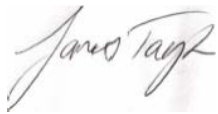


Landowner of offset site	Ian, Trish and James Taylor
Location and address of offset site	"860 Paddock" Warrambeen Pty Ltd, Rokewood – Shelford Rd, Shelford.
Offset Proponent	Dacland Stage 1 – Year 10: Start 08/04/16 Dacland Stage 2 – Year 9: Start 30/06/17 Dacland Stage 3 – Year 8: Start 25/06/18 EPBC 2013/6771
Responsible Authority	Golden Plains Shire, DCCEEW Dacland
Type of Offset Size	Native Vegetation 30 Hectares Combined
Signature	
Date	20/02/2026

Information to be included:

- A copy of the Management Action Table from the OMP with information on which actions have been completed for the year/s of this reporting period;
- A description of the specific monitoring results from surveys undertaken for vegetation/flora species;
- A description of the specific monitoring results from surveys undertaken for significant fauna species, such as the Golden Sun Moth
- Fencing work;
- Success of weed and pest animal control work;
- Successful management tools (i.e. techniques used to control weed species, protection of new plants, monitoring technique, etc.);
- Any problems or issues experienced (i.e. new infestation of weed species, storm damage to fencing, etc.)
- Include any corrective actions and contingency measures where monitoring indicates that there has been a degradation in the native vegetation and Golden Sun Moth population and habitat; and,
- Provide any photographs showing evidence of works.

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General Offset Overview

This Annual Landowner Report discusses management actions in 2025 for Dacland Offset **EPBC 2013/677**. Stage 1 is in Year 10, Stage 2 in Year 9 and Stage 3 is in Year 8, but the entire offset is reported as one overall offset rather than three individual stages in order to reduce replication of information. Stage 1 required its Year 10 Independent Monitoring and Review this year, and no external independent monitoring was required for the other two stages in this year.

The past 12 months have seen some challenging climate conditions with ongoing severe drought for most of the period, followed by decent but late spring rain. This created a very late flush of growth in late November during the grazing exclusion period (Sep 30th - Jan 31st). In early and mid spring 2025 we were worried about bare ground levels becoming too high, and then within 4-6 weeks we suddenly had very high biomass levels to manage.

Overall, the extended dry period really suited the native grassland, with low annual weed pressure despite no grazing for nearly 8 months. Our previous consistent works on perennial and woody weeds showed great outcomes with reduced levels in both. The native grasses were in abundance as were the native herbs and forbs, including some ecologically threatened species (discussed below).



Mid June 2025

We feel our management actions outlined below have created optimal open native grassland conditions that were suitable for the recruitment of native plant species and the control of perennial weeds. This is supported by the findings of the independent review of stage 1 (discussed below)

We continue to find that our primary management challenges are long term effective weed control and grazing. The goal is to achieve optimal biomass reduction and weed suppression without compromising native seed production, germination, or growth. This balance is difficult to maintain, as each season presents unique conditions, making a consistent and repeatable annual grazing regime unrealistic. Seasonal changes are often rapid and unpredictable, requiring a high level of flexibility and responsiveness that can be challenging to accommodate within an agricultural system.

In 2024 we saw a significant increase in serrated tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*) numbers which was a disappointment given the intense work over the last previous years. Fortunately after a massive effort last year we did see a much reduced amount of this weed and will continue our strong efforts particularly after late spring rain this season giving rise to a rapid flush of growth. This biomass will need careful management in the coming winter and spring.



Mid October 2025

Like last year, we again saw large amounts of Saffron Thistles *Carthamus lanatus* across the whole farm. We have not counted their individual numbers but have instead categorised them similarly to Phalaris as Low, Medium or Heavy in terms of infestation. They were sprayed with broad-leaf herbicide in each spot spraying pass.

The OMP for this offset states that ecological burning can be undertaken to control biomass in order to maintain high quality NTGVVP grassland communities. However no ecological burning has been needed during this season but is recommended for stage 1 on the western side if conditions allow.

Our usual 2-3 x pass weed control approach was used successfully and this will be discussed in more detail later in this report. General site condition has been maintained with fencing and gates in an excellent stock-proof condition.

We also undertook supplementary planting of a non-graminoid plant (native pelargonium) as a trial to increase species diversity. We also spread Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda Triandra*), Wallaby Grass (*Rytidosperma sp.*) and Weeping Grass (*Microlaena*) seed in areas that had previously been treated for phalaris. We will continue monitoring these efforts in 2026 and conduct more if it's looking successful and beneficial.

The Themeda was collected from an adjoining offset and the Wallaby/Microlaena mix was purchased in 2025.



Independent Monitoring

Year 10 Monitoring and reporting of Stage 1 of the offset was required this year. The offset monitoring includes assessment against the requirements detailed by the offset management plan produced by Brett Lane & Associates (BL&A 2015). The report assessed the condition of native vegetation, the extent of weed cover across the site, and evaluated the effectiveness of fencing, grazing, and other biomass and weed management practices. The assessment found that we are compliant on all required management actions detailed within the OMP.

A summary of the report by Nature Advisory follows:

- In 2025, the habitat score was 58/100, reflecting an improvement from the 2021 score of 52/100. It noted that this change is likely associated with an increase in the diversity and cover of understorey species, indicating a gradual and positive shift in grassland structure. Overall, the findings suggest that the management actions described in the OMP are supporting steady progress in site condition.
- The entirety of the offset site qualified as Natural Temperate Grasslands of the Victorian Volcanic Plain (NTGVVP) at the time of the survey as it met all the diagnostic features and two of the three condition thresholds.
- Targeted surveys for threatened species were not required under the OMP. However, two flora species listed under the FFG Act have been incidentally recorded during offset site monitoring. These species are Small Milkwort (listed as Critically Endangered) and Small Scurf-pea (listed as Endangered).
- Spiny Rice Flower, which is listed as critically endangered under the EPBC Act, has previously been recorded within Stage 1 during offset site monitoring. Two individuals were identified in February 2019, and their locations were documented using GPS. These individuals were not detected during the 2025 assessment.
- Bare ground cover (approximately 10%) together with strong recruitment of native herbs and graminoids suggests that biomass reduction has been largely effective over the previous management period.
- Biomass levels are considered appropriate, reflecting the ongoing implementation of a periodic biomass management strategy.
- Biomass levels were somewhat higher in the western quarter of Stage 1, generally west of Photo Point 142, where Oat and Soft Brome are present. In this area, increased weedy biomass corresponded with lower native species diversity and reduced cover of native herbs. Without additional biomass management in this section, there is a risk that the grassland condition may gradually decline.
- Weed cover in Stage 1 was found to have decreased to 10%, down from 15% at the previous assessment, indicating continued progress in weed management. Current weed presence is largely made up of high-threat grassy species, particularly Soft Brome and Oat, with Flatweed also remaining common.
- Although Yorkshire Fog and Toowoomba Canary-grass have reduced in cover, their existing seedbank means they may increase again, particularly following favourable seasonal conditions in 2025.
- A single Serrated Tussock plant was detected in the western area of the site; while new to Stage 1, it is considered manageable at this early stage. Spot spraying of Spear Thistle was evident, though some follow-up control will be required.
- Weed cover has reduced from approximately 20% at baseline to 10%, meeting compliance targets. New and emerging weeds are being effectively managed, with Toowoomba Canary-grass currently below the 1% threshold and other previously recorded species no longer detected.

- No woody environmental weeds were recorded during the Year 10 assessment, and previously identified Briar Rose has been successfully eradicated. Rabbit activity was not observed, indicating effective control.
- Fencing was found to be in good condition, with no breaches or damage identified. The report noted that vehicle access appears to be restricted to a small track along the northern boundary of the Stage 1 offset site. This track demonstrated minimal ground disturbance and supported an abundance of native herbs and graminoids. Therefore, there appeared to be very little impact from vehicle access through the Stage 1 offset site.

The report states that our ongoing land use commitments for stage 1 are:

1. To maintain, in perpetuity, the improvement gain achieved at the completion of the 10-year offset plan.
2. Retain all native vegetation, dead or alive.
3. Ensure weed cover does not increase beyond the level attained at the completion of Year 10.
4. Ensure pest animals are controlled to the level attained at the completion of Year 10.

To maintain this gain, the report recommended management actions are to be implemented to meet the ongoing land-use commitments, in addition to existing requirements for ongoing monitoring, fencing maintenance and pest animal control. Summarised as:

a. **Biomass management:**

Additional biomass reduction may be needed in the far western section of Stage 1, where Oat and Soft Brome are more prominent. As this area is relatively small, a cool early-spring burn may be preferable to grazing, helping to limit impacts on native herbs and grasses.

Given the high rainfall in late spring 2025, weed growth and overall biomass may increase across the site. Management should therefore remain adaptive, with grazing adjusted as needed based on monitoring outcomes to ensure native groundcover is not adversely affected.

b. **Weed control:**

To maintain current weed levels, priority grassy weeds for control include Oat, Soft Brome, Yorkshire Fog, Toowoomba Canary-grass and Serrated Tussock, using a combination of burning, grazing and/or herbicide where appropriate. Flatweed and Spear thistle should also be targeted using suitable broadleaf herbicide treatment. Any emerging woody weeds must be immediately treated using the 'cut and paint' method of herbicide treatment.

Successful Management Tools

An ongoing area of success for us is staff employment strategies. We have a role dedicated to compliance - a person making sure what should be done is done. We have a dedicated offset weed operation manager to assess and implement a weed control plan and employ spray team staff. We use seasonal workers to fill this team and the supply of these workers has remained high. This year our seasonal team stayed the whole season which helps with efficiency and thoroughness.

Our regular inspection and reporting process constitutes our Annual Works Plan and is working really well for us. These inspections combined with visits in the normal course of farming and offset management activities allow us to be more adaptable and responsive to seasonal conditions with grazing management and spot spraying. In these visits we are able to identify areas of concern and any emerging threats to the offset and plan our actions accordingly.

As mentioned in the overview, grazing has been effective in reducing biomass and controlling weeds. This combined with a drier year compared to the previous three wetter than average seasons, which enabled us to better control annual weeds and support the emergence of an abundance of native grasses, herbs and forbs.

Our multi-pass weed control approach has again worked very well this year. Weed control is discussed in more detail in the next section.

Weed Cover and Control

We have worked hard again this year to be responsive to unique seasonal conditions and as mentioned have utilised multi-pass spraying as our main method of weed control along with some strategic grazing where needed and possible. Grazing will be discussed in the next section and is utilised to control all annual grasses and phalaris and some herbaceous weeds such as flatweed.

Spot Spraying

Our team has made several passes throughout the offset over the reporting period focusing on phalaris, spear and saffron thistle, serrated tussock, texan and chilean needle grass, sweet briar, horehound, spiny rush, and wild sage. We also note that areas adjoining the offset such as adjacent laneways, along with adjoining paddocks including neighbours were treated for the same weeds species to reduce source seeding potential.



Serrated Tussock

As noted in last year's report we saw a significant increase in serrated tussock numbers across the farm from previous years. It was a disappointment given the intense control work previously completed. We put a lot of effort into controlling it last season and fortunately haven't seen the same numbers this year. In this offset we continue to see a reduction in serrated tussock numbers and we will continue our strong focus to eradicate it.

Phalaris

Phalaris is always a primary focus for our team and we had been making some inroads into controlling it with grazing and spraying, particularly in the southern section of stage 3. This season saw a late spring break and that rain created a large germination of seed banks and we have found phalaris in large numbers. We were unable to graze this outbreak due to the unavailability of sheep given much reduced stock numbers due to the drought. Grazing is discussed more comprehensively below.

Texas Needle Grass

In 2024 a patch of Texan Needle Grass was identified in stage 3 and treated during a grid walk of the offset after it was found on an adjoining offset and presumably spread by animals. This outbreak was followed up in April 2025 and again in Spring with progressively less plants being removed each visit. This will continue to be a focus for us.

Wild Oat

Over recent seasons, we have observed that this problem grass often exhibits late germination following rainfall events. After significant late spring rain, we recorded a substantial increase in wild oats across the farm. Due to the lack of suitable sheep at the time (as discussed below), we were unable to graze this late flush. Managing this plant will be a key priority throughout winter and spring in the coming season. We note that over the life of the offset and on the farm itself the wetter seasons usually have a lot of wild oats and the dry ones do not, we suspect the seed is viable for a long time in the soil.

Spraying Record

30 Hectares	2023	2024	2025 Winter	2025 Spring
Spear Thistle	14,623	55,823	Medium	41,570
Serrated Tussock	213	145	337	61
Briar Rose	2	42	0	32
Phalaris	unknown	High	High	Med
Fog Grass	low	low	low	Low
Saffron Thistle	not an issue	Low	low	Low
Texan			large patch	low
Wild Oat			med	high
Biomass	70-80%	70%	60-75%	75%
Total Hours	13	29	unknown 2 people	30 Team of 6

Chemicals Used and Application Rates

Utilising ecological and agronomic advice we use the following chemicals at the rates noted. This year we again used MCPA in place of 2-4D as it is safer to handle for staff but had to swap to 2,4D as the season progressed and plants matured as MCPA became less effective on mature plants. We don't use all chemicals in all offsets, rather our trained staff use the appropriate chemical/s for what weed they are treating.

- MCPA 750
- 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid at label rate 96ml/150L (or stronger per weed as required)
- DIFLUFENICAN
- CLOPYRALID
- FLUPROPANATE
- GLYPHOSATE
- BIO VEGETATION DYE

Broad- leafed weeds:		
20Lt Drum Rate	100L Tank Rate	500L Tank Rate
100ml MCPA 20ml Clopyralid 40ml diflufenican 50ml dye	500ml MCPA 100ml Clopyralid 200ml diflufenican 250ml dye	205L MCPA 500ml Clopyralid 1L diflufenican 1.25L dye

Grass Weeds:		
250ml Glyphosate 50ml Fluprofenate 50ml dye	1.2L Glyphosate 250ml Fluprofenate 250ml dye	6.25L Glyphosate 1.25L Fluprofenate 1.25L Dye
Woody Weeds:		
100ml Gusto	n/a	n/a

Grazing Management

Grazing management is our main way of controlling annual grasses such as Fescue, Quaking-grass, Brome, Hair-grass, Oats, and the perennial weed grasses Brown top-bent and Phalaris outside of the grazing exclusion period of 30th September to 31st January each year (as per OMP). It has presented some challenges to us late in this reporting period that we are still working through at time of writing. The extended dry period from 2024-2025 meant the offset was not grazed for 8 months as there was just no plant matter of any feed value to merino sheep, and no biomass or priority weed issues to control through grazing.

Over winter we put a small mob in to gently graze winter grasses and they were removed at the start of spring as we waited for rain, which did not really arrive in any decent amount until November.

In the dry period in the last 18 months, the farm had to reduce its stocking rate and consequently sold all wethers and retained only breeding stock which had to be hand fed, which cannot be easily done whilst protecting offsets. Breeding ewes have specific nutritional requirements that wethers do not and are therefore not as readily available for grazing offsets due to the low palatability and nutritional value of native grasses.

Biomass levels increased rapidly from late November; however, stock was not available to utilise the adaptive management clause for grazing during the exclusion period. At that time, effective management required large numbers of sheep across the farm simultaneously, which we did not have. We are very mindful of reducing the biomass levels as we head into the 2026 season.

Stock Movement History

Last Grazed	Date In	Amount	Date Out	Grazing days
Sep 2024	13 May 2025	682	19 May 2025	6
	15 Jul 2025	78	3 Sep 2025	19

Our regular inspections have shown excellent levels of Poa Tussock, Kangaroo, Spear and Wallaby grasses, a massive amount of Bluedevil and Lemon Beauty-heads along with a diverse amount of other herbs and wildflowers such as clover glycine, convolvulus, kidney weed, blue stars, goodenias, chocolate lillies, wood sorrel to name a few. Pretty exciting to see!

Pest Animal Control Record

Regular shooting has occurred on the offset as per the OMP.

Fox and Rabbit numbers are continually being monitored on regular landowner and farm staff drive throughs. When sightings or scratchings are observed pest control is organised by the landowner/staff with licensed shooters. Below is a summary of findings for this offset during the reporting period but much more monitoring and pest control occurs throughout adjoining areas and the entire farm on a regular basis.



Utilising a staff members dog to check for rabbits in burrows

Date	Activity	Offsets	Result
22/02/25	James	DoJ/dacland/Fraser Cats boundary	1 x fox
04/04/25	Michael	Fraser Nth Justice/dacland	2 foxes, 4 rabbits 2 rabbits
25/04/25	Shooting team	warrambeen	unknown
04/07/25	Elijah	All	unknown
29/10/25	Michael	Offsets	6 rabbits Fraser Nth 1 fox Rosenthal 8 rabbits Justice
6/11/25	Elijah	WB & Offsets	unknown

Corrective Actions and Contingency Methods

(Where monitoring indicates that there has been a change in the native vegetation)

- The 2025 Independent review noted a risk of an increase in introduced grasses in the western edge of stage 1. We will focus on this area for potential ecological burning along with high biomass areas in the other stages.
- Given current high biomass areas and a flush of wild oat and phalaris we aim to conduct focused grazing in this offset over winter and early spring.
- We will also continue our efforts to eradicate Texan Needle Grass.

Photographic Evidence

Photographic evidence of works completed appears throughout this document and many more can be viewed in Appendix 3.

Management Plan 2026

Overview

2025 will be Year 11, 10 and 9 for the respective stages and our focus in 2026 our focus will continue to be a reduction of weeds through spot spraying and well timed grazing. To support grazing efforts, if the coming year looks more favourable with rainfall we will retain wether lambs to utilise just for offsets in an effort to avoid the lack of availability of sheep when needed that we have experienced in 2025.

We will continue to implement the OMP and make adaptive management decisions if required. We will discuss what we have learned about burning in a nearby offset with TfN and consultant ecologists to determine if an ecological burn in Spring can be undertaken in the western portion of stage 1, along with high biomass areas in the other two stages to control the growth created from late spring rain in 2025.

This offset will also be included in gridded walks identifying if any Texan or Chilean Needle Grass is present anywhere else, with any locations being GPS mapped and tracked.

Grazing

We will continue the same grazing regime with some light grazing and pulse grazing as hard as possible during early Spring whilst remaining adaptive to seasonal climatic conditions.

Observations

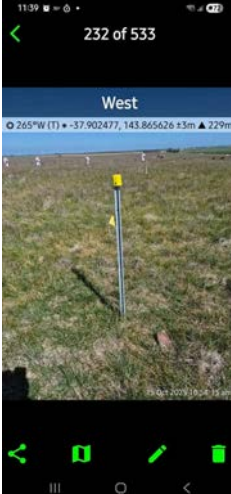
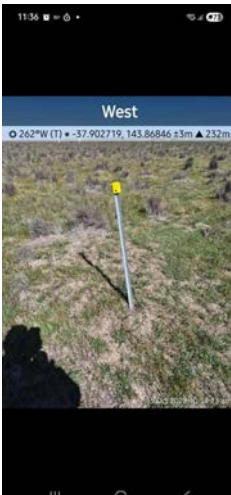
We are committed to continuing to undertake regular inspections as part of our ongoing efforts in weed management with a specific target on Spear thistle, phalaris and Serrated Tussock. We will continue regular monitoring of grazing pre and post sheep movement.

Monitoring & Reporting

Nature's Advisory will be engaged to undertake independent vegetation quality monitoring in late spring/early summer 2026 for **Stage 2 Year 10** assessment. We will continue to provide our Annual Landowner Report and conduct regular reviews whilst documenting our grazing, pest control and all weed control efforts.

Appendix 1: Photo Points

NOTE: The OMP states that Ecologists are responsible for taking and submitting photos from photo points in Spring in Years 5 and 10. Given that no external monitoring was required for stages 2 and 3 in this reporting period we have selected a sample from each stage to share in this report. See Photo Point map below the images for location.

Stage one 142	 North 6°N (T) • -37.902473, 143.865619 ±6m ▲ 229m	 East 88°E (T) • -37.90247, 143.865616 ±4m ▲ 229m	 South 179°S (T) • -37.902477, 143.865611 ±3m ▲ 229m	 West 265°W (T) • -37.902477, 143.865626 ±5m ▲ 229m
144	 North 3°N (T) • -37.902698, 143.86847 ±8m ▲ 231m	 East 103°E (T) • -37.902715, 143.868461 ±5m ▲ 231m	 South 180°S (T) • -37.902714, 143.868457 ±4m ▲ 231m	 West 262°W (T) • -37.902719, 143.86846 ±3m ▲ 232m
Stage 2 366	 North 21°N (T) • -37.904155, 143.867075 ±7m ▲ 232m	 East 101°E (T) • -37.90416, 143.867115 ±3m ▲ 233m	 South 186°S (T) • -37.904155, 143.867104 ±3m ▲ 232m	 West 276°W (T) • -37.904148, 143.867121 ±3m ▲ 230m

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368				
Stage 3 371				
372				



Figure 1: Offset site and threatened species

Project: Warrambeen Offset Site Client: Manzeene Avenue Development Project Trust Date: 10/12/2021

Offset site

Offset staging

Photo monitoring points

Threatened flora species

Small Scurf Pea

Small Milkwort

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Appendix 2: Management Action Table

Manzeene Avenue, Lara – Offset Management Plan

Report No. 11212 (4.4)

Management Action	Target to be achieved	Responsible person	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Rabbit Control to be carried out if required – Fumigate and collapse burrows where present or shooting	<5% survival of target; <2% death of non target species.	Warrambeen Gurnley Land Trust		X		X		X	
Weed control: - Treat high threat woody weeds as per Table 11; - Treat other weeds species if required.	- Cover of each high threat woody weed species reduced to <1%; - Cover of each weed species maintained at year 1 level - High threat weed cover benchmark* not exceeded; - Overall weed cover benchmark* not exceeded.	Warrambeen Gurnley Land Trust	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Monitoring: - Estimate overall weed cover and cover of each high threat woody weed species (refer to Table 11); - Take pictures at photo points; - Assess integrity of offset zone fencing; - Assess level of grazing pressure; - Monitor compliance with land use commitments and other management commitments.	Monitoring results to be documented and retained for reporting purposes. Results should also inform management approaches and techniques.	Ecologist		X					X
Fence maintenance to be carried out if required	Integrity of fencing maintained to exclude entry of threatening herbivores	Warrambeen Gurnley Land Trust	X		X		X		X
Biomass Control: - Sheep to be moved onto site in mid summer and removed before autumn rains - Possibly subdivision of the site through electrical fencing to apply crash grazing for short periods and ensure no species are taken out selectively by sheep - Small areas (< 4 ha) could be burned in consultation with the ecologist	- No soil pitting cause by sheep. - Vegetation cover to remain >10cm high with no more than 30% bare ground.	Warrambeen Gurnley Land Trust	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Report to be prepared documenting management actions undertaken and monitoring results. Report structure and content to be prescribed by DoE and the Responsible Authority.	Report delivered to the Responsible Authority and DoE no later than three months after the due date.	Warrambeen Gurnley Land Trust/ Ecologist		X					X

Appendix 3: Photographic evidence of works completed

 General view of Native rush area - March 2025	 Themeda Northern end (stage 1) March 2025
 Poa & Themeda March 2025	 Autumn pass for Texan, wild oats, serrated tussock and phalaris (2 people early April 2025)
 Texan Needle Grass treatment April 2025	 High bare ground levels in some areas from drought, Texan Needle grass plant pre treatment April 2025



Very dry conditions prevailed



Evidence of rabbits, point GPS marked, shooter arranged for the following day (April 2025) and the hole checked with a dog as a follow up later in the year (images found earlier in report)



As previous



As previous



Thistles emerging - July 2025





Serrated found and chipped



Grazing check done 25/8/2025



Spring weed control Oct 2025



As previous



Using spray nozzle cones to reduce drift



Excellent Weed control efforts on Phalaris and Thistles



Sweet briar Treatment



Lemon Beauty Head



Large area of Lemon Beauty Head



Successful Thistle Control



Roughing up ground prior to sowing themeda seed

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Seeding with Themeda Oct 2025



As previous



As above with Wallaby grass mix



Phalaris control near Song meter



Successful Phalaris Control



Second Pass done