



“GROWING MY WAY”

Tree Consultants

Established 1977

EXCELLENCE in ALL ASPECTS OF TREE MANAGEMENT

FULL INSURANCE PROTECTION

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28 September 2023

Jana / Michael Kaprova
12 Hillslope Road
NEWPORT, NSW 2106

RETURNED DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

Application No. DA2023/1295

I, Kyle A Hill as the Senior Practicing / Consultant Arborist of the Growing My Way Tree Consultants practice (from herein GMW) am suitably qualified to prepare this document.

As briefed by the property owner, (Jana Kaprova) onsite, on Saturday 23 September 2023 a data collection process was undertaken to satisfy the Northern Beaches Council (from herein NBC) request for additional information relative to tree management to accompany the DA application recently returned when re-lodged.

The subject site, had before extreme the weather event of March 2022 been able to be accessed from the Hillslope Road roadside reserve via a concrete stairway. Motor vehicle & an alternative pedestrian access route is via the private road uphill of the properties (one of which is 12 Hillslope Road).

The previous stairway was partially washed away & damaged by a flooding event in March 2022. The damaged stairway was subsequently totally removed.

To lose this second access to the subject site is a significant problem relative to emergency access/evacuation plans with respect to a future potential medical incident &/or bushfire emergency.

A new stairway structure (mostly prefabricated sections brought to site) is proposed to replace the infrastructure lost.

This document contains a Preliminary Site specific ‘Tree Plan of Management’. No tree, or vegetation (protected or otherwise) captured by the provisions within the NBC

Pittwater 21 DCP is proposed to be removed. Realistically, TPZ establishment is simple. Most trees either side of the as proposed new stairs are non-woody plants which makes ‘live root’ management a significantly easier task. TPZ establishment is again made easier by virtue of the natural (existing) ground level being non-user friendly with respect to the storage of any builder’s materials.

For obvious geotechnical as well as tree/vegetation management reasons, the as proposed new access stairway structure requires very minimal disturbance to the existing ground level.

By our interpretation, the only place where excavation is required is for footings to support the prefabricated sections.

Most stairs are on the existing ground level. They do not require any footings & as such disturbance with respect to trees/vegetation is extremely minimal, both mathematically & physically.

Simply, no protected tree has its TPZ total surface area breached by more than 10% by any proposed works linked to the new stairway structure. Any less than 10% TPZ total surface area breach by the *Australian Standard (AS4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites)* is defined as a ‘Minor encroachment’. Provided the area of disturbance (encroachment) can be compensated for in another direction there is no requirement to demonstrate any proposal as being viable with respect to tree management.

Attachment A photographs taken by this document author on Saturday, 23 September 2023 confirms the content of the previous four (4) paragraphs contents.

Below is a Preliminary Site Specific ‘Tree Plan of Management’.

TREE IDENTIFICATION (Trees in Red Colour are DCP protected)	TPZ Fencing / Tree trunk Guards	TPZ Strategy Compliance Signoff	Flexible Footing Location Signoff	Completion of Project Signoff
<i>Livistona australis</i> (Cabbage Tree Palms)	TPZ line of fencing (east side of works)	YES	NO (Palms don’t have woody roots)	YES
<i>Washingtonia robusta</i> (Sky Duster Palms)	Tree Trunk Guards (x2)	NO	NO (Palms don’t have woody roots)	NO
<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i> (Broad Leaf Paperbark)	Tree Trunk Guards (x2)	YES	YES	YES
<i>Ficus coronata</i> (Sandpaper Fig)	TPZ line of fencing (east side of works)	YES	YES	YES

TREE IDENTIFICATION (Trees in Red Colour are DCP protected)	TPZ Fencing / Tree trunk Guards	TPZ Strategy Compliance Signoff	Flexible Footing Location Signoff	Completion of Project Signoff
<i>Cordyline spp.</i> (Good Luck Tree) Note: This tree is near dead	Tree Trunk Guards	NO	NO	NO

Tree Protection & Management Prior to & During Construction

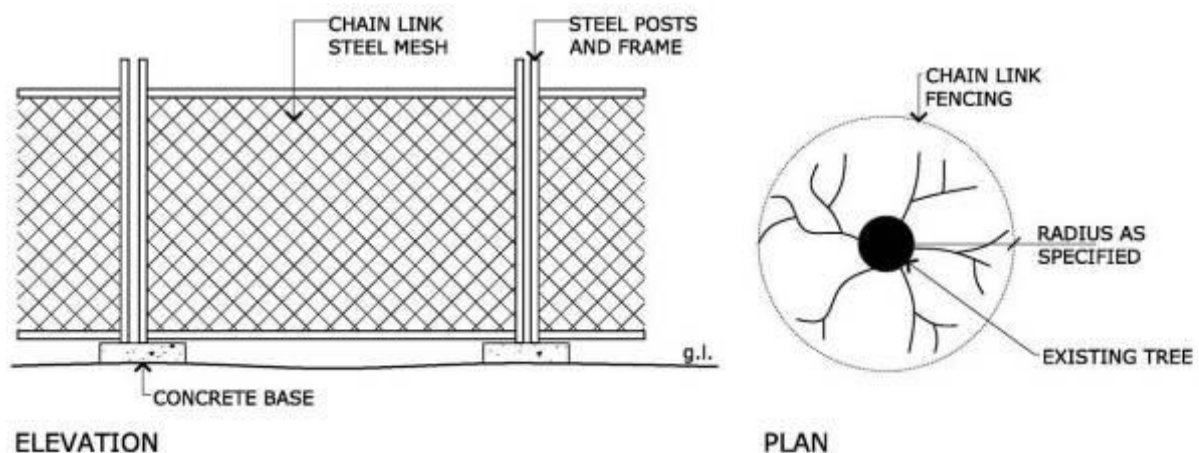
The installation of Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) fencing is to be carried out prior to commencement of all works. The most suitable fencing material is 1.8m tall chain link mesh with 50mm metal pole supports, see **detail 1: tree protection fencing**.

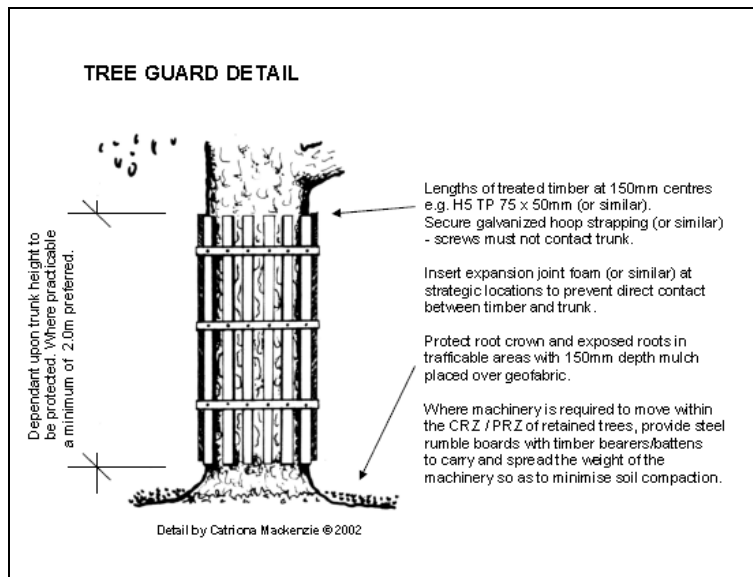
Trunk protection “Tree Guards” are detailed (below) by generic diagram.

A mulch layer of composted leaf & woodchip to a depth of 75mm is required within the TPZ to aid in retention of soil moisture & to protect soil from contaminants. Water is to be applied by handheld or soaker/leaky hose within TPZ as required & in Accordance with Stage 3 Water Restrictions. Watering is to be carried out by either an Arborist or is to form part of the Builder’s/Contractor’s contract, with recommended fortnightly checks by an Arborist.

There is to be no stock piling of building material (including waste), machinery or any other item within the TPZ of any retained tree. Access to personnel, machinery, & storage of fuel, chemicals, cement, or site sheds is prohibited

Regular monitoring of protected trees during development works for unforeseen changes or decline, will aid in the success & longevity of the retained trees.





Conclusions:

- An Arboriculture Impact Assessment document is not required on the basis no individual tree's TPZ total surface area is disturbed (encroached) by greaster than 10%.
- By implementation of the prescribed Preliminary 'Plan of Tree Management' (page 2, 3 & 4) specifications no individual tree relative to its Useful Life Expectancy could reasonably be assessed as being compromised.

Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kyle A Hill (GMW Senior Practicing/Consulting Arborist) by email (kyleahill@optusnet.com.au) or phone during normal Monday thru Friday business hours (61 412 221 962).

Kind regards,

K. Hill

Kyle A Hill

[Kyle A Hill, AQF level 5 Diploma in Horticulture/Arboriculture, (TAFE NSW) & AQF level 8 Post Graduate Certificate in Arboriculture, (University of Melbourne), Member of Arboriculture Australia, (#1884), International Society of Arboriculture, (#14117), Victorian Tree Industry Association, (#V10715 2020)]

ATTACHMENT A: TREE & SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Above illustrates the site as viewed from Hillslope Road. Clockwise, below illustrates the site as viewed from top to bottom.



ATTACHMENT B: - CURRICULUM VITAE – July 2023

Kyle A. Hill

Phone: 0412 221 962

Email: kyleahill@optusnet.com.au

Education/Qualifications:

- Post Graduate Certificate-Arbiculture (AQF level 8)
- Diploma of Horticulture - Arboriculture (AQF level 5)
- Workplace Training & Assessment (AQF level 4)
- Certificate of Horticulture, (AQF level 4)
- Advanced Tree Surgery Certificate

Professional Development:

- 2021 & 2022: *VALID Risk – Benefit (Adelaide & Sydney)*
- 2020: *Tree Anatomy Workshop, Arborist Network*
- 2018: *Is it VALID? Tree defects, Decay & Decisions*
- 2018: Frank Renn, Ryde TAFE
- 2018: *Quantified Tree Risk Assessment*
- 2017: *Is it VALID? Tree defects, Decay & Decisions*
- 2013: *Tree Risk Assessment Qualification, ISA (updated 2018 & 2023)*

Employment History:

- 2014 - 2015: *Tree Management Officer, Lane Cove Council Part time*
- 2007 - 2022: *Senior Consultant Arborist, AURA Tree Services*
- 2000 - 2005: *Field consultant & technical sales manager. Plateau Tree Services*
- 1977 - 2005: *Founder of Growing My Way Tree Services (tree division)*
- 2000 - present: *Growing My Way Tree Services (consultancy division)*
- 1983 - 2017: *TAFE NSW, Part Time Lecturer*

Community Projects:

- 2006 - present: *Newport Residents Association, Roles have included Secretary, President, Vice President & Treasurer*
- *Garden Design & Development Committee, Maria Regina Primary School*
- *Garden Committee, Barrenjoey Montessori School*
- *Founding member Newport Beach Apex Club*

Professional Associations:

- *Arbiculture Australia, Founding Member & Ex Director (2010-2015)*
- *National Arborists Association (now Arb Aust.), Founding Member, Ex Board Member, Ex Vice President & Treasurer*
- *Consulting Arborists division of NAA, (now Arb. Aust.)*
- *Member International Society of Arboriculture, (USA)*
- *Member of Victorian Tree Industry Organization (Victoria Aust.)*

Referees:

- *Richard Turnbull, QC*
- *Andrew Thor, Senior Tree Management Officer Northern Beaches Council*
- *Judy Fakes, Retired Commissioner of NSW Land & Environment Court*
- *John Douglass, Senior Head Teacher of Arboriculture, RYDE.*

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