

ARBORIST REPORT

24 Trevor Rd, Newport



August, 2020

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Contents

Bac	kground	.4
2.2	Recommendations	.7
2.3	Recommended replacement species	.8
2.4	SULE categories	.9
	Tree 2.1 2.1. 2.2 2.3	Background Tree Assessment 2.1 Methodology 2.1.1 Tree 1 – 2.2 Recommendations 2.3 Recommended replacement species 2.4 SULE categories

1 Background

Waratah Eco Works (WEW) have been commissioned by Gine Svendsen to prepare an arborist report to accompany a development application and a tree removal application. The *Eucalyptus punctata* is growing on the verge in front of the property at 24 Trevor Rd, Newport. The client has concerns the tree will impact the placement of a new driveway and overall plans subject to the development application. An easement (sewer main, figure 1) runs down the eastern boundary of the property therefore the client wishes to locate a new driveway on the western side of the property.

This report provides an arborist assessment of the tree. It assesses the trees attributes and health and makes recommendations for ongoing management.

The assessment has been undertaken by Michael Dixon Director Waratah Eco Works B.App. Science Horticulture M.Sc. Coastal Resource Management, UPLA Tree Care Cert, AFQ5 Arborist.

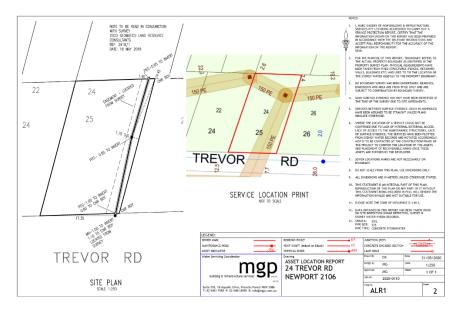


Figure 1- Location of easement

2 Tree Assessment

2.1 Methodology

An on-site inspection of the *Eucalyptus punctata* was made by the consulting arborist on Friday the 3rd of July to record photographs of the tree, determine key factors listed below, assess values, make recommendations and prepare a Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE) assessment of the tree.

Concerns about the impact the tree will have on the new driveway design were discussed with the client and two scenarios are presented here for the ongoing management of the tree.

Scenario 1- The trees attributes are assessed, and recommendations made for removing the tree

Scenario 2- The trees attributes are assessed, the tree is retained and recommendations made for a suitable driveway design that would have minimal impact on the tree.

2.1.1 Tree 1 -

Date of Inspection	3/7/2020		
Tree Species	Eucalyptus punctata		
Tree Position	Middle of the verge in front of the house		
Height (approx.)	15m		
Diameter of tree 1.5m from ground	400mm		
Canopy Span	50m ²		
Age Class	20-30 years		
Crown Class	Сапору		
Live Crown Ratio	90%		
Special Value	Native tree		

a) Description

The *Eucalyptus punctata* is a native tree that naturally occurs along the east coast of Australia. It can reach up to 35m in height. *E. Punctata* has smooth grey bark that is shed in patches, lance-shaped, curved or egg-shaped adult leaves flower buds in groups of seven, white flowers and hemispherical or cup-shaped fruit. Its leaves are one of the favoured foods of the koala. The blossoms provide foraging habitat for nectar feeding birds, mammals and insects. Hollows can form in older specimens that may provide nesting opportunities for birds and mammals.

The tree is situated on the verge at the front of the property, approximately 1m from the road edge.

b) Form and Structure

This mature *Eucalyptus punctata* has a single dominant trunk with a branching canopy. The tree is growing under power lines. The trunk has been pruned to avoid overhead wires resulting in a curved trunk at 4m then becoming straight and regular with a well structured canopy. Less than 10% dead wood is present in canopy. There is no evidence of lightning strike or internal decay.

c) Habitat Value - Medium

No habitat hollows have formed in this tree due to its relatively young age class <30yrs. Scratch marks were present on the trunk and limbs, possibly from arboreal mammals such as possums. *Eucalyptus punctata* blossoms provide foraging habitat for nectar feeding birds, mammals and insects, however none were observed during the inspection.

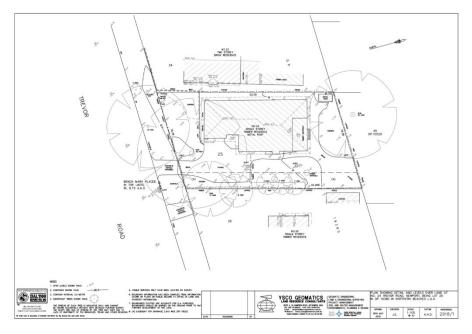


Figure 2-Site Plan

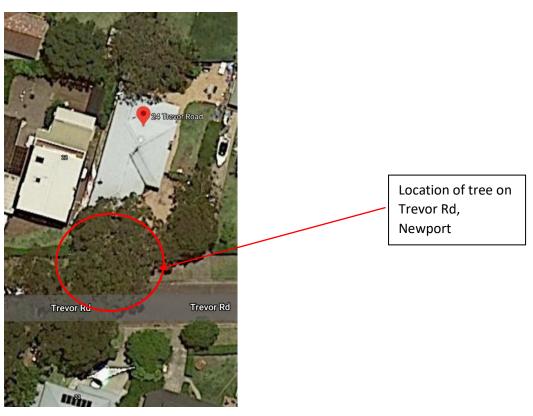


Figure 3- Tree Location



Figure 4- Position of tree (proposed driveway is on the western side of the tree)

Sule Rating: A2

2.2 Recommendations

Scenario 1- If approval for the tree's removal is given, WEW recommends the tree be replaced by a 3:1 ratio with locally endemic species that are part of the Pittwater Spotted Gum Forest Vegetation Community. See recommended replacement species below.r

*Unique site constraints – Due to the presence of public infrastructure on the eastern property boundary, being storm water and sewer mains, within a council easement the client is concerned about placement of new driveway and would like to have the tree removed to better locate the new driveway. The client is more than happy to replace the tree with more suitable species at the 3:1 ratio which will not interfere with the power lines above and therefore not be subject to aggressive pruning regimes which ultimately disfigure most street trees.

Scenario 2- Tree to be retained. The Structural Root Zone (SRZ) extends 3.81m from the centre of the trunk. If the proposed driveway encroaches on the (SRZ) then tree protection measures must be incorporated into the design of the new driveway, see diagram below.

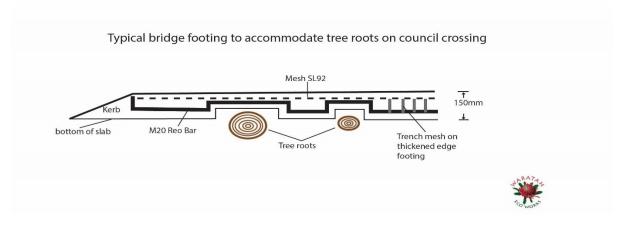


Figure 5- Bridge footing design

2.3 Recommended replacement species

Trees			
Eleocarpus reticulatus			
Backhousia myrtifolia			
Achronichia oblongifolia			
Banksia integrifolia			
Acmena smithii			
Banksi serrata			
Allocasuarina littoralis			
Allocasuarina torulosa			

2.4 SULE categories

	CATEGORY						
	LONG SULE	MEDIUM SULE	SHORT SULE	REMOVAL	MOVE/REPLACE		
	1	2	3	4	5		
	Trees that appeared to be retainable at the time of assessment for over 40 years with an acceptable level of risk	Trees that appeared to be retainable at the time of assessment for 15- 40 years with an acceptable level of risk	Trees that appeared to be retainable at the time of assessment for 5-15 years with an acceptable level of risk	Trees that should be removed within the next five years	Trees that can be reliably moved or replaced.		
A	ategory Structurally sound	Trees that may live	Trees that may only	Dead, dying,	Small trees less		
	trees located in positions that can accommodate future growth	between 15-40 more years	live between 5-15 more years	suppressed or declining trees because of disease or inhospitable conditions	than 5m in height		
В	Trees that could be made suitable for retention in the long term by remedial care	Trees that could live for more than 40 years but may be removed for safety or nuisance reasons	Trees that could live for more than 15 years but may be removed for safety or nuisance reasons	Dangerous trees because of instability or recent loss of adjacent trees	Young trees less than 15 years old but over 5m in height		
C	Trees of special significance for historical, commemorative or rarity reasons that would warrant extraordinary effort to secure their long- term retention	Trees that could live for more than 40 years but may be removed to prevent interference with more suitable individuals or to provide space for new planting	Trees that could live for more than 15 years but may be removed to prevent interference with more suitable individuals or to provide space for new planting	Dangerous trees because of structural defects including cavities, decay, included bark, wounds or poor form.	Formal hedges and trees intended for regular pruning to artificially control growth.		
D		Trees that can be made suitable for retention in the medium term by remedial tree care	Trees that require substantial remedial care and are only suitable for retention in the short term	Damaged trees that are clearly not safe to retain			
E				Trees that could live for more than 5 years but may be removed to prevent interference with more suitable individuals or to provide space for new planting			
F				Trees that are damaging or may cause damage to existing structures within 5 years			
G				Trees that will become dangerous after removal of other trees for the reasons given in (A) to (F)			
Н				Trees in categories (A) to (G) that have a high wildlife habitat value and with appropriate treatment to be retained subject to regular review.			