

Your ref:
 Our ref: 2220284

21 October 2022

Steven Crick
Senior Team Leader – Planning
Hunter Central Coast Branch
Biodiversity & Conservation Division
Department of Planning & Environment

Response to public submissions – Hydro Kurri Kurri Biodiversity Certification Assessment Report

Dear Steven,

Following consultation with the Biodiversity & Conservation Division (BCD) of the Department of Planning & Environment (DPE), the Biodiversity Certification Assessment Report (BCAR) for the Hydro Kurri Kurri site was placed on public exhibition from Monday 12 of September 2022 to Friday 14 October 2022. The public consultation included advertisements placed in the Sydney Morning Herald on the 12 September 2022 and the Cessnock Advertiser on 14th of September 2022 (refer to Appendix A for a copy of the advertisement). The BCAR document was available for public viewing through the Regrowth Kurri Kurri website (regrowthkurri.com.au/statutory-information) as well as the BCD have your say page (environment.nsw.gov.au/get-involved/have-your-say).

The Regrowth Kurri Kurri website is administered by the GHD stakeholder engagement team and an external email address was established to manage the submissions.

A total of four public submissions were received through the BCD have your say page. No submissions were lodged through the Regrowth Kurri Kurri submissions website. Copies of the four submissions received are attached as Appendix B.

Three of the four submissions identified the same issue, that they believe an offset of 607 ha does not adequately compensate for the loss of Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot habitat within land proposed for biodiversity certification. The fourth submission requested that the Hydro site is preserved and used for ecological observation and biodiversity continuity.

A summary of the issues identified by each submission along with a response to submissions is provided in Table 1 below. A single response has been provided where the same issues has been received in separate submissions.

Table 1 Summary of public submissions

Person/organisation submitting submission	Date	Summary of issues	Response to submission
Hunter Bird Observers Club (HBOC) Inc conservation sub-committee	18 Sept 2022	HBOC believes that the offset for Serious and Irreversible Impacts on Swift Parrot (<i>Lathamus discolor</i>) and Regent Honeyeater (<i>Anthochaera phygia</i>) whilst significant under normal circumstances is not sufficient to counter the threats to the survival of these species.	The offsets required to compensate for removal of potential habitat for the Swift Parrot and Regent Honeyeater have been calculated in accordance with the requirements of the Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM).

Person/organisation submitting submission	Date	Summary of issues	Response to submission
		<p>The submission notes that the critical endangered conservation status of these species and rapid decline in numbers puts them at a high rate of extinction and that the removal of habitat at Hydro Aluminium adds to the cumulative impacts of habitat loss of these species.</p> <p>HBOC believes that the offset of 607.25 ha of habitat for the Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot is insufficient and request that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Additional suitable land with mature eucalypts in the vicinity should be sought and set aside as an offset for these species. – Funding should be provided to complement and expand the Regent Honeyeater captive breeding and release program – An increase in funding be allocated under the Save our Species program for Swift Parrot and Regent Honeyeater. 	<p>An expert report prepared by Dr Ross Crates (Appendix F of the BCAR) concluded that although BCD has mapped 66.55 ha of important habitat for Swift Parrot and 50.3 ha of important habitat for Regent Honeyeater within the site, there is in his opinion only 47.55 ha of important habitat for Swift Parrot (reduction of 30.7 %) and 34.63 ha for Regent Honeyeater (reduction of 31.6 percent) present. Dr Crates also concluded that this habitat is of “low to moderate quality, relative to other areas of mapped important habitat for these species within the lower Hunter Valley, such as parts of Werakata National Park and the Hunter Economic”, and he considered it “unlikely that Swift Parrots or Regent Honeyeaters would utilise mapped habitats within the proposed Hydro development footprint” and also stated that he did not consider any of the mapped important habitat within the Hydro development footprint to be critical habitat for either species.</p>
Patricia	22 Sept 2022	This submission was very brief and simply states that “607 hectares is not enough”	
Robert [REDACTED]	22 Sept 2022	<p>The proposed offset of 607 ha of land is insufficient for the purpose of encouraging Regent Honeyeaters and Swift Parrots to survive and hopefully increase their populations.</p> <p>The offset land must be appropriate for purpose and more than 607 hectares is required.</p>	<p>However as there is no scope in the BAM to override the important habitat mapping (which is based on a model that has not been groundtruthed) the offsets calculated in the BCAR have included all important habitat mapped by BCD (including vegetation that was concluded by Dr Crates as not being important for these species). This has resulted in approximately 890 additional Swift Parrot species credits and 753 additional Regent Honeyeater species credits that will be retired to offset the impacts of the proposal.</p> <p>His report also concluded that the most important habitat for the Swift Parrot and Regent Honeyeater within the Hydro estate is contained within the proposed Hydro Biodiversity Stewardship Site.</p>

Person/organisation submitting submission	Date	Summary of issues	Response to submission
			The conservation of 607 ha of important habitat that Dr Crates found to be of much higher quality to that proposed for removal, represents an offset that is 12 times the area of potential habitat for Swift Parrot habitat proposed to be removed and 17 times the area of Regent Honeyeater habitat proposed to be removed. Given that the habitat that will be conserved within the stewardship site is much higher quality habitat than that proposed for removal combined with the significant size of the offset this will more than compensate for the loss of potential habitat that will result from the conferral of Biocertification at the site.
Rebecca [REDACTED]	19 Sept 2022	This submission asks for further investigation into the site, to have it open for public appreciation and for it to be preserved and used for "ecological observation and biodiversity continuity".	A significant proportion of the Hydro site (approximately 770 ha) will be conserved within a Biodiversity Stewardship Site (BSS). The BSS will include approximately 750 ha of endangered ecological community and will be managed to increase biodiversity values over time.

Hydro Aluminium have considered the submissions received and the matters raised and is of the opinion that no actions or modifications to the BCAR are required.

Regards



Arien Quin
Senior Ecologist

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arien.quin@ghd.com

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Appendices

Appendix A

**Notice of public exhibition of BCAR
advertisement**



Elsie Barr competing at the 2022 Federation of International Sport Aerobics and Fitness (FISAF) national championship in Brisbane. Picture supplied.

Elsie Barr qualifies for aerobics world champs

AEROBICS

BY CHLOE COLEMAN

CESSNOCK'S Elsie Barr has qualified to represent Australia at the Federation of International Sport Aerobics and Fitness (FISAF) world championships in the Czech Republic in November.

Elsie, 11, won the bronze medal in the Cadet International Individual Female section at the national finals on the weekend to qualify for the world championships.

A member of the Cessnock-based Aerosport Allstars club, Elsie was part of a squad of 23 athletes the

club sent to the national championships last week after great success at state level.

Held at Brisbane's Chandler Theatre, the squad competed over four days from September 8 to 11.

Elsie has been with Aerosport Allstars since she was five-years-old and this year was the first time she has been old enough to compete in the international section.

Elsie's mum Lisa Barr said she is very proud of her daughter.

"If anyone would have told me a little girl at 11 years of age could make an Australian team for world

championships I wouldn't have believed it, but she did it," she said.

"It's absolutely amazing, we're so proud of her."

Lisa said Elsie has won all gold medals in previous years at nationals.

Elsie said she was over the moon when she qualified for the world championships.

"I was so so happy, and I cried because I've had this goal since I was five," she said.

"I've always wanted to make it to a world championships and it came through on Sunday night."

She said she is most

looking forward to getting to compete with amazing athletes and the overall experience of being at the world-level event.

The international level routine Elsie performed is more difficult than the national level she has competed in previously.

"It's international routine which is harder skills than national stream," Elsie said.

"I have a bigger range of what type of skills I can do, whereas with a national stream routine you've got a smaller range of skills you're allowed to do.

"It was definitely a big step

up, it was definitely very hard and very, very challenging."

Elsie said not only were the skills harder, but the music was a lot quicker so she had to build her fitness.

She trains three nights a week at Aerosport Allstars with coaches Jessica Barrett and Kimberley Gargan.

Jessica said the whole Aerosport squad did really well and all the older girls ended with podium places.

"The little ones did great, no medals from them yet but it was their first year in the sport so it was just amazing to have them all qualify at nationals," she said.



Colts coach Brady Hammond was named Group 21 coach of the year.

Colts in Group 21 team of the year

RUGBY LEAGUE

GRETA Branxton Colts coach Brady Hammond capped off a great first year by being named Group 21 Coach of the Year and being named to play lock in the Group 21 Team of the Year.

Hammond was joined by Brock Gilmour (prop) and Dylon Edwards (centre) in the team at the league's annual presentation night.

It was a great night for Reuben Andrews as well with the young Colt named Rookie of the Year.

He was one of 11 local juniors who were part of the fulltime first grade squad this year.

The Colts were beaten in the preliminary final by Denman and also made the semi-finals in the under-16s.

Greta Branxton have announced that Luke Day (reserve grade) and Mark Bercini (under-18s) will join the senior coaching group alongside Hammond for the 2023 season.

The junior presentation is on Sunday, September 25 at Greta Central and the under-16s and seniors is at the Huntlee Tavern on Saturday, October 22.



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REGROWTH KURRI KURRI

BIODIVERSITY CERTIFICATION ASSESSMENT REPORT ON EXHIBITION

Hydro Aluminium Kurri Kurri has lodged an application for biodiversity certification under Part 8 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 regarding land located at Loxford NSW. Section 8.6(3) of the Biodiversity Certification Act 2016 requires the applicant for biodiversity certification to publish notice of the application and invite the public to make submissions relating to the application for a period of no less than 30 days after the date the notice is first published.

View the assessment report and provide feedback at: regrowthkurrikurri.com.au/statutory-information or environment.nsw.gov.au/get-involved/have-your-say/

Exhibition dates: 12 September to 13 October 2022

For more information visit the web site <https://regrowthkurrikurri.com.au/statutory-information/> Call the community line on 1800 066 243 or email us at contact@ghd.com

AW7272093

Public Notices



REGROWTH
KURRI KURRI

BIODIVERSITY CERTIFICATION ASSESSMENT REPORT ON EXHIBITION

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Exhibition dates:
12 September to 13 October 2022

For more information visit the web site <https://regrowthkurrikurri.com.au/statutory-information/>
Call the community line on 1800 066 243 or email us at contact@ghd.com

I Gurreet Singh of Unit 3, 5 Newton Street, Thomastown, VIC, 3074 have changed my name from Gurreet Singh to Gurreet Singh Dhaliwal.

Legal Notices

In The Supreme Court of New South Wales, Equity Division

Notice of Intended Distribution of Estate

Any person having any claim upon the Estate of Kerri Anne Hudson Late of Campbelltown in the State of New South Wales, who died on 28 April 2022 must send particulars of their claim to her Executor Joseph Peter Saad & Co, Solicitors, 5/90-100 Edwin Street North, Croydon 2132 telephone (02) 9763 1899 within one (1) calendar month from the publication of this Notice. After that time the Executor may distribute the assets of the Estate having regard only to the claims of which at the time of distribution he has Notice. Probate was granted in NSW on 25 August 2022.

Tango Energy Pty Ltd (ABN 43 155 908 839)
Tango Energy's time of use standing offer electricity rates (including time of use and controlled load rates) in the Ausgrid and Endeavour Energy distribution zones will be changing in line with the Default Market Offer for 2022 - 23 on 26 September 2022.
A copy of Tango Energy's revised standing offer rates are available at www.tangoenergy.com.
For further information contact us via email support@tangoenergy.com or call 1800 010 648.

Government Notices



NSW Heritage Grants 2023-25 Funding Round Now Open

Includes NEW \$1 million Activating State Heritage Grant category:

- for one State Heritage Register listed item
- selected applicants will Pitch to the Minister and the Judging Panel on 30 November 2022
- Submit your EOI by 12pm 5 October 2022

Funding is also available under three competitive grant categories:

- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Grants
- Caring for State Heritage Grants
- Community Heritage Grants

Local Government can also apply for an allocation grant to better identify, manage, conserve and celebrate local heritage.

Applications for these categories close 12pm, 2 December 2022.

To find out more:

See the grants page at: heritage.nsw.gov.au/grants (Guidelines under Apply for a grant)

Contact Heritage NSW on (02) 9873 8500 or heritagemailbox@environment.nsw.gov.au

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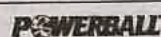
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The Sydney Morning Herald | The Sun Herald

OFFICIAL LOTTERIES RESULTS



DRAW 1373
Thursday, 8 September 2022

Prize Winning Numbers

15 21 23 13 30 25 31

Powerball

10

Businesses for Sale

Good Food
Tuesdays in the SMH

Tributes & C

www.smh.com.au

Summary of Death Notices

BOWDEN, Yvonne Elizabeth
DEARING, Peter James
FITZGERALD, Betty

Deaths and Funerals

BOWDEN (nee McPhee) Yvonne Elizabeth
7.11.1930 - 3.9.2022

In Loving Memory of Yvonne Elizabeth Bowden Late of Tahmoor Aged 91 years Former teacher 'Miss McPhee' at Camden High School Dearest Wife of the late John Bowden Much loved sister to Shirley Rodway and Michael McPhee Adored Aunt and family member Reunited with John Home with the Lord

Memorial Service Details
Monday, 19th of September 2022
Tahmoor Uniting Church
110 Thirlmere Way, Tahmoor commencing at 10:30am

DEARING, Peter James

Funeral for The Late Peter Dearing to be held on Wednesday 14th September, 2022 at 10am in the West Chapel, Rookwood Memorial Gardens, Memorial Avenue Rookwood

FITZGERALD, Betty

May 14, 1930 - Sept 4, 2022. Loving wife of Leonard and mother of Shani, Alana and Carag. Relatives and friends of Betty are invited to her funeral at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 50 Pearce Rd, Kanwal on Sept 16, 11 am.



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Appendix B

Public submissions



Hunter Bird Observers Club

Affiliated with BirdLife Australia

Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc
PO Box 24, New Lambton, NSW 2305
www.hboc.org.au
ABN 62 415 889 446

Senior Team Leader, Planning Hunter Central Coast BCD
Department of Planning and Environment
Locked Bag 1002
Dangar NSW

Re: Hydro Aluminium Kurri Kurri Biodiversity Certification Assessment Report

Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc. believes that the offset for Serious and Irreversible Impacts on Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor* and Regent Honeyeater *Anthochaera phrygia* whilst significant under normal circumstances, is not sufficient to counter the threats to the survival of these species.

Both species are listed as Critically Endangered (a species facing extremely high risk of extinction in the wild) under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999*. It is estimated that there is a 31% likelihood of Swift Parrot becoming extinct over the next 20 years and that only between 250 and 350 Regent Honeyeaters are left in the wild. Clearly, unless rigorous, uncompromising and substantial measures are undertaken to ensure the survival of Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot, they will disappear from our landscape.

Swift Parrot is a migratory species which spends the breeding season in Tasmania and migrates to the mainland for the winter period. As with all migratory species its demise can be immediate if habitat is not available for instant foraging and shelter when it arrives at its chosen destination.

HBOC's request for an increase in the offset proposed for Critically Endangered Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot is based on the body of scientific evidence about these species and about the general state of our environment e.g. the most recent State of the Environment 2021.

The State of the Environment 2022 report found that:

Biodiversity is essential to human survival, wellbeing and economic prosperity.

It found declining biodiversity, increasing number of threatened species, habitat destruction and degradation and the negative impacts of invasive species; all of which pose a threat to the wellbeing of humanity.

The National Environmental Science Program Threatened Bird Index indicates significant declines in abundance of threatened birds for which monitoring data are available. Between 1985 and 2017, the relative abundance of threatened birds decreased by an average of more than 60%.

The Hunter Region has been subject to and continues to be subject to high levels of land clearance which results in habitat loss for all species and is undoubtedly the greatest threat to biodiversity. Peake (2006) found that that 76% of vegetation had been removed from the central Hunter Valley over the past 200 years and that 87% of remnants were less than 10 ha in size. This makes remnant vegetation of high conservation value especially lots larger than 10 ha.

The destruction of 84.1 ha of Swift Parrot habitat and 50.3 ha of Regent Honeyeater habitat at Hydro Aluminium adds to the cumulative impacts of habitat loss for these Critically Endangered species. The

reservation of 607.25 ha whilst laudable does not **increase** habitat availability. Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot habitat will still be destroyed.

HBOC believes that the offset of 607.25 ha for two Critically Endangered species is insufficient in view of the deleterious state of vegetation cover in the Hunter Region.

HBOC requests that:

- Because these species forage widely and/or are migratory, additional suitable land with mature eucalypts in the vicinity should be sought and set aside as an offset for these Critically Endangered species. Foraging studies show:

Regent Honeyeaters need extensive areas for foraging as they show significant variation in their foraging patterns between years and at different times of the day. They require different types of food – nectar, lerps, insects – and a broad range of plants particularly mature eucalypts and mistletoe species (Damon 2000). In addition, habitat changes may have allowed large aggressive honeyeaters, such as miners to increase so that they now interfere with the ability of Regent Honeyeaters to gain access to rich nectar sources and to breed (Ford *et al.* 1993).

As nectarivores, Swift Parrots are dependent on tree species that provide rich sources of carbohydrate, such as nectar from flowers or lerps (sugary secretions from psyllid insects on leaves). These food resources occur scattered over vast areas and are highly variable in timing and abundance depending on each tree species' unique and variable flowering phenology. East Coast region flowering periodicity and intensity are highly variable between tree species and sites, ranging from annual to no flowering over a 10-year period (Saunders *et al.* 2010).

It is clear that both of these species require extensive areas of habitat in order to survive.

- funding should be provided to complement and expand the Regent Honeyeater captive and release program
- an increase in funding be allocated under the Save our Species program for Swift Parrot and Regent Honeyeater

Submission prepared by Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc. conservation sub-committee 18/09/2022

Contact: A. Lindsey ann.lindsey@bigpond.com

References

Damon L. Oliver (2000) Foraging Behaviour and Resource Selection of the Regent Honeyeater *Xanthomyza phrygia* in Northern New South Wales, *Emu - Austral Ornithology*, 100:1, 12-30, DOI: [10.1071/MU9837](https://doi.org/10.1071/MU9837)

Ford, H., Davis, W., Debus, S., Ley, A. 1993. Foraging and Aggressive Behaviour of the Regent Honeyeater *Xanthomyza phrygia* in Northern New South Wales. *Emu* 93 (4).

Peake, T.C. 2006. The Vegetation of The central Hunter Valley NSW. A Report on the findings of the Hunter Remnant Vegetation Project. Hunter – Central Rivers CMA.

State of the Environment Report 2022

Saunders, D., Tzaros, C., Webb, M., Thurstans, S. 2010. Swift Parrot Recovery Plan

Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc. (HBOC) was established in 1976 and currently has a membership over 350 members. Although the Club is based in Newcastle NSW membership includes members from other areas in NSW and from interstate.

Aims of HBOC:

to encourage and further the study and conservation of Australian birds and their habitat and
to encourage bird observing as a leisure-time activity.

Activities include monthly regular outings, evening meetings, camps and field studies. HBOC promotes systematic field studies which include regular surveys by volunteers from the membership:

Surveys of waterbirds in the Hunter River estuary, Port Stephens and Lake Macquarie
Surveys for woodland birds in the Hunter Valley and Manning Valley
Surveys of Broughton Island off the coast of Port Stephens
Surveys of Worimi Conservation Lands

All data gathered from field studies are entered into the national database, Birddata, administered by BirdLife Australia. Data are used to underpin conservation issues.

HBOC has a long history of working in collaboration with local councils, national parks, industry and schools.

HBOC major publications include:

an annual journal, *The Whistler*, of which there are now 14 volumes. It provides a platform for regionally significant observations and findings.
an annual bird report which summarises the status of avifauna in the Hunter Region of NSW. This publication is now in its 26th year.
brochures which show self-guided birding routes of which there are now fourteen covering most of the Hunter Region.

For more information about HBOC go to www.hboc.org.au

Arien Quin

From: Karen Thumm <Karen.Thumm@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 23 September 2022 8:42 AM
To: Arien Quin; Michael Ulph
Subject: FW: For Action - Your form "Biodiversity certification for Kurri Kurri consultation" got a response

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CompleteRepository: 2220284
Description: Biodiversity Assessments - Hydro Site
JobNo: 2220284
OperatingCentre: 22
RepoEmail: 2220284@ghd.com
RepoType: Project

Dear Arien and Michael,

We have received two more submissions on the Hydro biodiversity certification. Here is the first one.

Cheers, Karen

Karen Thumm
A/Senior Team Leader - Planning
Hunter Central Coast Branch
Biodiversity and Conservation Division
Department of Planning and Environment

T (02) 49273153 M 0459070902 E karen.thumm@environment.nsw.gov.au
dpie.nsw.gov.au

6 Stewart Avenue, Newcastle, NSW 2300
(Locked Bag 1002, Dangar NSW 2309)
Working days Monday to Friday

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and we show our respect for elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

-----Original Message-----

From: Bernadette Hughes <Bernadette.Hughes@environment.nsw.gov.au> On Behalf Of OEH ROD Hunter Central Coast Mailbox
Sent: Friday, 23 September 2022 8:33 AM
To: Karen Thumm <Karen.Thumm@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: OEH ROD Hunter Central Coast Mailbox <huntercentralcoast@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: For Action - Your form "Biodiversity certification for Kurri Kurri consultation" got a response

Hi Karen,

Please see email below which is a response from the Biodiversity certification for Kurri Kurri consultation.

Steve asked for these to be forwarded as they came in.

Kind regards

Bernie

Bernadette Hughes
Coordination and Planning Officer
Hunter Central Coast Branch
Biodiversity and Conservation Division
Department of Planning and Environment

T (02) 49 273201 M 0474 941809 E bernadette.hughes@environment.nsw.gov.au
dpie.nsw.gov.au

6 Stewart Ave
Newcastle West 2302

(Locked Bag 1002, Dangar NSW 2309)

Working days Monday to Friday, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

-----Original Message-----

From: Response Report <report@formassembly.com>

Sent: Thursday, 22 September 2022 7:13 PM

To: OEH ROD Hunter Central Coast Mailbox <huntercentralcoast@environment.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: Your form "Biodiversity certification for Kurri Kurri consultation" got a response

Your form "Biodiversity certification for Kurri Kurri consultation" has received the following response:

Submitted on: 09/22/2022 07:12:41 PM

Completion time:

Your details

Q. Name

R. PATRICIA

Q. Postcode

R. 2291

Q. Email

[REDACTED]

Your comments

Q. Please add your comments on the biodiversity certification for land at Kurri Kurri.

R. 607 hectares is not enough

This email is intended for the addressee(s) named and may contain confidential and/or privileged information.

If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and then delete it immediately.

Any views expressed in this email are those of the individual sender except where the sender expressly and with authority states them to be the views of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING THIS EMAIL

Arien Quin

From: Karen Thumm <Karen.Thumm@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 23 September 2022 8:43 AM
To: Arien Quin; Michael Ulph
Subject: FW: For Action - Re Biodiversity Certification for Hydro Aluminium at Kurri Kurri

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CompleteRepository: 2220284
Description: Biodiversity Assessments - Hydro Site
JobNo: 2220284
OperatingCentre: 22
RepoEmail: 2220284@ghd.com
RepoType: Project

Dear Arien and Michael,

Here's the second submission received on the Hydro biodiversity certification.

Cheers, Karen

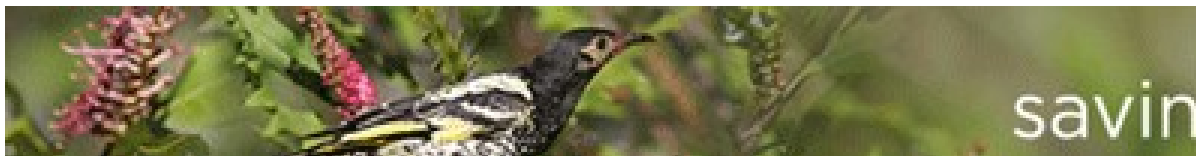
Karen Thumm

A/Senior Team Leader - Planning
Hunter Central Coast Branch
Biodiversity and Conservation Division
Department of Planning and Environment

T (02) 49273153 **M** 0459070902 **E** karen.thumm@environment.nsw.gov.au
dpie.nsw.gov.au

6 Stewart Avenue, Newcastle, NSW 2300
(Locked Bag 1002, Dangar NSW 2309)

Working days Monday to Friday



**Planning,
Industry &
Environment**

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and we show our respect for elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

From: Bernadette Hughes <Bernadette.Hughes@environment.nsw.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** OEH ROD Hunter Central Coast Mailbox
Sent: Friday, 23 September 2022 8:34 AM
To: Karen Thumm <Karen.Thumm@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Cc: OEH ROD Hunter Central Coast Mailbox <huntercentralcoast@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: For Action - Re Biodiversity Certification for Hydro Aluminium at Kurri Kurri

Hi Karen,

Below is another response RE: Biodiversity Certification for Hydro Aluminium at Kurri Kurri

Kind regards
Bernie

Bernadette Hughes

Coordination and Planning Officer
Hunter Central Coast Branch
Biodiversity and Conservation Division
Department of Planning and Environment

T (02) 49 273201 **M** 0474 941809 **E** bernadette.hughes@environment.nsw.gov.au
dpie.nsw.gov.au

6 Stewart Ave
Newcastle West 2302

(Locked Bag 1002, Dangar NSW 2309)

Working days Monday to Friday, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 22 September 2022 6:46 PM
To: OEH ROD Hunter Central Coast Mailbox <huntercentralcoast@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Re Biodiversity Certification for Hydro Aluminium at Kurri Kurri

To the Certification Body,

The proposed offset of 607 hectares of land proposed by Hydro Aluminium is an indication of their goodwill but it is insufficient for the purpose of encouraging Regent Honeyeaters and Swift Parrots to survive and hopefully increase their populations.

Both of these birds species rely on a wide range of vegetation and landscapes to thrive. The offset land must be appropriate for purpose and more than 607 hectares is required.

Sustainability is not what needs to be achieved here. What is needed is conditions that will allow these species, in particular, to increase in numbers and guarantee their survival.



Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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Any views expressed in this email are those of the individual sender except where the sender expressly and with authority states them to be the views of the NSW Office of Environment, Energy and Science.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE PRINTING THIS EMAIL

Arien Quin

From: Bernadette Hughes <Bernadette.Hughes@environment.nsw.gov.au> on behalf of
OEH ROD Hunter Central Coast Mailbox
<huntercentralcoast@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 19 September 2022 11:04 AM
To: Steven Crick
Cc: OEH ROD Hunter Central Coast Mailbox
Subject: FW: Your form "Biodiversity certification for Kurri Kurri consultation" got a response

-----Original Message-----

From: Response Report <report@formassembly.com>
Sent: Monday, 19 September 2022 5:52 AM
To: OEH ROD Hunter Central Coast Mailbox <huntercentralcoast@environment.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Your form "Biodiversity certification for Kurri Kurri consultation" got a response

Your form "Biodiversity certification for Kurri Kurri consultation" has received the following response:

Submitted on: 09/19/2022 05:52:22 AM
Completion time:

Your details

Q. Name
R. Rebecca Coventry

Q. Postcode
R. 2325

Q. Email
[REDACTED]

Your comments

Q. Please add your comments on the biodiversity certification for land at Kurri Kurri.

R. Yesterday I was lucky enough to go for a bushwalk at Stanford Merthyr and was introduced to the Kurri Sand Swamp Woodland, an endangered ecological community. I had never heard of it before but the Bushland area was full of a huge diversity and arrangement of different plants. Intrigued and inspired I sought more information and discovered the aluminium smelter site, which had a rehabilitation plan and includes the Kurri Sand Swamp Woodland. Then the very next day I find there are plans to commercialise and develop this site. I a, appalled. Have we learned nothing? There is nothing more important than preserving our declining Bushland. Having such a precious resource intact is such a treasure. It needs further investigation and opening up to the public for appreciation. All of it. Not just a token biologically deconstructed facsimile. Please let the site be preserved and used for ecological observation and biodiversity continuity.