



Australian Government

Department of Defence

Security and Estate Group

Defence Training Facilities, Greenbank Training Area, QLD (EPBC 2011/5896)

Annual Compliance Report 2025-26





Table of Contents

Declaration of Accuracy 3

Description of Activities..... 4

Conditions of Approval – Table of compliance 5

Correcting Non-Compliances 10

New Environmental Risks 10

Declaration of Accuracy

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.

Position	A/Director, Environmental Planning, Assessment and Compliance
Organisation	Department of Defence ABN: 68706814312

Description of Activities

The approved action involved the construction of additional training facilities at Defence's Greenbank Training Area (GBTA, EPBC 2011/5896) located at Greenbank, approximately 20 km south southwest of Brisbane and 17 km east of Ipswich in Queensland. GBTA encompasses an area of approximately 4,665 ha. The footprint for the new training facilities was approximately 69 ha, spread across areas of cleared, regrowth and remnant vegetation on the property.

Under the Enhanced Land Force project, Defence proposed to increase the capacity for training at GBTA through the introduction of new training and camp facilities. The new facilities at GBTA comprised:

- An upgrade to, and extension of, an existing Battle Shooting Range to a Marksmanship Training Range - Type B
- a Safe Driver Training Area in a previously cleared area
- an access point from Goodna Road on the southern side of GBTA
- a Range Control compound near the new access point
- a 250 Person Camp at Accommodation Area L
- a 25/49 Royal Queensland Regiment (RQR) working accommodation near the new Range Control compound, and
- a sewage treatment plant to treat wastewater from the Camp, 25/49 RQR, Range Control, and the existing Accommodation Block H.

The action was approved under the EPBC Act subject to conditions on 17 January 2012.

On 10 December 2018, the delegate for the Environment Minister approved an extension of the period of effect for EPBC approval to 1 June 2029. The extension accommodated the GBTA Environmental Offset Strategy delivery period and reporting requirements under the approval.

On 12 November 2024, the delegate for the Environment Minister approved a variation to the conditions. Conditions 3 and 10 were varied, and condition 9 was revoked:

- Condition 3 of the approval requires the submission and publication of an Annual Environmental Offset Strategy Performance Report, and condition 10 requires the submission and publication of an Annual Compliance Report. The submission dates for both reports were varied to align. The new submission date is between 10 May to 15 July each year.
- The original condition 9 required a [separate] report addressing compliance to be published on the Defence website. As this was duplicative with the Annual Compliance Report publishing requirement, it was revoked.

The final reporting on expiry of the approval is on or before 1 May 2029.

This Annual Compliance Report is published on the Defence Environmental Compliance website at [Environmental compliance reports | About | Defence](#).

Conditions of Approval – Table of compliance

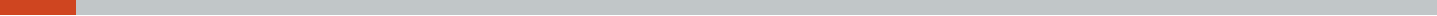
Condition Number	Condition	Compliance	Evidence / Comments
1	To protect habitat for listed threatened species, the person taking the action must not clear more than 69 hectares of vegetation on the site.	Compliant	Less than 69 ha of vegetation was cleared for the project.
2	The person taking the action must prepare and submit for approval an Environment Offset Strategy to the Minister. The Environment Offset Strategy must be submitted and approved by the Minister within 6 months of the date of this approval. The Environment Offset Strategy must provide for: the enhancement and protection of native vegetation; the riparian zone of water courses; and habitat for threatened species within the Greenbank Training Area. The Environment Offset Strategy must include the following: a. A commitment to rehabilitate and protect no less than 350 ha of remnant vegetation or regrowth within the Greenbank Training Area. The area identified can comprise either one single, or a number of individual areas, provided those areas are greater than 50 ha in size. Information on the offset areas to be rehabilitated and protected must include (but not be limited to) the following: (i) The location and boundaries of the area(s) through maps and textual descriptions as well as an accompanying shapefile(s); (ii) A description of the regional ecosystem classification contained within the area(s) identified for remediation and protection. Information must also include records of high conservation value fauna and flora species known from/or likely to utilise these areas; (iii) Detailed measures for controlling and managing invasive weeds in those areas identified for protection; (iv) Information on how the remediation and protection of the area(s) will improve habitat connectivity for threatened species with the Greenbank/Karawatha Wildlife Corridor; and (v) Key performance indicators and indicative timeframes for undertaking the rehabilitation and protection. The key performance indicators must be sufficient to confirm whether any remediation actions have resulted in a net-environmental gain to the environmental values of the Greenbank Training Area. b. Details of ongoing vertebrate surveys at the Greenbank Training Area (excluding the range impact area). The monitoring must be of a design that will detect any great changes to the numbers of threatened species within the Greenbank Training Area; c. Details of and a commitment to undertake landscape planting within the facilities. The plantings used must be naturally occurring within the Greenbank Training Area; d. Details of and a commitment to undertake the decommissioning, remediation and revegetation within the footprint of the existing sewage treatment plant; e. A commitment to undertake remediation actions that will halt soil erosion and increase bank stability from selected areas within the Greenbank Training Area currently affected by soil erosion; and	Compliant	The Defence Training Facilities, Greenbank Training Area, Environmental Offset Strategy was submitted to the department on 31 October 2018 and approved on 10 December 2018. The delegate approved an extension of the period of effect of the approval period from 15 December 2021 to 1 June 2029. The extension accommodates the life of the offset delivery period and reporting requirements under the approval. The offset strategy is being implemented over a 10-year period from January 2019 to December 2028. The Offset Strategy is available on the Defence Environmental Compliance Reporting webpage: Construction of Defence training facilities About Defence. Defence received notice from DCCEEW on 16 October 2025 that it believed Defence had not fully implemented the Environmental Offset Strategy. To rectify this, Defence has since set up an advisory committee and undertaken additional surveys and monitoring activities in satisfaction of the condition.

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance	Evidence / Comments
	f. A description of how the environmental management systems of the Department of Defence will provide for the permanent protection of the areas described in 2(a) from inappropriate activities or actions that are not consistent with the maintenance of the conservation values of the Greenbank Training Area. The Environment Offset Strategy must clearly state the legal person or persons responsible for implementation. If the Minister approves the Environment Offset Strategy then the approved Environment Offset Strategy must be implemented. <i>Note: It is not the intention that all training activities are excluded from the 350 ha area which is required to be protected under this condition. Activities that allow vegetation condition and habitat for the Spot-tailed Quoll and Koala to be maintained or enhanced will still be permissible</i>		
3	The person taking the action must prepare an annual Environment Performance Report and submit this to the department for approval within the period between 10 May and 15 July (inclusive) of any given year. The Environment Performance Report must include detailed information on the following: a. Provide a progress report on all activities and results from all works required in condition 2. The results must be sufficient to demonstrate progress with achieving any key performance indicators and timeframes identified in the Environment Offset Strategy; b. Provide the results of ongoing monitoring by providing the records of individual animals and an annual population estimate of Spot-tailed Quolls and Koalas within the Greenbank Training Area; and c. Provide the results of monitoring as required in condition 2(b). The results of the monitoring must include a comparison of interannual variation and document any significant changes to the numbers of the Spot-tailed Quolls and Koalas within the Greenbank Training Area. The environmental performance report must be published, maintained and be made publicly available on the person taking the action's website for the life of the action. Within the period between 15 April 2029 and 1 May 2029 (inclusive), the person taking the action must submit to the department for approval and publish on their website a final annual Environment Performance report.	Compliant	Environmental performance reporting against the Greenbank Training Area Environmental Offset Strategy (Condition 2) was required to commence 15 months after the date of approval of the strategy (approved 10 December 2018). The first performance report - <i>Environmental Offset Strategy Performance Report May 2020, Greenbank Training Area EPBC 2011/5896</i> (performance report) was submitted to the department on 10 May 2020. Subsequent performance reports were submitted on: • 10 May 2021 • 10 May 2022 • 10 May 2023 • 15 July 2024 • 15 July 2025 This, the seventh performance report is due by the 15 July 2026. Copies of all performance reports are published on the Defence Environmental Compliance Reporting webpage at: Construction of Defence training facilities About Defence. The next performance report is due between 10 May and 15 July 2027.
4	To reduce the likely impacts of the construction activities on the environment, the person taking the action must prepare a Construction Environment Management Plan for the	Compliant	Construction was completed in early 2014. A Draft Construction Environment Management Plan was submitted to department in October 2011 for approval. A revised

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance	Evidence / Comments
	Minister's approval. The Construction Environment Management Plan must include the following measures: a. Measures to reduce the environmental damage from the movement of construction vehicles within and outside the Greenbank Training Area; b. Detailed hygiene protocols suitable for controlling the introduction and spread of invasive weeds due to construction activities; c. Sediment and erosion control measures to manage the movement of sediment on site; and d. Clearly state the legal person or persons responsible for implementing the Construction Environment Management Plan. The approved Construction Environment Management Plan must be implemented until all stages of construction have been completed.		version was submitted to the department in August 2018, and the plan was implemented by the project.
5	To mitigate potential impacts associated with ongoing operation activities within the Greenbank Training Area, the person taking the action must manage the environmental impact of its activities within the Greenbank Training Area consistent with the Environmental Management System certified under ISO 14001:2004.	Compliant	Ongoing.
6	Prior to the removal of any buildings identified as having heritage value in the preliminary documentation, the person taking the action must undertake a full archival photographic record of any heritage fabric identified as having heritage significance in section 2.33 of the preliminary documentation. The full archival photographic record must be consistent with the Queensland Government's "Guideline: Archival Recording of Heritage Places". The full archival photographic record must be submitted to the department within three months of commencement of construction.	Compliant	Correspondence confirming compliance was sent to the department on dated 2 May 2012.
7	Within 30 days from the commencement of the action, the person taking the action must advise the department in writing of the actual date of commencement.	Compliant	Defence advised the department in writing on 22 February 2011.
8	The person taking the action must maintain accurate records substantiating all activities associated with or relevant to the conditions of approval, including measures taken to implement the Environment Offset Strategy required by this approval, and make them available upon request to the Department. Such records may be subject to audit by the Department or an independent auditor in accordance with section 458 of the EPBC Act, or used to verify compliance with the conditions of approval. Summaries of audits will be posted on the Department's website. The results of audits may also be publicised through the general media.	Compliant	Defence's electronic records management and filing system (Objective) maintains all official records.
9	Condition revoked	Not applicable	Not applicable
10	Within the period between 10 May and 15 July (inclusive) of any given year, the person taking the action must publish a report on their website addressing compliance with each	Compliant	All relevant reports relating to this approval are found on Defence's Environmental Compliance Reporting website:

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance	Evidence / Comments
	of the conditions of this approval. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication and non-compliance with any of the conditions in this approval must be provided to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published. Within the period between 15 April 2029 and 1 May 2029 (inclusive), the person taking the action must submit to the department for approval and publish on their website a final report addressing compliance over the previous 12 months with each of the conditions of this approval.		Construction of Defence training facilities About Defence , and documented in Defence's electronic document management and filing system. A non-compliance with condition 2 was recorded on 16 October 2025.
11	Upon the direction of the Minister, the person taking the action must ensure that an independent audit of compliance with the conditions of approval is conducted and a report submitted to the Minister. The independent auditor must be approved by the Minister prior to the commencement of the audit. Audit criteria must be agreed to by the Minister and the audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Minister.	Not applicable	
12	If the person taking the action wishes to carry out any activity otherwise than in accordance with the Environment Offset Strategy, or Construction Environment Management Plan as specified in the conditions, the person taking the action must submit to the department for the Minister's written approval a revised version of that Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan. The varied activity shall not commence until the Minister has approved the varied Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan, in writing. The Minister will not approve the varied Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan unless the revised Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan would result in an equivalent or improved environmental outcome over time. If the Minister approves the revised Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan, that Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan must be implemented in place of the Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan originally approved.	Not applicable	
13	If the Minister believes that it is necessary or convenient for the better protection of listed threatened species and communities and the environment from impacts by a Commonwealth Agency to do so, the Minister may request that the person taking the action make specified revisions to the Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan specified in the conditions and submit the revised Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan for the Minister's written approval. The person taking the action must comply with any such request. The revised approved Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan must be implemented. Unless the Minister has approved the revised Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan, agreement then the person taking the action must continue to implement the Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan originally approved, as specified in the conditions.	Not applicable	
14	If, at any time after five years from the date of this approval, the person taking the action has not substantially commenced the action, then the person taking the action must not substantially commence the action without the written agreement of the Minister.	Not applicable	

Condition Number	Condition	Compliance	Evidence / Comments
15	Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the person taking the action must publish the Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan referred to in these conditions of approval on their website. The Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan must be published on the website within 1 month of being approved and must remain published until all the actions in the strategy are completed to the satisfaction of the Minister.	Compliant	The Greenbank Environment Offset Strategy (November 2018) and the Environmental Management Plan are published on the Defence Environmental Compliance Reporting webpage: Construction of Defence training facilities About Defence .
16	Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister, the person taking the action must provide a copy of the approved Environment Offset Strategy or Construction Environment Management Plan referred to in these conditions of approval to members of the public upon request. Copies must be provided within a reasonable time of the request.	Not applicable	



Correcting Non-Compliances

No non-compliances.

New Environmental Risks

No new environmental risks.