



The General Manager
Central Coast Council
91-99 Mann Street
GOSFORD NSW 2250

By email: alexander.batten@centralcoast.nsw.gov.au

Attention Alexander Batten

Dear Mr Batten,

Thank you for the referral via the Planning Portal inviting the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) to provide advice on development application DA/12/2024 for the Construction and Operation of the South Cell at Woy Woy Waste Management Facility (WMF).

NPWS has reviewed the proposal in relation to the neighbouring Brisbane Water National Park (BWNP) and requests that the development is assessed with reference to the document entitled [Developments adjacent to National Parks and Wildlife Service lands](#) (DPIE-NPWS 2020). These guidelines were prepared for consent and planning authorities and outline key matters of concern for NPWS which are commonly encountered with developments on lands next to our parks and reserves.

NPWS has identified the following queries and concerns in relation to DA/12/2024.

Stormwater management

- Section 3.2.6 and Section 7.2.3 of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) summarises the proposed stormwater management infrastructure and strategy. It is understood that sediment laden water in the southern catchment of the facility drains to two existing hydraulically connected sediment ponds to the south of the proposed south cell, and that during times of high flow, these sedimentation ponds overflow through pipes to the south into Patonga Creek.

Patonga Creek enters BWNP approximately 100m downstream of where the high flow overflow water enters the creek. NPWS has concerns about the potential impact of sediment laden water on the waterway health of Patonga Creek within BWNP.

NPWS requests further information regarding what (if any) measures are taken to ensure that this overflow water does not contain sediment.

Furthermore, NPWS recommends that as part of the development consent a water quality monitoring station be established immediately upstream of where Patonga Creek enters BWNP (see Figure 1 attached) and that Central Coast Council notifies NPWS when the sediment pond overflow system is activated and this water is realised into Patonga Creek.

Potential impacts of airborne litter on BWNP

- With the expansion of the landfill operations further into the southern portion of the WMF, NPWS is concerned about the possible impact of airborne litter within the facility entering BWNP.

NPWS is aware that the WMF is surrounded by existing boundary fencing, however the EIS is silent on measures to avoid airborne litter entering adjacent land, especially on very windy days during dumping operations.

NPWS recommends that assessment of the DA considers the potential for airborne litter to enter BWNP and applies suitable conditions (e.g., rising the height of the boundary fence around the southern portion of the WMF) as part of the development consent.

Leachate management

- Section 3.2.5 of the EIS summarises the proposed leachate management system. It is understood that leachate will be drained via gravity to a sump in the South Cell and that, from this location, leachate will be transferred via a pump and rising main to the WMF sewer connection to the Woy Woy Sewage Treatment Plan (STP). It is also understood that the South Cell would be used for emergency storage of leachate where needed in extreme weather events or in the event of a pump failure.

NPWS requests further information as to how leachate will be prevented from overflowing into the sediment ponds south of the South Cell, and thereby entering Patonga Creek via the high flow overflow pipes.

Possible encroachment onto NPWS land

- While reviewing the EIS and contemporary aerial photography, it appears there may be encroachment onto BWNP on the eastern side of the WMF, see Figures 2 and 3 attached.

To accurately determine this, NPWS recommends that, as part of the development consent, a formal site survey is required to confirm the location of the boundaries between Council-owned land and BWNP.

If you have any further questions about this issue, please contact Ms Laurie Pasco, Ranger Central Coast Area at laurie.pasco@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Steve Atkins
Manager, Central Coast Area
Hunter Central Coast Branch

6 March 2024

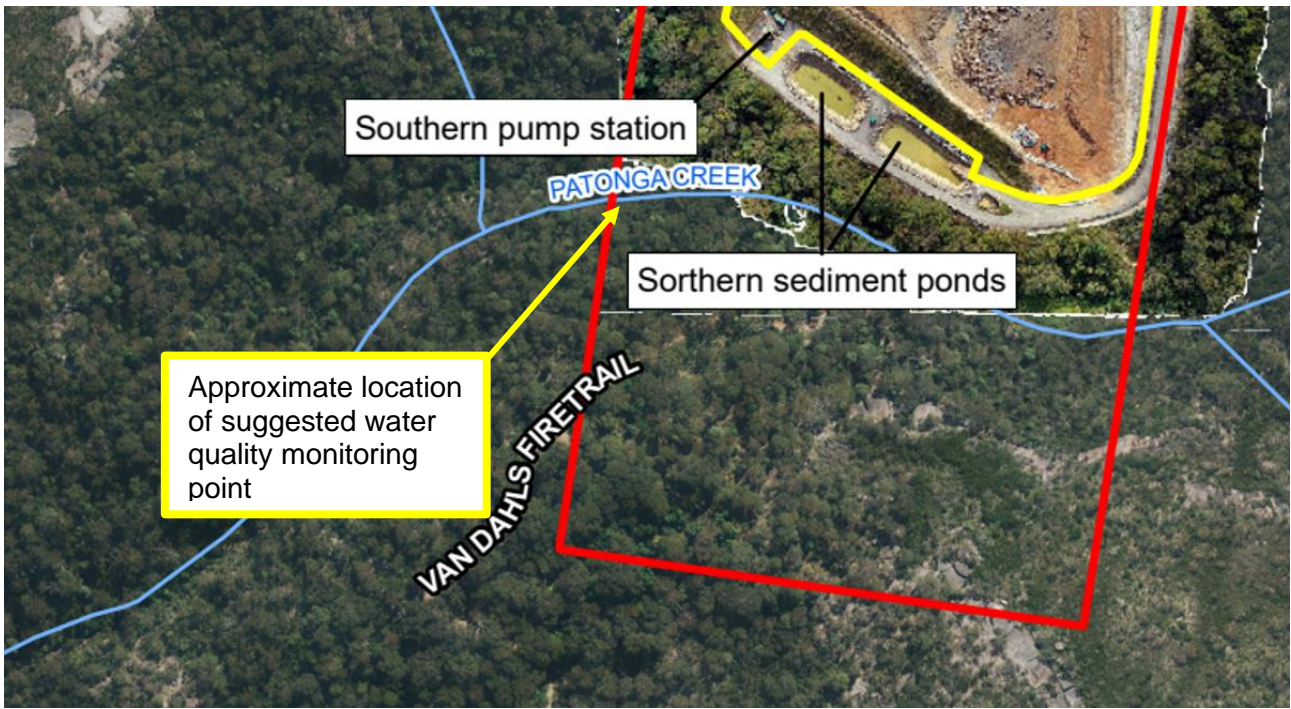


Figure 1 – Approximate location of suggested water quality monitoring point immediately upstream of where Patonga Creek enters BWNP.



Figure 2 – Location of possible encroachment onto BWNP (source: Nearmap, 29 October 2023)



Figure 3 – Close up of area of possible encroachment into BWNP (source: Nearmap, 29 October 2023)