



Reserve Activity Plan 2017 – 2021

RICHMOND RECREATION RESERVE

ADVICE PREPARED BY
ENVIRO-DYNAMICS
FOR THE
CLARENCE CITY COUNCIL

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Richmond Recreation Reserve Activity Plan 2017-2021

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Level 1, 2 Edward Street, Glebe, Tasmania 7000

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Reserve Activity Plan (RAP) applies to Richmond Recreation Reserve (RRR) located at 2A Victoria Street and managed by Clarence City Council.

The aims of this RAP are to ensure the reserve is sustainably managed, identify on-ground management activities and encourage community involvement in activities to minimise threats to the recreational and natural values of the reserve. These aims will be achieved through the community consultation process and with consideration of connectivity to other reserves in the Richmond area.

The key on-ground actions of this RAP were outlined on the Richmond Recreation Reserve Report Card (Appendix 1) which was distributed to Richmond residents to promote and seek feedback from the community about the Draft Richmond Recreation RAP.

The key on-ground actions are:

1. Develop a perimeter walk around the Reserve and a loop walk from the entrance down along the river.
2. Formalise the parking area to allow for managed access into the Reserve.
3. Develop a Reserve Vegetation Plan to enhance visitor experiences through planned weeding and revegetation activities.
4. Consider management options for development of trail corridor along Crown riparian reserve going north towards Kelly Fields.
5. Investigate trail corridor links to St Johns Cemetery, and Brinktop Reserve.
6. Promote walking and cycling to and from the Reserve by considering incorporation of information about the local reserves and their connectivity into the draft Strategy for Coal Valley Tourist Trail thus linking wineries with local activity areas.
7. Install information and directional signage
8. Trial a 6-hole disc golf course for 12 months.
9. Install seating and litter bins.
10. Actively support the Richmond Landcare Group with primary school student involvement.

2. BACKGROUND

The Clarence City Council (CCC) manage a wide range of sporting and recreational facilities and reserves across the municipality for the benefit of local communities. CCC is committed to maintaining the recreational assets for local and wider community of which the Richmond Recreation Reserve (RRR) at 2A Victoria Street is one (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

As a 19th century Georgian village, Richmond's rich convict history is balanced with recreational opportunities provided by the RRR in the form of a mixture of activity based infrastructure and managed riparian bushland.

To assist with the management of the reserve into the future a reserve activity plan (RAP) has been developed. The RAP provides: management priorities based on community consultation; an assessment of the natural, recreational, social and cultural values of the recreational area; identification of any degrading processes impacting on the area; and insight into potential biodiversity and trail corridor connections in the landscape.

2.1. AIM OF THE RESERVE ACTIVITY PLAN

The aim of the Richmond Recreation Reserve RAP is to:

- Ensure the reserve is sustainably managed to protect and enhance the natural, cultural and social values;
- Identify priority on-ground management activities to be undertaken within the reserve by Council, community groups and/or volunteers; and
- Encourage community involvement through raising awareness of the reserve's values and encourage participation in activities to minimise threats to these values.

To achieve these aims the RAP process involves:

- An extensive two stage community consultation process and assessment of the natural, recreational, social and cultural values of the Reserve and the degrading processes impacting on them.
- The Reserve Activity Plan relates primarily to Richmond Recreation Reserve 2a Victoria St. Richmond. However, there are notable biodiversity and trail corridor connections in the landscape to which general consideration has been given and recommendations made.

It is noted that Council managed river bank parks to the south of the RRR are managed in accordance with *Richmond Bridge Vegetation Management Plan* (LI 2015). This RAP aims to be consistent with the aims and objectives of that plan.

2.2. REVIEW OF RESERVE ACTIVITY PLAN

This plan has been prepared for a period of 5 years from 2017 - 2021. An informal review of actions and priorities should be undertaken annually and a complete review of the plan undertaken at the end of the 5-year period.

2.3. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION TO RAP

Existing documentation that relates to the reserve is limited to the *Richmond Bridge Vegetation Management Plan* (VMP) (LI 2015).

The Richmond Bridge VMP focuses on vegetation management in the vicinity of the Richmond Bridge and recognises the importance of upstream vegetation. Zone G (in the VMP) which covers a small riparian area in the southeast corner of the greater RRR, is recognized for its potential influence on the downstream riparian vegetation and water quality at the Richmond Bridge (Figure 3).

The VMP objective for Zone G is: *Maintain as a low maintenance, predominantly 'bushland with open grass' landscape as a transition between the Recreation Reserve and the Coal River.*

In addition, the VMP recommends: ongoing mowing or slashing of grassed areas; weed management; and management of riparian vegetation to ensure bank stability and to maintain or improve water quality.

More specifically the VMP management recommendations are:

- *Ongoing weed management throughout Zone G, but particularly the riparian zone.*
- *Annual monitoring and control of gorse, crack willow, fennel, thistles, blackberry, hawthorn and other weeds along the riparian zone. Apply the methods described in the 'Guidelines for Safe and Effective Herbicide Use near Waterways' (DPIPWE 2012).*
- *Additional weed control required upstream of Recreation Reserve on Crown Land to minimise re-introduction of weeds to the Richmond Bridge precinct.*

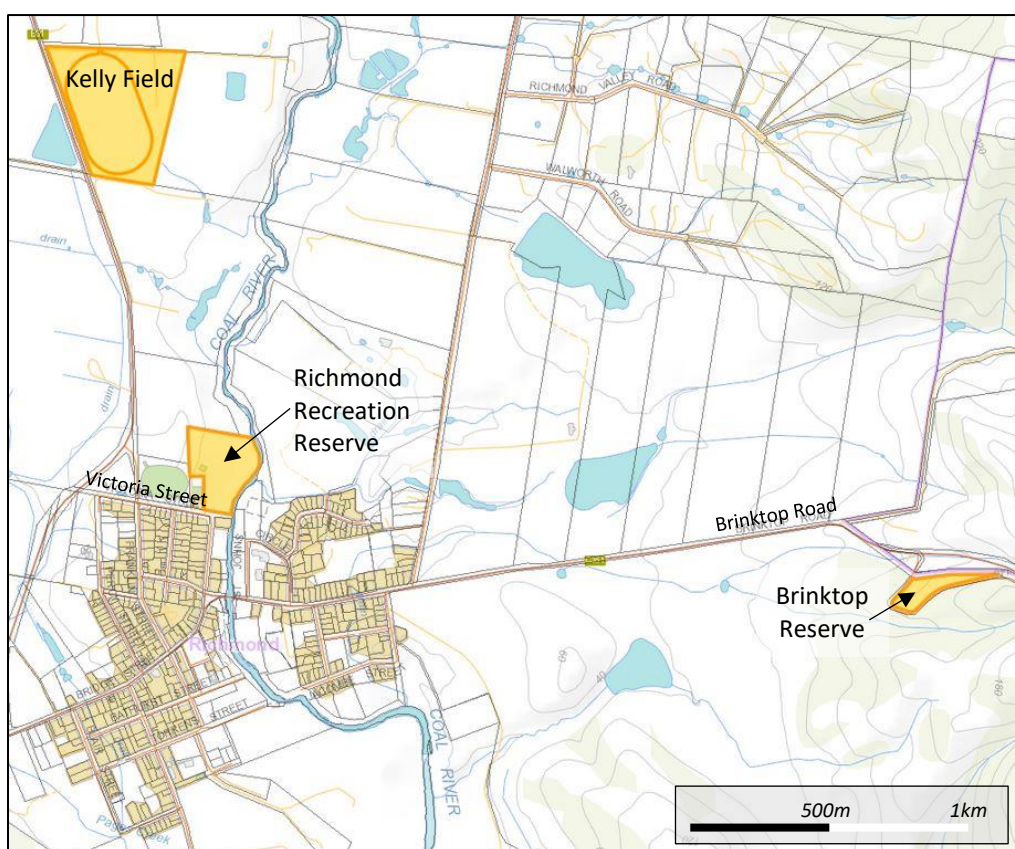


Figure 1 – Location Plan with Richmond Recreation Reserve, Brinktop Reserve and Kelly Field.

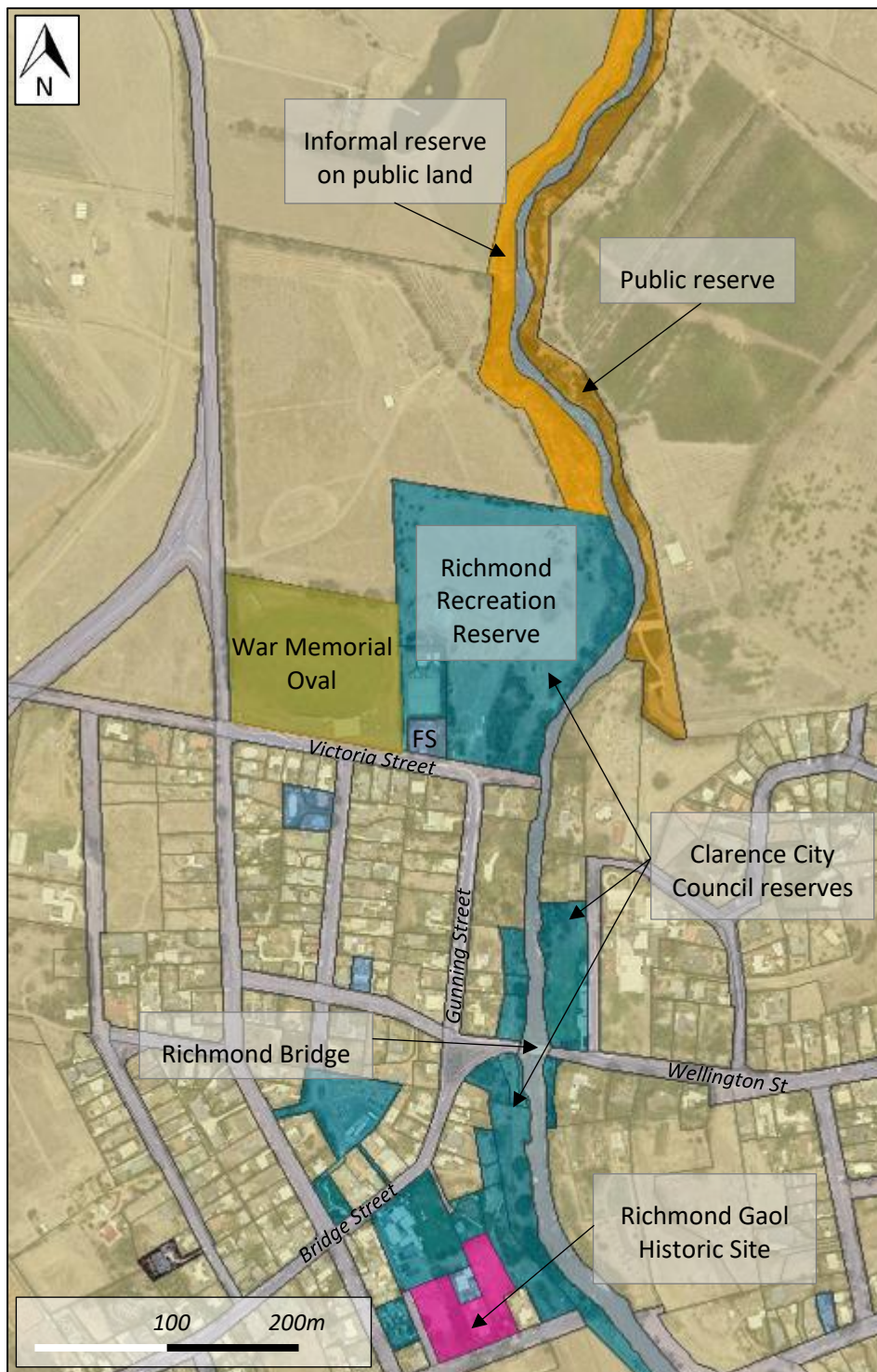


Figure 2 – Location Plan indicating Richmond Recreation Reserve, nearby public land along the Coal River, War Memorial Oval and the Fire Station (FS).

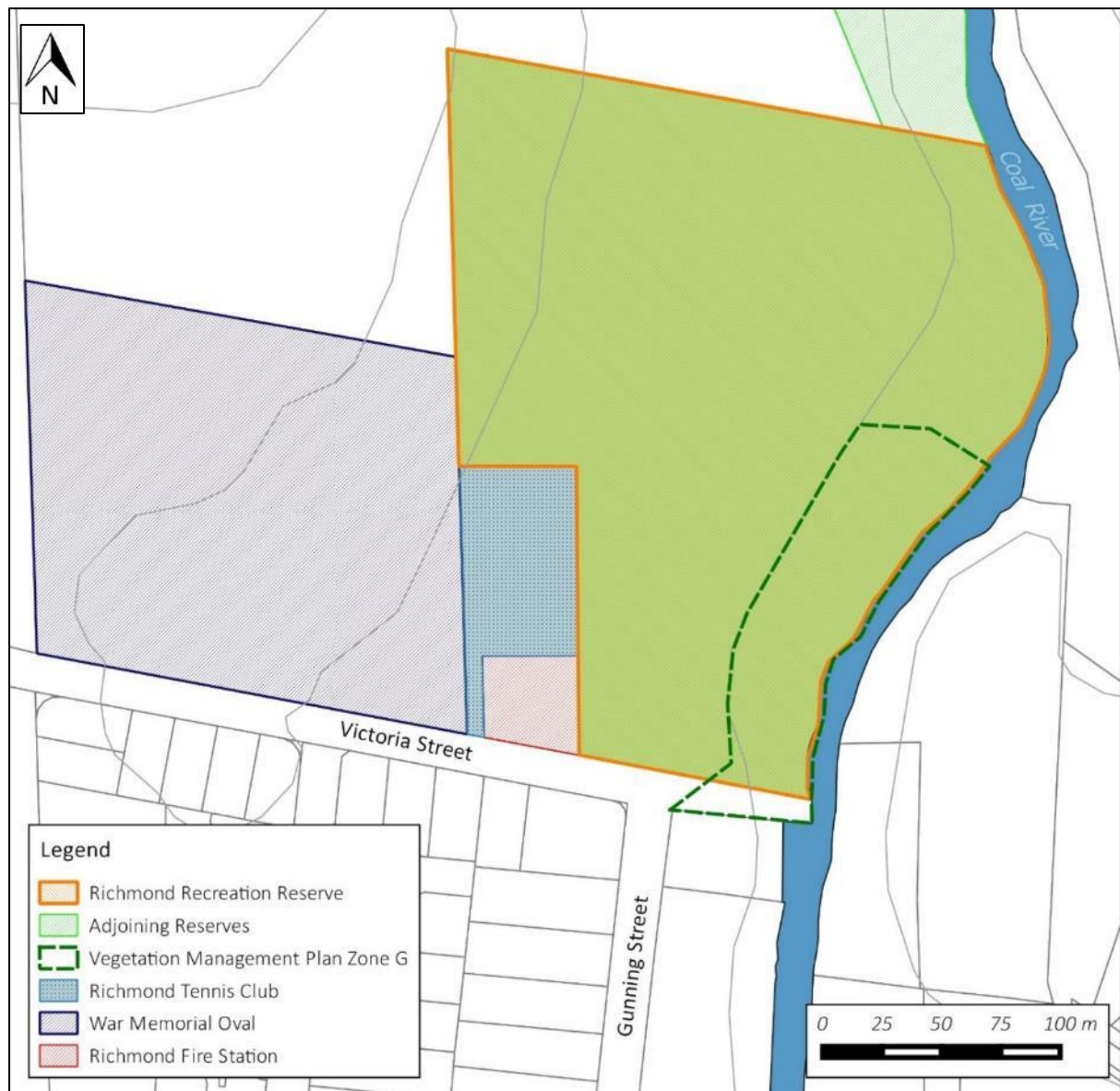


Figure 3 – Zone G in the Richmond Bridge VMP (LI 2015)

3. SITE DESCRIPTION

This Reserve Activity Plan (RAP) relates to Richmond Recreation Reserve at 2A Victoria Street, Richmond. The 5.3 ha reserve is located at the northern end of the Richmond Township, between the Coal River and the War Memorial Oval (Figure 2). It comprises significant areas of open space, infrastructure, and a narrow strip of riparian bushland. As is evident from the amount and variation of infrastructure available, the focus of the RRR is recreation. From dog walking and BMX biking to basketball and tennis, there is a strong emphasis on providing equipment and infrastructure for the public to participate in a wide range of physical activities.

For the purposes of this RAP, the reserve is divided into physical sub-areas (Figure 4) based on existing uses, including:

1. Open space;
2. Activities area;
3. Informal parking and turning circle;
4. Steep bank between open space and Coal River; and
5. Coal River riparian area.

The activities and parking areas contain the following infrastructure:

- Skateboard ramps (Plate 1 and Plate 2);
- BMX bike riding ramps (Plate 3);
- 1 swing set (Plate 2);
- 1 Picnic table (Plate 2);
- Basketball hoop and short court (Plate 4);
- Water filling station owned and operated by TasWater (Plate 5 and 6); and
- Informal parking (Plate 7).

The open space is approximately 1.3 ha and is a great space for kite flying, astronomy, Frisbee and other activities that require uninterrupted space e.g. school cross country running carnival space, kids' parties, family reunions etc. Camping and unauthorised vehicle access is prohibited however there are no signs to indicate this at this stage.

The reserve is bordered by agricultural land to the north, developed urban areas to the southwest and west including the War Memorial Oval, football club, tennis courts, fire station and residential development, and the Coal River to the east.

The geology of the area is undifferentiated Cenozoic sequences and sediments. Near the river the sediments are comprised of well-rounded gravel predominantly of Parmeener and Tertiary derivation. In addition, clasts commonly of basalt and, in places dolerite, are common and are overlain by sand and clay of alluvial origin. There are no geo-conservation sites recorded in the area (TheList 2016).

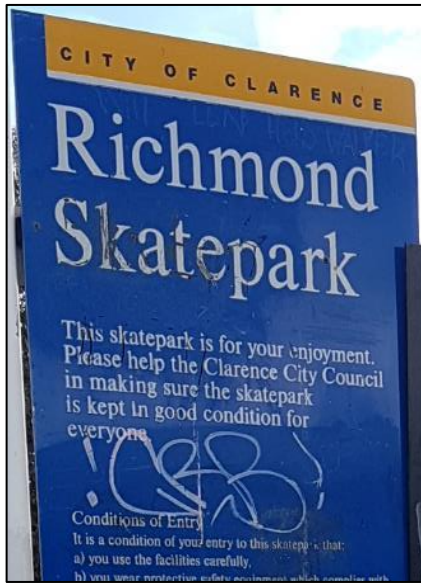


Plate 1 – Richmond skate park signage



Plate 2 – Richmond skate park infrastructure with swing set and picnic table in the background



Plate 3 – BMX bike riding circuit



Plate 4 – Basketball hoop and short court

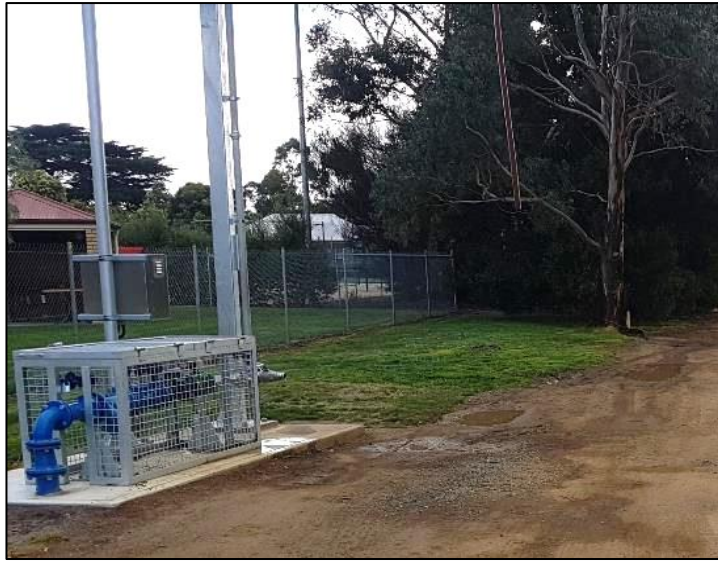


Plate 5 & Plate 6 – TasWater water filling station and instructions



Plate 7 – Informal parking area and main entrance to the reserve



Plate 8 – Combination of recent (right) and historical planting (left and background)

Plate 9 – Historical planting on the Coal River bank (right photo)

4. NATURAL VALUES OF SITE

The Richmond Recreation Reserve is a largely altered landscape with broad open areas (parkland) dominated by introduced grasses with a mixture of native and exotic plantings around the perimeter and on the bank to the river (Plate 8 and Plate 9). The riparian portion of the reserve contains some remnant native vegetation amongst introduced species such as willows.

Planted tree species include: white, blue and black gums (*Eucalyptus viminalis*, *E. globulus*, *E. ovata*); silver and black wattle (*Acacia dealbata* and *A. melanoxylon*); and she-oaks (*Allocasuarina verticillata*) as well as a range of mainland wattles, eucalypts and bottlebrushes.

The vegetation by area (Figure 4) includes but is not limited to:

1. Open space – exotic grasses and herbs
2. Activities area – exotic grasses and plantings of Australian trees and shrubs
3. Informal parking and turning circle – plantings of Australian trees and shrubs
4. Steep bank between open space and Coal River – exotic grasses and weeds and plantings
5. Coal River riparian area – remnant riparian vegetation, plantings and weeds such as willows.

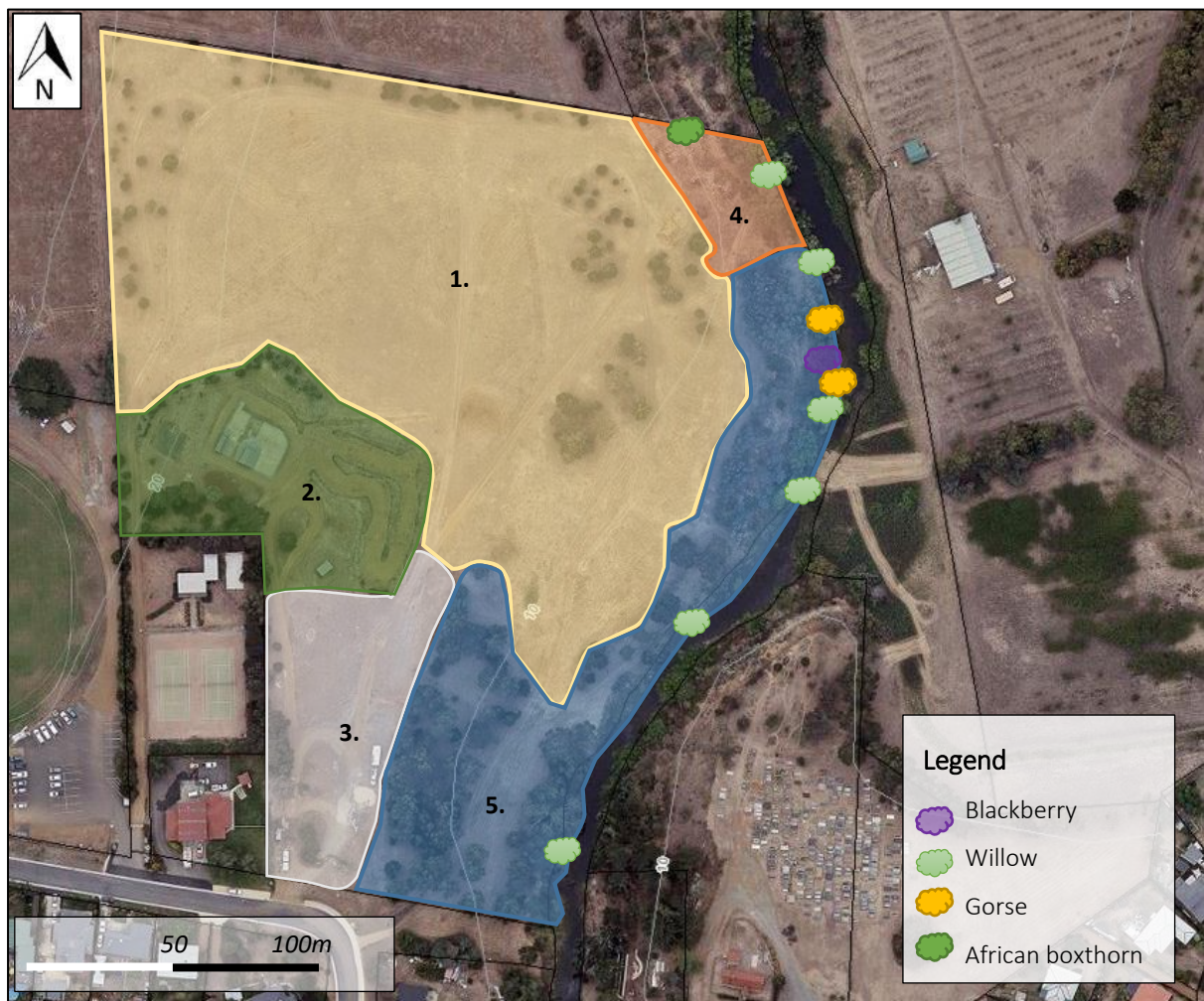


Figure 4 – Vegetation by area and declared weeds within Richmond Recreation Reserve

4.1. NATIVE FLORA

The recreation reserve was surveyed for flora species in September 2016. The native flora was very limited which reflects the history of disturbance to the area. Isolated species occur along the river edge including black gums (*E. ovata*), blackwood (*Acacia melanoxylon*), silver wattle (*Acacia dealbata*), woolly tea tree (*Leptospermum lanigerum*), prickly box (*Bursaria spinosa*), sagg (*Lomandra longifolia*), tall sedge (*Carex appressa*) and water ribbon. For a list of flora species found during the survey refer to Appendix 2.

It is noted in the Richmond Bridge Vegetation Management Plan (LI 2015) that the Coal River supports native vegetation “Historic photographs of the Bridge show indigenous reeds, *Phragmites australis* (common rush), *Juncus* sp. (native rush) and *Triglochin procera* (water ribbon), an edible tuber eaten by Aborigines.” During the September survey, the native rush and water ribbon were noted within the reserve.

No threatened flora species were recorded at the site during the survey. A search of the Natural Values Atlas of Tasmania indicated that five (5) species have been recorded within a 500 m radius of the reserve and no additional species were found within 1000 m radius of the site. For a complete list of these threatened flora species, refer to Appendix 3.

4.2. INTRODUCED FLORA SPECIES

A wide range of introduced species were recorded in the reserve during the September 2016 survey, typical of a highly altered landscape.

Five declared weeds were recorded in the reserve African boxthorn, gorse, willows, white weed and blackberry, four of which are Weeds of National Significance (WoNS). Most of these weeds occur in isolated, minor populations in the riparian zone or on the northern boundary thanks to previous weed management efforts (Figure 4).

An additional 13 species considered to be environmental (non-declared) weeds were recorded in the reserve. These include, but are not limited to, cape weed, thistles, spurge, and bastard's fumitory. A range of garden escapees such as spurge are likely the result of garden waste dumping in the northeast corner of the reserve. These species pose only minimal threat to the natural values of the reserve however their control will contribute to the rehabilitation of the reserve to a more natural state.

Recent willow and weed management has been undertaken within the northern part of the riparian area (Plate 10) however willows (and gorse) continue to require management (Plate 11) as per the VMP (LI 2015).

Other weeds occurring within 1 km of the reserve include: hairy fiddleneck (*Amsinckia calycina*), bridal creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*), onion weed (*Asphodelus fistulosus*), Canadian pondweed (*Elodea canadensis*), fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*), canary broom (*Genista monspessulana*), and bathurst burr (*Xanthium spinosum*) (NVA 2016).



Plate 10 – Willow management near Coal River



Plate 11 – Live willows adjacent to Coal River

4.3. NATIVE FAUNA VALUES

Due to the highly altered nature of the reserve it provides limited habitat for native fauna species. The open areas provide a foraging resource for common mammals such as wallabies, possums and bandicoots which are likely to utilise the reserve. The river provides habitat for the platypus, as indicated by local residents, and a range of waterbirds and the threatened Australian grayling are also known from the Coal River.

The Richmond Recreation Reserve was surveyed for birds in spring 2016 as part of the RAP process. The bird fauna was found to be limited within the reserve with only 9 native species recorded. The open nature of the reserve favours more aggressive and/or exotic bird species over small woodland birds. A list of the species seen or heard during the survey is provided in Appendix 4.

Other threatened fauna species recorded nearby (within 500 m) include the Tasmanian devil and masked owl. These species may forage over the reserve however there is no important habitat on the reserve such as dens sites or large trees with nesting hollows.

Appendix 3 provides a list of threatened fauna within 500 m and 1 km of the reserve.

4.4. ABORIGINAL HERITAGE

The history of use of the Richmond Recreation Reserve started with the original inhabitants, the Moomairremener peoples used the area for hunting and possibly some basic agriculture. It is noted that *Triglochin procera* (Water Ribbon) which can be seen in the Coal River adjacent to the Reserve is an edible tuber which was eaten by Aborigines (DIER 2010).

4.5. EUROPEAN HISTORY

Since European contact, James Meehan surveyed the area and named the Coal River after the coal found there. Land grants were given from 1808, and since the early 1800s, the area on which the Reserve exists was established as public land.

The Coal River 'water hole' was the main water point from which water was collected during the early 19th century. A water carter would fill at the 'water hole' and distribute to the homes within the Richmond Township.

Forty plus years ago the (unsealed) road access to the river beyond the last house in Gunning Street was called *The Car Wash* and the old town little Furphy water tank (long since purloined) was there (G. Ralph pers. comm.).

The Richmond Agricultural Society started in 1822 and re-formed in 1836 thanks to a chance meeting of James Gordon, George Gunning and Gilbert Robinson (originally from the West Indies) at the pub. These three men were of various backgrounds and reputations but together they successfully started the Richmond Show within the present Richmond Recreation Reserve. There was once a pavilion and race course where the New Year's races were a going concern for many years until the early 1970s.

During the 1940s military manoeuvres were undertaken in this location and a military camp was set up to accommodate soldiers. Owing to this role during the war time, the area was designated the War Memorial Oval.

Up until the 1960s the property was owned by Daisy Banks when the land (including the Oval and the Richmond Reserve) was a compulsory acquisition by the State Government with the intent to build a Richmond High School (B. Jones pers. comm.). In its place, the reserve and oval have provided public open space and areas for sporting activities for the Richmond population.

4.6. MORE RECENTLY

The War Memorial Oval on the corner of Victoria Street and Colebrook Road is home to the Richmond Football Club but, as noted above, it was used for military manoeuvres during war time.

The skate and bike park along with the basketball hoop/court and swing set have been introduced over the past 10-20 years to provide youth in the area with different outdoor opportunities.

The neighbouring Richmond Tennis Club provides physical and social opportunities for members of all ages, from 8 to 80+. There is ongoing fundraising by the club to develop a third tennis court. Provision for this third court has been made by Council and would likely be developed adjacent to the existing two courts where it would encroach modestly (10m) into the Richmond Recreation Reserve (Figure 8).

Current residents of Richmond enjoyed excellent fly fishing on the Coal River prior to the Craigbourne Dam construction. The river has beautiful riffles and pools in a wet year that are blocked by debris in other years and the banks have become riddled with weeds (willows, blackberry, gorse etc.) making access along the river banks very difficult.

5. RECREATIONAL VALUES & RESERVE ACCESS

The Richmond Recreation Reserve is currently used for a range of recreation pursuits including: dog walking, kite flying, cross country running, BMX biking, skateboarding, basketball, bird watching, star gazing and football and tennis are played on the adjoining properties.

According to the passive recreation management objectives of the *Clarence Interim Planning Scheme 2015*, the reserve land should be used *for informal leisure and recreation activities principally conducted in the open*.

In addition, the reserve land should be used for organised or competitive recreation or sporting purposes including associated clubrooms as per the sports and recreation management objectives of the *Clarence Interim Planning Scheme 2015*.

Finally, the reserve land may be used for utilities such as: telecommunications, electricity generation, transmitting or disturbing gas, oil and power, transport networks etc. This latter item may seem to conflict with the recreational values of the reserve however the utilities provide capacity to support the village and residents of Cambridge now and in the future. It is noted that a 'Particular Purpose - future road corridor' is also zoned across the open area of the Reserve (*CIPS 2015*) refer to Appendix 5.

The formal reserve access is from Victoria Street, on the east side of the Richmond fire station, where there is a turning circle and informal parking area.

Additional access for Council maintenance is available adjacent to 18 Gunning Street, as well as along the west side of the fire station and tennis club through to the skate park and open area of the reserve.

Walking access is generally available from the informal parking area and the Gunning Street pavement down along the river via the track used by Council maintenance vehicles, or informal walking pads (Plate 12).

There is no access to the reserve from across the river or from downstream along the river due to private land bordering the river reserve to the south.



It is noted that during bigger events e.g. football semi-finals and Richmond Village Fair, the open area of the reserve provides a useful overflow carpark.

Plate 12 – Existing informal foot pad on Coal River west bank

6. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Community consultation was undertaken as part of the development of this Reserve Activity Plan. This included consultation with the local community through: a community ‘walk and talk’ event; feedback through forms posted out/made available to Richmond residents; and conversations with the closest neighbours. In addition, the Council NRM staff were consulted regarding the management of the reserve, possible future uses, and connectivity between reserves via Richmond walking trails.

The aim of the consultation was to capture local knowledge and determine issues of importance from interested community members.

Following the initial community consultation process, further consultation will be sought after the release of the ‘Reserve Report Card’ and ‘Draft Richmond Recreation Reserve Activity Plan’. The results of this consultation are incorporated into this final plan and are approved by the Council Aldermen.

During the initial consultation process (at the walk and talk event and with Council staff) the public reserves, which border the Coal River opposite and upstream of the Richmond Recreation Reserve, were discussed but were not included as a formal part of the consultation. They are included within the RAP only to the extent that the opportunity to link these areas is presented as an opportunity for Council to pursue with Parks and Wildlife (the custodians of these areas). This includes the Brinktop Reserve at 229 Brinktop Road (Plate 13 and *Figure 7*). Additional assessment of the specific issues such as: developing new walking/cycling trails and the potential for a ford across the Coal River to assess the practicality and logistics of such developments is recommended in this plan. In addition, natural values and aboriginal history assessments etc. for these reserves will need to be undertaken in the future but are not included in this reserve activity plan.



Plate 13 – Brinktop Reserve at 229 Brinktop Road

6.1. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

The following stakeholders were directly consulted regarding the use and management of the reserve.

- Richmond Advisory Committee;
- Nearest neighbours at 1 Victoria Street and 18 Gunning Street;
- Richmond Tennis Club (provided in community feedback forms); and
- Council NRM Staff.

6.2. COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

One 'walk and talk' event was held on the 18th September 2016 and feedback forms were mailed to local residents as part of the community consultation on the 10th August 2016. Sixteen (16) adults and four (4) children attended the Richmond Recreation Reserve 'walk and talk' event. Their verbal comments were recorded. Further comments were received through returned feedback forms of which twenty (20) forms and follow-up phone calls were received.

The Richmond Recreation Reserve 'Report Card' was distributed to provide a summary of the initial community consultation and natural values assessment findings and promote feedback from the community to Council, refer to Appendix 1. The report card has been distributed to local residents in the Richmond area.

The following is a summary of the main points from both the community 'walk and talk' and written community feedback. Note: this wording of the list differs from the Report Card because the report card is an abbreviated and concise format but both share the same intentions.

Identified opportunities, issues and impacts

The opportunities identified include:

- Improve connectivity between existing Richmond walks and the Coal River as it is a scenic river.
- Limit vehicle access by formalising the parking area with barriers (vegetation and rocks) but provide special events access to the open area, upon request, for overflow parking during Football games at the War Memorial Oval or activities such as the Richmond Village Fair.
- Provide a trail entrance leading from Gunning Street towards the Coal River with the potential to extend through Coal River Crown land corridor which extends approximately 4.5 km upstream from the RRA boundary.
- Provide connectivity between Kelly Field (2 km north of the RRR), St Johns Cemetery and Brinktop Reserve (3 km southeast of the RRR). These will involve separate assessments of: trail stability issues within the flood zone; risk associated with pedestrian crossing at Coal River ford; and all pedestrian street crossings.
- Publish updated Richmond walking/cycling trail map on website, if endorsed.
- Develop reserve to best serve community groups that use it including dog walkers, kite flyers, fisher people, school groups etc.
- Install benches but development should be minimal.
- Provide safe multi-use trails for cyclists and walkers.

- Consider installation of directional and interpretive signs about natural values, Aboriginal and European history and landscape scale features within the reserve in collaboration with local community and schools. As an alternative to directional and interpretive signage, a website or podcast could provide visitors with information about sites along the route.
- Provide dog litter bags at main entrance to RRR.
- Consider a fenced area for allowing dogs to run and socialise off lead within the RRR.
- Investigate options for Council to take over management of Crown land on west bank north to Kelly Field.
- Install reserve name signage at main entrance and some visual softening vegetation to create an inviting entrance.
- Install 6-hole disc golf course for 12 months trial to assess benefits to school groups and public and any adverse consequences to other users and neighbours.
- Support formation of Richmond Land care group to help manage the reserve and consult Coal River Valley Sustainable Living Group about weed and native flora management initiatives in the reserve.
- Manage key weeds including African boxthorn, gorse, willows and blackberry which are re-emerging.
- Manage existing revegetation areas by ensuring grasses and weeds do not outcompete recent plantings.
- Plant more understorey and native grass species adjacent to the Coal River to promote bird and butterfly habitat, respectively.

The issues and impacts identified include:

- Antisocial behaviour is a major concern. Minimise antisocial behaviour by providing, for example, barriers or fencing at strategic locations to prevent trail bike and car access;
- Better control of illegal dumping is needed and can be provided by limiting vehicle access;
- Potential for spread of significant weed infestations within and outside the reserve – including weeds of national significance (WONS) such as African boxthorn;
- Concern about reduced home/building security around the reserve and privacy along the southern boundary; and
- Concern about loss of visual amenity and safety associated with proposed disc golf development.

A more detailed summary of feedback gathered during the community consultation phase is provided in Appendix 6.

7. MANAGEMENT ISSUES & THREATS

As noted in Section 4, the passive recreation management objectives of the *Clarence Interim Planning Scheme 2015* (CIPS 2016) which apply to RRR, imply the reserve land should be used for informal leisure and recreation activities principally conducted in the open. In addition, the reserve land should be used to protect, conserve or manage ecological systems, habitat, species, cultural sites or landscapes as per the natural and cultural values management objectives of the CIPS 2015.

As a result of the on-site survey and public consultation process and the preceding management objectives, the following primary management issues have been identified in relation to the reserve. The management issues have been divided into those relating to public amenity and recreation and those relating to natural values.

All management actions are summarised in Table 1, Section 9 of this report.

Public Amenity & Recreation Values Management Issues

- Access to reserve
- Tracks, trails and connectivity including vehicle, walking and biking
- Recreational facilities
- Amenities including seating and dog waste dispensers
- Reserve signage
- Community contribution to reserve management

Natural Values Management Issues

- Biodiversity & river corridors including bat monitoring
- Vegetation management including weed management
- Fire management
- Domestic animal management

7.1. ACCESS TO RESERVE

There is good vehicle, pedestrian and cyclist access to the reserve from Victoria Street, with a footpath along the road side and ample road width for cycling. At present, there is unlimited informal parking available within the reserve.

There are no obstacles to prevent vehicles from entering the greater recreational area of the reserve. As a result, uncontrolled access has occurred including campervans, motorcycles and cars. As a level 3 recreation area, such access to the reserve is prohibited. It is noted that camping facilities are available at the Richmond Caravan and Cabin Park on Middle Tea Tree Road.

To prevent access and limit parking to approximately 12 vehicles, signage and barriers are required at the following points:

- Around the parking area to restrict vehicles to the parking area;
- At the end of the tennis club access on the west side of the tennis courts (Plate 14);
and

- Across the road right-of-way off the end of Victoria Street (Plate 15) and adjacent to 18 Gunning Street (Figure 5).

To make the reserve inviting to all, as a minimum, any fencing must comply with the acceptable solutions of the Recreation Zone development standards for fencing including:

- a) Fences, walls and gates of greater height than 1.5 m must not be erected within 4.5 m of the reserve frontage;
- b) Fences along a reserve frontage must be at least 50% transparent above a height of 1.2 m;
- c) The height of fencing along the common boundary with Gunning Street (residential) must be no more than 2.1 m and must not contain barbed wire (CIPS 2015).

In preference to man-made fencing and, to restrict access to vehicles while establishing and inviting entrance to the reserve, natural barriers, such as large boulders and plantings, will be utilised.

It is noted that there were concerns raised by local residents (generally those adjoining the reserve) about security and privacy.

When and where vehicle access is required for maintenance or special events, it will be through a locked boom gate (or similar). For special event access for overflow parking, for example, permission from Council can be sought.

Vehicle access to the river will be restricted to Council service vehicles only (Plate 15).

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Action A1 – Design and construct formal parking for 12 vehicles which will include fencing, rocks and planting to restrict access – PRIORITY ACTION</i>- <i>Action A2 – Install entrance signage which will include no camping restrictions – PRIORITY ACTION</i>- <i>Action A3 – Consult immediate neighbours to ensure methods used to limit access address security and privacy concerns.</i>- <i>Action A4 – Enable overflow parking for activities such as Football at the Oval and the Village Fair.</i> |
|--|

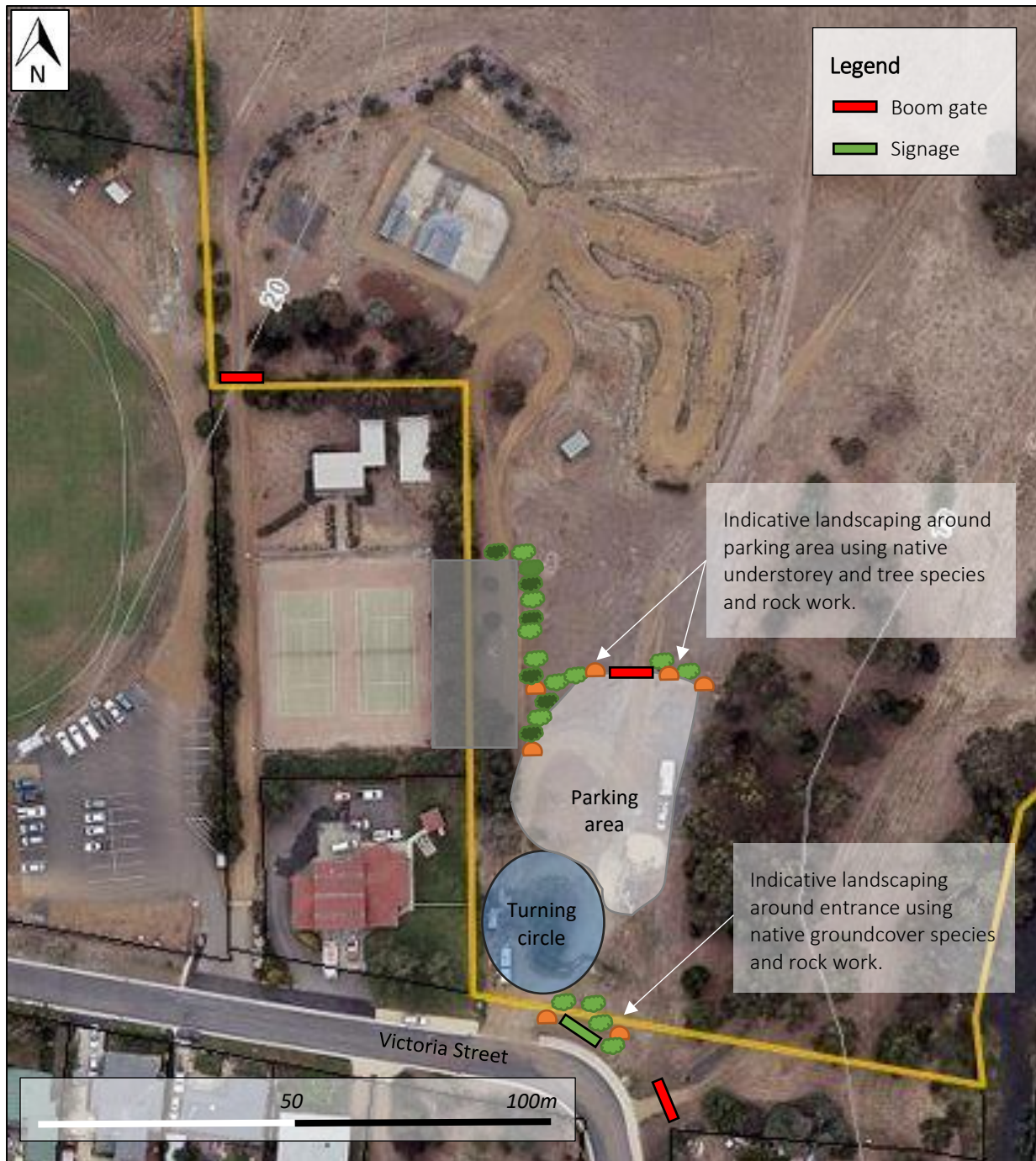


Figure 5 – Richmond Recreation Reserve Entrance Plan including sites where access should be restricted and a formalised parking area will be developed to accommodate 12 vehicles.



Plate 14 – Existing access to the activities area and open area between tennis court and oval needs to be restricted beyond the tennis parking area. Provides example of existing plantings and landscaping.



Plate 15 – Existing access to the riparian area off the end of Victoria Street

7.2. TRACKS, TRAILS AND CONNECTIVITY

At present, the only links between the reserve and other parts of Richmond are along the road (Victoria and Gunning Streets). There are no formal walking/cycling trails to the Richmond Recreation Reserve however there is great potential for these links to be created.

7.2.1. EXISTING VEHICLE ACCESS & TRAILS

There are currently 3 types of vehicle access and walking trails (Figure 6) within the reserve:

1. Formal (i.e. maintained) vehicle access along both east and west sides of the tennis club to the skateboard park, BMX track and open area (Plate 14);
2. Informal vehicle access, utilised by Council vehicles to undertake reserve maintenance (Plate 15); and

3. An informal walking trail adjacent to the Coal River (Plate 12).

To prevent issues associated with erosion of formal vehicle access, these access routes will require ongoing maintenance.

- ***Action TL1 – Improve the maintenance of the existing formal vehicle access in Richmond Reserve.***

7.2.2. NEW WALKING BIKING TRAILS

There is potential for developing connectivity to other reserves within Richmond or nearby recreational areas such as Kelly Field to the north. The connections could be shared use walking and bike trails.

There are currently no formal walking/cycling trails through the reserve. There is an informal trail from Victoria Street north down the slope towards the Coal River (Plate 15). The trail may become overgrown if left unused and is susceptible to flooding when the river is high. It is noted that a length of 422 m of the Coal River frontage (within the reserve and extending north of the reserve) is within the Riverine Inundation Hazard Area (CIPS 2015).

A formalised trail through the reserve to link the open area to the river would improve amenity and could provide an opportunity to learn about certain aspects of the area. For example, the “Car wash” which was also the water collection point from which water was distributed around the township for many years. A proposed route for a walking trail through the trees near the river and around the perimeter of the open area is provided in Figure 6.

- ***Action TL2 – Develop a formal walking trail from the entrance down to the river and around the perimeter of the open area in accordance with Figure 6 – **PRIORITY ACTION*****

7.2.3. CONNECTIVITY

There is potential to continue a formal walking/cycling trail north along the river as a riverside trail through the Coal River corridor (Crown land) to Kelly Field (Council leased land) (Figure 7). The riverside corridor is approx. 4.5 km long from the northern Richmond Recreation Reserve boundary. A round trip to Kelly Field would provide a 5 km round trip. Developing this connectivity will require communication and negotiation with the stakeholders including Kelly field management and private landholder adjacent along the route.

There was restrained support from community members at the ‘walk and talk’ thus it is considered a moderate priority to investigate the logistics further. The development of a new trail must consider safety concerns associated with seasonal and unpredictable flooding of the Coal River.

- **Action TL3 – Investigate leasing land for a trail corridor ROW and development of a trail from Richmond Recreation Reserve through the Coal River corridor to Kelly Field.**

In addition, there is potential for a seasonal ford across the Coal River that could provide a 1 km loop trail through the cemetery and churchyard south to and across the Richmond Bridge and then back north on Gunning Street (Figure 7). As noted above, this river frontage is within the Riverine Inundation Hazard Area therefore a ford must take this into consideration, signage would be provided to indicate water depth and warnings and the ford would not be useable during the whole year. This proposed link will require agreement between CCC and St John's Church but there was an indication during public consultation that the Church supports the concept.

The formation of a trail to link the reserve with the cemetery is likely to lead to an increase in pedestrians crossing the ford but no major roads need to be crossed for this loop. As such, warning signs regarding safety issues relating to the river crossing must be provided to inform pedestrians considering the crossing.

- **Action TL4 – Investigate development of a 1 km loop trail from the reserve across the Coal River, through cemetery to Richmond Bridge.**
- **Action TL5 – Investigate ford construction requirements and safety issues.**

Additional links can be established for example, a link between Richmond Recreation Reserve and Brinktop Reserve, located 2 km east of the Richmond township boundary on Brinktop Road, is being established with the development of a walking/cycling trail on the south side of Brinktop Road (Figure 7 and Appendix 7). The most natural link with the Richmond Reserve would be to walk or cycle from the RRR along Gunning Street to Wellington Street, across the Richmond Bridge to the new trail (which is located within the road right-of-way on the south side of Brinktop Road at the end of the Wellington Road footpath) and up to the Public Reserve at 229 Brinktop Road. The return trip from the RRR to Brinktop Reserve would be approximately 6 km.

The overall proposed trail network is reflected in Figure 7. The trail network (for walking and/or biking) aims to link existing reserves around Richmond in addition to the existing walking trail south of the Richmond Bridge.

- **Action TL6 – Consider incorporating information about the local reserves and their connectivity into the draft Strategy for Coal Valley Tourist Trail thus linking wineries with local activity areas.**

7.2.4. BRINKTOP RESERVE

As described above, connectivity between reserves is proposed and is being developed i.e. the Richmond Park Track (referred to as the Eddington track in Appendix 7) is presently under construction alongside Brinktop Road. In an effort to increase connectivity, a track alignment has been developed as a continuation of the Richmond Park Track. This new track alignment has a

destination point and lookout in Brinktop Reserve (Appendix 7). In addition to this track alignment report, Brinktop Reserve requires improvements to management. A landscape plan for Brinktop Reserve will define the level of management and will include details about entrance landscaping, signage, seats, a circuit track, and vegetation management in the reserve.

To enhance the use of the existing trails, reserves and future links, the distribution of information about local reserves and their connectivity will be considered.

- ***Action TL7 – Develop landscape plan for Brinktop Reserve including a landscaped entrance, signage, seats, a circuit track and vegetation management – PRIORITY ACTION***
- ***Action TL8 – Develop a feasibility study to consider the potential for both a walk/bike track and kayak trail from the Craighourne Dam to the Richmond Recreation Reserve and onward linkages into Richmond.***



Plate 16 – New walking/cycling trail (under construction) on south side of Brinktop Road which provides link between Brinktop Reserve, Richmond and Richmond Recreation Reserve.



Figure 6 – Existing trails (shown as worn pads on aerial photo). Proposed new walking trails within Richmond Recreation Reserve (white dash lines) to be formalised. Proposed future linking trails that require further investigation (yellow dash lines).

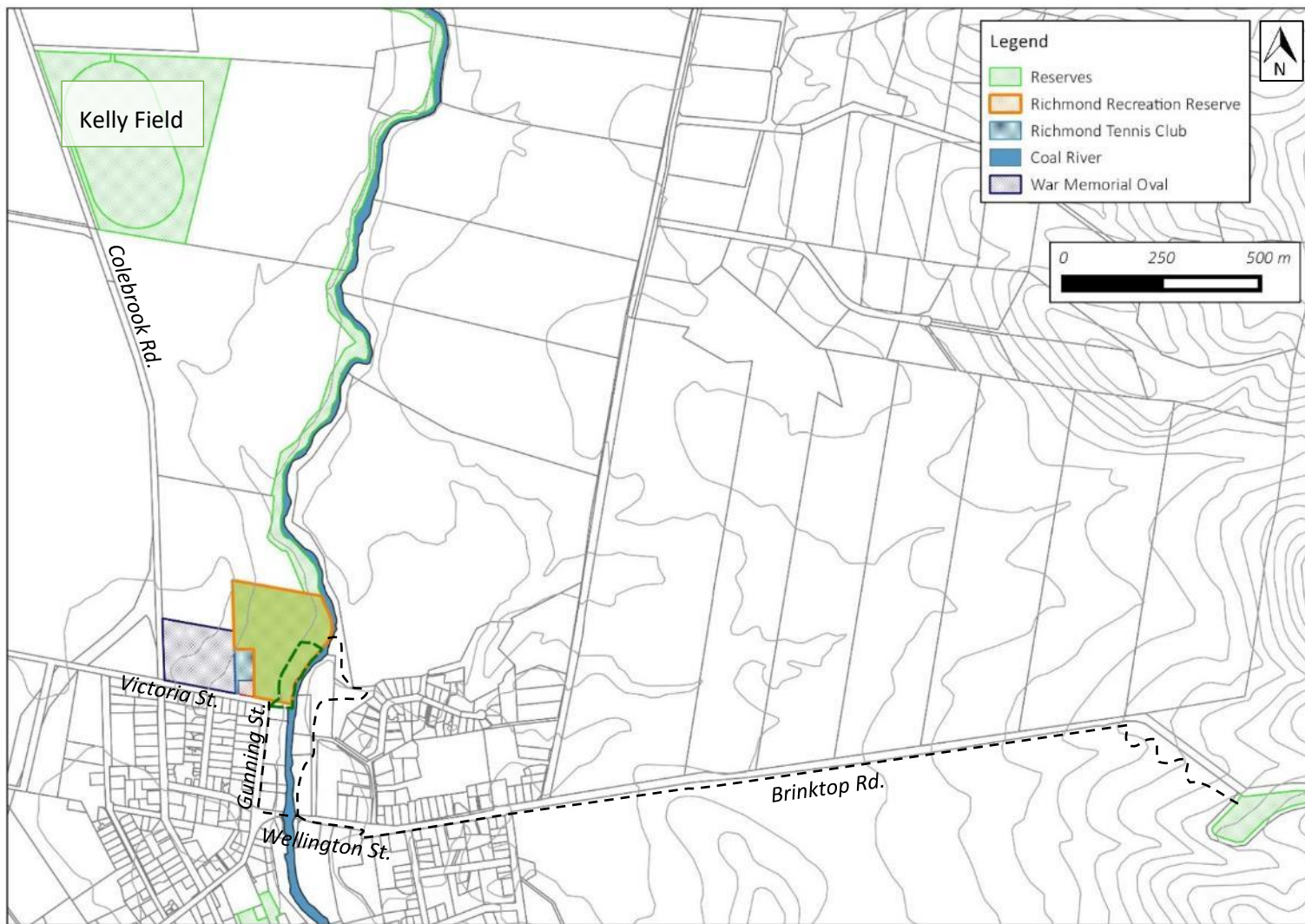


Figure 7 – Trail linkage plan showing trails (black dash lines) to be investigated to link Richmond Recreation Reserve to Coal River corridor, Kelly Field, St Johns Church loop and Brinktop Reserve.

7.3. RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Community consultation indicated that the tennis courts are popular and important to the residents of Richmond, in particular, the Richmond Tennis Club (RTC) members. The tennis courts are not within the Recreation Reserve however they are adjacent and are compatible with the recreational options of the area. There has been a sustained effort by the tennis club membership to attain permission from Council to develop a third tennis court partially within the RRR however there is no formal agreement at this stage. The likely location of the proposed third tennis court would be beside tennis court #2 within the Reserve (Figure 8).

- ***Action RF1 – Liaise and work in partnership with RTC to moderate any consequences of plans for a third tennis court should it be approved.***

Another recreation facility proposition put forward during the community consultation was the introduction of a 6-hole disc golf course. Disc golf is a sport for all ages which has grown from a marginal hobby to a popular sport. There are more than 4,000 disc golf courses worldwide. The sport is perfect for school age children as it is easy to pick up and player's skills develop quickly. For older people, disc golf offers the exercise in a social setting. The basic principle is similar to regular golf however the clubs and the ball are replaced with plastic flying discs (Frisbees) that come in different weights and shapes. Instead of a hole in the ground, the target is a metallic basket. Just like in regular golf, the player who uses the smallest number of throws during a round is the winner.

Ten good reasons to install a disc golf course include:

1. A disc golf course is suitable all ages or genders.
2. A disc golf course can be set up in varying terrain and area.
3. A disc golf course is an affordable form of acquiring new sports and recreation facilities.
4. In some areas that have experienced vandalism and disturbance of the peace, the problems have diminished or stopped entirely after setting up a disc golf course.
5. A disc golf course generates new enthusiasts fast who are typically willing to maintain the course and even develop it.
6. Disc golf is a very affordable hobby – you can get started with 1 disc that typically cost \$15.
7. A 9-hole disc golf course can accommodate tens of players at the same time.
8. A good and challenging disc golf course attracts players from around the region.
9. It encourages outdoor physical activity and socialising.
10. Disc golf can be a lifelong hobby!

There was some tension over this proposal by community members due to visual amenity and potential conflict with other RRR users e.g. walkers.

It is proposed that a 6-hole disc golf course be trialed for a 12 month trial period. The course and holes would be located among the trees and the colours tend to blend with the background but with good visibility of walking tracks so no conflicts occur. At the end of 12 months Council will invite comment from residents and recreation reserve users regarding the perceived impact of the disc golf course, if any, and whether it can be made permanent or not. Refer to Appendix 9 for proposed course layout.

- **Action RF2 – Ensure the trial 6-hole Frisbee golf course is planned to provide good visibility of walking track(s) so no conflicts occur.**



Figure 8 – Possible footprint of Richmond Tennis Club proposed third tennis court

Finally, the installation of outdoor gym equipment may provide additional means for the public to participate in physical activities thereby contributing to the health and wellbeing of the community.

- **Action RF3 – Consider installation of outdoor gym equipment.**

7.4. AMENITIES

The community feedback identified a desire to have some seating installed in the reserve and the requirement for dog waste bag dispensers and bins.

7.4.1. SEATING

The amenity of the river with views across to the cemetery and rural landscape provides an opportunity for seating overlooking, but at a safe distance from, the Coal River and adjacent to a formalised walking trail at a reasonable distance from the reserve entrance.

The open area is another good place to provide seating so that dog owners can rest and socialize while the dogs run within view of their owners.

Additional, less formal seating/resting place e.g. large flat rock(s) may be provided along the walking trail in location(s) which afford a view or to enable people to stop and enjoy the local environment including bird watching.

The location of all seating must consider privacy of adjoining residences.

- **Action AM1 – Provide seating at 2 places around the reserve in accordance with Figure 6.**

7.4.2. DOG WASTE DISPENSERS AND BINS

The installation of dog waste dispensers and bins was identified during community consultation as a requirement within the reserve. The reserve is subject to an 'off lead – under effective control' policy. As such, the most suitable location for dog waste dispensers and bin is at the main entrance to the reserve. In addition, a general waste bin at the skate park would provide improved amenity.

- **Action AM2 – Include an additional refuse bin near the proposed seat within Area 1 – PRIORITY ACTION**

7.5. RESERVE SIGNAGE

There is currently no reserve signage at the entrance to the Richmond Recreation Reserve (Plate 7). Entrance signage is required to indicate what facilities are or are not available, for example off lead dog walking is permitted, there is play equipment but no toilets and camping is not permitted (refer to Action A2). Figure 5 provides a suggested location for an entrance sign to the Richmond Recreation Reserve.

- **Action S1 – Locate entrance name sign 'Richmond Recreation Reserve' at one access point (Victoria Street) – PRIORITY ACTION**

Direction signage will be required if walking trails are promoted which incorporate roadways. For example, a loop trail that fords the Coal River to the cemetery and returns to the reserve via Wellington and Gunning Streets should be provided with simple direction signage. In addition, direction signage to Brinktop Reserve should be provided at appropriate junctions.

The addition of a trail in the Coal River corridor will require additional signage indicating destinations such as Kelly Field or distance of the return trip. If Kelly Field is linked by a walking/bike trail then signage at Kelly Field to indicate the trail to Richmond Recreation Reserve should also be provided.

A broader directional and interpretative sign plan may need to be developed to include the broader Richmond trail network. The plan should indicate sign locations and content and incorporate signage for the Brinktop Reserve.

- **Action S2 – Consider incorporating informative signage on Frisbee golf course holes.**

7.6. COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION TO RESERVE MANAGEMENT

The ongoing management and maintenance of the reserve will require a coordinated and cooperative approach between the CCC and the local community. Given the limited resources of the CCC, the community's input will be vital. This may include the formation of a specific 'Richmond Recreation Reserve Landcare Group' or re-formation of the 'Richmond Landcare Group' or consultation with the existing 'Coal River Valley Sustainable Living Group' who may wish to become more involved in Reserve specific projects. Importantly, school children should be actively involved in the land care group to ensure the reserve is managed for their benefit. Activities that such a group may take on include: improvements to the trail network, design of interpretative signage, weed monitoring and follow-up control and management of regenerating areas.

The land care group can be supported with assistance from the CCC Natural Areas Volunteer Coordinator and land care groups can apply for funding to assist with management and amenity improvements through funding programs run by the CCC (up to \$5000 from Council Land care grants) or NRM South and Tasmanian Landcare (or similar organisations). These grants can be used to fund weed control and rehabilitation and undertake follow-up.

- ***Action C1 – Actively involve the local primary school children in the land care group decisions and activities. – PRIORITY ACTION***

Any future Land care group or subcommittee volunteer workers that undertake work within the reserve are entitled to work under safe conditions under the Tasmanian Work Health and Safety Act 2012. As such the following applies to any future volunteer workers within the reserve:

- * All 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.
- * 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 have the right to refuse work if they consider it unsafe.
- * Volunteers 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.
- * All future volunteers need to refer to the relevant Council Safe Work Method Statements (SWMSs) before undertaking works in Council reserves, including cut and paste work, brush-cutting and spreading of mulch. These are available from Council's Natural Areas Volunteer Coordinator (Phone 6245 8773). All spot spraying should be undertaken by certified operators (e.g. Council staff, contractors).

Natural Values Management Issues

The RAP outlines management actions for the Richmond Recreation Reserve's natural values. In addition, suggestions for surrounding public land are included. The Richmond Bridge VMP (2015) should be referred to for vegetation and weed management as it relates to the bridge.

7.7. BIODIVERSITY & RIVER CORRIDOR LINK

The biodiversity corridor provided by the Coal River affords a connection between the remnant vegetation within the township development of Richmond and the surrounding agricultural land.

The river provides a linear attraction in terms of amenity and connectivity between the north and south areas of the township.

The maintenance of vegetation along the Coal River is important to allow for the movement of native species (particularly birds, bats and fish) along the river corridor and for maintaining the river condition. In the first instance, the vegetation corridor has the potential to prevent adjacent remnant vegetation from becoming isolated islands surrounded by housing and rural developments. A multi-layered riparian vegetation provides for different species. At present, the understorey is marginal and should be promoted to provide small bird and wildlife habitat.

In the second instance, i.e. in terms of the river condition, the vegetation is critical for bank stability and its contribution to habitat when it becomes large woody debris and decays instream.

The maintenance of the vegetation and river corridor also maintains amenity, sense of place, and a scenic framework for the township.

7.7.1. BATS AND BIRDS

As noted above, the multi-layered riparian vegetation may provide for a variety of species, including bats. The reserve will be investigated for bats by a suitably qualified person who will carry out a micro-bat survey in December 2016. If bats are detected, measures to protect/improve bat habitat in the reserve will be considered and recommendations made to Council. Habitat protection/improvement measures may include, but are not restricted to: the identification and protection of existing roosts, tree maintenance and/or the installation of bat boxes.

- ***Action BL1 – Council actively support adjoining landowners to enhance the biodiversity and green corridors in the landscape – PRIORITY ACTION***
- ***Action BL2 – Maintain and enhance the river corridor within the reserve***
- ***Action BL3 – Investigate Reserve for bats and consider measures to protect/improve bat habitat.***
- ***Action BL4 – Investigate opportunities for Council to develop other activities to improve biodiversity.***

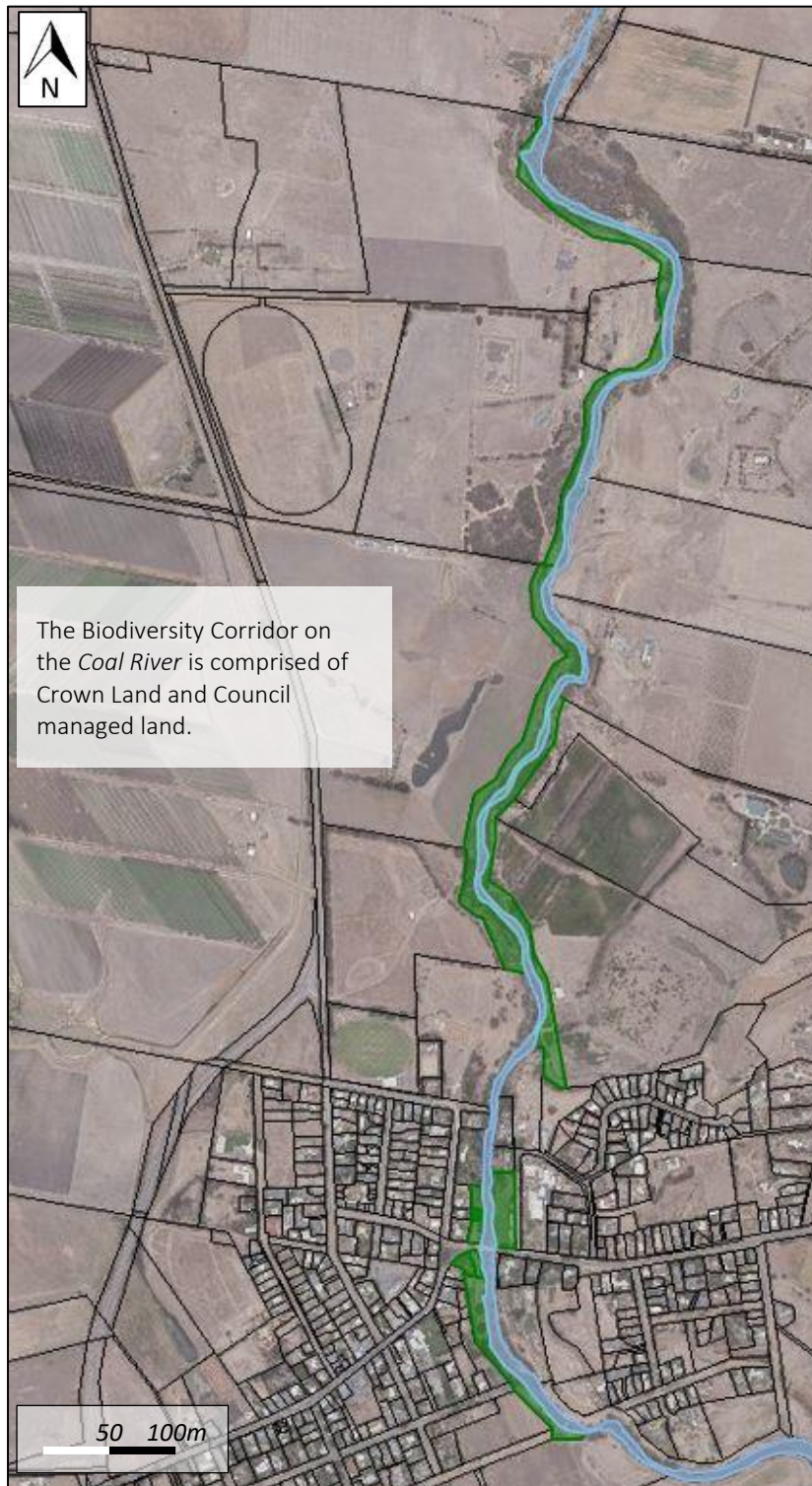


Figure 9 – Biodiversity Corridor map

7.8. VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

There is no urgent need for active revegetation within the reserve, beyond what the VMP (LI 2015) recommends, as there has been some recent planting. During the consultation process, the general sentiment of the community was supportive of maintaining the open areas within the RRR therefore, it is not the intent to revegetate the whole area as open space is valued for recreation activities.

To provide a strategic approach to vegetation management, a Vegetation Management Plan (VMP) will be developed. The VMP will endorse the weed management actions (as outlined in Section 7.8.1) and consider the merit of the projects which were suggested during preliminary consultation. Having considered which projects will proceed, the VMP will specify the locations, timing, costs and any other details relating to the vegetation management activities.

1. Low plantings to enhance the entrance, outcompete the exotic species, and contribute to access control (refer to Section 6.1).
2. Some blue gums are maturing on the site but additional blue gum planting would contribute to swift parrot habitat and a multi-age stand.
3. Plan and develop a landscaped garden based on local indigenous species that have cultural, historic, food, fibre or medicinal properties.
4. Planting understorey species to promote shelter for small birds and wildlife.

Vegetation management in this reserve is generally restricted to the maintenance of groundcover by slashing and some tree pruning. In addition, some revegetation with a variety of species has been undertaken in the last 2 years including: white, blue and black gums (*Eucalyptus viminalis*, *E. globulus*, *E. ovata*); silver and black wattle (*Acacia dealbata* and *A. melanoxylon*); and She-oaks (*Allocasuarina verticillata*) among others.

- **Action RV1 – Develop vegetation management plan for the reserve. Consider inclusion of non-native plants to promote English ambience of the community. The selected plants must not have propensity to compete or become weeds. – PRIORITY ACTION**

There is some scope for revegetation within the riparian area to replace exotic species and to establish an understorey layer where it is currently absent. This will provide additional habitat for fauna species and enhance the aesthetic values of the reserve.

The following broad recommendations are provided for future revegetation works in the reserve.

- Local native species should be planted in the reserve. Where possible, plants should be grown from local provenance seed (Appendix 8 for suggested species list).
- Any non-native plants must not have propensity to compete or become weeds.
- Revegetation should not be considered in the reserve unless there is a commitment to maintain the plantings.
- Revegetate small manageable areas planted progressively rather than planting large widespread areas.

7.8.1. WEED MANAGEMENT

The overall weed management strategy for Council reserves (including Richmond Recreation Reserve and nearby linear reserves along the Coal River) is to prioritise the control of declared weeds, WONS and environmental weeds which have the potential to spread rapidly, out-compete native species for water nutrients and light, and increase fire hazards. The infestations along the river and steep bank (within the reserve) have been targeted. Follow-up treatment will be required to manage African boxthorn, gorse, willows and blackberry which are re-emerging.

Other non-declared species may be targeted once the declared weeds are controlled and as funding and labour allows. For example, the open area is dominated by Capeweed (*Arctotheca calendula*) which is a troublesome pasture, crop and garden weed. The control methods for capeweed include herbicide control but it is only a short-term solution. Unless a vigorous sward is established to compete with the capeweed, the weed is likely to re-establish. Several herbicides are registered for use on capeweed. See Herbicides for Capeweed Control for more information on the DPIPWE website <http://dpiipwe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds/weeds-index/non-declared-weeds-index/capeweed/capeweed-herbicides-for-control>.

Currently, active management of the environmental weed species within the reserve is limited to: slashing and mowing. Additional coordinated input from the local community will be important for the ongoing maintenance and management of weeds in the reserve (Refer to Section 6.6).

These preceding elements of an overall and the following recommended weed management actions should be addressed prior to any trail work in the reserve or adjoining river corridor:

- Specific weed management actions and who will be responsible for them.
- General hygiene and hygiene as it relates to specific species e.g. African boxthorn must be incorporated and although serrated tussock was not found in the reserve is it should be addressed as it is in the Council area.
- The implementation of a maintenance program for follow-up control of weed species.
- A community education campaign to prevent garden waste dumping and spread of garden exotics.

- **Action WC1 – Undertake weed management actions with reference to the VMP (LI 2015) prior to trail development and ongoing – PRIORITY ACTION**

The following section outlines general and specific weed management actions for the reserve which continues to be the responsibility of Council but may be supplemented with assistance from a land care group.

7.8.1.1. WEED MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

- Control of declared weeds in the reserve – small populations of African boxthorn, blackberry gorse, white weed and willow, occur in the reserve. African boxthorn should be eradicated to prevent further spread while the blackberry could be contained to provide foraging for people and bandicoot habitat. If a project to remove willows from the Coal River banks were

considered, the tree roots should be retained for bank stability until the roots of new trees become well established. Ideally the removal of African boxthorn from within the reserve should be coordinated with the control of infestations on the neighbouring land to the north to limit continual re-infestation of the reserve.

- ***Action WC2 – Control declared weeds in the reserve – PRIORITY ACTION***

- Control of environmental weeds in the reserve – Environmental weeds including: cape weed and thistle species were recorded within the reserve. Ideally the control of the environmental weed species should be undertaken in conjunction with the control of the declared weeds species. If there are limited funds available, environmental weeds should be controlled following control of the declared weeds.

- ***Action WC3 – Control environmental weeds species in the reserve in conjunction with the control of declared weeds.***

- Control of non-priority weeds – Exotic grasses and broadleaf weeds are widespread within the reserve. The control of these weeds is only a priority in areas that are to be re-vegetated and to reduce fuel loads for fire protection. As such, generally slashing within the reserve boundaries will be used to control non-priority weeds. Brush-cutting and foliage spraying of grasses and other broadleaf weeds around re-vegetated areas should occur on an annual basis to prevent excessive competition for seedlings.

- ***Action WC4 – Control grasses and broadleaf weeds around re-vegetated areas and along pathways on an annual basis.***

- Community Education – Several of the weed infestations and weed species, present in the reserve, have been introduced because of inappropriate garden waste dumping and other dumping which degrades the natural values of the reserve. Educational material that highlights the impacts of introduced garden species into bushland areas and provides suggestions for more appropriate plantings should be circulated to residents that border the reserve.

- ***Action WC5 – Mail out NRM South brochures: ‘Creeping Back Yards’ to local residents – PRIORITY ACTION***

- Monitoring and Maintenance – The successful eradication of declared and environmental weeds from the reserve will require ongoing monitoring and follow-up weed control. There is likely to be seedling regrowth from seed stored in the soil, re-sprouting of treated plants and reintroduction of weeds from seed sources outside the reserve (through wind, bird droppings and mammal movements) which will require treatment.
- General dumping has occurred in the northwest corner of the reserve. Some effort has been made to clean it up but more is required. This effort may be limited to a one-time cleanup event as the proposed barriers to prevent vehicle access should prevent further dumping.

- **Action WC6 – Conduct annual survey of reserve and remove seedlings and retreat re-sprouted declared and environmental weeds.**
- **Action WC7 – Conduct follow-up weed control on annual basis.**
- **Action WC8 – Undertake maintenance to clean-up rubbish and dumping –
*PRIORITY ACTION***

7.9. FIRE MANAGEMENT

Fire management has not been identified as a concern during the consultation phase. Fire management is considered a low risk issue for the reserve in terms of vegetation management and the protection of infrastructure and fauna habitat.

By maintaining low fuel loads within the reserve areas, the vegetation does not present a significant threat to property in the event of a wild fire. The location north of the town means the reserve provides a buffer to properties within the town.

An uncontrolled fire within the Richmond Recreation Reserve may increase risk to houses in Victoria Street and the north end of Gunning Street but is not likely to affect the dwellings along the river as the fire would have to travel downslope. Having said that, if the weather conditions are extremely dry and hot, the slope will not slow the fire significantly. In addition, any amenities that are installed in the reserve would come under threat in a bushfire.

There is no specific fire management plan for the Richmond Recreation Reserve but the *Draft Clarence Bushfire Management Strategy* (CBMS 2016) has recently been released and applies to the Recreation Reserve. The appropriate components of the CBMS should be implemented and it is recommended that the following aspects be adopted more broadly by property owners adjacent to the reserve.

- **Action BF1 – Manage fuel loads in accordance with the CBMS**
- **Action BF2 – Encourage neighbouring landowners to maintain defensible spaces in accordance with TFS specifications**

In addition, and as recommended in the CBMS 2016, CCC must continue to:

- Reduce ignitions through prosecution of arsonists, and prompt reporting of fires.
- Maintain access points and hazard reduced areas to enable the TFS to rapidly contain fires that start in the reserve and ensure the TFS are familiar with the location and condition of access trails in the reserve; and
- Maintain the reserve as a fuel modified zone and compliment defensible spaces on adjoining properties.

7.10. WATER MANAGEMENT

As noted in the site description there is a water filling station, owned and operated by TasWater in the reserve (Plate 5 and 6). CCC has a 5ML water entitlement at this point. There are potential options to use this water entitlement, particularly during dry periods, for the establishment of new plants within the reserve and to enhance the area's natural and recreation values.

- ***Action WM1 – Undertake an assessment of the functionality of the pump station and potential options for use of the 5ML water entitlement. The assessment to include consideration of irrigation areas within the Richmond Recreation Reserve that has the potential to enhance the area's natural and/or recreational values. – PRIORITY ACTION***

7.11. DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

Dog access to reserve – The reserve is a very popular dog walking area. Dogs are currently allowed in the reserve and must be 'under effective control' at all times to minimise interactions with native fauna species using the reserve.

There was some feedback during the consultation process that a fenced off-lead dog walking area within the RRR open area be provided. Off-lead dog walking is currently permitted under the CCC dog policy provided they are 'under effective control'. Concerns about the impacts of dogs on native wildlife or other domesticated animals will need to be considered when the dog policy is next formally reviewed, however at this stage, the Council cannot provide an additional off-lead area within an area already designated as such.

The provision of dog litter bags dispensers and bins should also be considered - refer to Section 7.4.

Cat Control (domestic and feral cats) – feral cats are known to have significant impacts on native fauna through the predation of small mammals, birds and lizards and the spread of disease such as toxoplasmosis. Domestic cats that are allowed to roam bushland can have similar impacts to feral cats. The CCC supports the *Cat Management Act 2012* which recommends de-sexing, micro chipping and keeping cats under control and inside at night.

Cat control has not been raised as a specific issue however if cat control becomes an issue, specific cat management measures within the reserve should only be undertaken following a cat monitoring program to gain an understanding of cat numbers and types (domestic, stray or feral).

- ***Action FH1 – The CCC supports the Cat Management Act 2012 which recommends responsible cat ownership and includes de-sexing, micro chipping and keeping cats under control and inside at night – PRIORITY ACTION***
- ***Action FH2 – Investigate the need for a cat monitoring program through liaison with recreational users.***

- ***Action FH3 - Consider installation of a fenced dog exercise area within the Richmond Recreation Reserve.***

8. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

An informal review of the actions and outcomes of the Richmond Recreation Reserve Activity Plan should be undertaken annually and a complete review of the plan undertaken at the end 5 years.

Ongoing monitoring and maintenance of areas where weed control actions (and revegetation actions) occur should be undertaken on an annual basis and controlled as required. A separate Weed Management Plan that outlines control actions within the Reserve will need to be developed and updated regularly.

In addition to monitoring the reserve for new weed infestations or regrowth of treated infestations, the condition of the vegetation should be monitored. This should be achieved through the establishment of a Vegetation Condition Assessment (VCA) program.

8.1. VEGETATION CONDITION PHOTO MONITORING

A vegetation condition photo monitoring programme will be initiated by setting up photo points to record the current condition of the site and future achievements in weed control and revegetation within the Reserve. Photo will be taken in the first year to establish a baseline and at subsequent 5-year intervals to determine progress.

- ***Action M1 – Establish vegetation condition photo points in reserve to assess the performance of the RAP implementation – PRIORITY ACTION***

9. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The following provides a plan for the implementation of all actions identified in the plan for a 5-year period from 2017 to 2021.

The implementation plan outlines:

- Actions to be undertaken and their location,
- Treatment methods,
- Desired outcomes,
- Timing, and
- Priorities for each action.

Actions are prioritised into three categories based on their strategic importance, achievability, timing, and the availability of funds.

1. **High** priority – to be implemented within years 1-2.
2. **Medium** priority – to be implemented as required years 3-5.
3. **Low** priority – to be implemented as funding permits.

Many of the actions are dependent on the availability of funding and as such priorities may change over the course of the plan period. Other actions will be carried out by means of a collaborative approach between Council, a land care group and/or adjacent property owners to achieve implementation.

A review of action priorities should be undertaken on an annual basis and changes made as required.

The actions outlined in this plan should form the basis for future funding applications through internal Council grant sources and external grants from State and Federal programs.

Table 1 – Implementation Plan for Richmond Recreation Reserve

ACTION #	ACTION	OUTCOME	TIMING	RESPONSIBILITY	COST	PRIORITY
<u>ACCESS TO RESERVE</u>						
A1	Design and construct formal parking for 12 vehicles which will include fencing, rocks and planting to restrict access.	Enhance amenity and improve access	2017-2018	Contractor	\$10,000	High
A2	Install entrance signage which will include no camping restrictions.	Encourage access, amenity and security	2017-2018	CCC, Contractor	\$5,000	High
A3	Consult immediate neighbours to ensure methods used to limit access address security and privacy concerns.	Enhance amenity and security	2017	CCC	\$1,000	Medium
A4	Enable overflow parking for activities such as Football at the Oval and the Village Fair.	Enhance amenity and security	2017-2018	Contractor	\$1,000	Medium
<u>WALKING TRAILS & CONNECTIVITY</u>						
TL1	Improve the maintenance of the existing formal vehicle access in Richmond Reserve.	Maintain existing infrastructure	2017-ongoing	Contractor	\$1,000	Medium
TL2	Develop a formal walking trail from the entrance down to the river and around the perimeter of the open area in accordance with Figure 6.	Improve public safety, amenity and connectivity	2017-2018	Contractor, Community	\$5,000	High
TL3	Investigate leasing land for a trail corridor ROW and development of a trail from Richmond Recreation Reserve through the Coal River corridor to Kelly Field.	Improve public safety, amenity and connectivity	2017-2018	Contractor, Community	\$5,000	Medium
TL4	Investigate development of a 1 km loop trail from the reserve across the Coal River, through cemetery to Richmond Bridge.	Improve public safety, amenity and connectivity	2017-2018	Contractor, Community	\$5,000	Medium

ACTION #	ACTION	OUTCOME	TIMING	RESPONSIBILITY	COST	PRIORITY
TL5	Investigate ford construction requirements and safety issues.	Improve public safety and connectivity	2017-2018	Contractor, Community	\$5,000	Medium
TL6	Consider incorporating information about the local reserves and their connectivity into the draft Strategy for Coal Valley Tourist Trail thus linking wineries with local activity areas.	Provide more recreational options for tourists	2018	CCC, Community	NA	Medium
TL7	Develop landscape plan for Brinktop Reserve including landscaped entrance, signage, seats, vegetation management and circuit track.	Improve public safety and connectivity	2016-2017	CCC, Contractor	\$3,000	High
TL8	Develop a feasibility study to consider the potential for both a walk/bike track and kayak trail from the Craighourne Dam to the Richmond Recreation Reserve and onward linkages into Richmond.	Improve community connectivity	2017-2018	CCC	NA	Low
<u>RECREATIONAL FACILITIES</u>						
RF1	Liaise and work in partnership with RTC to moderate any consequences of plans for a third tennis court should it be approved.	Improve access to recreation options	2017-2018	CCC		Medium
RF2	Ensure the trial 6-hole Frisbee golf course is planned to provide good visibility of walking track(s) so no conflicts occur.	Improve access to recreation options	2017-2018	CCC, Contractor, Community	\$6,000	Medium
RF3	Consider installation of outdoor gym equipment.	Improve access to recreation options	2018	CCC, Contractor, Community	\$5,000	Low
<u>AMENITIES</u>						

ACTION #	ACTION	OUTCOME	TIMING	RESPONSIBILITY	COST	PRIORITY
AM1	Provide seating at 2 places around the reserve in accordance with Figure 6	Improved amenity to enjoy surroundings and/or take a break.	2017-2018	Contractor, Community	\$1,000	Medium
AM2	Include an additional refuse bin near the proposed seat within Area 1.	Proper disposal and less waste in reserve. Improve amenity	2018	Contractor	\$900	High
RESERVE SIGNAGE						
S1	Locate entrance name sign 'Richmond Recreation Reserve' at one access point, Victoria Street.	Encourage access to Reserve	2017-2018	Contractor	\$1,500	High
S2	Consider incorporating informative signage on Frisbee golf course holes.	Encourage use of trail linkages, golf course and reserves	2017-2018	Contractor	\$1,500	Medium
COMMUNITY INPUT						
C1	Actively involve the local primary school children in the land care group decisions and activities.	Ensure maintenance and ownership of the reserve	2017-ongoing	CCC, Community	NA	High
BIODIVERSITY CORRIDOR LINK						
BL1	Council actively support adjoining landowners to enhance the biodiversity and green corridors in the landscape.	Maintain and improve biodiversity	Annually	CCC	NA	High
BL2	Maintain and enhance the river corridor within the reserve.	Maintain and improve biodiversity in riparian corridor	Annually	CCC, Community	NA	Medium
BL3	Investigate Reserve for bats and consider measures to protect/improve bat habitat.	Understand biodiversity of the reserve	Summer 2017	NRM Staff	NA	Medium
BL4	Investigate opportunities for Council to develop other activities to improve biodiversity.	Improve biodiversity in the reserve	Summer 2017/18	NRM Staff	\$300	Medium
REGENERATION & REVEGETATION						

ACTION #	ACTION	OUTCOME	TIMING	RESPONSIBILITY	COST	PRIORITY
RV1	Develop vegetation management plan for the reserve. Consider inclusion of non-native plants to promote English ambience of the community. The selected plants must not have propensity to compete or become weeds.	Improve amenity and habitat	Spring 2017/18	CCC, Community	\$100	High
WC1	Undertake weed management actions with reference to the VMP (LI 2015) prior to trail development and ongoing.	Ongoing weed control and prior to trail development	2017	CCC, Contractor	\$4,000	High
WC2	Control declared weeds in the reserve.	Eradicate weeds from reserve	Summer-autumn 2017/18, 2018/19	CCC, Contractor, Community	\$1,000	High
WC3	Control environmental weeds species in the reserve in conjunction with the control of declared weeds.	Controlled in the reserve so weeds do not outcompete native species and reduce habitat for native fauna	Summer-autumn 2017-2021	CCC, Community	\$1,000	Low
WC4	Control grasses and broadleaf weeds around re-vegetated areas and along pathways on an annual basis.	Revegetation areas are not competing with vigorous grass species	Annually for duration of plan	CCC, Community	\$1,000	Medium
WC5	Mail out NRM South brochures: 'Creeping Back Yards' to local residents.	Reduce reinfestation of garden waste/weeds	2017-2018	CCC	\$200	High
WC6	Conduct an annual survey of the reserve and remove seedlings and retreat any re-sprouted declared and environmental weeds.	Weed species do not re-establish and no new infestations become established	Annually for duration of plan	CCC, Community	\$1,000	Medium
WC7	Conduct follow-up weed control on annual basis.	Weed species do not re-establish and no new infestations become established	Annually for duration of plan	CCC, Community	\$2,000	Medium
WC8	Undertake maintenance to clean-up rubbish and dumping.	Eliminate rubbish from reserve	2017-2018	CCC	\$1,000	High

ACTION #	ACTION	OUTCOME	TIMING	RESPONSIBILITY	COST	PRIORITY
<u>FIRE MANAGEMENT</u>						
BF1	Manage fuel loads in accordance with the CBMS.	Reduce risks associated with arson and bushfire	2017-ongoing	CCC, Community	NA	High
BF2	Encourage neighbouring landowners to maintain defensible spaces in accordance with TFS specifications.	Reduce risks associated with arson and bushfire	2017-ongoing	CCC, Community	NA	High
<u>WATER MANAGEMENT</u>						
WM1	Undertake an assessment of the functionality of the pump station and potential options for use of the 5ML water entitlement. The assessment to include consideration of irrigation areas within the Richmond Recreation Reserve that has the potential to enhance the area's natural and/or recreational values	Improve water management	2017	CCC	\$3000	High
<u>FAUNA MANAGEMENT</u>						
FH1	The CCC supports the <i>Cat Management Act 2012</i> which recommends de-sexing, micro chipping and keeping cats under control and inside at night.	Reduce harm to wildlife	Ongoing	CCC	NA	High
FH2	Investigate the need for a cat monitoring program through liaison with recreational users.	Provide targeted and effective cat management	2018	CCC	\$1,000	Low
FH3	Consider installation of a fenced dog exercise area within the Richmond Recreation Reserve.	Improve dog and wildlife safety	2017	CCC	\$2000	Low
<u>MONITORING & EVALUATION</u>						

ACTION #	ACTION	OUTCOME	TIMING	RESPONSIBILITY	COST	PRIORITY
M1	Establish vegetation condition photo points in reserve to assess the performance of the RAP implementation.	Better understand management outcomes and issues	Baseline in 2018, follow-up 2021	CCC, Community	\$800	High

10. REFERENCES

Baker ML, Duretto MF (2014). *A Census of the Vascular Plants of Tasmania & Index to The Student's Flora of Tasmania & Flora of Tasmania Online* (Tas. Herbarium, Tas. Museum & Art Gallery: Hobart)

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DPIPWE 2016. *Natural Values Atlas*. Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment.

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NVA 2016. *Natural Values Atlas*, Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment
<https://www.naturalvaluesatlas.tas.gov.au/>.

APPENDIX 1 – RICHMOND RECREATION RESERVE REPORT CARD

THE DRAFT RICHMOND RECREATION RESERVE ACTIVITY PLAN RECOMMENDS:

- >> Formalise the parking area to allow for managed access into the Reserve
- >> Develop a perimeter walk around the Reserve and a loop walk from the entrance down along the river
- >> Develop a Reserve Vegetation Plan to enhance visitor experiences through planned weeding and revegetation activities
- >> Consider management options for development of track corridor along Crown riparian reserve going north towards Kelly Fields
- >> Investigate track corridor links to St Johns Cemetery and Brinktop Reserve
- >> Promote walking and cycling to and from the Reserve by updating the Richmond Tracks Map and the provision of web based visitor information
- >> Install information and directional signage
- >> Trial for 12 months, a 6-hole frisbee golf course
- >> Install seating and dog litter bins
- >> Actively support the reconvening of a Richmond Landcare Group

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 23rd JANUARY 2017

Sarah Bunce 0437 782 592

sarah.bunce@enviro-dynamics.com.au

Phil Watson 6245 8619

pwatson@ccc.tas.gov.au



Swamp Harrier (Circus approximans)

*"This area is a gem
of an asset, one that can be
enjoyed by both residents
and visitors"*

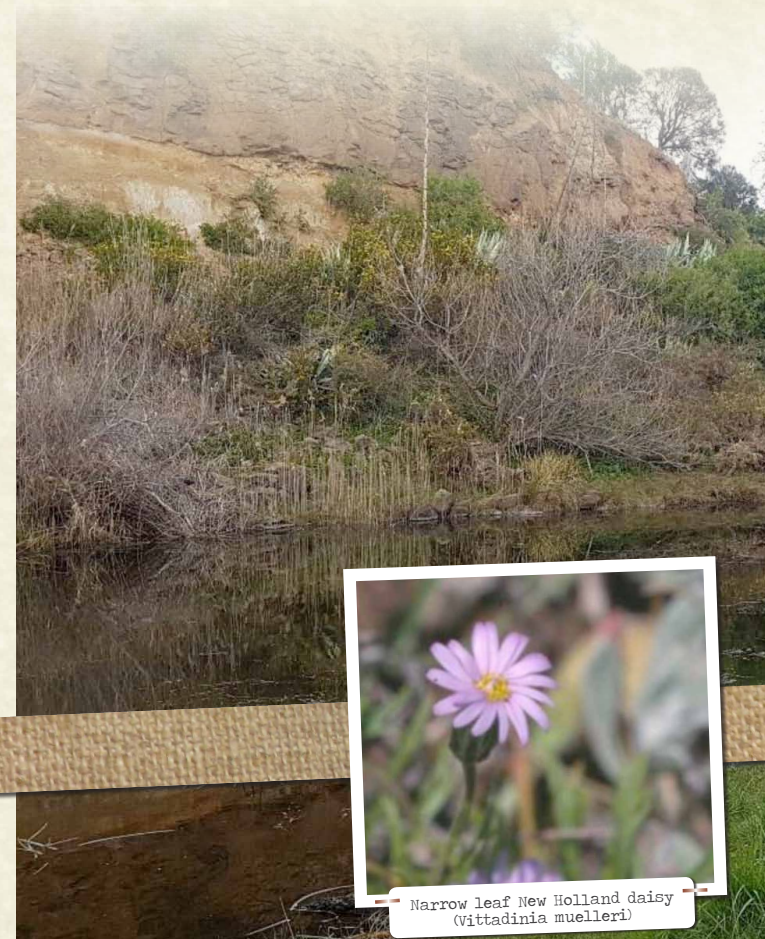
Local resident



Reserve open area

RICHMOND RECREATION RESERVE

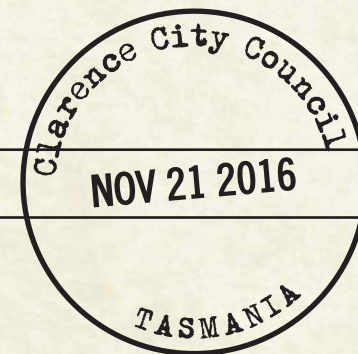
REPORT CARD



Narrow leaf New Holland daisy
(Vittadinia muelleri)

Your Community and Council
working together to care
for our Reserves

*In Spring 2016, Clarence City Council asked the community about the Richmond Recreation Reserve
...these are the results.*



	EVALUATION				DESCRIPTION	COMMUNITY COMMENTS
	OUTSTANDING	VERY GOOD	PASS	CAN DO BETTER	RICHMOND RECREATION RESERVE	
LOCATION AND LANDSCAPE					The reserve forms key part of the Coal River greenway.	<i>Easily accessible by tourists and locals</i>
CULTURAL HERITAGE					Significant Aboriginal and Colonial heritage would benefit from interpretation.	<i>The old town little Furphy Water tank was located at 'The Car Wash'</i>
VEGETATION					Variety of valued open grassy areas, revegetated slopes and riparian vegetation.	<i>Vegetation Landscape Plan would define balance between open space and treed habitat</i>
ANIMALS AND BIRDS					Habitat for bandicoots, birds, bats, reptiles, echidnas, invertebrates and platypus.	<i>16 bird species were recorded</i>
ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY					Obvious access points and parking at both Richmond and Brinktop Reserves, however parking requires improvement.	<i>Welcome upgraded perimeter track and linkages to other reserves</i>
RECREATION AND USAGE					As Richmond's recreation hub it is popular for bird watching, biking, dog walking, kite-flying, fishing and contemplation.	<i>Benefit from improved signage, seating, dog waste bin and trial disc golf course</i>
THREATS					Illegal camping, uncontrolled vehicle access, dumping, fire, vandalism and weeds.	<i>Managed access and signage is essential</i>

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



Rivulet bank

APPENDIX 2 – FLORA SPECIES LIST

Flora species list recorded in Richmond Recreation Reserve

Recorder: A. Welling Date: July 2016

e = endemic

I = introduced

d = declared weed

Cursory Species List for Richmond Recreati

Recorder: Andy Baird

Date: 08/09/2016

e = endemic i = introduced

Dicotyledonae

Family name	Species name	Common name
ASTERACEAE		
i	<i>Arctotheca calendula</i>	Cape Weed
i	<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Variegated Thistle
i	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Sow Thistle
BRASSICACEAE		
i	<i>Brassica rapa</i>	Turnip
i	<i>Cardaria draba</i>	Whity Weed
CASUARINACEAE		
	<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	Bulloak
EUPHORBIACEAE		
i	<i>Euphorbia lathyris</i>	
FABACEAE		
i	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse
FUMARIACEAE		
i	<i>Fumaria bastardii</i>	
MALVACEAE		
	<i>Malva australiana</i>	
MIMOSACEAE		
	<i>Acacia dealbata</i> subsp. <i>dealbata</i>	Silver Wattle
	<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood

e	<i>Acacia riceana</i>	Rice's Wattle
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MYRTACEAE

	<i>Eucalyptus globulus subsp. globulus</i>	Tasmanian Blue Gum
	<i>Eucalyptus ovata</i>	Black Gum
	<i>Eucalyptus ovata</i>	Black Gum
	<i>Eucalyptus viminalis subsp. viminalis</i>	Manna Gum
	<i>Leptospermum lanigerum</i>	Woolly Tea-tree

ROSACEAE

i	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Blackberry
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RUBIACEAE

i	<i>Galium murale</i>	Lesser
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SALICACEAE

i	<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Pussy Willow
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SOLANACEAE

i	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	African Box-thorn
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VALERIANACEAE

i	<i>Valerianella eriocarpa</i>	
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<i>Monocotyledonae</i>

Family name	Species name	Common name
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CYPERACEAE

<i>Carex aff.</i>
<i>Carex aff.</i>

JUNCACEAE

i	<i>Juncus acuminatus</i>	
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JUNCAGINACEAE

Triglochin procerum

Water-ribbons

POACEAE

Austrostipa rudis subsp. australis

Spear Grass

i

Phalaris aquatica

Phragmites australis

Common Reed

XANTHORRHOEACEAE

Lomandra longifolia

Sagg

APPENDIX 3 – THREATENED FLORA AND FAUNA RECORDS

THREATENED FLORA RECORDED WITHIN A **500 M** RADIUS OF RESERVE

Species	Status TSPA	Status EPBCA	Comments
<i>Calocephalus citreus</i> lemon beautyheads	r	Not listed	Found in disturbed dry grasslands. No habitat for this species provided in Reserve.
<i>Juncus amabilis</i> gentle rush	r	Not listed	Found in moist areas including roadsides. Not recorded.
<i>Vittadinia burbridgeae</i> smooth new-holland-daisy	r	Not listed	Tasmanian endemic. No habitat for this species provided in Reserve.
<i>Vittadinia gracilis</i> woolly new-holland-daisy	r	Not listed	Found in dry sites on dolerite and basalt, predominantly in dry sclerophyll forest. No habitat for this species provided in Reserve.
<i>Vittadinia muelleri</i> narrowleaf new-holland-daisy	r	Not listed	Found in the driest and most fertile soils around Hobart and into Midlands. No habitat for this species provided in Reserve.

Notes on preferred habitats for threatened plants sourced from the Threatened Species Unit (DPIPWE)

THREATENED **FAUNA** RECORDED WITHIN A **500 M** RADIUS OF RESERVE

Species	Status TSPA	Status EPBCA	Comments
<i>Sarcophilus harrisii</i> tasmanian devil	e	EN	Historic high numbers of sightings in the early 1990s. They were common in forest, woodland and agricultural areas.
<i>Tyto novaehollandiae</i> masked owl	e	EN	Nesting within 500 m. Favours eucalyptus forest and woodlands, where there is a relatively open understorey or adjoining cleared open land.

ADDITIONAL THREATENED FAUNA RECORDED WITHIN A 1 KM RADIUS OF RESERVE

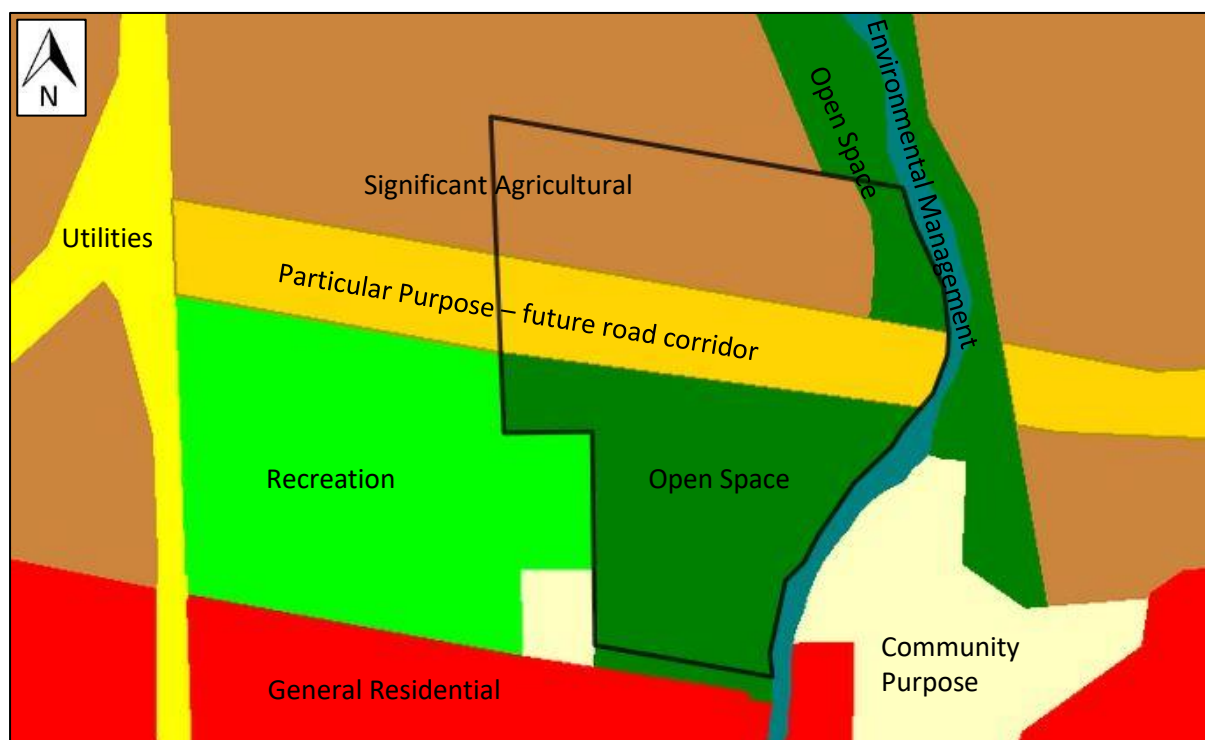
Species	Status TSPA	Status EPBCA	Comments
<i>Botaurus poiciloptilus</i> australasian bittern		EN	Live and forage in wetlands among reeds and rushes. May utilise stretches of the Coal River.
<i>Dasyurus viverrinus</i> eastern quoll		EN	Prefers dry grassland and forest mosaics near agricultural land. No habitat within the Reserve.
<i>Litoria raniformis</i> green and gold frog	v	VU	Found in permanent freshwater within complex vegetation communities of fringing vegetation.
<i>Perameles gunni</i> eastern barred bandicoot		VU	Found across broad range of habitat including native and exotic vegetation. Likely to utilise the reserve.

APPENDIX 4 – RICHMOND RECREATION RESERVE BIRD LIST

Denis Abbott and Sarah Bunce 6th October 2016 9:40-11:30

1. Starling
2. Little wattle birds
3. Magpies
4. Noisy minor
5. Forest raven
6. Swamp harrier
7. European gold finch
8. Black faced cuckoo shrike
9. Kookaburra
10. Pacific black duck
11. Grey fan tail
12. Brown thornbill
13. Hardhead duck (?) (female)
14. Superb fairy wren
15. Blackbird
16. Welcome swallow

APPENDIX 5 – RICHMOND RECREATION RESERVE AND CLARENCE INTERIM PLANNING SCHEME 2015 ZONING



APPENDIX 6 – SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The following provides a summary of the consultation prior to the Draft RAP compilation and an indication of how future community consultation for the Draft RAP will progress.

The following Clarence City Council staff were contacted for input:

- Phil Watson, Natural Resource Planning Officer;
- Justin Burgess, Natural Area Management Officer;
- Rob Whittle, Fire and Vegetation Management Officer;
- Mary McParland, Trail Planning Officer; and
- Ian Preece, Environment and Sustainability Program Manager.

A summary of the initial community consultation at the ‘walk and talk’ and subsequent written submissions; consultation with major stakeholders and the Council staff is provided in Table 2.

Initial Community Consultation

As part of the development of the Reserve Activity Plan (RAP) for Richmond Recreation Reserve, consultation was undertaken with adjoining landowners and stakeholders, user groups and the broader community. In addition, a ‘walk and talk’ session was held in the reserve on 18th September 2016. This event was facilitated by the Clarence City Council and Sarah Bunce. The event was attended by 17 resident adults and 4 children.

In addition to information gathered at the community event, 18 written feedback forms or emails were received from the public regarding the management of the Richmond Recreation Reserve. The responses received during the ‘walk and talk’ session and through the feedback forms are summarised in Table 2. In addition, the table is cross referenced to Table 1 using the Action #s which indicate what actions will be taken to address specific community consultation comments. Where “no action required” is noted in the Response column, no action is recommended to address this comment at this stage because it is outside the scope of this Reserve Activity Plan.

Table 2 – Community Consultation prior to Draft Reserve Activity Plan compilation

	Management Issues/Comments from written responses	Number of written responses	Number of Walk & Talk Supporters	Response/ Action Number
1	Prohibit vehicle access to the open area.	10	2	A1
2	Do not permit camping in the reserve. Camping nomads with fires and garbage and port-a-loo dumping and access across the river need to be stopped.	2	2	A2
3	Cars and motorbikes are often seen doing burn outs and circle work and therefore limited access may need to be considered.	2	2	A1

	Management Issues/Comments from written responses	Number of written responses	Number of Walk & Talk Supporters	Response/ Action Number
4	Consider liability of private land owners when people incorrectly access neighbouring private land. Drug dealing security also an issue. In addition, break ins to houses on river require better delineation between private and public including neighbours to the north.		4	A3
5	Provide village fair and footie overflow parking.	1	2	A4
6	Support maintenance of the open area for activities with a few benches and/or picnic tables. Do not plant more tall trees (which reduce sky view).	3	1	AM1
7	Dog waste bins in the Rec area and general waste bins around the town and at skate park.	3	2	AM2
8	Fly fishing on the river is nice and would be great to re-establish. Weeds and dreadful mess along river upstream need to be cleaned up. Beautiful riffles should be promoted for fishing.		2	BL1
9	We would like more birds and enjoy seeing the platypus.		2	BL2, RV1
10	The Coal River Valley Sustainable Living Group has been interested in both cycling and walking trails for Richmond for some time. Trees planted on the riverbank were not watered and are now dead. If more plants to be planted ongoing maintenance must be provided.	5		C1, RV1
11	No more sky polluting street or area lights. Please no more lights or organised (regimented sports).	1		No action required
12	Make this ideal site welcoming for visitors to the oval and tennis club. Make it safe and inviting for children and youth. This area is a gem of an asset, one that can be utilised by both residents and visitors, where there is an intriguing history of the Car Wash and Furphy Water tank alongside platypus sightings. A concept entailing an amphitheatre with seating for weddings, outdoor classroom or small festivals with the Catholic Church and cemetery as the backdrop could be developed for rental income. Toilets would be required but off grid use of the site would be a great step forward and could involve new design ideas. Good playgrounds are of prime importance and could include: obstacle courses of wood and rope; a flying fox. Note from an old timer: the local boys, a century ago, used to get inside old metal cart rims and rolled down hill into the river.	14	1	S1, RF3. RV1 etc.
13	Maintain some of the area for off lead dogs as there are no other areas within the township to do this.	6	2	FH3

	Management Issues/Comments from written responses	Number of written responses	Number of Walk & Talk Supporters	Response/ Action Number
14	A place where the fire station volunteers practice drills in an off road area	1		No action required
15	Better access to toilets. Access to power to cater for events e.g. small kite festival; BMX and skateboard competitions and displays; other community events. Develop river bank area for family picnics.	2		No action required
16	The skate bowl is a good for young people.	1		No action required
17	Erosion over the past 50 years has caused the St John's cemetery to retreat by at least 10m with a number of graves and vaults falling into the river in that time. This has occurred because the soft tuff has been eroded by the river in flood causing the overlying basalt to collapse. If suitable Cmwltth and/or State funding ever became available, prevention works on the east bank could be undertaken.	1		No action required
18	The Richmond Tennis Club provides opportunity for exercise and social activity for both adults and children. There is possible provision for a 3rd court.	3		RF1
19	Make part of the reserve available for RV & caravan free camping.	2		No action required
20	The space is ideal for a 6-hole self-guided signposted disc golf course with possibility of extra tee off areas to approach holes from different directions to make a 9-hole course. Experience shows that properly designed disc golf courses blend in safely and seamlessly in multi-use areas with no conflicts with pedestrian, kite flying, dog walking, BBQ areas and visitor use. Disc golf courses are best where there is diversity in the landscape. Disc golf signage can be leveraged to include information on the natural and historical values of the area and each hole can be named for a different personage or natural or historical attribute. The course itself would likely become another tourism attraction for families. A 6-hole course can have 20-40 people using it simultaneously without problem and would certainly be used by local schools (e.g. Austins Ferry course is used by New Norfolk to Mornington schools). Courses are being adopted by Australian councils as a safe, cost effective, popular, recreational use of public space for all ages. Professional expertise is available to enable us to create a great free-to-use community resource for Richmond as a low environmental impact family tourism destination.	1	4	RF2
21	A number of people do not support the installation of a permanent disc golf course.	6		RF2

	Management Issues/Comments from written responses	Number of written responses	Number of Walk & Talk Supporters	Response/ Action Number
22	Clear willows from river bank.	3		RV1
23	Develop an area of native grasslands and discourage pasture species.	2	2	RV1
24	Establish blue gums and other species suitable for swift parrots.	2	2	RV1
25	There is interesting geology underlying St John's cemetery which appears to be a lava flow overlying tuff (volcanic ash) which is readily visible from the west bank. The provision of a description could provide an additional point of interest along a river-side walking trail.	2		S2
26	Fencing or barriers continuous from the fire station boundary to encircle the parking area is recommended to prevent unpermitted access. A gate across the track at the end of Victoria St would give Council access to service the reserve.	2	2	TL2
27	Richmond could use more bike paths. Along the banks of the Coal R. as far as possible is suggested.	5	2	TL2, TL3, TL6, TL8
28	Critical to visitation by Richmond residents and visitors is providing links to pathways down river of our bridge by an all-weather path along the river bank.	1		TL4
29	The river is full of weeds.	1		WC1, WC2, WC3
30	Clean up rubbish and dumping	5	2	WC8
31	Majority of 'open space' should be maintained. Access by vehicle (by arrangement) be maintained as vehicles can be used as a safe kite anchor for the large kites. Better care and maintenance of the 'open space' surface where there are many ruts and weeds.	1		WC1, WC2
32	St Johns Primary School would like to continue to use the area for cross country running events.	1	2	No action required
33	Engage teenagers through high schools or social media.		2	C1
34	Blackberries on the riverbank should not be removed/sprayed/slashed as provide wild food resource to Richmond locals; and wildlife habitat.	1		WC1
35	Retain vegetation (both native and exotic) along the riverbank as undeveloped space that the remainder of Richmond is largely bereft of. There are plenty of well-maintained paths and trails in other parts of Richmond and this section of riverbank does not need to be interfered with by Council.	2		No action required

	Management Issues/Comments from written responses	Number of written responses	Number of Walk & Talk Supporters	Response/ Action Number
36	Improve connectivity and amenity of Brinktop Reserve	1		TL7

Major Stakeholder Feedback

The feedback gathered from the major stakeholders are summarised below.

Council Tracks Planning Officer (TPO)

The TPO recommends the development and promotion of multi-use (walking and cycling trails) as outlined in this RAP.

Council Fire and Bushland Vegetation Management Coordinator (FBVMC)

The existing arrangement allows for Class 5 vehicle access to Richmond Recreation Reserve which enables Council to conduct bushfire prevention measures as outlined in the CBMS 2016. It is the FBRPO intention to maintain the present condition and address weed issues as they arise.

Richmond Advisory Committee

The RAC in principal supports several aspects of the RAP including:

- Trail links to other reserves including Kelly Field and Brinktop Reserve recognising that a feasibility study will be required to assess: ford across Coal River; and trails through flood zone and cemetery;
- A trial 6-hole disc golf course with some possible minor adjustments for visual amenity by carefully selecting the 6-hole locations. The RAC generally sees the benefit of introducing another activity that would draw a range of ages to the RRA though there was concern that discs may be lost in the river; and
- Allowance for a third tennis court noting that conflicts with parking and the disc golf course will be avoided.

**APPENDIX 7 – TRACK ALIGNMENT REPORT FOR BRINKTOP RESERVE LINK TRACK,
RICHMOND**



Track Alignment

BRINKTOP RESERVE LINK TRACK, RICHMOND

John Hughes Track Construction | Prepared for Clarence City Council | November 2016

John Hughes

0429391065

snapperjohn1@live.com

Facebook: Snapper John Tracks

Introduction

Track Investigation of the Brinktop Reserve Link Track Alignment was carried out on 12 November 2016. A GPS track log was used to produce a Google Earth Map (Map 1). The track alignment was marked with pink flagging tape. The aim of the alignment is to provide a continuation of the Eddington track and a destination point to the lookout on Brinktop Reserve (cover photo).

The proposed track alignment is 80 metres in length. Vegetation is open grassland with Casuarina and Eucalypts. The side slope is less than 4 degrees (Figure 1). The track and the lookout have scenic views over the Coal River Valley (cover photo and Figure 3). The lookout requires defining and rubbish removal (Figure 3). A stone wall with benching, to provide a comfortable walking gradient, is required at the junction with the Eddington Track. Old Brinktop Road is crossed to join the Eddington Track to the Brinktop Reserve Link Track (Figure 2). Construction is to AS2156 Class Three Track (Appendix 1).

Track Construction Cost

The total length of the alignment is 80 metres.

Cost: 80 metres @ \$11 per metre = \$880 Construction Cost (plus GST)

This cost includes full benched construction, light clearing and stone walling at the road approaches.

Gravelling of the track would cost an additional \$15 per metre (Gravelling Cost \$1200).

Total cost of construction plus gravel costs: \$2080 (plus GST).

Map Track Alignment Brinktop Reserve Link Track



Map 1. Brinktop Reserve Link Track Alignment shown in yellow (Google Earth 2016).



Figure 1. Brinktop Reserve Alignment showing open grassland vegetation, gradient less than 4 degrees.



Figure 2. Old Brinktop Road is crossed from the Eddington Track to the Brinktop Reserve Link Track.



Figure 3. Brinktop Hill Reserve Lookout requires defining and rubbish removal to highlight scenic views over the Coal River Valley.

Appendix 1. AS2156 Class Three Walking Track

Item	Description
Overview	<p>Opportunity for visitors to walk in slightly modified natural environments requiring a moderate level of fitness and where the provision of interpretation and facilities is not common.</p> <p>Users can expect opportunities to observe and appreciate the Natural environment with limited provision of interpretative signage.</p> <p>Users can expect occasional encounters with others.</p>
Elements for classification*	
Track conditions	Generally, a modified surface, sections may be hardened. Width: variable and generally less than 1200 mm. Kept mostly clear of intrusions and obstacles.
Gradient	May exceed 1:10 for short sections but generally no steeper than 1:10. Steps may be common.
Signage	Signs and track markers may be used for direction. Limited signage for management and interpretation purposes.
Infrastructure	Facilities generally not provided except for specific safety and environmental considerations.
Terrain	Users need no bushwalking experience and a minimum level of specialized skills. Users may encounter natural hazards such as steep slopes, unstable surfaces and minor water crossings. They are responsible for their own safety.
Weather	Storms may affect navigation and safety.
Guidance for managers	
Facilities	Track head facilities may include toilets, picnic facilities, car parking, drinking water, camp sites and information shelters.
Management intervention	Moderate
Risk management	Built elements will be inspected and maintained regularly. Any built facilities will be managed for public risk. Inspection interval: 6 months or less
Track information	Track details will generally be shown on local maps and brochures. Route-guide authors should consult with the managing authority.
Usage and group size	The managing authority may impose limits on group sizes and total numbers. Access and use to be in accordance with permit conditions.
Publicity	Will normally appear on maps and brochures produced by the managing authority
Activity registration	Not required.
Route guides	Route guide authors encouraged to consult with the managing authority before publication.
Campsites	Visibly impacted sites for up to 12 tent sites, preferably dispersed in groups of no more than four tents. Toilets to be provided where required for environmental protection

* It is only necessary to meet these requirements to classify a track

APPENDIX 8 – REVEGETATION NOTES AND SPECIES LIST

Some minor revegetation may be undertaken in the Reserve once weeds have been suppressed. Any species used for revegetation should generally be understorey species. The following general notes are provided as a guide to undertaking revegetation works.

Site preparation – Areas to be planted should be foliage sprayed prior to planting to kill exotic grasses and reduce competition for the seedlings. In addition the ground should be scalped at the time of planting to remove the root mass and break up the ground.

Species selection – Species selected for the revegetation projects should occur locally and plants grown for the site should ideally be grown from seed of local provenance and be well-established and hardened off prior to planting. Refer to table below for a suggested revegetation species list.

Plant protection – All trees and shrubs should be protected from browsing by rabbits and native animals by using tree guards. The condition of these guards should be monitored and any damaged or missing guards replaced until the plants are well established.

Watering – Dependent on the weather conditions following planting, some plants (in particular trees and shrubs) may require supplementary watering during warm, dry periods until they become established.

Suggested Revegetation Species list

Species name	Common Name	Form	Location to be planted
<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> subsp. <i>viminalis</i>	white gum	tree	Limited locations; will grow into large tree
<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	Blue gum	tree	Limited locations; will grow into large tree
<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	drooping sheoak	tall shrub	Revegetation on the Reserve banked area
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i> subsp. <i>spinosa</i>	prickly box	tall shrub	Revegetation on the Reserve banked area
<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i> subsp. <i>spatulata</i>	broadleaf hopbush	shrub	Revegetation on the Reserve banked area or in the riparian zone
<i>Leptospermum lanigerum</i>	Woolly tea tree	Shrub	Riparian enhancement plantings
<i>Olearia phlogopappa</i>	Dusty daisybush	Shrub	Entrance enhancement plantings
<i>Dianella</i> sp.	Flax lily	lily	Entrance enhancement plantings
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	sagg	sedge	Entrance enhancement plantings
<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i>	variable sword sedge	sedge	Entrance enhancement plantings
<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo grass	grass	Entrance enhancement plantings
<i>Carpobrotus rossii</i>	pigface	groundcover	Entrance enhancement plantings
<i>Rhagodia candolleana</i>	Coastal saltbush	groundcover	Entrance enhancement plantings
<i>Bulbine bulbosa</i>	Bulbine lily	groundcover	Entrance enhancement only
<i>Clematis gentianoides</i>	Ground clematis	groundcover	Entrance enhancement only

APPENDIX 9 – PROPOSED DISC GOLF COURSE LAYOUT & INFRASTRUCTURE

Richmond Disc Golf Course

Course layout
v2 16.10.16

Legend

2 Tee pad #2

○ Basket

→ Disc flight



1 START

2

3

4

5

6

Coal River

Victoria St

Cunningham St