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## Moree Special Activation Precinct – Public Exhibition

Dear Ms Ivinson

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Moree Special Activation Precinct (SAP). We write to provide advice in relation to non-Aboriginal heritage considerations under the *Heritage Act 1977*.

We previously provided advice on the draft Heritage Report for the SAP on 21 January 2021 and 11 March 2021 (attached). It was recommended that a further assessment should be undertaken for the following potential heritage items and that consideration be given to their listing as either Local or State significant:

- Inland Rail Railway Line (known historically as the Mugindi main line)
- Old Inverell Railway Line
- Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR), and
- Grain Silos.

It's noted that the preliminary heritage assessment in the revised SAP does not recommend that the potential heritage items be listed. Instead, the revised SAP recommended:

Potential item	Recommendation
Inland Rail Railway Line (known historically as the Mugindi main line)	The Mugindi main line rail corridor, including where it passes through the SAP, has local-level heritage significance against criteria A. Given that the corridor will be maintained as a rail corridor, albeit upgraded and converted to the new Inland Rail Corridor, it is neither practical nor feasible to pursue heritage listing of this particular section of railway as a local heritage item. Significant structures and components (Moree Railway Station and Mehi Steel Bridge- both outside the investigation area) are already listed. Heritage listing is not recommended.
Old Inverell Railway Line	The Old Inverell line corridor is of potential local heritage significance under criteria A – historic significance. Heritage listing of rail corridors is rarely undertaken; it is more common to list individual components such as buildings and bridges associated with a particular historic rail line or corridor. Historic associations with the Inverell line are embodied in the route, the rail function and the already listed components such as Moree Railway Station and Gwydir River Underbridge. The line was upgraded over time up until the 1980s. Heritage listing is not recommended.
Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR)	TSRs in NSW are generally managed to sustain an ongoing agricultural function social alongside compatible social, community, environmental and cultural uses.

	This is considered a compatible approach commensurate with the items value in the context of the larger TSR network of NSW. <b>Heritage listing of the Moree TSR is not recommended.</b>
Grain Silos	The silos date from the late twentieth century period of silo construction and remain in ongoing use and operation. They are not part of the early and increasingly rare group of 1920s and 1930s wheat silos built during the interwar years in NSW. Whilst they do hold historic and aesthetic (landmark) value, the Moree silos site is one site of at least thirty groups of silos that were constructed from 1964-1970 in the Moree region. As these silos remain in operation, practicality and feasibility considerations inform this recommendation. <b>Heritage listing of the Moree GrainCorp silos is not recommended.</b>

On 16 March 2021, in discussion with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, it was acknowledged that every potential heritage item was found to have cultural significance at the local level for a least one of the significance criteria. It was agreed that a full heritage assessment be recommended in order to determine if these potential items meet the threshold for local heritage listing. If the threshold is met, these items should be included on a statutory list being either the Local Environmental Plan or the relevant schedule of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Activation Precincts) 2020 (Activation Precincts SEPP).

Noting the above, the Moree Special Activation Precinct in its current form will have minimal impact on any currently identified heritage values. However, a full heritage assessment of those places within the SAP area assessed as having potential cultural significance in the preliminary heritage assessments is recommended.

### Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Our Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation team may provide separate advice on the project in relation to Aboriginal heritage considerations under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

If you have any questions please contact Andreana Kennedy, Senior Heritage Policy Office, Strategic Relationships & Planning at Heritage NSW, Department of Premier and Cabinet by phone on 02 8289 6692 or via email at [andreana.kennedy@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:andreana.kennedy@environment.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



**Rochelle Johnston**  
Manager, Heritage Act Programs  
Heritage NSW

23 June 2021

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## **Moree Special Activation Precinct – Draft Heritage Report – Non-Aboriginal Heritage Advice**

Dear Ms Ivinson

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Heritage Report for the Moree Special Activation Precinct (SAP). We write to provide advice in relation non-Aboriginal heritage consideration under the *Heritage Act 1977* (the Act).

We have reviewed the Heritage Report and notes that the Moree Special Activation Precinct area does not contain any items on the State Heritage Register. It is also noted that the SAP area does not contain any Local heritage items listed under *Moree Plains Local Environmental Plan 2011* (LEP) under the *Environment Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

It is noted that the Moree Baths are listed in the National Heritage List (under that *Environment Protection and Conservation Act 1999, Cmth*) and are located 600 metres north of the SAP investigation area. You should assess whether there are any potential impacts on the Moree Baths National heritage significance from the SAP.

The Heritage Report has identified several items within the SAP investigation area as holding historic importance, including:

- Inland Rail Railway Line (known historically as the Mugindi main line)
- Old Inverell Railway Line
- Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR), and
- Grain Silos.

The Heritage Report indicates that these places are to be protected within the proposed SAP boundary, including initiatives that will contribute to the protection and promotion of Moree's history and heritage without resulting in adverse impacts to significant items and/or places.

These potential heritage items should be further assessed to establish if they are of Local or State heritage significance. Based on the outcome of this further assessment, the Department should investigate Local or State heritage listing where applicable.

Noting the above, we consider that the Moree Special Activation Precinct in its current form will have minimal impact on any currently identified heritage values. However, further heritage assessment of those places within the SAP area recognised as having historical significance is recommended.

### **Aboriginal Cultural Heritage**

Our Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation team may provide separate advice on the project in relation to Aboriginal heritage considerations under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact James Sellwood, Senior Heritage Programs Officer, Strategic Relationships and Planning at Heritage NSW by phone on 02 9274 6354 email at [james.sellwood@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:james.sellwood@environment.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rochelle Johnston', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Rochelle Johnston**  
**Manager, Heritage Act Programs**  
**Heritage NSW**  
21 January 2021

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## **Moree Special Activation Precinct – Draft Master Plan and Draft Structure Plan**

Dear Ms Ivinson

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Master Plan and draft Structure Plan for the Moree Special Activation Precinct (SAP).

As you are aware, we previously provided advice on 21 January 2021 (attached for your information) about the draft Heritage Report (non-Aboriginal heritage), which noted the Heritage Report had identified several items within the SAP investigation area as holding historic importance, including:

- Inland Rail Railway Line (known historically as the Mugindi main line)
- Old Inverell Railway Line
- Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR), and
- Grain Silos.

These potential items have been further assessed by Aurecon and are recommended not to be heritage listed. Both Railway Lines were found to have potential local-level heritage significance against criteria A – historic significance but were recommended not to be listed for numerous reasons including “it is neither practical nor feasible to pursue heritage listing of this particular section of railway as a local heritage item” and “Historic associations with the .... line are embodied in the route”. It is recommended that opportunities be sought to interpret the historic significance of these rail lines and their historic alignments.

Noting the above, we consider that the Moree Special Activation Precinct in its current form will have minimal impact on any currently identified heritage items.

**Aboriginal Cultural Heritage**

Our Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Regulation team may provide separate advice on the project in relation to Aboriginal heritage considerations under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact Andreana Kennedy, Senior Policy Officer, Strategic Planning and Relationships at Heritage NSW by phone on 02 8289 6692 email at [andreana.kennedy@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:andreana.kennedy@environment.nsw.gov.au) .

Yours sincerely



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11/03/2021