

27 January 2022

Narre Warren Central Pty Ltd
Att Mr Paul Nio
52-54 Rathdowne Street
Carlton VIC 3053

Via email: pnio@osanrae.com.au
CC: cmistica@fidus.com.au; inga@natureadvisory.com.au

Dear Paul

Re: 2021 Annual Report of Water Quality and Dwarf Galaxias Monitoring for Casey Green

Aquatika Environmental was engaged by Narre Warren Central to undertake the 2021 annual monitoring of water quality and Dwarf Galaxias (*Galaxiella pusilla*) at the site of the Casey Green residential development at 96-166 Centre Road, Narre Warren, Victoria (the project).

The annual monitoring was undertaken to meet specific management actions outlined in the project's commonwealth, state and locally approved Dwarf Galaxias Management Plan (DGMP; BL&A 2015) and Dwarf Galaxias Salvage and Translocation Plan (DGSTP; Aquatika Environmental 2015). These actions were interpreted by the federal Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environmental (DAWE) to include the following monitoring requirements (DE 2016, including Aquatika Environmental 2015):

- **Dwarf Galaxias:** Survey Dwarf Galaxias and predatory fish populations at established/baseline and translocation release sites in November/December annually during construction and for least five years post completion of construction on the site.
- **Aquatic and riparian habitat condition:** Assess condition in conjunction with the Dwarf Galaxias survey.
- **Water quality:** Assess water quality at established sites once per fortnight and/or after rainfall events >10mm during construction, including during Dwarf Galaxias monitoring (Condition 3b and 3d).

This report has been produced to provide a summary record of the 2020 water quality and Dwarf Galaxias monitoring in accordance with the DGMP and DGSTP.

1 Methodologies

1.1 Sampling Sites

During initial baseline and salvage surveys in 2016-17 a number of water quality and Dwarf Galaxias survey sites were established (Aquatika Environmental 2017). However, in the time since these surveys were undertaken development of the site (and neighbouring sites) has progressed significantly and not all of the originally established sites still exist. Figure 1 shows the sites that were monitored during the 2021 monitoring year, with the following changes occurring through the year:

- Due to dense vegetation growth, Sites WQ7 and DG3 were not able to be accessed from about February onwards.



Spatial Reference
 Name: GDA2020 MGA Zone 55
 PCS: GDA2020 MGA Zone 55
 GCS: GDA2020
 Datum: GDA2020
 Projection: Transverse Mercator



- Site
- Retained Habitat
- Wetland
- Structure
- Connector or drain
- Water Quality Site (WQ)
- Dwarf Galaxias Site (DG)

Monitoring Points

Casey Green, 96-166 Centre Road, Narre Warren
Dwarf Galaxias and Water Quality monitoring sites
 Figure 1



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1.2 Dwarf Galaxias and Predatory Fish Monitoring

Dwarf Galaxias and predatory fish monitoring was undertaken at Site DG1 and DG2 identified in Figure 1. This sites align with previous years monitoring, with Sites DG2 corresponding to where Dwarf Galaxia were released during the 2016 salvage and translocation program (Aquatica Environmental 2017).

Sampling for adult Dwarf Galaxias and predatory was undertaken using hand-held dip-nets, sampling in and around areas of suitable habitat, and bait traps set overnight with phosphorescent baits. Sampling for larval Dwarf Galaxias was also undertaken by collecting a sample of water (approximately 10 litres) and placing it in a shallow white tray, where any larva would have been visible.

Active searching using dip-nets and bait-trapping are standard methods for sampling Dwarf Galaxias and are the most effective methods outlined in the Survey Guidelines for Australia's Threatened Fish (DSEWPaC 2004) and Biodiversity Precinct Structure Planning Kit (DSE 2010). They are also most appropriate method for sampling in the small and heavily vegetated water bodies, like those at the site.

Dwarf Galaxias sampling was undertaken by Aquatica Environmental at another nearby site, where Dwarf Galaxias also occur and as reference/baseline as to whether Dwarf Galaxias should have been detectable on the site.

1.3 Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Condition Monitoring

Aquatic and riparian habitat condition was visually and assessed during and at the Dwarf Galaxias survey sites. The assessment was primarily based on a comparison of the aquatic and riparian vegetation condition during this survey as compared to previous surveys (i.e. temporal comparison).

1.4 Water Quality Monitoring

Water quality monitoring was undertaken fortnightly and/or following rainfall events >10 millimetres, and during the annual Dwarf Galaxias survey. In situ water quality data was collected by using a calibrated Hanna Instruments HI9829 multiparameter water quality metre. The parameters collected included temperate, electrical conductivity, pH, dissolved oxygen and turbidity.

2 Results

2.1 Sampling Frequency and Conditions

During the 2021 monitoring year a total of 30 sampling events had occurred in 2020, including 15 scheduled, 14 post >10mm rainfall events and one during annual Dwarf Galaxias monitoring.

The annual Dwarf Galaxias monitoring and associated water quality sampling occurred on the 22nd and 23rd November.

A summary of the 2020 Dwarf Galaxias and water quality sampling schedule is provided in Table 1.

Figure 2 shows the results of the rainfall monitoring, based the average daily rainfall between the Scoresby, Moorabbin and Ferny Creek weather stations.

Table 1 2021 sampling schedule

| DAY | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | KEY |
|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|------------------------------|
| Wednesday | | | | | | | | | 1/9/21 | | | 1/12/21 | Standard WQ Monitoring Event |
| Thursday | | | | 1/4/21 | | | 1/7/21 | | 2/9/21 | | | 2/12/21 | Next scheduled |
| Friday | 1/1/21 | | | 2/4/21 | | | 2/7/21 | | 3/9/21 | 1/10/21 | | 3/12/21 | Post >10mm rainfall event |
| Saturday | 2/1/21 | | | 3/4/21 | 1/5/21 | | 3/7/21 | | 4/9/21 | 2/10/21 | | 4/12/21 | Incident |
| Sunday | 3/1/21 | | | 4/4/21 | 2/5/21 | | 4/7/21 | 1/8/21 | 5/9/21 | 3/10/21 | | 5/12/21 | Annual DG Survey |
| Monday | 4/1/21 | 1/2/21 | 1/3/21 | 5/4/21 | 3/5/21 | | 5/7/21 | 2/8/21 | 6/9/21 | 4/10/21 | 1/11/21 | 6/12/21 | Rainfall > 10mm |
| Tuesday | 5/1/21 | 2/2/21 | 2/3/21 | 6/4/21 | 4/5/21 | 1/6/21 | 6/7/21 | 3/8/21 | 7/9/21 | 5/10/21 | 2/11/21 | 7/12/21 | |
| Wednesday | 6/1/21 | 3/2/21 | 3/3/21 | 7/4/21 | 5/5/21 | 2/6/21 | 7/7/21 | 4/8/21 | 8/9/21 | 6/10/21 | 3/11/21 | 8/12/21 | |
| Thursday | 7/1/21 | 4/2/21 | 4/3/21 | 8/4/21 | 6/5/21 | 3/6/21 | 8/7/21 | 5/8/21 | 9/9/21 | 7/10/21 | 4/11/21 | 9/12/21 | |
| Friday | 8/1/21 | 5/2/21 | 5/3/21 | 9/4/21 | 7/5/21 | 4/6/21 | 9/7/21 | 6/8/21 | 10/9/21 | 8/10/21 | 5/11/21 | 10/12/21 | |
| Saturday | 9/1/21 | 6/2/21 | 6/3/21 | 10/4/21 | 8/5/21 | 5/6/21 | 10/7/21 | 7/8/21 | 11/9/21 | 9/10/21 | 6/11/21 | 11/12/21 | |
| Sunday | 10/1/21 | 7/2/21 | 7/3/21 | 11/4/21 | 9/5/21 | 6/6/21 | 11/7/21 | 8/8/21 | 12/9/21 | 10/10/21 | 7/11/21 | 12/12/21 | |
| Monday | 11/1/21 | 8/2/21 | 8/3/21 | 12/4/21 | 10/5/21 | 7/6/21 | 12/7/21 | 9/8/21 | 13/9/21 | 11/10/21 | 8/11/21 | 13/12/21 | |
| Tuesday | 12/1/21 | 9/2/21 | 9/3/21 | 13/4/21 | 11/5/21 | 8/6/21 | 13/7/21 | 10/8/21 | 14/9/21 | 12/10/21 | 9/11/21 | 14/12/21 | |
| Wednesday | 13/1/21 | 10/2/21 | 10/3/21 | 14/4/21 | 12/5/21 | 9/6/21 | 14/7/21 | 11/8/21 | 15/9/21 | 13/10/21 | 10/11/21 | 15/12/21 | |
| Thursday | 14/1/21 | 11/2/21 | 11/3/21 | 15/4/21 | 13/5/21 | 10/6/21 | 15/7/21 | 12/8/21 | 16/9/21 | 14/10/21 | 11/11/21 | 16/12/21 | |
| Friday | 15/1/21 | 12/2/21 | 12/3/21 | 16/4/21 | 14/5/21 | 11/6/21 | 16/7/21 | 13/8/21 | 17/9/21 | 15/10/21 | 12/11/21 | 17/12/21 | |
| Saturday | 16/1/21 | 13/2/21 | 13/3/21 | 17/4/21 | 15/5/21 | 12/6/21 | 17/7/21 | 14/8/21 | 18/9/21 | 16/10/21 | 13/11/21 | 18/12/21 | |
| Sunday | 17/1/21 | 14/2/21 | 14/3/21 | 18/4/21 | 16/5/21 | 13/6/21 | 18/7/21 | 15/8/21 | 19/9/21 | 17/10/21 | 14/11/21 | 19/12/21 | |
| Monday | 18/1/21 | 15/2/21 | 15/3/21 | 19/4/21 | 17/5/21 | 14/6/21 | 19/7/21 | 16/8/21 | 20/9/21 | 18/10/21 | 15/11/21 | 20/12/21 | |
| Tuesday | 19/1/21 | 16/2/21 | 16/3/21 | 20/4/21 | 18/5/21 | 15/6/21 | 20/7/21 | 17/8/21 | 21/9/21 | 19/10/21 | 16/11/21 | 21/12/21 | |
| Wednesday | 20/1/21 | 17/2/21 | 17/3/21 | 21/4/21 | 19/5/21 | 16/6/21 | 21/7/21 | 18/8/21 | 22/9/21 | 20/10/21 | 17/11/21 | 22/12/21 | |
| Thursday | 21/1/21 | 18/2/21 | 18/3/21 | 22/4/21 | 20/5/21 | 17/6/21 | 22/7/21 | 19/8/21 | 23/9/21 | 21/10/21 | 18/11/21 | 23/12/21 | |
| Friday | 22/1/21 | 19/2/21 | 19/3/21 | 23/4/21 | 21/5/21 | 18/6/21 | 23/7/21 | 20/8/21 | 24/9/21 | 22/10/21 | 19/11/21 | 24/12/21 | |
| Saturday | 23/1/21 | 20/2/21 | 20/3/21 | 24/4/21 | 22/5/21 | 19/6/21 | 24/7/21 | 21/8/21 | 25/9/21 | 23/10/21 | 20/11/21 | 25/12/21 | |
| Sunday | 24/1/21 | 21/2/21 | 21/3/21 | 25/4/21 | 23/5/21 | 20/6/21 | 25/7/21 | 22/8/21 | 26/9/21 | 24/10/21 | 21/11/21 | 26/12/21 | |
| Monday | 25/1/21 | 22/2/21 | 22/3/21 | 26/4/21 | 24/5/21 | 21/6/21 | 26/7/21 | 23/8/21 | 27/9/21 | 25/10/21 | 22/11/21 | 27/12/21 | |
| Tuesday | 26/1/21 | 23/2/21 | 23/3/21 | 27/4/21 | 25/5/21 | 22/6/21 | 27/7/21 | 24/8/21 | 28/9/21 | 26/10/21 | 23/11/21 | 28/12/21 | |
| Wednesday | 27/1/21 | 24/2/21 | 24/3/21 | 28/4/21 | 26/5/21 | 23/6/21 | 28/7/21 | 25/8/21 | 29/9/21 | 27/10/21 | 24/11/21 | 29/12/21 | |
| Thursday | 28/1/21 | 25/2/21 | 25/3/21 | 29/4/21 | 27/5/21 | 24/6/21 | 29/7/21 | 26/8/21 | 30/9/21 | 28/10/21 | 25/11/21 | 30/12/21 | |
| Friday | 29/1/21 | 26/2/21 | 26/3/21 | 30/4/21 | 28/5/21 | 25/6/21 | 30/7/21 | 27/8/21 | | 29/10/21 | 26/11/21 | 31/12/21 | |
| Saturday | 30/1/21 | 27/2/21 | 27/3/21 | | 29/5/21 | 26/6/21 | 31/7/21 | 28/8/21 | | 30/10/21 | 27/11/21 | | |
| Sunday | 31/1/21 | 28/2/21 | 28/3/21 | | 30/5/21 | 27/6/21 | | 29/8/21 | | 31/10/21 | 28/11/21 | | |
| Monday | | | 29/3/21 | | 31/5/21 | 28/6/21 | | 30/8/21 | | | 29/11/21 | | |
| Tuesday | | | 30/3/21 | | | 29/6/21 | | 31/8/21 | | | 30/11/21 | | |
| Wednesday | | | 31/3/21 | | | 30/6/21 | | | | | | | |

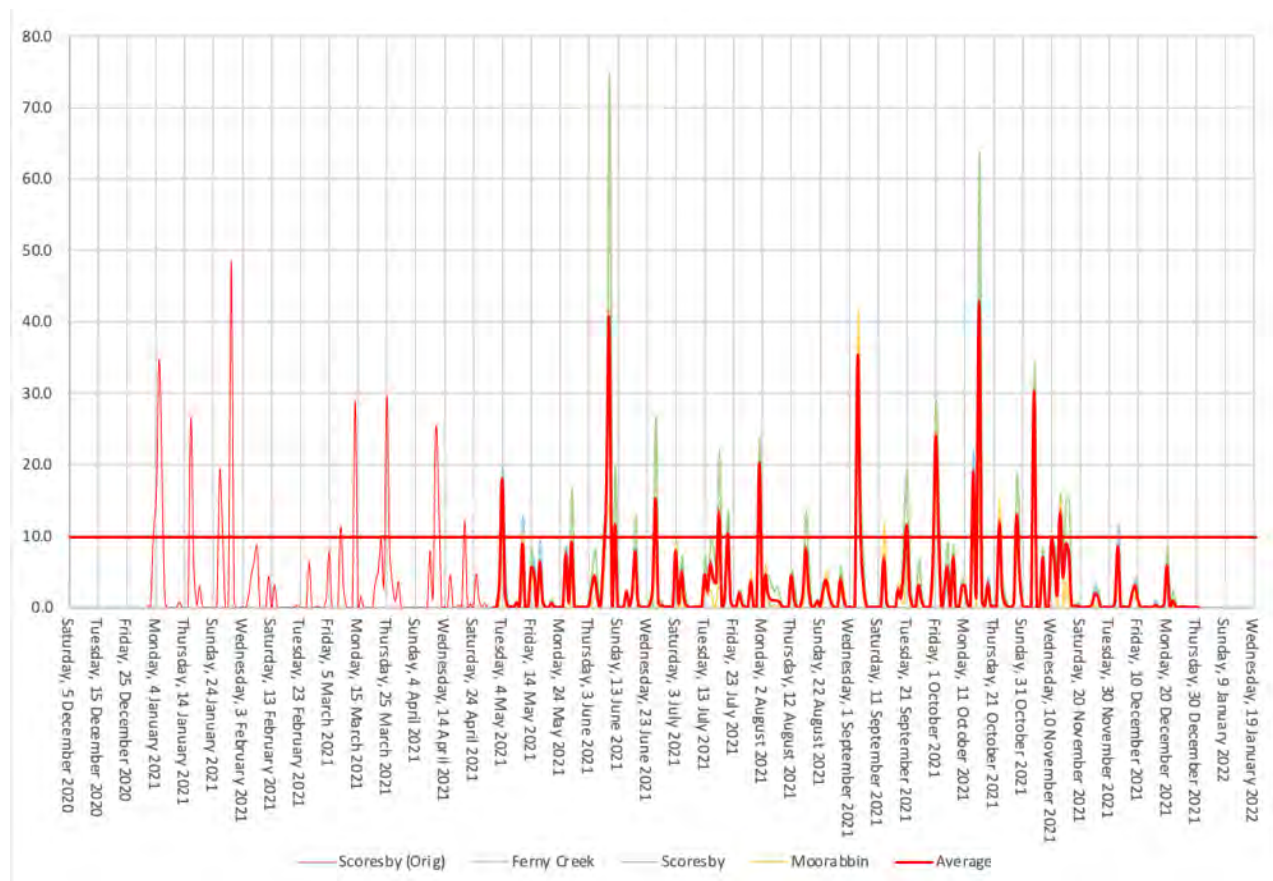


Figure 2 Rainfall chart

2.2 Dwarf Galaxias and Predatory Fish

The survey was undertaken on 22nd and 23rd November 2021. The weather during the survey was mild to warm with temperatures ranging between 20°C (day time maximum) and 8.1°C (night time minimum). No rain fell during the survey. The seasonal timing for the survey (late spring) was ideal and young of year and adults would be expected to be found following the usual late autumn to spring breeding season.

A total of 17 Dwarf Galaxias were recorded during the November survey, all adults. All were recorded at Site DG2, with none at DG1 was too dry/low water to survey.

Newly recorded was Flathead Gudgeon (*Philypnodon grandiceps*) (Plate 1 and 2), which is a small beneficial native that cohabitates well with Dwarf Galaxias. It is likely they have entered the area due and are utilising the swales.

Based on the number and condition of the individuals recorded during this survey, it appears there has been another good year for the species on the site (i.e. similarly 2019 and 2020). This has also been our experience at other sites in the region, mostly due to above average winter/spring rains and mild temperatures.

The results also confirm that the constructed swales are continuing to function well and as intended, by supplying consistent water levels to the retained habitat, but limiting pest fish ingress to the retained habitat drain. Also see section where it is noted that aquatic emergent vegetation is improving providing an even larger area suitable for supporting Dwarf Galaxia into the constructed swales.

The results of the November 2021 survey are provided in Table 2 and compared to previous rounds of monitoring.

Similarly to the 2018 and 2019 surveys, Mosquitofish (*Gambusia holbrooki*) (Plate 2a) were recorded, but in larger numbers, especially in the swales where there is more open and warmer water. However, they do not appear to be making inroads into the denser shadier habitat at retained drain. It is also likely as the area and density of new vegetation increases, they will be further excluded.

Table 2 Species and number of individuals recorded

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Sampling Event | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|------|------|------|------|
| | | 2021 | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 |
| Dwarf Galaxias | <i>Galaxiella pusilla</i> | | 25 | 12 | 3 | 2 |
| Mosquitofish | <i>Gambusia holbrooki</i> | 10s | 12 | 6 | 3 | - |
| Goldfish | <i>Carassius auratus</i> | - | - | 2 | 4 | - |
| Flathead Gudgeon | | | | | | |
| Freshwater Burrowing Crayfish | <i>Engesus spp.</i> | - | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| Oriental Weatherloach | <i>Misgurnus anguillicaudatus</i> | - | 1 | | | |



Plate 1 Dwarf Galaxias, Flathead Gudgeon and tadpoles



Plate 2 Flathead Gudgeon and Dwarf Galaxias

2.3 Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Condition

Aquatic and riparian habitat condition was assessed during the Dwarf Galaxias survey at sites DG1 and DG2 (noting DG3 is no longer accessible).

During the survey sites DG1 had mostly dried, with negligible surface water present at the time. Habitat conditions at this site were similar to previous years of monitoring with some sparse patches of aquatic and emergent vegetation and an overstorey of Melaleuca, in much the same overall condition as during previous years of monitoring.

Aquatic and riparian habitat at site DG 2 appeared to have further improved upon that observed during the 2019 and 2020 surveys. As previously reported the constructed swales either side of this habitat maintain a relatively consistent water level yet still allowing some drying and filling on an ephemeral basis. This provides excellent conditions through the retained habitat for aquatic, emergent and overstorey vegetation. Compared to the 2020 survey there appeared to be a continued increase in the area, density and abundance in particular of emergent vegetation such as *Panicum* and *Juncus*, and further recruitment of *Melaleuca* (Plate 3a). This new and improving vegetation is now extending well into and along the constructed swales (Plate 3b).



Plate 3 Habitat edge vegetation at Site DG2 (a) and the increasingly vegetated swale (b) both showing *Melaleuca* recruitment

2.4 Water Quality

The raw water quality data is provided in Appendix B. Table 1 provides a summary of the relevant statistical analysis and/or relevant Environmental Reference Standards (ERS; EPA 2021) objectives for the Urban segment, Lowlands of Western Port catchment.

Overall the data showed the following patterns:

- Temperature was on average very consistent across the sites across the year, showing expected heating and cooling phases in summer and winter. The highest temperatures across the sites were experienced in January and the lowest in August. The highest individual temperature was 23.39°C at Site 5 on the 6th January and the lowest was 9.19 °C at Site 6 on 31st August. On average Site 1 had the highest temperatures, apparently due to the discharge of water from the culvert. Site 6 had the lowest due to shading by the dense vegetation at the site.

- pH was on average consistent across all sites, not appearing to be linked to seasonal or weather variations and was within the ERS objectives at all sites.
- Electrical conductivity was consistently and significantly higher at Sites 6 (mean=794 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ compared to 467-595 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ at Sites 1-5), most likely reflective of the lack of direct flows and the concentration of salts due to evaporation. However, the average at Site 6 was lower than previous years, possibly indicating the effects of dilution from the greater water volumes of the attached swales. The ERS objective of ≤ 500 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ was exceeded at all sites, but only marginally. The levels observed appeared not attributable to the development of the site, rather occurred naturally and/or other influences, and were clearly of no concern for Dwarf Galaxias due to their ongoing presence and increased abundance at the site.
- Percent dissolved oxygen was consistently low across all sites. The ERS objective of $\geq 70\%$ was not met at any site. Similarly to electrical conductivity, the levels observed were not attributable to the development of the site, rather occurred naturally and/or other influences, and were clearly of no concern for the resident Dwarf Galaxias population.
- Turbidity was on average highest at Site 1, indicating a high turbidity input from the culvert and unknown upstream sources. Site 6 had the lowest average turbidity. The data showed that turbidity reduces through the downstream flowing sites (i.e. Site 1 to 5) with no indication of any observable inputs from the development of the site. This indicated that the retained Centre Road drain vegetation and construction/vegetation of the project's swales are functioning as designed and resulting in an overall reduction in turbidity as surface waters pass by the site. The ERS of ≤ 35 NTU was not met at any site more due to catchment inputs than the site.

Table 3 Water quality sampling summary

| Parameter | | ERS Objective | Centre Road Drain Sites | | | | | Habitat Sites | |
|---|------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------|--------|
| | | | Site 1 | Site 2 | Site 3 | Site 4 | Site 5 | Site 6 | Site 7 |
| Temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) | Min. | NA | 10.16 | 9.52 | 9.65 | 9.44 | 9.43 | 9.19 | - |
| | Max. | | 15.54 | 14.68 | 14.71 | 14.22 | 15.23 | 14.13 | - |
| | Mean | | 15.76 | 15.03 | 15.07 | 14.64 | 15.63 | 14.44 | - |
| pH | 25 th %tile | ≥ 6.4 | 6.48 | 6.52 | 6.58 | 6.75 | 6.69 | 6.57 | - |
| | 75 th %tile | ≤ 7.9 | 7.25 | 7.15 | 7.11 | 7.13 | 7.14 | 6.96 | - |
| | Mean | NA | 6.93 | 6.87 | 6.83 | 6.89 | 6.89 | 6.75 | - |
| Electrical Conductivity ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$) | 75 th % | ≤ 500 | 681 | 684 | 636 | 555 | 508 | 829 | - |
| | Mean | NA | 561 | 595 | 552 | 516 | 467 | 794 | - |
| Dissolved Oxygen (%) | 75 th %tile | ≥ 70 | 53.63 | 50.20 | 47.40 | 51.58 | 61.90 | 55.98 | - |
| | Max. | 130 | 88.00 | 85.90 | 81.90 | 75.90 | 84.30 | 87.40 | - |
| | Mean | NA | 41.46 | 39.58 | 39.46 | 28.60 | 53.86 | 48.73 | - |
| Turbidity (NTU) | 75 th %tile | ≤ 35 | 67.6 | 42.6 | 44.9 | 39.4 | 40.4 | 42.6 | - |
| | Mean | NA | 54.9 | 36.3 | 41.0 | 34.7 | 37.3 | 34.1 | - |

Orange highlight = parameter did not meet the ERS objective

Red = worst value, Green = best value

3 Summary and Recommendations

The 2021 annual Dwarf Galaxias monitoring event detected 17 individual Dwarf Galaxias in the retained habitat drain (compared to 25 in 2020, 12 in 2019 and 3 in 2018). This was at the higher end of the previous records indicating that conditions for the species are being maintained. The primary reason for this is the constructed swales result in more water and a more constant water level in the retained habitat drain in a manner that is clearly suited to the resident Dwarf Galaxias population (i.e. Still maintaining ephemerality but not allowing over drying).

The recording of a new small native fish species, Flathead Gudgeon, is also a positive sign of the system's improving function.

Considering this and previous rounds of sampling for the project and historical records (Aquatika Environmental 2017, 2019, 2020 and 2021), it is considered likely the abundance and distribution of the Dwarf Galaxias population in the

habitat areas is somewhat dynamic, varying between years and due to seasonal influenced on water availability and therefore habitat. However, with the continued improvement of the retained habitat and expansion of suitable habitat into the constructed swales it is clearly resulting in an overall increase in the quality and area of available habitat for Dwarf Galaxias. This appears to have also correlated with a slight increase in the number of predatory fish species (i.e. Mosquitofish), however their presence doesn't appear to have impacted the successful breeding and increasing numbers of Dwarf Galaxias. This is probably due to the habitat being more suitable to Dwarf Galaxias than the pest/predatory species.

Based on the results of the 2021 survey and data, it is our option that development of the Casey Green site to date has been undertaken in accordance the DGSTP and associated approvals. No ecologically significant impacts have been observed to the retained habitat, with the constructed swales having improved overall conditions for Dwarf Galaxias on the site and in the region.

The 2022 monitoring year has commenced and in accordant with approved DGSTP (and the project Dwarf Galaxias Management Plan; BL&A 2015) the following monitoring should occur during the year:

- **Water quality monitoring:** Fortnightly and/or after rainfall events > 10 millimetres until all construction is completed (i.e. all works on site completed) and then monthly following completion.
- **Dwarf Galaxias monitoring:** Annually in November/December for at least five years post construction.

Please note, we interoperate the “completion of construction” to be the point at all major works including site clean-up, landscaping, etc. Have been completed and there is not further risk to the Dwarf Galaxias and their habitat (i.e. all possible sources of sediment/contaminant runoff have been mitigated).

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this assessment, report or any other matter further, please do not hesitate to call me on 0413 935 497.

Kind Regards,



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4 References

- Aquatica Environmental (2015). Dwarf Galaxias Salvage and Translocation Plan for 96-166 Centre Road, Narre Warren. Report prepared for Narre Warren Central Pty Ltd c/- The Fidus Group Pty Ltd, dated January.
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- DSE (2010). Biodiversity Precinct Structure Planning Kit. Department of Sustainability and Environment (now Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning), Melbourne.
- DSEWPac (2004). Survey guidelines for Australia's threatened fish. Guidelines for detecting fish listed as threatened under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Community (now Department of the Environment), Canberra.
- EPA (2018), State Environmental Protection Policy (Waters). Victorian Environmental Protection Authority.

Appendix a: Water Quality Results

Temperature (°C)

| Sample Date | Site 1 | Site 2 | Site 3 | Site 4 | Site 5 | Site 6 | Site 7 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 6/1/21 | 23.68 | 24.19 | 23.40 | 22.91 | 26.39 | 22.51 | 22.86 |
| 18/1/21 | 20.75 | 24.65 | 22.69 | 19.50 | 23.68 | 23.99 | 21.56 |
| 27/1/21 | 19.20 | 21.09 | 19.68 | 20.06 | 22.94 | 21.38 | |
| 1/2/21 | 20.65 | 22.55 | 22.10 | 20.00 | 23.56 | 20.90 | |
| 15/2/21 | 19.93 | 18.07 | 19.33 | 17.00 | 19.51 | 17.03 | |
| 10/3/21 | 18.40 | 16.31 | 16.74 | 16.05 | 16.89 | 16.03 | |
| 15/3/21 | 19.00 | 18.04 | 18.06 | 18.09 | 18.69 | 17.95 | |
| 29/3/21 | 18.11 | 17.43 | 16.04 | 16.05 | 17.36 | 14.02 | |
| 13/4/21 | 16.51 | 15.27 | 15.94 | 15.74 | 14.69 | 13.95 | |
| 22/4/21 | 16.21 | 15.26 | 15.78 | 15.73 | 15.59 | 13.65 | |
| 7/5/21 | 14.85 | 12.40 | 13.15 | 11.99 | 12.98 | 10.89 | |
| 18/5/21 | 13.35 | 11.85 | 11.57 | 11.50 | 12.31 | 11.98 | |
| 7/6/21 | 12.52 | 13.10 | 10.86 | 10.64 | 10.56 | 10.83 | |
| 14/6/21 | 12.38 | 11.38 | 11.52 | 11.08 | 11.62 | 11.56 | |
| 28/6/21 | 12.22 | 10.25 | 11.10 | 10.21 | 11.02 | 10.36 | |
| 14/7/21 | 11.66 | 9.52 | 10.28 | 9.73 | 10.02 | 9.55 | |
| 27/7/21 | 10.90 | 9.56 | 10.08 | 9.73 | 9.82 | 10.20 | |
| 3/8/21 | 11.72 | 10.25 | 10.79 | 10.22 | 10.87 | 10.18 | |
| 17/8/21 | 12.44 | 11.03 | 11.40 | 10.81 | 11.81 | 10.26 | |
| 31/8/21 | 10.16 | 9.82 | 9.65 | 9.44 | 9.43 | 9.19 | |
| 6/9/21 | 12.06 | 10.60 | 10.68 | 10.90 | 10.45 | 10.01 | |
| 20/9/21 | 13.88 | 11.57 | 11.95 | 12.40 | 11.38 | 10.72 | |
| 4/10/21 | 13.58 | 12.55 | 12.23 | 14.92 | 13.51 | 13.49 | |
| 18/10/21 | 15.85 | 13.90 | 14.02 | 14.62 | 15.52 | 14.62 | |
| 25/10/21 | 15.77 | 14.23 | 15.36 | 14.28 | 15.85 | 16.29 | |
| 5/11/21 | 15.88 | 14.25 | 15.83 | 13.31 | 16.52 | 13.75 | |
| 15/11/21 | 16.77 | 15.71 | 16.09 | 15.48 | 16.32 | 14.51 | |
| 22/11/21 | 16.65 | 16.16 | 15.54 | 15.64 | 17.11 | 15.87 | |
| 6/12/21 | 18.40 | 18.70 | 18.63 | 18.80 | 19.65 | 18.10 | |
| 22/12/21 | 19.45 | 21.20 | 21.69 | 22.50 | 22.73 | 19.50 | |

pH

| Sample Date | Site 1 | Site 2 | Site 3 | Site 4 | Site 5 | Site 6 | Site 7 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 6/1/21 | 7.24 | 7.19 | 7.11 | 7.15 | 7.14 | 6.97 | 7.02 |
| 18/1/21 | 7.71 | 6.76 | 6.70 | 7.22 | 6.70 | 6.61 | 6.70 |
| 27/1/21 | 7.12 | 7.15 | 7.15 | 7.36 | 7.15 | 7.13 | |
| 1/2/21 | 6.74 | 7.07 | 6.74 | 7.13 | 6.74 | 6.96 | |
| 15/2/21 | 6.18 | 6.93 | 6.30 | 7.03 | 6.12 | 6.87 | |
| 10/3/21 | 6.42 | 6.52 | 6.45 | 6.99 | 6.85 | 7.22 | |
| 15/3/21 | 6.26 | 6.48 | 6.33 | 6.42 | 6.54 | 6.64 | |
| 29/3/21 | 6.31 | 6.36 | 6.48 | 6.50 | 6.49 | 6.55 | |
| 13/4/21 | 6.56 | 6.43 | 6.44 | 6.39 | 6.71 | 6.88 | |
| 22/4/21 | 6.39 | 6.41 | 6.43 | 6.43 | 6.59 | 6.68 | |
| 7/5/21 | 7.81 | 7.53 | 7.28 | 7.28 | 6.98 | 6.66 | |

| Sample Date | Site 1 | Site 2 | Site 3 | Site 4 | Site 5 | Site 6 | Site 7 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 18/5/21 | 7.11 | 6.88 | 6.83 | 6.75 | 6.76 | 6.84 | |
| 7/6/21 | 7.67 | 7.10 | 7.11 | 6.95 | 6.91 | 6.65 | |
| 14/6/21 | 7.60 | 7.37 | 7.13 | 7.08 | 7.01 | 6.45 | |
| 28/6/21 | 7.53 | 7.49 | 7.23 | 7.03 | 7.06 | 7.00 | |
| 14/7/21 | 7.87 | 7.34 | 7.09 | 7.11 | 7.76 | 6.85 | |
| 27/7/21 | 7.08 | 6.78 | 6.82 | 6.64 | 6.88 | 7.48 | |
| 3/8/21 | 7.22 | 6.91 | 7.12 | 6.80 | 7.14 | 7.22 | |
| 17/8/21 | 7.25 | 7.14 | 7.31 | 7.06 | 7.29 | 7.06 | |
| 31/8/21 | 6.84 | 6.53 | 6.81 | 6.59 | 6.68 | 6.64 | |
| 6/9/21 | 6.77 | 6.50 | 6.75 | 6.78 | 7.34 | 6.87 | |
| 20/9/21 | 6.72 | 6.92 | 7.01 | 7.21 | 6.89 | 6.45 | |
| 4/10/21 | 6.32 | 6.35 | 6.35 | 6.22 | 6.28 | 6.75 | |
| 18/10/21 | 6.45 | 6.78 | 6.74 | 6.76 | 6.63 | 6.36 | |
| 25/10/21 | 6.45 | 6.77 | 6.65 | 6.76 | 6.61 | 6.28 | |
| 5/11/21 | 6.55 | 7.21 | 7.07 | 7.27 | 6.95 | 6.29 | |
| 15/11/21 | 6.84 | 6.59 | 7.06 | 6.80 | 7.22 | 6.16 | |
| 22/11/21 | 6.62 | 6.47 | 6.55 | 6.82 | 6.98 | 6.13 | |
| 6/12/21 | 7.09 | 6.85 | 7.01 | 7.01 | 7.19 | 6.96 | |

Electrical Conductivity ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$)

| Sample Date | Site 1 | Site 2 | Site 3 | Site 4 | Site 5 | Site 6 | Site 7 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 6/1/21 | 551 | 502 | 498 | 478 | 497 | 623 | 601 |
| 18/1/21 | 532 | 509 | 462 | 449 | 415 | 565 | 623 |
| 27/1/21 | 902 | 856 | 802 | 752 | 723 | 694 | |
| 1/2/21 | 716 | 654 | 563 | 545 | 494 | 721 | |
| 15/2/21 | 421 | 403 | 377 | 361 | 351 | 681 | |
| 10/3/21 | 356 | 828 | 659 | 673 | 461 | 675 | |
| 15/3/21 | 474 | 437 | 404 | 436 | 442 | 785 | |
| 29/3/21 | 441 | 434 | 442 | 440 | 423 | 629 | |
| 13/4/21 | 434 | 447 | 426 | 436 | 402 | 675 | |
| 22/4/21 | 446 | 431 | 428 | 456 | 426 | 703 | |
| 7/5/21 | 392 | 510 | 484 | 511 | 399 | 832 | |
| 18/5/21 | 384 | 409 | 372 | 341 | 378 | 688 | |
| 7/6/21 | 396 | 416 | 392 | 426 | 386 | 1101 | |
| 14/6/21 | 376 | 488 | 453 | 484 | 444 | 896 | |
| 28/6/21 | 430 | 528 | 494 | 556 | 412 | 756 | |
| 14/7/21 | 464 | 588 | 515 | 532 | 380 | 661 | |
| 27/7/21 | 512 | 582 | 564 | 541 | 496 | 1357 | |
| 3/8/21 | 507 | 595 | 578 | 536 | 514 | 1096 | |
| 17/8/21 | 522 | 628 | 571 | 551 | 512 | 1159 | |
| 31/8/21 | 499 | 620 | 605 | 580 | 541 | 1426 | |
| 6/9/21 | 483 | 450 | 425 | 370 | 344 | 821 | |
| 20/9/21 | 768 | 900 | 713 | 620 | 644 | 1830 | |
| 4/10/21 | 464 | 428 | 439 | 377 | 370 | 692 | |
| 18/10/21 | 631 | 707 | 695 | 540 | 472 | 536 | |
| 25/10/21 | 634 | 710 | 699 | 536 | 475 | 532 | |

| Sample Date | Site 1 | Site 2 | Site 3 | Site 4 | Site 5 | Site 6 | Site 7 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 5/11/21 | 1006 | 995 | 920 | 692 | 584 | 369 | |
| 15/11/21 | 897 | 811 | 764 | 609 | 544 | 405 | |
| 22/11/21 | 748 | 647 | 568 | 546 | 463 | 461 | |
| 6/12/21 | 756 | 694 | 613 | 575 | 544 | 761 | |

Dissolved Oxygen (%)

| Sample Date | Site 1 | Site 2 | Site 3 | Site 4 | Site 5 | Site 6 | Site 7 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 6/1/21 | 38.3 | 37.8 | 37.9 | 32.0 | 40.2 | 54.2 | 40.6 |
| 18/1/21 | 24.9 | 10.1 | 15.6 | 14.3 | 58.3 | 43.2 | 23.9 |
| 27/1/21 | 38.6 | 26.0 | 23.9 | 30.2 | 51.4 | 50.7 | |
| 1/2/21 | 48.3 | 47.8 | 26.9 | 42.0 | 50.2 | 64.1 | |
| 15/2/21 | 19.0 | 17.8 | 42.2 | 36.5 | 67.6 | 29.9 | |
| 10/3/21 | 27.5 | 33.3 | 43.6 | 43.7 | 67.3 | 42.0 | |
| 15/3/21 | 15.1 | 27.4 | 26.9 | 26.9 | 57.9 | 20.2 | |
| 29/3/21 | 25.6 | 41.5 | 32.6 | 30.7 | 50.4 | 35.7 | |
| 13/4/21 | 37.7 | 39.1 | 39.1 | 48.8 | 63.6 | 67.3 | |
| 22/4/21 | 41.1 | 51.0 | 47.9 | 50.0 | 57.3 | 56.1 | |
| 7/5/21 | 53.7 | 61.9 | 55.9 | 56.8 | 74.1 | 58.3 | |
| 18/5/21 | 53.4 | 52.4 | 53.3 | 55.5 | 78.7 | 49.6 | |
| 7/6/21 | 60.5 | 69.7 | 71.5 | 75.9 | 78.7 | 83.3 | |
| 14/6/21 | 44.2 | 37.4 | 31.8 | 26.7 | 32.8 | 38.9 | |
| 28/6/21 | 54.3 | 37.2 | 36.4 | 56.4 | 26.9 | 53.1 | |
| 14/7/21 | 88.0 | 85.9 | 81.9 | 58.0 | 84.3 | 68.0 | |
| 27/7/21 | 34.7 | 32.2 | 31.7 | 24.9 | 62.5 | 36.9 | |
| 3/8/21 | 24.5 | 29.5 | 38.5 | 22.4 | 55.7 | 34.5 | |
| 17/8/21 | 13.3 | 27.8 | 44.2 | 20.8 | 47.8 | 33.5 | |
| 31/8/21 | 61.1 | 61.0 | 55.0 | 54.5 | 57.0 | 47.9 | |
| 6/9/21 | 58.4 | 47.7 | 51.3 | 52.1 | 60.1 | 69.4 | |
| 20/9/21 | 28.2 | 30.8 | 45.9 | 52.6 | 40.6 | 52.6 | |
| 4/10/21 | 79.8 | 57.1 | 51.7 | 44.0 | 56.8 | 87.4 | |
| 18/10/21 | 48.0 | 38.7 | 32.9 | 34.5 | 54.2 | 55.2 | |
| 25/10/21 | 48.3 | 38.1 | 38.0 | 44.9 | 43.8 | 55.6 | |
| 5/11/21 | 57.4 | 59.0 | 29.7 | 26.1 | 50.3 | 24.2 | |
| 15/11/21 | 34.8 | 14.1 | 31.8 | 23.6 | 32.0 | 26.5 | |
| 22/11/21 | 2.2 | 11.2 | 3.8 | 11.1 | 23.7 | 18.8 | |
| 6/12/21 | 38.3 | 37.8 | 37.9 | 32.0 | 40.2 | 54.2 | |

Turbidity (NTU)

| Sample Date | Site 1 | Site 2 | Site 3 | Site 4 | Site 5 | Site 6 | Site 7 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 6/1/21 | 198.0 | 68.2 | 73.9 | 66.0 | 85.9 | 51.2 | 55.0 |
| 18/1/21 | 35.90 | 34.6 | 33.9 | 19.3 | 21.6 | 16.1 | 22.9 |
| 27/1/21 | 52.6 | 43.5 | 36.0 | 39.6 | 52.9 | 19.6 | |
| 1/2/21 | 37.75 | 36.8 | 38.7 | 38.6 | 39.6 | 26.9 | |
| 15/2/21 | 10.1 | 9.3 | 17.4 | 2.1 | 4.7 | 18.8 | |
| 10/3/21 | 16.8 | 10.3 | 17.4 | 11.8 | 10.2 | 16.0 | |
| 15/3/21 | 16.4 | 12.2 | 9.9 | 9.5 | 8.2 | 28.5 | |
| 29/3/21 | 26.8 | 23.9 | 31.8 | 20.9 | 35.1 | 44.9 | |

| Sample Date | Site 1 | Site 2 | Site 3 | Site 4 | Site 5 | Site 6 | Site 7 |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 13/4/21 | 56.8 | 61.4 | 59.3 | 48.9 | 76.1 | 120.3 | |
| 22/4/21 | 31.6 | 28.9 | 31.9 | 26.7 | 31.1 | 68.0 | |
| 7/5/21 | 18.5 | 10.4 | 32.1 | 6.0 | 9.2 | 15.9 | |
| 18/5/21 | 66.5 | 31.8 | 20.0 | 12.3 | 11.9 | 12.3 | |
| 7/6/21 | 74.2 | 13.1 | 31.4 | 8.8 | 11.1 | 7.1 | |
| 14/6/21 | 101.0 | 35.0 | 45.1 | 25.3 | 40.6 | 15.6 | |
| 28/6/21 | 55.6 | 33.4 | 26.3 | 15.3 | 29.9 | 12.6 | |
| 14/7/21 | 31.9 | 14.5 | 21.0 | 8.8 | 26.8 | 16.2 | |
| 27/7/21 | 68.0 | 40.0 | 40.4 | 18.7 | 16.0 | 15.8 | |
| 3/8/21 | 42.5 | 23.6 | 38.9 | 16.9 | 11.1 | 8.6 | |
| 17/8/21 | 24.1 | 13.5 | 44.4 | 12.8 | 9.4 | 11.6 | |
| 31/8/21 | 96.4 | 151.0 | 148.0 | 159.0 | 165.0 | 132.0 | |
| 6/9/21 | 50.5 | 47.8 | 52.9 | 72.9 | 75.0 | 59.4 | |
| 20/9/21 | 44.6 | 23.5 | 26.4 | 26.8 | 24.9 | 27.0 | |
| 4/10/21 | 146.0 | 93.0 | 100.5 | 115.0 | 118.0 | 56.6 | |
| 18/10/21 | 102.0 | 78.0 | 99.0 | 128.0 | 89.0 | 55.0 | |
| 25/10/21 | 78.9 | 48.0 | 45.3 | 47.7 | 29.1 | 21.5 | |
| 5/11/21 | 28.8 | 13.1 | 27.8 | 15.6 | 19.3 | 23.0 | |
| 15/11/21 | 64.8 | 34.2 | 30.2 | 20.8 | 21.6 | 25.9 | |
| 22/11/21 | 19.8 | 12.6 | 11.6 | 6.9 | 12.8 | 29.7 | |
| 6/12/21 | 22.0 | 15.5 | 16.2 | 15.4 | 12.3 | 35.7 | |