

ADELAIDE
EQUESTRIAN
FESTIVAL
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Victoria Park Water Jump Project

The Adelaide Equestrian Festival proposes the reforming of a shallow depression within Victoria Park to be utilised as a natural water jump for its annual event held in April.

Utilising the existing undulating ground, the proposal seeks to subtly modify the topography in a non-invasive manner, ensuring the depression is no more visually apparent than the current surrounds while maintaining the integrity and visual character of the parklands.



A VISION FOR GROWTH

The Adelaide Equestrian Festival (AEF) stands as one of South Australia's most distinctive annual sporting events, recognised nationally and internationally as a premier equestrian competition and a major driver of tourism and economic activity in the state.

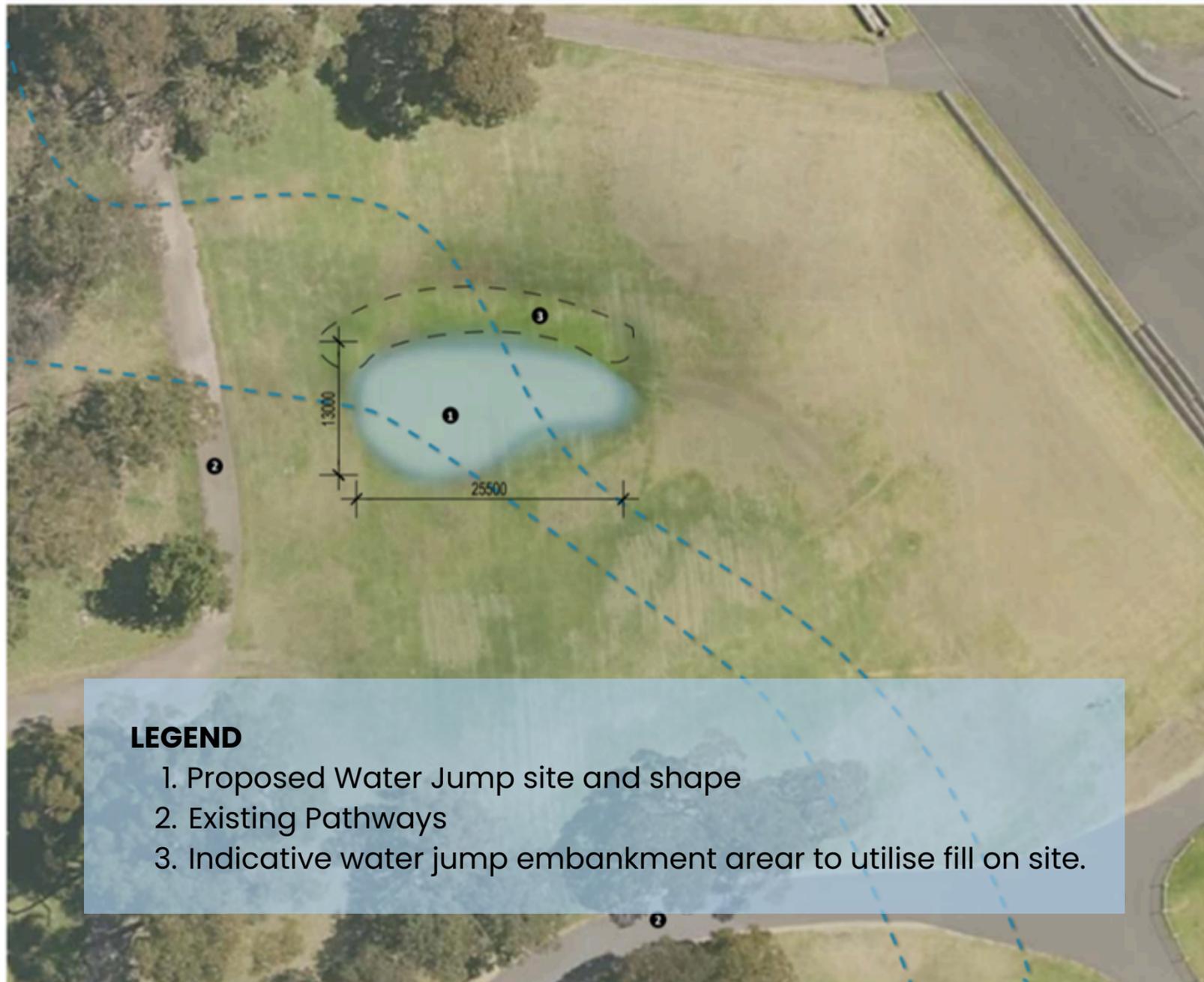
As the only **CCI5*** (5 Star) event in the **Southern Hemisphere** — and one of only seven globally alongside events in the UK, USA, Germany, and France— the Festival delivers **world-class sport**, culture, and entertainment right in the heart of Adelaide.

In 2025, the Festival welcomed over **32,000 attendees** and is now setting its sights on an ambitious yet achievable goal of reaching **50,000 attendees by 2029.**

Plans to expand the spectator footprint across **Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi** are supported by a strategic vision to develop **water jump** designed within the natural setting of the landscape.

This initiative will enable us to strengthen the Festival's **commercial appeal** and increase premium hospitality offerings.





KEY CONCEPT CONSIDERATIONS

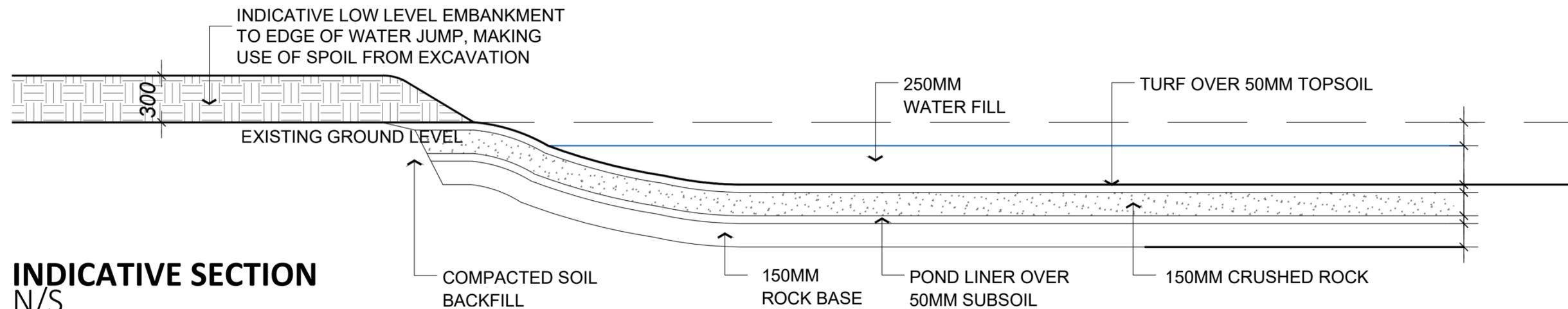
- Excavated materials will be reused on site to support and shape the profile of the depression;
- The depression will be turfed and require mowing per existing horticulture schedules;
- Measured at a maximum depth of 250mm within the depression;
- An existing inlet service is present but not identified on DBYD reports; however, it is conveniently located to allow filling via a temporary overland pipe;
- The depression can be filled with non-potable water;
- **Euca Engineering** has been engaged to design an appropriate outlet and drainage solution, with priority given to preventing any standing water outside of the event period;
- The Adelaide Equestrian Festival commits to an ongoing maintenance schedule for the drainage system to ensure it remains fully functional.



MATERIALS IN ORDER OF APPLICATION

- 150mm rock base
- 50mm subsoil
- pond liner
- 150mm crushed rock
- 50mm topsoil
- turf

IMAGE OF THE 'ICE POND' AT CHATSWORTH, UK. THESE IMAGES SHOW THE JUMP OUT OF COMPETITION. WHEN NOT IN USE, THE WATER JUMP PRESENTS AS A TURFED DEPRESSION IN THE LANDSCAPE, HERE RECENTLY TOP DRESSED IMMEDIATELY POST COMPETITION.



PROPOSED PROJECT SITE



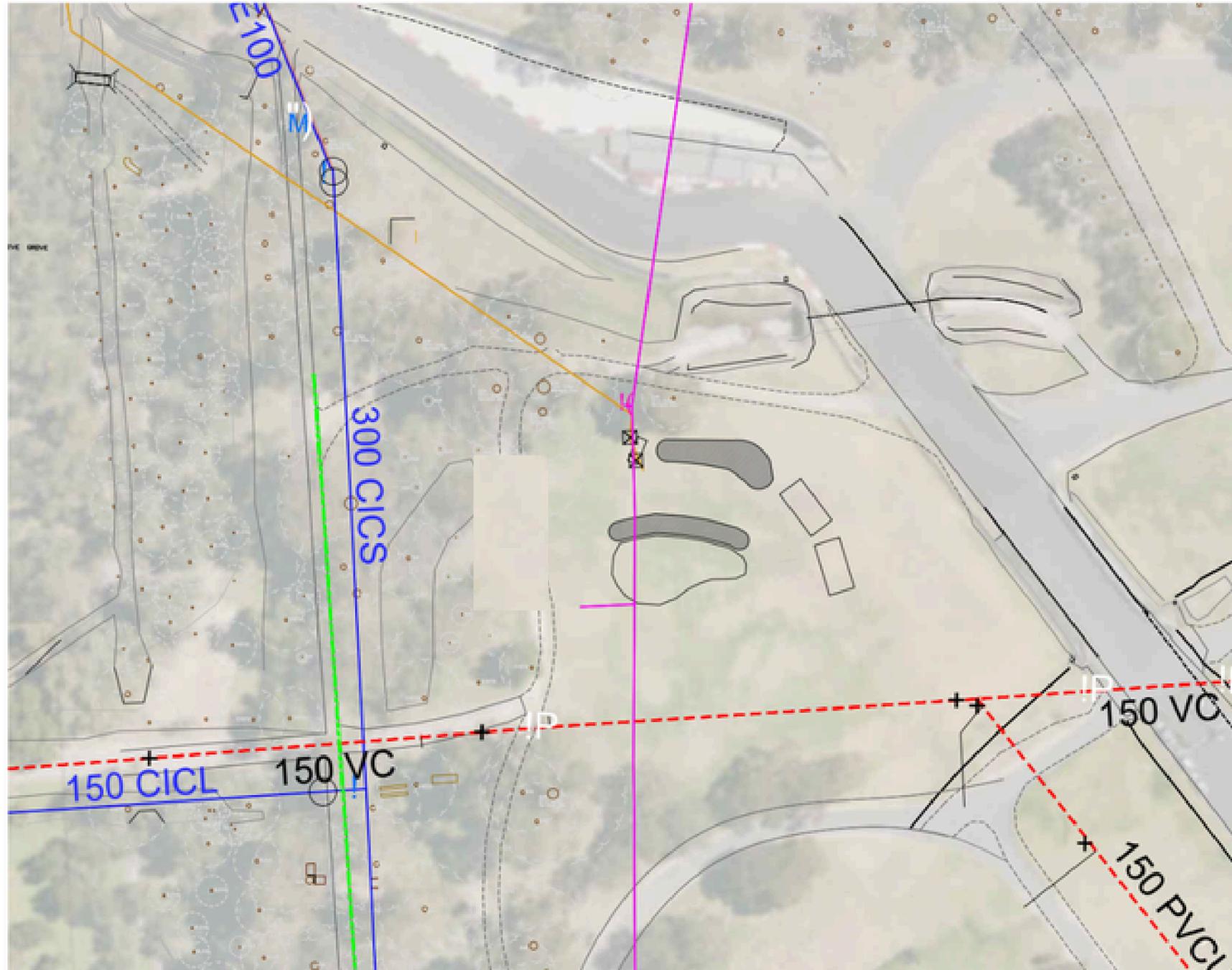
EXISTING CONDITIONS

- The overall goal is to create a depression that would be unnoticed to park users;
- The existing site is characterised by undulating ground conditions, resulting in a very uneven surface;
- The proposed works would subtly reprofile the space to create a more even and consistent area;
- We believe this will improve overall functionality while retaining the natural character of the landscape.

NON INVASIVE WATER EFFORTS



DBYD SERVICE PLAN



LEGEND

- RECYCLED WATER RETICULATION
- - - WASTEWATER RETICULATION
- WATER RETICULATION
- OPTUS UNDERGROUND OF CABLE
- OPTUS MANHOLE / PIT
- - - LIGHT COLUMNS

ISSUE	COMMENTS	DATE
P1	ISSUED FOR REVIEW	28.11.2025

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SKETCH

PROPOSED
NEW WATER JUMP

VICTORIA PARK
ADELAIDE, SA, 5000

FOR
ADELAIDE 30E

LOCATION PLAN

DATE	ISSUE NO.	SCALE
NOV 2025	P1	1:200

Do not scale off drawings, check all dimensions on site. Contractor to verify all dimensions and levels prior to commencing the works. Report all discrepancies to the Architect for direction.

SERVICES PLAN
SCALE 1:500



EXPERT TESTIMONIAL

As the only urban-based 5-STAR horse trials in the world—and the only one hosted in the Southern Hemisphere—the Adelaide Equestrian Festival stands out as truly unique. However, one of the greatest ongoing challenges is the absence of a second water jump on the Cross Country course—a feature standard at all other 5-star events. This limitation has affected the technical progression of the course and restricted the expansion of the spectator footprint.

Currently, there is a natural concentration of spectators around Rymill Lake, underscoring the need for a second, strategically placed water feature to improve crowd distribution and elevate the viewing experience across the three parklands. This second water feature is also key to ensuring the Festival achieves the right balance in its plans to grow toward 50,000 attendances — offering greater movement and engagement opportunities for visitors.

Mike Etherington-Smith
FEI International Course Designer
Sydney 2000, Beijing 2008
Course Advisor, Los Angeles 2028



CONCLUSION

The Adelaide Equestrian Festival has earmarked \$40,000 towards this special project for the 2025/2026 financial year. Should additional funds be required, we will budget for these in the following period, we also have an extensive commercial partner and philanthropic network that have indicated a desire to support the project.

Project Delivery

The project would take no more than 2 weeks to deliver, with works proposed to be completed prior to SAMSB 2026 bump in.

Remediation

The Adelaide Equestrian Festival will be responsible for all necessary remediation of the proposed site throughout project delivery and on an ongoing basis, ensuring that the space is properly restored, maintained, and managed to support healthy turf establishment.

Kirsty Withers

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