Annual EPBC Act Approval Compliance Report- North East Link

06 Jun 2025

EPBC Approval: 2018/8142

Declaration of Accuracy

I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.

Signed:	
Full Name:	Jim Waller
Position:	Executive Program Director of the North East Link Program, in my capacity as a statutory delegate of the Secretary to the Department of Transport and Planning (the Project Authority for North East Link Project).
Organisation:	Major Road Projects Victoria (MRPV) (a division of the Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority (VIDA) (ABN 69 9812 087 82)
Date:	18 June 2025

Contents

Figures

Tables

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Report

This compliance report covers the reporting period between 18 May 2024 and 17 May 2025 in respect of EPBC Approval 2018/8142 issued to the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) on 12 December 2019, as varied on 28 August 2020 and 29 June 2021 (EPBC Approval 2018/8142). The purpose of this report is to document compliance with the conditions for the *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) Approval 2018/8142 Condition 12. Details of compliance are provided, and where appropriate, the timing of completion of individual actions is identified.

The key dates that relate to the approval are detailed in Table 1.

Table 1 – Key Project EPBC Dates

Action	Key Date
Commonwealth approval	12/12/2019
Commencement of the action	18/05/2020
Commonwealth Variation Approval	28/08/2020
Commonwealth Variation Approval	29/06/2021
Expiry of the Commonwealth Approval	**03/10/2039**

2 Description of activities

2.1 Overview of project

Major Road Projects Victoria (MRPV), a division of the Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority (VIDA), is responsible for delivering the North East Link, M80 Ring Road Completion, and Eastern Freeway Upgrades including Eastern Busway (referred to herein as 'the Project') on behalf of the Victorian State government. The three interrelated projects were previously referred to as the North East Link Project, an approved action under EPBC Approval 2018/8142.

The Project will upgrade the Metropolitan Ring Road (M80) and the Eastern Freeway from Hoddle Street to Springvale Road and create a new connection between these two roads. The Project has been broken down into packages to allow seamless delivery. The initial phase – Enabling Works (previously referred to as Early Works) – allowed for utilities and secondary infrastructure to be prepared prior to the major development. Works included the relocation of utilities, relocation of Sports and Recreation spaces and development of Park and Ride services for Public Transport linkages. The subsequent packages, the North East Link (previously known as Central Package), M80 Ring Road Completion, and Eastern Freeway Upgrades (Burke Rd to Tram

Rd) are currently in the construction phase. Two further packages Eastern Freeway – Hoddle St to Burke Rd and Eastern Freeway – Tram Rd to Springvale Rd will complete the Eastern Freeway Upgrades. See Figure 1 – Project Map– Project Map for an overview of the Project.

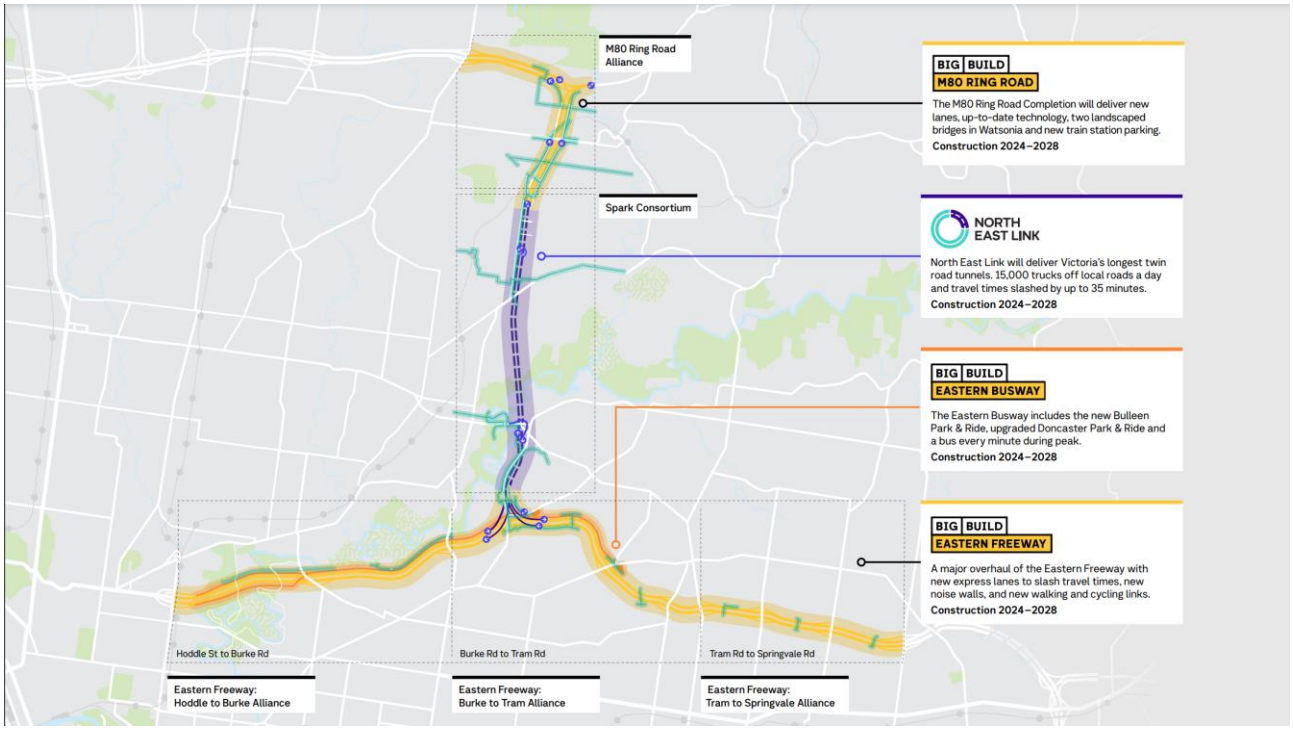

Figure 1 – Project Map

2.2 Works undertaken during reporting period

The following works have been undertaken in the approval area during the 2024-2025 reporting period.

2.2.1 North East Link

- Driven tunnel works including:
  - Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) assembly, boring and launch
  - TBM back-end works, and tunnel fit out
  - Vent tunnel excavation completion and permanent lining installation
  - Sequential Excavation Method Mainline tunnel excavation and cross passage excavation
  - Acoustic shed assembled at Bulleen for Sequential Excavation Method spoil
- Surface works including:
  - Installation of utility gantries
  - Removal of site sheds and workers' car park
  - Permanent and temporary drainage works for realignment of Banyule Creek

  - Northern Ventilation Building structure progress
  - Haul road instalment and ventilation tunnel culvert works
  - Piling, utilities and drainage works
  - Flood and retaining wall and batter construction
- Cut and cover works including:
  - Box excavation and Fill, Rio, Pour (FRP) works
  - TBM cradle installation, breakthrough at excavation box and retrieval gantry works
  - Ramp piling and excavation
  - Blinding and micro piling
  - Roof slab construction and conveyor installation
  - Precast plank installation, capping beam completion and flood wall works
  - Motorway Control Centre enabling works

2.2.2 Eastern Freeway Upgrades: Burke to Tram

- Site Investigation works including utilities, geotechnical testing, and structure inspections
- Site establishment works including demolition and compound construction works
- Relocation of utilities
- Civil works including:
  - Profiling
  - Asphalting
  - Line marking
  - Traffic barrier replacement
  - Drainage
  - Construction of permanent barriers
- Construction of hoarding and temporary shared user paths (SUPs)
- Grubbing and earthworks including tree and vegetation removal
- Traffic signal modifications
- Construction of new bus stops and implementation of bus timetable changes
- Construction of new structures including piling, pile caps, piers, crossheads & retaining walls for the new Bulleen Road interchange and new Estelle and Heyington shared use path bridges
- Dewatering of the wetlands and construction of crossings of the Koonung Creek
- Commencement of ITS works

2.2.3 M80 Ring Road Completion

- Site establishment works including clearing, tree and vegetation removal, topsoil stripping, installation of environmental controls, installation of temporary hoarding, fencing, concrete barriers, access gates and construction of temporary pavements and hardstands
- Temporary realignment of roads and traffic signals
- Utility relocation and removal works
- Bulk earthworks
- Roadworks including subgrade preparation and pavement construction
- Retaining and noise wall works including piling, foundations, in-situ and precast concrete construction, post and panel installation
- Bridge structure works including piling, foundations, columns/piers and headstocks, installations and deck construction
- Rail works including power/comms service relocations, overhead structure, tunnel and bridge structure and track works

3 Approval condition compliance

<table>
<tr><th>Condition No.</th><th>Approval Condition</th><th>Compliance Status</th><th>Comments and supporting documentation</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="4">1</td><td colspan="3">Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the approval holder must not clear more than:</td></tr>
<tr><td>a) 139 Matted Flax-lily plants and/or patches of Matted Flax-lily</td><td>Compliant</td><td>The Project has salvaged 132 of the 139 plants/patches of Matted Flax-lily (MFL) and is therefore compliant within the scope of the approval. There are currently no plans to salvage further MFL as impacts to known individuals have been avoided.

<table>
<tr><th>Pre-Clearance survey date</th><th>Date of Salvage</th><th>Location</th><th>Number of plants/patches</th></tr>
<tr><td>March 2020</td><td>01/04/2020</td><td>Simpson Barracks</td><td>7</td></tr>
<tr><td>July 2020</td><td>02/09/2020</td><td>Simpson Barracks</td><td>20</td></tr>
<tr><td>April 2021</td><td>23/08/2021-
24/08/2021</td><td>Simpson Barracks</td><td>103</td></tr>
<tr><td>October 2023</td><td>10/10/2023</td><td>M80 Interchange
Grimshaw Street Railway Reserve</td><td>2</td></tr>
</table>

The locations of the MFL salvaged to date are presented in Appendix A.</td></tr>
<tr><td>b) 11.866 hectares of Plains Grassy Woodland within Simpson Barracks</td><td>Compliant</td><td>Vegetation removal has been completed in this location. Reconciliation will occur at the completion of the North East Link works to confirm the expected removal of 11.852 ha of Plains Grassy Woodland, therefore the Project is compliant with this Condition.</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="4">2</td><td colspan="3">To compensate for the clearing the number of Matted Flax-lily plants and/or patches of Matted Flax-lily:</td></tr>
<tr><td>a) Prior to any clearance, the approval holder must undertake a pre-clearance survey to identify the total numbers of Matted Flax-lily plants and patches of Matted Flax-lily that, if not salvaged, would be impacted by the approved action</td><td>Compliant</td><td>As outlined above, pre-clearance surveys have occurred in March 2020, July 2020, April 2021, and December 2022 prior to salvaging events for MFL. The pre-clearance surveys were undertaken in accordance with the MFL Salvage and Translocation Plan (Rev 5 - December 2022) (Salvage and Translocation Plan). The Project is therefore compliant with this Condition.</td></tr>
<tr><td>b) Prior to construction, the approval holder must salvage all Matted Flax-lily plants and patches of Matted Flax-lily that were previously recorded in a pre-clearance survey and that would otherwise be impacted due to the approved action. In the event that construction occurs in stages, prior to commencing each stage the approval holder must salvage all Matted Flax-lily plants and patches of Matted Flax-lily that were previously recorded in a pre-clearance survey and that would otherwise be impacted by that stage of work</td><td>Compliant</td><td>MFL salvage and translocation has been completed for Enabling Works, North East Link, and M80 Ring Road Completion packages in accordance with the Salvage and Translocation Plan. No further MFL impacts are anticipated, therefore the Project is compliant with this Condition.</td></tr>
<tr><td>c) The approval holder must propagate the salvaged Matted Flax-lily plants and patches and translocate them, excepting some Matted Flax-lily plants and patches that may be kept as an</td><td>Compliant</td><td>As outlined in the Salvage and Translocation Plan, sufficient material was taken from each plant to generate the required six (6) clones per plant/ patch. The individuals were salvaged and processed at the selected nursery in accordance with the Salvage and Translocation Plan and are surviving at the time of reporting. Therefore, the Project is compliant with this Condition.</td></tr>
</table>

Condition No.	Approval Condition	Compliance Status	Comments and supporting documentation
	insurance population, to a recipient site. The number of Matted Flax-lily plants and patches kept as an insurance population must not be the majority of Matted Flax-lily plants or patches propagated. All propagated Matted Flax-lily plants and patches of Matted Flax-lily, excepting those kept as an insurance population, must be translocated within 2 years of salvage of each Matted Flax-lily plant and patch of Matted Flax-lily.		The MFL have been planted in two batches. The Batch 1 MFL plants were translocated to Cherry Street Reserve in August 2022 while the Batch 2 MFL were planted in October 2023 at Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve both within two years of Salvage (April/September 2020, August 2021 (Batch 1), October 2023 (Batch 2). As of February 2025, there are currently 264 plants held as an insurance population at the selected nursery with the majority of MFL translocated to the above two recipient sites. The Project is therefore compliant with the Condition.
	d) The approval holder must manage the recipient site for a period of 10 years commencing on the date that the first Matted Flax-lily plant or patch of Matted Flax-lily is translocated to the recipient site	Compliant	Translocation of the MFL plants from Batch 1 and Batch 2 occurred in August 2022 and October 2023, respectively, and management of the sites is ongoing. The management of the sites is detailed in site schedules for both Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve. Maintenance will be continued and adapted as the needs of the MFL plants change over time. The Project is therefore compliant with this Condition.
	e) The approval holder must monitor the recipient site for a period of at least 10 years, commencing on the date that the first Matted Flax-lily plant or patch of Matted Flax-lily is translocated to the recipient site and, concluding no sooner than 5 years after the last Matted Flax-lily plant or patch of Matted Flax-lily is translocated to the recipient site	Compliant	A total of 528 MFL have been translocated to date. MRPV have commenced monitoring of the recipient sites (Gresswell Forest and Cherry Street). Monitoring is occurring at the frequencies outlined in the Salvage & Translocation Plan. Monitoring occurred at both sites for four weeks in November 2023, with further monitoring occurring monthly from December 2023 - April 2024. For Batch 2, monitoring was undertaken quarterly from April 2024 – March 2025. The next Batch 2 monitoring event will take place in June 2025, followed by biannual monitoring beginning December 2025 until at least winter 2028. Batch 1 monitoring is being undertaken bi-annually with the next monitoring event scheduled for June 2025, due to conclude in June 2028. Therefore, the Project is compliant with this Condition.
	f) The approval holder must, until otherwise agreed in writing by the Minister, provide the Department with a report each year as part of the compliance report, which must detail the numbers of Matted Flax-lily plants and patches that have been translocated to the recipient site and the numbers of translocated and propagated plants and patches that have survived until the end of the period reported on. The report must also document threats to the translocated Matted Flax-lily plants and patches and any management actions, including corrective actions, taken or proposed	Compliant	A copy of the MFL Annual Compliance Report can be found in Appendix B. Monitoring and management of the translocation site is ongoing. In August 2022 108 MFL plants (Batch 1) were translocated into Cherry Street Reserve. On 17 January 2025, 79 were observed to be alive and only one is considered dead. The decrease from 96 live individuals from March 2024 to 79 in January 2025, is represented by an increase in the number of dormant individuals to 28. This increase is likely attributed to the drier conditions observed in the lead up to this year's annual monitoring. In October 2023 additional 420 MFL plants (Batch 2) were translocated in Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve. In January 2025, 393 were still alive, only one is considered dead and 27 considered dormant. This increase in dormant individuals from 13 in September 2024 to 27 in January 2025, is likely attributed to drier conditions observed in the lead up to this year's annual monitoring. The threats to MFL survival include high amounts of biomass, herbivory and waterlogging. Corrective actions have been taken including adding more soil to some MFL plants, hand-weeding around MFL plants, and cool burning. The Project is therefore compliant with the Condition.
3	**By implementing contingency measures, the approval holder must ensure that a minimum of 85 per cent of 4 times the number of salvaged Matted Flax-lily plants and patches have survived at the recipient site at least 5 years after the date the last Matted Flax-lily plant or patch, excepting plants or patches from the insurance population, is translocated to the recipient site. The approval holder must ensure that the location of each translocated Matted Flax-lily plant and patch is recorded in the Atlas of Living Australia and Victorian Biodiversity Atlas within 6 months of being translocated**	Compliant	To comply with this requirement, at the end of five years at least 449 (85% of 528) of the MFL plants at Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve need to survive. As of January 2025, 79 are confirmed to be alive from Batch 1 and 393 from Batch 2 in total 472 (89%). MFL location data for the MFL plants that are reported on in this report have been added to the VBA under project ID 6931 for Batch 1 and 5731 for Batch 2. MFL location data for the MFL plants that are reported on in this report have been submitted to the Atlas of Living Australia and assigned number 175071 for Batch 1 and 195464 for Batch 2 to the data. The Project is therefore compliant with this Condition.
4	**If the Minister is not satisfied that the requirements of condition 3 have been, or are likely to be, achieved, and has given the approval holder written notice to this effect, the approval holder must:**		
	a) Within 1 year of receiving written notification by the Minister to this effect, plant propagated Matted Flax-lily plants and/or patches to the recipient site in accordance with directions made by the Minister	Not Applicable	MRPV have not received written notification from the Minister indicating that the Minister is not satisfied that the requirements of Condition 3 have been, or are likely to be, achieved. Therefore, Condition 4a has not been triggered.
	b) Provide the Department with a report each year for an additional 5 years as part of the compliance report, which must detail the numbers of Matted Flax-lily plants and patches that have been translocated to the recipient site and the numbers of translocated and propagated plants and patches that have	Not Applicable	MRPV have not received written notification from the Minister as described in Condition 4. Therefore, Condition 4b has not been triggered.

Condition No.	Approval Condition	Compliance Status	Comments and supporting documentation
	survived until the period reported on. The report must also document threats to the translocated Matted Flax-lily plants and patches and any management actions, including corrective actions, taken or proposed		
	c) Each 12 months, for the following 5 years, the approval holder must translocate an additional number of Matted Flax-lily plants and/or patches to the recipient site equal or greater than the number which have not survived during the preceding 12 months. The translocated Matted Flax-lily plants and patches must be sourced from the plants and patches propagated as required under condition 2c	Not Applicable	MRPV have not received written notification from the Minister as described in Condition 4. Therefore, Condition 4c has not been triggered.
5	**Prior to the commencement of the action at Simpson Barracks, to compensate for the loss of up to 11.866 hectares of Plains Grassy Woodland, the approval holder must establish an offset in accordance with the Victorian Government Guidelines and provide to the Department written evidence that DELWP is satisfied that the offset meets the requirements of the Victorian Government Guidelines. Within 2 weeks of the offset being established, the approval holder must provide the Department with evidence that the offset has been established**	Compliant	In accordance with Victorian Government Guidelines, the Project has secured sufficient native vegetation offsets to compensate for the loss of up to 11.866 ha of Plains Grassy Woodland at Simpson Barracks. Offsets were secured and evidence provided to the Department over the course of 2020, therefore the Project is compliant with this Condition.
6	**The approval holder must implement the Studley Park Gum Management Framework for the period of effect of the approval. The approval holder must provide the Department with a report, as part of the compliance report, every year for 3 years, commencing from the date the first Studley Park Gum tree is planted in accordance with the Studley Park Gum Management Framework. This report must detail the number, condition, and threats faced by the Studley Park Gum trees that have been planted, as well as any maintenance or corrective actions that have been taken or are proposed**	Compliant	The Studley Park Gum (SPG) Management Framework was prepared and published in October 2021 and is available on the Project website (the website) https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/527094/Studley-Park-Gum-Management-Framework-November-2021.pdf. Implementation of the Framework has been ongoing since the planting of saplings at three recipient sites between May 2021 and May 2022. The SPG Annual Compliance Report (Appendix C of this report) details the number, condition, and threats faced by the trees, as well as maintenance and/or corrective actions, therefore the Project is compliant with this Condition.
7	**The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of the date of commencement of the action within 10 business days after the date of commencement of the action**	Compliant	Written notification was sent to DCCEEW on 28 May 2020 notifying of the commencement of the action on 18 May 2020, therefore the Project is compliant with this Condition.
8	**The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete compliance records**	Compliant	MRPV is maintaining compliance records in accordance with this Condition.
9	**If the Department makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of requested compliance records to the Department within the timeframe specified in the request, or an alternative timeframe agreed in writing with the Department**	Not Applicable	Condition 9 has not been triggered as no request from the Department has been made at the time of preparing this report.
10	**The approval holder must:**		
	a) Publish the Salvage and Translocation Plan and Studley Park Gum Management Framework, not as an attachment or appendix within a larger document, on the website within 20 business days of the date of this approval of the action, or of the date a revised	Compliant	The two plans were initially published on the Project website on the 19/12/2019. The 'Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan' was updated in Dec 2022 (Rev 5) and published on the website on 02/10/2023. As approval was received from DCCEEW on 29/09/23, therefore the 20 business day requirement was met. The 'Studley Park Gum Management Framework' (Rev 3, October 2021) remains available on the website. The Project is compliant with this Condition.

Condition No.	Approval Condition	Compliance Status	Comments and supporting documentation
	action management plan is submitted to the Minister or the Department, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister		
	b) Exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from plans published on the website or provided to a member of the public; and	Compliant	No information was required to be redacted. The Project is therefore compliant with this Condition.
	c) Keep plans published on the website until the end date of this approval	Compliant	The Studley Park Gum Management Framework and Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan continue to be available on the Project website. The Studley Park Gum Management Framework is available at https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/527094/Studley-Park-Gum-Management-Framework-November-2021.pdf The Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan is available at https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/527098/Matted-Flax-lily-salvage-and-translocation-plan-December-2022.pdf The Project is therefore compliant with this Condition.
11	**The approval holder must ensure that any monitoring data (including sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under conditions of this approval, is prepared in accordance with the Department's Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data (2018) and submitted electronically to the Department as part of the reports required under condition 2f, condition 4b and condition 6**	Compliant	The SPG and MFL Annual Compliance Reports (Appendix B and Appendix C) containing monitoring data will be provided to speciesmetadata@environment.gov.au as required by the Department's Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data (2018), therefore the Project is compliant with this Condition.
12	**Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the approval holder must prepare a compliance report for each 12-month period following the date of commencement of the action until the approval expires, or otherwise in accordance with an annual date that has been agreed to in writing by the Minister. The approval holder must:**		
	a) Publish each compliance report on the website within 60 days following the relevant 12-month period;	Compliant	As the date of commencement of the action was the 18th of May 2020, the first Annual Compliance Report covered the period to 17th of May 2021 and was published on the Project website on the 15th of July 2021. The 2021/2022 Annual Compliance Report was published on the Project website on the 13th of July 2022. The 2022/2023 Annual Compliance Report was published on the Project website on the 16th of July 2023, and the 2023/2024 Annual Compliance Report was published on the Project website on the 16th of July 2024. The 2024/2025 Annual Compliance Report covers the period between 18th May 2024 – 17th May 2025, and as such, will be published on the Project website by the 8th of August 2025 to remain compliant with this Condition.
	b) Notify the Department by email that a compliance report has been published on the website and provide the weblink for the compliance report within five business days of the date of publication;	Compliant	The Department was notified by email within five business days of the 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 Annual Compliance Reports being published on the Project website. The Department will be notified by email within five business days of the publication of the 2024/2025 Annual Compliance Report.
	c) Keep all compliance reports publicly available on the website until this approval expires;	Compliant	All previous Annual Compliance Reports are publicly available on the Project website athttps://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/library/north-east-link/reports/compliance-reports.The Project is therefore compliant with this Condition.
	d) Exclude or redact any sensitive ecological data or other sensitive information from compliance reports published on the website; and	Not Applicable	The Annual Compliance Report has been reviewed to determine if any sensitive ecological data was required to be redacted. Condition 12d was not triggered as no sensitive ecological data was identified.
	e) Where any sensitive ecological data or other sensitive information has been excluded from the version published, submit the full compliance report to the Department within 5 days of publication	Not Applicable	The Annual Compliance Report has been reviewed to determine if any sensitive ecological data was required to be redacted. Condition 12e was not triggered as no sensitive ecological data has been excluded.
13	**The approval holder must notify the Department in writing of any: incident, non-compliance with the conditions, or non-compliance with the commitments made in plans. The notification must be given as soon as practicable, and no later than two business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance. The notification must specify:**		

Condition No.	Approval Condition	Compliance Status	Comments and supporting documentation
	a) Any condition which is or may be in breach;	Compliant	There have been no notifiable incidents or non-compliances during the reporting period. The Project is therefore compliant with this Condition.
	b) A short description of the incident and/or non-compliance; and	Compliant	There have been no notifiable incidents or non-compliances during the reporting period. The Project is therefore compliant with this Condition.
	c) The location (including co-ordinates), date and time of the incident and/or non-compliance. In the event the exact information cannot be provided, provide the best information available	Compliant	There have been no notifiable incidents or non-compliances during the reporting period. The Project is therefore compliant with this Condition.
14	**The approval holder must provide to the Department the details of any incident or non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in plans as soon as practicable and no later than 10 business days after becoming aware of the incident or non-compliance, specifying:**		
	a) Any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken or intends to take in the immediate future;	Not Applicable	There have been no notifiable incidents or non-compliances during the 2024/2025 compliance reporting period.
	b) The potential impacts of the incident or non-compliance; and	Not Applicable	There have been no notifiable incidents or non-compliances during the 2024/2025 compliance reporting period.
	c) The method and timing of any remedial action that will be undertaken by the approval holder	Not Applicable	There have been no notifiable incidents or non-compliances during the 2024/2025 compliance reporting period.
15	**The approval holder must ensure that independent audits of compliance with the conditions are conducted as requested in writing by the Minister**	Not Applicable	Condition 15 has not been triggered as no request has been received from the Minister for an independent audit.
16	**For each independent audit, the approval holder must:**		
	a) Provide the name and qualifications of the independent auditor and the draft audit criteria to the Department	Not Applicable	Not Applicable - Condition 15 has not been triggered as no request has been received from the Minister for an independent audit.
	b) Only commence the independent audit once the audit criteria have been approved in writing by the Department	Not Applicable	Not Applicable - Condition 15 has not been triggered as no request has been received from the Minister for an independent audit.
	c) Submit an audit report to the Department within the timeframe specified in the approved audit criteria	Not Applicable	Not Applicable - Condition 15 has not been triggered as no request has been received from the Minister for an independent audit.
17	**The approval holder must publish the audit report on the website within 10 business days of receiving the Department's approval of the audit report and keep the audit report published on the website until the end date of this approval**	Not Applicable	Not Applicable - Condition 15 has not been triggered as no request has been received from the Minister for an independent audit.
18	**Within 30 days of the completion of the action, the approval holder must notify the Department in writing and provide completion data**	Not Applicable	Not Applicable - the action has not yet been completed.

4 New environmental risks

Over the course of the 2024/2025 reporting period no new risks have been identified. MRPV will continue to monitor and manage environmental risk potential as the Project progresses.

5 Appendices

A. Salvaged MFL Locations

B. Matted Flax Lily Annual Compliance Report

C. Studley Park Gum Annual Compliance Report

Appendix A A. Salvaged Matted Flax Lily Locations

Paper Size A3

0 110 220

Metres

Map Projection: Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

N

Legend

- MFL salvaged at Simpson Barracks
- NEL Project Boundary (PSA GC98/Inc Doc/SCO)

NORTH EAST LINK PROJECT

North East Link Project

Simpson Barracks
Salvaged Matted Flax-lily Locations

Job Number	31-35006
Revision	A
Date	20 Jun 2022

\\ghdnet\ghd\AU\Melbourne\Projects\31\35006\GIS\Maps\Working\Specialist Submission\SimpsonBarrack_Eco_EPBCactMFL_Salvage_and_Translocation\3135006_SB_MFL_Salvaged_A3L_RevA.mxd

Data source: CIP Imagery - DELWP - 2021 | Roads, LGA, Watercourses, Rail - Vicmap - 2021 | Project Boundary, MFL Locations - GHD - 2021. Created by:zzuo

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Paper Size A3

0 25 50

Meters

Map Projection: Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

N

Legend

- Existing Matted Flax-lily
- Matted Flax-lily to be removed
- Project Boundary (SCO GC98/Inc Doc/PSA)

NORTH EAST LINK PROGRAM

GHD

North East Link Project

Date: 19 May 2023
Rev A

Matted Flax-lily Removal Locations

Figure 2

G:\31\35006\GIS\Maps\Working\Operational\Ecology\Ad hoc\20230519_MFL_Removal\20230519_MFL_Removal_Mapping.aprx

180 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia **T** 61 3 8687 8000 **E** melmail@ghd.com **W** www.ghd.com

Data Sources: CIP Imagery - DELWP - 2021 | Cadastre, Roads, Planning Zones - Vicmap - 2021 | NELP data - 2022 Created by:kgardner

Paper Size A3

0 25 50

Meters

Map Projection: Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

N

Legend

- Existing Matted Flax-lily
- Matted Flax-lily to be removed
- Project Boundary (SCO GC98/Inc Doc/PSA)

NORTH EAST LINK PROGRAM

GHD

North East Link Project

Date: 19 May 2023
Rev A

Matted Flax-lily Removal Locations

Figure 1

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Data Sources: CIP Imagery - DELWP - 2021 | Cadastre, Roads, Planning Zones - Vicmap - 2021 | NELP data - 2022 Created by:kgardner

Appendix B Matted Flax Lily Annual Compliance Report

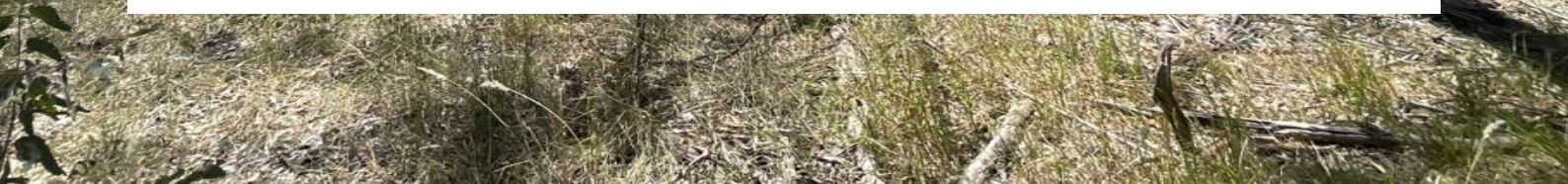
MATTED FLAX-LILY 2024 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT

NEL-PW-GHD-9990-EEE-REP-0076

North East Link Program

Revision 0
28/05/2025

→ **The Power of Commitment**



Project name	North East Link Technical Advisor
Document title	MATTED FLAX-LILY 2024 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT
Project number	3135006
Document number	NEL-PW-GHD-9990-EEE-REP-0076

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Refer to the relevant GHD Work Verification Record for detail on Designer/Author/Originator, Checker, Verifier and Approver.

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Executive Summary

Introduction

The North East Link Program (NELP) received approval to remove up to 139 *Dianella amoena* (Matted Flax-lily, MFL) plants as part of the EPBC Act environmental approvals required prior to the construction of North East Link (NEL) ('the project'). condition of the project's approval was the development of a MFL Salvage and Translocation Plan that would need to be endorsed by DEECA and implemented by the project.

The MFL Salvage and Translocation Plan outlined the requirement for a replacement ratio of 4:1 (four MFL to be planted for every one individual impacted or relocated). To date there have been 132 MFL plants impacted (salvaged) and there have been 528 plants cloned and/or propagated and translocated into Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve in Macleod in August 2022 (Batch 1) and October of 2023 (Batch 2). No other MFL plants are proposed to be impacted for the project.

Annual compliance monitoring results

Overall, the project is on track to meet the benchmarks for success as described in the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan and the EPBC 2018/8142 approval conditions.

This annual compliance report describes the results of the 2024 MFL monitoring program, combining the monitoring data for the 528 MFLs (Batch 1 and 2). In doing so, this report addresses the reporting requirements of the EPBC Act approval (EPBC 2018/8142) conditions and the requirements of the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan (GHD 2022c) as required by the EPBC 2018/8142 approval.

The percentage target for MFL survivorship (85%) documented in the Salvage and Translocation Management Plan is based on the number of living individuals observed with above ground vegetative material during the monitoring. Of note, the 85% target doesn't distinguish between plants that are considered dormant (plants that haven't been identified during a monitoring round, but have been observed within the previous 12 months) and plants that are considered dead (haven't been recorded as having above ground vegetative material for a 12-month window).

At the end of the 2024 monitoring period, 28 of the Batch 1 MFLs were identified as dormant, and one was considered dead. This conservatively represents a current survivorship rate of 73% of the Batch 1 MFLs. The majority of the plants contributing to this result are newly dormant plants that have been observed during monitoring over the last 12 months. As such, it is recommended that the monitoring of these plants continues as planned during 2025, and that if these plants are not observed for a 12-month window and are subsequently classified as dead, recommendations may be put in place for supplementary translocation of additional MFL. Contingency measures are required to be initiated if survival drops below 85%, but this would be when the number of dead plants increases such that the number of dormant and living plants is less than 85% of the population. Continued monitoring will be important to understand whether the current high number of dormant plants is part of the seasonal fluctuation or indicative of long-term decline of the population.

At the end of the 2024 monitoring period for the Batch 2 MFLs, 393 MFL plants (94%) were alive and the translocated individuals have met the survivorship target. A number of the Batch 2 MFL were identified as dormant (27) and one plant was considered dead.

Based on findings of the annual 2024 monitoring the following maintenance and corrective actions have been proposed to address identified threats to the translocated MFLs. These actions include:

- Additional watering of MFLs during summer season to support plants in the driest time of the year
- In Cherry Street Reserve in the Batch 1 MFL plants conducting a controlled cool burn during autumn 2025 to manage overgrown grass, tree saplings and invasive plants
- Addressing areas with sunken soil around the base of translocated individuals
- Replacing missing and broken tags

Future monitoring

In 2025, biannual monitoring events for Batch 1 will take place in June and December. For Batch 2, quarterly monitoring will be conducted in March, June, and September, followed by the commencement of biannual monitoring in December 2025.

Additionally, annual monitoring of the six representative quadrats for both batches will be conducted in December 2025.

Future monitoring will continue to monitor the number of MFL's classified as dead to understand if replacement MFLs are required and whether the program is compliant with the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan (GHD 2022c) and EPBC 18/8142 approval.

Abbreviations

Abbreviations	
cm	Centimetre
DAWE	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (now DCCEEW)
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water (formerly DOEE and DAWE)
DEECA	Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (formerly DELWP)
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (now DEECA)
DOEE	Department of Environment and Energy (now DCCEEW)
EES	Environment Effects Statement
EPBC Act	Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
EPR	Environmental Performance Requirement
EVC	Ecological vegetation class
FFG Act	*Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*
ha	Hectare
m	Metre
mm	millimetre
MFL	Matted Flax-lily
MNES	Matters of National Environmental Significance
NEL	North East Link (the 'project')
NELP	North East Link Program (the 'proponent')
PER	Public Environment Report
VBA	Victorian Biodiversity Atlas
VIDA	Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority

Contents

Table index

Figure index

Appendices

1. Introduction

The North East Link Program (NELP) is a division of the Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority (VIDA) and on behalf of the Victorian State Government, is currently undertaking the North East Link (NEL) Program (referred to herein as 'the project'). The project is a new freeway-standard road connection to the north-east of the Melbourne Central Business District that would complete Melbourne's ring road. Specifically, the project will connect the Metropolitan Ring Road (M80) to the Eastern Freeway and includes works along the Eastern Freeway from near Hoddle Street to Springvale Road.

The impacts to biodiversity values due to the project were determined through ecological impact assessments. These assessments informed the development of an Environment Effects Statement (EES) in accordance with the *Victorian Environment Effects Act 1978* and a Public Environment Report (PER) in accordance with the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). The ecological impact assessments identified the project has the potential to negatively impact *Dianella amoena* (Matted Flax-lily, MFL), which is classified as 'Endangered' under the Commonwealth *EPBC Act* and as 'Critically endangered' on the Victorian *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act) threatened flora list.

The project received approval to remove ('salvage') up to 139 MFL individuals, subject to a range of approval conditions, including:

– The development of a Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan that would detail the requirements for salvage and storage of MFL
– Selection of suitable recipient sites
– Translocation, monitoring and reporting for a period of up to ten years

A total of 132 MFL individuals have been salvaged for the project to date, between April 2020 – October 2023, stored and cloned and/or propagated at Abzeco nursery. Based on the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan (GHD 2022c), four clones of each salvaged MFL plant would need to be translocated to the recipient sites. Hence, a total of 528 MFLs have been translocated for the project, in two batches:

– Batch 1: In August 2022, 108 MFL plants were translocated to Cherry Street Reserve, Macleod (Zone B) (GHD 2022a; GHD2022b).
– Batch 2: In October 2023, 420 MFLs were translocated to Cherry Street Reserve (Zone A) and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve, Macleod. Of the 420 Batch 2 MFLs, 50 were planted at Cherry Street Reserve (Zone A) while the remaining 370 were planted at Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve site (GHD 2024b).

The 528 MFL plants translocated in Batch 1 and 2 comprise the full set of plants subject to the MFL Salvage and Translocation Plan. No further salvage works are proposed for MFL for the project.

This report combines the results of the third year of annual monitoring for Batch 1 MFL plants (encompassing quarterly monitoring data collected from March and June 2024, and January 2025) and the second year of annual monitoring for Batch 2 MFL plants (encompassing the monthly monitoring data collected between January to April 2024 and quarterly data collected on June, September, and December 2024 and January 2025).The monitoring will continue to be undertaken biannually until June 2027 for Batch 1. For Batch 2, quarterly monitoring will continue until September 2025 and then biannually until at least winter 2028.

1.1 Approval conditions

The project is subject to approval conditions relating to impacts to Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES).

The ministerial assessment of the EES included a number of recommendations relating to the Environmental Performance Requirements (EPR) for NELP. One EPR for the project addresses the potential impacts to MFL, EPR FF7, which states '*Where direct impacts on Matted Flax-lily occur, a salvage and translocation plan must be developed and implemented to the satisfaction of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (now DEECA) and the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Energy (now DCCEEW), prior to the commencement of relevant works'*. The Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan (GHD 2022c) has been endorsed by DEECA and DCCEEW, and this report is part of the implementation requirements of the plan.

Conditions 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the EPBC 2018/8142 approval allows for the project to remove up to 139 MFL individuals, and to salvage, propagate and translocate the impacted MFLs into an appropriate recipient site. Following translocation of any MFL individuals, NELP must also monitor the translocated MFLs on a weekly, monthly, quarterly and finally biannual basis for a period of at least five years. The results of the monitoring would be summarised in a series of reports submitted to the DCCEEW documenting the current progress of the translocation plan.

As the translocation of the two batches of MFL was staggered between August 2022 and October 2023, the subsequent monitoring schedule for MFL for the project are also staggered (Table 1 & Table 2). This Annual Compliance report consolidates the monitoring results for both Batch 1 (108 MFL) and Batch 2 (420 MFL) in 2024. MFL monitoring reports and timing of submissions are detailed in Table 3.

Table 1 Timing of approved translocation and monitoring events for Batch 1

Year	Event	Expected date of event	Date Event completed
0	Translocation	N/A	April and September 2020
1	Planting of salvaged MFL	August 2022	2 August 2022
1	Event 1 – Weekly	August 2022	10 August 2022
1	Event 2 - Weekly	August 2022	18 August 2022
1	Event 3 - Weekly	August 2022	24 August 2022
1	Event 4 - Weekly	August 2022	31 August 2022
1	Event 5 - Monthly	September 2022	26 September 2022
1	Event 6 - Monthly	October 2022	21 October 2022
1	Event 7 – Monthly	November 2022	24 November 2022
1	**Event 8 – Monthly**	**December 2022**	**13 December 2022**
1	Event 9 - Quarterly	March 2023	30 March 2023
1	Event 10 - Quarterly	June 2023	6 June 2023
2	Event 11 - Quarterly	September 2023	26 September 2023
2	**Event 12 - Quarterly**	**December 2023**	**13 December 2023**
2	Event 13 - Quarterly	March 2024	21 March 2024
2	Event 14 - Quarterly	June 2024	14 June 2024
3	**Event 15 - Biannually**	**December 2024**	**17 January 2025***
3	Event 16 - Biannually	June 2025	
4	**Event 17 - Biannually**	**December 2025**	
4	Event 18 - Biannually	June 2026	
5	**Event 19 - Biannually**	**December 2026**	
5	Event 20 - Biannually	June 2027	

*Originally scheduled in December 2024 but was delayed due to high fire danger warnings for the planned fieldwork dates, this fieldwork needed to be rescheduled to January 2025.

Table 2 Timing of approved translocation and monitoring events for Batch 2

Year	Monitoring Event	Expected date of event	Date Event completed
0	Salvage of MFLs	N/A	August 2021 and October 2023
1	Planting of salvaged MFL	October 2023	20 and 23 October 2023
1	Event 1 – Weekly	November 2023	31 October 2023
1	Event 2 - Weekly	November 2023	9 November 2023
1	Event 3 - Weekly	November 2023	15 November 2023
1	Event 4 - Weekly	November 2023	23 November 2023
1	**Event 5 - Monthly**	**December 2023**	**12 December 2023**
1	Event 6 - Monthly	January 2024	18 January 2024
1	Event 7 – Monthly	February 2024	26 February 2024
1	Event 8 – Monthly	March 2024	21 March 2024
1	Event 9 - Monthly	April 2024	23 April 2024
1	Event 10 - Quarterly	June 2024	14 June 2024
1	Event 11 - Quarterly	September 2024	10 September 2024
2	**Event 12 - Quarterly**	**December 2024**	**12 December 2024 at Gresswell Forest** **17 January 2025* at Cherry Street Reserve**
2	Event 13 - Quarterly	March 2025	-
2	Event 14 - Quarterly	June 2025	-
2	Event 15 - Quarterly	September 2025	-
3	**Event 16 - Biannually**	**December 2025**	**-**
3	Event 17 - Biannually	June 2026	-
4	**Event 18 - Biannually**	**December 2026**	**-**
4	Event 19 - Biannually	June 2027	-
5	**Event 20 - Biannually**	**December 2027**	**-**
5	Event 21 - Biannually	June 2028	-

* Originally scheduled in December 2024 but was delayed due to high fire danger warning on the site for the planned fieldwork dates this fieldwork needed to be rescheduled to January 2025.

Table 3 Overview of monitoring reporting requirements

Monitoring Report	Timing
Baseline and first three-month monitoring report (Batch 1 only)	Completed – December 2022 (GHD 2022a)
Baseline and first three-month monitoring report (Batch 2 only)	Completed- May 2024 (GHD 2024b)
Annual reporting: Year 1-4 (Batch 1 and 2)	2024, (completed on May 2024, [GHD 2024a]) 2025 (this report), 2026, 2027
Annual report Year 5 (Batch 1) (including review of translocation against approved success criteria for the project and recommendations for the requirements for future monitoring and reporting).	December 2027
Annual Report: Year 5 (Batch 2) (including review of translocation against approved success criteria for the project and recommendations for the requirements for future monitoring and reporting).	December 2028

This annual monitoring report is compliant with the conditions outlined in the project Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan (GHD 2022c). A review of the Matted Flax-lily translocation and monitoring program against the conditions outlined in the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan is detailed in Section 4 of this report, and the project is on track to meet the benchmarks for success.

1.2 Purpose of this report

The purpose of this report is to demonstrate compliance with and address the reporting requirements of the EPBC Act approval (EPBC 2018/8142) conditions and the requirements of the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan (GHD 2022c) as required by the EPBC 2018/8142 approval.

This monitoring report provides a description of the method, results, and an assessment of the health and condition of the MFLs associated with the monitoring program undertaken from January 2024 to January 2025. The assessment includes the 528 MFLs (Batch 1 and 2) that make up the translocated individuals for the project, following the translocation events at Cherry Street Reserve, Macleod and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve, Macleod (the recipient sites; Figure 1a & Figure 1b) in August 2022 and October of 2023.

Recommendations for management and protection of the MFLs until the next monitoring event have also been provided (Section 7.1).

1.3 Scope and limitations

This report has been prepared by GHD for North East Link Program and may only be used and relied on by North East Link Program for the purpose agreed between GHD and North East Link Program as set out in section 1.2 of this report.

GHD otherwise disclaims responsibility to any person other than North East Link Program arising in connection with this report. GHD also excludes implied warranties and conditions, to the extent legally permissible.

The services undertaken by GHD in connection with preparing this report were limited to those specifically detailed in the report and are subject to the scope limitations set out in the report.

The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this report are based on conditions encountered and information reviewed at the date of preparation of the report. GHD has no responsibility or obligation to update this report to account for events or changes occurring subsequent to the date that the report was prepared.

GHD has prepared this report on the basis of information provided by NELP and others who provided information to GHD, which GHD has not independently verified or checked beyond the agreed scope of work. GHD does not accept liability in connection with such unverified information, including errors and omissions in the report which were caused by errors or omissions in that information.

Paper Size A3

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Meters

Map Projection: Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

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Legend

- Gresswell Forest Reserve Translocation Site
- Batch 2 (Translocated October 2023)
- Annual Monitoring Quadrats
- Photo Monitoring Point
- Rabbit Warren

North East Link Project

Date: 28 May 2025
Rev 0

Matted Flax-lily Recipient Sites
Gresswell Forest Reserve

Figure 1a

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Data Sources: Nearmap - Imagery (Date extracted: 09/10/2023) | Cadastre, Roads, Planning Zones - Vicmap - 2021 | NELP data - 2022 Created by:kgardner

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CS B1 PP3
CS B1 PP4
CS B2 PP1
CS B2 PP2
CS B2 PP3
CS B2 PP4
MACLEOD

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Meters
Map Projection: Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

N

Legend

- Cherry Street Reserve Translocation Site
- Batch 1 (Translocated Aug 2022)
- Batch 2 (Translocated October 2023)
- Annual Monitoring Quadrats
- Photo Monitoring Point

NORTH EAST LINK PROGRAM

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North East Link Project

Date: 28 May 2025
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Matted Flax-lily Recipient Sites
Cherry Street Reserve

Figure 1b

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Data Sources: Nearmap - Imagery (Date extracted: 09/10/2023) | Cadastre, Roads, Planning Zones - Vicmap - 2021 | NELP data - 2022 Created by:kgardner

2. Project Background: Translocation and management of Matted Flax-lily

2.1 Performance benchmarks

The objective of the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan (GHD 2022c) is to ensure the genetic diversity of the species is conserved, and the population affected by the project is re-established into suitable habitat and managed for the survival and reproduction of this species. Performance criteria have been developed to aid assessment of the MFL translocation program's progress towards meeting this goal over the 10-year monitoring period. The following performance criteria are derived from Vallee *et al.* (2004) with adaptation to suit the circumstances of the current project and species to be translocated.

The performance criteria for the MFL translocation program are:

1. At least 85% of transplanted clones survive, including representatives from the range of genetic individuals salvaged
2. The translocated populations displayed similar growth, development and vigour as naturally occurring populations
3. Transplants survived to reproductive stage (producing flowers and fruit)
4. If plants did not survive to reproductive stage, then the plants will be replaced
5. Regeneration occurs in the translocated individuals (since the recruitment of MFL through seed is thought to be rare, the production of ramets at a rate similar to naturally occurring populations is considered sufficient to meet this criterion)
6. The number of individuals within the population was stable or had been increased by natural (including vegetative) recruitment
7. Adequate levels of genetic diversity were maintained

The number of surviving plants at the end of the 10-year monitoring program that are needed to meet the long-term success criteria of the translocation program would depend on the number of clones propagated and planted out. Condition and success of the clones would continue to be monitored for up to 10 years with the aim of achieving 85% survival of clones by the fifth year. If performance targets are met within five years, it is envisaged that a significantly reduced monitoring program could be implemented for the remaining five years. Should 85% survival not be achieved at the end of five years, contingency planning would be initiated.

Based on the current salvage of 132 MFL plants and the subsequent translocation of 528 propagated and/or cloned MFL plants (Batch 1 and Batch 2), the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan would be considered a success at the five-year mark if survival of at least 449 plants, with representative clones from each 132 salvaged plants were achieved. Of the 449 plants survival target, approximately 357 plants should come from Batch 2 (85% of the 420 translocated Batch 2 MFLs) and approximately 92 plants should come from Batch 1 (85% of the 108 translocated Batch 1 MFLs).

2.2 Recipient site locations

The Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve (both in Macleod, Victoria) were selected (from the possible locations specified in the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan (GHD 2022c) through consultation with Darebin Council, DEECA and DCCEEW.

Within the Cherry Street Reserve, the MFL have been planted into a 1 hectare (ha) area in the southern end of the Reserve (Zone A and Zone B), which was selected with advice from the City of Darebin Biodiversity Officers (Figure 2).

Within the Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve, the MFLs have been planted into a 3.4 ha area in the northern end of the Reserve. This was selected with advice from the Parks Victoria officers who manage the site (Figure 1).

2.2.1 Cherry Street Reserve site preparation

To assist in preparations to translocate the MFL plants from the Abzeco nursery, the site at Cherry Street Reserve was divided into three management zones. The site is divided into Zones A, B and C (Figure 2) to enable management actions to be targeted to the specific conditions and ecological values in each zone. Abzeco are engaged to manage this site and have prepared a Cherry Street Reserve Site Schedule (Abzeco 2022) (approved by DEECA) to detail how the three zones would be managed over the life of the monitoring program. The schedule includes the tasks required to prepare the zones for the planting of MFLs.

A summary of the Site Schedules for Zones A, B and C are outlined below.

Zone A – Batch 2 MFL Planting Area

- Staged thinning of eucalypts Year 1 summer 2023-24 from mapped planting areas only. Trees were selected for retention. Regrowth will continue to be removed.
- Control of herbaceous and woody weeds – across entire zone.
- Hand weeding only in high quality patches with herbs/shrubs.
- Spot spraying with selective herbicide in exotic dominated areas.
- Handheld weed burners for use in areas away from lilies, orchids, herbs and shrubs.
- MFL planted in October 2023 were translocated in tussock gaps and avoided areas with herbs, lilies, and shrubs.

Zone B – Batch 1 MFL Planting Area

- Staged thinning of eucalypts completed in July 2022. Eucalypt regeneration will be managed.
- Control of herbaceous and woody weeds across entire zone.
- Hand weeding only in high quality areas with herbs/shrubs.
- Handheld weed burners in areas away from lilies, orchids, herbs, and shrubs.
- Spot spraying with selective herbicides in exotic dominated areas.
- MFL planted in August 2022 in tussock gaps avoiding areas with herbs, lilies, and shrubs.

Zone C – Fuel Management Zone

- Control of herbaceous and woody weeds across entire zone
- No MFL to be planted in this area
- Brushcut annually in January after seed set of the Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*)

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Meters

Map Projection: Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

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Legend

- Cherry Street Reserve
- Management zones
- Batch 1 (translocated Aug 2022)
- Batch 2 (translocated October 2023)

NORTH EAST LINK PROGRAM

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North East Link Project

Date: 28 May 2025
Rev 0

Management zones
Cherry Street Reserve

Figure 2

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Data Sources: Nearmap - Imagery (Date extracted: 09/10/2023) | Cadastre, Roads, Planning Zones - Vicmap - 2021 | NELP data - 2023 Created by:kgardner

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2.2.2 Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve site preparation

To restore and maintain the Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve recipient site as a grassy woodland, the preparation focus was on woody weeds, exotic pasture grasses and ecological thinning of indigenous trees and shrubs.

Initial surveys of the site condition conducted in March 2023 identified a mix of exotic and non-indigenous species as the initial focus of management to prepare the site for translocation. Ecological thinning was conducted to reduce the overdominance of midstory vegetation that was outcompeting the native understory vegetation, therefore Cassinia species were targeted. All of the *Cassinia sifton* (Drooping Cassinia) was then removed and approximately half of the *Cassinia longifolia* (Shiny Cassinia) were removed. This resulted in a 10-15 m spacing between Eucalyptus trees and Cassinia in the translocation area.

An appropriate fire regime is also essential for controlling grasses, shrubs and saplings. In April 2023 the translocation site was subject to a controlled burn. This cleared space to encourage understory diversity and will increase the chance of survival for the MFLs.

3. Method

The method applied to monitor the MFL outlined below is in accordance with the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan (GHD 2022c). As in all translocation programs conducted over a 10-year period, there are uncertainties that may impact the effectiveness of the translocation program, and unforeseen events that could impact the condition of the MFL. The Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan (GHD 2022c) allows for adaptive management to be put in place to allow practitioners to respond to unforeseen events. Amendments to the approved Plan would need to be developed in consultation with DEECA.

3.1 Monitoring program

The approved monitoring program stipulates that there would need to be more frequent monitoring, immediately following translocation to confirm the new transplants have established themselves at the recipient site. The monitoring could then occur less frequently once the plants are established (Table 1 and Table 2).

The program allows for monitoring to be conducted weekly for the first month after translocation, then monthly during the second through to the fifth month, and then quarterly visits over the first two-years (as detailed in Table 1 and Table 2). The monitoring would then be conducted on a six-monthly basis for up to five years. At the end of the five-year period, a review is proposed to tailor the management and monitoring program for the remaining five years.

It is expected that a reduced monitoring program would be implemented for Years 5-10. This schedule may be revised, with approval of DCCEEW and DEECA, depending on establishment rates and achievement of performance benchmarks. A final site assessment would be conducted at the end of the tenth year after the initial translocation event to confirm that performance benchmarks have been met.

3.2 Monitoring data

The monitoring at recipient sites involves collecting data against a range of parameters to assess the condition of the translocated MFL against the success criteria (as per the approved Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Management Plan, GHD 2022c). The monitoring has been undertaken or overseen by a qualified botanist approved by DEECA and in consultation with the land managers (e.g. Council biodiversity officer or the Parks Chief Ranger).

3.2.1 General condition data collected during each monitoring event

The following data is collected at each monitoring event:

- A population count of all translocated MFL plants
  - Alive: With green material above ground
  - Dormant: Plants found with no green material above ground
  - Dead: Plants that have been dormant for an entire 12-month period will be classified as dead
- Health status
  - Good: >70% leaves green
  - Moderate >30-<70% leaves green
  - Poor <30% leaves green
- Evidence of herbivory or pathogens
  - Yes/ No

- Presence of noxious weeds
  - % cover of all noxious weeds within 0.5 m radius of each MFL
  - Comments listing each noxious weed species
- Presence of flowers and/or fruits and height of inflorescence or infructescence
  - Buds: yes/no
  - Flowers: early/ mid/ late
  - Fruit: early/ mid/ late
- Threats to MFLs
  - Notes about any new conditions or factors that could negatively impact the MFLs
- Photos
  - Representative photos
    - A selection of photos from random MFLs
  - Photo point monitoring
    - Photos from each corner of the recipient sites in Cherry Street Reserve (Zone A and Zone B) and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve (Figure 1; Table 4)
    - The photos are taken facing internally to show the reserves and translocation sites
    - Landscape format
- Overall site condition
  - Making a note of any new conditions or factors that could negatively impact the translocation site
  - Making a note of any conditions that need to be managed by the land managers
- Weather data
  - Using Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) Climate data rainfall and temperature minimums and maximums for the months between the current and previous monitoring period are compared to the 10-year average of those months

Table 4 Photo point latitude and longitude locations for each of the three translocation sites

Photo point ID	Latitude	Longitude	Direction photo is taken
Cherry Street Reserve (Zone B) Batch 1 points			
CS B1 PP1	-37.7236053	145.0646674	SE
CS B1 PP2	-37.7236791	145.0649763	SW
CS B1 PP3	-37.7240056	145.0651116	NW
CS B1 PP4	-37.7239736	145.0644696	NE
Cherry Street Reserve (Zone A) Batch 2 points			
CS B2 PP1	-37.7238866	145.0659795	SE
CS B2 PP2	-37.7239332	145.0664418	SW
CS B2 PP3	-37.7241024	145.0665711	NW
CS B2 PP4	-37.7240429	145.0659842	NE
Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve Batch 2 points			
GF B2 PP1	-37.70900278	145.07252500	SE
GF B2 PP2	-37.70971389	145.07315000	SW
GF B2 PP3	-37.71142880	145.07221110	NW
GF B2 PP4	-37.71126944	145.07145389	NE

3.2.2 Detailed condition data collected during annual quadrat monitoring

To capture more detail on a subset of plants, six 25 m^2 quadrats have been established within the two translocation sites (Figure 1a-b). These quadrats have been distributed across each site in locations that are representative of the general conditions across the areas where MFL plants have been translocated. In December, the following data was captured for the MFL plants within these six quadrats as part of the annual monitoring program:

- MFL basal diameter, measured as the widest point between ramets
- No. of ramets
- Maximum leaf length
- Height of inflorescence or infructescence

These data will be collected every December when growth and inflorescence/infructescence numbers are expected to be highest.

The value of measuring the plant health can provide advance warning of potential issues for the translocation program. A small number of MFL plants in poor condition or dormant (i.e. no leaves) is not unusual for this species, especially at certain times of year. However, a large proportion of the plants in moderate or poor condition could indicate a change in condition of the site and that adaptive management is needed before the plants are beyond recovery. Details of the condition assessment and results from the monitoring event in December 2023 are shown in Table 5.

3.3 Adaptive management

The health and survival of the translocated plants will be monitored according to the methods described in Section 3.2, and if a large portion of the translocated population appears to be declining and/or translocation criteria are not being met, efforts will be made to identify the cause of the decline, and further adaptive management measures developed in consultation with DEECA. If the cause of any decline in condition was identified as being an aspect of the management of one or both of the recipient sites (such as insufficient watering or weed control), then modifications to site management will be evaluated and implemented as needed. In addition, if survival criteria were not being met, the number of clones in the nursery can be increased by creating further divisions of established nursery stock so that sufficient clones were available to replace losses. If contingency measures were implemented (at the end of the five-year monitoring period), the monitoring period would be extended for up to an additional five-year period.

The primary criteria for triggering replanting additional clones would be high levels of plant mortality at the recipient sites, based on the judgement of the project botanist. Plants in poor health and/or which are not sufficiently growing either in width or number of ramets should first be watered and monitored before being considered for replacement. Replacement would be considered if the plant has been dormant for an entire 12-month period, the plant has been watered in spring or summer (depending on weather conditions), and after the late summer/ autumn growing period where MFL typically put out new growth. If no new growth is observed then the plant should be considered for replacement.

As monitoring continues, a sufficient number of clones would be propagated and retained in the Abzeco nursery to replace any losses of the translocated plants at the recipient sites with the goal of 100 % genetic survivorship of salvaged material, i.e. at least one clone from each parent MFL plant becomes established. This is critical to the success of the monitoring program. Based on previous translocation programs, MFL can be successfully propagated in a nursery setting and a large number of clones can often be produced from a single parent plant.

3.4 Reporting

Following the baseline and the three months post translocation monitoring report (GHD 2024b), yearly reports for the program's lifetime (minimum of five and up to 10 years) will be prepared. As the translocation of MFL plants has occurred in two staggered batches, this report combines the results of the third year of annual monitoring for Batch 1 MFL plants (encompassing quarterly monitoring data collected from March and June 2024, and January 2025) and the second year of annual monitoring for Batch 2 MFL plants (encompassing the monthly monitoring data collected between January to April 2024 and quarterly data collected on June, September, and December 2024 and January 2025)(Table 5). The annual monitoring reports for both batches of translocated plants will henceforth be combined for the life of the monitoring program. Table 5 shows the survivorship for each batch of MFLs at each year and monitoring stage, with blank cells for stages that the program has not yet reached.

This annual monitoring report discusses the survivorship, condition and growth of the translocated MFL plants. It also includes information on conditions at the recipient site and the nursery, and an assessment of the status of the translocation program relative to the performance criteria. The report discusses known or potential threats, management issues and maintenance or corrective actions that have been undertaken or any that are proposed. The report includes rainfall and watering data, the tabulated results from each monitoring event and the photo monitoring taken from each established photo point.

A final report will be provided after the 10th year of monitoring and include an analysis of whether the translocation program has achieved the long-term performance criteria, or whether further management and monitoring is required. The final report would also include a summary of lessons learned and recommendations for future translocation programs.

Table 5 Performance management and contingency planning

Monitoring stage	Standard to be achieved	Contingency	Batch 1 Outcome	Batch 2 Outcome
Pre-planting	100% of salvage of pre-clearance plants Where achievable six clones to be created to replace salvaged plants.	If the six clones cannot initially be established, additional clones to be produced when plant mass is sufficient. Two clones maintained in nursery conditions	Compliant	Compliant
End of 1st year	>85% survivorship	No additional measures and continue to monitor	95% survival on the end of first year in June 2023 (Event 10 monitoring)- Standard was achieved	97% survival on the end of first year in September 2024 (Event 11 monitoring)- Standard was achieved
	<85% survivorship	Replant up to 85% survivorship of four clones		
End of 2nd year	>85% survivorship	No additional measures and continue to monitor	91% survival on the end of first year in June 2024 (Event 10 monitoring)- Standard was achieved	The latest monitoring on 12 December 2024 and 17 January 2025 (Event 12) was the start of 2nd year.
	<85% survivorship	Replant up to 85% survivorship of four clones		
End of 3rd year	>85% survivorship	No additional measures and continue to monitor	The latest monitoring on 17 January 2025 (Event 15), the start of 3rd year.	-
	<85% survivorship	Replant up to 85% survivorship of four clones		
End of 4th year	>85% survivorship	No additional measures and continue to monitor	-	-
	<85% survivorship	Replant up to 85% survivorship of four clones		

Monitoring stage	Standard to be achieved	Contingency	Batch 1 Outcome	Batch 2 Outcome
End of 5th year	Achieved a performance target of at least 85% of clones surviving? If so the MFL Salvage and Translocation Plan is declared a success.	No contingency management is required. Amend monitoring program years 5-10. Actively manage sites to 'maintain' population through threat management.	-	-
Years 5-10	If the performance target has not been met at the end of the 5-year period continue with replanting strategy for a further five years.	Review the existing strategy and explore options to improve success rates. Replant with 'insurance clones' as required to achieve performance target and monitor until performance target achieved.	-	-

4. Annual monitoring summary

4.1 Climatic conditions

The climatic and rainfall information presented in this report is from the Viewbank weather station (approximately 4.2 km from the translocation sites), with data sourced from the Bureau of Meteorology Climate database (BOM 2025). The data presented spans the 10-year window from 2015-2024 has been assessed to help identify potential climatic drivers for any trends observed during the MFL monitoring and to inform management of the MFL populations (Batch 1 and Batch 2). This data will also assist in understanding whether climate conditions could be impacting the translocated MFL populations health and persistence.

4.1.1 Rainfall

Viewbank weather station has received 686.8 mm of rain in 2024, with an average yearly rainfall from 2015-2024 of 691.4 mm. Rainfall in the years 2020-2022 was significantly higher than preceding and following years (2020: 894.4 mm, 2021: 838.8mm, 2022: 868.8 mm). Recent data indicates a decline in early summer rainfall during the annual monitoring periods. December 2023 to January 2024 recorded 174.2 mm, while December 2024 to January 2025 dropped to 96.6 mm or 45% less rainfall (Figure 3 & Table 6). These rainfall data patterns are critical in understanding whether climate conditions are impacting the health and persistence of translocated MFL populations.

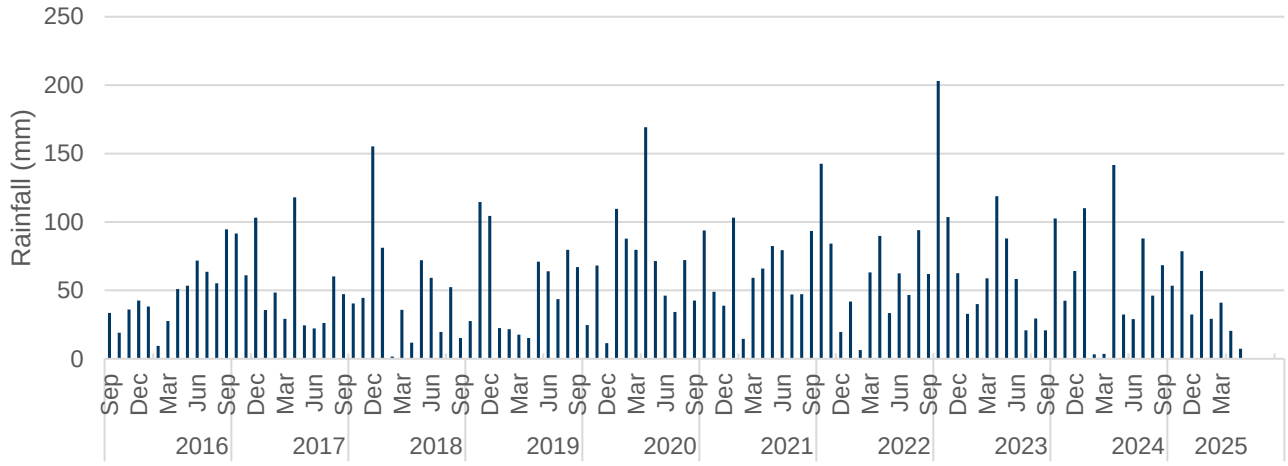

Figure 3 *Monthly rainfall (mm) recorded from Viewbank station from 2015-2025*

Table 6 Monthly rainfall (mm) recorded from the Viewbank weather station from 2015-2025

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Average
2015	30.8	43.8	28.6	44	46.6	35.2	68	46	33.6	19	36	42.6	474.2	39.5
2016	38.2	9.4	27.6	51	53.4	71.8	63.6	55.2	94.6	91.6	61	103.2	720.6	60.1
2017	35.6	48.4	29.2	118	24.4	22.2	26.2	60.2	47.2	40.4	44.6	155.2	651.6	54.3
2018	81.2	1.6	35.8	11.8	72	59.2	19.6	52.4	15.2	27.6	114.6	104.4	595.4	49.6
2019	22.4	21.6	17.6	15.2	71	64	43.6	79.6	67	24.6	68.2	11.4	506.2	42.2
2020	109.6	87.8	79.6	169.2	71.4	46.2	34.2	72.2	42.6	93.8	49	38.8	894.4	74.5
2021	103.2	14.6	59.2	66	82.4	79.4	47	47.2	93.4	142.6	84.2	19.6	838.8	69.9
2022	41.8	6.4	63.2	89.8	33.4	62.4	46.6	94	62	203	103.6	62.6	868.8	72.4
2023	32.8	40	58.8	118.8	88	58.4	20.8	29.4	20.8	102.6	42.4	64.2	677	56.4
2024	110	3.2	3.6	141.6	32.4	29	88	46.2	68.4	53.4	78.6	32.4	686.8	57.2
2025	64.2													
Average	60.9	27.7	40.3	82.5	57.5	52.8	45.8	58.2	54.5	79.9	68.2	63.4	691.4	

4.1.2 Temperature

Temperature data from Viewbank indicates an average maximum of 21.03°C from 2015 to 2025, with the hottest average maximum temperature of 21.6°C recorded in 2019 and 2024 (Figure 4 & Table 7). Since 2020, the average maximum temperature has shown a consistent increase from 20.2°C in 2020 to 21.6°C in 2024. Recent early summer monitoring periods show an increase in average monthly maximum temperatures, with December 2023 and January 2024 recording 25.4°C and 27.2°C, respectively, while December 2024 and January 2025 rose to 28.4°C and 29.4°C, respectively. These temperature and rainfall data patterns are critical in understanding whether climate conditions are impacting the health and persistence of translocated MFL populations.

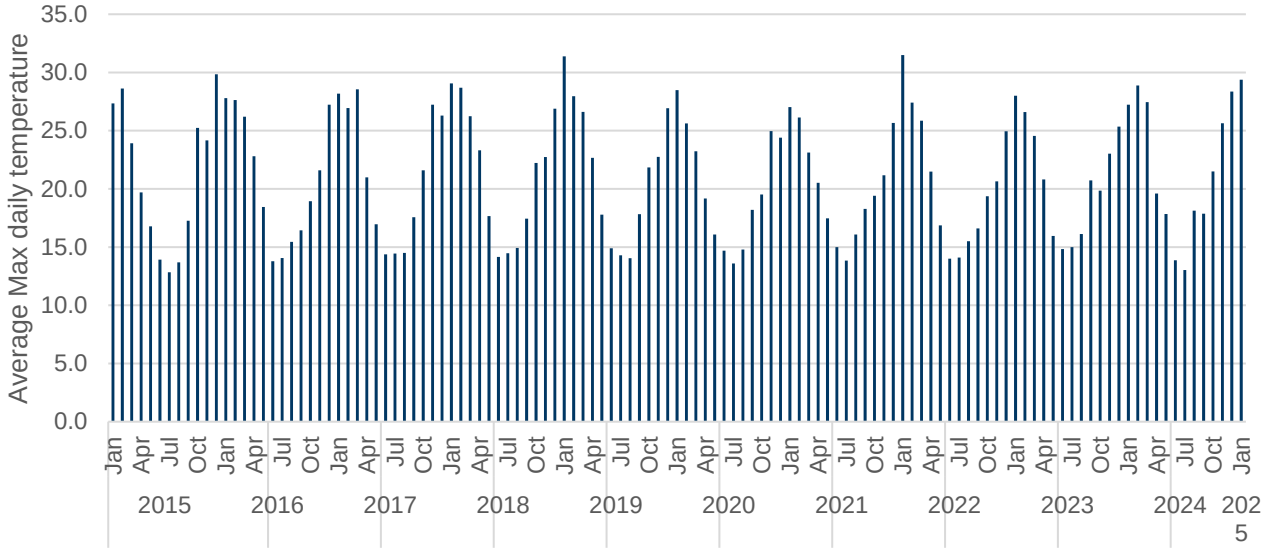

Figure 4 *Average monthly maximum temperature (C) from 2015-2025*

Table 7 Average monthly maximum temperature (C) from 2015-2025

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
2015	27.3	28.6	23.9	19.7	16.8	13.9	12.8	13.7	17.3	25.2	24.2	29.8	21.1
2016	27.8	27.6	26.2	22.8	18.4	13.8	14.1	15.4	16.4	18.9	21.6	27.2	20.9
2017	28.2	26.9	28.6	21.0	17.0	14.4	14.4	14.5	17.6	21.6	27.2	26.3	21.5
2018	29.1	28.7	26.2	23.3	17.7	14.2	14.5	14.9	17.4	22.2	22.7	26.9	21.5
2019	31.4	28.0	26.6	22.7	17.8	14.9	14.3	14.0	17.8	21.8	22.8	26.9	21.6
2020	28.5	25.6	23.2	19.2	16.1	14.7	13.6	14.8	18.2	19.5	25.0	24.4	20.2
2021	27.0	26.1	23.1	20.5	17.5	15.0	13.8	16.1	18.3	19.4	21.2	25.7	20.3
2022	31.5	27.4	25.9	21.5	16.9	14.0	14.1	15.5	16.6	19.4	20.6	24.9	20.7
2023	28.0	26.6	24.5	20.8	16.0	14.8	15.0	16.1	20.7	19.8	23.0	25.4	20.9
2024	27.2	28.9	27.4	19.6	17.8	13.9	13.0	18.1	17.9	21.5	25.6	28.4	21.6
2025	29.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average	28.7	27.4	25.6	21.1	17.2	14.4	14.0	15.3	17.8	20.9	23.4	26.6	-

4.2 Batch 1- Annual monitoring summary

4.2.1 Survivorship

Figure 5 shows the survivorship of the Batch 1 MFL plants from their translocation (10 August 2022) to the latest monitoring on 17 January 2025. The intervals between data points varies from weekly in the initial month, up to 6 months between the last two data points. The total number of plants recorded as alive has steadily decreased since the initial translocation, however there are visually significant decreases in March 2023, March 2024 and January 2025.

The percentage target for MFL survivorship (85%) documented in the Salvage and Translocation Management Plan doesn't distinguish between plants that are considered dead (haven't been recorded as having above ground vegetative material for a 12 month window) and plants that are dormant (plants that haven't been identified during a monitoring round, but have been observed within the previous 12 months), and the 85% target is based on the number of live individuals observed with above ground vegetative material during the monitoring.

At the end of the 2024 monitoring period, 28 out of 108 of the Batch 1 MFLs were identified as dormant, and one was considered dead. It is considered likely that the increase in the number of dormant plants in the Batch 1 MFLs has resulted from the drier conditions observed in the lead up to the annual monitoring.

This conservatively represents a current survivorship rate of 73% of the Batch 1 MFLs. The majority of the plants contributing to this result are newly dormant plants that have been observed during monitoring over the last 12 months. As such, it is recommended that the monitoring of these plants continues as planned during June 2025, and that if these plants are not observed for a 12-month window and are subsequently classified as dead, recommendations may be put in place for supplementary translocation of additional MFL.

Figure 5 illustrates the trends over time, showing a decline in the number of live plants (from 96 in March 2024 to 79 in January 2025) and a concurrent increase in dormant plants. This highlights the need for ongoing monitoring to differentiate between seasonal dormancy and permanent loss.

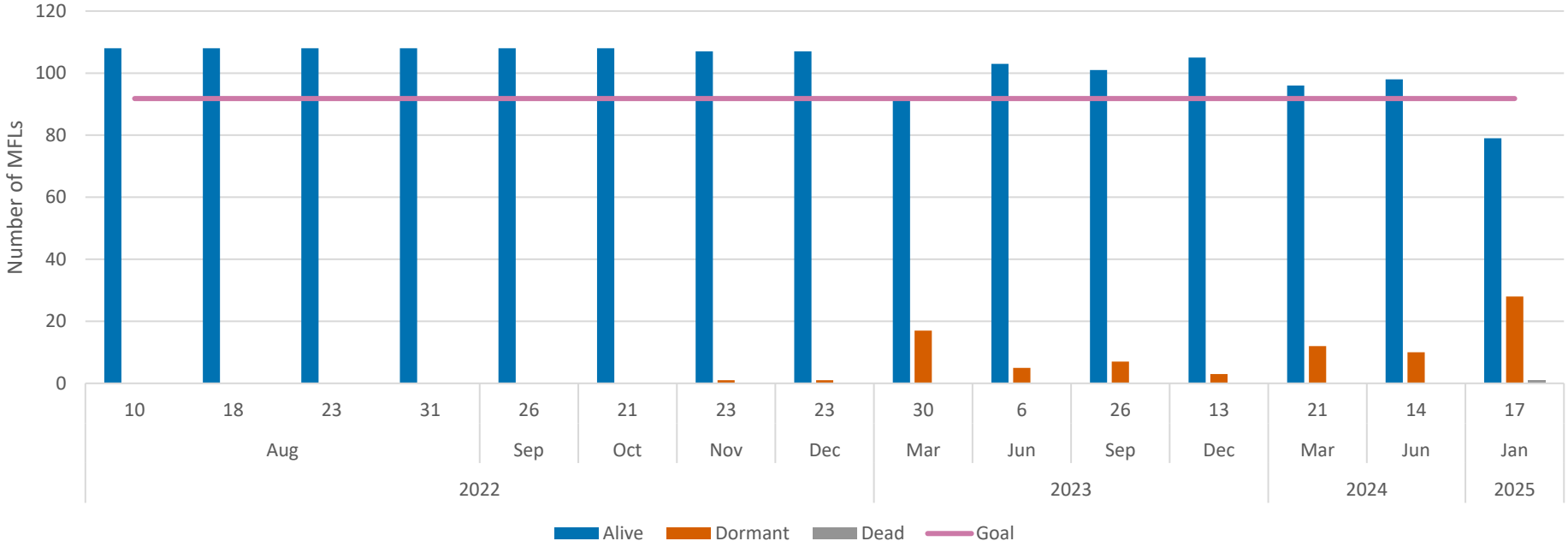

Figure 5 *Batch 1 MFL survivorship in Cherry Street Reserve Zone B between August 2022 (Event 1) to January 2025 (Event 15)*

Figure 6 shows the number of MFLs in good, moderate, and poor health as well as the number of plants assessed as dormant from the initial translocation (10 August 2022) to the most recent monitoring event 17 January 2025.

The health condition of MFL plants has fluctuated during the monitoring period in 2024 and early 2025 (Figure 6). During Event 13 (21 March 2024), only 29% of MFL plants were classified as being in good health (>70% green leaves). Over the following three months, there was a significant improvement, with 76% of plants in good health during Event 14 (14 June 2024). However, this proportion decreased to 44% by Event 15 (17 January 2025).

Similarly, the proportion of plants in poor condition (<30% green leaves) has fluctuated throughout the year but there has been an overall decrease in the number of plants in poor condition. The percentage of plants in poor condition reduced to 5% in June 2024(Event 14), likely due to the improved vegetative growth response resulting from the higher rainfall when compared to the rainfall in the lead up to monitoring Events 13 and 15.

This trend of a higher proportion of plants in good health from Autumn to Spring and then decreasing over summer can be seen in the data since the beginning of the translocation program. Continued monitoring will be important to understand whether the current high number of dormant plants is part of the seasonal fluctuation or indicative of long-term decline of the population.

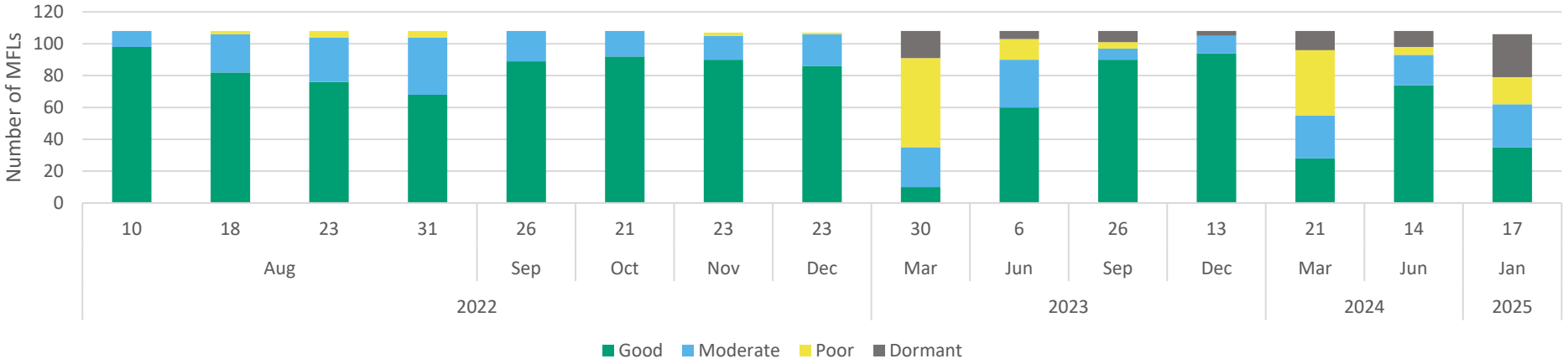

Figure 6 *Batch 1 MFL condition in Cherry Street Reserve Zone B between August 2022 (Event 1) to January 2025 (Event 15)*

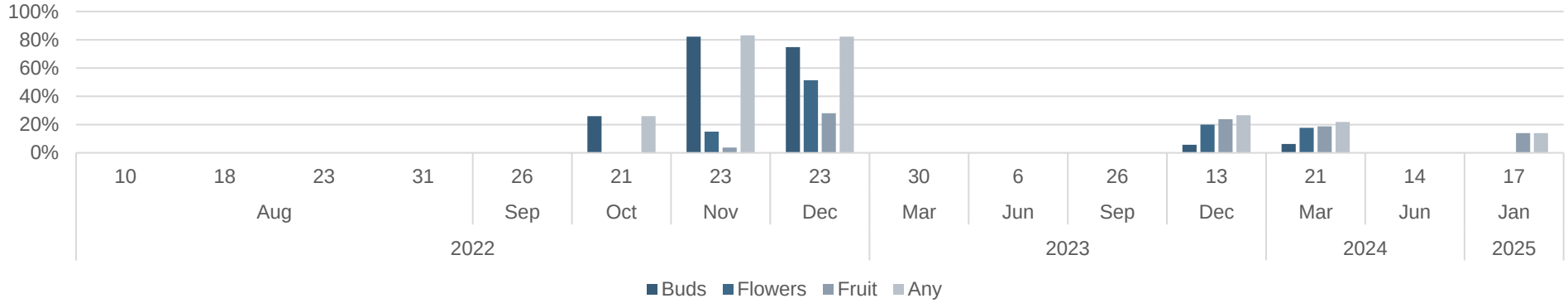

Figure 7 *Batch 1 MFL buds, flowering, and fruiting percentages in Cherry Street Reserve Zone B between August 2022 to January 2025*

Figure 7 presents the percentage of MFL plants with reproductive material observed and the percentage of plants with any reproductive material across Events 1 to 15. The presence of reproductive material on plants, particularly during the expected reproductive season (November to February), is a positive indicator for the health MFL individuals.

The number of MFL plants exhibiting reproductive material has decreased each flowering season (November – February) season since their translocation. The peak was in November 2022, shortly after translocation with 83% of MFL plants showing some reproductive material. In January 2025 only 14% of plants had some reproductive material. It is possible that the slightly later survey timing for the most recent round of monitoring (with monitoring undertaken in January 2025 instead of December 2024) has contributed to the decline, but the most significant decrease in the number of individuals exhibiting reproductive material occurred between the December 2023 and December 2024 monitoring events.

It is possible that the optimised growing conditions for MFL plants in the nursery prior to translocation resulted in the translocated individuals exhibiting a higher initial rate of presence of reproductive material over the first summer monitoring period, when compared to the results over the ensuing summer windows years where localised climatic variables have been more readily able to impact the condition and growth or translocated individuals.

Quadrat monitoring was conducted in December 2022, December 2023, and January 2025 to assess additional characteristics of MFL plants, as summarised in Table 8. The average basal diameter of the plants increased over the monitoring events, from 15.1 cm in December 2022 to 18.4 cm in January 2025. This increase suggests that new ramets are emerging from the original translocated plants, indicating successful establishment of the MFL population in the area.

Conversely, average leaf height and the number of ramets decreased during this period. Average leaf height declined from 36.8 cm in December 2022 to 26.3 cm in January 2025, and the average number of ramets reduced from 14 to 4. The observed declines in vegetative growth could be attributed to the drier conditions experienced during the latest monitoring period. Weather data (Figure 7) indicates higher average temperatures (both maximum and minimum), lower total rainfall, and fewer days with rainfall >1 mm from December 2022 to December 2024. Such conditions are likely responsible for the drying of leaves and reduced production of new ramets observed in the most recent monitoring.

However, this is not a cause for immediate concern. More rainfall was recorded in January 2025, and improved conditions in the coming months could support the growth of new leaves and ramets. This trend will be monitored in subsequent assessments to evaluate the plants' recovery and overall health.

Table 8 ***Batch 1 Additional monitoring data collected on a subset of the population in December 2022 and January 2025 - 15 MFL plants***

Annual monitoring data collected December 2022, December 2023, and January 2025 – 15 MFL plants			
Monitoring event	Event 8 – December 2022	Event 12 – December 2023	Event 15 – 17 January 2025
Average leaf height (cm)	36.8	28.0	26.3
Average Basal diameter (cm)	15.1	14.5	18.4
Average no. of ramets	14	7.2	4

4.2.2 Maintenance

The Cherry Street Reserve has been sprayed for broadleaf and grassy weeds and hand weeding around the MFL plants has been undertaken (Table 9). This will assist with the establishment of plants and enable them to put on biomass, enabling plants to compete with the grass and weeds in the Reserve. This is part of the planned maintenance, and the current schedule is sufficient at this time.

The maintenance and corrective actions specified in Table 9 have taken place during the monitoring program between January – December 2024.

Table 9 Maintenance actions planned and completed in Cherry Street Reserve for the translocated Matted Flax-lilies (MFL) in 2024

Action	Timing	Outcome
Weed control – Annual non-native grasses	June, July, August and September 2024	Reduced annual non-native grass weed load across the year.
Weed control – Broadleaf weed treatment	November 2024	Reduced broadleaf weed load across the year.
Weed control – Plantago treatment	February, May and June 2024	Reduction in the cover of Plantago in the Reserve.
Hand weeding of MFL plants	February 2024	More space around the MFL plants.
Weed control – spot spraying	June, September and November 2024	Reduction in the instances of other weeds in the Reserve.
Watering MFLs	Twice in February 2024	Application of water to the MFLs at a time when the monthly rainfall was 3.2 mm. This value is lower than the mean for February, 41.5 mm.

4.2.3 Genetic diversity

At Cherry Street Reserve, 100% of the parent plants are represented by living clones. As of Event 15 monitoring on 17 January 2025, only one clone, from MFL parent number 24, was confirmed dead or not observed in the last 12 months.

Table 10 shows the number of parents plants with either one, two, three or four living clones. There are four parent plants where only one clone is recorded as alive as of January 2025 (Table 10). Appendix D detailed the number of living clones for each parent plant. Most of these clones were recorded as alive in June 2024, so it is likely these individuals are currently dormant, not dead. It is possible that individuals that were recorded as dormant in the most recent monitoring event are alive and were not observed either as a result of the dry conditions at the site at the time of monitoring which can result in withered vegetative material that is less visible. Additionally, surrounding biomass growth can make it very difficult to find certain individuals.

At this stage there is no replanting of MFLs recommended due to the following reasons:

– The dead plant (24-003) has one dormant and two living siblings, so the loss of this individual has not reduced the overall genetic diversity of the translocated MFLs.
– Based on the survivorship target of 85% MFL plants alive, the salvage and translocation monitoring program is still on track.

The need for any future supplementary MFL planting for Batch 1 will be reassessed after each monitoring event so that if any replanting is required it can be done as soon as possible. There are two clones for each parent plant available in a nursery managed by Abzeco, if any MFL need to be replaced.

If all clones of a parent plant in the translocated population were to die, new clones (from the original parent plant) stored at the Abzeco nursery would need to be planted to maintain the genetic diversity of the translocated population. Monitoring of any newly planted MFLs would be required, and the monitoring schedule and timelines for any newly translocated individuals would need to follow the method prescribed in the approved Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Management Plan (GHD 2022c).

Table 10 The number of parent plants grouped by number of surviving clones from Batch 1 in January 2025

Number of clones alive	Number of parent plants
1	4
2	4
3	9
4	10

4.2.4 Threats

4.2.4.1 Biomass

During the latest monitoring event at Cherry Street Reserve Zone B, a dense biomass of native and non-native grasses, along with saplings of *Eucalyptus* sp., was recorded growing around the translocated MFL. These grasses and saplings compete with the MFL for light, nutrients, and moisture. Additionally, the thick grass cover makes it difficult to locate some MFL plants, as some MFLs were completely overshadowed or reduced in size, potentially suffering from competition with the surrounding vegetation. (Appendix C, Table C2).

4.2.4.2 Herbivory and pathogens

Event 15 (17 January 2025) recorded herbivory on 19% of MFL plants (Figure 8). Although herbivory was recorded in 2024, this is still considered minor and not a threatening case to the target survival. This will be monitored over the life of the program in case conditions change.

There was no evidence of any pathogens impacting on the MFL plants.

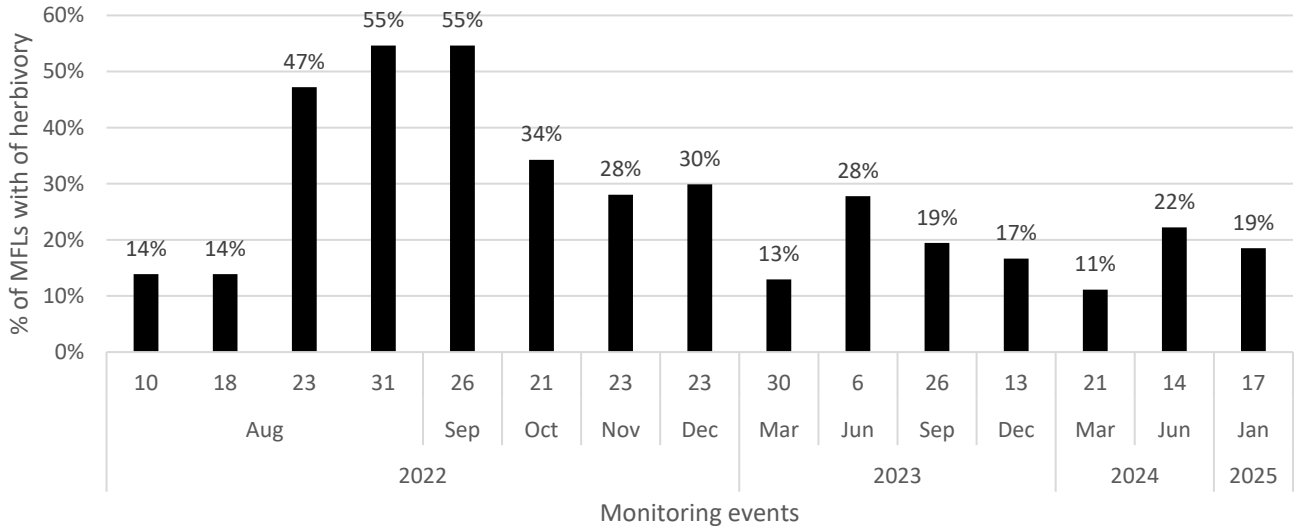

Figure 8 ***Batch 1 percentage of MFL plants impacted by herbivory in Cherry Street Reserve Zone B between August 2022 to January 2025***

4.2.5 Recommended additional maintenance

The following actions are recommended for the maintenance of the Batch 1 MFL plants:

– Control burning during autumn (cool burn) of overgrown grass and tree saplings in the Cherry Street Reserve is recommended to give these plants a better chance of resprouting, growing larger and establishing more securely.
  - A cool burn is a moderate intensity grassland burn that aims to burn approximately 90% of the near surface fuel which will increase habitat values and aid weed control (Abzeco 2025).

– Watering of MFLs during summer season is also recommended to support plant survival during this period. Any additional watering will be done on an as needs basis under the guidance of Abzeco.

These recommendations have been discussed with Abzeco as part of the monthly meetings between NELP and Abzeco. Reporting on the implementation of these recommendations, and any resulting changes, will be incorporated in the Annual Matted Flax-lily 2025 Annual Compliance Report (due to be published in 2026).

4.2.6 Summary of results

Overall, the Batch 1 MFL translocation program is considered to be below the target 85% survival for this annual monitoring. Monitoring found 73% (79 plants) of MFL have been observed to have survived within the March 2024 to January 2025 timeframe. However, of the 29 plants not found alive, only one is considered dead. Based on results found over the last 12-month periods, it is likely that many of the others that are dormant will return once the conditions improve and the plants regrow from their root stock.

Table 11 summarises the December monitoring data and the January 2024 to January 2025 monitoring of MFL Batch 1. The annual monitoring data shown in Table 12 are collected in December of each year of the monitoring program to gain a deeper understanding of the condition of the translocated MFL plants.

Table 11 Batch 1 MFL Monitoring data collected from Event 13 to Event 15 in Cherry Street Reserve Zone B

	2022 Monitoring	2023 Monitoring	2024 Monitoring		
Data collected during monitoring events	**Event 8 23 December 2022**	**Event 12 13 December 2023**	**Event 13 21/03/2024**	**Event 14 14/06/2024**	**Event 15 17/01/2025**
Living plants (no.)	107	105	96	98	79
Dormant/dead/not found plants (no.)	0	3	12	10	29
% of plants with >70% of healthy leaves (good condition)	80%	90%	29%	76%	44%
% of plants with 30<70% of healthy leaves (moderate condition)	19%	10%	28%	19%	34%
% of plants with <30% of healthy leaves (poor condition)	1%	0%	43%	5%	22%
Proportion of plants with flowering / fruiting present	82%	27%	22%	0%	14%
Noxious weeds present (within 0.5 m radius) %	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Herbivory present (%)	30%	17%	11%	22%	19%

Table 12 Batch 1 Monitoring data collected each year in December on a subset of the population in December 2022, 2023 and January 2025- 15 MFL plants

Annual monitoring data collected – 15 MFL plants	December 2022	December 2023	January 2025
Average leaf height (cm)	36.8	28.0	26.3
Average Basal diameter (cm)	15.1	14.5	18.4
Average no. of ramets	14.0	7.2	4.0
Programmed maintenance undertaken satisfactorily	Yes	Yes	Yes
Previous additional maintenance/ adaptive measures undertaken	Yes	Yes	Yes
Additional maintenance required	Yes	Yes	Yes

4.3 Batch 2- Annual monitoring summary

4.3.1 Survivorship

Figure 9 shows the survivorship of the Batch 2 MFL plants from their translocation (31 October 2023) to the latest monitoring on the 17 January 2025. The intervals between data points varies from weekly in the initial month, up to four months between the last two data points in accordance with the MFL Salvage and Translocation Plan. The total number of plants recorded as alive has stayed steady with dips in late summer (March 2021, April 2023 and January 2025).

At the end of the 2024 monitoring period for the Batch 2 MFLs, 393 MFL plants (94%) were alive, and the translocated individuals have met the survivorship target. A number of the Batch 2 MFLs were identified as dormant (27) and one plant was considered dead (Figure 9; Appendix C). Based on BOM 2025 data (Section 4.1), lower rainfall and higher average maximum temperatures were recorded in early summer of 2024–2025 compared to the previous year during the annual monitoring period, which may have contributed to the increase in the number of dormant MFLs observed during the most recent monitoring event.

One plant (MFL 39-003) has not been observed since November 2023 and has been classified as dead. It is not recommended to replace this plant at this stage in the translocation program because this plant still has two clones (39-001 and 39-002) that were recorded as alive in January 2025. MFL Plant 39-004 was recorded as alive in June 2024, and as such has been considered dormant rather than dead during the latest monitoring event.

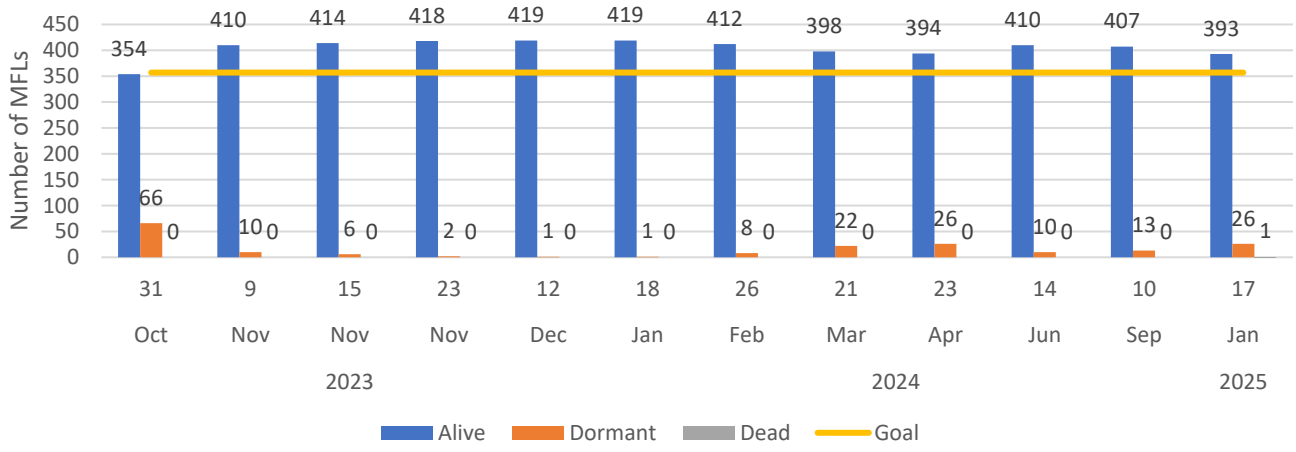

Figure 9 ***Batch 2 MFL survivorship in Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve between October 2023 to January 2025***

The health of the Batch 2 MFL plants from the start of the translocation program until January 2025 is presented in Figure 10. The number of plants with good health peaked during the spring of 2024 at 392 plants. On 17 January 2025, 341 of the Batch 2 MFLs were still in good condition.

The number of plants in poor condition has remained low, with only 10 on Event 12 (17 January 2025), the most recent Batch 2 MFL data of this report.

The stress experienced during summer may have taken time to manifest, causing the plant condition to decline from February to April 2024. However, following increased rainfall starting in June 2024, the plants were able to settle into the reserves and their condition had improved since then.

Figure 10 ***Batch 2 MFL condition in Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve between October 2023 to January 2025***

Figure 11 shows the percentage of plants observed with buds, flowers fruits and the total number of plants with any reproductive material observed from October 2023 to January 2025.

At least 24% of the Batch 2 MFL plants exhibited evidence of reproduction (any evidence of either buds, flowering and/or fruiting) during Event 12, the most recent monitoring event (Figure 11). This is consistent In Victoria where MFL usually produce reproductive material during November to February. MFL plants displaying some stage of reproductive material is a good sign of health of MFL health. The proportion in 2024/2025 is significantly less than in the previous flowering season. It is likely that the first flowering season after they were translocated had such a high proportion of flowering because they had been in the relative comfort of nursery conditions. This past season and future seasons are likely to have lower proportion of MFLs until the plants are established.

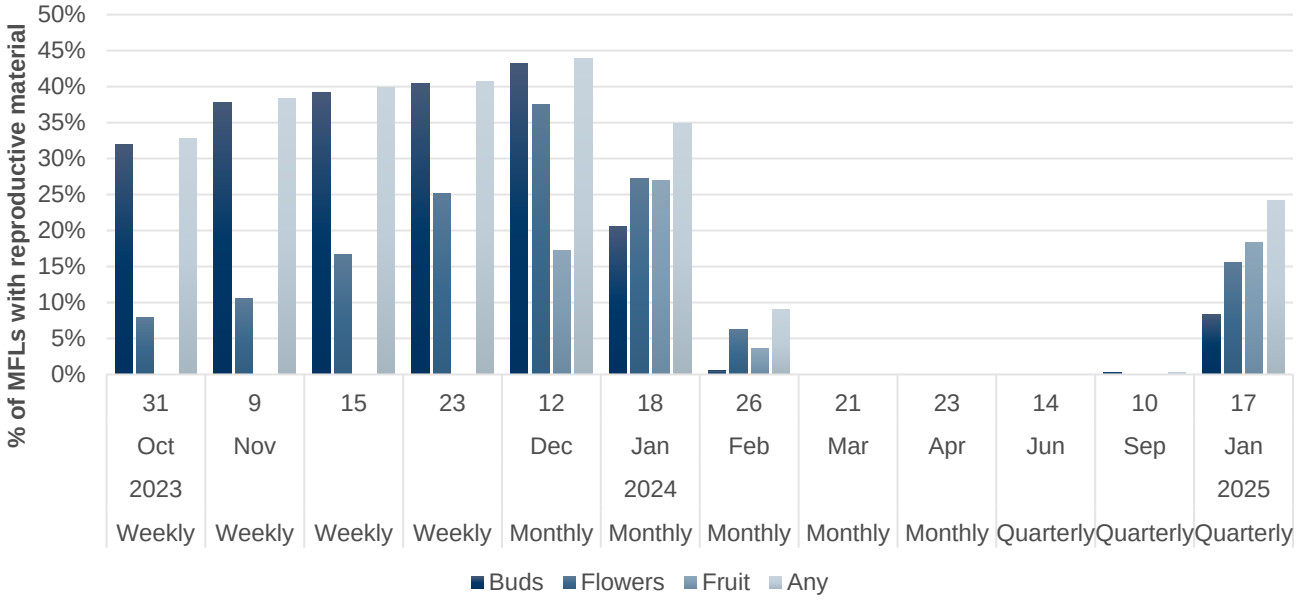

Figure 11 ***Batch 2 MFL buds, flowering and fruiting percentages Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve between October 2023 to January 2025***

The size of MFL plants is determined by measuring the basal diameter, leaf height and the number of ramets (Table 13). The basal diameter increased while the leaf length and number of ramets decreased from December 2023 to December 2024/ January 2025.

The increase in basal diameter indicates that the new ramets are growing from the original translocated plants signifying that the MFLs are establishing in the area. The reduction in leaf height and number of ramets could be attributed to dryer conditions during the monitoring period. Based on BOM 2025 data (Section 4.1), lower rainfall and higher average maximum temperatures were recorded in early summer of 2024–2025 compared to the previous year during the annual monitoring period. These weather conditions result in drying of leaves and new ramets which was documented in the most recent monitoring of this report. This is not necessarily a concern at this point and plants are expected to recover in the coming months as the temperature drops and rainfall increases. More rainfall was already observed in January 2025 than in December 2024 and new ramets and leaves are expected to grow in the next few months.

Table 13 ***Batch 2 Additional monitoring data collected on a subset of the population in December 2023 and December 2024 & January 2025- 23 MFL plants***

Annual monitoring– 23 MFL plants	Event 5 (December 2023)	Event 12 (December 2024 & January 2025)
Average max leaf length (cm)	27.7	22.4
Average Basal diameter (cm)	10.3	16.7
Average no. of ramets	8.3	5.8

4.3.2 Maintenance

Since translocation of the MFL plants they have been watered in accordance with the maintenance plan for the project (Table 14). Additionally, there has been some weed control conducted throughout 2024. Further maintenance information can be found in Table 14.

Table 14 ***Maintenance actions planned and completed in Cherry Street Reserve for the translocated Matted Flax-lilies (MFL) in January – December 2024***

Action	Timing	Outcome
Weed control – Annual non-native grasses	June, July, August and September 2024	Reduced annual non-native grass weed load across the year.
Weed control – Broadleaf weed treatment	July, August, October and November 2024	Reduced broadleaf weed load across the year.
Weed control – Woody weeds	August 2024	Cut and paint of *Pittosporum* sp, *Cassinia* sp, *Chrysanthemoides monilifera*, *Rubus anglocandicans* and *Billardiera heterophylla* across translocation site.
Hand weeding of MFL plants	February, July August 2024	More space around the MFL plants and removing Bridal Creeper from MFL plants.
Weed control – spot spraying	June, September and November 2024	Reduction in the instances of other weeds in the Reserve.
Watering MFLs	Four times in February, and once in August 2024	Application of water to the MFLs at a time when the monthly rainfall was 3.2 mm. This value is lower than the mean for February, 41.5 mm.

4.3.3 Genetic diversity

100% of the Batch 2 parent plants are represented by living clones at Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve. Table 15 shows the number of parents plants with either one, two, three or four living clones. Appendix D detailed the number of living clones for each parent plant. There was one parent plant identified during the most recent monitoring event with one surviving clone, plant 31 (Table 15). All of the clones of plant 31 have been recorded as alive in recent monitoring events. It is likely that these plants are currently dormant and may be observed again in future monitoring events.

At this stage it is not recommended to replant MFLs due to the following reasons:

– The dead plant (39-003) has one dormant and two living siblings
– The plant that has only one living clone in January 2025, had all its clones observed as alive in June 2024
– The target is 85% alive and even with 39-003 being assessed as dead, the translocation program can still meet the target

These recommendations will be reassessed with each monitoring event so that if any replanting is required it can be done as soon as possible. There are two clones for each parent plant available in a nursery managed by Abzeco, if any MFL need to be replaced.

If all clones of a parent plant in the translocated population die, new clones would need to be planted from that original parent plant to maintain the genetic diversity of the translocated population. Monitoring of these newly planted MFLs would need to be restarted and would follow the same pattern as the original monitoring plan.

Table 15 The number of parent plants grouped by number of surviving clones from Batch 2 in January 2025

Number of clones alive	Number of parent plants
1	1
2	4
3	16
4	84

4.3.4 Threats

4.3.4.1 Drying out

At this stage of the monitoring program for Batch 2, the primary threat to plant health is environmental conditions such as heat and dryness. Based on climatic data for the site (BOM 2025) (Section 4.1), lower rainfall and higher average maximum temperatures were recorded in early summer of 2024–2025 compared to the previous year during the annual monitoring period, which may have triggered the dormancy of MFLs.

4.3.4.2 Biomass

During the latest monitoring event of the Batch 2 MFL plants, MFLs were observed growing through grasses, along with saplings of *Acacia* sp. (Wattles) These grasses and saplings compete with the MFL for light, nutrients, and moisture (Appendix C, Table C3). It is recommended that biomass management continues at the site, and it is likely that a prescribed burn will be recommended in the next two to three years.

4.3.4.3 Herbivory and pathogens

Herbivory remained low in 2024 (Figure 12). This will be monitored over the life of the program in case conditions change.

An active rabbit burrow was identified near one MFL. Uncontrolled rabbits can cause damage through herbivory and digging, potentially burying nearby MFLs. At this stage no specific actions are recommended to address rabbits around the MFLs, but monitoring will continue to review this assessment.

There was no evidence of any pathogens impacting on the MFL plants.

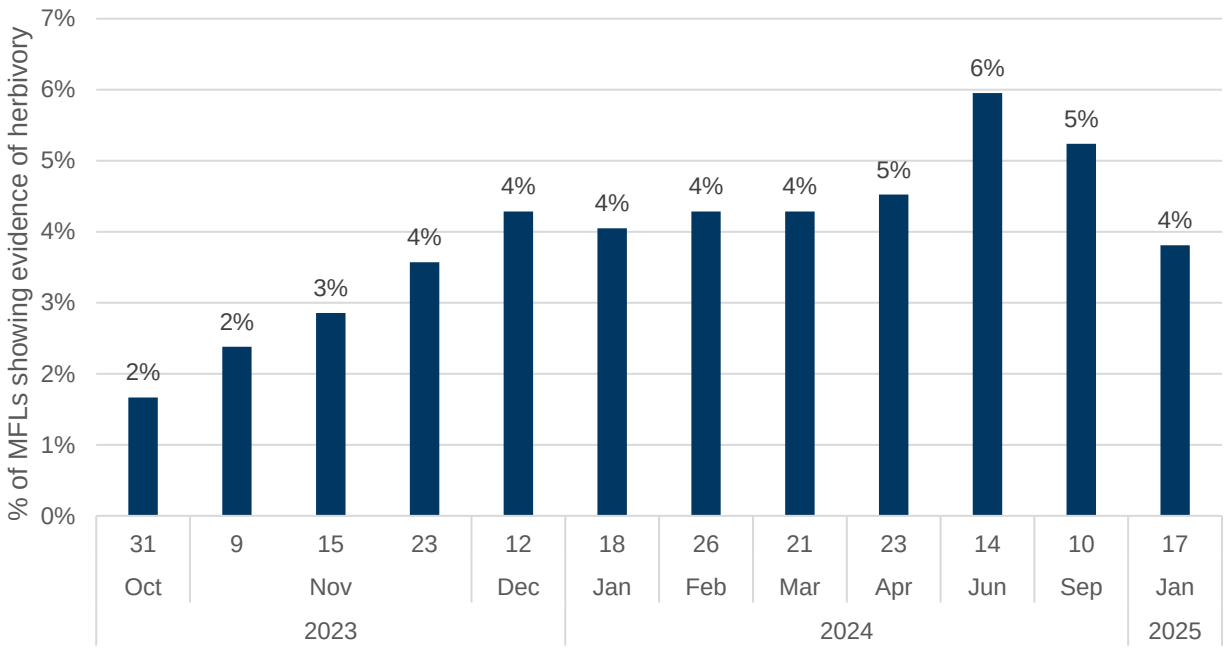

Figure 12 ***The percentage of Batch 2 MFL plants impacted by herbivory percentages Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve between October 2023 to January 2025***

4.3.4.4 Sunken soil

Sunken soils around the base of 14 MFL plants were still observed in the latest monitoring event. Previous monitoring noted this as cause of water logging on the plants, which can cause tuber rot that is detrimental to MFLs.

4.3.4.5 Missing tags

At least six MFLs from Batch 2 were noted with either missing or broken tags that need replacing. It is important for each MFL to have a specific tag to make it possible to locate and identify each MFL.

4.3.5 Recommended additional maintenance

The following actions are recommended for the maintenance of the Batch 2 MFL plants:

– Continue monitoring the plants recorded as dormant as per the MFL Salvage and Translocation Plan and review whether any supplementary MFL planting is recommended.

– For the MFL plants with sunken soil, extra soil and sand can be added to the MFL plants in Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve to avoid possible waterlogging which could possibly cause tuber rot. Replacement of six MFL tags is recommended where tags were missing or broken in the most recent round of monitoring.

These recommendations have been discussed with Abzeco as part of the monthly meetings between NELP and Abzeco. Reporting on these recommendations will be part of the next annual Matted Flax-lily Annual Compliance Report due to be published in 2026.

4.3.6 Summary of results

Overall, the Batch 2 MFL translocation program is considered to be on track as 94% or 393 of MFL plants have been observed to have survived within the January 2024 to January 2025 timeframe, with majority of plants showing more than 70% healthy green leaves in that timeframe. Only one MFL was assessed as dead. The 27 dormant MFLs are expected to resprout as more rainfall is expected in the coming months.

Table 16 summarises the results at the end of the four months of monitoring. The annual monitoring data shown in Table 17 collected in December 2023 and January 2025 is also included to provide a deeper understanding of the condition of the translocated MFL plants. An increase in the average basal area suggests the growth of new sprouts of MFL. The drier conditions at the site may have contributed to a reduction in average leaf length, and number of ramets observed in the most recent monitoring activity.

Table 16 Batch 2 Monitoring data collected at each event from Event 6 January 2024 to Event 12 January 2025

Data collected every monitoring event	Event 6 18 Jan 2024	Event 7 26 Feb 2024	Event 8 21 Mar 2024	Event 9 23 Apr 2024	Event 10 14 June 2024	Event 11 10 Sep 2024	Event 12 17 Jan 2025
Living plants (no.)	419	412	398	394	410	407	393
Dormant (no.)	1	8	22	26	10	13	27
% of plants with >70% of healthy leaves (good condition)	86%	27%	22%	65%	92%	96%	87%
% of plants with 30<70% of healthy leaves (moderate condition)	12%	44%	37%	29%	8%	4%	11%
% of plants with <30% of healthy leaves (poor condition)	2%	30%	41%	7%	0%	0%	3%
Proportion of plants with flowering / fruiting present	35%	9%	8%	5%	0%	0%	24%
Noxious weeds present (within 0.5 m radius)	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Herbivory Present (%)	4%	4%	4%	5%	6%	5%	4%

Table 17 Batch 2 Monitoring data collected on a subset of the population in December 2023 and December 2024 & January 2025- 23 MFL plants

Annual monitoring– 23 MFL plants	Event 5 (December 2023)	Event 12 (December 2024 & January 2025)
Average max leaf length (cm)	27.7	22.4
Average Basal diameter (cm)	10.3	16.7
Average no. of ramets	8.3	5.8

5. Assessment of translocation success against performance benchmarks

An assessment of the results of the MFL Salvage and Translocation Monitoring program against the approved performance benchmarks has been undertaken to determine the success of the MFL translocation program to date.

The Batch 2 MFL survivorship is considered on track for the MFL Salvage and Translocation Plan with the survival rate of 94%. Batch 1 MFL survivorship is currently below the 85% target, at 73%. However of the 29 plants that were not observed as 'alive' in Batch 1 (and have contributed to the current survivorship metrics), only one of these plants is considered dead as it has not been observed for over 12 months, whilst the other 28 MFL plants have been classified as dormant and are likely to regrow once conditions improve in Autumn and Winter 2025.

Table 18 provides an assessment of the results of the MFL monitoring program against the MFL Salvage and Translocation Plan translocation performance benchmark criteria.

Table 18 ***Translocation criteria for success of the Matted Flax-lily translocation program (adapted from the Salvage and Translocation Management Plan, GHD 2022c)***

Translocation criteria	Outcome for each batch of translocated plants over the 2024 monitoring window	
	Batch 1	**Batch 2**
1. At least 85 percent of transplanted clones survived, including representatives from the range of genetic individuals salvaged	As of 17 January 2025, two years and five months into the translocation program, 73% of the original Batch 1 MFL plants have survived, including representatives from the full range of genetic individuals salvaged. There were 28 MFLs recorded as dormant in the latest monitoring events. This is currently below the target survival. Based on the ecology of the species and previous monitoring data it is expected that more MFLs will be recorded as alive in June 2025 and that the survival target can still be reached.	As of 17 January 2025, one year and three months into the translocation program, 94% of the original Batch 2 MFL plants have survived, including representatives from the full range of genetic individuals salvaged. This is above the target survival.
2. The translocated populations displayed similar growth, development and vigour as naturally occurring populations	As of 17 January 2025, 44% of the MFL plants exhibited good health. The proportion of plants observed to be in good health decreased between June 2024 (76% in good health) and January 2025, as the temperature increased and recorded rainfall decreased. The National Recovery Plan for Matted Flax-lily (Carter 2010) states that the species' leaves are deciduous in summer if plants are water-stressed. This correlates with the trend observed of a decline in health of the translocated individuals during the warmer months, and could be part of the natural cycle for this species.14% of the MFLs showed some level of reproductive activity (buds, flowers or fruits) in January which is within the expected window for the species (VicFlora 2025).	In January 2025, 87% of the MFL plants exhibited good. The proportion of plants observed to be in good health decreased between June 2024 (92% in good health) and January 2025, as the temperature increased and recorded rainfall decreased. The National Recovery Plan for Matted Flax-lily (Carter 2010) states that the species' leaves are deciduous in summer if plants are water-stressed. This correlates with the trend observed of a decline in health of the translocated individuals during the warmer months, and could be part of the natural cycle for this species. 24% of the MFLs showed some level of reproductive activity (buds, flowers or fruits) in January which is within the expected window for the species (VicFlora 2025).

Translocation criteria	Outcome for each batch of translocated plants over the 2024 monitoring window	
	Batch 1	Batch 2
3. Transplants survived to a reproductive stage (producing flowers and fruit)	As of 17 January 2025, 14% of plants were observed in some stage of reproduction (presence of any buds, flowers or fruit). The presence of reproductive materials, particularly during the expected reproductive season (November to February), is a positive indicator of MFL health.	As of 17 January 2025, 24% of plants were observed in some stage of reproduction (presence of any buds, flowers or fruit). The presence of reproductive materials, particularly during the expected reproductive season (November to February), is a positive indicator of MFL health.
4. If plants didn't survive to reproductive stage, then the plants were replaced	As of 17 January 2025, one plant was assessed as dead. Replacement is not recommended because this plant has other clones that have been recorded as alive, preserving the genetic survival of that parent plant.	As of 17 January 2025, one plant was assessed as dead. Replacement is not recommended because this plant has other clones that have been recorded as alive, preserving the genetic survival of that parent plant.
5. Regeneration occurred in the translocated individuals (since the recruitment MFL through seed is thought to be rare, the production of ramets at a rate similar to naturally occurring populations is considered sufficient to meet this criterion)	Quadrat monitoring revealed that the average basal diameter of the MFL Batch 1 increased over the monitoring events, from 15.10 cm in December 2022 to 18.44 cm in January 2025. This increase suggests that new ramets are emerging from the original translocated plants.	Quadrat monitoring revealed that the average basal diameter of the MFL Batch 2 increased over the monitoring events, from 10.30 cm in December 2022 to 16.70 cm in January 2025. This increase suggests that new ramets are emerging from the original translocated plants.
6. The number of individuals within the population was stable, or had increased by natural (including vegetative) recruitment	The survivorship is below the target 85% as of last monitoring event possibly because of dryer conditions in January 2025. There are 27 dormant plants, and it is expected some of these are likely to regrow in the cooler wetter months.	Survivorship rate of the translocated MFL is high and the population size is currently stable.
7. Adequate levels of genetic diversity were maintained	As of January 2025, 100% of the salvaged plants are represented by living clones.	As of January 2025, 100% of the salvaged plants are represented by living clones.

6. Compliance with Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act approval conditions

Conditions 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the EPBC 2018/8142 approval allows for NELP to clear up to 139 MFL plants, and to salvage, propagate and translocate the impacted MFL plants into appropriate recipient sites. A total of 132 MFL individuals have been salvaged for the project to date, between April 2020 – October 2023.

Following translocation, NELP has monitored the translocated MFL plants each year, and will continue to monitor the translocated individuals for at least five years and provide a series of reports to the DCCEEW detailing the progress of the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan.

Table 19 provides an assessment of the results of the MFL monitoring program against the EPBC Approval (EPBC 2018/8142) conditions. The program is currently compliant with all of the EPBC Act approval conditions.

Table 19 EPBC 2018/8142 Approval Conditions relevant to Matted Flax-lily plants

Condition no.	Approval Condition	Condition currently triggered	Compliance	Comments and supporting documentation
1	Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the approval holder must not clear more than: a) 139 MFL plants and/or patches of MFL	Yes	Compliant	The project has so far salvaged 132 of the 139 plants/patches of MFL and is therefore compliant within the scope of the approval. Pre-Clearance survey: March 2020 — Date of Salvage: 01/04/2020 — Location: Simpson Barracks — Number of plants: 7 Pre-Clearance survey: July 2020 — Date of Salvage: 02/09/2020 — Location: Simpson Barracks — Number of plants: 20 Pre-Clearance survey: April 2021 — Date of Salvage: 23/08/2021-24/08/2021 — Location: Simpson Barracks — Number of plants: 103 Pre-Clearance survey: October 2023 — Date of Salvage: 10/10/2023 — Location: M80 Ring Road and Grimshaw St — Number of plants: 2
2	To compensate for clearing the number of MFL plants and/or patches:	Yes		Please refer to the specific conditions below for details on compliance.
	a) Prior to any clearance, the approval holder must undertake a pre-clearance survey to identify the total numbers of MFL plants and patches of Mated Flax-lily that, if not salvaged, would be impacted by the approved action.		Compliant	Pre-clearance surveys occurred in March 2020, July 2020 and April 2021 prior to salvaging events of the MFL. The pre-clearance surveys were undertaken in accordance with the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan (GHD 2022c). The Project is therefore compliant with this condition.
	b) Prior to construction, the approval holder must salvage all MFL plants and patches of MFL that were previously recorded in a pre-clearance survey and that would otherwise be impacted due to the approved action. In the event that construction occurs in stages, prior to commencing each stage the approval holder must salvage all MFL plants and patches of MFL that were previously recorded in a pre-clearance survey and that would otherwise be impacted by that stage of work.		Compliant	MFL salvage and translocation has been completed for the early works stage and to facilitate the Primary (Tunnelling) Package of works in accordance with the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan (GHD 2022c) and is therefore compliant with the condition. Salvage (removal) occurred in three broad stages; to facilitate the early works program (completed) and a larger salvage to facilitate the Primary (completed) and Secondary (Freeway) Packages of Works (completed). NELP has recorded salvage and translocation information as it is completed in a Matted Flax-lily Asset Management Register spreadsheet.

Condition no.	Approval Condition	Condition currently triggered	Compliance	Comments and supporting documentation
	c) The approval holder must propagate the salvaged MFL plants and patches and translocate them, excepting some MFL plants and patches kept as an insurance population, to a recipient site. The number of MFL plants and patches kept as insurance population must not be the majority of the MFL plants or patches propagated. All propagated plants or patches, excepting those kept as an insurance population, must be translocated within two years of salvage of each MFL plant and patch.		Compliant	As outlined in the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan Rev 4 (Oct 2022), sufficient material was taken from each plant to generate the required six (6) clones per plant/ patch; the Project is therefore compliant with this condition. The individuals were salvaged and processed at the selected nursery in accordance with the Matted Flax-lily Salvage and Translocation Plan Rev 4 (GHD 2022c). At least six (6) clones have been propagated from each original individual and are surviving at time of reporting. The MFL have been planted in two batches. the Batch 1 MFL plants were translocated to Cherry Street Reserve in August 2022 while the Batch 2 MFL were planted in October 2023 at Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve; the Project is therefore compliant with this condition.
	d) The approval holder must manage the recipient site for a period of 10 years commencing on the date that the first MFL is translocated to the recipient site.		Compliant	Translocation of the MFL plants from Batch 1 and Batch 2 occurred in August 2022 and October 2023, respectively, and management of the sites is ongoing. The management of the sites is detailed in site schedules for both Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve. Maintenance will be continued and adapted as the needs of the MFL plants change over time. The project is therefore compliant with this condition.
	e) The approval holder must monitor the recipient site for a period of at least 10 years, commencing on the date that the first MFL plant or patch of MFL is translocated to the recipient site and, concluding no sooner than five years after the last MFL plant or patch of MFL is translocated to the recipient site.		Compliant	Translocation of the MFL plants from the Batch 1 and Batch 2 occurred in August 2022 and October 2023, respectively, and management of the sites is ongoing. The following report have been prepared and submitted for this project: Translocated Matted Flax-Lily Annual Monitoring Report - Dec 2022 (GHD, 2023)- This monitoring report provides a description of the method, results, and an assessment of the health and condition of the Batch 1 MFLs associated with the monitoring program undertaken from August 2022 to December 2022 – Matted Flax-lily Baseline 2023- and 3-Month Monitoring Report (GHD, 2024)- this report described the monitoring program and method applied to assess and record the condition of the 420 MFLs (Batch 2) following the translocation event at Cherry Street Reserve, Macleod and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve, Macleod (the recipient sites) in October of 2023. – Matted Flax-lily 2024 Annual Compliance Report (GHD,2024)- This report described the monitoring program and method applied to assess and record the condition of the 528 MFLs (Batch 1 and 2) in 2023 This report, as well, forms part of the ongoing monitoring and the Project is therefore compliant with the condition.

Condition no.	Approval Condition	Condition currently triggered	Compliance	Comments and supporting documentation
	f) The approval holder must, until otherwise agreed in writing by the Minister, provide the Department with a report each year as part of the compliance report, which must detail the numbers of MFL plants and patches that have been translocated to the recipient site and the numbers of translocated and propagated plants and patches that have survived until the end of the period reported on. The report must also document threats to the translocated MFL plants and patches and any management actions, including corrective actions, taken or proposed.		Compliant	Monitoring and management of the translocation site is ongoing. In August 2022 108 MFL plants (Batch 1) were translocated into Cherry Street Reserve. In 17 January 2025, 79 are still alive and only one is considered dead. In October 2023 additional 420 MFL plants (Batch 2) were translocated in Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve. In 17 January 2025, 393 are still alive and only one is considered dead. The threats to MFL survival include high amounts of biomass, herbivory and sunken soil that historically caused waterlogging. Corrective actions have been taken including adding more soil to some MFL plants, hand-weeding around MFL plants, and cool burning. Further details of the survivorship and threats of both Batch 1 and Batch 2 in Section 4 of this report. The Project is compliant with the condition.
3	By implementing contingency measures, the approval holder must ensure that a minimum of 85 percent of four times the number of salvaged MFL plants and patches have survived at the recipient site at least five years after the date the last MFL plant or patch, excepting plants or patches from the insurance population, is translocated to the recipient site. The approval holder must ensure that the location of each translocated MFL plant and patch is recorded in the Atlas of Living Australia and Victorian Biodiversity Atlas within six months of being translocated	Yes	Compliant	To comply with this requirement, at the end of five years at least 449 (85% of 528) of the MFL plants at Cherry Street Reserve and Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve need to survive. As of January 2025, 79 are confirmed to be alive from Batch 1 and 393 from Batch 2. MFL location data for the MFL plants that are reported on in this report have been added to the VBA under project ID 6931 for Batch 1 and 5731 for Batch 2. MFL location data for the MFL plants that are reported on in this report have been submitted to the Atlas of Living Australia and assigned number 175071 for Batch 1 and 195464 for Batch 2 to the data. The project is compliant with this condition.

Condition no.	Approval Condition	Condition currently triggered	Compliance	Comments and supporting documentation
4	If the Minister is not satisfied that the requirements of condition 3 have been, or are likely to be, achieved, and has given the approval holder written notice to this effect, the approval holder must:	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
	a) Within one year of receiving written notification by the Minister to this effect, plant propagated MFL plants and/or patches to the recipient site in accordance with directions made by the Minister	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
	b) Provide the Department with a report each year for an additional five years as part of the compliance report, which must detail the numbers of MFL plants and patches that have been translocated to the recipient site and the numbers of translocated and propagated plants and patches that have survived until the period reported on. The report must also document threats to the translocated MFL plants and patches and any management actions, including corrective actions, taken or proposed	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
	c) Each 12 months, for the following five years, the approval holder must translocate an additional number of MFL plants and/or patches to the recipient site equal or greater than the number which have not survived during the preceding 12 months. The translocated MFL plants and patches must be sourced from the plants and patches propagated as required under condition 2c	No	Not applicable	Not applicable

7. Conclusions

This report documents the results of the MFL annual monitoring for the project undertaken in January 2024 to January 2025. The program is currently compliant with six out of the seven translocation criteria. Translocation criterion one is not currently being met by Batch 1, but it is likely this will improve as conditions for the MFLs improve.

The monitoring events in 2025 for Batch 1 will be conducted biannually in June, and December, and for Batch 2 they will be conducted quarterly in March, June, September and biannually starting December.

7.1 Recommendations and next steps

In addition to continuing the ongoing monitoring program as prescribed in the Salvage and Translocation Monitoring Program (GHD 2022c), based on the findings from monitoring activities to date, the following maintenance and corrective actions are proposed to address identified threats to some of the translocated MFLs:

- Control burning in the Cherry Street Reserve where batch 1 MFLs have been translocated is recommended during autumn. This should be a cool burn of overgrown grass and saplings of *Acacia* sp. and *Eucalyptus* sp. to give these MFLs a better chance of resprouting, growing larger and establishing more securely.
- Watering of MFLs during the summer season is also recommended to reduce plant dormancy during this season.
- Add extra soil and sand to the 14 MFL plants from Batch 2 in Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve found with sunken soil at the base of the plants to avoid possible water logging.
- Monitor for signs of rabbit activity.
- Replace all missing and broken tags to locate easily and monitor the genetic survival properly.

Detailed records of all maintenance and corrective actions, including date, and type of action, will continue to be maintained. This data will be used to track the effectiveness of the actions and inform future management decisions. Additionally, the maintenance schedule will be reviewed and adapted as needed based on the monitoring results. These recommendations have been discussed with Abzeco as part of the monthly meetings between NELP and Abzeco. Reporting on the implementation of these recommendations, and any resulting changes, would be incorporated in the Matted Flax-lily 2025 Annual Compliance Report (due to be published in 2026).

Monitoring will continue to assess whether any replacement MFLs need to be planted. There are two clones for each parent plant available in a nursery managed by Abzeco, if any Matted Flax-lilies need to be replaced. Any MFL that needs to be replanted will trigger additional monitoring until the plant is considered established.

The next monitoring event will be in June 2025 for Batch 1 March 2025 for Batch 2. Annual monitoring will be undertaken December 2025 for both Batch 1 and 2 and the report documenting the results of the 2025 monitoring will be prepared in early 2026.

8. References

ABZECO (2022) Maintenance Schedule, Flora Species & Weed Cover Estimates, Cherry Street Receptor Site July 2022

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GHD (2022a) North East Link project Matted Flax-lily monitoring Baseline and Initial Audit – Cherry Street Reserve August 2022

GHD (2022b) North East Link project Matted Flax-lily monitoring 3-month Audit Cherry Street Reserve October 2022

GHD (2022c) North East Link Project Salvage and Translocation Plan December 2022

GHD (2024a) Matted Flax-lily 2023 Annual Compliance Report

GHD (2024b) Matted Flax-lily Baseline 2023 and 3 Month Monitoring Report May 2024

Vallee L., Hogbin T., Monks L., Makinson B., Matthes M. & Rossetto M. (2004), Guidelines for the Translocation of Threatened Plants in Australia - Second Edition, Australian Network for Plant Conservation, Canberra

VicFlora (2025). Flora of Victoria, Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria. Available online: https://vicflora.rbg.vic.gov.au/flora/taxon/37a818fc-49f7-4bf0-90a7-2f807d2db18b (last accessed May 2025).

Appendices

Appendix A

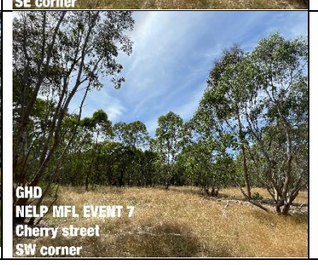
Photo monitoring points

Cherry St Batch 1

Photo point	Event 13-Quarterly 21 March 2024	Event 14-Quarterly 14 June 2024	Event 15-Biannually 17 January 2025*
CS B1 PP1			
CS B1 PP2			
CS B1 PP3			
CS B1 PP4			

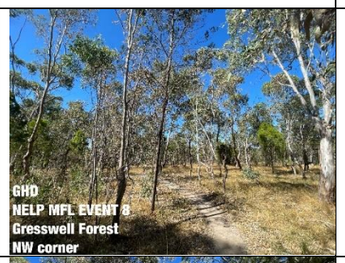
*Originally scheduled on 16 December 2024 but due to extreme fire danger warning of the site it was postponed to January 2025

Cherry St Batch 2

Photo point	Event 6- Monthly 18 January 2024	Event 7- Monthly 26 February 2024	Event 8- Monthly 21 March 2024	Event 9- Monthly 23 April 2024	Event 10- Quarterly 14 June 2024	Event 11-Quarterly 10 September 2024	Event 12-Quarterly 17 January 2025*
CS B2 PP1							
CS B2 PP2							
CS B2 PP3							
CS B2 PP4							

*Originally scheduled on 16 December 2024 but due to extreme fire danger warning of the site it was postponed to January 2025

Gresswell Forest Nature Reserve Batch 2

Photo point	Event 6- Monthly 18 January 2024	Event 7- Monthly 26 February 2024	Event 8- Monthly 21 March 2024	Event 9- Monthly 23 April 2024	Event 10- Quarterly 14 June 2024	Event 11-Quarterly 10 September 2024	Event 12-Quarterly 12 December 2024
GF B2 PP1				No Photo			
GF B2 PP2				No Photo			
GF B2 PP3				No Photo			
GF B2 PP4				No Photo			

Appendix B

Representative photos of Matted Flax-lilies

Representative photos of Matted Flax-lily plants at each translocation site			
Location: Cherry Street Reserve Event 15 – 17 January 2025 (MFL Batch 1)			
MFL number		MFL number	
021-004		005-003	
02-004		03-002	

Representative photos of Matted Flax-lily plants at each translocation site			
Location: Cherry Street Reserve Event 12 – 17 January 2025 (MFL Batch 2)			
030-004		034-002	
028-002		036-004	

Representative photos of Matted Flax-lily plants at each translocation site			
Location: Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve Event 12 – 12 December 2024 (MFL Batch 2)			
96-002		047-003	
117-001		126-002	

Appendix C

Monitoring and Annual monitoring data (January 2025)

Table C1 *Data collected on a subset of Matted Flax-lilies located within the permanent monitoring quadrats established for the program during Event 15, 17 January 2025 (Batch 1, Cherry Street Reserve)*

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Plant Basal Diam (cm)	No ramets	Max Leaf Length cm
Quadrat 1										
15	22_001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	18	3	25
15	20_002	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	23_002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	7	2	27
15	21_002	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	01_002	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	Late	18	5	17
15	02_003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	58	16	47
Quadrat 2										
15	27_003	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	26_003	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	25_003	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	22_004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	11	2	23
15	20_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	28	2	32
15	23_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	22	3	31
15	24_001	Alive	Poor	Yes	No	-	-	1	1	19
15	03_003	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	19_003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	3	2	16

Table C2 *Data collected on a subset of Matted Flax-lilies located within the permanent monitoring quadrats established for the program during Event 12, 12 December 2024 (Batch 2, Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve) and 17 January 2025 (Batch 2, Cherry Street Reserve)*

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Plant Basal Diam cm	No ramets	Max Leaf Length cm
Quadrat 3										
12	055-004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	10	5	27
12	064-002	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	Mid	20	3	26
12	068-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	27	5	26.5
12	082-001	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	15	5	20
12	075-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	20	3	23.5
12	091-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	20	10	30
Quadrat 4										
12	039-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	19	5	20
12	093-004	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Mid	Mid	20	11	36
12	106-001	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	20	5	29
12	121-001	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	9	3	35
Quadrat 5										
12	054-004	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	-	30	12	24
12	061-004	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Early	12	4	28
12	111-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	30	8	26
12	111-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	20	7	23
12	113-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	10	3	19
Quadrat 6										
12	028-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	10	3	12
12	029-004	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	14	9	13
12	030-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	14	8	14
12	031-003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	16	3	14
12	033-003	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	12	10	32

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Plant Basal Diam cm	No ramets	Max Leaf Length cm
12	036-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	8	2	14
12	044-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	15	7	17
12	058-002	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	13	2	7

Table C3 Data from all Batch 1 Matted Flax-lilies (108 individuals) recorded in Event 15 survey, 17 January 2025

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment
15	25_002	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	27_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	26_002	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-
15	03_004	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	11_004	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	No tag found but with flag
15	10_003	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	The Matted Flax-lily heavily overgrown by grasses
15	24_002	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	02_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Soil around roots of the MFL plant has an ant nest but plant still very healthy
15	01_004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	07_002	Alive	Moderate	Yes	No	-	-	-
15	27_003	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	26_003	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	25_003	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	22_004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	21_003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	20_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	23_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	24_001	Alive	Poor	Yes	No	-	-	-

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment
15	03_003	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	19_003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	18_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	17_002	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	Empty inflorescence
15	16_003	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	-
15	14_004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	15_001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	13_004	Alive	Moderate	Yes	No	-	-	-
15	06_004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	12_001	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	11_001	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	10_004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	18_002	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	14_002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	Thick Kangaroo Grass around MFL and saplings of *Eucalyptus* sp. are growing near MFL
15	15_003	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	17_004	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	08_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Thick Kangaroo Grass around MFL
15	13_003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Thick Kangaroo Grass around MFL
15	09_002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Thick Kangaroo Grass around MFL
15	12_004	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	Thick Kangaroo Grass around MFL
15	11_002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Late	-
15	18_003	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	Saplings of *Eucalyptus* sp. are growing near MFL
15	19_002	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	Saplings of *Eucalyptus* sp. are growing near MFL
15	05_001	Alive	Moderate	Yes	No	-	-	Saplings of *Eucalyptus* sp. are growing near MFL
15	16_002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment
15	15_004	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	14_001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	Late	-
15	10_002	Alive	Poor	Yes	No	-	Late	Leaves of the MFL were dried
15	13_002	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	-
15	12_003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	Saplings of *Eucalyptus* sp. are growing near MFL
15	11_003	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	Late	-
15	09_004	Alive	Poor	Yes	No	-	Late	Leaves of the MFL were dried
15	07_001	Alive	Poor	Yes	No	-	-	Leaves of the MFL were dried
15	05_003	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	Leaves of the MFL were dried
15	06_002	Dead	-	-		-	-	-
15	08_001	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	Late	Most of the leaves of the MFL were dried
15	03_001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	One small ramet present on the plant
15	05_004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	04_001	Alive	Moderate	Yes	No	-	-	-
15	01_001	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	-
15	02_001	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-
15	08_002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	06 _003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Needs hand weeding
15	07_003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	09_001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Early	-
15	04_002	Alive	Moderate	Yes	No	-	-	-
15	08_003	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	-
15	03_002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	02_002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	07_004	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	06_001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment
15	04_003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	09_003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	10_001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	05_002	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-
15	01_003	Alive	Poor	Yes	No	-	Early	-
15	22_001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	Thick Kangaroo Grass around MFL and saplings of *Eucalyptus* sp. are growing near MFL
15	20_002	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	Thick Kangaroo Grass around MFL
15	23_002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	21_002	Dead				-	-	Thick Kangaroo Grass around MFL
15	01_002	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	Late	-
15	02_003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	04_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	12_002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	17_001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-
15	19_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	20_003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	21_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	22_003	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	23_003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	24_004	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	Overgrown by adjacent grass
15	25_001	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	26_001	Alive	Poor	Yes	No	-	-	-
15	27_001	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	25_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	24_003	Not found	-	-	-	-	-	-

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment
15	26_004	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	27_002	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	21_001	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	Late	-
15	20_001	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-
15	22_002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	23_001	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-
15	19_001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-
15	16_001	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	17_003	Not found	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	14_003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Sunken soil around base of MFL
15	13_001	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	-
15	15_002	Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	16_004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Late	-
15	18_001	Dead	-	-	No	-	-	-

Table C4 Data from all Batch 2 Matted Flax-lilies (420 individuals) recorded in Event 12, 12 December 2024 (Batch 2, Gresswell Forest Nature Conservation Reserve) and 17 January 2025 (Batch 2, Cherry Street Reserve)

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	028-001	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	028-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	028-003	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	028-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	029-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Broken tag	Cherry
12	029-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	029-003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	029-004	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	030-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	030-002	Alive	Moderate	Yes	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	030-003	Not found	-	No	No	-	-	Planted next to remnant Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	030-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	031-001	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	031-002	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	031-003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	031-004	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	Found tag but no evidence of plant	Gresswell
12	032-001	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	Found tag but no evidence of plant	Gresswell
12	032-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	032-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	032-004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	033-001	Alive	Moderate	Yes	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	033-002	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	Matted Flax-lily leaf tops chewed off	Cherry
12	033-003	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	033-004	Alive	Moderate	Yes	No	-	-	-	Cherry

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	034-001	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	Found tag but no evidence of plant	Gresswell
12	034-002	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	034-003	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	034-004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	New ramets emerging around Matted Flax-lily	Cherry
12	035-001	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	-	-	Cherry
12	035-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	035-003	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	035-004	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	036-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	036-002	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	036-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	036-004	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	037-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	037-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	037-003	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	New sprouts emerging from Matted Flax-lily	Cherry
12	037-004	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	038-001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	038-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	038-003	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	038-004	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	039-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	039-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	039-003	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	039-004	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	Found tag but no evidence of plant	Gresswell
12	040-001	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	040-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	040-003	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	040-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	041-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	041-002	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	No attached leaves above ground. Dormant	Gresswell
12	041-003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Cherry
12	041-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	042-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	042-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	042-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	042-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Growing through *Briza minor*	Cherry
12	043-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	043-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	043-003	Alive	Good	No	No	Mid	Mid	-	Cherry
12	043-004	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	Found tag but no evidence of plant	Gresswell
12	044-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Cherry
12	044-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	044-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	044-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	045-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	New sprouts emerging from Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	045-002	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	045-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	045-004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	046-001	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	The Matted Flax-lily has dried leaves	Gresswell
12	046-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	046-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	046-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	047-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	047-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	047-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	047-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	048-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	048-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	048-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	048-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	049-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Grasses growing through Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	049-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	049-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	049-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	050-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	050-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	050-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	050-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	051-001	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	051-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Animal burrow near Matted Flax-lily, possibly Echidna	Gresswell
12	051-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	051-004	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Late	-	-	Gresswell
12	052-001	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	No Matted Flax-lily material found above ground	Gresswell
12	052-002	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	052-003	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	-	-	Gresswell
12	052-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	053-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	The Matted Flax-lily tag needs replacing	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	053-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	053-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	053-004	Alive	Good	No	Yes	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	054-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	054-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	054-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	054-004	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	-	-	Gresswell
12	055-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	055-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	055-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	055-004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	056-001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	056-002	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	056-003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	056-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Rubus sp. regrowing near Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	057-001	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	Matted Flax-lily dug up completely. Possibly by rabbit	Gresswell
12	057-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	New sprouts growing out of Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	057-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	057-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	*Rytidosperma* sp. growing around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	058-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	058-002	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	058-003	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Mid	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	058-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	059-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Late	-	Gresswell
12	059-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	059-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	059-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	060-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	060-002	Alive	Good	No	No	Mid	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	060-003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	060-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Matted Flax-lily is a small sprout	Gresswell
12	061-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	061-002	Alive	Good	No	Yes	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	061-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	061-004	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Early	-	Gresswell
12	062-001	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	062-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	062-003	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	-	-	Gresswell
12	062-004	Alive	Good	No	Yes	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	063-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	New sprouts growing out of Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	063-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	063-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	063-004	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	064-001	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	064-002	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	064-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	064-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	065-001	Alive	Good	No	Yes	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	065-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	065-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	065-004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	066-001	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	-	-	Gresswell
12	066-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	066-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	066-004	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	067-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	067-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	067-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	067-004	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Mid	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	068-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	068-002	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	068-003	Alive	Good	No	No	Early	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	068-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	069-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	069-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	069-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	069-004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	070-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	070-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	070-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	070-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	071-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Matted Flax-lily tag is broken	Gresswell
12	071-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Matted Flax-lily tag is about to fall off	Gresswell
12	071-003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	071-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	072-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	072-002	Alive	Good	No	Yes	-	Mid	-	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	072-003	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	072-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	073-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	073-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	073-003	Alive	Good	No	No	Mid	-	-	Gresswell
12	073-004	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	074-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	074-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	074-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	074-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	075-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	*Rytidosperma* sp. growing around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	075-002	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Mid	-	Rabbit burrow next to Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	075-003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	075-004	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	-	-	Gresswell
12	076-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	076-002	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	076-003	Alive	Good	No	Yes	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	076-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	077-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	077-002	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	077-003	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	077-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	078-001	Alive	Good	No	No	Early	-	-	Gresswell
12	078-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	078-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	078-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	079-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	079-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	079-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	079-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	080-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	080-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	080-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	080-004	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	081-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	081-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	081-003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	081-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	082-001	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	Matted Flax-lily has small ramets	Gresswell
12	082-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	082-003	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	082-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	083-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	083-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	Late	-	Gresswell
12	083-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	083-004	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	-	-	Gresswell
12	084-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	084-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	084-003	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	084-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	085-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	085-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	085-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	085-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	086-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	086-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	086-003	Alive	Moderate	Yes	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	086-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	087-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Rabbit burrow near Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	087-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	087-003	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	No Matted Flax-lily material found	Gresswell
12	087-004	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Mid	-	-	Gresswell
12	088-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	088-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	088-003	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	088-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	089-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	089-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	089-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	089-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	090-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	090-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	090-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	090-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	091-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	091-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	091-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Growing through *Briza minor*	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	091-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	092-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	092-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	092-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	092-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Matted Flax-lily is near an old small stump	Gresswell
12	093-001	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Mid	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	093-002	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	093-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	093-004	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Mid	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	094-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	094-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Late	-	Gresswell
12	094-003	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	094-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	095-001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	095-002	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	095-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	*Rytidosperma* sp. growing around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	095-004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	096-001	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	096-002	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	-	-	Gresswell
12	096-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	096-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	097-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	097-002	Alive	Good	No	No	Mid	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	097-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	097-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	098-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	098-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Animal burrow near Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	098-003	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	Sprout	Gresswell
12	098-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	*Rytidosperma* sp and *Sonchus* sp growing around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	099-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	099-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	099-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	*Rytidosperma* sp growing around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	099-004	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	Animal burrow near Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	100-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	The Matted Flax-lily tag is broken and needs replacement	Gresswell
12	100-002	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	100-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily. *Rytidosperma* sp growing around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	100-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	101-001	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	101-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	101-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	101-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	102-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	102-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	102-003	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	102-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	103-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	103-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	103-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	103-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Matted Flax-lily has small sprouts only	Gresswell
12	104-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	104-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	104-003	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	104-004	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	105-001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	105-002	Alive	Good	No	No	Early	Mid	*Rytidosperma* sp growing around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	105-003	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	-	-	Gresswell
12	105-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	106-001	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	106-002	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	106-003	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Mid	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	106-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	107-001	Alive	Good	No	No	Mid	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	107-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	107-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	107-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	108-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	108-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	108-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	108-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	109-001	Alive	Good	No	Yes	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	109-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	109-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	109-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	110-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	110-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	110-003	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	110-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	111-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	111-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	111-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	111-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	112-001	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	112-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	112-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	112-004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	113-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	113-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	113-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	113-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	114-001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	114-002	Alive	Poor	No	No	-	-	Matted Flax-lily has dried leaves	Gresswell
12	114-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	114-004	Alive	Good	No	No	Mid	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	115-001	Alive	Good	No	No	Mid	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	115-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	115-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	115-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	116-001	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Mid	Mid	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	116-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	116-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	116-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	117-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	117-002	Alive	Good	No	No	Mid	-	-	Gresswell
12	117-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Early	-	Gresswell
12	117-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	118-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	118-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	118-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	118-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	119-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	119-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	119-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	119-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	120-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	120-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	120-003	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	120-004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	121-001	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	121-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	121-003	Alive	Good	No	No	Early	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	121-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Sunken earth around Matted Flax-lily	Gresswell
12	122-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	122-002	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	The Matted Flax-lily tag has broken off and is lying nearby	Gresswell
12	122-003	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Mid	Mid	-	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	122-004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	Late	-	-	Gresswell
12	123-001	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	123-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	123-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	123-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	Matted Flax-lily is growing near *Acacia mearnsii* and *A. melanoxylon* saplings	Gresswell
12	124-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	124-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	124-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	124-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	125-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	125-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	The Matted Flax-lily is growing under an *Acacia* sp sapling	Gresswell
12	125-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	125-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	126-001	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	-	-	Gresswell
12	126-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	126-003	Alive	Good	No	Yes	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	126–004	Alive	Good	No	No	Late	-	-	Gresswell
12	127-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	127-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	127-003	Alive	Good	No	No	Early	-	-	Gresswell
12	127-004	Alive	Good	No	Yes	Early	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	128-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	128-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	128-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	128-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	Mid	-	Gresswell

Monitoring Event	Plant Number	Status	Condition	Evidence of Herbivory	Buds	Flowering	Fruiting	Comment	Site
12	129-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	129-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	129-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	129-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	130-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	130-002	Alive	Good	No	Yes	-	Mid	-	Gresswell
12	130-003	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	130-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	131-001	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	The Matted Flax-lily has small new ramets	Gresswell
12	131-002	Alive	Good	Yes	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	131-003	Alive	Moderate	Yes	No	-	-	The Matted Flax-lily tag needs replacement	Gresswell
12	131-004	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	132-001	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	132-002	Alive	Good	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell
12	132-003	Dead	-	No	No	-	-	Found the Matted Flax-lily tag but no evidence of Matted Flax-lily above ground	Gresswell
12	132-004	Alive	Moderate	No	No	-	-	-	Gresswell

Appendix D

Matted Flax-lily genetic survival

Table D1 The number of living clones for each parent plant in Batch 1 as of January 2025

Parent plant	No surviving clones
1	4
2	4
3	2
4	4
5	4
6	3
7	3
8	4
9	4
10	4
11	3
12	3
13	4
14	4
15	1
16	3
17	2
18	1
19	3
20	3
21	3
22	3
23	4
24	2
25	1
26	2
27	1

Table D2 The number of living clones for each parent plant in Batch 2 as of January 2025

Parent plant	No. surviving clones
28	4
29	4
30	3
31	2
32	3
33	3
34	3
35	3
36	2

Parent plant	No. surviving clones
37	1
38	4
39	2
40	3
41	3
42	4
43	4
44	3
45	3
46	3
47	3
48	3
49	3
50	4
51	3
52	3
53	4
54	4
55	4
56	4
57	1
58	4
59	4
60	4
61	4
62	3
63	2
64	2
65	4
66	4
67	4
68	4
69	2
70	4
71	4
72	4
73	3
74	3
75	3
76	2
77	3

Parent plant	No. surviving clones
78	3
79	2
80	4
81	4
82	3
83	4
84	4
85	4
86	3
87	3
88	4
89	3
90	3
91	4
92	4
93	4
94	3
95	4
96	4
97	4
98	3
99	2
100	3
101	4
102	4
103	4
104	4
105	4
106	2
107	3
108	3
109	4
110	2
111	4
112	4
113	2
114	4
115	4
116	4
117	4
118	4

Parent plant	No. surviving clones
119	4
120	3
121	4
122	3
123	4
124	4
125	4
126	4
127	4
128	4
129	4
130	4
131	4
132	2

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The Power of Commitment

Appendix C Studley Park Gum Annual Compliance Report

Studley Park Gum Annual EPBC Compliance Report 2024-2025

NEL-PW-GHD-9990-EEE-REP-0068

North East Link Program

Revision 0
13/06/2025

→ **The Power of Commitment**

Project name	North East Link Technical Advisor
Document title	Studley Park Gum Annual EPBC Compliance Report 2024-2025
Project number	3135006
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Refer to the relevant GHD Work Verification Record for detail on Designer/Author/Originator, Checker, Verifier and Approver.

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Executive Summary

Introduction

Ecological impact assessments identified that the North East Link Program project has the potential to impact *Eucalyptus x studleyensis* (Studley Park Gum, SPG), which is listed as 'Critically endangered' on the *Victorian Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act) threatened flora list. A condition of the project's approval was that a Studly Park Gum Management Framework must be developed, and corresponding management plan must be developed and implemented in consultation with DEECA.

The approved Studley Park Gum Management Framework (Emerge Associates and GHD, 2021) outlined the translocation plan to establish a new population of SPGs. A minimum of 104 trees was proposed as the target number of new Studley Park Gum trees, which equates to a replacement ratio of two translocated SPGs established for each individual tree likely to be impacted by the North East Link Program.

The recipient sites are Westerfolds Park (two areas) and Montpelier Reserve (one area). To achieve the establishment goal of at least 104 plants for the NELP, it was proposed that a total of 303 SPG saplings are initially planted at the recipient sites. This accounts for unavoidable plant loss, conservatively assuming a 70% survival rate for each year over a three-year period. A summary of the minimum number of translocated SPGs required to be alive at the end of each year of the monitoring program, to meet the 70% survival rate outlined in the Studley Park Gum Management Framework (Emerge Associates and GHD, 2021), is outlined below:

- Year 0 (2021): 303 saplings planted
- Year 1 (2022): 212 saplings (@ 70% survival)
- Year 2 (2023): 149 saplings (@ 70% survival)
- **Year 3 (2024): 104 SPGs established (planted in 2021 and having survived for at least three years)**

In May and June 2021, 364 SPG saplings were planted at the recipient sites. After an unexpectedly high rate of tree mortality due to waterlogging and high rainfall, 226 supplementary SPS saplings were planted between November 2021 and May 2022 to increase the chance that the establishment goal (104 plants surviving for at least three years) would be met.

This has led to the monitoring of SPG plants in two different stages of the monitoring program, depending on when they were planted. A decision was made to review the entire program based on the age of the youngest SPGs. As a result, this report marks the end of the third year of monitoring.

Annual Compliance results

Overall, the North East Link program is compliant with the EPBC 2018/8142 approval condition 6 and on track to meet the targets as described in the Studley Park Gum Management Framework (Emerge Associates and GHD, 2021).

In March 2025, there were 246 living SPGs recorded across the three sites, with 82% in good health. The proportion of plants in good health steadily increased over the course of the year. Average tree height increased from 248.3 cm in June 2024, to 343.4 cm in March 2025.

As of March 2025, noxious weeds were identified near six of the SPG trees. However, the management actions undertaken throughout the year to control these weeds and minimise their extent have made certain that they do not pose a risk to the success of the translocation program.

Future monitoring

The next monitoring event will take place in May 2025 and will mark three years since the last SPG plantings in May 2022. If there are at least 104 trees alive, the translocation program would be considered successful, and no further supplementary planting would be required. Monitoring is proposed to continue until May 2027, the end of the fifth year after the last planting, and if there are at least 104 established SPGs, the sites will be handed over to the management authority and no further monitoring will be required.

Contents

Table index

Figure index

Appendices

1. Introduction

1.1 Project background

The North East Link Program (NELP) (a division of the Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority (VIDA)), on behalf of the Victorian State government, is currently undertaking the North East Link (NEL) project (referred to herein as 'the project'). The NEL is a new freeway-standard road connection to the north-east of the Melbourne Central Business District that will complete Melbourne's ring road. Specifically, the NEL will connect the Metropolitan Ring Road (M80) to the Eastern Freeway and includes works along the Eastern Freeway from near Hoddle Street to Springvale Road. The impacts to biodiversity values due to the project have been determined through ecological impact assessments, which informed the development of an Environment Effects Statement (EES) in accordance with the *Victorian Environment Effects Act 1978* and a Public Environment Report (PER) in accordance with the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Ecological impact assessments have identified that the project has the potential to impact *Eucalyptus x studleyensis* (Studley Park Gum), which is listed as 'Critically endangered' on the *Victorian Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act) threatened flora list.

1.2 Approval conditions

The ministerial assessment of the EES made a number of recommendations regarding the Environmental Performance Requirements (EPR) for NELP. EPR FF10 states 'To mitigate impacts on the Studley Park Gum (SPG), a Studley Park Gum Management Framework must be developed, and corresponding management plan must be developed and implemented in consultation with the Department of Energy Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) (formerly the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)).

Condition 6 of the EPBC 2018/8142 approval requires NELP to implement the Studley Park Gum Management Framework and to report to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) (formerly the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE)) on the outcomes every year for three years as part of compliance reporting.

NELP developed and obtained approval of the Studley Park Gum Management Framework (Emerge Associates and GHD 2021) by DCCEEW (formerly DAWE). Consequentially the Studley Park Gum Management Plan (Emerge Associates and GHD 2020) was prepared to support the Studley Park Gum Management Framework and implemented in consultation with DEECA (formerly DEWLP). The Studley Park Gum Management Framework (Emerge Associates and GHD 2021) and Studley Park Gum Management Plan (Emerge Associates and GHD 2020), outline the requirements for planting and ongoing management and monitoring of the SPGs.

1.3 Purpose of this report

This report is the Year 4 annual compliance report following four years of active SPG translocation and monitoring. The purpose of this annual report is to summarise the outcomes of the four most recent quarterly monitoring events and to track the health and condition of the SPGs at the recipient sites over the last 12 months as well as across the full extent of the monitoring program. As the latest round of planting of SPG saplings occurred in May 2022 (three years ago as of May 2025) the survival rate of the translocated SPGs has been assessed against the year 3 targets outlined in the Studley Park Gum Management Framework (Emerge Associates and GHD 2021).

This report meets the reporting requirements of the EPBC Act approval (EPBC 2018/8142) conditions and the requirements of the Studley Park Gum Management Framework (Emerge Associates and GHD 2021) and the Studley Park Gum Management Plan (Emerge Associates and GHD 2020).

1.4 Scope and limitations

1.4.1 Scope

The scope of this assessment involved compiling and comparing the results of the June 2024 (Event 13), September 2024 (Event 14), January 2025 (Event 15), and March 2025 (Event 16) monitoring events over the last 12 months against the full extent of the monitoring program.

This report includes the following:

- Background information describing the broader project and context for the establishment of the Studley Park Gum Management Plan (Emerge Associates and GHD 2020) and Studley Park Gum Management Framework (Emerge Associates and GHD 2021)
- An overview of the monitoring program schedule, including timing for future monitoring events
- A summary of the methods utilised to establish the sites prior to translocation and the methods utilised to undertake the SPG monitoring
- A result summary of the monitoring events undertaken in June 2024 (Event 13), September 2024 (Event 14), January 2025 (Event 15), and March 2025 (Event 16), including tabulated data and graphs showing longer term trends
- An assessment of the recent monitoring results (Events 13 to 16) against the full extent of the monitoring program (translocation to the most recent monitoring event)
- An assessment of how the program is tracking against the translocation goal for the project
- A summary of threats to the Studley Park Gum trees and recommended management actions

1.4.2 Limitations

This report has been prepared by GHD for North East Link Program and may only be used and relied on by North East Link Program for the purpose agreed between GHD and North East Link Program as set out in section 1.3 of this report.

GHD otherwise disclaims responsibility to any person other than North East Link Program arising in connection with this report. GHD also excludes implied warranties and conditions, to the extent legally permissible.

The services undertaken by GHD in connection with preparing this report were limited to those specifically detailed in the report and are subject to the scope limitations set out in the report.

The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this report are based on conditions encountered and information reviewed at the date of preparation of the report. GHD has no responsibility or obligation to update this report to account for events or changes occurring subsequent to the date that the report was prepared.

The opinions, conclusions and any recommendations in this report are based on assumptions made by GHD described in this report (refer section(s) 1.5 of this report). GHD disclaims liability arising from any of the assumptions being incorrect.

GHD has prepared this report on the basis of information provided by NELP and others who provided information to GHD, which GHD has not independently verified or checked beyond the agreed scope of work. GHD does not accept liability in connection with such unverified information, including errors and omissions in the report which were caused by errors or omissions in that information.

1.5 Assumptions

The translocated SPG trees are growing in an uncontrolled environment and can die due to natural causes. It is also possible for those trees to regrow after appearing to be dead during any one monitoring event. Tree status is assessed in the state it is observed at the time of each monitoring event, and a tree being marked as ‘dead’ may be recorded as ‘alive’ in a future monitoring event.

The monitoring methods (see Section 3.2) are followed during each monitoring event. Tree health is assessed against a range of characteristics including leaf colour, any evidence of damage from insects or grazing and overall presentation. Whilst the same condition categories are used during each monitoring event, there is the potential for survey bias to contribute to slight variations in the tree health assessment across the course of a long-term monitoring program.

2. Translocation goal

The goal of SPG translocation for the project is to establish a new population of SPGs to assist with the ongoing conservation of the taxon. To achieve this goal, it was proposed to establish a minimum of **104 Studley Park Gum trees** across three recipient sites. For the SPG trees to be considered established, 104 individuals need to have survived three years following planting. The goal of 104 trees is based on a replacement ratio of two translocated SPGs established for each individual tree likely to be impacted by the North East Link.

To achieve the establishment goal of at least 104 plants, it was proposed that a total of 303 SPG saplings are initially planted at the recipient sites. This accounts for unavoidable plant loss assuming a 70% survival rate for each year over a three-year period. The following provides details of the 70% survival rate:

- Year 0 (2021): 303 saplings planted
- Year 1 (2022): 212 saplings (@ 70% survival)
- Year 2 (2023): 149 saplings (@ 70% survival)
- **Year 3 (2024): 104 SPGs established (planted in 2021 and having survived for at least three years)**

In May and June 2021, 364 SPG saplings were planted at the recipient sites. After an unexpectedly high rate of tree mortality due to waterlogging and high rainfall, 226 supplementary SPG saplings were planted between November 2021 and May 2022 to increase the chance of meeting the establishment goal (104 plants surviving for at least three years).

This has led to the monitoring of SPG plants in two different stages of the monitoring program, depending on when they were planted. A decision was made to review the entire program based on the age of the youngest SPGs. As a result, this report marks the end of the third year of monitoring.

2.1 Recipient site locations

The Yarra Valley Parklands sites were deemed by the relevant land manager (and based on feedback from DEECA (formerly DEWLP) to be appropriate recipient sites (Emerge Associates and GHD 2021). Discussions with Parks Victoria determined Westerfolds Park and Montpelier Reserve within Yarra Valley Parklands to be the suitable available recipient sites. Within these two sites, three recipient sites were prepared. Two sites are located within Westerfolds Park and one within Montpelier Reserve (Figure 1).

Legend

- Photo point locations
- Recipient Site
- Watercourse

Paper Size A3

0 25 50 100

Metres

Map Projection: Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

N

NORTH EAST LINK PROGRAM

GHD

North East Link Project

Date: 30 May 2025
Revision: 0

Studley Park Gum Recipient Site

Figure 1

Security Classification: OFFICIAL: Sensitive
NEL-PW-GHD-9990-EEE-REP-0068 Revision 0
Studley Park Gum Annual EPBC Compliance Report 2024-2025

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Data Sources: CIP Imagery - DELWP - 2020 | Cadastre, Roads, Planning Zones - Vicmap - 2021 | SPG data - 2021 | Created by:kgardner

\\ghdnet\ghd\AU\Melbourne\Projects\31\35006\GIS\Maps\Working\Operational\Ecology\Ad hoc\20211125_SPG_Recipient_Site\20211125_SPG_Recipient_Site\20211125_SPG_Recipient_Site.aprx

3. Method

The following method, as outlined in the Studley Park Gum Management Framework (Emerge Associates and GHD 2021) and the Studley Park Gum Management Plan (Emerge Associates and GHD 2020), was used to undertake the monitoring.

3.1 Monitoring timing

Monitoring has been undertaken quarterly during Years 1-3 post translocation of the SPG saplings. The quarterly monitoring was required to determine whether plants were successfully establishing at the recipient sites and/or whether contingency actions need to be undertaken to facilitate plant survival. Monitoring is then proposed to become less frequent (minimum annually) until the translocation goal of having 104 trees considered established has been met. These monitoring events align with EPBC Act Approval 2018/8142 annual compliance reporting. Monitoring events have been and are proposed to take place at the following intervals:

- Establishment period (Years 1, 2 & 3): monitor quarterly, at approximately the beginning of each season (e.g. September, December, March and June). This includes an initial monitoring visit in the week post-translocation to record initial conditions (baseline) and audit the site establishment activities so that compliance is maintained with the Recipient Site Management Prescriptions.
- Post-establishment (Years 4 onwards): monitor annually until the goal of >104 SPG trees being considered established has been met. Established means trees have survived for at least three years post translocation.
- Monitoring must occur for at least five years post translocation. If the goal of 104 established plants is not achieved after five years, then implementation of the plan will continue until the goal is met, up to a total of 10 years.

See Appendix A for a table of monitoring events that have been completed to date and future planned monitoring events.

3.2 Method

Monitoring involved a physical inspection of the saplings planted at the recipient sites by an appropriately qualified Ecologist/Botanist.

3.2.1 Site preparation

A total of 364 Studley Park Gum saplings were planted within the three recipient sites between 24 May 2021 and June 2021. This was above the target 303 saplings required to be planted, however; due to success in the nursery and available space at the recipient sites, more saplings were able to be translocated than originally proposed. Transplanted saplings were approximately seven months old, with an average height of 51.7 cm. Planted saplings were observed to be well spaced out and placed in clusters as per the Studley Park Gum Management Plan prescriptions (Emerge Associates and GHD, 2020). Saplings were planted away from the fence to allow for future slashing/maintenance activities without impacting the translocated SPGs.

Each planting location was sprayed with herbicide prior to translocating the SPGs to the recipient sites, and introduced grasses and forbs were observed to be dead during the baseline monitoring (September 2021). Plant holes were greater in width than the sapling and appropriately back filled with soil. Mulching was at the correct thickness (as prescribed by Emerge Associates and GHD, 2020), with some mulching being observed to have washed into the planting holes due to the heavy rainfall events prior to the initial planting event.

3.2.2 Data

Weather conditions

A desktop analysis of the conditions recorded by the Bureau of Meteorology at the Viewbank[1] weather station was undertaken to provide a summary of the weather conditions experienced at the recipient sites since the initial planting; these conditions were compared with site and time-matched long-term weather data. Data reviewed included:

- Number of days with rain >1 mm
- Temperature (Maximum and minimum temperatures)
- Total rainfall for the period and against the mean expected rainfall
- Any unexpected weather events (e.g., heat wave, storm, flooding)

Total number of living translocated plants

The total number of SPGs was recorded by observing each SPG and determining if it was alive or dead. Plants considered dead were originally proposed to be removed from the monitoring program so as not to recount these individuals in future monitoring events. However, during early monitoring events in 2022 it was identified that some plants that appeared to be dead during a single monitoring event may have been found to have resprouted in subsequent monitoring events. Therefore, the monitoring method was amended so that:

- Trees recorded as dead for the first time were not removed from the monitoring program to allow time to resprout.
- Trees counted as dead during two consecutive prior monitoring events were not counted again as dead in the current monitoring event, so as not to overinflate the recorded number of translocated SPGs that may have died between any two monitoring events.
- Trees recorded as dead or not present for a third consecutive monitoring event have been removed from the dataset and will not be included in future monitoring events.

Condition of translocated plants

The condition of the translocated plants at the time of the monitoring event were noted, including:

- Stress – if the tree is experiencing stress, the type of stress has been recorded (e.g., drought/herbivory/disease/other)
- Condition – to determine the likelihood of survival. Condition classes applied during the monitoring are as follows:
  - Dead = no living material evident
  - Poor <30% leaves are healthy
  - Moderate 30<70% of leaves healthy
  - Good >70% leaves healthy
- Plant height (cm)
- Diameter of the trunk (cm) at the base of the tree until it reaches a height to record at both the base and at breast height (1.4 m) from the base
- Flowering / fruiting (Yes/No)

[1] **http://www.bom.gov.au/products/IDV60901/IDV60901.95874.shtml** (last accessed 21 March 2025)

Condition of the recipient site

To capture the condition of the recipient site, and threats that weeds and/or herbivores pose to SPG establishment, the following items were monitored:

– Presence of noxious weeds: estimate of the percentage cover of noxious weeds within a 1.5 m radius of each SPG. The noxious weed cover measurement has been changed since previous assessments. The change is based on the correct use of the word “noxious”. In this and future assessments, noxious weeds will refer to weeds listed under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* (CaLP Act). A total weed cover measurement will be taken to keep track of the weed cover around the trees to help inform land management practices.
– Presence of herbivory within the recipient site: defined by the presence of partially eaten specimens, droppings/scats or diggings.

Incidental observations within the recipient site

Incidental observations within the recipient sites were recorded, including:

– Stagnant/excess water
– Emerging weeds
– If slashing is required to maintain biomass levels suitable for sapling establishment
– Other incidental observations

Maintenance requirements

The recording of programmed maintenance completed as prescribed in the Studley Park Gum Management Plan (Emerge Associates and GHD, 2020), or if previous monitoring events identified actions and if additional maintenance is required. This may include:

– Additional weed maintenance
– Fencing maintenance
– Rectifying unauthorised access
– Slashing of grass within or surrounding recipient site
– Additional planting events

3.2.3 Photo points

Photo-point monitoring was also undertaken during each monitoring event. Mapped locations for photo-point monitoring are provided in Figure 1, and spatial locations provided in Table 1.

Table 1 Photo point locations (Eastings and Northings)

Photo Point	Westerfolds Site 1	Westerfolds Site 2	Montpelier Reserve
1	334805, 5820680	334732, 5820690	333889, 5820220
2	334894, 5820620	334651, 5820750	334049,5820200
3	334945, 5820700	334711, 5820820	334055, 5820220
4	334862, 5820760	334791, 5820760	333894, 5820250

3.2.4 Sample size

There were 249 SPG saplings monitored throughout the monitoring period. The other 341 trees from a total of 590 originally translocated SPGs have died and are no longer being monitored.

3.3 Adaptive management

The results of the quarterly monitoring (detailed in Section 4) during the first three years post-translocation were used to inform site management, maintenance and track the survival of translocated plants. If any issues are identified during a monitoring event, recommendations for adaptive management actions required to rectify issues and appropriate timelines nominated for the task to be undertaken are included in the monitoring reports. The fourth quarterly event each year coincides with the annual monitoring event.

Further, an annual evaluation (this report) has been undertaken to determine progress of the site towards the collective goal. This involved tracking the number of surviving SPG plants in the recipient sites across the year, and also across the full extent of the translocation program. Any actions resulting from the assessment of the translocation program success against the evaluation process provided in Table 2, is summarised in Section 5.

Table 2 Evaluation process for the recipient sites

Timing of monitoring events	Measure	Action
Each quarter for 3 years after planting	Environmental changes that impact SPG survival	Alert management authority Alter Recipient Site Management Prescriptions, if needed
Each year for 3 years after planting	>70% SPG survival	None required
	<70% SPG survival	Undertake supplementary planting
End of 4th year after planting End of 5th year after planting	104 or more SPG plants established (which have been planted in recipient site for at least 3 years)	Hand over site to management authority Minimal ongoing management activity
	<104 SPG plants	Undertake supplementary planting
Years 5-10 (only required if goal is not met prior)	<104 SPG plants	Review management actions to improve success. Undertake supplementary planting

4. Results – June 2024 to March 2025

4.1 Monitoring summary

Quarterly SPG translocation monitoring was undertaken between November 2021 and March 2025 by GHD Botanists at the recipient sites. Timing and or scope of monitoring events was adjusted to accommodate fire danger, extreme weather, COVID-19 restrictions, maintenance, plantings, or herbicide withholding periods where required (Appendix A).

The following section summarises the results of the monitoring undertaken between June 2024 and March 2025.

4.1.1 Weather

The following weather conditions were observed at the recipient sites between the Year 3 fourth quarterly event (19 and 26 March 2024) and the Year 4 fourth quarterly event (26 March 2024 to 6 March 2025) (Table 3). Data was collected from the BOM Viewbank Weather Station (station 086068) (BoM 2025a, 2025b).

The Viewbank weather station has received 686.8 mm of rain in 2024, with an average yearly rainfall from 2015-2024 of 691.4 mm (Figure 2). Rainfall in the years 2020-2022 was significantly higher than preceding and following years (2020: 894.4 mm, 2021: 838.8 mm, 2022: 868.8 mm). Recent data indicates a decline in early summer rainfall during the annual monitoring periods. December 2023 to January 2024 recorded 174.2 mm, while December 2024 to January 2025 dropped to 96.6 mm or 45% less rainfall. These rainfall data patterns are critical in understanding whether climate conditions are impacting the health and survival of translocated Studley Park Gum individuals.

Table 3 Annual weather summary and long-term renovation from Viewbank from March 2024 to March 2025

	Monitoring period conditions (March 2024 – March 2025)	Long-term annual average (2015-2025)
Average min temp C	10.2 °C	10.2°C
Average max temp C	21.9°C	21.0°C
Total rainfall (mm)	667 mm	681.2 mm
Number of days with rain >1 mm	82	90.8

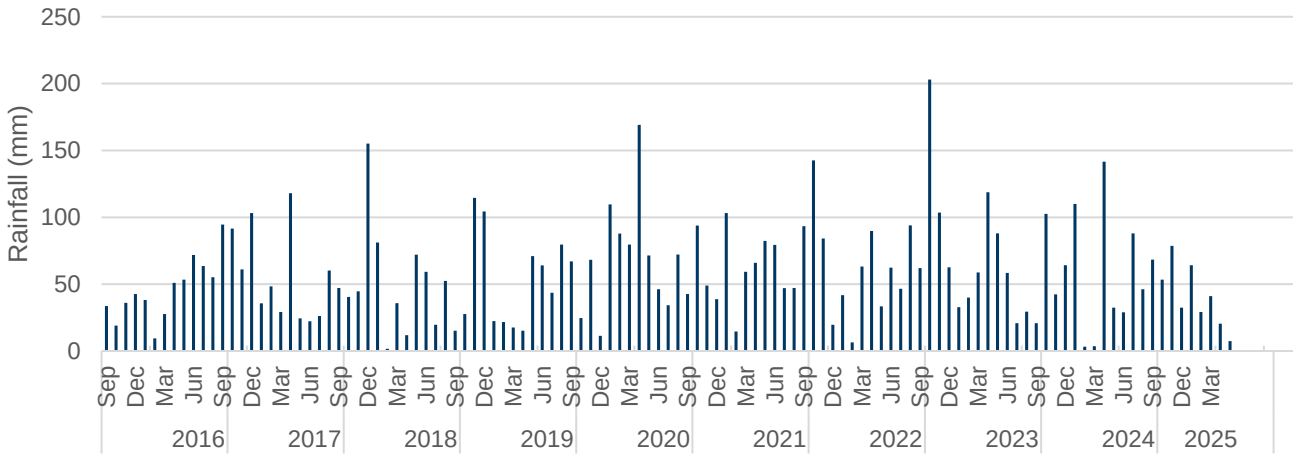


Figure 2 Monthly rainfall totals from January 2015 to March 2025

4.1.2 SPG translocation goal

The proportion of plants in good condition has increased steadily over the course of the past year from 49% of plants in June 2024 to 82% in March 2025 (Figure 3). Additionally, the number of trees observed to be in good health at each site increased or remained constant between each monitoring event (Figure 4). The increase in health could be due to the establishment of the trees and the increase in their root systems. Over the 2023/2024 summer there was an increase in observed insect damage (GHD 2024a) that lead to an increase in the number of translocated SPGs assessed as in poor condition. Conditions have improved since the percentage of leaves exhibiting damage through herbivory has reduced.

In March 2025, there were 97 SPGs from the original planting (May and June 2021) that were still alive. As it has been three years since their planting, they are considered established (Table 4). There are 149 trees from the subsequent plantings (between November 2021 and May 2022) that are still alive and are now two months shy of three years post translocation. As long as at least seven of these 149 trees are alive in May 2025, the program would have met its establishment goal of 104 established SPG trees.

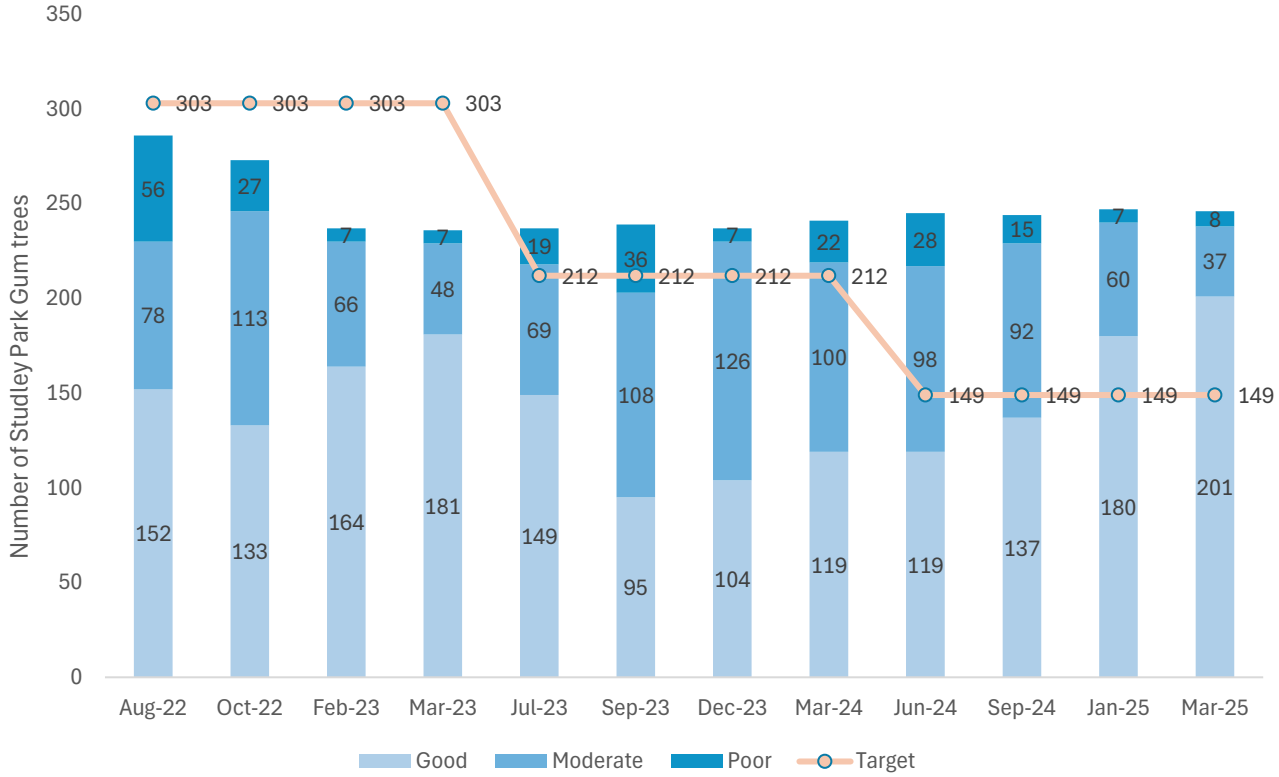
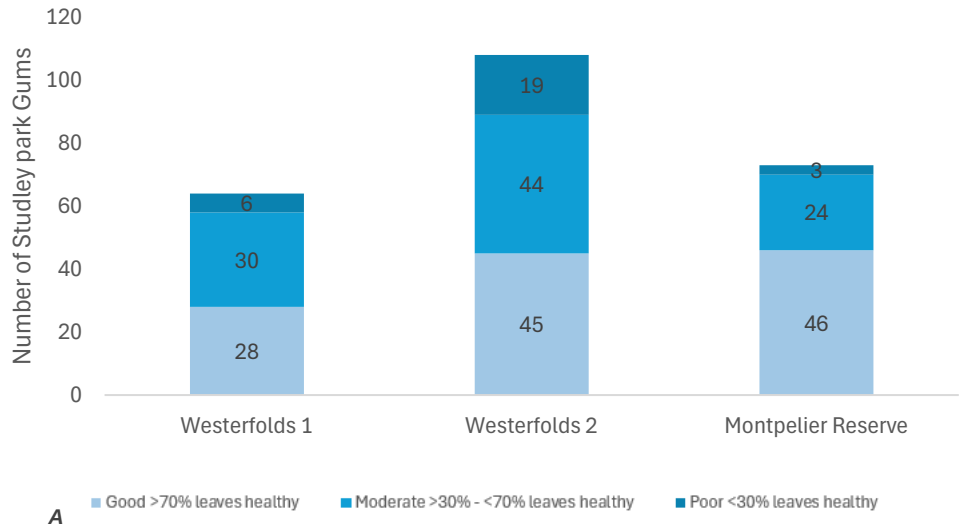
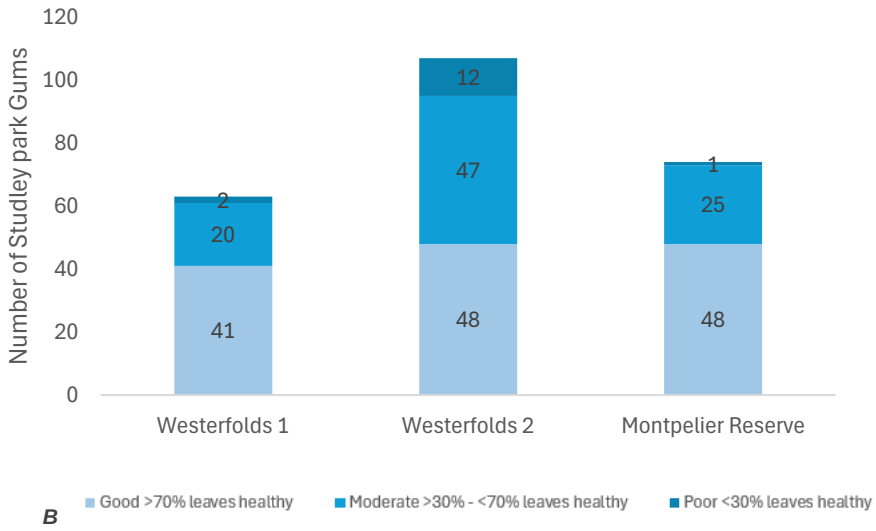


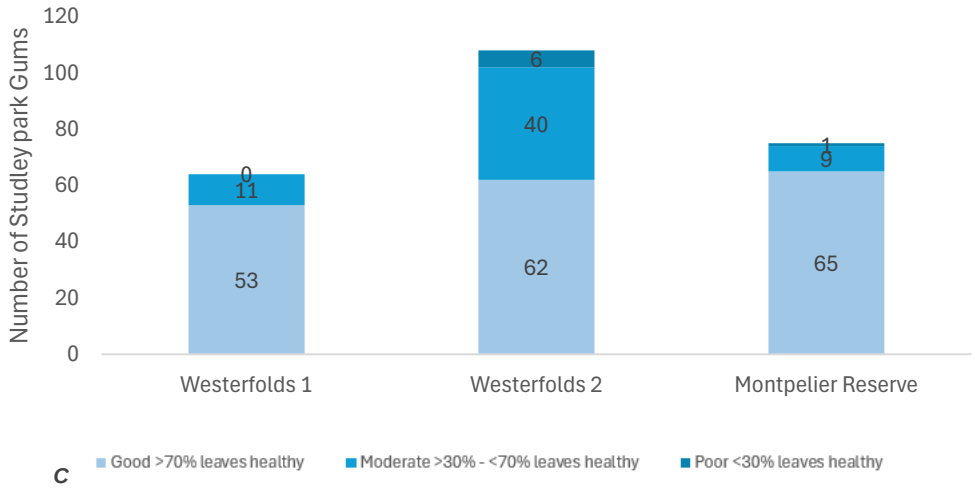
Figure 3 *Number of Studley Park Gum trees and their condition across recipient sites throughout the monitoring program*

Table 4 *Number of translocated SPG trees from the original planting event (May and June of 2021) and the subsequent planting event (November 2021 - May 2022) that were identified as alive during the last year of monitoring*

	Number of living trees			
Planting status	**Event 13**	**Event 14**	**Event 15**	**Event 16**
Original planting (3 years old)	97	97	98	97
Subsequent planting (2 years old)	148	147	149	149







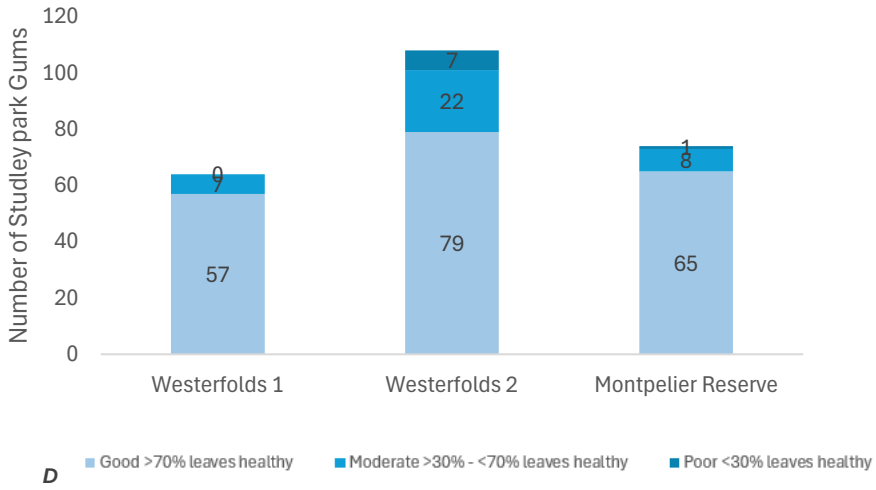


Figure 4 ***Condition of Studley Park Gum trees across the three recipient sites at each monitoring event over the last year A) Event 13 – June 2024, B) Event 14 September 2024, C) Event 15 January 2025, and D) Event 16 March 2025. Light blue is Good (>70% leaves healthy), blue is moderate (>30%-<70% leaves healthy) and dark blue is poor (<30% leaves healthy)***

Despite the dry end to the 24/25 summer, conditions were still good enough for the translocated plants to grow – average height was observed to have increased from 248 cm in June 2024 to 343 cm in March 2025. In March 2025 (Event 16) there were only 15 trees less than 100 cm tall. At least five of these trees are regrowing from the base of the stem after the main stem was damaged or died. The mean increase in height was greatest between September 2024 and January 2025 (Table 5). This is consistent with previous observations at the sites and peer reviewed research indicating the fastest growth of Eucalyptus species is generally in spring and autumn (Tang *et al.* 2023).

Table 5 ***Analysis of the height difference in translocated SPGs between monitoring events conducted in June 2024 (Event 13) and March 2025 (Event 16)***

Height Difference	Event 12-13	Event 13-14	Event 14-15	Event 15-16
Mean	18 cm	10 cm	55 cm	30 cm

There were 11 plants that had buds during monitoring Event 16, and it is expected that a greater proportion of plants will show some form of reproduction in the future as they age.

Across the three recipient sites, three of 246 translocated SPGs were considered dead or missing (1%) in Event 16. These rates are within the target range for the translocation program as per the Studley Park Gum Management Framework (Emerge Associates and GHD 2021). Across the year there were a total of five trees that were recorded as dead. Three trees were recorded as dead and then following monitoring events were found as alive. This can happen when plants are so small they are covered by tall grass. This can also happen when a plant appears to be dead in a previous monitoring event and then is observed to have resprouted in subsequent monitoring events.

4.1.3 Threats

The predominant threats to successful SPG establishment as of March 2025 are outlined below.

Brush-cutting damage

In early 2024 some individual SPGs in Montpelier Reserve showed evidence of damage as a result of the brush-cutting of noxious weed around the base of translocated individuals. Such activities are a necessary part of controlling biomass and reducing competition from noxious weeds, but land management staff should leave a sufficient buffer around SPG individuals and use alternative methods (such as hand weeding or secateurs) to minimise the risk of damage.

No new brush-cutting damage was observed over the June 2024 to March 2025 monitoring period.

Fence condition and erosion

Erosion is causing a risk to fence condition and herbivory prevention at Montpelier Reserve, with hill and gully erosion forming in and around wombat burrows and rabbit warrens. There are four burrows under the fence on the north and south side of Montpelier Reserve, which need to be destroyed and/or rehabilitated to prevent pest animals from entering the reserve.

A crack is present in the north-western corner pole in Westerfolds Site 2 as a result of an external impact. This impact occurred in 2022 and the damage to the fence is being monitored regularly by the land manager to determine if the pole needs to be replaced.

Noxious weed cover

Noxious weed cover within the 1.5 m buffer around SPG individuals was below the threshold of 1% as a result of brush-cutting and other weed control activities. Over the course of the monitoring period *Rubus anglocandicans* (Blackberry), *Cirsium vulgare* (Spear Thistle) and *Echium plantagineum* (Paterson's Curse) have been identified near SPGs and have been sprayed and managed at appropriate times by the land manager.

Weed cover was recorded above the recommended levels of <1% within 1.5 m radius around the SPGs at all sites during the June 2024 – March 2025 monitoring period (Table 6). Weed cover was predominantly comprised of *Anthoxanthum odoratum* (Sweet Vernal-grass) across all sites, consistent with previous monitoring events.

Cover of other grassy weeds was also high at each of the recipient sites, predominantly contributed by perennial grassy weed *Phalaris aquatica* (Toowoomba Canary Grass).

It is noted that the condition of translocated SPGs does not appear to have been significantly compromised by weed cover at this stage. With the ongoing formation of gully erosion at Montpelier Reserve, and a history of waterlogging at all sites, grassy cover is currently acting as a soil stabiliser and water 'diversion' until the SPGs are established enough to fulfil this ecological role.

The current approach of managing grassy weed biomass by brush-cutting rather than spraying is recommended to continue, as long as appropriate buffers around translocated plants are put in place so that SPG health can be maintained. Control of woody weeds and forbs should continue as per the Studley Park Gum Management Plan (Emerge Associates and GHD, 2020). It is recommended that the noxious weed *Nassella neesiana* (Chilean Needle Grass) should also be controlled as per the Studley Park Gum Management Plan (Emerge Associates and GHD, 2020), due to its high risk of biodiversity impact to the surrounding park, and its persistence in the soil seed bank.

Herbivory

Herbivory by small mammals (e.g., rabbits) is less likely now that most trees are over 1 m tall. The fences around the translocated SPGs could be removed after year five, if the trees were considered sufficiently established to not be at risk from deer grazing. At this stage, many of the trees are still at risk (possible damage to plants and/or death of individuals) from deer grazing if the fences were to be removed.

It is recommended that insect herbivory continues to be monitored by the contractor and the need for snail/slug control or leaf insect control should continue to be assessed regularly.

If the contractor observes significant slug/snail damage or leaf insect damage, then appropriate bait or insecticide may be appropriate to use in the short-term.

4.2 Recipient site results

Monitoring results recorded for the three recipient sites during March 2025 are provided in Table 6 with the summary of data of the four quarterly monitoring events presented in Table C1, and each quarterly monitoring data presented in full in Appendix B.

Photos taken at monitoring points between June 2024 and March 2025 are provided in Appendix C, with representative photos of establishing SPGs (March 2025) provided in Appendix C. Monitoring data for each site during each quarterly monitoring event (Event 13-16) is provided in Appendix B.

Table 6 Monitoring results: Quarterly monitoring results from June 2024 – March 2025

Monitoring Parameter	Jun-24	Sep-24	Jan-25	Mar-25
Number of living plants	245	244	247	246
Number of dead plants	2	4	2	2
Total records (count) of living and dead plants	247	248	249	248
% of living plants with >70% of healthy leaves (good condition)	49% (119)	56% (137)	73% (180)	82% (201)
% of living plants with 30-70% of healthy leaves (moderate condition)	40% (98)	38% (92)	24% (60)	15% (37)
% of living plants with <30% of healthy leaves (poor condition)	11% (28)	6% (15)	3% (7)	3% (8)
Average tree height (cm)	248.3 cm	259.1 cm	311.7 cm	343.4 cm

Monitoring Parameter	Jun-24	Sep-24	Jan-25	Mar-25
Average DBH (cm)	2.1 cm	2.6 cm	3.5 cm	3.8 cm
Number of plants with flowering/fruiting presence	4	4	5	11
No. of plants with noxious weeds within 1.5 m	2	2	3	6
Noxious weed cover present (within 1.5 m radius)	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4
Average cover of weeds within 1.5 m radius (%)	97%	74%	82%	85%
Herbivory Present (%)	1% (2)	1% (2)	1% (2)	1% (2)
Programmed maintenance undertaken satisfactorily	Yes	Yes	Mostly yes, follow up actions required	Yes
Previous additional maintenance/ adaptive measures undertaken?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Additional maintenance required?	Yes – ongoing maintenance	Yes – ongoing maintenance	Yes – ongoing maintenance	Yes – ongoing maintenance

Legend

Studley Park Gum Trees | Photo point locations | Recipient Site

- Living
- Dead

Paper Size A3

0 10 20 40

Metres

Map Projection: Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

N

NORTH EAST LINK PROGRAM

GHD

North East Link Project

Date: 30 May 2025
Revision: 0

Living and dead Studley Park Gum trees
Event 13 June 2024

Figure 5a

Security Classification: OFFICIAL: Sensitive
NEL-PW-GHD-9990-EEE-REP-0068 Revision 0
Studley Park Gum Annual EPBC Compliance Report 2024-2025

180 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia **T** 61 3 8687 8000 **E** melmail@ghd.com **W** www.ghd.com

Data Sources: Nearmap Imagery March 2025 | Cadastre, Roads, - Vicmap - 2023 | SPG data - GHD 2025 | Created by:kgardner

Legend

Studley Park Gum Trees | Photo point locations | Recipient Site

- Living
- Dead

Paper Size A3

0 10 20 40

Metres

Map Projection: Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

N

NORTH EAST LINK PROGRAM

GHD

North East Link Project

Date: 30 May 2025
Revision: 0

Living and dead Studley Park Gum trees
Event 14 Sept 2024

Figure 5b

Security Classification: OFFICIAL: Sensitive
NEL-PW-GHD-9990-EEE-REP-0068 Revision 0
Studley Park Gum Annual EPBC Compliance Report 2024-2025

180 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia **T** 61 3 8687 8000 **E** melmail@ghd.com **W** www.ghd.com

Data Sources: Nearmap Imagery March 2025 | Cadastre, Roads, - Vicmap - 2023 | SPG data - GHD 2025 | Created by:kgardner

M PP4
Yarra Valley Parklands
M PP3
M PP1
Montpellier Site
LOWER PLENTY
M PP2
W2 PP2
W2 PP3
W1 PP4
W2 PP1
Westerfolds Park
TEMPLESTOWE
W1 PP3
W1 PP1
Westerfolds Site 2
W2 PP4
Westerfolds Site 1
W1 PP2

Legend

Studley Park Gum Trees | Photo point locations | Recipient Site

- Living
- Dead

Paper Size A3

0 10 20 40

Metres

Map Projection: Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

N

NORTH EAST LINK PROGRAM

GHD

North East Link Project

Date: 30 May 2025
Revision: 0

Living and dead Studley Park Gum trees
Event 15 Feb 2025

Figure 5c

Security Classification: OFFICIAL: Sensitive
NEL-PW-GHD-9990-EEE-REP-0068 Revision 0
Studley Park Gum Annual EPBC Compliance Report 2024-2025

180 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia **T** 61 3 8687 8000 **E** melmail@ghd.com **W** www.ghd.com

Data Sources: Nearmap Imagery March 2025 | Cadastre, Roads, - Vicmap - 2023 | SPG data - GHD 2025 | Created by:kgardner

Legend

Studley Park Gum Trees | Photo point locations | Recipient Site

- Living
- Dead

Paper Size A3

0 10 20 40

Metres

Map Projection: Transverse Mercator
Horizontal Datum: GDA 1994
Grid: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

N

NORTH EAST LINK PROGRAM

GHD

North East Link Project

Date: 30 May 2025
Revision: 0

Living and dead Studley Park Gum trees
Event 16 Mar 2025

Figure 5d

Security Classification: OFFICIAL: Sensitive
NEL-PW-GHD-9990-EEE-REP-0068 Revision 0
Studley Park Gum Annual EPBC Compliance Report 2024-2025

180 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia **T** 61 3 8687 8000 **E** melmail@ghd.com **W** www.ghd.com

Data Sources: Nearmap Imagery March 2025 | Cadastre, Roads, - Vicmap - 2023 | SPG data - GHD 2025 | Created by:kgardner

5. Adaptive management measures and recommendations

5.1 Proposed maintenance and/or corrective actions

Proposed maintenance and corrective actions undertaken during the reporting period (June 2024 – March 2025) are detailed in Appendix D.

At this stage of establishment, protection from herbivore browsing and weed control is required to maximise translocation success.

The following actions are a summary of what is recommended beyond March 2025 to achieve this:

- Slashing or brush-cutting fence boundaries to allow easy inspection of fence condition and to reduce risk of herbivore egress during the SPG establishment period. Herbicide spraying on the Montpelier Reserve fence line is not recommended, as non-vegetated soil will be more susceptible to erosion and waterlogging.
- Fencing should be assessed for preventative repair and reinforcement at Montpelier Reserve.
- Trees 50 cm and smaller should be marked with a stake, and optionally also temporarily fitted with a tree guard so that they may be readily located during maintenance and monitoring events. In future, any replacement plantings should use both stakes and tree guards.
- Noxious weeds should be targeted for selective spraying/hand-weeding in line with the SPG Management Plan (GHD 2020). Spot spraying is to occur only at a distance greater than 50 cm from saplings and weed control within 50 cm of saplings is to be done by hand.
- Request the contractor to continue to monitor insect herbivory and assess the need for snail/slug control or leaf insect control regularly. If the contractor observes significant slug/snail damage or leaf insect damage, then appropriate bait or insecticide may be used in the short-term.

6. Compliance assessment

The translocation program is compliant with both the EPBC 2018/8142 approval condition 6 and the Studley Park Gum Management Framework requirements. Table 7 provides an assessment of the results of the SPG monitoring program against the EPBC Approval (EPBC 2018/8142) condition 6. Table 8 details the compliance of the translocation program against the requirements of the Studley Park Gum Management Framework (Emerge Associates and GHD, 2021).

Table 7 EPBC 2018/8142 Approval Condition relevant to Studley Park Gums

Condition no.	Approval Condition	Condition currently triggered	Compliance	Comments and supporting documentation
6	The approval holder must implement the Studley Park Gum Management Framework for the period of effect of the approval. The approval holder must provide the department with a report, as part of the compliance report, each year for three years, commencing from the date the first Studley Park Gum tree is planted in accordance with the Studley Park Gum Management Framework. This report must detail the number, condition and threats faced by the Studley Park Gum trees that have been planted, as well as any maintenance or corrective actions that are taken or are proposed.	Yes	Compliant	The report provides an assessment of the state of the translocation program against the EPBC approval condition and the Studley Park Gum Management Framework. This is the third annual compliance report and due to the supplementary plantings completed from November 2021 to May 2022, the program is being assessed against the Year 3 targets to account for these young plants not having been planted for three years yet. There were 246 plants found alive in March of 2025, which is more than the target of 104 living plants for Year 3 survivorship. 82% of these living plants were in good condition with only 3% in poor condition. There are 97 SPG trees that were planted in May and June of 2021 that were recorded as alive during the most recent monitoring event (March 2025), as such these trees are considered established (translocated individuals have survived for 3 years). There are 149 SPG trees that were planted by May 2022 that were alive during monitoring Event 16 (March 2025). Noxious weed cover meets the target of <1% cover within 1.5 m of the SPGs. Whilst total weed cover is higher, it is dominated by grassy weeds such as *Anthoxanthum odoratum* (Sweet Vernal-grass), which would have little to no effect on the SPGs given their current size and age. Brush-cutting and fence maintenance was performed over the course of the year (Appendix D). The Project is compliant with the EPBC approval condition to date. Monitoring will continue in accordance with the Studley Park Gum Management Framework and Studley Park Gum Management Plan (Emerge Associates and GHD 2021 and Emerge Associates and GHD 2020 respectively).

Table 8 Compliance requirements in the Studley Park Gum Management Framework

Studley Park Gum Management Framework	Comments and supporting documentation
The plan goal of 70% survival rate for each year based on the below numbers: – Year 0: 303 saplings planted – Year 1: 212 saplings (@70% survival) – Year 2 149 Saplings (@70% survival) – Year 3 104 plants established	This report summarises the success of the program against the Year 3 targets because the youngest SPGs planted across the sites were planted from November 2021 to May 2022. Based on 249 living SPG plants across the three sites, the Year 3 target has been exceeded (i.e. a survival rate of 70%, above the target for Year 3). Additionally, the program is close to achieving the end target of at least 104 established SPGs, with 97 SPGs now considered established (survived three years since planting).
Noxious weed cover levels within 5 m radius of planted tube stock is to be controlled to ensure cover is less than 1%.	Noxious weed cover across all sites averaged out to less than 1%. Over the course of the monitoring period *Rubus anglocandicans* (Blackberry), *Cirsium vulgare* (Spear Thistle) and *Echium plantagineum* (Paterson's Curse) were identified near SPGs, these weeds have been sprayed and managed at appropriate times by the land manager.
Monitoring is required to assess impacts of herbivory of pest animals.	Recorded rates of herbivory across the sites was recorded as 1% from June 2024 to March 2025. The current control methods (fence) are appropriate to protect plants from kangaroo, deer, rabbits and hares.

7. References

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2025a), Watsonia, Victoria: Daily weather Observations. Retrieved March 2025, from **http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/dwo/202205/html/IDCJDW3079.202205.shtml**

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) (2025b), Climate statistics for Australian locations: Viewbank. Retrieved March 2025, from **http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_086068.shtml**

Emerge Associates and GHD (2020), Studley Park Gum Management Plan, prepared for North East Link Project.

Emerge Associates and GHD (2021), North East Link Project: Studley Park Gum Management Framework (Revision 3)

GHD (2021a) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Baseline and Monitoring Event 1 – June 2021. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2021b) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 2 – November 2021. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2021c) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 3 – January 2022. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2021d) Studley Park Gum Annual Compliance Report 2021. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2022a) Studley Park Gum Annual Compliance Report 2022. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2022b) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 4 – May 2022. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2022c) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 5 – August 2022. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2022d) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 6 – October 2022. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2023a) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 7 – February 2023. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2023b) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 8 – March 2023. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2023c) Studley Park Gum Annual Compliance Report 2023. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2023d) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 9 – July 2023. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2023e) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 10 – September 2023. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2023f) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 11 – December 2023. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2024a) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 12 – March 2024. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2024b) Studley Park Gum Annual Compliance Report 2024. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2024c) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 13 – June 2024. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2024d) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 14 – September 2024. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

GHD (2024e) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 15 – December 2024. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia

Tang, Xu, Peng Lei, Qixu You, Yao Liu, Shijing Jiang, Jianhua Ding, Jianjun Chen, and Haotian You. 2023. "Monitoring Seasonal Growth of *Eucalyptus* Plantation under Different Forest Age and Slopes Based on Multi-Temporal UAV Stereo Images" *Forests* 14, no. 11: 2231. https://doi.org/10.3390/f14112231

Appendices

Appendix A

Table of Monitoring Events

Table A1 Table of monitoring events

Year	Monitoring event	Monitoring report	Expected date of event	Date event completed	Comments
1	Event 1 - Baseline Monitoring Event and 1st quarterly event	GHD (2021a) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Baseline and Monitoring Event 1 – June 2021. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia. Finalised 9 December 2021	Planting expected in May 2021, monitoring one week following planting	Planting: 24/05/21 Monitoring: 15/06/2021	Monitoring delayed by one week due to Victorian Government mandated COVID-19 lockdown, and a public holiday between planting and monitoring event.
1	Event 2 - 2nd Quarterly event	GHD (2021b) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 2 – November 2021. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia. Finalised 24 February 2022	September 2021	9/11/2021	Site visit paused until replacement plantings could be installed, as per prior audit recommendations. Monitoring occurred within one week of supplementary planting. During this monitoring event ecologists were unable to enter Westerfolds Site 2 due to safety hazards.
1	Event 3 - 3rd Quarterly event	GHD (2021c) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 3 – January 2022. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia. Finalised 1 March 2022	December 2021	18/01/2022	Delay from prior survey carried forward to this monitoring event, to allow time for meaningful plant growth to occur. Westerfolds Site 2 sapling numbers could not be assessed due to maintenance activities being underway.
1	Event 4 - 4th Quarterly event	GHD (2022a) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 4 – May 2022. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia. Finalised 18 July 2022	March 2022	12/05/2022 – 13/05/2022	Delayed due to herbicide withholding period, and to allow completion of maintenance activities.

Year	Monitoring event	Monitoring report	Expected date of event	Date event completed	Comments
2	Event 5 - 1st Quarterly event	GHD (2022b) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 5 – August 2022. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia	June 2022	4/8/2022 - 5/8/2022	Delayed allowing time for brush-cutting so that staff could access site.
2	Event 6 - 2nd Quarterly event	GHD (2022c) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 6 – October 2022. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia	September 2022	18/10/2022-19/10/2022	Delayed allowing time for brush-cutting so that staff could access site.
2	Event 7 - 3rd Quarterly event	GHD (2023a) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 7 – February 2023. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia	December 2022	9/2/2023 and 14/2/2023	Monitoring conditions were delayed until site conditions were safe enough for a visit. Monitoring occurred after biomass control by land managers.
2	Event 8 - 4th Quarterly event	GHD (2023b) Studley Park Gum Annual Compliance Report 2023. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia. Finalised 21 June 2024	March 2023	27/3/2023 and 29/3/2023	Monitoring undertaken at required time.
3	Event 9 - 1st Quarterly event	GHD (2023c) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 9 – July 2023. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia. Finalised 27 September 2023	June 2023	20/7/2023-21/7/2023	Monitoring delayed allowing for appropriate resourcing.

Year	Monitoring event	Monitoring report	Expected date of event	Date event completed	Comments
3	Event 10 - 2nd Quarterly event	GHD (2023d) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 10 – September 2023. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia. Finalised 12 February 2024	September 2023	20/09/2023 - 21/09/2023	Monitoring undertaken at required time.
3	Event 11 - 3rd Quarterly event	GHD (2023e) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 11 – December 2023. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia. Finalised 29 February 2024	December 2023	7/12/2023 and 14/12/2023	Monitoring undertaken at required time.
3	Event 12 - 4th Quarterly event	GHD (2024a) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 12 – March 2024. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia. Finalised 26 July 2024	March 2024	19/3/2024 and 26/3/2024	Monitoring undertaken at required time.
4	Event 13 - 1st Quarterly event	GHD (2024b) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 13 – June 2024. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia. Finalised 17 October 2024	June 2024	19/6/2024 and 20/6/2024	Monitoring undertaken at required time.

Year	Monitoring event	Monitoring report	Expected date of event	Date event completed	Comments
4	Event 14 - 2nd Quarterly event	GHD (2024c) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 14 – September 2024. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia. Finalised 29 November 2024.	September 2024	11/9/2024 and 12/9/2024	Monitoring undertaken at required time.
4	Event 15- 3rd Quarterly event	GHD (2024d) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 15 – December 2024. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia. Finalised 3 April 2025.	December 2024	24/01/ 2025	Monitoring was delayed due to high fire danger warning of the sites during the scheduled dates in December 2024 and allow time for brush-cutting so that staff could access site
4	4th Quarterly event	GHD (2025) Studley Park Gum Monitoring Report – Monitoring Event 16 – March 2025. Report prepared by GHD for the North East Link Program, Melbourne, Australia	March 2025	06/03/2025	Monitoring undertaken at required time.
5	Annually in May		May 2025		
6	Annually in May		May 2026		
7	Annually in May		May 2027		
If 104 or more Studley Park Gum trees have survived to this point the program can be considered a success and site can be handed over to management authority. Further monitoring is not required.					
8	Annually in May		May 2028		
9	Annually in May		May 2029		
10	Annually in May		May 2030		
10	End of project		May 2031		

Appendix B

Monitoring Data: Recipient Site Results 2022-2025

Table B1 Summary of quarterly monitoring events: August 2022 Event 5 – March 2025 Event 16

Recipient Site	Aug-22	Oct-22	Feb-23	Mar-23	Jul-23	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Jan-25	Mar-25
Living plants (no.)	292	282	238	244	244	239	237	241	245	244	247	246
Dead plants (no.)	27	28	57	18	75	18	8	2	2	4	2	2
Total records (count) living and dead	319	310	295	262	319	257	245	243	247	248	249	248
% of living plants with >70% of healthy leaves (good condition)	53% (155)	48% (136)	71% (168)	77% (188)	62% (150)	40% (95)	44% (104)	49% (119)	49% (119)	56% (137)	73% (180)	82% (201)
% of living plants with 30<70% of healthy leaves (moderate condition)	27% (79)	42% (118)	27% (65)	20% (48)	30% (74)	45% (108)	53% (126)	41% (100)	40% (98)	38% (92)	24% (60)	15% (37)
% of living plants with <30% of healthy leaves (poor condition)	20% (59)	10% (29)	2% (5)	3% (8)	8% (20)	15% (36)	3% (7)	9% (22)	11% (28)	6% (15)	3% (7)	3% (8)
Average tree height (cm)	67.4	73.3	130.8	155.9	162.0	169	190	241.1	248.3	259.1	311.7	343.4
Average Basal diameter (cm)	<1	<1	<1	<1	1	1	1.6	2.1	2.1	2.6	3.5	3.8
Number of plants with flowering/fruiting presence	0	0	0	1	1	1	4	4	4	4	5	11
No. of plants with noxious weeds within 1.5 m	136	265	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	2	2	2	3	6
Noxious weed cover present (within 1.5 m radius)	16.6	34.7	0.6	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.01	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4
Average cover of weeds within 1.5m radius (%)	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	86%	97%	74%	82%	85%
Herbivory Present (%)	99% (317)	99% (308)	26% (61 plants)	0% (0)	28% (68)	3% (8)	0% (0)	1% (2)	1% (2)	1% (2)	1% (2)	1% (2)
Programmed maintenance undertaken satisfactorily	N/A	N/A	Mostly, follow up on actions required	Mostly, follow up on actions required	Mostly yes, follow up actions required	Yes	No – some tree damage due to brush-cutting.	Yes	Yes – ongoing maintenance	Yes – ongoing maintenance	Mostly yes, follow up actions required	Yes
Previous additional maintenance/ adaptive measures undertaken?	N/A	N/A	Biomass control	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Additional maintenance required?	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes – ongoing maintenance	Yes – ongoing maintenance	Yes – ongoing maintenance	Yes – ongoing maintenance	Yes – ongoing maintenance	Yes – ongoing maintenance	Yes – ongoing maintenance	Yes – ongoing maintenance

* Data collection method for assessing noxious and other weed coverage was adapted to provide better data to NELP and the land management team.

Appendix C

Annual Photo Monitoring

Table C1 *Westerfolds 1 photo monitoring points: June 2024 to March 2025*

Location	June 2024	September 2024	January 2025*	March 2025
1 (gate)				
2 (next corner anticlockwise from gate)				
3 (opposite gate)				
4 (corner that is clockwise from the gate)	Photo not available			

Table C2 *Westerfolds 2 photo monitoring points: June 2024 to March 2025*

Location	June 2024	September 2024	January 2025*	March 2025
1 (gate)				
2 (next corner anticlockwise from gate)				
3 (opposite gate)				
4 (corner that is clockwise from the gate)				

Table C3 Montpelier Reserve photo monitoring points: June 2024 to March 2025

Location	June 2024	September 2024	January 2025*	March 2025
1 (gate)				
2 (next corner anticlockwise from gate)				
3 (opposite gate)				
4 (corner that is clockwise from the gate)				

Appendix D

Previous Maintenance or Corrective Actions: June 2024-March 2025

Table D1 Previous maintenance or corrective actions undertaken (June 2024 – March 2025)

Site	Action	Date
All sites	Brush-cutting and mowing around SPGs	September and December 2024
All sites	Weed Control	September and December 2024

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