

Our Ref: 16001 EPBC 2011-5898 Annual Compliance 2018-19
Via: email

Date: 23 May 2019

Attn: Keith Horwood
Commonwealth Department of the Environment
GPO Box 787
epbcmonitoring@environment.gov.au
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Keith

RE: HUNTLEE NEW TOWN, BRANXTON EPBC (2011/5898) ANNUAL COMPLIANCE 2018-19

MJD Environmental has been commissioned by Huntlee Pty Ltd to prepare an annual compliance report for the 2018 -19 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 10-5-2019)

Condition	Status	Comment
1.	Approved	Via email from Alex Taylor 2-12-2013
2.	Approved	Via email from Alex Taylor 2-12-2013
3.	Note	No action required at this time. Independent scientific expert approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 30-5-2014. <i>Persoonia pauciflora</i> individuals planted into Persoonia Park include plants sourced from the Northern Population are being monitored for translocation success.
4.	Approved	Via email from Alex Taylor 21-1-2014
5. (a)	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015
(b)		
(c)		
6.	Approved	Via email from Alex Taylor 11-12-2013
7.	Approved	Via email from Alex Taylor 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)	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015
(b)		
(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 Diana Bannerman 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.
	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)	Approved	Satisfied via Condition 17.
(b)		
(c)		

Condition	Status	Comment
19.	Approved	<p>Variation to Condition 19 of the EPBC Act approved via letter from Shane Gaddes 17-2-2014</p> <p>First payment of \$100,000 made 14-7-2014</p> <p>Second payment of \$141,700 made 14-7-2015</p> <p>Third payment of \$100,000 made 14-7-2016</p> <p>Payment of \$341,700 completed in accordance with Condition 19. No future action required.</p>
20.	Approved	<p>Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015.</p> <p>Conservation land transferred to NSW Government. Land now being managed by NSW NPWS.</p> <p>Note: Ongoing discussions with DoE Officers current and additional documentation being prepared in response to DoE Compliance Monitoring Inspection report issued 17-3-2017.</p>
21.(a)	Approved	Via letter from Shane Gaddes 14-1-2015
(b)		Note: Ongoing discussions with DoE Officers current and additional documentation being prepared in response to DoE Compliance Monitoring Inspection report issued 17-3-2017.
(c)		
22	Note	<p>No action required at this time.</p> <p>Compliance monitoring inspection of Condition 11 completed by DoE Officers Alex Taylor & Kate Paull 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.</p> <p>Compliance monitoring inspection of completed by DoE Officers Alex Taylor & Diana Bannerman 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.</p>
23.	Approved	<p>Commencement of Action 24 February 2014</p> <p>Via email from Alex Taylor 26-2-2014</p>
24.	Approved	<p>Previous Annual reports available online - https://huntlee.com.au/caring-for-the-environment/</p>

Condition	Status	Comment
	Pending	2017-18 compliance monitoring report (this report) submitted 24-5-2018. [Published online] 2018-19 compliance monitoring report (this report) submitted 24-5-2019. Report to be published online following DoE approval (https://huntlee.com.au/caring-for-the-environment/)
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 Alex Taylor 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://huntlee.com.au/caring-for-the-environment/). Via email from Alex Taylor 14-2-2014.

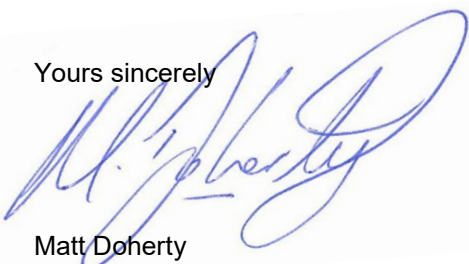
The EPBC approval required the preparation, approval and implementation of two management plans as follows:

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 under review 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 continues to be implemented.
s4.2	Communication: Sign-In Protocol All persons entering the conservation areas are to sign-in with details recorded on the sign in sheet.	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. 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 and provision of indemnity forms.
s6	Weed Control: Primary Phase Target: Weed cover of large infestations to be reduced in first 2 years. Performance targets to be developed during the 2 years of active works.	Reduced within two years of commencement	Active For Action	Weed control undertaken by Huntlee Academy primarily targeting Lantana. Treatment of a Mother-of-Millions patch has also commenced.
s6	Weed Control: Secondary Phase Target: No large infestations remain, only active management at least twice per year for former large sites and medium sites.	Within three years of commencement and then yearly	Dormant Future Action	Ongoing treatment of areas treated by Huntlee Academy required.
s6	Weed Control: Maintenance Phase Target: Weeds kept under control through annual control programme.	Ongoing	Dormant Future Action	To commence following Secondary Weed Control Phase.
s7	Pest Control: Animal Population Assessment Carry out an assessment of the impact and estimated population of feral and/or domestic animals.	Within the first year of commencement	Open For Action	Wild Dog baiting program commissioned for 2019 programme. Successful contractor undertaking baiting in NSW NPWS lands concurrently.



Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
s7	Pest Control: Animal Control Implement control measures based on annual monitoring.	As required	Open In progress	Wild Dog baiting program commissioned in 2018 and occurred in late Winter to Spring. Programme commissioned for 2019. Ongoing baiting programs to occur following review of each baiting program and results, along with recommendation of timing by contractor. Note wherever possible baiting programs to occur as overlap with NSW NPWS to maximise results over large land area.
s7	Pest Control: Animal Monitoring Carry out annual pest monitoring.	Annual	Open For Action	Wild Dog baiting program commissioned in 2018 and occurred in late Winter to Spring. Programme commissioned for 2019. Ongoing baiting programs to occur following review of each baiting program and results, along with recommendation of timing by contractor. Note wherever possible baiting programs to occur as overlap with NSW NPWS to maximise results over large land area.
s8	Grazing Prevention: Fence Inspection & Programme	Within 3 months of HCO commencement	Complied No further action required	Fencing audit completed.
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.



Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
s9	Fencing: Fencing Works Conduct an audit of the fencing to Conservation Areas 1, 2 and 3 and implement repairs or new fencing and signage as required. Persoonia Park is also to be fenced in conjunction with the development front.	Within 24 months of commencement	Active In Progress	<p>Fencing audit has been completed per above. Ongoing fencing maintenance occurring as needs and in collaboration with the NSW NPWS.</p> <p>Steel bollard and rope wire fencing installed along Old North Road to deter unsolicited access. Ongoing monitoring and maintenance of fence and gates to be undertaken as required.</p> <p>Fencing installed along Hanwood Road being chain wire mesh and steel bollard with rope wire. Ongoing monitoring and maintenance of fence to be undertaken as required.</p> <p>Fence line repair (post and wire type) has been undertaken along conservation areas (approx. 200m) a further 300m (approx.) identified for maintenance and repair.</p>
s9	Fencing: Macropod Thoroughfares Construct macropod thoroughfares and install temporary monitoring points.	Ongoing	Open Future Action	No macropod thoroughfares have been installed at this time as fencing types maintained are of a post and wire type and/or newly installed fencing to be of a rope wire and steel bollard type to restrict vandalism and unsolicited access. Both fence types are not considered as restrictive to macropods moving across the locality.
s10	Pathogen Control: Baseline	Ongoing	Active In progress	Sampling has been undertaken around the Northern 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 commencement	Active In Progress	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. Natural regeneration has been observed in areas where grazing pressure removed (Conservation Area 2).
s13	Monitoring	Ongoing	Open For Noting	Monitoring programme prepared by HCO.
s14	Reporting	Ongoing	Active In Progress	Reporting and maintenance of records is ongoing in accordance with the annual reporting requirements of the EPBC Approval.



Attachment 2 – PPPMP Status

Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
3.1	<p>Measures to protect and conserve <i>P. pauciflora</i></p> <p>Huntlee to develop a range of programmes to protect <i>P. pauciflora</i>, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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	<p>Community Engagement: Fact Sheet</p> <p>Prepare a fact sheet about <i>P. pauciflora</i>.</p>	Within 3 months of commencement	Complied Ongoing	<p>The fact sheet has been prepared and is hosted on the Huntlee website (https://huntlee.com.au/caring-for-the-environment/). The fact sheet is also freely available in print at the Huntlee Sales & Project Office.</p> <p>The fact sheet may be updated from time to time to provide updates and additional information as required.</p>
3.3	<p>Community Engagement</p> <p>Microsite for <i>P. pauciflora</i> to be hosted on proponent website and is to include information, links and progress reports.</p>	Within 6 months of commencement	Complied Ongoing	<p>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://huntlee.com.au/caring-for-the-environment/.</p> <p>Additionally a Huntlee Residents social media page (closed group) has been set up and periodic environmental updates are presented on the page.</p>
3.3	<p>Community Engagement: Signage</p> <p>Provide information signage and conservation signage around / near the conservation areas.</p>	Various timing triggers – with nearby construction works.	Active In Progress	<p>Conservation signs have been deployed. Signs have been updated by NPWS following dedication to the NSW Government</p> <p>Signage has been placed around trial planting plots in the conservation lands.</p>



Sect.	Item	Timing / Trigger	Status	Progress Commentary
3.3	Community Engagement: Interaction Programme Prepare a <i>P. pauciflora</i> PowerPoint presentation and provide updates on compliance through the website.	Within 6 months of commencement and ongoing	Complied Ongoing	Flyer is available on Huntlee Environment microsite as a component of available community education material.
3.3	Community Engagement: Evaluation Formal assessment of the success of community education to be done at key milestones.	Various timing triggers – with annual report following first residents (community) living at Huntlee	Open Future Action	With the arrival of new residents forming the growing Huntlee community, regular updates, bulletins and announcements are being posted on the My-Huntlee Residents social media page by Huntlee.
4.0	Monitoring	Various timing triggers	Active In progress	Ongoing monitoring of all known <i>P. pauciflora</i> is undertaken. 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 2018-19 period.