Roadkill Monitoring Report 1April-30 June 2017 Tarkine Drive Upgrade

This report details the results of roadkill monitoring activities for the Tarkine Drive over the second three-month period of 2017, and is the fourteenth 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.

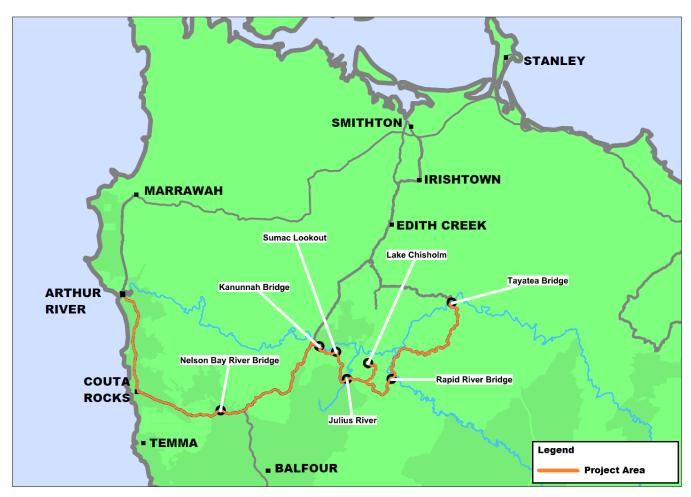


Image 1. Map of project area.

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. Two animals were recorded as roadkill during this period; no threatened species were recorded (see table in *Appendix A*). These results may be reflective of the normal seasonal variation of animal activity in this area, increased accessibility of the road due to the completion of road works or increased visitation to the area; nonetheless, these numbers are consistent with modelling developed prior to the upgrade and remain below the trigger thresholds outlined as part of the Approval.

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

Roadkill remains an issue of particular concern for the area, and as such, a number of measures have been implemented as part of the construction project to minimise total 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: Table of Results



Table of Results

Roadkill Counts										
EPBC species										
register: 1 April										
to 30 June 2017										
				Decimal degrees				GPS		
			Body					Error	Impact	Other
Date	Time	Common Name	Condition			Eastings	Northings	(m)	Туре	Circumstances
6/04/2017	1.33pm	pademelon	healthy	-41.19209271	144.7635907	312455.3510	5437507.3810	10	vehicle	N/A
		red necked bennets	unable to be							
24/04/2017	1.25pm	wallaby	determined	-41.08459724	144.6912407	306071.1140	5449283.3060	10	vehicle	N/A
TOTAL		2								

Appendix B: Map of Installed Mitigation Measures

