

ORDER ISSUED TO:



BY POST & EMAIL

Notice Number:

C0004394

Case Reference Number: 15802-2015, DOC18/975442

Date:

4 February 2019

FURTHER VARIED ORDER TO CARRY OUT REMEDIATION WORK UNDER SECTION 11.15 OF THE BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 2016 (NSW)

BACKGROUND

- A. The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) has responsibility for the enforcement of the now repealed Native Vegetation Act 2003 (NV Act).
- B. The NV Act was repealed on 25 August 2017. However pursuant to clause 58 of the Biodiversity Conservation (Savings and Transitional) Regulation 2017 (BC (S&T) Regulation), the repeal of the NV Act does not affect any offence against that Act, or the regulations under that Act, that was committed before the repeal, and the provisions of the NV Act relating to proceedings for an offence, issuing of penalty notices for an offence, and the making of a court order in relation to an offence continue to apply.
- C. Pursuant to clause 54 of the BC (S&T) Regulation, remediation orders under Division 4 of Part 11 of the BC Act may be issued in relation to damage in or as a result of the commission of an offence under the NV Act committed before 25 August 2017.
- D. Pursuant to section 11.15 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act (BC Act), if the Chief Executive of OEH is satisfied that damage has occurred in or as a result of the commission of an offence against the NV Act, the Chief Executive may order a person to carry out specified remediation work in a specified manner and within a specified time.
- E. Troy Northey, holds the position of Senior Team Leader Compliance & Regulation, Conservation and Regional Delivery Division within OEH.
- F. Troy Northey holds delegated authority on behalf of the Chief Executive of OEH for the purposes of section 11.15 of the BC Act.
- known as is the owner of Lots DP G. (the "Property").



BASIS FOR ISSUING REMEDIATION ORDER

- H. OEH has investigated a report of land clearing on the Property between 7 August 2015 and 11 November 2015.
- Under S 12 of the NV Act, it was an offence to clear native vegetation except in accordance with a development consent granted in accordance with the Act or a property vegetation plan.
- K. Information gathered to date, including examination of aerial photographs, an interview with you and a field inspection undertaken on 17 November 2015, 2 December 2015, 7 January 2016 and 20 January 2016 indicates that the unlawful clearing of native vegetation first occurred on the property within the areas marked A-I on the attached maps of the remediation area in 2015. During this period, approximately 15 hectares was unlawfully cleared within the Remediation Area.
- L. The works required by this remediation order provide for the remediation and restoration of the damaged areas.
- M. It is acknowledged that the land has been regenerating naturally over the past 3 years without active intervention during that period.

OPINION

N. I, Troy Northey, Senior Team Leader, Conservation and Regional Delivery Division within OEH am satisfied that native vegetation has been damaged in or as a result of the commission of an offence against s12 of the NV Act.

ORDER TO CARRY OUT REMEDIATION WORK

- O. In order to:
 - a) maintain, remediate or restore the damaged area, habitat, plant, animal or vegetation concerned;
 - I, Troy Northey, Senior Team Leader, Conservation and Regional Delivery Division, order (the Remediator) to carry out the following remediation work on the Property within the time specified, if any, for each work, or where no time is specified, for a period of 5 years from the date of this order:



1. REMEDIATION WORK

1.1. In this Order, Remediation Areas means the yellow hatched areas referred to in **Attachments 1-3.**

2. EXCLUSION OF REMEDIATION AREA

Stock management

- 2.1. The Remediator must exclude all stock from the Remediation Area for a minimum period of three (3) years commencing from 1 January 2019 (stock exclusion period).
- 2.2. Any stock found within the Remediation Area prior to 1 January 2022 must be removed by the Remediator as soon as practicable and in any event within five days of the Remediator becoming so aware of the stock being in the Remediation Area.
- 2.3. The Remediator must inspect the Remediation Area 4 times each Reporting Period, with a minimum of 80 days between each inspection for the purposes of determining whether stock are present within the Remediation Area.
- 2.4. If at any time the OEH determine that the Remediation Areas require a further stock exclusion period in order to maintain, remediate or restore those areas then OEH may impose further stock exclusion periods (not limited to one further period) for periods up to and including 31 December 2023, that being 5 years from 1 January 2019.

Fire management

- 2.5. The Remediator must exclude intentional use of fire in the remediation area for a minimum period of three (3) years commencing from 1 January 2019 (fire exclusion period).
- 2.6. If at any time the OEH determine that the Remediation Areas require a further fire exclusion period in order to maintain, remediate or restore those areas then OEH may impose further fire exclusion periods (not limited to one further period) for periods up to and including 31 December 2023, that being 5 years from 1 January 2019.
- 2.7. A Fire Management Plan is to be prepared for the Remediation Areas, with special priority for Area A, which is to be approved by OEH.

3. WEED, EXOTIC SPECIES, COMMERCIAL CROP AND NON-NATIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

- 3.1. All requirements of this section 3 are for a period of 5 years from 1 January 2019 unless otherwise stated.
- 3.2. Exotic species, commercial crops and non-native plants must not be planted in the Remediation Area.
- 3.3. The Remediator must destroy all commercial crops found within the Remediation Area and ensure that exotic plant species comprise less than five (5) percent of foliage cover within each vegetative stratum in the Remediation Area.
- 3.4. The Remediator must control such exotic species, and destroy all such commercial crops by either spot application of herbicide or by removal by non-mechanised means as soon as practicable and in any event within thirty (30) days of becoming aware of same.



3.5. The Remediator must contract an independent suitably qualified and experienced ecologist or botanist to monitor the Remediation Area one time each reporting period with a minimum of 140 days between each monitoring event for the purposes of determining the foliage cover of exotic species and presence of commercial crops within the Remediation Area.

4. MONITORING PROGRAM

Engagement of a Restoration Ecologist or Botanist

- 4.1. Within 2 months of 1 January 2019, the Remediator must advise OEH in writing of the name and qualifications of an independent restoration ecologist or botanist who has indicated that they will agree in writing to perform any function under this Remediation Order as though the Expert Witness Code of Conduct in Schedule 7 to the *Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005* applied to the performance of that function.
- 4.2. The above nomination is subject to approval by the OEH who may object within 1 month of receiving the nomination from the Remediator on the basis that the nominated ecologist or botanist is not suitably qualified. If the OEH objects then the Remediator must propose an alternative ecologist or botanist within 1 month of being informed of the OEH objection. OEH must not act unreasonably in objecting to such nomination.
- 4.3. After OEH has approved the nominated ecologist or botanist then the nominee is considered the nominated ecologist or botanist for the Remediator unless OEH is notified otherwise, and the Remediator must engage that ecologist to perform any function under this Remediation Order as though the Expert Witness Code of Conduct in Schedule 7 to the *Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005* applied to the performance of that function.
- 4.4. The Remediator may nominate a replacement ecologist or botanist at any time and the conditions of paragraphs 4.2 4.4 shall apply to such nomination. Should the nominated ecologist or botanist resign then the Remediator must advise OEH in writing of a replacement within 1 month of the resignation.

Bush regeneration monitoring

- 4.5. The Remediator must contract an independent suitably qualified and experienced restoration ecologist or botanist to undertake annual monitoring of bush regeneration in the Remediation Area for an initial period of three (3) years, which is to commence no later than 30 April 2019 (bush regeneration monitoring period).
- 4.6. The bush regeneration monitoring methodology must be devised in consultation with and is subject to final approval by the OEH.
- 4.7. The bush regeneration monitoring reports must be presented as a Remediation Area Monitoring Report in a standard scientific reporting format, which includes (but not limited to): introduction, aims, methods (including survey limitations), results, discussion and conclusions.
- 4.8. If at any time the OEH determine that the Remediation Areas require a further period of bush regeneration monitoring in order to maintain, remediate or restore those areas then OEH may impose further bush regeneration monitoring periods (not limited to one further period) for periods up to and including 31 December 2023, that being 5 years from 1 January 2019.



Weed monitoring

- 4.9. The monitoring referred to in paragraph 3.5 will be for an initial period of three (3) years, and monitoring is to commence no later than 30 April 2019 (weed monitoring period).
- 4.10. The weed monitoring methodology must be devised in consultation with and is subject to final approval by the OEH.
- 4.11. The outcomes of annual weed monitoring must be presented in a standard scientific reporting format, which can be submitted annually as a component of the Remediation Area Monitoring Report.
- 4.12. If at any time the OEH determine that the Remediation Areas require a further period of weed monitoring in order to maintain, remediate or restore those areas then OEH may impose further weed monitoring periods (not limited to one further period) for periods up to and including 31 December 2023, that being 5 years from 1 January 2019.

5. RECORDS

- 5.1. The following records must be kept by in respect of any work undertaken as a result of any inspection(s):
 - 5.1.1. details of any required work within the Remediation Area;
 - 5.1.2. the date(s) this work was undertaken; and
 - 5.1.3. the date on which this work was completed.
- 5.2. All records required to be kept by this Order must be:
 - 5.2.1. true, accurate and correct;
 - 5.2.2. in a legible form, or in a form that can readily be reduced to a legible form;
 - 5.2.3. kept for at least 4 years after the inspection or event to which they relate took place; and
 - 5.2.4. produced in a legible form to any Authorised Officer of OEH who asks to see them.

6. REPORTING

- 6.1. must prepare and submit:
 - An initial Baseline Remediation Area Monitoring Report (with Attachment 6) by 30 April 2019; and
 - A Remediation Area Monitoring Report (with Attachment 7) annually by 30 April 2020, 30 April 2021, 30 April 2022 and by 30 April 2023 for any period imposed thereafter in accordance with this Remediation Order;
- 6.2. Delivery of the above may be by email to Troy.Northey@environment.nsw.gov.au or by Registered Post to Senior Team Leader, Compliance & Regulation, OEH Conservation and Regional Delivery Division North East, Locked Bag 914, Coffs Harbour NSW 2450



7. DEFINITIONS

In this order, the following definitions apply

"Exotic species"	means flora species introduced from outside of the area concerned; in the case of New South Wales, from overseas and/or interstate.
	Note: The source of this definition is Harden, G.W. ed. 1990-2002. <i>Flora of New South Wales: Volumes 1 – 4</i> , University of NSW Press.
"Foliage Cover"	Means the percentage of the sample site occupied by the vertical projection of foliage and branches (if woody).
	Note: The sources of this definition is Walker, J. and Hopkins, M. S. 1990, 'Vegetation', in <i>Australian Soil and Land Survey – Field Handbook Second Edition</i> , Inkata Pres, Sydney.
"Property"	Lots DP known as
"Remediation Area"	means the areas located on the Property shown schematically on the map in Attachments 1-5 outlined in yellow and marked "Remediation Area" being parts of Lots and of DP known as or the Property.
"Remediator"	means
"Reporting period"	means each year commencing from 1 January 2019 for the duration of this Order.
"Stock"	means all livestock (including, but not limited to, cattle, horses, sheep, alpacas, pigs and goats). It does not include native wildlife.
"Weed"	means a plant that is a pest as defined by section 15 of the Biosecurity Act 2015



WARNING AND INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORDER

- It is an offence against section 11.22 of the BC Act to contravene this Order without reasonable excuse or to intentionally obstruct anyone carrying our remediation work under this Order. The maximum penalty that a court may impose for this offence is:
 - o for a corporation, \$660,000 plus \$66,000 for each day the offence continues, and
 - o for an individual, \$132,000 plus \$13,200 for each day the offence continues.
- If you fail to comply with this Order the Chief Executive of OEH or his delegate may authorise any other person to enter the Property and carry out all of part of the work and may then recover the cost from you (section 11.18 of the BC Act).
- This Order is issued under section 11.15 of the BC Act.
- Under section 11.15(4) of the BC Act this Order may be varied or revoked by a further order.
- Under section 11.23(1) of the BC Act, if you are aggrieved by the decision to make this Order you may appeal to the Land and Environment Court within 30 days of this Order being served on you. However, even if an appeal is lodged, you must comply with this Order, unless the Court orders otherwise.
- Under section 13.11 of the BC Act, your obligation to comply with the requirements of this Order continues until the Order is complied with, even if the due date for compliance has passed.
- · OEH may conduct inspections to determine whether this Order is being complied with.
- Words and expressions have the same meaning as words and expressions used in the BC Act or Part 5A of the Local Land Services Act 2013 (as the case may be), except where a word is specifically defined in this Order.
- A Remediation Order will not negate the potential for enforcement action (including penalty notice or prosecution). A Remediation Order is separate to any potential enforcement action.

Troy Northey

Senior Team Leader

Conservation and Regional

Delivery Division

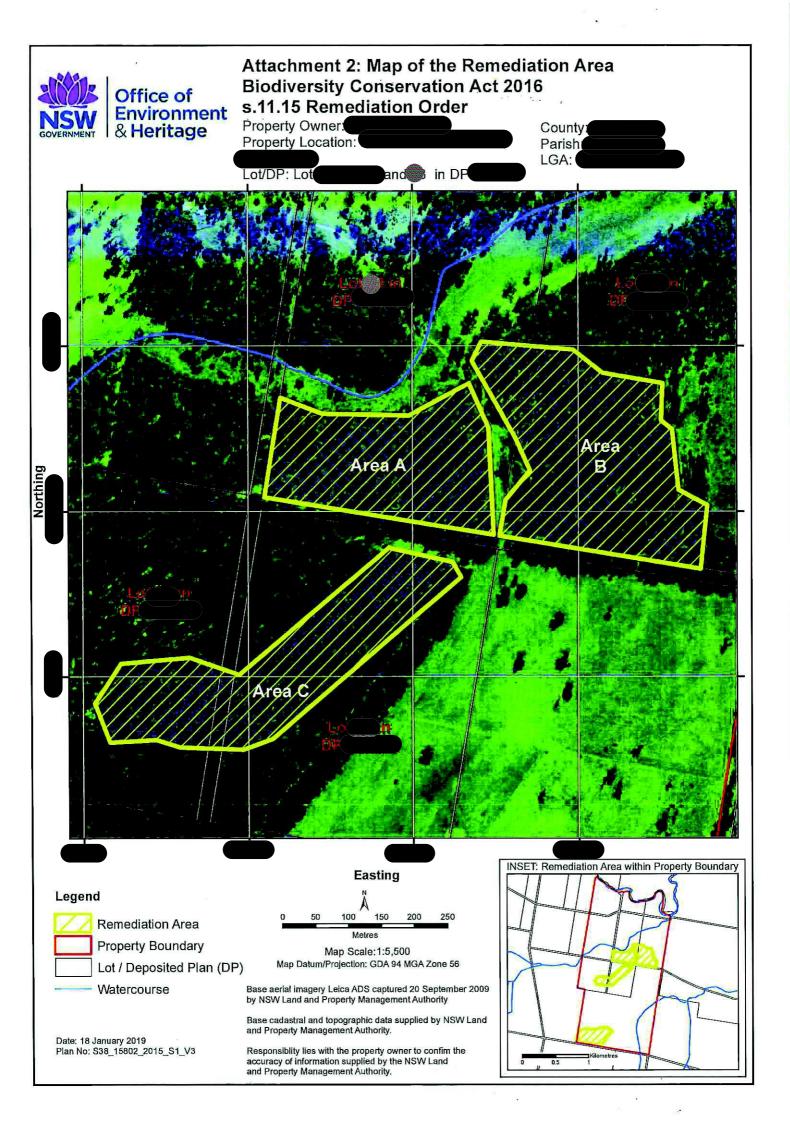
(by Delegation)

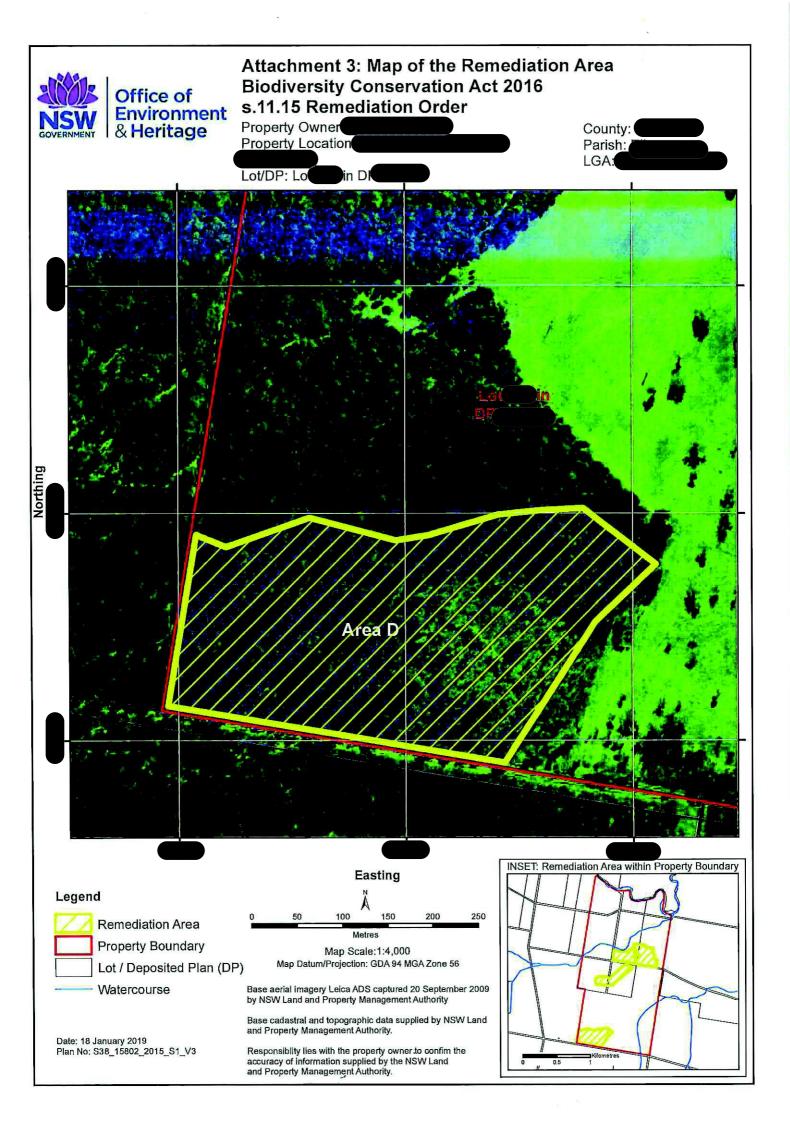


Attachments 1-3:

Map of the Remediation Areas.

Attachment 1: Map of Remediation Area Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 s.11.15 Remediation Order Office of Environment & Heritage Property Owner: County: Property Location: Parish: Lot/DP: Lot LGA: and "Remediation Area" consists of Sub Remediation areas A, B, C & D **Easting** Legend Base aerial imagery Leica ADS captured 20 September 2009 by NSW Land and Property Management Authority. Sub Remediation Areas Map Scale: 1:8,000 The Property Base cadastral and topographic data supplied by NSW Land and Property Management Authority. Lot / Deposited Plan (DP) Map Datum/Projection: GDA 94 MGA Zone 56 Responsibility lies with the property owner to confim the Watercourse accuracy of information supplied by the NSW Land and Property Management Authority. Date: 18 January 2019 Plan No: S38_15802_2015 _S1_V3







ATTACHMENT 4 – BASELINE REMEDIATION AREA MONITORING REPORT

LANDHOLDER		

AS PER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS SET OUT IN THIS REMEDIATION ORDER, THE BASELINE REMEDIATION AREA MONITORING REPORT MUST BE RECEIVED BY OEH BY 30 APRIL 2019.

Failure to submit this Baseline Remediation Area Monitoring Report by 30 April 2019 may result in:

• the issue of a Penalty Notice for \$1320 (individuals) or \$6600 (corporations);

OR

prosecution.

WARNING AND INFORMATION

Section 11.22 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* offence of contravening remediation order or obstruction remediation work, a person must not, without reasonable excuse, contravene a remediation order to which the person is subject, maximum penalty (includes additional daily penalty): Tier 2 monetary penalty, for a corporation \$660,000, plus \$66,000 for each day the offence continues and for an individual, \$132,000, plus \$13,200 for each day the offence continues.

Please submit your completed Baseline Remediation Area Monitoring Report to:

a) By Registered Post to:

Senior Team Leader Compliance & Regulation Conservation and Regional Delivery Division, North East Office of Environment and Heritage Locked Bag 914 Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

b) By courier or by hand to:

Senior Team Leader Compliance & Regulation Conservation and Regional Delivery Division, North East Office of Environment and Heritage Level 8, 24 Moonee Street Coffs Harbour NSW 2450



A Baseline Remediation Area Monitoring Report

Please provide the following information regarding compliance with the Remediation	Order issued to
The Remediation Order relates to the following area of land: Lots , DP , known as	the "Property")
Please: - provide details of activities undertaken; and	
 provide dates as appropriate. Note: the definitions in this Report are the same as in the Remediation Order. 	
confirms that all stock have been excluded from the Remediation Areas as of 1 January 2019.	Date
If all stock were not removed from the remediation areas by the date specified in 2.1 Order, please provide an explanation below.	L of the Remediation
confirms that there has been no intentional use of fire in the Remediation Areas since 1 January 2019.	Date
If there was intentional use of fire in the Remediation Areas since 1 January 2019 ple explanation of why below.	ease provide an



B Signature and Certification

This Baseline Remediation Area Monitoring Report may only be signed by a person(s) with legal authority to sign it as set out in the categories below. **Please tick (**✓) the box next to the category that describes how this Baseline Remediation Area Report is being signed.

If the Landholder is:	the Baseline Remediation Area Monitoring Report must be signed and certified:
an individual	by the individual Landholder
a company	by affixing the common seal in accordance with Corporations Act 2001,
	or
	☑ by 2 directors, or
	by a director and a company secretary, or
	if a proprietary company that has a sole director who is also the sole company secretary – by that director.

I/We declare and certify that the information in this Baseline Remediation Area Monitoring Report is true and correct

SIGNATURE:	SIGNATURE:
NAME: (printed)	NAME: (printed)
POSITION:	POSITION:
DATE:	DATE:/

SEAL (if signing under seal)



ATTACHMENT 5 – REMEDIATION AREA MONITORING REPORT

LANDHOLDER	
REPORTING PERIOD	1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

AS PER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS SET OUT IN THIS REMEDIATION ORDER, THE REMEDIATION AREA MONITORING REPORT MUST BE RECEIVED BY OEH BY 30 APRIL 2020

Failure to submit this Remediation Area Monitoring Report by 30 April 2020 may result in:

the issue of a Penalty Notice for \$1320 (individuals) or \$6600 (corporations);

OR

prosecution.

WARNING AND INFORMATION

Section 11.22 of the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 offence of contravening remediation order or obstruction remediation work, a person must not, without reasonable excuse, contravene a remediation order to which the person is subject, maximum penalty (includes additional daily penalty): Tier 2 monetary penalty, for a corporation \$660,000, plus \$66,000 for each day the offence continues and for an individual, \$132,000, plus \$13,200 for each day the offence continues.

Please submit your completed Remediation Area Monitoring Report by Registered Post, to:

By Registered Post to: a)

> Senior Team Leader Compliance & Regulation Conservation and Regional Delivery Division, North East Office of Environment and Heritage Locked Bag 914 Coffs Harbour NSW 2450 or

b) By courier or by hand to:

> Senior Team Leader Compliance & Regulation Conservation and Regional Delivery Division, North East Office of Environment and Heritage Level 8, 24 Moonee Street Coffs Harbour NSW 2450



A Remediation Area Monitoring Summary

Please provide the following information regarding compliance with the Remediation Order issued to

The Remediation Order relates to the following area of land: Lots	DP known as)
Please:		

- tick (✓) the appropriate box where a question is asked; and
- provide details of activities undertaken; and
- provide dates as appropriate.

Note: the definitions in this Report are the same as in the Remediation Order.

		25
Inspections	Yes	No
Have inspections for stock in the Remediation Area taken place as required by 2.3 of the		[7]
Remediation Order? (tick ✓ Yes or No)	2	i ii
Dates of stock inspections		
If there have been no inspections for stock in the Remediation Area, provide an explanation	below.	
Stock Management		T
Stock Management Was any stock present within the Remediation Area during the Reporting Period?	Yes	No
(tick \(\sqrt{Yes or No} \)	?	2
If Yes, provide details of the type and amount of stock present, how stock came to be in the a	rag confirm	that all
stock has been removed and the date that stock was removed	reu, conjirm	that all
Stock has been removed and the date that stock was removed		
Fire Management	Ves	No
Was there any fire within the Remediation Area during the Reporting Period?	Yes	No 2
Was there any fire within the Remediation Area during the Reporting Period? (tick ✓ Yes or No)	2	2
Was there any fire within the Remediation Area during the Reporting Period?	2	2
Was there any fire within the Remediation Area during the Reporting Period? (tick ✓ Yes or No)	2	2
Was there any fire within the Remediation Area during the Reporting Period? (tick ✓ Yes or No) If Yes, provide details of whether the fire was intentional, contact with any Rural Fire Service	2	2
Was there any fire within the Remediation Area during the Reporting Period? (tick ✓ Yes or No) If Yes, provide details of whether the fire was intentional, contact with any Rural Fire Service	2	2
Was there any fire within the Remediation Area during the Reporting Period? (tick ✓ Yes or No) If Yes, provide details of whether the fire was intentional, contact with any Rural Fire Service	2	2
Was there any fire within the Remediation Area during the Reporting Period? (tick ✓ Yes or No) If Yes, provide details of whether the fire was intentional, contact with any Rural Fire Service	2	2
Was there any fire within the Remediation Area during the Reporting Period? (tick ✓ Yes or No) If Yes, provide details of whether the fire was intentional, contact with any Rural Fire Service	2	2



Weed, Exotic Species, Commercial Crop and Non-native Plant management		
(a) Have any exotic species, commercial crops or non-native plants been removed from the	Yes	No
Remediation Area as required by 3.3 & 3.4 of the Remediation Order (tick ✓ Yes or No)	?	3
(b) If no, have any exotic species, commercial crops or non-native plants been identified	Yes	No
within the Remediation Areas during the Reporting Period? (tick ✓ Yes or No)	?	?
If yes to (a), provide details of the method of destroying or removal of exotic species,	Date(s)	
commercial crops or non-native plants and the amount and type of exotic species,	8 8	
commercial crops and non-native plants destroyed or removed (including dates)		
If no but yes to (b), please confirm details as to when these will be removed or why they will		
not be removed.		-
Weed Monitoring (for an initial period of three (3) years)		
Has the Remediator contracted an independent suitably qualified and experienced ecologist		
or botanist to monitor the Remediation Area two (2) times each reporting period with a	0.00	
minimum of 140 days between each monitoring event for the purposes of determining the	Yes	No
foliage cover of exotic species and presence of commercial crops within the Remediation Area	2	3
as required by 3.5? (tick ✓ Yes or No)		
If there has been no monitoring of weeds in the Remediation Area provide an explanation		-
below.		
below.		
		-
		-
Have the outcomes of bi-annual weed monitoring been presented in a standard scientific		
	Yes	No
reporting format and submitted to OEH as required by 4.11 of the Remediation Order?	2	2
(tick ✓ Yes or No)		
Bush Regeneration Monitoring (for an initial period of three (3) years)		
Has the Remediator contracted an independent suitably qualified and experienced ecologist		
or botanist to undertake annual monitoring of bush regeneration in the Remediation Area for		
an initial period of three (3) years, which is to commence no later than 30 April 2019 as	Yes	No
required by 4.5 of the Remediation Order??	2	<u> </u>
(tick ✓ Yes or No)		
If there has been no monitoring of weeds in the Remediation Area provide an explanation		
below.		
~ 010 111		
IIthe high recognition monitoring report have proported as a Demandiation Aug-		
Has the bush regeneration monitoring report been presented as a Remediation Area		
Monitoring Report in a standard scientific reporting format, which includes (but not limited	Yes	No
tal introduction sime methods (including survey limitations) results discussion and	153	?
to): introduction, aims, methods (including survey limitations), results, discussion and	[2]	13.1
conclusions as required by 4.7 of the Remediation Order? (tick \(\) Yes or No)		1111



B Signature and Certification

This Remediation Area Monitoring Report may only be signed by a person(s) with legal authority to sign it as set out in the categories below. Please tick (\checkmark) the box next to the category that describes how this Remediation Area Monitoring Report is being signed.

If you are uncertain about who is entitled to sign or which category to tick, please contact us on telephone (02) 6659 8200

f the Landholder is:	the Monitoring Report must be signed and certified:
an individual	by the individual Landholder
a company	by affixing the common seal in accordance with
•	Corporations Act 2001, or
	☑ by 2 directors, or
	by a director and a company secretary, or
	I if a proprietary company that has a sole director who is also
	the sole company secretary – by that director.
	.e

SEAL (if signing under seal)