



Services for Airports

# Consulting to airports for over 18 years



ecology / vegetation / wildlife / aquatic ecology / GIS





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Working in an airport environment requires a sound understanding of airside safety and operational protocols, and excellent knowledge of relevant airport regulatory and legislative requirements.

Ecosure Pty Ltd is an environmental consultancy specialising in airports. After more than 18 years of consulting to airports, both in Australia and overseas, we understand the Manual of Standards and are experts in the requirements of the *Airports Act 1996* and *Airports (Environment Protection) Regulations 1997*. This is particularly attractive to our core-regulated airport clients, and our understanding of state and federal environmental legislation enables us to work in airports of any size. We are familiar with airside safety and operational protocols and our staff hold Australia-wide Aviation Security Identification Cards.

Our team work with airport managers and staff to provide clear thinking, forward planning and a long term approach to environmental management.

Some of our specialist airport services include:

### Airport environment strategies, reporting and management plans

- Airport environment strategies that provide a robust method for classifying areas of environmental significance under the *Airports Act 1996*, and suitable for submission to relevant regulatory agencies
- Airport annual environment reports for submission to relevant regulatory agencies

- Environmental management plans for major developments, complete with standard operating procedures and compliance auditing

### Wildlife and vegetation management

- Bird and wildlife strike risk mitigation - our strategic business unit Avisure is an industry leader in this field, having successfully completed projects at over 60 airports in Australia and around the world
- Fauna surveys, monitoring and habitat assessments, and threatened species recovery and conservation plans
- Natural areas restoration, from targeted weed removal, to revegetation of development sites and revitalising stormwater drains

### Water quality programs

- Tailored monitoring programs to suit the unique characteristics of the airport's catchment
- Locally relevant water quality guidelines which consider upstream land use, groundwater input, acidic soil exposure and historical land use in the airport and surrounds
- Make recommendations to improve airport water quality, to help meet water quality benchmarks, and demonstrate airport's commitment to meeting Regulations





Our Experience

## A sample of our recent projects

### Airport Environment Strategy and Identification of Environmentally Significant Areas

Ecosure was engaged by our major airport client to assist with development of their five year Airport Environment Strategy (AES). Working with the Airport Environment Manager, we guided the AES up to the point of delivery of the Draft AES to the Minister. In addition to preparation of the AES we were responsible for drafting the Public Comment Report for the Minister and developed a number of Board Papers detailing progress. The major departure from previous AES formats was to identify environmentally significant areas at the Airport, which is home to a number of legislatively significant species and communities.

We developed a method to determine significance which was peer reviewed to ensure rigor. Consultation on both the method and the AES development was undertaken with relevant commonwealth, state and local government agencies. Mapping developed from application of this method has been successfully included to the AES.

### Pest Animal Management

Since 2005, Ecosure has been working with our long-term airport client to manage fox and hare populations on the airport to preserve biodiversity and mitigate aircraft strike risk. Triggered by an increase in sightings, Ecosure has also managed rabbits on site since 2011.

We monitor pest activity through regular spotlighting surveys and active searches for pest activity, including fence breaches. This allows targeted management and enables the success of the program to be evaluated. We have used a combination of warren and den fumigation, trapping, baiting and spotlight shooting to effectively

manage pest animals on the airport.

To assist in a coordinated approach and approve the efficacy of the program we have engaged with the Darling Downs-Moreton Rabbit Board, Livestock Health and Pest Authority and surrounding landholders. Consultation led to the Department of Transport and Main Roads managing rabbits on their adjacent block, which was thought to be a source for rabbits on airport land.

This program has been effective in considerably reducing the number and distribution of all vertebrate pests across the airfield.

### Airport Expansion Project Environmental Impact Statement

Ecosure conducted an aquatic ecology assessment as part of the Environmental Impact Statement for Phase 1 of our client's runway and terminal upgrade airport expansion project.

The project involved the assessment of environmental values associated with freshwater ecosystems on the Airport site. This included a description of aquatic ecological values, desktop investigations and collation of existing information relating to the ecological values of the sites waterways, baseline field surveys of aquatic ecosystems (physical condition, aquatic flora, macroinvertebrates, fish, sediment quality, physico-chemical surface water quality), an impact assessment for Phase 1 of the airport expansion, derivation of impact mitigation measures, and preparation of EMP components relevant to protecting aquatic ecological values at the airport site.

Ecosure is currently in process of being commissioned to revise the EIS report based on an updated project footprint.



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