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*Environment and Landscape Matters*  
*LPMT No: 2067 Level 1 BAL Assessor*

11 February 2025

SW Hydrology  
Chris Mulcahy

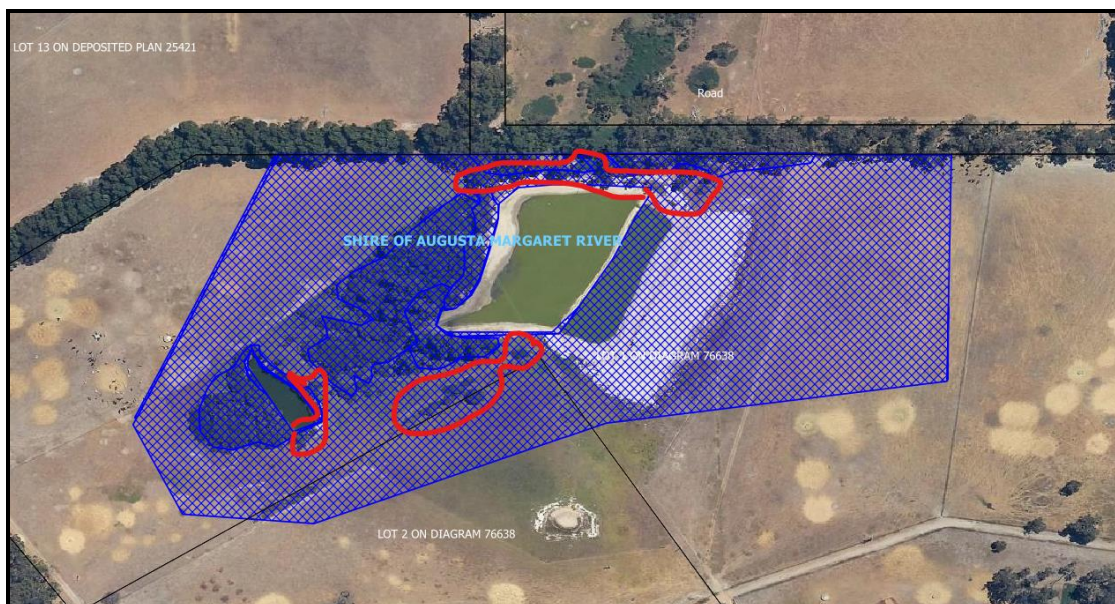
Dear Chris,

Updated survey information: IBSA 2024-0507  
Flora, vegetation and targeted fauna assessment, Addendum, 176 Saunders Rd,  
Cowaramup. Unpublished report for Western Meat Processors.

**Background**

Thanks for advising NSA PL of the revised dam design that has been developed for this property. As a result, the flora, vegetation and fauna survey area of remnant vegetation are required, from that originally requested.

The additional areas surveyed are depicted in Map 1.



Map 1: Additional vegetation review

The flora and targeted fauna survey, focusing on habitat requirements of Western ringtail possum and Black cockatoo, was undertaken on Monday 20<sup>th</sup>

January 2025. Attention was given to all trees within the developable area and the row of planted eastern states Eucalypts on the existing dam wall. The sites were searched for scats, feathers and calls were listened for, in addition to visual review of the vegetation.

This supplementary information has been simplified as the previous report submitted to IBSA (2024-0507) provided sufficient background.

It is long-grazed cattle grazing facility with deeply pugged soils and limited remnant vegetation and planted trees.

## **Results**

None of the additional small remnants retain sufficient biodiversity to enable assignment to a vegetation community. Each is described according to its zone (Map 2).

### Zone 1: SW remnant

The additional vegetation impacted upon by the revised design in the southwest corner is completely degraded and is characterised by regenerating *Taxandria linearifolia* shrubland over a chaotic weed assemblage with infrequent tussocks *Juncus pauciflorus* and *Juncus pallidus*. Characteristic weeds include Pennyroyal (*Mentha pulegium*), assorted dock (*Rumex* spp.) and Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*). The vegetation condition is classified as completely degraded.

No macrofauna was evident utilising the vegetation at the time of survey.

### Zone 2: Central remnant

The vegetation visible in the aerial photograph is regenerating *Taxandria linearifolia* either side of a constructed drainage channel. The understory is predominantly Kikuyu (*Cenchrus clandestinus*) and *Juncus microcephalus*, in the areas where Blackberry (*Rubus* spp) is not dominant. There are two mature Willow (*Salix babylonica*) on the eastern end. The vegetation condition is classified as completely degraded.

No macrofauna was evident in the vegetation at the time of survey.

### Zone 3: Northern fragment

The northern dam wall retains rows of planted eucalypts including three *Eucalyptus diversicolor* (Karri) with the remaining trees being Sydney blue gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*) and River red gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*). There are 11 trees with diameter at breast height (DBH) less than 150 mm and five trees ranging in size from 400 - 680 mm DBH, of which the largest is a Karri. There is one juvenile WA Peppermint (<150 mm DBH). The polygon shows the portion

retaining native trees, the remainder beyond the area are exotics as described above.

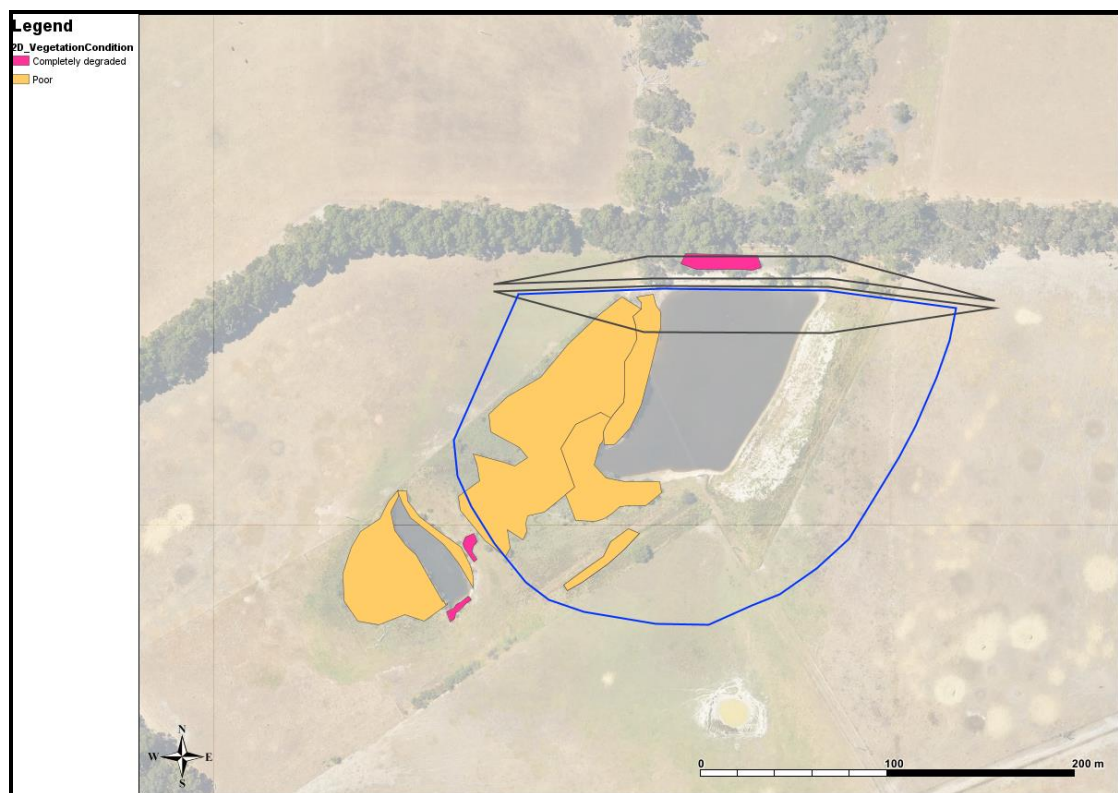
The locally native pea, *Callistachyus lanceolata* (Wonnich) has regenerated along the firebreak.

The understorey is entirely Blackberry (*Rubus* spp.) with occasional Water plantain (*Plantago* spp) and small patches of annual and perennial grasses, namely Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*) and Kikuyu (*Cenchrus clandestinus*).

The vegetation condition classification is completely degraded. The earlier assessment graded it as Poor, because there were some relic rushes and sedges. These are no longer present.

No macrofauna, nor evidence of their presence, was seen nor calls heard.

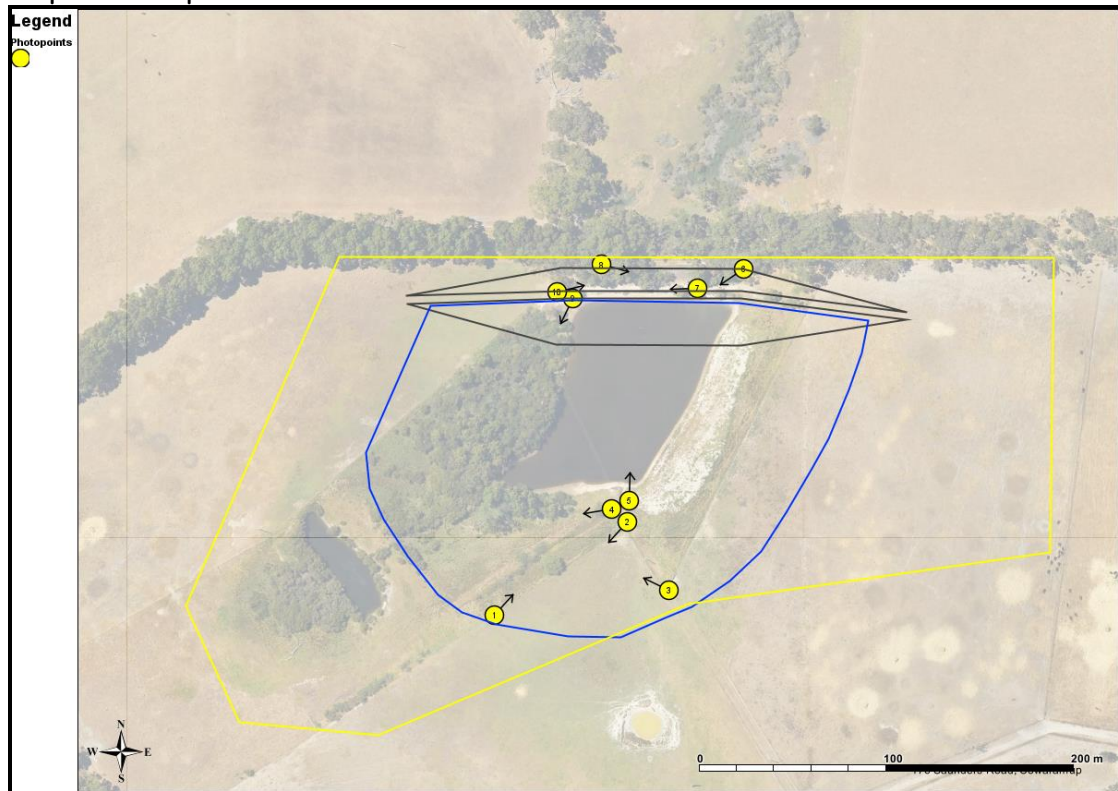
Map 2: Vegetation condition



There are no hollows nor evidence of nesting/roosting mammals or birds within the trees assessed. The trees are likely used intermittently by fauna foraging.

Additional photographs (1-10) were taken to show the degraded vegetation within the developable area (Map 3).

### Map 3: Photopoints



Photopoint 1: Looking northeast along current fenceline towards the willow.



Photopoint 2: Looking west south west at the Willow with *Taxandria* and sparse *Juncus pauciflorus* amongst *Juncus microcephalus* and paddock weeds



Photopoint 3: Looking northwest across paddock towards willow and planted *Eucalyptus* over *Taxandria* and *Callistachyus*



Photopoint 4: *Callistachyus*, Willow over *Juncus microcephalus* and paddock weeds with Blackberry and *Taxandria*



Photopoint 5: Looking north showing existing dam wall



Photopoint 6: Planted *Eucalyptus* shelterbelt over Blackberry thicket on current dam wall, adjacent firebreak



Photopoint 7: Top of dam wall



Photopoint 8: Firebreak on northern boundary and dam wall with *Callistachyus* regeneration



Photopoint 9: Blackberry with Taxandria





Photopoint 10: Sydney blue gum on back of current dam wall.



Note, NSA PL did not photograph Zone 1 as the aerial photograph clearly shows the paucity of vegetation.

### **Conclusion**

NSA PL considers that:

- There are no significant trees or vegetation that will be impacted by the proposed re-design of the dam.
- Future revegetation of the dam margins will benefit fauna.
- There was no direct evidence of Black cockatoo or Western Ringtail possums, nor evidence of their use of the trees proposed for removal. NSA PL considers wildlife use of the trees and vegetation is likely to be transient and the removal of the vegetation will have negligible impact.

