

Natural Environment Referral Response - Biodiversity

Application Number:	DA2021/1213
Date:	30/07/2021
Responsible Officer	Dean Pattalis
Land to be developed (Address):	Lot A DP 161572 , 71 George Street AVALON BEACH 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

The application seeks approval for the construction of alterations and additions to an existing dwelling, including the construction of a new swimming pool and associated landscaping. Council's Natural Environment Unit - Biodiversity referral team have reviewed the application for consistency against the relevant environmental legislation and controls, including:

Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act) Pittwater Local Environmental Plan (PLEP)

- 7.6 Biodiversity Protection

Pittwater Development Control Plan (PDCP)

- B4.7 Flora and Fauna Habitat Enhancement Category 2 and Wildlife Corridor

Council's NEU-Biodiversity referral team generally have no objection to the proposed Landscape Plan (Jamie King 2021), however the species selection is inconsistent with B4.7 of the PDCP which states:

Development shall ensure that at least 80% of any new planting incorporates native vegetation (as per species found on the site or listed in Pittwater Spotted Gum Endangered Ecological Community).

The application does not require the removal of prescribed trees or vegetation, nor is it likely to impact on nearby biodiversity values. Subject to conditions the Bushland and Biodiversity referral team find the application to be consistent against relevant environmental controls.

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 in accordance with the following:

- Provision of at least 80% of any new planting incorporates native vegetation (as per species found on the site or listed in Pittwater Spotted Gum Endangered Ecological Community).

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species/nsw-threatened-species-scientific-committee/determinations/final-determinations/1996-1999/pittwater-spotted-gum-forest-endangered-ecological-community-listing#:~:text=The%20Scientific%20Committee%2C%20established%20by,Schedule%201%20of%20the%20Act.>

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

Certification of Landscape Plan

Landscaping is to be implemented in accordance with the approved Landscape Plans (Jamie King 2021) and these conditions of consent.

Details demonstrating compliance are to be prepared by the landscape architect and provided to the Principal Certifying Authority prior to issue of the Occupation Certificate.

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

New Vegetation Planting

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 Final Determination for Pittwater Spotted Gum Forest:

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species/nsw-threatened-species-scientific-committee/determinations/final-determinations/1996-1999/pittwater-spotted-gum-forest-endangered-ecological-community-listing#:~:text=The%20Scientific%20Committee%2C%20established%20by,Schedule%201%20of%20the%20Act..>

Details demonstrating compliance are to be provided to the Principal Certifying Authority prior to issue of the 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 2019 – 2023) 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.

ON-GOING CONDITIONS THAT MUST BE COMPLIED WITH AT ALL TIMES

Protection of Habitat Features

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

Reason: To protect wildlife habitat.