Roadkill Monitoring Report – April to June 2015

Tarkine Drive Upgrade

This report details the results of roadkill monitoring activities for the Tarkine Drive over the second three-month period of 2015, and is the seventh report in total. The Commonwealth Government has 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 *Roadkill Monitoring Adaptive Management Plan* (RMAMP), which details the results of monitoring activities. The publishing of this report precedes the approval of the RMAMP.

Tarkine Drive, a 92.7km road (see *Image 1* below), is monitored weekly for signs of roadkill. All roadkill data recorded for this current period is not directly associated with construction activities and is a reflection of normal road use activity.

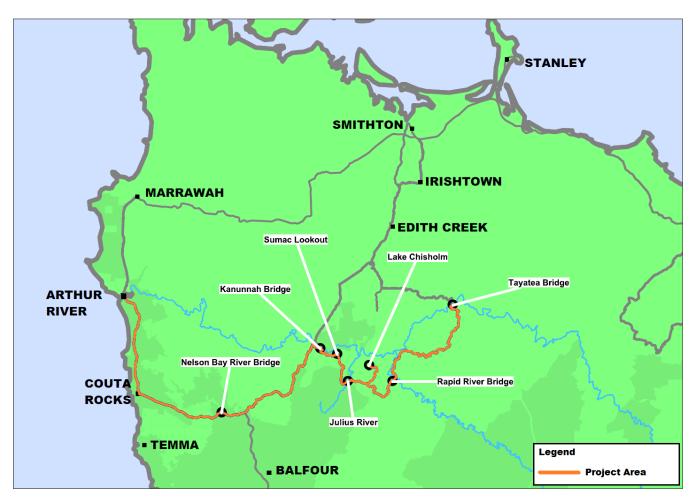


Image 1. Map of project area.



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Data collected as part of these monitoring activities is based on pre-defined criteria. This criteria is:

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

Monitoring results for this three-month period are detailed in appendices at the end of this report. Four animals were recorded as roadkill as a result of normal vehicle movements (see table in *Appendix A*). The locations of these species are displayed on the map in *Appendix B*. All monitoring activities occur under a regular maintenance regime, specified in the RMAMP. Monitoring was undertaken 14 times over this quarter. Monitoring occurs on any given day of the week, with each new week commencing on a Monday. This provides for a random sample of collection to ensure that results do not reflect any one particular pattern of behaviour by animals or motorists.

A number of the mitigation measures have been implemented aiming to reduce incidents of roadkill throughout the project area. These include:

- Reduced speed limits;
- Installation of audible 'rumble' strips at 26 separate locations;
- 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 have 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.



<u>Appendix A</u>: Table of Results – Normal Vehicle Activity

Roadkill Counts from Normal Vehicle Activity					
EDDC Consider	Da sista	4 April to 20 km - 2015			
EPBC Species Register:		1 April to 30 June 2015			
Date	Recording Time	GPS Coordinates	Species Identified	ody Condition Scor	Notable Circumstances
8/04/2015	11.56am	-41.07028635; 144.6895033	Bare-nosed wombat	Very healthy	Nil
15/04/2015	1.21pm	-41.10128221; 144.6853956	Pademelon	Healthy	Juvenile (at-foot joey)
20/05/2015	11.45am	-41.13908; 144.94825	Pademelon	Healthy	Nil
24/06/2015	10.15am	-41.1360058; 144.95503125	Pademelon	Very healthy	Nil
					4 animals
					1

Appendix B: Map of Roadkill Locations

