



[REDACTED]

Order Number: DOC21/64639-10
CCMS Case Ref. No.: 201900846
Issue Date: 31 March 2021
Property: [REDACTED]

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

ISSUED VIA: Registered Post – [REDACTED]

Date of issue: 31 March 2021

Who are we: The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has responsibilities regarding the administration and enforcement of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (NSW) (**the BC Act**) and its associated Regulations, and responsibilities regarding the enforcement of Part 5A of the *Local Land Services Act 2013* (NSW) (**the LLS Act**) and the Regulations under that Part.

Why we serve remediation orders: Pursuant to section 11.15 of the BC Act, if the Environment Agency Head (the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment) is satisfied that an area, habitat, plant, animal or native vegetation as specified in section 11.15(1) has been damaged in or as a result of the commission of an offence against the BC Act or regulations or against Part 5A of the LLS Act or regulations, the Environment Agency Head may order a person to carry out specified remediation work in a specified manner and within a specified time.

What you are required to do: The works required by this remediation order provide for the control, abatement and mitigation of the damage and/or maintenance, remediation, restoration of the damaged area of the Property. Section 11.16(2) of the BC Act requires you to carry out remediation work required by this Order.

When are you required to act: Immediately from the Date of issue.

What happens if you don't comply: 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 out remediation work under this Order. Contravention of this Order has a maximum penalty of Tier 2. The maximum penalty that a court may impose for a Tier 2 offence is \$660,000 (plus \$66,000 for each day the offence continues) for a corporation, and \$132,000 (plus \$13,200 for each day the offence continues) for an individual.

What your appeal rights are: Section 11.23(1) of the BC Act allows for a person given a remediation order to appeal against the giving of the Order (or any terms of the order) to the NSW Land and Environment Court within 30 days of the service of the Order. However, even if an appeal is lodged, you must comply with this Order, unless the Court orders otherwise. More information on appeals can be found on the NSW Land and Environment Court website <http://www.lec.justice.nsw.gov.au>.

Remediation Order



1. DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT OBSERVATIONS

In accordance with s11.15(3) and (4) of the BC Act, the variation of remediation order DOC21/64639 is issued to you in writing. The Variation order is issued in the same manner as the remediation order. The contents that have been varied are:

- (1) ***Section 3.1, General Requirements, sub section 3.1.1(i).*** After careful consideration, this section now reads as: ***3.1.1(i) - Strategic Grazing may occur within the Remediation Area in any calendar year outside the period of 1 September to 30 November being for cattle of a maximum stocking rate of 10 dry sheep equivalents per hectare.***
- (2) The Remediation Order has been back dated to start from 2019 and the new length of the Remediation Order is thirteen (13) years from the time of issue.
- (3) The Remediation Order Map has been varied in location and as a result the size of the area has varied from 111.2 hectares to 112.9 hectares. The varied map is attached to the Remediation Order.

The circumstances leading to the variation is a result of a misunderstanding of information, making the strategic grazing component more manageable and shortening of the remediation time frame reflecting the date of October 2019.

The Department is investigating a report of clearing of native vegetation in a rural regulated area on the property between January 2018 and October 2019. The clearing of vegetation on the property has been verified through a desktop assessment of aerial imagery and site inspections.

Under Local Land Services Act 2013, Division 3 Regulation of clearing of native vegetation in regulated rural areas, it is an offence pursuant to section 60N Unauthorised clearing of native vegetation in a regulated rural area.

Information and evidence obtained to date, include, information from site inspections and assessment of available imagery, indicate that damage to native vegetation occurred on the property, between January 2018 and October 2019. None of the available defences listed in the BC Act and/or Part 5A LLS Act and associated regulations in relation to the offence apply for the extent of clearing event on the property.

The Remediation Area is designated on the in force Native Vegetation Regulatory Map, prepared pursuant to Division 2 of the LLS Act, as Category 2 – Sensitive Land.

The NVR Map Method Statement explains the scientific and analytical method used to develop the NVR Map in accordance with requirements of the Local Lands Service Act (2013) (LLS Act) and the LLS Regulation. (<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/bcact/native-vegetation-regulatory-map-method-170495.pdf>)

Land is mapped to each category based on past clearing or disturbance events, as detected by satellite and aerial imagery, and updated land use data. In limited situations, the legislation may specify criteria to override any previous analyses changing the original designation specified by the map method. The method statement does not otherwise assess the type, condition or environmental value of vegetation.

Part 5A of the Local Lands Service Act (2013) (LLS Act) and the LLS Regulation specifies legislative criteria to be applied to make the two sub-categories of Category 2 regulated land (Category 2 – sensitive regulated land and category 2 – vulnerable regulated land). These areas on the map include (but are not limited to) land with significant biodiversity value, land vulnerable to erosion, offset areas or agreement areas.

For more information on the NVR Map see the [About the Native Vegetation Regulator Map Factsheet](#).

2. REASONS FOR VIEW FORMED

Remediation Order



Planning,
Industry &
Environment

I, [REDACTED] Senior Team Leader, am satisfied that the following has been damaged:

- a) native vegetation on category 2-regulated land under Part 5A of the LLS Act, namely, 124 hectares of native vegetation at [REDACTED]

in or as a result of the commission of an offence against Section 60N of the *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

In order to:

- a) maintain, remediate or restore the damaged area and vegetation concerned;

I, [REDACTED] Senior Team Leader, order [REDACTED] (**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 thirteen (13) years from the date of this Order.

[REDACTED], Senior Team Leader holds delegated authority on behalf of the Environment Agency Head for the purposes of section 11.15 of the BC Act.

3. REQUIREMENTS – WHAT YOU MUST DO TO COMPLY

In this Order, Remediation Area means refer to an attached map.

This Order must be complied with from the date of the Order for the Term.

3.1 General Requirements

- 3.1.1 By 31/03/2021 you must remove all stock from the Remediation Area, control stock and prevent them from entering the remediation area.
 - 3.1.1(i) Strategic Grazing may occur within the Remediation Area in any calendar year outside the period of 1 September to 30 November being for cattle of a maximum stocking rate of 10 dry sheep equivalents per hectare.
 - 3.1.1(ii) If the Landholder becomes aware that there is evidence that the amount of cattle is exceeding the 10 dry sheep equivalent per hectare in the Remediation Area during a period of Strategic Grazing, the Landholder must immediately remove all excess stock from the Remediation Area.
 - 3.1.1(iv) The landholder must notify the Senior Team Leader, Compliance & Regulation - North East, Biodiversity and Conservation Division, in writing at least two weeks before the commencement of each period of Strategic Grazing for the duration of this Direction.
- 3.1.2 The Remediator must demarcate the boundaries of the Remediation Area as shown on the map in Attachment 1 for the purposes of protecting the area from any potential disturbances.
 - 3.1.2(i) The demarcation of the Remediation Area must be:
 - (a) Designed and implemented to ensure the protection of the Remediation Area at all times;
 - (b) Implemented at regular intervals of not more than 50 metres using star pickets or posts;
 - (c) Be highly visible from a distance;
 - (d) Maintained to ensure protection of the Remediation Area
 - 3.1.2(ii) If at any time the Remediator becomes aware that the demarcation of the Remediation Area does not continue to meet the requirements referred to in conditions 3.1.2, the Remediator must



Remediation Order

replace or repair the demarcation as soon as practicable to ensure it meets the requirements referred to in conditions 3.1.2.

- 3.1.3 By 30/04/2021 you must remove and prevent weeds by using selective methods of poisoning and manual removal. You must undertake weed control every 13 weeks from 30/04/2021
- 3.1.4 By 30/04/2021 you must abate human disturbances to the Remediation Area.
- 3.1.5 You must inform all purchasers of the land of this Order.
- 3.1.6 You must notify the Environmental Agency Head within 14 days if you intend on selling the land subject to this Order.

3.2 Reporting Requirements

- 3.2.3 By 31/05/2021 you must submit a letter or email outlining your compliance with 3.1 General Requirements of the Remediation Order.
- 3.2.4 By 31/05/2022 you must submit a letter or email outlining your ongoing compliance with 3.1 General Requirements of the Remediation Order and every year on the 31 May for the duration of the Order. Send letters or email to northeast@environment.nsw.gov.au or sent by Registered Post to:

Senior Team Leader, Compliance and Regulation
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Locked Bag 914, Coffs Harbour COFFS HARBOUR 2450

4 AN EXAMPLE OF HOW YOU CAN COMPLY

One way of achieving compliance with this Order would be to:

1. Remove all stock from the remediation area by 31/03/2021
2. If you want to put stock on the property, construct a stock proof fence around the boundary of the remediation area or
3. Demarcate the boundaries of the Remediation Area as shown on the map in Attachment 1 for the purposes of protecting the area from any potential disturbances.
4. Controlling weeds by selectively poisoning and manually removing weeds 4 times per year.
5. Prevent human disturbances to the remediation area for the duration of the Order, with the exception of work required for the management of weeds.
6. Send in completed annual monitoring report and other reporting by the 31/05/2021 and every year thereafter.

DEFINITIONS

In this Order, the following definitions apply:

Remediation Order

Term	Definition
BC Act	Means the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>
Damage	Damage has the same meaning as defined in section 11.14 of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>
The Department	The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.
LLS Act	Means the <i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i>
Native vegetation	Has the same meaning as defined in Part 5A of the <i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i>
Order	This document: a Remediation Order issued under section 11.15 of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>
Remediation Area	Means the areas located on the Property shown schematically on the map in Attachment 1 outlined in red and marked "Remediation Area" being parts of [REDACTED]. Total Remediation Area being 112.9 hectares.
Remediator	[REDACTED]
Reporting period	Reporting period Means each annual period from the commencement of this Order
Term	Means the duration of this Order
The Property	[REDACTED]
Weed	Means a plant that is a pest as defined by section 15 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> .

WARNING AND INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORDER

- If you fail to comply with this Order the Environment Agency Head or his/her 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).
- If you fail to comply with this Order, any person may seek an order from the NSW Land and Environment Court requiring you to rectify that breach of the legislation (section 13.14 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 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.
- DPIE 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 LLS Act (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) under the BC Act or LLS Act. A Remediation Order is separate to any potential enforcement action.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

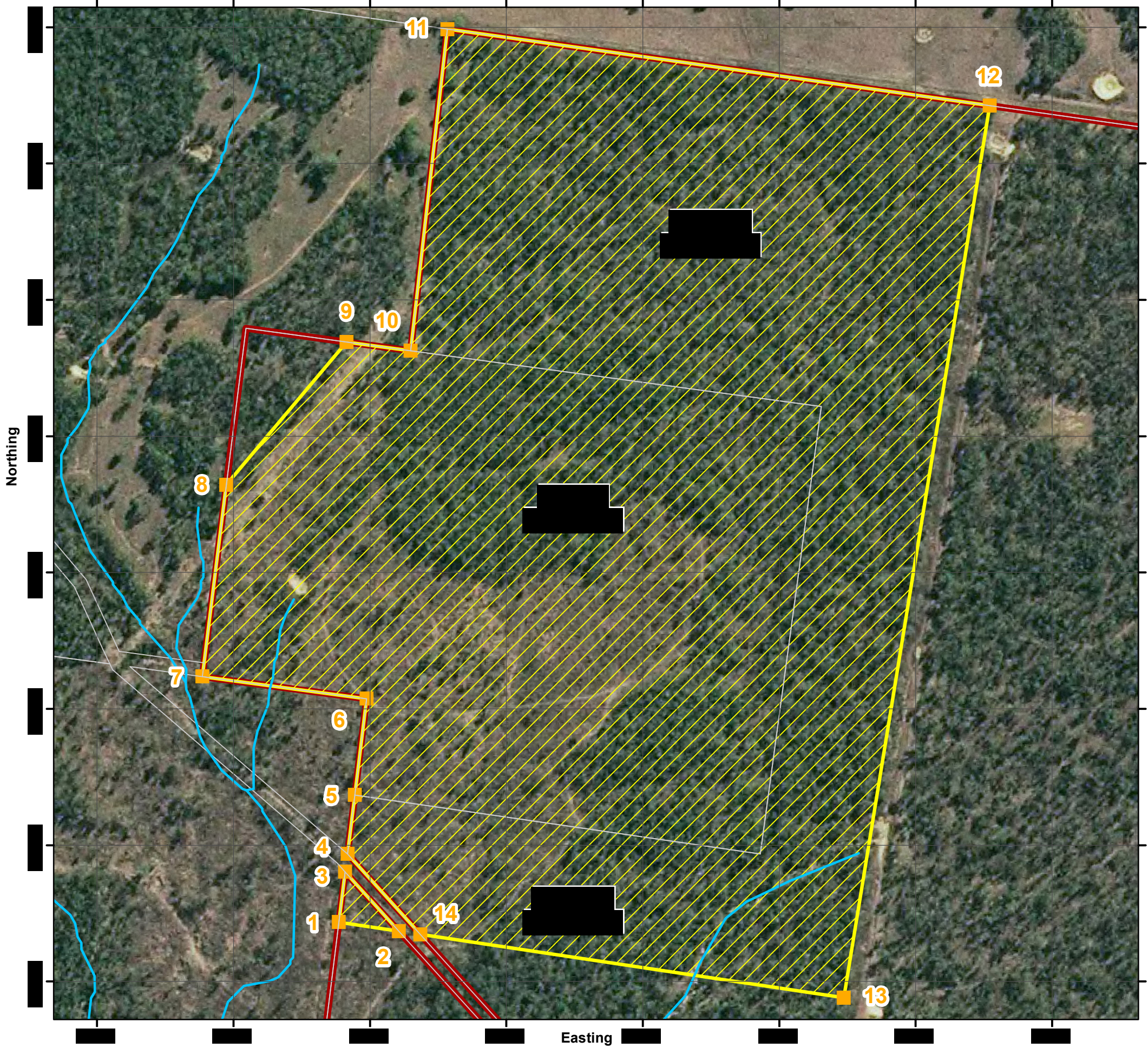
Senior Team Leader, Compliance and Regulation
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Attachment 1: Map of the Remediation Area

Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 s11.15 Remediation Order

Property Owner: [REDACTED]
 Remediation Order: 201900846
 Address: [REDACTED]

County: [REDACTED]
 Parish: [REDACTED]
 LGA: Inverell
 Area: 112.9 hectares
 1129304.5 square metres



Site	Easting	Northing	Site	Easting	Northing
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

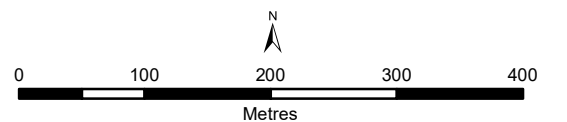
Legend

- Remediation Area
- The Property
- Lot / Deposited Plan (DP)
- Watercourse

Base satellite imagery captured in 2019 includes material © CNES, Distribution Spot Image S.A., France, all rights reserved.

Base cadastral and topographic data supplied by NSW Department of Customer Service (DCS), Spatial Services.

Responsibility lies with the property owner to confirm the accuracy of information supplied by the NSW Land and Property Management Authority.



Map Scale: 1:6,000

Map Datum/Projection: GDA 94 MGA Zone 56

Date: 24 March 2021

Plan No: S11.15_201900846_V2