



## Approval

### Sunshine Coast Airport Master Plan Implementation Project (EPBC 2011/5823)

This decision is made under sections 130(1) and 133 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

#### Proposed action

**person to whom the approval is granted** Sunshine Coast Regional Council  
ABN: 37 876 973 913

**proposed action** To construct and operate a new 13/31 runway, revised apron and expanded passenger terminal, at Sunshine Coast Airport, Marcoola, Queensland (see EPBC Act referral 2011/5823).

#### Approval decision

Controlling provision	Decision
Wetlands of international importance (sections 16 and 17B)	Approved
Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A)	Approved
Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A)	Approved

**conditions of approval** This approval is subject to the conditions specified below.

**expiry date of approval** This approval has effect until 30 June 2046.

#### Decision-maker

**name and position** The Hon Greg Hunt MP  
Minister for the Environment

**signature**

**date of decision**

18:7:16

12:41 PM

## Conditions attached to the approval

### *Allocasuarina emuina*

1. **Disturbance** to *Allocasuarina emuina* is only permitted for the purpose of translocating *Allocasuarina emuina*. **Disturbance** to *Allocasuarina emuina* must not occur outside the **population area impact** and must not exceed 4.41 hectares.

#### Retained population

2. Prior to **disturbance** to *Allocasuarina emuina*, the **approval holder** must ensure a baseline survey of the **condition** and **extent** of *Allocasuarina emuina* within the **known population area** (excluding the **population area impact**) is undertaken by a **suitably qualified person**.
3. For the life of the approval, the **approval holder** must ensure no net loss in the **condition** and **extent** of *Allocasuarina emuina* within the **known population area** (excluding the **population area impact**) compared to the baseline **condition** and **extent** (*Outcome 1*).

#### Translocated population

4. Prior to **disturbance** to *Allocasuarina emuina*, the **approval holder** must ensure a baseline survey of the **count**, **condition** and **extent** of *Allocasuarina emuina* within the **population area impact** is undertaken by a **suitably qualified person**.
5. Within five years after the **commencement of translocation** and then on for the life of the approval, the **approval holder** must ensure no net loss in the **condition** and **extent** of *Allocasuarina emuina* translocated from the **population area impact** compared to the baseline **condition** and **extent** (*Outcome 2*).
6. Within 20 years after the **commencement of translocation** and then on for the life of the approval, the **approval holder** must ensure a minimum 2.6 times increase in the **count** of *Allocasuarina emuina* translocated from the **population area impact** compared to the baseline **count** (*Outcome 3*).
7. Within 20 **business days** after the **commencement of translocation**, the **approval holder** must advise the **Department** in writing of the actual date of **commencement of translocation**.

#### Management plan

8. Prior to **disturbance** to *Allocasuarina emuina*, the **approval holder** must have a management plan for *Allocasuarina emuina* in place. The management plan must:
  - i. be designed so that the results are adequate to inform adaptive management and demonstrate whether *Outcome 1*, *Outcome 2* and *Outcome 3* are on track to be achieved (before they are due) and have been achieved (at the time they are due)
  - ii. include contingency measures to mitigate the risks of not achieving *Outcome 1*, *Outcome 2* or *Outcome 3*
  - iii. include written evidence of input and review from a **suitably qualified person**
  - iv. take account of the *Allocasuarina emuina* recovery plan.
9. The management plan for *Allocasuarina emuina* must be implemented. The **approval holder** must publish the management plan on their website prior to the **commencement**

of **translocation** and the management plan (or any subsequent revised versions) must remain on the website for the life of the approval. The results of the management plan must be included in the annual compliance report provided to the **Department**.

10. If, at any time during the life of the approval, the **approval holder** identifies that the outcomes (*Outcome 1*, *Outcome 2* or *Outcome 3*) are not on track to be achieved, the **approval holder** must report to the **Department** in writing within 20 **business days** of becoming aware. The report must state the cause, the response measures (including timeframes for reporting the success of those measures to the **Department**) and the actions to prevent further occurrences.
11. If the **Minister** is not satisfied that the outcomes (*Outcome 1*, *Outcome 2* or *Outcome 3*) are likely to be achieved, or is not satisfied there is sufficient evidence that the outcomes (*Outcome 1*, *Outcome 2* or *Outcome 3*) are likely to be achieved (on the basis of information provided in compliance reporting and or audits under these conditions of approval), the **Minister** may (in writing) request the **approval holder** to submit a plan for the **Minister's** approval, to monitor, manage, avoid, mitigate, offset, record or report on, impacts to *Allocasuarina emuina*.
  - i. The **Minister** may set a timeframe in which the plan must be submitted, and may designate that the plan must be prepared or reviewed by a **suitably qualified person** (or another specified person).
  - ii. If the **Minister** approves the plan in writing then the **approval holder** must implement that plan (or a revised version if approved in writing by the **Minister**).

#### ***Litoria olongburensis***

12. The **approval holder** must ensure no more than 1.67 hectares of **breeding habitat** for *Litoria olongburensis* is cleared as a result of the action.
  13. The **approval holder** must offset the impact of clearing up to 1.67 hectares of **breeding habitat** for *Litoria olongburensis*. The offset/s must be in accordance with the **EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy** and consistent with the **Biodiversity Offset Strategy**.
  14. The **approval holder** must prepare and submit an offset management plan for *Litoria olongburensis* for the **Minister's** approval. Clearance of **breeding habitat** for *Litoria olongburensis* must not occur until the offset management plan is approved in writing by the **Minister**. If the **Minister** approves the offset management plan then the approved offset management plan must be implemented.
  15. The offset management plan for *Litoria olongburensis* must include, but is not limited to:
    - a. the proposed legal mechanism and timelines for securing the offset area/s
    - b. details of the minimum offset area/s proposed to compensate for clearing **breeding habitat** for *Litoria olongburensis*
    - c. evidence that the offset/s are in accordance with the **EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy** including a populated copy of the **EPBC Act offsets assessment guide** with detailed justification for each input
    - d. information about how the offset area/s provide connectivity with other relevant habitats and biodiversity corridors
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- e. a textual description and a map to clearly define the location and boundaries of the offset area/s accompanied by the **offset attributes**
  - f. a description of the management measures (including timing, frequency and longevity) that will be implemented on the offset area/s for the protection and management of habitat for *Litoria olongburensis*, including details of how the management measures proposed take account of the *Litoria olongburensis* **recovery plan** and the *Litoria olongburensis* **threat abatement plan**
  - g. performance and completion criteria for evaluating the management of the offset area/s and criteria for triggering remedial action (if necessary)
  - h. a program, including timelines to monitor and report on the effectiveness of the management measures, and progress against the performance and completion criteria
  - i. a description of potential risks to the successful implementation of the offset/s, a description of the contingency measures that would be implemented to mitigate against these risks and residual risk ratings.
16. The results of the offset management plan for *Litoria olongburensis* must be included in the annual compliance report provided to the **Department**.

#### **Administration**

17. Within 20 **business days** after the **commencement of construction**, the **approval holder** must advise the **Department** in writing of the actual date of **commencement of construction**.
18. The **approval holder** must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the management plans required by this approval, and make them available upon request to the **Department**. Such records may be subject to audit by the **Department** or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the **EPBC Act**, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the **Department's** website. The results of audits may also be made public through the general media.
19. Within 60 **business days** of every 12 month anniversary of the **commencement of construction**, the **approval holder** must publish a compliance report on their website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of any management plans as specified in the conditions. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions of this approval must be provided to the **Department** at the same time as the compliance report is published. The compliance reports must remain on the **approval holder's** website for the life of the approval. The **Minister** may provide written consent to cease reporting under this condition if satisfied that the action is complete and there are no further outstanding requirements.
20. Upon the direction of the **Minister**, the **approval holder** must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the **Minister**. The independent auditor must be approved by the **Minister** prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to by the **Minister** and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the **Minister**.
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21. The **approval holder** may choose to revise a management plan approved by the **Minister** under Condition 14 without submitting it for approval under section 143A of the **EPBC Act**, if the taking of the action in accordance with the revised management plan would not be likely to have a **new or increased impact**. If the **approval holder** makes this choice they must:
- i. notify the **Department** in writing that the approved management plan has been revised and provide the **Department** with an electronic copy of the revised management plan; and
  - ii. implement the revised management plan from the date that the management plan is submitted to the **Department**; and
  - iii. for the life of this approval, maintain a record of the reasons the **approval holder** considers that taking the action in accordance with the revised management plan would not be likely to have a **new or increased impact**.
- 21A. The **approval holder** may revoke their choice under Condition 21 at any time by notice to the **Department**. If the **approval holder** revokes the choice to implement a revised management plan, without approval under section 143A of the **EPBC Act**, the management plan approved by the **Minister** must be implemented.
- 21B. Condition 21 does not apply if the revisions to the approved management plan include changes to environmental offsets provided under the management plan in relation to a matter protected by a controlling provision for the action, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the **Minister**. This does not otherwise limit the circumstances in which the taking of the action in accordance with a revised management plan would, or would not, be likely to have a **new or increased impact**.
- 21C. If the **Minister** gives a notice to the **approval holder** that the **Minister** is satisfied that the taking of the action in accordance with the revised management plan would be likely to have a **new or increased impact**, then:
- i. Condition 21 does not apply, or ceases to apply, in relation to the revised management plan; and
  - ii. the **approval holder** must implement the management plan approved by the **Minister**.
- To avoid any doubt, this condition does not affect any operation of Condition 21, Condition 21A and Condition 21B in the period before the day the notice is given.
- At the time of giving the notice the **Minister** may also notify that for a specified period of time that Condition 21 does not apply for one or more specified management plans required under the approval.
- 21D. Condition 21, Condition 21A, Condition 21B and Condition 21C are not intended to limit the operation of section 143A of the **EPBC Act** which allows the **approval holder** to submit a revised management plan to the **Minister** for approval.
22. If, at any time after five years from the date of this approval, the **approval holder** has not **substantially commenced** the action, then the **approval holder** must not **substantially commence** the action without the written agreement of the **Minister**.
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23. Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the **Minister**, the **approval holder** must publish all management plans referred to in these conditions of approval on their website. Each management plan must be published on the website within 20 **business days** of being approved by the **Minister** or being submitted under Condition 21i.

## Definitions

**Approval holder:** the person to whom the approval is granted.

***Allocasuarina emuina*:** Emu Mountain Sheoak (*Allocasuarina emuina*) listed as a threatened species under the **EPBC Act**.

***Allocasuarina emuina* recovery plan:** Environmental Protection Agency (2007). *National recovery plan for the Mt Emu she-oak Allocasuarina emuina*. Report to Australian Government Department of the Environment and Water Resources, Canberra. Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Brisbane.

**Biodiversity offsets strategy:** the *Sunshine Coast Airport Expansion Project Biodiversity Offsets Strategy* dated 3 September 2015 included as Appendix B of the additional information to the environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

**Breeding habitat:** the area marked as 'Lost Wallum Sedgefrog' shown at Map 2.

**Business days:** a day that is not a Saturday, a Sunday or a public holiday measured in Queensland.

**Commencement of construction:** physical works necessary to commence the action including the clearing of vegetation, or earthworks, or the erection of any temporary or permanent structures, buildings or infrastructure, or dredging and dredged material pumping operations.

**Commencement of translocation:** the point at which physical works within the **population area impact** necessary for the translocation of *Allocasuarina emuina* are first undertaken.

**Condition:** habitat quality score comprised of *site condition*, *site context* and *species stocking rate* calculated in accordance with the requirements of the **EPBC Act offsets assessment guide**.

**Count:** the number of individuals of *Allocasuarina emuina*.

**Department:** the Australian Government Department administering the **EPBC Act**.

**Disturbance:** physical works that could adversely affect *Allocasuarina emuina*.

**EPBC Act:** the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth).

**EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy:** Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (2012). *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Environmental Offsets Policy*. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

**EPBC Act offsets assessment guide:** the *offsets assessment guide* tool and *how to use the offsets assessment guide* document that accompany the **EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy**.

**Extent:** the coverage of *Allocasuarina emuina* measured in hectares.

**Known population area:** the area marked as 'Known population area' that is within the 'Airport boundary' of the Sunshine Coast Airport shown at Map 1.

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***Litoria olongburensis*:** Wallum Sedge Frog (*Litoria olongburensis*) listed as a threatened species under the **EPBC Act**.

***Litoria olongburensis* recovery plan:** Meyer, E., Hero, J-M., Shoo, L. and Lewis, B. 2006. *National recovery plan for the wallum sedgefrog and other wallum-dependent frog species*. Report to Department of the Environment and Water Resources, Canberra. Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Brisbane.

***Litoria olongburensis* threat abatement plan:** Australian Government Department of the Environment and Heritage (2006). *Threat Abatement Plan, Infection of amphibians with chytrid fungus resulting in chytridiomycosis*. Commonwealth of Australia, Canberra.

**Minister:** the Australian Government Minister administering the **EPBC Act** and includes a delegate of the **Minister**.

**New or increased impact:** a new or increased impact on any matter protected by the controlling provisions for the action, when compared to the management plan that has been approved by the **Minister**.

**Offset attributes:** electronic files including '.xls' files and ESRI shapefiles containing '.shp', '.shx' and '.dbf' files capturing the relevant attributes of the offset area/s, including the **EPBC Act** reference number, the physical address of the offset area/s, coordinates of the boundary points in decimal degrees, the **EPBC Act** protected matters that the offset area/s compensates for, any additional **EPBC Act** protected matters benefiting from the offset/s and the size of the offset area/s (in hectares).

**Population area impact:** the area marked as 'Population area impact' shown at Map 1.

**Substantially commence/commenced:** earthworks, or the erection of permanent structures, buildings or infrastructure, or dredging and dredged material pumping for the construction of an aircraft runway.

**Suitably qualified person:** a person who has professional qualifications, training, skills or experience relevant to ***Allocasuarina emuina*** who can give authoritative assessment, advice and analysis in relation to the management of ***Allocasuarina emuina*** using the relevant protocols, standards, methods or literature.

#### **Attachments**

Map 1: Map showing ***Allocasuarina emuina*** and impacts

Map 2: Map showing **breeding habitat** for ***Litoria olongburensis***

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- Airport boundary
- Known population area
- Population area impact

**Habitat type:**

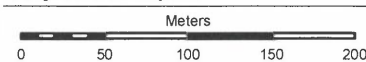
- Closed heath
- Open heath
- Open heath with Melaleuca thickening
- Melaleuca low open forest
- Melaleuca open forest



Client  
**Sunshine Coast Council**

Job Title  
**Sunshine Coast Airport  
Expansion Project**

Map Title  
**Mount Emu She-oak  
Project Area impact**



D1	14/07/2016	MJD	SXJ	LOM
Issue	Date	By	Chkd	Appd

**ARUP**

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Scale at A4  
**1:4,276**

Map Status  
**Final**

Coordinate System  
**GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56**

Job No  
**225480-00**

Figure No  
**001**





**Figure 2**  
Loss of Walum Sedgefrog breeding habitat within the Project area

**Scale:**  
1:3,689  
0 0.1 0.2  
Kilometers



**Client:** Sunshine Coast Airport      **Project:** Airport Expansion Project