

INTERIM LETTER

KEMPS CREEK

Job number: 2340

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To Whom it may Concern

Anderson Environmental was engaged to conduct a Desktop Background Review of the Ecology of the site Kemps Creek) as it is proposed to be re-zoned as an E2 Environmental Conservation zone by the NSW Department of Planning. Due to the tight timing of contact from the client and the timeline of the responses required (by the 18th of December 2019) combined with the Christmas Period it was not possible for this consultant to undertake an on site assessment. As such the client requested that we provide some background advice based on background mapping and some photographs and short videos the client provided of the site. We have informed our client that we return on the 13th of January 2020 and would be available to undertake a formal site assessment at that time. In the meantime however our findings based on a background assessment on the aforementioned information are provided below.

The site is mapped as Plant Community Type 849 as shown on the map below.



This community forms part of the Cumberland Plain and is listed as Critically Endangered under both state and federal legislation.

Aerial photo interpretation indicates that the area on the front portion of the property has been disturbed through under scrubbing since 2004 (the latest historical period from which aerial photographs could be examined due to the tight timeframe of the project). The land has been used as "Jacoubs Fresh Fruit and Vegetables" (a commercial nursery/vegetable operation) with a home at the front of the property. It is likely that the use of the site as a nursery has resulted in the indicators which are present on the property indicating moderate to potentially high levels of disturbance to this area. This is indicated by both the aerial photos indicating potential previous mowing/under scrubbing (2014) combined with the intrusions into this area from building structures/nursery materials (pipes, dumped soil piles and other refuse etc) along with some exotic nursery plants which appear to have been planted in this area such as palms.

The vegetation present appears to be dominated by *Eu calyptus tereticornis* of a young to medium age class. There appear to be a few *Eu calyptus moluccana* present with what appear to be *A locasu arina litoralis* in places. The vegetation does not have a small tree layer present and the ground covers comprise unidentified grasses until a formal site survey is undertaken. Field surveys are required to verify the condition of the site and provide an assessment of the vegetation present. It appears that the vegetation has been quite modified in many places due to past use. Evidence of exotic grasses and weeds are present however a formal assessment is required to provide a qualitative assessment of the vegetation present.

The client would like to request a formal extension to the submission period past the 18th of December 2019 so the site can be assessed on the ground via a formal assessment. This would enable them to provide a response for their site in relation to the vegetation present.

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16th December 2019

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