CMTP Pty Ltd – Branxholm Sawmill Upgrade - Environmental Effects Report

Prepared By: Barry Williams

Date: 11 June 2024

Issue	Date	Recipient	Organisation
Revision 0	25 November 2022	Dale Jessup	CMTP Pty Ltd
Revision 1	22 December 2022	Dale Jessup	CMTP Pty Ltd
Revision 1	31 March 2023		Environment Protection Authority
Revision 2	20 December 2023		Environment Protection Authority
Revision 3	22 March 2024		Environment Protection Authority
Revision 4	11 June 2024		Environment Protection Authority

PO Box 1441 Lindisfarne Tasmania 7015 **M** 0437 394 492 **E** barry.williams@ilmp.com.au

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Tables ... 4
Figures ... 5
Appendices ... 5
Part A Proponent information ... 6
Part B – Proposal description ... 6
1 Description of proposed activity ... 6
1.1 Proposed activity ... 6
1.2 Location and planning context ... 10
1.3 Description and site surrounds ... 10
2 Maps and site plans ... 15
3 Project rationale and alternatives ... 18
3.1 Rationale ... 18
3.2 Alternative ... 18
4 Existing activity ... 19
4.1 Environmental regulation ... 19
4.2 Environmental monitoring ... 19
4.3 Public complaints ... 19
4.4 Breaches in conditions ... 19
4.5 Contravention of environmental law ... 19
Part C – Potential environmental effects ... 20
1 Air quality ... 20
1.1 Air quality standards ... 20
1.2 Dust emission sources ... 20
1.3 Potential for environmental nuisance ... 21
1.4 Mitigating factors ... 21
1.4.1 Emissions from kiln drying activity ... 22
1.5 Mitigation measures ... 22
1.6 Resultant Impacts ... 23
2 Water quality (surface discharge and groundwater) ... 24
2.1 Water and overland flow ... 24
2.1.1 Sediment control infrastructure ... 24
2.1.2 Potential for environmental nuisance ... 24
2.1.3 Mitigating factors ... 26
2.1.4 Sediment control calculations ... 26
2.2 Hydrocarbon risk ... 29

2.3 Potential impact and mitigation 30
2.3.1 Sediment discharge (construction) 30
2.3.2 Sediment discharge (operations) 31
2.3.3 Hydrocarbon discharge 32
3 Noise emissions 32
3.1 Normal operations 32
3.1.1 Noise producing equipment 32
3.1.2 Noise measurements 33
3.2 Current operating conditions (EPN 10008/1) 34
3.3 Results of the 2018 survey 34
3.4 Assessment of results against current limits 34
3.5 Noise mitigating measures 35
3.6 Changes resulting from this proposal 37
3.7 Environment protection policy (noise) 2009 38
3.8 Traffic on Stoke Street 38
4 Natural values 39
4.1 Values 39
4.2 Potential impacts 39
5 Weeds, pests and pathogens 39
5.1 Existing weed species 39
5.2 Potential impacts 40
5.3 Mitigating the risk 40
6 Waste 40
6.1 Residues 40
6.2 Operations waste 41
6.3 Construction waste 41
6.4 Excavation spoil 42
6.5 Litter 42
6.6 Toilet waste 42
7 Environmentally hazardous substances 42
7.1 Hydrocarbons 43
7.2 Leak and spills 43
7.3 Other hazardous substances 43
7.4 Previous processes 43
8 Site contamination 43
9 Environmental Impacts of traffic 43

9.1 Traffic volume 44
9.2 Environmental impact 45
9.2.1 Traffic noise mitigation 45
9.3 Impact on marsupial carnivores 45
10 Other off-site impacts 47
11 Monitoring 47
11.1 Monitoring 47
11.2 Sediment trap 47
11.3 Dust impacts 47
11.4 Weeds 48
12 Decommissioning and rehabilitation 49
12.1 Decommissioning 49
13 Greenhouse gas emissions and climate change 49
Part D Summary of proposed management measures 50
Part E Public and stakeholder consultation 51
14 References 51

TABLES

Table 1: Proponent details 6
Table 2: Consultant details 6
Table 3 : Closest residences 15
Table 4: CFEV assessment value 25
TAble 5: Time of concentration 26
Table 6: Flow rate 27
Table 7: Capacity of existing sediment traps 27
Table 8: Capture efficiency 28
Table 9: Sediment trap surface area 28
Table 10: Clean out frequency 29
Table 11: Noise sources 33
Table 12: Environmental noise measurement locations 33
Table 13: Results of 2018 noise recording 34
Table 14: Noise mitigation measures since 2013 35
Table 15: changes since 2018 noise survey 35
Table 16: Predicted sound pressure levels 37
Table 17: compare reidue quantities 40

Table 18: Environmentally hazardous substances 42
Table 19: Current estimated truck traffic at full production 44
Table 20: Post production increase estimated truck traffic 44
Table 21: residences with frontage on Stoke Street 45
Table 22: Marsupial carnivore records 46

Figures

Figure 1: Location Map - Transport Route (Topographic map 'The LIST') 15
Figure 2 Surrounding residences 16
Figure 3: Branxholm Sawmill site plan 17
Figure 4: Receiving watercourse assessment 25
Figure 5: Flood-prone Hazard Areas code, mapping (The LIST) 31

Appendices

Appendix 1: EPN 10008
Appendix 2: C1-003 Floor plan & elev. Plan
Appendix 3: Traffic Impact Assessment – 1628 Warrentinna Rd, Branxholm (V3)
Appendix 4: 421243-01 Environmental noise assessment R1
Appendix 5: 5101_AC_R_CMTP environmental noise survey 2018
Appendix 6: 5859_AC_R_CMTP environmental noise assessment 2024

Part A Proponent information

TABLE 1: PROPONENT DETAILS

Name	CMTP Pty Ltd (CMTP)
ABN	22 120 049 505
Address	92 – 100 Forest Steet COLAC Vic 3250
Phone	0409 546 171
Contact	Dale Jessup
Email	dale.jessup@cmtp.com.au

TABLE 2: CONSULTANT DETAILS

Name	Integrated Land Management & Planning
Address	P O Box 1441 LINDISFARNE Tas 7015
Contact	Mr Barry Williams
Mobile	0437 394 492
Email	barry.williams@ilmp.com.au

Part B – Proposal description

1 Description of proposed activity

1.1 Proposed activity

Activity	CMTP Pty Ltd (CMTP) is proposing an upgrade to the sawmill line at Branxholm Sawmill by introducing a high-speed single pass green saw process line. The process to saw logs will remain relatively unchanged, however the project is expected to increase recovery of sawn timber from the current 50% to 56% through increased optimisation of logs and thinner sawblades. CMTP is requesting an increase in the allowable output from the sawmill to an annual limit of 50,000m3 based on an input volume of 89,285 tonnes log supply at a recovery rate of 56%. A new building will be erected alongside the existing sawmill building to house the new sawing machine. The new building will have a roller door and personal access in the north wall and a personal access door in the

	east wall. The building will not have openings facing towards sensitive receptors. The existing building has a roller door and a personal access door in the south wall and open ventilation monitors in the north and south facing gable ends. An opening will be made in the east wall of the existing process building to connect to the new process building. The existing log debarking, timber sorting and stacking systems will undergo minor modification to improve efficiency to meet the higher required sawmill through put.
New or existing	The proposal is for an intensification of an existing activity utilising some modifications and upgrades to existing equipment and some new equipment.
Product or purpose	The Branxholm Sawmill will continue to produce sawn timber from pine logs sourced locally.
Current maximum production limit	20,000 cubic metres of product per annum.
Activity is regulated under Schedule 2. (g)	*Wood Processing Works: the conduct of works (other than works at a builders supply yard, home improvement centre or firewood depot) at which timber is sawn, cut, compressed, milled, machined or kiln-dried, being works with a total production of 1 000 cubic metres or more per year.*
Proposed maximum production limit	50,000 cubic metres of sawn timber product per annum.
Production methods	
Preparation (existing process)	• Logs debarked through a ring debarker removing the bark from the logs, bark is stockpiled in a designated bunker and sold as garden mulch (existing process). • Logs segregated into diameter sorts after the debarking process and stockpiled ready to be batched into the sawmill (existing process). • Debarked, diameter sorted logs fed into sawmill for cutting (existing process).
Sawmill process line (new process)	• Log fed into new sawmill line, bottom of log chipped flat. • Log cant is profiled (edges squared). • Top of log is chipped off. • Side boards sawn off cant and dropped to timber sorting system. • Log cant is sawn into billets (large timber pieces requiring further sawing). • Billets directed to multi saw for final cutting into boards. • Finished board directed to timber sorting system.

Sorting stacking (existing process)	• Finished timber scanned and directed to sorting machine. • Individual sizes sorted into separate bundles. • Completed bundles directed to stacking machine. • Timber stacked into finished bundles.
Further process per customer requirements (existing processes)	• Pack docking machine. • Kiln for heat treatment. • Kiln for kiln drying. • Directed to manufacturing area for pallets, bins, crates, industrial dunnage.
Industry standards	*Environmental Guidelines for Wood Processing* (Environment Protection Authority, Nov 2018).
Transport task	Logs will be delivered to the Branxholm Sawmill on log trucks. The maximum log supply of 89,285 tonnes is required to achieve the sawmill output of 50,000 cubic metres of production dimensioned timber. The mill is operating 6 days per week. Transport task considers truck movements only and does not refer to light vehicles.

Anticipated cartage task				
Annual log supply (tonnes)	89,285			
Annual log supply (m3)	89,285			
Average pay load various log truck (tonnes)	32			
Average log truck movements	Day			21.3
Dispatch trucks (movements)	Day			13.9
Chip trucks (movements)	Day			7.7
Sawdust trucks (movements)	Day			3.7
Bark trucks (movements)	Day			1.1
Total truck movements	Day			47.7
Cartage per year (maximum supply)	Loads	6,678	Movements	13,356

Transport route	Ninety percent of the trucks delivering to and from Branxholm Sawmill will be travelling on Stoke Street from either west or east on Scott Street / Tasman Highway. The balance of log delivery will be from log trucks travelling from the north along Warrentinna Road.
Transport hours	Transport will align with the general operating hours of the facility between 7:00 am and 6:00 pm. Monday through Saturday.

Stockpiling	Site processes will require a continuous supply of logs during operating hours and the process will allow for continuous delivery of logs and periodic pick up and off site delivery of residues. Process and residue stockpiles include those below: • Log supply • Dimensioned timber. • Products, pallets, vegetable bins, frames, etc. • Bark. • Sawdust.	
Area of disturbance	The expansion of the Branxholm Sawmill will be contained within the existing site area. The total unrehabilitated site area will remain 3.9 hectares. No additional clearing will be necessary to facilitate this proposal.	
	Existing	Proposed
Major equipment	Debarking Saw mill Auto racking Cyclones Kiln Manufacturing workshops Offices and amenities	Minor upgrade New sawing machine
	Existing	Proposed
Infrastructure	Security gate and fence Carparking employees / visitors Internal circulation roads Sawmill building Manufacturing building Cyclones ductwork and storage bin Settling ponds and stormwater channels / culverts.	Process building

Proposal Timeline

June ‘24	July ‘24	September ‘24	October ‘24	December ‘24

Rev 4 to EPA	Advertising	EPA assessment	Council assessment	Permit

Operating hours	Monday to Saturday 7:00 am to 6:00 pm

1.2 Location and planning context

Location	The Branxholm Sawmill is located across two privately owned parcels on freehold land at 1628 Warrentinna Road, Branxholm.
Certificate of Title	213136 / 1 22422 / 2
Property ID	6817978
Planning Permit	A Planning Permit has been lodged with the Dorset Council
Land use zoning, Use class and permissibility	The development is within the Dorset municipality. The Tasmanian Planning Commission approved the Dorset Local Provisions Schedules on 18 January 2023. This application preceded that date and hence is assessed under the Dorset Interim Planning Scheme 2013. The development site is located within the 26. Rural Resource Zone. The Dorset Interim Planning Scheme 2013 describes sawmilling as being within the Resource Processing Use Class. Resource Processing is classified as a 'Permitted' use within the Rural Resource Zone, hence a permit is required.

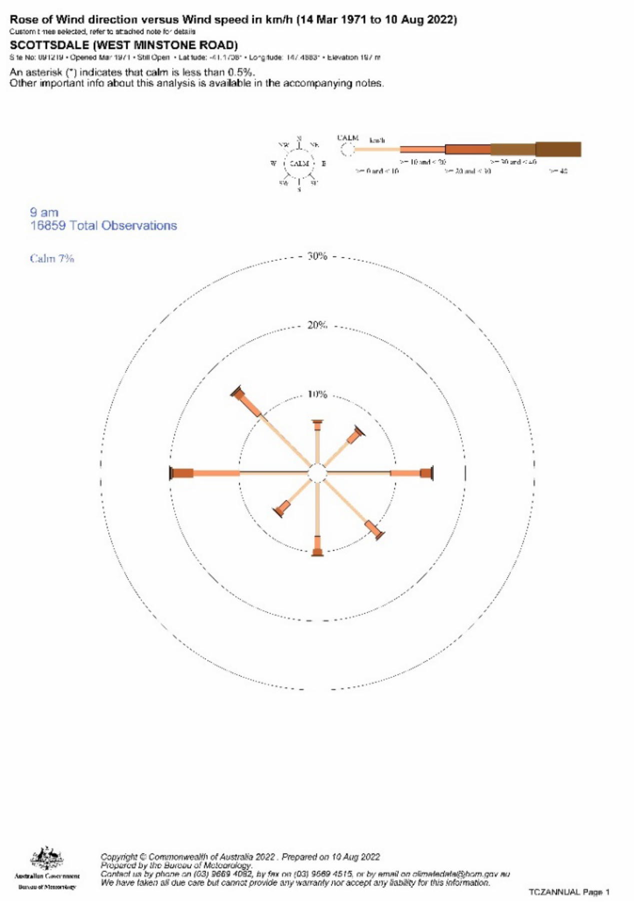
1.3 Description and site surrounds

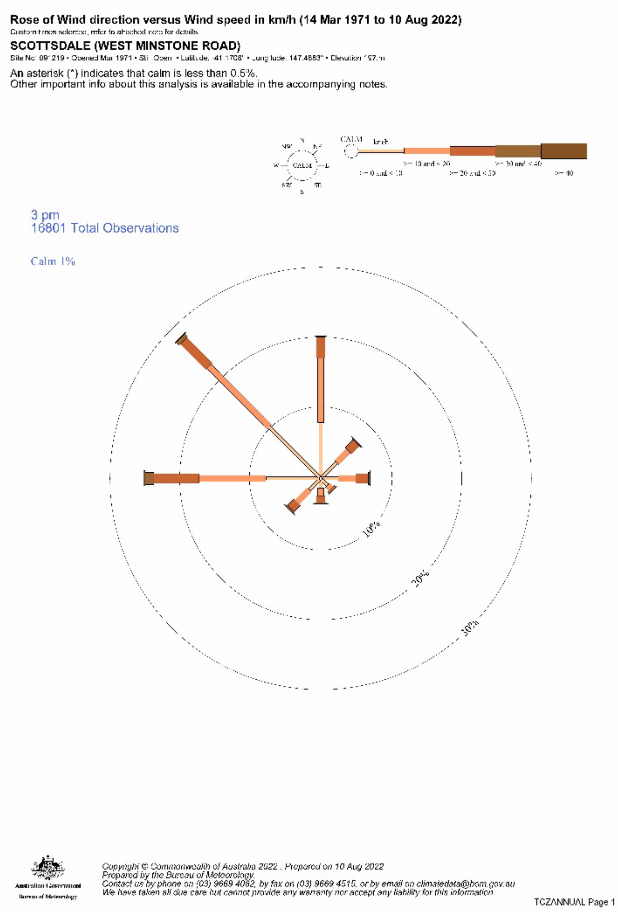
Land use	The Branxholm Sawmill site is immediately surrounded by the road reserve for Warrentinna Road on the western side and the disused railway reserve on the other three sides. The land on the opposite side of Warrentinna Road to the west has been developed to produce hops, on the eastern side a horse training track is developed as part of Shasalina Park Equine Centre. The centre its self is located to the north and east of the site. The township of Branxholm is located to the south of the site.
Topography	The site and surrounds are situated within the alluvial flats associated with the Ringarooma River. The land is level or slightly sloping to the north at an elevation of approximately 175 metres A.H.D.[1].

[1] AHD – Australian Height Datum – metres above mean sea level

Climate data	The closest weather station offering a full range of parameters is in Scottsdale. Weather Station – Scottsdale (West Minstone Road) 091219 (B.O.M. (a), 2022)			
Mean temperature (^{0}C)	January		July	
	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum
	23.0	11.0	12.0	3.7
Median Rainfall (mm)	February	July	Annual	
	41.3	116.1	968.3	

Wind data	Weather Station – Scottsdale (091219) (B.O.M. (a), 2022)	
Wind speed & direction		
	Wind rose average 9 am	Wind rose average 3 pm





The wind data shows the predominant wind direction and highest speed wind is from the west in the morning. This wind tends to direct noise and

The wind data shows the predominant wind direction and highest speed is from the northwest in the afternoon. This wind tends to

dust across paddocks and the horse training track to the east.	direct noise and dust towards Pearce Street residents.

CMTP evaluated installing a meteorological weather station at the Branxholm Sawmill to assist in the application of effective mitigation measures during unfavourable weather conditions. Consideration was given to the benefits of having a station based locally at Branxholm verses the cost to install, maintain, monitor and act on readings when the weather is deemed unfavourable. CMTP noted, there has not been a complaint relating to fugitive dust emissions from the site previously.

Currently CMTP utilises weather forecasts issued by the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) and conditions live at the time on site to determine when conditions warrant mitigation measures . CMPT considered an onsite weather station would provide negligible if any improvement in managing unfavourable weather conditions. Management staff are always on site when operating, continually monitoring local weather conditions and act accordingly if unfavourable weather conditions arise.

CMTP will install a windsock to help staff in estimating the current wind speed and direction when dust conditions occur to enhance predictions of possible dusty weather conditons based on the forecast.

Geology	The site is mapped as being within the boundaries of a quaternary stream alluvium unit described as Cenozoic cover sequences.
Soils	Soils are not mapped for this location. Approximately half the site area is mapped as having a ‘Low’ probability of the presence of Acid Sulphate Soils see Figure 5: Flood-prone Hazard Areas code, mapping (The LIST).
Hydrology	Three water bores were previously sunk proximate to the development site. These features are in the same or similar geological unit and at a similar elevation and hence can be considered representative of ground water conditions of the site. The water bores indicate that the groundwater will be between 2.0 and 2.4 metres below natural ground.

Borehole	Number	15681
	Location	570 metres WSW of site
	Depth (m)	12 .2m
	Initial yield (L/s)	2.53
	DTWS (m-L/s)	2.4 – 12.2 (2.53)
	SWL mBGL	2.4
	Aquifer geology	Quarternay alluvium
	Date drilled	1982
	TDS mg / L	98

	Status	Not functioning
Borehole	Number	15680
	Location	540 metres west of site
	Depth (m)	12.8
	Initial yield (L/s)	2.53
	DTWS (m – L/s)	2.4 - 12.2 (2.53)
	SWL mBGL	2.4
	Aquifer geology	Quarternay alluvium
	Date drilled	1982
	TDS mg / L	98
	Status	Functioning (actual status uncertain)
Borehole	Number	41182
	Location	530 metres WNW of site
	Depth (m)	18
	Initial yield (L/s)	5.05
	DTWS (m – L/s)	6 - 18 (5.05)
	SWL mBGL	2.0
	Aquifer geology	Tertiary sediments
	Date drilled	2009
	Status	Not functioning

Natural Values

Threatened Flora 5000 metres

Species	Common name
Nil	

Threatened Fauna 500 metres

Species	Common name	State listing	National listing
Accipiter novaehollandiae	grey goshawk	endangered	
Aquila audax subsp. fleayi	tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle	endangered	endangered
Perameles gunnii	eastern barred bandicoot		vulnerable

Threatened Fauna 5000 metres			
Species	Common name	State listing	National listing
Accipiter novaehollandiae	grey goshawk	endangered	
Aquila audax subsp. fleayi	tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle	endangered	endangered
Astacopsis gouldi	lutaralipina or giant freshwater crayfish	vulnerable	vulnerable
Beddomeia minima	hydrobiid snail (Scottsdale)	rare	-
Dasyurus maculatus	spotted-tail quoll	rare	vulnerable
Dasyurus viverrinus	eastern quoll	-	endangered
Hirundapus caudacutus	white-throated needletail	-	vulnerable
Litoria raniformis	green and gold frog	vulnerable	vulnerable
Perameles gunnii	eastern barred bandicoot	-	vulnerable
Sarcophilus harrisii	tasmanian devil	endangered	endangered
Thylacinus cynocephalus	thylacine	extinct	extinct

Raptor nests within 5000 metres			
Species	Common name	Nest ID	Separation
Accipiter novaehollandiae	grey goshawk	1486	830 m
Aquila audax subsp. fleayi	tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle	159	1.3 km
Aquila audax subsp. fleayi	tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle	2011	3.3k m
Aquila audax subsp. fleayi	tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle	2662	3.3 km
Aquila audax subsp. fleayi	tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle	157	4.7 km
Aquila audax subsp. fleayi	tasmanian wedge-tailed eagle	1675	4.8 km

Vegetation cover (TasVeg 4.0)		
Code	Community	*Nature Conservation Act 2002* Listing
FAG	Agricultural land	Nil

2 MAPS AND SITE PLANS

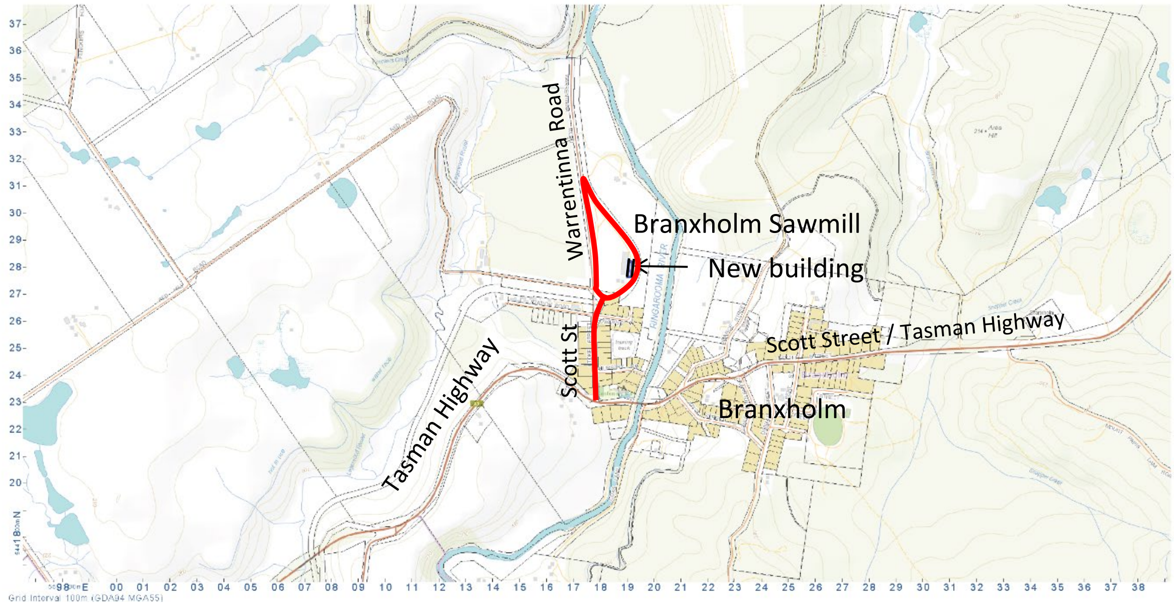


FIGURE 1: LOCATION MAP - TRANSPORT ROUTE (TOPOGRAPHIC MAP 'THE LIST')

Branxholm village is within 3 kilometres of the development site. The closest residences in various directions are tabulated below:

TABLE 3 : CLOSEST RESIDENCES

Residences	Address	Land Use Zone	Distance
1	1 Edwards Place, Branxholm	Village	30 metres
2	3 Edwards Place, Branxholm	Village	52 metres
3	5 Edwards Place, Branxholm	Village	60 metres
4	12 Edwards Place, Branxholm	Village	91 metres
5	1585 Warrentinna Road	Rural Resource	115 metres
6	19 Stoke Street, Branxholm	Village	121 metres
7	10 Station Street, Branxholm	Rural Resource	255 metres
8	12 Station Street, Branxholm	Rural Resource	293 metres
9	21 Pearce Street, Branxholm	Rural Living	368 metres
10	25 Pearce Steet, Branxholm	Rural Living	375 metres

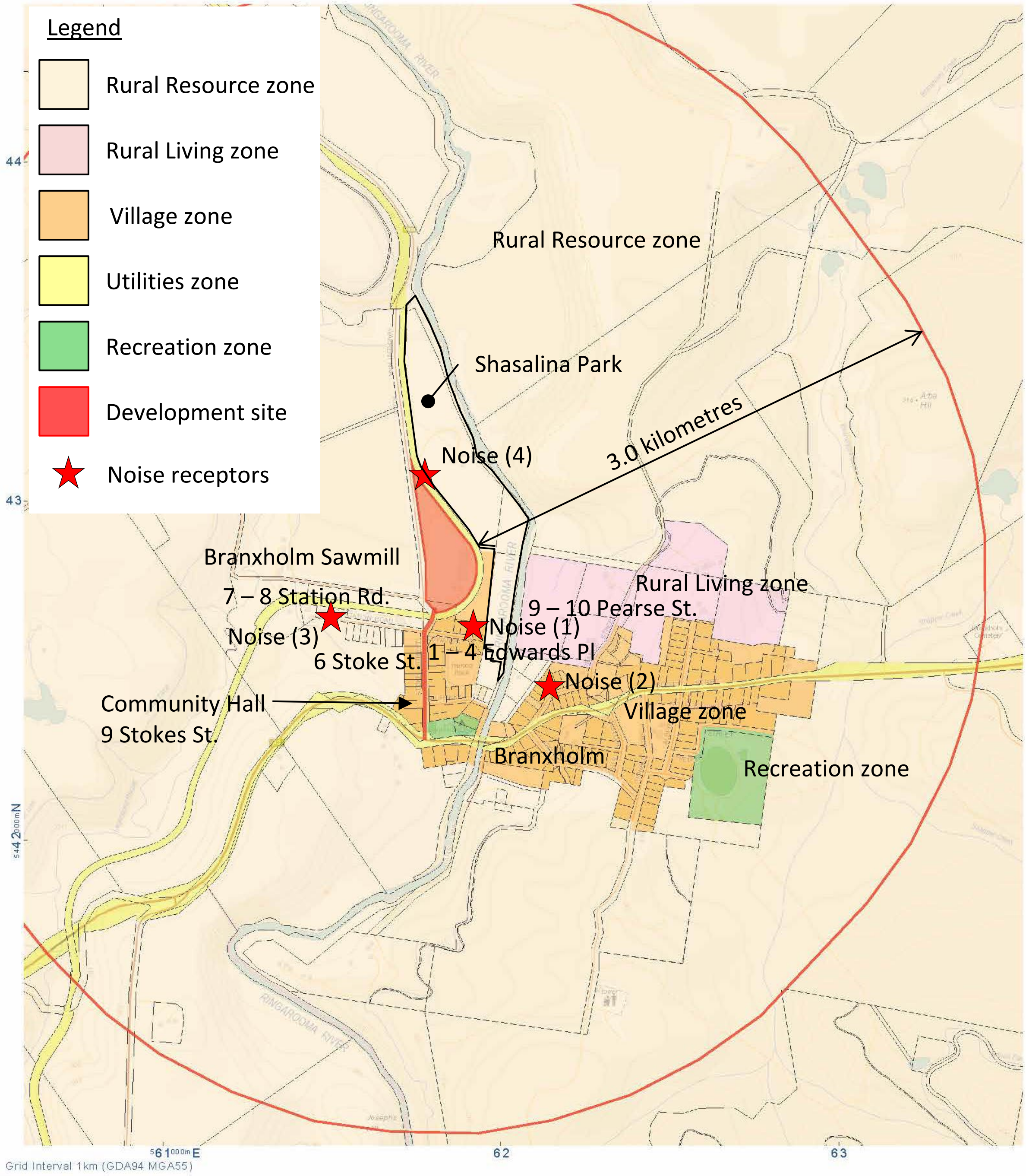


FIGURE 2 SURROUNDING RESIDENCES

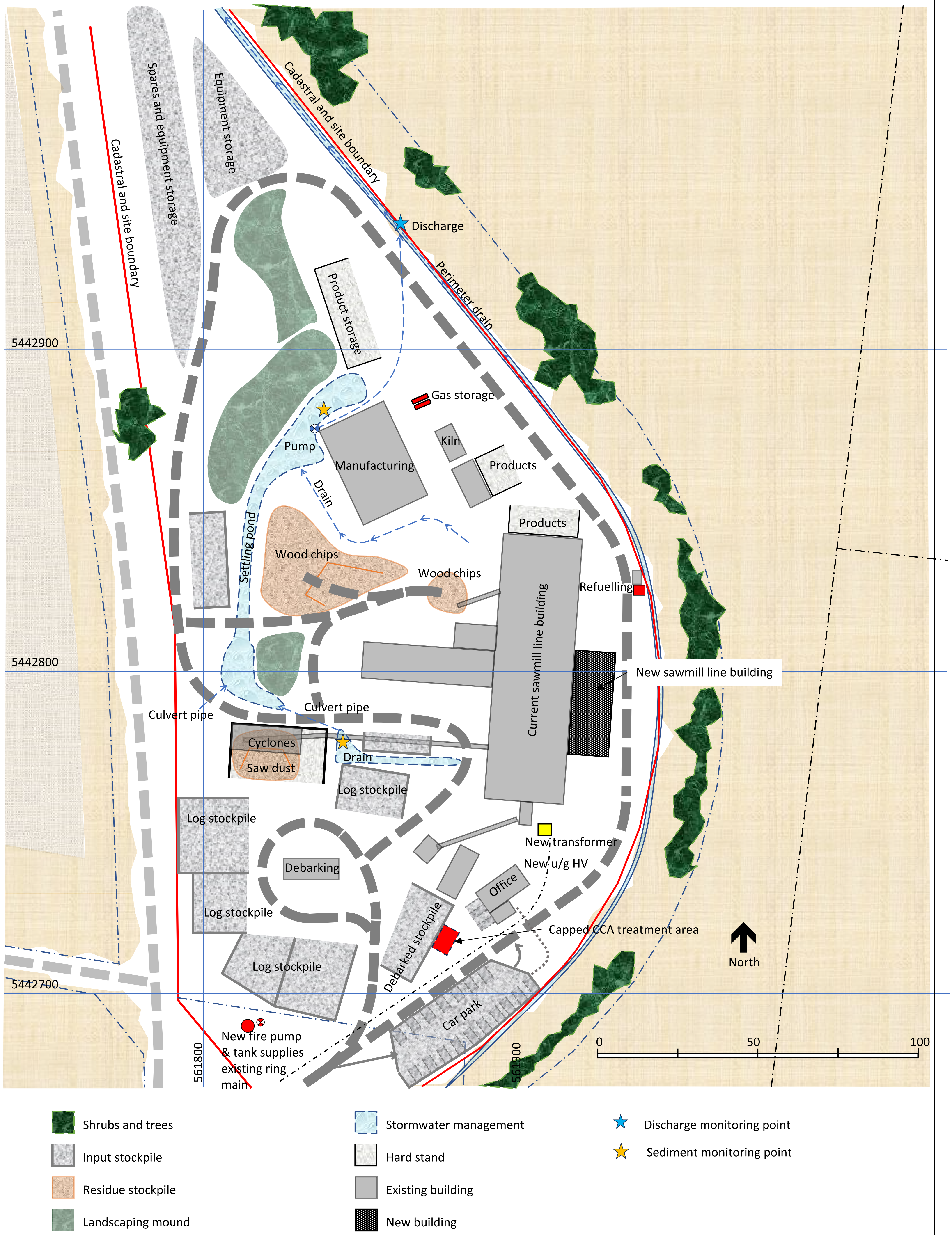


Figure 3: CMTP Pty Ltd - Branxholm Sawmill Site plan
Drawn: BW, Date: Jun 2024, Revision: 4

integrated land management & planning

3 Project rationale and alternatives

3.1 Rationale

CMTP's main log supplier advised CMTP in 2020 they had increasing log supply commencing in 2025 and invited CMTP to enter negotiations to contract the increased log supply to Branxholm. Plantation pine is a valuable renewable resource, and CMTP feels duty bound to convert the greatest proportion of the log resource into the higher value timber products. It should be noted that CMTP purchase all logs on a mill door basis, meaning they are not involved in the harvesting or cartage of logs to Branxholm. The proportion of timber resource not converted to sawn boards is converted to saleable residues which have a lower value.

Branxholm Sawmill converts the local plantation resource into dimensioned pine sawn boards that are sold both in Tasmania and mainland states. Sawn timber is further 'value added' at the site by way of manufacturing timber into products such as pallets, cases, crates, fencing products and industrial dunnage (timber packing used in the transportation of industrial products). Residues in the form of export woodchip, pine bark and sawdust are marketable products. The site is an example of a totally local supply chain business producing in-demand final use products for the Tasmanian and mainland markets.

Proximity to a large timber plantation resource is important to optimise cartage efficiency, as is the proximity to the township of Branxholm for access to the Tasman Highway freight route. Branxholm also provide services for sawmill employees such as engineering services, shops and housing.

A new sawing machine is proposed that will increase recovery of sawn timber from 50% to 56%.

The increase in annual production will be achieved by better utilisation of the existing plant, increased recovery and better throughput provided by the new sawing machine

3.2 Alternative

The obvious alternative is to continue to run the existing plant with lower recovery and therefore inefficiently and at the lower production limit thus under-utilising the plant. Given CMTP are running the sawmill at the current maximum operational capacity, it is likely any additional logs not purchased by CMTP will be exported as whole logs as there is no spare softwood sawing capacity in existing sawmills in Tasmania.

Early in 2023 CMTP considered if relocation of the Branxholm sawmill may be viable as a part of a sawmill upgrade. A high-level review was undertaken that considered the cost to purchase a suitable site and the cost to relocate current CMTP infrastructure to that alternative site. This review concluded that relocation of the sawmill would add 33%-50% to the project cost resulting in the sawmill upgrade not being viable if relocation was included. As a result, CMTP has abandoned any consideration of relocating the sawmill from the Branxholm site.

4 Existing activity

4.1 Environmental regulation

The existing activity operates under the prescriptions of an Environment Protection Notice No. 10008/1. A copy of the EPN 10008/1 is included as Appendix 1. This proposal seeks to change only the Schedule 2:

Condition Q1 – Regulatory Limits

1 The activity must not exceed the following limits:

1.1 20,000 cubic metres per year of product

The Operator will continue to comply with all the other limits and requirements imposed by EPN 10008/1.

4.2 Environmental monitoring

EPN 10008/1 does not require any routine or non-routine environmental monitoring.

4.3 Public complaints

The site has received the following complaints from the public in relation to environmental emissions:

Complaint No.	Date	Description	Resolution
Nil			

4.4 Breaches in conditions

The site has been responsible for the following breaches of current regulatory approvals in relation to environmental emissions:

Condition No.	Date	Description	Resolution
Nil			

4.5 Contravention of environmental law

The site has been responsible for the following contraventions of environmental law:

Act clause	Date	Description	Resolution
Nil			

PART C – POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

1 AIR QUALITY

Branxholm Sawmill generates air emissions through:

- Exhaust fumes from diesel energised mobile and fixed machinery.
- Dust emitted from unmade road surfaces by mobile machinery and vehicular traffic.
- Fine particulate matter emitted from the saws as they cut the timber.
- Gases given off when stockpiles of sawdust start to decompose.
- Gases given off when sawn boards are heated in the kiln.

This proposal will generate extra emissions during the construction phase through:

- Exhaust fumes from construction equipment such as cranes and excavators
- Dust emitted from unmade ground disturbed to allow for the construction of new buildings
- Dust and particulates emitted from the partial demolition on old structures.

The site will generate extra emissions after commissioning through:

- Additional machinery and vehicle movements due to the increased throughput.

Better efficiency and thinner saws will partly offset additional throughput and hence will result in less additional sawdust.

1.1 AIR QUALITY STANDARDS

Environment Protection Policy (Air Quality) 2004

Part 3 - ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES AND STANDARDS

Environmental values

6. (1) Environmental values are the values or uses of the environment that are to be protected.

(2) The environmental values to be protected under this Policy are –

(a) the life, health and well-being of humans at present and in the future;

(b) the life, health and well-being of other forms of life, including the present and future health, wellbeing and integrity of ecosystems and ecological processes;

(c) visual amenity; and

(d) the useful life and aesthetic appearance of buildings, structures, property and materials

1.2 DUST EMISSION SOURCES

Branxholm Sawmill will generate dust emissions from;

- traffic circulating around the site on unmade roads,
- dust generated through handling sawdust, and
- wind blown dust from dry, unmade surfaces.

The gas kiln used in processing a portion of the product is an emission source.

Kiln drying is a process to artificially decrease the time it takes for timber to reduce moisture content. In the kiln timber moisture content is reduced from 50% to 8%-24% depending on the final use. The average drying cycle time is 24-28 hours depending on the timber size. Between

26%-50% of the timber weight is vented from the kiln during drying depending on the final moisture content required.

Average annual volume of timber kiln dried – 700 m3.

Heat treatment is a process to raise the core temperature of timber from ambient to 56 degrees Celsius for 30 minutes to achieve the requirements under the Australian Wood Packaging Certification Scheme for Export. The purpose of the process is to ensure there are no living organisms remain in the timber when completed, in preparation for the timber to be exported overseas. The heat treatment process has no emissions from the kiln chamber as the timber is not dried and the vents are held shut.

Average annual volume of timber heat treated – 2,250 m3.

The additional volume of timber produced due to the production increase will be sold as green sawn pine into the fencing, industrial dunnage and pallet markets resulting in no planned increase in kiln throughput.

1.3 Potential for environmental nuisance

Dust generated from gravel surfaces can reduce visibility, collect on neighbouring roofs, contaminate tank water, washing and vegetation (Branxholm residents have a reticulated potable water supply). Sawdust emitted through handling can collect on hard surfaces and bank up against buildings requiring a periodic clean-up.

Shasalina Park Equine Centre is infrequently busy with a low number of horses agisted at any one time. Any horses using the paddocks adjacent can freely move into other areas and will be unlikely to suffer because of air quality impacts.

Residential properties have been constructed near to Branxholm Sawmill. Dwellings constructed on Rural residential land to the east of the site are potentially susceptible to dust carried by the prevailing westerly winds.

The proximity of residences is detailed in Part B Section 1.3 and displayed in Figure 2 Surrounding residences.

1.4 Mitigating factors

The Bureau of Meteorology data from the closest weather station shows the predominant wind direction and strongest wind is from the west and the closest residences are located south of the site. The prevailing wind will blow dust east onto rural and rural residential land where the houses are further away.

Both Warrentinna Road and Stokes Street are fully sealed which enables the traffic to access the site without generating dust emissions. Stokes Street is sealed up to the gate at the entrance to the sawmill and the internal access road is sealed for a further 20 metres inside the gate. An increase in traffic on a sealed road will not generate extra dust emissions

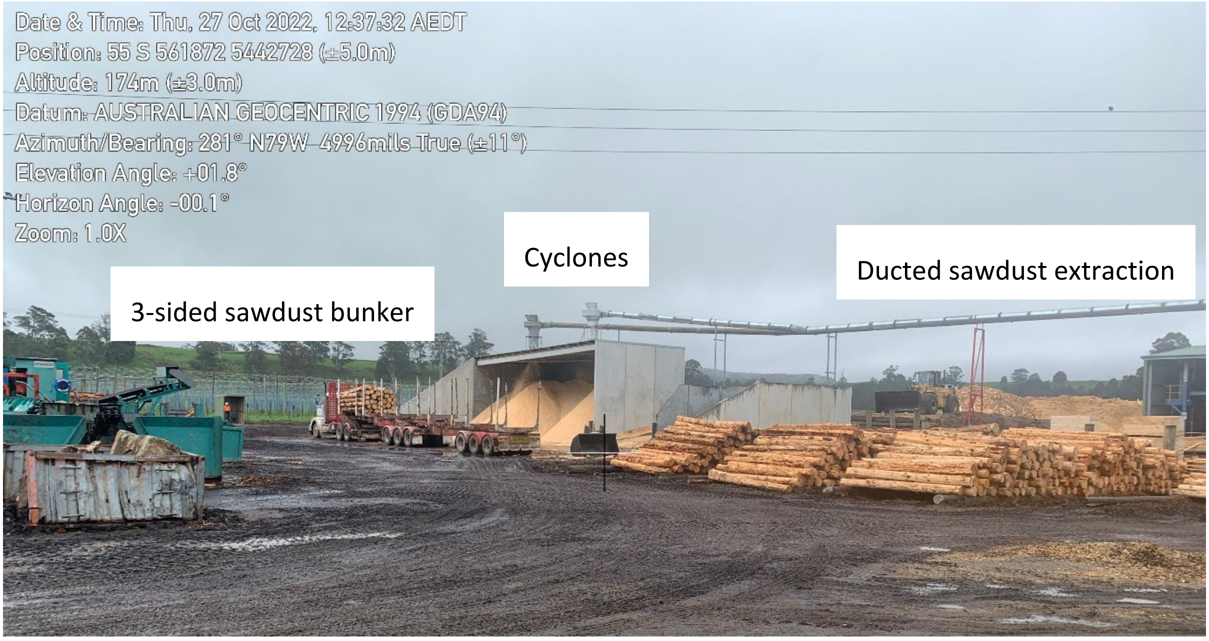


PLATE 1: EXISTING SAWDUST HANDLING SYSTEM

CMTP commissioned a purpose-built residue bunker in 2019 to store both green sawdust and pine bark. Sawdust is conveyed pneumatically to the bunker via fully enclosed blower systems. Impeller fans draw the sawdust from machine centres in the sawmill and blow the material directly into the bunker. Pine bark is conveyed via a dedicated tipping bin directly into the pine bark storage area. The bunker also incorporates a truck loading ramp allowing residue trucks to park adjacent to the residue storage areas for loading via front end loader. In addition to the bunker, a designated level concrete unloading area large enough for B double logs trucks to park on whilst being unloaded has been installed. This area allows for bark that is dropped on the ground from the log unloading process to be swept directly into the bark residue area eliminating waste onto the ground.

The saw dust handling facilities have been installed to minimise the risk of sawdust emissions off site. Sawdust is extracted from the sawmill using a ducted system comprising inlet heads, rigid ductwork, 2 cyclones and a 3-sided bunker to temporarily store the sawdust prior to collection.

1.4.1 Emissions from kiln drying activity

A report prepared by a third-party on kiln drying emissions is available but is 'commercial in confidence' hence cannot be reproduced here.

1.5 Mitigation measures

The following measures will be employed to help further mitigate the risk of fugitive dust emissions:

- Trafficked surfaces on the hardstand areas and on circulation roads and tracks are well maintained using low dust producing road base to minimise dust generation.
- The internal access road is sealed for 20 metres inside the southern gate to enable trucks to track off dirt from the tread on tyres before trafficking public roads.
- Vehicle and machinery travel speeds are kept slow to minimise safety risks and to minimise the amount of dust generated.

- Trucks carrying product off site all have tarps fitted under contract conditions.
- Residue stockpiles are frequently picked up and are not allowed to stand long enough to commence composting.
- The operator will deploy water sprays using settling pond water if available or alternatively domestic supply water on days when weather conditions are especially dry and windy.
- In accordance with the Traffic Impact Assessment, the northern junction with Warrentinna Road will be sealed for 20 metres as per Dorset Council and Department of State Growth standard drawings.
- Due to the low annual volume of timber processed through the kiln and the fact that the proposal will not increase existing throughput, emissions from this source will not increase.

The sawmill operator will monitor dust conditions and apply corrective action if obvious dust emissions are crossing the site boundary. Weather conditions that will give rise to dust emissions are likely to be an extended period without rain causing the unsealed trafficked surfaces to dry out followed by a day of high wind when surfaces are being trafficked. The effect is more important than the causal factors and is readily observed by site personnel, a windsock will be installed to assist staff in estimating wind speed and direction and cross referencing to observed dust emissions and corrective actions.

1.6 Resultant Impacts

Weather and topography reduce the likelihood that dust will cause a nuisance to neighbours and the Sawmill operator will actively manage surfaces and operations to minimise the impact of dust.

MANAGEMENT MEASURE 1: DUST MANAGEMENT

Item	Proposed measure	Timeframe
1.	Sawmill operator will continue to apply standard measures to suppress dust on site including: • using low dust producing road base, • maintaining slow vehicle speeds, • applying tarps to cover all loads on product trucks	At all times
2.	A windsock will be installed to assist the sawmill operator in estimating windspeed and direction to determine when corrective action shall be applied.	Upon issue of a permit
3.	The northern junction with Warrentinna Road will be sealed for 20 metres as per Dorset Council and Department of State Growth standard drawings.	Upon issue of a permit

2 Water quality (surface discharge and groundwater)

Branxholm Sawmill takes green pine logs into the sawmill, produces dimensioned timber and immediately uses sawn and sorted timber to construct pallets, bins, crates and industrial dunnage. Only a small proportion of the overall processed product (700 m3) is subjected to kiln drying. The *Emission Estimation Technique Manual* does not include any typical pollutants for sawing in Table 1 – Typical Process Material Inputs, Emissions and Waste Outputs (National Pollutant Inventry, Jan. 2002). No chemicals are used in the processes converting green logs to dimensioned timber.

Potential emissions that may affect surface and groundwater are related to areas of trafficked gravel surface. Heavy and light vehicle traffic will cause fine particles to be liberated from the surfaces and carried into the stormwater drainage system as sediment during a rain event or if the surfaces are subjected to water sprays for dust suppression.

Heavy vehicles and mobile equipment can be a source of hydrocarbon emissions when leaks or spills occur. As a result of upset conditions these emissions can also be carried into waterways during rainfall events.

Potential contamination of surface water during the construction and partial demolition needs to be considered.

2.1 Water and overland flow

The size of the developed area of the Branxholm Sawmill will not change because of this proposal. An area which is currently trafficked and used for hardstand will be the site of the new process building. This and the other buildings on the site direct stormwater captured on the roof through downpipes to ground. The runoff coefficient for buildings is higher than for gravel surfaces hence the overall time of concentration will reduce and the discharge volume will increase. The sediment loading should decrease slightly corresponding to the reduced area of catchment comprising unmade surfaces.

2.1.1 Sediment control infrastructure

Branxholm Sawmill has drainage infrastructure, settling ponds, a pump and a pipeline to capture and direct stormwater to roadside drain. The trafficked areas have a gradual gradient towards a deep open drain between the log stockpile area and finished crate storage. This drain collects run off from the entire log storage area, internal road system and the buildings surrounding and overflows to the main settling pond.

The main settling pond also collects water from the sawdust storage pad, the perimeter access road and the main buildings. A pump picks up water from the main settling pond and discharges through a poly pipe to a perimeter drain at a point approximately 170 metres from the point at which this drain leaves the site and combines with the roadside drain servicing Warrentinna Road.

2.1.2 Potential for environmental nuisance

During a rainfall event and for a period following, the Branxholm Sawmill site will discharge overland flow which has been collected in the stormwater management system. The site discharges to a roadside drain which after travelling approximately 460 metres discharges into the Legerwood Rivulet. Immediately downstream of the drain discharge is the confluence of the Legerwood Rivulet and Ringarooma River. These waterbodies are classified under the

Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystem Values (CFEV[2]) program as per Table 4: CFEV assessment value and Figure 4: Receiving watercourse assessment.

TABLE 4: CFEV ASSESSMENT VALUE

River name	Section CFEV ID	Conservation management priority immediate	Conservation management priority potential
Legerwood Rivulet	342967	Very High	Very High
Ringarooma River	342971	Very High	Very High
Ringarooma River	342952	Very High	Very High

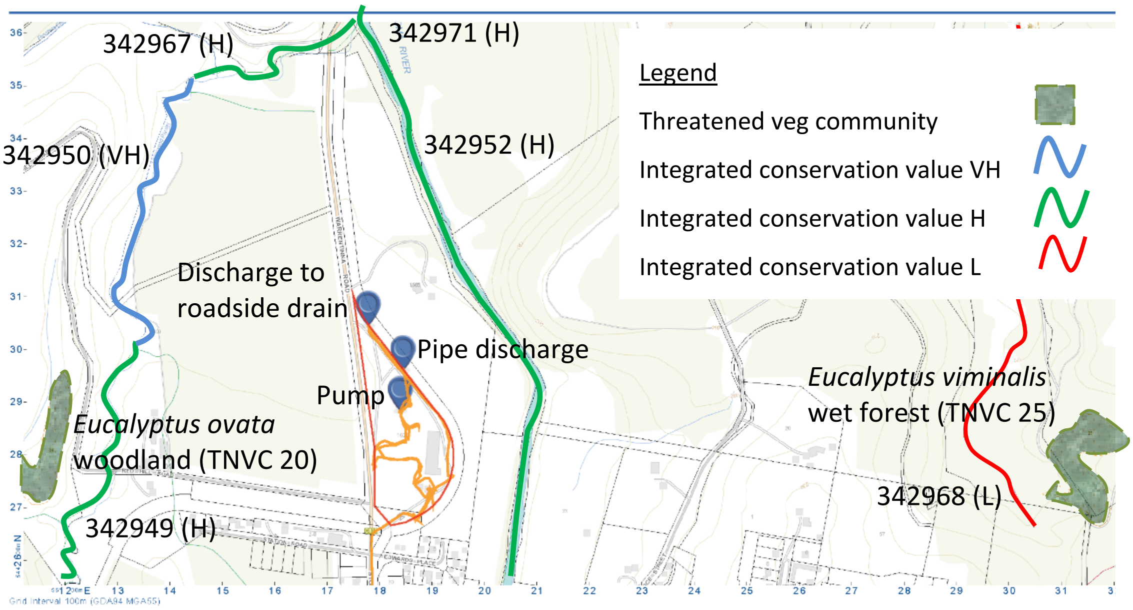


FIGURE 4: RECEIVING WATERCOURSE ASSESSMENT

A substantial discharge of sediment entrained water to a natural watercourse can cause the bed of the stream to be smothered affecting all associated aquatic flora and fauna. Once in the stream, the 'beach' of sediment can progress downstream with each successive flood event further damaging aquatic habitat.

Waterways in the north of Tasmania that drain to Bass Strait are known to provide habitat for giant freshwater crayfish (*Astacopsis gouldi*). An observation of this species has been recorded at the confluence of Ledgerwood Creek and the Ringarooma River approximately 550 metres from

[2] CFEV - Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystem values project provides a comprehensive conservation priority assessment of all rivers, lakes, waterbodies, estuaries, saltmarshes and karst in Tasmania.

the site. This species is listed as vulnerable under state and commonwealth legislation and is highly susceptible to river bed disturbance.

2.1.3 Mitigating factors

The Branxholm sawmill is a small site, approximately 4 hectares in area. Warrentinna Road intercepts any overland flow originating from outside the development area. A portion of the site is roofed and hence the runoff is quite clean. The only areas that are likely to pick up sediment are those regularly trafficked and runoff from these areas is directed to substantial settling ponds which provide abundant detention time and retention volume.

The site for the new building and partial demolition (part of one wall) of the existing building is located on stable ground and not on any area of historic site filling. No piling will be required and the building will be founded on a raft style, concrete slab with a perimeter edge-beam. The above ground structure is comprised of steel sections and sheet cladding and roof, see preliminary construction drawings included as Appendix 2. This type of construction method will not cause significant ground disturbance or result in significant stockpiles of erodible soils.

The calculations below will analyse the performance of the current sediment control infrastructure provided at Branxholm Sawmill to control runoff and sediment generated from the existing developed areas in a 1 in 20 year (approximate Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) 5%) event.

2.1.4 Sediment control calculations

TABLE 5: TIME OF CONCENTRATION

Formula $Tc = 91L/(A^{0.1} * Se^{0.2})$	**Flow line L (km)**	**Catchment area A (ha)**	**Equal area Slope Se (m/km)**	**Concentration Tc (min)**
Log stockpile drain	0.15	1.0	33	6.7
Settling pond	0.08	2.0	37	3.3
Perimeter drain	0.30	1.0	23	14.6

The log pile area is gravel surface, the coefficient of run off is assumed to be 0.5. Most of the settling pond catchment is gravel surface but with an area of roof, the coefficient of runoff is assumed to be 0.7. The perimeter drain catchment is gravel road.

TABLE 6: FLOW RATE

Formula $Q = \frac{C \cdot i \cdot A}{360}$	**Coefficient of runoff C (no units)**	**Intensity of rain event i (mm/hr)**	**Catchment area A (ha)**	**Flow rate Q (m^3/s)**
Log stockpile drain	0.5	100	1.0	0.14
Settling pond	0.7	126	2.0	0.49
Perimeter drain	0.5	68.1	1.0	0.19

(BOM (b), 2022)

2.1.4.1 Size of sediment traps

The separate catchments are treated separately.

The log pile drain has inputs in various locations, most distant from the discharge point. The hydraulic efficiency is 0.5 turbulence factor of (n) = 2.

The settling pond receives water from the log pile drain and the hardstand surrounding as well as the roof of the main buildings. The pond is long and thin with inputs at one end and discharge through a pump and pipe at the other, a greater hydraulic efficiency of 0.76 is assumed and hence a turbulence factor of (n) = 4.

The perimeter drain is very long and thin and has disbursed inputs along its length a hydraulic efficiency of 0.8 is assumed and hence a turbulence factor of (n) = 5.

TABLE 7: CAPACITY OF EXISTING SEDIMENT TRAPS

	Surface area (m2)	**Capacity (m3)**
Log stockpile drain	214	54
Settling pond	935	654
Perimeter drain	108	32

Log stockpile drain:

Depth of pond (d_p) = 1.0 m, extended depth (d_e) = 0.1 m and retention depth (d*) = 0.5 m.

Settling pond:

Depth of pond (d_p) = 1.5 m, extended depth (d_e) = 0.1 m and retention depth (d*) = 1.0 m.

Perimeter drain:

Depth of pond (d_p) = 1.0 m, extended depth (d_e) = 0.1 m and retention depth (d*) = 0.5 m.

TABLE 8: CAPTURE EFFICIENCY

Formula $R = 1 - \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \times \frac{v_s}{Q/a} \times \frac{(d_e + d_p)}{(d_e + d^*)}\right)^{-n}$	Settling velocity (fine silt) v_s (m/s)	Surface area a (m2)	Flow rate Q (m^3/s)
Log stockpile drain	0.0018	214	0.14
Settling pond	0.0018	935	0.49
Perimeter drain	0.0018	108	0.19

Log stockpile capture efficiency $R = 1 - (1.5 \times 2.7514 \times 1.833)^{-2} = 0.98$

Settling pond capture efficiency $R = 1 - (1.25 \times 3.4347 \times 1.45)^{-4} = 0.99$

Perimeter drain capture efficiency $R = 1 - (1.5 \times 1.0232 \times 1.833)^{-5} = 0.99$

Log stockpile surface area = 214 m^2, pond depth 1.0 metres, storage capacity 53 m^3. Assume sediment storage of 50% total capacity = 26 m^3.

Settling pond surface area = 935 m^2, pond depth 1.5 metres, combined storage capacity 350 m^3. Assume sediment storage of 50% total capacity = 175 m^3.

Perimeter drain surface area = 108 m^2, pond depth 1.0 metres, storage capacity 27 m^3. Assume sediment storage of 50% total capacity = 13.5 m^3.

TABLE 9: SEDIMENT TRAP SURFACE AREA

	Flow rate Q (m3/s)	Retention basin area from WSUD Figure 4.2 for 90% capture (m^2) (EPA division, 2012)	Actual basin surface area (m^2)
Log stockpile drain	0.14	60	214
Settling pond	0.49	200	935
Perimeter drain	0.19	80	108

TABLE 10: CLEAN OUT FREQUENCY

Formula $F_r = S_t / (A \times R \times L_o)$	**Capture efficiency (R)**	**Contributing catchment, A (ha)**	**Storage volume S_t (m^3)**	**Sediment loading rate L_o (m^3/ha/yr)**	**Desired Cleanout frequency F_r (yrs)**
Log stockpile drain	0.98	1.0	26	10	2.6
Settling pond	0.99	2.0	175	8	11
Perimeter drain	0.99	1.0	13.5	10	1.3

The calculated clean out frequency for the log stockpile drain is over 2 years and for the perimeter drain is slightly over 1 year. These installations have been treated in isolation whereas in practice they will work in unison. The log pile drain will detain runoff for a period and then discharge into the settling pond where further detention will take place. Once the settling pond has reached capacity the pump will operate to discharge water to the perimeter drain which will impose further detention time before the cumulative catchment run off is discharged offsite.

2.2 HYDROCARBON RISK

Branxholm Sawmill uses heavy machinery and vehicles to unload logs, manoeuvre stacks of timber and finished products around the site. These machines are energised with diesel engines and use hydraulics to lift and carry. Hydraulics and combustion engines are susceptible to oil and fuel leaks and spills during operation and in upset conditions. Refuelling poses the greatest risk of a small volume fuel spill. Any fuel or oil spilt to ground can be carried into the stormwater management system and potentially carried off-site during a rainfall event.

Branxholm Sawmill is serviced by a fully bunded refuelling station which has a triple interceptor trap to manage and separate hydrocarbons from rainfall water. All vehicles and machinery are refuelled at this facility. A roofed oil storage facility is located alongside the refuelling pad and takes advantage of the interceptor trap.

2.3 Potential impact and mitigation

2.3.1 Sediment discharge (construction)

The floor of the new process building is level with the floor of the existing building to facilitate process flow. The proposed construction method is to strip the existing surface which is currently a low dust producing gravel hardstand. The ground surface outside the existing building will be approximately equivalent to the thickness of the slab. The quantity of excavation and filling will be minimal. All construction works will be carried in accordance with the National Construction Code(NCC) (Australian Building Codes Board, 2024), which sets a minimum step down from slab level to the ground surface.

The stripped gravel will be stockpiled and the edge beams excavated to a depth of 400 mm (600 mm overall thickness). This will result in a 31 cubic metre stockpile of spoil which will be added to the existing site landscape bunds and vegetated.

It is anticipated that construction will take place during summer months when persistent rainfall events are rare. Once the building is complete the finished floor level will be above the surrounding ground surface as required by the NCC, which will protect the building from inundation if the site floods in an extreme event.

It is noted that Warrentinna Road and the disused railway alignment are elevated and both have deep drains which effectively intercept and divert surface runoff from outside the site. Flood-prone areas hazard mapping provided by The LIST shows some areas on site are flood prone, the area of the proposed process building is outside the flood risk area, see Figure 5: Flood-prone Hazard Areas code, mapping (The LIST).

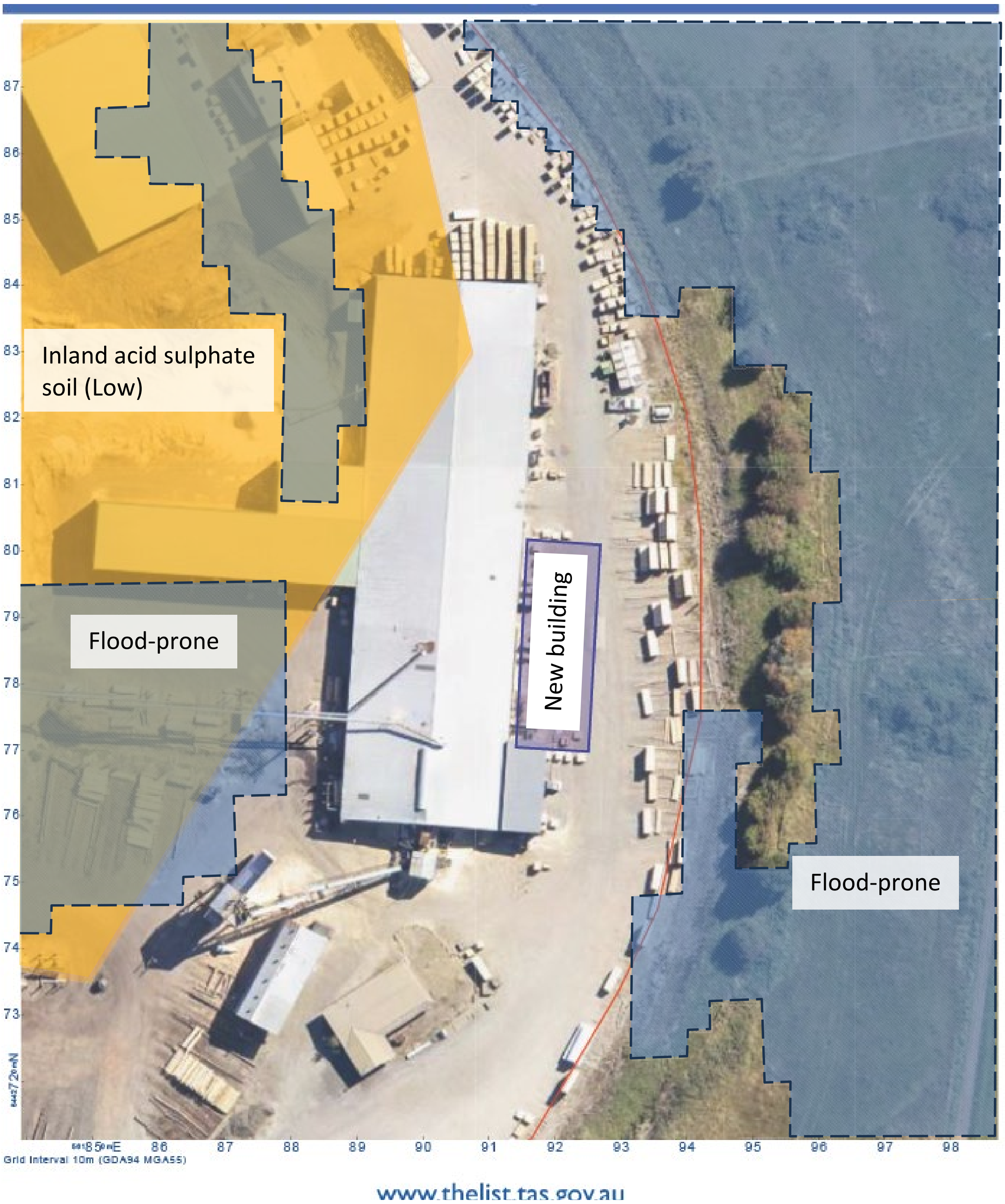


FIGURE 5: FLOOD-PRONE HAZARD AREAS CODE, MAPPING (THE LIST)

2.3.2 SEDIMENT DISCHARGE (OPERATIONS)

The pond clean-out frequencies are acceptable intervals and the calculations show that the sediment storage capacity of the existing system is acceptable.

The analysis shows that the current arrangement for the Branxholm Sawmill development area is satisfactory to control sediment discharge in a 1 in 20 year (approximate Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) 5%) event.

Protection provided by the current stormwater system could be enhanced with the installation of a skimmer fitted to the inlet of the water pump. The skimmer consists of a float on the inlet to the suction side of the pump which causes the inlet to be suspended far enough below the water surface to not draw air but far enough above the invert level of the pond to not draw sediment. Examples of proprietary systems include the Dolphin Floating Strainer such as 'Megator' or equivalent or a constructed arrangement similar to Figure B29 of (IECA, June 2018)

The skimmer would ensure that water pumped out of the settling pond is always taken from the cleanest water just below the surface of the pond.

2.3.3 Hydrocarbon discharge

The refuelling and oil storage facility minimises the risk of accidental refuelling spills and possible leaks from oil drums causing hydrocarbon contamination of the stormwater system and receiving aquatic environment.

The threat of a mechanical failure elsewhere on the site causing contamination is mitigated with a proprietary hydrocarbon spill kit currently kept in the oil storage shed. Protection will be enhanced with a length of hydrocarbon boom that can be deployed on the surface of the stormwater system to contain any spills.

MANAGEMENT MEASURE 2: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Item	Proposed measure	Timeframe
4.	A skimmer will be fitted to the inlet pipe to the water transfer pump to ensure the cleanest water is transferred to the perimeter drain.	On issue of a permit.
5.	A length of hydrocarbon boom will be made available for immediate deployment should an oil or fuel spill or leak enter the stormwater management system.	On issue of a permit.

3 Noise emissions

3.1 Normal operations

For this proposal CMTP commissioned a new Environmental Noise Survey undertaken December 2023 with a follow up survey conducted in March 2024 (Tarkarri Engineering Pty Ltd, March 2024) included as Appendix 6, this follows a similar report in 2018 (Tarkarri Engineering Pty Ltd, 2018) included as Appendix 5, and a previous survey and report prepared in May 2013 (Vipac, May 2013) included as Appendix 4, to consider the implications of the installation of the gas fired kiln. These reports are included with other documents related to this Environmental Effects Report.

3.1.1 Noise producing equipment

The contemporary noise study (Tarkarri Engineering Pty Ltd, March 2024) lists the existing equipment and adds new equipment with the corresponding input sound power levels (SWL) spectra:

TABLE 11: NOISE SOURCES

Source		SWL	Comment
Existing	De-barker	104	Site measurements
	Front end loader	98	Site measurements
	Processing building	107	Buildings radiated noise and openings, internal measurements, radiated noise calculated from modelled transmission loss.
	Dust control systems	101	Discharge duct, casing, radiated noise, onsite measurements
	Chipper	103	Throat, building radiated and conveyor head noise, onsite measurements.
	Kiln	94	Manufacturers data.
New	Processing building	98	Building radiated noise, from internal reverberant field measurements of existing building and modelled transmission loss.

The approximate locations of these noise sources are shown on the site plan along with the location of the new sawmill building. The scragg saw is identified as a major noise source in the 2024 noise report. The scragg saw is part of the sawing machine and is located within the processing building and hence is included in the existing processing building figures. A sawing machine will be installed within the new processing building and hence is included the new processing building figures.

3.1.2 NOISE MEASUREMENTS

The environmental noise survey established four observed measurement positions and one un-observed measurement position. The 2024 report considered the observed positions. These are tabulated below and displayed on the site and surrounds map Figure 2 Surrounding residences.

TABLE 12: ENVIRONMENTAL NOISE MEASUREMENT LOCATIONS

Number	Address	Coordinates (GDA 94)
1.	Edwards Place, end of the street between 5 and 12.	561921, 5442636
2.	Pearce Street, on frontage to vacant blocks at 7 and 11.	562164, 5442422
3.	Station Road, on disused railway alignment outside 10.	561543, 5442682
4.	North boundary, on disused railway alignment adjacent to northern access gate	561811, 5443033

3.2 CURRENT OPERATING CONDITIONS (EPN 10008/1)

Environment Protection Notice 10008/1 includes Condition N3 which states:

1. Noise emissions from the activity when measured at any noise sensitive premises in other ownership and expressed as the equivalent A-weighted sound pressure level must not exceed:

1.1 - 55 dB(A) between 0700 hours and 1800 hours (Day time); and

1.2 - 40 dB(A) between 1800 hours and 0700 hours (Night time).

2. Where the combined level of noise from the activity and the normal ambient noise exceeds the noise levels stated above, this condition will not be considered to be breached unless the noise emissions from the activity are audible and exceed the ambient noise level by at least 5 dB(A).

3. The time interval over which noise levels are averaged must be 10 minutes or an alternative time specified in writing by the Director.

4. Measured noise levels must be adjusted for tonality, impulsiveness, modulation and low frequency in accordance with the Tasmanian Noise Measurement Procedures Manual.

5. All methods of measurement must be in accordance with the Tasmanian Noise Measurement Procedures Manual.

3.3 RESULTS OF THE 2018 SURVEY

The survey produced the following results which are tabulated in Table 6-1 in the report (Tarkarri Engineering Pty Ltd, 2018). The results are reproduced in Table 13: Results of 2018 noise recording below. Table 13 reproduces Table 6-1 from the 2018 noise report with the EPN limits column revised to reflect the current limits as specified in the current EPN.

TABLE 13: RESULTS OF 2018 NOISE RECORDING

Position	Period	$L_{Aeq,10min}$ (dBA)	$L_{Aeq90, 10 min}$ (dBA)	Tonal Adj (dB)	$L_{Aeq, 10min adj}$ (dBA)	EPN limits (dBA)	Potential breach	Comments
1.	Day	52.7	49.5	0.3	53.0	55	no	complies
	Night	30.1	28.1	0.2	30.3	40	no	complies
2.	Day	50.3	42.3		50.3	55	no	complies
3.	Day	47.3	43.1	0.5	47.8	55	no	complies
4.	Day	51.3	48.8	1.3	52.6	55	no	complies
	Night	38.0	36.1	0.4	38.4	40	no	complies

3.4 ASSESSMENT OF RESULTS AGAINST CURRENT LIMITS

The results of the noise survey (2018) are evidence that the Branxholm Sawmill complies with the current EPN noise emission limits.

The report concluded that the highest readings recorded at position 1 were controlled by the combined operation of the scragg saw, chipper and sawdust blowers. At position 4 the noise emissions from the scragg saw, forklift trucks with narrow band beeper alarms, a pneumatic nail gun and the sawdust blowers were audible.

The fans on the gas kiln will continue after-hours into the night time period. The results of the monitoring show that the existing operation complies with current permit limits.

3.5 Noise mitigating measures

Several modifications to the operation have occurred since the earlier 2013 noise study and before the 2018 noise survey:

TABLE 14: NOISE MITIGATION MEASURES SINCE 2013

Location	Description
Chipper room	Fully enclosed with a solid door installed
	Flooring installed on room
Process building	Roller door was installed
	Closed in all other openings in sawmill building
Dust control systems	Cyclones added to the sawdust blower system
Changes to the de-barker / sorter	Procedural and housekeeping improvements

The following changes have occurred to the process line since the 2018 noise survey:

TABLE 15: CHANGES SINCE 2018 NOISE SURVEY

Equipment	Date	Description
Log optimising system	Jan 2019	Optimising system consists of 2 laser scanners that scan each log prior to sawing to get a 360-degree true shape scan of each log. The Lasers are connected to a computer and PLC that takes the scanned information and develops a cutting solution for the saw box and positions the log to the optimal cutting position to maximise recovery. Prior to the optimiser being installed the operator would have to set the log position and saw box solution visually rather than the automated system the optimiser provides. Essentially the optimising system is a software program attached to the saw line. Mechanically and operationally, there is no effect on noise from the optimising system.

Residue bunker	Nov 2019	The residue bunker is a 3-sided tilt slab building incorporating separate storage areas for saleable fines (sawdust), saleable pine bark and a loading ramp between the 2 storage areas. Additionally, a dedicated log truck unloading area consisting of a concrete pad that log trucks can park on whilst being unloaded is incorporated into the bunker area. The fines storage area is roofed meaning all sawdust stored can be kept dry allowing sales into sensitive markets such as animal bedding and feedstock for wood pellets. Prior to the installation of the bunker fines were pneumatically transferred to an open pit via the existing blower systems from process machines. The blower lines were redirected from the open pit to the bunker to facilitate transfer of the fines to the bunker. It was not considered the installation of the bunker and the transfer of the existing blower systems to the bunker would have any substantial effect on noise emitted from the site.
Sorter / stacker	Jan 2020	A timber sorting and stacking machine was installed at the end of the saw line to take all timber produced in the sawmill, sort the timber into individual sizes, grades and lengths. Once sorted into individual bundles, timber is transferred by slow moving chains and rollers to the stacking machine located inside the sawmill building. The stacking machine stacks the timber into packs for direct sale or for further processing. It is recognised in the timber industry that sorter stacker machines are not high noise emitting sources and as such the installation and operation would have minimal effect on noise generated from the site. The machine does not cut, chip or saw timber through this process that are recognised as the main noise generating processes in a sawmill.
Manufacturing building	May 2020	CMTP Pty Ltd produce a range of manufactured pallets, bins, crates and frames for the agricultural market and heavy industry at the Branxholm site. The installation of the sorting and stacking machine consumed approximately 50% of the previous area used for manufacturing. The new manufacturing building was constructed to provide suitable area for the displaced manufacturing area employees to work in a safe and productive way. A pallet making machine was relocated from the main sawmill building to the new manufacturing area along with approximately half of our manufacturing area employees. Given this was a relocation of existing staff and machinery from the sawmill it was considered the move would have negligible effect on noise.

CMTP commits to undertaking a noise survey post completion of the sawmill upgrade in line with our license conditions.

3.6 CHANGES RESULTING FROM THIS PROPOSAL

The proposed changes to the operation will not increase the current operating hours.

The current noise study (Tarkarri Engineering Pty Ltd, March 2024) analysed the proposed changes associated with the increase in efficiency and production and used noise modelling software to predict likely noise emissions following the change.

No material changes have occurred since the 2018 noise survey was completed that will have affected noise emission levels for sensitive receptors see Table 15: changes since 2018 noise survey. The current noise study considered the cumulative effect of the existing operation as measured in 2018 and the new processing building.

The results of the modelling are displayed in the report (Tarkarri Engineering Pty Ltd, March 2024) in a series of noise contour maps Figures 4-7 to 4-10. These results were also tabulated in Table 4-3 and 4-4 and are reproduced below:

TABLE 16: PREDICTED SOUND PRESSURE LEVELS

Predicted sound pressure levels (dBA) existing and new					
Algorithm	Source area	Receiver			
		1	2	3	4
Iso	Existing	52	40	43	43
	New	39	27	27	29
	Total	**53**	**40**	**43**	**44**
Worst case	Existing	56	43	47	47
	New	45	31	30	32
	Total	**57**	**43**	**47**	**49**

In the discussion of the report an apparent high reading in the worst-case scenario at receiver 1 is attributed to over prediction (by up to 5 dB) by the CONCAWE algorithm. In this case the ISO algorithm result is substituted.

The 2018 report found night time noise emission levels were restricted to the kiln fans which were found to be compliant with a maximum permitted night time noise limit of 40 dBA (38.4 dBA) at the most exposed receptor. The report went on to explain that the noise of the fans was highly tonal which would require reactive type silencing at the discharge points on the roof to control. The report confirmed the noise emission from the kiln fans was less than the maximum permitted, no further work was undertaken.

The additional production associated with this proposal will be realised in green timber which will not result in any additional through-put or operating hours for the kiln.

The interior lining of the exterior walls of the new building will consist of 6mm fibre cement sheet to provide extra noise attenuation and comfort for workers within the building. The modelling provided in the 2024 noise study (Tarkarri Engineering Pty Ltd, March 2024) assumed this to be the case.

3.7 Environment protection policy (noise) 2009

Environmental values are being protected by seeking specialist advice and implementing the recommended actions where it is practical to do so. The results of the most recent noise study shows that the Branxholm Sawmill operation still allows for some reserve capacity (53 dBA against a permit maximum of 55 dBA).

3.8 Traffic on Stoke Street

CMTP commissioned a Traffic Impact Assessment (RJK Consulting Engineers, 2023) and this document is included here as Appendix 3. The report found that post production increase up to 48 (47.7) truck movements will be expected at the site. Traffic will be accessing the site during working hours which is between 7.00 am and 6.00 pm. The noise report commissioned for this proposal (Tarkarri Engineering Pty Ltd, March 2024) includes an addendum dealing specifically with traffic noise on Stoke Street.

The report addendum calculates predicted noise levels at residents on Stoke Street resulting from the additional traffic attributed to increased production. A conservative figure of 8 movements per hour is modelled and the results compared against the NSW noise policy criterion of 55 dBA $_{\mathrm{LAeq,\,1\,hr}}$ for daytime period.

The modelling confirmed the following results:

- Existing noise: 40 – 47 dBA
- Post production increase: 44 - 50 dBA

Both existing and post production increase noise levels are below the NSW Noise Policy criterion.

MANAGEMENT MEASURE 3: NOISE MANAGEMENT

Item	Proposed measure	Timeframe
6.	A noise survey will be conducted post commissioning of the new process building and sawing machine. If the results of the noise assessment show the site is exceeding the 55 dBA day time limit at the most exposed sensitive receptor, noise attenuation measures will be implemented until the criteria is met.	Post commissioning

4 NATURAL VALUES

4.1 VALUES

Part B, Section 1.3 includes a list of the species identified in the Natural Values Atlas as having been observed within 500 metres and 5,000 metres of the Branxholm Sawmill site. The same database reveals that small remnant clumps of vegetation communities listed under *Threatened Native Vegetation Communities 2020* dataset are situated within 1,000 metres of the site boundary. These communities are in riparian areas of the Legerwood Rivulet and Ringarooma River see Figure 4: Receiving watercourse assessment.

4.2 POTENTIAL IMPACTS

This proposal does not seek to clear any vegetation either native or otherwise. The new building will be constructed on the previously developed site adjacent to an existing building. Impact to native species can occur through emissions causing habitat degradation.

- The threatened vegetation communities are remote from the site and located upstream so are unlikely to be affected by any emissions.
- No threatened flora species are listed as having been observed within 500 metres or 5,000 metres of the site.
- Threatened species listed as having been observed within 500 metres are 2 avian species and a bandicoot. An increase in throughput and the construction of a new green-mill building is unlikely to affect these species.
- Threatened species listed as having been observed within 5,000 metres of the site include avian species, marsupial carnivores, bandicoots, snails and frogs. None of these species are likely to inhabit the development site and hence none of their habitat will be affected.
- The Ringarooma River and Legerwood Rivulet are potential habitat for giant freshwater crayfish (*Astacopsis gouldi*). The site has the potential to affect the habitat for this species.

Part C, Section 2 of this document refers directly to emissions which may affect the aquatic and benthic habitat. The section concludes that the existing stormwater management system is adequate to mitigate the risk but also makes recommendations to enhance protection.

5 WEEDS, PESTS AND PATHOGENS

5.1 EXISTING WEED SPECIES

The natural values atlas records observations of three declared weed species within 500 metres of the Branxholm Sawmill. These species are listed below along with the species status in the municipality with respect to the *Weed Management Act 1999* (WMA) and Weeds of National Significance (WONS).

Weed species within 500 metres

Species	Common name	WONS	WMA
Erica lusitanica	spanish heath	no	
Foeniculum vulgare	fennel	no	Zone A (eradication)
Rubus fruticosus	blackberry	yes	Zone B (containment)

Casual observation on site indicated that substantial infestations of blackberry have been controlled with herbicide spray. It appears that this work has been successful with brown-out complete and little evidence of regeneration at this stage.

Occasional thistle rosettes were observed in areas where grasses were habituating. The surrounding farmland will be an ongoing source of weed incursions and ongoing control will be required.

5.2 Potential impacts

Branxholm Sawmill receives logs from various plantation sites in the district using forestry roads and rural roads traversing native forest and agricultural land. Materials manufactured at the site and residues produced there are delivered to various customers in rural and urban locations using the local road network. If vehicles delivering manufactured products and residues are not kept weed seed and disease free, traffic can become a vector for the transmission of weeds into urban areas.

5.3 Mitigating the risk

To mitigate this risk the Branxholm Sawmill will observe the condition of trafficked surfaces on the site and regularly clean off any dirt or debris to ensure that no weed seeds or contaminated soil is picked up from the site.

Any emerging weeds will be promptly controlled with herbicide application to maintain a weed free site.

MANAGEMENT MEASURE 4: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Item	Proposed measure	Timeframe
7.	Trafficked surfaces will be regularly cleaned of dirt and debris to ensure transport vehicles do not pick up weed seed or contaminated soil on site.	At all times

6 Waste

6.1 Residues

TABLE 17: COMPARE REIDUE QUANTITIES

	Current Sawline		Proposed Sawline	
Log Input	40,000	t	89,285	t
Recovery	50%		56%	
Timber output	20,000	m3	50,000	m3
Export Quality Wood Chip %	32%		29%	
Export Quality Wood Chip t	12,800	t	25,893	t
Saleable Sawdust %	16%		13%	
Saleable Sawdust t	6,400	t	11,607	t
Saleable Bark %	2%		2%	
Saleable Bark t	800		1785.7	

The sawmilling process produces residues in the form of bark peeled from the green logs before processing, chipped residue offcuts and sawdust generated from the saws. These residues are by-products of the main process but have a commercial value and are on-sold to businesses.

An increase in throughput will increase the annual quantity of the residues although the new sawmill will use thinner saws that will reduce the amount of sawdust produced per cut. Each of the residue products is provided with a storage location which are displayed on the site plan.

Sawdust is deposited in a three-sided concrete enclosure with a concrete slab see Plate 1. The enclosure has limited capacity and if overloaded will prevent normal operation of the facility. The woodchip and bark stockpile areas are larger but are still cleared frequently, thus ensuring that no residues remain long enough to commence composting.

Existing contracts for these materials will be renewed in the future and currently the demand outstrips supply. Volume in stockpile of these materials will be maintained by regular pick-up and delivery of the products. On average 2 loads of wood chip and 1 load of sawdust will be taken off site each day and 1 load of bark will go every 2 days.

The proposed saw line will utilise increased optimisation of the log processing and include saws with a thinner kerf (thickness) these two improvements will result in an increased recovery of 6% (50% to 56%).

It is expected that an increase in efficiency in the saw line will result in reductions on a percentage basis of wood chip from 32% to 29% and sawdust from 16% to 13%.

The current capacity of the sawdust bunker and bark bunker will not be increased and therefore there is no plan to increase residue storage of chip or bark on site. Contractors that purchase both products manage stocks of each saleable residue within the available storage capacity. The chip bin will be replaced with a higher capacity bin of up to 220m3 storage capacity. The existing chip bin will either be transferred to another CMTP manufacturing facility or sold.

Details of the residue contracts for disposal are 'commercial in confidence' and will not be detailed in a public document.

6.2 OPERATIONS WASTE

Maintaining and operating heavy machinery produces waste in the form of used oils and spares waste from servicing. These waste materials will be minimised by ensuring equipment is well maintained and break-downs are rare. Replaced products will be categorised according to the material type and disposed of in the correct recycling or waste stream.

These waste materials are captured in bins for disposal or in the case of used oil, containerised, and stored ready for pick up by a registered waste disposal contractor.

6.3 CONSTRUCTION WASTE

The project to construct the new building will require a minimum amount of demolition. The existing sawmill building will be repurposed in the process line, so as little as possible will go to waste. New materials are often packaged to protect surfaces and edges in transport. This packaging will be collected up and categorised according to the type of materials and directed into the appropriate waste or recycling stream.

The existing sawmill building will be repurposed as a part of the upgrade. The existing 4 head bandsaw will be replaced with a new 6 head bandsaw and repositioned in the vacant sawmill building, the existing 4 head bandsaw will either be transferred to another CMTP manufacturing facility or sold.

6.4 Excavation spoil

Unlike the existing sorter building, the new building will be founded on natural ground. No piling will be necessary as the concrete slab will be supported on an edge beam and internal thickening of nominal thickness to support the load. Minimal excavation spoil will be generated by the works.

The site is relatively level and hence minimal excavation will be required to facilitate the new sawmill building construction. A small amount of spoil (≈ 31 cubic metres) will be recovered from the building footprint consisting mainly of mixed gravel and soil. This fill material will be placed against the existing landscape bunds and revegetated.

The excavated soil will be tested for Acid Sulphate Soil Potential before excavation works commence. If testing shows the soil at the depth of the proposed excavation is potential ASS an Acid Sulphate Soil Management Plan will be invoked and the soil will be neutralised before being relocated on site.

6.5 Litter

A certain amount of litter will be produced through the lunch room and offices. This rubbish will be collected in a bin and removed from site by waste disposal contractor.

6.6 Toilet waste

The site is serviced by a amenities block connected to a septic tank. The septic tank and soakage field is located adjacent to the toilet block.

MANAGEMENT MEASURE 5: POTENTIAL ASS MANAGEMENT

Item	Proposed measure	Timeframe
8.	Areas proposed for excavation will be tested for acid sulphate soil potential and if positive, an Acid Sulphate Soil Management Plan will be invoked.	Prior to excavation.

7 Environmentally hazardous substances

TABLE 18: ENVIRONMENTALLY HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

Type	Quantity (litres)	Containment
Diesel	2,000	Above ground bunded storage tank
LPG	10,000	Above ground tanks (5,000 litres each)
Oil	1,200	Bunded oil store and spill containment pallets in plant.

7.1 Hydrocarbons

Mobile equipment is refuelled from a fully bunded refuelling facility. Lubricants, engine oil and hydraulic fluid for daily maintenance are stored on a concrete pad in the adjacent storage shed. Both the re-fuelling bay connected to the refuelling facility and the storage shed have impervious concrete floors that drain to a triple interceptor trap, see Section 2.2 Hydrocarbon risk.

7.2 Leak and spills

The Operator will retain a hydrocarbon spill kit onsite ready for immediate deployment if a hydrocarbon leak or spill occurs. A hydrocarbon boom will be retained onsite for deployment across the surface of sediment traps should a hydrocarbon spill or leak enter the stormwater management system.

7.3 Other hazardous substances

The site has a gas fired kiln to promote drying in green timber. The site has 2 x 5,000 litre above ground gas cylinders on site to store Liquid Petroleum Gas.

7.4 Previous processes

Historically, a portion of the Branxholm Sawmill site had been an extractive pit which was subsequently filled with waste products and covered with soil. The current sorter building is founded partly on this area of fill and piles were required to support the structure.

The building proposal in this application is not founded on the area of previous filling and hence no contaminated spoil from excavations will result.

8 Site contamination

Copper Chromium Arsenate (CCA) timber preservation activities were conducted on site and ceased in 1993. Following cessation of the activity, ground water monitoring was invoked to provide evidence that groundwater contamination had not occurred.

Groundwater monitoring was carried out and consistent null results demonstrated no groundwater contamination had occurred and after a period was unlikely to occur. No groundwater monitoring has been required for the previous 12 years of operation.

The location of the CCA treatment area is known (covered by a concrete pad) and is shown on Figure 3: Branxholm Sawmill site plan. The site of the filled quarry is known (found during excavation for the current sorter building).

The proposed development area does not include and will not disturb the area that was previously used for CCA treatment of timber or the area of the filled quarry. There have been no records or observations of environmental emissions emanating from the site filled area.

9 Environmental Impacts of traffic

For the calculations below the bulk density of green pine logs is assumed to be 1.0 t/m3. This proposal will not increase the amount of light vehicle traffic so the tables below refer only to truck traffic:

TABLE 19: CURRENT ESTIMATED TRUCK TRAFFIC AT FULL PRODUCTION

Current cartage task				
Annual log deliveries (tonnes)	40,000			
Sawmill timber output (cubic metres)	20,000			
Log trucks movements (35 t average)			Day	9.6
Dispatch trucks (movements)			Day	8.4
Chip trucks (movements)			Day	3.8
Sawdust trucks (movements)			Day	1.8
Bark trucks (movements)			Day	0.6
Total movements			Day	24
Cartage per year (average)	Loads	3,600	Movements	7,200

TABLE 20: POST PRODUCTION INCREASE ESTIMATED TRUCK TRAFFIC

Anticipated cartage task				
Annual log delivery (tonnes)	89,285			
Sawmill timber output (cubic metres)	50,000			
Log truck movements (35 t average)			Day	21.3
Dispatch trucks (movements)			Day	13.9
Chip trucks (movements)			Day	7.7
Sawdust trucks (movements)			Day	3.7
Bark trucks (movements)			Day	1.1
Total movements			Day	47.7
Cartage per year (average)	Loads	6,678	Movements	13,356

9.1 Traffic volume

The volume of traffic from the Branxholm Sawmill will be mostly consistent throughout the year but may fluctuate according to supply and delivery contracts.

This proposal does not increase the number of employees at Branxholm Sawmill and hence the number of light vehicles will not increase. The Traffic Impact Assessment prepared for this development (RJK Consulting Engineers, 2023) found that employees added approximately 60 vehicle movements per day to the total.

There will be no extra light vehicle movements because of this proposed development. The additional extra overall vehicle movements expected at full production is 13,356 – 7,200 or 6,156 per year.

Approximately ninety percent of log truck traffic will enter the Branxholm Sawmill from the Tasman Highway travelling along Stoke Street to the main entrance on the southern corner of the site. The remaining ten percent will originate from the Warrentinna area travelling south along Warrentinna Road.

9.2 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Thirteen residences occupy the frontage to Stoke Street and one on Edward Place will be subjected to increase traffic past their residences.

TABLE 21: RESIDENCES WITH FRONTAGE ON STOKE STREET

Residential address	Dist. To C/L	Residential address	Dist. To C/L
1 Stoke Street	11 m	19 Stoke Street	22 m
3 Stoke Street	15 m	2 Stoke Street	9 m
5-7 Stoke Street	9 m	8 Stoke Street	9 m
9 Stoke Street (Branxholm Hall)	9 m	10 Stoke Street	14 m
11 Stoke Street	14 m	14 Stoke Street	11 m
15 Stoke Street	31 m	1 Edward Place	30 m
17 Stoke Street	9 m	2 Stoke Street	9 m

The section of Stoke Street outside the residences above is on a low gradient and fully sealed.

9.2.1 TRAFFIC NOISE MITIGATION

- Contractors engaged to cart product for the Branxholm Sawmill will be professional contractors with late model well maintained trucks with proprietary exhaust silencers fitted.
- The cartage task will be undertaken during normal sawmill operating hours, which for most of the year will be during daylight hours.
- Cartage contractors will be instructed to refrain from using exhaust brakes near residences.
- The low gradient and sealed surface will cause the trucks to be under low load which will reduce the amount of noise emitted from laden trucks delivering to the site.

9.3 IMPACT ON MARSUPIAL CARNIVORES

Ninety percent of the overall traffic related to the Branxholm Sawmill will be travelling on Stoke Street which is an urban street with houses on either side. This area is unlikely to be preferred habitat for Tasmanian devils (*Sarcophilus harrisii*) or spotted-tailed quolls (*Dasyurus maculatus* subsp. *maculatus*).

Ten percent of truck traffic will travel on Warrentinna Road. The Traffic Impact Assessment explains that traffic data on Warrentinna Road was unavailable from Council at the time of writing. Currently there are very few traffic counters used in Tasmania that record the time of day, so if a traffic count were available, it is highly unlikely any distinction between night time and daytime traffic would be recorded. Therefore, it is not possible to determine whether the addition of 10 percent of the overall log truck traffic to and from the sawmill will contribute more than 10 percent to the total night time traffic on Warrentinna Road.

The increase in night time traffic resulting from this proposal at full production on Warrentinna Road can be predicted:

Currently the site generates 7,200 truck movements per year. To service the added production this number will be increased to 13,356. The hours of operation will not change. It is predicted that Warrentinna Road will take approximately ten percent of the traffic, so an additional 1,335 truck movements per year will use Warrentinna Road.

The full day comprises of 11 hours (700 am to 6.00 pm). During winter daylight hours are considered 8.30 am to 4.00 pm, therefore a period of 3.5 hours during the working day is considered night time. A total 1,335 movements over 280 days equates to 5 movements per day. Over the course of the day that is 1 movement per 2 hours, so it is possible that one truck per day may be travelling between 4.00 and 6.00 pm.

There have been sightings of marsupial carnivores on Warrentinna Road and on the Tasman Highway. Following is a list of sightings as recorded on the Natural Values Atlas and road kill records as recorded on the LIST within 5 kilometres of the site.

TABLE 22: MARSUPIAL CARNIVORE RECORDS

		Observation count	
Species	Common name	Warrentinna Road	Tasman Highway
Dasyurus maculatus subsp. *maculatus*	spotted-tailed quoll	1 sighting	7 sightings
Sarcophilus harrisii	tasmanian devil	0 sightings	5 sightings 1 road kill
Dasyurus viverrinus	eastern quoll	0 sightings	3 sightings 2 road kill

The net effect of potentially one extra movement per day in what is considered by NRE Tas as night time on Warrentinna Road, which has a single record of a sighting of a spotted-tailed quoll and no records of road kill within 5 kilometres of the site is difficult to ascertain but likely to be negligible.

MANAGEMENT MEASURE 6: TRAFFIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Item	Proposed measure	Timeframe
9.	Trucks delivering logs to the Branxholm Sawmill will be advised to refrain from using engine brakes near residences on Stoke Street.	At all times

10 Other off-site impacts

The main transport route for the Branxholm Sawmill passes the frontage of the Branxholm Community Hall. Little disturbance is likely because of the increased traffic although operations finish at 6.00 pm and it is likely that most hall activities will start after that.

The Branxholm Sawmill has an existing 125 mm dia. fire ring main located onsite. These facilities are required for the existing operation and do not form part of this proposal.

The proposal will utilise new machinery and the extra demand will be provided with the installation of a new high voltage underground power cable supplying two new 2MW transformers adjacent to the new building. The existing overhead power connection and transformer will be decommissioned.

Environmental impacts related to the installation of the transformers and underground power will be managed through a Construction Environmental Management Plan or similar procedural arrangement prepared under a separate electrical installation contract.

11 Monitoring

11.1 Monitoring

Monitoring will be undertaken to observe the condition of stormwater runoff control infrastructure, prevailing air quality condition and weeds. Monitoring will invoke actions when conditions dictate:

11.2 Sediment trap

Extended period of high rainfall will prompt management of the settling ponds and pumping to discharge.

- The clarity of water in the final settling pond and the discharge to the perimeter drain will be observed. Final discharge monitoring will occur at the point the perimeter drain crosses the site boundary.
- The Operator will observe the level of accumulated sediment in all the sediment traps and drainage channels. Once the level of accumulated sediment in the traps or drains has risen to half the full water level, the sediment trap or drain will be cleaned out.

11.3 Dust impacts

Extended periods of dry weather followed by a period of high wind will result in extra vigilance for dust emissions.

- The sawmill operator will observe dust conditions in dry and windy conditions. If dust is observed crossing the property boundary the water sprays will be deployed on surfaces and stockpiles to suppress the dust.

11.4 Weeds

During normal operations the operator, employees and contractors will observe the stockpiles and surrounding areas for emergent weeds and if present initiate controls as required.

Extra vigilant monitoring will occur early in spring and early in autumn.

MANAGEMENT MEASURE 7 - MONITORING

Item	Proposed measure	Timeframe
10.	The Operator will observe the following environmental aspects of the Branxholm Sawmill operation: • Sediment traps for accumulated sediment. • Airborne dust in dry and windy weather. • Presence of weeds anywhere on the site. Corrective action will be initiated where observation reveals a potential environmental issue.	At all times

12 Decommissioning and rehabilitation

12.1 Decommissioning

During the initial evaluation of the sawmill upgrade, CMTP evaluated if relocating the sawmill operation to land zoned industrial would be viable. This evaluation investigated suitable green/brown field sites in the area, the likely costs and approval process including time to complete. This evaluation determined the cost of relocating the operation could not be justified based on return on the investment. Given this position, CMTP have ruled out any further evaluation or assessment on relocation of the sawmill.

CMTP has no plan to decommission the site. There is no plan to relocate the sawmill, if this application is unsuccessful the site will continue to run at its current 50% efficiency and the potential for achieving high returns from the same volume of resource would be lost.

If closure was contemplated the company would:

- Sell any remaining logs, timber, and products.
- Sell any remaining residues.
- Dismantle and sell the sawmilling equipment and any other surplus machinery and equipment.
- Sell the site with the buildings intact as an industrial site for an alternative purpose.

13 Greenhouse gas emissions and climate change

The proposal to upgrade the Branxholm Sawmill includes an increase in throughput which will utilise the existing equipment more efficiently but also replace an existing saw mill line with a more efficient line. This investment will realise a significant increase timber recovery efficiency from 50% to 56%.

Fundamental to carbon emissions reduction is efforts to utilise equipment more efficiently such that more output is produced for the imbedded carbon in the equipment. Also, more efficient operations achieve more added value products for a given quantity of resource. The added value products have embedded carbon in them and this will remain captured for the life of the product.

The Branxholm Sawmill takes a carbon rich resource, makes durable products with over half of the resource while the balance goes into residues which are on sold as other products. Minimal waste means minimal leakage of carbon.

The resource is won locally and the products sold locally achieving a totally local supply chain negating a requirement to import products saving the carbon emissions associated with freight over long distances. Surplus products are sold interstate to partially fulfill demand other areas.

The Branxholm site has a low exposure to bushfire risk, the land is not covered by the Bushfire Prone Areas Overlay.

PART D SUMMARY OF PROPOSED MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Item	Proposed measure	Timeframe
1.	Sawmill operator will continue to apply standard measures to suppress dust on site including: • using low dust producing road base, • maintaining slow vehicle speeds, • applying tarps to cover all loads on product trucks	At all times
2.	A windsock will be installed to assist the sawmill operator in estimating windspeed and direction to determine when corrective action shall be applied.	Upon issue of a permit
3.	The northern junction with Warrentinna Road will be sealed for 20 metres as per Dorset Council and Department of State Growth standard drawings.	Upon issue of a permit
4.	A skimmer will be fitted to the inlet pipe to the water transfer pump to ensure the cleanest water is transferred to the perimeter drain.	On issue of a permit.
5.	A length of hydrocarbon boom will be made available for immediate deployment should an oil or fuel spill or leak enter the stormwater management system.	On issue of a permit.
6.	A noise survey will be conducted post commissioning of the new process building and sawing machine. If the results of the noise assessment show the site is exceeding the 55 dBA day time limit at the most exposed sensitive receptor, noise attenuation measures will be implemented until the criteria is met.	Post commissioning
7.	Trafficked surfaces will be regularly cleaned of dirt and debris to ensure transport vehicles do not pick up weed seed or contaminated soil on site.	At all times
8.	Areas proposed for excavation will be tested for acid sulphate soil potential and if positive, an Acid Sulphate Soil Management Plan will be invoked.	Prior to excavation.
9.	Trucks delivering logs to the Branxholm Sawmill will be advised to refrain from using engine brakes near residences on Stoke Street.	At all times
10.	The Operator will observe the following environmental aspects of the Branxholm Sawmill operation: • Sediment traps for accumulated sediment. • Airborne dust in dry and windy weather. • Presence of weeds anywhere on the site. Corrective action will be initiated where observation reveals a potential environmental issue.	At all times

PART E PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

CMTP engaged with the Planning Authority (Dorset Council) to seek advice on the proposal. Council concluded that a ‘discretionary’ development application is required.

As part of the development assessment process the proposal will be advertised publicly calling for representations for and against the proposal from the community. In addition, any landowner sharing a boundary with the proposed development parcel will be notified by private letter to seek representations from these stakeholders.

14 REFERENCES

Australian Building Codes Board. (2024, March 1). *National Construction Code.* Retrieved from Australian Building Codes Board: https://ncc.abcb.gov.au/

B.O.M. (a). (2022, June 16). *Climate statistics for Australian locations.* Retrieved from Bureau of Meteorology: http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_094254.shtml

B.O.M. (a). (2022, November 15). *Climate statistics for Australian Locations*. Retrieved from Bureau of Meteorology: http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_091219.shtml

BOM (b). (2022, November 21). *Design Rainfall Data System (2016)*. Retrieved from Australian Bureau of Meteorology: http://www.bom.gov.au/water/designRainfalls/revised-ifd/?multipoint

Environment Protection Authority. (Nov 2018). *Environmental Guidelines for Wood Processing-Environment Protection Authority.* Hobart: EPA Tasmania.

EPA division. (2012). *Water Sensitive Urban Design - Engineering Procedures for Stormwater Management in Tasmania.* Hobart: Department of Primary Industrie, Water and Environment.

IECA. (June 2018). *Best Practice Erosion and Sediment Control - Appendix B.* International Erosion Control Association - Australiasia.

National Pollutant Inventry. (Jan. 2002). *Emission Estimation Technique Manual for Timber and Wood Product Manufacturing.* Canberra: Environment Australia.

RJK Consulting Engineers. (2023). *CMPT Pty Ltd - Branxholm Sawmill (TAS) P/L - 1628 Warrentinna Road, Branxholm, TAS, 7261.* Prospect: unpublished.

Tarkarri Engineering Pty Ltd. (2018). *Branxholm Sawmill environmental noise survey.* Kingsmeadows: unpublished.

Tarkarri Engineering Pty Ltd. (March 2024). *Branxholm Sawmill increased production and associated building works EER environmental noise assessment (5859_AC_R_R2).* Kings Meadows: unpublished.

Vipac. (May 2013). *CMTP Branxholm Sawmills - Environmental Noise Assessment.* Kingsmeadows: unpublished.