



Murray-Peel Groundwater Investigation

Outline

The Murray-Peel region is one of the fastest growing areas of Western Australia. To better understand and manage the groundwater resources of this region the Department of Water will be undertaking the *Murray-Peel Groundwater Investigation Project* – a multi-year investigation program designed to ensure that the best possible information and understanding is used to manage the groundwater resources in the region. This will help ensure strong regional growth, without reducing the reliability of groundwater resources to existing users, or damaging groundwater-dependent ecosystems.

The current situation

Groundwater in the region is abstracted from the Superficial, Leederville, and Yarragadee aquifers as well as the Cattamarra Coal Measures. The Department of Water measures groundwater levels in these aquifers using a network of monitoring bores. This information forms the basis of groundwater management. And at a time when there is greater demand than ever on groundwater resources, management decisions by the Department need to be based on the best possible information. A better understanding of the geology and hydrogeology of the region is required.

What will the project be doing?

The Murray-Peel Groundwater Investigation Project is designed to fill the gaps in our current understanding of the geology and hydrogeology of the southern Murray and South West Coastal Groundwater Areas.

The project will drill twenty separate investigation bores across eight different sites in the region. This will:

- Improve the groundwater monitoring network, providing improved information on groundwater levels.
- Provide new information on geology and stratigraphy, geophysics, salinity, water chemistry, and palynology.
- Develop an improved three-dimensional 'picture' of the regions groundwater systems that will form the basis of future groundwater management decisions for the region.

The map on the back of this fact sheet shows the location of the drilling sites.

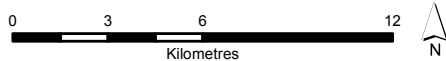
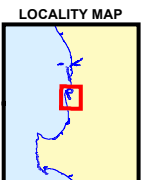
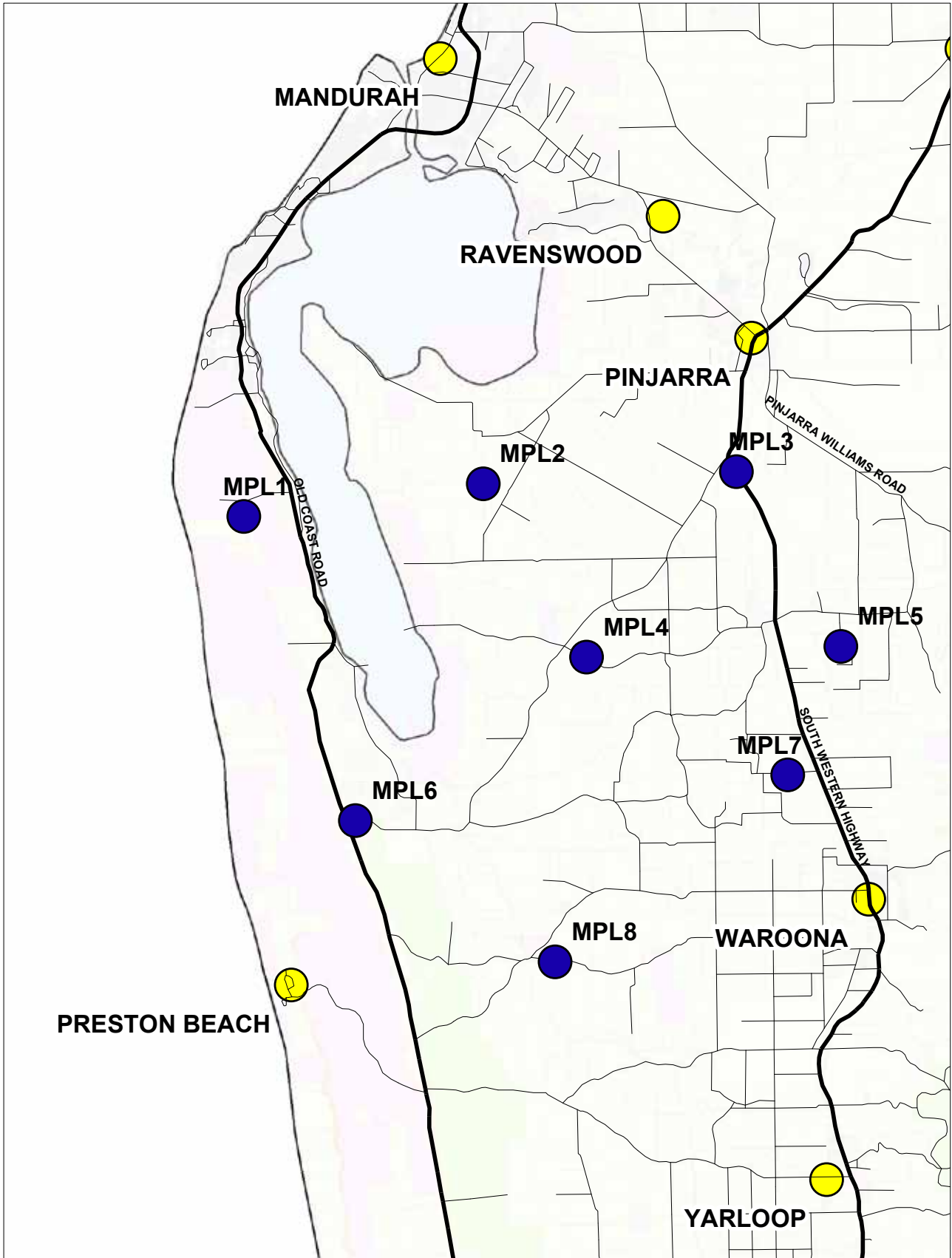
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Drilling for groundwater investigation.

Murray-Peel Groundwater Investigation drilling sites



Legend

- Proposed drill sites
- Towns

