

# Explanation of Amendments

## Draft Development Control Plan 2014 – B1 Tree Management and B2 Flora and Fauna

### NO. EXPLANATION OF AMENDMENTS

#### 1 B1 Tree Management

1. Amend Figure BA Approval requirements thresholds
2. Update Section B1.C Supporting information

##### Explanation:

Figure BA, which identifies the approval requirement thresholds for the removal of trees, has been updated to provide greater detail on approval requirements.

Section B1.C Supporting information was updated to provide additional requirements that were previously located in the Tree Technical Specification. These requirements have been moved into the Development Control Plan (DCP) to streamline information for community members.

The Tree Technical Specification has been renamed the Biodiversity Technical Specification and referenced accordingly throughout the chapter.

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#### 2 B2 Flora and Fauna - Application

1. Amend title and application of the Part

##### Explanation:

Title of this chapter has been amended from Natural Resources to Flora and Fauna to more accurately reflect its contents. The application of the Part has been updated to reflect changes in legislation.

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#### 3 B2.A Ecological impact

1. Amend title and objectives
2. Update ecological assessment requirements
3. Add requirement for a tree removal and retention plan
4. Add environmental design considerations.
5. Add requirement for a vegetation management plan
6. Add subdivision environmental considerations.

##### Explanation:

This Part has been renamed to Ecological Impact from Environmental Significance to more accurately reflect its contents. The objectives have been amended to align with the intent of existing environmental legislation, that being to minimise ecological impacts.

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The controls have been updated to be consistent with Council practices and to provide more guidance on the requirements to address ecological impacts in development applications.

Design considerations for development to address ecological impacts have been consolidated and updated to improve clarity and accuracy.

Any references to old legislation have been updated.

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#### 4 B2.B Koala habitat

1. Amend title and objectives
2. Insert Port Stephens Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management (CKPoM) Koala Performance Criteria Assessment Requirements
3. Insert reference to compensatory planting requirements

##### Explanation:

Section B2.B has been renamed to Koala Habitat from Koalas to more accurately reflect its contents. The objectives have been amended to align with the CKPoM.

Control B2.8 has been updated to incorporate a summary of the assessment requirements detailed in Appendix 4 of the CKPoM to provide greater upfront clarity on Koala assessment considerations.

Control B2.9 has been inserted to indicate compensatory planting may be required where Koala feed trees are proposed to be removed.

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#### 5 B2.C Compensatory requirements

1. Amend title and objectives
2. Insert compensatory planting requirements and Figure BB: Compensatory Koala Feed Tree planting ratios for preferred Koala feed

Preferred Koala Food Tree species size class (Diameter at Breast Height)	Replacement Ratio (Loss:Gain)
<100mm	1:6
100-300mm	1:8
>300mm	1:10

3. Insert compensatory hollow requirements and Figure BC: Compensatory arboreal hollow type

Preference of use	Compensatory hollow type	Replacement ratio (loss : gain)
1st	Natural hollow salvaged from felled hollow-bearing tree and installed within retained trees on site	1:1 hollow replacement
2nd	Artificial hollows including hollow hog hollows	1:2 hollow replacement
3rd	Nest boxes	1:2 hollow replacement

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### Explanation:

Section B2.C has been renamed to Compensatory requirements from Biodiversity offsets to avoid confusion with the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* offsetting requirements. The objective has been updated to reflect this.

Section B2.C Compensatory requirements has been updated to include compensatory planting and hollow requirements to provide clearer guidance and easier access to information for community members. These were previously located in the Tree Technical Specification.

Replacement ratios, previously located in the Tree Technical Specification have been provided in Figure BB and Figure BC for Koala Feed Trees, native trees, street trees and hollows. The planting ratios for native trees (1:2) and street trees (1:1) have been simplified for a more practical application.

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## 6 E1 Glossary

1. Insert a definition for BDAR as follows:

- **Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR)** means a report required under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. It identifies the highest value ecological features on a site including threatened species habitat, and applies the hierarchy of avoid, minimise and then offset.

2. Insert a definition for high value ecological features as follows:

- **High value ecological features** means the natural Features in the landscape which provide habitat for native flora or fauna species; such as Biodiversity Values Mapped areas, hollow bearing trees, nest trees, large old growth trees, large fallen timber, caves, rocky outcrops/bush-rock, waterbodies, drainage lines and wetlands.

3. Insert a definition for Koala-friendly fencing

- **Koala-friendly fencing** means:
  - fences where the bottom of the fence is a minimum of 200 mm above ground level that would allow koalas to move underneath;
  - fences that facilitate easy climbing by koalas; for example, sturdy chain mesh fences, or solid style fences with timber posts on both sides at regular intervals of approximately 20m; or
  - open post and rail or post and wire (definitely not barbed wire on the bottom strand).

### Explanation:

The definitions of Biodiversity Development Assessment Report, high value ecological features and Koala-friendly fencing are proposed to be inserted into the glossary to provide guidance and clarity for developers.

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