

Addendum 4 Forest Road Flora and Fauna

Date: 26th August 2024

RE Impacts from shifting the road



This addendum addresses the scenario where the road alignment is shifted closer to the north and away from the Mater Marian side and closer to Lot 13 (as seen in Figure 1.1).

As well as retaining further additional significant trees (33, 34, 36), impact on other vegetation to the SW of the site, including the area within the road reserve to the south of the site includes the following:

Area A is the APZ portion between Road MC01 and our site boundaries (See figure 1.2 yellow shading). It extends from the SW corner of the site above Lots 13, 12 and 11. This area, is within the site, is mostly grassland. The neighbouring land west of the APZ is expected to not be affected by the works directly. Bush-fire advise is that it will require maintenance as an APZ. *Persoonia levis* (currently a small shrub) is growing in this section (x2) and is to be retained. An integrated Fire and Vegetation Mgt plan is required for implementation pre CC.

Area B represents the land which will either be under the road, rock batter outside the corner, or just beyond and requiring APZ management. In this area there are 57 trees with a DBH equal to or over 100mm (i.e. TPO trees), and a further 60 trees 20mm->100mm. Almost all are sheoaks, with small stringybarks (x6), *Dodonea triquentia* Hop Bush (x5) and *Pittosporum undulatum* (x6).

Noting the Forest She-Oaks (*Casuarina*) are Glossy Black and other cockatoo food trees.

The bushfire consultants notes that required APZ standard can be achieved if the lower layer is maintained (more or less as is) and the smallest sheoaks removed (~20% of them)- even if the "significant trees" and the larger sheoaks are retained. Planting within the development area, mainly to the East, will occur and will include at least 40 Forest She-Oaks (local source).

If the slightly altered road alignment, as per the figure, is adopted the tree count in this area is 55 trees with DBH >=100mm (i.e. TPO trees), and a further 60 trees 20mm-100mm with most being SheOaks (and not including "significant" trees discussed in the Arborist report).

The further breakdown is that 40 of the larger trees will need to be removed when the road is constructed. Fifteen (15) large trees are "beyond" the roadworks. These 15 are the larger sheoaks that can be retained even if the area is maintained as an APZ. Other plants in the area proposed to be impacted are *Dodonea triquentia* (Hop Bush) x 2 and *Pittosporum undulatum* (x3 in works area) and *Persoonia liniaris* x1 (in works footprint), *Acacia longifolia* and ground layer with Bracken Fern and Blady Grass and open areas with leaf litter. The *Persoonia* and *Dodonea* are to have seed collected prior to removal.

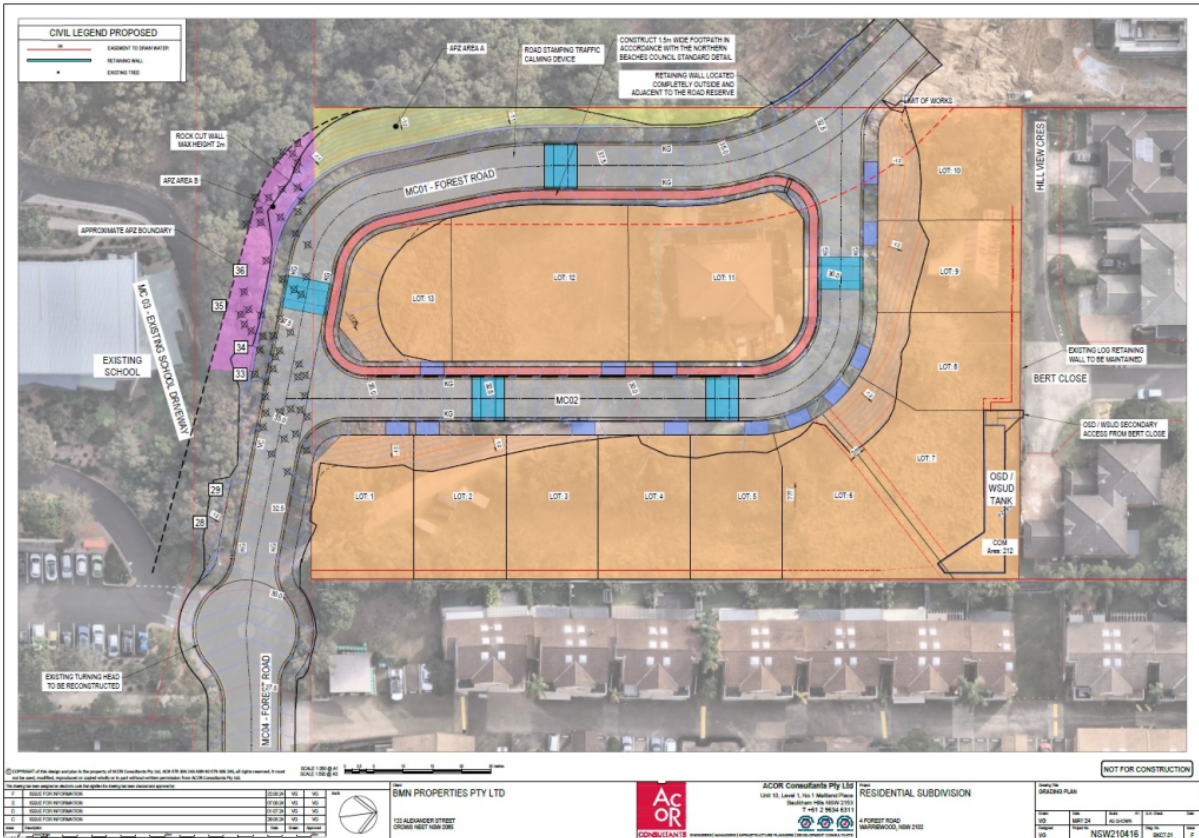


Figure 1.1 proposed works over-view (see 1.2 for increased clarity). New alignment for the road. Remained of road and plan is as per latest Flora Fauna Report (July 2024).

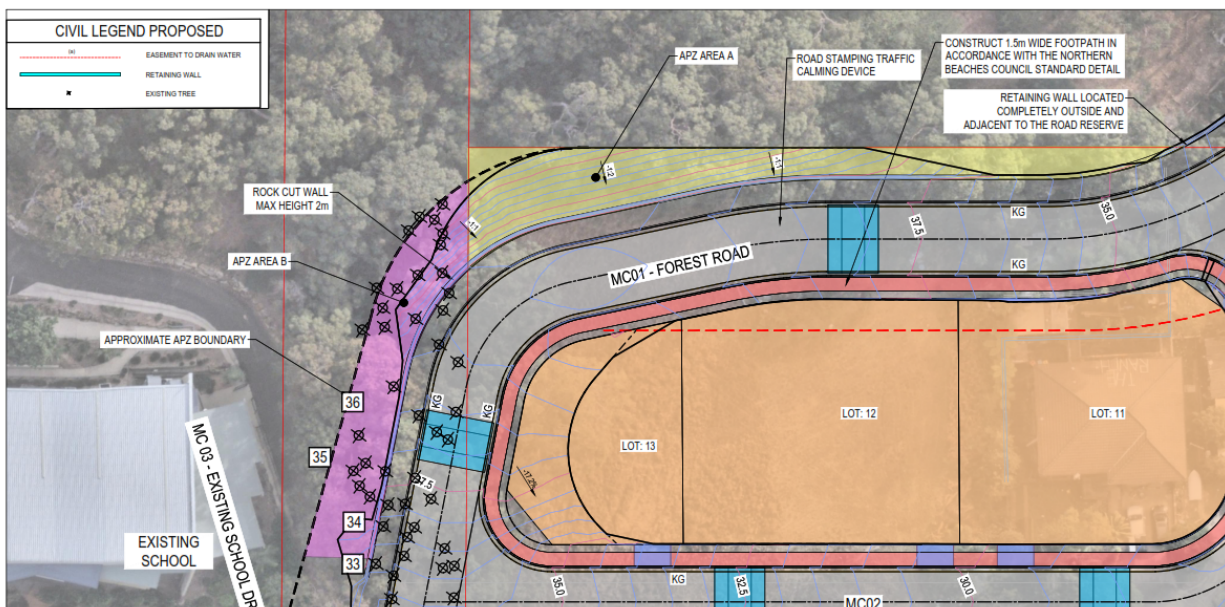


Figure 1.2 proposed works – close up of new alignment for the road. The remainder of the road is as per the July 2024 Flora Fauna Report. Some of the trees (meeting TPO definition) being retained, including “significant” trees 33, 34, 35, 36.



Existing access and “the Site’ to the RHS of the existing access. Trees here are part of the proposed new road.



Looking upslope (west) – area proposed for impact if road is brought towards Lot 13



Looking downslope (east) – area proposed for less/ no impact from road and batter however will be APZ.



Dodonea



Area on RHS proposed to be impacted by road



Persoonia levis to be retained including through any APZ works. To be stated in IFVMP.



Area at entrance (note sign on RHS). Understory of Blady Grass and Bracken.



Looking downslope (east) – lower end is the area proposed for less/ no impact from road and batter however will be APZ.

Please note that matters noted in cl7.6 of the Pittwater LEP relating to this addendum and generally have been addressed in 24 and s6.1 of the main report (S4 Impacts - re cl 7.6(3)(a)(i) to (iv). S6.1 Mitigation - re cl 7.6(3)(a)(v)).

(a) whether the development is likely to have—

(i) any adverse impact on the condition, ecological value and significance of the fauna and flora on the land, and

Loss of 4 x TPO sized trees and many Casuarinas (under 15cm DBH each and most <10cmish).

(ii) any adverse impact on the importance of the vegetation on the land to the habitat and survival of native fauna, and

Casuarina's are Glossy Black Cockatoo food trees. While some will be retained, there will be loss of smaller – mid-story She Oaks. Most have diameters <10cm. Additional food trees, Forest She Oaks, will need to be planted for Glossy Black Cockatoos. Forty (40) will be planted within the site and be in accordance with the APZ requirements, with most plating to the East.

(iii) any potential to fragment, disturb or diminish the biodiversity structure, function and composition of the land, and

As provided previously – this additional mapping and data regarding trees and the road way realignment doesn't alter the previous response.

(iv) any adverse impact on the habitat elements providing connectivity on the land, and

Not so much impacting connectivity however it does reduce Glossy Black Cockatoo feed tree area in (~50m2).

(b) any appropriate measures proposed to avoid, minimise or mitigate the impacts of the development.

As per previously with a key action being seed collection from any trees/she-oaks felled and then growing and replanting these in close proximity. Could include on the School site (with permission).

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