

Daniel Panickar

Role: Senior Bushfire/Environmental Consultant, Eco Logical Australia

Age: 29

Qualifications: Bachelor of Science (Environmental Biology) (Honours) Curtin University of Technology

Brief Biography: My career as an environmental and bushfire consultant in the development industry has resulted from my desire to ensure that land development projects and environmental values can be combined to provide a sustainable future for development and the environment throughout Western Australia. My skill set in bushfire management, ecology and environmental approvals enables me to work with multidisciplinary teams and provide comprehensive environmental and planning advice to land developers in sectors which are proving to be a challenge for the development industry on a regular basis. I enjoy working across a highly diverse range of projects spanning the entire State and facilitating the growth of my junior staff. My interests outside of work involve morning fitness sessions and surfing my local break at City Beach.



Q: What challenges do you see the property industry facing in the next 5 years?

A: I believe the property industry will face increased complexity in gaining approval to develop sites over the next few years. Environmental and Bushfire legislation/policy in particular are constantly in a state of flux which presents uncertainty and can lead to delays in development if not managed well from project inception. These issues which the property industry faces now are considerably more complex than they were even 10 years ago, and the signs point towards this trend continuing in the foreseeable future. Comprehensive risk management advice and intelligent development design continue to be the most effective way to manage these issues to ensure successful project delivery.

Q: Within the urban development industry what is the most significant project that you have worked on/been part of within your career to date?

A: The Hales is a Satterley Property Group residential development project located in the suburb of Forrestfield, in the Shire of Kalamunda. I was the environmental project manager for the development with an aim to ensure that the development project meets the requirements of all relevant environmental legislation whilst meeting project timeframes and yield objectives. I was responsible for the undertaking and coordination of all environmental surveys within the development site including; ecological and bushfire assessments, groundwater monitoring and contaminated sites investigations. I have also been responsible for ensuring that all investigations were undertaken within approved budgets. All of the assessments were carried out successfully and have allowed the project team to proceed with the development within budget and schedule. My role as project manager saw me involved in the provision of strategic advice to the project team and the preparation of all required environmental approvals documentation and planning support. This includes the provision of advice pertaining to the construction of natural areas within the development site to ensure that environmental and aesthetic values can be maintained while minimising the bushfire risk to surrounding property assets and thereby maximising lot yield.

Q: Within the urban development industry what influence does your role have on the future of our state (Building design, new estates, etc.)?

A: My role provides me with the opportunity to enhance natural values within new estates and infill developments and reduce bushfire risk. I pride myself on being able to design active Public Open Space areas which incorporate environmental and aesthetic values while ensuring that life and property assets are separated from bushfire risk; which is a complex, but highly important consideration for development.