

Natural Environment Referral Response - Biodiversity

Application Number:	DA2020/1640
Date:	05/01/2021
Responsible Officer	Phil Lane
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot 21 DP 24536 , 17 Bilberry Avenue BILGOLA PLATEAU NSW 2107

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 this development application for compliance against relevant biodiversity legislation, policy and controls, including the following:

- Pittwater LEP cl. 7.6 Biodiversity Protection
- Pittwater 21 DCP cl. B4.6 Wildlife Corridors

The Arborist Report (Margot Blues 2020) outlines that the proposed development will require the removal of one (1) prescribed tree (T13: *Melaleuca armillaris*) and two (2) exempt trees (T1: *Plumeria rubra* and T1: *Tibouchina urvilleana*).

The Landscape Plan (Jamie King Landscape Architect 2020) and Arborist Report provide conflicting advice regarding the retention/removal of the *Melaleuca armillaris*, with the Landscape Plan recommending its retention. It is requested that this information be clarified and certified prior to Construction Certificate. Should the *Melaleuca armillaris* require removal, it is to be replaced with a suitable native species selected from the species listed in Native Plant Species Guide - Pittwater Ward which is available on the Council Website <https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/node/34932>). In addition, the Landscape Plan should be amended to ensure that at least 60% of any new planting incorporates native vegetation (as per species listed in Native Plant Species Guide - Pittwater Ward).

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

Amendment of Landscape Plans

The submitted Landscape Plan is to be amended to ensure that at least 60% of any new planting incorporates native vegetation (as per species listed in Native Plant Species Guide - Pittwater Ward which is available on the Council Website <https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/node/34932>).

Clarification regarding the retention of the *Melaleuca armillaris* is required as this is conflicting what has been recommended by the Arborist (Margot Blues 2020).

The amended Landscape Plan is to be certified by a qualified landscape architect and provided to the Certifying Authority prior to issue of the Construction Certificate.

Reason: To ensure compliance with the requirement to retain and protect significant planting on the site.

CONDITIONS TO BE COMPLIED WITH DURING DEMOLITION AND BUILDING WORK

Wildlife Protection and Rehabilitation

Should removal of the *Melaleuca armillaris* be required, an inspection for potential bird nests and possum dreys that may be located within the tree is required prior to the removal of the tree.

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

Reason: To mitigate potential impacts to native wildlife resulting from construction activity.

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

No Weeds Imported On To The Site

No Priority or environmental weeds (as specified on the NSW WeedWise website) are to be imported on to the site prior to or during construction works.

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

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