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Sen Bill HEFFERNAN
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT

Dear Bill,

Thanks for taking an interest in this water issue. Enclosed is a copy of the Draft Water Resource Plan. The flow management rules are pages 23-25 in the blue section. They show when the water harvesting reductions occur. Please note that these reductions are to be repaid in a later flow event and there are no rules for large flow events.

Also enclosed are some tables showing

1. Daily flows (unvalidated) for the Jan 2004 flow. The event had not finished when the table was printed.
2. Type A&B Thresholds and Extraction Rates. Under the draft plan type A&B are not identified, it is all classified as overland flow extraction.
3. Current Licensed Diversion for Water Harvesting. This is water harvesting from the rivers.
4. Water Harvesting and Extraction Rates. We developed this table ourselves using the previous 2 tables which we obtained from DNR&M. The final column shows the % extracted from each flow window when the river extractions and overland flow extractions are combined.

Below are some interesting points.

1. The daily flow chart for the January 2004 flow, shows a peak release of 65 565MI/day. The Culgoa River at Whyenbah (top end, between Dirranbandi and St George) peaked at 24 045 MI/day and at Woolerbilla (just above Qld/NSW border) at 4762 ML/day. This means for a medium sized flow, approx 80% was lost through extraction, evaporation and soakage. As there were still pumps at "Ballandool Station" before the Culgoa river reached the NSW border, less than 20% of the flow in the Culgoa would have been left to pass into NSW.
2. If the draft WRP is adopted and the rivers haven't run through for the past 12 months or if e.g. a 60 000 MI/day results in a smaller flooded area than a 20 000 MI/day flow, pumping would be reduced by 10% for up to 5 days. Using the last flow event as an example it actually works out as a lot less than 10%.

Using appendix 4

5 peak daily flows	extraction capabilities	10% reduction
65565 MI/day	41096 MI/day	4109 ML/day
64500	41096	4109
52700	36544	3654
52500	36544	3654
44000	32170	3217

18743 MI (total)

The total reduction in extractions is 18743 MI. As the total total was approx 525 544 MI out of Beardmore Dam, this reduction is only 3.5% of the total flow, NOT a 10% reduction as claimed.

The 5 rivers making up the system would share this extra 3748.6 MI/day for each of the 5 days. This would make very little difference. It may put a couple of inches in the river but would be insufficient to produce any beneficial flooding.

3. Appendix 4 shows an alarming amount of extraction out of each flow. For many of the flows the system is approx 100% allocated. It is not until you reach around 170 000 MI/day that the system is less than 50 % allocated. At a peak of 200 000 MI/day the extraction rate is 99 917 MI/day (49.9%). The 10% reduction for up to 5 days is only for low and medium flows, so there would be no reductions for these large flows. As it is the height and duration of the peak that is essential for beneficial flooding these large extraction levels will mean there will be very little chance of getting a large flood until the 1200GI of storage is filled.





We hope this is of help and points out some interesting facts. Please call us if you have any queries. Thanks again for your help.

Owen & Karen Betts



Points to note:
 * The department has on record your proposal for taking type "A" water.
 * Under current policy there is no distinction between "A" water and overland flow.
 * At present the taking of overland flow is captured under moratorium.
 * It is expected that the Water Resource Plan will deal with overland flow issues.

Legend

-  DCDB
-  Levees
-  Infrastucture
-  Cotton Crop

Scale

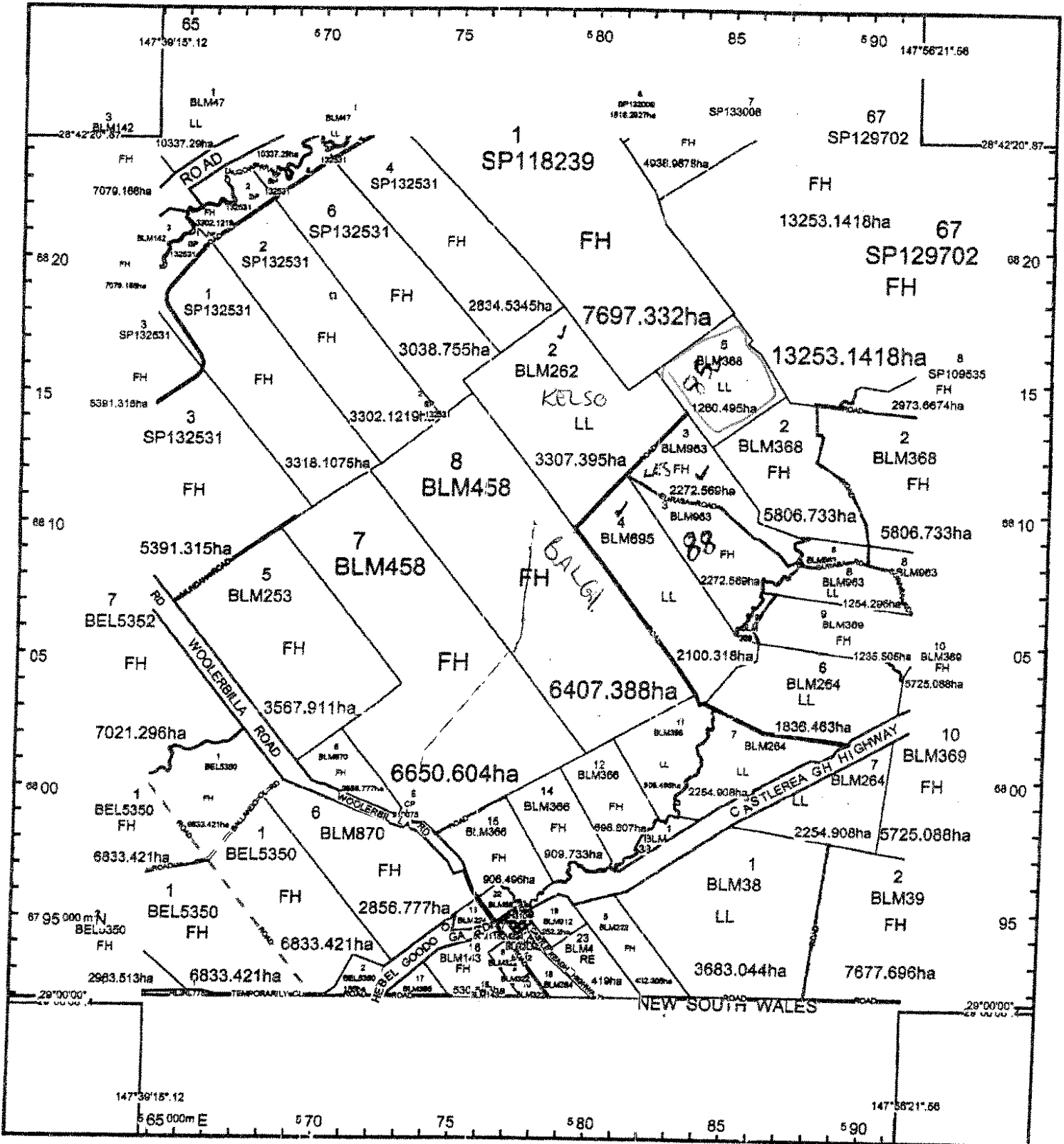


Transverse Mercator
 False Easting: 500000
 False Northing: 10000000
 Central Meridian: 147
 Scale Factor: 0.9996

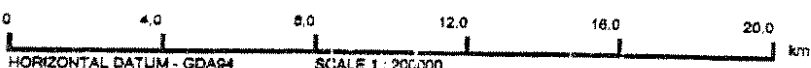
Kelso



Graphics produced by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Feb 2003. Based on the Landsat TM, 1999 & 2002, and the Digital Cadastre Database. (c) NR&M 2003.

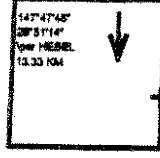


STANDARD MAP NUMBER
8440-24324



BLINMAP

MAP WINDOW POSITION & NEAREST LOCALITY



SUBJECT PARCEL DESCRIPTION CLIENT SERVICE STANDARDS

DCDB	No Lot/Plan Selected.
Lot/Plan	No Lot/Plan Selected.
Area	No Lot/Plan Selected.
Tenure	No Lot/Plan Selected.
Local Government	No Lot/Plan Selected.
Locality	No Lot/Plan Selected.
Parish	No Lot/Plan Selected.
County	No Lot/Plan Selected.
Parcel/Segment	No Lot/Plan Selected.

PRINTED (cdmm/yyyy) 27/12/2001
(Important Notice: The information hereon is NOT an OFFICIAL RECORD and its ACCURACY is NOT GUARANTEED.)
DCDB 24/12/2001
(Lots with an area less than 50000 square metres are not shown)
For symbology see the BLIN Abbreviations Sheet.

LEGEND

An External Product of the Basic Land Information Network
Based upon an extraction from the Digital Cadastral Data Base



Queensland Government
Natural Resources and Mines

(c) The State of Queensland, Department of Natural Resources & Mines



Bunda,
Goodooga. 20
17.5.04

The Hon. Bill Hefeman,
Senator for N.S.W.,
Parliament House,
Canberra. ACT. 2600.

Dear Bill,

On the Feb 2004 Map we have marked in pencil the boundary of Bunda. It is an odd shape as you can see from the enclosed map we are sending. Kimpbulla is part of Bunda - it is included on the 2004 map.

Thank you for the support you are giving us - we really do appreciate it.
Keep up your good fight!

Regards,

Pep (Pitman)