



Reserve Activity Plan

2018 - 2022

ACTON TRAILS AND RESERVES



ADVICE PREPARED BY
TASFLORA FOR
CLARENCE CITY COUNCIL
JUNE 2018

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1 BACKGROUND

The *Clarence Bushland and Coastal Strategy*, developed by Clarence City Council (Council) in 2011, summarises plans and strategies relevant to reserves within the Clarence municipality.¹ A key recommendation derived from the Strategy was to develop and implement reserve activity plans (RAPs) for all bushland and coastal reserves managed by Council. To date, Council has developed and partially implemented 20 RAPs within the Clarence municipality.²

The suburb of Acton on Hobart's eastern shore encompasses a significant portion of the Tangara Trail network as well as the 16 hectare Nowra Bushland Reserve. Both are owned and managed by Council. The Tangara Trail network in this area is valued by locals and visitors for the range of recreational opportunities that it provides, and the trails and Reserve provide an attractive setting for locals and visitors to traverse the Acton area away from road verges and traffic.

A bushfire management plan has been previously prepared for the Nowra Bushland Reserve, and the trail network is encompassed by the broader *Tangara Trail Network Management Plan 2012-2017*.³ However no specific overarching management plan detailing specific on-ground activities has previously been prepared for the trails and reserves in the Acton area.

In this context, Tasflora has been engaged by Council to develop a five year Reserve Activity Plan for on ground management activities encompassing the Tangara Trails in the broader Acton region, the Nowra Bushland Reserve and the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve⁴, including the development of an implementation plan identifying immediate and ongoing management priorities to be undertaken during the period 2018-2022.

The recommendations and actions contained within this *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022* were endorsed by Council in June 2018, and are intended to provide guidance for on ground activities that can be implemented by Council, community groups and/or volunteers. It is acknowledged that it may not be possible to undertake all recommended activities due to resource constraints; rather the intent of this plan is to provide a guide to management concepts and outcomes that could be achieved if sufficient funding can be obtained.

2 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022* are to:

- ensure the Reserves and trails are sustainably managed to preserve and enhance their natural, cultural and social values;

¹https://www.ccc.tas.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/Clarence_Bushland_and_Coastal_Strategy.pdf

² Council's Reserve Activity Plans are available at: <http://www.ccc.tas.gov.au/page.aspx?u=1957>

³ http://www.ccc.tas.gov.au/webdata/resources/files/tangara_management_plan_2012-2017.pdf

⁴ The proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve is expected to be formally passed to Council ownership during the five year period encompassed by this Plan.

- identify priority management activities to be undertaken along the trail network and within the Reserves by Council, community groups and/or volunteers as resources become available during the period 2018-2022; and
- encourage community engagement through raising awareness of the area's values and encourage participation in activities to minimise threats to these values.

3 SITE DESCRIPTION

The area covered by the *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022* is illustrated in Figures 1-2.

- Tangara Trails – the plan encompasses all the existing Tangara Trails in the Acton corridor, nominally bounded as follows: to the south by Roches Beach Road and Kirra Road; to the North by Alliance Drive; to the west by Tara Drive, Acton Drive and Acton Court; and to the east by Estate Drive and Acton Road.
- Nowra Bushland Reserve – approximately 16 hectares of bushland reserve to the north of Nowra Rd.
- Proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve – this proposed area of public open space encompasses Single Hill immediately to the north of Nowra Bushland Reserve and is expected to be formally passed to Council ownership during the five year period encompassed by this Plan.

The Tangara Trail, Nowra Bushland Reserve and proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve are zoned as Open Space under the Clarence Interim Planning Scheme 2015.⁵

4 SITE VALUES

4.1 Native flora

Several native vegetation communities are present within the area covered by this plan.

The Nowra Bushland Reserve is dominated by *Bursaria-Acacia* woodland and scrub (TASVEG code NBA), and also contains small areas of *Eucalyptus amgdalina* forest and woodland on sandstone (DAS), *E. ovata* forest and woodland (DOV) and *E. viminalis* grassy forest and woodland (DVG). The proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve contains several vegetation communities including *Bursaria-Acacia* woodland and scrub (NBA), *E. viminalis* grassy forest and woodland (DVG), *E. globulus* dry forest and woodland (DGL) and lowland grassland complex (GCL).⁶

⁵ <http://www.ipan.tas.gov.au/pages/plan/book.aspx?exhibit=claips>

⁶ North Barker Ecosystem Services (2007). *Single Hill, Seven Mile Beach Vegetation Survey and Fauna Habitat Assessment*. Unpublished report for Johnstone, McGee and Gandy Pty Ltd.

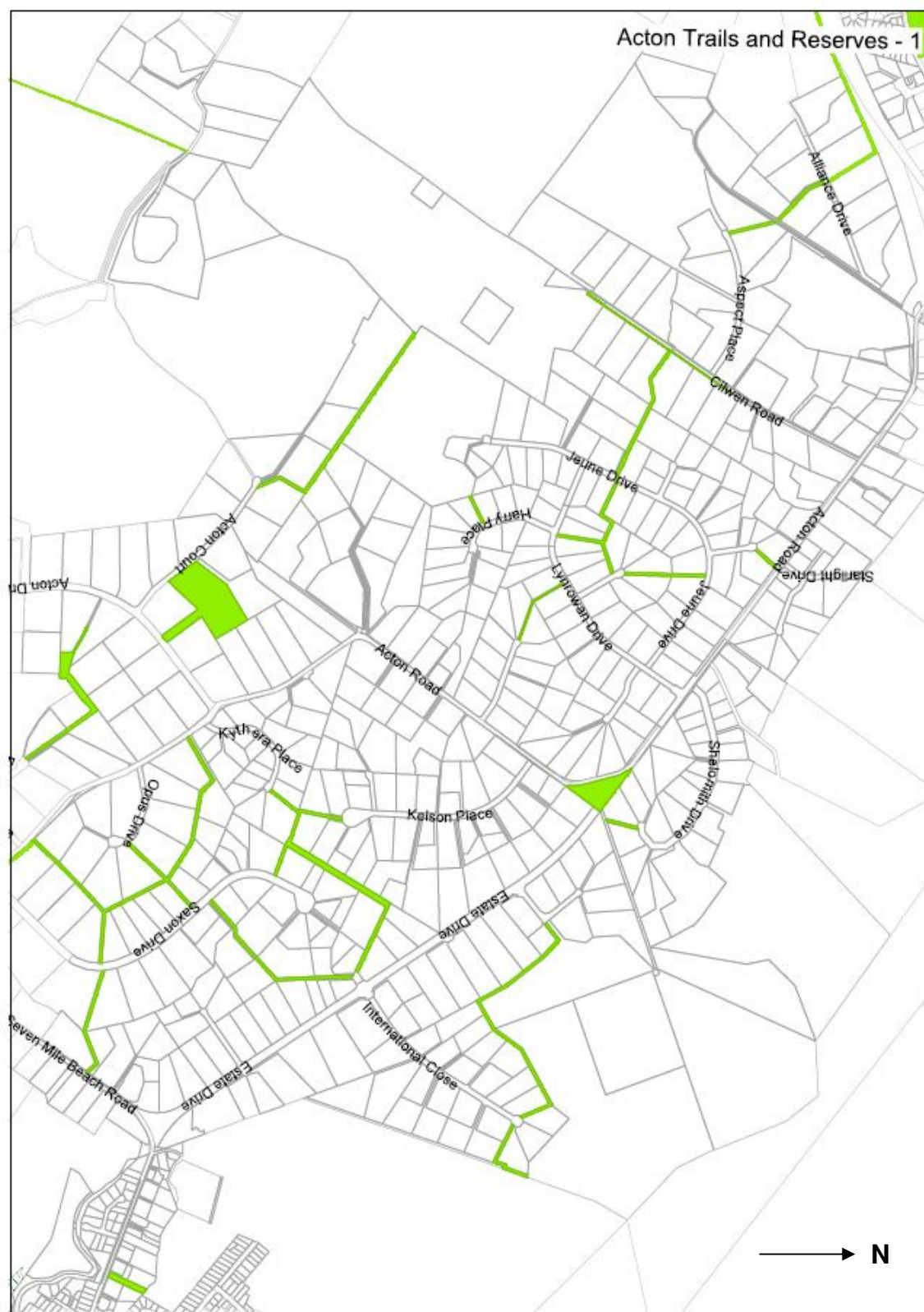


Figure 1: Northern portion of area covered by the *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022* (map provided by Clarence City Council). Green highlighting indicates Tangara Trail.

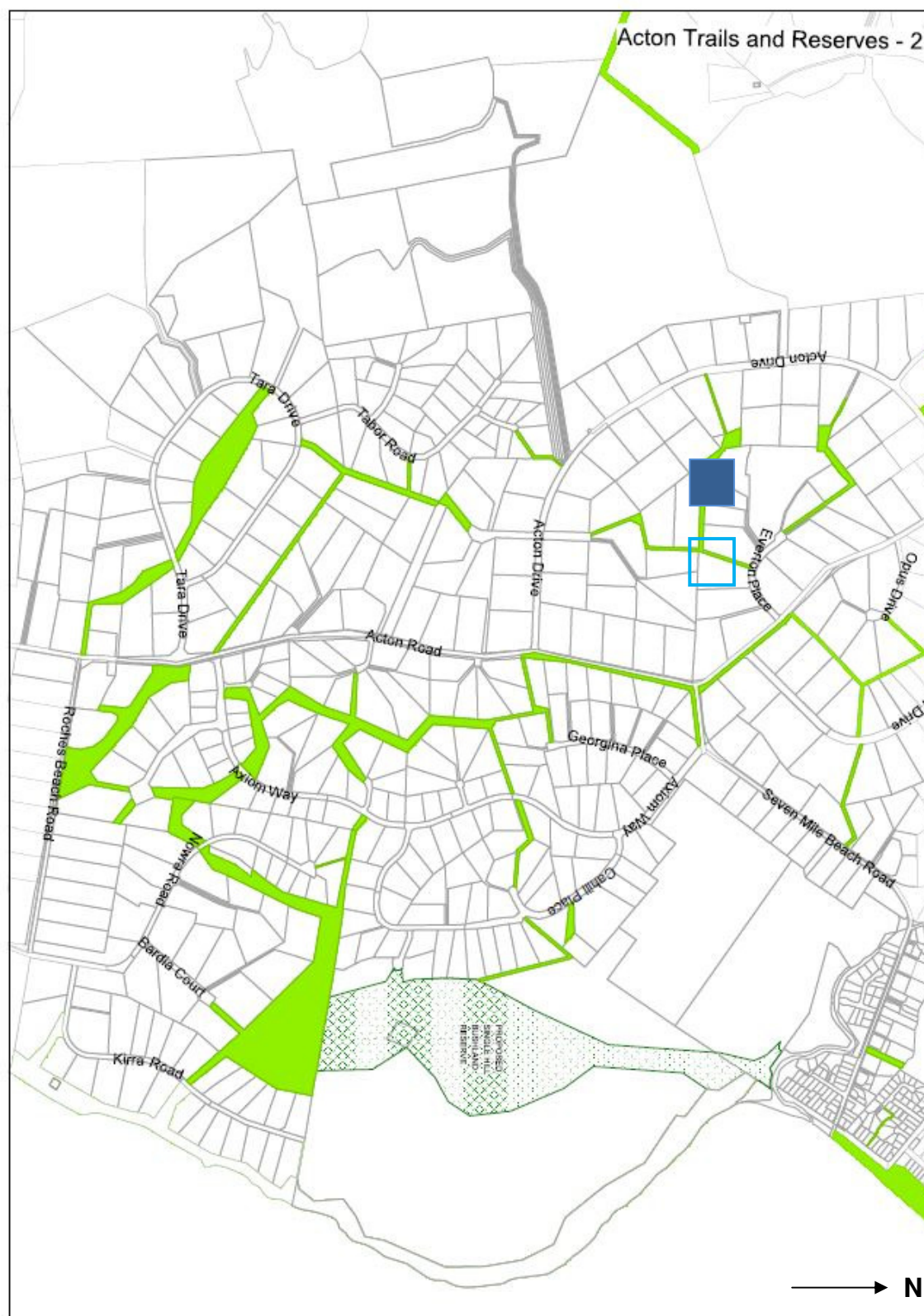


Figure 2: Southern portion of area covered by the *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022* (map provided by Clarence City Council). Green highlighting indicates Tangara Trail and Nowra Reserve; dark hatched green highlighting indicates proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve.

An area of *E. amygdalina* forest and woodland on sandstone (DAS; refer Figure 3) occurs along the Tangara Trail adjacent to Old Monmouth Track and Black Peppermint Track (between Georgina Place and the “Five Ways” track junction near Penelope Place). This community has been degraded to some extent due to the clearing (without permission) in some areas to create bike tracks, runs and jumps. A small patch of *E. ovata* forest and woodland (DOV) is present opposite the junction between Tara Drive and Acton Road (refer Figure 4).



Figure 3: *Eucalyptus amygdalina* forest and woodland on sandstone adjacent to Black Peppermint Track along the Tangara Trail.



Figure 3: *Eucalyptus ovata* forest and woodland along the Tangara Trail near the junction between Tara Drive and Acton Road.

A description of each of these native vegetation communities is provided at Appendix 1. *Eucalyptus amgdalina* forest and woodland on sandstone (DAS), *E. ovata* forest and woodland (DOV) and *E. globulus* dry forest and woodland (DGL) are listed as threatened native vegetation communities under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002*.

Several threatened flora species listed under the Tasmanian *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* and/or the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* have been previously recorded in the Nowra Bushland Reserve and the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve. A summary of these species is provided at Appendix 1.

4.2 Native fauna

The Reserve contains suitable habitat for a range of native wildlife (mammals, birds, reptiles and invertebrates), including:

- mature or dead eucalypt trees with hollows which provide potential den and nest sites for possums, bats and hollow-nesting bird species, including the endangered swift parrot (*Lathamus discolor*) as well as the eastern rosella (*Platycercus eximius*) and musk lorikeet (*Glossopsitta concinna*), the latter two of which have been observed on Single Hill;⁷
- mature, flowering eucalypt trees that provide a foraging source for possums and birds, including mature *Eucalyptus* spp. trees within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve which may provide potential nesting and/or foraging habitat exists for the wedge tail eagle and the swift parrot (based on previous observations)⁸;
- open grassy woodland which provides a foraging source for small mammals, including the threatened eastern barred bandicoot (*Perameles gunnii*);
- shrubs and other understorey species that provide nesting, shelter and a foraging source for birds and small mammals; and
- fallen timber and leaf litter, which provide shelter and foraging habitat for small birds, reptiles and invertebrates.

The trails and reserves covered by this plan contains potential foraging and/or nesting habitat for two threatened fauna species: the swift parrot and the eastern barred bandicoot. Further information on these species is provided at Appendix 1.

Bird surveys have previously been undertaken over 15 months between April 2014 and June 2015 at two sites near Five Ways / Black Peppermint Trail.⁹ Forty five woodland bird species were recorded during this period, with the most common species present including the grey fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa*), superb fairy-wren (*Malurus cyaneus*), little wattlebird (*Anthochaera chrysoptera*) and brown thornbill (*Acanthiza pusilla*). The aggressive noisy miner (*Manorina melanocephala*) was

⁷ M. Newman, pers. comm. January 2018.

⁸ North Barker Ecosystem Services (2007). *Single Hill, Seven Mile Beach Vegetation Survey and Fauna Habitat Assessment*. Unpublished report for Johnstone, McGee and Gandy Pty Ltd.

⁹ Newman, M. (2015). Retention of native vegetation provides valuable habitat in acreage developments. *Tasmanian Bird Report*, no. 37.

also amongst the ten most frequently recorded species, but was found to occur in more open areas. The study concluded that most native woodland bird species were using the study area opportunistically for short periods and that the remnant native vegetation of the Tangara Trail appears to facilitate their movement between the remaining patches of continuous woodland in the area, particularly in areas with shrub and ground cover protection that provide shelter from more aggressive species such as noisy miners.

More recent bird surveys undertaken in 2017 indicate that degradation of the black peppermint woodland may have contributed to a reduction in woodland bird species diversity and increased dominance of the noisy miner and introduced bird species.¹⁰

4.3 Cultural heritage

The municipality of Clarence, including the Acton area, was previously occupied by the Mumirimina band of the Oyster Bay tribe.^{11,12}

Under the Tasmanian *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975* (the Aboriginal Relics Act), it is an offence to 'destroy, damage, disfigure, conceal, uncover, expose, excavate or otherwise interfere with a relic' unless a permit has been granted. It is therefore important to ensure that no Aboriginal artefacts or other cultural material are exposed or disturbed without a permit during Reserve management activities. In the event that an Aboriginal artefact is inadvertently uncovered, an Unanticipated Discovery Plan should be implemented immediately (refer Appendix 2) and the items reported to Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania for advice.

4.4 Recreational values

The Tangara Trail network in the Acton area was originally established as a network of safe and easily accessible trails for local horse riders between large subdivisions, bushland areas and coastal land.¹³ The Tangara Horseriding Trails Inc. was established in 1988 as a management committee for the trail network and has historically managed the trail network with support from Council.

As well as horse riding, the Tangara Trails and reserves in the Acton area are utilised by locals and visitors for walking, jogging, dog exercise, cycling and mountain biking. Community feedback indicated a preference for allowing each of these activities to continue.

¹⁰ M. Newman, pers. comm., January 2018.

¹¹ Alexander, A. (2003). *The eastern shore: a history of Clarence*. Clarence City Council, Rosny Park.

¹² Maynard, L. (2007). *A report of an aboriginal heritage value assessment of a proposed subdivision at Single Hill, Acton*. Unpublished report for Toronto Pastoral, the Aboriginal Heritage Office, DTAE and the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council.

¹³ Inspiring Place (2012). *Tangara Trail Network Management Plan 2012-2017*. Unpublished report for Clarence City Council.

4.5 Landscape setting and connectivity

Acton's Tangara Trails and reserves provide an attractive setting for locals to enjoy recreational activity and traverse the Acton area away from road verges and traffic, thus providing an important recreational connectivity between the Canopus-Centauri Bushland Reserve, Roches Beach and the Seven Mile Beach Coastal Reserve.

The Acton Tangara Trail network provides the opportunity to develop and enhance a wildlife corridor outside of private property. Connectivity between areas of bushland provides an important ecological link for flora and fauna to enable gene flow between populations and to allow animals to move across the landscape for foraging, nesting and breeding. Direct linkages (which could be enhanced through strategic revegetation and regeneration activities; refer Section 7) exist along the Tangara Trails throughout Acton linking the Nowra Bushland Reserve, the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve and native vegetation near the Five Ways with the Canopus-Centauri Bushland Reserve, as well as indirect linkages via vegetated private land with Mt Canopus and Mt Rumney (refer Figure 4).



Figure 4: Connectivity between the Acton trails and reserves and other bushland areas (imagery sourced from the LIST).

Connectivity from a user perspective is currently very good, although community consultation has indicated that some minor improvements could be made. These are further discussed in Section 11. Importantly, the formal passing over of the

proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve to Council will enable the formalisation of a direct recreational linkage between Acton and Seven Mile Beach (discussed further in Section 11).

Landscape setting and connectivity are important for the long term viability of Clarence's bushland areas as well as ongoing visual amenity and recreational opportunities within the municipality. It is important that these linkages be preserved and strengthened through strategic land use planning.

5 STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

A public meeting and community 'walk and talk' session was facilitated by Council and Tasflora on 15 October 2017 and attended by 17 local residents, including members of the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. The purpose of the session was to seek input on the values and management issues associated with the Acton trails and reserves. A feedback form seeking input to the *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022* was also mailed to local residents and relevant stakeholders.

Eighteen written submissions were received during the initial consultation period, as well as significant input from the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc.

The draft *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022* was released for community consultation in February - March 2018. An Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan Report Card was developed as a key tool in encouraging stakeholder feedback on the draft plan and was mailed out to residents and other interested stakeholders. The content of the Report Card and a summary of the issues raised in the sixty eight submissions received are provided at Appendix 3.

Where possible, all relevant community feedback has been considered in the development of the *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022*. However some issues identified during the consultation process are beyond the scope of this plan or pertain to management issues outside the areas covered by the plan. These issues have been noted by Council and will be addressed through other processes where feasible.

6 WEED MANAGEMENT

6.1 Weed species present

Several weed species are found in the area covered by this plan, a number of which are classified as declared weeds under the Tasmanian *Weed Management Act 1999* and/or Weeds of National Significance (WONS). A list of the declared/WONS weed species recorded, including their status and recommended control methods, is provided at Appendix 4. To assist with identification, a picture of each weed species is also provided.

6.2 Recommendations for weed control work

Weed control recommendations in this plan primarily focus on bushland areas in the Nowra Bushland Reserve, areas of regenerating native vegetation near the

Five Ways and between Renmark Place and Sirocco Court, and the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve (once passed over to Council).

Recommendation 1: Priority should be given to controlling declared weeds occurring in the Nowra Bushland Reserve, in areas of regenerating native vegetation near the Five Ways and between Renmark Place and Sirocco Court, and in the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve (once passed over to Council).

Due to their presently limited distribution, weed control work should initially focus on controlling the declared weeds serrated tussock (*Nasella trichotoma*) and horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*) in the Nowra Bushland Reserve due to their presently limited penetration and potential for further spread into neighbouring properties, including the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve. This control should be coordinated in conjunction with adjacent landowners whose properties have been observed to also contain serrated tussock.

Recommendation 2: Control serrated tussock and horehound in the Nowra Bushland Reserve as a priority, with communication/coordination with surrounding landholders to be undertaken by Council's Weeds Planning Officer.

Weed control activities should also focus on the regeneration areas (and surrounding grassy areas) being actively maintained the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. near the Five Ways and between Renmark Place and Sirocco Court. While much work has already been undertaken to control Spanish heath (*Erica lusitana*) in these areas, some regermination of this species has occurred. African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*), blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* aggregate) and crack willow (*Salix* sp.) growing along the creekline between Axiom Way and Sirocco Court should also be prioritised for control. While not an immediate focus of the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc., if sufficient resources are available it would also be desirable to simultaneously control extensive blackberry infestations in the creekline between Roches Beach Road and Tara Drive in order to facilitate natural regeneration in this riparian zone.

Recommendation 3: Control Spanish heath regenerating in regeneration areas near the Five Ways and between Renmark Place and Sirocco Court, with communication/coordination with surrounding landholders to be undertaken by Council's Weeds Planning Officer.

Recommendation 4: Control African boxthorn, blackberry and crack willow growing along the creeklines between Axiom Way and Sirocco Court, and between Roches Beach Road and Tara Drive.

A population of very large mirror bushes (*Coprosma repens*) is present between Axiom Way and Sirocco Court which will likely require a contractor to remove due to the size of individual trees. These should not be removed unless there are sufficient resources available to immediately regenerate large bare areas that would remain following their removal.

Recommendation 5: Large mirror bushes between Axiom Way and Sirocco Court should only be removed if there are sufficient resources available to immediately undertake revegetation where large bare areas are created.

The proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve was found to contain several declared weed species when surveyed in 2007 for the proposed Single Hill subdivision, including African boxthorn, horehound, serrated tussock and datura (*Datura* sp.).¹⁴ Once this Reserve has been passed over to Council, a sweep of the entire Reserve should be undertaken within the first year and all declared weed species controlled.

Recommendation 6: Undertake a sweep of the Single Hill Bushland Reserve and control all declared and environmental woody weeds encountered within one year of it passing into Council ownership.

6.3 Maintenance weed control work

Weed control activities will not be successful unless a commitment is made to undertaking ongoing follow-up maintenance activities. An annual sweep to remove all new germinants of previously targeted weeds (with a focus on Spanish heath and serrated tussock) should be undertaken, with ongoing annual follow-up required until the soil seed bank is exhausted. This work could be undertaken by volunteers and/or contractors. Serrated tussock and Spanish heath are likely to require ongoing follow-up over many years due to the likely significant soil seed bank present.

Recommendation 7: Undertake an annual sweep of all previously targeted areas to remove new germinants of previously targeted weeds, with a focus on Spanish heath and serrated tussock.

6.4 Non-priority weeds

Broadleaf weeds and exotic grasses are common through the Tangara Trails and Acton reserves and are not considered a priority for control except in revegetation areas and where their removal is desirable as part of an ongoing general Reserve maintenance program (eg along track edges) or fuel reduction purposes.

Recommendation 8: Undertake control of exotic grasses and broadleaf weeds only in revegetation areas and where necessary as part of a general Reserve maintenance program.

In order to monitor the success of the weed control program, follow-up GPS weed mapping should be undertaken after five years to assess progress and facilitate planning of future weed control activities. As well, GPS mapping by contractors and volunteers as they control weeds should be encouraged, with data to be entered into DPIPWE's Natural Values Atlas or provided to Council to enable its database to be updated.

¹⁴ North Barker Ecosystem Services (2007). *Single Hill, Seven Mile Beach Vegetation Survey and Fauna Habitat Assessment*. Unpublished report for Johnstone, McGee and Gandy Pty Ltd.

Recommendation 9: Undertake GPS mapping of weeds after five years to monitor progress and inform future weed control priorities.

7 REGENERATION AND REVEGETATION

7.1 Regeneration

Apart from weed control, management activities in areas of intact native vegetation should be limited to encourage the natural regeneration process.

Natural regeneration should be encouraged as the most cost effective and natural means of restoring native vegetation in areas where vegetation clearing has previously occurred. The Acton Park Landcare Group Inc., in consultation with Council, has identified three areas of naturally regenerating vegetation to protect, enhance and extend over the next five years, as illustrated in Figure 5. The use of fencing, rocks or some other form of protection could be investigated by the Acton Landcare Group Inc. to delineate the margins of regeneration areas that are a focus of the Group's efforts.



Figure 5: Regeneration priorities identified by the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. (base imagery sourced from Google Earth).

Recommendation 10: Protect and enhance areas of natural regeneration that have been identified by the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc.

A key priority identified during the consultation process is the need for contractors to be made aware of these regeneration areas prior to undertaking the annual slashing program along the Tangara Trails. In late 2017, an extensive area of regenerating native vegetation was inadvertently slashed (refer Figure 6), highlighting the need for annual engagement prior to the commencement of the

slashing program. The preparation of a list of sensitive sites for contractors to reference may be useful in this regard.

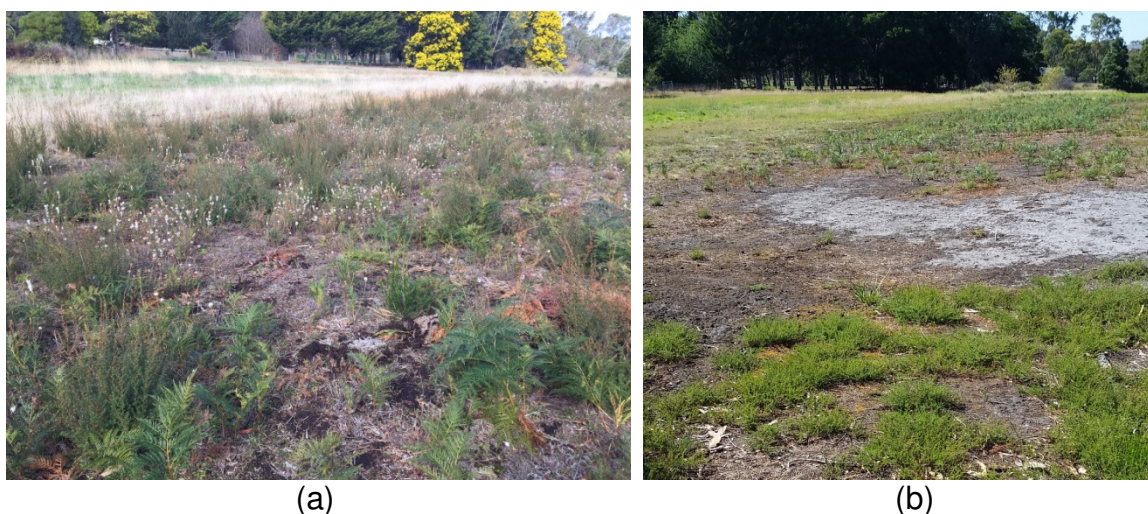


Figure 6: Regeneration area (a) before and (b) after inadvertent slashing [image (a) courtesy of Sharon Smith].

Recommendation 11: Engage with contractors prior undertaking the annual slashing program to ensure regeneration areas are not inadvertently slashed.

The installation of semi-permanent regeneration signs at the edges of each regeneration area is also recommended, as temporary laminated signage erected in late 2017 has not withstood adverse weather conditions. This would also serve as a useful aid to community engagement.

Recommendation 12: Install semi-permanent regeneration signs at the edges of each regeneration area.

7.2 Revegetation activities

The primary purpose of undertaking new revegetation activities is to preserve and enhance existing areas of remnant native vegetation, provide habitat for native birds and animals, and improve the visual amenity for users of the Reserve. Revegetation may also be necessary to assist the natural regeneration process in bushland areas where large areas of native vegetation or tracts of weeds have been removed.

The Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. has previously undertaken selective revegetation activities between Old Monmouth Track and Black Peppermint Track where large tracts of native vegetation have been illegally cleared to create bike tracks and jumps. Ongoing selective infilling at the margins of these disturbed areas may assist with regeneration as well as acting as a deterrent against new disturbance at the margins. Vegetation plantings should aim to generate the characteristics of the healthy understorey of the *Eucalyptus amygdalina* (black peppermint) woodland on sandstone (DAS) community with a balance between bird attracting trees and understorey to attract native woodland birds and help prevent the dominance of noisy miners. Only plants that naturally form part of a DAS community should be planted and, where possible, plants should be grown

from the seed or cuttings of plants local to the area to ensure local variants are planted.

Recommendation 13: Continue to undertake selective revegetation in bare areas between Old Monmouth Track and Black Peppermint Track.

In 2017, the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. and Lauderdale Primary School collaborated to support local wildlife by planting 'bandicoot bunkers' on the Tangara Trail between Axiom Way and Sirocco Court. The aim of the project is to create densely planted pods of plants containing a range of tall, medium height and low plants to provide places for bandicoots to hide from predators such as cats and dogs. The plantings were supported by an extensive education program within the class extending across a number of weeks. A further program of planting is planned for 2018.

While the 2017 program has to date been successful in terms of plant establishment, the bunkers have not been weeded over summer 2017-18, resulting in dense thickets of tall grass throughout each bunker. Removal of this grass is recommended to facilitate the growth of the planted natives and help identify gaps that could be supplanted during 2018. Due to occupational health and safety issues, as well as the reasonably large areas of grass requiring control, it is recommended that weed spraying should be undertaken by a suitably qualified weed contractor under the guidance of either Council or members of the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. Interpretation signage is also recommended at the commencement of the Tangara Trail where it connects with Sirocco Court to explain what the Bandicoot Bunker program is, who is involved and why the work is being undertaken to engender community awareness.

The Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. has indicated a desire to continue plantings along the trail corridors. Based on feedback received during the consultation process, the following planting guidelines are recommended:

- revegetation in open grassy areas should be in the form of a series of appropriately spaced elliptical patches (rather than a scattered planting approach) to enable ease of mowing; and
- revegetation along narrow sections of the Tangara Trail should be undertaken as close to the boundary fence as possible.

Recommendation 14: Undertake weed control, supplementary planting and installation of interpretation signage to improve the outcomes of the "Bandicoot Bunker" program.

Recommendation 14a: Only endemic plants local to the area should be planted and, where possible, these plants should be grown from the local seed or cuttings.

Recommendation 14b: Undertake revegetation in open grassy areas using a series of appropriately spaced elliptical patches (rather than a scattered planting approach) to enable ease of mowing.

Recommendation 14c: Revegetation along narrow sections of the Tangara Trail should be undertaken as close to the boundary fence as possible.

Revegetation activities will not be successful unless a commitment is made to undertake follow-up maintenance activities. In particular, it is important to ensure that sufficient resources are available for ongoing maintenance (e.g. weeding, watering) before establishing new sites. This is particularly relevant for the Bandicoot Bunker plantings, which are located in open grassy areas that will require regular maintenance.

Recommendation 15: New revegetation and landscaping activities should not be committed to unless sufficient resources are available to undertake ongoing regular maintenance of newly planted areas.

8 FAUNA HABITAT MANAGEMENT

As described in section 4.2, the Acton Reserves and bushland along the Tangara Trails (including the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve) provides important habitat for a range of wildlife, including mammals, birds, reptiles and invertebrates. A variety of canopy layers, dead trees, hollow logs, fallen timber and leaf litter are required to provide important habitat for wildlife, including mammals, birds, reptiles and invertebrates. Leaf litter and dead wood are often viewed as a fire risk in bushland reserves located in urban areas. However, it is important that fauna habitat requirements are considered when planning any future bushfire management activities in the Reserves. The Nowra Reserve's current bushfire management plan recognises this.

It would be desirable to connect remnant bushland patches in the Acton area to form greenway corridors for enhancing bird and animal habitat and assist the movement of species between the areas of woodland in the Meehan Ranges and the South Arm Peninsula. This can be achieved by enhancing natural regeneration in areas where it is observed to be occurring, and through selective revegetation activities at strategic locations throughout the Tangara Trails (refer Section 7).

Recommendation 16: Connect remnant bushland patches to form greenway corridors for enhancing bird and animal habitat.

Recommendation 16a: Future planning for the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve and track construction needs to recognise the frequent presence of foraging and possibly nesting wedge tail eagles.

Uncontrolled domestic dogs and cats have the potential to harass or kill native wildlife. The Tangara Trails and Nowra Bushland Reserve are currently used for off-lead dog exercise under Council's Dog Management Policy.¹⁵ Council promotes responsible cat ownership, and will continue to encourage local residents to meet their obligations under the *Cat Management Act 2009* through having their cats microchipped, desexed and under effective control (e.g. indoors at night).

¹⁵ Clarence City Council (2015). Dog Management Policy. Clarence City Council, Tasmania.

9 VEGETATION AND FAUNA MONITORING

An assessment of the condition of the DAS community near the Five Ways should be undertaken in 2018 and again in five years time. Once under Council ownership, a similar assessment should be undertaken within the DGL community within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve. Information from regular vegetation condition assessments (VCAs) will enable an evaluation of the impact and effectiveness of management actions in these threatened vegetation communities. The TASVEG VCA method should be undertaken by trained Council staff or consultants using standard TASVEG VCA forms.¹⁶

Recommendation 17: Undertake Vegetation Condition Assessments in threatened native vegetation communities in 2018 and 2022.

Photo points should be established in each VCA zone to provide further information on vegetation condition and annual regeneration growth. Furthermore, it is recommended that photo points be established within each of the three regeneration areas being managed by the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. to monitor the progress of regeneration.

Recommendation 18: Establish and annually monitor photo points within VCA zones and in natural regeneration areas to facilitate monitoring of native vegetation condition.

The Reserve contains unique habitat for a range of wildlife species, and it is expected that species diversity could increase over time with ongoing appropriate vegetation management practices. Fauna and bird surveys to identify the species present in the Reserve are recommended to be undertaken at the end of the plan (i.e. 2022) as a basis for monitoring species diversity over time.¹⁷ The Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. has also recently purchased from fundraising activities a motion sensitive night camera for monitoring and identification of native fauna, and observations from the use of this camera will also be helpful in gaining an understanding of the fauna species present in the Group's area of activity.

Recommendation 19: Undertake fauna surveys in 2022 to assess species diversity and further inform on ground management activities.

An analysis of all completed VCAs, fauna surveys and photo points should be undertaken in 2022 to determine trends and implications for ongoing vegetation management in the Reserves. This should be undertaken in conjunction with a review of the *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022* scheduled for 2022 (refer Section 15).

¹⁶ Full details of the TASVEG VCA method can be found at: [http://dpiwre.tas.gov.au/conservation/flora-of-tasmania/monitoring-and-mapping-tasmanias-vegetation-\(tasveg\)/vegetation-monitoring-in-tasmania](http://dpiwre.tas.gov.au/conservation/flora-of-tasmania/monitoring-and-mapping-tasmanias-vegetation-(tasveg)/vegetation-monitoring-in-tasmania)

¹⁷ If possible, bird surveys should be undertaken in conjunction with BirdLife Tasmania using standard BirdLife Australia monitoring techniques.

Recommendation 20: Undertake an analysis of all photo points, VCAs and fauna surveys in 2022 to determine trends and inform future management activities.

10 RESERVE ENTRANCES

The main entrances to the Nowra Bushland Reserve are located off Nowra Road, Bardia Court and Kirra Road. Community consultation indicated concern for mountain bikers exiting via the Kirra Road entrance due to the presence of a chain across the entrance that may not be visible to riders descending at rapid speed. For safety reasons, it is recommended that Council investigate an alternative means of blocking unauthorised vehicular access through this entrance.

Recommendation 21: Investigate a safer alternative to the chain across the Kirra Road entrance to the Nowra Bushland Reserve.

The potential for creating more formal parking at the Kirra Road entrance was also raised by local residents. As this entrance is located adjacent to a wide public street, the creation of a formal parking area is not considered to be a priority at this time. However, a review of the parking requirements of this entrance should be undertaken in five years to enable the implications of the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve on parking near this entrance to be assessed.

11 TRACKS AND TRAILS

Council has developed an area map showing existing and desired future trails in the Acton area (refer Figure 7). Community consultation indicated that the Tangara Trails in the Acton Park area are generally in good condition and highly utilised for a range of recreational activities.

Regular maintenance and upgrades of all Tangara Trails in the Acton Park area should continue to be undertaken as required to ensure users continue to use and value the trail network. With regard to existing trails, a formal continuation of the Tangara Trail between Nowra Road and Axiom Road is considered desirable as local residents have advised that this area becomes difficult to access at certain times of the year due to long grass and poor drainage.

Recommendation 22: Continue to maintain and upgrade the track network along the Tangara Trail, including the section between Nowra Road and Axiom Way. Special attention should be given to the track surface.

Once Council takes on ownership of the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve, the track network across Single Hill will require upgrading in order to achieve the desired alignment illustrated in Figure 7 and to facilitate access for a range of users.

Recommendation 23: Upgrade the track network connecting to and within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve.



Figure 7: Tangara Trails within the Acton area (map provided by Council).

Recommendation 23a: Undertake community consultation when considering track alignments and infrastructure requirements once the Single Hill Bushland Reserve is in Council ownership.

Community feedback indicated a desire to continue to connect the fragmented network to give more continuity and flow, especially avoiding road sections. In particular, a gap has been identified between Acton Drive and the sharp corner on Acton Road as well as a short missing section between Kelson Place and Estate Drive. Providing access along these missing links was highlighted as a priority for some local residents.

Recommendation 24: Provide safe pedestrian access along missing links along Acton Road.

Recommendation 24a: To avoid potential for reducing the ‘sense of nature’, minimise signage to that required to facilitate community education and provide clear directions.

While some concerns were raised regarding tensions between different user groups along the Tangara Trails, directional track signage has been designed to intentionally promote the range of users using the trails. Council proposes to install signage alerting other users of etiquette around horses as part of the proposed Single Hill trails, which are expected to be popular and heavily used.

12 INFRASTRUCTURE

There is currently limited community infrastructure located along the trails and within the Nowra Bushland Reserve, and the area's natural environment would be enhanced through minimising significant additional infrastructure installation. This sentiment was reflected during the community consultation process.

An opportunity has been identified to promote the history and values of the Acton trails by installing interpretive signs or artistic installations along the Tangara Trail. Entrance markers, creative seating, path design and walls could be incorporated into the landscape at strategic locations to promote community contemplation and enjoyment. This concept is consistent with the objectives of the *Clarence Council Cultural History Plan 2017-2022*, and has been adopted in other locations within the Clarence municipality. The community is encouraged to propose ideas for interpretive or artistic installations in this context.

Recommendation 25: Council's History Officer to investigate how the Acton trails' natural values and history could be incorporated into art in the landscape, given there is a notable minority that do not support this concept.

No additional infrastructure is proposed within the next five years, with the exception of limited new interpretation and track signage and the installation of additional 'natural' seats at strategic locations. While dog waste infrastructure was suggested during community consultation, no evidence of dog waste was observed during the development of this Plan, and it is considered that funding of regular dog waste collection could be better spent on alternative management activities.

A further review of the infrastructure requirements of the Acton trails and Reserves should be undertaken in 2022.

Recommendation 26: Review the infrastructure requirements of the Acton trails and Reserves in 2022.

Recommendation 26a: Install 'natural' seats at strategic locations along/within the Acton Trails/Reserves.

13 SUPPORTING RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The community consultation process highlighted the destruction caused to the threatened DAS native vegetation community adjacent to Black Peppermint Track in order to create bike tracks and jumps. While this area is deemed inappropriate

for such activities due to the sensitive bushland and bird habitat, a number of residents suggested that a suitable alternative location could be established for mountain bike jumps and trails in the Acton area. Further consultation indicates that the Wallaby Track within the Nowra Bushland Reserve could be further developed for mountain bike jumps and trails.

Recommendation 27: Investigate the further development of the Wallaby Track within the Nowra Bushland Reserve for mountain bike jumps and trails.

Hang gliding is a popular activity from Single Hill, with enthusiasts currently launching from the site of a future private rural lot that will ultimately be sold as part of the proposed Single Hill subdivision. Council should plan for a suitable launching site within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve in order for this recreational activity to be able to continue.

Recommendation 28: Investigate a suitable hang glider launching site within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve.

14 COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND AWARENESS

Community participation and awareness has an important role to play in protecting the natural, cultural and recreational values of the Acton trails and Reserves. In particular, education of residents living adjacent to the trails and Reserves is desirable to foster behavioural change and encourage community ownership and appreciation of their values.

Recommendation 29: Community education should be undertaken to facilitate behavioural change and encourage ownership and appreciation of the values of the Acton trails and Reserves.

Key issues requiring community awareness are summarised in Table 1. A letterbox drop to adjacent landowners with information on each of these issues is recommended as a first step to achieving community awareness and understanding of these issues. However, engagement with individual property owners may be required in some instance (e.g. to manage serrated tussock).

There are a number of properties adjacent to the Acton trails and Reserves that contain remnant patches of native vegetation. These remnants are of conservation significance as they provide habitat for native fauna and birds, and may host threatened plants and animals. Engagement with local Acton Park landholders is encouraged, with a view to initiating one-on-one discussions with local property owners to provide guidance on best practices to conserve and enhance the habitat values of their native vegetation.¹⁸

¹⁸ A similar program has previously been implemented by the Mount Rumney Landcare Group in the Clarence municipality.

Table 1: Management issues requiring community education and awareness

Issue	Description
Natural values	Native vegetation on private properties provides habitat for native fauna and birds, and may host threatened plants and animals.
Garden waste dumping	Dumping of garden waste in the bush encourages the spread of weeds and is visually unattractive for all users.
Removal of native vegetation	Removal of native vegetation on Council land is illegal and no new tracks are permitted to be created. Clearing native vegetation destroys threatened species and plant communities, encourages the establishment of weeds and reduces species diversity and animal habitat. Seed collection should only be undertaken with Council approval.
Environmental weeds	Serrated tussock and Spanish heath on private property should be controlled to prevent its spread into neighbouring properties and reserves.
Shared pathways	The Tangara Trails are shared by a range of users, including horse riders, cyclists, walkers and joggers. General courtesy should be applied towards all users.
Cats and dogs	Cats and dogs can kill native wildlife. Cats should be microchipped, desexed and kept indoors at night. Dogs should remain under effective control at all times. Properties with dogs located adjacent to the Tangara Trail should maintain adequate fencing.

Recommendation 30: Develop and implement a communication plan to engage with Acton Park landowners to provide guidance on best practices to conserve and enhance the habitat values of remnant patches of native vegetation on private property.

The Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. has been actively undertaking voluntary revegetation and weeding activities since its establishment, including the Bandicoot Bunker program with Lauderdale Primary School. The Group has indicated a strong desire to continue engaging and working with Council to care for the natural values of the Tangara Trails.

Recommendation 31: Continue to actively support the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc.

While there is a history of community commitment for caring for the Tangara Trails, there is currently no formal landcare or other community group regularly undertaking volunteer activities within the Nowra Bushland Reserve on Single Hill. With the impending transfer of the Single Hill Bushland Reserve to Council, the formation of a new Landcare group would provide an important opportunity for local residents to contribute to management activities on Single Hill and engender a strong sense of community ownership of both Reserves. Assistance with the formation of a Landcare group should in the first instance be sought from Council's

Natural Areas Volunteer Coordinator (Chris Johns, phone 6217 9715 or email cjohns@ccc.tas.gov.au).

Recommendation 32: Facilitate the formation of a Single Hill Landcare Group.

Community consultation indicated a desire for horse riders to be consulted more widely regarding developments along the Tangara Trails (e.g. via the Tangara Trails Committee).

Recommendation 33: Engage with relevant local horse riding associations (e.g. Tangara Trails Committee) when considering new developments along the Tangara Trails.

Interpretation signs provide an important opportunity to display information on the area's natural values and the impact certain activities can have on these. Interpretation signage is proposed along Old Monmouth Track between Axiom Way and Sirocco Court to promote the activities of the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc., the natural values of the area (including the threatened flora and fauna and the importance of the regeneration sites) and signage promoting the Bandicoot Bunker project.

Recommendation 34: Install interpretation signage regarding the area's natural values, regeneration site and the activities of the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc.

Under the Tasmanian *Work Health and Safety Act 2012*, volunteers are considered 'workers' when working for Council on Council owned land. Council therefore has a duty of care to provide a safe workplace for volunteer workers who may undertake management activities within the Reserves.

- All volunteers have rights and responsibilities. Volunteers have the right to a safe work environment, to be treated fairly and with respect, to public liability insurance, to safe equipment, tools and personal protective equipment (PPE), to adequate instruction to perform tasks, to contribute their suggestions and to receive acknowledgement for their contributions. Volunteers also have the right to refuse work if they consider it unsafe.
- Volunteers also have the responsibility to care for the health and safety of others, to respect others, to follow policies, procedures and instructions, and to care for their own health and safety.

With this in mind, all volunteers need to refer to the relevant Council Safe Work Method Statements (SWMSs) before undertaking works in the Reserves, including cut and paste work weed control work, brushcutting and spreading of mulch. These are available from Council's Natural Areas Volunteer Coordinator (Chris Johns, phone 6217 9715 or email cjohns@ccc.tas.gov.au). All spot spraying should be undertaken by certified operators (eg Council staff, contractors).

15 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

A map illustrating the location of on ground management activities recommended within the areas covered by this Plan is provided at Figure 8. This is based on the key recommendations which are summarised at Appendix 5.

Based on these recommendations, an Implementation Plan with associated performance measures has been developed and is provided at Table 2. It identifies three stages of management activities to be undertaken within the Reserves:

- Priority 1 - immediate (6-12 months) management activities.
- Priority 2 - medium term (1-3 years) management priorities.
- Priority 3 - long term (5 years) management priorities.

The intent of the Implementation Plan is to provide a guide to outcomes that could be achieved within the Reserve by Clarence City Council, contractors and/or volunteer groups within the period 2018-2022 if sufficient resources are available.

The Implementation Plan provides an indication of the level of funding required to achieve these outcomes.¹⁹ While it would be desirable to undertake all the recommended activities, it is acknowledged that this may not be possible due to resource constraints, and implementation will ultimately be guided by what is achievable with resources as they become available. Federal, State and Local Government grants programs may provide an opportunity to obtain resources to implement many of the recommendations contained within this report.

A review of progress against all performance measures should be undertaken annually during the period 2018-2022 to help prioritise available resources.

Recommendation 35: Review progress against all performance measures identified in the Implementation Plan annually.

16 FUTURE PRIORITIES

A review of the *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022* should be undertaken in 2022. The purpose of this review should be to:

- assess progress towards achieving the objectives of the *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022*;
- assess progress against all performance measures;
- analyse photo point data and all completed flora and fauna assessments to determine trends and implications for ongoing vegetation management; and
- determine ongoing management priorities for the Acton trails and reserves for the next five years.

¹⁹ Funding details are based on an internal Council document which provides a detailed five year cost estimate for all planned activities. This has been developed primarily for Council budgetary processes and potential grant applications. Specific details may be sought by contacting Council's NRM Planner (Phil Watson, phone 6217 9713 or email pwatson@ccc.tas.gov.au).

Recommendation 36: Review the Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022 in 2022 to assess progress and determine ongoing management priorities for the Acton trails and reserves.

Table 2: Implementation Plan for undertaking recommended management activities for the Acton Trails and Reserves.

Priority	Rec. No.	Action	Seasonal timing	Performance measure	Responsibility	Estimated funding ²⁰
Weed control						
1	R2	Control serrated tussock and horehound in the Nowra Bushland Reserve as a priority, with communication/coordination with surrounding landholders to be undertaken by Council's Weeds Planning Officer	Refer DPIPWE Control Guides for spot spraying; all year round for other techniques	Serrated tussock and horehound eradicated from Nowra Reserve	Council or contractor	\$3,000
1	R3	Control Spanish heath regenerating in regeneration areas near the Five Ways and between Renmark Place and Sirocco Court, with communication/coordination with surrounding landholders to be undertaken by Council's Weeds Planning Officer.	Refer DPIPWE Control Guides for spot spraying; all year round for other techniques	Spanish heath eradicated	Council, contractor and/or volunteer groups	
2	R4	Control African boxthorn, blackberry and crack willow growing along the creeklines between Axiom Way and Sirocco Court, and between Roches Beach Road and Tara Drive	Refer DPIPWE Control Guides for spot spraying; all year round for other techniques	African boxthorn, blackberry and crack willow eradicated	Council or contractor	\$5,000
2	R6	Undertake a sweep of the Single Hill Bushland Reserve and control all declared and environmental woody weeds encountered within one year of it passing into Council ownership	Refer DPIPWE Control Guides for spot spraying; all year round for other techniques	All declared and environmental weed eradicated	Council or contractor	\$3,000
1,2,3	R7	Undertake an annual sweep of all previously targeted areas to remove new germinants of previously targeted weeds, with a focus on Spanish heath and serrated tussock	Refer DPIPWE Control Guides for spot spraying; all year round for other techniques	All previously targeted weeds eradicated	Council, contractor and/or volunteer groups	

²⁰ Funding estimate is based on total costs required to undertake all recommended activities over the period 2018-19 to 2022-23.

Priority	Rec. No.	Action	Seasonal timing	Performance measure	Responsibility	Estimated funding ²⁰
3	R9	Undertake follow-up GPS mapping of all weeds	Spring - summer	Weed maps and Council database are updated within 5 years	Council, contractor and/or volunteer groups	\$800 (N/A if performed by Council staff)
Regeneration and revegetation						
1,2,3	R13	Continue to undertake selective revegetation in bare areas between Old Monmouth Track and Black Peppermint Track.	Winter		Council, contractor and/or volunteer groups	\$1,500 per annum
1,2,3	R14	Undertake weed control and supplementary plantingto improve the outcomes of the "Bandicoot Bunker" program.		Successful establishment of bunkers	Council, contractor and/or volunteer groups	\$1,500 per annum
Vegetation and fauna monitoring						
3	R17	Undertake Vegetation Condition Assessments in threatened native vegetation communities in 2018 and 2022.	In season (e.g. for annuals)	VCAs completed in 2018 and 2022	Council or contractor	\$1,000 (N/A if performed by Council staff)
1,2,3	R18	Establish and annually monitor photo points within VCA zones and in natural regeneration areas to facilitate monitoring of vegetation condition.	Spring	Photo points established in 2018 and annual photos taken	Council or contractor	\$700 per annum (N/A if performed by Council staff)
1,3	R19	Undertake fauna surveys in 2022 to assess species diversity and further inform on ground management activities	N/A	Fauna and bird surveys completed 2022	Contractor and/or BirdLife Tasmania and/or University of Tasmania	\$3,000
Reserve entrances						
1	R21	Investigate a safer alternative to the chain across the Kirra Road entrance to the Nowra Bushland Reserve	N/A	Alternative barrier identified	Council	N/A

Priority	Rec. No.	Action	Seasonal timing	Performance measure	Responsibility	Estimated funding ²⁰
Tracks and trails						
1,2,3	R22	Continue to maintain and upgrade the track network along the Tangara Trail, including the section between Nowra Road and Axiom Way.	N/A	No complaints from users	Council or contractor	\$10,000 per annum
2	R23a	Undertake community consultation when considering track alignments and infrastructure requirements once the Single Hill Bushland Reserve is in Council ownership.	N/A	Community consultation completed	Council	N/A
3	R23	Upgrade the track network connecting to and within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve.	N/A	New tracks completed	Council or contractor	\$30,000
1	R24	Provide safe pedestrian access along missing links along Acton Road.	N/A	Pedestrian access exists along missing links along Acton Road	Council or contractor	\$10,000
Infrastructure						
	R26a	Install 'natural' seats at strategic locations along/within the Acton Trails/Reserves.	N/A	3 new seats installed at strategic locations.	Council	\$2,000
3	R26	Review the infrastructure requirements of the Acton trails and Reserves in 2022.	N/A	Infrastructure review completed in 2022	Council	N/A
Supporting recreational activities						
2	R27	Investigate the further development of the Wallaby Track within the Nowra Bushland Reserve for mountain bike jumps and trails.	N/A	Suitable location identified and planned for	Council	N/A
2	R28	Investigate a suitable hang glider launching site within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve.	N/A	Suitable location identified and planned for	Council	N/A

Priority	Rec. No.	Action	Seasonal timing	Performance measure	Responsibility	Estimated funding ²⁰
Community participation and awareness						
2	R29	Facilitate the formation of a Single Hill Landcare Group.	N/A	Single Hill Landcare Group established	Council, volunteers	N/A
1,2	R30	Develop and implement a communication plan to engage with Acton Park landowners to provide guidance on best practices to conserve and enhance the habitat values of remnant patches of native vegetation on private property.	N/A	Communication Plan implemented	Council, volunteers	N/A
1	R34	Install interpretation signage regarding the area's natural values, regeneration site and the activities of the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. [including the "Bandicoot Bunker" program].	N/A	4 interpretation signs installed	Council, contractor or volunteers	\$8,000
Implementation plan						
1,2&3	R35	Review progress against all performance measures identified in the Implementation Plan annually.	N/A	Review of all performance measures completed annually	Council	N/A
3	R36	Review the <i>Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022</i> in 2022 to assess progress and determine ongoing management priorities for the Acton trails and reserves.	N/A	<i>Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022</i> reviewed within five years	Council and/or contractor	\$10,000

APPENDIX 1: CONSERVATION SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESERVE'S NATIVE FLORA AND FAUNA

Three native vegetation communities occurring within the areas covered by this plan listed as threatened native vegetation communities under the Tasmanian *Nature Conservation Act 2002*. These are summarised in Table A1.1.

Table A1.1: Threatened native vegetation communities associated with the Acton trails and reserves.

Community name	TASVEG code	Description	Location
<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> dry forest and woodland	DGL	Dry sclerophyll community dominated by <i>E. globulus</i> . The ground layer is dominated by grasses.	Proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve
<i>Eucalyptus ovata</i> forest and woodland	DOV	<i>E. ovata</i> woodland with a grassy/sedgy understorey, with sedges becoming more dominant closer to the drainage line.	Junction of Everton Track and Acton Road South Track
<i>Eucalyptus amygdalina</i> forest and woodland on sandstone	DAS	Community dominated by <i>E. amygdalina</i> (black peppermint) with a heathy understorey on sand.	Adjacent to Black Peppermint Track.

Two flora species listed under the Tasmanian *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* (the TSP Act) and/or the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act) have been previously recorded within the area covered by this plan.²¹ These are summarised in Table A1.2.

Table A1.2: Flora species of conservation significance for which suitable habitat exists within the Acton trails and reserves.

Flora species	Common name	Conservation status ²²	Location
<i>Scleranthus fasciculatus</i>	spreading knawel	vulnerable	Nowra Bushland Reserve
<i>Vittadinia muelleri</i>	narrowleaf New Holland daisy	rare	Nowra Bushland Reserve Proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve

²¹ Data obtained from the LIST, <https://maps.thelist.tas.gov.au/listmap/app/list/map>

²² lower case = TSP Act; UPPER CASE = EPBC Act

The area covered by this plan contains potential habitat for two threatened fauna species listed under the TSP and/or EPBC Act, as summarised in Table A1.3. The endangered swift parrot (*Lathamus discolor*) has been previously recorded within the DAS community adjacent to Black Peppermint Track (Mike Newman, pers. comm. January 2018), and the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. has been actively undertaking revegetation activities with local schools to facilitate habitat reestablishment for the eastern barred bandicoot (*Perameles gunnii*).

Table A1.3: Fauna species of conservation significance for which suitable habitat exists within the Acton trails and reserves.

Fauna species	Common name	Conservation status²³	Habitat / Comments
<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	swift parrot	Endangered ENDANGERED	Nesting habitat is hollows in mature eucalypts with stem diameter >70cm at breast height. Forages in mature <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> and <i>E. ovata</i> trees. Previously recorded within the DAS community adjacent to Black Peppermint Track. Potential foraging habitat exists within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve.
<i>Perameles gunnii</i>	eastern barred bandicoot	VULNERABLE	Inhabits grassy woodlands, native grasslands and mosaics of pasture and shrubby ground cover. Potential nesting and foraging habitat exists throughout the area.

²³ Lower case = TSP Act; UPPER CASE = EPBC Act

APPENDIX 2: UNANTICIPATED DISCOVERY PLAN

Unanticipated Discovery Plan

For proponents and consultants dealing with Aboriginal Heritage in Tasmania

This paper provides a Plan that should be followed when dealing with unanticipated discoveries of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage such as sites and objects. The plan provides guidance to project personnel so that they may meet their obligations with respect to Aboriginal heritage in accordance with the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975* and the *Coroners Act 1995*.

The Unanticipated Discovery Plan is in two sections. The first section primarily explains mitigation strategies that should be employed when any Aboriginal Cultural Heritage sites or items are discovered excluding skeletal remains (burials), while the second process deals specifically with skeletal remains (burials).

Discovery of Cultural Heritage Items

Step 1: Any person who believes they have uncovered Aboriginal Cultural Heritage material should notify all employees or contractors that are working in the immediate area that all earth disturbance works must cease immediately.

Step 2: A temporary 'no-go' or buffer zone of at least 10m x 10m should be implemented to protect the suspected Aboriginal Cultural Heritage site or relics. No unauthorised entry or works will be allowed within this 'no-go' zone until the suspected Aboriginal Cultural Heritage relics have been assessed by a recognised Aboriginal Heritage Officer or Archaeologist.

Step 3: Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania (AHT) in Hobart (ph 6233 6613) needs to be notified and consulted as soon as possible and informed of the discovery. AHT will then provide further advice in accordance with the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975*.

Discovery of Skeletal Material


Step 1: Call the Police immediately. Under no circumstances should the suspected skeletal remains be touched or disturbed. The area must now be considered a crime scene. It is a criminal offence to interfere with a crime scene.

Step 2: Any person who believes they have uncovered skeletal material should notify all employees or contractors that are working in the immediate area that all earth disturbance works must cease immediately.

Step 3: A temporary 'no-go' or buffer zone of at least 50m x 50m should be implemented to protect the suspected skeletal remains. No unauthorised entry or works will be allowed within this 'no-go' zone until the suspected skeletal remains have been assessed by the Police and or Coroner.

Step 4: Should the skeletal remains be determined to be of Aboriginal origin, the Coroner will contact the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (TALSC) to arrange for repatriation of the remains, as per the *Coroners Act 1995*.

Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania
Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment



Unanticipated Discovery Plan

**Guide to the most common sites of Aboriginal Significance****Stone Artefact Scatters**

Stone artefacts are the tangible evidence found in regard to past Aboriginal lifeways. Stone artefacts indicate areas that were used by Aboriginal People, either for camping, hunting or other activities such as the manufacture of stone tools. Archaeologists can also determine the duration a site may have been occupied, the amount of times that the site may have been occupied, and the number of people that the area may have supported at any given time.

Some stone artefacts are the result of Aboriginal People fracturing or 'flaking' fine-grained rocks to produce sharp cutting or scraping implements. These were then used, for example, for cutting up animals and then scraping the hides. Volcanic rocks such as basalt were flaked and then ground down to form axes for a number of chopping and cutting tasks. The results of such activities can be seen in the archaeological record (i.e. scatters) in the form of modified stones such as cores, retouched flakes, hammerstones and flaked pieces. From these scatters, by understanding site density and frequency patterns, inferences can be made in relation to past Aboriginal lifeways.

Shell Middens

Shell middens by definition are prehistoric refuse pits. They are the leftover waste of resources exploited which formed the basis of Aboriginal diet. Midden sites can range in size from large mounds to small scatters of shell. Middens usually also contain as well as shell, the remains of animals exploited for food as well as artefacts of stone, bone and shell. These sites are usually found near waterways and coastal areas.

Rockshelters

Rockshelters can either be shelters which contain archaeological deposits from living floors or art rock shelters, and may occur in any area of rocky terrain. Sediments on the floor of the rockshelter can contain preserved stratified deposits of archaeological material. Art types found in rockshelters can vary greatly. It can be in the form of painting, stencils of body parts, tools and equipment, or engravings. Style variations in painting can cover animal or human figurines, supernatural beings, and geometric patterns. Engravings can have similar variations as they can depict tools, humans, human parts, animals and birds and their tracks, geometric patterns and supernatural beings. Pecking is also a form of engraving.

Quarries or Stone Procurement Sites

Quarry sites occur where outliers of suitable tool-making stone appear. A quarry can be generally recognised by evidence of human manipulation and extraction of suitable material and the debris left by the processing of the suitable material. Some quarries can cover vast areas with extremely high amounts of lithic discard. Ochre or pigment was also quarried.

Burials

Burials can occur anywhere, though they are generally found close to areas where there was a high population concentration. Burials can occur where there are soft sediments such as sand hills, they can be found in caves and rockshelters and sometimes they can be associated with hollow trees.

APPENDIX 3: SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

INITIAL CONSULTATION

During October - November 2017, identified stakeholders were invited to provide comments relevant to the development of the *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022*.

A public meeting and community 'walk and talk' session was facilitated by Council and Tasflora on 15 October 2017 and attended by 17 local residents, including members of the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. The purpose of the session was to seek input on the values and management issues associated with the Tangara Trails and reserves to be encompassed by the plan.

Key issues raised during the walk and talk included:

- general appreciation for the Tangara Trails in the Acton area, including recent upgrades;
- significant interest in the future of the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve, including track upgrades;
- concern regarding the clearing of black peppermint forest by young people to create bike runs and jumps (suggestion that a designated area be established elsewhere in the area, e.g. at the base of Single Hill);
- the need for improved pedestrian access along some road verges between trail entrances;
- suggestion for a dog waste bin off Sirocco Court;
- concern about rabbit warrens at certain locations along the Tangara Trails;
- one-off annual mowing maintenance in summer is sometimes insufficient;
- concern regarding parking and the chain across the entrance to Nowra Bushland Reserve off Kirra Road; and
- concern that orchid populations are no longer present due to mowing / spraying programs.

A feedback form seeking input to the *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022* was also mailed to local residents and relevant stakeholders. A written response was received from 18 stakeholders. Significant input was also received from the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc.

CONSULTATION ON DRAFT ACTON TRAILS AND RESERVES ACTIVITY PLAN 2018-22

During February - March 2018, the draft *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-22* was released for public consultation. A feedback form was sent to local residents seeking comment on key components of the plan. Respondents were asked to circle yes or no and to provide comment. An additional comments sheet was provided for additional feedback relating to the draft Plan. An Acton

Trails and Reserves Activity Plan Report Card also was developed as a key tool in encouraging stakeholder feedback on the draft plan and was mailed out to residents and other interested stakeholders. The content of the Report Card is provided at the end of this Appendix.

Sixty eight feedback forms were received from members of the community. The feedback response to each key component and a summary of the comments received is provided below.

Install signs for interpretation and to designate natural regeneration areas

YES	NO	UNDECIDED
52	9	7

Comment

There was general support for the installation of interpretation signage to provide information for trail users, although some submissions requested not too many. A small number of submissions were concerned that too much signage could detract from the natural environment.

Upgrade the track network connecting to and within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve

YES	NO	UNDECIDED
60	4	4

Comment

There was strong support for upgrading the track network within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve. One submission requested community input to the process of planning for the future use of Single Hill Bushland Reserve, including the trails proposed through the Reserve and access points.

Continue maintaining and upgrading the track network along the Tangara Trail

YES	NO	UNDECIDED
66	1	1

Comment

A number of respondents commented on the recreational value of the trails and there was very strong support for maintaining and upgrading the track network along the Tangara Trail. A small number of submissions made specific suggestions for improvements (captured in Table 1 below).

Protect and enhance areas of natural regeneration

YES	NO	UNDECIDED
60	5	3

Comment

The majority of respondents supported the protection of natural regeneration areas. A small number of residents were concerned about the potential for regeneration areas to increase the risk of fire, and one respondent was concerned that regeneration areas would increase the amount of vermin in the Acton area.

Connect remnant bushland patches to form greenway corridors for enhancing bird and animal habitat

YES	NO	UNDECIDED
57	6	5

Comment

There was general support for the formation of greenway corridors for enhancing bird and animal habitat. A small number of residents were concerned about the potential for greenway corridors to increase the risk of fire. One respondent noted the need for corridors to have an appropriate vegetation structure (e.g. shrub layer, not just trees).

Plan for the future use of the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve such as seats, viewing areas and fire management

YES	NO	UNDECIDED
62	2	4

Comment

There was very strong support for planning for the future use of the Single Hill Bushland Reserve, with respondents commenting on the value of the track network and views on Single Hill. One submission requested community input to the process of planning for the future use of Single Hill.

Continue weed control and replacing weeds with local native plants

YES	NO	UNDECIDED
65	0	3

Comment

There was very strong support for continuing weed control and replacing weeds with local plants.

Identify locations for “Art in the Landscape” installations

YES	NO	UNDECIDED
42	21	5

Comment

Although there was a majority in support of providing locations for ‘art in the landscape’, those that were not supportive indicated that they either considered ‘public art’ a waste of Council funds or that the Acton trails and Reserves were not a suitable location.

Actively support the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc.

YES	NO	UNDECIDED
58	5	5

Comment

There was generally positive support for the work being undertaken by the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc. A number of respondents commented that they already participate in the Group’s activities or have a desire to do so. Of those respondents who responded ‘no’, in some instances their reason was because they themselves were unable to support the Group due to time constraints (as opposed to them not supporting the Group’s activities per se).

SUMMARY OF OTHER FEEDBACK RECEIVED

Further to the feedback described above, a large number of comments and suggestions were received on the draft Plan. These comments are summarised and responded to in Table A3.1. As a result, a small number of changes to the recommendations in the draft *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-22* were agreed to by Council at its meeting of 18 June 2018.

Management issue	Response
Natural values	
1 The evaluation of very good [in the Report Card] for animals and birds is too high. Although there are many bird species, they are predominantly large and aggressive species of native birds and exotic introduced species. Many species from nearby woodland are missing. In its current degraded woodland state Acton Park may act as a barrier to the movement of these species, contributing to local extinctions on the South Arm Peninsula (e.g. beautiful firetail).	No change to recommendations required. Section 4.2 notes that more recent bird surveys undertaken in 2017 indicate that degradation of the black peppermint woodland may have contributed to a reduction in woodland bird species diversity and increased dominance of the noisy miner and introduced bird species.
Weed management	
2 Some [weed] plants have spread considerably.	No change to recommendations required. Section 6 identifies activities to address priority declared weeds.
3 Prefer more 'organic' methods of weed control, but this may not be feasible.	No change to recommendations required. Weed control methods are consistent with DPIPWE Control Guides. In many instances, weed control can be undertaken without the use of herbicides.
4 Spanish heath is growing along several fences and Landcare does a good job clearing it, they informed me it was a weed and I now keep it down.	No change to recommendations required. Consistent with Recommendation 30.
5 Tea tree is spreading everywhere, also blackberries and ferns	No change to recommendations required. Tea tree (<i>Leptospermum scoparius</i>) is a local native species. Native ferns (bracken) are dense in some areas, however their proliferation is considered to be a natural component of the regeneration process and are very difficult to control due to their rhizomes. Blackberry control is addressed in Section 6.

6	In some places weeds and thistles are allowed to grow too long and large before they are removed.	No change to recommendations required. Council should note this issue to be included in its regular Acton Trails and Reserves maintenance program.
Regeneration and revegetation		
7	Encouragement should be given to landowners to assist with protecting and enhancing areas of natural regeneration	No change to recommendations required. Consistent with Recommendation 30.
8	It would be interesting to have small signs explaining what was planted and why.	No change to recommendations required. There is a general community desire for minimising additional signage. It is anticipated that the interpretation signage proposed under Recommendation 34 will accommodate this information to some degree.
9	Greenway corridors would be highly valued. Can also be assisted by education of surrounding landowners (i.e. advice of tree species to plant).	No change to recommendations required. Consistent with Recommendation 30.
10	Protect and enhance areas of natural regeneration provided it does not pose a fire hazard.	No change to recommendations required. These concepts are consistent with Recommendation 16.
11	A natural corridor is an excellent idea for wildlife. Clearly tall gums behind Axiom Way houses would be good and planting natives a good idea.	No change to recommendations required. These concepts are consistent with Recommendation 16.
12	We do not support natural regeneration except the grass which has always regenerated quite satisfactorily while we have been here for over 40 years...we welcome the open space as it is now, i.e. growing naturally.	No change to recommendations required. Consultation has indicated that there is community support for natural regeneration in some areas within the Acton Trails and Reserves.
14	Endemic species to support the wildlife should be a priority when revegetating	This advice is already included within section 7.2. Include a new Recommendation (R14a) as follows: <i>Only endemic plants local to the area should be planted and, where possible, these plants should be grown from the local seed or cuttings.</i>

<p>Unfortunately a major issue is arising in relation to the design of the revegetation (such as around 5 Ways) where the plantings are scattered and spread out making it tricky and time consuming for slashing in and around the plants. In the case of narrow 10 metre wide lengths of open Tangara Trail such as on the Dirty Bridge Creek Track, another alternative is to keep plantings at a reasonable distance from the track itself.</p>	<p>Include two new Recommendations as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Undertake revegetation in open grassy areas as a series of appropriately spaced elliptical patches (rather than a scattered planting approach) to enable ease of mowing. (R14b)</i> • <i>Revegetation along narrow sections of the Tangara Trail should be undertaken as close to the boundary fence as possible. (R14c)</i>
<p>Fauna habitat management</p>	
<p>15 We have observed wedge-tailed eagles on Single Hill numerous times (breeding pairs) / Don't disturb the family of eagles in trees above the track off Cahill Place [when upgrading track network to Single Hill Bushland Reserve]</p>	<p>Include a new Recommendation (R15a) as follows: <i>Future planning for the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve and track construction needs to recognise the frequent presence of roosting wedge tail eagles.</i></p>
<p>16a I do hope that you are able to consider the management of feral cats in the plan as I see them as a real problem. 16b Trap feral cats! They have eaten all the bandicoots on my property.</p>	<p>No change to recommendations required. Many 'feral cats' are domestic cats allowed to roam freely throughout the day and night. As discussed in Section 8, Council promotes responsible cat ownership, and will continue to encourage local residents to meet their obligations under the <i>Cat Management Act 2009</i> through having their cats microchipped, desexed and under effective control (e.g. indoors at night).</p>
<p>17 I have noticed road kill often and wonder if the corridors for wild life will exacerbate the problem particularly on Acton Drive</p>	<p>No change to recommendations required. While this issue is an important consideration in relation to wildlife corridors, the creation of these corridors is considered to be a priority to support wildlife flow both within the Acton Trails and Reserves as well as between these and other areas within the Clarence municipality.</p>
<p>18 Something must be done about the wallaby population on Single Hill at the rear of houses in Bardia Court...our gardens are being overrun by wallabies.</p>	<p>No change to recommendations required. The occurrence of wildlife in urban gardens adjacent to, or near to, bushland reserves is commonplace in Clarence and other southern Hobart municipalities.</p>

Tracks and trails

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 19 | An increasing problem has been the prevalent use of mountain bikes that speed along the trails, especially downhill sections. This can create a real safety issues if they encounter a horse as they spook the horse which can then bolt and/or throw the rider and end up anywhere. Mountain bikes should be restricted to their designated circuits. | No change to recommendations required. Section 11 notes the concerns raised regarding tensions between different user groups along the Tangara Trails, and notes that directional track signage has been designed to intentionally promote the range of users using the trails. It also notes that Council proposes to install signage alerting other users of etiquette around horses as part of the proposed Single Hill trails, which are expected to be popular and heavily used. |
| 20 | Management of tree roots on trail and filling in of rabbit holes could be beneficial to horse riders using the trails. | Enhance Recommendation 22 to state “Continue to maintain and upgrade the track network along the Tangara Trail, including the section between Nowra Road and Axiom Way. Special attention should be given to the track surface.” |
| 21 | Make gravel walkways wide enough for two people to walk side by side. The one off the end of Everton Place is useless (too narrow) and not being used. | No change to recommendations required. Consistent with Recommendation 22. |
| 22 | Removal of overhanging limbs is required from some tracks (e.g. Acton Road, Cambridge end). | No change to recommendations required. Council should note this issue to be included in its regular Acton Trails and Reserves maintenance program. |
| 23 | Management of current tracks should be the priority | No change to recommendations required. This is consistent with Recommendation 22. |
| 24 | We would like input to the process [of planning for the future use of Single Hill Reserve], including the trails proposed through the Reserve and access points. | Include a new Recommendation (R23a) to “Undertake community consultation when considering track alignments and infrastructure requirements once the Single Hill Bushland Reserve is in Council ownership.” |
| 25 | We would like more information on proposed trails for Single Hill, e.g. access from Eleanor Court is highly desired. Also where does the trail go when it gets to the river at Seven Mile Beach? Can we access the beach easily? | Refer response to Issue 24 above. |

26	We would like a trail from SE corner of Single Hill Reserve down past end of Kirra Road.	Refer response to Issue 24 above.
27	Tracks on Single Hill just needs marker posts	Refer response to Issue 24 above.
28	Complete one section of trail prior to commencing another.	No change to recommendations required. Consistent with Recommendation 22.
29	Clear very tall gums [along trails] and replace with shorter natives.	No change to recommendations required. As per Council's tree removal policy, large trees will be only be removed if deemed hazardous.
30	The trails need to be user friendly for all, not just horses, easy to navigate and linked to native bushland where possible.	Refer response to Issue 19 above.
31	We find it dangerous walking along Cahill Place and Axiom Way to access the trails (there are big ditches on both sides of the road). This could be improved with a trail put in along the roadside.	The project will be considered as part of the Footpath capital works.
32	Will there be access from NE end of Black Peppermint Track to Single Hill Road (or beach) and from end of Saltwater Rise to beach? These are highly desired by us and other users.	Access is being planned via footpaths when the roads are constructed as part of the ongoing stages of the subdivision process.
33	Need to complete the bike/pathway along Acton Road from where the current work (uphill from the Estate Drive roundabout) all the way to Kythera Place/Opus Drive, and then improve to Seven Mile Beach Road.	There are additional stages to the construction of the footpath along Acton Road planned for budget submissions over the next few financial years.
34	I am concerned about the section of trail/track from Axiom Way/Seven Mile Beach Road to Acton Drive....nothing has been done to address the hazardous and neglected vegetation between the above section of trail and Acton Road. Consequently, not only does this represent a fire danger area, but also the overhanging gum trees threaten passing motorists, people on the trail, as well as power lines in the immediate vicinity.	The track will be inspected and maintained as part of the Track and footpath maintenance program,

35	As a horse rider I would like to see this unique trail system stay safe for horse riding as well as for walkers, cyclists etc.	No change to recommendations required. Consistent with Recommendation 22 and response to Issue 18 above.
36	Horse tracks around Jeune Drive are not used much.	No change to recommendations required.
37	Don't leave flood prone areas without access...there are inappropriate crossings of large drains in some areas or none at all.	No change to recommendations required. Consistent with Recommendation 22.
38	The quality of recent track upgrades varies greatly...the one between Everton Place and Acton Drive is rather poor.	No change to recommendations required. Consistent with Recommendation 22.
39	Tracks in the middle of the trails – some too highly ridges to walk on, or ride a bike on – and certainly no good for horses.	No change to recommendations required. This is consistent with Recommendation 22, which is focussed on maintaining track condition for all users.
40	Continuation of building gravel paths is important.	No change to recommendations required. Consistent with Recommendation 22.
41	Need safe pathway for walkers all the way along Acton Road; new work in 2018 only goes part of the way, need it completed soon.	No change to recommendations required. Consistent with Recommendation 22. Consideration is being given through the Footpath Budget to extending the pathway.
Infrastructure		
42	A few natural 'log type' seats wouldn't go amiss.	Include a new Recommendation (R26a) as follows: <i>Install 'natural' seats at strategic locations along/within the Acton Trails/Reserves.</i>
43	Small mountain bike areas might be good for all the young families; scout clubs or schools could help with the building / Investigate the possibility of working with bike riders in having a course in the Single Hill area.	No change to recommendations required – consistent with Recommendation 27.
44	A BBQ would be very good [in the Single Hill Bushland Reserve]	No change to recommendations required. This issue should be noted by Council when considering future use requirements for the Single Hill Bushland Reserve.
45	More elderly people especially require a place to rest and admire the view [in proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve]	No change to recommendations required. This issue should be noted by Council when considering future use requirements for the Single Hill Bushland Reserve.

46	Leave Single Hill Bushland Reserve as natural as possible, using logs perhaps as seating.	No change to recommendations required. This issue should be noted by Council when considering future use requirements for the Single Hill Bushland Reserve.
Community participation and awareness		
47	Concern that too many signs take away natural look of areas / Install interpretation signs only where absolutely essential	Include a new Recommendation (R24a) as follows: <i>To avoid potential for reducing the 'sense of nature', minimise signage to that required to facilitate community educational and provide directions.</i>
48	There have been issues in the past about unauthorised tracks and jumps being constructed on reserve land. This could be overcome by authorised purpose-built are(s) for mountain bike activities e.g. jump tracks, flow track and skills area / Some bike riders have wrecked areas by making their own jumps and tracks.	Since the development of the draft plan, the "Wallaby Track" within the Nowra Hill Bushland Reserve has been identified as an existing mountain bike trail area that could be promoted, particularly given its close proximity to the future Single Hill Bushland Reserve. Recommendation 27 should be amended to the following: <i>Investigate the further development of the Wallaby Track within the Nowra Bushland Reserve for mountain bike jumps and trails.</i>
49	Would love to support the APLG but time constraints (several submissions).	No change to recommendations required – consistent with Recommendation 31.
50	We do not support the APLG – as the area is planted with more trees and shrubs the fire hazard becomes far greater and also provides more covering for vermin, e.g. rabbits, snakes etc.	No change to recommendations required. While it is acknowledged that some residents have concerns regarding native regeneration and revegetation, there is a general community desire for more of these activities to be undertaken to promote flora and fauna habitat and diversity.
51	Do not support "Art in the Landscape" installations / Artists should be free to select their own sites [for "Art in the Landscape" installations / "Art in the Landscape" installations should not be intrusive	Recommendation 25 should be amended as follows: <i>Council's History Officer to investigate how the Acton trails' natural values and history could be sensitively incorporated into art in the landscape, given there is a fair-sized minority that do not support this concept.</i>
General management issues		
52	Please do not go over a set budget, it cost[s] a lot	No change to recommendations required. Council has a budget allocated for each of its Reserves.

53	As a horse rider I would like to see this unique trail system stay safe for horse riding as well as for walkers, cyclists etc	No change to recommendations required. Consistent with Recommendation 22; also refer response to Issue 18 above.
54	Horse riders, bush bike riders and walkers and others perhaps need to coordinate ideas collectively.	No change to recommendations required. The development of this plan has endeavoured to provide all local users with the opportunity to participate.
55	Cutting of grass in the open space is satisfactory but to reduce fire hazard it would be better cut twice a year.	No change to recommendations required. Council should note this issue to be included in its regular Acton Trails and Reserves maintenance program.
56	The Council need to be more proactive dealing with the rabbit/wallaby problems in the area.	No change to recommendations required. Council should note this issue to be included in its regular Acton Trails and Reserves maintenance program.
57	Fire management is very important in the Single Hill Bushland Reserve.	A Bushfire management Plan will be developed once the Reserve is formally handed over to Council.
Management issue outside the Reserves / outside the scope of this plan		
58	Completion and upgrading of Acton Road track from recently completed end through to Lauderdale – some sections are very rough, narrow, impeded with branches (Opus Drive to Saxon Drive section).	Comments 58-70 fall outside the scope of on ground management activities within the Acton Trails and Reserves. This feedback has been forwarded to the relevant Council staff for consideration.
59	Crossing Acton Road is becoming a real problem. The road is getting busier and busier. I suggest reducing the speed limit to 60kph...possibly install one or two crossings.	
60	There is a lack of guideposts on Acton Road, particularly between Seven Mile Beach Road and Acton Drive.	
61	Recently there were some works going on around the area to clear trees that were under power lines. Maybe some warning signs could go up as on 2 occasions I came across large trucks and chainsaws etc and it is a little disconcerting when on horseback to have machinery start up just as I came trotting around the corner	

- | | |
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| 62 | Fire units attending [a fire six or seven years ago] had difficulty in locating and accessing the fire hydrant located opposite our property...this situation has not changed! |
| 63 | Concerns about the cost of joining Equestrian Tasmania to ride the trails in the Roscommon Area. |
| 64 | Area close to the archery has been slashed and now there are several thousand rosehip bushes which will become a dense wall. |
| 65 | I firmly prefer a pedestrian path between Barilla Caravan Park to Cambridge over the 'potential' use of rate payers' funds for beautifying Acton Trails. |
| 66 | While it is lovely, I wonder if my rates can be better spent cleaning up and maintaining verges elsewhere in Clarence. This task is mostly done by landowners not Council regularly. |
| 67 | Water redirection from my property frontage as necessary infrastructure takes my priority. |
| 68 | Heritage hedge which runs along both sides of Cilwen Road, Cambridge needs to be maintained in a careful manner as it has significant heritage values to community and residents. |
| 69 | Need to look at active management of fire hazard on the Meehan Range. |
| 70 | The trail in International Close should be extended to Grueber Road to provide a linkage to the coast |

Where possible, all relevant community feedback has been considered in the development of the *Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022*. However some issues identified during the consultation process are beyond the scope of this plan or pertain to management issues outside the areas to which it pertains. These issues have been noted by Council and will be addressed through other processes where feasible.

THE DRAFT ACTON TRAILS AND RESERVES ACTIVITY PLAN RECOMMENDS:

- >> Install signs for interpretation and to designate natural regeneration areas;
- >> Upgrade the track network connecting to and within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve;
- >> Continue maintaining and upgrading the track network along the Tangara Trail;
- >> Protect and enhance areas of natural regeneration;
- >> Connect remnant bushland patches to form greenway corridors for enhancing bird and animal habitat;
- >> Plan for the future use of the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve such as seats, viewing areas and fire management;
- >> Continue weed control and replacing weeds with local native plants;
- >> Identify locations for "Art in the Landscape" installations; and
- >> Actively support the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc.

STAY WITH US...

Council invites your comments on the draft Plan. The Plan will guide the community and Council as we work together to improve the management of the Reserves. You can find the draft plan at www.ccc.tas.gov.au/consultation

USE THE ONLINE FORM OR CONTACT

BY 15 MARCH 2018

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Common Bronzewing

"I love the trails for mountain biking, horse riding or walking."

Local resident



Grey Fantail



Blue-winged Parrot

ACTON TRAILS AND RESERVES

REPORT CARD



Brown Thornbill

Your Community and Council working together to care for our Reserves

In the spring of 2017, Clarence City Council asked the community about the Acton Trails and Reserves ...these are the results.



	EVALUATION				DESCRIPTION	COMMUNITY COMMENTS
	OUTSTANDING	VERY GOOD	PASS	CAN DO BETTER	ACTON TRAILS AND RESERVES	
LOCATION					Acton corridor is bounded by treed hills and scenic coast. It features Tangara Trails and bush reserves such as Nowra and Single Hill Bush Reserve.	Benefit from enhancing greenway corridors
CULTURAL HERITAGE					Originally occupied by the Mumirimina clan of Oyster Bay Nation.	
VEGETATION					Contains valuable black peppermint forest and woodland and rare plant species.	Illegal vegetation clearance is a concern
ANIMALS AND BIRDS					Diverse range of wildlife including many bird species.	
LANDSCAPE					Features rare black peppermint and black gum woodlands which present a colourful flowering understorey during Spring time.	Natural setting valued by locals
ACCESS AND USAGE					Popular for walking, dog exercise, cycling and horse riding.	Track network valued by locals
THREATS					Weeds, clearing of native plants, trail bikes, free ranging cats and dogs and alienation of public land.	Continue weed control efforts




FEB 11 2018




TASMANIA


Stay with us on the journey of caring for the Acton Trails and Reserves. Your comments are highly valued!
Go to <http://www.ccc.tas.gov.au/consultation> to comment.



APPENDIX 4: DECLARED WEED SPECIES AND RECOMMENDED CONTROL TECHNIQUES

Common name	Species	Status	Picture	Recommended control technique
<u>DECLARED WEEDS</u>				
African boxthorn	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	Declared		Cut and paste. Care should be taken to avoid the spines on this species as they can produce painful puncture wounds and/or an allergic reaction.
Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> aggregate	Declared WONS		Large stands - spot spray larger using an appropriate herbicide (as per the DPIPWE Control Guide) in non-fruiting periods Isolated patches - spot spray or cut and paste
Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	Declared WONS		Hand pull seedlings. Cut and paste larger plants. Fruit should be bagged and disposed of responsibly.

Common name	Species	Status	Picture	Recommended control technique
Datura	<i>Datura</i> sp.	Declared		Chip out of the ground or spot spray using an appropriate herbicide (as per the DPIPWE Control Guide). Seed heads should be collected and removed off site. Caution should be taken when handling this plant as some people may develop headache, nausea or dermatitis from close contact.
Horehound	<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	Declared		Hand pull/dig or spot spray using an appropriate herbicide (as per the DPIPWE Control Guide).
Serrated tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	Declared WONS		Hand dig/chip or spot spray using an appropriate herbicide (as per the DPIPWE Control Guide).

Common name	Species	Status	Picture	Recommended control technique
Spanish heath	<i>Erica lusitanica</i>	Declared		Hand pull, cut and paste or spot spray using an appropriate herbicide (as per the DPIPWE Control Guide)

APPENDIX 5: SUMMARY OF ON GROUND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Weed management	
R1	Priority should be given to controlling declared weeds occurring in the Nowra Bushland Reserve, areas of regenerating native vegetation near the Five Ways and between Renmark Place and Sirocco Court, and the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve (once passed over to Council).
R2	Control serrated tussock and horehound in the Nowra Bushland Reserve as a priority, with communication/coordination with surrounding landholders to be undertaken by Council's Weeds Planning Officer.
R3	Control Spanish heath regenerating in regeneration areas near the Five Ways and between Renmark Place and Sirocco Court, with communication/coordination with surrounding landholders to be undertaken by Council's Weeds Planning Officer.
R4	Control African boxthorn, blackberry and crack willow growing along the creeklines between Axiom Way and Sirocco Court, and between Roches Beach Road and Tara Drive.
R5	Large mirror bushes between Axiom Way and Sirocco Court should only be removed if there are sufficient resources available to immediately undertake revegetation where large bare areas are created.
R6	Undertake a sweep of the Single Hill Bushland Reserve and control all declared and environmental woody weeds encountered within one year of it passing into Council ownership.
R7	Undertake an annual sweep of all previously targeted areas to remove new germinants of previously targeted weeds, with a focus on Spanish heath and serrated tussock.
R8	Undertake control of exotic grasses and broadleaf weeds only in revegetation areas and where necessary as part of a general Reserve maintenance program.
R9	Undertake GPS mapping of weeds after five years to monitor progress and inform future weed control priorities.
Regeneration and revegetation	
R10	Protect and enhance areas of natural regeneration that have been identified by the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc.
R11	Engage with contractors prior undertaking the annual slashing program to ensure regeneration areas are not inadvertently slashed.
R12	Install semi-permanent regeneration signs at the edges of each regeneration area.
R13	Continue to undertake selective revegetation in bare areas between Old Monmouth Track and Black Peppermint Track.
R14	Undertake weed control, supplementary planting and installation of interpretation signage to improve the outcomes of the "Bandicoot Bunker" program.
R14a	Only endemic plants local to the area should be planted and, where possible, these plants should be grown from the local seed or cuttings.
R14b	Undertake revegetation in open grassy areas using a series of appropriately spaced elliptical patches (rather than a scattered planting approach) to enable ease of mowing.
R14c	Revegetation along narrow sections of the Tangara Trail should be undertaken as close to the boundary fence as possible.
R15	New revegetation and landscaping activities should not be committed to unless sufficient resources are available to undertake ongoing regular maintenance of newly planted

	areas.
Fauna habitat management	
R16	Connect remnant bushland patches to form greenway corridors for enhancing bird and animal habitat.
R16a	Future planning for the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve and track construction needs to recognise the frequent presence of foraging and possibly nesting wedge tail eagles.
Vegetation and fauna monitoring	
R17	Undertake Vegetation Condition Assessments in threatened native vegetation communities in 2018 and 2022.
R18	Establish and annually monitor photo points within VCA zones and in natural regeneration areas to facilitate monitoring of vegetation condition.
R19	Undertake fauna surveys in 2022 to assess species diversity and further inform on ground management activities.
R20	Undertake an analysis of all photo points, VCAs and fauna surveys in 2022 to determine trends and inform future management activities.
Reserve Entrances	
R21	Investigate a safer alternative to the chain across the Kirra Road entrance to the Nowra Bushland Reserve.
Tracks and trails	
R22	Continue to maintain and upgrade the track network along the Tangara Trail, including the section between Nowra Road and Axiom Way. Special attention should be given to the track surface.
R23	Upgrade the track network connecting to and within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve
R23a	Undertake community consultation when considering track alignments and infrastructure requirements once the Single Hill Bushland Reserve is in Council ownership.
R24	Provide safe pedestrian access along missing links along Acton Road.
R24a	To avoid potential for reducing the 'sense of nature', minimise signage to that required to facilitate community education and provide clear directions.
Infrastructure	
R25	Council's History officer to investigate how the Acton trails' natural values and history could be incorporated into art in the landscape, given there is a notable minority that do not support this concept.
R26	Review the infrastructure requirements of the Acton trails and Reserves in 2022.
R26a	Install 'natural' seats at strategic locations along/within the Acton Trails/Reserves.
Supporting recreational activities	
R27	Investigate the further development of the Wallaby Track within the Nowra Bushland Reserve for mountain bike jumps and trails.
R28	Investigate a suitable hang glider launching site within the proposed Single Hill Bushland Reserve.
Community participation and awareness	
R29	Community education should be undertaken to facilitate behavioural change and encourage ownership and appreciation of the values of the Acton trails and Reserves. Develop and implement a communication plan to engage with Acton Park landowners to

R30	provide guidance on best practices to conserve and enhance the habitat values of remnant patches of native vegetation on private property.
R31	Continue to actively support the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc.
R32	Facilitate the formation of a Single Hill Landcare Group.
R33	Engage with relevant local horse riding associations (e.g. Tangara Trails Committee) when considering new developments along the Tangara Trails.
R34	Install interpretation signage regarding the area's natural values, regeneration site and the activities of the Acton Park Landcare Group Inc.
Implementation Plan	
R35	Review progress against all performance measures identified in the Implementation Plan annually.
R36	Review the Acton Trails and Reserves Activity Plan 2018-2022 in 2022 to assess progress and determine ongoing management priorities for the Acton trails and reserves.