

# **ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT REPORT**

# FOR

# **PROPOSED CHILDCARE CENTRE**

## AT

# 110 – 112 MOUNT VERNON ROAD, MOUNT VERNON, NSW

**Prepared for: Key Business Accountants** 

Rev: 1 15 April 2020

AEP Ref: 2091



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Anderson Environment & Planning (AEP) was commissioned by Key Business Accountants (the client) to undertake field investigations and reporting to prepare an Ecological Assessment Report (EAR) as part of a development application for a proposed childcare centre development at 110-112 Mount Vernon Road, located within Lot 4 DP 865818.

The Subject Site, encompassing the entirety of the lot, is approx. 1.03ha consisting of exotic grassland. The land on which the development is proposed is zoned E4 – Environmental Living.

The site primarily contains a mix of exotic grasses and herbs, with native vegetation limited to sporadic ground cover. It is assumed that the vegetation may have formed part of Cumberland Shale Hill Woodland Ecological Endangered Community (EEC) (CSHW). The observed grasslands on site are dominated by exotics and the lack the structure, composition and diagnostic species of the CSHW and as such do not mee the criteria of this community.

Assessment under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019, (SEPP Koala) showed the site was not mapped and as such no further provision of the policy would apply to the site.

Ground truthing during the site inspection, combined with fauna and flora surveys, found that the proposal is not likely to cause any significant impact with reference to Section 7.3 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act (2016) and that considerations towards the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) and Biodiversity Offset Scheme (BOS) will not be required.



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## **1.0 Introduction**

Anderson Environment & Planning (AEP) was commissioned by Key Business Accountants (*the client*) to undertake field investigations and reporting to prepare an Ecological Assessment Report (EAR) as part of a development application for a proposed childcare centre development at 110-112 Mount Vernon Road, located within Lot 4 DP 865818 (refer **Figure 1**).

The Subject Site is approx. 1.03ha consisting of exotic grassland. The land on which the development is proposed is zoned E4 – Environmental Living.

This EAR is specifically intended to indicate the likelihood of the proposed works having a significant effect on threatened species, populations or flora assemblages considered to constitute an Endangered Ecological Community (EEC). In this regard, the report aims to recognise the relevant requirements of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EPA Act), the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (the BC Act) and the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

The purpose of this EAR is to:

- Describe ecological values of the site;
- Explore the potential for threatened species to utilise the site;
- Assess ecological impacts associated with the proposal against relevant legislation; and
- Recommend actions to mitigate deleterious environmental effects of the project.

Potential ecological impacts on native species in general are also considered, as are recommendations for minimising and mitigating environmental impacts potentially arising from the proposal.

For the purposes of referencing, this document should be referred to as:

Anderson Environment & Planning (2020). *Ecological Assessment Report for Proposed Childcare Centre Development at Mount Vernon, NSW.* Unpublished report for Key Business Accountants.



## 2.0 Site Particulars

- Location 110-112 Mount Vernon Road, Mount Vernon, NSW.
- Local Government Area (LGA) City of Penrith LGA.
- **Title** The proposed development is situated within Lot 1 DP 865818.
- **Subject Site** The Subject site encompasses the entirety of the lot, approx. 1.03ha.
- **Zoning** Development is proposed within land zoned E4 Environmental Living.
- **Current Land Us**e The site is entirely cleared, consisting of exotic grassland.
- **Surrounding Land Use** The site is surrounded on all sides by low density residential and semi-rural lots, containing dwellings and occasional scattered paddock trees. Kemps Creek is located approximately 2km to the west. The surrounding land is zoned E4 Environmental Living.



## 3.0 Proposed Development

The proponent is seeking development consent to undertake a proposed Childcare Centre and associated civil works at the Subject Site. The land subject to the development is zoned E4 – Environmental Living. The proposed development and associated works are proposed to cover the majority of the 1.03ha lot, including access and parking, structures, landscaping, and wastewater treatment adsorption beds.

Figure 2 shows the proposed development layout.

Disclaimer: While all reasonable care has been taken to ensure the information shown on this map is up to date and accurate, no guarantee is given that the information portrayed is free from error or omission. Please verify the accuracy of all information prior to use.

Mount Vernon Rd

AEP

Mount Vernon Rd



The Appian Way

w ∳ E

The Appian Way

0 25 50 75 100 125 m

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Note: 1. Boundaries are not surveysaccurate 2. Do not scale off the plan

Title: Figure 1 - Subject Site Date: April 2020 Location: 110-112 Mount Vernon Road, Mount Vernon NSW

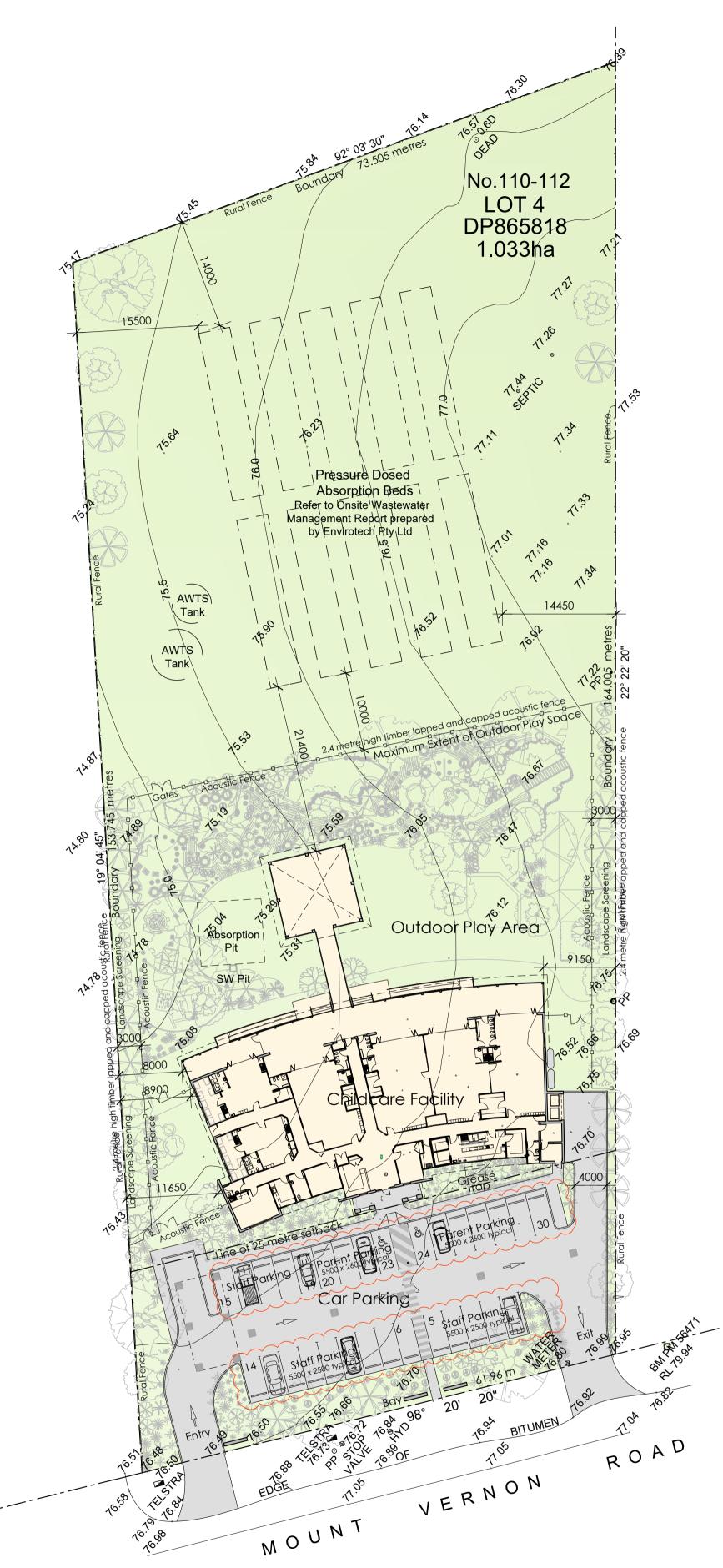
Mount Vernon Rd

119-131

Client: Key Business Accountants

AEP ref: 2091

ABB	REVIATIONS
Abbr.	Description
B.01	Colorbond Metal Barge Board
BB.01	Stainless steel baby bath
BBS	Electrical Baby Bottle Sanitiser
BAL.01	Select Glazed Balustrade
BG.01	Zincalume Box Gutter
BSN.01	Select Wall Basin
BSN.02	Select Wall Basin
BSN.03	Select Wall Basin
BSN.04	Hands Free Wall Basin
CON.01	Concrete driveway
CPD	Cupboard with benchtop
CRP.01	Cool Room Wall Panel
DK.01	'Modwood' Eco Decking
F.01	Colorbond Metal Fascia
FC.01	Paint Finish to FC Cladding
FCE.01	Decorative Timber Fence
FF.01	Select Vinyl Floor Coverings
FF.02	Select Carpet Floor Coverings
FF.03	Select Floor Tiles
FF.04	Select Floor Tiles
FF.05	Select Vinyl Floor Coverings
FF.06	Select Floor Tiles
FF.07	Select Carpet Floor Coverings
FF.08	Select Vinyl Floor Coverings
FF.09	Select Carpet Floor Coverings
FF.10	Select Vinyl Floor Coverings
FF.11	Select Floor Tiles
FF.12	Select Vinyl Floor Coverings
FF.13	Select Vinyl Floor Coverings
FF.14	Select Vinyl Floor Coverings
FF.15	Select Vinyl Floor Coverings
FF.16	Select Vinyl Floor Coverings
FF.17	Select Vinyl Floor Coverings
FF.18	Select Epoxy Floor Sealer
G.01	Colorbond Metal Gutter
HR.01	Powdercote Aluminium Handrail
LV.01	Powdercote Aluminium Louvres
OHC	Overhead cupboard
PC.01	Colorbond Metal Parapet Capping
PP.01	Laminate Toilet Partitions
PP.02	Laminate Toilet Partitions
PRP.01	Acratex finish to Hebel Power Pane
PWP	Existing power pole
R.01	Colorbond Metal Roof
RC.01	Colorbond metal ridge capping
RS.01	Colorbond roller shutter
SCN.01	'Modwood' Eco Decking Screen
SH.01	Free standing metal shelves
SL.01	Alum Framed Glass Skylight
SLH.01	
	Slop Hopper
SSS.01	Slop Hopper Stainless Steel Sink
SSS.01 SSS.02	
	Stainless Steel Sink Stainless Steel Sink Stone Cladding
SSS.02	Stainless Steel Sink Stainless Steel Sink
SSS.02 STC.01	Stainless Steel Sink Stainless Steel Sink Stone Cladding
SSS.02 STC.01 TBR.01	Stainless Steel Sink Stainless Steel Sink Stone Cladding 'Weathergroove' cladding
SSS.02 STC.01 TBR.01 TGSI	Stainless Steel Sink Stainless Steel Sink Stone Cladding 'Weathergroove' cladding Tactile Ground Surface Indicator
SSS.02 STC.01 TBR.01 TGSI TP.01	Stainless Steel Sink Stainless Steel Sink Stone Cladding 'Weathergroove' cladding Tactile Ground Surface Indicator Merbau timber cladding to post
SSS.02 STC.01 TBR.01 TGSI TP.01 TUB.01	Stainless Steel Sink Stainless Steel Sink Stone Cladding 'Weathergroove' cladding Tactile Ground Surface Indicator Merbau timber cladding to post Stainless Steel inset tub
SSS.02 STC.01 TBR.01 TGSI TP.01 TUB.01 VB.01	Stainless Steel Sink Stainless Steel Sink Stone Cladding 'Weathergroove' cladding Tactile Ground Surface Indicator Merbau timber cladding to post Stainless Steel inset tub Accessible Vanity Basin
SSS.02 STC.01 TBR.01 TGSI TP.01 TUB.01 VB.01 VB.02	Stainless Steel Sink Stainless Steel Sink Stone Cladding 'Weathergroove' cladding Tactile Ground Surface Indicator Merbau timber cladding to post Stainless Steel inset tub Accessible Vanity Basin Vanity Basin
SSS.02 STC.01 TBR.01 TGSI TP.01 TUB.01 VB.01 VB.02 WC.01	Stainless Steel Sink Stainless Steel Sink Stone Cladding 'Weathergroove' cladding Tactile Ground Surface Indicator Merbau timber cladding to post Stainless Steel inset tub Accessible Vanity Basin Vanity Basin Junior Toilet Suite
SSS.02 STC.01 TBR.01 TGSI TP.01 TUB.01 VB.01 VB.02 WC.01 WC.02	Stainless Steel Sink Stainless Steel Sink Stone Cladding 'Weathergroove' cladding Tactile Ground Surface Indicator Merbau timber cladding to post Stainless Steel inset tub Accessible Vanity Basin Vanity Basin Junior Toilet Suite Toilet Suite



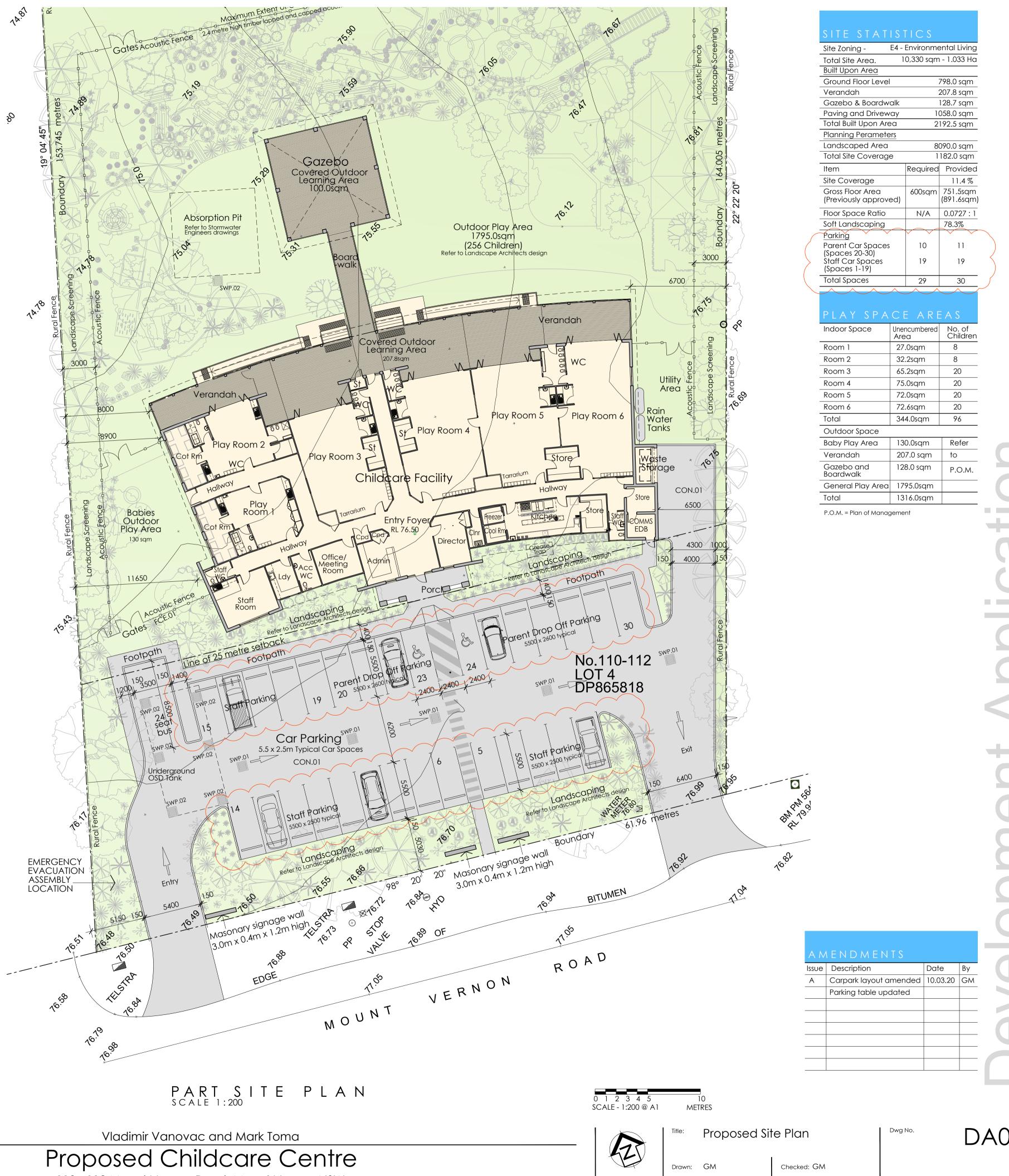
# SITEPLAN

Project Works Design Pty Ltd ABN 97 108 707 482 a. p.o. box 5138 chittaway bay nsw 2261 p. 0412 637 875 admin@pwdesign.com.au www.pwdesign.com.au

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Rev Date Description Amendments

PROJECT WORKS DESIGN



110 - 112 Mount Vernon Road Mount Vernon NSW

North Point

AMENDMENTS									
Issue	Description	Date	By						
А	Carpark layout amended	10.03.20	GN						
	Parking table updated								

Date: 14.11.19

Scale: 1:500 / 1:200 @A1 Job No. 18307

DA01

Issue: A



## 4.0 Scope and Purpose

This report is specifically intended to indicate the likelihood of the proposal having a significant effect on threatened species or ecological communities. In this regard, the report aims to recognise the relevant requirements of *the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act), the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act) and the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Consideration of other relevant environmental planning instruments such as State Environmental Planning Policies are also included.

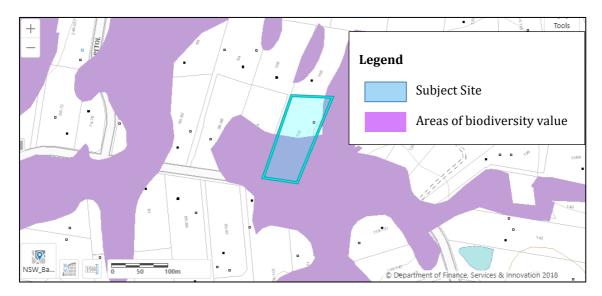
#### **Biodiversity Values Map**

The Biodiversity Values Map (BV Map) identifies land with high biodiversity value, as defined by the Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017. The Biodiversity Offsets Scheme (BOS) applies to all local developments, major projects or the clearing of native vegetation where the State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017 applies. Any of these will require entry into the BOS if they occur on land mapped on the Biodiversity Values Map. Exempt and complying development or private native forestry are not subject to the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme.

The area affected by the proposed development is mapped on the BV Map and therefore at a desktop level this proposal triggers the BC Act and the requirement to apply the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology (BAM) inf the form of a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) (refer **Figure 3**).

However, upon ground truthing as part of the site assessment, including undertaking a BAM plot in accordance with Section 5.3 of the BAM, it was observed that native vegetation is almost entirely absent on site. The resulting vegetation integrity score for the site was calculated at 1.7, as such no further assessment is required under the BAM and BOS in accordance with Section 3.1 of the BAM. Therefore, a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) is not required.





# Figure 3 – Biodiversity Values Map (Sourced Department of Finances, Services and Innovation, 2018).

#### Area Clearing Threshold

"The area threshold varies depending on the minimum lot size (shown in the Lot Size Maps made under the relevant Local Environmental Plan (LEP)), or actual lot size (where there is no minimum lot size provided for the relevant land under the LEP). The area threshold applies to all proposed native vegetation clearing associated with a development proposal".

#### Table 1 - Area Clearing Thresholds (BC Act)

Minimum lot size	Threshold for clearing, above which the BAM and offsets scheme apply
< 1ha	>0.25ha
1ha to <40ha	>0.5ha.
40ha to <1000ha	>1.0ha
>1000ha	>2ha

For the subject site, the minimum lot size is 1ha. As mentioned above, no native vegetation is present on site that would trigger the clearing threshold. Therefore, a BDAR was considered unnecessary to accompany this report against these criteria.



#### Test of Significance

Literature searches and site investigations were performed to gather information to address Section 7.3 of the BC Act and to satisfy the requirements of The *Threatened Species Survey and Assessment Guidelines for Developments and Activities* (working draft), NSW Department of Environment and Conservation (2004). Also afforded consideration was the Commonwealth *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

This EAR has been informed by background research, literature review, database searches, consultation, targeted ecological fieldwork, mapping, detailed habitat assessment, historical site knowledge and ultimately, impact assessment consideration against the type and form of the proposal.

Survey design, impact assessment and consideration of recommendations were undertaken with due reference to the above legislation and the following relevant guidelines:

- NSW Department of Environment and Conservation. *Threatened Biodiversity Survey and Assessment: Guidelines for Developments and Activities: Working Draft,* (2004);
- NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change *Threatened Species Test of Significance Guidelines* (2018); and
- NSW Office of Environment and Heritage *NSW Guide to Surveying Threatened Plants* (2016).

Specifically, the scope of this study is to:

- Identify vascular plant species occurring within the subject site, including any threatened species listed under the BC Act or EPBC Act;
- Identify and map the extent of vegetation communities within the subject site, including listed Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs);
- Identify any fauna species, including threatened and migratory species, and populations or their habitats, which occur within the site and/or are known to occur in the wider locality;
- Assess the potential for the proposal to have a significant impact on any threatened species, populations or EEC (or their habitats) identified within the subject site; and
- Recommend measures to be implemented to identify, minimise, mitigate and ameliorate potential environmental impacts of the proposal.

In addition to the survey works conducted within the subject site, consideration has been afforded to the wider locality utilising database searches within 10km of the site and assessment of habitat that may be ecologically linked to the subject site.



## 5.0 Study Certification and Licencing

Fieldwork and reporting was undertaken by Tim Mouton BEnvSc MEnvSc, Warwick Muir BSc and reviewed by Natalie Black BSc (HONS, Masters Planning & Cert IV TA) of Anderson Environment & Planning.

Research was conducted under the following licences:

- NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service Scientific Investigation Licence SL101313;
- Animal Research Authority (Trim File No: 14/600(2)) issued by NSW Agriculture; and
- Animal Care and Ethics Committee Certificate of Approval (Trim File No: 14/600(2)) issued by NSW Agriculture.

#### **Certification:**

As the principal author, I, Tim Mouton, make the following certification:

- The results presented in the report are, in the opinion of the principal author and certifier, a true and accurate account of the species recorded, or considered likely to occur within the subject site;
- Commonwealth, state and local government policies and guidelines formed the basis of project surveying methodology, unless specified departures from industry standard guidelines are justified for scientific and/or animal ethics reasons; and
- All research workers have complied with relevant laws and codes relating to the conduct of flora and fauna research, including the Animal Research Act 1995, BC Act and the Australian Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes.

Principal Author and Certifier:

**Tim Mouton** Senior Ecologist Anderson Environment & Planning Biodiversity Accredited Assessor BAAS: 19083 15 April 2020



## 6.0 Methods

The field surveys for the subject area have been prepared and performed with due recognition of the instruments previously discussed.

The size of the subject site, the type and status of native vegetation and habitats remaining, the status of existing and proposed surrounding land use, and the level and type of habitat linkages to other proximate bushland areas were all considered in formulating the methodology employed and described below.

The assessment approach was tailored to undertake sufficient works relating to threatened species, and native species in general, to ensure that legislative requirements were met for the proposal.

To ensure a robust impact assessment approach, where any potential doubt remained over species impact, presence within the Subject Site was assumed to ensure an overly conservative approach was employed.

#### 6.1 Literature Review

Primary information sources reviewed included:

- Aerial Photograph Interpretation (API) of the site and surrounding locality;
- Remnant Vegetation of the western Cumberland subregion, 2013 Update;
- NSW Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH) Threatened Species, Populations and Ecological Communities website;
- OEH Threatened Species, Populations and Ecological Communities website (<u>https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species</u>);
- Collective knowledge gained from previous ecological survey and assessment in the Cumberland region over more than 20 years; and
- Anecdotal records.

In addition, database searches were carried out, namely:

- Review of flora and fauna records held by the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH) Atlas of NSW Wildlife within a 10km radius of the site (February 2020); and
- Review of flora and fauna records held by the Commonwealth Department of Environment (DoE) Protected Matters Search within a 5km radius of the site (February 2020).



• Note that any records considered erroneous, historic (records before 1998), or obviously of no relevance to the site in regards to habitat (e.g. seabirds, marine species etc.) have been omitted.

#### 6.2 Field Survey

#### 6.2.1 Vegetation Communities

Vegetation was surveyed utilising a variety of methods, as outlined below:

- Review of the Remnant Vegetation of the western Cumberland subregion (2013 Update) Mapping;
- Consultation of 1:25,000 topographic map series for the area; and
- Subject site inspection to ground truth the unit(s) identified by API.

The final derived vegetation map was based on dominant species present in the over-storey, shrub and ground layers. Vegetation community names were derived from the closest fitting map unit description and variations were identified where necessary. The dominant species composition, structural and physical attributes were all considered when assigning the best fit community type.

Consideration was given to the potential for derived vegetation community(s) to constitute EEC, as listed under the BC Act and/or EPBC Act. Subject Site floristic composition, geomorphological characteristics and geographical extent were considered in this process.

#### 6.2.2 Flora

A general flora survey was undertaken to produce a flora species list for the subject site, to search specifically for threatened flora species known from the wider area, and to gather data necessary to both derive vegetation community type and to meet the survey guidelines of relevant authorities. Survey works included:

- Identification of all vascular plant species encountered during fieldwork. Parallel Field Traverse Technique (Cropper 1993) within the Subject Site was utilised to maximise species encountered. A full list of all flora species recorded during fieldwork is included as **Appendix A**.
- Targeted searches for threatened flora species, identified in database searches, were undertaken in areas of potentially suitable habitat.

The disturbed open nature of the subject site permitted this methodology to achieve adequate coverage of the flora therein.

A vegetation survey plot was also undertaken in accordance with the BAM, to assess the presence and condition of any native vegetation present, and to determine a likely Plant Community Type (PCT).



#### 6.2.3 Habitat

An assessment of the relative habitat values present within the site was carried out. This assessment focused primarily on the identification of specific habitat types and resources favoured by known threatened species from the region. The assessment also considered the potential value of the Subject Site (and surrounding areas) for all major guilds of native flora and fauna.

The assessment was based on the specific habitat requirements of each threatened fauna species in regards to home range, feeding, roosting, breeding, movement patterns and corridor requirements. Consideration was given to contributing factors including topography, soil, light and hydrology for threatened flora and assemblages.

In particular, focus was put on documenting the presence of key habitat features such as tree hollows. Hollows are an important resource utilised by a variety of forest fauna, and are particularly relevant for several of the likely key threatened species in this locality. Vertebrate and invertebrate species use hollows as diurnal or nocturnal shelter sites, for rearing young, feeding, thermoregulation, and to facilitate ranging behaviour and dispersal.

HBTs were recorded and mapped within the Subject Site utilising the methodology of tree hollow identification set by OEH in the BioBanking field plot methodology (2009), namely:

"A hollow is only recorded if: (a) the entrance can be seen; (b) the minimum entrance width is at least 5 cm across; (c) the hollow appears to have depth (i.e. you cannot see solid wood beyond the entrance); and (d) the hollow is at least 1 m above the ground (this omits hollows in cut stumps or at the base of trees)".

Other important habitat elements for the site have been considered, which are provided in further Sections.

#### 6.2.4 Fauna

Adequate fauna survey effort for the Subject Site was covered by targeted, incidental and opportunistic records of fauna species during fieldwork including:

- Avifauna surveys. Birds were identified by direct observation, by recognition of calls, any sightings of secondary distinctive features such as nests, feathers etc. during fieldwork;
- Records of fauna species observed during targeted searches and fieldwork were noted. This included searches for secondary indications (scratches, scats, diggings, tracks etc.) that may indicate subject site usage by resident or migratory species. Observation was conducted for whitewash, regurgitation pellets and prey remains from forest owls, chewed capsules / cones and fruit remains from birds, koala scats etc;



#### 6.2.5 Survey Dates, Times & Activity

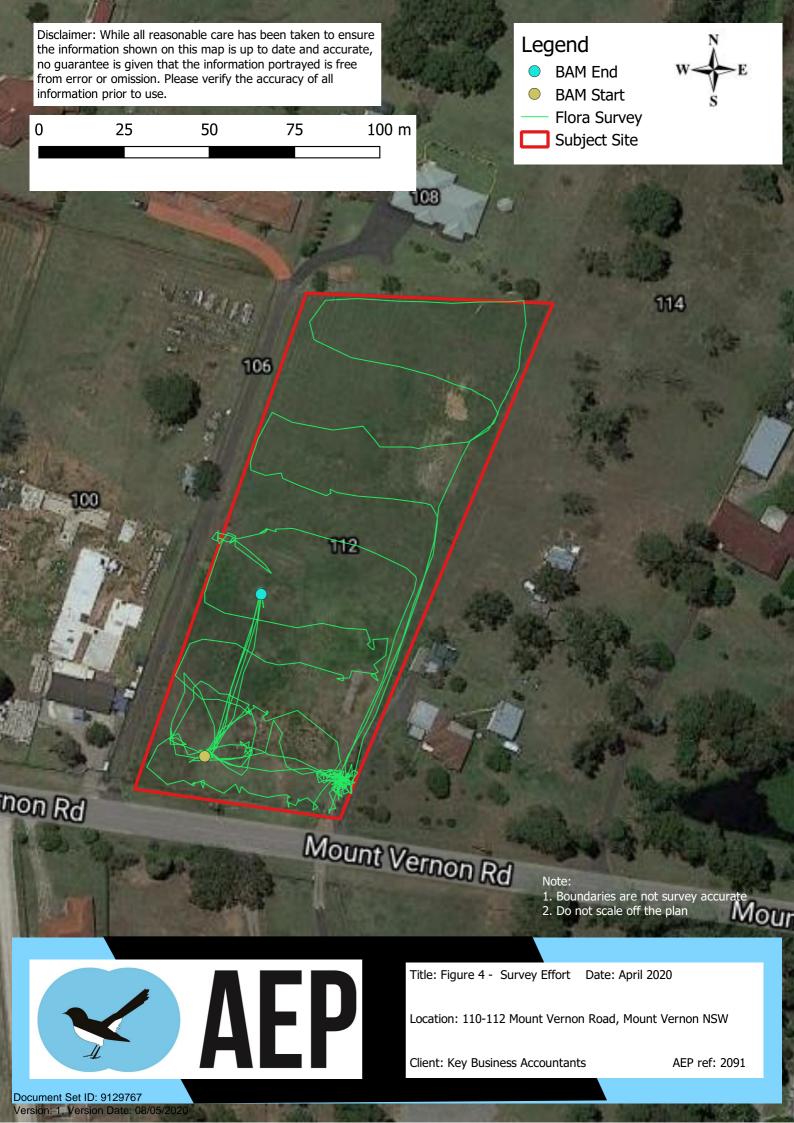
#### Table 2 - Field Survey Effort

Date	Time	Activity	No. of Persons on Site
31/03/2020	10:00 - 14:30	Site reconnaissance, BAM plot, general observations.	1

The above survey methodology is considered to provide sufficient understanding of the biodiversity of the subject site and wider Subject Site given the disturbed nature of the vegetation assemblages therein.

In addition, by applying rigorous habitat assessment to more mobile species with OEH Atlas records within the locality, it was ensured that all possible uses of the subject site and wider Subject Site by notable species were considered, and hence accommodated within subsequent biodiversity assessment and management recommendations.

A summary of the field survey effort is shown in **Figure 4** below.





## 7.0 Results

#### 7.1 Database Searches

Searches were undertaken of databases within a 10km radius of the site as per latest OEH (BC Act listings) & Department of Environment and Energy (DoEE) (EPBC Act listings) (Table 3). Note that any records considered erroneous, historic only, or obviously of no relevance to the site in regards to habitat (e.g. seabirds, marine species etc.) have been omitted.

The potential for the listed threatened species to occur within the site is considered below.

Detailed ecological profile descriptions of species can be found at:

https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species



#### **Table 3 – Threatened Species Appraisal**

Scientific Name	Common Name	TSC Act	EPBC Act	Chance of Occurrence / Comment					
	Plants								
Eucalyptus benthamii (34)	Camden White Gum	V	V	Not observed during surveys					
Marsdenia viridiflora subsp. viridiflora (7)	Marsdenia viridiflora subsp. viridiflora population in the Bankstown, Camden, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Holroyd, Liverpool and Penrith local government areas	E		Not observed during surveys					
Pimelea spicata (771)	Spiked Rice-flower	Е	Е	Not observed during surveys					
Pomaderris brunnea (5)	Brown Pomaderris	Е	v	Not observed during surveys					
Pultenaea pendunculata (1)	Matted Bush-pea	Е		Not observed during surveys					
			Bi	rds					
Anthochaera Phrygia (1)	Regent Honeyeater	CE	CE	Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.					
Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus (49)	Dusky Woodswallow	V		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.					
Calyptorhunchus lathami (1)	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	V		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.					



Scientific Name	Common Name	TSC Act	EPBC Act	Chance of Occurrence / Comment
Chthonicola sagittata (11)	Speckled Warbler	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Climacteris picumnus victoriae (1)	Brown Treecreeper (eastern subspecies)	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Daphoenositta chrysoptera (21)	Varied Sittella	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Glossopsitta pusilla (7)	Little Lorikeet	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Hieraaetus morphnoides (1)	Little Eagle	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Ixobrychus flavicollis (1)	Australasian Bittern	Е	Е	Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Lathamus discolor (114)	Swift Parrot	Е	CE	Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Neophema pulchella (1)	Turquoise Parrot	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Ninox strenua (2)	Powerful Owl	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Petroica boodang (1)	Scarlet Robin	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.



Scientific Name	Common Name	TSC Act	EPBC Act	Chance of Occurrence / Comment
Stictonetta naevosa (1)	Freckled Duck	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
			Man	nmals
Phascolarctos cinereus (3)	Koala	v	V	No sign of the species on site during recent fieldwork. No preferred feed tree species present and lack of records of this species suggest locality use is not significant. Further consideration given under <b>Section 8.0.</b>
Pteropus poliocephalus (66)	Grey-headed Flying-fox	v	v	Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Micronomus norfolkensis (20)	Eastern Coastal Freetail-bat	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Chalinolobus dwyeri (4)	Large-eared Pied Bat	v	V	Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Falsistrellus tasmaniensis (2)	Eastern False Pipistrelle	V		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Miniopterus australis (21)	Little Bentwing-bat	V		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Miniopterus orianae oceanensis (26)	Eastern Bentwing-bat	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.
Myotis macropus (2)	Southern Myotis	V		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.



Scientific Name	Common Name	TSC Act	EPBC Act	Chance of Occurrence / Comment			
Scoteanax rueppellii (9)	Greater Broad-nosed Bat	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.			
Saccolaimus flaviventris	Yellow-bellied Sheath-tailed Bat	v		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.			
	Gastropods						
Meridolum corneovirens	Cumberland Plain Land Snail	Е		Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.			
Amphibians							
Litoria aurea (1)	Green and Golden Bell Frog	Е	V	Not observed during surveys. No habitat present on site. It is considered unlikely to utilise habitat in the Subject Site.			

#### Table Key - Status (BC Act & EPBC Act):

C: Listed on China Australia Migratory Bird Agreement, CE: Critically Endangered (EPBC Act & BC Act), E: Endangered (EPBC Act & BC Act), V: Vulnerable (EPBC Act & BC Act) (#) – Indicates number of Atlas Records within 10km of the subject site



From the above assessment in **Table 3**, it was determined that no threatened species are considered key subject species likely to occur on site and no preferred habitat for these species is present. As a result, the proposed development would not result in any actual or potential impacts on threatened species and the preparation of a 5-Part Test is not required.

#### 7.2 Vegetation Communities

Regional vegetation mapping from 2013 shows the southern portion of the site mapped as Cumberland Shale Hills Woodland, which forms part of Cumberland Plains Woodland in the Sydney Basin Bioregion EEC. However, the site is highly disturbed and the vegetation present predominantly consists of exotic grassland, with scattered herbaceous weeds and garden escapes. The vegetation present does not meet any diagnostic criteria associated with the above threatened community, and is considered non-native.

Vegetation present on site has been mapped as exotic grassland (refer to **Figure 5**).

#### 7.3 Flora

Flora surveys have resulted in the identification of approximately 51 species within the site. 66% of these species are exotic and 34% native. The presence of native species on site is very limited due to the level of disturbance and density of weeds. In addition to the general flora survey, one vegetation plot survey was undertaken to confirm the vegetation type present and integrity in accordance with the BAM. Even though a small proportion of native ground covers and regrowth are present on site, the results of the plot survey show that the structure and function of this vegetation is extremely low, resulting in a Vegetation Integrity (VI) score of 1.7. As a result, the assemblage of species present would not be considered part of any native vegetation community / PCT.

A full list of flora species identified by surveys conducted on the site is included in **Appendix A**.

Vegetation plot data is also included in Appendix A.

#### 7.4 Threatened plants

No threatened flora species were recorded during the current fieldwork.

#### 7.5 Habitat Assessment

The site is highly disturbed and does not contain any habitat features for native fauna.

#### 7.6 Fauna

No fauna species were observed on site during the field survey.



#### Figure 5 - Vegetation and Habitat Features





## 8.0 SEPP (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019 Assessment

There is no recorded Koala Plan of Management (KPoM) covering the site and consequently the site is assessed under the draft State Environmental Planning Policy (Koala Habitat Protection) 2019.

Whilst the site is greater than 1ha in area, it is not located on the Koala Development application map and therefore no further consideration under the SEPP applies.

Furthermore, the SEPP does not apply to the City of Penrith LGA.



## 9.0 EPBC Act Assessment

A search was conducted in March 2019 of Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) as relevant to the *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The following MNES are considered in this assessment.

#### World Heritage Properties:

The site is not a World Heritage area, and is not in close proximity to any such area.

#### **National Heritage Places:**

The site is not a National Heritage place, and it is not in close proximity to any such places.

#### Wetlands of International Significance (declared Ramsar wetlands);

The site does not contain Ramsar Wetlands, and it is not in close proximity to any Ramsar Wetlands.

#### **Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:**

The site is not part of, or within close proximity to, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

#### **Commonwealth Marine Areas:**

The site is not part of, or within close proximity to, any Commonwealth Marine Area.

#### **Threatened Ecological Communities:**

While five Threatened Ecological Communities are listed as likely to occur within the site's area, none of them are present on site.

#### **Threatened Species:**

No threatened species listed within the EPBC Act were recorded on site during fieldwork.

Given that the Subject Site does not contain areas of potential habitat onsite it is not considered that the development of this land as proposed is likely to significantly impact potential habitat.

#### **Migratory Species:**

A number of EPBC listed migratory species have some potential to visit the site on an irregular basis. However, it is not considered that the development of this land as proposed is likely to significantly affect the potential habitat of such species, or disrupt migratory patterns.

#### **EPBC Act Assessment Conclusion:**

No MNES (specifically in this instance threatened species, threatened ecological communities or listed migratory species) are expected to be impacted upon significantly as a result of the proposal.



## **10.0 Recommendations**

The following general recommendations are made for consideration to minimise localised impacts on biodiversity in general as a result of the development of the site:

- Landscape tree plantings should consider the use of species that provide a suitable long-term benefit to the local native fauna;
- Appropriate erosion and sedimentation controls should be employed during construction to limit offsite movement of soils into adjacent areas;
- Appropriate weed management and machinery hygiene controls should be employed during construction to prevent further spread of exotic species and plant diseases locally.



### **11.0 References**

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## Appendix A – Flora Species List & BAM Plot Data



Family Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	
Alliaceae	Nothoscordum borbonicum*	Onion Weed	
Amaranthaceae	Alternanthera denticulata	Lesser Joyweed	
Anthericaceae	Tricoryne elatior	Yellow Rush Lily	
Asteraceae	Bidens pilosa*	Cobbler's Pegs	
Asteraceae	Cirsium vulgare*	Spear Thistle	
Asteraceae	Conyza bonariensis*	Flax-leaf Fleabane	
Asteraceae	Hypochaeris radicata*	Flatweed	
Asteraceae	Senecio madagascariensis*	Fireweed	
Asteraceae	Sonchus oleraceus*	Common Sow-thistle	
Chenopodiaceae	Einadia hastata	Berry Saltbush	
Cyperaceae	Carex inversa	Knob Sedge	
Cyperaceae	Cyperus gracilis	Slender Flat Sedge	
Cyperaceae	Cyperus rotundus*	Nutgrass	
Cyperaceae	Cyperus sesquiflorus*		
Cyperaceae	<i>Fimbristylis dichotoma</i>	Common Fringe-rush	
Euphorbiaceae	Triadica sebifera*	Chinese Tallowood	
Fabaceae	<i>Glycine clandestina</i>	Twining Glycine	
Fabaceae	Wisteria sinensis*	Chinese wisteria	
Lamiaceae	Stachys arvensis*	Stagger Weed	
Liliaceae	Chlorophytum comosum*	Spider Plant	
Lythraceae	Lagerstroemia indica*	Crepe Myrtle	
Malvaceae	Modiola caroliniana*	Red-flowered Mallow	
Malvaceae	Sida rhombifolia*	Paddy's Lucerne	
Meliaceae	Melia azedarach	White Cedar	
Myrtaceae	Callistemon salignus	Willow Bottlebrush	
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus sp.		
	Oxalis corniculata subsp.		
Oxalidaceae	corniculata*		
Poaceae	Cenchrus clandestinum*	Kikuyu	
Poaceae	Chloris truncata	Windmill Grass	
Poaceae	Chloris virgata*	Feathertop Rhodes Grass	
Poaceae	Cynodon sp.*	Couch	
Poaceae	Digitaria ciliaris*	Summer Grass	
Poaceae	Eleusine tristachya*	Goose Grass	
Poaceae	Eragrostis brownii	Brown's Lovegrass	
Poaceae	Eragrostis mexicana*	Mexican Lovegrass	
Poaceae	Eriochloa australiensis	Australian Cupgrass	
Poaceae	Microlaena stipoides	Weeping Grass	
	Paspalidium distans		
Poaceae	Paspalum dilatatum*	Paspalum	
Poaceae	•		
Poaceae	Setaria parviflora* Sorghum halpense*	Slender Pigeon Grass Johnson Grass	
Poaceae	8 1	Parramatta Grass	
Poaceae	Sporobolus africanus*		
Poaceae	Sporobolus fertilis*	Giant Parramatta Grass	
Poaceae	Stenotaphrum secundatum*	Buffalo Grass	
Poaceae	Themeda australis	Kangaroo Grass	
Polygonaceae	Rumex crispus*	Curled Dock	
Portulacaceae	Portulaca oleracea	Purslane	
Primulaceae	Lysimachia arvensis*	Scarlet Pimpernel	
Rubiaceae	Richardia stellaris*		



Family Name	Scientific Name	Common Name
Solanaceae	Solanum sisymbriifolium*	
Verbenaceae	Verbena bonariensis*	Purpletop

\* - Introduced species



#### **BAM Plot Field Data**

HTE – High Threat Exotic

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	BAM Growth Form	НТЕ	Plot 1
Amaranthaceae	Alternanthera denticulata	Lesser Joyweed	Forb		0.1
Anthericaceae	Tricoryne elatior	Yellow Rush Lily	Forb		0.1
Asteraceae	Bidens pilosa*	Cobbler's Pegs	nil - exotic	Y	0.1
Asteraceae	Cirsium vulgare*	Spear Thistle	nil - exotic		0.1
Asteraceae	Hypochaeris radicata*	Flatweed	nil - exotic		0.1
Asteraceae	Senecio madagascariensis*	Fireweed	nil - exotic	Y	0.1
Asteraceae	Sonchus oleraceus*	Common Sow-thistle	nil - exotic		0.1
Chenopodiaceae	Einadia hastata	Berry Saltbush	Forb		0.1
Cyperaceae	Carex inversa	Knob Sedge	Sedge		0.1
Cyperaceae	Cyperus gracilis	Slender Flat Sedge	Sedge		0.1
Cyperaceae	Cyperus rotundus*	Nutgrass	nil - exotic		0.3
Cyperaceae	Cyperus sesquiflorus*		nil - exotic		0.1
Fabaceae	Glycine clandestina	Twining Glycine	Vine		0.1
Fabaceae	Wisteria sinensis*	Chinese wisteria			0.3
Lamiaceae	Stachys arvensis*	Stagger Weed			0.1
Malvaceae	Modiola caroliniana*	Red-flowered Mallow	nil - exotic		0.1
Malvaceae	Sida rhombifolia*	Paddy's Lucerne	nil - exotic		0.3
Meliaceae	Melia azedarach	White Cedar	Tree		0.3



Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	BAM Growth Form	НТЕ	Plot 1
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus sp.		Tree		0.1
Oxalidaceae	Oxalis corniculata subsp. corniculata*				0.1
Poaceae	Cenchrus clandestinum*	Kikuyu	nil - exotic	Y	27
Poaceae	Chloris virgata*	Feathertop Rhodes Grass			0.1
Poaceae	Cynodon sp.*		nil - exotic		5
Poaceae	Digitaria ciliaris*	Summer Grass	nil - exotic		0.3
Poaceae	Eragrostis mexicana*	Mexican Lovegrass	nil - exotic		0.1
Poaceae	Microlaena stipoides	Weeping Grass	Other Grass		0.2
Poaceae	Paspalidium distans		Tussock Grass		0.2
Poaceae	Paspalum dilatatum*	Paspalum	nil - exotic	Y	10
Poaceae	Setaria parviflora*	Slender Pigeon Grass	nil - exotic		10
Poaceae	Sporobolus fertilis*	Giant Parramatta Grass	nil - exotic	Y	0.1
Poaceae	Stenotaphrum secundatum*	Buffalo Grass	nil - exotic	Y	10
Poaceae	Themeda australis	Kangaroo Grass	Tussock Grass		0.1
Polygonaceae	Rumex crispus*	Curled Dock	nil - exotic		0.1
Primulaceae	Lysimachia arvensis*	Scarlet Pimpernel	nil - exotic		0.1
Rubiaceae	Richardia stellaris*		nil - exotic		0.1
Solanaceae	Solanum sisymbriifolium*		nil - exotic		0.3
Verbenaceae	Verbena bonariensis*	Purpletop	nil - exotic		0.1



# **Appendix B – Expected Fauna Species List**



# **EXPECTED FAUNA SPECIES LIST**

The following list includes fauna species that could be reasonably expected to occur on the study site at some point, given site attributes and location.

"•" - species observed or indicated by scats, tracks etc. on, over or near the site during recent surveys by AEP (2019 - 2020).

- \* Introduced species
- ? Unconfirmed record, anecdotal records etc.

Threatened species listed under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* 2016 (BC Act) or the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* 1999 (EPBC Act) are indicated in **bold font**.



Family Name	Scientific Name	Common Name	
Amphibians			
Hylidae	Litoria fallax	Eastern Dwarf Tree Frog	
Hylidae	Litoria peronii	Peron's Tree Frog	
Hylidae	Litoria phyllochroa	Leaf-green Tree Frog	
Hylidae	Litoria tyleri	Tyler's Tree Frog	
Hylidae	Litoria verreauxii	Verreaux's Frog	
Myobatrachidae	Crinia signifera	Common Eastern Froglet	
Myobatrachidae	Limnodynastes peronii	Brown-striped Frog	
	Reptiles		
Agamidae	Intellagama lesueurii	Eastern Water Dragon	
Agamidae	Intellagama lesueurii lesueurii	Eastern Water Dragon	
Agamidae	Pogona barbata	Bearded Dragon	
Elapidae	Hemiaspis signata	Black-bellied Swamp Snake	
Elapidae	Notechis scutatus	Tiger Snake	
Elapidae	Pseudechis porphyriacus	Red-bellied Black Snake	
Elapidae	Pseudonaja textilis	Eastern Brown Snake	
Pythonidae	Morelia spilota spilota	Diamond Python	
Scincidae	Eulamprus quoyii	Eastern Water-skink	
Scincidae	Eulamprus tenuis	Barred-sided Skink	
Scincidae	Lampropholis delicata	Dark-flecked Garden Sunskink	
Scincidae	Tiliqua scincoides	Eastern Blue-tongue	
Varanidae	Varanus varius	Lace Monitor	
	Birds		
Acanthizidae	Acanthiza nana	Yellow Thornbill	
Acanthizidae	Acanthiza pusilla	Brown Thornbill	
Acanthizidae	Gerygone olivacea	White-throated Gerygone	
Acanthizidae	Sericornis frontalis	White-browed Scrubwren	
Accipitridae	Aquila audax	Wedge-tailed Eagle	
Accipitridae	Haliastur sphenurus	Whistling Kite	
Alcedinidae	Dacelo novaeguineae	Laughing Kookaburra	
Anhingidae	Anhinga novaehollandiae	Australasian Darter	
Apodidae	Apus pacificus	Fork-tailed Swift	
Ardeidae	Ardea ibis	Cattle Egret	
Ardeidae	Ardea pacifica	White-necked Heron	
Ardeidae	Egretta garzetta	Little Egret	
Ardeidae	Egretta novaehollandiae	White-faced Heron	



Family Name	Scientific Name	Common Name
Artamidae	Cracticus nigrogularis	Pied Butcherbird
Artamidae	Cracticus tibicen	Australian Magpie
Artamidae	Cracticus torquatus	Grey Butcherbird
Artamidae	Strepera graculina	Pied Currawong
Cacatuidae	Cacatua galerita	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
Cacatuidae	Cacatua sanguinea	Little Corella
Cacatuidae	Eolophus roseicapillus	Galah
Charadriidae	Vanellus miles	Masked Lapwing
Columbidae	Geopelia striata	Peaceful Dove
Columbidae	Ocyphaps lophotes	Crested Pigeon
Corcoracidae	Corcorax melanorhamphos	White-winged Chough
Corvidae	Corvus coronoides	Australian Raven
Cuculidae	Cacomantis pallidus	Pallid Cuckoo
Cuculidae	Chalcites basalis	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo
Cuculidae	Eudynamys orientalis	Eastern Koel
Cuculidae	Scythrops novaehollandiae	Channel-billed Cuckoo
Estrildidae	Neochmia temporalis	Red-browed Finch
Hirundinidae	Hirundo neoxena	Welcome Swallow
Laridae	Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae	Silver Gull
Maluridae	Malurus cyaneus	Superb Fairy-wren
Megaluridae	Megalurus gramineus	Little Grassbird
Megaluridae	Megalurus timoriensis	Tawny Grassbird
Meliphagidae	Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris	Eastern Spinebill
Meliphagidae	Anthochaera chrysoptera	Little Wattlebird
Meliphagidae	Manorina melanocephala	Noisy Miner
Meliphagidae	Manorina melanophrys	Bell Miner
Meliphagidae	Nesoptilotis leucotis	White-eared Honeyeater
Meliphagidae	Philemon corniculatus	Noisy Friarbird
Monarchidae	Grallina cyanoleuca	Magpie-lark
Pardalotidae	Pardalotus punctatus	Spotted Pardalote
Pardalotidae	Pardalotus striatus	Striated Pardalote
Passeridae	Passer domesticus*	House Sparrow
Pelecanidae	Pelecanus conspicillatus	Australian Pelican
Petroicidae	Petroica rosea	Rose Robin
Podargidae	Podargus strigoides	Tawny Frogmouth
Psittacidae	Platycercus elegans	Crimson Rosella
Psittacidae	Platycercus eximius	Eastern Rosella
Psittacidae	Trichoglossus haematodus	Rainbow Lorikeet



Family Name	Scientific Name	Common Name
Psophodidae	Psophodes olivaceus	Eastern Whipbird
Ptilonorhynchidae	Ptilonorhynchus violaceus	Satin Bowerbird
Rhipiduridae	Rhipidura albiscapa	Grey Fantail
Rhipiduridae	Rhipidura leucophrys	Willie Wagtail
Strigidae	Ninox novaeseelandiae	Southern Boobook
Sturnidae	Sturnus tristis*	Common Myna
Sturnidae	Sturnus vulgaris*	Common Starling
Timaliidae	Zosterops lateralis	Silvereye
	Mammals	
Bovidae	Bos taurus*	European cattle
Bovidae	Capra hircus*	Goat
Bovidae	Ovis aries*	Sheep (feral)
Canidae	Canis lupus*	Dingo, domestic dog
Canidae	Canis lupus familiaris*	Dog
Canidae	Vulpes vulpes*	Fox
Cervidae	Cervus elaphus*	Red Deer
Equidae	Equus asinus*	Donkey
Equidae	Equus caballus*	Horse
Felidae	Felis catus*	Cat
Leporidae	Lepus capensis*	Brown Hare
Leporidae	Oryctolagus cuniculus*	Rabbit
Macropodidae	Macropus giganteus	Eastern Grey Kangaroo
Macropodidae	Wallabia bicolor	Swamp Wallaby
Molossidae	Austronomus australis	White-striped Freetail-bat
Molossidae	Mormopterus ridei	Eastern Free-tailed Bat
Muridae	Mus musculus*	House Mouse
Muridae	Rattus fuscipes	Bush Rat
Muridae	Rattus rattus*	Black Rat
Petauridae	Petaurus breviceps	Sugar Glider
Phalangeridae	Trichosurus vulpecula	Common Brushtail Possum
Pseudocheiridae	Pseudocheirus peregrinus	Common Ringtail Possum
Tachyglossidae	Tachyglossus aculeatus	Short-beaked Echidna
Vespertilionidae	Nyctophilus geoffroyi	Lesser Long-eared Bat
Vespertilionidae	Nyctophilus gouldi	Gould's Long-eared Bat



# **Appendix C – Site Photographs**





Above: BAM Plot Start facing north. Below: BAM Plot End facing south.







**Above:** View of eastern edge showing grassland. **Below:** View of western edge showing grassland.





# **Appendix D – Author CVs**

# Tim Mouton Curriculum Vitae

Tim works with AEP in the role of Ecologist. Tim has over 10 years of professional experience managing projects in the fields of ecology, natural area restoration, biodiversity conservation, community education, and construction environmental management. Tim also has 5 years experience working in the field as a bush regenerator.

### Qualifications

- Bachelor of Environmental Science University of Newcastle (2001)
- Conservation Land Management Certificate II Tafe (2003)
- Master of Environmental Science Southern Cross University (2008)

### Further Education & Training (select summary)

- Biodiversity Assessment Methodology (BAM) Accredited Assessor (BAAS: 19083)
- NSW Class C Driver's Licence. Experienced 4WD operator.
- OH&S NSW White Card
- Erosion & Sediment Control Training (4 day Blue Book course / CPESC)
- Feral Animal Control training (1080 & Pindone baiting)
- Certificate 3 in Chemical Application (AQF3)

### **Fields of Special Competence**

- Ecological field survey, covering terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna
- Highly proficient at botanical surveys and establishing monitoring programs
- Project Management and auditing
- Restoration Science

### Professional Affiliations / Memberships (past / present)

- Board of Management member for Worimi Conservation Lands (NPWS & Worimi LALC)
- Certified Practitioner in Erosion & Sediment Control (CPESC) (not currently active)

### **Relevant Employment History**

### 2019-present Ecologist

Anderson Environment & Planning, Newcastle

Currently employed by Anderson Environment & Planning to assist in the provision of consulting services to land, property, mining industry, legal and government sectors. Covering ecological, project management, environmental, planning services, advices, strategy and representation.

### 2015-2018 Senior Project Officer / Ecologist

Conservation Volunteers Australia / WetlandCare Australia

- Project managing on-ground restoration works including revegetation, site stabilisation, weed control and bush regeneration.
- Facilitating community engagement events, and supervision of volunteers.
- Undertaking site assessments, ecological surveys, and preparing plans of management.
- Scoping and preparing grant applications, managing all aspects of grant delivery, budgets, and reporting.

# 2009-2015 Senior Ecologist / Environmental Scientist

Onsite Environmental Management

- Undertaking and project managing detailed environmental assessments including flora and fauna surveys, threatened species assessments, management plans and monitoring reports.
- Environmental site management, monitoring and compliance auditing on large scale infrastructure projects and extractive industries.

2008-2009	Bush Regenerator / Leading Hand
	Lane Cove Council
	Australian Wetlands

- Undertaking bush regeneration activities including removal of environmental/noxious weeds, track construction and maintenance, native seed collection and propagation, fire assisted regeneration, feral animal control and supervision and training of volunteers.
- Supervising bush regeneration and weed management teams.
- Undertaking large scale revegetation works on infrastructure projects involving mass tubestock planting, site stabilisation and maintenance weeding.

2006-2007 Ecologist / Environmental Scientist GeoLINK Consulting

- Undertaking and project managing detailed environmental assessments including flora and fauna surveys, threatened species assessments, management plans and monitoring reports.
- Monitoring and analysis of wetland, groundwater, and domestic wastewater systems.

### 2002-2006 Bush Regenerator / Leading Hand Gondwana Bush Restoration Willoughby City Council

- Undertaking bush regeneration activities including removal of environmental/noxious weeds, track construction and maintenance, native seed collection and propagation, fire assisted regeneration, feral animal control and translocation of vegetation.
- Supervision and training of bush regeneration teams and volunteers.

### 2001-2002 John Holland Construction

Environmental Officer

• Environmental site management and monitoring and reporting on large scale infrastructure projects.

### **Relevant Volunteer Experience**

#### 2014 - Current Burwood Beach Coastcare - Facilitator (Volunteer)

Supporting and managing volunteers, on-ground works, promotion and funding opportunities on a monthly basis, to undertake conservation and restoration activities within Glenrock State Conservation Area (NPWS estate).

### 2013 - 2016 Humane Society International – EPBC Act Nomination Support

Preparation of Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) nominations under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (EPBC Act).

# Warwick Muir

# **Curriculum Vitae**

Warwick works with AEP in the role of Ecologist. Whilst studying at the University of Newcastle, he conducted ecological field studies as a requirement of his degree courses, gaining experience in the field. He has also undertaken volunteering for higher-level students in field reporting to assist in completion of their studies.

## Qualifications

• Bachelor of Science (Biology), University of Newcastle (2019)

# Licences/Certificates

- First Aid Certificate
- Class C NSW Drivers Licence
- Construction White Card

## **Ecological Field Experience**

- Riparian vegetation study, including vegetation species and cover surveys, vegetation zone classification and biobanking assessment methods to assess for proposed restoration works.
- Avifauna survey and observation to complete an independently hypothesised animal behaviour investigation in situ.
- Forest and woodland investigations, including vegetation species and cover surveys, habitat appraisal and leaf litter invertebrate observation.
- Macro-bat spotlighting, flight, roost and forage habitat surveys to develop a suggested management strategy for the studied species.
- Ecotoxicological testing for bio-sensitive contaminants in situ to establish runoff, lethality, and bioaccumulative relationships within in the environment.

## **Volunteer Experience**

- Bush Regeneration Volunteer, Newcastle Landcare
- Field data collection for environmental Honours and PhD candidates in various locations.

## **Employment History**

Feb 2020 – Current

### Ecologist

Anderson Environment & Planning, Newcastle

# Natalie Black Curriculum Vitae

Natalie works with AEP in the role of Senior Environmental Manager. She has extensive knowledge in environmental management, environmental planning, and report writing and assessment. With a detail understanding of planning, catchment management, coastal management and rehabilitation. Natalie has had a successful career with both state and local government in conservation, planning and field investigation roles. Natalie has also gained extensive communication skills and project management through her previous career in lecturing. Her background and experience in the ecological and planning fields is utilised in a diverse array of application in her current role.

# Qualifications

- B.Sc (Hons), University of Newcastle, 2002 Sustainable Resource Management and Marine Science.
- Master Planning, University of Technology Sydney 2007.
- Certificate IV Training and Assessment at NSW TAFE 2012.
- BAM Assessor; accreditation number: BAAS19076.

# Certification

- Evidence Gathering and Legal Process (Australian Institute of Environmental Health).
- Conflict Resolution Course (LGSA).
- Report Writing Course (LGSA).
- Powerful Presentation (LGSA).
- NSW Rural Fire Services Bush Fire Assessment
- Relocation of Threatened Species (Botanical Gardens Sydney).
- Sustainable Home Assessment Reduction Revolution.
- Flora and Fauna Survey Assessments Niche Environment and Heritage.
- First Aid TAFE.

## **Fields of Special Competence**

- Environmental Planning
- Environmental Management and rehabilitation of catchments coastal waterways. Statement of Environmental Effects (preparation and assessing).
- Communicating with a wide range of stakeholders.
- Development Application
- Education in both Environmental and Planning industries.
- Fish Passage and marine vegetation.
- Koala Plans of Management.
- Policy Development.

## **Employment History**

2019 to present AEP Senior Environmental Manager

## 2010 to 2019

Natalie Black is the Principal Environmental Planner for Black EARTH Environmental. Working a a range of projects, Bush Fire Assessments, Landscaping, Development Applications, Statements of Environmental Effect's, Environmental Management Plans, Sustainability Assessment of both private and businesses, sustainable gardens, environmental assessments for proposed projects and

environmental advice and volunteering for local Sustainable Community Group and Landcare. During this time Natalie also lectured at Hunter TAFE teaching a range of environmental units both face to face and on-line to a varying range of qualification and levels.

# 2003 to 2010

Natalie was the Natural Resource Manager and Development Assessment Officer at Lismore City Council working with diverse range of professions such as engineers, town planners, environmental health officer, accountants, building surveyors, arborists, councillors. During this time the main projects were grants application, restoration projects, flora and fauna assessments, environmental legal adviser, bush fire assessments, strategic work, development application assessment (ranging from sheds to Designated Developments) and council development application team for internal projects, Council's for climate change, water wise programs and others.

2002 to 2003 was a step into the Policy unit within DPI where Natalie was part of the team working on the Jervis Bay Indigenous Fishing Strategy, and the closure of Port Botany. Dealing with many stakeholders and running workshops with Ministers and community. During 2003 with Natalie was the North Coast Fish Passage Officer. Managing an Environmental Trust Grant of \$1 million to remove 50 structures that block fish passage within the catchments of the North Coast. This project had all 50 sites contracted by the end of the 12 months with 70% of these projects commenced. This role allowed for the development of field assessments, independent work and communication with a range of stakeholders.

2000 saw the commencement of Natalie's career with NSW Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries Unit) in the Office of Conservation in Sydney. Natalie was part of the Conservation team that reviewed integrated development applications in the Sydney Region. The assessments ranged from jetties to the Lane Cove Tunnel, North West T-Way and the expansion of the M7 and fish ladders.