JOHN HOLLAND

INLAND RAIL
ILLABO TO STOCKINBINGAL PROJECT

Sub-Plan: Biosecurity Management

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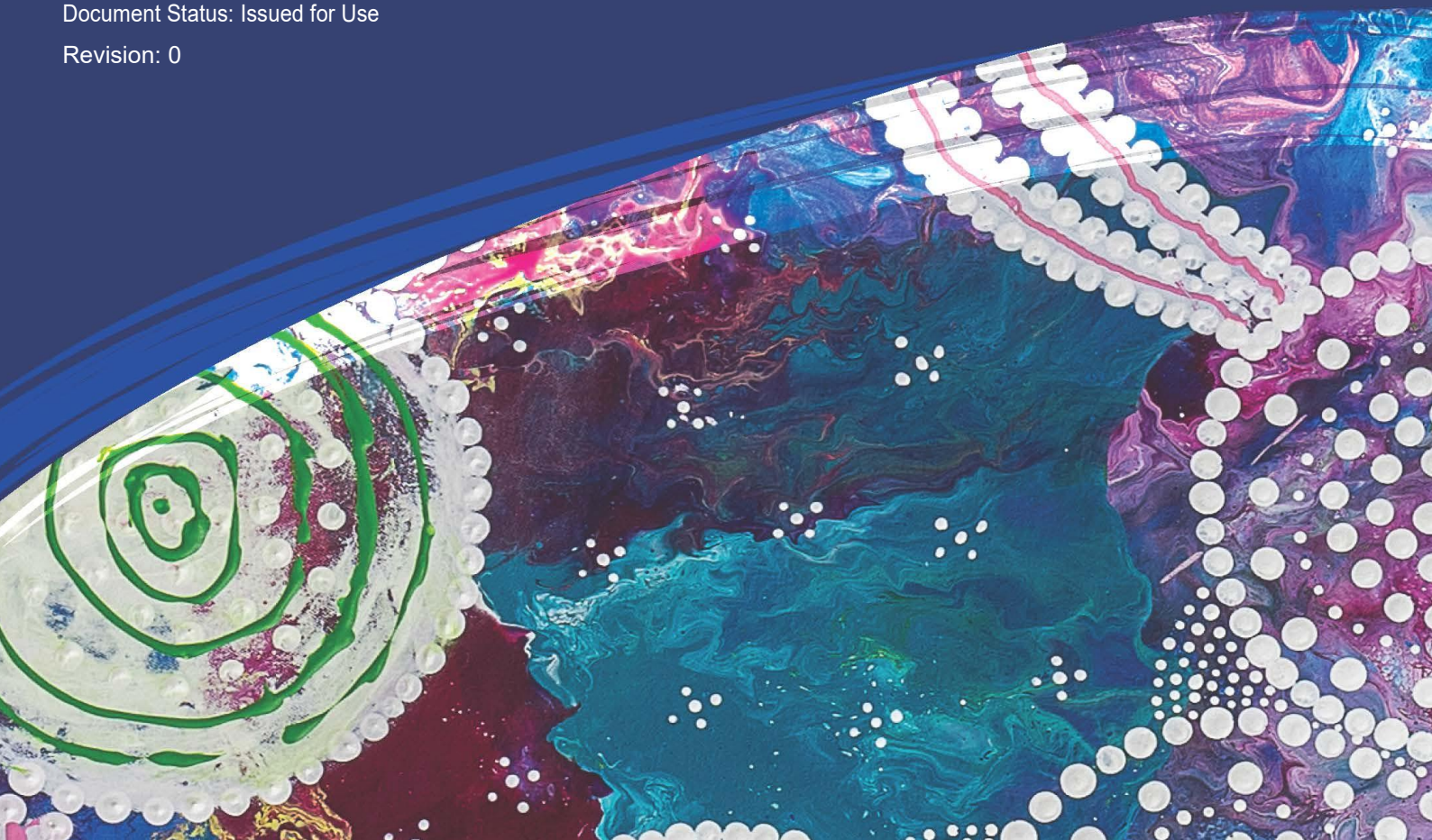

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Revisions and Distribution

Revisions

Draft issues of this document are identified as Revision A, B, C etc. Following acceptance by the document approver, the first finalised revision will be Revision 0. Subsequent revisions will have an increase of "1" in the revision number (1, 2, 3 etc.).

Revision History

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Distribution

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1 References, Definitions and Abbreviations

In accordance with NSW CoA A5, references in the terms of this Plan to any guideline, protocol, Australian Standard or policy are to such guidelines, protocols, Standards or policies in the form they are in at the date of the Infrastructure Approval (SSI-9406).

This Biosecurity Management Sub-plan (BMSP) has been prepared for the Inland Rail's Illabo to Stockinbingal (I2S) project in accordance with Conditions of Approval (CoA) for the State planning approval SSI-9406. Further details are provided in Section 2.

1.1 Relevant legislation and Guidelines

In accordance with CoA Condition A5, references in the terms of the approval to any guideline, protocol, Australian Standard or policy are to such guidelines, protocols, Australian Standards or policies in the form they are in as at the date of this approval. Guidelines and specifications relevant to the Project will consider the most current guideline or specification as applicable. The primary legislation, guidelines and standards relevant to Biosecurity management are presented in Table 1-1.

Table 1-1 Principal legislation and guidelines relevant to Biosecurity

Legislation	**Commonwealth:** • *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* 1999 (EPBC Act) • *Biosecurity Act* 2015 (BC Act) • *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act* 1994 **New South Wales:** • *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979 (EP&A Act) • *National Parks and Wildlife Act* 1974 • *Biodiversity Conservation Act* 2016 • *Pesticides Act* 1999 • *Fisheries Management Act* 1994 (FM Act) • *Protection of the Environment Operations Act* 1997 (POEO Act) • *Biosecurity Act 2015 (BC Act)* • *Local Land Services Act 2013*
Guidelines and Specifications	• Australian Weed Strategy 2017 – 2027 • Riverina Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan 2024-2028 (LLS, 2024) • Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023-2027 (LLS, 2022) • NSW Animal Biosecurity & Welfare Strategic Plan 2019 – 2023 (DPI, LLS, 2022) • Hygiene protocol for the control of disease in frogs (DECCW, 2008). • Australian Pest Animal Strategy 2019 – 2024 • National Priority List of Exotic Environmental Pests, Weeds and Disease • NSW Biosecurity and Food Safety Strategy 2022-2030 • NSW Invasive Species Plan 2018 – 2021 • Inland Rail Biosecurity Specification (Inland Rai, 2021).

Relevant provisions of the above legislation are identified in the register of legal requirements included in CEMP.

1.2 Minister's Conditions of Approval – CSSI-9406

The primary NSW CoAs relevant to the development of this Plan are listed in Table 1-2 and must be complied with for the duration of the implementation of this plan.

Table 1-2 Primary NSW CoAs

<table>
<tr><th>CoA No.</th><th>Condition Requirements</th><th>Document Reference</th></tr>
<tr><td>A10</td><td>Where the terms of this approval require a document or monitoring program to be prepared or a review to be undertaken in consultation with identified parties, evidence of the consultation undertaken must be submitted with the corresponding documentation to the Planning Secretary and the Environmental Representative (as relevant) in accordance with the Post Approval Guidance: Defining Engagement Terms (DPIE, 2020). The evidence must include:
(a) documentation of the engagement with the party identified in the condition of approval that has occurred before submitting the document for approval.
(b) a log of the dates of engagement or attempted engagement with the identified party.
(c) documentation of the follow-up with the identified party where engagement has not occurred to confirm that they do not wish to engage or have not attempted to engage after repeated invitations.
(d) an outline of the issues raised by the identified party and how they have been addressed; and
(e) a description of the outstanding issues raised by the identified party and the reasons why they have not been addressed.</td><td>Section 2.5
Appendix A</td></tr>
<tr><td>C17</td><td>Except as provided by Condition C1, the following CEMP Sub-plans must be prepared in consultation with the relevant state agencies, relevant councils and RAPs identified for each CEMP Sub-plan. Evidence of consultation must be provided consistent with Condition A10.
<table>
<tr><th></th><th>Required CEMP Sub-plan</th><th>Relevant authorities to be consulted for each CEMP Sub-plan</th></tr>
<tr><td>(g)</td><td>Biosecurity</td><td>BCS, DPI Agriculture, Local Land Services</td></tr>
</table>
Notes:
1. CEMP Sub-plan(s) may reflect the staged construction of the project through geographical activities, temporal activities or activity-based contracting and staging.
2. Nothing in this condition prevents the Proponent from combining any of the above CEMP Subplans.
3. 3. The Biodiversity CEMP Sub-Plan must be consistent with goals and objectives, mitigation measures and monitoring requirements of the</td><td>Section 2.5
Appendix A</td></tr>
</table>

	Commonwealth approved conservation advice and any Recovery Plans for all Matters of National Environmental Significance	
C18	The CEMP Sub-plans listed in Condition C17 must state how: (a) the environmental performance outcomes identified in the documents listed in Condition A1, as modified by these conditions, will be achieved. (b) the mitigation measures identified in the documents listed in Condition A1, as modified by these conditions will be implemented. (c) the relevant terms of this approval will be complied with; and (d) issues requiring management during construction, as identified through ongoing environmental risk analysis, will be managed.	Section 3.2.1 Section 6 This Plan Section 6
C25	The Biosecurity Management Sub-plan must include: (a) measures to minimise biosecurity risks to agricultural land. (b) protocols for animal diseases including emergency situations. (c) measures to manage pest and weed impacts; and (d) measures for the management and mitigation of biosecurity impacts affected by temporary or permanent works.	Section 6.1 Section 6.4 Section 6.2 Sections 5.3 and 6

1.3 EPBC Conditions of Approval

The primary Commonwealth CoAs relevant to the development of this Plan are listed in Table 1-3.

Table 1-3 Commonwealth CoAs

CoA No.	Condition Requirements	Document Reference
6	The approval holder must ensure that, in complying with condition C20(c) of the NSW Approval, the weed, pest and pathogen management plan:	Biodiversity Management Sub-plan Section 6
	a) Prevents both the introduction of new weeds and spread of weeds, as a result of the Action, into any retained areas of Grey Box Woodland and Box-gum Grassy Woodlands within and immediately adjacent to the Action Area.	

1.4 Updated Mitigation Measures

The primary Updated Mitigation Measures (UMMs) relevant to the development of this Plan are listed in Table 1-4 below.

Table 1-4 Updated Mitigation Measures relevant to this Plan

Ref.	Issue	Mitigation Measure	Document Reference
BD-7	Managing the potential for biodiversity impacts during construction	A biodiversity management plan would be prepared prior to construction and implemented as part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). The plan would include measures to manage biodiversity and minimise the potential for impacts during construction. The plan would be prepared in accordance with relevant legislation, guidelines and standards. The plan would include, but not be limited to: • locations and requirements for pre-clearing surveys, including terrestrial and aquatic habitats • establishing protocols for the staged clearing of vegetation and safe tree felling and log removal to reduce the risk of fauna mortality • measures to avoid and minimise clearing of hollow-bearing trees and paddock trees where practicable • measures relating to the provision and management of nest boxes, including reuse of hollows and monitoring protocols • animal handling protocols, including relocation and emergency care • an unexpected finds protocol • measures to manage biosecurity risks (including livestock pests/ diseases such as Japanese encephalitis and foot & mouth disease) in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015 (NSW) • measures to manage high-threat weeds • measures to reduce the risk of terrestrial and aquatic fauna mortality/injury • measures relating to the stripping, stockpiling and management of topsoil where it contains seedbank or weed material.	Biodiversity Management Sub-plan Section 6 Section 6 Section 6 Section 6 Section 6
LP-10	Biosecurity	The biodiversity management plan included in the CEMP (mitigation measure BD7) would include measures to minimise the potential for biosecurity risks both pests and weeds during construction, in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015 (NSW). The biosecurity management plan would be developed with reference to the Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022 (LLS, 2017) and in consultation with LLS, DPI and the relevant Local Control Authority (LCA).	Biodiversity Management Sub-plan Section 6.2

1.5 Crown Lands Licence

The conditions associated with biosecurity outlined in the Crown Lands Licence (No. RN639859) are included in Table 1-5 below.

Table 1-5 Crown Lands Licence Conditions

Condition No..	Condition	Document Reference
40.	The Holder will take steps to eradicate or control all noxious plants noxious animals and noxious insects on the Land which he may be by law be required to eradicate or control.	Section 6
Schedule 1: 11.	Weed The Holder is to ensure best practice management is in place in order to minimise introduction and spread of weeds. Weeds identified should be managed and treated in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023-2027, as relevant, or its updated version, and any conditions relevant under the CSSI Project Approval, or any approved Biodiversity Management Plan.	Section 6 Biodiversity Management Sub-plan

1.6 Environment Protection Licence

The Project is subject to an Environment Protection Licence (EPL) as a Scheduled Activity for 'rail construction' under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act). EPLs require practical measures that could be taken to protect the environment from harm, including management and protection of biosecurity risk. Compliance with the obligations of the EPL assist in avoiding indirect impacts through pollution or other disturbances. The Project will be constructed so as to meet requirements identified in the EPL.

1.7 Definitions and Abbreviations

Definitions and abbreviations are listed in Table 1-6 below.

Table 1-6 Definitions and Abbreviations

Term / Abbreviation	Definition / Expanded text
AMS	Activity Method Statements
ARTC	Australian Rail Track Corporation
BCS	DCCEEW - Biodiversity Conservation and Science Division
BJD	Bovine Johne's disease
BMSP	Biosecurity Management Sub-plan
BSAL	Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land
CBMSP	Construction Biodiversity Management Sub-plan
CCS	Community Communication Strategy
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CLM Act	Crown Land Management Act 2016 (NSW)
CoA	Conditions of Approval
CSSI	Critical State Significant Infrastructure
CSWMP	Construction Soil and Water Management Plan
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DPI	Department of Primary Industries
DPHI	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Term / Abbreviation	Definition / Expanded text
Environmental Assessment Documentation	• Inland Rail – Illabo to Stockinbingal Environmental Impact Statement (ARTC 2022) • Illabo to Stockinbingal Project Response to Submissions (ARTC 2023) • Response to Submissions – Appendix E - Biodiversity Development Assessment Report version 12 (IRDJV, June 2024) • I2S – Mitigation Measures (Inland Rail, April 2024) • Illabo to Stockinbingal (SSI-9604) Additional and Appropriate Measures for Box Gum Woodland Impacts (Inland Rail, June 2024) • Technical and Approvals Consultancy Services: Illabo to Stockinbingal – Box Gum Woodland Gum Flat Rehabilitation Opportunity (IRDJV, June 2024)
EAD	Emergency Animal Disease
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMS	Environmental Management System
EMPLAN	State Emergency Management Plan
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
EP&A Act	Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW)
EPBC Act	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
EPL	Environmental Protection Licence
ER	Environmental Representative
FMD	Foot and mouth disease
IPMP	Individual Property Management Plans
IRPL	Inland Rail Pty Ltd
I2S	Illabo to Stockinbingal
JE	Japanese encephalitis
JEV	Japanese encephalitis virus
JHG	John Holland Group
Km	Kilometre

Term / Abbreviation	Definition / Expanded text
LCA	Local Control Authority
LGA	Local Government Area
LLS	Local Land Services
NSW	New South Wales
OEMP	Operational Environmental Management Plan
OJV	Ovine Johne's disease
RTS	Response to Submissions Report
SEP	Site Environmental Plans
TSRs	Travelling Stock Reserves
UMMs	Updated Mitigation Measures
WoNS	Weeds of National Significance
Work	Any physical work for the purpose of the CSSI including construction and low impact work but not including operational maintenance work. The Term 'work' does not include ecological surveys.

2 Introduction

2.1 Context

This Biosecurity Management Sub-plan (BMSP or Plan) forms part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) for the Inland Rail – Illabo to Stockinbingal Project (the Project).

This Plan has been prepared to address the requirements of the Minister's Conditions of Approval (CoA), the measures listed in the Environmental Assessment Documentation, and all applicable legislation.

2.2 Background

2.2.1 The Project

Inland Rail is an approximate 1,600 kilometres (km) freight rail network that will connect Melbourne and Brisbane via regional Victoria, New South Wales (NSW) and Queensland. Comprising 12 sections, a staged approach is being undertaken to deliver Inland Rail.

The Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC), with Inland Rail Pty Ltd (IRPL) as its subsidiary for the Inland Rail project, received infrastructure approval for the Illabo to Stockinbingal (I2S) section of Inland Rail in September 2024. The approval for I2S (the Project) was granted by the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces under section 5.19 of the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act).

The Project is located in south-western New South Wales (NSW) in the Riverina region (refer to Figure 1-1). Illabo is a small town located at the southern end of the alignment 16 kilometres (km) north-east of Junee in the Junee Local Government Area (LGA). Stockinbingal is situated at the northern end of the project, approximately 20 km north-west of Cootamundra in the Cootamundra–Gundagai Regional LGA. The major towns surrounding the project are Wagga Wagga, about 50 km to the south, Young to the north-east and Cootamundra to the east.

The Project comprises a new rail corridor that would connect Illabo to Stockinbingal. The alignment branches out from the existing rail line north-east of Illabo and travels north to join the Stockinbingal–Parkes Line west of Stockinbingal. The route will travel primarily through undeveloped land predominantly used for agriculture. The project includes modifications to the tie-in points at Illabo and Stockinbingal to allow for trains to safely enter and exit the Illabo to Stockinbingal section of Inland Rail. The alignment also crosses several local and private roads, watercourses and privately owned properties. Additionally, no major towns are located within the project site between Illabo and Stockinbingal.

The Project will include a total extent of approximately 42.5 km, including 39 km of new, greenfield railway which will incorporate the following key features:

- Connection to other rail lines, including Stockinbingal to Parkes line, Lake Cargelligo line, and Main Southern Railway
- One crossing loop and maintenance siding
- Level crossings and stock crossings
- Bridges over rivers and other watercourses, floodplains, and roads
- Upgrades of around 3.5 km of existing track for the tie-in works to the existing Main South Line at Illabo
- New track to maintain Lake Cargelligo line connection either side of the proposal
- Realignment and road-over rail bridge for a section of the Burley Griffin Way at Stockinbingal
- Realignment of Ironbong Road to allow for safe sight lines at the new active level crossing

- Ancillary infrastructure to support the proposal, inclusive of signalling and communications, drainage, drainage control areas, signage and fencing, and services and utilities
- Construction infrastructure, including ancillary facilities, and a temporary workforce accommodation facility.

The Project will also include upgrades to approximately 3 km of existing track associated with tie-in works and construction of an additional 1.7 km of new track to maintain the existing rail network connections. Road upgrade works will also be undertaken to re-align approximately 1.4 km of Burley Griffin Way to provide a road-over-rail bridge at Stockinbingal. Re-alignment of Ironbong Road will also be completed to allow for safe sight lines. A temporary workforce accommodation camp will also be constructed to house the workforce for the duration of the Project. Key features of the Project are shown on Figure 1-2.

A detailed Project description is provided in Section 2 of the CEMP.

2.2.2 Statutory Context

The Project was declared to be Critical State Significant Infrastructure (CSSI) in 2021, requiring approval under Division 5.2 of the *NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act). In accordance with the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (30 April 2021), an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was prepared by ARTC August 2022. The EIS was exhibited by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) (formerly the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE)) for a period of six weeks, commencing on 14 September 2022 and concluding on 26 October 2022.

Following public exhibition of the EIS, ARTC prepared a Submissions Report to respond to submissions and describe Project design refinements.

Approval for the Project was granted on 4 September 2024 by the Minister for Planning (application number SSI-9406) and was subject to a number of CoA.

The project was determined to be a controlled action under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) (EPBC Referral 2018/8233). The Project received controlled action approval from Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) (EPBC Referral 2018/8233) on 28 October 2024

This BMSP addresses the requirements of CoA Condition C25. This plan also addresses Condition 6, of the commonwealth approval 2018/8233. CoA's have been listed out under sections 1.2 and 1.3 of this plan.

2.3 Scope of the plan

The scope of this BMSP is to describe how potential impacts from biosecurity risks will be managed during construction of the Project. This Plan has been prepared under and consistent with the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), considering relevant sensitive land uses and construction activities.

This Plan is applicable to all activities during construction of the Project, including all areas where physical works will occur or areas that may be otherwise impacted by the construction works, and under the control of John Holland Group (JHG). All JHG staff and sub-contractors are required to operate and comply with the requirements of this Plan and related environmental management plans, over the full duration of the construction program. A copy of this BMSP will be kept on the premises for the duration of construction.

Operational impacts, and operational measures do not fall within the scope of this BMSP and therefore are not included within the processes contained in this plan.

2.4 Environmental Management System Overview

The Environmental Management System (EMS) for the Project is described in the CEMP.

To achieve the intended environmental performance outcomes, JHG have established, implemented, maintained and continually improved an EMS in accordance with the requirements of ISO14001:2015. The JHG EMS will be adopted as the guiding environmental management framework for the Project.

The EMS consists of governance documentation, incorporating environmental management plans, policies, procedures and tools including:

- **Project Environment and Sustainability Policy.** Outlines the commitments and intentions established by JHG to ensure environmental performance and sustainability objectives and targets are achieved
- **CEMP**. Details the processes and procedures to be implemented during the Project to comply with applicable CoA, Updated Mitigation Measures (UMMs), legislative obligations and contractual requirements.
- **Environmental Management Sub-plans**. These documents describe procedures and controls for specific environmental aspects requiring more rigorous management strategies.
- **Monitoring Programs**. Details the monitoring regime to be implemented during construction to compare the actual performance of construction against the objectives outlined in the relevant Plan, including setting specific triggers and associated responses.
- **Activity Method Statements (AMS)**. Management measures identified in this Plan may also be incorporated into site or activity specific AMS. These documents incorporate appropriate mitigation measures and controls and identify key procedures to be used concurrently with the AMS. Construction personnel undertaking a task governed by an AMS must undertake the activity in accordance with the mitigation and management measures identified within the document.
- **Site Environmental Plans (SEP).** A series of maps providing key features of the alignment and relevant environmental constraints. Features include waterways, heritage, biodiversity contamination and sensitive receivers amongst other site relevant features
- **Procedures, strategies and protocols.** Detailed procedures, strategies and protocols will be developed as required.

2.4.1 Plan preparation, endorsement and approval

The BMSP has been prepared to satisfy the New South Wales (NSW) and Commonwealth CoA's in relation to the management of biosecurity during construction of the Project, particularly NSW CoA C25.

This BMSP will be reviewed by the Inland Rail Environment and Sustainability Officer (or delegate) and the independent Environmental Representative (ER) to confirm they are consistent with, and incorporate, all relevant elements of the CEMP, prior to submission to the Planning Secretary for approval.

Construction of the Project will not commence until this Plan is endorsed by the ER and approved by The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI).

2.4.2 Interactions with other management plans and strategies

This Plan has the following interrelationships with other management plans and documents:

- Construction Biodiversity Management Sub-plan (CBMSP) which details weed, pest and pathogen management.
- Safety Management Plan, which provides the framework for managing safety including the safety requirements associated with the use of herbicides and pesticides. Safety Data Sheets and product labels will also be referenced prior to application of herbicides and pesticides.
- Quality Plan describes the process for managing non-compliances, non-conforming work practices and initiating corrective / preventative actions or system improvements in accordance with the process outlined in the CEMP.
- Individual Property Management Plans (IPMP) detail the outcomes of consultations with landowners and tenants who own or lease property adjacent to the rail corridor. They state the consultation results and agreed outcomes with each landowner, which may include biosecurity concerns.

2.5 Consultation

2.5.1 Regulators

The BMSP was prepared in consultation with Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Agriculture, NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW), Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation (CPHR) Group –, and Local Land Services (LLS). These stakeholders were provided a copy of this BMSP on 30 May 2025. All comments received were considered and the BMSP updated accordingly.

Key matters raised by these stakeholders and how they have been addressed are outlined in this Plan including consultation evidence in accordance with NSW CoA C17(g) and A10. A summary of the comments received and how they were considered is provided in Appendix A.

In accordance with CoAs C15 and A26(d), this Plan will require endorsement by the Environmental Representative (ER) prior to submission to the Planning Secretary for approval no later than one month before the commencement of construction.

Evidence of consultation will be provided in accordance with CoA Conditions C17 and A10, including a timeline and associated actions to address regulator comments is provided in Appendix A.

2.5.2 Landowners

Ongoing consultation between Inland Rail, JHG, neighbouring Projects (if applicable), stakeholders, the community and relevant agencies regarding the management of impacts from biosecurity risks will be undertaken during the construction of the Project as required. The process for the consultation will be consistent with the Community Communication Strategy (CCS).

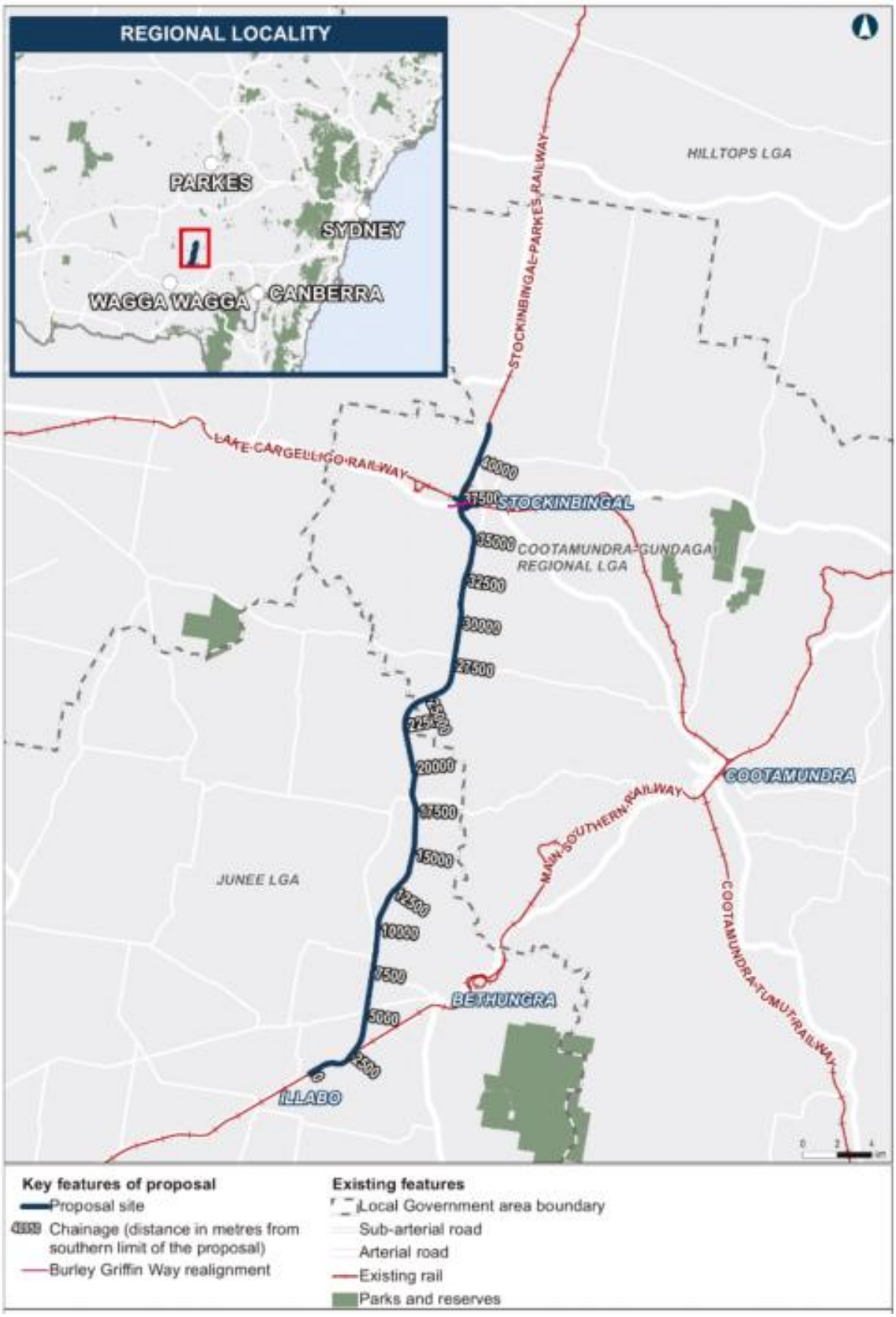

Figure 1-1 Project Locality

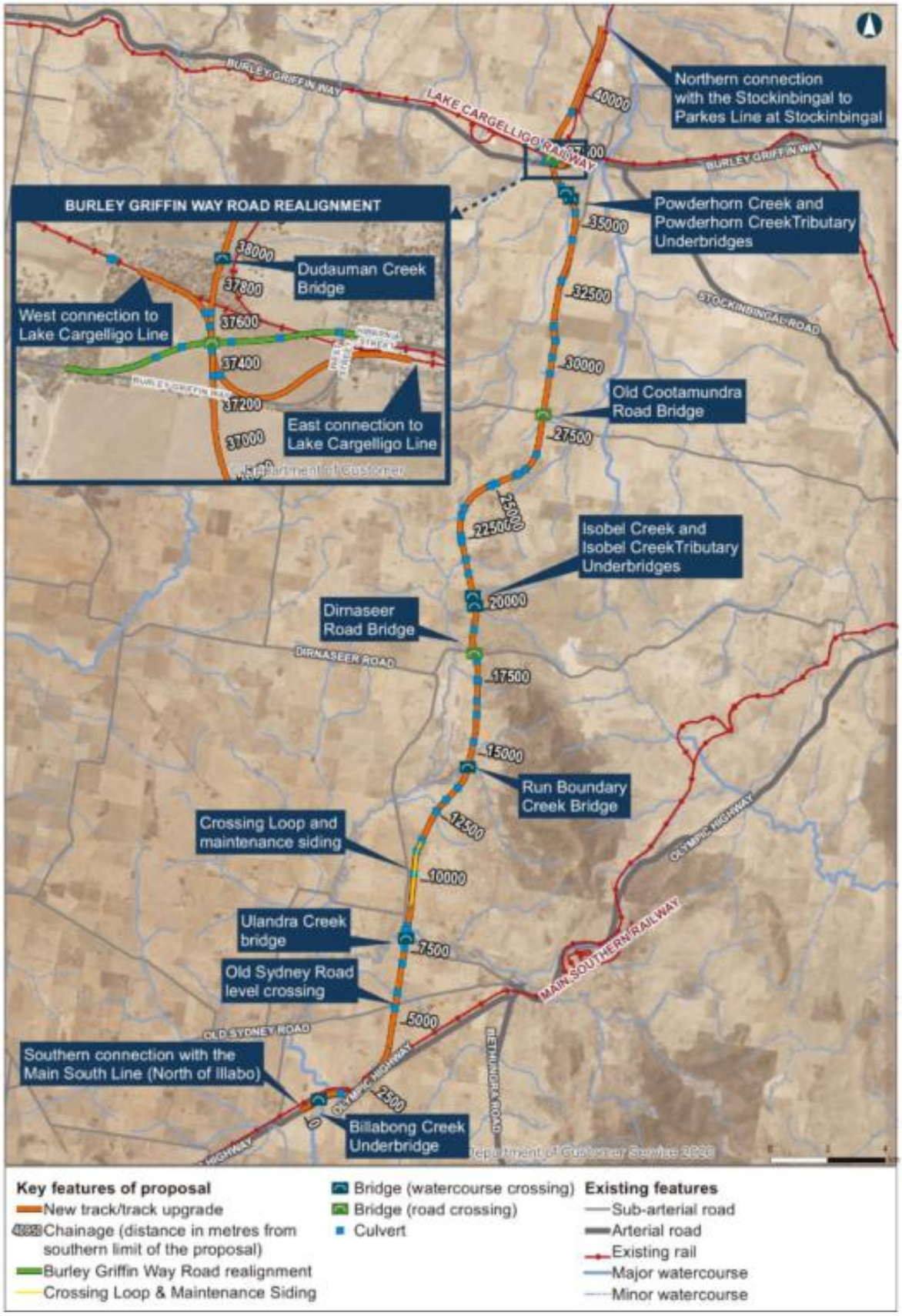

Figure 1-2 Key Project Features

3 Purpose and Objectives

3.1 Purpose

The key objective of this BMSP is to ensure that biosecurity impacts to the local community, surrounding agricultural land and natural environment from construction of the Project are minimised.

3.2 Objectives

The key objective of the BMSP is to ensure that all avoidance, mitigation and management measures relevant to the management of biosecurity risks relating to pests, weeds and disease are implemented.

To aid in achieving this objective, all CoA, UMMs and licence / permit requirements relevant to biosecurity are described, scheduled and assigned responsibility as outlined in:

- Environmental Assessment Documentation
- Infrastructure Approval CoA (SSI-9406)
- The EPBC Act Approval (number 2018/8233) dated 28 October 2024.
- Crown Lands Licence

All relevant legislation and other requirements described in Section 1.1 of this Plan.

3.2.1 Performance Outcomes

JHG will meet the performance outcomes relating to biosecurity identified within the Environmental Assessment Documentation. Relevant performance outcomes are detailed in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1 Performance Outcomes identified in the EIS Relevant to the BSMP

SEARS Desired Performance Outcome s	Project-Specific Environmental Performance Outcomes	How the Outcome is Addressed	Measurement Tool
Economic, Land Use and Agriculture The project minimises adverse economic impacts and capitalises on opportunities potentially available to affected communities. The project minimises impacts to property and business including agricultural enterprises and accommodation and achieves appropriate integration with adjoining land uses, including maintenance of appropriate access to properties and community facilities, and minimisation of displacement of existing land use activities, dwellings and infrastructure.	**Economic, Land Use and Agriculture** • As part of Inland Rail as a whole, the proposal provides for the development of an efficient and sustainable route for the transport of freight between Brisbane and Melbourne • The proposal provides opportunities for regional economic development, by enabling local and regional businesses to access Inland Rail via regional transport hubs • Impacts to land use and properties are minimised as far as practicable	• Implementation of equipment hygiene protocols prior to entering and leaving site. • Potential biosecurity risks relating to the potential for spread of pests, diseases or weeds along the length of the project alignment will be managed in accordance with relevant legislation and guidelines, including the 'general biosecurity duty' under the *Biosecurity Act 2015.*	Weekly inspections / observations

	• The proposal is appropriately integrated with adjoining land uses, and access to private properties is maintained • The proposal is appropriately integrated with local and regional land-use planning strategies.	• Implementation of safeguards in Section 6 below.	
Protected and Sensitive Lands The project is designed, constructed and operated to avoid or minimise impacts on protected and sensitive lands. The project is designed, constructed and operated to avoid or minimise future exposure to coastal hazards and processes.	**Protected and Sensitive Lands** The proposal is designed to minimise the surface footprint and impacts on protected and sensitive lands.	• Where practical, the design would minimise the surface footprint and impacts on protected and sensitive lands. • Implementation of safeguards in Section 6 below.	Weekly inspections / observations Pre and Post Vegetation Clearance Surveys

3.3 Targets

Targets for the management of impacts relating to biosecurity during the Project include:

- Full compliance with the relevant legislative requirements, NSW and Commonwealth CoAs and UMMs.
- Ensure controls and procedures are implemented during construction activities to avoid, minimise or manage potential adverse impacts from biosecurity risks.
- No new weeds introduced to the construction footprint.
- No transfer of plant diseases or pathogens to or from the construction footprint.
- Manage impacts during the construction of the Project through the implementation of feasible and reasonable biosecurity mitigation measures, including those detailed in Section 6.
- Maintain all plant and equipment in accordance with introduction to site requirements.
- All construction personnel to undergo site induction training which will include detail on biosecurity management during construction.

3.3.1 Success Indicators

Inland Rail have developed a Biosecurity Strategy (0-0000-900-EEC-00-ST-1000_3) which applies to all sections of the Inland Rail Project. The Strategy provides overarching guiding principles and requirements relating to biosecurity management. The Strategy identifies success indicators which will be incorporated into the targets set for the I2S Project, where applicable. These include:

- Where directed by Inland Rail, a Biosecurity Management Plan will be prepared that appropriately identifies and responds to biosecurity risks
- The Biosecurity plan will be approved by Inland Rail and relevant Regulators
- All required Statutory Approvals are obtained prior to the commencement of related activities

- Delivery of relevant activities in accordance with the Biosecurity Management Plan, Conditions of Approval or general biosecurity obligations and duties
- No incidences of non-compliance with statutory obligations
- No incidences of non-compliances identified through auditing activities
- No incidences of loss of proximal primary production due to biosecurity mismanagement or inappropriate assessment of biosecurity risk
- Where required, relevant training is undertaken to ensure biosecurity management complies with best practice and statutory requirements
- Non-conformances with the Biosecurity Management Plan and environmental events relating to biosecurity are dealt with in accordance with the CEMP and contractual requirements.

4 Existing Environment

The key reference documents for this section includes:

- Chapter 10 – Biodiversity of the Illabo to Stockinbingal EIS
- Chapter 18 – Land use and Property of the Illabo to Stockinbingal EIS
- Technical Paper 1 - Biodiversity development Assessment Report
- Response to Submissions Report (RTS)
- RTS Appendix E - Updated Biodiversity development Assessment Report
- RTS Appendix H – Review and Advice on the Impacts of Rail Corridors on Livestock Production
- Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022 (NSW LLS, 2017) (latest version dated 2023-2027)
- Riverina Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan 2018-2023 (NSW LLS, 2018) (latest version dated 2024-2028)

4.1 General Land Use Description

The Project site generally consists of agricultural properties between the residential townships of Illabo and Stockinbingal. land use mapping indicates land use within the Project area is dominated by cropping and grazing modified pastures. Cropping land is generally used for both cropping and grazing of improved (modified) pastures in rotation.

Grazing of native vegetation (pastures) and managed resource protection (mostly tree lots and plantings of native vegetation) are also relatively common, especially in the central portion of the Project site where land quality is lower. Significant areas are mapped as residential and farm infrastructure; however, inspections during initial assessments indicate that the actual land occupied by residential and farm infrastructure is much less than is indicated by the land use mapping.

4.2 Land uses within the Project Boundary

The majority of the Project is zoned Primary Production (RU1), with a small amount of Infrastructure (SP2) zone along railways and roads. Land to the east of the Project, associated with the Bethungra Range, is zoned Environmental Management (E3).

Land within the Stockinbingal township is predominantly zoned Village (RU5) with a small area of zoned Public Recreation (RE1) in the north-east. Land within the Illabo township is predominantly zoned Village (RU5), with some areas of Public Recreation (RE1) and Large Lot Residential (R5) to the east. The Project site also includes some additional areas outside the rail corridor (e.g. public land including road reserves) that are primarily required for construction activities.

4.3 Agriculture Uses and Activities

4.3.1 Agricultural Land Capability and Productivity

The northern and southern portions of the Project consist primarily of Class 3 (high capability) land with smaller areas of Class 4 (moderate capability) land. The central section of the Project area has a mixture of Class 3, 4 and 6 (low capability) land. These categories are defined as:

- Class 3 – ‘high capability land: Land has moderate limitations and is capable of sustaining high-impact land uses, such as cropping with cultivation, using more intensive, readily available and widely accepted management practices’ (OEH, 2012)

- Class 4—'moderate capability land: Land has moderate to high limitations for high-impact land uses. Will restrict land management options for regular high-impact land uses such as cropping, high-intensity grazing and horticulture' (OEH, 2012)

- Class 6—'low capability land: Land has very high limitations for high-impact land uses. Land use restricted to low-impact land uses such as grazing, forestry and nature conservation' (OEH, 2012).

4.3.2 Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land

While the Project area consists mainly of arable land with good productivity, it does not include substantial land areas with the highest quality soil and water resources. Mapping of Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land (BSAL) was undertaken by the (then) NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure. This mapping indicates that there is no BSAL on the permanent Project footprint or surrounding properties.

4.3.3 Water Resources

For the rural land surrounding the Project, surface water supply predominantly comes from rainfall collected via rainwater tanks, farm dams and from the reticulated water network.

The reticulated water network services many of the farms with both stock and domestic supply. Many of the watercourse catchments that intersect the Project are small and do not have defined channels and therefore their geomorphologic conditions change with every rainfall event. These undefined watercourse catchments are predominantly cleared of remnant vegetation and farm dams have been constructed to capture overland flows for storage for agricultural purposes.

Groundwater (including bores) and surface water resources are also used for stock and domestic purposes. Surface water dams for livestock drinking water are an important resource for the livestock industries.

In accordance with CoA Condition E79, prior to construction, John Holland will identify potential impacts to landowners and undertake consultation with the relevant landowner and/or relevant roads authority immediately adjacent to new or upgraded culverts. Mitigation and management measures will be implemented for the affected landowner or roads authority in accordance with the mitigation measures detailed in the Construction Soil and Water Management Plan (CSWMP) and Community Communications Strategy (CCS).

Additionally, John Holland will prepare a register of all farm dams within 100 meters upstream and 500 meters downstream of the alignment in accordance with CoA Condition E80. The register will be developed in consultation with the landowners and information relevant to a landowners property will be provided to the landowner as required, prior to construction. The register will also be provided to the Planning Secretary at the same time as submission of the Flood Design Verification Report.

Further details on mitigation measures relating to water resources are provided in the CSWMP. John Holland's approach to landowner consultation is detailed further in the CCS.

4.3.4 Agricultural Production

The typical farm along the alignment comprises cleared land that is used for agricultural production. Farms in the area commonly comprise of mixed farming operations, both livestock and cropping enterprises. Sheep and cattle account for almost all of the grazing livestock. Both average crop yields and stocking rates across the Cootamundra and Junee LGAs are higher than the NSW average.

Although it is expected that future yields and stocking rates would be similar across the LGA, the value of agricultural production is greatly influenced by seasonal and market conditions and can fluctuate widely from year to year.

4.3.5 Agricultural Access and Movement

Agricultural properties within the Project area are currently serviced by public roads and private internal tracks. Properties generally have multiple points through which movement may occur across a farm and onto public roads.

4.4 Mining and Exploration leases and licences

Although there are no known mining or exploration activities surrounding the project area, there are four exploration licences which apply to land within the project site between Illabo and Stockinbingal.

4.5 Travelling stock reserves and Livestock Highways

Travelling Stock Reserves (TSRs) are parcels of Crown land reserved under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (NSW) (CLM Act) for use by travelling stock. TSRs include stock routes which are corridors on Crown lands that connect smaller watering and camping reserves. Stock routes may also be alongside public roads. The Project site does not cross any TSRs.

A livestock highway, although not a TSR under the CLM Act, is a public road used for the movement of travelling stock. The livestock highway currently crosses the existing Stockinbingal-Parkes Line on Grogan Road with a level crossing.

4.6 Biosecurity

4.6.1 Weeds

4.6.1.1 Regional weed issues

Weeds have the potential to cause significant impact on all Riverina lands including urban and environmental recreation areas, particularly in the agricultural, forestry and fishing sectors including grazing, broad acre cropping, dairy, fruit and vegetables.

The Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017–2022 (LLS, 2017) and it's updated version (2023 – 2027) (LLS, 2022), were developed under the BC Act. Key weeds and associated biosecurity zones for the Project area that are regulated under the BC Act. Management categories and objectives for weeds across the Project area are included in Table 4-1. The management of weeds are discussed further in the Biodiversity Management Sub-plan. Mitigation measures relating to the management of biosecurity risks are presented in Section 6.

Table 4-1 Key Regional Weeds Management Categories

Weed Management Category	Objectives	Weed Category Characteristics
Prevention	To prevent the weed species arriving and establishing in the region.	Weeds currently not found in the region, that pose a significant biosecurity risk and prevention of the biosecurity risk posed by these weeds is a reasonably practicable objective

Eradication	To permanently remove the species and its propagules from the region **OR** to destroy infestations to reduce the extent of the weed in the region with the aim of local eradication.	Weeds are present in limited abundance in the region. Elimination of the biosecurity risk posed by these weeds is a reasonably practicable objective.
Containment	To prevent the ongoing spread of the species in all or part of the region.	These weeds are widely distributed in parts of the region. While broad scale elimination is not practicable, minimisation of the biosecurity risk posed by these weeds is reasonably practicable.
Asset Protection	To prevent the spread of weeds to key sites/assets of high economic, environmental and social value, or to reduce their impact on these sites if spread has already occurred.	These weeds are widely distributed in some areas of the region. Their spread should be minimised to protect priority regional assets.

Source: Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023 – 2027, EIS Chapter 18: Landuse and Property and Technical Paper 1: BDAR, Scientific names: NSW WeedWise (DPI 2025).

4.6.1.2 Weeds identified within the Project area

Weed species known to be present within the Project area were identified during the development of the environmental assessment documentation through surveys, field studies, landholder engagement and biodiversity surveys (refer to EIS Chapter 10: Biodiversity, EIS Chapter 18: Landuse and Property and Technical Paper 1: BDAR). The key weeds identified to be present in the Project area, as well as their status as per the Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan (LLS, 2022) are included in Table 4-2 :

Table 4-2 Weeds identified within the Project Area

Weed Species identified within the Project Area		Regional Management Priority	Status / Biosecurity duty
Common Name	**Scientific Name**		
Paterson's Curse	*Echium plantogineum*	-	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
African Olive	*Olea europaea*	-	-
African lovegrass	*Eragrostis curvula*		
Milk thistle	*Silybum marianum*	-	-
African boxthorn	*Lycium ferocissimum*	-	Weed of National Significance (WONs), State priority weed
Blackberry	*Rubus fruticosus spp. agg*	Containment / Asset Protection	WONs, State priority weed
Silver-leaf nightshade	*Solanum elaeagnifolium*	Containment / Asset Protection	WONs, State priority weed

Alligator weed	*Alternanthera philoxeroides*	Eradication	Biosecurity Zone, State Priority Weed
Bridal creeper	*Asparagus asparagoides*	Asset Protection	WONs, Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Serrated tussock	*Nassella tichotoma*	Eradication	WONs
Scotch Broom	*Cytisus scoparius*	Containment	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Common Prickly pear	*Cylindropuntia spp.*	Containment / Asset Protection	State priority weed
Prickly pear – smooth tree pear	*Opuntia spp.*	Containment / Asset Protection	State priority weed
Perennial ground cherry	*Physalis longifolia*	Eradication	State priority weed
Johnson grass	*Sorghum halepense*	-	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Buffalo burr	*Solanum rostratum*	-	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
St. John's Wort	*Hypericum perforatum*	Asset Protection	Local species of concern High Threat weed (BC Act) General biosecurity duty
Thistle – black	*Cirsium vulgare*	-	-
Capeweed	*Arctotheca calendula*	-	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Cathead	*Tribulus terrestris*	-	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Thistle—Illyrian	*Onopordum thistle spp.*	-	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Thistle – St Barnaby's		Asset Protection	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Field bindweed	*Convolvulus arvensis*	-	-
Saffron thistle	*Carthamus lanatus*	-	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Horehound	*Marrubium vulgare*	Asset Protection	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Scotch thistle	*Cirsium vulgare*	-	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Khaki weed	*Alternanthera pungens*	-	Local species of concern High Threat weed (BC Act) General biosecurity duty
Star thistle	*Centaurea solstitialis*	-	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Melons (paddy and camel)	*Cucumis myriocarpus*	-	-
Bathurst burr	*Xanthium spinosum*	Asset Protection	Local species of concern

			High Threat weed (BC Act) General biosecurity duty
Brome Grass	*Bromus diandrus*	-	High Threat weed (BC Act)
Paspalum	*Paspalum dilatatum*	-	High Threat weed (BC Act)
Onion Grass	*Romulea rosea var. australis*	-	High Threat weed (BC Act)
Sweet Briar	*Rosa rubiginosa*	-	Local species of concern High Threat weed (BC Act) General biosecurity duty
Wild turnip	*Brassica tournefortii*	-	-
Wild Radish	*Raphanus raphanistrum*	-	-
Noogoora burr	*Xanthium occidentale*	Asset Protection	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Skeleton weed	*Chondrilla juncea*	-	-
Hairy panic	*Panicum effusum*	-	-
Toad Rush	*Juncus bufonius*	-	-
Annual ryegrass	*Lolium multiflorum*	-	-
Wild oats	*Avena fatua*	-	-
Barley grass	*Hordeum glaucum*	-	-
Pepper tree	*Schinus terebinthifolia*	-	-
Wireweed	*Polygonum aviculare*	-	-
Galvanised Burr	*Sclerolaena birchii*	Asset Protection	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty
Sticky Nightshade	*Solanum sisymbriifolium*		
Common Heliotrope	*Heliotropium europaeum*		
Devil's Claw	*Ibicella lutea*	Asset Protection	Local species of concern General biosecurity duty

Source: Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023 – 2027, EIS Chapter 18: Landuse and Property and Technical Paper 1: BDAR, Scientific names: NSW WeedWise (DPI 2025).

JHG will ensure that weeds are managed in accordance with regional management priority and minimum levels of control as defined in the Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan (refer to Table 4-1 and Table 4-2).

4.6.2 Livestock pests and disease

Three main biosecurity risks for livestock have been identified in the Environmental Assessment Documentation as follows:

- Footrot (both virulent and benign)
- Johne's disease – incorporating Ovine Johne's disease (OJD) and Bovine Johne's disease (BJD)
- Sheep lice.

All three risks are currently present in the region and have negative impacts on the productivity of sheep enterprises within the Project area. Under the Biosecurity Act, sheep footrot and OJD are prohibited matter and notifiable diseases. There are many other notifiable and/or exotic diseases that could potentially pose a risk to livestock that have not been identified in the Project area, however, pose a potential threat to livestock should they occur. These potential risks are listed in the 'National list of

notifiable diseases of terrestrial animals, April 2024' and DPIRD Primefact 1565 'Notifiable pests and diseases of animals in NSW'".

Footrot is a contagious bacterial disease of sheep and goats with significant costs associated with the control of the disease within affected flocks. Virulent footrot has significant economic, production, trade and welfare implications for sheep. Benign footrot can have similar impact but to a lesser extent and is not regulated.

OJD is an incurable infectious disease that can result in significant economic losses. Pests and diseases of cattle are also relevant, given the prevalence of cattle in the Project area; in particular, Bovine Johne's disease (BJD) is a notifiable disease in NSW (DPI, 2017).

Sheep lice cause significant losses in sheep enterprises due to treatment costs, reduced wool growth and lower meat production however, it is no longer notifiable and risk of spread via construction activities are expected to be minimal.

In addition to the direct risks described above, potential biosecurity risks to livestock which may occur include:

- Foot and Mouth Disease
- Japanese Encephalitis

Foot and mouth disease (FMD) is a highly contagious viral disease that affects pigs, cattle, sheep, goats, deer, camelids (includes alpacas, llamas and camels) and buffalo. Although considered low risk, introduction FMD can be caused by personnel who have visited countries where FMD is present, as well as swill feeding by domestic or feral pigs. JHG will provide adequate hygiene controls, as well as adequate food disposal receptacles to further reduce any FMD risk.

Japanese encephalitis (JE) is an acute mosquito-borne viral disease that can result in reproductive losses and with susceptible livestock animal species, most commonly pigs and horses. It is caused by the Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV). The virus is transmitted between animals by certain mosquito species. The virus is considered zoonotic and may pose an increased risk during elevated mosquito activity however, given the current status of JE in the area, the current mitigation measures discussed in this Plan are considered adequate.

These risks have not been identified in the Project area, however, pose a potential threat to livestock should they occur. Currently, Australia remains free of Foot and Mouth disease (DPI, 2024). Regulatory controls for Japanese Encephalitis (JE) have now been lifted in NSW and there are currently no quarantine controls on premises where JE is detected, and no related movement restrictions on pigs, horses or other animals (DPI, 2024).

4.6.3 Vertebrate pests

Under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, pest animals are not defined by species. Pest species can be considered as any species (other than native species) that present a biosecurity threat. The Riverina Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan 2018–2023 (LLS, 2018) was developed under the *Biosecurity Act 2015.* This version has since been updated to cover the 2024 – 2028 period (LLS, 2024). The management plan covers introduced terrestrial vertebrate species and freshwater aquatic species that require a co-ordinated cross tenure approach to pest management. Pest animals for the Riverina region have been prioritised based on the level of risk and the feasibility of control.

The updated management plan lists nine vertebrate pests (six listed under previous version) that have the potential to occur within the Project area including:

- Wild dogs
- Feral deer
- Feral horse
- Common Carp
- Feral Cat
- European red fox
- Feral goat
- Feral pig
- Wild rabbit

These pests are subject to asset-based protection (protecting assets and manage pest animal populations). Specific management strategies are specified for each of these pests. The management of pests is discussed further in the Biodiversity Management Sub-plan. Mitigation measures relating to the management of biosecurity risks are presented in Section 6.1.

5 Environmental Aspects and Impacts

5.1 Construction Activities

Key aspects of the Project that could contribute to biosecurity impacts include:

- Clearing of native vegetation (including habitat)
- Works around and within watercourses
- General earthworks near vegetation, resulting in disturbance of soils
- Establishment of ancillary facilities
- Vehicle movements
- Excavation works
- Use of chemicals / fuels (potential for spills)
- Installation, removal and relocation of Utilities
- Installation and use of access tracks.

Refer also to the Initial Risk Register included in the CEMP.

5.2 Ecological Impacts

Direct / indirect impacts relating to biosecurity may occur as a result of the Project, including:

- Biosecurity risks including:
  - Invasion and spread of weeds and pests
  - Invasion and spread of pathogens and disease
  - Impacts to livestock and other animals from pests and diseases
  - Impacts to aquatic environments, aquatic animals and vegetation from aquatic pests
  - Impacts to primary production, the economy, the community, and the environment, from exotic plant pests and diseases.

- Agricultural land use impacts including:
  - Reduction in agricultural land use capability
  - Impacts on farm infrastructure and farming operations
  - Fragmentation of agricultural and farming land including farm severance and lot realignment
  - Impacts on land access.

5.3 Impacts from Temporary and Permanent Works

Potential impacts to biosecurity from temporary and permanent works associated with the Project include:

- Temporary Works – during construction phase:
  - Introduction of new equipment to site resulting in potential spread of weeds, pests and pathogens
  - Invasion and spread of weeds, pests and pathogens from vehicle movements within the construction footprint and when accessing construction areas, traveling to / from temporary accommodation facilities and ancillary facilities and laydown areas.
  - Potential impacts to livestock and other animals from pests and disease
  - Impacts on agricultural and primary production land from introduction of weeds, pests and disease.

- Permanent Works – during Operational phase

- Reduction in agricultural land use capability and impacts on farming operations resulting from the permanent operational footprint of the alignment
- Fragmentation of agricultural and farming land including farm severance and lot realignment resulting from the permanent operational footprint
- Impacts on land access due to changes in existing access points to farming and agricultural areas. This may contribute to spread of weeds, pests and pathogens into areas not regularly accessed by vehicles.

Management and mitigation of the potential biosecurity risks associated with permanent works will be addressed in the Operational Biosecurity Management Plan as required.

5.4 Biosecurity Risks

The management of biosecurity risks including disease, pests, pathogens and weed invasion is important for maintaining agricultural production and biodiversity. Biosecurity management relates to the measures adopted to protect a property from the entry and spread of these biosecurity risks. If new weeds, pests or diseases become established, it can affect agricultural properties through increased costs, reduced productivity or loss of markets.

The Project would result in the increased movement of vehicles and people to, around and within the Project site during construction. The main biosecurity risk relates to the spread of weeds that may result from the increased movement of vehicles and use of vehicles, plant and equipment from other locations. Weed seeds could be transported through and within the site via personnel movement on foot, vehicle wheels and undercarriages.

The potential implications for adjoining landowners include:

- dependency on the construction contractor to undertake weed control (spraying and grazing) within the worksite
- the need for additional weed, pest and disease inspections and controls required on adjoining land
- impacts on productivity from introduced weeds, pests and diseases
- impacts on human health and biodiversity.

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* provides a framework for the prevention, elimination and minimisation of biosecurity risks. The General Biosecurity Duty under the Biosecurity Act requires a person who deals with a biosecurity risk and ought reasonably to know it must ensure (as far as reasonably practicable) that the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised. In practical terms this requires people to be aware of their surroundings and take action to prevent the introduction and spread of pests, diseases, weeds and contaminants. The Biosecurity Regulation 2017 (NSW) sets out a range of additional mandatory measures for biodiversity risk management. Mitigation measures for biosecurity risks are provided in Section 6.

5.5 Agricultural Land Use Impacts

5.5.1 Agricultural land and land capability

Construction works and associated land requirements may have a range of potential biosecurity impacts on agricultural resources, depending on the different stages of construction. In addition to land use change, construction has the potential to directly affect land capability, with the potential to reduce the productive potential of agricultural land.

The temporary and permanent loss of agricultural land will reduce agricultural yields and potential income for farm operators. The majority of affected land is currently used for grazing or cropping. There is no significant, commercial irrigated agriculture located within the Project area.

As determined in the Environmental Assessment Documentation, the total temporary and permanent affected land represents about 0.18 per cent of agricultural land across the Project footprint. No biophysical strategic agricultural land is identified within the Project area and approximately 65 per cent of affected land would be class 3 (high capability). The remaining land comprises a mix of class 4 and 6 land (refer to Section 4.3.1).

5.5.2 Farm severance and lot realignment

Due to the linear nature of the Project, the key potential impact on farming operations relates to farm severance. Route optimisation was undertaken as part of the Environmental Assessment to reduce the occurrence of farm severance as far as reasonably practical however, access points will be located along the alignment which construction vehicles will utilise for access and egress.

Potential impacts from farm severance could permanently disrupt the overall configuration of a farm, affect efficiency, productivity and viability. Severance may cause impacts resulting in changes in access arrangements for the movement of farm machinery or stock movements to different areas of a farm. Overall construction traffic using designated access points has the potential to introduce weeds and pests through vehicle movements however, hygiene practices will be implemented to mitigate these risks. Mitigation measures are presented in Section 6.1.

5.5.3 Access impacts

The Project also has the potential to affect internal access arrangements within properties, including internal farm access tracks/roads. Severance of these access tracks could result in impacts to farming operations by isolating certain areas, including operational hubs. In addition to access within properties, construction could also impact farming operations by temporarily affecting access to properties as a result of blockages, temporary rationalisation of access points, any damage to roads from heavy vehicles, and an inability to access key infrastructure during flood events. These changes to access points and the increase in vehicle and equipment movements has the potential to increase biosecurity risks.

6 Environmental Mitigation and Management Measures

Environmental mitigation and management measures are defined by the Environmental Assessment Documentation. Management measures relating to Biosecurity have been included in the following sections. These measures apply to all construction activities, including temporary works such as accommodation facilities, construction accesses, lay down areas and the like, and construction of permanent structures such as the rail corridor, permanent drainage and the like. . Further mitigation measures will be included as required in the Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) and relevant sub-plans which will be developed by Inland Rail in consultation with relevant stakeholders. The OEMP will be implemented for operations to address Biosecurity risks associated with permanent works.

6.1 Biosecurity Mitigation and Management Measures

In accordance with the CoA, mitigation measures will be implemented with the aim of achieving specific measures and requirements to address contract specifications, CoA and UMMs in relation to impacts to biosecurity. These mitigation measures are subject to continual improvement throughout construction and ongoing risk analysis. References to where each relevant specification CoA or UMM has been captured and addressed in this plan or elsewhere has been documented in the compliance tables in Section 1. Should the mitigation measures be revised, an updated version of this plan will be prepared for approval and implementation. Biosecurity measures, prepared in in accordance with the CoA and the UMMs, are presented in Table 6-1 and Sections 6.2-6.4.

Table 6-1 Biosecurity mitigation and management measures

ID	Issue	Measure / Requirement	Timing / Frequency	Responsibility	Reference / Source
BSEC01	Managing the potential for biodiversity impacts during construction	JHG has prepared a Biodiversity Management Plan prior to construction. This plan includes reference to this Biosecurity Management Plan as appropriate and will be implemented as part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). The Biodiversity Management Plan includes measures to manage biodiversity and minimise the potential for impacts during construction. The plan has been prepared in accordance with relevant legislation, guidelines and standards. A specific Biosecurity Management Sub-plan (This Plan) provides management and mitigation measures to ensure the potential impacts from Biosecurity risks are minimised throughout construction. This plan would include, but not be limited to:	Pre-Construction and Construction	Project Environment Manager (or delegate)	UMM BD-7

ID	Issue	Measure / Requirement	Timing / Frequency	Responsibility	Reference / Source
		Measures to manage biosecurity risks (including livestock pests/ diseases such as Japanese encephalitis and foot & mouth disease) in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (CtH) (NSW) and are captured in Section 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4 of this Plan.The project will review and monitor potential impacts on biodiversity through this Biosecurity Management Plan and update the controls contained within the Biodiversity Plan as required. -			
BSEC02	Biosecurity	The Biosecurity Management Plan (this Plan) has been developed with reference to the Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022 (LLS, 2017) and 2023 – 2027 (LLS, 2022) in consultation with LLS and DPI. Regular reviews of this Plan will include reviewing the LLS documents listed above to ensure any updates are incorporated into this Plan. .	Construction	Project Environment Manager (or delegate)	UMM LP-10
BSEC03	Weed Management	JHG will implement the following weed control measures: • Weeds would be managed and disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and/or the Weeds of National Significance Weed Management Guide (DEE, 2019b). • Weed control mitigation and management strategies would be documented and implemented: - vehicles or equipment being brought onto the proposal site and/or travelling around the site must be inspected and cleaned prior to commencing work or on arrival to limit the	Construction	Project Environment Manager (or delegate)	EIS Appendix E, Table E1, item 11. Biosecurity Management

ID	Issue	Measure / Requirement	Timing / Frequency	Responsibility	Reference / Source
		spread of seeds and plant material. This will be achieved through implementation of the measures listed in Section 6.3, and completion of a Biosecurity Checklist (refer to Appendix B). Once clearing of the site has been completed along the alignment, this measure will be reviewed and applied only when necessary (i.e. when vehicles enter or traverse vegetated or non-cleared areas or upon first entry to site). - regular inspections to monitor the spread of weed species. • training of environmental personnel on the identification of target weed species. Any outbreak of priority weeds or Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) will be controlled and eradicated as required under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, and as required by the Local Land Services and other relevant authorities. Weed control and eradication techniques will include: - spraying with herbicides - physical removal for example chipping - minimisation of area available for weed infestation, through prompt revegetation of bare areas.			
BSEC04	Biosecurity	- . JHG will implement the relevant weed management protocol discussed in Section 6.2.1. These protocols will apply to all construction works including the accommodation camp facilities.	Construction	Project Environment Manager (or delegate)	RTS Section 4.7.1.2

ID	Issue	Measure / Requirement	Timing / Frequency	Responsibility	Reference / Source
BSEC05	Biosecurity	In accordance with mitigation measure BD-7 and LP-10, this Biosecurity Management Plan has been developed which includes reference to the Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022 (LLS, 2017),2023-2027 (LLS 2022), and other relevant guidelines presented in Table 1-1. Consultation with CPHR, the Local Land Service (LLS) and DPI has also been undertaken and comments incorporated into this plan as relevant. The potential occurrence and associated mitigation measures to be implemented by JHG for Foot and Mouth Disease and Japanese Encephalitis are discussed in Section 4.6.2 and Section 6.2.2.	Construction	Project Environment Manager (or delegate)	RTS Section 4.7.1.2
BSEC06	Biosecurity	In accordance with mitigation measures BD-7 and LP-10, the Biodiversity Management Plan, which would be implemented during construction as part of the CEMP, includes measures to manage biosecurity risks in accordance with *the Biosecurity Act 2015* (Cth and NSW), including vehicle washdown, regular inspection of weeds being spread, weed removal and prompt revegetation in bare areas. JHG will implement reasonable and feasible hygiene controls including vehicle washdown activities during construction of the Project. Mitigation measures are discussed in Sections 6.2 and 6.3.	Construction	Project Environment Manager (or delegate)	RTS Section 5.2.1.1 RTS Section 7.3.8.4
BSEC07	Biosecurity	All staff will receive updates and information associated with awareness and training on biosecurity risks throughout the Project. Training will be undertaken in the form of inductions, toolbox talks, posters etc. and will include topics such as:	Pre-construction Construction	Project Environment Manager (or delegate)	JHG EMS

ID	Issue	Measure / Requirement	Timing / Frequency	Responsibility	Reference / Source
		• Weeds and pests • Pathogens • Animal diseases • Hygiene measures and mitigation measures in this Plan.			LLS feedback (see Appendix A).
BSEC08	Biosecurity	Undertake regular inspections and maintenance activities to ensure that weeds and pests are identified and removed/controlled in accordance with the advice from the Project Ecologist.	Pre-construction Construction	Project Environment Manager (or delegate)	UMM BD-7

Note: ID for mitigation measure has been included as a reference to the specific measure only.

6.2 Weed, Pest and Pathogen Control

Weed, pest and pathogen management and control practices will be implemented throughout construction to minimise the risk of spread into and out of the Project. Weeds identified will be managed and treated in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015 and Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023-2027, as relevant, or its updated version. The weed, pest and pathogen management procedure below have been prepared with consideration to the following:

- Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022 (latest version dated 2023-2027)
- Riverina Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan 2024-2028
- Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023-2027
- NSW Animal Biosecurity & Welfare Strategic Plan 2019 – 2023 (latest version dated 2024-2027)
- Hygiene protocol for the control of disease in frogs (DCCEEW 2011).

The purpose of the procedure is to:

- Identify pathogens and key weed species and distribution across the construction footprint
- Prevent the introduction and spread of weeds, pests and pathogens throughout the construction of the Project
- Establish an inspection and reporting framework for weeds and pathogens
- Set out performance criteria for the management of weeds and pathogens.

6.2.1 Weed Management

In order to manage weeds across the Project site, the following shall be implemented in accordance with the applicable guidelines and legislation:

- Complete pre-clearance process to determine areas of weeds / priority weeds for clearing. Pre-clearance will be undertaken by the Project Ecologist. Presence of weeds within the inspection area will be documented in the Pre-clearance report.
- Areas of weed infestation identified by the Project Ecologist are demarcated, at least twenty (20) working days before starting any clearing.
- All staff must be made aware of the priority weeds present on-site and requirements related to the listing under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (NSW) and Biosecurity Regulation 2017 (NSW). This will be achieved through the induction process, tool box talks as necessary and site bulletins where required.
- Structure where possible for works to segregate management of areas into areas containing priority weeds versus areas without priority weeds.
- Method of management will be determined based on the outcomes of the pre-clearance procedure and mapping of weeds. Recommendations on weed treatment will be provided by the Project Ecologist in line with best practice management measures provided in relevant guidelines and/or legislation. Recommendations on weed management measures will be documented in the Pre-clearance report.

- Clean machinery, vehicles and footwear before moving to a new location or arriving at the project site. This will be undertaken in accordance with the Biosecurity Checklist (refer to Appendix B) and measures listed in Section 6.3.
- Weeds and topsoil potentially containing weed propagules must be removed and disposed of in accordance with the relevant legislation and the requirements of the local Council as applicable, unless otherwise agreed with the Principal's Representative.
- Securely cover loads of weed-contaminated material to prevent weed plant material falling or blowing off vehicles.
- Minimise soil disturbance within weed infested areas. Topsoil recovered from areas of low weed infestation can be re-used onsite with treatment but should be stockpiled separately. JHG will consider this option where feasible and practical to do so.
- Where exotic plant species are to be removed from the Construction Site, they must be bagged and disposed of to a Licenced landfill facility. Topsoil potentially containing weed propagules must also be disposed to a Licenced landfill facility. These areas will be identified by the project Ecologist during pre-clearance inspections. Consideration will be given to in situ treatment, should there be an opportunity for beneficial re-use of topsoil however, this will be done where feasible and practical.
- Weeds would be managed and disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and/or the Weeds of National Significance Weed Management Guide.
- Any outbreak of priority weeds or WoNS will be controlled and eradicated as required under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, and as required by the Local Land Services and other relevant authorities
- Use of pesticides will be in accordance with the *Pesticides Act 1999* and other relevant legislation, label directions and any relevant industry codes of practice.
- All personnel managing and using pesticides must receive appropriate training and competencies as required.
- Only pesticides registered for use near water may be used near water and waterways.
- Where a weed spraying contractor is engaged onsite, avoid applying pesticides:
    - on hot days when plants are stressed (i.e. temperatures greater than 35^{o}C).
    - after the seed has set-in high-risk areas.
    - within 24 hours of forecast rain or when rain is imminent.
    - when winds will cause drift of pesticides into non-target areas

6.2.2 Pest Management

Due to expected Project duration, it is not anticipated that an extensive pest management program will be undertake as part of construction works. However, in order to manage pests across the Project site, the following shall be implemented in accordance with the applicable guidelines and legislation:

- As part of the pre-clearance process, inspect and determine presence of pest animals. Pre-clearance will be undertaken by the Project Ecologist. Presence of any pests within the inspection area will be documented in the Pre-clearance report.

- Areas of habitation of pests identified by the Project Ecologist are demarcated and reported to the Project Environment Manager or delegate.
- All staff must be made aware of the priority species present on-site and requirements related to the listing under the Biosecurity Act 2015 (NSW) and Biosecurity Regulation 2017 (NSW).
- Method of management for pests will be determined based on the outcomes of the pre-clearance process. Recommendations on treatment of pests will be provided by the Project Ecologist in line with best practice management measures provided in relevant guidelines and/or legislation. Recommendations on weed management measures will be documented in the Pre-clearance report.
- Where active management of priority pest species is required, actions will be undertaken in accordance with Riverina Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan (2024-2028), this will be determined by the Project Ecologist.
- Reporting will be undertaken as required in accordance with relevant legislation (refer to Section 1.1). Inland Rail will also be notified of any significant infestations or unexpected finds (as required by the Unexpected Finds Protocol- Biodiversity). Details of reporting requirements are provided in Section 7.7.

6.2.3 Pathogen and Animal Disease Management

Construction of the Project has the potential to introduce and facilitate the spread of key threatening processes in relation to pathogens. The most relevant pathogens for this Project include:

- Phytophthora
- Amphibian chytrid fungus
- Myrtle Rust (Austropuccinia psidii) and;
- Psittacine Circoviral (beak and feather) Disease.

These pathogens were identified in Chapter 10, Table 10.6 of the EIS but have not been positively identified as being present within the Project boundary. These pathogens present a potential risk to the surrounding environment as they can be inadvertently transported onto the Project by machinery, footwear, vehicles or poor management. Pathogen management measures are detailed in Table 6-2. Livestock pests and disease are discussed in Section 4.6.2.

Construction of the Project also has the potential to facilitate the spread of disease. Three main biosecurity risks exist for livestock within the Project area and have been identified in the Environmental Assessment Documentation as footrot, Ovine Johne's disease and sheep lice. All three risks are currently present in the region and have potential negative impacts on the productivity of sheep enterprises within the Project area. Under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, sheep footrot and OJD are prohibited matter and notifiable diseases.

Potential biosecurity risks to livestock which may occur include Foot and Mouth Disease and Japanese Encephalitis. These risks have not been identified in the Project area, however, pose a potential threat to livestock should they occur. Currently, Australia remains free of Foot and mouth disease. Regulatory controls for Japanese encephalitis have now been lifted in NSW and there are currently no quarantine controls on premises where this disease is detected, and no related movement restrictions on pigs, horses or other animals. Livestock pests and disease are discussed in Section 4.6.2.

A series of measures have been developed for the Project site to mitigate potential impacts from pathogens and disease. These measures are summarised in Table 6-2 and Table 6-3. Management measures relating to emergency situations is discussed in Section 6.4.

Table 6-2 Pathogen Management Measures

Item	Phytophthora (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*)	Chytrid (*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*)	Myrtle Rust (Austropuccinia psidii)	Psittacine Circoviral (beak and feather) Disease
Inductions	All personnel (including visitors) to be inducted on Phytophthora management measures for the site	All personnel (including visitors) to be inducted on chytrid management measures for the site.	All personnel (including visitors) to be inducted on Myrtle Rust management measures for the site.	All personnel (including visitors) to be inducted on Psittacine Circoviral management measures for the site.
Vehicles and machinery	• Arrive clean upon Site entry and have weed, and seed declaration or equivalent completed by suitably qualified person • Utilise vehicle wash down facility and inspect to confirm that the vehicle/machinery is clean*. • Restrict vehicles to designated tracks, trails and parking areas. • Provide parking and turn-around points on hard, well-drained surfaces • Ensure vehicle is cleaned before leaving site.	• Arrive clean upon Site entry and have weed, and seed declaration or equivalent completed by suitably qualified person • Utilise vehicle wash down facility and inspect to confirm that the vehicle/machinery is clean*. • Restrict vehicles to designated tracks, trails and parking areas. • Provide parking and turn-around points on hard, well-drained surfaces • Ensure vehicle is cleaned before leaving site.	• Arrive clean upon Site entry and have weed, and seed declaration or equivalent completed by suitably qualified person • Utilise vehicle wash down facility and inspect to confirm that the vehicle/machinery is clean*. • Restrict vehicles to designated tracks, trails and parking areas. • Provide parking and turn-around points on hard, well-drained surfaces • Ensure vehicle is cleaned before leaving site.	• Arrive clean upon Site entry and have weed, and seed declaration or equivalent completed by suitably qualified person • Utilise vehicle wash down facility and inspect to confirm that the vehicle/machinery is clean* • Restrict vehicles to designated tracks, trails and parking areas. • Provide parking and turn-around points on hard, well-drained surfaces • Ensure vehicle is cleaned before leaving site.

Item	Phytophthora (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*)	Chytrid (*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*)	Myrtle Rust (Austropuccinia psidii)	Psittacine Circoviral (beak and feather) Disease
Personnel and equipment	• Provide boot wash down facility*. • Restrict personnel to designated tracks and trails.	• Provide boot wash down facility*. • Disinfect with cleaning products containing benzalkonium chloride or 70% methylated spirits in 30% water. • Disinfect hands or change gloves between the handling of individual frogs and between each site and only handle frogs when necessary. Use the 'one bag-one frog' approach. Note – only the Project Ecologist or wildlife carer to handle frogs.	• Provide boot wash down facility*. • Restrict personnel to designated tracks and trails	• Provide boot wash down facility*. • Restrict personnel to designated tracks and trails

Item	Phytophthora (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*)	Chytrid (*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*)	Myrtle Rust (Austropuccinia psidii)	Psittacine Circoviral (beak and feather) Disease
Materials	• Retain all potentially affected materials within the contaminated area. • Ensure stockpiles of mulch, topsoil and fill material are separated to avoid potential contamination and spread. • Any movement restrictions (e.g. from biosecurity restriction zones) will be assessed prior to undertaken the movement of high-risk material	• To avoid cross contamination, generally avoid transferring water between two or more separate waterbodies. • Any movement restrictions (e.g. from biosecurity restriction zones) will be assessed prior to undertaken the movement of high-risk material	• Retain all potentially affected materials within the contaminated area. • Ensure stockpiles of mulch, topsoil and fill material are separated to avoid potential contamination and spread. • Any movement restrictions (e.g. from biosecurity restriction zones) will be assessed prior to undertaken the movement of high-risk material	• Retain all potentially affected materials within the contaminated area. • To avoid cross contamination, generally avoid transferring plant between two or more separate areas. • Any movement restrictions (e.g. from biosecurity restriction zones) will be assessed prior to undertaken the movement of high-risk material

* Refer to Section 6.3 for hygiene protocols

Table 6-3 Disease Management Measures

Item	Footrot (*Dichelobacter nodosus)*	Ovine Johne's disease (*Mycobacterium paratuberculosis)*	Sheep Lice (*Bovicola ovis*)	Foot and Mouth Disease	Japanese Encephalitis
Inductions	All personnel (including visitors) to be inducted on footrot management measures for the site	All personnel (including visitors) to be inducted on OJD management measures for the site.	All personnel (including visitors) to be inducted on Sheep Lice management measures for the site.	All personnel (including visitors) to be inducted on FMD management measures for the site.	All personnel (including visitors) to be inducted on JE management measures for the site.
Vehicles and machinery	• Utilise vehicle wash down facility*. • Restrict vehicles to designated tracks, trails and parking areas. • Provide parking and turn-around points on hard, well-drained surfaces.	• Utilise vehicle wash down facility*. • Restrict vehicles to designated tracks, trails and parking areas. • Provide parking and turn-around points on hard, well-drained surfaces.	• Utilise vehicle wash down facility*. • Restrict vehicles to designated tracks, trails and parking areas. • Provide parking and turn-around points on hard, well-drained surfaces.	• Utilise vehicle wash down facility*. • Restrict vehicles to designated tracks, trails and parking areas. • Provide parking and turn-around points on hard, well-drained surfaces.	• Utilise vehicle wash down facility*. • Restrict vehicles to designated tracks, trails and parking areas. • Provide parking and turn-around points on hard, well-drained surfaces.

Item	Footrot (*Dichelobacter nodosus)*	Ovine Johne's disease (*Mycobacterium paratuberculosis)*	Sheep Lice (*Bovicola ovis*)	Foot and Mouth Disease	Japanese Encephalitis
Personnel and equipment	• Provide boot wash down facility. • Restrict personnel to designated project work areas, tracks and trails.	• Provide boot wash down facility. • Restrict personnel to designated project work areas, tracks and trails	• Provide boot wash down facility. • Restrict personnel to designated project work areas, tracks and trails	• Provide boot wash down facility. • Restrict personnel to designated project work areas, tracks and trails	• Provide boot wash down facility. • Restrict personnel to designated project work areas, tracks and trails

Item	Footrot (*Dichelobacter nodosus)*	Ovine Johne's disease (*Mycobacterium paratuberculosis)*	Sheep Lice (*Bovicola ovis*)	Foot and Mouth Disease	Japanese Encephalitis
Materials	• Avoid tracking material from adjacent active construction and pasture areas. • Maintain regular consultation with farmers adjacent or in the Project site. • Any movement restrictions (e.g. from biosecurity restriction zones) will be assessed prior to undertaken the movement of high-risk material	• Avoid tracking material from adjacent active construction and pasture areas. • Maintain regular consultation with farmers adjacent or in the Project site. • Any movement restrictions (e.g. from biosecurity restriction zones) will be assessed prior to undertaken the movement of high-risk material	• Avoid tracking material from adjacent active construction and pasture areas. • Maintain regular consultation with farmers adjacent or in the Project site. • Any movement restrictions (e.g. from biosecurity restriction zones) will be assessed prior to undertaken the movement of high-risk material	• Avoid tracking material from adjacent active construction and pasture areas. • Maintain regular consultation with farmers adjacent or in the Project site. • Any movement restrictions (e.g. from biosecurity restriction zones) will be assessed prior to undertaken the movement of high-risk material	• Avoid tracking material from adjacent active construction and pasture areas. • Maintain regular consultation with farmers adjacent or in the Project site. • Any movement restrictions (e.g. from biosecurity restriction zones) will be assessed prior to undertaken the movement of high-risk material

* Refer to Section 6.3 for hygiene protocols

6.2.4 Pre-Clearance Surveys

6.2.4.1 Vegetation clearing

Pre-clearance surveys will be undertaken for vegetation clearing in accordance with the Project Biodiversity Management Plan but also include weeds and pests in accordance with Inland Rail's Biosecurity Specification (Inland Rail, 2021). These surveys will be undertaken by the Project Ecologist prior to works commencing to identify the location and significance of weed infestations and pest animals. A review will also be undertaken of known or possibly introduced diseases and contaminants as part of the survey.

Weeds of national significance and priority weed, and pest species will be identified and mapped within a pre-clearing report, which will also outline appropriate control methods for specific areas and weed species. Mitigation measures will be implemented in accordance with those identified in Section 6.

6.2.4.2 Imported materials

Construction has the potential to increase the spread of weeds, pests, pathogens and disease that threaten native biodiversity values through the importation of materials such as topsoil or mulch. John Holland will ensure that all material imported to site is from a reliable source and has been subject to inspection prior to entering site. Imported material will also be accompanied by the required documentation.

Any required stockpiling will be placed outside of any tree protection zone and used as close to material delivery as possible. Topsoil stockpiles that remain for longer than 10 days will be hand seeded as a weed management measure to encourage vegetation cover. Imported material will also be visually inspected for the presence of weeds or pathogens during the weekly environmental inspections.

Any material potentially containing weed propagules must be treated in accordance with the procedure detailed in Section 6.2.

6.3 Vehicles and Equipment

Vehicles or machinery operating or moving through weed affected areas can become contaminated with invasive plant seeds or other reproductive material. This material can then travel on the vehicle or machinery to new locations presenting a propagation risk. Seeds and seed containing material (i.e. residual soils and mud) can also fall from contaminated or dirty machinery or vehicles in agricultural production or environmentally sensitive locations resulting in a potential invasive plant infestation.

6.3.1 Hygiene Protocols and Clean Down Activities

Clean down of vehicles and machinery prior to site entry and exit, prior to movement between Project areas will be undertaken to reduce the risk of spreading invasive plants and soil borne pests and diseases. The Project will implement site hygiene protocols and vehicle clean down inspection procedures in accordance with Section 6.1 and Section 6.2. Wheel wash facilities will be utilised by vehicles and equipment that require access to off road areas or areas considered a potential risk. Vehicles that operate on the existing road network or hardstand areas only (i.e. delivery drivers and commuting construction personnel) will not be required to use the wheel wash facilities.

Wheel wash facilities will be implemented at selected ancillary facilities and will be identified in the CEMP. Wheel wash facilities may include the use of pressurised water / hoses to facilitate the removal of any plant or soil residue remaining on vehicles. Vehicles that have been operated off-road, in cleared on unsealed areas, will be

visually inspected by the vehicle operator prior to leaving site. This visual inspection will determine the need for utilisation of the wheel wash facilities provided.

Rumble grids will also be placed at access points connecting the project site to public roadways to prevent the potential spread of invasive plants and soil borne pests and diseases. All personnel will be inducted on the requirements of access/egress site and using wheel wash and rumble grid facilities.

Contaminated washdown water from wheel / boot wash facilities and rumble grids will be directed to and contained within a sump (or similar) and regularly removed from site by a suitably qualified and licenced contractor and disposed of at an appropriately licenced disposal facility.

6.3.2 Biosecurity Inspections

Biosecurity inspection checklists will be utilised for new vehicles arriving on site. The inspection will determine the origins of the vehicles movements to confirm if there is a specific risk to biosecurity (i.e. fire ant or other known biosecurity zones). All construction heavy equipment arriving on site will complete a Biosecurity inspection checklist upon arrival. All vehicles and construction heavy equipment that have completed an inspection will be recorded in a hygiene register for the Project in accordance with Inland Rail specifications. Biosecurity inspection checklists are presented in Appendix B. Vehicles arriving from a known biosecurity zone will have documentation to show that they have already been through the relevant biosecurity inspection checklist and will be recorded in the hygiene register. Vehicles travelling from known biosecurity zones to other known biosecurity zones via sealed roads will not be required to undertake a secondary biosecurity inspection review. Should a vehicle be travelling from cleared known biosecurity zones to other known biosecurity zones via un-sealed roads they will be required to undertake a secondary biosecurity inspection review.

6.3.3 Vehicle Operation

To reduce the risk of spread, the following measures will be implemented where applicable:

- Avoid driving off-road in areas known to contain weeds declared under legislation or regionally listed invasive plants or in other areas that present a risk of vehicle or machinery contamination.
- Do not drive through known infested paddocks. Infested paddocks will be determined through inspections covered under the pre-clearance process outlined under section 6.2.1
- Ensure clothing and footwear is free of soil and plant material before stepping into vehicles.
- Clean vehicles and machinery suspected of carrying soil or plant material.
- Keep roads, laneways and buffer zones free of invasive plants.
- Where possible, work infested areas separately and clean down equipment thoroughly before moving to another area.
- Cover all loads and secure loads if suspected to contain weed seeds.

6.4 Emergency Management

6.4.1 Biosecurity Emergencies

Biosecurity emergencies are caused by a biosecurity risk or impact, such as Emergency Animal Disease (EAD), plant pests and diseases (terrestrial and aquatic), invasive insects, and vertebrate pests. The NSW State Biosecurity (Animal and Plant) Emergency Plan (NSW DPI, 2022) is a sub plan to the State Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) (NSW Premier's Department, 2023) and describes the strategic emergency management arrangements for any biosecurity emergency affecting New South Wales.

Should a suspected biosecurity risk be discovered during construction of the project, i.e. via reporting of potential risks by construction personnel or contractors, or identification through planned pre-clearance inspections by the Project Ecologist, John Holland will engage the Project ecologist to complete a targeted inspection of the area to determine the level of risk and advise on immediate mitigation measures. Notification to the NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) will be undertaken based on the level and type of determined risk (refer to Section 6.4.3). John Holland will follow all directions received from the NSW DPI in order to respond to, manage and recover from any potential biosecurity related emergency. In the event of a declared biosecurity emergency, JHG will hand over control to the relevant authority as required, in order for implementation of the approved emergency plan.

The suspected area will also be demarcated as an exclusion zone until further direction is provided by relevant stakeholders. Any significant biosecurity risk will then be reported to Inland Rail and the relevant authority for further action.

6.4.2 Emergency Response

In order to manage potential biosecurity emergencies across the Project, the following shall be implemented in accordance with the applicable guidelines and legislation:

- Upon identification of a potential biosecurity emergency, works in the area are to stop and the area isolated and demarcated to prevent access.
- Project Ecologist to complete an inspection of the area to determine significance. This will be communicated to the JHG project Manager immediately upon becoming aware of the occurrence, and the event treated as an incident. The Project Ecologist will advise on the appropriate method of management. External notification requirements will be determined based on the outcomes of the inspection and advice of the Project Ecologist.
- If required, external notification of the emergency will be undertaken by the Project Manager and Environment Manager verbally to Inland Rail.
- Inland Rail will then notify the relevant authority provided in Section 6.4.3. Any suspect notifiable diseases must also be reported verbally to an authorised officer.
- All staff must be made aware of the potential emergency present on-site and related management actions and requirements via site communications i.e. bulletins, tool box talks etc.
- The emergency will be handed over to the relevant authority. John Holland will assist in emergency management where required under the direction of the relevant authority and Inland Rail.

The incident will then be recorded by John Holland in accordance with Section 7.5.

6.4.3 Emergency Contacts

Key emergency contacts associated with biosecurity emergencies are included in below.

Table 6-4 Key Emergency Contacts

Reporting Emergency	Contact Details
Emergency plant pest reporting (NSW department of Primary Industries)	• 1800 084 881 • Photos and information to accompany your hotline report can be emailed to biosecurity@dpi.nsw.gov.au.
Aquatic pests and diseases (NSW department of Primary Industries)	• 1800 675 888 (24-hour hotline) • Completed online form can be emailed to aquatic.biosecurity@dpi.nsw.gov.au
Emergency animal diseases (NSW Local Land Services)	• 1800 675 888 (24-hour hotline) • 1300 795 299 (Local Land Services - during business hours from Monday to Friday) • Email: admin.riverina@lls.nsw.gov.au
All other Biosecurity concerns (animal, aquatic, bee, plant, weed, insect, chemicals etc.)	• 1800 680 244 (NSW Biosecurity helpline)

Source: https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/report-a-pest-or-disease

7 Compliance Management

7.1 Roles and Responsibilities

The Project Team's organisational structure and overall roles and responsibilities are outlined in CEMP. Implementation of this plan is the responsibility of the JHG Project Environmental Manager (or delegate). Roles and Responsibilities specific to Biosecurity are presented in Table 7-1.

Table 7-1 Roles and Responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Project Environment and Sustainability Manager	• Overall responsibility for the implementation of environmental and sustainability mitigation measures associated with biosecurity. • Ensure environmental risks of the Project are identified ongoing and appropriate mitigation measures implemented • Identify where environmental and sustainability measures are not meeting the targets set and where improvement can be achieved • Ensure environmental protocols are in place and managed • Ensure environmental compliance with CoA and management plans • Liaise with the ER, the IRPL Environment and Sustainability Manager (or delegate) and approval authorities • Manage environmental reporting within JHG and to external stakeholders • Assist all site staff with issues concerning environmental matters on the Project • Develop and facilitate induction, toolbox talks, environment awareness notes and other training programs regarding environmental requirements for all site personnel.
Project Ecologist	• Provide expert advice on biosecurity related issues • Conduct pre-clearing survey and provide clearing supervision • Conduct flora and fauna surveys, weed surveys, ecological constraints assessments and monitoring where required • Prepare detailed pre-clearing and post-clearing reports as required • Review and advise on the Clearing and Grubbing CWMS • Work in partnership with the Project Environment Manager to build environmental capabilities, and achieve performance improvements • Assist JHG staff with environmental inquires.

Site Supervisors / Leading Hands	• Undertake any environmental duties as defined by the Superintendent, Construction Manager or Project/Site Engineers • Control field works and implement/maintain effective environmental controls • Where required, undertake environmental risk assessment of works prior to commencement • Ensure site activities comply with CWMS and relevant records are kept • Report any activity that has resulted, or has the potential to result, in an environmental incident immediately to the Superintendent • Stop activities where there is an actual or immediate risk of harm to the environment and advise the Superintendent, Construction Manager or Environment Manager.
Project Team (including sub-contractors)	• Comply with the relevant requirements of the BSMP, or other environmental management guidance as instructed • Participate in the mandatory Project induction program. All sub-contractors are required to attend the Project induction where the requirements and obligations of the CEMP are communicated. • Report any environmental incidents to the Superintendent immediately or as soon as practicable if reasonable steps can be adopted to control the incident • Undertake remedial action as required to ensure environmental controls are maintained in good working order • Stop activities where there is an actual or immediate risk of harm to the environment and advise the Superintendent, Construction Manager, Leading Hands or Project Environment Manager.

7.2 Training

All project personnel, including contractors working on site will undergo site induction training and pre-start briefings relating to biosecurity. The induction training and pre-start briefings will address elements including:

- Existence and requirements of this sub-plan
- Applicable and relevant legislative requirements
- Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) conditions (as required)
- Weed, Pest and Pathogen control and management
- Roles and responsibilities for management of biosecurity
- Typical construction activities and their associated environmental impacts.
- Procedure to be implemented in the event of an incident or exceedance in monitored exceedance limits.

- Mitigation and management measures relevant to biosecurity.

Targeted training in the form of toolbox talks or specific training will also be provided to personnel with a key role in the management of biosecurity as required. Daily pre-start meetings conducted by the Superintendent / Site Supervisor will inform the site workforce of any relevant environmental issues that could potentially be impacted by, or impact on, the day's activities. Further details regarding staff induction and training are outlined in the CEMP.

7.3 Monitoring and Inspections

Inspections of sensitive areas and activities which have the potential cause biosecurity impacts will occur for the duration of the Project. Requirements and responsibilities in relation to monitoring and inspections are documented in Section 7.1

Key monitoring and inspection activities relating to biosecurity are presented in Table 7-2.

Table 7-2 Biosecurity monitoring and Inspections

Inspection Details	Records	Responsibility	Frequency
Weekly environmental inspection	Environmental inspection checklist	Environmental Manager or delegate	Weekly
Pre-clearing inspections	Pre-clearing permit Project Ecologist's Preclearing inspection report/s	Environmental Manager or delegate	Prior to commencement of clearing
Weed surveillance and treatment	Project Ecologist's inspection report/s	Environmental Manager or delegate	Quarterly following pre-clearance survey report – ongoing throughout construction
Pest animal monitoring and treatment	Project Ecologist's inspection report/s	Environmental Manager or delegate	Quarterly following pre-clearance survey report – ongoing throughout construction
Inspection of all plant and equipment for absence of soil and debris to minimise the potential for seeds and plant material entering the project site and the introduction of further exotic plant species or disease.	Written verification from Subcontractors that all plant and equipment is clean prior to arrival to site. Mobile plant inspection check	Site Supervisor Environmental Manager or delegate	Prior to mobilisation to site and prior to moving equipment between areas whilst on site

All environmental monitoring equipment (if required) will be maintained and calibrated according to the manufacturer's specifications, and appropriate records will be kept. Non-conformance reporting protocols detailed in the CEMP.

7.4 Non-Compliance and Non-Conformance

7.4.1 Environmental Non-compliance

An environmental non-compliance is defined as one or more of the following:

- An occurrence, set of circumstances or development that is a breach of the Project Approval
- For auditing purposes, the independent auditor has determined that one or more specific elements of the conditions or requirements have not been complied with within the scope of the audit (Independent Audit Post Approval Requirements [DPHI, 2020])
- Failure to implement for the duration of construction the CEMP and CEMP sub-plans

Where environmental non-compliances are identified, they will be communicated to the IRPL Project Environment Team and the ER. IRPL will report via Appendix A of the CoA (written notification requirements) where required. This will then be recorded in the Project database. An environmental action list will be developed and issued to the relevant Project team personnel for implementation and close out.

Actions will be assigned an implementation priority in a collaborative way by the Project Environment Team based on the environmental risk. Timeframes will be set to ensure any damage incurred is rectified and any chance of recurrence is eliminated as soon as practicable. Following corrective action, the Project Environment Team will close out the non-compliance.

IRPL will notify the Secretary of any non-compliance as follows:

- Notification of a non-compliance will take place via the Major Projects Website within seven days of the Project being made aware of the non-compliance
- The notification will identify the CSSI (including the application number) and the name of the CSSI, set out the condition/s that is non-compliant, the nature of the breach; the reason for the non-compliance (if known) and what actions have been, or will be, undertaken to address the non-compliance.

A non-compliance that has already been notified as an incident does not need be notified as a non-compliance. The ER will include environmental non-compliances within the Environmental Representative Monthly Report.

7.4.2 Non-conformances and Opportunities for Improvement

A non-conformance is the failure to comply with an environmental requirement, standard or procedure, but does not include non-compliances as defined in the Environmental Management Plan Guideline for Infrastructure Projects (Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, 2020).

A non-conformity is an established process under AS/NZS ISO14001 Environmental Management Systems and is defined therein as non-fulfilment of a requirement of the ISO14001 standard or additional EMS requirements that an organisation establishes for itself. This Sub-plan has been prepared in accordance with the John Holland EMS. The John Holland EMS is certified as complying with the requirements of AS/NZS ISO 14001:2016.

Where non-conformances/improvement opportunities are identified, they will be communicated to the Project Environment Team. This will then be recorded in an environmental action list that will be issued to the relevant Project team personnel for action. Actions will be assigned an implementation

priority in a collaborative way by the Project Environment Team based on the environmental risk. Timeframes will be set to ensure any damage incurred is rectified and any chance of recurrence is eliminated as soon as practicable. Following corrective action, the Project Environment Team will close out the non-conformance.

Where a non-conformance/opportunity for improvement is raised as part of an inspection, audit, or an incident or complaint investigation, the inspection, audit, incident, or complaint report will be used to close out the non-conformance/opportunity for improvement.

7.4.3 Corrective and Preventative Actions

Corrective and preventative actions will be appropriate to the significance of the effects of the non-conformances encountered, including the environmental impacts. Information will be captured in the Project's adopted management software, including the nature of non-conformances, any corrective or preventative actions taken, and outcomes.

The Project Environment Team will be responsible for investigating, tracking, communicating, and closing out non-conformances, and implementing corrective and preventative actions. Higher level non-conformances will require the Project Director to review and close out. Actions will be assigned to the relevant supervisory staff for action.

Continuous learning and improvement are integrated into all aspects of the Non-conformance management process to capture, in real time, findings that can be incorporated to improve operational effectiveness. Any member of the Project team, including subcontractors, can contribute and provide suggestion to any required or appropriate preventative actions.

The Project Environment Team will also complete periodic reviews of environmental non-conformance records to identify trends and root causes and suggest preventative actions that are warranted at an organisational level. Trends relating to environmental non-conformances will also be discussed in regular Project meetings, including with the ER and IRPL, where recurring issues may indicate the need to take preventative actions.

7.4.4 Communicating Corrective and Preventative Actions to staff

The following mechanisms will be used to communicate lessons learned:

- Site improvement notices.
- Pre-start meetings.
- Toolbox talks.
- Project meetings.
- Reporting.

The Project Environment Manager will be responsible for review and approval of material for discussion and presentation of lessons learned. This will ensure that the material is fit-for-purpose, and readily understandable and implementable by our personnel, contributing to continual improvement for the Project, IRPL, and broader industry.

7.4.5 Non-conformance Close-out

Where a non-conformance is detected, a report will be raised in project databases. Non-conformances will be documented with the following information:

- Date raised and by whom.
- Description of the system deficiency (non-conformance).
- Cause and proposed remedy and action to prevent recurrence.
- Reinspection information.
- Date closed and by whom.

Details included in non-conformance reports will be specific to the event that has taken place (e.g. specific reference to the CoA where a non-conformance has been identified). The Project Environment Manager will sign-off on completion of agreed actions to signify close-out.

7.5 Incident Response

7.5.1 Incident Classification

In the event of an environmental incident, the Project will implement classification, notification, and reporting requirements in accordance with JHG's Project Environmental Incident Procedure.

The Project Environment Manager (or delegate) will be responsible for investigating, tracking, communicating, and closing out non-conformances, and implementing corrective and preventative actions. Higher level incidents will require the Project Director to review and close out. The IRPL Environmental Manager, JHG Environmental Team, and the ER, will provide supporting functions as required and agreed (refer to Section 7.1).

In the event of an incident, the Project will undertake notification requirements as detailed in Table 7-3.

Table 7-3 Incident Notification

Report only	Notifiable
• Verbally notify IRPL of incidents immediately, followed by written notification to IRPL and the ER within 24 hours of the incident • If required, IRPL will notify the EPA and relevant authorities immediately	• Verbally notify IRPL of incidents immediately, followed by written notification to IRPL and the ER within 24 hours of the incident. • IRPL to notify the DHPI, EPA and other relevant authorities immediately. • Prepare an incident notification / non-compliance report and submit to IRPL and the ER within 48 hours. • Prepare an investigation report and submit to IRPL and the ER within 7 days. • Submit Incident Notification to DPHI within 7 seven days of the incident in accordance with CoA A35

Environmental incident reports will include lessons learnt and proposed measures to prevent the occurrence of a similar incident. All efforts will be undertaken immediately to avoid and reduce impacts of incidents and suitable controls put in place. Incidents will be closed out as quickly as possible, taking all required action to resolve each environmental incident.

7.5.2 Incident Notification and Reporting

In accordance with CoA A34 and CoA Appendix A, the Planning Secretary will be notified via the Major Projects Website immediately after the Proponent becomes aware of an incident. The notification must identify the SSI and set out the location and nature of the incident.

Subsequent written notification will be provided to the Planning Secretary in accordance with CoA A35 as follows:

- In accordance with CoA Appendix A, a written incident notification addressing the requirements set out below must be submitted to the Planning Secretary via the Major Projects website within seven days after the Proponent becomes aware of an incident. Notification is required to be given under this condition even if the Proponent fails to give the notification required under Condition A34 or, having given such notification, subsequently forms the view that an incident has not occurred.

- Written notification of an incident must:

    - identify the CSSI and application number.
    - provide details of the incident (date, time, location, a brief description of what occurred and why it is classified as an incident).
    - identify how the incident was detected.
    - identify when the Proponent became aware of the incident.
    - identify any actual or potential non-compliance with conditions of approval.
    - describe what immediate steps were taken in relation to the incident.
    - identify further action(s) that will be taken in relation to the incident; and
    - identify a project contact for further communication regarding the incident.

- Within 7 days of the date on which the incident occurred or as otherwise agreed to by the Planning Secretary, the Proponent must provide the Planning Secretary and any relevant public authorities (as determined by the Planning Secretary) with a detailed report on the incident addressing all requirements below, and such further reports as may be requested.

- The Incident Report must include:

    - a summary of the incident.
    - outcomes of an incident investigation, including identification of the cause of the incident.
    - details of the corrective and preventative actions that have been, or will be, implemented to address the incident and prevent recurrence; and
    - details of any communication with other stakeholders regarding the incident.

The Project will maintain and provide all records of the environmental incidents and regulatory action to the IRPL Project team.

7.5.2.1 Notification and Reporting to the EPA

IRPL will notify the EPA of any pollution incidents on or around the site via the EPA Environment Line (telephone 131 555) in accordance with Part 5.7 of the POEO Act. The circumstances where this will take place include:

- Where the incident involves actual or potential harm to the health or safety of human beings or to ecosystems that is not trivial; or
- Where the incident results in actual or potential loss or property damage of an amount, or amounts in aggregate, exceeding $10,000 (or such other amount as is prescribed by the regulations).

JHG will prepare a Pollution Incident Response Management Plan (PIRMP) prior to construction in accordance with EPL requirements.

7.5.3 Incident Investigation

Where required, due to the severity or ongoing nature of the incident, investigations will be conducted and action plans established to ensure that the event does not occur again. Environmental investigations will include:

- Identification of the cause, extent, and responsibility of the incident.
- Identification and implementation of the necessary corrective action.
- Identification of the personnel responsible for carrying out the corrective action.
- Implementation or modification of controls necessary to avoid a repeat occurrence of the incident.
- Recording of any changes in written procedures required.
- Advising the relevant government agencies if any substantial pollution has occurred.

Information will be captured in site databases. Where there are lessons learnt from the investigation or current procedures are identified as being ineffective, the CEMP will be revised by the Project Environment Manager to include the improved procedures or requirement.

7.6 Auditing

Audits (both internal and external) will be undertaken to assess the effectiveness of environmental controls, compliance with this sub plan, CoA and other relevant approvals, Licences, and guidelines. These audits will be undertaken at planned intervals to provide information on whether the Project:

- Is meeting its compliance obligations.
- Conforms to this sub-plan.
- Determines if this Sub-plan is effectively implemented and maintained.

The approach to internal and independent audits, including audit requirements and the auditing schedule and management of environmental incidents are detailed in the CEMP.

7.7 Reporting

Reporting requirements relevant to the management of biosecurity and associated activities are identified in Table 7-4. Requirements and responsibilities for reporting are further described in the

CEMP. To facilitate and enable the effective management of environmental compliance across the Inland Rail Program, ARTC has implemented an Environmental Management Information System (EMIS) also known as 'Horizon 360, which John Holland will utilise for the Project.

Accurate records will be maintained substantiating all construction activities associated with the Project or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement this CBMSP. Records will be made available to DPHI upon request, within the timeframe nominated in the request.

Table 7-4 Reporting Requirements

Item	Frequency	Standards	External Reporting	Responsibility
Incident and non-compliance reports	At each occurrence	Reporting of incidents and non-compliances in accordance with CoA, EPL (and associated PIRMP).	Appropriate authority dependant on nature of the incident (e.g. EPA, DPHI) ER	Environment Manager (or delegate) / IRPL Environment Team
Complaint register	Daily (ER, IRPL) as received. DPHI as requested	Reporting of complaints, in accordance with the CoA, through the complaints register, to IRPL and the ER for any complaints received (on the day they are received). Communication, notification and complaints handling requirements regarding Biodiversity matters will be managed through the Complaints Management System administered by IRPL	ER DPHI (as requested by the Secretary)	Environment Manager (or delegate)
Weekly environmental inspection	Weekly	Inspection of the environmental controls and implementation including the measures outlined in Section 6	IRPL ER	Environment Manager (or delegate)
Pre-clearing report	Pre-clearance	Weeds of national significance and priority weeds will be identified and mapped within a pre-clearing report, which will also outline appropriate control methods for specific areas and weed species. Pest species, pathogens and disease identified within the inspection area will also be noted in the pre clearance report.	IRPL ER	Environment Manager (or delegate)

Item	Frequency	Standards	External Reporting	Responsibility
		Recommendations on management measures for weeds and pests will be provided in the pre-clearance report by the Project Ecologist.		
Post Clearing Report	Following clearing	A post-clearing report will be prepared by John Holland documenting all animals that are handled, or otherwise managed, within the site. Data to be recorded includes: • Date and time of the sighting and details of the observer. • Species • Number of individuals recorded. • Adult/juvenile • Condition of the animal (living/dead/injured/sick). • Management action undertaken (e.g. captured, handled, taken to vet). Results of any management actions (e.g. released, euthanised, placed with carer). Details of any identified weeds, pathogens, pests or disease. Further detail regarding this procedure is included in the Biodiversity Management Plan.	IRPL ER	Environment Manager (or delegate)

7.8 Complaints Management

JHG will maintain a Complaints Register for the Project within a project specific application known as 'Consultation Manager', in accordance with the requirements of CoA B8.

Inland Rail has established a Project email (inlandrailenquiries@artc.com.au) and fee call number for Project enquiries and complaints (1800 732 761). Complaints from other agencies will also be monitored via this phone number. The phone number will be available 24/7, and all contact will be acknowledged, and responses provided in accordance with the timeframes outlined below in accordance with the approved CCSI.

All complaints received during the I2S project will be actioned, recorded and used as an improvement opportunity for both John Holland and Inland Rail. Inland Rail has already established a Complaints Management Process in the lead-up to construction commencing on the project. The Complaints Management Process will be maintained for the duration of construction and for a minimum of 12 months following completion of construction of the CSSI.

7.8.1 Complaints Response

In accordance with the Inland Rail specification – '*Complaints Handling Requirements'*, John Holland will respond to complaints using the process shown on Figure 7-1.

Records of all complaints received will include the following details as minimum:

- Date and time of the complaint.
- Method by which the complaint was made.
- Personal details of the complainant provided by the complainant or, if no such details were provided, a note to that effect.
- Number of people in the household affected in relation to the complaint
- The nature of the complaint
- Means by which the complaint was addressed and whether resolution was reached, with or without mediation.
- If no action taken, reasons why.

Some complaints are classified as 'specific complaints' due to particular contractual or human resource related requirements. On receipt of a complaint, preliminary assessment will be undertaken to determine if it falls within a 'specific complaints' category.

When entering complaint data into Consultation Manager, consideration will be given to the sensitivity of the issue and ensure that the privacy and confidentiality of affected parties is maintained as per the appropriate privacy laws.

7.8.2 Response Timeframes

Complaints and enquiries will be responded to in the timeframes discussed below.

7.8.2.1 Feedback and Enquiries

- Provide verbal response to telephone enquiries within two hours if received during work hours or during out of hours construction works; for other times, a response will be provided the next business day
- Provide written response to emails and written enquires within 24 hours or on the next business day if received outside of work hours
- Follow-up calls, emails and letters will be made where required to close out the enquiry.

7.8.2.2 Complaints

- Provide verbal response to telephone enquires within two hours if received during work hours or during out of hours construction works, for other times a response will be provide the next business day
- Provide written response to emails and written complaints within 24 hours or on the next business day if received outside work hours

- Where possible, all complaints will be resolved within three business days. Where responses require technical assistance, responses may take up to five business days.

7.8.3 Complaints Register

All complaints will be tracked and recorded in John Holland's complaints management system. Upon the request of DPHI, a Complaints Register will be provided, within the timeframe stated in the request.

At the request of the Environment Representative, the details of complaints on the I2S project will be provided in a report format within the agreed time frame.

The Complaints Register provided to the Secretary, Environmental Representative will include the number of complaints received, the number of people affected in relation to complaint, the nature of each complaint, the timeframe in which the complaint was resolved, and if a resolution was reached and how it was reached. The Complaints Register will also note whether a complaint has necessitated independent mediation services

In addition to the information collected in the register, complainants will be advised of the following before, or as soon as practicable after, providing personal information:

- the Complaints Register may be forwarded to Government Agencies such as DPHI to allow them to undertake their regulatory duties
- by providing personal information, the complainant authorises Inland Rail to provide that information to government agencies
- the supply of personal information by the complainant is voluntary
- the complainant has the right to contact government agencies to access personal information held about them and to correct or amend that information.

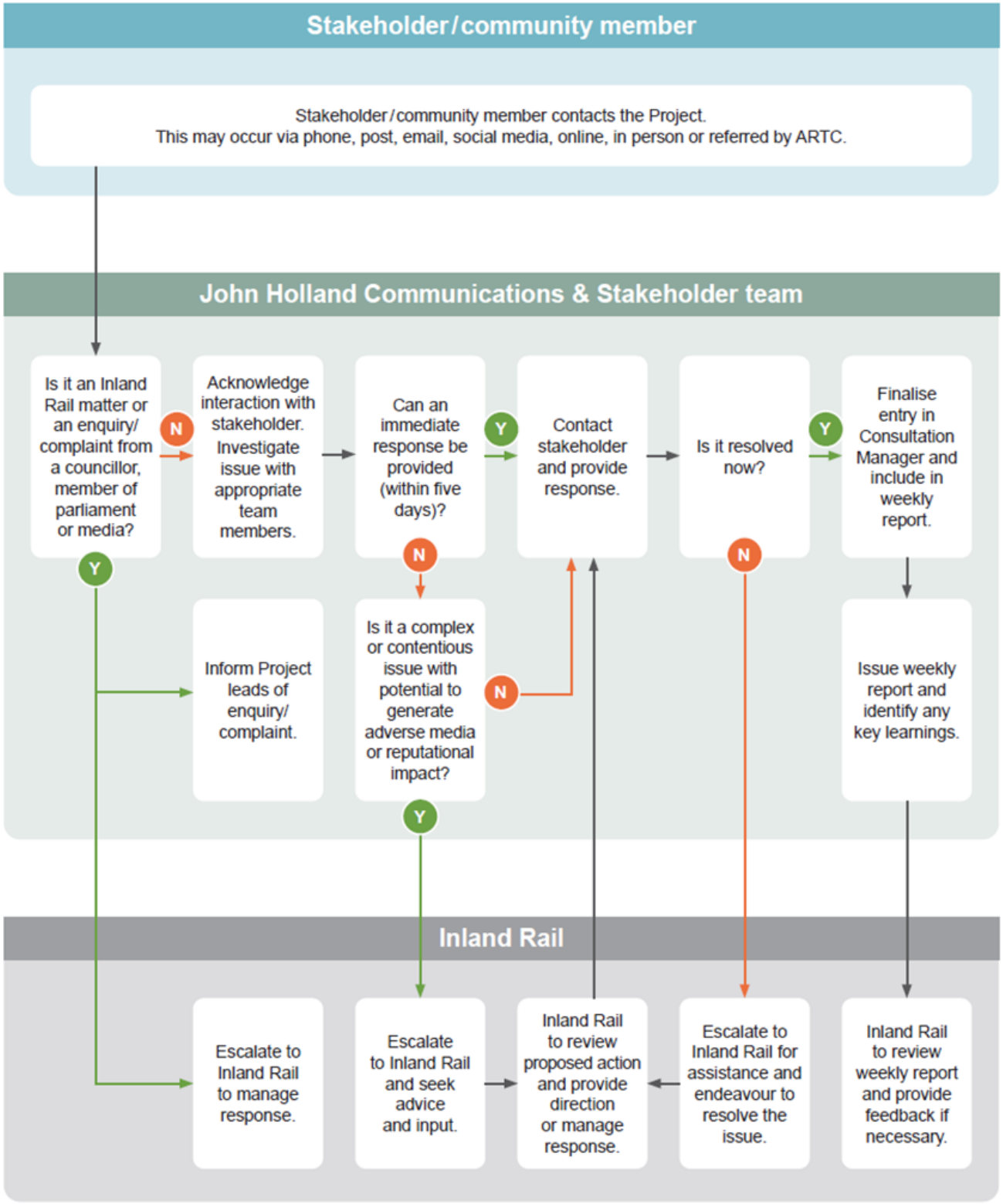

Figure 7-1 Complaints Handling Process

7.9 Record Keeping

John Holland will, in accordance with the requirement of Inland Rail's Biosecurity Strategy, maintain the following records relating to Biosecurity as appropriate:

- Clean down records for vehicles and plant
- Copies of any required certificates, licences or permits to be kept on site.
- Any requirements on the Commonwealth, State or Local legislation associated with certificates, licences or permits.
- Records audits, training and education awareness programmes delivered on by security, proactively or in response to an environmental event.
- Records on imported fill, spoil handling movements and stockpiling activities. Records shall meet legislative requirements and align with ARTC's Contamination, Spoil and Waste Management Strategy (0-0000-900-EEC-00-ST-0002)
- Records relating to water management including dewatering activities, surface water management, construction water sources, application and storage.
- Weed treatment records, including ground distribution of herbicides record sheets.

John Holland will maintain records for auditing purposes to demonstrate compliance with this BMSP and overarching CEMP.

8 Review and Improvement

8.1 Continuous Improvement

Continuous improvement of this Plan will be achieved by the ongoing evaluation of environmental management performance against environmental policies, objectives, and targets for the purpose of identifying opportunities for improvement.

The continuous improvement process will be designed to:

- Identify areas of opportunity for improvement of environmental management and performance
- Determine the cause or causes of non-conformances and deficiencies
- Develop and implement a plan of corrective and preventative action to address any non-conformances and deficiencies
- Verify the effectiveness of the corrective and preventative actions
- Document any changes in procedures resulting from process improvement
- Make comparisons with objectives and targets.

The Project Environment Manager (or delegate) is responsible for ensuring stage-specific environmental risks are identified and included in the Project risk register and appropriate mitigation measures implemented throughout the construction, as part of the continuous improvement process. The process for ongoing risk identification and management during construction is outlined in the CEMP.

8.2 Plan Amendments and Version Control

The processes described in the CEMP may result in the need to update or revise this Plan. Only the Project Environment Manager (or delegate) has the authority to approve changes to the requirements of this Plan. Minor amendments to the Plan may be approved and endorsed by the ER (at the Planning Secretary's discretion) in accordance with the CEMP and are to be implemented for the duration of construction and for any longer period set out in the monitoring programs or specified by the Planning Secretary, whichever is the greater. Amendments not considered minor by the ER require endorsement by the ER, and then approval by the Planning Secretary.

A copy of the updated plan and changes will be distributed to all relevant stakeholders in accordance with the approved document control procedure detailed in the CEMP.

9 Appendices

Appendix A – Consultation Records

DPI Agriculture

Date	Details of Engagement / Attempted Engagement
17/02/2025	Email to DPI Ag contact (Manager or Agricultural Land Use Planning- Wagga Wagga) confirming her as the key contact and letting her know that JHG will be preparing a management plan for review.
18/03/2025	Informal face to face catch up between Lillian Parker, Daniel Lidbetter and Dave Carberry in Wagga Wagga to discuss the Biosecurity risks on the project to be documented in a management plan. Subsequent email from JHG capturing the notes of these conversations.
20/03/2025	Email to Lillian Parker from JHG confirming the informal discussions on key inputs required from DPI Ag for the Biosecurity Management Sub-plan.
30/05/2025	Biosecurity Management Sub-plan (BMSP) submitted to DPI-Ag for review and comment.
20/06/2025	Follow up email from JHG to confirm that no further comments from DPI-Ag were anticipated for the Biosecurity Management Plan.
20/06/2025	Email from Lillian Parker- DPI Ag confirming no comments on the Biosecurity Management Plan.

Comment Raised	Project Response	Where addressed	Status
Nil	NA	NA	NA

CPHR (formerly BCS)

Date	Details of Engagement / Attempted Engagement
25/02/2025	Presentation to the BCS team (now CPHR-RD) providing an update and overview of all management plans and activities under development by JHG (including the Biosecurity). Discussions were included that covered the anticipated content and scope of the management plans.
30/5/2025	Biosecurity Management Sub-plan (BMSP) submitted to CPHR for review and comment.
20/06/2025	Response received from CPHR, Regional Delivery Division including advice and comments regarding the BMSP.
11/07/2025	Updated document provided to CRHR with comments addressed and request to confirmation from JHG for CPHR to confirm that comments were considered closed.
23/07/2025	Email provided by CPHR team confirming comments were addressed and now closed.

Comment Raised	Project Response	Where addressed	Status
Update to Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation (CPHR) Group.	Section 2.5.1 - first paragraph updated to refer to Conservation Programs, Heritage and Regulation (CPHR) Group	2.5.1 - Regulators	Closed
This language is different from what is generally used in the BMP. Ensure consistency with exclusion zones, protected and sensitive lands etc.	Section 3.2.1, Table 3.1 - Column 1 includes details of desired performance outcomes from the EIS and has been included here as a direct quote. Language has been checked throughout the document with the BSMP developed to address these performance outcomes.	3.2.1 - Performance Outcomes, Table 3.1	Closed
Rather than giving examples of species listed for each classification level, the detail should say what it means for each level of classification. The project-specific species for each classification should then be noted from the dot point list below	4.6.1 - Weeds, Table 4.1 updated to refer to weed categories, objectives and characteristics as per the Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2023 - 2027.	4.6.1 - Weeds, Table 4.1	Closed
If any of the weeds listed below that are known to occur in the Project area are listed as part of the Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan, their status should be noted against the plan and how they are listed e.g. WONS or regional priority weeds.	4.6.1 - Weeds, Table 4.2 updated to include columns for regional management priority, as well as status, biosecurity duty and how they are listed as per the Riverina Region Strategic Weed Management Plan.	4.6.1 - Weeds, Table 4.2	Closed
Once the level for each of these weeds is identified, this BSMP should include what the minimum level of control/management is for each classification level	Section 4.6.1 updated with a final paragraph stating: "JHG will ensure that weeds are managed in accordance with regional management priority and minimum levels of control as defined in the Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan (refer to Table 4 1 and Table 4 2)."	4.6.1 - Weeds	Closed
Comment regarding which are known from project area?	Section 4.6.3 updated to include clarity on the occurrence of vertebrate pests within the study area. The Riverina Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan provides a list of pests only and does not identify which of these are known to occur specifically within the Project area. this section has been updated with a sentence stating, *"that have the potential to occur within the Project area"*.	4.6.3 - Vertebrate Pests	Closed
Dot point 1 - Realistically, most of these biosecurity risks in this example are not biodiversity related but more agricultural and personnel. They could	Section 6.1 - BSEC01 is listed in the Revised Mitigation Measures under the EIS and Submissions Report. This measure has been included here as it	6.1 Biosecurity Mitigation and	Closed

Comment Raised	Project Response	Where addressed	Status
be referenced in the BMP to refer to the BSMP and are more appropriately managed in this document than the BMP. The BMP from a biosecurity perspective is more likely to be weeds and pests	relates to Biosecurity management obligations. The first paragraph of BSEC01 has been updated to include cross referencing between both the Biosecurity and Biodiversity Plans.	Management Measures, Table 6.1	
Dot Point 1 - Is there any indication of where these areas are at this stage based on the results of the EIS? Or will maps of key weed locations be included in the BSMP after these surveys as an update?	Section 6.2.1 - The EIS provides a summary of the weeds and pests expected to occur within the Project area and does not provide weed mapping. It is envisaged that weeds and pests will be identified during the pre-clearance process and mitigation measures applied as appropriate based on the outcomes of these inspections. The Project ecologist will prepare a pre / post clearing report which will document this information and recommendations for management.	6.2.1 - Weed Management	Closed
Dot Point 3 - How will this happen? Maps? something else?	Section 6.2.1, dot point 3 updated to include information on how information regarding weeds and pests will be communicated i.e. *"This will be achieved through the induction process, tool box talks as necessary and site bulletins where required."*	6.2.1 - Weed Management	Closed
Paragraph 1 - how will these risks actually be managed? Refer to Table 6.2?	Section 6.2.3, first paragraph updated to include reference to management measures in Table 6.2.	6.2.3 - Pathogen and Animal Disease Management	Closed
Paragraph 2 - Relevant parts of this report should be appended to this BSMP	6.2.4 - Pre-Clearance Surveys updated with a final sentence to refer to Appendix C. A copy of the pre-clearance report will be provided in the Biodiversity Mgt Plan.	6.2.4 - Pre-Clearance Surveys	Closed
Dot point 1 - pest plants? or priority weeds?	6.3.3 - Vehicle Operation - wording revised to encompass "weeds' in general	6.3.3 - Vehicle Operation	Closed
Dot Point 2 - rather that broadly infested paddocks, shouldn't this refer to the mapped locations of listed weed species as identified in the pre-clearance surveys?	6.3.3 - vehicle operation: dot point 2 updated to include *"Infested paddocks will be determined through inspections covered under the pre-clearance process outlined under section 6.2.1"*	6.3.3 - Vehicle Operation	Closed

Comment Raised	Project Response	Where addressed	Status
This should only done by a licensed ecologist or wildlife carer when necessary	Table 6.2, column 3 - Chytrid (Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis) updated to include handling only by the Project Ecologist or wildlife carer.	Table 6.2	Closed
What about after treatment? Will monitoring occur still at quarterly intervals if there has been a targeted weed removal at a site? And for how long after treatment?	7.3 - Monitoring and Inspection, Table 7.2 - updated to clarify that quarterly monitoring is ongoing throughout construction	7.3 - Monitoring and Inspection, Table 7.2	Closed
Post Clearing Report: Further detail regarding this procedure will be in the BMP?	Table 7.4 updated to confirm that further details on the post clearing procedure is provided in the Biodiversity Management Plan.	7.7 - Reporting, Table 7.4	Closed

Local Land Services (BES Unit)

Date	Details of Engagement / Attempted Engagement
30/05/2025	Biosecurity Management Sub-plan (BMSP) submitted to LLS for review and comment.
20/06/2025	Email correspondence with LLS representative requesting clarifications regarding the review requirements.
23/06/2025	Response provided to LLS by JHG representative via email clarifying questions raised regarding review requirements and meeting request to discuss BMSP.
27/06/2025	Email correspondence from JHG to LLS requesting response on BMSP from the broader team by close of business (COB) 4 July 2025.
3/07/2025	Email correspondence from JHG to LLS following up in regards to comments on the BMSP.
3/07/2025	Email correspondence received from LLS with a commitment to provide comments by 4/07/2025
4/07/2025	Email correspondence received from LLS (BES Unit) including advice and comments regarding the BMSP.
16/07/2025	Confirmation from LLS that all comments in the Plan were addressed and closed.

Comment Raised	Project Response	Where addressed	Status
• Recommend using ‘Johne’s Disease’ as blanket term for OJD/BJD – o Both Mycobacterium paratuberculosis & is listed as ‘Johne’s Disease’ in DPIRD Primefact 1565 ‘Notifiable pests and	Section 4.6.2 updated to identify Johne's Disease as a blanket term for OJD/BJD. Dot point 2 updated to: "Johne’s disease – incorporating Ovine Johne’s disease (OJD) and Bovine Johne’s disease (BJD) "	4.6.2 - Livestock pests and disease	Closed

Comment Raised	Project Response	Where addressed	Status
diseases of animals in NSW' o Both have significant economic, production, trade and welfare implications for sheep and cattle enterprises.			
• Footrot o Virulent footrot has significant economic, production, trade and welfare implications for sheep. Benign footrot can have similar impact but to a lesser extent and is not regulated.	Section 4.6.2, paragraph 3 updated to provide further information relating to footrot: sentence included - "Virulent footrot has significant economic, production, trade and welfare implications for sheep. Benign footrot can have similar impact but to a lesser extent and is not regulated. "	4.6.2 - Livestock pests and disease	Closed
• Sheep lice o Relevant issue in the area, however it is no longer notifiable and risk of spread via construction activities will only be minimal unless fences are damaged and sheep stray into neighbouring properties.	Section 4.6.2, paragraph 5 updated to include: "however, it is no longer notifiable and risk of spread via construction activities are expected to be minimal."	4.6.2 - Livestock pests and disease	Closed
• Japanese encephalitis Highly relevant for Riverina. Zoonotic risk for construction workers working outside in mosquito season – may need to consult NSW health for advice JE risk Transmitted by many mosquito species but Culex spp most common	Section 4.6.2, Paragraph 8 updated to provide additional information on the zoonotic nature of the JEV including: "The virus is considered zoonotic and may pose an increased risk during elevated mosquito activity however, given the current status of JE in the area, the current mitigation measures discussed in this Plan are considered adequate." Due to current status of JE in the Project area, further consultation with NSW health is not considered necessary. All consultation will be undertaken as per direction / requirement of the Project Approval.	4.6.2 - Livestock pests and disease	Closed
• FMD o Potential risk if construction workers are from or have been to countries where FMD is present recently o Swill feeding risk – ensure food scraps are properly disposed of and not left where domestic or feral pigs could access	Section 4.6.2, paragraph 7 updated to include "Although considered low risk, introduction FMD can be caused by personnel who have visited countries where FMD is present, as well as swill feeding by domestic or feral pigs. JHG will provide adequate hygiene controls, as well as adequate food disposal receptacles to further reduce any FMD risk."	4.6.2 - Livestock pests and disease	Closed
May need to reword to include "other notifiable pests and diseases of animals in NSW, as listed in the 'National list of notifiable diseases of terrestrial animals at April 2024' and	Section 4.6.2 paragraph 2 updated to include: There are many other notifiable and/or exotic diseases that could potentially pose a risk to livestock that have not been identified in the Project area, however, pose	4.6.2 - Livestock pests and disease	Closed

Comment Raised	Project Response	Where addressed	Status
DPIRD Primefact 1565 'Notifiable pests and diseases of animals in NSW'". There are many other notifiable and/or exotic diseases that could potentially pose a risk to livestock that have not been identified in the Project area, however pose a potential threat to livestock should they occur.	a potential threat to livestock should they occur. These potential risks are listed in the 'National list of notifiable diseases of terrestrial animals, April 2024' and DPIRD Primefact 1565 'Notifiable pests and diseases of animals in NSW'".		
Risk of chemical spills and chemical residues in livestock?	Spill response procedures and actions / mitigation measures relating to spill of hydrocarbons and chemicals is addressed as part of the Soil and Water Management Plan.	4.6.2 - Livestock pests and disease	Closed
• Zoonotic disease risk to workers? O Anthrax – risk of disturbing anthrax spores with excavation/earth work activity § Project site is located on the Eastern edge of the 'Anthrax belt' o JE (see above)	All risks identified within the BSMP have been included based on the risks assessed as part of the Environmental Assessment Documentation. Mitigation measures have been implemented according to these assessments.	4.6.2 - Livestock pests and disease	Closed
NSW Animal Biosecurity & Welfare Strategic Plan 2019-2023 is outdated, there is now a 2024-2027 version available.	Section 6.2, dot point 4 updated to include reference to most current version of the plan.	6.2	Closed
Similar comments to 4.6.2	Section 6.2.3,paragraph 1 updated with a reference to section 4.6.2.	6.2.3	Closed
Has a wildlife/exotics veterinarian been consulted for the wildlife diseases (e.g. Chytrid, Psittacine Circoviral Disease)?	These aspects have been assessed as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment. Consultation with relevant agencies has been undertaken in accordance with the Infrastructure Approval.	6.2.3	Closed
Page 46 – typo "farmers" not "famers"	typo corrected to "farmers"	6.3 - Disease Management Measures	Closed
In terms of movement restrictions from biosecurity restriction zones – how will knowledge of these biosecurity restriction zones be confirmed? E.g. how will you know if a property quarantined for virulent footrot? Or possible historical anthrax?	Biosecurity inspection checklists will be utilised for new vehicles arriving on site. The inspection will determine the origins of the vehicles movements to confirm if there is a specific risk to biosecurity (i.e. fire ant or other known biosecurity zones).	6.3 - Disease Management Measures	Closed

Comment Raised	Project Response	Where addressed	Status
Japanese encephalitis – may need to consider having a section mosquito protection – please consult NSW Health on JE risk/prevention in humans.	Refer to response in Cell M11	6.3 - Disease Management Measures	v
6.4.2 states that a project ecologist will assess any possible biosecurity incursion and make an assessment on whether they think it is an emergency This process then requires notification of a Project Manager, Environmental Manager and then notification to Inland Rail who THEN notify the relevant authorities. Please note that suspect notifiable diseases must be reported verbally to an authorised officer. If for example, this was a suspect case of FMD in livestock, how long would it take for the project ecologist to make an assessment, notify the project & environmental managers, then inland rail, and then for that information to then be passed onto an authorised officer? (e.g. EAD hotline, LLS district vet/biosecurity officer) o May need to review this to ensure prompt notification of suspect notifiable diseases to relevant authorities.	Section 6.4.2, dot point 4 updated to include " Any suspect notifiable diseases must also be reported verbally to an authorised officer." In regards to notification timing, the process described would occur quickly, on the same day. JHG's approach is to notify the relevant personnel immediately on becoming aware of an incident. this will then trigger the external notification process as described. Section 6.4.2 updated to clarify the notification process	6.4.2 Emergency Response	Closed
Typo – 'local Land Services' needs a capital L in the Key Emergency Contacts	6.4.3, Table 6.4 - updated to capitalise "L" of Local Land Services in Column 2 of table 6.4	6.4.3 Emergency Contacts	Closed
The overall weed management strategy is good but there are a number of discrepancies. JHG and inland rail area working from 3 weed documents	JHG will implement the relevant weed management guidelines and mitigation measures as stipulated in the Environmental Assessment Documentation. This Plan collates measures from a range of documents and will implement this plan as approved.	Entire Plan	Closed
I have also removed the references to Noxious weeds and pests as that was specific legislative terminology and added a clarification between declared and regionally listed weeds. (one is written in legislation while the	Noted, updates have been accepted and made within the updated document.	1.5 Crown Lands Licence	Closed

Comment Raised	Project Response	Where addressed	Status
other is written is regional and state supporting plans.			
2017 RSWMP, 2023 RSWMP and the Riverina Weeds Committee approved amendments to the plan (of which both are committee participants) This means that the current on-ground reality of weeds present, and management is accurate but does not always line up with the reference documents that are currently published. I have made amendments to those documents to update the referencing as well as the management categories for clarity.	Noted, updates have been accepted and made within the updated document.	1.1 Relevant Legislation and Guidelines, 4.6.1 weeds	Closed
I have also added to the legislation list the Biosecurity act 2015 (NSW) as it is cross referred to Commonwealth legislation also named the Biosecurity Act 2015. I have clarified this through the document where required.	Noted, updates have been accepted and made within the updated document.	1.1 Relevant Legislation and Guidelines,	Closed
There are a couple of comments including the inclusion of the relevant LCA (CGRC and Hilltops) for this in the initial survey. This is beneficial to both the councils and the ARTC/JHG as it significantly cuts costs of longer-term management and rail line inspections are a DPI WAP paid activity for the Councils. Doing this will go a long way to fostering better relationships and better weed management on both active and inactive rail corridors in the Riverina.	Noted, updates have been accepted and made within the updated document.	Throughout	Closed
Dot point 9 - Consider, where feasible, this option of topsoil once removed being treated (Fluproponate and glyphosate) and remaining in situ for re-use as site coverage and reconstitution/revegetation. – IN Roadworks this has proven to be an effective and less costly activity than off-site disposal which has its own challenges and longer term costs.	Section 6.2.1, Dot point 9 updated to include a final sentence "JHG will consider this option where feasible and practical to do so." Dot point 10 also updated to include a final sentence for context in relation to Dot point 9: "Consideration will be given to in situ treatment, should there be an opportunity for beneficial re-use of topsoil however, this will be done where feasible and practical."	6.2.1 - weed management	Closed

Comment Raised	Project Response	Where addressed	Status
First sentence - addition of "and exit" in relation to machinery and vehicle access to site.	Section 6.3.1 First sentence - updated to include "and exit" in relation to machinery and vehicle access to site.	6.3.1 - Hygiene Protocols and Clean Down Activities	Closed
Dot point 1 addition of "weeds declared under legislation or regionally listed invasive plants" in relation to invasive species.	Section 6.3.3 dot point 1 updated to include: " weeds declared under legislation or regionally listed invasive plants" in relation to invasive species."	6.3.3 - Vehicle Operation	Closed
This is for the construction of a new railway corridor. It will go through our Temora rabbit project area but I can't see how we can really add to this document some sort of pest animal control component. This works would come later once the project is completed and they then need to manage the land. Mel has made suggestions as there are risks of spreading weeds during construction so that's a great improvement. But unless I haven't thought of something I think its fine from a vertebrate pest perspective. No changes from me.	Comment noted - This BSMP is for management and mitigation during construction phase only. A separate Operational Management Plan will be prepared by ARTC for the operation of the rail line once constructed. The operational Management Plan will be subject to relevant conditions of approval related to operations.	N/A	Closed

Appendix B – Biosecurity Inspection Checklists

CHECKLIST - Cars, Trucks and 4WD	**Vehicle ID:**	
Interior	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect the foot wells. • Inspect the pile of carpets and under carpet and floor mats. • Inspect the toolboxes.		
Boot / Tray	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect under mats or carpet. • Inspect inside spare tyre area. • Inspect other recesses in the boot/rear of the vehicle. • Inspect recess of boot lid. **Note:** Remove any contents if required to facilitate the inspection.		
Engine Bay	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect the radiator. • Inspect the grill. • Inspect the top of transmission gearbox. • Inspect the recess under windscreen wipers.		
Underside of Vehicle	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect the wheel arches, wheel trims, flares, step treads, bumpers. • Inspect the mud flaps. • Inspect the tyre rims (particularly the rear side). • Inspect the top of axels and differentials. • Inspect the top of muffler and surrounds. • Inspect the spare tyres on 4WD's and station wagons are often suspended underneath. **Note**: these are potentially a high-risk area as contaminants collect inside the horizontally positioned rim.		
Cargo	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect boxes and/or cartons present in the vehicle if you cannot ascertain their contents.		
Utilities and Trucks	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect the floor of the tray. • Inspect channels of tail gates. • Inspect side guards. • Inspect under chassis rails. • Inspect the gaps in the floor welds or boards and bolt holes on tray.		
Trailers	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect wheels. • Inspect guards and trays. • Inspect channels of draw bar. • Inspect under body.		

Actions Required

CHECKLIST – Dump Trucks and Wheeled Loaders	Equipment ID:	
Driver's Cabin	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Remove any rubber floor mats and clean floor surface. • Remove and inspect all door rubbers, internal door panelling and all windowsills. • Remove and inspect under the seat, including the rubber seat shroud. • Remove any non-affixed floor panel if applicable and inspect underneath. • Remove rubber pedal covers and inspect. • All air-conditioning vents must be internally inspected. Access will be required for inspection • Inspect cleanliness of cabin roof and walls, both inside and out. • Inspect ladder to cabin (may have hollow frame) and under each footstep. • Inspect all light covers. Access may be required. • Inspect for false floor under cabin and remove, if applicable. • Inspect the vertical cabin housing drainage holes.		
Front End and Radiator	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect radiator grill • Loosen radiator shroud to let loose debris fall through • Inspect either side of radiator for vertical hollow support structures. • Clean inside all light covers. Access will be required to verify • Inspect front drawbar for drainage holes and flush if present • Inspect vertical channels either side of radiator for drainage holes and flush • Inspect cleanliness of air filter (pressurised air may be required) • Inspect air-conditioning unit		
Engine Bay	Pass ☐	Fail ☐

• Remove air-filter pre-cleaner cover and clean. • Remove air-filter and clean with air. • Clean inside fan-belt flywheels (harmonic balancer). • Inspect all surfaces of engine block including between tappet covers. • Remove belly plates if applicable and clean. • Remove all non-affixed engine covers to allow access for inspection. • Remove all engine cover rubbers for inspection. • Inspect engine housing • Inspect radiator and oil cooler from both sides to verify cleanliness. • Inspect battery boxes for cleanliness. Loosen batteries and inspect under. • Inspect all wiring harnesses for internal cleanliness. • Inspect under all hydraulic looming for cleanliness. • Ensure all engine mounts are clean. • Ensure that all surfaces of sump and engine block are clean. • Inspect under all inspector-plate (non-slip footings). • Inspect front wishbone between the front wheels.		
Rear Chassis	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect all surfaces of the oil and fuel tanks. • Inspect all wiring harnesses for internal cleanliness. • Inspect under all hydraulic looming for cleanliness. • Inspect all surfaces of the chassis rails. • Inspect all internal ledges and hollow cavities inside track frames. • Carrier rollers above tracks – can have hollow vertical support structure, which requires Inspection.		
Tyres and Rims	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Ensure that all cracks and splits in tyres are free of contamination. • Inside wheel rims may require non-affixed plates to be removed to allow access to the brake drums and inner rim		
Utilities and Trucks	Pass ☐	Fail ☐

• Inspect the floor of the tray. • Inspect channels of tail gates. • Inspect side guards. • Inspect under chassis rails. • Inspect the gaps in the floor welds or boards and bolt holes on tray.		
Trailers	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect all surfaces of the tray for any cracks, splits or evidence of repair. If any are detected these will need to be investigated for internal contamination (if double skinned) • Inspect all rubber mounts on the underside of the tray		
Actions Required		

CHECKLIST – Excavators	Equipment ID:	
Cabin	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect any rubber floor mats and floor surface. • Inspect all door rubbers, internal door panelling and windowsills. • Remove cabin wall lining and clean behind. • Remove and clean under the seat, including the rubber seat shroud. • Remove any non-affixed floor panel if applicable and inspect underneath. • Inspect all air-conditioning vents, including air-conditioning filter – may have to remove panelling • Inspect cleanliness of cabin roof, both inside and out. • Inspect ladder to cabin, if applicable (may have hollow frame) and under each footstep. • Remove all light covers and inspect cavity behind. • Inspect any drainage holes in cabin housing flush to verify clean.		
Body and Engine Bay	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect air-filter and pre-cleaner. • Inspect all surfaces of engine block including between tappet covers. • Clean inside fan-belt flywheels (harmonic balancer). • Remove all non-affixed engine covers to allow access and inspect all surfaces. • Check engine covers for hollow support framework - flush to verify clean. • Inspect either side of radiator for vertical hollow support structures. • Check all wiring harnesses for internal cleanliness. • Counterweight – on some models the counterweights must be removed to allow inspection. • Batteries - Loosen batteries and inspect under. • Check to ensure that sump and engine block is clean. • Check all lights and cavities behind.		
Tracks, Rollers and Frames	Pass ☐	Fail ☐

• Track Rock guards – must be removed to allow access to inside track frames. • If rock guards have been removed, check where bolts attach to frame as it may be a hollow cavity, which requires flushing. • Individual rubber track pads removed (if applicable – small excavators). • Motor cover plates to be removed and inspect inside drive motor. • Rollers – check and clean as required • Track frame ends – are hollow and require flushing to verify. • Remove all non-affixed covers & plates. • Roll tracks – one revolution required to inspect cleanliness of each track pad & countersunk bolts on rollers and idler wheels. • Inspect behind sprockets (all excavators). • Inspect spring adjuster inside track frame. • Carrier roller above tracks – can have hollow support structure, which requires checking. • If excavator has telescopic tracks (generally small excavators), ensure these are extended. • Inspect all internal ledges and hollow cavities inside track frames.		
Boom and Bucket	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Check front and backside of bucket for any cracks, splits or evidence of repair. If any detected, the inside will need to be verified clean. • Remove all non-affixed wear plates. • Check spot-welded wear plates on back of bucket. • All cutting teeth to be checked on bucket (Boots) and blade • Inspect boom arm • All knuckles must be cleaned (remove all contaminated grease).		
Actions Required		

CHECKLIST – Track Type Dozers	Equipment ID:	
Driver's Cabin	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect externally under and around driver's cab. • Inspect under mats or carpets in cab. • Remove/lift seat; remove/lift floor pans to allow inspection of top of transmission. • Inspect air conditioner filter (if fitted)		
Tracks / Track Frames	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Examine tracks carefully. • Ensure inspection/cover plates are removed to allow inside track area. • Check idler wheels		
Belly Plates	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Should be removed to allow inspection		
Rear Plates	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• At back of dozer should be removed to allow inspection.		
Hydraulic Cover Plates	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Should be removed to allow inspection		
Engine	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect radiator core and engine area for residues. • Inspect the air filter/cleaner. • Inspect the void space between the oil and radiator cores.		
Battery Box	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Lift/remove the battery to inspect for contamination (battery box may be at side/rear or under seat).		
Fuel Cells	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Are removable therefore soil and plant material can pack between the tank and the frame.		
Blade	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Ensure that edge of blade top/bottom is not split – this allows soil to be packed very tightly in the hollow. • Inspect cutter points/wear blades. • Inspect truncation arms.		

• Inspect the pivot points and adaptors at the rear of the front blade – these allow the blade to change height and angle. Sometimes soil has compacted and is difficult to dislodge. • Inspect all hollow sections.		
Ripper support frame	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect Frame if hollow for any contaminants		
Tynes	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Tynes need careful inspection for any contaminants		
Ripper Points	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Inspect any pin holds on the ripper points.		
All other areas	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
• Check if any sections or channels are hollow and determine if there is a possible entry point for contamination. • Check if plates are covering a compartment or space that may have collected soil and plant material.		
Actions Required		

Appendix C- Clearing Procedure

Pre-Clearance Procedure

To ascertain the types of biosecurity risks (weeds and pathogens), fauna and flora that is present within the construction area, a preclearance survey must be conducted prior to the commencement of works. It is recommended that this assessment occur immediately prior to the disturbance (i.e., on the previous day).

All trees, alive and dead, will be inspected for wildlife occupancy and habitat trees (those with hollows and/or nests) will be marked with high visibility tape. The ecologist will also survey the surrounding area for suitable locations to release any wildlife encountered during the works.
If no habitat trees are present, the clearing works could proceed without an ecologist present. Under this scenario, the ecologist would write a short letter report detailing the results of the preclearance survey and this would be the end point.

If habitat trees are present, the ecologist would remain on site during the clearing of all habitat trees (see below).

1. Fauna spotter catcher

Best practise guidelines suggest that non-habitat trees be cleared first, and habitat trees should be left in place for at least 24 hours after non-habitat vegetation is cleared. The removal of habitat trees must be conducted under the supervision of a fauna spotter catcher to minimise harm to fauna.

Prior to their removal, habitat trees should be mechanically shaken or 'knocked'. This will encourage any occupant animal to leave or to reveal themselves, and subsequently be removed. Felling will involve gently pushing the tree to the ground so as to avoid sudden falls that are likely to injure wildlife. The trees are then to be systematically checked from the ground by the fauna spotter catcher for remaining fauna. Felled habitat trees will be left overnight (e.g., in an adjacent habitat area if required) to allow for any undetected fauna to depart. If threatened fauna are identified, then these trees may not be disturbed until the fauna have vacated the area.

Records of clearing works will be kept by the fauna spotter catcher and submitted to provided to JH within a brief letter report. These records will include the number of habitat trees removed, the number of impacted cavities suitable for fauna, the number of animals removed from site and their fate. All threatened species encountered will be reported as per project requirements.

2. Pre-clearance survey prior to clearing activities

A pre-clearing survey procedure will be prepared prior to deployment which will describe the survey methodology and species to be targeted. This procedure will also include a mechanism for keeping of records for all fauna rescue events, including locations of where the fauna will be relocated.
Pre-clearance surveys will be undertaken to identify and mark habitat trees (both hollow bearing and nest-bearing) within the clearing footprint and record/advise of the presence of fauna.

Iti s noted that the removal of habitat trees will be undertaken in accordance with *RMS Biodiversity Guidelines: Guide 4 Clearing of vegetation and removal of bush rock*, and that an ecologist must be on site whilst the removal of habitat trees occurs. The contractor will also keep records of the number of trees cleared (tree is defined at 100 millimetres DBH at 1.5 m).

3. Weed identification survey

An ecologist will survey the alignment to determine the weed species present on site for the development of weed management advice. This would include a letter report and GIS data on the distribution/density of the main weeds.

Of the introduced flora species recorded within the subject land, seven were listed as High Threat weeds under the BC Act. In addition, one recorded species, *Lycium ferocissimum*, was listed as Priority Weeds for the Riverina region under the Biosecurity Act 2015 and listed as a Weed of National Significance (WoNS) (Department of Primary Industries 2021) as outlined below.

The following priority weeds are listed within the Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) prepared for the Illabo to Stockinbingal Environmental Impact Statement (I2S- EIS) 2022:

Table 1-1: Priority weeds identified in the I2S BDAR

Species name	Common name	BAM HTW[1]	Priority weeds	WOS
*Alternanthera pungens**	Khaki Weed	Yes	-	-
*Bromus diandrus**	Brome grass	Yes	-	-
*Hypericum perforatum**	St John's-wort	Yes	-	-
*Lycium ferocissimum**	African Boxthorn	-	Yes – Prohibition on dealings[2]	Yes
*Paspalum dilatatum**	Paspalum	Yes	-	-
*Romulea rosea var. australis**	Onion Grass	Yes	-	-
*Rosa rubiginosa**	Sweet Briar	Yes	-	-
*Xanthium spinosum**	Bathurst Burr	Yes	-	-

Note: (*) signify introduced species – non-native species

(1) High threat weed list (BAM-C list, last updated 22/10/2020)

(2) Prohibition on dealings: Must not be imported into the State or sold

3.1 Riverina Strategic Weed Management (2023-2027)

The Riverina Strategic Weed Management Plan (LLS 2022) provides a framework for regional weed management within the Central Tablelands, including the Cootamundra-Gundagai LGA. This plan supports the implementation of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* at a regional level.

The plan outlines four goals relating to weed management:

- **Goal 1:** Exclude – prevent the establishment of new invasive species.
- **Goal 2:** Eradicate or contain – eliminate or prevent the spread of new invasive species.
- **Goal 3:** Effectively manage – reduce the impacts of widespread invasive species.
- **Goal 4:** Capacity building – ensure NSW has the ability and commitment to manage invasive species.

Pre-clearance surveys will include the identification of high-threat weeds, Weeds of National Significance (WoNS), priority weeds (PW), and recommendations and future directions for JH to employ (in accordance with the Project Biosecurity Management Plan) for the control of weeds throughout the project site.