



Delivery of offset commitments for the Bonner 4 East environmental offset site (EPBC 2010/5648)

Report for the Australian Government Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities

April 2013

This report has been prepared to demonstrate how the ACT Parks and Conservation Service (PCS) has implemented the management plan for the Bonner 4 East environmental offset site on behalf of the Land Development Agency (LDA) (the proponents), pursuant to condition 5 of the approval decision for Ngunnawal Estate 2C (EPBC 2010/5648).

Activity	Description	Dates	Expenditure	PCS contribution
Fencing	All boundary fences have been replaced or repaired using stock proof and wildlife friendly specifications. This includes the provision of kangaroo access gates and the exclusion of barbwire. Extra posts were installed to ensure the fences are stock proof.	Completed 28 th February 2013	\$15,272.95	
Access	PCS and LDA are currently negotiating for approximately 1 hectare of Block 16, Section 2, Bonner to be handed over to PCS and managed as unleased territory land (Figure 1). A walking track is planned through this area linking the proposed footpath in the adjacent urban open space to the existing trail in Mulligan's Flat Nature Reserve (Figure 1).	Walking track to be completed 2013/14		
Interpretation	The LDA has commissioned the design and installation of community interpretation signage highlighting the significance of the Golden Sun Moth in the local environment. These signs will be installed within the urban park located outside the northwestern boundary of the Bonner offset site (Figures 1 & 2). PCS will design and install an additional community interpretation sign. This will be located at the car park in the southeast corner of the block (Figure 2).	PCS signage to be completed 2013/14		
Golden Sun Moth habitat quality assessment	A quality assessment of the Golden Sun Moth habitat was undertaken in Spring 2012. The results from this assessment provide baseline data with which results from future monitoring can be compared. Photo monitoring points were also established.	6 th November 2012	-	In kind

Activity	Description	Dates	Expenditure	PCS contribution
Floristic survey	<p>A floristic survey was undertaken in Spring 2012 as part of the Golden Sun Moth habitat monitoring program. This survey identified 45 native and 20 exotic species.</p> <p>None of the 3 rare plants previously recorded on the reserve were observed. PCS has since been provided with GPS co-ordinates of the transects along which the plants were observed and a more systematic survey for the species will be undertaken in Spring 2013.</p>	6 th November 2012	-	In kind
Biomass management	<p>The Bonner offset site is currently only grazed by kangaroos. Based on advice from ACT Government ecologists and the results from the habitat quality assessment, it was determined that biomass levels within the offset site are currently at suitable levels for the Golden Sun Moth. The kangaroos are also currently maintaining the biomass at suitable levels from a bushfire fuel management perspective.</p> <p>ACT Government ecologists have also provided descriptive guidelines on how to manage the biomass within the offset site to meet Golden Sun Moth habitat requirements.</p> <p>PCS has also taken over managing the fenced section outside the southern boundary of the offset site from Parks and City Services (PaCS) (Figure 2). This is to reduce the risk of invasive plants entering the offset from PaCS' machinery.</p>	-	-	-
Weed Control	A weed control program is in place focusing on controlling all highly invasive weed species: Serrated Tussock and Woody Weed control	December 2012	\$3,125.91	-
Pest Animal Control	There are no rabbit warrens within the Bonner offset. The block is too close to urban areas to control foxes with 1080, however fox control is undertaken within the broader Mulligan's Flat Nature Reserve.	-	-	-
Staff	PCS are currently supporting 0.2 FTE field staff position to roll out the management plan for the Bonner Offset Site.	On-going		\$21,600
	Funds remaining (from \$188,000 remaining as at 1st May 2012	\$169,601.14		



- - - - - Proposed Walking Track
- Management track
- LDA Interpretation Sign
- Stile
- Proposed Unleased Territory Land
- Urban Open Space Footpaths
- Bonner_Boundary

Figure 1. Bonner 4 East Offset Site

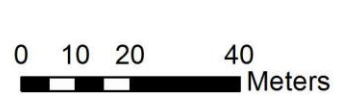




Figure 2. Bonner 4 East Offset Site

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|--|-------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| | Car Park | | Management Track |
| | LDA Interpretation Sign | | Bicentennial National Trail |
| | PCS Interpretation Sign | | Proposed Unleased Territory Land |
| | Stile | | Urban Open Space Footpaths |
| | Proposed Walking Track | | Bonner_Boundary |
| | | | PaCS land to be managed by PCS |



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Meters



Future management actions (2013/14):

- Continue with weed control program.
- Monitor for presence of pest animals.
- Survey for rare plants.
- Biomass levels will be assessed leading up to the Golden Sun Moth flight season and action will be undertaken (if needed).
- Thinning of *Eucalyptus* regrowth may be needed to maintain the open grassland structure required by the Golden Sun Moth. If undertaken this will be done in-conjunction with ACT Government ecologists and all necessary approval processes will be followed.
- Design and construct walking track.
- Complete and install Golden Sun Moth community interpretation signage.
- Minor erosion abatement works will be undertaken in the northwestern corner of the property.