

Ms Imogen Featherstone Project Planning Manager Riverview Group 1 McClymont Way Strathnairn ACT 2615

Ginninderry Annual Report: Feedback for future reports

Dear Imogen

Thank you for the Ginninderry Strategic Assessment Annual Report 2019-20. We found it informative and that it provided a meaningful commentary on the achievement of environmental outcomes. We wanted to provide some formal feedback on the report to help you in the preparation of future reports. Our comments relate to three areas:

- 1. further information/queries about the 2019-20 report that we can address through the exchange of information
- 2. formatting and reporting consistencies to improve the readability of the 2020-21 report
- 3. follow-up matters that we would like to see in the 2020-21 report.
- 1. Further Information to be addressed through an exchange of information

Table 1

- **Condition 1**: how the Board of the Conservation Trust monitors implementation and resourcing of commitments outlined in the Corridor Plan of Management.
- Condition 13 (and Action 23, Table 2): how the cat containment policy is being
 implemented, any monitoring results, and how dogs are prohibited from the Ginninderry
 Conservation Corridor (GCC).

Table 2

- Action 5: whether the offset management plan for the Golden Sun Moth (GSM) in Jarramlee, West Macgregor and Lot 2 will be incorporated into the West Belconnen Conservation Corridor Reserve Management Plan, and whether Lot 2 GSM habitat area is to be increased from 11.9 ha to 33.1 ha. Please also provide evidence of the agreement for the management of the offset areas.
- Action 24: please provide justification for conducting field research annually when the annual report states surveys will be conducted every two years.
- **Action 29**: please outline how the effectiveness of the measures to mitigate the impacts from urban development on threatened bird species will be addressed.

2. Formatting and style for the 2020-21 report

All tables should be in landscape orientation for readability. Please combine Tables 2 and 3 into one by adding an extra column to Table 2 that shows where in the GCC Management Plan each commitment is addressed.

All abbreviations used should be included in the list of abbreviations at the beginning of the report, and scientific names provided in italics, for example:

- Golden Sun Moth (GSM) and the BSA acronym were not included in the abbreviations list
- Pink-Tailed Worm Lizard (Aprasia parapulchella).

Please ensure conditions and commitments are stated as either met or partially met, and not both. For example, Action 1 (Table 2) is reported as both met and partially met. If there are some parts of a condition or commitment that are complete and others that are not, then we consider the overall condition/commitment is partially met.

Please ensure conditions and commitments are appropriately assigned as ongoing or completed. For example, Condition 15 (Table 1) is reported as completed. However, keeping accurate records and making them available upon request to the Department, is an ongoing action until the end of the Program.

Please ensure correct use of terminology. For example:

- the conclusion of the report references 'environmental matters of significance', which should be 'matters of national environmental significance'
- the NSW 'Biobanking Stewardship agreement' is now called a 'Biodiversity Stewardship agreement'
- Action 4 (Table 2) mentions the 'BAM' and it is unclear whether this relates to New South Wales Government policy (Biodiversity Assessment *Method*), for which the acronym BAM is often used, as the report elsewhere refers to BAM as being the 'Biobanking Assessment *Measures*'.

3. Follow up matters for inclusion in the 2020-21 Annual Report

Based on the statements made in this year's report, we have identified some matters we would like included in next year's report. The information requested below would be in addition to any further information you consider needs to be in next year's report to adequately account for the actions undertaken during the reporting period. Please include:

- evidence and links to all documents including Territory Plan Variations and management plans
- the completion date (month, year) for all commitments e.g. Action 12 (Table 2) is reported as 'met', however no date has been provided for when commitment was completed
- a table clearly showing the total area of habitat for MNES that is described in the Program Report and Capital Ecology report, the amount impacted in the reporting period, and impacts to GCC in that period
- a separate discussion on the defined process strategy with:
 - a table setting out where the defined process has been triggered with the date and description of the activity, impact area (ha) and offset area (ha) if required, and
 - a map that clearly identifies areas impacted and the proposed offset area
- the year the Program Review Report is due and a timeframe for the Independent Audit (sections 2.3 and 2.4)

 all the requirements for the Annual Report outlined in Section 7.1.1 of the Program Report, including lessons learned from project implementation and opportunities for improvement, and findings of any internal reviews into implementation and management of the Plan.

I am available to discuss with you the matters raised in this letter.

Thank you for ongoing engagement with us on this strategic assessment.

Yours sincerely

Miriam Gerrick

Director

ACT Assessments

/ () November 2020