



RURAL PLANNING SERVICES

AK consultants (AKC) provide technical reporting for most planning requirements for development in rural areas. Our consultants have a background in bushfire risk assessment, flora and fauna surveys, agriculture, forest practices, effluent reuse, farm business management, soils, dams and water. This one-stop-shop approach has the potential to provide efficiencies in delivery and significant savings to our clients.

Our reports consider the potential conflicts between the various factors and provide a consistent and integrated approach to planning. We work closely with DPIW and Municipal Planners to ensure our assessments meet the relevant State assessment requirements and Municipal Planning Scheme requirements.

Bushfire Assessment

AKC are accredited Bushfire Hazard Assessors and can undertake bushfire planning and assessments for subdivisions and building construction in bushfire prone areas to meet the requirements of the Building Code of Australia and Bushfire Codes.

Land Capability Assessment

AKC has over 15 years experience in assessing Land Capability in Tasmania for developers, landholders, Councils and Property Management Plans. We follow State Government guidelines, planning scheme requirements and our own methodology. (Ask to see our protocol for more information). Each assessment is done thoroughly so that it meets the requirements of a Planning Commission hearing or tribunal should the need arise. We have attended a number of Planning Commission hearings and tribunals on behalf of clients and are quite familiar with the procedures required under such circumstances.

Agricultural Reports

AKC can provide comprehensive Agricultural Reports to enable Councils to consider the impacts of a proposed development and whether the proposal will meet the Planning Scheme requirements and those of the State Policy on the *Protection of Agricultural Land, 2009* (PAL Policy). This includes consideration of current and potential agricultural productivity (including determination of income potential and cost allocation, if required), Land Capability and water resources and the potential for the development to constrain adjacent agricultural use.

Natural Values Reports

AKC can undertake surveys for flora and fauna and vegetation with the level of detail provided tailored to suit the requirements of the client. We provide advice on management requirements, development applications for irrigation dams, and mining leases, impacts and offsets, and rehabilitation and restoration works. We also have expertise in freshwater crayfish and burrowing crayfish assessments including relocation for freshwater crayfish.



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Municipal Planning advice

AKC has a wealth of experience in planning within the Rural Zone and can provide advice to planners, developers, Councils and Regional bodies on applying the implications of the PAL Policy in Tasmania. This includes expert witness reports and attendance at hearings and mediation sessions and conducting specialised studies designed to address specific concerns.

Astrid Ketelaar,
B. Land Man,
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Natural Resource
Management Consultant
0407 872 743



Astrid has been a natural resource management specialist since 1999 and has a background as a Technical Forester with over 20 years experience in Land Management.

Samantha Gadsby,
BSc, M. Env Man
Natural Resource
Management Consultant
0400 143 772



Samantha has been involved in several projects including climate change adaptation research, site management plans and on ground site assessment, monitoring and mapping.

Michael Tempest, B
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Natural Resource
Management Consultant
0467 452 115



Michael is currently involved with projects relating to land use planning and environmental assessment and monitoring, including effluent reuse.