



Our Ref: DOC19/559614
Your Ref: PN 105036

General Manager
Tweed Shire Council
PO Box 816
Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Attention: Mr Paul Morgan

Dear Mr Green

Subject: Proposed licence to Pottsville and District Men's Shed Inc at Black Rocks Sports Fields.

Thank you for your letter dated 25 June 2019 regarding Tweed Shire Council's intention to grant a licence to the Pottsville and District's Men's Shed Inc, seeking comments from the former NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH). I appreciate the opportunity to provide input.

OEH is now known as the Biodiversity and Conservation Division of the Environment, Energy and Science (EES) Group which forms part of the new Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. The EES Group works to protect and strengthen NSW's natural environment by managing the conservation of our environment and energy resources (see <https://www.dpie.nsw.gov.au>).

The EES Group has responsibilities relating to biodiversity (including threatened species and ecological communities, or their habitats), National Parks and Wildlife Service estate, climate change, sustainability, Aboriginal cultural heritage, as well as flooding, coastal and estuary matters.

We have reviewed the information supplied and recommend that prior to issuing the licence, Tweed Shire Council is satisfied that:

- The impacts of the proposed Men's Shed on biodiversity have been adequately considered, with special reference to areas of native vegetation, threatened flora and fauna species, populations and ecological communities. Particular attention should be given to the endangered koala population known from the locality.
- The proposal is consistent with the threatened species provisions of both the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.
- The proposal is consistent with the aims of State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018 and State Environmental Planning Policy No. 44 - Koala Habitat Protection.

- An appropriate level of Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment has been undertaken, and that the proposal is not likely to impact on areas of cultural significance to the Aboriginal community. It is also important that the views of Aboriginal community groups be sought in regard to the proposal.
- Potential direct and indirect impacts on NPWS estate, wilderness areas, wild rivers and recognised areas of high conservation value have been adequately considered.

Your attention is also drawn to the Australian Government's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. If the proposal affects any matters of national environmental significance or other matters requiring consideration under this legislation, then approval may be required from the Department of Environment and Energy.

If you have any further questions about this issue, Ms Nicky Owner, Senior Conservation Planning Officer, Biodiversity and Conservation, can be contacted on 6659 82547 or at nicky.owner@environment.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

KRISTER WAERN
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North East Branch, Biodiversity and Conservation