

# Sydney Growth Centres Strategic Assessment Annual Report 2014-2015

## 1 Introduction

In December 2011, the Commonwealth Government endorsed the Sydney Growth Centres Strategic Assessment Program Report (Program Report). In February 2012, the Commonwealth Government approved the classes of actions in the Growth Centres that, if undertaken in accordance with the approved program, do not require separate approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

The Program Report includes a range of commitments for matters of national environmental significance protected under the EPBC Act. The commitments are drawn from the analysis in the Supplementary Assessment Report, Draft Strategic Assessment Report (Part B), and the Addendum to the Strategic Assessment Program, and build upon the relevant biodiversity measures of the Growth Centres Biodiversity Certification.

This Annual Report highlights the outcomes achieved in the 2014-2015 financial year. This includes addressing both the NSW and the Commonwealth Government requirements, particularly the commitments for relevant matters of national environmental significance (listed in Section 4 of the Program Report); the additional commitments and undertakings made in the addendum to the Program Report; and the funding provided and expended for offsets outside of the Growth Centres.

Where relevant, the report makes reference to the *Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15* which outlines the funding and expenditure of the Growth Centres Conservation Fund (**Annexure A**).

## 2 Definitions

The terms defined below are referred to in the report. Where the terms are also defined in the Growth Centres Biodiversity Certification Order, dated 14 December 2007, the definitions provided are consistent with those in the Order.

- *Addendum* means the Addendum to the Strategic Assessment Program dated January 2012, which includes further commitments and undertakings made by the NSW Government.
- *Additional High Conservation Value Vegetation* (AHCVV) means vegetation that meets parts a and b of the definition of ENV but not part c, as it was not mapped in the Growth Centres Conservation Plan.
- *Biodiversity Certification Maps* means the maps marked “North West Growth Centre – Biodiversity Certification” and “South West Growth Centre – Biodiversity Certification” dated November 2007 and included in Schedule 2 of the Biodiversity Certification Order.
- *Certified Area* means an area marked as a certified area on a biodiversity certification map.
- *Clearing of vegetation* means any one or more of the following:

- a) cutting down, felling, thinning, logging or removing native vegetation in whole or in part,
  - b) killing, destroying, poisoning, ringbarking, uprooting or burning native vegetation in whole or in part.
- *Commitments* means the commitments set out in section 4 of the Sydney Growth Centres Strategic Assessment Program Report.
  - *DECCW* means the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (which is now the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH)).
  - *ENV* means existing native vegetation. As defined under the Growth Centres Biodiversity Certification “existing native vegetation” means areas of indigenous trees (including any sapling) that:
    - a) had 10% or greater over-storey canopy cover present,
    - b) were equal to or greater than 0.5 ha in area, and
    - c) were identified as “vegetation” on maps 4 and 5 of the draft Growth Centres Conservation Plan at the time the biodiversity certification order took effect, subject to condition 13.
  - *EPBC Act* means the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
  - *Protection or Protected* in relation to land means land that is protected by a land use zoning under an environmental planning instrument or public ownership arrangements that provide for the protection of biodiversity values as a priority, or another arrangement that provides in perpetuity security for biodiversity on the subject land.
  - *Non-certified area* means an area marked as a non-certified area on the biodiversity certification map.
  - *Relevant Biodiversity Measures* means the conditions in Schedule 1 of the Biodiversity Certification Order.
  - *SEWPaC* means the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (which is now the Department of the Environment, DoE)
  - *TSC Act* means the NSW *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*.

## 3 Summary of conservation outcomes achieved in 2014-2015

### 3.1 Strategic Assessment

In 2014/2015, two precincts in Sydney's Growth Centres were rezoned: East Leppington (Liverpool Part) Precinct and Area 20 Precinct (this precinct was rezoned after being originally zoned for urban development in 2011).

#### East Leppington (Liverpool Part) Precinct

In August 2014, the East Leppington (Liverpool Part) Precinct was rezoned under the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Sydney Region Growth Centres) 2006* (Growth Centres SEPP). The report prepared to investigate consistency with the Strategic approval concluded the following:

- Protection of 2.91 ha of low management viability (LMV) CPW within the Campbelltown/Camden Part precinct offsets the loss of 0.06 ha of LMV CPW located on non-certified lands within the Liverpool Part Precinct that was identified during the field validation program as no longer occurring onsite.
- There are no areas of Shale Sandstone Transition Forest (SSTF) that are required to be protected through the Precinct Plan.
- The Denham Court Road population of *Pimelea spicata* has been protected to the satisfaction of OEH (as required under RBM 17 of the Biodiversity Certification) within the Campbelltown/Camden Part of the East Leppington Precinct. In addition a large new population has been protected within the Scenic Hills component of the Campbelltown/Camden Part Precinct. This meets the requirements of commitment 27 of the Strategic Assessment Program.
- Protection of 5.16 ha of ENV and 0.31 ha of additional high conservation value vegetation (AHCVV) meets the minimum requirements of the Strategic Assessment in relation to habitat protection for the Swift Parrot and Grey-headed Flying-fox.

#### Area 20 Precinct

In June 2015, the Area 20 (Cudgegong Road Station) Precinct was amended under the Growth Centres SEPP after originally being rezoned for urban development in 2011. Under the Strategic Assessment Report, the Area 20 Precinct is required to retain:

- 1.6 hectares of CPW within flood prone land, to be counted towards the 998 ha target to be retained across the Growth Centres in accordance with commitment 4.
- 2.9 hectares of SSTF within flood prone land, to be counted towards the 58 ha target to be retained across the Growth Centres in accordance with commitment 8.

A total of 3.85 hectares of CPW is being protected in the Precinct and counted toward the 998 hectare target, which exceeds the target of 1.6 hectares of CPW to be protected within the Precinct. A total of 2.9 hectares of SSTF is being protected in the Precinct and counted toward the 58 hectare target, which satisfies the target of 2.9 hectares of SSTF to be protected within the Precinct.

The CPW and SSTF will be protected using the E2 - Environment Conservation, RE1 - Public Recreation, and SP2 - Infrastructure zones. Vegetation clearing controls also apply to areas identified as 'existing native vegetation' on the Native Vegetation Protection Map under the Growth Centres SEPP, where vegetation clearing is prohibited.

A summary of CPW protected in rezoned precincts in 2014/2015 is outlined in Table 1 and a summary of SSTF protected in rezoned precincts in 2014/2015 is outlined in Table 2.

**Table 1 Summary of EPBC listed CPW protected in Growth Centre precincts in 2014/2015**

| Precinct                                  | CPW precinct target <sup>1</sup> (ha) | CPW protected (ha)                    | Protection mechanism   |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| East Leppington (Liverpool Part) Precinct | 0.06                                  | 0                                     | N/A<br>The 0.06 ha of CPW originally mapped was not located on site. However, an additional 2.91 ha of CPW was protected in the Camden and Campbelltown part of the East Leppington Precinct as reported in the 2012-2013 annual report. |
| Area 20 Precinct                          | 1.6                                   | 3.85<br>(3.2 ha MMV CPW, 0.65 ha LMV) | Zoning: E2, RE1, and SP2.<br>Vegetation clearing controls in Growth Centres SEPP   |
| <b>Total CPW protected</b>                |                                       | <b>3.85</b>                           |  |

1. Commitment 4 of the strategic assessment requires the retention and protection of a minimum of 998 ha of CPW within the Growth Centres

**Table 2 Summary of EPBC listed SSTF protected in Growth Centre precincts in 2014/2015**

| Precinct                                  | SSTF precinct target <sup>1</sup> (ha) | SSTF protected (ha) | Protection mechanism   |
|---|--|---------------------|--|
| East Leppington (Liverpool Part) Precinct | 0                                      | 0                   | N/A<br>SSTF does not occur in the East Leppington Precinct.                      |
| Area 20 Precinct                          | 2.9                                    | 2.9                 | Zoning: E2, RE1, and SP2.<br>Vegetation clearing controls in Growth Centres SEPP |
| <b>Total SSTF protected</b>               |  | <b>2.9</b>          |  |

1. Commitment 8 of the strategic assessment requires the retention and protection of a minimum of 58 ha of SSTF within the Growth Centres

## 3.2 Biodiversity Certification

### Existing Native Vegetation protected in rezoned precincts

In 2014/2015, two precincts in Sydney's Growth Centres were rezoned: East Leppington (Liverpool Part) Precinct and Area 20 Precinct (this precinct was rezoned after being originally zoned for urban development in 2011). In total, these precincts will protect **17.3 ha** of existing native vegetation (ENV) which can be counted towards meeting the 2,000 ha target of ENV as identified by relevant biodiversity measure (RBM) 6 of the Biodiversity Certification. A summary of ENV protected in each precinct is provided in Table 3.

In addition, **1.71 ha** of AHCVV has been identified during the ground-truthing process. These areas of AHCVV, while meeting two of the criteria for ENV under the Growth Centres Biodiversity Certification, were not mapped as ENV in the draft Growth Centres Conservation Plan. The Department and OEH are in discussions to determine how these areas of AHCVV can be mapped and counted towards the 2000 ha.

**Table 2 Summary of existing native vegetation protected in Growth Centre precincts in 2014/2015**

| Precinct                                  | ENV precinct target | ENV protected | ENV protected above target | AHCVV protected | Protection mechanism  |
|---|---------------------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------|---|
| East Leppington (Liverpool Part) Precinct | 5.8                 | 1.66          | -4.14                      | 0.17            | Zoning: RE1 and SP2<br>Vegetation clearing controls in Growth Centres SEPP      |
| East Leppington (whole) Precinct          | 5.8                 | 4.9           | -0.9                       | 0.31            | Zoning: E2, RE1 and SP2.<br>Vegetation clearing controls in Growth Centres SEPP |
| Area 20 Precinct                          | 11.3 <sup>1</sup>   | 12.4          | 0.9                        | 1.4             | Zoning: E2, RE1 and SP2.<br>Vegetation clearing controls in Growth Centres SEPP |
| <b>Total ENV and AHCVV protected</b>      | <b>17.1</b>         | <b>17.3</b>   | <b>0.2</b>                 | <b>1.71</b>     |   |

1. This target excludes ENV within the Rouse Hill Regional Park which will not be impacted by the Precinct Plan.

### ENV protected in Growth Centres in non-certified areas

In 2015, 2,033.1 hectares of ENV are protected in non-certified lands under the Biodiversity Certification and through relevant zoning and clearing controls identified under the Growth Centres SEPP.

The amount of ENV protected across the Growth Centres this year has increased as result of two amendments to the maps identifying the non-certified lands under the NSW *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*. The maps were amended to implement the outcomes of precinct planning, resulting in the amount of ENV being protected exceeding the 2,000 hectare target.

Areas of ENV are being protected through a range of zonings such as Environment Conservation, Public Recreation-Regional, E2 Environmental Conservation, RE1 Public Recreation, and SP2 Infrastructure. In addition, clearing controls are also applied, which prohibit clearing.

### **Acquisition of offset land in Growth Centres**

In the 2014/2015 financial year, **19 lots** (0.93 ha) zoned Environmental Conservation under Part 3 of the Growth Centres SEPP were acquired by the NSW Government. The acquired parcels are located in Marsden Park North and Riverstone Precincts in the North West Growth Centre.

### **3.3 Biodiversity Offset Program**

The Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program Annual Report 2014-15 provides a detailed breakdown of the allocation of conservation funding and the biobanking or acquisition of land containing State and nationally listed endangered species to date. This is provided in Annexure 1.

To date, 471 ha of native vegetation have been biobanked or acquired and protected under the Program. Of this, 221 ha of nationally listed ecological communities have been protected under the program, including 134 ha of CPW.

In 2014/2015, the program:

- Protected 4.8 hectares of Commonwealth listed Shale Sandstone Transition Forest at the Fernhill Central West biobank site. This site provides habitat for the Varied Sittella, Glossy Black-cockatoo and the Red-crowned Toadlet; and
- Protected 4.7 hectares of Commonwealth listed Cumberland Plain Woodland and 1.3 hectares of Commonwealth listed Moist Shale Woodland at the Glenmore Park biobank site. This site provides a crucial missing link between two parts of the Mulgoa Nature Reserve and provides potential habitat for Varied Sittella (*Daphoenositta chrysoptera*), Black-chinned Honeyeater (eastern subspecies) (*Melithreptus gularis gularis*), Glossy Black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathamii*) and the Cumberland Plain Land Snail (*Meridolum corneovirens*).

Since 2011, a total of 96.8 ha of Commonwealth listed CPW has been protected under the program. Commitment 6 of the Growth Centres Strategic Assessment requires, as a first milestone, 31 ha of CPW to be protected by 2015. This first milestone was achieved in 2013.

## 4 Status of Program Commitments

The following tables summarise the progress to date for each of the 39 commitments listed in section 4 of the Sydney Growth Centres Program Report for matters of national environmental significance protected under the EPBC Act.

### 1.1 Funding arrangements for offsets

| Commitments  | Actions  | Timing  | Progress to date   | Comment  |
|--|--|---------|--|----------|
| 1. Allocation of part of the Growth Centres Conservation Fund for offsetting Matters of National Environmental Significance. | a) Providing \$530 million (2005-06 dollar values) to the Growth Centres Conservation Fund over the life of development of the Growth Centres. Of this amount, \$397.5 million is to be used to acquire lands and/or enter into conservation agreements over lands that are outside of the Growth Centres for the primary purpose of biodiversity conservation. This funding is to be provided and spent in accordance with the relevant biodiversity measures contained within the Growth Centres Biodiversity Certification. | Ongoing | In 2014/2015, an allocation of \$3,825,000 was provided to the Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program consistent with the predicted lot production in the Growth Centres, as required by the biodiversity certification.<br><br>The Program also received a grant of \$63,632 from the Office of Environment and Heritage and an advance of \$44,119 from the Environmental Trust.<br><br>Refer to Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 4 of the report). | On Track |
|  | b) Allocating \$278.25 million of the Growth Centres Conservation Fund to be used for the purpose of protecting the MNES listed in Section 4 of the Program Report outside the Growth Centres, to the extent that this purpose is consistent with the measures contained in the Growth Centres Biodiversity Certification.   | Ongoing | Refer to Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 4 of the report).   | On Track |



## 1.2 Joint delivery initiative for CPW

| Commitments  | Actions  | Timing  | Progress                              | Comment         |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <p>2. The NSW Government (DoP and DECCW) and the Commonwealth Government (SEWPaC) will develop a framework for the identification of government measures to help ensure the retention of HMV CPW within the Priority Conservation Lands.</p> <p><i><b>NB:</b> This Program Commitment is a commitment made in good faith for the ongoing protection of CPW in relation to actions that are beyond the scope of the Program but that will work alongside the Program.</i></p> | <p>a) Develop and document the framework via an exchange of letters, Memorandum of Understanding or another mechanism.</p> | <p>Post EPBC Act endorsement of the Program</p> | <p>Ongoing<br/>Not yet commenced.</p> | <p>On Track</p> |

## 1.3 Review of zoning

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing   | Progress  | Comment         |
|---|---|--|---|-----------------|
| <p>3. Review the provisions of the Environment Conservation and Public Recreation - Regional zones in the Growth Centres SEPP to confirm they are adequate for conservation purposes.</p> | <p>a) Undertake a review of the zone objectives, permitted land uses and development controls to ensure the conservation values of the land are adequately protected.</p> | <p>Within 12 months of EPBC Act endorsement of the Program</p> | <p>Review complete.<br/><br/>Amendments to Growth Centres SEPP provisions were made on 13 September 2013.</p> | <p>Complete</p> |

## 1.4 Threatened ecological communities

### Cumberland Plain Shale Woodlands and Shale Gravel Transition Forest (CPW)

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing   | Progress   | Comment  |
|---|---|--|--|----------|
| 4. Retention and protection of a minimum of 998 ha of CPW within the Growth Centres, including a minimum of 363 ha of HMV CPW | i) Retention and protection of CPW in the following areas of the Growth Centres:  | Ongoing  | <p>In 2014/2015, two precincts were rezoned: East Leppington (Liverpool Part) and Area 20. 1.6 ha of CPW was located in flood prone lands in the Area 20 Precinct. Following gazettal of Area 20 Precinct, 3.85 hectares of CPW is being protected in the Precinct, exceeding the target by more than double.</p> <p>A small amount (0.06 ha) of CPW was mapped by the strategic assessment in the Liverpool part of the East Leppington Precinct. However, when ground truthing of this vegetation was undertaken, it was no longer found. While the Liverpool Part of the East Leppington Precinct does not protect any CPW, the part of the Precinct within the Camden and Campbelltown Precincts protects 2.91 ha of CPW (the target for this part of the Precinct was 0).</p> | On Track |
|   | a) 138 ha within Flood Prone Land to be protected through the vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP or through zoning and/or development controls following completion of precinct planning.   |  |  |          |
|   | b) 424 ha within Environment Conservation and Public Recreation – Regional zoning to be protected through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RBM 12 which states that clearing of these areas is not permitted unless it is in accordance with a Plan of Management or unless such clearance has been agreed to by DECCW;</li> </ul> | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing | Since endorsement of the Biodiversity Certification in 2007, no clearing has occurred in 'red hatched' areas, subject to RBM 12, located within areas zoned Public Recreation – Regional.<br><br>Ongoing   | On Track |

| Commitments | Actions   | Timing                                 | Progress                                       | Comment  |
|-------------|---|--|--|----------|
|             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the zoning and vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP; and</li> </ul>  |  | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing | Complete |
|             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the Growth Centres Conservation Fund which provides funding to acquire the land.</li> </ul>  | As land becomes available for purchase | Management and acquisition ongoing             | On Track |
|             | c) 280 ha to be protected within existing reserved areas including the Westlink M7 Motorway Offsets area, the Kemps Creek Nature Reserve, and the Western Sydney Parklands. | Ongoing                                | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing | Complete |

| Commitments | Actions  | Timing         | Progress  | Comment         |
|-------------|--|----------------|---|-----------------|
|             | <p>d) 79 ha to be protected within protected zones within Edmondson Park.</p>  | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>The Edmondson Park South Concept Plan and a Stage 1 Project Application were approved on 18 August 2011 for approximately 413 ha of land comprising the southern part of the larger Edmondson Park Precinct in the South West Growth Centre. The Concept Plan zoned an area of approximately 150 ha, identified as a proposed Regional Park under the Edmondson Park Conservation Agreement, as E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves under Schedule 3 of the <i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Major Development) 2005</i>.</p> <p>CPW is also protected under the RE1 Public Recreation Zone, and through the relevant clearing controls.</p> <p>Implementation of Edmondson Park Conservation Agreement is ongoing.</p> | <p>Complete</p> |
|             | <p>e) 77 ha to be retained within non-certified and transitional lands. These areas will be retained subject to the confirmation of the presence of the community through survey at the precinct planning stage.</p>   | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>No precincts with transitional lands were exhibited or gazetted since endorsement of the Program on 20 December 2011.</p> <p>Ongoing</p>   | <p>On Track</p> |
|             | <p>ii) If for any reason the above targets cannot be achieved then the NSW Government will ensure that 998 ha of CPW is protected within the Growth Centres through the measures contained in either RBM 8a or 8b.</p> |                | <p>Ongoing</p>  | <p>On Track</p> |

| Commitments  | Actions   | Timing   | Progress  | Comment  |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| <p>5. Assessment of 14 ha HMV CPW within Marsden Park &amp; Marsden Park Industrial Precincts to confirm its presence and if present protect.</p>  | <p>a) Assessment of the HMV CPW in accordance with RBM 14 and 15.</p>   | <p>Prior to the public exhibition of the draft precinct planning controls for the Marsden Park &amp; Marsden Park Industrial Precincts</p> <p>During the precinct planning process</p> | <p>As reported in the 2011/2012 annual report, Marsden Park Industrial Precinct was rezoned in November 2010.</p>   | <p>Complete for Marsden Park Industrial Precinct</p> |
|  | <p>b) Based on the outcomes of the assessment, DECCW will advise the NSW Minister for the Environment whether the area should be protected in accordance with RBM 16.</p>   |  | <p>Two small areas of High Management Viability (HMV) CPW were identified in the Marsden Park Industrial Precinct by the Strategic Assessment Report. These areas have been protected (6 ha in total) through the E2 Environmental Conservation zone and have been identified as ENV on the Native Vegetation Protection (NVP) Map under the Growth Centres SEPP. The clearing controls in the Growth Centres SEPP prohibit the clearing of ENV as identified on the NVP map.</p> <p>The Precinct Planning process for the Marsden Park Precinct was completed in October 2013. The total area of 5.74 ha of validated HMV CPW required to be protected in Marsden Park Precinct has been zoned RE1 and will be acquired by Blacktown City Council for passive recreational uses. This area has also been further protected through identification as ENV on the NVP map.</p> | <p>On track for Marsden Park Precinct</p>            |
| <p>6. Contribution towards the long term sustainability and persistence of CPW and other grassy woodlands. The NSW Government ensure the protection of at least 2,400 ha of either CPW or other “grassy woodland” communities which are similar to CPW in floristic structure outside the Growth</p> | <p>a) Implementation of the Growth Centres Conservation Fund and Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program to secure suitable areas of CPW. Specific actions to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Allocation of part of the \$278.25 million (in 2005/06 dollars) referred to in Commitment 1 to secure at least 2,400 ha of either CPW or other “grassy woodland” communities outside the Growth Centres within the combined area of the</li> </ul> | <p>Over the life of the Program</p>  | <p>Refer to Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 2 and 4 of the report)</p>   | <p>On Track</p>                                      |

| Commitments  | Actions  | Timing | Progress | Comment |
|--|--|--------|----------|---------|
| <p>Centres within the combined area of the Sydney Basin Bioregion (IBRA v6.1) and the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority area. Preference to be given to CPW followed by <i>White Box</i>, <i>Yellow Box</i>, <i>Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland</i>.</p> | <p>Sydney Basin Bioregion (IBRA v6.1) and the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority area. Preference to be given to CPW followed by <i>White Box</i>, <i>Yellow Box</i>, <i>Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Allocation of the funding in accordance with the preferences indicated in RBM 32.</li> <li>▪ Targeting of lands for protection to be guided by the criteria identified in RBM 33.</li> <li>▪ Protection of a minimum of 205 ha of HMV CPW outside of the Growth Centres. If this target cannot be achieved due to unavailability of HMV, other areas of CPW within the priority lands may contribute toward the 205 ha provided it has the capacity to regenerate to benchmark condition with management. An area of CPW is deemed to be capable of regenerating to benchmark condition if 70% of the condition variables for the vegetation, measured using the biobanking methodology, are within 50% of the lower benchmark value for CPW.</li> <li>▪ As a minimum rate of progress, 15% of the 205 ha target is to be protected within 4 years of the EPBC Act endorsement of the Program, with an additional 15% being protected on every fourth anniversary of the endorsement until the 205 ha target is achieved. These dates may be amended with the approval of SEWPaC.</li> </ul> |        |          |         |

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing  | Progress  | Comment  |
|---|---|---|---|----------|
| 7. Review of the Priority Conservation Lands to consider inclusion of all HMV CPW remnants. | <p>a) Review to be undertaken in accordance with a methodology to be agreed with SEWPaC. At a minimum, the following areas of HMV CPW will be reviewed for inclusion in the Priority Conservation Lands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Areas of HMV CPW greater than 10 ha and that are contiguous with HMV CPW occurring within the Priority Conservation Lands.</li> <li>▪ Areas of contiguous HMV CPW greater than 20 ha that are outside the Priority Conservation Lands.</li> </ul> | <p>By 30 December 2013</p> <p>Variation to due date agreed by SEWPaC in a letter dated 3 December 2012.</p> | <p>Review completed in April 2014: <a href="#">Cumberland Plain Woodland &amp; Priority Conservation Lands</a>. Three candidate sites were identified which met the criteria for inclusion in the priority conservation lands. The Beulah candidate site is managed under a biobank agreement. It does not require further action to secure its long-term management and conservation. Noorumba Reserve is managed by Campbelltown City Council. The Leppington area is in private ownership. OEH will work with the relevant local and State government agencies to ensure the biodiversity values of these candidate areas are enhanced and protected where possible.</p> | Complete |

### Shale Sandstone Transition Forest (SSTF)

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing  | Progress   | Comment  |
|---|---|---------|--|----------|
| 8. Retention and protection of a minimum of 58 ha of SSTF within the Growth Centres | i) Retention and protection of SSTF in the following areas of the North West Growth Centre:                               |         | <p>In 2014/2015 two precincts were rezoned: East Leppington (Liverpool Part) and Area 20.</p> <p>There is no SSTF within the East Leppington Precinct which lies in the South West Growth Centre.</p>  | On Track |
|   | a) 5.5 ha within Flood Prone Land to be protected through the vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP. | Ongoing | <p>2.9 hectares of SSTF lies within the Flood Prone Land in the Area 20 Precinct. All of this SSTF has been protected through the precinct planning process. The SSTF is zoned RE1 and SP2 and is subject to vegetation clearing controls that prohibit clearing of this vegetation.</p> | On Track |

| Commitments | Actions   | Timing   | Progress   | Comment  |
|-------------|---|--|--|----------|
|             | b) 5.5 ha within Public Recreation – Regional zoning to be protected through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RBM 12 which states that clearing of these areas is not permitted unless it is in accordance with a Plan of Management endorsed by DECCW;</li> </ul> | Ongoing  | Since endorsement of the Biodiversity Certification in 2007, no clearing has occurred in 'red hatched' areas, subject to RBM 12, located within areas zoned Public Recreation – Regional.<br><br>Ongoing | On Track |
|             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the zoning and vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP; and</li> </ul>  | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management Ongoing   | Complete |
|             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the Growth Centres Conservation Fund which provides funding to acquire the land.</li> </ul>  | As land becomes available for purchase         | Management and acquisition ongoing   | On Track |
|             | c) 0.5 ha within the Westlink M7 Motorway Offsets area to be protected through maintenance of the existing conservation area (purchased by the RTA for transfer to DECCW as part of the Westlink M7 Motorway offsets).  | Ongoing  | This was completed prior to the endorsement of the Program and the approval of the classes of action.  | Complete |
|             | d) 46.5 ha within the E3 Environmental Management zone in North Kellyville to be protected under the existing native vegetation and native vegetation retention controls under the North Kellyville Precinct Plan.  | Ongoing  |  |          |



| Commitments  | Actions  | Timing                       | Progress   | Comment  |
|--|--|------------------------------|--|----------|
| 9. Contribution towards the long term sustainability and persistence of SSTF. The NSW Government will ensure the protection of at least 132 ha of SSTF outside of the Growth Centres within the combined area of the Sydney Basin Bioregion (IBRA v6.1) and the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority area. | <p>a) Implementation of the Growth Centres Conservation Fund and Growth Centres Offset Program to secure suitable areas of SSTF. Specific actions to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Allocation of part of the \$278.25 million (in 2005/06 dollars) referred to in Commitment 1 to secure suitable areas of SSTF.</li> <li>▪ Allocation of the funding in accordance with the preferences indicated in RBM 32.</li> <li>▪ Targeting of lands for protection to be guided by the criteria identified in RBM 33.</li> </ul> | Over the life of the Program | Refer to Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 2 and 4 of the report) | On Track |

#### Turpentine-Ironbark Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion (TIF)

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing                       | Progress   | Comment  |
|---|---|------------------------------|--|----------|
| 10. Contribution towards the long term sustainability and persistence of TIF. The NSW Government will ensure the protection of at least 4.4 ha of TIF outside of the Growth Centres within the combined area of the Sydney Basin Bioregion (IBRA v6.1) and the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority area. | <p>a) Implementation of the Growth Centres Conservation Fund and Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program to secure suitable areas of TIF. Specific actions to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Allocation of part of the \$278.25 million (in 2005/06 dollars) referred to in Commitment 1 to secure suitable areas of TIF.</li> <li>▪ Allocation of the funding in accordance with the preferences indicated in RBM 32.</li> <li>▪ Targeting of lands for protection to be guided by the criteria identified in RBM 33.</li> </ul> | Over the life of the Program | Refer to Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 2 and 4 of the report) | On Track |

## 1.5 Threatened flora

### Downy Wattle (*Acacia pubescens*)

| Commitments  | Actions   | Timing  | Progress  | Comment  |
|--|---|---|---|----------|
| 11. Survey to confirm the presence of <i>Acacia pubescens</i> in the area of the two known records within the Growth Centres in Kemps Creek and Austral. | a) Survey to confirm the presence of the population in the Kemps Creek Precinct in accordance with RBM 17.                          | Prior to the public exhibition of the draft precinct planning controls for the Kemps Creek Precinct | Not yet commenced.<br>This will be completed during the Precinct Planning Process for Kemps Creek Precinct.   | On Track |
|  | b) Survey to confirm the presence of the population in the Austral Precinct in accordance with RBM 17.                              | Prior to the public exhibition of the draft precinct planning controls for the Austral Precinct     | Survey completed in September 2010, prior to endorsement of the Program and approval of the classes of action.<br>Survey confirmed presence of <i>Acacia pubescens</i> .<br>The species is not located in the Austral Precinct, but in the adjacent Western Sydney Parklands. | Complete |
| 12. Protect if presence of <i>Acacia pubescens</i> is confirmed within the Growth Centres in Kemps Creek or Austral and the population is identified as  | a) If required by DECCW, protect an area of suitable habitat for the species in the Kemps Creek Precinct in accordance with RBM 17. | Prior to the rezoning of Kemps Creek Precinct protection mechanisms will be agreed with DECCW       | Prior to the rezoning of Kemps Creek Precinct protection mechanisms will be agreed with OEH.  | On Track |

| Commitments  | Actions  | Timing   | Progress  | Comment         |
|--|--|--|---|-----------------|
| <p>significant relative to the adjacent property by DECCW.</p> | <p>b) If required by DECCW, protect an area of suitable habitat for the species in the Austral Precinct in accordance with RBM 17.</p>   | <p>Within 3 years of the rezoning of the Austral Precinct protection mechanisms will be agreed with OEH.<br/>Variation to due date agreed by SEWPaC in a letter dated 3 December 2012.</p> | <p>Within 3 years of the rezoning of the Austral Precinct protection mechanisms will be agreed with OEH (March 2016).<br/>The Department is continuing to work with the Western Sydney Parklands Trust and the Sydney Catchment Authority to determine appropriate protection of areas of suitable habitat for the confirmed <i>Acacia pubescens</i> species.</p> | <p>On Track</p> |
|  | <p>c) If protection under the above sub clauses a) or b) is required, this may be achieved through the implementation of various mechanisms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ zoning, such as the E2 Environmental Conservation or E3 Environmental Management zones with appropriate objectives and permissible/prohibited land uses; or</li> <li>▪ additional planning controls, such as the 'Existing Native Vegetation Retention' area overlay which applies to land where the clearing of vegetation is prohibited; or</li> <li>▪ Environmental Management controls in development control plans establishing management requirements.</li> </ul> | <p>If required, prior to the rezoning of the Kemps Creek Precinct and/or the Austral Precinct</p>  | <p>The Department is continuing to work with the Western Sydney Parklands Trust and the Sydney Catchment Authority to determine appropriate protection of areas of suitable habitat for the confirmed <i>Acacia pubescens</i> species.</p>  | <p>On Track</p> |

| Commitments  | Actions   | Timing                       | Progress   | Comment  |
|--|---|------------------------------|--|----------|
| 13. Provision of offsets focussed on protecting potential habitat for <i>Acacia pubescens</i> that occur outside the Growth Centres. | <p>a) Implementation of the Growth Centres Conservation Fund and Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program to secure suitable areas of potential habitat for <i>Acacia pubescens</i>. Specific actions to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Allocation of part of the \$278.25 million (in 2005/06 dollars) referred to in Commitment 1 to secure suitable areas of potential habitat for <i>Acacia pubescens</i>.</li> <li>▪ Allocation of the funding in accordance with the preferences indicated in RBM 32.</li> <li>▪ Targeting of lands for protection to be guided by the criteria identified in RBM 33.</li> </ul> | Over the life of the Program | Refer to Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 2 and 4 of the report) | On Track |

*Darwinia biflora*

| Commitments  | Actions  | Timing   | Progress   | Comment  |
|--|--|--|--|----------|
| 14. Protection of four known populations of <i>Darwinia biflora</i> within the Growth Centres. | <p>a) Protection and ongoing management of key populations within the North Kellyville Precinct through zoning as E3 Environmental Management and existing native vegetation controls.</p> | <p>Zoning Completed in December 2008</p> <p>Management – ongoing</p> | <p>Zoning completed in December 2008</p> <p>Management – ongoing</p> | Complete |

*Dillwynia tenuifolia*

| Commitments   | Actions  | Timing   | Progress   | Comment  |
|---|--|--|--|----------|
| 15. Retention and protection of habitat supporting the four important populations of <i>Dillwynia tenuifolia</i> known to occur within the Growth Centres through acquisition of land for environmental conservation. | a) Protection of the Marsden Park North population within Environment Conservation zoning through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RBM 12 which states that clearing of these areas is not permitted unless it is in accordance with a Plan of Management or unless such clearance has been agreed to by DECCW;</li> </ul>  | Ongoing  | Since endorsement of the Biodiversity Certification in 2007, no clearing has occurred in 'red hatched' areas, subject to RBM 12, located in areas zoned Environment Conservation.<br><br>Ongoing   | On Track |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the zoning and vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP; and</li> </ul>   | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing   | Complete |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the Growth Centres Conservation Fund which provides funding to acquire the land.</li> </ul>   | As land becomes available for purchase         | Management and acquisition ongoing   | On Track |
|   | b) Protection of the population within the Air Services Australia site at Shanes Park (noting that at the time of finalising the Program the site is still under care of the Commonwealth) through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RBM 12 which states that clearing of these areas is not permitted unless it is in accordance with a Plan of Management or unless such clearance has been agreed to by DECCW; and</li> </ul> | Ongoing  | Since endorsement of the Biodiversity Certification in 2007, no clearing has occurred in 'red hatched' areas, subject to RBM 12, located within areas zoned Environment Conservation zone (including the AirServices Australia site).<br><br>Ongoing | On Track |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the zoning and vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP.</li> </ul>   | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing   | Complete |

| Commitments  | Actions  | Timing   | Progress  | Comment  |
|--|--|--|---|----------|
|  | c) Protection of the majority of the large population within Kemps Creek through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RBM 12 which states that clearing of these areas is not permitted unless it is in accordance with a Plan of Management or unless such clearance has been agreed to by DECCW; and</li> </ul> | Ongoing  | Since endorsement of the Biodiversity Certification in 2007, no clearing has occurred in 'red hatched' areas, subject to RBM 12 within Kemps Creek<br><br>Ongoing   | On Track |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the zoning and vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP.</li> </ul>   | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing  | Complete |
|  | d) Protection of the large population that occurs within the Westlink M7 Motorway offset adjacent to the Colebee Precinct through maintenance of the existing conservation area (purchased by the RTA for transfer to DECCW as part of the Westlink M7 Motorway offsets).  | Ongoing  | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management Ongoing  | Complete |
| 16. Increase in the number of known sites for the species under conservation and management outside of the Growth Centres. | a) Acquisition of the Cranebrook site which supports a very large and significant population of <i>Dillwynia tenuifolia</i> (estimated that the population consists of 125,000 to 222,000 plants) through a contribution from the Conservation Fund towards the purchase and initial reserve establishment costs.      | Completed 2008-09                              | Completed between 2008-2009, prior to endorsement of the Program and approval of the classes of action.<br><br>Refer to Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2013/14 (see section 2 of the report) | Complete |
|  | b) Management of the Cranebrook site to preserve its ecological values.  | Ongoing  | Ongoing   |          |

Small-flowered Grevillea (*Grevillea parviflora subsp. parviflora*)

| Commitments   | Actions  | Timing  | Progress   | Comment  |
|---|--|---|--|----------|
| 17. Retention and protection of habitat supporting the population known to occur within the Growth Centres through acquisition of land in Kemps Creek.                        | a) Protection of the majority of the large population within Kemps Creek through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RBM 12 which states that clearing of these areas is not permitted unless it is in accordance with a Plan of Management or unless such clearance has been agreed to by DECCW; and</li> </ul> | Ongoing   | Since endorsement of the Biodiversity Certification in 2007, no clearing has occurred in 'red hatched' areas, subject to RBM 12, located in Kemps Creek within areas zoned Environment Conservation and Public Recreation – Regional.<br><br>Ongoing | On Track |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the zoning and vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP.</li> </ul>   | Zoning completed in 2006<br><br>Management ongoing  | Zoning completed in 2006<br><br>Management Ongoing   | Complete |
| 18. Survey to confirm the presence of <i>Grevillea parviflora subsp. parviflora</i> in the Kemps Creek Precinct.  | a) Survey to confirm the presence of the population in the Kemps Creek Precinct in accordance with the methodology consistent with RBM 17 as it applies to <i>Acacia pubescens</i> in the Kemps Creek area.  | Prior to the public exhibition of the draft precinct planning controls for the Kemps Creek Precinct | Not yet commenced  | On Track |
| 19. Protect if presence of <i>Grevillea parviflora subsp. parviflora</i> is confirmed and population is identified as significant relative to the adjacent property by DECCW. | a) If required by DECCW, protect an area of suitable habitat for the species in the Kemps Creek Precinct to the satisfaction of DECCW in accordance with RBM 17 as it applies to <i>Acacia pubescens</i> in the Kemps Creek area.  | Prior to the rezoning of Kemps Creek Precinct protection mechanisms will be agreed with DECCW       | Precinct Planning is yet to be undertaken for the Kemps Creek Precinct.  |          |

| Commitments | Actions  | Timing   | Progress                           | Comment         |
|-------------|--|--|------------------------------------|-----------------|
|             | <p>b) If protection under 19a is required, this may be achieved through the implementation of various mechanisms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ zoning, such as the E2 Environmental Conservation or E3 Environmental Management zones with appropriate objectives and permissible/prohibited land uses; or</li> <li>▪ additional planning controls, such as the 'Existing Native Vegetation Retention' area overlay which applies to land where the clearing of vegetation is prohibited.; or</li> <li>▪ Environmental Management controls in development control plans establishing management requirements.</li> </ul> | <p>If required, prior to the rezoning of the Kemps Creek Precinct.</p> | <p>Not applicable at this time</p> | <p>On Track</p> |

*Micromyrtus minutiflora*

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing         | Progress  | Comment         |
|---|---|----------------|---|-----------------|
| <p>20. Retention and protection of habitat supporting the two important populations known to occur within the Growth Centres.</p> | <p>a) Protection of the Marsden Park North population within Environment Conservation zoning through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RBM 12 which states that clearing of these areas is not permitted unless it is in accordance with a Plan of Management endorsed by DECCW;</li> </ul> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>Since endorsement of the Biodiversity Certification in 2007, no clearing has occurred in 'red hatched' areas, subject to RBM 12, located within areas zoned Environment Conservation.</p> <p>Plan of Management to be prepared when Precinct Planning is completed, if there is vegetation proposed to be cleared.</p> <p>Ongoing.</p> | <p>On Track</p> |



| Commitments  | Actions   | Timing   | Progress  | Comment  |
|--|---|--|---|----------|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the zoning and vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP; and</li> </ul>  | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing  | Complete |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the Growth Centres Conservation Fund which provides funding to acquire the land.</li> </ul>  | As land becomes available for purchase         | Management and acquisition ongoing  | On Track |
|  | b) Protection of the population within the Air Services Australia site at Shanes Park (noting that at the time of finalising the Program the site is still under care of the Commonwealth) through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RBM 12 which states that clearing of these areas is not permitted unless it is in accordance with a Plan of Management endorsed by DECCW; and</li> </ul> | Ongoing  | Since endorsement of the Biodiversity Certification in 2007, no clearing has occurred in 'red hatched' areas, subject to RBM 12, within the Air Services Australia site at Shanes Park.<br>Management and negotiations for transfer of land to State Government is ongoing.<br>Ongoing. | On Track |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the zoning and vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP.</li> </ul>  | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing | Zoning completed in 2006  | Complete |
| 21. Increase in the number of known sites for the species under conservation and management outside of the Growth Centres. | a) Acquisition of the Cranebrook site which supports a very large and significant population of <i>Micromyrtus minutiflora</i> (estimated that the population consists of 366,000 to 522,000 plants) through a contribution from the Conservation Fund towards the purchase and initial reserve establishment costs.  | Completed 2008-09                              | Completed between 2008-2009, prior to endorsement of the Program and approval of the classes of action.<br>Refer to Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 2 of the report)   | Complete |
|  | b) Management of the Cranebrook site to preserve its ecological values.   | Ongoing  | Ongoing   |          |

*Persoonia hirsuta*

| Commitments   | Actions  | Timing  | Progress  | Comment  |
|---|--|---|---|----------|
| 22. Protection of potential habitat for <i>Persoonia hirsuta</i> within North Kellyville. | a) Protection and ongoing management of potential habitat within the North Kellyville Precinct through zoning as E3 Environmental Management and existing native vegetation or native vegetation retention development controls. | Zoning Completed in December 2008<br>Management – ongoing | Zoning completed in December 2008<br>Management ongoing | Complete |

*Persoonia nutans*

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing  | Progress   | Comment  |
|---|---|---|--|----------|
| 23. Retention and protection of habitat supporting the important populations of <i>Persoonia nutans</i> known to occur within the Growth Centres. | a) Protection of one of the known populations within Kemps Creek through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RBM 12 which states that clearing of these areas is not permitted unless it is in accordance with a Plan of Management endorsed by DECCW; and</li> </ul> | Ongoing   | Since endorsement of the Biodiversity Certification in 2007, no clearing has occurred in 'red hatched' areas, subject to RBM 12, located in Kemps Creek within areas zoned Environment Conservation and Public Recreation – Regional.<br>Ongoing | On Track |
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the zoning and vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP.</li> </ul>  | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing  | Zoning completed in 2006<br>Management ongoing   | Complete |
| 24. Survey to confirm the presence of <i>Persoonia nutans</i> in the Kemps Creek Precinct.  | a) Survey to confirm the presence of the population in the Kemps Creek Precinct in accordance with RBM 17 as it applies to <i>Acacia pubescens</i> in the Kemps Creek area.   | Prior to the public exhibition of the draft precinct planning controls for the Kemps Creek Precinct | Precinct Planning for Kemps Creek not yet commenced. Survey will be completed prior to the public exhibition of the draft precinct planning controls for the Kemps Creek Precinct.   | On Track |

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing  | Progress  | Comment  |
|---|---|---|---|----------|
| 25. Protect if presence of <i>Persoonia nutans</i> is confirmed and population is identified as significant relative to the adjacent property by DECCW. | a) If required, protection of an area of suitable habitat for the species in the Kemps Creek Precinct will be provided to the satisfaction of DECCW in accordance with the methodology consistent with RBM 17 as it applies to <i>Acacia pubescens</i> in the Kemps Creek area.   | Prior to the rezoning of Kemps Creek Precinct protection mechanisms will be agreed with DECCW | Prior to the rezoning of Kemps Creek Precinct protection mechanisms will be agreed with OEH.  | On Track |
|   | b) If protection under 25a is required, this may be achieved through the implementation of various mechanisms such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ zoning, such as the E2 Environmental Conservation or E3 Environmental Management zones with appropriate objectives and permissible/prohibited land uses; or</li> <li>▪ additional planning controls, such as the 'Existing Native Vegetation Retention' area overlay which applies to land where the clearing of vegetation is prohibited.; or</li> <li>▪ Environmental Management controls in development control plans establishing management requirements.</li> </ul> | If required, prior to the rezoning of the Kemps Creek Precinct                                | Not applicable at this time   | On Track |
| 26. Increase in the number of known sites for the species under conservation and management outside of the Growth Centres.                              | a) Acquisition of the Cranebrook site which supports a population of <i>Persoonia nutans</i> through a contribution from the Conservation Fund towards the purchase and initial reserve establishment costs.  | Completed 2008-09   | Completed between 2008-2009, prior to endorsement of the Program and approval of the classes of action.<br><br>Refer to Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 2 of the report) | Complete |
|   | b) Management of the Cranebrook site to preserve its ecological values.   | Ongoing   |   |          |

*Pimelea spicata*

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing   | Progress  | Comment         |
|---|---|--|---|-----------------|
| <p>27. Survey to confirm presence of <i>Pimelea spicata</i> at Denham Court Road within the East Leppington Precinct.</p>                                     | <p>a) Survey to confirm the presence of the population in the East Leppington Precinct in accordance with RBM 17.</p>   | <p>Prior to the public exhibition of the draft precinct planning controls for the East Leppington Precinct</p>   | <p>Survey undertaken prior to the public exhibition of the draft precinct planning controls for the East Leppington Precinct.<br/>Species confirmed as being present.</p>   | <p>Complete</p> |
| <p>28. Protect if presence of <i>Pimelea spicata</i> is confirmed and population is identified as significant relative to the adjacent property by DECCW.</p> | <p>a) If required by DECCW, protect an area of suitable habitat for the species in the East Leppington Precinct in accordance with RBM 17.</p> <hr/> <p>b) If protection under 28a is required, this may be achieved through the implementation of various mechanisms such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ zoning, such as the E2 Environmental Conservation or E3 Environmental Management zones with appropriate objectives and permissible/prohibited land uses; or</li> <li>▪ additional planning controls, such as the 'Existing Native Vegetation Retention' area overlay which applies to land where the clearing of vegetation is prohibited.; or</li> <li>▪ Environmental Management controls in development control plans establishing management requirements.</li> </ul> | <p>Prior to the rezoning of East Leppington Precinct protection mechanisms will be agreed with DECCW</p> <hr/> <p>If required, prior to the rezoning of the East Leppington Precinct</p> | <p>Precinct Planning has been completed and mechanisms to protect the species have been agreed to between the Department of Planning &amp; Environment and OEH.</p> <hr/> <p>The Precinct Plan will protect 1.86 ha of suitable habitat for <i>Pimelea spicata</i>. This area is to be protected using an E2 Environmental Conservation zone and is identified as Existing Native Vegetation on the Native Vegetation Protection (NVP) map under the Growth Centres SEPP. The clearing controls in the Growth Centres SEPP prohibit the clearing of ENV as identified on the NVP map.</p> | <p>Complete</p> |

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing                       | Progress   | Comment  |
|---|---|------------------------------|--|----------|
| 29. Provision of offsets focussed on protecting habitat for <i>Pimelea spicata</i> that occur outside the Growth Centres. | <p>a) Implementation of the Growth Centres Conservation Fund and Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program to secure suitable areas of potential habitat for <i>Pimelea spicata</i>.<br/>Specific actions to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Allocation of part of the \$278.25 million (in 2005/06 dollars) referred to in Commitment 1 to secure suitable areas of potential habitat for <i>Pimelea spicata</i>.</li> <li>▪ Allocation of the funding in accordance with the preferences indicated in RBM 32.</li> <li>▪ Targeting of lands for protection to be guided by the criteria identified in RBM 33.</li> </ul> | Over the life of the Program | Refer to Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 2 and 4 of the report) | On Track |

*Pultenaea parviflora*

| Commitments  | Actions   | Timing   | Progress   | Comment  |
|--|---|--|--|----------|
| 30. Retention and protection of habitat supporting the four populations of <i>Pultenaea parviflora</i> known to occur within the Growth Centres. | <p>a) Protection of the Marsden Park North population within Environment Conservation zoning through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RBM 12 which states that clearing of these areas is not permitted unless it is in accordance with a Plan of Management endorsed by DECCW;</li> </ul> | Ongoing  | Since endorsement of the Biodiversity Certification in 2007, no clearing has occurred in 'red hatched' areas, subject to RBM 12, located within areas zoned Environment Conservation.<br><br>Ongoing | On Track |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the zoning and vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP; and</li> </ul>  | Zoning completed in 2006<br><br>Management ongoing | Zoning completed in 2006<br><br>Management ongoing   | Complete |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the Growth Centres Conservation Fund which provides funding to acquire the land.</li> </ul>  | As land becomes available for purchase             | Management and acquisition ongoing   | On Track |

| Commitments | Actions  | Timing   | Progress   | Comment  |
|-------------|--|--|--|----------|
|             | b) Protection of the population within the Air Services Australia site at Shanes Park (noting that at the time of finalising the Program the site is still under care of the Commonwealth) through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RBM 12 which states that clearing of these areas is not permitted unless it is in accordance with a Plan of Management or unless such clearance has been agreed to by DECCW; and</li> </ul> | Ongoing  | Since endorsement of the Biodiversity Certification in 2007, no clearing has occurred in 'red hatched' areas, subject to RBM 12, located within the Air Services Australia site at Shanes Park.<br><br>Management and negotiations for transfer of land to State Government is ongoing.<br><br>Ongoing | On Track |
|             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the zoning and vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP.</li> </ul>   | Zoning completed in 2006<br><br>Management ongoing | Zoning completed in 2006<br><br>Management ongoing   | Complete |
|             | c) Protection of the majority of the large population within Kemps Creek through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RBM 12 which states that clearing of these areas is not permitted unless it is in accordance with a Plan of Management or unless such clearance has been agreed to by DECCW; and</li> </ul>   | Ongoing  | Since endorsement of the Biodiversity Certification in 2007, no clearing has occurred in 'red hatched' areas, subject to RBM 12, located in Kemps Creek within areas zoned Environment Conservation and Public Recreation – Regional.<br><br>Ongoing   | On Track |
|             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the zoning and vegetation clearing controls under the Growth Centres SEPP.</li> </ul>   | Zoning completed in 2006<br><br>Management ongoing | Zoning completed in 2006<br><br>Management ongoing   | Complete |

| Commitments  | Actions  | Timing               | Progress  | Comment  |
|--|--|----------------------|---|----------|
|  | d) Protection of the large population that occurs within the Westlink M7 Motorway offset adjacent to the Colebee Precinct through maintenance of the existing conservation area (purchased by the RTA for transfer to DECCW as part of the Westlink M7 Motorway offsets).                                | Ongoing              | This was completed prior to the endorsement of the Program and the approval of the classes of action.   | Complete |
| 31. Increase in the number of known sites for the species under conservation and management outside of the Growth Centres. | a) Acquisition of the Cranebrook site which a very large and significant population of <i>Pultenaea parviflora</i> (estimated that the population consists of 86,000 and 127,000 plants) through a contribution from the Conservation Fund towards the purchase and initial reserve establishment costs. | Purchased in 2008-09 | Completed between 2008-2009, prior to endorsement of the Program and approval of the classes of action.<br><br>Refer to Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 2 in the report) | Complete |
|  | b) Management of the Cranebrook site to preserve its ecological values.  | Ongoing              | Management ongoing  | On track |

## 1.6 Threatened fauna

### Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor*)

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing  | Progress   | Comment  |
|---|---|---------|--|----------|
| 32. Protection of potential habitat for the Swift Parrot within the Growth Centres. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of 2,000 ha native vegetation within the Growth Centres through:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ RBM 6 which requires a minimum of 2,000 ha of existing native vegetation to be retained; and</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | Ongoing | In 2015, 2,033.1 hectares of ENV are protected in non-certified lands under the Biodiversity Certification and through relevant zoning and clearing controls identified under the Growth Centres SEPP. | On Track |

| Commitments  | Actions   | Timing                              | Progress   | Comment         |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the relevant development controls under the Growth Centres SEPP that relate to the retention of native vegetation.</li> </ul>  |                                     | <p>The amount of ENV protected across the Growth Centres this year has increased as result of two amendments to the maps identifying the non-certified lands under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995. The maps were amended to implement the outcomes of precinct planning, resulting in the amount of ENV being protected exceeding the 2,000 hectare target.</p> <p>Areas of ENV are being protected through a range of zonings such as Environment Conservation, Public Recreation-Regional, E2 Environmental Conservation, RE1 Public Recreation, and SP2 Infrastructure. In addition, clearing controls are also applied, which prohibit clearing.</p> |                 |
| <p>33. Provision of offsets outside of the Growth Centres which will also contain potential foraging habitat for the Swift Parrot, and which will contribute further towards the conservation of habitat within the combined area of the Sydney Basin Bioregion (IBRA v6.1) and the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority area.</p> | <p>a) Implementation of the Growth Centres Conservation Fund and Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program to secure suitable areas of potential habitat for the Swift Parrot. Specific actions to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Allocation of part of the \$278.25 million (in 2005/06 dollars) referred to in Commitment 1 to secure suitable areas of potential habitat for the Swift Parrot.</li> <li>▪ Allocation of the funding in accordance with the preferences indicated in RBM 32.</li> <li>▪ Targeting of lands for protection to be guided by the criteria identified in RBM 33.</li> </ul> | <p>Over the life of the Program</p> | <p>Refer to Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 2 and 4 of the report)</p>  | <p>On Track</p> |



**Green and Golden Bell Frog (*Litoria aurea*)**

| Commitments  | Actions  | Timing  | Progress   | Comment  |
|--|--|---|--|----------|
| 34. Protection and enhancement of potential and known habitat for the Riverstone element of the Western Sydney key population of the Green and Golden Bell Frog. | a) Incorporation of habitat protection and enhancement features (as per the agreed concept design) in the Riverstone Precinct Development Control Plan for the trunk drainage land.  | Development control plan finalised in May 2010.       | Schedule 2 of the Blacktown City Council Development Control Plan – Riverstone Precinct (DCP) was finalised in May 2010. Section 2 of the DCP outlines the habitat protection and enhancement requirements for the Green and Gold Bell Frog habitat. | Complete |
|  | b) Inclusion of provisions in the Riverstone Precinct Plan and Development Control Plan to require the design and assessment of development on subject lands to be consistent with any recovery plan for the species and the Best Practice Guidelines for Green and Golden Bell Frog Habitat (DECC 2008b). | Zoning and development controls finalised in May 2010 | Zoning and development controls finalised in May 2010.   | Complete |
| 35. Protection of potential habitat for the species throughout the North West Growth Centre.   | a) Retention of major drainage lines and associated vegetation throughout the Growth Centres through Growth Centres SEPP development controls for major creeks and flood prone areas.  | Ongoing   | Precinct Planning for the Growth Centres is continuing.  | On Track |

**Large-eared Pied Bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*)**

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing                                     | Progress  | Comment  |
|---|---|--|---|----------|
| 36. Protection of potential habitat for the Large-eared Pied Bat within the Growth Centres. | a) Retention of potential roosting habitat and immediately adjacent potential foraging habitat along Cattai Creek in North Kellyville through development controls associated with the E3 Environmental Management and E4 Environmental Living zones. | Zoning – completed<br>Management - ongoing | Zoning completed in December 2008<br>Management ongoing | Complete |



| Commitments  | Actions   | Timing                              | Progress  | Comment         |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| <p>37. Provision of offsets outside of the Growth Centres which will also contain potential roosting or foraging habitat for the Large-eared Pied Bat, and which will contribute further towards the conservation of habitat within the combined area of the Sydney Basin Bioregion (IBRA v6.1) and the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority area.</p> | <p>a) Implementation of the Growth Centres Conservation Fund and Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program to secure suitable areas of potential habitat for the Large-eared Pied Bat. Specific actions to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Allocation of part of the \$278.25 million (in 2005/06 dollars) referred to in Commitment 1 to secure suitable areas of potential habitat for the Large-eared Pied Bat.</li> <li>▪ Allocation of the funding in accordance with the preferences indicated in RBM 32.</li> <li>▪ Targeting of lands for protection to be guided by the criteria identified in RBM 33.</li> </ul> | <p>Over the life of the Program</p> | <p>Refer to Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 2 and 4 of the report)</p> | <p>On Track</p> |

**Grey-headed Flying Fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*)**

| Commitments  | Actions  | Timing         | Progress   | Comment         |
|--|--|----------------|--|-----------------|
| <p>38. Protection of potential habitat for the Grey-headed Flying Fox within the Growth Centres.</p> | <p>a) Protection of 2,000 ha native vegetation within the Growth Centres through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o RBM 6 which requires a minimum of 2,000 ha of existing native vegetation to be retained; and</li> <li>o the relevant development controls under the Growth Centres SEPP that relate to the retention of native vegetation.</li> </ul> | <p>Ongoing</p> | <p>In 2015, 2,033.1 hectares of ENV are protected in non-certified lands under the Biodiversity Certification and through relevant zoning and clearing controls identified under the Growth Centres SEPP.</p> <p>The amount of ENV protected across the Growth Centres this year has increased as result of two amendments to the maps identifying the non-certified lands under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995. The maps were amended to implement the outcomes of precinct planning, resulting in the amount of ENV being protected exceeding the 2,000 hectare target.</p> <p>Areas of ENV are being protected through a range of zonings such as Environment Conservation, Public Recreation-Regional, E2 Environmental Conservation, RE1 Public Recreation, and SP2 Infrastructure. In addition, clearing controls are also applied, which prohibit clearing.</p> | <p>On Track</p> |

| Commitments   | Actions   | Timing                              | Progress  | Comment         |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| <p>39. Provision of offsets outside of the Growth Centres which will also contain potential roosting and foraging habitat for the Grey-headed Flying Fox, and which will contribute further towards the conservation of habitat within the combined area of the Sydney Basin Bioregion (IBRA v6.1) and the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority area.</p> | <p>a) Implementation of the Growth Centres Conservation Fund and Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program to secure suitable areas of potential habitat for the Grey-headed Flying Fox. Specific actions to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Allocation of part of the \$278.25 million (in 2005/06 dollars) referred to in Commitment 1 to secure suitable areas of potential habitat for the Grey-headed Flying Fox.</li> <li>▪ Allocation of the funding in accordance with the preferences indicated in RBM 32.</li> <li>▪ Targeting of lands for protection to be guided by the criteria identified in RBM 33.</li> </ul> | <p>Over the life of the Program</p> | <p>Refer to Growth Centres Offset Program Annual Report 2014/15 (see section 2 and 4 of the report)</p> | <p>On Track</p> |

## Addendum to the Strategic Assessment Program

In addition to the conditions listed in the table above, the NSW Government made further commitments and undertakings, through an addendum to the Strategic Assessment, dated January 2012. These commitments include:

- The NSW Government is committed to spending the Growth Centres \$530 million Conservation Fund (in 2005/2006 dollar value and subject to indexing) on the Cumberland Plain.
  - A total of 471 hectares of high conservation value bushland has now been permanently protected by the program since its commencement in 2008, either through the establishment of Biobanking agreements or formal reservation under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.
  - To date \$21,061,866 has been received (in 2005-06 dollar values) to protect high conservation bushland in accordance with the biodiversity certification for the Growth Centres.
- There is still allowance for funding off Cumberland Plain, but in exceptional circumstances only e.g. when it is not possible to secure conservation sites on the Cumberland Plain in any particular financial year over the 30 year life of the Program.
  - There have been no properties or sites purchased for conservation that are off the Cumberland Plain to date.
- The rules governing exceptional circumstances will be agreed between the Commonwealth and State by 20 March 2012.
  - On 9 March 2012, the Department of Planning and Environment and the Office of Environment and Heritage wrote to the then Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities seeking agreement from the Commonwealth for the rules for exceptional circumstances prepared by the State. The Commonwealth agreed to the rules in a letter dated 27 June 2012.
  - This was included in the 2011-2012 Strategic Assessment Annual Report.
- The Commonwealth Government will need to agree to any specific offsets off the Cumberland Plain.
  - There have been no offsets proposed off the Cumberland Plain to date.
- The Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program Advisory Group, which makes final funding decisions, will be reconstituted as a Technical Sub-Committee under the NSW Environmental Trust which operates under the NSW *Environmental Trust Act 1998*. This will include new representatives from industry and a peak conservation group.
  - The Technical Sub-Committee, now called the 'Offsets Sub-committee' is in operation under the NSW Environmental Trust.
  - The committee includes representatives from, Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Planning and Environment, a peak conservation group, and industry.

## **ANNEXURE 1**

### **Growth Centres Biodiversity Offset Program Annual Report 2014-2015**