

Date Issued: 5 October 2021

NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR A PLANNING PERMIT

The land affected by the application is located at: **Mullers Road, Nagambie VIC
3608**

The application is for a Permit for: **Native Vegetation Removal
(Mullers Road Stages 1 & 2)**

The applicant for the Permit is: **c/o Strathbogie Shire Council**

The application Reference Number is: **P2021-068**

You may view the application and any documents that support the application on our website at

<https://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/development/statutory-planning/planning-permits-currently-advertised>

or at the office of the Responsible Authority during office hours:

**Strathbogie Shire Council 109A Binney Street Euroa
Telephone: (03) 5795 0000**

Any person who may be affected by the granting of the Permit may object or make other submissions to the Responsible Authority.

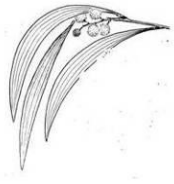
An objection must be sent to the Responsible Authority in writing, include the reasons for the objection and state how the objector would be affected.

The Responsible Authority will not decide on the application before: 26 October 2021

All objections are placed on the relevant Planning Permit application file, which is publicly available at all times. Objections can therefore be read and used by other parties.

An objection form is available from Strathbogie Shire Council office, by phoning Council on (03) 5795 0000 or at <https://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/development/statutory-planning/objections>

If you submit an objection, the Responsible Authority will tell you of its final decision.



Hamilton Environmental Services
ABN: 89 108 410 911



FLORA AND FAUNA ASSESSMENT AND NET LOSS REPORT
- MULLERS ROAD, NAGAMBIE, STAGE 1 AND 2
ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT



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Flora and Fauna Assessment and Net Loss Report – Mullers Road Nagambie, Stage 1 and 2 Road Reconstruction Project

Submitted to:

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Version 4, 20th September 2021

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Cover Photo:

Looking north within Stage 1 along Mullers Road from the O'Neils Road intersection.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Strathbogie Shire Council is proposing a reconstruction of approximately 5.11 km of Mullers Road, Nagambie, in two Stages – Stage 1 of 4.27 km length from O’Neills Road to Nook Road, and Stage 2 of 0.84 km length from Nooks Road to Vickers Road. These separate stages involve widening the road, the removal of trees that are within 1 m of the existing road pavement, and the selective installation of wire barriers to improve road safety and to minimise native vegetation loss (

In April 2021, Hamilton Environmental Services (HES) was engaged to undertake an assessment of these areas of road reserves in Stage 1 to accurately determine the likely net loss. Further to this, HES was engaged in September 2021 to undertake an assessment of these areas of road reserves in Stage 2 to accurately determine the likely net loss.

undertook field evaluation of the proposed works area of Stage 1 with from Council on the 17th May 2021, and the field evaluation of Stage 2 on the 7th September 2021, and this report presents the findings from these investigations and desktop findings and details proposed offset arrangements.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Site Location and Description

The assessed sections are found south of the Vickers Road intersection, and are 3.1 km south-west of the Nagambie township (Vicroads 48 C6; Fig. 2-1).

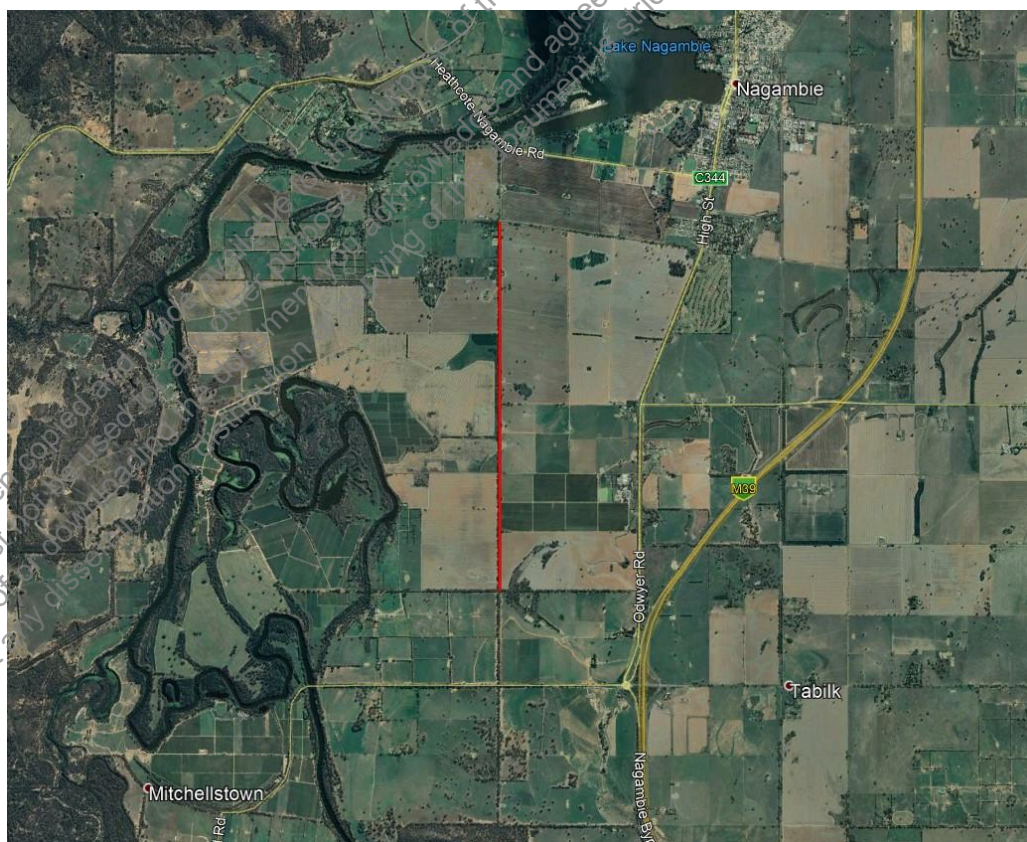


Figure 2-1 Aerial image of the location of the assessed road reserve within the district, indicated with a solid red line (Image from Google Earth 2021).

As indicated, the development footprint for the reconstruction project includes both road reserves of Mullers Road over a length of approximately 5.11 km of Mullers Road, Nagambie, in two Stages – Stage 1 of 4.27 km length from O’Neills Road to Nook Road, and Stage 2 of 0.84 km length from Nooks Road to Vickers Road (see Fig. 2-2).

The road reserves on Mullers Road within the assessed area seem to be consistently 4 m in width range, and are broadly continuously treed along their length with most mature Grey Box (*Eucalyptus microcarpa*), River Red Gum (*E. camaldulensis*) and Yellow Box (*E. melliodora*), with some smaller gaps in the canopy evident; there is no indigenous shrub layer within the assessed area, and the ground layer vegetation across the area was dominated by opportunistic annual and perennial introduced species.

The existing road seal of Mullers Road in both stages is 2.1 m in width, and this will be increased to 3.6 m width with the reconstruction (

After detailed survey and careful consideration, Council has determined that a total of 22 trees were required for removal across both stages (3 trees in Stage 2, and 19 trees in Stage 1) to achieve this new road width – decisions have been based upon the *Austrroads Guide to Road Safety – Part 6A: Implementing Road Safety Audits* (2019) as a guide to provide an indication of the level of risk posed by the roadside trees, and on the traffic volume at this section of Mullers Road is approximately (250 vehicles per day two-way within a 100 km/h speed zone), a clear zone width of 1 metre – the area required for a vehicle that leaves the carriageway to stop safely or regain control - has been adopted as a minimum clear zone width, supported with safety barriers where applicable.

A total of 790 m of safety barrier on the eastern road reserve of Stage 1, and 380 m of safety barrier on the western road reserve of Stage 1 is to be installed, while a total of 740 m of safety barrier on the eastern road reserve of Stage 2, and 770 m of safety barrier on the western road reserve of Stage 2 is to be installed; as well as providing increased safety for motorists using the road, the installation of these barriers results in the retention of over 100 remnant trees across both stages that would have otherwise required clearance

2.2 Bioregion and Ecological Vegetation Class

The assessed property is within the Victorian Riverina Bioregion (DELWP 2021a).

In Victoria, DELWP have developed an on-line mapping layer that categorises pre-1750 and 2005 natural vegetation communities into Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) and have developed EVC Benchmark Statements for each of these EVCs that represent the best known example of this EVC.

Pre-1750 Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) mapping suggests that prior to European settlement, the vegetation of the proposed Stage 1 and 2 works areas would have been wholly Plains Grassy Woodland EVC (EVC 55; Bioregional Conservation Status [BCS] Endangered)(DELWP 2021a and 2021b)

The EVC Benchmark statement can be found in Appendix A.

2.3 Land Tenure and Planning Scheme

The assessed area is within the Strathbogie Shire Council; Mullers Road is wholly *Farming Zone* and *Schedule to the Farming Zone*; there are no overlays across the assessed area (DELWP 2021e).

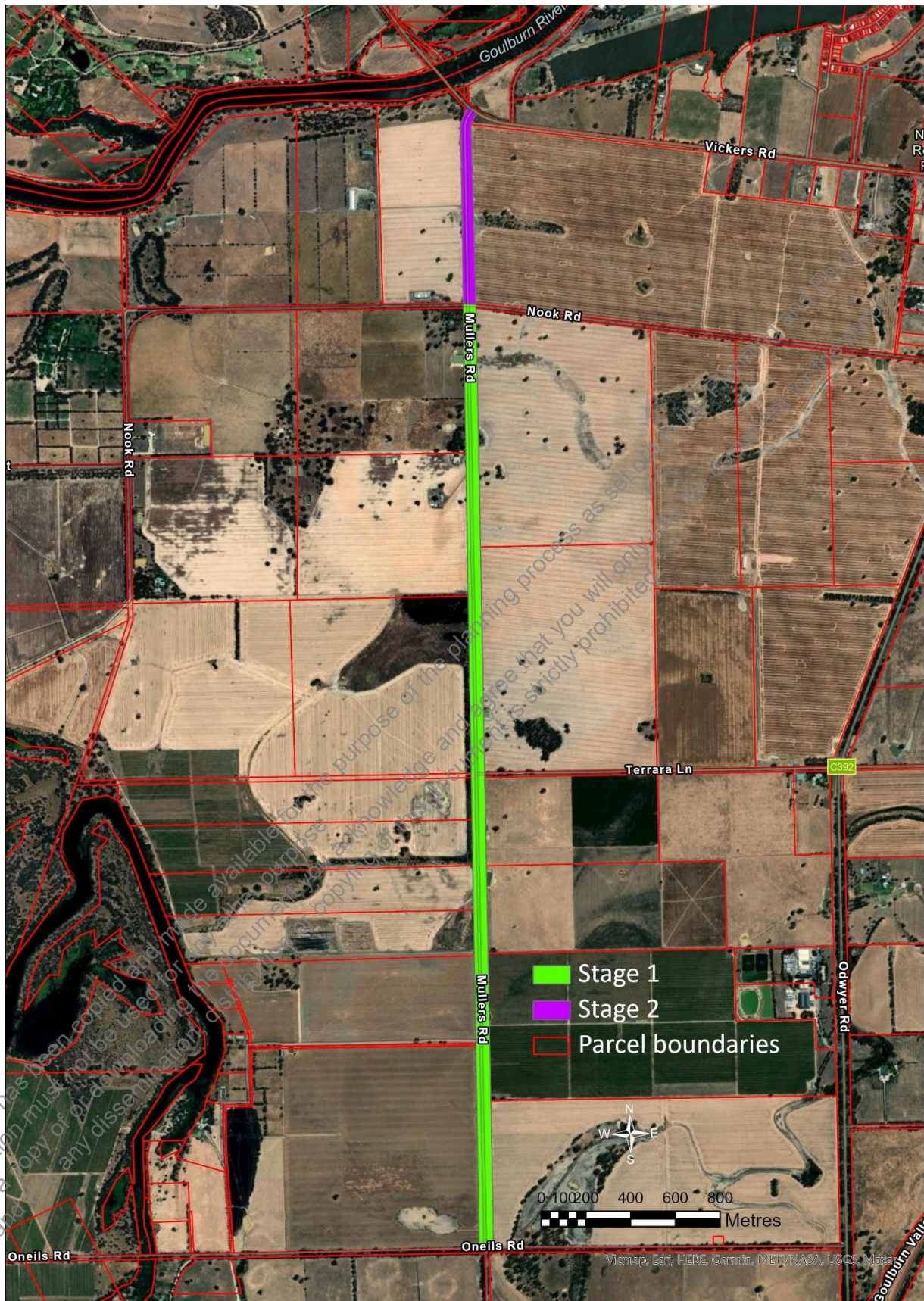


Figure 2-2 Aerial image of the extent of the proposed Stage 1 and 2 works areas on Mullers Road Nagambie (Image from ESRI Australia 2021).

3. METHOD

3.1 Desktop Review

The following desktop information was gathered:

- Aerial imagery;
- Planning information;
- Both pre-1750 and current EVC mapping;
- Relevant EVC benchmark documents;
- Threatened species sightings within a 10 km radius of the site using the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas, NatureKit and the Matters of National Environmental Significance Protected Matters search tool (Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment [DAWE]).

Following assessments, derived flora and fauna lists were checked against reference lists of rare and threatened species in Victoria (DELWP 2021f).

3.2 Site Assessment

visited the proposed development area of Stage 1 on the 17th May 2021 accompanied by , to undertake the assessment. Air temperatures were between 14 and 16°C, the sky was overcast, and winds were light (Bureau of Meteorology 2021).

visited the proposed development area of Stage 2 on the 7th September 2021 to undertake the assessment. Air temperatures were between 7 and 9°C, the sky was overcast, and there was no wind (Bureau of Meteorology 2021).

The length of both stages were examined, and it was concluded that the only 22 remnant trees identified by Council planning were likely losses, and as a consequence, only these twenty two trees were assessed.

The proposed development area was traversed, with continuous active searching for flora and fauna conducted over a total period of 2 ½ hours across the two assessment times, with the following assessments undertaken:

- Compilation of a detailed flora species list, across the assessed area, excluding the former garden, including the attribution of cover/abundance to each species;
- Casual sightings of fauna noted;
- The individual recording of indigenous trees proposed for removal across the site, including their geo-location by GPS, diameter at breast height (dbh), their health, and presence of hollows. A *Scattered Tree* is a native canopy tree that does not form part of a *Patch* (DELWP 2017);
- A *Patch* of native vegetation is either: an area of vegetation where at least 25 % of the total perennial understorey plant cover is native, or any area with three or more native canopy trees where the drip line of each tree touches the drip line of at least one other tree, forming a continuous canopy, or any mapped wetland included in the current wetlands map, available in DELWP systems and tools and these areas were mapped (DELWP 2017);
- A Vegetation Quality Assessment was completed if any *Patches* were defined in order to determine the potential Net Loss under the *2017 Native Vegetation Removal Guidelines*;

- Recording and location of any specific instances related to land management, such as noxious weed or pest animal infestations, etc.

Fifty five (35) images were taken across the stages during the assessments.

3.2.1 Flora

Specimens were identified using the *Flora of Victoria* (Walsh and Entwisle 1994, 1996 and 1999), and PlantNet Flora On-line (Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria 2021).

3.2.2 Fauna

A list of fauna present across the sites was compiled, with the nomenclature based variously on the compilations of Hero *et al.* (1991), Menkhorst (1995), Cogger (1996) and Simpson and Day (1998), and utilising Triggs (1996) for identification using indirect methods, such as the presence of scats or tracks.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Vegetation

As indicated in Sec. 1, the road reserves on Mullers Road associated with the two stages within the assessed area seem to be consistently 4 m in width range, and are broadly continuously treed along their length with most mature Grey Box, River Red Gum and Yellow Box, with some smaller gaps in the canopy evident; there is no indigenous shrub layer within the assessed areas, and the ground layer vegetation across the areas was dominated by opportunistic annual and perennial introduced species, such as Paspalum (*Paspalum dilatum*), Cocksfoot (*Dactylis glomeratus*), Toowoomba Canary Grass (*Phalaris aquatica*), Water Couch (*Paspalum distichum*), Great Brome (*Bromus diandrus*), Wild Oat (*Avena fatua*), Barley Grass (*Hordeum leporinum*), Rat's-tail Fescue (*Vulpia myuros*), Wimmera Ryegrass (*Lolium rigidum*), Capeweed (*Arctotheca calendula*), Stinkwort (*Dittrichia graveolens*), Prickly Lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*) and Cleavers (*Galium aparine*) (80 % projective foliage cover). There are some indigenous ground layer species present in the assessed area, such as Curly Windmill Grass (*Enteropogon acicularis*), Common Windmill Grass (*Chloris truncata*) and Brown-backed Wallaby-grass (*Rytidosperma duttonianum*) (< 1 % projective foliage cover).

There were no rare or threatened species observed across the proposed development area (DELWP 2021f).

Victorian Biodiversity Atlas, NatureKit and Matters of National Environmental Significance searches revealed that there were records of seventeen (17) threatened flora species recorded or likely to occur within a 10 km radius of the property. Likelihood analysis based on the available habitat of the road reserves, the level of disturbance of the assessed areas, as well as the lack of recent records for many species, indicates that none of these species are unlikely to be found on-site; many of these species are unlikely to have ever been found in such an EVC and its available habitats because they prefer wetland or seasonally inundated environments (DELWP 2021c, DAWE 2021; Appendix C).

It is considered that the proposed removal of the roadside trees would have no impact on the likelihood of any of these threatened species to occur.

Matters of National Environmental Significance searching the nationally critically endangered *White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland* community, *Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains* community, and the *Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands (Freshwater) of the Temperate Lowland Plains* community, and the nationally endangered *Grey Box Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia* and the *Buloke*

Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions communities occur within a 10 km radius of the sites (DAWE 2021). No Buloke, White Box or Blakely's Red Gum individuals or areas that would have been remnant grasslands or seasonal herbaceous wetlands were found across the assessed area. However, it is likely that the assessed site would have been a mixed Grey Box-Yellow Box-River Red Gum woodland before pre-European settlement; there are no substantive remnants of this former woodland community found across the site other than the indigenous trees on the along the road reserve.



Plate 4-1 Typical views of the assessed area of the Mullers Road reserves (Source: author, dated 17/5/21).

4.2 Fauna

The species that were noted are typically those observed in semi-rural environments, such as the indigenous Australian Magpie, Australian Raven, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Magpie-lark and Noisy Miner.

There were no rare or threatened species observed at the site (DELWP 2021f).

The roadside consists of a mixture of sub-mature and mature indigenous trees that provide a low diversity and simplified structural habitat; there are a significant number of hollows with a range of different dimensions found in the mature trees, but the absolute numbers of such hollows would be limited.

However, the lack of observed species diversity at the assessed sites is not surprising, given that:

- the adjacent freehold property along the length of the assessed area is mostly cleared land with only peripheral woody vegetation;
- while there were some large indigenous remnant trees with significant hollows along the roadside, there is no fallen wood left on ground across the site, no shrub layer, negligible indigenous ground layer vegetation, and few standing dead trees;
- The Goulburn River corridor is 1.4 km to the west and a freehold land remnant block 2.5 km to the south, however, other than continuously vegetated road reserves on O'Neills Road, there is limited landscape connectivity to these blocks of remnant vegetation;
- the highly likely presence of both a fox and feral cat population.

On this basis, there are relatively minimal opportunities for fauna occupation of the sites, in terms of a relatively simplified vegetation structure (i.e. little shrub or emerging tree layer, meaning fewer opportunities for food collection and shelter/protection), and a relative lack of food sources (e.g. lack of indigenous nectar producing plants and those producing fleshy fruits).

Victorian Wildlife Atlas, NatureKit and Matters of National Environmental Significance searches revealed that there were records of thirty three (33) threatened fauna within a 10 km radius of the sites (excluding fish species). The likelihood of the presence of these species and their likelihood of assessed areas was considered and rated, based on the prevailing habitat and habitat quality of the sites, habitat preferences for the species, the limited landscape connectivity, the currency of known records for the species, and the composition and structure of the indigenous vegetation (Appendix E). On this basis, it was considered that the available habitat along the assessed site was suitable for thirteen (13) of these species – Barking Owl, Brolga, Crested Bellbird, Diamond Firetail, Hooded Robin, Lace Monitor, Little Eagle, Painted Honeyeater, Powerful Owl, Speckled Warbler, Square-tailed Kite, Swift Parrot and White-throated Needletail – to utilise infrequently for foraging or hunting (DELWP 2021c, DAWE 2021; Appendix C).

4.3 Significant Trees

The length of both stages were examined, and it was concluded that the only 22 remnant trees identified by Council planning were likely losses, and as a consequence, only these twenty two trees were assessed (19 trees in Stage 1, and 3 trees in Stage 2); these trees were a mixture of Grey Box, Yellow Box and River Red Gum.

Images of all trees were taken. The characteristics of all of these individuals can be seen in Appendix B, and the locations of all of these trees can be seen in Figures 4-1 to 4-7.

Under the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (DELWP 2017) there are two categories of native vegetation: *Scattered Trees* or *Patches*.

A *Patch* of native vegetation is either: an area of vegetation where at least 25 % of the total perennial understorey plant cover is native, or any area with three or more native canopy trees where the drip line of each tree touches the drip line of at least one other tree, forming a continuous canopy, or any mapped wetland included in the current wetlands map, available in DELWP systems and tools and these areas were mapped (DELWP 2017).

A *Scattered Tree* is a native canopy tree that does not form part of a *Patch* (DELWP 2017).



Plate 4-2

The trees proposed for clearance: Tree 2 (top left), Tree 3 (2nd left), Trees 4 and 5 (2nd right), Tree 6 (top right), Tree 7 (left middle), Tree 13 (2nd left middle), Tree 14 and 15 (2nd right middle), Tree 16 (right middle), Tree 18 (bottom left), Tree 19 (bottom middle), and Trees 20 to 22 (bottom right)(Source: author, dated 17/5/21).

Of these 22 trees proposed for loss, 13 are Large Trees according to the EVC benchmark for Plains Grassy Woodland EVC (70 cm dbh; Appendix A):

- Trees 1 to 19 are found within Stage 1, and Trees 20 to 22 are found within Stage 2;

- Trees 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 (14 trees) are all proposed *Scattered Tree* losses, of which Trees 1, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 18 (11 trees) are Large Trees according to the EVC benchmark for Plains Grassy Woodland EVC (70 cm dbh; Appendix A). Tree 18 is a standing dead tree;
- The remaining 8 trees are contained within two native vegetation *Patches*;
 - *Patch 1* is within Stage 1, and contains Trees 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 (5 trees), of which Trees 2 and 3 are Large Trees according to the EVC benchmark for Plains Grassy Woodland EVC (70 cm dbh; Appendix A);
 - *Patch 2* is within Stage 2, and contains Trees 20, 21 and 22 (3 trees), of which all are Small Trees according to the EVC benchmark for Plains Grassy Woodland EVC (70 cm dbh; Appendix C);
- In summary, there are 14 *Scattered Trees* proposed for loss, of which 11 are Large Trees, and there are two native vegetation *Patches* proposed for loss containing 8 trees, of which 2 are Large Trees.

4.4 Patches

There are two defined native vegetation *Patches* – of a total extent of 0.1777 ha - identified that are likely losses with the proposed works.

A summary of the two patches proposed for loss with the proposed works is as follows:

- *Patch 1* of 0.1660 ha within Stage 1 contains Trees 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 (5 trees), of which Trees 2 and 3 are Large Trees according to the EVC benchmark for Plains Grassy Woodland EVC (70 cm dbh; Appendix A);
- *Patch 2* of 0.0116 ha within Stage 2 contains Trees 20, 21 and 22 (3 trees), of which all are Small Trees according to the EVC benchmark for Plains Grassy Woodland EVC (70 cm dbh; Appendix C).

The *Patches* proposed for loss were assessed using the Vegetation Quality Assessment method (Habitat Hectares)(DSE 2004) by Steve Hamilton (HH128), and the findings of this can be seen in Sec. 4.5.

4.5 Vegetation Quality Assessment

There were two native vegetation *Patch* designated that are proposed for clearing, and the details of these are summarised in Sec. 4-4.

The Vegetation Quality Assessment of the designated *Patches* has been determined by Steve Hamilton (VQA Competency HH129) according to DSE (2004), and the results of this assessment can be seen in Table 4-1.

The Habitat Scores for these *Patches* was 20 (*Patch 1*) and 13 (*Patch 2*)(Table 4-1); as the value for *Patch 2* was < 20, it was corrected to a default of 20 in mapping output according to DELWP (2017).

The scores strongly reinforce observations made in the field that of the clearance *Patches*:

- The patches were defined because of canopy cover;
- *Patch 1* retained a Large Tree;
- There was no medium shrub layer or tree or shrub recruitment in the patches;
- Neither patch maintained an indigenous ground layer;
- *Patch 1* maintained a litter layer dominated by introduced plant material;



Figure 4-1 Aerial view of the assessed Stage 1, showing all assessed indigenous trees proposed for clearance. Aerial image from ESRI Australia (2021).



Figure 4-2 Aerial view of the southern end of the Stage 1 works area, showing the assessed indigenous trees proposed for clearance. *Patch 1* is outlined in green. Aerial image from ESRI Australia (2021).



Figure 4-3 Aerial view in the central section of the Stage 1 works area, showing the assessed indigenous trees proposed for clearance. Aerial image from ESRI Australia (2021).



Figure 4-4 Aerial view in the central section of the Stage 1 works area, showing the assessed indigenous trees proposed for clearance. Aerial image from ESRI Australia (2021).



Figure 4-5 Aerial view in the northern section of the Stage 1 works area, showing the assessed indigenous trees proposed for clearance. Aerial image from ESRI Australia (2021).

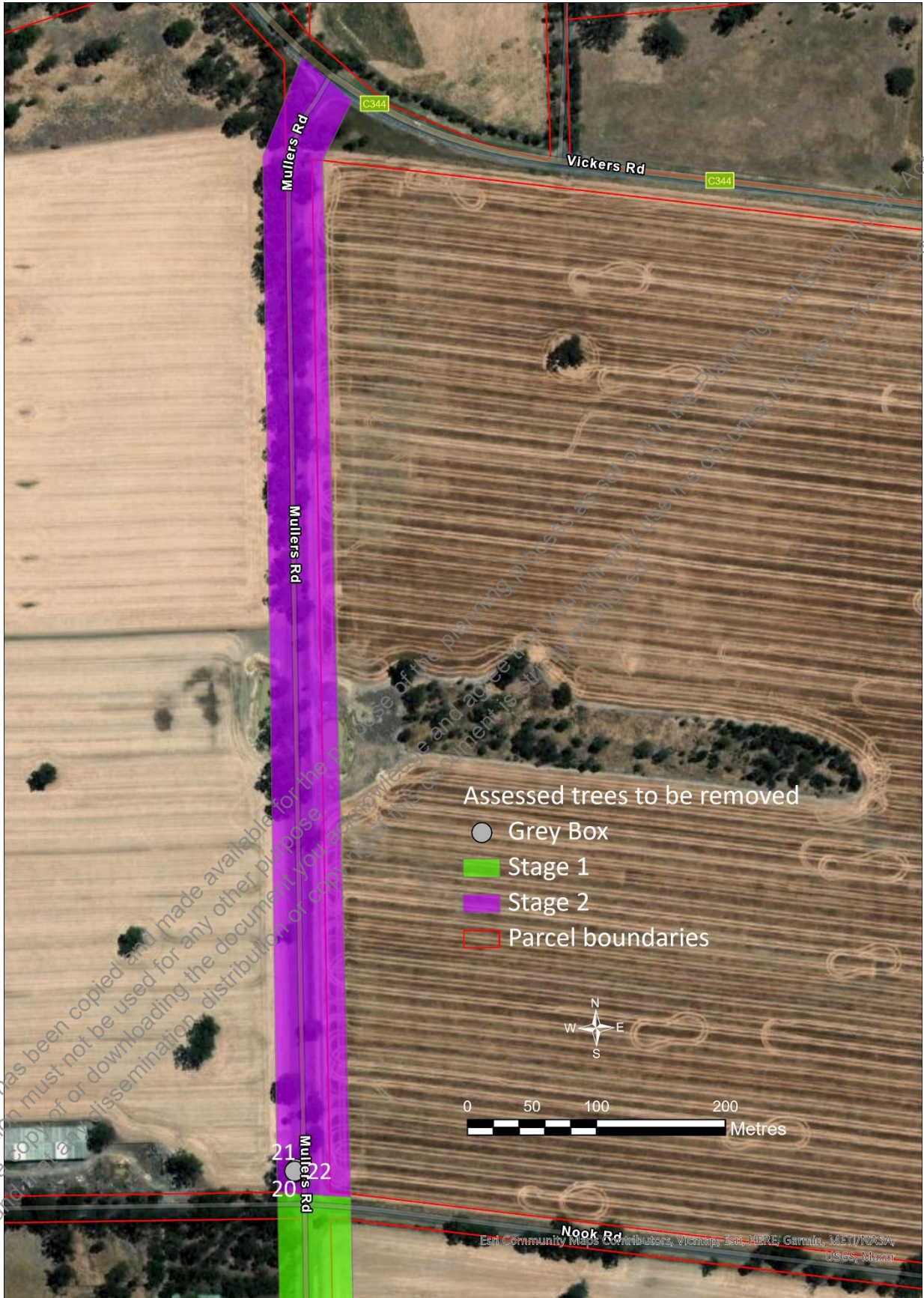


Figure 4-6 Aerial view of the assessed Stage 1, showing all assessed indigenous trees proposed for clearance. Aerial image from ESRI Australia (2021).

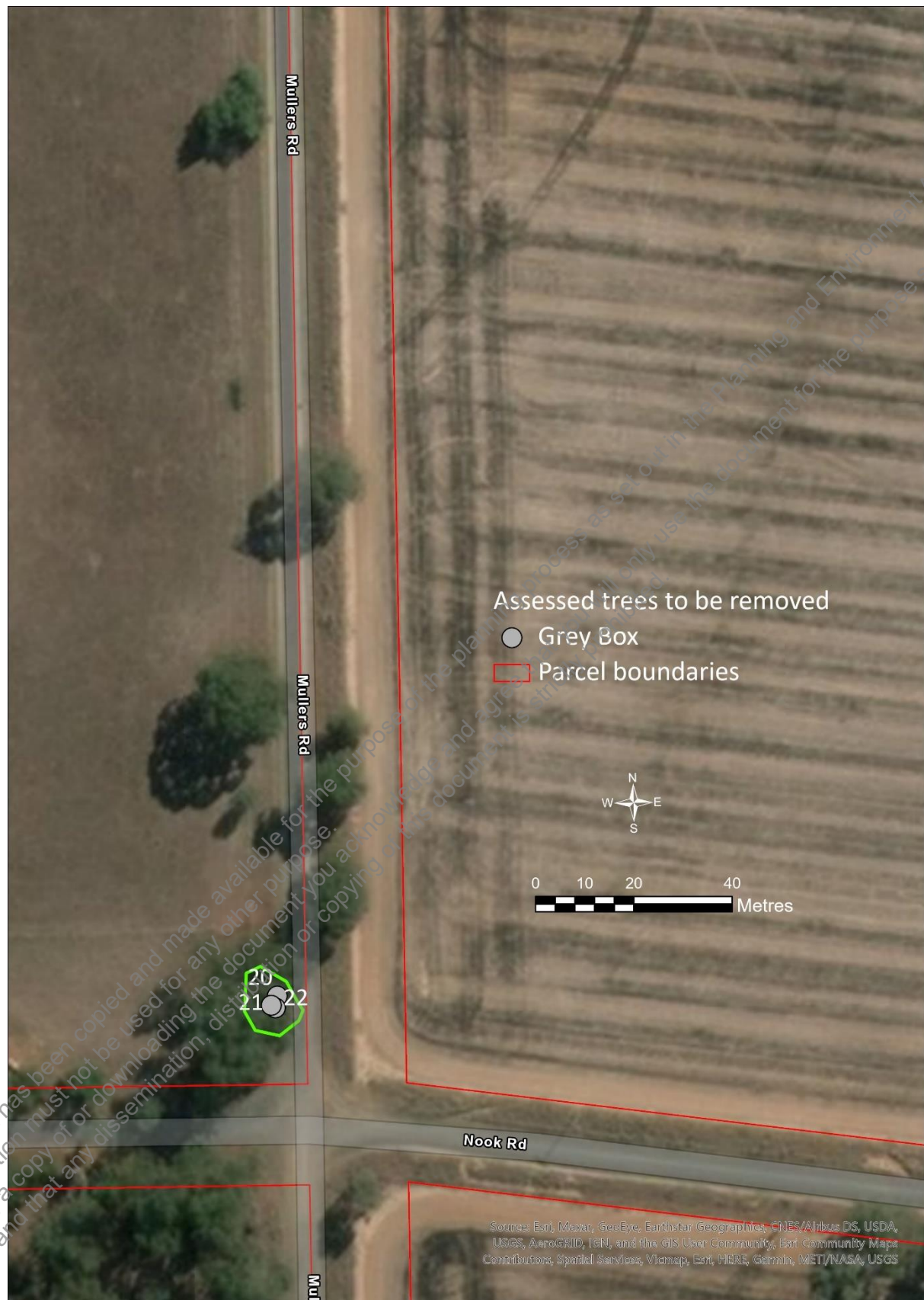


Figure 4-7 Aerial view of the southern end of the Stage 2 works area, showing the assessed indigenous trees proposed for clearance. *Patch 2* is outlined in green. Aerial image from ESRI Australia (2021).

- Both patches did not maintain fallen wood on the ground and did not have standing dead trees;
- The patches have poor connectivity within the landscape (landscape context).

Table 4-1 Calculated Habitat Score for the defined *Patches* for removal within the proposed development area (DSE 2004).

Patch	1	2
EVC ¹	Plains Grassy Woodland	
Approximate area (ha)	0.070	0.012
Large trees	6	0
Tree canopy cover	3	0
Understorey	5	5
Lack of weeds	0	0
Recruitment	0	1
Organic litter	4	5
Logs	0	0
Landscape Context Score	2	2
Habitat Score	20	13

1. EVC is Ecological Vegetation Class, from DELWP (2021a).

5. NET GAIN AND LOSS REPORTING

5.1 Quantification of Loss

The native vegetation losses for both Stages 1 and 2 have been combined.

In summary, there are 13 *Scattered Trees* proposed for loss, of which 11 are Large Trees, and there are two native vegetation *Patches* proposed for loss of a total extent of 0.1777 ha containing 8 trees, of which 2 are Large Trees.

It must be acknowledged that the proposed losses are of significant vegetation with considerable biodiversity value:

- The extent of loss is moderate (between 0.5 to 1.0 ha), with these losses being both Small and Large Trees that are either *Scattered Trees* or contained within two *Patches*, but given that these trees are found within a more-or-less continuous tree canopy on the road reserve, their loss will not contribute significantly to a fragmentation of the landscape within the immediate area;
- The proposal will result in the removal of 13 Large Trees that are all hollow-bearing, and their loss is significant, although less profound given the many Large Trees found along the Mullers Road reserves;
- The Strategic Biodiversity Value (SBV) of all *Scattered Trees* and *Patches* proposed for loss is a mixture of low to high value SBV between 0.16 and 0.70;
- The Habitat Score of the two *Patches* proposed for loss was a low value (both ≤ 0.2).

There are 60 threatened species that have habitat mapped to occur coincident with the proposed native vegetation to be removed. None of these species have a mapped extent of habitat loss of $> 0.0001\%$ of the remaining habitat.

No individuals of these 60 species were observed within the proposed development footprint; no threatened species were found across the proposed development footprint area.

The likelihood of seventeen threatened flora species and thirty three threatened fauna species being found within the proposed development footprint or that would utilise the habitat of the proposed development footprint has been considered in Sections 4.1 and 4.2, and all species listed, with status, number of records within proximity, and likelihood of presence are outlined in Appendix C.

5.2 Avoid and Minimise

As indicated, the existing road seal of Mullers Road in both stages is 2.1 m in width, and this will be increased to 3.6 m width with the reconstruction

After detailed survey and careful consideration, Council has determined that a total of 22 trees were required for removal across both stages (3 trees in Stage 2, and 19 trees in Stage 1) to achieve this new road width – decisions have been based upon the *Austrroads Guide to Road Safety – Part 6A: Implementing Road Safety Audits* (2019) as a guide to provide an indication of the level of risk posed by the roadside trees, and on the traffic volume at this section of Mullers Road is approximately (250 vehicles per day two-way within a 100 km/h speed zone), a clear zone width of 1 metre – the area required for a vehicle that leaves the carriageway to stop safely or regain control – has been adopted as a minimum clear zone width, supported with safety barriers where applicable.

A total of 790 m of safety barrier on the eastern road reserve of Stage 1, and 380 m of safety barrier on the western road reserve of Stage 1 is to be installed, while a total of 740 m of safety barrier on the eastern road reserve of Stage 2, and 770 m of safety barrier on the western road reserve of Stage 2 is to be installed; as well as providing increased safety for motorists using the road, the installation of these barriers results in the retention of over 100 remnant trees across both stages that would have otherwise required clearance ().

Council has therefore carefully considered the potential losses of native vegetation, employed appropriate avoidance strategies (i.e. the use of safety barriers), and have proposed the loss of 22 trees, the loss of native vegetation to the minimum extent necessary in order to provide the necessary risk profile for the proposed road reconstruction.

It should be noted that Council had major safety concerns regarding Tree 2, the trunk of which currently intrudes on the existing pavement, and DELWP have provided permission for this tree to be removed immediately, with the guarantee that it has been determined lost and will be offset ().

5.3 Offset requirements

Mapping files outlining the habitat scoring and precise location of the *Scattered Trees* and *Patches* proposed for clearance across the proposed development area were submitted to the EnSym NVR Team Support in the outlined format following scenario-testing to clarify the requirements for offset to develop the application. The Native Vegetation Removal Report for the likely native vegetation clearance for the proposed development on the site (Appendix D; DELWP 2021e) was received on the 6th July 2021, and provided the following assessment:

- The outlined proposed clearance was assessed as being a Detailed Assessment Pathway;
- The *Location Category* for the losses are mapped as *Location 2*;
- The total extent of the clearance is 0.927 ha, comprising 13 *Scattered Trees*, of which 11 are Large Trees, and two native vegetation *Patches* of a total extent of 0.1777 ha, of which one patch contains two Large Trees;
- A General Offset of 0.198 General Habitat Units (GHUs) is required for the proposed clearance based on a 1.5x multiplier, with 13 Large Trees;
- There are no Specific Offsets;

- The Offset Site must be within the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority catchment (or Local Government Area – Strathbogie Shire Council);
- The Offset must have a minimum overall Strategic Biodiversity Value of 0.341.

6. MEETING THE OFFSET REQUIREMENT

A third party offset quote to satisfy the offset requirement has been sought, and is shown in Appendix E.

7. REFERENCES

Bureau of Meteorology (2021). Mangalore climate data for 17th May 2021 and 3rd September 2021. Retrieved 20th September 2021 from:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/dwo/202105/html/IDCJDW3047.202105.shtml>

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7.1 Personal Communication

a.

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APPENDIX A EVC BENCHMARK DESCRIPTION

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Description:

An open, eucalypt woodland to 15 m tall. Occupies well drained, fertile soils on flat or gently undulating plains at low elevations in areas with >600 mm annual rainfall. The understorey consists of a few sparse shrubs over a species-rich grassy and herbaceous ground layer characterised by summer-growing grasses.

Large trees:

Species	DBH(cm)	#/ha
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.	80 cm	10 / ha

Tree Canopy Cover:

%cover	Character Species	Common Name
10%	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	River Red Gum
	<i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i>	Yellow Box

Understorey:

Life form	#Spp	%Cover	LF code
Immature Canopy Tree		5%	IT
Understorey Tree or Large Shrub	1	5%	T
Medium Shrub	3	10%	MS
Small Shrub	2	3%	SS
Prostrate Shrub	1	1%	PS
Large Herb	2	5%	LH
Medium Herb	8	15%	MH
Small or Prostrate Herb	3	5%	SH
Large Tufted Graminoid	1	5%	LTG
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid	12	45%	MTG
Medium to Tiny Non-tufted Graminoid	2	5%	MNG
Bryophytes/Lichens	na	10%	BL
Soil Crust	na	10%	S/C

LF Code

Species typical of at least part of EVC range

Common Name

MS	<i>Acacia pycnantha</i>	Golden Wattle
MS	<i>Acacia paradoxa</i>	Hedge Wattle
MS	<i>Acacia acinacosa</i> s.l.	Gold-dust Wattle
MS	<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Sweet Bursaria
SS	<i>Pimelea humilis</i>	Common Rice-flower
PS	<i>Astroloma humifusum</i>	Cranberry Heath
PS	<i>Bessiaea prostrata</i>	Creeping Bossiaea
MH	<i>Quaila perennans</i>	Grassland Wood-sorrel
MH	<i>Chryscephalum apiculatum</i> s.l.	Common Everlasting
MH	<i>Acacia echinata</i>	Sheep's Burr
BH	<i>Eryngium ovinum</i>	Blue Devil
SH	<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney-weed
LTG	<i>Austrorhiza</i> spp.	Spear-grass
MTG	<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo Grass
MTG	<i>Elymus scaber</i> var. <i>scaber</i>	Common Wheat-grass
MTG	<i>Austrodanthonia setacea</i>	Bristly Wallaby-grass
MTG	<i>Austrodanthonia racemosa</i> var. <i>racemosa</i>	Striped Wallaby-grass
MNG	<i>Microlaena stipoides</i> var. <i>stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass

Ecological Vegetation Class bioregion benchmark



EVC 55_61: Plains Grassy Woodland - Victorian Riverina bioregion

Recruitment:

Continuous

Organic Litter:

10 % cover

Logs:

10 m/0.1 ha.

Weediness:

LF Code	Typical Weed Species	Common Name	Invasive	Impact
MS	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	African Box-thorn	high	high
LH	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	high	high
LH	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Common Sow-thistle	high	low
LH	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort	high	low
MH	<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Cat's Ear	high	low
LNG	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog	high	high
MTG	<i>Vulpia bromoides</i>	Squirrel-tail Fescue	high	low
MTG	<i>Romulea rosea</i>	Orion Grass	high	low
MTG	<i>Briza minor</i>	Lesser Quaking-grass	high	low
MTG	<i>Briza maxima</i>	Large Quaking-grass	high	low

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APPENDIX B ASSESSED TREES OF MULLERS ROAD NAGAMBIE

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Tree number	Common name	Scientific name	Diameter ¹	Tree location ²	
				Easting	Northing
1	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	80/70	332722	5921736
2	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	191	332719	5921914
3	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	70/45	332722	5921926
4	River Red Gum	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	45	332724	5921928
5	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	40/20	332718	5921939
6	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	54/28	332720	5921970
7	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	102	332717	5922015
8	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	60/50	332713	5922371
9	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	42	332709	5922881
10	Yellow Box	<i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i>	130/90	332700	5923053
11	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	88	332700	5923072
12	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	94	332702	5923077
13	River Red Gum	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	146	332692	5923367
14	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	34	332692	5923386
15	River Red Gum	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	109	332698	5923391
16	River Red Gum	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	110	332687	5923430
17	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	137	332682	5923537
18	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	110 (dead)	332675	5924136
19	River Red Gum	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	30	332666	5925256
20	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	25	332641	5925866
21	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	8	332641	5925864
22	Grey Box	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	10	332640	5925864

1. DBH is diameter at breast height over bark in cm (dbhob; 1.30 m);
2. Location data are northings and eastings of MGAz55 coordinates.

APPENDIX C EPBC AND VICTORIAN THREATENED SPECIES AND LIKELIHOOD OF OCCURRENCE

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List of threatened flora species recorded by the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas and NatureKit in a 10 km radius around the alignment, and by Matters of National Environmental Significance search of the district, their status, and their likelihood of occurrence on the subject land (DELWP 2021b and 2021c; DAWE 2021).

Scientific name	Common Name	Victorian status ¹	Commonwealth status ²	Records within 10 km ³	Last record ⁴	Appropriate habitat ⁵	Likelihood of presence ⁶
<i>Acacia ausfeldii</i>	Ausfeld's Wattle	v		1	2014	Yes	Highly unlikely
<i>Acacia flexifolia</i>	Bent-leaf Wattle	r		5	2017	Yes	Highly unlikely
<i>Allocasuarina luehmannii</i>	Buloke	ce		12	2017	Yes	Unlikely
<i>Amphibromus fluitans</i>	River Swamp Wallaby-grass		V	2	2009	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Amyema linophylla</i> ssp. <i>orientalis</i>	Buloke Mistletoe	v		1	2009	Yes	Unlikely
<i>Brachyscome muelleroides</i>	Mueller's Daisy	e,L	V	0		Yes	Highly unlikely
<i>Brasenia schreberi</i>	Water Shield	v,L		20	1990	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Caladenia versicolor</i>	Candy Spider-orchid	e,L	V	0		No	Highly unlikely
<i>Comesperma polygaloides</i>	Small Milkwort	ce		2	2009	Yes	Unlikely
<i>Coronidium gunnianum</i>	Pale Swamp Everlasting	v		1	2008	Yes	Highly unlikely
<i>Cullen parvum</i>	Small Scurf-pea	e,L		1	2008	Yes	Highly unlikely
<i>Glycine latrobeana</i>	Clover Glycine	v,L	V	0		Yes	Highly unlikely
<i>Goodia medicaginea</i>	Western Golden-tip	r		1	1892	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Pimelea spinescens</i> ssp. <i>spinescens</i>	Spiny Rice-flower	e,L	CE	0		Yes	Highly unlikely
<i>Prasophyllum validum</i>	Sturdy Leek-orchid	e	V	0		No	Highly unlikely
<i>Senecio macrocarpus</i>	Large-headed Fireweed	e,L	V	0		No	Highly unlikely
<i>Xanthorrhoea glauca</i> ssp. <i>angustifolia</i>	Grey Grass-tree	e,L		7	2017	No	Not present

1. x = presumed extinct in Victoria; e = endangered in Victoria; v = vulnerable in Victoria; r = rare in Victoria; k = insufficiently known in Victoria; L = listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act* (from DEPI 2014);
2. CE = critically endangered nationally; E = endangered nationally; V = vulnerable nationally (DAWE 2021);
3. As recorded in the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (DELWP 2021c);
4. As recorded for the species in the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (DELWP 2021c);
5. Determination based on known habitat preferences for the species and the assessed habitat characteristics of the site, from Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria (2021) and Walsh and Entwisle (1994, 1996 and 1999);
6. Based on known habitat preferences for the species and the assessed habitat characteristics of the site, known records for the species, and their proximity and time of record.

List of threatened fauna species recorded by the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas and NatureKit in a 10 km radius around the alignment, and by Matters of National Environmental Significance search of the district, their status, and their likelihood of occurrence on the subject land (DELWP 2021b and 2021c; DAWE 2021).

Scientific name	Common Name	Victorian status ¹	Commonwealth status ²	Records within 10 km ³	Last record ⁴	Appropriate habitat ⁵	Likelihood of presence ⁶
<i>Falco subniger</i>	Black Falcon	v,L		2	2000	Yes	Possible
<i>Antigone rubicunda</i>	Brolga	v,L		5	2008	Yes	Unlikely
<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>	Bush Stone-curlew	e,L		2	1984	No	Highly unlikely
<i>Synemon plana</i>	Golden Sun Moth	ce,L	CE	0		No	Highly unlikely
<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	Grey Falcon	e,L	V	0		Yes	Unlikely
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox	v,L	V	0		No	Highly unlikely
<i>Litoria raniformis</i>	Growling Grass Frog	e,L	V	3	1973	Yes	Highly unlikely
<i>Varanus varius</i>	Lace Monitor	e		1	1997	Yes	Unlikely
<i>Hieraetus morphnoides</i>	Little Eagle	v,L		3	2004	Yes	Possible
<i>Grantiella picta</i>	Painted Honeyeater	v,L	V	0		Yes	Unlikely
<i>Aprasia parapulchella</i>	Pink-tailed Worm-lizard	e,L	V	0		No	Highly unlikely
<i>Pedionomus torquatus</i>	Plains-wanderer	v,L	CE	0		No	Highly unlikely
<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	Regent Honeyeater	ce,L	CE	0		Yes	Highly unlikely
<i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i>	Satin Flycatcher		MTS	0		No	Highly unlikely
<i>Crinia sloanei</i>	Sloane's Froglet		E	0		Yes	Highly unlikely
<i>Delma impar</i>	Striped Legless Lizard	e,L	V	0		Yes	Highly unlikely
<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>	Superb Parrot	e,L	V	0		Yes	Unlikely
<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Swift Parrot	e,L	CE	6	2018	Yes	Possible
<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail	v,L	V	0		Yes	Unlikely

1. x = presumed extinct in Victoria; rx = regionally extinct; e = endangered in Victoria; v = vulnerable in Victoria; r = rare in Victoria; k = insufficiently known in Victoria; L = listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act* (from DEPI 2014);
2. CE = critically endangered nationally; E = endangered nationally; V = vulnerable nationally; LMS = Listed Marine Species; MTS = Migratory Terrestrial Species; MMB = Migratory Marine Bird (DAWE 2021);
3. As recorded in the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (DELWP 2021c);

Flora and Fauna Assessment and Net Loss Report – Mullers Road Nagambie

4. As recorded for the species in the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (DELWP 2021c);
5. Determination based on known habitat preferences for the species and the assessed habitat characteristics of the site, from various State and Commonwealth conservation advice and listings, recovery plans, etc.;
6. Based on known habitat preferences for the species and the assessed habitat characteristics of the site, landscape connectivity of the site, known records for the species, and their proximity and time of records.

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APPENDIX D NATIVE VEGETATION REMOVAL REPORT (DELWP) ISSUED 6TH JULY 2021

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This report provides information to support an application to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation in accordance with the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation*. The report **is not an assessment by DELWP** of the proposed native vegetation removal. Native vegetation information and offset requirements have been determined using spatial data provided by the applicant or their consultant.

Date of issue: 05/07/2021

Report ID: HAE_2021_046

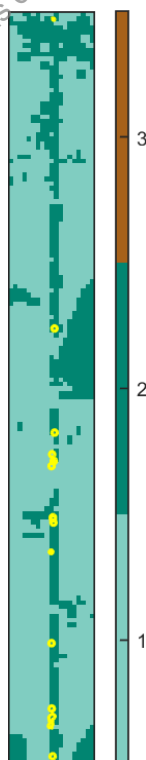
Time of issue: 5:13 pm

Project ID	Mullers_Road_Nagambie_GDA94_050721
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Assessment pathway

Assessment pathway	Detailed Assessment Pathway
Extent including past and proposed	0.927 ha
Extent of past removal	0.000 ha
Extent of proposed removal	0.927 ha
No. Large trees proposed to be removed	13
Location category of proposed removal	Location 2 The native vegetation is in an area mapped as an endangered Ecological Vegetation Class (as per the statewide EVC map). Removal of less than 0.5 hectares of native vegetation in this location will not have a significant impact on any habitat for a rare or threatened species.

1. Location map



Offset requirements if a permit is granted

Any approval granted will include a condition to obtain an offset that meets the following requirements:

General offset amount¹	0.198 general habitat units
Vicinity	Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (CMA) or Strathbogie Shire Council
Minimum strategic biodiversity value score ²	0.341
Large trees	13 large trees

NB: values within tables in this document may not add to the totals shown above due to rounding

Appendix 1 includes information about the native vegetation to be removed

Appendix 2 includes information about the rare or threatened species mapped at the site.

Appendix 3 includes maps showing native vegetation to be removed and extracts of relevant species habitat importance maps

¹ The general offset amount required is the sum of all general habitat units in Appendix 1.

² Minimum strategic biodiversity score is 80 per cent of the weighted average score across habitat zones where a general offset is required

Next steps

Any proposal to remove native vegetation must meet the application requirements of the Detailed Assessment Pathway and it will be assessed under the Detailed Assessment Pathway.

If you wish to remove the mapped native vegetation you are required to apply for a permit from your local council. Council will refer your application to DELWP for assessment, as required. **This report is not a referral assessment by DELWP.**

This *Native vegetation removal report* must be submitted with your application for a permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation.

Refer to the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (the Guidelines) for a full list of application requirements. This report provides information that meets the following application requirements:

- The assessment pathway and reason for the assessment pathway
- A description of the native vegetation to be removed (partly met)
- Maps showing the native vegetation and property (partly met)
- Information about the impacts on rare or threatened species.
- The offset requirements determined in accordance with section 5 of the Guidelines that apply if approval is granted to remove native vegetation.

Additional application requirements must be met including:

- Topographical and land information
- Recent dated photographs
- Details of past native vegetation removal
- An avoid and minimise statement
- A copy of any Property Vegetation Plan that applies
- A defensible space statement as applicable
- A statement about the Native Vegetation Precinct Plan as applicable
- A site assessment report including a habitat hectare assessment of any patches of native vegetation and details of trees
- An offset statement that explains that an offset has been identified and how it will be secured.

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Obtaining this publication does not guarantee that an application will meet the requirements of Clauses 52.16 or 52.17 of the Victoria Planning Provisions and Victorian planning schemes or that a permit to remove native vegetation will be granted.

Notwithstanding anything else contained in this publication, you must ensure that you comply with all relevant laws, legislation, awards or orders and that you obtain and comply with all permits, approvals and the like that affect, are applicable or are necessary to undertake any action to remove, lop or destroy or otherwise deal with any native vegetation or that apply to matters within the scope of Clauses 52.16 or 52.17 of the Victoria Planning Provisions and Victorian planning schemes.

Appendix 1: Description of native vegetation to be removed

The species-general offset test was applied to your proposal. This test determines if the proposed removal of native vegetation has a proportional impact on any rare or threatened species habitats above the species offset threshold. The threshold is set at 0.005 per cent of the mapped habitat value for a species. When the proportional impact is above the species offset threshold a species offset is required. This test is done for all species mapped at the site. Multiple species offsets will be required if the species offset threshold is exceeded for multiple species.

Where a zone requires species offset(s), the species habitat units for each species in that zone is calculated by the following equation in accordance with the Guidelines:

$$\text{Species habitat units} = \text{extent} \times \text{condition} \times \text{species landscape factor} \times 2, \text{ where the species landscape factor} = 0.5 + (\text{habitat importance score}/2)$$

The species offset amount(s) required is the sum of all species habitat units per zone

Where a zone does not require a species offset, the general habitat units in that zone is calculated by the following equation in accordance with the Guidelines:

$$\text{General habitat units} = \text{extent} \times \text{condition} \times \text{general landscape factor} \times 1.5, \text{ where the general landscape factor} = 0.5 + (\text{strategic biodiversity value score}/2)$$

The general offset amount required is the sum of all general habitat units per zone.

Native vegetation to be removed

Information provided by or on behalf of the applicant in a GIS file							Information calculated by EnSym					
Zone	Type	BioEVC	BioEVC conservation status	Large tree(s)	Partial removal	Condition score	Polygon Extent	Extent without overlap	SBV score	HI score	Habitat units	Offset type
1-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	1	no	0.200	0.070	0.070	0.622		0.017	General
1-A	Patch	vriv0055	Endangered	2	no	0.200	0.166	0.166	0.557		0.039	General
7-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	1	no	0.200	0.070	0.070	0.161		0.012	General
8-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	1	no	0.200	0.070	0.070	0.189		0.013	General
9-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	0	no	0.200	0.031	0.031	0.700		0.008	General
10-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	1	no	0.200	0.070	0.066	0.496		0.015	General
11-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	1	no	0.200	0.070	0.041	0.553		0.010	General
12-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	1	no	0.200	0.070	0.045	0.504		0.010	General

Information provided by or on behalf of the applicant in a GIS file							Information calculated by EnSym					
Zone	Type	BioEVC	BioEVC conservation status	Large tree(s)	Partial removal	Condition score	Polygon Extent	Extent without overlap	SBV score	HI score	Habitat units	Offset type
13-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	1	no	0.200	0.070	0.070	0.383		0.015	General
14-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	0	no	0.200	0.031	0.003	0.299		0.001	General
15-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	1	no	0.200	0.070	0.070	0.291		0.014	General
16-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	1	no	0.200	0.070	0.070	0.366		0.014	General
17-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	1	no	0.200	0.070	0.070	0.252		0.013	General
18-B	Scattered Tree	vriv0055	Endangered	1	no	0.200	0.070	0.070	0.519		0.016	General
2-A	Patch	vriv0055	Endangered	0	no	0.200	0.012	0.012	0.486		0.003	General

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Appendix 2: Information about impacts to rare or threatened species' habitats on site

This table lists all rare or threatened species' habitats mapped at the site.

Species common name	Species scientific name	Species number	Conservation status	Group	Habitat impacted	% habitat value affected
Plump Windmill Grass	<i>Chloris ventricosa</i>	500757	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0001
Western Silver Wattle	<i>Acacia decora</i>	500027	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0001
Ridged Water-milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum porcatum</i>	502257	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0001
Euroa Guinea-flower	<i>Hibbertia humifusa subsp. erigens</i>	505083	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0001
Pale Flax-lily	<i>Dianella sp. aff. longifolia (Riverina)</i>	507399	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Narrow Goodenia	<i>Goodenia macbarronii</i>	501513	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Mueller Daisy	<i>Brachyscome muelleroides</i>	500465	Endangered	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Pepper Grass	<i>Panicum laevinode</i>	504808	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Bent-leaf Wattle	<i>Acacia flexifolia</i>	500035	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Silky Swainson-pea	<i>Swainsona sericea</i>	504946	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Yellow-tongue Daisy	<i>Brachyscome chrysoglossa</i>	503654	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Woolly Wattle	<i>Acacia lanigera var. lanigera</i>	505093	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Small Scurf-pea	<i>Cullen parvum</i>	502773	Endangered	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Ausfeld's Wattle	<i>Acacia ausfeldii</i>	500013	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Cottony Cassinia	<i>Cassinia ozothamnoides</i>	501560	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Kamarooka Mallee	<i>Eucalyptus froggattii</i>	501279	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Umbrella Grass	<i>Digitaria divaricatissima var. divaricatissima</i>	501045	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Northern Sandalwood	<i>Santalum lanceolatum</i>	503005	Endangered	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Silky Umbrella-grass	<i>Digitaria ammophila</i>	501041	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000

Western Golden-tip	<i>Goodia medicaginea</i>	501518	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Broom Bitter-pea	<i>Daviesia genistifolia</i> s.s.	503813	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Long Eryngium	<i>Eryngium paludosum</i>	501238	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Southern Swainson-pea	<i>Swainsona behriana</i>	504944	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Spiny Rice-flower	<i>Pimelea spinescens</i> subsp. <i>spinescens</i>	504823	Endangered	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Smooth Minuria	<i>Minuria integerrima</i>	502201	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Purple Diuris	<i>Diuris punctata</i>	501084	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Dookie Daisy	<i>Brachyscome gracilis</i>	505494	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Rosemary Grevillea	<i>Grevillea rosmarinifolia</i> subsp. <i>rosmarinifolia</i>	504066	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Late-flower Flax-lily	<i>Dianella tarda</i>	505085	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Dark Wire-grass	<i>Aristida calycina</i> var. <i>calycina</i>	503630	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Branching Groundsel	<i>Senecio cunninghamii</i> var. <i>cunninghamii</i>	503104	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Slender Club-sedge	<i>Isolepis congrua</i>	501773	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Velvet Daisy-bush	<i>Olearia pannosa</i> subsp. <i>cardiophylla</i>	502317	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Fuzzy New Holland Daisy	<i>Vittadinia cuneata</i> var. <i>morrisii</i>	505060	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Pale Swamp Everlasting	<i>Coronidium gunnianum</i>	504655	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Dwarf Brooklime	<i>Gratiola pumilo</i>	503753	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Waterbush	<i>Myoporum montanum</i>	502240	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Hairy Tails	<i>Ptilotus erubescens</i>	502825	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Jericho Wire-grass	<i>Aristida jerichoensis</i> var. <i>subspinulifera</i>	504631	Endangered	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Stiff Groundsel	<i>Senecio behrianus</i>	503101	Endangered	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Delicate Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium</i> sp. 6	505347	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Veiled Fringe-sedge	<i>Fimbristylis velata</i>	501369	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000

Lanky Buttons	<i>Leptorhynchus elongatus</i>	501941	Endangered	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Striped Water-milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum striatum</i>	503869	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Buloke Mistletoe	<i>Amyema linophylla subsp. orientalis</i>	500217	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Buloke	<i>Allocasuarina luehmannii</i>	500678	Endangered	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Riverina Bitter-cress	<i>Cardamine moirensis</i>	505032	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Golden Cowslips	<i>Diuris behrii</i>	501061	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Yarran Wattle	<i>Acacia omalophylla</i>	500069	Endangered	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Clover Glycine	<i>Glycine latrobeana</i>	501456	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Eastern Great Egret	<i>Ardea modesta</i>	10187	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map ; special site	0.0000
Rye Beetle-grass	<i>Tripogon loliiformis</i>	503455	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Floodplain Fireweed	<i>Senecio campylocarpus</i>	507136	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Grey-crowned Babbler	<i>Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis</i>	10443	Endangered	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Grassland Velleia	<i>Velleia arguta</i>	503487	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Bush Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>	10174	Endangered	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Brolga	<i>Grus rubicunda</i>	10177	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Black Falcon	<i>Falco subniger</i>	10238	Vulnerable	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000
Dwarf Bitter-cress	<i>Rorippa eustylis</i>	502944	Rare	Dispersed	Habitat importance map	0.0000

Habitat group

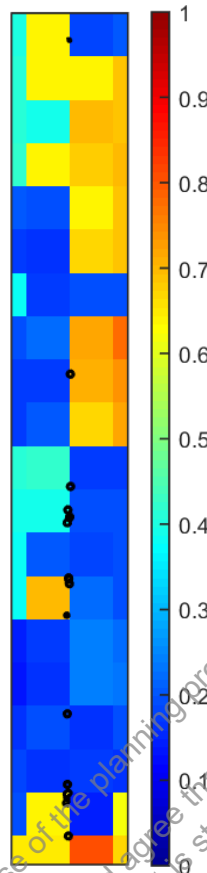
- Highly localised habitat means there is 2000 hectares or less mapped habitat for the species
- Dispersed habitat means there is more than 2000 hectares of mapped habitat for the species

Habitat impacted

- Habitat importance maps are the maps defined in the Guidelines that include all the mapped habitat for a rare or threatened species
- Top ranking maps are the maps defined in the Guidelines that depict the important areas of a dispersed species habitat, developed from the highest habitat importance scores in dispersed species habitat maps and selected VBA records
- Selected VBA record is an area in Victoria that represents a large population, roosting or breeding site etc.

Appendix 3 – Images of mapped native vegetation

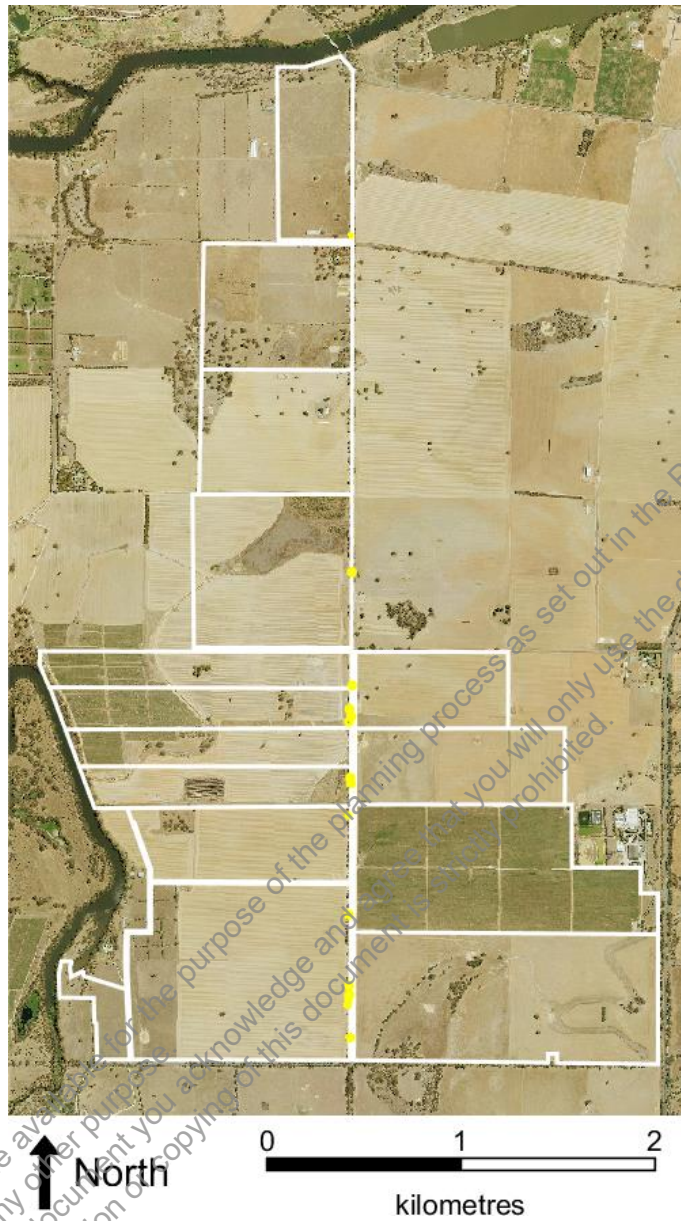
2. Strategic biodiversity values map



3. Aerial photograph showing mapped native vegetation



4. Map of the property in context



Yellow boundaries denote areas of proposed native vegetation removal.

APPENDIX E THIRD PARTY OFFSET QUOTE FROM VEGETATION LINK

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vegetationlink

Our reference: VLQ-6983-B

Your reference: Mullers Road, Nagambie

RE: Quotation for the supply of native vegetation credits

Vegetation Link is an accredited offset provider with the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP). We offer a specialised brokerage service to enable permit holders and developers to identify suitable native vegetation credits to meet their planning permit offset requirements.

Based on the information you have provided, I understand you require the following native vegetation offset:

Offset type	Attributes	General habitat units (GHU)	Min. strategic biodiversity value (SBV)	Large trees
General	Goulburn Broken CMA	0.198	0.341	13

To meet your offset requirements, you can purchase native vegetation credits from a third party as per the options quoted below. This quotation is valid for 14 days, subject to credit availability and landholder pricing.

Option 1: CTA pathway – offset site located in the Mitchell Shire Council area (approx. 2-5 week turnaround from acceptance of quote)

Cost of native vegetation credits – invoiced by Credit Owner	\$24,320.00
Transaction fees – invoiced by Vegetation Link	\$1,165.00
Total (ex. GST)	\$25,485.00
Total (inc. GST)	\$28,033.50

Option 2: CTA pathway – offset site located in the Strathbogie Shire Council area (approx. 2-5 week turnaround from acceptance of quote)

Cost of native vegetation credits – invoiced by DELWP	\$24,245.10
Transaction fees – invoiced by Vegetation Link	\$1,020.00
Total (ex. GST)	\$25,265.10
Total (inc. GST)	\$27,791.61

¹ Note that the transaction fee includes DELWP NVOR transfer and allocation fees and a Vegetation Link fee

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FAQs

What is a third party offset?

A third party offset is an offset site owned by another landowner who manages and protects native vegetation on their land. Landowners who establish these offset sites are required to:

- Enter into a Landowner Agreement for the specified offset site. A landowner agreement is in perpetuity and is binding upon the current and future landowners of the site. It permanently restricts use of the site for many purposes.
- Implement a detailed 10-year Management Plan endorsed by the DELWP Native Vegetation Offset Register to manage and improve the biodiversity values of the site.

How is the price of native vegetation offset credit (GHUs, GBEUs etc.) determined?

Landowners who own offset sites set their own price for native vegetation credits. They determine the price based on numerous factors. This includes, but not limited to site establishment, the cost to manage the site in perpetuity (e.g., maintain fencing, control pest species), foregone use cost, and administrative costs. Depending on how the site is registered, the credit fee may be paid to either DELWP or directly to the landowner.

Further information about the work some of our landowners are doing can be found on the [Vegetation Link website](#).

What is the process after I accept the quote?

After you accept the quote and return the purchaser table, the following steps will be undertaken:

1. We will set up a contract between the parties involved and send the contract out for signing by all parties.
2. Once the contract is signed by all parties, invoices will be issued for the fees listed in the quotation. We will send you two invoices, one for our transaction fee invoiced by Vegetation Link and one for the credit fee, usually to be paid to DELWP or the landowner. We recommend providing remittances for your payments.
3. Once payments are received, Vegetation Link will send you an allocated credit extract from the Native Vegetation Offset Register and your executed contract as evidence that you have purchased the offset.

How long will the process take? When will I get my credits?

Generally, the process from quote acceptance to having evidence of allocated credits takes between 2-6 weeks. This is dependent on a range of factors including the type of landholder agreement, contract types and organisational workflows. We work as quickly as possible to get your credits to you within this time period.

We note that you **cannot** remove vegetation until you have been given permission by the Responsible Authority (usually the council that has issued your permit).

What happens if I don't have a permit yet?

When people are buying credits before a permit is issued, the following three options are most common:

- You can pay for the offsets before the planning permit is available, and then the offsets are allocated to the permit when it is available. This will incur an additional \$50 fee from DELWP. When considering this option, it is important to realise that your estimated offset requirements may be different than the actual permit requirements.
- You can wait for the planning permit to be approved first and then request a quote to meet the requirements in your permit. Should credits be available, you can then start the offset purchase process. We then use the planning permit number for allocating the credits. Allocating credits to the permit is evidence that you have purchased your offset.
- You can request a quote to confirm availability and to get an idea of the cost of offsetting before you apply for a permit. Once you receive the planning permit you can request an updated quote. It is at this point that you can then go through the offset purchase process.

We cannot guarantee credit availability until a) contracts are executed, or b) credits have been held via a pending trade lodged with DELWP Native Vegetation Offset Register.

We cannot guarantee price until a) a quote has been accepted within 14 days, and b) a Credit Trading Agreement is signed within 21 days, and c) the invoice for the credits is paid within 28 days of the date the invoice is issued.

If I sign the contract, does that mean I MUST pay for the credits?

Yes, you have entered into a contract agreeing to pay for the offset credits therein and are required to pay for those credits. The credits must be paid for within 28 days of the date of the invoice.

Can you hold the credits for me, as I want to pay later?

We are unable to hold credits for later payment. Please also see 'What happens if I don't have a permit yet?' above.

For further information, see [our website](#) or the [DELWP website](#).