

Site-specific biodiversity condition for Greater Gliders in the Coastal IFOA region

I, Tony Chappel, Chief Executive Officer of the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA), for and behalf of the EPA, amend the site-specific biodiversity condition titled 'Site-specific biodiversity condition for Greater Gliders in the Coastal IFOA region' issued to Forestry Corporation of NSW on 8 February 2024 by replacing all of the conditions therein with this site-specific biodiversity condition, pursuant to condition 21.5 and Protocol 31.3 of the Integrated Forestry Operations Approval for the Coastal IFOA region (the **approval**) dated 16 November 2018.

Interpretation

1. Terms in this document have the same meaning as in the **approval**, except where the contrary intention appears. Terms in bold and italics are as defined in Protocol 39 of the **approval**.
2. In addition to the terms defined in the **approval**, the following definitions apply in this document:
Eden Greater Glider zone means the area attributed as 'Eden greater glider zone' and mapped in the 'Greater_Glider' **spatial dataset**

Greater Glider tree means a live tree with a **diameter at breast height** equal to or greater than:

- a. 80 cm in the **higher density Greater Glider zone**; and
- b. 50 cm in the **lower density Greater Glider zone, Eden Greater Glider zone and north coast Greater Glider zone**.

higher density Greater Glider zone means the area attributed as 'higher density Greater Glider zone' and mapped in the 'Greater_Glider' **spatial dataset**

lower density Greater Glider zone means the area attributed as 'lower density Greater Glider zone' and mapped in the 'Greater_Glider' **spatial dataset**

north coast Greater Glider zone means the area attributed as 'north coast Greater Glider zone' and mapped in the 'Greater_Glider' **spatial dataset**

transitional period means the period of three calendar months from the commencement of this **site-specific biodiversity condition**

Area and records to which this **site-specific biodiversity condition** applies

3. This **site-specific biodiversity condition** applies to all relevant **records** of the Greater Glider (*Petauroides volans*) in the **Coastal IFOA Region**. For the purposes of this **site-specific biodiversity condition**, areas mapped in the 'Greater_Glider' **spatial dataset** are taken to be relevant **records** of the Greater Glider.

Duration of the **site-specific biodiversity condition**

4. This **site-specific biodiversity condition** has effect from 16 February 2024 until revoked or amended in writing by the EPA.

Continuation of the ***approval***

5. The conditions of the ***approval*** and the ***protocols*** continue to apply, except as otherwise provided by this ***site-specific biodiversity condition***. For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this ***site-specific biodiversity condition*** limits the requirement to undertake ***broad area habitat searches*** under condition 57 of the ***approval***.

Adjustments to ***retained trees*** requirements in the **higher density Greater Glider zone** and **lower density Greater Glider zone**

6. In the **higher density Greater Glider zone** and the **lower density Greater Glider zone**, the following ***retained trees*** must be permanently retained:
 - a. a minimum of six **Greater Glider trees** per hectare of ***net harvest area*** of the **higher density Greater Glider zone**;
 - b. a minimum of four **Greater Glider trees** per hectare of ***net harvest area*** of the **lower density Greater Glider zone**;
 - c. where the density specified in condition 6(a) or (b) above is not available, all **Greater Glider trees**.
7. The **Greater Glider trees** selected for the purpose of condition 6 of this ***site-specific biodiversity condition*** must be:
 - a. in addition to the ***retained trees*** required to be permanently retained under the ***approval***; and
 - b. identified, recorded and protected in accordance with **Protocol 23: Tree retention as *retained trees***.

Note 1: The note under condition 23.2(2) of **Protocol 23: Tree retention** is taken to extend to **Greater Glider trees** in the same way it applies to ***hollow-bearing trees***.

Note 2: The EPA may prepare guidelines to support the implementation of this condition.

Adjustments to ***retained trees*** requirements in the **Eden Greater Glider zone** and **north coast Greater Glider zone**

8. In the **Eden Greater Glider zone**, where the density of ***hollow-bearing trees*** specified in condition 64.2(c)(ii) of the ***approval*** is not available, **Greater Glider trees** must be permanently retained such that the combined total of ***hollow-bearing trees*** and **Greater Glider trees** per hectare of the ***net harvest area***:
 - a. is a minimum of eight; and
 - b. where the density specified in condition 8(a) above is not available, all **Greater Glider trees**.
9. In the **north coast Greater Glider zone**, where the density of ***hollow-bearing trees*** available is less than five per hectare of the ***net harvest area***, **Greater Glider trees** must be permanently retained such that the combined total of ***hollow-bearing trees*** and **Greater Glider trees** per hectare of the ***net harvest area***:
 - a. is a minimum of five; and
 - b. where the density specified in condition 9(a) above is not available, all **Greater Glider trees**.
10. The **Greater Glider trees** selected for the purpose of conditions 8 and 9 of this ***site-specific biodiversity condition*** must be identified, recorded and protected in accordance with **Protocol 23: Tree retention as *retained trees***.

11. For the purposes of conditions 6 to 10 of this *site-specific biodiversity condition*, **Greater Glider trees** must prioritise the retention of ***hollow-bearing trees***, particularly those that have evidence of use or occur in clusters, before utilising any other tree meeting the definition of a **Greater Glider tree**.

Greater Glider and Glider (*Petauroides volans*) den trees search and survey requirements

12. A **forestry operation** (other than **road maintenance**) must not be conducted in any part of a **compartment** in the **higher density Greater Glider zone** or the **lower density Greater Glider zone** unless a search and survey for Greater Gliders and Glider (*Petauroides volans*) den trees has been completed in the **compartment** in accordance with conditions 13 to 16 of this *site-specific biodiversity condition* within a maximum of 6 months prior to that **forestry operation** commencing in that **compartment**.

13. A search and survey for Greater Gliders and Glider (*Petauroides volans*) den trees must:
 - a. involve, for each 100 hectares of **base net area** of the **operational area**, at least three separate transects distributed across compartments totalling a minimum of one kilometre on a pro rata basis, with each transect being a minimum of 250 metres in length and at least 100 metres from another transect;
 - b. be planned for the **operational area**, and a map of all transects included in the **operational plan**, prior to **forestry operations** commencing in any part of the **operational area**; and
 - c. be conducted along each transect in accordance with condition 14 below, unless otherwise approved in writing by the EPA.

Note: Transects must be planned and included in the **operational plan** prior to **forestry operations** commencing in any part of the **operational area**. **Forestry operations** may commence in a **compartment** once the search and survey for Greater Gliders and Glider (*Petauroides volans*) den trees have been completed in that **compartment** in accordance with this *site-specific biodiversity condition*.

14. Each search and survey for Greater Gliders and Glider (*Petauroides volans*) den trees along a transect must:
 - a. be carried out in, and within 100 metres of, the **base net area** of the **operational area**;
 - b. be carried out at night and commence no more than 1 hour after sunset local time;
 - c. be carried out by at least two **suitably qualified persons**;
 - d. be conducted on foot at a maximum speed of one kilometre per hour;
 - e. be carried out along **roads, tracks** or trails where habitat suitable for Greater Gliders or Glider (*Petauroides volans*) den trees is known or likely to occur adjacent to **roads, tracks** or trails;
 - f. be conducted using a spotlight with an intensity of at least 750 lumens and no more than 1,000 lumens;
 - g. not be conducted in high wind or rain conditions;
 - h. record and map the relevant information required by condition 20.5 of **Protocol 20: Pre-operational surveys**, including a tracklog of the search and survey mapped in accordance with condition 117 of the **approval**; and
 - i. be repeated in accordance with condition 14(a) – (h) above at least once on a different night within three weeks of the previous survey.
15. **FCNSW** must provide the results of each search and survey for Greater Gliders and Glider (*Petauroides volans*) den trees carried out under this *site-specific biodiversity condition*, including any information required by condition 14(h) above, to the EPA within 7 days of the search and survey being completed.

16. **FCNSW** may apply an alternative search and survey methodology to search and survey for Greater Gliders and Glider (*Petauroides volans*) den trees with the prior written approval of the EPA.
17. A search and survey for Greater Gliders and Glider (*Petauroides volans*) den trees carried out in accordance with conditions 12 to 16 of this **site-specific biodiversity condition** is taken to satisfy the search and survey requirements of conditions 57.1(b)-(c) and 57.2 of the **approval** in respect of Greater Gliders and Glider (*Petauroides volans*) den trees.

Note: The requirements in conditions 12 to 16 of this **site-specific biodiversity condition** are minimum requirements and nothing in these conditions prevents **FCNSW** from exceeding the requirements specified where it is consistent with achieving and giving effect to the objectives of the **approval**.

Adjustments to **broad area habitat search**

18. For the purposes of condition 57 of the **approval**, Table 2 of condition 57 of the **approval** is taken to include **Greater Glider trees**.

Note: The requirements of a **broad area habitat search** in condition 57 of the **approval** applies to **Greater Glider trees**.

Adjustments to protection of **nest, roost or den**

19. For the purposes of the **approval**, column (b) of Table 4 of Chapter 4 of the **approval** is taken to include **records** of Glider (*Petauroides volans*) den trees.

Adjustments to monitoring requirements

20. Condition 38.3(1)(a) of **Protocol 38: Monitoring Program** is taken to include the effectiveness of this **site-specific biodiversity condition** in protecting Greater Glider populations in areas mapped in the 'Greater_Glider' **spatial dataset** as informed by the results of any search and survey for Greater Gliders and Glider (*Petauroides volans*) den trees under this **site-specific biodiversity condition**.

Transitional arrangements

21. Where a **forestry operation** commenced on, or prior to, the commencement of this **site-specific biodiversity condition**, **FCNSW** may, during the **transitional period**, elect not to comply with this **site-specific biodiversity condition** in respect of **patches** where a **broad area habitat search** has been completed in accordance with the **approval** (including condition 57 of the **approval** and **Protocol 20: Pre-operational surveys**).
22. Where **FCNSW** elects not to comply with this **site-specific biodiversity condition** in accordance with condition 21 above, **FCNSW** must:
 - a. record in the relevant **operational plan** the **patches** where an election has been made under condition 21 of this **site-specific biodiversity condition**; and
 - b. comply with the **approval** as in force before 16 February 2024 in respect of those **patches** during the **transitional period**.
23. Where **FCNSW** has not made an election under condition 21 above, the following arrangements apply:
 - a. **FCNSW** may, for a period of 14 calendar days from the commencement of this **site-specific biodiversity condition**, elect not to comply with the search and survey requirements in conditions 12 to 16 of this **site-specific biodiversity condition** in respect of the

compartments subject to an **operational plan** listed in Table 1 of Appendix A. After this period, **forestry operations** must cease until a search and survey has been completed in accordance with this **site-specific biodiversity condition**.

- b. **FCNSW** may, for a period of one calendar month from the commencement of this **site-specific biodiversity condition**, elect not to comply with the search and survey requirements in conditions 12 to 16 of this **site-specific biodiversity condition** in respect of the **compartments** subject to an **operational plan** listed in Table 2 of Appendix A. After this period, **forestry operations** must cease until a search and survey has been completed in accordance with this **site-specific biodiversity condition**.
- c. **FCNSW** may, for a period of three calendar months from the commencement of this **site-specific biodiversity condition**, elect not to comply with the search and survey requirements in conditions 12 to 16 of this **site-specific biodiversity condition** in respect of the **compartments** subject to an **operational plan** listed in Table 3 of Appendix A. After this period, **forestry operations** must cease until a search and survey has been completed in accordance with this **site-specific biodiversity condition**.
- d. **FCNSW** must not carry out **forestry operations** in a **compartment** that is not subject to an **operational plan** listed in Table 1, 2 or 3 of Appendix A unless **FCNSW** have complied with this **site-specific biodiversity condition**.

24. Where **FCNSW** elects not to comply with the search and survey requirements in conditions 12 to 16 of this **site-specific biodiversity condition** in accordance with conditions 23(b) or (c) above, **FCNSW** must record in the relevant **operational plan** the part of the **operational area** to which the election was applied.

25. Where **FCNSW** has undertaken a search or survey prior to the commencement of this **site-specific biodiversity condition** that is equivalent to, or better than, the search and survey required by this **site-specific biodiversity condition**, **FCNSW** may seek written approval from the EPA to be deemed to have complied with all or part of the search and survey requirements of this **site-specific biodiversity condition**.

Adjustments to definitions

26. A **Greater Glider tree** retained for the purposes of this **site-specific biodiversity condition** is taken to be a **retained tree** for the purposes of the **approval**.

TONY CHAPPEL

Chief Executive Officer

Environment Protection Authority

16 February 2024

Appendix A

Table 1

Operational plan	Greater Glider zone
HPRP_BONDO_8101_8102_8103_2023	LOWER DENSITY
HPRP_CLOUDS_CREEK_48_49_50_51_52_53_54_55_2022	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_CURROWAN_216A_2023	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_FLATROCK_34A_2023	LOWER DENSITY
HP_RIAMUKKA_48_49_50_2022	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_STYX_RIVER_31_32_33_36_38_41_42_2022	HIGHER DENSITY

Table 2

Operational plan	Greater Glider zone
HP_BULGA_41_43_2022	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_CLYDE_201A_202A_2024	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_CLYDE_206A_467A_2023	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_FLATROCK_35A_2023	LOWER DENSITY
HP_OLNEY_49_50_51_52_2020	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_SHALLOWCROSSING_214_215_2023	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_SHEAS_NOB_2_3_4_5_2023	HIGHER DENSITY

Table 3

Operational plan	Greater Glider zone
FP_BACHELOR_2_2024	LOWER DENSITY
HP_BALLENGARRA_26_27_28_2023	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_BODALLA_3034A_2020	LOWER DENSITY
HPRP_BOYNE_110A_2024	LOWER DENSITY
HPRP_BRAEMAR_6_7_2023	LOWER DENSITY
HP_BULAHDELAH_014_WANG_WAUK_038_2023	LOWER DENSITY
HP_CHERRY_TREE_3_4_2021	HIGHER DENSITY
HP_CHERRY_TREE_5_6_7_2021	HIGHER DENSITY
HP_COLLOMBATTI_14_15_2023	HIGHER DENSITY
HP_COLLOMBATTI_018_19_20_2023	HIGHER DENSITY
HP_EWINGAR_66_67_68_69_74_2024	HIGHER DENSITY
HP_GIBRALTAR_RANGE_3_4_2023	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_HYLAND_9_10_2024	HIGHER DENSITY
HP_INGALBA_6_7_2023	LOWER DENSITY

Operational plan	Greater Glider zone
HPRP_KANGAROO_RIVER_42_43_44_45_2022	LOWER DENSITY
HP_KIWARRAK_pt10_11_12_13_2023	LOWER DENSITY
HP_KIWARRAK_7_2020	LOWER DENSITY
HPRP_MISTAKE_5_6_7_8_9_2023	LOWER DENSITY
HP_MYRTLE_10_11_12_13_14_15_16_2023	LOWER DENSITY
HPRP_OAKES_18_19_20_21_2022	LOWER DENSITY
HP_OLNEY_053_054_2024	HIGHER DENSITY
HP_OLNEY_068_069_2023	HIGHER DENSITY
HP_RICHMOND_RANGE_2_2022	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_SHEAS_NOB_9_11_15_2024	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_SOUTHBROOMAN_52A_53A_54A_2020	LOWER DENSITY
HPRP_STYX_RIVER_50_52_53_54_55_2023	HIGHER DENSITY
HPRP_STYX_RIVER_43_45_46_47_48_2023	HIGHER DENSITY
HP_TUGGOLO_1_2_3_2022	HIGHER DENSITY
HP_TUGGOLO_19_20_2023	HIGHER DENSITY
HP_WANG_WAUK_20_21_25_2023	LOWER DENSITY
HP_YARRATT_6_7_8_9_10_11_2020	LOWER DENSITY
HP_YARRATT_1_2_3_4_5_2020	LOWER DENSITY