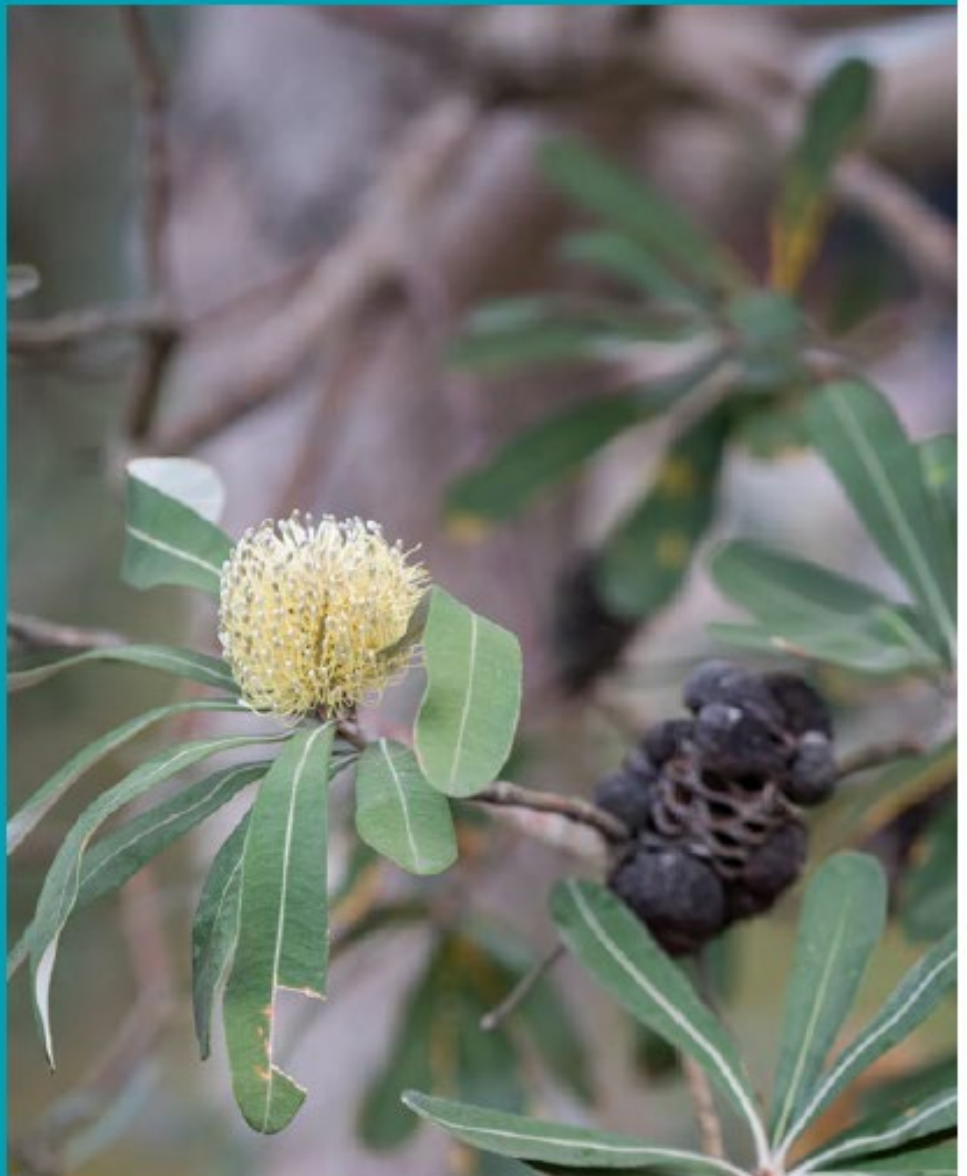


Tilligerry Landcare

2023 to 2026



The core objective of this plan, as supported through volunteer actions, is to preserve and maintain the land to meet the current and future needs of the local community in ways that are ecologically, socially and economically sustainable.



PORT STEPHENS
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GUUDJI YIIGU

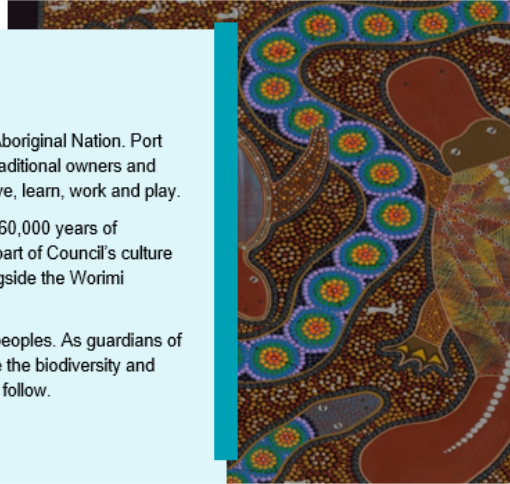
(GOO-JEE IK-KOO)

We welcome you to Port Stephens – part of the Worimi Aboriginal Nation. Port Stephens Council acknowledges the Worimi people as traditional owners and custodians of the lands and waterways on which we all live, learn, work and play.

We value and respect the Worimi people and the legacy 60,000 years of Aboriginal Nation traditions and culture brings with it. As part of Council's culture of acceptance, diversification and harmony we walk alongside the Worimi people on a journey of listening and learning.

Together we will strive to make this a better place for all peoples. As guardians of these lands, we ask that you tread lightly to help preserve the biodiversity and respect those who came before as well as those who will follow.

Artwork by Regan Lilley.



Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of this plan is to provide an agreed framework and detailed action plan to support and guide volunteers to undertake works in the RAF Park, Lemon Tree Passage Old School Centre and The Dune.

Objectives of the Plan

For the Tilligerry Landcare and Port Stephens Council to work together to protect and enhance the character of these sites.

Site Details

Table 1: RAF Park site details

Site Address	1 Success Street, Tanilba Bay 2319
Lot / DP	Lot 2 DP 1048126
Land zoning	RE1 – Public Recreation
Owner	Port Stephens Council
Local Aboriginal Land Council	Worimi
Reserve	RAF Park (See Action Plan Map)

Table 2: Lemon Tree Passage Old School Centre site details

Site Address	14 Kenneth Parade, Lemon Tree Passage 2319
Lot / DP	Lot 1 DP 398821
Land zoning	C2 – Environmental Conservation
Owner	Port Stephens Council
Local Aboriginal Land Council	Worimi

Table 3: The Dune and Tilligerry Habitat foreshore pathway site details

Site Address	76 Peace Parade, Tanilba Bay 2319
Lot / DP	Lot 290 DP 41306
Land zoning	C2 – Environmental Conservation
Owner	State of NSW, Crown Trusteeship care of Port Stephens Council
Crown Reserve	78605 – 18 May 1956

Scope of Works

Volunteer works within the identified sites must be consistent with this Agreed Action Plan. This plan encourages the activities listed in the detailed action plan below.

If a volunteer group would like to undertake a project or activity that is outside of this plan, authorisation will be required from Council. The Volunteers Support Officer (VSO) will assist groups to liaise with Council for any activities outside of this plan.

This plan does not provide permission to erect, place or repair any structures, nor remove any trees or native vegetation unless authorised under this plan.

Consultation

Consultation has been undertaken with the Tilligerry Landcare group on 10 August 2023 and internal Council departments in the preparation of this plan.

Safety Considerations

All activities should be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Council, including Work Health and Safety processes such as site induction and daily attendance records.

Site inductions are required prior to the commencement of any works at the subject site for volunteers. First Aid kits are to be on site during working bees.

All volunteers are to sign attendance sheets and maintain an understanding of applicable Safe Work Method Statements (SWMS) and Specific Worksite Assessment Toolbox (SWAT) forms. These forms are provided to volunteers by the coordinator and are also available by request to Council's VSO.

Working bees require prior formal notification from the coordinator to all group members and VSO including date, time and meeting location.

The table below lists the key safety hazard considerations for the sites and the controls that are to be put in place to mitigate these hazards.

Hazard considerations	General controls
Outdoor work	Fitness for work, appropriate PPE (as per 4.11 of volunteer WHS Handbook).

Working near access ways (vehicle and pedestrian)	Use of 'volunteers working' signage, yellow vests to be worn.
Pollution	Green waste to remain on site, only approved chemical use (if applicable).
Wildlife hazards	Awareness of surroundings, First Aid kit on site at all times.
Weather conditions	Reschedule works in unsuitable weather.
Antisocial behaviour	Maintain PSC Code of Conduct, report any dangerous behaviour to local police.
Fatigue	Rest breaks and hydration.

The following activities are prohibited: confined space entry, excavation, use of machinery/ unapproved power tools, tree removal, working at heights, burning and unapproved chemical handling.

In the event that an individual would like to use chemicals or power tools, approval from Council must be sought, followed by training and sign off by the VSO prior to use. It is up to the discretion of Council to determine if chemical or power tool use is appropriate for the activity proposed.

All hazards, incidents, near misses, injuries and unsafe practices should be reported immediately, and documented and reported in writing to Council within 24 hours.

For further information, consult the Work Health & Safety Handbook (PSC 2020).

Action Plan Map – RAF Park

The below Action Plan Map is to be read in conjunction with the Detailed Action Plan below.



Detailed Action Plan

The below detailed action plan is to read in accordance with the action plan map above.

Zone	Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Resources	Timeline	Status
Zone 1	Weed removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manual removal of identified weeds and management of grasses 	Tilligerry Landcare	Routine working bees Green waste to remain on site	Ongoing	Encouraged
	Extend garden beds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand existing garden borders to the boundaries on the mapping 	Tilligerry Landcare	Routine working bees	Ongoing	Encouraged
<i>Applies to all sites within this plan.</i>	Monitoring and reporting to support group resourcing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and record activities undertaken by group Reporting on areas weeded, areas planted, success rates, new and emerging weeds, fauna sightings, etc. 	Tilligerry Landcare	Reporting should be undertaken through councils online CRM tool for <u>Environmental Works Records</u> Regular working bee check-ins with VSO	Ongoing	Encouraged

Key site considerations – RAF Park

Environmental

Threatened species	<p>There are no recorded individual threatened plant species within 200 metres of the Reserve. Over the last 20 years, approximately 19 sightings of Koalas have been recorded within 200 metres of the site (NSW DPIE 2023).</p> <p>The Koala (<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>) is listed as Endangered under NSW and Federal legislation.</p> <p>The site is mapped as 'Mainly Cleared' Koala habitat under the Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management (CKPoM) (PSC 2002) which falls under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021.</p>
Endangered Ecological Communities (EEC) / Biodiversity value	<p>There is no identified Plant Community Type as this site is cleared open space parkland with a narrow boundary of vegetation.</p>
Priority weeds	<p>There are no mapped priority weed species at this site.</p> <p>Asparagus Weed and Fishbone fern have been identified at the site.</p>

Heritage

The Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) (DPIE 2022) lists 1 recorded Aboriginal site external to the site and no Aboriginal places in proximity to the subject site.

The site does not contain state or locally listed heritage items.

Unexpected Finds - if Aboriginal heritage items are uncovered during the works, all works in the vicinity of the find must cease and the Volunteers Support Officer must be contacted.

There are no recorded European heritage items under the State Heritage Inventory (SHI, 2023).

Bushfire

The site is not identified as Bush Fire Prone Land in the NSW ePlanning Spatial Viewer. This action plan does not provide guaranteed commitment to future management as required by Planning for Bushfire Protection (PBP) (2019).

Waterways and soil

Acid Sulphate Soils (ASS) are likely to be present on the site beyond 2m depth. Volunteers are directed to stop digging and fill any holes that indicate ASS presence (indicated by a scent of sulphuric acid/rotten eggs).

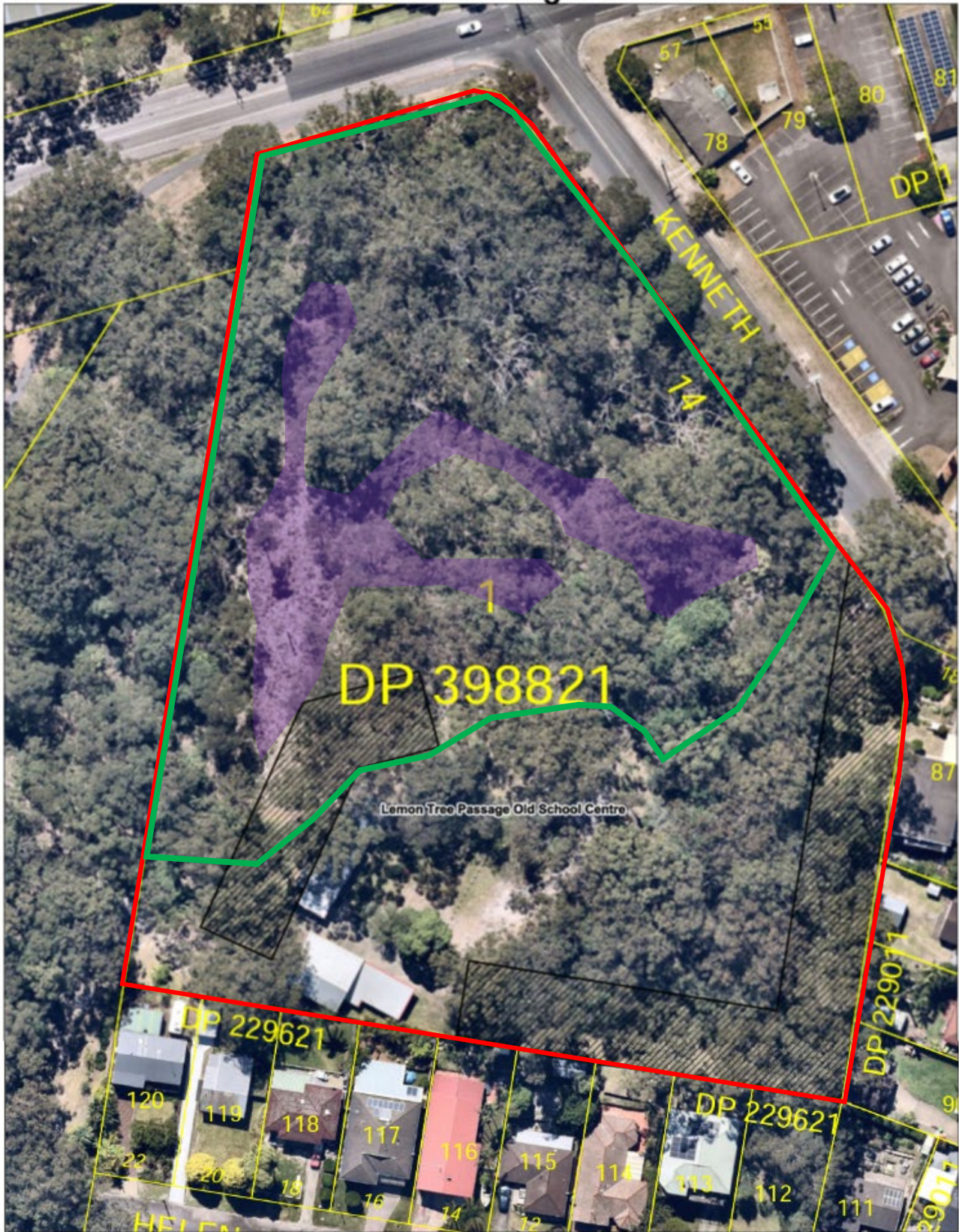
Infrastructure

Infrastructure within the reserve is owned and managed by Council. Council is responsible for erecting and repairing any structures within the reserve. No structures are to be erected by the group. The VSO is to consult with the Parks Supervisor and the Community Assets Officers on any infrastructure work requested on the land.

There are a number of assets present at the site including a table, shelter and interpretive sign erected by Tilligerry Landcare previously. Please note that there are a number of Ausgrid cables and Hunter Water infrastructure in the north-eastern end of the site. Land management activities should not negatively impact these. "Before You Dig" should be consulted prior to any ground breaking activities and advice sought from Council if any assets are present.

Action Plan Map – LTP Old School Centre

LTP Old School Centre - Agreed Action Plan



DISCLAIMER

Port Stephens Council accepts no responsibility for any errors, omissions or inaccuracies, whatsoever contained within or arising from this map. Verification of the information shown should be obtained from an appropriately qualified person.

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Site boundary

Zone 1

Zone 2

APZ (not to scale)



SHEET LOCALITY



SCALE: 1:700 @ A3

PRINTED ON: 31.10.23

Detailed Action Plan

The below detailed action plan is to read in accordance with the action plan map above.

Zone	Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Resources	Timeline	Status
Zone 1	Weed removal and general maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of weeds Encouragement of natural regeneration 	Tilligerry Landcare	Routine working bees Green waste to remain onsite	Ongoing	Encouraged
	Removal of rubbish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report illegal dumping to Council via online form Remove small items of debris and dispose of in public bins 	Tilligerry Landcare	Routine working bees	Ongoing	Encouraged
Zone 2	Infill planting outside APZ areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting in bare areas that lack canopy (where natural regeneration is not occurring) Use locally native plants 	Tilligerry Landcare	Routine working bees	Ongoing	Encouraged

Key site considerations – Lemon Tree Passage Old School Centre

Environmental

Threatened species

There are no recorded individual threatened plant species within 200 metres of the Reserve. Over the last 20 years, approximately 22 sightings of Koalas and 1 sightings of Grey-headed Flying-foxes have been recorded within 200 metres of the site (NSW DPIE 2023).

The Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) is listed as Endangered under NSW and Federal legislation.

The Grey-headed Flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) is listed as Vulnerable under NSW legislation.

The site is mapped as 'Preferred Koala Habitat Link Over Marginal' under the Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management (CKPoM) (PSC 2002) which falls under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021.

Endangered Ecological Communities (EEC) / Biodiversity value

There is no identified Plant Community Type as this site is historically a school ground.

The Plant Community Type directly adjoining the site to the west is identified as:

- 'Smooth-barked Apple - Blackbutt - Old Man Banksia woodland on coastal sands of the Central and Lower North Coast'. There is no associated Threatened Ecological Community (TEC).

Priority weeds

Identified priority weed/s at this site include Glory Lily. This reserve is managed by the PSC environmental operations team in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

Asparagus Weed and Fishbone fern have also been identified at the site.

Heritage & Culture

The Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) lists 0 recorded Aboriginal sites or Aboriginal places in proximity to the subject site.

There are no recorded European heritage items under the State Heritage Inventory (SHI, 2023).

Bushfire

Part of the reserve falls within a Category 2 vegetation and vegetation buffer and is identified as Bushfire Prone Land in the NSW ePlanning Spatial Viewer. The Lower Hunter Bush Fire Risk Management Plan (BFMC 2009) identifies the local area as High Risk under Residential & Special Fire Protection Purpose Risk Current.

There are two asset protection zones (APZ) impacting the subject site along the south-eastern boundary and near the south-western boundary.

Care should be taken to avoid the creation of bushfire hazards directly adjoining residential allotments and no planting within APZ. This action plan does not provide guaranteed commitment to future management as required by Planning for Bushfire Protection (PBP) (2019).

Waterways and soil

The site falls within the Port Stephens Local Environmental Plan 2013 Drinking Water Catchment. Green waste should not be placed along drainage lines and care should be taken spraying near water channels to avoid any runoff.

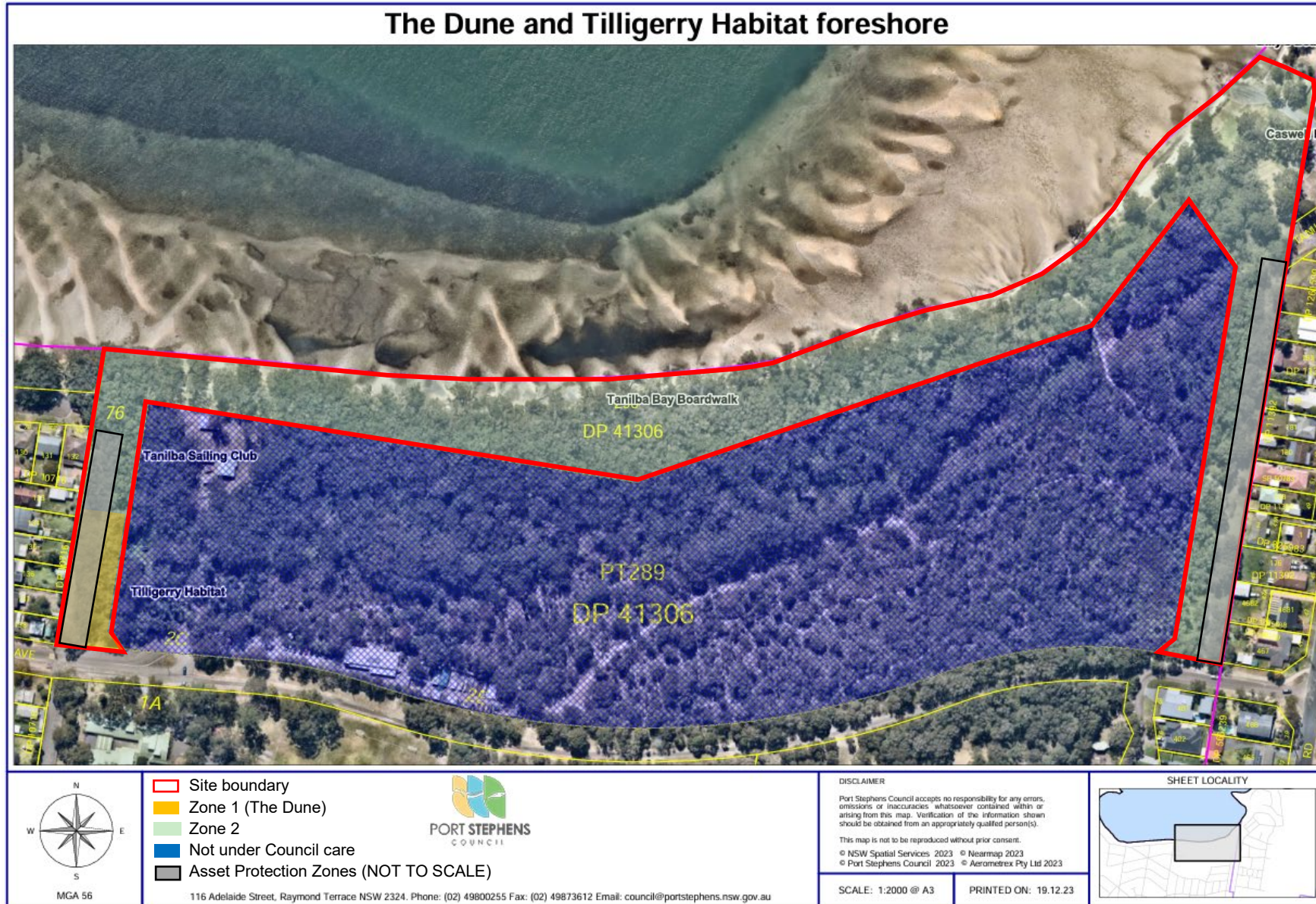
Acid Sulphate Soils (ASS) are likely to be present on the site beyond 2m depth. Volunteers are directed to stop digging and fill any holes that indicate ASS presence (indicated by scent of sulphuric acid/rotten eggs).

Infrastructure

There are a number of assets present at the site such as the historic Lemon Tree Passage Old School Centre. Please note that there has been Telstra network routes and Ausgrid cables identified at the site. Land management activities should not negatively impact these. "Before You Dig" should be consulted prior to any ground breaking activities and advice sought from Council if any assets are present.

Action Plan Map – The Dune and Tilligerry Habitat foreshore

The below Action Plan Map is to be read in conjunction with the Detailed Action Plan below.



Detailed Action Plan

The below detailed action plan is to read in accordance with the action plan map above.

Zone	Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Resources	Timeline	Status
Zone 1 The Dune	Weed removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of weeds, green waste to remain on site 	Tilligerry Landcare	Routine working bees	Ongoing	Encouraged
	Pathway maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gravel base of pathway to be maintained as required 	Tilligerry Landcare	Routine working bees	Ongoing	Encouraged
Zone 2 Foreshore	Weed removal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of identified weeds Passive regeneration encouraged, no plantings 	Tilligerry Landcare	Routine working bees Green waste to remain on site	Ongoing	Encouraged
<i>Applies to all sites within this plan.</i>	Monitoring and reporting to support group resourcing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and record activities undertaken by group Reporting on areas weeded, areas planted, success rates, new and emerging weeds, fauna sightings, etc. 	Tilligerry Landcare	Reporting should be undertaken through councils online CRM tool for <u>Environmental Works Records</u> Regular working bee check-ins with VSO	Ongoing	Encouraged

Key site considerations – The Dune and Tilligerry Habitat foreshore

Environmental

Threatened species There are no recorded individual threatened plant species within 200 metres of the Reserve.

Over the last 20 years, approximately 100+ sightings of Koalas, 2 sighting of Regent Honeyeater, 1 sighting of Squirrel Glider, 1 sighting of Spotted Tail Quoll, 1 Sighting of Swift Parrot, have been recorded within 200 metres of the site (NSW DPIE 2023).

The Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) is listed as Endangered under NSW and Federal legislation.

The Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor*) is listed as Endangered under NSW legislation and Critically Endangered under Federal legislation. (NSW DEH, 2022).

The Squirrel Glider (*Petaurus norfolcensis*) is listed as Vulnerable under NSW legislation.

Regent Honey Eater (*Anthochaera phrygia*) is listed as Critically Endangered under NSW and Federal legislation.

Spotted Tail Quoll (*Dasyurus maculatus*) is listed as Vulnerable under NSW legislation and Endangered under Federal legislation (NSW DHE 2022).

The site is mapped as 'Preferred' and 'Preferred Buffer' Koala habitat under the Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management (CKPoM) (PSC 2002) which falls under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021.

Endangered Ecological Communities (EEC) / Biodiversity value 'Broad-leaved Paperbark - Swamp Oak - Saw Sedge swamp forest on coastal lowlands of the Central Coast and Lower North Coast' and 'Swamp Mahogany - Broad-leaved Paperbark - Swamp Water Fern - Plume Rush swamp forest on coastal lowlands of the Central Coast and Lower North Coast' are present.

These plant communities are considered Endangered Ecological Communities (EEC).

Approximately 70% of these EECs have been historically cleared. Key threats include changes to hydrological conditions, clearing for urban development and changes to species diversity as a result of weeds (NSW DPIE 2021).

PLEASE
NOTE

This vegetation is listed as endangered under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, and is state and federally protected.

Only permitted works under this plan may be undertaken within this vegetation type because it is highly sensitive.

Other Plant Community Types present on the site include:

- 'Smooth-barked Apple - Blackbutt - Old Man Banksia woodland on coastal sands of the Central and Lower North Coast', classed as Coastal Dune Dry Sclerophyll Forests.

Priority weeds

The area is managed by the PSC Environmental Operations team in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015*.

Identified priority weeds within and directly adjoining this site include Chinese Violet and *Ludwigia Longifolia*.

Additional weeds on site managed by volunteer activities include, but are not limited to Lantana, Bitou, Senna, Fishbone Fern, *Watsonia*, *Asparagus* species, African Daisy and alien grass species.

A specific licence is required under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*, and applies to nominated individuals carrying out activities involving threatened ecological communities or areas of outstanding biodiversity value in accordance with the Department of Planning and Environment's scientific licensing policy. **Please check with VSO to ensure a license has been obtained prior to the commencement of works.**

Property management

Native Title Act (1993) applies to the site however for the purposes of some volunteer activities, subdivision 24LA (2)(b) low impact future acts may be employed. Exclusions under the Act includes the clearing of introduced plant species, regeneration and environmental protection activities. Any other activities outside of these exclusions will require detailed assessment. Please contact the Volunteers Support Officer if you require further information.

In the event that an Aboriginal Land Claim is filed and determined in the Local Aboriginal Land Council's favour, volunteers will be notified that all access and approvals to undertake maintenance on the site are to cease immediately.

Heritage

The Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) (DPIE 2022) lists 1 recorded Aboriginal sites at the subject site and 0 Aboriginal places in proximity to the subject site.

The utmost care must be taken to avoid disturbance to the area if volunteers suspect they have located the recorded Aboriginal artefact in the location along the foreshore.

The site does not contain state or locally listed heritage items.

Unexpected Finds - if Aboriginal heritage items are uncovered during the works, all works in the vicinity of the find must cease and the Volunteers Support Officer must be contacted.

Bushfire

The reserve is identified as Category 2 vegetation and vegetation buffer, and is identified as Bushfire Prone Land in the NSW ePlanning Spatial Viewer. The Lower Hunter Bush Fire Risk Management Plan (BFMC 2023) identifies the local area as lowest risk to residential.

There are two asset protection zone (APZ) in proximity to the site on either side of the reserve closest to the residential properties. Activities should not impact the accessibility and standards of these zones. No planting or rafting of green waste within this zone is permitted however weeding is encouraged in these areas.

Care should be taken to avoid the creation of bushfire hazards directly adjoining residential allotments. This action plan does not provide guaranteed commitment to future management as required by Planning for Bushfire Protection (PBP) (2019).

Waterways and soil

The site falls within the 40 m buffer of the Port Stephens – Great Lakes Marine Park General Use Zone and the Port Stephens Local Environmental Plan 2013 Wetlands zone. No works are permitted outside of the subject site.

Acid Sulphate Soils (ASS) may be present on site below 1m of natural ground surface. Volunteers are directed to stop digging and fill any holes that indicate ASS presence (indicated by a scent of sulphuric acid/rotten eggs).

Infrastructure

A boardwalk runs along the northern side of the foreshore site, transitioning to a gravel pathway towards Caswell Reserve. Infrastructure within the reserve is owned and managed by Council. Council is responsible for erecting and repairing any structures within the reserve. No structures are to be erected by the group. The VSO is to consult with the Parks Supervisor and the Community Assets Officers on any infrastructure work requested on the land.

“Before You Dig” should be consulted prior to any ground breaking activities and advice sought from Council if any assets are present.

*State of NSW (Crown) land may require additional permits and approvals as Port Stephens Council is not the land owner. Native Title Act 1993 applies to the land however under Subdivision L, clearing of noxious or introduced plant species, regeneration and environmental protection activities are exclusions under the Act. Any activities proposed outside of these exclusions will require assessment under the Act.

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Process owner	Strategy and Environment Section Manager		
Author	Kate Mannell - Volunteers Support Officer		
Review timeframe	3 years	Next review date	31 January 2027
Adoption date	31 January 2024		

VERSION HISTORY:

Version	Date	Author	Details
1	12 September 2023	Volunteers Support Officer	Created document.
2	3 January 2024	Strategy and Environment Section Manager	Document reviewed internally. Volunteer feedback to be requested.
3	31 January 2024	Volunteers Support Officer	Final consultation with group and adoption.

Appendix A – Species list

Any plantings should be in consideration of the relevant Plant Community Type (PCT) at the site and species that are local to the area. Genetic provenance refers to the use of locally sourced and grown seedlings, preferred for any plantings.

The below species list is relevant to the identified PCT.

Coastal Dune Dry Sclerophyll Forest

- *Angophora costata*;
- *Eucalyptus pilularis*;
- *Corymbia gummifera*;
- *Banksia serrata*;
- *Monotoca elliptica*;
- *Macrozamia communis*;
- *Acacia ulicifolia*;
- *Dianella caerulea*;
- *Themeda australis*;
- *Pteridium esculentum*;
- *Lomandra longifolia*;
- *Imperata cylindrical*.

Coastal Swamp Forests

- *Melaleuca quinquenervia*;
 - *Eucalyptus robusta*;
 - *Livistona australis*;
 - *Casuarina glauca*;
 - *Glochidion ferdinandi*;
 - *Acacia longifolia*;
 - *Leptospermum polygalifolium*;
 - *Melaleuca nodosa*;
 - *Leucopogon lanceolatus*;
 - *Gahnia clarkei*;
 - *Blechnum indicum*;
 - *Baumea juncea*;
 - *Phragmites australis*;
 - *Baumea articulate*;
 - *Dianella caerulea*;
 - *Baloskion tetraphyllum*;
 - *Imperata cylindrical*;
 - *Kennedia rubicunda*;
 - *Pteridium esculentum*.
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