Information sheet

Resources for assessing environmental offset obligations

Environmental Offsets Act 2014

Resources for matters of state environmental significance

This information sheet provides a helpful reference table that details: the matters of state environmental significance (MSES) as defined in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014; the Act(s) or other statutory instrument(s) under which these matters are regulated; resources that assist in identifying their location; and comments to assist with assessment.

Prescribed Environmental Matter - MSES	Resources ¹	Comments
Regulated Vegetation Prescribed regional	Schedule 2, section 2(1) <u>Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014</u> Section 22LA <u>Vegetation Management Act 1999</u>	Related to the endangered class under the Vegetation Management Act 1999 not
ecosystems that are endangered regional	Section 2 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual	biodiversity status under the Environmental Protection Act 1994
ecosystems	Impact Guideline	Only regional ecosystems that are located
	Section 3.1 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Significant Residual Impact Guideline	in a category B (remnant) area on the regulated vegetation management map
	Environmental Reports Online	Does not include grassland regional ecosystems prescribed in schedule 5 of the
	Vegetation Management Report	Vegetation Management Regulation 2012
		To dispute the regulated vegetation management map, there is a formal

¹ Some of the resources detailed in this table are sourced from the same dataset but can be accessed from different interfaces. For example, many of the MSES mapping layers housed on QSpatial can also be viewed by using the layers available on Queensland Globe or through Environmental Reports Online. Where this is the case, multiple resources have been provided to allow the user to select their preferred interface.

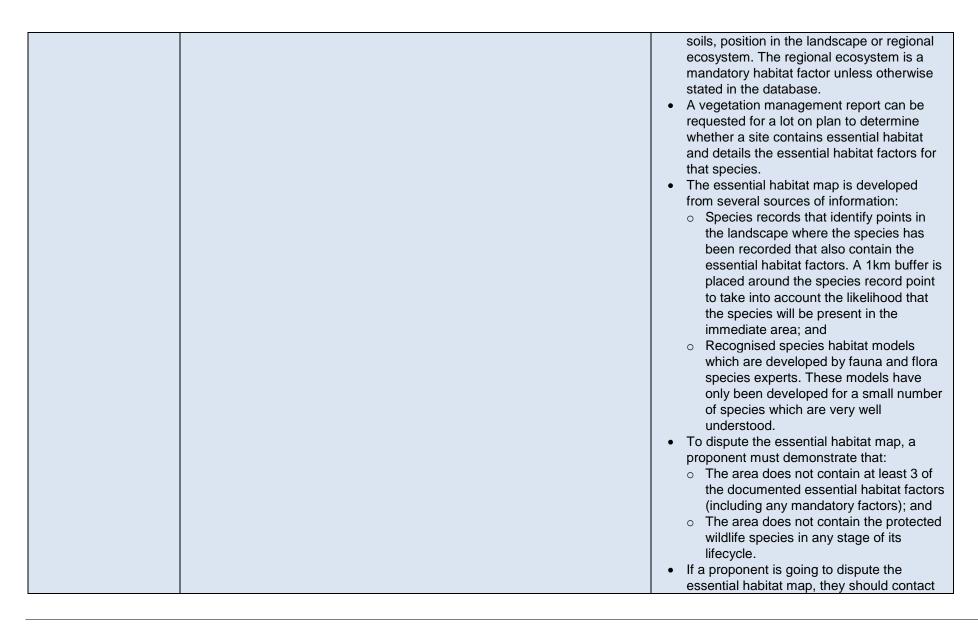


Regulated Vegetation Prescribed regional ecosystems that are of	SPP Interactive Mapping System QSpatial ² : • Vegetation Management - Regulated Vegetation Management Map • Vegetation Management Regional Ecosystem and Remnant Map Queensland Globe - Planning Cadastre Schedule 2, section 2(2) Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014 Section 22LB Vegetation Management Act 1999	PMAV Related to the of concern class under the Vegetation Management Act 1999 not biodiversity status under the Environmental
concern regional ecosystems	Section 2 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual Impact Guideline Section 3.1 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Significant Residual Impact Guideline Environmental Reports Online Vegetation Management Report SPP Interactive Mapping System QSpatial: • Vegetation Management - Regulated Vegetation Management Map • Vegetation Management Regional Ecosystem and Remnant Map Queensland Globe - Planning Cadastre	 Protection Act 1994 Only regional ecosystems that are located in a category B (remnant) area on the regulated vegetation management map Does not include grassland regional ecosystems prescribed in schedule 5 of the Vegetation Management Regulation 2012 Not a prescribed environmental matter in urban areas To dispute the regulated vegetation management map, there is a formal process through DNRME known as a PMAV
Regulated Vegetation Prescribed regional ecosystems that intersect with an area shown as a wetland on the vegetation management wetlands map	Schedule 2, section 2(3)(a) Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014 Section 20AA Vegetation Management Act 1999 Section 2 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual Impact Guideline Section 3.1 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Significant Residual Impact Guideline Environmental Reports Online Vegetation Management Report	 Only regional ecosystems that are located in a category B (remnant) area on the regulated vegetation management map Does not include grassland regional ecosystems prescribed in schedule 5 of the Vegetation Management Regulation 2012 Not a prescribed environmental matter in urban areas Is a prescribed environmental matter to the extent of the intersection

² QSpatial houses a wide variety of spatial (and associated) data however some of this data requires GIS capability. Most of the data layers on QSpatial that relate to MSES can be viewed using an alternative interface that does not require GIS, for example Queensland Globe and other mapping reports available on the Queensland Government website.

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	CDD Interactive Manning Cyatem	To dispute the regulated vagetation
	SPP Interactive Mapping System	To dispute the regulated vegetation
	QSpatial:	management map, there is a formal
	Vegetation Management Wetlands Map	process through DNRME known as a
	Queensland Globe – Planning Cadastre	PMAV
Regulated Vegetation	Schedule 2, section 2(3)(b) Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014	Only regional ecosystems that are located
Prescribed regional	Section 20AC <u>Vegetation Management Act 1999</u>	in a category B (remnant) area on the
ecosystems that are		regulated vegetation management map
areas of essential	Section 5 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual	Does not include grassland regional
habitat on the essential	Impact Guideline	ecosystems prescribed in schedule 5 of the
habitat map for an	Section 3.1 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning	Vegetation Management Regulation 2012
endangered,	Significant Residual Impact Guideline	Not a prescribed environmental matter in
vulnerable or near		urban areas
threatened plant or	Environmental Reports Online	Where essential habitat is mapped for
animal	<u>Vegetation Management Report</u>	endangered or vulnerable plants and
	SPP Interactive Mapping System	animals it is also considered habitat for
	QSpatial:	endangered or vulnerable plants and
	Vegetation management – Essential Habitat Map	animals (which does not have an urban
	Queensland Globe – Planning Cadastre	area exemption)
		Under section 20AC of the Vegetation
		Management Act 1999, essential habitat is
		a category A, B or C area shown on the
		regulated vegetation management map:
		 That has at least 3 essential habitat
		factors for a species of protected wildlife
		that must include any essential habitat
		factors that are stated as mandatory for
		the protected wildlife in the essential
		habitat database; or
		 In which the protected wildlife, at any
		stage of its life cycle, is located.
		An essential habitat factor for protected
		wildlife is a component of the wildlife's
		habitat that is necessary or desirable for the
		wildlife at any stage of its lifecycle for
		example vegetation community, altitude,



		DNRME for guidance on how to undertake this process
Regulated Vegetation Prescribed regional ecosystem that is located within a defined distance from the defining banks of a relevant watercourse or drainage feature	Schedule 2, section 2(4) Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014 Appendix 3 – Defined Distance Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Section 20AB Vegetation Management Act 1999 Section 2 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual Impact Guideline Section 3.1 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Significant Residual Impact Guideline Environmental Reports Online Vegetation Management Report SPP Interactive Mapping System QSpatial: • Vegetation Management Watercourse and Drainage Feature Map Queensland Globe – Planning Cadastre	 Defined distance is prescribed in Appendix 3 of the Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Only regional ecosystems that are located in a category B (remnant) area on the regulated vegetation management map Does not include grassland regional ecosystems prescribed in schedule 5 of the Vegetation Management Regulation 2012 Not a prescribed environmental matter in urban areas To dispute the regulated vegetation management map, there is a formal process through DNRME known as a PMAV
Connectivity Areas Prescribed regional ecosystems that contain an area of land that is remnant vegetation required for ecosystem functioning (a connectivity area)	Schedule 2, section 3 Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014 Section 12 Nature Conservation Act 1992 Section 3 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual Impact Guideline Section 3.2 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Significant Residual Impact Guideline QSpatial: • Environmental offset landscape connectivity assessment tool ³	 This value is not mapped A patch of land is considered a connectivity area when the administering agency is satisfied that: The area is of sufficient size or configured in a way that maintains ecosystem functioning; and The regional ecosystem will remain despite a threatening process within the meaning of the Nature Conservation Act 1992 (section 12) Only regional ecosystems that are located in a category B (remnant) area on the regulated vegetation management map

^{• &}lt;sup>3</sup> This tool requires ArcGIS, ESRI Spatial Analyst extension to ArcGIS and Python version 2.7. If this is not available to you, you can contact the Offsets Policy Team (offsets@des.qld.gov.au) to request support in preparing the required input data and running the analysis.

		December 1
		Does not include grassland regional
		ecosystems prescribed in schedule 5 of the
		Vegetation Management Regulation 2012
		Not a prescribed environmental matter in urban areas
		The Queensland Environmental Offsets
		Policy Significant Residual Impact Guideline provides the Landscape
		Fragmentation and Connectivity (LFC) Tool
		(search LFC) as a means to assist in
		determining whether connectivity will be
		significantly impacted or not.
		A Landscape Fragmentation and
		Connectivity (LFC) Tool User Guide is
		available on the Policy Register to assist
		users in installing, running and
		interpreting the output of the LFC tool.
		The Department of State Development,
		Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning
		Significant Residual Impact Guideline
		provides the administering agency
		discretion when determining whether
		connectivity will be significantly impacted or
		not
Wetlands and	Schedule 2 section 4(1)(a)(i) and (ii) Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014	Schedule 12 Environmental Protection
Watercourses	Schedule 12 Environmental Protection Regulation 2008	Regulation 2008 defines Map of referable
A wetland in a wetland	Section 81A <u>Environmental Protection Regulation 2008</u>	wetlands
protection area or a	0	Section 81A of the Environmental
wetland of high	Section 4 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual	Protection Regulation 2008 details the
ecological significance	Impact Guideline Section 3.3 Department of State Development Infrastructure and Planning	environmental values for wetlands
on the map of referrable wetlands	Section 3.3 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Significant Residual Impact Guideline	Assess both direct and indirect impacts when determining if there will be a
Telefrable Wellands	Olymineant Nesidual Impact Guideline	significant residual impact
	Map of Referrable Wetlands	olgrinoarit roolaaa impaot
	Environmental Reports Online	

Wetlands and Watercourses A wetland or watercourse in high ecological value	SPP Interactive Mapping System QSpatial: • Matters of State Environmental Significance – High Ecological Significance Wetlands • Wetland Data (Areas) version 4 - wetland areas - Queensland Queensland Globe – Planning Cadastre Wetland Info Schedule 2, section 4(1)(b) Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014 Schedule 2 Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009 Section 4 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual Impact Guideline	 Schedule 2 of the Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 2009 defines high ecological value waters Section 81A of the Environmental Protection Regulation 2008 details the
waters	Section 3.3 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Significant Residual Impact Guideline Environmental Reports Online SPP Interactive Mapping System QSpatial: • Matters of State Environmental Significance – High Ecological Value Waters – Wetlands • Matters of State Environmental Significance – High Ecological Value Waters - Wetlands • Metland Data (Areas) Queensland Globe – Planning Cadastre Wetland Info Environmental Values and Water Quality Planning	environmental values for wetlands • Assess both direct and indirect impacts when determining if there will be a significant residual impact
Designated precinct in a strategic environmental area Designated precinct in a strategic environmental area	Schedule 2, section 5 Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014 Schedule 2, part 5, section 15, item 3, Regional Planning Interests Regulation 2014 Not included in Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual Impact Guideline Section 3.4 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Significant Residual Impact Guideline	 Not a prescribed environmental matter in urban areas Designated precincts within strategic environmental areas correlate with the superseded Wild Rivers legislation terms See <u>Regional Planning Interests Act 2014</u> for transitional arrangements

Protected Wildlife Habitat An area that is shown as a high risk area on the flora survey trigger map, that contains plants that are endangered or vulnerable	Environmental Reports Online SPP Interactive Mapping System QSpatial: • Matters of State Environmental Significance – Strategic Environmental Area – Designated Precinct Queensland Globe – Planning Cadastre Schedule 2, section 6(1) Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014 Schedule 2 and 3 Nature Conservation (Wildlife) Regulation 2006 Section 247 Nature Conservation (Wildlife Management) Regulation 2006 Section 5 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual Impact Guideline Section 3.5 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Significant Residual Impact Guideline Protected Plants Flora Survey Trigger Map Species Profiles Wildlife Online WildNet Environmental Reports Online Vegetation Management Report (essential habitat) Regional Ecosystem Descriptions SPP Interactive Mapping System QSpatial: • Nature Conservation Act Protected Plants Flora Survey Trigger Map Spatial Layer	 Section 247 of Nature Conservation (Wildlife Management) Regulation 2006 defines flora survey trigger map If the site is within a high risk area on the flora survey trigger map, a flora survey of the clearing impact area will need to be conducted in accordance with the Flora <u>Survey Guidelines</u> Clearing impact area is defined as the area to be cleared that is within a high risk area and a buffer zone that is an additional area of 100m in width around the boundary of the area to be cleared The area contains a threatened flora species if the species is identified in any stage of its life cycle
	QSpatial:	
	Flora surveys undertaken by a suitably qualified person	
Protected Wildlife	Schedule 2, section 6(2) Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014	Section 247 of Nature Conservation (Middlife Management) Regulation 2006
Habitat	Some on above	(Wildlife Management) Regulation 2006
An area that is not	Same as above	defines flora survey trigger map
shown as a high risk		 This value is not extensively mapped

area on the flora trigger map, to the extent the area contains plants that are endangered or vulnerable		 The ecology of the site will need to be considered to determine whether the site provides habitat for threatened flora: This determination is at the assessment officer's professional discretion Flora surveys undertaken by a suitably qualified person can assist in this assessment in accordance with the Flora Survey Guidelines Species Profiles, Wildlife Online, Regional Ecosystem Descriptions and WildNet can assist in this assessment The area contains a threatened flora species if the species is identified in any stage of its lifecycle
Protected Wildlife Habitat A koala habitat area	Schedule 2, section 6(3) Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014 Section 7B Nature Conservation (Koala) Conservation Plan 2017 Chapter 2A Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy QSpatial & Queensland Globe: Koala habitat area map Koala Conservation Plan Map Environmental Reports Online Vegetation management report SPP Interactive Mapping System QSpatial Queensland Globe	 A significant residual impact on a koala habitat area in South East Queensland is the removal of one non-juvenile koala habitat tree. Koala habitat tree means a tree of any of the following genera: Angophora Corymbia Eucalyptus Lophostemon Melaleuca Non-juvenile koala habitat tree means a koala habitat tree that: Is more than 4m high; or Has a trunk with a circumference of more than 31.5cm at 1.3m above the ground. There are specific requirements in the Queensland Environmental

		Offsets Policy for offsets for koala habitat in South East Queensland • Landholders may ask the chief executive of the Nature Conservation (Koala) Conservation Plan 2017 to make, amend or revoke a koala habitat area determination under section 7C of the Nature Conservation (Koala) Conservation Plan 2017.
Protected Wildlife	Schedule 2, section 6 (5) Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014	This value is not extensively mapped
Habitat	Schedule 2, 3 and 6 Nature Conservation (Wildlife) Regulation 2006	The ecology of the site will need to be
A habitat for an	Costion F. Overseland Environmental Officeta Baliay Cignificant Basidyal	considered to determine whether the site
endangered wildlife or vulnerable wildlife or	Section 5 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual Impact Guideline	provides habitat for endangered, vulnerable or special least concern animals. This
special least concern	Section 3.5 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning	determination is at the assessment officer's
animal	Significant Residual Impact Guideline	professional discretion
		Ecological surveys undertaken by a
	Flora Survey Trigger Map	suitably qualified person can assist in
	Environmental Reports Online	this assessment. DES approved survey
	Vegetation Management Report (essential habitat)	methodologies include the Guide to
	SPP Interactive Mapping System	determining terrestrial habitat quality,
	QSpatial:	Terrestrial Vertebrate Fauna Survey
	Nature Conservation Act Protected Plants Flora Survey Trigger Map Spatial Layer	Guidelines, Policy 4: Koala Survey Methodology for Site Assessment (p.72)
	Vegetation management – Essential Habitat Map	of the Nature Conservation (Koala)
	Matters of State Environmental Significance – Wildlife Habitat –	Conservation Plan 2006 and
	Threatened and Special Least Concern Animal	Management Program 2006 - 2016,
	Habitat Suitability Models	Flora Survey Guidelines
	Queensland Globe – Planning Cadastre and Biota	Interpretation of habitat:
	Ecological surveys undertaken by a suitably qualified person	 The Macquarie Dictionary defines
	Species Profiles	habitat as the native environment or kind
	Wildlife Online	of place where a given animal or plant
	A-Z of Animals	naturally lives or grows o Section 5.2 of the Queensland
	Species Prioritisation Framework	Section 5.2 of the Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant
		Environmental Onsets Folicy Significant

	Regional Ecosystem Descriptions WildNet	Residual Impact Guideline states that habitat is the area occupied, or periodically or occasionally occupied, by any species, population or ecological community and includes all the different aspects (both biotic and abiotic) used by species during the different stages of their life cycles The Nature Conservation Act 1992 states that habitat for wildlife can include an area that is not presently occupied by the wildlife The Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014 provides the following examples: "habitat includes an area of land used by an animal for foraging, roosting, nesting or breeding" Assess both direct and indirect impacts when determining if there will be a significant residual impact
Protected Areas	Schedule 2, section 7 Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014	Protected areas, including all classes of
A protected area	Section 14 Nature Conservation Act 1992	protected areas under section 14 of the
		Nature Conservation Act 1992, except
	Section 7 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual	coordinated conservation areas, are
	Impact Guideline	prescribed environmental matters. This
	Section 3.6 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning	includes:
	Significant Residual Impact Guideline	National parks (scientific)
	For the case and all Demonts Corling	National parks National parks (Abarinia el land)
	Environmental Reports Online	National parks (Aboriginal land) National parks (Tarres Strait Islander)
	SPP Interactive Mapping System QSpatial:	 National parks (Torres Strait Islander land)
	Matters of State Environmental Significance – Protected Area - Estates	National parks (Cape York Peninsula
	Queensland Globe – Planning Cadastre	Aboriginal land)
	addottolatia Cioso Fiatining Cadactic	Conservation parks
		Resources reserves

		Nature refuges
		 Special wildlife reserves
Highly Protected	Schedule 2, section 8 Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014	A highly protected area is defined under
Zones of State	Schedule Dictionary Marine Parks Act 2004	Schedule Dictionary of the Marine Parks
Marine Parks	Section 7, Marine Parks Regulation 2017	Act 2004 and section 7 of the Marine Parks
Highly protected zones		Regulation 2017. It includes the following
of State marine parks	Section 9 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual	zones within a Queensland marine park:
	Impact Guideline	 Preservation zone
	Section 3.7 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning	 Marine national park zone
	Significant Residual Impact Guideline	 Scientific research zone
		 Buffer zone
	Environmental Reports Online	 Conservation park zone
	SPP Interactive Mapping System	
	QSpatial:	
	Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park Zoning	
	Queensland Globe – Planning Cadastre	
Fish Habitat Areas	Schedule 2, section 9 Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014	Both Category A and B management areas
An area declared	Section 120 <u>Fisheries Act 1994</u>	are a prescribed environmental matter
under the Fisheries Act		
1994 to be a fish	Section 9 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual	
habitat area	Impact Guideline	
	Section 3.7 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning	
	Significant Residual Impact Guideline	
	<u>WildNet</u>	
	Environmental Reports Online	
	SPP Interactive Mapping System	
	QSpatial:	
	Fish Habitat Areas	
	Queensland Globe – Planning Cadastre	
Waterway Providing	Schedule 2, section 10 Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014	Not a prescribed environmental matter in
for Fish Passage		urban areas
Any part of a waterway	Section 10 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual	This value is not mapped
providing for passage	Impact Guideline	DAF is responsible for determining whether
of fish, only if the		a waterway is providing for passage of fish

construction, installation or modification of waterway barrier works will limit passage of fish	Section 3.8 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Significant Residual Impact Guideline	
Marine Plants A marine plant within the meaning of the Fisheries Act 1994	Schedule 2, section 11 Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014 Section 8 Fisheries Act 1994 Section 11 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual Impact Guideline Section 3.9 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Significant Residual Impact Guideline	 Not a prescribed environmental matter in urban areas This value is not mapped Under the Fisheries Act 1994 a marine plant includes: A tidal plant that usually grows on, or adjacent to, tidal land, whether it is living, dead, standing or fallen Material of a tidal plant, or other plant material on tidal land A plant, or material of a plant, prescribed under a regulation or management plan to be a marine plant DAF is responsible for determining whether a plant is a marine plant
Legally Secured Offset Areas A legally secured offset area	Schedule 2, section 12 Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014 Section 29 Environmental Offset Act 2014 Section 12 Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy Significant Residual Impact Guideline Section 3.10 Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Significant Residual Impact Guideline Environmental Reports Online SPP Interactive Mapping System QSpatial: • Matters of State Environmental Significance – Legally Secured Offset	An area of land will be a legally secured offset area if the area is: • An environmental offset protection area under section 30 of the Environmental Offsets Act 2014; or • An area declared as an area of high nature conservation value under section 19F of the Vegetation Management Act 1999, where it is secured for the purposes of an environmental offset; or • Declared as a nature refuge under section 46 of the Nature Conservation Act 1992,

Area – Offset Register

Queensland Globe - Planning Cadastre

where it is secured for the purposes of an

environmental offset; or



Approved by:

Erin Fentiman

Signature

A/Director,
Conservation Policy and Planning
Department of Environment and Science

14th February 2020

Date

Enquires:

Offsets Policy Team

Department of Environment and Science

Email: offsets@des.qld.gov.au

Version history

Version	Effective date	Comments
1.01	14 February 2020	Consequential amendments resulting from the Nature Conservation and Other Legislation (Koala Protection) Amendment Regulation 2020
1.00	27 June 2018	Original version approved.