Table 40: Native Vegetation Description along Preferred (Western) Route South of Skipton

Powerline Section*	Location notes	Native vegetation
10	Frosts Road (740 metres North of Crambs Road)	1 scattered Blackwood
12	Hamilton Hwy (between Calverts Road and McLeans Road)	Plains Grassland
18	Mt Emu Creek crossover	2 large scattered River Red Gums
27	Mount Bute Road	Several scattered Blackwoods
28	Skipton Road (between Skipton and Mt Bute Road)	Plains Grassland
		3 large scattered River Red Gums within road reserve
29	Park Road	1 scattered River Red Gum

Notes: * See Table 39 for powerline section numbers

5.4.2 Fauna

5.4.2.1 Habitat Assessment

The vegetation along the potential powerline routes was described in Table 39; these descriptions also serve as fauna habitat descriptions.

5.4.2.2 Fauna Species

Based on the current field assessment and the review of existing information, the study area (three kilometres buffer zone on both sides of proposed powerline) is likely to support 120 species of fauna, including 13 species of mammals, 95 species of birds, eight species of reptile and four species of frog. These species were mainly common farmland fauna and would place few constraints on the project; however, some threatened fauna were also recorded. These are discussed below.

The *AVW* and the *EPBC Act Protected Matters Search Tool* list a total of 13 threatened species of vertebrates, including 10 species of birds, two species of mammals and one reptile species, for the powerline search region. Of these, suitable habitat possibly exists in the powerline study area for Brolga, Fat-tailed Dunnart and Striped Legless Lizard. This threatened species information is summarised in Table 39. Those species for which suitable habitat occurs in the powerline study area are discussed in more detail in the following sub-sections. Species for which suitable habitat does not occur in the study area are considered unlikely to occur and are not discussed further.

The potential distribution of threatened fauna along the potential routes of the powerline is shown in Table 41 and is depicted graphically in Figure 39. This is based on the presence of confirmed records within three kilometres of the proposed powerline route option. The highest number of threatened species is predicted to be on the eastern option of the central section of the proposed powerline (nine species). The southern section has the lowest potential number of threatened species (three), while both the middle and the western options for the central section had five species each. It should be noted that the species detailed for each of the northern, southern and any of the three central options are not specific or limited to those routes; for example, most of the

nine species recorded for the northern section also recorded for the eastern section. Nonetheless, the number of threatened species on the three powerline options is a good indicator of the impact of any of the lines on threatened fauna.

Table 41. Potential Occurrence of Threatened Species within three kilometres of the Powerline Options.

Common names	North section	Central section			South section
		Eastern option	Middle option	Western option	
Australasian Shoveler		✓	✓	✓	
Blue-billed Duck	✓				
Brolga	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Brush-tailed Phascogale		✓			
Fat-tailed Dunnart	✓	✓			
Gull-billed Tern	✓				
Hardhead	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Latham's Snipe	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Musk Duck	✓	✓			
Pied Cormorant			✓		
Spotted Harrier			✓	✓	
Whiskered Tern	✓	✓			
Striped Legless Lizard	✓	✓			
Total species	9	9	5	5	3

Fat-tailed Dunnart: The *AVW* contains two records of the species from the powerline search region; the first record was from Black Creek Nature Conservation Reserve, recorded in 2004 and the second from south of Pittong, dated 1991. The species is likely to occur on the road reserve of the northern part of the powerline (Section 1 and 2) as it normally inhabits native grasslands.

Striped Legless Lizard: The *AVW* contains four records of the lizard from Black Creek Nature Conservation Reserve, dated 2004 and 2005. The records were from close to the northern part of the powerline (Sections 1, 2 and 3). In addition, the species could possibly occur in those parts of the road reserve with suitable habitats on Sections 15, 20 and 25.

Brolga: The *AVW* contains many Brolga records between 1970 and 2006. The records are mainly concentrated in the northern part of the proposed powerline route. The distribution of records among the various parts of the powerline is shown in Table 42 and shown in Figure 39.

Table 42: Distribution of Brolga Records within three kilometres of the Proposed Powerline Options.

Powerline section	No. Brolga records	No. breeding records
North	50	12
Central– east	49	11
Central– middle	6	2
Central – west	11	2
South	1	0

The records are not specific to each part of the powerline, and some records may be duplicated between sections, due to the overlap of their three kilometres search regions. The largest overlap is between the northern and the central-east potential powerline routes.

The majority of the historical records are from near the northern section of proposed powerline route. This is mainly due to the presence of historical records, such as Black Lake, Slater Lake, St Enocks reservoir and other smaller, ephemeral wetlands, within the powerline search region between 1970 and 2006. During the extensive breeding season study carried out in 2007 (reported in Chapter 6), no Brolga nests were recorded within 3 kilometres of the proposed powerline route

During the field inspection, one pair of Brolgas was seen foraging on a farm dam, about 70 metres from the proposed powerline route (section 28). All other wetlands along the proposed powerline route were either dry or typical farm dams with a low probability of providing habitat for Brolga for any length of time. Also no breeding pairs of Brolgas were seen on the nearby wetlands.

Fauna habitats on the proposed terminal station are not considered to be suitable for species other than highly adaptable native bird species common to farmland settings throughout south eastern Australia. No rare or threatened species of fauna are considered likely to occur at the terminal station site due to the highly modified nature of the habitat.

5.5 IMPACTS AND REGULATORY IMPLICATIONS

5.5.1 Planning Controls

Removal of native vegetation on allotments of 0.4 hectares or more requires a planning permit under Clause 52.17 of all Victorian Planning Schemes. Before issuing a planning permit, Responsible Authorities are obligated to refer to Clause 15.09 (Protection of Flora and Fauna) in the Planning Scheme. This refers in turn to the Framework.

A planning permit would also be required to carry out works under ESO1 and ESO2 of the Planning Scheme.

5.5.1.1 Native Vegetation Management Framework

This part of the report applies the provisions of the Framework to the proposed development. The Framework is a state-wide policy, separate from local planning overlays that may also require a permit for the removal of trees or vegetation.

The operation of the Framework has been described in some detail in Chapter 2 of this report.

Responses to planning permit applications to remove native vegetation vary depending on the conservation significance of the vegetation proposed for removal. Conservation significance determines both the likelihood of approval and, importantly, the scale of the required offset. This is summarised in Table 43.

Table 43: Likely Response to Applications for Removal of Intact Native Vegetation

Framework conservation significance	Likely response to application for clearing	Likely offset requirements
Very high	Clearing not permitted unless exceptional circumstances apply. Offset Management Plan to be submitted with application.	Substantial Net Gain: At least 2 X calculated loss in habitat hectares plus a large tree protection and replacement offset if any large trees are removed
High	Clearing generally not permitted	Net Gain: At least 1.5 X calculated loss in habitat hectares plus a large tree protection and replacement offset if any large trees are removed

5.5.1.2 Design Response and Recommendations

The proponent has met the principles of the Framework through minimising negative impacts on native vegetation. This has been achieved through adoption of the lowest impact (i.e. western) route. This route option intersects with the least area of native vegetation.

Where removal of native vegetation is unavoidable, offsets are required to account for the loss in habitat hectares. These are documented, together with the assumptions about removal on which they are based, in Table 44.

5.5.1.3 Offsets for the Removal of Native Vegetation

Areas of native vegetation to be removed along the preferred (Western) external powerline route were identified during the additional field investigation in January 2009. Offsets required for the removal of native vegetation in the form of remnant patches and scattered trees are provided in Table 44. The rationale for the assessment, using a default score given the lack of precise power pole locations, is explained at the foot of this table. A default score has been used (consistent with DSE guidelines) given that the exact position of vegetation removal has not yet been determined. This provides a preliminary indication of the quantity of vegetation likely to be affected and the associated offset target.

Table 44: Offsets for Removal of Native Vegetation within the Preferred (Western) Route

Site	Location notes	Native vegetation	Proposed action	Implications
10	Frosts Road (740 m N of Crambs Road)	1 scattered Blackwood	Prune only	No implications
12	Hamilton Hwy (between Calverts Road and McLeans Road)	Plains Grassland	Removal of 0.002 habitat hectares* (0.005 ha)#	Offset target of 0.005 habitat hectares^
18	Mt Emu Creek crossover	2 large scattered River Red Gums	Prune only	No implications
27	Mount Bute Road	Several scattered Blackwoods	Avoid/prune only	No implications
28	Skipton Road (between Skipton and Mt Bute Road)	Plains Grassland	Removal of 0.007 habitat hectares* (0.016 ha)##	Offset target of 0.014 habitat hectares^
29	Park Road	1 scattered River Red Gum (DBH 99 cm)	Remove	Protect 2 large trees and recruit 10 new plants OR recruit 100 new plants

Notes * = habitat hectare score based on default score of 45/100 for patches of Plains Grassland within road reserve, **#** = area based on 2062 metres of road divided by 90 metres pole spacing = 22.9 poles x 2.25 m^2 disturbance = 51.54m^2 = 0.005 ha; **##** = area based on 6361 metres of road divided by 90 m pole spacing = 70.67 poles x 2.25m^2 disturbance = 159m^2 = 0.016 ha; **^** = offset target based on net gain multiplier of 2.

Total offsets required for the proposed removal of native vegetation along the preferred route includes 0.019 habitat hectares of Very High Conservation Significance Plains Grassland. As a rule of thumb, based on a 20% improvement of the offset site, an area of 0.1 hectares of Plains Grassland would be required to compensate for this loss. In addition, two large trees are to be protected and 10 new trees are to be recruited to account for the loss of one scattered River Red Gum.

5.5.2 EPBC Act

The *EPBC Act* contains a list of threatened species and ecological communities that are considered to be of national conservation significance. Any impacts on species considered significant require the approval of the Minister for the Environment. If there is a possibility of a significant impact on nationally threatened species or communities or listed migratory species, a Referral under the *EPBC Act* should be considered.

No listed ecological communities or flora species were recorded within the study area. An additional three flora species listed under the *EPBC Act* have potential to occur in the study area due to the presence of suitable habitat. Any negative impacts to these potentially occurring species could be avoided by minimising disturbance of areas of native vegetation, as recommended in Section 3.5.

No fauna species listed as threatened under the *EPBC Act* were observed during the current assessment. However, the nationally threatened Striped Legless Lizards is considered likely to occur in the study area because of the presence of suitable habitat.

No important habitats for listed migratory species occur in the powerline study area.

Provided that the recommendations in Section 3.5 to minimise disturbance to native vegetation and fauna are followed during powerline construction, no significant impacts on matters of national environmental significance are anticipated..

5.5.3 FFG Act

The *FFG Act* lists threatened flora and fauna species to provide for their protection and management. The *FFG Act* has limited direct application to private land. However, Clause 15.09 of the Planning Scheme makes reference to this Act. The local planning authority is likely to consider impacts on *FFG Act*-listed species and communities when deciding on planning permit applications.

The removal of threatened species or communities, or protected flora under the *FFG Act* from public land requires a licence under the Act.

One ecological community listed as threatened under the *FFG Act*, the Western (Basalt) Plains Grassland Community, was recorded during the current assessment, within the described patches of Plains Grassland. No listed flora species were recorded within the study area. An additional five flora species listed under the *FFG Act* have potential to occur due to the presence of suitable habitat (Table 38).

Furthermore, three protected flora species from the family Asteraceae: Common Everlasting, Cotton Fireweed and Milky Beauty-heads, were recorded within the study area. These species are not threatened.

As the majority of the powerline study area is within road reserves, which are assumed to be public land, the provisions of the *FFG Act* apply. Therefore any removal of native vegetation in the form of Plains Grassland (Western Plains Grassland Community), as well as any removal of the above mentioned protected flora, would require a licence under the *FFG Act*. A licence under the *FFG Act* would not be required if the recommendations provided in Section 3.5 to minimise disturbance of native vegetation were followed.

The Brolga is the only fauna species listed as threatened under the *FFG Act* that was observed during the current assessment. No additional FFG Act listed threatened fauna species are considered likely to occur in the area affected by the powerline because of a lack of suitable habitat.

The proposed powerline does not pass through or close to any known Brolga breeding sites (based on current observations, observations in 2007 and historical records). The pair observed foraging on a large farm dam close to the Skipton–Geelong Road was there only temporarily, as the wetland was not suitable for breeding.

5.5.4 DSE Threatened Species Advisory Lists

Rare and threatened species advisory lists administered by DSE include flora and fauna species known to be rare or threatened throughout the state. Although the advisory list has no statutory status, the Responsible Authority will consider impacts on any species on the list when assessing a planning application.

No flora species from the *Advisory List of Rare and Threatened Plants in Victoria* (DSE 2005) were recorded from the study area during the current investigation.

Similarly, no fauna species from the *Advisory List of Threatened Vertebrate Fauna in Victoria* (DSE 2007b) were recorded during the current survey. However one species, the Fat-tailed Dunnart, is likely to occur in parts of the proposed powerline route, where the roadside reserve consisted of native vegetation.

If the recommendations provided in Section 3.5 to minimise disturbance to native vegetation are adopted, effects on threatened fauna will be minimized.

5.6 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The field inspection determined that 12 remnant patches of native vegetation occurred within the proposed internal and external powerline routes. These patches included Creekline Grassy Woodland, Plains Grassland and Grassy Woodland, all of which are *endangered* in the Victorian Volcanic Plain and Central Victorian Uplands bioregions. Negative impacts to these areas of native vegetation can be avoided through using alternative routes and alternative sides of the road reserves, as specified in Section 3.5.

In the case of the internal powerline route, avoidance of the unused road reserve south east of the Old Geelong Road and location of the powerline on adjacent private land will avoid impacts on the linear remnant of Plains Grassland there.

A planning permit is required under Clause 52.17 of the Planning Scheme for the removal of any native vegetation or scattered native flora within the study area. A planning permit would also be required to carry out works under ESO1 and ESO2 in the following areas:

- Along Dunnets Road, Stockyard Hill Road and the northern part of Skipton Road; and
- In the vicinity of Mt Emu Creek.

No flora species listed as threatened under the *EPBC Act* or *FFG Act* were found to occur in the study area. Five additional flora species have potential to occur due to the presence of suitable habitat. The proposal is not expected to have any negative impact on these listed flora species if the recommendations for minimising disturbance to areas of native vegetation in Section 3.5are followed.

The field inspection also determined that the nationally threatened Striped Legless Lizard, the state threatened Fat-tailed Dunnart, and the Brolga had the potential to occur in the powerline study area. The first two species were not found to occur within the study area. The recommendations for minimising disturbance to areas of native vegetation in Section 3.5 will minimise any potential impacts on these species if they are found to occur in the powerline study area.

Brolgas are known in the region and are usually found foraging, flocking or breeding in suitable wetlands. No such wetlands were found to occur close to the proposed external powerline route and little impact on Brolgas is expected from the construction of this powerline.

A total of 17 recent and known breeding sites for the Brolga occur within 3 kilometres of the proposed internal powerlines. Of these, up to six may be used in any one breeding season (see Chapter 6). Collision risk modelling by Smales (2008b) indicates that there may be 0.018 Brolga collisions per year with powerlines. This makes a small

contribution to the impact of the project on the Brolga, as described in Chapter 6. This impact is considered to represent a very limited impact on the overall Brolga population and one that can be effectively mitigated as discussed in Chapter 6.

In summary, the review of existing information, in combination with the current field assessment, determined that the western option is the most favourable route for the central section of the eternal powerline route. This option utilises the shortest central route and comes into contact with the least amount of native vegetation and the fewest possible sites for threatened fauna.

In addition, it is recommended that Dunnets Road and Skipton Road are utilised as an alternative to the proposed northern powerline route along Stockyard Hill Road. This alternative route avoids potential habitats for both the Striped Legless Lizard and the Fat-tailed Dunnart.

This recommended route also passes through the least amount of native vegetation. This includes a small patch of Plains Grassland at the eastern end of Dunnets Road (Section 30), a small patch of scattered trees along Mt Emu Creek (Section 18) and a long patch of Plains Grassland on the eastern side of Skipton Road (Section 28). Negative impacts to these areas can be minimised by following the recommendations in Section 3.5.

The internal powerline routes generally avoid native vegetation and direct impacts on significant fauna habitats. In the unused road reserve southeast of the old Geelong Road, the powerline could be moved to adjacent private land to avoid impacts on remnant native grassland.

The internal powerline route passes within 3 kilometres of up to 17 recent and known Brolga breeding sites. Collision risk modelling for the powerline route has indicated that impacts on the species from increased collision risk are likely to be low. Mitigation options for any impact should be considered.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Flora species recorded during survey and species occurring or potentially occurring in search region

Origin	Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Conservation status			Rec.
				EPBC	FFG	DSE	
	Adamson's Blown-grass	*Lachnagrostis adamsonii*	Poaceae	E	f	v	
*	African Box-thorn	*Lycium ferocissimum*	Solanaceae				X
*	Annual Meadow-grass	*Poa annua*	Poaceae				X
	Australian Anchor Plant	*Discaria pubescens*	Rhamnaceae		f	r	
	Basalt Podolepis	*Podolepis sp. 1*	Asteraceae			e	
	Ben Major Grevillea	*Grevillea floripendula*	Proteaceae	V	f	v	
	Bent/Blown Grass	*Agrostis s.l. spp.*	Poaceae				X
	Bidgee-widgee	*Acaena novae-zelandiae*	Rosaceae				X
*	Big Heron's-bill	*Erodium botrys*	Geraniaceae				X
	Black Wattle	*Acacia mearnsii*	Mimosaceae				X
	Blackwood	*Acacia melanoxylon*	Mimosaceae				X
	Blue Devil	*Eryngium ovinum*	Apiaceae				X
	Blue Pincushion	*Brunonia australis*	Brunoniaceae				X
	Blue Stars	*Chamaescilla corymbosa var. corymbosa*	Anthericaceae				X
	Brackish Plains Buttercup	*Ranunculus diminutus*	Ranunculaceae			r	
	Broad-leaf Peppermint	*Eucalyptus dives*	Myrtaceae				X
*	Brown-top Bent	*Agrostis capillaris*	Poaceae				X
*	Buck's-horn Plantain	*Plantago coronopus*	Veronicaceae				X
	Button Everlasting	*Helichrysum scorpioides*	Asteraceae				X
	Button Wrinklewort	*Rutidosis leptorhynchoides*	Asteraceae	E	f	e	
	Candlebark	*Eucalyptus rubida*	Myrtaceae				X
*	Cape Weed	*Arctotheca calendula*	Asteraceae				X
*	Chickweed	*Stellaria media*	Caryophyllaceae				X
	Chocolate Lily	*Arthropodium strictum s.l.*	Anthericaceae				X
	Clover Glycine	*Glycine latrobeana*	Fabaceae	V	f	v	

Origin	Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Conservation status			Rec.
				EPBC	FFG	DSE	
*	Cocksfoot	*Dactylis glomerata*	Poaceae				X
	Common Beard-heath	*Leucopogon virgatus*	Epacridaceae				X
	Common Bottle-daisy	*Lagenophora stipitata*	Asteraceae				X
	Common Early Nancy	*Wurmbea dioica*	Colchicaceae				X
	Common Everlasting	*Chrysocephalum apiculatum s.l.*	Asteraceae				X
	Common Heath	*Epacris impressa*	Epacridaceae				X
*	Common Mouse-ear Chickweed	*Cerastium glomeratum s.l.*	Caryophyllaceae				X
	Common Raspwort	*Gonocarpus tetragynus*	Haloragaceae				X
	Common Rice-flower	*Pimelea humilis*	Thymelaeaceae				X
	Common Tussock-grass	*Poa labillardierei*	Poaceae				X
	Common Wheat-grass	*Elymus scaber var. scaber*	Poaceae				X
	Common Woodrush	*Luzula meridionalis*	Juncaceae				X
	Crane's Bill	*Geranium spp.*	Geraniaceae				X
	Cudweed	*Euchiton spp.*	Asteraceae				X
	Curly Sedge	*Carex tasmanica*	Cyperaceae	V	f	v	
	Curved Rice-flower	*Pimelea curviflora s.l.*	Thymelaeaceae				X
	Cut-leaf Goodenia	*Goodenia pinnatifida*	Goodeniaceae				X
	Dwarf Mat-rush	*Lomandra nana*	Xanthorrhoeaceae				X
	Dwarf Skullcap	*Scutellaria humilis*	Lamiaceae				X
*	Flatweed	*Hypochoeris radicata*	Asteraceae				X
	Golden Cowslips	*Diuris behrii*	Orchidaceae			v	X
	Golden Wattle	*Acacia pycnantha*	Mimosaceae				X
	Grampians Bitter-pea	*Daviesia laevis*	Fabaceae	V	f	v	
	Grass Lily	*Caesia sp.*	Hemerocallidaceae				X
	Grassland Wood-sorrel	*Oxalis perennans*	Oxalidaceae				X
	Grey Everlasting	*Ozothamnus obcordatus*	Asteraceae				X
	Grey Tussock-grass	*Poa sieberiana*	Poaceae				X
*	Hair Grass	*Aira spp.*	Poaceae				X

Origin	Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Conservation status			Rec.
				EPBC	FFG	DSE	
	Hairy Tails	*Ptilotus erubescens*	Amaranthaceae		f		
	Hedge Wattle	*Acacia paradoxa*	Mimosaceae				X
*	Horehound	*Marrubium vulgare*	Lamiaceae				X
	Hypoxis vaginata	*Yellow Star*	Hypoxidaceae				X
	Kangaroo Grass	*Themeda triandra*	Poaceae				X
	Kidney-weed	*Dichondra repens*	Convolvulaceae				X
*	Kikuyu	*Pennisetum clandestinum*	Poaceae				X
	Lanky Buttons	*Leptorhynchos elongatus*	Asteraceae			e	
*	Large Quaking-grass	*Briza maxima*	Poaceae				X
	Large River Buttercup	*Ranunculus papulentus*	Ranunculaceae			k	
*	Large-flower Wood-sorrel	*Oxalis purpurea*	Oxalidaceae				X
	Lemon Beauty-heads	*Calocephalus citreus*	Asteraceae				X
	Lightwood	*Acacia implexa*	Mimosaceae				X
	Messmate Stringybark	*Eucalyptus obliqua*	Myrtaceae				X
	Milkmaids	*Burchardia umbellata*	Colchicaceae				X
*	Montpellier Broom	*Genista monspessulana*	Fabaceae				X
	Moss Sunray	*Hyalosperma demissum*	Asteraceae				X
*	Musky Heron's-bill	*Erodium moschatum*	Geraniaceae				X
	Narrow Plantain	*Plantago gaudichaudii*	Veronicaceae				X
	Netted Daisy-bush	*Olearia speciosa*	Asteraceae			k	
*	Onion Grass	*Romulea rosea*	Iridaceae				X
	Orchid	*Orchidaceae spp.*	Orchidaceae				X
	Pale Sundew	*Drosera peltata*	Droseraceae				X
	Pale Swamp Everlasting	*Helichrysum aff. rutidolepis (Lowland Swamps)*	Asteraceae			v	
	Pale Vanilla-lily	*Arthropodium milleflorum s.l.*	Anthericaceae				X
*	Paterson's Curse	*Echium plantagineum*	Boraginaceae				X
	Peach Heath	*Lissanthe strigosa subsp. subulata*	Epacridaceae				X
	Pennywort	*Hydrocotyle spp.*	Apiaceae				X
*	Perennial Rye-grass	*Lolium perenne*	Poaceae				X

Origin	Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Conservation status			Rec.
				EPBC	FFG	DSE	
	Plains Everlasting	*Chrysocephalum sp. 1*	Asteraceae				X
*	Prairie Grass	*Bromus catharticus*	Poaceae				X
	Prickfoot	*Eryngium vesiculosum*	Apiaceae				X
	Prickly Moses	*Acacia verticillata*	Mimosaceae				X
	Prickly Woodruff	*Asperula scoparia*	Rubiaceae				X
	Purple Blown-grass	*Lachnagrostis punicea subsp. filifolia*	Poaceae		f	r	
	Purple Blown-grass	*Lachnagrostis punicea subsp. punicea*	Poaceae			r	
*	Radiata Pine	*Pinus radiata*	Pinaceae				X
	Red Stringybark	*Eucalyptus macrorhyncha*	Myrtaceae				X
*	Ribwort	*Plantago lanceolata*	Veronicaceae				X
	River Swamp Wallaby-grass	*Amphibromus fluitans*	Poaceae	V			
	Rough Bedstraw	*Galium gaudichaudii*	Rubiaceae				X
*	Rough Dog's-tail	*Cynosurus echinatus*	Poaceae				X
	Rough Wattle	*Acacia aspera subsp. parviceps*	Mimosaceae			r	
	Running Postman	*Kennedia prostrata*	Fabaceae				X
	Rush	*Juncus spp.*	Juncaceae				X
	Salt Blown-grass	*Lachnagrostis robusta*	Poaceae			r	
	Salt Paperbark	*Melaleuca halmaturorum subsp. halmaturorum*	Myrtaceae		f	v	
	Salt-lake Tussock-grass	*Poa sallacustris*	Poaceae	V	f	v	
	Scaly Buttons	*Leptorhynchos squamatus*	Asteraceae				X
	Scentbark	*Eucalyptus aromaphloia*	Myrtaceae				X
	Scented Sundew	*Drosera whittakeri subsp. aberrans*	Droseraceae				X
*	Sheep Sorrel	*Acetosella vulgaris*	Polygonaceae				X
	Sheep's Burr	*Acaena echinata*	Rosaceae				X
	Shiny Tea-tree	*Leptospermum turbinatum*	Myrtaceae			r	
	Showy Violet	*Viola betonicifolia*	Violaceae				X
	Slender Bindweed	*Convolvulus angustissimus subsp. omnigracilis*	Convolvulaceae			k	
	Slender Dock	*Rumex brownii*	Polygonaceae				X
	Slender Sun-orchid	*Thelymitra pauciflora s.l.*	Orchidaceae				X

Origin	Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Conservation status			Rec.
				EPBC	FFG	DSE	
	Small Milkwort	*Comesperma polygaloides*	Polygalaceae		f	v	
*	Small Nettle	*Urtica urens*	Urticaceae				X
	Small Poranthera	*Poranthera microphylla s.l.*	Euphorbiaceae				X
	Small St John's Wort	*Hypericum gramineum*	Clusiaceae				X
	Small Vanilla-lily	*Arthropodium minus*	Anthericaceae				X
	Small-flower Grevillea	*Grevillea micrantha*	Proteaceae			r	
*	Small-flower Onion-grass	*Romulea minutiflora*	Iridaceae				X
*	Smooth Cat's-ear	*Hypochoeris glabra*	Asteraceae				X
*	Soft Brome	*Bromus hordeaceus subsp. hordeaceus*	Poaceae				X
	Soft Tussock-grass	*Poa morrisii*	Poaceae				X
*	Soursob	*Oxalis pes-caprae*	Oxalidaceae				X
	Spear Grass	*Austrostipa spp.*	Poaceae				X
*	Spear Thistle	*Cirsium vulgare*	Asteraceae				X
	Spiny Rice-flower	*Pimelea spinescens subsp. spinescens*	Thymelaeaceae	C	f	e	
	Spiral Sun-orchid	*Thelymitra matthewsii*	Orchidaceae	V	f	v	
*	Spotted Medic	*Medicago arabica*	Fabaceae				X
	Spreading Wattle	*Acacia genistifolia*	Mimosaceae				X
	Sun Orchid	*Thelymitra spp.*	Orchidaceae				X
	Supple Spear-grass	*Austrostipa mollis*	Poaceae				X
	Swamp Crassula	*Crassula helmsii*	Crassulaceae				X
	Swamp Everlasting	*Xerochrysum palustre*	Asteraceae	V	f	v	
	Swamp Fireweed	*Senecio psilocarpus*	Asteraceae	V		v	
*	Sweet Vernal-grass	*Anthoxanthum odoratum*	Poaceae				X
	Tall Raspwort	*Gonocarpus elatus*	Haloragaceae				X
	Thin-leaf Wattle	*Acacia aculeatissima*	Mimosaceae				X
	Tiny Star	*Hypoxis glabella var. glabella*	Hypoxidaceae				X
*	Toowoomba Canary-grass	*Phalaris aquatica*	Poaceae				X
	Trailing Goodenia	*Goodenia lanata*	Goodeniaceae				X
	Trailing Hop-bush	*Dodonaea procumbens*	Sapindaceae	V		v	

Origin	Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Conservation status			Rec.
				EPBC	FFG	DSE	
	Twining Fringe-lily	*Thysanotus patersonii*	Anthericaceae				X
	Variable Plantain	*Plantago varia*	Veronicaceae				X
	Varied Raspwort	*Haloragis heterophylla*	Haloragaceae				X
*	Variegated Thistle	*Silybum marianum*	Asteraceae				X
	Velvet Tussock-grass	*Poa rodwayi*	Poaceae				X
	Wallaby Grass	*Austrodanthonia spp.*	Poaceae				X
	Water Ribbons	*Triglochin procera s.l.*	Juncaginaceae				X
	Water-milfoil	*Myriophyllum spp.*	Haloragaceae				X
	Wattle Mat-rush	*Lomandra filiformis subsp. coriacea*	Xanthorrhoeaceae				X
	Wavy Swamp Wallaby-grass	*Amphibromus sinuatus*	Poaceae			v	
	Weeping Grass	*Microlaena stipoides var. stipoides*	Poaceae				X
	Wetland Blown-grass	*Lachnagrostis filiformis var. 2*	Poaceae			k	
*	White Clover	*Trifolium repens var. repens*	Fabaceae				X
	White Sunray	*Leucochrysum albicans subsp. albicans var. tricolor*	Asteraceae	E		e	
	Yam Daisy	*Microseris scapigera spp. agg.*	Asteraceae				X
	Yarra Gum	*Eucalyptus yarraensis*	Myrtaceae			r	
	Yellow Box	*Eucalyptus melliodora*	Myrtaceae				X
*	Yorkshire Fog	*Holcus lanatus*	Poaceae				X

Notes: * = introduced species; **#** = native species occurring outside of natural range; **FFG (f)** = listed as threatened under the *FFG Act*; **EPBC** = status under the *EPBC Act*; **DSE** = status in DSE Advisory List; **C** = critically endangered; **E, e** = endangered; **V, v** = vulnerable; **R, r** = rare; **k** = insufficiently known

Appendix 2: FFG Act - and EPBC Act-listed flora species from the search region and likelihood of occurrence in the study area.

No.	Common Name	Scientific Name	Family Name	Conservation Status			Habitat Preference	Likelihood of Occurrence
				FFG	EPBC	VROTS*		
1	Small Milkwort	*Comesperma polygaloides*	Polygalaceae	f		v	Heavy soils supporting grasslands and grassy woodlands (Walsh 1999a)	Habitat present - **potential to occur**
2	Australian Anchor Plant	*Discaria pubescens*	Rhamnaceae	f		r	Now extremely rare west of Melbourne (Ballarat district only). Usually associated with basaltic substrate near streams in cool elevated areas (Walsh 1999b)	Habitat present – **potential to occur**
3	Clover Glycine	*Glycine latrobeana*	Fabaceae	f	V	v	Grasslands and grassy woodlands (Jeanes 1996a)	Habitat present - **potential to occur.** NB This species has been recorded near Black Lake.
4	Ben Major Grevillea	*Grevillea floripendula*	Proteaceae	f	V	v	Restricted to a small area north of Beaufort, from Waterloo to Ben Major Forest. Grows in dry open-forest on shallow quarzitic soils (Jeanes 1996b)	Habitat present – **potential to occur** in EVC 20 Heathy Dry Forest in the north of the study area.
5	Adamson's Blown-grass	*Lachnagrostis adamsonii*	Poaceae	f	E	v	Known only from the type specimen. Slightly saline, seasonally wet area on and near the volcanic plain south of Skipton (Walsh 1994a)	Habitat present - **potential to occur.** Would most likely occur in the beds of