



APPENDIX E

PMST Report



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

This report provides general guidance on matters of national environmental significance and other matters protected by the EPBC Act in the area you have selected. Please see the caveat for interpretation of information provided here.

Report created: 28-Sep-2023

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Summary

Matters of National Environment Significance

This part of the report summarises the matters of national environmental significance that may occur in, or may relate to, the area you nominated. Further information is available in the detail part of the report, which can be accessed by scrolling or following the links below. If you are proposing to undertake an activity that may have a significant impact on one or more matters of national environmental significance then you should consider the [Administrative Guidelines on Significance](#).

| | |
|---|------|
| World Heritage Properties: | None |
| National Heritage Places: | None |
| Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar) | 5 |
| Great Barrier Reef Marine Park: | None |
| Commonwealth Marine Area: | None |
| Listed Threatened Ecological Communities: | 7 |
| Listed Threatened Species: | 44 |
| Listed Migratory Species: | 10 |

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

This part of the report summarises other matters protected under the Act that may relate to the area you nominated. Approval may be required for a proposed activity that significantly affects the environment on Commonwealth land, when the action is outside the Commonwealth land, or the environment anywhere when the action is taken on Commonwealth land. Approval may also be required for the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies proposing to take an action that is likely to have a significant impact on the environment anywhere.

The EPBC Act protects the environment on Commonwealth land, the environment from the actions taken on Commonwealth land, and the environment from actions taken by Commonwealth agencies. As heritage values of a place are part of the 'environment', these aspects of the EPBC Act protect the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place. Information on the new heritage laws can be found at <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/parks-heritage/heritage>

A [permit](#) may be required for activities in or on a Commonwealth area that may affect a member of a listed threatened species or ecological community, a member of a listed migratory species, whales and other cetaceans, or a member of a listed marine species.

| | |
|---|------|
| Commonwealth Lands: | 2 |
| Commonwealth Heritage Places: | None |
| Listed Marine Species: | 18 |
| Whales and Other Cetaceans: | None |
| Critical Habitats: | None |
| Commonwealth Reserves Terrestrial: | None |
| Australian Marine Parks: | None |
| Habitat Critical to the Survival of Marine Turtles: | None |

Extra Information

This part of the report provides information that may also be relevant to the area you have

| | |
|---|------|
| State and Territory Reserves: | 3 |
| Regional Forest Agreements: | None |
| Nationally Important Wetlands: | None |
| EPBC Act Referrals: | 17 |
| Key Ecological Features (Marine): | None |
| Biologically Important Areas: | None |
| Bioregional Assessments: | 3 |
| Geological and Bioregional Assessments: | None |

Details

Matters of National Environmental Significance

Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Wetlands) [\[Resource Information \]](#)

| Ramsar Site Name | Proximity |
|---|---|
| Banrock station wetland complex | 900 - 1000km upstream from Ramsar site |
| Hunter estuary wetlands | 150 - 200km upstream from Ramsar site |
| Riverland | 800 - 900km upstream from Ramsar site |
| The coorong, and lakes alexandrina and albert wetland | 1000 - 1100km upstream from Ramsar site |
| The macquarie marshes | 200 - 300km upstream from Ramsar site |

Listed Threatened Ecological Communities [\[Resource Information \]](#)

For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are derived from recovery plans, State vegetation maps, remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.

Status of Vulnerable, Disallowed and Ineligible are not MNES under the EPBC Act.

| Community Name | Threatened Category | Presence Text |
|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Central Hunter Valley eucalypt forest and woodland | Critically Endangered | Community may occur within area |
| Coolibah - Black Box Woodlands of the Darling Riverine Plains and the Brigalow Belt South Bioregions | Endangered | Community likely to occur within area |
| Grey Box (<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>) Grassy Woodlands and Derived Native Grasslands of South-eastern Australia | Endangered | Community likely to occur within area |
| Natural grasslands on basalt and fine-textured alluvial plains of northern New South Wales and southern Queensland | Critically Endangered | Community may occur within area |
| Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains | Endangered | Community may occur within area |

| Community Name | Threatened Category | Presence Text |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Weeping Myall Woodlands | Endangered | Community may occur within area |
| White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland | Critically Endangered | Community likely to occur within area |

Listed Threatened Species [\[Resource Information \]](#)

Status of Conservation Dependent and Extinct are not MNES under the EPBC Act.
Number is the current name ID.

| Scientific Name | Threatened Category | Presence Text |
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|
|-----------------|---------------------|---------------|

BIRD

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| Anthochaera phrygia Regent Honeyeater [82338] | Critically Endangered | Foraging, feeding or related behaviour likely to occur within area |
| Aphelocephala leucopsis Southern Whiteface [529] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |
| Botaurus poiciloptilus Australasian Bittern [1001] | Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper [856] | Critically Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Callocephalon fimbriatum Gang-gang Cockatoo [768] | Endangered | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo [67036] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Climacteris picumnus victoriae Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern) [67062] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Falco hypoleucos Grey Falcon [929] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |

| Scientific Name | Threatened Category | Presence Text |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| Grantiella picta Painted Honeyeater [470] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Hirundapus caudacutus White-throated Needletail [682] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Lathamus discolor Swift Parrot [744] | Critically Endangered | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |
| Leipoa ocellata Malleefowl [934] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |
| Melanodryas cucullata cucullata South-eastern Hooded Robin, Hooded Robin (south-eastern) [67093] | Endangered | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Neophema chrysostoma Blue-winged Parrot [726] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Pedionomus torquatus Plains-wanderer [906] | Critically Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Polytelis swainsonii Superb Parrot [738] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |
| Pycnoptilus floccosus Pilotbird [525] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Rostratula australis Australian Painted Snipe [77037] | Endangered | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |
| Stagonopleura guttata Diamond Firetail [59398] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |

FISH

| Scientific Name | Threatened Category | Presence Text |
|---|-----------------------|---|
| Galaxias rostratus Flathead Galaxias, Beaked Minnow, Flat-headed Galaxias, Flat-headed Jollytail, Flat-headed Minnow [84745] | Critically Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Maccullochella macquariensis Trout Cod [26171] | Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Maccullochella peelii Murray Cod [66633] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Macquaria australasica Macquarie Perch [66632] | Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| MAMMAL | | |
| Chalinolobus dwyeri Large-eared Pied Bat, Large Pied Bat [183] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Dasyurus maculatus maculatus (SE mainland population) Spot-tailed Quoll, Spotted-tail Quoll, Tiger Quoll (southeastern mainland population) [75184] | Endangered | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Nyctophilus corbeni Corben's Long-eared Bat, South-eastern Long-eared Bat [83395] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Petauroides volans Greater Glider (southern and central) [254] | Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Phascolarctos cinereus (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT) Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory) [85104] | Endangered | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Pseudomys novaehollandiae New Holland Mouse, Pookila [96] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat may occur within area |

| Scientific Name | Threatened Category | Presence Text |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| Pteropus poliocephalus Grey-headed Flying-fox [186] | Vulnerable | Foraging, feeding or related behaviour may occur within area |
| PLANT | | |
| Androcalva procumbens [87153] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Bertya mollissima [18382] | Endangered | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |
| Dichanthium setosum bluegrass [14159] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |
| Euphrasia arguta [4325] | Critically Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Homoranthus darwinioides [12974] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |
| Lepidium aschersonii Spiny Peppercross [10976] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Ozothamnus tessellatus [56203] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Prasophyllum sp. Wybong (C.Phelps ORG 5269) a leek-orchid [81964] | Critically Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Swainsona murrayana Slender Darling-pea, Slender Swainson, Murray Swainson-pea [6765] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Swainsona recta Small Purple-pea, Mountain Swainson-pea, Small Purple Pea [7580] | Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area |

| Scientific Name | Threatened Category | Presence Text |
|---|---------------------|--|
| Thesium australe Austral Toadflax, Toadflax [15202] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |
| Vincetoxicum forsteri listed as Tylophora linearis [92384] | Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| REPTILE | | |
| Aprasia parapulchella Pink-tailed Worm-lizard, Pink-tailed Legless Lizard [1665] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |
| Delma impar Striped Legless Lizard, Striped Snake-lizard [1649] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |
| Listed Migratory Species [Resource Information] | | |
| Scientific Name | Threatened Category | Presence Text |
| Migratory Marine Birds | | |
| Apus pacificus Fork-tailed Swift [678] | | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |
| Migratory Terrestrial Species | | |
| Hirundapus caudacutus White-throated Needletail [682] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Motacilla flava Yellow Wagtail [644] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Myiagra cyanoleuca Satin Flycatcher [612] | | Species or species habitat known to occur within area |
| Rhipidura rufifrons Rufous Fantail [592] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Migratory Wetlands Species | | |
| Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area |

| Scientific Name | Threatened Category | Presence Text |
|--|-----------------------|--|
| Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper [856] | Critically Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Gallinago hardwickii Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863] | | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area |

Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

Commonwealth Lands [\[Resource Information \]](#)

The Commonwealth area listed below may indicate the presence of Commonwealth land in this vicinity. Due to the unreliability of the data source, all proposals should be checked as to whether it impacts on a Commonwealth area, before making a definitive decision. Contact the State or Territory government land department for further information.

| Commonwealth Land Name | State |
|---|-------|
| Communications, Information Technology and the Arts - Telstra Corporation Limited Commonwealth Land - Australian Telecommunications Commission [15447] | NSW |
| Commonwealth Land - Telstra Corporation Limited [13283] | NSW |

Listed Marine Species [\[Resource Information \]](#)

| Scientific Name | Threatened Category | Presence Text |
|--|---------------------|--|
| Bird | | |
| Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper [59309] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Apus pacificus Fork-tailed Swift [678] | | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area |

| Scientific Name | Threatened Category | Presence Text |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| Bubulcus ibis as Ardea ibis Cattle Egret [66521] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area |
| Calidris acuminata Sharp-tailed Sandpiper [874] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Calidris ferruginea Curlew Sandpiper [856] | Critically Endangered | Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area |
| Calidris melanotos Pectoral Sandpiper [858] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area |
| Chalcites osculans as Chrysococcyx osculans Black-eared Cuckoo [83425] | | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area |
| Gallinago hardwickii Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe [863] | | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area |
| Haliaeetus leucogaster White-bellied Sea-Eagle [943] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Hirundapus caudacutus White-throated Needletail [682] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area |
| Lathamus discolor Swift Parrot [744] | Critically Endangered | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area |
| Merops ornatus Rainbow Bee-eater [670] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area |

| Scientific Name | Threatened Category | Presence Text |
|--|---------------------|--|
| Motacilla flava Yellow Wagtail [644] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area |
| Myiagra cyanoleuca Satin Flycatcher [612] | | Species or species habitat known to occur within area overfly marine area |
| Neophema chrysostoma Blue-winged Parrot [726] | Vulnerable | Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area |
| Pterodroma cervicalis White-necked Petrel [59642] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area |
| Rhipidura rufifrons Rufous Fantail [592] | | Species or species habitat may occur within area overfly marine area |
| Rostratula australis as Rostratula benghalensis (sensu lato) Australian Painted Snipe [77037] | Endangered | Species or species habitat likely to occur within area overfly marine area |

Extra Information

| State and Territory Reserves | | | [Resource Information] |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|--|
| Protected Area Name | Reserve Type | State | |
| Coolah Tops | National Park | NSW | |
| Durridgere | CCA Zone 3 State Conservation Area | NSW | |
| Goulburn River | State Conservation Area NSW | | |

| EPBC Act Referrals | | | | [Resource Information] |
|---|------------|------------------|-------------------|--|
| Title of referral | Reference | Referral Outcome | Assessment Status | |
| Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Transmission Project | 2022/09353 | | Assessment | |

| Title of referral | Reference | Referral Outcome | Assessment Status |
|--|------------|---|---------------------|
| Liverpool Range Wind Farm Project | 2022/09416 | | Assessment |
| Controlled action | | | |
| Bowdens Silver Project, 26km south-east of Mudgee, NSW | 2018/8372 | Controlled Action | Assessment Approach |
| Continued Mining Operations and Construction of Associated Infrastructure | 2009/5252 | Controlled Action | Post-Approval |
| Gas Transmission Pipeline | 2011/5917 | Controlled Action | Completed |
| Liverpool Range Wind Farm (btwn Coolah & Cassilis), NSW | 2014/7136 | Controlled Action | Post-Approval |
| Moolarben Coal Mine Project | 2007/3297 | Controlled Action | Post-Approval |
| Moolarben Coal Operations Open Cut Optimisation Modification | 2017/7974 | Controlled Action | Post-Approval |
| Narrabri to Wellington gas transmission pipeline | 2011/5913 | Controlled Action | Completed |
| Open Cut Mine and Two Underground Mines | 2008/4444 | Controlled Action | Post-Approval |
| Valley of the Winds wind farm | 2020/8668 | Controlled Action | Assessment Approach |
| Wollar to Wellington 330kV Transmission Line Project | 2005/2202 | Controlled Action | Post-Approval |
| Not controlled action | | | |
| Improving rabbit biocontrol: releasing another strain of RHDV, sthrn two thirds of Australia | 2015/7522 | Not Controlled Action | Completed |
| Modification 4 Longwall Optimisation Project | 2018/8337 | Not Controlled Action | Completed |
| Moolarben UG4 Ancillary Works Modification | 2019/8580 | Not Controlled Action | Completed |
| Wilpinjong Coal Mine | 2005/2309 | Not Controlled Action | Completed |
| Not controlled action (particular manner) | | | |
| Aerial baiting for wild dog control | 2006/2713 | Not Controlled Action (Particular Manner) | Post-Approval |

Bioregional Assessments

| SubRegion | BioRegion | Website |
|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Hunter | Northern Sydney Basin | BA website |
| Central West | Northern Inland Catchments | BA website |
| Namoi | Northern Inland Catchments | BA website |

Caveat

1 PURPOSE

This report is designed to assist in identifying the location of matters of national environmental significance (MNES) and other matters protected by the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) which may be relevant in determining obligations and requirements under the EPBC Act.

The report contains the mapped locations of:

- World and National Heritage properties;
- Wetlands of International and National Importance;
- Commonwealth and State/Territory reserves;
- distribution of listed threatened, migratory and marine species;
- listed threatened ecological communities; and
- other information that may be useful as an indicator of potential habitat value.

2 DISCLAIMER

This report is not intended to be exhaustive and should only be relied upon as a general guide as mapped data is not available for all species or ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act (see below). Persons seeking to use the information contained in this report to inform the referral of a proposed action under the EPBC Act should consider the limitations noted below and whether additional information is required to determine the existence and location of MNES and other protected matters.

Where data are available to inform the mapping of protected species, the presence type (e.g. known, likely or may occur) that can be determined from the data is indicated in general terms. It is the responsibility of any person using or relying on the information in this report to ensure that it is suitable for the circumstances of any proposed use. The Commonwealth cannot accept responsibility for the consequences of any use of the report or any part thereof. To the maximum extent allowed under governing law, the Commonwealth will not be liable for any loss or damage that may be occasioned directly or indirectly through the use of, or reliance

3 DATA SOURCES

Threatened ecological communities

For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are generated based on information contained in recovery plans, State vegetation maps and remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.

Threatened, migratory and marine species

Threatened, migratory and marine species distributions have been discerned through a variety of methods. Where distributions are well known and if time permits, distributions are inferred from either thematic spatial data (i.e. vegetation, soils, geology, elevation, aspect, terrain, etc.) together with point locations and described habitat; or modelled (MAXENT or BIOCLIM habitat modelling) using

Where little information is available for a species or large number of maps are required in a short time-frame, maps are derived either from 0.04 or 0.02 decimal degree cells; by an automated process using polygon capture techniques (static two kilometre grid cells, alpha-hull and convex hull); or captured manually or by using topographic features (national park boundaries, islands, etc.).

In the early stages of the distribution mapping process (1999-early 2000s) distributions were defined by degree blocks, 100K or 250K map sheets to rapidly create distribution maps. More detailed distribution mapping methods are used to update these distributions

4 LIMITATIONS

The following species and ecological communities have not been mapped and do not appear in this report:

- threatened species listed as extinct or considered vagrants;
- some recently listed species and ecological communities;
- some listed migratory and listed marine species, which are not listed as threatened species; and
- migratory species that are very widespread, vagrant, or only occur in Australia in small numbers.

The following groups have been mapped, but may not cover the complete distribution of the species:

- listed migratory and/or listed marine seabirds, which are not listed as threatened, have only been mapped for recorded
- seals which have only been mapped for breeding sites near the Australian continent

The breeding sites may be important for the protection of the Commonwealth Marine environment.

Refer to the metadata for the feature group (using the Resource Information link) for the currency of the information.

Acknowledgements

This database has been compiled from a range of data sources. The department acknowledges the following custodians who have contributed valuable data and advice:

- [-Office of Environment and Heritage, New South Wales](#)
- [-Department of Environment and Primary Industries, Victoria](#)
- [-Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tasmania](#)
- [-Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, South Australia](#)
- [-Department of Land and Resource Management, Northern Territory](#)
- [-Department of Environmental and Heritage Protection, Queensland](#)
- [-Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia](#)
- [-Environment and Planning Directorate, ACT](#)
- [-Birdlife Australia](#)
- [-Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme](#)
- [-Australian National Wildlife Collection](#)
- Natural history museums of Australia
- [-Museum Victoria](#)
- [-Australian Museum](#)
- [-South Australian Museum](#)
- [-Queensland Museum](#)
- [-Online Zoological Collections of Australian Museums](#)
- [-Queensland Herbarium](#)
- [-National Herbarium of NSW](#)
- [-Royal Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium of Victoria](#)
- [-Tasmanian Herbarium](#)
- [-State Herbarium of South Australia](#)
- [-Northern Territory Herbarium](#)
- [-Western Australian Herbarium](#)
- [-Australian National Herbarium, Canberra](#)
- [-University of New England](#)
- [-Ocean Biogeographic Information System](#)
- [-Australian Government, Department of Defence](#)
- [Forestry Corporation, NSW](#)
- [-Geoscience Australia](#)
- [-CSIRO](#)
- [-Australian Tropical Herbarium, Cairns](#)
- [-eBird Australia](#)
- [-Australian Government – Australian Antarctic Data Centre](#)
- [-Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory](#)
- [-Australian Government National Environmental Science Program](#)
- [-Australian Institute of Marine Science](#)
- [-Reef Life Survey Australia](#)
- [-American Museum of Natural History](#)
- [-Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Inveresk, Tasmania](#)
- [-Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania](#)
- Other groups and individuals

The Department is extremely grateful to the many organisations and individuals who provided expert advice and information on numerous draft distributions.

Please feel free to provide feedback via the [Contact us](#) page.

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