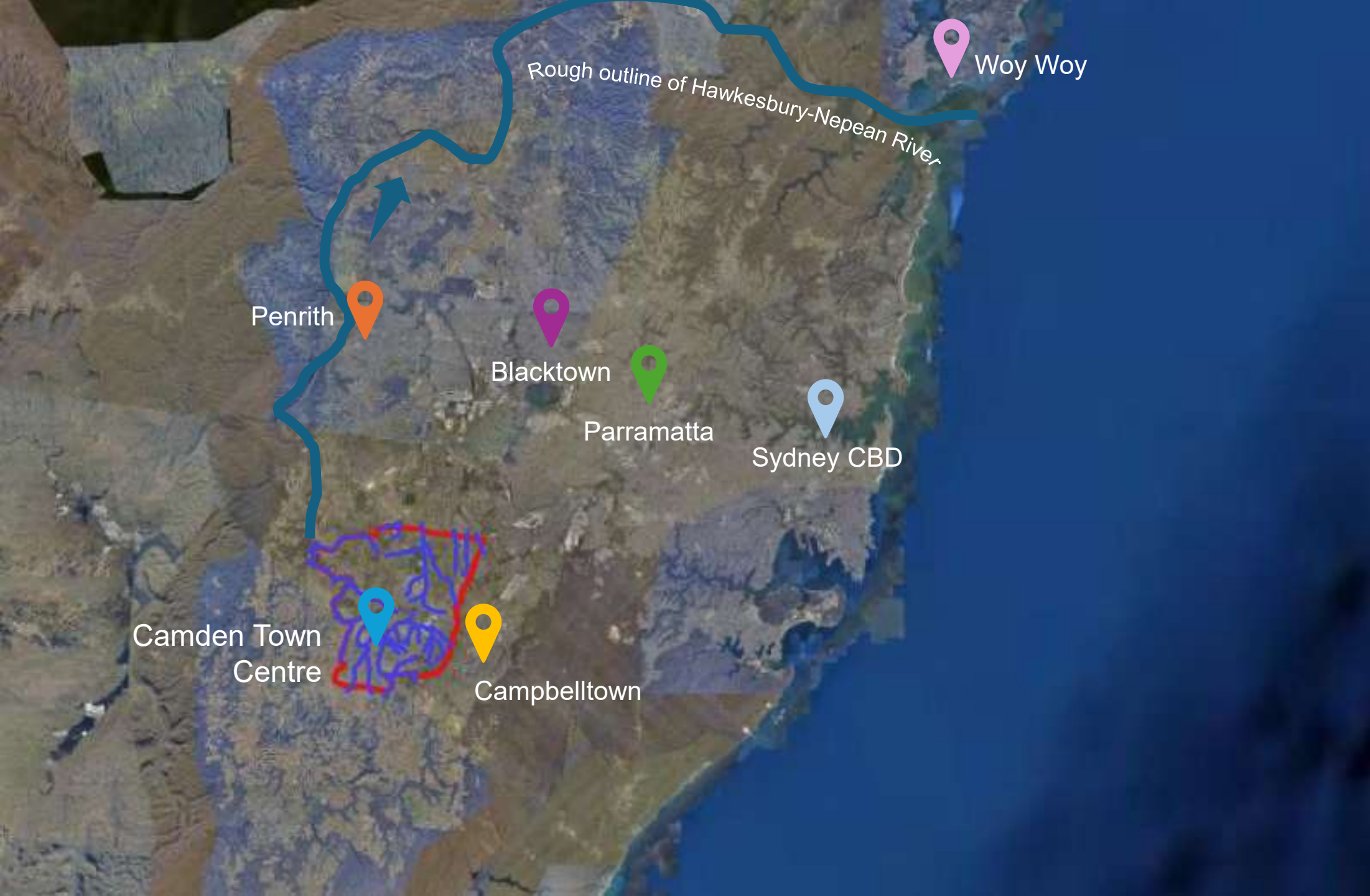


Nepean River Restoration



Rough outline of Hawkesbury-Nepean River

Woy Woy

Penrith

Blacktown

Parramatta

Sydney CBD

Camden Town
Centre

Campbelltown

Camden in
context to
Greater
Sydney

Panorama of the Camden Township



March 2022

Photograph by Brett
Atkins

Capture Camden
Facebook

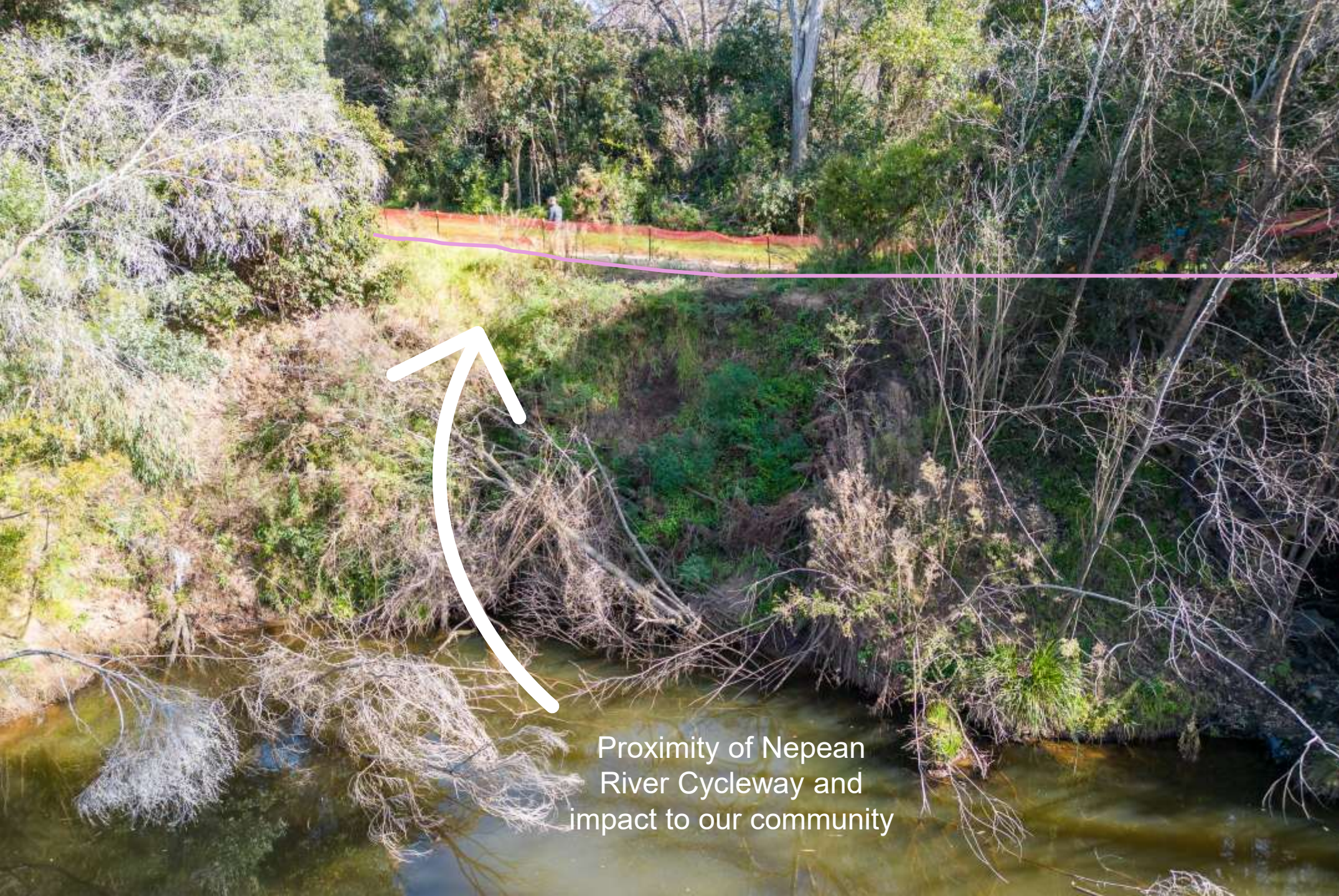


July 2022

Photographs by Dean Sewell

State Library NSW





Bank erosion
encroaching
on Nepean
River
Cycleway

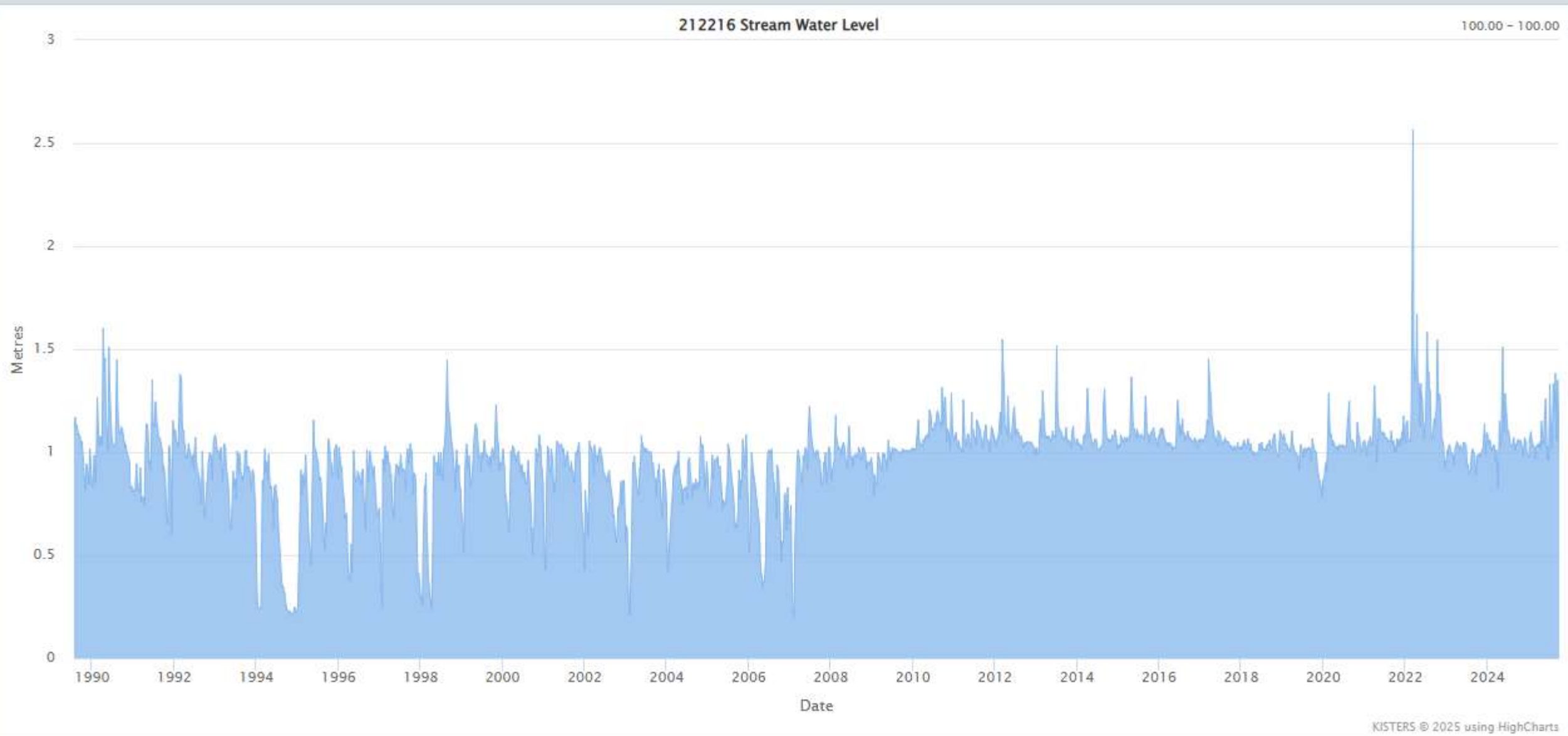
July 2023

Photograph by Brett
Atkins

Commissioned for
Camden Council

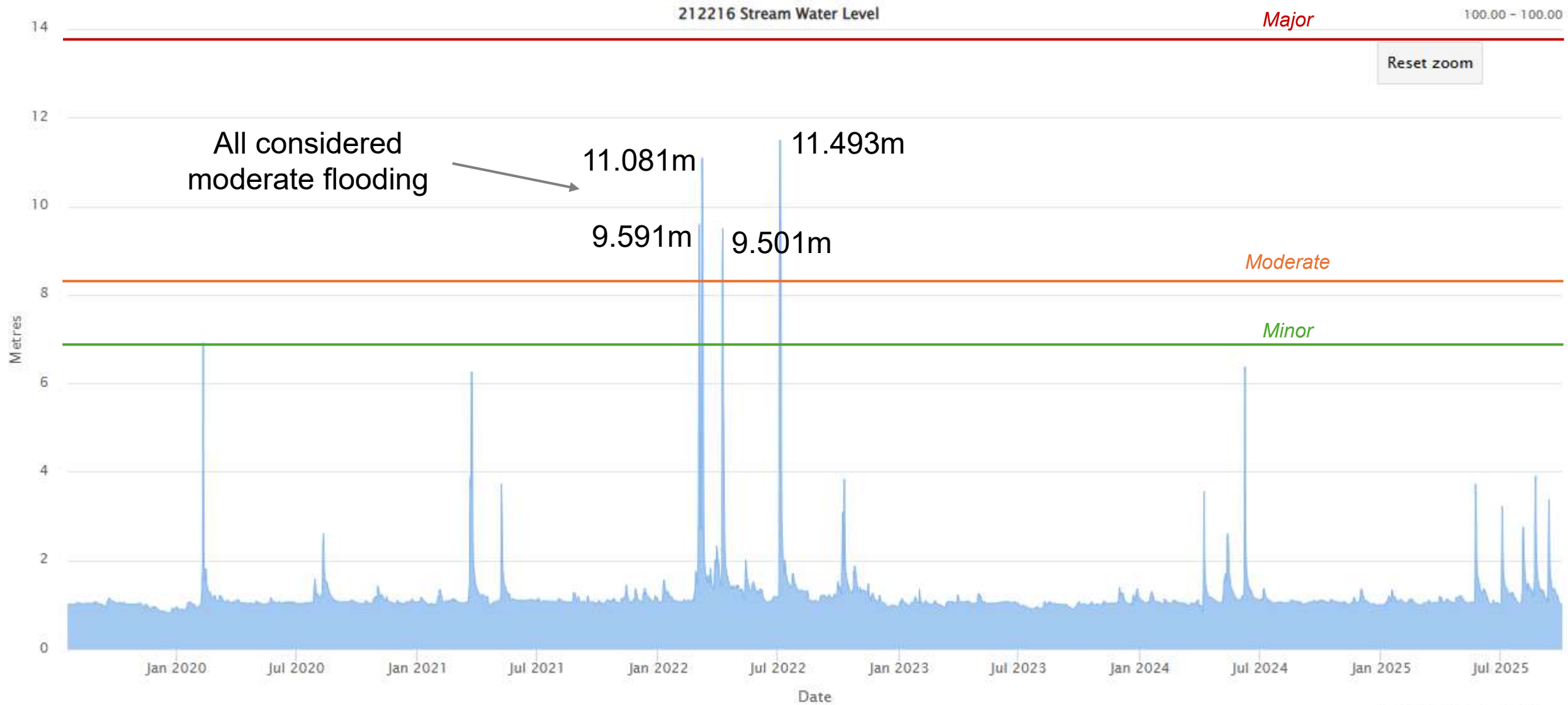
Proximity of Nepean
River Cycleway and
impact to our community

Stream Water Level records since 1989



Graph by WaterNSW for Camden Weir

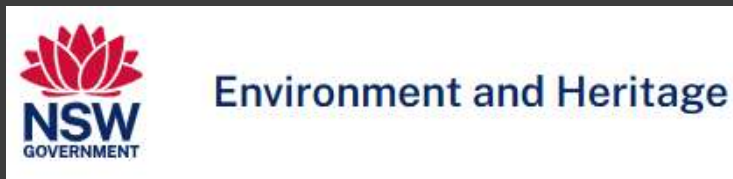
Stream Water Level records for 2020-2025



KISTERS © 2025 using HighCharts

The opportunities

- Community concerns for the health and condition of the Nepean River
- Regional construction projects e.g. M12 and development sites
- Routine and flood related grant funding became available

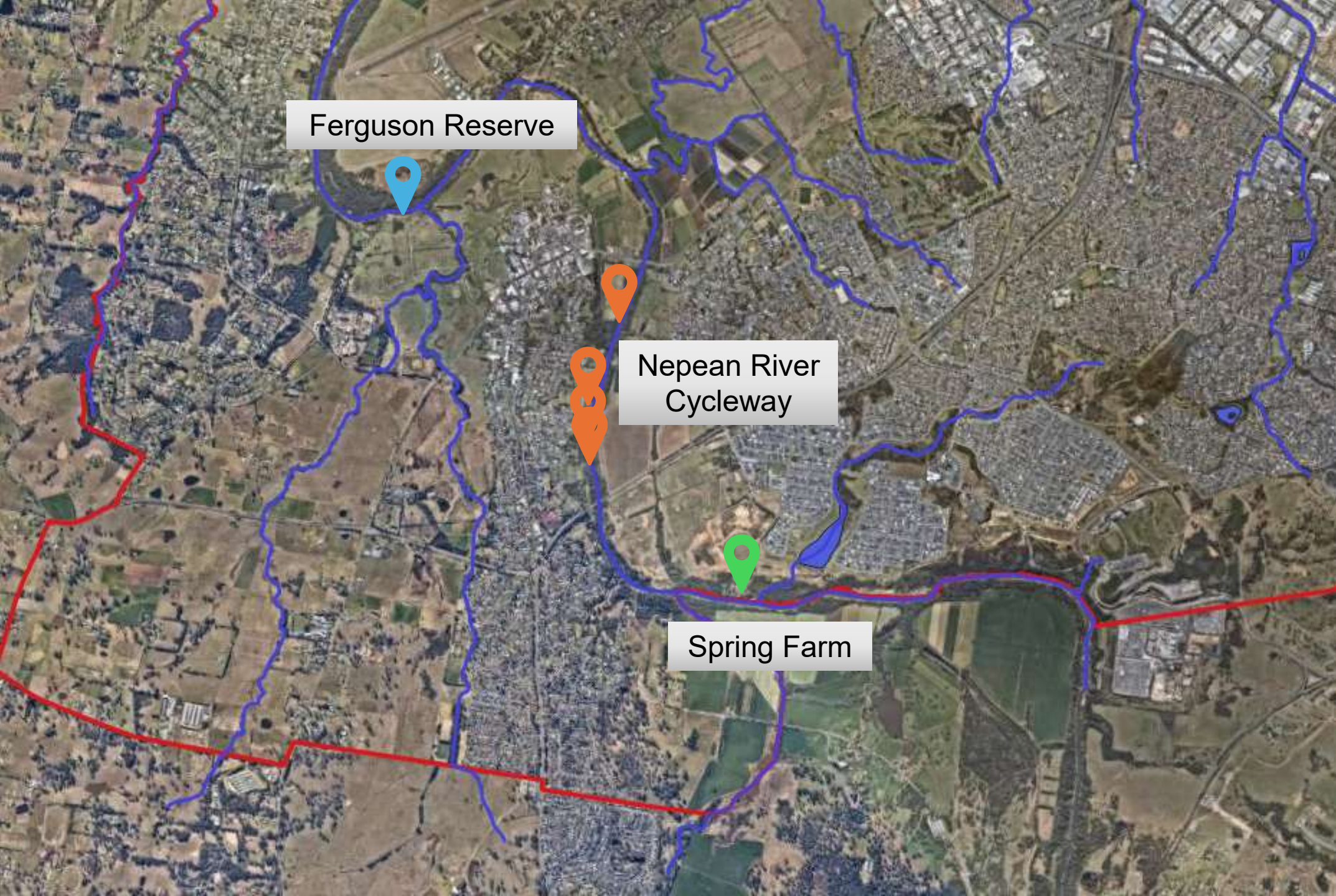


NSW Department of Primary Industries' Recreational Fishing Trust's "Habitat Action Grant"

NSW Government's Environmental Trust's Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation Grants

Australian and NSW Government's Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements 2018

Sydney Water's Hawkesbury-Nepean Nutrient Offset Scheme as a pilot project



Ferguson Reserve

Nepean River
Cycleway

Spring Farm

Overview of
project sites

Spring Farm

Project partners:

- NSW Government Department of Primary Industries' Fisheries
- Soil Conservation Service
- Transport for NSW
- Schools
- Our community

Capital cost: \$60,000 for on-ground works





BEFORE

May 2023

Photograph by Brett
Atkins

Commissioned for
Camden Council



Replanting for
long term
stabilisation

Bund wall to
slow overland
flows

AFTER

Earthworks to get a better
gradient

Fish habitat + resnagging
our waterways

Scour protection

Control of
balloon vine

June 2023

Photograph by Brett
Atkins

Commissioned for
Camden Council



December 2022

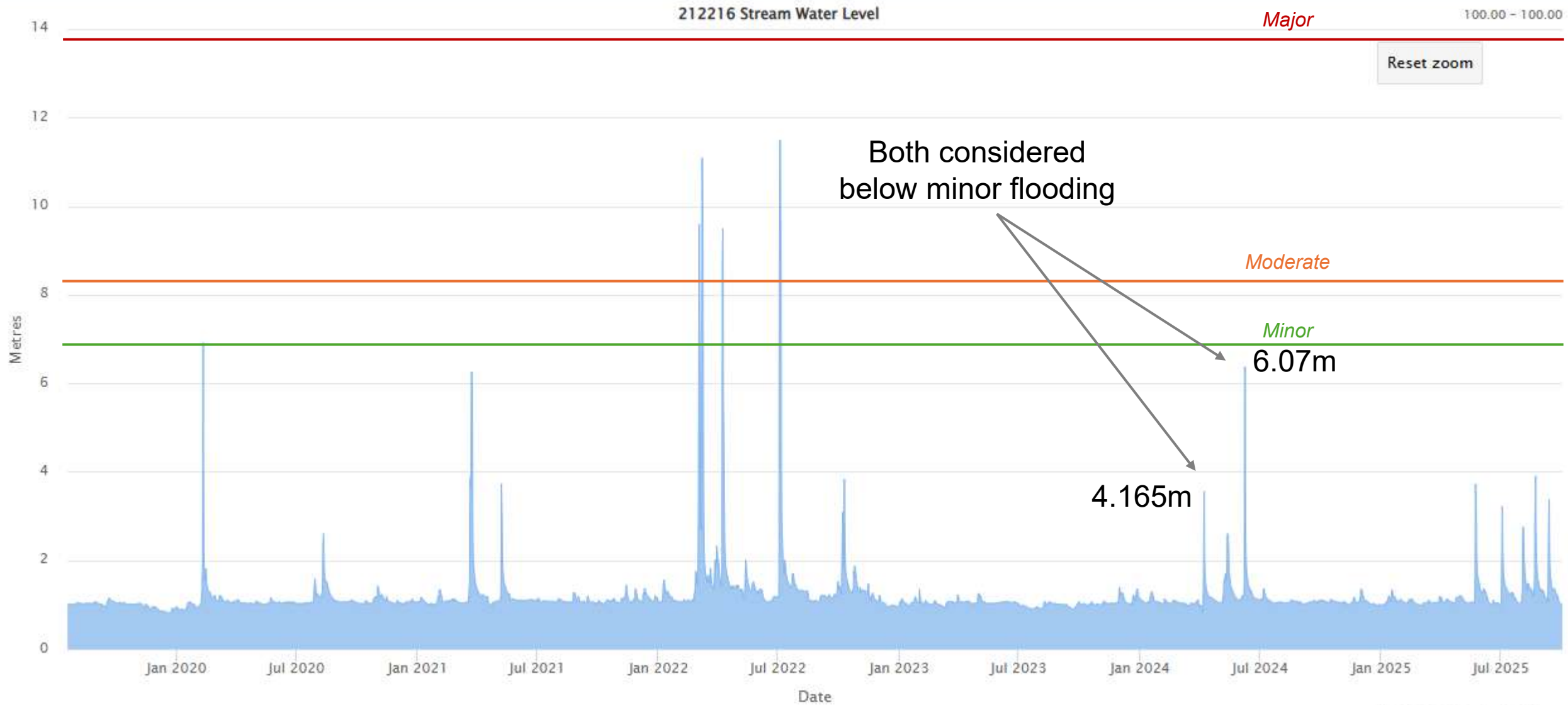


September 2023



March 2024

Stream Water Level records for 2020-2025





September 2024



September 2025





BEFORE

May 2023

Photographs by Aditi Verma

Photo Point Monitoring



AFTER

September 2025

Critically
endangered
Camden white
gum

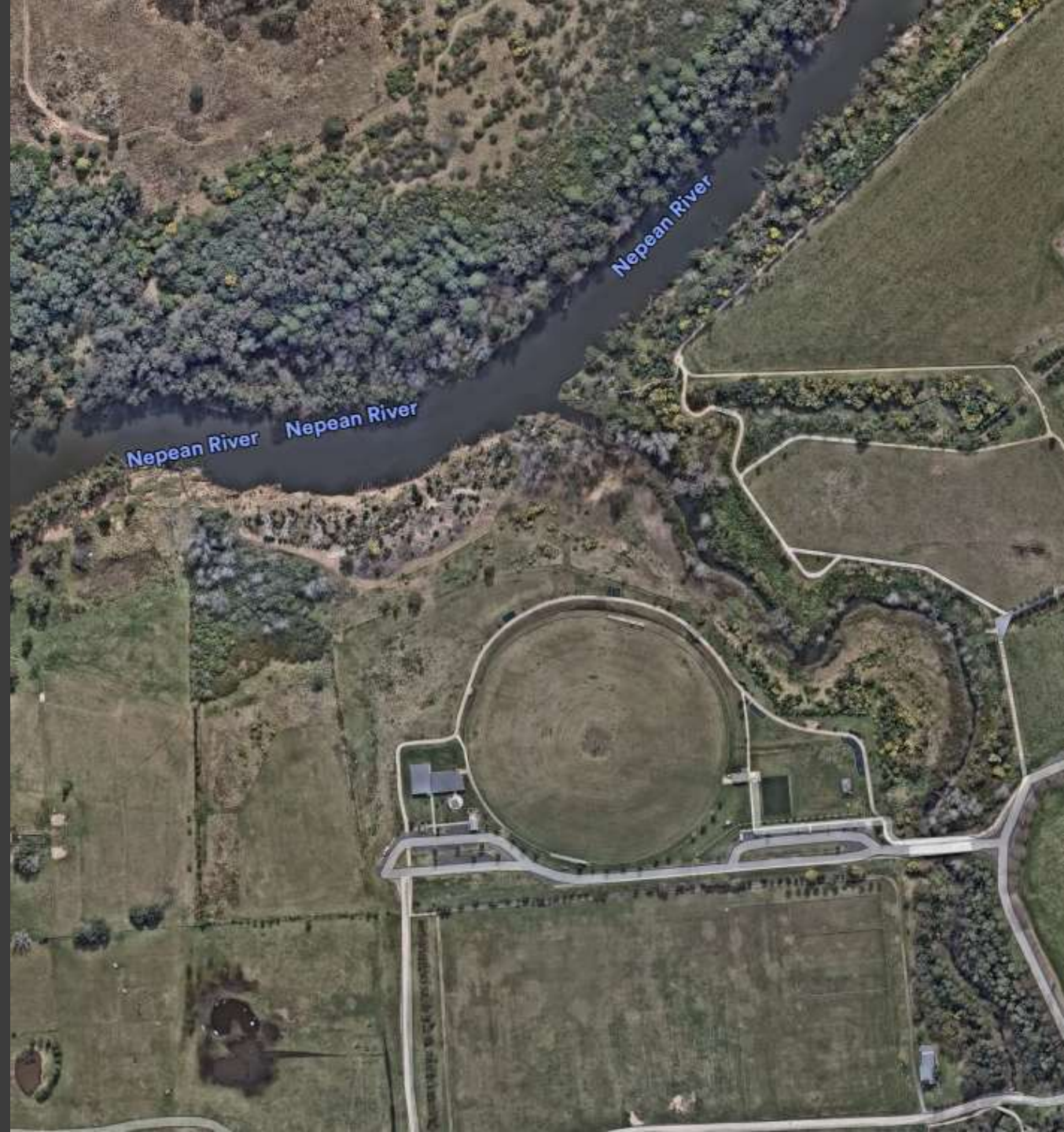
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Ferguson Reserve

Project partners and funding:

- Sydney Water
- Soil Conservation Service
- Transport for NSW

Capital cost: funded by Sydney Water





BEFORE

February 2016

AFTER

October 2022

Some parts experienced more than 30 metres of riverbank retreat since 2016

>13,700 cubic metres of soil was lost between December 2021 and July 2023



BEFORE

April 2022



AFTER

January 2024

Indicates
previous bank
toe



BEFORE

November 2022



AFTER

February 2024





Nepean River Cycleway

Project funding:

- NSW Government's Environmental Trust's Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation Grants
- Australian and NSW Government's Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements 2018

Capital cost: ~\$943,000 for on-ground works





BEFORE

July 2023



AFTER

July 2024

Photographs by Brett Atkins

Commissioned for Camden Council

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BEFORE

July 2023



AFTER

October 2024

Photographs by Brett Atkins

Commissioned for Camden Council

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BEFORE

July 2023

Photographs by Brett Atkins

Commissioned for Camden Council



AFTER

October 2024

Hawkesbury-
Nepean River
Snap photo
point

Waterway
Walk POI sign

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3 takeaways

1. The Nepean River was greatly impacted by the floods of 2022, with riverbank erosion encroaching on public assets, and degrading water quality and fish habitat throughout the length of the Nepean River.
2. Riverbank restoration can be done using natural methods and an understanding of river geomorphology and hydrology.
3. These methods of bank restoration can be replicated in other river systems, with positive outcomes for water quality, fish habitat, biodiversity, and riparian health.

What we're going to keep doing

1. Use natural, locally sourced hard and soft materials in bank restoration
2. Place a greater emphasis on native/endemic vegetation for bank stabilisation
3. Retain large woody debris/snags
4. Consult a geomorphologist to provide specialist advice on the placement of added large woody debris
5. Get our community involved



Videos &
additional resources



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