

Our Ref: 16001 EPBC 2011-5898 Annual Compliance 2016-17

Via: email

Date: 24 May 2017

Attn:

Commonwealth Department of the Environment

GPO Box 787

epbcmonitoring@environment.gov.au

Canberra ACT 2601



RE: HUNTLEE NEW TOWN, BRANXTON EPBC (2011/5898) ANNUAL COMPLIANCE 2016-17

MJD Environmental has been commissioned by Huntlee Pty Ltd to prepare an annual compliance report for the 2016 -17 period detailing the measures undertaken to address approval conditions granted under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) for the Huntlee New Town at Branxton (EPBC No. 2011/5898) on the 15 October 2013 (with variations approved on 17th February 2014 and 27th May 2015). This report includes an overview of all works undertaken to comply with conditions to date.

The current status of each condition of approval is summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1: EPBC Approval 2011/5898 Condition Tracking (at 24-5-2017)

Condition	Status	Comment			
1.	Approved	Via email from	2-12-2013		
2.	Approved	Via email from	2-12-2013		
3.	Note	No action required at this time. Independent scientific expert approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 30-5-2014. Persoonia pauciflora individuals planted into Persoonia Park include plants sourced from the Northern Population are being monitored for translocation success.			
4.	Approved	Via email from	21-1-2014		
5. (a) (b) (c)	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015			
6.	Approved	Via email from	11-12-2013		
7.	Approved	Via email from	11-12-2013		
8.	Note	Condition 8 satisfied via the implementation of Condition 15(a).			









Condition	Status	Comment			
9.	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015			
10. (a) (b)	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015			
(c)					
11.(a – k)	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2014			
12.	Approved	Independent scientific expert approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 8-11-2013. Independent expert approval for <i>Persoonia pauciflora</i> population Management Plan 10-1-2014			
13.	Approved - Stage 1	Pre-clearance surveys completed within the entire Stage 1 development areas. No new <i>Persoonia pauciflora</i> individuals (dead or alive) recorded. Via email from 16-6-2015 No further action required			
	Note	Future pre-clearance surveys to be undertaken for the remaining Huntlee development areas outside Stage 1.			
14.	Approved - Stage 1	Satisfied for Stage 1 via Condition 13. No further action required.			
14.	Note	Future pre-clearance surveys to be undertaken for the remaining Huntlee development areas outside Stage 1.			
15.(a-o)	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2014			
16.	Approved	Independent scientific expert approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 8-11-2013. Independent expert approval for Huntlee Conservation Management Plan 9-1-2014			
17.	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 5-12-2013 Variation to Condition 17 & 18 of the EPBC Act approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 27-5-2015 Revised Huntlee Conservation Coordinator Contractual Arrangements and Work Plan approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 8-9-2015			
18.(a) (b) (c)	Approved	Satisfied via Condition 17.			



Condition	Status	Comment
19.	Approved	Variation to Condition 19 of the EPBC Act approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 17-2-2014 First payment of \$100,000 made 14-7-2014 Second payment of \$141,700 made 14-7-2015 Third payment of \$100,000 made 14-7-2016 Payment of \$341,700 completed in accordance with Condition 19. No future action required.
20.	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015. Conservation land transferred to NSW Government. Land now being managed by NSW NPWS. Note: Ongoing discussions with DoE Officers current and additional documentation being prepared in response to DoE Compliance Monitoring Inspection report issued 17-3-2017.
21.(a) (b)		Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015 Note: Ongoing discussions with DoE Officers current and
(c)	Approved	additional documentation being prepared in response to DoE Compliance Monitoring Inspection report issued 17-3-2017.
22	Note	No action required at this time. Compliance monitoring inspection of Condition 11 completed by DoE Officers & 10-9-2015. DoE officers issued advice on 12-10-2015 stating, the Department is satisfied that the action is being undertaken in accordance with the conditions of approval. Compliance monitoring inspection of completed by DoE Officers & 4-11-2016. DoE officers issued advice on 17-3-2017 discussing the provision of additional documentation relating to Condition 20 and secondly a recommendation to revise management plans required under Conditions 11 and 15 to reflect current project status including dedication of conservation lands to the NSW Government. The revision is to be achieved via a variation to the EPBC approval conditions relating to conditions 11 and 15. These items are currently being actioned by Huntlee.
23.	Approved	Commencement of Action 24 February 2014 Via email from 26-2-2014
24.	Approved	Previous Annual reports available online - https://www.lwppropertygroup.com.au/our- communities/huntlee/caring-for-the-environment



Condition	Status	Comment		
	Pending	2016-17 compliance monitoring report (this report) submitted 24-5-2017. Report to be published online following DoE approval.		
25.	Note	No action required at this time.		
26.	Note	No action required at this time.		
27.	Note	No action required at this time.		
28.	Approved	Satisfied via Condition 23 Commencement of Action 24 February 2014 Via email from 26-2-2014		
29.	Note	No action required at this time.		
30.	Approved	Management Plans have been published and made available on the Huntlee website (https://www.lwppropertygroup.com.au/our-communities/huntlee/caring-for-the-environmenthttp://www.lwppropertygroup.com.au/our-communities/huntlee/epbc-approved-management-plans). Via email from 14-2-2014.		

The EPBC approval required the preparation, approval and implementation of two management plans as follows:

- 1. Condition 11 Persoonia pauciflora Population Management Plan (PPPMP)
- 2. Condition 15 Huntlee Conservation Management Plan (HCMP)

The current status of required actions as listed within the PPPMP and HCMP is provided in **Attachment 1** and **Attachment 2** respectively. DoE officers issued advice on 17-3-2017 discussing a recommendation to revise management plans required under Conditions 11 and 15 to reflect current project status including dedication of conservation lands to the NSW Government. The revision is to be achieved via a variation to the EPBC approval conditions relating to conditions 11 and 15. These items are currently being investigated by Huntlee.

We trust this is sufficient for your purposes, however should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the writer.

Yours sincerely

Matt Doherty Director

MJD Environmental Pty Limited

Encl: Attachment 1 – HCMP Status Attachment 2 – PPPMP Status





Attachment 1 - HCMP Status

Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
s4.1	Communication: Training & Awareness All contractors to undergo environmental induction with the induction to be developed by the Huntlee Conservation Officer.	Upon commencement	Active Ongoing	Induction programme has been developed and is being implemented.
s4.2	Communication: Sign-In Protocol All persons entering the conservation areas are to sign-in with details recorded on the	Upon commencement and ongoing	Active Ongoing	This protocol was established by the HCO and is being implemented in conjunction with 4.1 above by the Huntlee Academy.
	sign in sheet.			An induction register and separate sign-in register has been maintained.
				Note: NPWS (now land manager on behalf of NSW Government post land transfer) also maintain access protocol.
s6	Weed Control: Primary Phase Target: Weed cover of large infestations to	Reduced within two years of	Active For Action	An audit has commenced by the HCO in conjunction with the Huntlee Academy.
	be reduced in first 2 years. Performance targets to be developed during the 2 years of active works.	commencement		Weed management has commenced with large infestations prioritised for treatment. Future works will be conducted in collaboration with the NSW NPWS following transfer of conservation lands the NSW Government.
s6	Weed Control: Secondary Phase	Within three years	Dormant	To commence following Primary Weed Control Phase.
	Target: No large infestations remain, only active management at least twice per year for former large sites and medium sites.	of commencement and then yearly	Future Action	
s6	Weed Control: Maintenance Phase	Ongoing	Dormant	To commence following Secondary Weed Control
	Target: Weeds kept under control through annual control programme.		Future Action	Phase.



Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
s7	Pest Control: Animal Population Assessment Carry out an assessment of the impact and estimated population of feral and/or domestic	Within the first year of commencement	Open For Action	In conjunction with NSW NPWS, baiting/trapping for feral dogs occurred in 2014-2015 period as this was deemed a priority by NSW NPWS. Population assessments are now ongoing.
	animals.			Collaborative baiting program currently being organised by Local Land Services between local land owners. Huntlee will be undertaking baiting as part of this program. NPWS will be undertaking baiting program concurrently.
s7	Pest Control: Animal Control	As required	Open	In conjunction with NSW Parks & Wildlife,
	Implement control measures based on annual monitoring.		In progress	baiting/trapping for feral dogs occurred in 2014-2015 period as this was deemed a priority by NSW NPWS.
	· ·			Collaborative baiting program currently being organised by Local Land Services between local land owners. Huntlee will be undertaking baiting as part of this program. NPWS will be undertaking baiting program concurrently.
				Future works will be conducted in collaboration with the NSW NPWS following transfer of conservation lands the NSW Government.
s7	Pest Control: Animal Monitoring Carry out annual pest monitoring.	Annual	Open For Action	Baiting programme for feral dogs conducted in 2014- 2015 period. Monitoring ongoing.
	Carry out annual pest monitoring.		Collaborative baiting program currently being organised by Local Land Services between local land owners. Huntlee will be undertaking baiting as part of this program. NPWS will be undertaking baiting program concurrently.	
				Future works will be conducted in collaboration with the NSW NPWS following transfer of conservation lands the NSW Government.
s8	Grazing Prevention: Fence Inspection &	Within 3 months	Complied	Fencing audit completed.
	Programme	of HCO commencement	No further action required	



Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
s8	Grazing Prevention: Stock Removal Remove stock from the Conservation Lands.	Within 3 months of fences being determined as adequate	Complied No further action	All stock has been removed from the Conservation Lands.
s8	Grazing Prevention: Monitoring Monitor for domestic grazing.	Weekly for the first month and then ongoing	Active In Progress	Monthly inspections occurring. To date, no evidence of further grazing in the conservation lands has been identified.
				Minor incursions from neighbouring properties to be dealt with on an as needs basis and in collaboration with NSW NPWS.
s9	Fencing: Fencing Works Conduct an audit of the fencing to Conservation Areas 1, 2 and 3 and	Within 24 months of commencement	Active In Progress	Fencing audit has been completed. Planning has commenced for the repair, replacement and installation of new fencing.
	implement repairs or new fencing and signage as required. Persoonia Park is also to be fenced in conjunction with the development front.			Ongoing fencing maintenance occurring as needs and in collaboration with the NSW NPWS.
				Current priority is the fencing along the northern boundary of Conservation Area 1.
				Following conservation land dedication to the NSW NPWS, a program of internal fence line removal has been identified by the Park Ranger.
s9	Fencing: Macropod Thoroughfares	Ongoing	Open	Fencing audit has been completed. Planning has
	Construct macropod thoroughfares and install temporary monitoring points.		Future Action	commenced for the repair, replacement and installation of new fencing and introduction of Macropod thoroughfares as required.
s10	Pathogen Control: Baseline	Ongoing	Active	Sampling has been undertaken around the Northern
			In progress	Population, Conservation Area 1 and Persoonia Park. The soils tests returned a negative result for Phytophthora from each sample location.
s10	Pathogen Control: Protocols	Ongoing	Active In Progress	Protocols have been developed. Hygiene kits have been set up and are actively being used by site personnel and visitors.



Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
s11	Revegetation	Within 10 years of	Active	An audit of areas identified for revegetation has been
		commencement	In Progress	scheduled to determine state of natural rehabilitation post removal of grazing pressure.
				Follow up monitoring of areas previously mulched (with mulch from native vegetation cleared off the development site) to aid in weed suppression and assist natural regeneration is ongoing.
				Monitoring of natural regeneration ongoing.
s13	Monitoring	Ongoing	Open	Monitoring programme prepared by HCO.
			For Noting	
s14	Reporting	Ongoing	Active	Reporting and maintenance of records is ongoing in
			In Progress	accordance with the annual reporting requirements of the EPBC Approval.



Attachment 2 - PPPMP Status

Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
3.1	Measures to protect and conserve P. pauciflora Huntlee to develop a range of programmes to protect P. pauciflora, including: protection from stock habitat restoration pathogen control propagation trials	Various timing triggers	Active Ongoing	Programmes have been developed that cover both the HCMP and PPMP. All implementation measures will fall under one or more of the programmes. All programmes are currently being implemented.
3.2	Unauthorised access deterrence	Various timing triggers	Active In Progress	Being completed as part of ongoing fencing works outlined in HCMP table.
3.3	Community Engagement: Fact Sheet Prepare a fact sheet about P. pauciflora.	Within 3 months of commencement	Complied Ongoing	The fact sheet has been prepared and is hosted on the Huntlee website (https://www.lwppropertygroup.com.au/our-communities/huntlee/caring-for-the-environment). The fact sheet is also freely available in print at the Huntlee Sales & Project Office. The fact sheet may be updated from time to time to provide updates and additional information as required.
3.3	Community Engagement: Microsite Microsite for <i>P. pauciflora</i> to be hosted on proponent website and is to include information, links and progress reports.	Within 6 months of commencement	Complied Ongoing	Both the PPMP and HCMP are hosted on the Huntlee website. A dedicated environmental page with information, links and compliance reports has been established and can be found at the following link - https://www.lwppropertygroup.com.au/our-communities/huntlee/caring-for-the-environment. The microsite will be updated from maintained to provide updates and additional information as required.
3.3	Community Engagement: Signage Provide information signage and conservation signage around / near the conservation areas.	Various timing triggers – with nearby construction works.	Active In Progress	Conservation signs have been prepared for conservation boundaries and shall be deployed as part of ongoing works. Signs have been updated by NPWS.



Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
3.3	Community Engagement: Interaction Programme	Within 6 months of commencement and ongoing	Complied Ongoing	Presentation has been completed. Presentation is available on Huntlee Environment microsite as a
	Prepare a <i>P. pauciflora</i> PowerPoint presentation and provide updates on compliance through the website.			component of available community education material.
3.3	Community Engagement: Evaluation	Various timing triggers –	Open	With the arrival of new residents forming the
	Formal assessment of the success of community education to be done at key milestones.	with annual report following first residents (community) living at Huntlee	Future Action	growing Huntlee community, regular updates, bulletins and announcements are being posted on the My-Huntlee Residents Facebook page by the Huntlee Community Development Manger (https://www.facebook.com/myhuntlee/?fref=nf).
4.0	Monitoring	Various timing triggers	Active In progress	Ongoing monitoring of all known <i>P. pauciflora</i> has occurred during the reporting period.
				Camera traps were not deployed during the monitoring period as no Macropod fauna thoroughfares have been installed as part of ongoing fencing works. Regular observations have been made of Macropods within the conservation and development areas throughout the reporting period.
				The compliance report provides the required AMR for the 2016-17 period.