lathyroides (Phasey Bean) and *Baccharis halimifolia* (Groundsel). Bare-ground is a feature of this vegetation type as a result of tracks and over-grazing and trampling by ungulate animals (**Photoset 1**).



Photoset 1 *Open Paddock or cleared land with occasional native vegetation.*

4.2.2 AU2 – Category X –Regenerating Eucalypt Woodland indicative of RE 12.9-10.2

The second most abundant vegetation type within the site and broader landholding is identified as AU2 (**Plan 4**). Vegetation within this area is mapped as Category X (non-remanent) but has been differentiated from AU3 due to the presence of regenerating native vegetation. Native canopy and subcanopy species observed within this AU included canopy layer dominated by *Corymbia citriodora* (Spotted Gum), with *Eucalyptus crebra* (Narrow-leaved Ironbark), *Eucalyptus tereticornis* (Forest Red Gum), *Eucalyptus melanophloia* (Silver-leaved Ironbark), *Alphitonia excelsa* (Soap Tree), *Eucalyptus siderophloia* (Grey Ironbark), *Corymbia tessellaris* (Moreton Bay Ash) and Acacia sp. T1 Canopy height was on average between 15 m and 17 m and canopy cover was generally less than 20%. The majority of the biomass within this AU was observed within the T2 layer that was on average 10 m tall and cover averaged approximately 25%. The shrub layer was generally present as regrowth eucalypts and *Acacias* and WONS *Lantana camara* (Lantana) and *Baccharis halimifolia* (Groundsel) bushes. Exotic species were a notable component of this AU being dominant in the ground layer and including species' *Melinis repens* (Red Natal Grass), *Megathyrsus maximus* (Guinea Grass), Paspalum mandiocanum (Broad-leaved Paspalum), *Dichanthium aristatum* (Angleton Grass), *Sporobolus creber* (Slender Rats Tail Grass, Senecio madagascariensis (Fireweed), *Lantana montevidensis* (Creeping Lantana), *Sida cordifolia* (Flannel Weed), *Stylosanthes scabra* (Scrubby Stylo), *Onopordum acanthium* (Scotch Thistle), *Ageratum houstonianum* (Blue Billygoat Weed), and *Spagneticola trilobata* (Singapore Daisy). However, native grasses and occasional native herbs were observed to be the dominant ground species within some small regions and included species' *Heteropogon contortus* (Black Spear Grass), *Eragrostis brownii* (Brown's Lovegrass) *Cymbopogon refractus* (Barbed Wire Grass), *Aristida queenslandica* (Three-Awn), *Hybanthus stellarioides* (Spade Flower) and *Pterocaulon redolens* (Pineapple Daisy) (**Photoset 2**).



Photoset 2 *Eucalypt dominated (RE12.9-10.2) regenerating vegetation.*

4.2.3 AU1 – Category C – Eucalypt Woodland indicative of RE12.9-10.2

The least abundant vegetation type on site is identified as AU1 (**Plan 4**) and is largely associated with the occurrence of mapped Category C (high-value) regrowth vegetation although some small regions of mapped Category X (non-remnant) have been included due to their resemblance to high-value regrowth areas. Canopy species within this region were reflective of RE 12.9-10.2 due to *Corymbia citriodora* (Spotted Gum) generally being dominant across the majority of the area. Other eucalypt species were dominant in some regions, however, it was evident this was a result of a retained larger trees present being the source of multiple juveniles. Other eucalypt species identified were *Eucalyptus crebra* (Narrow-leaved Ironbark), *Eucalyptus tereticornis* (Forest Red Gum), *Eucalyptus melanophloia* (Silver-leaved Ironbark). T1 canopy height was on average 22 m and cover varied between 10% and 40% while the T2 layer averaged 10 m tall with cover around 40%. Some other native trees were present within the sub-canopy and included *Allocasuarina littoralis* (Black She-oak), *Alphitonia excelsa* (Soap Tree) and *Acacia* spp. The shrub layer was observed to be dominated by regrowing Eucalypt and *Acacia* species and *Lantana camara* (Lantana) bushes. Lantana presence varied across AU1 from scattered individuals to high density incursion, as was observed in the south-east corner of broader landholding (**Plan 4**). The ground layer was observed to generally be dominated by native grasses including *Heteropogon contortus* (Black Spear Grass), *Eragrostis brownii* (Brown's Lovegrass) and *Cymbopogon refractus* (Barbed Wire Grass), *Aristida vagans* (Threeawn Speargrass) with some native herbaceous species including *Dianella caerulea* (Blue Flax Lily), *Chrysocephalum apiculatum* (Yellow Buttons), Viola hederacea (Native Violet), *Laxmannia gracilis* (Wire Lily) and *Eremophila debilis* (Winter Apple). Some areas demonstrated a highly disturbed understory that was dominated by bare ground due to over grazing or high weed presence as a result of previous disturbance. Ground layer weed species observed within AU1 included *Bidens pilosa* (Cobbler's Pegs), *Passiflora suberosa* (Corky Passion Vine), *Sporobolus creber* (Slender Rats Tail Grass), *Ageratum houstonianum* (Blue Billygoat Weed), *Sporobolus creber* (Slender Rats Tail Grass), *Synedrella nodiflora* (Cinderella Weed), *Lantana montevidensis* (Creeping Lantana), *Melinis repens* (Red Natal Grass) and *Stylosanthes scabra* (Scrubby Stylo) (**Photoset 3**).



Photoset 3 *Eucalypt dominated (RE12.9-10.2) Category C (regrowth) vegetation.*

03. FIELD SURVEY EFFORT



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LEGEND

- Site Boundary
- Cadastral Parcels (QSCF)
- Proposed Impact Area
- GPS Track log
- Bird Survey - Dawn
- Bird Survey - Dusk
- Spotlighting Survey
- Waterway Assessments
- Koala SAT Survey
- Quaternary Locations
- Vegetation Survey Points
- Search for Orts
- Camera Trap Locations



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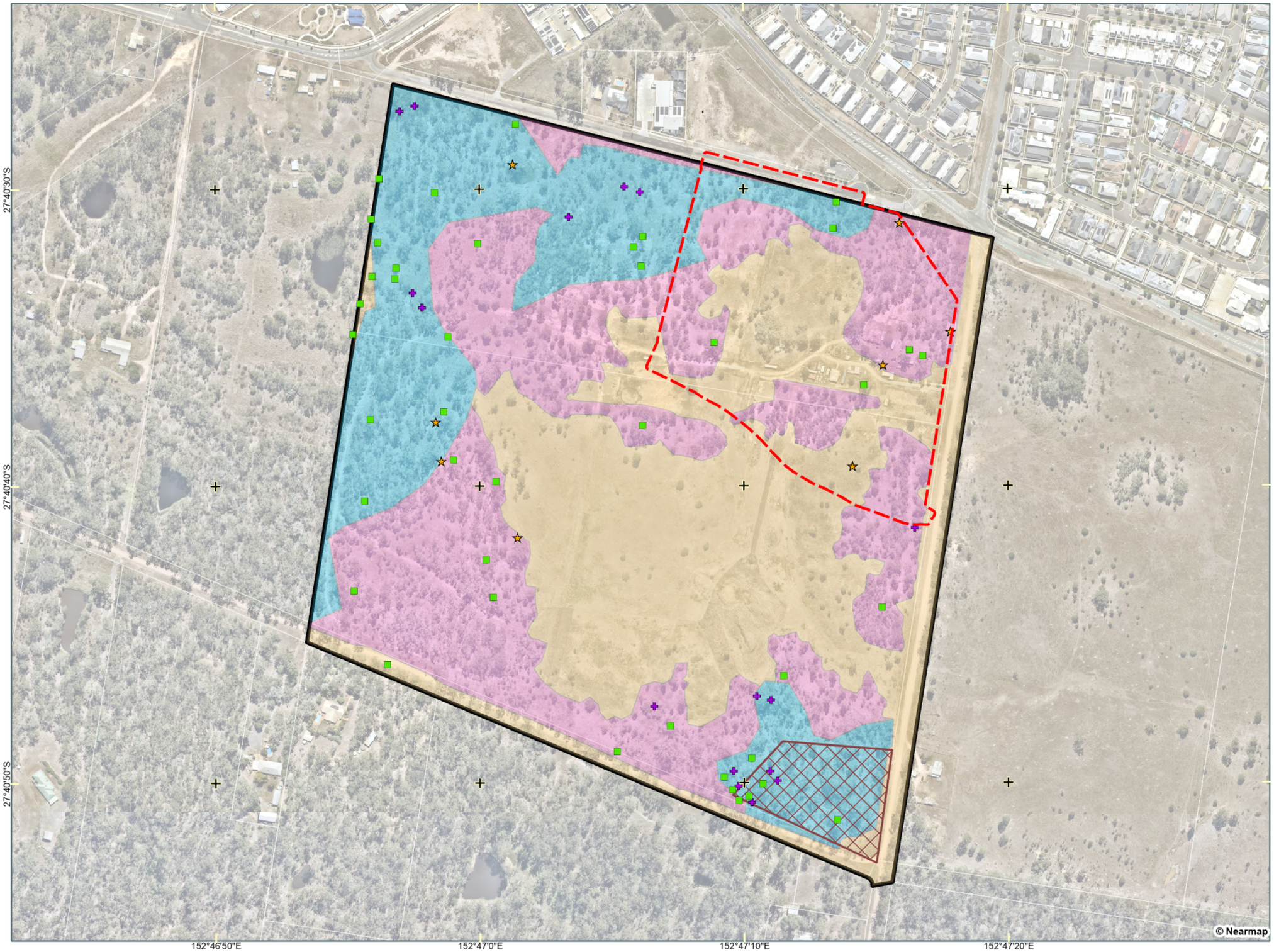
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13220 E 03 SBAR Field Survey B

04. FIELD SURVEY RESULTS



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LEGEND

- Impact Site Boundary
- Cadastral Parcels (QSCF)
- Proposed Impact Area
- High Lantana infestation area

Threatened Species Observation

- GHFF observed foraging

GPS Tree Plot

- Dead Tree with Hollows
- Alive Tree with Hollows

Assessment Units

- AU 1: Regrowth reflective of RE12.9-10.2 [9.6 ha]
- AU 2: Open paddock or road/ Regenerating native vegetation indicative of RE 12.9-10.2 [14.6 ha]
- AU 3: Open paddock or road with scattered native trees [16.2 ha]



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4.2.4 GPS Tree Plot Survey

A Tree Plot Survey was carried out on-site locating and identifying all Koala habitat trees with a DSH greater than 100 mm and all other native trees with a DSH greater than 200 mm (measured at 1.4 m above ground) within the development area, as well as trees all trees within adjoining road reserve that may be impacted. Data for the GPS Tree Plot Survey has been extracted and summarised below. Refer to **Appendix E** for a full Tree Schedule.

- A total of twenty (20) tree species were recorded as part of the tree plot survey within the Stages 1-5 area (**Table 8**).
- The most dominant species recorded was *Eucalyptus crebra* (Narrow-leaved Ironbark) comprising of 69.09% of the tree plot, followed by *Eucalyptus tereticornis* (Forest Red Gum) comprising 8.56% of the survey and *Corymbia tessellaris* (Moreton Bay Ash) comprising 7.83% of the survey. The high diversity of species reflects the highly disturbed nature of the site and non-remnant vegetation.
- Over 96% of the trees recorded have a trunk DSH of less than 400 mm, reflecting a dominance of juveniles and regrowth vegetation (
- **Table** 9).

Table 8 Tree plot summary

Scientific Name	Common Name	Number Recorded	Percentage Recorded (%)
Eucalyptus crebra	Narrow-leaved Ironbark	847	69.09%
Eucalyptus tereticornis	Forest Red Gum	105	8.56%
Corymbia tessellaris	Moreton Bay Ash	96	7.83%
Corymbia citriodora	Spotted Gum	72	5.87%
Eucalyptus melanophloia	Silver-leaved Ironbark	25	2.04%
Allocasuarina luehmannii	Bull Oak	19	1.55%
Acacia disparrima	Hickory Wattle	13	1.06%
Eucalyptus siderophloia	Grey Ironbark	8	0.65%
Acacia melanoxylon	Australian Blackwood	7	0.57%
Dead/Stag	#N/A	6	0.49%
Acacia concurrens	Black Wattle	6	0.49%
Acacia leiocalyx	Early Flowering Black Wattle	5	0.41%
Grevillea robusta	Silky Oak	4	0.33%
Eucalyptus acmenoides	White Mahogany	4	0.33%
Alphitonia excelsa	Soap Tree	3	0.24%
Corymbia intermedia	Pink Bloodwood	2	0.16%
Duranta erecta	Duranta	1	0.08%
Eucalyptus moluccana	Gum-topped Box	1	0.08%
Syagrus romanzoffiana	Cocos Palm	1	0.08%
Cupaniopsis anacardioides	Tuckeroo	1	0.08%
Total		**1226**	**100.00**



Table 9 Tree plot DSH summary

Total DBH (mm)	Number Recorded	Percentage Recorded (%)
0-100	62	5.06%
100-200	718	58.56%
200-300	340	27.73%
300-400	60	4.89%
400-500	19	1.55%
500-600	11	0.90%
600-700	4	0.33%
700-800	2	0.16%
800-900	4	0.33%
900-1000	5	0.41%
1300-1400	1	0.08%
Total	**1226**	**100.00**

4.2.5 Flora Survey Results

A total of one-hundred and three (103) flora species were recorded within the site or broader landholding during field surveys, as listed in **Appendix F**. Of those, sixty (60) are native and forty-three (43) species are considered to be weedy/ introduced species.

No flora species listed under the EPBC Act and NCA were recorded in or adjoining the site or broader landholding.

4.2.6 Restricted Matters under the Biosecurity Act

A total of forty-three (43) introduced species were recorded on-site. Seven (7) of these are classified as declared weeds and require designated levels of containment under the Biosecurity Act 2014 (BA). BA declared weeds recorded on-site include *Baccharis halimifolia* (Groundsel Bush), *Lantana camara* (Lantana), *Lantana montevidensis* (Creeping Lantana), *Opuntia tomentosa* (Prickly Pear), *Pontederia crassipes* (Common Water Hyacinth), *Senecio madagascariensis* (Fireweed) and *Senecio madagascariensis* (Fireweed).

The proportion of flora species recorded on-site that are exotic totalled 41.74%, which is reflective of a highly disturbed landscape.



4.3. Fauna Survey Results

Fauna were assessed through opportunistic and targeted surveys throughout the survey period (**Plan 4**). The fauna assessment aligns with the recommendations set out in the Terrestrial Vertebrate Fauna Survey Guidelines for Queensland. All fauna species encountered were recorded. The following summarises the findings from the fauna field assessment. The following is a summary of fauna observations conducted across the broader property:

- A total of thirty-two (33) threatened fauna species listed under the EPBC Act were identified as potentially occurring within and/or in the vicinity of the site. One (1) fauna species listed under the EPBC Act was recorded within the site during field surveys, being *Pteropus poliocephalus* (Grey-headed Flying Fox). Some old indirect evidence of *Phascolarctos cinereus* (Koala) was observed within the broader landholding area during SAT surveys that detected old scat during SAT 2 (2 out of 30) and Sat 3 (1 out of 30)(**Appendix G**). No additional fauna species protected under the EPBC Act were recorded as being present on-site during field surveys.
- A search of the NC Act Wildlife Online database listed four (4) threatened fauna species as potentially occurring within and/or in the vicinity of the site. One (1) fauna species listed under the NC Act was recorded within the site during field surveys, being *Pteropus poliocephalus* (Grey-headed Flying Fox). Some old indirect evidence of *Phascolarctos cinereus* (Koala) was observed within the broader landholding area during SAT surveys that detected old scat during SAT 2 (2 out of 30) and Sat 3 (1 out of 30)(**Appendix G**). No additional fauna species protected under the NC Act were recorded as being present on-site during field surveys
- A total of fifty-three (53) fauna species were recorded during field surveys, inclusive of motion sensor camera traps, nocturnal targeted surveys and incidental observations and targeted diurnal surveys. Species included forty-one (41) birds, ten (10) mammals four (4) of which were invasive, one (1) reptile and one (1) amphibian.
- Motion sensor camera traps within the broader landholding also detected the presence of at least one *Vulpes vulpes* (European Red Fox) and one *Canis lupus familiaris* (Feral Dog), which are known to pose a significant threat to native fauna, including the Koala.
- Overall, the site is considered to maintain some connectivity to highly disturbed vegetation present across the greater landholding and to 'high value regrowth' and 'remanent' vegetation mapped west and south of the landholding in adjacent rural residential properties.
- The vegetation, across the remainder of the greater landholding displayed evidence of disturbance and historical logging indicated by the limited number of scattered mature trees and relatively new woodland growth. Fauna habitat values within majority of the Stages 1-5 area are limited to small regenerating eucalypts approximately 10 m tall.
- A total of one-hundred and sixty-seven (167) hollows were recorded across the broader landholding.

4.3.1 Connectivity Assessment

The broader landholding area generally lacks viable movement opportunity for fauna as a result of current and future developments, roads and highly modified land-uses (refer **Plan 5**). The landholding is bordered on most sides with land-uses that are generally incompatible with native flora and fauna presence. To the north of the broader landholding is a road identified as Jackson Court adjacent to which is construction, and as such, this section of the road is currently closed (**Photoset 6**). Further north is a highly trafficked road identified as Ripley Road that adjoins medium density residential development. To the east and south of the broader landholding are dirt roads identified as Wesley and Bryants Roads that host relatively infrequent traffic. Adjacent to Bryants Road to the east is a rural residential lot that is almost entirely cleared of vegetation (**Photoset 6**). To the west of the broader landholding is a rural residential lot that has been historically modified and as a result only supports scattered patches of native vegetation (**Photoset 6**). Further west are relatively vegetated lots, identified as Lot 356 on S3173 and Lot 2 on SP114885, which have a development approval. As a result, connectivity to vegetation further west will be lost at least temporarily and possibly permanently in future. Two large electrical easements are also present within this region and already present a barrier to dispersal to most arboreal fauna. South of Wesley Road are several rural residential lots with relatively dense native vegetation (**Photoset 6**).

Vegetation to the south of the broader landholding demonstrates the highest potential for fauna dispersal connectivity. Regional Ecosystems mapped within this area are associated with Eucalypt Forest/ Woodland so likely provide habitat to some native species. However, historical aerial imagery does indicate a history of disturbance. As such there is a high potential for threats to be present on-site including predators Fox and Dog. Fauna dispersal into the broader landholding via the southern vegetation in a northern direction is possible, although the presence of a dirt road and barbed wire fencing presents some barrier. It is unlikely that fauna would utilise the highly disturbed and relatively poor quality vegetation on site when more abundant and likely less disturbed vegetation is present to the south. From within the landholding, no safe fauna movement opportunities further north, east or west are available due to current/historical land-uses, construction and roads. Considering the detection of threats on site and in the surrounding area encouraging fauna into the site has the potential to expose them to harm.

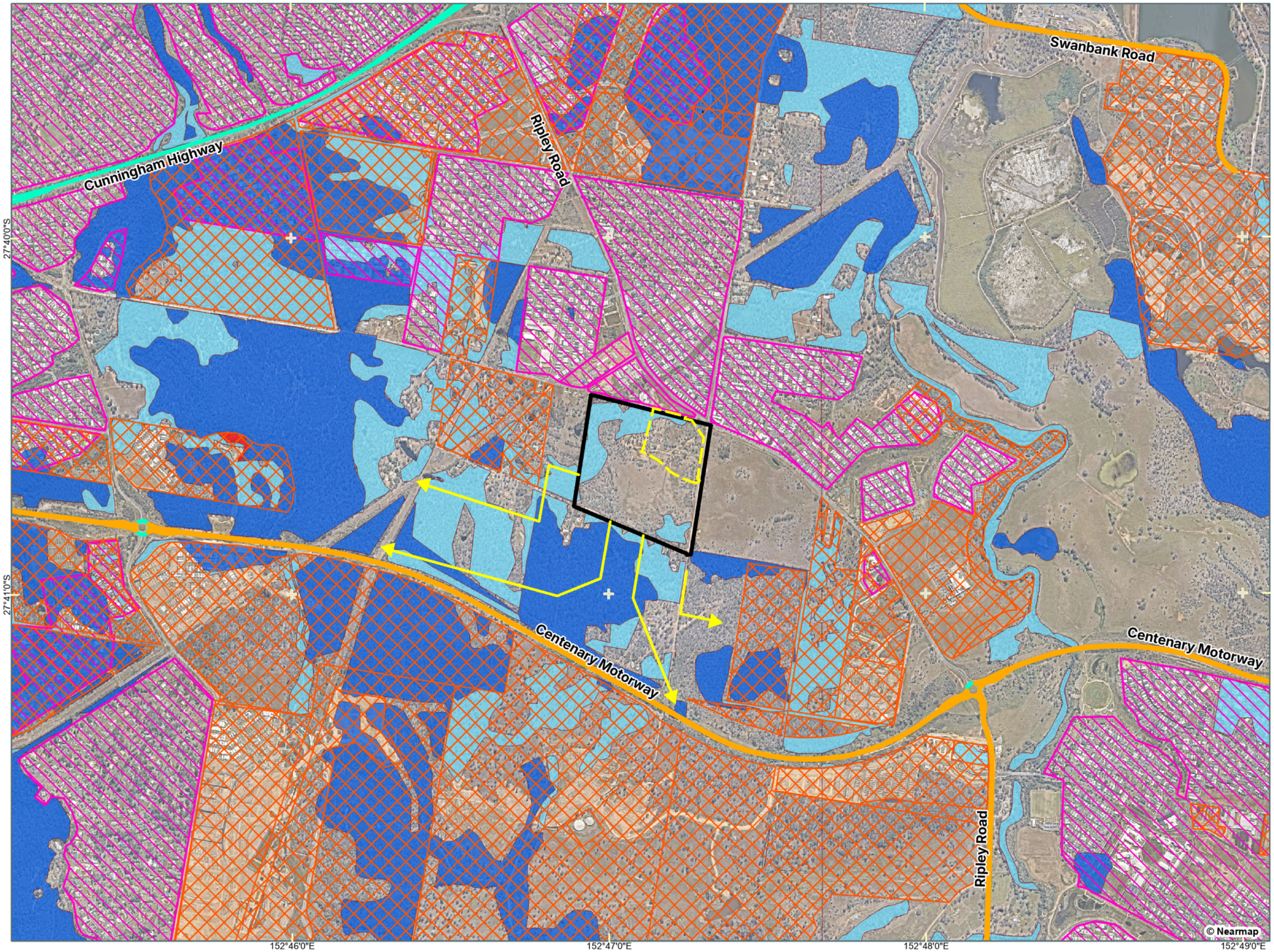
On a larger scale, connectivity within the greater locality is limited due to the presence of major Highways and Roads occurring in all north, south, east and west directions. This includes Centenary Highway to the south and west, Ripley Road to the north and east and further north Cunnigham Highway. Fauna movement across highways would put them at high risk of collision. Fauna connectivity between the broader landholding and these roads is already limited due to the presence of current and future construction projects. These projects will result in the site becoming isolated from vegetation beyond a 2.5 km radius apart from some very small and highly disturbed corridors that currently do not have development approvals (**Plan 5**). Urbanisation of the land surrounding the broader landholding is expected to continue as it sits within the Ripley Valley Priority Development Area and is zoned as Urban Living. All areas surrounding the broader landholding are either zoned as Urban Living or Urban Core under PDA zoning (**Figure 11**). Furthermore, much of the land within the Stages 1-5 area is currently used as a residential dwelling, store yard for farm equipment or horse paddocks. These uses have resulted in the degradation of the land as evidence by erosion and general lack of vegetation within this region. As such it is unlikely that the habitat value of vegetation on site and in the surrounding region will improve into the future.





Photoset 6 *Limited connectivity opportunity to the site/broader landholding on the north due to Construction to (Top left) and west due to a mostly cleared (Top right). Some connectivity to the south via relatively vegetated lots and to the west into adjoining lots, although barbed wire surrounds the property (Bottom left).*

05. CONNECTIVITY ANALYSIS



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LEGEND

- Impact Site Boundary
- Cadastral Parcels (QSCF)
- Proposed Stage 1 Impact Area
- Highway
- Major Roads
- Track
- Connectivity Arrows
- Construction and Development Approval Areas
- Developed Areas

Regulated Vegetation

- Category A area - *Vegetation Offset/Compliance notices/VDecs*
- Category B area - *Remnant vegetation*
- Category C area - *High value regrowth vegetation*
- Category X area



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4.3.2 Koala survey results

Five (5) SAT surveys to assess Koala activity within the broader landholding area were completed in accordance with Philips and Callaghan (2011) (**Plan 3**). SAT surveys 2, 4 and 5 scored 0/30, while SAT 1 scored a 2/30 and SAT 3 scored a 1/3. It should be noted that observed scats were old (**Appendix G**).

Usage levels within the broader landholding fall within an east-coast medium-high population area so the results indicate 'low usage' and 'nil usage' by Koala.

4.3.3 Spotlight and nocturnal search results

A total of two (2) spotlighting surveys were completed by two Ecologists from SH on the 7th of July for 2.5 hrs and on the 16th of July for 1.83 hrs across the site and broader landholding. Threatened fauna species *Pteropus poliocephalus* (Grey-headed Flying Fox) was observed foraging and as fly-over within the broader landholding and Stages 1-5 area during both survey nights.

4.3.4 Camera monitoring results

A total of one (1) baited camera trap was installed within the Stages 1-5 area for a period of 20 nights. The camera was deployed on 18th June to 8th July 2026. Six (6) species were recorded by the cameras.

Refer to **Table 10** for fauna detected within the Stages 1-5 and broader landholding area and the method of detection.



Photoset 7 Imagery of European Red Fox (left) and Feral dog (right) captured on motion detection cameras during surveys within the broader landholding.

Table 10 Fauna detected with the Stages 1-5 area and broader site

Scientific Name	Common Name	Native/ Introduced	Diurnal	Spotlighting	Camera
–	Microbat sp.	Native		X	
Acridotheres tristis	Common Myna	Introduced	X		
Anas superciliosa	Pacific Black Duck	Native	X		
Ardea ibis	Cattle Egret	Native	X		
Ardea pacifica	White-necked Heron	Native	X		
Burhinus grallarius	Bush Stone-curlew	Native	X		
Cacatua galerita	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Native	X		
Cacatua sanguinea	Little Corella	Native	X		
Cacomantis flabelliformis	Fantailed Cuckoo	Native	X		
Canis lupus familiaris	Wild dog	Introduced			X
Centropus phasianinus	Pheasant Coucal	Native	X		
Chenonetta jubata	Australian Wood Duck	Native	X		
Columba livia	Rock Dove	Introduced	X		
Corvus orru	Torresian Crow	Native	X		X
Cracticus nigrogularis	Pied Butcherbird	Native	X		X
Cracticus torquatus	Grey Butcherbird	Native	X		X
Crinia parinsignifera	Beeping Froglet	Native		X	
Dacelo novaeguineae	Laughing Kookaburra	Native	X	X	
Entomyzon cyanotis	Blue-faced Honeyeater	Native	X		X
Eolophus roseicapilla	Galah	Native	X		
Equus caballus	Horse	Introduced	X	X	
Gallus gallus domesticus	Chicken	Native	X		
Grallina cyanoleuca	Magpie-lark	Native	X	X	
Gymnorhina tibicen	Australian Magpie	Native	X	X	
Haliastur sphenurus	Whistling Kite	Native	X		
Hirundo neoxena	Welcome Swallow	Native	X		



Scientific Name	Common Name	Native/ Introduced	Diurnal	Spotlighting	Camera
Lepus europaeus	European Hare	Introduced	X	X	X
Lichmera indistincta	Brown Honeyeater	Native	X		
Macropus giganteus	Eastern Grey Kangaroo	Native	X	X	X
Malurus melanocephalus	Red-backed Fairy Wren	Native	X		
Malurus sp.	Fairy Wren sp.	Native	X	X	
Manorina melanocephala	Noisy Miner	Native	X		X
Melithreptus albogularis	White-throated Honeyeater	Native	X		
Myzomela sanguinolenta	Scarlet Honeyeater	Native	X		
Ocyphaps lophotes	Crested Pigeon	Native	X	X	
Pardalotus punctatus	Spotted Pardalote	Native	X		
Pardalotus striatus	Striated Pardalote	Native	X		
Phascogale tapoatafa	Brush-tailed Phascogale	Native			X
Philemon corniculatus	Noisy Friarbird	Native	X		
Platycercus adscitus	Pale-headed Rosella	Native	X		
Pogona barbata	Eastern Bearded Dragon	Native	X		
Pomatostomus temporalis	Grey-crowned Babbler	Native	X		
Psophodes olivaceus	Eastern Whipbird	Native	X		
Pteropus alecto	Black Flying Fox	Native		X	
Pteropus poliocephalus	Grey-headed Flying Fox	Native		X	
Rhipidura albiscapa	Grey Fantail	Native	X		
Rhipidura leucophrys	Willie Wagtail	Native	X		
Strepera graculina	Pied Currawong	Native	X		
Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus	Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	Native	X		

Scientific Name	Common Name	Native/ Introduced	Diurnal	Spotlighting	Camera
Trichoglossus haematodus moluccanus	Rainbow Lorikeet	Native	X		
Trichosurus vulpecula	Common Brushtail Possum	Native		X	X
Vanellus miles	Masked Lapwing	Native	X	X	
Vulpes vulpes	Fox	Introduced			X

5. Likelihood of Occurrence assessment

The likelihood of occurrence assessment was initially conducted prior to conducting field surveys to identify the Matters of Environmental Significance (threatened ecological communities and threatened and/or migratory species) of potential relevance to the subject site. The identified MSES were then the focus of the field survey program and effort.

Subsequent to completing the field survey, the likelihood of occurrence was revised and finalised, based on field survey results and the confirmed vegetation communities and associated habitats contained within the broader landholding. The outcome of this two-staged likelihood of occurrence is presented in the following sections.

5.1.1 Threatened Ecological Communities

Eight (8) TECs listed under the EPBC Act were identified as potentially occurring within the broader landholding or within the surrounding area (**Table 5**). These are described as the following:

- The Coastal Swamp Sclerophyll Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland ecological community typically features a canopy and/or sub-canopy dominated by Melaleuca spp. and/or *Eucalyptus robusta*. Other eucalypts, which are also tolerant of regular inundation and are adapted to sandy soils, may emerge from the canopy with the mix of species present varying depending on the location. This TEC is represented by RE12.2.7, 12.3.4, 12.3.4a, 12.3.5, 12.3.6 and 12.3.20. **None of the regional ecosystems associated with the occurrence of this TEC are mapped on-site nor was this TEC identified during extensive field surveys.**
- The Subtropical eucalypt floodplain forest and woodland of the New South Wales North Coast and South East Queensland bioregions ecological community is identified on alluvial landforms, including floodplains, the riparian zones of parent rivers and other order tributaries, alluvial flats, floodplain/alluvial terraces and periodically flooded depressions. This vegetation community is usually associated with RE 12.3.2, 12.3.2a, 12.3.3, 12.3.3a, 12.3.3d, 12.3.4a, 12.3.7, 12.3.7c, 12.3.7d, 12.3.10, 12.3.11, 12.3.11a, 12.3.11b, 12.3.12, 12.3.14a, 12.3.15 and 12.3.19. **None of the regional ecosystems associated with the occurrence of this TEC are mapped on-site nor was this TEC identified during extensive field surveys.**
- The Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia ecological community typically has high species richness. In Queensland, this TEC is part of a number of regional ecosystem communities including RE12.3.1, 12.5.13, 12.8.3, 12.8.4, 12.11.1, 12.11.10, 12.12.1 and 12.12.16. **None of the regional ecosystems associated with the occurrence of this TEC are mapped on-site nor was this TEC identified during extensive field surveys.**
- The Coastal Swamp Oak (*Casuarina glauca*) Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland ecological community occurs in coastal catchments, mostly at elevations of less than

20 m above sea level that are typically found within 30 km of the coast, however, distance can vary by catchment. The canopy layer is dominated by *Casuarina glauca* (Swamp Oak) and in Queensland is represented by RE12.1.1 or RE12.3.20. *Casuarina glauca* (Swamp Oak) was not observed on-site. **None of the regional ecosystems associated with the occurrence of this TEC are mapped on-site nor was this TEC identified during extensive field surveys.**

- The Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains ecological community is typically a grassy woodland with a canopy dominated by *Eucalyptus populnea* and understorey mostly of grasses and other herbs. The ecological community mostly occurs in gently undulating to flat landscapes and occasionally on gentle slopes on a wide range of soil types of alluvial and depositional origin. In Queensland, this ecological community is associated with RE11.3.2, 11.3.17, 11.4.7, 11.4.12 and 12.3.10. **None of the regional ecosystems associated with the occurrence of this TEC are mapped on-site nor was this TEC identified during extensive field surveys.**
- The Swamp Tea-tree (*Melaleuca irbyana*) Forest of South-east Queensland ecological community typically lacks taller tree species and is characterised by a diverse ground layer of native forbs, twiners, grasses, sedges and ferns. Common emergent species include Silver-leaved Ironbark, Narrow-leaved Ironbark, Grey Box, Forest Red Gum and Lemon-scented Gum. This community is usually associated with RE 12.9-10.11 and 12.3.3c in South-east Queensland occurring in an arc from the west to south of Brisbane in the Moreton Basin subregion. One (1) *Melaleuca irbyana* specimen was observed adjacent to the northern site boundary and two (2) were observed at one location within Precinct B. While RE12.3.3c is mapped as occurring on-site under the VM Act, this mapping was rectified on-ground as vegetation on-site was found to be reflective of RE12.9-10.2. **None of the regional ecosystems associated with the occurrence of this TEC are mapped on-site nor was this TEC identified during extensive field surveys.**
- The White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland ecological community is characterised by a species rich understorey of native tussock grasses, herbs and scattered shrubs and the dominance of White Box, Yellow Box or Blakely's Red Gum trees. This community is usually associated with RE 11.3.23, 11.3.26, 11.5.20, 11.8.2, 11.8.2a, 11.8.8, 11.9.9a, 11.9.13, 12.8.16, 13.3.1, 13.3.4, 13.9.2, 13.11.2, 13.11.3, 13.11.4, 13.11.8, 13.11.8a, 13.12.8 and 13.12.9. These regional ecosystems occur mainly to the west of the Great Dividing Range. **None of the regional ecosystems associated with the occurrence of this TEC are mapped on-site nor was this TEC identified during extensive field surveys.**
- Grey Box-grey Gum Wet Forest of South-east Queensland ecological community is described as a forest where the canopy dominated by its characteristic Eucalyptus species (being *Eucalyptus moluccana* or *Eucalyptus propinqua* less commonly Eucalyptus punctata) with or without *Araucaria cunninghamii* (hoop pine) and with an understorey that typically includes significant cover of species with drier vine-forest (rainforest) affiliations. In Queensland communities likely to represent or contain the ecological community include RE 12.9-10.3, 12.8.14a and 12.8.8a. **None of the regional ecosystems associated with the occurrence of this TEC are mapped on-site nor was this TEC identified during extensive field surveys.**



5.1.2 Threatened Flora Species

Database searches returned sixteen (16) flora species, listed as threatened under the EPBC Act and an additional three (3) species listed under the NC Act as having been previously recorded or predicted to occur within 5 km of the broader landholding, as presented in **Appendix B** and **Appendix C**.

Based on the presence of species records within the locality and the habitats within the subject site, a likelihood of occurrence assessment was conducted to determine those threatened flora species with potential to occur within the subject site. The desktop assessment identified that three (3) listed threatened flora species were considered 'possible' to occur within the broader landholding. These species are discussed in the complete likelihood of occurrence assessment contained within **Appendix H**. Following the field assessment, these species were re-assessed as having a low likelihood of occurrence, as discussed in **Table 11** below.

Table 11 Field Assessment Confirmed Likelihood of Occurrence – Threatened Flora

Species	EPBC/ NC Act status	Desktop Likelihood of Occurrence	Field Assessment Confirmed Likelihood of Occurrence
***Callitris baileyi* (Bailey's Cypress)**	- / NT	**Possible** RE mapping indicates eucalypt woodland vegetation inclusive of ironbark species. A review of the WildNet database indicates that there is one (1) record of the species within 5km of the broader landholding.	**Unlikely** Field survey confirmed eucalypt woodland vegetation including ironbark species are present within the site or broader landholding. However, the site and broader landholding do not contain rocky slopes or mountainous area favoured by the species. Furthermore, the species was not observed on site or in the broader landholding.
Calyptochloa gracillima subsp. ipsviciensis	- / CR	**Possible** RE mapping indicates that composite RE 12.9-10.2/12.9-10.7/12.9-10.16 is present on-site which is an associated RE for the species. Furthermore, there are five (5) records of the species within 5km of the broader landholding.	**Unlikely** Field surveys confirmed that eucalypt woodland and associated ironbark and spotted gum species reflective of RE 12.9-10.2 are present within the site. However, the site and broader landholding is highly disturbed and suitably qualified ecologists failed to identify the species within the site or broader landholding despite traversing the area multiple times.
Coleus habrophyllus	E / E	**Possible** RE mapping indicates eucalypt woodland vegetation inclusive of ironbark species. A review of databased indicate that are multiple records of the species within 5km of the broader landholding.	**Unlikely** Field surveys confirmed that eucalypt woodland and associated ironbark and spotted gum species are present on-site. However, the site and broader landholding is highly disturbed and suitably qualified ecologists failed to



Species	EPBC/ NC Act status	Desktop Likelihood of Occurrence	Field Assessment Confirmed Likelihood of Occurrence
			identify the species despite traversing the area multiple times.

Sixteen (16) flora species listed as threatened under the EPBC Act were identified as potentially occurring on-site or within the surrounding area (**Table 5**). Four (4) threatened flora species listed under the NC Act, were identified as potentially occurring on-site or within a 5 km radius **(Table 3).**

Targeted flora surveys did not identify any evidence of listed species within the site or surrounding area.

5.1.3 Threatened Fauna Species

Database searches returned thirty-two (32) fauna species, listed as threatened under the EPBC Act as having been previously recorded or predicted to occur within 5 km of the broader landholding, as presented in **Appendix B** and **Appendix C**.

Based on the presence of species records within the locality and mapped habitats identified within the site, a likelihood of occurrence assessment was conducted to determine those threatened species with potential to occur within the broader landholding. This assessment determined nine (9) non-migratory threatened fauna species listed under the EPBC or NC Act have a 'possible' or higher potential to occur on or near the broader landholding. These species are outlined in **Table 12**. All other threatened non-migratory fauna species were assessed as having a 'low' potential to occur.

Table 12 Field Assessment Confirmed Likelihood of Occurrence – Threatened non-migratory fauna

Species	EPBC/NC Act status	Desktop Likelihood of Occurrence	Field Assessment Confirmed Likelihood of Occurrence
Anthochaera phrygia **(Regent Honeyeater)**	CE / CE	**Possible** Regent Honeyeaters mostly occur in dry Box-Ironbark Eucalypt woodland and dry sclerophyll forest associations in areas of low to moderate relief, wherein they prefer moister, more fertile sites. These areas are generally associated with creek flats and river valleys and foothills. These woodlands have significantly large numbers of mature trees, high canopy cover and abundance of mistletoes. They are a generalist forager, which mainly feed on nectar from a wide range of eucalypts and mistletoes. There are 183 dated records within 20 km of broader landholding within past 20 years, 12 of which are within 10 km, 5 of which	**Unlikely** Vegetation within the site and broader landholding consists of *Corymbia citriodora* (Spotted Gum) and *Eucalyptus crebra* (Narrow-leaved Ironbark) dominated woodland with, *Eucalyptus tereticornis* (Forest Red Gum), *Corymbia intermedia* (Pink Bloodwood), *Corymbia tessellaris* (Moreton Bay Ash), *Eucalyptus acmenoides* (White Mahogany), *Eucalyptus melanophloia* (Silver-leaved Ironbark), *Eucalyptus major* (Grey Gum), *Eucalyptus moluccana* (Gum-topped Box), *Eucalyptus racemosa* (Scribbly Gum), *Angophora leiocarpa* (Smooth-barked Apple) and *Eucalyptus siderophloia* (Grey Ironbark).

	are within 5 km, 0 records without dates within 20 km of Regent Honeyeater. RE mapping of 'Category C' vegetation on site is associated with eucalypt woodland and dry sclerophyll forest (**Figure 4**). As there are records of the species within 20km of the broader landholding and mapped RE's on site is likely to contain species which constitute suitable habitat it is considered 'possible' that this species is present within the broader landholding. Although it should be noted due to the lack of remnant vegetation on site the likelihood this species would use on site vegetation is considered diminished.	It is noted that in *Queensland Corymbia citriodora* is recognised synonymously with *Corymbia maculata*. *Corymbia citriodora* was identified as part of the vegetation communities on site. Regent Honeyeater is associated with the occurrence of remnant vegetation. The site is mapped predominantly as non-remnant (Category X) vegetation with some regions of high-value regrowth (Category C) vegetation (**Figure 4**). Site surveys confirmed vegetation on site is not reflective of remnant (Category B) vegetation and limited very large trees were identified. In addition, mistletoe was not observed within the site or broader landholding area despite suitable host plants being present. In addition, the site was in a highly disturbed and degraded condition as a result of historic and ongoing land-use. There are no spatially valid records from the last 20 years recorded on ALA of Regent Honeyeater within the locality (5km). No sightings of Regent Honeyeater were recorded within the site or broader landholding, and it is not expected to provide significant or high value habitat for this species.
Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami **(Southern-eastern Glossy-black cockatoo)** V / V	<u>Possible</u> The Glossy Black Cockatoo relies on two specific habitat types for foraging and breeding. Foraging habitat is defined as vegetation containing Casuarina or Allocasuarina species. In South-east Queensland these are usually Allocasuarina littoralis (Black She-oak) and *Allocasuarina tort*ulosa (Forest She-oak). The Glossy Black Cockatoo is known to be highly selective of individual feed trees, and a dense subcanopy of Casuarina or Allocasuarina species is required to provide suitable foraging habitat. Breeding habitat is understood to	<u>Unlikely</u> The site and broader landholding does contain highly disturbed eucalypt woodland that is dominated by *Corymbia citriodora* (Spotted Gum) and *Eucalyptus crebra* (Narrow-leaved Ironbark) with *Eucalyptus tereticornis* (Forest Red Gum), *Corymbia intermedia* (Pink Bloodwood), *Corymbia tessellaris* (Moreton Bay Ash), *Eucalyptus acmenoides* (White Mahogany), *Eucalyptus melanophloia* (Silver-leaved Ironbark), *Eucalyptus major (*Grey Gum), *Eucalyptus moluccana* (Gum-topped Box), *Eucalyptus racemosa* (Scribbly Gum), *Angophora leiocarpa*

be equally selective with a preference for specific hollow characteristics, notably a minimum entrance diameter >15 cm.

There are 15 dated records within 20 km of broader landholding within past 20 years, 1 of which are within 10 km, 1 of which are within 5 km, 35 records without dates within 20 km of Glossy Black Cockatoo

RE mapping of 'Category C' vegetation on site is associated with potential suitable foraging and nesting resources for this species (**Figure 4**).

As there are records of the species within 20km of the broader landholding and mapped RE's on site may contain species which constitute suitable habitat it is considered 'possible' that this species is present within the site or broader landholding.

(Smooth-barked Apple) and *Eucalyptus siderophloia* (Grey Ironbark). The sub-canopy is dominated by native species, however, suitable species for Glossy Black are limited throughout the broader landholding with only very few scattered Allocasuarina species (predominantly *Allocasuarina littoralis* (Black She-oak) and *Allocasuarina luehmannii* (Bull Oak) present.

Glossy Black-cockatoo is highly selective of individual food trees and therefore requires a dense stand of Allocasuarina. Given the minimal individual Allocasuarinas observed are scattered they are unlikely to provide adequate foraging habitat for the species. Furthermore, the ample availability of large areas of foraging habitat within White Rock Conservation Park, where the species is known to occur, is far more likely to be utilised than low-value habitat within the site. Field surveys recorded all hollow-bearing trees across the broader landholding, and 43 trees were recorded as containing potentially suitable hollows for the species (14 of which were dead/stag trees) (**Plan 4**). It is considered highly unlikely that the species would utilise the limited breeding habitat on site and within the broader landholding, given the high level of disturbance and general lack of foraging resources. There is one record of the species within 5 km of the site and it is not within 2 km of the broader landholding.

No sightings of Glossy Black Cockatoo were recorded within the site or broader landholding, despite two dusk bird surveys and one dawn bird survey. Furthermore, the site and broader landholding is not expected to provide sufficient foraging or breeding habitat for the species. Further consideration of impacts to the species from the action, including assessment against the EPBC



			Act significant impact criteria, is not required.
Geophaps scripta scripta **(Squatter Pigeon (southern))**	V / V	**Possible** This species inhabits open grasslands and woodlands typically with a native understorey although may occur in artificial pasture and less often savannas. It is nearly always found near permanent water such as rivers, creeks and waterholes. It is less commonly found on heavier soils with dense grass. It often occurs in burnt areas and is sometimes found on tracks and roadsides. In Queensland, much of its original habitat has been replaced with improved pasture for cattle-grazing which has resulted in a decrease in the abundance of natural food plants. Major threats this species include overgrazing of habitat by livestock and feral herbivores, introduction of weeds, trampling of nests by domestic stock and predation by feral cats and foxes. There are 2 dated records within 20 km of broader landholding within past 20 years, 1 of which are within 10 km, 0 of which are within 5 km, 0 records without dates within 20 km of Squatter Pidgeon. As there are records of the species within 20km of the broader landholding and from aerial imagery the site appears to contain artificial pasture which may constitute suitable habitat it is considered 'possible' that this species is present within the site or broader landholding.	**Unlikely** As a result of historical disturbance potential suitable foraging for Squatter Pidgeon was limited on site. The site and broader landholding was confirmed during site surveys to be reflective of overgrazed paddock with regions of regrowth native vegetation. Grass species the site were predominantly exotic with some scattered small areas dominated by native grasses in the ground layer. Furthermore, several weedy species, in particular WONS *Lantana camara* (Lantana), were observed within the site and broader landholding. A large number of horses were present on site and within the broader landholding, presenting a significant risk of trampling to Squatter Pidgeon nests if they were to be present. Fox, a known predator of Squatter Pidgeon, was also observed within the broader landholding. Significant time was spent on site and in the broader landholding during diurnal hours and the entire site was walked multiple times. In addition one dawn and two dusk bird surveys were conducted within the site and broader landholding. No direct or indirect evidence of Squatter Pidgeon were identified on site. No sightings of Squatter Pidgeon were recorded within the site or broader landholding, and it is not expected to provide sufficient foraging or breeding habitat for the species. Further consideration of impacts to the species from the action, including assessment against the EPBC Act significant impact criteria, is not required.
Grantiella picta **(Painted Honeyeater)**	V / V	**Possible** The Painted Honeyeater is considered the most specialised of Australia's honeyeaters. Its diet mainly consists of	**Unlikely** On site native vegetation was confirmed during surveys to be dominated by Eucalypts. Vegetation was observed to be

		mistletoe fruits, but may also include arthropods or nectar from flowering mistletoe, eucalypts and possibly banksias. The species inhabits mistletoes in eucalypt forests/woodlands, riparian woodlands of black box and river red gum, box-ironbark-yellow gum woodlands, acacia-dominated woodlands, paperbarks, casuarinas, callitris, and trees on farmland or gardens. The species prefers woodlands which contain a higher number of mature trees, as these host more mistletoes. It is more common in wider blocks of remnant woodland than in narrower strips. There is 1 dated record within 20 km of broader landholding within past 20 years, which is not within 10 km, 1 record without dates within 20 km of Painted Honeyeater. RE mapping of 'Category C' vegetation on site is associated with eucalypt forest/woodland (**Figure 4**). As there are records of the species within 20km of the broader landholding and mapped RE's on site may contain species which constitute suitable habitat it is considered 'possible' that this species is present within the site or broader landholding.	highly disturbed with minimal scattered large trees. This is consistent with Regulated Vegetation Mapping which identified majority of the site as Category X (non-remanent) vegetation with some areas of Category C (High value regrowth (**Figure 4**)). Furthermore, the site was not reflective of remnant woodland, which this species is noted in conservation advice to be more commonly recorded in. The site is highly disturbed as a result of historical clearing and historic and ongoing grazing, as evidenced by weeds and erosion on site. The entire site was walked multiple times and details on most of the trees on site was collected. Despite this no trees on site were recorded as hosting mistletoe. One dawn survey and two dusks surveys targeting birds were conducted in addition to over 20 diurnal hours spent on site and in the broader landholding. No direct or indirect evidence of this species was detected on site during this time. No sightings of Painted Honeyeater were recorded within the site or broader landholding, and it is not expected to provide sufficient foraging or breeding habitat for the species. Further consideration of impacts to the species from the action, including assessment against the EPBC Act significant impact criteria, is not required.
***Lathamus discolor* (Swift Parrot)**	CE / E	**Possible** The Swift Parrot migrates to the mainland where it follows a nomadic existence linked to the availability and timing of flowering trees. The species has a specific preference of large mature trees for feeding/ There are 87 dated records within 20 km of broader land holding within past 20 years, 0 of which are within 10 km, 0 of	**Unlikely** The site contains predominantly non-remnant (Category X) vegetation with some regions of high-value regrowth (Category C) (**Figure 4**). Limited large trees were identified on site and where present were highly scattered within disturbed surroundings. There are no records of the species within the locality. Notably, given this species is Critically Endangered, the location of recorded sightings are generalised to 10 km.

		which are within 5 km, 4 records without dates within 20 km of Swift Parrot. Due to the broad nature of potential habitat for this species and contemporary records within 5 km it is considered 'possible' that this species occurs within the site or broader landholding.	While suitable forage for Swift Parrot was present on site, namely winter flowering species *Corymbia citriodora* (synonymous with Corymbia maculata), the species preferred forage species *Eucalyptus robusta* (box-ironbark) was not observed. The relatively low value habitat, as indicated by the sites mapping as non-remnant (Category X) and high-value regrowth (Category C), and no recorded sightings in the locality indicates that it is highly unlikely that the vegetation within the site would be utilised by the species. Furthermore, the availability of habitat surrounding the broader landholding is limited by historical land clearing as well as current and future planned residential developments. It is considered far more likely that vegetation associated with White Rock Conservation park further west would provide preferential habitat for the species. One dawn survey and two dusks surveys targeting birds were conducted in addition to over 20 diurnal hours spent on site and in the broader landholding. No direct or indirect evidence of this species was detected on site during this time. No sightings of Swift Parrot were recorded within the site and broader landholding, and the site is not expected to provide habitat for this species due to the extensive disturbance. Further consideration of impacts to the species from the action, including assessment against the EPBC Act significant impact criteria, is not required.
***Petauroides volans* (Greater Glider)**	E / E	**Possible** The Greater Glider is largely restricted to eucalypt forests and woodlands of eastern Australia. It is typically found in	**Unlikely** The site is mapped as containing non-remnant (Category X) and high-value regrowth (Category C) vegetation (**Figure**

highest abundance in taller, montane, moist eucalypt forests on fertile soils, with relatively old trees and abundant hollows associated with Category B (remnant) vegetation.

There are 14 dated records within 20 km of broader landholding within past 20 years, 0 of which are within 10 km, 35 records without dates within 20 km of Greater Glider.

Regional ecosystems mapped on site are Eucalypt dominated and as such constitute potentially suitable forage and denning habitat for Greater Glider. However, the site has experienced significant levels of historical disturbance, as indicated by Category X (non-remnant) vegetation mapping being dominant on site and Category C (high-value regrowth) vegetation mapped over the remainder of the site (**Figure 4**). The area surrounding the broader landholding has seen a significant increase in disturbance as a result of growing urbanisation which has resulted in a number of barriers being present between the broader landholding and the nearest recent record of Greater Glider.

Greater Glider is known is known to be sensitive to disturbance and requires tall dense vegetation cover to enable dispersal.

As there are no contemporary records of this species within 5km of the broader landholding and from aerial imagery vegetation on site appears to be sparse the likelihood of this species occurring on site is considered diminished. However, due to the presence of potentially suitable forage and denning habitat occurring on site and its inclusion in historical MNES referrals submitted within the locality the likelihood of **4**). On ground surveys confirmed this to be the case with a high-level of historic and ongoing disturbance present as indicated by significant weed incursion, minimal very large trees and erosion/soil degradation caused by current land-use as horse paddocks. Vegetation was dominated by Eucalypt species which do constitute suitable forage for Greater Glider, however large trees were sparse with majority of the site being reflective of paddock and the remainder being dominated by regrowth eucalypts approximately 10 m. As such the density of tall trees needed to facilitate Greater Glider dispersal is unlikely to be met within the site or broader landholding.

Hollows of suitable size (≥100 mm diameter) to be used by Greater Glider for shelter were identified within the site. Within the broader landholding a total of seventy-eight (78) suitably sized hollows were recorded providing a hollow density of 2.07 hollows per hectare. However, Greater Glider typically uses hollows within living trees of which only 54 hollows of suitable size were identified within the broader landholding.

As stated in the Conservation Advice for *Petauroides volans* (Greater Glider (southern and central)) 2022, the species is particularly sensitive to disturbance associated with forest clearance and fragmentation and disperse poorly. The broader landholding is located in a landscape that has been partially subject to modification for past and on-going land-uses resulting in all vegetation on site demonstrating high levels of disturbance.

Furthermore, the broader landholding is also situated within an urbanising environment and is subject to impacts by external disturbance including highly trafficked roads and construction. In

	occurrence has been determined as 'possible'.	addition, due to urban uses being present within the surrounding area, the broader landholding maintains minimal connectivity to potential habitat in the greater locality (**Plan 5**). Some connectivity to potentially suitable habitat is present to the south and east of the broader landholding where remnant (Category B) and high-value regrowth (Category C) vegetation mapping is present. However, most of this vegetation has been subject to historical logging and potentially cattle grazing, as indicated by a review of historical imagery which shows significantly less vegetation on site previously (**Plan 1**). Vegetation to the west of the broader landholding is bisected by a power easement approximately 30-50m in width and vegetation to the south is interrupted by the presence of the Centenary Highway. As such the broader landholding lacks connectivity to areas of high value vegetation within the greater region. The nearest spatially valid recent record (within the last 20 years) of Greater Glider to the broader landholding is located approximately 12km south-west. No connectivity is present between the broader landholding and this nearest record due to the presence of disturbance including major transport infrastructure and developments. The site lacks suitable habitat for the species, retains limited connectivity potential and is located adjacent to highly modified areas. Threats to Greater Glider were identified within the broader landholding including barbed wire fences and predators of native fauna including Fox and Dog. Nocturnal surveys (spotlighting) were conducted across the site and broader landholding on two separate nights and failed to detect any evidence of this species. No sightings of Greater Glider were recorded within the site or broader

			landholding, and it is not expected to provide habitat for this species.
***Petaurus australis australis* (Yellow-bellied Glider)**	V / V	**Possible** Yellow-bellied Glider occur in tall, mature eucalypt forest and den, often in family groups, in hollows of large trees usually more than one metre in diameter. The species is very mobile and occupy large home ranges between 20 to 85 ha to encompass dispersed and seasonally variable food resources. There are 9 dated records within 20 km of broader landholding within past 20 years, 0 of which are within 10 km, 0 records without dates within 20 km of Yellow-bellied Glider. Regional ecosystems mapped on site are Eucalypt dominated and as such constitute potentially suitable forage and denning habitat for Yellow-bellied Glider. However, the site has experienced significant levels of historical, as indicated by Category X (non-remnant) vegetation mapping being dominant on site and Category C (high-value regrowth) over the remainder of the site. Yellow-bellied Glider is known to be sensitive to disturbance and requires tall dense vegetation cover to enable dispersal. As there are no contemporary records of this species within 5km of the broader landholding and from aerial imagery vegetation on site appears to be sparse the likelihood of this species occurring on site is considered diminished. However, due to the presence of potentially suitable forage and denning habitat occurring on site and in the broader landholding and its inclusion in historical MNES referrals submitted within the locality the likelihood of occurrence has been determined as 'possible'.	**Unlikely** The site is mapped as containing non-remnant (Category X) and high-value regrowth (Category C) vegetation (**Figure 4**). On ground surveys confirmed this to be the case with a high-level of historic and ongoing disturbance present as indicated by significant weed presence, minimal very large trees and erosion/soil degradation caused by current land-use as horse paddocks. Very few large hollows (≥300 mm diameter) within living trees were identified (5), most of these are unlikely to meet the 1000 mm hollow diameter required by this species. As such there is minimal suitable denning habitat for this species on site or in the broader landholding. In addition, due to historical clearing, large trees are scattered with majority of vegetation on site existing as either open paddock or regrowth eucalypts approximately 10 m tall. As a result the dense continuous vegetation required for dispersal of this species was not present within the site. Limited habitat connectivity as a result of current residential developments and roads is present between the broader landholding and surrounding vegetation. The nearest spatially valid recent record (within the last 20 years) of YBG to the broader landholding is located approximately 12km south-west. No connectivity is present between the broader landholding and this nearest record, due to the presence of the Centenary Motorway. Connectivity to suitable habitat for Yellow-bellied Glider is limited surrounding the broader landholding due to the presence of roads, large tracks of cleared land, residential and commercial developments and construction. Some connectivity to potentially suitable habitat is present to



		the south and east of the broader landholding where remnant (Category B) and high-value regrowth (Category C) vegetation mapping is present (**Plan 5**). However, most of this vegetation has been subject to historical logging and potentially cattle grazing, as indicated by a review of historical imagery which shows significantly less vegetation on site previously (**Plan 1**). Threats to Yellow-bellied Glider were identified within the broader landholding including barbed wire fences, predators of native fauna including Foxes and Dogs. In addition horses were identified in a significant number on site. Deer are identified as a threat to Yellow-bellied Glider within conservation advice due to their potential to degrade habitat by suppressing saplings of habitat trees through rubbing, trampling, and grazing. While horse are unlikely to graze on saplings of native trees they do have the potential to damage samplings through rubbing and trampling. No evidence of Yellow-bellied Glider was observed within the site or broader landholding despite multiple targeted searches. Evidence of the species in the form of characteristic V-shaped cuts were also not observed during detailed individual tree surveys. No sightings of Yellow-bellied Glider were recorded within the site or broader landholding, and it is not expected to provide habitat for this species due to the historical and ongoing disturbance. Furthermore, the site demonstrates no connectivity to recent records of Yellow-bellied Glider and a number of threats to the species exists on site.
Phascolarctos cinereus	E / E	**Likely/Known**	**Possible**

(Koala)	The Koala occurs in a range of environments containing eucalypt forest or woodland. There are 2147 dated records within 20 km of broader landholding within past 20 years, 500 of which are within 10 km, 47 of which are within 5 km, 3722 records without dates within 20 km of Koala. There are numerous records of this species within 2 km of the broader landholding. In addition RE's mapped on site are indicative of habitat known to be used by this species (**Figure 5**). Therefore it is considered 'likely/know' that this species occurs on site.	The site does support habitat for the species associated regrowth vegetation dominated by eucalypt. Spot Assessment Technique (SAT) surveys were utilized to detect evidence of Koala activity across the broader landholding and to determine the likelihood of occurrence on-site. Five (5) SATs were carried out across the broader landholding which involved searching the base of the nearest 30 trees to a central point for scats. Evidence of Koala activity in the form of scats was recorded within the broader landholding (SAT 1 and SAT 3 scored 2/30 and 1/30 respectively) indicating a 'low use' of the area by the species. Although, it should be noted that observed scats were old (**Appendix G** for full SAT results). Two nights of spotlighting and collectively 80 nights camera trapping failed to detect any evidence of the species. It is likely that historically the site was used by Koala but may no longer be because of threats present within the site and broader landholding. Threats to Koala identified included horses which can present a trample risk and known predators of Koala, Fox and Dog. In addition, due to urbanisation, additional threats are present within surrounding areas including car strikes on highly trafficked roads, hazards caused by construction areas and domestics pets within residential lots. Connectivity to areas of larger and higher value vegetation outside of the broader landholding are also limited. Due to the presence of cleared land, main roads, construction and residential developments to the North of the broader landholding limited habitat or potential fauna movement opportunities are present (**Plan 5**). Some potential suitable habitat for Koala is present to the south and west of the broader landholding. The

			presence of barbed wire fence along the south and west boundary and a dirt road along the south boundary present moderate barriers to dispersal in these directions. The nearest spatially valid recent record (within the last 20 years) of Koala to the broader landholding is located less than a 1 km north. This record was collected by the Moggill Koala Hospital Database, indicating the record was a result of a sick or dead Koala. Furthermore, this record was recorded north of a medium density residential development and as a result connectivity to the broader landholding is through urbanised environments unsuitable for Koala habitation. The nearest spatially valid recent record (within the last 20 years) of Koala within vegetation with potential connectivity to the broader landholding is located 1.3km south-east. This record is present adjacent to the Centenary Highway which provides a major barrier to Koala Dispersal South, East and West of the broader landholding. Some evidence of historical use of the broader landholding by Koala was recorded. However, it is considered unlikely the species currently occurs within the site or broader landholding due to a lack of detection via camera trapping and spotlighting. Vegetation on site does still constitute suitable habitat for this species and there is potential connectivity to vegetation south of the broader landholding where a recent record of the species has been detected.
Pteropus poliocephalus **(Grey-headed Flying Fox)**	V / LC	<u>Likely/Known</u> *Pteropus poliocephalus* (Grey-headed Flying Fox) requires foraging resources and roosting sites to persist. The species is known to use a wide variety of habitats including subtropical and temperate rainforests, tall sclerophyll forest and	<u>Likely/Known</u> No Grey-headed Flying Fox roosts were observed within or directly adjacent to the site or broader landholding. The nearest roost to the broader landholding is located approximately 4 km north-west (Yamanto (479)). This roost was recorded as

woodlands, heaths, swamps and also urban and agricultural areas where food trees have been cultivated. The species is highly adaptive with its diverse native diet, which it can supplement with introduced species. It is known to forage within a variety of habitat areas as each resource does not produce food throughout the entire year.	inactive during the last monitoring event. Given the availability of suitable foraging habitat within the broader area, it is considered unlikely that the species relies on the highly disturbed vegetation within the site when intact and extensive vegetation is present within the broader region, notably within White Rock Conservation Park.
There are 192 dated records within 20 km of broader landholding within past 20 years, 120 of which are within 10 km, 13 of which are within 5 km, 193 records without dates within 20 km of Grey-headed Flying Fox. There are contemporary records of this species within 5km of the broader land holding and RE's mapped on site are associated with suitable foraging habitat for this species. Furthermore, this species is highly mobile. Therefore it is considered 'likely/know' that this species occurs on site.	Grey-headed Flying Fox were recorded as fly-over and foraging during both nights of spotlighting. Large scattered *Eucalyptus tereticornis* (Forest Red Gum) on site were in flower during surveys times and were being utilised by this species. As such the presence of this species within the site was confirmed as 'Likely/Known'. However, it should be noted that no roosts were located and vegetation on site is highly disturbed and subject to influences from surrounding urbanisation. As such its value as habitat is considered diminished by these factors.

The complete likelihood of occurrence is provided in **Appendix H.**

5.1.4 Migratory Species

Based on the presence of species records within the locality and mapped habitats identified within the site, a likelihood of occurrence assessment was conducted to determine those threatened species with potential to occur within the site. This assessment determined eleven (11) migratory fauna species listed under the EPBC Act, five (5) of which are listed as threatened under the EPBC Act and/or NCA as having been previously recorded or predicted to occur within 5 km of the broader landholding.

Based on the presence of species records within the locality and the habitats identified within the broader landholding area, an assessment was conducted to determine those migratory species with potential to occur within the site and broader landholding. The assessment determined three (3) migratory fauna species listed under the EPBC Act were identified as having 'possible' or greater potential to occur in the broader landholding. These species are outlined in **Table 13**. All other threatened and/or migratory fauna species were assessed as having a 'unlikely' potential to occur.



Table 13 Field Assessment Confirmed Likelihood of Occurrence –Migratory fauna

Species	EPBC/NC Act status	Desktop Likelihood of Occurrence	Field Assessment Confirmed Likelihood of Occurrence
***Apus pacificus* (Fork-tailed Swift)**	– / SL	**Possible** This species is almost exclusively aerial and mostly occur over inland plains but sometimes above foothills or in coastal areas. As such minimal information is known about the habitat requirements and diet of this species. There occurrence seems largely linked to air currents. The species has been observed to settle at night in trees, cliffs, and in flags and reeds to spend the night indicating they do not have specific nesting requirements. There are 169 dated records within 20 km of the broader landholding within past 20 years, 7 of which are within 10 km, 1 of which are within 5 km, 14 records without dates within 20 km of Fork-tailed Swift. A review of aerial imagery and topographic mapping indicates that the broader landholding is potentially reflective of inland plains or foothills (**Figure 2**). As there are contemporary records of this species within 20km of the broader landholding and potentially suitable habitat is present it is considered 'possible' that this species is present within the site and broader landholding.	**Unlikely** Considering the broad the definition it is possible that habitat suitable for this species is present within the site and broader landholding. However, vegetation within the site and broader landholding was observed to be highly disturbed as a result of historical and ongoing land practices. This is evident by the lack of large mature eucalypts and dominance of exotics in the ground layer. Furthermore, exotic predators were identified on site, including Fox and Dog, which may present a threat to Fork-tailed Swift. One dawn bird survey and two dusk bird surveys were conducted within the site and broader landholding. In addition to this significant time during diurnal hours was spent on site. No direct or indirect evidence of this species was detected within the site or broader landholding. Although vegetation on site is may meet the definition of habitat for this species, it is only due to uncertainty regarding habitat requirements. It is considered that Fork-tailed Swift would be more likely to frequent more extensive intact vegetation present within nearby areas, namely White Rock Conservation Park. No sightings of Fork-tailed Swift were recorded within the site or broader landholding, and the site is not expected to provide habitat for this species due to the high levels of historical and ongoing disturbance.

Cuculus optatus **(Oriental Cuckoo)**	– / –	**Possible** This species does not breed in Australia and only uses vegetation within the continent for roosting and forage. The species can be found in monsoonal rainforest, vine thickets, wet sclerophyll forest or open Casuarina, Acacia or Eucalyptus woodlands frequently at edges or ecotones between habitat types. It feeds mainly on insects and their larvae, foraging for them in trees and bushes as well as on the ground. There are 256 dated records within 20 km of broader landholding within past 20 years, 2 of which are within 10 km, 0 of which are within 5 km, 22 records without dates within 20 km of Oriental Cuckoo. RE mapping on site is associated with Eucalyptus woodlands (**Figure 5**). There are contemporary records of this species within 10 km of the site and potential habitat for this species is present on site. Therefore, it is considered 'possible' that this species occurs within the site or broader landholding.	**Unlikely** Considering the broad the definition it is possible that habitat suitable for this species is present within the site or broader landholding. However, vegetation within the site was observed to be highly disturbed as a result of historical and ongoing disturbance. Furthermore, exotic predators were identified on site, including Fox and Dog which may present a threat to Oriental Cuckoo. Although vegetation on site is may meet the definition of habitat for this species, it is only due to uncertainty regarding habitat requirements. There are also no recent spatially valid records of this species within the locality of the broader landholding. It is considered that this species would be more likely to frequent more extensive intact vegetation present within the broader region, namely White Rock Conservation Park. No sightings of Oriental Cuckoo were recorded within the site or broader landholding, and it is not expected to provide high-value habitat for this species due to the high levels of historical and ongoing disturbance.
Hirundapus caudacutus **(White-throated Needletail)**	V / V	**Possible** The species inhabits mistletoes in Eucalypt forests/woodlands, riparian woodlands of Black Box and River Red Gum, Box-ironbark-yellow Gum woodlands, Acacia-dominated woodlands, Paperbarks, Casuarinas, Callitris, and trees on farmland or gardens. The species prefers woodlands which contain a	**Unlikely** Site surveys confirmed that some regions of the site, in particular areas of mapped Category C vegetation and adjoining areas are potentially reflective of eucalypts woodland. Furthermore, hollows utilised by this species for roosting were identified on site.

	higher number of mature trees, as these host more mistletoes. It is more common in wider blocks of remnant woodland than in narrower strips. Although they occur over most types of habitat, they are probably recorded most often above wooded areas, including open forest and rainforest, and may also fly between trees or in clearings, below the canopy, but they are less commonly recorded flying above woodland. They also commonly occur over heathland, but less often over treeless areas, such as grassland or swamps. The site is mapped mostly as Category X (non-remnant) vegetation with some regions of Category C (high-value regrowth) (**Figure 4**). There are 990 dated records within 20 km of broader landholding within past 20 years, 56 of which are within 10 km, 8 of which are within 5 km, 116 records without dates within 20 km of White-throated Needletail. As there is potential for suitable habitat for this species to occur on site and there are recent spatially valid records of this species within the locality of the broader landholding it is considered 'possible' that this species occurs within the site or broader landholding.	However, vegetation was found to be highly disturbed consisting mainly of cleared overgrazed paddock with minimal trees and remaining areas having a native eucalypt canopy with a highly disturbed understory, and limited scattered large eucalypts. Due to the highly mobile nature of the species, sightings have been recorded across a range of habitat types. While no records of the species occur above the site, multiple records have been seen within 5km of the broader landholding mainly within the proximity of White Rock Conservation Estate. This region of much more extensive vegetation would be more likely to be used by this species for forage and roosting than the limited and highly disturbed vegetation within the site and broader landholding. Despite extensive surveys conducted by suitably qualified ecologists over multiple days, including active searches for birds during dawn and dusk, no direct or indirect evidence of this species was observed within the site or broader landholding. The lack of detection of the species despite extensive surveys being conducted and availability of higher value habitat in the greater region reduces the likelihood that this species would occur within the site or broader landholding.

6. Proposed Development Plan

6.1. Site Design

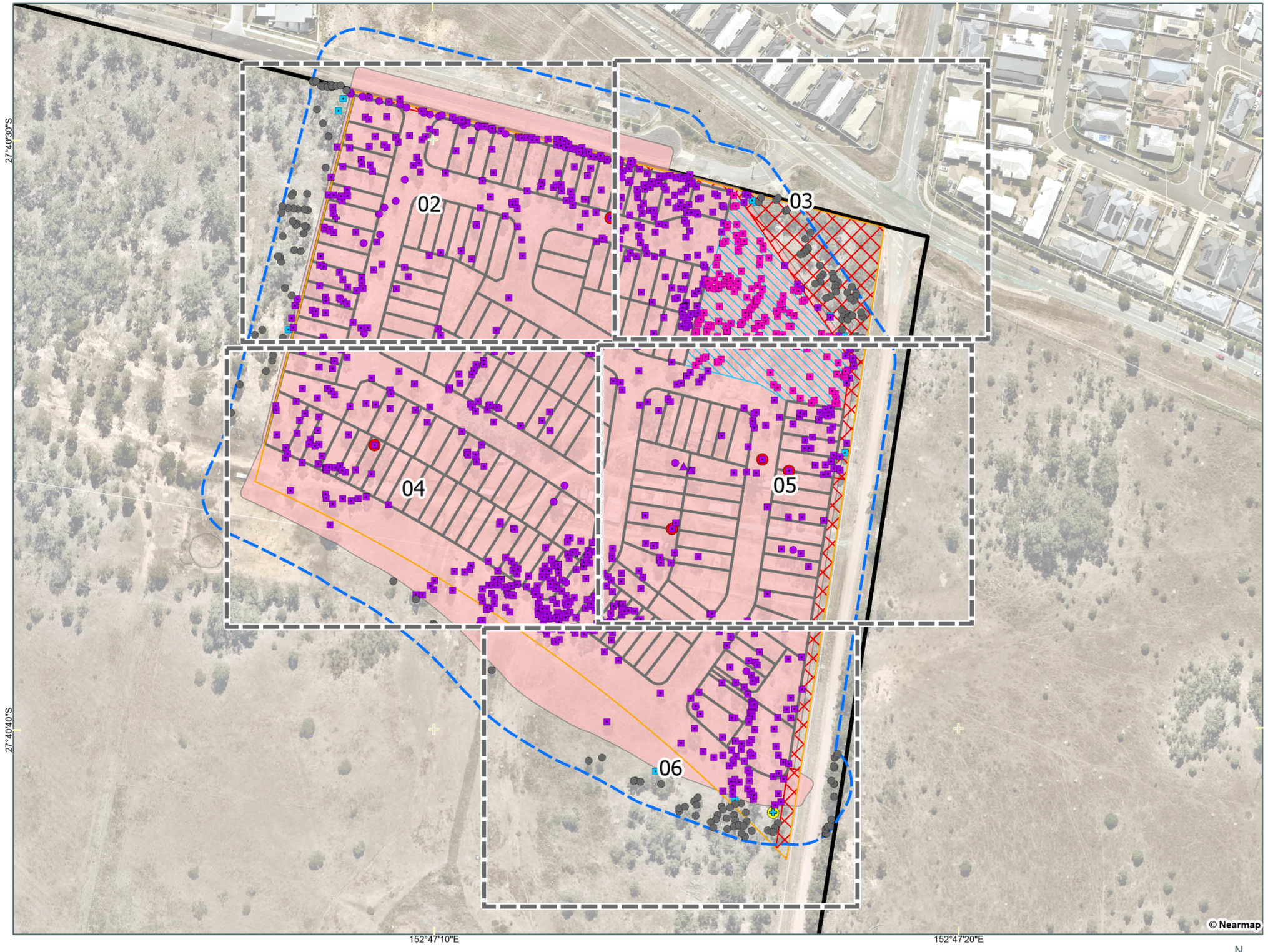
The proposed Development Plan has been guided by historical and ongoing ecological advice. Site design directly reflects identified ecological areas and values with a focus on utilisation of lower values areas.

Detailed field surveys identified much of the habitat on site to be of low value as a result of significant historical and ongoing disturbance being present within the site and broader landholding. The site is constrained by surrounding development and infrastructure, with numerous EPBC Act and EDQ development applications and approvals present in the surrounding landscape (**Plan 2**). Significant development is approved to the south, east and west of the site. Surrounding developments and transport infrastructure represent existing hazards to fauna and barriers to connectivity throughout the landscape. The site retains limited connectivity to the south, however, the entirety of land surrounding the broader landholding is zoned as urban, including areas to the south. It is considered the highly disturbed site adjacent to current and future roads and developments indicates it is highly unlikely the site would be significant habitat for threatened species at present or in the future. Evidence of threatened species *Pteropus poliocephalus* (Grey-headed Flying-fox) and *Phascolarctos cinereus* (Koala) was identified within the broader landholding. However, only evidence of historic use by Koala was located being old scat detected during SATs at three (3) of one-hundred and fifty (150) trees surveyed that detected old scat during SAT 2 (2 out of 30) and Sat 3 (1 out of 30)(**Appendix G**). *Pteropus poliocephalus* (Grey-headed Flying-fox) was observed foraging within the site and as fly-over during site surveys. However, this species is considered to be highly mobile and abundant suitable foraging habitat is present for the species within the broader region.

Based on the advice provided within this SBAR, the proposed vegetation clearing is considered acceptable given the planning intent of the site being wholly 'urban living' as well as all surrounding properties sharing this zoning within the *Ripley Valley Priority Development Area Masterplan*.

Refer to **Plan 6** for the development assessment impact plan. Refer to **Section 8** for a detailed response to Guideline 14.

06.01 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT



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LEGEND

- Detail Sheets
- Impact Site Boundary
- Cadastral Parcels (QSCF)
- Proposed Impact Buffer
- Proposed Impact Area
- Proposed Stage 1 to 5 Boundary
- Proposed Detention/Drainage Area
- Proposed Road Resumption
- Stage 1 Proposed Lots

GPS Tree Plot

Dead Tree (Stag) Subject to Arborist Assessment	(1)
Non-Juvenile Koala Habitat Tree Subject to Arborist Assessment	(10)
Dead Tree (Stag) to remove as part of this stage	(4)
Native Tree to remove as part of this stage	(47)
Non-Juvenile Koala Habitat Tree to remove as part of this stage	(842)
Weed tree to remove as part of this stage	(2)
Tree Retention not subject to this stage	(164)
Non-Juvenile Koala Habitat Tree Retention subject to Drainage works	(156)
Dead Tree (Stag) With Hollows	(1)
NJKHT With Hollows	(6)



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17/09/2026

13220 E 06 SBAR Development Assessment B

06.02 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT

27°40'30"S

152°47'10"E

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LEGEND

- Impact Site Boundary
- Cadastral Parcels (QSCF)
- Proposed Impact Buffer
- Proposed Impact Area
- Proposed Stage 1-5 Boundary
- Proposed Stage 1-5 Lot layout
- Proposed Detention/Drainage Area
- Proposed Road Resumption

GPS Tree Plot (W/NRZ)

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06.03 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT

27°40'30"S

152°47'20"E

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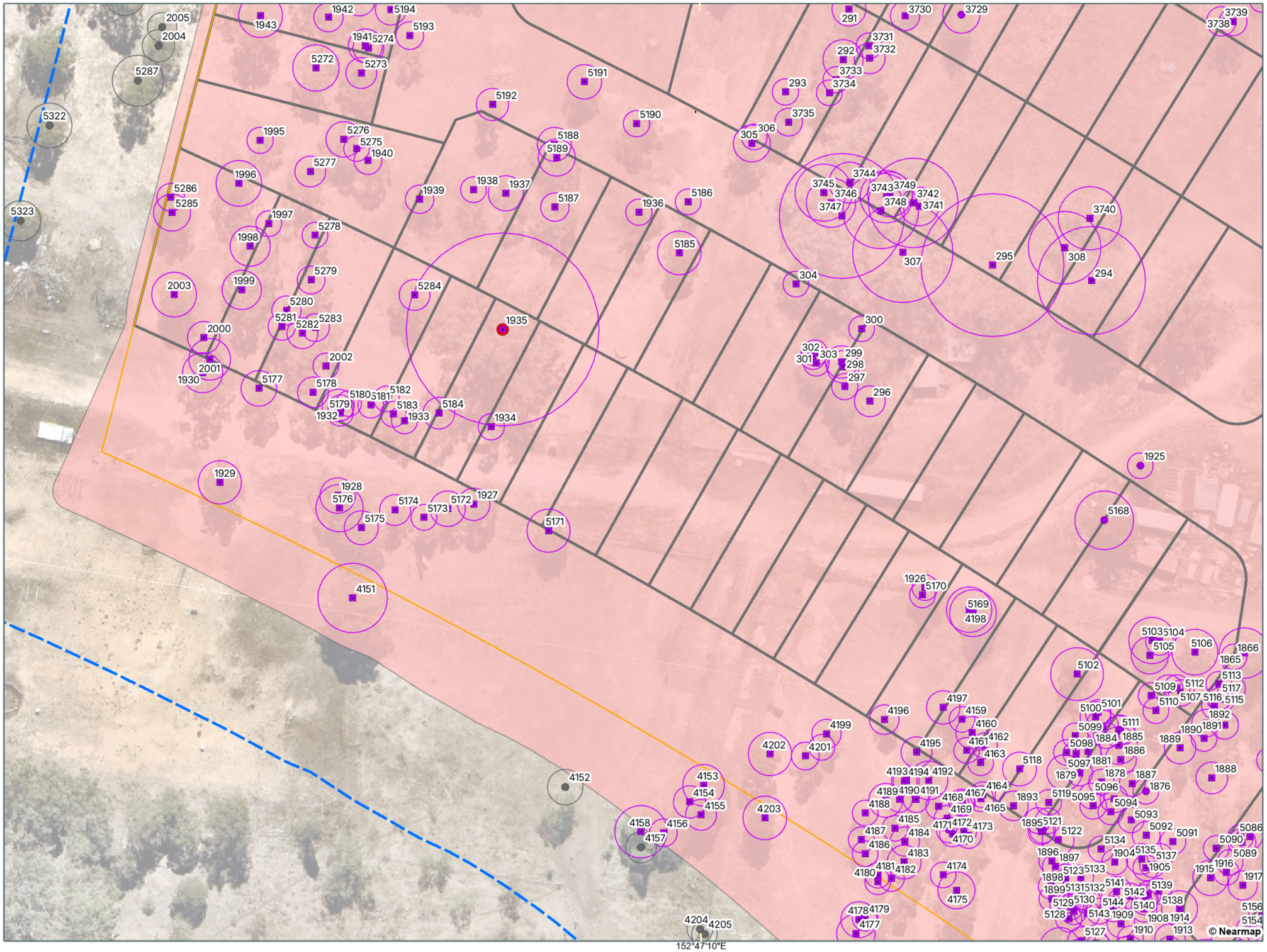
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06.04 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT



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