

Ms Jenny Titterton
Senior Planner
The Planning Group
PO Box 1612
North Sydney NSW 2059



25 June 2009

Dear Jenny,

Habitat tree inspection, Picnic Point, Lake Wonboyn, NSW.

As requested, on the 9th and 10th of June I undertook an investigation of Picnic Point site, Lake Wonboyn, NSW. Based on a consideration of comments received from the Department of Planning, the investigation was conducted to provide greater detail on the habitat resources available for the state listed Yellow-bellied Glider, the Glossy Black-cockatoo and other tree hollow dependant species. The investigation was undertaken on foot and was restricted to those areas mapped as “potential areas to be disturbed” (refer to Plan 8033H-2 included in the Development Application). These areas included the building envelopes, Asset Protection Zones (APZ) and the proposed power line easement. In regards to the power line easement, it is noted that when surveying this, an area approximately 20 metres wide was investigated.

During the field surveys, no limitations to the success of the investigation, or the objectives of the study, were encountered.

It is noted that, when on site, LesryK was required to:

- 1) identify any hollow bearing trees that would be utilised by native fauna within the “potential areas to be disturbed”;
- 2) identify any Yellow-bellied Glider feed trees within the “potential areas to be disturbed”; and
- 3) identify any Glossy Black Cockatoo feed trees (Casuarinas with chewed fruits) within the “potential areas to be disturbed”.

1) Presence of hollow bearing trees.

By the completion of the field investigations 37 hollow bearing trees had been recorded within the “potential areas to be disturbed”, these being tagged in the field with bright pink flagging tape and their coordinates recorded with a Global Positioning System (GPS)¹ (Attachment 1). For reference, these trees have also been mapped (Attachment 2). Given the distances observed from one hollow bearing tree to the next as well as the accuracy provided by the GPS, it is considered that the way in which these trees are marked on site is suitable for the future planning needs of those areas mapped as “potential areas to be disturbed”.

It is noted that a number of these were potentially hollow bearing. Given the height and direction of the potential hollows it was difficult to determine their hollow status, and as such a precautionary approach

¹ GPS system used is WGS 84. Accuracy ranged from 4m to 6m.

was taken. When visible, the hollow diameter ranged from less than 100 millimetres to greater than 200 millimetres. No evidence of occupation of these hollows by native fauna was observed at the time of the field investigation.

Whilst not specifically targeted², additional hollow bearing trees were observed within those portions of Picnic Point site that are to be retained. The presence of these plants is expected to provide resources that will ensure the long-term survival of any hollow dependent native fauna displaced as a result of the undertaking of the Proposal.

2) Presence of Yellow-bellied Glider feed trees.

No additional Yellow-bellied Glider feed trees (incised sap trees) were recorded by the completion of the current field investigations.

3) Presence of Glossy Black Cockatoo feed trees.

No additional Glossy Black Cockatoo feed trees (indicated through the presence of crushed Casuarina cones) were recorded by the completion of the current field investigations.

Conclusion.

By the completion of the site survey, 37 hollow, and potentially hollow bearing trees had been recorded within the “potential areas to be disturbed”. No additional Yellow-bellied Glider or Glossy Black Cockatoo feed trees had been recorded within, or in close proximity to, any of the “potential areas to be disturbed”.

Recommendations.

Based on the outcomes of the site investigation undertaken, and in accordance with the Flora and Fauna report undertaken in 2008 by the authors (LesryK Environmental Consultants 2008) the following recommendations are presented:

- A qualified ecologist should be present on site during the course of all tree removals (only hollow bearing plants) to provide direction for the plants removal and assist with the relocation of any animals (if required).
- Any mature hollow bearing trees that are to be removed from the works area (including the construction sites) should be checked for the presence of sheltering animals prior to their clearing. The recommended method for the checking of any hollow occupying species is: a) knock tree with excavator bucket several times; b) examine hollows for any disturbed fauna; c) fell tree and d) re-examine any hollows once the tree is on the ground (this method has proved effective during other tree removal projects overseen by the authors). If any disturbed animals are observed at the hollow entrances, the tree should not be removed but left in place for 24 hours, thereby permitting any animals with the opportunity to leave the site. The knocking process identified above should be repeated the next day. If during the course of the hollow investigations (once the tree is on the ground) any animals are identified, these should be

² Hollow bearing trees were observed within the 20m wide corridor surveyed either side of the proposed power line easement. Beyond this corridor, and those areas proposed to be developed, within the stands of bushland that are to be conserved, other hollow bearing trees were noted but not mapped (this being beyond the scope of works required for this study).

removed and relocated locally. If injured, these animals should be removed and taken to a projects nominated veterinarian and/or wildlife carer.

- Protocols should be developed and included into the project's environmental management documentation in relation to the handling and treatment of injured wildlife. All protocols should be included into the project's environmental obligations as provided to any works contractors and their subconsultants.

If you require any further information on this proposal please contact Stephen Bloomfield on either (02) 9523 2016 or (0400) 723 248.

Yours sincerely,



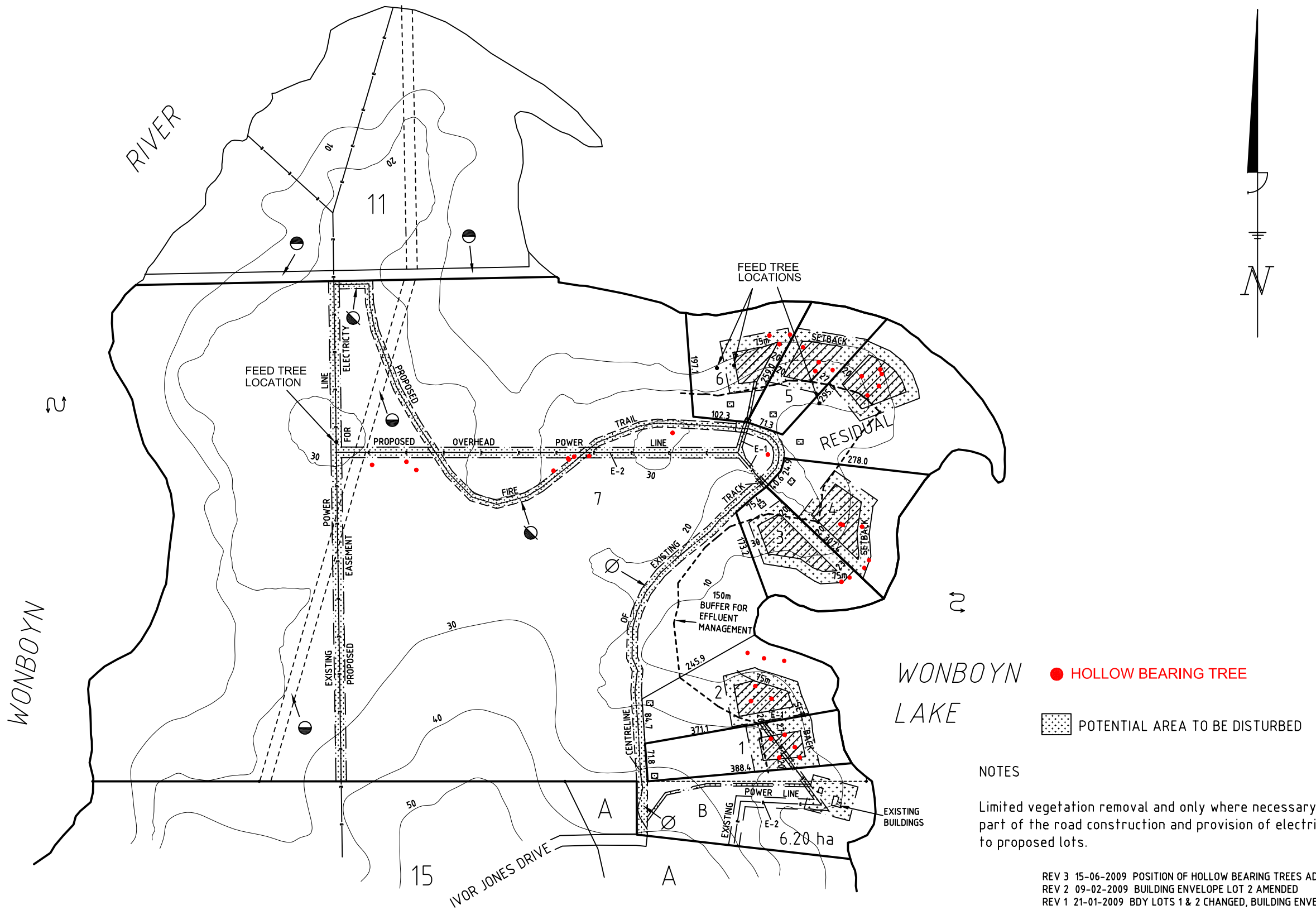
Stephen Bloomfield
Project Manager - Ecologist
LesryK Environmental Consultants
PO Box 3001
Bundeena NSW 2230

References

LesryK Environmental Consultants (2008) *Flora and fauna survey, Picnic Point Subdivision, Lake Wonboyn, NSW*. Report prepared for The Planning Group on behalf of the Picnic Point Pty Ltd by Lesryk Environmental Consultants.

Attachment I: Habitat tree coordinates.

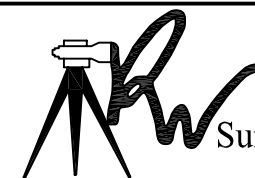
Lot 1		Lot 2		Lot 3		Lot 4		Residual		Lot 5		Lot 6		Power line easement	
759720	5875035	759691	5875155	759867	5875344	759892	5875449	759986	5875717	759902	5875745	759831	5875829	759781	5875609
759682	5875043	759652	5875159			759888	5875451	760014	5875692	759912	5875760	759846	5875809	759613	5875687
759715	5875065	759666	5875185			759927	5875438	760024	5875713					759449	5875677
759674	5875081							760023	5875722					759421	5875682
759701	5875083													759410	5875679
														759409	5875681
														759377	5875664
														759123	5875720
														759108	5875739
														759043	5875747
														759055	5875669
														759070	5875674
														759083	5875669
														759085	5875667
														759248	5875617
														759293	5875629
														759321	5875623



- E-2 PROPOSED EASEMENT FOR ELECTRICITY 20m WIDE
- E-1 PROPOSED UNDERGROUND POWER LINE AND EASEMENT FOR ELECTRICITY 10m WIDE
- Ø PROPOSED RIGHT OF CARRIAGEWAY 20m WIDE
- PROPOSED RIGHT OF CARRIAGEWAY 15m WIDE
- RESERVED ROAD 20.115m WIDE
- PUBLIC ROAD 20.115m WIDE & VAR.

PLAN OF POTENTIAL AREAS TO BE DISTURBED RESULTING FROM SUBDIVISION OF PORTION 14 PLUS BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT OF LOT B IN DP 33573 AT PICNIC POINT, WONBOYN LAKE

FOR PICNIC POINT PTY LTD OWNER



Surveying & Valuations

PO BOX 639
35 FLINDERS STREET
EDEN NSW 2551
PHONE: (02) 6496 3418
FAX: (02) 6496 2259
E-MAIL: property@rwsurveying.com

LEVEL DATUM
CONTOUR INFORMATION
PREPARED FROM KIAH 1:25000
TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

SCALE 1:8000	DATE 15-06-2009	DRN. SB	CHK. MS	SIZE A3
REFERENCE/DRAWING NAME				REV.
0833 H				3
SHEET 1 OF 2				

NOTES

Limited vegetation removal and only where necessary as part of the road construction and provision of electricity to proposed lots.

REV 3 15-06-2009 POSITION OF HOLLOW BEARING TREES ADDED
REV 2 09-02-2009 BUILDING ENVELOPE LOT 2 AMENDED
REV 1 21-01-2009 BDY LOTS 1 & 2 CHANGED, BUILDING ENVELOPES AND APZ'S FOR LOTS 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 & 7 AMENDED