



MOOLARBEN COAL PROJECT 2022 COMPLIANCE REPORT EPBC 2007/3297 EPBC 2013/6926 EPBC 2008/4444 EPBC 2017/7974

Moolarben Coal Complex
Moolarben Coal Mines Pty Ltd
Moolarben Coal Operations Pty Ltd
2007/3297
2013/6926
2008/4444
2017/7974
The establishment of a coal mine and associated infrastructure 40 kilometres east of Mudgee to generate approximately 10Mtpa of product coal and as described in the referral received under the Act on 16 February 2007(EPBC 2007/3297);
To modify and extend the Moolarben Coal Project (Stage 1), approximately 40km north east of Mudgee, NSW. (EPBC 2013/6926).
To develop a new open cut coal mine and two underground coal mines, 40 km north-east of Mudgee, NSW and as described in the referral received under the EPBC Act on 9 September 2008 and the request for variation received under the EPBC Act on 27 February 2012.
To Modify the extend the Moolarben Coal Project (Stage1 and Stage 2), 40 km north of Mudgee, NSW (see EPBC Act referral 2017/7974).
1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022
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Declaration of Accuracy

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.

Signature of authorised reporting officer	Trant Cini
Name of authorised reporting officer	Trent Cini
Title of authorised reporting officer	Environment and Community Manager
Date	31 March 2023
Organisation Name	Moolarben Coal Operations Pty Ltd
Organisation ACN	077 939 569

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Moolarben Coal Complex (MCC) is located in the Western Coalfield of New South Wales (NSW) approximately 40 kilometres (km) north of Mudgee to the south east of Ulan. The Moolarben Coal Complex is located within the Mid-Western Regional Local Government Area (LGA). Figure 1 depicts the regional location of the Biodiversity Offsets Areas and the Moolarben Coal Complex and Table 1 summarises the Moolarben Coal Complex offsets by approval.

Moolarben Coal Operations Pty Ltd (MCO) is the operator of the Moolarben Coal Complex on behalf of the Moolarben Joint Venture (Moolarben Coal Mines Pty Ltd [MCM], Yancoal Moolarben Pty Ltd (YM) and a consortium of Korean power companies). MCO, MCM and YM are wholly owned subsidiaries of Yancoal Australia Limited (Yancoal).

All mining operations are conducted in accordance with NSW Project Approval (05_0117) (Moolarben Coal Project Stage 1) as modified, and NSW Project Approval (08_0135) (Moolarben Coal Project Stage 2) as modified. Current mining operations undertaken across MCC have approval until 31 December 2038.

The current mining operations are undertaken in accordance with Approval Decisions (EPBC 2007/3297), (EPBC 2013/6926), (EPBC 2008/4444) and (EPBC 2017/7974) under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

This report details activities and compliance with EPBC 2007/3297, EPBC 2013/6926, EPBC 2008/4444 and EPBC 2017/7974 for the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

EPBC Approval	Offset		
2007/3297	Area 1 (Sydney Basin)	 Area 2 (Moolarben) 	 Area 3 (Property 6)
2013/6926	Elward	Bobadeen East	 Area 3 (Property 5)
	Bobadeen West	Clifford	Clarke
2008/4444	Old Bobadeen	On-site	Dun Dun West
	• Ulan	Avisford 2	Dun Dun East
	Libertus	Avisford 1	
2017/7974	Area 1 (Sydney Basin)	 Rehabilitation (Credits) 	 Gilgal (Credits)
Non EPBC offsets	Moolarmoo	 Property 24/25 	

Table 1: EPBC Approval Biodiversity Offset Areas

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

During the reporting period the following activities have been undertaken:

- Land preparation and disturbance in accordance with the VCPLMP, including pre-clearance surveys, salvage of habitat features and fauna management within action areas.
- Collection of locally sourced native seed.
- BOA management including fencing, access maintenance, weed and vertebrate pest management.
- Continued assisted regeneration across relevant BOAs including planting of approximately 25,000 tube stock to supplement natural regeneration within the Dun Dun Biodiversity Offset cluster.
- Monitoring in accordance with the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan (BOMP), 2008/4444 Biodiversity and Offset Management Plan, Landscape Management Plan (LMP) and Rehabilitation Management Plan (RMP).

FIGURE1: Regional Location of Biodiversity Offset Areas

3.0 COMPLIANCE TABLES (2007/3297) (2008/4444) (2013/6926)

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
EPBC 2007/3	3297		
1	In order to protect the White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland listed ecological community, the person taking the action shall make suitable arrangements within 12 months of this approval to:	Compliant	Completed prior to period.
	(a) Transfer at least 130 hectares of the White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Woodland and Derived Native Grassland listed ecological community to the NSW Minister for Climate Change Environment and Water offset, on a "like for like" basis, the 65 hectares that would be cleared by the project at an offset ratio of 2:1; and		
	(b) Provide the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) with funds (which at the discretion of DECC may include an in-kind contribution) to cover any reasonable costs associated with the transfer and ongoing management of this land.		
1A	The approval holder must undertake the action within the area enclosed by the red line designated as 'DA Boundary' in the map at Appendix 1. The approval holder must not undertake the action within the areas designated as 'Areas not part of the Action' in the map at Appendix 1.	Compliant	Noted. Action undertaken within the DA Boundary and not undertaken within the areas designated as 'Areas not part of the Action'.
2	In order to protect the White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland listed ecological community, the person taking the action shall in accordance with the Rehabilitation and Offset Management Plan (See Condition 3 below):	Compliant	Revegetation works were commenced in a prior period. MCO continues to conserve and enhance Area 1, Area 2 and Area 3.
	(a) Revegetate at least 38 hectares of disturbed land on the "Red Hills" property with Yellow Box- White Box-Blakely's Red Gum vegetation;		Area 1, Area 2 and Area 2 were secured in a prior reporting period by the registering on title a 'Positive Covenant' and a
	(b) Revegetate at least 143 hectares of cleared land on the "Red Hills" property with suitable native vegetation to improve wildlife corridor linkages;		'Restriction on the Use of Land by a Prescribed Authority' under Section 88E(3) of the NSW <i>Conveyancing Act 1919</i> .
	(c) Conserve and enhance at least 1211 hectares of existing native vegetation onsite within the areas marked with green crosshatching designated as 'Biodiversity Offset Area' shown in the map at Appendix 2; and		
	(d) make arrangements, as approved in writing by the Minister, to protect these offset areas from development for the long term.		
3	In order to protect the White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland listed ecological community, the person taking action shall prepare and implement a detailed Rehabilitation and Offsets Management Plan for the project to the satisfaction of the Minister for the	Compliant	The Landscape Management Plan was approved by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE ¹) in 2011 .

¹ References to DAWE includes the previous relevant commonwealth agencies responsible for administering the EPBC Act. *MCO_RPT_EPBC 2022 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT_FINAL_V2.DOCX 31 MARCH 2023*

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
	 Environment and Water Resources. The proponent shall progressively rehabilitate the site to the satisfaction of Minister for the Environment and Water Resources and the NSW Department of Primary Industries, in general accordance with the proposed Rehabilitation and Offset Management Plan. The rehabilitation and Offset Management Plan must include: (a) The rehabilitation objectives for the site, vegetation offsets and landscaping; (b) A description of the short, medium and long-term measures that would be implemented to: Rehabilitate the site Implement the vegetation offsets; and Landscape the environmental bunds; (c) Performance and completion criteria for the rehabilitation of the site, implementation of the vegetation offsets, and landscaping of the environmental bunds; (d) A detailed description of the measures that would be implemented over the next 3 years including the progressive rehabilitation of mining areas and progressive implementation of the vegetation offset areas referred to in Condition 2. (e) A program to monitor the effectiveness of these measures, and progress against the performance and completion criteria (see (c) above); (f) A description of the potential risks to successful rehabilitation and/or revegetation, and a description of the contingency measures that would be implemented to mitigate these risks; and (g) Details of who would be responsible for monitoring, reviewing, and implementing the plan. 		The NSW Project Approval Rehabilitation Management Plan was updated inaccordance with the Resources Regulator amendments to mining lease conditions relating to rehabilitation through amendments to the Regulation under the Mining Act 1992. The lastest reversion of the Rehabilitation Management Plan was undertaken in August 2022. This report, Appendix A and B.
4	The person taking the action must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, by 31 March for the preceding calendar year. Annual reports must be published until the Minister is satisfied that the person taking the action has complied with all conditions of the approval. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication must be provided to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published.	Compliant	This report.
5	Upon the direction of the Minister, the person taking the action must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the Minister'. The independent auditor must be approved by the Minister prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to by the Minister and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Minister	Compliant	Noted.
6	If the Minster believes that it is necessary or desirable for the better protection of the listed threatened species and ecological communities to do so, the Minister may request that the person taking the action make specified revisions to the plans, reports or management strategies approved pursuant to	Compliant	Noted.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
	paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, and submit the revised plan, report or strategy for the Minster's approval. The person taking the action must comply with any such request. The revised approve plan, report or strategy must be implemented.		
7	If at any time after 5 years from the date of this approval, the Minister notifies the person taking the action in writing that the Minister is not satisfied that there has been substantial commencement of coal mining operations, the action must not thereafter be commenced without the written agreement of the Minister.	Compliant	Action commenced 2009.
EPBC 2008/4	4444		
1	The approval holder must not clear more than 1, 534 hectares of native vegetation within the defined footprint at Schedule 1.	Compliant	At the end of the period 836 Ha of the approved 1,534 Ha of native vegetation within the defined footprint had been disturbed.
2	To mitigate the impacts of the proposal on the Large-eared Pied Bat, Southern Long-eared Bat, Regent Honeyeater, Swift Parrot and the Spotted-tail Quoll, the approval holder must prepare and submit, prior to the proposed date of commencement of the action, a mine site Vegetation Clearance Protocol and Landscape Management plan (VCPLMP) for the Minister's written approval. The VCPLMP must; a. Delineate areas to be cleared, describe pre-clearance survey methods, specify actions to minimise fauna impacts and detail vegetation clearance procedures. b. Require collection and stockpiling of habitat features important to threatened fauna species for reinstatement in rehabilitation areas. c. Require use of native, locally sourced seed for propagation for rehabilitation activates. d. Specify a two stage clearing protocol where non-habitat trees are cleared 24 hours prior to any habitat trees are cleared, to encourage fauna to move out of an area. The approval holder must not commence until the VCPLMP is approved by the Minister. The approved VCPLMP must be implemented.	Compliant	VCPLMP was approved by the minister on 29 May 2015 . Action commenced 2 August 2015. The VCPLMP continues to be implemented.
3	 To compensate for the loss of 123.3 hectares of the White Box-Yellow Box- Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (WBGW) ecological community and 902 hectares of habitat for EPBC listed threatened species, the approval holder must submit, by 1 September 2021, a Biodiversity Offset Management Plan (BOMP) for the Minister's written approval. The BOMP must: a. include offset attributes, shapefiles, textual descriptions and maps that clearly define the location and boundaries of the offset areas specified at Figures 1-7 of Schedule 2; b. include a survey, and describe the condition of, the offset areas specified at Figures 1-7 of Schedule 2, immediately prior to them being managed as offset areas; c. for the offset areas shown at Figures 1-3 and 6-7 of Schedule 2: (i) specify strategies and management actions that will improve the quality of WBGW and habitat for EPBC listed threatened species; (ii) include timeframes for management actions; 	Compliant	An updated Biodiversity Offset Management Plan was submitted to DAWE on 20 August 2021. In consideration of Department feedback, a further revised version with offset attribute data and shapefiles was submitted 26 November 2021. The Biodiversity Offset Management Plan was approved by the DAWE on 14 December 2021 .

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
	 (iii) specify performance and completion criteria for achieving (i) above, for evaluating effectiveness of the management of the offset areas, and criteria for triggering remedial action; (iv) include a program to detect trigger criteria and monitor and report on the effectiveness of management actions, and progress against the performance and completion criteria; (v) describe potential risks to achieving the plans objectives, measures that will be implemented to mitigate against these risks and remedial actions that will be implemented if defined trigger criteria are detected; and (vi) detail of who will be responsible for monitoring, reviewing, and implementing the BOMP. d. for offset areas shown at Figure 4 and 5 of Schedule 2, explain how management of the offset areas will ensure the quality of WBGW and habitat for EPBC listed threatened species in the offset areas will be improved and protected for the period of approval. If, after 1 December 2021, the Minister informs the approval holder that the submitted BOMP (required by 1 September 2021) is not suitable for approval, the Minister may, after 1 February 2022, approve a version of the BOMP revised by the Department. The approved BOMP must be published on the approval holder's internet web site, within 1 month of being approved by the Minister and remain so published for the period of approval. The approval holder must implement the BOMP approved by the Minister in writing. 		
4	To compensate for the loss of 123.3 hectares of the White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (WBGW) ecological community and 902 hectares of habitat for EPBC listed threatened species, within 24 months of the date of this approval, the approval holder must secure the lands identified as the Offset Areas at Schedule 2 (Figures 1-7) of this notice as a biodiversity offset by a legal instrument under relevant nature conservation legislation on the title of the land. This instrument must: a. Provide for the protection of the land in perpetuity; b. Prevent any future development activities, including mining and mineral extraction; c. Ensure the active management of the land; and d. Be provided to the Department within 3 months of it being issued, as evidence of compliance with this condition.	Compliant	Eight (8) Offsets (Old Bobaddeen, On-site, Avisford 1, Avisford 2, Libertus, Ulan 18, Dun Dun East, and Dun Dun West) were secured in accordance with Condition 4 of EPBC 2008/4444 in a previous reporting period.
5	The approval holder must undertake management and monitoring of water resources in accordance with this project approval for Application Number 08-0135 issued by the NSW Planning Assessment Commission under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW) on 30 January 2015.	Compliant	Moolarben Complex Water Management Plan. MCO 2022 Annual Review

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
6	Upon request, the approval holder shall supply the groundwater monitoring data for the Moolarben Coal Project to the Department, NSW Government agencies, Operators of the Ulan and/or Wilpinjong mines or other adjacent mine operators. A protocol for the supply of the data will be included in the project's Water Management Plan.	Compliant	Section 5.5 of the NSW DPIE approved Moolarben Complex Water Management Plan.
7	The approval holder must make available for the Minister on request, all plans or programs and any review of plans or programs produced pursuant to Condition 5.	Compliant	Noted No requests received during the 2022 reporting period
8	Within 30 days after the commencement of the action, the approval holder must advise the Department in writing of the actual date of commencement.	Compliant	Completed in a previous period. Action commenced 2 August 2015. Notification in writing sent on 13 August 2015
9	The approval holder must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to these conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the BOMP and VCPLMP, and make them available upon request to the Department. Such records may be subject to audit by the Department or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the Department's website. The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.	Compliant	Noted
10	The approval holder must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of the BOMP and VCPLMP as specified in the conditions, by 31 March for the preceding calendar year. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication must be provided to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published.	Compliant	This report
11	Non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be reported to the Department within 2 business days of becoming aware of the non-compliance.	Compliant	Noted
12	Upon the direction of the Minister, the approval holder must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the Minster. The independent auditor must be approved by the Minister prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to by the Minister and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Minister.	Not Applicable	Noted
13	If the approval holder wishes to carry out any activity otherwise than in accordance with the Plans as specified in the conditions, the approval holder must submit to the Department for the Minister's written approval a revised version of that Plan. The approval holder must not commence the varied activity until the Minster has approved the varied Plan in writing. The Minister will not approve a varied plan unless the revised Plan would result in an equivalent or improved environmental outcome over	Not Applicable	Noted

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
	time. If the Minister approves the revised Plan, that Plan must be implemented in place of the Plan originally approved.		
14	If the Minister believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of listed threatened species and ecological communities to do so, the Minister may request that the approval holder make specified revisions to the Plan specified in the conditions and submit the revised Plan for the Minister's written approval. The approval holder must comply with any such request. The revise approved Plan must be implemented. Unless the Minister has approved the revised Plan then the approval holder must continue to implement the plan originally approved.	Not Applicable	Noted
15	If, at any time after 5 years from the date of this approval, the approval holder has not substantially commenced the action, then the approval holder must not substantially commence the action without the written agreement of the Minister.	Compliant	Action commenced 2 August 2015.
EPBC 2013/0	6926		
1	The approval holder must not clear more than 171.4 hectares of native vegetation within the defined footprint at Schedule 1, Figures 1 and 2.	Compliant	At the end of the period 134 Ha of the approved 171.4 Ha of native vegetation within the defined footprint had been disturbed.
2	To assist in mitigating the impacts of the proposal on the Large-eared Pied Bat, Southern Long-eared Bat, Regent Honeyeater, Swift Parrot, Potted-tail Quoll and the Koala, the approval holder must prepare and submit a mine site Vegetation Clearance Protocol and Landscape Management Plan (VCPLMP) for the Minister's written approval. The VCPLMP must; a. Delineate areas to be cleared, describe pre-clearance survey methods, specify actions to minim is fauna impacts and details vegetation clearance procedures. b. Require collection and stockpiling of habitat features important to threatened fauna species for reinstatement in rehabilitation areas. c. Require use of native, locally sourced seed for propagation for rehabilitation activities. d. Specify a two stage clearing protocol where non-habitat trees are cleared 24 hours prior to any habitat trees in their proximity being cleared, to encourage fauna to move out of an area. e. Include a revegetation strategy to improve connectivity between isolated vegetation patches (including between Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve, Goulburn River National Park and Dexter Mountain).	Compliant	VCPLMP was approved by the minister on 17 December 2014 . The VCPLMP continues to be implemented.
3	The approval holder must not commence until the VCPLMP is approved by the Minister. The approved VCPLMP must be implemented.	Compliant	VCPLMP was approved by the minister on 17 December 2014 . Action commenced on 23 December 2014 .

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
			The VCPLMP continues to be implemented.
4	To compensate for the loss of 16.5 hectares of the White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (WBGW) ecological community and 171.4 hectares of habitat for EPBC listed threatened species, the approval holder must prepare and submit a Biodiversity Offset Management Plan (BOMP) for the proposed EPBC offset sites, for the Minister's written approval. The BOMP must; a. Identify those lands described as the Offset Areas at Schedule 2 (Figures 1-5) of this notice that are necessary to achieve the outcomes required by the Environmental Offsets Policy 2012 (or subsequent published revisions). This must include offset attributes, shapefiles, textual descriptions and maps clearly define the location and boundaries of the offset area(s). b. Provide a survey and description of the current condition (prior to any management activities) of the offset areas identified in Condition 4a. c. Details management actions and regeneration and revegetation strategies to be undertaken on the offset areas to improve the ecological quality of these areas, including: (i) A description and timeframe of measures that would be implemented to improve the condition of the ecological communities on the site: (ii) Performance and completion criteria for evaluating the management of the offset area, and criteria triggering remedial action; (iii) A program to monitor and report on the effectiveness of these measures, and progress against the performance and completion criteria; (iv) A description of potential risks to the successful implementation of the plan, a description of the measures that will be implemented to mitigate against these risks and a description of the contingency measures that will be implemented if defined triggers arise; and (v) Details of who would be responsible for monitoring, reviewing, and implementing the plan.	Compliant	A Biodiversity Offset Management Plan (BOMP) was approved by the Minister on 17 December 2014 . The requirements of this conditions are addressed in the below section of the BOMP: a) Section 2 and Appendix 1 b) Section 3 c) Sections 4, 5, 6 & 7.
5	The approval holder must not commence the action until the BOMP is approved by the Minister. The approved BOMP must be published on an internet web site approved by the Department, within 1 month of being approved and for a period of 5 years thereafter. The approved BOMP must be implemented.	Compliant	A BOMP was approved by the Minister on 17 December 2014 . Action commenced on 23 December 2014 The BOMP is located on MCO's website. (www.moolarbencoal.com.au) The BOMP continues to be implemented. This report, refer to Appendix A and B
6	To compensate for the loss of 16.5 hectares of the White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (WBGW) ecological community and 171.4 hectares of habitat for EPBC listed threatened species, the approval holder must secure the lands identified as the Offset	Compliant	Six (6) Offsets (Bobadeen East, Bobadeen West, Elward, Clifford, Clarke and Property 5) were secured in accordance

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
	 Areas at Schedule 2 (Figures 1-5) of this notice as a biodiversity offset by a legal instrument under relevant nature conservation legislation on the title of the land. This instrument must: a. Provide for the protection of the land in perpetuity; b. Prevent any future development activities, including mining and mineral extraction; and c. ensure the active management of the land. The approval holder must not commence the action until the Department has approved the proposed instrument in writing. 		with Condition 6 of EPBC 2013/6926 in a previous reporting period. The Department approved the protection mechanism for offsets under EPBC 2013/6926 on 17 December 2014 .
7	The approval holder must provide evidence to the Department of their compliance with Condition 6, along with offset attributes, shapefiles and textual descriptions and maps to clearly define the location and boundaries of the offset sites, prior to the commencement of the action.	Compliant	Completed in a prevous period. Evidence including shapefiles provided on 1 December 2014 .
8	Within 30 days after the commencement of the action, the approval holder must advise the Department in writing of the actual date of commencement.	Compliant	Completed in a previous period. Notification in writing sent on 20 January 2015
9	The approval holder must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to these conditions of approval, including measures take to implement the BOMP and VCPLMP, and make them available upon request to the Department. Such records may be subject to audit by the Department or an independent auditor in accordance with Section 458 of the EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the Department's website. The results of audits may be publicised through the general media.	Compliant	Noted
10	The approval holder must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of the BOMP and VCPLMP as specified in the conditions, by 31 March for the preceding calendar year. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication must be provided to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published.	Compliant	This report.
11	Non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be reported to the Department within 2 business days of becoming aware of the non-compliance.	Compliant	Noted
12	Upon the direction of the Minister, the approval holder must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the Minister. The independent auditor must be approved by the Minister prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to by the Minister and the audit report must be address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Minister.	Not Applicable	Noted
13	If the approval holder wishes to carry out any activity otherwise than in accordance with the Plan as specified in the conditions, the approval holder must submit to the Department for the Minister's written approval a revised version of the Plan. The approval holder must not commence the varied activity until the Minster has approved the varied Plan in writing. The Minister will not approve a varied	Not Applicable	Noted

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
	Plan unless the revised Plan would result in an equivalent or improved environmental outcome over time. If the Minster approves the revised Plan, that Plan must be implemented in place of the Plan originally approved.		
14	If the Minster believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of listed threatened species and ecological communities to do so, the Minster may request that the approval holder make specified revisions to the Plan specified in the conditions and submit the revised Plan for the Minsters written approval. The approval holder must comply with any such request. The revised approved Plan must be implemented. Unless the Minister has approved the revised Plan then the approval holder must continue to implement the Plan originally approved.	Not Applicable	Noted
15	If, at any time after 5 years from the date of this approval, the approval holder has not substantially commenced the action, then the approval holder must not substantially commence the action without the written agreement of the Minster.	Compliant	Action commenced 23 December 2014
EPBC 2017/	7974		
1	The approval holder must undertake the Moolarben Coal Project within the development footprint.	Compliant	Noted
2	The approval holder must comply with Condition 34A of Schedule 3 of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals to implement the supplementary offset strategy, by retiring the required number of credits specified in Table 12A.	Compliant	Gilgal is owned and managed by Moolarben. Activities are underway to retire the required number of credits specified in Table 12A of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals through a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement.
			Rehabilitation is being undertaken to secure residual credits specified in Table 12A.
3	The approval holder must comply with Conditions 35A of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals to secure the credits and/or area at the Gilgal Offset Area (as identified at Attachment B) under a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Minister. The approval holder may seek agreement from the Minister to use an alternative mechanism to secure the credits	Compliant	Gilgal is owned and managed by MCO, substantial progress has been made towards securing the required number of credits specified in Table 12A of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals under a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement (BSA).
	and/or area, subject to the additional rules at Condition 20. The approval holder must submit a copy of the Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement to the Minister within ten business days of an agreement being made.		Conditions 35A of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals required to be completed by 30 September 2021 , however an Extention of Time (EOT) was granted by NSW DPE until 31 July 2023.
4	The approval holder must provide for the long-term security of the Area 2 (extract) offset area as identified at Attachment B, by 30 June 2020. The approval holder must submit details of the security	Non-Compliant	Area 2 (Extract) offset was secured on 25 August 2020 , post the required due date.
	mechanism to the Minister within ten business days of the mechanism being made.		MCO advised the DAWE on 24 June 2020 that the offsets security mechanism were in the final stages of execution and requested an Extension of time to 31 August 2020 to align

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
			with the offset security timing as approved by the NSW DPIE for the same offset area.
			On 2 July 2020 MCO advised the DAWE of a technical non- compliance as the offset security mechanism for Area 2 (Extract) had been executed by MCO but not the NSW DPIE on 30 June 2020.
			On 25 August 2020 , a 'Positive Covenant' and a 'Restriction on the Use of Land by a Prescribed Authority' under Section 88E(3) of the NSW <i>Conveyancing Act 1919</i> was executed by MCO and the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) to secure the Area 2 (Extract).
			On 18 September 2020 , MCO provided the DAWE with a copy of the Positive and Restrictive Covenants executed by MCO and the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) to secure the Area 2 (Extract) offset.
			The executed covenants will be registered on title.
5	The approval holder must enhance existing native vegetation in the Area 2 (extract) offset area, in accordance with the biodiversity offset strategy required by Condition 34 of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals, and in accordance with the Biodiversity Management Plan required by Condition 36 of Schedule 3 of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals.	Compliant	During the reporting period MCO continued works to maintain and enhance the existing native vegetation in the Area 2 (Extract) BOA.
6	The approval holder must comply with Condition 35B of Schedule 3 of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals to develop suitable rehabilitation performance and completion criteria for the rehabilitation of OC2 and/or OC3, to generate the required number of residual credits specified in Table 12A of Schedule 3.	Compliant	Suitable rehabilitation performance and completion criteria for OC2 and/or OC3 have been developed by MCO with approval of the criteria granted by the NSW DPIE on 7 July 2020 in accordance with Condition 35B of Schedule 3.
7	Unless the approval holder retires the residual credits in accordance with Condition 8, the approval holder must undertake progressive rehabilitation of OC2 and OC3, so as to meet the rehabilitation performance and completion criteria developed in accordance with Condition 6, and in accordance with an approved Rehabilitation Management Plan. The approval holder must also comply with Condition 35C of Schedule 3 of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals to retire the residual credits if the performance and completion criteria are not achieved in the specified timeframe in Condition 35C, subject to the additional rules at Condition 20.	Compliant	Noted
8	The approval holder may retire the residual credits earlier than the specified timeframe in Condition 35C in accordance with Condition 35D of Schedule 3 of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals,	Not Applicable	Noted

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
	subject to the additional rules at Condition 20. If the approval holder chooses to retire credits early, the approval holder must notify the Department within 30 business days of retiring the credits.		
9	The approval holder must comply with Condition 36 of Schedule 3, and Conditions 3 and 5 of Schedule 5, of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals to prepare and implement a Biodiversity Management Plan for the Moolarben Coal Project.	Compliant	A revised Biodiversity Management Plan was approved by the NSW DPIE on 2 September 2020 . MCO continues to progress the development of a Complex
			wide BOMP in consideration of both State and Federal Department feedback.
10	The Biodiversity Management Plan implemented in accordance with Condition 9 must be approved by	Compliant	Noted.
	the Department as adequately providing for the management of protected matters on the site and in the offset areas.		The DAWE advised MCO on 14 August 2020 that there is no requirement for the Biodiversity Management Plan to be approved under the EPBC Act.
11	The approval holder must comply with Condition 33 of Schedule 3, and Conditions 3 and 5 of Schedule 5, of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals to prepare and implement a revised Water Management Plan for the Moolarben Coal Project.	Complaint	A revised Moolarben Complex Water Management Plan incorporating EPBC 2017/7974 was approved by DPIE on 20 October 2020 . The WMP continues to be implemented.
12	The approval holder must comply with the timing and content requirements of Condition 32A of Schedule 3 of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals for the completion of an Independent Water	Compliant	MCO have commenced the Independent Water Quality Study, completion of the IWQS is required by 1 December 2021 .
	Quality Study (IQWS).		An Extension of Time was granted by NSW DPIE until 30 April 2023.
13	The approval holder must ensure that the performance measures recommended in the IQWS are incorporated in a revised version of the Water Management Plan within 12 months of the IWQS being completed, and must implement the revised Water Management Plan.	Not Applicable	IQWS was not completed during the 2022 reporting period. Completion of the IWQS is required by 30 April 2023 .
14	The approval holder must comply with condition 33A of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals to prepare and implement a Brine Management Plan.	Compliant	A revised Moolarben Complex Brine Management Plan incorporating EPBC 2017/7974 was approved by DPIE on 21 October 2020 . The Brine MP continues to be implemented.
15	The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of the date of commencement of works in OC3, within ten business days after the date of commencement of works in OC3.	Compliant	Notification was provided to the Department on 18 February 2020 informing on the commencement of works in OC3.
16	The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of the date of commencement of operation of the water treatment facility, within ten business days after the date of commencement of operation of the water treatment facility.	Compliant	The commencement of operation of the water treatment facility occurred on 18 May 2020 .

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
			Written notification of commencement of the water treatment facility was provide to the Department on 27 May 2020.
17	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete compliance records.	Compliant	Noted
18	If the Department makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of compliance records to the Department within the timeframe specified in the request.	Compliant	Noted No requests received during the 2022 reporting period.
19	 The approval holder must: a. Submit the Biodiversity Management Plan electronically to the Department for approval by the Minister. b. Publish each plan on its website within 20 business days of the date the plan is approved by the Minister and/or Secretary. c. Exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from plans published on its website or provided to a member of the public. 	Compliant	Noted The DAWE advised MCO on 14 August 2020 that there is no requirement for the Biodiversity Management Plan to be approved under the EPBC Act. MCO continues to progress the development of the Complex wide Biodiversity Management Plan in consideration of both State and Federal Department feedback.
20	 The approval holder must use one or a combination of the following methods to retire the credits required for protected matters: a. Retire like-for-like biodiversity credits within the meaning of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW). b. Make payments into an offsets fund that has been developed by the NSW Government and that has been endorsed by the Minister. The financial contribution or payments into an offset fund must be determined by converting biodiversity credits to an equivalent dollar value through the NSW offsets payment calculator. The approval holder must submit evidence to the Minister of any payments, within ten business days of the payment being made. c. Fund a biodiversity conservation action within the meaning of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW). The financial contribution to biodiversity conservation actions must be determined by converting biodiversity credits to an equivalent dollar value through the NSW offsets payment calculator. The approval holder must submit to the Minister evidence of any payments within ten business days of the payment being made. 	Compliant	Noted No credits were retired in the reporting period.
21	The approval holder must prepare a compliance report each year. The timing for preparing the compliance report must be consistent with the requirements of Condition 4 of Schedule 5 of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals, or otherwise in accordance with an annual date that has been agreed in writing by the Department. The approval holder must: a. Publish each compliance report on its website within one month of being approved by the Secretary.	Compliant	This report

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
	 b. Notify the Department by email that a compliance report has been published on its website within five business days of the date of publication. c. Exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from compliance reports published on its website. d. Where any sensitive ecological data has been excluded from the version published, submit the full compliance report to the Department within five business days of publication. 		
22	 The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of any non-compliance with the conditions or non-compliance with the commitments made in plans that relate to protected matters. The notification must be given no later than two business days after becoming aware of the non-compliance. The notification must specify: a. The condition which is or may be in breach. b. A short description of the non-compliance. 	Compliant	Noted
23	 The approval holder must provide to the Department the details of any non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in plans that relate to protected matters no later than ten business days after becoming aware of the non-compliance, specifying: 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 non-compliance. c. The method and timing of any remedial action that will be undertaken by the approval holder. 	Compliant	Noted
24	The approval holder must ensure that independent audits of compliance with the conditions are conducted as requested in writing by the Minister.	Not Applicable	Noted
25	 For each independent audit, the approval holder must: a. Provide the name and qualifications of the independent auditor and the draft audit criteria to the Department. b. Only commence the independent audit once the audit criteria have been approved in writing by the Department. c. Submit an audit report to the Department within the timeframe specified in the approved audit criteria. 	Not Applicable	Noted
26	The approval holder must publish the audit report on its website within ten business days of receiving the Department's approval of the audit report and keep the audit report published on its website until the end date of this approval.	Not Applicable	Noted
27	The approval holder may, at any time, apply to the Minister for a variation to the Biodiversity Management Plan approved by the Minister under condition 10, or as subsequently revised in	Not Applicable	Noted

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments
	accordance with these conditions, by submitting an application in accordance with the requirements of section 143A of the EPBC Act.		
28	The approval holder may revise the Biodiversity Management Plan approved by the Minister under condition 10, or as subsequently revised in accordance with these conditions, without submitting it for approval under section 143A of the EPBC Act, if the taking of the action in accordance with the revised Biodiversity Management Plan would not be likely to have a new or increased impact.	Not Applicable	Noted
29	If the approval holder revises the Biodiversity Management Plan without submitting it for approval, the approval holder must: a. notify the Department in writing that the approved action management plan has been revised and provide the Department with: I. An electronic copy of the revised Biodiversity Management Plan. II. An explanation of the differences between the approved action management plan and the revised Biodiversity Management Plan. III. The reasons the approval holder considers that taking the action in accordance with the revised Biodiversity Management Plan would not be likely to have a new or increased impact. IV. Written notice of the date on which the approval holder will implement the revised Biodiversity Management Plan.	Not Applicable	Noted
30	 If the Minister gives a notice to the approval holder that the Minister is satisfied that the taking of the action in accordance with the revised Biodiversity Management Plan would be likely to have a new or increased impact, then: a. Condition 28 does not apply, or ceases to apply, in relation to the revised Biodiversity Management Plan. b. The approval holder must implement the Biodiversity Management Plan specified by the Minister in the notice. 	Not Applicable	Noted
31	At the time of giving the notice under condition 30, the Minister may also notify that for a specified period of time, condition 28 does not apply for one or more specified action management plans.	Not Applicable	Noted
32	The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of any proposed change to the conditions of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals referred to in the conditions of this approval, no later than two weeks after formally proposing a change or becoming aware of a change being proposed. The approval holder must also notify the Department in writing of any change to the conditions of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals referred to in the conditions of this approval, within two weeks of a change being finalised.	Not Applicable	Noted There have been no proposed changes to the conditions of the NSW Consolidated Project Approvals referred to in the conditions of this approval during the reporting period.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance ¹	Evidence/Comments			
33	Within 30 days after the completion of the action, the approval holder must notify the Department in writing and provide completion data.	Not Applicable	Noted			
¹ Definitions:						
<u>Compliant</u>	'Compliance' is achieved when all the requirements of a condition have been met, including the implementation of management plans or other measures required by those conditions.					
<u>Non-compliant</u>	requirements of a condition or elements of a condition, including the implementation of management plans and other measures have not been met.					

<u>Not applicable</u> requirements of a condition or elements of a condition fall outside of the scope of the current reporting period. For example, a condition which applies to an activity that has not yet commenced.

APPENDIX A – Moolarben Coal Annual Summaries –Biodiversity Offset Area (BOA) Flora and Fauna Monitoring

Stage 1 and EPBC (2007/3297) offset areas monitoring²

Floristic monitoring undertaken within the Stage 1 BOAs during autumn and spring 2022 recorded:

252 species across Area 1 BOA. This consisted of 197 native species, 47 exotic species and eight species that could not be identified to species level nor confidently be determined as native or exotic species.

172 species across Area 2 BOA. This consisted of 149 native species, 17 exotic species and six species that could not be identified to species level nor confidently be determined as native or exotic species.

198 species were recorded across Area 3 BOA. This consisted of 167 native species, 22 exotic species and nine species that could not be identified to species level nor confidently be determined as native or exotic species.

Androclava procumbens, listed as vulnerable under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) and the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act), was recorded at site 10b within Area 2 BOA. Acacia ausfeldii (Ausfeld's Wattle), listed as vulnerable under the BC Act was recorded at two sites within Area 3 BOA (8c and 8d).

The Box Woodland MZ2 area within Area 1 BOA met all performance criteria outlined in the Land Management Plan (LMP).

The Red Gum Woodland MZ2 areas monitored during spring 2022 within Area 1 and Area 3 BOAs met all performance criteria outlined in the LMP. The Red Gum Woodland areas monitored in autumn within Area 1 and Area 3 BOAs met all criteria that apply at the current stage of development and are on a trajectory to meet all criteria in the long-term or have been actively revegetated to ensure all criteria are met.

The Sedimentary Ironbark Forest MZ2 areas within Area 1 BOA met all criterion that apply at the current stage of development and are on a trajectory to meet all criteria in the long-term.

The Alluvial Apple Woodland MZ2 areas within Area 2 BOA met all criteria that apply at the current stage of development and are on a trajectory to meet all criteria in the long-term. The Alluvial Apple Woodland MZ2 areas within Area 1 BOA met most of the criteria that apply at the current stage of development and have shown recent improvements in performance against the remaining criteria.

All MZ1 areas across all vegetation associations across all Stage 1 BOAs met the performance criteria outlined in the LMP (MCO 2013).

The fauna monitoring undertaken within Mod 9 BOAs was undertaken during spring 2022 and identified: A total of 84 fauna species at Area 1 BOA during 2022 spring monitoring. Which included, 57 birds (including four threatened species under the BC and/or EPBC Act), nine positively identified microbats (including three threatened species under the BC and/or EPBC Act), eight other mammals (two of which are introduced), four amphibians, and six reptiles.

A total of 49 fauna species at Area 2 BOA. Which included, 30 birds, nine positively identified microbats (including three threatened species under the BC and/or EPBC Act), seven other mammals (one of which is introduced), and three amphibians.

² EPBC (2007/3297) offset area monitoring include the portion of Area 2 offset extracted and included in EPBC2017/7974.

A total of 52 fauna species at Area 3 BOA. Which Included, 36 birds (including two threatened species under the BC and/or EPBC Act), five positively identified microbats (including one threatened species under the BC Act), seven other mammals (two of which are introduced), two amphibians and two reptiles.

Stage 1 Mod 9 and EPBC (2013/6929) offset areas monitoring³.

Floristic monitoring undertaken within the MOD 9 BOAs during autumn and spring 2022 recorded:

178 species across Bobadeen BOA. This consisted of 108 native species, 62 exotic species and eight species that could not be identified to species level nor confidently be determined as native or exotic species.

151 species across Clarke BOA. This consisted of 126 native species, 17 exotic species and eight species that could not be identified to species level nor confidently be determined as native or exotic species.

117 species across Clifford BOA. This consisted of 92 native species, 18 exotic species and seven species that could not be identified to species level nor confidently be determined as native or exotic species.

174 species across Elward BOA. This consisted of 133 native species, 31 exotic species and ten species that could not be identified to species level nor confidently be determined as native or exotic species.

134 species across Moolarmoo BOA. This consisted of 91 native species, 36 exotic species and seven species that could not be identified to species level nor confidently be determined as native or exotic species.

123 species across Property 5 BOA. This consisted of 62 native species, 52 exotic species and nine species that could not be identified to species level nor confidently be determined as native or exotic species.

126 species within Property 24 & 25 BOA. This consisted of 85 native species, 37 exotic species and four species that could not be identified to species level nor confidently be determined as native or exotic species.

Acacia ausfeldii, listed as vulnerable under the BC Act, continued to be recorded within Clifford BOA across two sites. Diuris tricolor (Pine Donkey Orchid), listed as vulnerable under the BC Act was recorded opportunistically within Property 24 & 25 BOA for the third season in a row indicating the population is healthy and viable.

Completion criteria will have been achieved when the vegetation has either achieved the relevant BVT benchmark condition (for at least one upper structural layer and one ground cover class) or it can be demonstrated that it is on a self-sustaining trend towards the relevant benchmark condition.

All MZ2 areas within Clarke BOA achieved all completion criteria.

At Bobadeen BOA, all MZ2 areas within the Blakely's Red Gum – Yellow Box Grassy Open Forest vegetation community area achieved all completion criteria. For the remaining vegetation communities within Bobadeen BOA sites achieved native groundcover benchmark condition. However, no MZ2 areas have yet to reliably achieve native overstorey or mid-storey benchmark condition.

At Moolarmoo BOA, all MZ2 areas achieved native groundcover benchmark condition in at least one season. However, no MZ2 areas have yet to reliably achieve native overstorey or mid- storey benchmark condition.

³ Whilst Moolarmoo and Property 24/25 are related to NSW project approvals, data has been included as all Modification 9 Offsets are managed consistently.

At Property 5 BOA and Property 24 & 25 BOA, all MZ2 areas within the Blakely's Red Gum – Yellow Box Grassy open Forest vegetation community achieved all completion criteria.

The Rough-barked Apple – Silvertop Stringybark – Red Stringybark Grassy Open Forest vegetation community within MZ2 areas achieved native groundcover benchmark condition, but have not yet achieved native overstorey or mid-storey benchmark condition.

The fauna monitoring undertaken within Mod 9 BOAs was undertaken during spring 2022.

A total of 55 fauna species recorded at Bobadeen BOA, including, 38 birds (including two threatened species under the BC Act), seven positively identified microbats (including two threatened species under the BC and/or EPBC Act), four other mammals (three of which were introduced species), and six amphibians.

A total of 38 fauna species were recorded at Clarke BOA, including, 32 birds, and six positively identified microbats (including two threatened species under the BC and/or EPBC Act).

A total of 37 fauna species were recorded at Clifford BOA, including, 27 birds, eight positively identified microbats (including two threatened species under the BC and/or EPBC Act), one other introduced mammal and one reptile.

A total of 51 fauna species were recorded at Elward BOA, including, 35 birds (including one threatened species under the BC Act), nine positively identified microbats (including two threatened species under the BC and/or EPBC Act), two other mammals (one of which was introduced) and five amphibians.

A total of 47 fauna species were recorded at Moolarmoo BOA, including, 34 birds (including one threatened species under the BC Act), five positively identified microbats (including one threatened species under the BC and EPBC Act), five other mammals (including two introduced species), and three amphibians

A total of 38 fauna species were recorded at Property 24 & 25 BOA, including, 31 birds (including one threatened species under the BC Act), one positively identified microbat species, two other mammals (one of which was introduced) and four amphibians.

A total of 34 fauna species were recorded at Property 5 BOA, including, 25 birds, eight positively identified microbats (including two threatened species under the BC and/or EPBC Act) and one amphibian.

Stage 2 and EPBC (2008/4444) offset areas monitoring.

The MCO BOMP determined the monitoring program across the Stage 2 BOAs in 2022. The vegetation monitoring in autumn 2022 was the first round of monitoring and assessment against the approved performance measures in the BOMP. Fauna monitoring resumed in Spring 2022. The key findings from the 2022 monitoring against the Performance Indicators and Completion Criteria are summarised below.

- For Offset Outcome 1(a) (woodland/forest) areas at all relevant BOAs are:
 - \circ expected to meet the Performance Indicator within the six yearly assessment timeframe,
 - currently achieving all Completion Criteria or are expected to achieve all criteria by the target date (2065).
- For Offset Outcome 1(a) (DNG) areas within:

- Dun Dun West, Libertus, Onsite Offset and Ulan 18 had sufficient natural and/or assisted regeneration.
- Dun Dun East did not have sufficient natural and/or assisted regeneration. This BOA has planned active revegetation that will assist in achieving Completion Criteria by the target date (2065).
- Dun Dun East, Dun Dun West and On-site Offsets BOAs are on a trajectory to meet the Completion Criteria relating to the presence of overstorey species capable of providing habitat (foraging and/or roosting) for woodland birds and bats by 2065.
- All Offset Outcome 1(b) (woodland) areas at all relevant BOAs are:
 - Currently achieving or are expected to achieve all Completion Criteria by 2065.
- All Offset Outcome 1(b) (DNG) areas at within:
 - o All relevant BOAs had sufficient natural and/or assisted regeneration .
 - Dun Dun East BOA is currently achieving or is on a trajectory to achieve all Completion Criteria by 2065.
 - Old Bobadeen BOA is currently achieving, or is on a trajectory to achieve, two out of four of the Completion Criteria by 2065.
- For Offset Outcome 2(c) areas within:
 - Old Bobadeen BOA had a planting survival rate of less than 80% after 18 months and did not meet the Performance Indicator. The management trigger has been realised in these areas.
 - Old Bobadeen BOA is on a trajectory to meet the Performance Indicator related to the presence of key mid-storey and overstorey species of each targeted forest/woodland community within the six yearly assessment timeframe.
 - Parts of the Old Bobadeen BOA contained feed tree species for Regent Honeyeater, Swift Parrot and Koala. However, recent plantings are yet to contribute towards determining whether the Completion Criteria requiring characteristic species, the area to be self-sustaining (as demonstrated by evidence of flowering/seed set, seeding/sapling growth).

The fauna monitoring undertaken within Stage 2 BOAs during spring 2022 identified:

A total of 56 fauna species recorded at Dun Dun East BOA, including, 47 birds (including one threatened species under the BC Act), six positively identified microbats (including two threatened species under the BC Act), one other introduced mammal, one amphibian and one reptile.

A total of 51 fauna species were recorded at Dun Dun West BOA, including, 42 birds (including two threatened species under the BC and/or EPBC Act), eight positively identified microbats (including one threatened species under the BC Act), one other mammal (introduced).

A total of 50 fauna species were recorded in Ulan 18 BOA, including, 43 bird species and seven positively identified microbat species (including two threatened species under the BC and/or EPBC Act).

A total of 48 fauna species were recorded in Libertus BOA, including, 40 bird species including threatened species under the BC Act) and eight positively identified microbat species (including two threatened species under the BC Act).

A total of 63 fauna species were recorded in Onsite Offset BOA, including, 56 birds (including three threatened species under the BC Act), six positively identified microbats (including one threatened species under the BC and EPBC Act) and one other mammal (introduced).

A total of 54 fauna species were recorded in Old Bobadeen BOA, including, 44 birds, eight positively identified microbats (including two threatened species under the BC and/or EPBC Act)m one other mammal (introduced) and one reptile.

3.1.1 ACTIONS FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD

During the next period activities to be undertaken include review of management plans and revision where necessary, continued monitoring, assisted regeneration planning and implementation, fencing, track and fire trail works, continued weed and feral animal control works, maintenance of property security and progression of Gilgal Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement.

APPENDIX B – Moolarben Coal Annual Summaries –Rehabilitation Flora and Fauna Monitoring

REHABILIATION MONITORING

MCO undertakes a monitoring program of rehabilitation areas in accordance with the RMP. The monitoring program includes landscape function analysis, floristic monitoring, vegetation structure and growth, fauna monitoring and visual monitoring.

3.1.2 ECOSYSTEM FUNCTION ANALYSIS

EFA was undertaken at 28 EFA sites within the MCO open cut rehabilitation areas, as well as at four (4) analogue sites which are located within vegetation communities equivalent to the general rehabilitation target communities.

Landscape Function Analysis

LFA assessment allows for the calculation of a Landscape Organisation Index (LOI), reflecting the proportion of a transect occupied by patches. Patches are defined by soil surface elements, such as perennial ground cover, litter, logs or rocks that help retain soil and other resources at a site. A higher LOI implies a more stable transect that is less prone to erosion and resource loss.

At all Box Gum Grassy Woodland sites and most Sedimentary Ironbark Forest Sites, the LOI within rehabilitation was similar to that recorded at analogue sites. Box Gum Shrubby Woodland sites were more variable, with most sites recording an LOI between 85-90%, however an increase ahs been observed at most sites when compared against historic monitoring. The lowest LOI was recorded at recently established R28 due to a high bare soil contribution. LOI comparison to analogue sites is shown in **Figure 1**.

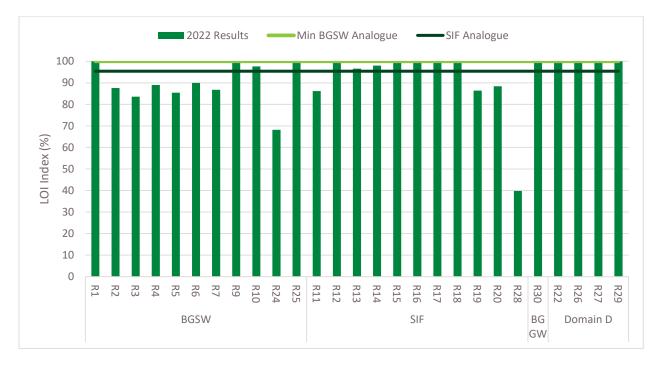


Figure 1: Landscape Organisation Index (LOI) recorded for rehabilitation sites in 2022 compared to analogue sites (BGSW = Box Gum Shrubby Woodland, SIF = Sedimentary Ironbark Forest and BGGW = Box Gum Grassy Woodland)

Floristic Monitoring

During the 2022 monitoring of Box Gum Shrubby Woodland rehabilitation sites, native species richness ranged from 15 (R24) to 39 (R1) in autumn and 21 (R7) to 60 (R4) in spring. These results were generally comparable to analogue site results where native species richness ranged from 32 to 39 in autumn and 36 to 53 in spring.

During the 2022 monitoring of Sedimentary Ironbark Forest rehabilitation sites, native species richness ranged from 20 (R12) to 38 (R18) in autumn and 14 (R12) to 41 (R18) in spring. The results from analogue sites in autumn and spring were higher than most rehabilitation sites with 31 and 49 species respectively.

During the 2022 monitoring of the Box Gum Grassy Woodland rehabilitation site (R30), native species richness was 36 in spring and was comparable to the Box Gum Shrubby Woodland analogue sites (36 to 53 species).

Figure 2 presents the percentage of species within rehabilitation areas that are typical of the target vegetation community. Plant Community Types (PCTs) that matched the general associations of Box Gum Shrubby Woodland, Sedimentary Ironbark Forest and Box Gum Grassy Woodlands were compiled during the development of the RMP completion criteria, and a typical species list was collated from these using the PCT profiles in BioNet Vegetation Classification.

Nine (9) out of 11 Box Gum Shrubby Woodland sites have achieved this criterion in at least one season. The proportion of the woody stratum species typical of the target community (canopy and mid-storey species), which is most important in characterisation of vegetation community types, was 80% at site R24 and 66% at site R25. These sites are therefore considered to be representative of or trending towards the target community and further management is not considered necessary.

Seven (7) out of 11 Sedimentary Ironbark Forest sites have achieved this criterion in at least one season. The proportion of the woody stratum species typical of the target community 80% at R13, 71% at R16, 71% at R17 and 78% at R28. These sites are therefore considered to be representative of or trending towards the target community and further management is not considered necessary.

The Box Gum Grassy Woodland site (R30) has achieved this criterion

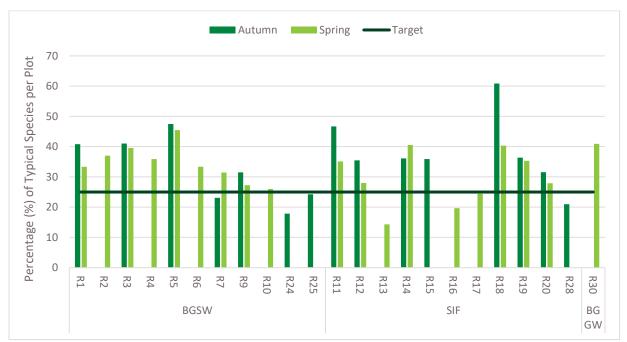


Figure 2: Percentage of species within rehabilitation areas that are typical of the target vegetation community, Box Gum Shrubby Woodland (BSGW), Sedimentary Ironbark Forest (SIF) and Box Gum Grassy Woodland (BGGW)

Habitat Complexity

Habitat complexity was undertaken at all EFA monitoring sites using the scoring system provided in **Table 2.** This scoring system is applied to both EFA and analogue sites. Habitat complexity scores across 2022 monitoring compared to the analogue results are provided in **Figure 4.**

Structure	Attributes and score				
	0	1	2	3	
Tree canopy (%)	0	<30	30-70	>70	
Shrub canopy (%)	0	<30	30-70	>70	
Ground herbage	Sparse <0.5 m	Sparse >0.5 m	Dense <0.5 m	Dense >0.5 m	
Logs, rocks, debris, etc (%)	0	<30	30-70	>70	
Soil moisture	Dry	Moist	Permanent water adjacent	Water-logged	

Table 2: Habitat complexity scoring system

Most sites recorded a complexity score of 4 which is equal to or greater than the minimum score recorded at analogue sites within both target vegetation communities, and have recorded the same or increased habitat complexity scores compared to previous monitoring. The two sites which recorded lower values in 2022 were R20 and R29 which is due to the lower canopy, mid-storey and ground covers recorded at the site.



Figure 3: Habitat complexity scores recorded for rehabilitation sites in 2022 compared to analogue sites (BGSW = Box Gum Shrubby Woodland, SIF = Sedimentary Ironbark Forest and BGGW = Box Gum Grassy Woodland)

Fauna Monitoring

A total of 58 fauna species were recorded across all rehabilitation sites monitored in spring 2022. This included two (2) amphibian species, one (1) reptile, 47 bird species and nine (9) microbat species. Five (5) of the species observed are listed as vulnerable under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act), being:

- Speckled Warbler (Chthonicola sagittata)
- Little Eagle (*Hieraaetus morphnoides*)
- Large-eared Pied Bat (Chalinolobus dwyeri)
- Large Bent-winged Bat (Miniopterus orianae oceanensis)
- Yellow-bellied Sheath-tailed Bat (Saccolaimus flaviventris).

The Large-eared Pied Bat is also listed as vulnerable under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

A further two (2) threatened microbat species were potentially⁴ recorded during 2022 monitoring:

- Eastern Cave Bat (Vespadelus troughtoni), which is listed as vulnerable under the BC Act, and
- Corben's Long-eared Bat (*Nyctophilus corbeni*), which is listed as vulnerable under the BC Act and the EPBC Act.

Visual Monitoring

Visual transect monitoring results from 2022 were largely consistent with previous years. The majority of transects recorded an overall rating of 'Good' for vegetation structure composition, soil compaction, microhabitat features and disturbance factors. 'Poor' scores were recorded for two transects (one in OC1,

³ The calls of *Nyctophilus* spp. cannot be used to identify individual species within this genus. Similarly, in this part of NSW, the calls of the Eastern Cave Bat overlap with those of other more common *Vespadelus* spp. which also occur in the area. Consequently, both species were labelled as being potentially present only.

one in OC4) for active erosion and exotic species. The land stability issues and weed occurrence is likely due to the high rainfall experienced in the months preceding the monitoring.

Assessment of Rehabilitation Performance Indicators

Analysis of the Box Gum Woodland, Sedimentary Ironbark Forest, Box Gum Grassy Woodland, and OC2/OC3 Ecosystem and species credit sites rehabilitation against the Rehabilitation Management Plan is presented in, **Table 3**, **Table 4**, **Table 5** and **Table 6**.

Final Land Use Domain	Proposed Completion Criteria	Domain A – Box Gum Shrubby Woodland in OC1	Domain A – Box Gum Shrubby Woodland in OC4
A – Native Ecosystem	Reconstructed landforms are stable with no evidence of slumping.	Achieved. No slumping of the landform was observed (ELA 2022, ELA 2023).	Achieved. No slumping of the landform was observed (ELA 2022, ELA 2023).
	Gullies and rills occurring in monitoring transects are assessed to be limited and stabilising. 'High Threat Exotic' (HTE*) weed presence and cover is monitored regularly. Priority and HTE weeds identified through monitoring have been controlled.	Achieved. No gullies or rills were observed (ELA 2022, ELA 2023). Ongoing. HTE presence has been monitored at all sites.	Achieved. No gullies or rills were observed (ELA 2022, ELA 2023). Ongoing. HTE weed presence has been monitored at all sites.
	Vertebrate pest species presence and impacts are recorded and controlled.	Ongoing. Pest species presence and impacts were recorded (ELA 2022, ELA 2023). No unacceptable impacts were recorded in OC1.	Ongoing. Pest species presence and impacts were recorded (ELA 2022, ELA 2023).). No unacceptable impacts were recorded in OC4.
A – Native Ecosystem	Rehabilitation area at some point since seeding or final surface preparation has experienced a fire or declared drought or at least one year with annual rainfall in the first decile range and all other vegetation completion criteria have been met.	Achieved – Ongoing. All rehabilitation campaigns have experienced an intense drought.	Achieved – Ongoing. All rehabilitation campaigns have experienced an intense drought.
	Priority weeds are controlled and HTE cover is maintained at < 15%.	Achieved. HTE cover was < 15% at all sites.	Achieved. HTE cover was < 15% at all sites.
	Multiple fauna habitats are available within all rehabilitation areas.	Achieved. A range of fauna habitat was observed.	Achieved. A range of fauna habitat was observed.
	Monitoring confirms multiple native fauna species are recorded utilising rehabilitation areas.	Achieved. Multiple fauna species were recorded utilising rehabilitation areas.	Achieved. Multiple fauna species were recorded utilising rehabilitation areas.
	Stands ² of <i>Allocasuarina</i> spp have been maintained within Box Gum Shrubby Woodland / Sedimentary Ironbark Forest rehabilitation areas on OC1.	Achieved. Stands of <i>Allocasuarina</i> spp were recorded within this area.	N/A
	Revegetation areas contain flora species assemblages characteristic of or trending towards that of: Box Gum Shrubby Woodland communities ¹ / Secondary Ironbark Forest communities ³ / Box Gum Grassy Woodland ^{1^} .	Achieved. All sites have achieved > 25% typical species composition.	Achieved. The two (2) sites have achieved > 25% typical woody species composition.

 Table 3: Assessment of Domain A – Box Gum Shrubby Woodland areas against proposed completion criteria based on 2022 monitoring.

Final Land Use Domain	Proposed Completion Criteria	Domain A – Box Gum Shrubby Woodland in OC1	Domain A – Box Gum Shrubby Woodland in OC4
	Median foliage cover of the ecologically dominant layers (trees/shrubs/ground cover) and developing litter cover are within the 10th-90th percentile variation range of the Box Gum Shrubby Woodland Community / Secondary Ironbark Forest community / Box Gum Grassy Woodland Community Analogue sites.	Achieved – Ongoing. Tree and shrub cover achieved the percentile variation range in autumn and spring respectively.	Not currently achieved. Median cover values are currenltty outside the percentile variation ranges.
	Rehabilitation monitoring verifies that second generation seedlings of species characteristic of Box Gum Shrubby Woodland Communities / Secondary Ironbark Forest communities / Box Gum Grassy Woodland communities are present or likely to be, based on comparable older rehabilitation sites.	Achieved. Regeneration of characteristic species were observed at all sites within OC1.	Not currenlt y achieved. Second generation seedlings of characteristics species were not currently observed in OC4.

Table 3: Assessment of Domain A – Sedimentary Ironbark Forest areas against proposed completion criteria based on 2022 monitoring.

Final Land Use Domain	Proposed Completion Criteria	Domain A – Sedimentary Ironbark Forest in OC1	Domain A – Sedimentary Ironbark Forest in OC4
A – Native Ecosystem	Reconstructed landforms are stable with no evidence of slumping. Gullies and rills occurring in monitoring transects are assessed to be limited and stabilising.	Achieved. No slumping of the landform was observed (ELA 2022, ELA 2023). Not currently achieved. Areas of erosion were observed within this area	Achieved. No slumping of the landform was observed (ELA 2022, ELA 2023). Not currently achieved. Areas of erosion were observed within this area
	'High Threat Exotic' (HTE*) weed presence and cover is monitored regularly. Priority and HTE weeds identified through monitoring have been controlled.	(ELA 2023). Ongoing. HTE presence has been monitored at all sites.	(ELA 2023). Ongoing. HTE presence has been monitored at all sites.
	Vertebrate pest species presence and impacts are recorded and controlled.	Ongoing. Pest species presence and impacts were recorded (ELA 2022, ELA 2023). No unacceptable impacts were recorded in OC1.	Ongoing. Pest species presence and impacts were recorded (ELA 2022, ELA 2023). No unacceptable impacts were recorded in OC4.
A – Native Ecosystem	Rehabilitation area at some point since seeding or final surface	Achieved – Ongoing. All rehabilitation campaigns	Achieved – Ongoing. All rehabilitation campaigns

Final Land Use Domain Proposed Completion Criteria		Domain A –	Domain A –	
		Sedimentary Ironbark	Sedimentary Ironbark Forest	
		Forest in OC1	in OC4	
	preparation has experienced a fire	have experienced an	have experienced an intense	
	or declared drought or at least one	intense drought.	drought.	
	year with annual rainfall in the first			
	decile range and all other			
	vegetation completion criteria have			
	been met.			
	Priority weeds are controlled and	Achieved. HTE cover was <	Achieved. HTE cover was <	
	HTE cover is maintained at < 15%.	15% at all sites.	15% at all sites.	
	Multiple fauna habitats are	Achieved. A range of fauna	Achieved. A range of fauna	
	available within all rehabilitation	habitat was observed.	habitat was observed.	
	areas.			
	Monitoring confirms multiple	Achieved. Multiple fauna	Achieved. Multiple fauna	
	native fauna species are recorded	species were recorded	species were recorded	
	utilising rehabilitation areas.	utilising rehabilitation	utilising rehabilitation areas.	
		areas.		
	Stands ² of Allocasuarina spp have	Achieved. Stands of	N/A	
	been maintained within Box Gum	Allocasuarina spp were		
	Shrubby Woodland / Sedimentary	recorded within this area.		
	Ironbark Forest rehabilitation areas			
	on OC1.			
	Revegetation areas contain flora	Achieved. Six (6) out of	Achieved. One (1) of two (2)	
	species assemblages characteristic	nine (9) sites have achieved	sites have achieved this	
	of or trending towards that of:	> 25% typical species	criterion. The remaining site	
	Box Gum Shrubby Woodland	composition. The	has achieved > 25% typical	
	communities ¹ /	remaining sites have	woody species composition.	
	Secondary Ironbark Forest	achieved > 25% typical		
	communities ³ /	woody species		
	Box Gum Grassy Woodland ^{1^} .	composition.	Ashing de Oranina, Consul	
	Median foliage cover of the	Achieved – Ongoing.	Achieved – Ongoing. Ground	
	ecologically dominant layers	Ground and litter cover	and tree cover were within	
	(trees/shrubs/ground cover) and	were within the target	the target range, but shrub	
	developing litter cover are within	range, but tree and shrub	and litter cover were not.	
	the 10th-90th percentile variation range of the Box Gum Shrubby	cover were not.		
	Woodland Community /			
	Secondary Ironbark Forest			
	community /			
	Box Gum Grassy Woodland			
	Community Analogue sites.			
	Rehabilitation monitoring verifies	Achieved. Second	Achieved – Ongoing.	
	that second generation seedlings of	generation seedlings of	Regeneration of	
	species characteristic of	characteristic species were	characteristic species was	
	Box Gum Shrubby Woodland	recorded at all sites within	observed at one site within	
	Communities /	OC1.	OC4.	
	Secondary Ironbark Forest			
	communities /			
	Box Gum Grassy Woodland			
	communities are present or likely			
	to be, based on comparable older			
I				

Final Land Use	Proposed Completion Criteria	Domain A –
Domain		Box Gum Grassy Woodland in OC4
A – Native Ecosystem	Reconstructed landforms are stable with no	Achieved. No slumping of the landform was observed
	evidence of slumping.	(ELA 2022, ELA 2023).
	Gullies and rills occurring in monitoring transects are assessed to be limited and	Achieved. No gullies or rills were observed (ELA 2022,
		ELA 2023).
	stabilising. 'High Threat Exotic' (HTE*) weed presence and	Ashioused Organiza LITE processes has been
	cover is monitored regularly.	Achieved – Ongoing. HTE presence has been monitored at all sites.
	Priority and HTE weeds identified through	monitored at an sites.
	monitoring have been controlled.	
	Vertebrate pest species presence and impacts	Achieved – Ongoing. Pest species presence and
	are recorded and controlled.	impacts were recorded (ELA 2022, ELA 2023). No
		unacceptable impacts were recorded in OC4
A – Native	Rehabilitation area at some point since seeding	Achieved – Ongoing. All rehabilitation campaigns
Ecosystem	or final surface preparation has experienced a	have experienced an intense drought.
Leosystem	fire or declared drought or at least one year	
	with annual rainfall in the first decile range and	
	all other vegetation completion criteria have	
	been met.	
	Priority weeds are controlled and HTE cover is	Achieved. HTE cover was < 15% at all sites.
	maintained at < 15%.	
	Multiple fauna habitats are available within all	Achieved. A range of fauna habitat was observed.
	rehabilitation areas.	
	Monitoring confirms multiple native fauna	Achieved. Multiple fauna species were recorded
	species are recorded utilising rehabilitation	utilising rehabilitation areas.
	areas.	
	Revegetation areas contain flora species	Achieved. The site within this area achieved > 25%
	assemblages characteristic of or trending	typical species composition.
	towards that of:	
	Box Gum Shrubby Woodland communities ¹ /	
	Secondary Ironbark Forest communities ³ /	
	Box Gum Grassy Woodland ^{1^} .	
	Median foliage cover of the ecologically	Achieved – Ongoing. Shrub cover was within the
	dominant layers (trees/shrubs/ground cover)	percentile variation range. All other values did not
	and developing litter cover are within the 10th-	achieve this criterion.
	90th percentile variation range of the Box Gum	
	Shrubby Woodland Community /	
	Secondary Ironbark Forest community /	
	Box Gum Grassy Woodland Community	
	Analogue sites.	
	Rehabilitation monitoring verifies that second	Not currently achieved. Only first generation
	generation seedlings of species characteristic	seedlings of characteristics species have been
	of	observed.
	Box Gum Shrubby Woodland Communities /	
	Secondary Ironbark Forest communities /	
	Box Gum Grassy Woodland	
	communities are present or likely to be, based	
	on comparable older rehabilitation sites.	

Table 4: Assessment of Domain A – Box Gum Grassy Woodland areas against proposed completion criteria based on 2022 monitoring.

Final Land Use	Proposed Completion Criteria	Domain D –
Domain		Rehabilitation Biodiversity Offset Area in OC2
D – Rehabilitation Biodiversity Offset Area	Reconstructed landforms are stable with no evidence of slumping.	Not currently achieved. Evidence of slumping was observed at the south-eastern section of OC2 during autumn and spring (ELA 2022, ELA 2023).
	Gullies and rills occurring in monitoring transects are assessed to be limited and stabilising.	Not currently achieved. Areas of erosion were observed within this area (ELA 2023).
	'High Threat Exotic' (HTE*) weed presence and cover is monitored regularly.	Achieved – Ongoing. HTE presence has been monitored at all sites.
	Priority and HTE weeds identified through monitoring have been controlled.	
	Vertebrate pest species presence and impacts are recorded and controlled.	Achieved – Ongoing. Pest species presence and impacts were recorded (ELA 2022, ELA 2023). No unacceptable impacts were recorded in OC2.
D – Rehabilitation Biodiversity Offset Area	Native Plant Species Richness is ≥ 20.5 at year 10 post mining.	Partially achieved. Three of five sites achieved > 20 native species richness.
	≥ 15% of the total number of trees are the regionally relevant species** within koala FBA species credit areas.	Not currently achieved. No koala use trees with > 10cm DBH were recorded in plots.
	Native Over Storey Cover between 3.75 and 80% at year 10 post mining operations.*^^	Not currenlt achieved. All sites recorded < 3.75% overstorey cover.
	Native Mid-Storey Cover between 1.25 and 40% at year 10 post mining operations.	Not currently achieved. All sites recorded < 1.25% mid-storey cover.
	Native Ground Cover, Grass between 3 and 100% at year 10 post mining operations.	Achieved – Ongoing. Four of five sites achieved > 3% native grass ground cover.
	Native Ground Cover, Shrubs between 0.5 and 20% at year 10 post mining operations.	Achieved – Ongoing. One of five sites achieved > 3% native shrub ground cover.
	Native Ground Cover, Other between 2 and 80% at year 10 post mining operations.	Achieved – Ongoing. Four of five sites achieved > 2% native other ground cover.
	Total Length Fallen Logs (m) is 1.25 at year 10 post mining operations.	Achieved. All plots recorded > 1.25 m LWD.
	Exotic Plant Cover is <45% at year 10 post mining operations.	Achieved – Ongoing. Three of five sites achieved < 45% exotic plant cover.
	Overall Site Value Score (OEH, 2015) (average of plots in vegetation zone) is ≥ 13.8 at 10 years post mining operations.	Achieved – Ongoing. The overall Site Value Score for OC2 rehabilitation in 2022 is 17.7.

Table 5: Assessment of Domain D – Rehabilitation Biodiversity Offset areas against proposed completion criteria
based on 2022 monitoring.

* HTEs as per the BAM 2020

** Under the State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) (Koala Habitat Protection) 2021.

^{1.} A range of characteristic means that at least 25% of the species present in rehabilitated areas are recognised as being typical of the vegetation communities that match the Box Gum Shrubby Woodland Association (inclusive of any additional species listed in Table 16 of the RMP) ^{2.} Patches of three or more individual stems

^{3.} A range of characteristic means that at least 25% of the species present in rehabilitated areas are recognised as being typical of the vegetation communities that match the Sedimentary Ironbark Forest Association (inclusive of any additional species listed in Table 17 of the RMP)