Roadkill Monitoring Report I January to 31 March 2023 Tarkine Drive Upgrade

Tarkine Drive – Roadkill Monitoring Report – January to March 2023

This report details the results of roadkill monitoring activities for the Tarkine Drive over the first three-month period of 2023, and is the thirty-seventh report in total. The Commonwealth Government approved the project to proceed in line with a number of environmental conditions approved under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Condition 11 of this approval requires that the Department of State Growth publish a roadkill monitoring report every three months, as part of the *Draft Roadkill Monitoring Adaptive Management Plan* (RMAMP), which details the results of monitoring activities

Tarkine Drive, a 92.7km road, is monitored weekly for signs of roadkill (see Image 1 below). All road upgrade works were completed in December 2014, with the road officially reopened in June 2015.

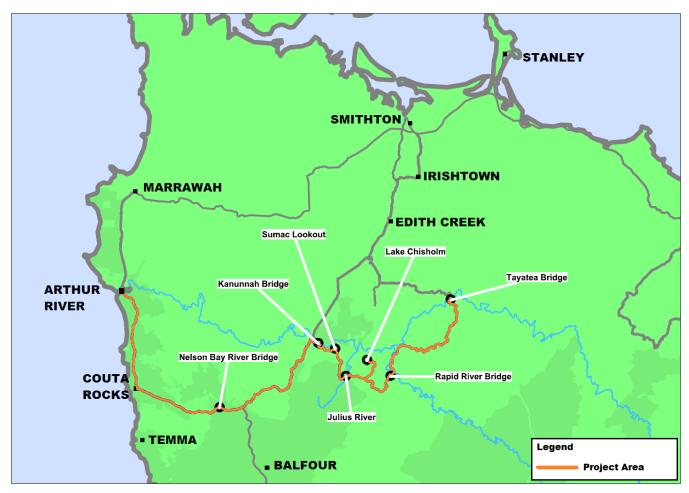


Image 1. Map of project area.

Data collected as part of these monitoring activities is based on pre-defined criteria outlined by the Approval. These criteria are:

- Date and time of identification;
- Location (GPS coordinates);
- Species identified (all species are to be recorded);
- Body condition; and
- Any other notable circumstances.



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Monitoring results for this three-month period are detailed in appendices at the end of this report. Eleven animals were recorded as roadkill on the Tarkine Drive during this period (see Table 1 in Appendix A).

Across the project area, roadkill numbers continue to remain well below the trigger thresholds outlined as part of the Approval.

All monitoring activities occur under a regular maintenance regime, specified in the RMAMP.

Roadkill mitigation measures were implemented as part of the construction project to minimise roadkill numbers (See Appendix B). These measures include:

- Reduced speed limits;
- Installation of audible 'rumble' strips at 26 separate locations;
- Installation of virtual fencing to prevent animals entering the road (undertaken by Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service)
- Use of light-coloured pavement in the road surface to improve visibility;
- Removal of roadside vegetation to reduce proximity of habitat to road;
- Installation of new table drains to reduce ponding of water at the roadside;
- Improved sight distance;
- Wildlife warning signs; and
- Regular monitoring and removal of roadkill to prevent other scavenger animals being attracted to the road.

All of the above-listed measures have already been implemented and continue to be maintained. It is difficult to specifically appropriate reduced numbers of roadkill to a specific measure or circumstance. It is expected that the implementation of these roadkill mitigation measures has assisted in reducing the incidences of roadkill throughout known roadkill hotspots, however this is subject to significant variability in road use, road user behaviours and other chance factors.

Following the approval of the RMAMP, should total numbers of roadkill be found to be increasing, additional mitigation measures will be implemented at pre-existing or newly identified roadkill hotspot locations.



Appendix A: Tables of Results



Table 1 Q1 Tarkine Upgrade Roadkill Monitoring Results

Date	Time	Common Name	Body Condition	Eastings	Northings	GPS Error	Impact Type	Other Circumstances
6/1/2023	8:37	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	312407	5437541	10	vehicle	
17/1/2023	12:38	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	349290	5451235	10	vehicle	
1/2/2023	2:02	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	349124	5451256	10	Vehicle	
1/2/2023	2:06	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	308355	5439124	10	Vehicle	
1/2/2023	2:13	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	307225	5439613	10	Vehicle	
1/2/2023	2:16	Wallaby – Bennetts	4	321917	5438628	10	Vehicle	
13/2/2023	10:08	Wallaby – Bennetts	4	320160	5437480	10	vehicle	
20/02/2023	10:00							No roadkill identified
27/02/2023	10:00							No roadkill identified
8/3/2023	10:54	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	319299	5437355	10	Vehicle	
15/3/2023	13.36	Wallaby – Bennetts	4	316097	5436930	10	Vehicle	
15/3/2023	14:56	Wallaby – Bennetts	4	314950	5437049	10	Vehicle	
21/3/2023	12:34	Brushtail Possum	5	328895	5442898	10	Vehicle	
28/03/2023	10:00							No roadkill identified

Appendix B: Map of Installed Mitigation Measures

