

25th March 2025

Audit and Assurance Section
Compliance and Enforcement Branch
Environmental Assessment and Compliance Division
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
GPO Box 787,
CANBERRA, ACT, 2601

**YILGARN OPERATIONS – PARKER RANGE (MOUNT CAUDAN) IRON ORE HAUL ROAD
PROPOSAL (EPBC 2021/8955) - 2024 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT REPORT**

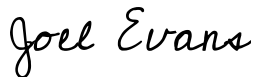
To Whom It May Concern,

Polaris Metals Pty Ltd (**Polaris**), a wholly owned subsidiary of Mineral Resources Limited (**MinRes**), owns and operates the Parker Range (Mount Caudan) Iron Ore Haul Road, 18km east of Southern Cross and running from Great Eastern Highway to Koolyanobbing (approx. 52km North to South).

In accordance with Condition 24B of EPBC 2021/8955, the Parker Range (Mount Caudan) Haul Road 2024 Compliance Assessment Report will be available by the 11th April 2025 on the MinRes website: <http://www.mineralresources.com.au/sustainability/environment.html>

Please do not hesitate to contact Amber Woodmansey (Environmental Advisor – Yilgarn) via email at yilgarn.environmental@piha.com.au should you require further information or clarification regarding the information provided.

Yours sincerely,



Joel Evans

Yilgarn - Site Senior Executive

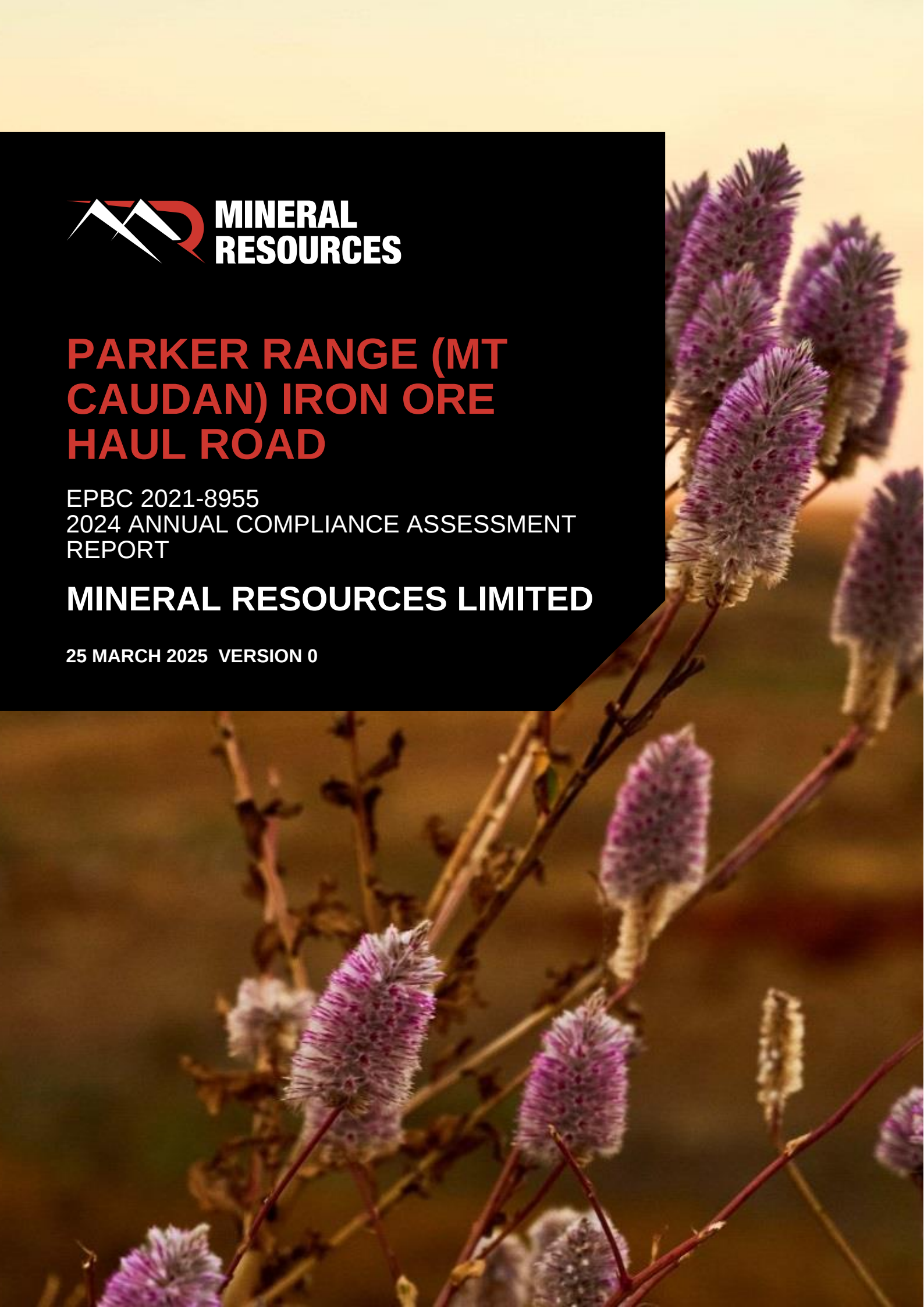


PARKER RANGE (MT CAUDAN) IRON ORE HAUL ROAD

EPBC 2021-8955
2024 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT
REPORT

MINERAL RESOURCES LIMITED

25 MARCH 2025 VERSION 0



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Revision History

Rev	Issue Date	Prepared by	Reviewed By	Approved By	Document Purpose
A	06/03/2025	Amber Woodmansey	N Learoyd		
0	25/03/2025	Amber Woodmansey	M. Blacklow	J. Evans	MS 1202 ACAR

Acknowledgement of Country

MinRes is committed to reconciliation and recognises and respects the significance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' communities, cultures, and histories. MinRes acknowledge and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the land.

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ABBREVIATIONS HEADING

ACAR	Annual Compliance Assessment Report
DBCA	Western Australian Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
km	Kilometre
MinRes	Mineral Resources Limited

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Description of Activities

The Parker Range (Mt Caudan) Iron Ore Haul Road (The Project) is owned by Polaris Metals Pty Ltd (Polaris), a 100% owned subsidiary of Mineral Resources Limited (MinRes). The Project is located approximately 18km east of Southern Cross and running from Great Eastern Highway to Koolyanobbing (approx. 52km North to South). The 2024 reporting period is the second annual report for The Project. The Project has not yet commenced.

Figure 1 identifies the geographic location of The Project, considered to be the physical boundary of the Project.

Under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act), Polaris was granted Approval 2021-8955 (the Approval) on 26th September 2023. The approval authorises the development of a new private haul road route.

The Project has not yet commenced and as yet still has no formal commencement of action forecast. This Annual Compliance Audit Report (ACAR) was prepared in accordance with the approval conditions 21, 22, and 23 of EPBC 2021-8955 and covers the 2024 reporting period, 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024 (EPBC 2021-8955 was approved on 6th September 2023). The report was endorsed on the 25th of March 2025 by Joel Evans, Site Senior Executive – Yilgarn Iron Ore, **Appendix 1**.

1.2 CURRENT ACTIVITIES

The development of the Parker Range (Mt Caudan) Iron Ore Haul Road, under EPBC 2021-8955 is yet to commence. No commencement date to implement The Project is forecast at this time.

During the 2024 reporting period, a third party with no affiliation with, nor engaged by Polaris, constructed an intersection to improve a public road, which lies within the EPBC boundary. These works have resulted in the clearing of approximately 2,140 m² (0.21Ha) of native vegetation.



FIGURE 1: PARKER RANGE (MOUNT CAUDAN) IRON ORE HAUL ROAD PROPOSAL

2. APPROVALS CONDITIONS

This report provides an assessment of conditions for the reporting period and details the compliance status of all conditions contained within EPBC 2021-8955.

An EPBC Approval Conditions Compliance Table is provided as **Appendix 2**. The audit table has been prepared and maintained in accordance with the Annual Compliance Report Guidelines (2023).

The Table in **Appendix 2**, includes full wording of all conditions under the EPBC 2021-8955 Approval Conditions Compliance Table. This includes:

- the condition reference number,
- a designation regarding compliance or non-compliance of each condition,
- a summary of evidence and comments to support the compliance designation, and
- references to any other parts of the compliance report which relate to that approval condition.

A number of management plans will be required for works under EPBC 2021-8955 prior to commencement. At the current time, planning for this project has not begun, therefore management plans and/or environmental surveys have not been generated.

3. COMPLIANCE

No non-compliances were identified for the 2024 reporting period.

4. NEW ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

No new environmental risks have become apparent to the Project during the reporting period. At the current time no activity to implement the action has commenced.

LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

Declaration of Accuracy EPBC 2021-8955

APPENDIX 2

Assessment of Compliance EPBC 2021-8955 Audit Table

APPENDIX 1– DECLARATION OF ACCURACY EPBC 2021-8955

Declaration of Accuracy – EPBC 2021-8955

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: Joel Evans

Full name: Joel Evans

Position: Site Senior Executive

Organisation: Polaris Metals Pty Ltd (ACN: 085 223 570)

DATE: 25 / 03 / 2025

Appendix 2**Parker Range Mt Caudan Iron Ore Proposal 2024 EPBC 2021-8955 Approval Conditions Compliance Table**

Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Condition Status	Evidence
1	To minimise adverse impacts to protected matters, in implementing the Action the approval holder must not clear: a) outside the development envelope. b) outside of daylight hours. c) any active mounds. d) more than 173 hectares of Malleefowl habitat. e) more than 168 hectares of Chuditch habitat.	N/A	Clearing has not commenced
2	To minimise impacts to protected matters, the approval holder must comply with Condition A1- 1 (Limitations and extent of proposal), Conditions contained in B1 (Terrestrial fauna), Conditions contained in B3 (Environmental Offsets), and Conditions contained in C1 (Environmental Management Plans: Conditions Related to Commencement of Implementation of the Proposal) of the Western Australian approval where relevant to protected matters	N/A	Clearing has not commenced

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3	To compensate for adverse impacts to Malleefowl and Chuditch, prior to the Commencement of the Action, the approval holder must submit a Fauna Offset Environmental Management Plan (FOEMP) to the department for the Minister's approval. The FOEMP must meet the requirements of the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy to the satisfaction of the Minister. The FOEMP must: a) be prepared in accordance with the department's Environmental Management Plan Guidelines. b) be consistent with the relevant Recovery Plans. c) be consistent with the Wheatbelt Region parks and reserves management plan, State of Western Australia 2021 (or subsequent revisions) that apply to the conservation reserves adjoining the offset site. d) be prepared by a suitably qualified person. e) include a summary of the residual impacts to Malleefowl and Chuditch that the plan proposes to compensate for, including: i) the size of the impact area, in hectares; ii) the habitat quality of the impact area; and iii) the total number of suitable nesting mounds identified during baseline biological survey of the impact area. f) reference the EPBC Act approval conditions to which the FOEMP refers. g) include maps (prepared in accordance with the Maps Guide) of the offset site. h) include details of the offset site, including: i) the size of the area, in hectares; ii) baseline biological site survey results; iii) the habitat quality of the offset site; and iv) the environmental values of the offset site, including the total number of nesting mounds within the offset site. i) detail specific and measurable ecological outcomes and include commitments to achieve those outcomes.	N/A	Planning for the commencement of action has not begun
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Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Condition Status	Evidence
	j) include a revegetation plan for approximately 11 ha of areas cleared for fire breaks located in the offset site for the creation of Chuditch habitat. The works must be commenced prior to commencement of the Action. k) detail management actions, and the timing of those actions that will be implemented to achieve the ecological outcomes. Management actions must include but not be limited to habitat improvement/habitat quality gain measures for Chuditch and Malleefowl. l) detail how completion criteria as contained in the FOEMP that are specific and measurable, will be met. m) include a program to monitor the implementation of the FOEMP, including the overall progress of the FOEMP towards achieving ecological outcomes. n) detail a schedule to review and report on the implementation of the FOEMP, including assessment of progress towards the attainment of ecological outcomes. o) include a risk assessment which evaluates the risk of the FOEMP not achieving the ecological outcomes. p) propose corrective actions, with measurable performance indicators and trigger values to ensure that ecological outcomes are attained and maintained once attained; and q) include a requirement to document monitoring data for Malleefowl and Chuditch and produce an Annual Monitoring Report.		

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Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Condition Status	Evidence
4	The approval holder must not commence the Action unless the FOEMP has been approved by the Minister in writing. The approval holder must commence implementation of the FOEMP approved by the Minister prior to commencement of the Action and continue to implement the FOEMP until the expiry date of this approval.	N/A	Planning for the commencement of action has not begun

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5	To compensate for residual significant impacts to Malleefowl and Chuditch, the approval holder must: a) Report annually on the population abundance and distribution of Malleefowl and Chuditch at the offset site and conservation reserves, following commencement of the Action, for the life of the approval; and b) Establish (as part of the FOEMP) and implement, following commencement of the Action, a monitoring protocol to detect Malleefowl and Chuditch presence on the offset site in accordance the National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual, National Malleefowl Recovery Team 2020 and Chuditch (Dasyurus geoffroii) National Recovery Plan, State of Western Australia 2012. The monitoring protocol must utilise motion-sensor cameras (or other agreed remote sensing monitoring method) placed throughout the offset site and conservation reserves and provide annual data to support a population viability analysis (or equivalent) of both Malleefowl and Chuditch within the offset site and conservation reserves. The monitoring protocol must specify: i) measurable performance indicators and the timeframes for their achievement to gauge attainment of the ecological benefits for the protected matters, ii) trigger values for corrective actions, and iii) the proposed timing (including season/time of day/frequency), methods, effort, and include an explanation of how the monitoring protocol will be effective for this purpose of monitoring, detecting trigger values, performance indicators and to gather evidence that effectively demonstrates actual progress towards, attainment of and maintenance of the ecological outcomes for the protected matters.	N/A	Planning for the commencement of action has not begun
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6	To compensate for residual significant impacts to Malleefowl, following commencement of the Action, the approval holder must: a) In accordance with the National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual, National Malleefowl Recovery Team, 2020, record all nesting mounds identified within the offset site and conservation reserves and provide the data to the national monitoring program; b) Monitor both inactive and active nesting mounds at the frequency of monitoring specified within the National Malleefowl Monitoring Manual, National Malleefowl Recovery Team, 2020, for each nesting mound type in at least one of the following months: i) October; ii) November; and iii) December. c) Search the offset site and conservation reserves using LiDAR or an equivalent remote sensing method every five years, until the expiry date of this approval, for potential new nesting mounds. Potential nesting mounds identified by LiDAR must be subsequently ground-searched to determine if they are (or are not) nesting mounds and their activity status. Add records of any determined new nesting mounds to the national monitoring program; d) Survey method must provide sufficient data to determine with a greater than 85% accuracy the presence of Malleefowl mounds. LiDAR must capture a density of 10 parts per square metre or greater with 5 cm or better vertical accuracy; e) Provide all monitoring data to the National Malleefowl Monitoring Database annually; and f) Seek feedback from DBCA on the monitoring results of the nesting mounds recorded within the offset site, and the management actions implemented for Malleefowl within the offset site. Where feedback is received from DBCA, this	N/A	Clearing has not commenced
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Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Condition Status	Evidence
	must be documented in the published Annual Monitoring Report prepared by the approval holder and used to set the agenda for the approval holder's next annual monitoring event.		
7	To compensate for residual significant impacts to Malleefowl and Chuditch, following commencement of the Action, the approval holder must: a) Ensure the monitoring protocol detects and records introduced predators and browsing herbivore abundance and distribution via motion-sensor cameras (or other agreed remote sensing monitoring method) placed throughout the offset site; b) Implement predator control as part of the FOEMP for the offset site; c) Where introduced browsing herbivores are identified as affecting the quality of fauna habitat for Malleefowl and/or Chuditch, implement controls as part of the FOEMP for the offset site and; d) Ensure the FOEMP includes management measures for the offset site to identify and mitigate the threat of high intensity fires to Malleefowl and Chuditch habitat remnants and to prevent high intensity fires spreading to or from surrounding land. Prescribed burns may be required in areas where fuel load is considered a high risk of supporting high intensity fires. Consultation with personnel with relevant expertise in Malleefowl and Chuditch must occur to ensure adequate controls are in place to minimise the risk of high intensity fires to critical habitat (hollow logs and leaf litter);	N/A	Clearing has not commenced

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Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Condition Status	Evidence
8	The approval holder may, at any time, apply to the Minister for a variation to an action management plan approved by the Minister or as subsequently revised in accordance with these conditions, by submitting an application in accordance with the requirements of section 143A of the EPBC Act. If the Minister approves a revised action management plan (RAMP) then, from the date specified, the approval holder must implement the RAMP in place of the previous action management plan.	N/A	
9	If the Minister believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of Malleefowl and Chuditch to do so, the Minister may request that the approval holder make specified revisions to a FOEMP referred to in these conditions and submit the revised FOEMP for the Minister's written approval. The approval holder must comply with any such request. The approval holder must implement the revised FOEMP approved by the Minister. Unless the Minister has approved the revised FOEMP then the approval holder must continue to implement the approved FOEMP	N/A	No changes have been made
10	The approval holder must submit all plans required by these conditions electronically to the department.	N/A	Planning for the commencement of action has not begun. No plans have been generated.

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Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Condition Status	Evidence
11.	Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the approval holder must publish each plan on the website within 15 business days of the date: a) of this approval, if the version of the plan to be implemented is specified in these conditions; or b) the plan is approved by the Minister in writing, if the plan requires the approval of the Minister; or c) the plan is submitted to the department in accordance with a requirement of these conditions, if the plan does not require the approval of the Minister; or d) the plan is approved by the CEO as required under a state or territory government condition which must be complied with in accordance with these EPBC Act conditions.	N/A	Planning for the commencement of action has not begun. No plans have been generated.
12	The approval holder must keep all published plans required by these conditions on the website until the expiry date of this approval.	N/A	Planning for the commencement of action has not begun. No plans have been generated.
13	The approval holder is required to exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from plans published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public. If sensitive ecological data is excluded or redacted from a plan, the approval holder must notify the department in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the website.	N/A	Planning for the commencement of action has not begun. No plans have been generated.
14	The approval holder must notify the department electronically of the date of commencement of the Action, within 20 business days of commencement of the Action.	N/A	Planning for the commencement of action has not begun. No plans have been generated.

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Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Condition Status	Evidence
15	If the commencement of the Action does not occur within 5 years from the date of this approval, then the approval holder must not commence the Action without the prior written agreement of the Minister.	N/A	<2yrs has passed since the commencement of the proposal.
16	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete compliance records.	N/A	Project has not commenced
17	If the department makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of compliance records to the department within the timeframe specified in the request.	N/A	No requests have been made
18	The approval holder must ensure that any monitoring data (including sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the Guidelines for biological survey and mapped data, Commonwealth of Australia 2018, or as otherwise specified by the Minister in writing.	N/A	No monitoring data has been collected.
19	The approval holder must ensure that any monitoring data (including sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, and other spatial and metadata required under the conditions of this approval are prepared in accordance with the Maps Guide, or as otherwise specified by the Minister in writing.	N/A	No monitoring data has been collected.
20	The approval holder must submit all monitoring data (including sensitive ecological data), surveys, maps, other spatial and metadata and all species occurrence record data (sightings and evidence of presence) electronically to the department.	N/A	No monitoring data has been collected.

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Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Condition Status	Evidence
21	The approval holder must prepare a compliance report for each 12-month calendar year period (1 January to 31 December) following the date of this approval, or as otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister.	Compliant	Compliance report has been generated
22	Each compliance report must be consistent with the Annual Compliance Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2014.	Compliant	Compliance report is consistent with the ACR guidelines
23	Each compliance report must include: a) Accurate and complete details of compliance and any non-compliance with the conditions and the plans, and any incidents; b) One or more shapefile showing all clearing of any protected matters, and/or their habitat, undertaken within the 12-month period at the end of which that compliance report is required; and c) A schedule of all plans in existence in relation to these conditions and accurate and complete details of how each plan is being implemented.	Compliant	Compliance report is consistent with condition 23.

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Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Condition Status	Evidence
24	The approval holder must: a) Submit the compliance report to the department by 1 April following the end of the 12-month calendar year period for which that compliance report is required; b) Publish each compliance report for the 12-month period for which that compliance report is required, on the website within 10 business days following the submission date (1 April); c) Notify the department electronically, within 20 business days of the date of publication that a compliance report has been published on the website; d) Provide the weblink for the compliance report in the notification to the department; e) Keep all published compliance reports required by these conditions on the website until the expiry date of this approval; f) Exclude or redact sensitive ecological data from compliance reports published on the website or otherwise provided to a member of the public; and g) If sensitive ecological data is excluded or redacted from the published version, submit the full compliance report to the department within 20 business days of its publication on the website and notify the department in writing what exclusions and redactions have been made in the version published on the website.	Compliant	The 2024 Annual Compliance Report has been submitted by the 1 st of April 2025, along with the associated website upload.
25	The approval holder must notify the department electronically, within 2 business days of becoming aware of any incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual non-compliance with the conditions or commitments made in a plan.	N/A	There were no non-compliances during this reporting period.

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Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Condition Status	Evidence
26	The approval holder must specify in the notification: a) Any condition or commitment made in a plan which has been or may have been breached; b) A short description of the incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual noncompliance; and c) The location (including co-ordinates), date, and time of the incident and/or potential noncompliance and/or actual non-compliance.	N/A	There were no non-compliances during this reporting period.
27	The approval holder must provide to the department in writing, within 20 business days of becoming aware of any incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual noncompliance, the details of that incident and/or potential non-compliance and/or actual noncompliance with the conditions or commitments made in a plan. The approval holder must specify: a) Any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken; b) The potential impacts of the incident and/or non-compliance; and c) The method and timing of any corrective action that will be undertaken by the approval holder.	N/A	There were no non-compliances during this reporting period.
28	The approval holder must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions is conducted for every five-year period following the commencement of the Action until this approval expires, unless otherwise specified in writing by the Minister.	N/A	<2yrs has passed since the commencement of the proposal.

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Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Condition Status	Evidence
29	For each independent audit, the approval holder must: a) Provide the name and qualifications of the nominated independent auditor, the draft audit criteria, and proposed timeframe for submitting the audit report to the department prior to commencing the independent audit; b) Only commence the independent audit once the nominated independent auditor, audit criteria and timeframe for submitting the audit report have been approved in writing by the department; c) Submit the audit report to the department for approval within the timeframe specified and approved in writing by the department; d) Publish each audit report on the website within 15 business days of the date of the department's approval of the audit report; and e) Keep every audit report published on the website until this approval expires.	N/A	An audit has not been conducted due to <2yrs passing since the commencement of the proposal.
30	Each audit report must report for the five-year period preceding that audit report.	N/A	An audit has not been conducted due to <2yrs passing since the commencement of the proposal.
31	Each audit report must be completed to the satisfaction of the Minister and be consistent with the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Independent Audit and Audit Report Guidelines, Commonwealth of Australia 2019.	N/A	An audit has not been conducted due to <2yrs passing since the commencement of the proposal.
32	The approval holder must notify the department electronically 60 business days prior to the expiry date of this approval, that the approval is due to expire.	N/A	Action has not been completed

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Condition Number / Reference	Condition	Condition Status	Evidence
33	Within 20 business days after the completion of the Action, and, in any event, before this approval expires, the approval holder must notify the department electronically of the date of completion of the Action and provide completion data. The approval holder must submit any spatial data that comprises completion data as a shapefile.	N/A	Action has not been completed.

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