

Roadkill Monitoring Report 1 October to 31 December 2023 Tarkine Drive Upgrade



January 2024

Tarkine Drive – Roadkill Monitoring Report – October to December 2023

This report details the results of roadkill monitoring activities for the Tarkine Drive over the fourth three-month period of 2023, and is the fortieth 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.

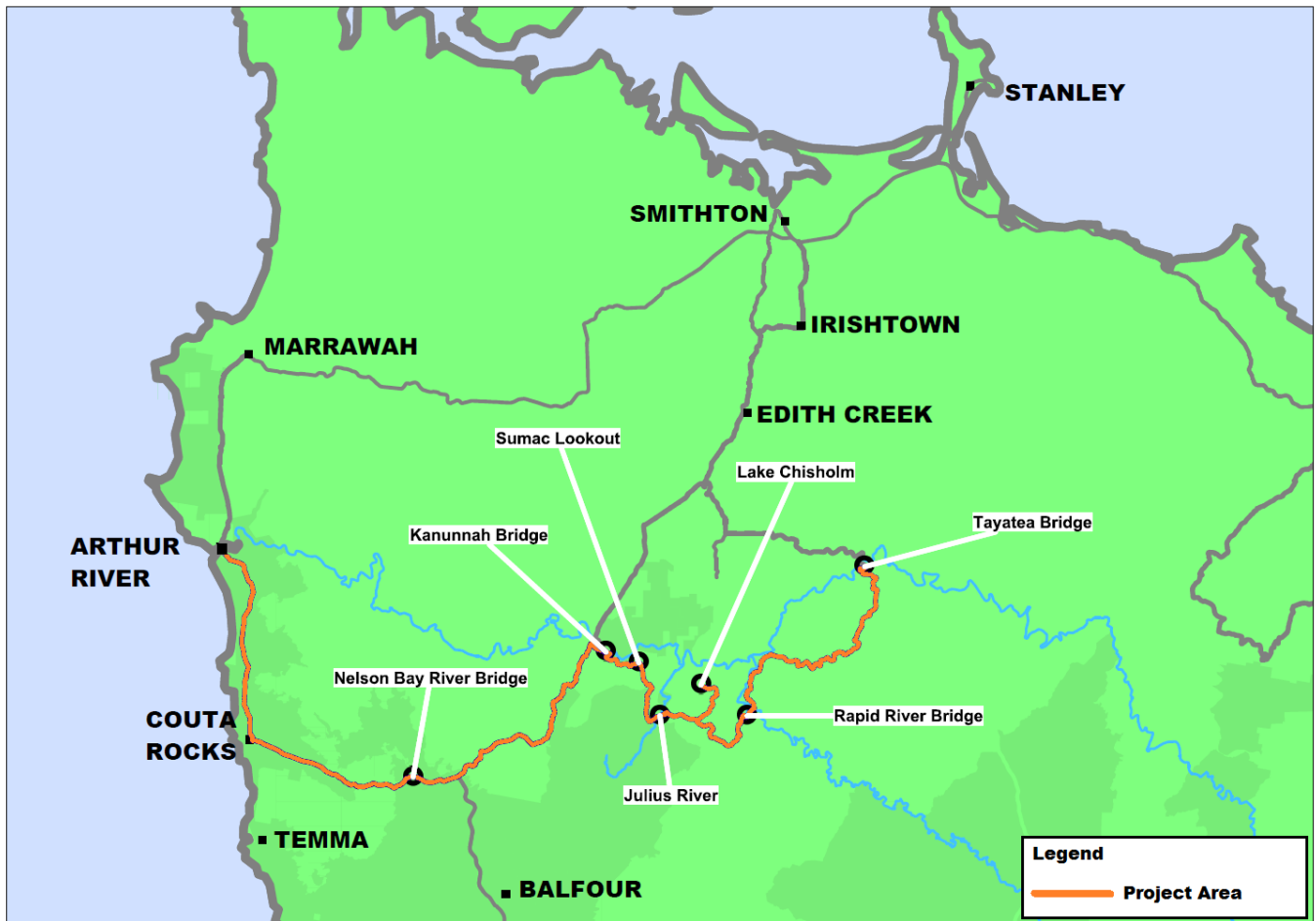


Image 1. Map of project area.

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. Seventeen animals (17) were recorded as roadkill on the Tarkine Drive during this period (see Table 1 in Appendix A). No threatened species were recorded.

As this value exceeded the first level trigger of condition 11b (EPBC 2011/6210), that is, more than 15 and less than 20 individual roadkill, the numbers of roadkill for the next month (January 2024) were examined (as specified in condition 11b) to determine if a persistent trend in roadkill was increasing. Only two roadkill were reported in January 2024 (one Bennetts wallaby and one wombat). No threatened species were recorded.

From the high numbers recorded in the third quarter of 2023, roadkill records had returned to more typical weekly numbers by December. It appears that the recorded values have now returned to the levels observed up until July 2023.

Given that roadkill numbers are below the threshold exceedance level as specified under condition 11b and no threatened species were recorded no additional monitoring under condition 11b is required.

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.

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 Q4 Tarkine Upgrade Roadkill Monitoring Results

Date	Time	Common Name	Body Condition	Eastings	Northings	GPS Error	Impact Type	Other Circumstances
3/10/2023	11:29							No roadkill identified
10/10/2023	11:49							No roadkill identified
11/10/2023	12:44	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	325490	5440291	10	vehicle	
17/10/2023	10:47	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	324689	5440597	10	vehicle	
23/10/2023	12:18		5					No roadkill identified
30/10/2023	11:40		5					No roadkill identified
7/11/2023	11:19		4					No roadkill identified
13/11/2023	12:06	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	306035	5444989	10	Vehicle	
13/11/2023	11:47	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	311495	5437920	10	Vehicle	
20/11/2023	11:54	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	323381	5440072	10	Vehicle	
20/11/2023	11:48	Wallaby – Bennetts	4	326876	5440715	10	Vehicle	
20/11/2023	11:24	Wallaby – Bennetts	4	330614	5446494	10	vehicle	
22/11/2023	9:50	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	328886	5445486	10	Vehicle	
27/11/2023	10:52	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	317712	5437593	10	Vehicle	
27/11/2023	10:44	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	320871	5437822	10	Vehicle	
28/11/2023	13:26	Wallaby – Bennetts	4	327219	5442113	10	Vehicle	
28/11/2023	11:58	Wallaby – Bennetts	4	340221	5442201	10	vehicle	
5/12/2023	11:16	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	323089	5439810	10	vehicle	
5/12/2023	10:57	Pademelon	5	317091	5437400	10	vehicle	
11/12/2023	13:00	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	305732	5448365	10	Vehicle	
11/12/2023	11:38	Wallaby – Bennetts	5	329657	5447033	10	Vehicle	
15/12/2023	10:27	Wombat	4	345460	5445891	10	Vehicle	
27/12/2023	21:15							No roadkill identified

Appendix B: Map of Installed Mitigation Measures




 Data sources:
 Base image by TASMAP (C) State of Tasmania
 Base data from The LIST (C) State of Tasmania
 Heritage data from CHMA
 Design data from pitt&sherry
 Map produced by pitt&sherry Date: 25/05/2012
 Map ref: H619010_H038_PER_Fig_Projects_12P_RevA


 Scale: 1:125,000 Map Projection: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

Roadkill	Mitigation
● - Threatened Species	■ - Rumble Strips
● - Non-Threatened Species	○ - Light-Coloured Pavement
● - Non-Threatened Species Q3 2016	

DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH
 Tarkine Drive - Progress Report - July-September 2016