

Natural Environment Referral Response - Biodiversity

Application Number:	DA2024/1362
Proposed Development:	Demolition works and construction of mixed use hospitality venue with supporting car parking, servicing and landscaping works
Date:	13/11/2024
Responsible Officer	Anne-Marie Young
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 180 DP 752017 , 40 Myoora Road TERREY HILLS NSW 2084

Reasons for referral

This application seeks consent development on land, or within 40m of land, containing:

- All Development Applications on
- Actual or potential threatened species, populations, ecological communities, or their habitats;
- Wildlife corridors;
- Vegetation query stipulating that a Flora and Fauna Assessment is required;
- Vegetation query - X type located in both A & C Wards;

And as such, Council's Natural Environment Unit officers are required to consider the likely potential environmental impacts.

Officer comments

Council's Biodiversity Referrals team have assessed the Development Application for compliance against the following applicable provisions:

- Warringah DCP cl. E2 Prescribed Vegetation
- Warringah DCP cl. E6 Retaining Unique Environmental Features

An Ecological Assessment Report (Anderson Environment & Planning, September 2024) is submitted with the application. The report identified that the subject site has been subject to historical vegetation clearing and is currently comprised of exotic vegetation with small stands of planted native vegetation. No threatened species or ecological communities were located within the subject site as a result of survey undertaken by the ecologist. Recommendations provided by the Ecologist will be conditioned should the application be approved.

The Arboricultural Impact Assessment (Anderson Environment & Planning, September 2024) recommends the removal of 9x planted *Eucalyptus grandis*, 1x *Ceratopetalum gummiferum*, 2x *Casuarina glauca* due to their location within the development footprint. No objection to the removal of these planted trees subject to their replacement. The Landscape Plan (Dangar Barin Smith, September 2024) contains a high proportion of native species for planting including ample native canopy replacements and revegetation at all other strata levels.

No objections in relation to biodiversity, subject to recommended conditions.

The proposal is therefore supported.

Note: Should you have any concerns with the referral comments above, please discuss these with the Responsible Officer.

Recommended Natural Environment Conditions:

CONDITIONS TO BE SATISFIED PRIOR TO THE ISSUE OF THE CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE

Compliance with Ecologist's Recommendations – Pre-construction

All impact mitigation measures specified in the approved Ecological Assessment Report (Anderson Environment & Planning, 2024) are to be implemented at the appropriate stage of development.

Compliance with these measures is to be certified by the Project Ecologist in writing to the Principal Certifier prior to issue of any Occupation Certificate.

Reason: To confirm compliance with wildlife and habitat protection/replacement measures.

No Clearing of Vegetation

Unless otherwise exempt, no vegetation is to be cleared prior to issue of a Construction Certificate.

Details demonstrating compliance are to be submitted to the Certifier prior to issue of Construction Certificate.

Reason: To protect native vegetation.

Installation of Nest Boxes

A minimum of 2 nest boxes suitable for native fauna species are to be installed in retained trees / throughout the trees within areas of retained native vegetation / on the site.

Nest boxes must be attached in accordance with industry best practice (e.g. expandable tree sensitive methods).

Written certification of compliance is to be prepared by the Project Ecologist and submitted to the Certifier prior to issue of the Construction Certificate.

Reason: To maintain wildlife habitat.

Engagement of Project Ecologist

A Project Ecologist is to be employed for the duration of the approved works to ensure all biodiversity protection measures are carried out in accordance with Ecological Assessment Report (Anderson Environment & Planning, September 2024).

The Project Ecologist must have one of the following memberships / accreditation:

- Practising member of the NSW Ecological Consultants Association (<https://www.ecansw.org.au/find-a-consultant/>) OR

- Biodiversity Assessment Method Accredited Assessor under the relevant legislation (<https://customer.lmbc.nsw.gov.au/assessment/AccreditedAssessor>)

Evidence of engagement of the Project Ecologist is to be provided to the Certifier prior to issue of Construction Certificate.

Reason: To protect native vegetation and wildlife.

CONDITIONS TO BE COMPLIED WITH DURING DEMOLITION AND BUILDING WORK

Compliance with Ecologist's Recommendations – During Construction

All impact mitigation measures specified in the approved Ecological Assessment Report (Anderson Environment & Planning, 2024) are to be implemented at the appropriate stage of development.

Compliance with these measures is to be certified by the Project Ecologist in writing to the Principal Certifier prior to issue of any Occupation Certificate.

Reason: To confirm compliance with wildlife and habitat protection/replacement measures.

Pre-clearance Survey - Certified by Project Ecologist

Any habitat for native wildlife (including tree hollows) approved for removal is to be inspected for native wildlife by the Project Ecologist prior to its removal. If native wildlife is found within habitat to be removed, the animal is to be safely relocated by the Project Ecologist to a suitable location.

Any incidents in which native wildlife are injured or killed as a result of works are to be recorded, in addition to details of any action taken in response.

Written evidence of compliance (including records of inspections and any wildlife incidents) is to be prepared by the Project Ecologist and provided to the Principal Certifier prior to any Occupation Certificate.

Reason: To protect native wildlife.

Wildlife Protection

If construction activity associated with this development results in injury or displacement of a native mammal, bird, reptile or amphibian, a licensed wildlife rescue and rehabilitation organisation must be contacted for advice.

Reason: To protect native wildlife.

Protection of Habitat Features

All natural landscape features, including any rock outcrops, native vegetation and/or watercourses, are to remain undisturbed during the construction works, except where affected by necessary works detailed on approved plans.

Reason: To protect wildlife habitat.

CONDITIONS WHICH MUST BE COMPLIED WITH PRIOR TO THE ISSUE OF THE OCCUPATION CERTIFICATE

Compliance with Ecologist's Recommendations – Post Construction

All impact mitigation measures specified in the approved Ecological Assessment Report (Anderson Environment & Planning, 2024) are to be implemented at the appropriate stage of development.

Written and photographic evidence of compliance is to be prepared by the Project Ecologist and provided to the Principal Certifier prior to issue of any Occupation Certificate.

Reason: To confirm compliance with wildlife and habitat protection/replacement measures.

Replacement of Canopy Trees

At least 12 locally native canopy trees are to be planted on the site to replace protected trees approved for removal. Species are to have a minimum mature height of 8.5m and be consistent with the Native Planting Guide available on Council's website.

Tree plantings are to be retained for the life of the development and/or for their safe natural life. Trees that die or are removed must be replaced with another locally native canopy tree.

Replacement plantings are to be certified as being completed in accordance with these conditions of consent by a qualified landscape architect, and details submitted to the Principal Certifier prior to issue of any Occupation Certificate.

Reason: To establish appropriate native landscaping.

No Weeds Imported On To The Site

No Priority or environmental weeds (as specified in the Northern Beaches Local Weed Management Plan) are to be imported on to the site prior to or during construction works.

Details demonstrating compliance are to be submitted to the Principal Certifier prior to issue of any Occupation Certificate.

Reason: To reduce the risk of site works contributing to spread of Priority and environmental weeds.