

Conservation Action Plan

Red-lored whistler (*Pachycephala rufogularis*)

This plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of s.78C of the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019 (Reg.) in relation to an Asset of Intergenerational Significance (AIS) as declared under s.153G of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

Site details

AIS site	AIS-E0-273, AIS-E0-274, AIS-E0-275, AIS-E0-279
Site location	An area of 7882 hectares in Nombinnie Nature Reserve An area of 7705 hectares in Nombinnie State Conservation Area An area of 3095 hectares in Round Hill Nature Reserve
NPWS contact	Team Leader - Conservation, West Branch

Environmental values

This table sets out the environmental values for which the land was listed as an AIS (Reg. 78C(3)(a)).

Identified value(s)	Value description
Important habitat for red-lored whistler	The red-lored whistler is a critically endangered bird. The male red-lored whistler is brownish grey in colour with orange lores and throat, and a grey breast with buff orange under parts. The female appears much paler and has buffish lores and throat. The eyes in both sexes are red and the bill and legs are dark in colour. This species is found in mallee woodland with a shrub layer, usually of Broombush and native pine such as Mallee Pine, with occasional patches of spinifex and emergent mallee.

Key risks to environmental values

This table sets out the key risks to the environmental values of the land (Reg. 78C(3)(b)).

Key risk(s)	Description
Inappropriate fire regimes	Inappropriate fire frequency, intensity and extent that alters vegetation composition and structure and leads to a reduction in suitable habitat and food availability may lead to a decline or extinction of the red-lored whistler at the sites.
Feral predators	Predation of red-lored whistler by foxes and feral cats.
Feral herbivores	Competition and habitat degradation of red-lored whistler habitat by introduced herbivores, such as feral goats, through grazing that leads to a reduction in the area of suitable habitat at the sites.
Anthropogenic climate change	Changes in weather patterns and climatic conditions as a result of anthropogenic climate change that alters habitat structure, composition and resource availability or increases the frequency and severity of drought conditions may exceed the adaptive capacity and reduce survivorship of the red-lored whistler at the sites.

Conservation activities

This table sets out the conservation activities required to:

1. Control, abate or mitigate the key risks and
2. maintain, restore and remediate the environmental values of the land (Reg. 78C(3)(c)).

Key risk(s)	Impacted site(s)	Conservation activities
Inappropriate fire regimes	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop guidance on the appropriate fire management for the habitat of the red-lored whistler within 12 months of adoption of this plan and update as required. This guidance must provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - maintenance of an appropriate fire regime by developing and implementing a site-specific burn plan for the declared areas - implementation of any required fire protection and response measures in the declared areas - integration of site-specific requirements into NPWS and NSW Government bushfire planning, risk management and operational response arrangements. • Implement fire management consistent with the guidance.
Feral predators	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To the extent practicable, reduce the density of foxes to a level that is not having an ecologically significant impact on the red-lored whistler, and maintain the density at or below that level by baiting, trapping and shooting. • To the extent practicable, reduce the density of cats to a level that is not having an ecologically significant impact on the red-lored whistler, and maintain the density at or below that level by undertaking periodic feral cat control (e.g., shooting, trapping or other approved methods).

Key risk(s)	Impacted site(s)	Conservation activities
Feral herbivores	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To the extent practicable, reduce the density of feral goats to a level that is not having an ecologically significant impact on the red-lored whistler, and maintain the density at or below that level by shooting and other approved integrated control measures such as mustering and removal.
Anthropogenic climate change	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If required, assess direct impact of anthropogenic climate change on the red-lored whistler and its habitat.

Other land management activities

Within the declared land there are existing assets and infrastructure of NPWS and other external service providers, including public utilities.

Maintenance operations (including inspection, emergency works and routine and standard maintenance) that are exempt development in accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, and which are performed on and around existing assets and infrastructure, are authorised under this conservation action plan (CAP) provided such operations are undertaken in a manner that aims to minimise the risk to the declared environmental values of the land and with any other required consents or approvals.

All maintenance operations on the declared land are to be undertaken in accordance with this CAP.

Measuring and reporting

This table sets out the requirements for measuring and reporting on health and condition (Reg. 78C(3)(d)).

Attribute	Metric	Method
Health and condition of the red-lored whistler population	Population estimate	Design, and implement every 5 years, monitoring to generate an estimate of the number of red-lored whistler in the population.
	Area of occupancy	Design and implement an assessment every 2 to 3 years, to determine distribution of the red-lored whistler at the sites.

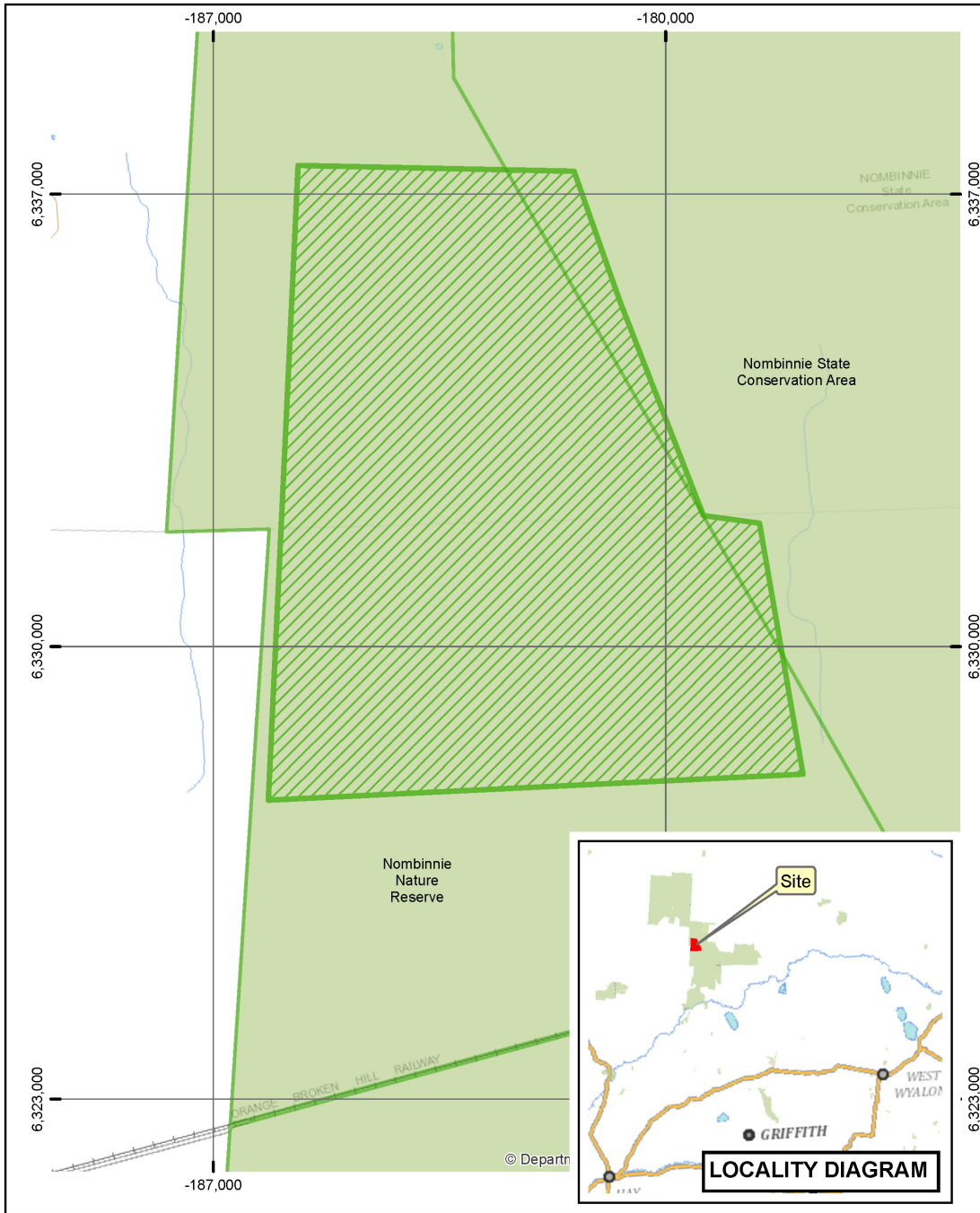
A report on the health and condition of the value for which this AIS was declared will be prepared and published on the Department of Planning and Environment website: www.environment.nsw.gov.au. The report will summarise the baseline and current health and condition of the values of the declared land and its overall trajectory.

Evaluation of conservation action plans



This CAP will be amended or replaced as new information becomes available that helps improve our management of the identified assets (Reg. 78H).

The Secretary must appoint a scientist, or a panel of scientists, to conduct a review, as soon as possible after the period of five years from the first approval of a CAP, to examine whether CAPs have been effectively implemented (Reg. 78J(1)).

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Legend

-  Declared Land
-  NPWS Estate

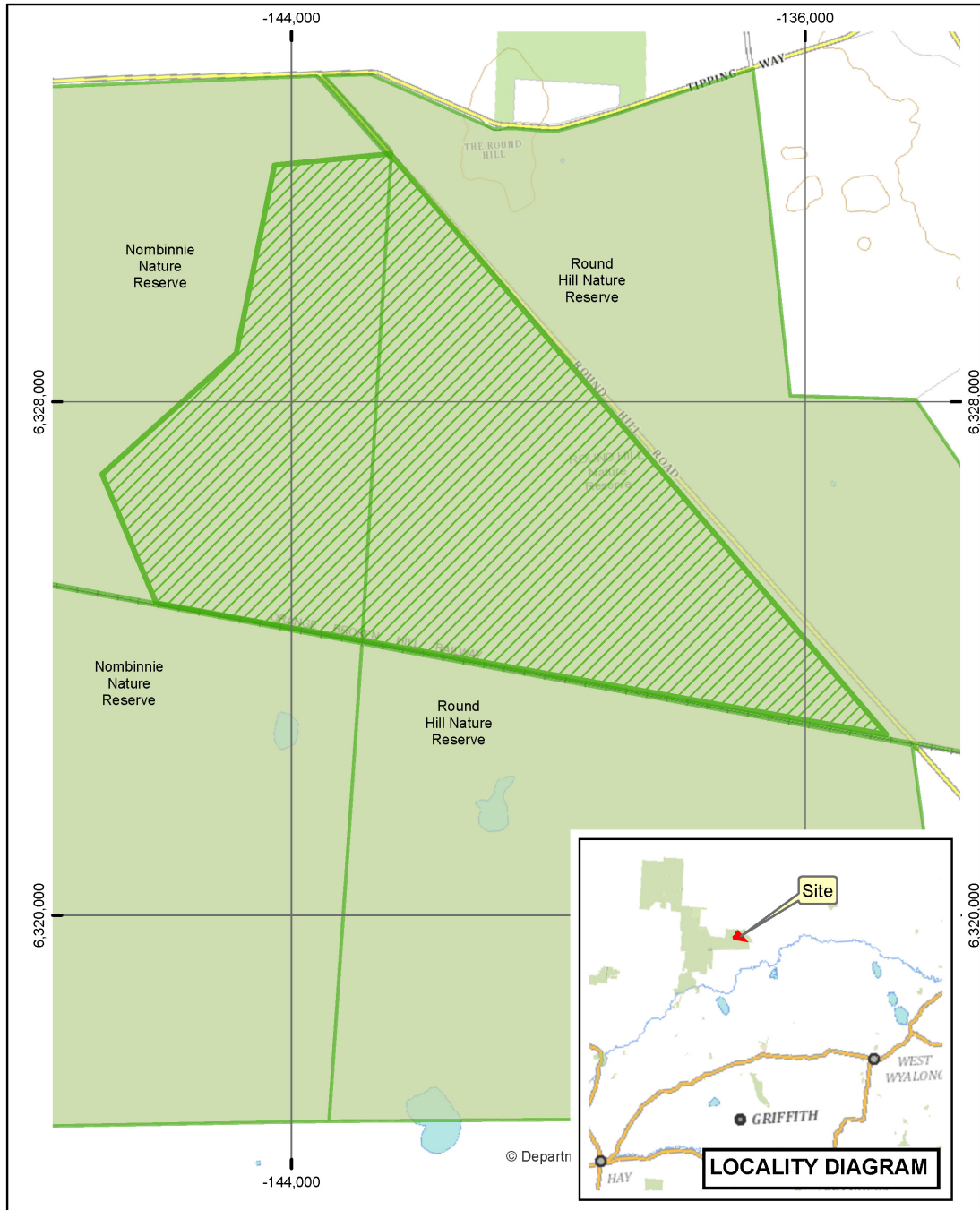
AIS-E0-273
Asset of Intergenerational Significance
Red-lored whistler
(Pachycephala rufogularis)
Nombinnie Nature Reserve and
Nombinnie State Conservation Area

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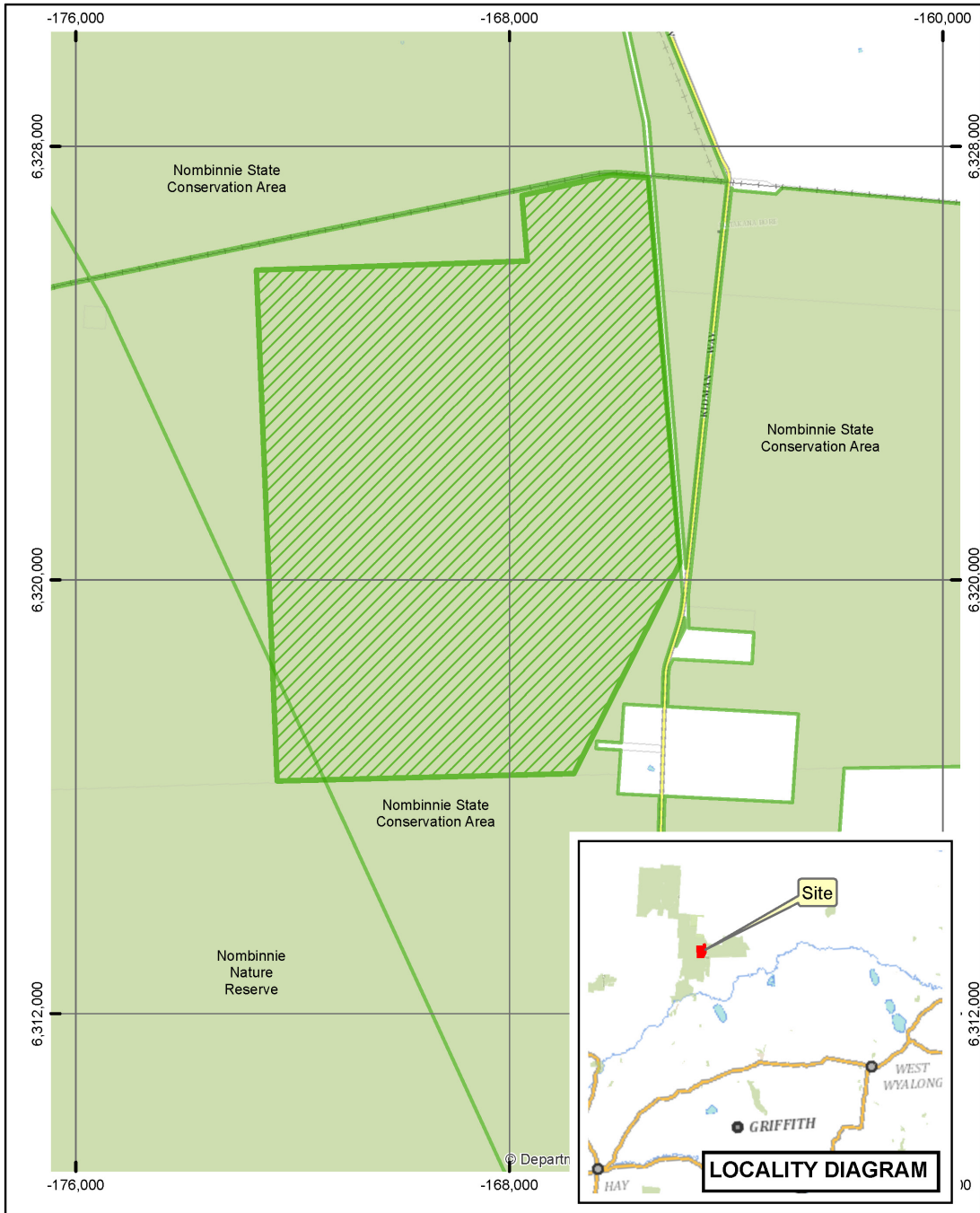
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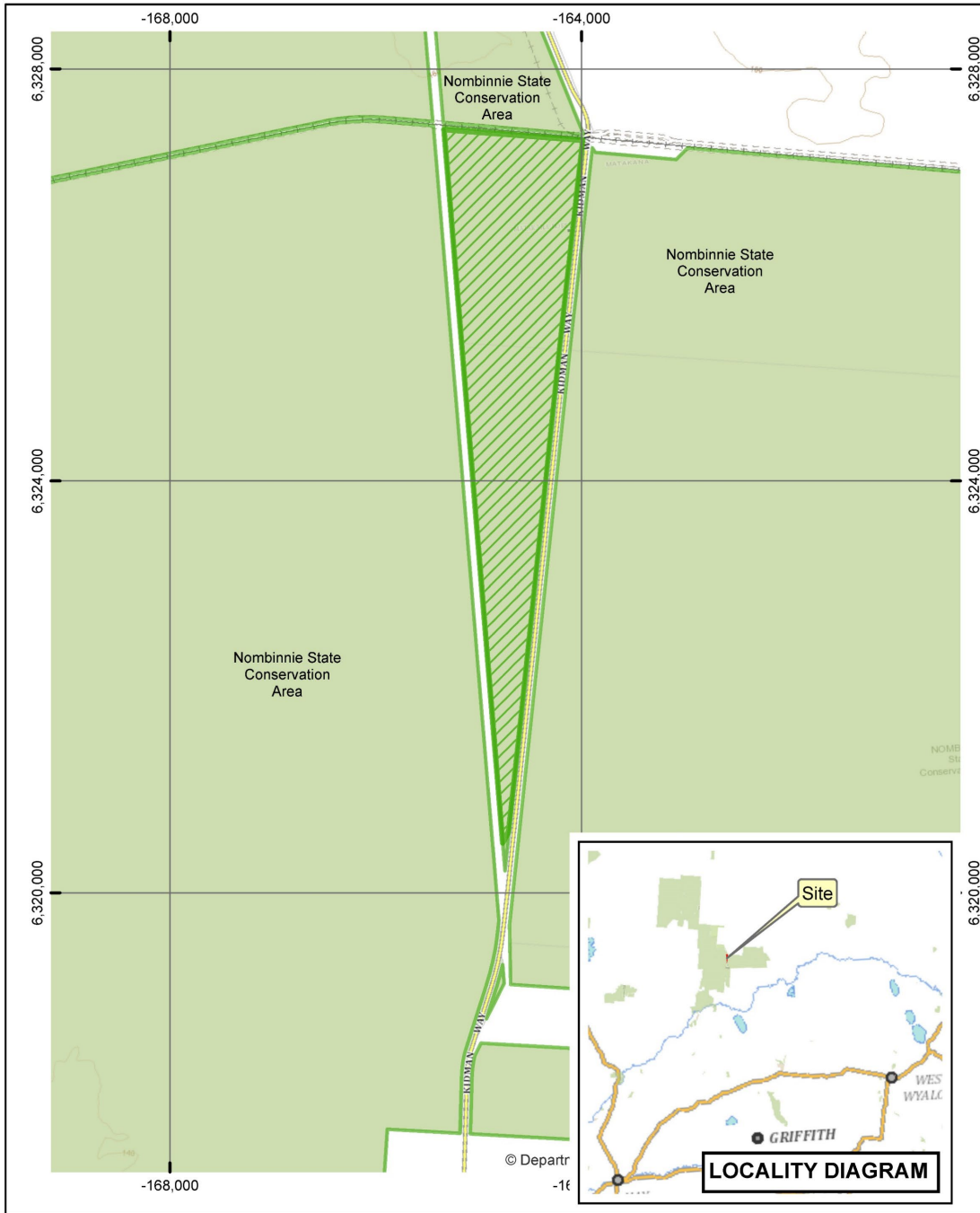
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AIS-E0-279
Asset of
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NSW
GOVERNMENT



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Date prepared	March 2023
Date approved	June 2023
Approved by	Atticus Fleming, Acting Coordinator General, Environment and Heritage Group
Due for review	June 2028

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