

SW-217 (FY2019)
BABCOCK RANCH PRESERVE
INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT
COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORT

Final Report to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Contract No.: 10109

Task Assignment No.: FN-017

20 JUNE 2019

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INVASIVE PLANT TREATMENT COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORT

TA#: FN-017 FY 2019 Contractor Walker Exotics & Tree Eradication
PCL Name BABCOCK RANCH PRESERVE Managing Agency/County FFS/Charlotte
Site Location Punta Gorda, FL Inspected By DS, RG, CA

ACTIVE PHASE Inspection Date Photographs Taken? Y/N
Personnel on site: # Supervisor(s) FDACS Lic(s) # Laborers
Equipment on site (# & list)
Herbicide(s) in use per TA? Y/N PPE per label? Y/N
Method(s) Per TA? Y/N
(Aerial, Basal, Broadcast, CS, Foliar, Hand Pull, Hack, Mech., Lacing)
Target Species Per TA? Y/N

POST-TREATMENT PHASE Inspection Date 06/12/19 Photos Taken? Y/N Y Acres Inspected 50
Days since project completion ~80 Estimated % control of target species in inspection >95
Vegetation disposal per TA? Y/N Y Can project be rotated, skipped Y/N Y* Entire TA project area treated? Y/N Y
% Inspection area not treated:
none

Describe non-target species damage (if any) damage to palmettos (see photos)
Describe regrowth of native/exotic species (if any) see attached
Is re-treatment needed? Y/N N Has re-treatment been scheduled? Y/N Has re-treatment been conducted? Y/N

MAINTENANCE PHASE Inspection Date Photographs Taken? Y/N
Initial treatment completion date # Days since treatment/re-treatment completed
Describe maintenance activity by manager since project completion (if any)
Describe regrowth of native/exotic species (if any)
If Herbicide Bank project, has manager submitted Herbicide Use Report? Y/N

COMMENTS

Site is progressing towards desired conditions with excellent control overall based on our observations. Initial treatments in Dogleg 2 were excellent. Unit 7 is well under control. Unit 8 had the most frequent occurrences of resprouting LYGMIC. *Consider not rotating unit 8.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

OVERALL FINDINGS

We traversed representative transects searching for ten species which were targeted for treatment within Units 7, 8, and Dogleg 2. Four species were observed during the compliance inspection (summarized below). The overall average control according to our observations was 92% (our estimate of control ranges from 88-96% based on $2 \pm$ standard errors). The actual average percent control very likely lies somewhere within error range of the acceptable control threshold (>95%) for a passing inspection.

Lygodium microphyllum

- Old world climbing fern was the most frequently encountered target with 131 occurrences; the species accounted for 68% of all points and weighed heavily on the overall average.
- Treatment was thorough, with only 15 of 131 (11%) occurrences which were not controlled (<95% reduction).

Melaleuca quinquenervia

- Melaleuca was the second most frequently encountered target with 27 occurrences
- 21 of 27 points were controlled (72%). Melaleuca had the most missed plants (28%) in the observed treatment area. However, all of the missed plants were small saplings.

Brazilian pepper

- Brazilian pepper was the third most frequently encountered target with only 19 occurrences.
- Nine of 14 occurrences were completely controlled. Plants not controlled were generally small (<3 ft) or were missed stems from treated plants.

Imperata cylindrica

- We found thirteen occurrences of cogon grass; it was the least encountered target species.
- Only one of 13 occurrences did not achieve complete control.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Based on the above, FNAI does not recommend retreatment this fiscal year.**

PHOTOS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SITE

Old World Climbing Fern



Top left: Resprouting due to incomplete poodle cut. *Top right and bottom right:* Examples of good control typical of the project. *Bottom left:* treatment across the top of palmettos, note collateral damage to palmetto.

Melaleuca quinquenervia



Top left: Missed melaleuca. Top Right: Resprouting tree. Bottom: Successful treatments

Brazilian Pepper



Top Left: Large pepper re-sprouting. *Top Right:* Large missed pepper
Bottom: Large area in Dogleg 2 of excellent treatment

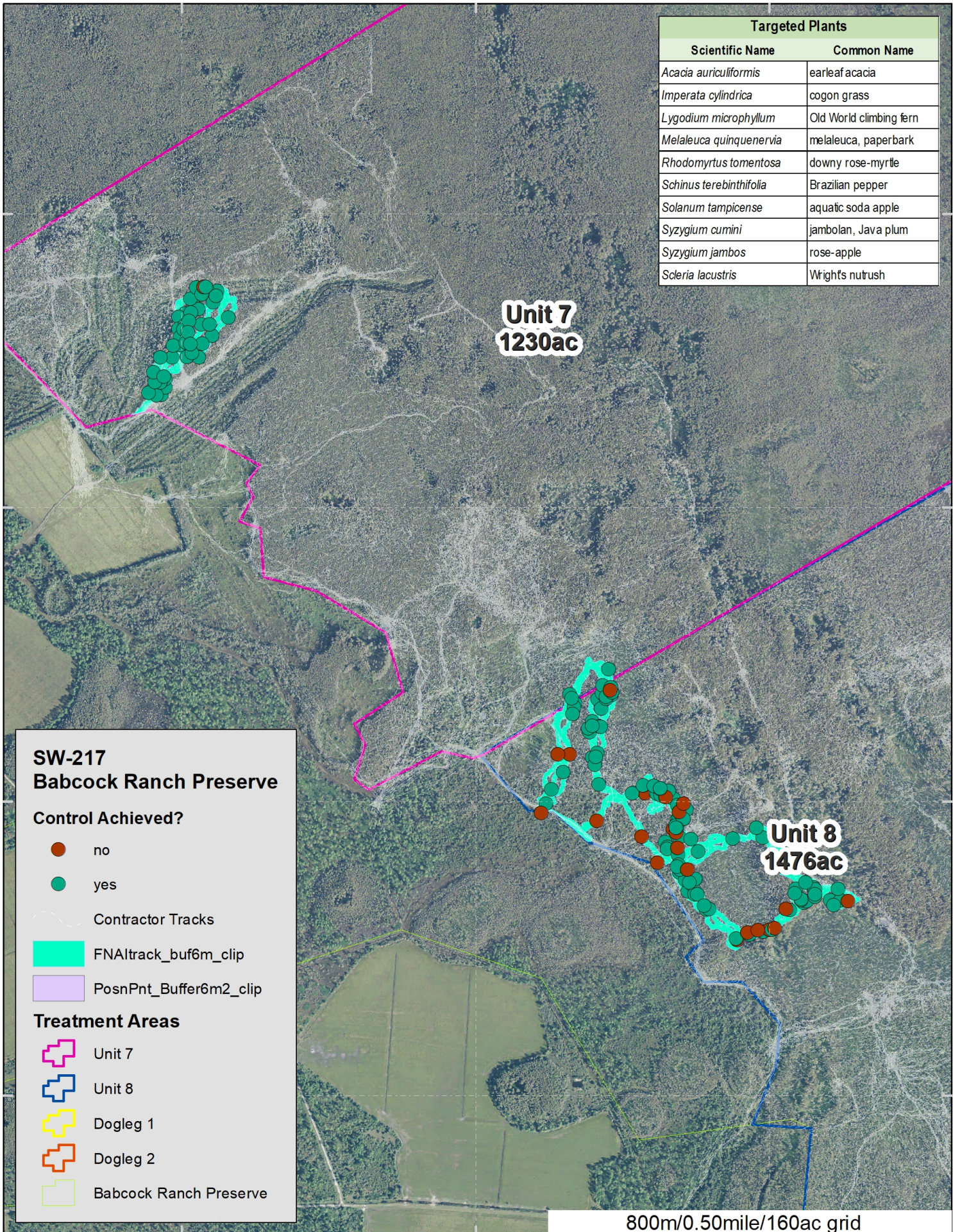
Cogon Grass



All: Examples of excellent control of cogon.

MAPS

Targeted Plants	
Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	earleaf acacia
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>	cogon grass
<i>Lygodium microphyllum</i>	Old World climbing fern
<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	melaleuca, paperbark
<i>Rhodomyrtus tomentosa</i>	downy rose-myrtle
<i>Schinus terebinthifolia</i>	Brazilian pepper
<i>Solanum tampicense</i>	aquatic soda apple
<i>Syzygium cumini</i>	jambolan, Java plum
<i>Syzygium jambos</i>	rose-apple
<i>Scleria lacustris</i>	Wright's nutrush



**SW-217
Babcock Ranch Preserve**

Control Achieved?

- no
- yes

Contractor Tracks

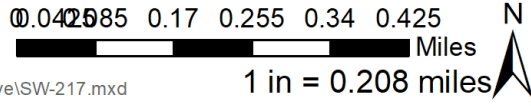
- FNAItrack_buf6m_clip
- PosnPnt_Buffer6m2_clip

Treatment Areas

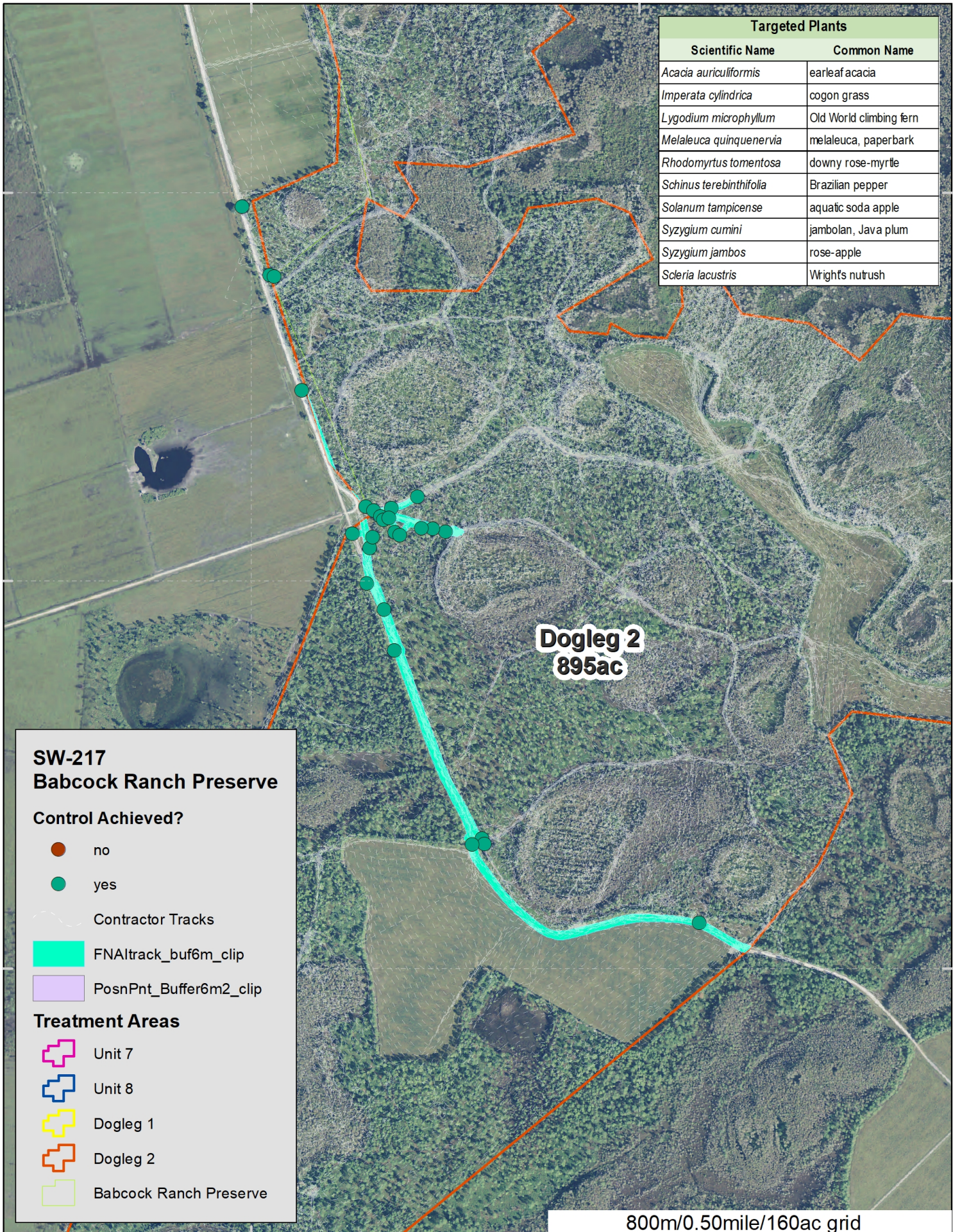
- + Unit 7
- + Unit 8
- + Dogleg 1
- + Dogleg 2
- + Babcock Ranch Preserve

800m/0.50mile/160ac grid

SW-217 Compliance Inspection 11 June 2019 Unit 7 and 8
Babcock Ranch Preserve: 4483 acres



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<i>Acacia auriculliformis</i>	earleaf acacia
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>	cogon grass
<i>Lygodium microphyllum</i>	Old World climbing fern
<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	melaleuca, paperbark
<i>Rhodomyrtus tomentosa</i>	downy rose-myrtle
<i>Schinus terebinthifolia</i>	Brazilian pepper
<i>Solanum tampicense</i>	aquatic soda apple
<i>Syzygium cumini</i>	jambolan, Java plum
<i>Syzygium jambos</i>	rose-apple
<i>Scleria lacustris</i>	Wrights nutrush



**SW-217
Babcock Ranch Preserve**

Control Achieved?

- no
- yes

Contractor Tracks

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Treatment Areas

- + Unit 7
- + Unit 8
- + Dogleg 1
- + Dogleg 2
- + Babcock Ranch Preserve

**Dogleg 2
895ac**

800m/0.50mile/160ac grid

