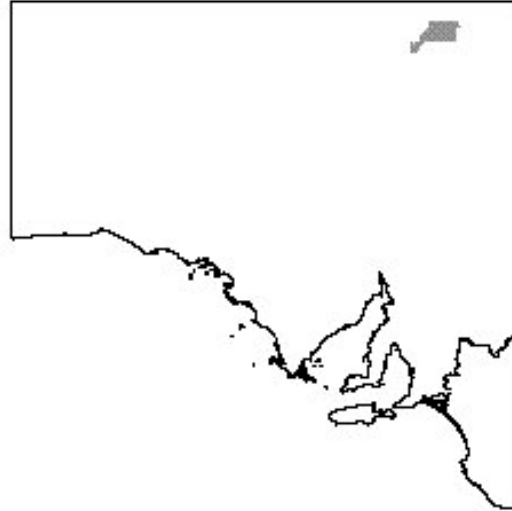


Biological Survey of Goyders Lagoon

Puckridge JT, Reid JR, Sheldon F and Baker S (2000) *Biological Survey of the Lower Diamantina Floodplain*, November 1993: Final Report. Conservation Council of South Australia, Department for Environment and Planning, Australian Heritage Commission.

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Summary:

The project aimed to describe the natural heritage of the lower Diamantina floodplain, clarify the status of the region's aquatic fauna, provide a basis for assessment of the region for possible listing on the Register of the National Estate, and identify land use issues relevant to the conservation of the heritage values identified.

The objectives were to:

- establish a survey structure and baseline data compatible with studies elsewhere in the Lake Eyre Basin wetlands, and suitable for ongoing monitoring;
- describe the distinctive features of the physical environment of the lower Diamantina floodplain;
- provide a baseline description at one point in time of the aquatic fauna of the Lower Diamantina floodplain, identifying its distinctive features;
- compare the physical and biological characteristics of the lower Diamantina floodplain with other wetlands systems in the Lake Eyre Basin, and so identify values of potential National Estate status;
- direct attention to land use issues in the region likely to have a bearing on the conservation of the potential National Estate values.

To this end, the Conservation Council of South Australia sought and received funding from the National Estates Grants Program) of the Australian Heritage Commission. The Biological Survey was conducted over 3 weeks in November 1993. Since field work for this project was completed, a CSIRO assessment of the central Lake Eyre Basin wetlands for World Heritage values (Morton et al. 1995a) has found that Goyder's Lagoon together with other central Lake Eyre Basin wetlands meets 3 and possibly 4 criteria for World Heritage natural values. This assessment supports the hypothesis upon which the Lower Diamantina survey project was based, namely that the Lagoon is likely to be ecologically important.