



# Year 0 Evaluation Report

# **Dundonnell Brolga Compensation Plan**

9 December 2020

**Odonata Foundation** 

Greening Australia



ODONATA

### Purpose of this document

To provide the Year 0 Evaluation report as required by the endorsed Dundonnell Wind Farm Brolga Compensation Plan (BCP), under Condition 55b of Planning Permit No. 2015/23858.

As required in the BCP the Dundonnell Wind Farm Pty Ltd (DDWFPL or the Proponent) has engaged an external delivery partner to implement the Plan on its behalf. Odonata Foundation is the delivery partner and is a not-for-profit (NFP), charitable entity, whose primary purpose is the benefit the natural environment.

Odonata Foundation have sub-contracted Greening Australia (NFP) to oversee the on-ground restoration works and support with delivery.

This report has been prepared within 1 month of the commencement of Year 1 (November 9 2020)<sup>1</sup> as required by the BCP.

#### Reporting requirements

As outlined in the BCP, this Year 0 Evaluation includes:

- a) Date of execution of agreement between the Proponent and the Delivery Partner;
- b) Summary and outcome of the wetland selection process;
- c) Summary of landowner agreements and corresponding wetland management plans; and
- d) Details of restoration works and management measure undertaken

#### Odonata statement

As the CEO of Odonata Foundation who is the responsible entity for ensuring satisfactory completion of activities defined in the BCP, I confirm that what is outlined in this report is true and correct.

Your sincerely

Sam Marwood

<sup>1</sup> As defined within the BCP, Year 1 commences (and Year 0 concludes) concurrently with the commencement of operations of the Dundonnell Wind Farm (to ensure alignment with the commencement of the implementation of the Brolga Monitoring Plan).

Whilst commissioning of the wind farm has been unexpectedly delayed with the intended commencement of operations not likely to be reached until early 2021. Dundonnell Wind Farm Pty Ltd have had a number of discussions with DELWP and Council and will consider the wind farm operational for the purpose of Planning Permit No. 2015/23858 from the day in which the project was given approval the ongoing testing of all 80 turbines by AEMO. This was reached on Monday 9 November 2020.



## a) Date of execution of agreement between the Proponent and the Delivery Partner

7 December 2018.

### b) Summary and outcome of the wetland selection process

The below table is a response to the Implementation Schedule outlined in the BCP in Table 4.

Implementation Step		Date	Progress (Odonata)		
		Completed			
1	Execution of agreement between the Proponent and Delivery Partner	7 December 2018	Complete		
2	Undertake wetland selection process	Sites selected 24 March 2020 and formally presented to DELWP.	A comprehensive report was provided to DELWP and a presentation made on 24 March 2020 to detail how all principles had been met in order to identify 6 priority wetlands. The site selection was extensive and conducted over an 18 month period. The 4 wetlands that have been selected for the BCP were identified as priorities within this report and Odonata believed that all met the principles. Further details can be found in the report titled 'File - "Tilt_Brolga Plan_Priority wetland Selection Report_20200324'		
3	Agreements secured with landowners, including wetland management plan (Section 69)	Landholder Agreements between the Landholders, DDWFPL and Odonata final 4 of 4 signed 16/10/2020 Section 69 Agreements are ready for signing by landholder	Landholder Agreements between the Landholders, DDWFPL and Odonata – complete Section 69 Agreement – Odonata are fully confident that all landholders will sign within a few weeks.		
4	Obtain relevant permits / consents to undertake restoration works	4 Works on Waterway Permits – final obtained 27/11/2020	Works on Waterway Licence No. DUN-BCP-001 – GHCMA-W-2020-00234 DUN-BCP-002 – GHCMA-W-2020-00189 DUN-BCP-003 – GHCMA-W-2020-00188 DUN-BCP-004 – GHCMA-W-2020-00184 Cultural Heritage advice was provided by an appropriate expert who determined that no permits were necessary for any of the wetlands.		





		Date Completed	Progress (Odonata)		
			Planning permits were not required as restoration works do constitute a change in use or development (nor earthworks).		
5	Registration of agreements, including wetland management plan, on title	Imminent	This will be completed once the four Section 69 agreements (and associated management plan) are signed by Landholder and DELWP and submitted to the Titles Office.		
6	Undertake restoration works, as required by the wetland management plan	Commenced in accordance with the wetland management plan 17/11/2020	<ul> <li>Monitoring of the wetland using the Wetland Vegetation Recovery Support Tool V1.0 (Roberts et al. 2017).</li> <li>Installation of depth post (4 per wetland along a transect between the shore and the deepest point).</li> <li>Installation of temporary blocks to man-made drainage in each wetland</li> <li>Stock removed from site</li> <li>Fencing to restrict stock access to commence in the new year</li> <li>Herbaceous weed control</li> </ul>		
7	Undertake Year 0 evaluation of the Plan (including reporting)	09/12/2020	This report		



### c) Summary of landowner agreements and corresponding wetland management plans

<u>Site ID</u>	Wetland Size Fenced (ha)	Wetland type	Landholder Agreement Signed / Dated	Management Plan Completed and Signed	Summary of Works
Caramut DUN-BCP-001	33	Temporary freshwater marshes and meadow Wetland currently supports: EVC mapped (NatureKit) and on-ground assessment EVC 125 Plains Grassy Wetland (VVP).	Completed 15/10/2020	Section 69 Agreement - Ready for signing by both parties	<ul> <li>Fencing for stock exclusion</li> <li>Herbaceous weed control</li> <li>Reverse artificial drainage within the wetland to change and maintain hydrology to acceptable levels for Brolga breeding habitat.</li> </ul>
Cross Roads DUN-BCP-002	7.77	Temporary freshwater marshes and meadows Wetland currently supports: EVC mapped (NatureKit) EVC 647 Sedgy Wetland (VVP). On- ground assessment EVC 125 Plains Grassy Wetland	Completed 16/10/2020	Section 69 Agreement – Ready for signing by both parties	<ul> <li>Fencing for stock exclusion</li> <li>Herbaceous weed control</li> <li>Reverse artificial drainage within the wetland to change and maintain hydrology to acceptable levels for Brolga breeding habitat.</li> </ul>
Woorndoo DUN-BCP-003	18	Temporary freshwater lakes Wetland currently supports: EVC mapped (NatureKit) an	Completed 16/10/2020	Section 69 Agreement – Ready for signing by both parties	<ul> <li>Fencing for stock exclusion</li> <li>Herbaceous weed control</li> <li>Reverse artificial drainage within the wetland to change</li> </ul>



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<u>Site ID</u>	Wetland Size Fenced (ha)	Wetland type	Landholder Agreement Signed / Dated	Management Plan Completed and Signed	Summary of Works
		on-ground assessment EVC 691 Aquatic Herbland / Plains Sedgy Wetland Mosaic (VVP)			and maintain hydrology to acceptable levels for Brolga breeding habitat.
Westmere DUN-BCP-004	29	Temporary freshwater marshes and meadows Wetland currently supports: EVC mapped (NatureKit) EVC 647 Plains Sedgy Wetland (VVP). On- ground assessment: EVC 291 Cane Grass Wetland.	Completed 8/10/2020	Section 69 Agreement – Ready for signing by both parties	<ul> <li>Fencing for stock exclusion</li> <li>Herbaceous weed control</li> <li>Reverse artificial drainage within the wetland to change and maintain hydrology to acceptable levels for Brolga breeding habitat.</li> </ul>



# d) Details of restoration works and management measures undertaken as required by the management plan.

Site ID	Management Action Description	Timing in Management Plan	Completed / Started / Delayed	Target to be achieved
Fencing				
DUN-BCP-001 DUN-BCP-002 DUN-BCP-003	Install fencing to exclude the wetland from stock access.	December 2020	Will be implemented once Section 69 signed. Livestock are excluded from all wetlands.	Stock is excluded from the wetland site.
DUN-BCP-004	Exclude stock from wetland Year 1.	December 2020	Completed, landowners have removed stock from wetland area.	No stock to enter wetland site, unless deemed appropriate to control high biomass.
Herbaceous We	eeds			
DUN-BCP-001 DUN-BCP-002 DUN-BCP-003 DUN-BCP-004	Control high threat weeds using chemical application of spot spraying	December 2020-June 2021	DUN-BCP-001 – water in wetland not advised to spray DUN-BCP-002 – Handpicked thistles DUN-BCP-003 – Water in wetland not advised to spray DUN-BCP-004 – Water in wetland not advised to spray	If required control of high threat herbaceous weeds.
Pest Animals				
DUN-BCP-001 DUN-BCP-002 DUN-BCP-003 DUN-BCP-004	Reactive to fox sightings - 8-week integrated program in consultation with Agriculture Victoria	Only if required	Not required	Reduce fox predation on Brolga's
DUN-BCP-004	Harbour removal – remove rubbish piles	December 2020	Dependant on water in wetland, unable to get machinery onto site, this may be delayed to Jan / Feb 2021.	Removal of rubbish
Supplementary	Planting			
DUN-BCP-001 DUN-BCP-002 DUN-BCP-003 DUN-BCP-004	Natural regeneration to occur through exclusion of stock.	Ongoing	Stock excluded form sites	Natural regeneration
Hydrology				
DUN-BCP-001 DUN-BCP-002 DUN-BCP-003 DUN-BCP-004	Temporary measures employed, sandbag block in drain.	November / December 2020	Completed	Set sandbags in drain
Annual reportir	ng			
DUN-BCP-001 DUN-BCP-002 DUN-BCP-003 DUN-BCP-004	Undertake Year 0 evaluation of the Plan (including reporting)	December 9th 2020	Completed	Report completed



Photos



DUN-BCP-001 – Temporary measures employed, sandbag block in drain 10/12/2020



DUN-BCP-001 - Depth markers installed 10/12/2020



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DUN-BCP-002 – Temporary measures employed, sandbag block in drain 30/11/2020



DUN-BCP-002 - Depth markers installed 30/11/2020





DUN-BCP-003 – Temporary measures employed, sandbag block in drain 30/11/2020



DUN-BCP-003 - Depth markers installed 30/11/2020





DUN-BCP-004 – Temporary measures employed, sandbag block in drain 08/12/2020



DUN-BCP-004 - Depth markers installed 08/12/2020