

COTERRA ENVIRONMENT



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This report was prepared by: Coterra Pty Ltd trading as COTERRA ENVIRONMENT

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Our Ref: CBCFOR18
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This report was prepared for:

Carey Baptist College Inc. 51 Wright Road Harrisdale WA 6112



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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Carey Baptist College operates a primary school campus at Lot 2 (540) Nicholson Road, Forrestdale. This site is approximately 24km southeast of Perth, within the City of Armadale (Figure 1). The site is zoned 'Rural' under the Metropolitan Region Scheme (MRS) and 'General Rural' under the City of Armadale's Town Planning Scheme 4 (TPS4).

Historically, the site has been used for agricultural (stock grazing) purposes. Consultation commenced with the City of Armadale, Department of Planning, Department of Environment and Conservation, and other key stakeholders regarding development of a school at this site in 2011. A Masterplan for the school was prepared to outline the full development proposed for the site. A copy of the current Master Plan is provided in Appendix 1. The development footprint of the school once fully constructed will be approximately 11.14 ha, which is approximately 50% of the total site area.

Stage 1 of the Forrestdale school campus was approved for construction in 2014. Following completion of initial construction works, the first areas of the school were opened in 2016. Since this time, construction of Stage 1 has been completed. The initial part of the Stage 2 construction works is now proposed to commence. The first area constructed will be the STEAM Centre and associated service road.

1.2 Stage 2 Area

The footprint required to facilitate the Stage 2 school development extends over an area of 3.18 ha and will ultimately allow for a STEAM centre, additional classrooms, arts centre, sports centre, and a performing arts studio. The location of the proposed clearing area accommodating the above is shown on Figure 2.

Clearing is likely to be undertaken in stages, with the first stage allowing for the STEAM centre building footprint, Asset Protection Zone (APZ) for bushfire protection around the STEAM Building, and an access road plus a 3m disturbance area on either side of the road as required for construction purposes.

Any areas which are cleared, but where construction does not immediately commence, will be stabilised with landscaping, mulch or hydro-mulch.

1.3 Existing Clearing Permit

The clearing required for Stage 1 of the campus was approved by the Department of Environmental Regulation (DER) in May 2014 (CPS 4860/1). This approval allowed for clearing of 4.26ha subject to conditions which included:

- Management of potential dieback spread and weed control
- Implementation of a Revegetation Plan. Revision 1 of the Revegetation Plan, (Coterra Environment, 2014) was approved by DER, which outlined the ultimate revegetation scenario for both Stages 1 and 2 of the site)
- Reporting.

The permit was amended to increase the size of the clearing area to 4.45ha in December 2014 (CPS 4860/2).

An additional clearing application was lodged with DER in September 2016 to facilitate construction of a 0.81ha soccer oval. DER responded to this application advising there was no native vegetation within the majority of the application area and the proponent may wish to withdraw the application. The application was then withdrawn in October 2016.



1.4 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Referral

The full Masterplan was referred to the Federal Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* in 2012 (EPBC Ref: 2012/6561).

Following assessment of the proposal, including the proposed onsite revegetation works, the referral decision was issued as 'Not a Controlled Action'. The decision advised is provided in Appendix 2.



2 Site Characteristics

2.1 Topography and Soil

Topography within the proposed clearing area ranges from approximately 26 to 30mAHD.

The clearing area contains Bassendean Sand (S8) which is characterised as white to pale grey at the surface, yellow at depth, fine to medium-grained, moderately sorted, sub-angular to sub-rounded, minor heavy minerals of eolian origin, with the western side comprising Sand (S10) which is as per S8 as a relatively thin veneer over strong, blocky, brown silts and clays. In the western end of the clearing area Peaty Sands (SP1) are present (Jordan, 1986).

Soils within the majority of the proposed clearing area are mapped as having a Moderate to Low Acid Sulfate Soil (ASS) risk. Soils within the SP1 unit area are mapped as having a High to Moderate ASS risk (Landgate, 2019).

2.2 Hydrology

The maximum groundwater level in this location is approximately 25mAHD (DWER, 2019), which equates to 1 to 5m below ground level within the proposed clearing area. Groundwater flow direction is easterly toward Forrestdale Lake (located over 650m east of Lot 2).

The eastern end of Lot 2 is mapped as a Resource Enhancement category wetland (UFI 15820). The western end of Lot 2, including a small section of the proposed clearing area is mapped as a Multiple Use category wetland (UFI 7088) (Landgate, 2019).

2.3 Flora and Vegetation

2.3.1 Vegetation Complex

Vegetation at the site is identified to be part of the Southern River vegetation complex which is described as (Heddle et al., 1980):

Open woodland of *Coryumbia. calophylla- Eucalyptus marginata- Banksia spp* with fringing woodland of *E. rudis- Melaleuca rhaphiophylla* along creek beds.

The extent of this complex remaining is summarised below.

Table 2-1: Southern River Vegetation Complex Remaining Extent

Area	Original Extent	Extent Remaining
City of Armadale	4,107.89 ha	1,024.58 ha (24.94%)
Swan Coastal Plain	58,781.48 ha	10,828.04 ha (18.42%)

Source: DBCA, 2018

2.3.2 Vegetation Units

A level 2 Flora and Vegetation Survey was completed by Bennett Environmental Consulting (2011) for the site in October 2011 in accordance with EPA Guidance Statement No 51 (EPA, 2004). A full copy of the report is provided in Appendix 2.

During the survey a total of eight different vegetation units were identified which consisted of upland and wetland vegetation (Figure 3). The vegetation units surveyed are:



Upland Vegetation

- Ba: Low Woodland A of Banksia attenuata, Banksia menziesii, Nuytsia floribunda and Eucalyptus todtiana over Heath B dominated by Acacia pulchella var. glaberrima over Tall Grass dominated by *Ehrharta calycina in grey sand.
- Bi: Low Forest A of *Banksia attenuata* and *Banksia ilicifolia* over Tall Grass dominated by **Ehrharta calycina* and **Ehrharta longiflora* in grey sand.
- Et: Low Woodland A of *Eucalyptus todtiana* with occasional *Banksia ilicifolia* over Open Dense Tall Grass dominated by **Eragrostis curvula* over Herbs dominated by **Carpobrotus edulis, *Erodium botrys, *Lotus subbiflorus* and **Hypochaeris glabra* in pale grey sand.

Wetland Vegetation

- Mp: Open Low Woodland B of *Melaleuca preissiana* over Dense Thicket of *Kunzea glabrescens* over Open Herbs dominated by *Patersonia occidentalis* and *Drosera glanduligera* in damp dark grey sand.
- Mr: Low Forest A of Melaleuca rhaphiophylla over Dense Herbs dominated by *Zantedeschia aethiopicum and *Lotus subbiflorus in very damp grey sand.
- EM: Open Low Woodland A of *Eucalyptus todtiana* and *Melaleuca preissiana* over Low Scrub A or Scrub of *Kunzea glabrescens* and *Pultenaea reticulata* over Herbs dominated by **Carpobrotus edulis* and **Lotus subbiflorus* in grey sand.
- Er: Low Forest A of *Eucalyptus species (possibly *Eucalyptus robusta), Melaleuca preissiana and *Populus nigra over Dense Tall Grass dominated by *Eragrostis curvula in grey sandy loam.
- Ec: Dense Tall Grass of *Eragrostis curvula, *Paspalum urvillei, and/or *Pennisetum clandestinum or Tall Sedges of Juncus pallidus or Herbs dominated by *Lotus subbiflorus, *Moraea flaccida and *Euphorbia terracina in damp grey sand.

The vegetation units present within the proposed clearing area are (Figure 3):

- Ba 2.47ha
- Ec 0.32ha
- Ec with Mp 0.09ha
- Mr 0.23ha
- Et 0.07ha

2.3.3 Vegetation Condition

The condition of remnant vegetation on site varied from Very Good - Good to Completely Degraded, with over half of the site (12.5ha, 56%) being Degraded to Completely Degraded. Vegetation condition mapping is provided on Figure 4.

Vegetation condition within the area proposed to be cleared ranged from 'Very Good to Good' to 'Completely Degraded' in the 2011 survey.

Photographs showing the current condition of vegetation within the proposed clearing area are provided below.





Plate 2-1: Vegetation within the Proposed Clearing Area

Date of Photograph: 28 November 2019



Plate 2-2: Vegetation within the Proposed Clearing Area

Date of Photograph: 28 November 2019





Plate 2-3: Vegetation within the Proposed Clearing Area

Date of Photograph: 28 November 2019

2.3.4 Declared Rare and Priority Flora

No Declared Rare Flora species were found at the site.

One Priority 2 flora annual sedge species *Schoenus pennisetis* was identified at one site in the north western corner (CS01) of the site. *Jacksonia gracillima* a Priority 3 Flora is a shrub was also identified at two locations on site (Figure 3) (Bennett Environmental Consulting, 2011). These priority flora are not located within the proposed clearing area.

2.3.5 Dieback

In September 2014, NPC Consulting (Dieback mapping and management consultants) undertook a Dieback Assessment for the site which included:

- Site inspection to undertake dieback assessment
- Collection of 3 samples for soil and root testing of dieback
- Preparation of an interpretation map
- Preparation of a report outlining the findings of the assessment. A copy of the full Dieback Interpretation Report is provided in Appendix 4.

Sample results (two out of three samples were positive) confirmed field investigations which indicated that *Phytophthora cinnamomi* is present in the remnant Banksia Woodland area situated in the centre of the site. This remnant vegetation consists of the Vegetation Unit (Ba) (Figure 3).

NPC Consulting (2014) discussed that there was a poor to average expression of the disease observed and grasses and weeds were present throughout the site. The impact of the disease was considered variable with



significant changes in biomass and biodiversity and the greater presence of non-susceptible species particularly within the REW area and areas with little or no vegetation (i.e. paddocks/cleared areas).

2.3.6 Stage 1 Revegetation Area

2.3.6.1 Stages

The Revegetation Plan (Revision 1) (Coterra Environment, 2014) identified that the revegetation program for Stage 1 would be staged over approximately 5 years to coincide with progressive development of the campus. The Stage 1 area was originally divided into five roughly equal zones of between 1 and 1.4ha in size. The Plan notes that 'should Carey Baptist College wish to combine some of the revegetation stages to compress the overall timeframe, the above list of actions will still be undertaken for each of the combined stage areas'.

Following consultation with specialist revegetation consultants, Tranen Revegetation Systems, a number of revegetation stages were combined. The amended timing for commencement of implementation of the revegetation stages is summarised as follows:

- Amended Stage 1A (2.5ha) (Combined original stage 1A, 1B and half of 1C revegetation [up to existing fire break track]) commenced in 2015
- Amended Stage 1B (2.9ha) (Combined original stage half of 1C, 1D and 1E) commenced in 2017.

The location of the Stage 1 revegetation area is shown on Figure 5.

2.3.6.2 Works Summary

The progress of revegetation works onsite is summarised in Table 2-2.

Table 2-2: Completed Revegetation Works

Revegetation Works	Stage 1A	Stage 1B
Seed Collection	Summer of 2014-2015Summer of 2015-2016	
Weed Control	 Winter 2015 Autumn 2016 Spring 2016 Autumn 2017 Spring 2017 	 Autumn 2017 Spring 2017 Summer 2017-2018 Autumn 2019
Planting	Winter 2015Winter 2017	Winter 2017Spring 2017
Monitoring	 Spring 2015 Autumn 2016 Spring 2016 Autumn 2017 Spring 2017 (maintenance completed) Autumn 2019 (drainage basin only). 	 Spring 2017 Autumn 2018 Spring 2018 Autumn 2019
Rabbit Control		Winter 2017Spring 2017



2.3.6.3 Performance Targets

Data collected from the monitoring quadrats and assessed against the completion criteria is presented in Table 2-3.

Table 2-3: Revegetation Area Performance Targets

Characteristic	Minimum Target / KPI
Plant density and structure	Stage 1 (outside REW and Buffer)
	4 plants / m ²
	Stage 1 (inside REW and Buffer, not including the drainage swales)
	400-600 rushes/sedges per 100m square (i.e. on average 4 to 6 sedge plants / m²)
	• 150 to 200 Embankment shrubs per 100 square meters (i.e. on average 1.5 to 2 Embankment Shrub plants / m²)
	• 10 to 20 fringing plants per 100 square meters (i.e. on average 1 to 2 fringing Trees plants / 10m².
	Vegetation condition to achieve on average Good in accordance with the Keighley scale across the REW.
Species composition	75% of revegetation species list
Weed cover	10-15% in all areas

2.3.6.4 Results Summary

The findings are summarised below. Photographs of the revegetation area are provided in Plate 2-4 to Plate 2-6.

Stage 1A

The sedge/rush zone, embankment shrub zone and fringing tree zone met/exceeded all completion criteria requirements in the last monitoring event undertaken in spring 2017 and autumn 2018.

The drainage swale zone met the target species composition and weed cover completion criteria in spring 2017 and autumn 2017, but was below the target density.

Further assessment of the drainage swale against completion criteria in the spring 2018 and autumn monitoring events found:

- The drainage basin quadrat recoded 2.6 stems / m². Species composition of one was recorded
- Weed cover was recorded at 0%
- Native cover was recorded at 85% within the Drainage Basin (Tranen, 2019).

In relation to the basin stem density, it is noted that planting in the basin was historically undertaken just before the basin fills with rainwater and the plant survival is then impacted by the winter flooding. Planting after winter once the basin has dried has been attempted but the plants did not have enough time to put roots down to survive over the summer period. The stem density has increased from 1.9 plants/m² in 2017/18 to 2.6 plants/m² in Autumn 2019 and the native cover has increased from 80% to 85% over the same period. Given the positive plant growth and coverage trends in the basin, additional planting is not proposed but the management focus will rather be maintenance of weed control to allow the established plants to further expand their cover over this area.

Stage 1B

The completion criteria were met at all assessment sites in both spring 2018 and autumn 2019.





Plate 2-4: Revegetation Area



Plate 2-5: Revegetation Area

Date of Photography: 28 November 2019





Plate 2-6: Revegetation Area

Date of Photography: 28 November 2019

2.4 Fauna and Habitat

A fauna survey was undertaken on 10 August 2012 by Coterra Environment. The survey identified several waterbird and bushland bird species utilising and / or occurring within the site, though no conservation significant species were identified. Mammals identified at the site included the western grey kangaroo (*Macropus fuliginosus*) and the European rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), which appears to have colonised many of the drier areas of the site. One reptile, a tiger snake (*Notechis ater*), was identified during the site visit.

A black cockatoo habitat assessment was undertaken as part of the fauna survey. Results are summarised as follows:

- The Level 2 Flora and Vegetation Survey (Bennett Environmental Consulting, 2011), identified four vegetation types within the site containing plant species that provide potential black cockatoo foraging habitat (Ba, Bi, Et, EM)
- Two black cockatoo species were identified through database searches as potentially occurring within the site, or having been previously recorded in the vicinity:
 - Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus latirostris)
 - Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (Calyptorhynhcus banksii naso)
- No potential breeding habitat trees were found within the site
- No potential roosting habitat trees were found within the site (no trees were considered sufficiently tall or structurally complex to provide core roosting habitat)
- Three types of foraging habitat were identified within the site as follows



- Good quality Eucalyptus todtiana foraging habitat
- Good quality Banksia sp. foraging habitat
- Poor quality *Banksia sp.* foraging habitat
- A thorough search was undertaken for cockatoo feeding signs, though there was no evidence of cockatoos utilising the area for feeding across the entire site
- No signs of black cockatoos were noted during the field survey.



3 Stage 2 Revegetation

As discussed above, the Stage 1 revegetation program associated with the Stage 1 clearing works (4.45 ha) involved revegetation of 5.4 ha on the eastern end of the site.

The Revegetation Plan approved by DER (Revision 1) identified that the full school development (an additional 6.69 ha) would be associated with revegetation of 5.5ha within the eastern half of the site.

Only part of the original Stage 2 school development extent (3.18 ha) is being progressed at this time. As such, revegetation of areas 2A and 2B, which extend over 2.42 ha, are proposed in conjunction with the current development. The location of the proposed Revegetation Area is shown on Figure 5.

For clarity, details of the specific revegetation works associated with the current development extent are outlined within the Revegetation Plan addendum for Stage 2 (Appendix 5).



4 Assessment Against Clearing Principles

Table 4-1 provides an assessment of the proposed clearing against the EPA's ten clearing principles, as provided in Schedule 5 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

Table 4-1: Assessment Against Clearing Principles

Table 4-1. Assessment Against Cleaning Finiciples			
Native Vegetation Clearing Principle	Assessment of Proposal		
1.Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises a high level of biological diversity.	The botanical assessment conducted by Bennett Environmental Consulting (2011) over Lot 2, including the application area recorded a total of 148 plant taxa including 82 native species and 66 introduced species within the survey area.		
	During the botanical assessment no rare flora species were found onsite. A Priority 2 and a Priority 3 species were found within Lot 2, but these do not occur within the application area.		
	The condition of vegetation within the application area ranges from Very Good-Good to Completely Degraded.		
	The Banksia Woodland vegetation within the centre of the site, including the application area, which was assessed to be in Very Good-Good condition, has been confirmed to have dieback present. This is likely to reduce the condition and values of this area over time.		
	Revegetation onsite of a further 2.42 ha is proposed to offset clearing of the application area. This will enhance the condition of the remaining revegetation onsite.		
2.Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a significant habitat	The application area has been identified to provide potential foraging habitat opportunities for Carnaby's Black Cockatoo. The project has been referred to the Federal government under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, who deemed		
for fauna indigenous to Western Australia.	the referral to be 'Not a Controlled Action'. Revegetation onsite of a further 2.42 ha is proposed to offset clearing of the application area. This will enhance the condition and fauna habitat opportunities presented by the remaining revegetation onsite.		
3. Native vegetation should not be cleared if it includes, or is necessary for the continued existence of, rare flora.	No Declared Rare Flora were found onsite during the Level 2 botanical assessment conducted by Bennett Environmental Consulting (2011).		
4. Native vegetation should not be cleared if it comprises the whole or a part of, or is necessary for the maintenance of, a threatened ecological community.	Since the Level 2 Flora and Vegetation survey (BEC, 2011) was undertaken onsite, the Banksia Woodland Threatened Ecological Community has been listed as a Protected Matter under the EPBC Act. Given this project has been previously referred under the EPBC Act and received a 'Not a Controlled Action' decision, no additional Federal government referral or assessment is required.		
	Revegetation of 2.42 ha within Stages 2A and 2B, which includes revegetation of 1.1 ha of existing Banksia vegetation (Ba and Bi vegetation units), has been proposed to address the loss of banksia from the application area.		
5. Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is significant as a remnant of native vegetation in an area that has been extensively cleared	DBCA 2017 vegetation complex statistics indicate that approximately 25% of the Southern River vegetation complex is remaining within the City of Armadale and approximately 18% is remaining within the Swan Coastal Plain (Government of Western Australia, 2018).		



Native Vegetation Clearing Principle	Assessment of Proposal
	As such, the remaining extent of the complex meets the EPA minimum 10% target for constrained areas.
	The City of Armadale Local Biodiversity Strategy also states that 76% of the original extent of remnant vegetation remains with the City of Armadale (CoA, 2009). As such, the vegetation onsite is not an isolated remnant.
6. Native vegetation should not be cleared if it is growing in, or in association with, an environment associated with a watercourse or a wetland	A Resource Enhancement Wetland (REW) (UFI 15820) is present within Lot 2 which will be protected as shown in the Concept Master Plan. A buffer of 30m has been provided for the REW to sustain the long-term viability of the wetland area. This application does not propose clearing of vegetation associated with the REW.
	Clearing of a portion of the mapped Multiple Use Wetland (MUW) (UFI 7088) in the western side of the clearing area. The EPA advised that MUW areas are generally considered suitable for use and development in the context of ecologically sustainable development and best management practice catchment planning through landcare (EPA, 2008).
	Areas of Conservation Category Wetland (CCW) are located external to Lot 2. The Masterplan provides for a minimum 50m buffer between school facilitates and these areas. This buffer is identified as part of the proposed and future revegetation zones.
7. Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause appreciable land degradation	Following clearing, soils onsite will be stabilised through construction or buildings, landscaping or placement of mulch / hydro-mulch over these areas. These actions will prevent soils movement which could lead to land degradation.
8. Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to have an impact on the environmental values of any adjacent or nearby conservation areas	Lot 2 lies to the immediate east of the Bush Forever Site 344-'Denis de Young reserve and Gibbs Road Swamp Bushland, Banjup/Forrestdale' which is within the Jandakot Regional Park (Government of Western Australia, 2000). The Concept Plan design provides for the campus facilities to remain at least 50m away from the site's boundary to provide a buffer to the Bush Forever sites. No clearing is proposed within the 50m buffer. It is also proposed to provide some revegetation planting within this zone to enhance the buffer values.
9. Native vegetation should not be cleared if the clearing of the vegetation is likely to cause deterioration in the quality of the surface or underground water	A Multiple Use Wetland (MUW) is mapped within and a Resource Enhancement Wetland (REW) is mapped adjacent to the application area. These wetlands are seasonally dry through summer and damp in winter. Given there is no surface water flow from the clearing area it is unlikely to affect surface water. Clearing of 3.18ha is not considered likely to have a significant impact on the quality of groundwater in the local area.
10. Native vegetation should not be cleared if clearing the vegetation is likely to cause, or exacerbate, the incidence or intensity of flooding	The site is predominantly Bassendean Sand (S8) which is characterised as white to pale grey at the surface, yellow at depth, fine to medium-grained, moderately sorted, sub-angular to sub-rounded, minor heavy minerals of eolian origin. Some portions of the site are mapped as Sand (S10) which is as per S8 as a relatively thin veneer over strong, blocky, brown silts and clays. Both S8 and S10 are well draining soil types. As such clearing is not anticipated to increase the incidence or intensity of flooding.



5 Conclusion

Clearing of vegetation extending over an area of 3.18ha at Lot 2 Nicholson Road, Forrestdale has been reviewed against the DWER native vegetation clearing principles. The assessment has concluded that clearing is not at variance to most of the principles.



6 References

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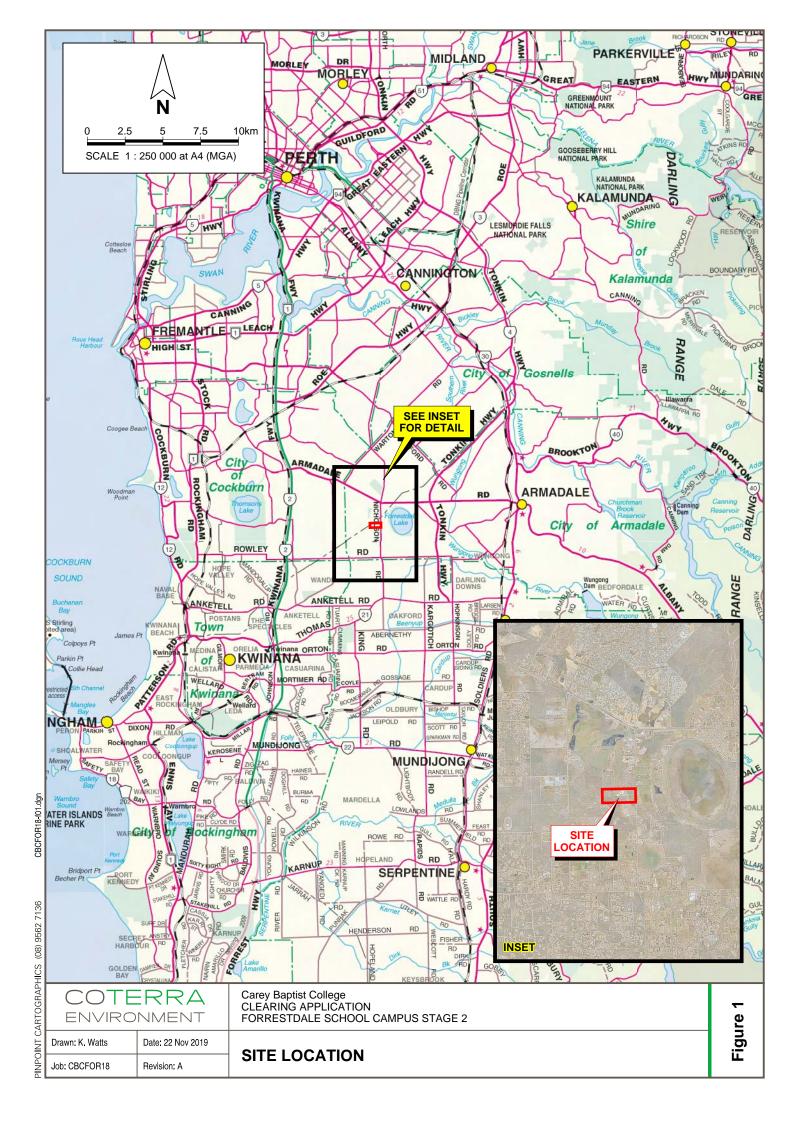
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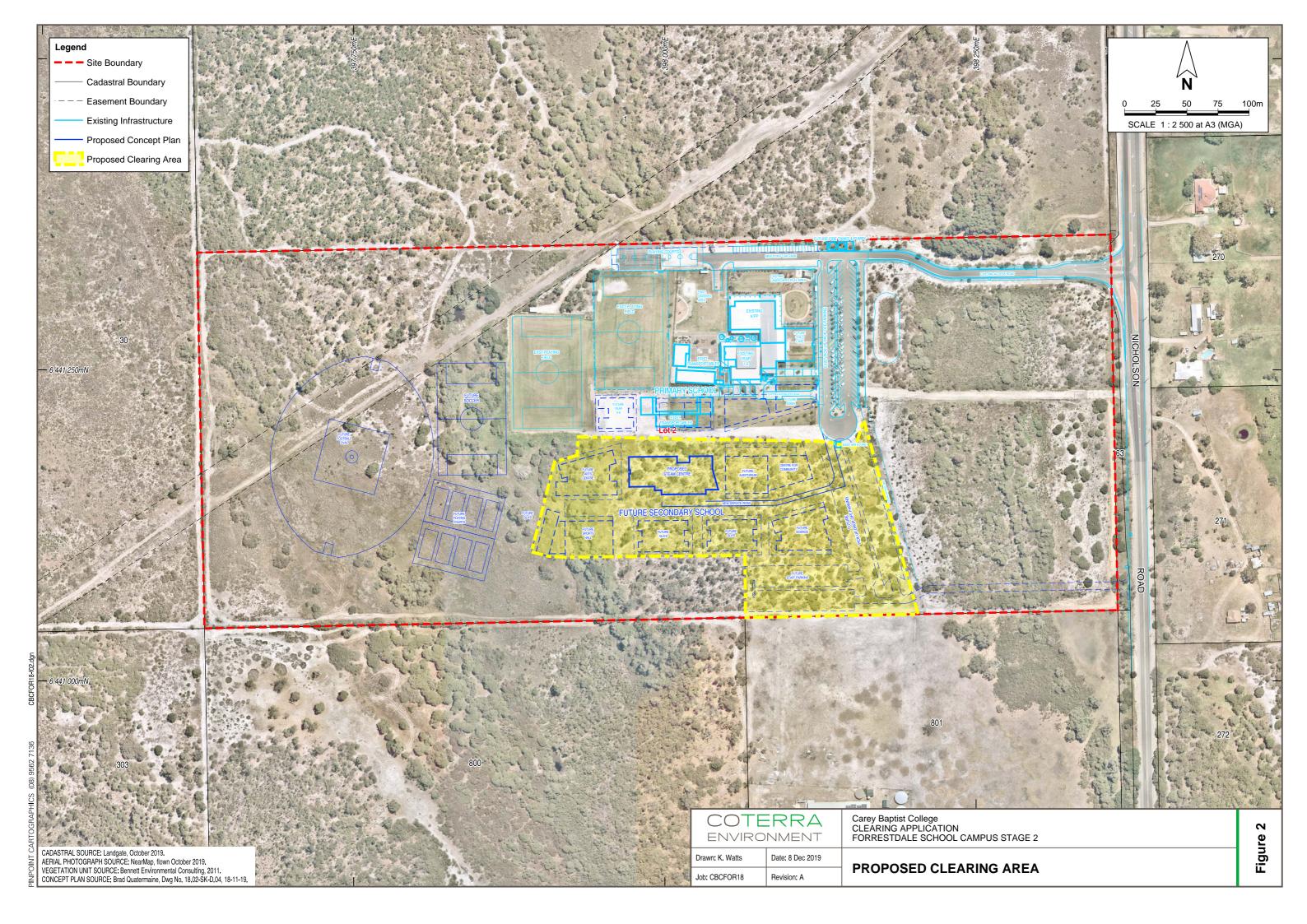
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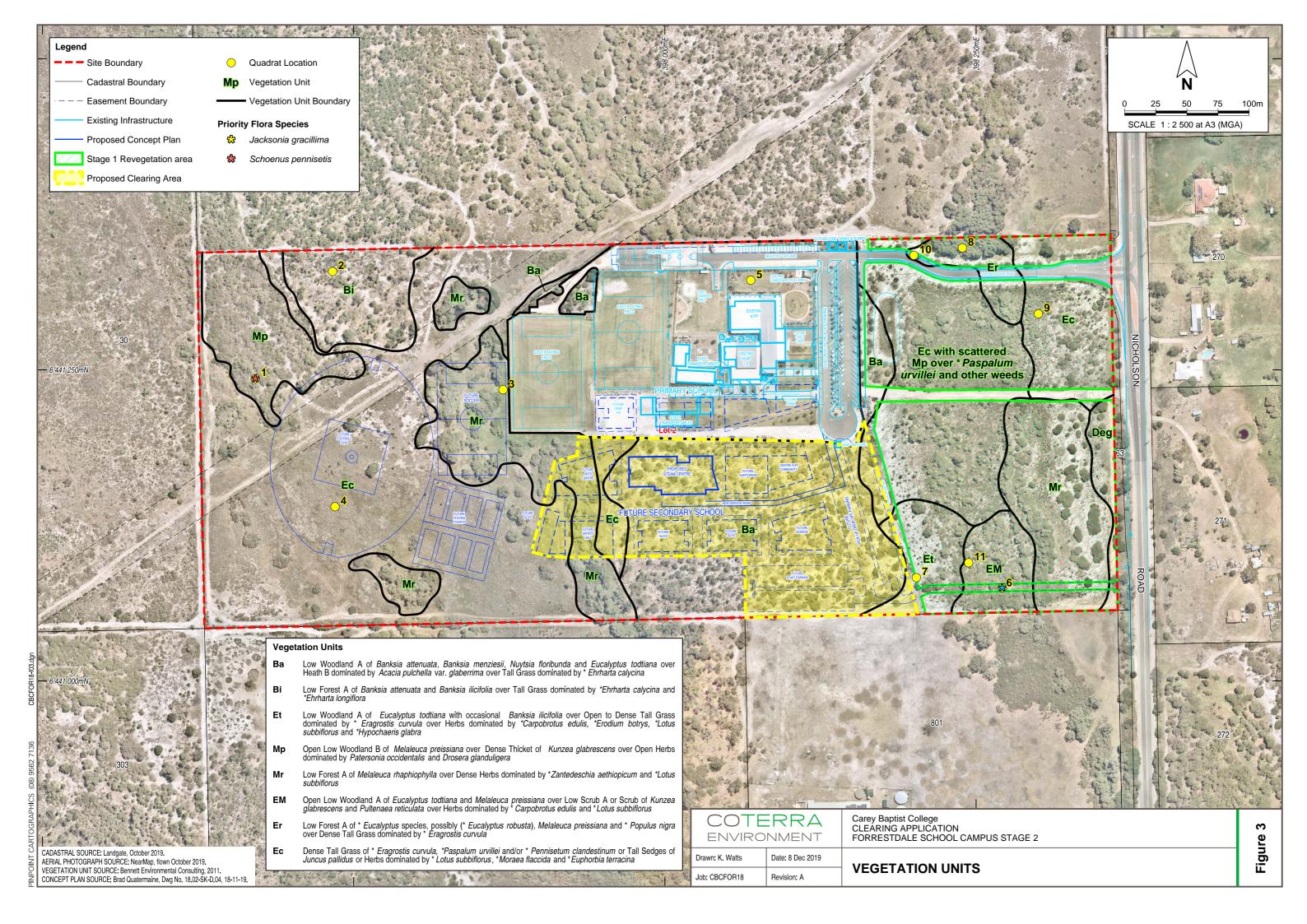
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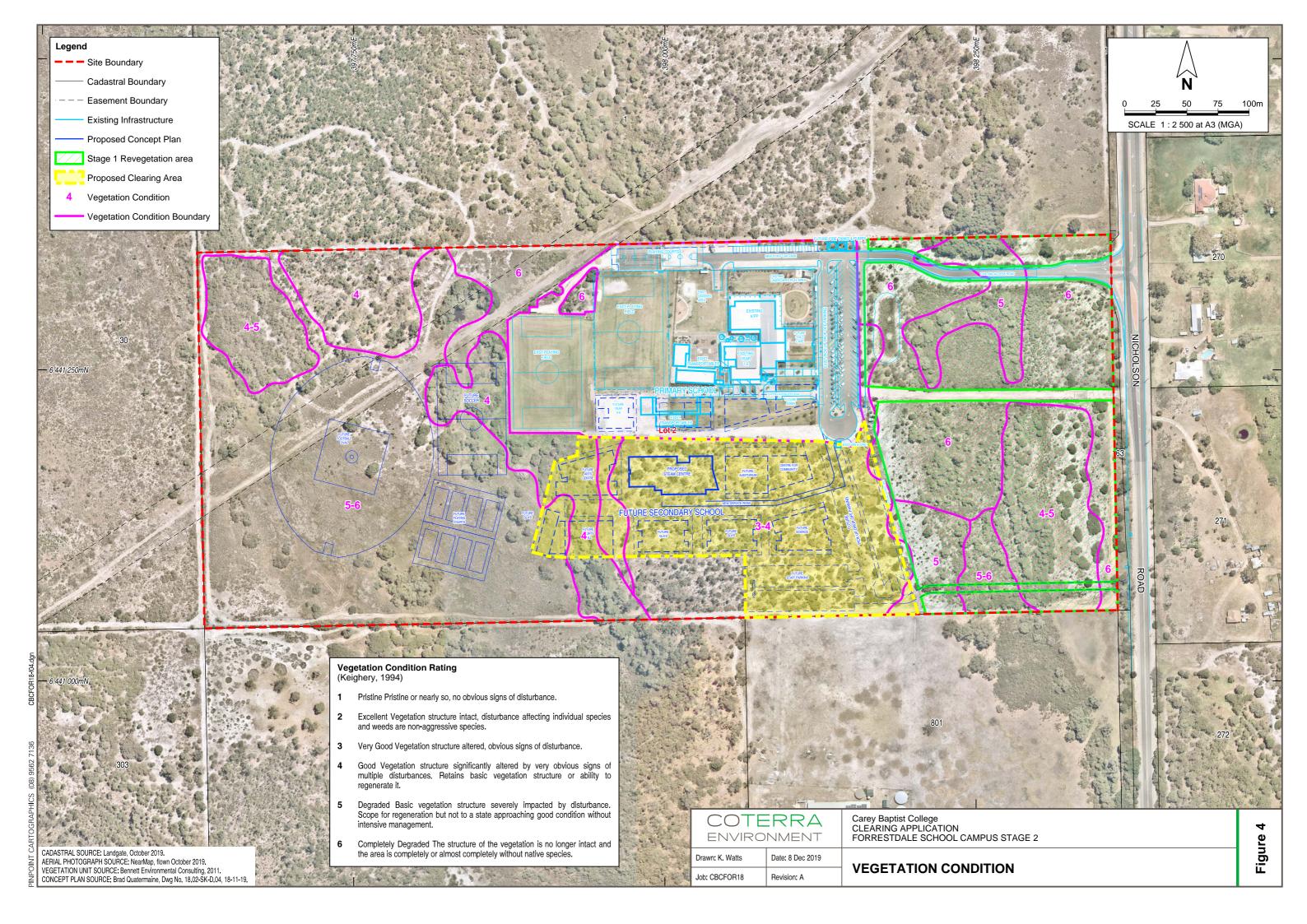


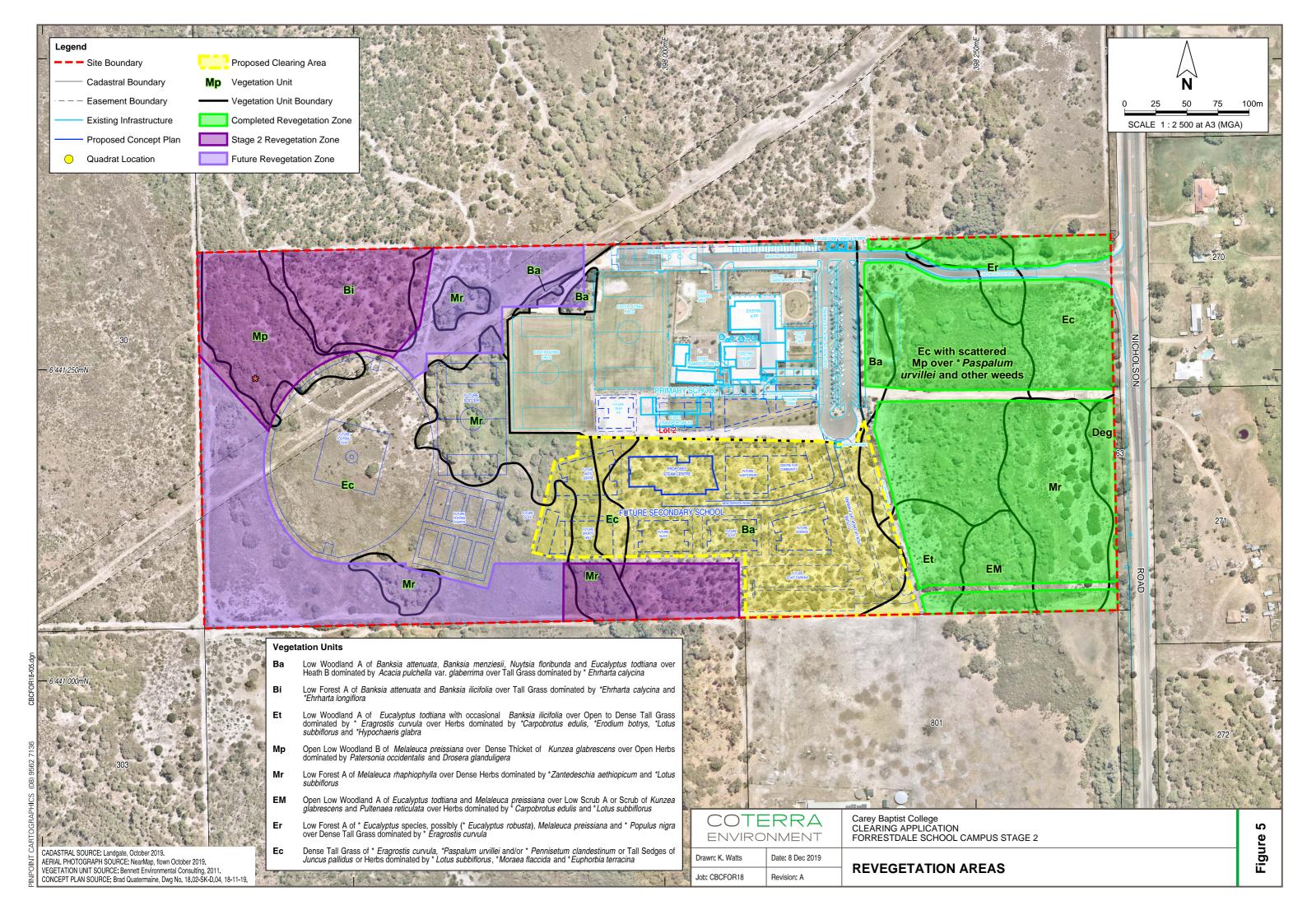
Figures





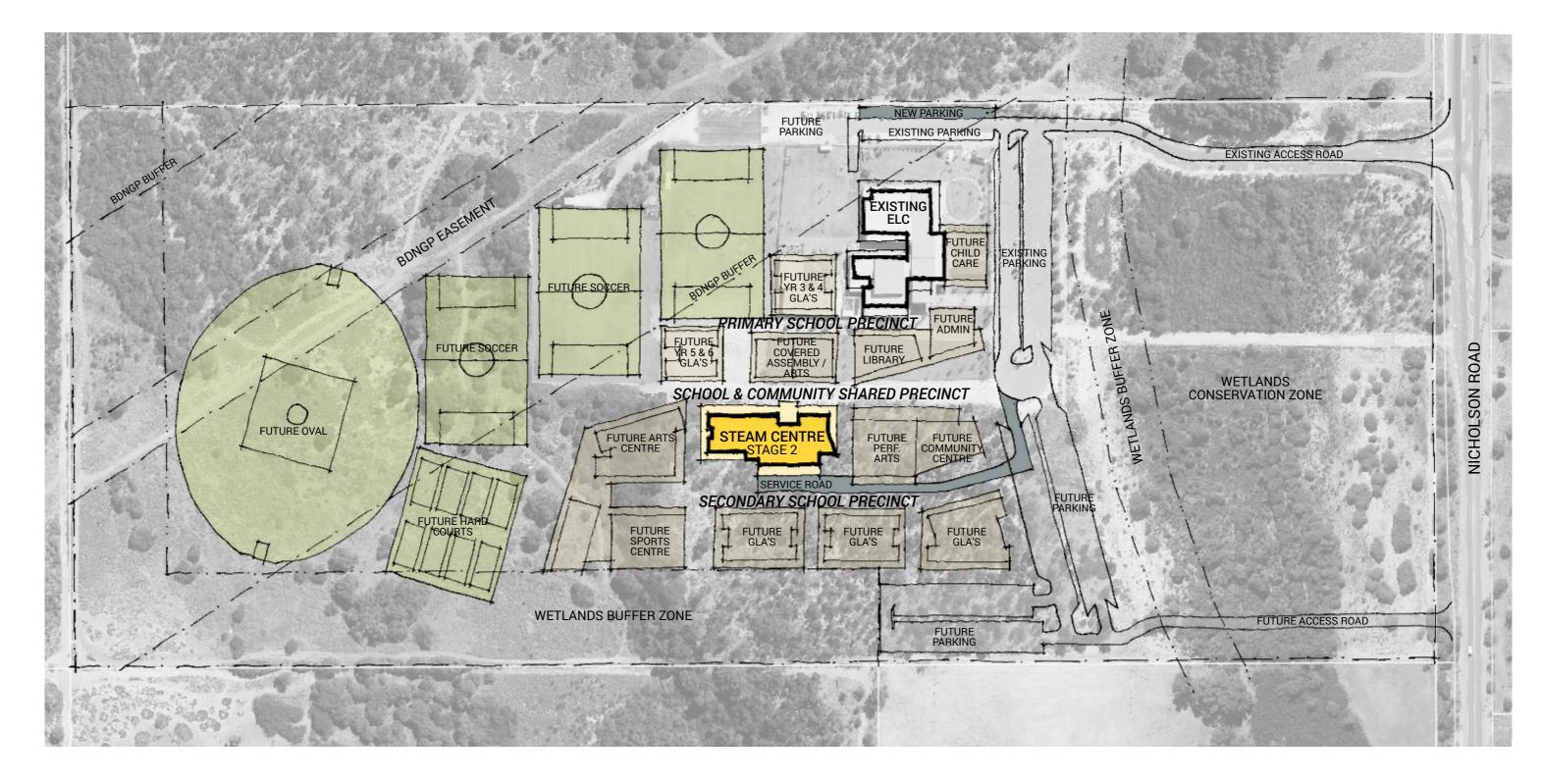








Appendix 1 Carey Baptist College Forrestdale Campus Master Plan







PROJECT

FORRESTDALE STAGE 2 - STEAM

DRAWING:

SITE PLAN





Appendix 2 EPBC Referral Decision Advice

Notification of

REFERRAL DECISION – not controlled action Lot 2 Nicholson Road Forrestdale, WA (EPBC 2012/6561)

This decision is made under Section 75 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Proposed action	
person named in the referral	Carey Baptist College Inc
proposed action	The construction of a school on portions of Lot 2 Nicholson Road, Forrestdale, WA [See EPBC Act referral 2012/6561].
Referral decision: Not	a controlled action
status of proposed action	The proposed action is not a controlled action.
Person authorised to	make decision
Name and position	Matthew Johnston Acting Assistant Secretary North, West & Offshore Assessment Branch
signature	
date of decision	25 October 2012



Appendix 3 Botanical Survey Report

Botanical Assessment of Lot 2 Nicholson Road FORRESTDALE



Prepared for: COTERRA ENVIRONMENT 19/336 Churchill Avenue, SUBIACO WA 6008

Prepared by: Bennett Environmental Consulting Pty Ltd



PO Box 341 KALAMUNDA 6926

December 2011

STATEMENT OF LIMITATIONS

Scope of Services

This report ("the report") has been prepared in accordance with the scope of services set out in the contract, or as otherwise agreed, between the Client and Eleanor Bennett ("the Author"). In some circumstances a range of factors such as time, budget, access and/or site disturbance constraints may have limited the scope of services.

Reliance on Data

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In accordance with the scope of services, the Author has relied upon the data and has conducted environmental field monitoring and/or testing in the preparation of the report. The nature and extent of monitoring and/or testing conducted is described in the report.

The conclusions are based upon field data and the environmental monitoring and/or testing carried out over a limited period of time and are therefore merely indicative of the environmental condition of the site at the time of preparing the report. Also it should be recognised that site conditions, can change with time.

Within the limitations imposed by the scope of services, the field assessment and preparation of this report have been undertaken and performed in a professional manner, in accordance with generally accepted practices and using a degree of skill and care ordinarily exercised by reputable environmental consultants under similar circumstances. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made.

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SUMMARY

Bennett Environmental Consulting Pty Ltd was commissioned by Coterra Environmental Pty Ltd to undertake a vegetation and flora survey of Lot 2 Nicholson Road in the Shire of Armadale. The site had previously been used for grazing cattle and consisted of a lot of completely degraded areas. There were some sections of remnant vegetation left at the site.

The field work was undertaken on 4th October 2011 when temporary 10m x 10m quadrats were surveyed.

A total of 10 quadrats were surveyed and a listing of the weeds along the perimeter of the site with Nicholson Road was also recorded. There are two Bush Forever Sites located near to the site. These are:

- Bush Forever Site 344, Denis De Young Reserve and Gibbs Road Swamp Bushland, Banjup/Forrestdale which is located adjacent to the western boundary and
- Bush Forever Site 345 Forrestdale Lake and Adjacent Bushland, Forrestdale, which is located east of Nicholson Road.

During the survey a total of eight different vegetation units were identified. These are:

UPLAND VEGETATION

- Low Woodland A of *Banksia attenuata*, *Banksia menziesii*, *Nuytsia floribunda* and *Eucalyptus todtiana* over Heath B dominated by *Acacia pulchella* var. *glaberrima* over Tall Grass dominated by **Ehrharta calycina* in grey sand.
- Low Forest A of *Banksia attenuata* and *Banksia ilicifolia* over Tall Grass dominated by *Ehrharta calycina and *Ehrharta longiflora in grey sand.
- Low Woodland A of *Eucalyptus todtiana* with occasional *Banksia ilicifolia* over Open Dense Tall Grass dominated by **Eragrostis curvula* over Herbs dominated by **Carpobrotus edulis*, **Erodium botrys*, **Lotus subbiflorus* and **Hypochaeris glabra* in pale grey sand.

WETLAND VEGETATION

- Open Low Woodland B of Melaleuca preissiana over Dense Thicket of Kunzea glabrescens over Open Herbs dominated by Patersonia occidentalis and Drosera glanduligera in damp dark grey sand.
- Low Forest A of *Melaleuca rhaphiophylla* over Dense Herbs dominated by *Zantedeschia aethiopicum and *Lotus subbiflorus in very damp grey sand.
- Open Low Woodland A of *Eucalyptus todtiana* and *Melaleuca preissiana* over Low Scrub A or Scrub of *Kunzea glabrescens* and *Pultenaea reticulata* over Herbs dominated by **Carpobrotus edulis* and **Lotus subbiflorus* in grey sand.
- Low Forest A of *Eucalyptus species (possibly *Eucalyptus robusta), Melaleuca preissiana and *Populus nigra over Dense Tall Grass dominated by *Eragrostis curvula in grey sandy loam
- Dense Tall Grass of *Eragrostis curvula, *Paspalum urvillei, and/or *Pennisetum clandestinum or Tall Sedges of Juncus pallidus or Herbs dominated by *Lotus subbiflorus, *Moraea flaccida and *Euphorbia terracina in damp grey sand.

No quadrats were placed in the completely degraded vegetation at the site which consisted of pasture grasses and often with clumps of *Paspalidium urvillei.

The vegetation condition of the remnant vegetation at the site varied from good to degraded.

A total of 49 families, 108 genera and 148 taxa were recorded during the survey of which 66 species were weeds.

Two priority flora were located. These were:

- Schoenus pennisetis, a Priority 2 Flora is an annual sedge up to 15cm high; and
- Jacksonia gracillima a Priority 3 Flora is a shrub up to 1.5m tall.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Coterra Environment commissioned Bennett Environmental Consulting Pty Ltd to undertake a vegetation overview for Lot 2 Nicholson Road, Forrestdale, within the City of Armadale. It is approximately 22.16ha in area with 4.46ha mapped by the Department of Environment and Conservation as a Conservation Category Wetland. A wetland assessment was undertaken by Arthur Weston in December 2010 (Coterra Environment, 2011).



Figure 1. Location of the site surveyed - outlined in red (extracted from Google Maps). The dotted blue line indicates the location of the gas pipeline.

1.2 Scope of Works

The requirements for this project were to:

- Undertake a Level 2 vegetation survey (Environmental Protection Authority, 2004);
 and to
- ii. Search for and record all significant species at the site.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 Geology and Landform

The area is included in the Bassendean Dunes which have off-white to pale grey sands at the surface and cream to yellow sands at depth. The Bassendean Dunes are again separated into three units based on the characteristics of their swamps. The study site occurs within the Southern River Complex, the sand appears to have been blown over the alluvial soils resulting in swamps with a clay base (Churchward and McArthur, 1980).

2.2 Vegetation

The Interim Biogeographical Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) (Thackway and Cresswell, 1995) recognizes 85 bioregions. The IBRA is used as the common unit to compare biological and biophysical attributes. Bioregions represent a landscape-based approach to classifying the land surface and each region is defined by a set of major environmental influences, which shape the occurrence of flora and fauna and their interaction with the physical environment. Forrestdale occurs in the Swan Coastal Plain, which has been subdivided into the northern section and the southern section. The study area is located in the southern section, abbreviated SWA2 (Mitchell, Williams and Desmond, 2002).

The survey area is mapped by Beard (1981) as a Low Woodland of *Allocasuarina fraseriana*, *Banksia* species and *Eucalyptus marginata* (abbreviated e2,3Mi). Shepherd *et al.* (2002) have determined the pre-European and current extent of the vegetation associations described by Beard. In addition they have assessed the percentage of each vegetation association remaining, the amount in IUCN reserves and the percentage in other reserves. The pre-European area of e2,3Mi is estimated to be 79,001ha, the current extent is 18,398ha which represents 23.2% remaining vegetated of which 38% is included in conservation.

Heddle *et al.* (1980) described the vegetation complexes of the Darling System at a scale of 1:250 000. There was found to be a distinct pattern of plant distribution linked to landforms, soils and climate. The most obvious trend was associated with increasing aridity from west to east on the Darling Plateau. The vegetation changes observed were a decrease in height and percentage cover of the tallest stratum and a distinct change in floristics. Forrestdale occurs in the Southern River Complex which is described as an Open Woodland of *Corymbia calophylla – Eucalyptus marginata* subsp. *marginata* and *Banksia* species with fringing Woodland of *Eucalyptus rudis* subsp. *rudis* and *Melaleuca rhaphiophylla* along creek beds.

Bush Forever (Government of Western Australia, 2000) states that 17% of the original area of the Southern River Complex remains vegetated within the Swan Coastal Plain and that the area of that Complex proposed for protection is 10%.

2.3 Threatened Ecological Communities

An ecological community is a naturally occurring biological assemblage that occurs in a particular type of habitat. A Threatened Ecological Community is one which falls into one of the following categories, presumed totally destroyed, critically endangered, endangered or vulnerable (Department Environment and Conservation, 2011b).

A possible ecological community which does not meet the above is added to the Priority Ecological Community List. Priorities 1, 2, and 3 are adequately known but are not currently believed to be threatened. Those that have recently been removed from the threatened list are listed as Priority 4. Conservation dependent ecological communities are placed in Priority 5.

2.4 Significant Flora

Prior to undertaking the field work a search was undertaken of the Department of Conservation and Environment Rare Flora Database. The resulting data is provided in Table 3

Table 1. Code and description of Threatened and Priority Flora (Department Environment and Conservation, 2011a)

Code	Declared Rare and Priority Flora Categories
T	T (Threatened Flora) -Extant Taxa. Taxa, which have been adequately searched for and are deemed
	to be in the wild either rare, in danger of extinction, or otherwise in need of special protection.
X	T (Threatened Flora) -Presumed Extinct Taxa. Taxa which have not been collected, or otherwise
	verified, over the past 50 years despite thorough searching, or of which all known wild populations
	have been destroyed more recently.
1	Priority One -Poorly Known Taxa. Taxa, which are known from one or a few (generally <5)
	populations, which are under threat.
2	Priority Two -Poorly Known Taxa. Taxa which are known from one or a few (generally <5)
	populations, at least some of which are not believed to be under immediate threat.
3	Priority Three -Poorly Known Taxa. Taxa, which are known from several populations, at least some
	of which are not believed to be under immediate threat.
4	Priority Four - Rare, Near Threatened and other species in need of monitoring. Taxa which are
	considered to have been adequately surveyed and which whilst being rare, are not currently
	threatened by any identifiable factors.
5	Priority Five - Conservation dependent species. Species that are not threatened but are subject to a
	specific conservation program, the cessation of which would result in the species becoming
	threatened within five years.

Table 1 presents the definitions of Declared Rare and the four Priority Flora ratings under the Wildlife Conservation Act (1950) as extracted from Department of Environment and Conservation (2011a). Table 2 presents the definitions of the threatened species under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Populations and Communities, 2011).

Table 2. Categories of Threatened Flora Species (Department of Sustainability,

Environment, Water, Populations and Communities, 2011)

Code	Declared Rare and Priority Flora Categories
Ex	Extinct
	Taxa which at a particular time if, at that time, there is no reasonable doubt that the last
	member of this species has died.
ExW	Extinct in the Wild
	Taxa which is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised
	population well outside its past range; or it has not been recorded in its known and/or
	expected habitat, at appropriate seasons, anywhere in its past range, despite exhaustive
	surveys over a time frame appropriate to its life cycle and form.
CE	Critically Endangered
	Taxa which at any particular time if, at that time, it is facing an extremely high risk of
	extinction in the wild in the immediate future, as determined in accordance with the
	prescribed criteria.
Е	Endangered
	Taxa, which is not critically endangered, and it is facing a very high risk of extinction in
	the wild in the immediate or near future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed
	criteria.
X7	1 11 11
V	Vulnerable
	Taxa which is not critically endangered or endangered and is facing a high risk of
	extinction in the wild in the medium-term future, as determined in accordance with the
	prescribed criteria.
CD	Conservation Dependent
	Taxa which at a particular time if, at that time, the species is the focus of a specific
	conservation program, the cessation of which would result in the species becoming
	vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered within a period of 5 years.

Table 3. Threatened and Priority Flora Species List as provided by the Department of Environment and Conservation

Taxon	Code	Description
Caladenia huegelii	Т	Tuberous, perennial, herb, 0.25-0.6 m high. Fl. green & cream & red, Sep to Oct. Grey or brown sand, clay loam.
Diuris purdiei	Т	Tuberous, perennial, herb, 0.15-0.35 m high. Fl. yellow, Sep to Oct. Grey-black sand, moist. Winter-wet swamps.
Drakaea elastica	Т	Tuberous, perennial, herb, 0.12-0.3 m high. Fl. red & green & yellow, Oct to Nov. White or grey sand. Low-lying situations adjoining winterwet swamps.
Drakaea micrantha	Т	Tuberous, perennial, herb, 0.15-0.3 m high. Fl. red & yellow, Sep to Oct. White-grey sand.
Lepidosperma rostratum	Т	Rhizomatous, tufted perennial, grass-like or herb (sedge), 0.5 m high. Fl. brown. Peaty sand, clay.
Eryngium pinnatifidum subsp. palustre	3	Erect perennial, herb, 0.15-0.5 m high. Fl. white/blue, Oct to Nov. Clay, sandy clay. Claypans, seasonally wet flats.
Jacksonia gracillima	3	No description provided.
Stylidium longitubum	3	Erect annual (ephemeral), herb, 0.05-0.12 m high. Fl. pink, Oct to Dec. Sandy clay, clay. Seasonal wetlands.
Drosera occidentalis subsp. occidentalis	4	Fibrous-rooted, rosetted perennial, herb, to 0.01 m high. Fl. pink/white, Nov to Dec. Sandy & clayey soils. Swamps & wet depressions
Grevillea thelemanniana subsp. thelemanniana	4	No description provided.
Jacksonia sericea	4	Low spreading shrub, to 0.6 m high. Fl. orange, usually Dec or Jan to Feb. Calcareous & sandy soils.

Taxon	Code	Description
Ornduffia submersa	4	No description provided.
Thysanotus glaucus	4	Caespitose, glaucus perennial, herb, 0.1-0.2 m high. Fl. purple, Oct to Dec or Jan to Mar. White, grey or yellow sand, sandy gravel.
Tripterococcus paniculatus	4	Perennial, herb, to 1 m high. Fl. yellow-green, Oct to Nov. Grey, black or peaty sand. Winter-wet flats.
Verticordia lindleyi subsp. lindleyi	4	Erect shrub, 0.2-0.75 m high. Fl. pink, May or Nov to Dec or Jan. Sand, sandy clay. Winter-wet depressions.

2.5 Bush Forever Sites Close to Lot 2 Nicholson Road

There are 2 Bush Forever Sites near the site. These are Bush Forever Site 344, Denis De Young Reserve and Gibbs Road Swamp Bushland, Banjup/Forrestdale which is located adjacent to the western boundary and Bush Forever Site 345 Forrestdale Lake and Adjacent Bushland, Forrestdale, which is located east of Nicholson Road.

The vegetation of Bush Forever site 344 is described as (Government of Western Australia, 2000):

Uplands:

Banksia attenuata and Banksia menziesii Low Woodland; and

Banksia attenuata Low Woodland with scattered Banksia menziesii, Banksia ilicifolia and Eucalyptus todtiana.

Wetlands:

Melaleuca preissiana Low Woodland to Forest sometimes over Baumea juncea Sedgeland;

Melaleuca rhaphiophylla Low Open Forest;

Pericalymma ellipticum. Astartea aff. fascicularis, Aotus intermedia and Calothamnus lateralis Closed Heath;

Pericalymma ellipticum Closed Heath; and

Baumea juncea and Baumea articulata Sedgelands.

The vegetation of Bush Forever site 345 is described as (Government of Western Australia, 2000):

Uplands:

Corymbia calophylla Open Woodland;

Banksia attenuata and Banksia menziesii Open Forest to Woodland with Nuytsia floribunda; and

Banksia ilicifolia and Banksia menziesii Open Forest to Woodland with Nuytsia floribunda.

Wetlands

Eucalyptus rudis Forest;

Melaleuca rhaphiophylla and Melaleuca preissiana Low Open Forest with patches of Eucalyptus rudis;

Melaleuca preissiana Open Woodland;

Melaleuca rhaphiophylla Low Closed Forest;

Melaleuca uncinata, Melaleuca viminea and Melaleuca polygaloides Closed Heath;

Regelia ciliata Closed Heath;

Melaleuca teretifolia and Melaleuca viminea Open Heath;

Mixed Closed Herbland;

Hypolaena exsulca, Lyginia barbata and Schoenus curvifolius Closed Sedgeland;

Leptocarpus canus Sedgeland; and

Closed Sedgeland dominated by Baumea articulata, *Typha orientalis and Bolboschoenus caldwellii.

3. METHODS

Transects were walked through the remnant bushland listing the vegetation units in the area and the dominant taxa. As this was being undertaken the bushland was searched for Declared Rare and Priority Flora. As a Level 2 vegetation survey was required temporary 10m x 10m

quadrats were recorded. The vegetation at the site is described using the vegetation classification of Muir (1977) as described in Table 4. Plants unknown in the field were collected, pressed and identified using the Reference Collection at the Western Australian Herbarium, which has limited collections and sometimes makes the positive identification difficult.

Table 4 Vegetation Classification (from Muir, 1977)

LIFE FORM /	9	Canopy Co	over	
HEIGHT		T	T	
CLASS	DENSE	MID DENSE	SPARSE	VERY SPARSE
	70 % - 100%	30% - 70%	10% - 30%	2% - 10%
Trees > 30 m	Dense Tall Forest	Tall Forest	Tall Woodland	Open Tall Woodland
Trees 15 – 30 m	Dense Forest	Forest	Woodland	Open Woodland
Trees 5 – 15 m	Dense Low Forest A	Low Forest A	Low Woodland A	Open Low Woodland A
Trees < 5 m	Dense Low Forest B	Low Forest B	Low Woodland B	Open Low Woodland B
Mallee (tree form)	Dense Tree Mallee	Tree Mallee	Open Tree Mallee	Very Open Tree Mallee
Mallee (shrub form)	Dense Shrub Mallee	Shrub Mallee	Open Shrub Mallee	Very Open Shrub Mallee
Shrubs > 2 m	Dense Thicket	Thicket	Scrub	Open Scrub
Shrubs 1.5 – 2 m	Dense Heath A	Heath A	Low Scrub A	Open Low Scrub A
Shrubs 1 - 1.5 m	Dense Heath B	Heath B	Low Scrub B	Open Low Scrub B
Shrubs 0.5 – 1 m	Dense Low Heath C	Low Heath C	Dwarf Scrub C	Open Dwarf Scrub C
Shrubs 0 - 0.5 m	Dense Low Heath D	Low Heath D	Dwarf Scrub D	Open Dwarf Scrub D
Mat plants	Dense Mat Plants	Mat Plants	Open Mat Plants	Very Open Mat Plants
Hummock grass	Dense Hummock Grass	Mid-Dense Hummock Grass	Hummock Grass	Open Hummock Grass
Bunch grass > 0.5 m	Dense Tall Grass	Tall Grass	Open Tall Grass	Very Open Tall Grass
Bunch grass < 0.5 m	Dense Low Grass	Low Grass	Open Low Grass	Very Open Low Grass
Herbaceous spp.	Dense Herbs	Herbs	Open Herbs	Very Open Herbs
Sedges > 0.5 m	Dense Tall sedges	Tall Sedges	Open Tall Sedges	Very Open Tall Sedges
Sedges < 0.5 m	Dense Low Sedges	Low Sedges	Open Low Sedges	Very Open Low Sedges
Ferns	Dense Ferns	Ferns	Open Ferns	Very Open Ferns
Mosses, liverworts	Dense Mosses	Mosses	Open Mosses	Very Open Mosses

4. RESULTS

Field work was undertaken on 4th October 2011. The gas pipeline traversed the site approximately NE to SW. In the following descriptions note that * indicates the plant is a weed.

4.1 Vegetation

As with the vegetation description for the Bush Forever Sites it is possible to divide the vegetation at Lot 2 Nicholson Road into Uplands and Wetlands. Detailed species lists for each of the quadrats listed under the vegetation units is provided in Appendix B.

UPLAND VEGETATION

Low Woodland A of *Banksia attenuata*, *Banksia menziesii*, *Nuytsia floribunda* and *Eucalyptus todtiana* over Heath B dominated by *Acacia pulchella* var. *glaberrima* over Tall Grass dominated by *Ehrharta calycina in grey sand

This vegetation was recorded from the slopes and crest of the sand dune at the site. It was represented by quadrat CS05.

Low Forest A of *Banksia attenuata* and *Banksia ilicifolia* over Tall Grass dominated by *Ehrharta calycina and *Ehrharta longiflora in grey sand.

This vegetation was recorded from the northwest corner of the site. It was represented by quadrat CS02.

Low Woodland A of *Eucalyptus todtiana* with occasional *Banksia ilicifolia* over Open Dense Tall Grass dominated by **Eragrostis curvula* over Herbs dominated by **Carpobrotus edulis*, **Erodium botrys*, **Lotus subbiflorus* and **Hypochaeris glabra* in pale grey sand.

This vegetation was a small area recorded from the south eastern side. It was represented by quadrat CS07.

WETLAND VEGETATION

Open Low Woodland B of *Melaleuca preissiana* over Dense Thicket of *Kunzea glabrescens* over Open Herbs dominated by *Patersonia occidentalis* and *Drosera gigantea* in damp dark grey sand.

This vegetation was recorded from the northwest corner of the site. It was represented by quadrat CS01.

Low Forest A of *Melaleuca rhaphiophylla* over Dense Herbs dominated by *Zantedeschia aethiopicum and *Lotus subbiflorus in very damp grey sand.

This vegetation occurred at the southeastern area of the site where there was lying water present. It was represented by quadrats CS03 and CS10.

Open Low Woodland A of *Eucalyptus todtiana* and *Melaleuca preissiana* over Low Scrub or Scrub of *Kunzea glabrescens* and *Pultenaea reticulata* over Herbs dominated by **Carpobrotus edulis* and **Lotus subbiflorus* in grey sand.

This vegetation occurred at the south eastern corner above the wetland represented by quadrat CS10. It was represented by quadrat CS06.

Low Forest A of *Eucalyptus species (possibly *Eucalyptus robusta), Melaleuca preissiana and *Populus nigra over Dense Tall Grass dominated by *Eragrostis curvula in grey sandy loam.

This occurred as a small area at the north east corner of the site. *Eucalyptus robusta is spreading as there are several juvenile trees present. It is represented by quadrat CS08.

Dense Tall Grass of *Eragrostis curvula, *Paspalum urvillei, and/or *Pennisetum clandestinum or Tall Sedges of Juncus pallidus or Herbs dominated by *Lotus subbiflorus, *Moraea miniata and *Euphorbia terracina in damp grey sand.

This vegetation type occurred in small areas across the site. It was represented by quadrats CS04 and CD09.

Listing of weeds along Nicholson Road is site 11 and mapped as such in Appendix A.

4.2 Vegetation Condition

Bushland has been historically subject to ongoing degradation and is especially susceptible to disturbances arising as a result of indirect impacts from surrounding developments and human activity. Degradation is caused by a wide range of factors, including isolation, edge effects, weed invasion, plant diseases, changes in fire frequency, landscape fragmentation, increased predation on native fauna by feral animals, decrease in species richness and general modification of ecological function. Lot 2 has historically been used for stock grazing, phases of clearing and weed invasion. These issues affect the biodiversity rating and ecological viability of areas of remnant vegetation and should be assessed in line with conservation values.

Vegetation condition was rated according to the vegetation condition scale used in Keighery (1994). The vegetation condition at the survey site was mainly good to completely degraded with the higher ground vegetation in very good (condition 3) to good (condition 4) condition. There were groups of trees with good cover where the understorey had been completely replaced with weeds. These areas were degraded (condition 5). Where there were no trees and the weeds were dominant the vegetation condition was completely degraded (condition 6). Table 5 explains the vegetation condition rating scale and Table 5 gives the vegetation condition at the site. The vegetation condition of the site is mapped in Appendix C, Map 2.

Table 5. Explanation of Vegetation Condition Rati	ng ((Keighery,	1994)
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Rating	Description	Explanation
1	Pristine	Pristine or nearly so, no obvious signs of disturbance.
2	Excellent	Vegetation structure intact, disturbance affecting individual species and weeds are non-aggressive species.
3	Very Good	Vegetation structure altered, obvious signs of disturbance.
4	Good	Vegetation structure significantly altered by very obvious signs of multiple disturbances. Retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate it.
5	Degraded	Basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance. Scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management.
6	Completely Degraded	The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species.

Table 6. Vegetation Condition Recorded from the Site

Vegetation Condition	Quadrat Number
Very good to good	CS05
Good	CS02, CS03
Good to degraded	CS01, CS10
Degraded	CS06, CS08
Degraded to completely degraded	CS04, CS07
Completely degraded	CS09, Area 11, Paddocks

4.3 Taxa

A total of 49 genera, 107 genera and 147 taxa during the survey of which 66 species were weeds. The dominant families were Asteraceae (Daisy family), Fabaceae (Pea and Wattle family) and Poaceae (Grass family).

4.4 Significant Taxa

During the current survey two priority flora were recorded. These were:

Schoenus pennisetis, a Priority 2 Flora, is an annual sedge up to 15cm high with dark
brown to black inflorescences. It occurs in grey or peaty sand or sandy clay in swamps or
winter-wet areas. This is a new record for this area but will need to be confirmed once
access into the other areas of the Western Australian Herbarium is permitted. The plants
were not counted but were recorded from the vicinity of CS01; and



Photograph 1. Plants of Schoenus pennisetis

- Jacksonia gracillima a Priority Flora 3 flora was recorded from 2 sites.
 - 398647E; 6441321N (when walking traqnsects) where about 10 plants were recorded, and
 - ii) quadrat CS-06 where about 5 plants were recorded.



Photograph 2. *Jacksonia gracillima* photographed at a different site but it does illustrate the divided flattened 'leaves' and the flower shape and colour.

4.5 Weeds

A total of 66 weeds were recorded during the current survey. All have been determined as weeds by the Western Australian Herbarium (2011) and Department of Environment and Conservation (2011c). There are several ratings allocated to each weed in the Invasive Plant Prioritisation but only three have been selected to include in this report. These are ecological impacts, impact attributes and invasiveness which are shown in Table 7 for each of the non-endemic species recorded. Twenty nine of the weeds are listed as having a high ecological impact on the environment and 42 are listed having a rapid rate of dispersal.

Table 6. Ecological Impacts and Invasiveness of recorded weeds

Species	Ecological Impacts		Invasiveness	
	Ecological impact	Impact attributes	Rate of dispersal	
	L – low impact species	1, 2,3,4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,	R=rapid,	
	M – medium impact	10	M=moderate,	
	species	See explanation	S=slow	
	H – high impact species	below table		
	U – unknown impact			
*Acacia longifolia	Н	1,2,4,6,7,8,9	M	
*Arctotheca calendula	Н	8,9	R	
*Asparagus asparagoides	Н	6,7,8,9	R	
*Avena barbata	Н		R	
*Azolla filiculoides	L		M	
*Briza maxima	U		R	
*Briza minor	U		R	
*Bromus diandrus	Н		R	
*Carpobrotus edulis	Н	8,9	R	
*Cortaderia selloana	Н	1,6,7,8,9	R	
*Cotula coronopifolia	U		R	
*Cotula turbinata	L		M	
*Cynodon dactylon	Н	9	R	
*Cyperus congestus	U		M	
*Cyperus tenellus	L		U	
*Disa bracteata	U		R	

Species	Ecological	Impacts	Invasiveness	
	Ecological impact	Impact attributes		
*Dittrichia graveolens	M	•	R	
*Echium plantagineum	Н	increasing	R	
*Ehrharta calycina	Н	1,2,6,8,9	R	
*Ehrharta longiflora	Н	1,2,6,8,9	R	
*Eragrostis curvula	Н	, , , ,	R	
*Erodium botrys	U		M	
*Eucalyptus robusta	Not listed			
*Euphorbia terracina	Н	8,9	R	
*Ficus carica	Н		M	
*Fumaria capreolata	Н	7,9	R	
*Gladiolus caryophyllaceus	Н	. ,-	R	
*Gomphocarpus fruticosus	Н	9	R	
*Holcus lanatus	Н	-	U	
*Hypochaeris glabra	Н		R	
*Isolepis marginata	U		U	
*Juncus acutus	Н	1,3,4,7,8,9	R	
*Juncus bufonius	U	1,0,1,7,0,2	R	
*Juncus capitatus	Ü		R	
*Lolium multiflorum	Not listed			
*Lotus subbiflorus	U		R	
*Lupinus angustifolia	H		M	
*Lupinus cosentinii	H		M	
*Lythrum hyssopifolia	M		R	
*Medicago polymorpha	L			
*Moraea flaccida	H	8,9	R	
*Nerium oleander	L	0,5	R	
*Oenothera stricta	L		M	
*Ornithopus sativus	M		R	
*Paspalum urvillei	Н		M	
*Pennisetum clandestinum	H		S	
*Persicaria maculosa	L		U	
*Populus nigra	L		S	
*Ranunculus muricata	L		U	
*Raphanus raphanistrum	U		M	
*Ricinus communis	M	2,8,9	R	
*Romulea rosea	U	2,0,5	R	
*Rumex crispus	U		R	
*Schinus terebinthifolia	H	3,7,8,9	M	
*Solanum americanum	U	3,7,0,9	R	
*Solanum nigrum	M		R	
*Sonchus asper	U		R	
*Sonchus oleraceus	U	increasing	R	
*Trachyandra divaricata	M	1,4,9	R	
*Trifolium campestre	U	1,7,7	U	
*Trifolium campestre	U		U	
*Typha orientalis	H	2, 3,5,6,7,9	R	
*Ursinia anthemoides	U	2, 3,3,0,7,9 increasing	R	
*Vulpia bromoides	H	mereasing	R	
*Wahlenbergia capensis	U		R	
*Zantedeschia aethiopicum	H	6,7,8,9,10	R	

Impact Attributes: 1 - changed fire regime; 2 - changed nutrient conditions; 3 - changed hydrological patterns; 4 - changed soil erosion patterns; 5 - changed geomorphological processes; 6 - changed biomass distribution; 7 - changed light distribution; 8 - loss of biodiversity; 9 - substantially reduces regeneration opportunities of native plants; 10 - allelopathic effects. Increasing means that the weed is increasing its distribution from original known areas.

5. COMPARISON WITH WETLAND SURVEY

Dr A. Weston (Coterra Environment. 2011) surveyed Lot 2 to assessed the quality, the taxa present and condition to determine the assessment of the wetland classification. He detailed each remnant section of vegetation and determined that the wetlands at the site should be downgraded after assessing the vegetation using Bulletin 686 (Coterra Environment, 2011). He photographed 13 different wetland areas, providing data on the dominant taxa. He also assessed the vegetation condition for each of the photo points. As a result of this survey he stated that the vegetation on site did not represent a conservation management category wetland as the vegetation was degraded, completely degraded or cleared.

Dr Weston did a detailed assessment of the area to the east of the high ground and did not cover the whole area as did the current survey.

6. **DISCUSSION**

As found by Dr Weston large areas of the site are degraded due to previous farming practices. It was mainly the lower ground where the development had occurred. The wetland remnants varied in their structure but *Melaleuca preissiana* and *Melaleuca rhaphiophylla* were the dominant trees with an understorey mainly replaced by weeds. In the centre of the site there was a sand ridge which had vegetation associated with the higher ground, *Banksia attenuata*, *Banksia menziesii* and *Eucalyptus todtiana* with an understorey of mixed shrub species.

At the north eastern end there were several Eastern Australian *Eucalyptus* trees growing. These have been tentatively identified as **Eucalyptus robusta* commonly called 'Swamp mahogany' a species which grows in wet soils. If it intended to rehabilitate this section of the wetland these plants should be removed and planted with the endemic *Eucalyptus rudis* subsp. *rudis*, a few trees of which are in the area. This remnant also included several plants of Poplar (**Populus nigra*) and Japanese pepper (**Schinus terebinthifolia*), all of which need to be removed. Poplars are inclined to sucker so may need to be removed for several years.

Two priority flora were recorded from the site. These were:

- Jacksonia gracillima a priority 3 flora was recorded from two locations. This is a low shrub up to about 1.5m tall with phyllodes (modified leaves) that appear to be divided into 3 at their ends; and
- Schoenus pennisetis a priority 2 flora was recorded from one area only. It is an annual sedge up to 15cm tall with dark brown to nearly black flowers. This species is readily overlooked once the damp areas in which it grows dries out.

Ten quadrats were established and a listing made of the species along the perimeter of the block with Nicholson Road and a listing of the weeds along Nicholson Road was also made. The vegetation condition varied from very good to completely degraded.

The client intends to retain and rehabilitate some areas. If it is possible the areas of quadrats CS01 and CS02 could be considered for retention and well as the drain represented by quadrat CS10. These three sections of the remnant bushland record the diversity of the wetland remnants. By putting any infrastructure on the higher ground, where the vegetation condition varied between good and degraded, it should overcome building problems, especially with the requirement of fill for lower areas. The higher ground recorded many *Banksia attenuata* and *Banksia menziesii* deaths, not just from the recent fire but as a result of the long hot summers and dry winters experienced over the previous two years.

If rehabilitation of the site is to occur it is recommended that seed of the endemic species be professionally collected prior to any clearing occurring. Seedlings could then be propagated on, or seed sown direct into, prepared soil. It is essential that weed control occur prior to any plantings.

Most of the site is degraded or completely degraded and includes some invasive weeds in particular, *Zantedeschia aethiopica (Arum lily), *Euphorbia terracina (Geraldton carnation weed) and several grasses including *Ehrharta calycina (Perennial veldt grass) and *Bromus diandrus (Great Brome). Control of these species should be undertaken immediately and if any other plants regrow they should be hand pulled immediately.

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APPENDIX A

Species listed alphabetically under vascular plant families

VASCULAR PLANT FAMILY	SPECIES
AIZOACEAE	*Carpobrotus edulis
ANACARDIACEAE	*Schinus terebinthifolia
APIACEAE	Trachymene pilosa
APOCYNACEAE	*Nerium oleander
ARACEAE	Lemna disperma
	*Zantedeschia aethiopicum
ASCLEPIDACEAE	*Gomphocarpus fruticosus
ASPARAGACEAE	*Asparagus asparagoides
	Laxmannia grandiflora
	Thysanotus manglesianus
	Thysanotus patersonii
	*Trachyandra divaricata
ASTERACEAE	*Arctotheca calendula
TIS TENUTOES IE	*Cotula coronopifolia
	*Cotula turbinata
	*Dittrichia graveolens
	*Hypochaeris glabra
	Podotheca angustifolia
	Podotheca chrysantha
	Podotheca gnaphalioides
	Quinetia urvillei
	Senecio pinnatifida var. latiloba
	*Sonchus asper
	*Sonchus oleraceus
DOD A CRIA CE A E	*Ursinia anthemoides
BORAGINACEAE	*Echium plantagineum
BRASSICACEAE	*Raphanus raphanistrum
CAMPANULACEAE	*Wahlenbergia capensis
CASUARINACEAE	Allocasuarina fraseriana
CENTROLEPIDACEAE	Centrolepis aristata
COLCHICACEAE	Burchardia umbellata
COMMELINIACEAE	Cartonema philydroides
CRASSULACEAE	Crassula colorata
	Crassula decumbens
CYPERACEAE	*Cyperus congestus
	*Cyperus tenellus
	Isolepis cernua
	*Isolepis marginata
	Isolepis oldfieldiana
	Isolepis stellata
	Lepidosperma longitudinale
	Lepidosperma pubisquameum
	Schoenus curvifolius
	Schoenus efoliatus
	Schoenus pennisetis
	Schoenus rigens
	10

VASCULAR PLANT FAMILY	SPECIES
DASYPOGONACEAE	Dasypogon bromeliifolius
DILLENIACEAE	Hibbertia racemosa
DROSERACEAE	Drosera erythrorhiza
	Drosera glanduligera
EUPHORBIACEAE	*Euphorbia terracina
	*Ricinus communis
FABACEAE	Acacia huegelii
	*Acacia longifolia
	Acacia pulchella var. glaberrima
	Acacia saligna
	Aotus procumbens
	Daviesia preissii
	Gompholobium tomentosum
	Jacksonia furcellata
	Jacksonia gracillima
	Jacksonia sternbergiana
	Kennedia prostrata
	*Lotus subbiflorus
	*Lupinus angustifolia
	*Lupinus cosentinii
	*Medicago polymorpha
	*Ornithopus sativus
	Pultenaea reticulata
	*Trifolium campestre
	*Trifolium hirtum
FUMARIACEAE	*Fumaria capreolata
GERANIACEAE	*Erodium botrys
	Geranium molle
GOODENIACEAE	Lechenaultia floribunda
HAEMODORACEAE	Anigozanthos humilis
	Anigozanthos manglesii
	Conostylis aculeata
	Conostylis juncea
	Haemodorum laxum
	Haemodorum spicatum
HEMEROCALLIDACEAE	Dianella divaricata
IRIDACEAE	*Gladiolus caryophyllaceus
	*Moraea flaccida
	Patersonia occidentalis
	*Romulea rosea
JUNCACEAE	*Juncus acutus
	*Juncus bufonius
	*Juncus capitatus
	Juncus pallidus
LOBELIACEAE	Lobelia alata
LORANTHACEAE	Nuytsia floribunda
ZOIGH (IIII IOLAID	1.00,000 Jon to wired

VASCULAR PLANT FAMILY	SPECIES
LYTHRACEAE	*Lythrum hyssopifolia
MOLLUGINACEAE	Macarthuria apetala
MORACEAE	*Ficus carica
MYRTACEAE	Astartea scoparia
	Calytrix flavescens
	*Eucalyptus robusta
	Eucalyptus rudis subsp. rudis
	Eucalyptus todtiana
	Hypocalymma angustifolium
	Kunzea glabrescens
	Melaleuca preissiana
	Melaleuca rhaphiophylla
	Melaleuca teretifolia
	Melaleuca thymoides
	Melaleuca viminea
	Scholtzia involucrata
ONAGRACEAE	*Oenothera stricta
ORCHIDACEAE	Caladenia flava
	Caladenia paludosa
	*Disa bracteata
	Microtis media
POACEAE	Amphipogon turbinatus
TOTICETIE	Austrostipa compressa
	*Avena barbata
	*Briza maxima
	*Briza minor
	*Bromus diandrus
	*Cortaderia selloana
	*Cynodon dactylon
	*Ehrharta calycina
	*Ehrharta longiflora
	*Eragrostis curvula
	*Holcus lanatus
	*Lolium multiflorum
	Microlaena stipoides
	*Paspalum urvillei
	*Pennisetum clandestinum
DOLVCALACEAE	*Vulpia bromoides
POLYGALACEAE	*Rumex crispus
DODTH ACACEAE	*Persicaria maculosa
PORTULACACEAE	Calandrinia liniflora
PROTEACEAE	Adenanthos cygnorum
	Banksia attenuata
	Banksia ilicifolia
	Banksia menziesii
	Stirlingia latifolia

VASCULAR PLANT FAMILY	SPECIES
RANUNCULACEAE	*Ranunculus muricata
RESTIONACEAE	Hypolaena exsulca
	Lyginia barbata
SALICACEAE	*Populus nigra
SALVINIACEAE	*Azolla filiculoides
SOLANACEAE	*Solanum americanum
	*Solanum nigrum
ТҮРНАСЕАЕ	*Typha orientalis
XANTHORRHOEACEAE	Xanthorrhoea brunonis
ZAMIACEAE	Macrozamia riedlei

APPENDIX B

Quadrat Data

Location: Southern edge of site **GPS:** 397671E; 6441243N

Soil Type: Dark grey sand. Flat, dampland

Vegetation Description: Open Low Woodland B of *Melaleuca preissiana* over Dense Thicket of *Kunzea glabrescens* over Open Herbs dominated by *Patersonia occidentalis* and *Drosera glanduligera*

Vegetation Condition: Good with occasional areas degraded

Notes: Consists of occasional areas of good vegetation amongst open areas. Lot of rubbish dumped



SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
*Arctotheca calendula	20	<1
*Avena barbata	60	<1
*Briza maxima	50	<1
Caladenia flava	40	<1
*Carpobrotus edulis	5	<1
Crassula colorata	15	5
*Disa bracteata	40	<1
Drosera glanduligera	10	15
*Hypochaeris glabra	15	2
Kunzea glabrescens	400	75
*Lotus subbiflorus	20	1
Melaleuca preissiana	300	3
Microtis media	50	<1
Patersonia occidentalis	70	3
Podotheca chrysantha	20	<1
Quinetia urvillei	10	<1

SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
Schoenus rigens	70	5
*Ursinia anthemoides	25	<1
*Vulpia bromoides	20	1
Astartea scoparia	Opportunistic	
Austrostipa compressa	Opportunistic	
*Azolla filiculoides	Opportunistic	
Banksia ilicifolia	Opportunistic	
Banksia menziesii	Opportunistic	
*Briza minor	Opportunistic	
Centrolepis aristata	Opportunistic	
Crassula decumbens	Opportunistic	
*Ehrharta longiflora	Opportunistic	
*Ehrharta calycina	Opportunistic	
*Eragrostis curvula	Opportunistic	
*Erodium botrys	Opportunistic	
*Gladiolus caryophyllaceus	Opportunistic	
Hypocalymma angustifolium	Opportunistic	
Jacksonia gracillima	Opportunistic	
*Juncus capitatus	Opportunistic	
*Juncus bufonius	Opportunistic	
Lemna disperma	Opportunistic	
Lepidosperma longitudinale	Opportunistic	
Lyginia barbata	Opportunistic	
*Medicago polymorpha	Opportunistic	
Microlaena stipoides	Opportunistic	
Schoenus efoliatus	Opportunistic	
Schoenus pennisetis	Opportunistic	
*Solanum americanum	Opportunistic	
*Solanum nigrum	Opportunistic	
Wahlenbergia capensis	Opportunistic	
*Zantedeschia aethiopicum	Opportunistic	

Location: To the east of CS01 GPS: 397733E; 6441329N Soil Type: Grey sand on a low slope

Vegetation Description: Low Forest A of Banksia attenuata and Banksia ilicifolia over Tall Grass

dominated by *Ehrharta calycina and *Ehrharta longiflora in grey sand.

Vegetation Condition: Good

Notes: Lot of weeds especially *Ehrharta calycina and *Zantedeschia aethiopica. Many Banksia

deaths



SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
Acacia pulchella var. glaberrima	70	<1
*Arctotheca calendula	50	1
*Avena barbata	150	1
Banksia attenuata	600	35
Banksia ilicifolia	700	5-15
*Briza maxima	50	5
Burchardia umbellata	100	2
Caladenia flava	30	<1
Caladenia paludosa	70	<1
*Carpobrotus edulis	10	<1
Crassula decumbens	15	2
Dasypogon bromeliifolius	70	2

SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
Dianella divaricata	70	1
Drosera erythrorhiza	5	<1
*Ehrharta calycina	100	60
*Ehrharta longiflora	50	15
Geranium molle	30	<1
Haemodorum spicatum	90	<1
Hibbertia racemosa	50	1
*Hypochaeris glabra	50	<1
Hypolaena exsulca	50	<1
Isolepis cernua	10	<1
Lepidosperma pubisquameum	60	2
Lyginia barbata	70	<1
Melaleuca thymoides	100	3
Nuytsia floribunda	200	1
Patersonia occidentalis	70	1
Thysanotus manglesianus	twiner	<1
Xanthorrhoea brunonis	100	2
*Zantedeschia aethiopicum	120	5
Allocasuarina fraseriana	Opportunistic	
*Bromus diandrus	Opportunistic	
Eucalyptus todtiana	Opportunistic	
Kennedia prostrata	Opportunistic	
*Ornithopus sativus	Opportunistic	
*Vulpia bromoides	Opportunistic	

Location: Neat the southern end of site

GPS: 397870E; 6441234N **Soil Type**: Grey sandy loam, damp

Vegetation Description: Low Forest A of Melaleuca rhaphiophylla over Dense Herbs dominated by

*Zantedeschia aethiopicum and *Lotus subbiflorus

Vegetation Condition: Good

Notes: Area burnt recently. Old tracks through the community were water filled



SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
Acacia saligna	200	<1
*Bromus diandrus	70	<1
Caladenia paludosa	40	5
*Carpobrotus edulis	30	2
*Cotula coronopifolia	25	3
Crassula decumbens	10	<1
*Cynodon dactylon	30	1
*Cyperus tenellus	15	3
*Ehrharta longiflora	50	3
*Hypochaeris glabra	90	<1
*Isolepis marginata	10	3
Juncus pallidus	90	1
Lemna disperma	2	3
Lobelia alata	20	<1

SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
*Lotus subbiflorus	25	60
Melaleuca rhaphiophylla	600	40-60
Melaleuca teretifolia	100	<1
Patersonia occidentalis	50	<1
*Pennisetum clandestinum	25	2
*Ranunculus muricata	50	<1
*Romulea rosea	20	<1
*Rumex crispus	50	<1
*Vulpia bromoides	60	10
*Zantedeschia aethiopicum	100	35
*Asparagus asparagoides	Opportunistic	
Astartea scoparia	Opportunistic	
Isolepis stellata	Opportunistic	
Jacksonia furcellata	Opportunistic	
Melaleuca preissiana	Opportunistic	
*Moraea flaccida	Opportunistic	
*Schinus terebinthifolia	Opportunistic	·

Location:

GPS: 397735E; 6441140N **Soil Type**: Grey sandy loam

 $\textbf{Vegetation Description:} \ \ \textbf{Dense Tall Grass of } *Eragrostis\ curvula\ \ \textbf{or Tall Sedges of } \textit{Juncus pallidus}$

or Herbs dominated by *Moraea flaccida and *Euphorbia terracina

Vegetation Condition: Degraded to completely degraded

Notes: Open area surrounded to the south by good quality wetland. Many tracks through the area

Rubbish dumped



SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
*Arctotheca calendula	50	1
Calandrinia liniflora	20	2
*Carpobrotus edulis	15	25
*Cyperus tenellus	5	40
*Dittrichia graveolens	50	<1
*Eragrostis curvula	150	10-90
*Isolepis marginata	5	25
Isolepis oldfieldiana	20	15
Isolepis stellata	30	10
*Juncus bufonius	35	15
Juncus pallidus	120	5-50
Lobelia alata	20	5
*Lolium multiflorum	70	1
*Lotus subbiflorus	20	40
*Moraea flaccida	60	2-10

SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
*Pennisetum clandestinum	30	<1
*Romulea rosea	40	10
*Vulpia bromoides	30	25
*Bromus diandrus	Opportunistic	
*Cortaderia selloana	Opportunistic	
*Echium plantagineum	Opportunistic	
*Gomphocarpus fruticosus	Opportunistic	
*Hypochaeris glabra	Opportunistic	
*Lythrum hyssopifolia	Opportunistic	
Melaleuca preissiana	Opportunistic	
Melaleuca teretifolia	Opportunistic	
Melaleuca viminea	Opportunistic	
*Paspalum urvillei	Opportunistic	
*Rumex crispus	Opportunistic	
*Sonchus asper	Opportunistic	

Location: Central dune crest GPS: 398069E; 6441322N

Soil Type: Pale grey sand. Crest of sand dune

Vegetation Description: Low Woodland A of *Banksia attenuata*, *Banksia menziesii*, *Nuytsia floribunda* and *Eucalyptus todtiana* over Heath B dominated by *Acacia pulchella* var. *glabrescens* over Tall Grass dominated by **Ehrharta calycina*

Vegetation Condition: Very good to good

Notes: Area burnt about 3 years. Numerous Banksia deaths. Becomes degraded above wetland to the

east



SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
Acacia pulchella var. glaberrima	150	60
Anigozanthos humilis	30	<1
Anigozanthos manglesii	70	<1
Austrostipa compressa	70	<1
Banksia attenuata	800	10
Banksia menziesii	500	5
*Briza maxima	70	<1
Burchardia umbellata	75	1
Calytrix flavescens	30	1
*Carpobrotus edulis	30	1
Conostylis aculeata	50	2
Crassula decumbens	15	3
*Ehrharta calycina	150	50
*Ehrharta longiflora	50	5

SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
Eucalyptus todtiana	600	<1
*Gladiolus caryophyllaceus	70	1
Hibbertia racemosa	50	<1
*Hypochaeris glabra	30	1
Macarthuria apetala	20	<1
Nuytsia floribunda	600	2
*Romulea rosea	60	1
Scholtzia involucrata	70	<1
Stirlingia latifolia	90	2
Thysanotus patersonii	t	
*Ursinia anthemoides	70	2
*Vulpia bromoides	35	<1
Acacia huegelii	Opportunistic	
Adenanthos cygnorum	Opportunistic	
Allocasuarina fraseriana	Opportunistic	
Amphipogon turbinatus	Opportunistic	
*Bromus diandrus	Opportunistic	
Caladenia flava	Opportunistic	
Cartonema philydroides	Opportunistic	
Drosera erythrorhiza	Opportunistic	
*Euphorbia terracina	Opportunistic	
Gompholobium tomentosum	Opportunistic	
Haemodorum laxum	Opportunistic	
Hypolaena exsulca	Opportunistic	
Jacksonia furcellata	Opportunistic	
Laxmannia grandiflora	Opportunistic	
Lechenaultia floribunda	Opportunistic	
Lyginia barbata	Opportunistic	
Macrozamia riedlei	Opportunistic	
Patersonia occidentalis	Opportunistic	
Podotheca angustifolia	Opportunistic	
Podotheca gnaphalioides	Opportunistic	
Schoenus curvifolius	Opportunistic	
Trachymene pilosa	Opportunistic	

Location: In south eastern corner

GPS: Not recorded **Soil Type**: Grey sand

Vegetation Description: Open Low Woodland A of *Eucalyptus todtiana* and *Melaleuca preissiana* over Low Scrub or Scrub of *Kunzea glabrescens* and *Pultenaea reticulata* over Herbs dominated by

*Carpobrotus edulis and *Lotus subbiflorus

Vegetation Condition: Degraded

Notes: Continues to Melaleuca rhaphiophylla wetland to the north where there is open water



SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
Astartea scoparia	90	<1
*Avena barbata	120	5
*Carpobrotus edulis	20	10
*Ehrharta longiflora	70	20
*Eragrostis curvula	120	2
Eucalyptus todtiana	1000	5
*Hypochaeris glabra	20	1
Jacksonia gracillima	90	<1
Kunzea glabrescens	250	5
*Lotus subbiflorus	10	15
*Lupinus cosentinii	60	2
Melaleuca preissiana	800	5
Pultenaea reticulata	175	5
*Romulea rosea	30	1

SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
*Ursinia anthemoides	60	1
*Vulpia bromoides	25	10
*Zantedeschia aethiopicum	60	2
Acacia pulchella var. glaberrima	Opportunistic	
Acacia saligna	Opportunistic	
*Cortaderia selloana	Opportunistic	
*Cotula turbinata	Opportunistic	
*Erodium botrys	Opportunistic	
Jacksonia furcellata	Opportunistic	
Juncus pallidus	Opportunistic	
Podotheca chrysantha	Opportunistic	
*Schinus terebinthifolia	Opportunistic	

Location: South eastern side **GPS:** 398202E; 6441083N **Soil Type:** Pale grey sand

Vegetation Description: Low Woodland A of *Eucalyptus todtiana* with occasional *Banksia ilicifolia* over Open to Dense Tall Grass dominated by **Eragrostis curvula* over Herbs dominated by

*Carpobrotus edulis, *Erodium botrys, *Lotus subbiflorus and *Hypochaeris glabra

Vegetation Condition: Degraded to completely degraded

Notes: Small area only



SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
Acacia pulchella var. glaberrima	120	<1
Aotus procumbens	20	<1
*Arctotheca calendula	20	2
*Carpobrotus edulis	20	10
Conostylis juncea	50	<1
Crassula decumbens	5	1
Daviesia preissii	60	1
Drosera glanduligera	10	1
*Ehrharta calycina	120	5
*Eragrostis curvula	150	70
*Erodium botrys	15	5
Eucalyptus todtiana	1000	5-10
*Hypochaeris glabra	5	5
Jacksonia sternbergiana	175	<1
Kunzea glabrescens	170	1

SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
*Lotus subbiflorus	10	5
Patersonia occidentalis	100	1
*Romulea rosea	30	1
*Ursinia anthemoides	70	2
Allocasuarina fraseriana	Opportunistic	
Banksia ilicifolia	Opportunistic	
Dianella divaricata	Opportunistic	

Location: On western side near Nicholson Road

GPS: 398239E; 6441348N **Soil Type**: Grey sandy loam

Vegetation Description: Low Forest A of *Eucalyptus species, possibly *Eucalyptus robusta, Melaleuca preissiana and *Populus nigra over Dense Tall Grass dominated by *Eragrostis curvula

Vegetation Condition: Degraded

Notes: Lot of rubbish dumped. Seedlings of *Eucalyptus robusta were abundant. In some areas

*Avena barbata has a cover up to 30% and *Bromus diandrus a cover up to 20%



SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
*Acacia longifolia	200	<1
*Asparagus asparagoides	twiner	1
Astartea scoparia	60	1
*Carpobrotus edulis	10	5
*Cortaderia selloana	200	1
*Echium plantagineum	50	<1
*Eragrostis curvula	150	80
*Eucalyptus robusta	1200	35
*Ficus carica	120	<1
Juncus pallidus	150	2
Lepidosperma longitudinale	120	2
*Lotus subbiflorus	15	5
Melaleuca preissiana	1000	5
*Populus nigra	1000	2
*Schinus terebinthifolia	400	2

SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
*Zantedeschia aethiopicum	70	1-25
*Arctotheca calendula	Opportunistic	
*Avena barbata	Opportunistic	
*Bromus diandrus	Opportunistic	
*Cynodon dactylon	Opportunistic	
Eucalyptus rudis subsp. rudis	Opportunistic	
*Fumaria capreolata	Opportunistic	
Juncus acutus	Opportunistic	
*Nerium oleander	Opportunistic	
*Paspalidium urvillei	Opportunistic	
*Romulea rosea	Opportunistic	
*Sonchus oleraceus	Opportunistic	
*Typha orientalis	Opportunistic	

Location: Next to but not adjacent to Nicholson Road

GPS: 398300E; 6441295N **Soil Type**: Sandy loam

Vegetation Description: Open Tall Grass of *Avena barbata and *Eragrostis curvula over Dense

Herbs dominated by *Lotus subbiflorus Vegetation Condition: Completely degraded

Notes: Common degraded area



SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
Acacia saligna	100	1
*Arctotheca calendula	25	5
*Avena barbata	100	10
*Bromus diandrus	90	10
*Cortaderia selloana	200	3
*Eragrostis curvula	100	15
Juncus pallidus	80	1
*Lotus subbiflorus	25	80
*Lupinus angustifolia	70	10
*Moraea flaccida	70	1
*Populus nigra	200	5
*Zantedeschia aethiopicum	60	5
*Dittrichia graveolens	Opportunistic	
Eucalyptus rudis subsp. rudis	Opportunistic	
Melaleuca rhaphiophylla	Opportunistic	
*Paspalum urvillei	Opportunistic	
*Pennisetum clandestinum	Opportunistic	
*Rumex crispus	Opportunistic	
*Trifolium campestre	Opportunistic	

Location: Near Nicholson Road **GPS:** 398200E; 6441342N **Soil Type:** Sandy loam

Vegetation Description: Open Low Woodland A of *Melaleuca rhaphiophylla over Open Tall Grass of *Eragrostis curvula over Open Low Grass of *Cynodon dactylon over Open Herbs of *Lotus

subbiflorus

Vegetation Condition: Good to degraded **Notes:** At time of survey water reasonably deep



SPECIES	HEIGHT (cm)	% COVER
*Arctotheca calendula	10	1
Astartea scoparia	80	1
*Cynodon dactylon	50	20
*Cyperus congestus	50	2
*Eragrostis curvula	120	30
*Ehrharta calycina	70	5
*Holcus lanatus	70	<1
*Lotus subbiflorus	50	20
Melaleuca rhaphiophylla	600	5
*Rumex crispus	60	1
*Zantedeschia aethiopicum	70	2
*Avena barbata	Opportunistic	
*Lolium multiflorum	Opportunistic	
*Persicaria maculosa	Opportunistic	

CS11 - listing of weeds along Nicholson Road

Location: Adjacent to Nicholson Road

GPS: 398244E; 6441095N **Soil Type**: Grey sand

Vegetation Description: Grass and herbaceous weeds

Vegetation Condition: Degraded

Notes:



WEEDS RECORDED
*Avena barbata
*Bromus diandrus
*Euphorbia terracina
*Lolium multiflorum
*Lupinus angustifolius
*Lupinus cosentinii
*Moraea flaccida
*Oenothera stricta
*Pennisetum clandestinum
*Raphanus raphanistrum
*Ricinus communis
*Trachyandra divaricata
*Trifolium campestre
*Trifolium hirtum

APPENDIX C

Maps

- i Approximate location of quadrats and vegetation units
- ii Vegetation Condition



Map 1. Approximate location of quadrats (red dots with white number) and vegetation units (orange areas)

Explanation of vegetation units abbreviation

Map Abbreviation	Description	
Ba	Low Woodland A of Banksia attenuata, Banksia menziesii, Nuytsia floribunda and Eucalyptus todtiana over Heath B dominated by Acacia pulchella var. glaberrima over Tall Grass dominated by *Ehrharta calycina	
Bi	Low Forest A of Banksia attenuata and Banksia ilicifolia over Tall Grass dominated by *Ehrharta calycina and *Ehrharta longiflora	
Et	Low Woodland A of Eucalyptus todtiana with occasional Banksia ilicifolia over Open to Dense Tall Grass dominated by *Eragrostis curvula over Herbs dominated by *Carpobrotus edulis, *Erodium botrys, *Lotus subbiflorus and *Hypochaeris glabra	
Мр	Open Low Woodland B of <i>Melaleuca preissiana</i> over Dense Thicket of <i>Kunzea glabrescens</i> over Open Herbs dominated by <i>Patersonia occidentalis</i> and <i>Drosera glanduligera</i>	
Mr	Low Forest A of Melaleuca rhaphiophylla over Dense Herbs dominated by *Zantedeschia aethiopicum and *Lotus subbiflorus	
EM	Open Low Woodland A of Eucalyptus todtiana and Melaleuca preissiana over Low Scrub A or Scrub of Kunzea glabrescens and Pultenaea reticulata over Herbs dominated by *Carpobrotus edulis and *Lotus subbiflorus	
Er	Low Forest A of *Eucalyptus species, possibly (*Eucalyptus robusta), Melaleuca preissiana and *Populus nigra over Dense Tall Grass dominated by *Eragrostis curvula	
Ec	Dense Tall Grass of *Eragrostis curvula, *Paspalum urvillei and/or *Pennisetum clandestinum or Tall Sedges of Juncus pallidus or Herbs dominated by *Lotus subbiflorus, *Moraea flaccida and *Euphorbia terracina	



Map 2. Vegetation condition (refer to Table 5 for interpretation of rating scale)



Appendix 4 Dieback Report



Phytophthora Dieback Interpretation Report

Lot 2 Nicholson Road

Forrestdale



Lot 2 Nicholson Rd Forrestdale:

Assessment Undertaken:

Map Expiry:

22.0 hectares

11th September 2014

6th October 2017

DIEBACK MAPPING & MANAGEMENT

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DIEBACK MAPPING & MANAGEMENT

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Dieback disease caused by the pathogen *Phytophthora cinnamomi* is a major threat to the biodiversity of south-western Australia. The spread of this water mould is facilitated by the movement of soil infested with spores, particularly under warm, moist conditions. Consequently, a major component is the strategy to constrain this disease which involves managing access and soil-disturbance activities within native vegetation. Knowledge of the occurrence of the disease in the landscape is therefore an essential prerequisite to formulating suitable hygiene management practices.

NPC Consulting has been requested by Coterra Environment to map the occurrence of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* within the property of Lot 2 Nicholson Road in Forrestdale. The Dieback assessment was undertaken on the 11th September 2014.

1.2 Location and Size of Areas

Lot 2 Nicholson Road is located south of the intersection of Nicholson and Armadale Roads in Forrestdale. The suburb of Forrestdale is located approximately 25 kilometres south of Perth. The property is fenced and gated but is accessible along the northern boundary from Nicholson Road. The property is approximately 22 hectares in size.

1.3 Historical Land Use and Past Disturbances

Lot 2 Nicholson Road is semi-rural private property. The property is situated on the Swan Coastal Plain. The vegetation in this area is generally that of Banksia woodlands. There are some remnants of Banksia woodland on the property however the majority of the property is removed of vegetation. The disturbance in the vegetation is considered moderate to high. It is possible that cattle were kept on the property in the past which has led to the absence of vegetation, particularly in the understorey. Dumping of rubbish appears to be a regular occurrence on this property.

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2 Methods

2.1 Interpretation

Field interpretation followed the standard methods and operating procedures described in the document titled "*Phytophthora* Dieback Interpretation Procedures Manual' (DPaW 2014), which is a working draft.

Presence or absence was determined not only through observation but by sampling of recently-dead plant species. Non-differential, hand-held global positioning system (GPS) receivers were used for navigation and to record survey boundaries and waypoints within the areas.

2.2 Demarcation

Infested areas are demarcated using 25 or 50 mm day-glow tape with the knots facing the infestation. Uninterpretable areas are demarcated using 25 mm pink and black striped flagging tape. The excluded category is not demarcated as there is normally a clearly visible boundary between that category and others (i.e. pasture).

2.3 Soil and Tissue Sampling

Soil and tissue sample(s) associated with dead or dying plants were taken to confirm the presence or absence of the *Phytophthora sp.* These soil and plant samples were forwarded to the Vegetation Health Service (DPaW) laboratory at Kensington, where diagnostic baiting was conducted. The samples were used to as evidence for the presence of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* in the area. The sample point locations were recorded with GPS receivers. Appendix I summarizes the laboratory results of the sampling.

2.4 Mapping

The field observations, boundaries, waypoints and survey data were downloaded into a Geographic Information System from a Global Positioning System unit (GPS) to generate a map of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* occurrence for the area.

Following DPaW guidelines for determining 'Protectable Areas', boundaries were defined and provided on the Management Map to support hygiene management and planning.

2.5 Vegetation Assessment

The vegetation condition of the property was assessed. This assessment was carried out using methods based upon the condition scale from Keighery B J (1994). These methods are described in Bush Forever Vol. 2 –Directory of Bush Forever Sites.

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3 Results

3.1 Disease Distribution

Phytophthora cinnamomi is present in the remnant Banksia Woodland area situated in the middle of the property. This remnant vegetation is approximately 4 hectares in size, extends from north boundary to south boundary and is moderately disturbed. Weeds and grasses are present throughout this area.

3.2 Temporarily Uninterpretable

The small area of vegetation, approximately 0.5 hectares in size, along the northern boundary at the western end of the property contains mostly mature Banksias but has no understorey. This vegetation was part of a larger area that was burnt around January 2014. Due to the fire this area is categorised as Temporarily Uninterpretable (See Glossary of Terms for definition). This category will change in 2-3 years' time, when the vegetation becomes assessable again.

3.3 Excluded

The majority of the property (17.5 hectares) is highly degraded with significant areas where the vegetation has been mostly or completely removed. In these areas weeds and grasses are present. These areas are categorised as Excluded. The Excluded area includes remnant vegetation of mostly Melaleucas scattered around the property. (See Glossary of Terms for definition). It is not possible to determine the presence or absence of the disease in Excluded areas.

3.4 Disease Expression and Impact

The disease expression is considered poor to average within the infested Banksia woodland area. There were very few recent plant deaths at the time of the assessment and as a result only 3 soil and tissue samples were taken. There were greater numbers of older indicator species deaths present. Many of them have suffered from the impact of fire if not prior to from *Phytophthora*.

The impact is variable across the Banksia woodland area. A decrease in biomass and biodiversity is the result of disturbance but may also be from the presence of *Phytophthora*. Higher disturbance and possibly higher Dieback impact areas form a mosaic across the remnant Banksia woodland area.

3.5 Vegetation Condition

Excluded sections of the property east of the Banksia woodland area to Nicholson Road and on the west side of the Banksia woodland area are predominantly 5 or 6 on the Keighrey scale. The vegetation close to the northwest corner which contains mature Banksias is considered a 4-5 whilst the Banksia woodland in the middle of the property is a 4 on the Keighrey scale.

3.6 Soil and Tissue Sampling

Three soil and root tissue samples were taken within the property. These samples were taken only from within the remnant Banksia woodland area. This

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is because recent susceptible plants species deaths were present only in this area. Had there been more recent plant deaths at the time of sampling then more samples would have been taken.

The samples were taken to support field based decisions that the area is infested. Two of the three samples returned positive results for *Phytophthora cinnamomi*.

4 Recommendations

4.1 Protectable Areas

It is recommended that the area categorised as being Temporarily Uninterpretable be protected. The reasons for this are that healthy indicator species appear to be present even though current deaths are fire related and that vegetation outside of Lot 2 immediately to the north may well be free of the disease and possibly protectable. This area will become interpretable again in 2-3 years' time.

A recheck should be carried out on the Temporarily Uninterpretable area after January 2017 if operations are ongoing beyond this point but only if this area has not been cleared by this point.

Excluded areas of the property are not protectable because of the high level of historical disturbance, current use of the property and the likelihood of disease being present. The Banksia woodland area is also not protectable. This is due to the disease being present.

4.2 Hygiene Management

There is one hygiene management recommendation for all areas of the property. If BRM is to be sourced from the property it **must not** be used on or adjacent to Protectable Areas away from the property.

The hygiene management recommendations for the Temporarily Uninterpretable area are as follows:

- Clean on Entry and Exit are required (depending on direction of traffic) along the northern boundary of the property at the boundary of the Temporarily Uninterpretable area. Vehicles and machinery need to be cleaned down on entering this area.
- Machinery must be cleaned down prior to clearing this area. Machinery may be cleaned at a depot and transported to site.
- Vehicles and machinery must not traverse from Lot 2 to neighbouring properties as the presence or absence of the disease has not been determined for these areas and no hygiene management recommendations are available.

5 Discussion

5.1 Mapping

The remnant Banksia woodland area has not only experienced a change in biomass and biodiversity, particularly in the understorey and possibly from grazing but has more recently experienced fire approximately 5 years ago. From observing the deaths in the mature Banksias this fire was hot and intense and has eliminated the chronology of plant deaths that would have been present, particularly in the mid to understorey, before the fire. This chronology is generated by the autonomous movement of the disease.

Although there was poor expression and very few recent Banksia or other indicator species deaths observed during the assessment, areas of significant decrease in biomass and biodiversity were observed. Prickly Moses (*Acacia pulchella*) has taken over the understorey in the remnant Banksia woodland. This plant is not susceptible to Dieback but is thriving with a lack of competition, which may have been caused by the presence of *Phytophthora cinnamomi*.

Also, recent deaths appeared in the vegetation in the remnant Banksias after sampling was carried out and the field assessment was completed. These deaths are similar to those sampled, where positive results were retrieved. This is not unusual as spring and autumn are the best times for disease expression, with a mix of moisture and warmth ideal for sporulation of the pathogen.

All these factors suggest that the disease is present although expressing poorer within parts of the remnant Banksia woodland.

5.2 Management

The infested Banksia woodland area has not been demarcated as there is an easily observable boundary between vegetated (Infested) and non-vegetated areas (Excluded) areas. Both of these areas are not protectable and have the same requirements on hygiene management so demarcation is not required.

The Temporary Uninterpretable area has been demarcated. This is to ensure that there is a clear understanding of where this boundary is located for the benefits of accurate Clean on Entry and Exit.

There is a higher risk of the potential for disease to be present within areas that have experienced a high level of disturbance. The Excluded areas of the property are at a higher risk of being infested because of the historical and current disturbances as well as being down slope of an infested area. This is a contributing factor toward identifying Excluded areas as being not protectable.

6 Conclusion

Lot 2 Nicholson Road Forrestdale was assessed for *Phytophthora* Dieback on the 11th September 2014 and finalised on the 2nd October 2014. The property is in most part is highly degraded, has experienced a decrease in biomass and biodiversity and is categorised as Excluded. The Banksia woodland area is infested from the disease caused by *Phytophthora cinnamomi*.

Poor to average expression of the disease observed and grasses and weeds were present throughout. The impact of the disease was considered variable with significant changes in biomass and biodiversity and the greater presence of non-susceptible species in part.

A total of 3 soil and root tissue samples were taken. Two of these returned positive results for *Phytophthora cinnamomi*.

Excluded and Infested areas of the property are not protectable. The Temporarily Uninterpretable area is protectable and hygiene management recommendations apply to this area only.

If BRM is to be sourced from the property it **must not** be used on or adjacent to Protectable Areas away from the property.

A map has been prepared to show disease boundaries and hygiene information. This map is valid until 6th October 2015. No rechecks are required on Excluded or Infested areas. A recheck should be carried out on the Temporarily Uninterpretable area after January 2017 if operations are ongoing beyond this point but only of the area has not already been cleared.

7 References

Department of Parks and Wildlife, DPaW, (2014) "Phytophthora Dieback Interpretation Procedures Manual" (working draft),

Department of Conservation and Land Management (2001) Phytophthora cinnamomi and disease caused by it. Volume II Interpreter guidelines for detection, diagnosis and mapping

Botanic Gardens Trust Sydney NSW. Armillaria root Rot – fact sheet. http://www.rbgsyd.gov.au/information_about_plants/pests_diseases/fact_sheets/armillaria_root_rot

Keighery B J (1994), Bush Forever Volume 2, Directory of Bush Forever Sites (Vegetation Condition Scale).

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8 Appendices

8.1 Appendix 1 - Summary of Soil and Tissue Samples

Lot 2 Nicholson Road Sample Summary

Sample No	Plant Sampled	Reference No	Result (POS, NEG)
1	Banksia attenuata	E 398 046	POS
-		N 6441 122	
2	Banksia attenuata	E 398 014	NEG
_	Darmoid attornation	N 6441 175	1123
3	Banksia attenuata	E 398 059	POS
		N 6441 296	

Positive sample results are for *Phytophthora cinnamomi*.

8.2 Glossary of Terms

Phytophthora Dieback; is the name given to the disease that is caused by the pathogen. There are multiple species of *Phytophthora* in the south west however it is *Phytophthora cinnamomi* that causes significant destruction in naturally vegetated areas.

Infested; areas that have been deemed by an accredited Dieback Interpreter to have plant disease symptoms consistent with *Phytophthora* Dieback.

Uninfested; areas that have been deemed by an accredited Dieback Interpreter to be free of any visible plant disease symptoms consistent with *Phytophthora* Dieback.

Uninterpretable; areas that do not contain plant species that are susceptible to *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, therefore not allowing the presence or absence of the disease *Phytophthora* Dieback to be determined.

DIEBACK MAPPING & MANAGEMENT

Temporary Uninterpretable; applies to vegetated areas where there are susceptible plant species to the disease present but there has been some type of recent disturbance and determining the presence or absence of the disease is not possible. This includes fire, timber harvesting or other temporary disturbances.

Excluded; applies to areas with little or no vegetation like paddocks and other cleared areas. These areas are identifiable from aerial photographs. The presence or absence of the disease in these areas is also unknown.

Protectable Area; are areas of native vegetation that are disease free or uninterpretable, of a certain size or that will not become infested in the short to midterm. Hygiene management applies to Protectable Areas.

Pathogen; is an organism or other factor that causes disease within a host plant.

Disease; is a combination of a pathogen, host and correct environmental conditions which results in disease symptoms or death of a host.

Environment; is the sum of all external factors which act on an individual organism in its lifetime.

Phytophthora Occurrence Map; is the map produced by the Dieback interpreter (surveyor/assessor) which indicates the boundaries of the categories of Dieback.

Phytophthora Hygiene Management Plan/Map; is the document/map produced by the Dieback interpreter (surveyor/assessor) which indicates all the relevant hygiene recommendations for a particular area.

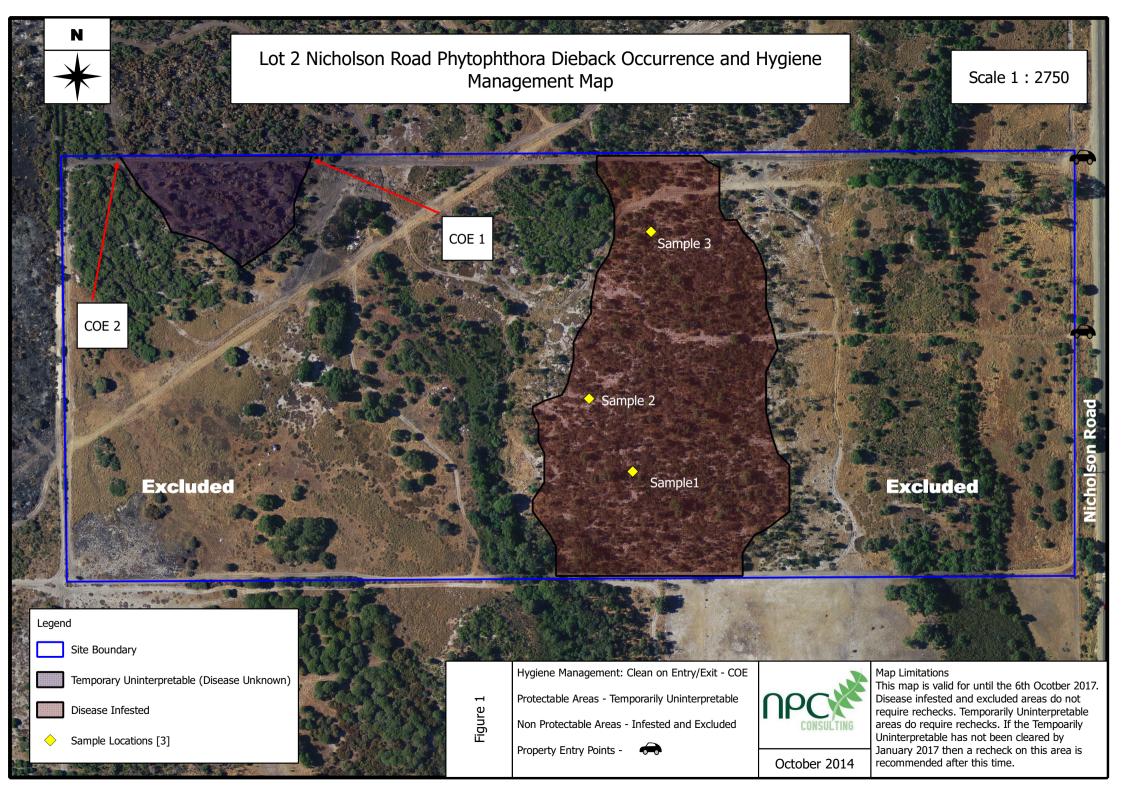
Dry soil access; is any access along tracks or operations that are undertaken during the drier months of the year. During these times the risk spread of the disease is minimal.

Susceptible species; refers to plants which will not survive as a result of being infected with the pathogen.

Indicator Species Deaths; is a plant death from a species of plant that is susceptible to the disease and therefore indicates the diseases presence.

Basic Raw Material (BRM); refers to the raw material in the form of rock, gravel, limestone and sand that is sourced from the ground.

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Appendix 5 Revegetation Plan Addendum (Stage 2)

SEE SEPARATE DOCUMENT

Coterra Environment (2019) Revegetation Plan Addendum (Stage 2) for Carey Baptist College, Forrestdale.

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