

**MINUTES OF THE ASHTON COAL
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING #66
Thursday, 2nd December 2021
Camberwell
FINAL**

Attendees

Margaret MacDonald-Hill	(MMH) Chairperson
Debbie Richards	(DR) Community Representative
Michael Bestic	(MB) Community Representative
John McInerney	(JM) Community Representative
Clr. Godfrey Adamthwaite	(GA) Singleton Shire Council (SSC)
Aaron McGuigan	(AM) Company Rep (Operations Manager)
Phillip Brown	(PB) Company Rep (Environment & Community Superintendent)
Cameron Eckersley	(CE) Company Rep (Environment & Community Coordinator)

1. Opening and Welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting at 1:02 pm.

CE was introduced to the CCC as the new Ashton Environment and Community Coordinator.

2. Apologies

Nil

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest by Community Representatives

No change to Committee Members' pecuniary interests previously declared. CE confirmed no pecuniary interests.

4. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Minutes from the meeting held 10th June, 2021, were accepted as a true and accurate record

Moved: Godfrey Adamthwaite **Seconded:** Debbie Richards

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Refer to Correspondence and presentation

6. Correspondence

- a) 9/7/21 – PB email to CCC advising of feral animal control
- b) 12 & 15/7/21 – PB email s to CCC advising of staff changes
- c) 30/9/21 - MMH email to CCC postponing meeting
- d) 14/10/21 – PB email to CCC advising of feral animal control

7. Company Reports and Overview of Activities

7.1 Ashton Operations Update

Refer to presentation

- Brief discussion around workforce recruitment and demographics as well as the upcoming LW move.

7.2 Monitoring and Environmental Performance

Refer to handout

7.3 Community Complaints and response to complaints

Refer to presentation

7.4 Environmental Activities Update

Refer to presentation

- JM raised concerns about whether Ashton had a plan to manage Coolitai Grass in around the Camberwell village area. PB confirmed that Enright Land Management have been onsite spraying for Coolitai Grass.
ACTION – PB to provide an update on the current Coolitai Grass treatment areas and program in the next CCC meeting.

- *Brief discussions were had regarding the feral animal baiting which had been notified for.*
ACTION – PB to provide statistics on the feral baiting program in the next CCC meeting.

7.5 Camberwell Update

Refer to the presentation.

- *Brief discussion held around the future agistment of the SEOC land area and Camberwell property maintenance.*

7.6 RUMEX project

Refer to the presentation.

- *AM/PB presented preliminary proposal for RUMEX modifications, followed by general discussion.*

8. General Business

- JM asked about the demolition of un-tenanted dilapidated houses on Ashton owned property in Camberwell Village. PB explained the current strategy for maintenance of existing tenanted properties. MMH asked JM what the specific issue was. JM explained it was the gradual decline in the aesthetics of Camberwell when vacant houses were left to fall into disrepair.
ACTION – PB to talk to Ashton management regarding priorities around demolition of vacant Ashton owned properties in Camberwell.
- JM also raised the issue of weed control along creeks/rivers where cattle/horses have been specifically excluded where Ashton hold leases over Crown Lands. PB explained that Crown Lands are very specific in conditioning of what actions are permitted and running cattle/horses was not permitted. However these areas were on Ashton's weed management program areas for focus. General discussion followed.
- MMH thanked JM for hosting the final meeting for 2021, thanked the CCC members for their efforts in attending and participating in the meetings and wished all a Merry Christmas.

9. Actions

- **ACTION** – PB to provide an update on the current Coolitai Grass treatment areas and program in the next CCC meeting.
- **ACTION** – PB to provide statistics on the feral baiting program in the next CCC meeting.
- **ACTION** – PB to talk to Ashton management regarding priorities around demolition of vacant Ashton owned properties in Camberwell.

10. Proposed 2022 Meeting Schedule

Next CCC meeting: 1:00 pm, 24 February 2022.

Remainder: 23 June and 20 October 2022.

MEETING CLOSED at 1.50 pm



**Community
Consultative
Committee**

2nd December 2021



Action List

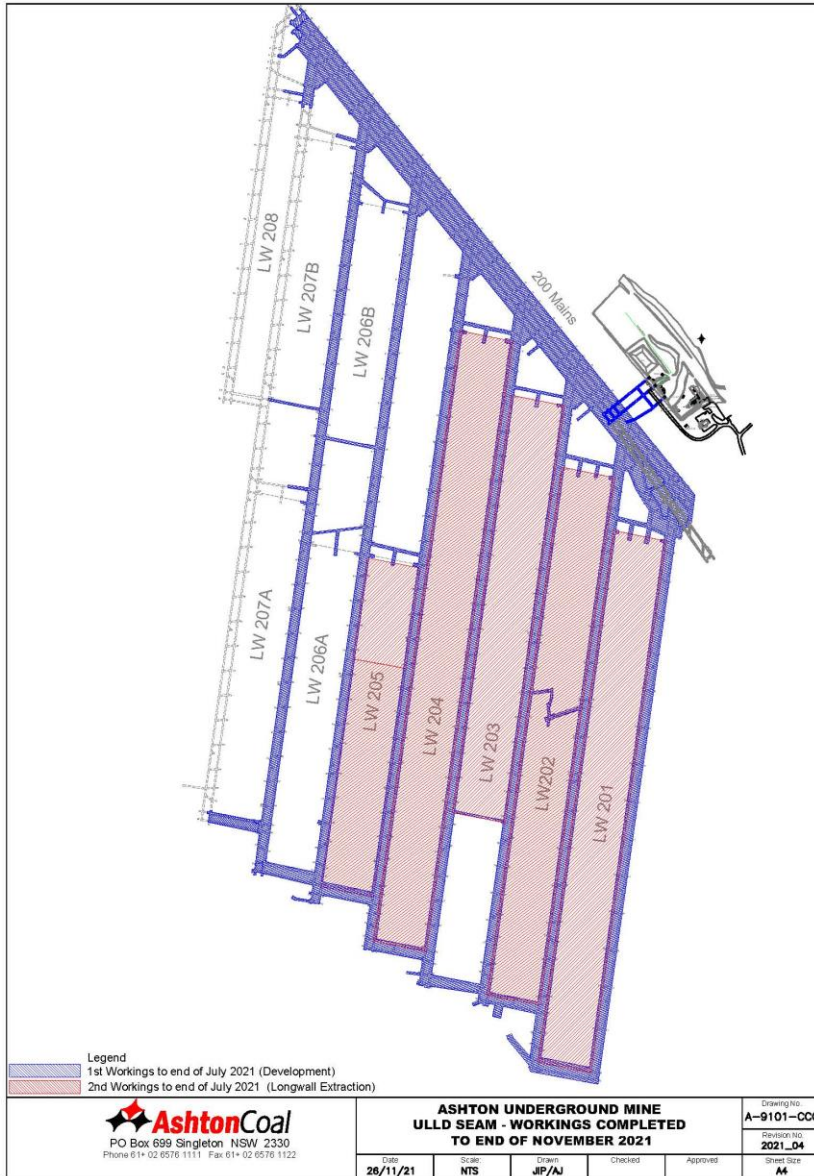
ITEM	RESPONSIBILITY	PROGRESS UPDATE
Nil		

Ashton Mine Statistics YTD 2021

Ashton Coal Key Statistics

	2021 Budget (ytd)	2021 Actual (ytd)
ROM (Mt)	2,098,352	2,410,644
Product Coal (Mt)	1,073,454	1,091,500
Total Coal Sales (Mt)	1,094,425	1,111,597
Total Recordable Injuries (TRI)	12	14
Total Employees (FTE)	273	241
Complaints	0	2
Environmental Incidents	0	8

Current Mining Area



Environment Monitoring Data

- Refer to monitoring data attachment

Complaints & Incidents

- There was one community complaint received Sunday morning 19th September 2021 concerning “loud noise”. An investigation was carried out on site and in Camberwell village. No noise was identified as being generated by site. Complainant advised that Ashton Coal was not responsible for noise.

Six environmental incidents reported.

- CHPP maintenance ignited grass fire from hot works. Small grass fire was extinguished by the spotter for the works.
- Forklift punched hole in Rocsil foam LSI pod and spilt approx. 2lt of Rocsil. The IBC was empty. The area was cleaned up and material disposed of.
- Ashton Coal recorded an exceedance of short-term 24-hour criterion for PM₁₀ at TEOMs D6 north-west of operations and D10 south-east of operations on Sunday 12th September, 2021. Ashton Coal conducted an investigation into the exceedance and provided a report to the Department under Project Approval DA309-11-2001-i Schedule 3, Condition 12 (Air Quality Criteria) and Schedule 5, Condition 8 (Incident Reporting). No further action required by DPIE.
- Air Monitor Site 10 PM₁₀ TEOM in Camberwell Village exceeded 50µg/m³ 24 hour average for the 7 October 2021 and 29th October 2021. DPIE notified.

Environmental Update

- Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit # 1131017 (above LW 1 – 4) extended for a further 10 years.
- Final National Greenhouse Emission Report report submitted.
- Final National Pollutant Inventory report submitted to EPA.

Environmental Update

- Monthly groundwater monitoring undertaken.
- Monthly noise monitoring undertaken. No issues identified.
- Noxious weed management continued.
- Wild dog and fox baiting undertaken of Ashton surface properties.

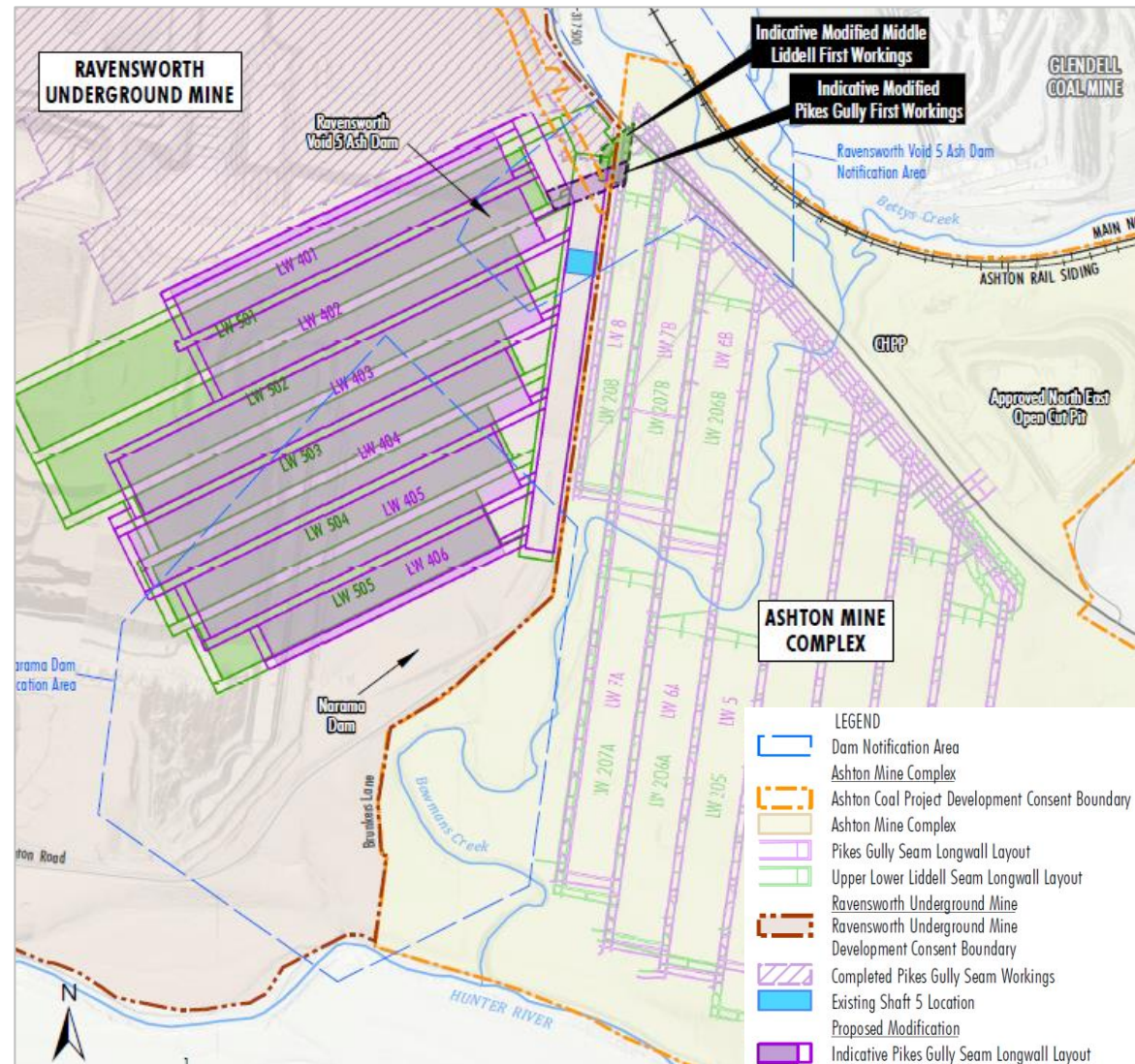
Camberwell update

- 33 Residential Tenancy Agreements
- 11 properties in Asset Maintenance Program
- Continuing to progress electrical audit inspections of dwellings with repairs completed as required
- 17 vacant residential lots
- 2 commercial agreements
- 9 rural properties occupied
- Aggregated rural land Glennie St Camberwell – taken to market; property inspections with interested parties completed by managing agent; expressions of interest submissions now closed with new license agreement anticipated to commence December 2021.

Ashton-Ravensworth UG Integration Modification

Proposed Modification

- Modifications required to Ashton Coal Project Consent (DA 309-11-2001-i) and RUM Consent (DA 104/96).
- Will enable Ashton to access and extract approved but unmined RUM coal resources – some shortened and narrower RUM longwall panels.
- RUM coal transferred from UG and processed at Ashton CHPP.
- Transfer of water and gas from the ACOL-operated portion of the RUM to Ashton.
- Extension of RUM mine life to **2032** (from 2024).
- Extension of Ashton mining operations to **2035** (from 2024).



LEGEND	
	Dam Notification Area
	Ashton Mine Complex
	Ashton Coal Project Development Consent Boundary
	Pikes Gully Seam Longwall Layout
	Upper Lower Liddell Seam Longwall Layout
	Ravensworth Underground Mine
	Ravensworth Underground Mine Development Consent Boundary
	Completed Pikes Gully Seam Workings
	Existing Shaft 5 Location
	Proposed Modification
	Indicative Pikes Gully Seam Longwall Layout
	Indicative Modified Pikes Gully First Workings
	Indicative Middle Liddell Seam Longwall Layout
	Indicative Middle Liddell Seam First Workings

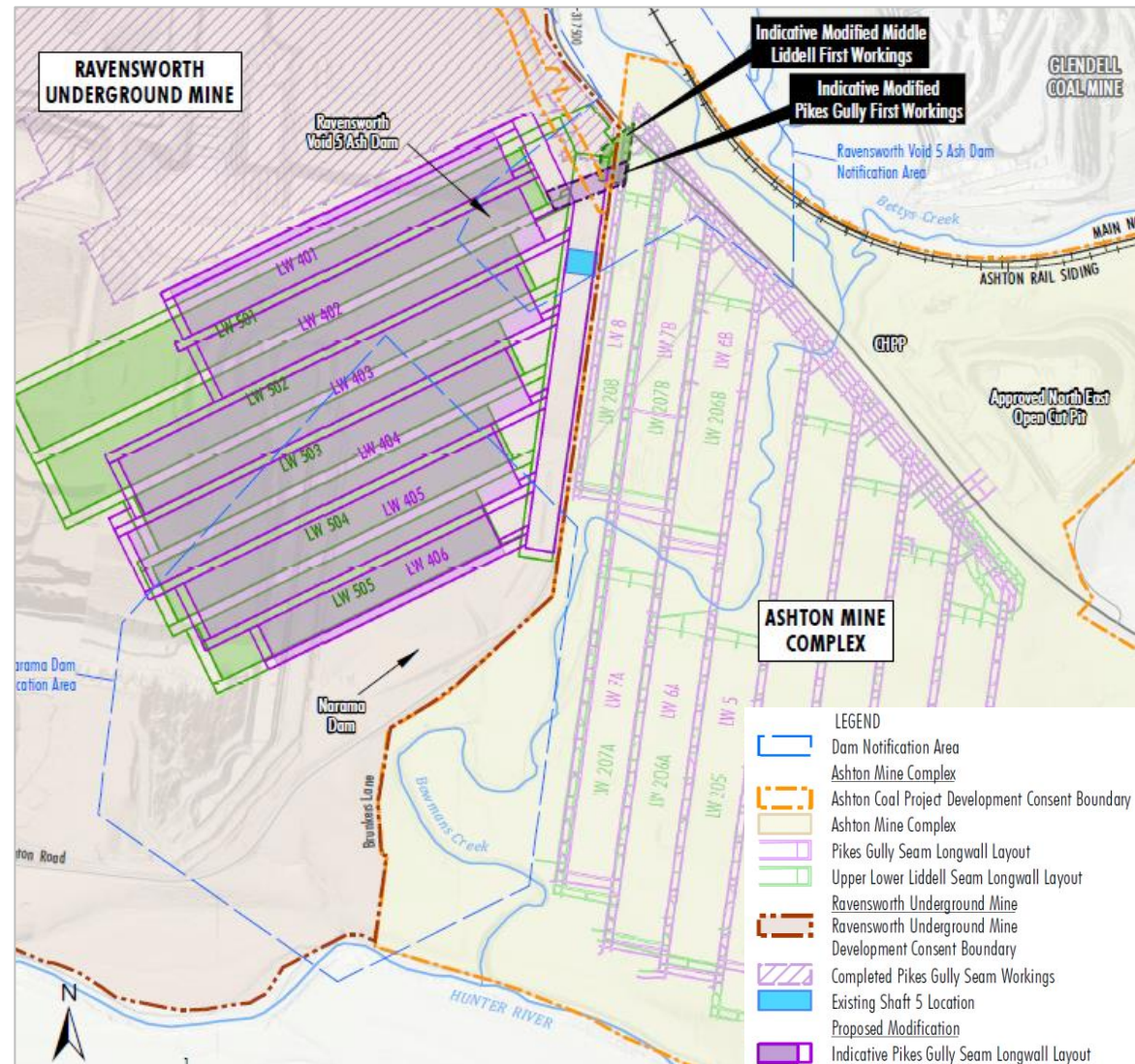
Ashton-Ravensworth UG Integration Modification

Key Benefits of the Modification:

- Would provide for continued operations and continued employment of ACOL's workforce.
- Would utilise existing planning approvals to maximise economic recovery of approved coal resource.
- Provides better environmental and social outcomes than developing the approved SEOC Project – Yancoal's preference is to proceed with the Modification rather than commencing the approved SEOC Project.

Modification Status and Next Steps

- Modification applications lodged on 9 Nov.
- Exhibition period from 25 Nov – 8 Dec 2021.
- The Modification Reports will be available for viewing through the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's website.

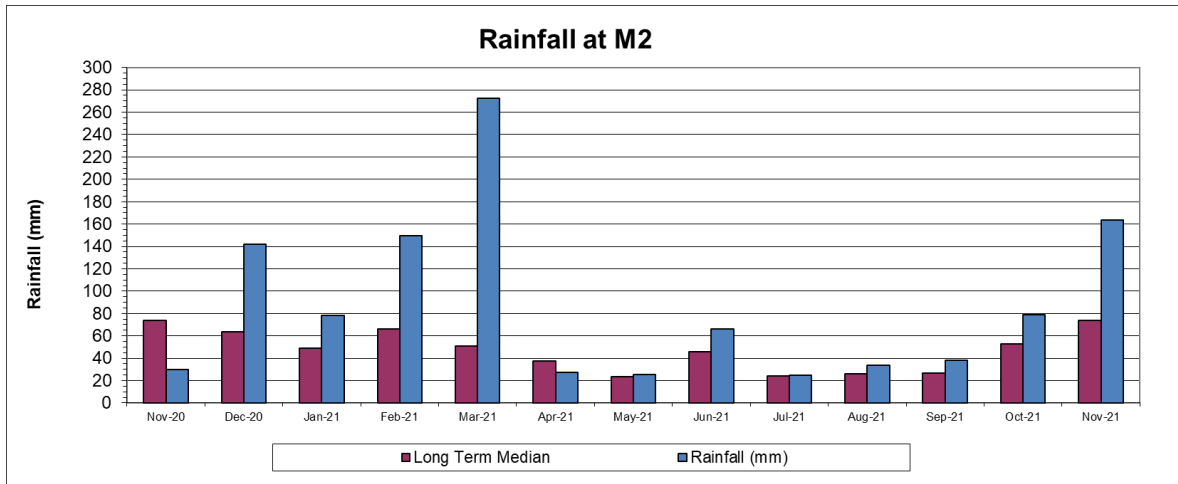


Any Questions?

ASHTON COAL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – 2nd December 2021

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING DATA

Rainfall

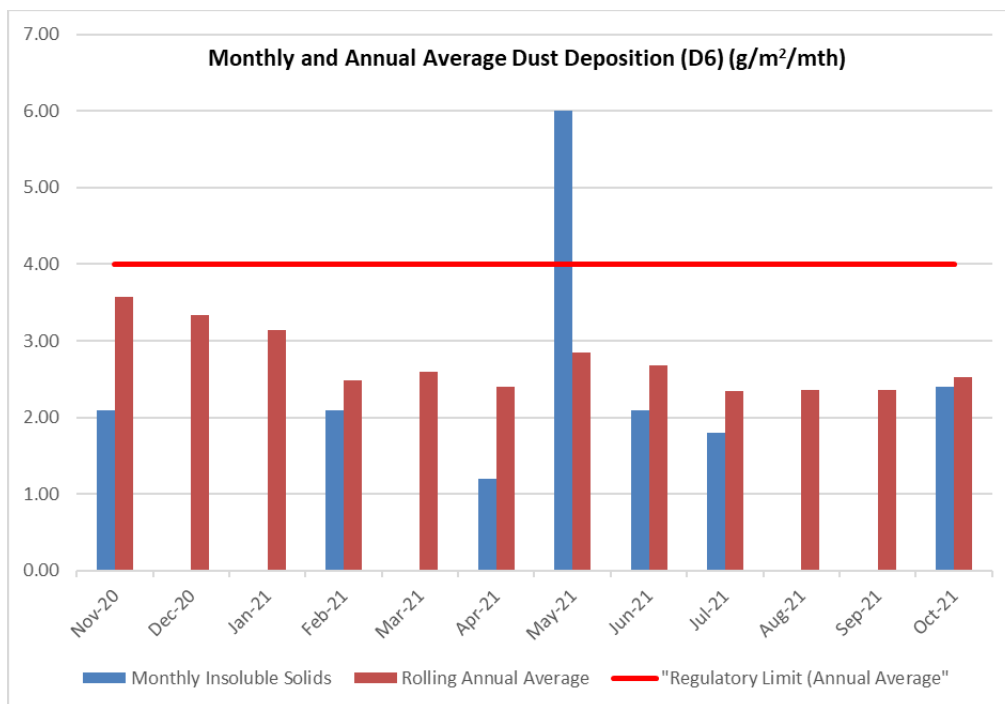


Long term Average Rainfall: BOM Singleton STP = 657.6 mm, BOM Jerrys Plains = 644.5mm, Ashton Site = 647.3mm

2021 Rainfall YTD (@17/11/2021): 959.0 mm

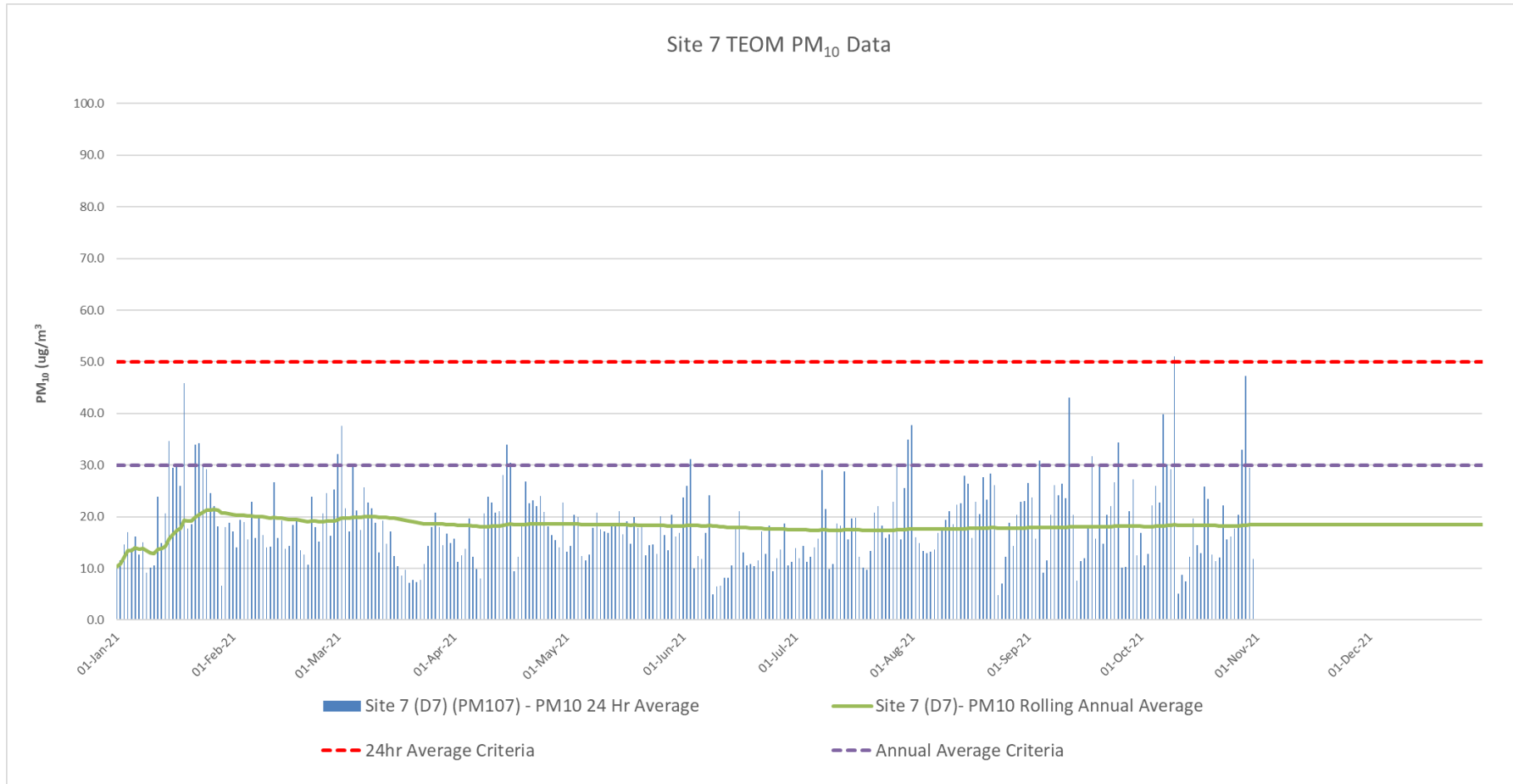
Air Quality

Depositional Dust Gauge



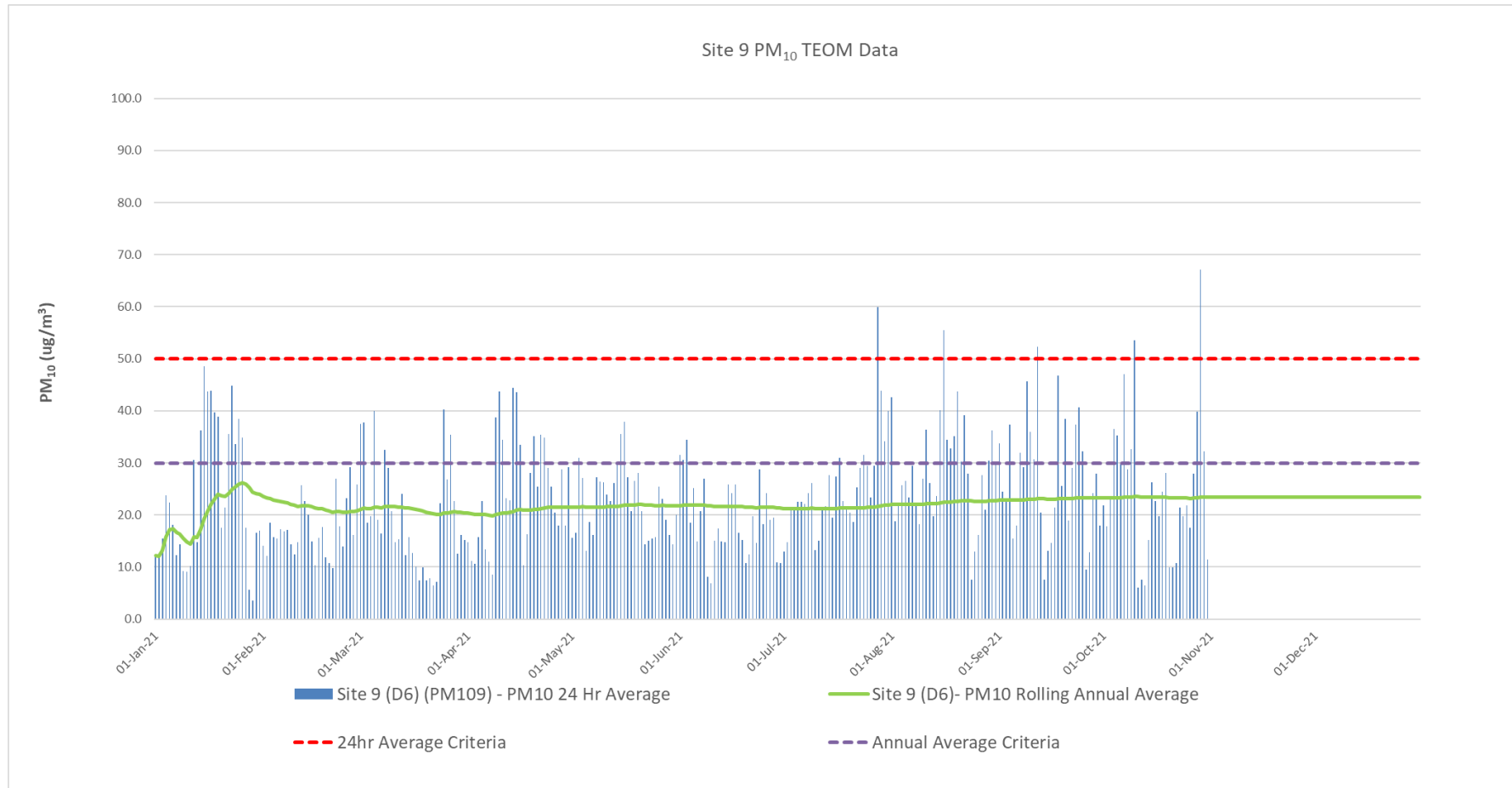
* Dec 2020, Jan 2021, Mar 2021, Aug 2021 & Sept 2021 - CONTAMINATED - bird droppings, turbid/grey

TEOM PM10



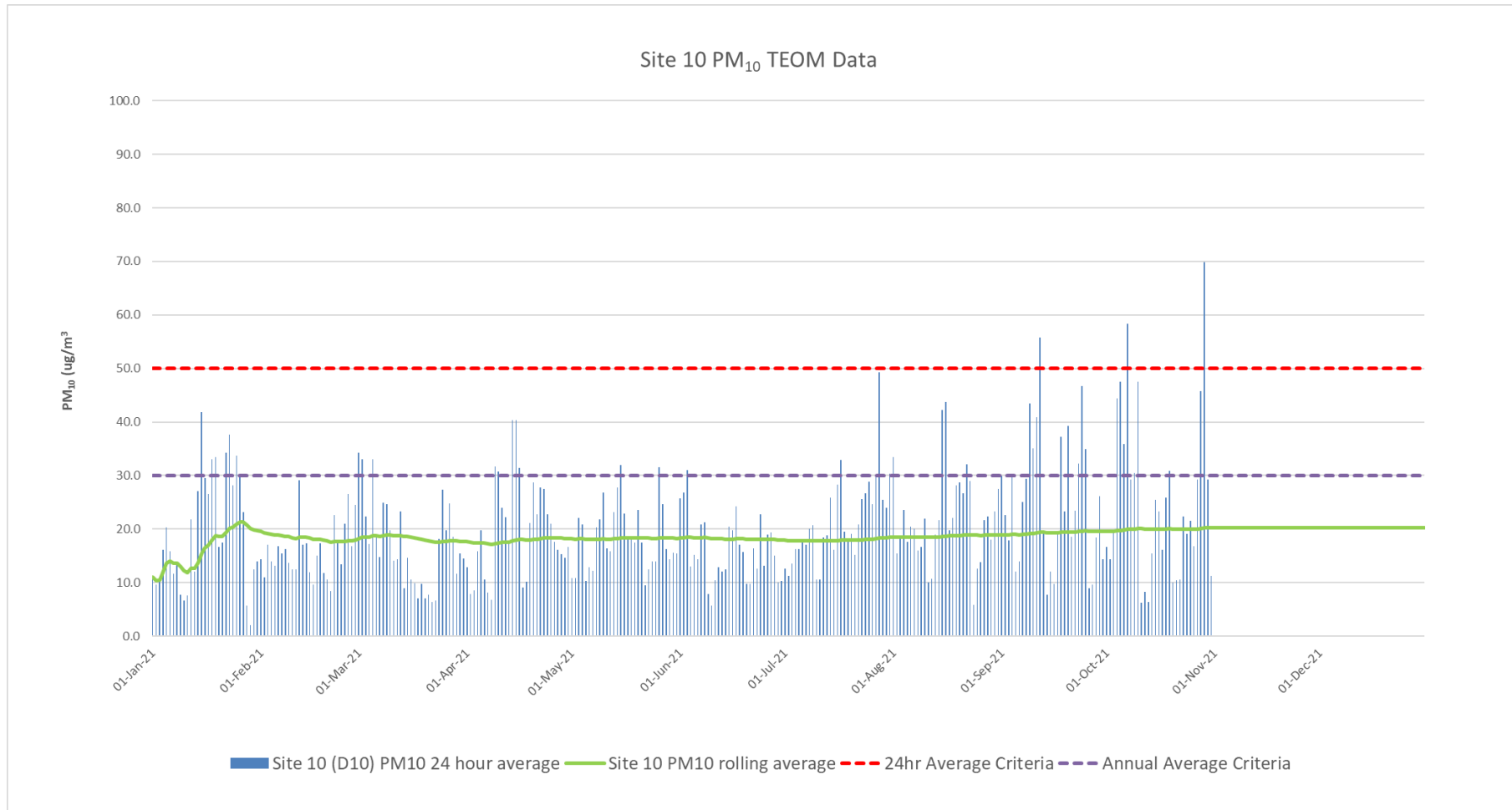
Note: TEOM Sites 7 and 9 are used for operational management purposes and are not reflective of impacts on sensitive receivers.

Current annual average total contributions at Site 7 = 18.4ug/m³



Note: TEOM Sites 7 and 9 are used for operational management purposes and are not reflective of impacts on sensitive receivers.

Current annual average total contributions at Site 9 = 23.4ug/m³



Note: High PM₁₀ on 12 Sept, 7 Oct and 29 Oct 2021 investigated, with inferred ACOL contribution well below 50 ug/m³

Current annual average total contributions at Site 10 = 20.2ug/m³

Noise (attended noise results Jun – Oct 2021)

EPL 11879 Night period noise limit 36 dB (LAeq 15 minute)

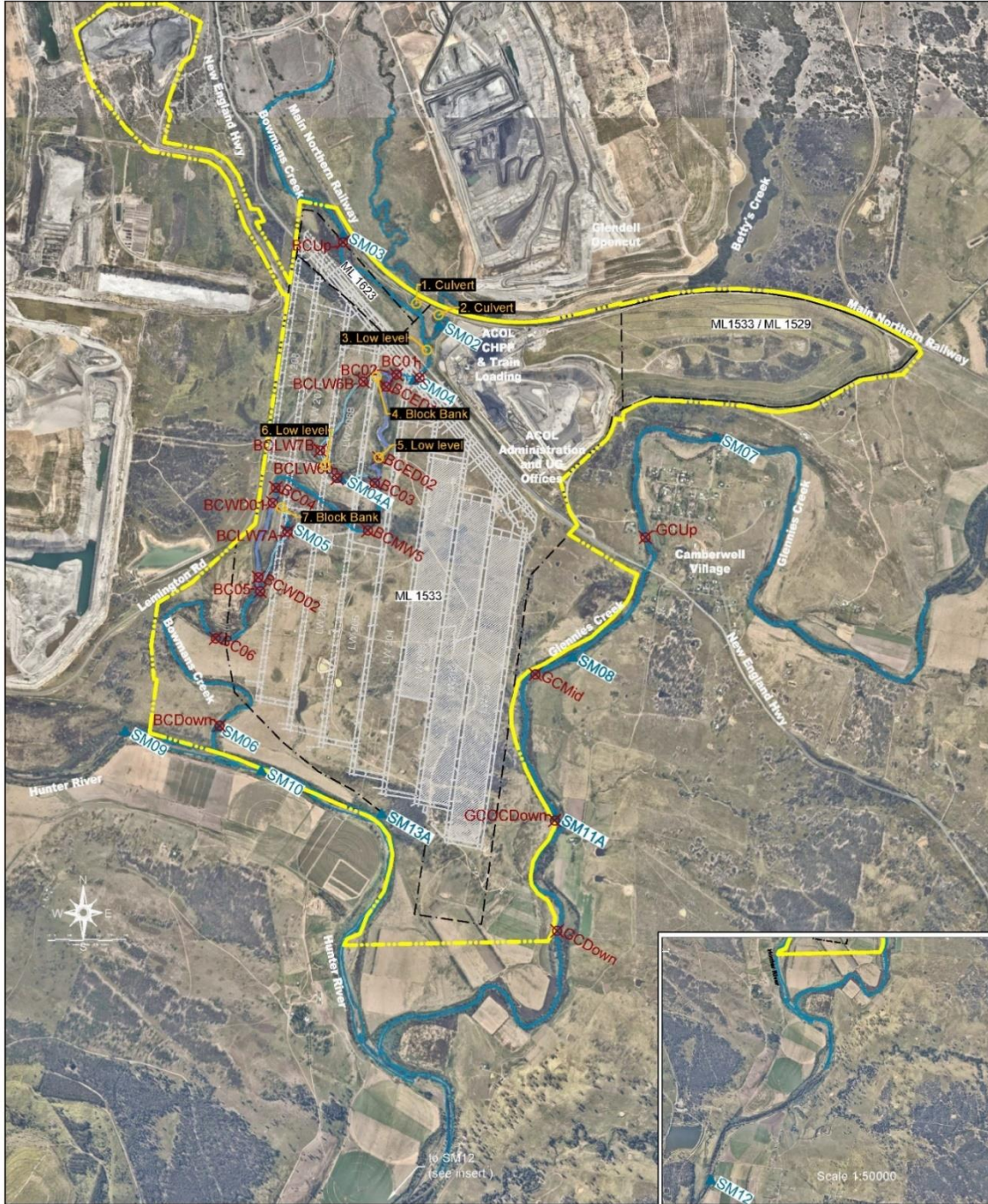
Date	Time	Ashton Sampling Point	Monitoring Frequency	Number of Samples	LAeq (15 minute)			LAeq (1 minute)			Wind Speed (m/s)	Wind Direction	Inversion °C/100m/ Stability Class	ACP Noise Sources	Comments	Data Obtained Date
					Unit of Measure	Total	Ashton Coal Project (ACP) Contribution	Unit of Measure	Total	Ashton Coal Project (ACP) Contribution						
28/06/2021	10:03 PM	N2			dB(A) LAeq	44	ACP Inaudible	dB(A) LMax	53	ACP Inaudible	0.6	111	3	Ashton Coal inaudible. Other mines in the vicinity, insects, frogs, resident noise (music) and traffic on the New England Highway consistently audible. Train horns (unrelated to Ashton Coal) occasionally audible.		12/07/2021
28/06/2021	10:20 PM	N3			dB(A) LAeq	35	ACP Inaudible	dB(A) LMax	43	ACP Inaudible	0.5	88	2.9	Ashton Coal inaudible. Other mines in the vicinity, insects and frogs consistently audible. Traffic on the New England Highway frequently audible. Distant dogs barking and nearby animals occasionally audible.		12/07/2021
28/06/2021	10:41 PM	N4			dB(A) LAeq	38	ACP Inaudible	dB(A) LMax	47	ACP Inaudible	0.5	65	3.2	Ashton Coal inaudible. Other mines in the vicinity, insects, frogs and traffic on the New England Highway consistently audible.		12/07/2021
27/07/2021	10:06 PM	N2			dB(A) LAeq	51	34	dB(A) LMax	59	39	0.9	270	7.7	Ashton Coal mine hum consistently audible, with engine revs on occasion. Other mines in the vicinity, insects, frogs, and traffic on the New England Highway consistently audible. Distant dogs barking, bird noise and a train on the main line (unrelated to Ashton Coal) occasionally audible.		30/07/2021
27/07/2021	10:23 PM	N3			dB(A) LAeq	46	34	dB(A) LMax	53	40	1.1	274	7.9	Ashton Coal mine hum consistently audible, with engine revs on occasion. Other mines in the vicinity, insects, frogs, and traffic on the New England Highway consistently audible. Livestock frequently audible. Distant dogs barking, bird noise and train horns (unrelated to Ashton Coal) occasionally audible.		30/07/2021
27/07/2021	10:44 PM	N4			dB(A) LAeq	40	32	dB(A) LMax	47	32	1.4	287	8.5	Ashton Coal mine hum consistently audible. Other mines in the vicinity, insects, frogs, and traffic on the New England Highway consistently audible. Train on the main line (unrelated to Ashton Coal) occasionally audible.		30/07/2021
10/08/2021	10:02 PM	N2			dB(A) LAeq	50	34	dB(A) LMax	64	39	0.6	355	8.6	Ashton Coal mine hum consistently audible, with engine revs on occasion. Other mines in the vicinity, insects and frogs consistently audible. Traffic on the New England Highway frequently audible.		12/08/2021
10/08/2021	10:20 PM	N3			dB(A) LAeq	44	33	dB(A) LMax	63	39	1	8	9.2	Ashton Coal mine hum consistently audible, with engine revs on occasion. Other mines in the vicinity, insects and frogs consistently audible. Traffic on the New England Highway frequently audible.		12/08/2021
10/08/2021	10:41 PM	N4			dB(A) LAeq	42	<32	dB(A) LMax	59	<32	1	31	9.3	Ashton Coal mine hum consistently audible, with engine revs on occasion. Other mines in the vicinity, insects and frogs consistently audible. Traffic on the New England Highway frequently audible.		12/08/2021

Date	Time	Ashton Sampling Point	Monitoring Frequency	Number of Samples	LAeq (15 minute)			LAeq (1 minute)			Wind Speed (m/s)	Wind Direction	Inversion °C/100m/ Stability Class	ACP Noise Sources	Comments	Data Obtained Date
					Unit of Measure	Total	Ashton Coal Project (ACP) Contribution	Unit of Measure	Total	Ashton Coal Project (ACP) Contribution						
27/09/2021	10:00 PM	N2			dB(A) LAeq	47	ACP Inaudible	dB(A) LAmax	68	ACP Inaudible	2.4	168	1.8/F	Ashton Coal inaudible. Other mines in the vicinity, hum from the west (unrelated to Ashton Coal), insects and frogs consistently audible. Traffic on the New England Highway frequently audible. Bird noise, distant dogs barking, and resident noise occasionally audible.		12/10/2021
27/09/2021	10:17 PM	N3			dB(A) LAeq	44	ACP Inaudible	dB(A) LAmax	57	ACP Inaudible	2.1	131	1.8/F	Ashton Coal inaudible. Other mines in the vicinity, hum from the west (unrelated to Ashton Coal), insects and frogs consistently audible. Traffic on the New England Highway frequently audible. Bird Noise, distant dogs barking and trains on the main line (unrelated to Ashton Coal) occasionally audible.		12/10/2021
27/09/2021	10:41 PM	N4			dB(A) LAeq	42	ACP Inaudible	dB(A) LAmax	65	ACP Inaudible	2.5	143	2.9/F	Ashton Coal inaudible. Other mines in the vicinity, insects, frogs and power line hum consistently audible. Traffic on the New England Highway frequently audible. Nearby Livestock occasionally audible.		12/10/2021
27/10/2021	10:10 PM	N2			dB(A) LAeq	49	31	dB(A) LAmax	61	35	1.4	159	4.9/G	Ashton Coal mine hum consistently audible, with dozer tracks on occasion. Other mines in the vicinity (30 dB LAeq,15 minute), insects and frogs consistently audible. Traffic on the New England Highway frequently audible. Dogs barking occasionally audible.		8/11/2021
27/10/2021	10:34 PM	N3			dB(A) LAeq	48	31	dB(A) LAmax	61	36	2.5	166	3.6/F	Ashton Coal mine hum consistently audible. Other mines in the vicinity (35 dB LAeq,15 minute), traffic on the New England Highway, insects and frogs consistently audible. Trains on the main line (unrelated to site) occasionally audible.		8/11/2021
27/10/2021	22:59	N4			dB(A) LAeq	42	<28	dB(A) LAmax	57	<28	2.6	141	3.4/F	Ashton Coal mine hum consistently audible. Other mines in the vicinity (33 dB LAeq,15 minute) occasionally audible. Traffic on the New England Highway, insects and frogs consistently audible.		8/11/2021

Locations of Noise Monitoring Camberwell Village



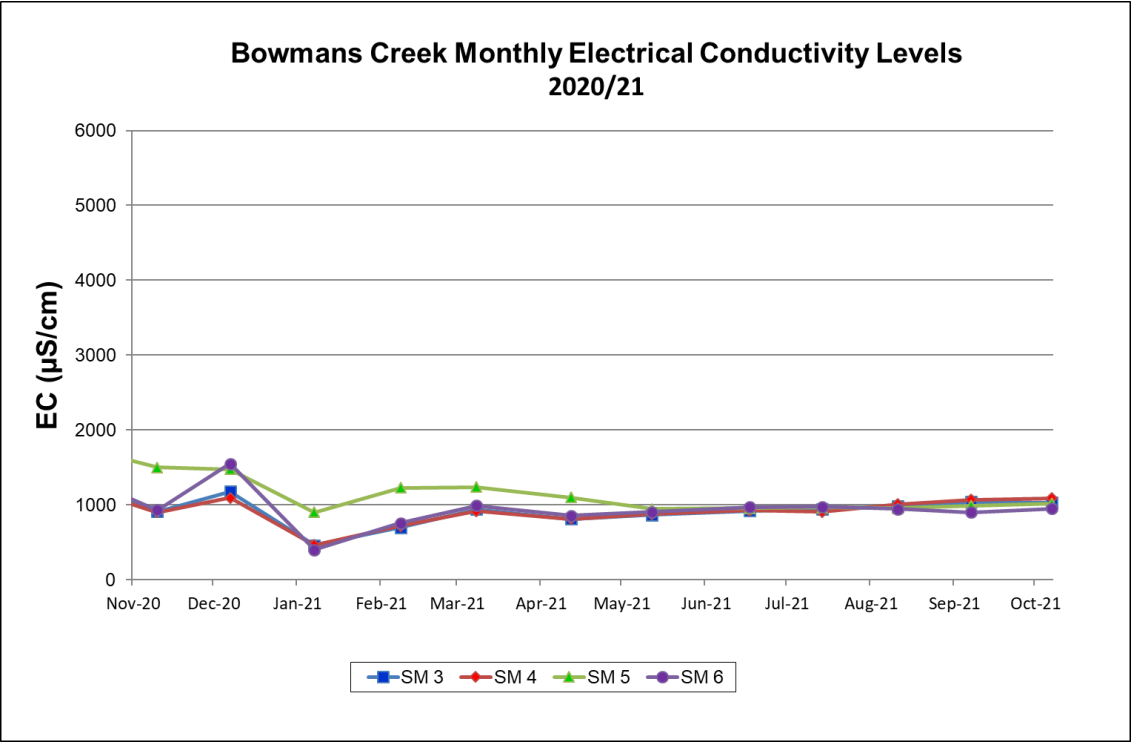
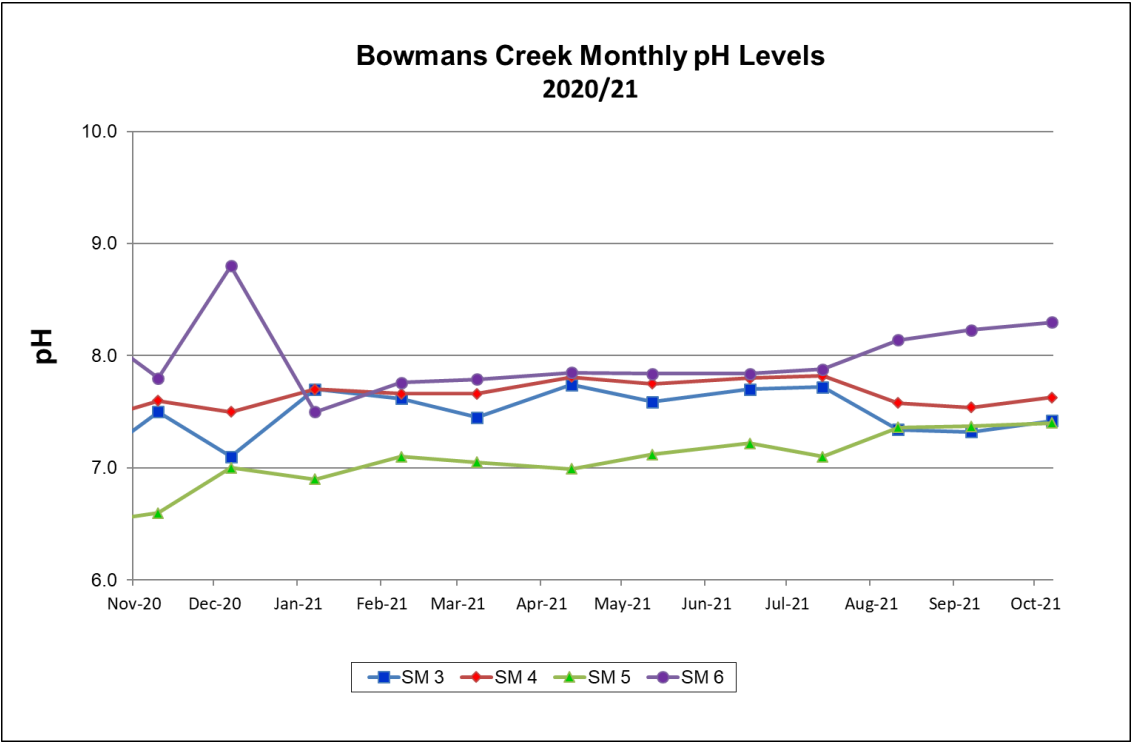
Surface Water Locations:



Note: The monitoring programs are current at the time of this strategy review, and are subject to change in-line with the EPL and approved management plans.

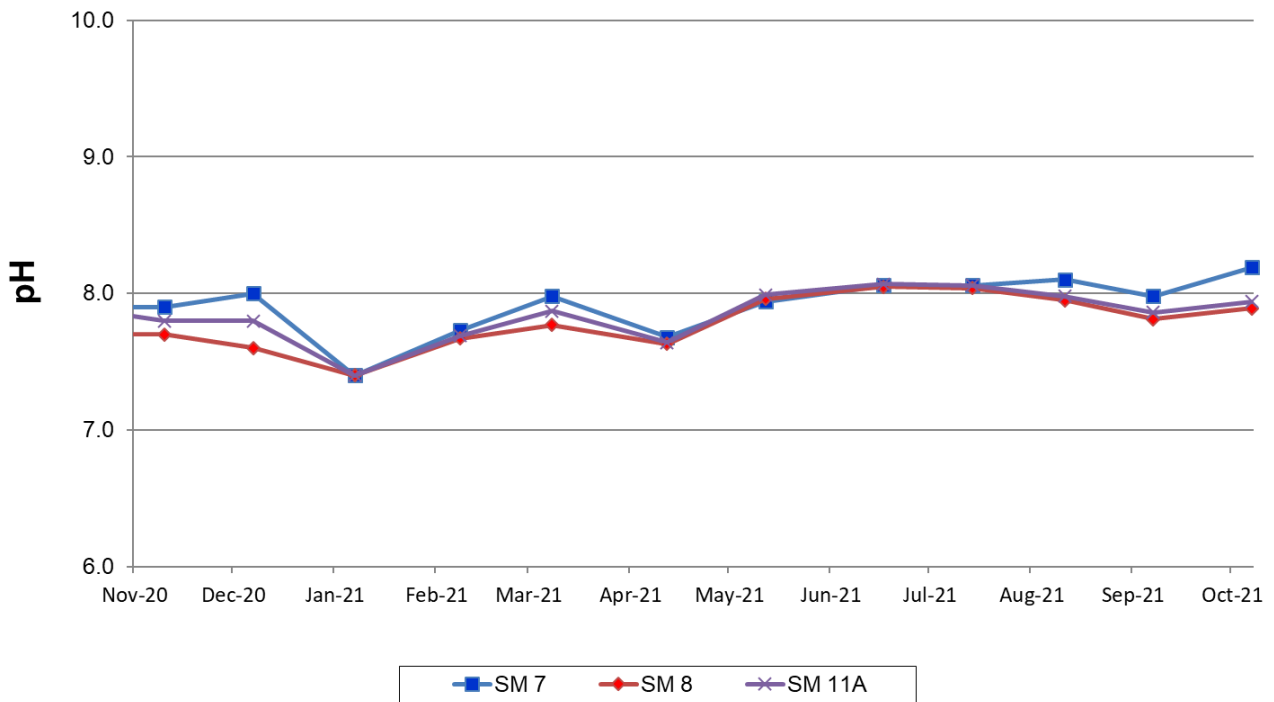
- Key**
- Ashton Development Consent Boundary
 - Existing Lease Boundaries

- Monitoring Sites**
- ▲ SM7 - Surface Water Monitoring location
 - ⊗ GC04 - Stream Health / Aquatic Ecology Monitoring location
 - Low level - Creek Crossing

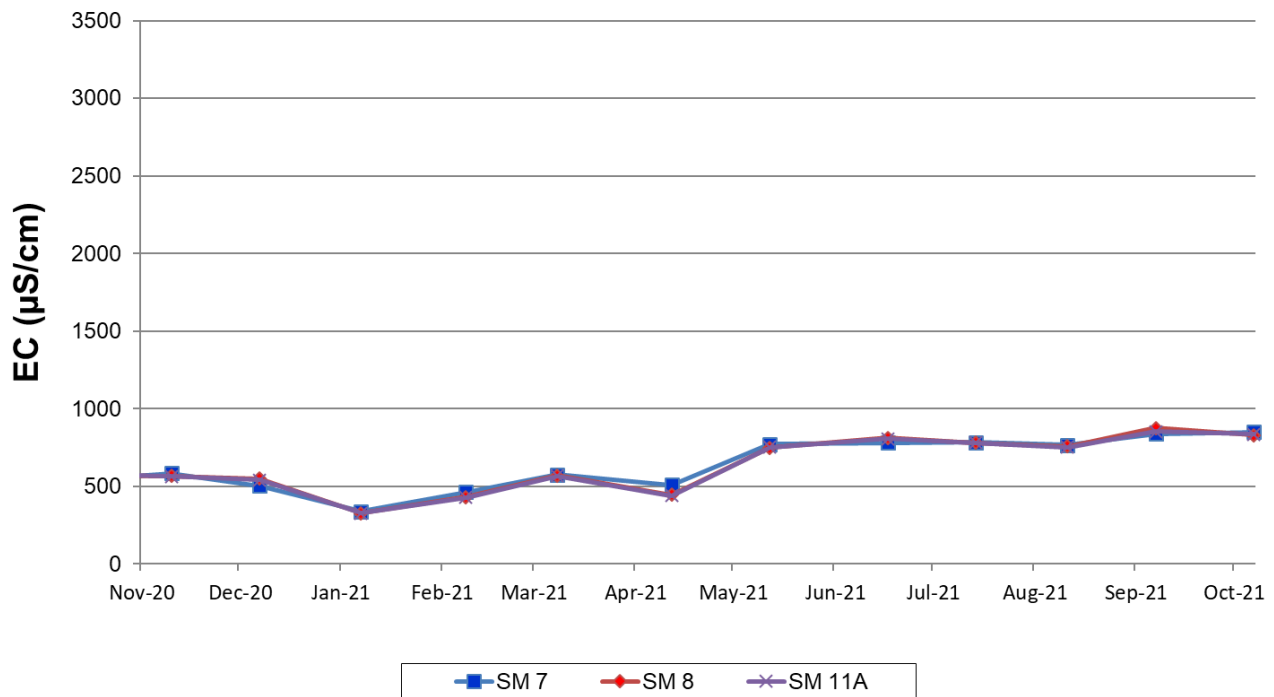


Note: No monthly results indicate sampling location was dry.

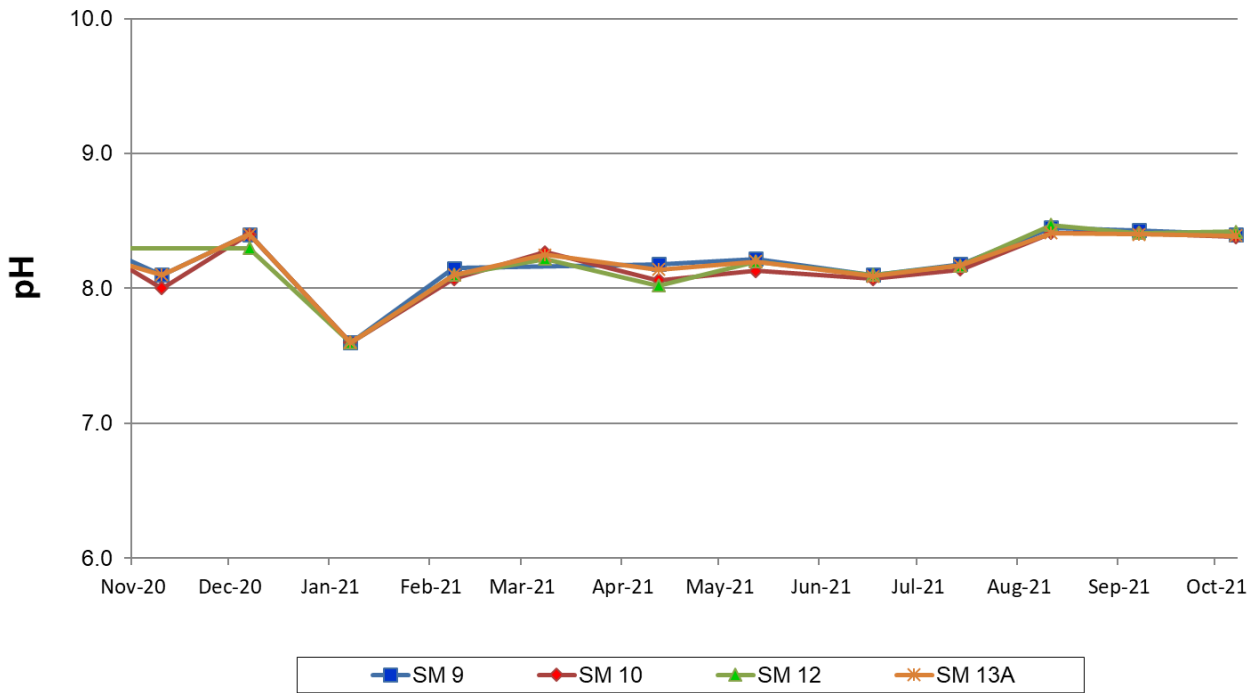
Glennies Creek Monthly pH Levels 2020/21



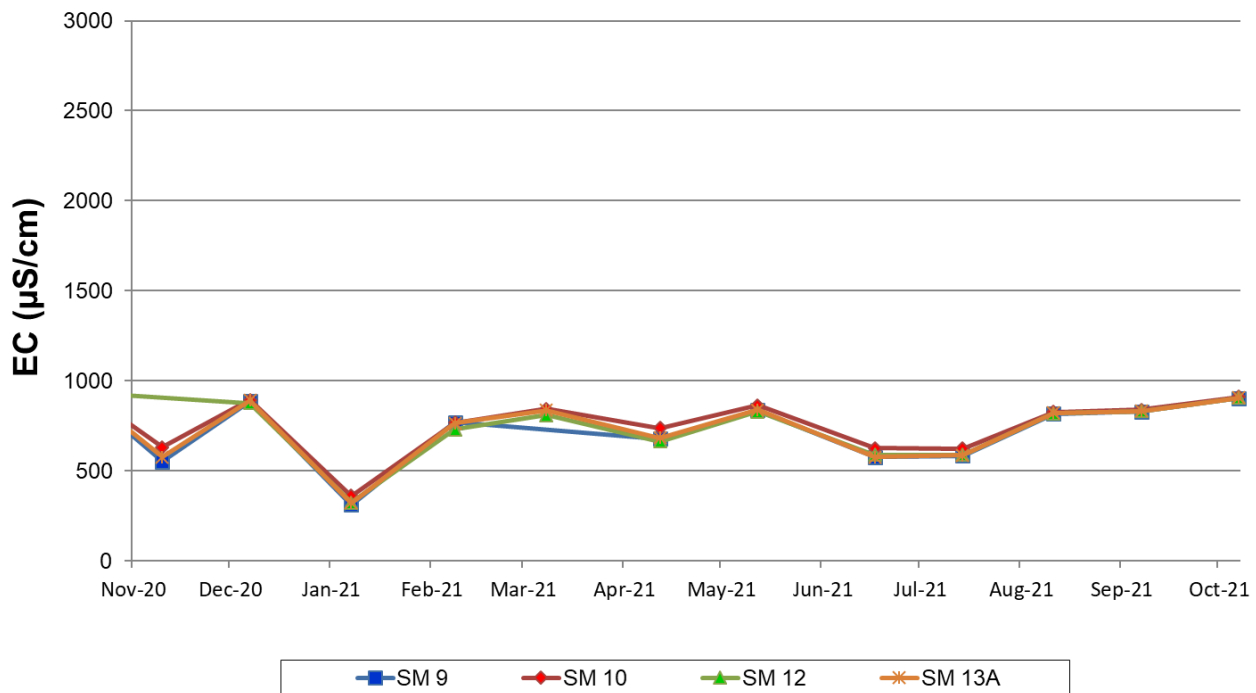
Glennies Creek Monthly Electrical Conductivity Levels 2020/21



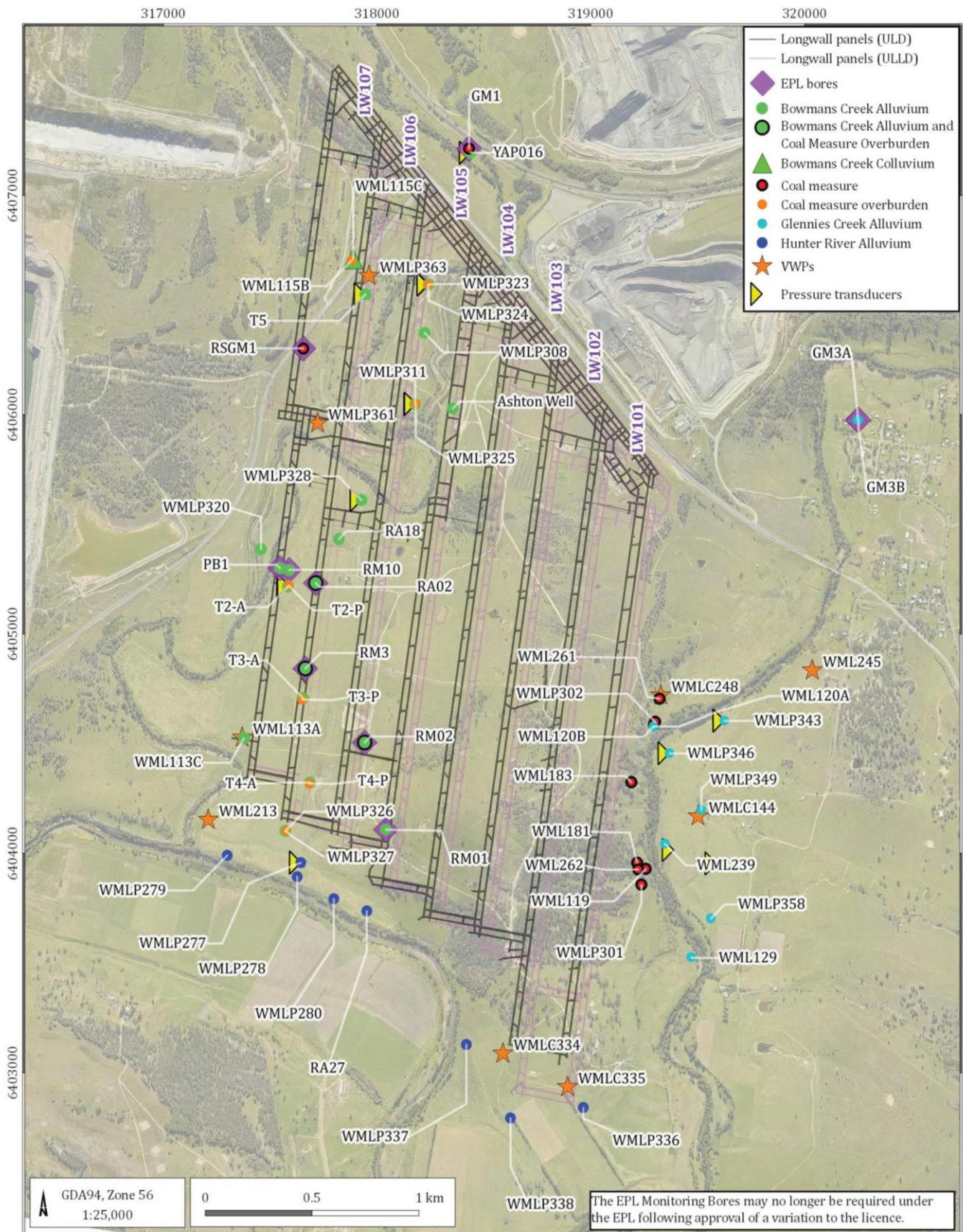
Hunter River Monthly pH Levels 2020/21



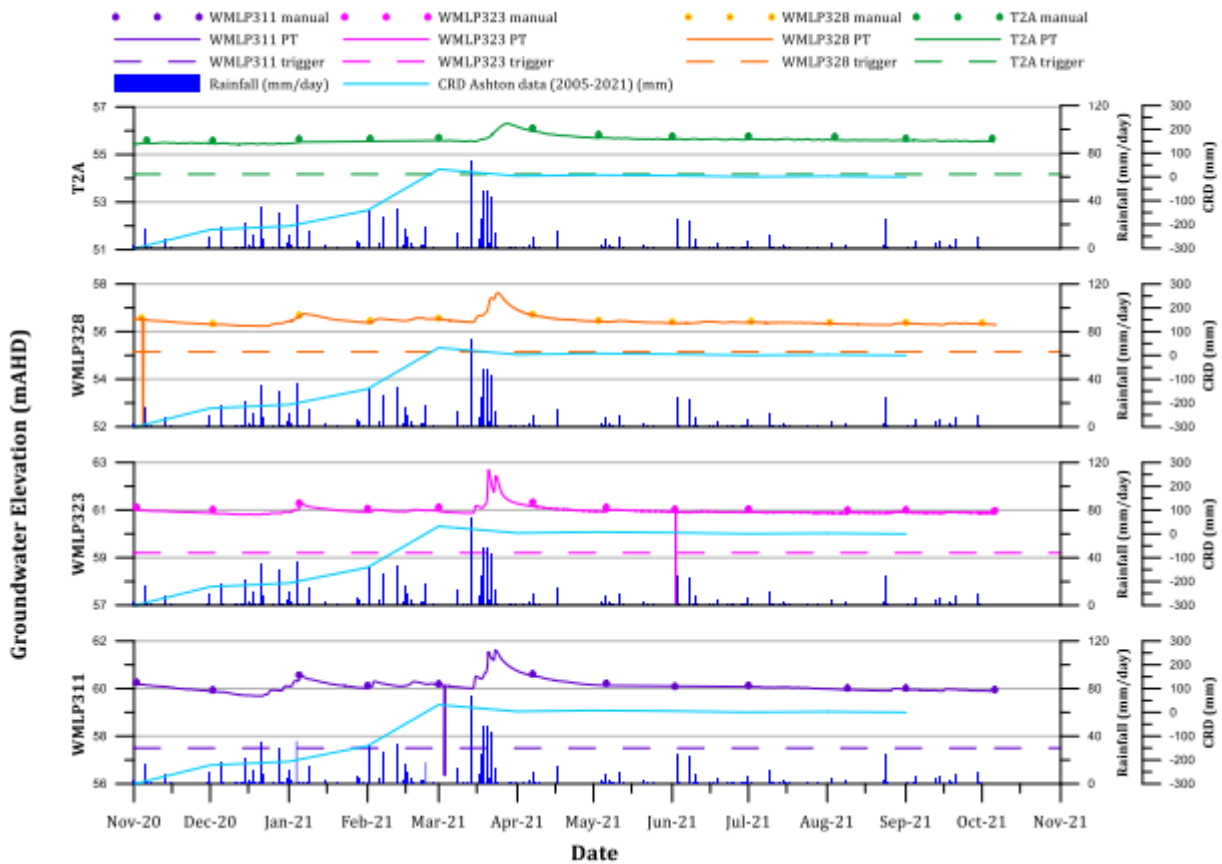
Hunter River Monthly Electrical Conductivity Levels 2020/21



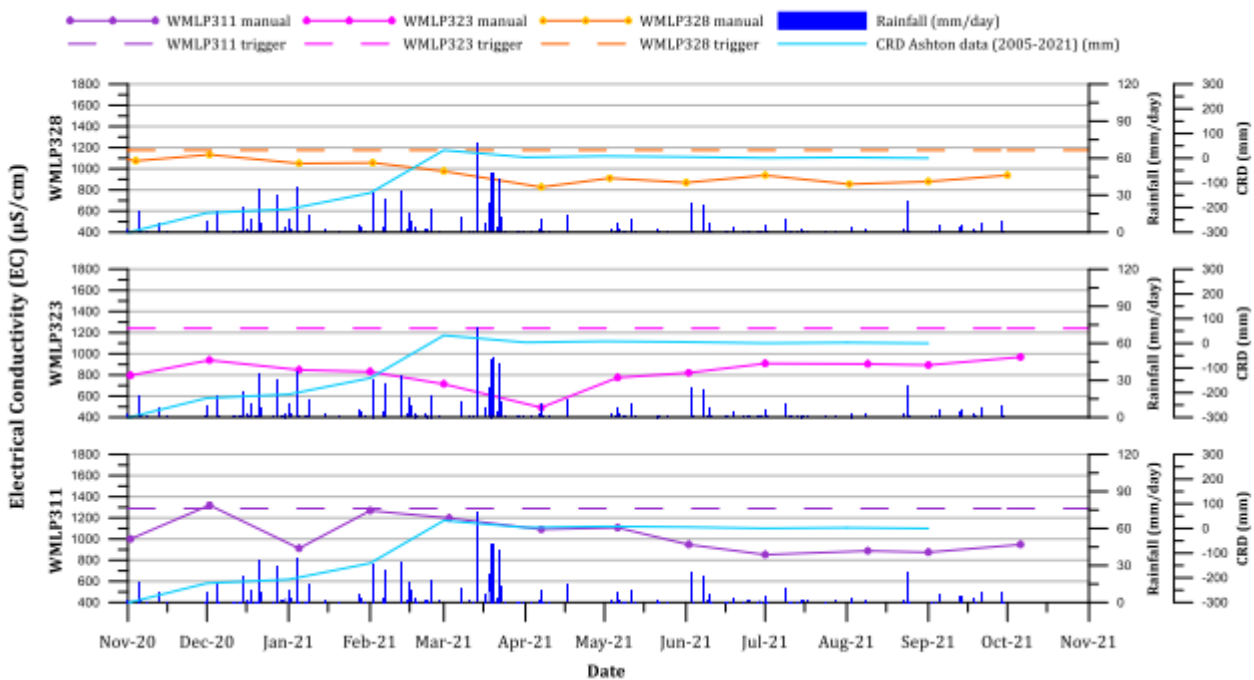
Groundwater



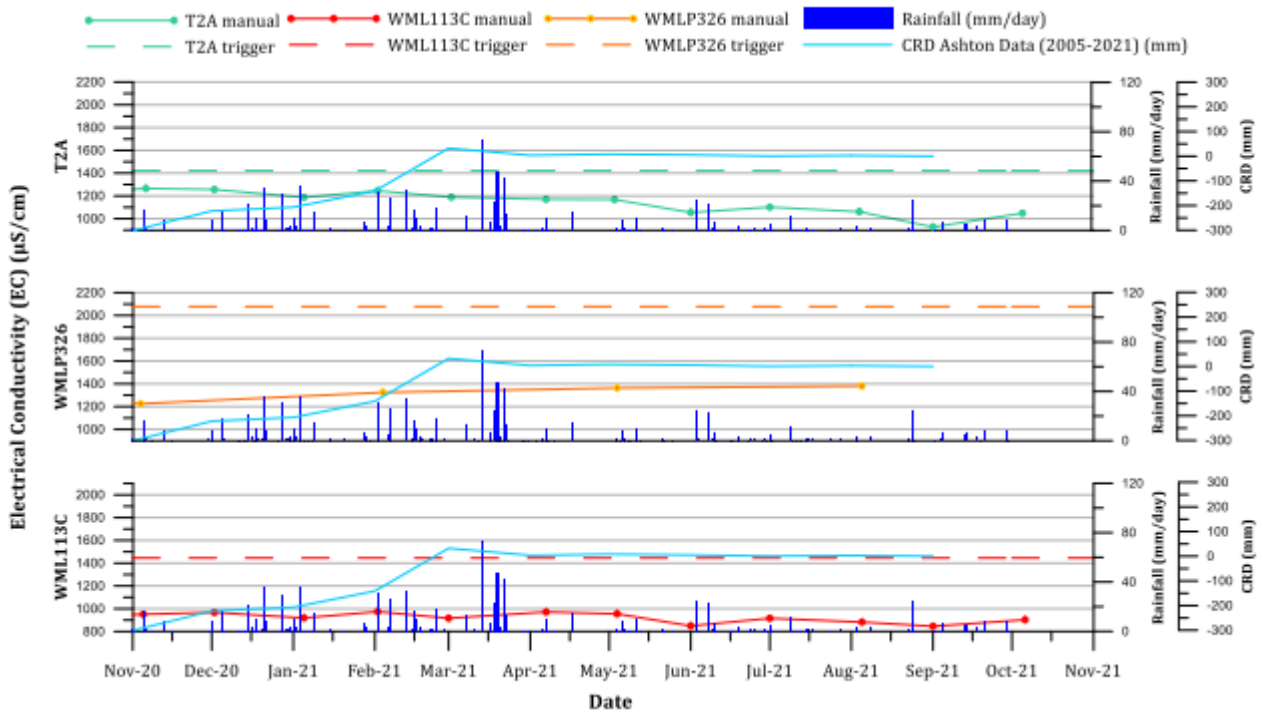
Bowmans Creek alluvial groundwater levels



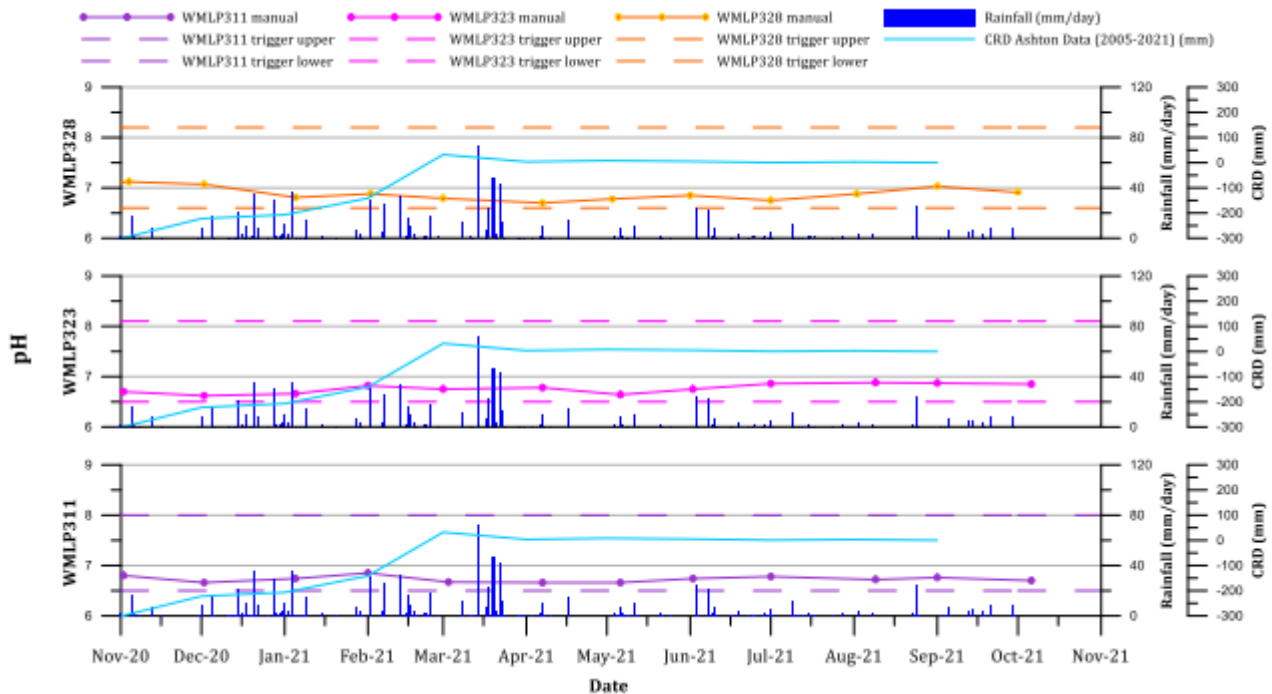
Bowmans Creek alluvial electrical conductivity (1)



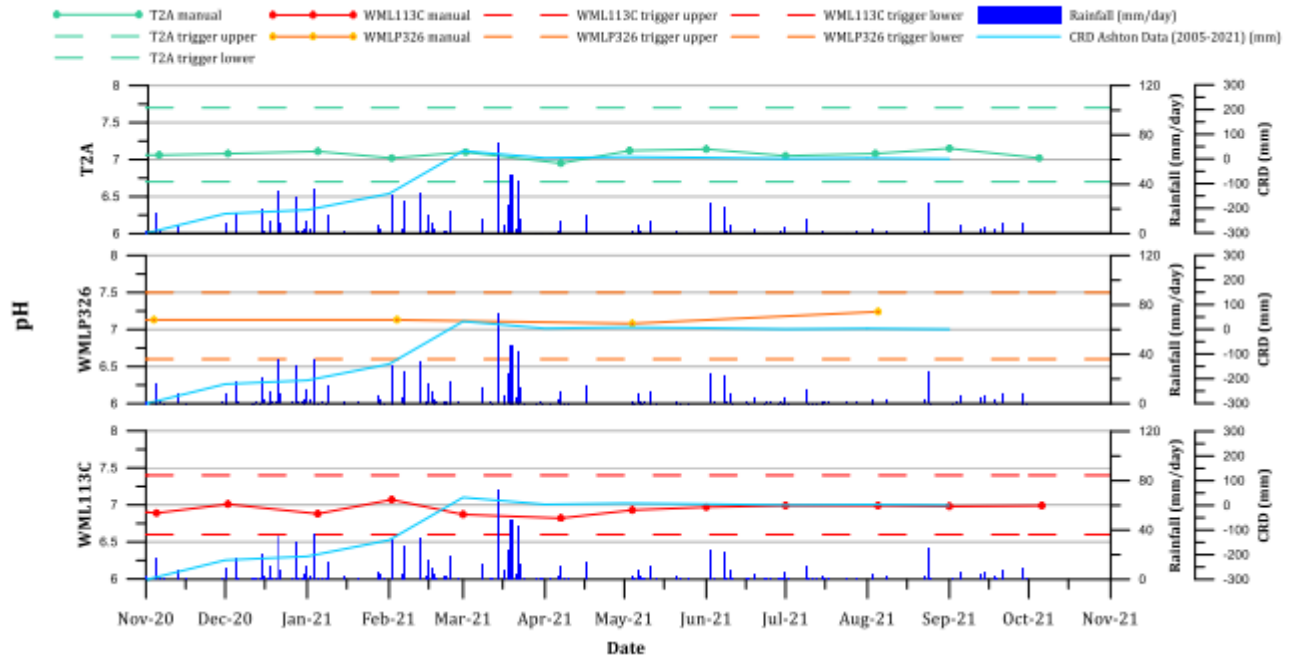
Bowmans Creek alluvial electrical conductivity (2)



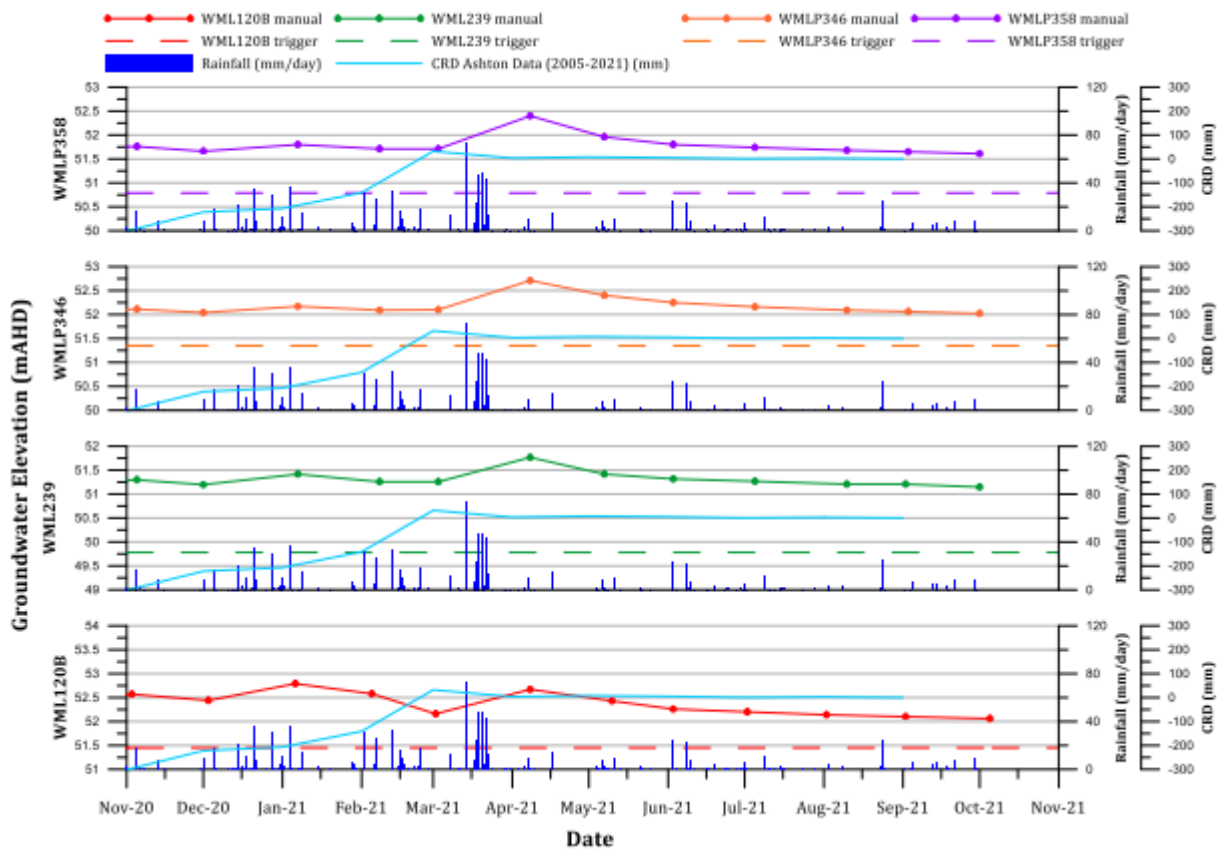
Bowmans Creek alluvial pH (1)



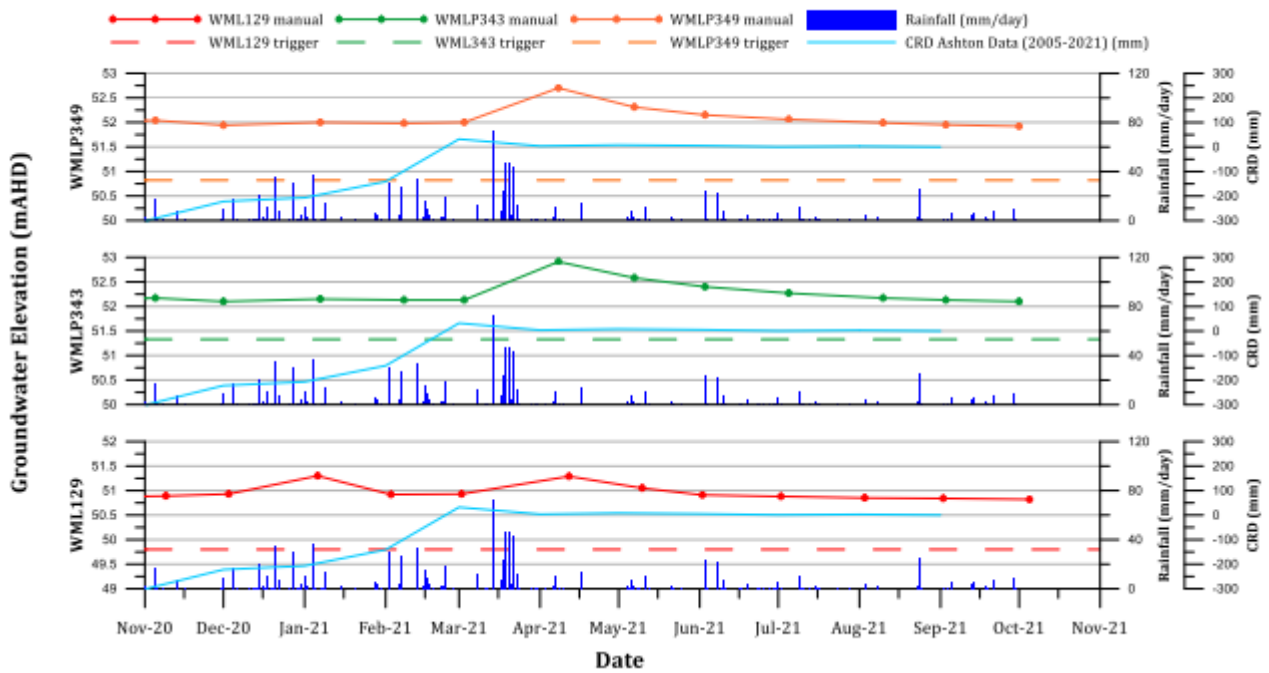
Bowmans Creek alluvial pH (2)



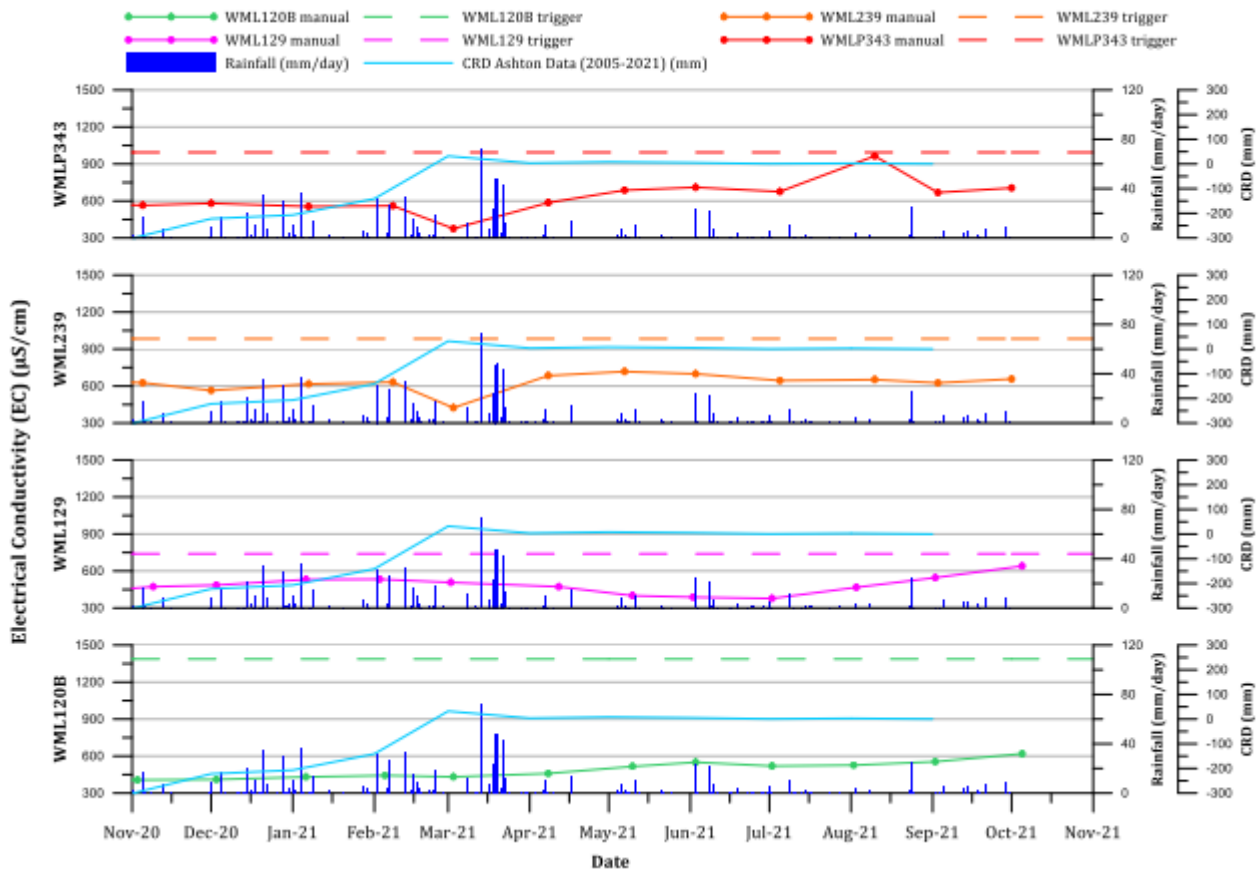
Glennies Creek alluvial groundwater levels (1)



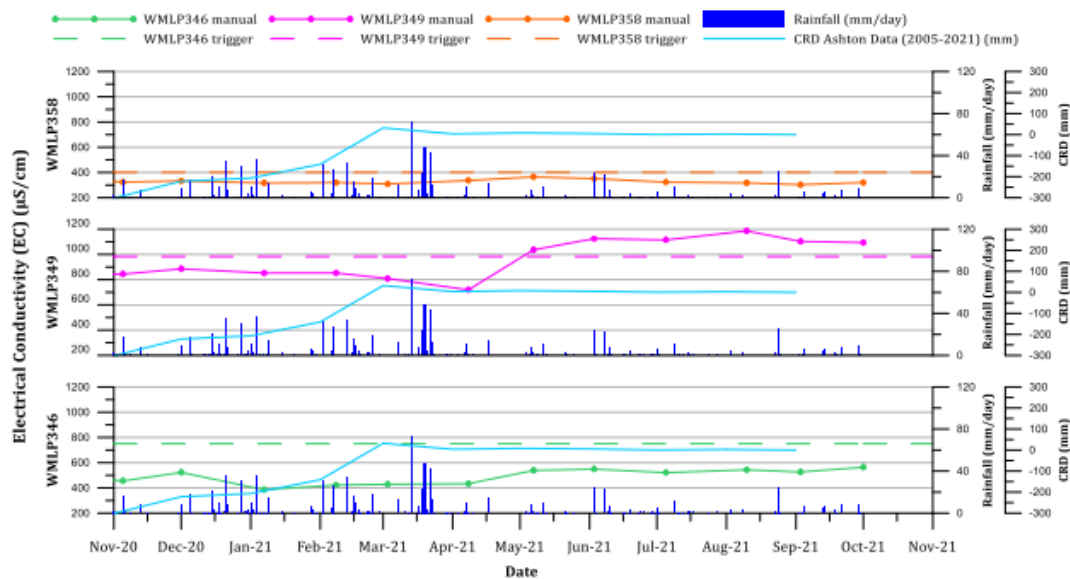
Glennies Creek alluvial groundwater levels (2)



Glennies Creek alluvial electrical conductivity (1)

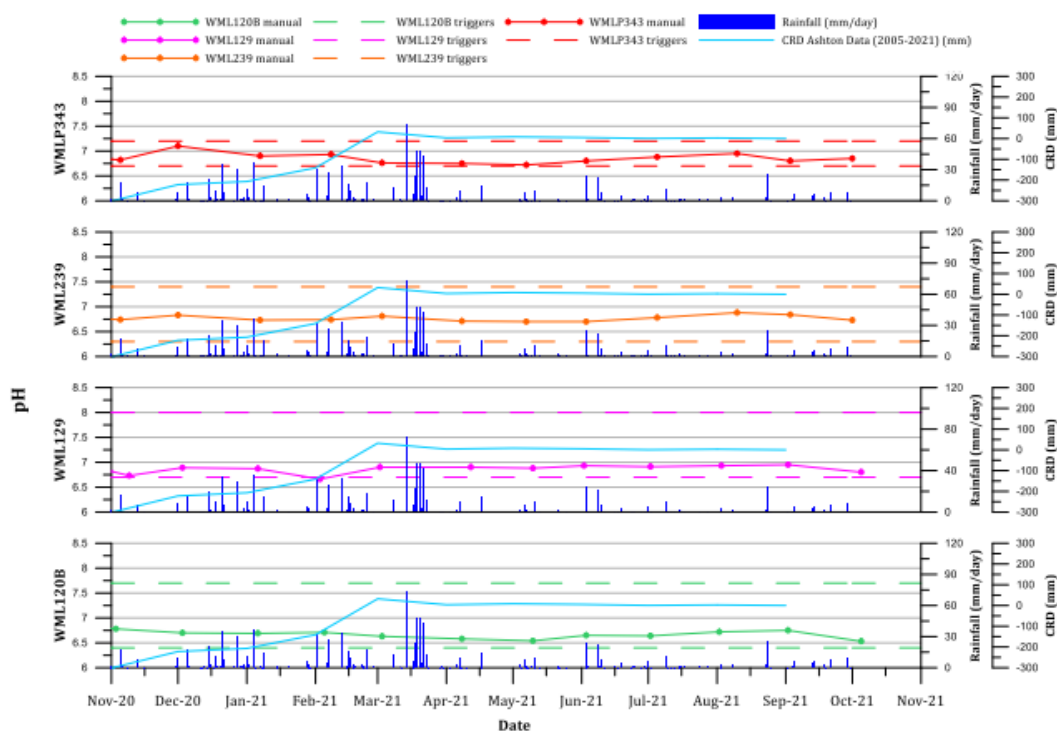


Glennies Creek alluvial electrical conductivity (2)

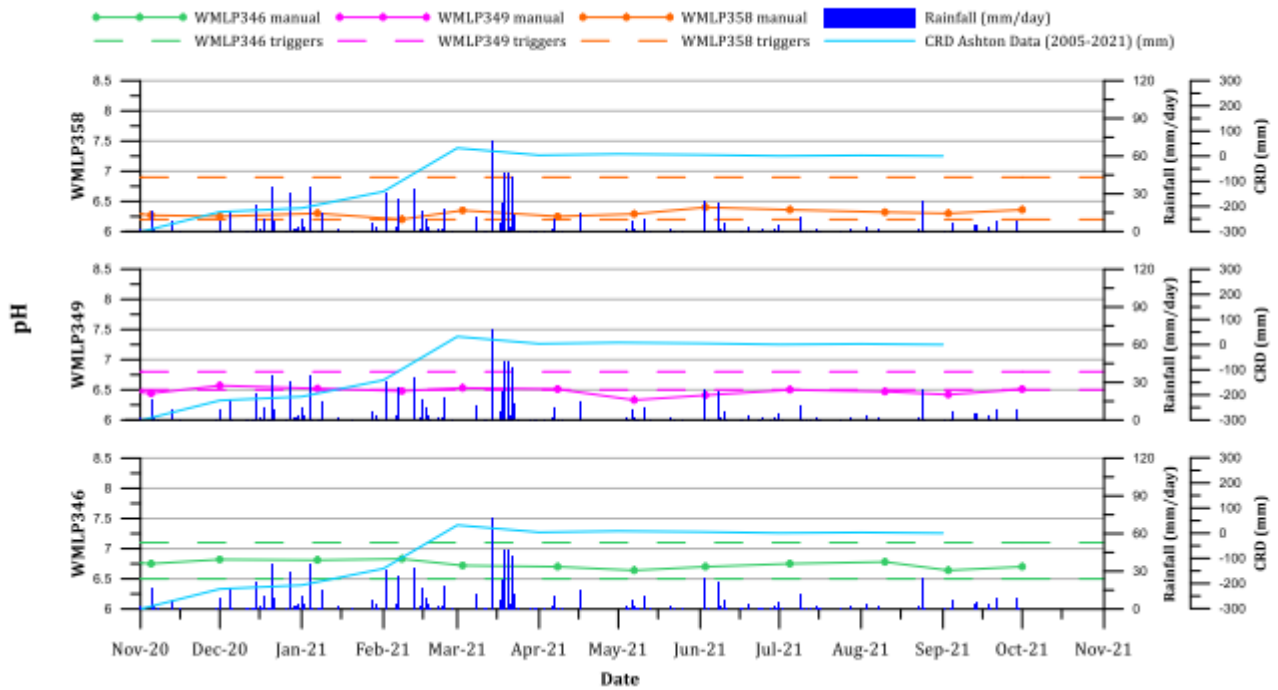


* WMLP 349 –EC results remain above the prescribed EC trigger threshold in the Water Management Plan for this site and this has triggered an investigation. The investigation was conducted by Australian Groundwater and Environmental Consultants (AGE) and AGE concluded that the cause of the EC increase at WMLP349 is not likely to be an impact from mining and suggested some surface water interaction could be occurring due to movement in the bore monument and recommended replacing the monument and re-concreting the bore pad. This work was completed on the 10th November 2021. AGE additionally stated that higher groundwater levels could also have mobilized natural salts in the unsaturated zone.

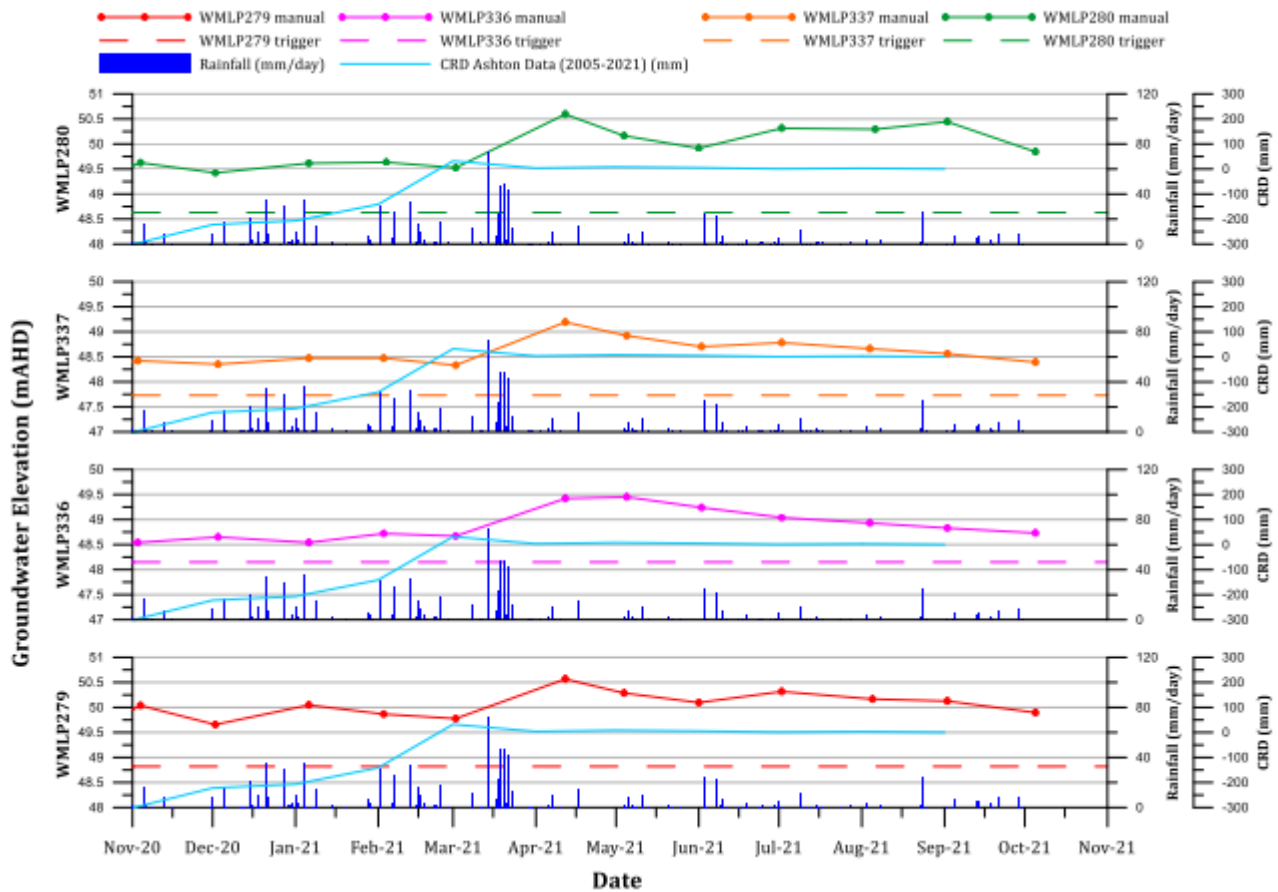
Glennies Creek alluvial pH (1)



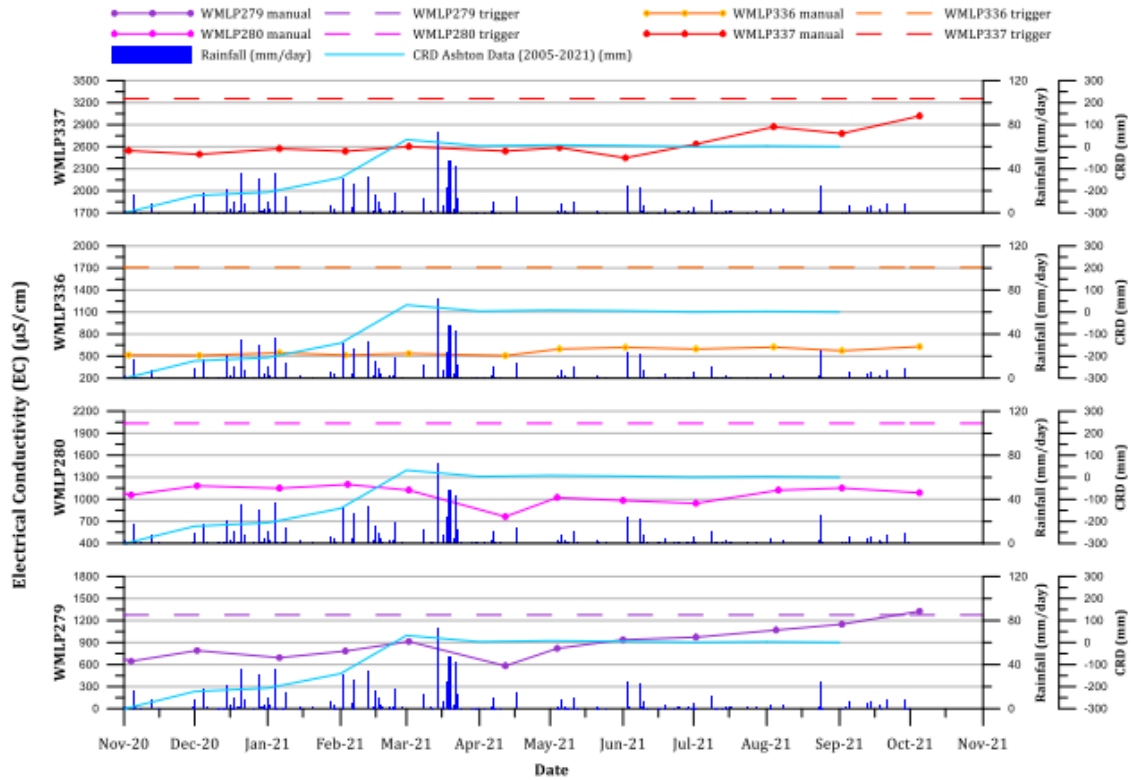
Glennies Creek alluvial pH (2)



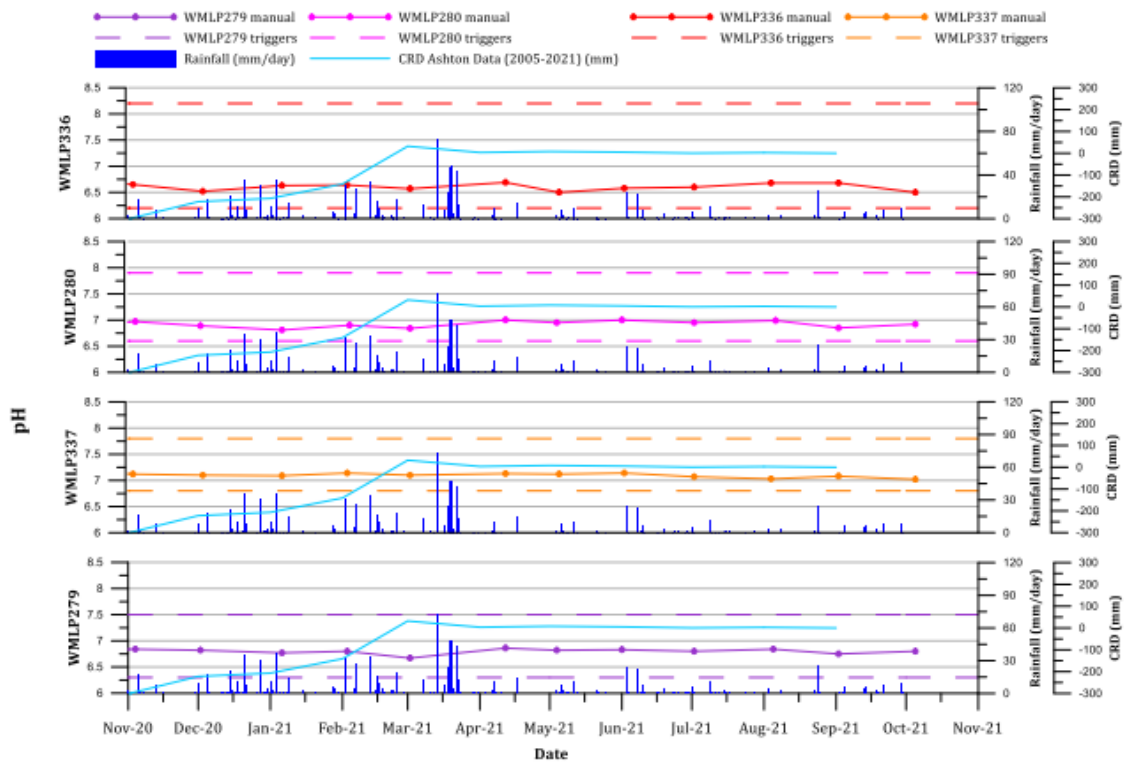
Hunter River alluvial groundwater levels



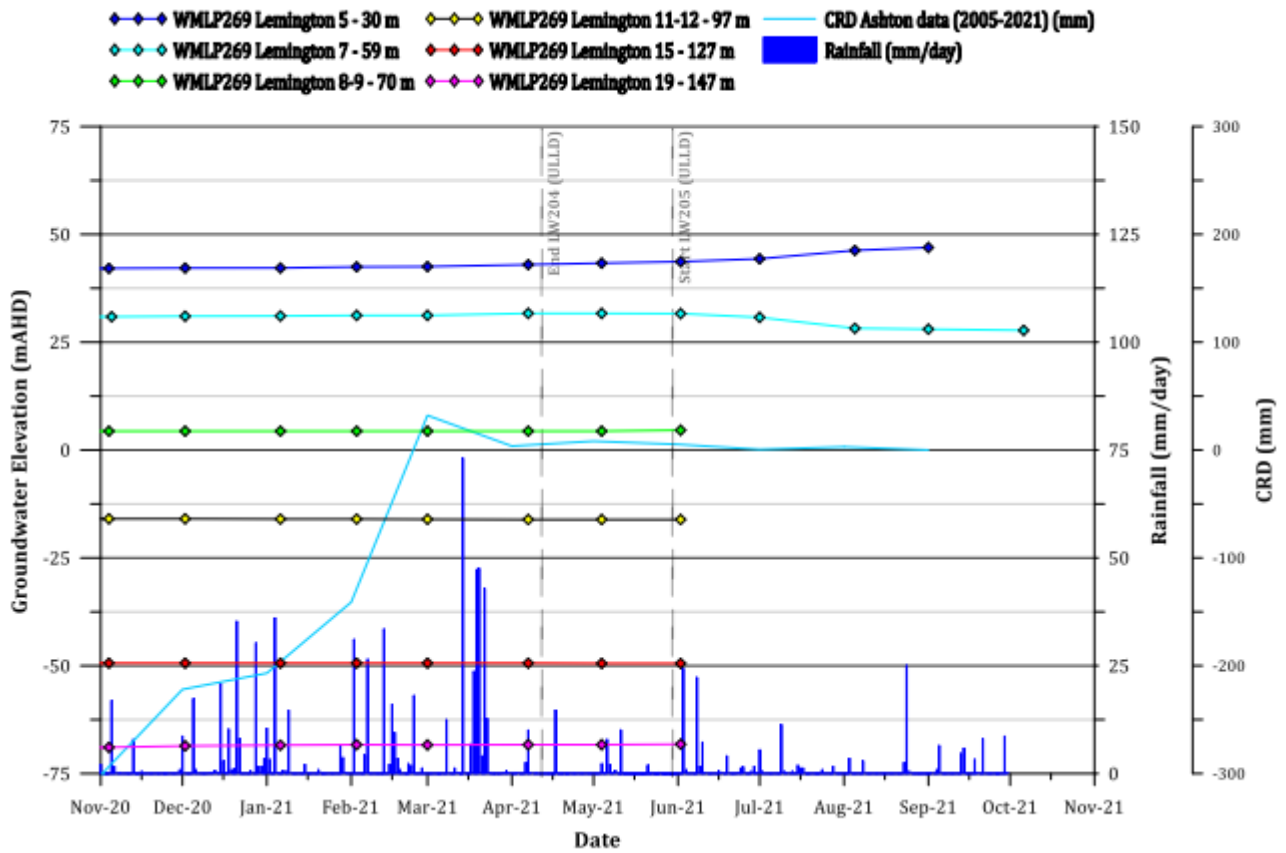
Hunter River alluvial electrical conductivity



Hunter River alluvial pH



Groundwater bores levels in vicinity of LW205



* WMLP 269 – Vibrating Wire sensors from 70m to 147m returned erroneous results.