RioTinto

RTA Yarwun Pty Ltd

CONNIE CREEK OFFSET – ANNUAL OFFSET AREA REPORT EPBC 2018/8381

Document Revision & Approval History:



Rev	Date	Description	Prepared	Reviewed	RTA Yarwun Approved
1.0	01/11/2026	CONNIE CREEK OFFSET – ANNUAL OFFSET AREA REPORT EPBC 2018/8381	W. Hurling, E. Marsh	A. Green	C. Wise

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Glossary, acronyms and abbreviations

Term	Definition
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DMY	Dry matter yield / pasture yield
Dry season	Between April and December each year
EPBC Act	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)
EPBC Approval	2018/8381
MNES	Matters of national environmental significance
OAMP	Offset Area Management Plan
RTAY	RTA Yarwun Pty Ltd
TBC	To be confirmed
2025 – 2026 reporting period	Annual reporting period from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026
Spring 2025	October – December 2025 monitoring period
Summer 2026	January – March 2026 monitoring period
Autumn 2026	April – June 2026 monitoring period
Winter 2026	July – September 2026 monitoring period

1. Executive Summary

RTA Yarwun Pty Ltd (RTAY) holds EPBC approval 2018/8381 for the expansion of borrow pits at Lot 7 SP228453, Aldoga Road, Queensland. The approved Offset Area Management Plan (OAMP) establishes the Connie Creek offset on Lot 5377 PH1903 to compensate for significant residual impacts to koala and squatter pigeon (southern) habitat. This Annual Offset Area Report assesses implementation of the OAMP for the reporting period 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026.

As reported to DCCEEW in October 2025, an uncontrolled bushfire affected the region including the Connie Creek property and offset areas. Monitoring undertaken since the October fire has shown native vegetation regeneration and recovery across the site.

Due to heavy wet season rainfall, the January to March 2026 quarterly monitoring was unable to be undertaken. Connie Creek is land locked and access is via approval from the neighbouring property owners; approval was not granted. The April to June 2026 inspection was limited to the higher, drier ground in the Western portion of the offset property. Safety concerns were raised for people and vehicles becoming bogged and damaging the private access tracks. Quarterly monitoring of all sites resumed in July to September 2026. The monitoring undertaken did not identify any prohibited vegetation clearing or exceedance of the OAMP weed or pest-animal triggers. Formal five-year habitat quality and threatened-species monitoring is not due until 2028.

During the second year of the OAMP execution, a number of activities have been undertaken including weed monitoring and treatment, grazing and pasture-yield assessment, feral pest and fire monitoring, vegetation and access inspections and supplementary ecological assessments. Fencing and firebreak works were initially behind schedule due to delays in securing timelines for Cultural Heritage assessments, but have now been completed.

Due to both the delay in the fencing works and some open stock gates, cattle were observed in the western offset area. The neighbouring stock owner was asked to remove the cattle. The mountainous terrain and dense vegetation have made locating and removing the remaining cattle difficult, and removal is ongoing. Discussions with the neighbour resulted in the installation of additional stock gates, and additional signage has been ordered.

In September 2026 Rio Tinto secured Ecosure to oversee management of the Connie Creek OAMP. The partnership will see Ecosure providing dedicated support to RTAY for ongoing OAMP implementation, monitoring and compliance reporting. This delivery model is intended to improve forward planning, consistency of compliance records, early identification of OAMP triggers and timely implementation and close-out of corrective actions, supporting RTAY in meeting its ongoing approval and OAMP obligations.

2. Introduction

1.1 Description of activities

On 31 October 2019, RTA Yarwun Pty Ltd, ACN 137 266 301, (RTA Yarwun or RTAY hereon in) received approval under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) for the expansion of borrow pits at Lot 7 SP228453, Aldoga Road, Queensland (EPBC 2018/8381). The approved Offset Area Management Plan (OAMP) (Earthtrade 2024) establishes securement of the Connie Creek site (732.39 ha), located approximately 160 km north-west of Rockhampton on Lot 5377 PH1903. The site comprises the Eastern Offset and Western Offset (Offset area), to offset significant residual impacts associated with the approved action to the following matters of national environmental significance (MNES):

- koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) habitat (96 hectares approved impact, 410.70 ha offset area)
- squatter pigeon (southern) (*Geophaps scripta scripta*) dispersal habitat (162.2 hectares approved impact, 550.60 ha offset area).

The OAMP seeks to improve habitat for koala (410.70 ha) and squatter pigeon (550.60 ha) (Figure 1).

1.2 Report requirements

This report was prepared in October 2026 and summarises implementation of the OAMP and the results of monitoring and management undertaken from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026. The report aims to meet the annual reporting requirements of the approved OAMP and support compliance reporting under EPBC approval 2018/8381.

1.3 Reporting basis and contractor transition

During the annual reporting period from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026 (2025-26 reporting period), Biodiversity Australia (2026a, 2026b) undertook implementation planning, weed management, quarterly monitoring and ecological assessments, while RTAY personnel undertook site inspections and progressed fencing and access works.

In September 2026 Ecosure commenced management of the offset program and will provide dedicated support for ongoing OAMP implementation, monitoring, management actions and compliance reporting. This approach is intended to improve coordination, consistency of records and early identification of triggers and corrective actions, supporting RTAY's ongoing compliance with the OAMP.

This report uses the records provided by RTAY, including monitoring and management documentation prepared by Biodiversity Australia, Ecosure and RTAY personnel. Activities completed during the reporting period are summarised against the applicable OAMP requirements, with the relevant technical reports and project records referenced as supporting evidence in the appendices.

3. Monitoring Delivered

Works completed during the reporting period are summarised in Table 1 to align with the quarterly monitoring and reporting schedule. The monitoring sites are detailed in Table 2 and Figure 1. The Connie Creek RTAY Borrow Pits Offset Area Management Record is provided in Appendix 1 to summarise the monitoring and management activities that were completed as per the OAMP. The quarterly monitoring reports are included in Appendices 2-5. Due to rain and neighbouring property access approval, there is a heavier bias towards monitoring of the western offset area during 2025-26.

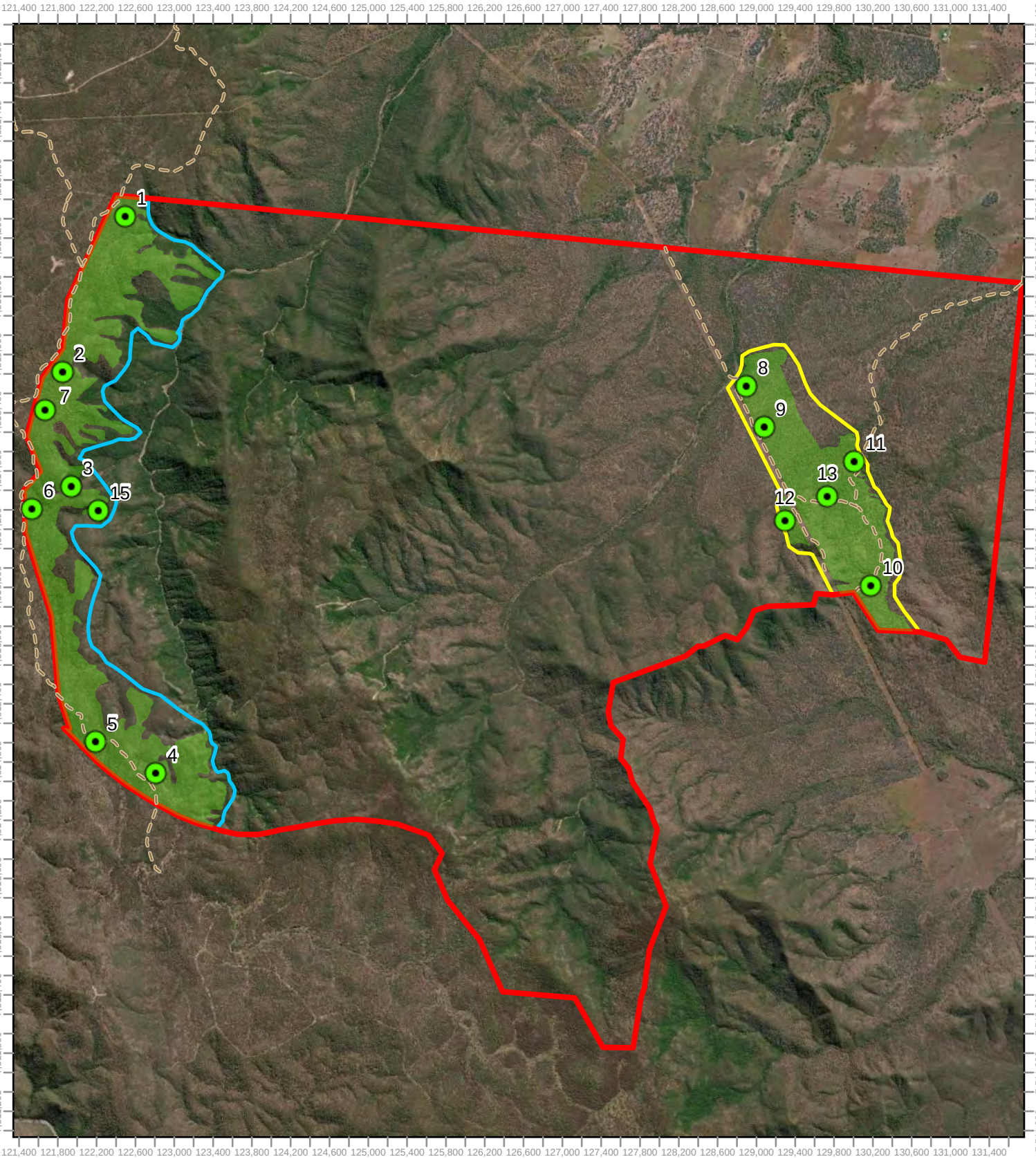
Table 1 Summary of works completed in each quarterly reporting period.

Monitoring Period	Monitoring dates	Monitoring completed by	Activities completed
Spring 2025 October – December 2025	28-31 October 2025	RTAY	Monitoring in Eastern and Western Offset including: · Vegetation protection (clearing) · Grazing management, including assessments of pasture biomass and Dry Matter Yield (DMY) · Weed monitoring and management · Pest animal monitoring · Unplanned fire monitoring · Site access fencing and signage. Fire recorded 13 October 2025 and reported to DCCEEW (23 October 2025). Post fire quarterly monitoring including a LiDAR vegetation survey was completed. Quarterly monitoring at sites 3 and 15 not completed.
Summer 2026 January – March 2026	22-26 March 2026	Biodiversity Australia	Planned monitoring (16-22 March) was cancelled due to cyclonic conditions, flash flooding and access limitations. No quarterly monitoring completed. Weed management team mobilised on 22-26 March, but the team demobilised early when deteriorating weather and access conditions made continued fieldwork unsafe. Western Offset treated only.
Autumn 2026 April – June 2026	29-30 April 2026	RTAY site visit	Monitoring in Western Offset only: · Fence inspections · Pest animal habitat and incidental sightings · Firebreak status · Delivery of weed management in Western Offset. The Eastern sites were not accessible due to weather constraints.
	1-4 May 2026	RTAY site visit	
	18-22 May 2026	Biodiversity Australia	Quarterly monitoring occurred at sites 1-6 in Western Offset area only and included: · Vegetation protection (clearing) · Grazing and biomass · Unplanned fire · Weed monitoring and management · Pest monitoring · BioCondition assessments · Squatter pigeon surveys. The Eastern sites were not accessible due to weather constraints.

Monitoring Period	Monitoring dates	Monitoring completed by	Activities completed
Winter 2026 July – September 2026	2 July	RTAY site visit	Monthly inspection focussing on fence lines, pest animal habitat/visual sightings and firebreak status. Monthly inspection report.
	19 August	RTAY site visit	Monthly inspection focussing on fence lines, pest animal habitat/visual sightings and firebreak status. Including clearing of firebreak. Monthly inspection report.
	22-24 September 2026	Ecosure	Quarterly monitoring activities in Eastern and Western Offset including: · Vegetation protection (clearing) · Grazing management (DMY assessments) · Weed monitoring and management · Pest animal monitoring · Unplanned fire monitoring · Site access fencing and signage. Quarterly monitoring was completed at all sites (1-13 and 15). No weed management or pest control was required.
	29-30 September 2026	Woongal Environmental Services	Conducted a fuel load and firebreak assessment. Identified priority areas for burning. Assessment results contribute to a Fire Management Plan that is in development for 2026/2027 that aligns with OAMP requirements.

Table 2 OAMP monitoring site details

Site identifier (Appendix B OAMP)	Offset area	Site no. (Figure 13 OAMP)	Coordinates	Mapped RE (Figure 9 OAMP)	RE and BioCondition Benchmark (Appendix B OAMP)	Habitat quality scoring site for koala	Habitat quality scoring site for squatter pigeon
KM MHQA 01	Western	1	149.334634 -22.380783	8.12.7a	8.12.7a	✓	✓
KM MHQA 04	Western	5	149.330418 -22.429513	8.12.7a	8.12.7a	✓	✓
02 SNAP	Western	7	149.326180 -22.398568	8.12.7a	8.12.7a	✓	✓
01 SNAP	Western	2	149.328025 -22.395082	8.12.7	8.12.7	✓	✓
KM MHQA 05	Western	6	149.324628 -22.407766	8.12.7	8.12.7	✓	✓
KM MHQA 03	Western	4	149.336351 -22.432573	8.12.5a	8.12.5a	✓	✓
Not applicable	Western	3	149.328592 -22.405741	8.12.3a	-	-	-
Not applicable	Western	15	149.331244 -22.408062	8.12.3a	-	-	-
MHQA02SNMG31012023	Eastern	9	149.397991 -22.401780	11.3.35	11.3.35	✓	✓
MHQA01SNMT31012023	Eastern	8	149.396303 -22.397945	11.3.29a	11.3.29a	✓	✓
MHQA03SNMT31012023	Eastern	10	149.408277 -22.416777	11.12.6a	11.12.6a	✓	✓
KJ MHQA 03	Eastern	13	149.404140 -22.408393	11.11.15	11.11.15	✓	✓
KJ MHQA 01	Eastern	11	149.406913 -22.405245	11.3.29a	11.3.29	-	✓
KJ MHQA 02	Eastern	12	149.399837 -22.410535	8.12.22	8.12.22	✓	✓



Project boundary Connie Creek RTY

Eastern Offset

Western Offset

Total RE area

Monitoring site

Tracks



Figure 1 - Connie Creek Offset Site location and monitoring sites

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Connie Creek Annual Offset Area Compliance Report 2025-2026

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4. OAMP Implementation

Table 3 consolidates the OAMP implementation and monitoring requirements for the reporting period. It identifies the required management and monitoring frequency, activities completed, key findings, trigger assessment and compliance status for each management theme. Figures 2 - 5 show the locations of key findings and outcomes.

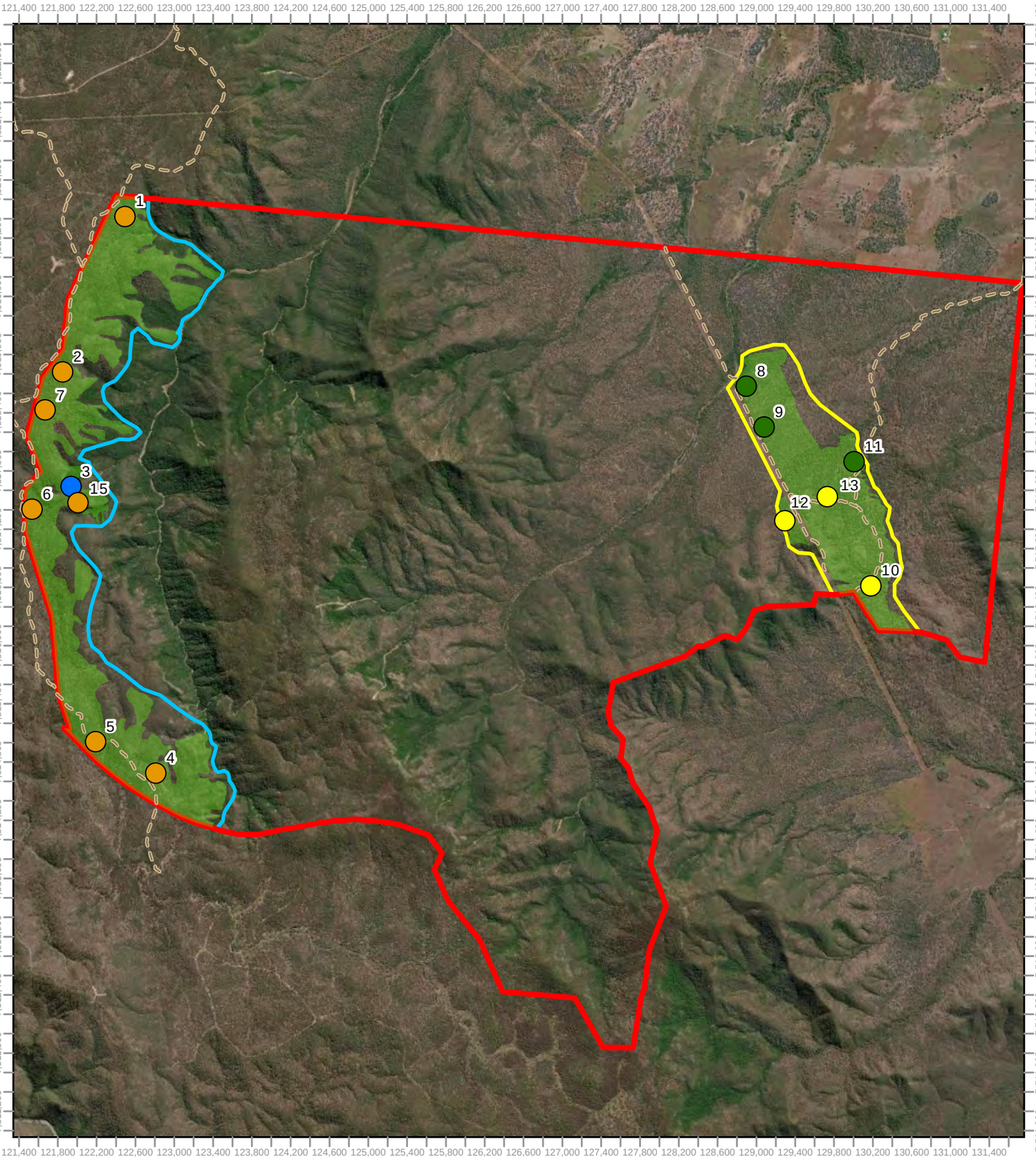
Table 3 OAMP implementation, monitoring outcomes, trigger assessment and compliance status

Monitoring requirement	OAMP threat to offset values	OAMP requirement and frequency	Activities completed and key findings	Trigger assessment	Compliance status
Ecological condition, threatened species monitoring and habitat quality assessments	Degradation of habitat.	Assess habitat quality and threatened species. Assess every five years, commencing in 2028.	Targeted surveys for koala and squatter pigeon, and habitat quality assessments are completed every 5 years. No five-year OAMP ecological monitoring event was scheduled during the 2025–26 reporting period. One opportunistic sighting of a squatter pigeon (northern) in Autumn 2026 in the Western Offset, however this is not the offset target southern subspecies of squatter pigeon.	No five-year performance or MNES habitat quality monitoring was due during this reporting period.	Not applicable in this reporting period
Grazing management Pasture yield (DMY)	Degradation of habitat by overgrazing.	Grazing only permitted when DMY exceeds 1,020 kg/ha and only during dry season (unless unseasonal rainfall occurs). Monitor richness and average % cover quarterly and monthly during grazing periods.	In Winter 2026, Brigalow Belt pasture photo standards were used to visually estimate pasture biomass and DMY (kg/ha) at monitoring sites. The average pasture yield in Eastern Offset was 2,530 kg/ha and Western Offset was 500 kg/ha (Figure 2). Evidence of cattle presence was recorded in the western offset area in Autumn 2026 and Winter 2026 (Figure 2). Fencing upgrades were also completed, improving stock exclusion to the Western Offset. The neighbouring stock owner has been asked to remove the cattle. The mountainous terrain and dense bushland has made relocation of the cattle difficult and is still progressing. Discussions with the neighbour resulted in the installation of additional stock gates, and additional signage has been ordered.	Grazing recorded in the Western Offset in Autumn 2026 and Winter 2026. DMY during Winter 2026 in the Western Offset was 500 kg/ha, below the OAMP grazing threshold of 1,020 kg/ha.	Non-compliant
Vegetation protection	Habitat or vegetation loss through land clearing.	Maintain habitat extent and prevent unauthorised clearing except for fencing, access, firebreaks and public safety. Monitor quarterly.	Damage to vegetation was recorded post fire in October 2025. Vegetation clearing for construction of a livestock fence and a firebreak was recorded along the western boundary of the Western Offset in Winter 2026 (Figure 3). No vegetation clearing was recorded in the Eastern Offset throughout the 2025-26 reporting period.	No prohibited native timber harvesting, or clearing outside established access tracks, fire-control lines or fence lines was recorded.	Compliant

Monitoring requirement	OAMP threat to offset values	OAMP requirement and frequency	Activities completed and key findings	Trigger assessment	Compliance status
Weed monitoring and management	Introduction, establishment and spread of weeds including restricted invasive plants listed under the Queensland *Biosecurity Act 2014* (Biosecurity Act).	No new restricted invasive plants listed under the Biosecurity Act are identified. Monitor weeds quarterly and respond where trigger levels are reached.	Small patches of lantana were recorded during Spring 2025 surveys. Limited weed monitoring and treatment occurred in Summer 2026 before wet-weather demobilisation. A total of 7.521 ha of weeds were treated using glyphosate in the Western Offset only. In Autumn 2026, weed monitoring and targeted treatment of 398 m^2 was completed. Lantana (*Lantana camara*), annual ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*) and American rat's tail grass (*Sporobolus jacquemontii*) were treated using foliar spray and basal bark methods (Figure 4). In Winter 2026, weed monitoring occurred but weed treatment was not required. Lantana was the predominant weed in accessible areas, with < 5 % cover recorded at all monitoring sites, apart from site 5, where lantana was between 5-10% cover. Isolated occurrences of additional weeds.	Pest plants did not dominate an isolated area or occupy more than 10% of the offset area. New restricted invasive plants were not detected.	Compliant
Pest animal monitoring	Increased population of feral animals in the Offset area including wild dogs (*Canis familiaris*), pigs (*Sus scrofa*), feral cats (*Felis catus*) and foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*). Degradation of habitat by feral pigs.	Detection of 12 or more pigs or dogs during any inspection. Monitor pigs, wild dogs, cats and foxes quarterly and implement control if triggers are exceeded.	No pest animals were recorded during Spring 2025 monitoring. In Autumn 2026, minor pig activity was recorded in the Western Offset and up to five pigs were observed outside the offset along St Lawrence-Croydon Road. In Winter 2026, incidental observations of fox and wild dog were recorded along the powerline easement in the Eastern Offset (scats plus an observation of a sub-adult fox) (Figure 5).	12 or more wild pigs or dogs were not detected during an inspection.	Compliant

Monitoring requirement	OAMP threat to offset values	OAMP requirement and frequency	Activities completed and key findings	Trigger assessment	Compliance status
Unplanned fire monitoring	Uncontrolled fire may cause a reduction in groundcover, thinning of the canopy and slowing of the offset site achieving the completion criteria.	Planned and controlled ecological burns are restricted to <30% of the offset area in any 12-month period. No evidence of unplanned or uncontrolled fire in the offset area. Inspect for wildfire, prohibited burning or force majeure events; record any prescribed burn; inspect firebreaks and fire-control lines and record maintenance quarterly.	An uncontrolled fire was recorded in both Offset areas in October 2025 (Figure 3) during Spring 2025 monitoring. Email correspondence between RTAY and DCCEEW (23 October 2025) recorded notification of an uncontrolled and unplanned fire that had reached the offset area. Correspondence is included in Appendix 6, along with supporting documentation relating to the fire event. Figure 3 shows the extent of the fire scar from this event in the offset area. In Winter 2026, observations in vegetation communities across the Western Offset and at formal monitoring sites confirmed vegetation was recovering well from the fire, with abundant regeneration and growth of native ground and understorey vegetation. It was also noted that a new firebreak was established along the majority of the Western Offset, adjacent to the replaced fenceline (Figure 3). Woongal Environmental Services also conducted a fire assessment of the property including fuel loads and priority areas for future controlled burning to prevent the occurrence of uncontrolled fire. The assessment will inform the development of a Fire Management Plan for 2026/2027.	An unauthorised fire in the offset area was recorded 13 October 2025. The incident was reported to DCCEEW on 23 October 2025.	Non-compliant
Site access, fencing and signage	Unauthorised people, vehicles, and/or stock are prevented from accessing the site, and authorised stock are prevented from occurring during exclusion times (September – January, or until wet season begins).	Prevent unauthorised access and inspect and maintain fences, gates and signage quarterly.	Access controls, fencing and signage were assessed during Autumn 2026 and Winter 2026 monitoring events. Western boundary fencing upgrades progressed during July–August 2026 and additional fencing needs were identified. In Autumn 2026, Biodiversity Australia (2026b) reported gates throughout the offset area were in good condition. Livestock exclusion fencing in the Western Offset and parts of the Eastern Offset was reported to be in poor or non-functional condition. There was also cattle present throughout the Western Offset, with evidence of grazing, trampling of native vegetation and localised erosion. In Winter 2026, a replaced livestock exclusion fence and gates were recorded along the entire Western Offset boundary with further works planned (Figure 3), although there was still evidence of cattle usage of the Western Offset. No signage was present at the newly established entry points. Signage has now been ordered. Signage was present and in reasonable condition at all entry points to the Eastern Offset. There was no evidence of livestock in the Eastern Offset during Autumn or Winter 2026 periods.	No unauthorised access by persons or vehicles were recorded during inspections. Evidence of stock detected in Western Offset during exclusion period. Signage to be installed on new gates at Western Offset.	Non-compliant

Monitoring requirement	OAMP threat to offset values	OAMP requirement and frequency	Activities completed and key findings	Trigger assessment	Compliance status
Monitoring and reporting	Offset fails to achieve the interim performance targets and completion criteria within the anticipated 5, 10, 15 and/or 20-year timeframes, respectively.	Undertake monitoring and reporting in accordance with the approved OAMP schedule. The interim performance targets are achieved by year 5, 10 and 15. The completion criteria are achieved by year 20.	Spring 2025 monitoring was completed (Appendix 2). Summer 2026 monitoring was not completed due to prolonged wet weather, inundation and access constraints preventing safe access (Appendix 3). Autumn 2026 monitoring included partial assessment at six accessible monitoring sites in the Western Offset only (Appendix 4). Winter 2026 quarterly monitoring was completed (Appendix 5).	Missed quarterly monitoring event in Summer 2026, and only partial monitoring in Autumn 2026.	Non-compliant



Project boundary Connie Creek RTY
Eastern Offset
Western Offset
Total RE area
Tracks

Pasture community | Dry matter yield (kg/ha)
Eucalypt woodland | 500 kg/ha
Eucalypt woodland | 2500 kg/ha
Alluvial | 2560 kg/ha
Riparian site | not recorded

Figure 2 - Connie Creek offset Dry Matter Yield (DMY) kg/ha

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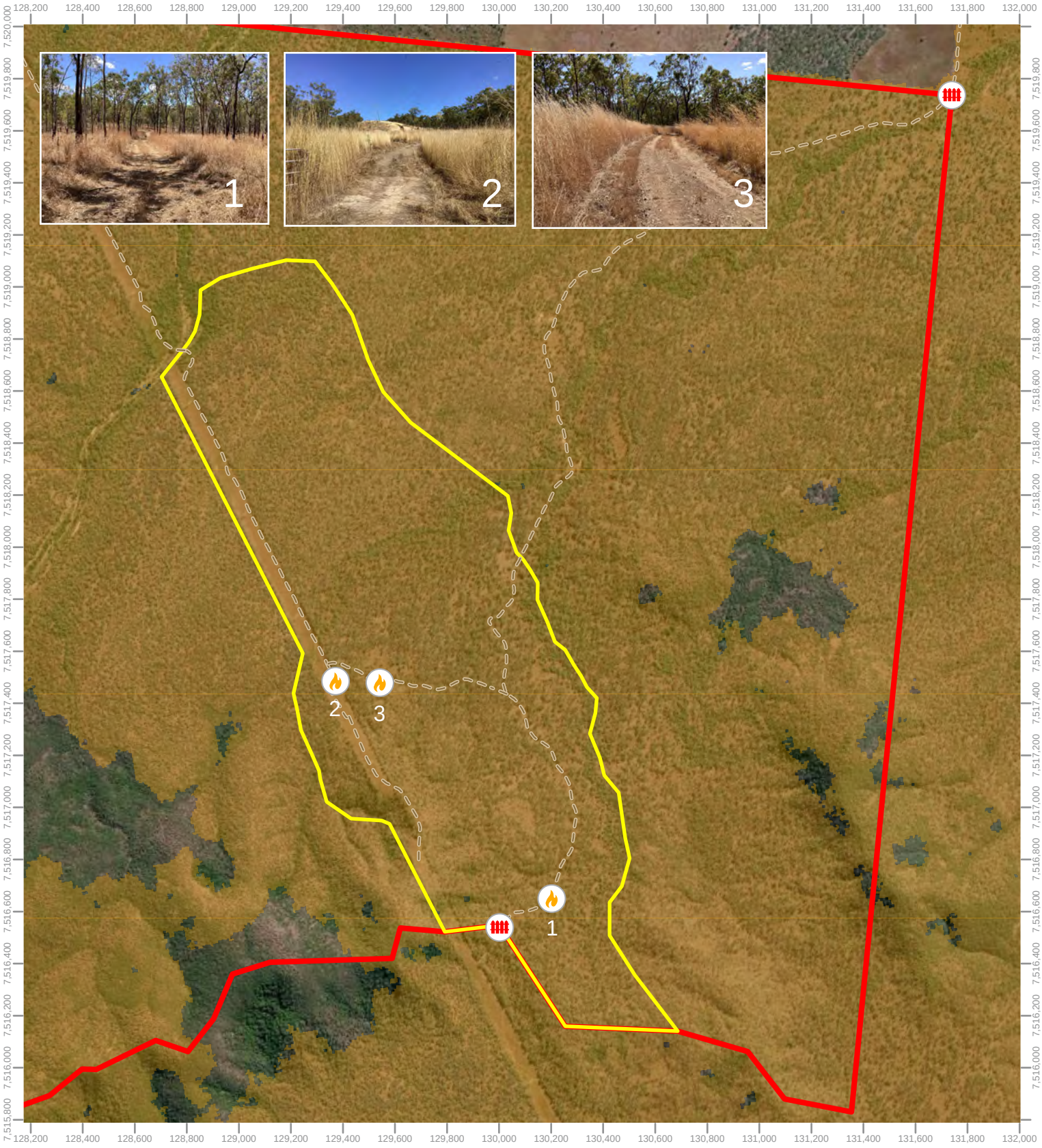
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Project boundary Connie Creek RTY

Offset Investigation Area

Tracks

Fire scar October 2025 (QLD Globe Sentinel-2 data)

Follow-up actions required

Grazing fence weakened (loose)

Dense grass adjacent tracks reducing firebreak effectivity

Figure 3A - Management and incident observations (eastern offset)

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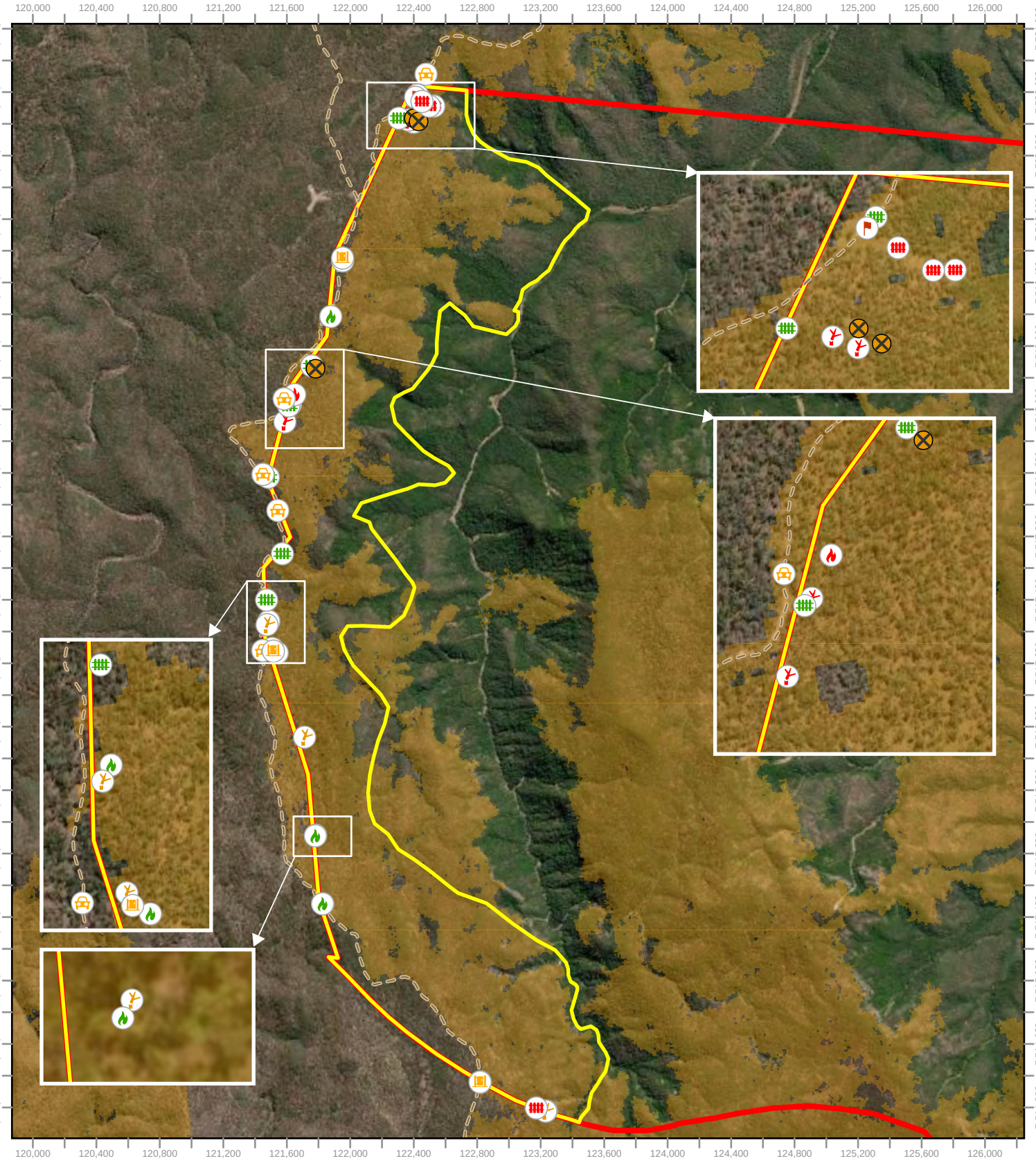
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Project boundary Connie Creek RTY

Offset Investigation Area

Tracks

Fire scar October 2025 (QLD Globe Sentinel-2 data)

Follow-up actions required

- Signage installation required at entrance points
- Grazing fence weakened (loose)
- Firebreak needs maintenance
- New gate in new fence wired open
- Track surface rough

Management action locations

- Isolated trees felled for fencing works
- Fire break establishment related clearing
- Firebreak has recently been maintained
- New fence and gates, good condition.
- Signs of cattle grazing

Figure 3B - Management and incident observations (western offset)

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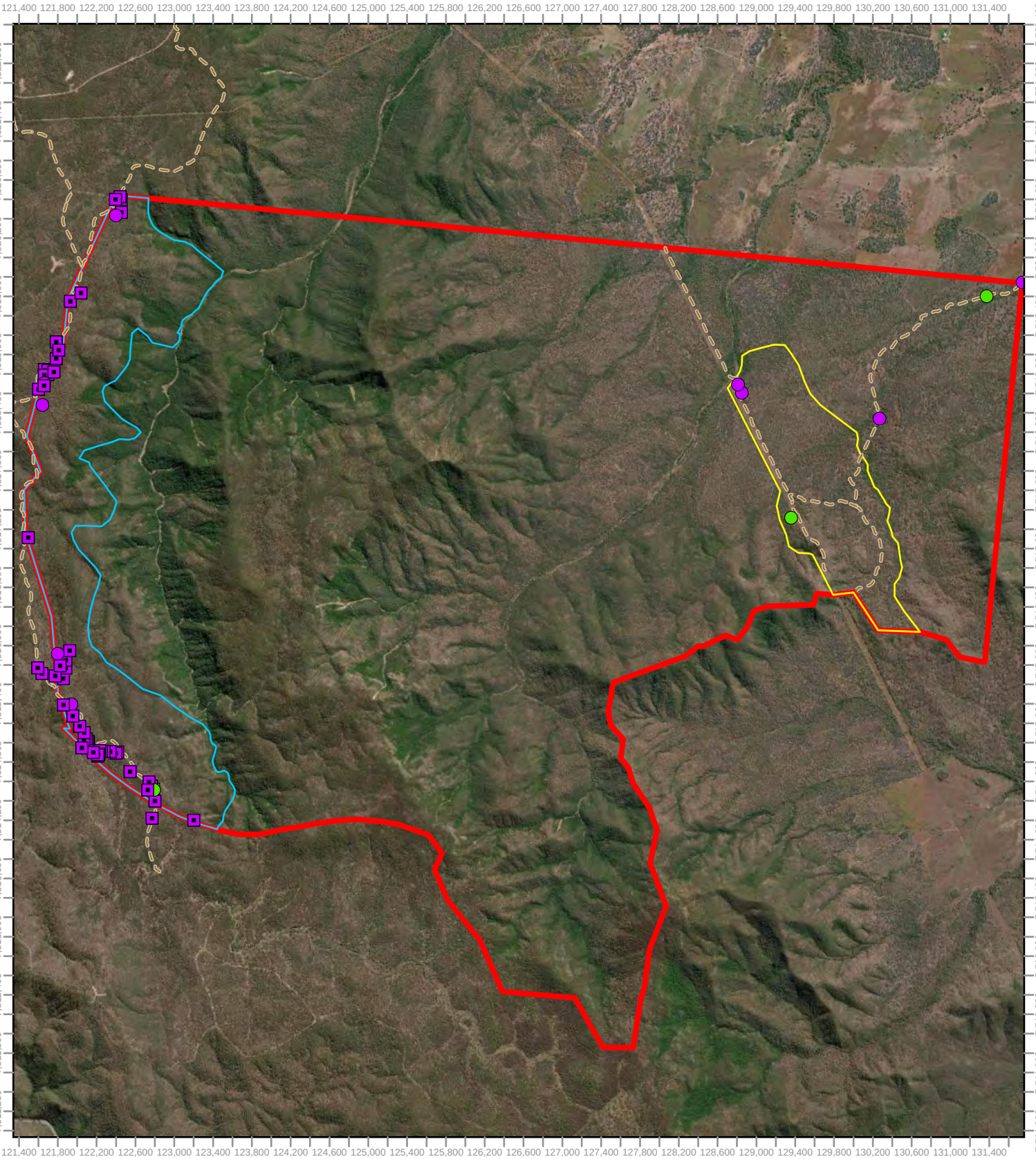
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Project boundary Connie Creek Offset RTY
Tracks
Eastern Offset
Western Offset

Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) locations
Survey Only Lantana (Lantana camara)
Survey and Treatment Lantana (Lantana camara)
Survey and Treatment Prickly Pear (Opuntia stricta)
Survey Only Prickly Pear (Opuntia stricta)

Figure 4 - Biosecurity weed management locations

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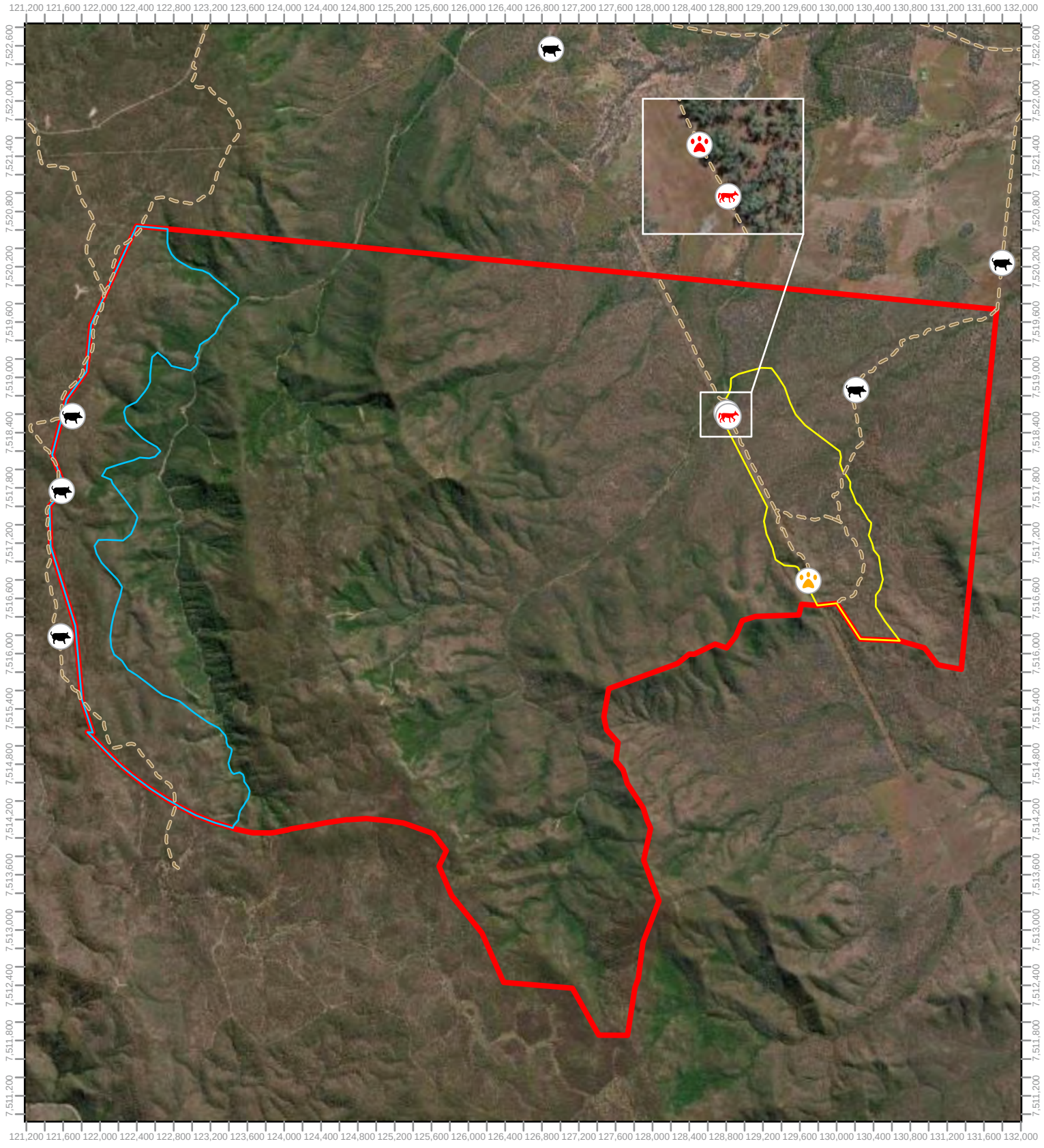
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Tracks
Project boundary Connie Creek RTY
Eastern Offset
Western Offset

Observed feral animal activity
Dingo / Wild dog,Scat
Red fox,Observation
Red fox,Scat
Feral Pig, Wallow/routs

Figure 5 - Feral animal observations

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5. Conclusion and further actions

The Annual Offset Area Report has been prepared for the expansion of borrow pits project in accordance with the conditions of approval issued under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) approval (EPBC 2018/8381).

The 2025–26 reporting period represents the second year of management of the Connie Creek offset area. During the reporting period, monitoring and management activities were undertaken to support implementation of the OAMP, including vegetation protection, weed management, grazing and pasture-yield assessment, pest animal and fire monitoring, and inspection and maintenance of site-access infrastructure. Monitoring coverage was affected by wet-season rainfall and access constraints during parts of the year.

Management actions progressed during the reporting period. Western boundary fencing and firebreak works were completed, weed treatment was undertaken within accessible areas, and additional stock-management measures were implemented following observations of cattle within the Western Offset. Monitoring also identified that weed and pest-animal trigger thresholds were not exceeded during the periods assessed, and no prohibited vegetation clearing was recorded. The October 2025 uncontrolled fire was reported to DCCEEW, with subsequent monitoring identifying native vegetation regeneration and recovery across affected areas.

Ecosure commenced management of the offset program in September 2026 and will support RTAY with ongoing implementation, monitoring, management and reporting under the OAMP. Key actions to be progressed during the 2026–27 reporting period include:

- continue removal of cattle from the Western Offset and monitor the effectiveness of fencing and stock-exclusion measures
- install signage at new Western Offset entry points
- implement the fire-management program for 2026-27 that is currently in development, including ongoing firebreak inspection and maintenance.

6. References

Earthtrade 2024, RTA Yarwun Pty Ltd: Expansion of borrow pits, Lot 7 Aldoga Road, Aldoga (EPBC 2018/8381) EPBC Offset Area Management Plan, 18 March 2024.

Biodiversity Australia 2026a, Rio Tinto Summer 2025/2026 Quarterly Ecological Monitoring, Technical Memorandum, 13 April 2026.

Biodiversity Australia 2026b, Connie Creek - Autumn Ecological Offset Monitoring Report 2026, July 2026.

DCCEEW 2019, Approval, Expansion of borrow pits, Lot 7 Aldoga Road, Aldoga, Queensland (EPBC 2018/8381).

Ecosure 2026, Connie Creek Offset Area Quarterly Report – Winter 2026, Report to RTA Yarwun, Brisbane.

RTAY 2025, Annual Offset Area Report, 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025, RTA Yarwun Pty Ltd.

Appendix 1 Connie Creek RTY Borrow Pits Offset Area Management Record

Month	Management activity October 2025 – September 2026																				
	Rainfall (mm) BoM station 033210 st Lawrence	Grazing management															Fire management	Pest animal management	Weed management	Vegetation clearing?	Site signage and access?
		Western portion					Eastern portion					DMYs at end of month	Fencing check				*Record the date of quarterly inspections and record the date and description of any management actions conducted in the relevant column. Provide copies of related records such as spray logs or shooting plans. Make note of any matters requiring corrective actions.*				
		Cattle in		Cattle out		Qty	Cattle in		Cattle out		Qty		✓		Date	Initials					
October 2025	55.0	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	**West**	Wk 1				**RTAY Field trip report – October 2025 and Quarterly Monitoring and Management Record** 28th October – 31st October 2025 Implemented weed management plan, post fire monitoring LiDAR drone survey and 360 camera drive in Eastern Offset. Details below from field trip report that includes observations from quarterly monitoring sites.				
													Wk 2								
												East	Wk 3		28- 31		Completed LiDAR drone survey of Eastern Offset areas post fire. Fire occurred 13 October impacting both Eastern and Western Offset	No pest animals recorded	Identified area of concern/ Lantana and implemented weed management plan – Eastern Offset and Western Offset	No clearing detected	Discuss the recent fire impacts and formalising the easement on the western boundary.
													Wk 4								
November 2025	65.6	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	**West**	Wk 1				No evidence of fire	Minor evidence of pig ruts centrally in Western Offset area	Lantana the predominant weed throughout Western Offset area	No evidence of clearing	No evidence of unauthorised access
													Wk 2								
												East	Wk 3								
													Wk 4								

December 2025	181.0	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	**West**	Wk 1				No evidence of fire	Minor evidence of pig ruts centrally in Western Offset area	Lantana the predominant weed throughout Western Offset area	No evidence of clearing	No evidence of unauthorised access
													Wk 2								
												East	Wk 3								
													Wk 4								
January 2026	352.0	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	**West**	Wk 1				No records available due to wet weather constraints.				
													Wk 2								
												East	Wk 3								
						Nil					**Nil**		Wk 4								
February 2026	132.6	· Stock is grazed for fuel reduction purposes only during September to January (wet season permitting) · Grazing not permitted between February and August inclusive · Cattle must be removed once the wet season commences; this may happen before January · Fencing must be checked weekly during grazing periods.											*Fencing inspections to be conducted quarterly at a minimum during non-grazing periods*				No records available due to wet weather constraints.				
March 2026	129.4																**Biodiversity Australia Quarterly report for Jan-Mar 2026 – report April 2026** Ecological monitoring could not be completed due to sustained wet season conditions across the Offset areas. Weed management occurred 22-26 March including hand removal of emergent weeds and chemical treatment of 7.521 ha of weeds but could not complete all due to inaccessibility.				
April 2026	12.2													✓	29-30th		**RTAY Field trip report – April 2026** 29th April – 4th May 2026 Monthly monitoring and quarterly weed management in Western Offset area with no access into Eastern Offset. Details below from field trip report				
																	No evidence of fire	Minor evidence of pig ruts centrally in Western Offset area	Lantana the predominant weed throughout Western Offset area	No evidence of clearing	No evidence of unauthorised access

May 2026	3.6			✓	1-4th; 19-20th	JH, NM, SL, RF	**RTAY Field trip report – May 2026**				
							No evidence of fire	Minor evidence of pig ruts centrally in Western Offset area	Lantana the predominant weed throughout Western Offset area	No evidence of clearing	No evidence of unauthorised access
							RTAY Field trip report and Biodiversity quarterly monitoring report No access into Eastern Offset. Conducted quarterly assessments (BioCondition Assessments and Squatter Pigeon Annual Surveys) in Western Offset. Also conducted monthly monitoring as required by the OAMP.				
							No records in report regarding fire observations	5 feral pigs (Sus scrofa) observed along St Lawrence-Croydon Road between Eastern and Western access points. Isolated pig rooting in central Western Offset	Lantana is the predominant weed (361m2 treated). Two other significant weeds were recorded (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia* and *Sporobolus jacquemontii*) with total weed infestation of 398 m2 treated	Cattle present throughout Offset Area with evidence of grazing and trampling of native vegetation.	Fence lines generally in poor condition in Western Offset. Eastern Offset restricted access due to rainfall and erosion recorded.
June 2026	23.6						No records available				
July 2026	0.6			✓	*2nd*		**RTAY Field trip report – July 2026**				
							Inspections carried out	Inspections carried out	-	Evidence of cattle moving around Western Offset area	Fencing currently being installed in Western Offset area (Mills Property team)

August 2026	7.8												✓	*19th*		**RTAY Field trip report – August 2026**			
																Inspections carried out	Inspections carried out	-	Evidence of cattle moving around Western Offset area	Fencing installation continues
September 2026	0.2	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	**West**	Wk 1							
													Wk 2			**Ecosure – 22-24 September 2026**				
												East	Wk 3	✓	22-24th	No planned or unplanned burns impacted the Eastern or Western Offset areas within the last 3 months. The Western Offset area was subject to a fire approximately 1 year ago.	Incidental records of fox and wild dog were recorded along the powerline easement in the Eastern Offset (scats plus an observation of a sub-adult fox). Old feral pig wallows were also recorded adjacent to Eastern Offset area.	Lantana the predominant weed throughout Offset areas. No weed treatment completed	Extensive vegetation clearing was observed within the Western Offset likely directly associated with requirements to establish the firebreak along the western boundary. 15 cattle were recorded beside an open gate leading into the offset site with farm gates open	Minor fence repairs are required at north and south fence returns of Western Offset replaced boundary livestock fence. New gates should be secured and signage installed on all new gates / offset entry points.
													Wk 4							
Total rainfall:	963.6 mm																			

Additional comments: *Provide any additional comments as may be necessary in the relevant column.*							

Appendix 2 Spring 2025 quarterly monitoring records

A spreadsheet to pdf conversion for October 2025 photo point monitoring and post fire inspections dated 28-31 October 2025 is included.

Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	1
Location (E):	149.3346339
Location (N):	-22.3807296
DMY (kg/ha):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	09-Oct-25
Comments:	Eucalypt woodlands pasture standard. 420m elevation

North



East



South



West



Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	1
Location (E):	149.3346339
Location (N):	-22.3807296
Ground Cover (%):	1
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	09-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Heteropogon triticeus* (Gaint spear grass) *Heteropogon contortus* (Black spear grass) *Themeda triandra* (Kangaroo grass) *Chrysopogon fallax* (Golden beard grass) *Ageratum houstonianum* (Blue Billygoat weed) *Fimbristylis dichotoma* (Forked fimbry)

North



East



South



West



Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	2
Location (E):	149.3280246
Location (N):	-22.395082
DMY (kg/ha):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	09-Oct-25
Comments:	Eucalypt woodlands pasture standard, 440m elevation

North



East



South



West



Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	2
Location (E):	149.3280246
Location (N):	-22.395082
Ground Cover (%):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	09-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Heteropogon triticeus* (Gaint spear grass) *Heteropogon contortus* (Black spear grass) *Themeda triandra* (Kangaroo grass) *Chrysopogon fallax* (Golden beard grass) *Ageratum houstonianum* (Blue Billygoat weed) *Fimbristylis dichotoma* (Forked fimbry)

North



East



South



West



Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	4
Location (E):	149.3363513
Location (N):	-22.4325733
DMY (kg/ha):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	09-Oct-25
Comments:	Eucalypt woodlands pasture standard, 526m elevation

North



East



South



West



Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	4
Location (E):	149.3363513
Location (N):	-22.4325733
Ground Cover (%):	70
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	09-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Themeda triandra* (Kangaroo grass) *Fimbristylis dichotoma* (Forked fimbry) *Ageratum houstonianum* (Blue Billygoat weed)

North



East



South

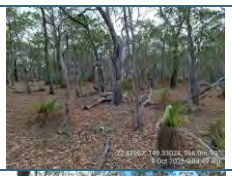


West

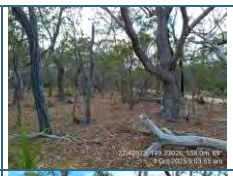


Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	5
Location (E):	149.3304175
Location (N):	-22.4295132
DMY (kg/ha):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	09-Oct-25
Comments:	Eucalypt woodlands pasture standard, 555m elevation

North



East



South



West



Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	5
Location (E):	149.3304175
Location (N):	-22.4295132
Ground Cover (%):	90
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	08-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Chrysopogon fallax* (Golden beard grass) *Themeda triandra* (Kangaroo grass)

North



East



South



West



Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	6
Location (E):	149.3246285
Location (N):	-22.4077657
DMY (kg/ha):	

North



East



uth



est



Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	6
Location (E):	149.3246285
Location (N):	-22.4077657
Ground Cover (%):	60

North



East



uth



est



Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	09-Oct-25
Comments:	Eucalypt woodlands pasture standard on the edge of a rocky outcrop, 447m elevation




Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	09-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Chrysopogon fallax* (Golden beard grass) *Themeda triandra* (Kangaroo grass) *Heteropogon triticeus* (Gaint spear grass)



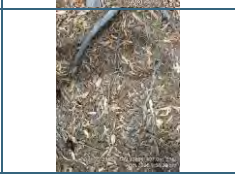

Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	7
Location (E):	149.3261801
Location (N):	-22.3985683
DMY (kg/ha):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	09-Oct-25
Comments:	Eucalypt woodlands pasture standard, 420m elevation






Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	7
Location (E):	149.3261801
Location (N):	-22.3985683
Ground Cover (%):	80
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	09-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Heteropogon triticeus* (Gaint spear grass) *Heteropogon contortus* (Black spear grass) *Themeda triandra* (Kangaroo grass) *Chrysopogon fallax* (Golden beard grass) *Eragrostis* (Lovegrass) *Praxelis clematidea* (Gaint Bluetop)



Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	8
Location (E):	149.396303
Location (N):	-22.397945
DMY (kg/ha):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Comments:	*Eucalyptus crebra* (Narrow-leaved Iron back) *Melaleuca spp* (Paperbarks) *Coelospermum reticulatum* (Djumdum)






Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	8
Location (E):	149.396303
Location (N):	-22.397945
Ground Cover (%):	90
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Heteropogon triticeus* (Gaint spear grass) *Heteropogon contortus* (Black spear grass) *Themeda triandra* (Kangaroo grass)



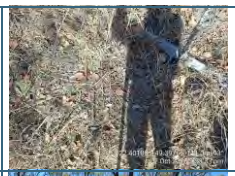



Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	9
Location (E):	149.397991
Location (N):	-22.40178
DMY (kg/ha):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Comments:	*Eucalyptus platyphylla* (White Gum) *Melaleuca spp* (Paperbark) *Planchonia careya* (Cocky apple)






Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	9
Location (E):	149.397991
Location (N):	-22.40178
Ground Cover (%):	95
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Heteropogon triticeus* (Gaint spear grass) 30% *Heteropogon contortus* (Black spear grass) 60% *Themeda triandra* (Kangaroo grass) , *Praxelis clematidea* (Giant Bluetop



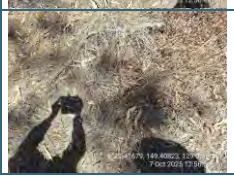
Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	10
Location (E):	149.408277
Location (N):	-22.416777
DMY (kg/ha):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Comments:	*Eucalyptus crebra* (Narrow-leaved Iron back) *Eucalyptus platyphylla* (White Gum)






Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	10
Location (E):	149.408277
Location (N):	-22.416777
Ground Cover (%):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Heteropogon contortus* (Black speargrass) 30%, *Heteropogon triticeus* (Gaint spear grass) 30%, Remainder mixed species: *Chrysopogon fallax* (Golden beard grass) *Eragrostis* (Lovegrass) *Stylosanthes scabra* (Shrubby stylo)40%

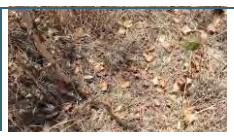
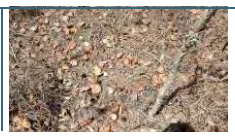





Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	11




Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	11

Location (E):	149.406913
Location (N):	-22.405245
DMY (kg/ha):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Comments:	*Eucalyptus platyphylla* (White Gum) *Melaleuca spp* (Paperbark) *Planchonia careya* (Cocky apple)

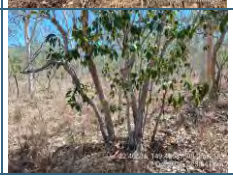
North | East





South | West





Location (E):	149.406913
Location (N):	-22.405245
Ground Cover (%):	90
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Heteropogon contortus* (Black spear grass), *Heteropogon triticeus* (Gaint spear grass) *Panicum effusum* (Hairy panic) *Eragrostis spp* (Lovegrass) *Praxelis spp* (Giant Bluetop)

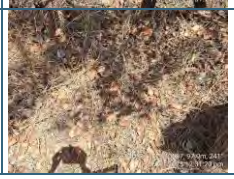
North | East





South | West





Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	12
Location (E):	149.399837
Location (N):	-22.410535
DMY (kg/ha):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Comments:	*Eucalyptus crebra* (Narrow-leaved Iron back) *Eucalyptus platyphylla* (White Gum)

North | East





South | West

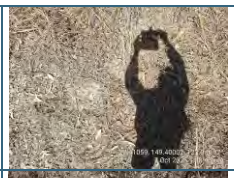




Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	12
Location (E):	149.399837
Location (N):	-22.410535
Ground Cover (%):	85
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Heteropogon contortus* (Black spear grass), *Heteropogon triticeus* (Gaint spear grass) *Panicum effusum* (Hairy panic) *Eragrostis spp* (Lovegrass) *Praxelis spp* (Giant Bluetop)

North | East





South | West





Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	13
Location (E):	149.40414
Location (N):	-22.408393
DMY (kg/ha):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Comments:	*Eucalyptus crebra* (Narrow-leaved Iron back)

North | East





South | West

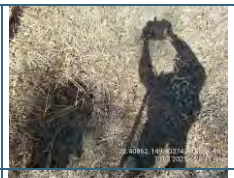




Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	13
Location (E):	149.40414
Location (N):	-22.408393
Ground Cover (%):	80
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Heteropogon contortus* (Black spear grass), *Heteropogon triticeus* (Gaint spear grass) *Themeda triandra* (Kangaroo grass) *Praxelis clematidea* (Giant Bluetop)

North | East





South | West





Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	14
Location (E):	149.409335
Location (N):	-22.418153
DMY (kg/ha):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Comments:	*Eucalyptus crebra* (Narrow-leaved Iron back) *Eucalyptus platyphylla* (White Gum) *Melaleuca spp* (Paperbark) *Corymbia tessellaris* (Moreton Bay Ash) *Alphitonia excelsa* (Soap Tree) *Acacia mearnsii* (Black wattle)

North | East





South | West





Project:	RTY Borrow Pits
Site:	Lot 5377 PH1903
Transect No:	14
Location (E):	149.409335
Location (N):	-22.418153
Ground Cover (%):	
Assessor:	Jarred Appo, Richard Marsh
Date:	07-Oct-25
Pasture Composition:	*Heteropogon contortus* (Black spear grass), *Heteropogon triticeus* (Gaint spear grass) *Chrysopogon fallax* (Golden Beard Grass) *Praxelis clematidea* (Giant Bluetop)

North | East





South | West





Rio Tinto

Quarterly Management Record – Connie Creek OAMP EPBC2018/8381

Date: 29/10/2025

Inspector(s): Jarred Appo & Richard Marsh

Any "incident" this quarter as defined in approval? NO

Table of Contents

1. Document Purpose and Scope 1
2. Quarterly Monitoring Requirements 1
3. Management Triggers and Actions 4
4. Quarterly Monitoring Record 5

1. Document Purpose and Scope

Condition 4a and 8 of EPBC 2018/8381 require that direct offsets are secured and managed in accordance with an approved Offset Area Management Plan (OAMP)[1] Offsets have been legally secured by RTY at Connie Creek Lot 5377 PH1903 (The Offset Property). The OAMP prescribes management activity to be undertaken at Connie Creek to improve the habitat for Koala and Squatter Pigeon.

Quarterly inspections and management actions are fundamental components of the management program and provide:

- A clear set of inspection and monitoring requirements to be undertaken.
- A standardised method for collection of data relevant to ongoing land management at Connie Creek.
- On the basis of the information collected to inform any management actions required.

This document provides a record of quarterly management actions undertaken at Connie Creek.

2. Quarterly Monitoring Requirements

Table 17 of the OAMP details monitoring requirements for implementation at Connie Creek and are summarised here in **Table 1.** The locations of quarterly monitoring points prescribed in the OAMP are shown in **Figure 1** and a record of observations at all monitoring points and fencing inspections are included in **Section 3**

[1] *Environmental Offset Solutions Pty Ltd. (2024, March 18). EPBC offset area management plan: RTA Yarwun Pty Ltd—Expansion of borrow pits, Lot 7 Aldoga Road, Aldoga (EPBC 2018/8381) (Report No. 20222485D) [Management plan].*

Table 1 OAMP Quarterly Monitoring Requirements

Monitoring aspect	Dataset	Method / frequency
Grass cover / DMY	DMY (kg/ha) at the established sites; date; inspector; GPS; notes on grazing need/avoidance	Assess DMY using Brigalow Belt pasture photo standards; quarterly as part of inspections (monthly during any grazing period).
Weeds	Species present; % cover estimate; locations; treatment details and dates; outcomes	Monitor at the same time as DMY; quarterly inspections to observe & record presence and success of prior control; include before/after photos for treated areas.
Pest animals (feral pigs, wild dogs, cats, foxes)	Sightings & sign (wallow holes, tracks, scats); number & type of animals; locations; control measures & results	Traverse streams, low-lying areas and access tracks; quarterly; GPS & re-check next quarter; immediately report any evidence of predation on koalas to approval holder.
Unplanned fire / prohibited burning / force majeure	Occurrence(s); timing; extent; cause (if known); control measures and their results; whether prescribed burn occurred	Quarterly checks for wildfire/prohibited burning; log prescribed ecological burns; maintain & inspect fire control lines quarterly. Prescribed burns must be ≤30% of area in any 12-month period; apply low-intensity "cold fire" windows.
Fences & signage / site access	Condition of fencing & signs; evidence of unauthorised persons/vehicles/stock; locations	Quarterly inspections to verify access control is intact, document any damage or access issues.
Forestry/native timber harvesting & general vegetation impacts	Any incidence of native plant destruction; evidence of illegal access/camping; erosion, woody debris disturbance	Quarterly, observations across the site (not just monitoring plots).
Grazing (if applicable in dry season only)	Stocking rates; grazed areas & dates; DMY trend; compliance with exclusions (wet season, riparian)	Monthly during grazing periods; summarise in the quarterly record. Grazing is a management tool tied to DMY thresholds and season.
Incidental MNES observations	Koala or squatter pigeon sightings/sign; any decline cues (e.g., for squatter pigeon during site meander)	Note observations during the quarterly meander/inspection and ensure alignment with 5-year targeted surveys.

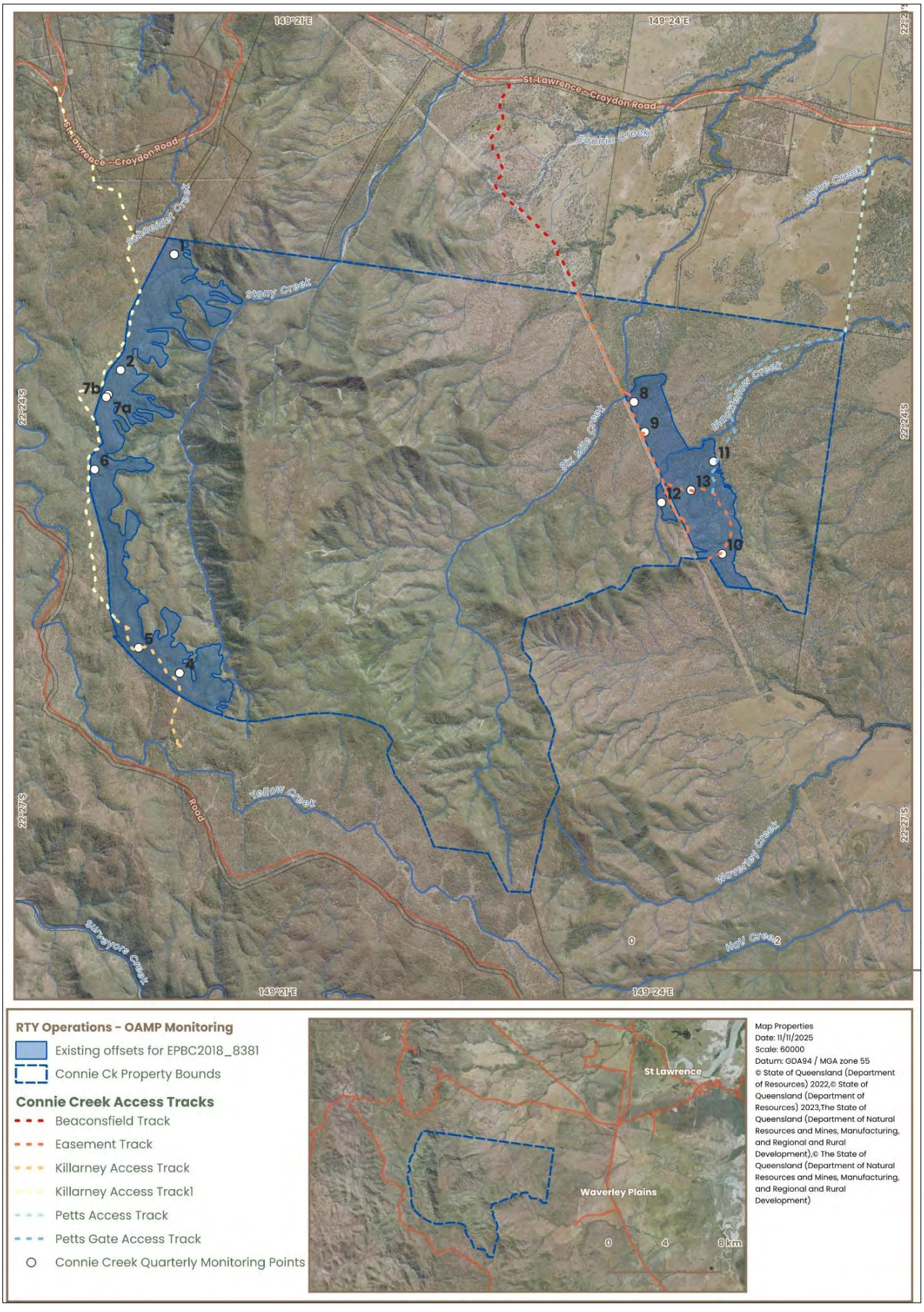


Figure 1 Connie Creek Monitoring Locations

3. Management Triggers and Actions

The monitoring undertaken during the quarter (Table 1) allows RTY to respond to changing conditions and apply management intervention where required to meet the management objectives for the offset property (both interim and long-term). These triggers and associated responses are detailed in Table 14 of the OAMP.

Table 2 Trigger Action Requirements Checklist

Trigger	Response	Quarterly Obv
Prohibited forestry operations / native timber harvesting / clearing outside existing access tracks, firelines or fencelines	Step 1: Within 1 fortnight of detection, assess access points, review restrictions, inspect signage/fencing. Step 2: Complete all preventive actions within 1 month.	Not Detected
Weeds: pest plants dominate isolated area and/or >10% of the offset area; or any new declared pest species identified	Investigate cause; implement weed control within 1 month.	Not Detected
Pest animals: ≥12 wild pigs or dogs detected in any inspection; or apparent substantial decline in squatter pigeon abundance; or any evidence of predation on koalas	Implement necessary control measures within 1 month; consider integrated regional programs; if impacts persist, remediate within 6 months post-control. Report any koala predation evidence immediately.	Not Detected
Feral pigs: increase in mean abundance from first year	Initiate/step-up control program consistent with OAMP; log outcomes and check again next quarter.	Not Detected
Unplanned or prohibited fire which causes an impact as defined in the 2018/8381	Notify DCCEWW. Investigate within 1 month; repair/widen firebreaks, reassess fuel-reduction practices, and exclude grazing until DMY >1,200 kg/ha after fire.	Not Detected
Site access breach: evidence of unauthorised persons/vehicles/stock; or damage to fences/signs; or stock present during exclusion times	Within 1 fortnight: reassess access protocols, signage and general access; repair signage; add impacted areas to monitoring list. Maintain/repair fencing promptly.	Not Detected
Grazing non-compliance or habitat degradation: stock grazing outside dry season; DMY below thresholds after fire; or decrease in native ground-layer richness/cover at monitored sites	Remove stock immediately (if present); assess fencing within 10 days; repair/resecure within 10 days. Align future grazing to DMY & season rules in OAMP.	Not Detected
Any “incident”, non-compliance with approval conditions, or non-compliance with commitments made in the OAMP	Notify the Department (DCCEEW) as soon as practicable and no later than 10 business days; provide follow-up detail within 10 business days (corrective actions taken/planned, potential impacts, method & timing of remedial action).	Not Detected

Rio Tinto

4. Quarterly Monitoring Record

Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 1

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Western Offset Portion
Date	29-Oct-25
SQP	J.Appo
Easting	149° 20′ 4.682″ E
Northing	22° 22′ 50.627″
Ground cover	98
Pasture Composition	*Heteropogon contortus, H. triticeus,Themeda triandra, Chrysopogon fallax, Praxelis spp. (15%)*
Estimated DMY	1800 kg/ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	None observed
Pests	None
Comments	Eucalypt woodland photo standard

Photolog

D	Conditions	Ground Cover
N		
S		

RioTinto

E		
W		

D	**Canopy**	**Trunk scorch**
N		

RioTinto

S		
E		
W		
	Ground cover – 85% impacted with samll remnant arears of grasses remaining Canopy - >5% impacted Trunk scorch – 0.5-1m average height of scorch, isolated to stringybark speices	

RioTinto Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 2

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Western Offset Portion
Date	29 -Oct -2025
SQP	J.Appo
Easting	149°19'40.889" E
Northing	22°23'42.295" S
Ground cover	98
Pasture Composition	*Heteropogon contortus, Themda triandra, Chrysopogon fallex, H. triticeus, Fimbristylis dichotoma*
Estimated DMY	850 kg/ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	None observed
Pests	None
Comments	Eucalypt woodland photo standard

Photolog

D	Condition	Ground Cover
N		
S		

RioTinto

E		
W		

D	Canopy	Trunk scorch
N		

RioTinto

S		
E		
W		
	Ground cover - 75% impacted with small remnant area of grasses remaining Canopy - >5% impacted Trunk scorch – 0.5-1m average height of scorch, isolated to stringybark speices	

RioTinto Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 4

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Western Offset Portion
Date	30 -Apr-25
SQP	J.Appo
Easting	149° 20′ 10.865″ E,
Northing	22° 25′ 57.264″ S
Ground cover	98
Pasture Composition	*Themeda triandra, Fimbristylis dichotoma, Praxelis spp. (5%)*
Estimated DMY	500 kg/ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	None observed
Pests	None
Comments	Photo point was north-west peg. Eucalypt woodland photo standard

Photolog

D	Ground Cover	Condition
N		
S		

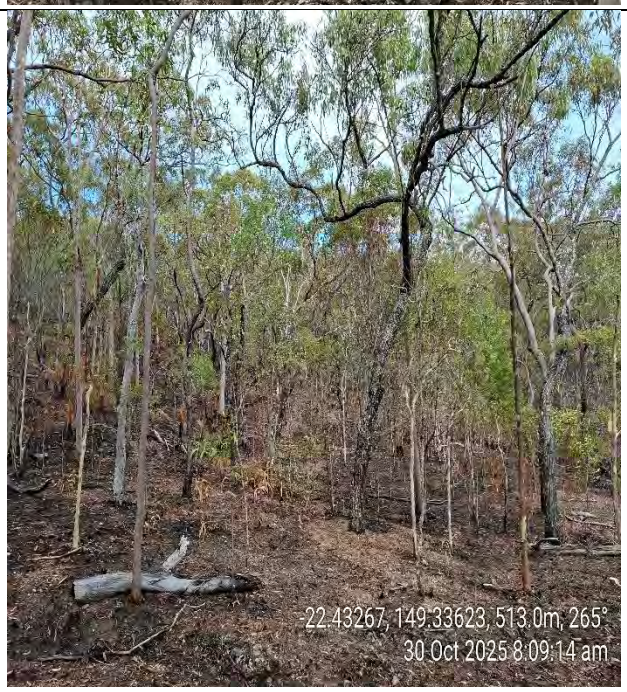
RioTinto

E





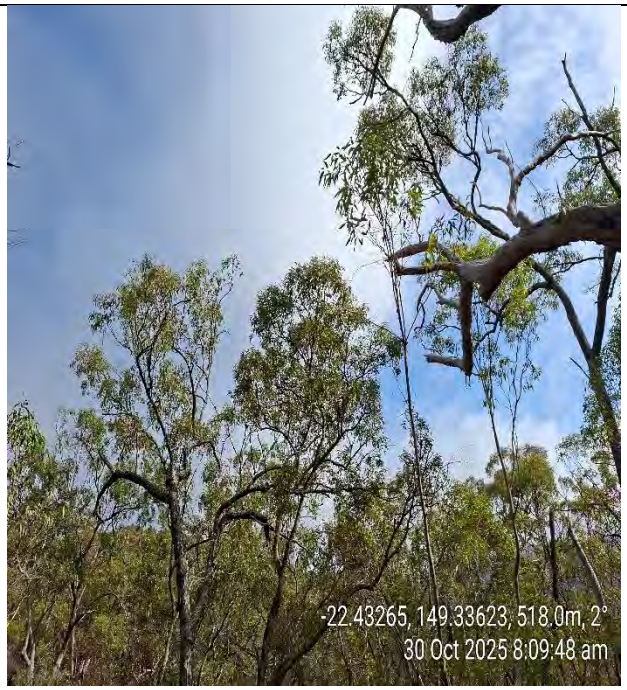
W



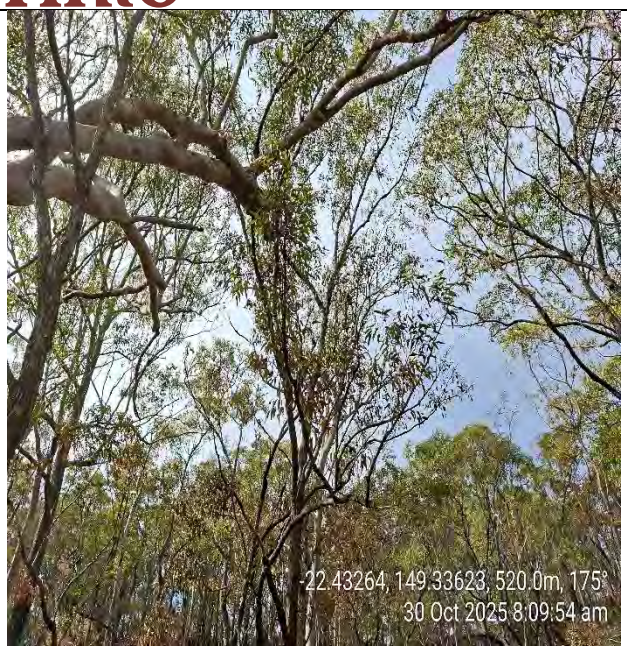


D	Canopy	Trunk scorch

N





S		
E		
E		
	Ground cover - 98% impacted Canopy - >5% impacted Trunk scorch – 70% of trees impacted with trunck scorching with an average height between 1-1.5m, isolated to Stringy bark & Bloodwood speices	

RioTinto Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 5

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Western Offset Portion
Date	30-Apr-25
SQP	J.Appo
Easting	149° 19′ 49.503″ E
Northing	22° 25′ 46.248″ S
Ground cover	95
Pasture Composition	*Chrysopogon fallax, Themeda triandra*
Estimated DMY	850 kg/ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	None observed
Pests	None
Comments	Eucalypt woodland photo standard

Photolog

D	Condition	Ground Cover
N		
S		

RioTinto

E





W





D

Canopy

Trunk scorch

N





Rio Tinto

S		
E		
W		
	Ground cover - 75% impacted with small areas of remnant grasses remaining Canopy - >5% impacted Trunk scorch - 90% of trees impacted with trunck scorching with an average height between 1-2m with some scorching reaching 3-4m, isolated to the dominate speices within the offset area - Stringy bark & Bloodwoods	

RioTinto Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 6

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Western Offset Portion
Date	29-Apr-25
SQP	J.Appo
Easting	149° 19′ 28.663″ E
Northing	22°24′27.957″ S
Ground cover	95
Pasture Composition	*Chrysopogon fallax, Themeda triandra*
Estimated DMY	850 kg/ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	None observed
Pests	None
Comments	Eucalypt woodland photo standard

Photolog

D	Condition	Ground Cover
N		
S		

RioTinto

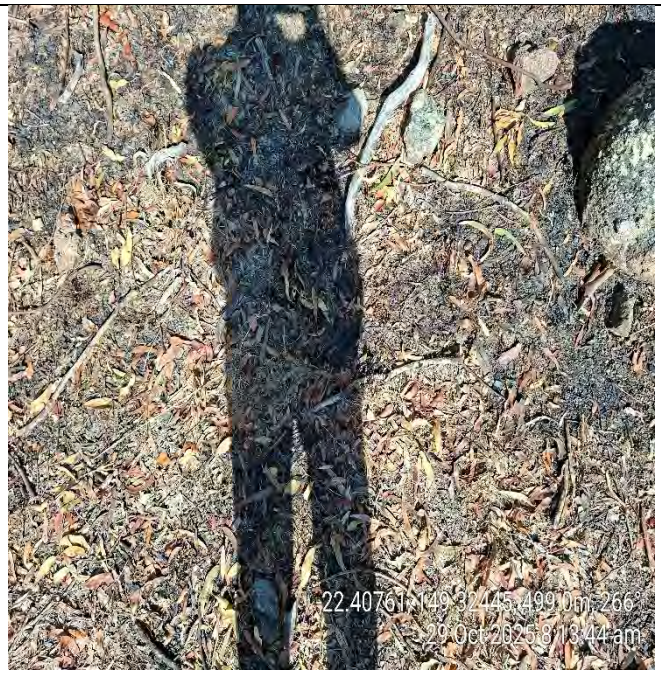
E





W



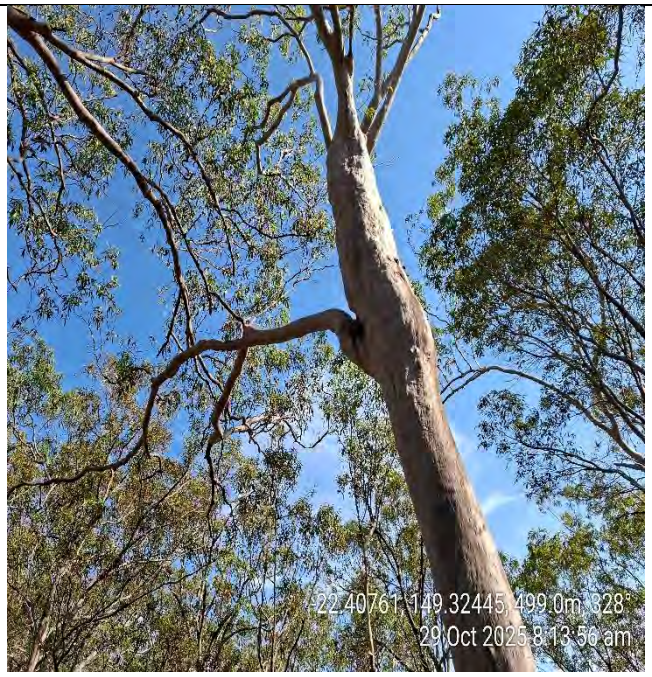


D

Canopy

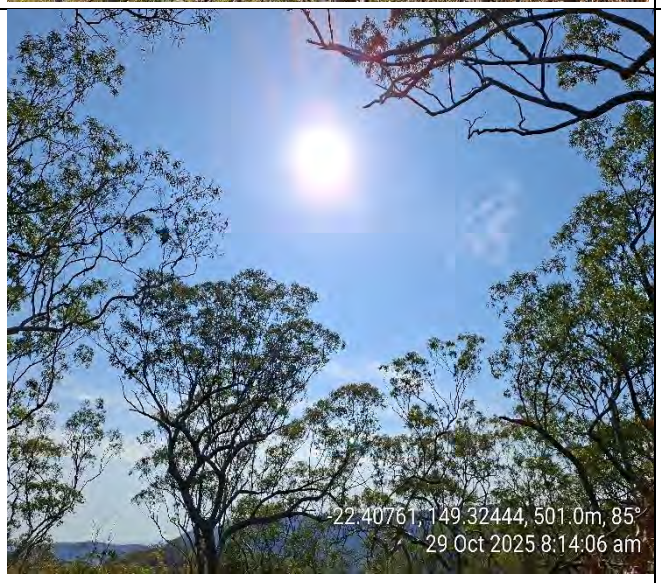
Trunk scorch

N





RioTinto

S		
E		
W		
	Ground cover - 95% impacted Canopy – 0%, No impact to canopy Trunk scorch – limited to small Stringybarks and Bloodwoods, with an avergae scorch height of 1m	

Rio Tinto Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 7

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Western Offset Portion
Date	29-Oct-25
SQP	J.Appo
Easting	149° 19′ 34.248″ E
Northing	22° 23′ 54.846″ S
Ground cover	90
Pasture Composition	*Chrysopogon fallax, Heteropogon contortus, H. triticeus, Themeda triandra, Eragrostis spp., Digitaria spp., Praxelis clematidea*
Estimated DMY	1200 kg/ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	None observed
Pests	None
Comments	Eucalypt woodland photo standard, rockier Area

Photolog

D	Condition	Ground Cover
N		
S		

RioTinto

E





W





D

Canopy

Trunk

N





Rio Tinto

S		
E		
W		
	Ground cover – 95% of ground cover impacted within the offset area Canopy – 5% of the canopy impacted, with the impacted areas isolated to rocky outcrops Trunk scorch – 5% of trees impacted, scorching isolated to smaller Stringybarks & Bloodwood speices.	

RioTinto Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 8

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Eastern Offset Portion
Date	28-Oct-25
SQP	J.Appo. R.Marsh
Easting	149° 23′ 46.691″ E
Northing	22° 23′ 52.602″ S
Ground cover	100
Pasture Composition	*Heteropogon contortus, H. triticeus (60%), Themeda triandra*
Estimated DMY	2250 kg/ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	None observed
Pests	None
Comments	E. crebra, Melalueca spp., Pogonolobus reticulatus Narrow leaved ironbark pasture standard.

Photolog

D	Condition	Ground Cover
N		
S		

RioTinto

E	-22.39822, 149.39617, 113.0m, 95° 28 Oct 2025 2:15:23 pm	-22.39821, 149.39619, 112.0m, 82° 28 Oct 2025 2:15:53 pm
W	-22.39822, 149.39617, 113.0m, 264° 28 Oct 2025 2:15:29 pm	-22.39821, 149.39617, 112.0m, 252° 28 Oct 2025 2:15:56 pm

RioTinto Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 9

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Eastern Offset Portion
Date	30-Oct-25
SQP	J.Appo
Easting	149°23'52.768" E
Northing	22°24'6.408" S
Ground cover	100
Pasture Composition	*Heteropogon contortus (35%), H. triticeum (60%), Themeda triandra, Stylosanthes scaba, Praxelis clematidea*
Estimated DMY	4700 kg/ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	None observed
Pests	None
Comments	*Eucalyptus platyphylla, Melaleuca spp. , Planchonia careya* *Black speargrass pasture standard.*

Photolog

D	Condition	Ground Cover
N		
S		

RioTinto

E





W





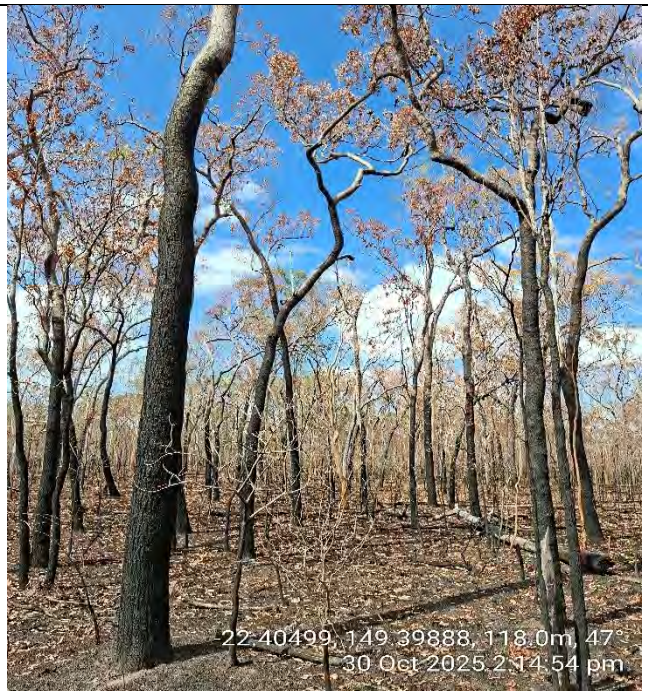
D

Canopy

Trunk scorch

N





RioTinto

S





E





W





Ground cover – 100% of ground cover ahs been impacted withing offset area

Canopy - 0% impacte to the canopy near the monitoring point, but large areas of the canopy within the offset received significant damage.

Trunk scorch – area largely populated with Paperbark speices with 90% of trees have received trunk scorching to an averge height of 4—5m with larger trees within the offset receiving trunk scorching up to 8m.

Rio Tinto Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 10

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Eastern Offset Portion
Date	31-Oct-25
SQP	
Easting	149° 24′ 29.797″ E
Northing	22° 25′ 0.397″ S
Ground cover	100
Pasture Composition	*Heteropogon contortus (30%), H. triticeus. (30%), remainder mixed species: C. fallax, Eragrostis spp., Stylosanthes seca.*
Estimated DMY	2450 kg/ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	None observed
Pests	None
Comments	Eucalyptus crebra and E. platphylla. Black speargrass pasture standard.

Photolog

D	Condition	Ground Cover
N		
S		

RioTinto

E





W





D

Canopy

Trunk scorch

N





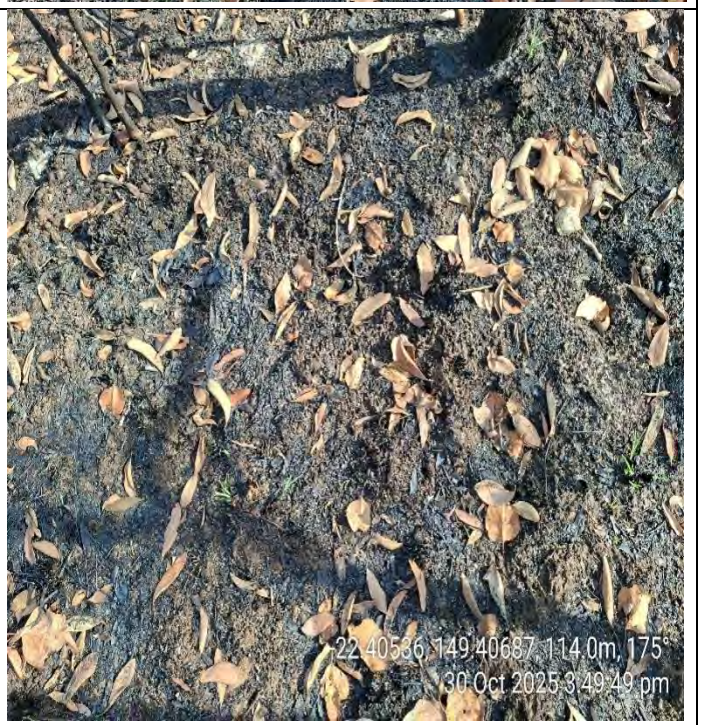
RioTinto

S		
E		
W		
	Ground cover – 100% of ground cover impacted Canopy – No impact to canopy Trunk scorch – No truck scorching with in the offset, area heavily populated with Narrow leaf Ironbark species	

RioTinto Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 11

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Eastern Offset Portion
Date	30-Oct-25
SQP	
Easting	149°24'24.840" E
Northing	22°24'18.720" S
Ground cover	95
Pasture Composition	*Chrysopogon fallax, Themeda triandra*
Estimated DMY	1940 kg/ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	None observed
Pests	None
Comments	Alluvial photo standard

Photolog

D	Condition	Ground Cover
N		
S		

RioTinto

E





W





D

Canopy

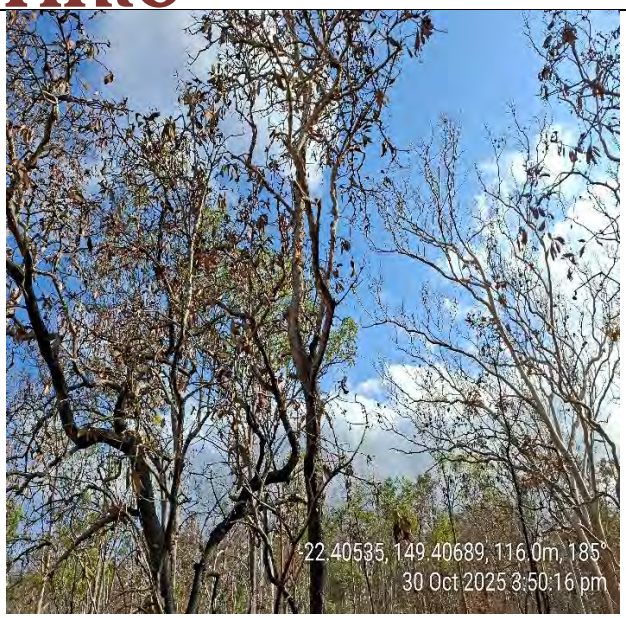
Trunk scorch

N





Rio Tinto

S		
E		
W		
	Ground cover – 100% of ground cover impacted Canopy – 50% of the conopy impacted, area densly populated with smaller paperbark species Truck scorch -50% of trees within the offset impacted with truck scorching with an average scorch height of 3-4m. Area densely populated with paperback species .	

Rio Tinto Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 12

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Eastern Offset Portion
Date	28-Oct-25
SQP	J Appo
Easting	149° 23′ 59.413″ E
Northing	22° 24′ 37.926″ S
Ground cover	98
Pasture Composition	*Heteropogon contortus (33%), H. triticum (33%), Chrysopogon fallax, Themeda triandra, Praxelis clematidea (5%)*
Estimated DMY	2450 kg/ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	None observed
Pests	None
Comments	Eucalyptus crebra. Narrow leaved ironbark pasture standard.

Photolog

D	Condition	Ground Cover
N		
S		

RioTinto

E		
W		

RioTinto Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 13

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Eastern Offset Portion
Date	30-Oct-25
SQP	J.Appo
Easting	149° 24′ 14.904″ E
Northing	22° 24′ 30.215″ S
Ground cover	98
Pasture Composition	*Heteropogon contortus (45%), H. triticeus (15%), Themeda triandra (10%), Praxelis clematidea (30%)*
Estimated DMY	2250 kg//ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	Minor lantana (1%)
Pests	None
Comments	Eucalyptus crebra, E. platyphylla, L. camara (1%) Narrow leaved ironbark pasture standard

Photolog

D	Condition	Ground Cover
N		
E		

RioTinto

S		
W		
D	**Canopy**	**Truck scorch**
N		

RioTinto

S		
E		
W		
	Ground cover – 85% ground cover impacted Canopy – 20% canopy impacted, isolated to bloodwood species Truck scorch - >5% trunk sorch within the offset area, truck scorch iolsated to bloodwood species with an avergae height of 0.5m.	

Rio Tinto Quarterly Observations Monitoring Point 14

Property	Lot 5377 PH1903 – Eastern Offset Portion
Date	31-Oct-25
SQP	J.Appo
Easting	149° 24′ 33.606″ E
Northing	22° 25′ 5.351″ S
Ground cover	100
Pasture Composition	*Heteropogon triticum (15%), Chrysopogon fallax, Praxelis spp., H. contortus*
Estimated DMY	2250 kg/ha
Weeds Present (species and % GC)	Lantana patches
Pests	None
Comments	Eucalyptus crebra, Corymbia tessellaris, E. Platyphylla, Corymbia variables, Melaleuca spp., Alphitonia excelsa, Acacia spp., Lantana camara (5%) Narrow leaved ironbark pasture standard.

Photolog

D	Ground Cover	Condition
N		
E		

RioTinto

S





W





D

Canopy

Trunk scorch

N

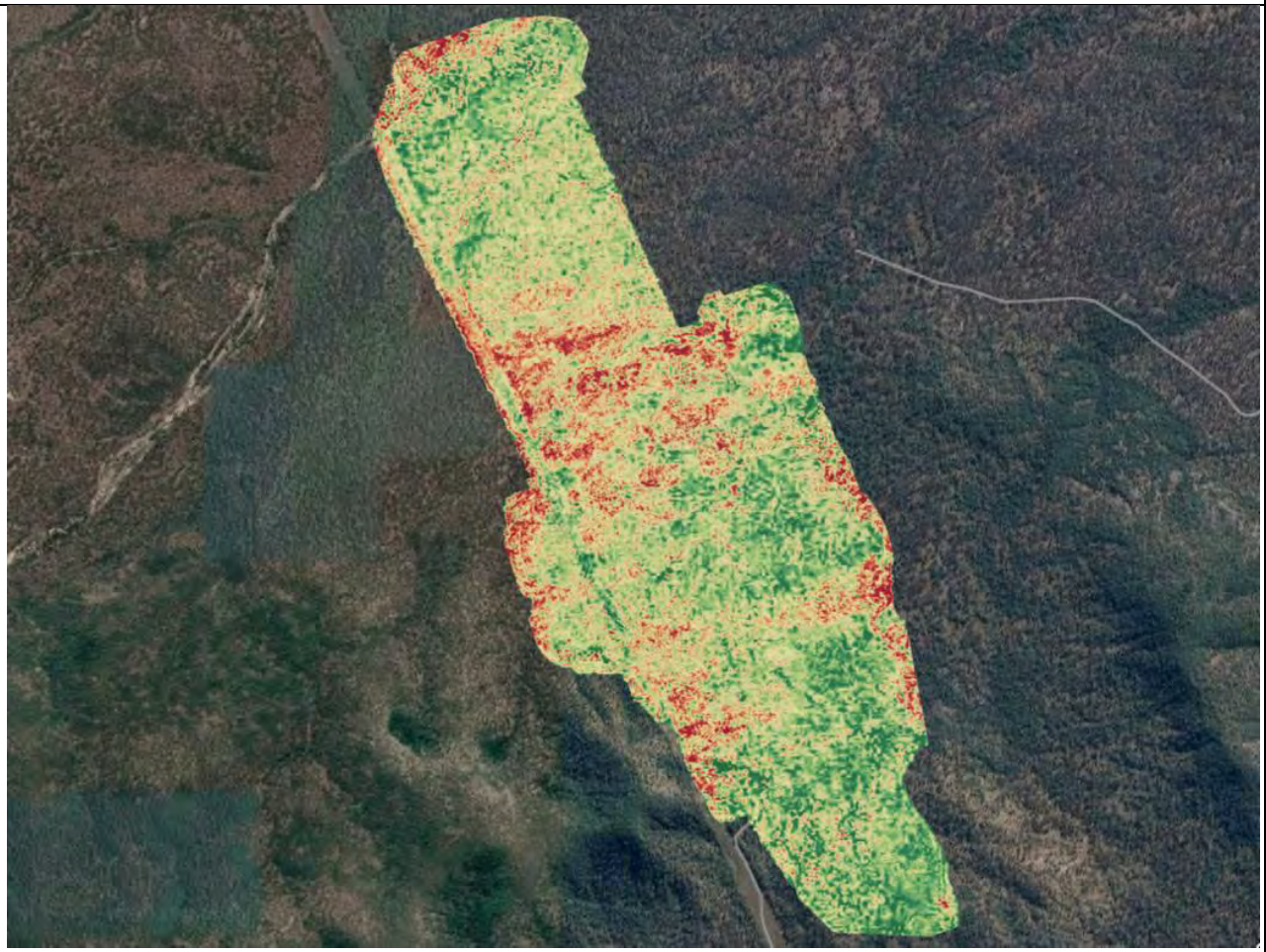




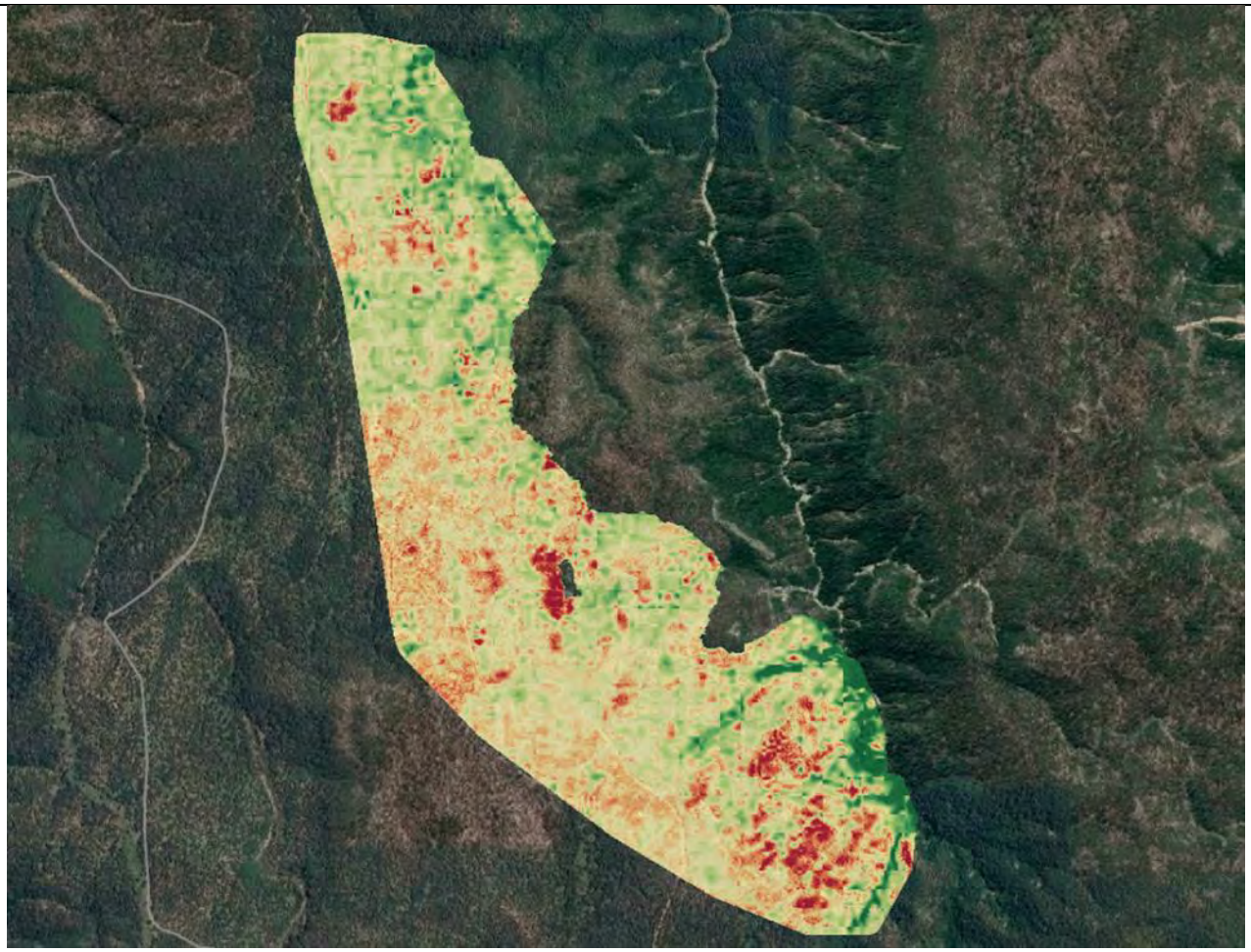
RioTinto

S		
E		
W		
	Ground cover – 100% impact to ground cover Canopy - >10% impacted, impact isolated to lower canopy, Blood woods and narrow leaf Ironbark species Trunk scorch – 20% of trees imapcted by runck scorch, scorch isolated to Bloodwood and Paperbark species. Average scorch height 1m with some bloodwoods up to 3m.	

Drone photogrammetry - Eastern offset area



Drone Photgrammetry - Western offset areas



Appendix 3 Summer 2026 quarterly monitoring records

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13th April 2026

File Reference: ESQ7128 -Rio Tinto - Noncompliance Summer 20252026. Rev1.0

Jorja Wem

Rio Tinto

Delivery Via: E-mail – Jorja Wem <Jorja.Wem@riotinto.com>

Quarterly Monitoring Summer 2025 / 2026

The Summer 2025/2026 Quarterly Ecological Monitoring period coincided with sustained wet season conditions across the Connie Creek Offset Area, resulting in prolonged rainfall, waterlogged ground surfaces, and restricted access to key monitoring and maintenance areas. These conditions significantly constrained the ability of field teams to safely undertake the scheduled ecological monitoring and weed management activities outlined for this quarter. Despite these limitations, Rio Tinto and Biodiversity Australia maintained regular communication with the landholder, and readiness to mobilise when conditions temporarily improved.

However, due to the persistence of wet conditions and the deterioration of internal tracks, the full monitoring program could not be delivered within the scheduled timeframe. The decision to demobilise early was made in consultation with the landholder and in accordance with Rio Tinto's environmental and land access obligations, ensuring that no unnecessary damage occurred to the Offset Area or supporting infrastructure.

This Technical Memorandum summarises the circumstances leading to the non-compliance for the Summer 2025/2026 Quarterly Ecological Monitoring period and provides supporting information for submission to the Environmental Regulator.

Proposed Dates for Summer 2025 / 2026 Ecological Surveys and Delivery Outcome

The Summer 2025/2026 Quarterly Ecological Monitoring surveys were scheduled for delivery on the 16th to the 22nd of March 2026. Due to persistent rainfall, saturated ground conditions, flooded track entry points, and restricted access to the Offset Area by landholders, the Summer 2025/2026 ecological monitoring was unable to be delivered and is therefore marked as non-compliant.

Relevant Correspondence Regarding Access and Scheduling

Project correspondence exchanged between February to April 2026, documented the following:

- Landholder notifications confirming that internal tracks, creek crossings, and management zones remained inaccessible due to waterlogging.
- Advice that vehicle access would risk track damage and environmental harm.
- Agreement between Rio Tinto and the contractor to postpone works until conditions improved.
- Ongoing weekly check-ins to reassess access and confirm readiness to mobilise.

Rainfall Received Over the Summer 2025 / 2026 Planned Scheduled Works Period

A summary of rainfall recorded at the nearest Bureau of Meteorology station at New May Downs is provided below.

Table 1 Rainfall December 2025 to March 2026, New May Downs

Month	Rainfall in Millimetres (mm)	Comments
December 2025	156.2 mm	Early wet-season storms; track saturation began.
January 2026	40.2 mm	Multiple high-intensity rainfall events.
February 2026	271.2 mm	Above-average rainfall; prolonged waterlogging.
March 2026	129.4 mm	Intermittent storms: access remained constrained.

Works Completed: Weed Management

Despite restricted access, the following weed management activities were completed during short windows of partial accessibility:

- Targeted treatment of priority weed species in elevated, trafficable areas.
- Hand removal of emergent weeds along accessible track margins.
- Recording of areas requiring follow-up treatment once full access is restored.
- Treated 7.521 Hectares (ha) of weeds.
- Chemical utilised for weed treatment: Round Up Biactive (Glyphosate 360grams/Litre).

Full delivery of the scheduled weed management program was not possible due to safety and access limitations.

Confirmation of Cancelled Surveys and Early Demobilisation

The Ecological Field Team was predicted to undertake ecological surveys on the 16th until the 22nd of March 2026, due to cyclonic / flash flooding climatic activities and access limitations, the ecological surveys were cancelled. The Weed Management Field Team mobilised to commence work on the 22nd of March 2026 and demobilised earlier on the 26th of March 2026 due to climatic conditions declining to an unsafe working environment. Access tracks became hazardous for vehicle movement and continued works risked environmental damage and non-compliance with Rio Tinto's land access and environmental management obligations. The decision to demobilise was made in consultation with the landholder and Rio Tinto Site Representatives.

Statement on Resumption of Works

Rio Tinto has confirmed that all outstanding ecological monitoring and weed maintenance activities will resume in the Autunm 2026 Survey Period, predicted for April and May 2026. Further, the project team will continue to monitor rainfall, track conditions, and landholder advice, this will assist the team in preparation for mobilising and ensuring full access is possible.

Appendix 4 Autumn 2026 quarterly monitoring records

It is noted that the below naming errors/limitations were identified within this report:

- Names a project other than Connie Creek Offset
- Lists only one offset species
- Includes habitat quality scores not comparable with the OAMP baseline (OAMP start score of 7)
- Includes targeted assessments of one offset species and habitat quality not required until 2028.

Biodiversity AUSTRALIA

SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS
DEDICATED TO ACHIEVING
ECOLOGICAL AND ECONOMICAL BALANCE

LEADING THE WAY
IN ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT



CONNIE CREEK – AUTUMN ECOLOGICAL OFFSET MONITORING REPORT 2026

RIO TINTO PTY LTD

July 2026

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1. Introduction

Biodiversity Australia Pty Ltd (BA) was commissioned by Rio Tinto Pty Ltd (the Client) to undertake a comprehensive baseline Asset Inspection of the Connie Creek Offset Area (the Offset Area), which is located approximately 160 kilometres (km) north-west of Rockhampton, 140 km south of Mackay and 20 km west of Saint (St) Lawrence.

The Offset Area is accessed from the Croydon/St Lawrence Road, refer to Figure 1. The primary objective is to document and analyse the current state of the assets and how they interact with habitat, ensuring that they meet the requirements for species and ecological communities classified as Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

The Offset Area has been specifically designated to rehabilitate/restore valuable land to compensate for potential environmental impacts associated with Rio Tinto's Mud Wall Project. Within this framework, the Offset Area has been identified as essential for safeguarding biodiversity and maintaining key ecological processes by the establishment of the Offset. The management and monitoring strategies for the Offset Area are outlined in the Connie Creek Offset Area Management Plan (OAMP) (Earthtrade, 2024), which serves as the guiding document for all conservation and compliance efforts.

1.1 Objectives

The objectives of the Project were to conduct maintenance inspections to facilitate the monitoring and management of the following items:

- Conditions of fencing, gates, signs, access tracks, and firebreaks,
- Compliance with restrictions for vegetation clearing associated with maintenance and establishment of access tracks, fencing, and fire breaks,
- Removal of fences and gates,
- Installation of fences, gates, and signage,
- Management actions,
- Adaptive management recommendations.

1.2 Offset Area Location and Description

The Offset Area is a 5,560-hectare (ha) property located approximately 20 kilometre (km) west of Saint (St) Lawrence, 160 km north-west of Rockhampton, and 140 km south of Mackay (Figure 1). The Offset Area spans from coastal plains to the coastal ranges, rising in elevation from 40 metres (m) to 430 m, with notable features such as Evelyn Peak and Catherine Peak forming part of a significant plateau in the western portion. The Offset Area contains regional ecosystems from both the Central Queensland Coast and Brigalow Belt (North) bioregions. Creeks include Blackfellow, Six Mile, and Stony Creek which flow south to north across the landscape, contributing to erosion during rainfall events and ultimately draining into Connie Creek, which flows into the Great Barrier Reef lagoon.

The Offset Area is currently used for extensive cattle grazing and has minimal infrastructure or active land management, resulting in common occurrences of wildfire and feral animal activity. Significant Areas of remnant vegetation remain, particularly along the ridgelines in the west. The Offset Area is situated between Glencoe and Mount Buffalo State Forests and lies within a recognised Koala hotspot identified by Central Queensland University (CQU) research (2018).

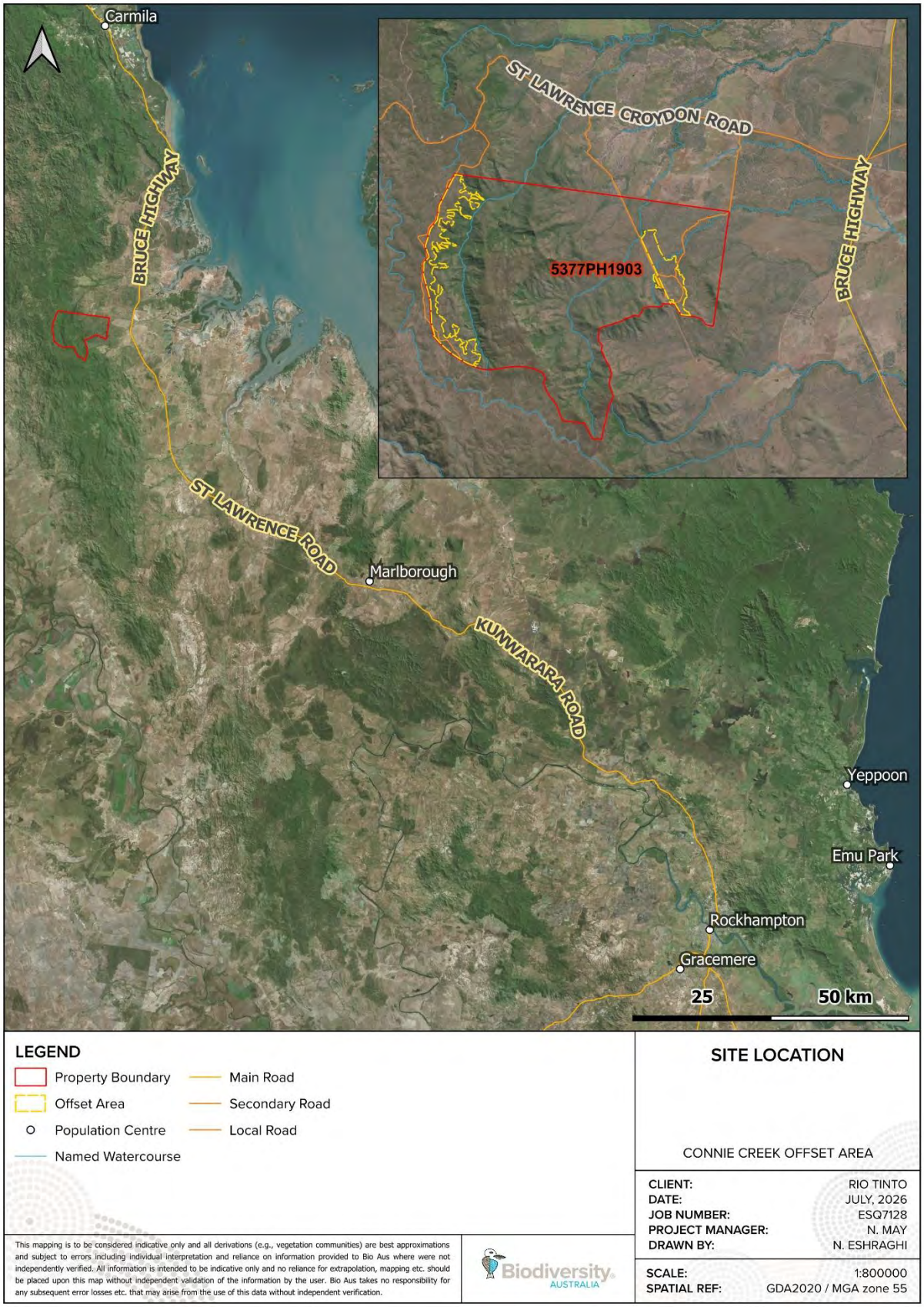


Figure 1: Offset Area Location.

1.2.1 Vegetation

The Offset Area vegetation is comprised of non-remnant vegetation, and nine (9) Regional Ecosystems (RE), as outlined in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Ground-truthed Regional Ecosystems in the Offset Area.

Regional Ecosystem	Description
8.12.7a	*Corymbia citriodora and Eucalyptus portuensis open forest to woodland (12-27 m tall). Occurs on slopes, ridges, plateaus and crests on undulating hills to steep mountains of foothills, uplands and highlands.*
8.12.7	*Corymbia citriodora +/- Eucalyptus portuensis +/- E. drepanophylla (or E. crebra) open forest on hill slopes and undulating plateaus on Mesozoic to Proterozoic igneous rocks.*
8.12.5a	*Lophostemon confertus and/or Eucalyptus portuensis (or E. exserta) open forest to closed scrub (5-38 m tall). Occurs on steep ridges, slopes and crests on rolling hills to steep mountains of foothills, uplands and highlands.*
8.12.22	*Eucalyptus drepanophylla and/or Corymbia clarksoniana +/- C. erythrophloia +/- E. platyphylla +/- E. exserta +/- C. trachyphloia woodland on hills and ranges at low to moderate altitudes in drier areas.*
11.3.35	*Eucalyptus platyphylla, Corymbia clarksoniana woodland on alluvial plains.*
11.3.29a	Eucalyptus crebra +/- Corymbia dallachiana +/- C. erythrophloia, E. moluccana woodland. Occurs on broad plains and fans formed from Quaternary alluvium. Usually associated with bleached sodic duplex soils.
11.3.29	*Eucalyptus crebra, E. exserta, Melaleuca spp. woodland on alluvial plains.*
11.12.6a	*Eucalyptus crebra +/- Corymbia citriodora and/or E. acmenoides +/- Lophostemon suaveolens woodland to open forest. Occurs on gently undulating lower slopes of hills formed from Mesozoic to Proterozoic igneous rocks (granite).*
11.11.15	*Eucalyptus crebra woodland to open woodland on deformed and metamorphosed sediments and interbedded volcanics.*

1.2.2 Threats

The Offset Area is subject to three (3) main threats, namely:

- Intensive livestock grazing,
- Potential for uncontrolled wildfire within the Offset Area, and
- Pest species (flora and fauna) presence increasing the risk of predation and habitat degradation.

1.2.3 Climate

The Offset Area has a subtropical climate (in accordance with Koppen Climate Classification system; Bureau of Meteorology [BOM], 2014), characterised by a moderately dry winter, humid summer. Weather records from St Lawrence (Station ID 33210), located approximately 11.85 km north-east of the Offset Area, and St Lawrence (Station ID 33210) located approximately 10.85 km north-east of the Offset Area identify:

- Monthly mean rainfall (1870-2025) ranges from approximately 23.6 millimetres (mm) in August to 206 mm in January.
- Monthly mean maximum temperatures (2004-2026) (St Lawrence Station ID 33210) range from 24.1 degrees Celsius (°C) in July and 31.9°C in January.

- Monthly mean minimum temperatures range from 10.9℃ in July and 23℃ in January. December to May is considered a representative 'wet season' and June to November is considered the 'dry season.'

Monthly mean temperature and rainfall records are shown in Figure 2.

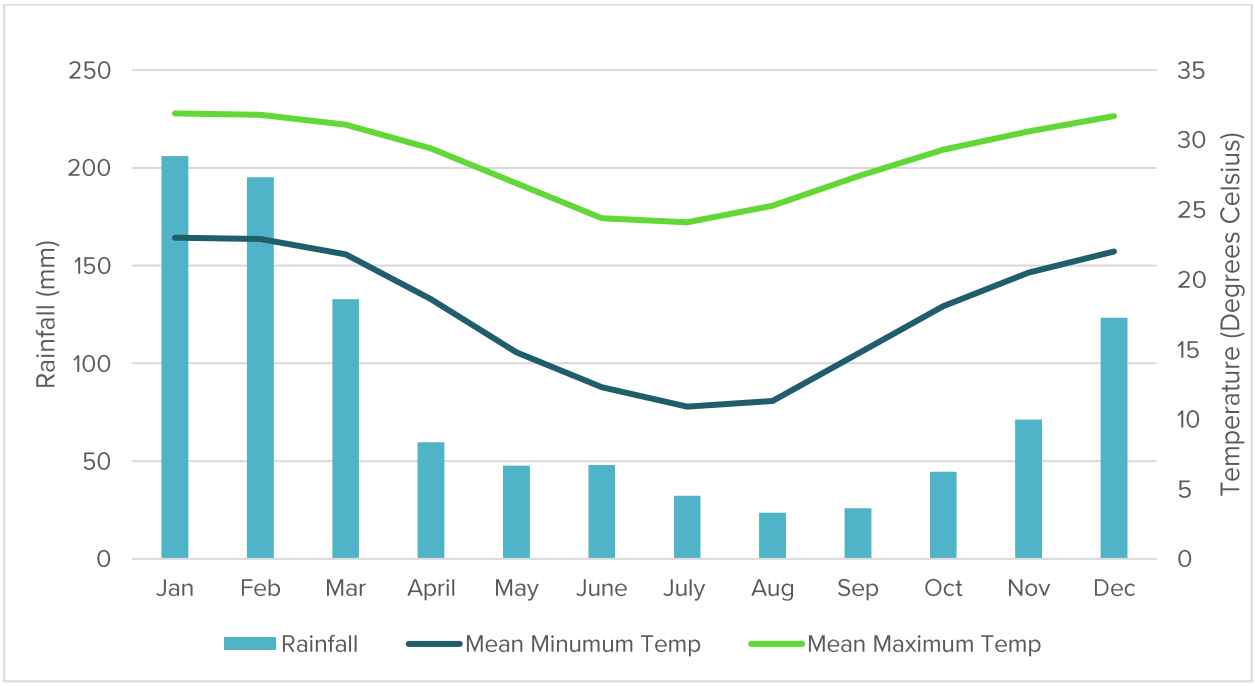


Figure 2: Monthly Mean Rainfall from St Lawrence Post Office (Station ID 33065), temperature records from St Lawrence weather station (ID: 33210)

^From BoM. Temperature records averaged from August 2004 to May 2026 (St Lawrence ID 33210). Rainfall records averaged from March 1870 to July 2025 (St Lawrence 33210).

2. Methods and Timing Events

2.1 Desktop and Literature Review

A desktop assessment was conducted to identify any updates to Regional Ecosystem (RE) mapping and/or BioCondition benchmarks since the establishment of the Offset Area in 2022. The following data sources and Geographic Information System (GIS) layers were reviewed:

- Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI) (2021c) Regional Ecosystems Description Database (REDD) (Version 13.1),
- Queensland Herbarium (2023) BioCondition Benchmarks for Regional Ecosystem Condition Assessment (Version 3.2): Brigalow Belt,
- Eyre *et al.* (2015) BioCondition: A Condition Assessment Framework for Terrestrial Biodiversity in Queensland. Assessment Manual. Version 2.2,
- Eyre *et al.* (2011) Method for the Establishment and Survey of Reference Sites for BioCondition. Version 2.0,
- Department of Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water and the Environment Protected Matters Search Tool (DCCEEW 2024a) (PMST),
- Department of Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water and the Environment Species Profile and Threats Database (SPRAT),
- Department of Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water and the Environment Approved Conservation Advice for relevant species and ecological communities,
- Department of Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water and the Environment Environmental Communities of National Environmental Significance GIS Layer,
- Department of Environment, Tourist, Science and Innovation (DETSI) Flora Survey Trigger Mapping,
- Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation Wildlife Online Database (WildNet),
- Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation Regional Ecosystem Description Database (REDD) V12.1,
- Department of Natural Resource and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development (DNRMMRRD) Essential Habitat data (V4.18),
- Queensland Globe (2026),
- Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) records database,
- Historical imagery via Qimagery, and
- Aerial imagery and distribution data through Google Earth Pro (V7.1).

2.2 Survey Timing

Biodiversity Offset Monitoring surveys were conducted in accordance with those outlined in the OAMP. Surveys were carried out by four (4) Suitably Qualified and Experienced Ecologists (SQEE) between the 19th – 20th of May 2026 under Biodiversity Australia's Scientific Licence and Animal Ethics approval.

The dates of the Autumn, 2026 surveys and associated survey types conducted are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Survey timing.

OAMP Survey Timing	Dates	Required Conditions	Survey Type
2026			
Autumn	19 May – 20 May	General Inspections Habitat Condition Assessment	• Offset Area Inspection, • Biomass Survey, • Habitat Quality Surveys, • BioCondition Surveys, and • Threatened Fauna Surveys.

2.2.1 Weather Conditions

Weather records from St Lawrence (Station ID 033210) provide details of the weather conditions during the March to May 2026 monitoring period. Rainfall was generally above the long-term average (2004–2026) during March and April, with approximately 165 millimetre (mm) recorded in March compared to a long-term average of around 135 mm, and approximately 90 mm in April compared to a long-term average of around 40 mm. Rainfall decreased substantially in May to approximately 25 mm, which was slightly below the long-term average for the month.

Mean maximum and minimum temperatures remained comparable to the long-term averages throughout the monitoring period. Mean maximum temperatures ranged from approximately 27.5°C in May to 30.5°C in March, while mean minimum temperatures ranged from approximately 15°C in May to 21.5°C in March. Climatic conditions during the monitoring period, compared with the long-term averages (2004–2026), are shown in Figure 3.

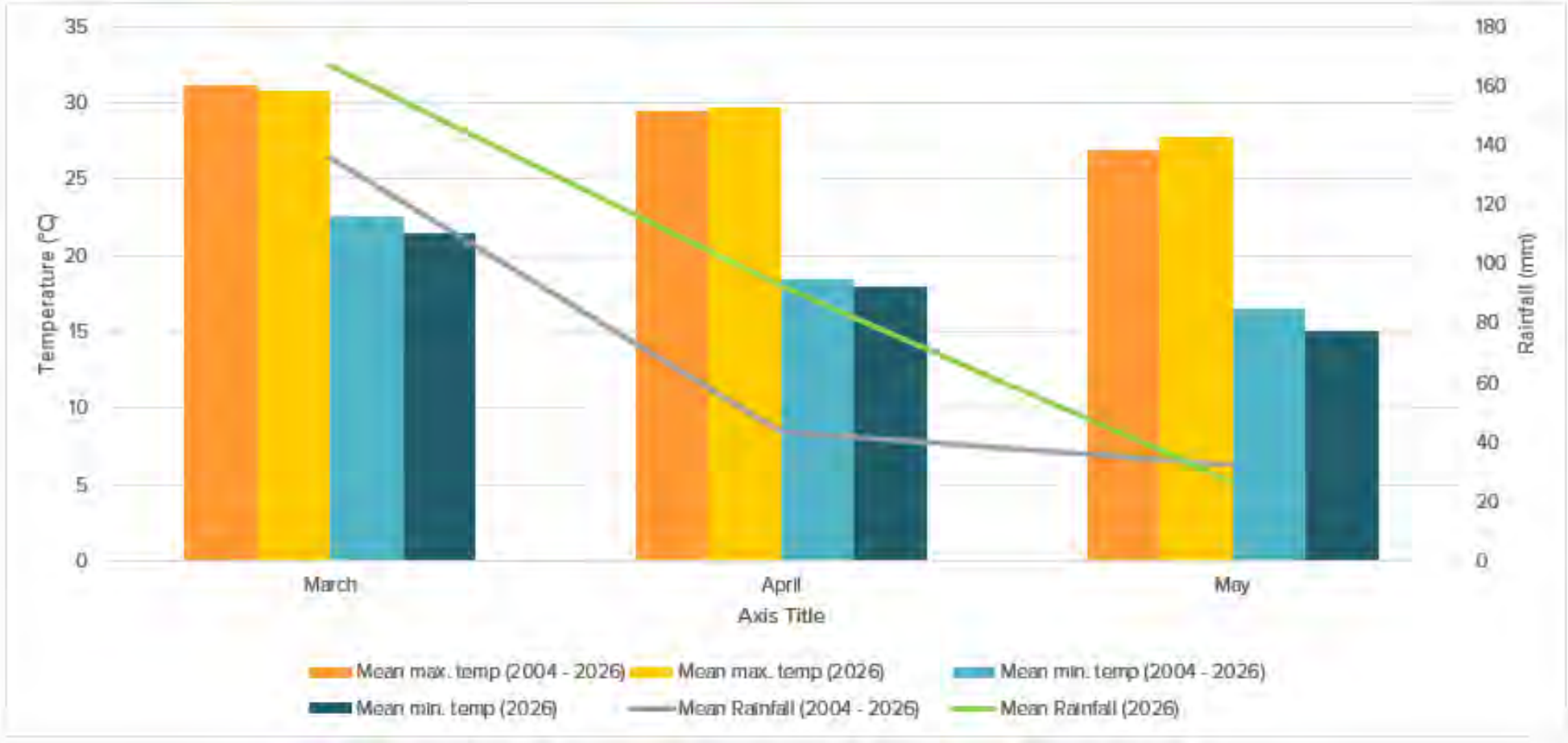


Figure 3: Climatic conditions for the quarter of monitoring/management, compared to long-term averages.

2.3 Monitoring & Management Events

Within the Autumn 2026 period of monitoring and management within the Offset Area, the following activities were completed in line with the requirements of Section 11 within the OAMP, (Earthtrade, 2024).

- Offset Area Inspection,
- Biomass Survey,
- Habitat Quality Surveys,
- BioCondition Surveys, and
- Threatened Fauna Surveys.

Comprehensive findings addressing each monitoring event are provided in Section 3 Results.

2.3.1 Biomass Monitoring

As per the OAMP, biomass is at its greatest at the end of the wet season (March) with fire risk greatest towards the end of the dry season (September/October). Biomass monitoring was performed in accordance with Section 6.4 of the OAMP, which outlines the need for standardised and compliant photos to be taken of the assessment area.

The photo standards for the region can be found at the Future Beef website (Future Beef, 2024), specifically, the Central Queensland Coast Region Eucalypt Woodland photo standards.

Biomass Monitoring Sites surveyed during this monitoring event used a standardised field and biomass monitoring method.

Ground layer biomass was assessed using a repeatable photo monitoring approach. At each Monitoring Site, photographs were captured from a consistent location and orientation during each monitoring period to enable temporal comparison. A BioCondition Northern Picket was used as a fixed scale reference within each image to provide a consistent measure of vegetation height and structure. Field observations were recorded at the time of photo capture to support interpretation of biomass condition, including:

- Grass height,
- Dominant species composition, and
- Other notable site characteristics such as grazing pressure, disturbance, and ground cover.

This combined qualitative and quantitative approach allows for comparison of biomass and ground layer condition across monitoring periods.

2.3.2 Habitat Quality Assessments

Habitat Quality Assessments were performed across the Offset Area on the 19th of May 2026. All surveys were performed as per the *Guide to Determining Terrestrial Habitat Quality V1.2* (DEHP, 2014). The Offset Area is being used to satisfy Offsetting requirements for one (1) species of conservation significance under the EPBC Act:

- Squatter Pigeon (southern) (*Geophaps scripta scripta*) – Vulnerable.

2.3.3 Offset Monitoring Inspections

Assets are distributed across the Offset Area. Due to their importance to the success of the Offset, these assets are to be monitored quarterly, as per Section 8 of the OAMP. The inspections utilised existing mapping and tracks to traverse the Offset Area to monitor infrastructure including:

- Condition of infrastructures such as fencing, gates, signs, firebreaks and access tracks,
- Presence and extent of erosion,
- Damage/land degradation caused by pest species or over-grazing,
- Presence of livestock from restricted Offset Areas,
- Exclusion of livestock from restricted Offset Management Areas, and
- Any incidental observations of fauna or risks to Offset values (e.g. deceased fauna from vehicle strike, damage to fencing).

2.3.4 Weed Management

In line with Section 8 of the OAMP, weed management was undertaken within the Offset Area. Weed treatment within the Offset Area has been conducted as per the OAMP requirements, using approved methods, equipment, and chemicals.

Target areas, weed species, and weed control methods were derived from the results of 2025 monitoring and in accordance with requirements listed in the OAMP. Two (2) Suitably Qualified Field Technicians, retaining Agricultural Chemicals Distribution Control (ACDC) certification carried out weed management during the Autumn program. Weed programs were carried out within the quarter during April and May 2026, between 28th of April 2026 and 4th of May 2026. All key ecological features and significant weeds identified within the Offset Area were recorded on a GIS-enabled tablet. Results detailing Weed Management is presented below in Section 3.

2.4 Limitations

The Autumn 2026 monitoring program was subject to limitations that influenced survey coverage and the interpretation of monitoring results (Table 3). These limitations should be considered when comparing the current monitoring results with future monitoring events and historical baseline data.

Table 3: Limitations.

Limitation	Description	Implications
Wet season conditions	Above-average rainfall during February (133.5 mm) and March 2026 (157.5 mm) resulted in widespread soil saturation across the Offset Area.	Saturated ground conditions increased the risk of vehicle bogging and limited safe access across the Offset Area.
Restricted Site access	Flowing and inundated drainage lines and creek systems prevented safe vehicle access to the eastern portion of the Offset Area (refer to Photo Plate 1). Access was limited to areas that could be safely traversed without causing damage to the Offset Area.	Monitoring was confined to the western portion of the Offset Area, resulting in reduced spatial coverage of the Autumn monitoring program.
Reduced monitoring effort	Due to access constraints, only six (6) of the twelve (12) permanent monitoring sites were assessed during the Autumn 2026 monitoring event. This included Photo Monitoring, BioCondition assessments and infrastructure inspections.	Results presented in this report represent accessible areas only and should not be considered representative of the entire Offset Area for the Autumn monitoring period.
BioCondition baseline data inconsistencies	The BioCondition baseline assessments presented on Page 101 of the OAMP use unique Site IDs that differ from those specified elsewhere in the OAMP for ongoing monitoring. Furthermore, the baseline Site IDs do not clearly correspond with the mapped monitoring site locations.	Direct comparison of the Autumn 2026 BioCondition assessment results with the baseline condition scores is currently not possible.





Photo Plate 1: Wet Conditions Limiting Access

2.4.1 Weed Management

While the survey method seeks to achieve the overarching objectives of the OAMP, this survey method does have limitations. Field surveys provide a snapshot of the abundance and diversity of weeds present under specific climatic conditions. This snapshot has the potential to change temporally, meaning significant species may not be recorded/treated during field survey and management. Additionally, some species can be cryptic and difficult to identify when they are not flowering or fruiting.

3. Results

3.1 Monitoring Results

3.1.1 Biomass Monitoring

Biomass monitoring was conducted on the 19th of May 2026. Locations of the six (6) Biomass Monitoring Sites are displayed in Figure 4. The photo standards for Eucalypt Woodland Pastures (FutureBeef, 2024) used for biomass estimation are provided in Appendix A-1. Results from the Autumn Biomass Monitoring assessment are presented in Table 4, which summarises the condition of each Biomass Monitoring Site assessed in the 2026 Autumn Quarter. Six (6) of twelve (12) Monitoring Sites were attended and assessed during this monitoring period due to limitations discussed in Section 2.4.

All Biomass Monitoring Sites were recorded below their respective minimum biomass targets with an average of 500 kg/ha across the Offset Area, with the minimum recommended biomass of 1,200 kg/ha. The results indicate that biomass (kg/ha) across the Offset Area is generally low and would not meet the threshold for recommended cattle grazing.

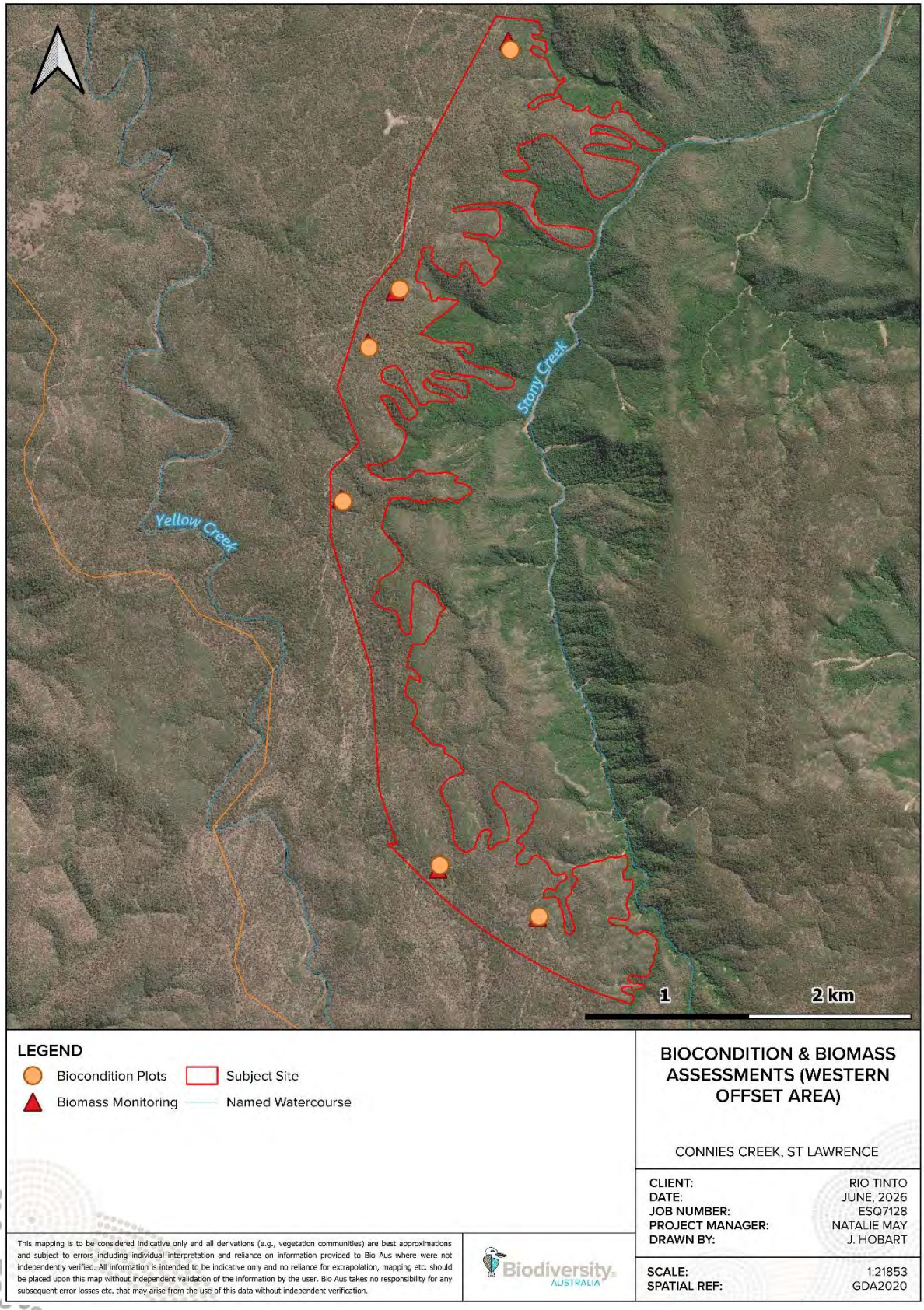


Figure 4: Biomass Monitoring Sites.

Table 4: Results of Autumn Biomass Assessment and recommended actions.

Biomass Monitoring Site	Regional Ecosystem	Survey Photo	Minimum Biomass kg/ha	Surveyed Biomass kg/ha
1	8.12.5a		1,200	500
2	8.12.7a		1,200	500
3	8.12.7		1,200	500

Biomass Monitoring Site	Regional Ecosystem	Survey Photo	Minimum Biomass kg/ha	Surveyed Biomass kg/ha
4	8.12.7a		1,200	500
5	8.12.7		1,200	500
6	8.12.7a		1,200	500

3.1.2 Habitat Quality Assessments

3.1.2.1 BioCondition Assessments

The Site Condition results indicate variation across REs within the Offset Area, with overall BioCondition (BC) scores ranging from 49.0 to 63.0 out of 80 (Table 5). The highest scoring site was MP7 (RE 8.12.7a) with a score of 63.0, while the lowest scoring site was MP6 (RE 8.12.7) with a score of 49.0.

Native perennial grass cover was generally consistent across all assessed REs, often scoring at or near benchmark levels. This reflects the continued influence of grazing-based land use practices that favour grass-dominated ground cover. In contrast, Coarse Woody Debris (CWD) was generally low to moderate across all sites, with several assessments falling below benchmark expectations, indicating limited structural complexity and reduced recruitment of fallen timber.

Forb species richness was consistently below benchmark values across most monitoring points, contributing to reduced understorey diversity within the Offset Area. Similarly, large tree presence remained variable but generally below benchmark expectations across all REs, reinforcing the influence of historical clearing and ongoing modification of vegetation structure within the Offset Area.

It should be noted that the 2026 Autumn BioCondition results cannot be directly compared to previous baseline assessments, as outlined in Table 3, due to inconsistencies in monitoring site identification and alignment between baseline BioCondition Site IDs and current monitoring point locations. As a result, trend analysis against baseline condition cannot currently be undertaken.

Table 5: Site Condition Score – 2026 Autumn Quarter.

Regional Ecosystem	Offset Area	Large Trees	Tree Height	Recruitment	Tree Cover	Shrub Cover	CWD	Species Richness				Non-native plant cover	Native perennial grass (%)	Litter ground cover (%)	BC Score (/80) Autumn 2026
								Trees	Shrubs	Grass	Forbs / Other				
8.12.5a	MP4	5	3	5	5	3	5	5	3	5	3	10	5	3	**60.0**
8.12.7	MP5	5	3	5	3	5	2	3	5	5	3	10	1	5	**55.0**
	MP6	5	0	5	3	0	2	5	5	5	3	10	1	5	**49.0**
8.12.7a	MP1	5	3	5	3	0	5	5	5	5	3	10	1	3	**53.0**
	MP2	5	5	5	3	0	5	5	5	5	3	10	5	3	**59.0**
	MP7	5	5	5	3	5	2	5	5	5	3	10	5	5	**63.0**

3.1.2.2 Fauna Habitat Quality

The Offset Area demonstrated generally moderate habitat quality across the three (3) Regional Ecosystems assessed, with Habitat Quality scores ranging from 6.03 to 6.75 out of 10. The highest scoring Assessment Unit (AU) was RE 8.12.7a (6.75), followed by RE 8.12.5a (6.54) and RE 8.12.7 (6.03), indicating relatively consistent habitat condition across the Offset Area.

Updated Habitat Quality Assessments for the Squatter Pigeon (southern) (*Geophaps scripta scripta*) target species are summarised in Table 6 and

Table 7, including condition, context and species-specific scoring components, as well as final weighted Habitat Quality (HQ) scores. The overall Offset Area Habitat Quality Score was 6.56 under the 2026 assessment, compared with a baseline score of 4.39, indicating an improvement in overall habitat condition relative to baseline values.

Table 6: Habitat Quality Scores for each Assessment Unit (AU).

Regional Ecosystem	Offset Area Condition Score (/80) *	Offset Area Context Score (/26)	Species Specific Score (/50)	Assessment Unit Habitat Quality Score
8.12.5a	60	21	21	6.54
8.12.7	52	21	21	6.03
8.12.7a	58	26	21	6.75

Table 7: Final Habitat Quality Scores for the Squatter Pigeon (southern).

Regional Ecosystem / AU	Area	AU Weighting	Weighted Assessment Unit Score Autumn 2026	Weighted Assessment Unit Score Baseline
Squatter Pigeon (southern)				
8.12.5a	55.80	0.15	1.00	0.71
8.12.7	81.00	0.22	1.34	0.94
8.12.7a	226.90	0.62	4.21	2.74
Final HQ Score for Offset Area			**6.56**	**4.39**

3.1.2.3 Fauna Targeted Surveys

Targeted transect and flushing surveys for the Squatter Pigeon were undertaken during the Autumn 2026 monitoring events (Figure 5). No Squatter Pigeon (southern) individuals were recorded during the surveys. However, one (1) Squatter Pigeon (northern) was opportunistically observed within the Western Offset Area. This observation was incidental and was not recorded during the targeted survey.

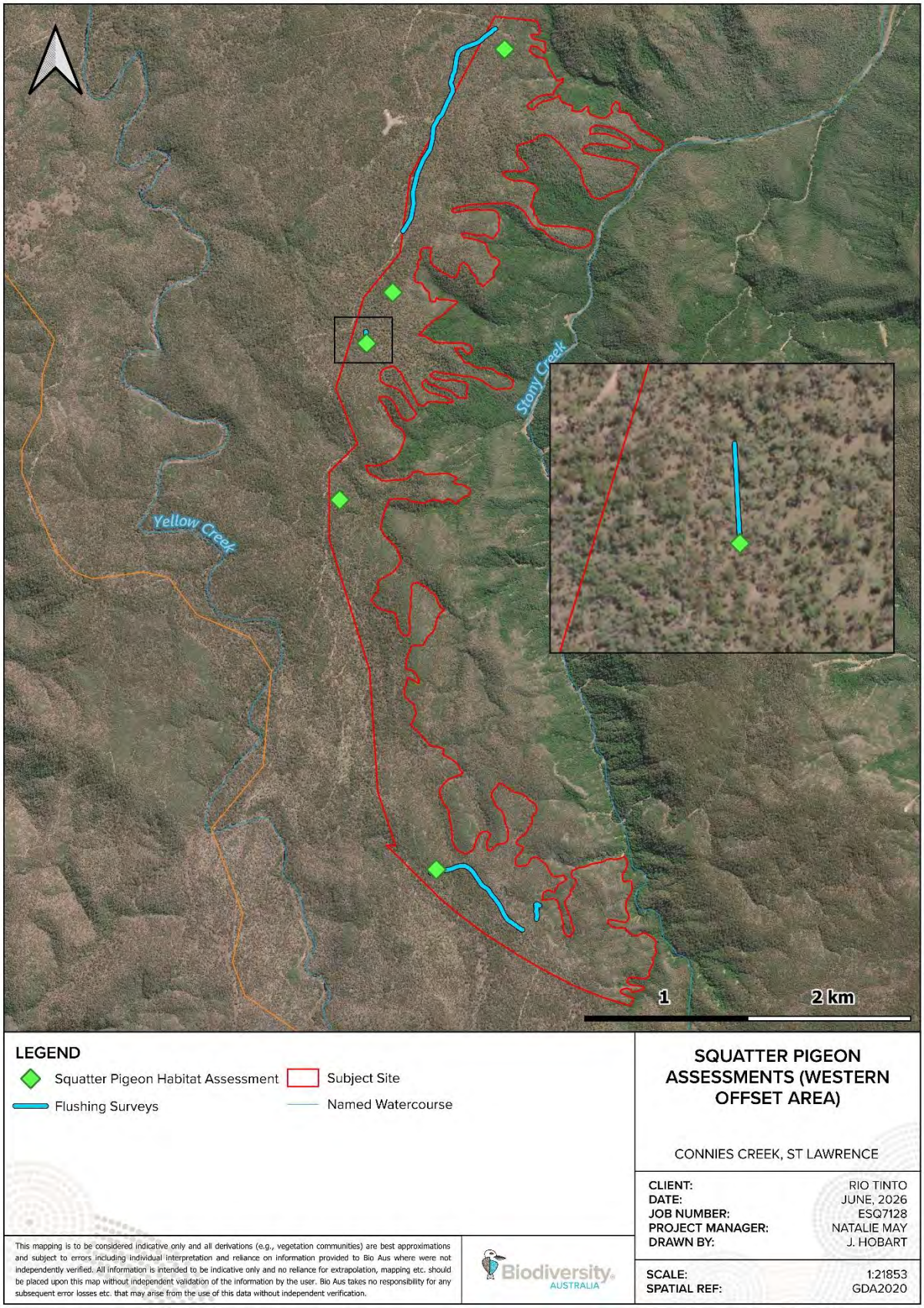


Figure 5: Squatter Pigeon Surveys

3.1.3 Weed Management

Weed management was conducted throughout the Autumn period within the Offset Area. Works were targeted in the Western Offset Area, focusing on the treatment of Lantana (*Lantana camara*) with a total of 361 metre squared (m^2) infestation diameter and a further twelve (12) individual data points treated, as seen in Table 8.

- Weed treatments were carried out with herbicide application via basal barking or foliar spraying methods or mechanical treatment such as hand removal.
- Further weed survey works were completed with new survey points data logged along with areas/points where treatments were performed.

A total of seven (7) weed species were treated and surveyed with a total infestation diameter of 398 m^2. The total treatment and survey area for each species is detailed below in Table 8, and displayed in Figure 6 and Figure 7.

Table 8: Weed species treated and surveyed within the Offset Area.

Common Name	Scientific Name	WoNS	*Biosecurity Act 2014*	Combined Infestation Diameter (m^2)
Balloon Cotton	*Gomphocarpus physocarpus*	-	GBO	**Treatment:** 1 **Survey:** 50
Yellow Poinciana	*Peltophorum pterocarpum*	-	-	**Survey:** 1
Billygoat Weed	*Ageratum conyzoides*	-	-	**Treatment:** 1
Annual Ragweed	*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*	-	Restricted Invasive Category 3	**Treatment:** 1
Lantana	*Lantana camara*	Yes	Restricted Invasive Category 3	**Treatment:** 361
American Rat's Tail Grass	*Sporobolus jacquemontii*	-	Restricted Invasive Category 3	**Treatment:** 33 **Survey:** 1
Flannel Weed	*Sida cordifolia*	-	-	**Treatment:** 1

Weed management of the Offset Area has resulted in a notable decline of Lantana thickets (Photo Plate 2 and Photo Plate 3), untreated Lantana can cause structural changes to ecosystems, effecting habitat quality and limiting ground movement of Endangered, Vulnerable and Near Threatened (EVNT) such as Koalas and Squatter Pigeons.





Photo Plate 2: Lantana Thicket Post Management 1.A



Photo Plate 3: Lantana Thicket Post Management 1.B

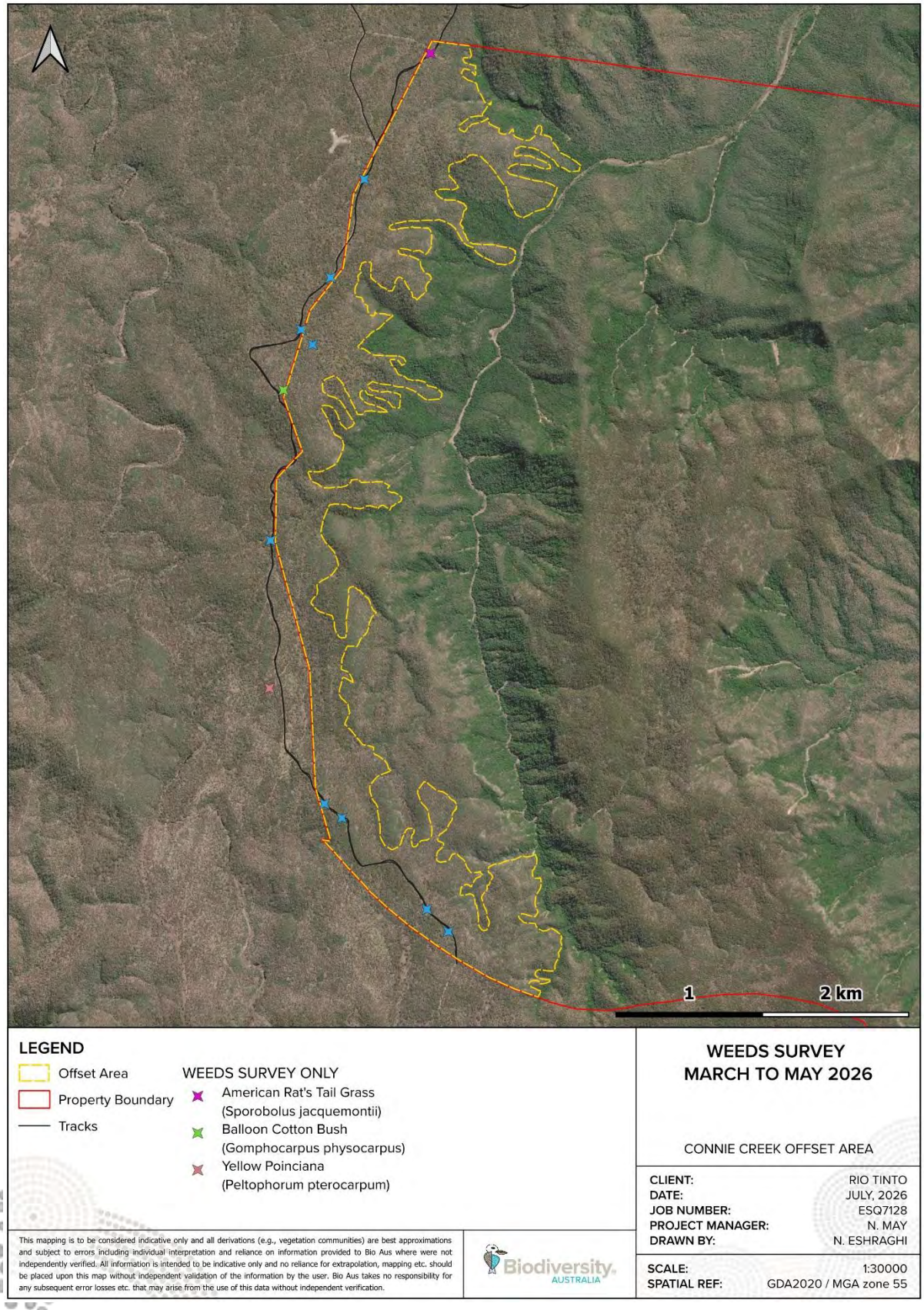


Figure 6: Weed Monitoring Works.

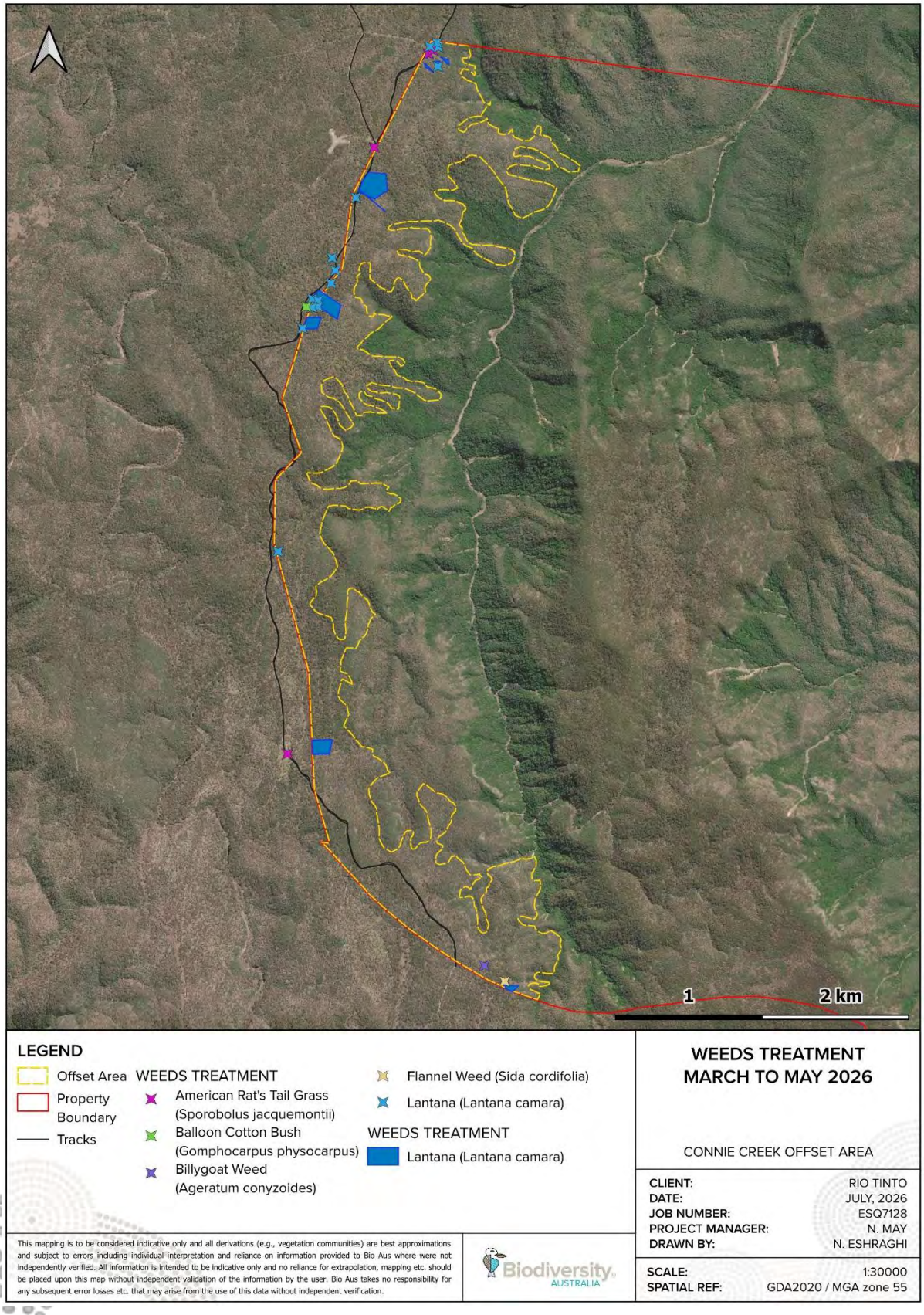


Figure 7: Weed Treatment Works within Autumn 2026.

3.1.4 Incidental Observations Pest Monitoring

Opportunistic observations, including incidental fauna sightings and weed infestations, were recorded during the Autumn 2026 survey to inform ongoing weed and pest animal management.

Weed infestations within the Western Offset Area were limited in extent and generally localised. Isolated patches of Lantana and Prickly Pear were identified during the survey and will continue to be monitored and managed as part of routine weed control activities.

Incidental pest observations included five (5) Feral Pigs (*Sus scrofa*), which were observed along St Lawrence-Croydon Road while travelling between the eastern and western access points of the Offset Area during the Autumn 2026 survey.

3.1.5 Offset Area Inspections

Area inspections were undertaken during the Autumn 2026 monitoring survey to assess the condition of infrastructure and identify land management issues across the Offset Area. A summary of the inspection findings is provided in Table 9, with representative photographs presented in Table 10 and Table 11 and locations displayed in Figure 8.

Table 9: Offset Area Inspection Results.

Inspection Category	Findings	Management Implications
Infrastructure	• Gates throughout the Offset Area were in good condition, with most comprising cocky-style gates. • Fencelines were generally in poor condition, consisting primarily of barbed wire, with sections down or non-functional within the Western Offset Area. Refer to Table 10. • Access tracks were generally in good condition; however, several sections require grading and erosion maintenance to maintain safe vehicle access.	Continue routine maintenance of gates and prioritise repair of damaged fencing and track grading where required.
Erosion	• Twenty-six (26) significant erosion sites were previously identified during the post-dry season inspection, predominantly associated with watercourses, with only three (3) sites located away from mapped drainage lines. Refer to Table 11. • A major erosion area adjacent to the dam in the south-western corner of the Offset Area requires ongoing monitoring and may require engineering works to prevent further degradation. • During the Autumn inspection, access to the eastern portion of the Offset Area was restricted due to recent rainfall; however, one (1) severe erosion site was recorded along the western boundary.	Continue erosion monitoring, particularly around drainage lines and the dam, and implement remediation works where necessary.
Livestock	• Cattle were present throughout the Offset Area. • Evidence of grazing and trampling was observed, particularly around water points, contributing to localised erosion and impacts on native vegetation.	Continue livestock management to minimise grazing pressure, infrastructure damage and erosion.
Pest Species	• Five (5) Feral Pigs (*Sus scrofa*) were observed along St Lawrence–Croydon Road while travelling between the eastern and western access points to the Offset Area. • Isolated pig rooting was also observed within the central Western Offset Area, although no additional animals were sighted. These observations were incidental and were not collected as part of a targeted pest animal survey.	Continue monitoring for pest animal activity and undertake control measures where required.

Table 10: Poor condition fencing & access track condition.

Infrastructure	
Western Offset Area – Fencing & Track condition	
	
	

Table 11: Track Erosion within the Western Offset Area.

Erosion	
Western Offset Area - Track Erosion	
	

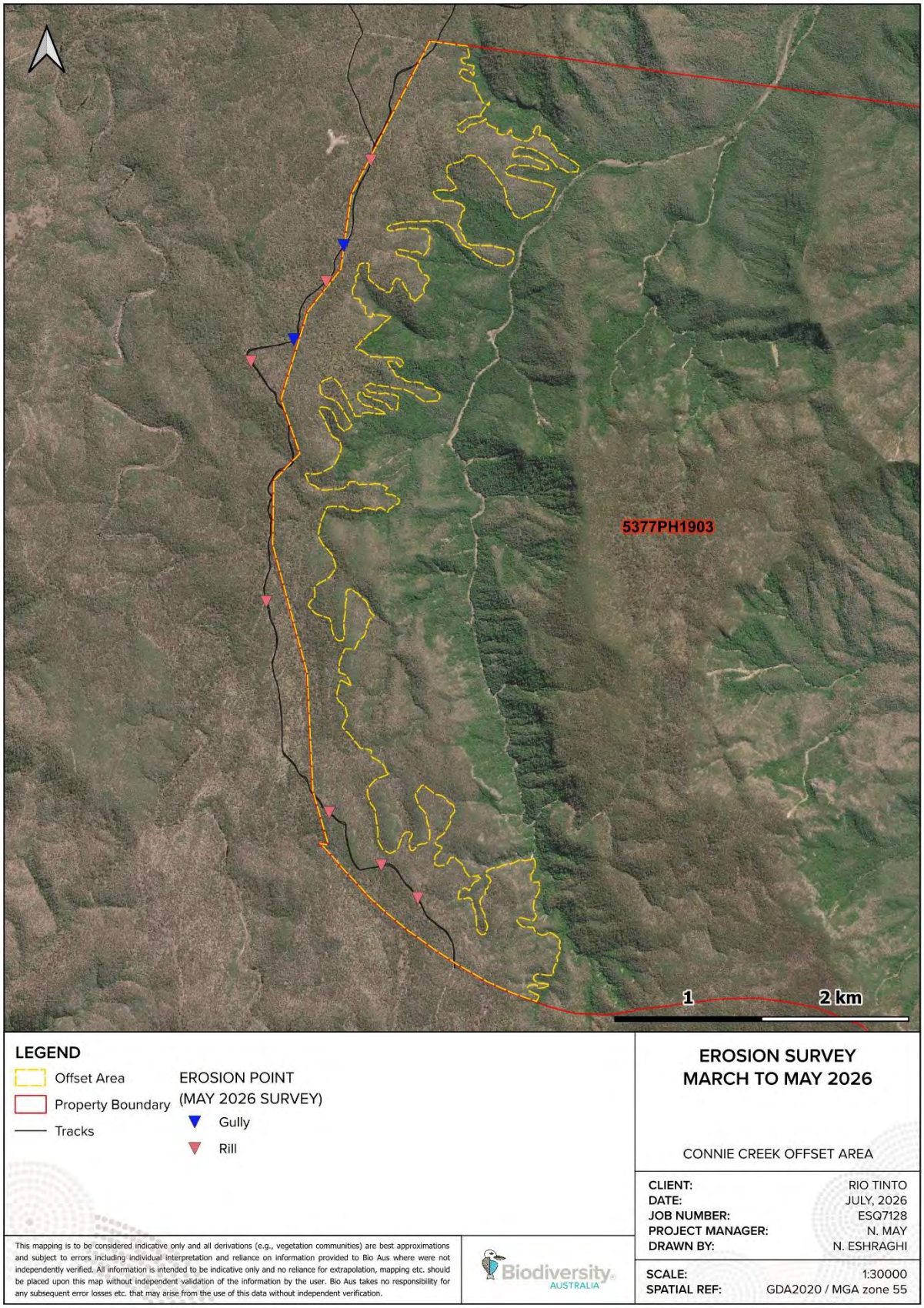


Figure 8: Erosion surveyed in Autumn 2026.

4. Recommendations

The Autumn 2026 monitoring program identified management actions to support the ongoing protection and improvement of the Offset Area. The recommendations below (Table 12) are based on the findings of the Autumn monitoring program and should be implemented in accordance with the OAMP.

Table 12: Recommendations.

Management Aspect	Recommendation
Cattle Management	Progress cattle exclusion measures in accordance with the OAMP to reduce grazing pressure, minimise erosion, and support the regeneration of native vegetation.
Weed Management	Continue routine monitoring and control of weed infestations, with priority given to the treatment of isolated Lantana and Prickly Pear infestations to prevent further spread.
Track Maintenance	Undertake grading and maintenance of access tracks where erosion has compromised vehicle access or safety, prioritising sections requiring immediate attention.
Erosion Management	Continue monitoring known erosion sites, particularly those associated with drainage lines and the dam in the south-western portion of the Offset Area. Implement remediation or engineering controls where ongoing degradation is observed.
Fencing	Remove redundant fencing that no longer serves a management purpose to reduce maintenance requirements and improve habitat connectivity.
Fauna-friendly Fencing	Progressively replace barbed wire fencing with plain wire fencing where practical to reduce the risk of injury to native fauna and improve the ecological function of the Offset Area.
Offset Area Access	Utilise an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) for future monitoring and management activities within the eastern portion of the Offset Area, particularly following periods of high rainfall, to improve access while minimising disturbance to access tracks.
BioCondition Baseline Data Alignment	The Client is to review and interpret the BioCondition baseline assessments contained within the OAMP and confirm the correct alignment between baseline BioCondition Site ID numbers and the corresponding permanent monitoring point locations. This is required to ensure consistency between baseline and future monitoring datasets and to enable valid comparisons and trend analysis over time.

5. Conclusion

The Autumn 2026 monitoring and management program for the Connies Creek Offset Area, undertaken in accordance with the OAMP, has provided an updated assessment of the condition of the Offset Area and the effectiveness of current management activities. The results indicate that the Offset Area continues to support its intended ecological values, with management actions including weed control, infrastructure maintenance and ongoing monitoring contributing to the long-term management objectives of the Offset Area. Continued implementation of the OAMP, together with adaptive management informed by future monitoring results, will be important to maintain and enhance the ecological condition of the Offset Area and support the achievement of its long-term conservation objectives.

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7. Appendix

A-1 Future Beef Photo Standards - Eucalypt Woodland Pastures

Appendix 5 Winter 2026 quarterly monitoring records

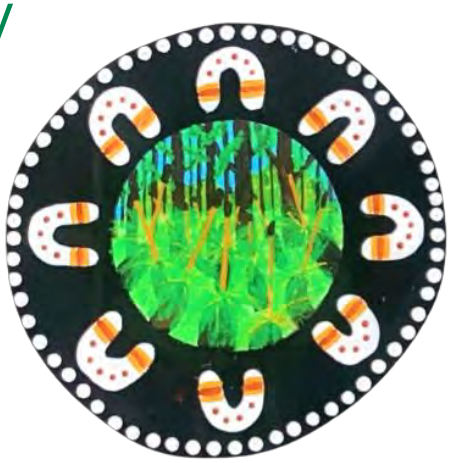
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Connie Creek Offset Area Management Quarterly Report
July - September 2026

RTA Yarwun Pty Ltd

Acknowledgement of Country



Ecosure acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters where we work. We pay deep respect to Elders past and present who hold the Songlines and Dreaming of this Country. We honour and support the continuation of educational, cultural and spiritual customs of First Nations peoples.



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1 Introduction

Rio Tinto Alcan Yarwun (RTA Yarwun or RTAY hereon in) engaged Ecosure to support environmental monitoring and management of the Connie Creek offset. The Connie Creek offset is required due to the significant residual impact to matters of national environmental significance (MNES) associated with RTAY's expansion of borrow pits (Lot 7 SP228453) at Aldoga, approximately 15 km west of Gladstone, Queensland (the project). In 2018, the project was referred to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, Water and the Environment (DCCEEW) under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). In 2019, the project was approved (EPBC 2018/8381) as a controlled action due to significant impacts to the following MNES:

- koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) habitat (96 hectares)
- squatter pigeon (southern) (*Geophaps scripta scripta*) dispersal habitat (162.2 hectares).

The approved Offset Area Management Plan (OAMP) (Earthtrade 2024) establishes the Connie Creek offset site (732.39 ha) on Lot 5377 PH1903, comprising the Eastern Offset and the Western Offset (Offset area), to improve habitat for koala (410.70 ha) and squatter pigeon (550.60 ha).Ecosure assessed the Connie Creek offset site during July–September 2026 to review OAMP management actions. Quarterly compliance monitoring is essential to manage risks and support the required increase in MNES habitat quality from 7 at commencement to 8 by Year 20, with interim targets of 7–7.25 at Year 5, 7.25–7.5 at Year 10 and 7.5–7.75 at Year 15.

This report provides a summary of targeted assessments at the monitoring sites, and incidental observations relating to the OAMP requirements recorded by Ecosure between 22-24 September 2026 (Winter 2026 monitoring period). The year five MNES habitat quality monitoring, including BioCondition assessments, MNES habitat quality attribute data collection and koala and squatter pigeon surveys, is not scheduled until 2028. Therefore, this report does not provide evidence of habitat quality change but rather indicates key management risks and other site activities.

This report includes the following to align with OAMP monitoring and reporting requirements:

- Quarterly monitoring results and management actions undertaken (Section 2), with a map of key monitoring observations in the Eastern Offset (Figure 1) and Western Offset (Figure 2) areas.
- An assessment of OAMP trigger status following quarterly monitoring (Section 3).
- Recommendations (Section 4).
- Connie Creek Management Record for the current project year (Appendix 1).
- Quarterly photo monitoring results (Appendix 2).
- Additional site photos recorded during quarterly monitoring (Appendix 3).

Monitoring history

Biodiversity Australia was engaged by RTAY in early 2026. The Summer 2026 (Jan – Mar 2026) report records that no monitoring was completed (Biodiversity Australia 2026a). Partial monitoring occurred during Autumn 2026 (Apr-Jun 2026) (Biodiversity Australia 2026b). Ecosure was engaged only for the July – September 2026 event.

Survey limitations

The following survey limitations were identified:

- In the OAMP (Earthtrade 2024), there are discrepancies between the field verified Regional Ecosystems (REs) as shown in Figure 9 of the OAMP, and the location of permanent monitoring sites 3 and 15 as shown in Figure 13 and presented in Appendix 5 of the OAMP. Sites 3 and 15 are shown to be located within RE 8.12.3a (Evergreen notophyll to microphyll vine forest), however this RE does not provide habitat for either of the target MNES and is therefore not included with the habitat assessment for either MNES in the OAMP (refer Tables 9 and 10, and Figures 11 and 12). These sites are revisited during quarterly monitoring, have been used in baseline habitat quality assessments and are used at five yearly intervals to calculate habitat quality scores for koala and squatter pigeon. Inconsistencies within the OAMP associated with the location of sites and underlying data will affect interpretation of quarterly monitoring results and future habitat quality assessments.
- The full length of the livestock exclusion fence in the northeast corner of the offset property (as opposed to the Eastern Offset) was not inspected due to time constraints.

2 Quarterly monitoring results

July – September 2026 monitoring was completed at permanent monitoring sites 1-13 and 15 as prescribed in the OAMP, comprising permanent monitoring sites distributed across the Western Offset (sites 1-7 and 15) and Eastern Offset (sites 8-13). Notably, site 14 does not exist within the OAMP, with our review of the historical monitoring information indicating that site 14 may have been omitted from the monitoring network or superseded due to previous location and numbering inconsistencies during OAMP preparation.

Detailed observations from the quarterly monitoring are provided in Table 1, with photo monitoring results in Appendix 2 and additional site photos in Appendix 3.

Table 1 Quarterly monitoring results for the July - September 2026 monitoring period

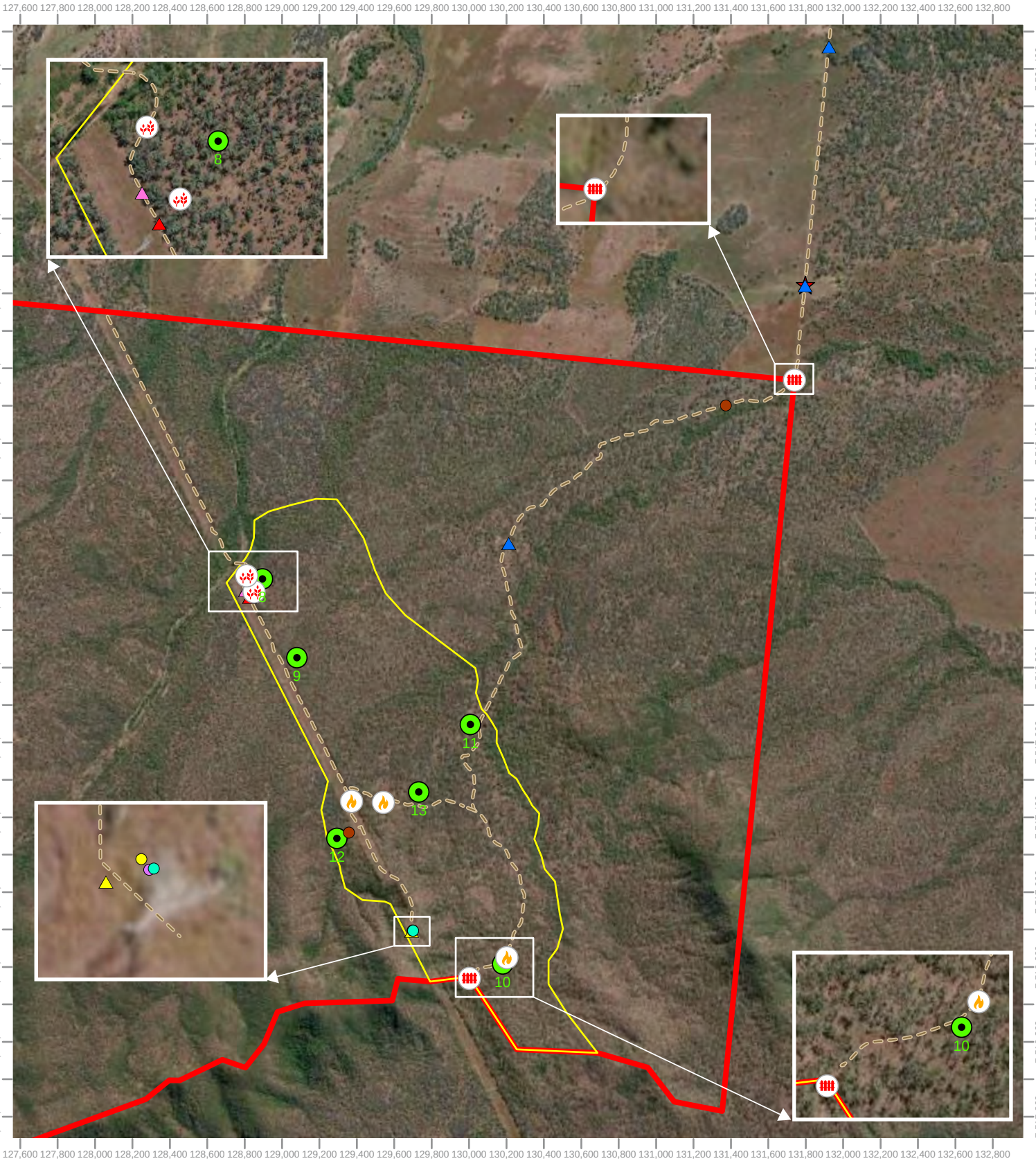
Monitoring observations	Management activities completed	Recommendations
Grazing management		
Western Offset: Evidence of past cattle grazing was evident throughout the western extent of the Western Offset (i.e. cow pads, grazing signs) but did not extend into steeper slopes, gully lines and riparian zones. Cattle were recorded beside an open gate leading into the offset site. The growth of native groundcovers and native trees species, suggesting cattle exclusion will be beneficial to improvements in vegetation and habitat quality. Brigalow Belt pasture photo standards (Future Beef 2024) for eucalypt woodland pasture communities were applied to monitoring sites 1, 2 4, 5, and 7, with pasture yields consistently 500 kg/ha. Groundcover ranged from 15 to 70% across these sites, with determination of groundcover composition difficult due to dry conditions and recent grazing. These observations are consistent with grazing over the past 3-month period in the Western Offset at these monitoring sites. **Eastern Offset:** There were no signs of cattle grazing in the Eastern Offset. Brigalow Belt pasture photo standards (Future Beef 2024) for alluvial and eucalypt woodland pasture communities were applied to monitoring sites 8 to 13, with pasture yields consistently in the range of 2,500 kg/ha. Groundcover was also consistently between 50-70% at these sites and comprised predominantly black spear grass (*Heteropogon contortus*), giant spear grass (*Heteropogon triticeus*), kangaroo grass	A livestock exclusion fence (4 runs of barbed wire, with galvanised star pickets and hardwood strainer and corner posts) had been recently established along the entire Western Offset boundary, effectively excluding cattle from the neighbouring property bordering the Western Offset. Numerous farm gates have been installed along this fenceline, although at the time of monitoring, these gates had been wired open and therefore do not entirely exclude livestock grazing from the Western Offset. In the Western Offset, on the northern and southern fence returns, where fence ends conclude at steep, inaccessible terrain, there had been several minor fence breaches from small trees falls and likely breaches from kangaroos. In these locations, fencing wires have weakened or broken and need to be restrung / replaced. Replacement fencing works have also	· Exclude cattle from Western Offset area to further promote regeneration of native species, improve habitat quality and ensure grazing conditions are met. · Confirm the extent of current and planned fencing works, and assess need for any additional works that may be required to address weakened and broken fencing in the Eastern Offset and Western Offset. · Ensure gates are closed and secured to prevent access by cattle at earliest convenience or by 30 October 2026.

Monitoring observations	Management activities completed	Recommendations
(*Themeda triandra*) with some thatch grass *(Hyparrhenia rufa* subsp. *rufa*). These observations provide further evidence that the Eastern Offset had not been grazed within the previous 3-month period. Inspections of livestock exclusion fencing found: · A newly installed livestock exclusion fence on the Western Offset boundary (refer to management activities completed). · A fair condition livestock fence on the northeast boundary of the offset property, comprising three to four runs of wire (mix of barbed and plain wire), weakened in spots, and with fence repairs currently underway (refer to management activities completed). · A poor condition and ineffective livestock fence on the southern boundary of the Eastern Offset, comprising three runs of wire (mix of barbed and plain wire), with loose wire runs. Discussions with the fencing contractor suggested this section is planned for replacement in 2027.	commenced on the northeast extent of the offset property to improve the integrity of the livestock fence.	
Weed management		
Lantana (*Lantana camara*) was the most recorded weed within monitoring sites and more broadly across the Eastern and Western Offset areas. Weeds were absent or of low cover (<5% cover) at all monitoring sites, apart from monitoring site 5, where lantana was between 5-10% cover. This was generally reflected across the broader Eastern and Western Offset area. However, due to the very dry conditions, lantana had minimal to no leaf and it was difficult to distinguish previous treatment areas of lantana and stressed lantana in response to very dry conditions. Thatch grass occurred along some of the higher tracks within the Eastern Offset and at higher elevations of the powerline easement. Thatch grass is an introduced high biomass grass and can increase fire risk. Minor to very minor occurrences (i.e. < 5% cover) of other weeds included flannel weed (*Sida cordifolia*), common pest pear (*Opuntia stricta*), red Natal grass (*Melinis repens*), farmer's friends (*Bidens pilosa*) and stylo (*Stylosanthes* sp.) (Appendix 4). Due to the very dry conditions, weed species identification was difficult, particularly of forb weeds that have become desiccated.	No weed treatment has been completed in the July to September period. Monitoring did not indicate that weed coverage is currently at a level where weed control is urgently required, and very dry conditions are not conducive to the effective and efficient control of lantana. Additionally, it is difficult to distinguish between areas that have had previous lantana treatments and stressed lantana with no leaf. The need for weed treatment will be reassessed during the next monitoring event, with weed control initiated if required.	Treatment of lantana should be resumed following the first storm season rainfall which may trigger lantana growth.
Pest animal management		
No pest animals were recorded at any of the monitoring sites. Incidental records of fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) and wild dog (*Canis familiaris*) were recorded along the powerline easement in the Eastern Offset (scats plus an observation of a sub-adult fox). Old	No pest animal management has occurred during the reporting period July – September 2026.	Based on the observations from this monitoring period, no pest animal control is warranted at this stage.

Monitoring observations	Management activities completed	Recommendations
feral pig (*Sus scrofa*) wallows were also recorded adjacent to Eastern Offset area on the access track which extends through to the St Lawrence – Croydon Road. No active evidence of pigs were recorded on either the Eastern or Western Offset, which is consistent with the dry conditions and absence of water (apart from some very steep riparian areas in the Western Offset).		
Fire monitoring		
Evidence of fire No planned or unplanned burns impacted the Eastern or Western Offset areas within the last 3 months. The Western Offset area was subject to a fire approximately one year ago. Monitoring at formal monitoring sites, and observations made whilst traversing through the Western Offset, confirmed: · the fire had not impacted fire sensitive regional ecosystem (RE) 8.12.3a · fire adapted REs appeared to be recovering well from the fire, with a healthy tree canopy and mid stratum vegetation present and good regeneration and growth of ground cover species. The low height of fire scars on trees and absence of dense woody regrowth in the understorey suggests a lower intensity burn. **Fire break suitability** In the Eastern Offset, there was typically presence of tall, continuous dry grass cover, which could potentially increase the risk of a fire spread. The powerline easement had areas of dense, tall and continuous dry thatch grass at higher elevations and native black spear grass at lower elevations. Within both the eastern and western offset areas, the recently pushed firebreaks still contained fuel load, e.g. exposed grass root systems. In some firebreak sections, it was identified that the tree canopy on either side of the firebreak was still touching, which may reduce the effectiveness of the firebreak.	No planned burns were undertaken during the reporting period. A fire break has been established along the majority of the Western Offset, adjacent to the new fenceline. In a few areas along the boundary, a firebreak has not been established due to the site terrain. All internal offset tracks in the Eastern Offset have also been slashed. However, these internal tracks are not wide enough to provide effective fire breaks through the Eastern Offset. Woongal Environmental Services completed a fire assessment in coordination with Ecosure during this monitoring period and have provided a report with recommendations for fire management for the 2027-2028 year.	Reassess firebreaks prior to the burn implementation to determine their adequacy in containing/ excluding fire spread.

Monitoring observations	Management activities completed	Recommendations
Asset maintenance, site access and signage		
The Eastern Offset entry track off the St Lawrence – Croydon Road and all internal tracks in the Eastern Offset were trafficable at the time of the monitoring period. Signage at the northeast and southern entry's to the Eastern Offset were present, visible and in reasonable condition. The Western Offset entry track off the St Lawrence – Croydon Road and the boundary Western Offset track were trafficable at the time of the monitoring period. Access was also possible across much of the new fenceline via the newly established fire break, although the surface of this track was quite rough. No signage was present or visible at entry points to the Western Offset. This is assumed due to the recent installation of fencing and associated gates, with previous signs attached to old farm gates removed when old fencing infrastructure was removed.	The following management activities have been completed in the reporting period: · slashing of the Eastern Offset access track and all internal tracks within the Eastern Offset, inclusive of the track within the powerline easement · some minor filling of low areas on the Eastern Offset access track where it appears access may be difficult in wet periods · establishment of the firebreak along the inside of the western property boundary, which also functions to provide improved access to the offset for management activities.	Signage installation is required at newly created entrance points/gates to the Western Offset.
Vegetation protection		
No vegetation clearing was observed within the Eastern Offset. Extensive vegetation clearing was observed within the Western Offset. The clearing was likely directly associated with requirements to establish the firebreak along the western boundary. Discussion with the property maintenance provider that had completed these works confirmed that a fauna spotter catcher had been used prior to clearing activities and habitat trees were identified and avoided. A few isolated occurrences were identified where narrow-leaved ironbark (*Eucalyptus crebra*) trees were felled for utilisation as fence posts for the western boundary livestock fence. These occurrences were isolated and it appeared that felled timber along the firebreak was utilised for this purpose wherever possible.	Vegetation clearing associated with establishment of the firebreak along the western boundary of the Western Offset area.	Potential trigger under review - confirm with RTAY that recorded vegetation clearing was for firebreak creation.

Monitoring observations	Management activities completed	Recommendations
General observations		
· The reported location of permanent monitoring site 15, was not consistent with the location in the field. According to the BioCondition data associated with this site, it is located within RE 8.12.7a (*Corymbia citriodora* and *Eucalyptus portuensis* open forest to woodland). The provided location of permanent monitoring site 15 was within an extremely steep and rocky gully that was mapped and ground truthed as RE 8.12.3a (evergreen notophyll to microphyll vine forest). This vegetation type did not coincide with the BioCondition data originally collected at this monitoring site. To ensure monitoring was completed within the required RE 8.12.7a within this monitoring period, a 'best fit' site within the correct RE and proximal to the mapped permanent monitoring site 15 was utilised to capture the required data. · It was unclear whether the reported location of permanent monitoring site 13 was in the correct location in the field. All permanent monitoring sites were marked with a star picket. No star picket was located at the provided location of permanent monitoring site 13. However, a monitoring site star picket was located 70m south of this point along the internal track. To ensure that disturbances associated with the internal track did not alter site observations, monitoring was completed at the reported location of permanent monitoring site 13.	Not applicable	· Move star picket near monitoring site 13 to correct GPS location. · Ensure all monitoring sites should have a star picket installed at correct location.
Incidental observations of koala and squatter pigeon (target MNES)		
During the reporting period, the following incidental observations of target MNES were made: · a single squatter pigeon was observed along the access track to the Eastern Offset from the St-Lawrence – Croydon Road, approximately 500m from the offset property.	Not applicable	· All incidental records of target MNES from all monitoring events should be collated to support species stocking rate calculations completed every 5 years. The species stocking rate measures a specific threatened species' usage and density at an offset site and serves as one of three primary components used to calculate the overall MNES habitat quality score.



Project boundary Connie Creek Offset RTY

Offset Investigation Area

Tracks

Monitoring site

Follow-up actions required

- Grazing fence weakened (loose)
- Lantana observation: treatment re-assessed next round
- Dense grass adjacent tracks reducing firebreak effectivity

Incidental observations and records

- Squatter pigeon observation
- Pest animal sighting: Dingo / Wild dog scat
- Pest animal sighting: Feral Pig wallow
- Pest animal sighting: Red fox (sub-adult) observation
- Pest animal sighting: Red fox scat
- Weed observation (Prickly pear)
- Weed observation (Narrow-Leaved Cotton Bush)
- Weed observation (Flannel Weed)
- Weed observation (Thatch Grass)

Figure 1: Key results from September 2026 monitoring event (Eastern Offset)

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Connie Creek Offset Area Report September 2026

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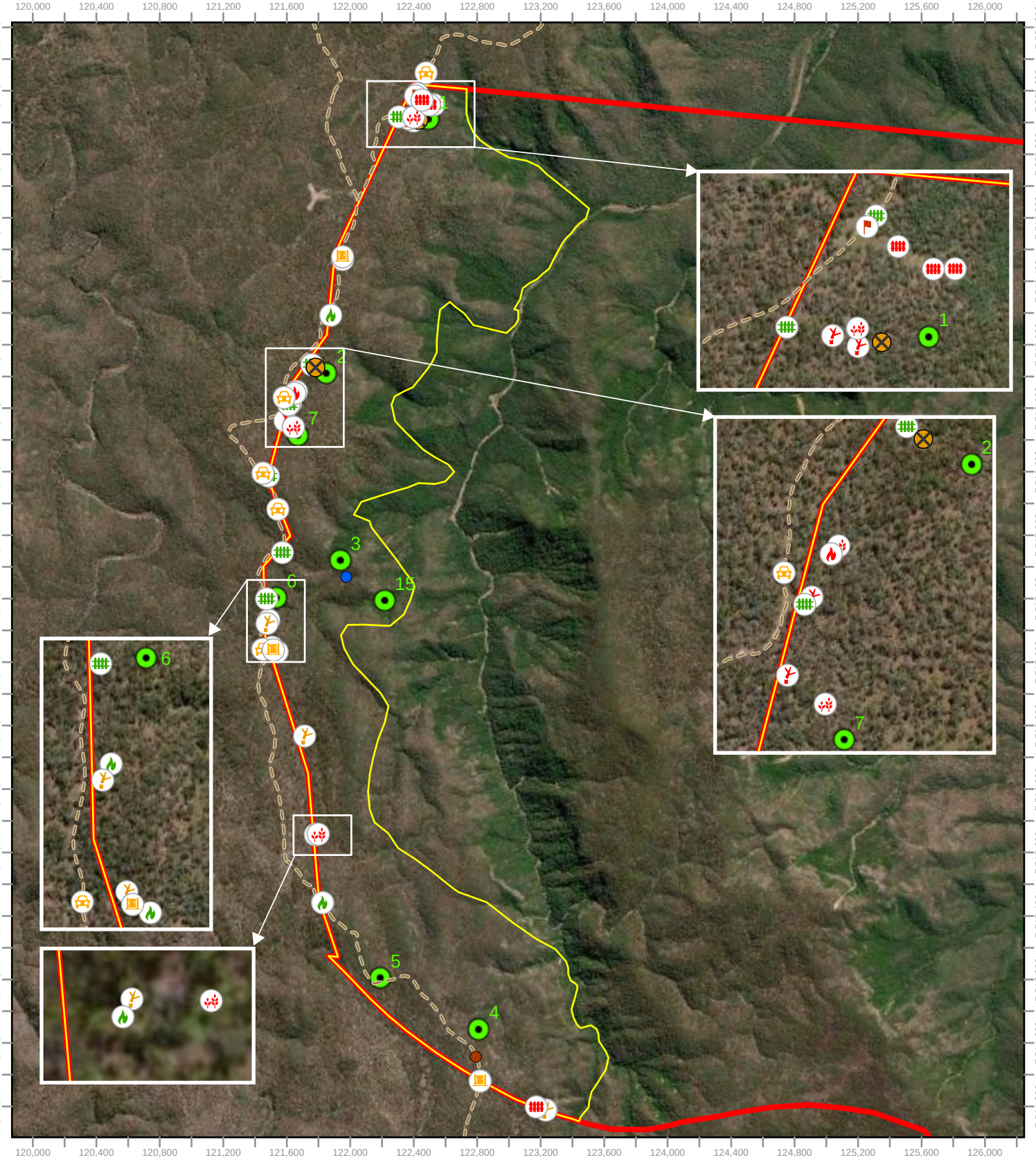
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Revision: 0
Author: NK
Date: 16/10/2026

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Project boundary Connie Creek Offset RTY

Offset Investigation Area

Monitoring site

Tracks

Follow-up actions required

- Signage installation required at entrance points
- Grazing fence weakened (loose)
- Firebreak needs maintenance

- Lantana observation: treatment re-assessed next round
- New gate in new fence wired open
- Dense grass adjacent tracks reducing firebreak effectivity
- Track surface rough

Management action locations

- Isolated trees felled for fencing works
- Fire break establishment related clearing
- Firebreak has recently been maintained

- New fence and gates, good condition.

Incidental observations and records

- Signs of cattle grazing
- Weed observation (Cobblers's Pegs)
- Weed observation (Prickly pear)

Figure 2: Key results from September 2026 monitoring event (Western Offset)

RTA Yarwun

Connie Creek Offset Area Report September 2026

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Job number: PR9730
Revision: 0
Author: NK
Date: 21/10/2026

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3 OAMP trigger assessment

The status of OAMP triggers following quarterly monitoring results are outlined in Table 2.

Table 2 Monitoring activities relevant to OAMP requirements

Monitoring requirement	OAMP frequency	Required monitoring method	Monitoring completed?	Key findings relevant to OAMP requirements	OAMP trigger	Trigger assessment
Vegetation protection	Quarterly	Inspect for evidence of forestry operations, native timber harvesting and general vegetation impacts across the offset area. Record clearing associated with access tracks, fencing or firebreak maintenance.	Yes	Logged trees and vegetation clearing were recorded. RTAY to confirm that recorded vegetation clearing was for firebreak creation.	Trigger: prohibited forestry operations, native timber harvesting, or clearing outside established access tracks, fire-control lines or fence lines.	Potential trigger under review
Grazing and grass cover (DMY)	Quarterly; monthly during grazing periods	Record cattle presence and numbers, fencing condition and DMY using the Brigalow Belt pasture photo standards. Weekly fence checks apply during grazing periods.	Yes	Cattle grazing evidence in offset area. One record of approximately 15 cattle beside an open gate leading into the offset site.	Trigger: stock grazing outside the permitted period or during an exclusion period; DMY below 1,020 kg/ha during grazing; and damaged fencing requiring repair.	Trigger exceeded
Weed monitoring and management	Quarterly	Record weed presence and cover, assess the effectiveness of previous control, and take before-and-after photos of treatment areas. Monitor with DMY measurements.	Yes	Lantana is the most prolific weed on site (cover at monitoring sites was <5%, apart from monitoring site 5, where lantana was between 5-10% cover). Isolated occurrences of additional weeds.	Trigger: pest plants dominate an isolated area, occupy more than 10% of the offset area, or a new restricted invasive plant is detected.	Near trigger limits
Pest animal monitoring	Quarterly	Traverse streams, low-lying areas and access tracks to record sightings, tracks and wallows. GPS-record and photograph detected activity for reinspection.	Yes	No pest animals or signs of presence were recorded at monitoring sites. Incidental records of fox and wild dog along the powerline easement in the Eastern Offset (scats plus an observation of a sub-adult fox). No active evidence of feral pig was recorded.	Trigger: 12 or more wild pigs or dogs detected during an inspection, or an increase in mean feral pig abundance from first-year or subsequent monitoring.	Within trigger limits

Monitoring requirement	OAMP frequency	Required monitoring method	Monitoring completed?	Key findings relevant to OAMP requirements	OAMP trigger	Trigger assessment
Fire monitoring	Quarterly	Inspect for wildfire, prohibited burning or force majeure events; record any prescribed burn; inspect firebreaks and fire-control lines and record maintenance.	Yes	8 records of signs of fire within the last 1-3 years, 1 recent sign and one old, with planned burn recommended at old fire location.	Trigger: deliberately lit unauthorised fire, or destruction of or significant damage to regrowth or fallen timber.	Within trigger limits
Site access, fencing and signage	Quarterly	Inspect for unauthorised persons, vehicles or stock; stock during exclusion periods; fence condition; and whether signage is undamaged, legible and visible.	Yes	Evidence of past cattle grazing was evident throughout the western extent of the Western Offset (i.e. cow pads, grazing signs) during the period when livestock should be excluded. Ensure gates are closed and secured to prevent access by cattle at earliest convenience or by 30 October 2026. No signs have been installed at the newly established fenceline and entry points to the Western Offset.	Trigger: unauthorised persons, vehicles or stock; stock during exclusion periods; or damage to fencing or signage.	Trigger exceeded
Photopoint monitoring and annual reporting data	Annually during September quarterly inspection	At permanent monitoring sites, take photos in north, east, south and west directions and ground-cover photos from 1.5 m. Assess DMY and collate management, rainfall and extreme-weather records.	Yes	All monitoring points visited based on the data provided by RTAY and consistent with Figure 13 of the OAMP. However, there is a discrepancy with site 15, with the field verified RE not reflecting the baseline data collection. The Management Record has been updated in Appendix 1. Photo monitoring site results are included in Appendix 2.	No separate corrective-action trigger. Results inform the annual Offset Area Report and overall assessment of management effectiveness.	N/A
Ecological condition and threatened-species monitoring	Every 5 years, commencing 2028	Undertake BioCondition and habitat-quality assessments and targeted koala and squatter pigeon surveys at the permanent monitoring sites using the OAMP methods.	N/A	N/A	Trigger: interim habitat-quality targets are not achieved at Years 5, 10 or 15, or completion criteria are not achieved at Year 20.	N/A

4 Recommendations

Table 3 sets out the actions arising from this quarter's monitoring. Each action is linked to the relevant requirement of the approved OAMP and has a responsible party, a due date and status. Actions are listed in order of priority, starting with immediate controls on cattle access and fencing.

Table 3 Recommended actions, with responsible party, due date and OAMP reference

#	Issue	Action	Owner	Due	OAMP ref	Trigger Y/N	Status
1	Gates wired open, cattle in Western Offset	Identify cattle owner, remove cattle, close and secure gates.	RTAY	30 October 2026	Table 14 (access): remove stock and assess fences within 10 days	Yes	Open
2	Western fence breaches, Eastern southern fence poor	Confirm the extent of planned fencing works and assess if additional works are required to ensure fencing suitability	RTAY	15 December 2026	Table 14 (grazing and access): repair fences within 10 days	Yes	Open
3	No signs at new Western entrances	Install signs to OAMP specification	RTAY	15 December 2026	Table 14 (access): signs at all vehicle accesses identifying an environmental offset	Yes	Open
4	Western clearing and felled ironbark	Confirm that the clearing observed during monitoring was for fencing and/or firebreak installation	RTAY	4 November 2026	Table 14 (clearing): investigate within a fortnight, prevent recurrence within a month	Under review	Open
5	Firebreak adequacy	Reassess firebreaks prior to burn implementation to determine their adequacy in containing/ excluding fire spread	Ecosure	Prior to a planned burn	Table 14 (fire): conditions 16 and 17 if fire damages the offset	No	Open
6	Lantana and restricted weeds	Weed treatment program ready to start following first effective rain event	Ecosure	15 December 2026	Table 14 (weeds): investigate and control within a month	Under review	Open
7	Monitoring site inconsistencies	Review inconsistencies and recommend standardised approach to future monitoring	Ecosure	Before next quarterly monitoring	Table 19 coordinates	N/A	Open

References

Biodiversity Australia (2026a) *Quarterly Monitoring Summer 2025 / 2026*.

Biodiversity Australia (2026b) *Connie Creek – Autumn Ecological Offset Monitoring Report 2026*.

Earthtrade (2024) *RTA Yarwun Pty Ltd: Expansion of borrow pits, Lot 7 Aldoga Road, Aldoga (EPBC 2018/8381) EPBC Offset Area Management Plan*.

Appendix 1 Connie Creek Management Record

Where possible, Ecosure populated results from documents provided by RTAY from previous surveys.

	Management activity October 2025 – September 2026																				
Month	Rainfall (mm) BoM	Grazing management															Fire management	Pest animal management	Weed management	Vegetation clearing?	Site signage and access?
		Western portion					Eastern portion					DMYs at end of month	Fencing check				*Record the date of quarterly inspections and record the date and description of any management actions conducted in the relevant column. Provide copies of related records such as spray logs or shooting plans. Make note of any matters requiring corrective actions.*				
		Cattle in		Cattle out		Qty	Cattle in		Cattle out		Qty		✓		Date	Initials					
October 2025	55.0	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	**West**	Wk 1				**RTAY Field trip report – October 2025 AND Quarterly Management Record** 28th October – 31st October 2025 Implemented weed management plan and post fire monitoring Lidar drone survey and 360 camera drive in Eastern Offset. Details below from field trip report				
													Wk 2								
												East	Wk 3				Completed Lidar drone survey of Eastern Offset areas post fire. Fire occurred 13 October 2025 impacting both Eastern and Western Offset.	No pest animals recorded.	Identified area of concern/ Lantana and implemented weed management plan – Eastern Offset and Western Offset.	No clearing detected.	Discuss the recent fire impacts and formalising the easement on the western boundary.
													Wk 4								
November 2025	56.6	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	**West**	Wk 1				No records available				
													Wk 2								
												East	Wk 3								
													Wk 4								
December 2025	181.0	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	**West**	Wk 1				No records available				
													Wk 2								
												East	Wk 3								
													Wk 4								
January	352.0	No	Date	No	Date	In at	No	Date	No	Date	In at	**West**	Wk 1								

2026						end of month Nil					end of month Nil	**East**	Wk 2 Wk 3 Wk 4			No records available
February 2026	132.6	· Stock is grazed for fuel reduction purposes only during September to January (wet season permitting) · Grazing not permitted between February and August inclusive · Cattle must be removed once the wet season commences; this may happen before January · Fencing must be checked weekly during grazing periods.											*Fencing inspections to be conducted quarterly at a minimum during non-grazing periods*				No records available
March 2026	129.4																**Biodiversity Australia Quarterly report for Jan-Mar 2026 – report April 2026** Ecological monitoring could not be completed due to sustained wet season conditions across the Offset areas. Weed management occurred 22-26 March including hand removal of emergent weeds and chemical treatment of 7.521 ha of weeds, but could not complete all due to inaccessibility.
April 2026	12.2													✓	29-30th		**RTAY Field trip report – April 2026** April 29th April – 4th May 2026 Monthly monitoring and quarterly weed management in Western Offset area with no access into Eastern Offset. Details below from field trip report. No evidence of fire / Minor evidence of pig ruts centrally in Western Offset area / Lantana the predominant weed throughout Western Offset area / No evidence of clearing / No evidence of unauthorised access
May 2026	3.6													✓	1-4th; 19-20th	JH, NM, SL, RF	**RTAY Field trip report – May 2026** No evidence of fire / Minor evidence of pig ruts centrally in Western Offset area / Lantana the predominant weed throughout Western Offset area / No evidence of clearing / No evidence of unauthorised access **RTAY Field trip report and Biodiversity quarterly monitoring report** No access into Eastern Offset. Conducted quarterly assessments (BioCondition Assessments and Squatter Pigeon Annual Surveys) in Western Offset. Also conducted monthly monitoring as required by the OAMP. No records in report / 5 feral pigs (*Sus scrofa*) / Lantana is the predominant / Cattle present throughout / Fencelines generally in

																regarding fire observations	observed along St Lawrence-Croydon Road between Eastern and Western access points. Isolated pig rooting in central Western Offset	weed (361m^2 treated). Two other significant weeds were recorded (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia* and *Sporobolus jacquemontii*)	Offset Area with evidence of grazing and trampling of native vegetation.	poor condition in Western Offset. Eastern Offset restricted access due to rainfall and erosion recorded.
June 2026	23.6															No records available				
July 2026	0.6												✓	*2nd*		**RTAY Field trip report – July 2026**				
																Inspections carried out	Inspections carried out	-	Evidence of cattle moving around Western Offset area	Fencing currently being installed in Western Offset area (Mills Property team)
August 2026	7.8												✓	*19th*		**RTAY Field trip report – August 2026**				
																Inspections carried out	Inspections carried out	-	Evidence of cattle moving around Western Offset area	New fencing installation continues
September 2026	0.2	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	No	Date	No	Date	In at end of month	**West**	Wk 1			**Ecosure – 22-24 September 2026**				
													Wk 2							
												East	Wk 3	✓	*22-24th*	No planned or unplanned burns impacted the Eastern or Western Offset areas within the last 3 months. The Western Offset area was subject to a fire	No pest animals were recorded at any of the monitoring sites. Incidental records of fox and wild dog were recorded along the powerline	Lantana the predominant weed throughout Offset areas. No weed treatment completed.	Extensive vegetation clearing was observed within the Western Offset likely directly associated with requirements to establish the	Minor fence damage observed at north and south fence returns of Western Offset new boundary livestock fence. New gates should be
													Wk 4							

																	approximately 1 year ago.	easement in the Eastern Offset (scats plus an observation of a sub-adult fox). Old feral pig wallows recorded adjacent to Eastern Offset area		firebreak along the western boundary. Approx. 15 cattle were recorded beside an open gate leading into the offset site with farm gates open.	secured and signage installed on all new gates / offset entry points.
Total rainfall:	954.6																				
Additional comments: Provide any additional comments as may be necessary in the relevant column.																					

Appendix 2 Photo Monitoring Results

Table 19 of the OAMP lists 14 monitoring sites (1-13 and 15). Notably, site 14 does not exist within the OAMP as explained in Section 2. Discrepancies between the OAMP monitoring sites (as shown in Figure 13 – Connie Creek monitoring sites) and monitoring sites assessed during this morning period include:

- Monitoring of site 13 was completed at the OAMP mapped location although the star picket was approximately 70m south of the location, on an internal track.
- Monitoring of site 15 was completed about 90 m from its OAMP location. This was due to a discrepancy between the field verified RE as presented in 'Figure 9 – Connie Creek field verified REs' and the baseline data presenting in Appendix B of the OAMP used as the basis for calculating MNES habitat quality starting scores, with monitoring site 15 located in RE 8.12.7a *Corymbia citriodora* and *Eucalyptus portuensis* open forest to woodland.

It should also be noted that monitoring sites 3 and 15, as shown in Figure 13 – Connie Creek monitoring sites of the OAMP, are not located within the offset area for koala or squatter pigeon.

Photo monitoring site 1 (Western Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 23 September 2026 8:31 AM **Latitude:** -22.3807 **Longitude:** 149.3344 **Indicate vegetation ground cover** 30-50% **Pasture community:** Eucalypt woodland **Pasture yield:** 500 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** Yes **WoNS recorded?** *Lantana camara* <5% **Fire observations:** Evidence of fire estimated < 2 years **Site access and signage:** Fence maintenance underway **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Photo monitoring site 2 (Western Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 23 September 2026 9:40 AM **Latitude:** -22.3952 **Longitude:**149.3277 **Indicate vegetation ground cover:** 30-50% **Pasture community:** Eucalypt woodland **Pasture yield:** 500 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** Yes **WoNS recorded?** *Lantana camara* <5% **Fire observations:** Recent fire break establishment **Site access and signage:** New fenceline installation **Vegetation protection:** Clearing associated with fenceline construction and firebreak establishment				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Photo monitoring site 03 (Western Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 23 September 2026 11:09 AM **Latitude:** -22.4059 **Longitude:**149.3285 **Indicate vegetation ground cover** 15-30% **Pasture community:** N/A – Riparian site **Pasture yield:** N/A – Riparian site **Signs of grazing recorded?** No **WoNS recorded?** *Lantana camara* <5% **Fire observations:** No evidence observed **Site access and signage:** No notable observations **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Photo monitoring site 04 (Western Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 23 September 2026 3:32 PM **Latitude:** -22.4326 **Longitude:**149.3362 **Indicate vegetation ground cover:** 50-70% **Pasture community:** Eucalypt woodland **Pasture yield:** 500 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** Yes **WoNS recorded?** No **Fire observations:** Evidence of fire estimated <1 year **Site access and signage:** No notable observations **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Photo monitoring site 05 (Western Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 23 September 2026 3:06 PM **Latitude:**-22.4297 **Longitude:**149.3303 **Indicate vegetation ground cover:** 50-70% **Pasture community:** Eucalypt woodland **Pasture yield:** 500 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** Yes **WoNS recorded?** *Lantana camara* 5 – 10% **Fire observations:** Evidence of fire estimated <2 years **Site access and signage:** No notable observations **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Photo monitoring site 06 (Western Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 23 September 2026 2:07 PM **Latitude:** -22.4076 **Longitude:**149.3245 **Indicate vegetation ground cover:** 30-50% **Pasture community:** Eucalypt woodland **Pasture yield:** 500 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** Yes **WoNS recorded?** No **Fire observations:** Evidence of recent fire **Site access and signage:** No notable observations **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Photo monitoring site 07 (Western Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 23 September 2026 10:07 AM **Latitude:**-22.3983 **Longitude:**149.3262 **Indicate vegetation ground cover:** 15-30% **Pasture community:** Eucalypt woodland **Pasture yield:** 500 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** Yes **WoNS recorded?** *Lantana camara* <5% **Fire observations:** Evidence of fire estimated < 2 years **Site access and signage:** No notable observations **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Photo monitoring site 08 (Eastern Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 22 September 2026 3:17 PM **Latitude:** -22.3982 **Longitude:** 149.3962 **Indicate vegetation ground cover:** 50-70% **Pasture community:** Alluvial **Pasture yield:** 2,560 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** No **WoNS recorded?** *Lantana camara* <5% **Fire observations:** No evidence observed **Site access and signage:** No notable observations **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Photo monitoring site 09 (Eastern Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 22 September 2026 3:43 PM **Latitude:**-22.4019 **Longitude:**149.3977 **Indicate vegetation ground cover:** 50-70% **Pasture community:** Alluvial **Pasture yield:** 2,560 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** No **WoNS recorded?** No **Fire observations:** Evidence of fire estimated < 2 years **Site access and signage:** No notable observations **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Photo monitoring site 10 (Eastern Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 22 September 2026 1:21 PM **Latitude:** -22.4168 **Longitude:**149.4083 **Indicate vegetation ground cover:** 50-70% **Pasture community:** Eucalypt woodland **Pasture yield:** 2,500 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** No **WoNS recorded?** *Lantana camara* <5% **Fire observations:** Evidence of historic fire **Site access and signage:** No notable observations **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Photo monitoring site 11 (Eastern Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 22 September 2026 11:47 AM **Latitude:**-22.4054 **Longitude:**149.4069 **Indicate vegetation ground cover:** 50-70% **Pasture community:** Alluvial **Pasture yield:** 2,560 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** No **WoNS recorded?** No **Fire observations:** Evidence of historic fire **Site access and signage:** No notable observations **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Photo monitoring site 12 (Eastern Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 22 September 2026 2:50 PM **Latitude:** -22.4106 **Longitude:**149.4 **Indicate vegetation ground cover:** 50-70% **Pasture community:** Eucalypt woodland				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
Pasture yield: 2,500 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** No **WoNS recorded?** No **Fire observations:** No evidence observed **Site access and signage:** No notable observations **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				

Photo monitoring site 13 (Eastern Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 22 September 2026 2:08 PM **Latitude:**-22.4084 **Longitude:**149.4042 **Indicate vegetation ground cover:** 50-70% **Pasture community:** Eucalypt woodland **Pasture yield:** 2,500 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** No **WoNS recorded?** No **Fire observations:** No evidence observed **Site access and signage:** No notable observations **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Photo monitoring site 15 (Western Offset Portion)

Site Description	North (condition)	East (condition)	South (condition)	West (condition)
Ecosure Photo Monitoring 23 September 2026 12:57 PM **Latitude:**-22.4075 **Longitude:**149.3306 **Indicate vegetation ground cover** 30-50% **Pasture community:** Eucalypt woodland **Pasture yield:** 500 kg/ha **Signs of grazing recorded?** No **WoNS recorded?** No **Fire observations:** Evidence of fire estimated <18 months **Site access and signage:** No notable observations **Vegetation protection:** No notable observations				
	North (ground cover)	**East (ground cover)**	**South (ground cover)**	**West (ground cover)**
				

Appendix 3 Key photos from quarterly monitoring

Table 4 Observations from quarterly monitoring activities relevant to OAMP management themes

OAMP theme	Evidence from quarterly monitoring	
Grazing Management	 Plate 1 Regeneration and growth of natives with signs of past cattle grazing, located in the Western Offset	 Plate 2 Signs of prior cattle grazing along fenceline of the Western Offset.
Weed Management	 Plate 3 Stressed lantana experiencing very dry conditions with plant having minimal foliage.	 Plate 4 Thatch grass located in the Eastern Offset

OAMP theme	Evidence from quarterly monitoring	
Pest animal management	 Plate 5 Feral pig wallow adjacent to the Eastern Offset	 Plate 6 Fox scat in the Eastern Offset
Fire management	 Plate 7 Firebreak creation in Western Offset	 Plate 8 Vegetation regeneration post fire in Western Offset

OAMP theme	Evidence from quarterly monitoring	
Site access and signage	 Plate 9 Signs of prior cattle activity and new gate wired open in the Western Offset preventing exclusion.	 Plate 10 Compromised fencing requires tensioning, currently insufficient to exclude livestock from the offset
Vegetation protection	 Plate 11 Vegetation clearing for firebreak creation in Western Offset	 Plate 12 Native vegetation used for fence creation in Western Offset

Revision History

Revision No.	Revision date	Details	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Approved by
00	21/10/2026	Connie Creek Offset Area Management Compliance Check July to September 2026	Nicola Catanzariti, Ecologist Tanya Fountain, Senior Restoration Ecologist	Diane Lanyon, Technical Advisor	Erin Marsh, Senior Project Manager

Distribution List

Copy #	Date	Type	Issued to	Name
1	21/10/2026	Electronic	RTA Yarwun	Wynton Hurling
2	21/10/2026	Electronic	Ecosure	Administration

Citation: Ecosure, 2026, *Connie Creek Offset Area Quarterly Report – July to September 2026*, Report to RTA Yarwun Brisbane

Report compiled by Ecosure Pty Ltd

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PR9730-RE.Connie Creek Quarterly Report July - September

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Appendix 6 Compliance notice during 2025-26 and investigation

From:	Hincksman, Jenna (RTA) <Jenna.Hincksman@riotinto.com>
Sent on:	Thursday, 23 October 2025 22:51:22 UTC
To:	epbcmonitoring@dcceew.gov.au
CC:	Wise, Craig (RTA) <cwise@riotinto.com>; Green, Alison (RTP) <Alison.Green@riotinto.com>; RTA Yarwun Mailbox - Environment Team <RTAYarwunMailbox-Environment.Team@riotinto.com>
Subject:	EPBC2018-8381 - RTA Yarwun - Notification
Attachments:	20251024_RTA Yarwun EPBC2018-8381 OAMP Notification.pdf (589.13 KB)

Good morning,

RTA Yarwun holds EPBC Act approval EPBC2018-8381 for Expansion of borrow pits, Lot 7 Aldoga Road, Aldoga, Queensland.

In accordance with the Approval, an Offset Area Management Plan (OAMP) was approved on 3 June 2024 for the Environmental Offset Area, which is section of the Connie Creek property in Central Queensland (Lot 5377 on PH1903) owned by RTA Yarwun.

On 12 October 2025, RTA Yarwun became aware that an uncontrolled and unplanned fire had reached the Offset Area. This is notifiable under Conditions 16 and 17 of the Approval.

The attached letter provides details of the notification in accordance with Conditions 16 and 17.

Could you please confirm receipt of this notification?

Regards

Jenna Hincksman

Specialist Environment | Yarwun Operations
M +61 (0) 436 860 569
975 Hanson Road, Gladstone, Queensland, 4680, Australia

RioTinto

RioTinto

Private & confidential
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
epbcmonitoring@dcceew.gov.au

Date
24/10/2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Notification - Conditions 16 & 17 Approval (EPBC2018/8381)

(Our ref.: 281713995_100005)

RTA Yarwun Pty Ltd (RTA Yarwun) holds an approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) for Expansion of borrow pits, Lot 7 Aldoga Road, Aldoga, Queensland (EPBC2018/8381) (**Approval**).

In accordance with the Approval, an Offset Area Management Plan (**OAMP**) was approved on 3 June 2024 for the Environmental Offset Area, which is section of the Connie Creek property in Central Queensland (Lot 5377 on PH1903) owned by RTA Yarwun (**Connie Creek**). The Offset Area is identified in Map 1 (**Offset Area**).

On 12 October 2025, RTA Yarwun became aware that an uncontrolled and unplanned fire had reached the Offset Area. This is notifiable under Conditions 16 and 17 of the Approval. Further details are provided in Table 1.

Should you requiring further information RTA Yarwun Environmental Superintendent, Alison Green, can be contacted on mobile 0418 668 072, or email Alison.Green@riotinto.com.

Yours sincerely,

Jenna Hincksman
Specialist, Environment | RTA Yarwun
975 Hanson Rd, Gladstone, Queensland, 4680, Australia

RioTinto

Table 1 Incident and details of non-compliance in accordance with Conditions 16 and 17 of approval EPBC2018-8381

Relevant Condition	Required information
16. The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of any: incident; non-compliance with the conditions; or non-compliance with the commitments made in the OAMP. The notification must be given as soon as practicable, and no later than 10 business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance. The notification must specify: a. any condition which is or may be in breach; b. a short description of the incident and/or non-compliance; and c. the location (including co-ordinates), date, and time of the incident and/or non-compliance. In the event the exact information cannot be provided, provide the best information available.	On 12 October 2025 at 14:02, RTA Yarwun was notified by Rural Fire Service member and neighbouring property (Mystery Park) owner that an uncontrolled fire was about to enter the Connie Creek property from the south. a. Approval, condition 7. Offset Area Management Plan Table 14 – Terrestrial offsets – management action, trigger and corrective actions – Fire b. Uncontrolled fires have started (cause unknown) on neighbouring properties and surrounds of Connie Creek. The fire has spread and entered the Offset Area, which has potentially caused damage to the Offset Area. RTA Yarwun had not yet implemented the firebreaks along all external boundaries of the offset area per Table 14 of the OAMP. The process has been delayed due to Native Title holder engagement requirements. RTA Yarwun coordinated with the Rura Fire Service as required, and all advice provided by the Rural Fire service around management of the uncontrolled fire and the main fire front was adhered to. c. Connie Creek is located approximately 245km NNW of Gladstone. Lat: -22.40515, Long: -149.30552. The Offset Area is identified in Map 1.
17. The approval holder must provide to the Department the details of any incident or non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in plans as soon as practicable and no later than 10 business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance, specifying:	a. During the fire, RTA Yarwun: - maintained regular contact with the neighbouring property owners and Rural Fire Service to discuss fire progress and fire management options - reviewed the meteorological conditions, wind direction and speeds impacting the fire progress and pathway daily;

Relevant Condition	Required information
a. any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken or intends to take in the immediate future; b. the potential impacts of the incident or non-compliance; and c. the method and timing of any remedial action that will be undertaken by the approval holder.	- daily checking of the North Australia and Rangeland Information mapping system *Current status* - As at 22/10/2025 the fire front has moved to the southwest with no new fires within in the Offset Area in the last 12 hours. *Immediate Future work includes*: - If conditions permit and it is safe to do so, investigations into the extent of damage caused by the fire will commence on the 28 October 2025. The investigation will include drone surveys to map the extent and impact of the fire within the offset areas including canopy damage. - Additional inspections and reports will be arranged if required. - After confirming Native Title holder engagement / services the installation of firebreaks will commence. b. The potential impacts caused by the fire to protected matters may include impact to koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus)* and squatter pigeon (*Geophaps scripta scripta*) habitat. c. Remedial actions include: • OAMP corrective action post fire as detailed in Table 14 - landholder to reassess and implement new access protocols for any lessees etc, signage and general access within 1 fortnight - inspect and repair and widen, if necessary, all fire breaks; and - reassess fuel load reduction practices; and - exclude grazing until the DMY is above 1200kg/ha • Continued implementation of the OAMP

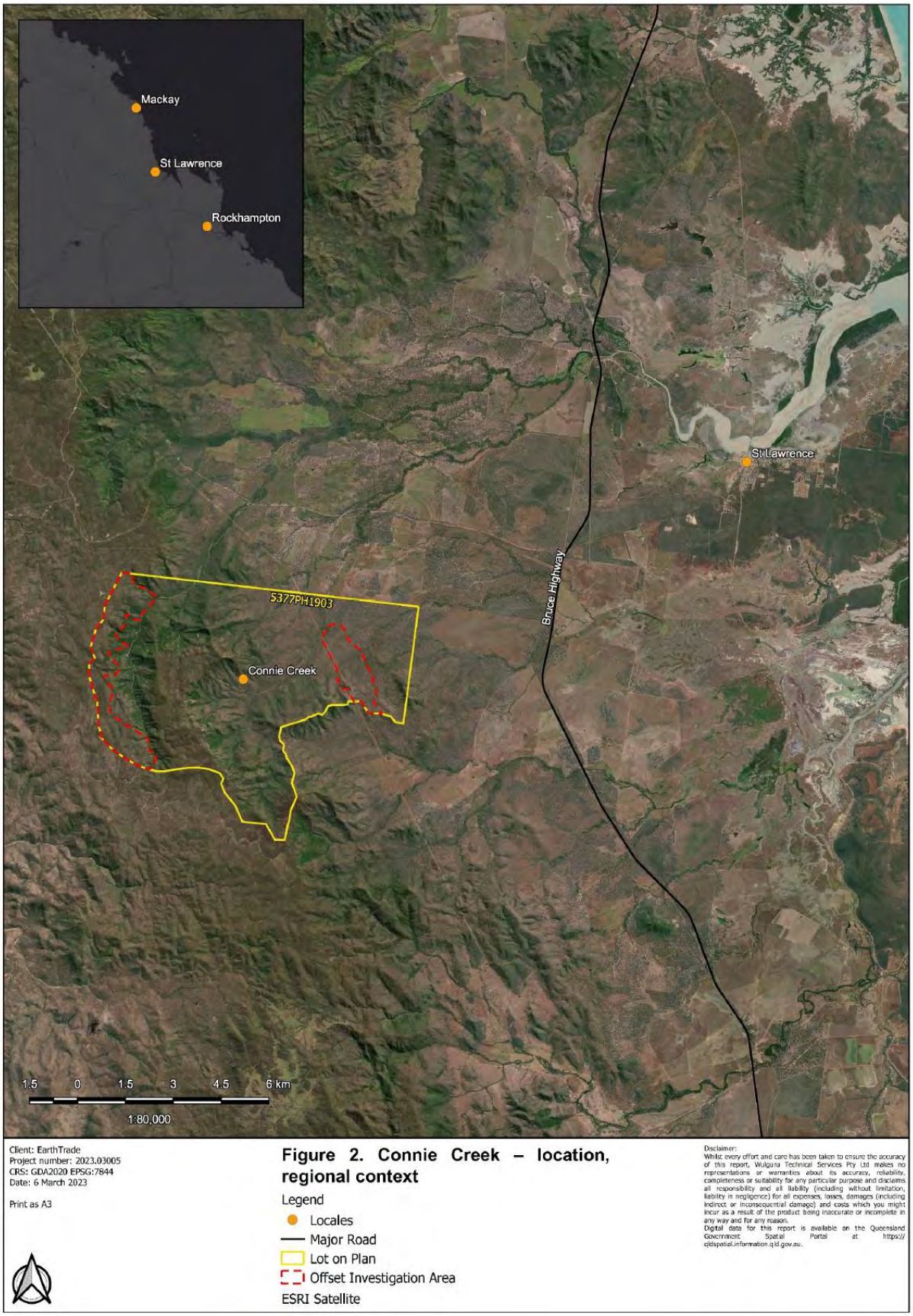


Figure 1 - Connie Creek Offset area



RioTinto

Uncontrolled Bushfire Incident

Connie Creek Offset Property

Incident date: 13 October 2025

Essential Factors Investigation (Basic)

RioTinto

Investigation Team

Name	Role Description
Wynton Hurling	Environment Advisor (Lead Investigator)

Information sources: Enablon records, OAMP, post-fire inspections

No formal multi-disciplinary investigation team was convened at the time of the incident.

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Incident Description

- On 13 October 2025, an uncontrolled bushfire occurred within the Connie Creek Offset Area.
- The fire impacted both eastern and western offset areas.
- Vegetation damage identified during scheduled post-fire investigations
- No Emergency Response Team was activated
- The incident was reported retrospectively following identification of damage during post-fire inspections

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Why This Was an Incident (OAMP)

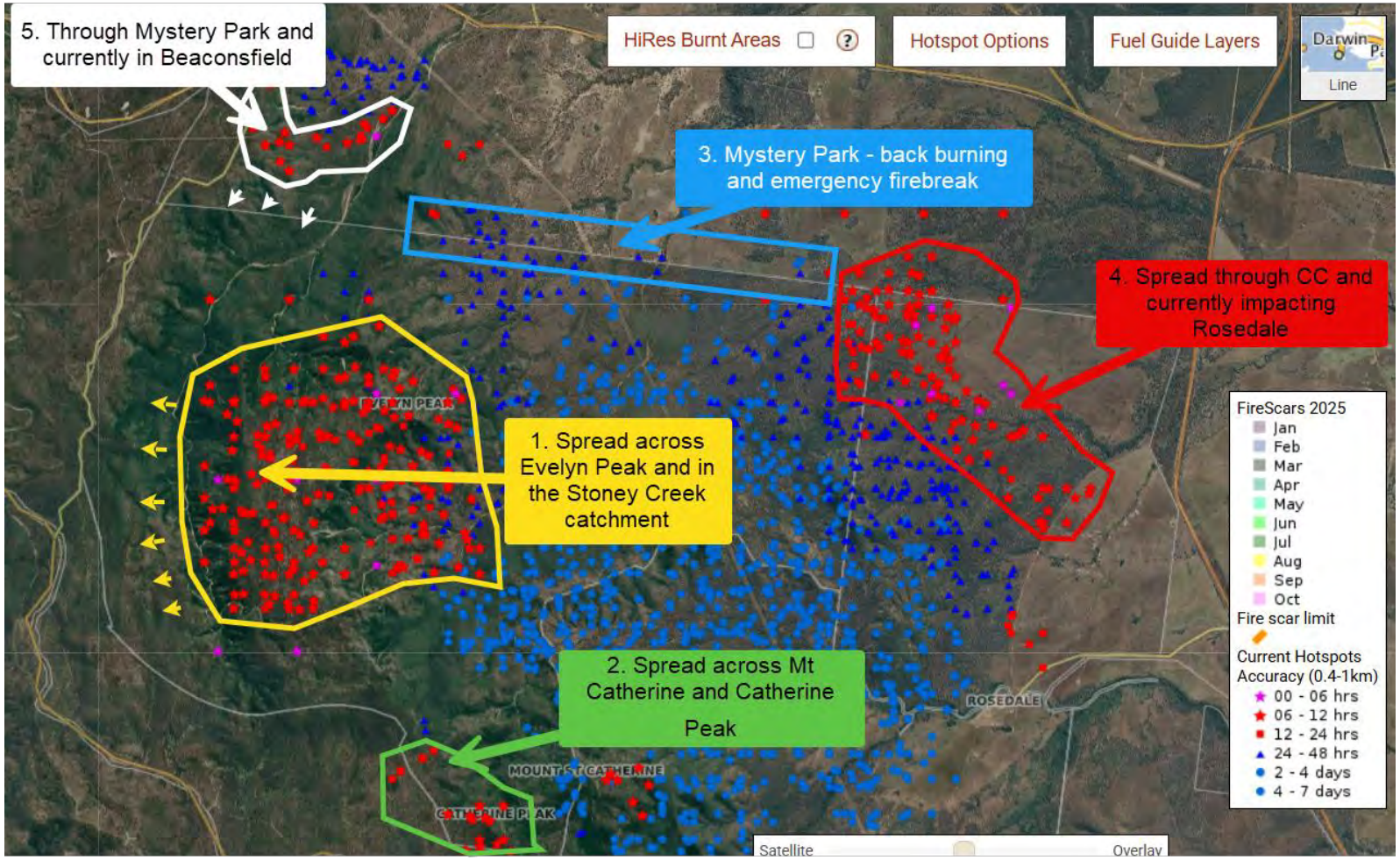
- Offset Area Management Plan defines “if fire damages the offset areas” it constitutes an incident.
- The uncontrolled bushfire caused some damage to vegetation in the offset area.
- The incident met the OAMP definition and required investigation and notification

Please note: if fire damages the offset areas, that constitutes an incident for the purposes of *Section 11* and *Section 13*.

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Incident Description – Fire Spread Overview

- Fire progressed through Connie Creek and adjacent areas prior to containment activities.
- Mapped satellite hot spots indicate fire movement across multiple landscape features.
- Fire spread observed across Evelyn Peak, Mount Catherine, and Stoney Creek catchments.



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Consequence of Interest

- Environmental damage to EPBC-listed offset habitat.
- Reduction in habitat quality scores and delay to performance targets.
- Non-compliance with Offset Area Management Plan commitments.
- Investigation focused on prevention of repeat damage.

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Scope - Area and Assets of Interest

Area of Interest

- Connie Creek Offset Area. (Lot 5377 & Plan 1903)
- Eastern and Western offset parcels.
- External boundaries subject to required firebreaks.

Assets of Interest

- Offset vegetation
- Firebreaks
- Boundary fencing
- Access tracks



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Evidence Available

Evidence Available

- Post-fire ecological inspections
- Monitoring point assessments
- Photographic records
- Offset Management Plan requirements
- Time-of-ignition data

Evidence Not Available

- Fire ignition source determination
- Weather conditions at ignition
- Real-time response decision records

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Required Controls (OAMP)

- Firebreaks along all external offset boundaries.
- Quarterly inspection and maintenance of fire control lines.
- Boundary fencing to:
  - restrict access
  - manage grazing
  - support fire management objectives

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Essential Factors Analysis (Immediate Circumstances)

Element	Factor Description	Classification	Controllable
Equipment / Controls	Firebreaks required under the Offset Area Management Plan were not installed along the external boundaries of the offset area at the time of the bushfire.	Essential Factor	Yes
Equipment / Controls	Boundary fencing required to support access control, grazing exclusion, and fire management under the OAMP had not been installed.	Contributory Factor	Yes
Environment	Vegetation and fuel loads consistent with offset conservation objectives and unmanaged due to absence of fire management controls.	Contributory Factor	No
People	No identifiable actions, decisions, or behaviours immediately preceding ignition could be established based on available evidence.	Neutral	N/A

Predisposing Factors

- Firebreak installation dependent on completion of cultural heritage surveys.
- Cultural heritage surveys were delayed due to Traditional Owner engagement and onboarding issues.
- The required fire management controls (fire breaks) were not installed prior to fire season.
- No interim fire-season risk controls were implemented while permanent controls were outstanding.

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Investigation Limitations

- The ignition source of the bushfire could not be determined.
- No evidence supports deliberate or accidental ignition mechanisms.
- Analysis therefore focused on the availability of mandated preventive controls.

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Recommendations

Recommendation 1 – Fire Season Readiness Trigger

- Implement a formal pre-fire-season readiness review for all offset areas.
- Include verification of firebreaks, fencing, and access controls.

Recommendation 2 – Interim Risk Controls

- Where critical OAMP controls are delayed, implement interim fire-risk mitigation measures prior to fire season.

Recommendation 3 – Escalation of Heritage Dependencies

- Establish escalation triggers where heritage surveys delays impact critical environmental risk controls.

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Key Learnings

- Absence of required controls can constitute an incident even where ignition cause is unknown.
- Offset sites require the same seasonal risk discipline as operational assets.
- System dependencies (e.g. heritage approvals) require contingency planning.

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Next Steps

- Complete installation of firebreaks and fencing
- Implement approved recommendations
- Update offset fire management readiness processes
- Monitor effectiveness through quarterly inspections and reporting

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