

HEART OF THE CHANNEL COUNTRY

COMMUNITY NOTICE

Facility Update on McPhellamy's Crossing – Cooper's Creek Windorah

A number of concerns have been raised regarding the trees recently removed at McPhellamy's Crossing and I felt it important to provide an update to the Windorah Community on this project.

As part of the repair/upgrade works to this weir, the existing trees needed to be removed as they were growing in the existing weir structure.

Council sought pre-lodgement advice from the Department of Natural Resources Mines and Energy (DNRME) on 7/2/2020 which stated:

Vegetation management

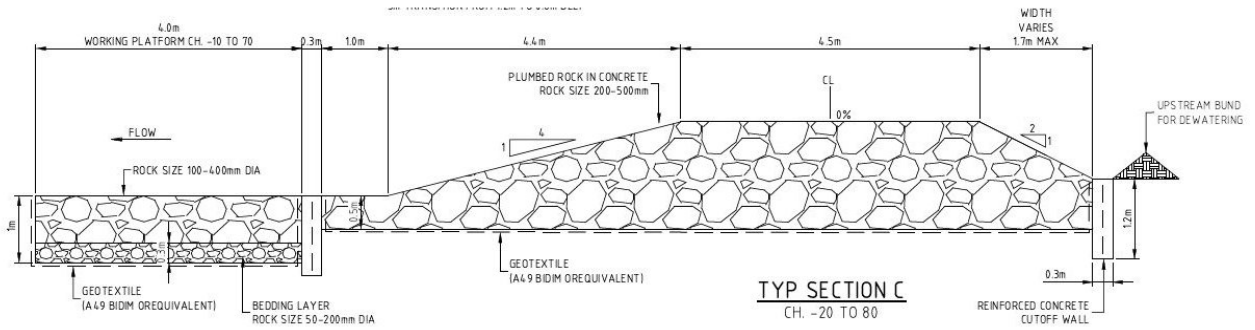
There are no vegetation management requirements relating to the proposed development. Any proposed clearing is an exempt activity under Part 1-1(2)(a) of the schedule 21 of the Planning Regulation 2017 where it is associated with water infrastructure.

The other concern raised by the community is the timing of the works, which Council realise should have commenced in August / September 2020 when the Cooper's Creek had its lowest flows / depths of water. However the funding Council has received for this project was from 2 streams being:

1. Drought Community Program (extension granted to 31 March 2021) and
2. Disaster Resilience Funding Arrangements (DRFA) which needs to be spent by 30 June 2021 as it relates to the 2019 Monsoonal Event.

Council continue to work closely with our Principal Contractor Ellimacon Pty Ltd and it is hoped that the weather holds off long enough to finalise works in the bed of the creek to ensure completion of this important water storage initiative for the Windorah Community.

An extract of the works proposed is set out below:



Paul Hockings
Chief Executive Officer
Barcoo Shire Council

Date: 17 November 2020

File Ref: