Riverglade Reserve Plan of Management

Hunter's Hill Council







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Template 2.8.1

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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
BC Act	Biodiversity Conservation Act
CAG	Community Advisory Group
САМВА	China Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
CLM Act	Crowns Lands Management Act
CZMP	Coastal Zone Management Plan
DCP	Development Control Plan
DPI - Water	NSW Department of Primary Industries – Water
DPIE	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
ELA	Eco Logical Australia
EP&A Act	NSW Environment Planning and Assessment Act 1979
EPBC Act	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
ESD	Ecologically Sustainable Development
EVRAP	Estuary Vegetation Rehabilitation Action Plan
FERR	Friends of the Environment Riverglade Reserve
FM Act	Fisheries Management Act 1995
ННС	Hunter's Hill Council
JAMBA	Japan Australia Migratory Bird Agreement
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LG Act	Local Government Act 1993
LGA	Local Government Area
NSROC	North Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils
OEH	NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
POEO Act	Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997

Abbreviation	Description			
PoM/ PoMs	Plan of Management/ Plans of Management			
PRCG	Parramatta River Catchment Group			
ROKAMBA	Republic of Korea Australia Migratory Bird Agreement			
SEPPs	State Environment Planning Policies			
SMCMA	Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority			
SREP	Sydney Regional Environmental Plan			
TEC	Threatened Ecological Community			
WASIP	Waste and Sustainability Improvement Plan			

Executive Summary

Eco Logical Australia (ELA) was engaged by Hunter's Hill Council to review and update the Plan of Management (PoM) for Riverglade Reserve in accordance with the *Crown Lands Management Act 2016*. Riverglade Reserve PoM was identified as a strategic objective action as part of the Hunter's Hill Community Strategic Plan 2018-2028. ELA partnered with Corkery Consulting in this project.

Riverglade Reserve is a 13-hectare park in Hunter's Hill, situated along the lower reaches of the Parramatta River. The Park is predominantly a Crown Reserve (No. 100263) managed by Hunter's Hill Council (HHC) with some community land owned by Hunter's Hill Council.

The Riverglade PoM provides a framework to guide the management and future use of the reserve for the next ten years. The PoM has been prepared following detailed assessment of the relative legislative documentation, comprehensive analysis of the site conditions and user patterns, and thorough stakeholder and community consultation. Riverglade Reserve comprises bushland, including vegetation of state conservation significance, and a range of recreational facilities.

Riverglade Reserve is a highly valued recreational space and contains significant environmental and heritage areas. Although a multiuse area, the most popular activities identified are dog walking and physical activity, such as walking/jogging and organised sport.

This PoM complies the requirements for preparation of plans of management for community land pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Crown Lands Management Act 1993*, as well as the *Hunters Hill Local Environmental Plan* (HHLEP) 2012. The PoM includes objectives, describes current uses and conditions, and details proposed actions and management strategies for the site and replaces the 2013 PoM.

This new draft plan proposes a series of key changes to the park to facilitate user access, site facilities, aid in site interpretation and ultimately improve user enjoyment of this unique environment. Implementation of this Plan of Management will ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of this significant natural and cultural (i.e. Aboriginal and European) heritage site, whilst providing for the community's recreation, social and educational needs within the park.

1. Introduction

1.1 Riverglade Reserve

Hunter's Hill Council is the Crown Land Manager of Riverglade Reserve, Huntleys Cove. This plan of management reviews and updates the plan of management previously adopted for the reserve in 2013; and sets out the reserve's values, issues and future management of Riverglade Reserve in Hunter's Hill.

Riverglade Reserve covers approximately 13 hectares, bordered by Manning Road in the west, Tarban Creek to the north and residential housing in the north and south. The reserve contains high value environmental and heritage features and is a highly valued recreational space. Riverglade Reserve is popular for dog walking, active recreation, leisure and facilitates organised sporting events.



Riverglade Reserve is significant:

- from a biodiversity and natural heritage conservation perspective, providing habitat for threatened and endangered species, threatened ecological communities, regionally significant flora and a range of fauna species, bushland, wetlands, catchment management and habitat linkages for small birds
- from a cultural heritage conservation perspective, The Priory is listed on the NSW Heritage Register and the HHLEP, with the whole reserve making up the curtilage to the Priory. The reserve also contains a number of aboriginal heritage sites, some of which are significant
- as the focus of on-going weed control and bush regeneration measures
- providing two sports fields
- due to heavy use by people enjoying casual or independent leisure and recreation activities, including nature-based recreation uses of the bushland
- offering a range of pathways, boardwalks, scattered park furniture, seawall, carparking and other facilities
- as a popular venue for use by dog walkers, families, walkers and cyclists
- as an important scenic and visual element for both the local residences as well as views to and from the area
- providing connectivity to the Parramatta River
- performing valuable stormwater management and water quality functions.

1.2 Scope of a Plan of Management

A Plan of Management establishes the framework and guidance for the future management of a public reserve under Council management and can apply to reserves that include a park, sportsground or natural area; or a combination of elements. It sets out management objectives and performance targets for such land that has been classified as community land, as well as providing management and use direction and actions, and how the plan's achievements will be measured.

They are important documents, prepared in consultation with the community, and act as an agreement between a Council and the community as to how a place is to be managed and its values protected. Current uses and activities are identified and future uses and activities, including leases and licences, are approved by a Plan of Management.

Both the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* and the *Local Government Act 1993* include provisions regarding the preparation of plans of management for lands under a Council's management, how a Plan of Management is to be prepared (including community engagement activities), and what must be included in a Plan. From 1 July 2018 the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* requires local councils that are appointed to manage a dedicated or reserved area of Crown land (as is the case for Riverglade Reserve), as if it were public land under the *Local Government Act 1993* – including applying the plans of management requirements of this Act.

1.3 Land Covered Under this Plan of Management

This Plan of Management covers NSW Crown Reserve 100263 for Public Recreation that includes Lots 1 & 2, DP 823988, and Lots 3 & 4 DP 1128452 which are owned by Council, shown in Figure 1. Lot 2 was gazetted for Public Recreation in 1996 under Section 87 of the *Crown Lands (CL) Act 1989* with Hunter's Hill Council appointed as Manager of the Reserve Trust. Lot 1 was gazetted for Public Recreation – added in 2007 under Section 88 of the CL Act.

1.3.1 Native Title Manager Advice

Advice has been received from Native Title Manager – Lands Advisory Services Pty Ltd that under the *Commonwealth Native Title Act 1993*:

- there is no current Native Title Claim affecting the land
- no determination of native title has yet been made, and
- no Indigenous Land Use Agreement has been registered affecting the Reserve R100263

Native title may have been extinguished over parts of the reserve due to historic land grants, appropriations, road openings and closures and potentially through public works

Native title managers advice on the proposed plan of management, is required under Section 8.7 of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*, to attest that the applicable provisions of native title legislation have been complied with. This is especially important where council is considering utilising the land for a purpose different to Public Recreation.



Figure 1: Riverglade Reserve land parcels, land to which this Plan applies

1.4 Scope of the Plan of Management

Eco Logical Australia (ELA) was engaged by Hunter's Hill Council (Council) to review and update the Plan of Management (PoM) for Riverglade Reserve in accordance with the *Crown Lands Management Act* 2016 (CLM Act). ELA partnered with Corkery Consulting for this project. Under this new scheme, Councils manage Crown reserves for which Council is reserve trustee under the *Local Government Act* 1993 (LG Act) whilst ownership remains with the State Government, with PoMs to be prepared under the LG Act by 2021.

A PoM for Riverglade Reserve was adopted by Hunter's Hill Council in 2013. The current PoM reviews and updates the 2013 PoM to comply with this requirement.

1.5 Plan Preparation Process

The PoM preparation process included the following steps:

- Background literature review with Council staff of the previous plan of management, literature, legislation policy and strategic plans that relate to the reserve and the future recreational needs and demands
- Detailed on-ground assessment of the site, use of facilities and condition
- Preparation of a Community Consultation Plan
- Community consultation with Community Advisory Group with one representative from each group (except where shown in brackets):
 - Hunter's Hill Trust
 - The Priory restaurant/ café operator
 - Friends of the Environment Riverglade Reserve
 - o All Saints Hunters Hill Football Club
 - St Joseph's College
 - o Huntleys Cove Community Residents Group
 - o Bushland Management Advisory Committee Representatives (two representatives)
 - Elected Councillors (three members)
 - o Council's Bushland Coordinator
- In-park and online surveys
- Stakeholder consultation with NSW Government Agencies
- Two workshops with the Community Advisory Group, one with key Council staff and one with a community focus group
- Preparation of an issues paper summarising the survey and consultation findings
- Preparation of a Landscape Concept Plan including park upgrade options and consideration of operational resources
- Exhibition of the draft Plan of Management including:
 - Pop-up in Riverglade Reserve
 - o Online survey and interactive community map
 - \circ $\;$ Public hearing into the proposed categorisation of Riverglade Reserve
- Native Title Manager advice, and

• Crown Lands input.

1.5.1 Community Input into Plans of Management

The Local Government Act, 1993 requires that all Plans of Management be placed on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days. It also states that a minimum period of 42 days after the draft is placed on public exhibition is allowed during which written submissions may be made to Council (s. 38). These legislative requirements are undertaken concurrently, whereby the draft is in effect placed on public exhibition for 42 days in total which includes the period for written submissions. By writing a submission, members of the community are given the opportunity to participate in the future direction of management of the Council's Open Space.

Submissions allow the community (including residents, interest groups and Government agencies), to express opinions, provide information and suggest alternatives to the proposed management strategies for community open space within Riverglade Reserve. On closure of the period of public comment, all submissions are considered, and relevant amendments are made to the draft Plans of Management as required.

After consideration of all submissions received, the elected Council may decide to amend the draft plan of management or adopt it without amendment. If Council decides to amend the draft plan, it must publicly exhibit the amendments, as above, until such time as the draft can be adopted without further amendment (s. 40).

1.5.2 Public Hearing

The Local Government Amendment (Community Land Management) Act, 1998 requires that a public hearing be held in respect of a proposed Plan of Management if the proposed Plan would have the effect of categorising or recategorising the community land (s. 40A).

In this case, a Public Hearing is to be held by an independent person, because the Riverglade Reserve proposes to categorise parts of the land as 'park, 'general community use' and 'natural area', with the natural area subcategorised as 'bushland', 'watercourse' and 'wetland'. This is because the previous plan of management did not categorise the land.

The Public Hearing was held on Tuesday 1 December 2020. The Public Hearing Report recommended:

Support the proposed recategorisation of Crown land and categorisation of community land in the Draft Plan of Management for Riverglade Reserve (Eco Logical Australia, October 2020), because there is no compelling reason to change the proposed recategorisations and categorisations.

2. Description of Riverglade Reserve

2.1 Location

Riverglade Reserve is located in the suburb of Huntleys Cove within Hunter's Hill LGA. Nearby suburbs include Gladesville, Hunters Hill and Henley. The reserve, shown in Figure 2, covers approximately 13 hectares and is bordered by Manning Road in the west, Tarban Creek to the north west and residential housing in the north and south.

The reserve contains high value environmental and heritage features and is a highly valued recreational space. Riverglade Reserve is surrounded by residential properties and this proximity is reflected in the high usage by local residents particularly for dog walking.

2.2 Natural Environment

2.2.1 Description and Zoning

Riverglade Reserve is an important ecological environment and public open space surrounded by a highly urbanised area. The reserve provides a park and natural areas including bushland, wetland and watercourse areas.

2.2.2 Landform, Soils and Drainage

Riverglade Reserve is a sloped site falling generally from west to east. It has high points of approximately 10 m above sea level at the southern and northern parts of the reserve, falling to the sea wall and sea level where Tarban Creek enters Tarban Bay.

The soil landscape within the upper western parts of the reserve is Lucas Heights, a residual landscape which forms gently undulating crests and ridges on plateau surfaces of the Mittagong formation. This is characterised by alternating bands of shale and fine-grained sandstones derived from Ashfield Shale and Hawkesbury Sandstone. The soil landscape within the upper parts of the eastern part of the reserve is Gymea, an erosional landscape which forms undulating to rolling rises and low hills on Hawkesbury Sandstone giving rise to loose, quartz sandy loam or earthy sands. The historic land use has caused much disturbance to the southern, central and eastern parts of the reserve with landfill as part of the waste from Gladesville Hospital occupying low-lying areas.

Acid sulfate soils are likely to be found below the natural ground surface in low lying parts of the reserve being mapped as Class 2 Acid Sulfate Soils in the HHLEP 2012. Acid sulfate soils are natural sediments that contain iron sulphides that are common along the NSW coast. When disturbed, or exposed to air, these soils can release acid, damaging built structures and harming or killing animals and plants. Left undisturbed, acid sulfate soils do not present any risk; but when they are exposed to air, the iron sulfides they contain react with oxygen to create sulfuric acid. The acid makes metals in the soil, such as iron and aluminium, more soluble. These metals can be released in toxic amounts.

Tarban Creek forms the major drainage line flowing in a west to east direction into Tarban Bay and to the Parramatta River estuary. The creek receives water from several mapped sub-catchments and there are four constructed wetlands, four stormwater quality improvement devices, a weir and seawall within the reserve (Hunters Hill Stormwater Management Plan 2011).



Figure **2**: Riverglade Reserve

2.2.3 Vegetation Communities and Native Flora

Bushland within the reserve covers approximately 4.67 ha and contains vegetation communities of Coastal Sandstone Foreshore Forest, Revegetated Low Woodland, Revegetated Open Forest, Revegetated Forest, Constructed Wetland, Exotic Closed Forest and Exotic Low Closed Forest, shown in Figure 3. Due to the limited extent of the Coastal Sandstone Foreshore Forest within the Hunter's Hill LGA the community is considered locally threatened.

Wetlands cover 0.39 ha within the reserve and include coastal freshwater swamp forest and estuarine mangrove forest. Coastal Freshwater Swamp Forest is a component of Sydney Freshwater Wetlands in the Sydney Basin Bioregion and is listed as an Endangered Ecological Community under the *NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. Tarban Creek flows southeast through the reserve into the Parramatta River and provides habitat for fish. The estuarine mangrove forest (and saltmarsh that adjoins the reserve) form important food, shelter, breeding grounds and nurseries for fish. Mangrove forests are a key fish habitat that is protected under the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* and are important for maintaining the ecological condition and health of estuarine ecosystems. Council has been active in the rehabilitation of saltmarsh and mangroves along Tarban Creek.

The 2010 Estuary Vegetation Rehabilitation Action Plan for Riverglade Reserve and Tarban Creek recorded 149 native flora species and 149 exotic species. Riverglade Reserve contains two regionally significant plants, *Pellaea paradoxa* (Stony Rise Sickle-Fern) and *Cassinia trinerva* (Three-veined Cassinia) that are regionally and locally uncommon.

2.2.3.1 Threats to Native Vegetation Communities

Weeds and weed proliferation are one of the main threats to the biodiversity in Riverglade Reserve. The EVRAP report identified weeds species in Riverglade Reserve including 6 weeds of national significance (WONS), 4 state priority weeds, 2 regional priority weeds and 13 other weeds of concern, in accordance with the Greater Sydney Regional Weed Strategic Management Plan 2017-2022, as shown in Table 1.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Priority	WONS
Asparagus Fern	Asparagus aethiopicus	State	WONS
Balloon Vine	Cardiospermum grandiflorum	Other	
Blackberry	Rubus fruticosus	State	WONS
Bamboo/Rhizomatous bamboo	Phyllostachys spp.	Other	
Boneseed	Chysanthemoides monilifera ssp Molinifera	. State	WONS
Giant Reed	Arundo donax	Regional	
Green cestrum	Cestrum parqui	Regional	
Lantana	Lantana camara	State	WONS
Large Leaved Privet	Ligustrum lucidum	Other	
Small Leaved Privet	Ligustrum sinense	Other	
Madeira Vine	Anredera cordifolia	State	WONS

Table 1: Weeds identified in Riverglade Reserve

Common Name	Scientific Name	Priority	WONS
Morning Glory (coastal)	Ipomoea cairica	Other	
Morning Glory	Ipomoea indica	Other	
Pampas grass (Cortaderia spp)	Cortaderia selloana	Other	
Weeping Willow	Salix babylonica	WONS	WONS
Ochna	Ochna serrulata	Other	
Celtis spp.	Celtis spp.	Other	
Coral tree	Erythrina × sykesii	Other	
Camphor Laurel	Cinnamomum camphora	Other	
Periwinkle	Vinca major	Other	
Pampas Lily-of-the-Valley	Salpichroa origanifolia	Other	

Other threats to native vegetation communities are outlined in Table 2.

These include:

- The lack of fire and the succession towards mesic dominated vegetation is a threat to fire adapted vegetation communities such as Coastal Sandstone Foreshore Forest
- Stormwater runoff with associated sediment, nutrients and pollutants threatens vegetation within the reserve; this also creates conditions suitable for weed infestation, requiring active management through Weed Action Programs, bushland regeneration and Bushcare
- Clearing through encroachment removes native vegetation communities and is unauthorised private take-over of public land
- Unauthorised mountain and BMX bikes create tracks in bushland results in loss of native vegetation, erosion and sedimentation and damage to trees
- Introduction of pathogens such as *Phytophthora* on bike and shoe treads and equipment, leads to death of susceptible native tree and shrub species from the resulting root rot
- Sea level rise due to climate change will flood the narrow mangroves and saltmarsh vegetation, with the inter-tidal zone moving landward however recolonization by mangroves and saltmarsh will be hampered by seawalls.



Figure 3: Mapped vegetation communities (EVRAP, 2010)

Table 2 Threats to native vegetation communities in and around Riverglade Reserve

Threats to native vegetation communities	Lack of appropriate fire regime	Dominance of mesic species	Stormwater runoff with sediments, nutrients and pollutants	Weed infestation and competition	Clearing from encroachment	Recreational usage eg. bike tracks	Dieback related to pests and diseases such as Phytophthora	Sea level rise due to climate change	Saline conditions associated with sea level rise due to climate change
Coastal Sandstone Foreshore Forest	V	V	v	V	V	v	V		
Estuarine Mangrove Forest			V	v				V	
Estuarine Saltmarsh		V	V	V				V	
Coastal Freshwater Swamp Forest			V	v			V		V

2.2.4 Native Fauna and Habitat

The diversity of vegetation assemblages within Riverglade Reserve provide habitats for a range of native fauna. The last full fauna species survey was completed in 1999, which documented 57 species of native fauna including 46 native bird species, 7 native reptile species, 3 native mammal species and 1 native frog species. An additional 6 native species are considered to be now locally extinct within the reserve. Bird surveys by Kurtis Lindsay and B Debrincat from 2009-2014 recorded 44 native bird species.

Table 3 Range of native fauna associated wit	h habitats in Riverglade Reserve
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Habitat Features	Fauna Types
Remnant bushland & Coastal Sandstone Foreshore Forest	Birds, arboreal mammals, reptiles (including the Eastern Water Skinks, Eastern Blue Tongue Lizard), insects. Hollow branches provide habitat for large sized parrots and cockatoos and microchiropteran bats
Exotic weeds around Tarban Creek	Structurally complex habitats for small birds foraging, nesting, sheltering; populations of small passerine (perching) birds; arboreal mammals (Ring-tail possums); ground mammals (Short beaked echidna, Brown Antechinus, <i>Rattus fuscipes</i>)
Camphor Laurel, Ficus & Open Forest Communities	Grey-headed Flying Fox
Open spaces & Turfed Areas	Masked Lapwing & Welcome Swallows
Constructed wetlands/Stormwater Retention	Amphibians, fish, waterbirds & invertebrates
Freshwater habitat	Eastern snake necked turtle, fresh water fish, aquatic invertebrates, frogs, turtles, microbats, waterbirds
Estuarine communities & seawalls	Macro-invertebrates, fish, eels, turtles, amphibians, coastal and wading birds, other intertidal organisms, molluscs, gastropods

Riverglade Reserve provides local habitat linkages for native fauna, in particular, populations of small passerine birds. The reserve's native fauna value is enhanced by the diversity of vegetation communities and habitats. It is known to provide habitat for seasonal altitudinal migrants such as the Eastern Yellow Robin which moves to low areas in winter, as well as other native small native bird species that have disappeared from most of urban Sydney.

The isolation of the reserve due to development and urbanisation of the surrounding areas is a major contributing factor in the decline of native fauna species. Local extinctions highlight the urgency of protecting flora and fauna species, as well as their associated habitat, and ensuring the protection and enhancement of wildlife corridors. It is important to ensure the existing diversity of native species to retain and restore diverse habitats, and the need to create additional habitat linkages for small birds.

2.2.4.1 Threatened Fauna

The reserve provides potential or known habitat for the following vulnerable species:

- Pteropus poliocephalus (Grey-headed Flying-fox) Biodiversity Conservation (BC) Act 2016 and Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999
- Haliaeetus leucogaster (White-bellied Sea-eagle) BC Act
- Ninox strenua (Powerful Owl) BC Act

• microchiropteran bats (microbats) such as *Miniopteris orianae oceanensis* (Large Bent-wing Bat), *Saccolaimus flaviventris* (Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat) and *Myotis macropus* (Southern Myotis) - BC Act.

It also provides potential habitat for EPBC Act marine and migratory species:

• *Hirundapus caudacutus* (White-throated Needletail) – China Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (CAMBA), Japan Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (JAMBA) and Republic of Korea Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (ROKAMBA).

The reserve also provides an important seasonal habitat for *Pteropus poliocephalus* (Grey-headed Flying-fox). One of the main threats to this species is loss of roosting sites, including camps. Camps play an extremely important role in the ecology of Flying-foxes, as they provide a secure daytime roosting area where social interaction of individuals occurs and many also act as maternity camps where annual breeding and rearing of young takes place. The Tarban Creek Flying Fox Camp Management Plan was adopted by Hunter's Hill Council in July 2020.

2.2.4.2 Wildlife Corridors

Wildlife corridors are an important feature for fauna movement through fragmented and discontinuous habitat in urban areas. Habitat corridors also potentially reduce threats to small fauna populations, improving opportunities for dispersal of species and genetic diversity, and colonising of new areas of habitat.

Improved habitat links can be created and enhanced within Riverglade Reserve by planting shrubs and ground covers particularly suitable for small birds.

2.2.4.3 Exotic and Feral Animal Species

Cats, dogs, foxes, black and brown rats, house mouse, house sparrow, grey whiskered bulbul, Common Myna and Common Starling have all been recorded in Riverglade Reserve. Roaming domestic dogs occasionally enter the wetland and pond areas.

2.2.4.4 Biodiversity Values Map

Riverglade Reserve contains land with high biodiversity value that is particularly sensitive to impacts from development or clearing. The biodiversity values as mapped on the Biodiversity Values Map (DPIE accessed 3 December 2019) in Riverglade Reserve are shown in Figure 4.

The Biodiversity Values Map is prepared by the DPIE under Part 7 of the BC Act, and includes land containing threatened species or TEC. Development or impact on land thus mapped is one trigger for the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme.



Figure 4: Biodiversity Values in Riverglade Reserve

2.3 Aboriginal Heritage

Beverley Sherry (In Hunter's Hill: Australia's Oldest Garden Suburb, 1989) describes Hunter's Hill at the time of the first fleet as "a high, rugged peninsula, at that time thickly covered with turpentine trees, ironbark, eucalypts, white stringybark, and bloodwood..." and "When Hunter made his survey in 1788, this land was the eastern limit of the Aboriginal people of the Ryde district, the Wallumategal...in his journal, Hunter took careful note of the Aboriginal shelters, made out of 'a soft crumbly sandy stone', and observed that some caves 'would lodge 40 or 50 people.' By the 1830s, when the first white settlers came into the area, the Aboriginal people had died from smallpox or been driven from their land."

The original inhabitants of Riverglade Reserve are the Wallumedegal or Wallumattegal people, with the area known as Wallumetta. Today the Reserve is located within the area of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council.

The Aboriginal Site Management Report by the Aboriginal Heritage Office, 2004 located and described in detail five shelters and middens in Riverglade Reserve. These sites have not been identified or promoted to visitors (or located in this Plan) in order to assist their management.

The Aboriginal occupational sites along the Tarban Creek estuary are protected within the curtilage for The Priory.

2.4 European Heritage

European settlement of the Hunter's Hill area dates from 1795 when land in the area was first farmed. In 1804 land was set aside as the Field of Mars Common by Governor King in 1804. Following the purchase of two lots by Thomas Stubbs in 1835, the land was later owned by the Marist Order, and became part of the Gladesville Asylum Reserve in 1888, and Riverglade Reserve in 1996.

The HHLEP protects a number of heritage sites within Riverglade Reserve including The Priory, the weir on Tarban Creek, the Mill site on Tarban Creek, a row of fig trees adjacent to Salter Street, a clump of Paperbark Trees south of Tarban Creek on the edge of the cornflats, and natural bushland north of Tarban Creek. Other significant heritage features are the air raid shelter and the farm attendant's cottage. The air raid shelter is located on the southern side of the Priory while the farm attendant's cottage occurs at the eastern side.

2.4.1 The Priory

The building known as the Priory, Figure 5, gave Hunter's Hill its first architectural landmark which still currently resides within the reserve at over 100 years old, the architect who designed the priory was named William Weaver. The Marists turned the site into a vineyard to produce wine, which they produced for 50 years to the 1890's when disease wiped out the vines, these wines were believed to be some of the first wines produced in Australia.

The Priory is one of the most significant heritage features within Riverglade Reserve, with its listing including the buildings and curtilage protecting views and vistas to and from the building. It is listed in various heritage registers as shown in Table 4.

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazette Number	Gazette Page
Heritage Act - State Heritage Register		01720	03 Dec 04	196	8959
Heritage Act - s.170 NSW State agency heritage register	Dept. of Health s.170 register				
Local Environmental Plan		00014	13 Sep 91		
National Trust of Australia register		10494			
Register of the National Estate		002640	21 Mar 78		

Table 4 Heritage listings of The Priory

The NSW State Heritage Register's statement of significance for The Priory (updated March 2005) includes:

'The Priory is a complex cultural landscape formed by the aesthetic and historic relationship of its harbourside location, the topography of the site, natural and introduced vegetation, open space and a variety of buildings and structures. The Priory has historic associations with early settlement, the advent of the Marist order in Australia and with mental health care for more than a century.

The main building and site was the first permanent home of the Marist Fathers in Australia, their base for the South Pacific, and their first, purpose-built Procure house. It is integral to the history of the original Gladesville Asylum (later renamed) for over 100 years, and hence the history of psychiatric care in NSW.

The main building (1847-1874 Colonial Regency building) is a major landscape element, being a fine example of the colonial regency style of architecture, designed by William Weaver. In addition, the site contains outbuildings, remnant structures and archaeological features that are heritage items in their own right, areas of natural vegetation and historic plantings, as well as evidence of the use of the building for farming purposes. The significance, meaning and interpretation of the building, outbuildings archaeological sites and landscape are integral to one another. Extract of Heritage Office letter to NSW Health Dpt., 2004'

2.4.2 History of the Site

Tarban Creek appears in poems about Hunter's Hill and is one of two precincts in Hunter's Hill which reflect the ideals of the garden suburb movement. The project was undertaken in 1919 by the NSW government. The chronological history of the reserve (Table 5) has been compiled using the following sources:

- The Priory Conservation Management Plan (CMP)
- Former Land and Property Management Authority Records (searched for the 2013 PoM)
- 2013 Riverglade Reserve PoM





Figure 5: The Priory

Table 5: Chronological History of Riverglade Reserve

Date	Use/Activity		
European contact	At the time of European contact, the Kelly's bush area was inhabited by the Wallumedegal Aboriginal people. They lived primarily on fish and shellfish, supplementing their diet when necessary with vegetables, marsupials, birds and grubs. They were also frequently observed firing the scrub both to facilitate access to the foreshore and to flush out game. Very little is known of their social structure and religious beliefs (Pitt, 2011)		
1836	Thomas Stubbs buys 2 adjoining allotments (18 acres, or 7.4 ha) in area now known as Riverglade Reserve.		
	Used as a working farm then occupied by Stubbs family.		
	Stubbs cottage (later to be known as "The Priory") built.		
1845	Early vineyard established by visitors French Brother Stephen Chaurain.		
1845- 1847	Marist order purchase property.		
1847	First permanent name of Marist Brothers in Australia and base for their south pacific.		
	The Marist's move out early 1860's to their new Villa Maria on Northern side of Tarban Creek (now called Villa Maria Theological College).		
1857	House extended under early Victorian architect. Land continues to William Weaver, extended vineyards		
1874	Thomas Salter purchases the property from the Marist's.		
1876	The Priory extended.		
1888	NSW Dept. of Health purchased the property.		
	Renamed Gladesville Hospital Asylum or Tarban Creek Asylum.		
	Many original outbuildings removed, and new hospital buildings constructed.		
	Late Victorian "pleasure gardens" develops.		
	Continued farming and food production		
1901- 1930	Golf course occupied some of the reserve site. Some cropping and agriculture continued		
1950-1980sThe Priory building undergoes restoration in mid-1980's.			
	Reclamation of 3 ha land Tarban Creek foreshore.		
	Tip, uncontrolled landfill operated at site until 1982.		

Date	Use/Activity
1996	Reserve 100263 gazetted 07 June 1996 with Hunter's Hill Council appointed Reserve Trust.
2004	The Priory listed in the State Heritage register.
	Curtilage identified as the whole of Riverglade and Tarban Creek itself.
2007	Many years of managing the reserve Hunter's Hill Council and community lobbying for "The Priory" to remain in community ownership for public access; culminate in an agreement between the Health Dept. and Dept. Lands. Lands for The Priory to be added to the Crown Reserve system, Reserve No 100263. Gazetted 5 Oct 2007, officially handed over by the Minister November 1 2007.
2009	Conservation Management Plan for the Priory completed.

The aerial photograph from 1943 shown in Figure 6 shows Riverglade Reserve being used for agricultural purposes with emerging surrounding residential development. The image reflects the changes in land

purposes with emerging surrounding residential development. The image reflects the changes in land use of Riverglade Reserve over the last 75 years, whilst showing continuity of the extent of native vegetation from 1943 to the present day.



Figure 6: Riverglade Reserve in 1943

2.5 Access, Development and Facilities

The vicinity of Riverglade Reserve to nearby residential dwellings allows for convenient access for local visitors. The preferred method of accessing the reserve is by walking, making the reserve attractive for dog walking. Currently, there are five entry points off Manning Road, Jolly Parade, Waruda Place and Victoria Road leading to concrete pathways. The pathways provide a network to traverse the reserve providing connectivity enabling opportunities for varied walking experiences. This allows it to be accessed by people from many locations/directions. Limited parking is currently offered at Riverglade Reserve, located at Manning Road near The Priory and informal parking near the playing fields. The park is accessible to cyclists and a shared path extends from Manning Road to Waruda Place and Victoria Road. The public bus network provides a regular service to Riverglade Reserve. Parking and traffic congestion reportedly occur in street and in informal parking areas surrounding the reserve during organised sporting and community events. Illegal parking on private residential property during these has been reported as an issue.

The reserve's grounds, facilities and infrastructure caters for sporting use. Active recreation includes two playing fields, with goals for football (soccer) during autumn and winter; and are able to be configured for various junior games (Hunter's Hill Outdoor Sport and Recreation Plan, 2013).

The main facilities and infrastructure that invites and accommodates casual independent leisure and recreational use of the Park includes:

- A scattering of park benches and backed seats in various locations including around the sportsgrounds, and along walking tracks
- The shared cycle walking track/route;
- An accessible, unisex, toilet
- Boardwalk
- An off-leash dog exercise area and dog-waste-bag dispensers
- Scattered rubbish bins and water bubblers/refill stations
- Service/ walking tracks
- Carparks
- A variety of signage including site identification, entry/orientation, wayfinding, interpretive, and regulatory signs.

Facilities that improve water quality in the reserve include:

- A series of constructed wetlands providing water quality treatment and habitat that are regularly dredged and macrophytes harvested
- Stormwater quality improvement devices several Ecosol units
- An old weir that retains pollutants and sediments

2.6 Visitor Use Activities and Enjoyment

2.6.1 Visitor Use Numbers

The reserve is well used by school and clubs for organised sports. The playing fields were booked by Riverside Girls High School on weekday mornings for 41 weeks of the year (2018 HHC data), and by St Joseph's College on weekday afternoons for 17 weeks March to June, and July and August, and by All Saints Hunters Hill Football Club for Sunday mornings in March for gradings, and 21 Saturday afternoons from April to August.

The 2019 user survey (**Appendix A**) indicated that the highest number of visitors to the reserve engaged in dog walking (160+), followed by walking in the reserve with family members and friends (140) because it is close to home, to exercise, stay healthy and be connected to the local community (121), to use the cycle paths (99) and experience the natural environment (91).

2.7 Condition and Use of Land and Facilities

2.7.1 The Priory

The background usage of the site includes the subdivision and reduction of the land containing The Priory in 1994 after the hospital site was closed. Part of the land was retained for use by the State Government as offices for the Mental Health Tribunal until 2003. Ownership of The Priory site was then transferred from the Health Department to the Department of Lands. On November 1, 2007 The Priory and surrounds was added to Riverglade Reserve and is now managed by Hunter's Hill Council under the *Crowns Land Act*.

The Priory is located at the north west edge of the reserve, land adjacent in Salter Street and Manning Road has been developed for residential purposes. Structures on the site include the main building, with a rear concrete courtyard, a separate stone building, chemical store within a retaining wall, an air raid shelter, foundations of former buildings, remnant pathways, steps, terraces and retaining walls. The area surrounding the buildings contain exotic plants from when a garden existed when the site was used as a hospital. The main building has 17 rooms including a kitchen and toilet/shower block.

The Priory is constructed from local stone in three stages, the first stage was built in the 1840s known as the Stubbs wing. The next stage added the Weaver wing in Palladian style which replaced an original timber cottage. The final stage, known as the Salter wing, is a one and two storey Gothic addition to the west of the Stubbs wing.

The Priory has undergone several modifications over time. The Priory CMP found the buildings to be structurally sound, however, required repairs to address water damage to buildings and repairs to external features such as walls and steps.

2.7.2 Dog Walking Areas

The reserve is readily accessed by dog walkers which was identified as the most popular activity in the community survey. Dogs are permitted off leash in the playing fields area unless organised sport activities are utilising the sporting facilities. In accordance with the *Companion Animals Act 1998*, dogs should be under effective control at all times.

The condition of the on-leash and off-leash dog walking areas is considered generally good or excellent. Some additional education is required for dog walkers who do not pick up dog faeces, however this is limited.

2.7.3 Pathway/Tracks

The existing pedestrian pathway extends from Manning Road in the west, transects the Reserve along the edge of bushland and wetland areas, the path then diverges to extend along the Tarban Creek boundary and alongside the southern side of the playing fields. The paths merge again at the eastern point of the playing fields and it is then directed south to exit at Waruda Place.

The pathways are constructed from concrete and are in good condition. Service trails are uneven and subject to erosion. The boardwalk and pedestrian bridge are functional however require regular maintenance, and the boardwalk and viewing platform require upgrade.

2.7.4 Seawall

The seawall extends along the Tarban Creek inlet. The seawall is made of sandstone blocks and is considered to be of cultural significance along with the weir. The seawall requires repair and upgrade, subject to heritage assessment. It currently provides habitat niches for aquatic biodiversity and upgrades need to incorporate microhabitats for biodiversity.

2.7.5 Car Parking

There are two main car parking areas in Riverglade Reserve, one located near Manning Road, and another informal site near the Waruda Place and the Playing Fields. There is a disused carpark at the rear of The Priory.

The condition of the carpark at Manning Road is good, and the informal carpark near Waruda Place is poor. The disused carpark at the rear of The Priory does not comply with standards for universal access.

2.7.6 Playing Fields

Two playing fields are located in Riverglade Reserve in open space along the Tarban Creek boundary. The configuration of the fields are one full sized Soccer pitch and one junior Soccer pitch. The condition of the fields is poor with hard and uneven surfaces and they are infested with weeds such as bindii. There is no lighting at the sports fields.

Local schools utilise the fields during the week throughout the year for organised sport and a local club uses the fields for one day most weekends in Autumn and Winter.

2.7.7 Utilities/Easements

Easements provide the right to access and use land while the legal title or ownership of the land remains with the owner of the land. Easements that occur within Riverglade Reserve are shown in Table 6 and **Appendix B**. They include easements for a range of services and utilities such as rights of carriageway, footway, visitor car parking, engineered walls, water, sewerage, drainage, and pipes, installations, poles, wires, conduits or cables for the purpose of providing water, sewage, gas or electricity or telephone services.

	0				
DP Affected	Map reference	Lot Burdened	Benefitting	Easement	Purpose
823988	1	2	3	5 m wide	right of carriageway
823988	2	4	1	6 m wide	right of carriageway
823988	3	2	3	3 m wide	right of footway
823988	4	4	1	2 m wide	to drain water
823988	5	4	Water Board	2 m wide	sewerage
823988	6	2	3 portion 757 Ph Hunters Hill Co Cumberland (Crown Land)	5 m wide	pipes, installations, poles, wires, conduits or cables for the purpose of providing water, sewage, gas or electricity or telephone services
823988	7	4	Lot 878 DP 823717	2 m wide	electricity transmission line
823988	8	4	2	restriction on the use of land burdens	address engineered hillside practices
1128452	1	1	2	6.5 m wide and variable	right of way and easement for services
1128452	2	1,2	Sydney Water Corporation	2.5 m wide	water supply purposes
1128452	3	1	2	5.4 m wide	visitor car parking

Table 6: Easements within Riverglade Reserve

2.8 Leases and Licences

There are currently no leases or licences for Riverglade Reserve.

2.9 Maintenance and Management

Council or its contractors regularly maintain the facilities and grounds as follows:

- Playing fields and open spaces regularly mown, weed spraying and top dressing by Council/ contractors
- Boardwalk and viewing platform maintained according maintenance schedule by HHC
- Rubbish collection bins emptied on a weekly basis by HHC
- Bush regeneration bush regeneration contractors carry out works on a monthly basis
- Stormwater maintenance after storm events and on an annual basis
- The Priory maintained on an as-needs basis in accordance with CMP.

Bushcare volunteer groups (Riverglade, North Tarban, The Priory) meet monthly to undertake bush regeneration with the support and guidance of Council.

3. Planning and Management Context

3.1 Introduction

The plan of management has been prepared in consideration of international agreements, national strategies, Commonwealth and State legislation, and regional and local planning and policy framework (Figure 7).



Figure 7: Legislative and planning hierarchy

3.2 International Agreements

Reserve planning draws on several international conventions, charters and treaties signed by Australia:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights article enshrining the right to rest and leisure
- <u>International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport</u> whereby all organisations should work together to design, provide and optimize the use of facilities and equipment for physical education, physical activities and sport in context of the natural surroundings
- <u>Convention on the Rights of the Child</u> enshrines the right of the child to rest, leisure, play and recreation appropriate to their age
- <u>Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</u> enshrines the right to accessibility and culture, recreation and sport
- United Nations Conference on Environment and Development 'The Earth Summit':
- <u>The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development</u> introduced Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD)
- Agenda 21 the global sustainability blueprint introducing local plans for sustainability
- <u>Convention on Biological Diversity</u> a legally binding agreement ratified by Australia in 1993 requiring development and implementation of strategies to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of its biological resources
- Annex III Forest Principles guidelines for development of forest policy
- <u>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</u> intergovernmental treaty to address climate change
- China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (1998, CAMBA), Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (1981, JAMBA), Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (2007,

ROKAMBA), and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (1983, CMS) provide for bi-lateral cooperation to protect waterbirds that migrate between parties.

3.3 National Framework

The following agreements and strategies have been made in response to the above international agreements and have been considered in the preparation of this plan of management:

- Intergenerational Review of Australian Sport 2017
- National Sport Plan 2030
- National Disability Strategy 2010-2020
- Intergovernmental Agreement on the Environment 1992
- Australia's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010-2030
- Australian Weeds Strategy
- Australian Pest Animal Strategy
- Commonwealth Wetlands Policy
- National Water Quality Management Strategy

3.4 Commonwealth and NSW Legislation

The most significant legislation relating to this PoM are set out below, with other relevant Acts summarised in **Appendix C**:

- Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act
- Commonwealth Native Title Act Commonwealth 1993
- NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016
- NSW Local Government Act 1993
- NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016
- NSW Heritage Act 1977
- NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.

3.4.1 Commonwealth Native Title Act 1993

This Act recognises the traditional ownership and interest in land and waters that indigenous Australians hold according to their traditions, laws and customs. It describes the process for the recognition of native title rights – including mechanisms for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People to establish the existence of native title, lodge native title claims, determine and validate the extinguishment of native title, and dealing with land and waters where native title persists.

The *NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016* requires that on Crown land (including where managed by a local council – such as Riverglade Reserve) native title rights/interests must be addressed (unless native title has been surrendered, extinguished or legally determined to no longer exist). Any dealings in land or water by a Crown land manager that affect (impair or extinguish) native title are classified as 'future acts' and must comply with the Act. Examples of a 'future act', on Crown land, might include the granting of freehold title, or a lease or licence, or the construction of public works. The Native Title Act sets out procedures to follow before such 'future acts' can be validly carried out.

3.4.2 Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)

The EPBC Act provides the national scheme for environmental protection and biodiversity conservation for Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES). It lists Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs) and Critically Endangered Ecological Communities (CEECs) such as Coastal Saltmarsh that occurs below mean high water mark adjacent to the reserve, endangered species, marine and migratory (JAMBA/CAMBA/ROKAMBA) species, one of which has been recorded near the reserve.

The Act provides an environmental impact assessment processes for projects of MNES and where impacts are significant, triggers referral to the Commonwealth for approval.

3.4.3 NSW Crown Land Management Act 2016

The commencement of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (CLM Act) on 1 July 2018, introduced changes to the way Crown reserves are managed by Councils. Under section 3.23(6) of the new scheme, council managers must adopt a PoM for Crown reserves for which they are appointed the Crown land manager, and that is classified as community land under the *Local Government Act* (LG Act), under a simplified process.

CLM Act also sets out the "principles of Crown land management" (in section 1.4) – as:

- a. that environmental protection principles be observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown land, and
- b. that the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) be conserved wherever possible, and
- c. that public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged, and
- d. that, where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land be encouraged, and
- e. that, where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, and
- f. that Crown land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles.

3.4.4 NSW Local Government Act 1993

The *Local Government Act* is the primary legislation affecting Riverglade Reserve. This Act requires the preparation of Plans of Management (POMs) for all Council owned land. It provides for the categorisation of land as operational and community. For community land it must be categorised into a range of categories including park, sportsground, area of cultural significance, general community use, natural area, and for natural areas sub-categories including bushland, wetland, watercourse, escarpment.

The LG Act governs the preparation of plans of management for community land. It requires plans of management to set out objectives and performance targets with respect to the land, the means by which council will achieve the objectives and performance targets, and how its performance will be assessed and management with respect to the objectives and performance targets.

The plan of management authorises use, easements, lease and licences and other granting of estates on community land.

3.4.5 NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act)

The EP&A Act is the principal planning legislation for NSW providing a framework for the overall environmental planning and assessment of local development consents (Part 4) by Council and activity approvals (Part 5) on public land by authorities including Council.

The Act provides for the preparation of Hunters Hill LEP and DCP, zoning of Riverglade Reserve and Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage items within Riverglade Reserve. It sets out requirements for Development Applications and Reviews of Environmental Factors.

3.4.6 NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016

The BC Act commenced in 2017 and lists threatened species, populations and ecological communities, lists key threatening processes, allows for strategies to conserve threatened entities, and allows for the creation of Biodiversity Stewardship sites in NSW.

The Act requires that Council consider the impact on threatened species and ecological communities before approving developments under Part 4 of the EP&A Act and activities under Part 5 of the EP&A Act if proponents opt-in.

Key components of the reform include:

- A new framework of defined thresholds for entry into the NSW Biodiversity Offsets Scheme including clearing that trigger assessment using the legislated Biodiversity Assessment Method and
- The introduction of Biodiversity Stewardship sites on private land including Council owned land where this is authorised by a plan of management.

3.4.7 NSW Heritage Act 1977

The Act aims to conserve a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct based on its historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value to the State. It allows for listing of items on the State Heritage Register such as The Priory and has development approval requirements for listed items.

3.4.8 NSW Biosecurity Act 2015

The act provides a new legislative approach to shared biosecurity responsibility and actions. Council is a Local Authority under the Act. The Greater Sydney Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan lists weeds that are State Priority, Regional Priority and Other Regional Priority, and weeds in Riverglade Reserve are prioritised accordingly.

3.5 State Government and Regional Programs

Section 3.4 outlines State and Regional Programs, many of which have been incorporated into the local planning strategies and policies.

3.5.1 Integrated Planning and Reporting

In 2010, the State Government mandated the integrated planning framework for Local Government, recognising that communities do not exist in isolation, being part of a broader natural, social, economic and political environment. The framework seeks to integrate Council's roles in planning for land use,

infrastructure and services to maximize effort and deliver sustainable results across social, economic and environmental aims and aspirations. Hunter's Hill Council's Community Strategic Plan identifies the community's aspirations for the future, main priorities and strategies to achieve goals (Hunter's Hill Sports and Recreation Plan, 2013). Relevant priority areas, goal and strategies include:

Our Community & Lifestyle

- Maximise sustainable access and use of high-quality sporting, community and recreational facilities.
- Increased participation in a range of healthy lifestyle activities.
- Strong local community service organisations
- A high level of participation in local volunteering

Our Environment

- Protection of the natural and built environment for the benefit of future generations
- Enhance management of bushland and its biodiversity
- Ensure the sustainable use and reuse of water
- Increased active and informed participation by local residents and business owners in creating a sustainable future

Moving Around

- Extended and integrated bicycle track network
- Improved safer pedestrian facilities connected to transport nodes, activity areas and village centres that are pedestrian friendly.

Our Council

- Increased revenue from various sources to provide required services
- Assets maintained to a level that maximizes their economic life and sustainability.

3.5.2 Planning Strategies and Policies

Hunter's Hill Council is subject to several regional and state-wide planning strategies and policies, particularly through the State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs) and the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (SREP). The SEPPs and sections of the SREP that are relevant to Hunter's Hill LGA have been incorporated into the Hunters Hill Development Consolidated Control Plan (DCP) 2013.

Greater Sydney Region Plan – North District Plan

The Greater Sydney Region Plan (2018a) is a broad scale coordinated plan for the infrastructure, liveability, productivity and sustainability of Greater Sydney. The Hunter's Hill LGA is within the North District of the Greater Sydney Region Plan and is included in the North District Plan (2018). This plan guides the future housing, infrastructure, environmental planning and open space in Hunter's Hill LGA.
Under its Sustainability theme, the District Plan outlines 'An integrated approach to green infrastructure the coast and waterways, bushland, urban tree canopy and green ground cover, parks and open spaces will improve sustainability.' and 'The Greater Sydney Green Grid will provide cool, green links to support waking, cycling and community access to open space.'

Several planning priorities from the North District Plan relate to Riverglade Reserve shown in Table 7.

Planning Priority	North District Plan Directions for Sustainability
N15	Protecting and improving the health and enjoyment of Sydney Harbour and the District's waterways
N16	Protecting and enhancing bushland and biodiversity
N17	Protecting and enhancing scenic and cultural landscapes
N19	Increasing urban tree canopy cover and delivering Green Grid connections
N20	Delivering high quality open space
N22	Adapting to the impacts of urban and natural hazards and climate change

Table 7 Northern District Plan Directions for Sustainability relevant for Riverglade Reserve

The Sydney North Green Grid identifies Riverglade Reserve and Tarban Creek as 'High Environmental Lands' and 'Waterbodies'. Under the recreational grid it identifies Riverglade Reserve as possessing rivers and creeks, bushland, parklands and proposed cycleway. It identifies project opportunity No. 7 as part of the Parramatta River and Sydney Harbour Foreshore recreational project.

3.5.3 Recreation Strategies

Prepared by the North Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) on behalf of Council, the Regional Sportsground Management Strategy sought to improve coordination of community sportsground management across the NSROC region to maximise participation opportunities and deliver community health and amenity benefits. In 2017 NSROCs Regional Sportsground Review Report identified demand would far outweigh supply in coming years. The 2019 Review of Sportsground Reconfiguration for NSROC identified that Riverglade Reserve was hard to access, has no lighting, has no reconfiguration options and that lighting would help. These strategic documents will assist Council to prioritise works and obtain funding from the NSW Office of Sport.

3.5.4 Disability Inclusion Plan

The Regional Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017 for Hunter's Hill, Lane Cove and Ryde LGAs was prepared in accordance with the NSW Disability Inclusion Plan. The Action Plan demonstrates Council's commitment to people with a disability on improving access to services, facilities and jobs and is also designed to change perceptions about people with a disability. Access tracks and toilet facilities within the reserve network must demonstrate that the ability for access is provided for people with a disability to enjoy the reserve and use the facilities. A requirement under the Disability Inclusion Act, Council has prepared the Plan to link to its Community Plan and Delivery and Operational Plans. Parts of the Tarban Bay Environmental Walk provide access for residents and meet the disability inclusion requirements of the plan.

3.5.5 Parramatta River Estuary Coastal Zone Management Plan

The Parramatta River Estuary Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) was prepared in 2013. A CZMP is a plan to manage an estuary in NSW required under the Coastal Management Act 2016. The Plan is overseen by the Parramatta River Estuary Management Committee whose membership includes representatives of Local and State Government, non-Governmental organisations, natural resource managers, community members and other key stakeholders. Hunter's Hill Council is a member of the Estuary Management Committee. The CZMP has developed a program including an action plan for Hunter's Hill that includes four items directly relating to Riverglade Reserve.

3.5.6 Estuary Vegetation Rehabilitation Action Plan

Estuary Vegetation Rehabilitation Action Plan (EVRAP) for Riverglade Reserve and Tarban Creek Reserve in Hunters Hill (Bush-It for Hunter's Hill Council, 2011) was prepared under the NSW Government Waste and Sustainability Improvement Program (WASIP) that funded strategic biodiversity actions.

As part of the 'Native habitat recovery in the Parramatta River catchment' project the Parramatta River Catchment Group (PCRG) has prepared 'Our Living Catchment Fauna and Habitat Report'. The PRCG is a regional organisation of local councils, state agencies and community representatives whose aim is to work together to improve the health of the Parramatta River catchment, of which Hunter's Hill Council is a member. The report identifies the Bedlam Bay to Tarban Creek Riparian Corridor that includes Riverglade Reserve and Tarban Creek Reserve as a medium to high priority which is part of the River2River Corridors.

3.5.7 Stormwater Plan

The Hunters Hill Stormwater Management Plan was prepared to meet Council's requirements to sustainably address urban stormwater under the former NSW Stormwater Management Program and was prepared in context of the NSW Diffuse Source Water Pollution Strategy (DECC, 2009). Several detailed items in this plan relate to Riverglade Reserve.

3.5.8 Conservation Management Plans

Conservation management plans provide a framework to facilitate decision-making about the interpretation and conservation of these sites. The Heritage Act defines the content of conservation management plans for State heritage listed items such as The Priory.

3.5.9 Everyone Can Play – A Guideline to Create Inclusive Playspaces 2019

This guideline provides the process steps to planning, designing and delivering inclusive play spaces for people of all ages, abilities and cultures to come together. In modernising the play spaces within the parks and reserves within the Hunter's Hill local government area and in this PoM, Everyone Can Play, offers a best practice toolkit, with clear implementable strategies.

3.6 Relevant Environmental Planning Policies and Instruments

3.6.1 State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007

The aim of this Policy is to facilitate the effective delivery of infrastructure across NSW by-

a. improving regulatory certainty and efficiency through a consistent planning regime for infrastructure and the provision of services, and

- b. providing greater flexibility in the location of infrastructure and service facilities, and
- c. allowing for the efficient development, redevelopment or disposal of surplus government owned land, and
- d. identifying the environmental assessment category into which different types of infrastructure and services development fall (including identifying certain development of minimal environmental impact as exempt development), and
- e. identifying matters to be considered in the assessment of development adjacent to particular types of infrastructure development, and
- f. providing for consultation with relevant public authorities about certain development during the assessment process or prior to development commencing, and
- g. providing opportunities for infrastructure to demonstrate good design outcomes.

3.6.2 State Environmental Planning Policy (Coastal Management) 2018

- 2. The aim of this Policy is to promote an integrated and co-ordinated approach to land use planning in the coastal zone in a manner consistent with the objects of the *Coastal Management Act 2016,* including the management objectives for each coastal management area, by:
 - a. managing development in the coastal zone and protecting the environmental assets of the coast, and
 - b. establishing a framework for land use planning to guide decision-making in the coastal zone, and
 - *c.* mapping the 4 coastal management areas that comprise the NSW coastal zone for the purpose of the definitions in the *Coastal Management Act 2016.*

3.6.3 State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017

The aims of this Policy are-

- a. to protect the biodiversity values of trees and other vegetation in non-rural areas of the State, and
- b. to preserve the amenity of non-rural areas of the State through the preservation of trees and other vegetation.

3.6.4 Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2005 (Deemed SEPP)

This policy provides an improved and clear planning framework and better environmental outcomes for Sydney Harbour and its tributaries. Hunter's Hill is covered by this policy which is under review.

3.6.5 SEPP Exempt and Complying Development Codes 2008

This Policy aims to provide streamlined assessment processes for development that complies with specified development standards by identifying, in the exempt development codes, types of development that are of minimal environmental impact that may be carried out without the need for development consent.

3.7 Local framework

3.7.1 Hunter's Hill Local Environment Plan 2012

The main policies that public recreation and environmental conservation within the Local Government Area are the *Hunter's Hill Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2012* and the Hunter's Hill Consolidated Development Control Plan (DCP) 2013. These documents determine what land use is permissible in particular locations within the LGA and list what requirements must be met to allow a development to be approved. The sections of the LEP and DCP that address public recreation, environmental conservation, heritage and biodiversity protection include the following:

- LEP Part 2 Land Use Table identifies the objectives of the zones RE1 Public Recreation and E2 Environmental Conservation that apply to Riverglade Reserve and define developments that are permitted with consent, permitted without consent and that are prohibited
- LEP Clause 3.3 defines an environmentally sensitive area for exempt or complying development,
- LEP Clause 5.2 identifies the requirements for classification and reclassification of public land as 'operational land' or 'community land',
- LEP Clause 5.10, Schedule 5 and Heritage Maps identify requirements for heritage conservation, lists and maps items and conservation areas,
- LEP Clause 6.1 and Acid Sulfate Soil Maps defines objectives, maps classes of soils and identifies requirements to ensure that development does not disturb acid sulfate soils and cause environmental damage,
- LEP Clause 6.4 and Biodiversity Maps defines the terrestrial biodiversity considerations that the consent authority must make when considering a development application,
- LEP Clause 6.5 and Riparian Land and Waterways Map defines objectives, maps land and requirements for developments,
- LEP Clause 6.7 and River Front areas defines objectives, maps land and requirements for developments, and
- DCP Chapter 2.3 details the conservation and management of trees and vegetation.

3.7.2 Local Policies and Plans

Hunter's Hill Council has developed other plans and policies that are concerned to some extent with the management of community land.

The following is a list of documents that have a direct association with this PoM:

- Community Strategic Plan 2018-2028
- Local Strategic Planning Statement
- Draft Community Infrastructure Plan 2020
- Draft Hunter's Hill Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2021



Figure 8: Land Zoning

4. Basis of Management for Riverglade Reserve

4.1 Proposed Land Categorisation of Riverglade Reserve

The Local Government Act 1993 requires that community land be "categorised" according to the five categories of sportsground, park, area of cultural significance, natural area (which has a further five sub-categories), or general community use. The Crown Land Management Act 2016 provides that this same requirement also now applies to Crown reserves under the control of a "Council manager" – such as Riverglade Reserve.

Guidelines for the categorisation of community land, including the attributes or values warranted for areas to be included in the various categories, are provided in the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (sections 102 to 111). *The Local Government Act 1993* also sets out management objectives for each of the above categories that provide broad directions to be pursued in the management of an area.

Considering the values, uses, type and level of development, and management of Riverglade Reserve this Plan of Management has identified the most appropriate/applicable categorisation for the area – as shown on Figure 9 – as being:

- General Community Use
- Park
- Natural Area with subcategories
 - o Bushland
 - \circ Wetland
 - Watercourse
- Sportsground



Figure 9: Land Categorisation of Riverglade Reserve

Category/Subcategory	Guideline for Categorisation (LG Reg 1995)	Applicability to Riverglade Reserve
Natural Area	Land, whether or not in an undisturbed state, possessing a significant geological feature, geomorphological feature, landform, representative system or other natural feature/attribute sufficient to further categorise the area as bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse or foreshore	Applicable – see subcategories
Natural Area subcategory - Bushland	Land containing primarily native vegetation that (a) is the natural vegetation or a remainder of the area's natural vegetation, or (b) although not remnant natural vegetation is still representative of the structure or floristics, or structure and floristics, of the locality's natural vegetation.	Applicable to the areas of the reserve supporting native bushland communities. The vegetation communities in Riverglade Reserve designated as Bushland are Coastal Sandstone Foreshore Forest, Revegetated Forest, Revegetated Low Woodland, Revegetated Open Forest, Exotic Closed Forest, Exotic Low Closed Forest and Constructed Wetland.
Natural Area subcategory - Wetland	Land with marshes, mangroves, backwaters, billabongs, swamps, sedgelands, wet meadows or wet heathlands forming a waterbody that is inundated cyclically, intermittently or permanently with fresh, brackish or salt water.	Applicable to the areas of the reserve supporting wetland communities. The two wetland vegetation communities present in the reserve are Coastal Freshwater Swamp Forest and Estuarine Mangrove Forest.
Natural Area subcategory - Watercourse	Land that includes (a) any stream of water, whether perennial or intermittent, flowing in a natural channel (or in a natural channel that has been artificially improved, or in an artificial channel that has changed the course of the stream of water, and any other stream of water into or from which the stream of water flows), and (b) associated riparian land or vegetation, (including land that is protected under applicable rivers and foreshores improvement or Native Vegetation Conservation legislation)	Tarban Creek is a tributary of Parramatta River which transects Riverglade Reserve. Tarban Creek enters the reserve in the North West along Manning Road and flows through the bushland and wetland areas of the reserve.
Park	Land that is (or is proposed to be) improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of nonsporting equipment and facilities, for use mainly for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits	Applicable to the mostly open areas of the reserve which are utilised for recreational activities such as dog walking and walking/jogging; as well as the surrounds of The Priory buildings and the playground; and the grove of shady trees between The Priory and Manning Road where the all

Table 8: Land categorisation and sub categorisation of Riverglade Reserve

abilities playground will be located.

Category/Subcategory	Guideline for Categorisation (LG Reg 1995)	Applicability to Riverglade Reserve
General Community Use	Land that is or may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public, and is not required to be categorised as a natural area under section 36A, 36B or 36C of the Act and does not otherwise satisfy the guidelines for categorisation as a natural area, a sportsground, a park or an area of cultural significance	Applicable to the land and buildings within the area of The Priory and the car park. Heritage listed items include the main Priory building, outbuildings, remnant structures and archaeological features. The site is surrounded by natural and historic plantings which are maintained by council and local volunteer groups. The site has been identified as an area for community use, potentially as a café/restaurant with a nearby playground.
Sportsground	Land that is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games	Applicable to the open area of the reserve which is used for organised sports, specifically the playing field area adjacent to the Tarban Creek boundary.

Section 36 of the *Local Government Act 1993* prescribes the core objectives for management for each of the above land categories and subcategories applicable to Riverglade Reserve to provide objectives or broad directions for the management of these areas, and Division 1 of the Local Government Regulation 2005 provides guidelines on each of the categories, as listed in **Appendix D**.

4.2 Objectives for Riverglade Reserve

Riverglade Reserve is highly valued as an area of ecological significance and community interaction. The community consultative process showed that 88% of visitors rated condition of the reserve and facilities as either excellent or good. The community and stakeholder consultative process and legislative requirements have informed the objectives for Riverglade Reserve:

- To manage the biodiversity, catchment and natural landscape
- To manage and preserve the cultural heritage of the reserve
- To manage and enhance recreation and visitor facilities
- Continuance of reserve management and operations

These objectives form the basis of the Management Action Plan described in Section 6.

Owner of the Land	Is the land subject to any trust, estate, interest, dedication, condition, restriction or covenant?	Is the land subject to any condition or restriction imposed by the owner?	Inconsistency
The land is owned by the Crown, represented by the State Government's NSW Department of Industry.	The land is subject to easements detailed in Section 2.7.7	At the time of writing, the use or management of the land is not subject to any condition or restriction imposed by the owner.	The PoM does not contain any provisions inconsistent with anything required to be stated by the requirements set out by the land owner and existing interest holders.

4.2.1 Additional Matters Where the Land is Not Owned By Council

5. Permitted Reserve Purposes, Intensity of Use and Development and Landscape Concept Plan

5.1 Permitted Reserve Purposes. Leases and Licences, and Intensity of Use

5.1.1 Permitted Reserve Purposes

The *Local Government Act 1993* section 36 outlines the requirements for the permitted purposes of land, buildings, and future development for compliance of plans of management for community land. The permitted purposes for Riverglade Reserve are outlined in Table 9, consistent with other reserves in the LGA.

Table 9: Permitted Purposes and Exemplar Activities and Uses for Riverglade Reserve

Permitted Purposes

- Asset maintenance such as renewal / replacement of assets and upgrades
- Off-leash dog exercise area
- Provision, maintenance and upgrade of cycle paths, pathways and service trails
- Landscaping, gardening and reclamation of surplus grassed areas for bush regeneration, restoration or planting of wildlife corridors;
- Bushland, wetland, watercourse, biodiversity habitat linkages, native flora and fauna preservation, conservation and restoration, feral animal control
- Environmental protection and sustainable land management
- Conservation agreements such as Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements to create biodiversity or carbon credits
- Organised, and informal, sporting activities and games and associated facilities or infrastructure as authorised in this plan
- Change of sporting uses where change is not significant e.g. from one ball sport to another
- Recreation, leisure and other passive activities or pastimes and casual games and associated furniture, facilities or infrastructure
- Provision of facilities ancillary to existing uses including seating, picnic and barbecue facilities, shelters, drainage, irrigation, goal posts, car parking, access roads, fencing, and pathways
- Playgrounds and play spaces/ facilities
- School use
- Cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities
- Health, physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of the community and community members
- Community events, celebrations and commemorations
- Local scenic, visual, amenity and climatic amelioration functions and benefits
- Protection of cultural heritage features
- Reuse of The Priory to provide a café/ restaurant and public related activities including education and artists space
- Permissible leases, licences or other estates to meet the current and future needs of the local community and wider public
- Tree planting, removal and maintenance
- Signage including interpretive signage
- Works and studies that promote the scientific or educational value of bushland or wetlands
- Access to a range of facilities for mobility impaired people
- Commercial or large scale filming and commercial photography (with approval where required)

Exemplar Activities and Uses

- Artistic pursuits
- Ball games and sports (casual/independent activities)
- Birdwatching
- Bush regeneration, restoration or revegetation works
- Bushwalking
- Café/ restaurant at The Priory (subject to lease/ licence, other approvals as required)
- Car/vehicle parking along the Park's perimeter and other approved areas only
- Child's play and playground use
- Community uses including community, social or sporting clubs and activities (subject to leases, licences or other approvals as required)
- Competitive sporting or recreation events specific or periodic events,
- Cycling, for leisure or active transport/transit
- Dog walking/exercising on-leash, and off-leash (in designated/approved areas)
- Drainage and stormwater management and works (including stormwater control and harvesting)
- Emergency operations/responses
- Environmental education and outdoor learning
- Erosion control and remediation works
- Family gatherings/celebrations
- Fire hazard reduction activities
- Grass, grounds and garden maintenance (including drainage and irrigation works)
- Natural habitat protection and enhancement
- Landscaping and amenity works (installation and maintenance, including irrigation)
- Maintenance of foreign services/utilities
- Native vegetation management and environmental protection activities
- Native flora and fauna management
- Nature appreciation/study/photography
- Organised group use (with approval) community groups, religious organisations, etc.
- Organised sporting activities, including training, and competitions (with approval)
- Park management and operation activities including authorised management vehicle access
- Passive leisure and recreation activities walking/strolling, walking babies in prams, "kick-about" and casual ball games, informal games, children "burning off energy", kite flying or playing Frisbee,
- children learning to ride bicycles or similar, sitting, relaxing, laying in the sun/on the grass/in the shade, reading or studying, listening to music, daydreaming, and other casual/informal independent leisure and recreation activities, etc.
- Personal training, fitness groups and other commercial fitness or well-being activities such as Tai chi (with approval)
- Photography (personal)
- Picnicking and barbeques
- Protection/management of cultural or historic heritage material (including salvage) with any necessary
 approvals
- Provision, upgrading and maintenance of essential services/utilities
- Public gatherings (with approval)
- Running, jogging and independent fitness training
- School use (with approval) educational, sporting, health and well-being, leisure/recreation uses
- Sightseeing and scenic viewing and visiting lookouts or vantage points
- Site management, safety, enforcement and regulation activities
- Socialising and social activities, groups and gatherings (independent/informal activities and in approved areas)
- Stormwater management and water quality improvement works including cleaning/maintenance
- Sustainable land management activities/operations
- Tree and vegetation management activities/works (including isolating/falling hazardous trees)
- Volunteer activities (with approval, and in support of or associated with Park management)
- Walking for pleasure or fitness
- Watching organised sports and other activities/events
- Watercraft activities launching/retrieving/boarding small (non-motorised) craft (no vehicle access)
- Weed and pest animal control activities

Any activity permitted by this Plan of Management on Lot 1 DP 823988 will terminate following an approved determination of native title, if the determination is that native title exists.

5.2 Future Leases Licences and Other Estates

These are set out generally in Table 10.

HHC has issued an expression of interest (EOI) for leasing The Priory buildings and surrounding area for community use. The conditions set out in the EOI define objective to ensure the long-term survival of the site as an item of cultural and heritage significance to the Hunter's Hill community. The future DA needs to address restoration and upgrade of buildings and surrounding access and parking. Vegetation surrounding The Priory needs to be retained to ensure the views and vistas are maintained.

The *Crown Lands Management Act* 2016 governs the planning, management and use of Crown land, including provisions to reserve or dedicate lands for a prescribed public purpose and for leasing and licensing.

5.2.1 Granting of Estates – Conservation Agreements

This plan allows Council to enter into a conservation agreement, including a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* with the Minister administering the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* to provide for the maintenance of biodiversity values in perpetuity, subject to the requirements of the *Native Title Act 1993*.

5.3 Allowing Future Use and Native Title Requirements

Public works development:

Where it is proposed to construct or establish a public work on reserved or dedicated Crown land, where native title is not extinguished, prior to approval Council will notify and give an opportunity to comment any representative Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander bodies, registered native title bodies corporate and registered native title claimants in relation to the land or waters covered by the reservation or lease as required under the *Native Title Act 1993*.

The Native Title Act defines a public work as:

(a) any of the following that is constructed or established by or on behalf of the Crown, or a local government body or other statutory authority of the Crown, in any of its capacities:

- (i) a building, or other structure (including a memorial), that is a fixture; or
- (ii) a road, railway or bridge; or
- (iia) where the expression is used in or for the purposes of Division 2 or 2A of Part 2--a stock-route; or
- (iii) a well, or bore, for obtaining water; or
- (iv) any major earthworks; or
- (b) a building that is constructed with the authority of the Crown, other than on a lease.

Major earthworks are defined as:

earthworks (other than in the course of mining) whose construction causes major disturbance to the land, or to the bed or subsoil under waters.

Tenures or interests:

A tenure or short-term use agreement on Crown land may impact native title rights and interests. Any such tenure or use agreement issued on Crown land must be issued in accordance with the future act provisions of the *Native Title Act 1993* and in accordance with Part 8 of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* unless native title is extinguished. For Crown land which is not excluded land this will require written advice of one of Council's native title managers that it complies with any applicable provisions of the native title legislation.

The granting of easements over Crown land will be subject to the provisions of the *Native Title Act 1993* and Division 8.7 of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.

5.4 Intensity of Use

The current intensity of use in the reserve is moderate during the week and higher at weekends and during organised sport activities. It is envisaged that the intensity of use will increase over time due to the proposed leasing of The Priory, the construction of playground equipment and pathways, the allocation of designated picnic area, upgraded landscaping and increased parking availability.

Native ecological communities and existing remnant vegetation will continue to be managed and enhanced through Bushcare, bush regeneration, weed management and estuarine protection as part of the Management Actions in this PoM.

Riverglade Reserve is booked for school sporting activities on a regular basis. In recent years Riverside Girls High School, St Joseph's College and All Saints Hunters Hill Football Club had regular bookings. Riverside Girls High School used the Reserve in the mornings all year during school terms and held their annual Sporting Carnival at the Reserve. St Joseph's College utilised the playing fields most weekdays in the afternoon during school terms and for holiday training. All Saints Hunters Hills Football club reserved the playing fields on a Saturday during the football season with very limited preseason use on Sundays.

Private bookings for the playing fields were also made during Spring and early Summer.

Table 10 Future leases and licences within Riverglade Reserve

General Requirements	Lease	Licence
Apply to	Groups, commercial organisations and / or individuals providing facilities or services for public uses.	Groups, commercial organisations and / or individuals providing facilities or services for public uses.
Comply with land category objectives,	Activities must be in accordance with the core objectives for the category of land and objectives of this Plan of Management.	Activities must be in accordance with the core objectives for the category of land and objectives of this Plan of Management.
zoning, provide public benefits	Activities must be compatible with the zoning of the reserve and provide benefits, services, or facilities for public users of the land	Activities must be compatible with the zoning of the reserve and provide benefits, services, or facilities for public users of the land
Maintain property	The terms and conditions of a lease should ensure property management and maintenance, and that the interests of Council and the public are protected.	The terms and conditions of a licence should ensure property management and maintenance, and that the interests of Council and the public are protected.
Rents and charges	Are based on a sound asset management basis with rents and charges having regard to market values and other social and economic factors.	Are based on a sound asset management basis with rents and charges having regard to market values and other social and economic factors.
	Greater financial returns are delivered which will contribute to management and maintenance of the reserve.	Hire charges provide financial returns are delivered which will contribute to management and maintenance of the reserve.
Improvements	Requiring the lessee to carry out improvement works to the leased facility.	Requiring the licensee to maintain the current condition of the licensed facility.
Reserve crossings	This Plan of Management does not allow for the granting of leases, licences or other estates over, or crossing for private purposes	This Plan of Management does not allow for the granting of leases, licences or other estates over, or crossing for private purposes
Community gardens	Aim is to provide accessible, strategically located gardens that also contribute to community waste management and education.	Aim is to provide accessible, strategically located gardens that also contribute to community waste management and education.
	Where appropriate community gardens could be developed as a component of parks where such development does not reduce the utility of open space for other uses.	Where appropriate community gardens could be developed as a component of parks where such development does not reduce the utility of open space for other uses.
	Community gardens are not permissible within natural areas.	Community gardens are not permissible within natural areas.
	Community gardens will be considered where they are supported by the community, easily accessible, secure, visible, have good access to solar and water resources, and have secure tenure to allow long term use.	Community gardens will be considered where they are supported by the community, easily accessible, secure, visible, have good access to solar and water resources, and have secure tenure to allow long term use.
Sporting use: clubs		Sports facility licences will be granted for the exclusive use of sports grounds (including playing fields) at nominated times.

General Requirements	Lease	Licence
		Seasonal licences for sports: the granting of licences will be authorised as required for sports that run on either a summer (September to March) or a winter (March to September) competition basis. The range of sports possible include but are not restricted to, Clubs and Associations engaged in Australian Rules Football, Rugby League or Rugby Union Football, Soccer, Baseball, Softball, T-Ball, Touch Football, Hockey
		Licences may cover competition events on Saturdays and public holidays, and very limited preseason use on Sundays (after 8am).
		Licences may cover training Monday to Friday including some during daylight hours
		During these times of use the Club or Association will have exclusive use of the sportsground.
		To manage wear and maintain the use of grounds use within carrying capacity and to meet the needs of Hunters Hill residents, preference will be given to Associations and Clubs based in Hunters Hill LGA
Sporting use: schools		Licences for School Use of Sportsgrounds The granting of licences will be authorised for Schools for the exclusive use of sports facilities at times during weekdays.
		The range of sports permissible may include but will not be limited to Australian Rules Football, Rugby League or Rugby Union Football, Soccer, Baseball, Softball, T-Ball, Touch Football, Hockey.
The Priory	Rent will be assessed by a market valuation undertaken by Council's Valuer, with such rent reviewed every 5 years The maximum length of the lease will be for 20 years. A lease is appropriate where exclusive possession of premises is given to a	
	It requires protection and restoration of the heritage values and curtilage in accordance with the CMP.	
	Café restaurant and other public uses approved by Council will be considered where appropriate.	

Short Term licences may be granted over this reserve under section 2.20 of the Crown Land Management Regulation 2018.

This plan of management specifically excludes Aquaculture on Crown Land.

No Lease or exclusive possession agreement may be granted by Council on Lot 1 DP 823988 unless the land is *excluded land* for the purposes of the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*

Any other licence or other estate authorised by this Plan of Management on Lot 1 DP 823988 will terminate following an approved determination of native title, if the determination is that native title exists.

5.5 Landscape Concept Plan

The draft Landscape Concept Plan prepared by Corkery Consulting is a supporting document and outlines the strategic planning and development for Riverglade Reserve. The Landscape Concept Plan conceptualises the landscape works required to adopt the PoM. whilst complying the legislative requirements. As a concept plan, it can be further refined during implementation.

Table 11 below details the components of the Landscape Concept Plan for Riverglade Reserve.

Area	Description	Actions
The Priory Heritage Precinct	Heritage listed buildings and grounds	 Buildings, paths and stairs require restoration to allow re-use, with a DA to detail alterations and additions Buildings, paths and stairs to meet universal access standards Potential lease for café and/or restaurant Potential for heritage interpretation within buildings and surrounding gardens Potential spaces for community events, education and artists' studios
The Priory Car park	Car Park	 Investigate design requirements for car park as part of the potential re-use of The Priory, including the use of the park by park visitors Upgrade to incorporate water sensitive urban design
Existing Service Access Track and Gate	Entrance from Manning Road and existing access track	 Create entry from Manning Road for pedestrians Upgrade track to pedestrian path suitable for service and emergency vehicles and connect to existing concrete path near boardwalk and edge of proposed playground Extend native planting of grasses and low shrubs from edge of bushland to edge of proposed path to assist maintenance
Picnic Area	Picnic area in western portion of Reserve near playground	• Develop picnic area facilities on existing grassed area including seating, tables, shelter and water supply
Inclusive Playground	Potential site for playground strategically located near to The Priory	 Construct new playground consistent with Hunter's Hill Council Playspace Strategy 2020-2024 Locate on flat grass area in front of existing trees Carry out investigations to determine the appropriate age groups of users, character of the play facilities to be included, pathway connectivity, shade tree planting and relation to 'The Priory' Engage specialist designer to develop inclusive playground concept
Cultural Heritage Landscape	Site of former heritage garden	 Carry out site planning study to determine appropriate cultural landscape treatment Consider reinstating heritage garden Assess viability of community garden

Table 11: Landscape Concept Plan Notes

Area	Description	Actions
Grass Slope	Grass slope near proposed playground and picnic sites in the north west of the reserve	 Existing grass slope adjoining proposed playground to be used for informal play
Informal Recreation Area	Gently sloping grass area in the west of the reserve to be used for informal recreation including picnicking, sitting and unstructured play	 Recreation activities to minimise potential impact on adjoining residents Assess potential for additional shade tree planting taking account of view lines from residences
Edge of Creek Corridor and Ponds	Area surround creeks and ponds throughout the Reserve	 Extend native planting of grasses and low shrubs from edge of bushland to edge of existing path to assist maintenance Treatment of edge to discourage dogs from entering creek corridor and ponds to avoid damage to natural vegetation and wildlife habitat and allow ecological restoration and management A range of treatment options to be investigated in consultation with local community, Bushland Management Advisory Committee and Council maintenance staff Upgrade viewing platform
Existing Unsealed Track used by Service Vehicles	Unsealed track in central area of the Reserve	 Upgrade track to pedestrian path suitable for service vehicles connected to existing path
Grove of Shade Trees	Proposed site for shade trees in the central portion of the Reserve	 Shade trees to be planted in informal layout with clear understorey to allow visitors to sit and picnic under the tree canopies and spectators to stand in shade in the afternoon to watch games on playing fields Placement of tree planting groups should maintain and not diminish key views from residences located to south of the Reserve
Off-leash Dog Area	Parkland area near sports fields	 Off-leash dog exercise area to be used year-round except during organised sport matches (February - October) Signage to be set low enough to assist visibility Stencils stating 'off-leash dog area – cyclists slow down or dismount' should be painted on the path to reduce reported conflicts
Shade Trees Along Path	Shade trees to be planted along selected areas of the pedestrian path	 Shade trees to be planted along sections of the existing pedestrian path to reduce exposure to UV and risk of skin cancer Placement of tree planting groups should maintain and not diminish key views from residences located to south of the Reserve Species selection to include long-lived species

Area	Description	Actions
Seawall Marine Ecology Values	Existing seawall along boundary with Tarban Creek	 Carry out an assessment of the existing seawall to identify opportunities to improve marine ecology values Implement improvements in stages and monitor results to improve techniques
Grove of Shade Trees	Proposed site for shade trees in the eastern portion of the Reserve	 Grove of trees to provide separation between playing fields and picnic area Trees to be planted in informal layout with clear understorey to allow visitors to sit under the tree canopies and provide shade to picnickers in the afternoon Placement of tree planting groups should maintain and not diminish key views from residences located to south of the Reserve
Access to water	Proposed location of access to the water	 Continue to investigate options to improve access to the water. Potential for place to launch kayaks and for dogs to access the water
Eastern Car park	Unsealed area currently used for informal parking by visitors to Reserve and sporting events	 Formalise the existing car park area at the eastern end of the reserve off Waruda Place Upgraded car parking layout to be formalised with permeable hard surface Delineate and maintain boundaries and edges of carpark, Reserve and private land Drainage to incorporate water sensitive urban design Native landscape planting to create visual screening from adjoining residences and restore edges to remnant vegetation that has been damaged by parking and slashing
Ecological Restoration Area	Environmental conservation land in the Reserve's east	 Current program of weed control and managing natural regeneration needs to be expanded to achieve an effective level of ecological health throughout the whole area
Native Ecological Community	Environmental Conservation land in the Reserve's west	 Remnant vegetation to be managed to protect and enhance ecological values Ecological community to be managed in accordance with a specific Management Plan for the Reserve Aquatic habitat associated with the creek is to be managed to improve ecological health
Playing Fields	Playing fields area adjacent to the Tarban Creek boundary	• Existing playing fields to be managed to maintain a standard suitable for the current level of usage
Amenities Block	Amenities block located in central portion of the Reserve	Existing Amenities Block to be maintained
Pedestrian Bridge over Creek	Existing pedestrian bridge providing access from Jolly Parade	Existing bridge to be maintained

Area	Description	Actions
Pedestrian Boardwalk	Existing boardwalk in the Reserve's west	Existing boardwalk to be maintained



Figure 10 Riverglade reserve (photos from left to right top to bottom) off-leash dog exercise area, The Priory, open space, Tarban Creek mangroves, seawall and Grey-headed Flying Fox seasonal camp

6. Management Actions

Management Actions presented in Tables 12-15 outline the range of actions to be undertaken by the Council in conjunction with this PoM. The actions are grouped by the following key sections and headings:

- Biodiversity, Catchment and Natural Landscape Actions Table 12
- Cultural Heritage Management Actions Table 13
- Recreation and Visitor Facilities Actions Table 14
- Reserve Management and Operation Actions Table 15

Each action has been allocated a:

- Priority
- Resource Estimation
- Performance Target
- Means of Measurement

For the action plan:

- Priority actions
 - High to commence within first year of the plan for completion within 5 years
 - Medium to commence within first three years of the plan for completion within 7 years
 - o Minor to commence within five years of the plan
- Resource estimates are broad estimates of capital and operational expenditure
 - High > \$50 000
 - Moderate <\$50 000 and >\$10 000
 - Minor < \$10 000

6.1 Management Action Tables

6.1.1 Management Action Plan - Biodiversity, Catchment and Natural Landscape

Table 12: Management Action Plan - Biodiversity, Catchment and Natural Landscape

Action	Biodiversity, Catchment and Natural Landscape – Actions	Priority	Resource Estimation	Performance Target	Means of Measurement
Bushland Management	Manage the identified area of the Park as Bushland – to protect and enhance the Park's natural environment, habitats and biodiversity values; to maintain and reinforce the area's scenic value/appeal; as an attractive setting for appropriate nature- based passive recreation and educational activities.	High	Moderate	No reduction in Bushland extent or biodiversity value	Observation, mapping and photographic monitoring. Annual review
Wetland Management	 Manage, restore and rehabilitate the areas of Coastal Freshwater Swamp, Estuarine Mangrove Forest within the reserve and Coastal Saltmarsh on the adjoining land below mean high water mark as Wetland – to maintain and protect the biodiversity and ecological value of wetland areas in Riverglade Reserve; to facilitate community engagement through education and interaction without compromising ecological values; and to improve the quality of water flowing into the Parramatta River Protect highly significant estuarine communities contained within the Reserve Estuarine Mangrove Forest Coastal Freshwater Swamp Forest (EEC – component of Sydney Freshwater Wetlands), and Coastal Saltmarsh on adjoining land below mean high water mark Key neighbourhood and catchment threats include: Stormwater and run-off issues resulting in weed infestation, gross pollution and nutrification and sedimentation; 	High	Moderate	No reduction in Wetland extent or biodiversity value	Observation, mapping and photographic monitoring. Annual review
	 Inhibited migration resulting from sea wall and in- stream barriers; and Impacts of climate change induced sea level rise 				

Action	Biodiversity, Catchment and Natural Landscape – Actions	Priority	Resource Estimation	Performance Target	Means of Measurement
Watercourse Management	Manage the watercourse area of Tarban Creek to protect biodiversity, ecological values, the riparian environment (particularly riparian vegetation), habitat and bank stability; to promote community engagement, access and use of Tarban Creek within the reserve. Review the performance of stormwater quality improvement devices (SQIDS) within the reserve	High	Moderate	Riparian and biodiversity vegetation maintained. Bank stability not degraded. Evaluation of SQIDS effectiveness and upgrades as required.	Observation. Evidence of erosion/bank instability. Review
	Continue to assess water quality	High	Minor	Regular water quality monitoring	Results of monitoring
Biodiversity, Conservation and Bushcare Groups	Maintain and enhance habitats for threatened species. Continued support for bush regeneration program and collaboration with groups such as Riverglade Bushcare Group, Tarban Creek Action Group and The Priory Group. Continue to implement a rolling programme of bush regeneration, revegetation and weed control measures as the major "active" management measures to maintain and enhance the Reserve's native flora, vegetation community and habitat values. Regeneration, revegetation and weed control efforts will include provision (and sufficient funding) for adequate follow-up treatments to ensure improvements to bushland quality/integrity are assured. Priorities to consider in targeting bush regeneration and weed control measures will include:	High	Moderate	Engagement with local community groups for bush regeneration.	Extent of collaboration between council and the community groups. Area of completed bush regeneration, monitored annually
	 vegetation communities of high conservation significance; declared priority weeds, and environmental weeds with a high potential for spread; habitats/populations of native flora and fauna species of high conservation significance; disturbed sites and existing major weed infestations; areas vulnerable to weed invasion/spread (such as roadsides, tracksides and major visitor use nodes); bushland on Park boundaries; and 				

Action	Biodiversity, Catchment and Natural Landscape – Actions	Priority	Resource Estimation	Performance Target	Means of Measurement
	 as guided by any vegetation management/rehabilitation plan for the Park (if/when prepared) 				
Management of introduced exotic plants	Management of the introduction of exotic plants and contaminants through illegal dumping and propagation from neighbouring residential areas; education/signage of the ecological impacts of such practices; and the removal of weeds and suppression actions.	High	Minor	Reduction in number of unmanaged exotic plants/weeds. Improved community engagement and education	Weed surveys. Community feedback. Annual review
Weed Management	Continue to implement rolling programs of bush regeneration, revegetation and weed control measures. The reserve has five weeds of national significance (WONS) - Boneseed (<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>), Blackberry (<i>Rubus</i> <i>fruticocus</i>), Asparagus Fern (<i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i>), Lantana (<i>Lantana camara</i>), Madeira Vine (<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>). The reserve has 4 state priority weeds, 2 regional priority weeds and 13 other weeds of concern, in accordance with the Greater Sydney Regional Weed Strategic Management Plan 2017-2022 under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> . Council has limited resources to manage weed infestations and some weeds provide important fauna habitat (i.e. Lantana) and both these factors strongly influence the recommended strategies in the EVRAP.	Medium	Moderate	Improved bushland condition.	Observations. Bushland condition assessments
Fire Management	 The history of fire management practices in Riverglade Reserve is not well understood. The last hazard reduction in North Tarban was 2010. There is a need to implement a fire management regime for two main reasons: the protection of human life & property & for conservation of biodiversity. Some communities in Riverglade reserve require fire to maintain species diversity and for their long-term viability (i.e. Coastal 	Medium	Minor	Fire and fire risks, managed in compliance with existing plans and obligations. Feasibility of ecological burns investigated.	Fire risk management action and fire incident reporting. Approved burns undertaken.

Action	Biodiversity, Catchment and Natural Landscape – Actions	Priority	Resource Estimation	Performance Target	Means of Measurement
	Sandstone Foreshore Forest). Others do not (i.e. Estuarine Communities, Coastal Freshwater Swamp Forest, Exotics)				
Fauna Management	Habitat protection – protect existing habitats listed below; maintain and enhance connectivity throughout bushland, wetland and watercourse areas; install signage at key locations; maintain old stags and debris and installation of artificial habitat such as nesting boxes, fish ladders and sandstone rock piles.	High	Minor	No reduction in extent of, or increased fragmentation of habitat. Improved bushland quality	Observation. Community and stakeholder feedback. Bushland condition assessments.
Grey-headed Flying Fox Management	Maintain core habitat for Grey-headed Flying fox through the management of remnant vegetation; the location of recreational facilities to be considered in relation to the Grey-headed Flying fox habitat. Implementation of recommendations from the GHFF camp management plan in context of Council's resolution. Reduce impacts on reserve users and nearby residents.	High	Moderate	Implement recommendation of the GHFF camp management plan in context of Council's resolution. Minimise impacts on GHFF and residents. Community education.	Annual Grey-headed Flying fox surveys. Community feedback
Marine Ecology Values	Marine habitats to be maintained and enhanced within Riverglade Reserve. Investigate the feasibility of constructing an environmentally friendly seawall when upgrade occurs. Rehabilitate saltmarsh and marine vegetation. Continued water quality monitoring.	High	Moderate	Construction of living seawall. Increase extent of saltmarsh and marine vegetation.	Observation. Annual survey of marine vegetation and habitat.

6.1.2 Management Action Plan - Cultural Heritage Management

Table 13: Management Action Plan - Cultural Heritage Management

Action	Cultural Heritage Management - Actions	Priority	Resource Estimation	Performance Target	Means of Measurement
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Values	Ensure known Aboriginal cultural heritage sites (and any confirmed sites located/recorded in future) – as listed on the Department of Industry Planning and Environment's Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System – are appropriately managed throughout Riverglade Reserve, as consistent with the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> . Continue the existing approach of not publicly disclosing the location of Aboriginal sites and avoiding siting facilities in close proximity to Aboriginal sites, as the principal management tool and means of protecting such places.	High	Minor	Aboriginal cultural heritage sites maintained in compliance with legislative obligations.	Incidence of damage to Aboriginal cultural heritage sites. Annual site survey
	Seek advice from the Department of Planning Industry and Environment, as well as the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council, regarding the protection and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the Park.	Medium	Minor	Increased knowledge of Aboriginal cultural sites management.	Engagement with DPIE and Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council.
European/Historic Heritage	Retain and protect features and sites of European historic significance within the reserve. Heritage listed items include the main Priory building, outbuildings, remnant structures and archaeological features. The site is surrounded by natural and historic plantings which are part of the site's curtilage and listing.	High	Moderate	European/historic heritage sites maintained in compliance with legislative obligations	Incidence of damage to European cultural heritage sites. Annual site survey
	Assessment of the viability of reinstating heritage garden and the establishment of a community garden	Medium	Minor	Complete assessment	Reinstatement of heritage garden Establishment of community garden
The Priory	Maintenance of The Priory buildings and surrounds. The area which indicates the use of The Priory and car park has been categorised as General Community Use. The surrounds of The Priory buildings have been categorised as Park with access to The Priory and the park.	High	Moderate	Site made available for General Community Use.	Completion of works to make site available for General Community Use.

Action	Cultural Heritage Management - Actions	Priority	Resource Estimation	Performance Target	Means of Measurement
	Buildings, paths and stairs require modification to meet universal access standards. In accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> and the <i>Crown</i> <i>Land Management Act 2016</i> , the Priory may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public. Potential uses for the Priory heritage precinct are:	High	Moderate	Diversification of uses within Riverglade Reserve.	Number of visitors to the Priory.
	 Lease for café and/or restaurant Space for community events, education and artists' studios Heritage interpretation within buildings and surrounding gardens 				
	Driveway to The Priory should be limited to the entry via carpark to retain heritage vista at the front of the buildings to and from the site, and to retain trees that are included within the curtilage.	Medium	Moderate	Heritage values maintained	Observation

6.1.3 Management Action Plan - Recreation and Visitor Facilities

Table 14: Management Action Plan - Recreation and Visitor Facilities

Action	Recreation and Visitor Facilities - Actions	Priority	Resource Estimation	Performance Target	Means of Measurement
Dog-walking areas	 Maintain the current space and time of use for the designated off leash dog area in the Park area adjacent to the seawall along Tarban Creek extending to the existing shared path, that area includes the playing fields. The off-leash area not to be fenced however the boundary is defined with features such as large rocks and bushy shrubs to prevent entry into bushland and wetland areas. To optimise safety and to comply with the <i>Companion Animals Act 1998</i> cyclists are to slow down or dismount in the designated off leash area; Dog walkers are to remove dog faeces; Council to supply sufficient rubbish receptacles within the reserve; Dogs to be under the effective control of a competent person at all times; and The total number of dogs that a person is accompanied by or has control of does not exceed 4 In accordance to the <i>Companion Animals Acts 1998</i>, dogs are prohibited from the following places: Children's play areas 10m of food preparation/consumption areas 	High	Minor	Dogs in the reserve effectively managed, in accordance with legislation and Council guidelines.	Observations and compliance/enforcement records. User satisfaction and number of complaints annually
Café/Restaurant	 On playing fields during period of organised sport Dogs will continue to be permitted on approved tracks, but only if on a leash and under full control. Previous PoMs have identified The Priory as a potential site for a café or restaurant. 	High	Moderate	Establishment of café/restaurant	Observation Community feedback
	Development of The Priory site as a café/restaurant.			Diversification of uses	

Action	Recreation and Visitor Facilities - Actions	Priority	Resource Estimation	Performance Target	Means of Measurement
	The Priory site and car park have been identified as an area for General Community Use, potentially as a coffee shop/ restaurant with a nearby playground. The Priory surrounds have been identified as Park, with access to The Priory and the playground. Buildings, paths and stairs require modification to meet universal access standards.	High	Moderate		
	In accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> and the <i>Crown Land Management Act 2016</i> , the Priory may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public.				
	 Potential uses for the Priory heritage precinct are: Lease for café and/or restaurant Space for community events, education and artists' studios Heritage interpretation within buildings and surrounding gardens 				
Increased Shade within the reserve	 Increase the provision of shade within the reserve to reduce exposure to UV rays and subsequently skin cancer risk Shade within the reserve to be increased by: The establishment of two areas of shade tree groves with the function of providing shade and delineating the boundary between the playing fields and picnic area; and Planting of shade trees along sections of the existing southern pedestrian path, placement of tree planting groups should maintain and not diminish key views from residence located to the south of the reserve. 	High	Moderate	Trees planted and maintained. Increase in shade in identified key areas	Observation. Tree growth and amount of shade provided. Community feedback.
Picnic Area	Develop picnic area facilities on existing grassed area. This area is to include: • Seating • Tables • Shelter • Water supply	Medium	Moderate	Increased family participation within the Reserve	Observation. Community feedback

Action	Recreation and Visitor Facilities - Actions	Priority	Resource Estimation	Performance Target	Means of Measurement
Playground	 Encourage high level usage among families. Carry out investigations to determine: Age group/s of users Character of the play facilities Pathway connectivity Shade trees Engagement of specialist designer to develop an inclusive playground concept. 	High	Moderate	Utilisation of playground equipment. Increased family participation within the Reserve	Observation. Usage Community feedback on facilities after one year.
Car parking	Formalise and construct car parking areas at two locations in the reserve, at the western end near the Priory and at the eastern end near the playing fields. Incorporate water sensitive urban design, plant native vegetation for screening from residences and restoration of remnant vegetation.	Medium	Moderate	Improve parking availability and reduce use of informal/illegal parking Improve boundary definition of car park, private property and reserve boundary	Completion of works Community feedback
Accessibility and pathways	Maintain existing pedestrian pathways and shared pathways. Create new pedestrian entry point at Manning Road. Upgrade pathways to accommodate service vehicles. Connect existing pathway near the boardwalk to the edge of proposed playground allowing for improved linkages within the reserve. Reinstate any blocked access ways from Victoria Road into the southern part of the reserve.	High	Moderate	Increased family participation within the Reserve. Upgrade pathways to improve accessibility. Pathway upgraded to be suitable for service and emergency vehicles entering from Manning Road.	Observation Utilisation of pathways Community feedback
	Consider the possibility of the closure of the unformed section of public road at the end of Mary Street and the possible consolidation of the area into the Riverglade Reserve title	Minor	Moderate	Unformed section of road closed and consolidated into the reserve	Completion of action

Action	Recreation and Visitor Facilities - Actions	Priority	Resource Estimation	Performance Target	Means of Measurement
Organised Sport	Continue to maintain and upgrade sports playing fields in line with Council assessment management plan and NSROC Regional Sportsground Strategy	Minor	Minor	Maintenance of fields to a standard for the current level of usage.	Stakeholder and community feedback
	Limit sports usage by time and number of users per hour, including spectators, except on occasions where extenuating circumstances can be demonstrated. As follows:				
	 No Sunday use, apart from very limited preseason usage during Feb & March on one field only. 				
	 No more than the equivalent of 2 senior/mid senior games to use the reserve at any one time. (i.e. this equates to 60 players, plus organisers & spectators). 				
	 Continue with the strategy to reduce ground area used by soccer pitches retaining them closer together, to maximise opportunity for other users to use the basin area, whilst sport in play. 				
Access to the water	Continue to investigate options to improve access to the water; potential for place to launch kayaks and for dogs to access the water	Medium	Moderate	Improved access to the water	Completion of action

6.1.4 Management Action Plan - Reserve Management and Operations

Table 15: Management Action Plan - Reserve Management and Operations

Action	Reserve Management and Operations - Actions	Priority	Resource Estimation	Performance Target	Means of Measurement
Reserve Management	Ongoing management of existing facilities within Riverglade Reserve.	High	Existing Resources	Implementation of PoM and Landscape Concept Plan.	Adoption of PoM Annual review of PoM Completion of the Landscape Concept Plan works. Community and stakeholder feedback
	Continued engagement with community and stakeholders	High	Minor	Continued high level of satisfaction of visitors to the reserve.	Annual online and in-park survey on satisfaction of reserve amenities / environmental values.
	Work with neighbours to improve understanding of encroachment issues Monitor and report unauthorised activity, including encroachments and dumping, and take swift and appropriate action	High	Existing resources	Decrease in incidences of encroachments and unauthorised activity	Number of incidences and reporting and action time
	Prioritise improvements according to community and stakeholder consultation	High	Minor	Review of PoM linked to Council's annual strategic planning review.	Community and stakeholder feedback
	Increased funding and resources	High	Minor	Review of PoM linked to Council's annual strategic planning review.	

7. Funding, Implementation and Review

7.1 Funding and Implementation

The Plan of Management is to be implemented using the document as both a guide for the day-to day management of Riverglade Reserve, as well as for the programming of future upgrade projects to be included in strategic plans, such as Council's four-year Delivery Program, its one-year Operational Plan including budgets and in the annual Fees and Charges and Resourcing Strategy.

In this way the plan of management guides regular Council staff and contractor works and maintenance programs and provides input to the strategic upgrade of Council's open space and environmental assets. The intent is that the plan of management contributes as part of Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) requirements.

Funding sources for reserve management include, but are not limited to the following:

- Rates
- Environment-levy
- Special rate variations
- Developer contributions
- Income from commercial activities i.e. leases and licences, permits and hire charges within the reserve
- Grants such as State and Commonwealth programs i.e. Environmental Trusts, Crown Reserve Improvement Fund, Heritage Grants, Estuary and Coastal Management Programs, 5 Million Trees,
- Bequeaths, donations, gifts and sponsorships
- Sale of biodiversity or carbon credits
- Volunteer, organisation and university in-kind involvement, projects and partnerships.

A priority is allocated to each Management Action identified in Section 6 as High, Medium or Minor to reflect their relative importance and implementation timing in order to achieve the Plan's objectives. Actions can also be one-off tasks or ongoing where the action requires funding throughout the Park's management and/or the life of this Plan.

Funding and resources may respond to various initiatives or opportunities, such as future or current government programs, and may therefore need to be implemented may occur at different priorities to that outlined. Alternatively, some programs may have to be broken into smaller staged components to allow Council to meet matching funding requirements.

7.2 Evaluation and Reporting

The objectives, actions and performance measures outlined in this Plan of Management provide a basis for qualitative reporting on performance of Council in managing Riverglade Reserve and progress in implementing the Plan. Evaluation of performance should be undertaken at the end of each financial year to align with Council's annual reporting requirements.

The Plan of Management should be reviewed every ten years. High priority activities in the plan need to be included within the forthcoming Operational Plan and four-year Delivery Program, consistent with the Community Strategic Plan.

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Appendix A Survey Results

The following survey was used for the in-park and the Your Voice Hunter's Hill online survey.

Hunter's Hill Council is working with Eco Logical Australia to develop a Plan of Management for Riverglade Reserve. This Plan of Management will provide guidelines and actions for future management and maintenance of the reserve.

To help develop the Plan, Council is seeking community input through this survey. Information from the survey will be used to identify community values and priorities to help guide the development of the Plan of Management for Riverglade Reserve.

This survey can be completed online at: (insert website link) or by searching for: Your Voice Hunters Hill

Further information on the development of the Riverglade Reserve Plan of Management can be requested from Council's Bushland Coordinator: Jacqui Vollmer (VollmerJ@huntershill.nsw.gov.au).

RESERVE USAGE

Are you a resident of Hunter's Hill Council Local Government Area (LGA)?



How often do you use Riverglade Reserve?





Who do you usually visit the Reserve with? Select as many as apply.

How many people would you typically visit the Reserve with?





Why do you choose to use Riverglade Reserve? Select as many as apply.

What are the main activities you usually do at the Reserve during an average visit? Select as many as apply.





Overall, how do you rate the current condition and facilities offered at the reserve?

Which features and/or facilities of Riverglade Reserve are you unhappy with in particular? Select as many as apply.



What do you believe the main values or purposes of Riverglade Reserve are or should be? Select as many as apply.



What improvements would you like to have implemented in Riverglade Reserve?



Riverglade Reserve Plan of Management | Hunter's Hill Council

Appendix B Easement Maps











Appendix C Review of Key Legislation, Plans, Documents and Council Programs

Relevant legislation reviewed for the Plan of Management is shown in Table 16:

Table 16 Summary of legislation reviewed

Act	Summary	Implications for Riverglade Reserve
Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW)	 This Act lists threatened species, populations and ecological communities, lists key threatening processes, allows for strategies to conserve threatened entities, and allows for the creation of Biodiversity Stewardship sites. The Act requires that Councils consider the impact on threatened species and ecological communities before approving developments under Part 4 of the EP&A Act and activities under Part 5 of the EP&A Act if proponents opt-in. Key components of the reform include: A new framework for managing native vegetation clearing An enhanced and strategic approach to private land conservation and threatened species conservation An expanded biodiversity offsetting scheme 	Management of threatened species and communities on Council owned lands. Development consent and activity approvals (should proponents opt-in to the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme under Part 5 of the EP&A Act). Fulfil the actions required under priority action statements and recovery plans, now called the Biodiversity Conservation Program. Council may establish a Biodiversity Stewardship site on its land, should Riverglade Reserve be transferred to Council ownership. Biodiversity credits generated are sold and retired. Income received is used to manage the land for biodiversity. This requires authorisation under the Plan of Management for the reserve. If the land remains with the Crown, it would need to enter into the Biobank sites are now called Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement.
<i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> (NSW)	Provides a streamlined, clear framework for safeguarding primary industries, natural environments and communities from a range of pests, diseases and weeds across NSW.	The Greater Sydney Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan lists weeds that are State Priority, Regional Priority and Other Regional Priority. Weeds in Riverglade Reserve are prioritised accordingly.
Coastal Management Act 2016 (NSW)	The aim of this Act is to manage the coastal environment in a manner consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development for the social, cultural and economic well-being of the people of NSW. The Act required the publication of a coastal management manual to impose mandatory requirements and provide guidance in	Riverglade Reserve is located on the Parramatta River estuary which is listed under Schedule 1 of the Act. The Parramatta River Estuary Coastal Zone Management Plan was prepared to identify and implement actions to improve issues within the coastal zone of Riverglade Reserve.

Act	Summary	Implications for Riverglade Reserve
	connection with the preparation, development, adoption, implementation, amendment, and review of, and the contents of, coastal management programs for land in the coastal zone.	
Crown Lands Management Act 2016 (NSW)	The Crown Lands Act 2016 governs the planning, management and use of Crown land, including provisions to reserve or dedicate lands for a prescribed public purpose and for leasing and licensing.	The Department of Primary Industries, together with reserve trusts appointed by the Minister, are responsible for the administration and management of the Crown reserve system. HHC is the reserve trust manager appointed by the Minister to care, control and manage Riverglade Reserve.
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth) (EPBC Act)	 Provides a national scheme for environmental protection and biodiversity conservation. Incorporates referral mechanisms and environmental impact assessment processes for projects of national significance. Triggers for referral to the Commonwealth include significant impacts to listed communities and species. 	Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs) and Critically Endangered Ecological Communities (CEECs) such as Coastal Saltmarsh, endangered species, marine and migratory (JAMBA/CAMBA/ROKAMBA) species.
Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW) (EP&A Act).	The principal planning legislation for the State providing a framework for the overall environmental planning and assessment of development proposals.	Drives the planning and development processes in HHC. The Act provides for the preparation of Hunters Hill LEP and DCP, zoning of Riverglade Reserve and Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage items within Riverglade Reserve. It sets out requirements for Development Applications and Reviews of Environmental Factors.
Fisheries Management Act 1994 (NSW)	This Act aims to preserve fish stocks, habitats and species and to maintain and promote ecologically sustainable development whilst ensuring the commercial viability of fisheries. It allows for listing of threatened species, habitat, communities, and processes in a similar manner to the BC Act.	Mangroves, saltmarsh and key fish habitat areas that occur in HHC are protected under this Act.
Heritage Act 1977 (NSW)	This Act aims to conserve a place, building, work, relic, moveable object or precinct based on its historical, scientific, cultural, social, archaeological, architectural, natural or aesthetic value to the State.	Amendments to this Act established the State Heritage Register on which The Priory is listed.
Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)	Incorporates Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) considerations (including biodiversity conservation) as a key aspect of Council operations. Require the preparation of Plans of Management (POMs) for all Council owned land	The Act governs the preparation of plans of management for community land. It requires plans of management to set out objectives and performance targets with respect to the land, the means by which council will achieve the objectives and performance

Act	Summary	Implications for Riverglade Reserve
	and provides for the categorisation of land as operational and community, and classification of community land into, amongst other things, natural areas and various sub-categories. Additionally, this Act has a range of other provisions that allow for appropriate management of operational land and infrastructure, provide educational services, set rates and charges, issue orders and have a range of enforcement powers.	targets, and how its performance will be assessed and management with respect to the objectives and performance targets. It authorises use, easements, lease and licences and other granting of estates on community land.
Local Land Services Act 2013 (NSW) and Local Land Services Amendment Bill 2017 (NSW)	The Act Provides a framework to ensure the proper management of natural resources in the social, economic and environmental interests of the State	HHC is part of the Greater Sydney Local Land Services (GSLLS). The GSLLS State Strategic Plan 2016-2026 sets the vision and goals for Local Land Services for the next ten years and outlines the strategies through which these goals will be achieved. Catchment based targets will be incorporated into this Biodiversity Plan.
National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NSW):	Provides for establishment/management of National Parks and other conservation reserves (for example, through Voluntary Conservation Agreements), the protection of flora and fauna species and Aboriginal cultural heritage.	HHC contains no national parks but it is adjacent to Parramatta River Regional Park and Lane Cove National Park.
Native Title Act 1993	The Act's purpose is to provide a national system for the recognition and protection of native title and for its co-existence with the national land management system.	There is no current Native Title Claim affecting Riverglade Reserve. Lot 1 DP 823933 does not meet the criteria that it was made an addition to the reserve prior to 23 December 1996 and HHC will need to comply with criteria defined by the Lands Advisory Services
Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (NSW) (POEO Act)	The POEO Act enables the Government to set out explicit protection of the environment policies (PEPs) and adopt more innovative approaches to reducing pollution through licences and approvals relating to air pollution, water pollution, noise pollution and waste management.	Integration of licensing with the development approval procedures in HHC under the EP&A Act in environmental assessment of activities.
Water Management Act 2000 (NSW)	This Act controls the extraction of water, how water can be used, the construction of works such as dams and weirs, and the carrying out of activities on or near water sources in NSW	Any works within 40m from the top of bank of a waterway is a controlled activity that requires integrated development approval. Council are exempt from requiring integrated approval.

Council plans and documents that have been reviewed in preparation of the Plan of Management (PoM) are shown in Table 17.

Name	Summary	Implications for Hunter's Hill Council
A Liveability Framework for Sydney – DPE / Greater Sydney Commission 2017	Explains the social challenges Sydney faces (e.g. increasing population density) and its effects, as well as potential mitigation measures	 Framework for managing transport infrastructure, housing and environmental quality
A response to Hunter's Hill Council Expression of Interest – Lease of The Priory (2016)	Proposal for use of The Priory as a restaurant, takeaway cafe and function spaces.	 Must align with strategies and guidelines identified in The Priory Conservation Management Plan
Birds of Tarban Creek (Combined for years 1998, 2009, 2013)	Historical data from bird surveys conducted in the area.	Identification of biodiversity values
Ecological assessment of saline wetlands at Tarban Creek (2010)	Results of an assessment into the impact of stormwater and sediment accretion on saline wetland vegetation.	 Recommendations for reducing sediment loads and stormwater drainage volume and force
Estuary Vegetation Rehabilitation Action Plan for Riverglade Reserve and Tarban Creek Reserve (2011)	Provides a five-year plan for the management of Riverglade Reserve and Tarban Creek Reserve in order to maintain biodiversity, together with the reserve's aesthetic, recreational, educational and scientific values to the community, while enabling Hunter's Hill Council to fulfil its responsibilities under NSW legislation, government and community programs and Council's own management objectives.	 Identified biodiversity, heritage and recreational values, surrounding impacts, and management issues specified recommendations for threat mitigation; bush regeneration priorities and a works program for Bushcare volunteers and contractors identified specific actions to protect estuarine vegetation remnants and strategies for present and future sustainable management of these vegetation communities. Reviewed in preparation of the 2013 PoM
Flying-fox Camp Management Plan Tarban Creek	The objects of the plan are to develop management outcomes and implementations for the Flying-fox camp in Riversglade Reserve in accordance with broader conservation management strategies.	 Management options presented in the report include education and awareness programs, property modifications, service subsidies, rate rebates, camp management, alternate habitat creation and provision of artificial roosting habitat Funding available to implement management options
Hunter's Hill Community Strategic Plan 2018-2028	Consultative plan to guide the aspirations and needs of the Hunter's Hill community over the period 2018- 2028	• The key directions outlined in the plan are to focus on the community, maintain character and manage growth planning, manage and preserve the environment, to make getting around easier and for leadership and governance.
Hunters Hill Stormwater Management	Details actions identified to better manage stormwater runoff in the	• Identified Tarban Creek as an area of

Name	Summary	Implications for Hunter's Hill Council
	future for council review and stakeholder consultation.	 Guided the installation of stormwater quality improvement devices at Manning Road and Fryar Place in 2014-2015 Key recommendations for managing stormwater pollution, including the ongoing maintenance and monitoring of existing treatment units Reviewed in preparation of the 2013 PoM
Local Strategic Planning Statements: Guideline for Councils – DPE 2018	Detailed guideline on the process and scope of local strategic planning statements based on 2018 amendments to the <i>Environmental</i> <i>Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> (EP&A Act)	 Helpful to ensure Hunter's Hill can get the most out of its Local Strategic Planning Statement
North District Plan	Broad scale plan for the future development of Sydney	 Hunter's Hill is within the North City District and will have to support increases in housing, jobs and infrastructure
Our Living River Masterplan (2018)	Plan to improve Parramatta River for swimming and community use	• Opportunities for possible swimming sites along Parramatta River with improved River management.
Parramatta River Catchment – Native Habitats and Fauna (2014)	Summarises the findings of a catchment-wide fauna species richness study undertaken to support the Native habitat recovery in the Parramatta River catchment project.	 Identification of biodiversity values Identification of the Bedlam Bay to Tarban Creek Riparian Corridor as a Medium to High priority
Parramatta River Catchment Ecological Health Project – CT Environmental (2016)	Identifies threatened and iconic species from the Parramatta River catchment, links the ecological needs of these iconic species to the ecological services provided within the catchment, and recommends a hierarchy of actions for habitat management,	• The LGA is important for several species
Parramatta River Estuary Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) (2013)	Aims, objectives and implementation strategies for management of Parramatta River by the Parramatta River Estuary Management Committee. The Action Plan details 4 actions specific to Riverglade Reserve.	 Implement the Stormwater Management Action Plan consistent with the CZMP and review the maintenance regimes for stormwater infrastructure to ensure existing infrastructure is maintained regularly and adequately. This Action Plan identifies sites for stormwater infrastructure improvements / upgrades, additional GPTs and/or other stormwater quality controls in various locations, including Tarban Creek

Name	Summary	Implications for Hunter's Hill Council
		 Undertake management of estuarine vegetation within Gladesville Reserve and Riverglade Reserve to enhance saltmarsh habitats in these areas and allow for future landward migration with Sea Level Rise Continue bush regeneration in all reserves of the Parramatta River estuary catchment located within Hunter's Hill LGA, including undertaking the following recommendations made in the <i>Estuary Processes Study</i> (AECOM, 2010), including targeted vine control and removal of young Phoenix palms, Coral trees and Green Cestrum within the upper tidal reach of Tarban Creek Provide for the ongoing monitoring, conservation and management of estuarine vegetation and adequately address stormwater / sewage issues in Tarban Creek (in Riverglade Reserve).
Plan of Management for Riverglade Reserve (2013)	Identifies planning considerations, sewerage, stormwater and groundwater issues, biodiversity issues and cultural heritage issues in order to enable Hunter's Hill Council to sustainably manage the natural and cultural resources in Riverglade reserve.	-
Plan of Management for Riverglade Reserve (2009)	Aims to provide management guidelines for Riverglade Reserve and to enable Hunter's Hill Council to meet its statutory responsibilities in managing vacant crown land and open space.	
Plan of Management for Riverglade Reserve (1999)	Aims to provide management guidelines for Riverglade Reserve and to enable Hunter's Hill Council to meet its statutory responsibilities in managing vacant crown land and open space.	
Regional Disability Inclusion Action Plan	Provides a list of strategies that ensure that people with a disability are welcomed, accepted and respected in the community.	 Represents a commitment by Hunter's Hill, City of Ryde, and Lane Cove Councils
Regional Sportsground Strategy Review (2017)	Aims to improve coordination of community sportsground management across the North Sydney	• Outlines the role that each LGA (including Hunter's Hill) must play to

Name	Summary	Implications for Hunter's Hill Council
	Regional Organisation of Councils (NSROC) region to maximise participation opportunities and deliver community health and amenity benefits.	address the issues identified at a regional level
Remediation Ecological Assessment of Tarban Creek Estuarine Wetland Community (2005)	Results of an assessment into the health of the intertidal vegetation of Tarban Creek after remediation works.	 Recommendations regarding maintenance and protective management strategies
Report on an Area of Urban Bushland: Tarban Creek Reserve, Gladesville (1994)	Detailed assessment of remnant bushland.	Identification of biodiversity values
Riverglade Environmental Planning Study (1991)	Compilation of reports on Town Planning, Heritage and Landscape Issues, Site Services and Drainage, Site Geotechnical Considerations, Site Flora and Site Asbestos Issues.	 Reviewed in preparation of the 1999 PoM
Riverglade Reserve, Hunter's Hill Community Questionnaire Survey (1999)	Results of a community consultation program regarding principal issues at the time.	 Reviewed in preparation for the 1999 PoM
Sportsground Reconfiguration Investigation (2019)	Detailed review of existing sportsgrounds to identify, quantify and evaluate opportunities for their reconfiguration.	 Identification of access and lighting as issues in an assessment of the Riverglade Reserve sportsground No reconfiguration options were identified for the facility The installation of lighting was proposed as a way to improve the site
Stream health in Brickmakers and Tarban Creeks, Hunter's Hill LGA (2014)	Results of sampling for macroinvertebrate fauna in Brickmakers and Tarban Creeks undertaken in 2014 as part of biological monitoring that has taken place since 2002.	 Identification of biodiversity values Tarban Creek showed considerable ecological impairment compared to previous years
The Priory Conservation Management Plan (2009)	Develops strategies and guidelines to ensure the conservation of cultural heritage prior to any upgrading of the property for future use.	 Outlines historical summary, describes physical evidence, assesses cultural significance, conservation policies, and provides conservation and maintenance works schedules Describes constraints and opportunities, and future options for uses of the property as a Cultural Precinct considered by Council
Your Vision for Our Future – Hunter's Hill Community Strategic Plan (2018)	Developed under State legislative requirement, this plan provides detailed strategic objectives and actions identified through community consultation.	 Reviewed in preparation of the 2013 PoM Guidance for successful delivery of the Plan

Community involvement through Council programs and user groups encourages community use of the reserve, biodiversity and cultural heritage protection, and are important to the future management of Riverglade Reserve. These are summarised in Table 18.

Name	Location / Involvement Summary	Implications for Hunter's Hill Council Summary
All Saints Hunters Hill Football Club	Enables players to participate across competitive and social levels of soccer.	Riverglade Reserve is included within the Football Club's playing grounds.
Bike North – Hunters Hill Working Group	The work of this community-based user group includes working with Council in implementing bicycle plans to ensure better cycling routes and facilities.	The Hunters Hill Bike Route runs through Riverglade Reserve.
Friends of the Environment Riverglade Reserve	Community members interested in ensuring the sustainable management of Riverglade Reserve.	Hold public meetings to discuss concerns regarding the management of Riverglade Reserve.
Habitat Network	Aims to reconnect habitat corridors and networks for small birds.	Bushcare sites in Riverglade Reserve form part of the Hunter's Hill small bird habitat corridor. Oversee the small bird corridor project and supply native plants for the reserve.
Hunters Hill Trust	Aims to protect the cultural and natural heritage of Hunters Hill.	The Priory is included in the Hunters Hill Trust Collection.
The Priory Bushcare Group	The Priory Bushcare Group maintains the gardens at The Priory.	The group works in the grounds of The Priory and meets every fourth Tuesday of the month from 8:00am to 10:00am.
Riverglade Reserve Bushcare Group	Assist in the maintenance of remnant bushland in Riverglade Reserve.	The Bushcare group works in various habitats around the reserve including Saltmarsh, Mangrove forests and Forest vegetation. The group meets every second Saturday of the month from 8.00am-10.00am.
Ryde - Hunter's Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society	Active in local conservation issues through networking with local members, local governments and broader conservation movements across the state.	Partners include the Hunters Hill Trust and Hunter's Hill Council.
Tarban Bay Environmental Walk	Encourages community members to walk through natural areas while providing information about how to care for them.	The walk runs through Riverglade Reserve, with signs throughout the reserve.
Tarban Creek Action Group	The Bushcare group works in the upper section of Tarban Creek near Augustine Street, Gladesville and North Tarban, Richmond Crescent and Mary Street, Hunters Hill.	Tarban Creek runs through Riverglade Reserve. The group meets every second Saturday of the month from 10:00am to 12:00 noon.

Table 18: Council programs and user groups that encourage community involvement in Riverglade Reserve

Appendix D Core Objectives for Land Categories – LG Act and Regulations

Table 19 Core objectives and guidelines for categories of land - Local Government Act and Regulations

Categorisation	LGA Prescribed Core Objectives for Management	LGA Preparation for draft Plans of Management	LG Regulation
General Community Use	 To promote, encourage and provide for the use of the land, and to provide facilities on the land, to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public: a) In relation to public recreation and the physical, cultural, social and intellectual welfare or development of individual members of the public, and b) In relation to purposes for which a lease, licence or other estate may be granted in respect of the land (other than the provision of public utilities and works associated with or ancillary to public utilities). 	A plan of management that applies to just one area of community land a) Must include a description of - (i) The condition of the land, and of any buildings or other improvements on the land, as at the date of adoption of the plan of management and (ii) The use of the land an any such buildings or improvements as at that date, and b) Must - (i) specify the purposes for which the land, and any such buildings or improvements, will be permitted to be used, and (ii) specify the purposes for which any further development of the land will be permitted, whether under lease or licence or otherwise, and (iii) describe the scale and intensity of any sch permitted use or development	 Guidelines for categorisation of land as general community use Land should be categorised as general community use under section 36(4) of the Act if the land— (a) may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public, and (b) is not required to be categorised as a natural area under section 36A, 36B or 36C of the Act and does not satisfy the guidelines under clauses 102–105 for categorisation as a natural area, a sportsground, a park or an area of cultural significance.
Park	 To encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities, and To provide for passive recreational activities or pastimes for the casual playing of games and 		Guidelines for categorisation of land as a park - if the land is, or is proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, for use mainly for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural

Categorisation	LGA Prescribed Core Objectives for Management	LGA Preparation for draft Plans of Management	LG Regulation
	 To improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management. 		pursuits that do not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.
Natural Area	 To conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function in respect of the land, or the feature or habitat in respect of which the land is categorised as a natural area, and To maintain the land, or that feature or habitat, in its natural state and setting, and To provide for the restoration and regeneration of the land, and To provide for community use of and access to the land in such a manner as will minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and To assist in and facilitate the implementation of any provisions restricting the use and management of the land that are set out in a recovery plan or threat abatement plan prepared under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 or the Fisheries Management Act 1994. 	Land that is categorised as natural area is to be further categorised as one or more of the following a) Bushland b) Wetland c) Escarpment d) Watercourse e) Foreshore A category prescribed by the regulations.	Guidelines for categorisation of land as a natural area - whether or not in an undisturbed state, possesses a significant geological feature, geomorphological feature, landform, representative system or other natural feature or attribute that would be sufficient to further categorise the land as bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse or foreshore under section 36(5) of the Act.
Bushland	 To ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat values of the land, the flora and fauna (including invertebrates, fungi and micro-organisms) of the land and To protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land, and 		Guidelines for categorisation of land as bushland (1) Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as bushland under section 36(5) of the Act if the land contains primarily native vegetation and that vegetation— (a) is the natural vegetation or a remainder of the natural vegetation of the land, or

Categorisation	LGA Prescribed Core Objectives for Management	LGA Preparation for draft Plans of Management	LG Regulation
Categorisation	 To promote the management of the land in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and to implement measures directed to minimising or mitigating any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and To restore degraded bushland, and To protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores, and To retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term, and 	LGA Preparation for draft Plans of Management	 LG Regulation (b) although not the natural vegetation of the land, is still representative of the structure or floristics, or structure and floristics, of the natural vegetation in the locality. (2) Such land includes— (a) bushland that is mostly undisturbed with a good mix of tree ages, and natural regeneration, where the understorey is comprised of native grasses and herbs or native shrubs, and that contains a range of habitats for native fauna (such as logs, shrubs, tree hollows and leaf litter), or (b) moderately disturbed bushland with some regeneration of trees and shrubs, where there may be a regrowth area with trees of even age, where native
	 To protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface. 		shrubs and grasses are present in the understorey even though there may be some weed invasion, or (c) highly disturbed bushland where the native understorey has been removed, where there may be significant weed invasion and where dead and dying trees are present, where there is no natural regeneration of trees or shrubs, but where the land is still capable of being rehabilitated.
Wetland	 a) To protect the biodiversity and ecological values of wetlands, with particular reference to their hydrological environment (including water quality and water flow), and to flora, fauna and habitat values of the wetlands, and b) To restore and regenerate degraded wetlands, and c) To facilitate community education in relation to wetlands, and the community use of wetlands, without compromising the ecological values of wetlands. 		Guidelines for categorisation of land as wetland Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as wetland under section 36(5) of the Act if the land includes marshes, mangroves, backwaters, billabongs, swamps, sedgelands, wet meadows or wet heathlands that form a waterbody that is inundated cyclically, intermittently or permanently with fresh, brackish or salt water, whether slow moving or stationary

Categorisation	LGA Prescribed Core Objectives for Management	LGA Preparation for draft Plans of Management	LG Regulation
Watercourse	 a) To manage watercourses so as to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the instream environment, particularly in relation to water quality and water flows, and b) To manage watercourses so as to protect the riparian environment, particularly in relation to riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability, and c) To restore degraded watercourses, and d) To promote community education, and community access to and use of the watercourse, without compromising the other core objectives of this strategy. 		 Guidelines for categorisation of land as a watercourse Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as a watercourse under section 36(5) of the Act if the land includes— (a) any stream of water, whether perennial or intermittent, flowing in a natural channel, or in a natural channel that has been artificially improved, or in an artificial channel that has changed the course of the stream of water, and any other stream of water into or from which the stream of water flows, and (b) associated riparian land or vegetation, including land that is protected land for the purposes of the Rivers and Foreshores Improvement Act 1948 or State protected land identified in an order under section 7 of the Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997
Sportsground	 a) To encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuits in the community involving organised and informal activities and games, and b) To ensure that such activities are managed having regards to any adverse impact on nearby residences. 	A plan of management that applies to just one area of community land c) Must include a description of - (iii) The condition of the land, and of any buildings or other improvements on the land, as at the date of adoption of the plan of management and (iv) The use of the land an any such buildings or improvements as at that date, and d) Must - (iv) specify the purposes for which the land, and any such buildings or improvements, will be permitted to be used, and (v) specify the purposes for which any further development of the	Guidelines for categorisation of land as a sportsground Land should be categorised as a sportsground under section 36(4) of the Act if the land is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.

land will be permitted, whether

Categorisation	LGA Prescribed Core Objectives for Management	LGA Preparation for draft Plans of Management		LG Regulation
			under lease or licence or	
			otherwise, and	
		(vi)	describe the scale and intensity	
			of any such permitted use or	
			development	





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