

The Summary of Response to Feedback on Biodiversity Impact Assessment (BIA) Report for Woodlands Wafer Fabrication Park

[Overview of Project Site]

Woodlands Wafer Fabrication Park (WWFP) is one of four wafer fabrication parks developed by JTC in Singapore. WWFP had been used for industrial uses since the 1960s and was zoned for 'Business 2' in the 2003 Master Plan. The project site (edged in red, approx. 8.4 ha) sits within WWFP (edged in black, approx. 50 ha) as shown in Figure 1 below. The project site is in close proximity to (but not directly connected to) nearby park spaces such as the Mandai Mangrove and Mudflat, Rail Corridor and other patches of woodlands in the Kranji and Mandai area.

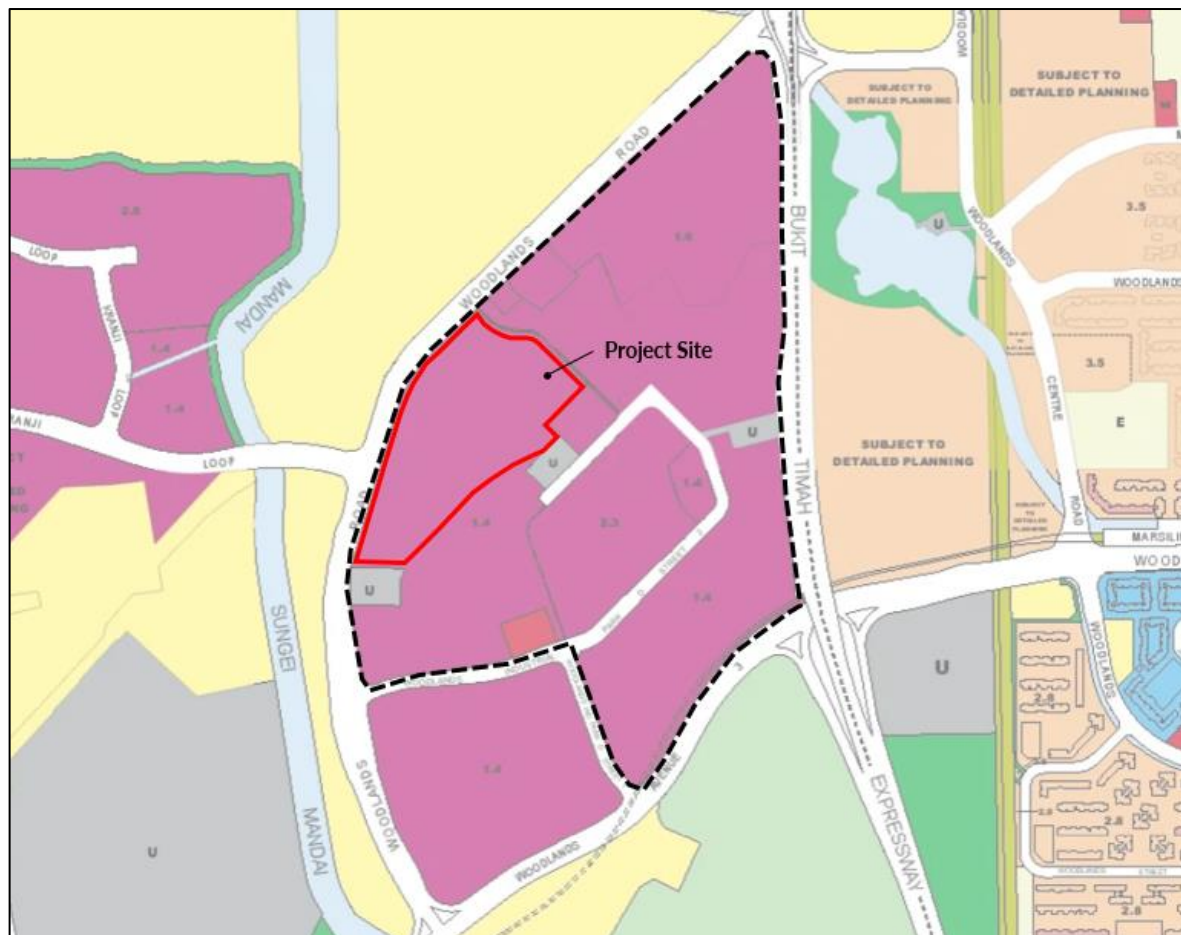


Figure 1: Project site within WWFP (Master Plan 2019)

The project site was previously used by an industrial development that vacated in 2000. JTC did not develop the site earlier as there was no strong demand for advanced manufacturing in Singapore back

then. Since then, it was left unoccupied and this gave opportunities for species like the fast-growing Albizia (*Falcataria mollucana*) to grow. Eventually the project site became a secondary regrowth forest, creating suitable habitats for nesting birds.

Due to the strong demand for chips globally, the project site will now be required for the construction of new wafer fabrication projects to support the semiconductor sector, bringing economic investments and employment opportunities into Singapore.

[Environmental Study]

In 2021, JTC engaged an environmental consultant to conduct a Biodiversity Impact Assessment (BIA) of the site. The purpose of the BIA was to provide an assessment of the existing flora and fauna, identify the risk to biodiversity and develop appropriate mitigating measures to reduce impact to the biodiversity during project works. A summary of the BIA findings can be found [here](#).

[Engagement with Stakeholders]

JTC shared the BIA findings with Nature Group representatives and sought their views on the proposed mitigating measures. The BIA report was also published on JTC's corporate website from 31 March 2022 to 28 April 2022. We received a total of one feedback.

[Feedback Received]

The feedback provider shared that they are not opposed to the development of the project area, but had some concerns on the nesting sites of two resident raptors in the area.

[Response to Feedback]

Balancing development and conservation to meet the economic needs of Singapore

JTC values the feedback received and recognises the importance of minimising impact to biodiversity. Site clearance will be compliant with the Environmental Monitoring and Management Programme (EMMP) stated in the BIA Report. The following management measures will be implemented to mitigate impact on sensitive biodiversity receptors:

- Avoid tree felling during raptor nesting period from March to July
- Carry out pre-clearance fauna inspection
- If active nests are detected on the tree, nests shall be left undisturbed until the young birds have fledged
- Active relocation of target species
- Planned hoarding prior to the felling of trees with regular monitoring
- Phased clearance of trees

The full list of measures are in Section 4.5 of the BIA report published on JTC website. While in close proximity to the Rail Corridor, the development of WWFP will not affect the Rail Corridor as the site is separated by the existing Woodlands Road. In response to feedback received, the environmental consultant has also assessed that there are other green spaces around the project site with similar vegetation, which can act as alternative habitats for birds currently using the project site.

As a city-state, land is scarce and there is a need for Singapore to carefully balance economic needs bearing in mind environmental considerations. The project site will support the continuous growth of our semiconductor industry, a multi-billion industry and contributing to 82% of our electronics manufacturing output and 7% of our GDP. The project will also see 1,700 new jobs created for Singapore residents.

Taking into consideration the BIA findings, feedbacks received, and the need to strike a balance between economic development and nature conservation, the project site will be cleared in a sensitive manner to facilitate development of the WWFP.

[Conclusion]

As the master developer of industrial estates in Singapore, JTC champions sustainable industrial development, including master planning green and smart estates that are attractive destinations for talent and the community. This includes being sensitive to environmental considerations in developing our plans, whilst still supporting Singapore's long term economic needs and growth. We will continue to review our land use plans and work closely with stakeholders to achieve this outcome.