

Sarah Ng

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 5 October 2020 3:59 PM
To: DPE PS Biodiversity Mailbox
Subject: SUBMISSION : DRAFT CUMBERLAND PLAIN CONSERVATION PLAN [REDACTED] BRINGELLY)
Attachments: APPENDIX A - Riparian Assessment [REDACTED] Badgerys Creek.pdf
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Please refer this email to ALEX BRIDLE.

SUBMISSION: DRAFT CUMBERLAND PLAIN CONSERVATION PLAN

PROPOSED E2 BOUNDARY / ZONING – [REDACTED] BRINGELLY, NSW, 2556

BASES OF SUBMISSION: REVIEW OF PROPOSED E2 BOUNDARY – [REDACTED] **BRINGELLY, NSW, 2556**

Context/Background:

- We [REDACTED] are the current landowners of [REDACTED] Bringelly, NSW, 2556.
- We purchased the property in 1997.
- At time of purchase, the section 149 Certificate (Environment and Assessment Act 1979) clearly stated that our property was not environmentally affected by “tidal inundation or flooding”.
- Recent (September 2020) purchase of a current planning certificate under section 10.7 of the Environment Planning and Assessment Act 1979 confirms that the property is still not environmentally affected by “tidal inundation or flooding”.
- No Department officers accessed our property to conduct a field assessment of the land for riparian corridors.
- As landowners, there has been no indication prior to the receipt of the letter from the NSW Planning, Industry & Environment Department that our land was affected by riparian corridors - as there are no signs of river, stream banks or saturated soils. All of which are indicative traits of riparian corridors.
- To support our observations, we employed the services of Mal Brown, an independent consultant with riparian management expertise, from Northrop Consulting Engineers.

Report from Northrop Consulting:

- Attached (**Appendix A**) is the report from Northrop Consulting that was prepared and deduced from their aerial analysis and a **thorough field inspection**.
- The field inspection occurred on the 19th September 2020 which confirmed **no active stream processes**, with a recommendation that the mapped waterway could be extinguished and removed from the proposed zoning with no loss of waterway values.

We wish to have this report included as a part of our official submission to the Draft Cumberland Plain Planning Partnership.

Outcome being sought:

1. We request due consideration of the attached report (**Appendix A**).
2. We seek to have the mapped waterway removed from the proposed zoning of our property [REDACTED] Bringelly, NSW, 2556).

I look forward to hearing a response from a member of your team in regards to this matter.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

27 September 2020

██████████
██████████
Bringelly NSW 2556

Dear Craig & Sonja,

Re: Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan
Riparian Assessment at ██████████ Bringelly

It is my understanding that you wish to make a submission to the NSW DPIE in relation to the draft Plan which is currently on exhibition.

Background and context

I am an independent consultant with expertise in riparian management matters. This formed part of my experience when working for NSW Dept of Land & Water Conservation (Ecological Services Unit) in the 1990s, and subsequently as an engineering, water and environment consultant.

I was approached by ██████████ Chair of a Committee of landowners in the ██████████ precinct and referred to as the Southern Gateway Precinct in the suburb of Bringelly. The Committee represents 250 landowners in the boundary of the Southern Gateway Precinct – Aerotropolis. This Committee facilitates communications with Government and potential investors.

The Chair advised me that the *Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan* had been release for public exhibition, identifying proposed E2 zoning in the current R5 (large residential lot) section of the precinct. I was advised that 62 properties are affected by the proposed E2 zoning, with 45 linked to 2nd Order Strahler mapped waterways. I was also made aware that Environmentally Significant lands had been mapped.

I was asked if I would consider the implications of the 2nd Order Strahler riparian zones to determine if I would prepare a submission on behalf of the Committee.

In response, I conducted a high-level desktop assessment to assess the mapped 2nd Order Strahler waterways. I concluded that in relation to the precise definition of 2nd Order Strahler waterways, that the mapping was accurate, with 20m riparian zones designated either side of the waterways, as per the NSW Guidelines. I then conducted a desk-top assessment of each of the mapped 2nd Order waterways using aerial photography. I was able to identify several of the mapped waterways that warranted further exploration. Specifically, I identified that several of the mapped waterways demonstrated no evidence of stream processes or values. I also determined that in two cases there were two parallel waterways in close proximity. The mark-up I provided to the Chair is as shown in Figure 1. I advised the Chair that there may be a case for a submission on the affected properties, and that I would need to conduct field investigations to confirm my findings.

After informing the Chair of my findings, individual affected landowners in the precinct were advised make contact with me, including you. Any submissions would be on behalf of affected landowners, as



opposed to the entire Committee. I conducted field investigations on Saturday 19th September 2020. This was a fine day with no preceding rainfall.



Figure 1: Marked up 2nd Order Strahler waterways map showing areas for potential ground truthing

Findings at [REDACTED] Road

The location of the properties is shown circled in blue in Figure 2.

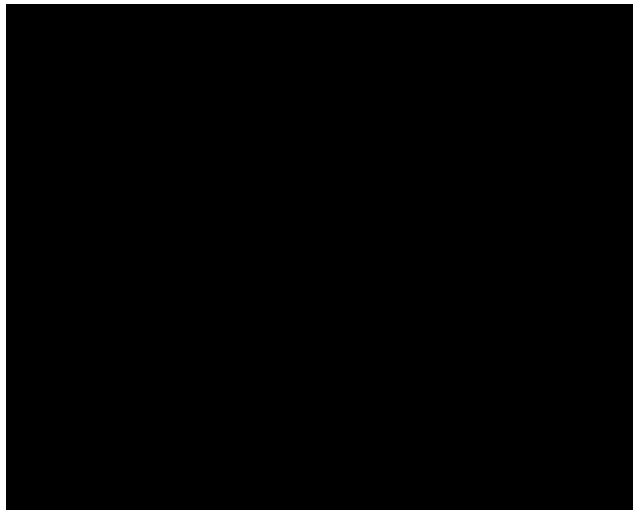


Figure 2: [REDACTED]

The topographic map and aerial photograph of the properties are superimposed in Figure 3. It reveals no evidence of stream processes occurring on either property.

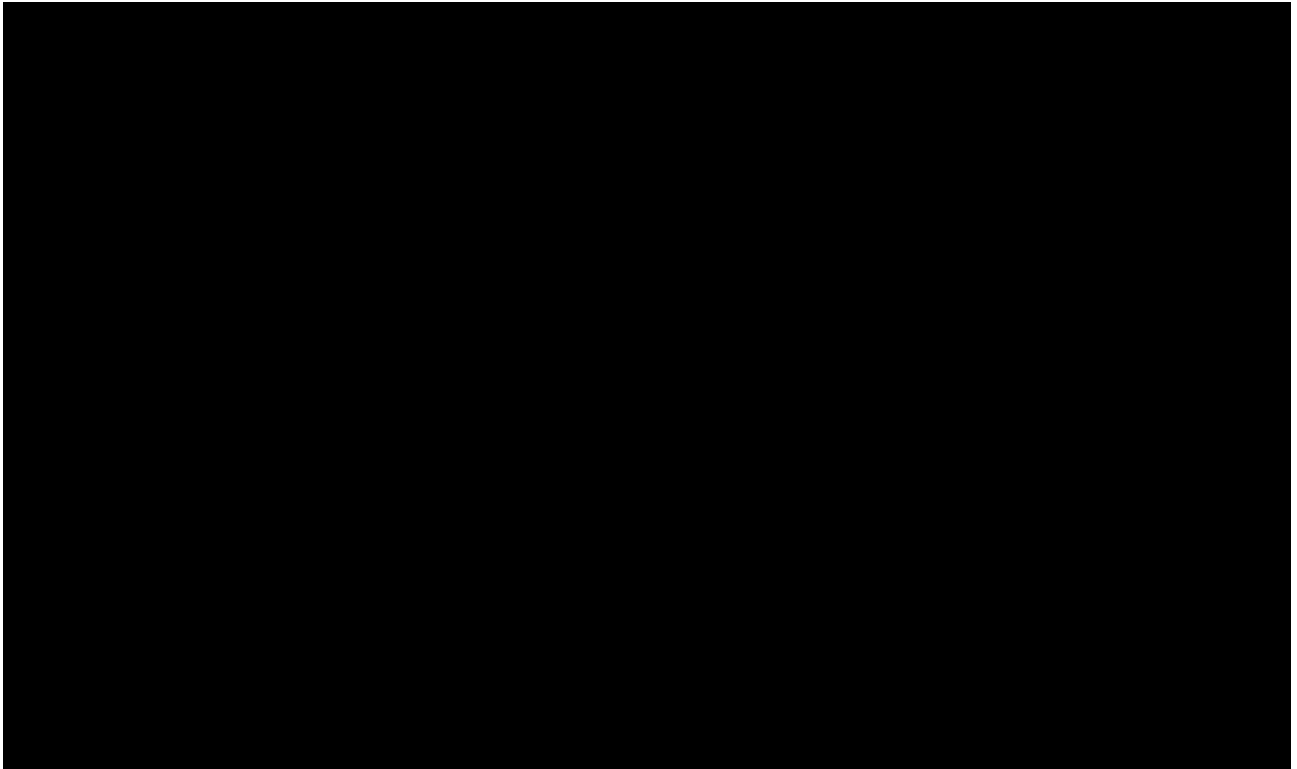


Figure 3: Snip from Six Maps showing waterways at [REDACTED] The blue line is the mapped 2nd Order Strahler waterway

I inspected the waterway in the presence of you - [REDACTED] owners of [REDACTED] You advised me that you had purchased the property 20 years or so prior and that you had not made any changes by way of earthworks in the vicinity of the waterway in that time.

The mapped waterway is between the two dams, and includes the dam on No. [REDACTED] I observed a grass-vegetated swale that connects the two farm dams (Figures 4 and 5). Other than the depression that was the basis of the swale, there was no evidence of stream processes observed.



Figure 4: Inflow to dam at [REDACTED]



Figure 5: [REDACTED] looking uphill in the swale to [REDACTED]

I conclude that the mapped 2nd Order Strahler waterway at [REDACTED] has no evidence of active stream processes. In my opinion, the mapped waterway could be extinguished and removed from the proposed zoning with no loss of waterway values.

I authorise you to use this information as the basis of a submission to NSW DPIE.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

Mal Brown

Principal | Senior Engineer

Master of Natural Resources; Bachelor of Env'tl Sci (Hons)

On behalf of Northrop Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd