

TARAGOOLA KEY RESOURCE AREA – KRA 19

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Gladstone Regional Council

LOCATION:

The resource is located 2 kilometres east of Taragoola railway siding, about 12 kilometres south of Calliope (see map KRA 19).

EXTRACTIVE RESOURCE: Quarry Rock

EXTRACTIVE RESOURCE DESCRIPTION:

The resource consists of a north-trending belt of limestone deposits. The resources are quarried for extractive purposes such as concrete aggregate, railway ballast, road base, and general construction work. The limestone is extracted under mining lease tenure under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989* for uses such as acid soil treatment and for lime for the alumina refinery in Gladstone.

SIGNIFICANCE:

The resource is one of only two major sites currently supplying crushed quarry rock to the Gladstone region. The large resources present and the convenient location of the Taragoola resource, close to Gladstone and existing rail infrastructure, means that the resource will remain of significance for the quarry rock needs of the region.

SEPARATION AREA:

The eastern, southern and western boundaries of the separation area are defined by the full supply level of the raised Awoonga dam reservoir. The northern boundary is located about 500 metres north of the northern-most mining lease, where an intervening ridge provides partial shielding from quarry impacts. The northwestern boundary is retained at the full 1000 metres from the resource/processing area.

TRANSPORT ROUTE:

The materials are transported to the Taragoola rail siding along a private road, or along a rural road to the Dawson Highway at Calliope. The first 3 kilometres of this road is unsealed.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

There are a number of indigenous cultural heritage sites recorded within the separation area, and two recorded sites within the resource/processing area. Both these sites were recorded during the Stage 1 survey of the Awoonga Dam Raising Cultural Heritage Project and are now protected under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*. Despite the level of disturbance within the Taragoola mining area, there is further potential for archaeological sites to exist. The limestone supports vegetation that is significant to the Traditional Owners, and the possibility that surface and subterranean rock art exists in this area has not yet been fully explored. If such sites were identified, they would be unique in the region. Further development in this KRA should be subject to appropriate management of the cultural heritage sites and values, in consultation with the Traditional Owners (Port Curtis/Coral Coast Native Title Claim Group), through a Cultural Heritage Management Plan.

