

Borumba Pumped Hydro Project

Ecology studies

The purpose of ecological studies is to describe the existing ecology values in the study area. Ecological studies completed to date also provide preliminary consideration of potential impacts and mitigation measures. Ecological studies carried out in 2022 will feed into the detailed analytical studies and will contribute to the suite of baseline studies for the environmental impact statement (EIS).

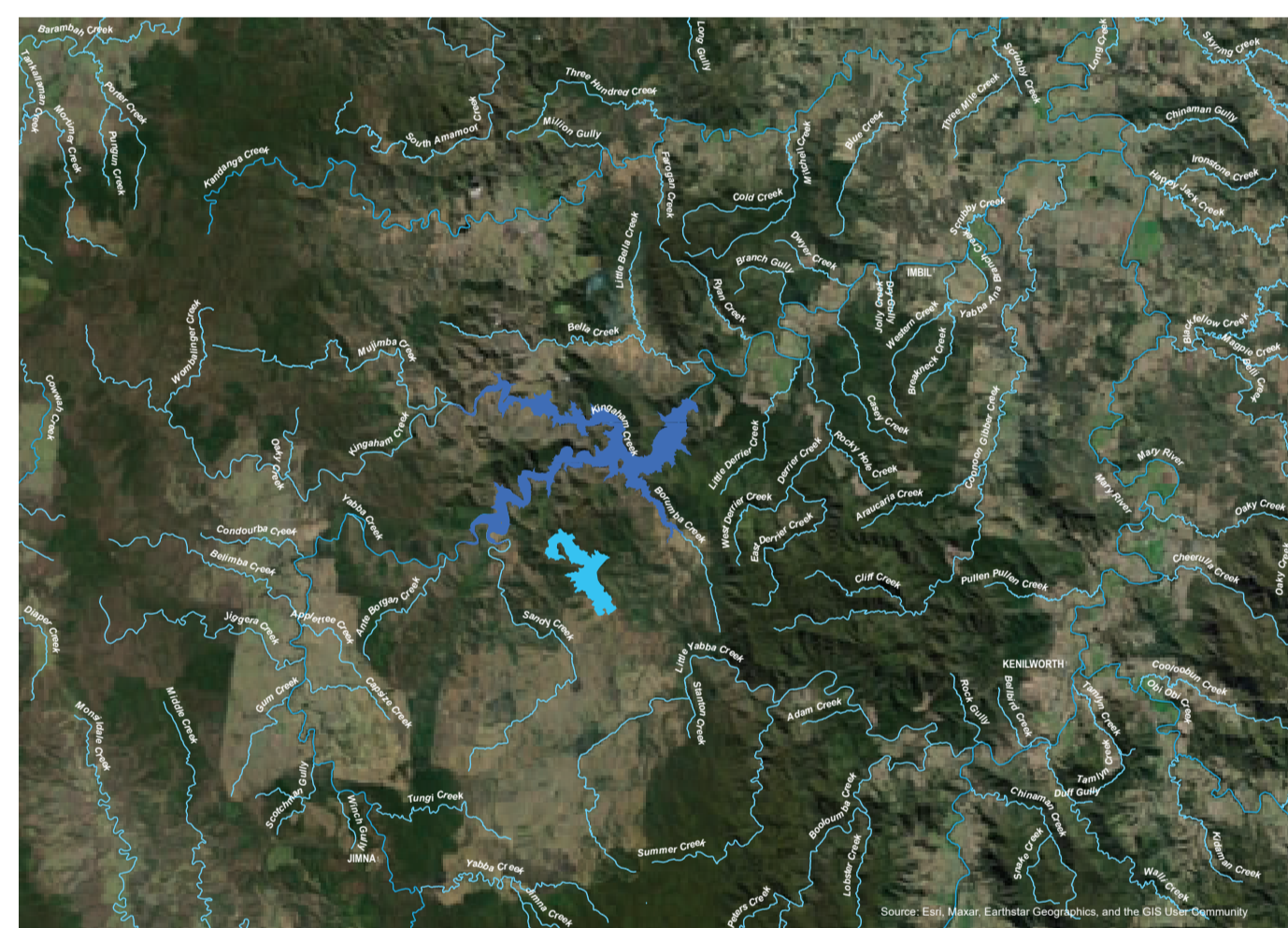
Our ecological studies incorporate aquatic (water based) and terrestrial (land based) ecology.

Aquatic ecology

Study area

The study area is within the Yabba Creek subcatchment and the Lower Mary River drainage sub-basin downstream of Gympie. It includes the following survey sites:

- within and upstream of Lake Borumba, including within the proposed new full supply level (or new full lake level)
- within and downstream of the proposed new upper reservoir
- downstream of the existing Lake Borumba, along Yabba Creek and its tributaries
- within the Mary River, upstream and downstream its intersection with Yabba Creek.



Main watercourses and waterbodies within the study area

What we found

Protected aquatic fauna species:

- Lungfish
- Mary River cod
- White throated snapping turtle
- Mary River turtle
- Platypus



Lungfish



White throated snapping turtle

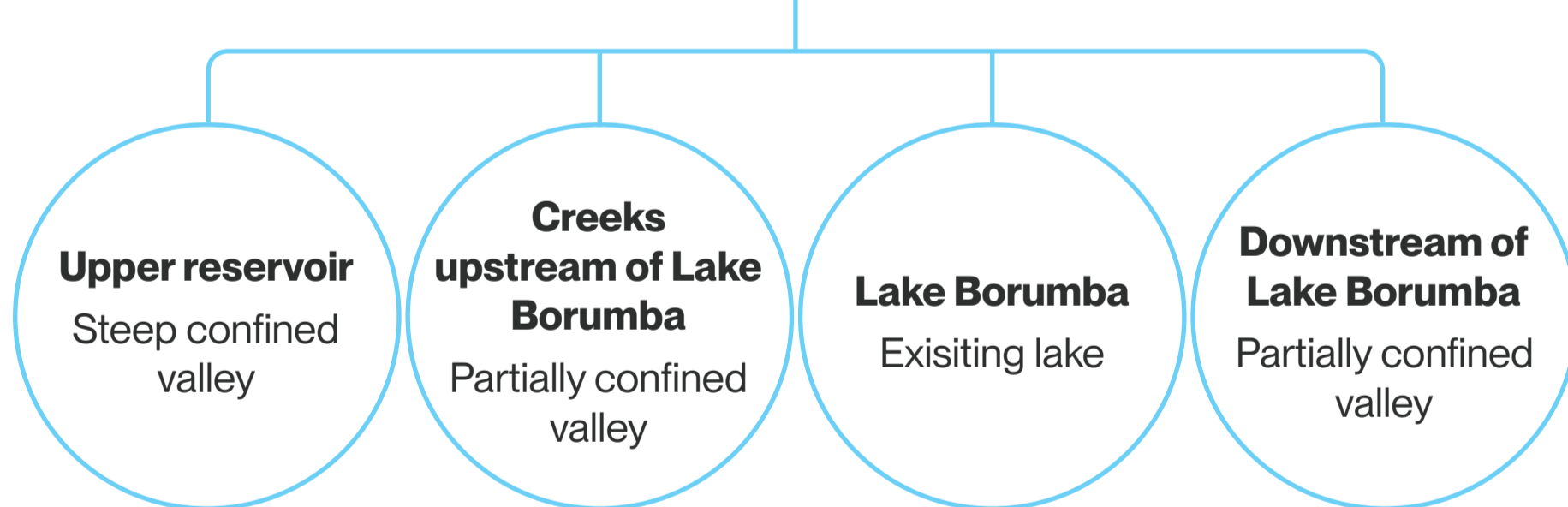


Mary River turtle



Platypus

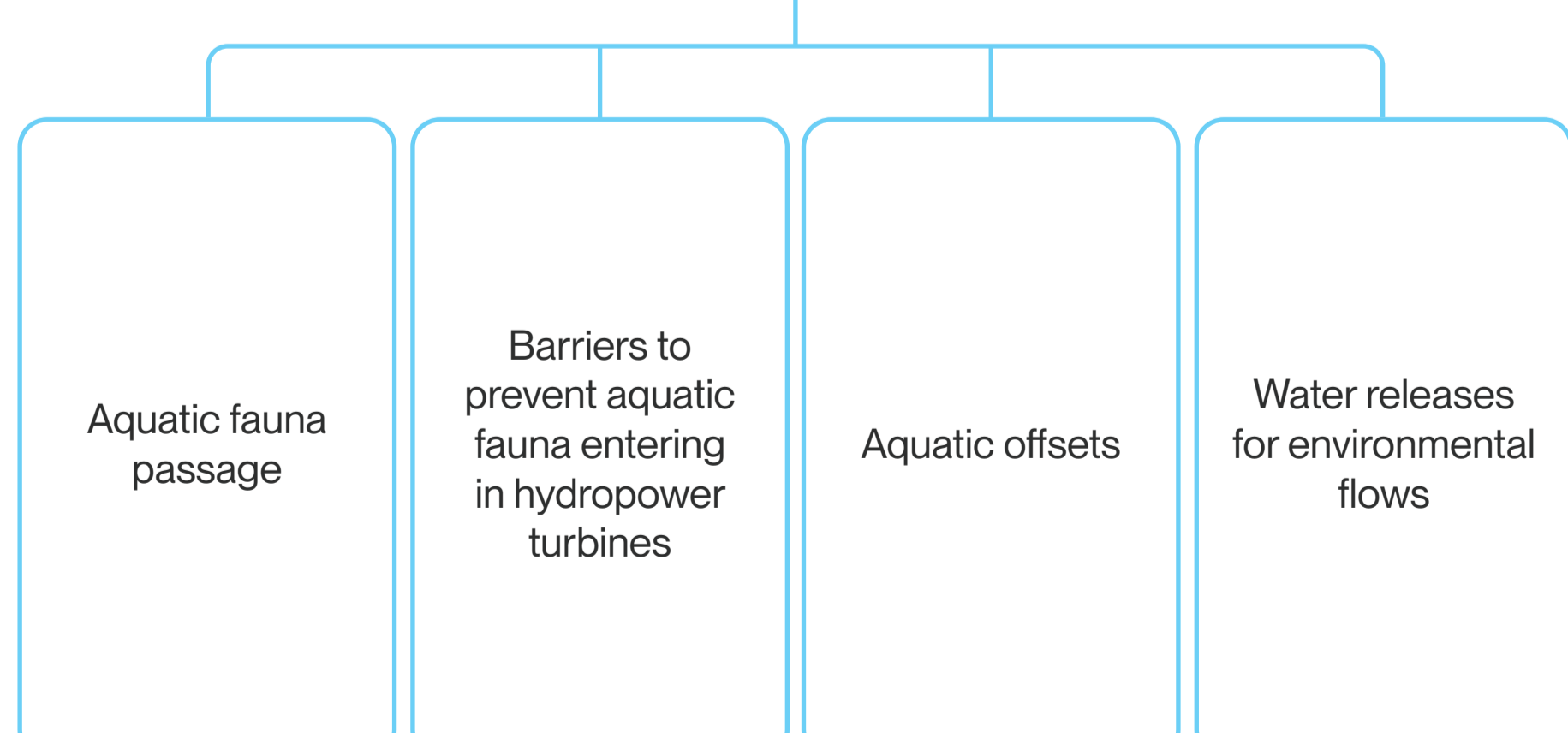
Four aquatic habitat types



Potential impacts on aquatic ecology will occur during construction and operation phases of the project and be associated with:

- changes in water speed from fast to still
- changes in water levels in the lower reservoir
- barriers to fauna movement

Key mitigation measures include:



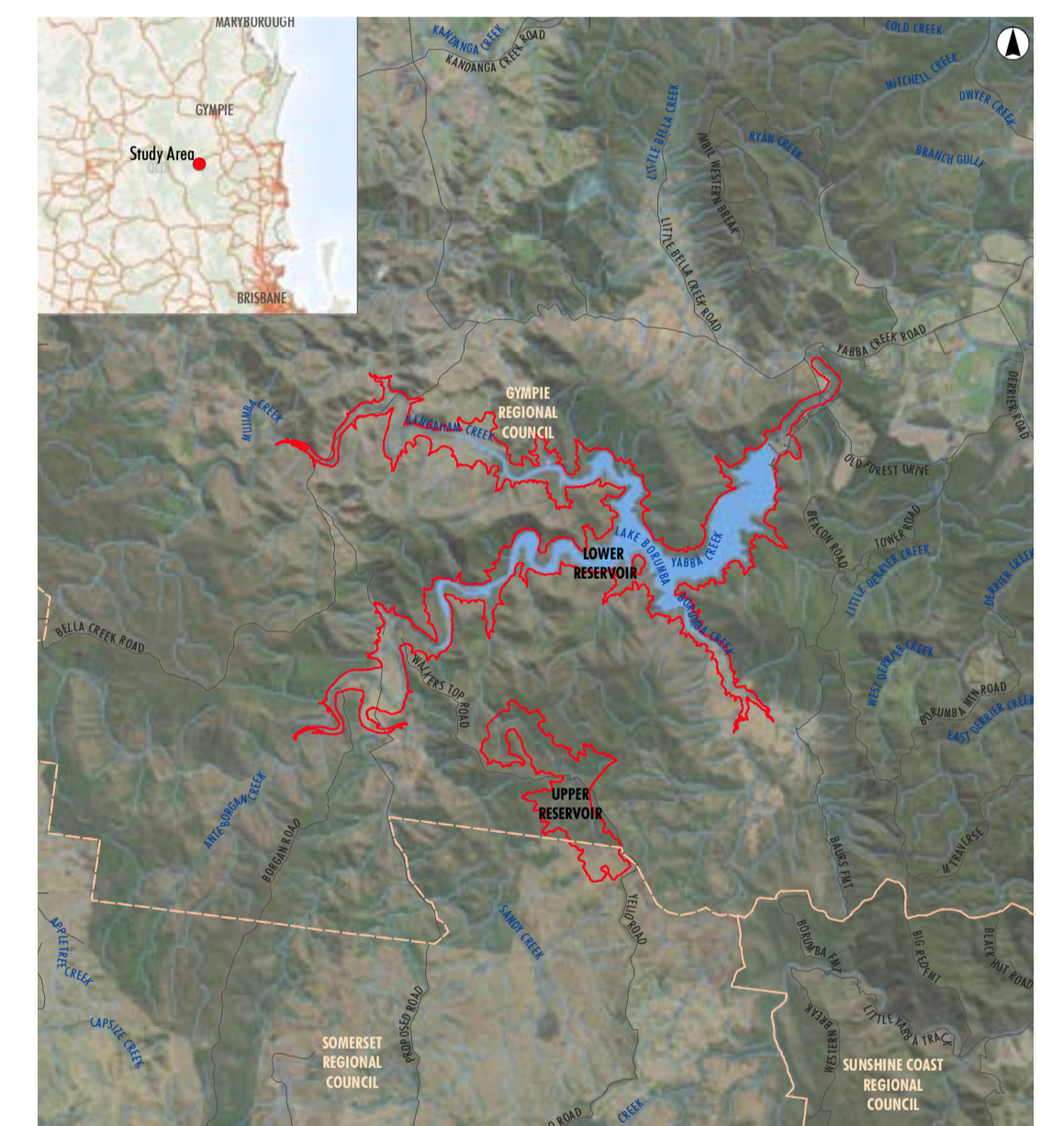
Terrestrial ecology

Study area

Terrestrial ecology studies that are part of the detailed analytical studies will help to guide where to place infrastructure to minimise potential disturbance to flora and habitats.

The study area comprises the upper reservoir and lower reservoir areas, including Kingham and Yabba creeks.

The study area contains a mix of remnant vegetation and cleared grazing areas and has rolling and steep mountains and hills.



Study area for terrestrial ecology study

- Legend**
- Study Area
 - Local Government Area
 - Reservoirs
 - Roads
 - Watercourse

What we found

Threatened flora species identified include:

- yellow satin heart
- ball nut
- macadamia nut
- toadflax

Threatened fauna species identified include:

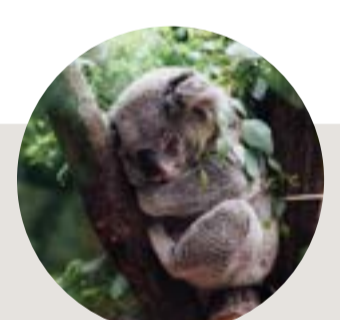
- black-breasted buttonquail
- glossy black cockatoo
- koala
- long-nosed potoroo
- the spectacled monarch



Black-breasted buttonquail



Glossy black cockatoo



Koala

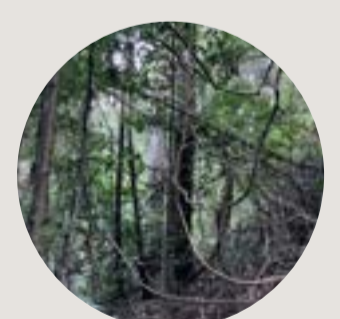
A total of **406 terrestrial flora species** and **147 terrestrial fauna species** were identified within the study area



Long-nosed potoroo



Rhodamnia rubescens



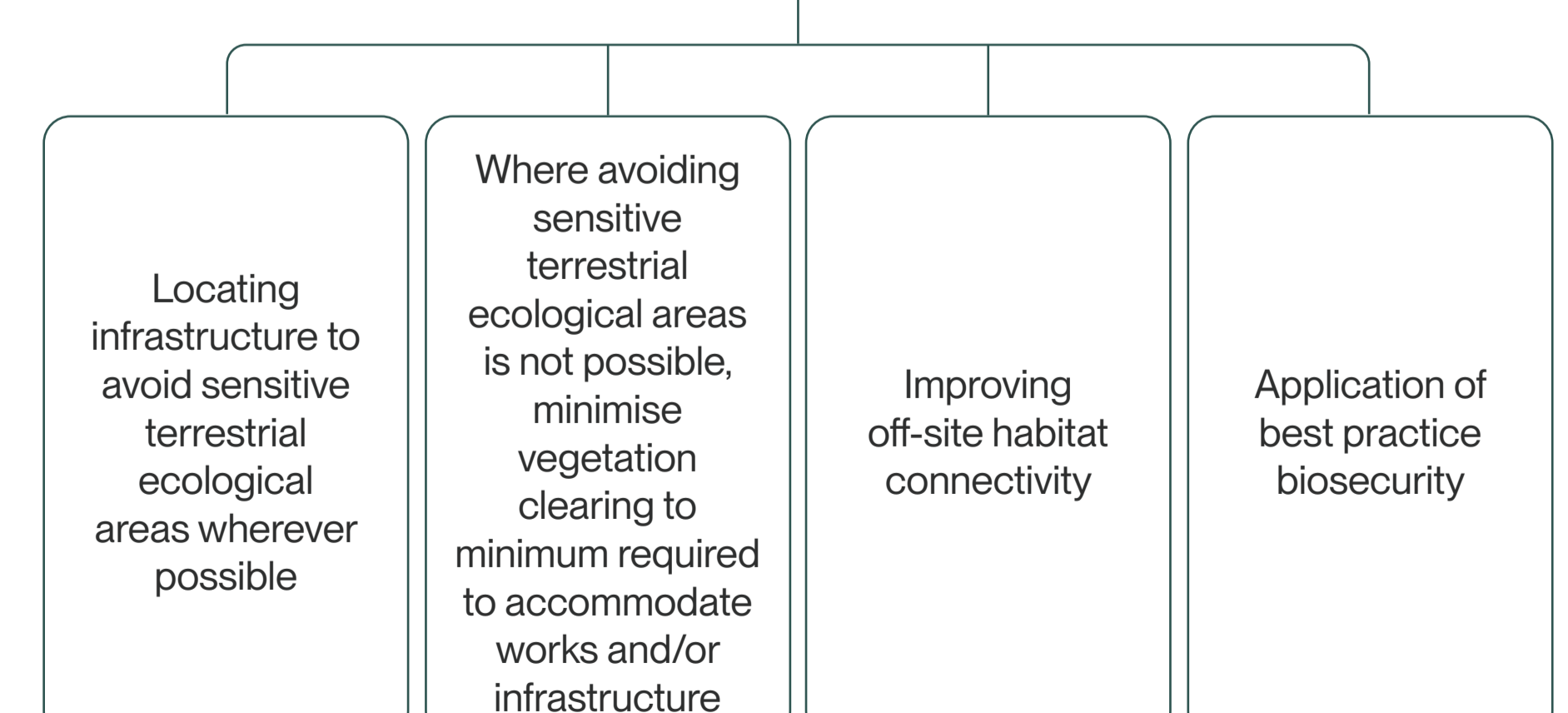
Notophyll vine forest

Potential impacts to terrestrial ecology will mostly occur during the construction phase, but can extend into the operation phase.

The identified potential impacts can be associated with:

- vegetation clearance and habitat loss
- dam barriers restricting fauna movement, particularly around the potential upper reservoir and affecting movement into and from Conondale National Park
- increased distribution of and/or introduction of pest fauna and weeds

Key mitigation measures include:



For more information

Scan the QR code to view the project web page and contact details

Get in touch

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