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Redbank Creek

Corrective Management Action Plan

June 2021 | Newsletter #8

Project Background

Tahmoor Coking Coal Operations (TCCO) has been operating since 1979, and produces premium quality coking coal, which is combined with iron in the steelmaking process for production of steel.

Redbank Creek is a tributary of the Nepean River. It generally consists of Hawkesbury Sandstone bedrock with a progressive series of rock bars and pools. TCCO's longwall panels have extracted coal below Redbank Creek from Longwall 25 to Longwall 32. Longwall mining has caused subsidence impacts that has resulted in fracturing of pool beds, such that some pools only retain water after heavy periods of rain.

Subsidence movements within the vicinity of Redbank Creek have ceased, enabling TCCO to plan and implement a remediation project to restore the pools within Redbank Creek.

TCCO have prepared a Redbank Creek Corrective Management Action Plan (**Redbank Creek CMAP**) that outlines the proposed remediation works including creek characterisation, pool mapping and pool rehabilitation works. The Redbank Creek CMAP has been approved by the NSW Resources Regulator.

Works have been developed in consultation with and approved by relevant government departments including, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (**DPIE**) – Resources Regulator, DPIE – Planning, Department of Primary Industries (**DPI**) – Fisheries, Natural Resources Access Regulator (**NRAR**), Wollondilly Shire Council and the Tahmoor Coal Community Consultative Committee.

Progress Report

Mapping of pools, including detailed surveying, characterization drilling, and remediation of **eight pools** and **one rock bar** (Pool 26) has been completed to date. Remediation of the rock bar involves the construction of a grout curtain wall at a depth of 12m. Boreholes are drilled at 2m apart, to a depth of 12m and Polyurethane Injection Resin (PUR) is injected into holes to create an impermeable layer that redirect the water to the surface.

PUR has been used successfully for creek rehabilitation in Sydney Catchment Authority areas as it has minimal ecotoxicological effects and has proven highly effective.

Monitoring of the remediation sites suggests a greatly increased capacity for the pools to hold water, with Pool 26 now holding water since the completion of the remediation works. Monitoring will continue throughout a variety of climatic conditions.

Rock Bar 19 and Pools 17, 18 and 20

Remediation works at pools 19, 17, 18, and 20 is scheduled to be completed at the end of June.

Remediation works include the construction of a grout curtain wall at Pool 19 to a depth of 12m, and the creation of a liner in pools 17, 18, 19 and 20 using PUR injection.

Following the completion of the works, the pools surface water levels will be monitored in a variety of climatic conditions.

Future Works

Remediation of Pool RB6 (upstream of Pool 19) will commence in July 2021 for a period of 6 months. The remediation strategy involves the construction of a 50m wide grout curtain wall to a depth of 15m.

Works will be conducted between **6:00 am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday** and are expected to be completed in December 2021.

For More Information

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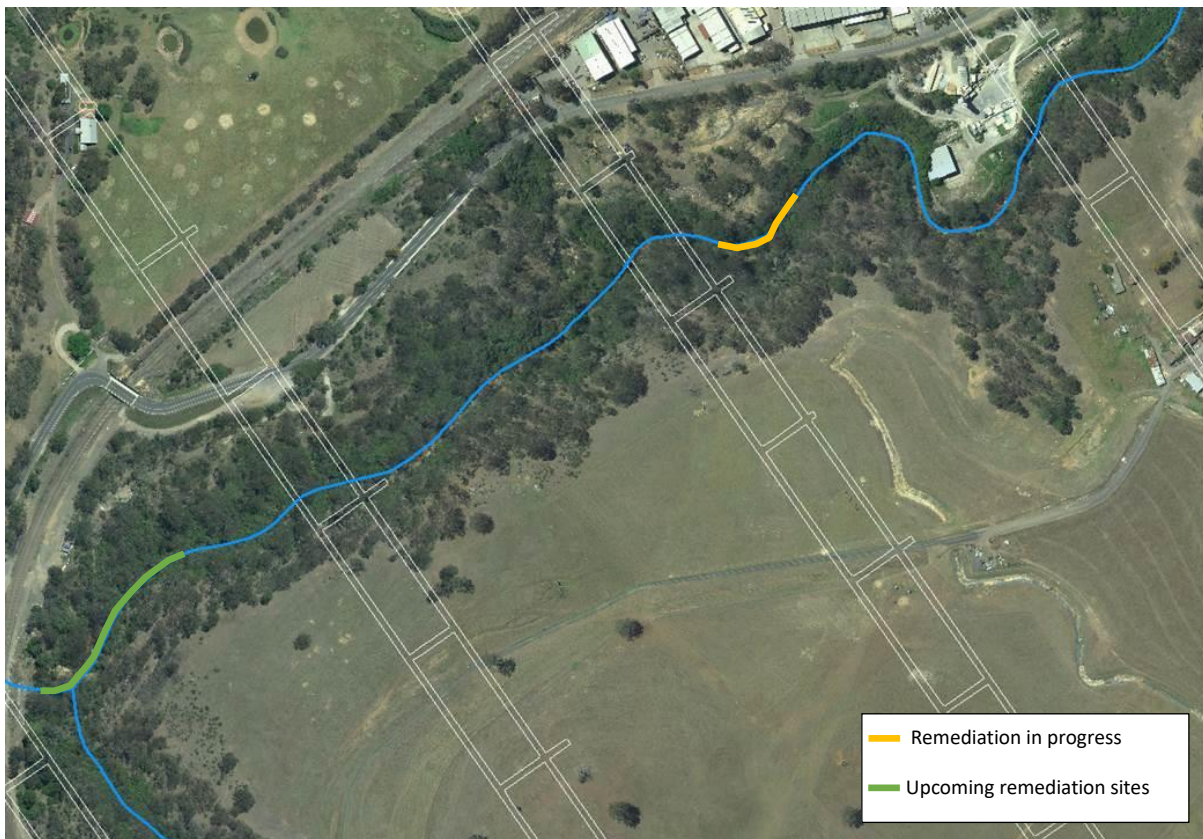


Figure 1: Location of Pools

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