occur once works are complete.</p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Is the proposal likely to affect any other transport nodes or transport infrastructure (e.g., bus stops, bus routes) in the surrounding area? Or result in detours or disruptions to traffic flow (vehicular, cycle and pedestrian) or access during operation?</b></p> <p>No transport nodes, or vehicular, cycle or pedestrian access would be affected during operation, and no changes would be present following completion of the proposal.</p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>The proposed works may have minor impacts on traffic during construction and the delivery of plant equipment, but the proposal would not permanently alter any existing traffic arrangements during operation. Any impacts would be mitigated by the implementation of the below safeguards.</p>		

### 3.9.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures

- Where possible, current traffic movements and property access are to be maintained during the construction works. Any disturbance is to be minimised to prevent unnecessary traffic delays.

- A Traffic Management Plan (TMP) will be prepared in accordance with the relevant guidelines and procedures.

### 3.10. Socio-economic

Table 3-14 Socio-economic

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
<b>Is the proposal likely to impact on local business?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal likely to require any property acquisition?</b>  The proposed works would not require any property acquisition, however, access may be required to a number of private lots to undertake the works.  Access agreements must be sought by all property owners.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal likely to alter any access for properties (either temporarily or permanently)?</b>  Temporary access restrictions may apply where access culverts are removed and replaced with pipeline infrastructure within the same day. MI customer engagement will negotiate timing with affected customers.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal likely to alter any on-street parking arrangements (either temporarily or permanently)?</b>  Temporary alterations to on street parking may apply to along Chapman Road as part of the construction works at EA14.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal likely to change pedestrian movements or pedestrian access (either temporarily or permanently)?</b>  As outlined in Section 3.9, there may be some temporary traffic, including pedestrian traffic) disruptions on Chapman Road when construction works are required within the road corridor. There would be no permanent impacts on pedestrian movements.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal likely to impact on any items or places of social value to the community (either temporarily or permanently)?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal likely to reduce or change visibility of any businesses, farms, tourist attractions or the like (either temporarily or permanently)?</b>  No permanent changes to landscape would arise from the proposed works.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal likely to impact trees planted by a community group, Landcare group or by council or a tree that is a memorial or part of a memorial group</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<b>Description of existing environmental and potential impacts</b>		
e.g., has a plaque?		
Is the proposal likely to impact trees that form part of a streetscape, an avenue or roadside planting?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### **3.10.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures**

- Any complaints received during the undertaking of the works are to be recorded and addressed within a reasonable time
- Obtain appropriate landholder consent for works on private land.

### 3.11. Waste

Table 3-15 Waste

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts		
<b>Is the proposal likely to generate &gt;200 tonnes of waste material (contaminated and /or non-contaminated material)?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal likely to require a licence from EPA?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Is the proposal likely to require the removal of asbestos?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>The main waste streams would include small amounts of asphalt and road base, excess soil and excavated material, and small amounts of construction piping material.</p> <p>Sludge material and any current water obtained from the existing channel would be collected and transported to a licensed water treatment facility for processing.</p>		

#### 3.11.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures

- Classify all excavated material in accordance with the EPA Waste Classification Guidelines (EPA, 2014). Dispose of or reuse material in accordance with its waster classification.
- Waste material, other than vegetation mulch, is not to be left on site once the works have been completed (refer back to Section 3.4.1).
- Resource management hierarchy principles are to be followed (in accordance with the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001):
  - Avoid unnecessary resource consumption as a priority.
  - Avoidance is followed by resource recovery (including reuse of materials, reprocessing, recycling and energy recovery).
  - Disposal is undertaken as a last resort.

## 3.12. Cumulative impacts

Table 3-16 Cumulative impacts

Description of existing environmental and potential impacts	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Are there other projects and developments in the study area which could add to potential impacts in both construction and operation?</b></p> <p>A search of the Griffith City Council Development Applicant tracker and a search of the NSW Major Project Portal on the 29 May 2025 found no other projects or developments in the wider locality which would add to potential impacts arising from this proposed works.</p> <p>There is the potential that the proposed works in other areas of the broader UCP project would be undertaken concurrently with the proposed works for EA14. While this may constitute some cumulative impacts in relation to traffic and social (i.e. during seasonal harvest period where higher volumes of heavy vehicles and traffic would be anticipated) the works would be completed over a small timeframe of approximately 6 - 12 weeks. Therefore, the cumulative impacts are expected to be low.</p>		

### 3.12.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures

No additional safeguards are proposed.

## 4. Summary of proposed safeguards and mitigation measures

### 4.1. Safeguards and mitigation measures

Table 4-1 Summary of proposed safeguards and mitigation measures

Environmental factor	Safeguards	Relevant Section
Biodiversity	<p><b>Vegetation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All fallen timber and deadwood within the proposed works area should be retained or relocated to an adjacent area with the Proposal site.</li> </ul> <p><b>Threatened species and migratory species</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoiding undergoing works (as far as practical) in Spring or Summer, which is when Southern Bell Frog are most active and the most likely to utilise the irrigation channels. As reasonable, undergo as much works in Autumn and Winter.</li> <li>• If works are to be completed in Spring and Summer; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. a fauna spotter catcher can be on site to confirm if Southern Bell Frog is present, only if a recent, significant rise in water has occurred (a significant flooding event). Or;</li> <li>d. If rain events are not significant enough to create a rise in water that would retain water for at least a four-month period (a significant flooding event), no additional mitigation is required</li> </ul> </li> <li>• An allowable time of two weeks following dewatering of existing earthen channel.</li> <li>• The Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) should include measures to make field staff aware of potential threatened fauna during works and understand the procedures if threatened fauna are detected.</li> </ul>	Section 3.1

Environmental factor	Safeguards	Relevant Section
	<p><b>Water quality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install appropriate sediment controls if there are areas of predicted sediment runoff.</li> <li>Soil stockpiles to be kept away from concentrated waterflow and covered if left for extended periods of time.</li> </ul> <p>Incorporate best management erosion and sediment control practices for the duration of the development.</p> <p><b>Weeds and pest animals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure appropriate weed and pest controls are included in the CEMP if applicable.</li> <li>Ensure appropriate vehicle and footwear hygiene protocol is included in the CEMP.</li> </ul> <p>Ensuring the vehicle and footwear hygiene is included in site inductions and toolbox talks.</p>	
Aboriginal heritage	<p>The proposed works can proceed with caution with the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Works can proceed within the laydown area on Lot 415 DP751709.</li> <li>All works must be constrained to the assessed areas. Any activity proposed outside of the current assessment areas should be subject to assessment.</li> <li>Wherever possible, all works should be confined to those areas between the road and the channel or within the existing channel footprint. If the proposed works cannot occur within the previously disturbed footprint a site inspection will be necessary.</li> <li>If any items suspected of being Aboriginal in origin are discovered during the work, all work in the immediate vicinity must stop. The find will need to be assessed and if found to be an Aboriginal object must be reported to Heritage NSW.</li> <li>MI is reminded that it is an offence under the <i>NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> to disturb, damage or destroy an Aboriginal object without a valid approval to do so.</li> </ul>	Section 3.2

Environmental factor	Safeguards	Relevant Section
Non-Aboriginal heritage	<p>In the event that any unexpected substantial intact historic archaeological relics of State or local significance are unexpectedly discovered during the proposed works, the following management protocols will be implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works at that identified heritage location will cease with an appropriate buffer zone of at least 20m to allow for the assessment and management of the find. All site personnel will be informed about the buffer zone with no further works to occur within the buffer zone.</li> <li>• A heritage specialist shall be engaged to inspect and assess the item.</li> <li>• For items determined to be historic relics, work must remain ceased in the affected area and the Heritage Council must be notified in writing. This is in accordance with Section 146 of the <i>Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)</i>.</li> <li>• Depending on the nature of the discovery, additional assessment may be required prior to the recommencement of work in the area. At a minimum, any find should be recorded by an archaeologist. In the event of discovery of human remain, contact the local police immediately.</li> </ul>	Section 3.3
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site management will incorporate best management erosion and sediment control practices such as those found in the Department of Housing's "Blue Book" (4th Edition) on erosion and sediment control including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ At the commencement of the works, and progressively during the work install the required erosion control and sediment measures</li> <li>○ Regularly inspect erosion and sediment controls, particularly following rainfall.</li> <li>○ Maintain a register of inspection and maintenance of erosion control and sediment capture measures, where the duration of works at a single location is more than one shift.</li> <li>○ Ensure that machinery leaves the site in a clean condition to avoid tracking sediment onto public roads.</li> <li>○ In all excavation activities, separate subsoils and topsoils to ensure that they are replaced in their natural configuration to assist revegetation</li> <li>○ Manage works in consideration of heavy rainfall events</li> <li>○ Areas of disturbed soil would be rehabilitated promptly and progressively during investigation works.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Section 3.4

Environmental factor	Safeguards	Relevant Section
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ensure a spill procedure is in place</li> <li>• If contaminated areas are encountered during construction, appropriate control measures will be implemented to manage the immediate risks of contamination. All other works that may impact on the contaminated area will cease until the nature and extent of the contamination has been confirmed and any necessary site-specific controls or further actions identified in consultation with relevant government agencies</li> <li>• Classify all excavated material in accordance with the EPA Waste Classification Guidelines. Dispose of or reuse material in accordance with its waste classification</li> </ul>	
Waterways and water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No dirty water may be released into drainage lines and/or waterways. The water collected from dewatering the channels will be stored in a licensed water treatment facility.</li> <li>• Water quality control measures are to be used where relevant to prevent any materials (e.g., concrete, grout, sediment) entering drain inlets or waterways.</li> <li>• Store any fuels, chemical and hazardous materials in secure, bunded areas and at least 40m from all waterways</li> <li>• An emergency spill kit will be kept on site at all times. All staff are to be made aware of the location of the spill kit and trained in its use.</li> </ul>	Section 3.5
Noise and vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of the above recommended additional mitigation measures for receivers affected by standard construction work hours (daytime): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Notification in the form of letter box drops and/or individual doorknocking for affected receivers in NCA1 and NCA2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Within this notification direct contact details for the construction manager would be provided to potential affected receivers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Phone calls for affected receivers in NCA1 if required</li> <li>○ Respite Offer for affected receivers in NCA1 if required</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Implementation of the above recommended additional mitigation measures for receivers affected by outside of</li> </ul>	Section 3.6

Environmental factor	Safeguards	Relevant Section
	<p>standard construction work hours (specifically nighttime construction hours):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Notification and specific notification in the form of letter box drops for affected receivers in NCA1 and NCA2</li> <li>○ Phone calls for affected receivers in NCA1</li> <li>●</li> <li>● Utilisation of potential compound/ laydown area will require additional noise catchment assessment and will be included in the CEMP.</li> <li>● Ensuring that noisy plant and equipment are not operated simultaneously where avoidable.</li> <li>● Switching off plant and equipment when not in use.</li> <li>● Consider the use of non-tonal reverse beepers and ambient sensitive alarms (that adjust noise output relative to the ambient level) where practicable.</li> <li>● All employees, contractors and subcontractors are to receive an environmental induction. The induction must at least include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ All project specific and relevant standard noise and vibration mitigation measures</li> <li>○ Relevant licence and approval conditions</li> <li>○ Permissible hours of work</li> <li>○ Any limitations on high noise generating activities</li> <li>○ Location of nearest sensitive receivers</li> <li>○ Construction employee parking areas</li> <li>○ Designated loading / unloading areas and procedures</li> <li>○ Site opening/closing times</li> <li>○ Environmental incident procedures</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Contain all work within the boundaries designated on the site plan</li> </ul>	Section 3.7

Environmental factor	Safeguards	Relevant Section
character and visual amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work areas shall be maintained in an orderly manner</li> <li>On completion of the works, all vehicles, construction equipment, materials, and refuse relating to the works shall be removed from the work site(s) and any adjacent affected areas</li> <li>All exposed areas shall be stabilised with the excavated topsoil being placed back on site as soon as possible. Remove temporary erosion and sediment controls from the site once landforms have been assessed as stable</li> </ul>	
Air quality and climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Works are not to be carried out during strong winds or in weather conditions where high levels of dust or air borne particulates are likely.</li> <li>Vegetation or other materials are not to be burnt on site.</li> <li>Vehicles and vessels transporting waste or other materials that may produce odours or dust are to be covered during transportation.</li> <li>Vehicles and equipment are to be maintained in good working order.</li> <li>Measures (including watering or covering exposed areas) are to be used to minimise or prevent air pollution and dust</li> <li>Do not leave vehicles idling.</li> </ul>	Section 3.8
Traffic and transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where possible, current traffic movements and property access are to be maintained during the construction works. Any disturbance is to be minimised to prevent unnecessary traffic delays.</li> <li>A Traffic Management Plan (TMP) will be prepared in accordance with the relevant guidelines and procedures.</li> </ul>	Section 3.9
Socio-economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any complaints received during the undertaking of the works are to be recorded and addressed within a reasonable time</li> <li>Obtain appropriate landholder consent for works on private land.</li> </ul>	Section 3.10

Environmental factor	Safeguards	Relevant Section
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classify all excavated material in accordance with the EPA Waste Classification Guidelines (EPA, 2014). Dispose of or reuse material in accordance with its waster classification.</li> <li>• Waste material, other than vegetation mulch, is not to be left on site once the works have been completed (refer back to Section 3.4.1).</li> <li>• Resource management hierarchy principles are to be followed (in accordance with the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Avoid unnecessary resource consumption as a priority.</li> <li>○ Avoidance is followed by resource recovery (including reuse of materials, reprocessing, recycling and energy recovery).</li> <li>○ Disposal is undertaken as a last resort.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Section 3.11
Cumulative impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	Section 3.12

## 4.2. Licensing and approvals

Table 4-2 Summary of licensing and approvals required

Instrument	Requirement	Timing
<i>Water Act 1912 (s10 / s18F)</i>	Licence and/or permit for construction or use of a 'work' (e.g., water conservation, irrigation, water supply, drainage or changing the course of a river) for certain purposes from DPE (Water).	Prior to start of the activity.
<i>Roads Act 1993</i>	Road Occupancy Licence (ROL) - Approval under Section 138 of the Roads Act from the appropriate road authority prior to works on roads or closures of lanes	Prior to work on roads.
<i>Water Management Regulation 2018</i>	The construction of a water pipe solely for conveying water from one place to another is exempt from water supply approval under the WM Regulation, provided the work is not on waterfront land other than a minor stream.  A water supply work approval is not required for the proposal	Prior to start of the activity

## 5. Summary of impacts

Environmental factor	Potential impacts	Relevant Section	Need for further assessment? (Y/N)
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No direct impacts to any threatened species are expected, with the exception of threatened birds, such as Grey Falcon, Australasian Bittern and Southern Whiteface, that would use the channel for foraging habitat. However, as birds are more mobile than most species, these impacts are considered negligible</li> <li>Southern Bell Frog (<i>Litoria raniformis</i>) could potentially use the channel for habitat, and adjacent areas to the channel, as foraging habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ToS found that the proposed development is not likely to have a significant impact on the Southern Bell Frog due to the lack of records within and near the proposed development and the limited habitat suitability that irrigation channels provide for the species</li> <li>The AoS found that the proposed development is not likely to have a significant impact on the Southern Bell Frog due to the lack of records within and near the proposed development and the limited suitability that irrigation channels provide for the species</li> </ul> </li> <li>As such, the overall potential impact of the proposed works on biodiversity would be low.</li> </ul>	Section 3.1	N
Aboriginal heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The potential for the proposed work activities in EA14 to disturb Aboriginal heritage objects or sensitive landscape features is low although, it cannot be entirely discounted in those portions of adjacent land that have far less disturbances.</li> <li>There are no previously recorded AHIMS sites within or in close proximity to the proposed works areas.</li> <li>The site survey did not identify any Aboriginal heritage items or sites within EA14 or associated compound/laydown areas.</li> <li>As such, the overall potential impact of the proposed impacts on Aboriginal heritage would be low.</li> </ul>	Section 3.2	N

Environmental factor	Potential impacts	Relevant Section	Need for further assessment? (Y/N)
Non-Aboriginal heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed works are unlikely to impact any non-Aboriginal heritages items or sites.</li> </ul>	Section 3.3	N
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approximately 0.41ha of earthworks could be required as part of the proposed works. Exposed soil would be limited and temporary during the construction phase, with backfilling to occur on completion of the proposed works.</li> <li>The risk of soil erosion or sedimentation would be minimal with the incorporation of best management erosion and sediment control practices.</li> <li>As such, the potential impacts to soil as a result of the proposed works would be low.</li> </ul>	Section 3.4	N
Waterways and water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed works involve the disturbance of soils by way excavation for the new pipelines. These works would pose minimal risk to any nearby waterways, and any impacts would be mitigated outlined.</li> <li>As such, the potential impacts to waterways and water quality as a result of the proposed works would be negligible.</li> </ul>	Section 3.5	N
Noise and vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There would be up to 1 sensitive receiver expected to receive noise impacts from construction works undertaken during standard construction hours. Of these receivers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>0 receivers are expected to experience highly intrusive noise impacts (&gt;30 dB(A))</li> <li>1 receiver expected to experience moderately intrusive noise impacts (20&lt;30 dB(A))</li> </ul> </li> <li>There would be up to 13 sensitive receivers expected to receive noise impacts from construction works undertaken outside standard construction hours. Of these receivers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 receiver within the Highly Intrusive NCA1</li> <li>2 receivers are within the Moderately Intrusive NCA2</li> <li>4 receivers are within the Clearly Audible NCA3</li> <li>6 receivers are within the Noticeable NCA4</li> </ul> </li> <li>The noise assessment have been determined based off the noisiest plant operation with clear line of</li> </ul>	Section 3.6	N

Environmental factor	Potential impacts	Relevant Section	Need for further assessment? (Y/N)
	<p>sight to the receiver. The assessment does not take into consideration existing intervening vegetation, structures, and topography. This provides a worst-case scenario with actual noise impacts expected to be lower than those identified.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The duration of the proposed works would be approximately 6 – 12 weeks, and as such the noise impacts would be temporary and within the specified construction hours.</li> <li>As such, with the implementation of appropriate safeguards and mitigation measures outlined, the potential noise impacts due to the proposed works would be low.</li> </ul>		
Landscape character and visual amenity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There would a small impact to landscape character or visual amenity as a result of the proposed works. This would be temporary and limited to the construction period and would not have any lasting impacts on landscape character or visual amenity following the completion of works.</li> <li>As such, the potential impacts to landscape character and visual amenity as a result of the proposed works would be low.</li> </ul>	Section 3.7	N
Air quality and climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The potential impact from emissions is expected to be low given the works are not in a high-density residential area and areas of exposed soil would be limited. Any residual impacts from emissions would be managed with the appropriate implementation of safeguards listed</li> <li>The proposed works will be for a limited time, and there would be no operational sources of greenhouse gasses arising from the proposed works.</li> <li>As such, the potential impacts to air quality and climate as a result of the proposed works would be low.</li> </ul>	Section 3.8	N
Traffic and transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The proposed works may have minor impacts on traffic during construction and the delivery of plant equipment, but the proposal would not permanently alter any existing traffic arrangements during operation. Any impacts would be mitigated by the implementation of the safeguards and mitigation measures listed.</li> <li>As such, the potential impacts to traffic and transport as a result of the proposed works would be</li> </ul>	Section 3.9	N

Environmental factor	Potential impacts	Relevant Section	Need for further assessment? (Y/N)
	low.		
Socio-economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There may be some temporary traffic, including pedestrian traffic) disruptions on Chapman Road when construction works are required within the road corridor. There would be no permanent impacts on pedestrian movements.</li> <li>As such, the potential impacts to socio-economic matters as a result of the proposed works would be low.</li> </ul>	Section 3.10	N
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The main waste streams would include small amounts of asphalt and road base, excess soil and excavated material, and small amounts of construction piping material.</li> <li>No contaminated waste material and/or the removal of asbestos containing material is likely</li> <li>As such, the potential impacts to waste as a result of the proposed works would be negligible.</li> </ul>	Section 3.11	N
Cumulative impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A search of the Griffith City Council Development Applicant tracker and a search of the NSW Major Project Portal on the 29 May 2025 found no other projects or developments in the wider locality which would add to potential impacts arising from this proposed works.</li> <li>There is the potential that the proposed works in other areas of the broader UCP project would be undertaken concurrently with the proposed works for EA14. While this may constitute some cumulative impacts in relation to traffic and social, the works would be completed over a small timeframe of approximately 6 - 12 weeks. Therefore, the cumulative impacts are expected to be low.</li> <li>As such, the potential cumulative impacts as a result of the proposed works would be low.</li> </ul>	Section 3.12	N

## 5.1. Need for further assessment?

In considering the proposed works, this assessment has examined and taken into account to the fullest extent possible, all matters affecting or likely to affect the environment by reason of that activity as addressed in the MWREF and associated information. At this stage, no further assessment of any of the identified environmental factors is considered warranted.

## 6. Conclusion

### 6.1. Justification for the proposed works

While the proposed works would potentially have some environmental impacts, the existing environmental values are well understood, and any potential impact can be ameliorated satisfactorily. It is considered that the proposed works are considered justifiable and acceptable for achieving the objectives of the works through:

- Significantly increasing customer service levels and system capacity
- Increasing regional productivity through water use efficiency
- Providing further security of water supply to towns and industry
- Investing in regional communities through local contractors
- Enhancing socio-economic outcomes by supplying water for urban green spaces, as well as providing the opportunity for local councils to deliver improved infrastructure
- A reduction in mosquito borne diseases
- Enhanced road safety
- Providing water recovery for the Murray Darling Basin through improved water use
- Investment in infrastructure that provides:
  - longer-term outcomes
  - multiple benefits
  - water recovery for the environment

Underpinning long-term, climate change resilient primary production

### 6.2. Overall conclusion

This MWREF has been prepared for MI, to access the construction and operational environmental impacts of the proposed UCP works. The proposed works include approximately 400m of UCP modifications for new pipeline.

This MWREF has been prepared according to the requirements of Part 5 of the EP&A Act, specifying a “duty to consider environmental impact”. It provides a full analysis of all environmental, economic, physical and social implications of the proposal.

The key environmental risks of the works have been identified as biodiversity, Aboriginal heritage and noise and vibration. A range of safeguards have been developed for the potential impacts identified. These would ensure that the negative impacts of the proposed works are avoided, mitigated or minimised as far as practical. With the effective implementation of the safeguards listed in this MWREF the potential impacts of the proposal are considered acceptable and justified and unlikely to generate a significant adverse impact.

## 7. Certification, review and decision

This minor works REF provides a true and fair review of the proposal in relation to its potential effects on the environment. It addresses, to the fullest extent possible, all matters affecting or likely to affect the environment as a result of the proposal.

### Prepared by:

Signature



Name: Terence Miller

Position: Environmental Planner

Company name: NGH – A Fyfe Company

Date: 19/01/2026

### Minor works REF reviewed by:

Signature



Name: Les Seddon

Position: NSW Regional Lead – Planning - Principal Planner

Company name: NGH – A Fyfe Company

Date: 19/01/2026

**Minor works REF approved by:**

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cindy McDonald".

Name: Cindy McDonald

Position: Manager - Environmental Planning

Company  
name: Murrumbidgee Irrigation

Date: 20/01/2026

## 8. References

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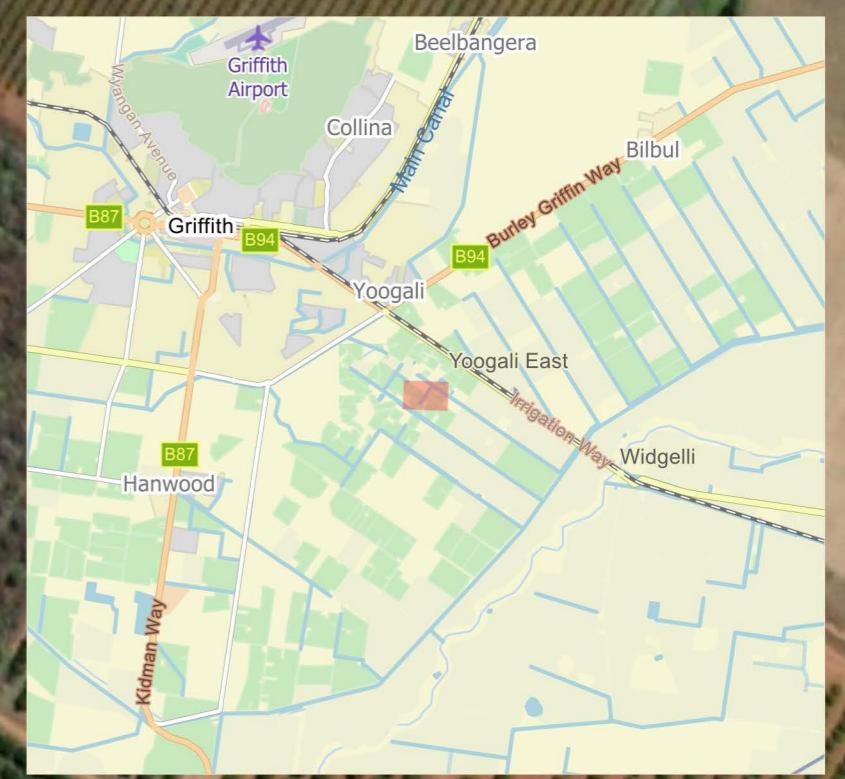
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## Appendix A Concept plans



**Urban Channels Pipeline**  
EA14 - Proposed works

## Appendix B Construction Methodology Types

**Summary:** Murrumbidgee Irrigation UCP Project is undertaking piping and rationalisation of urban channels, funded as eligible activities under the Resilient Rivers Water Infrastructure Program and will deliver 2,541 ML of Water Entitlement for the environment. The project involves replacing approximately 50 km of aging concrete and earthen urban supply channels in and adjacent to existing channels, as well as 1.4 km of leaking pipeline, with new pipelines. The project also includes rationalisation of 33 escapes, removing and replacing approx. 500 customer outlets, 2 new pump stations, road and rail crossings and a reconfiguration of the network creating greater water delivery efficiency.

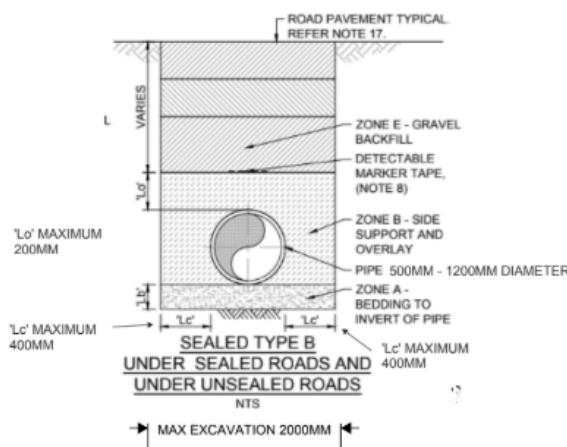
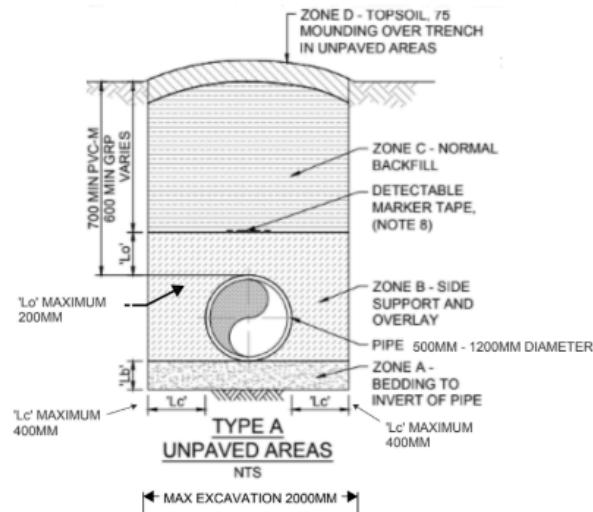
**Purpose:** Outline approach to the MI UCP Project construction methods for the purpose of guiding the Environmental Planning & Approval Consultants in the desktop assessment. Specifically helping the environmental consultants to determine the extent of disturbance that will take place during the project.

## Types of Construction:

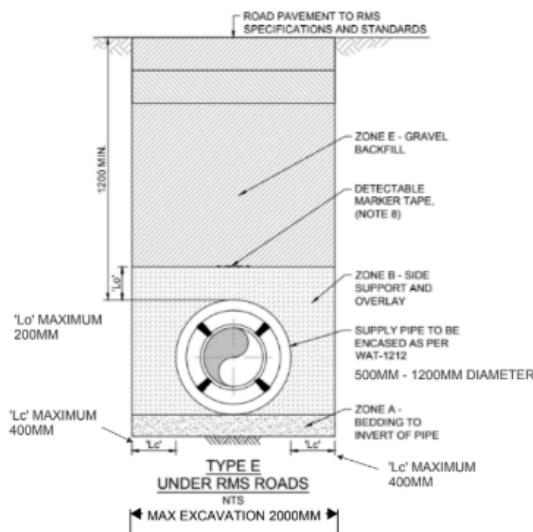
1. New pipeline - to be constructed within the specified new alignment.
2. Convert existing channels to new pipeline - new pipeline to be constructed beside the existing channel;
3. Remove and/or decommission existing channel - remove concrete channel and backfill channel to natural ground level.
4. Install new drainage channel - construct new channel at a single location - Yenda.
5. Retain as-is - no construction.

# MI UCP Enviro Approvals - Construction Methods

## Construction Type 1 - New Pipeline

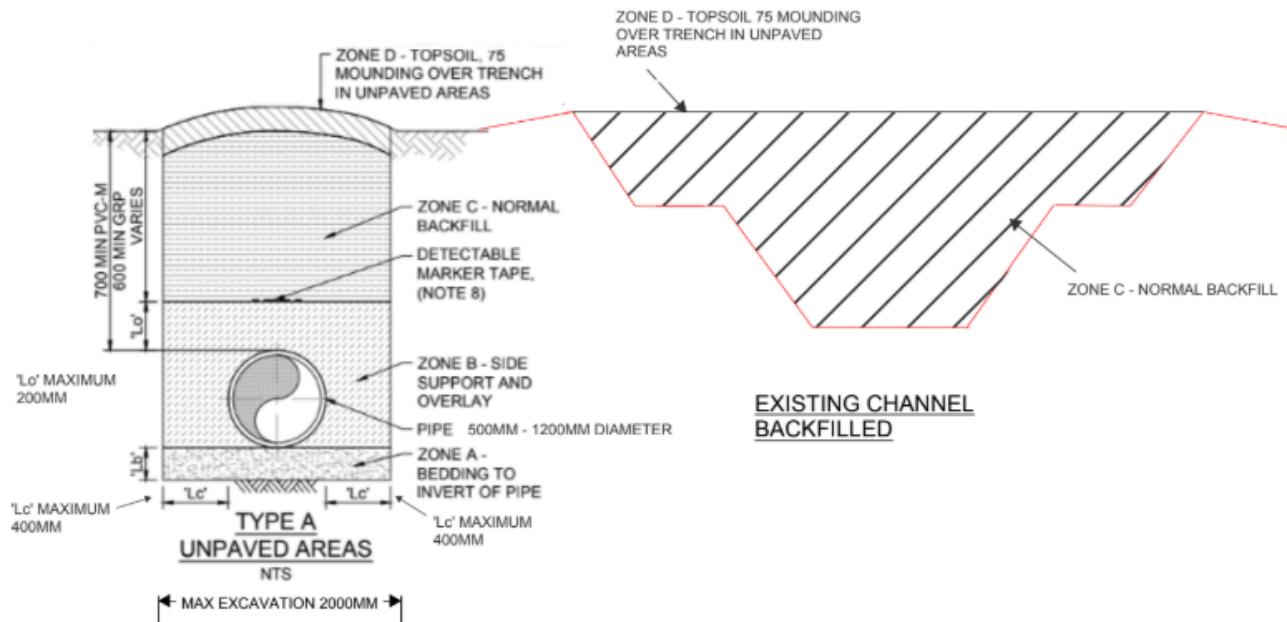


TYPES A, B & E STANDARD TRENCH DETAILS				
PRESSURE CLASS AND MATERIAL	NOMINAL DIAMETER DN	MINIMUM CLEARANCE 'Lc'	MINIMUM OVERLAY 'Lo'	MINIMUM BEDDING 'Lb'
PN6 PVC	DN150 AND SMALLER	100	100	75
	DN200	150	150	100
	DN250			
	DN300			
	DN375	200	150	100
	DN450			
	DN500	350	150	150
PN9 PVC	DN575	400	150	150
	DN150 AND SMALLER	100	100	75
	DN200	150	150	100
	DN250			
	DN300			
	DN375	200	150	100
	DN450			
PN6 SN10,000 GRP	DN500			
	DN575	300	150	150
	DN600			
	DN675			
	DN750			
	DN800	300	150	150
	DN900			
PN10 PVC	DN1000			
	DN1100	350	200	150
	DN1200			

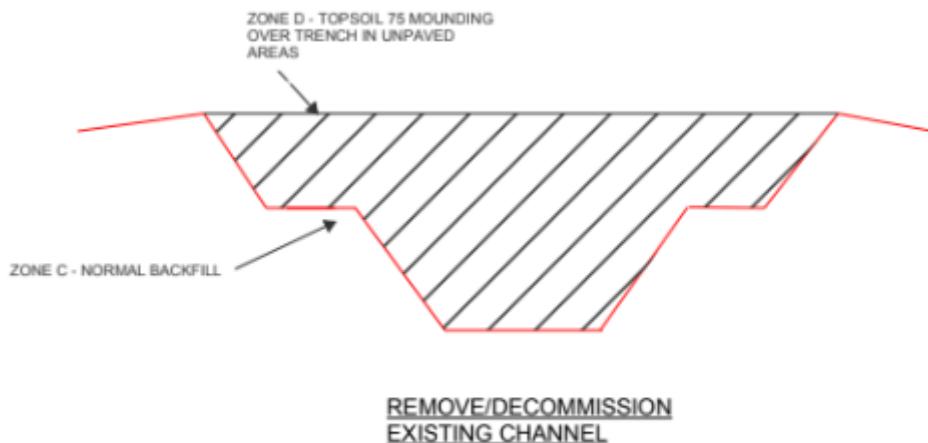


TRENCH BACKFILL MATERIALS SCHEDULE	
TYPE	DESCRIPTION
ZONE A	BEDDING - BEDDING SAND PARTICLE SIZE AND GRADING LIMITS AS PER AS2566.2 APPENDIX G. COMPACT TO A DENSITY INDEX OF AT LEAST 60% IN NON-TRAFFICABLE AREAS AND 70% IN TRAFFICABLE AREAS. REFER TO NOTE 6.
ZONE B	SIDE SUPPORT AND OVERLAY - MATERIAL AND COMPACTION REQUIREMENTS EQUAL TO BEDDING.
ZONE C	NORMAL BACKFILL - TRENCH SPOIL FREE OF STONES LARGER THAN 100mm, COMPACTED TO AT LEAST 95% STANDARD MAXIMUM DRY DENSITY RATIO IN ROAD VERGES AND 90% ELSEWHERE. LIFT THICKNESS AS PER NOTE 6.
ZONE D	TOP SOIL - SURFACE LAYER OF SOIL CONTAINING ORGANIC MATTER PREVIOUSLY STRIPPED PRIOR TO TRENCHING, UNCOMPACTED.
ZONE E	GRAVEL BACKFILL - CRUSHED ROCK CLASS 2 SUB-BASE MATERIAL WITH PLASTICITY INDEX LESS THAN 12, 100% PASSING 19 SIEVE AND 6-20% 0.075 SIEVE. COMPACTED TO AT LEAST 95% STANDARD MAXIMUM DRY DENSITY RATIO IN LAYERS NOT EXCEEDING 300.
PAVEMENT	PAVEMENTS FOR ROADS, TRACKS, FOOTPATHS OR DRIVEWAYS EITHER EXISTING (TO BE REINSTATED) OR PROPOSED. PAVEMENT REINSTATEMENT TO MATCH EXISTING CONDITION APPEARANCE AND FUNCTIONALITY OR BETTER.

## Construction Type 2 - Convert Existing Channel to New Pipeline



## Construction Type 3 - Remove and/or Decommission Existing Channel



## Construction Type 4 - Install New Drainage Channel

A new drainage channel is to be constructed at Yenda.

A pipeline for this drainage channel is to be constructed by digging the earth through farmers channel and pipework as per the Construction Type 1 mentioned above. The excavation depths to which the drain is going to be constructed depends on the design outcome.

This drainage pipeline runs west from the end of lateral 89 into MI's existing drainage next to Twigg Road.

### ***General Notes:***

For the construction types from 1 to 4 the machinery used would be excavators of varying sizes as per the location which governs the allowable or practical size of excavators that can be used.

HDPE welding machines shall be used for different welding sizes. Pipes would be strung and welded. The welded pipes are then lowered into the excavated trenches. Bedding material shall be laid before the pipe is laid at the bottom of the pit. Where we have outlets and other fittings like valves, air valves, isolation valves involved Tee's or specific will be welded on to the pipe as per the design specifications.

All the pipelines to be constructed will run across different roads. These will be sleeved into existing MI's culverts if the design allows. New envelopes or other sleeving materials are to be constructed if the design does not allow to use the existing culvert infrastructure.

There are two rail crossings where the pipelines must be sleeved or constructed in a different way if design does not allow using existing culverts under these rail lines.

Lateral 253 needs to be run through new locations and a trenchless Horizontal Directional Drilling methodology of construction is to be used to construct under the Mirrool creek and wetlands around Mirrool creek.

## **Appendix C Database searches**



# 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: 05-Mar-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>	4
<a href="#">Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:</a>	None
<a href="#">Commonwealth Marine Area:</a>	None
<a href="#">Listed Threatened Ecological Communities:</a>	5
<a href="#">Listed Threatened Species:</a>	39
<a href="#">Listed Migratory Species:</a>	14

## 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>	9
<a href="#">Commonwealth Heritage Places:</a>	None
<a href="#">Listed Marine Species:</a>	25
<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>	8
<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>	500 - 600km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area	
<a href="#">Hattah-kulkyne lakes</a>	300 - 400km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area	
<a href="#">Riverland</a>	400 - 500km upstream from Ramsar site	In feature area	
<a href="#">The coorong, and lakes alexandrina and albert wetland</a>	600 - 700km 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	Buffer Status		
<a href="#">Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions</a>	Endangered	Community may occurIn feature area within area			
<a href="#">Grey Box (<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>)</a> <a href="#">Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia</a>	Endangered	Community likely to occur within area	In feature area		
<a href="#">Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains</a>	Endangered	Community may occurIn feature area within area			
<a href="#">Weeping Myall Woodlands</a>	Endangered	Community may occurIn feature area within area			
<a href="#">White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland</a>	Critically Endangered	Community may occurIn feature area 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	Buffer Status
<b>BIRD</b>			
<a href="#"><u><i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i></u></a>			
Southern Whiteface [529]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Arenaria interpres</i></u></a>			
Ruddy Turnstone [872]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u><i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i></u></a>			
Australasian Bittern [1001]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Calidris acuminata</i></u></a>			
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Calidris ferruginea</i></u></a>			
Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami</i></u></a>			
South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo [67036]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</i></u></a>			
Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern) [67062]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Falco hypoleucus</i></u></a>			
Grey Falcon [929]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Gallinago hardwickii</i></u></a>			
Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Grantiella picta</i></u></a>			
Painted Honeyeater [470]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Lathamus discolor</i></u></a>			
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>Leipoa ocellata</u></a> Malleefowl [934]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Limosa limosa</u></a> Black-tailed Godwit [845]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u>Lophochroa leadbeateri leadbeateri</u></a> Major Mitchell's Cockatoo (eastern), Eastern Major Mitchell's Cockatoo, Pink Cockatoo (eastern) [82926]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Melanodryas cucullata cucullata</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>Neophema chrysostoma</u></a> Blue-winged Parrot [726]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Pedionomus torquatus</u></a> Plains-wanderer [906]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Polytelis swainsonii</u></a> Superb Parrot [738]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Rostratula australis</u></a> Australian Painted Snipe [77037]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Stagonopleura guttata</u></a> Diamond Firetail [59398]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Tringa nebularia</u></a> Common Greenshank, Greenshank [832]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<b>FISH</b>			
<a href="#"><u>Bidyanus bidyanus</u></a> Silver Perch, Bidyan [76155]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In buffer area only

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<a href="#"><u>Galaxias rostratus</u></a> Flathead Galaxias, Beaked Minnow, Flat-headed Galaxias, Flat-headed Jollytail, Flat-headed Minnow [84745]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Maccullochella macquariensis</u></a> Trout Cod [26171]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u>Macquaria australasica</u></a> Macquarie Perch [66632]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<b>FROG</b>			
<a href="#"><u>Crinia sloanei</u></a> Sloane's Froglet [59151]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Litoria raniformis</u></a> Southern Bell Frog, Growling Grass Frog, Green and Golden Frog, Warty Swamp Frog, Golden Bell Frog [1828]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<b>MAMMAL</b>			
<a href="#"><u>Nyctophilus corbeni</u></a> Corben's Long-eared Bat, South-eastern Long-eared Bat [83395]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Phascolarctos cinereus (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT)</u></a>			
Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory) [85104]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<b>PLANT</b>			
<a href="#"><u>Austrostipa metatoris</u></a> [66704]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Austrostipa wakoolica</u></a> [66623]	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u>Brachyscome papillosa</u></a> Mossy Daisy [6625]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<a href="#"><u>Lepidium aschersonii</u></a>			
Spiny Pepper-cress [10976]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u>Lepidium monoplocoides</u></a>			
Winged Pepper-cress [9190]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Maireana cheelii</u></a>			
Chariot Wheels [8008]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Swainsona murrayana</u></a>			
Slender Darling-pea, Slender Swainson, Murray Swainson-pea [6765]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Swainsona plagiotropis</u></a>			
Red Darling-pea, Red Swainson-pea [10804]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In buffer area only

## REPTILE

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<a href="#"><u>Aprasia parapulchella</u></a>			
Pink-tailed Worm-lizard, Pink-tailed Legless Lizard [1665]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Hemiaspis damelii</u></a>			
Grey Snake [1179]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area

Listed Migratory Species	[ Resource Information ]		
Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<a href="#"><u>Migratory Marine Birds</u></a>			
<a href="#"><u>Apus pacificus</u></a>			
Fork-tailed Swift [678]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	In feature area
Migratory Terrestrial Species			
<a href="#"><u>Motacilla flava</u></a>			
Yellow Wagtail [644]		Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
Migratory Wetlands Species			
<a href="#"><u>Actitis hypoleucus</u></a>			
Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<a href="#"><u>Arenaria interpres</u></a> Ruddy Turnstone [872]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u>Calidris acuminata</u></a> Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Calidris ferruginea</u></a> Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Calidris melanotos</u></a> Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Calidris ruficollis</u></a> Red-necked Stint [860]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u>Charadrius bicinctus</u></a> Double-banded Plover [895]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u>Gallinago hardwickii</u></a> Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Limosa limosa</u></a> Black-tailed Godwit [845]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u>Tringa glareola</u></a> Wood Sandpiper [829]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u>Tringa nebularia</u></a> Common Greenshank, Greenshank [832]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Tringa stagnatilis</u></a> Marsh Sandpiper, Little Greenshank [833]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In buffer area only

## 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	Buffer Status
Commonwealth Bank of Australia		
Commonwealth Land - Commonwealth Bank of Australia [16118]	NSW	In buffer area only
Communications, Information Technology and the Arts - Australian Postal Corporation		
Commonwealth Land - Australian Postal Commission [16123]	NSW	In buffer area only
Communications, Information Technology and the Arts - Telstra Corporation Limited		
Commonwealth Land - Australian Telecommunications Commission [16124]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Australian Telecommunications Commission [15460]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Australian Telecommunications Commission [16148]	NSW	In buffer area only
Education, Science and Training - CSIRO		
Commonwealth Land - Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation [15405]	NSW	In feature area
Commonwealth Land - Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation [16151]	NSW	In buffer area only
Commonwealth Land - Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation [16150]	NSW	In buffer area only
Transport and Regional Services - Airservices Australia		
Commonwealth Land - Airservices Australia [16149]	NSW	In buffer area only

### Listed Marine Species

### [ Resource Information ]

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
Bird			
<a href="#"><u>Actitis hypoleucus</u></a>			
Common Sandpiper [59309]		Species or species habitat may occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Apus pacificus</u></a>			
Fork-tailed Swift [678]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<u><a href="#">Arenaria interpres</a></u> Ruddy Turnstone [872]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In buffer area only
<u><a href="#">Bubulcus ibis as Ardea ibis</a></u> Cattle Egret [66521]		Breeding likely to 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 known to occur within area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Calidris ferruginea</a></u> Curlew Sandpiper [856]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Calidris melanotos</a></u> Pectoral Sandpiper [858]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<u><a href="#">Calidris ruficollis</a></u> Red-necked Stint [860]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In buffer area only
<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="#">Charadrius bicinctus</a></u> Double-banded Plover [895]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In buffer area only
<u><a href="#">Charadrius ruficapillus</a></u> Red-capped Plover [881]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In buffer area only
<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

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<a href="#"><i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i></a> White-bellied Sea-Eagle [943]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In feature area
<a href="#"><i>Himantopus himantopus</i></a> Pied Stilt, Black-winged Stilt [870]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><i>Lathamus discolor</i></a> Swift Parrot [744]	Critically Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<a href="#"><i>Limosa limosa</i></a> Black-tailed Godwit [845]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><i>Merops ornatus</i></a> Rainbow Bee-eater [670]		Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<a href="#"><i>Motacilla flava</i></a> Yellow Wagtail [644]		Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<a href="#"><i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i></a> Satin Flycatcher [612]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<a href="#"><i>Neophema chrysostoma</i></a> Blue-winged Parrot [726]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<a href="#"><i>Recurvirostra novaehollandiae</i></a> Red-necked Avocet [871]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In buffer area only

Scientific Name	Threatened Category	Presence Text	Buffer Status
<a href="#"><u><i>Rostratula australis</i> as <i>Rostratula benghalensis</i> (sensu lato)</u></a>			
Australian Painted Snipe [77037]	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Tringa glareola</i></u></a>			
Wood Sandpiper [829]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u><i>Tringa nebularia</i></u></a>			
Common Greenshank, Greenshank [832]	Endangered	Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In feature area
<a href="#"><u><i>Tringa stagnatilis</i></u></a>			
Marsh Sandpiper, Little Greenshank [833]		Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area	In buffer area only

## Extra Information

EPBC Act Referrals		[ Resource Information ]		
Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status	Buffer Status
Not controlled action				
<a href="#"><u>Barren Box Swamp Water storage, wetland reconstruction and en-route water storage</u></a>	2003/1310	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u>Develop stage 1 of a rural residential estate</u></a>	2008/4499	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u>Griffith Rural Residential Development</u></a>	2000/9	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
<a href="#"><u>Improving rabbit biocontrol: releasing another strain of RHDV, sthrn two thirds of Australia</u></a>	2015/7522	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>INDIGO Central Submarine Telecommunications Cable</u></a>	2017/8127	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In feature area
<a href="#"><u>Quarry and Landfill extension Tharbogan, NSW</u></a>	2007/3866	Not Controlled Action	Completed	In buffer area only
Not controlled action (particular manner)				
<a href="#"><u>INDIGO Marine Cable Route Survey (INDIGO)</u></a>	2017/7996	Not Controlled Action (Particular)	Post-Approval	In feature area

Title of referral	Reference	Referral Outcome	Assessment Status	Buffer Status
Not controlled action (particular manner)				Manner)
Referral decision				

[Develop a 175 hectare rural residential estate](#) 2008/4360 Referral Decision Completed 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](#)
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  - [-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](#)
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- [-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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Row Labels	Sum of Number Individuals
A spear-grass	600
Austral Pillwort	
Australasian Bittern	429
Australian Bustard	13
Australian Painted Snipe	56
Barking Owl	31
Black Falcon	132
Black-breasted Buzzard	2
Black-chinned Honeyeater (eastern subspecies)	19
Black-tailed Godwit	157
Blue-billed Duck	1540
Blue-winged Parrot	96
Brolga	1490
Brown Treecreeper (eastern subspecies)	778
Bush Stone-curlew	32
Chariot Wheels	
Chestnut Quail-thrush	57
Claypan Daisy	17000
Cocoparra Pomaderris	4585
Common Greenshank	1732
Corben's Long-eared Bat	10
Curlew Sandpiper	319
Curly-bark Wattle	5075
Diamond Firetail	373
Dusky Woodswallow	604
Eastern Grass Owl	6
Eastern Osprey	2
Flame Robin	102
Fleshy Minuria	
Floating Swamp Wallaby-grass	

Freckled Duck	2649
Gang-gang Cockatoo	2
Gilbert's Whistler	77
Grey Falcon	6
Grey-crowned Babbler (eastern subspecies)	3327
Grey-headed Flying-fox	10
Holly-leaf Grevillea	
Inland Forest Bat	9
Koala	1439
Lanky Buttons	5998000
Large-eared Pied Bat	
Latham's Snipe	129
Little Eagle	128
Little Lorikeet	
Little Pied Bat	8
Magpie Goose	7591
Mallee Worm-lizard	5
Malleefowl	103
Masked Owl	3
Mossgiel Daisy	
Painted Honeyeater	470
Pied Honeyeater	108
Pine Donkey Orchid	9353
Pink Cockatoo	798
Pink-tailed Legless Lizard	
Plains-wanderer	495
Red Darling Pea	5
Red Knot	3
Red-lored Whistler	1
Regent Honeyeater	6
Regent Parrot (eastern subspecies)	

Sand-hill Spider Orchid	224
Scarlet Robin	11
Shy Heathwren	153
Silky Swainson-pea	1029
Slender Darling Pea	6629
Sloane's Froglet	1
Small Scurf-pea	1
South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo	650
South-eastern Hooded Robin	183
Southern Bell Frog	2167
Southern Myotis	23
Southern Scrub-robin	11
Southern Whiteface	972
Speckled Warbler	532
Spiny Peppercress	250
Spotted Harrier	169
Spotted-tailed Quoll	1
Square-tailed Kite	7
Squirrel Glider	3
Squirrel Glider in the Wagga Wagga Local Government Area	3
Stripe-faced Dunnart	1
Superb Parrot	7115
Swift Parrot	126
Turquoise Parrot	210
Varied Sittella	328
Velvet Thread-petal	
Western Blue-tongued Lizard	
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	226
White-browed Treecreeper population in Carrathool local gover	42
White-fronted Chat	857
White-throated Needletail	676

Winged Peppergrass	904
Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat	5
(blank)	7
Grand Total	6083481

# Priority weeds for the Riverina

**Note:** this region includes the local council areas of Bland, Carrathool (lower), Coolamon, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Griffith, Hay (lower), Hilltops (western), Junee, Leeton, Lockhart Shire Council, Murrumbidgee (upper), Narrandera, Snowy Valleys (upper), Temora and Wagga Wagga.

[Select another region](#)

Weed	Duty
All plants	<b>General Biosecurity Duty</b> <i>All pest plants are regulated with a <b>general biosecurity duty</b> to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.</i>
<u>Aaron's beard prickly pear</u> <i>Opuntia leucotricha</i>	<b>Prohibition on certain dealings</b> <i>Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.</i>
<u>African boxthorn</u> <i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	<b>Prohibition on certain dealings</b> <i>Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.</i>
<u>Alligator weed</u> <i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	<b>Prohibition on certain dealings</b> <i>Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.</i>
<u>Alligator weed</u> <i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	<b>Biosecurity Zone</b> <p>The Alligator Weed Biosecurity Zone is established for all land within the state except land in the following regions: Greater Sydney; Hunter (but only in the local government areas of City of Lake Macquarie, City of Maitland, City of Newcastle or Port Stephens).</p> <p><i>Within the Biosecurity Zone this weed must be eradicated where practicable, or as much of the weed destroyed as practicable, and any remaining weed suppressed. The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone</i></p>

## Alligator weed

*Alternanthera philoxeroides*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

### **Griffith City Council has issued a General Biosecurity**

**Direction to the entirety of Barren Box Storage and Wetland and its riparian areas. A link to the direction is above under More Information.**

## Anchored water hyacinth

*Eichhornia azurea*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Athel pine

*Tamarix aphylla*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Bellyache bush

*Jatropha gossypifolia*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Bitou bush

*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp.  
*rotundata*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Bitou bush

*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp.  
*rotundata*

### **Biosecurity Zone**

The Bitou Bush Biosecurity Zone is established for all land within the State except land within 10 kilometres of the mean high water mark of the Pacific Ocean between Cape Byron in the north and Point Perpendicular in the south.

*Within the Biosecurity Zone this weed must be eradicated where practicable, or as much of the weed destroyed as practicable, and any remaining weed suppressed. The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone*

## Black knapweed

*Centaurea x moncktonii*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Black willow

*Salix nigra*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Black willow

*Salix nigra*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

Core infestation areas: Snowy Valleys Council, Cootamundra - Gundagai Regional Council, Wagga Wagga City Council.

Exclusion zone: All of Riverina except identified core infestation areas.

*Within exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Within core infestation area: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread of the plant from their land. A person should not buy, sell, move, carry or release the plant into the environment. Land managers should reduce the impact of the plant on assets of high economic, environmental and/or social value.*

## Blackberry

*Rubus fruticosus* species aggregate

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**All species in the Rubus fruticosus species aggregate have this requirement, except for the varietals Black Satin, Chehalem, Chester Thornless, Dirksen Thornless, Loch Ness, Murrindindi, Silvan, Smooth Stem, and Thornfree**

## Blind cactus

*Opuntia rufida*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Boneseed

*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp. *monilifera*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Boneseed

*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* subsp.  
*monilifera*

## **Control Order**

Boneseed Control Zone: Whole of NSW

*Boneseed Control Zone (Whole of NSW): Owners and occupiers of land on which there is boneseed must notify the local control authority of new infestations; immediately destroy the plants; ensure subsequent generations are destroyed; and ensure the land is kept free of the plant. A person who deals with a carrier of boneseed must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant.*

## Boxing glove cactus

*Cylindropuntia fulgida* var. *mamillata*

## **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Bridal creeper

*Asparagus asparagoides*

## **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**\*this requirement also applies to the Western Cape form of bridal creeper**

## Bridal veil creeper

*Asparagus declinatus*

## **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Broomrapes

*Orobanche* species

## **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

**All species of Orobanche are Prohibited Matter in NSW, except Clover broomrape, Orobanche minor and Australian broomrape, Orobanche cernua var. australiana.**

## Brown-spined Hudson pear

*Cylindropuntia tunicata*

## **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

Bunny ears cactus

*Opuntia microdasys*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

Cabomba

*Cabomba caroliniana*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

Cane cactus

*Austrocylindropuntia cylindrica*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**All species in the *Austrocylindropuntia* genus have this requirement**

Cane needle grass

*Nassella hyalina*

**Regional Recommended Measure**

Eradication zone: whole region except for the containment zone of Wagga Wagga City Council

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

Cape broom

*Genista monspessulana*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

Cape broom

*Genista monspessulana*

**Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

Cat's claw creeper

*Dolichandra unguis-cati*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

Chicken dance cactus  
*Opuntia schickendantzii*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**  
*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

Chilean needle grass  
*Nassella neesiana*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**  
*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

Chilean needle grass  
*Nassella neesiana*

**Regional Recommended Measure**  
*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

Chinese violet  
*Asystasia gangetica*

**Control Order**  
*Owners and occupiers of land on which there is Chinese violet must notify the local control authority for the area if the Chinese violet is part of a new infestation on the land, destroy all Chinese violet on the land ensuring that subsequent generations of Chinese violet are destroyed; and keep the land free of Chinese violet. A person who deals with a carrier of Chinese violet must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant on the land, or on or in a carrier.*

Climbing asparagus  
*Asparagus africanus*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**  
*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

Climbing asparagus fern  
*Asparagus plumosus*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**  
*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

Common pear  
*Opuntia stricta*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**  
*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Coolatai grass

*Hyparrhenia hirta*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

Core infestation areas: Cootamundra - Gundagai Regional Council, Exclusion zone: All of Riverina except identified core infestation areas.

*Within exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Within core infestation area: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread of the plant from their land. A person should not buy, sell, move, carry or release the plant into the environment. Land managers should reduce the impact of the plant on assets of high economic, environmental and/or social value.*

## Creeping pear

*Opuntia humifusa*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Eurasian water milfoil

*Myriophyllum spicatum*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Eve's needle cactus

*Austrocylindropuntia subulata*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**All species in the *Austrocylindropuntia* genus have this requirement**

## Fireweed

*Senecio madagascariensis*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Fireweed

*Senecio madagascariensis*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

## Flax-leaf broom

*Genista linifolia*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Foxtail fern

*Asparagus densiflorus*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Frogbit

*Limnobium laevigatum*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

### **All species of Limnobium are Prohibited Matter**

## Gamba grass

*Andropogon gayanus*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Gorse

*Ulex europaeus*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Gorse

*Ulex europaeus*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

## Green cestrum

*Cestrum parqui*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found.*

## Grey sallow

*Salix cinerea*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Grey sallow

*Salix cinerea*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

Core infestation areas: Snowy Valleys Council, Cootamundra - Gundagai Regional Council, Wagga Wagga City Council.

Exclusion zone: All of Riverina except identified core infestation areas.

*Within exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Within core infestation area: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread of the plant from their land. A person should not buy, sell, move, carry or release the plant into the environment. Land managers should reduce the impact of the plant on assets of high economic, environmental and/or social value.*

## Ground asparagus

*Asparagus aethiopicus*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Hawkweeds - Hieraciums

*Hieracium* species

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

**All species in the genus *Hieracium* are Prohibited Matter except for *Hieracium murorum* (wall hawkweed).**

## Hawkweeds - Pilosellas

*Pilosella* species

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

**All species in the genus *Pilosella* are Prohibited Matter**

## Horsetails

*Equisetum* species

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

## Hudson pear

*Cylindropuntia pallida*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Hydrocotyl

*Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Hymenachne

*Hymenachne amplexicaulis* and hybrids

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

### Jumping cholla

*Cylindropuntia prolifera*

#### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**All species in the *Cylindropuntia* genus have this requirement**

### Karoo acacia

*Vachellia karroo*

#### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

### Kidney-leaf mud plantain

*Heteranthera reniformis*

#### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

### King devil hawkweed

*Pilosella piloselloides*

#### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

**All species in the genus *Pilosella* are Prohibited Matter**

### Klein's cholla

*Cylindropuntia kleiniae*

#### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**All species in the *Cylindropuntia* genus have this requirement**

### Kochia

*Bassia scoparia*

#### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

**Excluding the subspecies *trichophylla***

## Koster's curse

*Clidemia hirta*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Lagarosiphon

*Lagarosiphon major*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Lantana

*Lantana camara*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Madeira vine

*Anredera cordifolia*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Mesquite

*Prosopis* species

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**All species in the genus *Prosopis* have this requirement**

## Mesquite

*Prosopis* species

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

## Mexican feather grass

*Nassella tenuissima*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Miconia

*Miconia* species

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

**All species of *Miconia* are Prohibited Matter in NSW**

## Mikania vine

*Mikania micrantha*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

**\*all species in the genus *Mikania* are Prohibited Matter in NSW**

## Mimosa

*Mimosa pigra*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Mother-of-millions

*Bryophyllum* species

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

## Mouse-ear hawkweed

*Pilosella officinarum*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

**All species in the genus *Pilosella* are Prohibited Matter**

## Orange hawkweed

*Pilosella aurantiaca*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

**All species in the genus *Pilosella* are Prohibited Matter**

## Parkinsonia

*Parkinsonia aculeata*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Parkinsonia

*Parkinsonia aculeata*

### **Control Order**

*Parkinsonia Control Zone: Whole of NSW*

*Parkinsonia Control Zone (Whole of NSW): Owners and occupiers of land on which there is parkinsonia must notify the local control authority of new infestations; immediately destroy the plants; ensure subsequent generations are destroyed; and ensure the land is kept free of the plant. A person who deals with a carrier of parkinsonia must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant.*

## Parthenium weed

*Parthenium hysterophorus*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Parthenium weed

*Parthenium hysterophorus*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*The following equipment must not be imported into NSW from Queensland: grain harvesters (including the comb or front), comb trailers (including the comb or front), bins used for holding grain during harvest operations, augers or similar for moving grain, vehicles used to transport grain harvesters, support vehicles driven in paddocks during harvest operations, mineral exploration drilling rigs and vehicles used to transport those rigs, unless set out as an exception in Division 5, Part 2 of the Biosecurity Order (Permitted Activities) 2017*

Pencil cactus

*Cylindropuntia leptocaulis*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**All species in the *Cylindropuntia* genus have this requirement**

Perennial ground cherry

*Physalis longifolia*

**Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

Pond apple

*Annona glabra*

**Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

Prairie ground cherry

*Physalis hederifolia*

**Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

Prickly acacia

*Vachellia nilotica*

**Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

Prickly pears - Austrocylindropuntias

*Austrocylindropuntia* species

**Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**All species in the *Austrocylindropuntia* genus have this requirement**

### Prickly pears - Cylindropuntias

*Cylindropuntia* species

#### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**All species in the *Cylindropuntia* genus have this requirement**

### Prickly pears - Opuntias

*Opuntia* species

#### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**For all *Opuntia* species except for *Opuntia ficus-indica* (Indian fig).**

### Ragwort

*Senecio jacobaea*

#### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

### Riverina pear

*Opuntia elata*

#### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

### Rope pear

*Cylindropuntia imbricata*

#### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**All species in the *Cylindropuntia* genus have this requirement.**

### Rubber vine

*Cryptostegia grandiflora*

#### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

### Sagittaria

*Sagittaria platyphylla*

#### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Sagittaria

*Sagittaria platyphylla*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

Eradication whole of region except for Griffith.

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

## Salvinia

*Salvinia molesta*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Salvinia

*Salvinia molesta*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

## Scotch broom

*Cytisus scoparius* subsp. *scoparius*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Scotch broom

*Cytisus scoparius* subsp. *scoparius*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

Core infestation areas: Snowy Valleys Council. Exclusion zone: All of Riverina except identified core infestation areas.

*Within exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Within core infestation area: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread of the plant from their land. A person should not buy, sell, move, carry or release the plant into the environment. Land managers should reduce the impact of the plant on assets of high economic, environmental and/or social value.*

### Senegal tea plant

*Gymnocoronis spilanthoides*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

### Serrated tussock

*Nassella trichotoma*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

### Serrated tussock

*Nassella trichotoma*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

### Siam weed

*Chromolaena odorata*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

### Silverleaf nightshade

*Solanum elaeagnifolium*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

### Smooth tree pear

*Opuntia monacantha*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

### Snake cactus

*Cylindropuntia spinosior*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**All species in the *Cylindropuntia* genus have this requirement**

Snakefeather

*Asparagus scandens*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

Spongeplant

*Limnobium spongia*

**Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

**All species of *Limnobium* are Prohibited Matter**

Spotted knapweed

*Centaurea stoebe* subsp. *micranthos*

**Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

Tiger pear

*Opuntia aurantiaca*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

Tropical soda apple

*Solanum viarum*

**Control Order**

Tropical Soda Apple Control Zone: Whole of NSW

*Tropical Soda Apple Control Zone (Whole of NSW): Owners and occupiers of land on which there is tropical soda apple must notify the local control authority of new infestations; destroy the plants including the fruit; ensure subsequent generations are destroyed; and ensure the land is kept free of the plant. A person who deals with a carrier of tropical soda apple must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant on the land, or on or in a carrier.*

Velvety tree pear

*Opuntia tomentosa*

**Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Water caltrop

*Trapa* species

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

**All species in the *Trapa* genus are Prohibited Matter in NSW**

## Water hyacinth

*Eichhornia crassipes*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Water hyacinth

*Eichhornia crassipes*

### **Biosecurity Zone**

The Water Hyacinth Biosecurity Zone applies to all land within the State, except for the following regions: Greater Sydney or North Coast, North West (but only the local government area of Moree Plains), Hunter (but only in the local government areas of City of Cessnock, City of Lake Macquarie, MidCoast, City of Maitland, City of Newcastle or Port Stephens), South East (but only in the local government areas of Eurobodalla, Kiama, City of Shellharbour, City of Shoalhaven or City of Wollongong).

*Within the Biosecurity Zone this weed must be eradicated where practicable, or as much of the weed destroyed as practicable, and any remaining weed suppressed. The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone*

## Water lettuce

*Pistia stratiotes*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

## Water poppy

*Hydrocleys nymphoides*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

## Water soldier

*Stratiotes aloides*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Wheel cactus

*Opuntia robusta*

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

## Willows

*Salix* species

### **Prohibition on certain dealings**

*Must not be imported into the state, sold, bartered, exchanged or offered for sale.*

**All species in the *Salix* genus have this requirement, except *Salix babylonica* (weeping willows ), *Salix x calodendron* (pussy willow) and *Salix x reichardtii* (sterile pussy willow)**

## Witchweeds

*Striga* species

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

**All species in the *Striga* genus are Prohibited Matter in NSW, except the native *Striga parviflora***

## Yellow burrhead

*Limnocharis flava*

### **Prohibited Matter**

*A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries*

## Yellow waterlily

*Nymphaea mexicana*

### **Regional Recommended Measure**

*Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant. A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, moving, carrying or releasing the plant. Notify local control authority if found. Your local biosecurity weeds officer can help to identify, advise on control, and how to remove this weed.*

The content provided here is for information purposes only and is taken from the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and its subordinate legislation, and the Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans (published by each Local Land Services region in NSW). It describes the state and regional priorities for weeds in New South Wales, Australia.

## Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold Report

This report is generated using the Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold (BMAT) tool. The BMAT tool is used by proponents to supply evidence to your local council to determine whether or not a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) is required under [the Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017 \(Cl. 7.2 & 7.3\)](#).

The report provides results for the proposed development footprint area identified by the user and displayed within the blue boundary on the map.

There are two pathways for determining whether a BDAR is required for the proposed development:

1. Is there Biodiversity Values Mapping?
2. Is the 'clearing of native vegetation area threshold' exceeded?

### Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold Report

Date of Report Generation		09/01/2026 3:10 PM
<b>1. Biodiversity Values (BV) Map - Results Summary (Biodiversity Conservation Regulation Section 7.3)</b>		
1.1	<b>Does the development Footprint intersect with BV mapping?</b>	no
1.2	Was <u>ALL</u> BV Mapping within the development footprint added in the last 90 days? (dark purple mapping only, no light purple mapping present)	no
1.3	<b>Date of expiry of dark purple 90 day mapping</b>	N/A
1.4	<b>Is the Biodiversity Values Map threshold exceeded?</b>	no
<b>2. Area Clearing Threshold - Results Summary (Biodiversity Conservation Regulation Section 7.2)</b>		
2.1	<b>Size of the development or clearing footprint</b>	80,472.9 sqm
2.2	<b>Native Vegetation Area Clearing Estimate (NVACE)</b> (within development/clearing footprint)	1,083.9 sqm
2.3	<b>Method for determining Minimum Lot Size</b>	LEP
2.4	<b>Minimum Lot Size</b> (10,000sqm = 1ha)	200,000 sqm
2.5	<b>Area Clearing Threshold</b> (10,000sqm = 1ha)	5,000 sqm
2.6	<b>Does the estimate exceed the Area Clearing Threshold?</b> (NVACE results are an estimate and can be reviewed using the <a href="#">Guidance</a> )	no
<b>REPORT RESULT: Is the Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS) Threshold exceeded for the proposed development footprint area?</b> (Your local council will determine if a BDAR is required)		no



## What do I do with this report?

- If the result above indicates the BOS Threshold has been exceeded, your local council may require a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report with your development application. Seek further advice from Council. An accredited assessor can apply the Biodiversity Assessment Method and prepare a BDAR for you. For a list of accredited assessors go to: <https://customer.lmbc.nsw.gov.au/assessment/AccreditedAssessor>.
- If the result above indicates the BOS Threshold has not been exceeded, you may not require a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report. This BMAT report can be provided to Council to support your development application. Council can advise how the area clearing threshold results should be considered. Council will review these results and make a determination if a BDAR is required. Council may ask you to review the area clearing threshold results. You may also be required to assess whether the development is “likely to significantly affect threatened species” as determined under the test in Section 7.3 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.
- If a BDAR is not required by Council, you may still require a permit to clear vegetation from your local council.
- If all Biodiversity Values mapping within your development footprint was less than 90 days old, i.e. areas are displayed as dark purple on the BV map, a BDAR may not be required if your Development Application is submitted within that 90 day period. Any BV mapping less than 90 days old on this report will expire on the date provided in Line item 1.3 above.

For more detailed advice about actions required, refer to the Interpreting the evaluation report section of the [Biodiversity Values Map Threshold Tool User Guide](#) .

## Review Options:

- If you believe the Biodiversity Values mapping is incorrect please refer to our [BV Map Review webpage](#) for further information.
- If you or Council disagree with the area clearing threshold estimate results from the NVACE in Line Item 2.6 above (i.e. area of Native Vegetation within the Development footprint proposed to be cleared), review the results using the [Guide for reviewing area clearing threshold results from the BMAT Tool](#).

## Acknowledgement

I, as the applicant for this development, submit that I have correctly depicted the area that will be impacted or likely to be impacted as a result of the proposed development.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Typing your name in the signature field will be considered as your signature for the purposes of this form)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

09/01/2026 03:10 PM



## Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold Tool

The Biodiversity Values (BV) Map and Threshold Tool identifies land with high biodiversity value, particularly sensitive to impacts from development and clearing.

The BV map forms part of the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme threshold, which is one of the factors for determining whether the Scheme applies to a clearing or development proposal. You have used the Threshold Tool in the map viewer to generate this BV Threshold Report for your nominated area. This report calculates results for your proposed development footprint and indicates whether Council may require you to engage an accredited assessor to prepare a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) for your development.

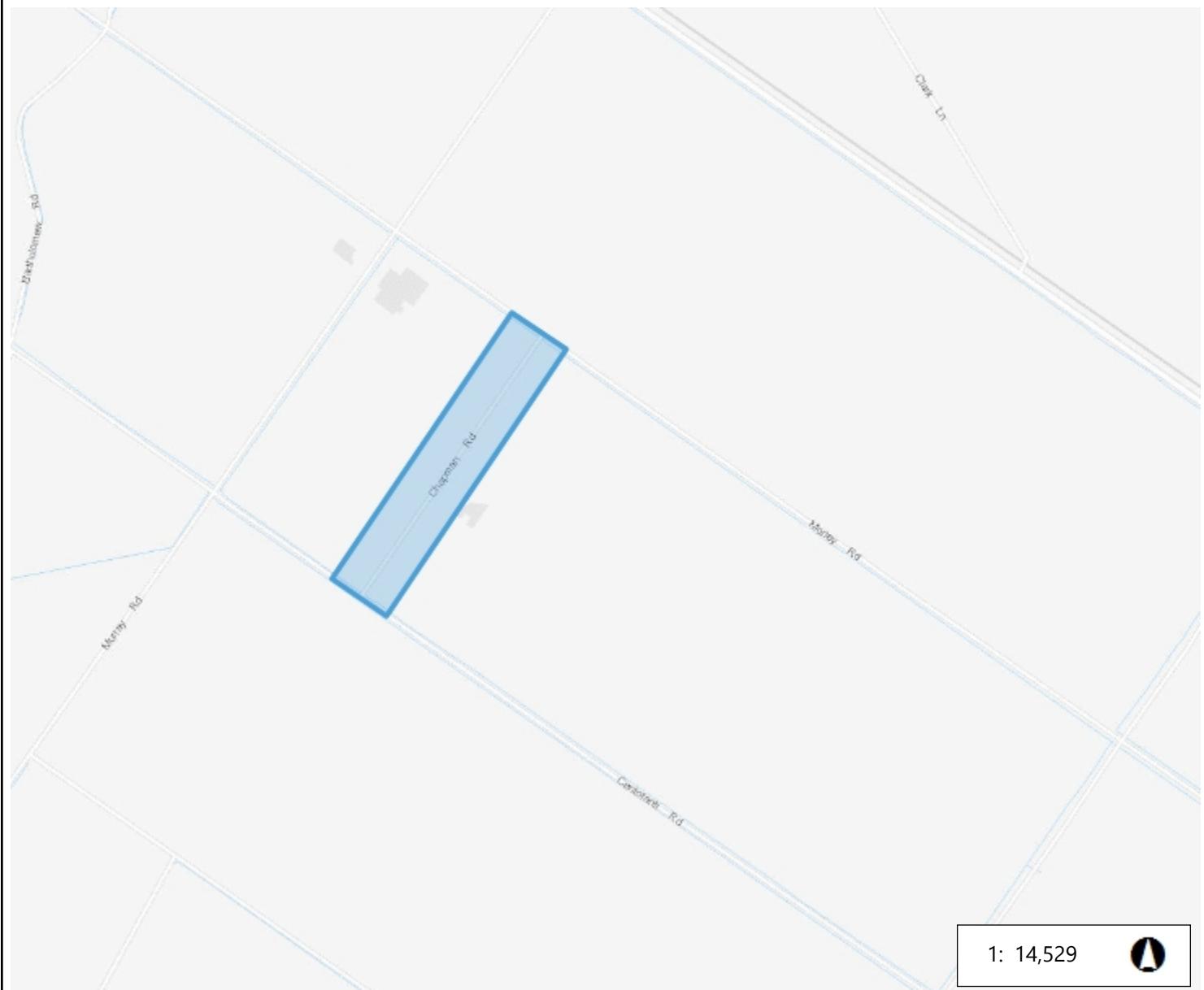
This report may be used as evidence for development applications submitted to councils. You may also use this report when considering native vegetation clearing under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021 - Chapter 2 vegetation in non-rural areas.

What's new? For more information about the latest updates to the Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold Tool go to the updates section on the [Biodiversity Values Map webpage](#).

Map Review: Landholders can request a review of the BV Map where they consider there is an error in the mapping on their property. For more information about the map review process and an application form for a review go to the [Biodiversity Values Map Review webpage](#).

If you need help using this map tool see our [Biodiversity Values Map and Threshold Tool User Guide](#) or contact the Map Review Team at [map.review@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:map.review@environment.nsw.gov.au) or on 1800 001 490.

# Biodiversity Values Map



738.1 0 369.03 738.1 Metres

WGS\_1984/Web\_Mercator\_Auxiliary\_Sphere

## Legend

- Biodiversity Values that have been mapped for more than 90 days
- Biodiversity Values added within last 90 days
- Native Vegetation Area Clearing Estimate (NVACE)
- Development area selected by proponent

09/01/2026 03:10 PM

This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.

Imagery © Airbus DS/Spot Image 2016

© NSW Department of Customer Service, Basemaps 2019

© NSW Department of Planning and Environment

The results provided in this tool are generated using the best available mapping and knowledge of species habitat requirements.

This map is valid as at the date the report was generated. Checking the [Biodiversity Values Map viewer](#) for mapping updates is recommended.

Search Applications and Determinations

Search Future Act Applications and Determinations

Search Records of Section 31 Agreements

• or a recognised body such as South Australia's Supreme Court and Environment Resources and Development Court.

An Excel version of the NNTR is available [here](#).

Further information about the NNTR is available.

Tribunal file no.

Federal Court file no.

Short name

Case name

State or Territory

Registered Native Title Body Corporate\*

Representative A/TSI body area

Local government area

Determination type

Legal process

Determination outcome

Determination date between  and

Sort by

**Search >**

\*Please note: current contact details for the Registered Native Title Body Corporate are available from the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations [www.oric.gov.au](http://www.oric.gov.au)

Your search returned **3** matches.

Short name	Case name	Legal process	Determination date	Outcome
Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council	Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council v Attorney General of New South Wales	Unopposed	12/05/2023	Native title does not exist
Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council	Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council v Attorney General of New South Wales	Unopposed	16/10/2020	Native title does not exist
Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council	Griffith Local Aboriginal Land Council v Attorney-General of New South Wales	Unopposed	04/12/2017	Native title does not exist



Accessibility

Copyright and disclaimer

Privacy

Online Security



PUBLIC  
INTEREST  
DISCLOSURE  
SCHEME



FOI  
Disclosure  
Log



Information  
Publication  
Scheme

**Start your search**

Item Name

Street Name

GRIFFITH NSW 2680

Local Govt Area

**VIEW RESULTS**

Advanced search ▾

View Results By: **Map** A-Z ↗ Statutory list

CLEAR SPATIAL RESULTS

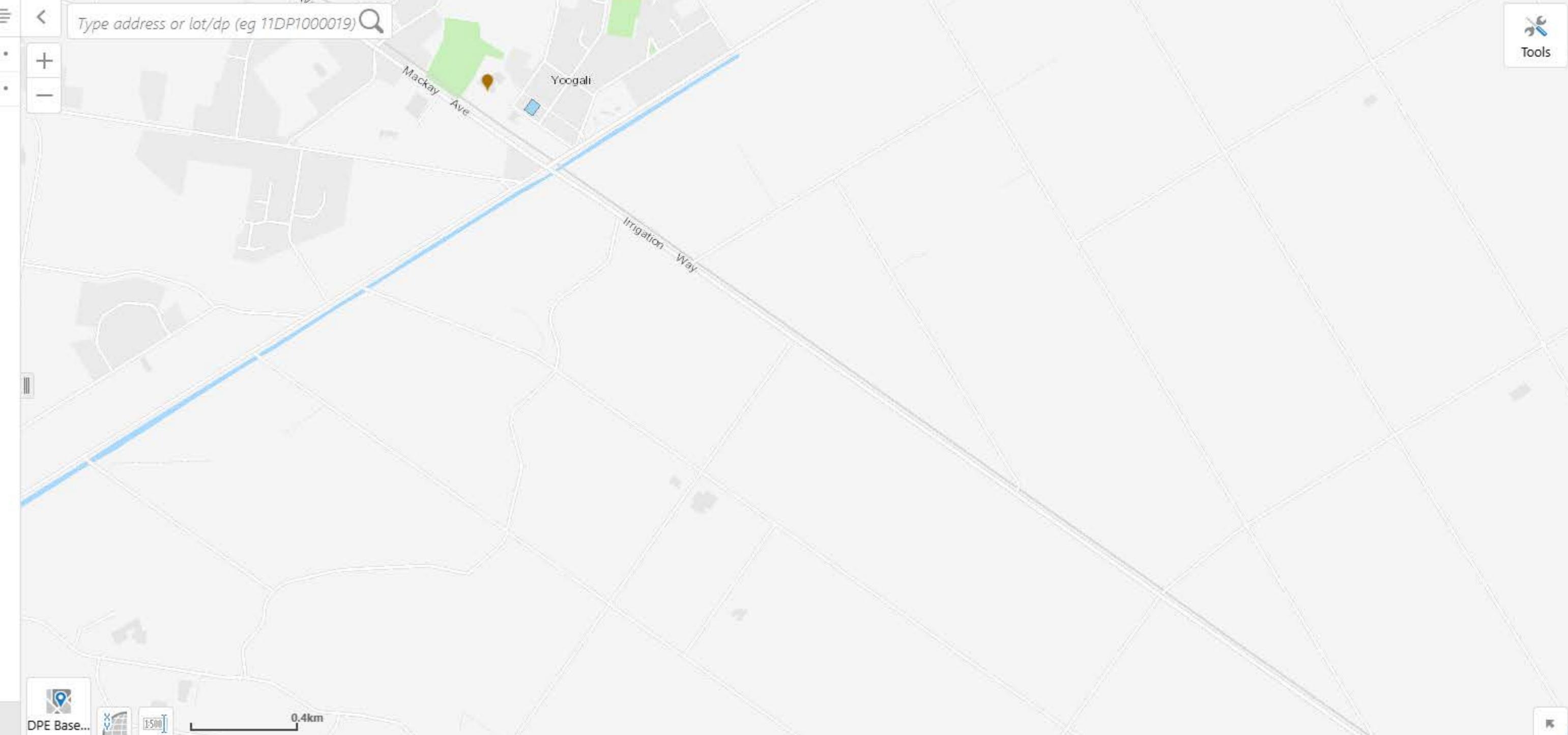
Search (19)



(1) State Heritage Register



(18) Local Environmental Plan



Layers



Search (19)



DPE Base...



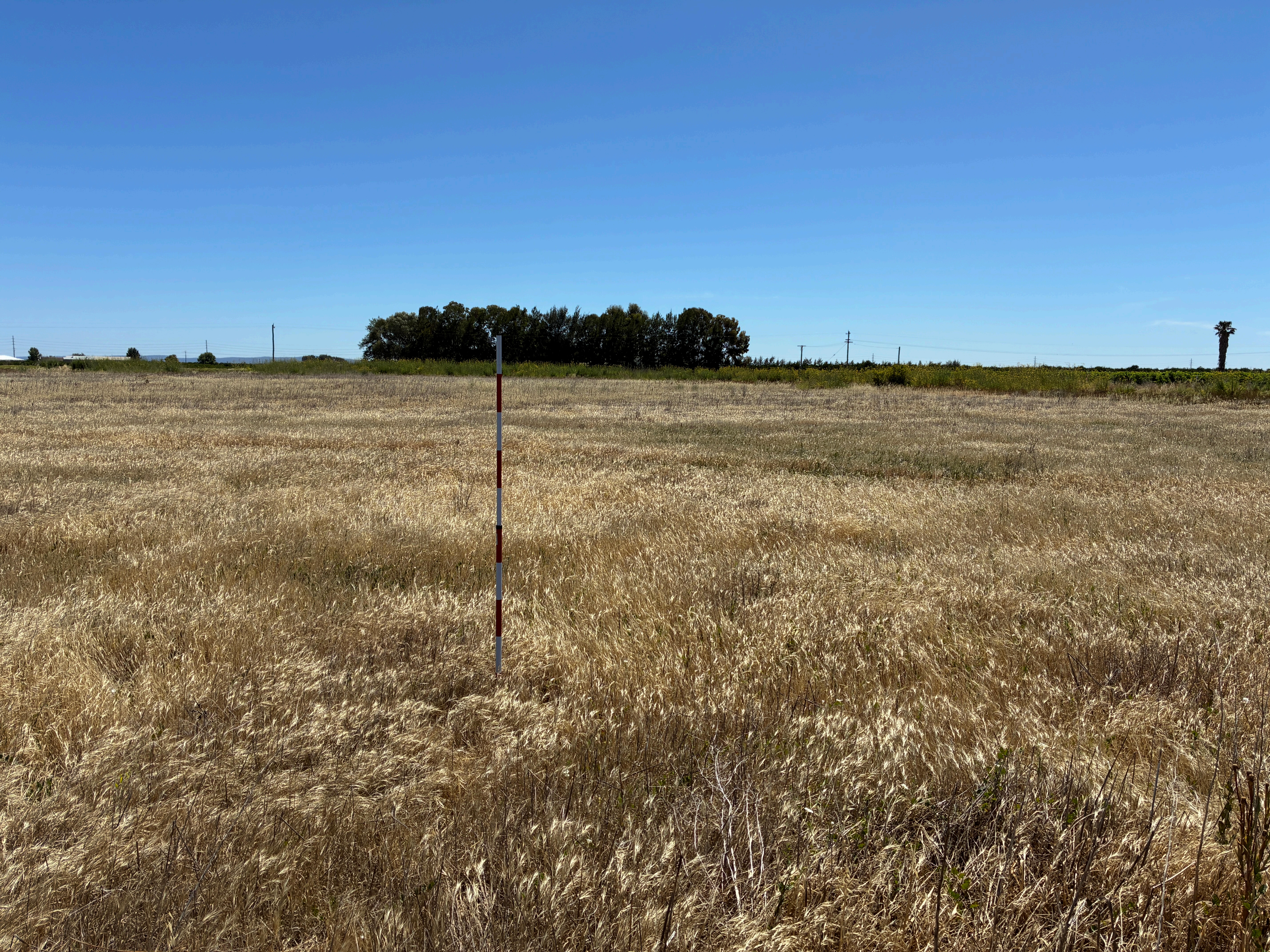
1:500



0.4km

Suburb	SiteName	Address	Contamination Activity Type	ManagementClass	Latitude	Longitude
GRENFELL	Former SRA Fuel Depot	Grafton STREET	Other Petroleum	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-33.89351237	148.1560188
GRENFELL	Grenfell Gasworks	Corner Gooloogong Road & Bourke STREET	Gasworks	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-33.89006016	148.1615443
GRENFELL	Grenfell Vacant Land / AMMC Fuel & Locomotive Storage	Corner Tyagong and Grafton STREET	Other Petroleum	Under assessment	33.89379	148.15551
GRETA	Coles Express Greta	122 New England HIGHWAY	Service Station	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-32.67656357	151.3872818
GRETA	redevelopment site	112-114 High STREET	Other Industry	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-32.67706709	151.3876682
GRETA	Former landfill	Hollingshed STREET	Landfill	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-32.66705287	151.3923474
GREYSTANES	Metro Branded (former Mobil) Service Station	73 Ettalong ROAD	Service Station	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-33.81822648	150.9513946
GRIFFITH	Liberty Depot (former Shell CVRO) Griffith	6-10 Mackay AVENUE	Other Petroleum	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-34.2910045	146.063824
GRIFFITH	Former Murrumbidgee Irrigation Depot	55-77 Banna AVENUE	Other Industry	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-34.28858242	146.0567509
GRIFFITH	Mobil Depot - Griffith Airport	Off Rememberance DRIVE	Other Petroleum	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-34.25618872	146.0620449
GRIFFITH	Former Ampol Depot	32-34 Mackay AVENUE	Other Petroleum	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-34.2933331	146.0679503
GRIFFITH	Ampol Griffith Fuel Depot (Site ID: 22581) - formerly Caltex Service Station and Depot	2-4 Mackay AVENUE	Service Station	Under assessment	-34.2908766	146.0630815
GRIFFITH	Former Landmark Fertiliser Storage Facility	2-8 Jensen ROAD	Chemical Industry	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-34.29365599	146.0536413
GRIFFITH	Belford Petroleum (former Mobil) Depot	30 Banna AVENUE	Service Station	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-34.29042827	146.0595497
GRIFFITH	Former BP Service Station (Reliance Petroleum)	81 Banna AVENUE	Service Station	Regulation under CLM Act not required	-34.28851251	146.0540815

## Appendix D Site photographs





## Appendix E Construction Noise Estimator Tool (CNET)

Please pick from drop-down list in orange cells

Noise area category	R2
RBL or LA90 Background level (dB(A))	Day 45
	Evening 40
	Night 35
LAeq(15minute) Noise Management Level (dB(A))	Day 55
	Day (OOHW) 50
	Evening 45
	Night 40
Noisiest plant	Concrete pump
Is there line of sight to receiver?	Yes

## Distanced Based Assessment (Noisiest Plant)

**Steps for Assessment:**

- Schedule noisy works to occur in standard hours where possible or before 11pm and implement Standard Measures.
- Select the representative noise area category. The worksheet titled 'Representative Noise Environ.' provides a number of examples to help select the noise area category.
- Select the noisiest plant. If not found in drop-down list, refer to 'Source List' and select a representative plant with equivalent sound power level.
- Is there line of sight to receiver? Select the appropriate scenario from the drop down list.

Identify and implement standard mitigation measures where feasible and reasonable. Include any shielding implemented as part of the standard mitigation measures by changing the selection in the 'Is there line of sight to receiver' drop-down list. Solid barriers can be in the form of road cutting, timber lapped and capped fence, shipping container, site office, etc. Substantial solid barriers are barriers greater than 5 metres in height or multiple rows of houses or a sound barrier specifically designed to mitigate construction noise. Please note that vegetation and trees are not considered to be a form of solid barrier and any gaps would compromise the acoustic integrity of the solid barrier.

5. Determine if there are any receivers (both residential and non-residential receivers) within the affected distance for each relevant time period. Consider background LA90 noise measurements to check assumption in Step #2 if:

- there are many affected receivers and the impact duration at any one receiver is more than 3 weeks; or
- there are a few affected receivers and the impact duration at any one receiver is more than 6 weeks.

Note that consideration needs to be given to the construction staging plan when determining impact duration.

7. Identify if there are any receivers within the additional mitigation measures distances and identify feasible and reasonable measures at each receiver.

8. Where night works are involved, identify sleep disturbance affected distance.

9. Document the outcomes of these steps.

(Note that suitable noise management levels for other noise-sensitive businesses not identified in the Construction and Maintenance Noise Estimator should be investigated on a project-by-project basis. Please contact a Transport for NSW noise specialist for more information)

Abbreviation	Measure
N	Notification
SN	Specific notifications
PC	Phone calls
IB	Individual briefings
RO	Respite offer
R1	Respite period 1
R2	Respite period 2
DR	Duration respite
AA	Alternative accommodation
V	Verification

Note that spot check verification of noise levels and individual briefings are not required for projects with less than 3 weeks impact duration

**Residential receiver**

		Affected distance (m)	LAeq(15minute) noise level above background (LA90)												LAeq(15minute) 75 dB(A) or greater (Highly affected)			Sleep disturbance LAmax 65 dB(A)		
			5 to 10 dB(A)			10 to 20 dB(A)			20 to 30 dB(A)			> 30 dB(A)								
			Noticeable		Clearly audible		Moderately intrusive		Highly intrusive		Measures		Within distance (m)	Mitigation level (dB(A))	Measures	Within distance (m)	Mitigation level (dB(A))			
Undeveloped green fields, rural areas with isolated dwellings	Day	85									N	30	65	N, PC, RO	15	75	N, PC, RO	15	75	
	Day (OOHW)	130									N, R1, DR	85	55	N, R1, DR, PC, SN	15	75	N, PC, RO	15	75	
	Evening	185									N, R1, DR	130	50	N, R1, DR, PC, SN	25	70	N, PC, RO	15	75	
	Night	270	N	270	40	N, R2, DR	185	45	N, PC, SN, R2, DR	85	55	AA, N, PC, SN, R2, DR	30	65	N, PC, RO	15	75	50		
	Highly Affected	15														N, PC, RO	15	75		
Developed settlements (urban and suburban)	Day	95									N	35	65	N, PC, RO	15	75	N, PC, RO	15	75	
	Day (OOHW)	145									N, R1, DR	95	55	N, R1, DR, PC, SN	15	75	N, PC, RO	15	75	
	Evening	220									N, R1, DR	145	50	N, R1, DR, PC, SN	25	70	N, PC, RO	15	75	
	Night	335	N	335	40	N, R2, DR	220	45	N, PC, SN, R2, DR	95	55	AA, N, PC, SN, R2, DR	35	65	N, PC, RO	15	75	55		
	Highly Affected	15														N, PC, RO	15	75		
Propagation across a valley / over water	Day	105									N	40	65	N, PC, RO	15	75	N, PC, RO	15	75	
	Day (OOHW)	175									N, R1, DR	105	55	N, R1, DR, PC, SN	15	75	N, PC, RO	15	75	
	Evening	280									N, R1, DR	175	50	N, R1, DR, PC, SN	25	70	N, PC, RO	15	75	
	Night	445	N	445	40	N, R2, DR	280	45	N, PC, SN, R2, DR	105	55	AA, N, PC, SN, R2, DR	40	65	N, PC, RO	15	75	65		
	Highly Affected	15														N, PC, RO	15	75		

**Non-residential receiver**

Undeveloped green fields, rural areas with isolated dwellings		Affected distance (m)	LAeq(15minute) noise level above NML												LAeq(15minute) 75 dB(A) or greater (Highly affected)			Sleep disturbance LAmax 65 dB(A)		
			<10 dB(A)			10 to 20 dB(A)			20 to 30 dB(A)			> 30 dB(A)								
			Period	NML	Affected distance (m)	Measure	Within distance (m)	Mitigation level (dB(A))	Measure	Within distance (m)	Mitigation level (dB(A))	Measure	Within distance (m)	Mitigation level (dB(A))	Measure	Within distance (m)	Mitigation level (dB(A))			
Classroom at schools and other educational institutions	Day	55	85								N	30	65	N, PC, RO	15	75				
Hospital wards and operating theatres	Day	65	30								N, PC, RO	15	75							
Place of worship	Day	55	85								N, PC, RO	15	75							
Active recreation	Day	65	30								N, PC, RO	15	75							
Passive recreation	Day	60	50								N, PC, RO	15	75							
Industrial premise	Day	75	15								N, PC, RO	15	75							
Offices, retail outlets	Day	70	25								N, PC, RO	15	75							

		OOHW
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## **Appendix F Community and agency consultation**



To whom it may concern,

**RE: Murrumbidgee Irrigation Urban Channels Pipeline (UCP) Project**

Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) is one of the largest private irrigation companies in Australia. Located within the Murray-Darling Basin in southern central NSW, MI services over 3,093 landholdings, owned by over 2,300 shareholder customers within an area of 378,911 hectares. MI's core business is the delivery of water through an extensive integrated supply and drainage network.

The Murrumbidgee Irrigation Urban Channels Pipeline (UCP) Project is proposing to undertake piping and rationalisation of urban channels, funded as eligible activities under the Resilient Rivers Water Infrastructure Program and will deliver 2,541ML of Water Entitlement for the environment. The project involves replacing approximately 50 kilometres (km) of aging concrete and earthen urban supply channels in and adjacent to existing channels, as well as 1.4km of leaking pipeline, with new pipelines. The project also includes rationalisation of 33 escapes, removing and replacing approximately 500 customer outlets, 2 new pump stations, road and rail crossings and a reconfiguration of the network creating greater water delivery efficiency.

MI has engaged NGH to prepare an environmental assessment for the proposed works, which would be completed in the form of Minor Works Review of Environmental Factors (MWREF). The MWREF will be completed in accordance with Division 5.1 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), taking into account the requirements of Section 171(2) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 (EP&A Reg) (previously Clause 228 Factors of the EP&A Regulation 2000).

The UCP Project within Griffith City Council has been divided into 8 Environmental Areas (EA's) for the purpose of the planning, environmental assessments and approvals. Refer Appendix A for GCC Environmental Assessment Areas Mapped.

As per Section 2.10 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021 (TISEPPP), MI must consult with GCC as the proposed works are likely to impact council related infrastructure or services.



Table 1 GCC managed land impacted by the UCP Project and Planned Construction

Enviro Planning Areas & Laterals	Impacts on GCC managed Land	Planned Construction Year
<b>EA1 - Griffith Lateral 92</b>	Yes	2025
<b>EA2 - Griffith Other Laterals</b>	Yes	2026
<b>EA3 - Griffith West</b>	Yes	2026
<b>EA5 - Beelbangara</b>	Yes	2025
<b>EA6 - Bilbul</b>	Yes	2025
<b>EA7 - Yenda</b>	Yes	2025
<b>EA8 - Lateral 253</b>	Yes	2026

Appendix B – H details the impacts to specific locations

### **Construction methodologies:**

The construction approaches proposed are:

- New pipeline - to be constructed within the specified new alignment.
- Convert existing channels to new pipeline - new pipeline to be constructed beside the existing channel (up to 2m in depth).
- Remove and/or decommission existing channel - remove concrete channel and backfill channel to existing ground level.
- Install new drainage channel - construct new channel at a single location - Yenda.
- Infrastructure may also be retained as-is.
- New pipeline will be constructed using under boring at Mirrool Creek - Lateral 253 to reduce the impacts on the waterway

For all construction types, excavators of varying sizes will be used depending on the proposed works. HDPE welding machines would be employed for different welding sizes. The pipes would be strung and welded and then lowered into the excavated trenches. Before laying the pipes at the bottom of the pit, bedding material would be placed.

Where outlets and other fittings are involved, they would be welded onto the pipes according to design specifications. All pipelines to be constructed will run across



different roads and will be sleeved into existing MI culverts if the design permits. If the design does not allow the use of existing culvert infrastructure, the existing culverts would be removed, and pipes would be laid by open trenching through the Council managed roads.

*For the purposes of the MWREF's, and to allow for maximum flexibility in design, the four construction types identified, and any areas of development that are still to be confirmed, will be assessed as 'new pipeline' to capture impacts in a worst-case scenario. The final development impact areas are likely to be reduced in nature.*

As stated above, MI is required to consult with GCC as part of the MWREF process. MI is seeking Council's comment on the proposed works in relation to the potential impact on GCC managed land.

If you have any questions, please contact

- Avinash Gurram [avinash.gurram@mirrigation.com.au](mailto:avinash.gurram@mirrigation.com.au) or 0457 035 582.

We would be pleased to discuss any aspect of this project with you further.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steven Porter".

Steven Porter

General Manager – Asset Performance and Delivery



## Appendix A – GCC Environmental Areas Assessed Maps

















## Appendix B – Environmental Area 1 – Griffith Lateral 92

The planned works for EA1 include approximately 14.75km of UCP modifications consisting of mainly new pipeline with 2.66km being retained as is.

While the majority of the proposed works falls within land managed by MI, the proposed works also fall within the road corridor of Sidlow Road and Stafford Road, identified as managed by GCC.

The proposed works are:

- Not located within mapped flood prone land
- Not located on mapped bushfire prone land
- Not located within or adjacent to local heritage areas
- Not located within land zoned C1 National Parks and Nature Reserves, or adjacent to a national park.

## Appendix C – Environmental Area 2 – Griffith Other Lateral

The planned works for EA2 include approximately 4.81km of UCP modifications consisting of mainly new pipeline with 0.44km being retained as is.

While some areas of the proposed works fall within land managed by MI, the proposed works also fall within the following road corridors, which are identified as managed by GCC:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gardiner Road</li> <li>• Mackay Avenue</li> <li>• Pilloni Road</li> <li>• Oakes Road</li> <li>• Eipper Road</li> <li>• Bishop Road</li> <li>• Old Willbriggie Road</li> <li>• Irving Place</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holt Road</li> <li>• Watkins Avenue</li> <li>• Ray Road</li> <li>• Kidman Way</li> <li>• Thorne Road</li> <li>• Crook Road</li> <li>• Overs Road</li> <li>• Bridge Road</li> </ul>
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The proposed works are:

- Not located within mapped flood prone land
- Located on mapped bushfire prone land – Category 2 Vegetation
- Not located within or adjacent to local heritage areas



- Not located within land zoned C1 National Parks and Nature Reserves, or adjacent to a national park.

## Appendix D – Environmental Area 3 – Griffith West Lateral 101, 102J and 104

The planned works for EA3 include approximately 1.78km of UCP modifications consisting of mainly new pipeline.

While some areas of the proposed works fall within land managed by MI, the proposed works also fall within the following road corridors, which are identified as managed by GCC:

- Butler Road
- Walla Avenue
- Middleton Avenue
- Spence Road

The proposed works are:

- Not located within mapped flood prone land
- Not located on mapped bushfire prone land
- Not located within or adjacent to local heritage areas
- Not located within land zoned C1 National Parks and Nature Reserves, or adjacent to a national park.

## Appendix E – Environmental Area 5 - Beelbangera

The planned works for EA5 include approximately 1.73km of UCP modifications consisting of mainly new pipeline.

While the majority of the proposed works falls within land managed by MI, the proposed works also fall within the road corridor of Davis Street, Rankins Springs Road and Noble Street.

The proposed works are:

- Not located within mapped flood prone land
- Not located on mapped bushfire prone land
- Located adjacent to the Beelbangera Public School LEP heritage listed item #I1
- Not located within land zoned C1 National Parks and Nature Reserves, or adjacent to a national park.



## Appendix F – Environmental Area 6 – Griffith Other Laterals

The planned works for EA6 include approximately 2.81km of UCP modifications consisting of mainly new pipeline.

While some areas of the proposed works fall within land managed by MI, the proposed works also fall within the following road corridors, which are identified as managed by GCC:

- Triaca Road
- Bilbul Road
- Forner Street
- Cooper Road
- Ferguson Street
- Whelan Street

The proposed works are:

- Not located within mapped flood prone land
- Not located on mapped bushfire prone land
- Not located within or adjacent to local heritage areas
- Not located within land zoned C1 National Parks and Nature Reserves, or adjacent to a national park.

## Appendix G – Environmental Area 7 – Yenda Laterals

The planned works for EA7 include approximately 7.01km of UCP modifications consisting of mainly new pipeline.

While some areas of the proposed works fall within land managed by MI, the proposed works also fall within the following road corridors, which are identified as managed by GCC:

- Wood Road
- Northern Brach Canal Road
- Simpson Road
- Anderson Road
- Raccanello Road
- McDonough Road
- McClure Road
- Briggs Road
- Twigg Road.

The proposed works are:

- Located within mapped flood liable land
- Not located on mapped bushfire prone land



- Not located within or adjacent to local heritage areas
- Not located within land zoned C1 National Parks and Nature Reserves, or adjacent to a national park.

## **Appendix H – Environmental Area 8 – Griffith Lateral 253**

The planned works for EA8 include approximately 1.28km of UCP modifications consisting of mainly new pipeline.

While the majority of the proposed works falls within land managed by MI, the proposed works also fall within the road corridor of Bowditch Road.

The proposed works are:

- Located within mapped flood liable land – Mirrool Creek
- Not located on mapped bushfire prone land
- Not located within or adjacent to local heritage areas
- Not located within land zoned C1 National Parks and Nature Reserves, or adjacent to a national park.

# Appendix G Biodiversity Assessment

## G.1 Test of Significance

- Southern Bell Frog (*Litoria raniformis*) - Endangered

BC Act test of significance

Response
<b>(a) 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</b>
Southern Bell Frog is usually found among vegetation within or at the edges of permanent water such as slow flowing streams, swamps, lagoons and lakes. In disturbed areas it also commonly occurs in artificial waterbodies such as farm dams, concrete channels, irrigated rice crops and disused quarries, particularly where natural habitat is no longer available (DSE, 2012). Favoured sites frequently have a large proportion of emergent, submerged and floating vegetation, and slow-flowing or still water (Cth DCCEEW, 2024).  The southern bell frog is divided into two lineages: the temperate southern lineage and the semi-arid northern lineage. The Project Area occurs in the northern part of the species range, hence, may be part of the semi-arid northern lineage, though the distribution limits for this species lineages is not yet resolved (Cth DCCEEW, 2024).  Suitable habitat in the Development Footprint is aquatic habitat, consisting of open concrete channels (approximately 40cm high and 40cm wide), with limited fringing vegetation. And earthen channels with fringing exotic vegetation.  The Southern Bell Frog breeds in the warmer months (September to April) following a rise in water levels (OEH, 2023). Mating occurs on the edge of, or within, permanent waterbodies, flooded plains, and creek pools, in areas with extensive growth of either emergent or submerged vegetation (Cth DCCEEW, 2024). Egg clusters are laid on the water surface or up to 50 cm below it and rapidly sink.  The earthen channel in the Development Footprint is unlikely to have permanence of water (still waterbody) for a duration long enough (at least four to 12 months) to allow a tadpole to fully develop into an adult, therefore, is unsuitable as breeding habitat for the Southern Bell Frog. There are no nearby water courses or waterbodies that connect with the area EA14 earthen channels. The utilisation of this habitat by the Southern Bell Frog for breeding would also be limited by the lack of preferred vegetative cover e.g. emergent, submerged or floating plants.  The proposed activity is not likely to have an adverse effect on the life cycle of this species such that a viable local population would be placed at risk of extinction

Response
<p><b>(b) in the case of an endangered ecological community or critically endangered ecological community, whether the proposed development or activity:</b></p> <p>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</p> <p>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</p>
n/a
<p><b>(c) in relation to the habitat of a threatened species or ecological community:</b></p> <p>i. the extent to which habitat is likely to be removed or modified as a result of the proposed development or activity, and</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>i. Aquatic habitat in the project area consists of approximately 0.41 ha of earthen channel with fringing vegetation. The proposal will reduce the area of occupancy of the Southern Bell Frog by removing 0.410.41 ha concrete channels.</p> <p>ii. The aquatic habitat in the form of earthen channel (in area EA14) would be fragmented by the proposed works with some existing channels being converted to pipelines. The replacement of the earthen channels with pipelines would reduce available water habitat for this species, however, is unlikely to fragment an existing population due to the mobility of this species.</p> <p>iii. The aquatic habitat occurs in the form of an open air, shallow (approximately 40cm deep) earthen channels with aquatic vegetation, ephemeral water and fringing vegetation. These channels have limited preferred habitat and provide limited breeding and foraging habitat (Cth DCCEEW, 2024). The surrounding terrestrial habitat is already disturbed with a history of agricultural use and urban development in the Project Area. There are no BioNet records of the Southern Bell Frog within the Project Area (area EA14). Earthen channels in area EA14 do not connect to primary habitat, such as Murrumbidgee River. It is unlikely that earthen channels are being used as dispersal/recolonisation routes between the Murrumbidgee River and other permanent water bodies. Upgrading earthen channels to pipelines will modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability of habitat, however, at the present earthen channels are low quality habitat they are not considered to be important for the long-term survival of this species in the locality.</p>
<p><b>(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).</b></p>

Response
<p>The proposed development is not directly or indirectly within any areas of outstanding biodiversity value mapped land. The closest areas of mapped biodiversity value are 20 km south of the proposed development on Gum Creek, a tributary of Murrumbidgee River.</p>
<p><b>(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.</b></p>
<p><b>Weeds and Pests</b></p> <p>As outlined above, the habitat is already in a disturbed state and can be accessed by people, vehicles, farm animals and pest animals, with existing weed species within bordering vegetation of the earthen channels. The proposal would not introduce or exacerbate harmful species into the area of the Southern Bell Frog habitat.</p>
<p><b>Disease</b></p> <p>The Southern Bell Frog is susceptible to Chytridiomycosis, which is an infectious disease caused by amphibian chytrid fungus (<i>Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis</i>) (DSE, 2012). The fungus can be transferred through soil, therefore, there is a risk of the fungus being carried onto the site through contaminated machinery and footwear. To prevent the spread of the amphibian chytrid fungus, it is recommended that a hygiene protocol is followed. With these protocols followed, the proposal is unlikely to introduce a disease to the Project Area that would cause the Southern Bell Frog to decline.</p>
<p><b>Climate change</b></p> <p>As the Southern Bell Frog is a habitat generalist, it is less likely to be impacted by effects of climate change (Cth DCCEEW, 2024). However, the effects of (chytridiomycosis caused by the chytrid fungus increases mortality rates of infected Southern Bell Frog. Climate change has the potential to exacerbate the impacts of chytridiomycosis.</p>
<p><b>Conclusion</b></p> <p>There would be impacts to potentially suitable habitat for the Southern Bell Frog within the project area, however due to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• there is a lack of records indicating a lower likelihood of occupation.</li><li>• Earthen channels, with restricted fringing terrestrial and aquatic vegetation, provide limited breeding and foraging habitat for the Southern Bell Frog</li><li>• there are no areas of important habitat in the Project Area</li><li>• no important populations would be impacted.</li></ul> <p>The impacts to this species are not considered to be significant.</p>

## G.2 Habitat evaluation table

- Southern Bell Frog (*Litoria raniformis*)

Vulnerable species

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

**(a) lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population**

Southern Bell Frog is usually found among vegetation within or at the edges of permanent water such as slow flowing streams, swamps, lagoons and lakes. In disturbed areas it also commonly occurs in artificial waterbodies such as farm dams, irrigation channels, irrigated rice crops and disused quarries, particularly where natural habitat is no longer available (DSE, 2012). Favoured sites frequently have a large proportion of emergent, submerged and floating vegetation, and slow-flowing or still water (Cth DCCEEW, 2024).

The Southern Bell Frog prefers to breed during spring and summer triggered by flooding or a significant rise in water levels. The species has been known to breed anytime from early spring through to late summer/early autumn (Sept to April) following a rise in water levels (OEH, 2023). Tadpoles require standing water for at least 4 months for development and metamorphosis to occur but can take up to 12 months to develop.

The Conservation Advice (2024) for the southern bell frog mentions that in the Murray River floodplain, this species has been documented moving several kilometres between waterbodies along drainage lines or other low-lying areas.

The presence of the Southern Bell Frog in the Project Area has been assumed based on local records within 15 km of the Development Footprint near Lake Coolah and on the floodplains of the Murrumbidgee River (these records are from around 2003), and the presence of potentially suitable habitat in the form of earthen channel. These channels are used for irrigation in spring and summer.

Suitable habitat in the Development Footprint is aquatic habitat, consisting of open concrete channels (approximately 40cm high and 40cm wide), with limited fringing vegetation. Species polygons have been determined by applying a 350 m buffer to the habitat (concrete channels) as per the Significant impact guidelines (DEWHA, 2009), resulting in an impact area of 349.73 ha for the Southern Bell Frog.

The criteria of an ‘Important Population’ of the species is outlined in the EPBC Act Policy Statement for the species (DEWHA 2009a, 2009b):

‘Much of the habitat for *L. raniformis* has been isolated or fragmented, restricting the opportunity for important population processes such dispersal and colonisation. As such, any viable population is considered to be an important population for the persistence and recovery of the species. For this species, a viable population is one which is not isolated from other populations or waterbodies, such that it has the opportunity to interact with other nearby populations or has the ability to establish new populations when the suitability or availability of waterbodies changes. Interaction with nearby populations and colonisation of newly available waterbodies occurs via the dispersal of individual frogs across suitable habitat.’

This species is known to utilise earthen channels (DSE, 2012). The present channel is earthen, based with minimal vegetation present (only occur on the edge of the channels and where channels are cracked), there is isolation of potential populations due to urbanisation. There are also no local records of this species. Given this any population present is not considered to be a viable population, and therefore, not an ‘important population’.

With regards to a ‘non-important population’ that may occur the earthen channel present is not likely to be suitable breeding habitat as the channels are narrow and shallow so cannot be inundated with water and

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

are not considered deep enough for breeding habitat. This along with when the water levels are increased a flow would likely be maintained to enable reaching earthen crops. This is unsuitable for any tadpoles that may be in the water as they require a still waterbody for at least 4 months.

Any present Southern Bell Frog population may be impacted directly by reduced water availability due to channels replacement with pipes, and/or indirectly by reduced water quality from erosion, runoff, dust and pollution in channels that would be retained. Preclearance for this species is recommended to enable relocation.

**(b) reduce the area of occupancy of an important population**

Any potential population present is not considered to be an ‘important population’; therefore, the area of occupancy would not be reduced.

Aquatic habitat in the Project Area consists of the 349.73 ha of earthen and concrete channel. Proposal will reduce the area of occupancy in the local area of any non-important Southern Bell Frog populations by removing 349.73 ha earthen and concrete channels. Given this species is potentially present a preclearance protocol is recommended to enable relocation where needed.

**(c) fragment an existing important population into two or more populations**

Any potential population present is not considered to be an ‘important population’, therefore fragmentation of one would not occur.

For the potential population present in the earthen channel (in area EA14) proposed works would reduce the available aquatic habitat with some existing open earthen channels being converted to pipelines, however, the shallow open earthen channels provide limited breeding and foraging habitat (Cth DCCEEW, 2024). Earthen channels in area EA14 do not connect to primary habitat, such as the Murrumbidgee River, therefore, it is unlikely that earthen channels are being used as dispersal/recolonisation routes between the Murrumbidgee River and other permanent water bodies.

**(d) adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species**

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

Habitat critical to the survival of a species may occur but is not limited to habitat identified in a recovery plan for the species or ecological community as habitat critical for that species or ecological community; and/or habitat listed on the Register of Critical Habitat maintained by the minister under the EPBC Act (Cth DCCEEW, 2024).

The Conservation Advice (2024) states the following under the heading 'Habitat critical to the survival':

'Areas with deep water (>1.5 m) that support a dense cover (30–40 % coverage) of submergent and floating vegetation, while also providing for extensive vegetated and/or rocky margins in the shallows, are required to support all life-stages. Critically, water needs to be available over the breeding season (September–February) (DELWP 2017). Vegetation protects all life-stages from predation, with tall emergent vegetation such as reeds and rushes providing protection for adults, while submerged and floating attached vegetation protects eggs and tadpoles (Wassens 2008; DELWP 2017). Warmer shallow areas increase productivity by accelerating vegetation

growth and providing an abundance of invertebrate prey items and quickens tadpole development (Heard et al. 2015). As well as providing refugia from predators, grass and shrub cover on the banks provides habitat for prey items (see Activity, dispersal and diet section). However, banks choked with vegetation prevent dispersal, which is critically important for survival (see Threats). Habitat critical to survival varies between the two lineages of the southern bell frog...Frogs from the semi-arid northern lineage are reliant on large wetland complexes, consisting of

a network of ephemeral waterbodies adjacent to permanent waterbodies, which act as a refuge during drought (Wassens et al. 2008, 2010). Frog presence is correlated with increasing aquatic vegetation complexity and flooding frequency (Wassens et al. 2008, 2010). For both lineages, movement between breeding sites or from refuge habitat is critical for maintaining genetic diversity and allowing temporal variation in habitat use and/or

recolonisation of sites following local extinction (DEWHA 2009; Turner et al. 2022b). Connective habitat includes wet areas, such as riverbanks, wetlands, drainage lines, swales, and other periodically damp areas, as well as grassy open areas (DSG 2015). Terrestrial foraging habitat is often open and contains flowering plants, tussocks, grasses, and foliage (DSG 2015). This vegetation may be near breeding habitat or some distance away, with frogs found up to 500 m from the nearest waterbody. Terrestrial vegetation, along with fallen logs and ground debris surrounding waterbodies provide essential shelter sites as well as over-wintering habitat.'

While the earthen channel provide water during the breeding season and there is foraging habitat surrounding the waterbody there is a lack of emergent, submergent and floating habitat. The earthen channel is approximately 40cm deep and there were no deep-water bodies (>1.5m) seen during the site visit or visible on aerial imagery or EPI mapping within 500m of the earthen channels. Given this the Project Area is not a part of critical habitat for the Southern Bell Frog. The proposed works would not adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of this species.

**(e) disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population**

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

An ‘important population’ is not considered to be present, as such the breeding cycle is not considered to be disrupted.

The Southern Bell Frog breeds in the warmer months (September to April) following a rise in water levels (OEH, 2023). Mating occurs on the edge of, or within, permanent waterbodies, flooded plains, and creek pools, in areas with extensive growth of either emergent or submerged vegetation (Cth DCCEW, 2024). Egg clusters are laid on the water surface or up to 50 cm below it and rapidly sink. The earthen channel in the Development Footprint is unlikely to have permanence of water for a duration long enough (at least four to 12 months) to allow a tadpole to fully develop into an adult, and is only up to approximately 40cm deep, therefore, is unsuitable as breeding habitat for the Southern Bell Frog that may occur. There are no nearby water courses or waterbodies that connect with the area EA14 earthen channel.

**(f) modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline**

The proposed development would remove up to approximately 0.41 ha of aquatic habitat that this species may utilise. Most of the open channels would be converted to pipelines and the channels backfilled. The surrounding terrestrial habitat is disturbed with a history of agricultural use and urban development. While the earthen channels and adjacent vegetation have potential to be habitat this species has the ability to move 1km in 24hours (DCCEW, 2012) and has been documented to travel several kilometres in the Murray River floodplain (Wassens (2005), in DCCEW 2024).

Given the above and that the present earthen channel has limited habitat suitability for breeding the proposed development is not predicted to modify, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline.

**(g) result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species’ habitat**

As outlined above, the habitat is already in a disturbed state and can be accessed by people, vehicles, farm animals and pest animals. The proposal would not introduce or exacerbate harmful species into the area of the Southern Bell Frog habitat.

**(h) introduce disease that may cause the species to decline, or**

The Southern Bell Frog is susceptible to Chytridiomycosis, which is an infectious disease caused by amphibian chytrid fungus (*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*) (DSE, 2012). The fungus can be transferred through soil, therefore, there is a risk of it being carried onto the site through contaminated machinery and footwear. To prevent the spread of the amphibian chytrid fungus, it is recommended that a hygiene protocol is followed. With this protocol followed the proposed works are unlikely to introduce a disease to the Project Area that would cause the Southern Bell Frog to decline.

**(i) interfere with the recovery of the species**

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

Currently, a national recovery plan has been adopted for the Southern Bell Frog (DSE, 2012). The species' conservation advice lists the key threats as (Cth DCCEEW, 2024):

- Human Disturbance (e.g., direct mortality and stress/encroachment from human activities)
  - Habitat loss, degradation, and fragmentation
  - Altered hydrology
  - Pollution
- Disease – animal pathogens (chytridiomycosis caused by the chytrid fungus)
- Competition and predation by introduced invasive fish species.
- Habitat damage by livestock
- Predation from foxes
- Climate change (temperature increase, extreme weather events e.g. cyclones, droughts)
  - Increase in drought frequency/severity
  - Increase in fire frequency/severity

The proposal would not exacerbate the threats of fragmentation, disease, predation by foxes, and climate change (see above). To decrease impact to potential populations, present several mitigation measures would be put in place. These include:

- Clear physical demarcation of boundary between retained and cleared areas
- Weed control and hygiene protocol
- Sediment and erosion controls.
- Avoiding undergoing works (as far as practical) in Spring or Summer, which is when Southern Bell Frog are most active and the most likely to utilise the earthen and concrete channels. As reasonable, undergo as much works in Autumn and Winter.
- If works are to be completed in Spring and Summer;
  - A fauna spotter catcher to be on site to confirm if Southern Bell Frog is present, only if a recent, significant rise in water has occurred (a significant flooding event or increased earthen and concrete supply needed). Or;
  - If rain events are not significant enough to create a rise in water- enough that would retain water for at least a four-month period (a significant flooding event), no additional mitigation is required
- An allowable time of two weeks following dewatering of existing earthen and concrete channels, or 1-2 days for existing concrete channels would encourage the Southern Bell Frog offsite.

With these mitigation measures in place, the proposal is unlikely to interfere with the recovery of the Southern Bell Frog or to cause significant adverse impacts on the species.

**Conclusion**

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

The Southern Bell Frog would have impacts to approximately 0.41 ha of potentially suitable habitat within the project area. Due to the following:

- the Project Area is not considered to contain critical habitat
- the Project Area is not considered to have an important population
- there is a lack of records indicating a lower likelihood of occupation.
- the earthen channel is shallow
- the earthen channels' vegetation is restricted to fringing terrestrial habitat which provides limited breeding habitat for the Southern Bell Frog.

The proposed works impacts to this species are not considered to be significant.

## Appendix H Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment

## Aboriginal Due Diligence Assessment – Area 14

This brief report has been drafted in keeping with the sequence of steps identified in the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage's *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW* (OEH 2010). The Code of Practice provides a stepped approach to determine if an activity is likely to cause harm to an Aboriginal object, as defined by the *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. The steps follow a logical sequence of questions, the answer to each question determines the need for the next step in the process. The Code of Practice sets out the steps which the Proponent is required to take in order to:

- Identify whether Aboriginal objects are, or are likely to be, present in the works area; and
- Determine whether or not their activities are likely to harm Aboriginal objects.

Each question follows the relevant steps outlined in the Code of Practice.

This assessment reviews the proposed Area 14 works on the southern side of the town of Griffith in the Riverina of NSW.

### Step 1.

#### **Will the activity disturb the ground surface or any culturally modified trees?**

The proposed works engage with water reticulation systems owned and operated by Murrumbidgee Irrigation. The water reticulation system includes pipes, tunnels, canals, pumping stations and related electricity infrastructure and dosing facilities.

The Area 14 Project Area works at Griffith that are subject to this assessment will be undertaken for the water reticulation system and include the excavation and construction of a new section of pipeline along Chapman Road in the Griffith Local Government Area (LGA). There is also a proposed laydown area on Chapman Road.

No previously recorded culturally modified trees or old growth mature native trees are located within the Area 14 Project Area. The satellite imagery appears to show an absence of trees along the alignment and within the proposed laydown area. Although the use of satellite imagery is not a guarantee of the absence of old growth mature native trees it is extremely unlikely that they are located within the Project Area.

As ground disturbance is confirmed the next step in the due diligence process is required.

### Step 2a.

#### **Search the AHIMS database and use any other sources of information of which you are already aware.**

The Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) provides a database of previously recorded Aboriginal heritage sites in NSW although it is not conclusive evidence of the presence or absence of Aboriginal heritage sites. On 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025, a search of the AHIMS database was undertaken over an area of approximately 800 km<sup>2</sup> centred on the Project Area. The AHIMS Client Service ID was 984771.

There were 78 Aboriginal sites, and no declared Aboriginal Places recorded within the search area (Figure 1). Sites located in the area included artefact scatters, modified trees, art, hearths, Aboriginal resource and gathering, and stone quarries.

There are no Aboriginal sites recorded within or in close proximity to the Project area (Figure 1). The closest recorded site is 1km to the northeast of the Project Area. The site is an artefact scatter in Griffith that does not appear to be associated with any Strahler order watercourses with the exception of man-made channels.

Other heritage register searches were also undertaken to identify any items or places in proximity to the proposed work areas. The NSW State Heritage Inventory (SHI), includes items on the State Heritage Register (SHR) and items listed by state agencies and the local Government, to identify any items currently listed within or adjacent to the work areas. The SHI database also includes declared Aboriginal Places in NSW. A search of the SHI database was conducted, which revealed there are no declared Aboriginal Places within the Griffith LGA. The nearest listed item on the Local Environmental Plan (LEP) was the Griffith Centre for Irrigated Agriculture (I23) located approximately 1km to the southwest of the Project Area. This site is not listed for Aboriginal significance.

## Environmental Context

The study area is positioned within the broader Murrumbidgee River floodplain and part of the Murrumbidgee Depression Plains. The base geology comprises quaternary alluvial plains with numerous circular depressions interpreted as either high floodplains or low terraces with relief to 10m. Deposits consist of grey to brown clays and clay loams with linear patterns of sandy prior streams (DECC 2002). Griffith has some elevated terrain that consists of Late Devonian sandstone, conglomerate, siltstone and pebbly sandstone as part of the Cocoparra Group (Pogson 1974). The presence of conglomerate and pebbly sandstone is likely to have provided a source of stone material for Aboriginal people for flaking, as there is rarely stone material found on the flood deposits of the Murrumbidgee.

There is no topographic variation within the landscape, with the area considered very flat, apart from the ridge forming Scenic Hill at Griffith and the Cocoparra Range. There is no discernible variation in the elevation from one part of the area to another.

The Murrumbidgee Irrigation Scheme was approved by the NSW Government in 1906 and the first farms established in the area about 1916. The establishment of the irrigation scheme led to development of the region through construction of irrigation channels, either by constructing new ones or channelising existing creek lines and construction of banks and levees. The scale of the development and the subsequent division of the landscape into irrigation bays required extensive earthworks, including clearing and levelling of the ground surface.

The Area 14 channels Project Area is located on the southeastern outskirts of Griffith. The Project Area consists of some pastoral holdings. The project area is located within a pastoral area and the pipeline alignment is located over an existing open channel. The laydown area is located within an empty paddock. Overall, the proposal area would be categorised as highly disturbed through construction and maintenance of the channels and roads.

The Griffith area is within an area identified as part of the Wiradjuri language group. This is an assemblage of many small clans and bands speaking a number of similar dialects (Howitt 1996, Tindale 1974, MacDonald 1983, Horton 1994). The Wiradjuri language group was the largest in NSW prior to European settlement. The borders however, were not static, they were most likely fluid, expanding and contracting over time to the movements of smaller family or clan groups. Boundaries ebbed and flowed through contact with neighbours, the seasons and periods of drought and abundance.

European settlers started arriving in the district in the 1830s, after the explorer Oxley passed through the region in 1817. At this point the Aboriginal population was in decline, due to disease such as small pox and influenza as well as dispossession from traditional lands and acts of violence against the Aboriginal people meant there was great social upheaval and partial disintegration of the traditional way of life. This meant that access to traditional resource gathering and hunting areas, religious life and marriage links and access to sacred ceremonial sites were disrupted or destroyed.

However, despite these disruptions, Aboriginal people continued to maintain their connections to sites and the land in the early days of European settlement. Where Aboriginal people were taken to places like Warangesda, a mission established near Darlington Point in 1880, people were able to maintain at least some

form of association with country and tell traditional stories and Wiradjuri people continue to have a strong connection to their land.

There have been a number of archaeological surveys conducted within the Griffith area or broader region that assist in development of models of Aboriginal site location. A summary of these reports relevant to the current area is provided in Table 1 below.

Table 1 Summary of previous archaeological assessments.

Project	Relevant Findings	Relevance to Area 1
Gollan 1982 Griffith to Darlington Point transmission line	Recorded artefact scatters on either side of Mirrool Creek, a stone quarry on Whitton Road. Artefacts were found within an eroded section of the northern bank of the creek. The artefacts were siliceous fine grained flakes and quartz flakes. The area was not considered to contain PAD.	6.5km east of the Project Area.
Barber 1998 Lake Wyangan subdivision Barber 2000 Lake Wyangan subsurface testing.	Recorded three artefact scatters and isolated find, two site on a lunette. 35 artefacts recovered.  12 hand excavated test pits and 8 machine test pits excavated on the lunette and another 13 hand test pits and 3 mechanical test pits on an elevated sand ridge. One artefact was recovered with four surface finds.  Silcrete was dominant material (64%) followed by quartz and quartzite (11%) with lesser numbers of other materials.	7km north west, adjacent to different landforms.
2011 Oz Ark McWilliams Winery expansion, Hanwood	Two isolated artefacts in a ploughed paddock including a silcrete flake and a possible flaked cobble. A scatter of three silcrete flaked artefacts was also recorded in a table drain.	5.5km south west, shows artefacts found in disturbed contexts.
NGH 2017a North Branch Canal	No sites located in these areas, within floodplain environment along channel.	17.5km to the northeast of the Project Area.
NGH 2017b East Mirrool Creek and Brays Dam escape structures	No sites located in these areas, within floodplain environment.	10km south and 17km east of the Project Area
NGH 2018a Lakeside Estate	Survey and testing located 3 new low density surface sites containing silcrete flakes, and a sandstone fragment in disturbed areas. Test	6km north adjacent to different landforms.

Project	Relevant Findings	Relevance to Area 1
	excavations recovered artefacts from six test pits of 20 excavated which contained a total of six artefacts. Artefacts recovered from the excavations were silcrete flakes, a basalt flaked piece and a quartzite distal flake.	
NGH 2018a MIARA Mirrool Creek Escape	Three isolated artefacts located in a disturbed environment along access track.	17km west of the Project Area.
NGH 2018b MIARA Channel Maintenance (Wah Wah – Sturt Channels)	Two Aboriginal scarred trees and one possible scarred tree alongside channels.	30km west of the Project Area

After considering the results of these and other archaeological assessments in the region, it is possible to provide a model of Aboriginal site location to predict the potential of finding different types of sites in the region.

Table 2 Summary of predictive model.

Site Type	Description	Potential
Artefact scatters	Artefact scatter sites can range from two artefacts to high-density concentrations containing hundreds of stone artefacts. The size of these sites usually correlates with proximity to sources of fresh water.	Low potential to occur where there is significant ground disturbance which has occurred during the construction and maintenance of the existing channels and roads. Given the disturbances of the area remnant low density scatters would likely be displaced and not located in their original context.
Isolated artefacts	These sites consist of a single artefact and usually represents accidental discard or disposal. Can occur anywhere.	Potential to occur anywhere however given the disturbance of areas any isolated finds would likely be displaced and not located in their original context. May be remnants of larger sites now destroyed.
Modified Trees	Trees that have undergone cultural modification. These require the presence of mature native trees and are likely to be concentrated along major waterways and around swamps or depression areas.	Potential to occur within areas where there are remnant mature native trees, and dead or fallen mature trees.

Site Type	Description	Potential
Burials	Ancestral Aboriginal burials are generally found in elevated sandy contexts or in association with rivers and major creeks.	Unlikely to occur due to historic disturbances of the channels and roads as well as the absence of elevated sandy landforms or major creeks within the area.
Hearth/Ovens	<p>Are identified by burnt clay used for heat retainers. Some are recorded in the district in association with resource locations. Hearths are generally considered to be limited, one-off use or perhaps reused only a few times and generally contain smaller concentrations of heat retainers.</p> <p>Ovens/mounds are considered to represent larger features, reused frequently over time, often extending over a larger area and can include other material such as bone.</p>	Unlikely to occur due to historic disturbances, none have been recorded in the immediate area.
Potential Archaeological Deposits (PADs)	Potential subsurface deposits of archaeological material.	<p>PADs have potential to occur in areas that are likely to have reasonable subsurface deposits in archeologically sensitivity landforms which are relatively undisturbed.</p> <p>While this feature has been recorded in the region the level of existing disturbance of the areas adjacent to the road suggests that this site type is unlikely to occur.</p>

Understanding the landscape context of the proposed work areas assists in building an archaeological predictive model of the area and assist to identify local resources which may have been utilised by Aboriginal people. This information can then potentially be used in predicting the nature of Aboriginal occupation across the landscapes within and adjacent to the proposed work areas. Factors that are typically used to inform the archaeological potential of landscapes include the presence or absence of resources that would have been utilised by Aboriginal people including water, animal and plant foods, stone and other resources.

Based on the outline of previous results in the region, and the assessment of the types and location of sites, it is possible that artefact type sites (scatter and isolated finds) and scarred trees may occur adjacent to the Area 14 channels and may occur within undisturbed sections of the proposed alignment.

## Step 2b.

### Are activities proposed in areas where landscape features indicate the presence of Aboriginal objects?

The *Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW (Code of Practice)* outlines a range of landscape features that have higher potential to contain Aboriginal objects. It is also

necessary to consider whether there are landscape features of undisturbed land that may contain Aboriginal objects. These include land that is:

- within 200m of water;
- located within a sand dune system;
- located on a ridge top, ridge line or headland;
- located within 200m below or above a cliff face, or
- within 20m of a cave, rock shelter or cave mouth.

Due to the highly modified landscape and the possibility of channels following former waterways we cannot discount this area having previously been located within 200m of water. The topography in the Project Area is flat with very little elevation change across the area even at distance from major waterways. Although the Project Area is outside the 200m buffer of known waterways that is listed within the *Due Diligence Code of Practice* as a more sensitive area for Aboriginal sites to occur, there is still potential for sites to occur some distance away especially considering the uniform topographic landscape and findings from previous surveys.

Although the Project Area has also been disturbed through excavation for existing channels the area may have contained isolated artefacts or artefact scatters in the past.

## Impact avoidance

### **Step 3. Can any AHIMS listed objects, or landscape features be avoided?**

There are no known Aboriginal heritage sites within the proposed works area. There is some potential to limit the risk of impacting unrecorded Aboriginal archaeological objects if present, through managing the work program in those areas where sites have potential to occur. The program of work is varied however, and the channels themselves cannot now be realigned or avoided. The construction of the channels has resulted in considerable disturbance from earthworks and the proposed expansion cannot be relocated to another area.

There are no identifiable landscape features within Area 14 that would be considered as having high archaeological potential, while the general floodplain would be considered to have low to moderate potential based on other survey results from the region. This assumes a low level of disturbance, but the location of the channels and roads within the area has significantly increased the level of disturbance. Further, the landscape within the Griffith area has been significantly modified to adapt existing canal and channels as well as roads, infrastructure and buildings.

The proposed works are shown in detail in Figure 2.

## Desktop Assessment

The assessment of the project impacts on Aboriginal heritage was undertaken at a desktop level utilising the results of the background setting information including AHIMS results and aerial imagery and street view imagery publicly available in consideration of the type of activity proposed.

One section of pipeline and one laydown area are proposed for Area 14 (Figure 2). The proposed replacement of the existing channel on the western side of Chapman Road with a new pipeline has been proposed (Table 3). A laydown area has also been proposed on the western side of the existing channel on Chapman Road.

The following table outlines the assessment of the laydown area and proposed pipeline in relation to the potential for Aboriginal heritage items to occur.

Table 3 Summary assessment of works at Area 14.

Location	Description	Conclusion
Approximately 400m of new pipeline is proposed within an existing open channel on the western side of Chapman Road	A wide open channel (approximately 5m wide) currently exists on the western side of Chapman Road where the pipeline is proposed. The proposed new pipeline will be placed within the existing channel footprint	Very low potential for Aboriginal heritage to occur within the existing channel footprint.
Laydown area off Chapman Road on Lot 415 DP751709 measuring approximately 65m x 130m.	The laydown area is located within a cleared lot within RU1: primary production zoned land. The laydown area is bordered to the north, south and east by channels. There does not appear to be any significant ground disturbance and is currently unused with dense grasses.	Low to moderate potential for Aboriginal heritage to occur within the existing channel footprint.

In accordance with the process outlined in the Code of Practice this assessment has found that the potential for the proposed work activities at Area 14 to disturb Aboriginal Heritage objects or sensitive landscape features is low although, it cannot be entirely discounted in those portions of adjacent land that have far less disturbances. There are no previously recorded AHIMS sites within or in close proximity to the Project Area. Although it has been shown in the region that the landform on which the Project Area is located has some potential to contain Aboriginal objects, the level of disturbance reduces the degree of potential of any in situ cultural material or deposits being present within the channel footprint. However, there may be some potential within the laydown area to the west of the existing channel.

There is negligible potential for Aboriginal objects to occur within the proposed pipeline alignment where an existing channel occurs. However, there is low to moderate potential for Aboriginal heritage to occur within the laydown areas which appear to have had only minor impacts.

## Visual Inspection

The assessment process is primarily a desktop exercise, using available information such as the AHIMS search results and relevant archaeological reports to develop or refine a model of Aboriginal site prediction based on the type of activity proposed and the level of disturbance of the area. A visual inspection is also required where landscape features are present that may contain Aboriginal objects that cannot be avoided by the activity.

A field inspection was conducted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025 to inspect newly proposed laydown area and new pipeline alignment. This inspection was undertaken with NGH archaeologist Cassandra Venn, Tony Monaghan (Griffith LALC) and Steven Young (Griffith LALC). A Murrumbidgee Irrigation representative accompanied the survey team to ensure access and landowner liaison. The Murrumbidgee Irrigation representative was Louisa Barbaro.

The laydown area was inspected by walking transects on foot to cover the area. The laydown area contained dense long grasses and as such visibility was very low (<5%) (Plate 1 and Plate 2). There were no exposures identified within the Project Area. Despite the low visibility it was obvious that the ground surface had been disturbed in the past and was very uneven underfoot. At times rubbish was visible within the area which when also considering the uneven ground surface indicates a substantial amount of disturbance. This area does not contain any potential for an archaeological deposit.

Site photographs below were taken during the site inspection:

	
<p>Plate 1. From the southern end of the laydown area facing northeast.</p>	<p>Plate 2. From the northern end of the laydown area facing south.</p>

## Further Assessment

The Due Diligence Code states that if, after the desktop research and visual inspection is completed, it is evident that harm will occur to Aboriginal objects or heritage places then further and more detailed assessment is required. However, if the research and inspection conclude that the proposed activity is unlikely to harm Aboriginal objects then the activity can proceed with caution.

The field assessment concludes that the area (Area 14) does not require further investigation and assessment. No Aboriginal objects were identified and there is no potential for an archaeological deposit within the Project Area.

## Recommendations

The proposed work can proceed with caution with the following recommendations:

1. Works can proceed within the laydown area on Lot 415 DP751709.
2. All works must be constrained to the assessed areas. Any activity proposed outside of the current assessment areas should be subject to assessment.
3. Wherever possible, all works should be confined to those areas between the road and the channel or within the existing channel footprint. If the proposed works cannot occur within the previously disturbed footprint a site inspection will be necessary.
4. If any items suspected of being Aboriginal in origin are discovered during the work, all work in the immediate vicinity must stop. The find will need to be assessed and if found to be an Aboriginal object must be reported to Heritage NSW.

The Proponent is reminded that it is an offence under the *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* to disturb, damage or destroy an Aboriginal object without a valid approval to do so.



Figure 1. AHIMS sites located within proximity to Area 14.

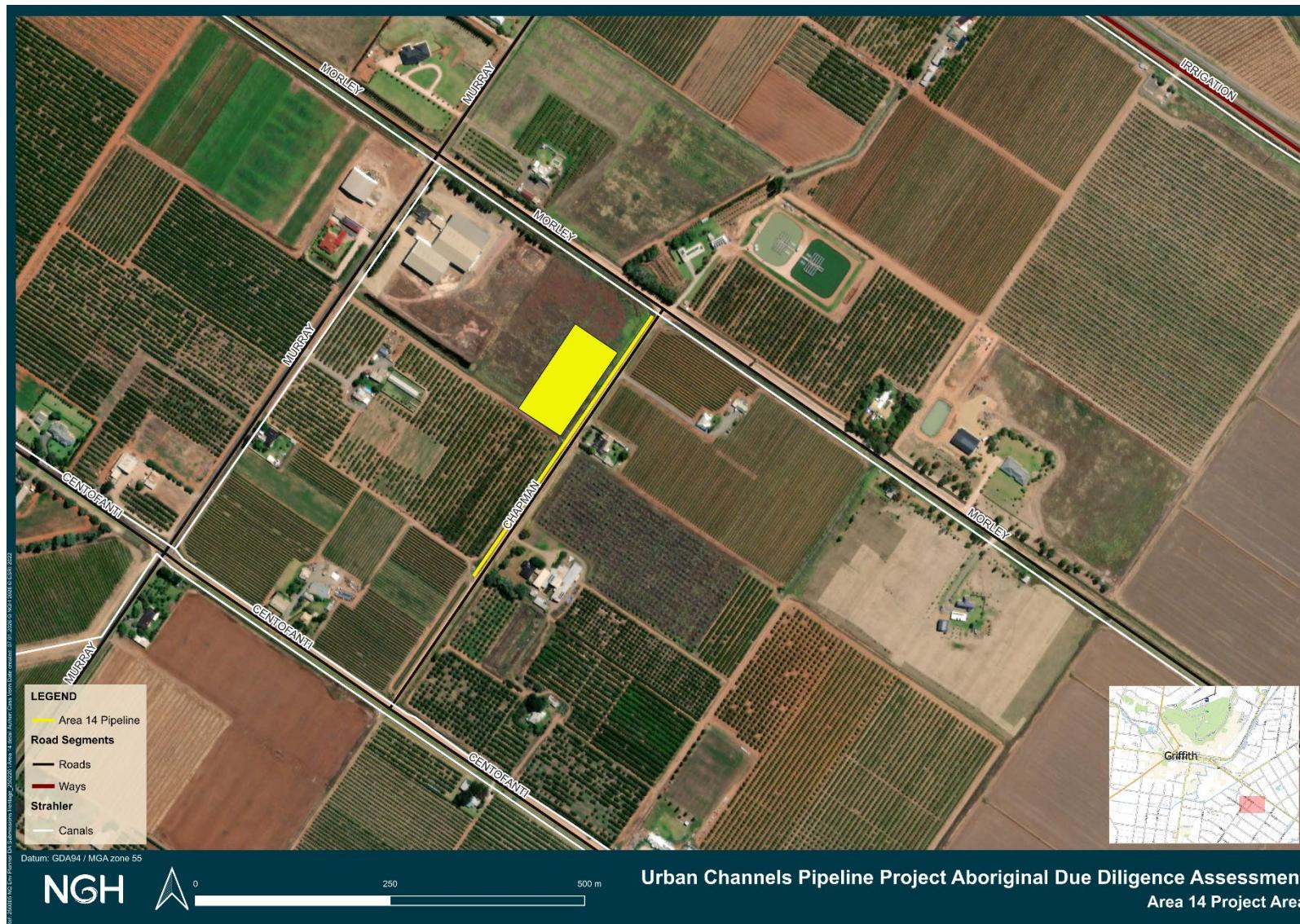


Figure 2 Detail of proposed work in Area 14.

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