Vulnerable Flora Species

Macrozamia parcifolia

A small population of *Macrozamia parcifolia* is located within the Project Area. *M. parcifolia* is listed as vulnerable under the EPBC Act. No other MNES flora species were identified within the Project Area.

Potential Impact

Following the identification of *M. parcifolia* within the Project Area, the Disturbance Area was revised to ensure that the individual plants, and their associated habitat, will not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. The plants are located within the Avoidance Area, which will not be impacted by the Project, with over a 10 m buffer from the closest plant to the edge of the Disturbance Area.

Throughout construction, an unexpected finds protocol will be implemented. This will include the requirement to stop work if any unexpected actual or potential threatened flora or fauna species is identified. An ecologist or spotter catcher will be present during all clearing works and an environmental advisor during all construction works to assist in implementing this requirement.

The retention of all of the supporting habitat surrounding the *M. parcifolia* population means that there will be no reduction in supporting habitat from the Project, and the existing extent of available habitat will enable the plants to naturally expand into the future (Equilibrium Ecology, 2025).

Therefore, there will be no direct impacts on MNES listed flora species.

Significant Impact Assessment

A significant impact assessment for *M. Parcifolia* is outlined in the Table below.

The small population of *M. parcifolia* within the Project Area is well separated from the edge of the vegetation within a relatively intact native vegetation community. The small population of *M. parcifolia* and supporting habitat will be a No-Go zone for the duration of the Project. A pre-clearing inspection for Threatened Species will be undertaken within the Disturbance Area by an ecologist.

Potential indirect impacts from the Project will be managed to protect the retained habitat. This will include management of weeds through implementation of the Weed Management Sub-plan. Potential for dust will be highest during construction and will be monitored and managed in accordance with the CEMP. Due to the location of the population of *M. parcifolia* within the Project Area, there is little risk of impacts from sedimentation due to erosion from the Project.

During operation of the Project there will be very minimal potential indirect impacts on the *M. parcifolia* population and supporting habitat.

Overall, it is considered that avoidance of the *M. parcifolia* plants and the supporting habitat in conjunction with management measures to be implemented to reduce the risk of indirect impact will not lead to a significant impact on the identified MNES (Equilibrium Ecology, 2025).

Significant impact assessment for *M. parcifolia* (Sourced from: Equilibrium Ecology, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of a species	No	The small population of eight individuals within the Project Area represents 0.048 – 0.044% of the estimated population. These individual plants occur within an isolated unit of suitable habitat that is surrounded by modified agricultural land. Given the large size of the seed, dispersal is typically via gravity, with germinating seeds usually found within 1m of the parent plant. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that the small population would be considered isolated in the landscape and unlikely to be contributing genetic material to the wider regional population.

Significant impact assessment for *M. parcifolia* (Sourced from: Equilibrium Ecology, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
		Although the eight plants are not considered an important population of the species, through the implementation of the avoidance and mitigation measures there will be no long-term decrease in the size of any population of this species.
Reduce the area of occupancy of an important population	No	Although the eight plants are not considered an important population of the species through the implementation of the avoidance and mitigation measures, the Project will not reduce the area of occupancy of any population.
Fragment an existing important population into two or more populations	No	Although the eight plants are not considered an important population of the species through the implementation of the avoidance and mitigation measures, there will be no fragmentation of any existing population into two or more populations.
Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species	No	The Project Area is located within existing modified environment that has been historically cleared and utilised for agriculture. The Project Disturbance Area is not located within suitable habitat for the species. All suitable supporting habitat for this species will be retained and protected from Project both direct and indirect impacts. This will include a pre-clearance inspection of the Disturbance Area prior to clearing as well as implementation of an unexpected finds protocol. Therefore, the Project will not adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species.
Disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population	No	The eight plants within the Project Area are not considered to be an important population. Nonetheless, no impacts to the breeding cycle of the species are anticipated as a result of the Project.
Modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline	No	The existing extent of suitable supporting habitat will be retained. There will be no impacts to the availability or quality of the retained habitat anticipated from Project activities to the extent that the species is likely to decline.
Result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat	No	The Project will not introduce invasive species into the retained habitat. Ongoing weed management during the Project is anticipated to reduce the extent of invasive species that may threaten the population.
Introduce disease that may cause the species to decline	No	The Project is unlikely to introduce disease that may cause the species to decline.
Interfere substantially with the recovery of the species	No	The Project is unlikely to interfere substantially with the recovery of the species.

Endangered Fauna Species

Koala

The Project is located within the mapped area that *Phascolarctos cinereus* (Koala) or habitat for this species is likely or known to occur. There are two historic records within 10km of the Project Area, however none have been recorded within the past 15 years. No individuals were identified within the Project Area during field surveys (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

As Koalas are a landscape context dependant species (i.e. feed tree presence, connectivity to other habitat and proximity to other Koala populations), habitat requirements within the Project Area were assessed against these variables. Habitat values were classed under different functional ecological roles to spatially map and separate these habitat variables across the Project Area. This included breeding, foraging, refuge and dispersal habitat types (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

The quality of habitat across much of the Project Area has been reduced by historical land clearing for agriculture and timber harvesting practices. Within these cleared pasture areas, paddock trees are present in sparse distributions and limited connectivity to the broader landscape. Minimal (<15% roughly) locally important koala trees (LIKT) are present within these areas which is below the threshold considered as potential Koala habitat (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025). These sporadic paddock trees are not considered critical for the survival of Koalas, as there are safer movement and better quality habitat opportunities in close proximity (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

There are vegetation patches with a higher presence of relictual and regrowth LIKT within the Project Area; the ridgeline and vegetated waterways of Area C as well as the riparian corridor along Teebar Creek. The quality of habitat within these areas has been reduced by historical timber harvesting and the occurrence of weeds, particularly Cats Claw Creeper (*Macfadyena unguis-cati*), which can impede Koala safe access (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025). These areas could be utilised by Koalas for foraging, refuge and safe dispersal when traversing throughout the local environment. The density of LIKT in these areas is higher in comparison to the sparse distributions throughout the predominantly cleared areas. These areas are considered potential habitat linkages to allow Koalas safe passage between surrounding populations for essential life cycle requirements such as breeding (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Areas of vegetation regrowth within the Project Area are predominantly Acacia spp. Although this regrowth is not LIKT, these are still considered as potential habitat as they can provide Koalas with ground for travelling between trees and facilitate movement between other areas of suitable vegetation. Therefore, this vegetation regrowth has been considered as disturbed habitat areas (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Potential climate refuge areas were present along Teebar Creek and ridgeline, which could hold important value for Koalas in times of stress, such as drought, flood and heatwaves.

Koalas are considered highly likely to occur at low densities within the Teebar-Glenbar remnant and regrowth Eucalypt woodland areas surrounding the Project Area. Koalas are highly mobile, and individuals are likely to occasionally traverse the Project Area.

There were no signs, trunk scratches or scat, of Koalas detected during the field surveys; however, low density Koala populations are not reliably indicated by active search techniques and therefore the precautionary approach for occurrence was applied and therefore they are considered likely as present (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Potential Impact

Redesign of the Disturbance Area means that all potential critical Koala habitat within the Project Area will not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. Avoidance of potential critical habitat means that the existing extent of available Koala habitat will remain to enable the continuity of any potential population.

Therefore, there will be no direct impacts on the Koala.

Significant Impact Assessment

The significant impact assessment for Koala is outlined in the Table below.

Koalas are highly mobile, and individuals are likely to occasionally traverse the Project Area. Potentially critical habitat includes the Teebar Creek riparian corridors and the western face of the ridgeline in Area C. These areas will be a No-Go zone for the duration of the Project. This potential habitat will not be directly impacted by the Project.

Fauna friendly fencing will be installed around the perimeter of the Project Area to allow Koalas to traverse the area. The solar panels will be installed above ground level, with approximately 0.5 m clearance when the panels are fully tilted, which will also not impact on Koala movement.

Potential indirect impacts from the Project on Koalas and the retained habitat will be actively managed. During clearing, fauna spotter catchers will be present and will stop works if Koalas are present within the active work area to allow them to move out of the way. Weed and pest management will be monitored and implemented through the CEMP and Weed Management Sub-plan. Vehicle speed limits will be 20km/h for the duration of the Project.

Through design and inclusion of rehabilitation, the Project Area will be reconnected to other potentially suitable habitat, therefore potentially allowing any population that does exist to expand and disperse.

During operation of the Project there will be very minimal potential indirect impacts on Koalas.

Overall, it is considered that the avoidance of the potential habitat for Koala in conjunction with the management measures to be implemented to reduce the risk of indirect impacts will not lead to a significant impact on the identified MNES.

Significant impact assessment for Koala (Sourced from: Biodiverse Environmental, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of a population	No	No Koalas were observed during field surveys of the Project Area. The field surveys also did not indicate that the Project Area is regularly used by Koalas, with no signs of a Koala populations present within the Site. Although there is potential for Koala populations to be present in proximity to the Project Area, the Project will not impede on fauna access to these surrounding populations, particularly for breeding purposes. The Project will also avoid Koala habitat which is considered suitable for foraging and safe dispersal opportunities. The Project is therefore not likely to lead to a long-term decrease in the size of any population within or surrounding the Project Area.
Reduce the area of occupancy of the species	No	No Koalas, or signs of Koalas, were observed during field surveys within the Project Area Minimal suitable habitat remains within the Project Area with disturbance from previous clearing and timber harvesting and currently livestock. With design to avoid of any potential critical Koala habitat within the Project Area, and addition of rehabilitation of habitat corridors and fauna friendly fencing, the Project is not likely to reduce the area of occupancy of the species.
Fragment an existing population into two or more populations	No	Habitat within and surrounding the Project Area is already fragmentated as a result of historic vegetation clearing. There have been minimal documented sightings of Koalas surrounding the Project Area with some records within Glenbar State Forest approximately 15km to the east, however, these records are several decades old. Larger populations are evident within 50-100km of Project Area location, therefore the Project Area is likely to act as a corridor for individuals traversing through the local

Significant impact assessment for Koala (Sourced from: Biodiverse Environmental, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
		landscape. Movement opportunities for Koalas are not expected to be reduced as fauna friendly fencing will be used in addition to the retention and rehabilitation of riparian corridors and habitat linkages. As the solar infrastructure is installed above ground level, Koala movement opportunities will remain. No fragmentation of existing populations is expected as a result of the Project.
Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species	No	The Project has been designed to avoid of all potential critical Koala habitat and include additional habitat rehabilitation. In addition, livestock will be removed and weed management implemented, which will assist with natural regeneration of retained vegetation outside of the Disturbance Area and improve overall habitat quality in the long term. Some sporadic paddock trees are located within the Project Disturbance Area. These sporadic paddock trees are not considered critical for the survival of the species, as there are safer movement and better-quality habitat for foraging and refuge opportunities in close proximity, which will not be impacted by the Project. Therefore, the Project is not likely to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species.
Disrupt the breeding cycle of a population	No	No Koalas were located during the field surveys. As the precautionary approach has been applied, the Project Area may have the potential to be utilised by breeding individuals seasonally. Koalas travel long distances during the breeding season, and if connectivity pathways are maintained, they can locate each other between areas of suitable habitat. As connectivity pathways will be maintained, and improved through rehabilitation, with no impedance on safe movement expected no disruption to the Koala breeding cycle is expected as a result of the Project.
Modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline	No	Planning and implementation of Avoidance Areas, riparian corridors and fauna friendly fencing will improve Koala safe passage throughout the throughout the Project Area for the perpetuity of the Project. This will mitigate and likely result in a net gain in Koala habitat and movement opportunities. Therefore, the Project is not likely to modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline.
Result in invasive species that are harmful to a critically endangered or endangered species becoming established in the endangered or critically endangered species' habitat	No	Risk from invasive fauna species impacts on Koala largely includes threats from dog attacks. Strict 'no dogs' allowed will be implemented throughout the Project. Monitoring of pests throughout any stage of the Project will be undertaken to identify increased presence of pest species and control programs will be implemented to control wild dog populations if required. As the Project Area is already in disturbed condition with livestock use and historic clearing, risk of increasing dog

Significant impact assessment for Koala (Sourced from: Biodiverse Environmental, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
		presence because of the Project is not considered likely. Risk from invasive flora species within Project Area will be controlled throughout the Project. This will include weed monitoring and control, hygiene protocols such as weed and seed clean down procedures for vehicles and machinery, and active regeneration works. Current weed species within the Project Area will be controlled, leading to improved overall habitat quality. The Project is not likely to be considered to result in invasive species that are harmful to Koalas or becoming established in the species' habitat.
Introduce disease that may cause the species to decline	No	No translocation of Koala individuals is proposed for the Project. Therefore, introducing pathogens such as *Phytophtora* and *Chlamydia* to receiving populations and receiving habitat is not considered a risk. General biosecurity and hygiene protocols will also be implemented throughout the Project to limit disease and pathogens entering and exiting the Project Area. Genetic diversity is an important factor when considering the ability for populations to recover and build immune genes to deal with disease occurrence. As the Project is not proposed to inhibit connectivity or increase fragmentation, a decrease in genetic diversity within the local surrounding population is not likely as a result of the Project. Introduction of disease that may cause species decline is therefore not considered likely for the Project.
Interfere with the recovery of the species	No	In accordance with the National Recovery Plan for the Koala (DCCEEW, 2022), several factors have been identified as direct threats for which Koalas are at most risk to diminishing the recovery of the species. These include various land use threats such as grazing and agricultural expansion, mining, and energy extraction which can alter natural processes and the overall health and genetic diversity within the population. Key factors leading to negative impacts to Koala recovery include: • increased and sustained patch isolation; • reduced habitat quality causing stress and increasing rates of disease and infertility; • habitat loss reducing the carrying capacity within the landscape; • loss of connectivity leading to reduced natural movement and a reduction in gene flow and exchange within and between populations; • fragmentation between habitats leading to increased mortality whilst attempting to traverse the landscape (i.e. vehicle stick, dog attack). Avoidance and mitigation measures to be implemented throughout the Project will significantly limit the chances of these negative impacts. The main consideration would be the potential for an increase in vehicle strike during the Project. Strict vehicle speed monitoring and management throughout the duration of the Project. During vegetation clearing, Koala spotters will be present to significantly

Significant impact assessment for Koala (Sourced from: Biodiverse Environmental, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
		minimise this risk of impacts during this phase. With appropriate management protocols implemented throughout the duration of the Project, potential impacts on Koala will be mitigated. The Project is not expected to result in an increase in any of these key factors and therefore is not expected to interfere with the recovery of the species.

Endangered Fauna Species

Greater Glider

*Petauroides volans (*Greater Glider (southern and central)) is likely to be present adjacent to the Project Area within the road reserve along Gigoomgan Road, as suitable hollows and foraging trees are located within the remnant vegetation. With potentially suitable breeding habitat noted surrounding the Project Area, they have the potential to occur within the ridgeline and adjacent waterway corridors to the east in Area C, and along Teebar Creek between Area C and Area A (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Within the Project Area, the main tree species considered suitable for foraging for the Greater Glider are *Corymbia citriodora* and *Eucalyptus tereticornis*. The only suitable hollows identified were within the riparian corridor of Teebar Creek.

Although no individuals were identified during field surveys, they are considered likely within the Project Area in isolated patches along the ridgeline and adjacent waterway corridors in Area C, and along Teebar Creek between Area C and Area A due to the suitability of habitat.

Potential Impact

Following the identification of suitable habitat for Greater Glider within the Project Area, the Disturbance Area was redesigned to ensure that this habitat would not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. This means that there will be no reduction in potential Greater Glider habitat as a result of the Project.

Therefore, there will be no direct impacts on Greater Glider.

Significant Impact Assessment

A significant impact assessment for Greater Glider is outlined in the Table below.

Greater Glider has the potential to occur along the ridgeline and adjacent waterway corridors in Area C, and along Teebar Creek between Area C and Area A. These will all be No-Go zone for the duration of the Project. This habitat will not be directly impacted by the Project.

Potential indirect impacts from the Project on this species and the retained habitat will be actively managed. This will include management of weeds through implementation of the Weed Management Sub-plan. Fauna friendly fencing will be installed around the perimeter of the Project Area. Fauna spotter catchers will be present during clearing to identify and relocate fauna species. Vehicle speed limits will be 20km/h for the duration of the Project.

Through design and inclusion of rehabilitation, the Project Area will be reconnected to other potentially suitable habitat, therefore allowing any potential population that does exist to expand and disperse.

During operation of the Project there will be very minimal potential impacts on the suitable habitat.

Overall, it is considered that the avoidance of the habitat for Greater Glider in conjunction with the management measures to be implemented to reduce the risk of indirect impacts will not lead to a significant impact on the identified MNES.

Significant impact assessment for Greater Glider (Sourced from: Biodiverse Environmental, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of a population	No	No populations of Greater Glider appear to be supported within the Project Area as there is a lack of refuge and breeding hollows. However, there is potential for identified habitat including foraging trees to develop hollows in the future which will in turn have the capacity to support a population. With the retention of all habitat areas for Greater Glider, including establishment of corridors, the Project will not likely lead to a long term decrease in the size of a population.

Significant impact assessment for Greater Glider (Sourced from: Biodiverse Environmental, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Reduce the area of occupancy of the species	No	With the retention of all habitat areas for Greater Glider, including establishment of corridors, and the implementation of fauna friendly fencing, the Project will not likely reduce the area of occupancy of the species.
Fragment an existing population into two or more populations	No	Fragmentation as a result of historic vegetation clearing is already present within and surrounding the Site. Movement opportunities are not expected to be diminished, as fauna friendly fencing used in addition to retention of all critical habitat and rehabilitation of riparian corridors and habitat linkages. The Project is therefore not likely to fragment an existing population into two or more populations.
Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species	No	Although a population was not identified, habitat considered critical to the survival of the species was located within the Project Area. This critical habitat will be avoided and will not be disturbed throughout the life of the Project. The Project is therefore not likely to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species.
Disrupt the breeding cycle of a population	No	No suitable breeding locations have been identified within the Project Area, and with habitat corridors will remain and be improved, the Project is not likely to 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	No	No suitable breeding locations have been identified within the Project Area, and with habitat corridors will remain and be improved, the Project is not likely to disrupt the breeding cycle of a population.
Result in invasive species that are harmful to a critically endangered or endangered species becoming established in the endangered or critically endangered species' habitat	No	Remains of Greater Glider have been found in feral cats and foxes; however, they have formed a tiny proportion of individuals killed within the larger population. It is also unclear as to whether these individuals were killed or consumed as carrion. Evidence of fox were already noted within the Project Area during surveys, and therefore, further establishment is not expected as a result of the Project. Therefore, the Project is not likely to result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat.
Introduce disease that may cause the species to decline	No	No disease has been noted to specifically affect this species. However, as the habitat area will be retained, no further disturbance will occur and therefore the Project is not likely to introduce disease that may cause the species to decline.
Interfere with the recovery of the species	No	The Project is not likely to interfere substantially with the recovery of the species as suitable habitat will be protected and restored and habitat connectivity maintained across landscapes including with the Gigoomgan road reserve. Artificial hollows have been installed within the Teebar Creek buffer.

Vulnerable Fauna Species

Collared Delma

The Project is located within the mapped area that *Delma torquata* (Collared Delma) or habitat for this species may occur. There are no historic records for this species within 10km of the Project Area. No individuals were identified within the Project Area during field surveys (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Highly suitable breeding, feeding and dispersal habitat for Collared Delma was identified on the western slope of the ridgeline within Area C. This is comprised of naturally occurring surface rock of varying size, with thick leaf-litter and limited groundcover of native grasses and forbs (Wildwise, 2025; Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

This species can occur as small, highly localised populations that are difficult to detect during conventional survey efforts. As suitable habitat within the ridgeline has been identified, this species is assumed to have a likely occurrence, when considering the precautionary approach. This suitable habitat turns into unsuitable habitat directly to the east of the ridgeline and throughout the rest of the Project Area (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Potential Impact

Following the identification of the suitable habitat for Collared Delma within the Project Area, the Disturbance Area was redesigned to ensure that this habitat would not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. This means that there will be no reduction in potential Collared Delma habitat as a result of the Project.

Therefore, there will be no direct impacts on Collared Delma.

Significant Impact Assessment

A significant impact assessment for Collared Delma is outlined in the Table below.

Collared Delma has the potential to occur within the ridgeline of Area C. This area will be a No-Go zone for the duration of the Project. This habitat will not be directly impacted by the Project.

Potential indirect impacts from the Project on the retained habitat will be actively managed. This will include management of weeds through implementation of the Weed Management Sub-plan. As the suitable habitat is located on the ridgeline, there is no risk of impacts from sedimentation due to erosion from the Project, as this area is located upslope of Disturbance Areas.

During operation of the Project there will be very minimal potential impacts on the suitable habitat.

Removal of livestock will mitigate this current disturbance on the suitable habitat.

Overall, it is considered that the avoidance of the habitat for Collared Delma in conjunction with the management measures to be implemented to reduce the risk of indirect impacts will not lead to a significant impact on the identified MNES.

Significant impact assessment for Collared Delma (Sourced from: Biodiverse Environmental, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of a species	No	The Project Area is located between two known habitat areas; one approximately 10km southwest within Grongah National Park, and one approximately 80km to the north in South Kolan. There are no historic records of this species within 10 km of the Project Area, and none were detected during field surveys. However, as the precautionary approach has been applied, therefore as suitable habitat is located within the Project Area it is assumed that an 'important population' is likely present. The area of suitable habitat has been avoided during design. There will be no clearing or disturbance of suitable habitat

Significant impact assessment for Collared Delma (Sourced from: Biodiverse Environmental, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
		within the Project Area. With all suitable habitat avoided, livestock removed, and the current fragmentation and degradation of the surrounding environment already present, dispersal requirements and habitat loss for this species and will not be impeded further. The Project is not expected to lead to a decrease in the size of an important population within or surrounding the Project Area.
Reduce the area of occupancy of an important population	No	This species is restricted to small, isolated populations throughout its distribution with dispersal requirements noted as minimum. However, maintaining connectivity between habitat patches is considered important. With all suitable habitat avoided, livestock removed, and the current fragmentation and degradation of the surrounding environment already present, dispersal requirements and habitat loss for this species and will not be impeded further. Therefore, the Project is not likely to reduce the area of occupancy of an important population.
Fragment an existing important population into two or more populations	No	The Project Area is currently in a highly modified from historic clearing and disturbance from livestock. One current important population is expected; however the habitat associated with this population will not be cleared or impacted by the Project. No barriers which could impede dispersal of the species are required for the Project. With the suitable habitat avoided, livestock removed, and the current fragmentation and degradation of the surrounding environment is already present, dispersal requirements and habitat loss for this species and will not be impeded further by the Project. Therefore, the Project is not likely to fragment an existing important population into two or more populations
Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species	No	Critical habitat is considered habitat within the species distribution that is considered suitable and contains surface rocks. The main threats to Collared Delma include habitat loss and modification, removal of surface rocks, inappropriate fire regimes, and an increase in weed prevalence, particularly Lantana. No habitat loss will result from the Project, with no surface rocks within the ridgeline to be removed or disturbed. Weeds will be managed through the Weed Management Sub-plan, which will actively control the potential spread of Lantana. Therefore, the Project is not likely to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of the species.
Disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population	No	Collared Delma breed by producing two eggs in December, which then hatch in February-March. They are not known to have complicated breeding requirements, and with the habitat area completely avoided, breeding opportunities will remain. The Project is not likely to disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population.
Modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat	No	Collared Delma is susceptible to impacts from grazing pressures. Suitable habitat for the Collared Delma within the Project Area

Significant impact assessment for Collared Delma (Sourced from: Biodiverse Environmental, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
to the extent that the species is likely to decline		is isolated to the ridgeline which will be retained and livestock removed. This will aid in naturally regeneration area and relive further pressures from grazing on this species. Risk from weeds within the Project Area will be controlled throughout the construction and operational phases, including weed control and implemented hygiene protocols such as weed and seed clean down procedures for vehicles and machinery. Current weed occurrence throughout the Project Area will be controlled, leading to improved overall habitat quality within retained areas. Project is not likely to modify, destroy, remove or isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline.
Result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat	No	Threats from invasive fauna species on Collared Delma are generally predation by feral cats and foxes. Fox presence was noted during field surveys and feral cat presence assumed as potential. Feral animal control will be implemented as required throughout the Project which will result in improved conditions for predation impacts for the Collared Delma. Risk from weeds within the Project Area will be controlled throughout the construction and operational phases, including weed control and implemented hygiene protocols such as weed and seed clean down procedures for vehicles and machinery. Current weed occurrence throughout the Project Area will be controlled, leading to improved overall habitat quality within retained areas. The Project is therefore not likely to lead to a result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat.
Introduce disease that may cause the species to decline	No	No disease has been noted to specifically affect this species. As suitable habitat will not be disturbed, the Project is not likely to introduce potential diseases that may cause the species to decline.
Interfere substantially with the recovery of the species	No	A significant impact is not likely when clearing 1 ha or less of important habitat, providing that important habitat connectivity is not compromised. No important habitat will be removal as a result of the Project. Connectivity will not be diminished with the retention and rehabilitation of corridors and habitat linkages. As the solar infrastructure is installed above the ground, Collared Delma movement opportunities will remain, and be improved by the removal of livestock from the Project Area. The Project is not likely to interfere substantially with the recovery of the species.

Vulnerable Fauna Species

Yellow-bellied Glider

Petaurus australis australis (Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern)) is likely to be present adjacent to the Project Area within the road reserve along Gigoomgan Road, as suitable hollows and foraging trees are located within the remnant vegetation. With potentially suitable breeding habitat noted surrounding the Project Area, they have the potential to occur within the ridgeline and adjacent waterway corridors in Area C, and along Teebar Creek between Area C and Area A (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Within the Project Area, the main tree species considered suitable for foraging for the Yellow-bellied Glider are *Corymbia citriodora* and *Eucalyptus tereticornis*. The only suitable hollows identified were within the riparian corridor of Teebar Creek (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Although no individuals were identified during field surveys, they are considered likely within the Project Area in isolated patches along the ridgeline and adjacent waterway corridors in Area C, and along Teebar Creek between Area C and Area A due to the suitably of habitat.

Potential Impact

Following the identification of suitable habitat for Yellow-bellied Glider within the Project Area, the Disturbance Area was redesigned to ensure that this habitat would not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. This means that there will be no reduction in potential Yellow-bellied Glider habitat as a result of the Project.

Therefore, there will be no direct impacts on Yellow-bellied Glider.

Significant Impact Assessment

A significant impact assessment for Yellow-bellied Glider is outlined in the Table below.

Yellow-bellied Glider has the potential to occur along the ridgeline and adjacent waterway corridors in Area C, and along Teebar Creek between Area C and Area A. These will all be No-Go zone for the duration of the Project. This habitat will not be directly impacted by the Project.

Potential indirect impacts from the Project on this species and the retained habitat will be actively managed. This will include management of weeds through implementation of the Weed Management Sub-plan. Fauna friendly fencing will be installed around the perimeter of the Project Area. Fauna spotter catchers will be present during clearing to identify and relocate fauna species. Vehicle speed limits will be 20km/h for the duration of the Project.

Through design and inclusion of rehabilitation, the Project Area will be reconnected to other potentially suitable habitat, therefore potentially allowing any population that does exist to expand and disperse.

During operation of the Project there will be very minimal potential impacts on the suitable habitat.

Overall, it is considered that the avoidance of the habitat for Yellow-bellied Glider in conjunction with the management measures to be implemented to reduce the risk of indirect impacts will not lead to a significant impact on the identified MNES.

Significant impact assessment for Yellow-bellied Glider (Sourced from: Biodiverse Environmental, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of a species	No	In accordance with the Conservation Advice, important populations include stronghold populations, ecologically or genetically distinct populations, research populations and other populations where recovery actions are being implemented. All known populations are also considered as important populations, however there are none which coincide with the Project Area. One historic record has been recorded within 10km of the Project Area, however, with no individuals were recorded

Significant impact assessment for Yellow-bellied Glider (Sourced from: Biodiverse Environmental, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
		during field surveys, and no feeding marks located on suitable trees, it is unlikely that a population exists within the Project Area. As the precautionary approach has been applied, with suitable habitat found, a population still has the potential to utilise the surrounding environment and potentially disperse through the Project Area. The Project is not likely to 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	No	If an important population did exist within the Project Area, no critical habitat will be disturbed, and connectivity will remain. Therefore, the Project is not likely to reduce the area of occupancy of an important population.
Fragment an existing important population into two or more populations	No	If an important population did exist within the Project Area, no critical habitat will be disturbed, and connectivity will remain. Therefore, the Project is not likely to fragment an existing important population into two or more populations.
Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species	No	The Project Area is considered to only contain the following habitat critical to the survival of a species: habitat corridor required to facilitate dispersal of the subspecies between fragmented habitat patches and/or that enable recolonisation or movement away from threats. All habitat areas which are considered critical to their survival, in the form of connectivity corridors within the Project Area which are also suitable for feeding, including sap tree species, will be retained. Furthermore, additional corridors have been incorporated into the Project design to minimise any impacts on clearing regrowth Acacia species and sparse Eucalypts within the pasture areas. This will ensure habitat connectivity remains within the fragmented environment, including the use of fauna permeable fencing. Therefore, the Project is not likely to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species.
Disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population	No	No suitable breeding locations have been identified within the Project Area, and with habitat corridors to remain and be improved, the Project is not likely to 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	No	The Project is not proposing to modify, destroy, remove or isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat located, and therefore the Project is not likely to result in any decline of the species.
Result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat	No	Invasive species are known to prey on Yellow Bellied Gliders however it is unknown if this has a population-level impact. Evidence of Fox has been noted within the Project Area during surveys, and therefore, further establishment is not expected as a result of the Project. Therefore, the Project is not likely to result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat.
Introduce disease that may cause the species to decline	No	Pathogens such as *Phytophtora cinnamomi* can pose risk to habitat including negative impacts to eucalypt trees which this

Significant impact assessment for Yellow-bellied Glider (Sourced from: Biodiverse Environmental, 2025)

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
		species relies on for feeding, dispersal and breeding. Although dieback because of a *Phytophtora* outbreak has the potential to degrade habitat, there is lacking research to confirm if this will affect the species at a population level. As a precautionary approach, biosecurity and hygiene protocols will be implemented throughout the Project to limit disease and pathogens entering and exiting the Site into the surrounding environment. The Project is therefore not likely to introduce disease that may cause the species to decline.
Interfere substantially with the recovery of the species	No	Conservation priorities for this species include retaining large patches of mature forest, maintaining floristic diversity, and avoiding clearing that disrupts habitat connectivity. The Project is not likely to interfere substantially with the recovery of the species as all foraging habitat and habitat connectivity will be retained.

Critically Endangered Fauna Species

White-throated Snapping Turtle

The Project is located within the mapped area that *Elseya albagula* (White-throated Snapping Turtle) habitat may occur. There are no historic records for this species within 10km of the Project Area. No individuals were identified within the Project Area during field surveys.

Suitable habitat for this species was identified within the deep water areas of Teebar Creek and adjacent Palustrine wetlands (billabong) located between Area A and Area C. Online historical imagery has indicated that permanent water is present within these areas with pools and overhanging riparian vegetation (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

No nesting sites were identified within the Project Area during field surveys and with historic disturbance from livestock including compaction of substrate prevalent along riparian boundaries, breeding availability is considered low. These habitat areas have therefore been considered mainly suitable for dispersal and foraging in their current state (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

With no individuals detected during field surveys, but suitable habitat and species distribution noted as may occur, the precautionary approach for occurrence was applied and this species is considered have a potential to occur within the deep water areas of Teebar Creek and billabong within the Project Area (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Potential Impact

Following the identification of suitable habitat for White-throated Snapping Turtle within the Project Area, the Disturbance Area was revised to ensure that this habitat would not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. The revision of the Disturbance Area means that there will be no reduction in habitat from the Project, and habitat connectivity will remain to enable continuity of any potential population.

Therefore, there will be no direct impacts on the White-throated Snapping Turtle.

Significant Impact Assessment

The significant impact assessment for White-throated Snapping Turtle is outlined in the Table below.

Potential indirect impacts from the Project on the retained habitat will be actively managed. The habitat areas will be No-Go zone for the duration of the Project. These areas will not be directly impacted by the Project. Fencing, such as a sediment fence, will be installed along the edge of the Disturbance Area to prevent the turtles incidentally entering the area during construction. Erosion and sedimentation will be managed to prevent impacts outside of the Disturbance Area.

Through design and inclusion of rehabilitation into the Project Area, Teebar Creek will be reconnected to the billabong through weed management and revegetation. This will restore habitat continuity and improve dispersal pathways for species across within the riparian areas of the Project Area.

Stock will be removed for the duration of the Project.

During operation of the Project there will be very minimal potential indirect impacts on this species.

Overall, it is considered that the avoidance of the potential habitat for this species in conjunction with the management measures to be implemented to reduce the risk of indirect impacts will not lead to a significant impact on the identified MNES.

Significant impact assessment for White-throated Snapping Turtle

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of a population	No	There are no historic records of this species within 10 km of the Project Area, and none were detected during field surveys. A precautionary approach for occurrence has been applied, and this species is considered to potentially occur within the

Significant impact assessment for White-throated Snapping Turtle

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
		deep water areas of Teebar Creek and billabong within the Project Area. With all suitable habitat avoided, livestock removed, and the current fragmentation and degradation of the surrounding environment already present, dispersal requirements and habitat loss for this species and will not be impeded further. The Project is not expected to lead to a decrease in the size of any population within or surrounding the Project Area.
Reduce the area of occupancy of the species	No	This species is restricted to permanent freshwater systems in the Fitzroy, Burnett, and Mary River catchments in Queensland. Any fragmentation, modification, or destruction of this habitat, such as dam construction, weirs, or other infrastructure, is a major concern. There will be no clearing or disturbance within the deep water areas of Teebar Creek and adjacent billabong. These areas are located outside of the Disturbance Area within waterway buffer and rehabilitation areas. The habitat within these areas will be improved through weed control and revegetation. There will be no reduction in habitat from the Project, and habitat connectivity will remain to enable continuity of any potential population.
Fragment an existing population into two or more populations	No	The Project Area is currently in a highly modified from historic clearing and disturbance from livestock. There is no known population of this species within the Project Area however suitable habitat will not be cleared or impacted by the Project. No barriers which could impede dispersal of the species are required for the Project. Stock will be removed for the duration of the Project. Therefore, the Project is not likely to fragment an existing important population into two or more populations
Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species	No	Livestock grazing and trampling is a key factor in the current degradation of the Project Area. This includes potential direct and indirect impacts on White-throated Snapping Turtle habitat from trampling, as well as erosion and sedimentation of surrounding waterways. Habitat areas for this species are considered mainly suitable for dispersal and foraging in their current state. No habitat loss will result from the Project, with no clearing or disturbance within the deep water areas of Teebar Creek and adjacent billabong. Potential risks from erosion and sedimentation impacting on suitable habitat will be managed during construction. Fencing, such as a sediment fence, will be installed along the edge of the Disturbance Area to prevent the turtles incidentally entering the area during construction. Stock will be removed for the duration of the Project. Therefore, the Project is not likely to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of the species.
Disrupt the breeding cycle of a	No	No nesting sites were identified within the Project Area during field surveys and historic disturbance from livestock

Significant impact assessment for White-throated Snapping Turtle

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
population		including compaction of substrate prevalent along riparian boundaries, breeding availability is considered low. Feral animal control will be implemented as required throughout the Project. Stock will be removed for the duration of the Project. The Project is not likely to disrupt the breeding cycle of any population.
Modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline	No	Livestock grazing and trampling is a key factor in the current degradation of the Project Area. Suitable habitat for the species is isolated to deep water areas of Teebar Creek and adjacent billabong which will be retained and livestock removed. This will aid in naturally regeneration area and relive further pressures from grazing on this species. Feral animal control will be implemented as required throughout the Project. Project is not likely to modify, destroy, remove or isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline.
Result in invasive species that are harmful to a critically endangered or endangered species becoming established in the endangered or critically endangered species' habitat	No	White-throated Snapping Turtle as vulnerable to cat impacts with recommended conservation actions include targeted control of feral cats. The Project is therefore not likely to lead to a result in invasive species that are harmful to a critically endangered or endangered species becoming established in the endangered or critically endangered species' habitat.
Introduce disease that may cause the species to decline	No	No disease has been noted to specifically affect this species. As suitable habitat will not be disturbed, the Project is not likely to introduce potential diseases that may cause the species to decline.
Interfere with the recovery of the species	No	In accordance with the National Recovery Plan for this species, the Project will not interfere with the recovery of the species by addressing threats relevant to the Project. This will include the principal current threat which is predation by feral (fox, dog, pig, cat) and trampling of nests by cattle. Stock will be removed for the duration of the Project. Feral animal control will be implemented as required throughout the Project which will result in improved conditions for predation impacts for this species. There will be no instream barriers within Teebar Creek or the billabong constructed for the Project. Also, riparian native vegetation along Teebar Creek and the billabong will not be cleared during the Project with weed management and rehabilitation implemented to improve this habitat. Water quality in Teebar Creek and the billabong will not be indirectly impacted by the Project through the implementation and monitoring of sedimentation and erosion controls; and spill prevention and management. The Project is not likely to interfere with the recovery of the species.

Vulnerable Fauna Species

Grey-headed Flying-fox

The Project is located within the mapped distribution area that *Pteropus poliocephalus* (Grey-headed Flying-fox) habitat is likely or known to occur. There are eight historic records for this species within 10km of the Project Area, however none were recorded within the past 15 years. No individuals were identified within the Project Area during field surveys (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

No present or potential roosting sites were detected during the field surveys; however, some potential foraging opportunities were identified. Vegetation communities with Myrtaceous plants which flower in seasons of scarcity (winter and spring flowering species) are considered habitat which is critical to the survival of this species. Two winter flowering species were identified within the Project Area, *Corymbia citriodora* and *Eucalyptus tereticornis*. These species were identified within the ridgeline and adjacent waterway corridors in Area C and along Teebar Creek between Area C and Area A. Although these habitat areas are present, they are in a highly modified and disturbed state from historic timber harvesting and agriculture practices, including disturbance from exotic weed species such as Cats Claw Creeper. These factors limit the viability and value of these areas, however, should still be considered as potentially utilised episodically (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

No roost sites were identified within the Project Area or within proximity to the Project Area, however, this species is highly mobile across southeast Queensland and is therefore considered to potentially traverse the Project Area seasonally for foraging (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Potential Impact

Following the identification of suitable foraging habitat within the ridgeline, waterway corridors within Area C and Teebar within the Project Area, the Disturbance Area was redesigned to ensure that this habitat would not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. This means that there will be no reduction in Grey-headed Flying-fox habitat as a result of the Project.

Therefore, there will be no direct impacts on Grey-headed Flying-fox.

Significant Impact Assessment

A significant impact assessment for Grey-headed Flying-fox is outlined in the Table below.

Grey-headed Flying-fox has the potential to utilise foraging habitat within the ridgeline and waterway corridors in Area C and along Teebar Creek. These will all be No-Go zone for the duration of the Project. This habitat will not be directly impacted by the Project.

Potential indirect impacts will be actively managed to protect Grey-headed Flying-fox. This includes use of fauna friendly fencing which includes no barbed wire to mitigate potential collision and death. Also, management of weeds and pests through implementation of the CEMP and Weed Management Sub-plan. Through design and inclusion of rehabilitation, habitat within the Project Area may be improved for this species (Wildwise, 2025), therefore allowing any potential population that does exist to expand and disperse.

During operation of the Project there will be very minimal potential impacts on the suitable habitat.

Overall, it is considered that the avoidance of the habitat for Grey-headed Flying-fox in conjunction with the management measures to be implemented to reduce the risk of indirect impacts will not lead to a significant impact on the identified MNES.

Significant impact assessment for Grey-headed Flying-fox

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of a species	No	Grey-headed Flying-fox is considered to be a single, mobile population with individuals distributed across Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory.

Significant impact assessment for Grey-headed Flying-fox

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
		There are eight historic records of this species within 10 km of the Project Area, however none in the last 15 years. No current population was detected during field surveys. A precautionary approach has been applied; therefore individuals from the Grey-headed Flying-fox population may potentially disperse into the Project Area and utilise foraging habitat. Given that foraging habitat areas have been avoided, the Project is not likely to 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	No	No roost sites were identified within the Project Area or within proximity to the Project Area. Foraging habitat along the ridgeline and waterways will not be disturbed, and mitigation measures will be implemented to minimise disturbance of this habitat throughout the Project. Therefore, the Project is not likely to reduce the area of occupancy of an important population.
Fragment an existing important population into two or more populations	No	No roost sites were identified within the Project Area or within proximity to the Project Area. Foraging habitat along the ridgeline and waterways will not be disturbed, and mitigation measures will be implemented to minimise disturbance of this habitat throughout the Project. Through the rehabilitation of corridors, habitat within the Project Area may be improved for this species Therefore, the Project is not likely to reduce the area of occupancy of an important population.
Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species	No	The Project Area has suitable foraging habitat for this species within the ridgeline and waterway corridor within the Project Area. All these habitat areas will be retained and will not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. Grey-headed Flying-fox foraging opportunities are likely be improved through the control of weeds and revegetation to be implemented during the Project. Therefore, the Project is not likely to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species.
Disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population	No	No roost sites were identified within the Project Area or within proximity to the Project Area. Project is not likely to disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population, if an important population is located within the Project Area.
Modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline	No	The Project is not proposing to modify, destroy, remove or isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat located, and therefore the Project is not likely to result in any decline of the species.
Result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat	No	Invasive fauna species, in particular cats, pose a direct threat to this species. Given the current disturbance of the Project Area, it is assumed that cats are already present. Feral animal control will be implemented as required throughout the Project which will result in improved conditions for predation impacts for this species.

Significant impact assessment for Grey-headed Flying-fox

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
		Risk from weeds within the Project Area will be controlled throughout the construction and operational phases, including weed control and implemented hygiene protocols such as weed and seed clean down procedures for vehicles and machinery. Current weed occurrence throughout the Project Area will be controlled, leading to improved overall habitat quality within retained areas. Therefore, the Project is not likely to result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat.
Introduce disease that may cause the species to decline	No	There is very little information available on the impact of disease on Grey-headed Flying-foxes. The main area of impact of disease appears to be associated with the public perception of bats as a source of some diseases that can affect humans. Biosecurity and hygiene protocols will be implemented throughout the Project to limit disease and pathogens entering and exiting the Project Area into the surrounding environment. The Project is therefore not likely to introduce disease that may cause the species to decline.
Interfere substantially with the recovery of the species	No	Conservation priorities include protecting native foraging and roosting habitat, planting key food trees and controlling feral cats. Suitable foraging habitat for this species within the Project Area will be retained and will not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. Also, invasive species control will be implemented as required throughout the Project. The Project is not likely to interfere substantially with the recovery of the species.

Vulnerable Fauna Species

South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo

The Project is located within the mapped area that *Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami* (South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo) habitat may occur. There are two historic records for this species within 10km of the Project Area, however none recorded within the past 15 years. No individuals were identified within the Project Area during field surveys.

This species feed almost exclusively on the seeds of sheoaks (*Allocasuarina* and *Casuarina* species) and nest in large hollows in both living and dead eucalypt trees.

Potential food resources (*Allocasuarina torulosa*), drinking point and nesting hollow were identified within the waterway corridor within Area C. No other suitable hollows with the potential to be utilised for breeding were identified. Also, there is a small patch (approximately 2 ha) of *Casuarina glauca* located in Area A along a tributary of Teebar Creek. Although this species is known to rely mainly on Black Sheoak (*A. littoralis*) and Forest Sheoak (*A. torulosa*) as a main food source, there are some indications that they will forage on *C. glauca* during times of the year in which food resources are limited. This area is considered as potential foraging habitat, however, as this is not their preferred food source, the area is considered to offer limited value for the survival of the species (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Sightings of this species requires extended survey effort and therefore the precautionary approach for occurrence was applied and is considered as potential to utilise the Project Area seasonally for foraging and potentially breeding within the one hollow detected.

Potential Impact

Following the identification of suitable habitat within the waterways for South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo within the Project Area, the Disturbance Area was redesigned to ensure that this habitat would not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. This means that there will be no reduction in South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo habitat as a result of the Project.

Therefore, there will be no direct impacts on South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo.

Significant Impact Assessment

A significant impact assessment for South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo is outlined in the Table below.

South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo has the potential to occur along within the waterway corridors in Area C and along Teebar Creek tributary. These will all be No-Go zone for the duration of the Project. This habitat will not be directly impacted by the Project.

Potential indirect impacts from the Project on this species and the retained habitat will be actively managed. This will include management of weeds and pests through implementation of the CEMP and Weed Management Sub-plan. During South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo breeding season, fauna spotter catchers or environmental advisor will undertake a daily inspection for this species. If South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo are present, then construction works with the potential to disturb the birds will not be undertaken for the day in that area or until the birds have moved out of the area (Wildwise, 2025).

Through design and inclusion of rehabilitation, the Project Area will be reconnected to other potentially suitable habitat, therefore potentially allowing any population that does exist to expand and disperse.

During operation of the Project there will be very minimal potential impacts, including noise, light and invasive species, on the suitable habitat.

Overall, it is considered that the avoidance of the habitat for Glossy Black Cockatoo in conjunction with the management measures to be implemented to reduce the risk of indirect impacts will not lead to a significant impact on the identified MNES.

Significant impact assessment for Glossy Black Cockatoo

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of a species	No	There are two historic records of this species within 10 km of the Project Area, however none in the last 15 years. None were detected during field surveys. A precautionary approach has been applied as potential food sources and one nesting hollow located is located within waterways, therefore a population may potentially disperse into the Project Area. Given that these areas will be avoided, the Project is not likely to lead to a long-term decrease in the size of any population of this species.
Reduce the area of occupancy of an important population	No	If an important population did exist within the Project Area, habitat will not be disturbed, and mitigation measures will be implemented to minimise construction disturbance during breeding season. Therefore, the Project is not likely to reduce the area of occupancy of any population.
Fragment an existing important population into two or more populations	No	If an important population did exist within the Project Area, no habitat will be disturbed, and connectivity will remain, and be improved. Therefore, the Project is not likely to fragment an existing important population into two or more populations.
Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species	No	Habitat for South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo is located along waterways within the Project Area. These areas have been avoided during design. These habitat areas will be retained and will not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. Therefore, the Project is not likely to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species.
Disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population	No	One suitable breeding location was identified within the Project Area. This will not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. During breeding season, March to August, onsite fauna spotter catchers or environmental advisor will undertake a daily inspection will be undertaken for this species. If South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo are present, then construction works with the potential to disturb the birds will not be undertaken for the day in that area or until the birds have moved out of the area. Project is not likely to disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population, if an important population is located within the Project Area.
Modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline	No	Habitat for South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo is located along waterways within the Project Area. These areas have been avoided during design. These habitat areas will be retained and will not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. The Project is not proposing to modify, destroy, remove or isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat located, and therefore the Project is not likely to result in any decline of the species.
Result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established	No	Invasive fauna species, in particular cats, pose a direct threat by preying on eggs and nestlings. Given the current disturbance of the Project Area, it is assumed that cats are

Significant impact assessment for Glossy Black Cockatoo

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
in the vulnerable species' habitat		already present. Feral animal control will be implemented as required throughout the Project which will result in improved conditions for predation impacts for this species. Risk from weeds within the Project Area will be controlled throughout the construction and operational phases, including weed control and implemented hygiene protocols such as weed and seed clean down procedures for vehicles and machinery. Current weed occurrence throughout the Project Area will be controlled, leading to improved overall habitat quality within retained areas. Therefore, the Project is not likely to result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat.
Introduce disease that may cause the species to decline	No	The most significant known disease affecting South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoos is Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease. Biosecurity and hygiene protocols will be implemented throughout the Project to limit disease and pathogens entering and exiting the Site into the surrounding environment. The Project is therefore not likely to introduce disease that may cause the species to decline.
Interfere substantially with the recovery of the species	No	Conservation priorities for this species include protecting habitat critical to the survival of South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo including avoiding clearing or degradation and minimising indirect impacts such as noise, light, and invasive species. Habitat for South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo is located along waterways within the Project Area. These areas will be retained and will not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. While an increase in noise may occur during construction and decommissioning, this will be short term and move progressively across the Project Area. During construction in breeding season, daily inspection for South-eastern Glossy Black Cockatoo will be undertaken, and if identified construction works with the potential to disturb the birds will not be undertaken for the day in that area or until the birds have moved out of the area. There will be very limited noise associated with the operation of the Project. During construction or decommissioning, no outdoor lighting required, and all works will be undertaken during daylight hours. During operations, lighting will be limited to security functions and confined to the BESS and substation which are separated from retained fauna habitat. The Project is not likely to interfere substantially with the recovery of the species.

Vulnerable Fauna Species

White-throated Needletail

The Project is located within the mapped distribution area that *Hirundapus caudacutus* (White-throated Needletail) is likely or known to occur. There is one historic record for this species within 10km of the Project Area, however record is missing valid information. No individuals were identified within the Project Area during field surveys (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Generally, this species is not seen landing in Australia, however, some evidence suggests that they may rest at night high on the bark of tall trees along peaks and ridgelines. In Australia, this species is almost exclusively aerial and forages over 1,000 m high on various insect species during the non-breeding season between spring to autumn. Areas of the Project Area which have the potential to support foraging and roosting habitats is the ridgeline in Area C. This migratory species does not breed in Australia.

Although no individuals were identified during the field surveys, the White-throated Needletail has a wide range of likely habitat and occurrence across southeast Queensland. This species therefore has been considered as potential to occur seasonally within the Project Area, as some suitable foraging and roosting habitat was identified within the ridgeline (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Potential Impact

Following the identification of suitable habitat within the ridgeline, the Disturbance Area was redesigned to ensure that this habitat would not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. This means that there will be no reduction in White-throated Needletail habitat as a result of the Project.

Therefore, there will be no direct impacts on White-throated Needletail.

Significant Impact Assessment

Although there is potential for White-throated Needletail to occur within the Project Area, few threats to populations of White-throated Needletail have been identified within Australia (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025). Therefore, a significant impact is not expected as outlined in the Table below.

Significant impact assessment for White-throated Needletail

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Lead to a long-term decrease in the size of an important population of a species	No	There is one historic records of this species within 10 km of the Project Area, however none in the last 15 years. None were detected during field surveys. A precautionary approach has been applied; therefore a population has potential to occur seasonally within the Project Area, as some suitable foraging and roosting habitat was identified within the ridgeline. Given that these foraging areas will be avoided, the Project is not likely to 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	No	If an important population did exist within the Project Area, critical habitat will not be disturbed, and this species does not typically land in Australia. Therefore, the Project is not likely to reduce the area of occupancy of an important population.
Fragment an existing important population into two or more populations	No	If an important population did exist within the Project Area, no critical habitat will be disturbed, and connectivity will remain. Therefore, the Project is not likely to fragment an existing important population into two or more populations.
Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species	No	For this species it is important to consider habitats which support food resources, such as insect occurrence, which could influence foraging opportunities if negatively impacted

Significant impact assessment for White-throated Needletail

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
		by the Project. Given that all remanent vegetation communities will not be disturbed by the Project, and rehabilitation will be implemented, it is not likely that a reduction in food resources, insects, will be impacted by the Project. Therefore, the Project is not likely to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species.
Disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population	No	As this migratory species does not breed in Australia, impacts to potential breeding habitat are not considered relevant.
Modify, destroy, remove, isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat to the extent that the species is likely to decline	No	The Project is not proposing to modify, destroy, remove or isolate or decrease the availability or quality of habitat, and therefore the Project is not likely to result in any decline of the species.
Result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat	No	There are no documented direct impacts of invasive species on White-throated Needletail within Australia. As suitable habitat will not be disturbed, and improved through weed control, the Project is not likely to result in invasive species that are harmful to a vulnerable species becoming established in the vulnerable species' habitat.
Introduce disease that may cause the species to decline	No	No disease has been noted to specifically affect this species. As suitable habitat will not be disturbed, the Project is not likely to introduce potential diseases that may cause the species to decline.
Interfere substantially with the recovery of the species	No	Major threats for this species include collisions with wind turbines, wires, windows, and lighthouses as well as insecticide use and habitat loss. Given that the suitable foraging and roosting habitat for this species within the Project Area will be retained, and there the construction of obstacles that may be a collision risk and no likely use of insecticides, the Project is not likely to interfere substantially with the recovery of the species.

Migratory Fauna Species

White-throated Needletail

See background information in previous section.

Significant impact assessment for White-throated Needletail

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Substantially modify (including by fragmenting, altering fire regimes, altering nutrient cycles or altering hydrological cycles), destroy or isolate an area of important habitat for a migratory species	No	No critical habitat for this species will be disturbed, fragmented or altered directly or indirectly from the Project and all connectivity will remain or be improved. Therefore, the Project is not likely to modify, destroy or isolate an area of important habitat for a migratory species.
Result in an invasive species that is harmful to the migratory species becoming established in an area of important habitat for the migratory species	No	There are no documented direct impacts of invasive species on White-throated Needletail within Australia. As suitable habitat will not be disturbed, and improved through weed control, the Project is not likely to an invasive species that is harmful to the migratory species becoming established in an area of important habitat for the migratory species.
Seriously disrupt the lifecycle (breeding, feeding, migration or resting behaviour) of an ecologically significant proportion of the population of a migratory species	No	Due to its migratory nature, the White-throated Needletail does not breed in Australia, however this species wintering habitat is considered crucial for its survival. Potential feeding and resting behaviour of this migratory bird will not be impacted by the Project as suitable habitat will be avoided. Also, insecticide use will not likely be required during the operation of the solar farm. Therefore, the Project will not substantially affect an important population of the species or seriously disrupt the lifecycle of an ecologically significant proportion of this migratory species.

Migratory Fauna Species

Fork-tailed Swift

The Project is located within the mapped distribution area that *Apus pacificus* (Fork-tailed Swift) is likely or known to occur. There are no historic records for this species within 10km of the Project Area. No individuals were identified within the Project Area during field surveys (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

In Australia, this species is almost exclusively aerial and can be seen flying near updrafts nearby by cliffs up to 300 m above the ground. Areas of the Project Area which have the potential to support foraging include higher altitude areas of the ridgeline in Area C. There is potential for this species to use this area for roosting, however, there has been minimal studies in Australia to support this. This migratory species does not breed in Australia.

Although no individuals were identified during the field surveys, the Fork-tailed Swift has a wide range of likely habitat and occurrence across southeast Queensland. This species therefore has been considered as potential to occur seasonally within the Project Area, as some suitable foraging and roosting habitat was identified within the ridgeline (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025).

Potential Impact

Following the identification of suitable habitat within the ridgeline, the Disturbance Area was redesigned to ensure that this habitat would not be cleared or disturbed during the Project. This means that there will be no reduction in Fork-tailed Swift habitat as a result of the Project.

Therefore, there will be no direct impacts on Fork-tailed Swift.

Significant Impact Assessment

Although there is potential for Fork-tailed Swift to occur within the Project Area, few threats to populations of Fork-tailed Swift have been identified within Australia (Biodiverse Environmental, 2025). Therefore, a significant impact is not expected as outlined in the Table below.

Significant impact assessment for Fork-tailed Swift

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Substantially modify (including by fragmenting, altering fire regimes, altering nutrient cycles or altering hydrological cycles), destroy or isolate an area of important habitat for a migratory species	No	No critical habitat for this species will be disturbed, fragmented or altered directly or indirectly from the Project and all connectivity will remain or be improved. Therefore, the Project is not likely to modify, destroy or isolate an area of important habitat for a migratory species.
Result in an invasive species that is harmful to the migratory species becoming established in an area of important habitat for the migratory species	No	There are no documented direct impacts of invasive species on Fork-tailed Swift within Australia. As suitable habitat will not be disturbed, and improved through weed control, the Project is not likely to an invasive species that is harmful to the migratory species becoming established in an area of important habitat for the migratory species.
Seriously disrupt the lifecycle (breeding, feeding, migration or resting behaviour) of an ecologically significant proportion of the population of a migratory species	No	Due to its migratory nature, this species does not breed in Australia. Potential feeding and resting behaviour of this migratory bird will not be impacted by the Project as suitable habitat will be avoided. Also, insecticide use will not likely be required during the operation of the solar farm. Therefore, the Project will not substantially affect an important population of the species or seriously disrupt the lifecycle of an ecologically significant proportion of this migratory species.

Critically Endangered/Endangered Ecological Communities

There are no vegetation communities within the Project Area that meet the key diagnostic characteristics of MNES listed Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) (Equilibrium Ecology, 2025).

Vegetation communities within the Project Area that have the potential to be associated with TEC have been avoided through design. Although not meeting key diagnostic characteristics of TEC, these vegetation communities are outside of the Disturbance Area.

There will be no direct or indirect impacts on TECs as summarised in the Table below.

Significant impact assessment for TEC

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
Reduce the extent of an ecological community	No	There are no TECs located within the Project Area. Vegetation communities within the Project Area that have the potential to be associated with TEC have been avoided through design.
Fragment or increase fragmentation of an ecological community, for example by clearing vegetation for roads or transmission lines	No	There are no TECs located within the Project Area. Vegetation communities within the Project Area that have the potential to be associated with TEC have been avoided through design.
Adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of an ecological community	No	There are no TECs located within the Project Area. Vegetation communities within the Project Area that have the potential to be associated with TEC have been avoided through design.
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	No	There are no TECs located within the Project Area. Vegetation communities within the Project Area that have the potential to be associated with TEC have been avoided through design.
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	No	There are no TECs located within the Project Area. Vegetation communities within the Project Area that have the potential to be associated with TEC have been avoided through design.
Causing a substantial reduction in the quality or integrity of an occurrence of an ecological community, including, but not limited to: • Assisting invasive species, that are harmful to the listed ecological community, to become established; or • Causing regular mobilisation of fertilisers,	No	There are no TECs located within the Project Area. Vegetation communities within the Project Area that have the potential to be associated with TEC have been avoided through design.

Significant impact assessment for TEC

Significant Impact Criteria	Significant Impact (Yes/No)	Response to Criteria
herbicides, or other chemicals or pollutants into the ecological community which kill or inhibit the growth of a species in the ecological community		
Interfere with the recovery of an ecological community	No	There are no TECs located within the Project Area. Vegetation communities within the Project Area that have the potential to be associated with TEC have been avoided through design.