

PROJECT 1 – FINAL SCOPE SUMMARY

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Project Scope – Environmental Assessment

Council is seeking the services of an appropriately qualified consultant to undertake a conditions assessment of the Karaaf to determine the current extent and quality of existing vegetation and identification of impact resulting from stormwater flows and freshwater intrusion from adjoining land, particularly from western outlets connected to residential development.

The results of this assessment will be used to inform the determination of water requirements for the maintenance of ecological values within the Karaaf and an appropriate monitoring program to identify changes in vegetation condition once an infrastructure plan is determined and changes to the freshwater flows are implemented.

Background literature review

Review relevant flora and fauna databases and documentation pertaining to the site. Surf Coast Shire to provide suite of relevant reports, aerial imagery and background documentation for context and review of EVC mapping and vegetation quality data.

Site assessment

Site visit to gain overview of existing vegetation conditions within the area. Assessment to include:

- Field identification and mapping of extent of 'weed' species including freshwater sensitive species present within saltmarsh communities.
- Field identification and mapping of areas experiencing dieback due to prolonged and or infrequent inundation.
- Review of percentage cover of perennial native cover and percentage of exotic cover of vegetation communities (ARI 2017, Fringing vegetation for the index of estuary condition).
- Other important ecological features or field observations relevant to stormwater flows, freshwater intrusion, inundation, infrastructure or land use.

Mapping

Site plan detailing the location of field observations. Council to provide mapping in the format as per the request of the consultant, including previous EVC mapping and current/ historic aerial images of the site.

Report Production

Prepare a summary report of the assessment outlining background review, methodology of field assessment and details of field observations including preparation of detailed mapping and submission of GIS layers. A final version of the report will be provided in response to one set of consolidated comments from the PCG on the draft report.

Provisional Items – these items can be provided at the request of Council and can be undertaken for an agreed lump sum or according to a schedule of rates:

- Monitoring Program - propose a method for undertaking a monitoring program to identify any change in vegetation quality and extent as a result of future works undertaken to mitigate the volume and timing of freshwater flows from the western outlets connected to residential development.
- Community Forum – present summary of results and respond to questions from the community in regards to the environmental condition of the Karaaf.
- Meeting to discuss implications of results of Stormwater network assessment (Project 2) – participate in a meeting to discuss what the stormwater network assessment results mean for the water requirements for the maintenance of ecological values within the Karaaf based on the results of the ecological assessment.
- WTAOC briefing – participate in a detailed briefing and access to select living cultural heritage site information, and to issues pertinent to the study area.