NVCP Amendment Supporting Document

Narrogin Wind Farm – Port to Site

Final

May 2026

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Prepared by
Umwelt (Australia) Pty Limited

On behalf of
Neoen Australia Pty Ltd

Project Director: Rob Karelse
Project Manager: Cormac Collins
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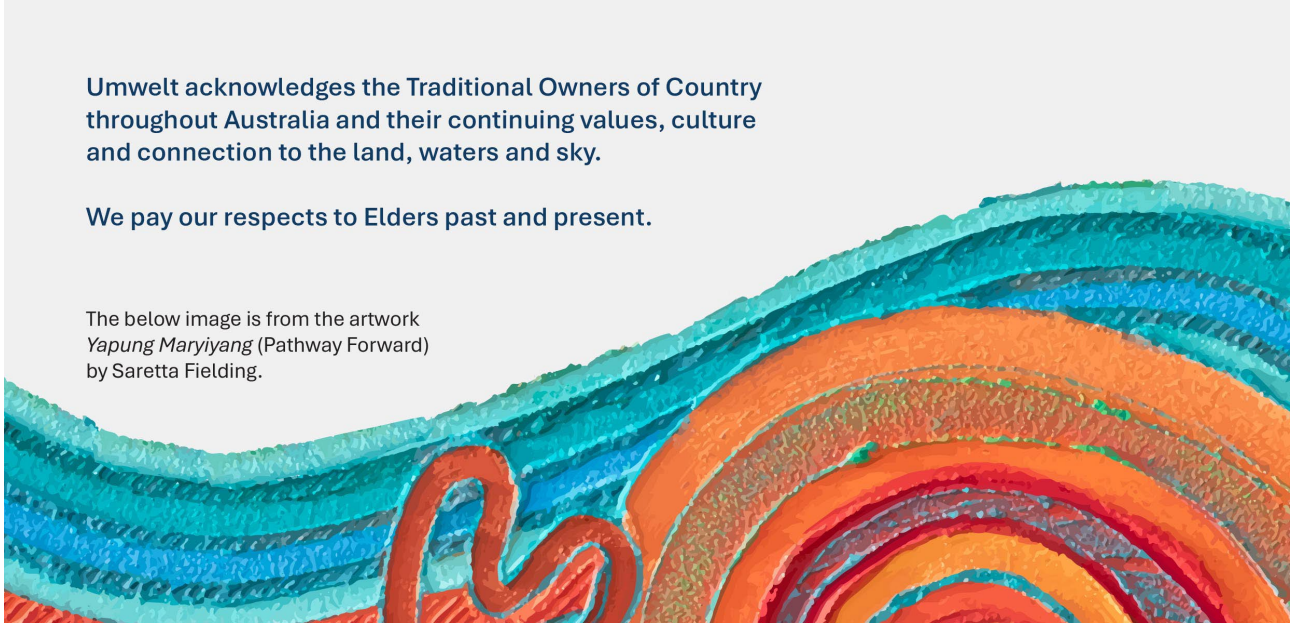
Acknowledgement of Country



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Document Status

Rev No.	Reviewer Name	Date	Approved for Issue Name	Date
V1	Cormac Collins	26/05/2026	Cormac Collins	26/05/2026
V2	Rob Karelse	27/05/2026	Cormac Collins	27/05/2026

Executive Summary

This report has been provided to support the application to amend Native Vegetation Clearing Permit (NVCP) CPS 11331/2 (the Amendment), to facilitate the construction of the Narrogin Wind Farm (the Project). The Amendment will add an additional four patches of land containing native vegetation (totalling 0.031 ha) to the existing Purpose Permit area.

The additional land is being added to the Purpose Permit area to facilitate the transport of wind turbine blades from the Port of Bunbury to the Narrogin Wind Farm project site. This additional land and associated native vegetation clearing is required at the intersection of Raymond Road and South-west Highway, and for the purposes of this report this native vegetation clearing is referred to as the Proposal.

Despite the additional land being added, total native vegetation clearing shall not exceed the 7.61 ha limit permitted in the existing permit.

The Proposal has a maximum clearing extent of 0.031 ha of native vegetation. It is wholly comprised of native vegetation that has regenerated within the road reserve. Approximately 0.012 ha (~39%) of the Proposal is currently approved under a separate permit (CPS 11076/1; Site B).

A Desktop and Reconnaissance flora, vegetation and terrestrial fauna survey was undertaken to support the Proposal, with the field survey conducted during a single visit to the Survey Area (**Section 1.4** and **Figure 1.1**) on the 31 March 2026: *Narrogin Wind Farm – Port to Site Ecology Assessment* (Umwelt, 2026).

No significant residual impacts to ecological or environmental values are likely to result from the proposed clearing work. A summary of findings is presented below.

Findings from the field survey included:

- **Significant flora** – the Desktop assessment had confirmed 42 significant flora taxa within the 5 km desktop study area; none were recorded during the field survey (**Section 4.1.1**).
- **Vegetation**
    - **Vegetation System Associations** – one Vegetation System Association (VSA), Pinjarra_968, occurs in the Amendment Area and has less than 10% of pre-European extent remaining in the bioregion (**Section 4.1.2.1**).
    - **Significant Vegetation** – no State or Commonwealth recognised ecological communities were recorded (**Section 4.1.2.3**).
    - **Vegetation Condition** – All vegetation recorded during the field survey was deemed 'Completely Degraded' (**Section 4.1.2.4**).
- **Terrestrial Fauna**
    - **Terrestrial Fauna Habitats** – while the vegetation proposed to be cleared may provide habitat for non-listed species of birds and lizards, no evidence of listed taxa was recorded (**Section 4.2.1**).

- **Black Cockatoo Assessment** – The vegetation of the Proposal may provide habitat for Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*), Baudin's Black Cockatoo (*Zanda baudinii*) and Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (*Zanda latirostris*). However, no black cockatoos were recorded by direct observation or secondary evidence during the 2026 survey. A total of nine trees that met the criteria for potential nest-trees were recorded. None of these trees contained hollows and therefore were assessed as Bamford Rank 5 (suitable size diameter at breast height [DBH], but with no hollows present) (**Section 4.3.2**). Overall, the Survey Area has been ranked a weighted foraging Habitat Quality Score (HQS) of 1 out of 10 (negligible) for all three black cockatoo taxa (**Section 4.3.3**), with no evidence of night-roosting present (**Section 4.3.4**).

A separate Desktop Assessment was undertaken to analyse impacts to hydrology (**Section 4.4**) and soils (**Section 4.5**). The Proposal is not likely to result in significant residual impacts to either value.

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Figures

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1.0 Introduction

The following report is being provided as the primary supporting document to the application to amend Native Vegetation Clearing Permit (NVCP) CPS 11331/2 (the Amendment) to add four patches of land containing native vegetation to the Purpose Permit area.

The additional land is being added to the Purpose Permit area to facilitate the transport of wind turbine blades from the Port of Bunbury to the Narrogin Wind Farm project site. This additional land and associated native vegetation clearing is required at the intersection of Raymond Road and South-west Highway, and for the purposes of this report this native vegetation clearing is referred to as the Proposal.

Despite the additional land being added, total native vegetation clearing shall not exceed the 7.61 ha limit permitted in the existing permit.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to support the Amendment application by summarising the residual impacts associated with the Proposal and by providing an assessment against the Clearing Principles for native vegetation under Part V of the *Environment Protection Act 1986* (EP Act), henceforth referred to as the 'Clearing Principles'.

This approach aims to provide assessors with the key information used to support self-assessment against the Clearing Principles. Information used to undertake the assessment can be found in **Section 2.0**.

The report also contains a summary of how the mitigation hierarchy has been considered to reduce the potential impacts of the Proposal (**Section 3.0**).

1.2 Scope

The Proposal has a maximum clearing extent of 0.031 ha of native vegetation. It is wholly comprised of native vegetation that has regenerated within the road reserve. A further 0.023 ha of planted non-native vegetation may also be cleared, however this clearing is exempt from requiring a NVCP under section 51A of the EP Act as it is non-native vegetation. The combined area of native vegetation and planted non-native vegetation that may be cleared is illustrated in Figure 1.1.

Approximately 0.012 ha (~39%) of the Proposal is currently approved under CPS 11076/1(Site B). This permit is also for the transportation of wind turbine components for a different project from the Port of Bunbury and is valid until 30 November 2030.

1.3 Legislative Context

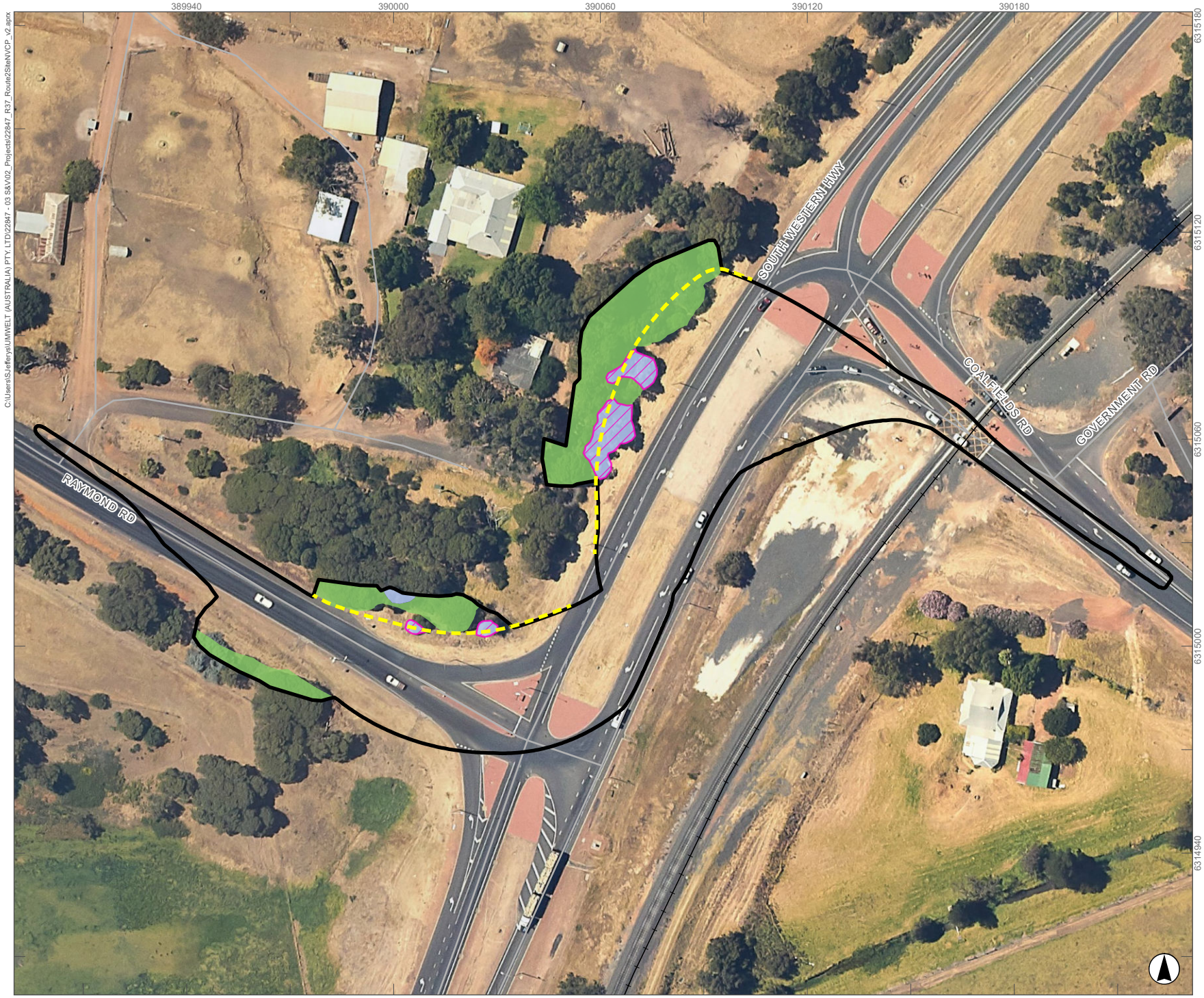
Due to the minor scale and location of proposed clearing, it is expected that all activities shall be regulated under Part V Division 2 of the EP Act.

1.4 Assessment Areas

This document considers the following areas for assessment against the Clearing Principles and is shown in **Figure 1.1**:

- **Survey Area:** is equivalent to the 'Eastern Survey Area' of the Reconnaissance flora, vegetation and terrestrial fauna survey area (Umwelt, 2026) and is associated with the intersections of Raymond Road and South-west Highway and Coalfields Road. This area is approximately 1.152 ha.
- **Amendment Area:** refers to the area of native vegetation that may be cleared for the Proposal. Impact assessments within this document are based on the entire Amendment Area being cleared which totals 0.031 ha.
- **Indicative Clearing Extent:** refers to the combined area of native vegetation and planted non-native vegetation that may be cleared for the delivery of turbine blades to site. This area totals 0.054 ha and is subject to minor changes.

FIGURE 1.1
Assessment Areas



Legend

- Survey Area
- Amendment Area
- Indicative Clearing Extent
- Planted Vegetation
- Native Vegetation
- Road
- Railway

0 30 60 m

Scale 1:1,500 at A4
GDA2020 MGA Zone 50

Image Source: Landgate (2024) | **Data Source:** Landgate (2022, 2026), Umwelt (2026), Neoen (2026)

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2.0 Supporting Studies

A Reconnaissance flora, vegetation and terrestrial fauna survey was undertaken during a single visit to the Survey Area on the 31 March 2026: *Narrogin Wind Farm – Port to Site Ecology Assessment* (Umwelt, 2026). The aim of the survey was to define the flora, vegetation type/condition and ecological communities, as well as potential terrestrial fauna habitat of the Survey Area. This included an assessment of nesting, breeding and foraging habitat values for the Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo and Carnaby's Black Cockatoo. Survey methodology was consistent with the following guidance:

- *Technical Guidance – Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment* (EPA, 2016b).
- *Environmental Factor Guideline – Flora and Vegetation* (EPA, 2016a).
- *EPBC Referral Guidelines for 3 threatened black cockatoo species: Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (endangered) Calyptorhynchus latirostris, Baudin's Black Cockatoo (vulnerable) Calyptorhynchus baudinii, and Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (vulnerable) Calyptorhynchus banksii naso* (DAWE, 2022).

A desktop component was undertaken prior to fieldwork to identify any listed flora, ecological communities or fauna known at the Survey Area.

3.0 Mitigation Hierarchy

This section provides a summary for mitigation hierarchy considerations identified for the proposed clearing and directly addresses Part 4 of the Amendment application form. Further considerations for avoidance and mitigation may be determined as the Proposal proceeds through detailed design.

3.1.1 Avoidance Details

The following considerations have been identified to **avoid** potential impacts:

- The transport route from the Port of Bunbury to the Narrogin Wind Farm project site was changed to follow the same route as the King Rocks Wind Farm (CPS 11076/1: Site B) that is entering construction, to avoid additional clearing.
- Road modifications are also required at the intersection of Forrest Highway and Raymond Road for the delivery of turbine blades to site. This intersection was also surveyed on 31 March 2026, and based on the original road modification design, it was determined that the vegetation required to be cleared is primarily native. As a result of this, road modifications at this intersection were redesigned to avoid clearing native vegetation. Ground disturbance will now be restricted to the previously cleared median strip.

3.1.2 Mitigation Details

To **minimise** potential impacts, the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) procedures developed for the Narrogin Wind Farm project site will be applied to the management of the Proposal, where relevant. This will minimise unnecessary native vegetation clearing, prevent the spread of weeds, reduce generation of dust, mitigate and manage erosion and sedimentation, as well as potential bushfire impacts.

4.0 Residual Impacts to Ecological Values

This section summarises the predicted residual impacts to ecological values that are likely to remain after the application of the mitigation hierarchy to the Proposal.

This information shall be utilised for the assessment against the Clearing Principles, presented in **Section 5.0**.

4.1 Flora and Vegetation

4.1.1 Significant Flora

Residual impacts to significant flora are considered unlikely, as a result of the Proposal.

The Desktop assessment had confirmed 42 significant flora taxa within the 5 km desktop study area however, none were recorded during the field survey. A full list of species is provided in Section 5.1 of *Narrogin Wind Farm – Port to Site Ecology Assessment* (Umwelt, 2026).

While the fieldwork was not conducted within the flowering period of significant flora taxa of the Swan Coastal Plain (SCP) bioregion (Spring), this was not considered a limitation due to the Completely Degraded nature of the vegetation within the Amendment Area (Umwelt, 2026).

4.1.2 Vegetation

The Proposal is not considered likely to have a significant impact on the representation of vegetation in the region.

4.1.2.1 Vegetation System Associations

Comparison with Statewide Vegetation Statistics (Department of Primary Industry, Resources and Development [DPIRD, 2019]) indicates one Vegetation System Association (VSA), Pinjara_968, occurs in the Amendment Area and has less than 10% of pre-European extent remaining statewide (refer **Table 4.1**).

The proportion of the VSA affected by native vegetation clearing associated with the Proposal is less than 0.0003%. Therefore, the direct impact of the Proposal does not materially reduce the extent or distribution within the bioregion.

Table 4.1 Vegetation System Associations (VSAs) within the Perth IBRA Subregion

Vegetation System Association (VSA)	Current Extent (ha)	Pre-European Extent Remaining (%)	Current Extent Protected for Conservation (%)	Total area of native vegetation in the Amendment Area (ha)
Pinjara_968	8,996.33	6.61	1.19	0.031

4.1.2.2 Native Vegetation Types

Three Vegetation Types (VTs) were present within the Amendment Area (Umwelt, 2026) and are described as:

- **VT1** – Mid isolated trees to open woodland of *Corymbia calophylla* and/or *Eucalyptus marginata* and/or *Allocasuarina fraseriana* occasionally over tall, isolated shrubs of *Agonis flexuosa* over low tussock grassland of pasture weeds.
- **PL** – Planted trees, exotic in nature.
- **CL** – Areas completely cleared of vegetation, including roads and infrastructure.

Agons flexuosa was only identified at the intersection of Forrest Highway and Raymond Road and was not found within the Amendment Area.

4.1.2.3 Significant Vegetation

No State recognised Threatened Ecological Communities (TECs) or Priority Ecological Communities (PECs), as defined by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction (DBCA) or listed under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (BC Act), respectively, were identified within the Amendment Area (Umwelt, 2026).

No Commonwealth recognised TECs, as listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act), were identified within the Amendment Area (Umwelt, 2026).

4.1.2.4 Vegetation Condition

The Amendment Area has been highly modified since European settlement, as a result of the long history of infrastructural activities and other development, and is no longer considered to be intact remnant vegetation. The vegetation condition of the Amendment Area has been mapped entirely as 'Completely Degraded' (Umwelt, 2026).

4.2 Terrestrial Fauna

4.2.1 Terrestrial Fauna Habitats

While the vegetation of the Amendment Area may provide shelter and foraging habitat for non-listed species of birds and lizards, the Proposal is not likely to have a significant impact on fauna habitat.

The field survey was conducted in a seasonal period when all expected conservation significant vertebrate fauna taxa are most likely to be present in the region; no evidence of these taxa were recorded in the Survey Area (Umwelt, 2026).

4.3 Black Cockatoo Assessment

The vegetation of the Proposal may provide opportunistic habitat for Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*), Baudin's Black Cockatoo (*Zanda baudinii*) and Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (*Zanda latirostris*). However, the Proposal is not likely to have a significant impact on black cockatoo habitat. Assessment of specific habitat use is described in the below sections.

4.3.1 Presence

The Survey Area is within the known distribution of all three listed black cockatoo taxa (DAWE, 2022; DCCEEW, 2026b, 2026c, 2026a). However, no black cockatoos were recorded by direct observation during the 2026 survey (Umwelt, 2026).

4.3.2 Breeding

A total of nine trees that met the criteria for potential nest-trees were recorded within the Survey Area, and two within the Amendment Area, during the 2026 survey (Umwelt, 2026). None of these trees contained hollows and therefore were assessed as Bamford Rank 5 (suitable size diameter at breast height [DBH], but with no hollows present). These trees were recorded in both VT1 and PL. The potential nest-trees within the Survey Area are presented on **Figure 4.1**, and a full list, including location and tree species is presented in Appendix F of *Narrogin Wind Farm – Port to Site Ecology Assessment* (Umwelt, 2026).

Clearing is not likely to significantly impact black cockatoo breeding habitat.

4.3.3 Foraging

A foraging assessment for the Survey Area, based on Bamford's (2020) foraging value assessment criteria, concluded:

- The regenerated vegetation of the Amendment Area provides negligible foraging value (1 out of 10) for all three Black Cockatoo taxa (see Table 5.8 and Table 5.9 of *Narrogin Wind Farm – Port to Site Ecology Assessment* [Umwelt, 2026]);
- The planted (PL) vegetation provides moderate foraging value (5 out of 10) to Carnaby's Black Cockatoo, due to the presence of *Grevillea robusta, a known forage taxon of Carnaby's Black Cockatoo.
- Overall, the Survey Area has been ranked a weighted foraging HQS of 1 out of 10 (negligible) for all three Black Cockatoo taxa.

The Bamford foraging HQS for Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo and Baudin's Black Cockatoo within the Survey Area is presented in **Figure 4.2**, and Carnaby's Black Cockatoo is presented on **Figure 4.3**. A summary of the areas of each foraging HQS category across the Survey Area is presented in Table 5.8 and a breakdown of the foraging HQS by VT and a weighted overall site foraging HQS for the Survey Area, and for each black cockatoo taxon is provided in Table 5.9 of *Narrogin Wind Farm – Port to Site Ecology Assessment* (Umwelt, 2026).

Clearing is not likely to significantly impact black cockatoo foraging habitat.

4.3.4 Night Roosting

No evidence of black cockatoo night-roosting within the Survey Area was noted during the 2026 field survey, however it is possible that black cockatoos could utilise the taller trees in both VT1 and PL to roost (Umwelt, 2026).

Clearing is not likely to significantly impact black cockatoo roosting habitat.

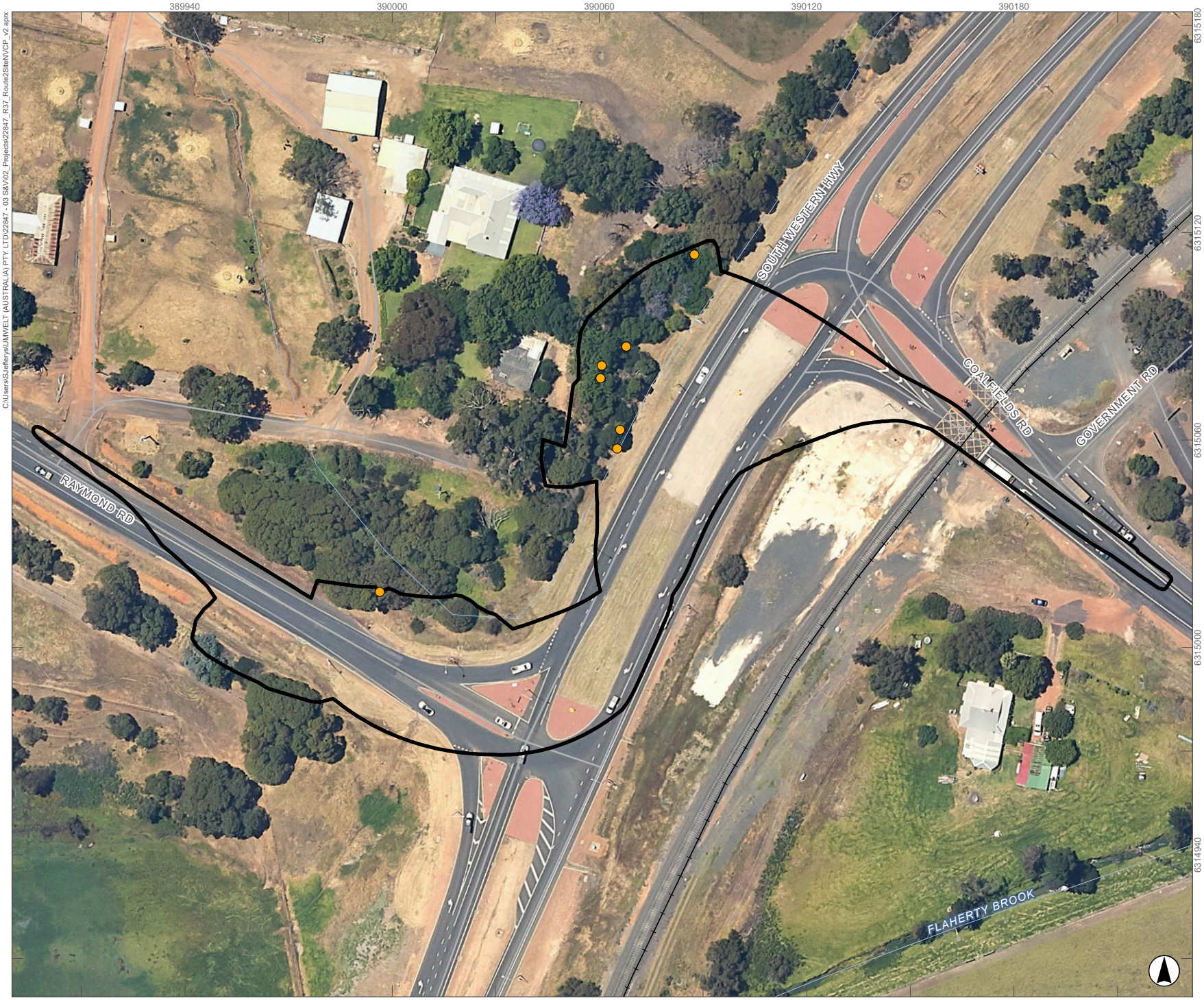

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FIGURE 4.1

Potential Nest-tree Locations

Legend

- Survey Area
- Road
- Railway
- Watercourse

Potential Black Cockatoo Nest-trees

- Bamford Rank 5

0 30 60 m

Scale 1:1,500 at A4
GDA2020 MGA Zone 50

Image Source: Landgate (2024) | **Data Source:** Landgate (2022, 2026), Umwelt (2026), Neoen (2026)

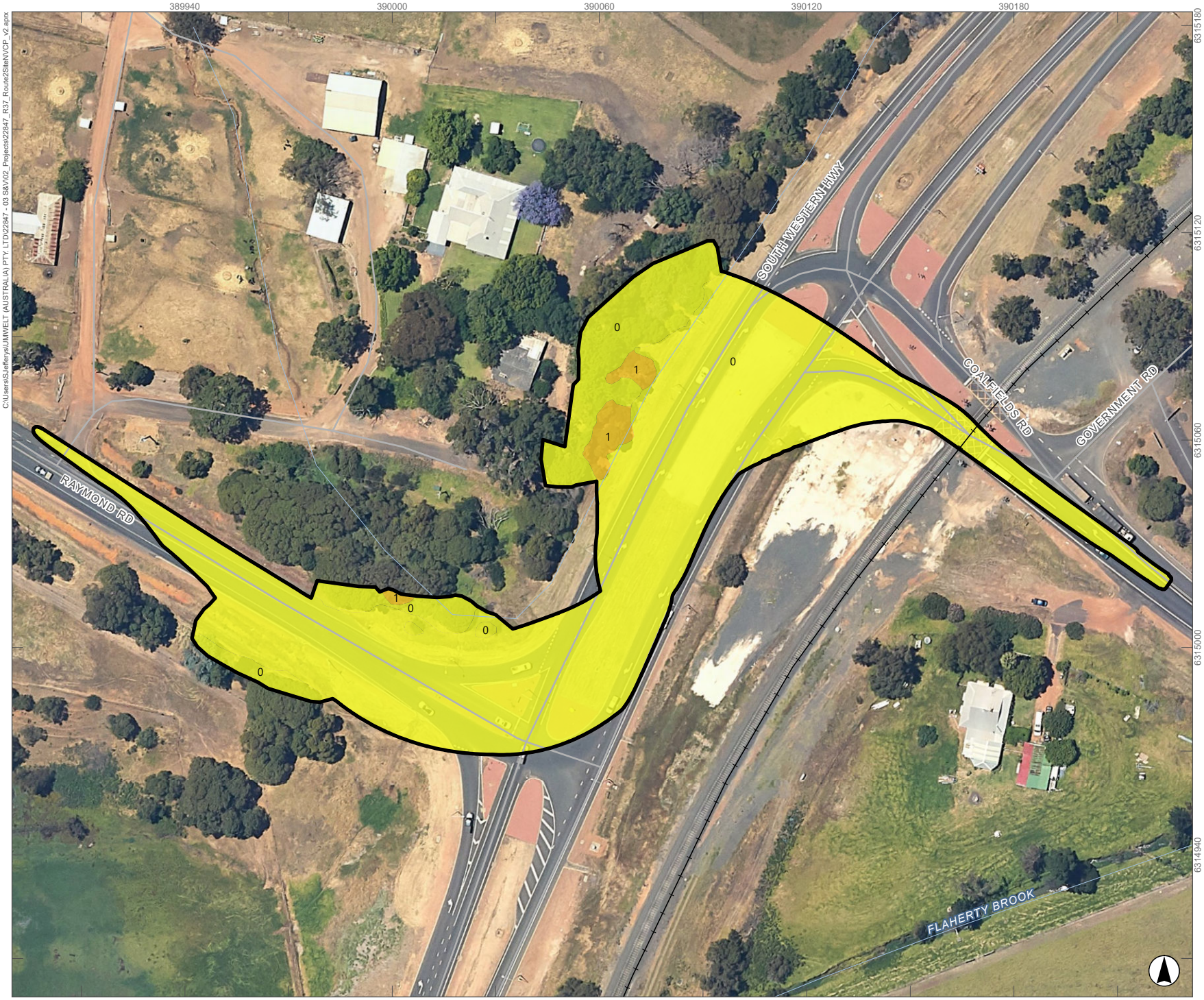

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FIGURE 4.2

Bamford FHQS for Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo and Baudin's Black Cockatoo

Legend

- Survey Area
- Road
- Railway
- Watercourse

BCE Foraging Habitat Quality Score

- 10 Pristine
- 9 Very High
- 8 High
- 7 Moderate to High
- 6 Moderate
- 5 Moderate
- 4 Low to Moderate
- 3 Low
- 2 Very Low
- 1 Negligible
- 0 Nil

0 30 60 m

Scale 1:1,500 at A4
GDA2020 MGA Zone 50

Image Source: Landgate (2024) | **Data Source:** Landgate (2022, 2026), Umwelt (2026), Neoen (2026)

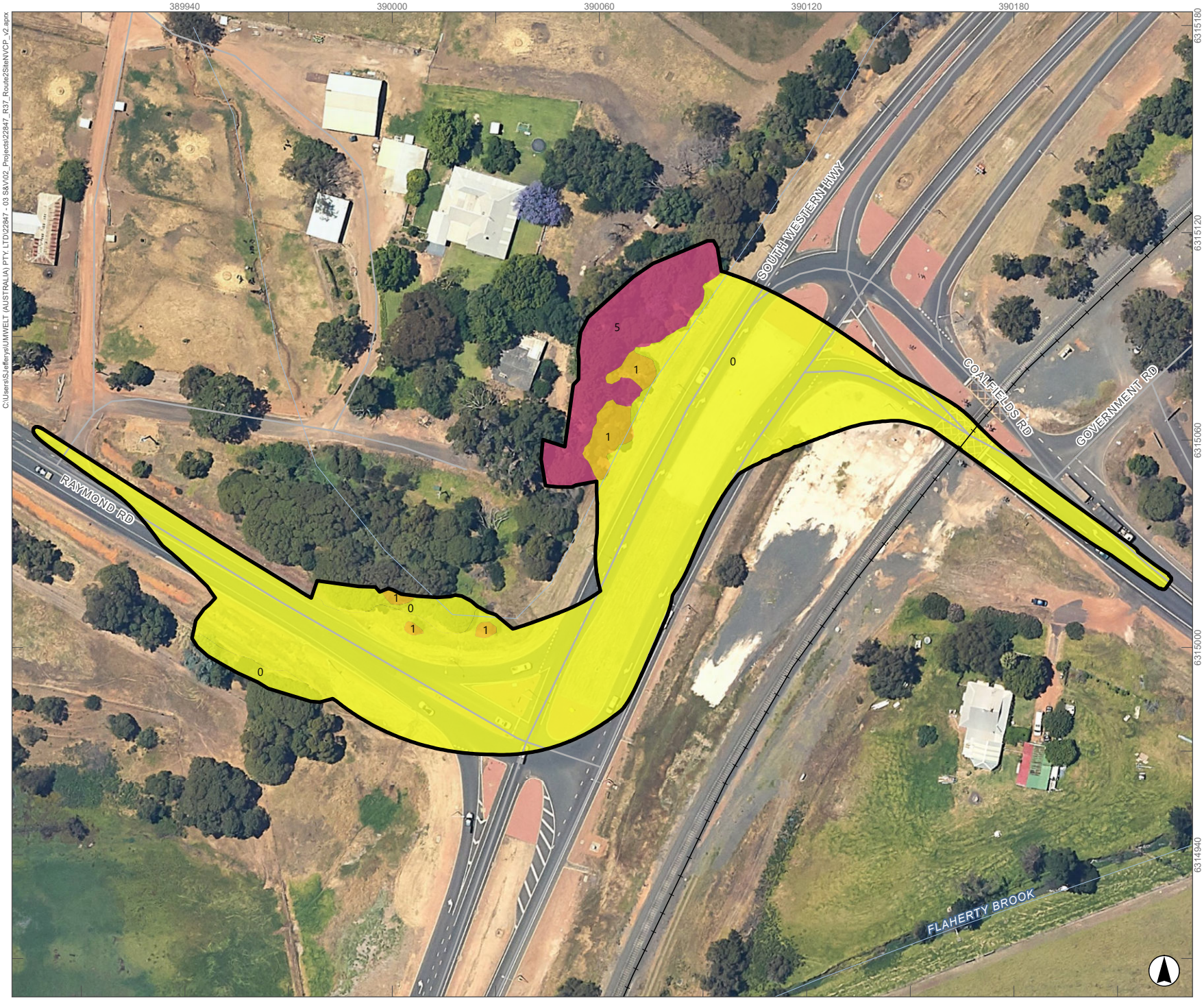

FIGURE 4.3

Bamford FHQS for Carnaby's Black Cockatoo

Legend

- Survey Area
- Road
- Railway
- Watercourse

BCE Foraging Habitat Quality Score

- 10 Pristine
- 9 Very High
- 8 High
- 7 Moderate to High
- 6 Moderate
- 5 Moderate
- 4 Low to Moderate
- 3 Low
- 2 Very Low
- 1 Negligible
- 0 Nil

0 30 60 m

Scale 1:1,500 at A4
GDA2020 MGA Zone 50

Image Source: Landgate (2024) | **Data Source:** Landgate (2022, 2026), Umwelt (2026), Neoen (2026)

4.4 Hydrology

No impact to hydrological processes in the surrounding area is likely to result from the proposed clearing.

A desktop analysis identified no mapped wetlands, watercourses or other significant water resources that directly intersected the Amendment Area. However, two hydrological features were identified:

- A 'Multiple Use' Palusplain wetland approximately 9 m to the west of the Amendment Area (DBCA, 2026).
- Benger Swamp (approximately 12.5 km north of the Amendment Area), which is listed under the *Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia* (DBCA, 2018).

Despite clearing operations taking place within close proximity to a Multiple Use wetland, appropriate management strategies to mitigate impacts will be carried out in accordance with the CEMP.

4.5 Soils

Using DPIRD's Soil Landscape and Land Quality spatial dataset, a risk analysis was conducted for the Proposal. Due to the minimal size of the proposed clearing, the Amendment Area was captured by only a single mapping unit for each variable. Descriptions for each variable within the Amendment Area are listed below:

- **Salinity Risk (DPIRD-009)** (2025b) – '3-10% of map unit has a moderate to high salinity risk or is presently saline'.
- **Surface Acidity (DPIRD-036)** (2025c) – '<3% of map unit has pHCa <4.5'.
- **Waterlogging Risk (DPIRD-015**) (2025e) – '>70% of map unit has a moderate to very high waterlogging risk'.
- **Wind Erosion Risk (DPIRD-016**) (2025f) – '<3% of map unit has a high to extreme wind erosion risk'.
- **Water Erosion Risk (DPIRD-013)** (2025d) – '<3% of map unit has a high to extreme water erosion risk'.
- **Flood Risk (DPIRD-007)** (2025a) – '<3% of map unit has a moderate to high flood risk'.

The entirety of the Amendment Area is mapped as having 'moderate to low risk of Acid Sulphate Soils (ASS) occurring within 3 m of natural soil surface but high to moderate risk of ASS beyond 3 m of natural soil surface' by DWER (DWER, 2017). Soil disturbance will be minor and limited to the top 1 – 2 m and it is unlikely that the Proposal will have any significant impacts to ASS risk.

Residual impacts to soils will be minor and the Proposal shall be conducted in accordance with the relevant mitigation and management guidance provided in the CEMP.

5.0 Assessment Against Clearing Principles

A self-assessment against the Clearing Principes was undertaken to better understand the extent of impacts that are related to the proposed clearing of native vegetation within the Amendment Area. The Department of Environment Regulation's (DER, now DWER) *A guide to the assessment of applications to clear native vegetation – Under Part V Division 2 of the Environmental Protection Act 1986* (2014) was used as the primary source of guidance for the assessment. A summary for each principle is provided in **Table 5.1**.

Table 5.1 Assessment Against the Native Vegetation Clearing Principles

Clearing Principle	Assessment	Outcome
(a) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.	*This principle aims to protect areas of high biodiversity. This principle protects intact natural systems with naturally occurring high levels of species diversity, ecosystem diversity or genetic diversity and natural systems that may be degraded but contain high levels of diversity compared with the remaining native vegetation of that ecological community* (DER, 2014). The Proposal is not within any of the listed Biodiversity Hotspots for priority action, as identified by the Threatened Species Scientific Committee for the Australian Government. Key factors for survey adequacy to assess biodiversity including: • methodology consistent with EPA guidance statements • experience/qualification of surveyors • intensity of sampling • level of effort, relative to survey location. Relevant criteria have been met and are summarised in **Section 2.0** and the *Narrogin Wind Farm – Port to Site Ecology Assessment* (Umwelt, 2026). While the fieldwork was not conducted within the flowering period of significant flora taxa of the Swan Coastal Plain (SCP) bioregion (Spring), it was not considered a limitation due to the Completely Degraded nature of the vegetation within the Amendment Area (Umwelt, 2026). The Proposal is not likely to have any significant residual impacts on listed or Priority flora (**Section 4.1.1**). All proposed clearing shall be comprised of vegetation in Completely Degraded condition (**Section 4.1.2.4**). As per **Table 4.1**, 0.031 ha of native vegetation within the Pinjarra_968 VSA has been identified as part of the proposed clearing works. This level of clearing is not expected to materially reduce the extent or distribution within the bioregion. The Proposal shall not clear any native vegetation with a high level of biological diversity.	**Not at variance**
(b) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.	*This principle aims to maintain indigenous fauna species and assemblages of species in their local natural habitat. This principle protects habitat for threatened fauna and significant habitat for meta-populations of fauna* (DER, 2014). The native vegetation of the Amendment Area may provide a minimal amount of opportunistic foraging opportunities for the Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo and Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (**Section 4.3.3**). No suitable breeding or roosting habitat was identified during the field survey (**Sections 4.3.2** and **4.3.4**). No other suitable habitat for listed terrestrial fauna species was recorded within the Amendment Area. The Proposal is not likely to clear any native vegetation that is wholly or partly necessary for the maintenance of a significant habitat for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.	**Not likely to be at variance**

Clearing Principle	Assessment	Outcome
(c) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.	*This principle aims to provide for the continuing in situ existence of rare flora and protects habitat necessary for its maintenance. This principle also considers the buffer necessary to protect the rare flora from deleterious impacts by maintaining ecological processes and functions within the habitat of the surrounding vegetation* (DER, 2014). All studies have been undertaken by a suitably qualified person/s, and for the duration and extent necessary for the adequate identification of rare flora (**Section 2.0**). While the fieldwork was not conducted within the flowering period of significant flora taxa of the Swan Coastal Plain (SCP) bioregion (Spring), it was not considered a limitation due to the Completely Degraded nature of the vegetation within the Amendment Area (Umwelt, 2026). The Proposal shall not clear any native vegetation that is necessary for the continued existence of rare flora.	**Not at variance**
(d) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a threatened ecological community.	*The aim of this principle is to provide for the continuing in situ existence of threatened ecological communities declared under section 51B of the EP Act to be environmentally sensitive areas and those listed under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. This principle also protects habitat necessary for the maintenance of these threatened ecological communities* (DER, 2014). No State or Commonwealth recognised significant ecological communities have been identified within the Amendment Area (**Section 4.1.2.3**). The Proposal shall not clear any native vegetation that is part of, or necessary for the maintenance of, a threatened ecological community.	**Not at variance**
(e) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared.	*This principle aims to maintain sufficient native vegetation in the landscape for the maintenance of ecological values. It also recognises the need to protect ecological communities that have been extensively cleared and to retain a representation of each ecological community in local areas throughout its pre-European range. It is in this principle that the cumulative impacts of clearing within a particular area should be considered* (DER, 2014). The VSA that occurs within the Amendment Area has less than 10% of its pre-European extent remaining within the bioregion (refer Table 4.1). The proportion of the currently available VSA affected by native vegetation clearing associated with the Proposal is less than 0.0003%. The direct impact of the Proposal does not materially reduce the extent or distribution within the bioregion. The condition of the native vegetation proposed to be cleared is Completely Degraded and located along the edge of a strip of roadside vegetation, thereby offering limited support in maintaining ecological values.	**May be at variance**
(f) Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.	*This principle aims to conserve vegetated watercourses and wetlands and their buffers. In this principle, the word "association" refers to the buffer area. The criteria consider both the area identified as watercourse or wetland and an appropriate buffer required to maintain the hydrological and ecological values of the watercourse or wetland. The watercourse or wetland buffer generally commences from the outside edge of the native vegetation dependent on seasonally or intermittently waterlogged soil. Under this principle, vegetation dependent on seasonally or intermittently waterlogged soils is considered to be part of a wetland, watercourse or buffer (e.g. damplands and floodplains) and would be protected* (DER, 2014).	**Not at variance**

Clearing Principle	Assessment	Outcome
	No wetlands, watercourses or hydrological resources are known to intersect the Amendment Area (**Section 4.4**). The Proposal is not likely to clear any native vegetation that it is growing in an environment associated with a watercourse or wetland.	
(g) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation.	*This principle aims to maintain sufficient native vegetation in the landscape to prevent land degradation. Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is likely to cause land degradation. This includes soil erosion, salinity, nutrient export, acidification, waterlogging and flooding that affect the present or future use of land* (DER, 2014). Based on DPIRD soil mapping, four of the variables (surface acidity, wind and water erosion and flood risk) are categorised as the lowest risk rating, with salinity risk categorised as the second lowest (**Section 4.5**). Waterlogging is likely categorised as a higher risk rating due to the proximity of a DBCA mapped wetland (**Section 4.4**). The Proposal is not likely to clear any native vegetation that will cause appreciable land degradation.	**Not at variance**
(h) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation area.	*This principle aims to ensure that the conservation values of conservation areas are not reduced as a result of native vegetation clearing* (DER, 2014). The Amendment Area is not located within a conservation area, with the closest conservation site to the Amendment Area being Waterloo Nature Reserve (approximately 6 km south). The Proposal shall not clear any native vegetation that has environmental values associated with adjacent or nearby conservation areas.	**Not at variance**
(i) Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.	*This principle considers biological, chemical and physical parameters, and water quantity as far as these affect overall environmental quality of surface and groundwater. This principle aims to ensure that the quality of water supplies is not reduced, that salinity, pH or levels of nutrients in water bodies and discharge water, are not significantly altered by clearing, and that water regimes and environmental water provisions are not adversely affected* (DER, 2014). All of the Amendment Area is mapped as the lowest risk rating for water erosion. As such, an increase of sedimentation and nutrient load to local water bodies is unlikely. The Amendment Area is also mapped as the second lowest risk rating for salinity (**Section 4.5**). Proposed clearing is unlikely to change current risk of acid sulphate soils, with soil disturbance to be minor and limited to surface soils (**Section 4.5**). The Proposal shall not clear any native vegetation that will cause deterioration in the quality of surface or underground water.	**Not at variance**
(j) Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence of flooding.	*This principle aims to ensure that there is no increase in the frequency or intensity flooding resulting from native vegetation clearing* (DER, 2014). All of the Amendment Area is mapped as having the lowest flood risk rating and will be mitigated using the management controls provided in the CEMP (**Section 4.5**).	**Not at variance**

Clearing Principle	Assessment	Outcome
	The Proposal shall not clear any native vegetation that will cause, or exacerbate, the incidence of flooding.	

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