Waddi Wind Farm

Fact Sheet
July
2025

Biodiversity Fact Sheet

The Waddi Wind Farm is located 150 km north of Perth in the Shire of Dandaragan. The Project would help reduce Western Australia's carbon footprint by generating up to 108 MW of clean energy when constructed. That's enough to power up to 68,000 homes per year, avoiding 286,000 tonnes in carbon emissions annually.

The Project would also help generate local employment and bring broader community benefits during construction and operation.

This fact sheet summarises the potential impacts on native vegetation, birds and other animals. It also describes how the Project plans to manage or reduce these impacts.

The Approved Project

The Waddi Wind Farm Project first received planning approval from the Shire of Dandaragan in January 2012. Since then, several amendments have been approved, mainly focusing on the design and layout of the turbines and electrical transmission infrastructure.

The Project has 18 wind turbines, each one up to 220 metres tall. It is situated on largely cleared cropping land with the turbines located to minimise impacts on farm operations as well as our neighbours.

The EPBC Act and the Project

The Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) is Australia's primary environmental law. The EPBC Act protects significant animals, plants, habitats, and places, collectively known as protected matters. There are nine protected matters under the EPBC Act.

The Project was assessed against two key categories in the EPBC Act:

- **Listed threatened species and listed ecological communities**
- **Listed migratory species (protected under international agreements)**

You can read our referral on the EPBC Public Portal here:

What steps are involved in the EPBC referral process?

The EPBC referral process involves several steps, as shown in **Figure 1**. We have submitted the Project's referral, which outlines potential impacts on threatened species, ecological communities, and migratory species, along with our plans to avoid or mitigate these impacts.

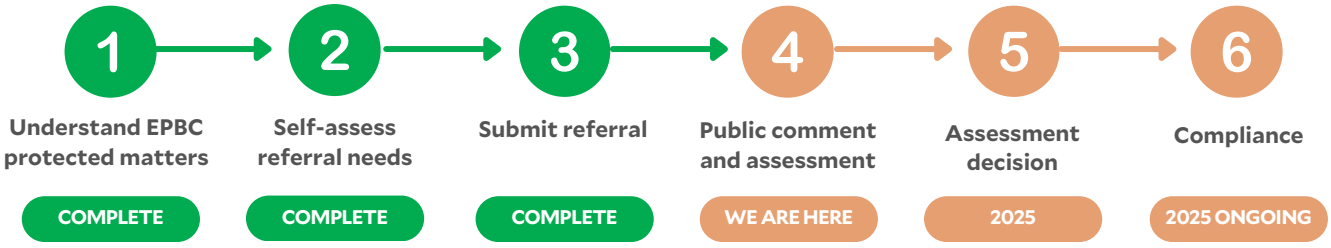

Figure 1: EPBC referral process

What ecological studies were undertaken for the Project?

Level 1 targeted vegetation and flora assessment

Spring flora and vegetation survey and black cockatoo habitat survey

Supplementary flora and vegetation assessment

Reconnaissance flora and vegetation assessment

Avifauna assessment (birds in the locality)

What will the Project do to local biodiversity?

The Project is unlikely to impact most threatened or migratory animals. Likewise, the Project is unlikely to impact any threatened plant species listed under the EPBC Act.

However, there will still be impacts on plants and animals that need to be managed. The next section explains these impacts. Following that we have included a list of the key activities to manage these impacts.

Potential impacts that need to be managed

Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (Zanda latirostris)

The Carnaby's Black Cockatoo is at risk from loss of foraging, breeding, and roosting habitats, as well as possible harm from turbine collisions. They could also be harmed by construction activities or even avoid the wind farm area.

Star Sun-Orchid (Thelymitra stellata)

The Project won't directly harm the Star Sun-Orchid but it could be impacted by construction, for example if large volumes of dust land on in.

Banksia woodlands

There could be a minor loss of Banksia Woodlands on site.

Chuditch (Dasyurus geoffroii)

The Chuditch could lose suitable habitat as well as be impacted directly from vegetation clearing, construction activities and Project traffic.

Migratory species

Most birds found in the Project area were common species. However, five migratory species under the EPBC Act could be found in or near the Project.

These are the **common sandpiper, common greenshank, red-necked stint, and sharp-tailed sandpiper** (all waterbirds). Individuals or small numbers of these bird could use local wetlands and potentially fly through the area.

The **Fork-Tailed Swift** is also likely to visit the site intermittently. This bird usually flies at great heights and is usually able to avoid on ground construction activities. During operation, however, should a bird visit the site, they are at risk of colliding with turbine blades.

Moodjar trees

Moodjar trees hold special significance for the Yued People.

The trees are common around the south-west regions of Western Australia with several found on site.

Tilt Renewables is working with the Yued Aboriginal Corporation to identify Moodjar trees in the region and develop solutions to mitigate and minimise impacts. Further details on this approach will be detailed in the Cultural Heritage Management Plan.

Managing our impact

The Project has located most infrastructure in disturbed areas to avoid impacts on flora and fauna.

However, like all infrastructure projects, we still have an impact. We will further manage these impacts through:

- Using existing tracks for access, especially those already damaged by grazing and livestock trampling.
- Avoiding vegetation near water, land, and drainage lines, and placing the nearest transmission pole outside of the streamline. The number of trees removed will be limited, with 61 Marri trees kept surrounding Mullering Brook that are potential black cockatoo nesting trees, including 11 with suitable breeding hollows.
- Aligning an upgraded access track which intersect Waddi Road, to avoid star sun-orchid locations.
- Running the 132 kV transmission line overhead along Brand Highway to avoid clearing Banksia Low Open Woodland vegetation.

Wherever practicable, the Project will retain native vegetation with:

149.8 ha of all native vegetation retained (96%)

74.7 ha of potential black cockatoo foraging habitat retained (94%)

124 potential black cockatoo nesting trees retained (98%)

942 potential roosting trees retained (96%)

Before clearing any vegetation, we will also:

- Survey and clearly mark the boundary of the Indicative Disturbance area.
- Save the topsoil and cleared vegetation for later rehabilitation, working with land managers throughout this process.
- Rehabilitate temporarily disturbed areas, such as the electrical underground cabling, access track batters, and around the turbine footprints.

During construction, dust control measures will be implemented to prevent excessive dust along access tracks and during clearing activities. Each of these activities will be supported by the following management plans:

Hygiene Protocol

Fire Management Plan

Construction Environment Management Plan

Avian Fauna Collision Monitoring Program

Traffic Management Plan

For more information please visit the project website or contact us:
Website: www.waddiwindfarm.com.au
Email: waddiwindfarm@tiltrenewables.com | **Phone:** 1800 WE TILT (1800 938 458)