



7.0 Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation of the areas disturbed by construction but not required for operational activities forms a critical element of the Project's efforts to minimise the extent and duration of impacts to MNES and the broader values of the Project area. A Preliminary Rehabilitation Plan has been prepared for the Project and is provided in **Appendix K**.

The Project has made an industry-leading commitment to rehabilitate temporary construction disturbances and retain only the minimum footprint required for safe operations of approximately 107.3 ha (or 0.3 % of the Project area). A key focus of the rehabilitation program will be to rehabilitate habitat for those MNES assessed as having a significant residual impact including koala, masked owl, northern greater glider and spectacled flying-fox (at least 80%) and magnificent brood frog (at least 70%), with a goal to rehabilitate 70 % of all other areas.

For each of the MNES likely to experience an SRI due to the Project (see **Section 8.0**), a considerable proportion of the habitat to be cleared will be rehabilitated as summarised in **Table 7-1** and **Table 7-2**.

The Project has made a commitment to rehabilitate these areas above and beyond the requirement of direct and indirect offset requirements, taking into account the sensitive Project setting adjacent to the WTQWHA.

The purpose of the rehabilitation program is to facilitate the re-establishment of native ecosystems that are self-sustaining in the long-term and provide comparable habitat value to the pre-construction ecosystems. As the majority of the Project area currently supports remnant vegetation, this means the intention is for rehabilitated vegetation communities to have reached remnant status by the end of the operational lifetime of the proposed wind farm (approximately 30 years), as determined by comparing the rehabilitated vegetation communities with published benchmarks for the relevant regional ecosystems.

Table 7-1 MNES Rehabilitation Summary

MNES	Stage 1			Stage 2		
	SRI (ha)	Proposed Rehabilitation Area (ha)	Proportion of SRI Proposed to be Rehabilitated	SRI (ha)	Proposed Rehabilitation Area (ha)	Proportion of SRI Proposed to be Rehabilitated
Koala	413.6	361.1	87.3%	430.2	389.6	90.6%
Magnificent brood frog	67.9	63	92.8%	52.6	51.7	98.3%
Masked owl	576.1	513.6	89.2%	450.2	409	90.8%
Northern greater glider	520.4	463.8	89.1%	367.6	335.6	91.3%
Spectacled flying fox	553.3	493.2	89.1%	422.8	384.4	90.9%

Table 7-2 MNES Rehabilitation Summary

	Stage 1 Area (ha)	Stage 1 & 2 Area (ha)
Area of disturbance	607.1	1071.1



	Stage 1 Area (ha)	Stage 1 & 2 Area (ha)
Operational footprint	65.8	107.3
Area theoretically available for rehabilitation	Up to 541.3 ha ~ 89 %	Up to 963.8 ha ~ 90 %
Minimum overall rehabilitation target	424.94 ha (70%)	753.31 ha (70%)