

Coomera Connector (Future stages) Loganholme to Coomera

Application Number: **03206**

Commencement Date:
31/10/2025

Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

Coomera Connector (Future stages) Loganholme to Coomera

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Transport - Land

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

Road

1.1.4 Estimated start date *

01/01/2028

1.1.4 Estimated end date *

31/12/2041

1.2 Proposed Action details

1.2.1 Provide an overview of the proposed action, including all proposed activities. *

Background to the proposed action

The Pacific Motorway (M1) is the most trafficked road in Queensland, and is a key link in enabling long distance traffic between economic hubs on the east coast of Queensland and New South Wales as well as a critical component of the National Land Transport Network. The Loganholme to Nerang section of the M1 is the highest capacity section, yet this is frequently exceeded during peak periods, revealing the lack of resilience in the traffic network.

The Infrastructure Australia Audit (2015) highlighted that Queensland is set to experience the second highest level of population and employment growth in Australia, and that traffic congestion and delay costs are projected to worsen significantly (note reference list provided in **Att. A-References_2025**). The ShapingSEQ Regional Plan (2023) identifies the large population growth projected in both Logan City Council (LCC) and Gold Coast City Council (GCCC), as well as the highest growth in employment opportunities in the state in Brisbane City Council. Due to the existing gap between population and employment opportunities, and limited public transport services, the M1 already experiences large amounts of commuter traffic. This misalignment of population and job growth in LCC and GCCC will further worsen the problems already faced on the M1 (TMR 2020).

In anticipation of the growth in the region and need for an additional transport corridor to provide crossings over major rivers, planning for the Coomera Connector began in the 1990s. It has evolved to meet the changing needs between Brisbane and the Gold Coast and to accommodate the progressive improvements to the M1 which have occurred over the last two decades. Growth in the region and subsequent transport and land use demands over time has seen planning for the Coomera Connector adapt to changes.

A Preliminary Evaluation (PE) of potential options to meet the transport service need was undertaken by TMR, and considered alternatives such as upgrades to the existing M1 and public transport network (TMR 2020). The assessment outcome revealed the Coomera Connector to be the highest performing option to meet the service need and address the problems experienced by the M1 (TMR 2020).

The Business Case for Coomera Connector (Future stages) was completed in March 2024, and the Queensland Government at the time was considering the outcomes and next steps. Following the change of the state Government in October 2024 and release of the Brisbane Olympics and Paralympics 2032 Delivery Plan and 2025 Queensland Budget, Coomera Connector (Future stages) progressed with funding provided for the next stage.

This EPBC Act referral which was initially drafted in February 2024 has now been updated to reflect changes in species listings, legislation and funding status, however it is acknowledged that there are potential data gaps associated with the age and completeness of existing data as surveys were completed between 2021 and 2023. **Att. B-Environmental Survey Plan_2025** (an Environmental Survey Plan) has been created to outline how these gaps will be addressed and managed. This includes outlining the proposed field investigations and updates to the baseline ecological data (and other field data) that will be undertaken during and beyond the referral assessment period.

Description of the proposed action

The proposed action is the construction of the Coomera Connector (Future stages) (hereinafter referred to as 'the Project'), a new 29km six lane highway between Loganholme and Coomera. The Project will connect to Coomera Connector (Stage 1) at Coomera, the first 16km of the broader Coomera Connector project which was approved under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) in March 2023, under the title Stage 1 Coomera Connector with EPBC Act referral number 2020/8646. Coomera Connector (Stage 1) is currently under construction, with the first package, Stage 1 North from Shipper Drive to Helensvale Road, to open to traffic in late 2025.

The Project will include the following activities which includes incorporating mitigation measures into the design:

- removal of native and exotic vegetation, including threatened ecological communities
- treatment of soft soils where necessary prior to construction
- adjustment, protection or relocation of existing public utility plants
- construction of a new six lane median divided high-speed arterial road, including excavation and filling activities and building demolition
- construction of grade-separated interchanges at Logan Motorway (M6) / Pacific Motorway (M1), Fryar Road / Mount Cotton Road, Stapylton-Jacobs Well Road, Burnside Road, Eggersdorf Road, Pimpama-Jacobs Well Road, Yawalpah Road and Foxwell Road / Amity Road
- construction of bridges over major waterways and wetlands including bridges over Logan River, wetlands around Eagleby (Eagleby Wetlands Complex), Albert River, Sandy Creek, Pimpama River, Hotham Creek, McCoys Creek, and Oaky Creek
- construction of overpass and underpass structures for local roads at Cairns Street, Eagleby Road, Schmidt Road, Rotary Park Road, Quinns Hill Road East, Kerkin Road North, Oaky Creek Road and Shipper Drive
- construction of tie-ins and modifications to the local road network to enable local road connections across and around the main alignment
- construction of active transport (a 4m wide shared path) alongside the alignment, noise attenuation (including noise barriers) and retaining walls
- construction of dedicated bridges for fauna crossing, fauna crossing structures (including boxed rope bridges and glider poles), fauna underpasses and culverts
- construction of temporary drainage structures and permanent water quality management measures including swales and constructed wetlands
- construction of ancillary facilities and structures, including site compounds, welfare facilities, material and waste storage areas and material stockpiles
- construction of access roads and side-tracking for the construction and operation of the Project
- construction of components originally planned for the Daisy Hill to Logan Motorway project, including a Beenleigh-Redland Bay Road to Pacific Highway intersection, and a bridge over Cairns Street
- construction of other roadside furniture including safety barriers, signage, street lighting, variable message signs (VMS), closed circuit television (CCTV) and other intelligent transport systems (ITS)
- disposal of waste generated through the Project's construction phase
- rehabilitation and revegetation along riparian areas and within terrestrial fauna habitat

The referral area is the likely extent required for the above listed works to be constructed for the Project, based on the 50% reference design and a typical 20m buffer from the toe of the earthworks, and is referred to as the 'construction footprint'. The construction footprint is approximately 29km in length and 623.8 ha in area and is shown in **Figure 1, Att. C-Figure 1-Referral Area_2025**. As noted above, this construction footprint makes allowance for temporary drainage structures, permanent water quality management measures, ancillary facilities and structures, including site compounds, welfare facilities, material and waste storage areas and material stockpiles. This referral assumes that the entire construction footprint will be cleared and impact assessment was completed on this assumption as a worst-case scenario; although the road itself will likely occupy less than this total area and rehabilitation will be undertaken along the referral area post-construction.

The purpose of the proposed action

The purpose of the Project is to:

- protect the function of the M1 as an integral part of the National Land Transport Network and preserve its ability to service freight and inter-regional travel:
 - maintain the road hierarchy and preserve the design purpose of the M1 by protecting it for freight and inter-regional travel into the future, noting that over half of the 30+ million tonnes of freight moved each year between New South Wales and Queensland uses the M1 (TMR 2020)

- provide alternative routes for local traffic currently using the M1 corridor.
- provide transport infrastructure that supports and services future economic and residential growth in the northern Gold Coast and neighbouring Logan:
 - provide additional road capacity and north/south connections with alternative routes for traffic to the M1
 - provide safer driver conditions for all transport modes, noting that there were 821 vehicle accidents in 2019 between Exit 30 (at Loganholme) and Exit 73 (at Nerang) on the M1.
- enhance the access, connectivity and liveability of communities in the northern Gold Coast and neighbouring Logan:
 - provide a more efficient and integrated transport system that better connects communities.
 - integrate land use, infrastructure and development of existing urban areas in the corridor to enable the development of economic and residential centres outlined in 'ShapingSEQ' to be brought forward.
- mitigate and manage environmental impacts by implementing sustainable and innovative project solutions
- improve the safety of the transport network.

Through providing an alternative north/south corridor to the M1, the Coomera Connector will directly improve resilience and reliability of the transport network, enabling traffic to divert when incidents (such as flood events and incidents on the existing M1) occur.

By improving road network connectivity and capacity, the Coomera Connector improves the resilience of the road network and the connectivity of surrounding employment and residential areas.

1.2.2 Is the project action part of a staged development or related to other actions or proposals in the region?

Yes

1.2.3 Is the proposed action the first stage of a staged development (or a larger project)?

No

1.2.4 Related referral(s)

EPBC Number	Project Title
2020/8646	Stage 1 Coomera Connector

1.2.5 Provide information about the staged development (or relevant larger project).

The Coomera Connector (sometimes referred to as the Second M1), is a future state-controlled north-south transport corridor between Loganholme and Nerang, east of the Pacific Motorway (M1) and the heavy rail line. Delivery of the 45km Coomera Connector between Loganholme and Nerang is through construction of the 16km Coomera Connector (Stage 1) (already approved and under construction) and 29km Coomera Connector Future stages (this Project, the proposed action).

Coomera Connector (Stage 1) received approval under section 133(1) of the EPBC Act on 17/03/2023, and is currently under construction. Coomera Connector (Stage 1) North is expected to open to traffic in late 2025. The Project (proposed action) will tie into Coomera Connector (Stage 1) at Shipper Drive in Coomera.

A component of the drainage infrastructure of Coomera Connector (Stage 1) falls within the construction footprint of the Project in the vicinity of Shipper Drive. A worst-case scenario approach has been taken for the environmental impact assessment in this area, and has assumed that the land, intersected by both projects, will not be cleared as part of Coomera Connector (Stage 1).

At the northern end of the Project, the alignment will tie-in to the Daisy Hill to Logan Motorway (DH2LM) project. The Daisy Hill to Logan Motorway (DH2LM) project consists of road widening (north and south bound lanes) as well as improvements to public and active transport. The DH2LM Upgrade business case was submitted for consideration in June 2023. TMR is currently undertaking additional planning in response to Infrastructure Australia's evaluation of the DH2LM upgrade business case, including consideration of the next priority stage. This additional planning is expected to be complete for government consideration from 2026. For the purposes of environmental impact assessment in this area, a worst-case scenario approach has been taken and it is assumed that the land, intersected by both projects, will not already be cleared as part of DH2LM.

1.2.6 What Commonwealth or state legislation, planning frameworks or policy documents are relevant to the proposed action, and how are they relevant? *

The Project is within local government areas of LCC and GCCC. As government supported road transport infrastructure, the proposed action is exempt from assessment against the local government planning schemes under the Queensland *Planning Act 2016*. Environmental approvals will be obtained in accordance with the applicable Commonwealth and Queensland Government legislation and policies described in this section.

Relevant legislation and likely associated permits, approvals for the Project are:

Commonwealth

- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act)
 - significant impact assessment against, and in consideration, of the following guidelines and policies:
 - Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environment (DoE 2013)
 - EPBC Act Policy Statement 3.21 – Industry guidelines for avoiding, assessing and mitigating impacts on EPBC Act listed migratory shorebird species (DoE 2015a)
 - Referral guideline for the vulnerable water mouse *Xeromys myoides* (DoE 2015b)
 - Referral guideline for 14 birds listed as migratory species under the EPBC Act (DoE 2015c)
 - Referral guidance for the endangered koala (DCCEEW 2024)
 - Conservation Advice for *Phascolarctos cinereus* (Koala) combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory (DAWE 2022a)
 - National Recovery Plan for the Koala (DAWE 2022b)
 - Approved Conservation Advice for *Rostratula australis* (Australian painted snipe) (DSEWPC 2013)
 - Section 1.7 of the National Recovery Plan for the Australian Painted Snipe (*Rostratula australis*) (DCCEEW 2022a)
 - National Recovery Plan for the Grey-headed Flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) (DAWE 2021a)
 - Conservation advice (incorporating listing advice) for the Coastal Swamp Oak (*Casuarina glauca*) Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland ecological community (DEE 2018)
 - Conservation advice for the Coastal Swamp Sclerophyll Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland (DAWE 2021b)
 - Approved Conservation Advice for the Subtropical eucalypt floodplain forest and woodland of the New South Wales North Coast and South East Queensland bioregions (DCCEEW 2022b)
 - offsets delivered in accordance with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Environmental Offsets Policy October 2012* for significant residual impacts to Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES)

State

- *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*
 - cultural heritage management requirements, including a Cultural Heritage Management Agreement.
- *Acquisition of Land Act 1967*
 - acquisition of land using TMR's power under the *Transport Planning and Coordination Act 1994* will need to occur in accordance with the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967*.
- *Biosecurity Act 2014*
 - Biosecurity Instrument Permit
 - general biosecurity obligation to prevent and minimise the spread of all identified restricted flora and fauna species.
- *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*

- Operational Works Permit for tidal works or work within a coastal management district
- Allocation of Quarry Material Permit.
- *Environmental Offsets Act 2014*
 - offsets for significant residual impacts to prescribed environmental matters in accordance with the *Environmental Offsets Policy (version 1.17)*.
- *Environmental Protection Act 1994*
 - general environmental duty to minimise environmental harm, duty to notify environmental harm to the Queensland Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI), and a duty to restore the environment after contamination incidents
 - a Contaminated Land Site Management Plan and a disposal permit to remove contaminated soil for treatment or disposal from land listed on the contaminated land registers
 - compliance with waste tracking requirements in the *Environmental Protection Regulation 2019*.
- *Fisheries Act 1994*
 - Operational Works Permit that is constructing or raising permanent WWBW
 - Operational Works Permit for the removal, destruction or damage of marine plants.
- *Land Act 1994*
 - relevant state land application for changes to land dealings (this is associated with land resumptions and easement extinguishments required for the Project).
- *Marine Parks Act 2004*
 - Marine Park Permit – not anticipated to be required as works occur over 600m upstream from nearest marine park.
- *Native Title Act 1993*
 - action needed in accordance with State Government Native Title Work Procedures if not addressed through Section 24KA of the *Native Title Act 1993*.
- *Nature Conservation Act 1992*
 - Damage Mitigation Permit or approval to take native wildlife
 - Protected Plant Clearing Permit
 - Species Management Program (High Risk of Impact)
 - TMR's existing Species Management Program for tampering with animal breeding places – Low Risk of Impacts – least concern animals (excluding special least concern or colonial breeders).
- *Planning Act 2016*
 - Material Change of Use for an Environmentally Relevant Activity: ERA16 – Extractive and screening activities Environmental authority (EA) for conducting an Environmentally Relevant Activity (ERA)
 - land owners consent is required for a development application for operational works, unless it is land that is acquired which is exempt land.
- *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*
 - Heritage Exemption Certificate.
- *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014*
 - identifies priority agricultural areas, priority living areas, strategic environmental areas and strategic cropping areas.
- *State Government Supported Infrastructure Koala Conservation Policy April 2023*
 - compliance with clearing requirements applicable to all government supported infrastructure development in South East Queensland.
- *Vegetation Management Act 1999*
 - Operational Work Permit for clearing of regulated vegetation – not anticipated to be required as clearing is for government supported transport infrastructure which is exempt.
- *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*
 - Waste Levy Exemption Certificate
 - undertake waste reporting in accordance with the Waste Reporting Guideline and TMR MRTS51 Environmental Management.

- *Water Act 2000*

- Works unable to be completed in compliance with the exemption requirements will require a Riverine Protection Permit.

1.2.7 Describe any public consultation that has been, is being or will be undertaken regarding the project area, including with Indigenous stakeholders. Attach any completed consultation documentations, if relevant. *

The proposed Coomera Connector corridor was identified in the 1990s to support the growth in the Gold Coast region. Previously known as the Intra-Regional Transport Corridor (IRTC), the Coomera Connector corridor has been identified in various public documents, such as public street directories, regional transport plans, planning studies and GCCC planning schemes.

The Coomera Connector was formally confirmed in the Queensland Government gazette in three sections:

- the Nerang to Coomera section on 18 March 2016
- the Coomera to Stapylton section on 12 May 2017
- the Stapylton to Loganholme section on 15 March 2019.

The latest amendment to the Coomera Connector corridor was formally confirmed in the Queensland Government gazette (volume 399) dated 27 June 2025 this included amendments to minimise the impact of the Project based on baseline and impact assessments completed for the project. This is discussed further in Section 4.1.4.10 on avoidance and mitigation measures with mitigation measures described in more detail in Section 11 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**). Note the Ecological Assessment Report has been separated into 18 parts for submission to comply with size restrictions (at the time of preparation) (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part01** through to **Part18**).

Over the timeframe of multiple studies from the 1990s, stakeholder engagement has occurred previous to and during the Business Case phase of the Project. Over more than three years of assessing alternative options for the Project and developing the Business Case, stakeholder engagement has included multiple environmental advisory group meetings, strategic planning meetings and technical working groups with LCC and GCCC. The dates these meetings occurred is below:

Logan City Council

- 5 April 2022 (Environmental Advisory Group)
- 24 August 2022 (Environmental Advisory Group)
- 28 November 2022 (Environmental Advisory Group).
- 20 April 2022 (Technical Working Group)
- 24 August 2022 (Technical Working Group)
- 30 November 2022 (Technical Working Group)
- 16 May 2022 (Strategic Planning meeting)
- 25 August 2022 (Active Transport meeting)

Gold Coast City Council

- 20 April 2022 (Environmental Advisory Group)
- 24 August 2022 (Environmental Advisory Group)
- 30 November 2022 (Environmental Advisory Group)
- 13 April 2022 (Technical Working Group)
- 28 July 2022 (Technical Working Group)
- 22 April 2022 (Strategic Planning meeting)
- 25 August 2022 (Active Transport meeting)
- 28 February 2023 (Technical Working Group)

A final combined technical and environmental working group meeting was held with both councils on 4 October 2023, detailing the reference design produced during the Business Case phase of the Project. During this, changes to the alignment that occurred during options analysis in the Business Case were shared with councils; both councils expressed support of these changes for the environmental values they preserve.

Consultation occurred with the DETSI on:

- 30 March 2022

- 6 February 2023.

During these meetings, impacts to wetlands and hydrology of the Project were discussed, as well as sharing of information sources (such as DETSI WetlandInfo). The importance placed by DETSI on the wetlands in the Eagleby area were one factor which led to examining this area in greater detail including completing a Wetland Hydrology Impact Assessment and targeted surveys and assessment for migratory and shorebirds, which contributed to the reconsideration and realignment of the gazetted corridor.

A meeting with Translink was held on the 7 October 2022 to discuss public transport planning and forecast traffic volumes surrounding the Project. It was noted that Translink was generally supportive of the Project.

Public community consultation has been undertaken in earlier phases on the Project, where community alternative alignments were proposed and considered by TMR. Between 30 April – 30 June 2021, TMR carried out a range of consultation activities to communicate the results of the assessment of alternatives proposed near Eagleby, and to gather feedback from the community. TMR's consultation activity comprised of:

- five community information sessions in May 2021
- newsletter letterbox drop to approximately 11,000 households and businesses, see this link
- feedback received via telephone and email
- online feedback form
- telephone survey of 501 people.

Feedback from this consultation period included concerns about impacts to the wetlands in Eagleby (the Eagleby Wetlands Complex), flooding, noise and local roads. Throughout the reference design period in the Business Case phase of the Project, these impacts have been considered and assessed, including completion of a hydrology study, noise modelling and traffic modelling.

Prior to further public community consultation, landholders directly impacted by changes to the corridor based on the reference design developed during the Business Case were notified.

Further public community consultation was undertaken from the 20 October 2023 to 24 November 2023 with local community groups and members of the public. During this consultation period, design elements including the corridor and interchange locations, were shared with the public. This consultation period included:

- a dedicated project engagement website with over 2,300 visits
- a new factsheet on the Project, see this link
- distribution of 47,000 newsletters, see this link
- a fly through animation, see this link
- total of nine public consultation drop-in sessions with over 750 people visiting.

A Community consultation summary was published in December 2023 outlining the consultation outcomes and documenting both statistical and anecdotal research, see this link.

Engagement with Indigenous groups for the Project was undertaken on the 7 and 8 December 2023 with further engagement planning in the future as funding is committed for design and site investigations. These would include site surveys, potential test-pits/artefact salvage, and development of an agreement will be required. TMR completed a Cultural Heritage Risk Assessment (CHRA) for the Project in May 2023, which provides an analysis of the cultural heritage risks pertaining to the Project, including a critique of both historical and Indigenous heritage requirements. It identified historical and Indigenous cultural heritage sites in the construction footprint, and found that the Project is a high risk to cultural heritage due to significant impact to previously undeveloped areas and the potential to impact both historical and Indigenous registered sites. The CHRA identified that the Aboriginal parties for the Project are the Gold Coast Native Title Group and the Danggan Balun (Five Rivers) People.

1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

Privacy Notice:

Personal information means information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable.

By completing and submitting this form, you consent to the collection of all personal information contained in this form. If you are providing the personal information of other individuals in this form, please ensure you have their consent before doing so.

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1.3.1.1 Is Referring party an organisation or business? *

Yes

Referring party organisation details

ABN/ACN 39407690291
Organisation name Department of Transport and Main Roads
Organisation address 4000 QLD

Referring party details

Name Andrew Wheeler
Job title Regional Director South Coast
Phone 07 5563 6500
Email CoomeraConnector@tmr.qld.gov.au
Address 36-38 Cotton Street, Nerang QLD 4211

1.3.2 Identity: Person proposing to take the action

1.3.2.1 Are the Person proposing to take the action details the same as the Referring party details? *

Yes

Person proposing to take the action organisation details

ABN/ACN 39407690291
Organisation name Department of Transport and Main Roads
Organisation address 4000 QLD

Person proposing to take the action details

Name Andrew Wheeler
Job title Regional Director South Coast
Phone 07 5563 6500
Email CoomeraConnector@tmr.qld.gov.au
Address 36-38 Cotton Street, Nerang QLD 4211

1.3.2.14 Are you proposing the action as part of a Joint Venture? *

No

1.3.2.15 Are you proposing the action as part of a Trust? *

No

1.3.2.17 Describe the Person proposing the action's history of responsible environmental management including details of any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against the Person proposing to take the action. *

TMR operates under the guiding principles of its Environmental Sustainability Policy (TMR 2021) and in accordance with its overarching Environmental Management System, and Environmental Processes Manual (TMR 2023), which applies a risk based approach to identify, assess and manage environmental risks through all phases of infrastructure delivery. The Environmental Processes Manual is available on the TMR website. TMR has not been subject to proceedings under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999*. Further TMR has not been subject to any proceedings under State law.

1.3.2.18 If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework

TMR operates under the guiding principles of its Environmental Policy and Environmental Management System. The policy outlines how TMR will management impacts on natural, human and cultural environments by:

- meeting the statutory obligations of all relevant environmental and heritage legislation as a minimum standard
- considering the effects on stakeholders and long term relationships when carrying out statutory obligations, and seeking feedback on performance
- acting as a good government agency and adopting a proactive approach to environmental and heritage management
- improving awareness of environmental and heritage management processes, standards and responsibilities among TMR's employees and contractors
- ensuring the approach to the management of environmental and heritage impacts embrace the hierarchy of "avoid, minimise and mitigate" in a financially feasible manner.

TMR undertakes works in accordance with their internal Environmental Processes Manual. Further information about the TMR's environmental management is available at:

<http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Community-and-environment/Environmental-management>

1.3.3 Identity: Proposed designated proponent

1.3.3.1 Are the Proposed designated proponent details the same as the Person proposing to take the action? *

Yes

Proposed designated proponent organisation details

ABN/ACN	39407690291
Organisation name	Department of Transport and Main Roads
Organisation address	4000 QLD

Proposed designated proponent details

Name	Andrew Wheeler
Job title	Regional Director South Coast
Phone	07 5563 6500
Email	CoomeraConnector@tmr.qld.gov.au
Address	36-38 Cotton Street, Nerang QLD 4211

1.3.4 Identity: Summary of allocation

✔ Confirmed Referring party's identity

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	39407690291
Organisation name	Department of Transport and Main Roads
Organisation address	4000 QLD
Representative's name	Andrew Wheeler
Representative's job title	Regional Director South Coast
Phone	07 5563 6500
Email	CoomeraConnector@tmr.qld.gov.au
Address	36-38 Cotton Street, Nerang QLD 4211

✔ Confirmed Person proposing to take the action's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

Same as Referring party information.

✔ Confirmed Proposed designated proponent's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

1.4 Payment details: Payment exemption and fee waiver

1.4.1 Do you qualify for an exemption from fees under EPBC Regulation 5.23 (1) (a)? *

No

1.4.3 Have you applied for or been granted a waiver for full or partial fees under Regulation 5.21A? *

No

1.4.5 Are you going to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under EPBC Regulation 5.21A?

No

1.4.7 Has the department issued you with a credit note? *

No

1.4.9 Would you like to add a purchase order number to your invoice? *

No

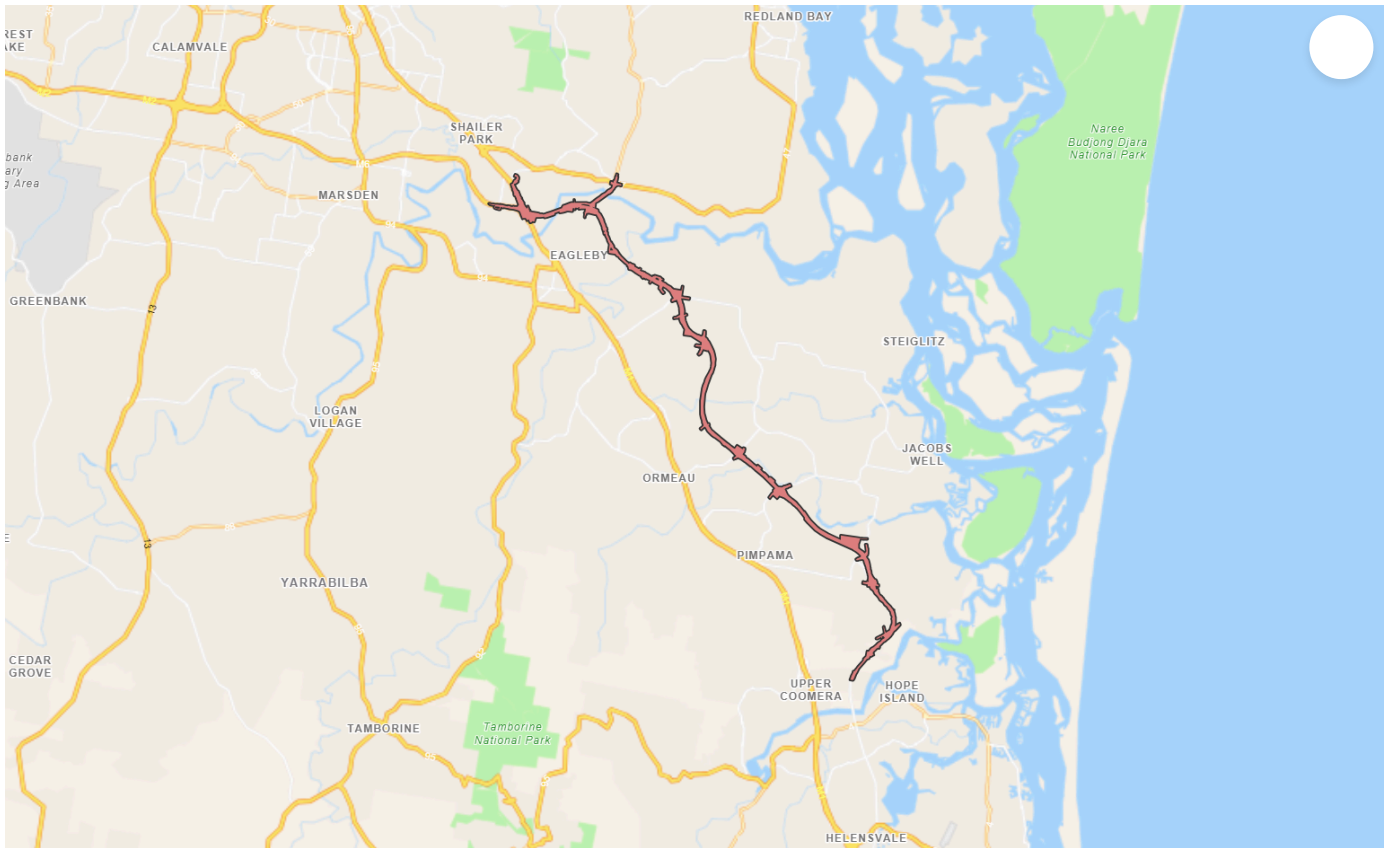
1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

1.4.11 Who would you like to allocate as the entity responsible for payment? *

Person proposing to take the action

2. Location

2.1 Project footprint



Project Area: 625.24 Ha Disturbance Footprint: 625.24 Ha

2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

Pacific Motorway / Logan Motorway Loganholme to Shipper Drive Coomera

2.2.2 Where is the primary jurisdiction of the proposed action? *

Queensland

2.2.3 Is there a secondary jurisdiction for this proposed action? *

No

2.2.5 What is the tenure of the action area relevant to the project area? *

Land within the referral area is a mix of the following tenure types:

- covenant
- easement
- freehold
- lands lease
- reserve.

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

3.1.1 Describe the current condition of the project area's environment.

The Project is located about 30km south of the centre of Brisbane, Queensland and extends over two local government areas (LGAs), LCC and GCCC (see **Figure 2, Att. E-Figure 2-Land Use Zoning_2025**). The Project extends from the Logan Motorway Interchange at Loganholme, through Stapylton, Pimpama and Coomera. The Project is approximately 29km in length, and as such there are a variety of land uses and environment conditions in the vicinity of the Project. The original gazetted corridor (for the entire Coomera Connector project from Loganholme to Nerang) was protected in sections from 2016 to 2019. Following the gazettal process, the corridor was declared as a future state-controlled road; therefore, the Project is consistent with the purpose of the reserve (for a road). The Coomera Connector corridor amendments at Eagleby and Coomera were formally confirmed in the Queensland Government gazette (volume 399) dated 27 June 2025. The construction footprint is predominantly located within the gazetted corridor, except for some locations where the tie-ins to the existing road network extend beyond the gazetted boundary, and the area between Pimpama-Jacobs Well Road and Yawalpah Road. This area was a part of the corridor amendments investigation area (see Section 4.3.8), and the gazetted boundary is in the process of being considered by the State Government to align with the proposed construction footprint contained between these roads. Following this, TMR will officially amend the corridor and gazette the corridor in this location.

The Project traverses through and is adjacent to multiple land uses including rural and urban residential developments, industry, commercial developments, and farms. Agricultural land uses dominate large portions of the construction footprint, which primarily comprise sugar cane production, with some grazing. Surveys revealed that in areas with agricultural land uses, or where there were cleared areas, introduced species including exotic grasses, were dominant. These areas supported less fauna diversity, and suitable habitat, compared to other vegetation communities observed. Isolated and fragmented polygons of native mature and regrowth vegetation are present along the length of the proposed alignment in addition to some larger areas of habitat associated with conservation land uses. There is suitable habitat present throughout the alignment for a variety of fauna, including threatened fauna species not limited to koala, glossy black-cockatoo, water mouse, grey-headed flying-fox and a range of migratory and marine birds (discussed further below in Section 3.2.1). Notable environmental features within or adjacent to the construction footprint include rivers, wetlands, remnant vegetation, biodiversity corridors, and conservation areas (such as GCCC's Pimpama River Conservation Area, an EPBC Act offset site for Gainsborough Greens, and Greenridge, a site with EPBC Act offsets for Coomera Connector (Stage 1), owned by TMR).

Weeds were observed to be present within all field validated vegetation communities. Weeds were observed to be present in variable densities, with some polygons of vegetation host to high density weeds in the understorey and ground layer, while other vegetation polygons were host to only low density weeds. Weeds were most prevalent in regrowth vegetation communities and along the edges of vegetation communities (where they were adjacent to cleared areas) and along road verges, easements, and cleared areas. Weeds were prevalent in the ground layer of vegetation communities, with minimal weedy canopy species observed. A total of 20 category 3 restricted invasive plants listed under the Queensland *Biosecurity Act 2014* were observed during field surveys undertaken for the Project.

As witnessed during previous flood events, areas within the construction footprint were impacted during the February 2022 flood event, with large areas of Eagleby surrounding the community inundated. The Woongoolba flood mitigation catchment area is located within the construction footprint from Stapylton to Coomera; large portions of this catchment area were inundated during the 2022 floods. These floods are not considered to have impacted the condition of the environment; however, may have temporarily displaced terrestrial fauna species immediately following the event. Bushfires are typically suppressed in urban areas, and whilst no bushfire data is available, there did not appear to be any affects from bushfires on environment condition observed during the field surveys. The field surveys had concluded prior to Cyclone Alfred in February/March 2025. Potential cyclone-related impacts are proposed to be assessed in a later stage of the Project through additional ecological surveys, refer to the Environmental Survey Plan in **Att. B-Environmental Survey Plan_2025**.

3.1.2 Describe any existing or proposed uses for the project area.

Land use

Land across the study area is zoned for a variety of land uses, refer to **Figure 2, Att. E-Figure 2-Land Use Zoning_2025** Attachment E. The Logan Planning Scheme applies to land at the north from the M1 tie in at Loganholme to the Albert River crossing. Land within the construction footprint at Loganholme and Eagleby is identified as being within the mixed-use zone (containing a range of commercial and industrial uses), the specialised centre zone (currently undeveloped), community facilities zone (wastewater treatment plant and YMCA), low density residential zone (generally containing houses) and rural zone (a mix of undeveloped land and land use for sugar cane farming).

The Gold Coast City Plan applies from Stapylton to the southern end of the Project. Around Stapylton, Norwell and Ormeau, land is predominantly zoned rural and is generally used for sugar cane farming, with the exception of land around Stapylton Jacobs Well Road, which is zoned for low, medium and high impact industry. While various industrial uses are present in this area, further industrial development is anticipated on currently vacant or agricultural land located in the future industry precincts. Land in proximity to the Project at Ormeau is generally zoned as rural, emerging communities, community facilities or low density residential.

At Pimpama, land surrounding the Project is zoned rural, open space and conservation, and special purpose. These areas comprise a mix of agricultural uses (generally sugar cane farming), residential, undeveloped land, and natural vegetated areas. It is recognised that some properties within the construction footprint around Kerkin Road North are being proposed as EPBC Act offset sites for the Advanced Resource Recovery Centre (EPBC number 2024/09778). Further coordination is required at locations where the construction footprint intersects or borders sites being considered as EPBC Act offsets by GCCC. TMR and GCCC are aware of the overlap and are working collaboratively to resolve any potential conflicts.

At Coomera, land is zoned as residential, open space, conservation, community facilities, emerging communities and waterfront and marine industry. Significant residential development has occurred and continues to be delivered in this area.

There are key resource areas located throughout and surrounding the construction footprint which produce resources such as sand and hard rock.

The proposed use for the land within the construction footprint is a state-controlled road, noting it is unlikely that all land within the construction footprint will be needed for road operation.

To understand the existing environment, and how the proposed action may impact on noise and air quality, monitoring and modelling has been undertaken.

Noise and air quality

As part of the environmental assessment for the proposed action, noise monitoring and modelling, and air quality modelling has been undertaken. The noise assessment was completed in February 2024, and including operational road traffic noise modelling to 2046. Assessment of air quality was completed in November 2023 and included operation modelling to 2046. The assessments identified a variety of existing and potential future sensitive receptors in proximity to the proposed action, including residential dwellings, educational institutions, places of worship, health and community buildings along with outdoor education areas and areas of passive recreation. To understand the existing ambient noise levels, noise measurements were completed at 23 locations surrounding the corridor and a minimum of two days of typical traffic conditions were required at each monitoring location. The noise monitoring identified road noise from the existing road network to be one of the main noise sources surrounding the Project, with other noise identified from industrial land uses (including quarries), residential properties (including power tools and air conditioning units) and community facilities (such as schools and play areas). Baseline background noise levels exceeded the Queensland *Transport Noise Management Code of Practice Volume 1 – Road Traffic Noise* at approximately 80% of monitoring locations for the Project, where higher noise

thresholds will be used in the noise assessment. These background noise levels were used to calibrate the noise model run, which identified that there would be noise impacts to sensitive receptors during construction. During operation of the Project, noise modelling predicts that noise exceedances in dwellings can be reduced by 74% with noise barriers. As such, indicative noise barriers have been incorporated to the design for the Project, refer to **Figure 3, Att. F-Figure 3-Indicative Noise Barriers_2025**.

The air quality assessment undertaken identified road traffic along the existing road network to be the main contributor to air emissions along the Project. It is noted that the Project passes through several industrial land use areas and for these areas, there is also a potential for cumulative impacts associated with major industrial air emission sources (in addition to existing road traffic). A review has identified the following industrial air emission sources:

- Stonemaster Quarry (39 Stonemaster Drive, Stapylton)
- Stapylton Landfill Facility (Rossmanns Road, Stapylton)
- Boral licenced activity (concrete production) (Rossmanns Road, Stapylton)

Air quality modelling undertaken for the Project identified that there will be impacts to sensitive receptors during construction, and further assessment is required to determine appropriate construction phase mitigation measures. The modelling identified that the operational stage of the Project will have negligible impacts to air quality and calculated emissions are below threshold levels set out in the TMR Air Quality Management Manual (TMR 2014), which was developed to achieve air quality objectives in the Queensland *Environmental Protection (Air) Policy 2019*. Therefore, no specific mitigation measures for air quality are proposed.

3.1.3 Describe any outstanding natural features and/or any other important or unique values that applies to the project area.

There are multiple natural features within or adjacent to the Project, including wetlands, such as the Eagleby Wetlands Complex and those surrounding Oaky Creek which all provide important habitat for a range of species, including migratory birds.

Pimpama Conservation Park (a state reserve) is located approximately 400m east of the construction footprint. This is adjacent to Greenridge (a property owned by TMR) that has some areas secured as EPBC Act offsets for Coomera Connector (Stage 1). Greenridge is in close proximity but not connected to the existing EPBC Act Offset Area for Gainsborough Greens (referral number 2013/6751). Additionally, Greenridge borders the Moreton Bay Marine Park/Moreton Bay Ramsar wetland site, and GCCC's Pimpama River Conservation Area (PRCA) which was used as the koala translocation site for Coomera Connector (Stage 1). Refer to **Figure 4, Att. G-Figure 4-Conservation Areas and Potential Fauna Connectivity_2025** for these conservation areas, and potential fauna connectivity.

In this southern area of the Project, GCCC have identified the opportunity to create a protected koala habitat network between areas of remaining koala vegetation, including that at PRCA and Greenridge. GCCC has identified opportunities for a koala habitat network surrounding PRCA. TMR is working collaboratively with GCCC on koala offset provisions in Coomera and Pimpama and supporting bioregional corridors in line with the Gold Coast City Plan 2016. This builds on the work previously undertaken by the Project to incorporate fauna connectivity into the Project design as detailed further in Section 4.1.4.10.

Due to the agricultural land use history, there are areas cleared of native vegetation along a significant area of the Project. Queensland mapping of biodiversity corridors of state and regional significance identifies that there are opportunities for east to west fauna movement at Coomera and along the waterways intersected by the Project. The design of the Project has considered this and accommodates fauna connectivity (refer to **Figure 4, Att. G-Figure 4-Conservation Areas and Potential Fauna Connectivity_2025**).

Queensland's *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* identifies priority agricultural areas, priority living areas, strategic environmental areas and strategic cropping areas. All of South East Queensland is identified as a priority living area, which means that growth potential of settlements, population supporting assets and amenity are prioritised over resource activities (DSDILGP 2023). Areas of Gilberton, Woongoolba and Norwell are identified as priority agricultural areas and strategic cropping areas. These areas are recognised and protected because they contain significant clusters of high value intensive agricultural land uses and/or contain land that is highly suitable for cropping. There are no strategic environmental areas identified under this state legislation present within the construction footprint.

3.1.4 Describe the gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area) relevant to the project area.

The topography of the Project is largely low lying, ranging from 0m Australian height datum (AHD) to 20m AHD, comprising present-day and historical flood plains.

The northern section of the Project from the Logan Motorway Interchange to the Albert River, extends across the floodplains of the Logan River and the Albert River and includes numerous wetlands, with ground elevations typically below 5m AHD. South of the Albert River the ground elevation is generally between 5m AHD and 10m AHD with undulating terrain between Johnston Road to Rotary Park Road with ground elevation between 5m AHD and 20m AHD.

From Stapylton (Jacobs Well Road) to the northern end of Coomera, the Project is within a low-lying area with ground elevation at around 0m AHD with exception of some elevated ground near Pimpama Jacobs Well Road which extend up to +15m AHD.

The topography around Coomera to north of Oaky Creek is largely undulating terrain ranging between +5m AHD and +15m AHD with some low-lying areas near water bodies. From Oaky Creek to the southern boundary with the Coomera Connector, the Project crosses relatively flat terrain with ground elevation between 2 and 4m AHD.

3.2 Flora and fauna

3.2.1 Describe the flora and fauna within the affected area and attach any investigations of surveys if applicable.

Flora

Terrestrial flora

Extensive field surveys have been undertaken for the Project during the Business Case phase. Flora surveys have been conducted for pre-wet and post-wet season terrestrial flora, vegetation communities and Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs). Following this, targeted surveys were undertaken to identify whether vegetation communities identified, conformed to the key diagnostic characteristics and condition thresholds for the following TECs. Survey techniques used are detailed in Section 3.4 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part01** through to **Part03**). The location of flora surveys undertaken during the Business Case are shown in Figures 3, 4 and 5 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part01** and **Part02**).

The EPBC Act PMST report identified 30 threatened flora species, and six TECs, as having the potential to occur within a 2km buffer from the construction footprint.

A total of 461 flora species were observed during the field surveys, comprised of the following:

- 124 introduced species
- 337 native flora species, including one threatened species.

The field surveys detailed above confirmed the presence of two individuals of *Persicaria elatior* (tall knotweed), which listed as 'vulnerable' under the NC Act and the EPBC Act. These are located outside of the construction footprint; however, they are within 100m. See Figure 12 in the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part04**) for the location of the threatened plant.

No other threatened flora species protected under the NC Act and/or the EPBC Act were identified as present within the survey area. The field surveys identified that there is limited suitable habitat for the previously recorded (WildNet) and predicted (EPBC Act PMST) threatened flora species within the survey area.

Weeds were observed throughout all vegetation community types in the survey area. 18 category 3 restricted invasive terrestrial plants listed under the Queensland *Biosecurity Act 2014* were observed. The areas where restricted invasive plants were observed in high densities is shown in Figure 44 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part15**).

Further information on the results of the terrestrial flora surveys undertaken for the Project can be found in Section 4.2 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part04**).

Aquatic flora

Surveys were undertaken for aquatic plants and seagrass within the survey area, these are outlined in Section 3.5 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part03**).

There was a relatively high diversity of freshwater aquatic flora observed throughout the survey area and a total of 21 freshwater species were observed comprising 19 native species and two exotic species (refer to Table 28 in the Ecological Assessment Report in **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part15**).

These two exotic species are listed as category 3 restricted invasive plants under the Queensland *Biosecurity Act 2014*. In addition to the freshwater aquatic plants, marine plants were also present at the estuarine sites including:

- *Avicennia marina* (grey mangrove) located along the Logan River, Albert River, wetlands near Foxwell Road and Oaky Creek (and associated wetlands near Shipper Drive)
- *Ceriops australis* (yellow mangrove) located at the wetlands near Foxwell Road
- *Sporobolus virginicus* (marine couch) located at the wetlands near Foxwell Road and Shipper Drive
- *Sarcocornia quinqueflora* (samphire) located at the wetlands near Foxwell Road and Shipper Drive
- *Juncus kraussii* (sea rush) located at the wetlands near Foxwell Road and Shipper Drive.

Further information on the results of the aquatic flora surveys undertaken for the Project can be found in Section 7.2 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part15**).

Fauna

Terrestrial fauna

Terrestrial fauna surveys were conducted in the pre-wet and post-wet season to gain an understanding of the vegetation communities and fauna species present within the survey area.

The terrestrial fauna and fauna habitat surveys consisted of the following:

- detailed and rapid assessment of the vegetation and habitat features to confirm the suitability of the vegetation to provide habitat to 'threatened' fauna species protected under the NC Act and/or EPBC Act
- recording all observations of 'threatened' fauna species
- targeted searches to identify the presence of animal breeding places for 'threatened', special least concern, and colonial breeding fauna species
- recording restricted invasive animal species listed under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

These fauna surveys informed the requirements for further, targeted surveys, which were conducted for the following species:

- grey-headed flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*)
- koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) (including thermal drone surveys)
- powerful owl (*Ninox strenua*)
- tusked frog (*Adelotus brevis*)
- wallum froglet (*Crinia tinnula*)
- water mouse (*Xeromys myoides*)
- migratory shorebirds.

Survey techniques used are detailed in Section 3.4 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part01** through to **Part03**). The location of fauna surveys undertaken during the Business Case are shown in Figures 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part01** and **Part02**).

A total of 143 fauna species were observed during all field surveys, listed in Appendix G of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part18**).

There were 38 threatened fauna species (under the EPBC Act and/or the NC Act) directly and/or indirectly observed during the terrestrial fauna surveys undertaken for the Project, including those listed as 'marine' under the EPBC Act, which have been included for completeness in reporting (recognising that the Project is not located within a Commonwealth marine area and therefore impacts to these species under the EPBC Act are not required to be assessed). Locations of these observations are shown in Figure 27, and a list in Table 19, of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part08**).

The following species threatened under the EPBC Act, excluding those listed as 'marine' or 'migratory' only, were observed during the terrestrial fauna surveys undertaken for the Project:

Direct observation

- Australian painted snipe (*Rostratula australis*)
- common greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*)
- grey-headed flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*)
- koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*)
- Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*)
- sharp-tailed sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*).

Indirect observation

- glossy black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami*) (orts detected)
- water mouse (*Xeromys myoides*) (potential nests identified).

Observations of, and locations of suitable habitat for, threatened fauna species in the Project are shown in Figures 29 – 41 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part09** through to **Part14**). Further information on the results of the terrestrial fauna surveys undertaken for the Project can be found in Section 6 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part08** through to **Part14**).

Aquatic fauna

Extensive aquatic surveys were undertaken for the Project, including aquatic vertebrate surveys using box traps, fyke nets and seine nets, and macroinvertebrate sampling. These are detailed in in Section 3.5 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part03**).

The following summarises the results of the aquatic fauna surveys undertaken (detailed in Section 7.2 of the Ecological Assessment Report in **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part15**):

- 23 fish species were recorded, including 18 native species and five exotic species
- three freshwater turtle species were recorded
- three macrocrustacean species were recorded
- macroinvertebrate communities were common for urbanised waterways with species tolerant of a range of water quality conditions.

There were no aquatic fauna species recorded that were threatened under the EPBC Act or NC Act. Further information on the results of the aquatic fauna surveys undertaken for the Project can be found in Section 7.2 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part15**).

Further surveys

It is acknowledged that there are potential data gaps associated with the age and completeness of existing data. **Att. B-Environmental Survey Plan_2025** (an Environmental Survey Plan) has been created to outline how it is intended that these gaps and risks will be addressed and managed. This includes outlining the proposed field investigations and updates to the baseline ecological data (and other field data) that will be undertaken during and beyond the referral assessment period.

3.2.2 Describe the vegetation (including the status of native vegetation and soil) within the project area.

Vegetation

During the flora surveys undertaken for the Project, quaternary surveys identified three high value regrowth and 13 regional ecosystems present within the survey area. This includes two endangered regional ecosystems under the Queensland *Vegetation Management Act 1999*. Details on these can be found in Section 5.2 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part05**).

The vegetation observed during the field surveys within the survey area was categorised into the following field validated vegetation communities:

Vegetation communities dominated by exotic species:

- Agricultural land uses
- Cleared areas / exotic grasslands
- Exotic pine dominated regrowth
- Regrowth vegetation

Vegetation communities dominated by native species:

- *Casuarina glauca* open forest
- Low closed mangrove forest
- *Melaleuca* dominated open forest
- Mixed eucalypt open forest to woodland
- Saltpan vegetation
- Wetlands.

These vegetation communities are shown in Figure 14 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part05**).

During the field surveys, portions of vegetation within the survey area were identified as having the potential to conform to TECs. Further targeted surveys were completed, and certain vegetation communities (RE 12.1.1, RE 12.1.2, RE 12.3.5, RE 12.3.6, RE 12.3.20, 12.3.11, 12.11.5, 12.11.24, and 12.11.27 and non-remnant equivalents) were identified as conforming to the key diagnostic characteristics of the following TECs (confirming their presence in the construction footprint):

- the 'endangered' Coastal Swamp Oak (*Casuarina glauca*) Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland ecological community
- the 'endangered' Coastal Swamp Sclerophyll Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland
- the 'vulnerable' Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh
- the 'endangered' Subtropical eucalypt floodplain forest and woodland of the New South Wales North Coast and South East Queensland bioregions.

Further information on the survey methodology and results for these TECs can be found in Section 3.4.3 and Section 5.3 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part02, Part03, Part06 and Part07**). The extent of all TECs, and their buffer zones, identified within the construction footprint is shown in Figure 22 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part07**).

Further surveys

It is acknowledged that there are potential data gaps associated with the age and completeness of existing data. **Att. B-Environmental Survey Plan_2025** (an Environmental Survey Plan) has been created to outline how it is intended that these gaps and risks will be addressed and managed. This includes outlining the proposed field investigations and updates to the baseline ecological data (and other field data) that will be undertaken during and beyond the referral assessment period.

Soil

Soil survey mapping created by the then Queensland Department of Environment and Science (2020) shows that the construction footprint is comprised almost exclusively of black, acidic alluvial soils. The soil types within the construction footprint are shown in **Figure 5, Att. H-Figure 5-Soil Types_2025** and listed below:

- alluvial plains
- alluvial plains and minor terraces of alluvial plains
- alluvial plains and swamps of alluvial plains
- brackish swamps of alluvial plains
- brackish swamps of alluvial plains (sandy)
- disturbed land - other
- freshwater swamps and drainage lines of alluvial plains
- freshwater swamps and drainage lines of alluvial plains (sandy)
- gently undulating low hills and rises on sandstones of the Woogaroo formation
- lower slopes of gently undulating to undulating low hills and rises on Nerenleigh-Fernvale beds
- terrace plains of old high river terraces
- tidal lands including saline flats, mangroves, swamps and tidal creeks of marine plains
- unclassified land - other
- upper slopes of gently undulating to undulating low hills and rises on Nerenleigh-Fernvale beds
- water body

Acid sulfate soils (ASS) and potentially acid sulphate soils (PASS) are present along most of the construction footprint, given the majority of the Project extends across low lying areas and floodplains with ground elevation below 0m AHD and 20m AHD (**Figure 6, Att. I-Figure 6-Acid Sulfate Soils_2025**) (DETSI 2025). Additionally, the construction footprint is associated with 12 lots listed on the Environmental Management Register (EMR) maintained by the Queensland Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation, pursuant to the Queensland *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (register searched in November 2022). Land is listed on the EMR if certain types of activities, known as notifiable activities, have been, or are being carried out on the lot. Land is also listed on the EMR if it is known to be contaminated.

3.3 Heritage

3.3.1 Describe any Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas or other places recognised as having heritage values that apply to the project area.

There are no Commonwealth heritage places in the construction footprint or within a 2km buffer. There are 14 sites listed on the Queensland Heritage Register and local government heritage registers within a 2km buffer of the construction footprint. Of these, only one site is intersected by the Project; this is Fachwerk Farmhouse listed on the Queensland Heritage Register (**Figure 7, Att. J-Figure 7-Fachwerk Farmhouse_2025**). The farmhouse is extremely rare as it is the only known surviving example of Fachwerk in Queensland.

A visual inspection of Fachwerk Farmhouse was undertaken on 7 October 2022. The visual inspection confirmed that the construction footprint within the Queensland Heritage Register boundary has been subject to significant ground and surface disturbance. The construction footprint within the site has been completely cleared and used as a pastoral station since the 1870's. A dam, constructed in the 1990's lies inside the construction footprint. Native and exotic trees were planted beside, and on, a central island, during the construction of the dam. No artefacts or elements of historic heritage were identified within the area impacted by the Project on the site during the visual inspection.

The cultural, social, historical, architectural, rarity, representativeness, and intangible heritage values of Fachwerk Farmhouse will not be directly impacted by the proposed works, and road construction within the north-western corner of the heritage boundary would have a minor impact on these values. The Project has potential to impact visibility and setting of Fachwerk Farmhouse with possible minor impact if no further mitigation is applied. Maintenance works as part of the operation of the Project have the potential to impact on the amenity of Fachwerk Farmhouse. This likelihood of impact is rare with a minor impact to heritage value.

3.3.2 Describe any Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area.

Queensland *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* provides for the recognition, protection, and conservation of Indigenous cultural heritage in the state. There are two registered Aboriginal Parties under this Act for the area:

- Gold Coast Native Title Group (represented by Jabree)
- Dangan Balun (Five Rivers) People.

The Gold Coast Native Title Group filed a claim to the Federal Court for Native Title under the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993* in September 2006. In December 2013 it was determined that Native Title does not exist. Jabree Limited is the Cultural Heritage body which represents the Gold Coast Native Title Group. The area encompassed by the Gold Coast Native Title Group extends across the GCCC area and encompasses the Gold Coast Hinterland and parts of LCC and Scenic Rim Regional Council.

Dangan Balun (Five Rivers) People is a registered Native Title group under the Commonwealth *Native Title Act 1993* with the claim being registered in September 2017. A further claim over the waterways of the Gold Coast was registered by the Native Title Tribunal on November 7, 2022. No determinations of Native Title have been made for this applicant. Dangan Balun (Five Rivers) specifically refers to the Logan, Albert, Coomera, Nerang, and Tweed Rivers. The five rivers intrinsically link the freshwater people from the inland and western parts of the claim area with the saltwater people in the east.

A search of the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Database Register was undertaken for the construction footprint on 23 June 2025. Seven registered cultural heritage site points and two registered cultural heritage site polygons have been identified within the construction footprint. A Cultural Heritage Risk Assessment (CHRA) was undertaken by the Department of Transport and Main Roads, for the Project which identified that a ground-truthing exercise will need to be undertaken to determine which of the sites remain in situ. Should any remain in situ, they are likely to be impacted by the project works and will require mitigation measures. Neither the CHRA nor figures indicating the location of the seven registered cultural heritage site points and two registered cultural heritage site polygons are being provided as part of this document as it is not intended to identify the locations of known sites publicly.

In addition to these registered sites, unregistered artefact scatters were identified during initial site investigations on two lots that intersect the construction footprint. LiDAR investigations also identified a Bora Ring 95m outside the construction footprint, which was confirmed during a site investigation undertaken by TMR Cultural Heritage Officers in March 2022. The Bora Ring represents one of the few extant examples of this significant ritual site. The Bora Ring was noted to be in fair condition.

The Project intersects several landscape features that present a high likelihood of containing tangible and non-tangible Indigenous heritage values. These areas include waterways and wetlands such as Logan River, Albert River, Pimpama River, Coomera River, and Eagleby Wetlands. Waterways and low-lying wetlands were commonly utilised by Aboriginal people for collection of food resources and as occupational sites. These occupation sites are most likely to occur at the fringes of wetlands, creeks, rivers and on nearby elevated landforms. Additionally, the construction footprint contains areas of previously undisturbed remnant vegetation with a high likelihood of containing Indigenous heritage value, most notably through Stapylton and Coomera.

3.4 Hydrology

3.4.1 Describe the hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area and attach any hydrological investigations or surveys if applicable. *

Surface water

The Project is located across the following three catchment areas:

- Logan catchment
- Albert catchment
- Pimpama-Coomera catchment.

The following main waterways are in the construction footprint:

- Logan River (estuarine)
- Albert River (estuarine)
- Burnside Road cane drain (freshwater)
- Sandy Creek (freshwater)
- Bridge Creek tributary (freshwater)
- Pimpama River (freshwater)
- Hotham Creek (freshwater)
- McCoys Creek (freshwater)
- Oaky Creek (estuarine).

The following field surveys were conducted during the Business Case (refer to Section 3.5 and 3.6 in the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part03**)):

- high-level assessment at each waterway and wetland within the survey area of the bed and banks, substrate, observed hydrology and hydraulics of major waterways and wetlands and *in situ* water quality
- pre-wet and post-wet detailed aquatic ecological surveys at ten sites
- monthly water quality measured *in situ* and samples collected for laboratory analysis (see Figure 8 in the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part03**) for survey locations).

The waterway assessment conducted for the Project revealed that the waterbodies were characteristic of South East Queensland urbanised waterbodies; they were moderately disturbed and subject to anthropogenic influence. Common disturbances included cleared riparian vegetation, stormwater drain discharge pipes, litter, access tracks, and nearby development. The detailed aquatic ecological surveys identified aquatic fauna typical of an urbanised waterway, refer to Section 7.2 in the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part15**) for more detail.

The following parameters were tested at each site:

- water temperature
- pH
- electrical conductivity
- dissolved oxygen
- turbidity
- alkalinity
- water hardness
- total dissolved solids
- major ions (calcium, magnesium, sodium, potassium, sulphate)
- nutrients (ammonia, oxides of nitrogen, total nitrogen, total phosphorous, ortho-phosphorous)
- total metals (arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, nickel, lead, mercury and zinc)
- petroleum hydrocarbons
- BTEXN (benzene, toluene, ethyl-benzene, xylene and naphthalene)
- pesticides and herbicides
- blue-green algae.

Water quality data was compared to the guideline relevant to the site location in the construction footprint. Guidelines used were:

- Albert River environmental values and water quality objectives: Basin No 145 (part) including all tributaries of the river (DES 2022a)
- Logan River environmental values and water quality objectives: Basin No 145 (part) including all tributaries of the Logan River (DES 2022b)
- Pimpama River environmental values and water quality objectives: Basin No 146 (part), including Behm and McCoys creeks and southern Moreton Bay coastal creeks (DES 2022c)
- Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZG) (ANZG 2018).

Overall, water quality was non-compliant with water-quality objectives at most sites, which indicates that baseline conditions are currently outside of ideal value ranges. Poor water quality and non-compliant results are likely due to a lack of riparian vegetation, runoff from adjacent land uses, erosion, low canopy cover and potential acid sulfate soils. In addition to the monthly surface water sampling program, a one-off sampling event occurred in the 24 hours after a period of significant rainfall (>25mm) on the 2 December 2022. This was completed to assess the susceptibility of water quality to rainfall and the excess run-off that may occur. Notably, pH was lower than the median of all sites under baseflow conditions, which was expected due to run off from agricultural lands, roads and urbanised areas. Unexpectedly, dissolved oxygen had lowered across each site when compared to baseflow conditions. This is likely due to excess nutrients from run-off.

Groundwater & hydrology.

The construction footprint is dominated by Devonian – Carboniferous age meta-sedimentary rocks and superficial alluvial deposits (DNRMMRRD 2025), in the following geological groups:

- Neranleigh-Fernvale beds
 - a fractured rock aquifer system, where water is typically stored in the fractures, joints, bedding planes and cavities of the rock mass, and with typically low groundwater yields (Geoscience Australia 2014; Helm et al. 2009)
- Woogaroo subgroup
 - a fractured rock aquifer system consisting of porous sandstones, with typically low groundwater yields (Helm et al. 2009)
- Tingalpa formation
 - a fractured rock aquifer system consisting of shale, coal and sandstone with typically low groundwater yields (Helm et al. 2009)
- quaternary deposits
 - quaternary deposits present are alluvia aquifers, which are formed by physical processes on river plains or flood channels, where gravel, sand, silt, or clay is deposited (DETSI 2015a). Groundwater yields from this aquifer are generally higher than the Neranleigh-Fernvale beds Woogaroo subgroups and Tingalpa formation (Helm et al. 2009).

There are both terrestrial and surface groundwater dependant ecosystems (GDE) present within the construction footprint, see **Figure 8, Att. K-Figure 8-Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems_2025**. Terrestrial GDEs require access to groundwater on a permanent or intermittent basis to meet all or some of their water requirements to maintain their communities of plants and animals, ecological processes, and ecosystem services (DETSI 2015b). They depend on access to subsurface groundwater via their roots, which supports resilience in vegetation during times of lower surface water availability. Surface GDEs are dependent on the discharge of groundwater on a permanent or intermittent basis. This includes surface water ecosystems which may have a relationship with groundwater, such as rivers, springs, and wetlands (Bureau of Meteorology 2025).

Further surveys

It is acknowledged that there are potential data gaps associated with the age and completeness of existing data. **Att. B-Environmental Survey Plan_2025** (an Environmental Survey Plan) has been created to outline how it is intended that these gaps and risks will be addressed and managed. This includes outlining the proposed field investigations and updates to the baseline ecological data (and other field data) that will be undertaken during and beyond the referral assessment period.

Monthly groundwater sampling for the Project was undertaken from June 2022 to March 2024. Sites were selected for sampling based on location, to obtain a spread of results across the Project area. The following parameters were tested at each site:

- pH
- electrical conductivity
- alkalinity
- water hardness
- total dissolved solids and total suspended solids
- major ions (calcium, magnesium, fluoride, sodium, potassium, sulphate)
- nutrients (ammonia, oxides of nitrogen, total nitrogen, total phosphorous, ortho-phosphorous)
- metals (arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, nickel, lead, mercury, and zinc)
- total petroleum hydrocarbons
- BTEXN (benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene, and naphthalene)
- pesticides and herbicides (note this was removed from the program in April 2023 due to no detections in the monthly groundwater quality results to that date)
- blue-green algae.

Groundwater samples collected during the monitoring program for the Project were of similar ionic composition, therefore it was assumed that the water sampled is from similar geochemical processes in the aquifers and is from the same origin. Due to this, samples were combined for analysis against the following guidelines:

- Pimpama River environmental values and water quality objectives: Basin No 146 (part), including Behm and McCoys creeks and southern Moreton Bay coastal creeks (DES 2022c)
- Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (ANZG 2018).

Overall, groundwater was high in nutrients and metals with median concentrations above the water quality objectives in the guidelines above. There were also high concentrations of total petroleum hydrocarbons recorded at a number of bores throughout the monitoring program; however, in the most recent results, concentrations have all been below laboratory limits of reporting, indicating they are no longer present.

A wetlands hydrological study has been undertaken to understand the impacts of the Project on groundwater and in turn, habitats dependent on groundwater levels and the species dependent on those habitats. An initial desktop review was carried out to review existing available information and to understand the interaction between groundwater and wetlands. Baseline information was used to create a conceptual hydrological model of the wetlands in the vicinity of Eagleby (Eagleby Wetlands Complex). The conceptual model was transferred into a 3D numerical model of the Eagleby Wetlands Complex to represent the baseline conditions which estimated the impacts of the Project. Semi-quantitative information from this model was used to infer the likely hydrogeological impacts for two additional sites at the southern end of the Project. Modelling indicated that by incorporating constructed wetlands into the design at specific locations, they would provide overflow of water and recharge to groundwater. As a result, the Project would have minimal groundwater impacts to wetlands of the Eagleby Wetlands Complex. However, these results are highly dependent on the use and configuration of retention basins which allow for overflow and groundwater recharge. Impacts to wetlands would need to be reviewed during later design phases of the Project to confirm the impacts of the design were consistent with the results of the assessment.

4. Impacts and mitigation

4.1 Impact details

Potential Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) relevant to your proposed action area.

EPBC Act section	Controlling provision	Impacted	Reviewed
S12	World Heritage	No	Yes
S15B	National Heritage	No	Yes
S16	Ramsar Wetland	Yes	Yes
S18	Threatened Species and Ecological Communities	Yes	Yes
S20	Migratory Species	Yes	Yes
S21	Nuclear	No	Yes
S23	Commonwealth Marine Area	No	Yes
S24B	Great Barrier Reef	No	Yes
S24D	Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas	No	Yes
S26	Commonwealth Land	No	Yes
S27B	Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas	No	Yes
S28	Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency	No	Yes

4.1.1 World Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.1.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.1.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The action is unlikely to have a direct or indirect impact as there are no World Heritage Properties located in the construction footprint or a 2km buffer. The nearest World Heritage site is the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia, approximately 33km to the south west of the construction footprint.

4.1.2 National Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.2.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.2.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The action is unlikely to have a direct or indirect impact as there are no National Heritage places located in the construction footprint or a 2km buffer. The nearest National Heritage place is the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia, approximately 33km to the south west of the construction footprint.

4.1.3 Ramsar Wetland

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ramsar wetland
Yes		Moreton Bay

4.1.3.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.3.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

The Moreton Bay Ramsar wetland is located in proximity to the Project; however it is outside of the construction footprint (**Figure 9, Att. L-Figure 9-Moreton Bay Ramsar Wetland_2025**). At its closest point to the construction footprint, it is approximately 600m away (straight line distance). The Moreton Bay Ramsar wetland is notable for its large size; it is approximately 110km long and 35km wide, with an area of 120639 ha (RSIS 2023). The site is also notable for its diverse wetland habitats and connectivity between wetland types which support threatened species and ecological communities (RSIS 2023).

This site meets all nine criteria for the designation of wetlands of international importance (RSIS 2023), these are:

1. It contains a representative, rare, or unique example of a natural or near-natural wetland type found within the appropriate biogeographic region.
2. It supports vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species or threatened ecological communities.
3. It supports populations of plant and/or animal species important for maintaining the biological diversity of a particular biogeographic region.
4. It supports plant and/or animal species at a critical stage in their life cycles, or provides refuge during adverse conditions.
5. It regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds.
6. It regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of waterbird.
7. It supports a significant proportion of indigenous fish subspecies, species or families, life-history stages, species interactions and/or populations that are representative of wetland benefits and/or values and thereby contributes to global biological diversity.
8. It is an important source of food for fishes, spawning ground, nursery and/or migration path on which fish stocks, either within the wetland or elsewhere, depend.
9. It regularly supports 1% of the individuals in a population of one species or subspecies of wetland-dependent non-avian animal species.

Whilst the Project avoids direct impacts to the Moreton Bay Ramsar wetland, downstream impacts have the potential to occur, including increased sedimentation of waterways, changes to water quality parameters and hydrological changes to surface water and groundwater.

The potential impact is the same for all nine criteria, that there may be run off and spills from the proposed action which may negatively impact water quality. This could have subsequent impacts on flora and fauna of the wetland.

4.1.3.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact?

*

No

4.1.3.6 Describe why you do not consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

The Moreton Bay Ramsar wetland is immediately downstream of the construction footprint. Although the Project will not have direct impacts on the site, a significant impact assessment was undertaken in accordance with the Commonwealth's *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1* to determine if the Project is likely to have a significant impact on the ecological character of the Moreton Bay Ramsar wetland. The outcomes of the Significant Impact Assessment are provided in Table 58 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16** and summarised here.

The assessment revealed that the Project is **unlikely** to have a significant impact on the site, as:

- No areas of the wetland will be directly modified or destroyed as the Project is located upstream of the site and does not occur within the mapped boundaries of the wetland.
- Hydrological modelling has been undertaken for the Project which identified that there will be negligible downstream impacts to the volume and velocity of water entering the Moreton Bay wetland system, which would not result in substantial and measurable changes to the hydrological regime of the wetland.
- The Project has the potential of indirectly impacting the wetland's water quality (e.g. sedimentation, nutrients, pollutants) which may negatively impact the habitat or lifecycle of native species within the wetland. With suitable and appropriate water quality measures implemented during the design and construction phases of the Project, the water quality is unlikely to be impacted such that the habitat or lifecycle of native species within the wetland is seriously affected.
- MUSIC modelling undertaken for the Project identified that, whilst the load reduction targets were met, there is likely to be an increase in total nitrogen (TN) and total phosphorous (TP) discharged into the local receiving environment. Although this increase is unlikely to result in a substantial and measurable change in the water quality of the downstream Moreton Bay Ramsar wetland, there is opportunity in the following design phases to further reduce these discharges as a result of the road.
- The Project is unlikely to introduce novel biosecurity matters and invasive flora and fauna species to the construction footprint which have the potential of becoming established in the wetland. The Project is expected not to facilitate the introduction or spread of disease or pathogens. Standard biosecurity measures (including vehicle hygiene practices) will be implemented as part of the construction phase of the Project to minimise the introduction and/or spread of biosecurity matters.

4.1.3.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

No

4.1.3.9 Please elaborate why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action.

*

At its closest, the Project is located 600m upstream from the Moreton Bay Ramsar wetland and due to the tidal nature of the waterways any contamination is likely to be diluted. Habitat immediately downstream of the proposed action is mostly in poor condition. Any spill or run off is likely to be an isolated event associated with a significant rainfall event or vehicle accidents on the road; however, open-graded asphalt road surfacing, swales, constructed wetlands and bioretention systems have been incorporated into the design to capture these spills. The significant impact assessment undertaken in accordance with the Commonwealth's *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1* determined that the Project is **unlikely** to have a significant impact on:

- areas of the wetland being destroyed or substantially modified
- a substantial and measurable change in the hydrological regime of the wetland
- the habitat or lifecycle of native species, including invertebrate fauna and fish species, dependent upon the wetland being seriously affected
- a substantial and measurable change in the water quality of the wetland
- an invasive species that is harmful to the ecological character of the wetland being established (or an existing invasive species being spread) in the wetland.

4.1.3.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

The following mitigation measures are proposed to mitigate impacts to water quality and, by extension, the Moreton Bay Ramsar wetland:

- Develop an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan in accordance with TMR's *Road Planning and Design Manual Edition 2: Volume 3 Supplement to Austroads Guide to Road Design Part 5: Drainage – General and Hydrology Considerations* (December 2024), the *Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control guidelines* (IECA 2008) and TMR's *Technical Specification MRTS52 Erosion and Sediment Control* (March 2025) to minimise impacts to water quality and aquatic habitat.
- Design storage facilities and laydown areas a minimum of 50m from any waterway or wetland (see **Figure 10, Att. M-Figure 10-Indicative Ancillary Facilities_2025** for indicative ancillary facility locations which will be refined to continue meeting this requirement in detailed design).
- Design waterway crossing structures (i.e. bridges and culverts) to minimise impacts on aquatic habitat and fauna by preferencing bridges over culverts, locating bridge footings and abutments outside of waterway channels, and ensuring culvert design facilitates fish and fauna passage while accommodating design flows. This will maintain habitat connectivity and fish passage in the waterway. The road design includes a gap between carriageways on many bridges over waterways to allow sun and rain to reach the habitat and minimise impact.
- Where reasonable and practicable, incorporate water sensitive urban design measures to minimise runoff that enter waterways, including consideration of any locations where additional scour protection may be required to minimise erosion risk and maintain watercourse stability. Measures may include wide grassed swales, rock dissipaters, gross pollutant traps, and sediment basins. Within waterways and riparian areas, erosion and sediment control measures should prioritise soft engineering measures to achieve stabilisation where possible (i.e. geofab, jute matting or planting).
- The road design includes the following drainage treatment measures:
 - open-graded asphalt road surfacing is considered a primary treatment measure for pre-treatment but should be paired with a secondary treatment system downstream
 - swales to be applied wherever sufficient grade (≥ 0.5 percent) allows
 - bioretention systems considered where sufficient elevation to daylight underdrainage is achieved
 - constructed wetlands are adopted as the preferred treatment solution for flatter areas and the construction footprint allows sufficient space for these. Ephemeral systems will only be considered where other solutions are impractical and through consultation with fauna and arboreal specialists
 - proprietary devices are considered in locations where safe maintenance access is achievable and space for vegetated systems is unavailable. This may include cuttings, local road interfaces, and bridges
 - all swales to be fitted with spill containment weirs at the outlet.
- Undertake further design refinements to minimise impacts to water quality parameters (particularly total nitrogen and total phosphorous).
- If work areas will be left for any extended period of time (i.e. more than 14 days), stabilise exposed areas as soon as possible to minimise run-off entering the waterways and impacting aquatic habitat and water quality.
- Water quality objectives during construction is to be informed by water quality monitoring program results and recommended site-specific water quality objectives.
- Vegetation clearing in riparian zones to be minimised as much as possible.
- Rehabilitate riparian zones along waterway corridors using native species including emergent aquatic plants along the banks. The design incorporates bridges with piers set back to allow for enhanced planting along riparian zones post construction to improve on the existing scenario,
- Conduct works around waterways in the dry season, where possible.
- Refuel construction vehicles and machinery in approved construction or bunded areas and at least 50m from waterways and contingency plan management measures are available in the immediate area.

- Ensure that any streambed disturbed during construction is reformed to its original profile, with appropriate bed material on the base to minimise erosion potential and impacts to waterways via sedimentation.
- Where possible, retain any large woody debris removed from in-stream works areas and return to the waterway once work is completed at that location or replace the large woody debris with a tree removed as part of the clearing process which is of a similar size.
- There are some existing culverts within the Project, that do not currently provide for fish passage (e.g. Burnside Road crossing). Seek opportunities to improve the design as it progresses to further reduce environmental impacts.
- During operation, undertake inspections of water quality treatment devices in accordance with the *Structures Inspection Manual Part 1: Structures Inspection Policy* (September 2016).

4.1.3.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

As the Significant Impact Assessment conducted identified there is **unlikely** to be significant impacts from the proposed action on the Moreton Bay Ramsar wetland, it is unlikely that offsets will be required and they are not proposed as part of this referral.

4.1.4 Threatened Species and Ecological Communities

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Threatened species

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	<i>Acacia attenuata</i>	
No	No	<i>Acronychia littoralis</i>	Scented Acronychia
No	No	<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	Regent Honeyeater
No	No	<i>Ardenna grisea</i>	Sooty Shearwater
No	No	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Ruddy Turnstone
No	No	<i>Argynnis hyperbius inconstans</i>	Australian Fritillary
No	No	<i>Arthraxon hispidus</i>	Hairy-joint Grass
No	No	<i>Baloghia marmorata</i>	Marbled Balogia, Jointed Baloghia
No	No	<i>Bosistoa transversa</i>	Three-leaved Bosistoa, Yellow Satinheart
Yes	Yes	<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i>	Australasian Bittern
Yes	Yes	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red Knot, Knot
No	No	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper
Yes	Yes	<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami</i>	South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo
No	No	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Loggerhead Turtle
No	No	<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	Large-eared Pied Bat, Large Pied Bat
No	No	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	Greater Sand Plover, Large Sand Plover
No	No	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	Lesser Sand Plover, Mongolian Plover
No	No	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Green Turtle
No	No	<i>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</i>	Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern)
No	No	<i>Coeranoscincus reticulatus</i>	Three-toed Snake-tooth Skink
No	No	<i>Coleus habrophyllus</i>	

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	<i>Corchorus cunninghamii</i>	Native Jute
No	No	<i>Croton mamillatus</i>	Bahrs Scrub Croton
No	No	<i>Cryptocarya foetida</i>	Stinking Cryptocarya, Stinking Laurel
No	No	<i>Cryptostylis hunteriana</i>	Leafless Tongue-orchid
No	No	<i>Cupaniopsis shirleyana</i>	Wedge-leaf Tuckeroo
No	No	<i>Cyclopsitta diophthalma coxeni</i>	Coxen's Fig-Parrot
No	No	<i>Dasyurus maculatus maculatus</i> (SE mainland population)	Spot-tailed Quoll, Spotted-tail Quoll, Tiger Quoll (southeastern mainland population)
No	No	<i>Delma torquata</i>	Adorned Delma, Collared Delma
No	No	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth
No	No	<i>Diomedea antipodensis</i>	Antipodean Albatross
No	No	<i>Diomedea antipodensis gibsoni</i>	Gibson's Albatross
No	No	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	Wandering Albatross
No	No	<i>Endiandra floydii</i>	Floyd's Walnut, Crystal Creek Walnut
No	No	<i>Epinephelus daemeli</i>	Black Rockcod, Black Cod, Saddled Rockcod
No	No	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	Hawksbill Turtle
No	No	<i>Erythrotriorchis radiatus</i>	Red Goshawk
No	No	<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	Grey Falcon
Yes	Yes	<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
No	No	<i>Geophaps scripta scripta</i>	Squatter Pigeon (southern)
No	No	<i>Gossia gonoclada</i>	Angle-stemmed Myrtle
No	No	<i>Grantiella picta</i>	Painted Honeyeater
No	No	<i>Hemiaspis damelii</i>	Grey Snake
No	No	<i>Hippocampus whitei</i>	White's Seahorse, Crowned Seahorse, Sydney Seahorse
No	No	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail
No	No	<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Swift Parrot

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>	Olive Ridley Turtle, Pacific Ridley Turtle
No	No	<i>Limnodromus semipalmatus</i>	Asian Dowitcher
Yes	Yes	<i>Limosa lapponica baueri</i>	Nunivak Bar-tailed Godwit, Western Alaskan Bar-tailed Godwit
No	No	<i>Litoria olongburensis</i>	Wallum Sedge Frog
No	No	<i>Macadamia integrifolia</i>	Macadamia Nut, Queensland Nut Tree, Smooth-shelled Macadamia, Bush Nut, Nut Oak
No	No	<i>Macadamia tetraphylla</i>	Rough-shelled Bush Nut, Macadamia Nut, Rough-shelled Macadamia, Rough-leaved Queensland Nut
No	No	<i>Maccullochella mariensis</i>	Mary River Cod
No	No	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel
No	No	<i>Macronectes halli</i>	Northern Giant Petrel
No	No	<i>Mixophyes fleayi</i>	Fleay's Frog
No	No	<i>Natator depressus</i>	Flatback Turtle
No	No	<i>Notelaea lloydii</i>	Lloyd's Olive
Yes	Yes	<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew
No	No	<i>Orcaella heinsohni</i>	Australian Snubfin Dolphin
No	No	<i>Owenia cepiodora</i>	Onionwood, Bog Onion, Onion Cedar
No	No	<i>Pachyptila turtur subantarctica</i>	Fairy Prion (southern)
Yes	Yes	<i>Persicaria elatior</i>	Knotweed, Tall Knotweed
No	No	<i>Petauroides volans</i>	Greater Glider (southern and central)
No	No	<i>Petaurus australis australis</i>	Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern)
No	No	<i>Phaius australis</i>	Lesser Swamp-orchid
Yes	Yes	<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT)	Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory)

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	<i>Planchonella eerwah</i>	Shiny-leaved Condoe, Black Plum, Wild Apple
No	No	<i>Potorous tridactylus tridactylus</i>	Long-nosed Potoroo (northern)
No	No	<i>Pristis zijsron</i>	Green Sawfish, Dindagubba, Narrowsnout Sawfish
Yes	Yes	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox
No	No	<i>Rhodamnia rubescens</i>	Scrub Turpentine, Brown Malletwood
No	No	<i>Rhodomyrtus psidioides</i>	Native Guava
Yes	Yes	<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian Painted Snipe
No	No	<i>Samadera bidwillii</i>	Quassia
No	No	<i>Sousa sahalensis</i>	Australian Humpback Dolphin
No	No	<i>Sphyrna lewini</i>	Scalloped Hammerhead
No	No	<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	Diamond Firetail
No	No	<i>Sternula nereis nereis</i>	Australian Fairy Tern
No	No	<i>Thalassarche cauta</i>	Shy Albatross
No	No	<i>Thalassarche impavida</i>	Campbell Albatross, Campbell Black-browed Albatross
No	No	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>	Black-browed Albatross
No	No	<i>Thalassarche salvini</i>	Salvin's Albatross
No	No	<i>Thalassarche steadi</i>	White-capped Albatross
No	No	<i>Thesium australe</i>	Austral Toadflax, Toadflax
Yes	Yes	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	Common Greenshank, Greenshank
No	No	<i>Turnix melanogaster</i>	Black-breasted Button-quail
No	No	<i>Vincetoxicum woollsii</i>	
No	No	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	Terek Sandpiper
Yes	Yes	<i>Xeromys myoides</i>	Water Mouse, False Water Rat, Yirrkoo

Ecological communities

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ecological community
Yes	Yes	Coastal Swamp Oak (<i>Casuarina glauca</i>) Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland ecological community
Yes	Yes	Coastal Swamp Sclerophyll Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland
No	No	Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia
Yes	Yes	Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh
Yes	Yes	Subtropical eucalypt floodplain forest and woodland of the New South Wales North Coast and South East Queensland bioregions
No	No	White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland

4.1.4.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.4.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

For any species that have been assessed as having a low or moderate likelihood of occurrence within the construction footprint it has been assumed that there are no direct or indirect impacts from the action. The likelihood of occurrence assessment is based on the outcomes of the field surveys, including the targeted surveys, and the species' habitat requirements. The methodology for the likelihood of occurrence assessment is detailed in Section 3.8 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part03**). Outcomes of the likelihood of occurrence assessment are located in Appendix D of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part18**). This includes species identified as having a low or moderate likelihood of occurrence which are not assessed further in this referral.

Queensland listed threatened or special least concern species are anticipated to be impacted by the Project. As these species are not MNES, they have not been assessed further in this referral, however, were assessed as part of the broader project assessments. For more information on impacts to state listed species, refer to Section 9 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**).

General flora surveys undertaken for the Project (refer to Section 3.4 and Section 3.5 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part01** through to **Part03**) identified the vegetation communities that have the potential to conform to the condition thresholds and key diagnostic characteristics of Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC). Based on this, targeted TEC surveys were progressed for four of the six TECs identified in the EPBC Act PMST search. Targeted TEC surveys were not progressed due to absence of vegetation communities with the potential to conform to the condition thresholds and key diagnostic characteristics for the following TECs:

- Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia
- White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland

A conservative approach has been taken for the Project's impact assessment, where any species that the likelihood of occurrence assessment identified as known to occur, or as having a high likelihood occurrence, are assumed to be directly impacted by the Project. Species specific impacts are described below, followed by more general impacts that affect several TEC and threatened species. For more information on survey results for each species refer to Section 6.3 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part09** through to **Part14**. Impacts to species are discussed in Section 9 of in **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

Australasian bittern (*Botaurus poiciloptilus*) – endangered

- High likelihood of occurrence
- Direct loss of 7.03ha of suitable habitat

Australian painted snipe (*Rostratula australis*) – endangered

- Known to occur
- Direct loss of 7.03ha of suitable habitat

Coastal Swamp Oak (*Casuarina glauca*) Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland – endangered

- Patches of the *Casuarina glauca* open forest vegetation community conformed to the key diagnostic criteria and met condition thresholds
- Direct loss of 0.45ha of this TEC, and 1.08ha of the 30m buffer zone

Coastal Swamp Sclerophyll Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland – endangered

- Patches of the *Melaleuca* dominated open forest vegetation community conformed to the key diagnostic criteria and met condition thresholds
- Direct loss of 32.78ha of this TEC, and 17.07ha of the 100m buffer zone

Common greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) – endangered, marine and migratory

- Known to occur
- Direct loss of 15.2ha of high value habitat for the species from within the construction footprint
 - For all migratory birds with this impact habitat area calculation, refer to Section 3.4.3.7 in the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part03**) for background information and how it is more conservative than the specialist's habitat calculation used in the significant impact assessment.

The common greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) is listed under the EPBC Act as 'endangered', 'marine' and 'migratory'. As the species is threatened, it is discussed in this section, rather than Section 4.1.5 Migratory species. This is the same approach taken for all species that are threatened and also migratory.

Eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*) – critically endangered, marine and migratory

- High likelihood of occurrence
- Direct loss of 1.5ha of suitable habitat associated with the saltpan vegetation community

Glossy black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami*) – vulnerable

- Known to occur (indirect observation – orts identified)
- Direct loss of 46.46ha of suitable habitat

Grey-headed flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) - vulnerable

- Known to occur
- Direct loss of 153.48ha of suitable foraging habitat

Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) – endangered

- Known to occur (estimated abundance 57 to 95 individuals in survey area, with higher density around Coomera and Pimpama)
- Direct loss of 138.35ha suitable breeding, foraging, and dispersal habitat
- Koala specific impacts include:
 - Construction related impacts include increased stress on individual koalas, which may exacerbate existing disease impacts
 - Operational impacts including increased vehicle strike

Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*) – vulnerable, marine and migratory

- Known to occur (significant aggregations that exceeded thresholds of National importance recorded at two wetland complexes – Maurice Court to Schmidt Road, Eagleby, and Shipper Drive, Coomera)
- Direct loss of 15.2ha of high value habitat for the species from within the construction footprint

***Persicaria elatior* (tall knotweed) – vulnerable**

- Known to occur (two individuals at Eagleby)
- Whilst the Project will avoid direct impacts to this species, the Project is anticipated to remove 0.12ha of supporting habitat (native vegetation within 100m of the identified individuals) and is at risk to changes of the local hydrology as a result of the Project
- Water quality modelling has been undertaken for the Project which has identified that the road is likely to increase TN and TP which may facilitate the proliferation of weed species which has the potential to negatively impact on *Persicaria elatior* (tall knotweed) at this location.

Sharp-tailed sandpiper(*Calidris acuminata*) – vulnerable, marine and migratory

- Known to occur
- Direct loss of 15.2ha of high value habitat for the species from within the construction footprint

Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh - vulnerable

- All field validated saltpan vegetation community patches conform to the key diagnostic characteristics of the Approved Conservation Advice for this TEC
- Direct loss of 1.48ha of this TEC, and 2.87ha of the 30m buffer zone

Subtropical Eucalypt Floodplain Forest and Woodland of the New South Wales North Coast and South East Queensland Bioregions – endangered

- Patches of the field validated mixed Eucalypt open forest to woodland vegetation community, present on land zone 3, conformed to the key diagnostic criteria and met condition thresholds
- Direct loss of 10.79ha of this TEC, and 31.59ha of the 100m buffer zone

Water mouse (*Xeromys myoides*) – vulnerable

- High likelihood of occurrence
- Direct loss of 3.9ha suitable breeding, foraging, and dispersal habitat

Western Alaskan bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica baueri*) – endangered, marine and migratory

- High likelihood of occurrence
- Direct loss of 7.03ha of suitable habitat

Impacts to threatened ecological communities

In addition to direct impacts, the Project has the potential to result in the following indirect impacts to the TEC and buffer zone vegetation:

- Alteration to local hydrology that may result in a change of species composition and/or dieback.
- Sedimentation of ground layer flora species that may result in a change of species composition and/or dieback.
- Alterations to nutrient loads discharged into waterways/drainage lines which lead into the TEC may result in a change of species composition.
- Increased edge effects that have the potential to increase weed abundance/dominance.
- Groundwater modelling has been undertaken, which has identified that there will likely be minimal impacts to the groundwater levels within 100m from the edge of the road embankments.

All the above indirect impacts have the potential to change the vegetation community such that the vegetation communities no longer meet the key diagnostic criteria and/or condition thresholds and could result in removal of Federal protection of the vegetation community.

Impacts to threatened fauna species, including migratory birds

The Project is anticipated to have the following impacts to threatened fauna species:

- Habitat loss and/or degradation via edge effects including weed intrusion.
- Increased competition from generalist native fauna and introduced fauna species.
- Facilitating an increase in invasive animals which can be predatory to the species
- Habitat loss and/or degradation from fragmentation including reduced dispersal opportunities and reduced patch size.
- Loss of habitat from indirect impacts relating to altered hydrology, which can alter vegetation community composition and/or result in localised vegetation die back.
- Construction related impacts including direct mortality, displacement, increased noise, light, vibration, increased sedimentation of waterways.
- Operational impacts including a permanent increase in light, noise, and vibration levels which may result in avoidance of suitable habitat by disturbance sensitive species.

4.1.4.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact?

*

Yes

4.1.4.5 Describe why you consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

Significant impact assessments (SIAs) were undertaken for each of the threatened species and TECs known to occur, or assessed as having a high likelihood of occurring, within the Project area. SIAs were undertaken in accordance with the Commonwealth's *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1* (DoE 2013). SIAs for threatened migratory species were also undertaken in accordance with the Commonwealth's *EPBC Act Policy Statement 3.21 – Industry guidelines for avoiding, assessing and mitigating impacts on EPBC Act listed migratory shorebird species* (DOE 2015a).

All SIAs were documented in tables in **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16** and all references to tables in this section refer to that attachment.

Australasian bittern (*Botaurus poiciloptilus*) – endangered

The SIA in Table 42 determined that the Project is likely to result in the following impacts:

- adversely affect 7.03ha of habitat critical to the survival of a species.

In addition to the above, there is a possibility that the Project will:

- temporarily disrupt the breeding cycle of a population.

The Project is considered **likely** to have a significant impact on this species.

Australian painted snipe (*Rostratula australis*) – endangered

The SIA in Table 43 determined that the Project is likely to result in the following impacts:

- adversely affect 7.03ha of habitat critical to the survival of a species.

In addition to the above, it is 'possible' the Project will:

- temporarily disrupt the breeding cycle of a population
- interfere with the recovery of the species.

The Project is considered **likely** to have a significant impact on this species.

Coastal Swamp Oak (*Casuarina glauca*) Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland – endangered

The SIA in Table 55 determined that the Project is likely to have the following impacts:

- reduce the extent of an ecological community
- fragment or increase fragmentation of an ecological community
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of an ecological community

In addition to the above, it is 'possible' the Project will:

- modify or destroy abiotic (non-living) factors (such as water, nutrients, or soil) necessary for an ecological community's survival, including reduction of groundwater levels, or substantial alteration of surface water drainage patterns.
- cause a substantial change in species composition of an occurrence of an ecological community
- cause a substantial reduction in the quality or integrity of an occurrence of an ecological community
- interfere with the recovery of an ecological community

The Project is considered **likely** to have a significant impact on this TEC.

Coastal Swamp Sclerophyll Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland – endangered

The SIA in Table 56 determined that the Project is likely to have the following impacts:

- reduce the extent of an ecological community
- fragment or increase fragmentation of an ecological community
- interfere with the recovery of an ecological community.

In addition to the above, it is 'possible' the Project will:

- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of an ecological community
- cause a substantial change in the species composition of an occurrence of an ecological community, including causing a decline or loss of functionally important species, for example through regular burning or flora or fauna harvesting
- cause a substantial reduction in the quality or integrity of an occurrence of an ecological community.

The Project is considered **likely** to have a significant impact on this TEC.

Common greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) – endangered, marine and migratory

The SIA in Table 50 identified the Project is considered **unlikely** to have a significant impact on this species.

Eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*) – critically endangered, marine and migratory

The SIA in Table 44 determined the Project is considered **unlikely** to have a significant impact on this species due to limited impacts and no recorded observations during the targeted surveys.

Glossy black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami*) – vulnerable

The SIA in Table 45 determined that the Project is likely to have the following impacts:

- adversely affect 46.46ha of habitat critical to the survival of a species
- interfere substantially with the recovery of the species.

In addition to the above, it is 'possible' the Project will:

- modify, destroy, remove, isolate, or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline.

The Project is considered **likely** to have a significant impact on this species.

Grey-headed flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) - vulnerable

The SIA in Table 46 determined that the Project is likely to have the following impacts:

- reduce the area of occupancy of an important population
- adversely affect 153.48ha of habitat critical to the survival of a species
- interfere substantially with the recovery of the species

In addition to the above, it is 'possible' the Project will:

- lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of the species
- disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate, or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline.

The Project is considered **likely** to have a significant impact on this species.

Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) – endangered

The SIA in Table 47 was undertaken with reference to DCCEE's *Referral guidance for the endangered koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) (2024)*. It determined the Project is likely to have following impacts:

- lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of the species
- reduce the area of occupancy of an important population
- adversely affect 138.35ha of habitat critical to the survival of a species
- disrupt the breeding cycle of a population
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate, or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline

- interfere substantially with the recovery of the species.

In addition to the above, it is 'possible' the Project will:

- fragment an existing population into two or more populations
- introduce disease that may cause the species to decline.

The Project is considered **likely** to have a significant impact on this species.

Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*) – vulnerable, marine and migratory

The SIA in Table 48 determined that the Project is likely to have the following impacts:

- lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of a species
- reduce the area of occupancy of an important population
- adversely affect 13.2ha of habitat critical to the survival of a species
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate, or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline.

The Project is considered **likely** to have a significant impact on this species.

Persicaria elatior (tall knotweed) – vulnerable

1. The SIA in Table 41 determined there is a possibility that the Project will have the following:

- result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat
- interfere substantially with the recovery of the species.

The Project is considered **likely** to have a significant impact on this species.

Sharp-tailed sandpiper(*Calidris acuminata*) – vulnerable, marine and migratory

The SIA in Table 51 identified the Project is considered **unlikely** to have a significant impact on this species.

Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh - vulnerable

The Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh TEC is listed as 'vulnerable', and is not considered to be MNES for the purposes of Part 3 of the EPBC Act and does not require assessment against the EPBC Act.

Subtropical Eucalypt Floodplain Forest and Woodland of the New South Wales North Coast and South East Queensland Bioregions – endangered

The SIA in Table 57 determined that the Project is likely to have the following impacts:

- reduce the extent of the ecological community
- fragment or increase fragmentation of an ecological community
- adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of an ecological community
- interfere with the recovery of an ecological community.

In addition to the above, it is 'possible' the Project will:

- modify or destroy abiotic (non-living) factors (such as water, nutrients, or soil) necessary for an ecological community's survival, including reduction of groundwater levels, or substantial alteration of surface water drainage patterns
- cause a substantial change in the species composition of an occurrence of an ecological community, including causing a decline or loss of functionally important species, for example through regular burning or flora or fauna harvesting
- cause a substantial reduction in the quality or integrity of an occurrence of an ecological community.

The Project is considered **likely** to have a significant impact on this TEC.

Water mouse (*Xeromys myoides*) – vulnerable

The SIA in Table 52 was undertaken with reference to the *Referral guideline for the vulnerable water mouse Xeromys myoides* (DoE 2015a). It determined the Project is likely to have following impacts:

- reduce the area of occupancy of an important population
- adversely affect 3.9ha of habitat critical to the survival of a species.

In addition to the above, it is 'possible' the Project will:

- lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of the species
- temporarily disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population
- modify, destroy, remove, isolate, or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline.
- interfere substantially with the recovery of the species.

The Project is considered **likely** to have a significant impact on this species.

Western Alaskan bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica baueri*) – endangered, marine and migratory

The SIA in Table 53 identified the Project is considered **unlikely** to have a significant impact on this species due to the limited impacts and no recorded observations during the targeted surveys.

4.1.4.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

Yes

4.1.4.8 Please elaborate why you think your proposed action is a controlled action. *

Australasian bittern (*Botaurus poiciloptilus*) – endangered

The direct and indirect impacts from the Project are likely to have a significant impact on the Australasian bittern, and as such the proposed action is **considered to be a controlled action** for this MNES. The Project is anticipated to directly impact 7.03ha of habitat critical to the survival of the species. Impacts are detailed further in Section 9.13.2 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

Australian painted snipe (*Rostratula australis*) – endangered

The direct and indirect impacts from the Project are likely to have a significant impact on the Australian painted snipe, and as such the proposed action is **considered to be a controlled action** for this MNES. The Project is anticipated to directly impact 7.03ha of habitat critical to the survival of the species. Impacts are detailed further in Section 9.13.3 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

Coastal Swamp Oak (*Casuarina glauca*) Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland – endangered

The direct and indirect impact from the Project is likely to have a significant impact on the Coastal Swamp Oak (*Casuarina glauca*) Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland TEC, and as such the proposed action **is considered to be a controlled action** for this MNES. The Project is anticipated to directly impact 0.45ha of this TEC, and 1.08ha of the buffer area. These impacts are detailed in Section 9.13.15 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

Coastal Swamp Sclerophyll Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland – endangered

The direct and indirect impact from the Project is likely to have a significant impact on the Coastal Swamp Sclerophyll Forest of New South Wales and South East Queensland TEC, and as such the proposed action **is considered to be a controlled action** for this MNES. The Project is anticipated to directly impact 32.78ha of this TEC, and 17.07ha of the buffer zone. These impacts are detailed in Section 9.13.6 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

Glossy black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami*) - vulnerable

The direct and indirect impact from the Project is likely to have a significant impact on the glossy black-cockatoo, and as such the proposed action **is considered to be a controlled action** for this MNES. The Project is anticipated to directly impact 46.46ha of suitable habitat for the species. Impacts are detailed further in Section 9.13.5 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

Grey-headed flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) - vulnerable

The direct and indirect impact from the Project is likely to have a significant impact on the grey-headed flying-fox, and as such the proposed action **is considered to be a controlled action** for this MNES. The Project is anticipated to directly impact 153.48 of suitable foraging habitat for the species. Impacts are detailed further in Section 9.13.6 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) - endangered

The direct and indirect impact from the Project is likely to have a significant impact on the koala, and as such the proposed action **is considered to be a controlled action** for this MNES. The Project is anticipated to directly impact 138.35ha of suitable breeding, foraging, and dispersal habitat for the species. Impacts are detailed further in Section 9.13.7 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*) – vulnerable, migratory and marine

The direct and indirect impacts from the Project are likely to have a significant impact on Latham's snipe, and as such the proposed action is **considered to be a controlled action** for this MNES. The Project is anticipated to directly impact 13.2ha of habitat critical to the survival of the species. These impacts are detailed in Section 9.13.8 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

Persicaria elatior (tall knotweed) – vulnerable

The direct and indirect impacts from the Project are likely to have a significant impact on the tall knotweed, as such the proposed action is **considered to be a controlled action** for this MNES. It is possible that the Project will result in establishment of harmful invasive species and interfere substantially with the recovery of the species. Impacts are detailed further in Section 9.13.1 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

Subtropical Eucalypt Floodplain Forest and Woodland of the New South Wales North Coast and South East Queensland Bioregions – endangered

The direct and indirect impact from the Project is likely to have a significant impact on the Subtropical Eucalypt Floodplain Forest and Woodland of the New South Wales North Coast and South East Queensland Bioregions TEC, and as such the proposed action **is considered to be a controlled action** for this MNES. The Project is anticipated to directly impact 10.79ha of this TEC, and 31.59ha of the 100m buffer zone. These impacts are detailed in Section 9.13.17 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

Water mouse (*Xeromys myoides*) – vulnerable

The direct and indirect impact from the Project is likely to have a significant impact on the water mouse, and as such the proposed action **is considered to be a controlled action** for this MNES. The Project is anticipated to directly impact 3.9ha suitable breeding, foraging, and dispersal habitat for the species. Impacts are detailed further in Section 9.13.12 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

4.1.4.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

Mitigation measures proposed for the action are described in more detail in Section 11 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**). A summary of these measures is provided below.

- Avoidance measures implemented during the planning and design phase:
 - In particularly high environmental value locations, the cross-section of design and buffer was minimised to avoid impacts.
 - In wetland areas, bridges were included in design rather than embankment to reduce impacts.
 - Bridges over waterway crossing included locating bridge footings and abutments outside of waterway channels and at least 3m from the edge of the high bank, to retain vegetation and provide fauna connectivity.
 - Alternatives to the referred action were considered (refer to Section 4.3.8) with the aim of avoiding environmental impacts where possible in accordance with the offsets mitigation hierarchy. The proposed action includes amendments to the original corridor, which would:
 - reduce impacts on native vegetation (including koala habitat)
 - reduce impacts to wetlands of high and very high significance
 - reduce impacts to the EPBC Act offset area for the approved Gainsborough Greens residential development located within the gazetted corridor between Pimpama Jacobs Well Road and Yawalpah Road.
- Mitigation measures proposed during the planning and design phase:
 - Minimise potential for conflict between fauna and road users (e.g. implementing fauna exclusion fencing, including egress devices)
 - Minimise vegetation clearing and fauna habitat loss (e.g. siting ancillary sites where possible away from fauna habitat or other sensitive environmental areas)
 - Minimise impacts to habitat quality
 - Accommodation in the design for habitat connectivity and fauna movement, by:
 - Including a minimum of 3m dry passage on each side of a bridged waterway
 - Oversized culverts for fauna connectivity
 - Proposed glider poles, koala furniture and fauna rope bridges
 - Provisions for a 10m wide constructed dry fauna corridor above highest astronomical tide to maintain north-south fauna movement between Oaky Creek Road and Foxwell Road. Construction areas alongside the road would be repurposed, post-construction, to create a dry fauna corridor to minimise impacts, where possible, to the wetlands to the east of the alignment and to use the area needed during construction for working width and access.
 - Develop management plans (such as a Fauna Management Plan, Vegetation Management Plan and Landscape and Revegetation Plan)
 - Minimise impact from lighting, (e.g. design lighting as to not attract fauna (such as bats, birds and insects))
 - Minimise impact from road noise
 - Protect and enhance retained habitat
 - Protect waterways and water quality (e.g. incorporating water quality basins along long bridges to treat run off prior to discharge)
 - Minimise impacts to groundwater.
- Mitigation measures proposed during the construction phase:
 - Minimise vegetation clearing and impacts to fauna habitat
 - Minimise direct impacts to fauna species
 - Minimise impacts to habitat quality
 - Accommodation for habitat connectivity and fauna movement
 - Compliance with management plans and legislative requirements
 - Implement a vegetation clearing process
 - Minimise impacts to aquatic fauna and aquatic habitat

- Mitigation measures proposed during the operation phase:
 - Undertake inspections and maintenance of fauna connectivity or environmental protection infrastructure
 - Monitor assets for erodibility and stabilise areas
 - Monitor the effectiveness of the fauna mitigation and management measures controls and establish triggers for corrective action
 - Maintain and monitor revegetated areas until revegetation completion criteria are achieved.

4.1.4.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

It is expected that DCCEEW will determine that the Project is a controlled action and the Project will require offsets for the 11 MNES where there is likely to be a significant impact discussed in this section. A biodiversity offset package will need to be prepared that will:

- address the requirements of the Environmental Offsets Policy for a land based offset
- identify the ecological score of the impact site
- identify the ecological score of the proposed offset site
- address the relevant approval conditions
- address any criteria required by the Queensland Government for the offset management plan
- develop an Offset Area Management Plan/s that will be as per the requirements of the Environmental Offsets Policy and the Voluntary Declaration
- secure a legally binding mechanism on Title.

There are existing offsets for Coomera Connector (Stage 1) at Greenridge, adjacent to the proposed action. Greenridge is located south of Pimpama River Conservation Area (PRCA), the area used as a koala translocation site for Coomera Connector (Stage 1). Greenridge offsets would be added to by Coomera Connector (Future stages), which would provide additional connectivity between PRCA and koala habitat south of Greenridge. TMR is exploring opportunities for advanced offsets on the Greenridge property with DCCEEW. The design of the proposed action incorporates fauna movement (i.e. through bridges, culverts, fauna furniture) which could potentially link with the existing Gainsborough Greens EPBC Act offset area west of the proposed action (refer to **Figure 4, Att. G-Figure 4-Conservation Areas and Potential Fauna Connectivity_2025**). Coomera Connector (Future stages) could provide a connection between the Gainsborough Greens, Coomera Connector Stage 1 and Future stages offsets, and koala habitat north and south of Greenridge, creating a large, protected area with connectivity which does not currently exist.

4.1.5 Migratory Species

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	Common Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Anous stolidus</i>	Common Noddy
No	No	<i>Apus pacificus</i>	Fork-tailed Swift
No	No	<i>Ardenna grisea</i>	Sooty Shearwater
No	No	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Ruddy Turnstone
Yes	Yes	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Red Knot, Knot
No	No	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	Curlew Sandpiper
Yes	Yes	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Pectoral Sandpiper
Yes	Yes	<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>	Red-necked Stint
No	No	<i>Calonectris leucomelas</i>	Streaked Shearwater
No	No	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Loggerhead Turtle
No	No	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	Greater Sand Plover, Large Sand Plover
No	No	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	Lesser Sand Plover, Mongolian Plover
No	No	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Green Turtle
No	No	<i>Cuculus optatus</i>	Oriental Cuckoo, Horsfield's Cuckoo
No	No	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Leatherback Turtle, Leathery Turtle, Luth
No	No	<i>Diomedea antipodensis</i>	Antipodean Albatross
No	No	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	Wandering Albatross
No	No	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	Hawksbill Turtle
No	No	<i>Fregata ariel</i>	Lesser Frigatebird, Least Frigatebird
No	No	<i>Fregata minor</i>	Great Frigatebird, Greater Frigatebird
Yes	Yes	<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail
No	No	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle, Mackerel Shark
No	No	<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>	Olive Ridley Turtle, Pacific Ridley Turtle
No	No	<i>Limnodromus semipalmatus</i>	Asian Dowitcher
Yes	Yes	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Bar-tailed Godwit
No	No	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Southern Giant-Petrel, Southern Giant Petrel
No	No	<i>Macronectes halli</i>	Northern Giant Petrel
No	No	<i>Mobula alfredi</i>	Reef Manta Ray, Coastal Manta Ray
No	No	<i>Mobula birostris</i>	Giant Manta Ray
No	No	<i>Natator depressus</i>	Flatback Turtle
Yes	Yes	<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Eastern Curlew, Far Eastern Curlew
Yes	Yes	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Whimbrel
No	No	<i>Orcaella heinsohni</i>	Australian Snubfin Dolphin
Yes	Yes	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey
No	No	<i>Phaethon lepturus</i>	White-tailed Tropicbird
Yes	Yes	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Glossy Ibis
No	No	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	Pacific Golden Plover
No	No	<i>Pristis zijsron</i>	Green Sawfish, Dindagubba, Narrowsnout Sawfish
No	No	<i>Sousa sahalensis</i>	Australian Humpback Dolphin
No	No	<i>Thalassarche cauta</i>	Shy Albatross
No	No	<i>Thalassarche impavida</i>	Campbell Albatross, Campbell Black-browed Albatross
No	No	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>	Black-browed Albatross
No	No	<i>Thalassarche salvini</i>	Salvin's Albatross
No	No	<i>Thalassarche steadi</i>	White-capped Albatross

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Tringa brevipes	Grey-tailed Tattler
Yes	Yes	Tringa nebularia	Common Greenshank, Greenshank
Yes	Yes	Tringa stagnatilis	Marsh Sandpiper, Little Greenshank
No	No	Xenus cinereus	Terek Sandpiper

4.1.5.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.5.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

For species that have been assessed as having a low or moderate likelihood of occurrence within the construction footprint it has been assumed that there are no direct or indirect impacts from the action. However mitigation measures applied for other migratory species will also benefit the majority of those low or moderate likelihood species should they occur. The methodology for the likelihood of occurrence assessment is detailed in Section 3.8 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part03**).

The likelihood of occurrence assessment is based on the outcomes of the field surveys, including the targeted surveys, and the species' habitat requirements, and categorises the species' likelihood within the survey area as 'known to occur', 'high', 'moderate', or 'low' based on the following criteria:

- **Known to occur** – The species has been identified (directly or indirectly) during field surveys undertaken for the Project.
- **High** – The species has been previously recorded within the search extent on WildNet or Atlas of Living Australia, and suitable habitat was identified as present within and/or directly adjacent to the survey area during the field surveys.
- **Moderate**
 - Suitable habitat for the species was identified as present within and/or adjacent to the survey area during the field survey, but the species has not been previously recorded in the area; or
 - The species has been previously recorded within the search extent on WildNet or Atlas of Living Australia, but habitat within or adjacent to the survey area was limited.
- **Low** – Suitable habitat for the species does not occur in the survey area, or was identified as being limited, and no recent records from the survey area or proximate areas exist.

The likelihood of occurrence assessment results are located in Appendix D of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part18**). It is noted that species records prior to 1980 have been excluded from the likelihood of occurrence assessment on the basis that the assessment area and its surrounds have undergone extensive urbanisation and agricultural modification over the past four decades, significantly reducing the relevance of historical records to current habitat conditions.

Based on desktop searches, including the EPBC Act PMST, the extent of fieldwork undertaken was completed to assess the likelihood of occurrence of the species identified in searches. The migratory species identified as having a low or moderate likelihood of occurrence, informed by field surveys for the Project, are:

- Common sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)
- Common noddy (*Anous stolidus*)
- Fork-tailed swift (*Apus pacificus*)
- Sooty shearwater (*Ardenna grisea*)
- Ruddy turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*)
- Red knot (*Calidris canutus*)
- Curlew sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*)
- Streaked shearwater (*Calonectris leucomelas*)
- Loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*)
- Greater sand plover (*Charadrius leschenaultii*)
- Lesser sand plover (*Charadrius mongolus*)
- Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)
- Oriental Cuckoo (*Cuculus optatus*)
- Leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)
- Antipodean albatross (*Diomedea antipodensis*)
- Wandering albatross (*Diomedea exulans*)
- Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)
- Lesser frigatebird (*Fregata ariel*)
- Great frigatebird (*Fregata minor*)

- White-throated needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*)
- Olive Ridley turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*)
- Asian dowitcher (*Limnodromus semipalmatus*)
- Southern giant-petrel (*Macronectes giganteus*)
- Northern giant petrel (*Macronectes halli*)
- Flatback turtle (*Natator depressus*)
- Australian snubfin dolphin (*Orcaella heinsohni*)
- White-tailed tropicbird (*Phaethon lepturus*)
- Pacific golden plover (*Pluvialis fulva*)
- Green sawfish (*Pristis zijsron*)
- Australian humpback dolphin (*Sousa sahalensis*)
- Shy albatross (*Thalassarche cauta*)
- Campbell albatross (*Thalassarche impavida*)
- Black-browed albatross (*Thalassarche melanophris*)
- Salvin's albatross (*Thalassarche salvini*)
- White-capped albatross (*Thalassarche steadi*)
- Grey-tailed tattler (*Tringa brevipes*)
- Terek sandpiper (*Xenus cinereus*).

The following species are not assessed in the likelihood of occurrence table in Appendix D of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part18**); however, their likelihood of occurrence would also be considered low:

- Mackerel shark (*Lamna nasus*)
- Reef manta ray (*Mobula alfredi*)
- Giant manta ray (*Mobula birostris*).

1. These species are oceanic species and would not occur in the construction footprint, as there is no suitable foraging or breeding habitat.

A conservative approach has been taken for the Project's impact assessment, where any species that the likelihood of occurrence assessment identified as known to occur, or as having a high likelihood occurrence, are assumed to be directly impacted by the Project. These impacts are described below:

Eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*) – critically endangered, migratory and marine

The likelihood of occurrence has been assessed as high as the species has been previously recorded on online databases.

Impacts to the eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*) have been discussed in 4.1.4, as the species is listed as critically endangered.

Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*)– vulnerable, marine and migratory

The likelihood of occurrence has been assessed as known to occur as the species was recorded during field surveys.

Impacts to the Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*) have been discussed in 4.1.4, as the species is listed as vulnerable.

Common greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) – endangered, marine and migratory

The likelihood of occurrence has been assessed as known to occur as the species was recorded during field surveys.

Impacts to the common greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) have been discussed in 4.1.4, as the species is listed as endangered.

Sharp-tailed sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*) – vulnerable, marine and migratory

The likelihood of occurrence has been assessed as known to occur as the species was recorded during field surveys.

Impacts to the sharp-tailed sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*) have been discussed in 4.1.4, as the species is listed as vulnerable.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) – marine and migratory

The likelihood of occurrence has been assessed as known to occur as the species was opportunistically observed during the field survey efforts. Suitable foraging and roosting habitat for this species was identified throughout survey area. The Project is anticipated to have the following impacts to osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*):

- The direct loss of 20.09ha of suitable habitat.
- Habitat loss and/or degradation via edge effects including weed intrusion.
- Increased competition from generalist native fauna and introduced fauna species.
- Facilitating an increase in invasive animals which can be predatory to threatened birds.
- Habitat loss and/or degradation from fragmentation including reduced patch size.
- Loss of habitat from indirect impacts relating to altered hydrology which alter vegetation composition.
- Construction related impacts including direct mortality, displacement, increased noise, light, vibration, increased sedimentation of waterways.
- Operational impacts including a permanent increase in light, noise, and vibration levels which may result in avoidance of suitable habitat by disturbance sensitive species.

Other marine and migratory species

The other species listed as 'migratory' and which have a 'high', or 'known to occur' likelihood (as they were identified during field surveys) are the marsh sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*), bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), glossy ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*), pectoral sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*), red-necked stint (*Calidris ruficollis*) and whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*). Impacts to these species, including the significant impact assessment undertaken, have been considered for all species, as birds listed as 'migratory' do not require species-specific impact assessment.

The Project is anticipated to have the following impacts to these migratory species:

- The direct loss of 15.2ha of potential suitable habitat. Refer to Section 3.4.3.7 in the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part03**) for background information on this calculation, and how it is more conservative than the specialist's habitat calculation used in the significant impact assessment.
- Habitat loss and/or degradation via edge effects including weed intrusion.
- Increased competition from generalist native fauna and introduced fauna species.
- Facilitating an increase in invasive animals which can be predatory to threatened birds.
- Habitat loss and/or degradation from fragmentation including reduced patch size.
- Loss of habitat from indirect impacts relating to altered hydrology which alter vegetation composition.
- Operational impacts including a permanent increase in light, noise, and vibration levels which may result in avoidance of suitable habitat by disturbance sensitive species.

4.1.5.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact?

*

Yes

4.1.5.5 Describe why you consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

A species specific significant impact assessment has been undertaken for osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) which is listed as 'migratory' and 'marine' under the EPBC Act as this species is included in the draft *Referral guideline for 14 birds listed as migratory species under the EPBC Act* (DoE 2015c).

Eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*) – critically endangered, marine and migratory

Impacts to the eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*) have been discussed in 4.1.4, as the species is listed as critically endangered.

Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*) – vulnerable, marine and migratory

Impacts to Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*) have been discussed in 4.1.4 as the species is listed as vulnerable.

Common greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) – endangered, marine and migratory

Impacts to common greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) have been discussed in 4.1.4 as the species is listed as endangered.

Sharp-tailed sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*) – vulnerable, marine and migratory

Impacts to sharp-tailed sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*) have been discussed in 4.1.4 as the species is listed as vulnerable.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) – marine and migratory

To determine if the Project is likely to have a significant impact on the osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), a significant impact assessment against the Commonwealth's *draft Referral guideline for 14 birds listed as migratory species under the EPBC Act* (DoE 2015c) has been undertaken.

The outcome of the significant impact assessment is detailed in Table 49 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

The significant impact assessment identified the Project is **unlikely** to have a significant impact on the osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), which is listed as 'marine' and 'migratory' under the EPBC Act.

Other marine and migratory species

The other species listed as 'marine' and 'migratory' are the marsh sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*), bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), glossy ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*), pectoral sandpiper (*Calidris melanotos*), red-necked stint (*Calidris ruficollis*), and whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*). Impacts to these species, including the significant impact assessment undertaken, have been considered for all species, as birds listed as 'migratory' do not require species-specific impact assessment.

For these 'migratory' species, identification of 'important habitat' is a key concept in determining the likelihood of significant impact from proposed actions (DoE 2015a). Important habitats in Australia for migratory shorebirds under the EPBC Act include those recognised as nationally or internationally important (i.e. Ramsar wetlands). The Project construction footprint is not considered an important habitat as the area does not support at least 0.1 per cent of the flyway population of a single migratory shorebird species (excluding Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*)), at least 2000 migratory shorebirds or at least 15 migratory shorebird species. A significant impact assessment was undertaken for all migratory birds in Section 9.13.14 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16** against the criteria in the Commonwealth's *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1* (DoE 2013), and in accordance with the *Commonwealth's EPBC Act Policy Statement 3.21 – Industry guidelines for avoiding, assessing and mitigating impacts on EPBC Act listed migratory shorebird species* (DoE 2015a).

The outcome of the significant impact assessment is detailed in Table 54 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

The significant impact assessment identified the Project is **unlikely** to have a significant impact on the species listed as 'migratory' under the EPBC Act. This assessment excludes Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*), common greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*), eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*), sharp-tailed sandpiper (*Calidris acuminata*) and osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) as they have been assessed separately.

4.1.5.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

Yes

4.1.5.8 Please elaborate why you think your proposed action is a controlled action. *

Latham's snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*) – vulnerable, migratory and marine

As discussed in 4.1.4, the proposed action is **considered to be a controlled action** for Latham's snipe. These impacts are detailed in Section 9.13.8 of **Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**.

4.1.5.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

Mitigation measures proposed for the action are described in more detail in Section 11 of the Ecological Assessment Report (**Att. D-Ecological Assessment Report_2025_Part16**). A summary of these measures is provided below.

- Avoidance measures implemented during the planning and design phase:
 - In particularly high environmental value locations, the cross-section of design and buffer was minimised to avoid impacts.
 - In wetland areas, bridges were included in design rather than embankment to reduce impacts.
 - Bridges over waterway crossing included locating bridge footings and abutments outside of waterway channels and at least 3m from the edge of the high bank, to retain vegetation and provide fauna connectivity.
 - Alternatives to the referred action were considered (refer to Section 4.3.8) with the aim of avoiding environmental impacts where possible in accordance with the offsets mitigation hierarchy. The proposed action includes amendments to the original corridor, which would:
 - reduce impacts on native vegetation (including koala habitat)
 - reduce impacts to wetlands of high and very high significance
 - reduce impacts to the EPBC Act offset area for the approved Gainsborough Greens residential development located within the gazetted corridor between Pimpama Jacobs Well Road and Yawalpah Road.
- Mitigation measures proposed during the planning and design phase:
 - Minimise potential for conflict between fauna and road users (e.g. implementing fauna exclusion fencing, including egress devices)
 - Minimise vegetation clearing and fauna habitat loss (e.g. siting ancillary sites where possible away from fauna habitat or other sensitive environmental areas)
 - Minimise impacts to habitat quality
 - Accommodation in the design for habitat connectivity and fauna movement, by:
 - Including a minimum of 3m dry passage on each side of a bridged waterway
 - Oversized culverts for fauna connectivity
 - Proposed glider poles, koala furniture and fauna rope bridges
 - Provisions for a 10m wide constructed dry fauna corridor above highest astronomical tide to maintain north-south fauna movement between Oaky Creek Road and Foxwell Road. Construction areas alongside the road would be repurposed, post-construction, to create a dry fauna corridor to minimise impacts, where possible, to the wetlands to the east of the alignment and to use the area needed during construction for working width and access.
 - Develop management plans (such as a Fauna Management Plan, Vegetation Management Plan and Landscape and Revegetation Plan)
 - Minimise impact from lighting, (e.g. design lighting as to not attract fauna (such as bats, birds and insects))
 - Minimise impact from road noise
 - Protect and enhance retained habitat
 - Protect waterways and water quality (e.g. incorporating water quality basins along long bridges to treat run off prior to discharge)
 - Minimise impacts to groundwater.
- Mitigation measures proposed during the construction phase:
 - Minimise vegetation clearing and impacts to fauna habitat
 - Minimise direct impacts to fauna species
 - Minimise impacts to habitat quality
 - Accommodation for habitat connectivity and fauna movement
 - Compliance with management plans and legislative requirements
 - Implement a vegetation clearing process
 - Minimise impacts to aquatic fauna and aquatic habitat

- Mitigation measures proposed during the operation phase:
 - Undertake inspections and maintenance of fauna connectivity or environmental protection infrastructure
 - Monitor assets for erodibility and stabilise areas
 - Monitor the effectiveness of the fauna mitigation and management measures controls and establish triggers for corrective action
 - Maintain and monitor revegetated areas until revegetation completion criteria are achieved.

4.1.5.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

It is expected that DCCEEW will determine that the Project is a controlled action and the Project will require offsets for the 11 MNES where there is likely to be a significant impact, including Latham's snipe which is discussed in this section and Section 4.1.4. A biodiversity offset package will need to be prepared that will:

- address the requirements of the Environmental Offsets Policy for a land based offset
- identify the ecological score of the impact site
- identify the ecological score of the proposed offset site
- address the relevant approval conditions
- address any criteria required by the Queensland Government for the offset management plan
- develop an Offset Area Management Plan/s that will be as per the requirements of the Environmental Offsets Policy and the Voluntary Declaration
- secure a legally binding mechanism on Title.

4.1.6 Nuclear

4.1.6.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.6.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The Project is not a nuclear action.

4.1.7 Commonwealth Marine Area

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.7.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.7.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The action is unlikely to have a direct or indirect impact as there are no Commonwealth Marine Areas located in the construction footprint or a 2km buffer. The closest Commonwealth Marine Area is approximately 14km east of the Project.

4.1.8 Great Barrier Reef

4.1.8.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.8.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The action is unlikely to have a direct or indirect impact as the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is not located in the construction footprint or a 2km buffer. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is located approximately 350km north of the Project.

4.1.9 Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas

4.1.9.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.9.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The Project does not involve coal seam gas and it is not a large coal mining development.

4.1.10 Commonwealth Land

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.10.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.10.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The action is unlikely to have a direct or indirect impact as there is no Commonwealth Land located in the construction footprint or a 2km buffer.

4.1.11 Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

—

4.1.11.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.11.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact.

*

The Project is located in Queensland and not proximate to Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas.

4.1.12 Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency

4.1.12.1 Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth Agency? *

No

4.2 Impact summary

Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will likely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)
- Migratory Species (S20)

Conclusion on the likelihood of unlikely significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will unlikely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- World Heritage (S12)
- National Heritage (S15B)
- Ramsar Wetland (S16)
- Nuclear (S21)
- Commonwealth Marine Area (S23)
- Great Barrier Reef (S24B)
- Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas (S24D)
- Commonwealth Land (S26)
- Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas (S27B)
- Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency (S28)

4.3 Alternatives

4.3.1 Do you have any possible alternatives for your proposed action to be considered as part of your referral? *

No

4.3.8 Describe why alternatives for your proposed action were not possible. *

Alternatives to the referred action were considered prior to and during the Business Case phase of the Project, with the aim of avoiding environmental impacts where possible in accordance with the offsets mitigation hierarchy. Options analysis identified this proposed action as the most appropriate response to providing a solution to the predicted traffic volumes on the Pacific Motorway (M1) balancing the functionality (including the future flood environment and population growth), capital costs, constructability with minimising social and environmental impacts. The original Project alignment has been realigned to avoid some environmental impacts, this amendment to the Coomera Connector corridor was formally confirmed in the Queensland Government gazette (volume 399) dated 27 June 2025.

Over the development of the Project the following alternatives have been reviewed and assessed:

- Base case – maintaining existing infrastructure on the M1
- Upgrading capacity of the M1
- Eagleby alternative alignments considered
- Options analysis of interchanges in original gazetted corridor
- Yawalpah Road to Shipper Drive tunnel
- Coomera Connector (Future stages) gazetted corridor and corridor amendments

Further details on these alternatives and the assessment of their viability is included in **Att. N-Alternatives Considered_2024** as the word count restriction on this section made that challenging to fully document here.

The option that is being progressed as the proposed action, is the Coomera Connector (Future stages) gazetted corridor and corridor amendments. Of the alternatives considered, the tunnel would have notably reduced the impacts on MNES, acknowledging that clearing would be needed around the tunnel portals and for the sections of cut and cover tunnel.

The reasons that the tunnel option was not progressed were:

- a tunnel would result in poorer functional performance for the project compared with the proposed project because of the following:
 - there would be a reduced level of connectivity at Coomera with one fewer full interchange
 - potential restrictions on dangerous goods on the Coomera Connector
 - there would be no way to accommodate active transport through the tunnel which would mean continuous active transport path would not be provided by the Project.
- the tunnel was assessed to cost in the order of 350 to 450% of the cost of the proposed project. A tunnel would continue to have significantly higher ongoing operational and maintenance costs compared to a surface solution.

1. The proposed action adopts and incorporates the alternatives considered to meet the functional requirements while balancing capital costs, constructability with social and environmental impacts.

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att A-References_2025.pdf List of references used throughout the referral document	31/10/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	Att B-Environmental Survey Plan_2025.pdf Document detailing the next steps investigations needed for the Project	31/10/2025	No	High
#3.	Document	Att C-Figure 1-Referral Area_2025.pdf Figure 1: Figure of the referral area - aka construction footprint	31/10/2025	No	High

1.2.7 Public consultation regarding the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part01_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part02_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025	No	High
#3.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part03_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025	No	High
#4.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part04_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025	No	High
#5.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part05_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025	No	High
#6.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part06_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025	No	High
#7.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part07_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025	No	High
#8.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part08_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025	No	High
#9.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part09_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025	No	High
#10.	Document				

		Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part10_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025 No	High
#11.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part11_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025 No	High
#12.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part12_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025 No	High
#13.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part13_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025 No	High
#14.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part14_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025 No	High
#15.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part15_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025 No	High
#16.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part16_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025 No	High
#17.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part17_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025 No	High
#18.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part18_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	31/10/2025 No	High
#19.	Link	Coomera Connector (Future stages) Loganholme to Coomera, planning https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/_/media/projects/c/co..		High
#20.	Link	Coomera Connector (Future stages) Loganholme to Coomera, planning https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/_/media/projects/c/co..		High
#21.	Link	Coomera Connector (Future stages) Loganholme to Coomera, planning https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/_/media/projects/c/co..		High
#22.	Link			

Coomera Connector (Future stages) Loganholme to Coomera, planning https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/_/media/projects/c/co..			High
#23.	Link	Youtube https://youtu.be/pRckRAd0jjk	High

1.3.2.18 (Person proposing to take the action) If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Link	Environmental management http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Community-and-environm..			High

3.1.1 Current condition of the project area's environment

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att B-Environmental Survey Plan_2025.pdf Document detailing the next steps investigations needed for the Project	30/10/2025		High
#2.	Document	Att E-Figure 2-Land Use Zoning_2025.pdf Figure 2: Land uses	31/10/2025	No	High

3.1.2 Existing or proposed uses for the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att E-Figure 2-Land Use Zoning_2025.pdf Figure 2: Land uses	30/10/2025		High
#2.	Document	Att F-Figure 3-Indicative Noise Barriers_2025.pdf Figure 3: Indicative noise barrier locations	31/10/2025	No	High

3.1.3 Natural features, important or unique values that applies to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att G-Figure 4-Conservation Areas and Potential Fauna Connectivity_2025.pdf Figure 4: Conservation areas and potential fauna connectivity	31/10/2025	No	High

#2.	Document	Att G-Figure 4-Conservation Areas and Potential Fauna Connectivity_2025.pdf Figure 4: Conservation areas and potential fauna connectivity	30/10/2025	High
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3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att B-Environmental Survey Plan_2025.pdf Document detailing the next steps investigations needed for the Project	30/10/2025		High
#2.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part01_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025		High
#3.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part03_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025		High
#4.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part03_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025		High
#5.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part04_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025		High
#6.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part08_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025		High
#7.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part09_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025		High
#8.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part14_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025		High
#9.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part15_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025		High
#10.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part18_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025		High

3.2.2 Vegetation within the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att B-Environmental Survey Plan_2025.pdf	30/10/2025	No	High

	Document	Att D- Ecological Assessment Report_Part02_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	Att D- Ecological Assessment Report_Part03_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025	No	High
#3.	Document	Att D- Ecological Assessment Report_Part05_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025		High
#4.	Document	Att D- Ecological Assessment Report_Part06_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025	No	High
#5.	Document	Att D- Ecological Assessment Report_Part07_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025	No	High
#6.	Document	Att H-Figure 5-Soil Types_2025.pdf Figure 5: Soil types	31/10/2025	No	High
#7.	Document	Att I-Figure 6-Acid Sulfate Soils_2025.pdf Att I-Figure 6-Acid Sulfate Soils_2025	31/10/2025	No	High
#8.	Document	Att I-Figure 6-Acid Sulfate Soils_2025.pdf Att I-Figure 6-Acid Sulfate Soils_2025	31/10/2025	No	High
#9.	Document	Att I-Figure 6-Acid Sulfate Soils_2025.pdf Att I-Figure 6-Acid Sulfate Soils_2025	31/10/2025	No	High

3.3.1 Commonwealth heritage places overseas or other places that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att J-Figure 7-Fachwerk Farmhouse_2025.pdf Figure 7: Fachwerk Farmhouse	31/10/2025	No	High

3.4.1 Hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att B-Environmental Survey Plan_2025.pdf Document detailing the next steps investigations needed for the Project	30/10/2025		High
#2.	Document	Att D- Ecological Assessment Report_Part03_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025		High
#3.	Document	Att D- Ecological Assessment Report_Part15_2025.pdf	30/10/2025		High

Ecological Assessment Report

#4.	Document	Att K-Figure 8-Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems_2025.pdf Figure 8: Groundwater dependent ecosystems	31/10/2025	No	High
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4.1.3.2 (Ramsar Wetland) Why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on the identified protected matters

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att L-Figure 9-Moreton Bay Ramsar Wetland_2025.pdf Figure 9: Moreton Bay Ramsar wetland and construction footprint	31/10/2025	No	High

4.1.3.6 (Ramsar Wetland) Why you do not consider the direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att D-Ecological Assessment Report_Part16_2025.pdf Ecological Assessment Report	30/10/2025		High

4.1.3.10 (Ramsar Wetland) Avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att M-Figure 10-Indicative Ancillary Facilities.pdf Figure 10: Indicative ancillary facilities	31/10/2025	No	High

4.3.8 Why alternatives for your proposed action were not possible

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att N-Alternatives Considered_2024.pdf Alternatives considered document	31/10/2025	No	High

5.2 Declarations

✔ Completed Referring party's declaration

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	39407690291
Organisation name	Department of Transport and Main Roads
Organisation address	4000 QLD
Representative's name	Andrew Wheeler
Representative's job title	Regional Director South Coast
Phone	07 5563 6500
Email	CoomeraConnector@tmr.qld.gov.au
Address	36-38 Cotton Street, Nerang QLD 4211

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

Check this box to confirm these are the correct identification details. *

By checking this box, I, **Andrew Wheeler of Department of Transport and Main Roads**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. *

You may receive automated notifications that aim to assist you in tracking the progress of your project. You can opt out of these notifications by updating your communication preferences on your profile.

✔ Completed Person proposing to take the action's declaration

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

Same as Referring party information.

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

Check this box to confirm these are the correct identification details. *

I, **Andrew Wheeler of Department of Transport and Main Roads**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to the EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf or for the benefit of any other person or entity. *

I, **Andrew Wheeler of Department of Transport and Main Roads**, the Person proposing the action, consent to the designation of **Andrew Wheeler of Department of Transport and Main Roads** as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. *

You may receive automated notifications that aim to assist you in tracking the progress of your project. You can opt out of these notifications by updating your communication preferences on your profile.

Completed Proposed designated proponent's declaration

The Proposed designated proponent is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

Same as Person proposing to take the action information.

Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

Check this box to confirm these are the correct identification details. *

I, **Andrew Wheeler of Department of Transport and Main Roads**, the Proposed designated proponent, consent to the designation of myself as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. *

You may receive automated notifications that aim to assist you in tracking the progress of your project. You can opt out of these notifications by updating your communication preferences on your profile.