Dinner Hill Wind Farm

Aboriginal and Historical Heritage Risk Assessment (Desktop)

Final

August 2026

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Final

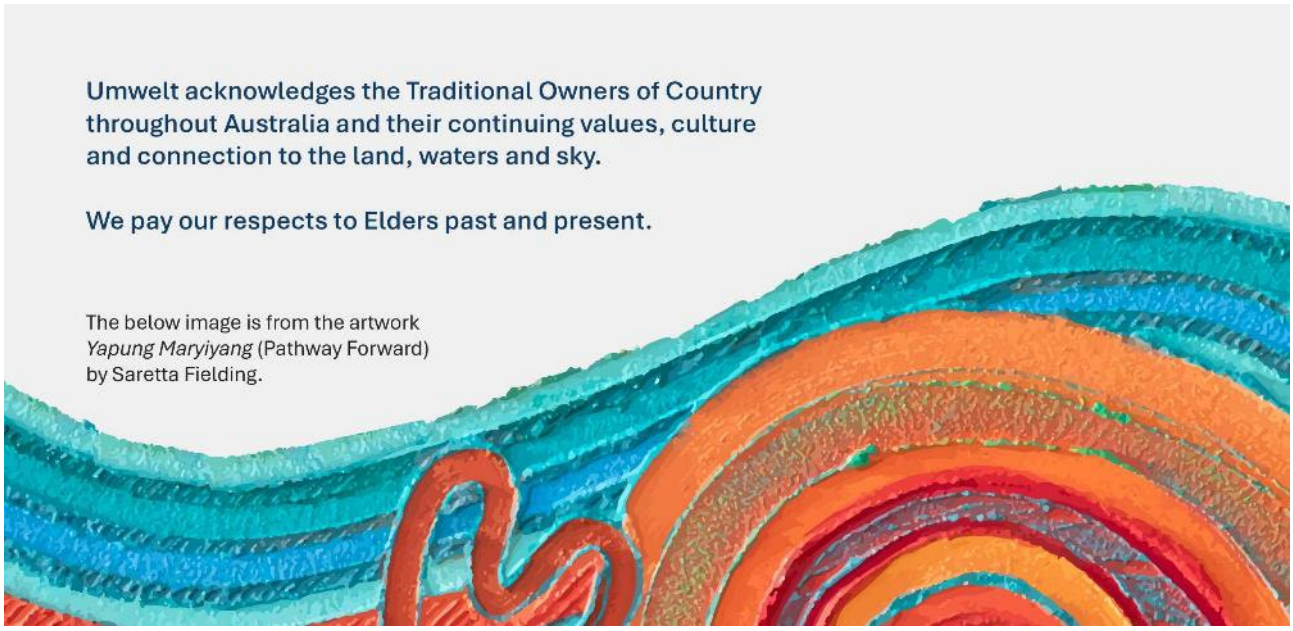
Prepared by
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On behalf of
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Report No.:	32125/R02
Date:	August 2026

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Document Status

Rev No.	Reviewer Name	Date	Approved for Issue Name	Date
Final	Jill Reid	28.07.2026	Jessica Henderson-Wilson	07.08.2026

Terms and Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
AHA	*Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*
ACH, or AH	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, Aboriginal Heritage
AHDDG	Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Guidelines, published by the Department of Lands, Planning and Heritage and Department of Premier and Cabinet 2013 (WA)
Aboriginal Site	• Any place of importance where persons of Aboriginal descent have left any object, or have used, in connection with the traditional cultural life of the Aboriginal people, past or present. • Any sacred, ritual or ceremonial site, which is of importance and special significance to persons of Aboriginal descent. • Any place which is, or was, associated with Aboriginal people and which is of historical, anthropological, archaeological or ethnographical importance to the State. • Any place where objects to which the AHA applies are stored.
ACHIS	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System
Assessment	This Desktop Risk Assessment
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
CAC	Cultural Advice Committee
CHL	Commonwealth Heritage List
Development Footprint	The area within the Project Area that would be directly impacted by the Project
DPLH	Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage
EPBC Act	*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth)
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
Harm	Harm to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage as defined under the AHA
HA	*Heritage Act 2018*
ILUA	Indigenous Land Use Agreement
Knowledge Holder	In relation to an area, means an Aboriginal person who – • In accordance with Aboriginal tradition, holds knowledge about the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage of the area. • Has traditional rights, interests and responsibilities in respect of Aboriginal places located in, or Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal ancestral remains located in or reasonably believed to have originated from, the area. • In relation to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, means an Aboriginal person who: ○ In accordance with Aboriginal tradition, holds particular knowledge about the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage. ○ Has traditional rights, interests and responsibilities in respect of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage.
LGA	Local Government Area
NHL	National Heritage List
NSHA	Noongar Standard Heritage Agreement

Abbreviation	Definition
Project Area	Entire area subject to this Assessment, including the proposed Development Footprint
RNE	Register of the National Estate (non-statutory archive)
WHL	World Heritage List
WTL	Wind Turbine Location
YAC	Yued Aboriginal Corporation
YHPA	Yued Heritage Protection Agreement

Executive Summary

Umwelt was engaged by OX2 to undertake a Desktop Aboriginal and Historical Heritage Risk Assessment (Assessment) for the proposed Dinner Hill Wind Farm, located within the Shire of Dandaragan, Western Australia. The purpose of the Assessment was to identify known and potential Aboriginal and historical heritage values within the Project Area. It was prepared with reference to the *Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Guidelines* (Department of Lands, Planning and Heritage and Department of Premier and Cabinet, 2013) which emphasise a precautionary approach to achieving due diligence under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* through an understanding of landscape characteristics, the likely extent of ground disturbance that has occurred in the past and would occur for the Project, a review existing heritage information, and taking appropriate steps to avoid or minimise impacts to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH).

Key Findings

Project design has been refined to avoid potential ACH constraints identified during desktop assessment and field surveys, including relocation of proposed infrastructure and the removal of a proposed quarry from an area of potential heritage sensitivity.

1. The Project has Medium Risk of impacts on ACH, as ACH has been previously recorded within the Project Area, and levels of disturbance and land modification across the Project Area are variable and include areas with elevated risk for ACH. ACH surveys have been completed with Yued representatives and Yued Aboriginal Corporation's (YAC) anthropologist and archaeologist, however the survey reports and YAC's Cultural Advisory Committee (CAC) endorsed recommendations remain pending. These will inform the Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) and further design refinement once available.
2. The Project has Low Risk of direct impacts to known historical heritage places. While two local heritage places are located within the Project Area, neither is within the Development Footprint and therefore no direct impacts are anticipated.
3. The Project has Medium Risk for indirect impacts on known historical heritage places. This is due to the presence of two local heritage places within the Project Area (but outside the Development Footprint), and one place - the Badgingarra Research Station – being immediately adjacent to and surrounded by the Project Area.

Recommendations

Continue to Manage Identified Cultural Heritage Risks

- Additional 'buffer areas' should be applied around locations and areas of known and potential cultural heritage. This is applicable as some uncertainty remains around the accuracy of locations given for known cultural heritage, their actual extent. Although these locations been surveyed by Yued representatives, YAC archaeologists and anthropologists, the implementation of a CHMP comprising management measures including monitoring during construction by Yued knowledge holders where disturbance is proposed within 100 m of areas of potential cultural heritage sensitivity, will further reduce the risk to ACH. As the mapped boundary of Mungedar Well (ACH-0004643) is dithered and may not accurately represent the site's full extent. Any works proposed in proximity to the site must be managed through a CHMP prepared in consultation with YAC's CAC. The CHMP must be informed by ACH and anthropological survey outcomes and

include appropriate avoidance and management measures, an Unexpected Finds Procedure, and ACH monitoring by Yued representatives during any ground disturbance activities. Early Works activities should be designed to avoid impacts to known cultural heritage and areas with elevated cultural heritage risk as a priority.

- Early Works activities must occur in accordance with the requirements of the Yued Heritage Protection Agreement (YHPA) and following any required consultation with YAC.
- Avoid siting temporary works areas (e.g. laydown areas, access tracks or compounds) in proximity to known cultural heritage and areas with elevated cultural heritage risk.
- An Unexpected Finds Protocol must be developed, approved, and made readily available to all Project personnel and contractors.
- Cultural heritage inductions should be completed by all Project personnel (including contractors) prior to the commencement of any ground-disturbing activities (including Early Works).
- Ensure adequate physical separation is achieved between Project infrastructure and any nearby local heritage places, including those adjoining the Project Area. A heritage impact assessment addressing potential indirect impacts to these adjoining local heritage places is recommended once detailed layout and design is achieved to ensure any indirect impacts are avoided and mitigated.
- Refinement, if required, should seek to minimise indirect impacts such as vibration, erosion or visual intrusion on identified heritage values of these places.

The pending survey reports and recommendations from YAC and YAC's CAC should be used to inform further refinement of the design and layout.

Consultation

- Consultation with YAC is recommended to understand the presence within the Project Area and Development Footprint, of any intangible ACH values that have not been previously documented. This includes but is not limited to important cultural sites, Dreaming stories, and other cultural values associated with the landscape.
- Consult with the YAC as required and according to the YHPA to inform refinement of Project layout in areas identified with elevated risk for ACH. This includes understanding the 'dithered boundary' associated with the lodged ACH site 'Mungedar Well' (ACH-0004643) and determining an effective 'buffer area' to ensure impacts are avoided.
- Confirm whether additional assessment or agreement processes are required under the YHPA prior to undertaking any ground-disturbing works within the Project Area.
- Consultation with the Shire of Dandaragan is recommended, to determine if controls are required to reduce potential impacts to the historical heritage significance of the two listed places within the Project Area, and also to the adjoining Badgingarra Research Station. The outcomes of this consultation should be considered as part of the refinement to the Project design and overall layout.

Undertake Cultural Heritage Surveys

- ACH field surveys with YAC representatives, archaeologists and anthropologists have occurred, however survey reports and recommendations from YAC and YAC's CAC are pending. Additional targeted surveys may still be required to confirm the presence or absence of ACH, particularly intangible ACH sites and places.
- Once available, outcomes of surveys should be incorporated into the CHMP being developed with the YAC.
- Undertake a targeted survey of the areas with elevated risk for undocumented historical cultural heritage should be undertaken to verify the presence or absence of historical cultural heritage.

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Appendix A ACHIS Search Results
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1.0 Introduction

Umwelt was engaged by OX2 Holdings Pty Ltd (OX2) to undertake a Desktop Aboriginal and Historical Heritage Risk Assessment (Assessment) for the Dinner Hill Wind Farm (the Project), located approximately 3.5 km north of Badgingarra and approximately 200 kilometres (km) north of Perth in Western Australia, within the Shire of Dandaragan in Western Australia (WA) (**Figure 1.1**). The Project would consist of up to 131 wind turbine generators (WTGs) and associated necessary ancillary infrastructure including (but not limited to) battery energy storage system (BESS), hardstand areas, substations (n = three) and switch yard, operational and maintenance facility, control room, site offices and car parking, construction compound and laydown areas, concrete batching plants, overhead and underground cabling, and upgraded access tracks. Depending on final turbine model and number the development has been conceptually designed to generate up to 990 MW of electricity for transmission into the South West Interconnected System (SWIS), which provides energy throughout southern WA.

The Project has been designed to ensure farming activities can co-exist within the development site and will provide supplementary income support for local farmers hosting the wind turbines, along with a Community Benefit framework through which benefits would be shared in the wider community over the Project life.

1.1 Scope of Work

This Assessment was prepared to identify both known and potential for Aboriginal and historical cultural heritage within the Project Area. This Assessment was prepared with reference to the *Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Guidelines ('AHHDDG') (Department of Lands, Planning and Heritage and Department of Premier and Cabinet, 2013)* which emphasise a precautionary approach to achieving due diligence under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (AHA) through an understanding of landscape characteristics, the likely extent of ground disturbance that has occurred in the past and would occur for the Project, a review existing heritage information, and taking appropriate steps to avoid or minimise impacts to Aboriginal heritage.

Key outcomes of this Assessment are:

- Identification of known and potential for Aboriginal and historical cultural heritage.
- An assessment of potential impacts of the Project on Aboriginal and historical cultural heritage.
- Recommendations for avoidance, and where not plausible, identification of possible strategies to mitigate impacts to Aboriginal and historical cultural heritage.
- Inclusion of advice about further cultural heritage studies, stakeholder engagement, and heritage agreements requirements that may be necessary for the Project.
- Documentation of findings in the Aboriginal Heritage Risk Assessment Matrix, as provided in the AHDDG.

1.2 Project Area

The Project configuration would comprise 131 WTGs with a maximum generation capacity of 943 MW, an approximate development footprint of 933 hectares (ha), and a Project Area of approximately 30,024 ha located within the localities of Hill River, Boothendarra, and Badgingarra.

The Project Area includes multiple land parcels of freehold land, the Brand Highway, and local road corridors. The Project Area is almost entirely comprised of productive farmland that is largely cleared and utilised for mixed cropping and grazing. The Project development strategy is to maintain the majority of existing remnant vegetation located within the Project Area.

The Project is located on the land of the Yued People represented by the YAC, who are part of the Djiralay (northern dialect) group of the Noongar language and is covered by the South West Settlement Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) (**Figure 1.2**).

1.3 Project Activities

The construction program for the Project will be finalised by the appointed Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractor in consultation with the Proponent and may be refined in response to factors such as weather conditions, material supply and construction sequencing.

Construction is anticipated to extend over a period of up to approximately 36 months. Subject to the receipt of all required approvals, construction is expected to commence in 2029 and be completed by 2032.

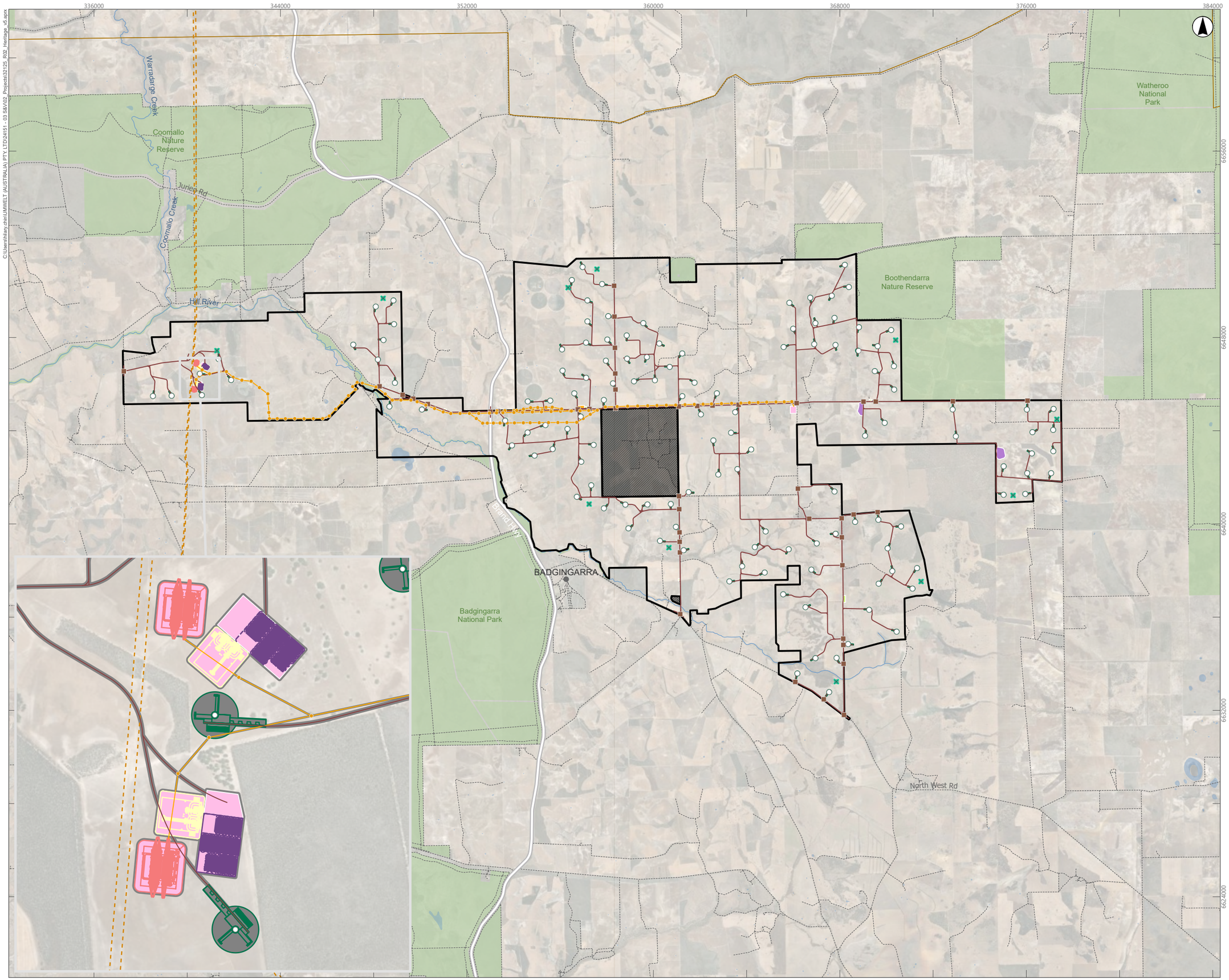
Construction of the Project is anticipated to include the following activities:

- Establishment of temporary construction facilities, including site offices, laydown and storage areas, equipment and materials.
- Upgrading and improvement of existing access roads and construction of new access tracks.
- Earthworks associated with access roads and turbine hardstand areas.
- Excavation works for wind turbine, substation and ancillary infrastructure foundations.
- Construction of wind turbine foundations, including installation of bolt cages, reinforcement and concrete pours.
- Construction of the BESS, three substations and associated ancillary infrastructure.
- Installation of electrical and communications infrastructure, including underground cabling and overhead connections between cable marshalling points and the substation.
- Installation of wind turbine transformers, conducted in parallel with electrical reticulation works.
- Delivery, assembly and installation of wind turbine components, including tower sections
- Erection of wind turbines using large mobile cranes.
- Installation of overhead powerlines and associated support structures.
- Commissioning of wind turbines and associated electrical infrastructure, followed by testing and verification.

While these activities are generally expected to occur in the sequence outlined above, some activities may be undertaken concurrently to improve construction efficiency and reduce the overall construction program duration.

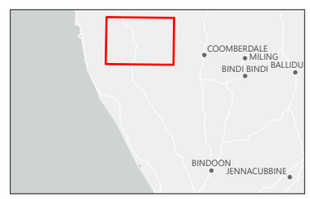
FIGURE 1.1

Project Area



Legend

- Project Area
- Not Within Project Area
- Development Footprint
- WTG
- Met Mast Locations (Permanent)
- Access Point
- Access Road
- Internal Transmission Pole locations
- Internal Transmission Line
- Electricity Transmission Lines - 132/330kv
- Crane pad
- BESS Details
- Substation Details
- Switching Yard Details
- Compound Area
- Quarry
- Storage Area
- Facility Layout
- Populated Place
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- National Park, Reserves and State Forests
- Local Government Area



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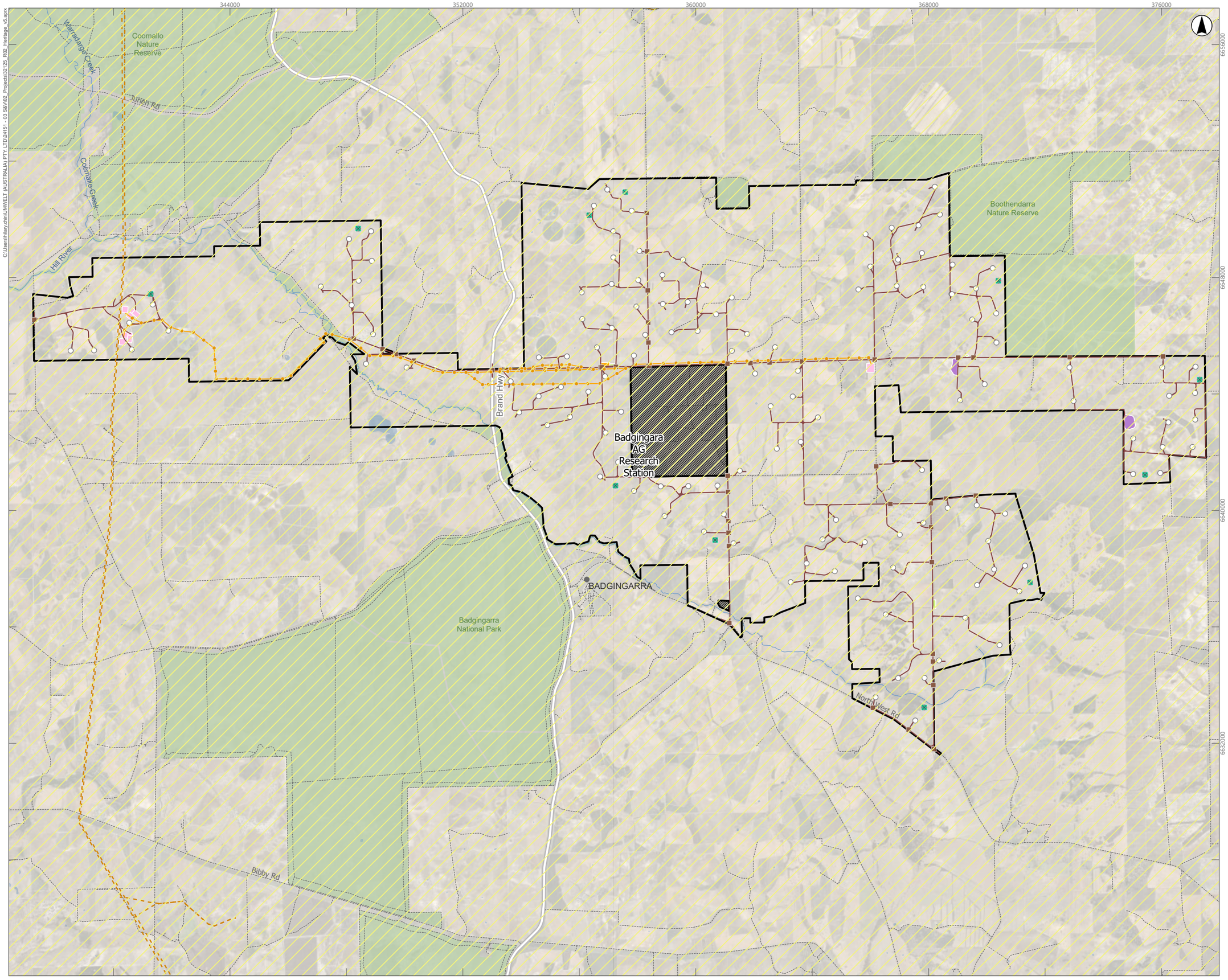
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FIGURE 1.2

South West Settlement Indigenous Land Use Agreement



Legend

- Project Area
- Not Within Project Area
- Development Footprint
- Yued Indigenous Land Use Agreement
- WTG
- Met Mast Locations (Permanent)
- Access Point
- Access Road
- Internal Transmission Pole locations
- Internal Transmission Line
- Electricity Transmission Lines - 132/330kv
- Compound Area
- Quarry
- Storage Area
- Facility Layout
- Populated Place
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- National Park, Reserves and State Forests
- Local Government Area

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1.4 Assumptions and Limitations

- Survey reports and associated recommendations from YAC's CAC are currently pending and therefore could not be incorporated into this Assessment.
- Searches of the Aboriginal Heritage Information System (AHIS) indicate that 11 survey reports have previously been prepared for the Project Area. Of these, seven reports are referenced in this Assessment, while four reports could not be accessed through the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) due to closed or restricted access status. AHIS search results are valid for 12 months and require updating thereafter.
- This Assessment is preliminary in nature and is limited to information provided by OX2 at the time of writing.
- One consultation meeting was undertaken by Umwelt with the YAC for this Assessment.
- Consultation has not been undertaken with other Project stakeholders or local government authorities for this Assessment.
- No oral history or ethnographic information has been reviewed for this Assessment.
- No primary source research has been conducted, including archival or library research. The Assessment relies solely on readily available secondary sources.
- The authors of this report are not Aboriginal and therefore cannot provide an Aboriginal perspective on the presence or likelihood of certain cultural heritage values associated the Project Area.

1.5 Legislation

1.5.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) (Cth) is the principal piece of Commonwealth legislation in Australia for environmental protections. The EPBC Act definition of environment includes heritage values of places. The EPBC Act protects and provides a management framework for Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) including places of World Heritage value as declared under the World Heritage Convention. It establishes a National Heritage List, and a Commonwealth Heritage List that includes places owned by the Commonwealth, as statutory lists of natural, Indigenous, and historic heritage places which have been assessed as having National and/or Commonwealth heritage values. Other MNES are not considered in this Assessment.

For projects that may impact on places listed on World, National or Commonwealth Heritage lists, several controlling provisions under the EPBC Act apply. These provisions define approval requirements for activities that may have a significant impact on such properties. Offences apply (to individuals and organisations) if impacts occur without approval.

The following matters must be considered when proposing any activity for a project as a referral to the Commonwealth under the EPBC Act:

- Part 3, Division 1 – Requirements relating to matters of national environmental significance:
    - Subdivision A Section 12 – World Heritage.
    - Subdivision AA Section 15B – National Heritage.

1.5.2 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984

The *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984* (Cth) (ATSIHP Act) is crucial for projects that may impact ACH (ACH) because it provides a legal mechanism for the Commonwealth to intervene and protect areas and objects of particular significance when state or territory laws fail to do so, ensuring that cultural values are not desecrated or injured in the face of development pressures. The ATSIHP Act enables government intervention to protect areas and objects of significance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from harm. An application to protect places and objects can be made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to the commonwealth minister for the Environment, who can make a declaration to protect an area or object for a specific period. The ATSIHP Act provides for four different types of declarations.

Section 9 Applications (30-day emergency declarations)

These applications are for emergency protection of areas when the threat of injury or desecration is serious and immediate for up to 30 days (which may be extended to a maximum of 60 days). These applications can take a minimum of one to two months to process, depending on the urgency of the application and are decided by the Minister.

Section 10 Applications (long-term declarations)

A Section 10 application is for protection for a specified period of time of a significant Aboriginal area that is under threat of injury or desecration. Applications can take a minimum of 6–9 months to process because the Minister must ask for a detailed report on the application to be developed by an independent reporter. Time required is also dependent on the completeness of the application and starts from when all necessary information has been provided by the applicant.

Section 12 Applications (long-term declarations)

These applications are for protection for a period of time of an object or class of objects (which can be a fixed object, such as particular trees) under threat of injury or desecration. Decided by the Minister, these applications can take a minimum of 4–6 months to process. Time required is also dependent on the completeness of the application and starts from when an application is finalised.

Section 18 Applications (48-hour emergency declarations)

This application can be used for emergency protection of areas or objects when injury or desecration is imminent and provides protection for up to 48 hours (cannot be extended). The application is usually processed within days of receipt and decided by an authorised officer. The authorised officer must be satisfied that another section 18 declaration has not been made in the previous three months.

1.5.3 Native Title Act 1993

The *Native Title Act 1993* is a key piece of Commonwealth legislation that provides a national framework for the recognition and protection of native title in Australia. It was enacted in response to the landmark Mabo v Queensland (No. 2) decision, which acknowledged the existence of Indigenous land rights under traditional law and custom prior to European settlement.

The *Native Title Act 199*3:

- Recognises native title where Indigenous Australians continue to observe traditional laws and customs and maintain a connection to land or waters.
- Establishes processes for determining the existence of native title, managing future acts that may affect native title, and providing compensation where native title is impaired or extinguished.
- Creates the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) to register, mediate, and determine native title claims.
- Requires consultation with native title holders or claimants regarding proposed activities on land, ensuring their rights and interests are considered.
- Supports representative bodies that assist Indigenous communities in navigating native title processes.
- Promotes co-existence between Indigenous and non-Indigenous land interests through mechanisms such as Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs).

The *Native Title Act 1993* has evolved through amendments and reviews, including the ALRC's 'Connection to Country' report, which recommended reforms to improve the efficiency and fairness of native title processes.

A search of the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) was undertaken as part of this Assessment to identify any registered or pending native title claims, determinations, or Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) relevant to the Project Area. This information assists in confirming the presence of recognised Traditional Owner groups and informs the appropriate consultation pathways in accordance with the *Native Title Act 1993*. The results of the NNTT search shown at **Section 2.3.1** support the identification of relevant Aboriginal parties for engagement and ensure that the Assessment aligns with legal obligations and best practice heritage management standards.

1.5.4 Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972

The AHA is the primary legislation for protecting ACH in WA. The AHA:

- Defines ACH, including places, objects, and traditions tied to Aboriginal people.
- Mandates legal obligations to avoid knowingly damaging Aboriginal sites.
- Outlines approval procedures, such as Section 18 consents, required when proposed land use may impact a heritage site.

The AHA was superseded but following repeal of the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021*, on 15 November 2023 the AHA was reinstated with significant amendments. The amendments aimed to improve clarity, fairness, and responsiveness in heritage management, and are administered by the DPLH. Key amendments were based on:

- Equal review rights for proponents and Native Title parties via the State Administrative Tribunal, with provisions for the Premier to intervene in matters of state or regional significance.

- Mandatory notification of new site information after a Section 18 consent is granted, helping prevent incidents like the destruction of Juukan Gorge.
- Transferability of Section 18 consents when land ownership changes.
- Establishment of a statutory Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Committee, with majority Aboriginal representation and co-chairs (male and female), to advise on Section 18 Notices.
- Compliance Tools and Guidance.
- To support compliance, the DPLH has published 'Consultation Policy for section 18 applications (Government of Western Australia 2023b) – outlining expectations for engaging with Aboriginal people prior to submitting a Section 18 Notice.
- Guidelines for Landowners – '*Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* Guidelines' (Government of Western Australia 2023a) providing a step-by-step process for assessing and managing potential impacts on Aboriginal heritage:
    - Assess likelihood of Aboriginal sites on the land.
    - Consider potential for harm.
    - Determine nature and level of harm.
    - Understand obligations if a site is present.
    - Submit a Section 18 application.

Information about heritage places and their legal status is available through the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Information System (ACHIS), which includes:

- Registered Aboriginal Sites.
- Lodged Places.
- Historic Records.

1.5.4.1 Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Guidelines

The Western Australian Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Guidelines (Government of Western Australia, 2013, Version 3.0, 30 April 2013) (AHDDG) provide a framework to help land users, developers, government agencies and other proponents identify and manage potential impacts to Aboriginal heritage before undertaking activities that may disturb land. The guidelines support compliance with the AHA and promote the application of the precautionary principle, recognising that Aboriginal heritage places and objects may exist whether or not they have been formally recorded. Proponents are encouraged to assess the characteristics of the landscape, consider the likely extent of ground disturbance, review existing heritage information, and take appropriate steps to avoid or minimise impacts to Aboriginal heritage.

A key component of the due diligence process is the investigation of available heritage records, including searches of the Aboriginal heritage register and other relevant information sources, combined with consultation with the relevant Traditional Owners and Aboriginal knowledge holders. The guidelines emphasise that registered sites represent only a portion of Aboriginal heritage values and that consultation with Aboriginal people is often essential to identify places, landscapes and cultural values that may not be documented. Where proposed activities have the potential to significantly impact heritage values, proponents may be required to undertake more detailed assessments, surveys or approval processes before works proceed.

Overall, the guidelines promote a risk-based approach to heritage management by encouraging early planning, informed decision-making and meaningful engagement with Aboriginal people. By undertaking appropriate due diligence, proponents can better understand heritage constraints, reduce the risk of damaging culturally significant places, and demonstrate that reasonable steps have been taken to meet their obligations under Western Australian heritage legislation.

Land Activities by Category

The AHDDG classify land use activities into five categories based on the level of ground disturbance, from negligible to major (**Table 1.1**).

Table 1.1 Land Activities by Category

Level of Disturbance	Activities
Negligible	Includes non-invasive practices such as walking, photography, filming, and aerial or magnetic surveys. Other low-impact actions include using existing tracks and watercourses, environmental monitoring, water and soil sampling, fossicking with handheld instruments, spatial measurement, and scientific research employing handheld tools. These activities do not involve excavation or significant alteration of the land surface and therefore pose minimal risk to cultural heritage values.
Minimal	Includes cultivation or grazing within areas that have previously been used for these purposes, as well as maintenance of existing paths, walls, roads, tracks, bridges, and public infrastructure such as electrical, water, and sewage systems within their established footprints and adjacent service areas. Other low-impact activities include feral animal eradication, weed, vermin and pest control, vegetation management, fire control, light vehicular access, and camping. These actions generally occur within already disturbed contexts and do not involve significant excavation or alteration of the land.
Moderate	Includes work program clearance and sampling using handheld rigs or rigs mounted on light vehicles. Other activities in this category include creating new fire breaks, undertaking re-vegetation projects, installing temporary power lines, and establishing temporary gravel or soil stockpiles. The establishment of temporary camps also falls within this level of impact. These activities involve some degree of surface modification and localised excavation, which may pose a moderate risk to cultural heritage values.
Significant	Includes the creation of new roads or tracks, as well as new public access ways, bridges, culverts, and flood remediation works such as erosion levees. Other high-impact activities include large-scale land clearing, intensive soil or core sampling, installation of new pipelines, significant reclamation works, and major landscaping or contouring projects. These actions involve substantial excavation and alteration of the land surface, posing a high risk to cultural heritage values.

Level of Disturbance	Activities
Major	Includes large-scale land clearing, exploration drilling, bulk sampling and soil excavation, mechanical earthmoving, blasting, and major construction works. Other high-impact actions include open-cut mining, large-scale alterations to waterways, and industrial development. These activities involve extensive excavation and landscape modification, posing a very high risk to cultural heritage values.[1]

After: The Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Guidelines (Government of Western Australia, 2013)

The Aboriginal Heritage Risk Matrix

Schedule 2 of the AHDDG provides a risk assessment matrix for applying the above Land Categories against an understanding of previous land use. This matrix provides additional guidance to the land user by providing an evaluation of the risk level for the activity. This risk matrix has been used in this Assessment (See **Figure 1.3** below).

SCHEDULE 2 – THE ABORIGINAL HERITAGE RISK MATRIX

Previous Land Use	LAND ACTIVITIES – CATEGORIES 1-5					
		1. Negligible disturbance	2. Minimal disturbance	3. Moderate disturbance	4. Significant disturbance	5. Major disturbance
	Built Environment - e.g. urban environment, towns, metropolitan region.	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium
	Significantly Altered Environment - e.g. cultivated and cleared land.	Low	Low	Low	Medium	High
	Moderately Altered Environment - e.g. partially cleared lands, re-vegetated landscape.	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
	Minimally Altered Environment - e.g. urban bush land, regrowth areas	Low	Medium	Medium	High	High
	Unaltered Environment - e.g. protected areas or pristine environment.	Low	Medium	High	High	High

Risk Assessment	Actions
Low Risk (Review)	Review the landscape and proposed activity (see sections 2.4 - 2.8 - assessing the landscape and the activity). Refer to the AHIS.
Medium Risk (Review /Exercise Caution)	Review the landscape and proposed activity (as above). The precautionary principle (see page 2) applies. Refer to the AHIS and contact the DAA. A range of actions may be recommended, including: no action, consultation with the relevant Aboriginal people, an Aboriginal heritage survey or modification of the proposed activity to avoid or minimise site impact.
High Risk (Consult / Survey / Approvals)	Refer to the AHIS. Consult with the DAA and the relevant Aboriginal people. Dependent on consultation outcomes you may need to include: an Aboriginal heritage survey, modification of the proposed activity to avoid or minimise (see sections 2.24 - 2.28) impact to the site and/or other heritage management strategies. The land user may also need to apply for approval or consent (see section 2.26) to the activity.
For major development projects refer to sections 2.10 - 2.12 for further advice.	

Figure 1.3 The Aboriginal Heritage Risk Matrix (from the AHDDG)

[1] Major developments, such as new freeways or ports, typically require comprehensive heritage management plans that go beyond assessing individual activities and address cumulative impacts. For guidance on managing major development projects, refer to Sections 2.10–2.12 of the Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Guidelines.

1.5.5 Heritage Act 2018

- The *Heritage Act 2018* (HA) is a key legislative framework guiding the identification, protection, and management of places of cultural heritage significance in Western Australia. Administered by the Heritage Council of Western Australia through DPLH, the Act ensures that heritage values are considered in land use and development decisions.
- Places of significance are listed on the State Register of Heritage Places, and any project that may affect a registered place, whether through direct impacts like demolition or alteration, or indirect impacts such as vibration or visual intrusion, must be referred to the Heritage Council for advice. This is mandated under Section 73 of the Act, while Section 75 requires compliance with the Council's recommendations to safeguard heritage values.
- Importantly, the Act does not extend to underwater cultural heritage, which is excluded from the definition of a "place" under Section 7 and is instead governed by separate Commonwealth legislation.
- The HA operates in conjunction with the *Planning and Development Act 2005*, which defines development broadly to include both physical works and land use. This integration ensures that cultural heritage considerations are embedded within broader planning and approval processes, making the Act highly relevant to any project with potential heritage impacts.

1.5.6 Planning and Development Act 2005

1. The *Planning and Development Act 2005* (PDA) is a key legislative mechanism for embedding cultural heritage protection into the lifecycle of development projects in Western Australia. For proponents, understanding and applying its provisions is essential for achieving compliance, securing approvals, and respecting the cultural values of Aboriginal communities.
2. The Act establishes the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) and outlines controls over planning and development at both metropolitan and local levels. It defines development broadly to include both physical works and land use, meaning that any project, whether infrastructure, energy, or land subdivision, must consider its potential impact on cultural heritage values.
3. The PDA works in tandem with the *Heritage Act 2018*, which governs the protection of places listed on the State Register of Heritage Places. Under Section 73 of the Heritage Act, any development proposal likely to affect a registered heritage place must be referred to the Heritage Council of Western Australia for advice. Furthermore, Section 75 mandates compliance with the Council's advice to ensure that heritage values are not adversely affected.
4. Together, these legislative frameworks ensure that cultural heritage considerations are integrated into broader planning processes, reinforcing the importance of early consultation, risk assessment, and mitigation in heritage-sensitive development.

1.5.6.1 Shire of Dandaragan Local Planning Strategy 2020

The Shire of Dandaragan Local Planning Strategy 2020 provides a 10–15-year planning framework for the Shire of Dandaragan, aligning with the *Planning and Development Act 2005* and associated regulations. It guides zoning, development approvals, and amendments to Local Planning Scheme No. 7, which directly influence how ACH is identified, protected, and managed within project areas.

Section 4.12 of the Strategy addresses Native Title and Historic/Cultural Heritage, recognising the importance of Aboriginal heritage in planning decisions. It supports consultation with Traditional Owners, including the Yued People, to ensure culturally sensitive areas are identified and respected.

The Strategy encourages the integration of cultural heritage values into land use planning and development proposals.

For projects involving infrastructure development, such as wind farms, the Strategy reinforces the need for consultation protocols with Aboriginal stakeholders. It supports compliance with relevant legislation, including the AHA and the HA.

Section 10.8.1 outlines that the AHA provides for the identification, registration, and protection of Aboriginal sites across Western Australia. It notes that development of vacant land may require Section 18 clearance, as it is an offence to damage or alter Aboriginal sites without consent. The AHDDG are recommended to assist land users in meeting their obligations under the Act.

Section 10.8.4 of the Strategy highlights the presence of Registered Aboriginal heritage sites within the Shire and acknowledges sites of historical significance protected under both Federal and State legislation. It also emphasises that the aspirations of the Yued People, as representatives of the Yued Native Title Agreement Group, must be considered in future land use decisions within the Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) area. This ensures that planning and development processes respect and incorporate Aboriginal cultural values.

1.6 Non-Statutory Considerations

1.6.1 A Way Forward Report

The Way Forward Report was prepared as a result of the federal parliamentary inquiry into the 2020 destruction of the Juukan Gorge Aboriginal heritage sites. National condemnation of Rio Tinto's actions facilitated action to address the legislative failings that allowed the destruction of the Juukan Gorge sites–and similar sites around the nation. The report makes a number of recommendations aimed at preventing future destruction.

Incorporating the insights from A Way Forward into project planning is not just a legal safeguard, it's a moral and cultural imperative. Projects that fail to engage deeply with Indigenous communities and heritage risks may face reputational damage, legal challenges, and irreversible cultural loss.

1.6.2 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) is the most comprehensive instrument detailing the rights of Indigenous peoples in international law and policy, containing minimum standards for the recognition, protection and promotion of these rights. It establishes a universal framework of minimum standards for the survival, dignity, wellbeing and rights of the world's indigenous peoples (OHCHR 2007).

The Declaration addresses both individual and collective rights; cultural rights and identity; rights to education, health, employment, language, and others. It outlaws' discrimination against indigenous peoples and promotes their full and effective participation in all matters that concern them. It also ensures their right to remain distinct and to pursue their own priorities in economic, social, and cultural development.

The Declaration explicitly encourages harmonious and cooperative relations between States and Indigenous peoples (OHCHR 2007). The key provisions relevant to development in Australia concerning Aboriginal people's rights include the right to:

- Practice and revitalise their cultural traditions and customs, and states shall provide redress for cultural property taken without free, prior, and informed consent (Article 11).
- Practice their spiritual and religious traditions, customs, and ceremonies, maintain sites, control ceremonial objects and repatriate human remains, and states shall seek to enable the access and/or repatriation of ceremonial objects and human remains (Article 12).
- Maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions and intellectual property over such heritage, knowledge and culture, and states shall, in conjunction with Indigenous peoples, take effective measures to recognize and protect the exercise of these rights (Article 31).
- Determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources, and states shall consult and cooperate with Indigenous peoples in order to obtain their free and informed consent before the approval of any project affecting their lands, territories and resources, provide effective mechanisms for redress for any adverse impact from such activities (Article 32).
- A core principle of UNDRIP is the right of Indigenous people to make decisions about development proposals that have the potential to impact their land and culture from an informed position that is free from coercion, intimidation, or manipulation (Joint Standing Committee on Northern Australia, 2021). To uphold these principles, Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) has been recognised as the best practice approach for engaging with Indigenous people when seeking consent for projects or activities that affect Indigenous people's culture or country (Kemp and Owen, 2014).

1.6.3 Free Prior and Informed Consent

FPIC is a specific right granted to Indigenous Peoples recognised in the UNDRIP, which aligns with their universal right to self-determination. FPIC allows Indigenous Peoples to provide or withhold/ withdraw consent, at any point, regarding projects impacting their territories. FPIC allows Indigenous Peoples to engage in negotiations to shape the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of projects.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) Policy on Indigenous Peoples aligns with the UN and the international legal framework, prioritising the inclusion and promotion of Indigenous Peoples' issues in its work. The FAO Policy upholds core principles such as self-determined development, respect for Indigenous Peoples' knowledge, cultures, and traditional practices and FPIC. The Indigenous Peoples Unit has the corporate responsibility for implementing the FAO Policy and the FAO manual on FPIC providing technical support to other units and projects. The principles are as follows:

- Free – The consent is free, given voluntarily and without coercion, intimidation, and manipulation. The process is self-directed by the community from whom consent is being sought, unencumbered by coercion, expectations or timelines that are externally imposed.
- Prior – The consent is sought in advance of activities.

- Informed – The engagement and type of information that should be provided prior to seeking consent and as part of the ongoing consent process.
- Consent – A collective decision made by the right holders and reached through customary decision-making processes of the communities.

1.6.4 The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance 2013

The recommendations and procedures provided by the Burra Charter are recognised as best practice for heritage conservation in Australia. The charter contains seven guiding principles, which form the basis of management and conservation processes:

- The place is important.
- Understand the significance of the place.
- Understand the fabric.
- Significance should guide decisions.
- Do as much as necessary, as little as possible.
- Keep records.
- Do everything in a logical order.

1.6.5 The 'Darwin Statement' – Implementing Best Practice Cultural Heritage Principles

Representatives from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage organisations joined the annual meeting of the Heritage Chairs and Officials of Australia and New Zealand for the first time in 2018 and were invited to become permanent members of the forum. The forum, which includes the Chair of the Australian Heritage Council, issued the 'Darwin Statement'. The statement affirms the need to include, engage and collaborate with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and share their cultural heritage stories (DCCEEW 2018).

For projects, the Darwin Statement reinforces several key obligations (Commonwealth of Australia 2020):

- Inclusive Consultation: Projects must identify and consult with relevant Indigenous communities about the management of their heritage values. This is echoed in the Ask First Guidelines, cited as best practice.
- Active Participation: Indigenous representatives should be invited to participate in the identification and assessment of heritage values, places, and objects. This shifts the role of Traditional Owners from passive consultees to active decision-makers.
- Integrated Planning: The Statement aligns with the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage, encouraging sustainable development policies that reflect cultural identity and rights to heritage creation and access.
- Policy Alignment: The Statement supports broader legislative reforms, such as those recommended in the Juukan Gorge Inquiry, to ensure that cultural heritage protection is embedded in planning and development frameworks.

- UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage 2003.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage has not only introduced a conceptual and applicative expansion of the interdisciplinary subjects applied to cultural heritage, but it has also increasingly encouraged an integrated planning of sustainable development policies for territories and communities that convey and shape their relative cultural and anthropomorphic identity, along with the re-thinking of the collective dimension of heritage in terms of rights to creation and fruition as well as the related cultural management.

1.6.6 Ask First: A Guide to Respecting Indigenous Heritage Places and Values

The Ask First: A Guide to Respecting Indigenous Heritage Places and Values (Australian Heritage Commission 2002) (Ask First Guidelines) are regarded as best practice guidelines for undertaking Indigenous community consultation. They require that the relevant Indigenous community or communities are identified and consulted about the management of their heritage values. The relevant Indigenous representatives should then be invited to be actively involved in the process of identifying and assessing their heritage values, places, and objects. They should also be provided with the opportunity to have meaningful input into the management of those values, places, and objects.

The Ask First Guidelines states that Indigenous people:

- Are the primary source of information on the value of their heritage and how this is best conserved.
- Must have an active role in any Indigenous heritage planning process.
- Must have input into primary decision-making in relation to Indigenous heritage so they can continue to fulfil their obligations towards this heritage.
- Must control intellectual property and other information relating specifically to their heritage, as this may be an integral aspect of its heritage value.

When identifying and managing Indigenous heritage:

- Uncertainty about Indigenous heritage values at a place should not be used to justify activities that might damage or desecrate this heritage.
- All parties having relevant interests should be consulted on Indigenous heritage matters.
- The process and outcomes of Indigenous heritage planning must abide by customary law, relevant Commonwealth and State/Territory laws, relevant international treaties and covenants and any other legally binding agreements.

1.6.7 Engage Early: Guidance for Proponents on Best Practice Indigenous Engagement for Environmental Assessment Under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity

These guidelines aim to improve how proponents engage and consult with Indigenous peoples during the environmental assessment under the EPBC Act. It provides guidance on when Indigenous communities should be consulted and the expectations on how engagement should occur.

The Australian Government considers that best practice consultation includes:

- Identifying and acknowledging all relevant affected Indigenous peoples and communities.
- Committing to early engagement at the pre-referral stage.
- Building trust through early and ongoing communication for the duration of the project, including approvals, implementation, and future management.
- Setting appropriate timeframes for consultation.
- Demonstrating cultural awareness.

1.6.8 Australian Natural Heritage Charter

The concept of natural heritage is founded on an understanding of natural significance, both of which are defined in the Australian Natural Heritage Charter 2002.

Natural significance means the importance of ecosystems, biodiversity, and geodiversity for their existence value or for present or future generations, in terms of their scientific, social, aesthetic and life-support value.

Natural heritage is considered to mean:

- Natural features consisting of physical and biological formations or groups of such formations, which demonstrate natural significance.
- Geological and physiographical formations and precisely delineated areas that constitute the habitat of Indigenous species of animals and plants, which demonstrate natural significance.
- Natural sites or precisely delineated natural areas which demonstrate natural significance from the point of view of science, conservation, or natural beauty.
- Determining the natural heritage values requires an understanding of the natural significance of a place, or elements of a place. These values associated with a natural heritage place may include, but may not just be limited to, the following considerations, as summarised from the Protecting Natural Heritage: Using the Australian Natural Heritage Charter:
    - Biodiversity, and its value in terms of species diversity, ecosystem diversity, and/or community diversity, presence, or absence of rare or endangered elements, and presence or absence of particular species.
    - Ecosystems, particularly the presence of impact examples of intact ecological processes and systems, and/or how such ecosystems contribute to important importance ecological occurring between communities and the non-living environment.
    - Existence, being does the living organism, process and/or ecosystem have value in of itself?
    - Geodiversity, being the presence of important geological, geomorphological, soil features, assemblages, systems, and processes, and if they are rare, endangered, diverse, or exemplars.
    - Scientific importance, due to the rarity, quality, or representativeness of the natural features present, and the degree to which they may contribute further substantial information.
    - Aesthetics, in terms of form, colour, scale, texture and material fabric present.
    - Social values, in terms of how valued by the community are the natural features present?
    - Historic importance, with special attachment to important historical events, processes, and patterns of natural or cultural history.

2.0 Landscape Background

This section provides understanding of the landscape within which the Project is proposed. It considers previously documented heritage within the Project Area and within the broader region to provide important context about the past, including local environmental factors, evidence of Aboriginal occupation and use, and post-contact land use and change.

2.1 Environment

Much of the Project Area is situated within the Geraldton Sandplain 3 (GS3) – Lesueur Sandplain Subregion, a landscape characterised by extensive sandplains, coastal limestone formations, and diverse vegetation communities (McKenzie, Keighery et al. 2000). The southeastern portion of the Project Area lies within the Dandaragan Plateau Subregion, part of the Swan Coastal Plain 1, which includes foothills of the Darling Scarp, piedmont alluvial plains, and aeolian dune systems (Desmond 2001). These landforms are culturally significant to the Yued People, as they are closely tied to traditional movement patterns, resource use, and spiritual associations with Country. The ecological and geological diversity of these regions contributes to their importance inACH.

The following sections provide further information about the Environmental context for the Project Area.

2.1.1 Flora and Fauna

The Geraldton Sandplains bioregion comprises mainly proteaceous scrub-heaths, rich in endemics, which thrive on the undulating sandplain. Extensive York Gum and Jam woodlands occur on outwash plains associated drainage. The Geraldton Hills subregion, incorporating the northern end of the Perth Basin, comprises exposed areas of Permian/Silurian siltstone and Jurassic sandstones, which is mostly overlain by sandplains, alluvial plains, and coastal limestones. Flora includes sand heaths with emergent Banksia and *Actinostrobus*, York Gum woodlands on alluvial plains, proteaceous heath and Acacia scrubs on limestones depending on depth of coastal-sand mantle (Desmond and Chant 2001).

The region is rich and diverse in flora with many sandplain genera having a high degree of endemism, e.g. *Scholtzia spp*. having over 16 taxa endemic to the subregion. The reptiles *Lerista yuna*, *Cyclodomorphus branchialis*, *Aprasia sp. nov aff. fusca* are endemic to the subregion (Desmond and Chant 2001).

2.1.1.1 Remnant Vegetation

While remnant native vegetation is not in of itself considered to be ACH, its presence is an indicator of a more intact landforms and cultural landscapes that are recognised in the AHDDG as having an increased likelihood for ACH.

Table 2.1 overleaf shows remnant vegetation extent (after DPIRD 2025) which has been overlaid on the pre-European vegetation mapping (DPIRD 2026), providing additional landscape context for understanding potential for ACH.

2.1.2 Hydrology

The main waterway traversing the Project Area at the western side is Hill River. Hill River is an ephemeral river located in the Moore-Hill Basin. It is 124 km long and has a catchment of 3,721 km^2. The river system starts east of Badgingarra and flows into the ocean at the Hill River Estuary halfway between Cervantes and Jurien Bay in The Shire of Dandaragan. The estuary is ~7 km long and only opens to the ocean during higher river flows in winter.

The Hill River has four tributaries, two of which run through the Project Area – Winjardie Creek and Boothendara Creek (**Figure 2.1**).

2.1.3 Natural Landforms

The AHDDG notes the correlation between certain natural landforms and risk for the presence of ACH. Located in the Perth Basin, the geomorphology and geology of the Project Area is comprised of coastal dune fields and sand plains of residual windblown sands. Surface geology is comprised of eolian sand overlying lateritic soils with hill crests and scarps (Pickering 1981).

Table 2.1 outlines the predicted presence or absence within the Project Area of specific landforms that have potential to contain Aboriginal sites and intangible values.

Table 2.1 Landforms within the Project Area

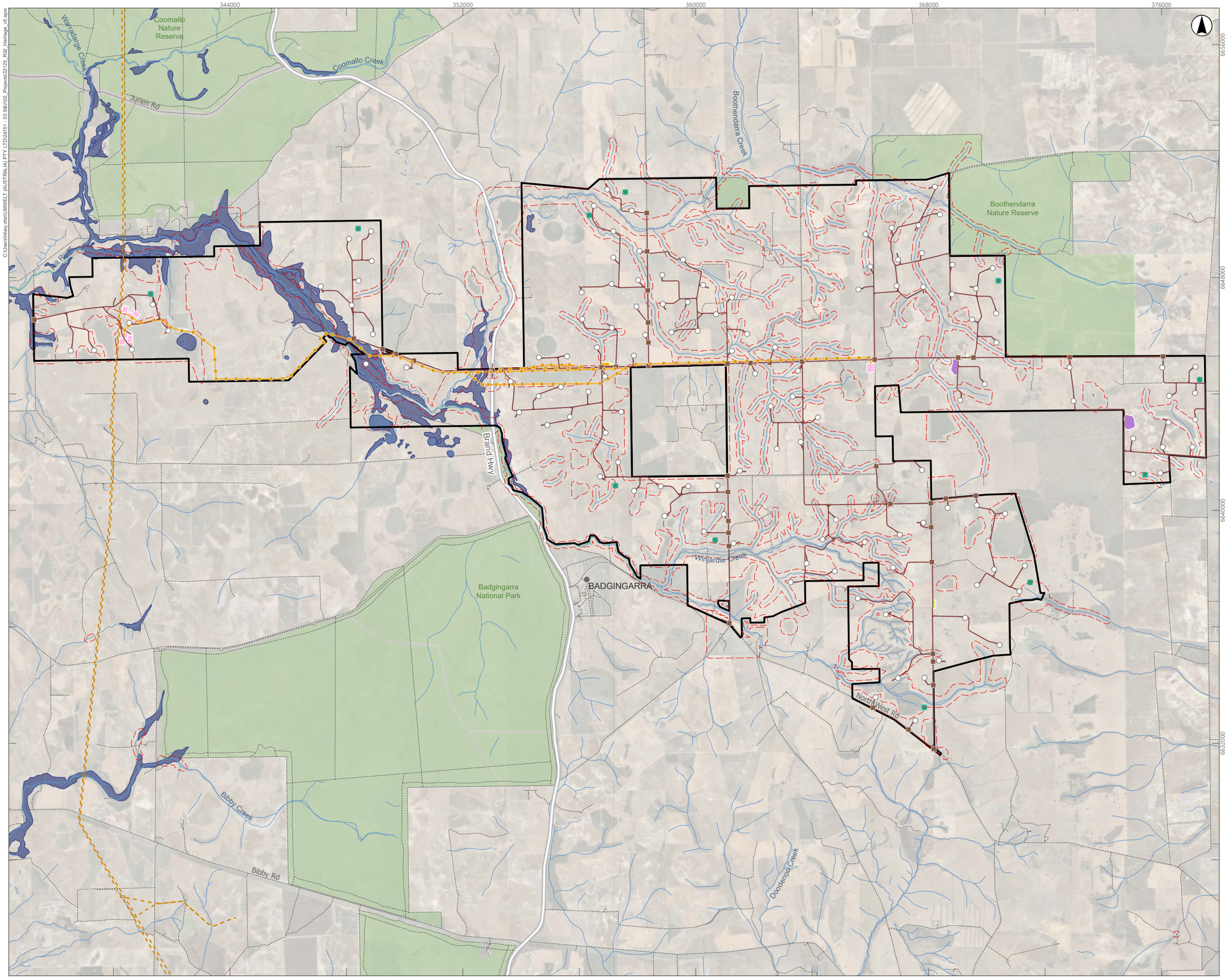
Landscape Feature	Within Project Area?	Justification	Indicators and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage	Within the Development Footprint?
Waterways	Yes	Waterways occur within the Project Area including Hill River, Winjardie Creek and Boothendarra Creek. Refer	Owing to the reliable water and food resources and travel corridors, waterways are commonly associated with ACH. Indicators include stable banks, terraces and floodplain margins suitable for camping; artefact scatters, hearths and stone tool manufacturing sites near water access points; and cultural places linked to movement, ceremony and ancestral narratives. Where waterways coincide with intact landforms, remnant vegetation and limited ground disturbance, there is an increased likelihood that both physical and intangible ACH values may still be present.	**Yes** Refer **Figure 2.1**
Other Water Sources (e.g. springs, wetlands, floodplains)	Yes	Playa, Palusplain, Paluslope, and Barlkarra floodplains and wetlands. Refer	Wetlands long supported Aboriginal occupation due to their reliable water and concentrated plant and animal resources. Persistent or seasonal surface water, waterlogged soils, swamps, lakes, soaks, springs, billabongs, claypans and floodplain wetlands, and fringing or emergent vegetation reflects long-term water availability. These environments commonly supported camping, resource gathering, tool manufacture, movement and cultural practices, and may retain physical evidence of past use, particularly along wetland margins, elevated edges and less-disturbed areas. Where wetlands coincide with intact remnant vegetation and limited ground disturbance, there is an increased likelihood that Aboriginal cultural sites or landscape values may still be present.	**Yes** Refer **Figure 2.1**

Landscape Feature	Within Project Area?	Justification	Indicators and Aboriginal Cultural Heritage	Within the Development Footprint?
Scrub Heath and Undisturbed Vegetation	Yes	Remnant vegetation occurs within the Project Area. Refer	Landscapes containing remnant vegetation have a higher potential to retain physical evidence of past Aboriginal occupation, such as campsites, artefact scatters, hearths, stone-tool working areas and culturally modified trees. Intact vegetation can also indicate ongoing availability of culturally important plant resources and form part of broader Aboriginal cultural landscapes linked to waterways, movement routes and seasonal use, with these values most likely to persist where landforms and vegetation remain largely undisturbed.	**Yes** Refer **Figure 2.2**
Elevated Areas and Cultural Corridors	Unknown	Areas to be considered as part of the recent cultural heritage field surveys with YAC.	N/A	**Unknown** To be confirmed following the completion of the cultural heritage field surveys with YAC.
Rock Outcrops	Unknown	Areas to be considered as part of the recent cultural heritage field surveys with YAC.	N/A	**Unknown** To be confirmed following the completion of the cultural heritage field surveys with YAC.
Dunes and Sandplains	Unknown	Areas to be considered as part of the recent cultural heritage field surveys with YAC.	N/A	**Unknown** To be confirmed following the completion of the cultural heritage field surveys with YAC.

Source: Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Guidelines (Government of Western Australia, 2023).

FIGURE 2.1

Landforms - Wetlands and Waterways (potential for ACH)



Legend

- Project Area
- Development Footprint
- 100m High Constraints Buffer
- WTG
- Met Mast Locations (Permanent)
- Internal Transmission Pole locations
- Access Point
- Access Road
- Internal Transmission Line
- Electricity Transmission Lines - 132/330kv
- Compound Area
- Quarry
- Storage Area
- Facility Layout
- Populated Place
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- Wetlands
- National Park, Reserves and State Forests
- Cadastre

0 2 4 km

Scale 1:120,000 at A3
GDA2020 MGA Zone 50

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Image Source: ESRI Basemap (2025) | **Data Source:** Landgate (2025), Umwelt (2026), OX2 (2026)

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344000 352000 360000 368000 376000

6656000 6648000 6640000 6632000

Julien Rd

Brand Hwy

BADGINGARRA

North West Rd

Bibby Rd

FIGURE 2.2

Landforms - remnant vegetation (potential for ACH)

Legend

- Project Area
- Development Footprint
- 100m High Constraints Buffer
- WTG
- Met Mast Locations (Permanent)
- Internal Transmission Pole locations
- Access Point
- Access Road
- Electricity Transmission Lines - 132/330kv
- Internal Transmission Line
- Compound Area
- Quarry
- Storage Area
- Facility Layout
- Populated Place
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Native Vegetation

Pre-European Vegetation

- C090055 | Woodland southwest
- C100001 | Scrub-heath / Heath
- C100003 | Woodland other
- C100004 | Scrub-heath / Heath
- C100010 | Woodland southwest
- C100020 | Scrub-heath / Heath
- C100021 | Scrub-heath / Heath

0 2 4 km

Scale 1:120,000 at A3
GDA2020 MGA Zone 50

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Image Source: ESRI Basemap (2025) | **Data Source:** Landgate (2025), Umwelt (2026), OX2 (2026)

2.2 Historical

2.2.1 Pre-Contact

The southwest region of Aboriginal groups shared flexible boundaries. This made it possible for groups to share and trade commodities, regularly moving for the purpose of trade. Ochre was predominantly traded for ceremonial purposes and spears (De Gand Ltd 2013).

Noongar people believe that the *Waugal*, the water Rainbow Serpent who created waterways during the *Nyitting* (Dreaming), rose up from the earth and began his long journey from the north, shaping the landscape and creating plants, animals and humans (NACC 2021). The *Waugal* travelled down through Watheroo and Moora, carrying fish, water snakes, gilgie, turtles and all the creatures of the river on his back while carving out the bed of the river on the journey (NACC 2021). When the *Waugal* got to *Warraminga* or Mogumber, he turned sharply west, gouging out deep holes which today are the deepest pools in the river, and what Noongar people call '*Mur*' (NACC 2021).

The connection between snake and rainbow suggests the cycle of the season and the significance of them in human life (NACC 2021). Its connection with water means the Rainbow Serpent is the life-giver and is both a symbol of unity and peaceful cooperation and of creation and destruction (NACC 2021). It is believed that the creation stories associated with the Rainbow Serpent, known as The Dreaming, are among the oldest continuing religious beliefs in the world (NACC 2021). In oral history, the waterways are associated with the *Waugal* and the physical elements of nature - fire, water, the sky, the earth. Dwelling within watercourses, waterholes, rivers and rock pools, the Serpent preserves the quantity and the quality of the drinking water. The Serpent may disappear if a waterway is damaged or violated, with repercussions against the perpetrator and the land left to suffer (Horizon 2020).

2.2.2 Post-Contact

Information about Noongar social and cultural organisation is limited due to the intensity of European settlement in the region between 1829 and 1841. Ethnocentric observations and journal entries are the primary sources of information; however, documentation is primarily about the perceived threats of the Noongar people within the newly established settlement (De Gand Ltd 2013).

Historically, the Yued people were instrumental in the establishment of the pastoral industry in the region. Their knowledge of waterholes and expertise in equestrian and shepherding enabled survey of large areas of land. Yued men were often responsible for the labour in digging and lining the wells for the farming settlers, clearing the land and building fences (Human Terrains 2013).

In 1836, George Fletcher Moore sailed north of modern-day Perth following a large freshwater stream which he named after himself – the Moore River. He documented extensive grassy fertile plains, and a 'fine' pool named by local Noongars 'Koondaby' or 'Candoby' (Australian Dictionary of Biography 2025).

In 1845, a conflict occurred in the Moora area between European pastoralists and Noongar people. A local Noongar guide, Kabinger fatally speared Johnston Drummond at Victoria Plains. Johnston's brother and Police Inspector, John Drummond shot Kabinger dead in retaliation.

In 1846, the Mission at New Norcia, on the western banks of the Moore River, 120 km north of Perth was established to 'Christianise and civilise' Noongar people (**Figure 2.3**). New Norcia Mission was the collective name for the St Mary's Mission (from 1848) and the St Joseph's Native School and Orphanage (from 1861) which were 'segregated' and run as separate institutions by the Benedictine monks and nuns at New Norcia.

Two years later in 1848, Bishop Rosendo Salvado undertook a census of 'known Aborigines' from local camping grounds. The census listed 92 Noongar People within the New Norcia area – 59 people at Walebing and 63 people within Berkshire Valley.

The site of Moora was gazetted in 1895 and with the rapid increase in the Moora region's pastoral and agricultural sector, Noongar people from the area provided labour to the pioneer farmers clearing land, fencing, shearing, cooking, sowing, and harvesting crops. The Noongar people were becoming further marginalised with the advent of railway construction. The railway company received 12,000 acres of land for every one mile of railway.

With the introduction of the *Aborigines Act 1905*, Noongar people were forced off their Country and ordered onto town reserves, such as the reserves at Moora, Walebing and Mogumber Mission. The purpose of the Aborigines Act (continued from the earlier 1886 Act) was the 'protection, control and segregation of Aboriginal people'. Unlike the earlier legislation, the impact of the *Aborigines Act 1905* was far-reaching, establishing an administrative regime under the control of a Chief Protector that invaded every aspect of Noongar people's lives. The *Aborigines Act 1905* assumed that Aboriginal people were a 'dying race' in its objective of forced assimilation of future generations.

In 1907, the Noongar people staged a protest at the New Norcia Mission in response to significant changes introduced by Father Torres, who had succeeded Bishop Salvado. Torres' policies failed to acknowledge and respect the cultural values and social expectations of the Noongar community, particularly affecting their employment and parental rights. As a result of the protest, three Noongar individuals were imprisoned for their involvement in planning the action.

By 1911, the New Norcia Mission had significantly reduced its involvement with the Noongar community, retaining only ten Noongar individuals in employment and largely excluding others from participation. This marginalisation led to the relocation of Noongar families to surrounding towns, including Moora, Northam, and Walebing. Of these, Moora emerged as a central hub, drawing the largest concentration of Noongar people in southern Western Australia.

Moora provided essential services and opportunities for the Noongar community, including access to medical care, rations, recreational activities, and employment in the railway yards and local farms. These factors contributed to a significant population increase, rising from approximately 60 individuals in 1911 to 240 by 1913. However, the rapid growth led to overcrowding on the Moora reserve and increasing opposition from local police and residents ultimately curtailed Noongar occupation in the area.

It is estimated that over 2,000 Noongar children attended the New Norcia mission schools between the 1860s and the early 1970s. The burial register, dating back to 1851, includes entries for Aboriginal children under the age of 18. While the specific causes of death are not documented, historical accounts suggest that infectious diseases such as measles and bronchitis severely impacted the population, particularly during the late 1800s (Moodie 2021).

The Moore River Native settlement, located at Mogumber, south of Moora, was established in 1918 by the Chief Protector of Aborigines. Initially intended to accommodate approximately 200 marginalised Noongar people from urban centres across the southwest, the settlement was envisioned as a self-sustaining farming community offering healthcare, education, and employment opportunities. However, chronic underfunding undermined these goals, and the facility was soon repurposed to house Aboriginal people from across Western Australia.

By the 1920s, Moore River had evolved into a site of internment, where Aboriginal individuals were forcibly relocated. Children classified as 'half-caste' were removed from their families—often without consent—and brought to the settlement to be trained as domestic servants for white households. This practice is now recognised as part of the Stolen Generations. Over time, the settlement expanded its functions to include an orphanage, rations depot, and a residence for elderly people, unmarried mothers, and the ill. Many older Aboriginal individuals, deemed too dark-skinned to be assimilated into white society, were expected to live out their remaining years at Moore River.

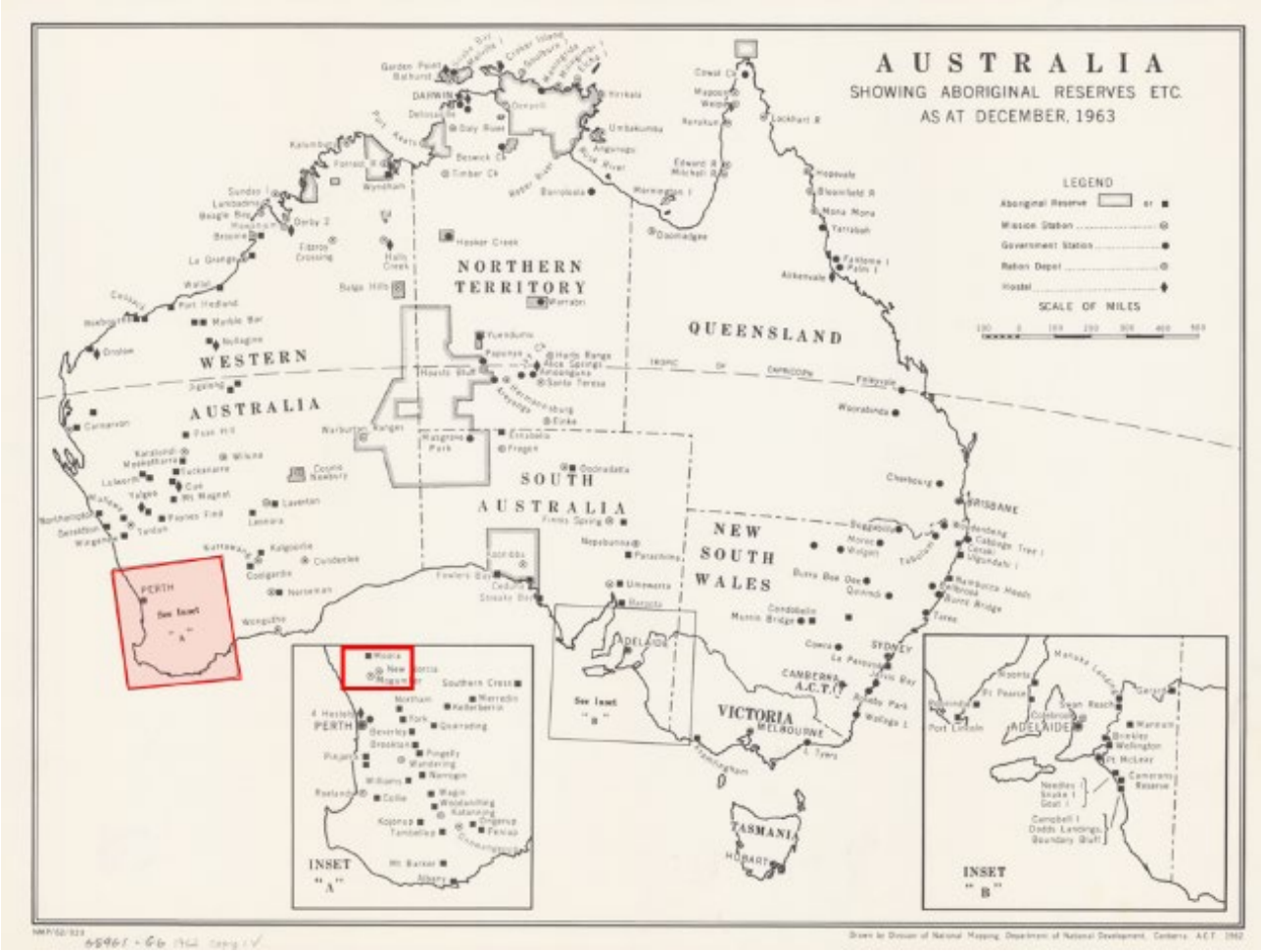


Figure 2.3 Showing Aboriginal Reserves in Proximity to the Project Area, 1963

(Source: National Library of Australia)

2.2.3 Settlement and Development

The Hill River was named by explorer George Grey during his second, ill-fated expedition along the Western Australian coast in 1839 (Government of Western Australia 2021). While the exact namesake remains uncertain, it is speculated that Grey may have named the river after Rowland Hill, renowned for initiating the Uniform Penny Post. More significantly for Grey, Hill served as Secretary to the Colonisation Commissioners for South Australia under the *South Australia Act 1834*. Grey had close ties to the Commissioners, including William Hutt M.P., a friend and promoter, who was also a Commissioner (South Australian Register, 1869).

Grey had previously named geographical features after several prominent figures associated with colonisation efforts, including William Hutt, Mary Bowes (Hutt's wife), John Chapman (Hutt's business partner), and Charles Buller M.P., a parliamentary advocate for free colonisation (Asscher and Choat 2005).

The Hill River spans approximately 55 km, originating southeast of Badgingarra and flowing westward to enter the Indian Ocean north of Cervantes (Government of Western Australia 2021) (**Figure 2.1**).

The first recorded European exploration of the area occurred in 1848, when the Gregory brothers (Augustus, Francis, and Henry), passed through enroute to the Gascoyne region (Aussie Towns 2025). In 1894, William McNamara established Badgingarra Farm, located south of the current Project Area, which led to the gradual development of a small settlement (Aussie Towns 2025). The following year, Henry Lefroy, a pastoralist and politician, conducted further exploration of the region (Australian National University 2006-2025).

In the early 1950s, the agricultural potential of the Badgingarra region in Western Australia was recognised, prompting the opening of land for farming and settlement. Among the pioneering farmers was George Elliot Lang, who was granted land near Dinner Hill, approximately five miles north of Badgingarra Pool on the Hill River. Lang's home was built around 1950 and is located in the eastern area of the Project Area. Lang played a pivotal role in the region's development, not only through his farming efforts but also by contributing to road construction and advocating for community organisation (Government of Western Australia 2012).

As the local population grew, the need for a formal townsite became increasingly apparent. In January 1955, the Badgingarra Progress Association was formed, with the establishment of a townsite as one of its key objectives. By August of that year, a site on Jurien Bay Road, roughly 20 miles north of Dandaragan, was officially approved and gazetted as the Badgingarra townsite (Government of Western Australia 2012).

Lang's legacy as a community builder and nature enthusiast was formally recognised in 1973 with the opening of the Lang Memorial by Surveyor General John F. Morgan. The memorial, located approximately 100 m south of the Project area boundary at the eastern side, stands as a tribute to Lang's lasting impact on the region's infrastructure, community spirit, and environmental appreciation (Government of Western Australia 2012).

Located within the Project Area, the property 'Axedale' was first taken up in 1953 by James and Dorothy White who had arrived from Tamin, Victoria. It was one of the first farms to be released from the Midland Railway land in the Badgingarra area. Named 'Axedale' after a Victorian property, the Whites lived in a small humpy prior to building the house in 1957. The property was used as an experimental farm prior to the establishment of the Badgingarra Research Station. The first clover in the district was grown on Axedale, which was well known for its groundbreaking farming techniques.

In November 1968, the community agreed to relocate the townsite approximately four miles west, in alignment with the construction of the Brand Highway, which offered improved access and infrastructure (Government of Western Australia 2012).

To support ongoing agricultural development in the region, the State Government established the Badgingarra Research Station in 1959. The station was designed to assist farmers in improving and diversifying their agricultural enterprises through research and innovation. The land on which the station was built was originally taken up by Herbert Sudholz in November 1953 and was later acquired by the Government specifically for the purpose of establishing the research facility (Government of Western Australia 2012).

2.2.4 The Noongar People Today

Unless otherwise cited, the information in the following sections has been extracted from *South West Aboriginal Land & Sea Council* (2024).

The South West Native Title Settlement (the Settlement) between the Noongar people and the Western Australian Government covers approximately 200,000 square kilometres of the south-west region of Western Australia. The Settlement, in the form of six ILUAs, was negotiated between the Noongar people and the WA Government. The Settlement commenced on 25 February 2021. From 13 April 2021, the *Native Title Act 1993* ceased to apply over the Settlement area - meaning future act processes no longer occur. The settlement includes the six groups that comprise the Noogar Nation, including the Yued People, Gnaala Karla Booja People, Karri Karrak People, Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar People, Ballardong People, and the Whadjuk People.

The ILUAs set out the way in which each of the six Settlement groups require the management of their cultural heritage (**Figure 2.4**). The ILUAs are further supported by specific policy documents for each Settlement group.

The landscape features of the Geraldton Sandplains and Swan Coastal Plain hold deep cultural significance for the Yued People. Much of the Project Area lies within the foothills of the Darling Scarp and encompasses a diverse range of geomorphological elements, including piedmont alluvial plains, coastal sandplains, aeolian limestone formations, and coastal dunes (McKenzie, Keighery et al. 2000). These are characteristic of the Swan Coastal Plain, while the southeastern portion of the Project Area is overlain by sandplains, alluvial deposits, and coastal limestone associated with the Geraldton Sandplains (McKenzie, Keighery et al. 2000). These landforms are not only ecologically distinct but are also culturally important to the Noongar people, as they are closely tied to traditional movement patterns, resource use, and spiritual associations with Country.

Yued (also spelt Juat, Yuat and Juet) is a region inhabited by the Yued people, one of the fourteen groups of Noongar Aboriginal Australians. Coastal dunes throughout the region were used as burial sites and skeletal remains have, on occasion, been exposed by dune blowouts. River mouths and estuaries have cultural and spiritual significance as ceremonial and initiation sites, traditional hunting and gathering grounds and as boundary markers (NACC 2021).



Figure 2.4 Noongar Nation Language Groups

(Source: Yued Aboriginal Corporation) Pre European Contact

2.3 Known Heritage Considerations

2.3.1 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Desktop searches were conducted for the Project Area. ACHIS searches were carried out on 11 June 2026, identifying the Aboriginal party, as well as any registered Aboriginal sites and places located within the Project Area. The results of this ACHIS search, along with other relevant desktop sources, are presented in the following sections and attached at **Appendix A**.

The Yued ILUA covers the Project Area.

The ILUA requires the parties (the State of Western Australia, including all State Government Departments and certain State Government agencies) to establish a Noongar Standard Heritage Agreement (NSHA) when conducting Aboriginal Heritage Surveys in the ILUA areas, unless an existing heritage agreement is in place.

The Southwest Native Title Settlement between the Noongar people and the Western Australian Government spans around 200,000 square kilometres in the southwest region of Western Australia. Initiated as six Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs), the Settlement commenced on 25 February 2021, and from 13 April 2021, the *Native Title Act 1993* no longer applies to this area. It incorporates six groups of the Noongar Nation: Yued People, Gnaala Karla Booja People, Karri Karrak People, Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar People, Ballardong People, and Whadjuk People.

The ILUAs outline the management of cultural heritage for each group, supported by specific policy documents. Noongar Country (*Boodja*) covers the entire southwest portion of Western Australia. The Settlement, the largest native title settlement in Australian history, impacts about 30,000 Noongar People and encompasses approximately 200,000 km^2. Its boundary extends from north of Jurien Bay, east to north of Moora, and southeast to a point between Bremer Bay and Esperance.

The Contact Details for the YAC are provided below (**Table 2.2**).

Table 2.2 YAC Contact Details

Contact Details
Yued Aboriginal Corporation Level 2, 100 Royal Street East Perth, WA 6004
Phone: 08 9358 7400 / Email: reception@noongar.org.au

It is noted that OX2 entered into the YHPA with the YAC on 22 January 2026, which establishes a formal framework for consultation, cultural heritage surveys, and the management of ACH in relation to the Project.

A Community and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (CSEP) (Umwelt 2026) has been prepared to guide engagement with stakeholders throughout the Project planning and assessment process, including to inform the Social Impact Assessment and support the Development Application for the Project. The CSEP establishes the framework, methods and program for consultation with stakeholders, including the YAC, to identify issues, understand values, and inform project design and mitigation measures.

It is noted that while the CSEP facilitates engagement with the YAC as a key stakeholder and Traditional Owner representative body, it does not constitute a formal agreement between OX2 and the YAC. Rather, formal agreements, including those relating to cultural heritage management (such as the YHPA, are separate instruments that establish specific rights, obligations and processes for consultation, survey and management of ACH.

2.3.1.1 Previously Recorded Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

ACHIS search results identified two ACH sites within the Project Area, one of which intersects the Development Footprint (refer to **Figure 3.1** and **Figure 4.1**).

The ACH place recorded with a ‘lodged’ status, indicates it has not yet been confirmed as a site under the AH Act or lacks sufficient information for determination. The mapped extent represents a ‘dithered boundary’, showing only the general locality of the heritage rather than its precise extent, with statutory protection applying only to the site itself. Given this uncertainty, a precautionary approach has been adopted and recommendations provided in **Section 5.0**.

Table 2.3 ACHIS Search Results within the Project Area

Site/ID	Site Type	DPLH Place Status	Within Project Area?	Within the Development Footprint?
JB1 Site (17118) **ACH-00017118**	Camp	Register	**Yes.** Located at the southwest side of the Project Area- on the Project Area boundary. Refer **Figure 3.1.**	No
Mungedar Well (4743) **ACH-00004743**	Artefacts/ Scatter	Lodged	**Yes.** Located at the southeast, on the Project Area boundary. Refer **Figure 3.1.**	**Yes** Refer **Figure 3.1.**

2.3.1.2 Previous ACH Surveys

OX2 has completed ACH surveys across the Development Footprint with YAC representatives and their archaeologists and anthropologists. This has been undertaken in accordance with the executed YHPA. The outcomes of the surveys are currently being documented in separate reports and remain subject to YAC's CAC. The findings and recommendations have therefore not been incorporated into this Assessment and may result in further Project design refinement once available.

While survey reports remain pending, preliminary findings have already informed Project design refinement. This has included relocation of proposed infrastructure away from areas of potential heritage sensitivity identified during surveys and refinement of infrastructure locations relative to the dithered boundary of ACH-00004743 (Mungedar Well).

The following discussion relates to previously recorded ACH surveys identified within the Project Area; however, it is noted that these investigations were undertaken for development projects unrelated to the proposed Wind Farm. In most cases, these surveys form part of broader linear or corridor-based investigations (e.g. infrastructure or utility alignments) that traverse portions of the Project Area, rather than comprehensive site-wide assessments.

A search of ACHIS (11 June 2026) identified ten previously recorded heritage surveys within the Project Area. Previous heritage surveys undertaken across the Hill River–Badgingarra–north coastal plain region demonstrate that ACH is strongly concentrated along waterways and associated cultural landscapes, rather than being uniformly distributed across the broader agricultural landscape.

Rivers, creeks, wetlands and floodplain environments, including Hill River, Mullering Brook, Moore River and associated watercourses, have been consistently identified as culturally significant, supporting camping, travel, ceremonial activity and enduring mythological associations, particularly those linked to the Waugal/Waggl and connected Dreaming and law tracks. Archaeological material, where recorded, has been limited and predominantly located near water sources, with low artefact visibility elsewhere largely attributed to extensive historical disturbance rather than absence of cultural use. In this context, the Project Area is considered to have generally low to medium archaeological potential across disturbed alluvial and agricultural land, increasing to medium to high potential where it is hydrologically or topographically connected to the Hill River or its tributaries and also wetlands, particularly for intangible cultural values.

Table 2.4 provides an overview of previous surveys and associated reports recorded for the Project Area. The locations of the previous surveys can be seen at **Appendix A**.

Table 2.4 Previous Survey Report

Survey Report	Summary	Key Findings
200803 A. Morison and N. Taylor, 2019. *Report on a Section 18 Ethnographic Cultural Heritage Survey and Consultation of Bridge 0966 with Yued Traditional Owners for South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council*. Prepared for Main Roads, Western Australia.	In 2019, Main Roads Western Australia planned bridge maintenance works along the Brand Highway near Badgingarra. The proposed work area overlapped with a DPLH registered site, (Site ID 17118) originally recorded in 2000. A 2018 heritage survey, conducted in consultation with Yued People, confirmed the site's boundaries and cultural significance. Yued representatives provided management strategies and cultural protocols to guide the works and ensure protection of the site. The site, located on the banks of the Hill River, was identified as a key camping place historically used by Aboriginal people travelling along the river for ceremonies and meetings. It forms part of a broader cultural landscape, connecting to Cockleshell Gully, Table Hill, and a 'law track' that extends both inland to Dandaragan and westward to the sea. The site is associated with initiation practices, with Traditional Owner ancestors known to have followed river systems and camped at established locations along their journey. During the survey, Yued Elders explained that camping in the area was influenced by the availability of water and the presence of wildlife, which supported hunting and gathering of bush tucker. The site was used by both men and women, with family groups camping near the river, Law men visiting Table Hill, and women remaining closer to water sources. It is understood that births and burials occurred along the river, further reinforcing its cultural and spiritual importance. Yued People have shared that the Waugal, a powerful spiritual being, is believed to have created the Hill River and continues to travel through underground water systems, cleansing and sustaining the river's flow. As a result, the Hill River is considered sacred, and any disturbance to its natural state is viewed as culturally and spiritually inappropriate. Although the 2018 survey did not identify any surface artefacts, primarily due to low ground visibility, the presence of a previously recorded site located north of the Project Area indicates a high potential for surface artefacts within the vicinity. This underscores the importance of continued caution and consultation with Traditional Owners in any future ground-disturbing activities.	The survey confirmed the significance of Site ID 17118 on the Hill River. The site was a key camping and ceremonial location, part of a broader cultural landscape including Cockleshell Gully, Table Hill, and a law track.
23329 Australian Interaction Consultants, 2008. *Heritage Monitoring Report of sites within Loop 8 of DBNGP (Stage 5A) Western Australia*	In 2008, a heritage survey was undertaken for a looping section adjacent to and connected with the existing underground gas transmission pipeline within the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline corridor. The survey included a review of previously registered Aboriginal heritage sites, identifying two mythological sites: Mullering Brook (Site ID 4640) and Wetlands and Watercourses: Moore River to Bullsbrook (Site ID 19138). No new Aboriginal heritage sites were recorded during the field assessment.	The survey confirmed Mullering Brook and Moore River to Bullsbrook sites. No new sites were identified.
23017 J. Mattner, 2007. *Aboriginal Heritage study for 330 kV Transmission Line upgrade Pinjar Substation to Eneabba Substation*	An archaeological survey was conducted in advance of Western Power upgrades to an existing transmission line between Pinjar Substation (east of Yanchep) and the Enabba Zone Substation (south of Enabba). Previous research had identified several registered Aboriginal heritage sites within the corridor, including one archaeological site—Mullering (#4644)—and four waterway sites: Mullering Brook (#4640), Gingin Brook Waggl Site (#20008), Moore River Waugal (#207490), and Wallering Brook (#21617). Archaeological surveys were carried out along the full length of the transmission line route, resulting in the identification of a number of isolated artefacts. However, findings were limited due to extensive ground disturbance from historical land clearing and agricultural activities, such as ploughing for farmland.	The Transmission Line Survey confirmed such as Mullering (#4644), Mullering Brook (#4640), Gingin Brook Waggl Site (#20008), Moore River Waugal (#207490), and Wallering Brook (#21617) sites. New isolated artefacts were found during the survey.
23311 Australian Interaction Consultants, 2007. *Report on preliminary archaeological assessment of Stage 5A DBNGP Route, Loop 8*	A survey conducted in 2007 focused on the pipeline route and previously recorded Aboriginal heritage sites. The area was found to be highly disturbed, with extensive land clearing for cropping and grazing, and was therefore assessed as having low archaeological potential. Despite the disturbance, two previously recorded mythological sites were confirmed during the field assessment: 'Mullering Brook' (Site ID 4640) and 'Wetlands and Watercourses: Moore River to Bullsbrook' (Site ID 19138). Cultural material identified during the survey was associated with these sites, as well as with Hill River, the Nature Reserve, and Badgingarra National Park, indicating the broader cultural significance of the landscape and its connection to Yued heritage.	The survey determined that the area has been highly disturbed, yet it confirmed the presence of mythological sites including Mullering Brook (Site ID 4640) and Moore River to Bullsbrook (Site ID 19138). Cultural material identified during the survey was associated with these sites, as well as with Hill River, the Nature Reserve, and Badgingarra National Park.
106028 Sauman, Donald V, 2001. *Site avoidance survey under the Aboriginal Heritage Act (1972) of proposed deviations to the extended Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline Corridor*	In 2001, a heritage survey was conducted by consultants in collaboration with Yued People representatives to assess an area proposed for corridor widening. The survey identified several culturally significant sites, which were recommended for inclusion on the Interim Register of Aboriginal Sites under the Aboriginal Heritage Act. These sites included Red Gully, Gingin Brook, Moonda Brook, and Lennerd Brook. Additionally, a lake was identified as a sacred site, believed to have been created by the *Waggl* and forming part of the Turtle Dreaming that traverses the region. The Dreaming track associated with this lake is recognised as an important breeding ground for various bird species, notably the black-headed ibis, which holds totemic significance for Aboriginal people. During the survey, Elders shared that the lake is part of an integrated spiritual water system extending from the northern regions through to Wright Lake, Forrestfield Lake, and ultimately to the wetlands at Pinjarra. This interconnected system reflects deep cultural and spiritual connections to water and landscape across the broader region.	The survey identified culturally significant sites including Red Gully, Gingin Brook, Moonda Brook, and Lennerd Brook. A sacred lake linked to Turtle Dreaming (intangible cultural heritage) was also recorded.

Survey Report	Summary	Key Findings
104162 O'Connor, R. 1992. *Report on an ethnographic survey of the proposed Telcom Australia optic fibre cable route: Perth/Geraldton region*	Heritage survey was undertaken in relation to proposed works for an optic fibre cable route extending from Perth to Binnu. The route was known to intersect with the significant Aboriginal site Mullering Brook, which flows beneath the Brand Highway, north of Cataby. Mullering Brook holds cultural and spiritual significance for the Yued People, based on the belief that its springs are sustained by a serpentine water spirit, a creative ancestral being whose presence and influence have been passed down through generations. The mythological site is defined as encompassing the brook's channel and its adjacent banks, forming part of a broader spiritual landscape. No additional Aboriginal heritage sites were recorded during the survey, although the cultural importance of Mullering Brook was reaffirmed through consultation and field assessment.	The Fibre Optic Survey intersected with Mullering Brook, a site of spiritual significance. No new sites were recorded.
104086 M. Pickering, 1981. *An archaeological survey of the Dampier to Perth natural gas pipeline route: section 5 Irwin River to Muchea*	Section 5 of the pipeline route, surveyed in 1981, is located approximately 10 km south of the Irwin River, 18 km southeast of Dongara, and 6 km southwest of Muchea. The survey followed earlier site recordings from 1979, which had identified artefact scatters near the proposed pipeline and several known sites in the Dongara coastal area. The survey methodology noted that much of the pipeline traversed extensive scrub heath, a landscape typically considered archaeologically low potential. Despite this, the survey identified thirteen sites within the vicinity of the pipeline, comprising eight artefact scatters and five isolated artefacts. The report concluded that this number of sites was representative of site frequency within the region. All recorded sites were located in proximity to water sources, consistent with known patterns of Aboriginal site distribution. Artefact analysis revealed that the predominant material used was quartz, with occasional use of chert and other fine-grained siliceous rocks, reflecting typical tool-making practices in the region.	Thirteen new sites were identified comprising 8 artefact scatters and 5 isolated artefacts located mostly near water sources.
17059 Department of Aboriginal Sites, 1979. *Dampier to Perth Natural Gas Pipeline Route: A Survey for Aboriginal Sites. March 1979.* Available through DPLH	Access Restricted. Access to this survey report was not granted due to the access status being closed or restricted.	N/A
19019 McDonald, Hales and Associates	Access Closed. Access to this survey report was not granted due to the access status.	N/A
19023 McDonald, Hales and Associates	Access Closed. Access to this survey report was not granted due to the access status.	N/A

2.3.2 Historical Cultural Heritage

Searches of the following statutory and non-statutory databases, datasets and registers were undertaken to help provide additional historical understanding of the Project Area and nearby to identify potential constraints. Searches of the following were conducted on 14 October 2025 and 10 March 2026:

- State Register of State and local heritage places (inHerit).
- Australian Heritage Database, which includes the World Heritage List (WHL), Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL) and National Heritage List (NHL), and non-statutory archive of the Register of the National Estate (RNE).
- Colonial Frontier Massacres in Australia, 1788–1930 database.
- National Trust of Western Australia.
- Local planning schemes and/or overlays.
- Places identified within and near the Project Area are provided in **Table 2.5** and **Figure 3.2**.

Table 2.5 Heritage Places within the Project Area

Place / ID	Address	Source	Location	Notes	Within Development Footprint?
Lang House (05830)	Goonderdoo Rd Badgingarra	Local Heritage Survey (DPLH_008 Dataset)	In south east of Project Area. Refer **Figure 3.2**	Assessed as a place of local historic significance and is classified as a Category 3 heritage place, whereby retention is encouraged. Where retention is not possible, documentation of the place is recommended.	No
Axedale (05831)	Watheroo Rd, Badgingarra	Local Heritage Survey (DPLH_008 Dataset)	In north east of the Project Area. Refer **Figure 3.2** and **Table 2.4**	Axedale is of local historic significance and is classified as a Category 3 heritage place. Retention is encouraged- where not possible, appropriate documentation of the place is recommended.	No

Table 2.6 Heritage Places near the Project Area

Place / ID	Address	Source	Location
Badgingarra Research Station (Herbert Sudholt's Farm) (5828)	Wyngarde Rd Badgingarra	Local Heritage Survey (DPLH_008 Dataset)	Adjoins the Project Area.
Old Badgingarra Townsite (05826)	Badgingarra	Local Heritage Survey (DPLH_008 Dataset)	Directly adjoins southern boundary.
Cattle Yards Near Hill River (5832)	Cantabilling Road, Badgingarra	Local Heritage Survey (DPLH_008 Dataset)	West of the Project Area at the northern boundary.
Badgingarra National Park and proposed extension (10200)	Brand Hwy, Badgingarra	RNE dataset	Adjoins Project Area boundary at the southwest.
Lang Lookout (5829)	Dinner Hill, Badgingarra	Local Heritage Survey (DPLH_008 Dataset)	100 m south of the Project Area boundary at the east.
Badgingarra Homestead and Pool (Badgingarra Pool) (5826)	Moora-Badgingarra Road, Badgingarra	Local Heritage Survey (DPLH_008 Dataset)	260 m south of the southern boundary.
Coomallo Reserves (10198)	Brand Hwy, Nylagarda via Badgingarra	RNE dataset	600 m north of the Project Area boundary at the west.
Watheroo National Park (1977 boundary) 10192	Watheroo Rd, Watheroo	RNE dataset	2 km east of the Project Area boundary.
Watheroo Obervatory (11007)	Watheroo West Rd 12 miles W of, Watheroo	Local Government Heritage List (DPLH_090)	2 km east of the Project Area boundary.
Lesueur National Park (105967)	Coorow Green Head Rd, Green Head WA	NHL dataset	14 km north west.
Hill River Reserve (10202)	Cantabilling Rd, Jurien	RNE dataset	19 km west.

The two registered homestead complexes (Axedale and Lang House) within the Project Area, and Badgingarra Research Station which adjoins the Project Area, are significant for their association with early settlement, agricultural activity, development of the sand plain country and for the assistance it gave to settlers of the area, and their heritage value is closely tied to their visual and landscape context.

No identified historical heritage places within the Project Area directly intersect with the Development Footprint.

3.0 Results

3.1 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

This Assessment of the landscape within which the Project would occur indicates the presence of previously recorded ACH, and potential for additional undocumented ACH to occur. This is based on:

- The presence of previously recorded ACH within the Project Area, including two sites (a campsite and an artefact scatter). Neither of these are within the Development Footprint.
- The results stated in previous heritage surveys within and near the Project Area that consistently indicate that ACH is predominantly associated with waterways and their immediate surrounds.
- The likely presence of some landforms within the Project Area and Development Footprint that are known to indicate and increased likelihood for ACH, including, but not necessarily limited to, watercourses, floodplains and wetlands.
- Variable levels of disturbance across the Project Area and Development Footprint attributed to predominantly agricultural land use activities.
- The presence of remnant native vegetation within the Project Area and Development Footprint.

Based on these findings, the potential for ACH to occur within the Project Area is illustrated in **Figure 4.1**. Note: A 100 m buffer has been applied to these features to assist in visualising the areas of elevated potential for identifying potential ACH.

The findings presented above are preliminary and have been informed by the current Development Footprint and available desktop information. The findings may be refined following receipt of pending YAC survey reports and YAC/ CAC recommendations. Project design has undergone further refinement to avoid potential impacts to ACH based on the preliminary findings of the field surveys. This has included relocation of infrastructure away from areas identified as potentially sensitive for ACH and adjustment of infrastructure locations relative to the dithered boundary of ACH-00004743.

3.2 Historical Cultural Heritage

This Assessment of known and potential for historical heritage identified two places of local historical significance listed in InHerit, as being located within the Project Area but not within the Development Footprint.

There are 11 additional historical heritage places in the broader region but outside the Project Area.

No historical heritage places within the Project Area intersect the Development Footprint.

These features may not be formally recorded but could hold local historical significance and contribute to the broader heritage landscape. Any newly identified heritage features within the Project Area must be assessed for cultural heritage significance in accordance with the Heritage Council Guidelines (2022). This includes evaluating places against Aesthetic, Historic, Scientific, Social, and Spiritual values. Although the Development Footprint incorporates a 1.5 km buffer between proposed turbine structures and known heritage buildings, the risk of indirect impact remains high due to the sensitive cultural and historical values within the Project Area.

FIGURE 3.1

Recorded Aboriginal Cultural Heritage within the Project Area

344000 352000 360000 368000 376000

6656000 6648000 6640000 6632000

Coomallo Nature Reserve
Coomallo Creek
Warradarge Creek
Jurien Rd
Hill Rd
Boothendarra Creek
Boothendarra Nature Reserve
ACH-00017118
Brand Hwy
Badgingarra National Park
BADGINGARRA
Wirrjardie Creek
ACH-00004743
North West Rd
ACH-00036954
Bibby Creek
Bibby Rd
Doodenod Creek

Legend

- Project Area
- Development Footprint
- WTG
- Met Mast Locations (Permanent)
- Access Point
- Access Road
- Internal Transmission Pole locations
- Internal Transmission Line
- Electricity Transmission Lines - 132/330kv
- Quarry
- Compound Area
- Storage Area
- Facility Layout
- Populated Place
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- Wetlands
- National Park, Reserves and State Forests
- 100m High Constraints Buffer

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Register

- Camp

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Lodged

- Artefacts / Scatter
- Creation / Dreaming Narrative; Water Source

0 2 4 km

Scale 1:120,000 at A3
GDA2020 MGA Zone 50

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FIGURE 3.2

Historical Heritage places within and near the Project Area

344000 352000 360000 368000 376000

6656000 6648000 6640000 6632000

Coomallo Nature Reserve
Coomallo Creek
Wiradargre Creek
Julien Rd
Boothendarra Creek
Boothendarra Nature Reserve
Cattle Yards near Hill River
Hill River
Axedale
Badgingarra Research Station
Brand Hwy
Lang Lookout
Lang House
Badgingarra National Park
BADGINGARRA
Wirijardie Creek
Badgingarra Homestead and Pool
Old Badgingarra Townsite
North West Rd
Bibby Creek
Bibby Rd
Doodenod Creek
Mahomet's Cottage

Legend

- Project Area
- Development Footprint
- WTG
- Met Mast Locations (Permanent)
- Access Point
- Access Road
- Internal Transmission Pole locations
- Internal Transmission Line
- Electricity Transmission Lines - 132/330kv
- Compound Area
- Quarry
- Storage Area
- Facility Layout
- 100m High Constraints Buffer
- Local Heritage Areas
- Populated Place
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- National Park, Reserves and State Forests

0 2 4 km

Scale 1:120,000 at A3
GDA2020 MGA Zone 50

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4.0 Risk Assessment

4.1 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

ACH risk for the Project has been determined thorough consideration of past land disturbance and the likely impacts of the Project and then applied to The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Risk Matrix provided in the AHDDG.

The result of this Assessment is that the Project has **Medium Risk** for impacts on ACH (see below). This result is founded on:

- The land use history of the Project Area falls into the **Moderately Altered Environment** Previous Land Use Category, as defined by the AHDDG. This rating recognises the presence within the Project Area of:
  a. partially cleared lands within the Project Area.
  b. variable levels of past disturbance and change and is reflective of pastoral and agricultural land uses in the post-contact era.
- The Project risk profile has been reduced through iterative design refinement, including relocation of proposed infrastructure away from areas identified during heritage surveys as having potential ACH values

  Any residual risk may be reduced to low where the CHMP pathway is achieved in consultation with YAC. The CHMP must incorporate the findings and management recommendations of ACH and anthropological surveys, including cultural heritage monitoring measures for areas identified as having elevated cultural heritage significance or potential.
- Based the nature of Project activities described at **Section 1.3** and review of the Project Area and Disturbance Footprint, the Project meets both the **Moderate Disturbance** and **Significant Disturbance** Land Activity Categories, as described in the AHDDG. This is because the Project will require as per Schedule 1 of AHDDG the following:
  c. **Activities that result in Moderate Disturbance to the land**, requiring some degree of surface modification and localised excavation such as:
     i. Work program clearance.
     ii. Sampling using handheld rigs or rigs mounted on light vehicles.
     iii. Potential for new fire breaks, undertaking re-vegetation projects, installing temporary power lines, and establishing temporary gravel or soil stockpiles, and the establishment of temporary camps.
  d. **Activities that result in Significant Disturbance to the land**, requiring substantial excavation and alteration of the land surface:
     i. Creation of new roads or tracks.
     ii. Land clearing, over more than a small area.
     iii. Intensive soil or core sampling.
     iv. Potential for major landscaping or contouring, pipelines, transmission lines, bridges, culverts, and flood remediation works such as erosion levees.

- The risk assessment may require review following receipt of the pending survey outcomes and recommendations from YAC and YAC's CAC.

Table 4.1 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Risk Matrix. Source: Department of Aboriginal Affairs and Department of the Premier and Cabinet, 2013

Land Activities – Categories 1–5						
Previous Land Use		**1. Negligible disturbance**	**2. Minimal disturbance**	**3. Moderate disturbance**	**4. Significant disturbance**	**5. Major disturbance**
	Built Environment – e.g. urban environment, towns, metropolitan region	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium
	Significantly Altered Environment – e.g. cultivated and cleared land	Low	Low	Low	Medium	High
	Moderately Altered Environment – e.g. partially cleared lands, re-vegetated landscape	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
	Minimally Altered Environment – e.g. urban bush land, regrowth areas	Low	Medium	Medium	High	High
	Unaltered Environment – e.g. protected areas or pristine environment	Low	Medium	High	High	High

4.2 Historical Cultural Heritage

The Project Area has a **low risk** for direct impacts to known heritage places. While two local heritage places are noted within the Project Area, neither is within the proposed Development Footprint and therefore no direct impacts are expected.

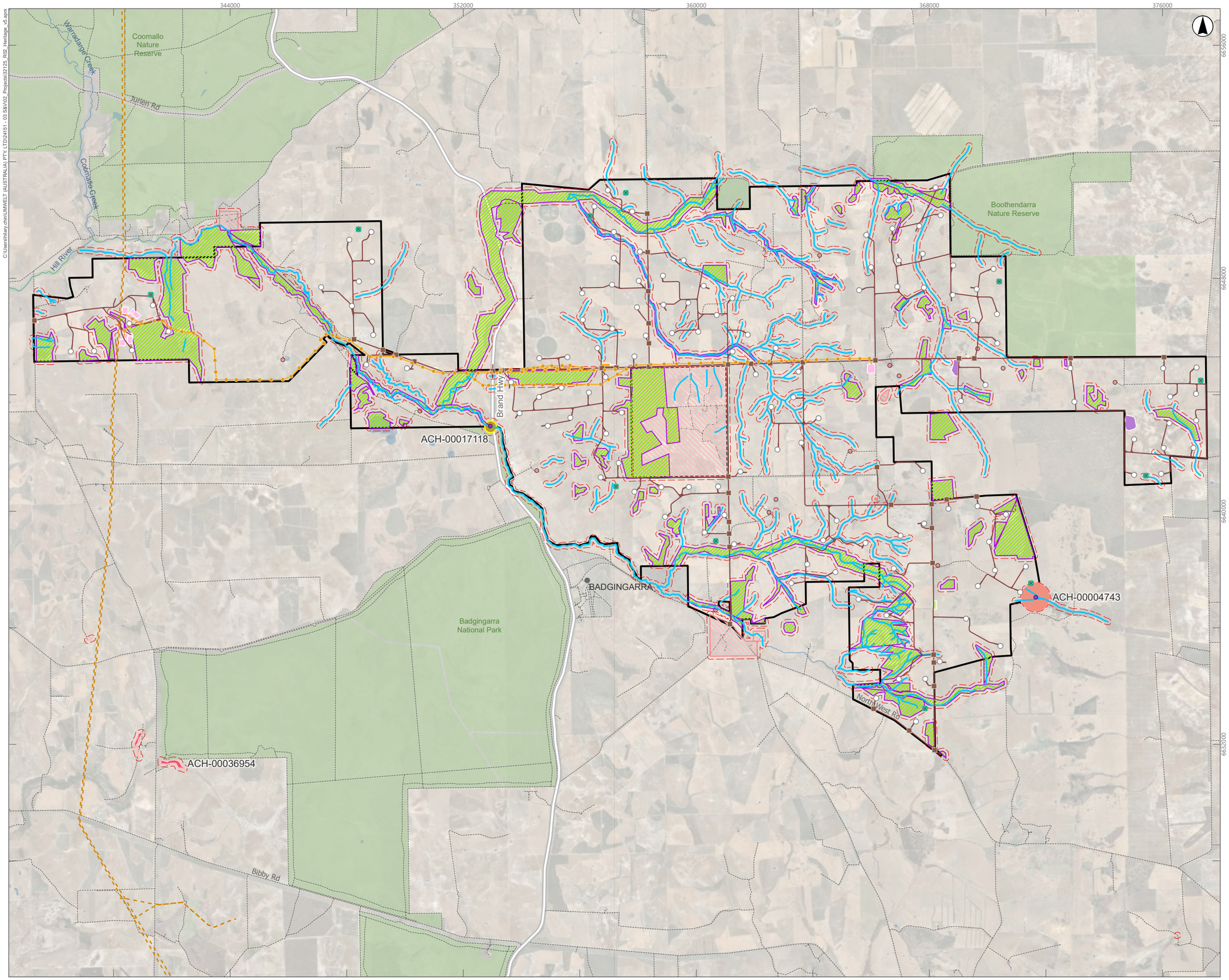
The Project Area has a **medium risk** for indirect impacts on known historical heritage places. This relates to the location of two local heritage places within the Project Area, but outside the Development Footprint, and one place (the Badgingarra Research Station) being adjacent to and surrounded by the Project Area.

The Project Area has a **medium risk** for direct and indirect impacts to unrecorded historical heritage. This risk level has been informed by the results of desktop research, including the documented history of pastoral and agricultural land use, as well as review of historical and modern aerial imagery. The Project Area and Development Footprint may contain surface artefact scatters and dump sites associated with domestic, pastoral, and agricultural activities. These may include:

- Remnants of former homesteads, houses, sheds, huts.
- Infrastructure such as cattle yards, pens, and ancillary buildings.

FIGURE 4.1

Areas of Moderate ACH and Historic Heritage Risk



Legend

- Project Area
- Development Footprint
- WTG
- Met Mast Locations (Permanent)
- Access Point
- Access Road
- Internal Transmission Pole locations
- Internal Transmission Line
- Electricity Transmission Lines - 132/330kv
- Compound Area
- Quarry
- Storage Area
- Facility Layout
- Populated Place
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- National Park, Reserves and State Forests

High Constraints including 100m buffer

- 100m High Constraints Buffer
- Known Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
- Known Historic Heritage Sites
- Potential ACH - Remnant Vegetation
- Potential ACH - Waterways

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Register

- Camp

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Lodged

- Artefacts / Scatter
- Creation / Dreaming Narrative; Water Source

Moderate Constraints

- Potential Historical Heritage

0 2 4 km

Scale 1:120,000 at A3
GDA2020 MGA Zone 50

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5.0 Recommendations

5.1 Follow the Precautionary Principle

The precautionary principle, as espoused by the AHDDG, should be applied to any circumstance during the Project where doubt exists about:

- The potential impact to cultural heritage.
- The nature and level of potential impact of the proposed activity.

The principle essentially serves as a safety net to prevent irreversible damage to known and unknown heritage. The following recommendations are made based on the results of this Assessment and application of precautionary principle.

5.1.1 Continue to Manage Identified Cultural Heritage Risks

The avoidance measures incorporated into the Project design should be retained during future design refinement, including relocation of infrastructure away from areas identified as having potential ACH sensitivity.

- Any proposed ground disturbance proposed within or adjacent to areas of known and potential ACH sensitivity must adhere to CHMP management procedures (currently in development) including monitoring by Yued representatives and implementation of an Unexpected Finds Procedure.
- The 'dithered boundary' of the lodged ACH site 'Mungedar Well' (ACH-0004643) should be avoided where practicable. Given the dithered nature of the mapped site boundary, the final extent of any exclusion area must be confirmed through archaeological and anthropological survey results, consultation with YAC, and the CHMP pathway. Where works are proposed near the site, the CHMP should include appropriate management measures, which should include ACH monitoring and implementation of an Unexpected Finds Procedure during ground-disturbing activities.
- Early Works activities should be designed to avoid impacts to known cultural heritage and areas with elevated cultural heritage risk as a priority.
- Early Works activities must occur in accordance with the requirements of the YHPA and following any required consultation with YAC.
- Avoid siting temporary works areas (e.g. laydown areas, access tracks or compounds) in proximity to known cultural heritage and areas with elevated cultural heritage risk.
- An Unexpected Finds Protocol must be developed, approved, and made readily available to all Project personnel and contractors. This will help manage the risk of unexpected finds during future Project works. The protocol should:
    - Apply to both ACH and historical heritage, including human remains.
    - Require immediate cessation of works in the vicinity of a potential discovery.
    - Outline notification and escalation procedures, including engagement with the YAC and relevant regulatory authorities.

- Ensure that no further disturbance occurs within the area where the find was identified until the discovery has been assessed and an agreed management response is implemented.

- Cultural heritage inductions should be completed by all Project personnel (including contractors) prior to the commencement of any ground-disturbing activities (including Early Works). Inductions should:
  - Outline the types of ACH and historical heritage materials likely to be encountered in the Project Area.
  - Explain the cultural significance of both tangible and intangible ACH values, including waterways and connected landscapes.
  - Clearly describe legal obligations under the AHA and the steps required in the event of a heritage discovery.
  - A process to follow should human remains be identified and documented.

5.1.2 Refinement to Design and Layout

- A medium risk of indirect impacts to adjacent local historical heritage places remains. This remains due to the ongoing refinement of the preferred Project layout and infrastructure design. Impacts may occur due to outcomes including, but not limited to, vibration, accidental damage, and visual intrusion. To effectively manage this risk, it is recommended that detailed layout and design work prioritises inclusion of sufficient physical separation between Project infrastructure and any nearby historical heritage places. This includes those adjoining the Project Area. Sufficient separation and other design requirements to achieve effective mitigation must be informed by review of the proposed design and requirements against the cultural heritage significance ascribed to the local heritage place including, its setting. A heritage impact assessment addressing potential indirect impacts to these adjoining local heritage places is recommended once the preferred design is achieved to ensure any indirect impacts are avoided and mitigated.
- Pending survey reports and recommendations from YAC and YAC's CAC should be used to inform the preferred Project design and layout.

5.2 Consultation

- Consultation YAC recommended to understand the presence within the Project Area and Development Footprint, of any intangible ACH values that have not been previously documented. This includes but is not limited to important cultural sites, Dreaming stories, and other cultural values associated with the landscape.
- Consult with the YAC as required and according to the YHPA to inform refinement of Project layout in areas identified with elevated risk for ACH. This includes understanding the 'dithered boundary' associated with the lodged ACH site 'Mungedar Well' (ACH-0004643) and determining an effective 'buffer area' to ensure impacts are avoided.
- Confirm whether additional assessment or agreement processes are required under the YHPA prior to undertaking any ground-disturbing works within the Project Area.

- Consultation with the Shire of Dandaragan is recommended, to determine if controls are required to reduce potential impacts to the historical heritage significance of the two listed places within the Project Area, and also to the adjoining Badgingarra Research Station. The outcomes of this consultation should be considered as part of the refinement to the Project design and overall layout.

5.3 Undertake Cultural Heritage Surveys

- Initial field surveys have been completed, however the resulting reports and recommendations remain pending and should inform detailed design, avoidance measures and the development of the CHMP once finalised.
- Undertake a targeted survey of the areas with elevated risk for undocumented historical cultural heritage prior to the detailed design stage and prior to the commencement of construction to verify the presence or absence of historical cultural heritage.

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Appendix A

ACHIS Search Results



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Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System

List of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Lodged

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Search Criteria

1 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Lodged in Shapefile - BOUND_OX2_SiteBoundary_260505_GDA20z50

Disclaimer

Aboriginal heritage holds significant value to Aboriginal people for their social, spiritual, historical, scientific, or aesthetic importance within Aboriginal traditions, and provides an essential link for Aboriginal people to their past, present and future. In Western Australia Aboriginal heritage is protected under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.

All Aboriginal cultural heritage in Western Australia is protected, whether or not the ACH has been reported or exists on the Register.

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South West Settlement ILUA Disclaimer

Your heritage enquiry is on land within or adjacent to the following Indigenous Land Use Agreement(s): Yued Indigenous Land Use Agreement.

On 8 June 2015, six identical Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) were executed across the South West by the Western Australian Government and, respectively, the Yued, Whadjuk People, Gnaala Karla Booja, Ballardong People, South West Boojarah #2 and Wagyl Kaip & Southern Noongar groups, and the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC).

The ILUAs bind the parties (including 'the State', which encompasses all State Government Departments and certain State Government agencies) to enter into a Noongar Standard Heritage Agreement (NSHA) when conducting Aboriginal Heritage Surveys in the ILUA areas, unless they have an existing heritage agreement. It is also intended that other State agencies and instrumentalities enter into the NSHA when conducting Aboriginal Heritage Surveys in the ILUA areas. It is recommended a NSHA is entered into, and an 'Activity Notice' issued under the NSHA, if there is a risk that an activity will ‘impact’ (i.e. by excavating, damaging, destroying or altering in any way) an Aboriginal heritage site. The Aboriginal Heritage Due Diligence Guidelines, which are referenced by the NSHA, provide guidance on how to assess the potential risk to Aboriginal heritage.

Likewise, from 8 June 2015 the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DEMIRS) in granting Mineral, Petroleum and related Access Authority tenures within the South West Settlement ILUA areas, will place a condition on these tenures requiring a heritage agreement or a NSHA before any rights can be exercised.

If you are a State Government Department, Agency or Instrumentality, or have a heritage condition placed on your mineral or petroleum title by DEMIRS, you should seek advice as to the requirement to use the NSHA for your proposed activity. The full ILUA documents, maps of the ILUA areas and the NSHA template can be found at https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-the-premier-and-cabinet/south-west-native-title-settlement.

Further advice can also be sought from the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage via https://achknowledge.dplh.wa.gov.au/ach-enquiry-form.

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Terminology

ID: ACH on the Register is assigned a unique ID by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage using the format: ACH-00000001. For ACH on the former Register the ID numbers remain unchanged and use the new format. For example the ACH ID of the place Swan River was previously '3536' and is now 'ACH-00003536'.

Access and Restrictions:

- Boundary Reliable (Yes/No): Indicates whether to the best knowledge of the Department, the location and extent of the ACH boundary is considered reliable.
- Boundary Restricted = No: Represents the actual location of the ACH as understood by the Department..
- Boundary Restricted = Yes: To preserve confidentiality the exact location and extent of the place is not displayed on the map. However, the shaded region (generally with an area of at least 4km²) provides a general indication of where the ACH is located. If you are a landowner and wish to find out more about the exact location of the place, please contact the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.
- Culturally Sensitive = No: Availability of information that the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage holds in relation to the ACH is not restricted in any way.
- Culturally Sensitive = Yes: Some of the information that the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage holds in relation to the ACH is restricted if it is considered culturally sensitive information. This information will only be made available if the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage receives written approval from the people who provided the information. To request access please contact via https://achknowledge.dplh.wa.gov.au/ach-enquiry-form.
- Culturally Sensitive Nature:
  - No Gender / Initiation Restrictions: Anyone can view the information.
  - Men only: Only males can view restricted information.
  - Women only: Only females can view restricted information.

Status:

- Register: Aboriginal cultural heritage places that are assessed as meeting Section 5 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.
- Lodged: Information which has been received in relation to an Aboriginal cultural heritage place, but is yet to be assessed under Section 5 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.
- Historic: Aboriginal heritage places assessed as not meeting the criteria of Section 5 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972. Includes places that no longer exist as a result of land use activities with existing approvals.

Place Type: The type of Aboriginal cultural heritage place. For example an artefact scatter place or engravings place.

Legacy ID: This is the former unique number that the former Department of Aboriginal Sites assigned to the place.

Coordinates

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Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System

List of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Lodged

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ID	Name	Boundary Restricted	Boundary Reliable	Culturally Sensitive	Culturally Sensitive Nature	Status	Place Type	Knowledge Holders	Legacy ID
4743	MUNGEDAR WELL	No	Yes	No	No Gender / Initiation Restrictions	Lodged	Artefacts / Scatter	*Registered Knowledge Holder names available from DPLH	

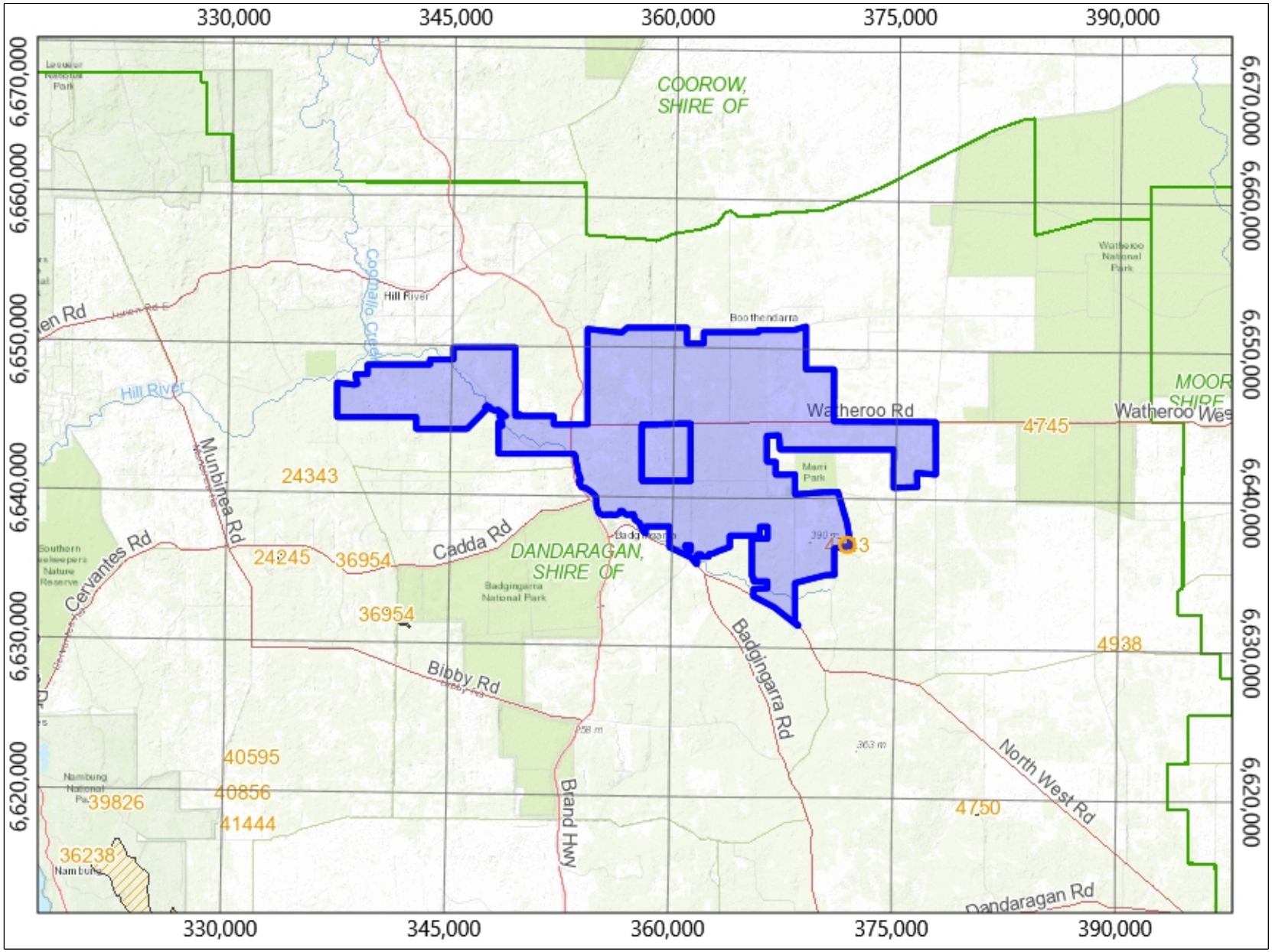
Department of **Planning, Lands and Heritage**

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System

Map of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Lodged

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Legend

- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Lodged
- Search Area
- Aboriginal Community
  - *Permanent*
  - *Seasonal*
  - *Town Based*
- Town
- Road
- River
- Local Government Authority

14.86 kilometres

Map Scale 1 : 450,000

MGA Zone 50 (GDA2020)

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Search Criteria

10 Heritage Surveys containing 10 Survey Areas in Shapefile - BOUND_OX2_SiteBoundary_260505_GDA20z50

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Very Good	Boundaries captured from surveyed titles, GPS (2001 onwards) submitted maps georeferenced to within 20m accuracy.
Good / Moderate	Boundaries captured from GPS (pre 2001) submitted maps georeferenced to within 250m accuracy.
Unreliable	Boundaries captured from submitted maps georeferenced to an accuracy exceeding 250m.
Indeterminate	Surveys submitted with insufficient information to allow boundary capture.

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Survey Report ID	Survey Area ID	Report Title	Report Authors	Year of Publication	Survey Program	Survey Type	Area Description	Spatial Accuracy	Field / Desktop
17059	13207	Dampier to Perth Natural Gas Pipeline Route: A Survey for Aboriginal Sites. March 1979.	Dept of Aboriginal Sites.			Archaeological/ Ethnographic	The survey area consists of the 1486km preferred route of the Dampier to Perth Natural Gas Pipeline. The survey extended from Dampier to Wagerup. The width of the survey corridor is not known. A default 5m width, either side of the centreline is assumed.	Unreliable	Field and Desktop
19019	18666	Summary report on Aboriginal heritage investigations proposed Dampier to Bunbury natural gas pipeline corridor widening project : prepared to assist the Aboriginal Cultural Material Committee	McDonald, Hales and Associates.			Archaeological/ Ethnographic	The survey area consists of an extension (widening) of the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline corridor.	Good	Field and Desktop
19023	15500	Report on Aboriginal heritage investigations : proposed DBNGP pipeline corridor widening project	McDonald, Hales and Associates.			Archaeological/ Ethnographic	DBNGP pipeline corridor widening project. Widening on each side of existing easement and proposed deviations as shown in Fig. 1	Good	Field and Desktop
23017	19632	Aboriginal Heritage study for 330kV Transmission Line upgrade Pinjar Substation to Eneabba Substation	Mattner, Joe			Archaeological/ Ethnographic	Upgrade 190km long and 60m width of transmission line from Pinjar to Eneabba.		Field and Desktop
23311	17680	Report on preliminary archaeological assessment of Stage 5A DBNGP Route, Loop 8	Australian Interaction Consultants			Archaeological	Stage 5A Dampier Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline Route, Loop 8 extending from 350252mE; 6648381mN to 367707mE; 6597590mN within the existing DBNGP corridor.	Good	Field and Desktop
23329	17968	Heritage Monitoring Report of sites within Loop 8 of DBNGP (Stage 5A) Western Australia	Australian Interaction Consultants			Ethnographic	Stage 5A Dampier Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline Route, Loop 8 extending from 350252mE; 6648381mN to 367707mE; 6597590mN within the existing DBNGP corridor.	Good	Field and Desktop

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Survey Report ID	Survey Area ID	Report Title	Report Authors	Year of Publication	Survey Program	Survey Type	Area Description	Spatial Accuracy	Field / Desktop
104086	14018	An archaeological survey of the Dampier to Perth natural gas pipeline route : section 5 Irwin River to Muchea	Pickering, Michael			Archaeological	Damiper to Perth Natural Gas Pipeline Route, Irwin River to Muchea. Section of the pipeline route between the 1045km point, 10 km south of the Irwin River and 18km southeast of Dongara, through to the 1314 km point, 6 km southwest of Muchea, a distance of	Unreliable	Field and Desktop
104162	14281	Report on an ethnographic survey of the proposed Telcom Australia optic fibre cable route : Perth/Geraldton region	O'Connor, R			Ethnographic	Optic fibre cable route, Perth/Geraldton region. From Perth to Binnu as shown in Fig. 1	Unreliable	Field and Desktop
106028	14794	Site avoidance survey under the Aboriginal Heritage Act (1972) of proposed deviations to the extended Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline Corridor	Sauman, Donald V			Archaeological/ Ethnographic	Proposed deviations to the extended Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline Corridor. 4 deviations were examined with a corridor of 100m as shown in Maps 1-4	Very Good	Field and Desktop
200803	11753	Report on a Section 18 Ethnographic Cultural Heritage Survey and Consultation of Bridge 0966 with Yued Traditional Owners for South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council, and prepared for Main Roads Western Australia	Asharlon Morison and Nell Taylor	2018		Ethnographic	Bridge 0966		Field and Desktop

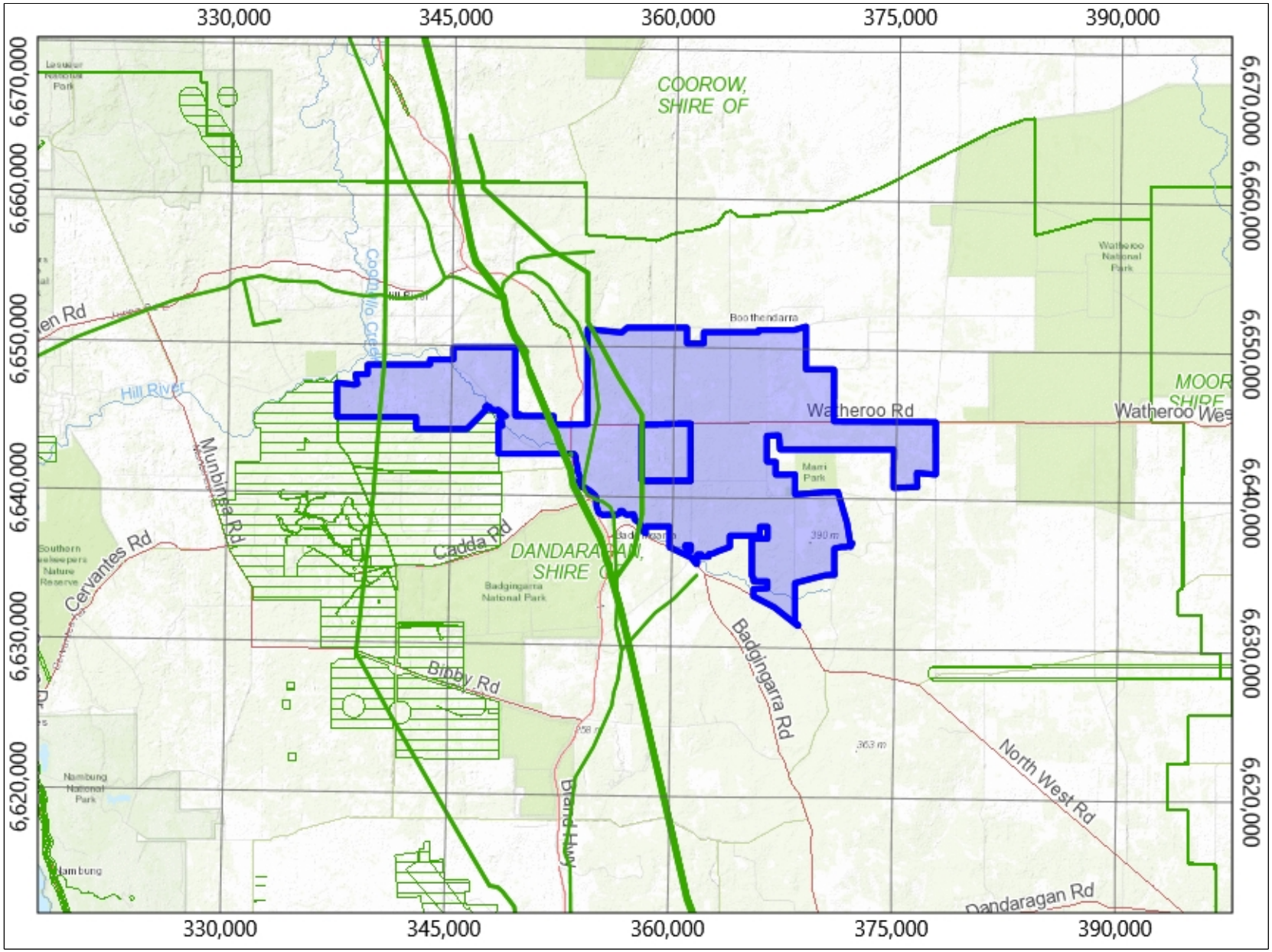
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GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System

Map of Heritage Survey Areas

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Legend

- Heritage Survey Area
- Search Area
- Aboriginal Community
  - *Permanent*
  - *Seasonal*
  - *Town Based*
- Town
- Road
- River
- Local Government Authority

14.86 kilometres

Map Scale 1 : 450,000

MGA Zone 50 (GDA2020)

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No Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Historic in Shapefile - BOUND_OX2_SiteBoundary_260505_GDA20z50

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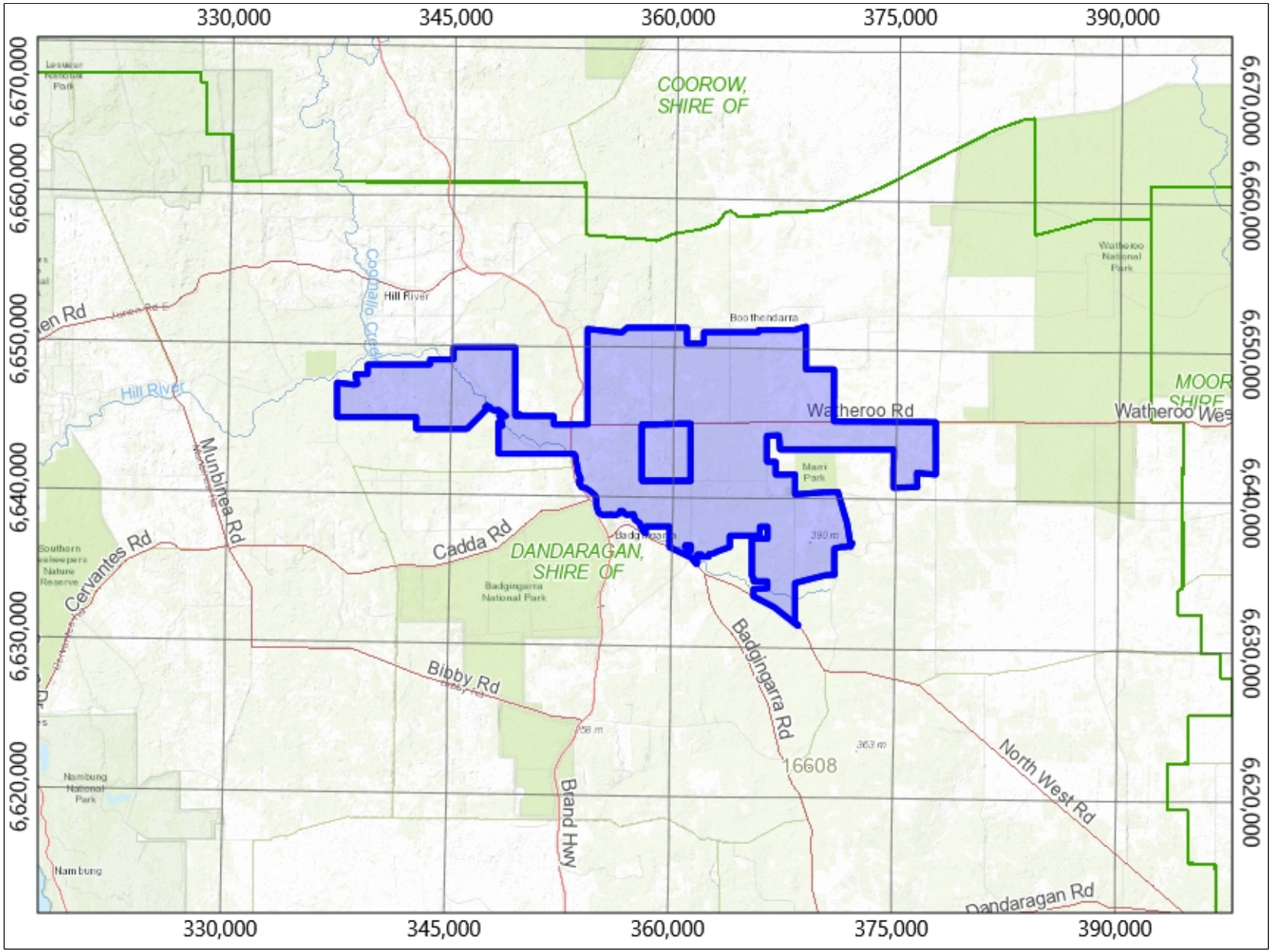
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GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System

Map of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Historic

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Legend

- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Historic
- Search Area
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14.86 kilometres

Map Scale 1 : 450,000

MGA Zone 50 (GDA2020)

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Terminology

ID: ACH on the Register is assigned a unique ID by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage using the format: ACH-00000001. For ACH on the former Register the ID numbers remain unchanged and use the new format. For example the ACH ID of the place Swan River was previously '3536' and is now 'ACH-00003536'.

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- **Boundary Restricted = No:** Represents the actual location of the ACH as understood by the Department..
- **Boundary Restricted = Yes:** To preserve confidentiality the exact location and extent of the place is not displayed on the map. However, the shaded region (generally with an area of at least 4km²) provides a general indication of where the ACH is located. If you are a landowner and wish to find out more about the exact location of the place, please contact the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage.
- **Culturally Sensitive = No:** Availability of information that the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage holds in relation to the ACH is not restricted in any way.
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- **Culturally Sensitive Nature:**
  - **No Gender / Initiation Restrictions:** *Anyone* can view the information.
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Status:

- **Register:** Aboriginal cultural heritage places that are assessed as meeting Section 5 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*.
- **Lodged:** Information which has been received in relation to an Aboriginal cultural heritage place, but is yet to be assessed under Section 5 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972.*
- **Historic:** Aboriginal heritage places assessed as not meeting the criteria of Section 5 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*. Includes places that no longer exist as a result of land use activities with existing approvals.

Place Type: The type of Aboriginal cultural heritage place. For example an artefact scatter place or engravings place.

Legacy ID: This is the former unique number that the former Department of Aboriginal Sites assigned to the place.

Coordinates

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List of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Register

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ID	Name	Boundary Restricted	Boundary Reliable	Culturally Sensitive	Culturally Sensitive Nature	Status	Place Type	Knowledge Holders	Legacy ID
17118	JB1 SITE	No	Yes	No	No Gender / Initiation Restrictions	Register	Camp	*Registered Knowledge Holder names available from DPLH	

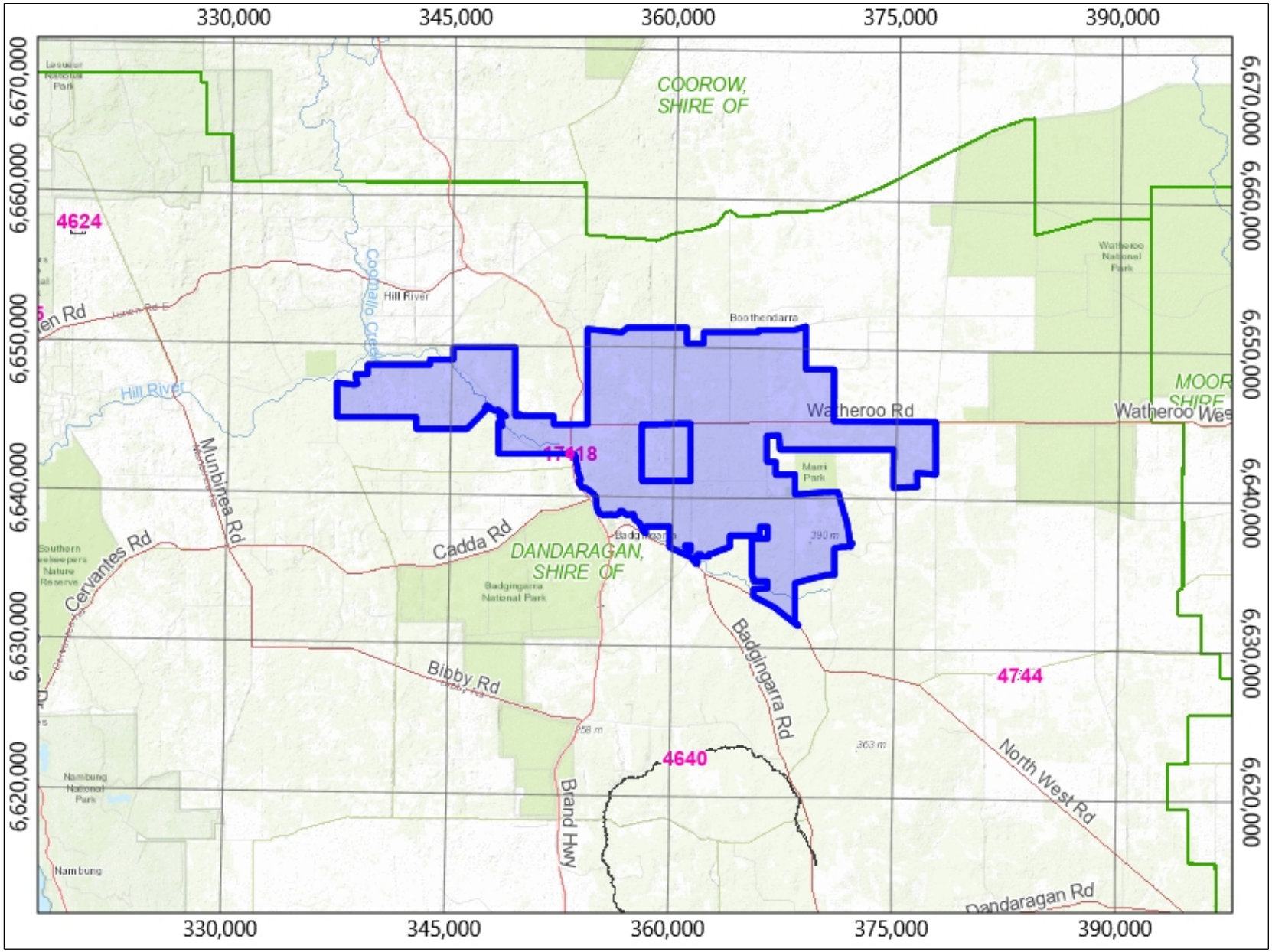
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GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Inquiry System

Map of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (ACH) Register

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  - *Permanent*
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- Town
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- Local Government Authority

14.86 kilometres

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Appendix B

Consultation

A meeting was held with representatives of the Yued Aboriginal Corporation on 27 March 2025 to introduce the Project and discuss matters relating to cultural heritage and future engagement. The heritage agenda focused on a discussion around fieldwork and understanding both tangible and intangible cultural values associated with the Project Area. In attendance were:

- Representatives of the Yued Aboriginal Corporation (YAC): Rewi Lyell (CEO), Lei Zhang (Land and Heritage Manager), Marni Tonkin (Anthropologist), Matilda Black (Lands and Heritage Spatial Officer).
- OX2: Catherine Way (Co-Vice President), Grace Stewart (Senior Development Manager).
- Fremantle Renewables: Michael Horko (OX2 representative).
- Energise Renewables: Richard Campbell (Senior Manager, First Nations Engagement), Raquel Carter (Head of WA).
- Umwelt: Narelle (Heritage Consultant/ Archaeologist).

The following table outlines the heritage agenda items discussed during the meeting and summarises the key outcomes from each discussion point.

Table B.1 Heritage Agenda Items Discussed

Agenda Item	Outcomes
Availability for Fieldwork Yued People's availability for upcoming fieldwork was discussed to support forward planning and ensure alignment with their capacity to be on Country for project surveys	It was noted that the Yued People have limited availability in 2025. Before any discussions regarding fieldwork can proceed, OX2 must sign the Yued Heritage Protection Agreement (YHPA). The YHPA outlines the process by which proposed Project activities are reviewed. Under this agreement, proponents are required to submit an Activity Notice, which is then assessed by YAC Cultural Advice Committee (CAC). The CAC provides recommendations to YAC's management team to ensure cultural heritage is appropriately identified and protected. Additionally, it was acknowledged that a formal relationship between YAC and OX2 must be established through the development of a Negotiation Protocol. YAC requires both the Negotiation Protocol and a Relationship Agreement to be in place before further engagement on the Project can occur. While the Negotiation Protocol template will be provided by the CEO of YAC, the Relationship Agreement will be developed collaboratively between OX2 and YAC. At the time of the meeting, it was too early to confirm survey dates (and subject to YHPA, Negotiation Protocol and a Relationship Agreement). YAC advised that the Yued People do not have capacity in the near future due to existing commitments with other wind farm projects. OX2 should be aware that survey work is unlikely to proceed quickly.
Resourcing To understand typical resourcing for surveys, including the number of Yued representatives who usually participate	While specific numbers were not provided, it was noted that both Yued men and women typically participate in surveys to ensure all aspects of cultural heritage are addressed. Representatives are selected from families with cultural connections to the area.

Agenda Item	Outcomes
Preliminary Findings and Project Area Concerns To discuss any preliminary concerns about the Project Area	Preliminary findings from the desktop research were presented, indicating that the Project Area encompasses areas of high cultural significance, including both tangible and intangible heritage values. Several registered and lodged cultural heritage sites exist within the Project Area, as defined under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*. Participants were invited to provide initial feedback on any known or anticipated cultural or heritage concerns relating to the area. During the meeting, it was acknowledged that the sites listed under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* do not reflect the full extent of Yued cultural heritage values. The discussion highlighted the intangible cultural significance of waterways, which are deeply interconnected and culturally important. In response, YAC recommended that broad-scale cultural heritage surveys, rather than targeted ones, will be necessary to appropriately identify and protect these values. YAC expressed appreciation that intangible heritage was recognised in the preliminary findings. They emphasised the importance of waterways and their interconnections, noting that these cultural pathways extend across much of the Project Area and will require careful consideration. It was also acknowledged that YAC would need time to review the Project information and undertake its own preliminary assessment of the area, including relevant previous surveys. Additionally, YAC noted that once the YHPA, Negotiation Protocol and a Relationship Agreement is signed, future consultation with YAC and Yued People representatives will provide opportunities to discuss the cultural values associated with the Project Area.
Fieldwork Structure and Methodology To discuss what the field team structure looks like and the type of fieldwork methodology the Yued representatives like to use on Country	The structure of the survey team (e.g. senior and junior representatives) and methodology for field survey was not discussed in detail at this meeting.

Cultural Advice Committee Meeting

On 5 February 2026, OX2 presented at the Cultural Advice Committee (CAC) meeting to:

- Introduce the Dinner Hill Wind Farm and Harvest BESS projects to members of the CAC.
- Discuss the Activity Notice(s) of the Dinner Hill Wind Farm and Harvest BESS projects.
- Explain the expected ecological impacts of the Dinner Hill Wind Farm and Harvest BESS projects.

In attendance were members of the CAC, Marnie Tonkin (YAC Heritage Manager), Rewi Lyell (YAC CEO), Catherine Way (OX2 Director of Development), Bernadette Holland (OX2 Community and Stakeholder Engagement Manager) and Grace Stewart (OX2 Senior Development Manager).

Cultural Advice Committee Site Visit

On 1 July 2026, OX2 facilitated a site visit for the CAC. The site visit commenced with a Project update and included a visit to the BESS location, the location of where some areas of potential ACH sites were identified during Project surveys, and a drive through on Watheroo Road and Cantabilling Road to introduce the extent of the Dinner Hill Wind Farm.

In attendance were members of the CAC, Marnie Tonkin (YAC Heritage Manager), Bernadette Holland (OX2 Community and Stakeholder Engagement Manager) and Grace Stewart (OX2 Senior Development Manager).

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