

**PEMBROKE**

**Olive Downs Coking Coal Project**

Additional Information to the  
Environmental Impact Statement

**Section 9**

**Matters of National  
Environmental Significance  
– Australian Painted Snipe**

## 9 MNES – AUSTRALIAN PAINTED SNIPE

### 1. ***Provide information on how the residual significant impact of 120 ha for the Australian Painted Snipe will be adequately compensated by the proposed offset.***

At the time Pembroke originally lodged the draft EIS (i.e. 18 May 2018) it was not proposed to provide an offset for the removal of potential habitat for the Australian Painted Snipe.

As part of its review of the May 2018 version of the draft EIS, DEE indicated that it did not agree with this conclusion and recommended that an offset be provided. Pembroke subsequently included an offset for the Australian Painted Snipe in the revised draft EIS lodged on 27 July 2018.

Despite this amendment to the July 2018 draft EIS, DEE subsequently provided the following comment during the public exhibition period:

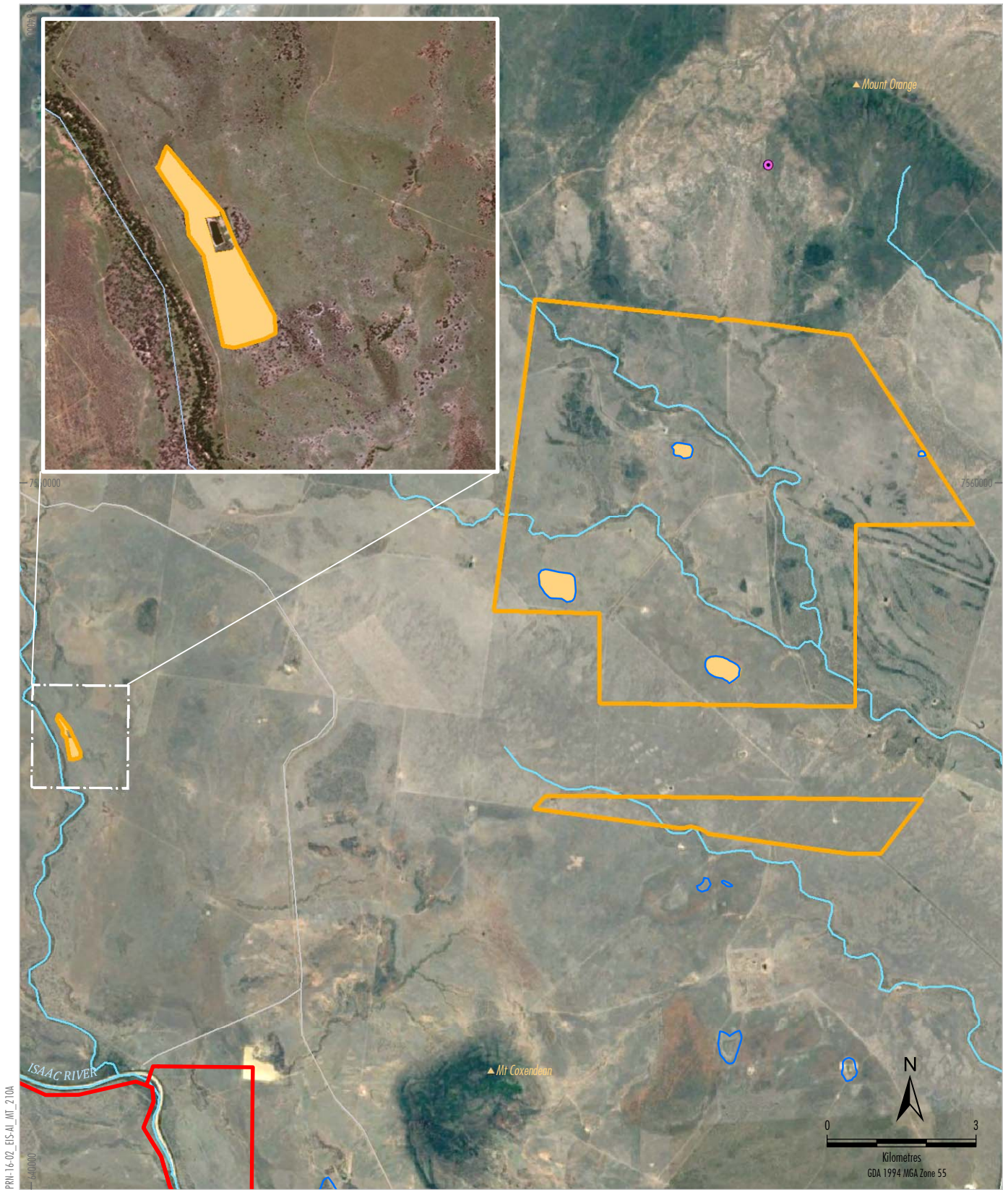
*The Department considers the unavoidable loss of 120 ha of known habitat for an endangered species is likely to result in a residual significant impact. The draft Offsets Strategy does not demonstrate how the unavoidable loss of 120 ha of known habitat for the Australian Painted Snipe will be adequately compensated for in accordance with the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy (2012).*








As outlined in Section 3.7 of the draft EIS, a staged Biodiversity Offset Strategy (BOS) has been developed for the Project in accordance with the *EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy* (DSEWPC, 2012a) (Section 10). As described in Section 3.7 of the draft EIS, Pembroke will provide an offset for the total residual significant impact for the Australian Painted Snipe, to be delivered in four stages throughout the life of the mine. The proposed staged delivery would allow for provision of an appropriate offset prior to the commencement of works relevant to each stage. The four stages are proposed as:

- Stage 1 – 2019 to 2024.
- Stage 2 – 2025 to 2030.
- Stage 3 – 2031 to 2050.
- Stage 4 – 2051 to end of mine.

At the time of writing (i.e. January 2019) Pembroke had acquired three local properties which provide areas of land and habitat available for use as biodiversity offsets. The acquisition of these properties enables Pembroke to offer a land-based offset area for the impacts proposed during Stage 1 of the Project with 100% certainty.

The Stage 1 Impact Area would result in the clearance of approximately 21 ha of Australian Painted Snipe habitat, comprising lacustrine and palustrine wetlands (Table 9-1). The Stage 1 Offset Area contains approximately 86 ha of habitat for the Australian Painted Snipe (Figure 9-1) thereby enabling an impact to offset ratio of greater than 1:4.



LEGEND	
	Mining Lease Application Boundary
	Stage 1 Biodiversity Offset Area
	Peaks
	Dwelling
	Wetlands
Threatened Species Records (Common Name)	
	Australian Painted Snipe
	Breeding Habitat for Australian Painted Snipe

Source: DPM (2018), Pembroke (2018), Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (2017)  
 Orthophoto: Google Image (2016)



OLIVE DOWNS COKING COAL PROJECT  
 Threatened Species Habitat Mapping  
 Australian Painted Snipe

Figure 9-1

**Table 9-1  
Approximate Area of Australian Painted Snipe Habitat Clearance**

Project Stage	Approximate Area of Australian Painted Snipe Habitat Clearance	Proposed Offset
Stage 1 (2019 to 2024)	21 ha	86 ha
Stage 2 (2025 to 2030)	24 ha	To be specified prior to the commencement of works for each stage, and in accordance with the BOS. Of the lands currently available to Pembroke, some 225 ha of existing habitat would be available for use as an offset with additional areas likely to become available as a result of the implementation of relevant land management practices.
Stage 3 (2031 to 2050)	50 ha	
Stage 4 (2051 to end of mine)	25 ha	
<b>Total</b>	<b>120 ha</b>	

It is considered likely that the residual significant impacts to the Australian Painted Snipe for subsequent stages of the Project (i.e. Stages 2 to 4 which include clearance of an additional 99 ha of habitat) could be offset given that:

- wetland habitats are mapped as occurring widely in the surrounding locality (Figure 9-2); and
- Pembroke owns three land holdings in the vicinity of the Project, parts of which could become biodiversity offsets for the future stages of the Project. These include the Twenty Mile, Iffley and Deverill properties (Figure 9-2).

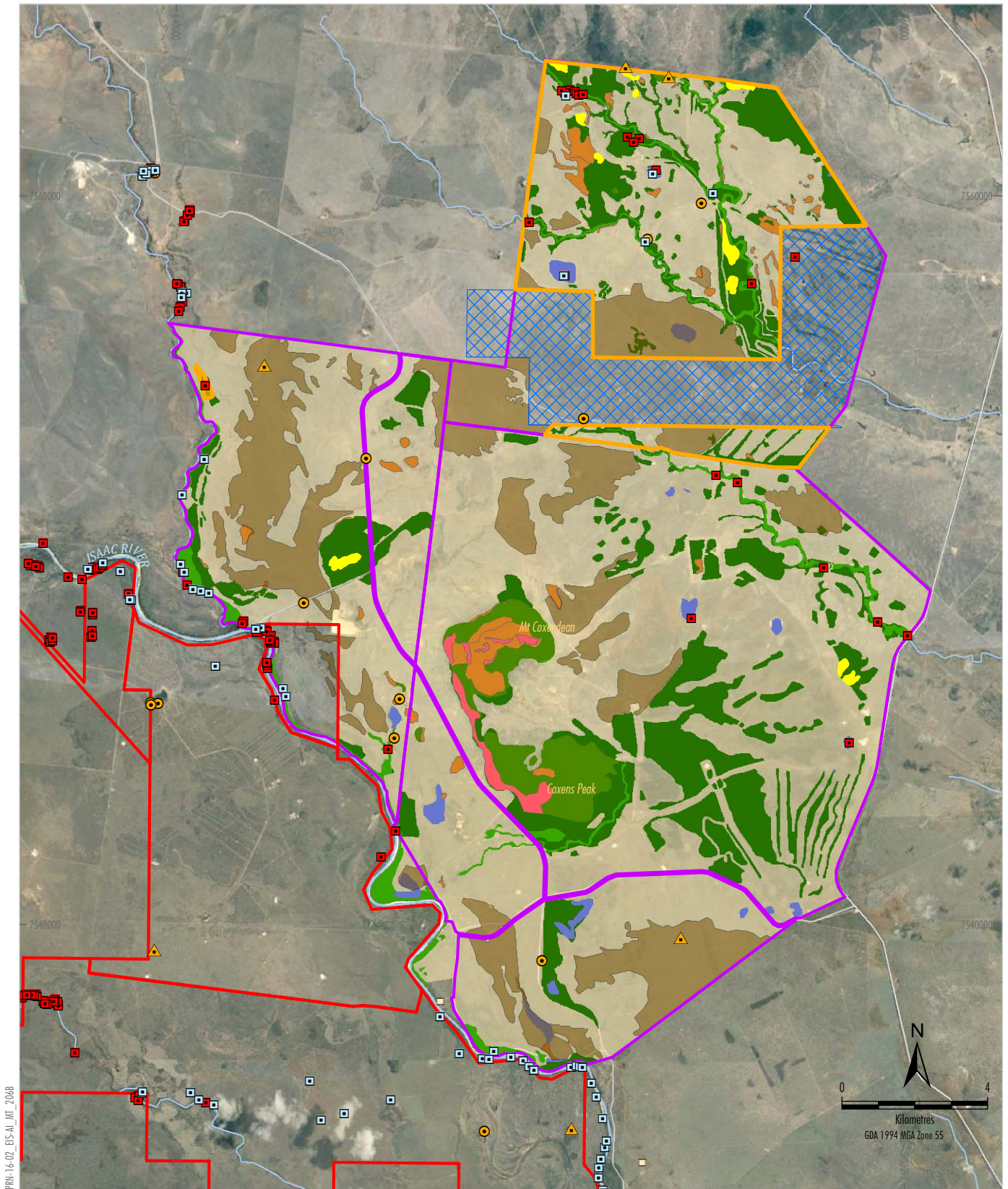
Further to this, in order to obtain the greatest benefit to the offset strategy, Pembroke proposes to manage the additional lands within the Twenty Mile, Iffley and Deverill properties to increase the quality and extent of potential suitable habitat for fauna species listed under the EPBC Act, including the Australian Painted Snipe. Management measures would be described in the BOS and include:

- revegetation activities to increase the extent of potential habitat;
- control of grazing regime to prevent further degradation of habitat;
- feral animal control to reduce predator pressures (particularly from cats and foxes) and habitat degradation (particularly by feral pigs); and
- reducing weed cover (reducing indirect threats that affect habitat quality).

Implementation of these measures would enable Pembroke to increase the habitat available for use as biodiversity offset for the Australian Painted Snipe, in particular for the later stages of the Project. This type of strategy makes it highly likely that by the scheduled commencement of Stage 4 (i.e. 30 years of implementation of these measures) all offset requirements could be satisfied within the properties owned by Pembroke.

It should be noted that Pembroke is currently in negotiations regarding a potential land-swap regarding a portion of the lands outside the Stage 1 Offset Area.

The BOS, which has been prepared by Pembroke in accordance with the *EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy* (DSEWPC, 2012a), describes the offset strategy aimed at addressing residual impacts on matters of national environmental significance (including the Australian Painted Snipe). The BOS provides a detailed description of the Stage 1 Offset Area (including proposed management measures and a schedule of conservation commitments), along with an overview of the offsetting options available for the subsequent stages of the Project. The BOS is discussed further in Section 10.



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- LEGEND**
- Mining Lease Application Area
  - Pembroke Owned Properties
  - Stage 1 Biodiversity Offset Area
  - MDL 3023
- Ground Truthed Broad Vegetation Group**
- Eucalypt open forest to woodlands on floodplains
  - Eucalypt dry woodlands on inland depositional plains
  - Eucalypt woodlands to open forests
  - Palustrine wetlands
  - Acacia dominated open forests, woodlands and shrublands
  - Lacustrine wetlands (habitat for Australian Painted Snipe)
  - Rainforests and scrubs
  - Regrowth Vegetation

- Light to medium clay with gilgai
  - Brigalow TEC
- Threatened Species Records (Common Name)**
- ▲ Ornamental Snake
  - Koala
  - Greater Glider
  - Australian Painted Snipe
  - Squatter Pigeon

Source: DPM (2018), Pembroke (2018), Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (2017)  
 Orthophoto: Google Image (2016)

**PEMBROKE**  
**OLIVE DOWNS COKING COAL PROJECT**  
**Presence of MNES on Pembroke**  
**Owned Properties**

**Figure 9-2**