

21 October 2019

Muscat Developments  
Westbrook Road  
Cawdor, NSW  
cm43@bigpond.com

Dear Cathy and James

**Re: Air Quality Impact Assessment – Goolgowi New South Wales – Summary of Updated Modelling**

As requested, we have performed odour modelling of your proposed meat chicken farm located on Lot 1 and 2 DP 749831 McRaes Road, Goolgowi, New South Wales ("the site").

The modelling we have performed makes use of best practice modelling methodology and is consistent with the methods used to assess other farms in the area. The modelling has been performed based on a maximum of sixty sheds and has taken into account the comments in the letter from NSW EPA to the Department of Planning and Environment dated 28 June 2019 ("the letter") specifically the comment relating to the likely exit velocity of the ventilation stacks.

The work we have performed is to build on the previous work of Advitech and to ensure comments provided by EPA are addressed.

The modelling switches and settings were based on OEH (2011).

**Meteorology**

The meteorological modelling used a combination of prognostic data and data from weather stations within the area (Griffith BOM and RFM data for 2007). The year 2007 was previously shown to be consistent with long term averages for the area.

The use of observed weather data from a region combined with prognostic data to generate site specific data is consistent with the Generic Guidance and Optimum Model Settings for the CALPUFF modelling system for inclusion into the 'Approved methods for the Modeling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW, Australia' (OEH, 2011).

This methodology was successfully applied to the expansion of the Tabbita Poultry Complex approximately 20km to the south east.

TAPM v4 was run for the year, and the outputs were used to drive CALMET as the Step 1 Windfield.

**Astute Environmental Consulting**

CALMET was modelled using the nested approach, where the final results from a coarse-grid run with the observed data were used as the initial guess to a fine inner grid. With this methodology terrain features including slope flows, blocking effect can be allowed to take effect and the larger –scale wind flow provides a better start in the fine-grid run.

The outer domain (72.8 km × 60.0 km) was modelled with a resolution of 0.4 km. TAPM-generated three-dimensional meteorological data was used as the initial guess wind field (3km) and the local topography and available surface weather observations in the area were used to refine the wind field defined by the TAPM data.

Hourly surface meteorological data from Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) station located at Griffith Airport AWS and also from the RFM poultry farm were incorporated. The output from the outer domain CALMET modelling was then used as the initial guess field for the inner domain CALMET modelling. The inner domain encompasses an area of 30 km × 30 km.

A terrain and land use resolution of 30m was used throughout the domain. The terrain data was derived based on the SRTM dataset and the Landuse was initially based on the Australia Pacific Global Land Cover Characterization (GLCC) dataset at 1km resolution. The land use was then manually edited at 100m resolution based on a recent aerial photograph of the area.

Key inputs used in TAPM and CALMET are summarised below in Table 1.

**Table 1: TAPM and CALMET Setup**

| Model                         | Parameter                        | Value                                                                |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| TAPM (v 4.0.5)                | Number of grids (spacing)        | 30km, 10km, 3km                                                      |
|                               | Number of grid points            | 41 x 41 x 25 (vertical)                                              |
|                               | Year of analysis                 | 2007                                                                 |
|                               | Centre of analysis               | 34° 9.30' South (latitude), 146° 2.3' East (longitude)               |
|                               | Meteorological data assimilation | N/A                                                                  |
|                               | Radius of influence              | N/A                                                                  |
| CALMET (v 6.334) – outer grid | Meteorological grid domain       | 72.8km x 60.0km                                                      |
|                               | Meteorological grid resolution   | 0.4km                                                                |
|                               | South-west corner of domain      | X = 375.000 km, Y = 6190.000 km                                      |
|                               | Surface meteorological stations  | Griffith Airport AWS<br>RFM Poultry Farm<br>TAPM (to fill in blanks) |
|                               | Upper air meteorological data    | Model generated.                                                     |
|                               | 3D Windfield                     | m3D from TAPM (3.0km) input as in initial guess in CALMET            |
|                               | Year of analysis                 | 2007                                                                 |
|                               | Terrad                           | 7.0 km                                                               |
|                               | R1/R2                            | 2.5/2.5                                                              |
|                               | Rmax1/Rmax2/Rmax3                | 5/5/5                                                                |
| CALMET (v 6.334) – inner grid | Meteorological grid domain       | 30km x 30km                                                          |
|                               | Meteorological grid resolution   | 0.15km                                                               |
|                               | South-west corner of domain      | X = 352.500 km, Y = 6218.500 km                                      |
|                               | Surface meteorological stations  | N/A                                                                  |
|                               | 3D Windfield                     | 3D output from outer domain model run                                |
|                               | Year of analysis                 | 2007                                                                 |
|                               | Terrad                           | 6.0 km                                                               |



could achieve 30 m<sup>3</sup>/s. This is conservative; if the shed went into tunnel earlier than this, the exit velocity and discharge height would be faster and higher.

## Emissions

Emissions were estimated for the following sites using the K factor method of Ormerod and Holmes (2005):

- Jeanella South (based on bird numbers detailed in the Jeanella reports);
- Jeanella (based on bird numbers detailed in the Jeanella reports);
- The site (sixty sheds with stacks).

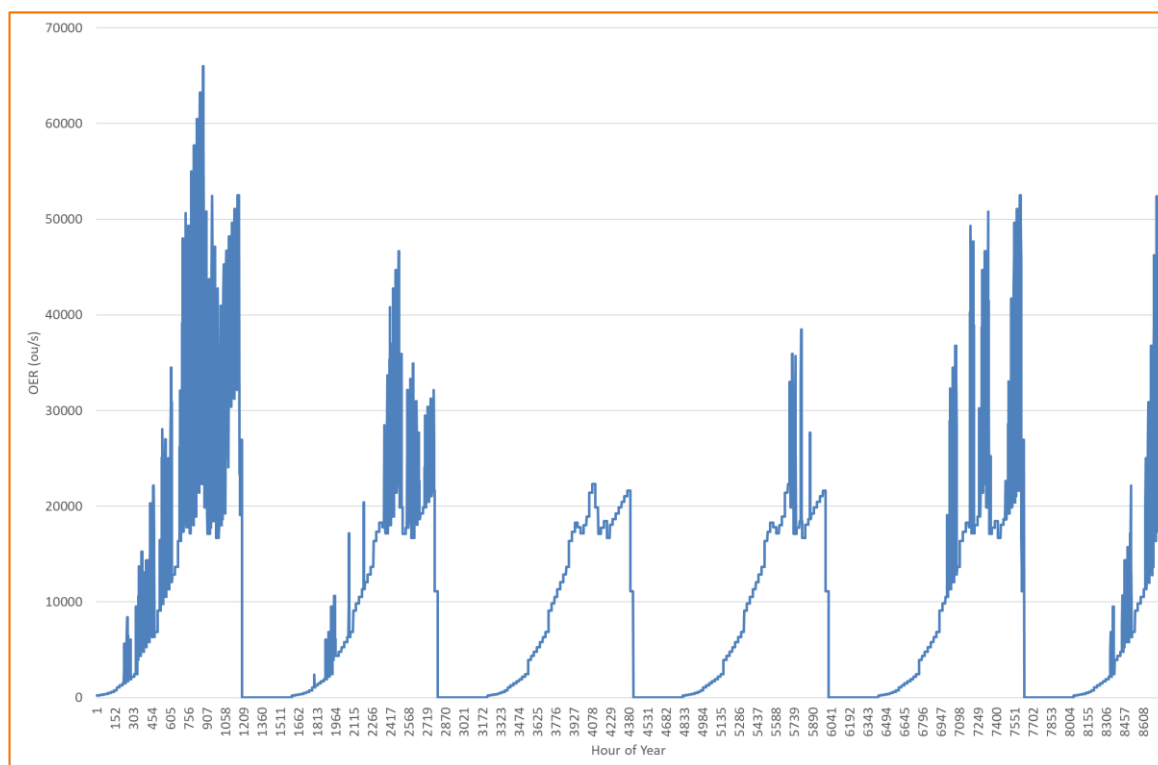
Key assumptions used in the emission estimation include:

- Maximum ventilation rate of 10 m<sup>3</sup>/hr/bird at maximum;
- 60,000 birds per shed;
- 50 day batch, with 17 day cleanout;
- Thinning
  - 15% of birds placed removed at day 32;
  - 25% of birds placed removed at day 38;
  - 15% of birds placed removed at day 42; and
  - All gone by end of day 50.
- Standard target temperatures;
- K factor for all sheds of 2.2;
- Placement/offset (to be consistent with Advitech assessment<sup>2</sup>):
  - Jeanella and Jeanella South – all in day 1; and
  - Muscat site, all birds across 60 sheds placed on the same day (unrealistic) and then varied by 14, 28 and 42 days.

An example emission profile generated for the work is shown below in Figure 2.

---

<sup>2</sup> Advitech assessment showed minimal variation in predicted concentrations.



**Figure 2: Example Emission Profile – Day 1 Placement – 60,000 birds**

## CALPUFF

Key inputs we used in CALPUFF are summarised below in Table 2. The duty fans were modelled as a series of point sources at one end of the sheds, and the tunnel fans were modelled as a series of points sources at the fan end of the shed. Diameters were varied by ventilation stage to ensure that the minimum velocity was achieved in the modelling.

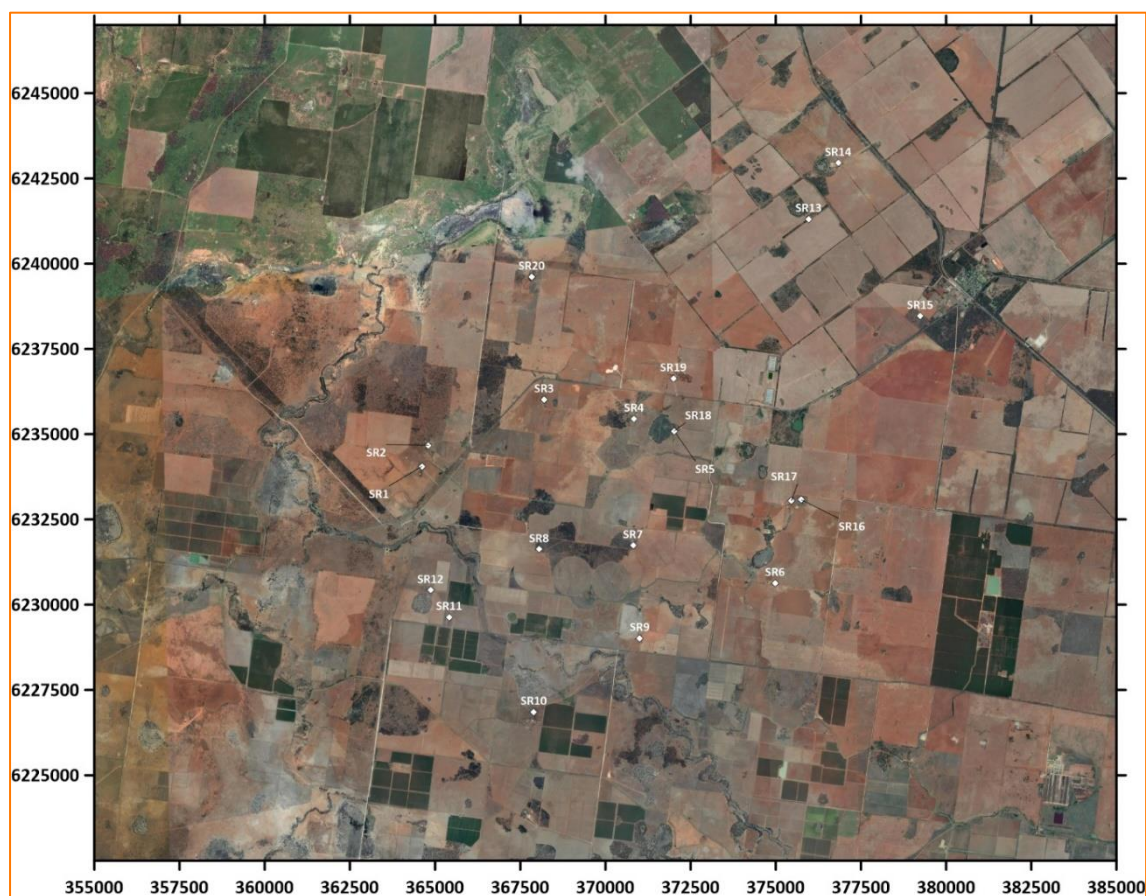
**Table 2: CALPUFF Setup**

| Model            | Parameter                                      | Value                                                           |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| CALPUFF (v 6.40) | Meteorological grid domain                     | 30 km x 30 km                                                   |
|                  | Meteorological grid resolution                 | 0.15 km                                                         |
|                  | South-west corner of domain                    | X = 352.500 km, Y = 6218.500 km                                 |
|                  | Method used to compute dispersion coefficients | 2 - dispersion coefficients using micrometeorological variables |
|                  | Minimum turbulence velocity (Svmin)            | 0.2 m/s                                                         |
|                  | Building downwash included                     | Yes                                                             |
|                  | Method used to simulate building downwash      | ISC                                                             |
|                  | Default settings                               | All other relevant CALPUFF defaults have been used              |



## Results

The results of the modelling for the receptors shown in Figure 3 are shown below.



**Figure 3: Sensitive Receptor Locations**

### Farm in Isolation

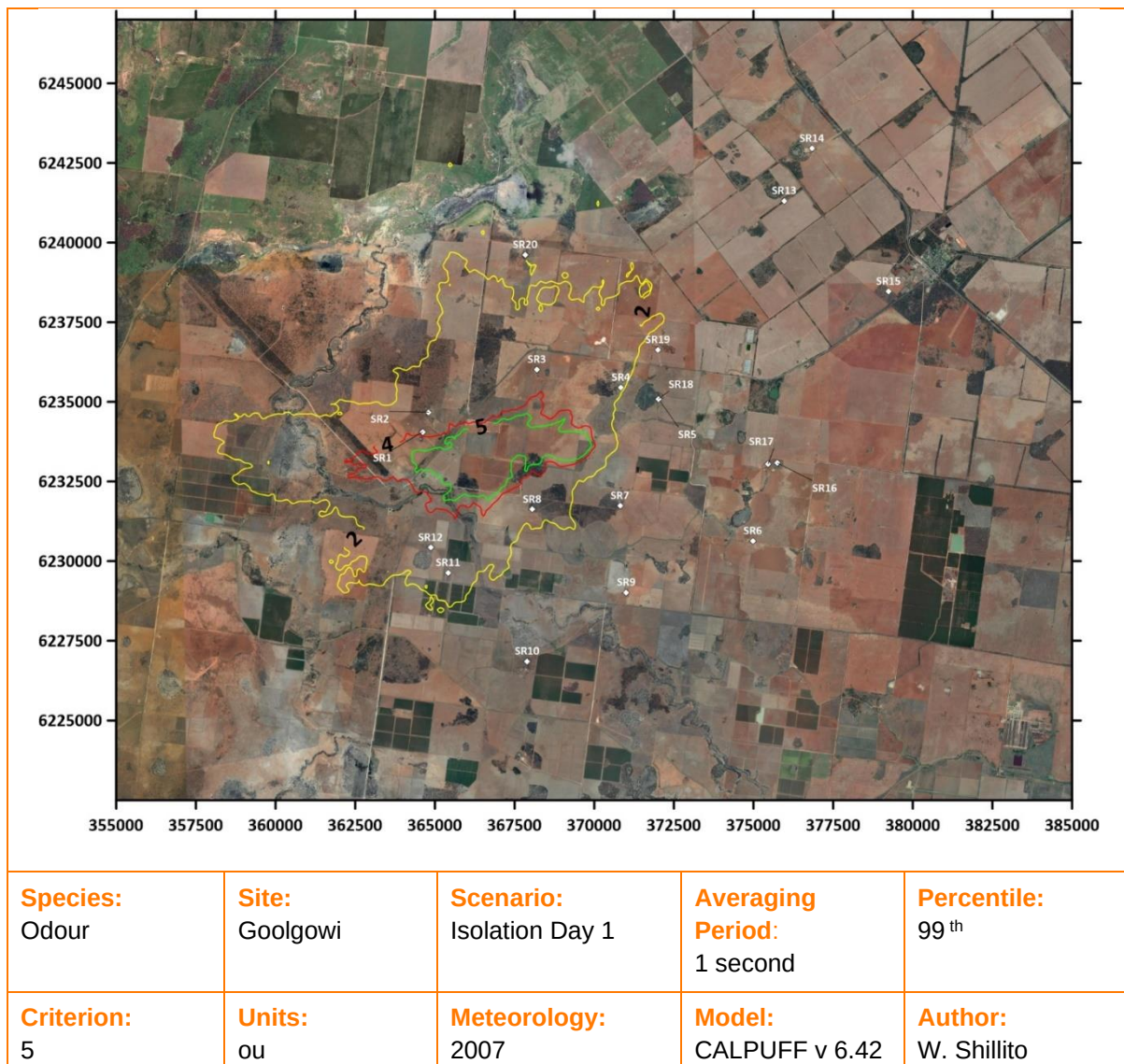
The results for the staging runs as previously performed by Advitech are shown below in Table 1 and also in Figure 4 to Figure 7. The results show compliance with the  $C_{99\ 1\text{sec}} = 5$  ou criterion.

It is our experience with farms elsewhere that batch staging typically doesn't result in significant changes. It is relevant to consider that batch staging in effect looks at multiple runs. For example, the profiles shown in Table 1 represent ~35,000 hours of modelling. It is therefore not appropriate to assess multiple years and only consider the worst year.

This is critical as chicken farms operate on a moving cycle with start dates changing over time. When the percentile across the four cycles is considered (i.e. the 350<sup>th</sup> hour of four years, rather than the 88<sup>th</sup> highest each year for four years), the results highlight that the variation over time is not significant.

**Table 3: Sensitive Receptor Results – Farm in isolation 60 sheds**

| Receptor | Day 1 – all in | Day 14 staging | Day 28 staging | Day 42 staging |
|----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| SR1      | 3.5            | 2.6            | 2.0            | 1.6            |
| SR2      | 2.8            | 2.5            | 2.0            | 1.6            |
| SR3      | 3.2            | 2.7            | 3.0            | 2.8            |
| SR4      | 2.2            | 2.3            | 2.3            | 1.9            |
| SR5      | 0.9            | 1.1            | 1.3            | 0.9            |
| SR6      | 0.4            | 0.5            | 0.7            | 0.9            |
| SR7      | 1.1            | 1.6            | 1.7            | 2.5            |
| SR8      | 2.6            | 3.4            | 3.0            | 3.5            |
| SR9      | 0.6            | 1.2            | 1.1            | 1.5            |
| SR10     | 1.2            | 1.5            | 1.3            | 1.5            |
| SR11     | 2.3            | 2.7            | 3.0            | 3.1            |
| SR12     | 2.8            | 3.7            | 4.1            | 3.5            |
| SR13     | 0.7            | 0.7            | 0.8            | 0.7            |
| SR14     | 0.6            | 0.5            | 0.5            | 0.6            |
| SR15     | 0.2            | 0.3            | 0.3            | 0.2            |
| SR16     | 0.3            | 0.5            | 0.5            | 0.6            |
| SR17     | 0.4            | 0.6            | 0.5            | 0.6            |
| SR18     | 0.8            | 1.1            | 1.3            | 0.9            |
| SR19     | 1.7            | 1.9            | 1.5            | 1.4            |
| SR20     | 1.7            | 1.1            | 1.5            | 1.8            |



**Figure 4: Goolgowi Farm in Isolation Day 1 – 60 sheds**



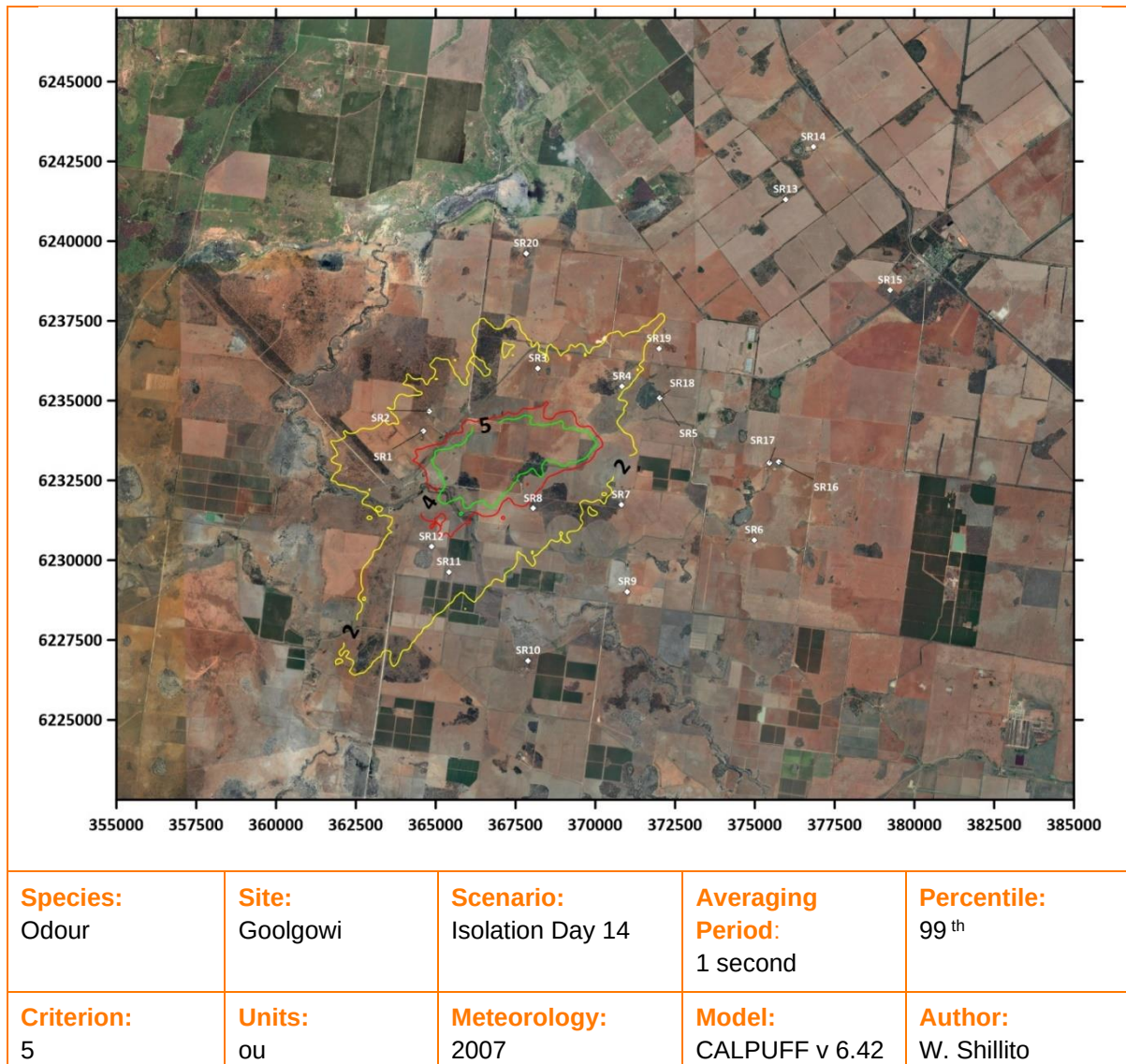
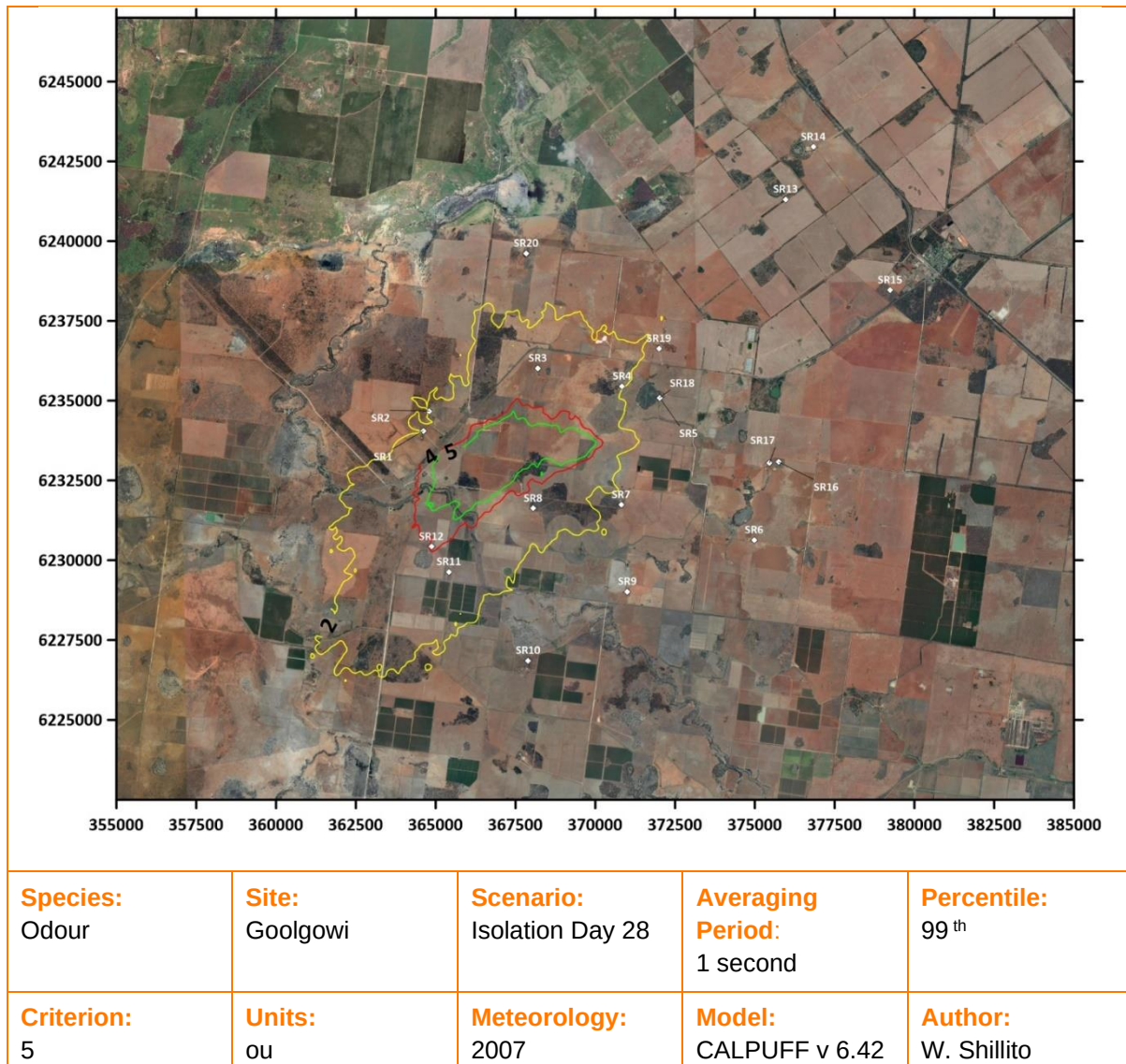
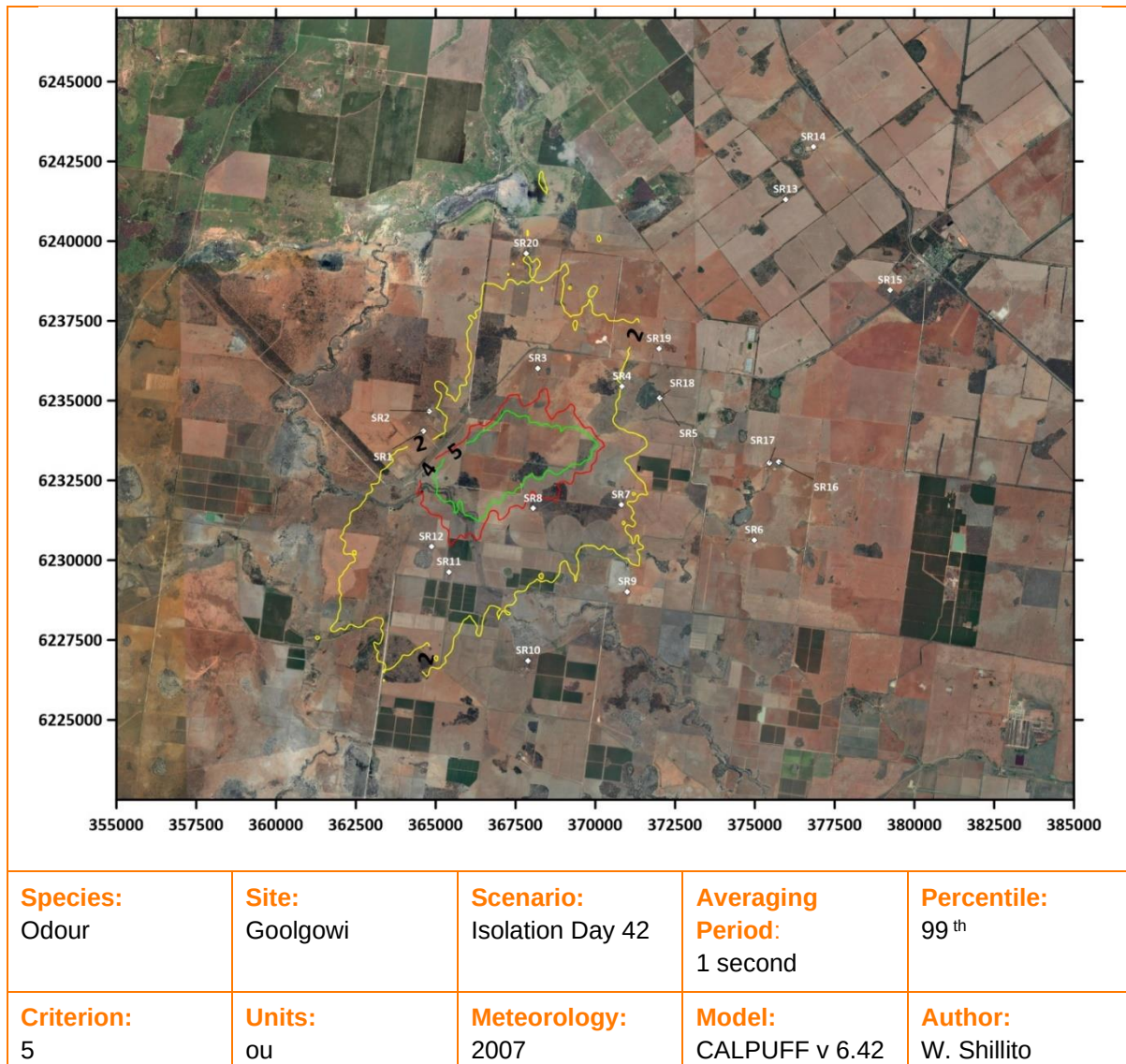


Figure 5: Goolgowi Farm in Isolation Day 14 – 60 sheds



**Figure 6: Goolgowi Farm in Isolation Day 28 – 60 sheds**





**Figure 7: Goolgowi Farm in Isolation Day 42 – 60 sheds**

### Cumulative

The results of the staging with the Jeanella and Jeanella South Farms are shown in Table 4 and Table 5 (rounded) and Figure 8 and Figure 11.

**Table 4: Sensitive Receptor Results – Cumulative Results with Jeanella and Jeanella South**

| Receptor | Day 1 – all in | Day 14 staging | Day 28 staging | Day 42 staging |
|----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| SR1      | 5.0            | 3.8            | 3.2            | 3.0            |
| SR2      | 4.0            | 3.7            | 3.2            | 3.0            |
| SR3      | 4.2            | 3.9            | 3.9            | 4.0            |
| SR4      | 4.1            | 4.1            | 4.2            | 3.7            |
| SR5      | 4.0            | 3.6            | 3.8            | 3.7            |
| SR6      | 1.9            | 2.2            | 2.2            | 2.7            |
| SR7      | 4.1            | 4.2            | 3.9            | 4.6            |
| SR8      | 3.8            | 4.3            | 3.7            | 4.1            |
| SR9      | 2.2            | 2.3            | 2.2            | 2.4            |
| SR10     | 2.2            | 2.3            | 2.3            | 2.5            |
| SR11     | 2.8            | 3.5            | 3.5            | 3.7            |
| SR12     | 4.0            | 4.5            | 4.8            | 4.0            |
| SR13     | 2.7            | 2.5            | 2.7            | 2.6            |
| SR14     | 2.6            | 2.2            | 2.4            | 2.7            |
| SR15     | 2.0            | 2.1            | 2.0            | 2.0            |
| SR16     | 2.2            | 2.8            | 2.5            | 2.9            |
| SR17     | 2.6            | 2.9            | 2.9            | 3.2            |
| SR18     | 3.9            | 3.6            | 3.8            | 3.7            |
| SR19     | 4.8            | 4.7            | 4.8            | 4.5            |
| SR20     | 2.1            | 1.7            | 2.1            | 2.5            |

Table 5 shows the rounded results from Table 4. Any concentrations at or above 5 ou (no values above 5) are highlighted grey. The receptors with highlighted cells are 1, 7, 12 and 19.

Receptor 1 is to the west of the site, and is the closest to the farm. Day 1 cumulative run shows 5 ou, with the other values being 4 or less.

Receptor 7 is the south of the site, with the day 42 run showing 5 ou, with the other runs being 4 ou. This receptor had concentrations around up to 2.5 ou in the isolation run.

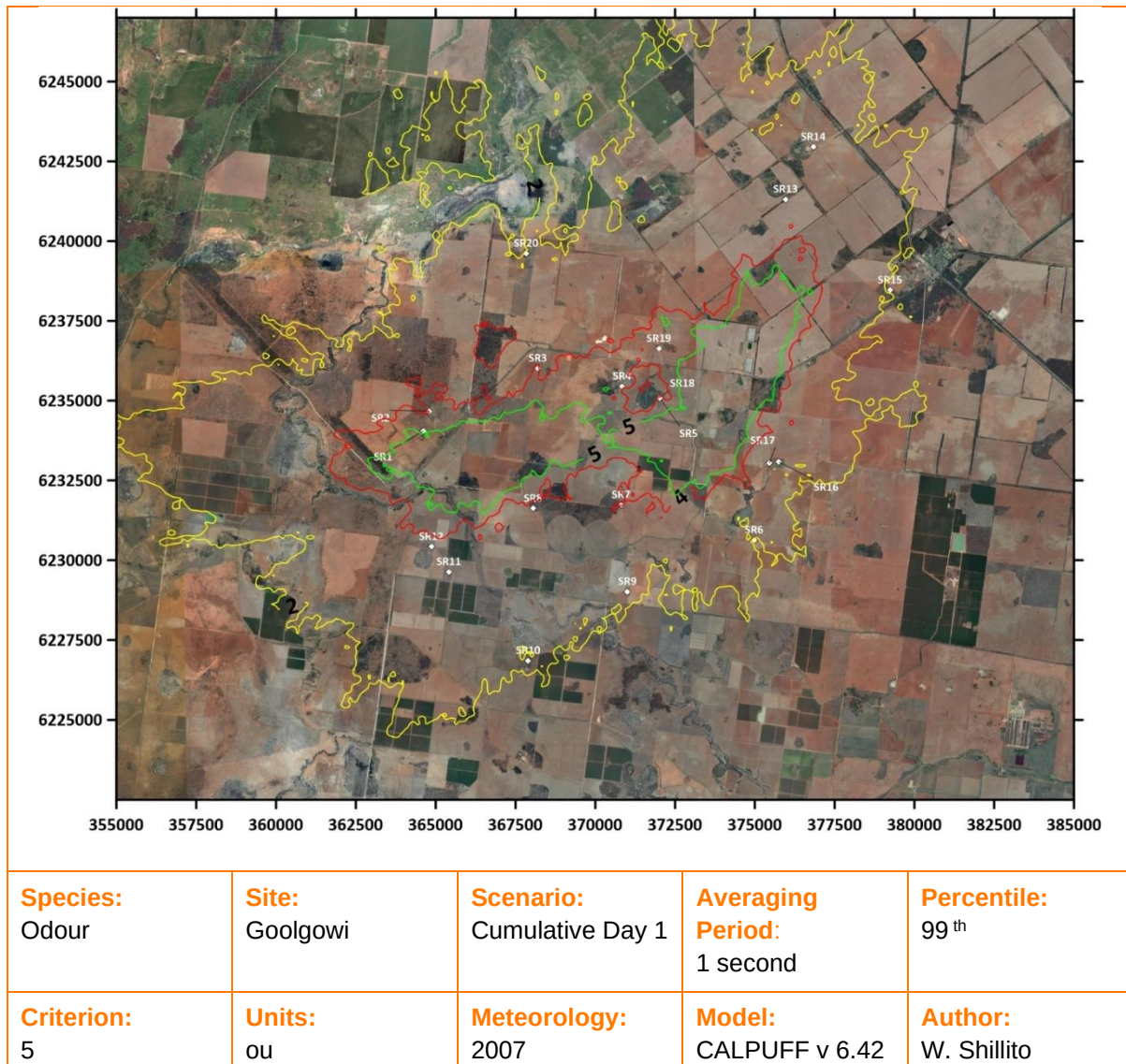
Receptor 12 is to the south west of the site with two runs showing 4 ou and two runs showing 5 ou. This receptor also had a concentration of 4.1 ou in the isolation run for day 28.

The final receptor is 19, which is located to the west of Jeanella, and the north east of the site. The impacts at this receptor are predicted to be dominated by the existing Jeanella operations with 5 ou being cumulatively predicted at this location for all runs. .

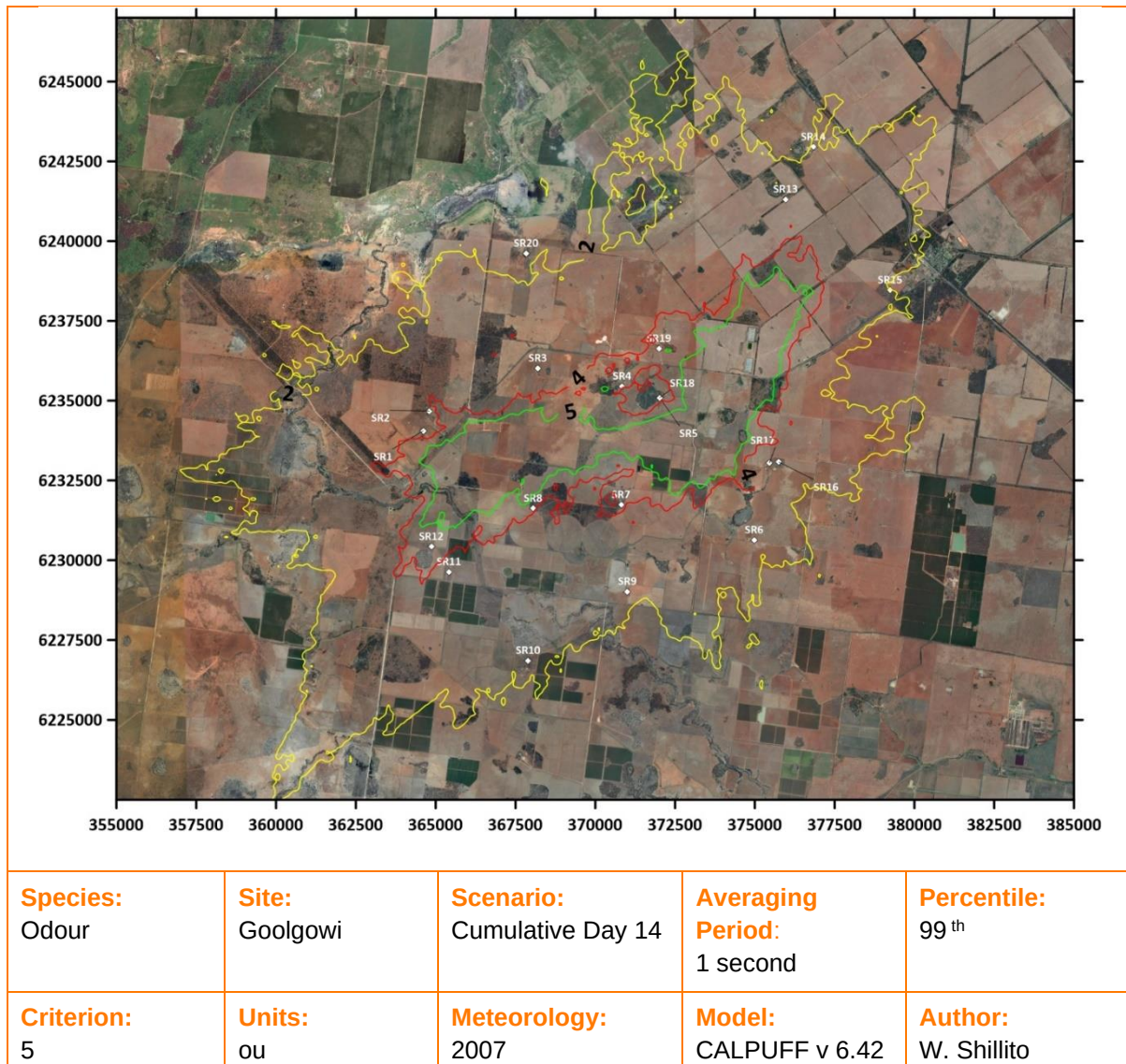
**Table 5: Sensitive Receptor Results – Cumulative Results with Jeanella and Jeanella South (Rounded)**

| Receptor | Day 1 – all in | Day 14 staging | Day 28 staging | Day 42 staging |
|----------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| SR1      | 5              | 4              | 3              | 3              |
| SR2      | 4              | 4              | 3              | 3              |
| SR3      | 4              | 4              | 4              | 4              |
| SR4      | 4              | 4              | 4              | 4              |
| SR5      | 4              | 4              | 4              | 4              |
| SR6      | 2              | 2              | 2              | 3              |
| SR7      | 4              | 4              | 4              | 5              |
| SR8      | 4              | 4              | 4              | 4              |
| SR9      | 2              | 2              | 2              | 2              |
| SR10     | 2              | 2              | 2              | 3              |
| SR11     | 3              | 4              | 4              | 4              |
| SR12     | 4              | 5              | 5              | 4              |
| SR13     | 3              | 3              | 3              | 3              |
| SR14     | 3              | 2              | 2              | 3              |
| SR15     | 2              | 2              | 2              | 2              |
| SR16     | 2              | 3              | 3              | 3              |
| SR17     | 3              | 3              | 3              | 3              |
| SR18     | 4              | 4              | 4              | 4              |
| SR19     | 5              | 5              | 5              | 5              |
| SR20     | 2              | 2              | 2              | 3              |



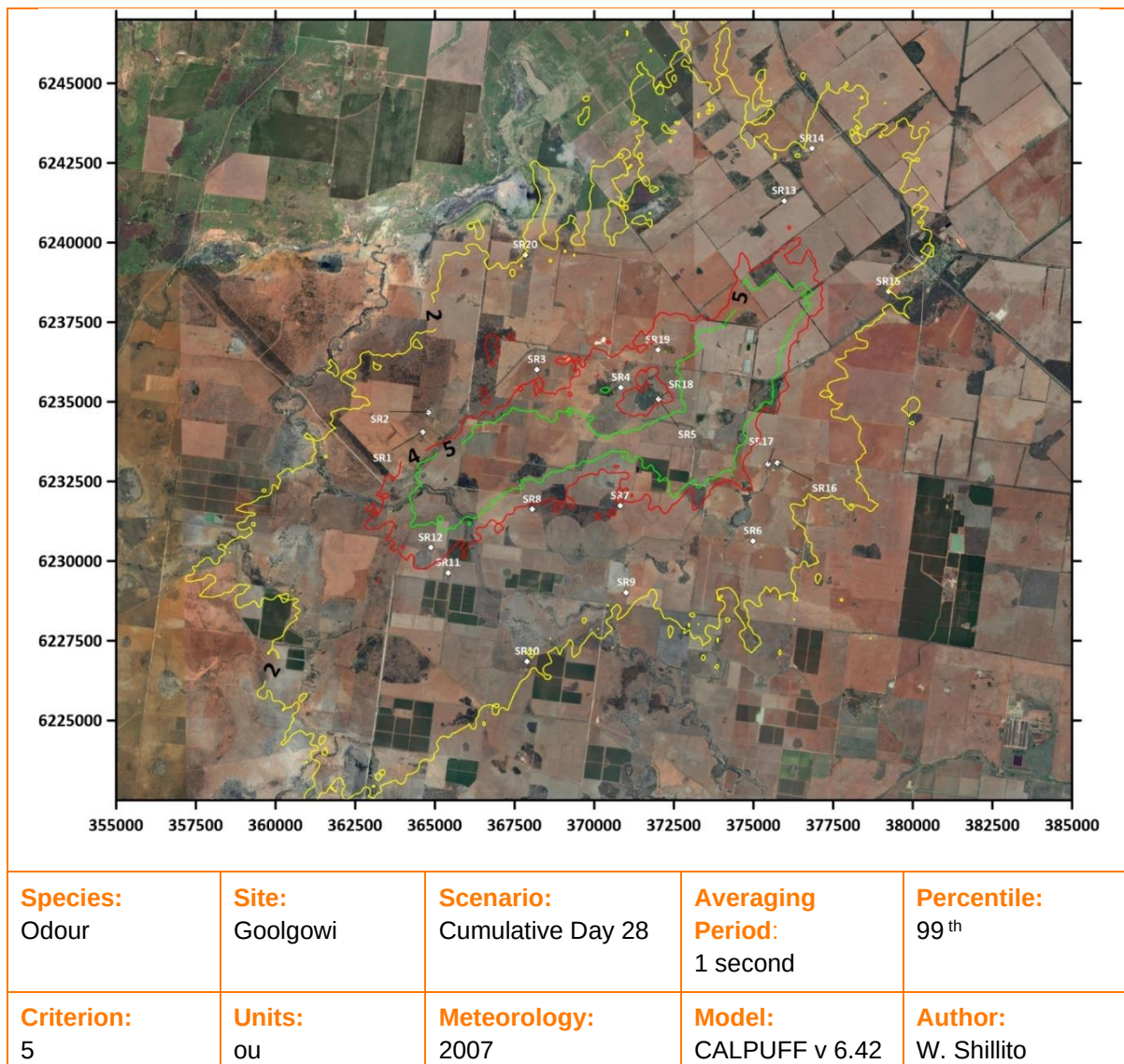


**Figure 8: Goolgowi Farm Cumulative Farms Day 1 – 60 sheds**



**Figure 9: Goolgowi Farm Cumulative Farms Day 14 – 60 sheds**





**Figure 10: Goolgowi Farm Cumulative Farms Day 28 – 60 sheds**

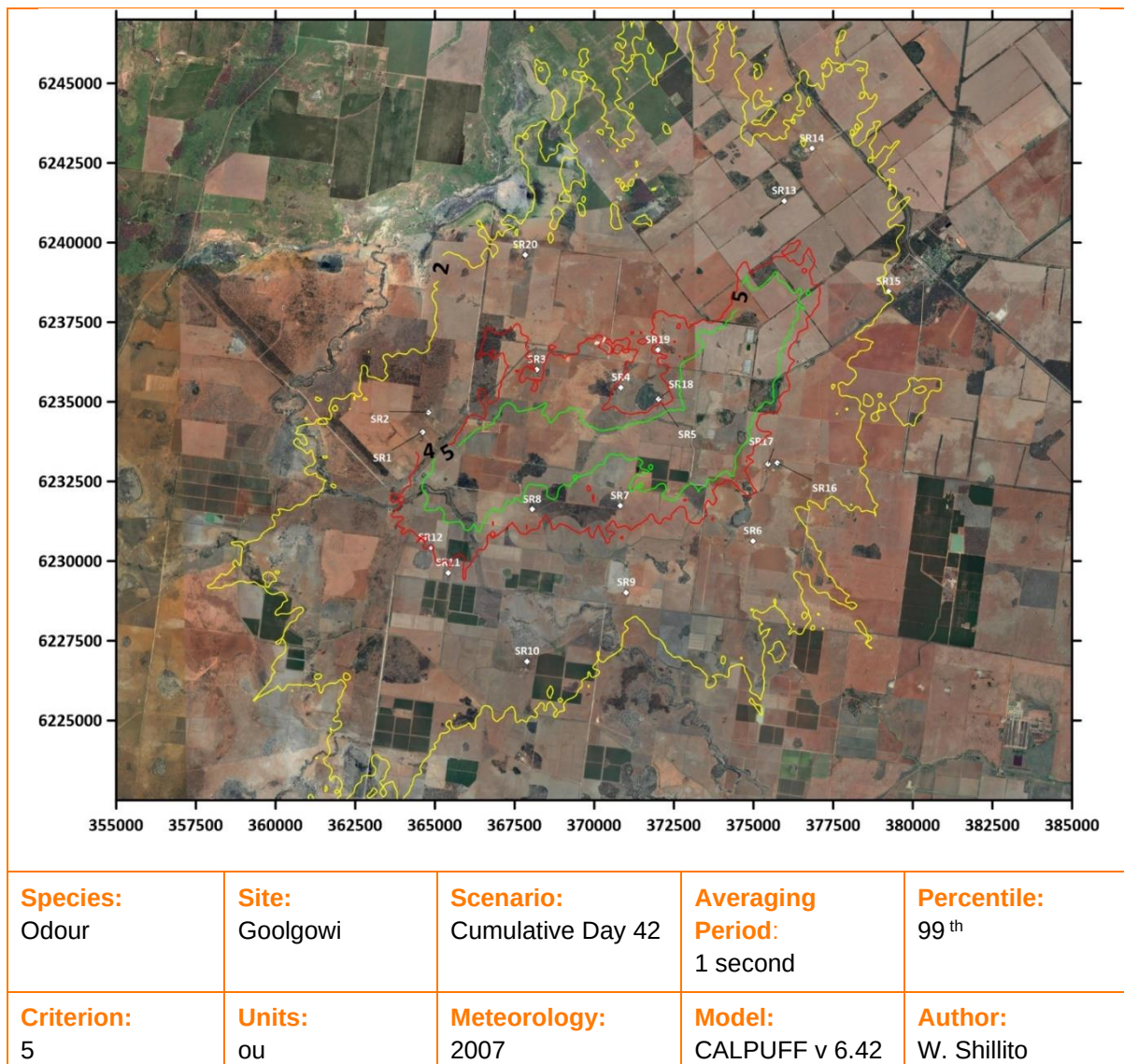


Figure 11: Goolgowi Farm Cumulative Farms Day 42 – 60 sheds

## Conclusion

We have remodelled the Goolgowi as in line with the methodology detailed above. A K factor of 2.2 has been used for all runs for all sites.

The effect of staging is relatively small however when considered cumulatively, there are a number of receptor runs predicted to be at or below  $C_{99\ 1\ sec} = 5\ \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .

As four separate runs have been performed, it would be appropriate to consider the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile for all hours (i.e. four years of data) for the staging. When analysed, it was found that the  $C_{99\ 1\ sec}$  concentrations for 35,040 hours of run time was similar to the average of four placement scenarios highlighting that the worst-case placement in isolation isn't indicative of long-term farm operation.

Recent test data for the region has highlighted that farms in the area can operate at a K factor of less than 2.2. If the existing farms or the proposed farm were to operate at a lower K factor, the results would be lower.

Sincerely



**Geordie Galvin**

B.Eng (Env Eng) M.Eng (Env) MIEAust A.AirQual

**Principal Environmental Engineer**



## References

OEH, 2011. *Generic Guidance and Optimum Model Settings for the CALPUFF modelling system for inclusion into the 'Approved methods for the Modeling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in NSW, Australia'*, Sydney: Offices of Environment and Heritage, New South Wales.

Ormerod, R. & Holmes, G., 2005. *Description of PAE Meat Chicken Farm Odour Emissions Model*, Brisbane: Pacific Air & Environment.