

## Natural Environment Referral Response - Biodiversity

<b>Application Number:</b>	DA2023/1529
<b>Proposed Development:</b>	Construction of a retaining wall
<b>Date:</b>	31/10/2023
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Dean Pattalis
<b>Land to be developed (Address):</b>	Lot 122 DP 12749 , 55 Robertson Road SCOTLAND ISLAND NSW 2105 Lot LIC 543750 , 55 Robertson Road SCOTLAND ISLAND NSW 2105

### 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

The proposal seeks approval for the construction of a retaining wall.  
The comments in this referral relate to the following terrestrial biodiversity applicable controls and provisions:

- NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
- NSW Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2017
- SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) 2021 - Development within the coastal environment
- Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019
- Pittwater LEP 2014 - Clause 7.6 Biodiversity Protection
- Pittwater DCP 21 - Clause B4.7 Pittwater Spotted Gum Forest Endangered Ecological Community

Portions of the site are identified on the Department of Planning and Environment's Biodiversity Values Map (BV Map). Under the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act, any removal of native vegetation from within mapped areas will trigger the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme (BOS) and the requirement for a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR). However, the submitted plans and documentation as well as a desktop survey indicate that the proposed works are located in an area mapped within the BV Map that has been heavily disturbed and has no remaining vegetation on it.

Impacts to the marine environment will have to be assessed by the appropriate referral bodies.

No native vegetation or fauna habitat would be impacted, the development is designed, sited and will be managed to avoid any significant adverse environmental impact.

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**

#### **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 Principal Certifier prior to issue of Construction Certificate.

Reason: To protect native vegetation.

### **CONDITIONS TO BE COMPLIED WITH DURING DEMOLITION AND BUILDING WORK**

#### **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**

#### **Native Landscaping**

Any new landscaping is to incorporate a minimum 80% locally native vegetation species as a proportion of the total number of plants. Locally native species are to be consistent with the relevant section of the Native Planting Guide available on Council's website.

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

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

**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.

**Priority Weed Removal and Management**

All Priority weeds (as specified in the Northern Beaches Local Weed Management Plan) within the development footprint are to be removed using an appropriate control method.

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 weeds.