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# Appendix A

Preliminary documentation requirements for assessment

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## A.1 Preliminary documentation requirements for assessment

The following tables identify the preliminary documentation requirements issued by the National Environmental Protection Agency on 7 August 2026 and summarise where and how each requirement has been addressed in this Report and its supporting appendices.

### A.1.1 General content, format and style

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| <p>Include a reference table indicating where to find information and links within the preliminary documentation to relevant sections.</p> <p>Where relevant information was provided in the referral documentation, please incorporate, or cross-reference to this information as necessary in the preliminary documentation.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>This Appendix (Appendix A) provides a reference table indicating where to find information and links the preliminary documentation to the DCCEEW documentation requirements for assessment.</p> <p>The preliminary documentation information requirements have been incorporated into the referral documentation to provide a single, consolidated assessment document.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p>Contain sufficient information to enable interested stakeholders to understand the environmental consequences of the proposed development on matters of national environmental significance (MNES).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>This Report provides a clear description of the Stage 1 Referral Action, the MNES potentially affected, the nature and extent of potential impacts, and the proposed avoidance, mitigation, management and offset measures.</p> <p>Supporting technical assessments, figures and appendices provide the evidence necessary for interested stakeholders to understand the potential environmental consequences of the Stage 1 Referral Action.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p>Ensure all work and conclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• are presented clearly, unambiguously, succinctly and objectively.</li><li>• are evidence based, and the evidence is provided.</li><li>• are supported by peer reviewed literature, with references provided, or expert opinion.</li><li>• use scientifically robust methodologies appropriate to the purpose, including a justification of why the methodology/s was selected, details of the methodology described in a manner that allows an independent suitably qualified practitioners to apply the method, and state any limitations of the chosen approach.</li><li>• are supported by maps, plans, diagrams, baseline surveys or other descriptive detail. All maps must follow the Guide to providing maps and boundary data for EPBC Act projects - DCCEEW (<a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/environmental-information-data/information-policy/maps-and-boundary-data-for-epbc-act-projects">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/environmental-information-data/information-policy/maps-and-boundary-data-for-epbc-act-projects</a>).</li><li>• maps must clearly identify development footprints, buffer zones, and any conservation areas where impacts will be avoided, and areas of adjacent habitat that would be subject to indirect impacts, including areas that are to be retained within and adjacent to the site.</li><li>• use active language and state clear commitments (e.g., 'must' and 'will') where appropriate, particularly in describing avoidance, mitigation and management actions and outcomes.</li><li>• demonstrate the use of the most up to date statutory documents* including Approved Listing Advice(s), Conservation Advice(s), Recovery Plan(s), Threat Abatement Plan(s) or comparable policy guidelines, and approved survey methods. Any instances where published guidance is not followed must be justified. Where no Commonwealth standards exist, state government and industry standards may be useful.</li></ul> | <p>These requirements have been addressed throughout the preliminary documentation, with the impact assessment and conclusions for each MNES presented in Chapter 10. The Contemporary Baseline Ecological Values Report (Appendix B) outlines the survey methodologies and approach to defining species habitat within the Action Area.</p> <p>Together, the assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• present clear, objective and evidence-based findings supported by field surveys, technical studies, expert assessment and relevant peer-reviewed literature</li><li>• describes and justifies the methodologies applied, including relevant assumptions and limitations</li><li>• use current statutory documents, policy guidance, scientific information and species-specific survey guidelines</li><li>• include maps and spatial information showing the Stage 1 Referral Action and disturbance footprints, areas of retained habitat and areas potentially affected by direct impact</li><li>• detail avoidance, mitigation, management and monitoring measures as clear commitments</li><li>• draws upon relevant SPRAT database information, conservation advice, recovery plans and other applicable EPBC Act publications and resources.</li></ul> <p>Maps and spatial data have been prepared in accordance with DCCEEW's Guide to providing maps and boundary data for EPBC Act projects.</p> |

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>demonstrate the use of up-to-date policy guidelines, scientific methods, information, data and species-relevant survey methods.</li> <li>appropriately reference all sources using the Harvard standard. The reference list must include the address of any internet pages used as data sources. Ensure that other supporting documents (e.g. academic studies, regulatory standards) are publicly accessible, with electronic links provided where possible.</li> <li>relevant documents include, but are not limited to, the resources found in the Species Profile and Threats Database (SPRAT database) and EPBC Act publications and resources.</li> </ul>                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Be able to read as a stand-alone document and must include summaries of all relevant information referenced or provided in appendices. Complex or detailed technical information, studies or investigations necessary to support the main text should be attached to the main document as appendices.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | This Report has been prepared as a stand-alone document and summarises the relevant findings of the supporting technical studies and investigations. Detailed technical information and supporting assessments are provided as appendices and are cross-referenced throughout the Report.                                                                                           |
| Not contain any commercial-in-confidence markings. If the preliminary documentation contains sensitive information, please discuss this with the assessment officer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | The preliminary documentation does not contain any information marked as commercial-in-confidence or sensitive information.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Contain management plans, where relevant, that are produced in line with the requirements of the department's Environmental Management Plan Guidelines                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | An MNES Management Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Environmental Management Plan Guidelines and is provided as Appendix C. An Offset Strategy has also been prepared and is provided as Appendix D. Together with this Report, these documents set out the proposed measures for avoiding, mitigating, managing, monitoring and offsetting potential impacts on MNES. |
| <p>Contain species occurrence records from field surveys in digital form. Occurrences derived from systematic field surveys should include data relating to the surveyed sites and survey methodology where available (in addition to the species occurrence data). These data may be used by the Agency for internal purposes including decision-making, planning, and reporting. Some data may also be made public. The proponent may request that data that are commercial-in-confidence not be disclosed (see section 170BA of the EPBC Act).</p> <p>Data must be provided in accordance with the instructions at BDR - Manual Submission. Sensitive ecological data must be identified and will be treated in accordance with the Agency's Policy on accessing and sharing biodiversity data - DCCEEW.</p> | Species occurrence records from field surveys, including available information on survey sites and methodologies, will be provided in digital form in accordance with the instructions for BDR manual submission. Sensitive ecological data will be clearly identified and managed in accordance with the Policy on Accessing and Sharing Biodiversity Data.                        |

### A.1.2 Description of the action

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| A description of changes to project or disturbance footprints (if any) that have occurred since the original referral. If any changes have been made to the project, update all relevant information to reflect the change/s. | The Description of the Stage 1 Referral Action is detailed in Chapter 3. No changes have been made to the Stage 1 Referral Action or its disturbance footprint since the original referral. Accordingly, the information describing the Stage 1 referral Action within the preliminary documentation remain consistent with the referred Action. |

### A.1.3 Generic habitat information requirements

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| <p>Please provide clearer maps that identify and describe known historical records of protected matters in the broader region.</p> <p>All known records must be supported by the appropriate source (i.e., Commonwealth and State databases, Queensland Government's WildNet, Atlas of Living Australia, published research, publicly available survey reports, etc.), and where possible, include the year of the record and a description of the habitat in which the record was identified.</p> <p>The Agency notes that 11 records of Merten's Water Monitor, representing 8 individuals were found in the Action area, however, these observations are not all represented on maps presented in referral documentation.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>All maps presented in the referral documentation have been reviewed and, where necessary, updated to clearly show known historical records of protected matters within the broader region. Records are supported by the relevant Commonwealth and State databases, including WildNet and the Atlas of Living Australia, as well as published research and publicly available survey reports, where relevant. The year of each record and a description of the associated habitat have been included where this information is available.</p> <p>For clarity, known records are only evidenced on maps presented for the Northern Blue-tongued Skink (Figure 10.5).</p> <p>Inset maps have also been included on Figure 10.1 to ensure that all 11 observations of Mertens' Water Monitor recorded within the Action area, representing eight individuals, are clearly identifiable.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <p>Provide detailed mapping of habitat (within, adjacent to and downstream of the project area, where relevant) for all listed threatened species and ecological communities, that may be impacted by the proposed action, which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is specific to the habitat requirements (see below) for each listed species (i.e. does not only illustrate relevant Queensland REs)</li> <li>• includes an overlay of the project disturbance footprint</li> <li>• identifies all specific habitat on site (e.g. breeding, foraging or dispersal habitat, known important and refugia habitat e.g. riparian zones)</li> <li>• includes the regional context, and illustrates connectivity of habitat in the broader landscape</li> <li>• includes known records of individuals derived from desktop analysis and field surveys</li> <li>• is of a suitable scale to allow interpretation and representation of mapped features (the Agency notes that in accordance with the <i>Maps and boundary data for EPBC Act projects</i> an appropriate scale for individual protected matters may require maps spread over multiple A4 sheets to ensure a clear understanding of habitat and infrastructure boundaries and key habitat and project features).</li> <li>• includes a legend listing mapped features</li> <li>• is provided separately as attachments in both JPEG format and as shape files.</li> </ul> | <p>Detailed habitat mapping has been prepared for each listed threatened species and ecological community that may be impacted by the Action and is presented in Chapter 10 and Appendix B. The Habitat Mapping aligns with the approach agreed with NEPA for Merten's Water Monitoring, Northern Blue-tongued Skink and Carpentaria Grasswren. Consistent with NEPA feedback on these species, the habitat terminology applied to all species presented in the Baseline Report and this Report has also been reviewed and, where necessary, revised to better reconcile the classification and description of habitat with the relevant published conservation advice, recovery plans and other species-specific guidance. The mapping extends across the Action Area and, where relevant, adjacent and downstream areas.</p> <p>The mapping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• identifies habitat based on the specific ecological requirements of each protected matter, rather than relying solely on Queensland regional ecosystem mapping</li> <li>• applies habitat terminology that is consistent, as far as practicable, with the terminology and habitat descriptions used in relevant published species-specific material</li> <li>• overlays the Action Area and disturbance footprints</li> <li>• presents the regional context and broader landscape connectivity</li> <li>• includes known records obtained through desktop analysis and field surveys</li> <li>• is presented at a scale suitable for interpreting habitat, infrastructure and disturbance boundaries</li> <li>• includes legends identifying the mapped features.</li> </ul> <p>The relevant maps and spatial data will also be provided separately in JPEG and shapefile formats in accordance with DCCEEW's requirements.</p> |

## A.1.4 Specific requirements for habitat definition and mapping

### i Northern Blue-tongued Skink

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| <p>The agency notes that the statutory documentation for the Northern Blue-Tongue Skink defines habitat for the species as habitat and habitat critical to the survival of the species. Habitat definitions (and mapping) will need to be updated to align with the Conservation Advice definitions.</p> <p>Ensure to provide a definition for important population that aligns with the statutory documentation</p> <p>Referral documentation:</p> <p>The agency notes that the following habitat definitions for the Northern Blue-Tongue Skink were provided in the referral documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Core woodland- any 'sparse open woodland' vegetation type in landzones 4 and 5, as these are more likely to provide microhabitat features important to the subspecies and support greater vegetation and ground-layer complexity. REs 1.5.16 and RE 2.4.3.</li><li>• Core Riparian- Riparian REs or higher order drainage features that are more likely to support dense vegetation, greater moisture availability and improved habitat connectivity. RE 1.3.7.</li><li>• Dispersal- A buffer of 92.84 m around core habitat areas based on the Tiliqua average home range of 4 ha and 20 m buffer already applied to core habitat. Largely core habitat.</li><li>• Suboptimal- Areas that are unlikely to be accessed by the species due to the distance away from core resources and limited microhabitat feature availability such as access to water and shelter and lack key habitat attributes for the subspecies or, where attributes are present, occur outside core or dispersal habitat areas.</li></ul> | <p>Habitat mapping for the Northern Blue-tongued Skink has been reviewed with terminology revised to align with definitions outlined within the Conservation Advice and as agreed with NEPA.</p> <p>Core Woodland and Core riparian areas have been redefined and mapped as Critical Habitat. All other areas considered to provide dispersal habitat are mapped/defined as habitat. Refer Chapter 10, Section 10.5.3 and Appendix B for further details regarding habitat definitions and mapping for the Northern Blue-tongued Skink.</p> <p>A definition of an important population for this species has been included in Chapter 10, Section 10.5.3.</p> |
| <p><b>Please note the following definitions in the statutory documentation for the species and update accordingly:</b></p> <p><b>Habitat (from Conservation Advice):</b> Dissected sandstone plateaus, and gorges, limestone ranges, granite, basalt and dolerite hills, glacial shale undulations, sand plains, sandy waterways, swamps, cracking clay floodplains and coastal flats. Vegetation association include riparian forest, vine scrub, monsoon rainforest, pandanus-lined gores, melaleuca forest, eucalypt woodland and savanna, sparse and dense shrubland, spinifex and tussock grassland.</p> <p><b>Habitat critical to survival (from Conservation Advice):</b> Areas of dense vegetation that provide cool and moist conditions within otherwise hot, dry, and flammable landscapes that are within the historical distribution of the species are habitat critical to the survival of the Northern Blue-Tongue Skink. Examples include but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• rainforest and vine thickets</li><li>• riparian forests</li><li>• well-vegetated creeks, forges and drainage lines</li><li>• well-vegetated swamps, soaks and springs</li><li>• dense thickets within floodplains, grasslands, shrublands, savannas and woodlands</li><li>• shady thickets in rocky ranges and gorges</li><li>• well-watered and well-vegetated gardens.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| <p>Non-vegetated areas that provide shelter from thermal extremes, fire, and predator are also habitat critical to the survival of the Northern Blue-tongue Skink. These include areas with deep rocky crevices and underground burrows.</p> <p>Areas of habitat critical to the survival of the Northern Blue-Tongue Skink may be occupied or temporarily unoccupied due to Cane Toad impacts. Occupied areas provide sheltered locations for subpopulations that are resilient to cane toads to persist and increase in abundance, while temporarily unoccupied areas provide locations for individuals that are cane toad resilient to disperse into, and subsequently provide source populations for additional dispersal and recolonisation events.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <p>Important populations: All remnant populations of the northern blue-tongue skink within the distribution of the cane toad are important populations for sustaining this species and providing a source population for dispersing individuals to support recovery.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>A definition of an important population for this species has been included in Chapter 10, Section 10.5.3.</p> <p>Impacts to a defined important population are considered in the impact assessment presented in Section 10.5.3.</p>                                                                                                  |
| <p>Please note, the referral documentation has considered suboptimal areas as areas that are unlikely to be accessed by the species due to the distance away from core resources and limited microhabitat feature availability such as access to water and shelter. Please note the agency considers if there is sufficient justification to determine these areas are unsuitable to be habitat for the species, then they can be defined as not habitat.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p>Further justification has been included to justify why areas of the Action Area are not considered to provide suitable habitat for this species (refer Appendix B). The definition of suboptimal habitat has been removed as a habitat category for this species.</p>                                                                |
| <p>When it comes to amount of habitat, the agency considers that the amount of habitat listed in referral documentation is likely to be an underestimate and will need to be updated following updates to habitat definition and mapping as outlined in Section 3.3 above.</p> <p>The agency will require the total area (in hectares) of Northern Blue-tongue Skink habitat, including habitat critical to survival of species within the disturbance footprint and the project area.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>A review of habitat mapping and alignment with definitions within the conservation advice has resulted in additional habitat for this species being mapped within the Action Area. Updated mapping, including increased areas of habitat available and areas of impacted habitat are presented in Appendix B and Section 10.5.3.</p> |

## ii Mertens' Water monitor

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| <p>The agency notes that the statutory documentation for Merten's Water Monitor defines habitat for the species as habitat and habitat critical to the survival of the species. Therefore, habitat definitions (and mapping) will need to be updated to align with the Conservation Advice definitions.</p> <p>Ensure to also provide a definition for important population that aligns with the statutory documentation.</p> <p><b>Referral documentation:</b></p> <p>The agency notes that the following habitat definitions for Merten's Water Monitor were provided in the referral documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Critical:</b> Areas identified as preferred habitat but are considered essential refuge habitat for the species' survival during the dry season as it is available year-round. Identified East of the Project Area in the Dugald River catchment.</li> <li>• <b>Preferred:</b> Semi-permanent waterholes and associated riparian vegetation that retain water for extended periods and provide connected habitat for Merten's Water Monitor during the wet season, depending on rainfall frequency and intensity. These areas offer shelter, foraging, resources, breeding opportunities and dispersal pathways for the species. RE. 1.3.7a along stream order of 4 or above that contain semi-permanent water.</li> </ul> | <p>Habitat mapping for the Mertens' Water Monitor has been reviewed with terminology revised to align with definitions outlined within the Conservation Advice and as agreed with NEPA.</p> <p>Preferred habitat which includes the Dugald River, Cabbage Tree Creek and Pinnacle Creek within the Action Area has been redefined and mapped as Critical Habitat. All other areas are defined and mapped as dispersal habitat which is not habitat critical to the survival of the species. Refer Chapter 10, Section 10.5.2 and Appendix B for further details regarding habitat definitions and mapping for the Mertens' Water Monitor.</p> <p>Further justification has been provided in Appendix B to support the dispersal habitat not being considered as habitat critical to the survival of the species.</p> |

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Intermittent foraging:</b> Ephemeral watercourses, small tributaries and the associated riparian vegetation. Does not reliably provide functional connectivity between high value areas, as water presence is temporary and spatially inconsistent. RE 1.3.7b and stream order 2 or 3.</li> <li>• <b>Suboptimal habitat:</b> habitat outside the riparian corridors that are represented by the RE 1.3.7a and 1.3.7b. While the species may move outside the riparian corridors they are rarely ever seen more than 150 m away from a watercourse, but are often still near other water features (dams, canals etc.)</li> <li>• <b>Important population:</b> All remnant populations within the distribution of the cane toad.</li> </ul> | <p>The definition of suboptimal habitat has been removed with justification for this not being considered habitat presented in Appendix B.</p> <p>A definition of an important population for this species has been included in Chapter 10, Section 10.5.2.</p> |

The agency notes that the referral documentation considers that there is no core habitat within the project area or the disturbance footprint.

**Please note the following definitions in the statutory documentation for the species and update accordingly:**

**Habitat (From Conservation Advice):**

Typically, 5-10 m from the edge of water except when the Merten's Water Monitor is transiting among core aquatic activity areas. Areas include:

- Perennial and semi-permanent pools in upper catchment areas, including springs, seeps, swamps, creeks and gorges
- The margins of permanent streams, rivers and lakes in lower catchment areas
- Floodplain billabong, lagoons, swamps and soaks
- Man-made irrigation channels and margins of dams
- Variety of structures in and around water bodies, including rocks, mud banks, overhanging branches and dead timber, tree roots, floating vegetation, irrigation infrastructure and roads.
- Hollows between rocks and in burrows that have been dug into the banks of waterways. Burrow entries are usually at water level and have a sloping tunnel that is connected to an enlarged chamber at the end.

**Habitat critical to survival of the species (from Conservation Advice):**

*All areas where this species persists* following the establishment of cane toads. This also includes areas within its recorded distribution that provide connectivity among remnant subpopulations.

Specifically, natural and artificial water bodies that connect remnant subpopulations and have open water, food resources, basking sites and shelter opportunities. These areas may be temporarily unoccupied due to cane toad impacts. They have sink areas for individuals that are resilient to cane toads to disperse into, breed and subsequently provide source individuals for additional dispersal and recolonisation events.

**Please note:**

Although the referral documentation considers that there is no core habitat within the project area or the disturbance footprint, the agency disagrees. Noting that there have been 11 sightings of Merten's Water Monitor, along with confirmation of habitat features within the project area, habitat critical to survival of the species is considered present within the project area and the disturbance footprint.

Unless further justification/evidence can be provided, all areas within the project area that contain sightings of Merten's Water Monitor, or can be utilised by Merten's Water Monitor, should also be considered habitat critical to survival of the species.

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| <p><b>Important populations:</b></p> <p>All remnant populations of Merten’s water monitor within the distribution of cane toads are important populations for sustaining this species and providing a source for dispersing individuals to support recovery.</p> <p>Please note, the referral documentation has considered <i>suboptimal</i> habitat as habitat outside of riparian corridors and that while species may move outside the riparian corridors they are rarely seen more than 150 m away from a watercourse. The Agency considers that if there is sufficient justification to determine these areas are unsuitable to be habitat for the species, then they can be defined as not habitat.</p> | <p>A definition of an important population for this species has been included in Chapter 10, Section 10.5.2.</p> <p>Impacts to a defined important population are considered in the impact assessment presented in Section 10.5.2.</p>                                                                         |
| <p><b>Amount of Habitat</b></p> <p>When it comes to amount of habitat, the agency considers that the amount of habitat listed in referral documentation is likely to be an underestimate and will need to be updated following updates to habitat definition and mapping.</p> <p>The agency will require the total area (in hectares) of Merten’s Water Monitor, including habitat critical to survival of species within the disturbance footprint and the project area.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>A review of habitat mapping and alignment with definitions within the Conservation Advice has not resulted in any additional habitat for this species being mapped within the Action Area. Areas of impacted habitat, including habitat re-defined as Critical Habitat, is presented in Section 10.5.2.</p> |

### iii Carpentarian Grasswren

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <p>The agency notes that the statutory documentation for Carpentarian Grasswren defines habitat for the species as habitat to the survival of the species. Therefore, habitat definitions (and mapping) will need to be updated to align with the Conservation Advice definitions.</p> <p>Ensure to also provide a definition for important population that aligns with the statutory documentation.</p> <p><b>Referral documentation:</b></p> <p>The agency notes that the following habitat definitions were provided in the referral documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Core- breeding/refugia-</b> Areas within the Project Area are limited to long-unburnt spinifex hummocks with sporadic presence of stony substrates. REs 1.11.2, 1.7.1 and 1.7.7.</li> <li>• <b>Foraging/dispersal-</b> Areas of connectivity or opportunistic foraging between areas of the species core habitat and infrequent fires (&gt;5 years on Fire Scar Mapping). REs 1.11.3, 1.12.1 and 1.12.3 (and 1.11.2, 1.7.1 and 1.7.7 excluded from core habitat).</li> <li>• <b>Suboptimal-</b> Areas subject to frequent, intense fires (&gt;5 years on Fire Scar Mapping) or suitable REs not mapped as core or dispersal habitat. RE 1.3.6, 1.3.7, 1.3.13, 1.5.13, 1.5.16, 1.5.3, 1.5.4 and 1.7.5.</li> </ul> <p><b>Please note the following definitions in the statutory documentation for the species and update accordingly:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Habitat</b> (from Conservation Advice):<br/>Sandstone outcrops in mature spinifex (<i>Triodia</i> spp.) hummock grassland in the northern part of its range, while in the southern part of its range it occupies long-unburnt spinifex with stony areas between the hummocks on which grow a range of short grasses, forbs and patchy low trees and shrubs.</li> </ul> | <p>Habitat mapping for the Carpentarian Grasswren has been updated based on the Conservation Advice definitions and presented in Appendix B and Section 10.5.5.</p> <p>The revised mapping recognises that no specific habitat critical to survival definition is provided for the Carpentarian Grasswren in the Conservation Advice. Accordingly, the Significant Impact Guidelines definition has been applied, which includes areas necessary for activities such as foraging, breeding and dispersal, as well as areas necessary for the long-term maintenance, recovery and persistence of the species.</p> <p>Habitat within the Project Area is now mapped as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Critical Habitat – Breeding and refugia</b>, comprising areas considered to provide the combination of mature <i>Triodia</i>, rocky/stony substrate, topographic complexity and fire-refugia characteristics most important for breeding, shelter, refuge and foraging; and</li> <li>• <b>Habitat – Foraging and dispersal</b>, comprising additional areas that may provide connectivity, opportunistic foraging or dispersal opportunities, including areas capable of developing suitable habitat characteristics over time.</li> </ul> <p>The revised mapping takes a conservative approach to fire. Areas are not excluded from habitat solely because they have been burnt, recognising that fire-related changes in suitability may be temporary and</p> |

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| <p>The Conservation Advice states that Grasswrens normally abandon burnt areas, unless substantial unburnt spinifex remains, with recolonisation occurring after three to four years depending on rainfall, vegetation regeneration rates and the persistence of nearby source population.</p> <p>Therefore, the Agency considers all areas in the project area, including burnt areas, that meet the definition of habitat (i.e. <i>areas containing spinifex with stony areas between the hummocks on which grow a range of short grasses, forbs and patchy low trees and shrubs</i>) is habitat for the Carpentarian Grasswren.</p> <p><b>Note about dispersal habitat (from the Conservation Advice):</b></p> <p>The Conservation advice states that the dispersal biology of the Carpentarian Grasswrens is largely unknown, but that they are likely to disperse through relatively intact landscapes. The Agency notes that the ecology report in the referral documentation considers that there is limited dispersal capability for the species.</p> <p>The agency requires further justification for this assessment of limited dispersal habitat including further information about the habitat present within the project area. Please include mapping of all areas with spinifex in the project area.</p> <p><b>Note about habitat critical to survival of the species:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The agency notes that there is no specific definition for habitat critical to the survival of the Carpentarian Grasswren in the Conservation Advice, so the general definition provided in the Significant Impact Guidelines will be the only one applicable for the species. Following this, and in relation to the Carpentarian Grasswren, habitat critical to survival of the species' is: breeding, foraging and dispersal habitat.</li> <li>The Agency notes that several REs specified in the referral documentation are categorised as 'foraging/dispersal' and have been excluded as 'core habitat' (habitat critical). Please provide sufficient justification to explain why these REs do not constitute habitat critical to survival of the species.</li> </ul> | <p>habitat can recover over time. Recently burnt areas that otherwise meet the relevant habitat criteria are therefore retained as Habitat – Foraging and dispersal, rather than being excluded as previously mapped "suboptimal" habitat.</p> <p>The distinction between Critical Habitat and other Habitat has been informed by the species' ecological requirements, fire history, regional ecosystem characteristics, field observations and specialist advice from Adaptive NRM. REs 1.7.1, 1.7.7 and 1.11.2 provide the basis for mapping Critical Habitat where the relevant mature <i>Triodia</i>, rocky/stony and fire-refugia characteristics occur. REs 1.11.3, 1.11.8, 1.12.1 and 1.12.3, together with areas of the critical-habitat REs that do not currently meet the Critical Habitat criteria, are conservatively retained as Habitat – Foraging and dispersal.</p> <p>The assessment also recognises that individuals may disperse and establish new territories through relatively intact landscapes, rather than assuming a generally limited dispersal capability.</p> <p>A definition of an important population for this species has been included in Chapter 10, Section 10.5.5.</p> |
| <p><b>Amount of Habitat</b></p> <p>When it comes to amount of habitat, the agency considers that the amount of habitat listed in referral documentation is likely to be an underestimate and will need to be updated following updates to habitat definition and mapping.</p> <p>The agency will require the total area (in hectares) of Carpentarian Grasswren, including habitat critical to survival of species within the disturbance footprint and the project area.</p> <p>This must include the location, distribution and quality (including on maps and shapefiles) of spinifex within the project area and disturbance footprint.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>A review of habitat mapping and alignment with definitions within the conservation advice has resulted in additional habitat for this species being mapped within the Action Area. Updated mapping, including increased areas of habitat available and areas of impacted habitat are presented in Appendix B and Section 10.5.5.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

## A.1.5 Impact assessment

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| <p>An assessment of potential short-term and long-term impacts to MNES from the proposed action (during all project phases) within the project area and surrounds, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• updates to clearance protocols to ensure protected matters are protected during clearance activities</li> <li>• habitat loss, degradation and individual mortality from vegetation clearing</li> <li>• habitat fragmentation and patch isolation (with consideration of species' movement patterns and site utilisation), including site alienation resulting in fauna avoiding the project area</li> <li>• species site utilisation before/after disturbance</li> <li>• increased prevalence of invasive plants and animals, with reference to relevant baseline surveys as described in the habitat assessment section.</li> <li>• increased anthropogenic activities, including disturbance from dogs and other animals, vehicle collisions with fauna, illegal rubbish dumping and littering, risk of entanglement in fencing</li> <li>• altered fire regimes</li> <li>• altered hydrology and water quality</li> <li>• environmental pollution, including light and noise pollution, sediment/dust generation.</li> </ul> | <p>Both short term and longer term impacts to MNES have been comprehensively assessed in Chapter 10 which considers all impact pathways identified in Section 10.3.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <p>Quantification of the direct and indirect loss and/or disturbance of protected matters and their habitat as a result of the proposed action. This must include the area (in hectares) for each type of habitat, the quality of the habitat to be impacted, and quantification of the individuals to be impacted (where applicable).</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>Direct and indirect impacts to all known and potential MNES occurring within the Action Area have been quantified and assessed in Chapter 10.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p>A statement whether any relevant impacts are likely to be unknown, unpredictable or irreversible.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>Section 10.3 includes a statement as to whether any impacts are likely to be unknown, unpredictable or irreversible.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p>Evidence that maximum disturbance limits for individual MNES are consistent with best available science and with any available statutory documents. Ensure that these limits, where relevant, consider any uncertainty in the ecology of the species with reference to the precautionary principle.</p> <p>Where impacts to MNES habitat cannot be fully avoided, maximum disturbance limits (in hectares) should be provided. The maximum disturbance limits should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be as small as possible, and justified in relation to the mitigation hierarchy, based on design choices for the project.</li> <li>• be justified in relation to best available science and any relevant statutory documents</li> <li>• consider any uncertainty in the ecology of the species with reference to the precautionary principle</li> <li>• reflect avoidance commitments</li> <li>• be as specific as possible (i.e. broken down into specific habitat categories and/or parts of the project area where relevant)</li> <li>• include all predicted direct impacts to habitat, including direct habitat removal as well as functional loss and isolation of habitat.</li> </ul>                                                            | <p>Consideration of alternatives and justification for project design elements are detailed in Chapter 6. Impact avoidance measures have been addressed in Chapter 10.4. All impacts to MNES have been avoided to the greatest extent practicable.</p> <p>A precautionary approach has been adopted to include assessment of impacts to not only species known to occur within the Action Area but all species considered to have a moderate or higher LoO.</p> <p>A precautionary approach to assessment of impact has also been adopted as presented in Chapter 10 with all potential direct and indirect impacts considered and assessed.</p> |

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| Discussion of whether the impacts are likely to be repeated, for example, as part of maintenance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Direct impacts are considered to be a one off impact with indirect impacts occurring throughout the life of the Project. Further details regarding the delineation of direct and indirect impacts as well as the extent and duration of impacts is provided in Section 10.3.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| An analysis of the significance of the relevant impacts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Assessments of significance are detailed in Chapter 10 for each relevant MNES.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Any technical data and other information used or needed to make a detailed assessment of the relevant impacts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | All technical information relied on to inform the assessment is detailed and referenced in Appendix B and summated in Chapter 10.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Identification and discussion of cumulative impacts, where potential project impacts are in addition to existing impacts of other activities (including known potential future expansions or developments by the proponent and other proponents in the region and vicinity).                                                                                                                                                                               | A section on cumulative impacts (being the broader Life of Mine for the Project) and impacts of future climate change are presented in Section 10.3.3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Discussion of the potential cumulative impact of the proposal on ecosystem resilience. Consider the anticipated/predicted future climatic conditions at the site in the assessment of impacts on MNES, and how changes in climate and the frequency and severity of weather events may interact with, exacerbate or reduce the impacts of the project on MNES over time.                                                                                   | A section on cumulative impacts and impacts of future climate change is presented in Section 10.3.3.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| A detailed assessment of any likely impact that this proposed action may facilitate on relevant controlling provisions (at the local, regional, state, national and international scale).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | The assessment considers the potential impacts of the Stage 1 Referral Action on the relevant controlling provisions at the local, regional, Queensland and national scales. The Stage 1 Referral Action comprises the critical-path activities required to commence mining, processing and production of copper concentrate and, in doing so, will facilitate the subsequent development and continued operation of the broader Eva Copper Mine. Potential impacts associated with the Stage 2 Referral, together with the cumulative impacts of the Stage 1 and Stage 2 Referral Actions and the broader Project, will be comprehensively assessed as part of the separate Stage 2 Referral. |
| Justification, with supporting evidence, as to how the proposed action will not be inconsistent with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Australia's obligations under the Biodiversity Convention, the Convention on Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific (Apia Convention), and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)</li> <li>• a recovery plan or threat abatement plan.</li> </ul> | Compliance of the Stage 1 Referral Action with international conventions has been included in Section 8.4.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Justification, with supporting evidence, as to how the proposed action has taken into account any relevant approved conservation advice.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Consideration of conservation advice in assessing impact, and identifying impact avoidance and mitigation measures, are detailed in Chapter 10.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| <p>Please confirm whether there are any Merten's Water Monitor records within the disturbance footprint itself. The agency notes that the current significant impact assessment is conducted with the assumption that there are only preferred and dispersal habitat present.</p> <p>Note: The agency notes that the presence of Merten's Water Monitor records (i.e. those around Cabbage Tree Creek) is a likely indication of habitat critical to survival of the species being present within the project area and possibly the disturbance footprint.</p>                               | <p>No records of Mertens' Water Monitor are within the Disturbance Footprint associated with the Stage 1 Referral Action. Mertens' Water Monitor sightings in relation to the Disturbance Footprint are illustrated on Figure 10.1. Insets have been included to improve clarity.</p>        |
| <p>Provide more information on the potential impacts the release of mine-affected water might affect the water quality of Merten's Water Monitor's habitat, particularly habitat around records of Merten's Water Monitor around Cabbage Tree Creek.</p> <p>The agency notes that the current significant impact assessment conducted on the release of mine-affected water only considers its effect on preferred habitat. Noting that sightings of Merten's Water Monitor is beside Cabbage Tree Creek this area is likely considered habitat critical to the survival of the species.</p> | <p>Further details on the potential impacts of Mine Affected Water and how water releases will be managed to minimise impacts is presented in Section 10.5.2.</p> <p>Cabbage Tree Creek has been reclassified as Critical Habitat for this species (refer Appendix B and Section 10.5.2)</p> |
| <p>Provide more information on the Turkey Creek realignment, clean water drains and bunds and the connectivity with Diorite Creek. The agency notes that removal of habitat between known records may reduce connectivity and foraging resources for the species.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <p>Additional detail regarding these activities is presented in Section 10.3.1 (within item 10.3.1ii Loss of waterways and changes to hydrology and flows), and in Section 10.5.2.</p>                                                                                                       |

### A.1.6 Avoidance, mitigation and management measures

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <p>A detailed summary of measures proposed to be undertaken by the proponent to avoid, minimise, mitigate and manage relevant impacts of the proposed action on protected matters, for all stages of the proposed action.</p> <p>Include details of any relevant measures to avoid, mitigate and manage impacts required through other Commonwealth, State and local government approvals.</p>                                                                                                           | <p>Addressed in the Chapter 10 and MNES Management Plan provided as Appendix C. The Project applies the mitigation hierarchy of avoidance, mitigation, and, where required, offsets.</p> <p>The MNES Management Plan (Appendix C) applies across clearing, construction, operations, closure and rehabilitation and is integrated with supporting plans and programs, including those required to meet Queensland Environmental Authority and other statutory requirements.</p> |
| <p>Evidence that all measures meet the 'S.M.A.R.T' principle:</p> <p>S – Specific (what and how)</p> <p>M – Measurable (supported by baseline information, number/value, quantifiable, auditable)</p> <p>A – Achievable (with consideration of e.g., timeframe, money, personnel)</p> <p>R – Relevant (consistent with conservation advices, recovery plans, threat abatement plans, scientific literature)</p> <p>T – Time-bound (specific timeframe to complete, include timeframe and frequency).</p> | <p>Addressed in the Chapter 10 and MNES Management Plan provided as Appendix C. Measures have been expressly developed in accordance with the SMART principle and identify specific actions, measurable performance criteria, responsible implementation mechanisms and defined timing or Project stages. Performance is assessed through the monitoring framework, with adaptive management and corrective actions where criteria are not achieved.</p>                        |

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <p>Details of specific and measurable environmental outcomes to be achieved for relevant protected matters. All commitments must be drafted using committal language (e.g. 'will' and 'must') when describing the proposed measures. This includes identifying milestones, or specifying performance or completion criteria.</p> <p>Any commitments by the person proposing to take the action must be clearly distinguished from recommendations or statements of best practice made by the document author or other technical expert.</p> <p>Please note: as part of avoidance, mitigation and management measures for the project considered in the referral documentation, reference was made to Cane Toad activity that 'exceed expected levels'. The agency notes that although the proponent had conducted preliminary surveys to confirm the presence of Cane Toads across multiple locations, however the level/ density of Cane Toads was not reported. Therefore, baseline surveys for Cane Toads need to be undertaken within the project area to determine 'expected levels'. The agency strongly recommends that baseline surveys data for all pest animals and weed management to be provided as part of the Preliminary Documentation.</p> | <p>The MNES Management Plan (Appendix C) establishes species-specific environmental outcomes, performance indicators and supporting performance criteria using committal language.</p> <p>Due to timing constraints, comprehensive baseline surveys for cane toads have not been completed with preliminary surveys undertaken to assess presence/absence only. The approach to baseline surveys is detailed in the MNES Management Plan.</p>                                                         |
| <p>An assessment of the expected or predicted effectiveness of the proposed measures.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Addressed through the MNES Management Plan (Appendix C). The risk assessment within the MNES Management Plan considers the effectiveness of the avoidance, mitigation and management measures and assesses residual risk following implementation of the proposed controls.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <p>Inclusion of any statutory or policy basis for the proposed measures, including reference to the SPRAT Database and relevant approved conservation advice, recovery plan or threat abatement plan, and a discussion on how the proposed measures are not inconsistent with relevant plans.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Mitigation and management measures detailed in Chapter 10 and the MNES Management Plan (Appendix C) draw on current SPRAT information, approved conservation advice, recovery plans, significant impact guidance and relevant threat abatement plans. Measures have been developed having regard to the threats and priority actions identified in these documents and are not inconsistent with their recovery objectives.</p>                                                                    |
| <p>Details of ongoing management, including monitoring programs to support an adaptive management approach, that validate the effectiveness of the proposed management measures and overall demonstrate that environmental outcomes will be achieved.</p> <p>Proposed impact triggers must be informed by scientific literature and relevant departmental guidelines.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Detailed monitoring and management measures are detailed in the MNES Management Plan (Appendix C). Monitoring includes disturbance footprint compliance, pre-clearance and clearing records, retained habitat condition, MNES observations, water quality, erosion and sedimentation, pest fauna, Cane Toads, cattle exclusion and vehicle strike, with defined locations and frequencies. Results are used to verify management effectiveness and trigger adaptive management where required.</p> |
| <p>Details of tangible, on-ground corrective actions that will be implemented in the event the monitoring programs indicate that the environmental outcomes have not or will not be achieved, and when these corrective actions would be triggered.</p> <p>Note that provision of environmental offsets will also be expected for any residual significant impact.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>Corrective actions are detailed in the MNES Management Plan (Appendix C). Where performance criteria are not achieved, corrective actions may include strengthening controls, modifying work practices, habitat remediation, increased monitoring, targeted weed or pest control, additional training and revision of management plans.</p>                                                                                                                                                        |

### A.1.7 Rehabilitation requirements

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Where/how addressed                                      |
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| <p>Details of rehabilitation methods and how they meet best practice standards, including for the restoration of habitat for relevant protected matters and avoidance of sedimentation/erosion.</p> <p><b>Please note</b> that replanting with species that are known threats to MNES may disqualify an area from being considered as rehabilitation relevant to minimising or mitigating impacts to that/those MNES, regardless of whether the plant species in question is a WoNS.</p> | New Chapter 12 to this Report has been added to address. |
| A summary of the vegetation community/habitat that is being rehabilitated and the dominant species that will be included in the rehabilitation site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | New Chapter 12 to this Report has been added to address. |
| The details of any rehabilitation activities proposed to be undertaken as required by Commonwealth, State or Territory, and local government legislation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | New Chapter 12 to this Report has been added to address. |
| Maps showing the areas that will be rehabilitated within the project area and the size in hectares of these areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | New Chapter 12 to this Report has been added to address. |
| Information on management of the rehabilitation site, including, but not limited to, weed and pest management.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | New Chapter 12 to this Report has been added to address. |
| Rehabilitation acceptance criteria relevant to MNES and the procedures, including contingency measures, that will be undertaken to achieve them. The agency may require reassurance that the final landform is consistent with pre-disturbance habitat values. Where this is not possible, the agency is likely to require justification.                                                                                                                                                | New Chapter 12 to this Report has been added to address. |
| Details of a monitoring program to determine the success of rehabilitation activities implemented by the proponent, including any contingency measures and when they would be triggered.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | New Chapter 12 to this Report has been added to address. |
| Information on whether any post-construction rehabilitation sites will be subsequently cleared during the operation or decommissioning stages of the project.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | New Chapter 12 to this Report has been added to address. |

## A.1.8 Standard information requirements for OMS

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| An environmental offset/s proposal that meets the core principles of the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy (2012) available at: <a href="https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/publications/epbc-act-environmental-offsets-policy">https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/epbc/publications/epbc-act-environmental-offsets-policy</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                       | An Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) has been prepared in accordance with the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy 2012. The significant residual impacts proposed to be offset are consistent with the outcomes presented in Chapter 10 for relevant MNES and are summarised in the Environmental Offset Strategy and offset actions to compensate for those impacts and achieve conservation outcomes for impacted matter are provided. These actions are consistent with offset policy principles which is demonstrated in Section 6, Table 6.3 of the Environmental Offset Strategy. |
| An OMS that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is prepared by a suitably qualified ecologist,</li> <li>• is consistent with the department's Environmental Management Plan Guidelines (2014), available at: Environmental Management Plan Guidelines - DCCEEW, and</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | The Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) has been prepared by suitably qualified ecologists and further details to demonstrate that have been included in Section 1.3 of the document. The Environmental Offset Strategy has also had inputs from other suitably qualified ecologists and organisations such as Southern Gulf NRM. The Environmental Offset Strategy Offset Strategy has been with consideration to the EMP Guidelines as detailed in Section 1.4 of the document.                                                                                                           |
| All measures must be written using committed language (e.g. 'will' and 'must') and in accordance with the 'S.M.A.R.T' principle:<br>S – Specific (what and how)<br>M – Measurable (supported by baseline information, number/value, quantifiable, auditable)<br>A – Achievable (with consideration of e.g., timeframe, money, personnel)<br>R – Relevant (consistent with conservation advices, recovery plans, threat abatement plans, scientific literature)<br>T – Time-bound (specific timeframe to complete, include timeframe and frequency). | The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) expressly adopts the S.M.A.R.T principle and establishes specific actions, measurable performance objectives and completion criteria, defined responsibilities and time-bound delivery milestones. The Stage 1 Offset Action Plan also uses committed language for commitments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| A description of the proposed environmental offset and key commitments to achieve a conservation gain for each protected matter.<br>Ensure the description includes specific, relevant and measurable environmental outcomes which detail the nature of the conservation gain to be achieved for relevant MNES, through delivery of the OMS.                                                                                                                                                                                                        | The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) provides a package comprising a Species Research and Monitoring Program, Threat Abatement Program, and Capacity Building and Community Engagement Program, with defined outcomes and conservation gain measures for the Northern Blue-tongued Skink. These include improved knowledge of remnant subpopulations and habitat requirements, reduced threatening processes and improved habitat condition.                                                                                                                                     |
| When calculating offsets, please refer to the department's published guidance, How to use the Offsets Assessment Guide, available at EPBC Act environmental offsets policy - DCCEEW.<br>Please note, risk of loss should not include consideration of stochastic events (e.g. bushfires), activities that contribute to changes in habitat quality scores or impacts that would otherwise require an offset under any relevant legislation.                                                                                                         | The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) applies the EPBC Act Offsets Assessment Guide (OAG) as the benchmark for determining the scale and indicative cost of a comparable land-based offset. A conservative 0% risk of loss has been applied, with no assumed future deterioration in habitat quality without the offset.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| <p>The Agency notes the OMS proposed as part of the referral documentation and considers that additional evidence is required to demonstrate how the proposed OMS will result in a conservation gain for the protected matters. The OMS provides limited information on the scale and intensity of the proposed threat abatement and species research programs. A cost estimate is provided for 'land-based management costs' but there is insufficient detail to allow an assessment of the adequacy of the compensation in relation to the impacts of the species. Similarly, there is limited detail provided in relation to the Capacity Building and Community Engagement Program to ascertain the value of this compensatory action for the species. In relation to costing provided in Table 5.1 and 5.2 of the draft OMS, the Agency notes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Queensland Financial Offset Calculator which, in principle, could provide a tool to measure the adequacy of the compensatory package from a monetary perspective, is based off 2014 costing figures. The accumulated inflation over the 2014-2025 is 34.4% (based on data from Reserve Bank of Australia).</li> <li>• The Queensland Financial Offset Calculator does not account for the listing status of threatened species under the EPBC Act or the quality of habitat being impacted. Both parameters are important to determine land-based offset suitability under the EPBC Offset Policy framework. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The implications of the contrasting approach of the Queensland Financial Offset Calculator instead of the EPBC Offsets Assessment Guide is illustrated by the 'notional offset areas' estimated to be required to compensate for the loss of 190 ha of the Critically Endangered Northern Blue-tongue Skink using the Queensland Financial Offset Calculator (namely 760 ha) and the EPBC Offsets Assessment Guide (namely 3,100 ha) (page 25-26 of the draft OMS). This means that under the EPBC Offset policy framework, an offset area 4 times larger would be required to be managed in relation to what is required under the Queensland Offset Policy framework for the same species. This distinction has direct implications in the financial cost of delivering a suitable offset.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>In the absence of detailed assessment with respect to the quality of habitat being impacted by the proposed action as well as the hypothetical offset area used in cost calculations, a conservative approach is recommended.</p> | <p>The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) specifies the scope, timing, delivery mechanisms, performance outcomes and pre-commencement funding commitments for each offset stream. The total financial cost uses a combination of the OAG-derived land-based offset area and Queensland Financial Offset Calculator (with inflation applied). Detail is presented in Section 5 of the Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D).</p>                                                                                                   |
| <p>The Agency considers that the proposed long-term monitoring program is important to measure the ecological response of the species in relation to landscape change due to development pressures, climatic variability and land-management interventions over time.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p>The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) includes long-term population monitoring, threat-abatement monitoring and reporting, with permanent monitoring sites to be established where Northern Blue-tongued Skink populations are confirmed. Monitoring outcomes will inform adaptive management and future phases of the offset program.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <p>Provide specific offset completion criteria to demonstrate the benefits from the offset action lasting for the duration of the impact.</p> <p>Please note: based on empirical evidence, 20% gain on habitat quality (as noted in Table 5.1 of the draft OMS) would usually require intense and prolonged management actions to be realised. The Agency notes the lack of baseline data on habitat quality at the impact site and recommends a conservative approach.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>The Action Plan in the revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D, Table 6.1) establishes conservation gain measures and indicative completion criteria for each offset stream, including measurable reductions in threatening processes, habitat-condition improvement, establishment of monitoring sites and completion of research outcomes. The Threat Abatement Program is proposed as a staged delivery with adaptive reviews to inform future phases, intended to maintain conservation benefits over the duration of the impact.</p> |

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| <p>Details of the residual impacts to MNES from the project, including the inputs to the Offsets Assessment Guide in relation to the impact area for each MNES (i.e. the quantum of impact), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>total area of habitat (in hectares)</li> <li>habitat quality (for both impact and offset site)</li> </ul> <p>The Agency notes that the OMS provided as part of the referral documentation has been developed to compensate for the loss of 190 ha of habitat for the critically endangered Northern Blue-tongue skink (<i>Tiliqua scincoides intermedia</i>). Noting the requirements set out in this RFI for an update to habitat definitions (section 3) and impact assessment (section 4), should the residual significant impact for the Northern Blue-tongue Skink, or other protected matters, change as a result of further assessment, the OMS must be updated accordingly.</p> | <p>The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) reflects the updated Stage 1 residual impact to Northern Blue-tongued Skink and uses the EPBC Offsets Assessment Guide as a benchmarking tool to inform the scale and value of the compensatory package. The OAG assumptions, including impact area, impact-site habitat quality and conservative risk-of-loss assumptions, are documented in the Environmental Offset Strategy.</p> |
| <p>Baseline data and other supporting evidence that documents the presence of the relevant MNES, and the quality of their habitat within the offset area/s.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p>Not directly applicable, as the Stage 1 Offset Strategy does not propose a conventional secured land-based offset area. Baseline surveys will instead be undertaken for properties participating in the Threat Abatement Pilot Program, with property-specific baselines and management targets established before implementation of threat-abatement measures.</p>                                                                         |
| <p>A description of the offset area/s, including location, size, condition, environmental values present and surrounding land uses. Include maps and shapefiles to clearly define the location and boundaries of the offset area/s.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p>Not directly applicable, as no fixed land-based offset area is proposed. Participating properties for the Threat Abatement Program will be identified based on known or likely Northern Blue-tongued Skink occurrence and suitable habitat, with property-specific plans developed following site selection and baseline assessment.</p>                                                                                                    |
| <p>Details of how the offset area/s will provide connectivity with other habitats and biodiversity corridors and/or will contribute to a larger strategic offset for the relevant MNES.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p>Not directly applicable in the context of a defined land-based offset area. The Strategy instead adopts a regional, program-based approach targeting remnant Northern Blue-tongued Skink subpopulations and associated habitat across the Cloncurry region, with scope to expand through future Stage 2 offset delivery and regional partnerships.</p>                                                                                      |

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| <p>Details of the management actions, and timeframes for implementation, to be carried out to meet the offset completion criteria. In accordance with the department's Environmental Management Plan Guidelines (2014), the OMS should define the roles and responsibilities of personnel in charge of the environmental management of the project.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) includes a Stage 1 Offset Action Plan that identifies the management actions, delivery timeframes, performance outcomes, pre-commencement commitments and responsible parties for each offset stream. ECMPL will provide program oversight, with Southern Gulf NRM and suitably qualified research partners responsible for delivery of relevant components.</p>                                                                             |
| <p>Provide evidence of how the management actions and corrective actions consider statutory documents, i.e. take into account relevant approved conservation advices and are consistent with relevant recovery plans and threat abatement plans.</p> <p>The Species Profile and Threats (SPRAT) database (<a href="https://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/sprat.pl">https://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/sprat.pl</a>) must be consulted for up-to-date information and all relevant statutory documents must be cited and discussed when justifying the offset strategy.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) has been developed with reference to the Northern Blue-tongued Skink Conservation Advice, the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy and relevant Threat Abatement Plans. The proposed actions address recognised threats including feral cats, feral pigs, fire and grazing, and are intended to support the recovery priorities identified for the species.</p>                                                                             |
| <p>Outline key questions to be addressed by the Species Research Program in line with areas of further investigation highlighted in Statutory Documents and/ or in line with consultation with species experts.</p> <p>Please provide evidence that research program is additional to current work undertaken for the protected matter.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>The research program detailed in the Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) targets key knowledge gaps relating to the distribution and viability of remnant subpopulations at the eastern extent of the species' range, habitat and microhabitat requirements, and interactions with Cane Toads. The Strategy also notes that no research is currently being undertaken in Queensland specifically for Northern Blue-tongued Skink, demonstrating that the proposed program is additional.</p> |
| <p>The Agency considers that the Species Research Program, or a component of it, should guide the development of well-informed and targeted Threat Abatement Program. This is particularly important to ensure that threat abatement activities are better targeted to support key sub-populations of protected matters and maximise the benefits of recovery actions and long-term conservation outcomes for the species.</p> <p>The Agency notes that on page 5 and 21 of the OMS submitted with the referral, references are made to the "threat abatement plans for predation, habitat degradation, competition and disease transmission by feral pigs (<i>Sus scrofa</i>) (2017)". However, no reference is included in relation to the Threat abatement plan for the biological effects, including lethal toxic ingestion, caused by cane toads (2011)", which is a relevant statutory document for the Northern Blue-tongue Skink.</p> | <p>The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) explicitly links the Species Research and Monitoring Program to development and refinement of the Threat Abatement Program, so that threat-abatement actions are targeted to confirmed or likely subpopulations and informed by improved understanding of habitat requirements and threats. Cane Toad co-occurrence and potential resilience are specific research questions.</p>                                                            |

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| Include details of the nature, timing and frequency of monitoring to inform progress against achieving the maximum 5-yearly interim milestones (the frequency of monitoring must be sufficient to track progress towards each set of milestones, and sufficient to determine whether the offset area/s are likely to achieve those milestones in adequate time to implement all necessary corrective actions).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) establishes a broad monitoring framework to track progress against completion criteria, with monitoring methods and frequency to be tailored to individual Pilot Program properties following baseline assessment. The Species Research and Monitoring Program is also structured over five years, with longer-term monitoring continuing through the Threat Abatement Program. More detailed property-specific monitoring frequencies will be provided in the relevant Threat Abatement Plans. |
| Timing for the implementation of tangible, on-ground corrective actions to be implemented if monitoring activities indicate the interim milestones have not been achieved. The plan should also identify who is responsible for implementing these actions. Auditable systems should be developed for recording the implementation of these procedures and their outcomes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | The risk and adaptive management framework outlined in the Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) identifies triggers, monitoring responses and feasible corrective actions, with Southern Gulf NRM and ECMPL responsible for investigating triggers and implementing corrective measures. Corrective actions will be applied when monitoring identifies that performance outcomes are not being achieved, with detailed responses further defined through property-specific plans.                                                                |
| Proposed timing for the submission of monitoring reports which provide evidence demonstrating whether the interim milestones have been achieved.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | As detailed in the revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D), progress reporting will occur throughout implementation of the Species Research and Monitoring Program and Threat Abatement Program, with periodic reporting to DCCEEW. A final research report will be provided in Year 5, while ongoing monitoring and reporting will continue through the full-term Threat Abatement Program.                                                                                                                                                |
| Describe the monitoring methods that will be implemented. The plan must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>evidence to demonstrate the relevance of the monitoring methods to the protection of the relevant aspect of the protected matter(s) for which the offset is implemented;</li> <li>quantitative (e.g. on-ground survey results) and qualitative baseline data (e.g. photo-point monitoring sites) that establish the start quality/condition of the environment and which can be used to measure performance against;</li> <li>a description of the sampling strategy (including monitoring area, site selection and sampling intensity over space and time) and statistical analyses to be employed;</li> <li>justification for the sampling strategy/monitoring methods, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an assessment of effectiveness and constraints to use;</li> <li>a discussion of the methods' capacity to detect change in environmental condition due to management interventions;</li> <li>a discussion of the methods' capacity to demonstrate attainment of performance targets and/or completion criteria; and</li> <li>Information on the statistical power of the strategy/method.</li> <li>commitments to engage with appropriately qualified experts to design (if relevant) and conduct monitoring and survey activities, and analyse monitoring results;</li> <li>information/a discussion on how the methods will account for seasonal/climatic variability; and</li> <li>details of the location, nature and number of monitoring sites, including benchmark/reference sites to evaluate management performance.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) commits to quantified baseline monitoring, suitably qualified research partners, targeted species surveys, long-term population monitoring and monitoring of threat-abatement effectiveness. However, detailed sampling intensity, statistical analyses/power, reference sites and treatment of seasonal variability are intended to be defined through the Year 1 Research and Monitoring Program and individual property-specific Threat Abatement Plans.                                     |

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| <p>Include commitments to report on plan implementation and success as well as opportunities for improvement. This is achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identifying relevant reporting obligations under the EPBC approval, or otherwise proposing appropriate regular reporting intervals, objectives and methods;</li> <li>specifying how plan/strategy implementation will be reported in accordance with those obligations;</li> <li>including a reporting template specifying key risk management, management measures, monitoring and adaptive implementation outcomes for the reporting period; and</li> <li>including a schedule and triggers for reporting types (e.g. annual compliance, incident, non-compliance, contingency).</li> </ul> | <p>The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) provides for ongoing monitoring and reporting of program implementation, effectiveness, risks, incidents, non-compliances and contingency measures, supported by an adaptive management framework. Regular review will be used to identify opportunities for improvement and ensure learnings are incorporated into subsequent phases, with material amendments provided to DCCEEW for review.</p> |

#### iv Monitoring and reporting

| Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Where/how addressed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <p>Assessment of the risk of failure to achieve the plan's performance targets and/or completion criteria. Including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>stating the plan's performance targets and/or completion criteria;</li> <li>identifying events or circumstances that prejudice attainment/maintenance of performance targets and/or completion criteria. The events or circumstances must address scientific/ecological uncertainty, stochastic events and legal/land use planning factors that may represent risks;</li> <li>qualitative assessment of the likelihood and consequence of those events or circumstances, and the residual risk of failure to achieve those criteria due to identified events or circumstances (assuming management measures will be implemented);</li> <li>characterising risk as low, medium, high or severe, and derived from likelihood (highly likely, likely, possible, unlikely, rare) and consequence (minor, moderate, high, major and critical); and</li> <li>outlining how consequence, likelihood and risk level for each risk have been determined.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>The revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) includes a risk assessment that links the stated performance outcomes and completion criteria to identified delivery risks, management measures, trigger detection, monitoring, corrective actions and residual risk. Risks are qualitatively assessed using likelihood and consequence ratings and assigned residual risk levels following implementation of controls.</p>                           |
| <p>The plan must manage the risk of failure to achieve performance targets and/or completion criteria by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>specifying management measures that will be implemented to attain/maintain the completion criteria and/or performance targets;</li> <li>enhancing monitoring and management measures for high risk events or circumstances, thereby providing a 'margin of safety' to detect, avoid or mitigate the likelihood and/or impacts of the event or circumstance;</li> <li>specifying measurable events or circumstances (management triggers) that detect actual or potential issues in a timely manner to avoid, minimise or mitigate adverse impacts;</li> <li>ensuring the monitoring program includes activities to detect management triggers, and explains how monitoring activities may inform the selection and implementation of corrective actions;</li> <li>specifying methods to be used to determine whether the management trigger is project attributable;</li> <li>specifying effective and appropriate corrective actions that may be implemented if a management trigger is realised; and</li> <li>monitoring the effectiveness of corrective actions and implementing appropriate responses in the event corrective actions are not effective.</li> </ol> | <p>The risk framework outlined within the revised Environmental Offset Strategy (Appendix D) specifies management measures, measurable triggers, monitoring activities and corrective actions for identified risks, with adaptive management used to respond where performance is off-track. The Strategy also commits to ongoing monitoring to confirm effectiveness and allow timely adjustment of measures, with learnings applied to subsequent phases.</p> |