



Shire of Ravensthorpe

non-potable strategic community
water supplies plan

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For more information about this plan, contact Rural Water Planning on 1800 780 300.

Cover photograph: Mt Short Dam, Ravensthorpe Shire.

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Summary

Water supply planning is essential in rural areas and requires collaboration, involvement and participation from all stakeholders, including farmland communities, local government authorities (LGAs) and State Government agencies as part of an integrated approach to sustainable water supply for the future.

This plan provides information for the Shire and farmers on the location of strategic community water supplies (SCWS). It advises how to access non-potable water for emergency stock watering and firefighting purposes, including the facilities available at each site.

Introduction

Over the past 40 years, recurrent water supply problems have affected the dryland agricultural region. Emerging climate changes are likely to increase the occurrences of low rainfall years, resulting in water shortages and restrictions in rural communities.

As farmers face long-term water security challenges, they are encouraged to proactively develop and maintain on-farm water infrastructure to better prepare for dry periods.

Rural water planning recognises the importance of preparing for these events to increase the opportunities for delivering an assured water supply to farmland communities in the dryland agricultural areas of Western Australia (WA).

Strategic community water supply (SCWS) planning is one of the key roles of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's rural water program. The aim is to safeguard dryland agricultural areas wherever possible against serious water deficiencies.

While landholder self-sufficiency must remain the primary objective, the rural water program recognises the importance of emergency off-farm water supplies to farming communities. It also builds on the SCWS network across the dryland agricultural area through the Community Water Supplies Partnership (CWSP) program and the Agricultural Areas (AA) dam works program.

Both programs establish and improve non-potable water supplies to ensure that water is available for emergency livestock watering, firefighting and other farm needs. The CWSP program aims to reduce reliance on potable scheme water supplies for non-potable needs, and to increase water availability for public amenities such as sportsgrounds.

This plan has been compiled for the Shire of Ravensthorpe to provide a clear description of each of the SCWS in the shire available for firefighting purposes, and to farmers and farming communities in times of emergency.

Strategic community water supplies and agricultural area dams

A network of SCWS has been developed across WA's dryland agricultural areas to provide an important source of non-potable water for farming and firefighting needs.

These supplies are for emergency use in times when low rainfall causes on-farm supplies to become depleted, and farmers need to travel to access water for livestock and essential farming purposes.

Vesting of the strategic dams and bores in each LGA varies, with some sites owned by government agencies (including the department), Water Corporation, the LGA itself, or by private entities where an agreement has been made to allow access.

It is important that these water supplies are carefully managed to ensure water is available during times of emergency.

The department keeps in regular contact with rural communities to monitor the condition of SCWS and identify and address any maintenance issues.

Each year, the department's rural water program undertakes works to maintain and upgrade sites vested with it, and sites in priority areas vulnerable to dry conditions.

AA dams have been developed since the early 1990s to provide water and support the growth of farming in the dryland agricultural area. There are about 480 of the original 681 AA dams that range from high value to no value in terms of their condition and serviceability.

SCWS is a subset of the AA dams that are reliable, in good to excellent repair and retain a high value. The department uses LGA maps to determine which sites are worth upgrading and to identify priority areas to develop new SCWS.

The following map (Figure 1) shows the location of the strategic community supplies and AA dams in the Shire of Ravensthorpe, with symbols indicating the capacity, vesting and values of each site.

Shire of Ravensthorpe map

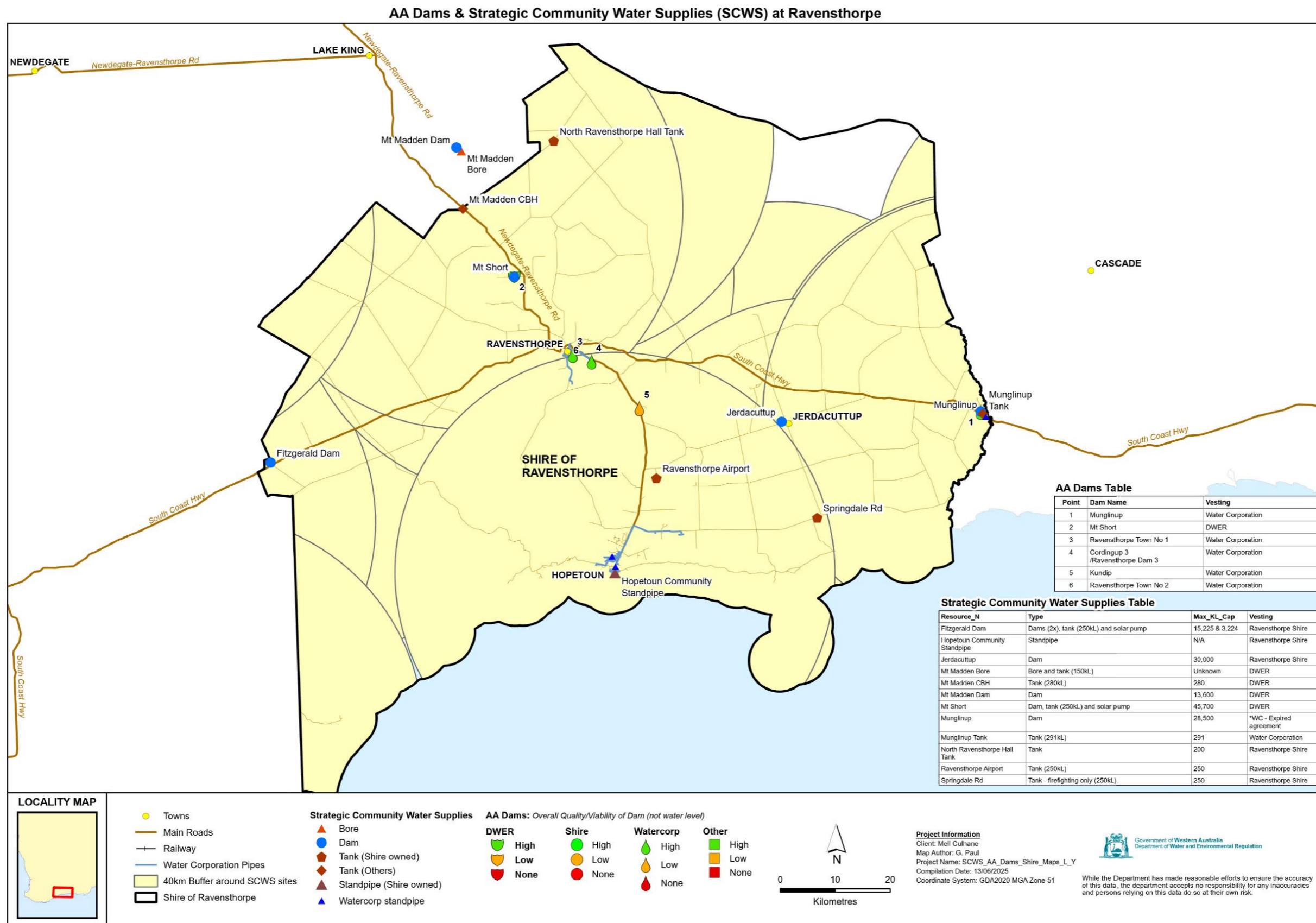


Figure 1- Location of SCWS (at 13 June 2025)

Strategic community water supply access

Overview of different fill points

Each SCWS will have a fill point to allow access to water supply for agricultural purposes. Each fill point will have a camlock fitting. Standard sizes of camlocks include 50 mm (2 inch), 80 mm (3 inch) fitting and in some cases a 100 mm (4 inch) connection is fitted for firefighting purposes. These camlock fittings will be available where there is a tank, standpipe, swipe card system or bore fill point. When accessing water directly from dams without a tank storage, you will need to bring your own pump to extract water.

Swipe card systems

Swipe card systems are metered fill points that require a swipe card or fob from your LGA to access the water supply. Contact your local LGA office to obtain a swipe card to access these water supplies.

During emergencies such as bushfires the Shire can switch the swipe card system to allow access without a swipe card. The emergency access contact is 9839 0000 during business hours and 0427 381 098 after hours.

Farm bots

Some tanks are fitted with farm bots, which regularly record the water level and feed this information into a website. You can access this website at app.farmbot.com.au (Login ID: **public.access** Password: **access1**) to view water tank levels for tanks fitted with farm bots.

Below are examples of different fill points you may come across in the Shire.



Tank standard camlock fitting



Swipe card standpipe system



Tank, electric swipe card and pump for bore



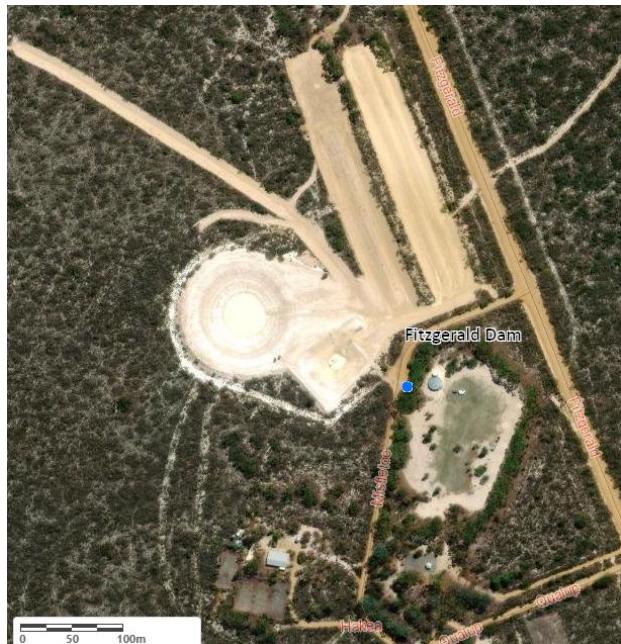
Farm bot positioned on top of tank

Shire of Ravensthorpe SCWS sites

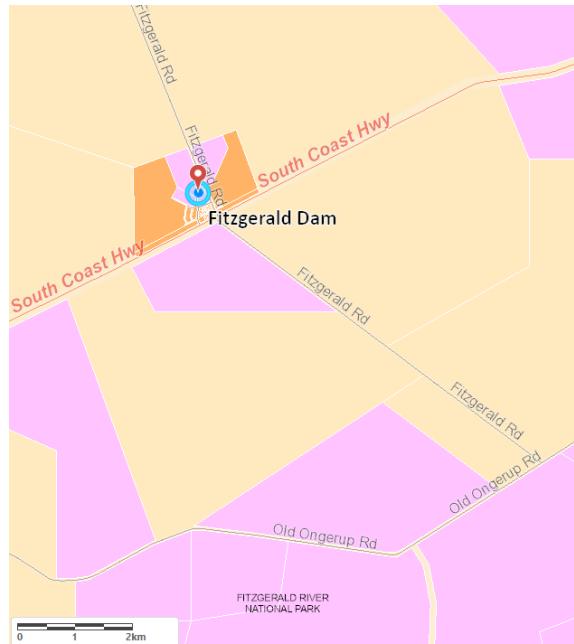
Site name	Location
Fitzgerald dam	Cnr South Coast Hwy & Fitzgerald Road, Fitzgerald
Jerdacuttup	Cnr Nth Jerdacuttup Road & Fence Road Jerdacuttup
Mt Short	Dam Road North Ravensthorpe
Mt Madden bore (in Shire of Lake Grace)	Hatter Hill Road or Muncaster Road
Mt Madden dam (in Shire of Lake Grace)	Hatter Hill Road or Muncaster Road Access
Mt Madden CBH tank (in Shire of Lake Grace)	Cnr Newdegate-Ravensthorpe Road & Fitzgerald Road
North Ravensthorpe Hall water tank	Beatty Road <i>~ 2.2 km southwest from Powley Road</i>
Springdale Road	Springdale Road <i>~ 850 m west of Fence Road</i>
Munglinup tank	Reynolds Road, near corner of South Coast Hwy
Ravensthorpe Airport	196 Jerdacuttup Road <i>~ 1.95 km from Hopetown-Ravensthorpe Road</i>
Hopetoun community standpipe	Hopetoun-Ravensthorpe Road, Hopetoun <i>~ 50 m north of Hamersley Drive</i>

Description of community water supplies

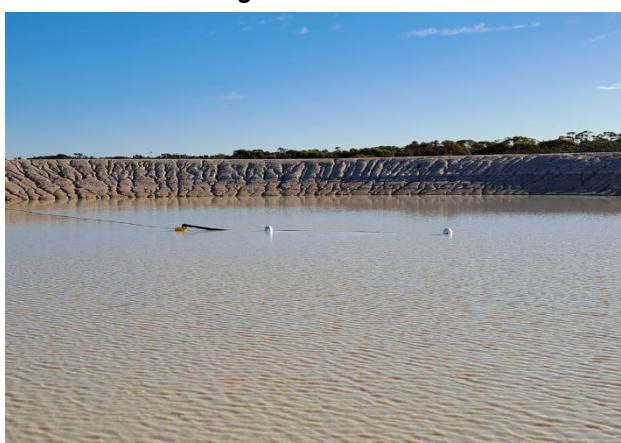
Fitzgerald dam



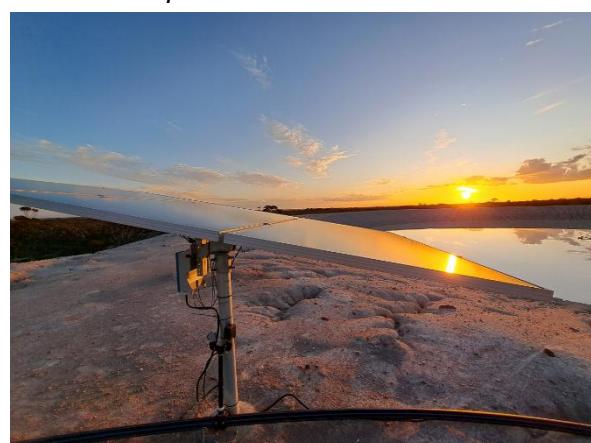
Aerial view of Fitzgerald dam



Location map



Dam (December 2022)



Solar pump (December 2022)



Tank and fill point (Nov 2020)



2" and 3" camlock outlets off tank

Fitzgerald dam site description

Vesting	Shire of Ravensthorpe
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for agricultural purposes, including emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	29437
Catchment type	Earth and gravel pit
Catchment area (ha)	3.41ha

Location and coordinates

Location: Corner South Coast Hwy & Fitzgerald Road, Fitzgerald

Latitude	-33.74823
Longitude	119.45664
Eastings	727559.024674
Northings	6263048.011460

Water supply and access

Structure type	2 x earth dams with silt trap, tank and solar pump
Dam capacity	Fitzgerald dam 1: 15225kL. Fitzgerald dam 2: 3224kL
Tank storage	250kL
Standpipe Y/N	No, standpipe not operating (pipe from tank is located at standpipe location with camlock fitting)
Farm bot	Yes
Pump available Y/N	No (solar pump transfers water from dam to tank)
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Supply comments	Small dam is for firefighting purposes ONLY and not connected to 250KL tank
Emergency access contact	9839 0000 business hours and 0427 381 098 after hours

Description of community water supplies

Jerdacuttup



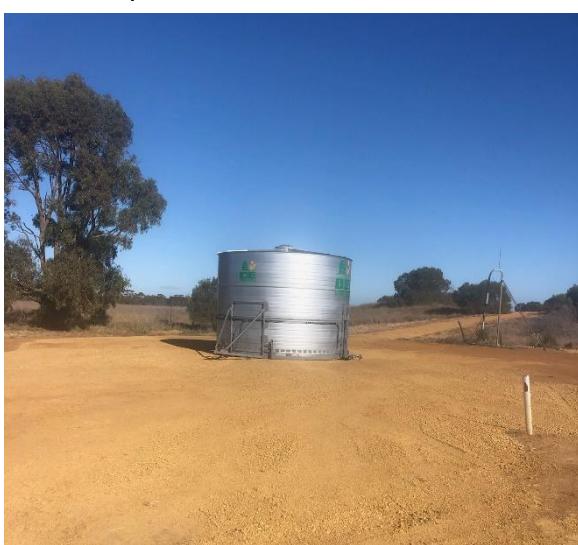
Aerial view of Jerdacuttup



Location map



Jerdacuttup dam



Portable tank for fire water only



Signage relating to dam water only

Jerdacuttup site description

Vesting	Shire of Ravensthorpe
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for agricultural purposes, including emergency stock (dam only) and firefighting water (portable tank and dam)
Associated reserve	Private property
Catchment type	CBH
Catchment area (ha)	~1.05ha

Location and coordinates

Location: Corner North Jerdacuttup Road & Fence Road Jerdacuttup

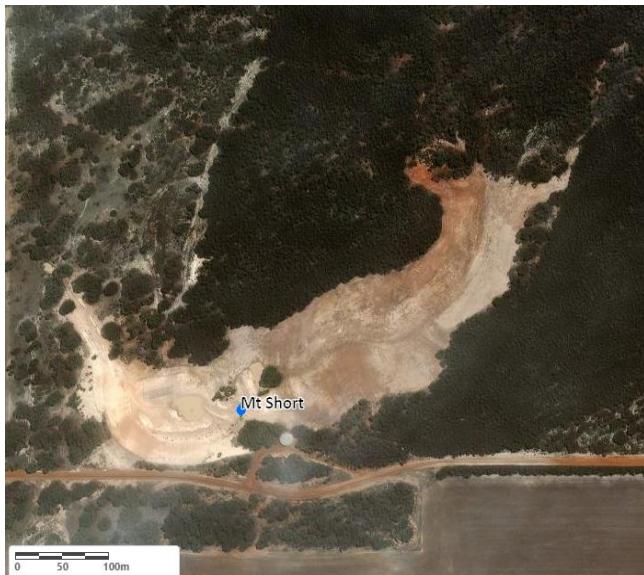
Latitude	-33.706221875
Longitude	120.461429218
Eastings	264734.74568
Northings	6267523.38755

Water supply and access

Structure type	Dam
Dam capacity	30000kL
Standpipe Y/N	No
Pump available Y/N	Yes, located at Jerdacuttup Fire Brigade shed
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Supply comments	Tank filled using portable pump. Tank to be used for fire water only. 2" and 3" camlock outlets on tank
Emergency access contact	9839 0000 business hours and 0427 381 098 after hours

Description of community water supplies

Mt Short



Aerial view of Mt Short

Location map



Mt Short dam, windmill and solar panels.



Solar pump



Camlocks at tank

Mt Short site description

Vesting	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for agricultural purposes, including emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	17881
AA Dam #	435
Catchment type	Earth
Catchment area (ha)	~37 ha

Location and coordinates

Location: Dam Road North Ravensthorpe

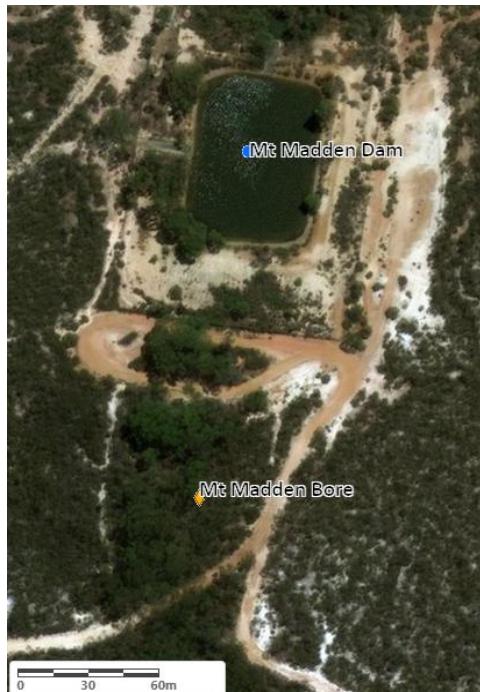
Latitude	-33.456958681
Longitude	119.945014354
Eastings	773731.68967
Northings	6294172.21764

Water supply and access

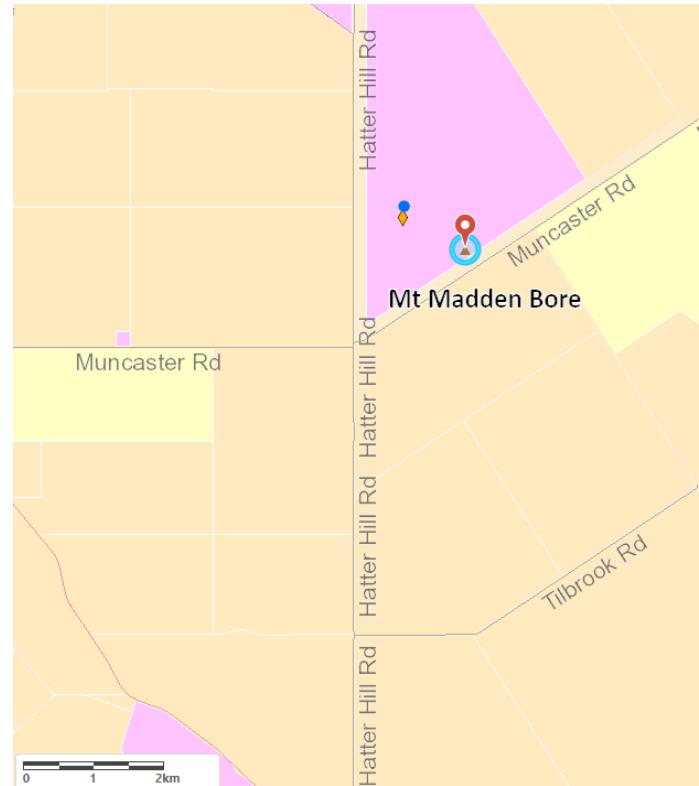
Structure type	Earth dam
Dam capacity	45700kL
Tank storage	Yes 250kL
Standpipe Y/N	No
Farm bot	Yes
Pump available Y/N	No (Solar pump transfers water from dam to tank)
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Emergency access contact	9839 0000 business hours and 0427 381 098 after hours

Description of community water supplies

Mt Madden bore (in Shire of Lake Grace)



Aerial view of Mt Madden Bore



Location map



Bore tank 150 kL



Bore and solar pump



Tank outlet

Mt Madden bore site description

Vesting	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for agricultural purposes, including emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	20110
Catchment type	Bore
Catchment area (ha)	N/A

Location and coordinates

Location: Hatter Hill Road or Muncaster Road

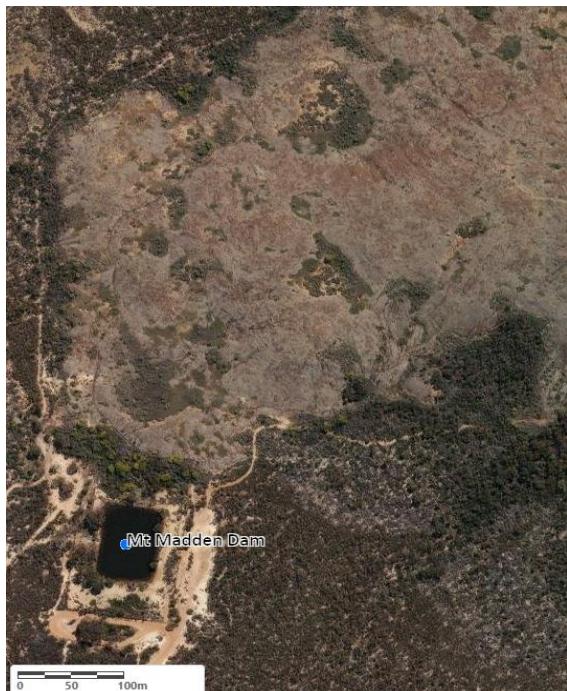
Latitude	-33.247983011
Longitude	119.849422138
Eastings	765478.000017
Northings	6317599.999960

Water supply and access

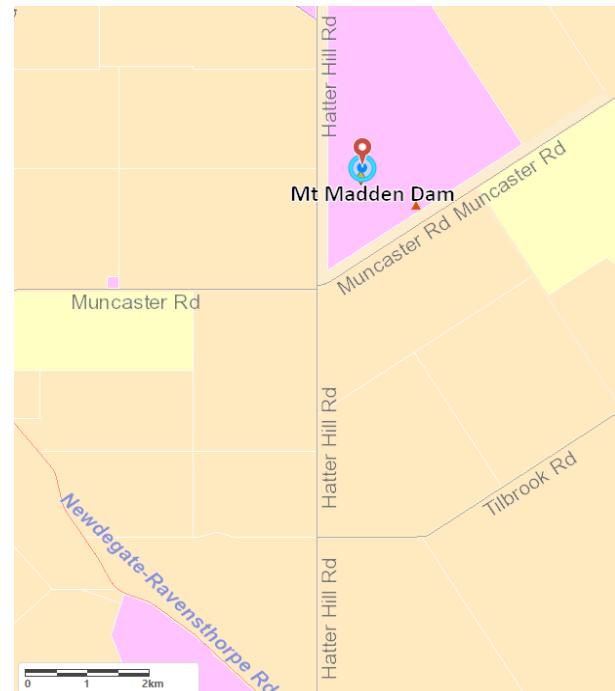
Structure type	Bore and tank
Bore capacity	70 L/min
Tank storage	150kL
Standpipe Y/N	No
Pump available Y/N	No (solar pump for transfer of water from bore to tank)
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Emergency access contacts	Shire of Lake Grace, Manager Infrastructure Services 0448 089 092 / 9890 2500

Description of community water supplies

Mt Madden dam (in Shire of Lake Grace)



Aerial view of Mt Madden dam



Location map



Mt Madden dam (2019)



New access pipe

Mt Madden dam site description

Vesting	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for agricultural purposes, including emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	20110
AA Dam #	586
Catchment type	Rock catchment
Catchment area (ha)	70 ha

Location and coordinates

Location: Hatter Hill Road or Muncaster Road access

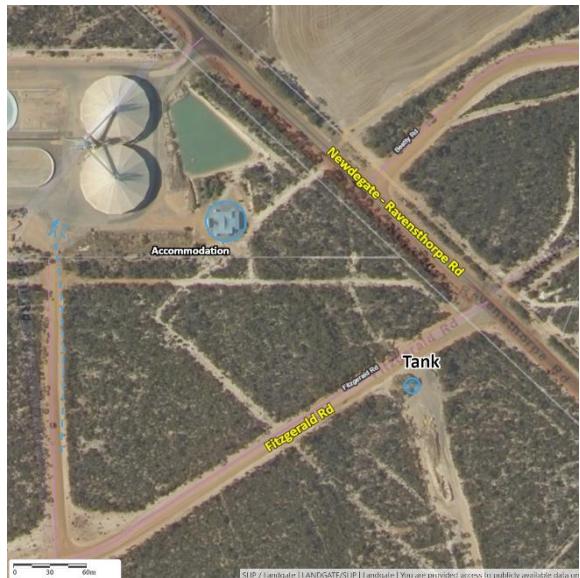
Latitude	-33.242452448
Longitude	119.839948804
Eastings	764611.770733
Northings	6318237.499170

Water supply and access

Structure type	Concrete-lined dam
Capacity	13,600 cubic metres
Tank storage	No
Standpipe Y/N	No
Pump available Y/N	No
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Supply comments	Recommend farmers do not access directly from dam.
Emergency access contacts	Shire of Lake Grace, Manager Infrastructure Services 0448 089 092 / 9890 2500

Description of community water supplies

Mt Madden CBH tank (in Shire of Lake Grace)



Aerial view of Mt Madden



Location map



Tank



Tank outlets



Movable solar pump

Mt Madden CBH tank site description

Vesting	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for agricultural purposes, including emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	Road reserve
AA Dam #	N/A
Catchment type	CBH Bitumen
Catchment area (ha)	4 ha

Location and coordinates

Location: Cnr Newdegate-Ravensthorpe Road & Fitzgerald Road

Latitude	-33.34323
Longitude	119.84900
Eastings	765150.032
Northings	6307036.256

Water supply and access

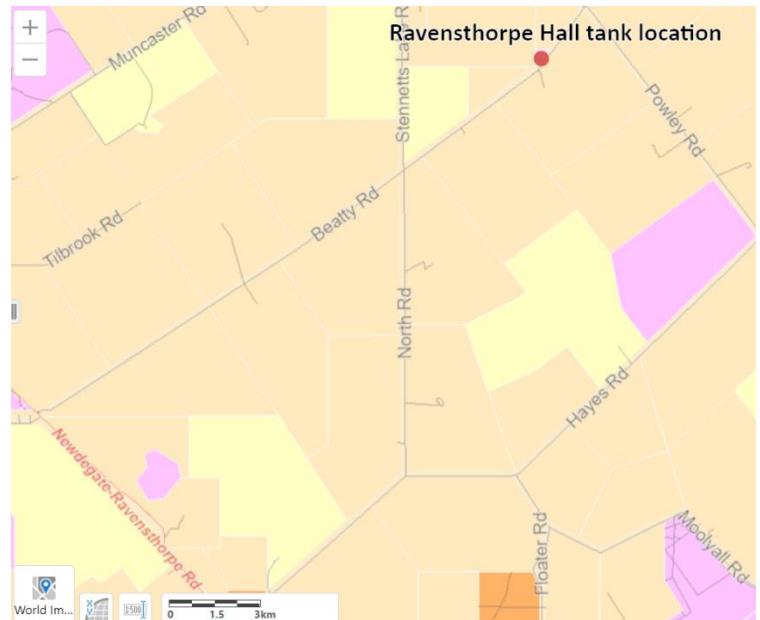
Structure type	Tank
Dam capacity	Unknown
Tank storage	280kL
Standpipe Y/N	No
Farm bot	No
Pump available Y/N	Not at tank (solar pump transfers water from dam to tank)
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Emergency access contact	Shire of Lake Grace, Manager Infrastructure Services 0448 089 092 / 9890 2500

Description of community water supplies

North Ravensthorpe Hall water tank



Aerial view of North Ravensthorpe Hall tank



Location map



North Ravensthorpe Hall tank

North Ravensthorpe Hall water tank site description

Vesting	Shire of Ravensthorpe
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for agricultural purposes, including emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	Road reserve
Catchment type	Carted water
Catchment area (ha)	N/A

Location and coordinates

Location: Beatty Road ~ 2.2km southwest from Powley Road

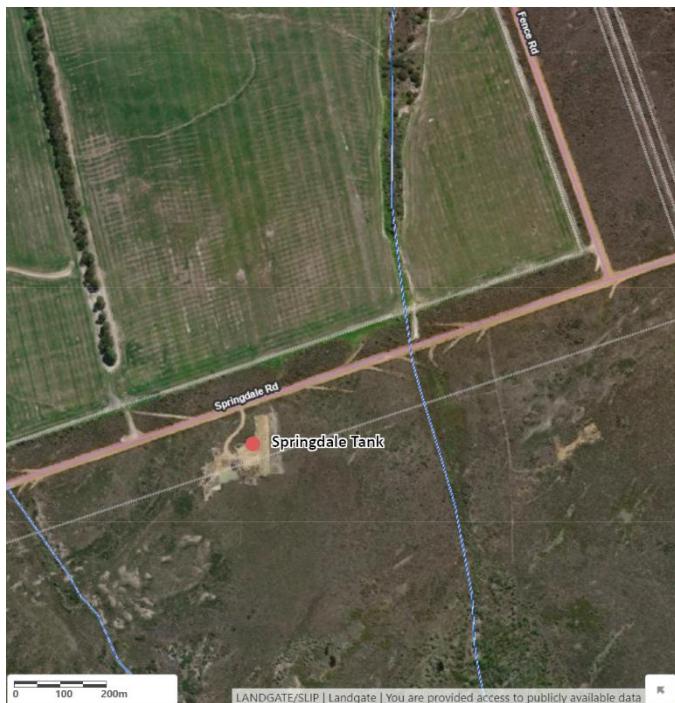
Latitude	-33.236044
Longitude	120.03049
Eastings	782383.59726
Northings	6318449.58218

Water supply and access

Structure type	Tank
Tank storage	200kL
Standpipe Y/N	No
Pump available Y/N	No
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Supply comments	Water supply is currently donated and carted by local farmers. There are plans to construct a catchment dam to supply tank.
Emergency access contact	9839 0000 business hours and 0427 381 098 after hours

Description of community water supplies

Springdale Road



Springdale Road tank aerial



Location map



Springdale Road tank



Camlock fittings

Springdale Road site description

Vesting	Shire of Ravensthorpe
Purpose	Emergency firefighting water only
Associated reserve	Road reserve
AA Dam #	NA
Catchment type	NA
Catchment area (ha)	NA

Location and coordinates

Location: Springdale Road ~ 850m west of Fence Road

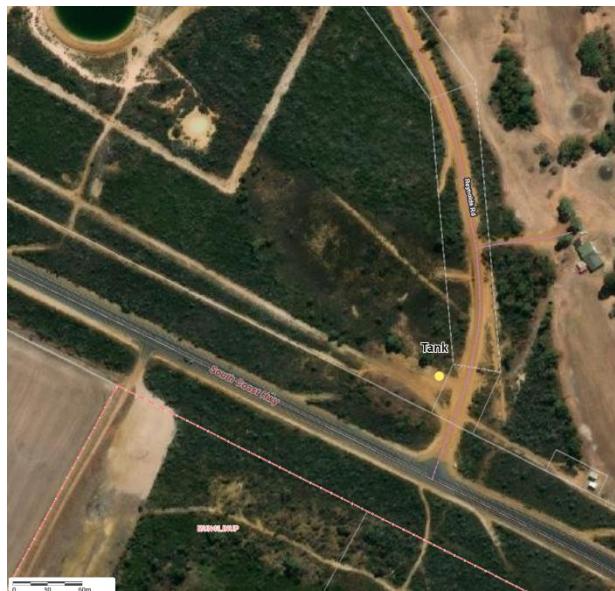
Latitude	-33.864336
Longitude	120.526614
Eastings	271198.546
Northings	6250133.094

Water supply and access

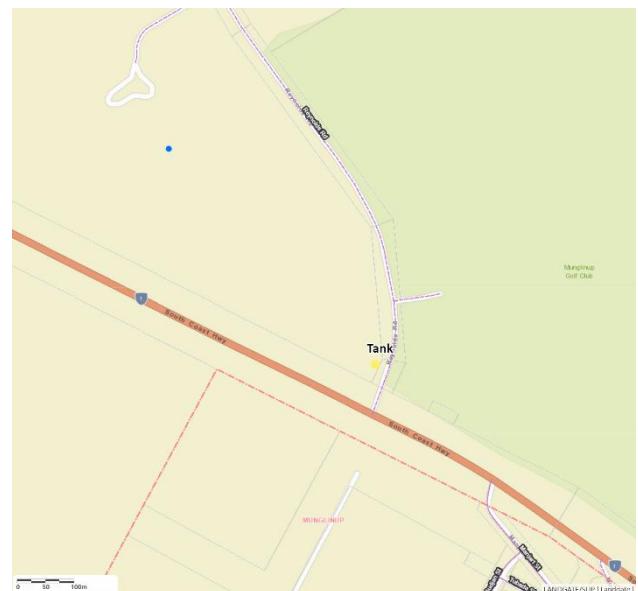
Structure type	Tank
Capacity	250kL
Standpipe Y/N	No
Pump available Y/N	No
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Supply comments	Shire carts from Cordingup or other locations to fill this tank.
Emergency access contact	9839 0000 business hours and 0427 381 098 after hours

Description of community water supplies

Munglinup tank



Aerial view of Munglinup tank



Location map



Tank and swipecard

Munglinup tank site description

Vesting	Water Corporation
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for agricultural purposes, including emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	30488
AA Dam #	N/A
Catchment type	Earth
Catchment area (ha)	2.5 ha

Location and coordinates

Location: Reynolds Road, near corner of South Coast Hwy

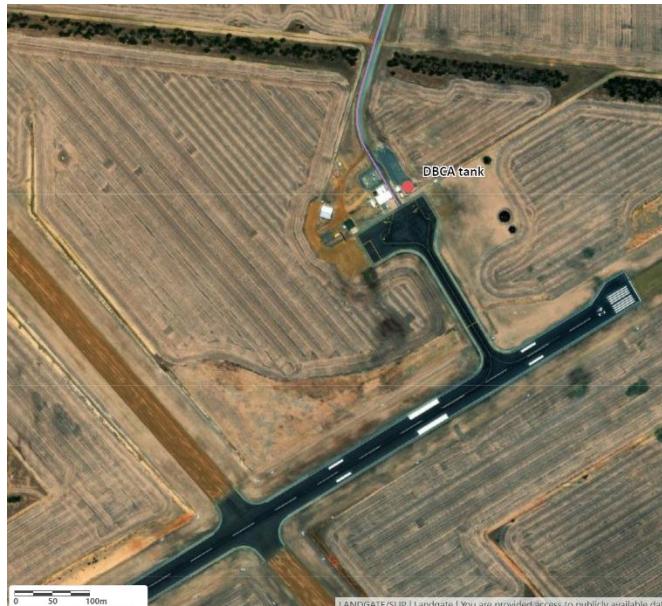
Latitude	-33.70041
Longitude	120.85628
Eastings	301321.870
Northings	6268998.329

Water supply and access

Structure type	Tank
Tank capacity	291kL
Standpipe Y/N	Yes
Pump available Y/N	No
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Emergency access contact	9839 0000 business hours and 0427 381 098 after hours

Description of community water supplies

Ravensthorpe Airport



Aerial view of airport



Location map



Airport tank

Ravensthorpe Airport site description

Vesting	Shire of Ravensthorpe
Purpose	Emergency water bombing activities only by DBCA
Associated reserve	Lot 82 on plan 224161
AA Dam #	N/A
Catchment type	N/A
Catchment area (ha)	N/A

Location and coordinates

Location: 196 Jerdacuttup Road, ~ 1.95 km from Hopetown-Ravensthorpe Road

Latitude	-33.79274
Longitude	120.21272
Eastings	241938.162
Northings	6257331.353

Water supply and access

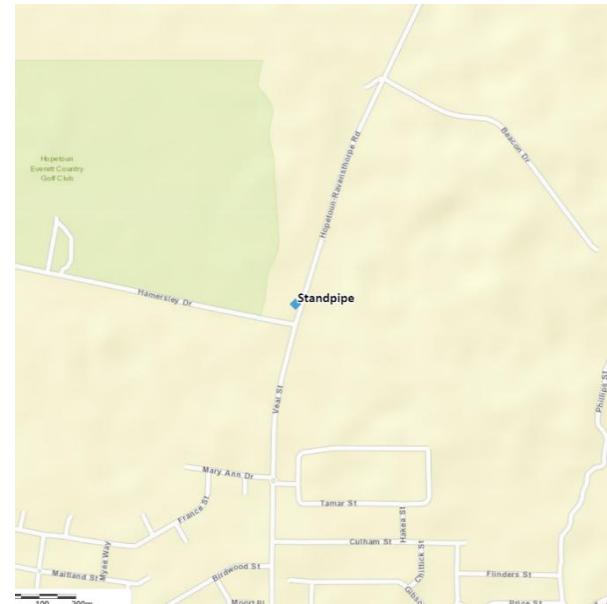
Structure type	Tank
Capacity	250kL
Tank storage	Yes
Standpipe Y/N	No
Pump available Y/N	No
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Supply comments	For use only by DBCA authority for water bombing activities
Emergency access contact	9839 0000 business hours and 0427 381 098 after hours

Description of community water supplies

Hopetoun community standpipe



Aerial view of standpipe



Location map



Standpipe



Control panel



Swipecard system

Hopetoun community standpipe site description

Vesting	Shire of Ravensthorpe
Purpose	Strategic community water supply for agricultural purposes, including emergency stock and firefighting water
Associated reserve	R41371
AA Dam #	N/A
Catchment type	N/A
Catchment area (ha)	N/A

Location and coordinates

Location: Hopetoun-Ravensthorpe Road, Hopetoun, ~ 50m north of Hamersley Drive

Latitude	-33.93650
Longitude	120.12702
Eastings	234447.025
Northings	6241165.992

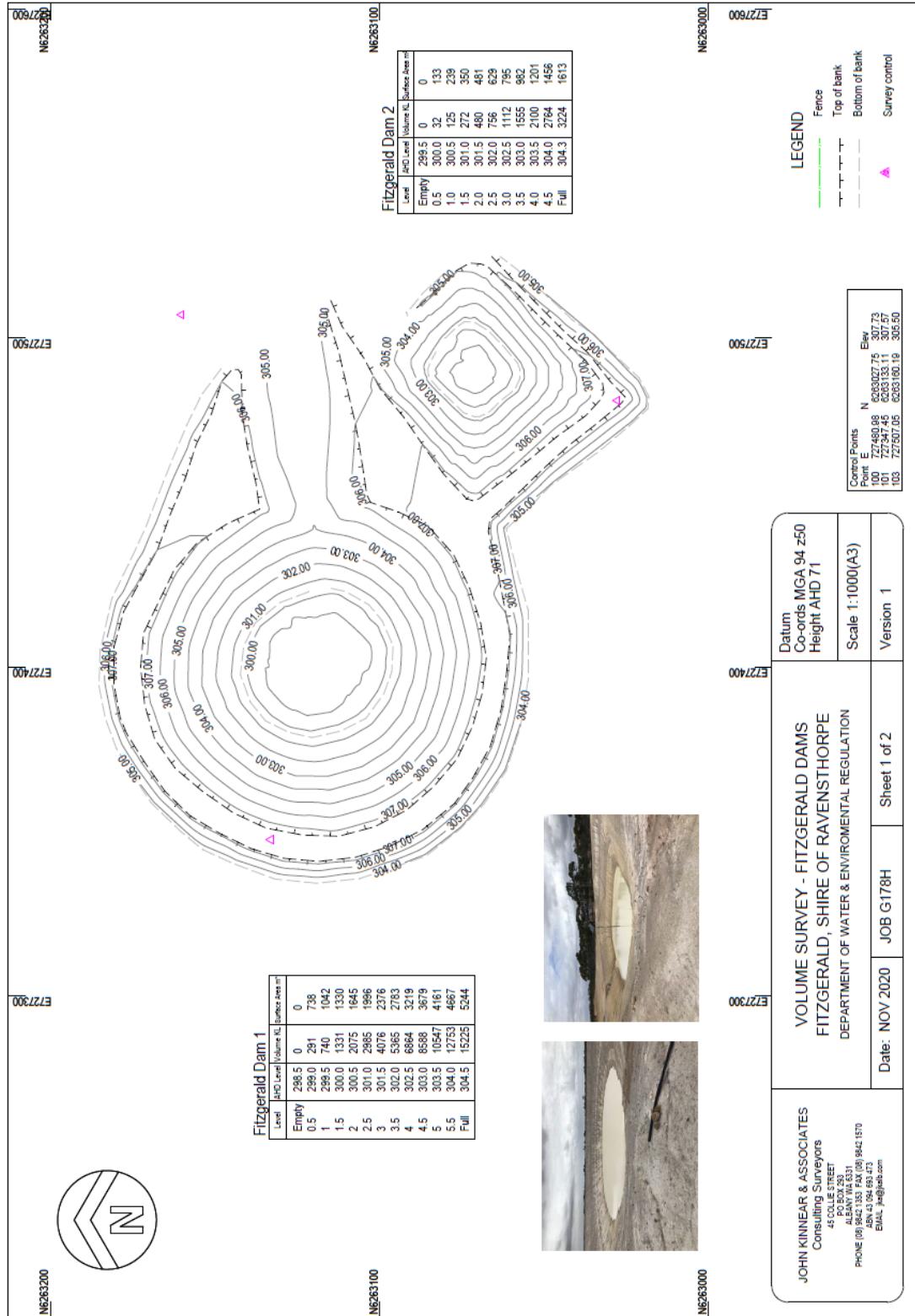
Water supply and access

Structure type	Standpipe
Capacity	Continuous flow via swipecard system
Tank storage	No
Standpipe Y/N	Yes
Pump available Y/N	Yes
Heavy vehicle access	Yes
Turnaround area	Yes
Supply comments	Water fed from Water Corp infrastructure, swipe card required to be purchased from the Shire to access.
Emergency access contact	9839 0000 business hours and 0427 381 098 after hours

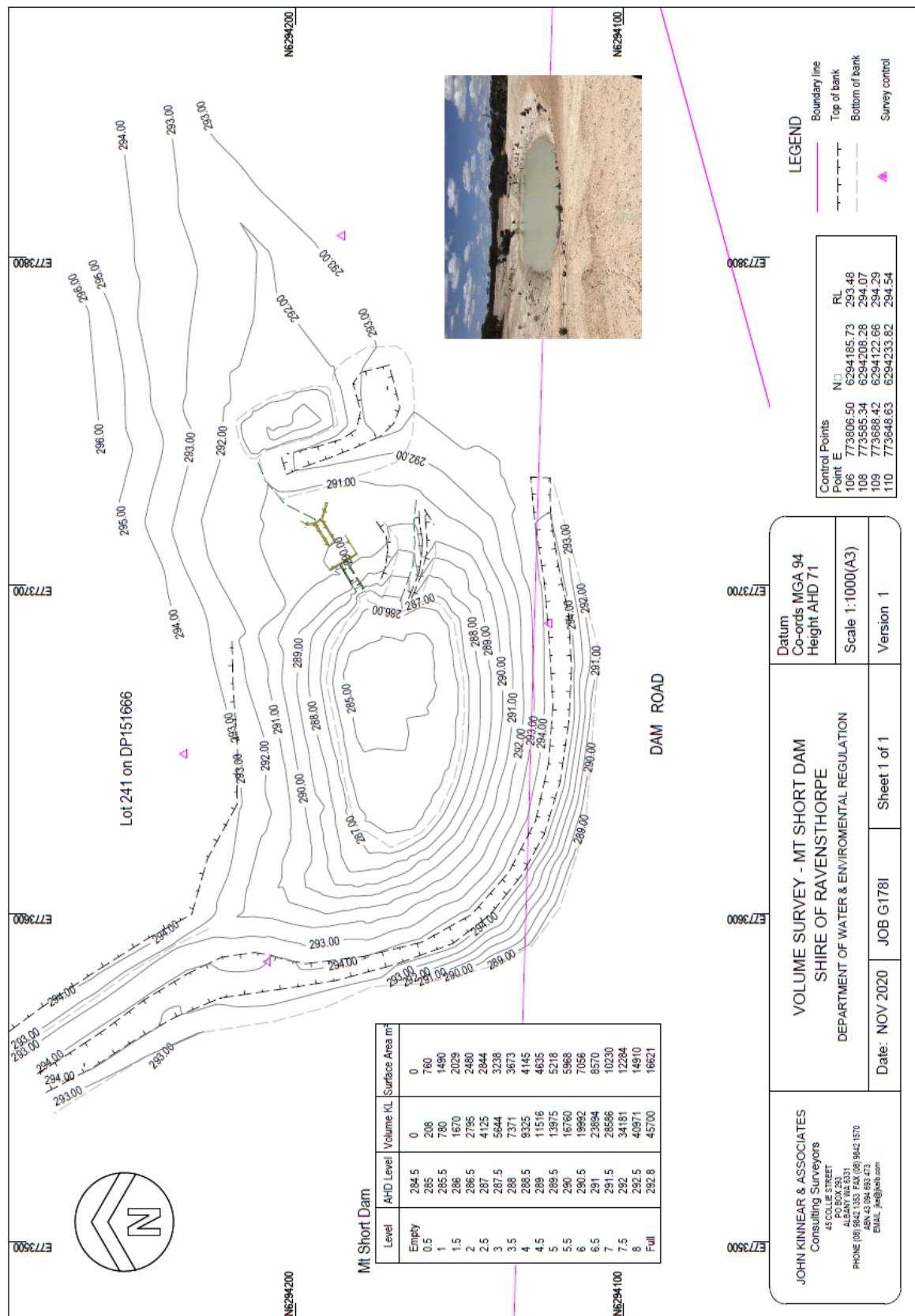
Appendices

Appendix A – Dam Surveys

Fitzgerald dam survey



Mt Short dam survey



Glossary

Camlock	A male hose coupling fixed for connection of a water hose. Camlocks can be attached to fill points such as tanks, or standpipes to allow access to water supply. Camlock sizes vary from site to site and generally include 50 mm (2 inch), 80 mm (3 inch) as a standard. At some sites a 100 mm (4 inch) camlock has been included for firefighting purposes.
Catchment types	Earth – land cleared, cambered and compacted to provide a catchment area for surface water. Bitumen – catchment lined with bitumen to allow capture of surface water. Rock catchment – rock that slopes, has containment walls to capture surface water to a storage source (e.g. a tank or a concrete dam).
Bore	Bore – a drilled casing that accesses ground water to provide a water supply.
CBH	CBH – water is captured from CBH grain silo storage facility and stored in a dam or tank.
Farm bot	A device fitted to some tanks to regularly record the water level and feed this information into a website. You can access this website at app.farmbot.com.au (Login ID: public.access Password: access1) to see water tank levels for tanks fitted with farm bots.
Fill point	Location where a water supply can be accessed from using camlock fittings either via standpipe, swipe card system, tank or bore.
Non-potable	Water not suitable for human consumption.
Solar pump	A pump powered via solar energy that pumps water from one location to another (e.g. from dam to dam or from dam to tank).
Staff gauges	A marker measuring tool positioned at surveyed depths in a dam to indicate water levels.
Standpipe	A pipe overhead, on a plinth or raised off the ground to provide a fill point for water supply.
Swipe card	A metered fill point requiring a card to be swiped to start pumping system. Contact the LGA for further information.
Vesting	Person or governing agency with responsibility for managing land.

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