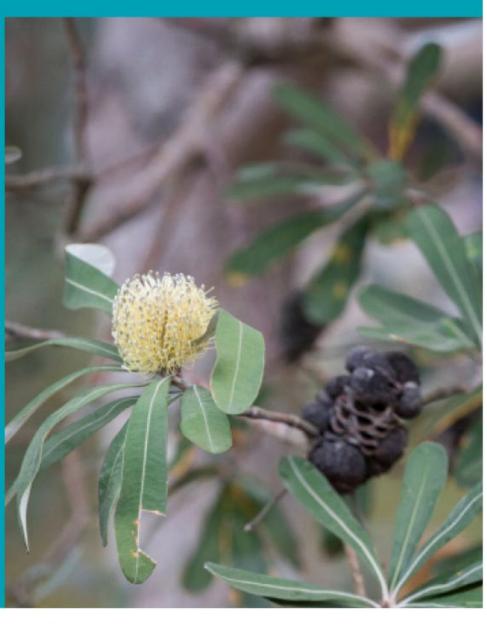
Conroy Park Coastcare Agreed Action Plan

2024 to 2027



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.



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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 Conroy Park and Corlette Foreshore Reserve.

Objectives of the Plan

For the Conroy Park Coastcare volunteers and Port Stephens Council to work together to protect and enhance the character of these sites.

This plan may also be used in applications for grant funding and to promote the group to prospective volunteers.

Site Details

 Table 1: Corlette Foreshore Reserve and Conroy Park

Site Address	70B Sandy Point Road, Corlette		
Lot / DP	Lot 256 DP 27048		
Land zoning	C3 – Environmental Management		
Owner	Port Stephens Council (community land)		
Local Aboriginal Land Council	Worimi		
Reserve	Corlette Foreshore Reserve and Conroy Park (See Action Plan Maps)		

Scope of Works

Volunteer works within the identified areas 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 Conroy Park Coastcare and internal Council departments in the preparation of this plan.

Feedback was requested from local residents.

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 the 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 water	Work in teams and note uneven ground nearby drainage channels.
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). Do not place sediment or waste in drainage channels.
Wildlife hazards	Awareness of surroundings, First Aid kit on site at all times, suitable PPE.
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. PPE from
	sun exposure.

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.

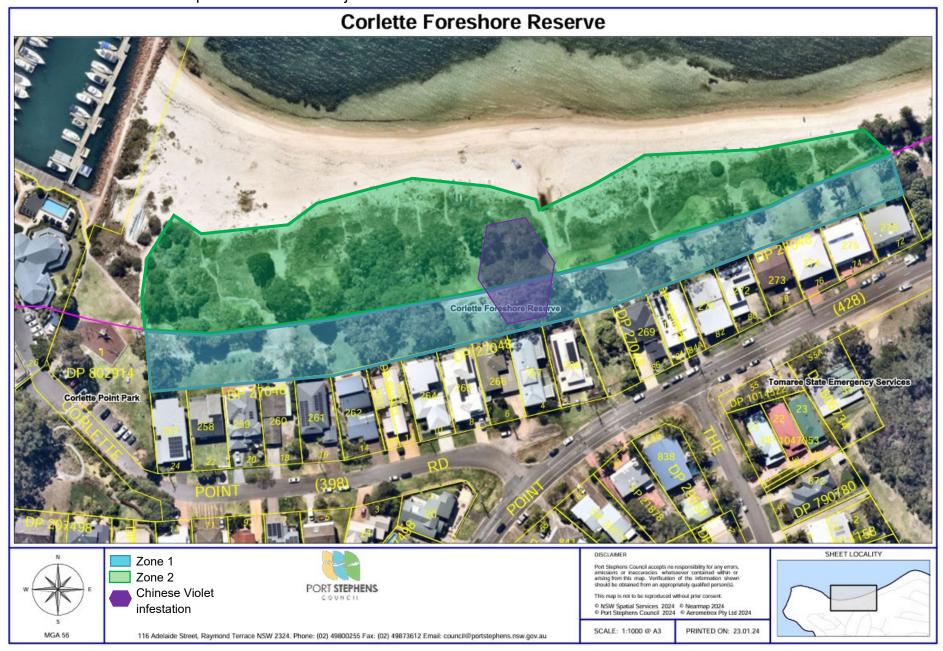
All hazards, incidents, near misses, injuries and unsafe practices must be reported immediately, and documented and reported in writing to Council within 24 hours.

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



Action Plan Map – Corlette Foreshore

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



Action Plan Map – Conroy 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 Corlette Foreshore (PSC land)	Weed control	 Control of identified weeds. Green waste to remain on site or obtain biosecurity permit for movement. 	Conroy Park Coastcare (CPC)	Routine working bees	Ongoing	Encouraged
	Confirmation on mowing area	 Residents may mow at their own risk on Council land up to the footpath. Mowing beyond the boundary of Council land is not supported. 	Residents Council	Scheduled Council mowing program	Ongoing	Approved
	Consultation with residents	 Collaboration with local landholders to enhance native biodiversity while preserving character of area. Negotiate ideal areas for planting and opportunities for some vegetation gaps to remain in place. 	CPC with Council support Residents	Schedule collaboration event	To be scheduled	Approved

Zone	Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Resources	Timeline	Status
	Plant replacement program	Residents supported with access to free local native plants to replace invasive exotics.	Council with CPC	Ngioka nursery Education event	To be scheduled	Approved
	Chinese Violet (CV) management	 Avoid works in infestation area to reduce further spread. Monitor for any new infestation sites in the area and report to Council. Council to control in line with legislation. 	CPC	Routine working bees CV control program	Ongoing	Approved
Zone 2 Corlette Foreshore (Crown)	Weed control	 Control of introduced plant species. Green waste to remain on site or obtain biosecurity permit for movement. Regeneration of foreshore through native shrubs and ground covers. Comply with license RN 644176 (Appendix C). 	CPC	Routine working bees Ngioka nursery	Ongoing	Approved

Zone	Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Resources	Timeline	Status
	Chinese Violet (CV) management	 Avoid works in infestation area to reduce further spread. Monitor for any new infestation sites in the area and report to Council. Council to control in line with legislation. 	CPC	Routine working bees CV control program	Ongoing	Approved
Zone 3 Conroy Park	Erosion control	 Remediation works to reduce erosion. Soft landscaping by volunteers, ensure access ways are not impacted. Follow directions provided in Coastal Management Plan. 	Council	Council works plan Coastal Management Plan	Ongoing	Approved
	Control weeds	 Control weed species and replace with local native species. Water plantings as required. 	CPC Council	Routine working bees Green waste to remain on site in small rafted piles outside of public view	Ongoing	Approved

Zone	Objective	Actions	Responsibility	Resources	Timeline	Status
	Planting	Trees may be considered for planting in this area, provided they comply with the specifications listed in Appendix B and permission is sought from Council.	CPC	In consultation with Council	Ongoing	Approved
Applies to all sites within this plan.	Monitoring and reporting to support group resourcing	Monitor and record activities undertaken by group. Reporting on areas weeded, areas planted, success rates, new and emerging weeds, fauna sightings, etc.	CPC	Reporting should be undertaken through councils online CRM tool for Environmental Works Records	Ongoing	Encouraged
				Regular working bee check-ins with VSO		

Key site considerations – Corlette Foreshore and Conroy Park

Environmental

Threatened species

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

Over the last 20 years, approximately 20 sightings of Koalas, 1 sighting of White-bellied Sea Eagle, 2 sightings of Green Turtles 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 White-bellied Sea Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*) and Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) are listed as Vulnerable under NSW legislation (NSW DEH 2022).

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.

Endangered Ecological Communities (EEC) / Biodiversity value

There is no identified Plant Community Type as this site is highly disturbed.

Plant Community Types that border the site include:

- Thin-leaved Stringybark Grey Gum Broadleaved Apple shrub - grass tall open forest on ranges of the lower North Coast. There is no associated Threatened Ecological Community (TEC).
- 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).
- Brush Box Tuckeroo littoral rainforest on coastal headlands of the NSW North Coast Bioregion. There is an associated Threatened Ecological Community (TEC).

Priority weeds

The land 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 Prickly Pear, Mother of Millions and Chinese Violet (new infestation).

Additional weeds on site managed by volunteer activities include but are not limited to Alstroemeria.

Lantana, Bitou, Senna, Fishbone Fern, Watsonia, Asparagus species, Formosa Lily, Ochna, Dietes, Camphor Laurel, African Daisy and alien grass species.

Property management

Native Title Act (1993) applies to the north of 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 exclusion 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 2023) lists 1 recorded Aboriginal site at the subject site and 0 Aboriginal places within the action plan boundary.

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 and Heritage NSW must be notified within 24 hours. Works may not recommence until Heritage NSW provides approval to proceed.

Bushfire

The reserve is not identified as Bushfire Prone Land in the NSW ePlanning Spatial Viewer.

There are no formal Asset Protection Zones on site. 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 adjoins identified Wetlands under the Port Stephens Local Environmental Plan 2013. It also borders the Port Stephens Great-Lakes Marine Park general use zone. No works are permitted outside of the subject site.

Acid Sulphate Soils (ASS) are likely to be present beyond 1m below the natural ground surface. Volunteers are directed to stop digging and fill any holes that indicate ASS present (indicated by the 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.

"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.



References

Department of Premier and Cabinet. 2022. State Heritage Inventory. NSW Government.

NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE). 2024. <u>Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS).</u> NSW Government, Parramatta NSW.

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NSW Rural Fire Service. 2019. Planning for Bushfire Protection. RFS, Sydney.

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CONTROLLED DOCUMENT INFORMATION:

This is a controlled document. Hardcopies of this document may not be the latest version. Before using this document, check it is the latest version; refer to Council's website www.portstephens.nsw.gov.au					
website www.ports	stephens.nsw.gov.au				
EDRMS container No	PSC2019-00063	PSC2019-00063 EDRMS record No			
Audience	Conroy Park Coastcare				
Process owner	Strategy and Environment Section Manager				
Author	Kate Mannell - Volunteers Support Officer				
Review timeframe	3 years Next review date				
Adoption date					

VERSION HISTORY:

Version	Date	Author	Details
1	11 October 2023	Volunteers Support Officer	Created document.
2		Strategy and Environment Section Manager	Document reviewed internally. Volunteer feedback to be requested.
3		Volunteers Support Officer	Final consultation with group and adoption.

Appendix A – Species list

Any plantings should be in consideration of relevant local species. Genetic provenance refers to the use of locally sourced and grown seedlings, preferred for any plantings. These can be sourced from Ngioka Nursery.

The below stratum species lists are relevant to the surrounding identified PCTs.

- Allocasuarina torulosa
- Breynia oblongifolia;
- Denhamia silvestris;
- Hardenbergia violacea;
- Hibbertia scandens;
- Rubus parvifolius;
- Imperata cylindrica;
- Cymbopogon refractus;
- Themeda australis:
- Poa sieberiana;
- Lobelia purpurascens;
- Lomandra longifolia;
- Desmodium varians;
- Banksia serrata;
- Monotoca elliptica;
- Macrozamia communis;
- Acacia ulicifolia;
- Dianella caerulea;
- Pteridium esculentum;
- Guioa semiglauca;
- Alpinia caerulea;
- Doodia aspera;
- Lomandra longifolia.

Appendix B – Tree Technical Specification

The long-term success of urban tree plantings is the end result of a detailed process involving many players. It requires a detailed analysis of site conditions and design constraints. It requires an extensive knowledge of the inherent characteristics of a wide range of species. Long-term benefits are gained when time is spent at the planning stage and when due consideration is given to solving potential conflicts and problems.

	ZONE A	ZONE B	ZONE C
	Most constraints (Greatest risk)	Moderate constraints (Moderate risk)	Fewest constraints (Minimum risk)
Electrical & telecommunications	 Un-insulated low and high voltage wires 	Bundled cables (ABC)Insulated cables	No power lines
Below ground services typical layouts	Fibre optic cablesHigh voltage power	Water mains Gas mains Stormwater	No underground services
Paved areas	Area wholly pavedSurface wholly sealedBrick pavers laid on sand	Partially paved areas Non reinforced concrete	Grass up to 6m
Verge width	 Less than 3.0m 	From 3m to 4m	 4m or wider
Building set back	 None 	 Less than 6m 	6m or greater
Street lighting	Over pedestrian crossingsTraffic intersections	 Street lighting other than crossings and intersections 	No street lighting
Safety signage; ie traffic signs	Dual carriagewaysArterial roads	Medium density residential streets Arterial roads in rural zones	 Low density rural/residential streets
Traffic	 Heavy vehicles Public transport in heavy volumes 	Public transport in moderate volume Heavy vehicles in moderate volumes	Public transport in low volume Residential traffic in low volume Cul-de-sacs.
Soils	 Shallow 	Moderately compacted	Deep profile
Soil Volume per tree	■ 5-15 m³	■ 20-40 m³	■ 50-80 m³
Climate	Frontline salt wind exposure Prevailing wind exposure	Second line coastal salt influence Moderate wind exposure	Minimum salt influence Minimal wind exposure
Street – Width & Usage	 Narrow; CBD residential & commercial; 	 Non CBD; narrow residential & commercial; 	 Average to wide residential/ commercial

Street tree planting should contribute to a coherent and regular spaced planting along the footway or roadway. The following guidelines should be used to assist layout of street trees subject to location of public utilities and other site-specific constraints.

CONSTRAINT	NOMINAL CLEARANCE
Constraint zone A	7 metre spacing
Constraint zone B	10 metre spacing
Constraint zone C	15 metre spacing
Street intersection	10m from intersection curb line
Power or light pole	5m from centre of pole
Storm water inlet	3m from edge of inlet
Major underground service junction	3m from edge of junction box
Bus Stops	No trees planted along length of stop
Traffic lights	10m from pole of traffic lights
Driveway.	3m from edge of driveway
Fire hydrants.	3m from center of hydrants
Visibility	Trees trunks to be free of branches 2.4m
	above ground height

More information can be found <u>here</u>. Table 3 is recommended as a valuable resource when considering the characteristics of tree species.

Appendix C – Crown License excerpt

File reference: 24/00129 Licence: RN 644176

LICENCE

Crown Land Management Act 2016 - Section 2.20

The Minister administering the Crown Land Management Act 2016, (hereinafter referred to as the Minister) grants to PORT STEPHENS COUNCIL 116 Adelaide St RAYMOND TERRACE NSW 2324 (licensee hereinafter referred to as You) a Licence pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.20 of the Crown Land Management Act 2016 in respect of the land described hereunder in Parts 1 and

DESCRIPTION OF	LANDS						
PART 1	Local Govt. Area PORT STEPHENS						
	County	GLOUCESTER					
	Parish	TOMAREE					
	Locality	CORLETTE					
	Status:	•		Lot	Section	DP	
	Crown land located near			256		DP: 27048	
PART 2	Plan/diagram: Schedule 3		1	Area: 1.13ha			
	TEXT DESCRIPTION: Crown land below the mean high-water mark of Port Stephens (Reserve 1011268 for Future Public Requirements, notified 3 February 2006) adjoining Lot 256 DP 27048 as shown by red edge on Schedule 3 Diagram.						
EXECUTION	Dated this	22		day o	of Jan	uary	2024
THE MINISTER	/// on 2	tronic signature of mo ile Pearce, affixed by 2/01/2024		Natalle	Pearce Supervis	sor Licences and	Complex Deall
	administering t	of the Ministe the Crown La ent Act 2016			name a	ind position	1
THE LICENSEE	the terms, condit Certified on beha whose signature Entity: P	ions and proval of the entity (s) appear(s) ORT STEPH Section 377 of norised seed person:	of this Licence I / We agree to be bound by ovisions of the Licence. ity named below by the authorised person(s) below pursuant to the authority specified. HENS COUNCIL ABN 16 744 377 876 of the Local Government Act KMannell Volunteers Support Officer, PSC				

File reference: 24/00129 Licence: RN 644176

Schedule 1

Item	Column 1 (description of variable particulars)	Column 2 (particulars)
1	Licensee's Address for service of notices	116 Adelaide St RAYMOND TERRACE NSW 2324
2	Minister's Address for service of notices	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure - Crown Lands PO Box 2185 DANGAR NSW 2309
3	Address for payment of Licence Fee	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure - Crown Lands PO Box 2155 Dangar NSW 2309
4	Purpose for which the licensed area may be used	You shall have the use of the area described in Part 1 and Part 2 and as shown by red edge on the diagram attached as Schedule 3 (hereinafter called "the licensed area" for the purpose of Environmental Rehabilitation
5	Licence Period	The licence period shall be from 1st March 2024 to 28th February 2025. The Minister reserves the right to terminate the Licence without prior notice if there is a breach by You of any of the licence conditions.
6	Licence Fee	\$0.00
7	Insurance - Public Risk	Twenty Million Dollars (\$20,000,000.00)
8	Additional special terms and conditions	Annexed as Schedule 2

****** End of Schedule 1 ******

Schedule 2

ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Native Title (Subdivision 24LA Low Impact Future Act)
 Restrictions on the grant of this Licence
- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Licence, this Licence does not permit or authorise any of the following:
 - (i) the excavation or clearing of any of the land or waters except for:
 - a. excavation or clearing that is reasonably necessary for the protection of public health or public safety; or
 - tree lopping, clearing of noxious or introduced animal or plant species,
 foreshore reclamation, regeneration or environmental assessment or protection activities; or
 - (ii) mining (other than fossicking by using hand-held implements); or
 - (iii) the construction or placing on the land, or in the waters, of any building, structure, or other thing (other than fencing or a gate), that is a fixture; or
 - (iv) the disposal or storing, on the land or in the waters, of any garbage or any poisonous, toxic or hazardous substance; or
 - (v) the conferral of a right of exclusive possession over any of the land or waters.

Schedule 3



****** End of Schedule 3 ******

