



**Level 1**  
**Flora and Vegetation Survey of the**  
**Proposed Fairplay Pit and Waste**  
**Landform Expansion and**  
**Development**  
**Higginsville**  
**(M15/031, M15/348, M15/375, M15/610 and**  
**M15/748)**

Prepared for



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# 1 INTRODUCTION

Alacer Gold Corporation (AQG) proposes to expand current pit and waste landform areas as well as develop a new pit and waste landform area for the Fairplay project in the Higginsville area. These proposed areas fall within tenements M15/031, M15/348, M15/375, M15/610 and M15/748. A mining proposal is currently being prepared, and will be submitted with the inclusion of this report.

The survey area within M15/031, M15/348, M15/375, M15/610 and M15/748 is located approximately 50.1 km north of Norseman in the Coolgardie region of Western Australia (Figure 1).

The total survey area received from AQG covers 103.23ha which envelopes current infrastructure (pit and waste landform) totalling 8.84ha (8.56% of survey area). Therefore clearing will be required for 94.39ha of native vegetation within the survey area. This report will encompass results of the flora and vegetation survey for the expansion of the existing Fairplay pit area and waste landform as well as the newly proposed pit area and waste landform.

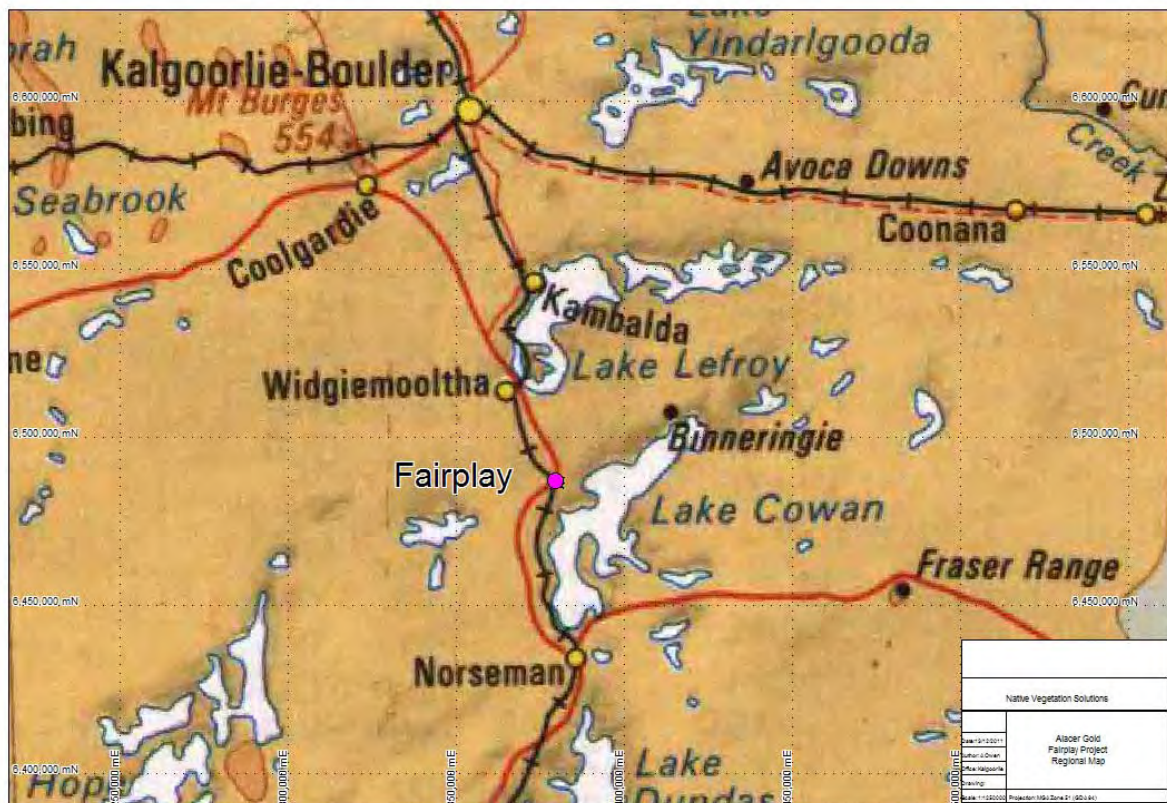


Figure 1: Regional map of survey location

AQG commissioned Native Vegetation Solutions (NVS) to complete a Level 1 Flora and Vegetation Survey of the Fairplay pit and waste landform areas on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December 2011.

## 1.1 Objectives

The objective of this report is to document the results of the flora and vegetation component of a Level 1 assessment conducted in accordance with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) "Terrestrial Biological Surveys as an Element of Biodiversity Protection; Position Statement No 3" (EPA 2002) and *Guidance Statement No. 51 "Terrestrial Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia" (EPA 2004)*, for the purpose of mining.

A Level 1 study has two components:

1). Desktop study which includes a literature review and a search of the relevant databases;

and

2). Reconnaissance survey of the survey area to verify the desktop survey, to define vegetation units present in the area, search for species of conservation significance and to determine potential sensitivity to impact.

As part of the reporting for the Level 1 assessment, NVS has conducted a Flora and Vegetation Survey which includes broad-scale vegetation mapping and vegetation condition mapping of the survey area.

Therefore, the scope of work for the Flora and Vegetation Survey was to:

- conduct a desktop study that includes a literature review and search of the relevant databases;
- generally describe the vegetation associations in the survey area;
- prepare an inventory of species occurring in the survey area;
- identify any vegetation or flora of particular conservation significance; and
- provide recommendations, including the management of perceived impacts to flora and vegetation within the survey area.

## **1.2 Geology and Vegetation**

The survey area lies in the Coolgardie (COO) bioregion within the Eastern Goldfields (COO3) subregion which totals over 5.1 million hectares (CALM, 2002). The COO3 subregion lies on the Yilgarn Craton's 'Eastern Goldfields Terrains'. The relief is subdued and comprises of gently undulating plains interrupted in the west with low hills and ridges of Archaean greenstones and in the east by a horst of Proterozoic basic granulite. The underlying geology is of gneisses and granites eroded into a flat plane covered with tertiary soils and with scattered exposures of bedrock. Calcareous earths are the dominant soil group and cover much of the plains and greenstone areas. A series of large playa lakes in the western half are the remnants of an ancient major drainage line. The vegetation is of Mallees, *Acacia* thickets and shrubheaths on sandplains. Diverse *Eucalyptus* woodlands occur around salt lakes, on ranges, and in valleys. Salt lakes support dwarf shrublands of samphire. Woodlands and *Dodonaea* shrubland occur on basic granitoides of the Fraser Range. (CALM, 2002).

## **1.3 Climate**

Climate is semi-arid (Dry) Warm Mediterranean and has 300 – 500 mm of annual rainfall during winter (CALM, 2002). The nearest official meteorological weather station with the most complete and up to date information is Norseman, which is located approximately 50.0 km south of the survey area.

### **1.3.1 Temperature**

Mean annual minimum temperature at Norseman is 10.6°C and mean annual maximum temperature is 24.7°C. The coldest temperatures are attained in July (mean minimum temperature 5.2°C), the hottest is December (mean maximum temperature 32.6°C) and diurnal temperature variations are relatively consistent throughout the year (Figure 2).

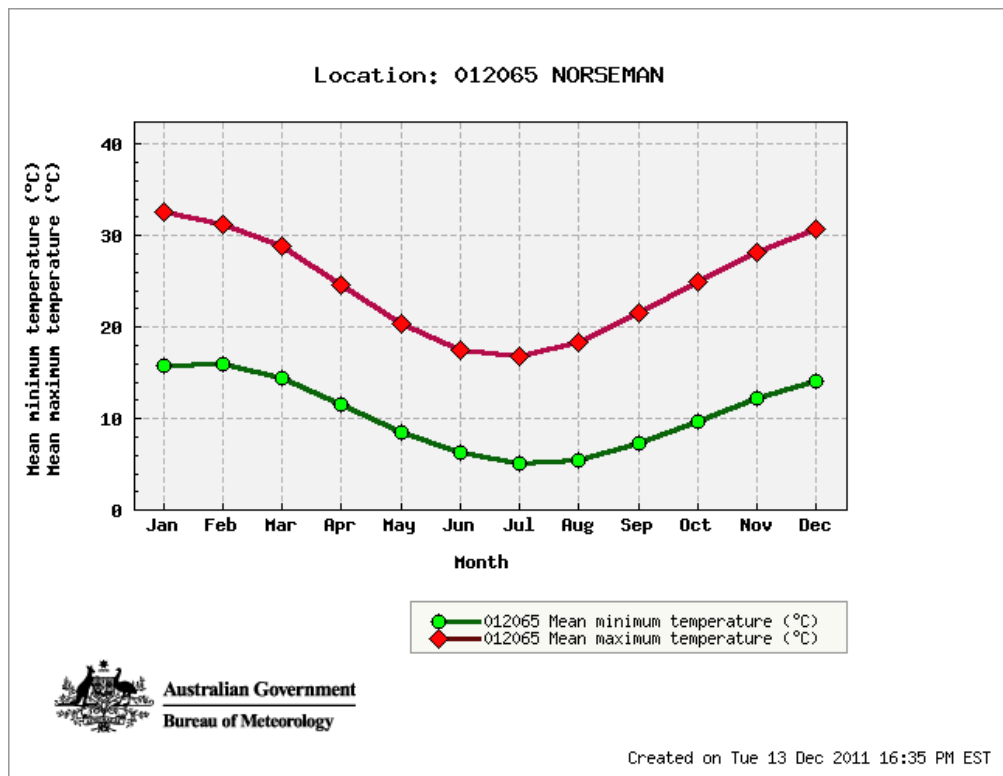


Figure 2: Mean temperature ranges for Norseman weather station

### 1.3.2 Rainfall

The annual average rainfall at Norseman is 288.3 mm, which falls (>1 mm) on an average of 45.6 rain-days. Rainfall is relatively even throughout the year with slightly larger rainfall events falling between the months of May and June (Figure 3). However, rainfall in January, May and October 2011 exceeded monthly averages, with October receiving almost twice the mean monthly average.

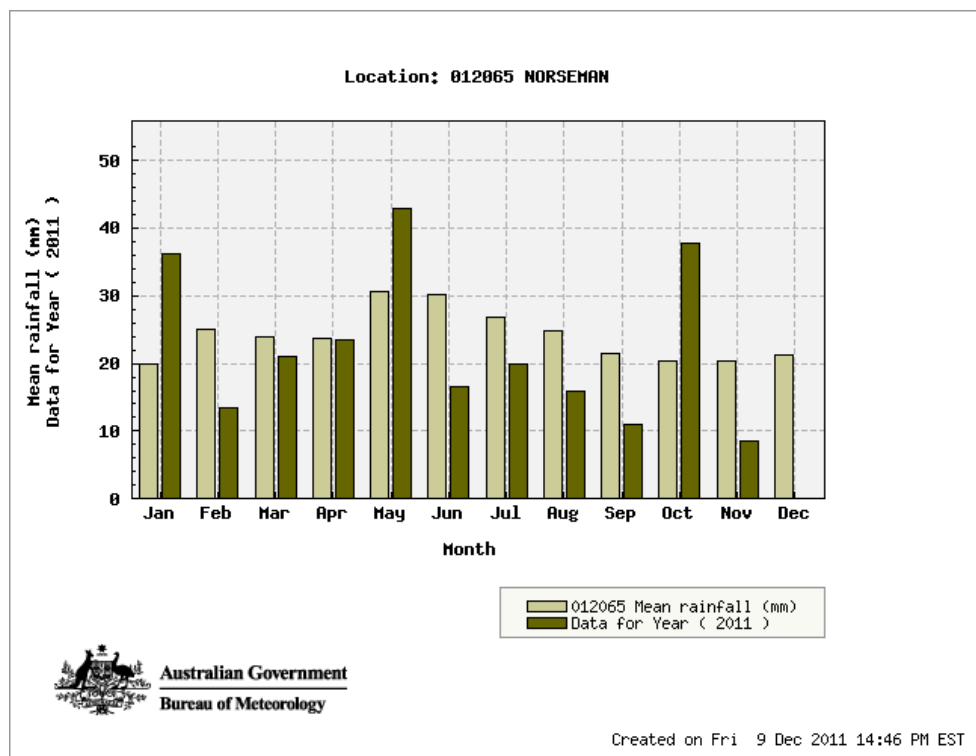


Figure 3: Monthly and mean rainfall for Norseman weather station 2011



## **2. ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 Preliminary Desktop Study**

A preliminary assessment of the survey area and its potential constraints was undertaken by reviewing a number of government agency managed databases (see Appendix 1) and consulting where necessary. The following sections provide a summary of the methodology used for each potential environmental aspect associated with the project.

#### **2.1.1 Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act Protected Matters**

The *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999* Protected Matters Search tool was utilised to provide results for matters of National Environmental Significance within the survey area.

(<http://www.environment.gov.au/arcgis-framework/apps/pmst/pmst-coordinate.jsf>)

#### **2.1.2 Threatened Flora and Communities**

The Species and Communities Branch of the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) was contacted for a search of their databases containing known populations of threatened flora (Reference: 05-1111FL).

The presence of Threatened and Priority Ecological Communities (TECs & PECs) was determined by examining Geographic Information System (GIS) data supplied by the DEC upon request (Reference: 06-1111EC).

#### **2.1.3 Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) and Conservation Reserves**

DEC's Native Vegetation Map Viewer was used to determine the location of any ESAs (<http://www.dec.wa.gov.au/content/view/2920/1572/1/1/>).

The location of any Conservation Reserves was determined by examining GIS data available from the DEC website and consulting with the local DEC office where necessary.

#### **2.1.4 Vegetation Type, Extent and Status**

Vegetation extent and status data was sourced from the Department of Agriculture and Food (DAFWA) report "Land-Use and Vegetation in Western Australia- National Land and Water Resources Audit Report" and its associated GIS file. This data comprises Beard's Pre-European vegetation groups.

Note: This data was provided to Native Vegetation Solutions via a license agreement with the DAFWA.

#### **2.1.5 Wetlands**

The location of wetlands within the project area was determined by examining DAFWA's Wetland Base (<http://spatial.agric.wa.gov.au/wetlands/>).

#### **2.1.6 Dieback**

Dieback is only considered a potential issue for the project if both the mean annual rainfall of the area is >400mm, and if the project area resides below the 26<sup>th</sup> parallel.

### **2.2 Site Investigation**

A site visit was carried out by Botanist Eren Reid and Consultant Ashley Owen from Native Vegetation Solutions on the 8/12/2011, to examine the flora and vegetation groups contained within the survey area. A total of 7 hours was spent on site traversing the survey area, by Kawasaki Mule and on foot.

The survey was conducted in accordance with relevant EPA's Statements and Guidelines (Section 1.1).

EPA's *Position Statement No. 3* (EPA 2002) provides indicative levels of biological survey in relation to the scale and nature of the impact and the sensitivity of the receiving environment. The EPA uses the Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) as the largest unit for Environmental Impact Assessment decision making in relation to the conservation of biodiversity. Given the scale and nature of the proposed disturbance as well as the existing disturbance, and that the survey area is located within the Coolgardie IBRA region, a Level 1 flora and vegetation survey was required.

### 2.2.1 Licenses

Flora was collected for identification under the Scientific Collection License SL009444 held by Mr E. R. Reid with expiry 17/05/2012.

## 2.3 Personnel and Reporting

The following personnel were involved in the preparation of this report;

- Eren Reid *BSc (Biological Science)*, Principal Botanist, Native Vegetation Solutions, undertook the survey, data collation, preparation and review of the report; and
- Ashley Owen *DipSc*, Botanist/Consultant, undertook the survey, data collation and preparation of report.

## 2.4 Limitations

Table 1 lists potential limitations that may have affected the survey. These are based on the listing given in the *Guidance Statement No. 51 Terrestrial Flora and Vegetation Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia* (EPA, 2004). As shown, this survey was not limited by any factors listed below.

**Table 1: List of potential survey limitations**

Potential Limitations	Constraint (Y/N)	Comment
Competency and experience of the consultants undertaking the survey	N	Mr Eren Reid is an experienced botanist who has conducted many flora and vegetation surveys in the Goldfields, Pilbara and South-west regions of WA.
Proportion of flora identified during survey	N	As the survey was planned to target species of conservation significance and flora within a small survey area a complete census of the species present was attempted (Approx. 95%). Sufficient identifications were made to allow vegetation descriptions to be made.
Sources of information	N	DRF and Priority Flora GIS information was available from DEC.
Proportion of the task achieved	N	All tasks completed
Timing/Season	N	The targeted survey was conducted in Summer 2011. Due to the above average rainfall in October, many species were still in flower with emergent annuals.
Disturbance in survey area	N	Disturbance was present in the form of historic exploration.
Intensity of survey effort	N	Transects were walked through the survey area with all parts visited
Resources	N	Adequate resources were available
Access problems	N	No problems with access
Availability of contextual information on the region	N	Information on the Coolgardie Bioregion is readily available.



### 3. RESULTS

#### 3.1 Preliminary Desktop Assessment

##### 3.1.1 EPBC Act Protected Matters

The EPBC Protected Matters search tool revealed that the survey area could possibly be suitable habitat for the weed species *Carrichtera annua* (Wards Weed).

##### 3.1.2 Threatened Flora and Communities

The DEC database searches revealed a potential for 2 Threatened and 54 Priority Flora species to occur within a 25km radius of the survey area (DEC, 2011). No known locations of these Flora occur within the survey area, while the closest location occurs approximately 2.18km west of the survey area.

Results of the threatened flora database search are included in Appendix 2.

The PEC/TEC search (DEC, 2011a) revealed that there are no TECs or PECs in the area.

##### 3.1.3 Environmentally Sensitive Areas and Conservation Reserves

No ESA's are located within the survey area (DEC, 2011b).

##### 3.1.4 Vegetation Type, Extent and Status

Information relating to known vegetation within the survey area has been summarised in Table 2 below. This information has been compiled through both desktop assessments and the site visit.

**Table 2: Summary of information regarding Pre-European and current vegetation extent of Vegetation Association 8 within the survey area**

Factor	Value				
Beard Vegetation Association*	8				
Vegetation Association Description*	Medium woodland; salmon gum ( <i>E. salmonophloia</i> ) & gimlet ( <i>E. salubris</i> )				
Pre-European Extent (ha)	Scale				
	<b>By Association (WA)</b>	<b>By Association (WA)</b>	<b>By IBRA Region (COO)</b>	<b>By IBRA Sub-region (COO3)</b>	<b>By Shire (Shire of Coolgardie)</b>
	1,096,450*	695,231**	280,487**	226,277**	160,732**
% Pre-European Extent Remaining*	57.63%	57.63%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Surrounding Land Use	Mining, Exploration, Pastoral Lease, Nature Reserve				
Weed prevalence	Low				

\* Source: Shepherd *et al.* (2002) Appendix 2

\*\*Source: Shepherd *et al.* (2002) Associated GIS data

##### 3.1.5 Wetlands

No wetlands which are recorded on the DAFWA WetlandBase occur within the survey area (DAFWA, 2011).

### 3.1.6 Dieback

The survey area lies south of the 26<sup>th</sup> parallel, however receives average annual rainfall between 261mm and 313mm, below the 400mm threshold mark. There is no record of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* establishing in natural ecosystems in regions receiving <400mm rainfall per annum (CALM, 2003). Therefore Dieback is not considered an issue for this survey area, however all measures should be taken to prevent any possible soil contamination (seeds of non-native species etc.) which poses a risk in the survey area during seasonally favourable conditions.

## 3.2 Field Assessment

### 3.2.1 Threatened Flora

No plant taxa located in the survey area are gazetted as DRF pursuant to subsection 2 of Section 23F of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*. No plant taxa listed as Threatened pursuant to Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* were located in the survey area.

Priority species *Diocirea acutifolia* (P3) was recorded at 18 locations within the survey area, with approximately 4587 plants sighted (Appendix 4 – map 1). This species is both widespread and in large numbers throughout the local and regional area, and is well documented by previous flora surveys. Recorded locations range from Coolgardie, Norseman, Kambalda, Widgiemooltha and Madoonia Downs.

**Table 3: Priority Flora locations recorded during the survey**

Species	Conservation Code	Zone	Nothing	Easting	No. Of Plants
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379591	6486770	117
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379763	6486817	38
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379662	6486871	516
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379484	6486902	5
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379480	6486949	40
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379419	6486960	11
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379464	6487003	540
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379582	6486985	275
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379633	6486970	25
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379939	6486864	70
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379940	6486935	93
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379854	6486459	400
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	380026	6486450	2000
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379907	6487589	1
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379914	6487642	200
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379946	6487635	200
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379953	6487311	21
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	P3	51J	379960	6487361	35

### 3.2.2 Vegetation Type, Extent and Status

A total of 16 Families, 31 Genera and 63 Species were recorded within the survey area. Five major vegetation groups were recorded in the survey area, and are considered to be in Very Good, Good or Degraded condition (using the scale of Keighery 1994, see Appendix 3). Maps of the survey area can be seen in Appendix 4 (Maps 2 and 3).

The vegetation groups are described in more detail below.

### 3.2.2.1 Salmon Gum (*Eucalyptus salmonophloia*) woodland

This vegetation group consisted of 13 Families, 21 Genera and 44 Species. The vegetation group was approximately 87.55 ha which makes up 84.81% of the survey area.

Dominant species were *Eucalyptus salmonophloia*, *E. salubris*, *Melaleuca sheathiana*, *Atriplex nummularia* subsp *spathulata*, *Eremophila interstans* subsp *virgata*, *Maireana sedifolia*, *Cratystylis conocephala* and *Olearia muelleri*.



Figure 4: *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* woodland within the survey area

### 3.2.2.2 *Eucalyptus ravida* woodland

This vegetation group consisted of 8 Families, 13 Genera and 21 Species. The vegetation group was approximately 2.63 ha which makes up 2.55% of the survey area.

Dominant species were *Eucalyptus ravida*, *E. flocktoniae* subsp *hebes*, *Eremophila scoparia*, *E. maculata* subsp *brevifolia*, *Atriplex nummularia* subsp. *spathulata*, and *Olearia muelleri*.



**Figure 5: *Eucalyptus ravidia* woodland within the survey area**

### **3.2.2.3 *Eucalyptus flocktoniae* over *Melaleuca sheathiana***

This vegetation group consisted of 9 Families, 15 Genera and 29 Species. The vegetation group was approximately 1.30 ha which makes up 1.26% of the survey area.

Dominant species were *Eucalyptus flocktoniae* subsp *hebes*, *Melaleuca sheathiana*, *Atriplex nummularia* subsp *spathulata*, *Eremophila interstans* subsp *virgata*, *Maireana sedifolia*, *Cratystylis conocephala* and *Olearia muelleri*





Figure 6: *Eucalyptus flocktoniae* over *Melaleuca sheathiana* thicket within the survey area

#### 3.2.2.4 *Melaleuca sheathiana* thicket

This vegetation group consisted of 7 Families, 12 Genera and 15 Species. The vegetation group was approximately 1.29 ha which makes up 1.25% of the survey area.

Dominant species were *Melaleuca sheathiana*, *Atriplex vesicaria*, *Sclerolaena diacantha*, *Maireana georgei*, *Solanum nummularium*, and *Angianthus tomentosus*.

(No photo available.)

#### 3.2.2.5 Disturbed Vegetation

This vegetation group consisted of 3 Families, 7 Genera and 7 Species. The vegetation group was approximately 1.63 ha which makes up 1.58% of the survey area.

Dominant species were *Maireana brevifolia*, *Aristida contorta*, *Sclerolaena patentiuspis*, *Sonchus oleraceus*, *Angianthus tomentosus*, *Dissocarpus paradoxus*, and *Centaurea melitensis*.



Figure 7: Previous disturbance area within the survey area

### 3.2.3 Weeds

Three weed species were recorded within the survey area; *Carrichtera annua* (Ward's Weed) *Centaurea melitensis* (Maltese Cockspur) and *Sonchus oleraceus* (Milk Weed). *Carrichtera annua* was introduced into Australia from the eastern Mediterranean. *Centaurea melitensis* is another Mediterranean weed which occurs from Carnarvon through the arid zone and across the Nullarbor. First recorded in Port Pirie in South Australia in 1915, *C. annua* is now widespread throughout South Australia, the Interior, and Western Australia (Lamp & Collet, 1999). *Sonchus oleraceus*, a native to Eurasia and North Africa, is widely distributed over Western Australia, often occurring on disturbed soils including roadsides and wasteland areas (Hussey *et al*, 2007).

None of these species are listed as declared plants by DAFWA (2011a).

### 3.2.4 Vegetation Condition

Evidence of some grazing was observed during the field assessment.

Overall, the condition of the vegetation was determined to be "Very Good" with areas which were affected by historic exploration in either "Good" or "Degraded" condition.

#### 4. DISCUSSION

The field assessment established that the condition of the vegetation in the proposed disturbance area is overall “Very Good”, with certain areas affected by exploration in “Good” and “Degraded” condition. No areas of vegetation were assessed to be in “Pristine” condition.

No DRF, TECs or PECs were recorded in the survey area. One confirmed Priority Species *Diocirea acutifolia* (P3) was recorded at 18 locations within the survey area. This species is both widespread and in large numbers across the local area as well as regionally.

Any proposed disturbance/clearing of vegetation will result in a loss of species from the proposed expansion of the Vine waste landform. However, given the size of the area and the extent of the Beard (1990) vegetation associations elsewhere, the impact on the vegetation and its component flora will not affect the conservation values of either, or create fragmentation or patches of remnant vegetation.

The following recommendations arise from the Level 1 flora survey:

- Where possible, avoid areas of suspected/confirmed Priority Flora;
- An application to destroy the Priority 3 plants where necessary should be submitted to the DEC; and
- Weed control measures should be implemented during and following earthworks for the waste landform expansion.



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# **Appendix 1**

## **Relevant Government Database Search Results**



## EPBC Act Protected Matters Report

This report provides general guidance on matters of national environmental significance and other matters protected by the EPBC Act in the area you have selected.

Information on the coverage of this report and qualifications on data supporting this report are contained in the caveat at the end of the report.

Information about the EPBC Act including significance guidelines, forms and application process details can be found at <http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/assessmentsapprovals/index.html>

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[Summary](#)

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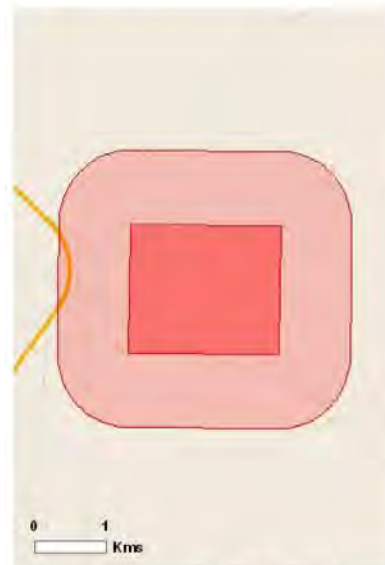
[Matters of NES](#)

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## Summary

### Matters of National Environment Significance

This part of the report summarises the matters of national environmental significance that may occur in, or may relate to, the area you nominated. Further information is available in the detail part of the report, which can be accessed by scrolling or following the links below. If you are proposing to undertake an activity that may have a significant impact on one or more matters of national environmental significance then you should consider the Administrative Guidelines on Significance - see <http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/assessmentsapprovals/guidelines/index.html>

<a href="#">World Heritage Properties:</a>	None
<a href="#">National Heritage Places:</a>	None
<a href="#">Wetlands of International</a>	None
<a href="#">Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:</a>	None
<a href="#">Commonwealth Marine Areas:</a>	None
<a href="#">Threatened Ecological Communities:</a>	None
<a href="#">Threatened Species:</a>	2
<a href="#">Migratory Species:</a>	7

## Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

This part of the report summarises other matters protected under the Act that may relate to the area you nominated. Approval may be required for a proposed activity that significantly affects the environment on Commonwealth land, when the action is outside the Commonwealth land, or the environment anywhere when the action is taken on Commonwealth land. Approval may also be required for the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies proposing to take an action that is likely to have a significant impact on the environment anywhere.

The EPBC Act protects the environment on Commonwealth land, the environment from the actions taken on Commonwealth land, and the environment from actions taken by Commonwealth agencies. As heritage values of a place are part of the 'environment', these aspects of the EPBC Act protect the Commonwealth Heritage values of a Commonwealth Heritage place and the heritage values of a place on the Register of the National Estate. Information on the new heritage laws can be found at <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/index.html>

This part of the report summarises other matters protected under the Act that may relate to the area you nominated. Approval may be required for a proposed activity that significantly affects the environment on Commonwealth land, when the action is outside the Commonwealth land, or the environment anywhere when the action is taken on Commonwealth land. Approval may also be required for the Commonwealth or Commonwealth agencies proposing to take an action that is likely to have a significant impact on the environment anywhere.

A permit may be required for activities in or on a Commonwealth area that may affect a member of a listed threatened species or ecological community, a member of a listed migratory species, whales and other cetaceans, or a member of a listed marine species. Information on EPBC Act permit requirements and application forms can be found at <http://www.environment.gov.au>.

<a href="#">Commonwealth Lands:</a>	None
<a href="#">Commonwealth Heritage Places:</a>	None
<a href="#">Listed Marine Species:</a>	4
<a href="#">Whales and Other Cetaceans:</a>	None
<a href="#">Critical Habitats:</a>	None
<a href="#">Commonwealth Reserves:</a>	None

## Extra Information

This part of the report provides information that may also be relevant to the area you have

<a href="#">Place on the RNE:</a>	None
<a href="#">State and Territory Reserves:</a>	None
<a href="#">Regional Forest Agreements:</a>	None
<a href="#">Invasive Species:</a>	5
<a href="#">Nationally Important Wetlands:</a>	None

## Details

### Matters of National Environmental Significance

Threatened Species		[ Resource Information ]
Name	Status	Type of Presence
<b>BIRDS</b>		
<a href="#">Acanthiza iredalei iredalei</a>		
Slender-billed Thornbill (western) [25967]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area



Name	Status	Type of Presence
<a href="#">Leipoa ocellata</a> Malleefowl [934]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

#### Migratory Species [ Resource Information ]

\* Species is listed under a different scientific name on the EPBC Act - Threatened Species list.

Name	Threatened	Type of Presence
------	------------	------------------

#### Migratory Marine Birds

[Apus pacificus](#)

Fork-tailed Swift [678]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
-------------------------	--	--

[Ardea alba](#)

Great Egret, White Egret [59541]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
----------------------------------	--	--

[Ardea ibis](#)

Cattle Egret [59542]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
----------------------	--	--

#### Migratory Terrestrial Species

[Leipoa ocellata](#)

Malleefowl [934]	Vulnerable	Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
------------------	------------	--

[Merops ornatus](#)

Rainbow Bee-eater [670]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
-------------------------	--	--

#### Migratory Wetlands Species

[Ardea alba](#)

Great Egret, White Egret [59541]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
----------------------------------	--	--

[Ardea ibis](#)

Cattle Egret [59542]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
----------------------	--	--

### Other Matters Protected by the EPBC Act

#### Listed Marine Species [ Resource Information ]

\* Species is listed under a different scientific name on the EPBC Act - Threatened Species list.

Name	Threatened	Type of Presence
------	------------	------------------

#### Birds

[Apus pacificus](#)

Fork-tailed Swift [678]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
-------------------------	--	--

[Ardea alba](#)

Great Egret, White Egret [59541]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
----------------------------------	--	--

[Ardea ibis](#)

Cattle Egret [59542]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
----------------------	--	--

[Merops ornatus](#)

Rainbow Bee-eater [670]		Species or species habitat may occur within area
-------------------------	--	--

## Extra Information

### Invasive Species

### [ Resource Information ]

Weeds reported here are the 20 species of national significance (WoNS), along with other introduced plants that are considered by the States and Territories to pose a particularly significant threat to biodiversity. The following feral animals are reported: Goat, Red Fox, Cat, Rabbit, Pig, Water Buffalo and Cane Toad. Maps from Landscape Health Project, National Land and Water Resources Audit,

Name	Status	Type of Presence
<b>Mammals</b>		
<a href="#">Capra hircus</a>		
Goat [2]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<a href="#">Felis catus</a>		
Cat, House Cat, Domestic Cat [19]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<a href="#">Oryctolagus cuniculus</a>		
Rabbit, European Rabbit [128]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<a href="#">Vulpes vulpes</a>		
Red Fox, Fox [18]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area
<b>Plants</b>		
<a href="#">Carrichtera annua</a>		
Ward's Weed [9511]		Species or species habitat likely to occur within area

## Coordinates

-31.7391527 121.722017, -31.73934355 121.7411904, -31.75525328 121.7409751, -31.75506231 121.7217984, -31.7391527 121.722017

## Caveat

The information presented in this report has been provided by a range of data sources as acknowledged at the end of the report.

This report is designed to assist in identifying the locations of places which may be relevant in determining obligations under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. It holds mapped locations of World Heritage and Register of National Estate properties, Wetlands of International Importance, Commonwealth and State/Territory reserves, listed threatened, migratory and marine species and listed threatened ecological communities. Mapping of Commonwealth land is not complete at this stage. Maps have been collated from a range of sources at various

Not all species listed under the EPBC Act have been mapped (see below) and therefore a report is a general guide only. Where available data supports mapping, the type of presence that can be determined from the data is indicated in general terms. People using this information in making a referral may need to consider the qualifications below and may need to seek and consider other

For threatened ecological communities where the distribution is well known, maps are derived from recovery plans, State vegetation maps, remote sensing imagery and other sources. Where threatened ecological community distributions are less well known, existing vegetation maps and point location data are used to produce indicative distribution maps.

For species where the distributions are well known, maps are digitised from sources such as recovery plans and detailed habitat studies. Where appropriate, core breeding, foraging and roosting areas are indicated under 'type of presence'. For species whose distributions are less well known, point locations are collated from government wildlife authorities, museums, and non-government organisations; bioclimatic distribution models are generated and these validated by experts. In some cases, the distribution maps are based solely on expert knowledge.

Only selected species covered by the following provisions of the EPBC Act have been mapped:

- migratory and



- marine

The following species and ecological communities have not been mapped and do not appear in reports produced from this database:

- threatened species listed as extinct or considered as vagrants
- some species and ecological communities that have only recently been listed
- some terrestrial species that overfly the Commonwealth marine area
- migratory species that are very widespread, vagrant, or only occur in small numbers

The following groups have been mapped, but may not cover the complete distribution of the species:

- non-threatened seabirds which have only been mapped for recorded breeding sites
- seals which have only been mapped for breeding sites near the Australian continent

Such breeding sites may be important for the protection of the Commonwealth Marine environment.

## Acknowledgements

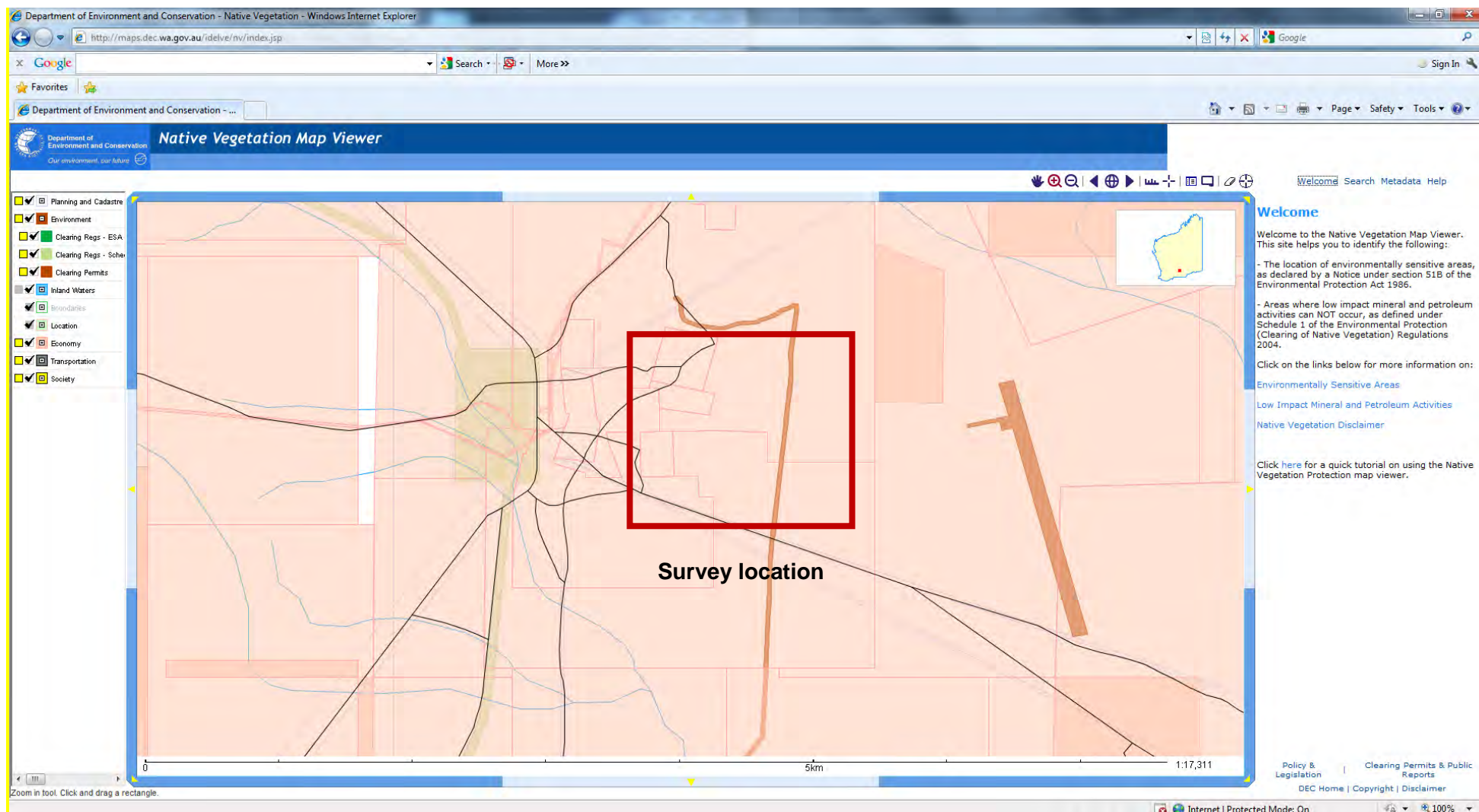
This database has been compiled from a range of data sources. The department acknowledges the following custodians who have contributed valuable data and advice:

- [Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, New South Wales](#)
- [Department of Sustainability and Environment, Victoria](#)
- [Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tasmania](#)
- [Department of Environment and Natural Resources, South Australia](#)
- [Parks and Wildlife Service NT, NT Dept of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts](#)
- [Environmental and Resource Management, Queensland](#)
- [Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia](#)
- [Department of the Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water](#)
- [Birds Australia](#)
- [Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme](#)
- [Australian National Wildlife Collection](#)
- Natural history museums of Australia
- [Museum Victoria](#)
- [Australian Museum](#)
- [SA Museum](#)
- [Queensland Museum](#)
- [Online Zoological Collections of Australian Museums](#)
- [Queensland Herbarium](#)
- [National Herbarium of NSW](#)
- [Royal Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium of Victoria](#)
- [Tasmanian Herbarium](#)
- [State Herbarium of South Australia](#)
- [Northern Territory Herbarium](#)
- [Western Australian Herbarium](#)
- [Australian National Herbarium, Atherton and Canberra](#)
- [University of New England](#)
- [Ocean Biogeographic Information System](#)
- [Australian Government, Department of Defence](#)
- [State Forests of NSW](#)
- Other groups and individuals

The Department is extremely grateful to the many organisations and individuals who provided expert advice and information on numerous draft distributions.

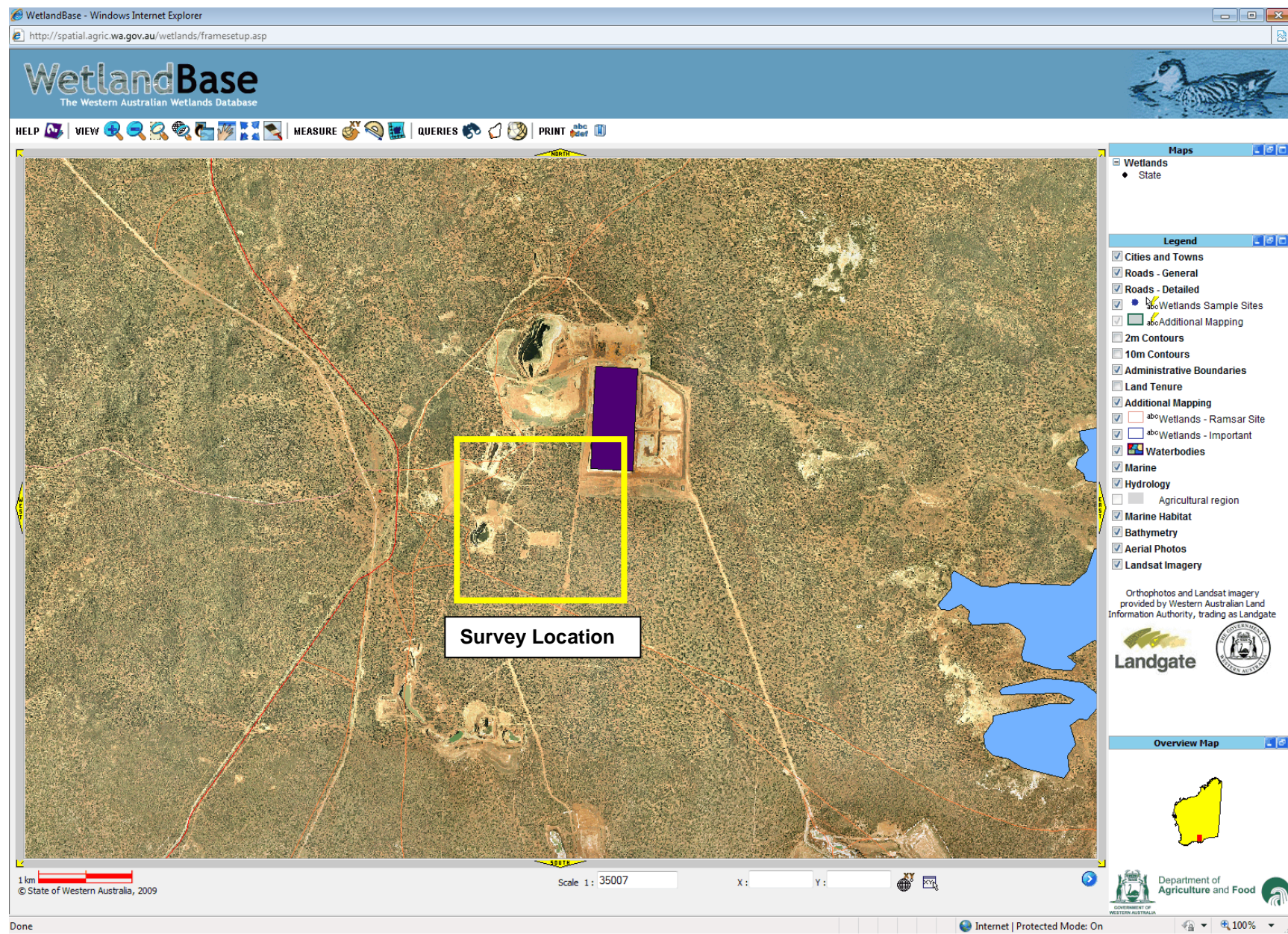
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DEC's Native Vegetation Map Viewer showing no ESA's (dark green shaded areas) within the survey area (DEC, 2011b)





DAFWA Wetland Database showing no wetland areas within the survey area (DAFWA, 2011).

## **Appendix 2**

### **Threatened Flora Databases Search Results**



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION**  
**DECLARED RARE AND PRIORITY FLORA LIST**  
**16 September 2010**

SPECIES / TAXON	CONS CODE	DEC REGION	DISTRIBUTION	FLOWER PERIOD
<i>Acacia dorsenna</i>	1	SC	Norseman, Lake Cowan	Aug
<i>Acacia eremophila</i> numerous-nerved variant	3	GLD,SC	Norseman, Neale Junction, Great Victoria Desert, Balladonia, Plumridge Lakes	Sep,Jul
<i>Acacia kerryana</i>	2	SC,GLD,WB	Norseman, Jimberlana Hill, Bremer Range, Lake Cronin, Spargoville	Dec-Feb
<i>Allocasuarina eriochlamys</i> subsp. <i>grossa</i>	3	GLD,SC	Zanthus, Lake Cowan, Norseman	
<i>Astartea</i> sp. Bungalbin Hill (KR Newbey 8989)	3	GLD	Bungalbin Hill, Helena & Aurora Ranges, Queen Victoria Rocks, Kalgoorlie, Boorabbin	Sep-Dec,Mar
<i>Astartea</i> sp. Esperance (A Fairall 2431)	1	SC	Esperance, Dowak, Norseman	Oct
<i>Atriplex lindleyi</i> subsp. <i>conduplicata</i>	3	P,GLD,MW,SC	Credo Stn, Norseman, Karratha Stn, Balfour Downs Stn	
<i>Austrostipa blackii</i>	3	GLD,WB,MW	Merredin, Dalwallinu, Jaurdi, Widgiemooltha, eastern States, Tutanning Nature Reserve, Beverley, Blue Hills Range, Yandaroo Hills, Mt Manning Range, Barcooting Hill	
<i>Beyeria sulcata</i> var. <i>truncata</i>	3	WB,SC	Jerdacuttup, Ravensthorpe, Norseman, Lake King, Frank Hann N.P.	Oct
<i>Bossiaea arcuata</i>	1	SC	Norseman	Sep
<i>Bossiaea aurantiaca</i>	1	SC	Norseman	Sep,Oct
<i>Bossiaea laxa</i>	2	GLD	Widgiemooltha	May
<i>Bossiaea saxosa</i>	1	SC	Norseman	Sep,Dec
<i>Bossiaea simulata</i>	1	SC	Fraser Range, Mt Willgonarinya	Oct,Nov
<i>Comesperma calcicola</i>	3	SC,WB	Kau Rock, Pine Hill, Norseman, Forrestania, Mount Ragged	
<i>Cryptandra crispula</i>	3	GLD,SC	Lake Lefroy, Bullabulling, Karonie, Fraser Range	Jul-Sep
<i>Dampiera sericantha</i>	3	SC	Norseman, Munglinup	Oct-Nov
<i>Darwinia polycephala</i>	4	SC	Lake Halbert (NE Mt Ridley), Grasspatch, Scaddan, Norseman	Mar
<i>Daviesia microcarpa</i>	T	SC	NE of Norseman, Southern Cross	Aug-Sep
<i>Diocirea acutifolia</i>	3	GLD	Coolgardie, Kambala, Widgiemooltha	Nov-Dec
<i>Eremophila lucida</i>	1	WB,SC	Forrestania, Norseman	Jul-Oct
<i>Eremophila parvifolia</i> subsp. <i>parvifolia</i>	4	SC	Norseman, Balladonia, Bardoc, Caiguna to South Australia	
<i>Eremophila purpurascens</i>	3	SC	Norseman	Oct-Nov
<i>Eremophila veronica</i>	3	GLD	Queen Victoria Rock, Coolgardie	Oct-Nov
<i>Eucalyptus brachyphylla</i> x	4	GLD	Lake Lefroy, Karonie, Widgiemooltha	-
<i>Eucalyptus brockwayi</i>	3	SC	Norseman	Apr-Jun
<i>Eucalyptus fraseri</i> subsp. <i>melanobasis</i>	2	SC	Fraser Range, Eucla, Newman Rock, Junana Rock, Pine Hill	Jan-Feb
<i>Eucalyptus jimberlanica</i>	1	SC	Jimberlana Hill, Norseman	-
<i>Eucalyptus platydisca</i>	T	SC	Norseman, Mt Norcott	Mar-May
<i>Eucalyptus pterocarpa</i>	4	SC	Norseman, Bronzite Ridge	Sep-Nov
<i>Eucalyptus websteriana</i> subsp. <i>norsemanica</i>	1	SC,GLD	Norseman, Coolgardie	-

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
DECLARED RARE AND PRIORITY FLORA LIST  
16 September 2010**

SPECIES / TAXON	CONS CODE	DEC REGION	DISTRIBUTION	FLOWER PERIOD
<i>Euryomyrtus leptospermoides</i>	3	WB,GLD,SC	Koorarawalyee, Burracoppin, Korbel, Karalee, Merredin, Muntagin, Boodarding Rock, NW of Norseman, Goongarrie Stn., Forrestania, Boorabbin, Hyden, Ghooli, Wogarl	Aug-Nov
<i>Eutaxia actinophylla</i>	3	SC,WB,GLD	Norseman, Salmon Gums, Mt Newmont, Bruce Rock, Wallaroo Rock, Mt Willgonarinya	Sep-Dec
<i>Frankenia glomerata</i>	3	WB,SW,GLD,SC,MW	Waeel, Cunderdin, Lake King, Northam, Little Sandy Desert, Carnarvon Range, Norseman, Arrino, Kellerberrin, Three Springs, Yenyenning Lakes	Mar,Nov
<i>Gastrolobium hians</i>	1	SC	Norseman	Sep
<i>Gnephosis</i> sp. Norseman (KR Newbey 8096)	3	GLD,SC	Jaurdi Stn, Norseman	Sep,Oct
<i>Goodenia corralina</i>	2	SC	Norseman	May
<i>Grevillea phillipsiana</i>	1	SC,GLD	Norseman, Yardina, Kambalda, Widgiemooltha	Aug-Sep
<i>Leucopogon</i> sp. Yellowdine (M. Hislop & F. Hort MH 3194)	1	WB,GLD,SC	N of Yellowdine, Holleaton,Hyden-Norseman Track,	Jan, May, Aug
<i>Logania nanophylla</i>	2	SC	Norseman	Aug
<i>Melaleuca coccinea</i>	3	GLD,SC	Karonie, Boulder, Widgiemooltha, Erayinia Hill, Norseman, Ravensthorpe	Oct-Nov
<i>Melaleuca macronychia</i> subsp. <i>trygonoides</i>	3	SC,GLD	Lake View Rock, McDermid Rock, Queen Victoria Rock, Cave Hill	Feb,Jul,Aug
<i>Micromyrtus papillosa</i>	1	SC	Norseman, Jimberlana Hill, Beacon Hill, Mt Norcott	April, Aug-Oct
<i>Microseris scapigera</i>	3	SC,WB	Scaddan, Marvel Loch, Lake Grace, Fraser range, Norseman, Southern Hills Stn, Holt Rock, Marble Rocks, Pingrup, Woodanilling, Lake Magenta	Sep-Oct
<i>Myriophyllum petraeum</i>	4	WB,GLD,SC	Sth Cross-Mt Ragged, Narembreen, Mt Madden, Norseman	Aug-Sep
<i>Newcastelia insignis</i>	2	GLD,SC	Adelong Stn, Comet Vale, Queen Victoria Spring, Norseman	Sep-Nov
<i>Philotheca apiculata</i>	2	SC,GLD,WB	Norseman, Mt Kirk, Widgiemooltha, Holleaton	Aug-Sep
<i>Phlegmatospermum eremaeum</i>	2	GLD,SC	Coolgardie, Norseman, Cocklebidy, Forrest	Aug-Oct
<i>Pityrodia</i> sp. Yilgarn (AP Brown 2679)	3	GLD,WB	Forrestania, Marvel Loch, Jilbadji, Norseman, Southern Cross (Barker Lake), Widgiemooltha	Oct,Nov
<i>Prostanthera splendens</i>	1	GLD,SC	Widgiemooltha, Higginsville, Cascade	Aug-Oct
<i>Ptilotus rigidus</i>	1	GLD	Widgiemooltha, Lake Lefroy	
<i>Tecticornia flabelliformis</i>	1	GLD,WB,*	Lake Yindarlgooda, Lake Deborah, Widgiemooltha, Eastern States	
<i>Teucrium</i> sp. Dwarf (R. Davis 8813)	1	SC	Mt Gordon, Norseman	April
<i>Verticordia stenopetala</i>	3	WB,GLD	Mt Holland, Moorine Rock, Queen Victoria Rock, Marvel Loch, Carrabin, Mt Walton, Holleaton	Oct

GIS information provided in the Search results (Reference: 05-1111FL) also lists the additional species:

- *Stylidium choreanthum* (P3)
- *Eucalyptus kruseana* (P4)

## **Appendix 3**

### **Vegetation Condition Scale (Keighery, 1994)**



**Pristine (1).** Pristine or nearly so, no obvious signs of disturbance.

**Excellent (2).** Vegetation structure intact, disturbance affecting individual species and weeds are non-aggressive species.

**Very Good (3).** Vegetation structure altered, obvious signs of disturbance.  
For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by repeating fires, the presence of some more aggressive weeds, dieback, logging and grazing.

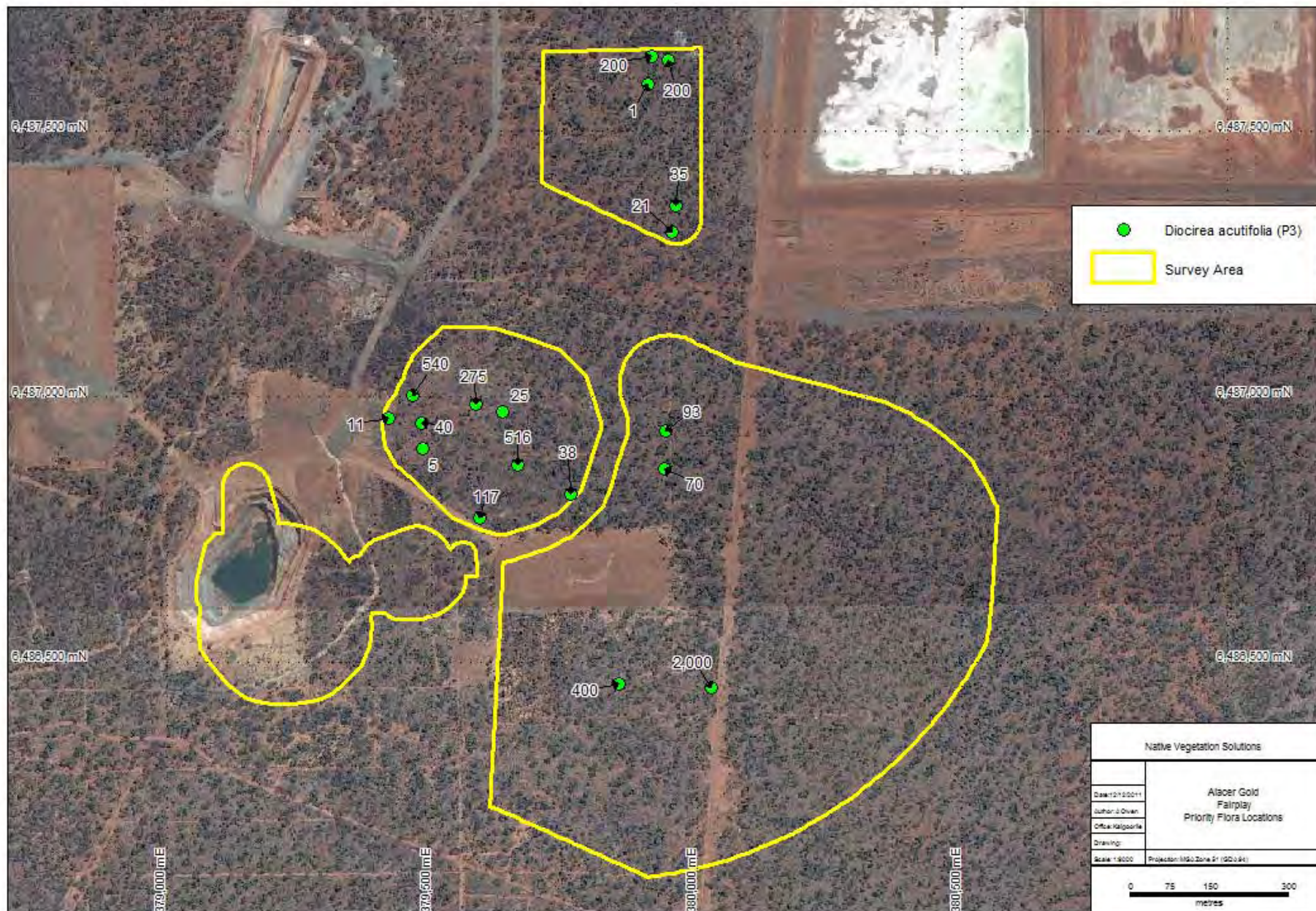
**Good (4).** Vegetation structure significantly altered by very obvious signs of multiple disturbance.  
Retains basic vegetation structure or ability to regenerate it.  
For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by frequent fires, the presence of some very aggressive weeds at high density, partial clearing, dieback and grazing.

**Degraded (5).** Basic vegetation structure severely impacted by disturbance.  
Scope for regeneration but not to a state approaching good condition without intensive management.  
For example, disturbance to vegetation structure caused by very frequent fires, the presence of very aggressive weeds, partial clearing, dieback and grazing.

**Completely Degraded (6).** The structure of the vegetation is no longer intact and the area is completely or almost completely without native species.  
These areas are often described as 'parkland cleared' with the flora compromising weed or crop species with isolated trees or shrubs.

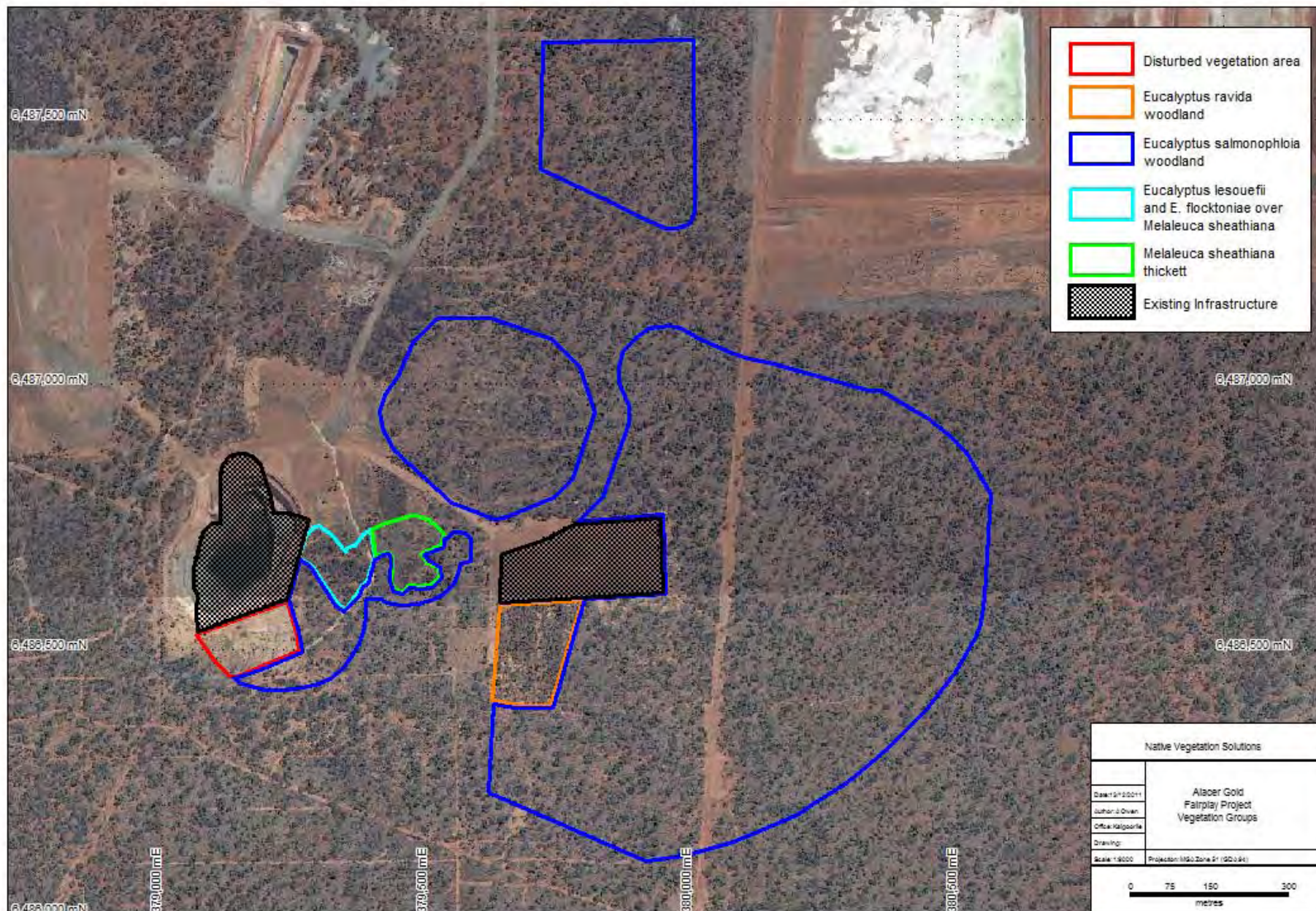
## **Appendix 4**

### **Vegetation Mapping**



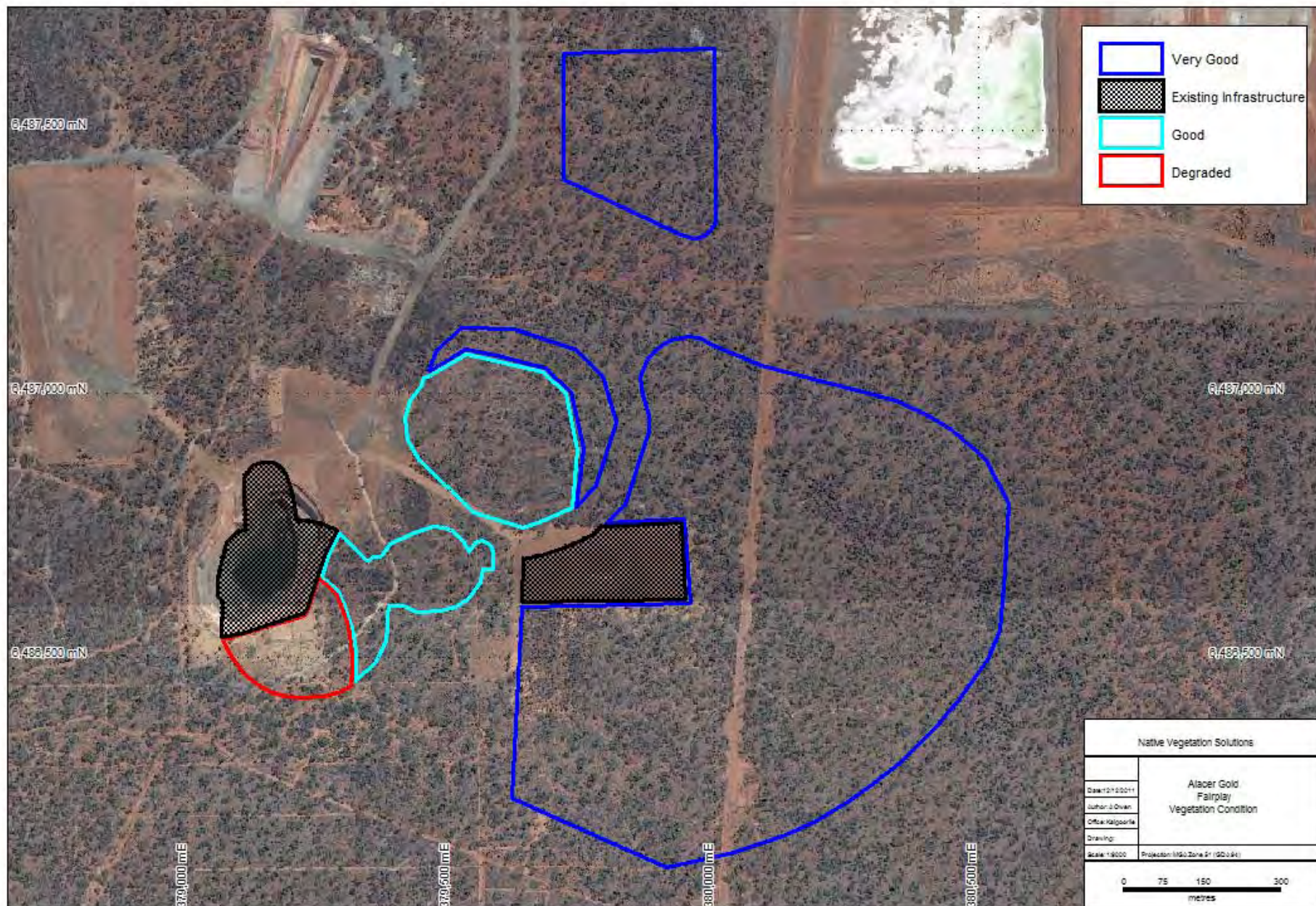
### Priority Flora Locations and Local Population Counts





## Vegetation Groups





## **Appendix 5**

### **Species List**

Family	Genus	Species	Eucalyptus flocktoniae over Melaleuca sheathiana	Melaleuca sheathiana thicket	Eucalyptus salmonophloia woodland	Disturbed Vegetation	Eucalyptus ravida woodland
Amaranthaceae	<i>Ptilotus</i>	<i>exaltatus</i>	*				
Amaranthaceae	<i>Ptilotus</i>	<i>obovatus</i>	*		*		
Asteraceae	<i>Cratystylis</i>	<i>conocephala</i>	*		*		*
Asteraceae	<i>Angianthus</i>	<i>tomentosus</i>		*		*	*
Asteraceae	<i>Centaurea</i>	<i>melitensis</i> *				*	
Asteraceae	<i>Olearia</i>	<i>muelleri</i>	*		*		*
Asteraceae	<i>Sonchus</i>	<i>oleraceus</i> *				*	
Brassicaceae	<i>Carrichtera</i>	<i>annua</i> *	*	*			
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Atriplex</i>	<i>bunburyana</i>	*				
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Atriplex</i>	<i>nummularia</i> subsp. <i>spathulata</i>	*		*		*
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Atriplex</i>	<i>stipitata</i>	*		*		*
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Atriplex</i>	<i>vesicaria</i>	*	*	*		*
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Dissocarpus</i>	<i>paradoxus</i>				*	
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Maireana</i>	<i>brevifolia</i>				*	
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Maireana</i>	<i>georgei</i>	*	*			*
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Maireana</i>	<i>platycarpa</i>			*		
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Maireana</i>	<i>pyramidata</i>			*		
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Maireana</i>	<i>sedifolia</i>	*		*		*
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Maireana</i>	<i>tomentosa</i>	*				
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Maireana</i>	<i>triptera</i>	*	*	*		
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Rhagodia</i>	<i>drummondii</i>	*				
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Salsola</i>	<i>tragus</i>			*		
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Sclerolaena</i>	<i>densiflora</i>	*				
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Sclerolaena</i>	<i>diacantha</i>	*	*	*		*
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Sclerolaena</i>	<i>eriacantha</i>	*				
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Sclerolaena</i>	<i>patenticuspis</i>	*			*	
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Tecticornia</i>	<i>disarticulata</i>		*			
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia</i>	<i>colletioides</i>			*		
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia</i>	<i>kalgoorliensis</i>			*		
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia</i>	<i>ligulata</i>			*		
Fabaceae	<i>Senna</i>	<i>artemisioides</i> subsp. <i>filifolia</i>			*		
Frankeniaceae	<i>Frankenia</i>	<i>interioris</i>					*



Family	Genus	Species	Eucalyptus flocktoniae over Melaleuca sheathiana	Melaleuca sheathiana thicket	Eucalyptus salmonophloia woodland	Disturbed Vegetation	Eucalyptus ravida woodland
Goodeniaceae	<i>Scaevola</i>	<i>spinescens</i>			*		
Lamiaceae	<i>Westringia</i>	<i>rigida</i>			*		
Malvaceae	<i>Radyera</i>	<i>farragei</i>			*		
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	<i>ravida</i>	*				*
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	<i>calycogona</i>			*		
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	<i>cylindriflora/cylindrocarpa</i>			*		
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	<i>flocktoniae subsp hebes</i>			*		*
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	<i>lesouefii</i>	*		*		
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	<i>oleosa</i>			*		
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	<i>salmonophloia</i>			*		
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	<i>salubris</i>			*		
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus</i>	<i>transcontinentalis</i>			*		
Myrtaceae	<i>Melaleuca</i>	<i>sheathiana</i>	*	*	*		*
Poaceae	<i>Aristida</i>	<i>contorta</i>				*	
Poaceae	<i>Austrostipa</i>	<i>elegantissima</i>			*		
Poaceae	<i>Austrostipa</i>	<i>nitida</i>			*		*
Santalaceae	<i>Exocarpos</i>	<i>aphyllus</i>		*	*		*
Santalaceae	<i>Santalum</i>	<i>acuminatum</i>		*	*		*
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Diocirea</i>	<i>acutifolia</i> (P3)			*		
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Eremophila</i>	<i>clavata</i>	*		*		*
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Eremophila</i>	<i>decipiens subsp. decipiens</i>			*		*
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Eremophila</i>	<i>glabra subsp. glabra</i>	*	*	*		
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Eremophila</i>	<i>interstans subsp. virgata</i>	*		*		*
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Eremophila</i>	<i>ionantha</i>			*		
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Eremophila</i>	<i>longifolia</i>			*		
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Eremophila</i>	<i>maculata subsp brevifolia</i>	*	*	*		*
Scrophulariaceae	<i>Eremophila</i>	<i>scoparia</i>	*	*	*		*
Solanaceae	<i>Lycium</i>	<i>australe</i>	*	*			
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum</i>	<i>nummularium</i>	*	*	*		
Zygophyllaceae	<i>Zygophyllum</i>	<i>aurantiacum</i>			*		
Zygophyllaceae	<i>Zygophyllum</i>	<i>eremaeum</i>	*		*		