

Bullabulling Gold Project

Bullabulling Gold Ltd



CLIENT:

Bullabulling Gold Ltd

LOCATION:

Bullabulling Gold Project, Coolgardie

SERVICES:

- Level 2 flora survey
- Targeted flora survey
- Level 1 fauna with emphasis on Malleefowl

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Identified a number of priority species not previously known from the area
- Expanded the known distribution of *Baeckia* sp. Bullabulling
- Recorded numerous evidences of Malleefowl presence

In 2013, the Bullabulling Gold Project was expanded and Phoenix was commissioned to undertake surveys within the larger study area and incorporate previous results into a single comprehensive ecological report.

In September 2013, Phoenix was commissioned by Bullabulling Gold Limited to undertake a Level 2 flora and vegetation and Level 1 fauna survey immediately east of previously surveyed areas.

The flora component of the scope of works comprised systematic quadrat survey sites, but also targeted known conservation significant flora species. The fauna component aimed to broadly define the habitat values with particularly emphasis on Malleefowl and other conservation significant species.

While the Threatened flora species *Gastrolobium graniticum* was not recorded during targeted surveys, suitable habitat was identified. Nine Priority flora species were recorded, three of which had the potential to be significantly impacted by the project. In addition, several vegetation types were considered to be of high conservation value. Lastly, records of and extensive habitat for the conservation significant Malleefowl (*Leipoa ocellata*) (Vulnerable) was present.

Rather than forge ahead with targeted surveys for several flora species and Malleefowl, Phoenix recommended that Bullabulling Gold put these surveys on hold and determine a definitive project footprint using the available environmental information to avoid and minimise impacts. We have found the regulators strongly respond to this approach, but it also greatly reduces future environmental expenditure as any further surveys are focused on defining and resolving the residual environmental impacts, and are therefore highly cost-effective.



PHOENIX
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES