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Attention: David Pond
Rottneest Island Authority
1 Mews Road
Fremantle WA 6160
Delivered by email to: david.pond@dbca.wa.gov.au

Dear David

TARGETED FLORA SURVEY – PORTION OF THE ROTTNEEST ISLAND GOLF COURSE

1 BACKGROUND AND SCOPE OF WORK

The Rottneest Island Authority (RIA) are proposing to develop a portion of the Rottneest Island Golf Course (the 'site' as shown on **Figure 1**). Emurge previously undertook a *Flora and Vegetation Assessment* within the site in May 2024 (Emurge Associates 2024). The *Flora and Vegetation Assessment* noted suitable habitat for two priority flora species: *Lachnagrostis nesomytica* subsp. *nesomytica* (P1) and *L. nesomytica* subsp. *pseudofiliformis* (P1). These taxa would not have been visible at the time of the survey as they are annual species that flower in November and December (Western Australian Herbarium 2024).

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction's (DBCA) conservation significant flora database (reference no. 48-0424FL) included two records of *L. nesomytica* subsp. *nesomytica* (P1) near Lake Bagdad approximately 2.5 kms from the site and three locations of *L. nesomytica* subsp. *pseudofiliformis* (P1) from 0.3 kms to 1.5 kms from the site. All occurrences of both subspecies occur on the periphery of salt lakes in samphire vegetation.

RIA recently submitted a clearing permit application to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) over the site. In response, DWER requested a survey to search for the two above species within the site during the flowering period.

Emurge were engaged by RIA to undertake targeted searches within the site to search for *L. nesomytica* subsp. *nesomytica* (P1) and *L. nesomytica* subsp. *pseudofiliformis* (P1). Specifically, the scope of work was to undertake a targeted survey with reference to EPA (2016).

2 TARGETED SEARCHES

An experienced botanist attended the site on 5 December 2024 to undertake targeted searches for *L. nesomytica* subsp. *nesomytica* (P1) and *L. nesomytica* subsp. *pseudofiliformis* (P1). Areas of suitable habitat were traversed on foot along transects spaced 5 to 10 m apart in accordance with EPA (2016). No individuals of either subspecies were recorded in the site or in the adjacent area next to Garden Lake. Tracklogs are shown on **Figure 1** and photographs of the site are provided in **Plate 1**.



Plate 1: The search area within the site, facing south-east (left) and adjacent area on the edge of Garden Lake facing south-west (right)

A DBCA record of *L. nesomytica* subsp. *pseudofiliformis* (P1) on the southern edge of Serpentine Lake was also visited on the same day in order to confirm timing of the targeted search was appropriate. The record of *L. nesomytica* subsp. *pseudofiliformis* (P1) was visible at the time of the survey in this location (**Plate 2**).



Plate 2: Occurrence of *L. nesomytica* subsp. *pseudofiliformis* (P1) recorded near Serpentine Lake

3 SUMMARY AND CLOSING

A targeted search within the site was undertaken in the appropriate flowering period of the *Lachnagrostis nesomytica* subsp. *nesomytica* (P1) and *Lachnagrostis nesomytica* subsp. *pseudofiliformis* (P1). No individuals were recorded or are considered likely to occur within the site.

Yours sincerely
Emerge Associates

Sarah Paul
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT

cc: Rachel Weber, Emmerge Associates

Encl: Figure 1: Site Location and Tracklogs

REFERENCES

Emerge Associates 2024, *Reconnaissance Flora and Vegetation Assessment - Garden Lake North West Rottnest Island*, EP23-032(06)—008 SKP, Version 1.

Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) 2016, *Technical Guidance – Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment*, Perth.

Western Australian Herbarium 2024, *Florabase*, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), <<https://florabase.dbca.wa.gov.au/>>.



Figure 1: Site Location and Tracklogs

Project: Targeted Priority Flora Searches
Garden Lake North-West
Client: Rottnest Island Authority

Plan Number:
EP23-032(06)--F26
Drawn: GAR
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0 10 20 30
Metres
Scale: 1:750@A4
GDA2020 MGA Zone 50

