

Referral of proposed action

Proposed action title:

1 Summary of proposed action

NOTE: In addition to completing the fields below, you must also attach a map of the area affected by the action that includes the following features (if relevant): the location of the action; the approximate boundary of the areas and habitat mentioned in items 3.1 and 3.2; and to the extent practicable and relevant, the tenure of the project area of the proposed action (e.g. freehold, leasehold etc.).

- It is the Department's preference that maps are provided in A4 size and that the geographic information system (GIS) vector (shapefile) dataset associated with the maps is also provided.

1.1 Short description

This submission is for the referral of a land clearing activity only.

The proposed 1475 ha clearing is for Lot 537 on SP132224, Meadowbank Station, in the Tablelands Regional Council area, located south of Mt Garnet, Queensland (Attachment Two, Maps 1 & 2) and located in the Northern most parts of the Burdekin River catchment (Attachment Two, Map 1). The land will be cleared in stages in order to produce forage and grain crops (sorghum) to supplement Meadowbank livestock and to be on sold to other surrounding cattle stations. Land will be cleared using dozers and these activities will be performed after the Wet season to ensure minimal disturbance to the land. Meadowbank station has been operating as a cattle station for over 80 years is well situated to supply cattle to live export depots at Townsville or Karumba. The introduction of these high food value crops will mitigate grazing pressures from surrounding native pastures communities.

Previously land on Meadowbank has been cleared, to successfully develop forage cropping with the perennial shrub legume *Leucaena*, and this has been quite successful in terms of providing high value protein to cattle during the wet season.

The original clearing application for the purpose of high value agriculture on Meadowbank Station was received by DILGP on 6 March 2015, SDA-0315-018836. Comments from the Department were sent to the applicants on 17 September 2015. Attachment One addresses the issues raised by the Department, including appropriate methodologies for land suitability studies, the non-use of the Einasleigh Uplands Regional Land Suitability Framework, the clear description of crops to be grown, soil profile descriptions etc. at 1 : 100,000 scale. Owing to the lack of time to conduct more extensive soil investigations over the entire area proposed for clearing, in July 2016 Landline Consulting staff and Cameron family members made a detailed assessment of a specific area shown in Map 2, Attachment One (also Attachment Two, Map 3); this area represents a priority area for clearing.

1.2 Latitude and longitude

location point	Latitude Decimal degrees	Longitude Decimal degrees
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Please refer to AttachmentFive_MS_2016-7838 Referral-coordinates.pdf

- 1.3 **Locality and property description**
Meadowbank station is a well established property used for extensive cattle grazing for breeders and for fattening. The nearest towns are Mount Garnet to the north and Mount Surprise to the west both of which are approximately 100km from Meadowbank Station, see Attachment Two, Maps 1 & 2. The station is well positioned to meet the needs of live cattle export trade. Townsville to the east is just under 400km and Karumba is just over 500km to the west. Both of these centres offer facilities for live cattle export.

A description of the land, soils and climate describing the proposed suitability of the activity can be found in the Attachment One prepared by Landline Consulting for the purpose of the Land Clearing Suitability Assessment submitted to the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning in Far North Queensland. The reference number for this submission is: SDA-0315-018836. This Development Permit for operational work for clearing of native vegetation for high-value agriculture was approved on the 28th November 2016, see Attachment Four_DILGP_DecisionNotice.docx

- 1.4 **Size of the development footprint or work area (hectares)** The property boundary is rectangular and occupies approximately 21500ha. The proposed clearing is just under 1500ha which amounts to 6.9% of the total property, see Attachment Two, Map 3.

- 1.5 **Street address of the site** Meadow Bank Station, Minnamoolka, QLD 4872

- 1.6 **Lot description**
Lot 537 on SP132224; Leasehold Land

- 1.7 **Local Government Area and Council contact (if known)**
The property is located within the Tablelands Regional Council.
However the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DILGP) is the agency considering the application. The DILGP contact is Joanne Manson, Principal Planning Officer, 07 4037 3228. Submission number is: SDA-0315-018836. This activity has been approved by the DILGP on the 28th November 2016. Please refer to Attachment Four to view the Decision Notice.

- 1.8 **Time frame**
Strategic clearing will take place once approval is provided. Clearing will be staged over several years depending on farm priorities. However it is estimated that clearing will be completed by 2020.

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| 1.9 Alternatives to proposed action
Were any feasible alternatives to taking the proposed action (including not taking the action) considered which are not proposed? | | Alternatives to the site location were considered however the proposed site offers the best soil and land conditions for high value agriculture on this property.

There are no other operational alternatives for this property that offer such value on return with respects to producing high value cattle feed while minimising the impacts of surrounding environmental values. Extensive soil mapping of this site was performed to ensure suitable high value cropping land was selected for clearing, please refer to Attachment One, Landline Land Suitability Report. |
| | | Yes, please also complete section 2.2 |
| 1.10 Alternative time | | None |

	frames, locations or activities Does the proposed action include alternative time frames, locations or activities?		Yes, you must also complete Section 2.3. For each alternative, location, time frame, or activity identified, you must also complete details in Sections 1.2-1.9, 2.4-2.7 and 3 and 5 (where relevant).
1.11	Commonwealth, State or Territory assessment Is the action subject to other a Commonwealth, State or Territory environmental impact assessment?		No (They didn't at the time of the initial application)
1.12	Component of larger action Is the proposed action a component of a larger action?		No
1.13	Related actions/proposals Is the proposed action related to other actions or proposals in the region?		No
1.14	Australian Government funding Has the person proposing to take the action received any Australian Government grant funding to undertake the proposed action?		No
1.15	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Is the proposed action inside the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?		No

2 Detailed description of proposed action

NOTE: You **must** complete each of the sections below. Please ensure that the description is complete and includes all components and activities associated with the action. If relevant, each of the matters below need to be addressed in respect of each alternative location, time frame, or activity that is identified as part of the description. If certain related components are not intended to be included within the scope of the referral, this should be clearly explained in section 2.7.

2.1 Description of proposed action

Meadowbank Station propose the activity of clearing 1475 ha for Lot 537 on SP132224, in the Tablelands Regional Council area, located south of Mt Garnet, Queensland (Attachment Two, Map 1 and 2). The land will be cleared in stages in order to produce forage and grain crops (sorghum) to supplement Meadowbank livestock and to be on sold to other surrounding cattle stations. Meadowbank station has been operating as a cattle station for over 80 years and is well situated to supply cattle to live export depots at Townsville or Karumba. The introduction of these high food value crops will also help mitigate grazing pressures on the surrounding native pasture communities.

A thorough evaluation of the proposed parcel of land was conducted by Landline Consulting to determine if this location was suitable for purpose of high value cropping, see Attachment One, Land Suitability Assessment. This development, SDA-0315-018836, has since been approved, see AttachmentFour_DILGP_DecisionNotice.docx. Soil samples were analysed, soil profiles conducted, site visits undertaken plus a thorough investigation of the land and its climate performed to determine suitability. The soils have a depth of 80 to 110 cm with a transition to weathered basalt. Soils within the proposed activity are described as homogenous, well drained, red ferrosols. All results can be viewed in the attached report; Meadowbank Station - Lot 537 SP132224 Land Suitability Assessment. The land suitability assessment concluded that land adjacent to the south/west boundary of the station would be suitable for the purpose of high value cropping.

As you can see by the complex nature of the polygon, due diligence has been taken to ensure that suitable soil types were only included in this proposed activity and vegetation near riparian zones (see attached shapefile, was spared to minimise environmental impacts, Attachment Two, Map 3. Any unsuitable land such as those of high rock content will remain untouched. This also includes any additional rocky sections deemed unsuitable for cropping, found before and during, the clearing process.

Slope varies from 0 to 1% with most sites having no slope. Additionally soils are well drained and there will be a 100m buffer zone from the creek to any cleared land that will help minimise any erosion and sedimentation impacting upon the Burdekin Catchment and downstream World Heritage values. Other control measures such as ensuring adequate ground cover and any clearing and tilling of soil, will occur outside of the Wet Season. These and further measures to control erosion are discussed in more detail in Section 3.1(a).

The proposed activity will not directly impact upon any hydrological processes. There are some First and Second order streams running along the northern and south west boundaries, Attachment Two, Maps 5 and 6. However these will be protected by a 100m buffer zone.

Stages of Clearing

Clearing will take place over a three to five year period depending on wet season duration and availability of machines and contractors.

Equipment used

Dozers and chains will be mostly used for the clearing activity.

Standard airseeders for sowing and fertiliser application plus combine harvesters for harvesting.

Chemicals to be used

Standard and approved chemicals, typically used for; growing sorghum, maintaining soils, weed prevention and eradication will be used. These products are:

- Glyphosate (Roundup)- Knockdown
- Atrazine (Atrazine 500)- Pre emergent
- 2,4-D amine (2,4-D amine 625)
- Fluroxypyr (Starane 200)
- S-metolachlor (Dual Gold)

All chemicals will be used in accordance with the Reef Protection Regulations as set by the Queensland Government.

2.2 Feasible alternatives to taking the proposed action

If you have identified that alternatives to taking the action were considered, but are not proposed (in section 1.9), please complete this section. Please provide a detailed description outlining any feasible alternatives to taking the proposed action (including not taking the action) that were considered but are not proposed. (Please note that these do not include any proposed alternative locations, time frames, or activities that form part of the proposed action which are to be discussed below at section 2.3).

None

2.3 Alternative locations, time frames or activities that form part of the referred action

If you have identified that the proposed action includes alternative time frames, locations or activities (in section 1.10), please complete this section. Please describe any alternatives related to the physical location of the action, time frames within which the action is to be taken and alternative methods or activities for undertaking the action. For each alternative location, time frame or activity identified, please also complete (where relevant) the details in sections 1.2-1.9, 2.4, 2.7, 3 and 5. Please note, if the action that you propose to take is determined to be a controlled action, any alternative locations, time frames or activities that are identified here may be subject to environmental assessment and a decision on whether to approve the alternative.

None

2.4 Context, including any relevant planning framework and state/local government requirements

Please explain the context in which the action is proposed, including any relevant planning framework at the state and/or local government level (e.g. within scope of a management plan, planning initiative or policy framework) and social and economic context including as population size, economic opportunities and employment information. Describe any applicable Commonwealth or state legislation or policies (other than those related to other environmental impact assessment which are to be discussed below at section 2.5).

An approval for clearing for the purpose of high value agriculture was sought through the Queensland Governments Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DILGP). The Land Suitability Assessment application was submitted on the 20th of July 2016, see Attachment One. A decision notice approving this development was received on the 28th of November 2016, see Attachment Four.

The property owners will be responsible for much of the work but may engage contractors to complete tasks when necessary.

2.5 Environmental impact assessments under Commonwealth, State or Territory legislation

If you have identified that the proposed action will be, is being or has been subject to a Commonwealth, State or Territory environmental impact statement (in section 1.11), please complete this section. Please describe any environmental assessment of the relevant impacts of the proposed action that has been, is being, or will be carried out under Commonwealth, State or Territory legislation. Specify the type and scope of the assessment (for example, whether the assessment relates to part or the whole of the proposed action, or the proposed action, as a component of a larger action), the relevant legislation and the current status of any assessments or approvals. Where possible, provide contact details for the relevant assessment contact officer. Further, please describe or summarise any public consultation

undertaken, or to be undertaken, during the assessment. Attach copies of relevant assessment documentation and outcomes of public consultations (if available).

Not required.

2.6 Public consultation (including with Indigenous stakeholders)

Your referral must include a description of any public consultation that has been, or is being, undertaken. Where Indigenous stakeholders are likely to be affected by your proposed action, your referral should describe any consultations undertaken with Indigenous stakeholders. Identify the relevant stakeholders and the status of consultations at the time of the referral. Where appropriate include copies of documents recording the outcomes of any consultations.

The following is an extract from the DILGP Decision Notice, Attachment Four, page 8.

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Native title considerations

A check of the tenure for the subject property revealed that Lot 537 on SP132224 is a Rolling Term Lease and the original deed of grant (Title Reference 40057874) was issued on 29 January 2009 for a pastoral purpose.

The clearing of native vegetation for high value agriculture is considered to be associated or incidental to an agricultural activity and procedural rights must be afforded to native title parties under section 24GB of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cwlth).

On 11 May 2015, the following native title parties were notified:

- Goondaloo Aboriginal Corporation Agent Body Corporate*
- North Queensland Land Council Native Title Representative Body Aboriginal Corporation; and*
- Gugu Badhun Aboriginal Corporation Agency Prescribed Body Corporate.*

Comments (if any) were required to be provided no later than 11 May 2015. One submission was received. The submission made comments about the proposed future act in relation to duty of care under the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 and preparing a cultural heritage assessment. The standard advice has been included as item 3 in the further advice section of this decision package.

2.7 A staged development or component of a larger action

If you have identified that the proposed action is a component of a larger action (in section 1.12), please complete this section. Please provide information about the larger action and details of any interdependency between the stages/components and the larger action. You may also provide justification as to why you believe it is reasonable for the referred action to be considered separately from the larger action (e.g. the referred action is 'stand-alone' and viable in its own right, there are separate responsibilities for component actions or approvals have been split in a similar way at the state or local government levels).

This is not a staged development or component of a larger action it is simply clearing for the purpose of high value agriculture.

2.8 Related actions

If you have identified that the proposed action has related actions (in section 1.13), please complete this section. Please provide information about the related actions including, as appropriate:

- the nature, scope and location of the related action;
- the nature and scope of the assessment under the relevant legislation;
- a statement confirming how the action relates to the Proposed Action;
- the key documents produced as part of the assessment, by whom and when (using active statements), and the extent to which the assessment of the action is relevant to the assessment of the impacts of the Proposed Action on the matters protected by the Controlling Provisions of the EPBC Act and the related findings of this Report. Please cross reference to the analysis of the impacts of the Proposed Action below;
- public consultation during the assessment including the extent (i.e. duration and means) and results; and
- if available, the conclusion of the assessment and final decision following assessment, i.e. approval, approval subject to conditions or refusal.

N/A

3 Description of environment & likely impacts

Note: If you have identified alternatives in relation to location, time frames or activities as part of the proposed action at section 1.10 and 2.3, please complete this section in relation to each of the alternatives identified.

3.1 Matters of national environmental significance

Describe the affected area and the likely impacts of the proposed action on the relevant matters protected by the EPBC Act. Refer to relevant maps as appropriate. The interactive map tool can help determine whether matters of national environmental significance or other matters protected by the EPBC Act are likely to occur in your area of interest.

For each matter protected by the EPBC Act, provide a description of the matter including, as appropriate:

- a brief description of the matter (for example, for threatened species, the population size, habitat, breeding, diet and life cycle etc);
- the status, extent and condition of the matter within the affected area and also more broadly in the region; and
- the key threats and threatening processes and beneficial actions and processes for the Protected Matter(s) excluding those from the proposed action, for example, under relevant approved conservation advices, recovery plans or threat abatement plans, management plans or other strategic plans, management principles or obligations under International Conventions.
- Having identified the relevant matters protected under the EPBC Act, identify the impacts the proposed action will or is likely to have on these matters (e.g. light, noise, biodiversity loss, water quality etc). For each type of impact, provide a concise description of the likely nature, scope and consequences of the impact on the Protected Matter(s). In doing so, consider factors such as, as appropriate: whether the impact is a direct or indirect impact - **note that, even if your proposed action will not be taken in a World Heritage area, Ramsar wetland, Commonwealth marine area, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park or on Commonwealth land, it could still impact upon these areas (for example, through downstream impacts) by its indirect impacts;**
- the timing and duration of the likely impact, for example, one-off, re-occurring or ongoing, short term or long term;
- the extent of the impact, for example, uncertain or certain, permanent/irreversible or temporary/ reversible, and localised or broad-scale;
- the likely consequence of the impact on the Protected Matter(s), including both adverse and beneficial impacts and any related social and economic impacts;
- the likelihood of the impact affecting the Protected Matter(s); and
- whether there are, or mitigate and repair the consequences of, the impact.

Your assessment of likely impacts should refer to the following resources (available from the Department's web site):

- specific values of individual World Heritage properties and National Heritage places and the ecological character of Ramsar wetlands;
- profiles of relevant species/communities (where available), that will assist in the identification of whether there is likely to be a significant impact on them if the proposal proceeds;
- Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – Matters of National Environmental Significance; and
- Associated sectoral and species policy statements available on the web site, as relevant.

Your assessment of likely impacts should also consider whether a bioregional plan is relevant to your proposed action. The Minister has prepared four marine bioregional plans (**MBP**) in accordance with section 176 of the EPBC Act. It is likely that the MBPs will be more commonly relevant where listed threatened species, listed migratory species or a Commonwealth marine area is considered.

For specific information for each individual NES species please refer to Attachment Three: SpeciesConcerned WithDevelopment.docx

In addition the table below in section 3.1(d) summarises the potential impact for each matter identified.

3.1 (a) World Heritage Properties

The proposed activity is found on a catchment system that drains into the World Heritage listed Great Barrier Reef. However due to the following reasons and management practises the activity will have minimal impact on the GBR. Especially those issues concerning erosion and increased sedimentation into the catchment.

1. It is situated over 550km upstream at the furthestmost head waters of the system. Please refer to Attachment Two, Map 1.

2. The streams adjacent to the activity are stream order one and represent a very small proportion of the entire system.
3. Because of points 1 and 2 most contaminants are either filtered out or perish before reaching the GBR.
4. The streams are ephemeral and flow for only short periods during the wet season.
5. Proponents will maintain a non-cleared buffer zone 100m from any creek line.
6. Boundaryline to be clearly marked to ensure clearing activities maintain agreed distance from streams.
7. All clearing will take place outside of Wet Season.
8. Suitable pasture cover during non cropping periods will minimise erosion.
9. Sow cleared areas before wet season with suitable pasture species to establish good ground cover.
10. Maintain sufficient ground cover during the wet season.
11. The site chosen has well drained soils.
12. The site chosen has minimal slope of <1% that will help minimise erosion.
13. There will be minimum soil tillage during wet season.

Nature and extent of likely impact

Address any impacts on the World Heritage values of any World Heritage property.

3.1 (b) National Heritage Places N/A

The activity is unlikely to have any impact on the GBR (National Heritage Place) as per the reasons stated in 3.1(a).

Nature and extent of likely impact

Address any impacts on the National Heritage values of any National Heritage place.

3.1 (c) Wetlands of International Importance (declared Ramsar wetlands) N/A

The nearest Wetlands of International Importance is in Bowling Green Bay over 250kms to the south east of Meadowbank Station. Meadowbank is located within the Burdekin catchment while Bowling Green Bay wetland is not, see Attachment Two, Map 7.

Nature and extent of likely impact

Address any impacts on the ecological character of any Ramsar wetlands.

3.1 (d) Listed threatened species and ecological communities

Description

From the protected matters report conducted on the 8th of September 2016 there were 14 threatened species, 10 migratory species and 16 marine, species or their habitat, likely to occur in the nominated area. The attached document discusses each individual species identified in the report and describes the likely consequence of the impact for each individual.

Of those species listed in table 1 below, as likely to be affected by this activity, the following details of the activity concerning each of these animals must be noted:

1. Southern black-throated finch: there is abundant like habitat surrounding the proposed activity, see Attachment Two, Map 4. In context with the surrounding and remaining remenant habitat, the clearing activity represents only a very small proportion of habitat available for the Southern black-throated finch. Therefore if the finch is present it will have minimal impact on this species given the surrounding refuge habitat still available.
2. Quoll: The clearing activity occupies, in most part, sparse open woodland. More suitable and dense habitat can be found in those sections that will not be cleared such as the rocky areas and the riparian zone. The sites that will not be cleared represent a total of 473ha compared to the cleared areas of 1475ha, see Attachment Two, Map 3. If quolls are present, it is unlikely the clearing activity will have a significant impact given that much of the preferred habitat is being preserved and there is large amounts of similar habitat surrounding the activity in all directions.
3. Koala: Within the clearing activity the regional ecosystem mapping tool estimates that there are primary food trees, found in approximately 35% of the site. Or 516ha of the 1475ha to be cleared. However given the sparse nature of most of this woodland and the preference of koalas for denser canopy cover we could assume that more suitable and denser habitat will be much less than 516ha. Additionally in reports from the Australian Koala Foundation suggest that koalas do have a preference for riparian zones and typically need more than one primary food tree. On the proponents site there is only one primary food tree, *Eucalyptus tereticornis* and the riparian zones will be protected from clearing. From the previous owners called Meadowbank Holdings there is anecdotal evidence that there have been no koala sightings for the last 25 years during the term of there management.

Please refer to Attachment Three: SpeciesConcerned WithDevelopment.docx for details on eac matter. Table 1 below provides a summary of the examination of each species and the likelihood of any direct and indirect impact for each resulting from the activity.

Table 1.

Matter		Habitat Preferences	Impacts	References	Direct Potential Impact	Indirect Impact
<i>Erythroriochis radiatus</i>	Red Goshawk	Prefer forests of intermediate densities and areas between habitats of different densities for hunting. Prefer large trees typically 30m for nesting and close to permanent water, <1km.	Changes to the environment are unlikely to have any significant impact. This particular parcel nominated for clearing has no permanent water body and is devoid of large trees suitable for nesting. The open forest may provide suitable prey however the structure of the habitat would not be a preferred hunting environment. This species prefers denser habitat in which it can launch ambushes upon birds in adjacent and more open habitat. There are no such areas available on this site. The nearest sightings	SPRAT QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act Conservation Advice Red List Onground examination of trees during high value cropping suitability assessment, Landline Consulting 2016.	None	Unlikely Maybe some loss of foraging sites due to tree removal and loss of prey.

			have been recorded over 60 km to the east where suitable habitat exist amongst the ranges. This species is highly mobile and there are vast spaces of same structured habitat surrounding the impacted area.			
<i>Erythrura gouldiae</i>	Gouldian Finch	Prefers habitat containing the following trees that provide suitable nesting hollows; <i>E. tintinnans</i> , <i>E. brevifolia</i> , <i>E. tectifera</i> , <i>Corymbia confertiflora</i> , <i>E. leucophloia</i> , <i>Corymbia latifolia</i> and <i>Erythrophleum chlorostachys</i> . It also favours annual and perennial grasses especially sorghum. Nearby permanent water is essential.	RE mapping suggests that none of the tree species favoured by the Gouldian Finch are present in this landscape. Additionally there is an absence of permanent water on the nominated location. Nearest water (cattle dams) are located 600m to the north west and 700m to the south. Annual and perennial grasses are present however these will be replaced by sorghum that would in fact improve the habitat for the GF. Nearest observations have been over 50km away to the west and northwest of Meadowbank. This is a mobile animal and there is much more of the same habitat surrounding the site on and off the property.	SPRAT QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act Conservation Advice Red List	Activity is unlikely to have any impact on the Gouldian Finch. Removing native grasses would reduce foraging opportunities if they indeed visit this site. Action may in fact improve food resources with the inclusion of sorghum crops and their preference for this seed.	None
<i>Poephila cincta cincta</i>	Southern Black-throated Finch	It is thought to require a mosaic of habitats in which it can find seed during the wet season. Some of the more common species of eucalypt forest include Ironbark(<i>E. crebra</i>), River Red Gum (<i>E. camaldulensis</i>), Silver-leaved Ironbark (<i>E. melanophloia</i>) Reid River Box (<i>E. brownii</i>), Yellowjacket (<i>E. similis</i>) and Forest Red Gum (<i>E. tereticornis</i>). It occasionally occurs in Melaleuca woodlands or in grasslands comprised of <i>Astrelba</i> , <i>Dicanthium</i> or <i>Panicum</i> . Almost all recent records have been in riparian habitat.	The lack of permanent water nearby would reduce the likelihood of this site as being a key habitat for the BTFS. It is acknowledged that the current trees and grasses at this location maybe suitable in supporting BTFS however a more comprehensive evaluation would need to be performed to determine presence/absence of this finch.	SPRAT QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act Conservation Advice Red List	Likely-removal of forage grasses and preferred trees. Action may in fact improve food resources with the inclusion of sorghum crops and their preference for this seed.	Possible
<i>Rostratula australis</i>	Australian Painted Snipe	The APS generally inhabits shallow terrestrial freshwater wetlands including temporary and permanent lakes, swamps, claypans, waterlogged grassland, dams, ricecrops, sewerage farms and bore drains. Typical sites include tussocks of grass, sedges, rushes, reeds, samphire,	There is a complete absence of suitable habitat required by the APS. Hence the action will have no effect on this species.	SPRAT QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act Conservation Advice Red List	None	None

		canegrass or sometimes tea-tree.				
<i>Tyto novaehollandiae kimberli</i>	Masked Owl (northern)	The masked owl has been recorded in riparian forest, rainforest, open forest, melaleuca swamps and the edges of mangroves and margins of sugarcane fields. They require large trees with large hollows for nesting and a habitat that supports abundant small to medium sized terrestrial mammals.	All recorded observations in Queensland have been within the coastal ranges. Nearest observations have been in more suitable habitat over 130kms to the southeast. It is unlikely to be found at this location given the absence of any nearby records and an observational preference towards coastal habitat. However the site does offer recognised habitat that can support these owls.	SPRAT QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act Conservation Advice Red List	Possible	Possible
<i>Dasyurus hallucatus</i>	Northern Quoll	The NQ occupies a diverse range of habitats. From rocky areas, eucalypt forest and woodlands, rainforests, sandy lowlands, beaches, shrubland, grasslands and deserts. However the habitat usually generally has a rocky den with surrounding vegetation for foraging. Woodland habitats usually have a high structural diversity containing large diameter trees, termite mounds or hollow logs for denning purposes.	There is likely to be suitable habitat within the impacted area. However the nearest and most frequent observations have been along the coastal ranges over 100km away. There was one observation recorded at Undara in 1989, 30km to the west. Additionally rocky outcrops that are considered prime quoll habitat within the affected area will not be touched.	SPRAT QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act Conservation Advice Red List	Possible	Possible
<i>Macroderma gigas</i>	Ghost bat	Ghost Bat is mainly found in the arid zone near rock outcrops, and roosts in caves, mines, and rock clefts. The species also occurs throughout the tropical savanna, in savanna woodlands, and in mangroves (N. McKenzie pers. comm.). Most nesting caves are multiple entrance systems.	There are some volcanic rocky outcrops nestled within the impact area however these will not be influenced by the clearing activity and it is not clear if there are suitable cave sites within these outcrops anyway. Nearest frequent observations are over 100km to the north. One historic record in 1972 was taken from the Undara caves complex over 40km away. These are a highly mobile animals that that can feed on a variety of small mammals, birds, reptiles , frogs and large insects. The clearing activity is likely to have little impact on this animal.	SPRAT QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act Conservation Advice Red List	Possible	Possible
<i>Mesebriomys gouldii rattoides</i>	Black-footed Tree Rat	In north Queensland, this species mostly occurs in eucalypt forests and woodlands, especially where hollows are relatively plentiful. It forages on the ground and in trees, and individuals may make	There is little evidence that the BFTR is found in the affected area. The nearest records have been observed over 100km to the north, east and south of Meadowbank Station. The record south	SPRAT QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act Conservation Advice Red List AWC	Very unlikely	

		<p>movements of at least 500 m from roost sites to foraging areas (Friend et al. 1992). Its diet comprises mostly fruits (including of the tough <i>Pandanus spiralis</i>) and seeds, but also includes some invertebrates, flowers and grass (Morton 1992, Rankmore 2006, Rankmore and Friend 2008). It occurs mostly in lowland open forests and woodlands dominated by <i>Eucalyptus miniata</i> and/or <i>E. tetrodonta</i>, particularly where these forests have a relatively dense shrubby understorey (Friend and Taylor 1985, Friend 1987).</p>	<p>of the site was the southern most of range and this record was from 1995. More frequent records have been observed in the tablelands between Malanda and Mareeba over 100km away to the northeast. They seem to prefer a dense shrubby understorey. The impacted site is largely open woodland lacking in dense understorey. In addition the impacted site is absent of the preferred eucalypt species and the pandanus fruit.</p>			
<i>Petauroides volans</i>	Greater Glider	<p>Highest abundance is typically in taller, montane, moist eucalypt forests, with relatively old trees and abundant hollows (Andrews et al. 1994; Smith et al. 1994a,b; Kavanagh 2000; Eyre 2004; van der Ree et al. 2004; Vanderduys et al. 2012).</p>	<p>The Greater Glider prefers more montane moist eucalypt forest. The Meadowbank habitat is a monsoon savannah comprising open woodland with extended periods of dry.</p>	<p>SPRAT QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act Conservation Advice Red List</p>	<p>None</p>	
<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	Koala	<p>The Koala is an arboreal folivorous marsupial. It occurs in forests and woodlands, typically dominated by eucalyptus species. In inland (semi-arid) portions of its range, it occurs mainly in riparian woodlands (Ellis <i>et al.</i> 2002, Seabrook <i>et al.</i> 2011). Elsewhere distribution may be associated particularly with soil fertility (and hence foliage nutrient content) (Moore and Foley 2000). The Koala has a specialist diet, mostly limited to foliage of <i>Eucalyptus</i> species, with occasional intake of leaves of other plant (mostly <i>Myrtaceous</i>) genera (Martin and Handasyde 1999; Moore and Foley 2000, 2005).</p>	<p>Meadowbank consists mostly of non-preferred forage eucalypts and bloodwoods such as <i>E. crebra</i>, <i>E. leptophleba</i>, <i>C. erythrophloia</i> and <i>C. Dallachiana</i>. There is a scattering of a primary feed tree, <i>E. tereticornis</i>, that occurs along the riparian zones. However there is a lack of permanent water in the dry season. Observations have been recorded at over 100km to the west, 30 km to the north, 50km to the east and over 100km to the south of Meadowbank Station.</p> <p>EPBC Act referral guidelines for the koala resulted in the following conclusions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The action does occur in the koalas modelled distribution. 2. Geographic context is considered Coastal because mean annual rainfall of 812mm is greater than 800mm. However most rainfall occurs between Decemebr 	<p>SPRAT QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act referral guidelines Conservation Advice Red List</p>	<p>According to the EPBC referral guidelines the koala is likely to be affected by the activity. However the absence of permanent water during the extended hot dry season would make this an unlikely site to find koalas. Median temperatures in the nearby town of Mount Surprise for 3 months of the year exceed 34C with temperatures exceeding 40C and median rainfall for July to September is 0.0mm.</p>	

			<p>and April followed by an extended dry. Therefor it maybe considered as Inland.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. The site does include some habitat suitable for koalas. 4. Desktop study identifies that koalas may occur in this area. Primary feed trees are likely to occur along the riparian zones however these would be largely untouched during the clearing process. There have been no onground surveys to identify if koalas are present. 5. Using Table 4 of the habitat assessment tool resulted in a score of 5 which would indicate that it contains habitat critical for koala survival. 6. From Section 7 Figure 2 it indicates that the action would likely affect habitat critical to the survival of the koala. 7. The outcomes therefore indicate that a referral is recommended. 			
<i>Rhinolophus robertsi</i>	Large-eared Horseshoe Bat	The Greater Large-eared Horseshoe Bat is found in lowland rainforest, along gallery forest-lined creeks within open eucalypt forest, <i>Melaleuca</i> forest with rainforest understorey, open savannah woodland and tall riparian woodland of <i>Melaleuca</i> , Forest Red Gum (<i>E. tereticornis</i>) and Moreton Bay Ash (<i>E. tessellaris</i>) (Churchill 2009; Pavey & Kutt 2008). They typically roost in caves and underground mines.	There have been reports of LEHB located in the nearby Undara caves however records on the map from the Atlas of Living Australia only indicate observations recorded over 300km away to the north near Cooktown. There have been no records of the LEHB on Meadowbank Station. This species prefers denser forest than what is offered at the proposed site however there are some preferred species of eucalypt present on this site.	QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act Conservation Advice Red List	Possible	
<i>Saccolaimus saccolaimus nudicluniatus</i>	Bare-rumped Sheathtail Bat	The Bare-rumped Sheathtail Bat occurs mostly in lowland areas, typically in a range of woodland, forest and open environments (Schulz & Thomson 2007; Reardon et al. 2010; Dennis 2012). The Bare-rumped Sheathtail Bat has been suggested to forage over habitat edges such as the edge of	The closest recorded observation is over 95 km to the east. There have been no observations recorded on or near the proposed affected area. Nearly all observations have occurred within coastal ranges.	QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act Conservation Advice Red List	Possible however unlikely due to its observed preference along coastal ranges.	

		rainforest and in forest clearings (Churchill 1998). The small number of confirmed roosts located in Australia have all been in tree hollows (Churchill 1998; Compton & Johnson 1983).				
<i>Cajanus mareebensis</i>		Cajanus mareebensis occurs in grassy woodlands of Melaleuca-Acacia, Eucalyptus-Callitris and Eucalyptus-Corymbia woodlands on sandy soils derived from granite with a lower horizon of impeded drainage.	It is unlikely that C. Mareebensis will be affected in any way by the proposed activity. The preferred soils for this plant are sandy soils derived from granite. All soils at Meadowbank Station are derived from basalt.	QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act	None	
<i>Egernia rugosa</i>	Yakka Skink	<p>The known distribution of the Yakka Skink extends from the coast to the hinterland of sub-humid to semi-arid eastern Queensland. This vast area covers portions of the Brigalow Belt (North and South), Mulga Lands, South-east Queensland, Einasleigh Uplands, Wet Tropics and Cape York Peninsula Biogeographical Regions. within the Mulga Lands and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions (TSN 2008b). It occurs in a wide variety of vegetation types within Queensland Regional Ecosystem Land Zones (LZ) (Brigalow Belt Reptiles Workshop 2010):</p> <p>LZ 3 - Alluvium (river and creek flats)</p> <p>LZ 4 - Clay plains not associated with current alluvium</p> <p>LZ 5 - Old loamy and sandy plains</p> <p>LZ 7 - Ironstone jump-ups</p> <p>LZ 9 - Undulating country on fine-grained sedimentary rocks</p> <p>LZ 10 - Sandstone ranges.</p> <p>Preferred forest types are: brigalow, mulga, bendee, lancewood, belah, poplar box, ironbark and white cypress pine.</p> <p>This species is not generally found in trees or rocky habitats (Chapple 2003).</p>	<p>Nearest observations recorded are over 150km to the southwest and over 280km to the north of Meadowbank Station in completely different habitat types.</p> <p>The preferred soil and forest types are not found in the proposed impacted area.</p>	QLD DEHP AoLA EPBC Act Conservation Advice Red List	None	

3.1 (e) Listed migratory species

Description

Performing a search using the Department of the Environment and Energy's Protected Matters Search Tool returned 10 migratory species identified within the vicinity of the proposed activity. A brief summary of these animals has been provided in Attachment Three and was concluded that none of these species would be affected by the proposed activity.

Please refer to Attachment Three: SpeciesConcerned WithDevelopment.docx

3.1 (f) Commonwealth marine area

(If the action is in the Commonwealth marine area, please complete 3.2(c) instead. This section is for actions taken outside the Commonwealth marine area that may have impacts on that area.)

Nature and extent of likely impact

Address any impacts on any part of the environment in the Commonwealth marine area.

N/A: This activity does not occur in a Commonwealth Marine Area.

3.1 (g) Commonwealth land

(If the action is on Commonwealth land, please complete 3.2(d) instead. This section is for actions taken outside Commonwealth land that may have impacts on that land).

N/A

Description

If the action will affect Commonwealth land also describe the more general environment. The Policy Statement titled *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.2 - Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land, and actions by Commonwealth agencies* provides further details on the type of information needed. If applicable, identify any potential impacts from actions taken outside the Australian jurisdiction on the environment in a Commonwealth Heritage Place overseas.

Nature and extent of likely impact

Address any impacts on any part of the environment in the Commonwealth land. Your assessment of impacts should refer to the *Significant Impact Guidelines 1.2 - Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land, and actions by Commonwealth agencies* and specifically address impacts on:

- ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities;
- natural and physical resources;
- the qualities and characteristics of locations, places and areas;
- the heritage values of places; and

the social, economic and cultural aspects of the above things.

3.1 (h) The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

Description

Nature and extent of likely impact

Address any impacts on any part of the environment of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Note: If your action occurs in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park you may also require permission under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975 (GBRMP Act)*. If so, section 37AB of the GBRMP Act provides that your referral under the EPBC Act is deemed to be an application under the GBRMP Act and Regulations for necessary permissions and a single integrated process will generally apply. Further information is available at www.gbrmpa.gov.au

The activity is unlikely to have any impact on the GBR Marine Park as per the reasons stated in 3.1(a).

3.1 (i) A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development or large coal mining development

Description

N/A

If the action is a coal seam gas development or large coal mining development that has, or is likely to have, a significant impact on water resources, the draft *Policy Statement Significant Impact Guidelines: Coal seam gas and large coal mining developments—Impacts on water resources* provides further details on the type of information needed.

Nature and extent of likely impact

Address any impacts on water resources. Your assessment of impacts should refer to the draft *Significant Impact Guidelines: Coal seam gas and large coal mining developments—Impacts on water resources*.

3.2 Nuclear actions, actions taken by the Commonwealth (or Commonwealth agency), actions taken in a Commonwealth marine area, actions taken on Commonwealth land, or actions taken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

You must describe the nature and extent of likely impacts (both direct & indirect) on the whole environment if the proposed action:

- is a nuclear action;
- will be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency;

- will be taken in a Commonwealth marine area;
- will be taken on Commonwealth land; or
- will be taken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Your assessment of impacts should refer to the Significant Impact Guidelines 1.2 - Actions on, or impacting upon, Commonwealth land, and actions by Commonwealth agencies and specifically address impacts on:

- ecosystems and their constituent parts, including people and communities;
- natural and physical resources;
- the qualities and characteristics of locations, places and areas;
- the heritage values of places; and
- the social, economic and cultural aspects of the above things.

3.2 (a)	Is the proposed action a nuclear action?		No
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment			
3.2 (b)	Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency?		No
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment			
3.2 (c)	Is the proposed action to be taken in a Commonwealth marine area?		No
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment (in addition to 3.1(f))			
3.2 (d)	Is the proposed action to be taken on Commonwealth land?		No
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment (in addition to 3.1(g))			
3.2 (e)	Is the proposed action to be taken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?		No
If yes, nature & extent of likely impact on the whole environment (in addition to 3.1(h))			

3.3 Description of the project area and affected area for the proposed action

Provide a description of the project area and the affected area, including information about the following features (where relevant to the project area and/or affected area, and to the extent not otherwise addressed above). If at Section 2.3 you identified any alternative locations, time frames or activities for your proposed action, please also complete each of the details below (where relevant) for each alternative identified.

3.3 (a) Flora and fauna

Flora:

Broad Vegetation Groups

Regional Ecosystem Mapping indicate the dominant ecosystems within the proposed activity are 9.8.4a(45% or 660ha), 9.8.4b(35% or 515ha) or, 9.8.1b(15% or 220ha) and 9.3.10a(5% or 74ha). The broad vegetation groups are mixed within the clearing polygon depending on the soil type and topographic features that these groups depend upon. The dominant vegetation groups likely to be found within this clearing activity are described below and an estimation of the area they would likely cover within this activity.

Description

Open woodland to woodland of *Eucalyptus crebra* (sens. lat.) (narrow-leaved ironbark) and/or *E. tereticornis* (bluegum). The mid-layer is generally absent. Occurs on basalt plains and rocky basalt plains and hills.

Vegetation communities in this regional ecosystem include:

45% or 660ha, 9.8.4a: Woodland to open woodland of *Eucalyptus crebra* (narrow-leaved ironbark) or *E. granitica* (granite ironbark) +/- *Corymbia intermedia* (pink bloodwood) +/- *C. dallachiana* (Dallachy's gum) +/- *C. tessellaris* (Moreton Bay ash). Scattered canopy species and *Lophostemon suaveolens* (swamp mahogany) can sometimes occur in the sub-canopy. The shrub layer is absent to sparse. The ground layer is dense and grassy and is dominated by *Themeda triandra* (kangaroo grass) and *Heteropogon contortus* (black speargrass). Occurs on basalt plains and rocky basalt plains and hills with varying depths of soil. (BVG1M: 11b)

35% or 515ha, 9.8.4b: Open woodland to woodland of *Eucalyptus tereticornis* (bluegum) +/- *E. crebra* (narrow-leaved ironbark) +/- *Corymbia dallachiana* (Dallachy's gum) +/- *C. clarksoniana* (Clarkson's bloodwood) +/- *E. leptophleba* (Molloy red box) +/- *C. tessellaris* (Moreton Bay ash). The mid-layer is absent to occasionally scattered plants. The ground layer is densely grassy and includes *Heteropogon contortus* (black speargrass) and/or *Dichanthium* spp. Occurs on basalt plains and rocky basalt plains and hills with varying depths of soil. (BVG1M: 11b)

15% or 220ha, 9.8.1b: Open woodland to woodland of *Eucalyptus leptophleba* (Molloy red box) +/- *C. erythrophloia* (red bloodwood) +/- *Corymbia dallachiana* (Dallachy's gum). An open sub-canopy layer containing canopy species can occur. The shrub layer is usually absent but scattered species including *Planchonia careya* (cocky apple), *Denhamia cunninghamii* (yellowberry bush) and *Carissa lanceolata* (currantbush) can occur. The ground layer is dense and grassy and dominated by *Heteropogon contortus* (black speargrass) and *Themeda triandra* (kangaroo grass). Occurs on basalt plains and rocky basalt plains and hills with varying depths of soil.

5% or 74ha, 9.3.10a: Palustrine wetland (e.g. vegetated swamp). Low woodland to low open forest of *Melaleuca bracteata* (black teatree) +/- *Casuarina cunninghamiana* (river sheoak) +/- *Eucalyptus leptophleba* (Molloy red box) +/- *Eucalyptus* spp. +/- *Corymbia* spp. emergents or vine scrub species. The shrub layer varies from absent, to a continuum with *M. bracteata* and dry rainforest species where these are present. The ground layer is dominated by tussock grasses such as *Heteropogon contortus* (black speargrass), *Eragrostis* spp. and *Eulalia aurea* (silky browntop) or *Cyperaceae* spp. (sedges). This community is very variable in structure and can also occur as small clumps of trees in association with the grassland regional ecosystem 9.3.27 or as a dense sub-canopy layer of *M. bracteata* under a dominant canopy of *Casuarina cunninghamiana*. Occurs on or fringing swamps and springs on basalt.

Fauna:

A search using the 'Explore Your Area' in the Atlas of Living Australia website identified 66 birds that have been recorded within a 10km radius of the proposed activity. The list of birds is provided below. However it must be noted that the list contains birds unlikely to be permanent residence of the proposed activity due to the lack of suitable habitat. The proposed site contains no permanent water so most of the listed water birds such as the ducks, egrets, herons, grebes, pelican, etcetera would not be dependant on this site. Highlighted in table below.

Scientific Name	Vernacular Name
<i>Anas gracilis</i>	Grey Teal
<i>Anas superciliosa</i>	Pacific Black Duck
<i>Anhinga novaehollandiae</i>	Australasian Darter
<i>Anseranas semipalmata</i>	Magpie Goose
<i>Aquila audax</i>	Wedge-tailed Eagle
<i>Ardea intermedia</i>	Intermediate Egret
<i>Ardea modesta</i>	Eastern Great Egret
<i>Ardea pacifica</i>	White-necked Heron
<i>Ardeotis australis</i>	Australian Bustard
<i>Aviceda subcristata</i>	Pacific Baza
<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>	Bush Stone-curlew
<i>Cacatua galerita</i>	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii</i>	Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo
<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	Australian Wood Duck
<i>Climacteris picumnus</i>	Brown Treecreeper
<i>Coracina maxima</i>	Ground Cuckoo-shrike
<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
<i>Corvus coronoides</i>	Australian Raven
<i>Cracticus nigrogularis</i>	Pied Butcherbird
<i>Cracticus tibicen</i>	Australian Magpie
<i>Cygnus atratus</i>	Black Swan
<i>Dacelo leachii</i>	Blue-winged Kookaburra
<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>	Laughing Kookaburra
<i>Dendrocygna arcuata</i>	Wandering Whistling-Duck
<i>Dendrocygna eytoni</i>	Plumed Whistling-Duck
<i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i>	Mistletoebird
<i>Dromaius novaehollandiae</i>	Emu
<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Little Egret
<i>Egretta picata</i>	Pied Heron
<i>Entomyzon cyanotis</i>	Blue-faced Honeyeater
<i>Eudynamys orientalis</i>	Eastern Koel
<i>Falco berigora</i>	Brown Falcon
<i>Falco cenchroides</i>	Nankeen Kestrel
<i>Geopelia striata</i>	Peaceful Dove
<i>Geophaps scripta</i>	Squatter Pigeon
<i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i>	Magpie-lark
<i>Grus rubicunda</i>	Brolga
<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	White-bellied Sea-Eagle
<i>Haliastur sphenurus</i>	Whistling Kite
<i>Irediparra gallinacea</i>	Comb-crested Jacana
<i>Meliphaga lewinii</i>	Lewin's Honeyeater
<i>Melithreptus albogularis</i>	White-throated Honeyeater
<i>Merops ornatus</i>	Rainbow Bee-eater
<i>Microcarbo melanoleucos</i>	Little Pied Cormorant

<i>Microeca fascinans</i>	Jacky Winter
<i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i>	Satin Flycatcher
<i>Myiagra rubecula</i>	Leaden Flycatcher
<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>	Cotton Pygmy-goose
<i>Nettapus pulchellus</i>	Green Pygmy-goose
<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae</i>	Southern Boobook
<i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i>	Crested Pigeon
<i>Oriolus sagittatus</i>	Olive-backed Oriole
<i>Oriolus sagittatus</i>	Olive-backed Oriole
<i>Oxyura australis</i>	Blue-billed Duck
<i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i>	Rufous Whistler
<i>Pelecanus conspicillatus</i>	Australian Pelican
<i>Petrochelidon nigricans</i>	Tree Martin
<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	Little Black Cormorant
<i>Philemon citreogularis</i>	Little Friarbird
<i>Philemon corniculatus</i>	Noisy Friarbird
<i>Platycercus adscitus</i>	Pale-headed Rosella
<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	Purple Swamphen
<i>Ptilonorhynchus nuchalis</i>	Great Bowerbird
<i>Rhipidura albiscapa</i>	Grey Fantail
<i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i>	Willie Wagtail
<i>Strepera graculina</i>	Pied Currawong
<i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i>	Australasian Grebe
<i>Tadorna radjah</i>	Radjah Shelduck
<i>Threskiornis molucca</i>	Australian White Ibis
<i>Threskiornis spinicollis</i>	Straw-necked Ibis
<i>Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus</i>	Scaly-breasted Lorikeet
<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>	Rainbow Lorikeet
<i>Vanellus miles</i>	Masked Lapwing

The search through the Atlas of Living Australia returned no records of mammals within 10km radius of this location. However it would be utilised by various macropods, rodents, bats and possums and other small and medium sized marsupials.

3.3 (b) Hydrology, including water flows

The site of the proposed activity contains first and second order ephemeral streams. First and second order streams are at the very beginning of the drainage system and are less likely to have to impacts on downstream systems due to filtering of contaminants. Please refer to Attachment Two, Map 5. The Burdekin catchment system finishes as a stream order 9.

3.3 (d) Outstanding natural features

There are 2 ancient volcanic vents within the action area however these have been excluded from the proposed clearing activity as they are unsuitable for cultivation and cropping. They are identified in Map 3 of Attachment Two by the brown colored polygons.

3.3 (e) Remnant native vegetation

This site is largely remnant native vegetation with some disturbance from cattle grazing. The native pastures are in good condition with little overgrazing. However as is typical with most cattle stations there has been the introduction of some non-native pasture species and some weed species. Overall though, the station has been managed well to ensure that good coverage of pasture species are maintained. There is little tree thickening evident on this property and the proposed activity.

3.3 (f) Gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area)

The slope of the land is <1% but most has been assessed of having no slope. Therefore flows across the site are typically slow and gentle minimising erosion, sedimentation and the transportation of other potential contaminants across the site.

3.3 (g) Current state of the environment

Include information about the extent of erosion, whether the area is infested with weeds or feral animals and whether the area is covered by native vegetation or crops.

The proposed site is in good condition. There is no erosion with good cover of native pastures and open woodlands. There are few weed species and some feral animals typical of this area. Mostly feral pigs.

3.3 (h) Commonwealth Heritage Places or other places recognised as having heritage values

There are no Commonwealth Heritage Places located within the proposed site.

3.3 (i) Indigenous heritage values

A search using the Australian Heritage database returned no results for Indigenous heritage values located within the proposed site.

3.3 (j) Other important or unique values of the environment

Describe any other key features of the environment affected by, or in proximity to the proposed action (for example, any national parks, conservation reserves, wetlands of national significance etc).

There are no other important or unique values of the environment located in or in proximity of this area that will be affected by this action.

3.3 (k) Tenure of the action area (e.g. freehold, leasehold)

Leasehold

3.3 (l) Existing uses of area of proposed action

Grazing cattle.

3.3 (m) Any proposed uses of area of proposed action

High value dryland cropping. This land would be well suited for growing forage and grain crops such as sorghum.

4 Environmental outcomes

Provide descriptions of the proposed environmental outcomes that will be achieved for the matters protected by the EPBC Act that are likely to be affected by the proposed action. Include details of the baseline data upon which the outcomes are based, and the confidence about the likely achievement of the proposed outcomes. Where outcomes cannot be identified or committed to, provide explanatory details including any commitments to identify outcomes through an assessment process.

If a proposed action is determined to be a controlled action, the Department may request further details to enable application of the *Outcomes-based Conditions Policy 2016* (<http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications/outcomes-based-conditions-policy-guidance>), including information about the environmental outcomes to be achieved by proposed avoidance, mitigation, management or offset measures, details of baseline data, milestones, performance criteria, and monitoring and adaptive management to ensure the achievement of outcomes. If this information is available at the time of referral it should be included in the description of the proposed measures.

General commitments to achieving environmental outcomes, particularly relating to beneficial impacts of the proposed action, CANNOT be taken into account in making the decision about whether the proposal is likely to have a significant impact on a matter protected under the EPBC Act. However, those commitments may be relevant at the later assessment and approval stages, including the appropriate level of assessment, and conditions of approval, if your proposal proceeds to these stages.

The proposed environmental outcomes, to help protect matters, that are likely to be affected by this activity are:

1. Minimising the loss of critical habitat by protecting key habitat areas such as rocky outcrops and riparian zones identified in Attachment Two, Map 3.
2. Ensure that adequate ground cover at all times post clearing activity for sedimentation control.
3. Ensure large trees, living or dead, suitable for quoll dens are checked for occupancy before removal.
4. Ensure primary koala food trees (*E. teretocornis*) are checked for koalas before removal.
5. Ensure proponents can clearly identify the trees identified in points 4 and 5 before engaging in clearing.
6. Ensure weeds and pests are kept to minimum.
7. On a regional scale the proposed activity occupies an extremely small portion of the available land of similar regional ecosystem type.

In addition, implementing the proposed mitigation measures as described in Section 5.

5 Measures to avoid or reduce impacts

NB: These are the measures/actions in more detail that will mitigate any impacts with a reference to those outcomes identified in section 4 above.

Clearing will be performed in stages over a three to five year period and in a way to minimise the impacts of erosion and to ensure tree regrowth is kept to a minimum. Cleared areas will be promptly sown with suitable pasture grass and legume species prior to the wet season to minimise erosion and minimise tree regrowth. And clearing will not be performed during the wet season to minimise erosion.

Once a cropping rotation is established pastures will be grown and minimum till practices adopted to ensure good ground cover.

The impacted area will not intrude on any established creeks or riparian zones. There are landscape drainage lines to the north and west of the proposed area. However these drainage systems have intermittent flows after good rains during the wet season. There will be a buffer of at least 100m from these drainage sites and proposed cleared areas. This will not only reduce sedimentation entering the waterways but will help minimise any residual chemicals entering the river system.

Any large hollow bearing trees will not be immediately cleared. These trees will be left in place for at least 24 hours to give any resident animals time to vacate unharmed.

Weed and Pest Control

Weed problems can be reduced by washing down any contracting machinery coming on to the property. Whether it be for clearing application or equipment used for maintain crops. In addition proponents will remain vigilant and proactively removing/treating any weeds to ensure there is minimum likelihood of weeds spreading.

Animal pests such as pigs will be controlled by routine monitoring followed-up by suitable control measures such as fencing, shooting and or baiting. Fencing will be performed before any cropping to stop cattle and to stop pests and macropods damaging crops.

Clearing and Cropping Activities:

1. Clearing activity will be staged over several years to mitigate sedimentation problems and to ensure the property is designed and managed properly.
2. Proponents will maintain a non-cleared buffer zone 100m from any creek line.
3. Boudaryline to be clearly marked to ensure clearing activities maintain agreed distance from streams.
4. All clearing will take place outside of Wet Season.
5. Suitable pasture cover during non cropping periods will minimise erosion.
6. All cleared areas to be seeded with suitable pasture species before wet season with to establish good ground cover.
7. Maintain sufficient ground cover before and during the wet season.
8. The site chosen has well drained soils.
9. The site chosen has minimal slope of <1% that will help minimise erosion.
10. There will be minimum soil tillage during wet season.
11. Pesticides and herbicides applied as per manufacturer recommendations and by state law.

Sedimentation control

Avoid and reduce impacts.

Maintain good clearing and cropping practises keeping the following in mind.

1. Proponents will maintain a non-cleared buffer zone 100m from any creek line.
2. Boudaryline to be clearly marked to ensure clearing activities maintain agreed distance from streams.
3. All clearing will take place outside of Wet Season.
4. Suitable pasture cover during non cropping periods will minimise erosion.
5. Sow cleared areas before wet season with suitable pasture species to establish good ground cover.
6. Maintain sufficient ground cover during the wet season.
7. There will be minimum soil tillage during wet season.

Key Habitat Preservation

Due diligence surrounding the decision to identify key cropping areas for clearing has been taken. Only that land suitable for high value cropping will be cleared and any other land such as the rocky outcrops left untouched, see Attachment Two, Map 3. These rocky areas may offer suitable habitat such as den sites or foraging areas for matters of NES such as the Northern Quoll. The rocky habitat also offers connectivity to the southern part of the open woodland that will remain uncleared. These corridors will offer animals the opportunity to move freely between habitat types. In addition this parcel of land, nominated for clearing, represents only a very small fraction of the total surrounding land with the same or very similar habitat as described by the Regional Ecosystem Mapping, see Attachment 2, Map 4. For example, The same or similar RE habitats within a 20km radius of the proposed clearing covers an area of over 130000hectares of the total 160000 hectares. The proposed cleared area represents less than 1500ha or <1.2% of this. Plus these landtypes continue for many more kilometres. So on a regional scale the proposed cleared land represents an extremely small part of this land type.

Note: If you have identified alternatives in relation to location, time frames or activities as part of the proposed action at sections 1.10 and 2.3 please complete this section in relation to each of the alternatives identified.

Provide a description of measures that will be implemented to avoid, reduce, manage or offset any relevant impacts of the action. Include, if appropriate, any relevant reports or technical advice relating to the feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed measures.

For each proposed measure, specify:

- a concise description of the nature, scope, work plan and consequence of the measure for the relevant impact and any statutory or policy basis for the measure;
- in doing so, include analysis and findings on whether each measure is likely to achieve the environmental outcomes for the matters protected by the EPBC Act which are likely to be affected by the proposed action, including noting:
- the likely effectiveness of the measure in avoiding or mitigating the relevant impact on the matters protected by the EPBC Act;
- the level of commitment by the person proposing to take the action to achieve the proposed environmental outcomes and implement the proposed mitigation measures. For example, identify if the measures are preliminary suggestions only that have not been fully researched, or are dependent on a third party's agreement (e.g. council or landowner);
- any likely residual impacts (being, impacts likely to occur having implemented mitigation and/or avoidance measures) and, if such impacts will or are likely to occur, the measure available to compensate or offset these residual impacts. Please consider the Department's *EPBC Act, the EPBC Environmental Offsets Policy* (October 2012) (and *How to use the Offsets Assessment Guide*) and the *draft Policy Statement on EPBC Act Advanced Environmental Offsets*;
- the likely consequences for the matters protected by the EPBC Act should the measure not be effective; and
- any other likely consequences of the measure including both adverse and beneficial, such as efficiency, cost and cost-effectiveness and public acceptability (noting however, beneficial consequences of the measure will not be considered in deciding whether or not the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact on the matters protected by the EPBC Act).

•
Examples of relevant measures to avoid or reduce impacts may include the timing of works, avoidance of important habitat, specific design measures, or adoption of specific work practices.

Note, the Minister may decide that a proposed action is not likely to have significant impacts on a protected matter, as long as the action is taken in a particular manner (section 77A of the EPBC Act). The particular manner of taking the action may avoid or reduce certain impacts, in such a way that those impacts will not be 'significant'. More detail is provided on the Department's web site.

For the Minister to make such a decision (under section 77A), the proposed measures to avoid or reduce impacts must:

- clearly form part of the referred action (e.g. be identified in the referral and fall within the responsibility of the person proposing to take the action);
- be must be clear, unambiguous, and provide certainty in relation to reducing or avoiding impacts on the matters protected; and
- must be realistic and practical in terms of reporting, auditing and enforcement.

6 Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

Identify whether or not you believe the action is a controlled action (i.e. whether you think that significant impacts on the matters protected under Part 3 of the EPBC Act are likely) and the reasons why.

6.1 Do you THINK your proposed action is a controlled action?

<input type="checkbox"/>	No, complete section 5.2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes, complete section 5.3 should be 6.3

There is a remote chance that some NES animals maybe significantly impacted by this activity. The koala referral guidelines indicate that koalas maybe impacted and returned a score of 5 from 10 using the habitat assessment tool. However as noted in, section 3.1 Table 1, it is unlikely that koalas would occupy this land for any extended periods of time given the long hot and extended dry periods at this location and the absence of any permanent water during these dry periods.

Another animal possibly at risk is the northern quoll. However if the mitigation measures are followed and the likely key habitat such as the rocky outcrops are preserved it is unlikely that this activity will have any significant impacts on this animal.

All other NES animals likely utilise the habitat are either highly mobile and or transient and not likely to be significantly impacted by the action.

6.2 Proposed action IS NOT a controlled action.

Specify the key reasons why you think the proposed action is NOT LIKELY to have significant impacts on a matter protected under the EPBC Act by reference to each relevant matter protected by the EPBC Act.

6.3 Proposed action IS a controlled action

Type 'x' in the box for the matter(s) protected under the EPBC Act that you think are likely to be significantly impacted. (The 'sections' identified below are the relevant sections of the EPBC Act.)

Matters likely to be significantly impacted

N	World Heritage values (sections 12 and 15A)
N	National Heritage places (sections 15B and 15C)
N	Wetlands of international importance (sections 16 and 17B)
Y	Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A)
N	Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A)
N	Protection of the environment from nuclear actions (sections 21 and 22A)
N	Commonwealth marine environment (sections 23 and 24A)
N	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (sections 24B and 24C)
N	A water resource, in relation to coal seam gas development and large coal mining development (sections 24D and 24E)
N	Protection of the environment from actions involving Commonwealth land (sections 26 and 27A)
N	Protection of the environment from Commonwealth actions (section 28)
N	Commonwealth Heritage places overseas (sections 27B and 27C)

Specify the key reasons why you think the proposed action is likely to have a significant adverse impact on the matters identified above by reference to each matter protected by the EPBC Act identified in section 3 above.

7 Environmental record of the person proposing to take the action

	Yes	No
7.1 Does the party taking the action have a satisfactory record of responsible environmental management? Provide details	YES	
7.2 Provide details of any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against: (a) the person proposing to take the action, or (b) if a permit has been applied for in relation to the action - the person making the application. If yes, provide details		NO
7.3 If the person taking the action is a corporation, please provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework and if and how the framework applies to the action.		NO
7.4 Has the party taking the action previously referred an action under the EPBC Act, or been responsible for undertaking an action referred under the EPBC Act? Provide name of proposal and EPBC reference number (if known)		NO

8 Information sources and attachments

(For the information provided above)

8.1 References

- List the references used in preparing the referral.
- Highlight documents that are available to the public, including web references if relevant.

Atlas of Living Australia
RedList
SPRAT
QLD DEHP
EPBC Act Conservation Advice

8.2 Reliability and date of information

For information in section 3 and the map required by section 1, specify:

- source of the information;
- how recent the information is;
- how the reliability of the information was tested; and
- any uncertainties in the information.

All text and references relating to any of the matters of NES has been sourced from the most recent information taken from state and commonwealth web sites listed in section 8.1.

All location maps have been constructed using ArcMap and the most up to date Google earth maps in conjunction with Queensland Globe developed by the Queensland Governments Department of Natural Resources and Mines.

Regional Ecosystem mapping was constructed using spatial layers from the Queensland Government, Queensland Spatial Catalogue.

8.3 Attachments

Indicate the documents you have attached. All attachments must be less than three megabytes (3mb) so they can be published on the Department's website. Attachments larger than three megabytes (3mb) may delay the processing of your referral.

		✓ attach ed	Title of attachment(s)
You must attach	figures, maps or aerial photographs showing the locality of the proposed action (section 1)	YES	AttachmentTwo_Maps_CmmReferral.docx
	GIS file delineating the boundary of the referral area (section 1)	shape files	MeadowbankClearing.zip RiparianZone.zip RockPolygon.zip
	figures, maps or aerial photographs showing the location of the proposed action in respect to any matters of national environmental significance or important features of the environments (section 3)	YES	AttachmentTwo_Maps_CmmReferral.docx
If relevant, attach	copies of any state or local government approvals and consent conditions (section 2.5)	YES	AttachmentOne_Landline Land Suitability Report 20 July 16.docx
	copies of any completed assessments to meet state or local government approvals and outcomes of public consultations, if	YES	AttachmentFour_DILGP_DecisionNotice.docx

available (section 2.6)		
copies of any flora and fauna investigations and surveys (section 3)	YES	AttachmentThree_SpeciesConcerned WithActivity.docx
technical reports relevant to the assessment of impacts on protected matters that support the arguments and conclusions in the referral (section 3) conclusions in the referral (section 3 and 4)		
report(s) on any public consultations undertaken, including with Indigenous stakeholders (section 3)	YES	AttachmentFour_DILGP_DecisionNotice.docx

9 Contacts, signatures and declarations

NOTE: Providing false or misleading information in response to a requirement under Part 7 of the EPBC Act is an offence punishable on conviction by imprisonment and/or fine (section 489 of the EPBC Act).

Under the EPBC Act a referral can only be made by:
the person proposing to take the action (which can include a person acting on their behalf); or
a Commonwealth, state or territory government, or agency that is aware of a proposal by a person to take an action, and that has administrative responsibilities relating to the action.

Proposed action title:

9.1 Person proposing to take action

This is the individual, government agency or company that will be principally responsible for, or who will carry out, the proposed action. It may be a trustee (either being an individual or a body corporate) acting on behalf of the trust for which they have responsibility (but not the trust).

If the proposed action will be taken under a contract or other arrangement, this is:
the person for whose benefit the action will be taken; or
the person who procured the contract or other arrangement and who will have principal control and responsibility for the taking of the proposed action.

If the proposed action requires a permit under the GBRMP Act¹, this is the person requiring the grant of a GBRMP permission.

The Minister may also request relevant additional information from this person.

If further assessment and approval for the action is required, any approval which may be granted will be issued to the person proposing to take the action. This person will be responsible for complying with any conditions attached to the approval.

Name and Title:

Mr Glen and Ms Laural Cameron

Organisation (if applicable):

Organisation name should match entity identified in ABN/ACN search

Trust deed (if applicable):

☐

not applicable

ACN / ABN (if applicable):

214 652 660 42

Postal address:

117 Kennedy Street

Kilkoy QLD 4515

¹ If your referred action, or a component of it, is to be taken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park the Minister is required to provide a copy of your referral to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) (see section 73A, EPBC Act). For information about how the GBRMPA may use your information, see http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/privacy/privacy_notice_for_permits.

Telephone:
m 0427 171 770
p 07 5497 1959

Email:
glencameron@aussiebb.com.au

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF YOU QUALIFY FOR
EXEMPTION FROM THE FEE(S) THAT WOULD OTHERWISE
BE PAYABLE

I qualify for exemption from fees
under section 520(4C)(e)(v) of the
EPBC Act because I am:

YES- a small business entity – aggregated turnover is less
than \$2million for the previous income year (as prescribed within
section 328-110 (other than subsection 328-119 (4)) of the
Income Tax Assessment Act 1997);

If you are small business entity you
must provide the Date/Income Year
that you became a small business
entity:

10 April 2000

Note 1: Please retain evidence (i.e. tax statements) displaying
aggregated turnover for the relevant income year. The Department
may request this evidence at any stage of the assessment process.
Aggregated turnover, for the purposes of the *Environment
Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000 (Cth)*,
means:

(1) a company annual turnover for the income year **and**

(11) the annual turnover for the income year of any entity that is
connected or affiliated with the company at any time during the
income year (see section 328-155 of the *Income Tax Assessment
Act 1997 (Cth)*).

Note 2: You must advise the Department within 10 business days if
you cease to be a small business entity. Failure to notify the
Secretary of this is an offence punishable on conviction by a fine
(regulation 5.23B(3) *Environment Protection and Biodiversity
Conservation Regulations 2000 (Cth)*).

Note: You must advise the Department within 10 business

days if you cease to be a small business entity. Failure to notify the Secretary of this is an offence punishable on conviction by a fine (regulation 5.23B(3) *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000* (Cth)).

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO APPLY FOR A WAIVER

Note: Applications for a waiver must be supported by information in writing setting out the grounds on which the applicant considers that a waiver should be made and the reasons why it should be made. The Minister may, at his or her discretion, waive all or part of a fee that would otherwise be payable in the following circumstances:

- the action's primary objective is to protect the environment, or protect and conserve heritage, in a way that is consistent with the objects of the EPBC Act;
- it is in the public interest to do so; or
- there are other exceptional circumstances justifying the waiver.

The Minister will consider the application within 20 business days.

I would like to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under regulation 5.21A of the [EPBC Regulations](#). Under regulation 5.21A(5), you must include information about the applicant (if not you) the grounds on which the waiver is sought and the reasons why it should be made:

☐ not applicable.

Declaration:

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this form is complete, current and correct.

I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf of or for the benefit of any other person or entity.

Signature: **See Appendix 1**

Date:

9.2 Designated proponent

Individual or organisation who is proposed to be designated as the proponent if the Minister decides that the action is a controlled action and further assessment and approval is required. The proponent is responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process. The proponent may or may not be

the person proposing to take the action.

Name of proposed proponent:

If the name of the proposed proponent is not the same person as named at item 1 of section 9.1 above, please complete all of the below fields in section 9.2.

ACN / ABN (if applicable):

Postal address:

Telephone:

Email:

Declaration by the
proposed proponent:

I, the proposed proponent,
consent to the proposed
designation of myself as the proponent for the purposes of
the action described in this
referral.

Date:

Signature:

I, the person proposing to
take the action, consent to
the proposed designation of..... as
proponent for the purposes
of the action described in this referral.

Declaration by the person proposing
to
take the action:

Signature:

Date:

9.3 Person preparing the referral information (if different from section 9.1)

Individual or organisation who has prepared the information contained in this referral form.

Name: Dean Jones

Title: Mr.

Organisation:

Landline Consulting.

ACN / ABN (if applicable):

19532862590

Postal address:

1 Jack Street, Atherton, QLD,
4883

Telephone:

0467 776 275

Email:

djones@landlineconsulting.com

Declaration:

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this form is complete, current and correct.
I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

Signature: **See Appendix 1,
below for signed page.**

Date:

REFERRAL CHECKLIST

NOTE: This checklist is to help ensure that all the relevant referral information has been provided. It is not a part of the referral form and does not need to be sent to the Department.

HAVE YOU:

- ☐ Completed all required sections of the referral form?
- ☐ Included accurate coordinates (to allow the location of the proposed action to be mapped)?
- ☐ Provided a map showing the location and approximate boundaries of the project area for the proposed action?
- ☐ Provided a map/plan showing the location of the action in relation to any matters of NES?
- ☐ Provided a digital file (preferably ArcGIS shapefile, refer to guidelines at [Attachment A](#)) delineating the boundaries of the referral area?
- ☐ Provided complete contact details and signed the form?
- ☐ Provided copies of any documents referenced in the referral form?
- ☐ Ensured that all attachments are less than three megabytes (3mb)?
- ☐ Sent the referral to the Department (electronic and hard copy preferred)

I would like to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under regulation 5.21A of the EPBC Regulations. Under regulation 5.21A(5), you must include information about the applicant (if not you) the grounds on which the waiver is sought and the reasons why it should be made:

☐ not applicable.

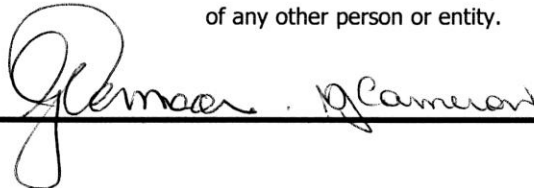
Declaration:

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this form is complete, current and correct.

I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence.

I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf of or for the benefit of any other person or entity.

Signature:



Date:

4/12/16

9.2

Designated proponent

Individual or organisation who is proposed to be designated as the proponent if the Minister decides that the action is a controlled action and further assessment and approval is required. The proponent is responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process. The proponent may or may not be the person proposing to take the action.

Name of proposed proponent:

If the name of the proposed proponent is not the same person as named at item 1 of section 9.1 above, please complete all of the below fields in section 9.2.

ACN / ABN (if applicable):

Postal address:

Telephone:

Email:

Declaration by the proposed proponent:

I, the proposed proponent, consent to the proposed designation of myself as the proponent for the purposes of the action described in this referral.

Date:

Appendix 1: Consultant Declaration

Signature: I, the person proposing to
take the action, consent to
the proposed designation of..... as
proponent for the purposes
of the action described in this referral.

Declaration by the person proposing
to
take the action:

Signature: Date:

9.3 Person preparing the referral information (if different from section 9.1)

Individual or organisation who has prepared the information contained in this referral form.

Name: Dean Jones

Title: Mr.

Organisation:

Landline Consulting.

ACN / ABN (if applicable):

19532862590

Postal address:

1 Jack Street, Atherton, QLD,
4883

Telephone:

0467 776 275

Email:

djones@landlineconsulting.com

Declaration:

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given
on, or attached to this form is complete, current and correct.
I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious
offence.

Signature:



Date:

2/12/2016

Attachment A

Geographic Information System (GIS) data supply guidelines

If the area is less than 5 hectares, provide the location as a point layer. If the area greater than 5 hectares, please provide as a polygon layer. If the proposed action is linear (eg. a road or pipeline) please provide a polyline layer.

GIS data needs to be provided to the Department in the following manner:

Point, Line or Polygon data types: ESRI file geodatabase feature class (preferred) or as an ESRI shapefile (.shp) zipped and attached with appropriate title

Raster data types: Raw satellite imagery should be supplied in the vendor specific format.

Projection as GDA94 coordinate system.

Processed products should be provided as follows:

For data, uncompressed or lossless compressed formats is required - GeoTIFF or Imagine IMG is the first preference, then JPEG2000 lossless and other simple binary+header formats (ERS, ENVI or BIL).

For natural/false/pseudo colour RGB imagery:

If the imagery is already mosaiced and is ready for display then lossy compression is suitable (JPEG2000 lossy/ECW/MrSID). Prefer 10% compression, up to 20% is acceptable.

If the imagery requires any sort of processing prior to display (i.e. mosaicing/colour balancing/etc) then an uncompressed or lossless compressed format is required.

Metadata or 'information about data' will be produced for all spatial data and will be compliant with ANZLIC Metadata Profile. (http://www.anzlic.org.au/policies_guidelines#guidelines).

The Department's preferred method is using ANZMet Lite, however the Department's Service Provider may use any compliant system to generate metadata.

Attachment B

Privacy and Confidentiality Notice

The Department is required under section 74(3) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (**EPBC Act**) to publish the information (including personal information of the author and/or third parties) provided in this referral on the internet. The information published may include your personal information.

Information including your personal information included in this referral will be used for the purposes of administering the EPBC Act. The information may be provided to various Commonwealth, State and Territory agencies for the purposes of administering the Act or other Commonwealth, State or Territory legislation. For example, if the proposed action (or a component of it) is to be taken in the GBRMP, the Minister is required to provide a copy of your referral to GBRMPA (see section 73A, EPBC Act). For information about how the GBRMPA may use your information, see http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/privacy/privacy_notice_for_permits.

- The Department will collect, use, store and disclose the personal information contained in this referral in a manner consistent with its obligations under the *Privacy Act 1988* and the Department's privacy policy.

The Department's privacy policy contains details about how respondents may access and make corrections to personal information that the Department holds about the respondent, how respondents may make a complaint about a breach of an Australian Privacy Principle, and how the Department will deal with that complaint. A copy of the Department's privacy policy is available at: <http://environment.gov.au/privacy-policy>.

The Department is not obliged to publish information that the Minister is satisfied is commercial-in-confidence. If you believe that this referral contains information that is commercial-in-confidence, you must clearly identify such information and the reason for its confidentiality at the time of making the referral. The Minister cannot be satisfied that particular information included in a referral is commercial-in-confidence unless you demonstrate to the Minister (by providing reasons in writing) that:

- release of the information would cause competitive detriment to the person; and
- the information is not in the public domain; and
- the information is not required to be disclosed under another law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory; and
- the information is not readily discoverable.

The Department is subject to certain legislative and administrative accountability and transparency requirements of the Australian Government including disclosures to the Parliament and its Committees. While the Department will treat all referral information provided in this referral sensitively, any information contained in or relating to a referral, including information identified by a person as commercial-in-confidence, may be disclosed by the Department:

- to its employees and advisers in order to evaluate or assess a referral;
- to the Parliamentary Secretary;
- within the Department or other agencies where this serves the legitimate interest of the Australian Government;
- in response to a request by a House or Committee of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia;
- where information is authorised or permitted by law to be disclosed; and
- where the information is in the public domain other than by the Department's disclosure of that information.