

Native Vegetation Conservation Branch
Department of Environment and Conservation
Locked Bag 104
BENTLEY DELIVERY CENTRE WA 6983

Attention: Belinda Walker

Dear Belinda

LOT 99 LORD STREET, WHITEMAN PARK CLEARING PERMIT APPLICATION

Please find attached a purpose permit clearing application to clear a total of approximately 35 hectares (ha) within Lot 99 (Reserve 39519), Lord Street, Whiteman Park for the purpose of treatment of excavated soil as part of the Elizabeth Quay construction works where the soil will be, post treatment, used as fill (Figures 1 and 2).

Supporting the above purpose permit clearing application the following documents and figures have been provided:

- Figure 1: Site Location Plan
- Figure 2: Cadastre Information and Development Application Area
- Figure 3: Clearing Application Area
- Figure 4: Vegetation Complex
- Figure 5: Wetland Mapping
- Figure 6: Development Application Area Photo-points
- Figure 7: Regional Playing Fields Concept
- Appendix 1: Purpose Permit Clearing Application Form
- Appendix 2: Clearing Permit Application Credit Card Payment Form
- Appendix 3: Certificate of Title
- Appendix 4: Authority to apply for Purpose Permit Clearing Application
- Appendix 5: EPA Assessment of Metropolitan Region Scheme (MRS) No. 1027/33
- Whiteman Park Environmental Summary Report

Lot 99 has been identified by the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) and the City of Swan for possible future use as playing fields and a cemetery. A concept plan of the regional playing fields is provided in Figure 7. The regional playing fields are a medium to long term development initiative. In the meantime, the regional playing fields portion of Lot 99 has been identified by WAPC as the preferred site for the treatment of excavated soil as part of the Elizabeth Quay construction works. The area subject to the soil treatment and fill within Lot 99 is illustrated in Figure 3.

The portion of Lot 99 subject to the soil treatment and treatment has been historically cleared and is devoid of remnant vegetation. It is currently used for cattle grazing. The key environmental issue is the existing Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) Resource Enhancement Wetland (REW) (UFI 15752) which exists across the majority of Lot 99 (Figure 5).

The treatment and disposal of approximately 120,000 m³ of soil within a 29.5 ha area (which is in the 35 ha Development Application area) will create a finished level of between 350 mm to 500 mm above the existing ground levels. The soil disposal area will be gradually tapered to match to surrounding topography.

Post the treatment of soils and blending into the overlying soils, should the topsoil from the Whiteman Park site not be placed over the blended material, the soils will be hydro-mulched and or seeded to promote plant growth to minimise dust generation from the site. The Construction Management Plan will detail the decommissioning of the site and the landscaping post soil treatment and fill/disposal.

Lot 99 Planning and Environmental Assessment History

In 2000 the WAPC initiated a Metropolitan Region Scheme (MRS) Amendment (1027/33) to re-zone Lot 99 to "Urban". The amendment was referred to the EPA for comment and in December 2000.

The EPA determined after consideration of the likely environmental factors relating to this MRS amendment, the overall environmental impact from implementation of the amendment would not be severe enough to warrant assessment under Part IV of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. The MRS Amendment was not assessed with informal advice provided by the EPA. This assessment and advice was inclusive of the existing Resource Enhancement Wetland (REW) and native vegetation across the entire Lot 99 (Appendix 1).

Soil Treatment – Management Plan Approval

Management strategies have been prepared for handling Potential Acid Sulfate Soil (PASS) material excavated from the Perth Foreshore associated with construction of the Elizabeth Quay inlet and associated infrastructure:

- Approximately 20,000 m³ of dredge sediments sourced from specific dredge areas in the Swan River, are proposed to be processed on the Swan River foreshore, first using separation via a thickener, and with the addition of a binding agent (i.e. cement or similar) to aid stabilisation. The material will be drained in stockpiles prior to trucking, and would be buried at the Whiteman Park site. Management procedures have been prepared for burial of the sediments.

- The volume of Swan River Alluvium/Guildford Formation (SRA/GF) soils to be transported and treated on site is estimated at between 70,000 –100,000 m³ and will be stockpiled on limestone pads prior to lime-treatment.
- Due to existing acid-neutralising capacity of the sediments and their clayey nature, they can be safely stockpiled on site for the short-medium term untreated. Batch lime-treatment of the material can be processed either using conventional earthworking equipment and or using purpose built soil blending equipment (i.e. a pug mill).
- Validation testing in accordance with DEC guidelines will be undertaken for all excavated SRA/GF soils to confirm effective acid neutralisation has been achieved prior to final disposal/ reuse.
- Monitoring works post-construction have been detailed in accordance with the relevant DEC guidelines.

A Site Management Plan (SMP) has been finalised for Lot 99 detailing the proposed treatment operations for the above. This SMP has been endorsed by DEC and the Department of Health (enclosed).

Lot 99 and Development Area Environmental Key Conclusions

The key findings of this Environmental Summary Report (enclosed) in regards to the western portion of Lot 99 inclusive of the proposed Development Application area are outlined below.

Flora and Vegetation

The proposed Development Application area is located southwards and outside of the Bush Forever Site 304.

The western portion of Lot 99 has been historically cleared and is currently used for cattle grazing. Native vegetation across the proposed fill and treatment area is “Completely Degraded” and consists of mostly pasture with no mid storey or upper storey.

RPS undertook a site investigation of the entire Lot 99 in December 2012. RPS’ botanist characterised the vegetation across the site as:

- *Melaleuca preissiana* low open woodlands
- *Melaleuca raphiophylla* low open woodland with scattered *Eucalyptus rudis* over pastoral weeds and *Juncus* sp.
- *Eucalyptus rudis* and *Melaleuca preissiana* low woodlands
- Open Grassland of **Holcus lanatus* over Herbland of **Hypochaeris glabra*, **Hypochaeris radicata*, **Lotus subbiflorus*, **Sparaxis bulberifera* and **Romulea rosea* or *Centella asiatica* on seasonally wet depressions with Open Sedgeland of *Juncus pallidus*
- C* – Cleared areas with or without occasional native species over pastoral weeds.

Development Application Area

Vegetation across the proposed fill area consists of Grassland of *Holcus lanatus* over Herbland of *Hypochaeris glabra*, *Hypochaeris radicata*, *Lotus subbiflorus*, *Sparaxis bulberifera* and *Romulea rosea* or *Centella asiatica* on seasonally wet depressions with Open Sedgeland of *Juncus pallidus* (Figure 4).

The proposed Development Application area has been situated over the most degraded portion of Lot 99. The western portion of the site consists mostly of cleared grassland with a very few small scattered Melaleuca trees which are not considered of any environmental significance (Figure 6).

No significant or priority flora or ecological communities were identified on site during the visit. Based on the condition of the site it is considered highly unlikely that they occur on the site or that the site is capable of supporting any significant flora or ecological communities in its present condition.

Fauna

Based on the current condition of the proposed fill area, it is considered unlikely that the area contains significant habitat for any of these species and the proposed development will not impact on any significant fauna species.

Wetlands

- There is a mapped REW across Lot 99 (Figure 5).
- Using EPA Bulletin 686 A Guide to Wetland Management in the Perth and Near Perth Swan Coastal Plain Area (EPA 1993) as guidance, RPS concludes the portion of the REW category on Lot 99 is more consistent with a Multiple Use Wetland (MUW) management category for the following reasons:
 - the condition of the vegetation in the portion of the REW (UFI 15752) contained within the western portion of Lot 99 is in "Completely Degraded" condition
 - the western portion of Lot 99 no longer supporting representative vegetation of the Southern River vegetation complex (Hedde et al. 1980).

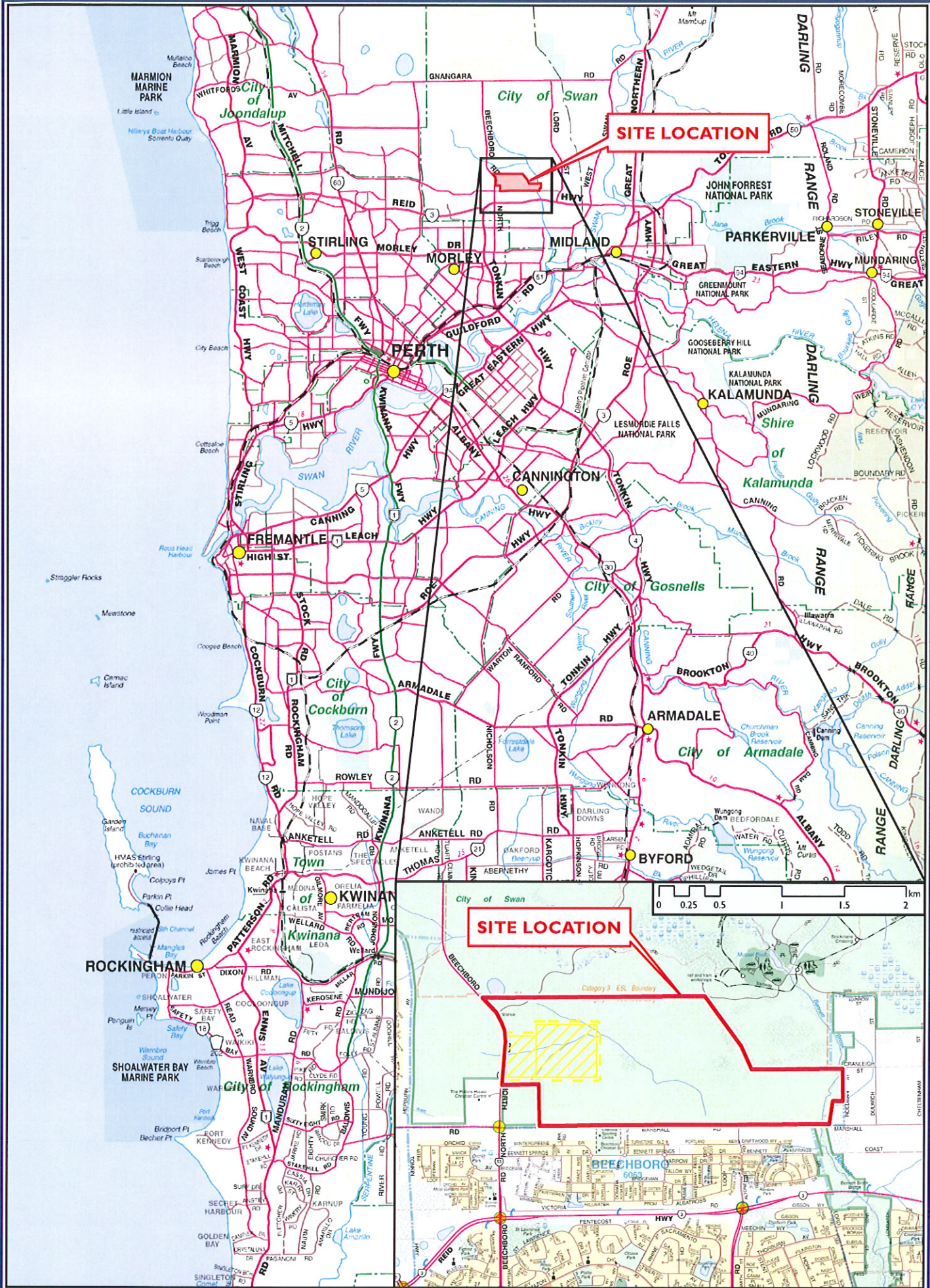
Groundwater and Surface Water Quality

Bennett Brook is located approximately 1.5 km from the proposed fill and treatment area. It is considered highly unlikely Bennett Brook would be impacted by the proposed treatment and soil disposal.

Key management actions including groundwater monitoring outlined in the SMP will ensure there are no adverse impacts to groundwater or surface water on site.

Please find attached a letter from the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) which provides the authority to apply for a purpose permit clearing application (Appendix 4).

FIGURES



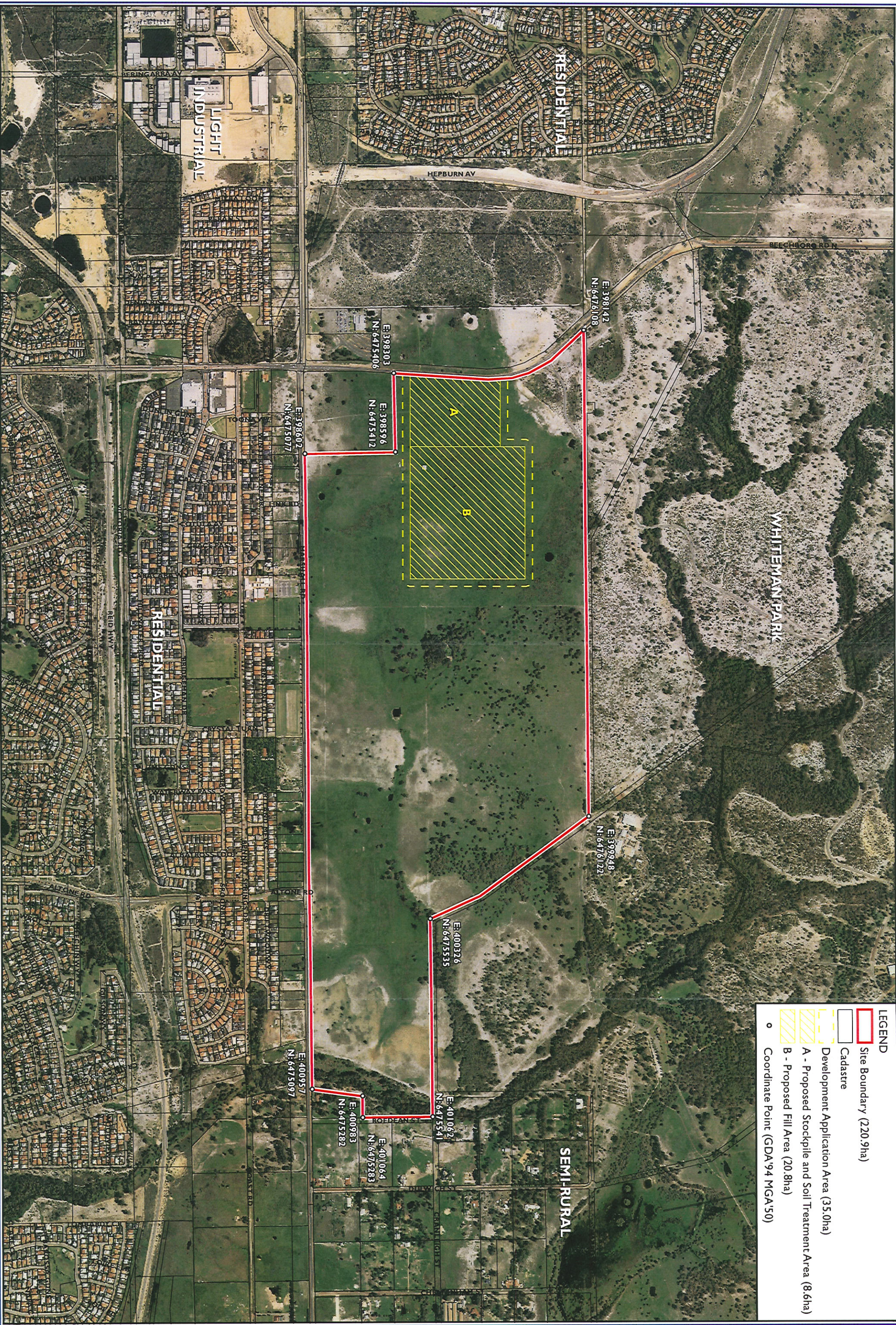
RPS

Job Number: I1200115
 Date: 12.02.13
 Revision: A
 Scale: 1:300000 @ A4. Close up 1:40000
 Drafted by: HT&SC
 Source: Landgate 2008



Figure 1

Lot 99 Whiteman Park



- LEGEND**
- Site Boundary (220.9ha)
 - Cadastre
 - Development Application Area (35.0ha)
 - A - Proposed Stockpile and Soil Treatment Area (8.6ha)
 - B - Proposed Fill Area (20.8ha)
 - Coordinate Point (GDA'94 MGA'50)

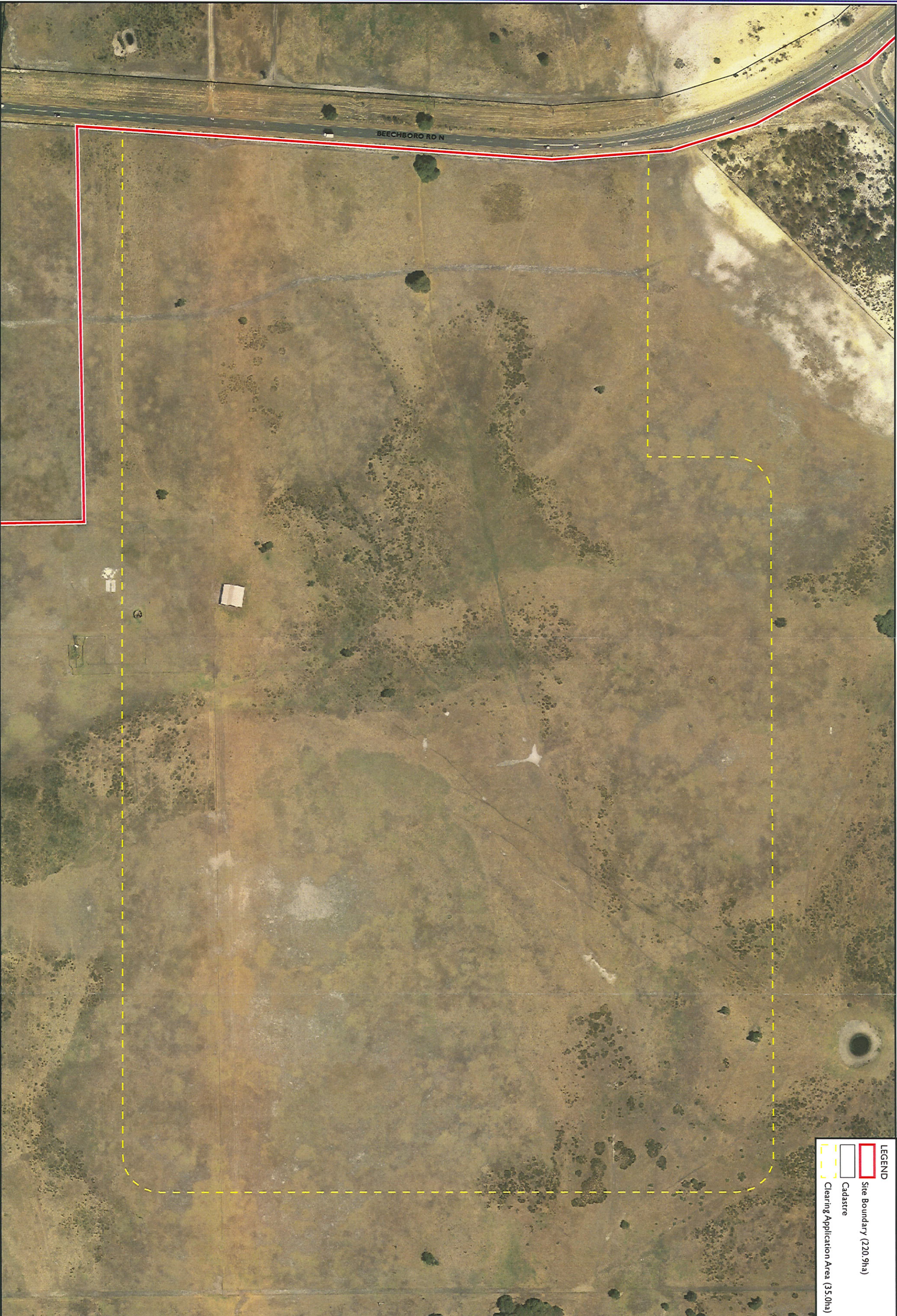
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Job Number: I1200115
 Date: 12/02/13
 Scale: 1:12500 @ A3
 Revision: A
 Created by: SC
 Source: Cadastre & Orthophoto - Landgate, 2012



Figure 2
 Cadastral Information and Development Application Area

- LEGEND**
-  Site Boundary (220.9ha)
 -  Cadastre
 -  Clearing Application Area (35.0ha)



RPS

Job Number: I200115
 Date: 12/02/13
 Scale: 1:2500 @ A3
 Revision: 1
 Created by: SC
 Source: Cadastre - Landgate, 2012 Orthophoto - Landgate, 2011



Figure 3
 Clearing Application Area

- LEGEND**
- Site Boundary (220.9ha)
 - Cadastre
 - Development Application Area (35.0ha)
- Vegetation Complex**
- Jp: Scattered *Juncus pallidus* over pasture, on seasonally wet depressions
 - P: Pasture of **Hidicus lanatus*, **Hypochaeris glabra*, **Hypochaeris radicata*, **Lotus subbiflorus*, **Sparaxis bulberifera* and **Rumex rosea* or *Centella asiatica*



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 Created by: SC
 Source: Cadastre & Orthophoto - Landgate 2012

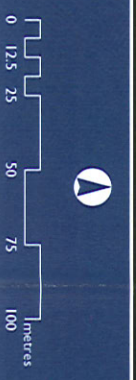
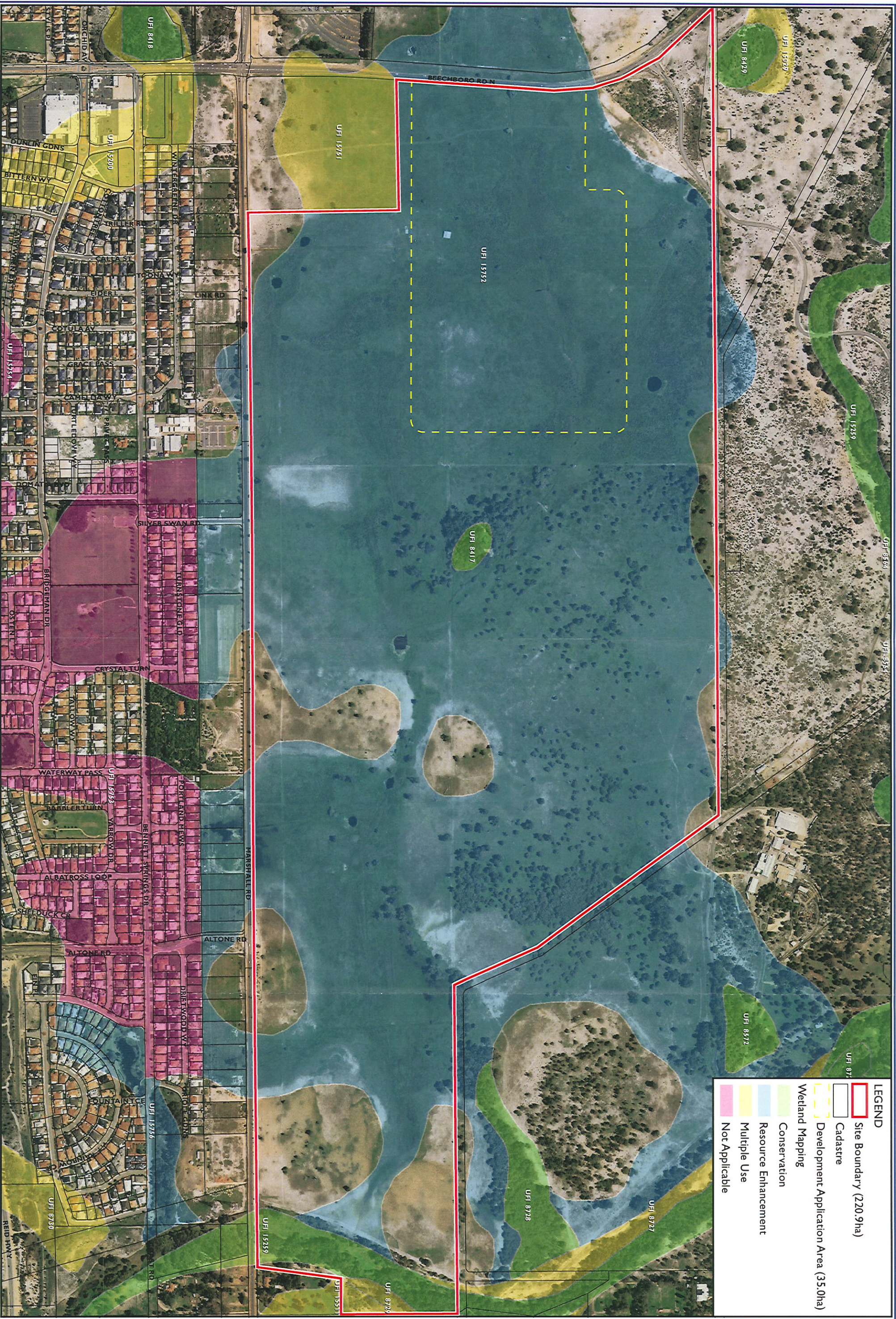


Figure 4
 Vegetation Complex



LEGEND

- Site Boundary (220.9ha)
- Cadastre
- Development Application Area (35.0ha)
- Wetland Mapping**
- Conservation
- Resource Enhancement
- Multiple Use
- Not Applicable

RPPS

Job Number: 11200115
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 Scale: 1:7500 @ A3
 Revision: A
 Created by: SC
 Source: Cadastre & Orthophoto - Landgate, 2012
 Wetlands - DEC, 20/11/12



Figure 5
Wetland Mapping

- LEGEND**
- Site Boundary (220.9ha)
 - Cadastre
 - Development Application Area (35.0ha)

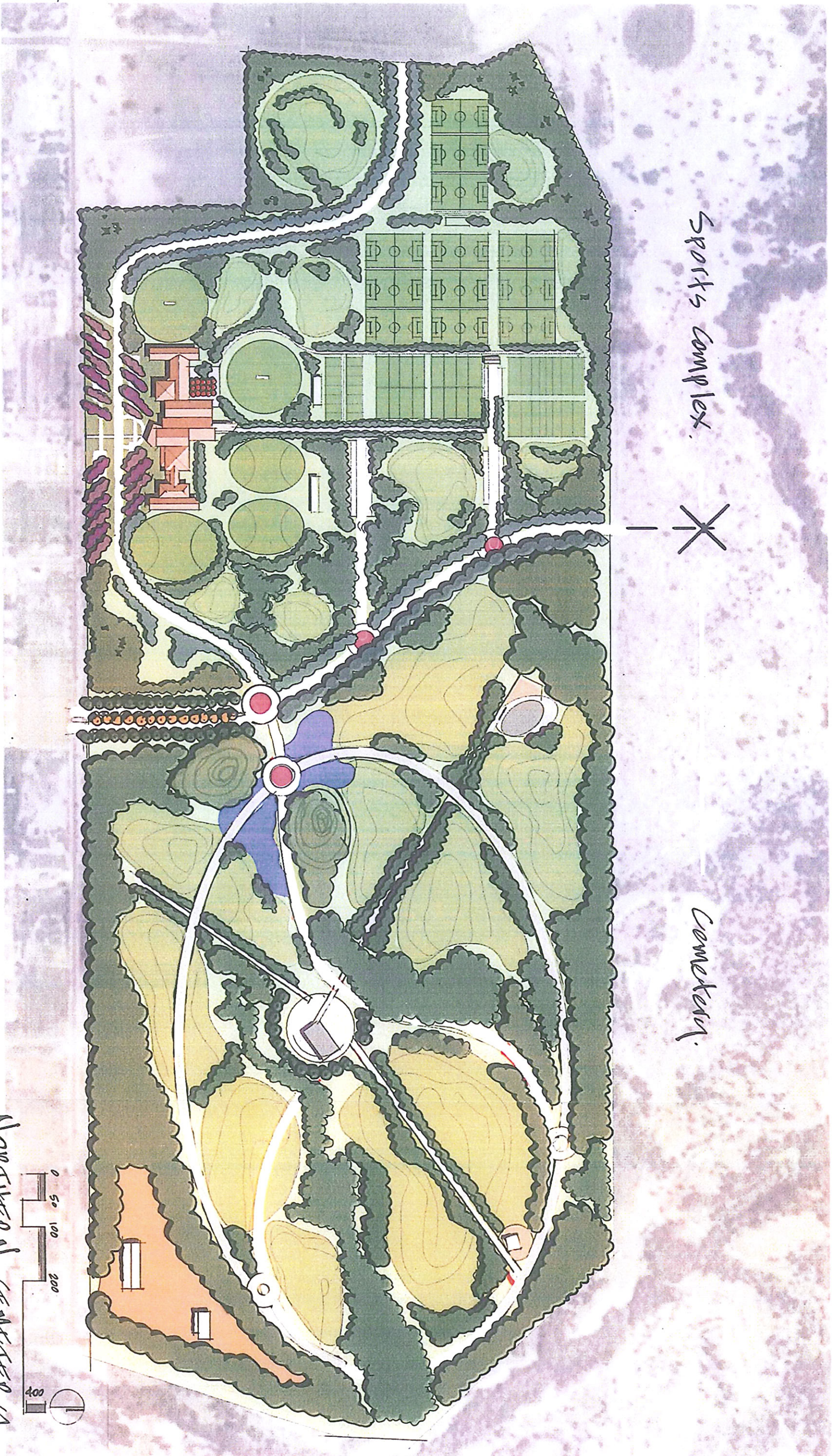


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 Created by: HT&SC
 Source: Cadastre & Orthophoto - Landgate, 2012



Figure 6
 Development Application Area Photopoints



Sports Complex.

Cemetery.

NORTHERN CEMETERY
- Concept Plan.

