

Appendix D

Stakeholder Survey Reports

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[M2 HIGHWAY UPGRADE ABORIGINAL FIELD INVESTIGATION SURVEY]

Aboriginal stakeholder survey report

PROCEDURE FOR ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSULTATION
AND INVESTIGATION – RESOURCE 03

December 2009



Purpose of this assessment

This assessment forms part of the Stage 2 preliminary assessment of the RTA *Procedure for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation and Investigation*. Its purpose is to determine whether any features of Aboriginal cultural significance occur within the study area for this project, and whether their significance would be affected by the project. This assessment will be used to assist the RTA in determining whether further assessment and consultation is required for this project.

Project details: (provide the following information)

- a) Project title: M2 Upgrade Aboriginal field investigation survey
- b) Location of study area: M2 Highway up grade various locations
- c) Name of Aboriginal site officer(s) completing this assessment: Scott Franks and Danny Franks
- d) Name of Aboriginal organisation(s) represented by this survey: Yarrawalk
- e) Name of site officer(s) who undertook site survey: Scott Franks and Danny Franks
- f) Date of survey: 15th 16th and 17th December 2009

2 Methodology:

- a) Approximately how much of the total project study area was surveyed (e.g. 10%-100%) and why? (E.g. Certain areas were heavily disturbed, properties were inaccessible, ground visibility was poor, difficult weather conditions, etc.)

The area contained within the study area was surveyed on foot by transecting the area covering 100% of the impact area, including a 90 to 200 meter buffer outside the impact area.

- b) How was the survey undertaken? (E.g. by foot, by car, individually, in groups, other? If other people were involved in the survey, please provide their names and name of their organisation, if relevant)

The area was surveyed on foot by Scott Franks Yarrawalk, Gordon Walkman Rodney Walkman DLO, **Rick Bullers** Professional Archaeologist AECOM, Leanne Watson, and other Aboriginal stake holders.

3 Results:

- a) Please provide a description of the area surveyed. Include a description of the total area covered, landforms, built areas, etc. Where appropriate, survey areas should be identified on a map/plan

The study area is in several different locations along the M2 motor way on the first day we surveyed (15/12/2009) AREA 1 Darling mill Creek sites 2543,2544,2162(hand stencil of a (small child) 2161 and 2097.

These areas are considered important. The area in question has an Aboriginal Management agreement but it seems that this has not been managed to the standards of agreement that is in place. It seems that the organisation that has managed the area has not bothered to keep the Aboriginal community fully involved in the work and surveys. It also seems that monitoring and inspections have not occurred. The areas are extremely over grown with noxious weeds and in some cases have been vandalised.

Site 2097 is a typical over hang where our people would have lived and considered home. The area in question was close to a constant water source with readily available native food. It should also be accepted that the area was used for local ceremonies and activities consistent with ceremonies with both men's and women's sites within close proximity.



This site was within 100 meters of the proposed development.

Day 2 16th December 2009 sites visited 2160, 2163, 2472, DEC 1 it should be noted that site 2472 was recovered under a section 90 permit some time ago.

2160. This is shelter with art work. The art work in question was Charcoal but could not be clearly interpreted as it was extremely old but would have held significant importance.



2163. 3 Quarts artefacts were located at the site. Once again this is typical over hang where our people would have lived and considered home. The area in question was close to a constant water source, with readily available native food. It should also be accepted that the area was also used for local ceremonies and activities consistent with ceremonies with both men's and women's sites within close proximity.

2472. Records indicate that this site has been recovered via a section 90 permit. As to the location of the artefacts, that would need to be confirmed. Notwithstanding the removal of the artefacts, the area is important to our people and should not be disturbed.

Dec 1 is a shelter located along side a creek line. The shelter has had test pitting (2 x 50x50cm) and records indicate that artefacts have been removed but the location of the said artefacts is not known.

Day 3 17th December 2009 sites visited Area 6. 45-5-1005

Modified area within the off ramp area 1(one) isolated find believed to be a manu port. The sediment pond in this area will need to be expanded. No objections to this occurring.

Area 7 Terry Creek

Top side where new site was found. i.e. Grinding Groves.



On this day we located a site. The site consisted of several grinding groves and axe sharpening areas.





This area was not recorded in previous surveys. It is an extremely important find and clearly demonstrates an area that would have had continuous use over many generations. This area needs to be protected and should have an exclusion zone in place of approximately 100 to 200 metres. A sites card was taken on the day to ensure this site was recorded. It should also be noted that there is a site within a 250 meter radius of this site that is a shelter. This would further support that the area needs to be protected.

b) Were any of the following features identified during the survey? (Please tick as required)

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> stone tools or flakes | <input type="checkbox"/> hearths | <input type="checkbox"/> shell middens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> scarred trees | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> shelters | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bora circles | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> significant spiritual or social areas | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> totems | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> significant cultural landscape features | |

☒ other – please state: several stone artefacts were located at several of the sites in all the areas we surveyed. Typical silcrete flakes and quartz tools.

If any of the above items were ticked, please provide a description including the location, quantity, size, condition and significance of the feature, if known. Where appropriate, this information should be identified on a map/plan (please attach).

At know stage during the survey was any of the above located.

- c) Is it considered likely that any of the above features may be present in the study area, despite not being positively identified during the survey?
- d) If known, please provide a description of the natural resources used by Aboriginal people that are, or would have been, available within the study area. Please describe the significance of these resources to past and present Aboriginal communities.

In all of the areas in question, there was ample native vegetation located. These areas today would still support easy access to food and water.

The areas in question have cultural integrity to support the values needed to consider them as a PAD in particular, some of the shelters.

5 Conclusion:

Is the project likely to affect any significant known or potential Aboriginal cultural heritage features as identified by the survey?

☒ Yes. This project will not only in some areas impact directly on the Aboriginal cultural heritage features from a construction prospective, but it will also impact from the level of noise and white light contamination.

Recommendation

- That Terry's Creek not be disturbed and have a 100 to 200 meter exclusion zone place around it.
- That if any of the other areas need to be developed and the area needs the surface removed that monitoring take place.
- The proponent should consider an offset with regard to any destruction.
- The proponent should agree to a Heritage Management plan and strategy.

This assessment has been completed by:

Name: Scott Franks



Provide signature

Position title:

Aboriginal heritage manager

Provide title

Organisation name:

Yarrawalk

Provide name of Aboriginal organisation

On the following date: 21st December 2009

Insert date

DARUG - LAND - OBSERVATIONS



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22-12-2009

Mr Rick Bullers
Professional Archaeologist

During the inspection of site CF3 (AHIMS 45-6-2161) it was noted that vibrations could be felt from traffic passing on the M2, which was 30-40 m south of the rock shelter. Works in the area of this site include alterations to the existing sediment basin (approximately 100 m west of the site) on the northern side of the M2, and temporary clearing of vegetation, installation of a works site compound and bridge widening on the southern side of the M2 bridge. Since the site is on the northern side of the M2, there will be no direct impacts to the site. However, there may be indirect impacts from construction vibration. DLO believes that periodic monitoring of the site during construction activities in the vicinity of site CF3 is warranted to ensure that no adverse vibration impacts occur during construction

In relation to the grinding groove site on Terry's Creek, the site is on the southern side of the Terry's Creek M2 bridge and extends further south along the creek line. The upgrade works for the M2 will include temporary vegetation clearance, bridge widening and improvements to the sediment ponds (all of which are on the northern side of the bridge). Ground impacts in the vicinity of the grinding grooves will be limited to clearance of a pad for bridge construction works and installation of additional bridge support piers. These works will not impact on the grinding groove site. And D.L.O wants to be involved in all work and works that will happen

Yours faithfully

Uncle
Gordon Workman
Darug Elder

Sites Officer



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19/1/2010

Dear Rick Bullers
Archaeologist AECOM

Re: M2 Upgrade North Ryde to Pennant Hills 15th 16th 17th December 2009

DTAC Representative John Reilly

This field inspection covered a previously conducted survey on the M2 motorway prior to construction in the 1990's.

We revisited known rock shelters sites and places of significance from that survey.

Most sites had some disturbance by various visitors to these National Park and bush locations.

In the overhang rock shelters some hand paintings and charcoal impressions were recorded. A major concern is relating to construction, causing possible damage to some rock shelters through heavy machine vibration.

A new Indigenous site was found on a creek bed .This was identified as a stone grinding area, located on a rock base where the creek water flowed through it.

These sites must be monitored at all times whilst work takes place as we are losing to many sites of this significance of our past ancestors.

Hugs & Smiles

Sandra Lee

Secretary

Darug Tribal Aboriginal Corporation

Appendix E

AHIMS Site Card – Site M2A1 (AHIMS 45-6-2949)

A site card was prepared and submitted to DECCW for this site. Due to security requirements the AHIMS Site Card has been removed from the Public Exhibition Copy of this report. The Site Card was provided in the Government agency version of the report.

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