



Whaleback Ridge Renewable Energy Project

EPBC ACT REFERRAL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION Terrestrial Natural Values

21st July 2026

For West Coast Renewable Energy

ERA031

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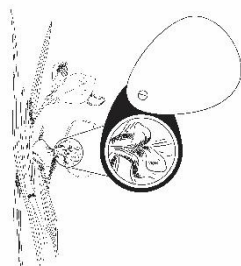
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	Background	1
1.1.	Project Description	1
1.2.	Site Surveys.....	1
1.3.	Site Characteristics.....	4
2.	Terrestrial & Aquatic Matters of National Environmental Significance	9
	References	18
	Appendix A – MNES Distribution and Ranges.....	23

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Whaleback Ridge Renewable Energy Project (the Project) is a large-scale wind energy project located on the west coast of Tasmania. The Project includes the development of up to 280 wind turbine generators (WTG's), with a projected generating capacity up to 2,800 MW. The Project Area is approximately 40,500 ha in size and lies in the central west coast region of Tasmania between Granville Harbour and Zeehan (Figure 1).

The Project will involve construction of collector substations and the installation of overhead and underground transmission lines within the Project Area to connect the Project to the existing Farrell-Reece 220 kV transmission line. The proponent has completed studies that would facilitate additional transmission for future stages as required.

A network of access roads within the Project Area will be developed (using existing access routes where possible). Other ancillary infrastructure required for the Project includes office and workshop facilities. The Project has a proposed design life of approximately 30 years, but it can be extended beyond this period with equipment upgrades.

The Project will be constructed and commissioned in stages to meet growing electricity demand and available transmission capacity.

The first stage is anticipated to be between 288-432 MW (representing three separate 144 MW connections into the Tasmanian transmission network). Depending on the final WTG model selected, this first stage could see the construction of approximately 50 WTGs plus transmission and site management infrastructure.

As the market demand increases and the wind farm stages progress, additional transmission capacity will be required to export electricity from the site, or opportunities may arise to use the generated electricity in the local region (such as the establishment of new green industries, or the use of power at nearby mineral processing facilities). The timing and size of subsequent stages of the Project are currently in development and will be influenced by market demand. Any future opportunities for transmission augmentation will be subject to separate approvals.

1.2. SITE SURVEYS

North Barker Ecosystem Services (NBES) has been engaged to investigate and assess the terrestrial natural values within the Project Area. To date, the following investigations have been undertaken:

Site reconnaissance – September 2025

A reconnaissance of the Project Area was conducted prior to the completion of the Natural Values Constraints Assessment to gain an understanding of the values present, site condition, and to generally scout the Project Area for accessibility and planning for subsequent surveys.

Natural Values Constraints Assessment – October 2025

This assessment identified predicted spatial distributions of potential environmental constraints, stratified in some cases by their level of environmental protection, genuine likelihood of occurrence, and the capacity for the client to moderate residual risk through fine-scale avoidance and/or targeted management and mitigation approaches, which will collectively inform later planning phases of the project as well as guide various aspects of the requirements for environmental approvals.

Key specific values identified in relation to the Project Area which may result in significant or high-risk approval constraints are as follows:

- Potential presence of high priority fauna values in relation to the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act):

- Habitat for high priority threatened fauna species and habitat elements, including the Tasmanian devil and spotted-tailed quoll, as well as numerous avian species.
- Potential presence of high priority flora and fauna values in relation to the Tasmanian *Nature Conservation Act 2002* (NC Act) / Tasmanian *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* (TSP Act):
 - Up to five NC Act listed vegetation communities;
 - Three TSP Act listed flora species, and habitat for further occurrences; and
 - Several TSP Act threatened fauna species (and habitats) known from the Project Area and broader west coast region.

Additional values have been investigated in relation to freshwater ecosystems, geoconservation, the Tasmanian reserve estate, and wilderness values, but these are unlikely to pose a significant approval constraint and/or should be feasible to avoid/manage with adequate planning and site selection.

Targeted Threatened Flora Surveys – February 2026

Two of the three species (*Comesperma defoliatum* and *Orthoceras strictum*) that have been identified in project guidance documentation¹ (and known from previous records within the Project Area) as requiring targeted assessments are dependent on niche environmental and disturbance variables that are poorly understood. Both species are listed as rare under the TSP Act.

As the Project Area is ~40,630 ha, it was not possible to obtain full site coverage in a single (or even multiple) flowering season for these species, also noting fire is a germination trigger for these species, and the most recent occurred in 2024/25, which provides optimal survey conditions across the next 2-3 seasons. Due to these constraints, our assessment is broken down into three phases:

Phase 1 – Desktop analysis – to determine key predictor variables to target during Phase 2;

Phase 2 – Field assessment – to validate results of Phase 1; and

Phase 3 – Analysis of results – to produce a habitat model that predicts the highest likelihood of occurrence based on verified survey observation data.

Habitat requirements and detectability of *Epacris curtisiae* are not as cryptic, as such, this species was not included in detailed desktop analysis and specific targeted surveys.

Targeted field surveys were conducted across 15 survey days in February. A total of 123 survey plots were assessed, with over 1,000 individuals of *Comesperma defoliatum* and 117 *Orthoceras strictum* recorded. These results were input into a spatial model, which will assist in predicting further occurrences and identifying areas to target in a second season of surveys (planned for summer 2026/27).

Baseline Natural Values Surveys – Spring/Summer 2026

Comprehensive baseline ground surveys are yet to be completed by NBES. These are scheduled to be undertaken in the latter half of 2026, with vegetation assessment, habitat suitability assessments for ground dwelling mammals, and habitat assessments for terrestrial elements required for avian species (such as mature and hollow-bearing trees).

A comprehensive camera trap survey to analyse presence/absence and habitat use for ground dwelling mammals is proposed for late winter/spring.

Baseline Eagle Nest Surveys – Winter 2026

Targeted eagle nest searches were conducted in June 2026. Results of this survey established that there are no known nests within the Project Area, and 3 known nests within 1 km of the Project Area. Two previously known nests within the Project Area have fallen and have been confirmed as absent.

¹ Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2024); Environment Protection Authority Tasmania (2024); Tasmanian Planning Commission (2024)



Figure 1: Location of the Project Area

1.3. SITE CHARACTERISTICS

The ecology of site is as varied as its geography, with low-lying valleys, steep rocky slopes, broad plateaus, and densely vegetated gullies all present. It is largely dominated by extensive ridges and plateaus of Mt Heemskirk (in the southwest of the Project Area) and the Meredith Range (in the northeast of the Project Area). These ranges are predominately comprised of hard unmetamorphosed quartzwacke turbidite sequences, undifferentiated alkali-feldspar granite and other quartz derived sediments and geologies. These ridges and plateaus are dominated by moorlands, with the adjacent gullies dominated by scrubs and other forest communities.

1.3.1. Vegetation

As predicted by TASVEG 5.0 mapping of the Project Area, the following extents of these vegetation types are anticipated to occur:

- 22,932 ha (56.4 % of the Project Area) of moorland sedgeland and rushland communities (Plate 1, Plate 2);
- 4,016 ha (9.9 %) of scrub, heathland and coastal complex communities (Plate 3);
- 663 ha (1.6 %) of dry eucalypt forest and woodland communities (Plate 4); and
- 131 ha (0.3 %) of non-eucalypt forest and woodland communities (Plate 5).

Around the Lake Pieman, associated major tributaries and surrounding low-lying valley bottoms is where large tracts of wet eucalypt forest and woodland and rainforest and related scrub vegetation communities are found. As predicted by TASVEG 5.0 mapping of the Project Area, the following extent of these vegetation types are anticipated to occur:

- 6,094 ha (15 %) of wet eucalypt forest and woodlands (Plate 6); and
- 5,053 ha (12.4 %) of rainforest and related scrub.

Several threatened vegetation communities are also predicted to occur², the full extent and presence of these communities is yet to be determined:

- 15.30 ha *Eucalyptus ovata* forest and woodland (Plate 7) – NC Act threatened vegetation
 - This community also has the potential to qualify for listed as the EPBC Act critically endangered Tasmanian Forests and Woodlands dominated by black gum or Brookers gum (*Eucalyptus ovata* / *E. brookeriana*).
- 1.98 ha of *Melaleuca ericifolia* swamp forest – NC Act threatened vegetation
- 0.21 ha of Rainforest fernland – NC Act threatened vegetation

In addition to these listed vegetation communities, one conservation significant vegetation community is predicted to be present:

- 114.77 ha of *Lagarostrobos franklinii* rainforest and scrub.

Existing disturbance across the Project Area is relatively minor, restricted to a range of formal roads, rough access tracks, quarries (Plate 8), transmission lines and their associated easements. The exclusion to this is the large, modified area around the Reece Dam (Plate 9) in the north of the Project Area that forms the impoundment for Lake Pieman.

The Project Area has been subject to recent widespread natural disturbance in the form of fire (Plate 10, Plate 11, Plate 12). In the last decade, there has been widespread fire across the Project Area in the following fire seasons:

- 2024/2025: 8,283 ha (22 % of the Project Area) burnt – Primarily in the Yellowband Plain bushfire,

² Based on TASVEG 5.0 mapping; Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2025)

- 2018/2019: 5,304 ha (14 % of the Project Area) burnt – From the Western Hills bushfire.

1.3.2. Threatened flora

Habitat for threatened flora is generally sparse, with only three species previously recorded within the Project Area. As per above, the targeted threatened flora surveys confirmed the presence of over 1,000 individuals of *Comesperma defoliatum* and 117 *Orthoceras strictum* (both TSP Act rare listed). Further surveys are likely to detect more of these species. The broad range of these species suggests that the local population will not be at risk from development associated with the Project; however it is unlikely that all individuals can be avoided.

The third threatened flora species known from the Project Area, *Epacris curtisiae* (TSP Act rare), requires flowering material to identify to species level. Confirmation of the presence and extent of this species will occur during baseline natural values surveys in spring/summer 2026. The population recorded within the Project Area is the southernmost population of this species.

To date, no flora species listed under the EPBC Act have been recorded from within the Project Area³. It is unlikely that any additional threatened flora species occur within the Project Area, including those listed under the EPBC Act (Table 1), unless small areas of serpentinite geologies are detected. This geology is known to host numerous threatened species and is generally uncommon in Tasmania.

1.3.3. Threatened fauna

The Project Area provides relatively sparse habitat opportunities for threatened terrestrial & aquatic fauna species. Of the species known from the area, habitat exists for the Australian grayling, spotted-tailed quoll, and the Tasmanian devil. These species are covered in more detail in Table 1.

Signs characteristics of the Tasmanian devil (presence of scat) were incidentally made during targeted flora surveys. From desktop analysis, it is anticipated that much of the Project Area provides unsuitable denning for devils and quolls based on the rocky and shallow soils of much of the moorlands. Optimal denning habitat is largely restricted the forested gullies, and suboptimal habitat is largely restricted to the interface between forests and moorlands.

Forested areas may also provide mature and hollow-bearing trees that may provide nesting opportunities for threatened avian fauna species such as the blue-winged parrot, grey goshawk, Tasmanian masked owl, Tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle, and the white-bellied sea eagle. Moorlands and shrublands may provide foraging habitat for the blue-winged parrot, and in areas closer to the coast, the orange-bellied parrot. Avian species are not discussed further in this document.

³ Natural Values Atlas data as of May 16th, 2026



Plate 1: Shrubby moorland vegetation, common in shallow gullies



Plate 2: Short moorland occurs predominantly on ridge lines



Plate 3: Shrubby heathland, with moorland elements occurs closer to the coast



Plate 4: Dry eucalypt forest on the shores of Lake Pieman



Plate 5: Tall tea tree forest in a low-lying area near Lake Pieman



Plate 6: Wet eucalypt forest with regenerating vehicle tracks



Plate 7: *Eucalyptus ovata* forest with weed infestation common on road margins



Plate 8: A disused quarry off Heemskirk Road



Plate 9: Reece Dam



Plate 10: Recently burnt eucalypt forest



Plate 11: Recently burnt moorland vegetation



Plate 12: Recently burnt shrubby moorland

2. TERRESTRIAL & AQUATIC MATTERS OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE

Table 1 details the terrestrial and aquatic Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) that are predicted to occur within the Project Area based on the EPBC Act Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST). This table provides a summary of habitat requirements and distribution and provides an assessment on the likelihood of occurrence and impacts. Maps displaying the distribution and range boundaries of these MNES are provided in Appendix A. Of the twenty-one MNES predicted to occur within the Project Area, one has been confirmed as present, two are likely to be present, two are unlikely to be present, five are highly unlikely to be present, and eleven have no chance of occurrence or direct, indirect, or significant impact.

Table 1: Terrestrial and aquatic MNES

Species	EPBC Act Status	PMST Assessment	Ecology	Likelihood of Occurrence	Likelihood of Direct Impacts	Likelihood of Indirect Impacts	Likelihood of Significant Impact	Commentary
THREATENED ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES								
Alpine <i>Sphagnum</i> Bogs and Associated Fens	Endangered	Community may occur within area	The Alpine <i>Sphagnum</i> Bogs and Associated Fens ecological community occurs in small pockets of the mountainous regions of Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory. It is typically found in alpine, subalpine and montane environments, often above the climatic tree line. It is important to note that the limit of tree vegetation is variable depending on topographic features and localised climatic conditions, such as the degree of cold air drainage at individual sites which may prevent the growth of trees. Consequently, this ecological community may also occur at sites with lower elevations, where local conditions and vegetation are equivalent to those of true alpine sites⁴. It can usually be defined by the presence or absence of sphagnum moss. However, there are some sites in the listed community where sphagnum moss is only a minor component, and the vegetation is dominated by shrubs or species such as <i>Empodisma minus</i>. There are also sites where sphagnum moss has been depleted or lost due to disturbance. In these cases, the site may still be considered to be part of the listed community if other key species are present, and an underlying layer of peat is evident⁵. As such, the ecological community consists of highly fragmented, isolated remnants, and its present geographic extent is restricted.	NOT ANTICIPATED	NONE	NONE	NONE	It is highly unlikely that this ecological community occurs within the Project Area. This is due to the entire Project Area being located outside of any areas containing alpine (or even subalpine) vegetation, with the maximum elevation of the Project Area reaching 750 m. The areas of the site that reach higher elevations have been observed (and more broadly mapped in TASVEG 5.0⁶) as containing moorlands, where cover of <i>Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus</i> (button grass) is greater than 10 %. As such these areas cannot support this ecological community. Furthermore, under the TASVEG 5.0 vegetation mapping of the Project Area, no alpine communities, nor any TASVEG communities that are typically associated with this ecological community (i.e. ASP – <i>Sphagnum</i> peatland) are mapped. The nearest mapped <i>Sphagnum</i> peatland is ~29 km NW of the Project Area at Knole Plain, south of Waratah (Figure A1). Therefore, it is considered extremely unlikely that this ecological community occurs within the Project Area. If it is discovered, avoidance principles will apply to ensure no direct or indirect impacts occur.
Giant Kelp Marine Forests of South East Australia	Endangered	Community may occur within area	Giant kelp (<i>Macrocystis pyrifera</i>) plants are the foundation species of this ecological community. Giant kelp is a large brown algae that grows on rocky reefs from the sea floor 8 m below sea level and deeper. Its fronds grow vertically toward the water surface, in cold temperate waters off southeast Australia⁷. Other components of this ecological community include a large range of marine algae, reef associated fish and numerous invertebrates that shelter, feed and reproduce within giant kelp marine forests. Within Australia, the giant kelp marine Forests are predominantly found in temperate southeastern waters where water conditions are cool, relatively nutrient rich and moderately calm⁸.	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	This marine ecological community has no chance of occurrence within the Project Area given its entirely terrestrial nature. As such, there is no chance of direct or indirect impacts to it. Although many of the waterways that intersect the Project Area flow into the ocean, it is highly unlikely that any indirect impacts (i.e. increased outflow of sedimentation) will occur. This is because a project-specific erosion and sedimentation plan (as prescribed in the EPA guidance documentation⁹) will mitigate increased sedimentation into the waterways, reducing any downstream impacts. Furthermore, this ecological community does not typically occur along the west coast of Tasmania (Figure A2), with it only being known to intermittently develop¹⁰. Therefore, there is no likelihood that the project will have any direct, indirect or significant impacts on the Giant Kelp Marine Forests of South East Australia ecological community.

⁴ Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (2009)

⁵ Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (2009); Tasmanian Vegetation Monitoring and Mapping Program (2022)

⁶ Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2025)

⁷ Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2013)

⁸ Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2013)

⁹ Environment Protection Authority Tasmania (2024)

¹⁰ Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2013)

Species	EPBC Act Status	PMST Assessment	Ecology	Likelihood of Occurrence	Likelihood of Direct Impacts	Likelihood of Indirect Impacts	Likelihood of Significant Impact	Commentary
Tasmanian Forests and Woodlands dominated by black gum or Brookers gum (<i>Eucalyptus ovata</i> / <i>E. brookeriana</i>)	Critically Endangered	Known within 500 m of the Project Area	The Tasmanian Forests and Woodlands dominated by black gum or Brookers gum (<i>Eucalyptus ovata</i> / <i>E. brookeriana</i>) ecological community is a type of eucalypt forest to woodland that is restricted to Tasmania. <i>Eucalyptus ovata</i> and <i>Eucalyptus brookeriana</i> are closely related and often confused, thus are considered together in the description of the ecological community¹¹. Both eucalypt species are associated with moist sites, occurring on the margins of swampy flats, valley bottoms and in well-drained gullies. These lowland landscapes often have poorly draining soils that are wet or seasonally waterlogged. The <i>E. ovata</i> facies of the community is strongly associated with soils that are typically fertile soils in depositional landforms. The understorey is often dominated by shrubs and/or sedges, with the mix of species present depending on several factors, notably the moisture regime and soil fertility at the site¹².	PRESENT	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	Small remnants of this ecological are present within the Tasmanian West bioregion. This increases the relative importance of the known patches within the Project Area. These patches total 15.30 ha in size and occur immediately north of the town of Zeehan (Figure A3). These patches have been identified as a priority constraint for avoidance in the design of the project. Furthermore, most of these patches are within a 1.5 km radius of Zeehan, as such, they are included within residential dwelling exclusion zones. It is highly unlikely that additional remnants occur outside of the of vicinity of the known extent. Baseline natural values surveys in spring 2026 will assess the condition of this ecological community. As avoidance of this threatened ecological community has been prioritised at the preliminary design phase, there is no anticipated direct or indirect impacts as a result of the Project.
Tasmanian white gum (<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i>) wet forest	Critically Endangered	Community likely to occur within area	Tasmanian white gum (<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i>) wet forest ecological community is a wet sclerophyll forest with a canopy dominated by <i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> and an understorey generally comprised of broad-leaved shrubs and ferns. This community occurs mainly on fertile, well-drained sites in the north of the state¹³. It occurs where fire is normally infrequent and rainfall is high (though may also occur in drier areas with reliable water supplies, such as river gullies). Its local expression is strongly influenced by disturbance history and fire regime¹⁴.	HIGHLY UNLIKELY	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	This community is limited to the range of its dominant canopy species, with it largely absent from the low nutrient environments of the west and south-west. As such, only 9 ha has been mapped within the Tasmanian West bioregion¹⁵. Although ground-truthing surveys have not been completed across the entirety of the Project Area, no <i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> dominated communities have been mapped under TASVEG 5.0, and no areas dominated by <i>E. viminalis</i> were observed during site reconnaissance and threatened flora surveys. As such, it is highly unlikely to be present within the Project Area. The nearest known occurrence is ~29 km south of the Project Area at Strahan (Figure A4). In the event that this ecological community is discovered within the Project Area (albeit highly unlikely), it is anticipated to be any occurrences will be highly concentrated and likely isolated to wet gullies. It is anticipated that any occurrences community will be avoided in the design phase as a priority constraint. Implementation of appropriate mitigation measures are likely to be sufficient to avoid any indirect impacts to the ecological community (such as weed invasion). Therefore, based on the characteristics of the community, the likelihood of occurrence and the ability for avoidance (should in the highly unlikely event that it is detected), it is not anticipated that the project will have any direct, indirect or significant impacts on the Tasmanian white gum (<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i>) wet forest ecological community.
THREATENED FLORA								
<i>Caladenia dienema</i> windswept spider-orchid	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	<i>Caladenia dienema</i> occurs in north-western Tasmania, growing in windswept low heathland among dwarfed shrubs and sedges on moist to well-drained sandy and clay loam ¹⁶ . Rocky outcrops and rocky open heathy woodland are strongly associated with many	HIGHLY UNLIKELY	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	The PMST has indicated that <i>Caladenia dienema</i> or suitable habitat may occur within the Project Area (Figure A5). The species however has not previously been recorded within 5 km (according to the Tasmanian Natural Values Atlas database). The nearest known observation of the species was made in 1983, approximately 15 km to the

¹¹ Department of the Environment and Energy (2019)

¹² Department of the Environment and Energy (2019)

¹³ Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2021b)

¹⁴ Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2021b)

¹⁵ Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2025)

¹⁶ Threatened Species Section (2010)

Species	EPBC Act Status	PMST Assessment	Ecology	Likelihood of Occurrence	Likelihood of Direct Impacts	Likelihood of Indirect Impacts	Likelihood of Significant Impact	Commentary
			occurrences of the species, but it can extend into shrubby forests, usually dominated by <i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>¹⁷. Flowers are required for the identification of this ground orchid, which dies back to subterranean tubers after flowering. Peak flowering is late October to early November, but this varies considerably. Specimens may require specialist confirmation because of confusion in the <i>Caladenia patersonii</i> species-complex¹⁸.					northwest in heathland to the south of the mouth of the Pieman River¹⁹. This record (and another nearby made at the same time) are the species southernmost observations. The species is most well-known from the Couta Rocks approximately 60 km north of the Project Area. TASVEG 5.0 mapping²⁰ of the Project Area indicates a limited amount of potentially suitable coastal scrub, occurring on the southwestern boundary of the Project Area. The species presences within this area would be considered a sizable range extension for the species. Thus, it is considered highly likely to be present. In the event that the species is discovered within the Project Area (albeit highly unlikely), as this species is a small ground orchid, it is anticipated that its occurrences will be highly concentrated and will most likely occur within 1.5 km of the coast, which is subject to an exclusion zone for other MNES habitat. As such, any occurrences will be avoided. Therefore, based on the habitat requirements, the likelihood of occurrence and the ability for avoidance (should in the highly unlikely event that it is detected) it is not anticipated that the project will have any direct, indirect or significant impacts on <i>Caladenia dienema</i>.
<i>Epacris glabella</i> smooth heath	Endangered		<i>Epacris glabella</i> is a Tasmanian endemic slender shrub. The species is highly restricted to ultramafic Cambrian serpentine-derived soils in heath, woodland and dry sclerophyll forest. The Renison Bell and Savage River subpopulations occur on ridges and midslopes at 300–500 m elevation (Figure A6). The Gordon River subpopulation is an outlier found in the southwest that occurs at lower elevations (~50 m elevation), on sparsely vegetated Precambrian quartzitic outcrops prone to occasional flooding²¹. It is best detected during its flowering period in spring. However, the growth form and leaf characteristics also allow <i>Epacris glabella</i> to be separated from other potentially co-occurring <i>Epacris</i> species²².	UNLIKELY	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	This species of <i>Epacris</i> is very strong associated with serpentinite derived substrates. These geologies are virtual absent from the Project Area. Only one area described as having a serpentinite derived geology is present within the Project Area. This area is described as consisting of layered peridotite, serpentinite and associated rocks²³. It is approximately 16 ha in size and is located approximately 2 km NE of the Heemskirk and Granville Harbour Road junction. On-ground investigation of this location has not yet occurred. From desktop analysis of the site, the vegetation is largely atypical for this species, dominated by wet forests and closed scrub. One patch of dry <i>Eucalyptus nitida</i> forest and woodland has been identified in the TASVEG 5.0 mapping²⁴. This patch of forest occurs ~2.5 km west of the Renison Bell population. The species presence within this area would be considered a sizable range extension for the species. Thus, it is considered unlikely to be present, but will be verified during spring surveys, which also coincide with the peak detection period for this species. In the event that the species is discovered within the Project Area, it is anticipated that its occurrences will be highly concentrated. As such, these plants will be easily avoidable. Therefore, based on the habitat requirements, the likelihood of occurrence and the ability for avoidance, it is not anticipated that the project will have any direct, indirect or significant impacts on <i>Epacris glabella</i>.
<i>Hiya distans</i> scrambling ground-fern	Endangered	Species or species habitat may occur within area	<i>Hiya distans</i> (formally known as <i>Hypolepis distans</i> ²⁵) is known only from the north-west and King Island in Tasmania (Figure A7). It occurs in wet scrubland bordering <i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i> swamp forest, disturbance-induced <i>Baloskion tetraphyllum</i> rushland, and	HIGHLY UNLIKELY	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	Suitable habitat is anticipated to occur across many parts of the Project Area, particularly in low-lying areas of wet forest around Lake Pieman. It is however unlikely that the species is present in any of these areas given that the species has

¹⁷ Threatened Species Section (2010); Jones (2024)

¹⁸ Threatened Species Section (2010); Jones (2024); Wapstra (2026)

¹⁹ Natural Values Atlas data as of May 16th, 2026

²⁰ Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2025)

²¹ Gibson *et al.* (1992); Threatened Species and Marine Section (2014); Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (2023b)

²² Threatened Species and Marine Section (2014)

²³ Mineral Resources Tasmania (2024)

²⁴ Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2025)

²⁵ de Salas & Baker (2025)

Species	EPBC Act Status	PMST Assessment	Ecology	Likelihood of Occurrence	Likelihood of Direct Impacts	Likelihood of Indirect Impacts	Likelihood of Significant Impact	Commentary
			from disturbed areas in wet eucalypt forest dominated by <i>Eucalyptus brookeriana</i> and <i>Acacia melanoxylon</i> . Soils tend to be high in organic matter with moderate to poor drainage, while all sites are in areas of moderate rainfall below 40 m elevation ²⁶ . The distinctive scrambling habit of this terrestrial fern and the 'train-track' branching pattern of its frond branches, allows it to be identified at any time of year ²⁷ .					not previously been recorded within the Tasmanian West bioregion ²⁸ , and the forested areas of the Project Area being >100 m above sea level. The nearest known observations of the species to the Project Area occur approximately 70 km to the north around Trowutta. The species presences within this area would be considered a significant range extension. Thus, it is considered unlikely to be present. In the event that the species is discovered within the Project Area (albeit unlikely), it is anticipated that its occurrences will be highly concentrated. As such, these plants will be easily avoidable. Therefore, based on the habitat requirements, the likelihood of occurrence and the ability for avoidance (should in the unlikely event that it is detected) it is not anticipated that the project will have any direct, indirect or significant impacts on <i>Hiya distans</i> .
<i>Pseudocephalozia paludicola</i> alpine leafy liverwort	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	<i>Pseudocephalozia paludicola</i> occurs on wet ground in subalpine grassland in the west of the State and on its central and eastern mountains. More broadly, other members of the <i>Pseudocephalozia</i> genera mostly occur on permanently damp mineral soil or over peat and are frequently found in moorland and sphagnous areas ²⁹ . This erect or nearly erect liverwort can be identified at any time of the year, but specialist confirmation is recommended ³⁰ .	HIGHLY UNLIKELY	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	Suitable habitat for this species is largely absent from the Project Area given that the Project Area occurs outside of the subalpine zone. However, some of the higher elevation areas, particularly around the upper slopes of Mt Heemskirk in the southwest of the Project Area may provide potentially suitable habitat. The nearest observation of this species to the Project Area occurs approximately 2 km to the west of the northwest corner of the Project Area. This observation is historical (made in 1980) along Corinna Road ³¹ (Figure A8). The observation has a high spatial inaccuracy (of 5 km) and was made in rainforest – A vegetation type not typically associated with the species ³² . Only one other observation of this species has been recorded within the bioregion, to the north of Mt Ramsay. The only suitable habitat present within the Project Area is around the slopes of Mt Heemskirk. It is highly unlikely that this species could be present elsewhere. If the species is discovered within the Project Area, it is anticipated that its occurrences will be easily avoidable. Therefore, based on the habitat requirements, the likelihood of occurrence and the ability for avoidance, it is not anticipated that the project will have any direct, indirect or significant impact on <i>Pseudocephalozia paludicola</i> .
THREATENED REPTILES								
<i>Carinascincus orocryptus</i> mountain skink	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	The Tasmanian mountain skink is an endemic skink restricted to the (i.e., above 1,000 m elevation), with a 'sky island' (alpine areas separated by lowland areas) distribution in southwestern and western Tasmania ³³ . It is a diurnal, insectivorous species that forages around the bases of trees and on the foliage of shrubs ³⁴ . The habitat critical to this species is dense alpine eucalypt woodlands with heath understorey in alpine areas above 1,000 m	HIGHLY UNLIKELY	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	NOT ANTICIPATED	It is highly unlikely that this species occurs within the Project Area. This is primarily due to the Project Area being located outside of any alpine vegetation areas, with the maximum elevation of the Project Area reaching 750 m. The nearest observation of this species was made approximately 12 km to the east near the Montezuma Falls Tracks in 2011 ³⁶ (Figure A9). Comments attached to the record state that the observation was of an "adult basking on a log in regenerating rainforest". The low elevation of the observation (at approximately 350 m above sea

²⁶ Threatened Species Section (2012); Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2021a)
²⁷ Garrett (1996); Threatened Species Section (2012)
²⁸ Natural Values Atlas data as of May 16th, 2026
²⁹ Scott (1985); Schuster (2000); Threatened Species Section (2003); Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (2008)
³⁰ Forest Practices Authority (2026)
³¹ Natural Values Atlas data as of May 16th, 2026
³² Scott (1985); Schuster (2000); Threatened Species Section (2003); Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (2008)
³³ Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (2022); Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (2023a); Wilson & Swan (2025)
³⁴ Wilson & Swan (2025)
³⁶ Natural Values Atlas data as of May 16th, 2026

Species	EPBC Act Status	PMST Assessment	Ecology	Likelihood of Occurrence	Likelihood of Direct Impacts	Likelihood of Indirect Impacts	Likelihood of Significant Impact	Commentary
			elevation (though this may change due to climate change) in southwestern and western Tasmania ³⁵ .					level) and the vegetation it was made in are not typical of this alpine heathy eucalypt woodland species. This suggests that this observation may be erroneous. Therefore, based on the habitat requirements and the likelihood of occurrence it is not anticipated that the project will have any direct, indirect or significant impact on <i>Carinascincus orocryptus</i> .
THREATENED TERRESTRIAL MAMMALS								
<i>Dasyurus maculatus maculatus</i> spotted-tailed quoll	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	Spotted-tailed quolls are naturally rare forest-dwellers, most commonly inhabiting large areas of rainforest, wet forest and blackwood swamp forest. They forage and hunt over a variety of habitats, travelling up to 20 km at night. They shelter in logs, rocks or thick vegetation³⁷. Potential denning habitat³⁸ includes: - any forest remnant (>0.5 ha) in a cleared landscape that is structurally complex (high canopy, with dense understorey and ground vegetation cover), free from the risk of inundation, or - a rock outcrop, rock crevice, rock pile, burrow with a small entrance, hollow logs, large piles of coarse woody debris and caves. Spotted-tailed quolls appear to be opportunistic in their den selection (though maternal dens are likely to be selected from the highest quality den sites). Habitat that is critical to the survival of the spotted-tailed quoll includes large patches of forest with adequate denning resources and relatively high densities of medium-sized mammalian prey³⁹.	HIGHLY LIKELY	UNLIKELY	LIKELY	LIKELY	Based on the preliminary observations of select areas of the Project Area and desktop analysis of the entire Project Area more broadly (including analysis of topography, vegetation, and habitat modelling) there are large areas that are likely to be considered as habitat critical to the survival of the species. It is likely that these habitat areas support sufficient prey to meet the definition of habitat critical to survival of the species. Furthermore, the Tasmanian Forest Practices Authority defines significant habitat as all potential denning habitat within the core range⁴⁰. Whilst the Project Area is well outside of the core range of this species⁴¹ (thus outside significant habitat), it is within the potential range of the species (Figure A10). The western boundary of the Project Area also overlaps with a key site for this species described as the coastal strip between Strahan and Temma⁴². Furthermore, this species is well known within 5 km and has been observed twice within the Project Area, one of which is attributed to roadkill⁴³. As this species is highly mobile it is unlikely that any direct impacts will occur to individuals as they will be flushed during construction activities. There remains a very low chance that individuals may be injured or killed during construction and operation due to vehicle collisions. A project-specific roadkill management plan will be developed and implemented to reduce this risk. Thus, it is unlikely that any direct impacts will occur to this species. Indirect impacts to the species, such as disturbance to breeding sites may occur; however, the development of a den management plan will provide measures to mitigate this risk to a level where residual impacts are not significant. In the design phase of the project, it is anticipated that optimal denning habitat will be avoided to the degree possible, with turbines to be sited outside of this habitat; however, linear infrastructure such as roads and transmission may not be able to completely avoid this habitat. Even with mitigation measures in place, our preliminary assessment is that the Project is likely to trigger at least one of the significant impact criteria for vulnerable species⁴⁴.
<i>Sarcophilus harrisii</i> Tasmanian devil	Endangered	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	The Tasmanian devil is endemic to Tasmania and is the largest extant carnivorous marsupial in Australia. Occupying a diverse range of habitats, they thrive in landscapes featuring a mosaic of pasture and forest with heightened prey densities. Additionally, it	HIGHLY LIKELY	UNLIKELY	LIKELY	LIKELY	Although comprehensive or targeted surveys for this species have not been completed (as of the writing of this documents), characteristic signs (i.e. scats) have been observed within the Project Area. Furthermore, this species is well known within 5 km, with 98 observations occurring within the Project Area, 17 of which are attributed to roadkill ⁵² (Figure A11).

³⁵ Melville & Swain (2000); Chapple *et al.* (2017); Wilson & Swan (2025)
³⁷ Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2020); Threatened Species Section (2023); Forest Practices Authority (2025)
³⁸ Forest Practices Authority (2025)
³⁹ Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (2016)
⁴⁰ Forest Practices Authority (2025)
⁴¹ Forest Practices Authority (2026)
⁴² Bryant & Jackson (1999)
⁴³ Natural Values Atlas data as of May 16th, 2026
⁴⁴ Department of the Environment and Heritage (2013)
⁵² According to the Tasmanian Natural Values Atlas; Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2026)

Species	EPBC Act Status	PMST Assessment	Ecology	Likelihood of Occurrence	Likelihood of Direct Impacts	Likelihood of Indirect Impacts	Likelihood of Significant Impact	Commentary
			is drawn to roadkill hotspots due to concentrated scavenging resources⁴⁵. Potential denning habitat for the Tasmanian devil includes areas of well-drained soil, log piles, or sheltered overhangs such as cliffs, rocky outcrops or rock piles, knolls, caves and earth banks, and with at least one entrance through which a devil could pass. These areas are typically free from risk of inundation⁴⁶. The Draft Tasmanian Devil Recovery Plan⁴⁷ states that critical devil habitat includes: 1) All disease-free ⁴⁸ areas within mainland Tasmania with suitable devil habitat; and 2) All areas of pre-disease core habitat; and 3) Areas that may be required under the recovery program for the future introduction of Tasmanian devils. Populations have undergone significant decline since the initial observations of the infectious cancer DFTD, which has now spread extensively across much of Tasmania⁴⁹. The diminished population is more susceptible to additional threats such as fatalities from roadkill, competition with cats, and the loss or disturbance of areas surrounding traditional dens where young are raised⁵⁰. The protection of breeding opportunities is crucial for the species, given the added pressures from demographic factors leading to mortalities⁵¹.					Based on the preliminary observations of select areas of the Project Area and desktop analysis of the entire Project Area more broadly (including analysis of topography, vegetation, and habitat modelling) there are large areas that are likely to be considered as potential denning habitat. It is also likely that significant habitat⁵³ is present within Project Area. The Project Area is not within an area of pre-disease core habitat, except for a narrow coastal band, as defined in the draft recovery plan⁵⁴. As this species is highly mobile it is unlikely that any direct impacts will occur to individuals as they will be flushed during construction activities. There remains a low chance that individuals may be injured or killed during construction and operation due to vehicle collisions. A project-specific roadkill management plan will be developed and implemented to reduce this risk. Thus, it is unlikely that any direct impacts will occur to this species. Indirect impacts to the species, such as disturbance to breeding sites may occur; however, the development of a den management plan will provide measures to mitigate this risk to a level where residual impacts are not significant. In the design phase of the project, it is anticipated that optimal denning habitat will be avoided to the degree possible, with turbines to be sited outside of this habitat; however, linear infrastructure such as roads and transmission may not be able to completely avoid this habitat. Even with mitigation measures in place, our preliminary assessment is that the Project has a small likelihood of triggering at least one of the significant impact criteria for endangered species⁵⁵.
THREATENED AQUATIC, MIGRATORY & MARINE FAUNA								
<i>Prototroctes maraena</i> Australian grayling	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	The Australian grayling is a diadromous species, migrating between fresh and marine waters to complete its life cycle⁵⁶. Adults live and breed in freshwater rivers, and the larvae are swept downstream into coastal waters. Juveniles then remain in marine waters for about six months before returning to the freshwater adult habitat⁵⁷. When in freshwater they primarily inhabiting rivers and streams, usually in cool, clear waters with a gravel substrate and alternating pool and riffle zones, but can also occur in turbid water. The species can penetrate well inland and has been reported from over 100 km upstream from the sea⁵⁸.	UNLIKELY	NOT ANTICIPATED	LIKELY	NOT ANTICIPATED	The Australian grayling has not been recorded from within 5 km of the Project Area since 1987 where several observations of the species were made in Lake Pieman⁶². This was 1 year after the construction of the lake. The Inland Fisheries Service have no knowledge of graylings being present in the lake, suggesting that they are likely absent from all sub catchments that drain into the lake⁶³. Reece Dam presents too great of a barrier for fish movement for this species to remain viable in the lake. There is some chance however that the species is present in minor tributaries elsewhere in the Project Area (Figure A12). Targeted surveys of all waterways that are connected to the ocean is required to accurately determine presence/absence of this species. Until such time, a conservative approach should be taken, thus this species should be assumed present.

⁴⁵ Threatened Species Section (2026b); Forest Practices Authority (2025); Bryant & Jackson (1999)

⁴⁶ Smith (2012); Forest Practices Authority (2025)

⁴⁷ Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (2010)

⁴⁸ 'Disease' refers to Devil Facial Tumour Disease (DFTD), the most significant threat to devils

⁴⁹ Cunningham *et al.* (2021)

⁵⁰ Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2009a); Woods *et al.* (2018); Gallinson (2022)

⁵¹ Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2009a); Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (2010); Threatened Species Section (2026b)

⁵³ Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (2010)

⁵⁴ Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (2010)

⁵⁵ Department of the Environment and Heritage (2013)

⁵⁶ McDowall (1980); Berra (1982); Department of Primary Industries (2006); Backhouse *et al.* (2008); Threatened Species Section (2024); Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (2025)

⁵⁷ McDowall (1980); Berra (1982); Threatened Species Section (2024)

⁵⁸ Jackson & Koehn (1988); Backhouse *et al.* (2008)

⁶² Natural Values Atlas data as of May 16th, 2026

⁶³ Pers. Comms. Chris Wisniewski – Inland Fisheries Service, 2023

Species	EPBC Act Status	PMST Assessment	Ecology	Likelihood of Occurrence	Likelihood of Direct Impacts	Likelihood of Indirect Impacts	Likelihood of Significant Impact	Commentary
			They occur in coastal rivers and streams throughout New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania. In Tasmania, they have been found in northern, eastern, and western rivers, but has so far not been recorded from the south-west⁵⁹. Given the wide distribution and range of habitats used by this species throughout its life, the National Recovery Plan for this species has specified that “it is not practical to specify habitat that is critical to survival as all habitat where Australian grayling potentially occur. However, some habitats such as spawning, refuge and juvenile habitats are likely to be limited in distribution, yet crucial to the grayling’s life cycle.”⁶⁰. The National Recovery Plan has however nominated important rivers systems for this species. These are described as rivers at the limits of the species’ range, and those known to contain large breeding populations or occur in areas with extensive spawning habitat⁶¹.					Direct impacts to this species are not anticipated; however, it is likely that indirect impacts may occur to potential habitat waterways, leading to indirect impact this species. These indirect impacts take the form of changes to hydrology, altered fish passage and increased erosion and sedimentation into the waterways. To mitigate the indirect impacts to this species the following measures (but not limited to) must be taken: - Development and implementation of a project-specific Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan – as outlined in the EPA guidance documentation⁶⁴, - Waterway crossings must maintain fish passage – as guided by fish sensitive design guidelines such as the FPA Technical Note No. 15 - Culverts⁶⁵ If adequate avoidance and mitigation measures are applied for the proposal, significant residual impacts to the Australian grayling are not anticipated.
<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i> blue whale	Endangered Migratory Marine	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	In the southern hemisphere, these whales typically remain below 40 degrees south during the summer months, later migrating northward beyond Tasmania and along the Australian coastline as winter approaches. They are only very occasionally observed off the coast of Tasmania⁶⁶ (Figure A13). Outside of recognised feeding areas, this species (including recognised subspecies) is presumed to feed at depths off the west coast of Tasmania⁶⁷. The exact breeding locations of southern hemisphere blue whales remain unknown, yet it is believed that they are situated within the deep oceanic expanses of the tropical South Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans⁶⁸.	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	Based on the entirely terrestrial nature of the Project Area (set back >100 m from the coastal edge) and the entirely marine ecology of this species, there is no chance of their occurrence within the Project Area, and no chance of indirect impacts as a result of the Project.
<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i> great white shark	Vulnerable Migratory Marine	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	Great white sharks are widely, but not evenly, distributed in Australian waters (Figure A14). Areas where observations are more frequent include waters in and around some fur seal and sea lion colonies such as the Neptune Islands (South Australia); areas of the Great Australian Bight as well as the Recherche Archipelago and the islands off the SW coast of Western Australia. Juveniles appear to aggregate seasonally in certain key areas including the 90 Mile Beach area of eastern Victoria and the coastal region between Newcastle and Forster in NSW⁶⁹.	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	Based on the entirely terrestrial nature of the Project Area (set back >100 m from the coastal edge) and the entirely marine ecology of this species, there is no chance of their occurrence within the Project Area, and no chance of indirect impacts as a result of the Project.
<i>Caperea marginata</i> pygmy right whale	Migratory Marine	Foraging, feeding or related behaviour may	Pygmy right whales are enigmatic marine mammals, and their elusive nature makes it challenging to gather comprehensive data on their habitat characteristics⁷⁰.	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	Based on the entirely terrestrial nature of the Project Area (set back >100 m from the coastal edge) and the entirely marine ecology of this species, there is no chance of their occurrence within the Project Area, and no chance of indirect impacts as a result of the Project.

⁵⁹ Threatened Species Section (2024); Department of Natural Resources and Environment (2026)

⁶⁰ Backhouse *et al.* (2008)

⁶¹ Threatened Species Section (2024); Backhouse *et al.* (2008)

⁶⁴ Environment Protection Authority Tasmania (2024)

⁶⁵ Forest Practices Authority (2014)

⁶⁶ Shirihai & Jarrett (2021); Bryant & Jackson (1999)

⁶⁷ Department of the Environment (2015)

⁶⁸ Branch *et al.* (2007)

⁶⁹ Last & Stevens (2009); Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (2013); CSIRO Australia (2021)

⁷⁰ Kemper (2002); Shirihai & Jarrett (2021)

Species	EPBC Act Status	PMST Assessment	Ecology	Likelihood of Occurrence	Likelihood of Direct Impacts	Likelihood of Indirect Impacts	Likelihood of Significant Impact	Commentary
		occur within area	This species exclusively inhabits the Southern Ocean, usually within waters spanning temperatures between 5 and 20 degrees Celsius. While the exact distribution and specific utilisation of habitat by these whales remain unknown, occasional sightings have been reported around Tasmania throughout the year ⁷¹ (Figure A15).					
<i>Eubalaena australis</i> southern right whale	Endangered Migratory Marine	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	These whales undertake a northward migration from their feeding grounds in high latitudes to the warmer waters adjacent to mainland Australia for breeding ⁷² . Notably, their migration, occurring between May and November, offers a reliable opportunity for observation off the Tasmanian coast, especially in the east and southeast. A segment of the population tends to linger off the Tasmanian coast for the entire breeding season ⁷³ . The recognized breeding ground for the southern right whale is off Logan Beach in Warrnambool, although certain individuals have been observed giving birth in Tasmanian waters ⁷⁴ . Mother and calf pairs are often seen foraging off the Tasmanian coasts (Figure A16). This species is known to approach the shore ⁷⁵ .	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	Based on the entirely terrestrial nature of the Project Area (set back >100 m from the coastal edge) and the entirely marine ecology of this species, there is no chance of their occurrence within the Project Area, and no chance of indirect impacts as a result of the Project.
<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i> school shark	Conservation Dependent	Species or species habitat may occur within area	The school shark occurs throughout the temperate coastal waters of southern Australia ⁷⁶ . They are mainly found in demersal waters, over the continental and insular shelves, but also over the upper slopes, in depths from near shore to 550 m. Inshore areas are particularly important as birthing and nursery sites ⁷⁷ . The school shark moves extensively throughout the waters of southern Australia, from Moreton Bay, in southern Queensland, to Perth, Western Australia, including offshore waters of Lord Howe Island and Tasmania ⁷⁸ (Figure A17).	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	Based on the entirely terrestrial nature of the Project Area (set back >100 m from the coastal edge) and the entirely marine ecology of this species, there is no chance of their occurrence within the Project Area, and no chance of indirect impacts as a result of the Project.
<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i> dusky dolphin	Migratory Marine	Species or species habitat may occur within area	Dusky dolphins occur mostly in temperate and sub-Antarctic waters ⁷⁹ . They are considered to primarily inhabit inshore waters but may also be pelagic at times. They are believed to occur in the southeast and southwest regions of both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans ⁸⁰ . Records of the species are sparse in Australia and around Tasmania ⁸¹ (Figure A18).	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	Based on the entirely terrestrial nature of the Project Area (set back >100 m from the coastal edge) and the entirely marine ecology of this species, there is no chance of their occurrence within the Project Area, and no chance of indirect impacts as a result of the Project.
<i>Lamna nasus</i> porbeagle	Migratory Marine	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area	This species occurs in Australian waters from southern Queensland to south-west Australia. Animals typically occur in oceanic waters off the continental shelf, although they occasionally enter coastal waters (Figure A19), but these movements are temporary ⁸² .	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	Based on the entirely terrestrial nature of the Project Area (set back >100 m from the coastal edge) and the entirely marine ecology of this species, there is no chance of their occurrence within the Project Area, and no chance of indirect impacts as a result of the Project.

⁷¹ Kemper (2002); (2009)
⁷² Bryant & Jackson (1999); Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (2024); Threatened Species Section (2026a)
⁷³ Threatened Species Section (2026a)
⁷⁴ Stamation *et al.* (2020)
⁷⁵ Bryant & Jackson (1999)
⁷⁶ Last & Stevens (2009)
⁷⁷ Last & Stevens (2009); Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2009b)
⁷⁸ Last & Stevens (2009); Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2009b)
⁷⁹ Shirihai & Jarrett (2021)
⁸⁰ Perrin *et al.* (2009)
⁸¹ Atlas of Living Australia (2026)
⁸² Last & Stevens (2009)

Species	EPBC Act Status	PMST Assessment	Ecology	Likelihood of Occurrence	Likelihood of Direct Impacts	Likelihood of Indirect Impacts	Likelihood of Significant Impact	Commentary
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> humpback whale	Migratory Marine	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	Humpback whales are the most frequently spotted whale species along the Tasmanian coast, commonly seen both offshore and within expansive river mouths like the Tamar River ⁸³ . These whales are frequently observed feeding in Tasmanian waters as they migrate north to their breeding grounds in Queensland and Western Australia from their Southern Ocean foraging grounds ⁸⁴ . The peak periods for sightings off Tasmania are typically between May and July, as well as from September to November, coinciding with their migration south for the summer and north for the winter ⁸⁵ . This species is known to approach the shore (Figure A20). The confirmed breeding grounds for the humpback whale are off the coasts of Queensland and northern Western Australia, although some individuals have been known to give birth in Tasmanian waters ⁸⁶ .	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	Based on the entirely terrestrial nature of the Project Area (set back >100 m from the coastal edge) and the entirely marine ecology of this species, there is no chance of their occurrence within the Project Area, and no chance of indirect impacts as a result of the Project.
<i>Seriolella brama</i> blue warehou	Conservation Dependent	Species or species habitat known to occur within area	The blue warehou is a benthopelagic species that inhabits continental shelf and slope waters (Figure A21). Adults can be found at depths from 50 m to 300 m. Blue warehou is a schooling fish and they usually aggregate close to the seabed ⁸⁷ .	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	Based on the entirely terrestrial nature of the Project Area (set back >100 m from the coastal edge) and the entirely marine ecology of this species, there is no chance of their occurrence within the Project Area, and no chance of indirect impacts as a result of the Project.

⁸³ Bryant & Jackson (1999); Shirihihi & Jarrett (2021)
⁸⁴ Andrews-Goff *et al.* (2018)
⁸⁵ Bryant & Jackson (1999); Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2022)
⁸⁶ McPhee-Frew *et al.* (2025)
⁸⁷ Threatened Species Scientific Committee (2015); Bray (2021)

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APPENDIX A – MNES DISTRIBUTION AND RANGES

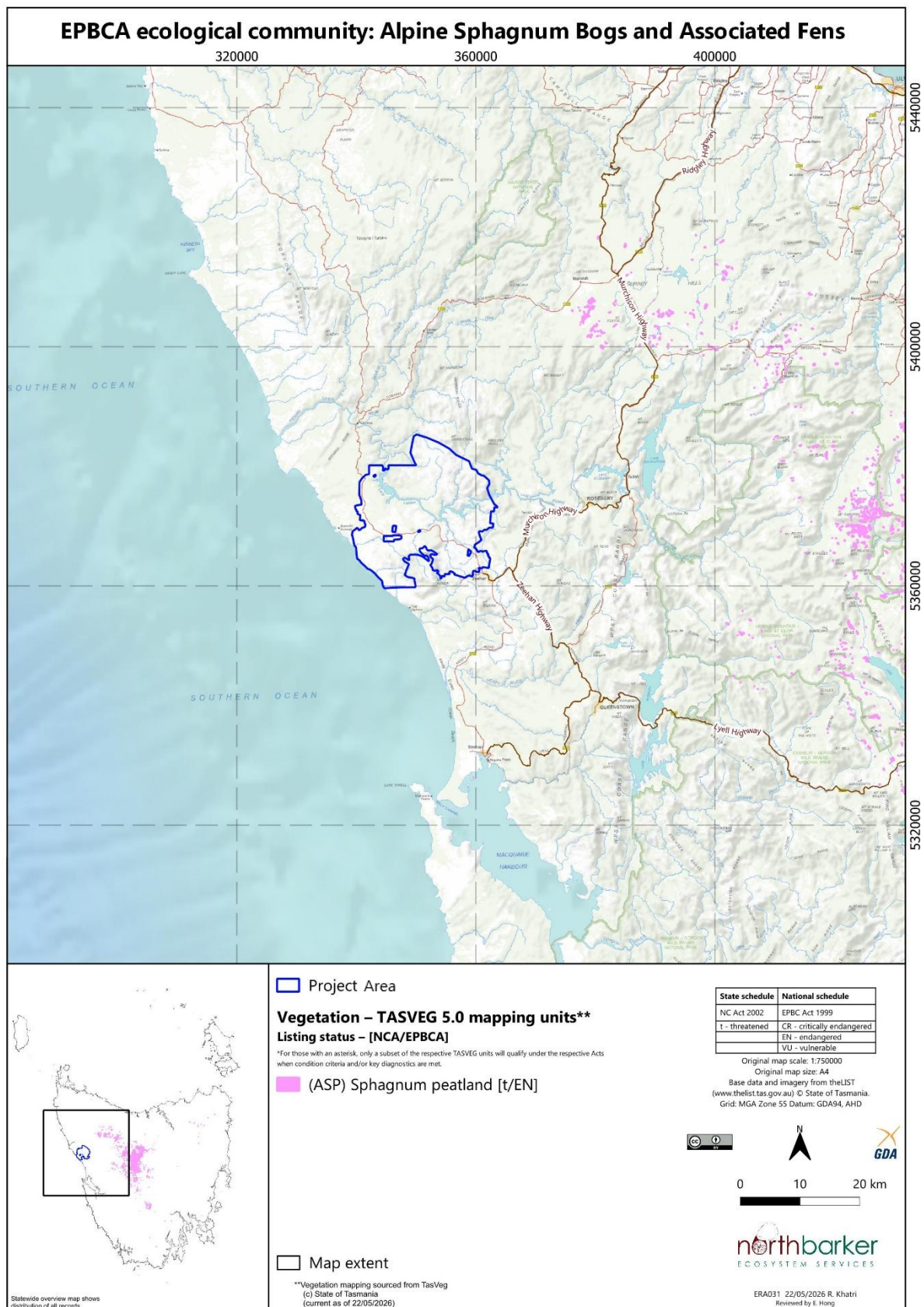


Figure A1: Distribution of *Sphagnum* peatland in Tasmania

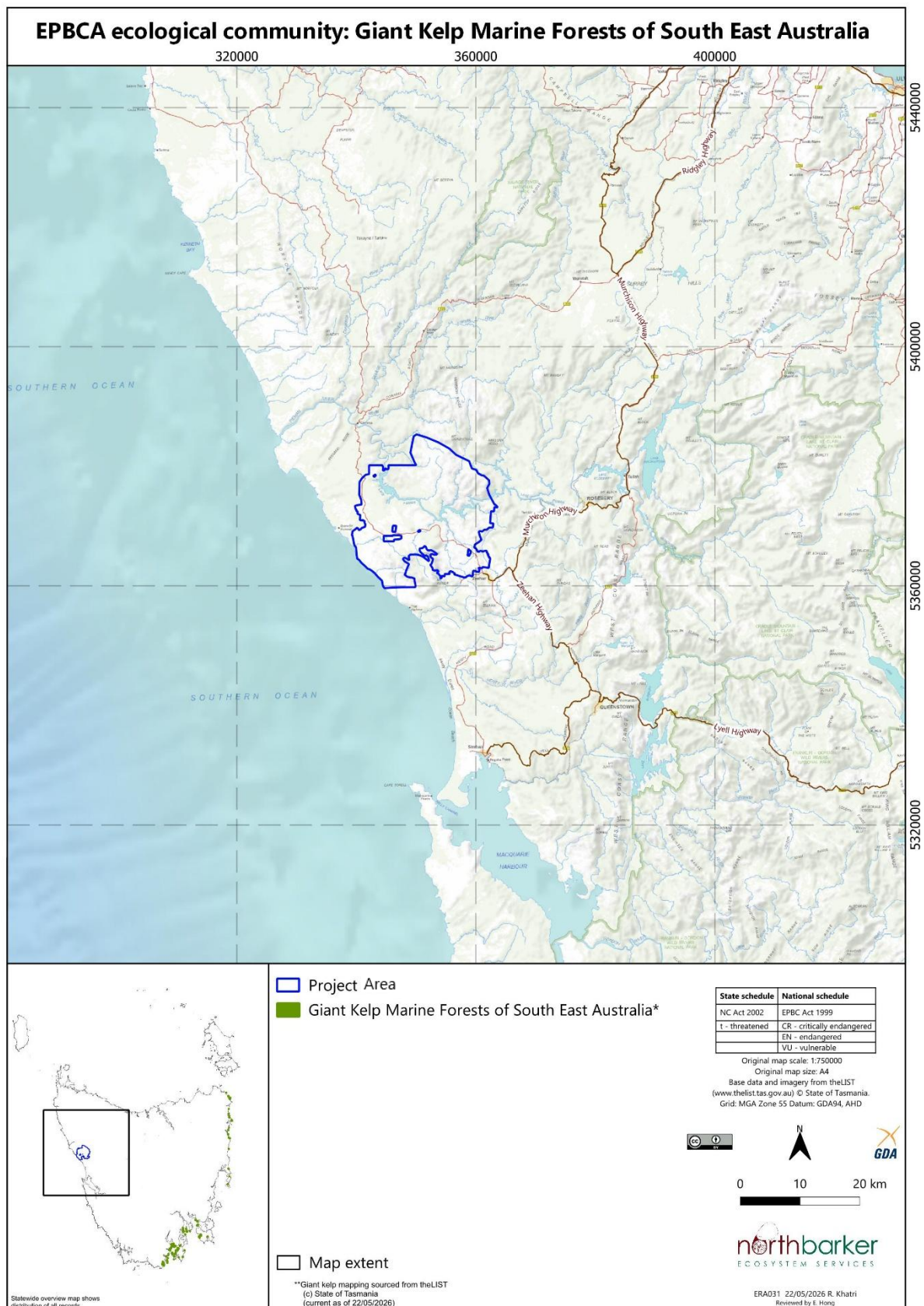


Figure A2: Distribution of giant kelp forests in Tasmania

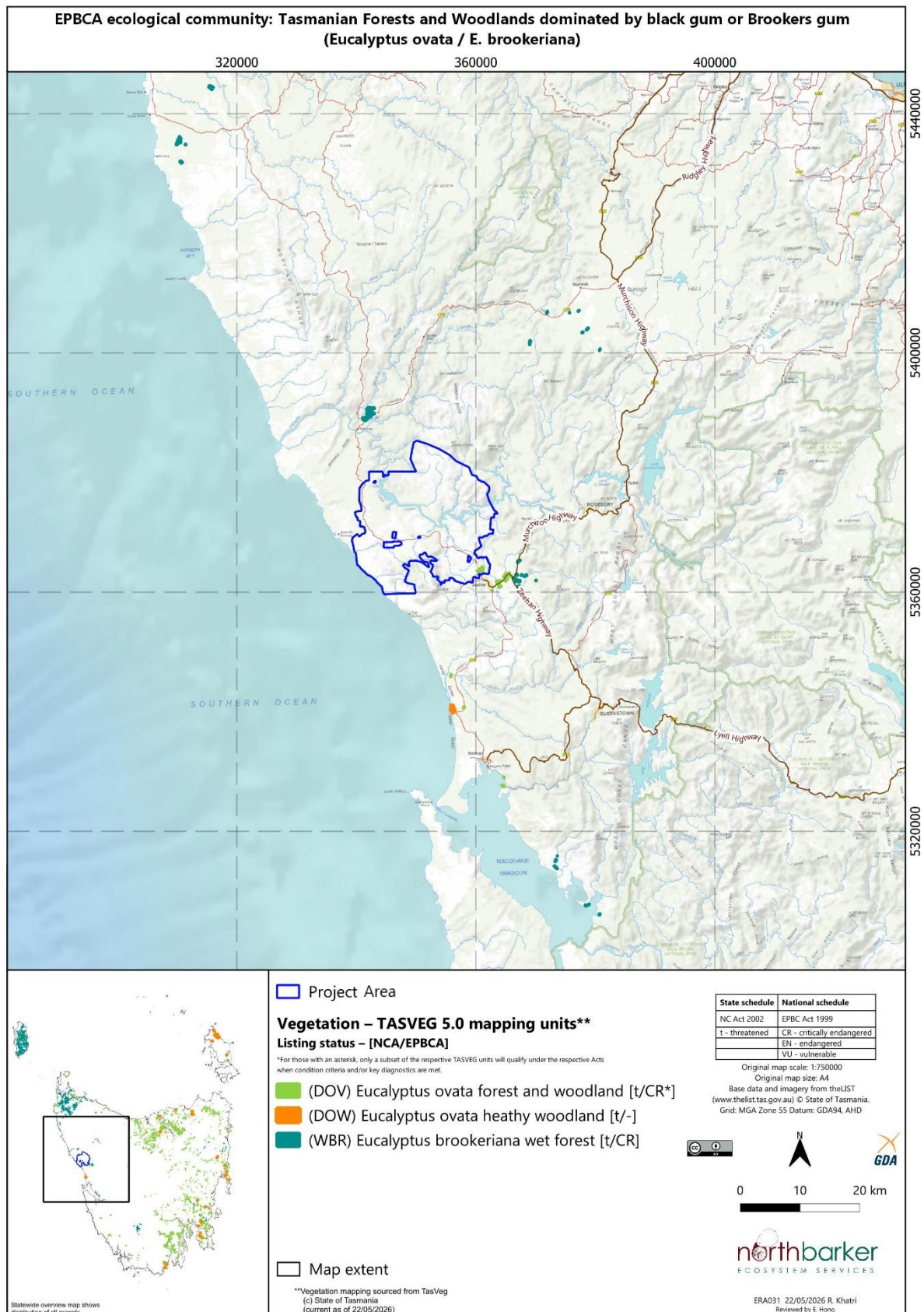


Figure A3: Distribution of vegetation units that may qualify for listing as Tasmanian Forests and Woodlands Dominated by Black Gum / Brooker's Gum

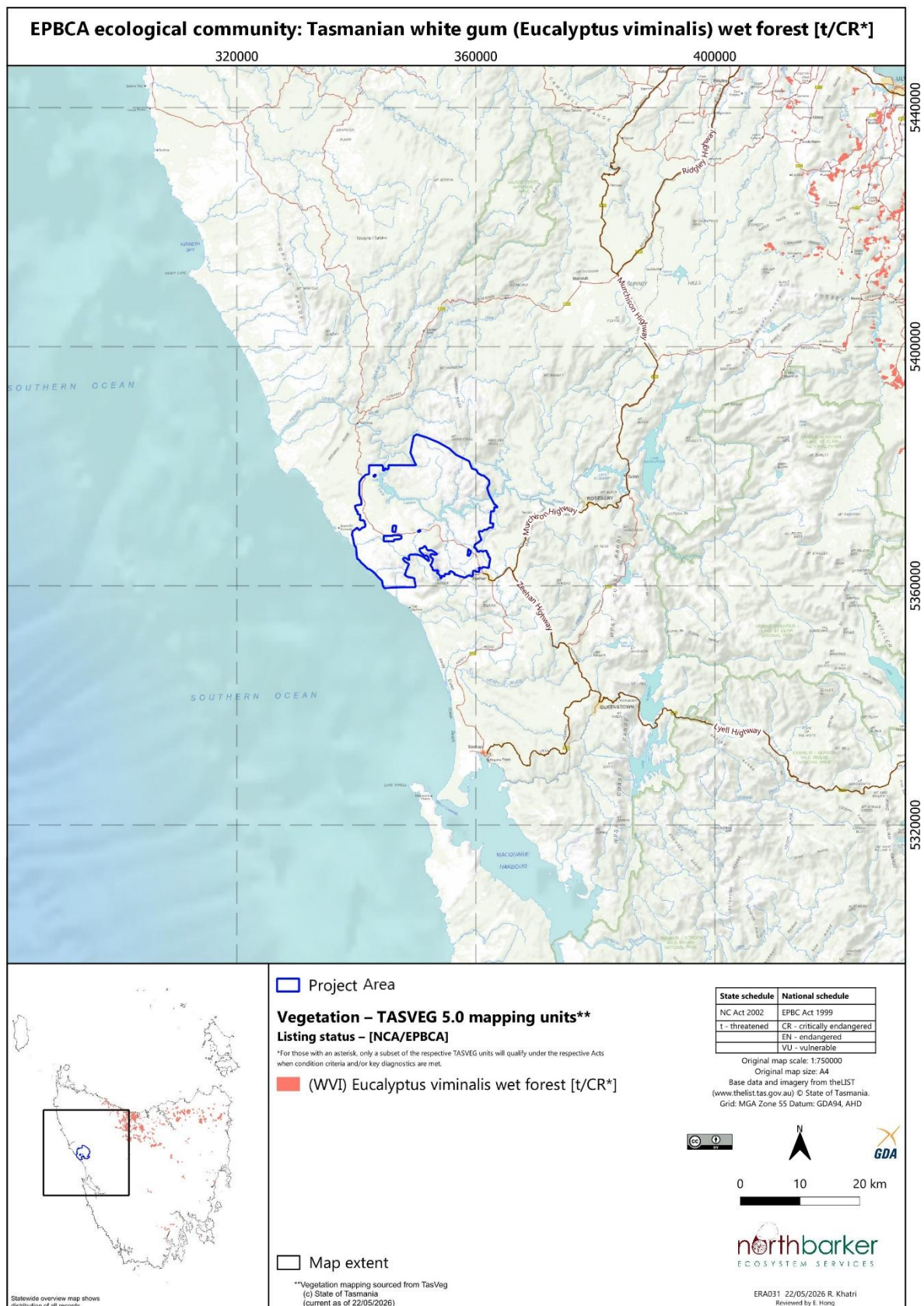


Figure A4: Distribution of vegetation units that may qualify for listing as Tasmanian White Gum Wet Forest

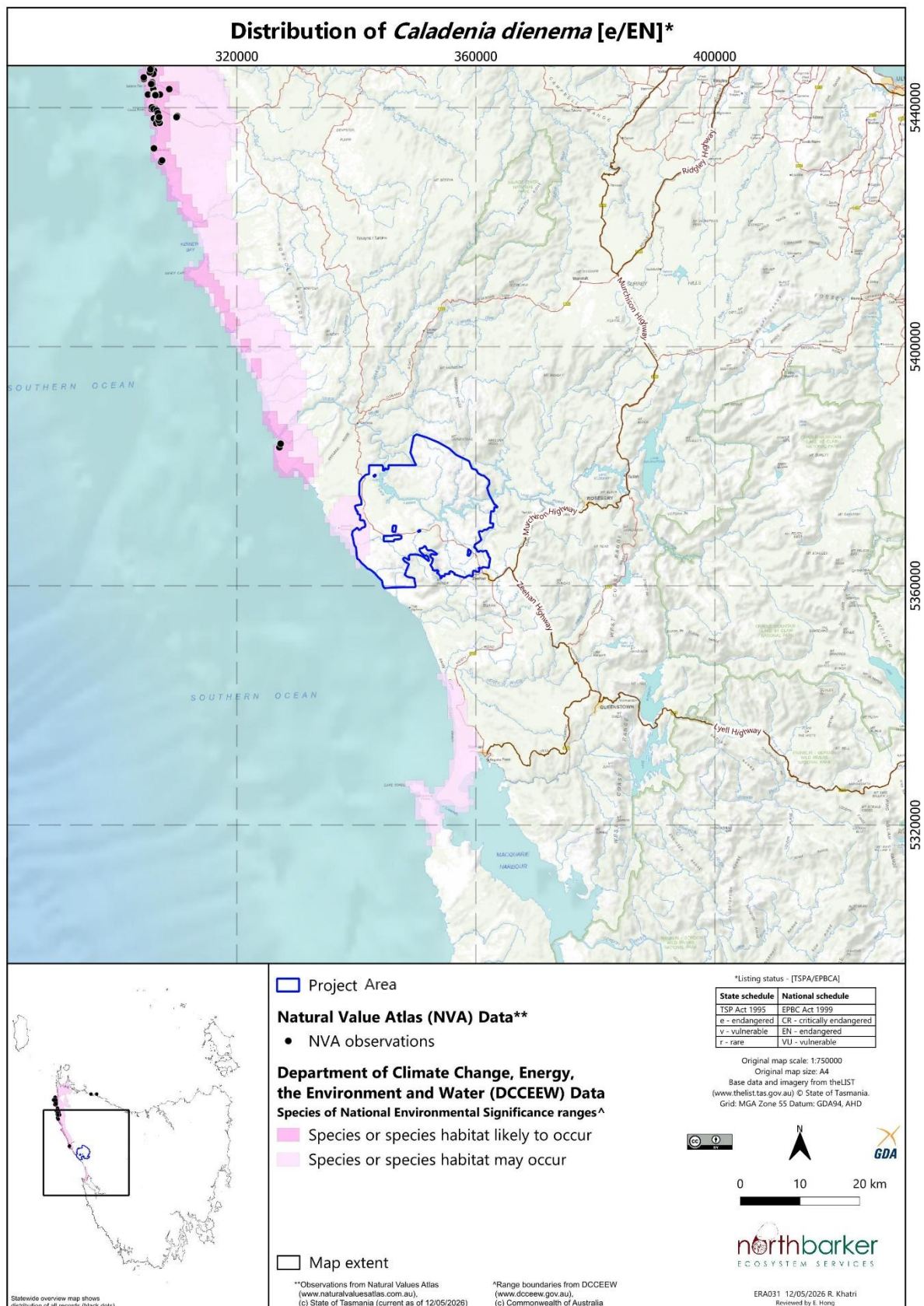


Figure A5: Distribution of *Caladenia dienema* records and potential habitat ranges

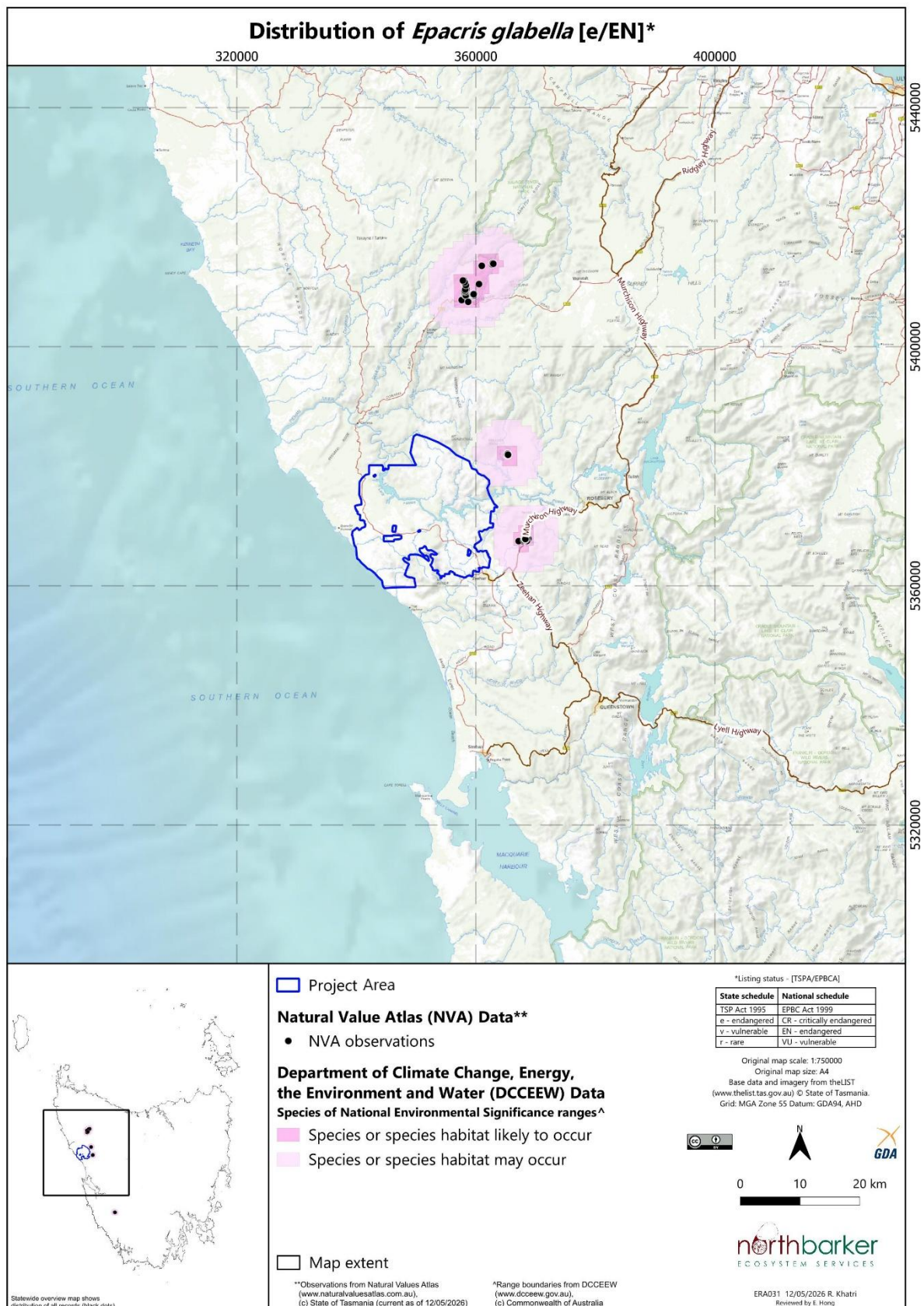


Figure A6: Distribution of *Epacris glabella* records and potential habitat ranges

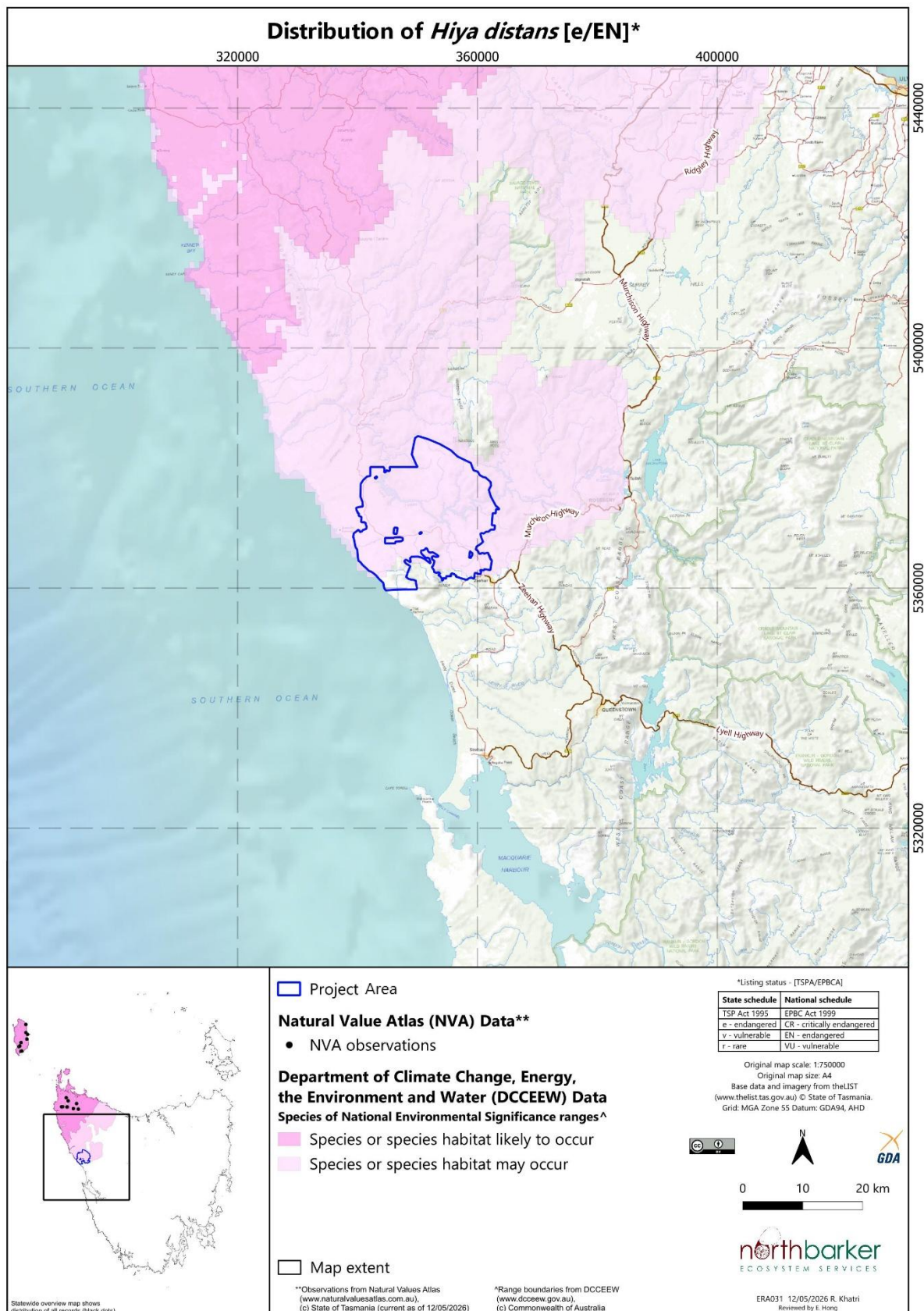


Figure A7: Distribution of *Hiya distans* records and potential habitat ranges

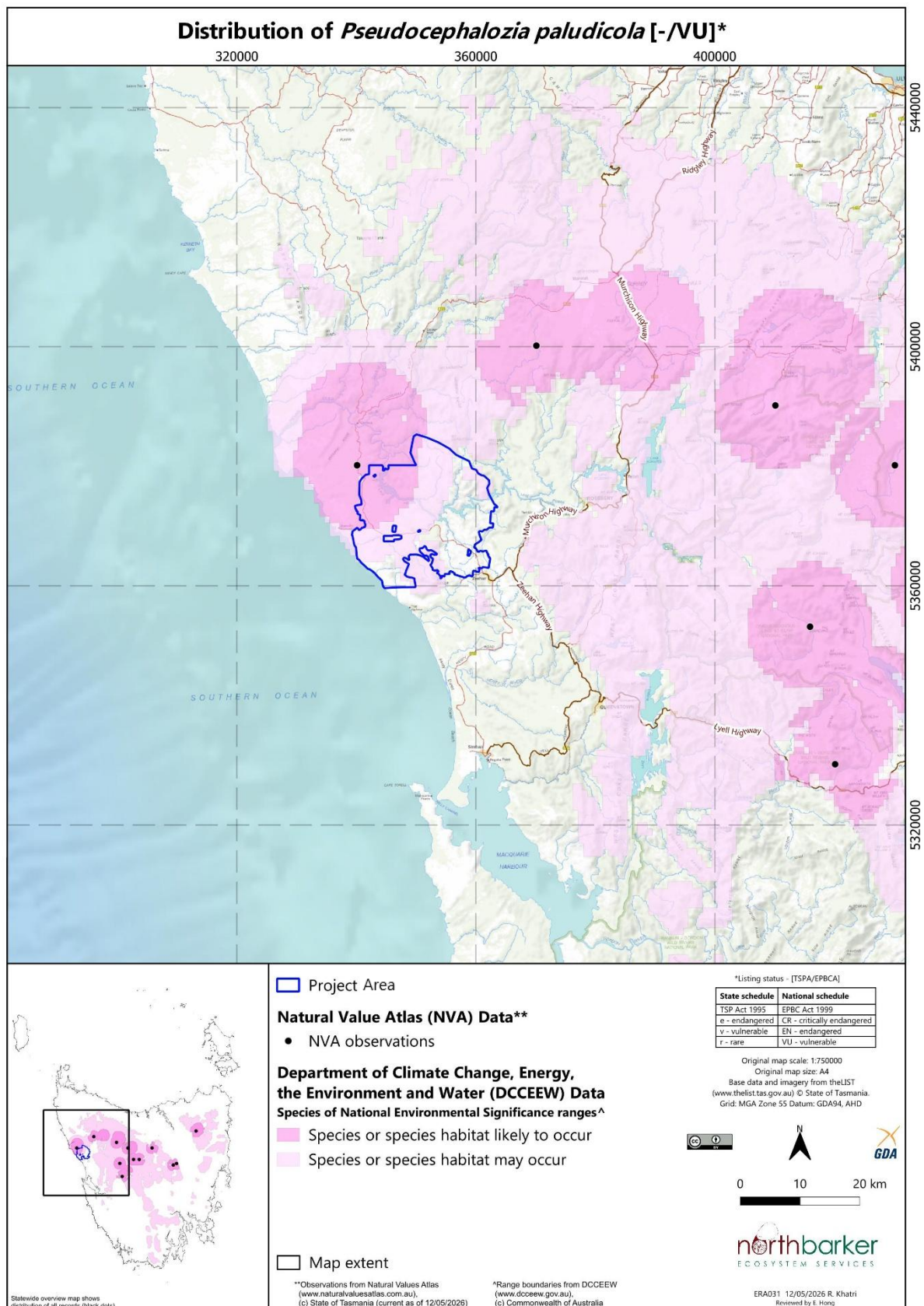


Figure A8: Distribution of *Pseudocephaloza paludicola* records and potential habitat ranges

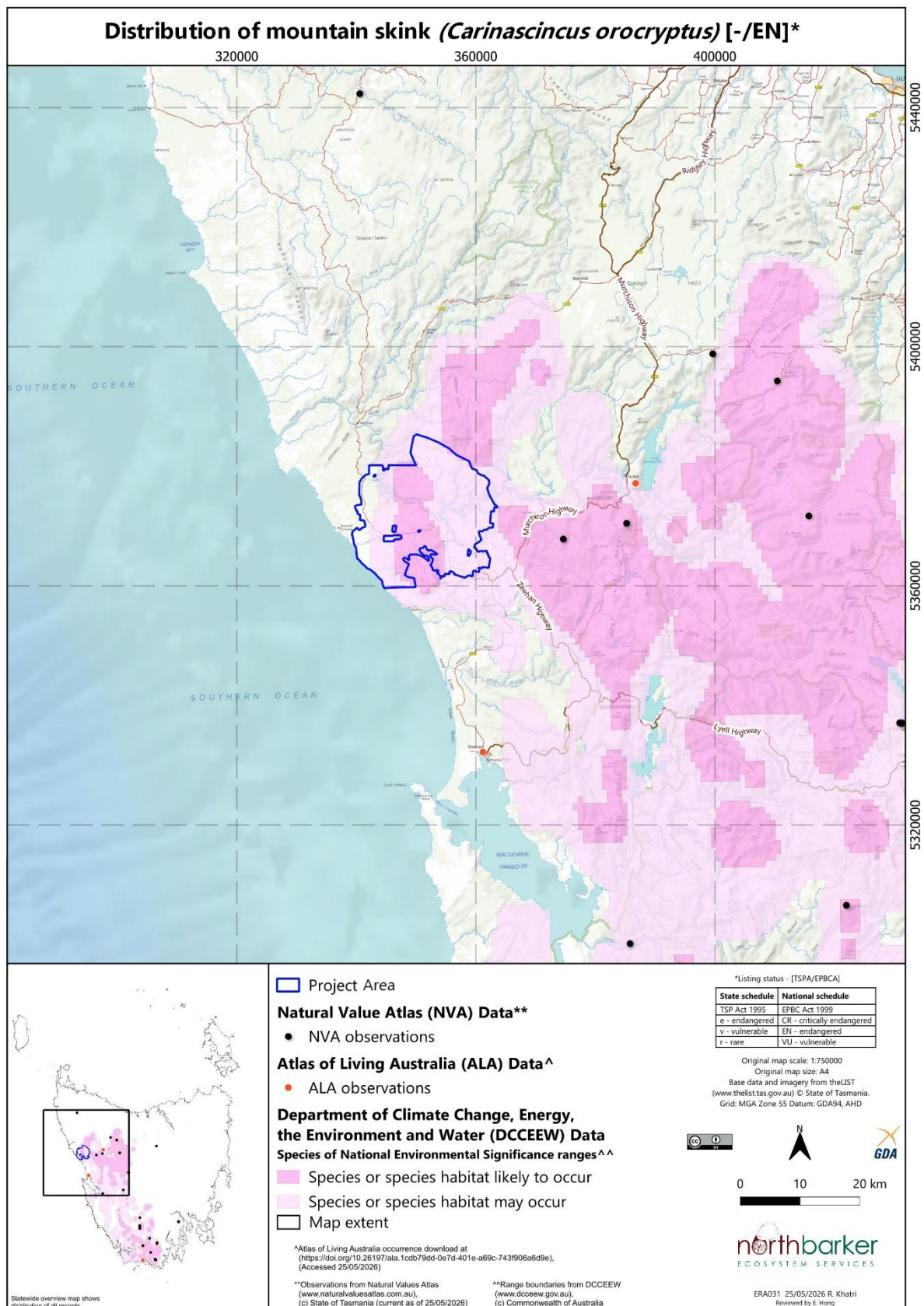


Figure A9: Distribution of mountain skink records and potential habitat ranges

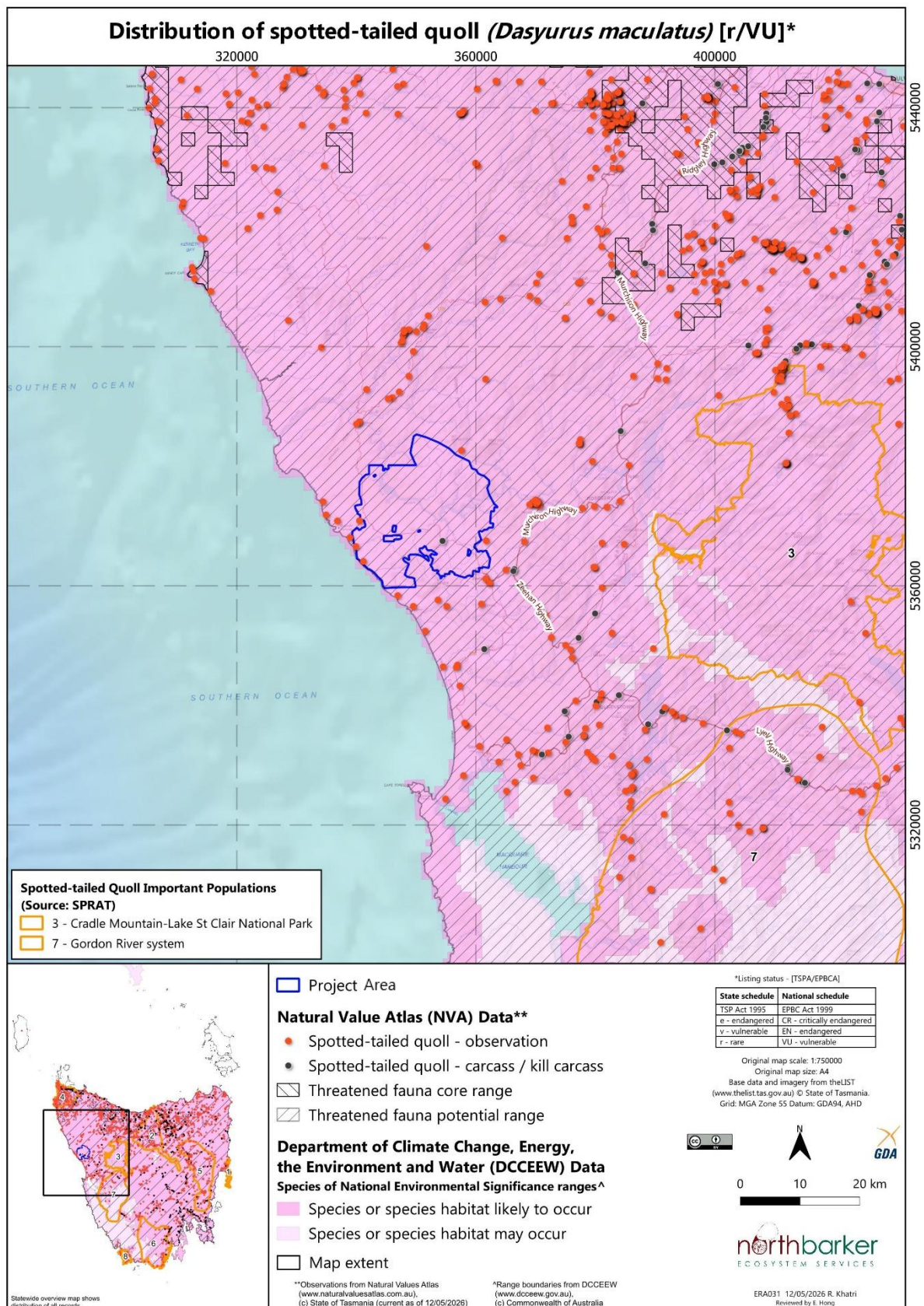


Figure A10: Distribution of spotted-tailed quoll records and range boundaries

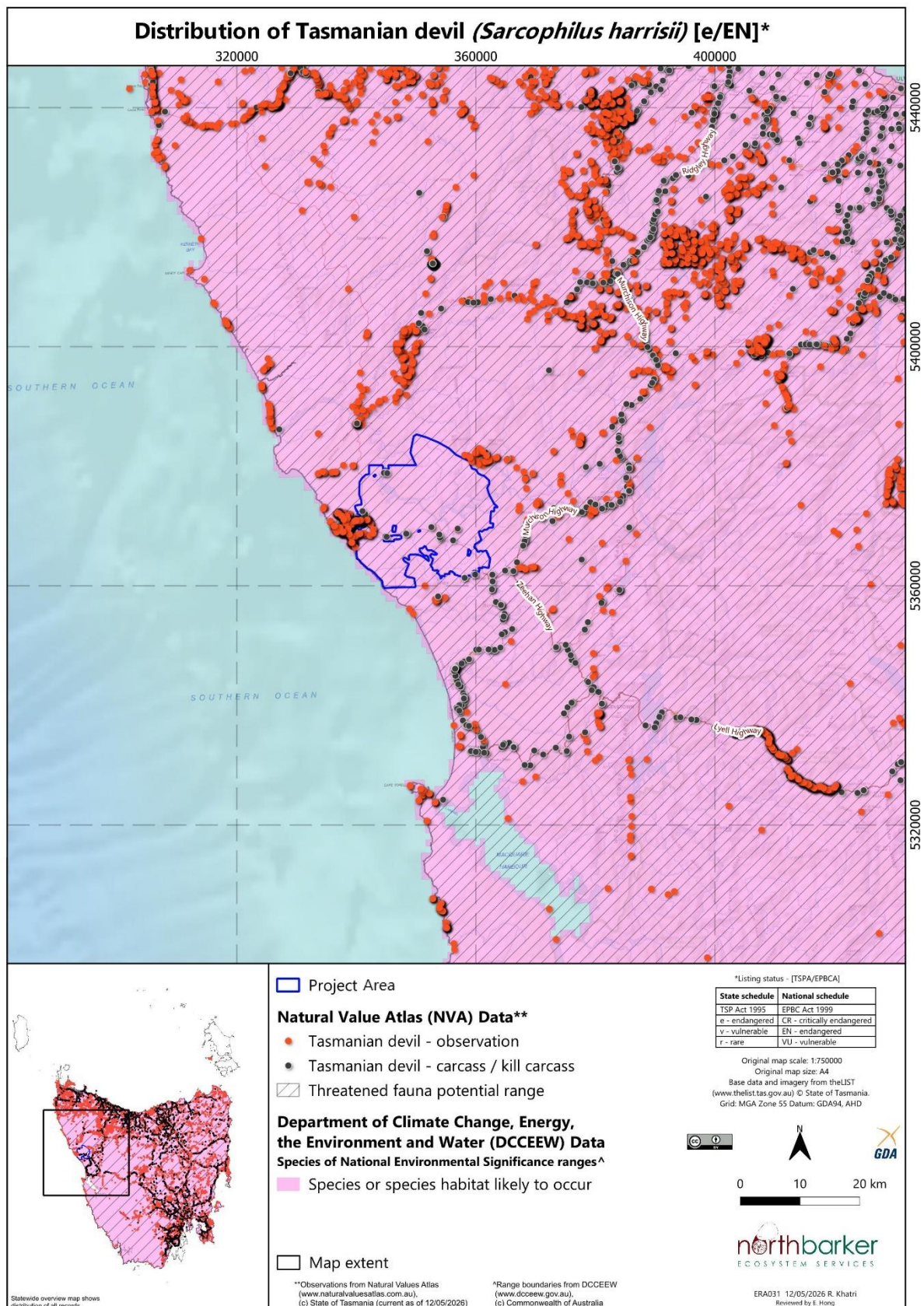


Figure A11: Distribution of Tasmanian devil records and range boundaries

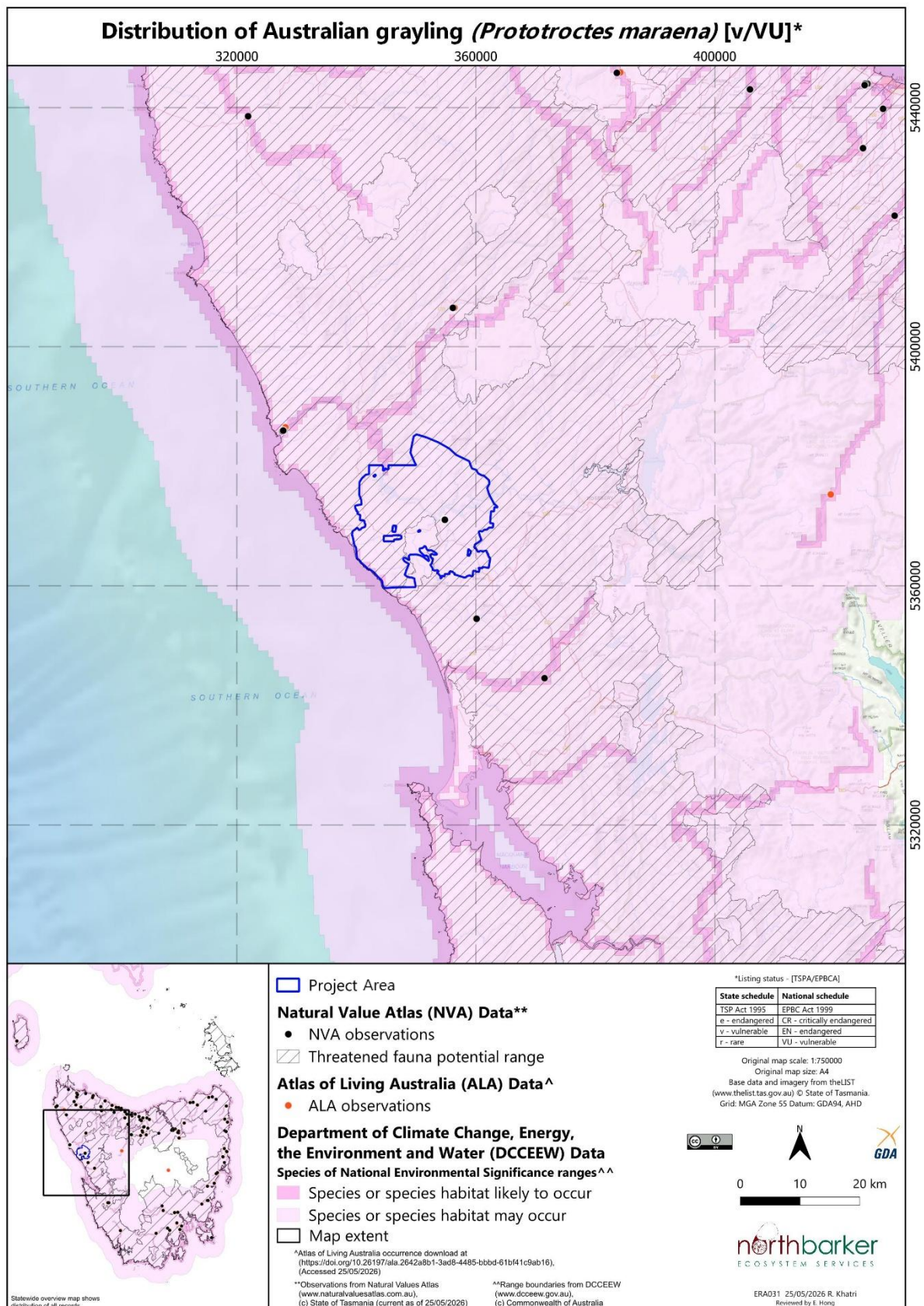


Figure A12: Distribution of Australian grayling records and potential habitat ranges

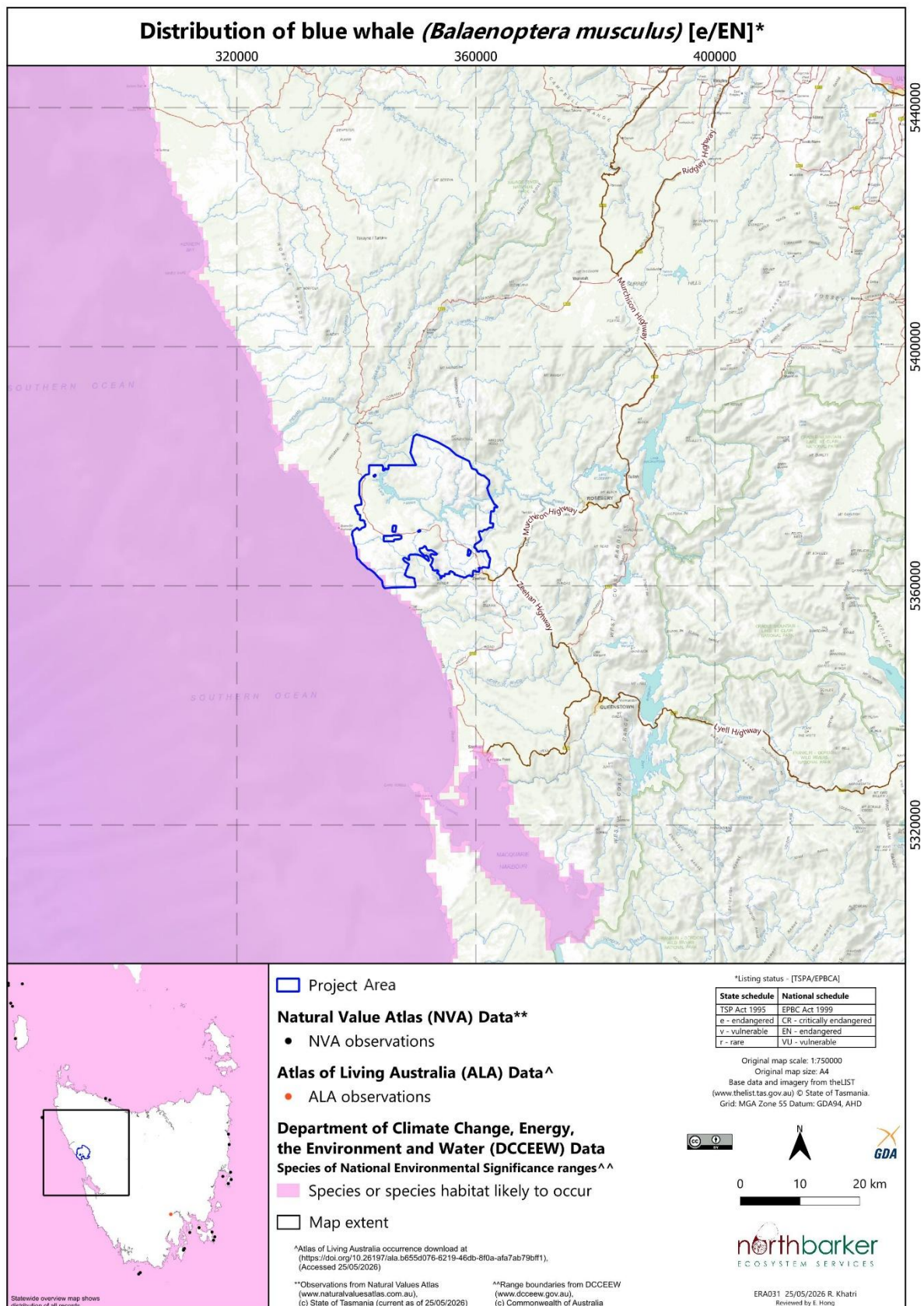


Figure A13: Distribution of blue whale records and potential habitat ranges

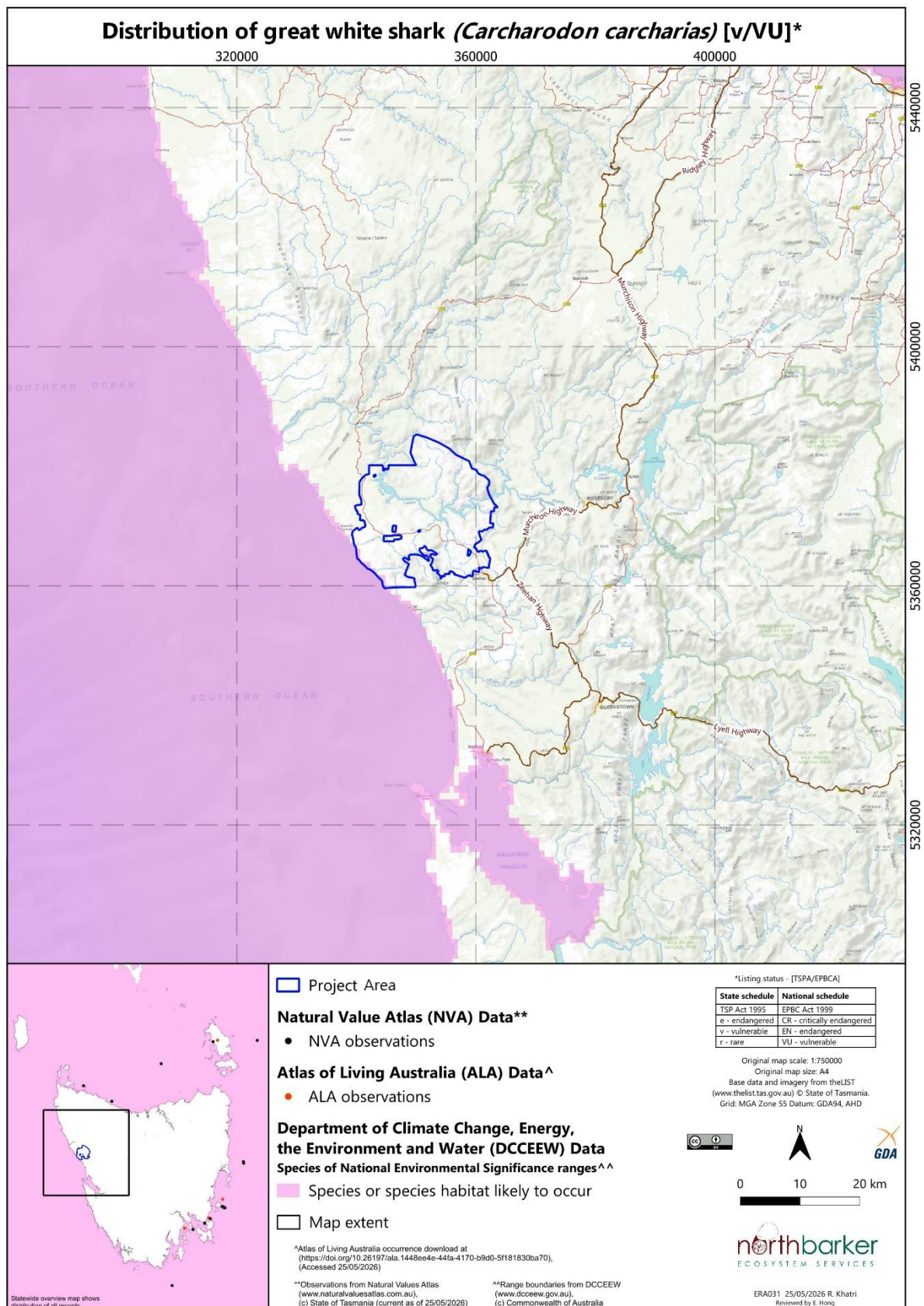


Figure A14: Distribution of great white shark records and potential habitat ranges

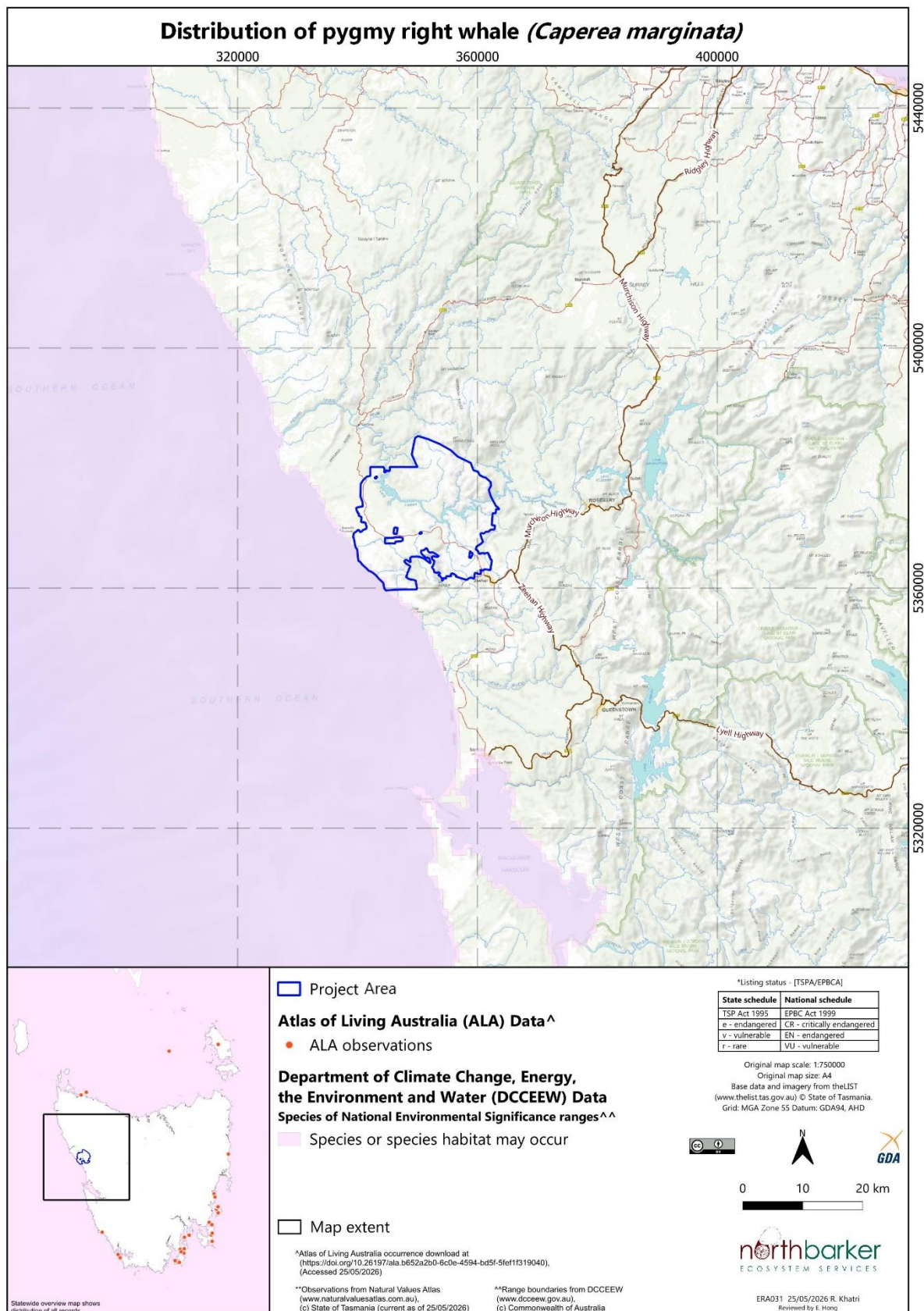


Figure A15: Distribution of pygmy right whale records and potential habitat ranges

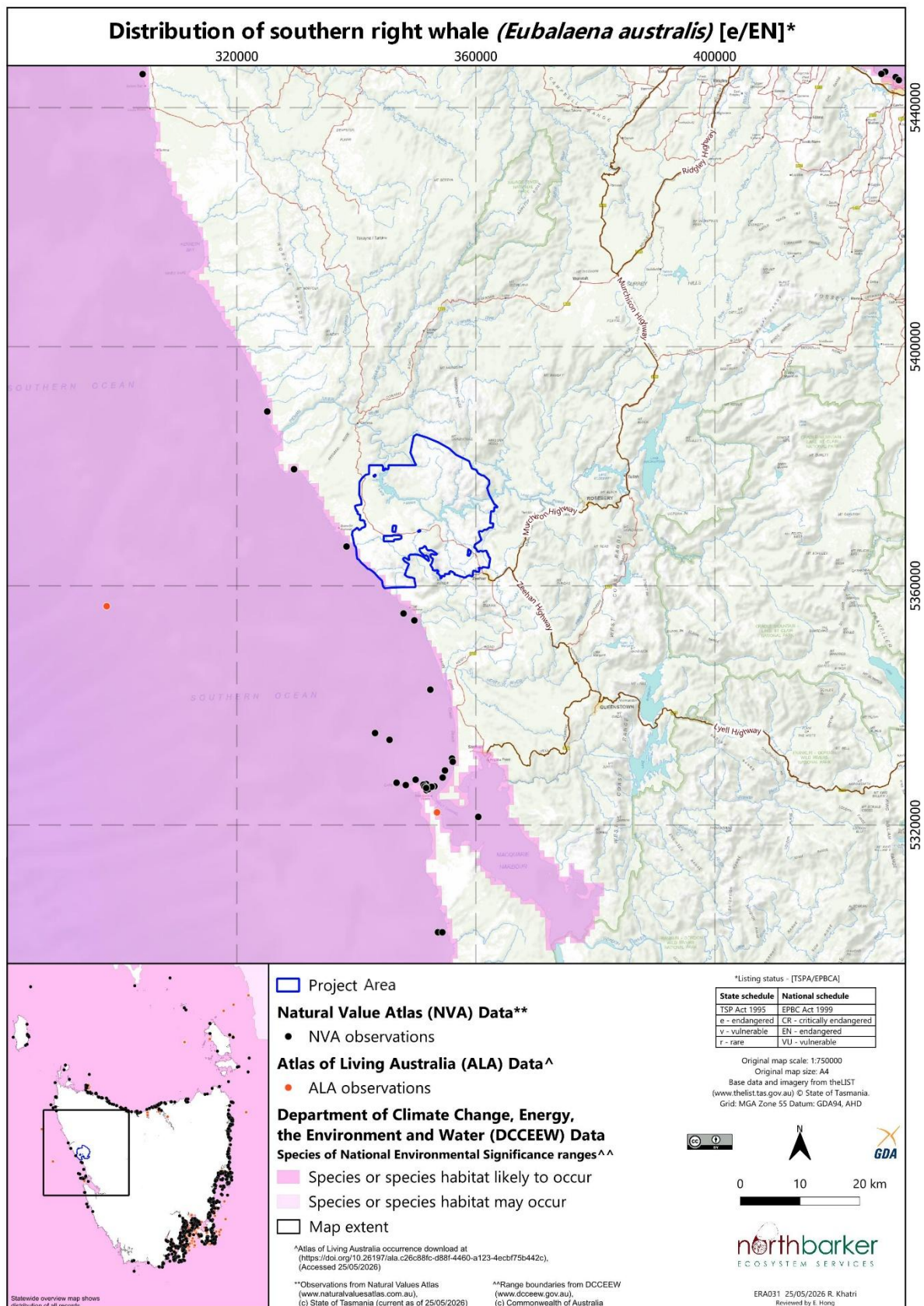


Figure A16: Distribution of southern right whale records and potential habitat ranges

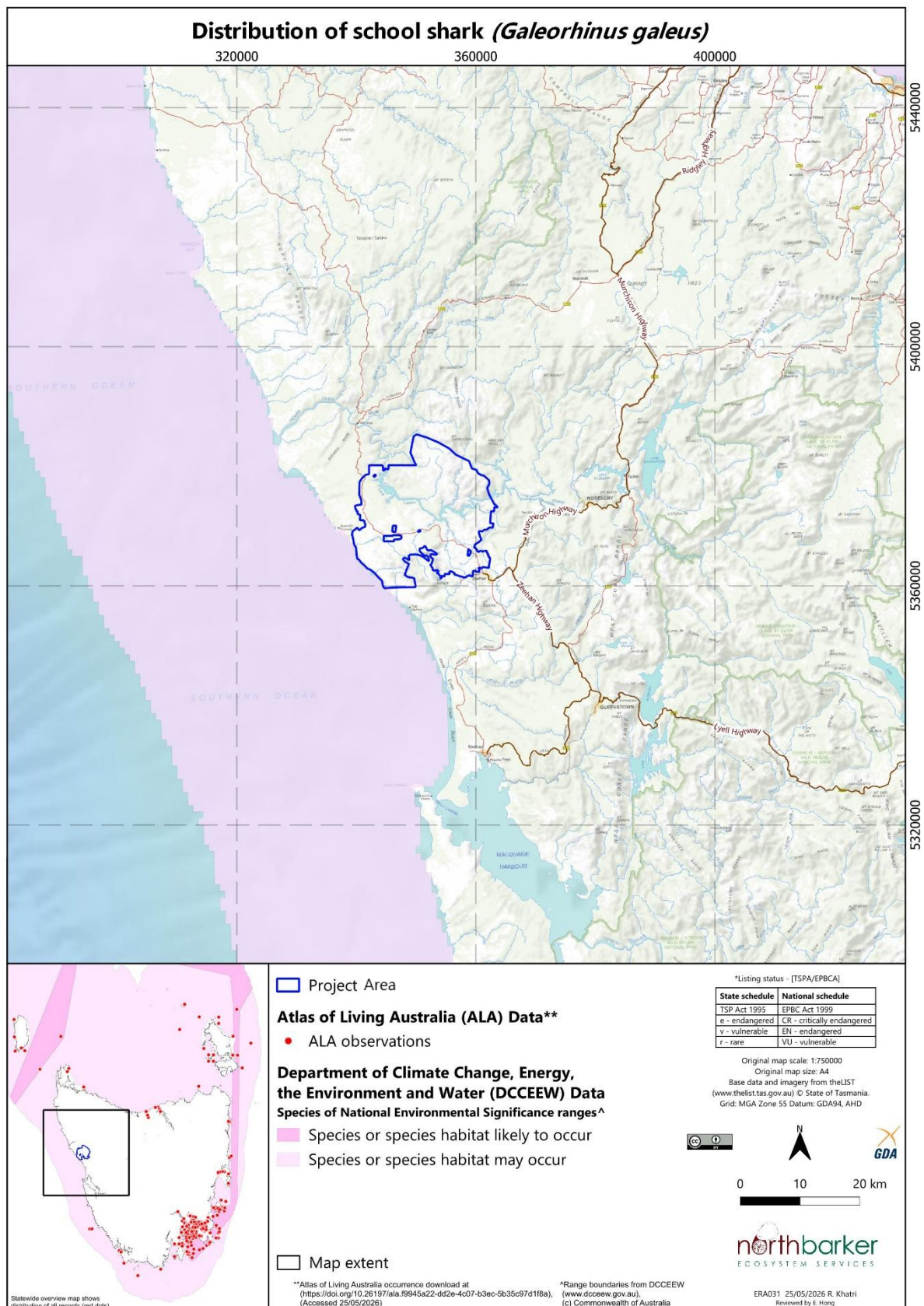


Figure A17: Distribution of school shark records and potential habitat ranges

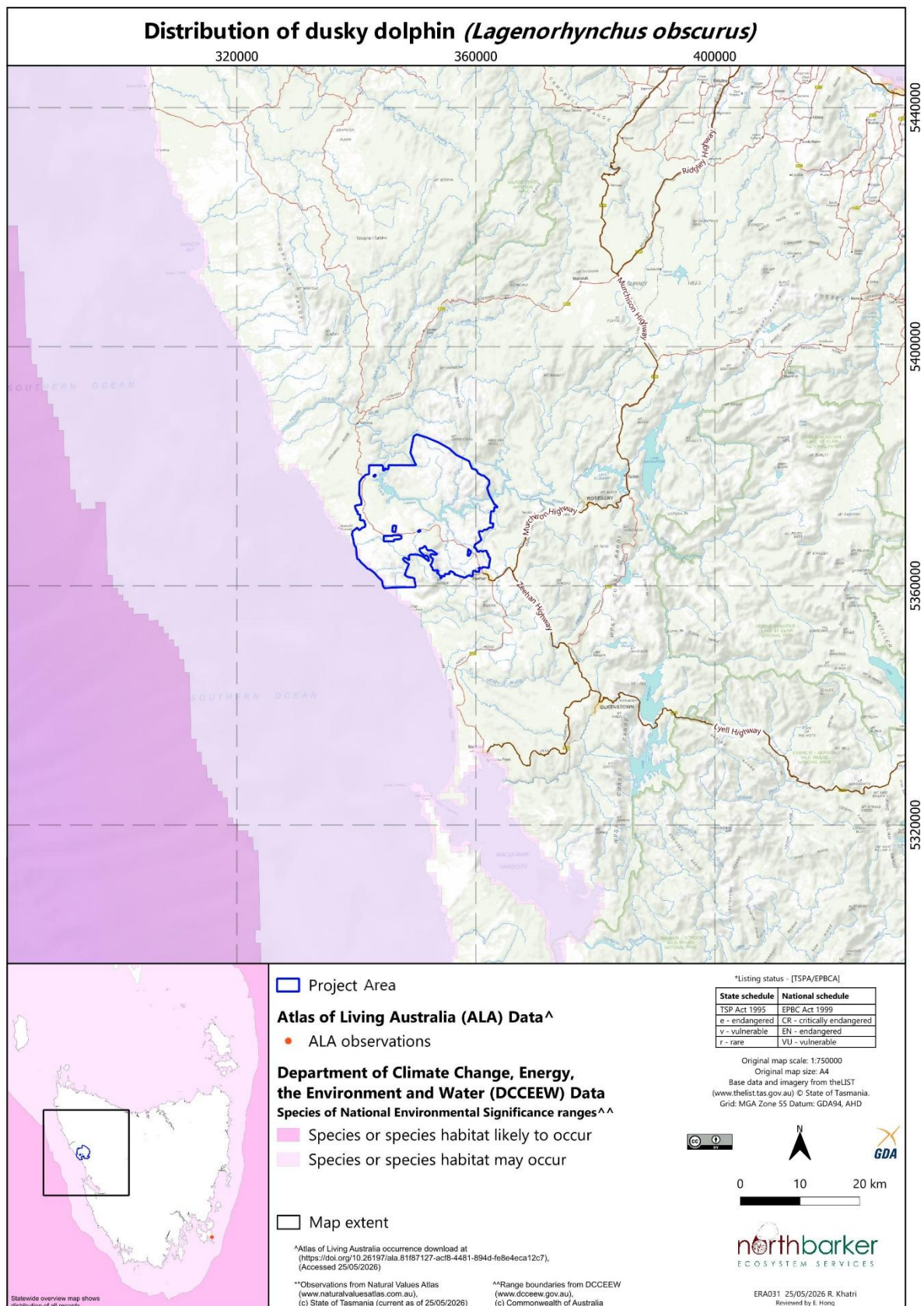


Figure A18: Distribution of dusky dolphin records and potential habitat ranges

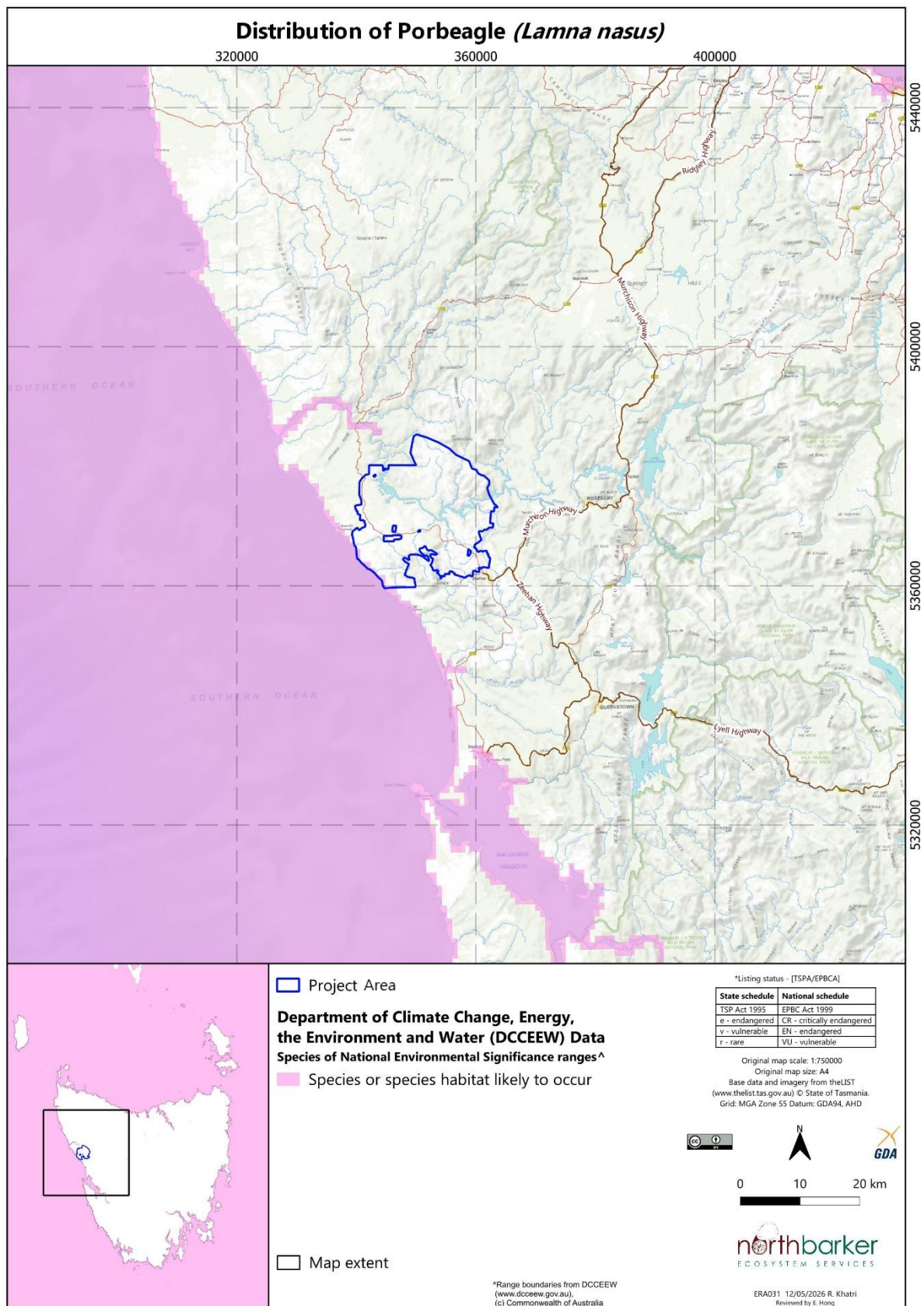


Figure A19: Distribution of porbeagle records and potential habitat ranges

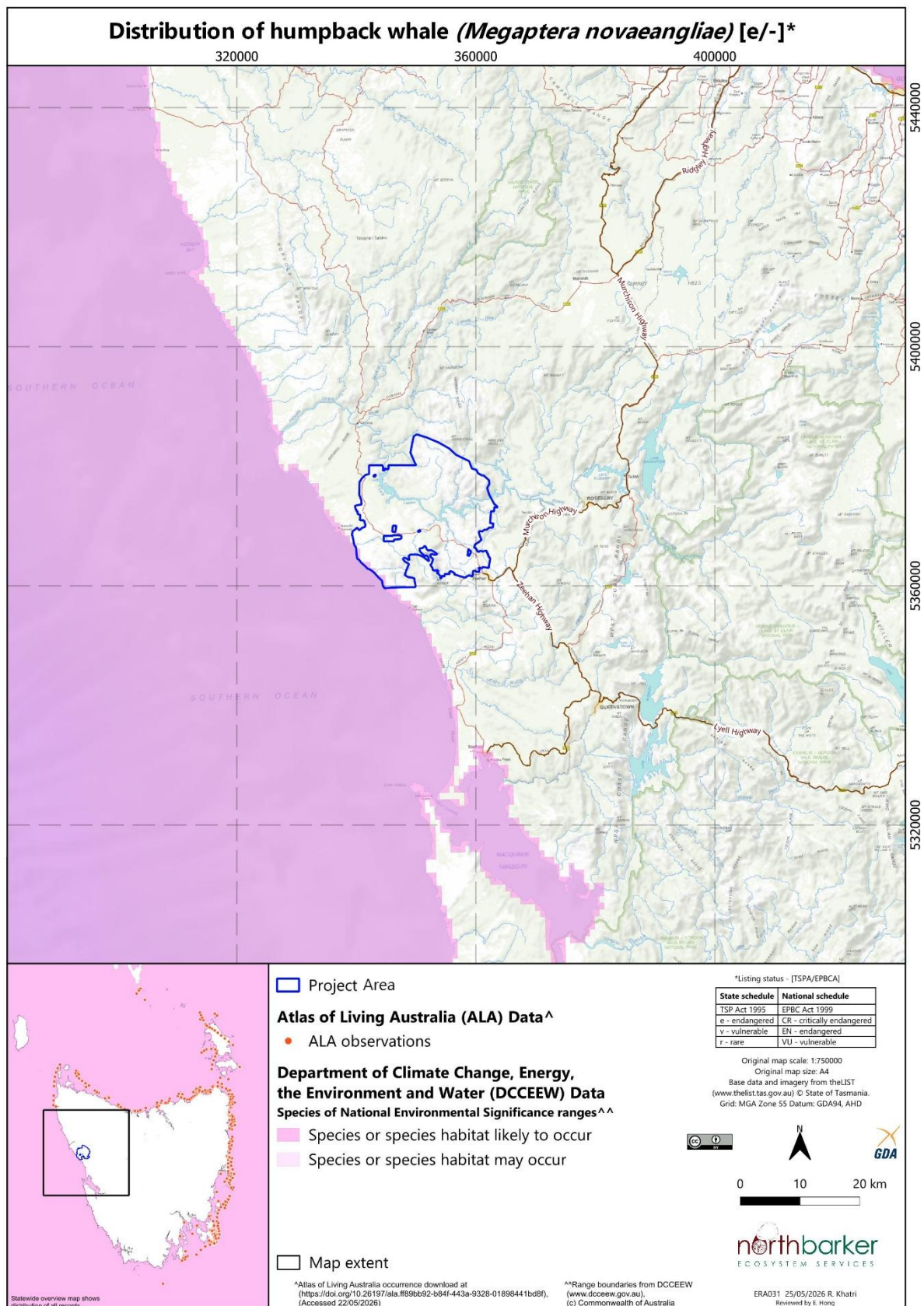


Figure A20: Distribution of humpback whale records and potential habitat ranges

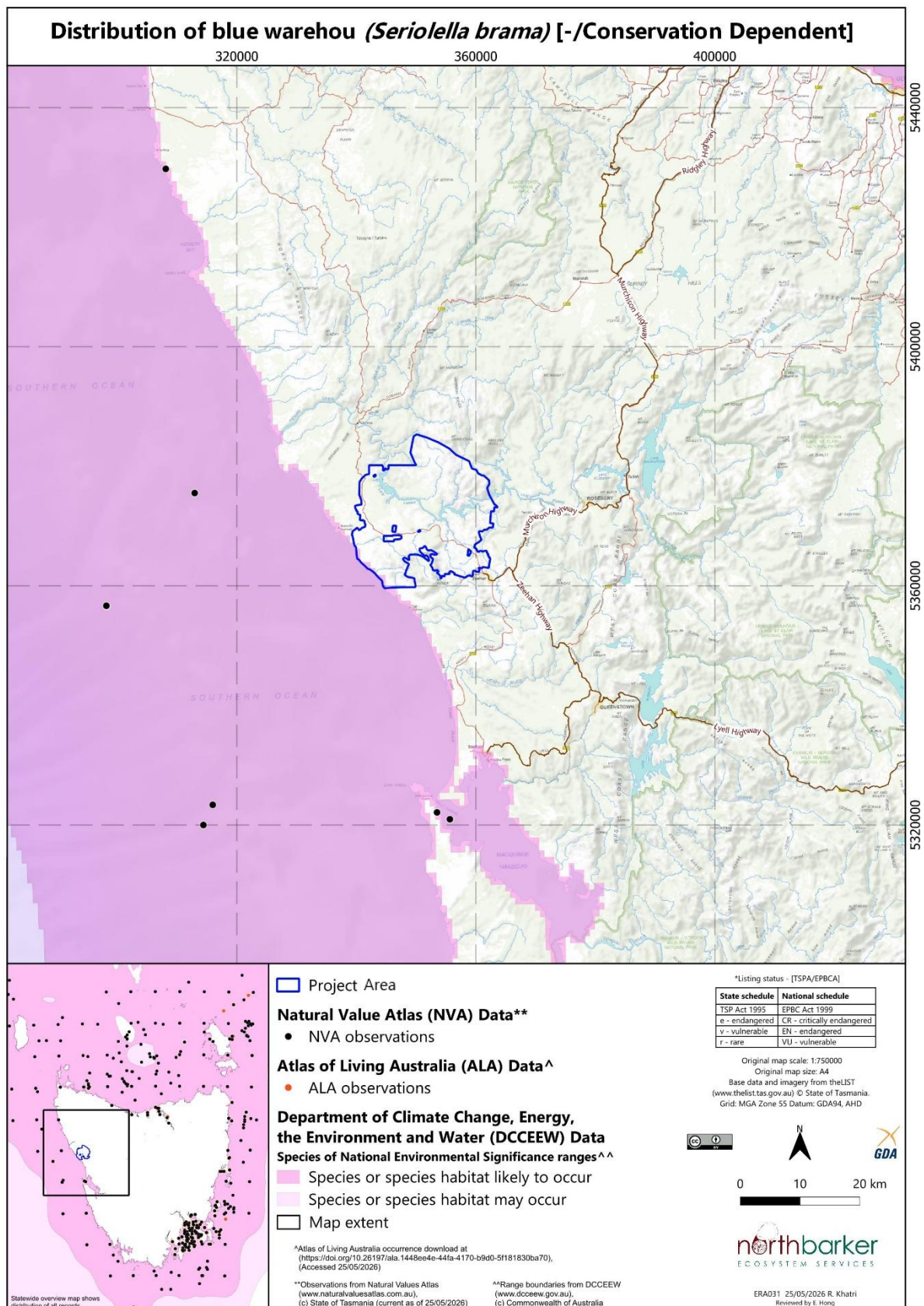


Figure A21: Distribution of blue warehou records and potential habitat ranges