



DIMBULAH ROAD KEY RESOURCE AREA - KRA 151

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Mareeba Shire Council

LOCATION: An extensive area in the Mareeba Irrigation Area located about 11 kilometres west of Mareeba. The KRA contains several sand extraction sites with the potential for other resources to be discovered.

EXTRACTIVE RESOURCE: Sand

EXTRACTIVE RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

Fine to medium sand of granitic origin occurs in shallow layers in patches over a wide area underlain by the Mareeba Granite west of Mareeba. The main deposits appear to occur beneath the lower slopes of broad gullies and are of mixed alluvial and colluvial origin.

The nearby properties over the Mareeba Granite and associated colluvium may also contain extensive resources. These may be developed in future when a need for extraction, subject to appropriate development conditions, is demonstrated.

SIGNIFICANCE

The deposits are of regional significance as sources of fine sand for the Cairns and Tableland markets are scarce. The sand occurs in shallow layers extending over a large area and the cumulative sand resource has the potential to supply the region for several decades.

SEPARATION AREA

The sand is potentially widespread beyond the defined resource/processing area. The adopted boundaries of the resource area are indicative of an identified potential for sand extraction. A standard 200 metre separation distance is adopted around the entire area to protect the potential for extraction within the resource.

TRANSPORT ROUTE

Two transport routes are proposed. First one is via Tyrconnel Road onto Mareeba-Dimbulah Road. The second haulage is via Chewko Road and other local roads to the Mareeba-Dimbulah Road (Byrnes Street) then eastwards to the Kennedy Highway. The potential for sand extraction from any of several locations may require transport along some of the minor roads or across private land. As the area is Rural and included within the resource area, the risk of increased development along minor roads is low.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

A large portion of the KRA is covered by Strategic Cropping Land (SCL) Trigger Mapping under the *Strategic Cropping Land Act 2011* administered by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines. This indicates the location of potential SCL and further on-ground assessment against the SCL criteria is required to confirm whether the area is SCL or non-SCL.

There are currently several competing agricultural land uses existing within the resource area and any development of the sand resource would need to be assessed with regard to these factors.

