

EPBC 2011/5965
2022/2023 Report



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1. Introduction

The purpose of this report is for Rolleston Open Cut (ROC) to provide the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments with an update of Stage 1 compliance performance to *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* approval conditions – EPBC 2011/5965 and Schedule K of Environmental Authority EPML00370013. Submission of this report to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water specifically meets Condition 11 as listed in Table 6-1.

The primary objective of EPBC 2011/5175 is to ensure ROC is being managed in a way that protects and maintains regional biodiversity and ecological health. This report provides an annual reconciliation of progress against each approval condition and Biodiversity Offset Management Plan (BOMP).

To meet the State and Federal Offset requirements, various Biodiversity Offsets have been established and are being managed on properties referred to as Meteor Downs (Lot 9, 10 and 11 RP617702, Lot 12, RP616044, Lot 1 SP164068, Lot 2 RP616045, Lot 2 RP618664), Mount Kelman (Lot 5055 SP276918) and Wildhorse (Lot 3 SP100437). The Meteor Downs and Mount Kelman properties are owned and managed by Glencore.

The Management Plans for these offsets were approved in October 2018. Certification by the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (Qld) of the Meteor Downs and Mount Kelman (MD/MK) offset voluntary declarations (VDEC's) under the *Vegetation Management Act 1999* were received in April 2019.

In September 2020, DAWE approved an administrative amendment to the Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman and Wildhorse BOMPs. The Department of Environment and Science approved the updated BOMPs in April 2021.

During the reporting period (Nov-22 – Oct-23) ROC has received 174mm below the long term average rainfall. Above average rainfall was received in November, March and July as shown in Figure 1-1. Multiple flow event occurred in the local creeks in November.

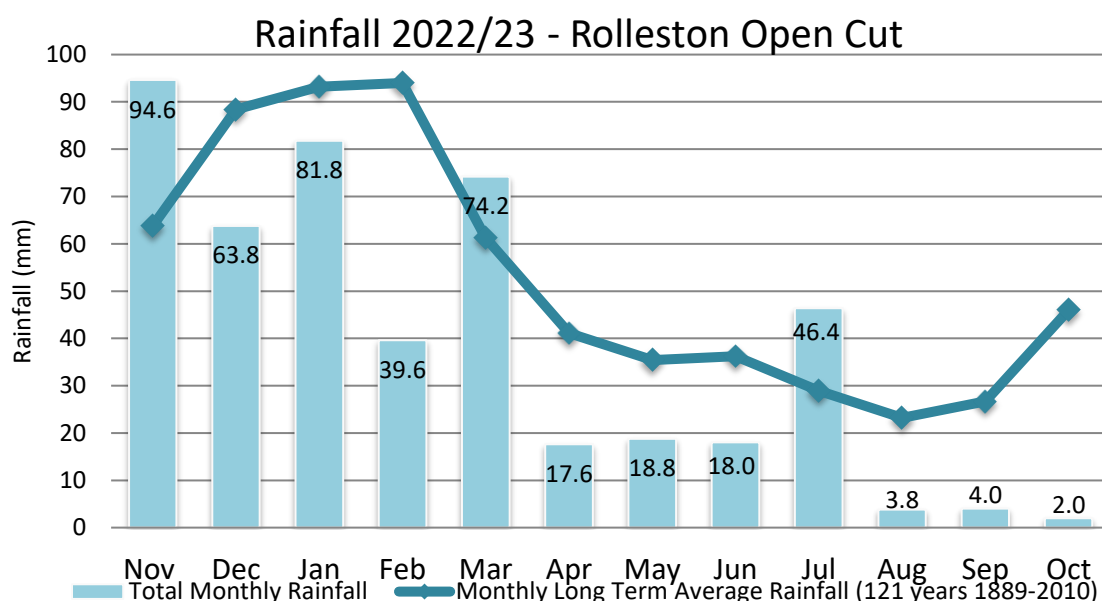


Figure 1-1 –2022 Rainfall for Rolleston Open Cut

2. Project Milestones

May-11	•Referral of Proposed Actions Submitted to the Department of Environment
Mar-16	•Commonwealth Government approval granted
Dec-16	•Stage 1/2 Variation Approved by Commonwealth
Oct-17	•Managment plans approved by the Qld Environment Depatment. •Action commenced and the Commonwealth Department of Environment notified
Dec-17	•Biodiversity Offset Managment Plans for Wildhorse & Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman submitted to the Commonwealth Department of Environment
Oct-18	•Offset Management plans - Wildhorse V.5 & Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman V.4 Approved by the Queensland & Commonwealth Envionmental Departments
2018	•Fences and firebreaks installed for Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman Offsets.
Apr-19	•Voluntary Decaration (<i>Qld Vegetation Management Act 1999</i>) was certified for the Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman Offsets.
Jul-19	•Voluntary Decaration (<i>Qld Vegetation Management Act 1999</i>) was certified for the Wildhorse Offset.
Sep-20	•DAWE approved the admended BOMPs (Wildhorse V.6 & Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman V.5)
Apr-21	•DES approved the admended BOMPs
Jul-21	•Voluntary Decaration (<i>Qld Vegetation Managment Act 1999</i>) was certified for the Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman Offsets. (4.1ha of Watercourse 11.3.25 was relocated)

Figure 2-1 – EPBC 2011/5965 Project Milestones

3. Contact Details – 2022 Activities

Offset	Contact	Details
Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman & Wildhorse	Ken Dixon, ken.dixon@glencore.com.au	Rolleston Open Cut Environment & Community Manager
Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman	Robert Graham, meteor.downs@bigpond.com.au	Colinta Holdings Property Manager
Wildhorse	Graeme McDonald, albeni_animals@outlook.com Nick McDonald, wildhorse_pastoral@outlook.com	Property Owners (Wildhorse)

Table 3-1 – Contact details

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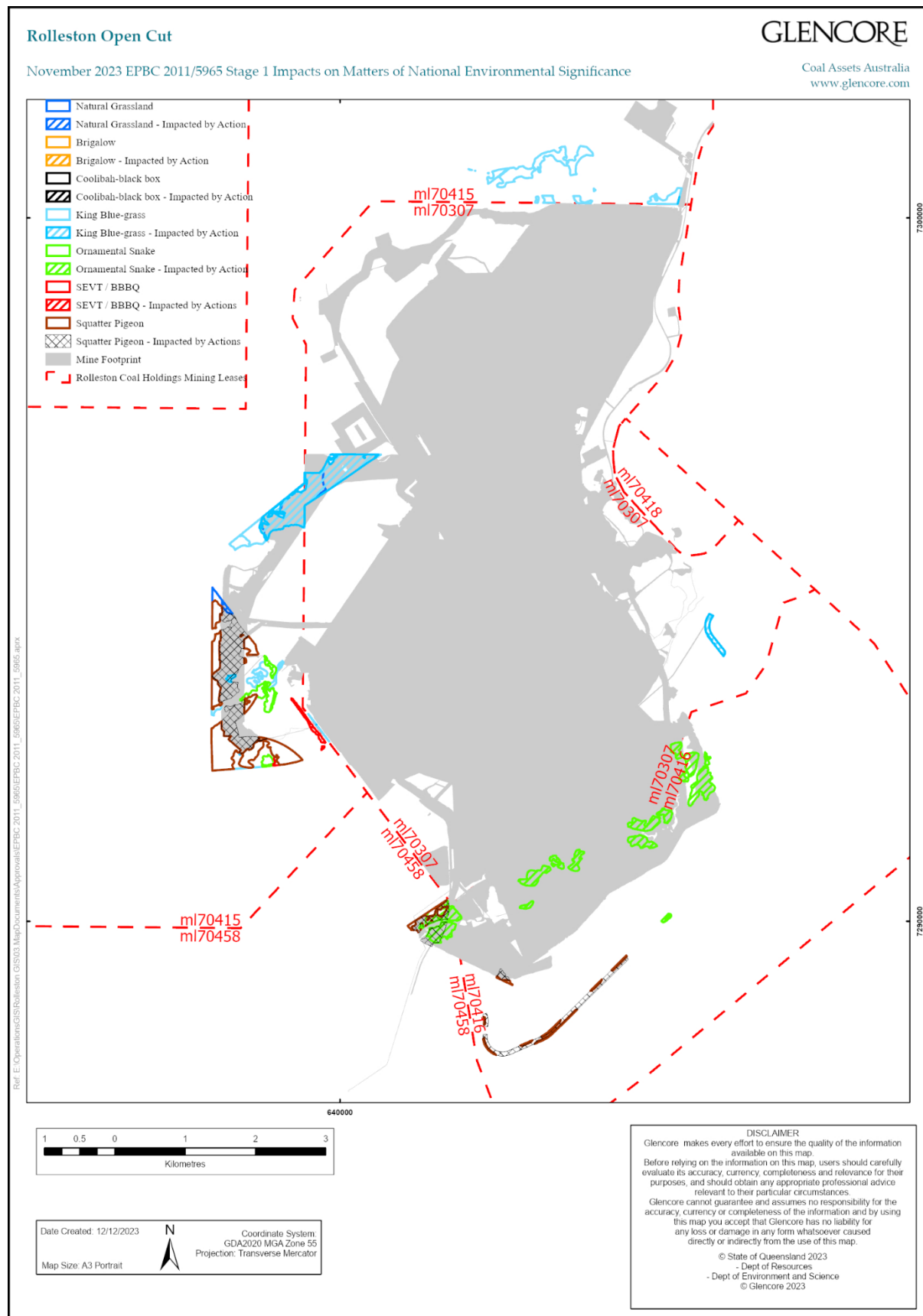


Figure 3-1 - Map of Mining Leases 70307, 70415, 70416 & 70458, showing the areas of impact to date on MNES for EPBC 2011/5965 Stage 1.

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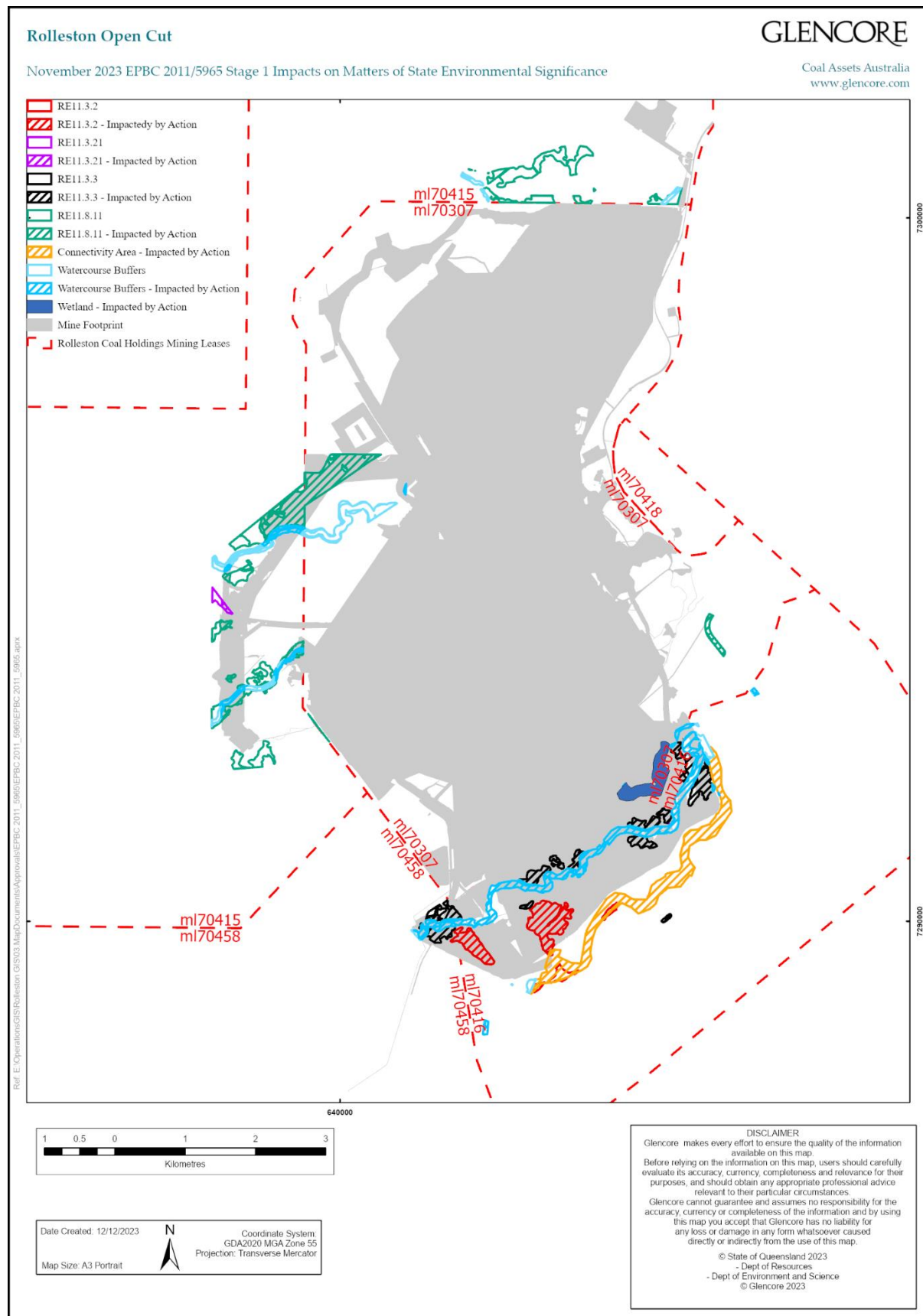


Figure 3-2 Map of Mining Leases 70307, 70415, 70416 & 70458, showing the areas of impact to date on MSES for EPML00370013 Schedule K (Stage 1).

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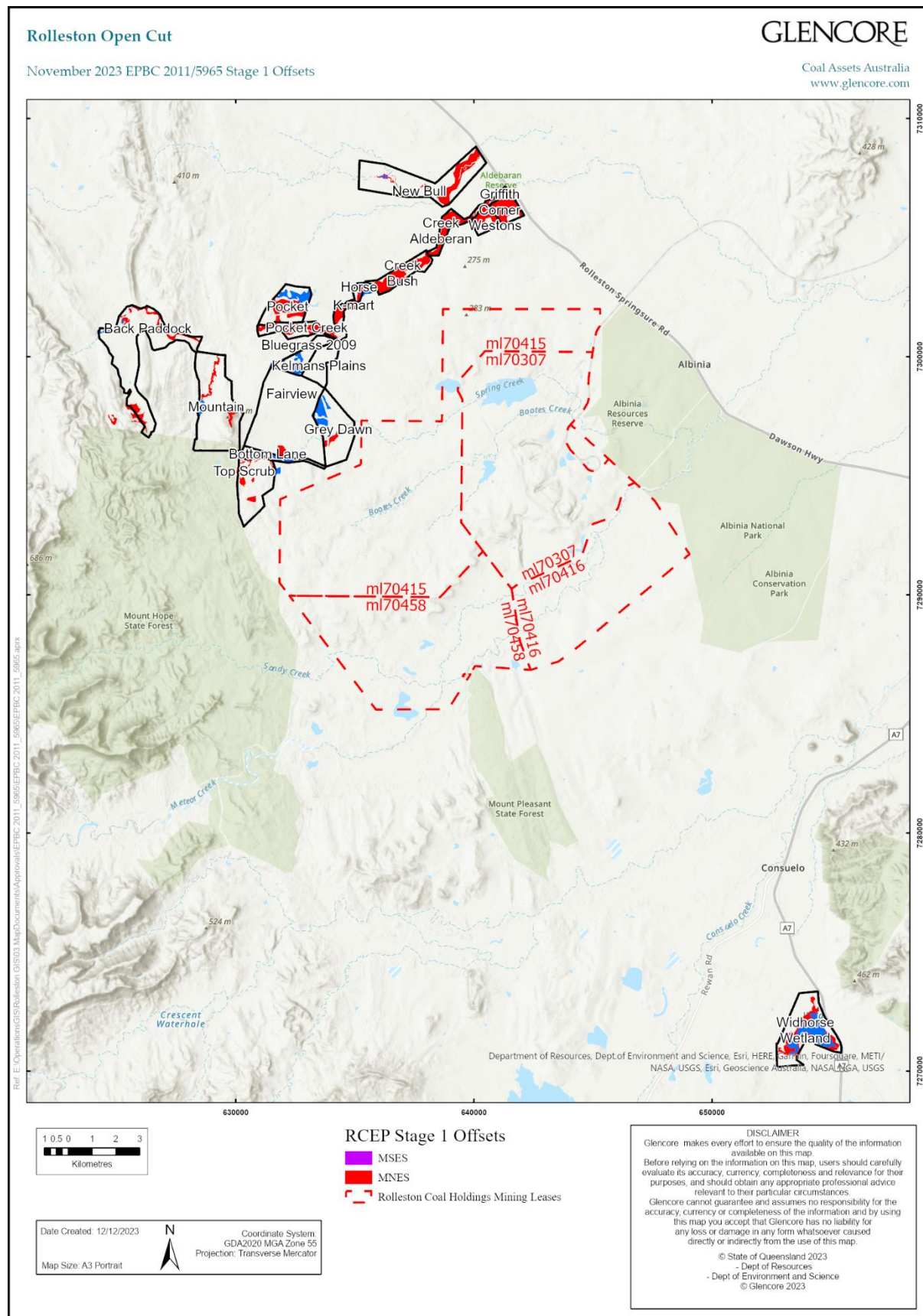


Figure 3-3 RCEP Stage 1 Offsets

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4. 2022/ 2023 Activities Undertaken

Offset		
Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman	Completed	- Cattle grazing feed budget completed in March (refer to section 5) with controlled grazing activities continuing - Chemical spraying campaign of weeds (Jan, Jun & Aug) - Quarterly Inspections
Wildhorse	Completed	- Landowner engaged to undertake feral animal management (pigs, cats), weed management, fence and fire break maintenance. - Offset area boundary fence line removed by landowner in March 2022 with works ongoing to replace fence - Cattle grazing feed budget completed in March (refer to section 5)

5. Feed Budget

In grazed areas of the offsets, minimum dry matter yields and ground cover outlined in the BOMP are determined through feed budgeting. The assessment is planned to be completed prior to each strategic grazing event in the offset area to assist in determining the stocking numbers and/or duration of grazing events whilst maintaining the required biomass for ongoing biodiversity management.

Glencore applies a conservative approach when determining the stocking rate. Although the BOMP specifies a minimum of $\geq 1,500\text{kg/ha}$ for Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman & $\geq 1,200\text{kg/ha}$ for Wildhorse.

The 3-month wet season spell is currently in effect for the 2023-2024 wet season for Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman, starting 6 November and must be observed until 6 February 2024.

Paddock	Area (ha)	Number Grazing Days	Commencing Biomass (kg/ha)	Utilisation (kg/ha)	Stocking Rate (ha/head)	Number of Stock
New Bull Offset	450	231 days Mid March – 1 November 2023	5,500	1,200	1.87	241
Westons Offset	94		6,000	1,350	1.66	57
Creek Aldeberan	127		5,500	1,200	1.87	68

Paddock	Area (ha)	Number Grazing Days	Commencing Biomass (kg/ha)	Utilisation (kg/ha)	Stocking Rate (ha/head)	Number of Stock
Griffith Corner Offset	115		6,000	1,350	1.66	69
Creek Bush	161		4,500	900	2.49	65
Horse	42		5,000	1,050	2.13	20
K-Mart	18		5,000	1,050	2.13	8
Pocket Offset	246		6,000	1,350	1.66	148
Pocket Creek	207		5,040	1,062	2.11	98
Bluegrass 2009	148		5,040	1,062	2.11	70
Kelmans Plains	153		5,040	1,062	2.11	73
Fairview	939		6,000	1,350	1.66	566
Grey Dawn	342		5,500	1,200	1.87	183
Back Paddock	681		5,000	1,050	2.13	319
Mountain Paddock	637		4,500	900	2.49	256
Bottom Lane	80		5,040	1,062	2.11	38
Top Scrub	328		6,000	1,800	1.24	264
Wildhorse	602	23 days Feb-23	3,000	675	0.3	2,000

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6. EPBC 2011/5965 Compliance

In accordance with Commonwealth Approval conditions (2011/5965), for the reporting period (2023), ROC has met the full requirements of the following Conditions:

Condition		Status	Rolleston Open Cut Comment																																							
1	Project area The Person taking the action must not clear outside of the project area as part of the action	Compliant	Figure 3-1 illustrates the areas of Matters of National Environmental Significance for the RCEP Stage 1 area and the areas cleared on Mining Lease 70307, 70415, 70416 and 70458.																																							
2	To protect protected matters within the project area , the person taking the action must not clear more than. a) 39 hectares (ha) of Brigalow (<i>Acacia harpophylla</i> dominant and co-dominant b) 750 ha of Natural grasslands of the Queensland Central Highlands and Norhern Fitzroy Basin c) 50 ha of Semi-evergreen vine thickets of the Brigalow Belt and Nandewar bioregions d) 27 ha of Coolibah-black box woodlands of the Darling Riverine Plains and Brigalow Belt south bioregions e) 1037 ha King bluegrass (<i>Dichanthium queenslandicum</i>) f) 50 ha of Black-breasted button quail habitat (<i>Turnix melanogaster</i>) g) 148 ha of Ornamental snake habitat (<i>Denisonia maculata</i>) h) 1518 ha of Squatter pigeon (southern) habitat (<i>Geophaps scripta scripta</i>)	Compliant	<table><tr><th>MNES</th><th>Stage 1 Maximum Impact Area (ha)</th><th>Impacted during the reporting period (ha)</th><th>Total Project Impact (ha)</th></tr><tr><td>Brigalow</td><td>11</td><td>2</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Natural Grasslands</td><td>67</td><td>1</td><td>32</td></tr><tr><td>SEVT</td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>0.02</td></tr><tr><td>Coolibah</td><td>27</td><td>-</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>King blue-grass</td><td>105</td><td>-</td><td>55</td></tr><tr><td><i>Turnix melanogaster</i></td><td>3</td><td>-</td><td>0.02</td></tr><tr><td><i>Denisonia maculata</i></td><td>69</td><td>8</td><td>58</td></tr><tr><td><i>Geophaps scripta scripta</i></td><td>139</td><td>13</td><td>80</td></tr></table>				MNES	Stage 1 Maximum Impact Area (ha)	Impacted during the reporting period (ha)	Total Project Impact (ha)	Brigalow	11	2	2	Natural Grasslands	67	1	32	SEVT	3	-	0.02	Coolibah	27	-	24	King blue-grass	105	-	55	<i>Turnix melanogaster</i>	3	-	0.02	<i>Denisonia maculata</i>	69	8	58	<i>Geophaps scripta scripta</i>	139	13	80
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			Note, the impact areas for stage 1 was amended when a variation for EPBC 2011/5965 was approved in July 2023, the Wildhorse & Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman BOMPs have not been updated to reflect this amendment.
3	Offsets The person taking the action must implement the following approved Biodiversity Offset Management Plan: a) Biodiversity Offset Management Plan for Wildhorse b) Biodiversity Offset Management Plan for Meteor Downs and Mount Kelman	Compliant	The commencement of Stage 1 activities was the 1 st of October 2017, the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan for the Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman Offset was submitted to the Department of Environment and Engeny on 18 th December 2017.
4	The person taking the action must, at least three (3) months prior to commencement of any stage , submit to the department for the Minister's approval a Biodiversity Offset Management Plan (BOMP) to describe how any authorised impacts on protected matters of undertaking that stage , that have not already been offset in accordance with condition 3, will be offset in accordance with the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy . The Person taking the action must not commence clearing without any part of a stage until the BOMP required by this condition of that stage has been approved by the Minister in writing. The person taking the action must implement each approved BOMP for the remainder of the period until the expiry date of this approval.	Compliant	Not triggered – no works have commenced in the Stage 2 or future stages impact area.
5	The BOMP for each stage must: a) specify the objectives and outcomes to achieved by implementing the BOMP, which must include offsetting impacts on protected matters of undertaking the stage in accordance with the EPBC Act Environmental Offsets Policy b) comply with the Environmental Management Plan Guidelines c) address all relevant conservation advices, recovery plans and or threat abatement plans d) provide maps and shapefiles of the proposed offset site(s)	Compliant	The Stage 1 BOMPs were approved by the department on 25 th October 2018. Subsequent updates to BOMPs were approved in September 2020. The approved management plans complied with conditions 5 a) – m).

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	e) provide maps and shapefiles of all project stages, including the stage that is the subject of the BOMP and also indicating the area of future stage/s f) describe the baseline (i.e. prior to commencement of the stage) condition of the protected matters and their habitat within the relevant stage g) describe the baseline condition of the proposed offset(s) including the presence of protected matters and quality of habitat h) specify the performance goals for the offsets(s) i) identify clear and concise indicators of whether performance goals are likely to be achieved j) specify the effort, method, timing and frequency of monitoring that will be undertaken to detect the specified indicators and determine whether the offset strategy is meeting performance goals k) identify appropriate corrective actions if the proposed indicators are not being met l) clearly state the position of persons responsible for implementing the BOMP m) specify timelines for review of the BOMP, noting that any revised version of the BOMP must be submitted to the department and approved by the Minister in writing before implementation of the revised BOMP.		
6	Revoked	N/A	N/A
7	The person taking the action must register a legally binding conservation mechanism over each offset area specified in a BOMP approved by the Minister in writing withing 3 years of the commencement of any stage to which the BOMP applies. The legally binding conservation mechanism over the offset areas must not be removed unless another legally binding conservation mechanism is in place.	Compliant	The Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman and Wildhorse offsets were secured under Voluntary Declarations under the Queensland <i>Vegetation Management Act 1999</i> in April-19 and July-19, within the 3-year timeframe. Subsequently, Voluntary Declarations were updated for Meteor Downs/ Mount Kelman in July 2021. Regarding the Wildhorse Voluntary Declaration, the Department has been

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			made aware that the landowner has removed the Declaration from the Wildhorse property. ROC is currently working with all parties to register a new Voluntary Declaration.
			This condition has not been triggered for stage 2.
8	General For the protection of protected matters the person taking the action must: a) Comply with Environmental Authority EPML00370013 (issued on 18 October 2022 for the Rolleston Coal Mine project) under the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> (Qld) where the conditions relate to monitoring, managing, mitigating, avoiding, offsetting, recording, or reporting on impacts to protected matters. b) Publish on their website, the annual water monitoring report required under condition D23 of the Environmental Authority (detailed in condition 8a) within one (1) month of submission to the Queensland Government. c) Publish on their website, an annual groundwater monitoring report within twelve (12) months of commencement and then within every twelve (12) months for the life of the approval. The annual groundwater monitoring report must outline the finding of the groundwater monitoring program which is required to be developed under condition E6 of the Environmental Authority (detailed in condition 8a). This must include the results of monitoring, a summary report and discussion of how the results compare to past results and relevant water quality standards. The reports required in conditions 8b and 8c of this approval must be retained on the person taking the action's website for the duration of the approval. d) Advise the Department in writing of any proposed changes to Queensland Environmental Authority conditions for which	Compliant	a) Records relating to compliance with the approval are routinely maintained as part of Glencore's internal environmental management system processes. b) The 2022/23 Receiving Environment Monitoring Program Annual Report was published on the Rolleston Open Cut webpage on 16th May 2023. c) The 2022/23 Annual Groundwater Report was published on the Rolleston Open Cut webpage on the 31st August 2023. d) Not triggered – there have been no changes to protected matters for Environmental Authority (EA) EPML00370013 during the reporting period. e) Not triggered – there have not been any non-compliance or potential non-compliance with this approval or EA EPML00370013, October 2022.

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	condition 8a applies, within 10 days of formally proposing a change or becoming aware of the Queensland Government proposing a change. e) Notify the Department in writing of non-compliance or potential non-compliance with any condition of this approval for which condition 8a applies, within ten (10) business days of becoming aware of the non-compliance or potential non-compliance.		
9	Within twenty (20) business days after the commencement of the action , the person taking the action must advise the Department in writing of the actual date commencement .	Compliant	The action commenced on the 1 st October 2017, with notification made to the Department on 16 th October 2017.
10	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 BOMP, reports or strategies 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	Records relating to compliance with the approval are routinely maintained as part of Glencore's internal environmental management system processes.
11	Within three months of every twelve (12) month anniversary of the commencement of the action , the person taking the action must publish a report on its website addressing compliance with each of the conditions of this approval, including implementation of any management plans as specified in the conditions for the life of the approval outlining how they have been compliant with the conditions of this approval over the previous twelve (12) months, including the implementation of any management plans, strategies or programs as specified in conditions. Documentary evidence providing proof of the date of publication must be provided to the Department at the same time as the compliance report is published.	Compliant	This report is to comply with Condition 11. The report was published onto the Rolleston Open Cut webpage before the three month anniversary of the commencement of Action, i.e. it was published before the 1 st January, within three months of the 12 month anniversary of commencing the action on 1 st October.
12	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 audit must not	Compliant	Not Triggered – Rolleston Open Cut has not been directed to undertake an independent audit for this approval.

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	commence unless and until the Minister has approved the independent auditor and audit criteria. The audit report must address the criteria to the satisfaction of the Minister .		
13	If, at any time after five (5) 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 .	Compliant	The action has commenced, thus this condition no longer applies.
14	Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Minister , the person taking the action must publish all management plans referred to in these conditions of approval on its website. Each management plan must be published on the website within one (1) month of being approved by the Minister and remain available on that website for the life of the approval.	Compliant	The BOMP's for the Stage 1 Offsets were approved on the 25 th October 2018 and the Management plans were uploaded onto the Rolleston Open Cut website on the 27 th November 2018. The DAWE approved an amendment to the BOMP's on 22 nd September 2020, the updated BOMP's were uploaded onto the Rolleston Open Cut website on the 29 th September 2020.

Table 6-1 EPBC 2011/5965 Compliance

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7. EA EPML00370013 Table K1 Status

Note, the impact areas for stage 1 was amended when a variation for EPBC 2011/5965 was approved in July 2023, the Wildhorse & Meteor Down/ Mount Kelman BOMPs have not been updated to reflect this amendment.

Prescribed Environmental Matters		Stage 1 Maximum Impact Area (ha)	Impacted during the reporting period (ha)	Total Project Impact (ha)
Endangered Ecosystem 11.3.21	Regional	3.3	0.3	1.5
Of concern Ecosystem 11.3.2	Regional	45.0	-	37.8
Of concern Ecosystem 11.3.3	Regional	57.8	10.8	55.5
Of concern Ecosystem 11.8.11	Regional	134.9	8.5	65.9
Wetland 11.3.27		21.7	-	21.7
RE 11.3.25 watercourse Buffer		77.7	8.3	52.7
RE 11.3.27 watercourse Buffer		6.6	-	6.6
RE 11.3.3 watercourse Buffer		7.5	0.1	7.2
RE 11.3.6 watercourse Buffer		11.0	1.8	4.1
RE 11.4.9 watercourse Buffer		0.8	0.1	0.1
RE 11.8.11 watercourse Buffer		9.6	1.9	3.6
RE 11.8.5 watercourse Buffer		5.0	0.8	1.0
RE 11.8.5/11.8.11 watercourse Buffer		0.3	-	-
Connectivity Area		78	-	78
Endangered Ecosystem 11.4.9 (Brigalow)	Regional	Refer to Table 6-1 Condition 2		
Squatter Pigeon Habitat				
Black-breasted button-quail				
Ornamental Snake Habitat				
King Blue Grass Habitat				

Table 7-1 MSES impacted by Action

GLENCORE