

Question on notice to Dr Ross Crates on the NSW Upper House Inquiry into the Proposal to raise the Warragamba Dam Wall.

Questions on notice:

1) The Hon. PENNY SHARPE: What proportion of the inundation zone was actually surveyed?

1) We established 130 survey sites during field surveys in November 2017. Each site had an area of 0.79 ha. This gives an official survey area of 102.7 ha. If the perimeter of these survey locations is taken, given that we conducted additional, opportunistic searches of the wider area, we surveyed up to 620 ha. According to the upstream Biodiversity Assessment Report, the area potentially impacted by the raising of the Warragamba Dam wall is 5280 ha. Therefore, we surveyed for regent honeyeaters in between 1.95 % and 11.7 % of the potential inundation area.

Signed

Dr Ross Crates,

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Australian National University.