

# Barwon Downs Vegetation Monitoring

Barwon Water

Vegetation Monitoring Report

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#### **Barwon Downs Vegetation Monitoring**

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# **Executive Summary**

This report outlines results of the flora survey undertaken by Jacobs in 2014-15 on behalf of Barwon Water to fulfil the requirements of groundwater licence no. 893889.

Previous flora surveys were inconclusive due to difficulties in separating the influences of surface water, groundwater, land use change and the provision of environmental flows. In 2012, it was recommended that a comprehensive flora monitoring regime be established to better understand the relationship between groundwater extraction and potential impacts to groundwater dependent vegetation. In 2014, a revised monitoring regime was agreed to between Barwon Water and Southern Rural Water (the regulatory body).

Vegetation assessments were undertaken at 14 sites between November 2014 and March 2015 within the Barongarook and Barwon Downs localities. These sites were identified as being hydrologically sensitive and likely to support Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs). Recently constructed groundwater monitoring bores at each site confirmed the hydrogeological nature of the aquifer, such as:

- whether groundwater was in a confined or unconfined part of the aquifer,
- whether sites would be impacted by groundwater extraction:
  - Impact sites were located within areas of the aquifer where the watertable was either known to have been affected from past pumping (in the unconfined areas) or potentially affected (in the confined areas) by the Barwon Downs borefield.
  - Reference sites were located where no impact on water levels in the aquifer caused by the Barwon Downs borefield was observed (or is expected to be observed under future pumping scenarios).

Three of the 14 sites were in the vicinity of previously assessed flora sites, with the remaining eleven sites being new that have not been previously assessed.

Transects were established at each site and eight quadrats assessed at each. All flora species present were recorded and the vegetative cover was assessed. Vegetative cover was used as a surrogate measure for plant performance at each site. Each species was assigned to one of seven functional groups based on its reliance on water availability. It has been conservatively assumed that the water available at each site is at least somewhat derived from groundwater, and therefore the functional groups categorise the reliance of each plant species on groundwater availability. The contribution of groundwater to the water available to plants at each site is not yet fully understood but is being examined further by studies being undertaken concurrently with this survey. Species reliant on groundwater, as conservatively defined for this assessment, were present at all sites and therefore the vegetation present constitutes a GDE, though further work is required to understand the relative reliance on groundwater (as opposed to other water sources) across all sites.

The design of the revised vegetation monitoring program enables statistically robust comparisons to be made. This will enable detection and quantification of changes in the performance of groundwater dependent species over time, as well as between reference and impact sites based on the hydrogeology underlying the vegetation. Importantly, when comparing the impact and reference sites, no difference in the performance of species defined as groundwater dependent was detected, regardless of the underlying hydrogeology.

Given the monitoring regime has significantly changed from previous surveys, and the majority of sites have been established at locations not previously assessed, either for flora or groundwater levels, no comparison with past surveys is possible for this assessment. Therefore, the effect of past water extraction on the vegetation condition is not able to be quantitatively determined at this stage. Based on observations as well as comparing vegetation descriptions in past reports, the current condition of the vegetation assessed does not suggest that a change in ecosystem function is related to recent groundwater usage (with the possible exception of site T1 at Big Swamp which is recovering from fire and potential low soil pH from acid sulphate soils).



In summary, this report outlines the baseline conditions for a flora monitoring program that will be able to correlate vegetation condition of likely GDEs, particularly the presence and performance of groundwater dependent plants, to the hydrological conditions at each site. Differences in vegetation conditions will be measured over time and sites compared based on their underlying hydrogeology and capacity to be influenced by any ground water extraction from the Barwon Downs borefield. The monitoring program as defined is adaptable to changes in knowledge and statistically robust to detect changes over time. No difference between the impacted and reference sites was detected at this time.

Further work is being undertaken to help define the degree to which vegetation at each site is dependent on groundwater. Once completed, it will need to be considered in conjunction with this report.



#### Important note about your report

The sole purpose of this report and the associated services performed by Jacobs was to conduct a flora survey at 14 sites in the vicinity of Barwon Downs and Barongarook in accordance with the scope of services set out in the contract between Jacobs and Barwon Water ('the Client'). That scope of services, as described in this report, was developed with the Client.

Any survey of flora will be unavoidably constrained in a number of respects. In an effort to mitigate those constraints, we applied the precautionary principle described in the methodology section of this report to develop our conclusions. Our conclusions are not therefore based solely upon conditions encountered at the site at the time of the survey.

As may be expected from a monitoring report conducted with the expectation of that further monitoring will be conducted, the passage of time, manifestation of latent conditions or impacts of future events will be examined in future monitoring, if required. Jacobs has prepared this report in accordance with the usual care and thoroughness of the consulting profession, for the sole purpose described above and by reference to applicable standards, guidelines, procedures and practices at the date of issue of this report. For the reasons outlined above, however, no other warranty or guarantee, whether expressed or implied, is made as to the data, observations and findings expressed in this report, to the extent permitted by law.

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# 1. Introduction

#### 1.1 Purpose

This report outlines results of the five-yearly flora surveys undertaken in 2014-15 as set out in licence number 893889 for the Barwon Downs borefield.

A total of 14 sites were assessed based on sites identified in the Monitoring Program prepared by SKM and Ecology Australia (2013) and will serve as the baseline study against future monitoring. All sites are shown in the map contained in Appendix B.

#### 1.2 Background

Barwon Water manages and operates the Barwon Downs borefield in accordance with licence number 893889. This licence was granted in 2004 and is due for renewal in June, 2019.

The Barwon Downs borefield has historically been relied upon as an important drought reserve for the greater Geelong region. At the height of the worst drought on record (2006-10), Geelong's water storages dropped to 14 per cent when catchment inflows were severely reduced. During this time, the borefield provided up to 70 per cent of Geelong's drinking water.

Barwon Water undertakes a monitoring program as set out in the licence conditions. While this program was good practice at the time of the last licence renewal, and continues to comply with licence conditions, the community has raised concerns about potential environmental impacts linked to groundwater extraction. A key area of community interest identified through the Barwon Downs Groundwater Community Reference Group was the protection of terrestrial vegetation that was of ecological value. Previous flora studies that have been undertaken in the area are summarised below:

#### 1994 study

An initial vegetation study was undertaken in 1993-94 (Carr & Muir, 1994) and involved surveying of 82 quadrat sites across the Barwon Downs aquifer outcrops areas and associated streams. Although the study was general in nature, it was noted that the areas surveyed placed emphasis upon aquatic (in-stream, riparian, wetland) environments and concentrated on more hydrologically sensitive areas, such as drainage lines and swamps.

#### 2002 study

An ensuing study to review potential impacts linked to groundwater extraction was conducted in 2002 (Carr, 2002). Vegetation was resampled at 24 of the 82 original quadrats. These quadrats were selected because they were deemed hydrologically sensitive and concentrated around Boundary Creek and areas of high botanical significance. The study found that vegetation composition had changed due to decreased moisture availability but could not indicate whether this was due to drought, groundwater extraction, or supplementary watering (Boundary Creek environmental flow release as stipulated in Clause 6.1 of the licence) or a combination of all three (Carr 2002).

#### 2008-09 study

The 2008-09 (EA & SKM, 2009) study documents the first vegetation survey conducted under the current licence and involved classifying changes to the vegetation since the 2002 study. Available hydrogeological data was also reviewed in conjunction with the flora survey to assess if there were any significant changes during the same period.



The study concluded that drought, groundwater extraction and provision of supplementary watering had a significant effect on riparian vegetation. However, given the complex interaction of many factors on vegetation condition, the study was unable to untangle the impact of groundwater extraction on the drying of the vegetation from other environmental processes, such as drought, climate change and other catchment and hydrological factors. This was due to the presence of factors which may have disguised the impact of groundwater extraction (e.g. supplementary watering of Boundary Creek, possibility of highly localised perched water tables, and the masking influence of outflow from adjoining stream and river systems).

The study recommended that a long term vegetation and hydrological monitoring program be designed and implemented to ensure the protection of riparian zones within the study area.

#### **1.3** Application to improve terrestrial vegetation monitoring

Clause 7 of the groundwater licence requires Barwon Water to monitor and protect riparian vegetation, especially vegetation that is groundwater dependent.

A review completed in 2012 exposed the limitations of existing vegetation sites. Consideration of more up to date hydrogeological data enabled a more accurate delineation of impact and reference sites.

In 2013, a desktop assessment and subsequent fieldwork was undertaken to recommend new vegetation sites. 14 sites were selected (including retaining three existing sites) to improve understanding of the link between vegetation and groundwater dependence, and if extraction from the borefield contributes to fluctuations in water table depth at these sites.

In 2014, Southern Rural Water approved Barwon Water's request to amend existing vegetation sites (as referenced in Clause 7) to improve terrestrial vegetation monitoring ahead of licence renewal in 2019.



# 2. Methods

#### 2.1 Site location

The location of the monitoring sites was determined previously by Ecology Australia (see SKM 2013 and Appendix B) based on a binomial design to test potential impact on Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDE) in both confined and un-confined areas of the pumped aquifer potentially impacted by groundwater extraction at Barwon Downs.

The two variables tested were the hydrogeological nature of the aquifer – i.e. whether the aquifer was confined or unconfined, and whether sites would be impacted by the removal of water at Barwon Downs – i.e. impact sites were located in areas of the aquifer where the watertable was either known to have been affected from past pumping (in the unconfined areas) or potentially affected (in the confined areas) by the Barwon Downs borefield. Reference sites were located in parts of the aquifers where no impact on water levels from the Barwon Downs borefield has been observed (or is expected to be observed under future pumping).

Groundwater monitoring bores were constructed at each site to assess depth to watertable at each site.

#### 2.2 Vegetation assessment including monitoring design rationale

#### 2.2.1 Transect Selection

Transects of 40 m were assessed at each location with the exception of site T1 (70m). Site T1, as described below was subject to a fire in the recent past. The transect began in relatively unburnt vegetation and a total of 70 m was assessed to account for a change between unburnt and burnt vegetation.

Transects were located at the edges of the GDEs and extended 40 m into the GDE. The location at the edge of the ecosystem is to maximise the potential for the monitoring to detect change over time – any detectable change is more likely to be detected in the zone where changes in groundwater level or inundation frequency are most likely to impact dependent vegetation and wetlands generally dry out from the edges. Other concerns were locating transects close to sites used for associated studies of groundwater use including the groundwater monitoring bores installed either at or close to each site (see SKM 2013 for bore descriptions), and the sampling sites for the analysis of groundwater use (work currently in progress).

Transects were marked with short yellow topped posts in areas outside the Great Otway National Park (T1-8) and were not marked at sites within the Great Otway National Park (T9-14) as this was not permitted under the permit conditions.

The start and end of each transect was recorded with GPS (see results for each transect location).

Sites T1-6, T8 and T10 were assessed between 25 November and 2 December 2014. Sites T9 and T11-14 were assessed between 6 February and 5 March 2015. The delay between survey periods was a result of applying for a permit to work in the Great Otway National Park. Site T8 was assessed on 2 December and 5 March to assess potential changes over the intervening period – no assessable difference was noted over the period. This suggests that the spread of the timing of the surveys at different sites has not impacted the reliability of the results.

#### 2.2.2 Analysis of vegetation transects

Each vegetation transect was assessed using eight 5 x 5 m quadrats located along the transect. This differs from the previously proposed method of 20 1 x 1 m quadrats (Ecology Australia & SKM 2013). The change in



method was prompted by the difficulty in assessing the cover of tree and shrub life forms in small 1 x 1 m quadrats knowing that they form major parts of GDEs in the Otway region.

The quadrats were located alternatively on the right then left of the transect. In each quadrat the cover of each species located within the quadrat was estimated to the nearest 5 per cent, including any dead material still attached to plants. Although cover estimates are known to introduce observer error, the analysis of absolute cover estimates as, opposed to categorical measures (such as Braun-Blanquet measures), is more statistically robust and adaptable to data analysis such as functional groups where sums of cover are used, and therefore preferred for this monitoring regime. Where a species represented less than 2.5 per cent of the total cover (i.e. did not round to 5 per cent) a nominal 1 per cent cover was assigned. Cover of litter, bare ground, moss, and water was also recorded. Due to many strata overhanging each other (i.e. trees over shrubs over ferns etc.), totals generally added up to more than 100 per cent. This is common in ecological surveys and has been accounted for when comparing sites by considering the proportion of vegetation cover (i.e. excluding litter and bare ground) that is attributable to any species or functional group.

The eight quadrats allow for sufficient replication to account for variation in the vegetation characteristics within each site, thus providing a representative average cover for each species across the transect (i.e. a site-based value), as well as sufficient replication to allow for statistical analysis for changes over time at each site.

#### 2.2.3 Functional Group selection

As the reliance on ground water differs between species and species differed between sites, each species was assigned a functional group depending on its assumed reliance on groundwater availability. Although various functional groups have been defined for groundwater dependent species, (refer to Cassanova, 2011 and Daly et al. 2012) these generally focus on wetland ecosystems rather than forest and scrub ecosystems encountered in this project. A hybrid system based on previous analyses and Orrelana et al. (2012) has been used in this assessment to focus on terrestrial species that rely on groundwater as outlined in Table 2.1 below.

Category	Description	Groundwater Dependency
0	Not connected to ground and therefore not linked to groundwater e.g. epiphytes and certain saprophytic and parasitic plants.	None
1	Obligate terrestrial species requiring well aerated soils and not tolerant of saturating conditions in root zone. Can include shallow rooted and annual weed species making opportunistic use of seasonal water availability.	
2	Terrestrial species sometimes found in GDEs as an opportunistic user of available water. Common in ecosystems outside the GDEs assessed where availability of groundwater is low or non-existent. Includes ferns such as Bracken, shrubs such as Prickly Moses and trees such as Messmate.	Opportunistic
3	Terrestrial species only found in riparian ecosystems or GDEs. Species require readily available water but are not tolerant of regular inundation.	
4	Species requiring at least periodic inundation of root zone for continuing survival	Groundwater Dependent
5	Species requiring regular inundation of root zone for continuing survival.	

Table 2.1 : Functional Group descriptions.



Category	Description	Groundwater Dependency
6	Obligate aquatic species reliant on inundation for continuing survival.	

Assigning plant species to functional groups was based on descriptions of habitat in literature, primarily in the Flora of Victoria (Walsh and Entwistle, 1994-1999), observer knowledge, past flora reports (Carr and Muir 1994, Carr 2002, SKM and Ecology Australia 2008), and observations taken during the survey described in this report.

The distinction between categories of Opportunistic and Groundwater Dependent species is of limited use for this study as there is natural variation between sites and the range of species they support. However, it is envisaged that the categories within each classification will be of greater utility in future monitoring rounds in examining changes in the vegetation categories

The distinction between groundwater and surface water dependency is difficult to discern as plants do not make a distinction as to the source of water available unless other variables such as pH or salinity are limiting factors. For the purposes of this assessment, a species reliant on water availability in the surface or upper soil strata is defined as groundwater dependent. Whether the species is reliant on groundwater or surface water is dependent on the hydrology at each site and the degree to which the water available at the site is derived from groundwater or surface water sources. Work is currently underway to contribute to the understanding of the hydrology at each site and the sources of water-use currently accessed by the trees at each site.

Moss was not assigned to a category with the exception of sphagnum encountered in great amounts (i.e. >5 per cent on average) at site T1 where the moss category (being almost entirely sphagnum) was assigned to Category three.

For analysis of sites, all species within each category were grouped at each site. The cover recorded in the eight quadrats assessed and then averaged to provide a site estimate of cover. To account for differences in total cover recorded between sites (which could add to >100 per cent as outlined above) this was also expressed as a proportion of total vegetation cover.

#### 2.3 Statistical Analysis

Statistical analyses were undertaken using the data analysis pack of Microsoft Excel. One way and Two-way ANOVA tests were undertaken with variables being geology (confined versus unconfined aquifer) and impact (reference/control versus impact sites). These tests examine whether any difference between the average cover of groundwater dependent species is detected between groups. A standard alpha value of 0.05 was used for all tests – that is, a positive result states there is a 95 per cent probability that there is a difference between the averages of the groups tested. For a difference to be detected, a p-value of less than 0.05 would be required from the tests performed. For these tests, average cover values for each site were used, therefore accounting for variation in the cover of individual species along each transect.

To maintain equal sample sizes between groups, and therefore the assumptions of the test, sites T3 and T14 were excluded from Two-way ANOVA tests. These specific sites were excluded as Site T3 was found to be unconnected to groundwater sources used by the Barwon Downs borefield (i.e. is a perched aquifer) and Site T14 is a "spare site" to be included should any one site not be available. One-way ANOVA tests were conducted both including and excluding sites T3 and T14.



# 3. Results

#### 3.1 Site Summary Tables

Site T1 (new)		Peat Swamp	IMPACT, UNCONFINED
Location Description	reverting to a channel west of Colac- between 1998 and 2010, primarily as deep) trench runs along the southerr The transect is located 5 m north of t transect comprised 14 quadrats enco following. Only the latter eight in the of the burnt and unburnt sections are The transect is located ~ 550 m west	Forrest Road. The majority a subterranean peat fire, a n edge of Peat Swamp to put the trench and extends for 7 ompassing 6 in an unburnt burnt areas have been incl e described separately below t of the associated ground w	undary Creek flows and dissipates before of Peat Swamp was burnt intermittently and is now recovering. A large (2m wide x 2m event fire escaping to surrounding areas. 'Om at 0 (due north) into the swamp. The state at the beginning and 8 having been burnt uded in the vegetation analysis. The vegetation w. vater monitoring bore (TB1) whilst trees included start point of the transect in unburnt areas.
Location Co-ordinates	<b>START:</b> E735298, N5743774;	<b>END:</b> E735248, N	5743822
Depth of Groundwater at TB1	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	18  <sup>9 1A</sup> 7  <sup>11</sup>	
Vegetation Description	1	Diversity: 9 species (4 n	ative, 5 introduced)

#### **Recently burnt section**

The burnt areas of T1, toward the middle of the swamp, are characterised by reddish humus and ash at ground level. The above-ground front of the fire is located ~30m north of the transect start. The regenerating vegetation is of low diversity and is dominated by Sphagnum moss at ground level throughout the transect whilst the remaining vegetation is simple, dominated by either Bracken (*Pteridium escultentum*) although this appears stunted, growing to only 50 cm compared to 1 m in unburnt areas, and with many dead and dried plants and with dried leaves on most living plants, or dense Prickly Tea-tree (*Leptospermum continentale*). Species diversity is low with annual weed species such as Sheep Sorrel, Cat's Ear and Sweet Vernal Grass detected in low abundance. Some regenerating Swamp Gum (*Eucalyptus ovata*) is present throughout the affected areas.

#### Historically burnt section (not included in analyses)

This section, although not included in analyses, was dominated by Bracken with some Swamp Gum and other weedy species present. As per the burnt section, the Bracken showed signs of "burning off" at leaf tips of live plants - some plants had entirely dried.

Vegetation Condition:Poor to moderate – evidence of burnt leaf tips particularly on Bracken could be related to changesin water quality as a result of the fire.Weed invasion has also occurred though may be restricted as the site recoversEvidence of Change:Fire has occurred in the recent past.

**Notes for future monitoring rounds:** Particularly note the performance of Sphagnum at this site and the regrowth of Prickly Tea-tree as these dominant species recover from the fire. Also note the changes in the occurrence and performance of weed species.







Site T2 (existing)				Boundary (	Creek	IMP	ACT, UNC	ONFINED
Location Description	Access was a the east of th edge of the tr site.	ted at Boundary Creek. west of the crossing of an un-named private road. Ass was achieved from the south side of the creek along an unmarked but well made access track to teast of the bore location located ~ 100 m south of the transect. The transect covers 40 m from the e of the track due north and crosses Boundary Creek which has multiple meandering channels at the transect is marked with a yellow-capped post within 3 m of the edge of the access track.						
Location Co-ordinates         START: E734632, N5744000;         END: E734654, N5744034								
Depth of Groundwater at TB2	$ \begin{array}{c} 152 \\ 151 \\ \hline \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\ \\$	/ bore has be	een establis	tablished closer to the transect location to better understand the				15  <sup>7 15</sup>
Vegetation Description	groundwater	uynamics al		Diversity: 27 s		•	duced)	

The transect traverses Boundary Creek which has multiple channels at this location. The first and last quadrat are located outside the wider channel at the margins whilst quadrats 2, 3,4 have water present and incorporate at least some aquatic species and quadrat 6 encompasses the main channel at this location.

The overstorey comprises Swamp Gum (Eucalyptus ovata) although most trees are rooted at the margins of the creek and overhanging the quadrats. A dense shrub layer dominated by Scented Paperbark (Melaleuca squarrosa) is present throughout over a variable groundlayer. At the margins of the swamp, the ferns Pouched Coral-fern (Gleichenia dicarpa) or Mother Shield-fern (Polystichum proliferum) dominate whilst sedges such as Tall Sedge (Carex appressa), Red-fruit Saw-sedge (Gahnia sieberiana) and Tall Sword-sedge (Lepidosperma elatius) are dominant. Obligate wetland species requiring at least semi-permanent surface water that are present include Club-sedges (Isolepis cernua and I. innundata), Water Ribbons (Cycnogeton procerum) and Austral Brooklime (Gratiola peruviana).

Holes for burrowing crayfish, likely the Otway Burrowing Cray were evident throughout the alignment particularly in quadrats 4-6.

Vegetation Condition:

In good condition - no evidence of dieback and recruitment evident

**Evidence of Change:** None observed

Notes for future monitoring rounds: As managed flows are released into Boundary Creek, any monitoring of this site should consider any changes in flow regime and monitor changes in category 5 plants on the margins of the waterway and pools. Significant recruitment was also noted in quadrats 3-7 and could result in significant changes in those quadrats should conditions remain static (i.e. limited to no groundwater use, consistent water flows and rainfall etc.).

#### Comparison to 2008

The transect described is in the vicinity of Site 1 described in the 2008 study though not directly comparable. The 2008 study noted a general recovery of water dependent ferns and sedges from 2002 (potentially due to provision of environmental flows down Boundary Creek) and the presence of these is confirmed by this assessment where these species are in good health. The windthrow noted in 2008, attributed to a drying of the upper soil strata, was not noted at the transect assessed.





Burrowing Cray holes and emergent vegetation at quadrat 5



Site T3 (new)	Perched Swamp IMPACT, UNCONFINED
Location Description	Located at an unnamed swamp with standing water across a 1.2 ha area east of an un-named maintenance track running north off Westwood Track and west of crossing of an un-named private road.
	Access was achieved from the south side of the creek along unmarked but well-made access track to the east of the bore location located 20 m uphill from the transect. The transect covers 40 m from the edge of the track and crosses Boundary Creek which has multiple meandering channels at the site.
	The transect was located at the western end of the swamp as it appeared to drain to the north east and any potential changes are more likely to be detectable at the upper end and at the edge of the swamp.
Location Co-ordinates	<b>START:</b> E734632, N5744000; <b>END:</b> E734654, N5744034
Depth of Groundwater at TB3	195
	194
	P <sup>193</sup>
	E 192 LEVEL (mAHD)
	191
	$30 ^{7} ^{14}$ $18 ^{9} ^{14}$ $7 ^{11} ^{14}$ $27 ^{12} ^{14}$ $15 ^{2} ^{15}$ $6 ^{4} ^{15}$
	Note – bore still stabilising during beginning of monitoring period.
Vegetation Description	Diversity: 11 species (11 native)

A sedge and rush dominated wetland in standing water (to 35cm at transect but likely deeper toward centre of swamp) with Swamp Gum (*Eucalyptus ovata*) trees occasionally encroaching from the edges. Trees tended to be small and prone to falling potentially due to the waterlogged substrate – logs were common throughout the transect. Twig sedges (*Baumea articulate* and *B. rubiginosa*) and Large Rush (*Juncus procerus*) to 1.5 m dominated the swamp along with aquatic grasses present throughout (*Amphibromus neessii* and *Lachnigrostis filiformis*). Species diversity is relatively low but the swamp appears to be in good condition with little evidence of die-back and water present to the swamp margins when assessed in November 2014 and visited in March 20 15.

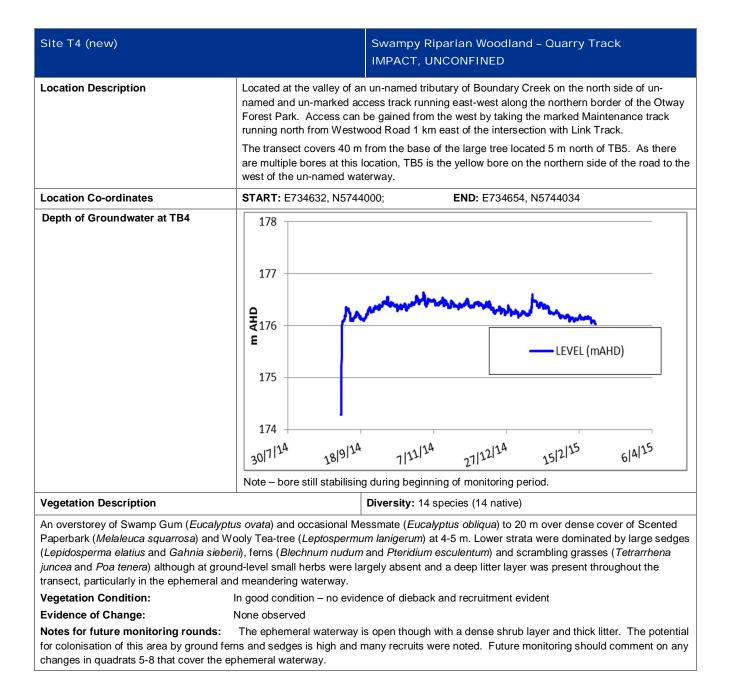
Vegetation Condition: In good condition – some falling Swamp Gums however this is more likely related to persistent water in the swamp rather than any lack of water availability

Evidence of Change: None observed

**Notes for future monitoring rounds:** This site is considered most likely to be linked to a perched aquifer and therefore could be an interesting reference site for future monitoring events once the hydrology is better understood.









Swampy Riparian Woodland – Quarry Track IMPACT, UNCONFINED

Photos



End of transect at base of large old Messmate tree

Start of transect is 5 m north of monitoring borehole.



Site T5 (new)		Swamp Scrub- Field and Game REFERENCE, UNCONFINED
Location Description	where sign is located on the west The transect covers 40 m from the	ned tributary of Boundary Creek due west of Field and Game Tra side of the road. be base of the large tree located 5 m north of TB5. As there are 5 is the yellow bore on the northern side of the road to the west o
Location Co-ordinates	<b>START:</b> E73092, N5744000;	END: E734654, N5744034
Depth of Groundwater at TB5	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$-LEVEL (mAHD)$ $1 1^{1/1^{A}} 21 1^{2} 1^{A} 15 2 1^{5} 6 A 1^{5}$ beginning of monitoring period.
Vegetation Description		Diversity: 26 species (26 native)
to 12 m over dense cover of S elatius and Gahnia sieberii), fe Poa tenera). A number of terr are not too damp were presen	cented Paperbark ( <i>Melaleuca squar</i> erns ( <i>Blechnum nudum</i> and <i>Pteridiu</i> estrial species were present in the u t that are more generally found in ne d Silver Banksia ( <i>Banksia marginata</i> persist. In good condition – no ev None observed	and occasional Narrow-leaf Peppermint ( <i>Eucalyptus radiata</i> ) trea rosa) and understorey dominated by large sedges ( <i>Lepidosperm</i> <i>n esculentum</i> ) and scrambling grasses ( <i>Tetrarrhena juncea</i> and nderstorey that can opportunistically occur in when soil condition earby (but still damp) terrestrial ecosystems. These included Pric and may hint at past drying at this site. Future monitoring shoul idence of dieback and recruitment evident



Swamp Scrub- Field and Game REFERENCE, UNCONFINED

Photos



Young Swamp Gums at site T5.



Dense Scented Paperbark and sedge understorey at site T5, looking toward end from Q3. Note forked tree.



Dense Scented Paperbark and sedge understorey at site T5



Marking peg at end of transect



Site T6 (new)				Scrub - Langdo NCE, UNCONFI					
Location Description	Road.					s track off Langdons			
				ge tree located 5 r the site at the end		on the east side of d.			
Location Co-ordinates	START: E7294	<b>START:</b> E729402, N5743247; <b>END:</b> E734654, N5744034							
Depth of Groundwater at TB6	228								
	227								
	048	mm	where the second	Marken Marken	horm				
	E <sub>225</sub>				— LEVEL (m	AHD)			
	224								
	223	1		1	1	1			
	30 7 14	18 9 14	7/11/14	27/12/14	15 2 15	6 4 15			
/egetation Description			Diversity:	21 species (21 nat	ive)				
An mixed overstorey of Swam Scented Paperbark ( <i>Melaleuc</i> scrambling grasses ( <i>Tetrarrhe</i> number of fallen trees through not evident from the field asse substrate is relatively unstable	a squarrosa) and in a juncea and Po out the swampy a ssment, though th	understorey domin a <i>tenera</i> ). Ferns rea, some showin	nated by large se were only a mino g evidence of ha	dges ( <i>Lepidosperr</i> r component of the ving fallen recently	<i>ma elatius</i> and <i>Gal</i> e vegetation at this r. The cause of the	<i>hnia sieberii</i> ), and site. There are a ese trees falling was			
Vegetation Condition:		l condition – no ev	vidence of diebac	k and recruitment	evident				
Evidence of Change:	Fallen	trees prevalent -	some relatively m	nature.					
Notes for future monitoring shrubs – future monitoring sho			, ,	ne canopy sufficier	ntly to promote new	v growth of trees and			



Photos



Dense sedge understorey at site T6.



Transect from start through shrub and sedge understorey

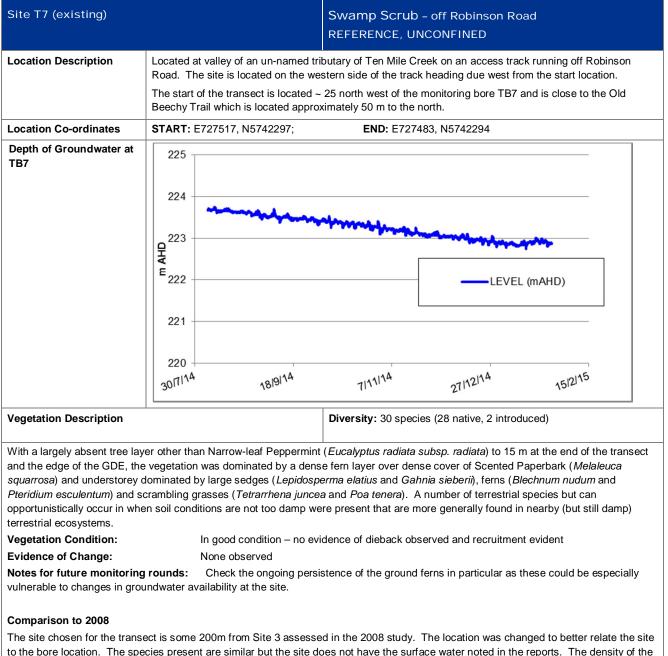
Swamp Scrub - Langdons Road REFERENCE, UNCONFINED



Mixed age of canopy at site.



Note lean on Swamp Gums prevalent throughout site – trees may be more prevalent to falling due to unstable soil conditions.



to the bore location. The species present are similar but the site does not have the surface water noted in the reports. The density of shrub layer is decreased and the cover of ferns increased at the current transect. The current site is downstream (although there is no defined channel) from Site 3.

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#### Site T7

Photos



Pouched Coral-fern and Scented Paperbark.



End of Transect

Swamp Scrub - off Robinson Road REFERENCE, UNCONFINED



Pouched Coral-fern with emergent Narrow-leaf peppermint



Start of transect



Site T8 (new)			Swamp So IMPACT, Co	crub – Westwo DNFINED	od Track	
Location Description	west of the intersect	ion with Wes	twood Road.	0		estwood track ~250 m uth of the road heading
Location Co-ordinates START: E734219, N5741628; END: E734181, N5741631						
Depth of Groundwater at TB8	150					
	948 148 147	****	<del></del>	harden Margulyn,	-	
	146				LEVEL (mAHD	)
	145 30  <sup>7 14</sup>	18 9 14	7122124	27/12/14	15 2 15	6 4 <sup> 15</sup>
Vegetation Description	1		Diversit	y: 31 species (29	native, 2 introduce	d)
With a relatively sparse ov Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus ovata</i> an <i>wattsi</i> ) scrambling grasses ground layer was diverse v Vegetation Condition: Evidence of Change: Notes for future monitori vulnerable to changes in g should be made regarding	d <i>E. brookeriana</i> ) the s ( <i>Poa tenera and Tet</i> with a range of herbs a In good None o <b>ing rounds:</b> Check roundwater availability	vegetation at rarhena junce and ferns. A tr condition – r bserved the ongoing v at the site.	this location wa ba) and large sec otal of 31 specie no evidence of d persistence of the A number of her	s dominated by W dges ( <i>Lepidospern</i> s were detected of eback and recruite ne ground ferns in	ater ferns (Blechnu na elatius and Gah f which only 2 were ment evident particular as these	<i>um nudum</i> and <i>B.</i> <i>nia sieberii</i> ). The weed species could be especially



Photos



Start of Transect looking toward end. Note dominance of Blechnum

Swamp Scrub – Westwood Track IMPACT, CONFINED

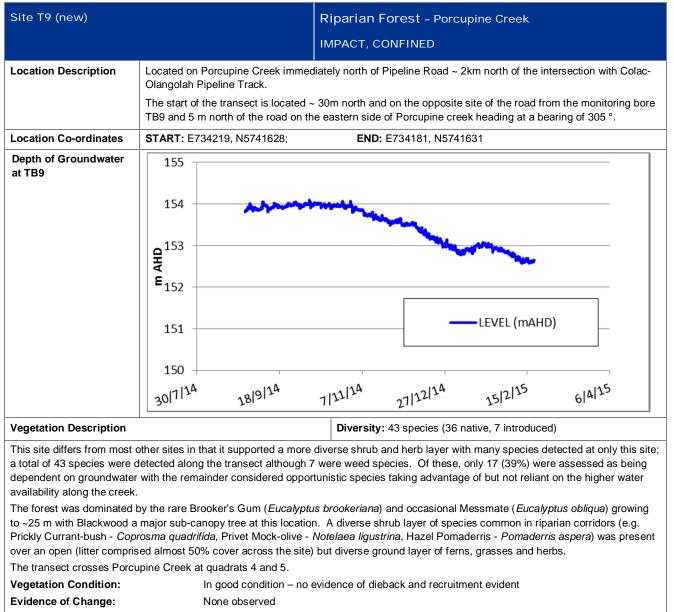


End of transect looking toward start



Fern and sedge dominated understorey.

End of transect at base of fallen tree shown above.



**Notes for future monitoring rounds:** A number of ground ferns were observed at this site with room for expansion (i.e. bare ground and litter). Future monitoring rounds should note the performance of ground ferns at the site



# Site T9 Riparian Forest - Porcupine Creek IMPACT, CONFINED Photos The N Start of transect - note large Brooker's Gum End of transect - Note bifurcated Narrow-leaf peppermint

Fern and tall shrub dominated understorey along banks of Porcupine Creek – looking south from Q6.

Porcupine Creek from Pipeline track.



Site T10 (new)					rub – Wares F DNFINED	Road	
Location Description	The start of the road from the a bearing of 3 Located in the Ecology Aust	monitoring bore T 805°. ck scrub, this site i ralia, primarily as t	ed ~ 5 m B9 and 5 is located he propos	south of M m north on the of sed locati	Wares road in thio of the road on the oposite side of the on was on private	ck scrub and west of eastern side of Po e road from the loca e land and therefore	of the opposite site of the rcupine creek heading at ation proposed by e potentially subject to s no defined channel.
Location Co- ordinates	START: E73	4219, N5741628;		END:	E734181, N5747	1631	
Depth of Groundwater at TB10	213 212 0HV 211 209 208 30 7  <sup>1</sup> A	18 9 14	712	<b>~~~~</b> 1 14	27/12/14	LEVEL (mAHD	) 6 4  <sup>15</sup>
Vegetation Description				Diversi	<b>y:</b> 21 species (21	I native)	
the dominant shrub laye	r of Woolly Tea 50% cover act an assortment	-tree ( <i>Leptosperm</i> , oss the site. The of herbs and ferns In good conditio None observed	<i>um lanige</i> ground lag , none of n – no ev	<i>rum</i> ) with yer was s which co idence of	some Scented F parse, dominated nprised more tha dieback and recr	Paperbark ( <i>Melaleu</i> by a thick litter lay n 5% of any quadra	er (average of over 50% at.



Photos



Start of transect with dense Wooly Tea-tree and sedgy understorey

Swamp Scrub - Wares Road IMPACT, CONFINED



There was a lack of significant variation in vegetation conditions through the transect.



Looking east from Q4, note continued dominance of Wooly Teatree and large sedges



End of transect - note open understorey toward end of transect



Site T11 (existing)	Riparian Forest – Pipeline Road REFERENCE, CONFINED									
Location Description	Located on the west side of Colac –Olangolah Pipeline Road north at Porcupine Creek. At this location Porcupine Creek occurs in a wide valley with the transect having been located on the margin of northern margin of the valley. The start of the transect is located ~ 10 m west of Colac –Olangolah Pipeline Road ~200 m north of bore TB11 in thick understorey vegetation, north and slightly uphill from the valley floor and continues at a bearing of 192°.									
Location Co- ordinates	<b>START:</b> E730431, N5737070; <b>END:</b> E728436, N5739895									
Depth of Groundwater at TB11	213 212 g <sup>211</sup>									
	209LEVEL (mAHD)									
	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$									
Vegetation Description	Diversity: 27 species (27 native)									

This forest ecosystem had a mixed eucalyptus overstorey dominated by Swamp Gum (*Eucalyptus ovata*) though with Manna Gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*), Messmate (*Eucalyptus obliqua*), and the rare Brooker's Gum (*Eucalyptus brookeriana*) also present and growing to 25 m. There was a sparse but relatively diverse shrub layer with the ground layer dominated by a mixture of ferns (*Pteridium esculentum, Cyathea australis, Blechnum wattsii*), scrambling grasses (*Poa tenera* and *Tetrarhena juncea*) and large sedges (*Lepidosperma elatius* and *Gahnia sieberii*).

The ground layer contained a diverse but sparse herb layer with litter dominant at ground level (average of 35%). Overall 28 species were detected along the transect with no weeds present. Koalas were observed and heard at this site during the site assessment.

Vegetation Condition: Evidence of Change: In good condition – no evidence of dieback and recruitment evident None observed

Notes for future monitoring rounds:

Check the ongoing persistence of the herb species as these could be especially vulnerable to changes in groundwater availability at the site.

#### Comparison to 2008

The site chosen for the transect is some 700 m upstream from Site 5 assessed in the 2008 study. The location was changed to better relate the site to the bore location. The species present are dissimilar to those described and not comparable. The 2008 study described an area dominated by low shrubs (Swamp Scrub) with low diversity, whereas the assessed transect was forested with few shrubs and a diverse fern and sedge understorey.



# Site T11 Riparian Forest - Pipeline Road REFERENCE, CONFINED Photos View from Quadrat 1. Start of Transect 1 Dame 雪科 End of Transect. Tree ferns at quadrat 4

RP\_IS019000\_A



Site T12 (new)				Crub – Gold He E, CONFINED	ole Road			
Location Description	Located on the north-east side of Gold Hole Road north on an unnamed tributary of Dividing Creek in Great Otway National Park. This site is located downstream from site T13. The start of the transect is located ~ 5m north of Gold Hole Road in thick scrub at the base of a Swam							
	Gum located south of the waterway and continues at a bearing of due north across the tributary. The start location is on the same side of the waterway and opposite side of the road of bore TB12, which is approximately 25 m from the start location.							
Location Co-ordinates	START: E72	9592, N5738949;	EN	<b>D:</b> E729603, N38	989			
Depth of Groundwater at TB12	170							
	169 —				LEVEL (mAHI	D) —		
	04 168 167	m	many					
	166 —			Marken Marken	Anna			
	165 —							
	30 7 14	18 9 14	7122124	27/12/14	15 2 15	6 4 15		
Vegetation Description	Diversity: 4	Diversity: 42 species (40 native, 2 introduced)						
Located within a wide valley, this Prickly Moses ( <i>Acacia verticillat</i> scrambling grasses with a spars Interestingly, although many gro classified as opportunistic specie	a) although rela e but diverse g und water depe	tively diverse with round layer compri endent species wer	a further 10 spe sing a number o e detected, mor	cies detected. Th f ferns (5 species e than 50% of the	e ground layer wa ) and herb specie e vegetation cover	as dominated by es (12).		
Overall 42 species were detecte						per		
Vegetation Condition:	In goo	od condition – no e	vidence of dieba	ck and recruitme	nt evident			
Evidence of Change:	None	observed						
Notes for future monitoring ro		the ongoing persise the changes in	0	•		uld be especially		







Swamp Scrub - Gold Hole Road

View from Quadrat 5 toward start of transect.

End of transect downstream



Site T13 (new)				D Heath – Pai ENCE, CONFIN	<sup>-</sup> kes-Lodge Ro IED	bad			
Location Description	Located on the west side of Parkes Lodge Road near an unnamed tributary of Dividing Creek in Great Otway National Park. This site is upstream from Site T12.								
	The start of the transect is located ~ 10m east of Parkes Lodge Road in thick heathy scrub at the base of a Swamp Gum and continues at a bearing of 8°. No defined waterway occurs within the transect.								
	The site was originally to be located on the same tributary but downstream where it crosses Pipeline Road. The construction of the monitoring bore was unable to be completed at this location and therefore the site was moved to Parkes Lodge Road. The current transect is located ~ 40 m north of TB13.								
Location Co-ordinates	START: E729	<b>START:</b> E729592, N5738949; <b>END:</b> E729603, N38989							
Depth of Groundwater at TB13	190 189 188 <b>G</b> 187 <b>E</b> 186 185 184 30  <sup>7</sup>   <sup>1</sup> <sup>4</sup>	18 9  <sup>14</sup>	712124	27 12 14	LEVEL (mAHI	0) 6 4  <sup>15</sup>			
	3017	78121	1122	271120	1512	61-11			
Vegetation Description			Diversity: 2	Diversity: 24 species (24 native)					
This heathy ecosystem differed Gums including a number of se at around 1m. Epacrid shrubs <i>prostrata</i> ) although significant of <i>paludosa</i> ). Small sedges were also common (e.g. Swamp Sel	eedlings were obs were dominant ( cover was also du common through aginella – Selagi	served throughou Epacris impressa ue to Prickly Tea nout often twining nella ulginosa).	at the transect h a and <i>lanigera</i> , S tree ( <i>Leptospe</i> , through the sh	owever the domi Sprengelia incarr rmum continenta	nant strata was a hata, Leucopogor le) and Scrub Sh	a diverse range o n <i>virgatus, Acrotr</i> neoak ( <i>Allocasua</i>	of shrubs tiche trina		
Overall 24 species were detect	0		•	hook and recruite	ment evident				
Vegetation Condition:         In good condition – no evidence of dieback and recruitment evident           Evidence of Change:         None observed									
Evidence of Change:	Non a	shaanvad							

vulnerable to changes in groundwater availability at the site.

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### Site T13

Photos



Swamp Heath - Parkes-Lodge Road REFERENCE, CONFINED



End of Transect looking toward road.

View from Quadrat 1.



Ground layer with Violets and Spregelia ferns.

End of transect looking to start



Site T14 (new)			Ripariar	n Forest - Robi	inson Road	
				ICE, CONFINED		
Location Description	north of the access track Creek which assessment which run al at this location The start of intersection	0 0	hin Road. There bad. The transec Road. Ten Mile C to the significant Creek would have d ~ 5 m east of the at the base of a	is a small parking t crosses a small t Creek was propose likelihood that Cas e a compounding in the unnamed access large tree and cont	area and picnic gr ributary which flow ed as the site for ve shins Road and the offluence on the ve ss track and ~50 m tinues at a bearing	round where the rs into Ten Mile rgetation e Old Beechy Train getation assemblage north west of the
Location Co-ordinates	START: E72	26670, N5740017;	END	: E726644, N5740	039	
Groundwater Level at TB14	$ \begin{array}{c} 141 \\ 140 \\ \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 $	18 9  <sup>1A</sup>	7 11 14	27 12 14	-LEVEL (MAHE	6 4  <sup>15</sup>
Vegetation Description			Diversity:	22 species (22 nat	ive)	
This forest community was dom shrub layer of Scented Paperba <i>antarctica and Cyathea australis</i> Litter levels were high (average in cover estimates totalling more Overall 24 species were detecte Vegetation Condition:	rk ( <i>Melaleuca</i> ) also presen of 52.5% cov than 170% a d along the tr	t. The ground layer er) with relatively few across this site.	Currant-wood ( <i>I</i> was dominated b r herbs and grass s present	Monotoca glauca) v yy ferns which toge ses observed. The	with some Tree Fe ther comprised mo density of the mu	rns ( <i>Dicksonia</i> ore than 30% cover.
Evidence of Change:	-	e observed			0.1.3011	
Notes for future monitoring ro		ck the ongoing persis	-		could be especial	y vulnerable to



#### Site T14

Riparian Forest - Robinson Road REFERENCE, CONFINED

Photos



### 3.2 Summary statistics

A total of 133 species were detected across all sites (123 native, 10 weeds) with a full species list presented in Appendix A. All sites had a significant proportion of "ground water dependent" species (as defined in Table 2.1 on page 7) although the number of species and cover of groundwater dependent species varied from site to site. The average cover of ground water dependent species varied from 36 per cent (Site T12) to 100 (Site T3) per cent of the total vegetation cover at a site, whilst the number of groundwater dependent species varied from three (site T1) to 19 (sites T2, T12). There was no significant relationship between the number of groundwater dependent species at a site and the proportion of cover due to groundwater dependent species (r2=0.07, p=0.37). As the number of groundwater species at a site is not related to the relative performance of groundwater dependent life forms at the sites, the cover, both total and proportional has been used for subsequent tests.



When testing for differences in the performance of groundwater dependent life forms between impact and reference sites, no difference was detected for either confined or unconfined aquifers, regardless of whether the cover was expressed as a total or proportion of total vegetation cover (One way ANOVA tests, output shown in Appendix D and summarised in Table 3.1).

Table 3.1 : Average performance of Groundwater Dependent Vegetation by site categorisation, including results of one way ANOVA tests

Groundwater Dependent Vegetation	Geology	Impact	Reference	P-value
Total Cover	Unconfined	85	89	0.82
(%)	Confined	72	64	0.68
Proportional	Unconfined	0.89	0.83	0.45
Cover	Confined	0.76	0.75	0.99

When testing for differences in the performance of groundwater dependent life forms between Impact and Reference sites across the project as whole, no difference was detected, regardless of whether the cover was expressed as a total or proportion of total vegetation cover, nor was any significant interaction detected which could confound the results (Two way ANOVA test, output shown in Appendix D and summarised in Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference.). A P-value of 0.054 for Geology was recorded in the two way ANOVA test conducted using Total Cover as a measure of the performance of Groundwater Dependent Vegetation, close to the specified alpha value of 0.05. A P-value of less than 0.05 would have indicated that a significant difference in the total cover of Groundwater Dependent Vegetation was detected between the Unconfined and Confined Aquifers, regardless of whether the sites were considered reference or impact sites. This would have indicated that comparisons between the two geology types would not be comparable at this time as the performance of groundwater dependent vegetation is different based on the underlying geology. The test using Total Cover did not indicate a significant difference at this time, and importantly, when using Proportional Cover as the measure of performance (i.e. the amount of the vegetation at each site dependent on the availability of water) the P-value measured was not close to being significant (P=0.309, Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference.). The fact that Proportional Cover accounts for differences in the overall cover measured at each site makes it a better measure for comparison given the differences encountered in vegetation type across the 14 sites as described in the summary tables.

Table 3.2 : Results of two way ANOVA tests

Category	Total Cover (P-value)	Proportional Cover (P-value)
Reference/Impact	0.547	0.700
Geology (Unconfined/Confined)	0.054	0.309
Interaction	0.896	0.815

No tests were conducted between individual sites as this was not considered to be informative, given no sites are paired within the experimental design. It is envisaged that future monitoring reports will test for differences at each individual site between monitoring events to detect change over time.



Table 3.3 : Summary results of functional groups by site. Cover estimates are in % cover averaged across all 8 quadrats at each site, # of species is a record of the number of species in each category recorded at each site and proportion is the proportion of vegetation cover represented by each category at each site.

Groundwater Dependancy		T1	Т2	тз	Т4	Т5	Т6	Т7	Т8	Т9	T10	T11	T12	T13	T14
		Unconfined	Confined	Confined	Confined	Confined	Confined	Confined	Confined						
		Impact	Impact	Impact	Impact	Reference	Reference	Reference	Impact	Impact	Impact	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
	Cover							0.1				0.5	0.4	1.0	
0	# of species							1				1	1	1	
	Proportion							0.0				0.0	0.0	0.0	
	Cover	3.0	0.1			0.4	0.3	0.3		1.1			0.3		
1	# of species	3	1			1	1	1		5			2		
	Proportion	0.0	0.0			0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0			0.0		
	Cover	21.3	7.0	0.0	18.8	11.8	34.5	11.4	19.1	41.8	5.6	28.5	76.0	2.0	5.5
2	# of species	4	7	0	5	12	8	10	18	21	9	12	19	7	8
	Proportion	0.2	0.1		0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.0
	Cover	24.3	7.1	0.0	18.8	12.1	34.8	11.8	19.1	42.9	5.6	29.0	76.6	3.0	5.5
Opportunistic	# of species	7	8	0	5	13	9	12	18	26	9	13	22	8	8
	Proportion	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.0
	Cover	78.9	43.9	0.1	57.0	32.6	80.9	65.1	51.1	24.0	87.1	49.8	19.1	65.3	71.5
3	# of species	2	10	1	6	9	10	15	9	15	9	11	15	14	11
	Proportion	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.9	0.6
	Cover	6.4	57.1	7.3	33.4	44.1	23.8	18.6	14.9	27.6	10.9	31.8	24.6	1.9	35.0
4	# of species	1	6	3	3	3	2	3	4	2	2	4	4	2	3
	Proportion	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.3

<b>JACOBS</b> <sup>°</sup>
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Groundwater Dependancy		T1	Т2	тз	Τ4	Т5	Т6	Τ7	Т8	Т9	T10	T11	T12	T13	T14
		Unconfined	Confined	Confined	Confined	Confined	Confined	Confined	Confined						
		Impact	Impact	Impact	Impact	Reference	Reference	Reference	Impact	Impact	Impact	Reference	Reference	Reference	Reference
	Cover		3.5	52.1											
5	# of species		3	6											
	Proportion		0.0	0.9											
	Cover			1.3											
6	# of species			1											
	Proportion			0.0											
	Cover	85.3	104.5	60.8	90.4	76.8	104.6	83.8	66.0	51.6	98.0	81.5	43.8	67.1	106.5
Groundwater Dependent	# of species	3	19	11	9	12	12	18	13	17	11	15	19	16	14
	Proportion	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.4	1.0	1.0
Bare Ground	Cover	18.1	16.3	1.3	2.0	1.0	8.8	2.5	1.5	5.6	1.0	1.5	3.5	12.5	4.1
Litter	Cover	27.5	24.4	11.3	40.6	49.4	38.1	42.5	39.4	47.5	51.3	35.6	31.3	18.1	52.5
Moss	Cover	45.6	8.9		1.5	8.1	1.0	13.4	2.5	3.6	4.3	1.5	4.8	1.0	3.0
Water	Cover		8.1	38.8											
Total	Cover	155.1	169.3	112.0	153.3	147.4	187.3	153.9	128.5	151.3	160.1	149.1	159.9	101.8	171.6



## 4. Discussion

### 4.1 Vegetation condition

"Groundwater Dependent"<sup>1</sup> vegetation was detected at all sites, supporting the identification of the sites as Ground Water Dependent Ecosystems. The relative importance or performance of Groundwater Dependent species differed between sites, i.e. the cover of groundwater dependent species. It is considered most likely that the variation in the relative importance of groundwater dependent species represents variation in natural conditions between sites. Future rounds of monitoring will help identify any changes over time are related to groundwater levels and environmental conditions.

All vegetation assessed was considered to be in good condition with the exception of site T1 which is recovering from recent burning and acidic soil and groundwater conditions. No sign of decline in vegetation condition that could be related to past extraction from the borefield was observed, however, the ability to detect such change given this is the first monitoring event at these sites is limited. Specifically no dead shrubs, trees and/or large sedges were observed that could be related to a decline in the ground water levels. The possibility, however, that some groundwater dependent species have disappeared from the sites cannot at this stage be determined. Even sites that are in the same vicinity of those that were assessed previously in 2008 (T7 is close to 2008 Site 3, site T2 is close to 2008 site 1 and T11 is close to 2008 site 5) are not comparable as the location has shifted more than 200 m to be closer to the newly established bores and tree water use sampling sites. These locations will enable the analysis of the relationship between any detected vegetation changes and measured changes in groundwater levels, as well as the understanding of water use by trees at the sites.

The current condition of the GDEs assessed does not suggest that a change in ecosystem function related to groundwater usage has occurred recently. No findings, however, can be derived at this time from the findings at Site T1 – Peat Swamp. The peat swamp at this location was burnt recently, has actual acid sulphate soils present and appears to be slowly recovering. The interaction between the borefield aquifer and the local watertable at the swamp is currently being monitored via newly installed nested monitoring bores at the swamp.

No significant difference was detected between reference and impact sites regardless of the underlying geology of the sites. This provides a baseline result upon which future monitoring reports can build on. Relevant questions to be probed in future monitoring events include:

- Are differences detected between monitoring events in the performance of groundwater dependent species at any site? This will provide a basis for determining if any changes in groundwater over the monitoring period can be related to changes in vegetation performance.
- Are differences detected between reference and impact sites in either confined or unconfined aquifers and if yes, can this be related to groundwater levels and extraction?

The above questions can be assessed using statistical techniques, primarily one-way anova tests, and the monitoring design has the capability to detect significant differences in the condition at individual sites and across the various aquifers and project area. Questions specific to each site have been listed in the results section which may be tested in future and are related to detecting change in the composition of groundwater dependent species.

### 4.2 Groundwater Levels

Groundwater levels at the bores corresponding to each vegetation monitoring site have been measured since installation in 2014. Data is provided for each bore from September 2014 to February 2015. For some bores, a charging period is seen where the bore equilibrates to the surrounding water table. The majority of bores show

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As stated in section 2.2.3, the degree to which the water source on which plants defined as groundwater dependent at any site is provided by ground water or surface water is sufficiently well understood at this time. For the purposes of this assessment, a species reliant on water availability at the surface or in upper soil strata is defined as groundwater dependent



a gradual decline (between 1 and 3 m) in the groundwater level over the monitoring period with the exception of sites T3, T4, T5, T6, and T8 which have remained largely static over this period. T2 and T5 show groundwater levels which are stabilising post-drilling and bore development, likely due to the low permeability of soils at the site.

No extraction of groundwater from Barwon Downs has occurred over this time and therefore this represents an environmental response. This is likely a result of evapotranspiration (i.e. water use by plants) over the summer period when water requirements are at their highest, representing seasonal variation in the groundwater levels.

Given the limited period of time over which data has been collected at the groundwater monitoring bores, and the fact that no discernible changes in vegetation condition were observed at any site other than T1, it is not possible at this time to relate the groundwater level to vegetation condition at any site. Future monitoring rounds should be able to relate observations of vegetation condition to groundwater levels by examining the following questions:

- Are any detected changes in vegetation condition at either the site or catchment scale related to changes in groundwater levels? This can be further examined by the following questions:
  - If a change in vegetation condition is measured (i.e. change in cover of groundwater species or species composition), has there been a corresponding change in groundwater that could account for the change? For instance, an increase in the number or cover of Category 4-6 species could be related to an increase in groundwater at a site.
  - Correspondingly, if a significant change in groundwater depth is detected at either the site or catchment level (i.e. a change that is evident after accounting for seasonal variation), has any change in vegetation condition (either cover or presence of groundwater dependent species) been measure? This relates to the potential resilience of the GDEs and ability to withstand and respond to changes in groundwater.
- Has groundwater declined/risen in both reference and impact sites? If so, is the change equivalent in reference and impact sites? These questions aim to separate potential environmental effects (e.g. drought) from any groundwater extraction from the Barwon Downs borefield.

### 4.3 Link between vegetation and groundwater

With hydrologically sensitive species, defined as groundwater dependent for the purposes of this study, present at all sites, there is a possibility that the GDEs present are dependent on groundwater aquifers; however, it is difficult to separate the importance of surface water versus groundwater at the monitoring sites with current data. Further work is underway to identify the hydrology at each vegetation monitoring site to enable linkages to be drawn between vegetation and their dependency on groundwater availability at each site. This assessment should also consider whether further fauna investigations are required as per the recommendations defined in Figure 5 of the Monitoring Program (SKM 2013)



## 5. Conclusions

This report outlines the results of the flora survey at the 14 monitoring sites as required under section 7.2 of the amended licence conditions for the Barwon Downs Borefield. These sites have not previously been assessed and this report outlines baseline conditions for future monitoring as recommended in previous flora surveys.

All sites support "Groundwater Dependent"<sup>2</sup> flora species and therefore the condition of the vegetation could be potentially sensitive to changes in groundwater levels, however, the duration and magnitude of changes in groundwater levels that will induce change in vegetation condition or composition is not known at this time. Past flora surveys have detected changes in vegetation condition and composition that were related to changes in groundwater levels, however, the ability to separate the effects of groundwater extraction, drought, environmental watering, and landuse changes was limited and therefore a more robust vegetation monitoring regime was recommended (SKM & Ecology Australia, 2008).

The monitoring program implemented for this report is able to use statistical tests to analyse whether changes in vegetation condition can be related to groundwater usage. Presently, the statistical tests were limited in scope because the majority of vegetation sites are newly established and existing sites were relocated to be in closer proximity to groundwater monitoring bores to improve understanding between vegetation and groundwater dependency. No statistically significant difference in the performance of groundwater dependent species was detected between impact (i.e. within the influence of the Barwon Downs borefield) and reference sites (i.e. outside the influence of the Barwon Downs borefield).

It is envisaged that future monitoring rounds will be able to use the data captured in this report as a baseline against which changes can be measured – key questions to be analysed have been identified for each site and in the Discussion section of this report. The monitoring program as outlined in this report has specifically been designed so that the data captured is adaptable to any changes in approach that may be required.

The height of each transect, and therefore the depth of groundwater at each site, has not been accurately calculated for this report and therefore not shown in the summary tables in section 3.1. Survey to establish the height at quadrat 1 of each transect is to be organised and will be included in subsequent reports.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As stated in section 2.2.3, the degree to which the water source on which plants defined as groundwater dependent at any site is provided by ground water or surface water is sufficiently well understood at this time. For the purposes of this assessment, a species reliant on water availability at the surface or in upper soil strata is defined as groundwater dependent as a precautionary measure.



## 6. References

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# Appendix A. Species lists and Functional groupings



Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Groundwater dependancy	T1	T2	Т3	Т4	Т5	Т6	Т7	Т8	Т9	T10	T11	T12	T13	T14	Total sites
Acacia dealbata	Silver Wattle		2														Х	1
Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood		2		Х					Х		Х		Х			Х	5
Acacia mucronata subsp. longifolia	Narrow-leaf Wattle		3												х			1
Acacia verticillata	Prickly Moses		2				Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х			8
Acaena novae-zelandiae	Bidgee-widgee		2							Х	Х	Х		Х	Х			5
Acetosella vulgaris	Sheep Sorrel	*	1	Х														1
Acrotriche prostrata	Trailing Ground- berry		2													х		1
Adiantum aethiopicum	Common Maidenhair		3						х	х			х			х	x	5
Allocasuarina misera	Slender Sheoak		2					Х										1
Allocasuarina paludosa	Scrub Sheoak		3													Х		1
Amperea xiphoclada var. xiphoclada	Broom Spurge		2					х	х		х		х					4
Amphibromus recurvatus	Dark Swamp Wallaby-grass		5			х												1
Amyema pendula	Drooping Mistletoe		0											Х				1
Anogramma leptophylla	Annual Fern		3							Х						Х		2
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal-grass	*	2	Х							Х	Х						3
Asperula conferta	Common Woodruff		2												Х			1
Asperula scoparia subsp. scoparia	Prickly Woodruff		2								х							1
Asperula spp.	Woodruff		2									Х						1
Asplenium flabellifolium	Necklace Fern		4					Х			Х				Х			3
Austrocynoglossum latifolium	Forest Hound's- tongue		3									х						1
Banksia marginata	Silver Banksia		2					Х		Х			х	Х				4



Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Groundwater dependancy	T1	T2	Т3	T4	Т5	Т6	Т7	Т8	Т9	T10	T11	T12	T13	T14	Total sites
Baumea articulata	Jointed Twig-sedge		5			Х												1
Baumea rubiginosa s.s.	Soft Twig-sedge		5			Х												1
Bedfordia arborescens	Blanket Leaf		3												Х			1
Billardiera mutabilis	Common Apple- berry		2						х						х	х		3
Blechnum minus	Soft Water-fern		3							Х								1
Blechnum nudum	Fishbone Water-fern		3		Х		Х			Х	Х			Х	Х		Х	7
Blechnum wattsii	Hard Water-fern		3								Х	Х		Х	Х			4
Brachyscome spp.	Daisy		2														Х	1
Burchardia umbellata	Milkmaids		2					Х										1
Bursaria spinosa subsp. spinosa	Sweet Bursaria		3		х							х						2
Calochlaena dubia	Common Ground- fern		3								x							1
Cardamine spp.	Bitter Cress		4		Х													1
Carex appressa	Tall Sedge		4		Х													1
Carex fascicularis	Tassel Sedge		4			Х												1
Cassinia longifolia	Shiny Cassinia		2												Х			1
Cassytha glabella	Slender Dodder- laurel		0							х								1
Cassytha pubescens s.s.	Downy Dodder- laurel		0												х	х		2
Caustis flexuosa	Curly Wig		3							Х						Х		2
Centaurium spp.	Centaury	*	1									Х						1
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle	*	1									Х			Х			2
Clematis aristata	Mountain Clematis		2								Х	Х						2
Coprosma quadrifida	Prickly Currant-bush		2		Х						Х	Х						3



Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Groundwater dependancy	T1	T2	Т3	T4	Т5	Т6	Т7	Т8	Т9	T10	T11	T12	T13	T14	Total sites
Corybas spp.	Helmet Orchid		3									Х						1
Cyathea australis	Rough Tree-fern		4											Х	Х		Х	3
Cycnogeton alcockiae	Southern Water- ribbons		5			х												1
Cycnogeton procerum s.s.	Common Water- ribbons		5		х													1
Dianella tasmanica	Tasman Flax-lily		3				Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х			9
Dichondra repens	Kidney-weed		2									Х		Х				2
Dicksonia antarctica	Soft Tree-fern		4				Х			Х	Х						Х	4
Dillwynia glaberrima	Smooth Parrot-pea		2							Х								1
Drosera auriculata	Tall Sundew		2					Х	Х				Х					3
Echinopogon ovatus	Common Hedgehog-grass		2									х						1
Empodisma minus	Spreading Rope- rush		3					х	х	х			х		х	х		6
Epacris impressa var. impressa	Common Heath		2												х	х		2
Epacris lanuginosa	Woolly-style Heath		3													Х		1
Eucalyptus brookeriana	Brooker's Gum	r	4								Х	Х		Х				3
Eucalyptus obliqua	Messmate Stringybark		2				х		х		х	х		х			х	6
Eucalyptus ovata	Swamp Gum		4	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х				Х	Х	Х	Х		10
Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Narrow-leaf Peppermint		2							х		х	х		х			4
Eucalyptus viminalis	Manna Gum		3						Х					Х			Х	3
Gahnia clarkei	Tall Saw-sedge		3						Х									1
Gahnia radula	Thatch Saw-sedge		3													Х	Х	2
Gahnia sieberiana	Red-fruit Saw-sedge		3		Х		Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х			9



Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Groundwater dependancy	T1	T2	Т3	T4	Т5	Т6	Т7	Т8	Т9	T10	T11	T12	T13	T14	Total sites
Galium spp.	Bedstraw		3												Х			1
Geranium potentilloides	Soft Crane's-bill		2												Х			1
Geranium sp. 2	Variable Crane's-bill		2								Х	Х						2
Geranium spp.	Crane's Bill		2											Х				1
Gleichenia dicarpa/microphylla	Coral-fern		3		х					х					х		х	4
Gonocarpus micranthus	Creeping Raspwort		3													Х		1
Gonocarpus tetragynus	Common Raspwort		2		Х			Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х			8
Goodenia humilis	Swamp Goodenia		3					Х	Х				Х					3
Goodenia lanata	Trailing Goodenia		3									Х		Х				2
Gratiola peruviana	Austral Brooklime		4		Х													1
Gynatrix pulchella s.l.	Hemp Bush		3									Х						1
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog	*	2	Х						Х		Х						3
Hydrocotyle hirta	Hairy Pennywort		3								Х							1
Hydrocotyle pterocarpa	Wing Pennywort		4		Х													1
Hydrocotyle spp.	Pennywort		3							Х				Х				2
Hypericum gramineum spp. agg.	Small St John's Wort		2												х			1
Hypochaeris radicata	Flatweed	*	1	Х								Х						2
Isolepis cernua	Nodding Club-sedge		5		Х													1
Isolepis inundata	Swamp Club-sedge		5		Х													1
Juncus planifolius	Broad-leaf Rush		4							х								1
Juncus procerus	Tall Rush		5			Х												1
Lachnagrostis filiformis s.s.	Common Blown- grass		4			х												1
Lepidosperma elatius	Tall Sword-sedge		3		Х		Х	Х	Х		Х		Х	Х	Х		Х	9



Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Groundwater dependancy	T1	T2	Т3	Т4	Т5	Т6	Т7	Т8	Т9	T10	T11	T12	T13	T14	Total sites
Lepidosperma gunnii	Slender Sword- sedge		3													х		1
Lepidosperma laterale	Variable Sword- sedge		3													х		1
Leptospermum continentale	Prickly Tea-tree		3	Х						Х				Х	Х	Х		5
Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly Tea-tree		3		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х			10
Leucopogon virgatus	Common Beard- heath		3													х		1
Lomandra filiformis	Wattle Mat-rush		1					Х	Х	Х								3
Lomandra longifolia	Spiny-headed Mat- rush		2					х				х	х		х			4
Lotus spp. (naturalised)	Trefoil	*	1		Х							Х			Х			3
Luzula meridionalis var. flaccida	Common Woodrush		3		x													1
Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark		4		Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	11
Mentha australis	River Mint		4									Х						1
Mentha laxiflora	Forest Mint		3														Х	1
Microlaena stipoides var. stipoides	Weeping Grass		3		x													1
Monotoca glauca	Currant-wood	r	3					Х	Х	Х			Х				Х	5
Notelaea ligustrina	Privet Mock-olive		3									Х						1
Olearia erubescens	Moth Daisy-bush		3					Х										1
Olearia lirata	Snowy Daisy-bush		2		Х							Х		Х	Х			4
Olearia phlogopappa	Dusty Daisy-bush		3									Х						1
Ornduffia reniformis	Running Marsh- flower		6			x												1
Oxalis spp.	Wood Sorrel		2									Х			Х			2
Persicaria praetermissa	Spotted Knotweed		5			Х											1	1



Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Groundwater dependancy	T1	T2	Т3	Т4	Т5	Т6	Т7	Т8	Т9	T10	T11	T12	T13	T14	Total sites
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort	*	1									Х						1
Poa sieberiana	Grey Tussock-grass		3									Х						1
Poa tenera	Slender Tussock- grass		3		x		х	х	х		х	х	х	х	х		х	10
Polystichum proliferum	Mother Shield-fern		3		Х												Х	2
Pomaderris aspera	Hazel Pomaderris		3									Х						1
Poranthera microphylla s.l.	Small Poranthera		2								Х							1
Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken		2	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	11
Pterostylis spp.	Greenhood		3							Х							Х	2
Pultenaea gunnii	Golden Bush-pea		2												Х	Х		2
Rubus anglocandicans	Common Blackberry	*	2							Х	Х				Х		Х	4
Rubus parvifolius	Small-leaf Bramble		2							Х	Х	Х					Х	4
Selaginella uliginosa	Swamp Selaginella		3													Х		1
Senecio glomeratus	Annual Fireweed		2	Х	Х		Х				Х							4
Senecio minimus	Shrubby Fireweed		2								Х							1
Senecio tenuiflorus spp. agg.	Slender Fireweed		2												Х			1
Senecio velleioides	Forest Groundsel		3							Х		Х			Х			3
Sprengelia incarnata	Pink Swamp-heath		3													Х		1
Stellaria pungens	Prickly Starwort		3											Х	Х			2
Tetrarrhena distichophylla	Hairy Rice-grass		2													Х		1
Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass		2		Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х		Х	Х		Х	10
Tetratheca ciliata	Pink-bells		2							Х								1
Viola hederacea sensu Entwisle (1996)	Ivy-leaf Violet		2					х			х	х	х	х	х	х		7
Vulpia bromoides	Squirrel-tail Fescue	*	1	Х														1



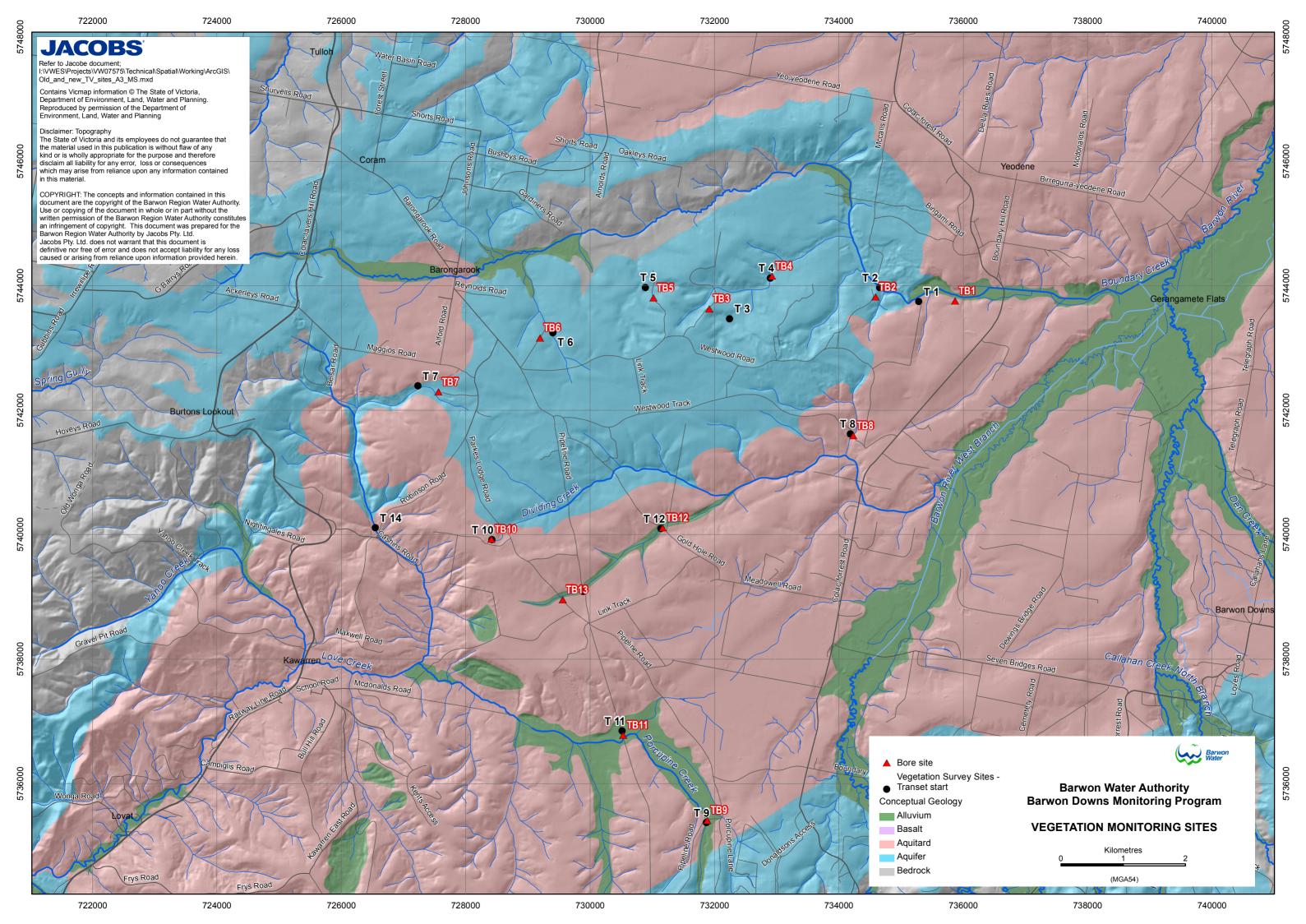
Scientific Name	Common Name	Status	Groundwater dependancy	T1	T2	Т3	T4	Т5	Т6	T7	Т8	Т9	T10	T11	T12	T13	T14	Total sites
Wahlenbergia stricta subsp. stricta	Tall Bluebell		2													Х		1
Xanthosia dissecta s.s.	Native Parsley		2					Х										1

• \* Exotic species not native to Australia

• r Species considered rare in Victoria



# Appendix B. Map of sites





# Appendix C. Data sheets



Site Name		T1	Site Location	Peat Swamp on Boundary Creek east of Colac- Forrest Road
Latitude GDA94		-38.4233	VBA Survey ID	1084234
Longitude GDA94		143.69535	VBA Site ID	715615
Geology	Unconfined			
Ref/Imp	Impact			

			Reco	rded Inf	ormation						Summary infor	mation			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Max	Min	No quads
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal-grass	*	1								0.13		1	1	1
Eucalyptus ovata	Swamp Gum		5	10	25	5	5	1			6.38	8.57	25	1	6
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog	*	5	1	1	1					1.00	2.00	5	1	4
Hypochaeris radicata	Flatweed	*	1			1	1				0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Leptospermum continentale	Prickly Tea-tree		1	10	5	35	25	60	70	60	33.25	27.34	70	1	8
Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken		35	45	35	15	10	10	5	5	20.00	15.81	45	5	8
Acetosella vulgaris	Sheep Sorrel	*	5								0.63		5	5	1
Senecio glomeratus	Annual Fireweed					1					0.13		1	1	2
Vulpia bromoides	Squirrel-tail Fescue	*	10			1	5				2.00	4.51	10	1	3
Bare ground			15	50	20	10	15	20	5	10	18.13	13.87	50	5	8
Litter			20	15	45	25	10	30	30	45	27.50	12.82	45	10	8
Moss			20	35	30	60	60	50	60	50	45.63	15.45	60	20	8



Site Name	T2	Site Location			On Boundary	Creek	at unnai	med acc	cess trac	ck~ 650	m upstream of F	Peat Swamp			
Latitude GDA94	-38.4233	VBA Survey ID			-		108423	5							
Longitude GDA94	143.68766	VBA Site ID					715616								
Geology	Unconfined										1				
Ref/Imp	Impact														
Recorded Information	I	J									Summary info	rmation			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Мах	Min	No quads
Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood		1								0.125		1	1	1
Blechnum nudum	Fishbone Water-fern			1	5	1	1	5	15	10	4.75	5.349677	15	1	7
Carex appressa	Tall Sedge		1	5	5	20	20	1	25	10	10.875	9.493419	25	1	8
Coprosma quadrifida	Prickly Currant-bush		1	1	1	5	1	1	1		1.375	1.511858	5	1	7
Eucalyptus ovata	Swamp Gum		40	30	20	35	5			5	16.875	15.0831	40	5	6
Gahnia sieberiana	Red-fruit Saw-sedge		10	25	5	20	15	5	5	20	13.125	7.989949	25	5	8
Gleichenia dicarpa/microphylla	Coral-fern		25	20			5		5	15	8.75	8.944272	25	5	5
Gonocarpus tetragynus	Common Raspwort		1								0.125		1	1	1
Gratiola peruviana	Austral Brooklime			1	1	5	1	5	1	5	2.375	2.13809	5	1	7
Hydrocotyle pterocarpa	Wing Pennywort						1	5	5	1	1.5	2.309401	5	1	4
Isolepis inundata	Swamp Club-sedge			1	1		1	15		1	2.375	6.26099	15	1	5
Lepidosperma elatius	Tall Sword-sedge			5	30	15	5				6.875	11.81454	30	5	4
Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly Tea-tree						5	10	10	20	5.625	6.291529	20	5	4
Luzula meridionalis var. flaccida	Common Woodrush								1		0.125		1	1	1
Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark		25	20	20	15	50	50	5	5	23.75	17.67767	50	5	8
Microlaena stipoides var. stipoides	Weeping Grass		5	1							0.75		5	1	2
Olearia lirata	Snowy Daisy-bush		1								0.125		1	1	1
Poa tenera	Slender Tussock-grass					5					0.625		5	5	1
Polystichum proliferum	Mother Shield-fern							1			0.125		1	1	1
Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken		5	5							1.25		5	5	2
Senecio glomeratus	Annual Fireweed				1		1	1	1		0.5	0	1	1	4
Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass		5	5	1	10	5	1	1		3.5	3.316625	10	1	7
Cycnogeton procerum s.s.	Common Water-ribbons			1				1	1	5	1	2	5	1	4
Bursaria spinosa	Sweet Bursaria				25						3.125		25	25	1
Isolepis cernua	Nodding Club-sedge		1	1					1		0.125		1	1	1
Cardamine spp.	Bitter Cress					1	10	1	1	1	1.75	4.024922	10	1	5
Lotus spp. (naturalised)	Trefoil	*		1		1					0.13		1	1	1
Bare ground			10	15	20	10	15	15	30	15	16.25	6.41	30	10	8
Litter			45	20	25	25	30	25	10	15	24.38	10.50	45	10	8
Moss			10	5	10	10	15	15	5	1	8.88	4.94	15	1	8
Water			1	15	10	5		35			8.13	13.15	35	5	4



Site Name	T3	Site Location			Unnamed	d swamp	250 m	west of	Mainter	nance T	rack run	ning north of We	stwood Road			
Latitude GDA94	-38.4262	VBA Survey ID					10	84236								
Longitude GDA94	143.65868	VBA Site ID					7	15617								
Geology	Unconfined															
Ref/Imp	Impact															
Recorded Information		1										Summary infor	mation			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3		Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Max	Min	No quads
Amphibromus recurvatus	Dark Swamp Wallaby-grass		40	25		10	35	25	40	20	15	26.25	11.26	40	10	8
Baumea articulata	Jointed Twig-sedge			10		10	5	10	10	20	10	9.38	4.50	20	5	7
Carex fascicularis	Tassel Sedge					1						0.13		1	1	1
Eucalyptus ovata	Swamp Gum			5		1		20	5	20		6.38	9.09	20	1	5
Juncus procerus	Tall Rush		5	5		10	15	10	20	10	20	11.88	5.94	20	5	8
Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly Tea-tree					1						0.13		1	1	1
Ornduffia reniformis	Running Marsh-flower					1	5	1	1	1	1	1.25	1.63	5	1	6
Persicaria praetermissa	Spotted Knotweed					1	1			1	1	0.50	0.00	1	1	4
Cycnogeton alcockiae	Southern Water-ribbons			1		1						0.25		1	1	2
Lachnagrostis filiformis s.s.	Common Blown-grass		5	1								0.75		5	1	2
Baumea rubiginosa s.s.	Soft Twig-sedge							5	1	10	15	3.88	6.08	15	1	4
Bare ground				5		5						1.25		5	5	2
Litter			10	5		15	10	5	15	15	15	11.25	4.43	15	5	8
Water			40	50		45	25	50	5	35	60	38.75	17.27	60	5	8



Site Name	T4	Site Location	At an unnamed tributary of Boundary ( west of Maintenance track	Creek immediately north of unmarked access track, ~ 1.2 km
Latitude GDA94	-38.4202	VBA Survey ID	1084237	
Longitude GDA94	143.66735	VBA Site ID	715618	
Geology	Unconfined			
Ref/Imp	Impact			

#### Recorded Information

Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Мах	Min	No quads
Acacia verticillata	Prickly Moses					1					0.13		1	1	1
Blechnum nudum	Fishbone Water-fern			1		5	1	1			1.00	2.00	5	1	4
Dianella tasmanica	Tasman Flax-lily			1				1			0.25		1	1	2
Dicksonia antarctica	Soft Tree-fern		5								0.63		5	5	1
Eucalyptus obliqua	Messmate Stringybark							15	10	25	6.25	7.64	25	10	3
Eucalyptus ovata	Swamp Gum		20	30	20	15	35	5	1	5	16.38	12.28	35	1	8
Gahnia sieberiana	Red-fruit Saw-sedge						1		1	5	0.88	2.31	5	1	3
Lepidosperma elatius	Tall Sword-sedge		40	45	50	35	15	50	25	20	35.00	13.63	50	15	8
Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly Tea-tree		5					5	50	55	14.38	27.50	55	5	4
Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark		25	25	20	20	15	20	5	1	16.38	8.91	25	1	8
Poa tenera	Slender Tussock-grass		5	5	1	1	20	10	1	1	5.50	6.68	20	1	8
Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken		1		10	10	15	5	1		5.25	5.62	15	1	6
Senecio glomeratus	Annual Fireweed							1			0.13		1	1	1
Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass		10	15	5	10	5	1	5	5	7.00	4.38	15	1	8
Bare ground			1	1	5	1	5	1	1	1	2.00	1.85	5	1	8
Litter			30	35	30	40	30	40	55	65	40.63	12.94	65	30	8
Moss			1	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1.50	1.41	5	1	8

#### Summary information



Site Name	T5	Site Location	VBA Survey ID 1084238								Dtway State Fore	est			
Latitude GDA94	-38.4229	VBA Survey ID					1084	238							]
Longitude GDA94	143.64523	VBA Site ID					715	619							
Geology	Unconfined										1				
Ref/Imp	Reference														
Recorded Information											Summary infor	rmation			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Мах	Min	No quads
Acacia verticillata	Prickly Moses			1							0.13		1	1	1
Amperea xiphoclada var. xiphoclada	Broom Spurge		1		1						0.25		1	1	2
Asplenium flabellifolium	Necklace Fern		1	5	1						0.88	2.31	5	1	3
Banksia marginata	Silver Banksia		1		1		1				0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Burchardia umbellata	Milkmaids		1								0.13		1	1	1
Dianella tasmanica	Tasman Flax-lily		1	1	1	1	5				1.13	1.79	5	1	5
Drosera auriculata	Tall Sundew		1	1							0.25		1	1	2
Empodisma minus	Spreading Rope-rush		20	15	1						4.50	9.85	20	1	3
Eucalyptus ovata	Swamp Gum		30	30	20	10	25	35	40	25	26.88	9.23	40	10	8
Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Narrow-leaf Peppermint						15	5			2.50		15	5	2
Gahnia sieberiana	Red-fruit Saw-sedge		15	5		5	5	1	5	30	8.25	10.03	30	1	7
Gonocarpus tetragynus	Common Raspwort		1			1					0.25		1	1	2
Goodenia humilis	Swamp Goodenia		1		1						0.25		1	1	2
Lepidosperma elatius	Tall Sword-sedge		5	5	5	10	10	40	30	15	15.00	13.09	40	5	8
Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly Tea-tree		10	1	1		1				1.63	4.50	10	1	4
Lomandra filiformis	Wattle Mat-rush		1	1	1						0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Lomandra longifolia	Spiny-headed Mat-rush			1							0.13		1	1	1
Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark		1		15	25	20	15	20	15	13.88	7.54	25	1	7
Olearia erubescens	Moth Daisy-bush							1		1	0.25		1	1	2
Poa tenera	Slender Tussock-grass		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	1.50	1.41	5	1	8
Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken		5	5	5	5	5	1	5		3.88	1.51	5	1	7
Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass			1	1	10	15	5	5	5	5.25	5.00	15	1	7
Allocasuarina misera	Slender Sheoak			1	1						0.25		1	1	2
Monotoca glauca	Currant-wood	r				1					0.13		1	1	1
Xanthosia dissecta s.s.	Native Parsley		1	1	1						0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Viola hederacea sensu Entwisle (1996)	Ivy-leaf Violet		1	1	1	1					0.50	0.00	1	1	4
Bare ground			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8
Litter			45	40	60	50	55	55	50	40	49.38	7.29	60	40	8
Moss			5	10	5	15	15	5	5	5	8.13	4.58	15	5	8



Site Name	T6	Site Location	Located at unnamed tributary of Bound m from turnoff	dary Creek on an unnamed access track off Landons Road ~ 400
Latitude GDA94	-38.4296	VBA Survey ID	1084232	
Longitude GDA94	143.62805	VBA Site ID	715613	
Geology	Unconfined		•	-
Ref/Imp	Reference			

Recorded Information											Summary infor	mation			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Мах	Min	No quads
Acacia verticillata	Prickly Moses					1					0.13		1	1	1
Adiantum aethiopicum	Common Maidenhair						1				0.13		1	1	1
Amperea xiphoclada var. xiphoclada	Broom Spurge		5								0.63		5	5	1
Dianella tasmanica	Tasman Flax-lily		10		5	5	15			1	4.50	5.40	15	1	5
Drosera auriculata	Tall Sundew		1		1		1				0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Empodisma minus	Spreading Rope-rush		10	1	10	10	1			10	5.25	4.65	10	1	6
Eucalyptus obliqua	Messmate Stringybark			20	25	35	45	15			17.50	12.04	45	15	5
Eucalyptus ovata	Swamp Gum		20	25	15			30	20	35	11.88	11.09	35	10	6
Gahnia clarkei	Tall Saw-sedge			10		5	1				2.00	4.51	10	1	3
Gonocarpus tetragynus	Common Raspwort		1				1				0.25		1	1	2
Goodenia humilis	Swamp Goodenia						1				0.13		1	1	1
Lepidosperma elatius	Tall Sword-sedge			35	30	40	40	60	70	70	43.13	16.94	70	30	7
Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly Tea-tree				10	15	15	1			5.13	6.60	15	1	4
Lomandra filiformis	Wattle Mat-rush		1				1				0.25		1	1	2
Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark		30	10	10	10		10	20	5	11.88	8.52	30	5	7
Poa tenera	Slender Tussock-grass			10	10	10	10	20	25	10	11.88	6.27	25	10	7
Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken		15	1	5	5	1			1	3.50	5.43	15	1	6
Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass		1	15	20	15	25	15		5	12.00	8.26	25	1	7
Monotoca glauca	Currant-wood	r	10	10							2.50		10	10	2
Billardiera mutabilis	Common Apple-berry		1								0.13		1	1	1
Bare ground			5	15	10	15	5	10	5	5	8.75	4.43	15	5	8
Litter			30	45	40	35	40	40	35	40	38.13	4.58	45	30	8
Moss			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8

#### Summary information



Site Name	Т7	Site Location				ited at om turn	off		utary of	Bound	dary Creek on an	unnamed acces	ss track (	off Land	ons Road ~ 400
Latitude GDA94	-38.4386	VBA Survey ID					1084	4232							
Longitude GDA94	143.60679	VBA Site ID					715	613							
Geology	Unconfined														
Ref/Imp	Reference														
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Max	Min	No quads
Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood		1	1	1						0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Acaena novae-zelandiae	Bidgee-widgee			1							0.13		1	1	1
Adiantum aethiopicum	Common Maidenhair			1	5	5					1.38	2.31	5	1	3
Anogramma leptophylla	Annual Fern			1							0.13		1	1	1
Banksia marginata	Silver Banksia								1		0.13		1	1	1
Blechnum minus	Soft Water-fern				5						0.63		5	5	1
Blechnum nudum	Fishbone Water-fern		1		1	1	1	1			0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Cassytha glabella	Slender Dodder-laurel								1		0.13		1	1	1
Caustis flexuosa	Curly Wig		1	1	1						0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Dianella tasmanica	Tasman Flax-lily								1		0.13		1	1	1
Dicksonia antarctica	Soft Tree-fern			5	20	25	1				6.38	11.56	25	1	4
Dillwynia glaberrima	Smooth Parrot-pea						1		1		0.25		1	1	2
Empodisma minus	Spreading Rope-rush						1	1	1		0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Gahnia sieberiana	Red-fruit Saw-sedge			1	1	1					0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Gleichenia dicarpa/microphylla	Coral-fern		65	30	25	40	75	60	25		40.00	20.70	75	25	7
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog	*			1						0.13		1	1	1
Juncus planifolius	Broad-leaf Rush							1	1		0.25		1	1	2
Leptospermum continentale	Prickly Tea-tree							1	1		0.25		1	1	2
Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly Tea-tree		20	30	5	5	5	1	1		8.38	11.07	30	1	7
Lomandra filiformis	Wattle Mat-rush							1		1	0.25		1	1	2
Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark		5	5	30	30	25	1			12.00	13.71	30	1	6
Rubus parvifolius	Small-leaf Bramble					1					0.13		1	1	1
Rubus anglocandicans	Common Blackberry	*		1							0.13		1	1	1
Senecio velleioides	Forest Groundsel			1	1	1					0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass						1	1	1	1	0.50	0.00	1	1	4
Tetratheca ciliata	Pink-bells		1							1	0.13		1	1	1
Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Narrow-leaf Peppermint						10	1	35	30	9.50	16.15	35	1	4
Monotoca glauca	Currant-wood	r	1	1		1			45	50	12.13	26.92	50	1	4
Hydrocotyle spp.	Pennywort				1						0.13		1	1	1
Pterostylis spp.	Greenhood					1					0.13		1	1	1
Bare ground	1		1	1	5	5	5	1	1	1	2.50	2.07	5	1	8
Litter			40	50	35	30	25	35	45	80	42.50	17.11	80	25	8
OSS			20	30	15	30	1	5	1	5	13.38	12.22	30	1	8



Site Name	T8	Site Location					unnam n with W				ng Creek immed	iately south of V	Vestwoo	d Track	~250 m west of
Latitude GDA94	-38.4429	VBA Survey ID					1084	1233			]				
Longitude GDA94	143.68372	VBA Site ID					715	614							
Geology	Confined										4				
Ref/Imp	Impact														
Recorded Information		1									Summary info	rmation			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Мах	Min	No quads
Acacia verticillata	Prickly Moses					1	1			1	0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Acaena novae-zelandiae	Bidgee-widgee			1	1	1					0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Amperea xiphoclada var. xiphoclada	Broom Spurge					1					0.13		1	1	1
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal-grass	*		1							0.13		1	1	1
Asperula scoparia subsp. scoparia	Prickly Woodruff			1							0.13		1	1	1
Asplenium flabellifolium	Necklace Fern			1	1	1	1				0.50	0.00	1	1	4
Blechnum nudum	Fishbone Water-fern		40	35	20	10	25	10	15	5	20.00	12.54	40	5	8
Blechnum wattsii	Hard Water-fern		1	1	1						0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Clematis aristata	Mountain Clematis			1							0.13		1	1	1
Coprosma quadrifida	Prickly Currant-bush		1		1						0.25		1	1	2
Calochlaena dubia	Common Ground-fern		10			1					1.38		10	1	2
Dianella tasmanica	Tasman Flax-lily							5	5		1.25		5	5	2
Dicksonia antarctica	Soft Tree-fern				15	1	15				3.88	8.08	15	1	3
Eucalyptus brookeriana	Brooker's Gum	r		1		1		5			0.88	2.31	5	1	3
Eucalyptus obliqua	Messmate Stringybark								25	5	3.75		25	5	2
Gahnia sieberiana	Red-fruit Saw-sedge		5	1	5	20	10	15	35	5	12.00	11.17	35	1	8
Gonocarpus tetragynus	Common Raspwort				1		1				0.25		1	1	2
Hydrocotyle hirta	Hairy Pennywort		1	1	1	1	1	1			0.75	0.00	1	1	6
Lepidosperma elatius	Tall Sword-sedge				1		1	5	5	25	4.63	10.04	25	1	5
Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly Tea-tree			5							0.63		5	5	1
Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark		20	20	10	10	10	1	1	5	9.63	7.42	20	1	8
Poa tenera	Slender Tussock-grass		1	5	10	10	15	10	10	20	10.13	5.74	20	1	8
Poranthera microphylla s.l.	Small Poranthera					1					0.13		1	1	1
Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken					1			10	5	2.00	4.51	10	1	3
Rubus parvifolius	Small-leaf Bramble			1							0.13		1	1	1
Rubus anglocandicans	Common Blackberry	*	1	1							0.25		1	1	2
Senecio glomeratus	Annual Fireweed		1	5	1	1	1			1	1.13	1.79	5	1	5
Senecio minimus	Shrubby Fireweed			1	1	1	1	1			0.63	0.00	1	1	5
Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass		1	1	10	10	15	5	10	15	8.38	5.55	15	1	8
Viola hederacea sensu Entwisle (1996)	Ivy-leaf Violet		1	1	1	1	1	1			0.75	0.00	1	1	6
Geranium sp. 2	Variable Crane's-bill				1	1		1		1	0.25		1	1	2



Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Мах	Min	No quads
Bare ground			1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1.50	1.41	5	1	8
Litter			40	45	35	45	40	55	20	35	39.38	10.16	55	20	8
Moss			5	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	2.50	2.07	5	1	8



Site Name	Т9	Site Location	located on Porcupine Creek on Pipelin Pipeline Track	e Road ~ 2km north of intersection with Colac-olangolah
Latitude GDA94	-38.4992	VBA Survey ID	1084231	
Longitude GDA94	143.65894	VBA Site ID	715612	
Geology	Confined		·	-
Ref/Imp	Impact			

Recorded Information											Summary info	rmation			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Мах	Min	No quads
Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood		15	1	1	1	15	30	15	1	9.88	10.68	30	1	8
Acacia verticillata	Prickly Moses			1							0.13		1	1	1
Acaena novae-zelandiae	Bidgee-widgee			1				1	1		0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal-grass	*					1	1	1		0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Blechnum wattsii	Hard Water-fern					15	15		10		5.00	2.89	15	10	3
Bursaria spinosa subsp. spinosa	Sweet Bursaria		5						1	1	0.88	2.31	5	1	3
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle	*					1				0.13		1	1	1
Clematis aristata	Mountain Clematis		5	5	5	1	1	1	1	1	2.50	2.07	5	1	8
Coprosma quadrifida	Prickly Currant-bush		15	10	10	5	5	5	1	5	7.00	4.38	15	1	8
Austrocynoglossum latifolium	Forest Hound's-tongue								1		0.13		1	1	1
Dianella tasmanica	Tasman Flax-lily			1							0.13		1	1	1
Dichondra repens	Kidney-weed			1		1					0.25		1	1	2
Echinopogon ovatus	Common Hedgehog-grass							5	5		1.25		5	5	2
Eucalyptus brookeriana	Brooker's Gum	r	25	40	45	30	30	25	25		27.50	8.02	45	25	7
Eucalyptus obliqua	Messmate Stringybark			5			10	10	10	25	7.50	7.58	25	5	5
Gahnia sieberiana	Red-fruit Saw-sedge		5				1			1	0.88	2.31	5	1	3
Gonocarpus tetragynus	Common Raspwort		1	1	1	1				1	0.63	0.00	1	1	5
Goodenia lanata	Trailing Goodenia									1	0.13		1	1	1
Gynatrix pulchella s.l.	Hemp Bush						1		1		0.25		1	1	2
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire Fog	*				1	1	1			0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Hypochaeris radicata	Flatweed	*		1			1	1	1		0.50	0.00	1	1	4
Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly Tea-tree		1								0.13		1	1	1
Lomandra longifolia	Spiny-headed Mat-rush		1	1						1	0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Mentha australis	River Mint								1		0.13		1	1	1
Notelaea ligustrina	Privet Mock-olive		5	5	15	1	1	1	1	1	3.75	4.89	15	1	8
Olearia lirata	Snowy Daisy-bush		5	10	5	1		1	1		2.88	3.60	10	1	6
Olearia phlogopappa	Dusty Daisy-bush				l		l	l	1	5	0.75		5	1	2
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort	*			l		l	l	l	1	0.13		1	1	1
Poa sieberiana	Grey Tussock-grass			1	1		l	1	1		0.50	0.00	1	1	4
Poa tenera	Slender Tussock-grass			1	1	1	1	l	1	5	1.25	1.63	5	1	6



Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Мах	Min	No quads
Pomaderris aspera	Hazel Pomaderris			10	10	15	10	10	5	15	9.38	3.45	15	5	7
Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken		1	1	1		1	1	1	15	2.63	5.29	15	1	7
Rubus parvifolius	Small-leaf Bramble				1			1	1		0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Senecio velleioides	Forest Groundsel			1		1		1	1	1	0.63	0.00	1	1	5
Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass		1	1	1	1	1	1	5	5	2.00	1.85	5	1	8
Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Narrow-leaf Peppermint									5	0.63		5	5	1
Viola hederacea sensu Entwisle (1996)	Ivy-leaf Violet			1		1	1	1	1	1	0.75	0.00	1	1	6
Geranium sp. 2	Variable Crane's-bill		1	1		1	1	1	1		0.75	0.00	1	1	6
Asperula spp.	Woodruff				1			1		1	0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Centaurium spp.	Centaury	*							1		0.13		1	1	1
Corybas spp.	Helmet Orchid		1	1							0.25		1	1	2
Oxalis spp.	Wood Sorrel			1		1	1	1	1	1	0.75	0.00	1	1	6
Lotus spp. (naturalised)	Trefoil	*				1			1		0.25		1	1	2
Bare ground			5	5	5	5	5	5	10	5	5.63	1.77	10	5	8
Litter			50	55	55	50	45	40	35	50	47.50	7.07	55	35	8
Moss			1	1	1	5	10	5	5	1	3.63	3.25	10	1	8



Site Name	T10	J Site Location Track			Porcup	ine Cre	eek on	Pipelin	e Road ~ 2km no	orth of intersecti	on with (	Colac-ol	angolah Pipeline		
Latitude GDA94	-38.4597	VBA Survey ID					1084	1239							
Longitude GDA94	143.61789	VBA Site ID					715	620							
Geology	Confined										1				
Ref/Imp	Impact														
Recorded Information											Summary infor	mation			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Max	Min	No quads
Acacia verticillata	Prickly Moses		1								0.13		1	1	1
Adiantum aethiopicum	Common Maidenhair						1	1		5	0.88	2.31	5	1	3
Amperea xiphoclada var. xiphoclada	Broom Spurge									1	0.13		1	1	1
Banksia marginata	Silver Banksia									1	0.13		1	1	1
Dianella tasmanica	Tasman Flax-lily								1		0.13		1	1	1
Drosera auriculata	Tall Sundew								1		0.13		1	1	1
Empodisma minus	Spreading Rope-rush						5	1	1	1	1.00	2.00	5	1	4
Eucalyptus ovata	Swamp Gum		1			30	5	1	10		5.88	12.10	30	1	5
Gahnia sieberiana	Red-fruit Saw-sedge		50	35	10	5	5	10	15	30	20.00	16.48	50	5	8
Gonocarpus tetragynus	Common Raspwort						1	1	1		0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Goodenia humilis	Swamp Goodenia									1	0.13		1	1	1
Lepidosperma elatius	Tall Sword-sedge		5	1	30	35	10	25	10		14.50	13.25	35	1	7
Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly Tea-tree		50	60	60	45	45	50	35	40	48.13	8.84	60	35	8
Lomandra longifolia	Spiny-headed Mat-rush						10	1		1	1.50	5.20	10	1	3
Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark		5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.00	0.00	5	5	8
Poa tenera	Slender Tussock-grass							1	1	1	0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken		1			1	5	1	1	5	1.75	2.07	5	1	6
Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Narrow-leaf Peppermint						5			5	1.25		5	5	2
Monotoca glauca	Currant-wood	r					1		10	5	2.00	4.51	10	1	3
Billardiera mutabilis	Common Apple-berry										0.00		0	0	0
Viola hederacea sensu Entwisle (1996)	Ivy-leaf Violet						1	1			0.25		1	1	2
Bare ground			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8
Litter			45	70	65	55	50	45	40	40	51.25	11.26	70	40	8
Moss			1	1	1	1	10	5	5	10	4.25	3.96	10	1	8



Site Name	T11	Site Location			Loca	ted at I	Porcup	oine Cre	eek imr	nediate	ely east of crossi	ng of Pipeline R	oad		
Latitude GDA94	-38.4849	VBA Survey ID					108	4205							
Longitude GDA94	143.64186	VBA Site ID					715	586							
Geology	Confined										1				
Ref/Imp	Reference														
Recorded Information											Summary info	rmation			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Max	Min	No quads
Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood									1	0.13		1	1	1
Acacia verticillata	Prickly Moses		1	1				1	5	5	1.63	2.19	5	1	5
Acaena novae-zelandiae	Bidgee-widgee		1								0.13		1	1	1
Amyema pendula	Drooping Mistletoe			1		1			1	1	0.50	0.00	1	1	4
Banksia marginata	Silver Banksia									1	0.13		1	1	1
Blechnum nudum	Fishbone Water-fern					1	5	5		1	1.50	2.31	5	1	4
Blechnum wattsii	Hard Water-fern		5	1	20	10	20	30	55		17.63	18.31	55	1	7
Cyathea australis	Rough Tree-fern			1		15	1	5			2.75	6.61	15	1	4
Dianella tasmanica	Tasman Flax-lily		1	1	1	5	1	1	1	5	2.00	1.85	5	1	8
Dichondra repens	Kidney-weed									1	0.13		1	1	1
Eucalyptus brookeriana	Brooker's Gum	r		10							1.25		10	10	1
Eucalyptus obliqua	Messmate Stringybark		20		5			5		25	6.88	10.31	25	5	4
Eucalyptus ovata	Swamp Gum		20	30	30	30	15	10	10	10	19.38	9.43	30	10	8
Eucalyptus viminalis	Manna Gum						20	25	25	5	9.38	9.46	25	5	4
Gahnia sieberiana	Red-fruit Saw-sedge			20	1	1	20	20	5	10	9.63	8.94	20	1	7
Gonocarpus tetragynus	Common Raspwort				1					1	0.25		1	1	2
Goodenia lanata	Trailing Goodenia									1	0.13		1	1	1
Lepidosperma elatius	Tall Sword-sedge		15	5	15	10	5	5	5	10	8.75	4.43	15	5	8
Leptospermum continentale	Prickly Tea-tree									1	0.13		1	1	1
Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark		1	10	15	15	10	5	1	10	8.38	5.55	15	1	8
Olearia lirata	Snowy Daisy-bush			5						1	0.75		5	1	2
Poa tenera	Slender Tussock-grass						1		1	1	0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken		15	10		1	5	15	10	10	8.25	5.06	15	1	7
Stellaria pungens	Prickly Starwort			1							0.13		1	1	1
Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass		10	10	10	15	15	10	5	5	10.00	3.78	15	5	8
Viola hederacea sensu Entwisle (1996)	Ivy-leaf Violet			1							0.13		1	1	1
Geranium spp.	Crane's Bill							1			0.13		1	1	1
Hydrocotyle spp.	Pennywort					1					0.13		1	1	1
Bare ground			1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1.50	1.41	5	1	8
Litter			40	35	35	40	30	30	40	35	35.63	4.17	40	30	8
Moss			1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1	1.50	1.41	5	1	8



Site Name	T12	Site Location	In Otway Forest Park on northern side of Gold Hole Road at un-named tributary of Dividing						
Latitude GDA94	-38.457	VBA Survey ID	1083235						
Longitude GDA94	143.6493	VBA Site ID	714870						
Geology	Confined								
Ref/Imp	Reference								

Recorded Information Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	01	00	01	04	OF	0/	07	00	Summary infor	-	Max	Min	No evede
		Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Max	Min	No quads
Acacia mucronata subsp. longifolia	Narrow-leaf Wattle			1			5	1	5		1.50	2.31	5	1	4
Asplenium flabellifolium	Necklace Fern					1	1	1			0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Bedfordia arborescens	Blanket Leaf						1				0.13		1	1	1
Blechnum nudum	Fishbone Water-fern			1	5	1					0.88	2.31	5	1	3
Blechnum wattsii	Hard Water-fern						1				0.13		1	1	1
Cyathea australis	Rough Tree-fern				30	1				1	4.00	16.74	30	1	3
Dianella tasmanica	Tasman Flax-lily		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8
Empodisma minus	Spreading Rope-rush		1								0.13		1	1	1
Eucalyptus ovata	Swamp Gum		25	20	5	25	30	15	10	10	17.50	8.86	30	5	8
Gahnia sieberiana	Red-fruit Saw-sedge		5	1	10	30	5				6.38	11.52	30	1	5
Gleichenia dicarpa/microphylla	Coral-fern			1	5	5					1.38	2.31	5	1	3
Lepidosperma elatius	Tall Sword-sedge		1	10	1						1.50	5.20	10	1	3
Leptospermum continentale	Prickly Tea-tree		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8
Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly Tea-tree					1					0.13		1	1	1
Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark		5	5		10	1	1			2.75	3.71	10	1	5
Poa tenera	Slender Tussock-grass		1	1	20	1	5	1	1	1	3.88	6.66	20	1	8
Senecio velleioides	Forest Groundsel		1		1	1	1				0.50	0.00	1	1	4
Stellaria pungens	Prickly Starwort			1		1					0.25		1	1	2
Galium spp.	Bedstraw							1	1	1	0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood										0.00		0	0	0
Acacia verticillata	Prickly Moses		20	10	10	10	10	50	5	15	16.25	14.33	50	5	8
Acaena novae-zelandiae	Bidgee-widgee		1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	1.38	1.51	5	1	7
Asperula conferta	Common Woodruff			1		1	1				0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Cassinia longifolia	Shiny Cassinia			1							0.13		1	1	1
Cassytha pubescens s.s.	Downy Dodder-laurel							1	1	1	0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Cirsium vulgare	Spear Thistle	*		1							0.13		1	1	1
Geranium potentilloides	Soft Crane's-bill		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8
Gonocarpus tetragynus	Common Raspwort		1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1.50	1.41	5	1	8
Hypericum gramineum spp. agg.	Small St John's Wort			1	1	1	1	1			0.63	0.00	1	1	5
Lomandra longifolia	Spiny-headed Mat-rush			<u> </u>			1	30	50	45	15.75	22.04	50	1	4



Olearia lirata	Snowy Daisy-bush		I	l	1	1	5	1	l	1	1.13	1.79	5	1	5
Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken		30	25	1	1	25	15	15	20	16.50	10.85	30	1	8
Pultenaea gunnii	Golden Bush-pea		1		1	1		1			0.50	0.00	1	1	4
Rubus anglocandicans	Common Blackberry	*				1					0.13		1	1	1
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Мах	Min	No quads
Senecio tenuiflorus spp. agg.	Slender Fireweed			1	1	1	1	1			0.63	0.00	1	1	5
Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass		5	10	10	20	30	10	10	5	12.50	8.45	30	5	8
Eucalyptus radiata subsp. radiata	Narrow-leaf Peppermint							10	20	10	5.00	5.77	20	10	3
Billardiera mutabilis	Common Apple-berry							1	1	1	0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Epacris impressa var. impressa	Common Heath						1		1		0.25		1	1	2
Viola hederacea sensu Entwisle (1996)	Ivy-leaf Violet		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8
Oxalis spp.	Wood Sorrel		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8
Lotus spp. (naturalised)	Trefoil					1					0.13		1	1	1
Bare ground			5	5	5	5	5	1	1	1	3.50	2.07	5	1	8
Litter			45	20	25	25	25	40	40	30	31.25	9.16	45	20	8
Moss			5	10	10	1	5	5	1	1	4.75	3.73	10	1	8



Site Name	T13	Site Location	on North side of Parkes Lodge Rd ~200m north of Mcdonalds Road intersection				
Latitude GDA94	-38.4682	VBA Survey ID	1083896				
Longitude GDA94	143.63163	VBA Site ID	715424				
Geology	Confined						
Ref/Imp	Reference						

Recorded Information											Summary infor	rmation			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Мах	Min	No quads
Acrotriche prostrata	Trailing Ground-berry									1	0.13		1	1	1
Adiantum aethiopicum	Common Maidenhair		1								0.13		1	1	1
Anogramma leptophylla	Annual Fern			1		1		1	1		0.50	0.00	1	1	4
Cassytha pubescens s.s.	Downy Dodder-laurel		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8
Allocasuarina paludosa	Scrub Sheoak		5	20	35	20	15	15	25	20	19.38	8.63	35	5	8
Caustis flexuosa	Curly Wig		1	5	5	5	1	5	10	10	5.25	3.41	10	1	8
Empodisma minus	Spreading Rope-rush									1	0.13		1	1	1
Epacris lanuginosa	Woolly-style Heath							1	1	5	0.88	2.31	5	1	3
Eucalyptus ovata	Swamp Gum		5	5	1	1			1	1	1.75	2.07	5	1	6
Gahnia radula	Thatch Saw-sedge		1		1			5	1	5	1.63	2.19	5	1	5
Lepidosperma laterale	Variable Sword-sedge		5	10	5	10	20	5	1	1	7.13	6.22	20	1	8
Leptospermum continentale	Prickly Tea-tree		60	40	20	5	20	20	15	15	24.38	17.41	60	5	8
Leucopogon virgatus	Common Beard-heath						1		1	1	0.38	0.00	1	1	3
Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark							1			0.13		1	1	1
Pultenaea gunnii	Golden Bush-pea								1	1	0.25		1	1	2
Selaginella uliginosa	Swamp Selaginella		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8
Sprengelia incarnata	Pink Swamp-heath		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8
Tetrarrhena distichophylla	Hairy Rice-grass								1		0.13		1	1	1
Wahlenbergia stricta subsp. stricta	Tall Bluebell						1	1			0.25		1	1	2
Gonocarpus micranthus	Creeping Raspwort		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8
Billardiera mutabilis	Common Apple-berry		1	1							0.25		1	1	2
Epacris impressa var. impressa	Common Heath				1			1	1	1	0.50	0.00	1	1	4
Lepidosperma gunnii	Slender Sword-sedge								5	15	2.50		15	5	2
Viola hederacea sensu Entwisle (1996)	Ivy-leaf Violet						1	1	1	1	0.50	0.00	1	1	4
Bare ground			20	20	20	10	10	10	5	5	12.50	6.55	20	5	8
Litter			15	15	15	25	20	25	15	15	18.13	4.58	25	15	8
Moss			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.00	0.00	1	1	8

#### mary informatio



Site Name	T14	Site Location	Located east of Robinson Road approx	kimately 150 m north of intersection with Cashin's Road
Latitude GDA94	-38.4592	VBA Survey ID	1084204	
Longitude GDA94	143.59752	VBA Site ID	715585	
Geology	Confined		·	
Ref/Imp	Reference			

Recorded Information											Summary info	mation			
Scientific Name	Common Name	Conservation Status	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Average	Std Dev	Max	Min	No quads
Acacia dealbata	Silver Wattle							1			0.13		1	1	1
Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood								1		0.13		1	1	1
Adiantum aethiopicum	Common Maidenhair									1	0.13		1	1	1
Blechnum nudum	Fishbone Water-fern		20	10	5	5	20	10	10	20	12.50	6.55	20	5	8
Cyathea australis	Rough Tree-fern									10	1.25		10	10	1
Dicksonia antarctica	Soft Tree-fern								5	5	1.25		5	5	2
Eucalyptus obliqua	Messmate Stringybark		25								3.13		25	25	1
Eucalyptus viminalis	Manna Gum		10	30	30	35	30	30	10	5	22.50	11.95	35	5	8
Gahnia radula	Thatch Saw-sedge			5	1	30	15	5	20		9.50	11.08	30	1	6
Gleichenia dicarpa/microphylla	Coral-fern		25	20	25	5	10	30	20	10	18.13	8.84	30	5	8
Lepidosperma elatius	Tall Sword-sedge		5		1		1				0.88	2.31	5	1	3
Melaleuca squarrosa	Scented Paperbark		30	25	40	25	45	20	30	45	32.50	9.64	45	20	8
Mentha laxiflora	Forest Mint									1	0.13		1	1	1
Poa tenera	Slender Tussock-grass				1						0.13		1	1	1
Polystichum proliferum	Mother Shield-fern		5	30	10						5.63	13.23	30	5	3
Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken			1						1	0.25		1	1	2
Rubus parvifolius	Small-leaf Bramble							1			0.13		1	1	1
Rubus anglocandicans	Common Blackberry	*							1		0.13		1	1	1
Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass		1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1	1.50	1.41	5	1	8
Monotoca glauca	Currant-wood	r						10	5		1.88		10	5	2
Brachyscome spp.	Daisy			1							0.13		1	1	1
Pterostylis spp.	Greenhood					1	l				0.13		1	1	1
Bare ground			1	1	5	5		1	10	10	4.13	4.03	10	1	7
Litter			50	50	60	65	60	45	40	50	52.50	8.45	65	40	8
Moss			1	5	1	5	1	5	1	5	3.00	2.14	5	1	8



# Appendix D. Statistical outputs



### D.1 One Way Anova

Unconfined - to	tal cover		With T3						
Impact	Reference		Anova: Sing	le Factor					
85.25	76.75								
104.5	104.625		SUMMAR	Y					
60.75	83.75		Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance		
90.375			Impact	4	340.875	85.21875	332.3581		
			Reference	3	265.125	88.375	210.2969		
			ANOVA						
		Sour	rce of Varia	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
			Between G	17.07757	1	17.07757	0.060231	0.815886	6.607891
			Within Gro	1417.668	5	283.5336			
			Total	1434.746	6				

Unconfine	d - proportio	n	With T3						
Impact	Reference		Anova: Sing	gle Factor					
0.778539	0.863572								
0.93617	0.750673		SUMMAR	Y					
1	0.876963		Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance		
0.828179			Impact	4	3.542888	0.885722	0.010135		
			Reference	3	2.491208	0.830403	0.004813		
			ANOVA						
		Sour	ce of Varia	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
			Between G	0.005246	1	0.005246	0.655284	0.455011	6.607891
			Within Gro	0.040029	5	0.008006			
			Total	0.045275	6				



tal cover	Without T	3					
Reference	Anova: Sing	gle Factor					
76.75							
104.625	SUMMAR	Y					
83.75	Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance		
	Impact	3	280.125	93.375	99.39063		
	Reference	3	265.125	88.375	210.2969		
	ANOVA						
	Source of Varia	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
	Between G	37.5	1	37.5	0.24218	0.648422	7.708647
	Within Grou	619.375	4	154.8438			
	Total	656.875	5				
	76.75 104.625	ReferenceAnova: Sing76.75SUMMAR104.625SUMMAR83.75GroupsImpactImpactReferenceANOVASource of VariaBetween GWithin Groups	ReferenceAnova: Single Factor $76.75$ SUMMARY $104.625$ SUMMARY $83.75$ $Groups$ Count $Mageneral Markowski Ma$	ReferenceAnova: Single Factor76.75SUMMARY104.625SUMMARY83.75 $Groups$ $Count$ MarkowskiImpact3280.125Reference3265.125Reference3ANOVAANOVASource of VariaSSMethin Gro619.375Mithin Gro619.375	ReferenceAnova: Single FactorImage76.75SUMMARYImage104.625SUMMARYImage83.75 $Groups$ CountSumMarceImpact3280.125ParageReference3265.125Reference3265.12588.375ANOVAImageImageImageSource of VariaSSdfMSMithin Gro619.375137.5Image <td>ReferenceAnova: Single FactorImageImageImage76.75SUMMARYImageImageVariance83.75GroupsCountSumAverageVarianceImpact3280.12593.37599.39063Reference3265.12588.375210.2969ImageImageImageImageImageImageReference3265.12588.375210.2969ImageImageImageImageImageImageImageReference3265.12588.375210.2969ImageImageImageImageImageImageImageSource of VariaSSdfMSFImageBetween G37.5137.50.24218Image<!--</td--><td>Reference         Anova: Single Factor         Interfactor         Interfactor</td></td>	ReferenceAnova: Single FactorImageImageImage76.75SUMMARYImageImageVariance83.75GroupsCountSumAverageVarianceImpact3280.12593.37599.39063Reference3265.12588.375210.2969ImageImageImageImageImageImageReference3265.12588.375210.2969ImageImageImageImageImageImageImageReference3265.12588.375210.2969ImageImageImageImageImageImageImageSource of VariaSSdfMSFImageBetween G37.5137.50.24218Image </td <td>Reference         Anova: Single Factor         Interfactor         Interfactor</td>	Reference         Anova: Single Factor         Interfactor         Interfactor

Unconfine	d - proportion	Without T3	3					
Impact	Reference	Anova: Sing	gle Factor					
0.778539	0.863572							
0.93617	0.750673	SUMMAR	Y					
0.828179	0.876963	Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance		
		Impact	3	2.542888	0.847629	0.006496		
		Reference	3	2.491208	0.830403	0.004813		
		ANOVA						
		Source of Varia	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
		Between G	0.000445	1	0.000445	0.078726	0.792945	7.708647
		Within Gro	0.022616	4	0.005654			
		Total	0.023061	5				



<b>Confined</b> -total	cover	With T14							
Impact	Reference		Anova: Sing	gle Factor					
66	81.5								
51.625	43.75		SUMMAR	Y					
98	67.125		Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance		
	106.5		Impact	3	215.625	71.875	563.5469		
			Reference	3	192.375	64.125	363.0156		
			ANOVA						
		Sout	rce of Varia	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
			Between G	90.09375	1	90.09375	0.194469	0.68201	7.708647
			Within Grou	1853.125	4	463.2813			
			Total	1943.219	5				

Confined -	proportion	With T14							
Impact	Reference		Anova: Sing	gle Factor					
0.77533	0.737557								
0.546296	0.363448		SUMMAR	Y					
0.945718	0.957219		Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance		
	0.950893		Impact	3	2.267344	0.755781	0.040171		
			Reference	4	3.009116	0.752279	0.077618		
			ANOVA						
		Sou	rce of Varia	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
			Between G	2.1E-05	1	2.1E-05	0.000336	0.98609	6.607891
			Within Gro	0.313197	5	0.062639			
			Total	0.313218	6				



<b>Confined</b> -total	cover	Without T	14						
Impact	Reference	:	Anova: Sing	gle Factor					
66	81.5								
51.625	43.75		SUMMAR	Y					
98	67.125		Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance		
			Impact	3	215.625	71.875	563.5469		
			Reference	3	192.375	64.125	363.0156		
			ANOVA						
		Sour	rce of Varia	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
			Between G	90.09375	1	90.09375	0.194469	0.68201	7.708647
			Within Grou	1853.125	4	463.2813			
			Total	1943.219	5				

Confined -	proportion	Without T	14						
Impact	Reference		Anova: Sing	gle Factor					
0.77533	0.737557								
0.546296	0.363448		SUMMAR	Y					
0.945718	0.957219		Groups	Count	Sum	Average	Variance		
			Impact	3	2.267344	0.755781	0.040171		
			Reference	3	2.058223	0.686074	0.090129		
			ANOVA						
			ce of Varia	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
			Between G	0.007289	1	0.007289	0.111874	0.754823	7.708647
			Within Gro	0.2606	4	0.06515			
			Total	0.267889	5				



## D.2 Two Way ANOVAs



	T	-	no T3 or T14	•		
		Geology				
	Ref/Imp	Confined	Unconfined			
	Impact	66	85.25			
		51.625	104.5			
		98	90.375			
	Reference	81.5	76.75			
		43.75	104.625			
		67.125	83.75			
Anova: Two-Factor	With Replic	ation				
SUMMARY	Confined	Unconfined	Total			
Impact						
Count	3	3	6			
Sum	215.625	280.125	495.75			
Average	71.875	93.375	82.625			
Variance	563.5469		403.85			
Reference						
Count	3	3	6			
Sum	192.375	265.125	457.5			
Average	64.125	88.375	76.25			
Variance	363.0156	210.2969	405.7438			
Total						
Count	6	6				
Sum	408	545.25				
Average	68	90.875				
Variance	388.6438	131.375				
ANOVA		10	1/6	F		<b>D</b>
Source of Variation		df	MS	<i>F</i>	P-value	F crit
Ref/Imp	121.9219	1	121.9219	0.394489	0.547456	5.317655
Geology	1569.797	1	1569.797	5.079221	0.054252	5.317655
Interaction	5.671875	1	5.671875	0.018352	0.895588	5.317655
Within	2472.5	8	309.0625			
Total	4169.891	11				
1000	+107.071	11				



				T3 or T14		
	Geology					
	Confined	Unconfined				
Impact	0.77533					
Impact	0.546296					
Impact	0.945718	0.828179				
Reference	0.737557	0.863572				
Reference	0.363448	0.750673				
Reference	0.957219	0.876963				
Anova: Two-Factor V	Vith Replica	tion				
SUMMARY	Confined	Unconfined	Total			
		Uncommed	IUIdi			
<i>Impact</i> Count		3	ſ			
	3		6			
Sum	2.267344		4.810232			
Average	0.755781	0.847629	0.801705			
Variance	0.040171	0.006496	0.021197			
Reference						
Count	3	3	6			
Sum	2.058223	2.491208	4.549432			
Average	0.686074	0.830403	0.758239			
Variance	0.090129	0.004813	0.044226			
Total						
Count	6	6				
Sum	4.325568					
Average	0.720928					
Variance	0.053578					
ANOVA						
Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F crit
Ref/Imp	0.005668		0.005668	0.160106	0.699531	5.317655
Geology	0.041834	1	0.041834	1.181694	0.308676	5.317655
Interaction	0.002066	1	0.002066	0.058349	0.815202	5.317655
Within	0.283216	8	0.035402			
	0 222704	11				
Total	0.332784	11				