

**ORDER ISSUED TO:** 

Order Number: CCMS Case Ref. No.: Issue Date: Property: DOC21/341878 20100180 10 May 2021

# ORDER TO CARRY OUT REMEDIATION WORK UNDER SECTION 11.15 OF THE *BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION* ACT 2016 (NSW)

BY: Registered Post and Email -

Date of issue: 10 May 2021

**Who are we:** The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has responsibilities regarding the administration and enforcement of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (NSW) (**the BC Act**) and its associated Regulations, and responsibilities regarding the enforcement of Part 5A of the *Local Land Services Act 2013* (NSW) (**the LLS Act**) and the Regulations under that Part.

Why we serve remediation orders: Pursuant to section 11.15 of the BC Act, if the Environment Agency Head (the Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment) is satisfied that an area, habitat, plant, animal or native vegetation as specified in section 11.15(1) has been damaged in or as a result of the commission of an offence against the BC Act or regulations or against Part 5A of the LLS Act or regulations, the Environment Agency Head may order a person to carry out specified remediation work in a specified manner and within a specified time.

What you are required to do: The works required by this remediation order provide for the control, abatement and mitigation of the damage and/or maintenance, remediation, restoration of the damaged area of the Property. Section 11.16(2) of the BC Act requires you to carry out remediation work required by this Order.

When are you required to act: Immediately from the Date of issue.

What happens if you don't comply: It is an offence against section 11.22 of the BC Act to contravene this Order without reasonable excuse or to intentionally obstruct anyone carrying our remediation work under this Order. Contravention of this Order has a maximum penalty of Tier 2. The maximum penalty that a court may impose for a Tier 2 offence is \$660,000 (plus \$66,000 for each day the offence continues) for a corporation, and \$132,000 (plus \$13,200 for each day the offence continues) for an individual.

What your appeal rights are: Section 11.23(1) of the BC Act allows for a person given a remediation order to appeal against the giving of the Order (or any terms of the Order) to the NSW Land and Environment Court within 30 days of the service of the Order. However, even if an appeal is lodged, you must comply with this Order, unless the Court orders otherwise. More information on appeals can be found on the NSW Land and Environment Court website <a href="http://www.lec.justice.nsw.gov.au">http://www.lec.justice.nsw.gov.au</a>.



## **1. DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT OBSERVATIONS**

The Department is investigating a report of unauthorised clearing of native vegetation in an approved Remediation Direction area on the Property between April and June 2019.

Under the Local Land Services Act 2013, Division 3 *Regulation of clearing of native vegetation in regulated rural areas*, it is an offence pursuant to Section 60N of the LLS Act to conduct unauthorised clearing of native vegetation in a regulated rural area.

Information and evidence obtained to date, including information collected during a site inspection, information from an interview, assessment of available imagery and conversations with you indicates that damage occurred on the Property to Category 2 regulated native vegetation within an approved Remediation Direction area. The native vegetation was damaged between April 2019 and June 2019. The damage caused to native vegetation within the approved Remediation Direction area comprised of broadscale clearing of regenerating native vegetation. Information and evidence obtained to date indicates that none of the available defences listed in the BC Act and/or Part 5A LLS Act and associated regulations in relation to the offence apply.

The Remediation Area is designated on the in force Native Vegetation Regulatory Map, prepared pursuant to Division 2 of the LLS Act, as Category 2 – Sensitive Regulated Land.

The NVR Map Method Statement explains the scientific and analytical method used to develop the NVR Map in accordance with requirements of the Local Lands Service Act (2013) (LLS Act) and the LLS Regulation. (https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/bcact/native-vegetation-regulatory-map-method-170495.pdf)

Land is mapped to each category on the basis of past clearing or disturbance events, as detected by satellite and aerial imagery, and updated land use data. In limited situations, the legislation may specify criteria to override any previous analyses changing the original designation specified by the map method. The method statement does not otherwise assess the type, condition or environmental value of vegetation.

Part 5A of the Local Lands Service Act (2013) (LLS Act) and the LLS Regulation specifies legislative criteria to be applied to make the two sub-categories of Category 2 regulated land (Category 2 – sensitive regulated land and category 2 – vulnerable regulated land). These areas on the map include (but are not limited to) land with significant biodiversity value, land vulnerable to erosion, offset areas or agreement areas.

For more information on the NVR Map see the About the Native Vegetation Regulatory Map Factsheet.



## 2. REASONS FOR VIEW FORMED

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- , Senior Team Leader, am satisfied that the following has been damaged:
- a) native vegetation on category 2-regulated land under Part 5A of the LLS Act, namely, 1.43 hectares, within an approved Remediation Direction area at the second second

in or as a result of the commission of an offence against Section 60N of the *Local Land Services Act 2013*. In order to:

a) maintain, remediate or restore the damaged area, habitat, plant, animal or vegetation concerned.

I, Senior Team Leader, order **Constant (the Remediator)** to carry out the following remediation work on the Property within the time specified, if any, for each work, or where no time is specified, for a period of **fifteen (15) years from the date of this Order**.

Senior Team Leader holds delegated authority on behalf of the Environment Agency Head for the purposes of section 11.15 of the BC Act.

## 3. REQUIREMENTS – WHAT YOU MUST DO TO COMPLY

In this Order, Remediation Area means – refer to an attached map.

This Order must be complied with from the date of the Order for the Term.

#### 3.1 General Requirements

- 3.1.1 By 30/06/2021you must remove all stock from the Remediation Area, control stock and prevent them from entering the Remediation Area for the duration of the Order.
- 3.1.2 By 31/07/2021you must remove all agricultural infrastructure from the Remediation Area, including weed mat, and all irrigation materials such as water pipes, pumps and water flow meters. The mounds constructed for blueberry planting must be ripped and spread evenly over the Remediation Area.
- 3.1.3 By 31/07/2021 you must remove all waste materials from the Remediation area, including but not limited to; plastic, water pipes, pumps, flow meters, tyres, and empty containers.
- 3.1.4 By 31/07/2021 you must remove and prevent weeds by using selective methods of poisoning and manual removal. You must undertake weed control every 13 weeks from 31/07/2021.
- 3.1.5 By 31/07/2021 you must abate human disturbances to the Remediation Area.
- 3.1.6 In order to achieve compliance with requirements 3.1.2 and 3.1.3, erosion and sediment mitigation devices are to be erected in a manner consistent with the currently accepted Best Management Practice (i.e. Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction 4<sup>th</sup> Edition Landcom, 2004) to prevent the entry of sediment into sensitive environmental receivers, or mobilisation of sediment within the remediation area, prior to any works being undertaken. These



are to be maintained in good working order for the whole duration of the remediation order works and subsequently until the remediation area has been stabilised and the risk of erosion and sediment movement from the site is minimal. In particular:

a. a sediment fence is to be erected along the remediation area. The fence is to be of sufficient length and arrangement to capture all sediment that may wash towards water land from the remediation area.

b. sediment fences are to be kept in place after work is complete. They are to be removed once the site has been stabilised and the risk of sediment movement is minimal.

*Reason – To ensure that sediment generated by the exposure of soil is not transported away from the landholding.* 

- 3.1.7 By 30/06/2021you must erect signage so that any person entering the Remediation Area becomes aware of the Remediation Area and does not use the land in a manner that would contradict this. The Remediator must erect and install a sign on the exterior of the fence on the eastern boundary of the Remediation Area as follows:
  - 450mm by 300mm size;
  - constructed of aluminium
  - in accordance with the design at Attachment 3;
  - in a position which is clearly visible from the main access track to the Remediation area and also from the blueberry areas.
- 3.1.8 You must inform all purchasers of the land of this Order.
- 3.1.9 You must notify the Environment Agency Head within **14 days** if you intend on selling the land subject to this Order.

## 3.2 Reporting Requirements

- 3.2.1 By 30/06/2021 you must submit a letter or email outlining your compliance with 3.1 General Requirements of the Remediation Order.
- 3.2.2 By 30/06/2021 you must submit a completed Annual Monitoring Report form. You must submit a letter or email outlining your ongoing compliance with 3.1 General Requirements of the Remediation Order and every year on the 30/06 for the duration of the Order. Reports to be sent either by email to northeast@environment.nsw.gov.au or by Registered Post to:

Senior Team Leader, Compliance and Regulation Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Locked Bag 914, Coffs Harbour NSW 2450

## 4. AN EXAMPLE OF HOW YOU CAN COMPLY

One way of achieving compliance with this Order would be to:

- 1. Construct a stock proof wire fence around the boundary of the remediation area by 30/06/2021.
- 2. Remove all stock from the remediation area by 30/05/2021.



- 3. Controlling weeds by selectively poisoning and manually removing weeds 4 times per year.
- 4. Prevent human disturbances to the remediation area for the duration of the Order, with the exception of work required for the management of weeds.
- 5. Send in completed annual monitoring report and other reporting by 30/06 and every year thereafter.

## DEFINITIONS

In this Order, the following definitions apply:

Term	Definition	
BC Act	The Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016.	
Damage	Damage has the same meaning as defined in section 11.14 of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .	
The Department	The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.	
LLS Act	The Local Land Services Act 2013.	
Native vegetation	Has the same meaning as defined in Part 5A of the <i>Local Land Services Act</i> 2013.	
Order	This document: Remediation Order issued under section 11.15 of the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .	
Remediation Area	The areas located on the Property shown schematically on the map in Attachment 1 outlined in red and marked "Remediation Area" being parts of	
Remediator		
Reporting period	Reporting period means each annual period from the commencement of this Order.	
Term	Means the duration of this Order.	
The Property		
Weed	Means a plant that is a pest as defined by section 15 of the Biosecurity Act 2015	



## WARNING AND INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ORDER

- If you fail to comply with this Order the Environment Agency Head or his/her Delegate may authorise any other person to enter the Property and carry out all of part of the work and may then recover the cost from you (section 11.18 of the BC Act).
- If you fail to comply with this Order, any person may seek an order from the NSW Land and Environment Court requiring you to rectify that breach of the legislation (section 13.14 of the BC Act).
- This Order is issued under section 11.15 of the BC Act.
- Under section 11.15(4) of the BC Act this Order may be varied or revoked by a further order.
- Under section 13.11 of the BC Act, your obligation to comply with the requirements of this Order continues until the Order is complied with, even if the due date for compliance has passed.
- The Department may conduct inspections to determine whether this Order is being complied with.
- Words and expressions have the same meaning as words and expressions used in the BC Act or Part 5A of the LLS Act (as the case may be), except where a word is specifically defined in this Order.
- A Remediation Order will not negate the potential for enforcement action (including penalty notice or prosecution) under the BC Act or LLS Act. A Remediation Order is separate to any potential enforcement action.

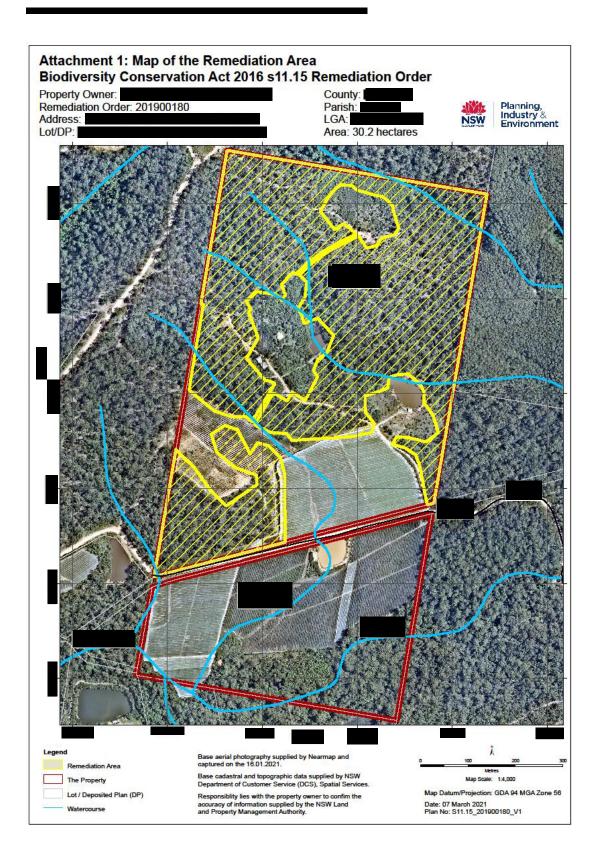


Senior Team Leader Compliance and Regulation, North East Biodiversity & Conservation Division

#### Attachment:

- 1. Attachment 1: Map of the Remediation Area, Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 s11.15 Remediation Order
- 2. Attachment 2: Annual monitoring reporting form
- 3. Attachment 3: Signage alerting persons to the Remediation Area







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## 3. Future remediation work required

Signed: Name:

Position:

## Signature and certification

I / We declare and certify that the information in this monitoring report is true and correct.

Signature:	Signature:
Name:	Name:
Position:	Position:
Date: / /	Date: / /



## **ATTACHMENT 3**

Design of sign

This is a remediation area maintained in accordance with a remediation order issued under section 11.15 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* 

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