

Appendix B EPBC Act entity evaluation

Preliminary evaluation of the site's suitability to support threatened species, ecological communities and endangered populations returned from the Commonwealth EPBC Act *Protected Matters Search Tool*¹ was undertaken.

Status categories: V = Vulnerable, E = Endangered, CE = Critically Endangered, M = Migratory, EX = Presumed Extinct

Summary:

Given the habitat available, the likely impacts of the Project, the key entities identified at this stage include:

- *TECs*
 - *Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains* (dependent on further floristic surveys to confirm presence)
- *Flora:*
 - *Brachyscome papillosa* (Mossgiel Daisy)
 - *Maireana cheelii* (Chariot Wheels)
 - *Lepidium monoplacoides* (Winged Peppergrass)
- *Fauna:*
 - *Aphelocephala leucopsis* (Southern Whiteface)
 - *Pedionomus torquatus* (Plains-wanderer)
 - *Neophema chrysostoma* (Blue-winged Parrot)
 - *Gelochelidon nilotica* (Gull-billed Tern)
 - *Lophochroa leadbeateri* (Pink Cockatoo)
 - *Litoria raniformis* (Southern Bell Frog)
 - Raptors and wetland bird assemblages.

Depending on local site usage, some species represent higher risk species, having characteristics that elevate their risk profile such as potentially important areas of habitat nearby, susceptibility to known local threats, flocking in large numbers, poor manoeuvrability, likely to forage within the rotor sweep area.

Further surveys and specific evaluation of the Project's disturbance footprint and operational parameters are underway to complete the assessment of biodiversity impacts.

¹ This online tool is designed for the public to search for matters protected under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). It is managed by the Commonwealth Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.

B.1 Flora and TECs

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Status | Habitat |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------|---|
| Flora | | | |
| <i>Austrostipa metatoris</i> | A spear-grass | V | Grows in sandy areas of the Murray Valley; habitats include sandhills, sandridges, undulating plains and flat open mallee country, with red to red-brown clay-loam to sandy-loam soils. Associated species include <i>Eucalyptus populnea</i> , <i>E. intertexta</i> , <i>Callitris glaucophylla</i> , <i>Casuarina cristata</i> , <i>Santalum acuminatum</i> and <i>Dodonaea viscosa</i> . Most records occur in the Murray Valley. Scattered records also occur in central NSW including Lake Cargelligo, east of Goolgowi, Condobolin and south west of Nymagee. Otherwise only known from near Bordertown in south east South Australia, where it may be locally extinct. |
| <i>Austrostipa wakoolica</i> | A spear-grass | E | Confined to the floodplains of the Murray River tributaries of central-western and south-western NSW, it grows in open woodland on grey, silty clay or sandy loam soils; habitats include the edges of a lignum swamp with box and mallee; creek banks in grey, silty clay; mallee and lignum sandy-loam flat; open Cypress Pine forest on low sandy range; and a low, rocky rise. Associated species include <i>Callitris glaucophylla</i> , <i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i> , <i>E. populnea</i> , <i>Austrostipa eremophila</i> , <i>A. drummondii</i> , <i>Austrodanthonia eriantha</i> and <i>Einadia nutans</i> . |
| <i>Brachyscome papillosa</i> | Mossgiel Daisy | V | Recorded primarily in clay soils on <i>Atriplex vesicaria</i> and <i>Maireana aphylla</i> plains, but also in grassland and in Inland <i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i> - <i>Callitris</i> spp. woodland. Endemic to NSW and chiefly occurs within the Riverina Bioregion, from Mossgiel in the north, Murrumbidgee Valley (Yanga) National Park in the south west to Urana in the south east. Sites are scattered across this Bioregion including the Jerilderie area, the Hay Plain (Maude and Oxley) and around Darlington Point. In addition, there are a number of records from the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area (including Mungo National Park) with a north-western outlier at Byrnedale Station, north of Menindee. The only known site on South Western Slopes is Ganmain Reserve. |
| <i>Lepidium monoplacoides</i> | Winged Peppergrass | E | Occurs on seasonally moist to waterlogged sites, on heavy fertile soils, with a mean annual rainfall of around 300–500mm. Predominant vegetation is usually an open woodland dominated by <i>Allocasuarina luehmannii</i> (Bullock) and/or eucalypts, particularly <i>Eucalyptus largiflorens</i> (Black Box) or <i>Eucalyptus populnea</i> (Poplar Box). The field layer of the surrounding woodland is dominated by tussock grasses. Recorded in a wetland-grassland community comprising <i>Eragrostis australasicus</i> , <i>Agrostis avenacea</i> , <i>Austrodanthonia duttoniana</i> , <i>Homopholis prolata</i> , |

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Status | Habitat |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------|---|
| | | | <i>Myriophyllum crispatum</i> , <i>Utricularia dichotoma</i> and <i>Pycnosorus globosus</i> , on waterlogged grey-brown clay. Also recorded from a <i>Maireana pyramidata</i> shrubland. Widespread in the semi-arid western plains regions of NSW. |
| <i>Maireana cheelii</i> | Chariot Wheels | V | Usually found on heavier, grey clay soils with <i>Atriplex vesicaria</i> (Bladder Saltbush). Recorded on the Hay Plain in <i>Atriplex vesicaria</i> , <i>Maireana aphylla</i> and <i>Acacia homalophylla</i> shrublands. Soils include heavy brown to red-brown clay-loams, hard cracking red clay, other heavy texture-contrast soils. Tends to grow in shallow depressions, often on eroded or scalded surfaces, and does not extend to the higher soils in the habitat. It has been found on the edges of bare, windswept claypans, in shallow depressions of eroded surfaces where rainwater collects and on a “shelf” in the crabhole complex of heavy grey soils. Associated species include <i>Atriplex vesicaria</i> , <i>Maireana pentagona</i> , <i>M. excavata</i> , <i>M. ciliata</i> , <i>Cressa cretica</i> , <i>Avena fatua</i> and <i>Acacia homalophylla</i> . Restricted to the southern Riverina region of NSW, mainly in the area between Deniliquin and Hay. Also in Victoria where very rare. |
| <i>Solanum karsense</i> | Menindee Nightshade | V | Grows in occasionally flooded depressions with heavy soil, including level river floodplains of grey clay with Black Box and Old Man Saltbush, and open treeless plains with solonized brown soils. Habitats are generally lake beds or floodplains of heavy grey clays with a highly self-mulching surface. Also found on sandy floodplains and ridges and in calcareous soils, red sands, red-brown earths and loamy soils. Endemic to NSW, restricted to the far south-western plains, extending up the Darling River to the Menindee and Wilcannia districts. Mainly restricted to the area between the Darling and Lachlan Rivers. |
| <i>Swainsona murrayana</i> | Slender Darling Pea | V | Collected from clay-based soils, ranging from grey, red and brown cracking clays to red-brown earths and loams. Grows in a variety of vegetation types including bladder saltbush, black box and grassland communities on level plains, floodplains and depressions and is often found with <i>Maireana</i> species. Plants have been found in remnant native grasslands or grassy woodlands that have been intermittently grazed or cultivated. Found throughout NSW, it has been recorded in the Jerilderie and Deniliquin areas of the southern riverine plain, the Hay plain as far north as Willandra National Park, near Broken Hill and in various localities between Dubbo and Moree. |
| <i>Swainsona pyrophila</i> | Yellow Swainson-pea | V | Grows in mallee scrub on sandy or loamy soil, usually found only after fire. Sites include cleared and burnt mallee scrub on red loam to sand, previously burnt <i>Eucalyptus dumosa</i> mallee, disturbed woodland in sheltered aspects, a bulldozed firebreak adjacent to wheat paddocks, roadsides, claypans and at the edge of fire ash. Occurs in the south-western plains regions of NSW and into Victoria and SA. The species is distributed in the south-eastern half of SA, along the Murray River valley into north-western Victoria, with isolated occurrences northward. |

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Status | Habitat |
|---|-------------|--------|---|
| Ecological communities | | | |
| Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions | | E | The 'Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray Darling Depression Bioregions' ecological community encompasses a number of closely-related woodland communities in which <i>Allocasuarina luehmannii</i> (Buloke) is usually a dominant or co-dominant tree. Other trees that may be prominent in Buloke Woodlands include: <i>Callitris gracilis</i> (Slender Pine), <i>Callitris glaucophylla</i> (White/Murray Pine), <i>Eucalyptus largiflorens</i> (Black Box), <i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i> subsp. <i>pruinosa</i> (Yellow/Blue Gum) and <i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i> (Grey Box). |
| Grey Box (<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia | | E | This is the most common form of the ecological community that comprises a tree layer and a native understorey with a varying proportion of shrubs, grasses and herbs. This grassy woodland form has a tree canopy that is dominated or co-dominated by Grey Box (<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>). Derived native grassland can also occur. It mostly occurs from central NSW, through northern/central Victoria into eastern South Australia. |
| Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains | | CE | The Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains ecological community occurs on the plains of western and northern Victoria, extending into southern New South Wales. The grasslands are naturally treeless or almost so, with sparse tree cover. Grasses are characteristically represented by one or more of the following genera: <i>Rytidosperma</i> (wallaby-grasses), <i>Austrostipa</i> (spear-grasses), <i>Chloris</i> (windmill grasses) and <i>Enteropogon</i> (windmill grass, spider grass). |
| Plains Mallee Box Woodlands of the Murray Darling Depression, Riverina and Naracoorte Coastal Plain Bioregions | | CE | Canopy dominated by box-barked eucalypt species <i>Eucalyptus porosa</i> (black mallee box) or <i>E. behriana</i> (bull mallee, broad-leaved mallee box). However, <i>E. calycogona</i> (square-fruited mallee, gooseberry mallee, red mallee), or <i>E. dumosa</i> (Dumosa mallee) may be dominant in some areas. A distinctive low to decumbent chenopod sub-shrub layer. |
| Weeping Myall Woodlands | | E | Weeping Myall Woodlands occur in a range of forms from open woodlands to woodlands, in which weeping myall (<i>Acacia pendula</i>) trees are the sole or dominant overstorey species. Although weeping myall trees are often the only tree species in these woodlands, other trees can occur in the overstorey of the ecological community. The understorey of Weeping Myall Woodlands often includes an open layer of shrubs above an open ground layer of grasses and herbs, though the ecological community can exist naturally as either a shrubby, or grassy woodland. |

B.2 Fauna

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Status | Habitat |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|--------|---|
| Aves | | | |
| <i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i> | Southern Whiteface | V | <p>Lives in a wide range of open woodlands and shrublands where there is an understorey of grasses or shrubs, or both. These areas are usually in habitats dominated by acacias or eucalypts on ranges, foothills and lowlands, and plains (Higgins & Peter 2002). Considered sedentary; however, individuals may move into wetter areas outside of their normal range during drought years (Higgins & Peter 2002).</p> <p>Forages almost exclusively on the ground, favouring habitat with low tree densities and an herbaceous understorey litter cover. Birds mainly feed on insects, spiders, and seeds, largely gleaned from the bare ground or leaf litter (Higgins & Peter 2002; Antos & Bennett 2006; Antos et al. 2008). Typically forages in small groups of 2–8 but may congregate in larger flocks during the non-breeding season, with as many as 70 birds recorded in foraging parties in winter (Higgins & Peter 2002). Breeding takes place from July to October throughout most of the species' range, however, the timing of breeding can be affected by rainfall in arid regions (Higgins & Peter 2002). Nests are usually large bulky domed nest of grass, bark and roots, usually in a hollow or crevice, although sometimes in low bushes (Higgins & Peter 2002).</p> |
| <i>Botaurus poeciloptilus</i> | Australasian Bittern | E | <p>Favours permanent freshwater wetlands with tall, dense vegetation, particularly <i>Typha</i> spp. and <i>Eleocharis</i>. Hides during the day amongst dense reeds or rushes and feed mainly at night on frogs, fish, yabbies, spiders, insects and snails. Feeding platforms may be constructed over deeper water from reeds trampled by the bird; platforms are often littered with prey remains. Breeding occurs in summer from October to January; nests are built in secluded places in densely-vegetated wetlands on a platform of reeds; there are usually six olive-brown eggs to a clutch. Mainly found in shallow wetlands (less than 1m deep) with dense growth of rushes or sedges.</p> |
| <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> | Curlew Sandpiper | CE | <p>Forages on mudflats and shallow pools, occasionally they forage on wet mats of algae or waterweed, or on banks of beachcast seagrass or seaweed. They roost in open situations with damp substrate, especially on bare shingle, shell or sand beaches, sandspits and islets in or around coastal or near-coastal lagoons and other wetlands, occasionally roosting in dunes during very high tides and sometimes in saltmarsh (Higgins & Davies, 1996). This species does not breed in Australia.</p> |

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Status | Habitat |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------|---|
| <i>Grantiella picta</i> | Painted Honeyeater | V | Nomadic and occurs at low densities throughout its range. The greatest concentrations of the bird and almost all breeding occurs on the inland slopes of the Great Dividing Range in NSW, Victoria and southern Queensland. Inhabits Boree/ Weeping Myall (<i>Acacia pendula</i>), Brigalow (<i>A. harpophylla</i>) and Box-Gum Woodlands and Box-Ironbark Forests. A specialist feeder on the fruits of mistletoes growing on woodland eucalypts and acacias. Prefers mistletoes of the genus <i>Amyema</i> . Nest from spring to autumn in a small, delicate nest hanging within the outer canopy of drooping eucalypts, she-oak, paperbark or mistletoe branches. |
| <i>Lathamus discolor</i> | Swift Parrot | CE | Breeds in Tasmania during spring and summer, migrating in the autumn and winter months to south-eastern Australia from Victoria and the eastern parts of South Australia to south-east Queensland. In NSW mostly occurs on the coast and south west slopes. Migrates to the Australian south-east mainland between March and October. No breeding in NSW. Favoured feed trees include winter flowering species such as Swamp Mahogany <i>Eucalyptus robusta</i> , Spotted Gum <i>Corymbia maculata</i> , Red Bloodwood <i>C. gummifera</i> , Mugga Ironbark <i>E. sideroxylon</i> , and White Box <i>E. albens</i> . |
| <i>Leipoa ocellata</i> | Malleefowl | V | Predominantly inhabit mallee communities, preferring the tall, dense and floristically-rich mallee found in higher rainfall (300–450mm mean annual rainfall) areas. Utilises mallee with a spinifex understorey, but usually at lower densities than in areas with a shrub understorey. Less frequently found in other eucalypt woodlands, such as Inland Grey Box, Ironbark or Bimble Box Woodlands with thick understorey, or in other woodlands such as dominated by Mulga or native Cypress Pine species. Prefers areas of light sandy to sandy loam soils and habitats with a dense but discontinuous canopy and dense and diverse shrub and herb layers. Incubate eggs in large mounds that contain considerable volumes of sandy soil. |
| <i>Pedionomus torquatus</i> | Plains-wanderer | CE | Live in semi-arid, lowland native grasslands that typically occur on hard red-brown soils. These grasslands support a high diversity of plant species, including a number of state and nationally threatened species. Habitat structure appears to play a more important role than plant species composition. Preferred habitat typically comprises 50% bare ground, 10% fallen litter, and 40% herbs, forbs and grasses. Most grassland habitat is <5cm high, but some vegetation up to a maximum of 30cm is important for concealment, as long as grass tussocks are spaced 10–20cm apart. During prolonged drought, the denudation of preferred habitats may force birds into marginal denser and taller grassland habitats that become temporarily suitable. Average home range of a single bird is about 12ha. Breeding pairs have overlapping home ranges that total approximately 18ha. Is a ground-dwelling grassland bird, which is cryptic and very difficult to observe during the day. Can only be properly surveyed at night using |

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Status | Habitat |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--------|---|
| | | | spotlighting techniques. 99% of records in NSW in the past 30 years come from an area of the western Riverina bounded by Hay and Narrandera on the Murrumbidgee River in the north, the Cobb Highway in the west, the Billabong Creek in the south, and Urana in the east. The amount of high-quality habitat in the Riverina drops to 1-2% during very wet or dry years when grasslands become too dense or are grazed too bare. |
| <i>Pezoporus occidentalis</i> | Night Parrot | E | Known to occur within Spinifex grasslands in stony or sandy areas and samphire and chenopod associations on floodplains, salt lakes and clay pans. Suitable habitat is characterized by the presence of large and dense clumps of Spinifex, and it may prefer mature spinifex that is long and unburnt. A nocturnal bird that forages on the ground, becoming active during dusk and, generally flies to water to drink prior to foraging. During the day it rests within clumps of spinifex. Appears to be highly nomadic, moving in response to availability of food and water. After periods of heavy rain with abundant seeding of spinifex, the species was often locally common. Said to feed on the seeds of grasses and herbs, particularly those of Spinifex. Builds its nest which consists of a few small sticks at the end of a 'tunnel' that is formed in a Spinifex tussock or a small bush. Some unconfirmed reports have claimed that the Night Parrot may nest or roost in caves, and one unverified source claimed that it may also excavate burrows in sandy soils. Breeding is said to take place after heavy rainfall. Actual breeding records are few, but young have been recorded in August, and there are unverified reports of breeding activity in April, July and August. |
| <i>Polytelis swainsonii</i> | Superb Parrot | V | Inhabit Box-Gum, Box-Cypress-pine and Boree Woodlands and River Red Gum Forest. In the Riverina the birds nest in the hollows of large trees (dead or alive) mainly in tall riparian River Red Gum Forest or Woodland. On the South West Slopes nest trees can be in open Box-Gum Woodland or isolated paddock trees. Species known to be used are Blakely's Red Gum, Yellow Box, Apple Box and Red Box. Nest in small colonies, often with more than one nest in a single tree. Breed September-January. May forage up to 10km from nesting sites, primarily in grassy box woodland. Feeds in trees and understorey shrubs and on the ground and their diet consists mainly of grass seeds, herbaceous plants, fruits, berries, nectar, buds, flowers, insects and grain. On the South-western Slopes their core breeding area is roughly bounded by Cowra and Yass in the east, and Grenfell, Cootamundra and Coolac in the west. Birds breeding in this region are mainly absent during winter, when they migrate north to the region of the upper Namoi and Gwydir Rivers. The other main breeding sites are in the Riverina along the corridors of the Murray, Edward and Murrumbidgee Rivers where birds are present all year round. It is estimated that there are less than 5000 breeding pairs left in the wild. |

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Status | Habitat |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------|--|
| <i>Rostratula australis</i> | Australian Painted Snipe | E | A small freshwater wader restricted to Australia. Most records are from the south east, particularly the Murray Darling Basin, with scattered records across northern Australia and historical records from around the Perth region in Western Australia. In NSW many records are from the Murray-Darling Basin including the Paroo wetlands, Lake Cowal, Macquarie Marshes, Fivebough Swamp and more recently, swamps near Balldale and Wanganella and wetlands on the Hawkesbury River and the Clarence and lower Hunter Valleys. Prefers fringes of swamps, dams and nearby marshy areas where there is a cover of grasses, lignum, low scrub or open timber. Nests on the ground amongst tall vegetation, such as grasses, tussocks or reeds. The nest consists of a scrape in the ground, lined with grasses and leaves. |
| Migratory | | | |
| <i>Tringa stagnatilis</i> | Marsh Sandpiper | M | Found on coastal and inland wetlands throughout Australia. Widespread in coastal Queensland, but few records exist north of Cooktown. Recorded in all regions of NSW but especially the central and south coasts and (inland) on the western slopes of Great Divide and western plains. |
| <i>Tringa nebularia</i> | Common Greenshank | M | Does not breed in Australia, however, the species occurs in all types of wetlands and has the widest distribution of any shorebird in Australia. In NSW, the species has been recorded in most coastal regions. It is widespread west of the Great Dividing Range, especially between the Lachlan and Murray Rivers and the Darling River drainage basin, including the Macquarie Marshes, and north-west regions. |
| <i>Tringa glareola</i> | Wood Sandpiper | M | Uses well-vegetated, shallow freshwater wetlands such as swamps, billabongs, lakes, pools and waterholes. Typically associated with emergent aquatic plants or grass, and dominated by taller fringing vegetation such as dense strands of rushes or reeds, shrubs, dead and alive trees, especially Melaleuca and River Red gums, often with fallen timber. Frequent inundated grasslands, short herbage or wooded floodplains, where floodwaters are temporary or receding and irrigated crops. Found at some small wetlands only when drying. rarely found using brackish wetlands or dry stunted saltmarsh. typically do not use coastal flats, occasionally recorded in stony wetlands. Uses artificial wetlands including open sewage ponds, reservoirs, large farm dams and biore drains. Forages on moist or dry mud at the edges of wetlands, either along shores, among open scattered aquatic vegetation or in clear shallow water. Scattered records in Queensland generally south of 17 degrees south, but also around Cairns. In NSW there are records east of the Great Divide, from Stratheden and Casino, south to Nowra and elsewhere, mostly from the Riverina, but also from the Upper and Lower Western Regions. In Victoria, |

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Status | Habitat |
|----------------------------------|------------------|--------|---|
| | | | most sightings occur around port Phillip Bay and in the mid-Murray Valley from around Cohuna to Kooloonong. Rarely seen in Tasmania. In South Australia, most records occur east of the line from South Eyre Peninsula through old Nilpinna to Purnu Bore, with most occurring south of 33 degrees S on the Yorke Peninsula, Adelaide Plains, Murray Mallee and south east regions. Also recorded in WA (widespread but scattered); NT (top end and scattered south and east). Also found around Alice Springs, Christmas Island and Prince Edward Island. Breeds across Eurasia, mostly in Scandinavia, Baltic countries and Russia. |
| <i>Motacilla flava</i> | Yellow Wagtail | M | Occupies a range of damp or wet habitats with low vegetation, from damp meadows, marshes, waterside pastures, sewage farms and bogs to damp steppe and grassy tundra. In the north of its range, it is also found in large forest clearings. Breeds from April to August, although this varies with latitude. |
| <i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i> | Satin Flycatcher | M | Found along the east coast of Australia in tall forests, preferring wetter habitats such as heavily forested gullies, but not rainforests. Nests in loose colonies of two to five pairs nesting at intervals of about 20–50m apart. It builds a broad-based, cup-shaped nest of shredded bark and grass, coated with spider webs and decorated with lichen. The nest is placed on a bare, horizontal branch, with overhanging foliage, about 3–25m above the ground. |
| <i>Numenius madagascariensis</i> | Eastern Curlew | CE, M | In NSW, occurs across the entire coast but is mainly found in estuaries such as the Hunter River, Port Stephens, Clarence River, Richmond River and ICOLLs of the south coast. Generally occupies coastal lakes, inlets, bays and estuarine habitats, and in NSW is mainly found in intertidal mudflats and sometimes saltmarsh of sheltered coasts. Occasionally, the species occurs on ocean beaches (often near estuaries), and coral reefs, rock platforms, or rocky islets. Forages in or at the edge of shallow water, occasionally on exposed algal mats or waterweed, or on banks of beach-cast seagrass or seaweed. Roosts on sandy spits and islets, especially on dry beach sand near the high-water mark, and among coastal vegetation including low saltmarsh or mangroves. May also roost on wooden oyster leases or other similar structures. Is carnivorous, mainly eating crustaceans. |
| <i>Gallinago hardwickii</i> | Latham's Snipe | M | Usually inhabit open, freshwater wetlands with low, dense vegetation (e.g., swamps, flooded grasslands or heathlands, around bogs and other water bodies). Known to occur in the upland wetlands of the New England Tablelands and Monaro Plateau. |
| <i>Hydroprogne caspia</i> | Caspian Tern | M | This species is gregarious when breeding, though single nesting does occur. Outside of breeding, the Caspian Tern occurs mostly singly or in small groups. Occasional larger groups of 30 or more birds are seen, often at rich |

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Status | Habitat |
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| | | | fishing areas or at nightly roost sites, where they may roost with other terns. The species may also aggregate into flocks on passage (migration) (Higgins & Davies 1996). Within Australia, the Caspian Tern has a widespread occurrence and can be found in both coastal and inland habitat |
| <i>Calidris melanotos</i> | Pectoral Sandpiper | M | In NSW, it is widespread, but scattered. Records exist east of the Great Divide, from Casino and Ballina, south to Ulladulla. West of the Great Divide, the species is widespread in the Riverina and Lower Western regions. The species is found at coastal lagoons, estuaries, bays, swamps, lakes, inundated grasslands, saltmarshes, river pools, creeks, floodplains and artificial wetlands. The species is usually found in coastal or near coastal habitat but occasionally found further inland. It prefers wetlands that have open fringing mudflats and low, emergent or fringing vegetation, such as grass or samphire. The species has also been recorded in swamp overgrown with lignum. |
| <i>Calidris acuminata</i> | Sharp-tailed Sandpiper | M | The Sharp-tailed Sandpiper spends the non-breeding season in Australia. Most of the population migrates to Australia, mostly to the south-east and are widespread in both inland and coastal locations and in both freshwater and saline habitats. |
| <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> | Curlew Sandpiper | CE, M | Generally occupies littoral and estuarine habitats, and in NSW is mainly found in intertidal mudflats of sheltered coasts. It also occurs in non-tidal swamps, lakes and lagoons on the coast and sometimes inland. It forages in or at the edge of shallow water, occasionally on exposed algal mats or waterweed, or on banks of beach-cast seagrass or seaweed. Roosts on shingle, shell or sand beaches; spits or islets on the coast or in wetlands; or sometimes in salt marsh, among beach-cast seaweed, or on rocky shores. Feeds on worms, molluscs, crustaceans, insects and some seeds. Distributed around most of the Australian coastline (including Tasmania). It occurs along the entire coast of NSW, particularly in the Hunter Estuary, and sometimes in freshwater wetlands in the Murray-Darling Basin. Inland records are probably mainly of birds pausing for a few days during migration. |
| <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> | Common Sandpiper | M | Found along all coastlines of Australia and in many areas inland. The population that migrates to Australia breeds in the Russian far east. Roost sites are typically on rocks or in roots or branches of vegetation, especially mangroves. The species utilises a wide range of coastal wetlands and some inland wetlands, with varying levels of salinity, and is mostly found around muddy margins or rocky shores and rarely on mudflats. The Common Sandpiper has been recorded in estuaries and deltas of streams, as well as on banks farther upstream; around lakes, pools, billabongs, reservoirs, dams and claypans, and occasionally piers and jetties. The muddy margins |

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Status | Habitat |
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| | | | utilised by the species are often narrow, and may be steep. The species is often associated with mangroves, and sometimes found in areas of mud littered with rocks or snags. The species is known to perch on posts, jetties, moored boats and other artificial structures, and to sometimes rest on mud or 'loaf' on rocks. |
| <i>Apus pacificus</i> | Fork-tailed Swift | M | The Fork-tailed Swift is almost exclusively aerial, flying from less than 1m to at least 300m above ground and probably much higher. In Australia, they mostly occur over inland plains but sometimes above foothills or in coastal areas. They often occur over cliffs and beaches and also over islands and sometimes well out to sea. They also occur over settled areas, including towns, urban areas and cities. They mostly occur over dry or open habitats, including riparian woodland and tea-tree swamps, low scrub, heathland or saltmarsh. They are also found at treeless grassland and sandplains covered with spinifex, open farmland and inland and coastal sand-dunes. They sometimes occur above rainforests, wet sclerophyll forest or open forest or plantations of pines (Higgins 1999). They forage aerially, up to hundreds of metres above ground, but also less than 1m above open areas or over water. They often occur in areas of updraughts, especially around cliffs. They are said to search along edges of low-pressure systems, which assist flight. Low-flying Swifts are said to be precursors of unsettled weather, possibly because insect prey fly at a lower altitude when the air is humid and when the air density is low (Cameron 1952). They sometimes feed aerially among tree-tops in open forest (Higgins 1999). They probably roost aerially, but are occasionally observed to land (Higgins 1999). They were once recorded roosting in trees, using a bare exposed branch emergent above the foliage (Newell 1930). Sometimes they loaf in the air, by allowing strong winds to support them (Boehm 1939). There have been rare records of loafing elsewhere including Swifts briefly resting on ground (Campbell 1900) and alighting on wire netting of a tennis court (Wheeler 1959). Once, one was seen attempting to land on the wall of a lighthouse (Scarff 1990). |
| <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i> | Gul-billed Tern | M | Gull-billed Terns are found in freshwater swamps, brackish and salt lakes, beaches and estuarine mudflats, floodwaters, sewage farms, irrigated croplands and grasslands. They are only rarely found over the ocean. |
| Mammals | | | |
| <i>Nyctophilus corbeni</i> | Corben's Long-eared Bat | V | Overall, the distribution coincides approximately with the Murray Darling Basin with the Pilliga Scrub region being the distinct stronghold for this species. Inhabits a variety of vegetation types, including mallee, bullocke <i>Allocasuarina leuhmanni</i> and box eucalypt dominated communities, but it is distinctly more common in |

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Status | Habitat |
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| | | | box/ironbark/cypress-pine vegetation that occurs in a north-south belt along the western slopes and plains of NSW and southern Queensland. Roosts in tree hollows, crevices, and under loose bark. Mating takes place in autumn with one or two young born in late spring to early summer. |
| <i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i> | Koala | V | In NSW it mainly occurs on the central and north coasts with some populations in the west of the Great Dividing Range. Inhabit eucalypt woodlands and forests. Feed on the foliage of more than 70 eucalypt species and 30 non-eucalypt species, but in any one area will select preferred browse species. Inactive for most of the day, feeding and moving mostly at night. Spend most of their time in trees, but will descend and traverse open ground to move between trees. Home range size varies with quality of habitat, ranging from less than two ha to several hundred hectares in size. Generally solitary, but have complex social hierarchies based on a dominant male with a territory overlapping several females and sub-ordinate males on the periphery. |
| Amphibians | | | |
| <i>Litoria raniformis</i> | Southern Bell Frog | V | Usually found in or around permanent or ephemeral Black Box/Lignum/Nitre Goosefoot swamps, Lignum/Typha swamps and River Red Gum swamps or billabongs along floodplains and river valleys. They are also found in irrigated rice crops, particularly where there is no available natural habitat. Breeding occurs during the warmer months and is triggered by flooding or a significant rise in water levels. Known to breed anytime from early spring through to late summer/early autumn (Sept to April) following a rise in water levels. During the breeding season animals are found floating amongst aquatic vegetation (especially cumbungi or Common Reeds) within or at the edge of slow-moving streams, marshes, lagoons, lakes, farm dams and rice crops. Tadpoles require standing water for at least 4 months for development and metamorphosis to occur but can take up to 12 months to develop. Outside the breeding season animals disperse away from the water and take shelter beneath ground debris such as fallen timber and bark, rocks, grass clumps and in deep soil cracks. |
| Reptiles | | | |
| <i>Hemiaspis damelii</i> | Grey Snake | E | Restricted geographic distribution. The population is severely fragmented and undergoing continuing decline, due to habitat loss and degradation by agricultural practices, predation by invasive species and poisoning by cane toads. Key attributes of grey snake habitat are the floodplains and ephemeral wetlands which provide breeding habitat for the frog species that are its main prey, the presence of the frog species themselves, and the heavy clay |

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Status | Habitat |
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| | | | soils which provide and cracks and crevices that the species uses in its hunting strategy and for shelter. |
| Fish | | | |
| <i>Maccullochella macquariensis</i> | Trout Cod | E | The Trout Cod is endemic to the southern Murray-Darling river system, including the Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers, and the Macquarie River in central NSW. Trout Cod are often found in faster flowing water with rocky and gravel bottoms, but can also be found in some slower flowing, lowland rivers. Large woody snags are very important for the species as they provide complex habitats for each stage of the species' life cycle. |
| <i>Maccullochella peeli</i> | Murray Cod | V | Widely distributed in waterways of the Murray-Darling Basin. There are approx. 13,245km of waterways in the Murray-Darling Basin that may be suitable habitat. An estimate of the extent of occurrence based on an average river width of 50m would be approximately 660km ² . Murray Cod has specific habitat requirements. Sedentary and territorial rather than free ranging, and has a distinct preference for woody debris (snags), debris piles and bank side vegetation that provides shelter from high water velocities. The availability of these specific habitats has been reduced since European settlement due to desnagging, habitat degradation in the form of physical fragmentation, cold water discharges from dams and other forms of pollution |