



COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

15 MARCH 2022

Your attendance is required at a Communities Committee meeting to be held in the Council Chambers, 232 Bolsover Street, Rockhampton on 15 March 2022 commencing at 9:00am for transaction of the enclosed business.

In line with section 277E of the Local Government Regulation 2012, it has been determined that it is not practicable for the public to attend Council meetings in person at the current time. Until further notice, Council meetings will instead be livestreamed online.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "C. P.", written in a cursive style.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
9 March 2022

Next Meeting Date: 19.04.22

Please note:

In accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, please be advised that all discussion held during the meeting is recorded for the purpose of verifying the minutes. This will include any discussion involving a Councillor, staff member or a member of the public.

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1 OPENING

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

2 PRESENT

Members Present:

The Mayor, Councillor A P Williams (Chairperson)
Deputy Mayor, Councillor N K Fisher
Councillor S Latcham
Councillor G D Mathers
Councillor C E Smith
Councillor C R Rutherford
Councillor M D Wickerson
Councillor D Kirkland

In Attendance:

Mr E Pardon – Chief Executive Officer
Ms A Cutler – General Manager Community Services

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

5 BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

Nil

6 PUBLIC FORUMS/DEPUTATIONS

Nil

7 OFFICERS' REPORTS

7.1 COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SCHEME - FEBRUARY 2022 COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

File No:	12535
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. E&S Scheme Assessment Report↓ 2. FY2020-21 E&S Scheme Grants↓ 3. FY2021-22 E&S Scheme Grants↓
Authorising Officer:	Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services
Author:	Christine Bell - Coordinator Environmental Sustainability

SUMMARY

This report tables the latest round of community-based initiatives submitted for consideration under Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve funding and support for the following community-led environment and sustainability initiatives:

Organisation	Grant (GST exc)
Emmaus College P&F Association – Support to the Student Sustainability Committee's 'CQ Sustainability Youth Summit' and School Waste Management initiatives.	\$3,000
Total grant value	\$3,000

COMMENTARY

Council's Environment and Sustainability Scheme aims to support community-led environment and sustainability initiatives, and further the objectives of Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy, by providing funding and support for eligible community organisations.

Eligible projects may include initiatives that:

1. Protect, maintain and enhance our natural environment including:
 - Community education and awareness activities that increase the community's understanding and value of our natural environment;
 - Works projects that improve native habitat, riparian corridors and waterways; or
 - Conservation of native flora or fauna species.
2. Strengthen our community capacity to live sustainably including:
 - Community education and awareness activities that increase the community's understanding of local environmental sustainability issues, impacts and opportunities;
 - Capacity-building workshops and events;
 - Targeted energy, water or waste efficiency programs; or
 - Practical community projects.

Council promoted this round of the Environment and Sustainability Scheme via Media Release (23 February 2022) and the Environment and Sustainability Scheme electronic mailing list.

Applications for Council's Community Assistance Program closed on 28 February 2022. Council received a number of queries but only one eligible application for the Environment and Sustainability Scheme within this round.

BACKGROUND

The Assessment Panel assessed applications against the following criteria:

- Strategic alignment with Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy;
- Expected outcomes for the community and the environment;
- Applicant's capacity to deliver the project;
- Applicant's approach to ensuring the project delivers long-term benefits for the community and the environment; and
- Value for money.

Attachment 1 provides a summary of the application, comments from the assessment panel and the recommended funding allocation. Attachments 2 and 3 provide updates on recently completed projects.

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

The Environment and Sustainability Scheme was established in 2019. Since that time, the Scheme has supported 31 projects (including the most recent application) and provided total grant funding of \$68,140 (GST exc). Roughly 50% of the initiatives have been implemented by local community organisations and the remaining 50% have been implemented via School P&C/P&F Associations. As noted in the assessment summary, this round's applicant has been the recipient of two previous grants over the last three years (\$500 and \$2,500 respectively). Both projects have been successfully delivered and acquitted.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Council's Environmental Sustainability Unit has allocated funding within the FY2021-22 budget to support community-led environment and sustainability initiatives. The requested funding is within the existing budget allocation.

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

The Environment and Sustainability Scheme is administered under Council's Grants and Minor Sponsorship Policy and Procedure.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Council administers the Community Assistance Program under a standard funding agreement and all funds are provided on a 'grants-basis'. Applicants are responsible for all aspects of project delivery.

STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

The Environmental Sustainability Unit are responsible for managing all applications under the Environment and Sustainability Scheme. They support participating organisations and provide a conduit to other internal stakeholders as required.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Applicants are fully responsible for project delivery and must provide a final acquittal report outlining any receipts for expenditure, photographs, print media coverage, publications or other forms of documentation.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

Operational Plan 3.1.1: Implement the Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2.4: Provide support and funding for community-based environment and sustainability initiatives.

CONCLUSION

This is Council's 10th round of environment and sustainability grants since the Scheme was established in February 2019. By funding these initiatives under the Community Assistance Program, Council is continuing to demonstrate its commitment to environmental sustainability by working collaboratively to both strengthen our community's capacity to live sustainably and to also protect, maintain and enhance our natural environment.

**COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
SCHEME - FEBRUARY 2022
COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

E&S Scheme Assessment Report

Meeting Date: 15 March 2022

Attachment No: 1

Environment and Sustainability Scheme – Assessment Summary
February 2022 funding round

Applicant	Project description and expected outcomes	Project cost	Request amount	Assessment comments
Emmaus College P&F Association	<p>CQ Sustainability Youth Summit 2022 and School Waste Management: The Emmaus College Student Sustainability Committee are seeking support to implement two projects in 2022. This includes the CQ Sustainability Youth Summit involving secondary students from across the region and a whole-school waste management initiative.</p> <p>Key expected outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CQ Sustainability Youth Summit - Coordination of guest speakers, a guest panel, student activities and a networking session to further increase awareness of sustainability and build better connections between schools, business and industry. School Waste Management - Reduce waste to landfill by implementing new classroom-based waste infrastructure and procedures for collection of recyclable paper, drink containers, soft plastics and general waste. General - Build on success from the inaugural Youth Summit in 2021. Provide students with the skills and knowledge to lead by example and take on sustainability leadership opportunities both on campus, in the community and at home. 	\$10,122	\$3,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emmaus College P&F has successfully delivered and acquitted two previous projects. This includes a school Sustainability Day/garden project in 2019 (\$500 grant) and the inaugural CQ Sustainability Youth Summit in 2021 (\$2,500 grant). The Emmaus College Student Sustainability Committee has demonstrated a commitment to working in partnership to deliver successful projects. Both Emmaus College and CQUniversity have invested significant cash and in-kind resources in the Youth Summit event for the benefit of secondary students across the region. The Youth Summit focusses on empowering students to engage in sustainable practices that benefit both their schools and their broader community. The Waste Management initiative is a practical project that will deliver tangible outcomes across a large school. The Sustainability Committee plan to audit waste diversion outcomes in conjunction with Rockhampton Regional Waste and Recycling. The initiatives align with Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy objective to 'work together to strengthen our community's capacity to live sustainably' and supports Council's Living Sustainably program and engagement with local schools. Expected outcomes support both social and environmental outcomes. Council's support will ensure that the Summit will attract broad participation of secondary students from multiple schools across the Region, whilst also supporting continued implementation of the Recycling Hero Schools program. <p>RECOMMENDATION: Allocate \$3,000 to Emmaus College P&F Association for the Student Sustainability Committee's initiatives in 2022.</p>
Total grant value		1 grant	\$3,000	

**COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
SCHEME - FEBRUARY 2022
COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

FY2020-21 E&S Scheme Grants

Meeting Date: 15 March 2022

Attachment No: 2

ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY.

Community Assistance Program

Environment and
Sustainability Scheme

FY2020-21 Grants Report

Rockhampton Regional Council's Environment and Sustainability Scheme supports community-led environment and sustainability initiatives that further the objectives of Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

Grants provided in FY2020-21:

As at February 2022

Number of grants awarded	11
Number of grants acquitted	9
Total funding awarded this year	\$23,800

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Central Queensland Indigenous Development: *Community garden and sustainable living workshops*

Central Queensland Indigenous Development Limited provide support to some of the most vulnerable people in the Rockhampton community. This project has helped CQID to empower their clients to establish and maintain their own vegetable and herb gardens in their own backyards as well as at the CQID Community Garden (located on the grounds of CQUni Rockhampton). Grant funds helped to provide a specialist workshop provider, training resources and garden materials.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in July 2020 and is now complete.

As part of the program, CQID directly engaged with 20 participants. Key outcomes included:

- Participants were engaged in a multi-week sustainable gardening program.
- Participants gained practical skills and confidence for improved self-sufficiency and sustainable living.
- Participants learned how to reduce waste by recycling and repurposing common household materials and learned how to compost, harvest and save seeds, propagate plants, create edible landscapes and preserve their own food.
- CQID supported participants to increase their sense of wellbeing and connection to community, whilst reducing waste and increasing sustainability awareness.



Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$3000

Delivery: July 2020 to Sep 2021

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Central Queensland Indigenous Development, Synergy Consultants, local community participants

Project completed: Sep 2021

Bundara Kindergarten: *Encouraging sustainability through play*

Bundara Kindergarten believes in the importance of 'learning through play' and are working hard to integrate sustainable practices at the kindy. This project has helped young students to reduce, reuse and recycle waste by enhancing the available learning and waste management resources.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in July 2020. This project is now complete.

Key outcomes are as follows:

- Bundara Kindergarten established a new centralised 'waste separation area' for their teachers and kindy students.
- Teachers continue to engage students in practices to reduce waste, properly identify recyclable items and separate items for recycling.
- Students continue to share what they have learnt at kindy with their families at home, helping to improve the quality and quantity of materials recycled by the broader Bundara community.



Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$1000

Delivery: July 2020 to Sep 2021

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Bundara Kindergarten and the local community

Project completed: Aug 2021

Capricorn Conservation Council: *Citizen science – introduction to eDNA*

Capricorn Conservation Council has established a new citizen science environmental DNA (eDNA) program to engage the local community, whilst also generating new scientific knowledge. They recognise that healthy bushlands are resilient due to the myriad of interactions between our animals, fungi, plants and microbes. This work has focussed on Australian fungi and explored the crucial role that different species plays in healthy ecosystems. Grant funds have been used to help purchase specialised equipment and workshop materials.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in July 2020. This project is now complete.

Key outcomes are as follows:

- Capricorn Conservation Council established a new Wild Fungi eDNA monitoring program in the Rockhampton Region and coordinated citizen science workshops for the local community.
- Local residents learnt about eDNA, which is an exciting and innovative science capable of detecting a species from a single drop of water or speck of dust (an incredible tool for monitoring native and invasive species in our environment).
- Capricorn Conservation Council has identified and verified the fungi discoveries made during this program via the Australian Genome Research Facility and added the data to reputable scientific databases.
- Research in this area is helping land managers to integrate fungi as a management tool that supports both conservation and farming objectives.



Project Manager Sherie Bruce collects fungi from decaying timber during a site visit within the Rockhampton Region.

Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$3000

Delivery: July 2020 to Sep 2021

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Capricorn Conservation Council and community participants

Project completed: July 2021

St Peter's Catholic Primary School P&F Association: *Don't waste our environment*

St Peter's Catholic Primary School is working towards zero waste and is an active participant in Council's Recycling Hero Schools Program. This project aims to educate the school community on the benefits of recycling and how every student can make a positive contribution to our community. The School is keen to reduce their impact on landfill and the natural world whilst also reducing costs associated with waste collection so that this money can be reinvested in school sustainability projects.

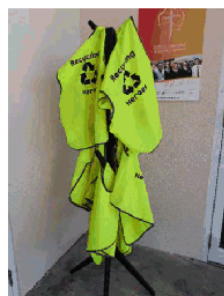
This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in November 2020 and is now complete.

The project achieved the following outcomes:

- The School introduced recycling bins, specialist collection bins and compost bins.
- Students, teachers and families learnt how to recycle right with yellow lid bins, reduce their plastic waste and compost food waste.
- Year 4 students addressed waste challenges as part of the curriculum and acted as bin monitors during lunch times to help educate students on their waste and packaging.
- Over a 10 month, the school reduced their general waste from 7 x 240L bins to under 3 x 240L bins each week. In July 2021, they reported that they had finally reduced the School's total waste to landfill to just 1 x 240L bin each week!
- The School encouraged students to develop sustainable practices in their everyday lives.



St Peter's students show RRWR Kelly Smith, Keep Australia Beautiful Judge Gail Langley and Councillor Kirkland their new recycling operations and Recycling Hero vests.



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Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$3000

Delivery: Nov 2020 to Jun 2021

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Rockhampton Region Waste and Recycling, St Peter's Catholic Primary School P&F Association, St Peter's school community

Project completed: March 2021

St Peter's Catholic Primary School P&F Association: *Don't waste our environment (part 2)*

Based on the success of their recycling efforts, St Peter's Catholic Primary School wanted to commit to the next stage of their 'Don't waste our environment' initiative. Part 2 focussed on improving green waste management in their school gardens. The School used the grant to help them purchase a garden mulcher and additional composting equipment.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in April 2021. This project is now complete.

Key outcomes for the school are as follows:

- The School reduced waste to landfill by composting and mulching garden green waste, helping them move further towards zero waste.
- By reusing their food and garden organics, the School was able to help retain nutrients and soil moisture in the school gardens whilst also reducing weeds.
- Teachers integrated garden waste considerations into their Year 4 Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) Curriculum.
- St Peter's continued to lead their school community by example.



St Peter's invested in a garden mulcher and additional composting equipment to help them progress further towards their target of zero waste.

Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$1500

Delivery: May to November 2021

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Rockhampton Region Waste and Recycling, St Peter's Catholic Primary School P&F Association.

Project completed: June 2021

Stanwell State School P&C Association: *Recycling Hero Schools program*

Stanwell State School has taken up the challenge to fight for a greener, brighter future and is an active participant in Council's Recycling Heroes Schools Program. The project aims to educate the school community on the benefits of recycling and how every student can make a positive contribution to our community and our environment. The School is keen to deliver a full education program involving a series of lessons and hands-on activities that can be linked to the national curriculum across a number of subjects and year levels.

Key expected outcomes:

- Improved understanding of existing waste streams.
- Improved hands-on educational opportunities.
- Enhanced vegetable and aquaponics production to support cooking and tuckshop activities.
- Improved waste diversion through recycling and composting.
- Reduced contamination of recycling collections.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in April 2021.

Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$600

Delivery: April to November 2021

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Rockhampton Regional Waste and Recycling, Stanwell State School and the Stanwell community

Project status: Pending acquittal

Mount Morgan Central State School P&C Association: *The Full Circle Initiative*

Mount Morgan Central State School P&C Association established five different green waste methods to help turn the school's food waste into useful products. The project was supported by the School's Garden Club, Brekky Club, staff and students.

The project's key outcomes were as follows:

- Food scraps from student lunch boxes and the canteen are actively composted via bokashi bins, worm farms, a worm tower, compost tumblers and chickens.
- By reusing food waste, the project has helped to divert waste away from landfill.
- Students share their knowledge with friends and family, helping to strengthen our community's capacity to live more sustainably. Students have also undertaken associated studies, recording bin weights and investigating bin contents.
- By reusing food waste, the School has created a sustainable source of fertiliser for its gardens and nutrition for their chickens.
- By creating mulch for the School's gardens, the School is retaining moisture in their gardens (which is particularly important given the current water restrictions) whilst improving soil fertility and reducing long-term costs.
- By supporting the School's food-growing capacity, the project has helped to reduce costs for the School's Brekky Club and associated nutrition initiatives.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in April 2021. This project is now complete.



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Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$1200

Delivery: April to November 2021

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Mount Morgan State School and the Mount Morgan community

Project completed: December 2021

Capricornia Catchments: *Learning to utilise drones for property management*

Capricornia Catchments is a local not-for-profit natural resource management group. Capricornia Catchments collaborated with the Wycarbah and District Landcare Group to deliver introductory drone training for local landholders. The training was designed to help local landholders gain the skills and knowledge necessary to safely, legally and confidently utilise drones to support their own property management requirements.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in April 2021 and is now complete.

Capricornia Catchments hosted a community information night on 07 October 2021 and 16 people completed drone training on 08 October 2021. Key outcomes included:

- Specialist drone training for members of the Wycarbah and District Landcare Group and other interested community members;
- Improved community connection and resilience; and
- Improved skills, knowledge and networking around opportunities for sustainable property and landscape-scale management (such as vegetation, stocking, fencing, track condition and water levels).



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Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$3000

Delivery: April to November 2021

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Capricornia Catchments, Wycarbah Landcare

Project completed: November 2021

Rockhampton Mountain Bike Club: *First Turkey Mountain Bike Reserve*

The Rockhampton Mountain Bike Club are trustees for a number of land parcels along Moores Creek known as the First Turkey Mountain Bike Reserve. The Reserve includes nearly 30km of mountain bike trails. This project has helped to repair a number of historic trails (constructed prior to the commencement of the Club's tenure in 2013) which were subject to significant soil erosion, particularly during heavy rainfall. Works were completed by a suitably experienced contractor, supported by Club volunteers. As a trail maintenance and repair project, the works did not increase the existing trail footprint and no further environmental approvals were required.

Key outcomes of the project were as follows:

- A section of the trails along the banks of Moores Creek were repaired using natural stone, hardened rock armouring and specified drainage as required.
- Works were completed prior to significant rainfall in November 2021 and drainage works were reported to significantly decrease the amount of runoff and sediment from the trails, protecting the riparian corridor and waterway.
- The trail continues to ensure safe access for mountain bike riders, bush walkers and other visitors to First Turkey.
- Works have also improved the future sustainability of this section of trail whilst reducing the need for future trail maintenance exacerbated by soil erosion and bank instability.
- This project continues to build trail maintenance and repair capacity within the Club and local contractors.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in April 2021. This project is now complete.



Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$3000

Delivery: April to November 2021

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Rockhampton Mountain Bike Club

Project completed: November 2021

Emmaus College P&F Association: *Sustainability Youth Summit 2021*

The Emmaus College Student Sustainability Committee is a small group of students who are passionate about sustainability and caring for the world around us. Working in partnership with CQUniversity and Emmaus College, the Students planned and delivered a Youth Summit at CQUniversity on 16 July 2021, with around 300 participants from secondary schools across Central Queensland.

Key outcomes:

- The Summit consisted of guest speakers, a guest panel, activities and a networking session to further increase awareness of sustainability and build better connections between schools, businesses and industry;
- Students showcased sustainability initiatives that they currently run within their schools;
- Local business and industry were invited to showcase innovative and sustainable practices within their operations;
- Students shared ideas and networked with peers who were also passionate about the environment;
- Students were introduced to a variety of higher education courses focussed on environment and sustainability;
- Media assisted to share youth interest in sustainability and key sustainability messages with the broader community.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in April 2021. This project is now complete.



Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$2500

Delivery: April to November 2021

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Emmaus College, CQUniversity

Project completed: December 2021

Central Queensland Aboriginal Corporation for Cultural Activities:

Tooling up for the Plant Revival Tour

The Central Queensland Aboriginal Corporation for Cultural Activities (CQACCA) / Dreamtime Cultural Centre is delivering the Plant Tour Revival project as part of the Queensland Government's Skilling Queenslanders for Work program. This project seeks to support CQACCA to purchase additional tools and equipment to support their trainees and help establish a nursery for the propagation and sale of native plants to visitors and the general public.

Key expected outcomes are as follows:

- Establish the tools and equipment necessary to support plant propagation and nursery activities at the Dreamtime Cultural Centre.
- Maintain and enhance natural bushland areas of the Dreamtime Cultural Centre.
- Revive the Native Plant Tour to support further information on native plants of significance to Indigenous communities.
- Increase awareness of the usage - both past and present - of native plants in medicine and wellbeing and food (bush tucker) and the importance of plants in Indigenous heritage and culture.
- Improve opportunities for training and future employment of Indigenous community members.
- Increase work skills in horticulture and land management, as well as transferable soft skills needed by employers.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in April 2021.

Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$2000

Delivery: April to November 2021

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Central Queensland Aboriginal Corporation for Cultural Activities

Project status: Pending acquittal

**COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM:
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
SCHEME - FEBRUARY 2022
COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

FY2021-22 E&S Scheme Grants

Meeting Date: 15 March 2022

Attachment No: 3

ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY.

Community Assistance Program

Environment and
Sustainability Scheme

FY2021-22 Grants Report

Rockhampton Regional Council's Environment and Sustainability Scheme supports community-led environment and sustainability initiatives that further the objectives of Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

Grants provided in FY2021-22:

As at February 2022

Number of grants awarded to date	4
Number of grants acquitted	1
Total funding awarded to date	\$9,200

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Please note:

Rockhampton Regional Council delivers three grant funding rounds each year. Information is correct as at the time of publishing this report.

Gracemere State School P&C Association: *Containers for Change initiative*

Gracemere State School's Student Council wanted to reduce waste whilst raising funds to support sustainability projects on the school grounds. So the Student Council established a Containers for Change program at the school, introduced the concept at school assembly and then worked with each of the classes to begin collecting drink containers.

Key outcomes:

- The School's students and teachers were encouraged to divert their bottles, cans and poppers away from general waste and into the school's recycling program (diverting over 700 containers in just a few short months);
- Students learned about the different types of containers that can be accepted by the Containers for Change program;
- The Student Council managed the project, providing opportunities for students to gain experience in developing and implementing local sustainability projects;
- Information about the program was shared with the broader school community through the school newsletter and social media;
- Now established, the program will continue on an ongoing basis;
- Funds raised by the program are being reinvested in school sustainability projects, helping to empower the school community to live and work more sustainably.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in August 2021.



Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$200

Delivery: July to November 2021

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Gracemere State School and broader Gracemere school community

Project completed: December 2021

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Park Avenue P&F Association: *Interactive Ecozone*

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School P&F Association seeks to develop a dedicated sustainability learning space. The Interactive Ecozone is designed to play an integral role in the future of the school providing a range of teaching opportunities related to biodiversity, growing your own food, composting, water-saving practices and living sustainably.

The EcoZone has been developed as a whole of school project and will support a vegetable garden, water tanks, native beehives, compost bins, worm farms, chicken coop and the school's bin management system. This grant will support the school to install a water tank and construct raised beds for the vegetable garden.

Key expected outcomes:

- The School will create awareness across the school community about the importance of sustaining and improving our environment;
- Students, teachers and parents will participate in a co-design process and have input into the design, construction, management and maintenance of the Ecozone;
- Students will participate in hands-on learning experiences and have an opportunity to connect with nature;
- Information about the program will be shared with the broader school community through the school newsletter, electronic billboard, social media platforms and on-site signage; and
- The Ecozone will directly link with key curriculum areas and be used by the school to help celebrate key events such as World Environment Day, NAIDOC Week, Laudato Si' Week, Earth Day, National Recycling Week, National Tree Day and other sustainability initiatives.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in August 2021.

Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$3,000

Delivery: August 2021 to June 2022

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School P&F Association, the broader St Joseph's school community

Project status: Active

St Peter's Catholic Primary School P&F Association: *Don't waste our environment (part 3)*

St Peter's Catholic Primary School is an active participant in both Council's Sustainability in Action program and the Recycling Hero Schools program. As the next stage in their 'don't waste our environment' initiative, the School aims to focus on improving water efficiency related to their sporting grounds, play areas and ovals.

Key expected outcomes for the school are as follows:

- Lawn treatment to improve resilience and water retention properties;
- Improved playing surfaces;
- Reduced soil and water runoff;
- Water efficiency savings of around 30% per annum;
- The broader school community will gain an understanding of the importance of using innovative solutions to more effectively use our natural resources; and
- Council will be recognised via the school's newsletter, social media.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in August 2021.

Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$3,000

Delivery: August 2021 to June 2022

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, St Peter's Catholic Primary School P&F Association and the broader St Peter's school community

Project status: Active

Emmaus College P&F Association: *CQ Sustainability Youth Summit and School Waste Management initiatives*

The Emmaus College Student Sustainability Committee are seeking support to implement two projects in 2022. This includes the CQ Sustainability Youth Summit involving secondary students from across the region and a whole-school waste management initiative.

Key expected outcomes:

- CQ Sustainability Youth Summit - Coordination of guest speakers, a guest panel, student activities and a networking session to further increase awareness of sustainability and build better connections between schools, business and industry.
- School Waste Management - Reduce waste to landfill by implementing new classroom-based waste infrastructure and procedures for collection of recyclable paper, drink containers, soft plastics and general waste.
- General - Build on success from the inaugural Youth Summit held in 2021. Provide students with the skills and knowledge to lead by example and take on sustainability leadership opportunities both on campus, in the community and at home.

This project received assistance from Rockhampton Regional Council's Community Assistance Program – Environment and Sustainability Scheme in March 2022.

Key project facts

Grant awarded: \$3,000

Delivery: March to October 2022

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council, Emmaus College P&F, Student Sustainability Committee, CQUniversity, local secondary schools

Project status: Active

7.2 BRINGING NATURE BACK - OPERATIONAL NRM PROGRAM UPDATE

File No: 1174
Attachments: 1. [NRM Program - March 2022 works summary](#)↓
Authorising Officer: Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services
Author: Christine Bell - Coordinator Environmental Sustainability

SUMMARY

This report provides an update on Council's Operational Natural Resource Management Program. It includes a summary of works completed to date and outlines proposed delivery partners for FY2022-23.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the update on Council's Operational Natural Resource Management Program.

COMMENTARY

'Bringing Nature Back' provides an overarching framework for a range of Council activities designed to connect our community with nature and protect, maintain and enhance our natural environment. As part of this framework, the Operational Natural Resource Management (NRM) Program delivers targeted on-ground works to help better manage the condition of the Region's key natural assets and green corridors. The works occur within Council's extensive parks and open spaces network and deliver activities that are over and above the scope of the routine Parks maintenance schedule.

Council's Operational NRM Program relies on external funding and local partnerships. Each year, works vary depending on Federal/State government priorities, available grant funding and the capacity of our local delivery partners. The Queensland Government's Skilling Queenslanders for Work (SQW) program funds local community organisations to provide training and support for unemployed or underemployed people with a focus on young people, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with disability, mature-age jobseekers, women re-entering the workforce, veterans and ex-service personnel, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

NRM achievements to date

Council's NRM Program fosters strong local partnerships to support social, environmental and economic objectives for the Rockhampton Region and our local communities. Since 2018, the Program has:

- supported more than 150 Skilling Queenslanders for Work participants to develop skills and increase their work readiness;
- invested more than 14,000 hours of volunteer labour to help protect, maintain and enhance Council's public land;
- delivered on-ground works at 8 key project sites including a range of bush regeneration, riparian restoration, canopy tree planting, weed control and other land management activities; and
- propagated thousands of native plants for use in Council's National Tree Day, Native Plant Program, Operational NRM and other horticultural activities.

Attachment 1 contains a brief summary of works completed to date.

Proposed works for FY2022-23

For FY2022-23, Council has received expressions of interest from two organisations who intend to apply for funding as part of the Skilling Queenslanders for Work program. Both Multicultural Australia and Capricornia Catchments intend to seek grant funding to support groups of up to 15 participants to undertake a 6 month Work Skills Traineeship (Certificate I in Conservation and Land Management). Council has provided each organization with a letter of support. It is anticipated that the Queensland Government will announce grant outcomes by July 2022.

At this stage, it is anticipated that Capricornia Catchments and CQUniversity TAFE students will continue regular NRM activities on Council land at Fraser Park and Frenchville Road respectively. Other organisations may also seek to partner with Council on a project by project basis.

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Council has previously supported a range of local community organisations as part of Skilling Queenslanders for Work.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The NRM Program is a collaborative Council initiative coordinated by the Environmental Sustainability Unit in conjunction with Parks, Council's Nursery and community delivery partners. Council provides in-kind support via the Environmental Sustainability and Parks operational budgets. This covers officer time and fleet costs for the NRM trailers, as well as tools, materials, signage and native plant stock where required. Delivery partners provide in-kind support to the Program in the form of volunteer labour, associated team supervision, administration, training, logistics and PPE requirements.

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

Council is the owner/trustee for significant landholdings and has a responsibility to manage this land consistent with the purpose of the land. Some of Council's landholdings have environmental values associated with State significant wetlands, State-recognised waterways, camping/water/nature reserves and environmental management zones listed under the Rockhampton Region Planning Scheme.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Council's NRM Program requires that all delivery partners provide their own Supervisor to oversee the on-ground activities of their Work Teams and maintain appropriate insurance, safety and other requirements in line with Council expectations. Council has a current Service Agreement with Capricornia Catchments (2021-2026). Council's last agreement with Multicultural Australia expired in 2021 and a new agreement is currently being negotiated.

STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

The Environmental Sustainability Unit, Parks and Council's Nursery provide staff time and effort to support the NRM Program as required.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Council manages all works in accordance with the relevant Service Agreement. Delivery partners develop a detailed risk assessment for each works project and must comply with all relevant workplace health and safety laws, standards, codes of practice, Council policies and procedures.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The Corporate Plan recognises 'Environment' as one of Council's five key responsibilities. Bringing Nature Back aligns with Council's objectives and targets from both the Corporate Plan and the Environmental Sustainability Strategy. As part of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy this includes:

- Strategic action 1.2 - Implement programs and foster strong partnerships to maintain and enhance the condition of our natural assets including key natural areas, green corridors and urban waterways.
- Strategic action 2.1 - Bring nature back into the community's hearts, minds and everyday lives by creating opportunities to connect with nature and get involved with Council's natural environment program.
- Strategic Action 2.3 - Encourage initiatives that increase canopy cover within our urban areas and green corridors to enhance liveability and environmental benefits.

CONCLUSION

Council's Operational NRM Program fosters strong local partnerships to support Council's social, environmental and economic objectives for the Region. This report provides an update on the status of the Program and outlines key opportunities to further on-ground outcomes through continued collaboration with key local organisations.

**BRINGING NATURE BACK -
OPERATIONAL NRM PROGRAM
UPDATE**

**NRM Program - March 2022 works
summary**

Meeting Date: 15 March 2022

Attachment No: 1



ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY.



Rockhampton Regional Council Bringing Nature Back

Operational Natural Resource Management (NRM) Program

NRM Program works update

Rockhampton Regional Council's Operational NRM Program delivers targeted on-ground works to help better manage the condition of our Region's key natural assets and green corridors.

Project summary

Major project sites 8
Delivery partners 2-6 pa

Project report as at: 01 March 2022



Natural Resource Management program

Rockhampton Regional Council's 'Bringing Nature Back' program provides an overarching framework for a range of Council activities designed to connect our community with nature and protect, maintain and enhance our natural environment. The Bringing Nature Back program aligns with Council's objectives and targets from both the Corporate Plan and the Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

The Operational Natural Resource Management (NRM) Program is a key component of Bringing Nature Back. The Program fosters strong local partnerships and actively pursues grant opportunities to support social, environmental and economic objectives for the Rockhampton Region and our local communities. The works occur within Council's extensive parks and open spaces network and deliver activities that are over and above the scope of the routine Parks maintenance schedule.

Program objectives

The Program has the following objectives:

- Foster strong partnerships to protect, maintain and enhance key natural assets and green corridors across the Rockhampton Region.
- Implement targeted on-ground works that help sites to function as resilient, self-sustaining natural areas – this may include site-specific objectives to increase canopy cover and ground cover, improve biodiversity and environmental amenity, stabilise waterways or help achieve mowing reductions on Council land.
- Work collaboratively with local organisations to provide opportunities for members of the community to increase their practical knowledge, skills and experience to support their employment prospects.
- Build nature connection within our local community and raise awareness about our local natural assets, environmental values, flora and fauna.
- Support the soft activation of nominated natural assets that support our community to enjoy a range of passive and active recreation interests.

Delivery partners

Each year, works vary depending on Federal/State government priorities, available grant funding and the capacity of our local delivery partners. To date, delivery partners have included the following local organisations:

Year	Delivery partners	Volunteer hrs
FY2018-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fitzroy Basin Association – Australian Government's Reef Programme (installation of fish hotels) • Multicultural Australia – Skilling Queenslanders for Work Program • Capricornia Catchments – Restoration works contract (Nurim Circuit) in conjunction with Capricornia Correctional Centre • Jobs Queensland - Skilling Queenslanders for Work Program 	2,600+ hours
FY2019-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multicultural Australia – Skilling Queenslanders for Work Program • Jobs Queensland - Skilling Queenslanders for Work Program • Capricornia Catchments – Restoration works contract (Nurim Circuit) in conjunction with Capricornia Correctional Centre 	6,000+ hours
FY2020-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multicultural Australia – Skilling Queenslanders for Work Program • Jobs Queensland - Skilling Queenslanders for Work Program • Central Queensland Aboriginal Corporation for Cultural Activities (CQACCA) – Skilling Queenslanders for Work Program • Capricornia Catchments – Parks minor maintenance (Nurim Circuit) 	6,000+ hours
FY2021-22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CQUniversity – TAFE students (Frenchville Road) • Capricornia Catchments – Parks minor maintenance (Nurim Circuit) 	In progress
FY2022-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multicultural Australia – Skilling Queenslanders for Work Program • Capricornia Catchments - Skilling Queenslanders for Work Program • CQUniversity – TAFE students (Frenchville Road) • Capricornia Catchments – Parks minor maintenance (Nurim Circuit) 	Proposed

Project sites

The Program delivers a range of bush regeneration, riparian restoration and other targeted on-ground works at sites across the Rockhampton Local Government Area. Key project sites include:

Project site	Works location	See page
Fraser Park	Nurim Circuit at Fraser Park, Mount Archer (environmental management zone)	4
Yeppen Lagoon	Blackall Street, The Range (Fitzroy River floodplain adjacent to third entry to the Rockhampton Botanic Gardens)	5
Frenchville Road	Frenchville Road, Frenchville (riparian buffer within the Frenchmans Creek corridor)	6
Col Austin Park	Moores Creek Road, Norman Gardens (riparian buffer within the Moores Creek corridor)	7
Eichelberger Park	Eichelberger Street, Frenchville (riparian buffer within the Moores Creek corridor)	8
Springers Lagoon	Sullivans Road, Gracemere (nature reserve and State significant wetland)	9
Plover Street	Plover Street, Parkhurst (nature reserve and significant remnant vegetation adjacent to Glenmore Water Treatment Plant)	10
Council's Nursery	Charles Street, Berserker (native plant propagation and other nursery support tasks)	11

Fraser Park (Nurim Circuit) - Mount Archer

Fraser Park is located at the top of the iconic Mount Archer. The environmentally significant area has panoramic views of Rockhampton City and surrounds. Council has worked with the community to activate this area through implementation of the Mount Archer Activation Masterplan and the development of the Nurim Circuit, nature play area, amphitheatre and on-ground bush regeneration works.

Key objectives for this site are as follows:

- Bush regeneration works in and around the site footprint;
- Assist with natural regeneration of native species to increase site resilient;
- Manage weed infestations and litter throughout the area;
- Encourage nature-based recreation and tourism opportunities in our parks and open spaces;
- Improve environmental amenity and visitor experience; and
- Encourage involvement of community groups and volunteers to help protect key assets.

Work activities:

- Revegetation (weed control, mulching and planting of native and bush tucker species);
- Community workshops; and
- Routine maintenance (watering, weeding and litter control).

Work progress:

Year	New plantings	Species planted	Mulch/groundcover	Weed management
FY2018-19	830	8	1025m ²	11 species / 5000m ²
FY2019-20	850	8	2000m ²	10 species / 5000m ²
FY2020-21	102	8	60m ²	11 species / 5000m ²
FY2021-22	In progress	In progress	In progress	11 species / 5000m ²

Key achievements:

- Rapid naturalisation and regeneration of the Nurim Circuit following construction activities;
- 'Bringing Nature Back' community workshop and planting day hosted in March 2019;
- Reduced weed occurrence across the site and within revegetation areas;
- Increased species diversity and environmental amenity; and
- Significant activation of the site for passive and active recreation.



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Key project facts

Delivery: Late 2018 to current

Project status: Active

With thanks to project partners:

Capricornia Catchments, Qld Parks and Wildlife Service, Darumbal, Native Plants Capricornia, Birdlife Capricornia, Multicultural Australia, Queensland Corrective Services, Jobs Queensland

Yeppen Lagoon - Rockhampton

Yeppen Yeppen (now known as the Yeppen Lagoon) is located at the gateway to Rockhampton City. Situated on the Fitzroy River floodplain, the Lagoon links directly to the Great Barrier Reef catchment. Recognised as Rockhampton's first town water supply in 1861, the Lagoon continues to play an important role in our community today, providing a picturesque backdrop for a popular walking/running/cycling track, fishing and birdwatching area. The site is located on Council land adjacent to the Rockhampton Botanic Gardens and Zoo and is tipped to become the third formal entrance to the Botanic Gardens.

Key objectives for this site are as follows:

- Skilling and training opportunities for young people and other local volunteers;
- Celebration of our First Nations people through language, stories and interpretive signage;
- Enhanced environmental amenity, bank stabilisation, water quality, sediment management, wildlife habitat and carbon sequestration achieved through targeted wetland restoration works;
- Supporting the creation of new nature-based recreation and tourism opportunities, further activating fishing and birdwatching areas and increasing shade along a popular walking/running/cycling track;
- Improved community connection, wellbeing and nature stewardship fostered through education, activities and events for a diverse range of local residents, community groups and stakeholders;
- Delivering on key linkages with the Rockhampton Botanic Gardens Redevelopment Masterplan.

Work activities completed to date:

- Installation of fish hotels in Yeppen Lagoon; and
- National Tree Day community tree-planting events.

Work progress:

Year	New plantings	Other activities
FY2018-19	150	National Tree Day and installation of fish hotels
FY2019-20	0	
FY2020-21	0	
FY2021-22	250	National Tree Day 2021
FY2022-23	Proposed	Proposed Skilling Queenslanders for Work restoration activities and citizen science opportunities

Proposed works:

- Riparian restoration activities;
- Pathway shade plantings;
- Community tree-planting activities; and
- Citizen science activities (water quality, biodiversity, bird watching).



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Key project facts

Delivery: Opportunistically from 2018

Project status: Pending new works

With thanks to project partners:

Fitzroy Basin Association, Jobs Queensland, Multicultural Australia and National Tree Day participants

Frenchville Road - Frenchmans Creek corridor

Frenchmans Creek originates in Mount Archer and winds down along Frenchville Road in North Rockhampton. Since 2016, Council has coordinated community plantings along the popular walking track in association with National Tree Day activities. Significant flows come down Frenchman’s Creek throughout the wet season, so the ongoing restoration and riparian improvements in this area are important to the long term stability and health of this urban waterway.

Key objectives for this site are as follows:

- Increase canopy cover, riparian width and biodiversity within the Region;
- Improve environmental amenity and shade across the Region;
- Increase site resilience; and
- Encourage native bush regeneration.

Work activities:

- Revegetation (weed control, mulching and planting); and
- Routine maintenance (watering, weeding and litter control) throughout the establishment phase.

Work progress:

Year	New plantings	Other activities
FY2018-19	200	National Tree Day 2018
FY2019-20	200	National Tree Day 2019
FY2020-21	Maintenance	NA
FY2021-22	In progress	National Tree Day 2021 + CQUni TAFE students

Key achievements:

- Frenchville Road is celebrated as a long-term community planting site that provides a cool and shady walking trail for the local community;
- Increased width of riparian zone by 8m across the work area;
- Reduced mowing area by more than 150m²;
- Reduced weed occurrence within revegetation areas; and
- Increased species diversity.



Key project facts

Delivery: 2018 to current

Project status: Active

With thanks to project partners:
 CQUniversity, Native Plants
 Capricornia, Multicultural Australia
 and National Tree Day participants

Col Austin Park - Moores Creek corridor

Col Austin Park is a key corridor and riparian buffer located adjacent to Moores Creek Road. Moores Creek originates on the slopes of Mount Archer and is a short stream that eventually flows into the tidal areas of the Fitzroy River. This park is well used by the community, and has established walkways that lead to Stocklands Shopping Centre. This site was selected for NRM works as it is located beside a major urban waterway and has significant unutilised grassed areas. Works are now complete and long-term site management has been handed back to the Parks Section.

Key objectives for this site were as follows:

- Increase canopy cover, riparian width and biodiversity;
- Improve environmental amenity and shade;
- Deliver mowing reductions (with no net loss of recreational spaces);
- Encourage nature-based recreation in our parks and open spaces; and
- Work with community groups to protect key assets.

Work activities:

- Revegetation (weed control, mulching and planting); and
- Routine maintenance (watering, weeding and litter control) throughout the establishment phase.

Work progress:

Year	New plantings	Species planted	Mulch/groundcover
FY2019-20	600	8	300m ²
FY2020-21	Maintenance	Maintenance	Maintenance
FY2021-22	Final maintenance	Final maintenance	Final maintenance

Key achievements:

- Increased width of riparian buffer zone by 15m across the work area;
- Reduced mowing area by more than 2000m²;
- Reduced weed occurrence within revegetation areas; and
- Increased species diversity.



Key project facts

Delivery: May 2019 to Nov 2021

Project status: Completed Nov 2021

With thanks to project partners:
Capricornia Catchments, Multicultural Australia and Jobs Queensland

Eichelberger Park - Moores Creek corridor

Eichelberger Park is located along Moores Creek which flows from the Mount Archer National Park to the Fitzroy River. Revegetation works commenced on site as a discrete grant funded project in 2017. Whilst the park has a sparse selection of large mature trees, the creek banks had limited vegetation within the riparian buffer zones and were dominated by weeds. Further works have extended upon previous works, further enhancing the riparian corridor along this urban waterway. Works are now complete and long-term site management has been handed back to the Parks Section.

Key objectives for this site were as follows:

- Increase canopy cover, riparian width and biodiversity;
- Improve environmental amenity and shade;
- Deliver mowing reductions (with no net loss of recreational spaces); and
- Encourage community groups to help protect key assets.

Work activities:

- Revegetation (weed control, mulching and planting); and
- Routine maintenance (watering, weeding and litter control) throughout the establishment phase.

Work progress:

Year	New plantings	Species planted	Mulch/groundcover
FY2019-20	150	6	40m ²
FY2020-21	150	6	100m ²
FY2021-22	Final maintenance	Final maintenance	Final maintenance

Key achievements:

- Increased width of riparian buffer zone by 5m across the work area;
- Reduced mowing area by more than 100m²;
- Reduced weed occurrence within revegetation areas; and
- Increased species diversity.



Key project facts

Delivery: August 2019 to Nov 2021

Project status: Completed Nov 2021

With thanks to project partners:

Capricornia Catchments, Fitzroy Basin Association, Greening Australia, Multicultural Australia and Jobs Queensland

Springers Lagoon - Nature reserve

Springers Lagoon is a State significant wetland located at Gracemere within the Fitzroy Floodplain (Gavial Creek system). In the dry season, this area provides a refuge for birds and aquatic species such as turtles and fish, with the site playing a vital role in the breeding cycle of species such as barramundi, bony bream and sleepy cod. Limited natural regeneration and succession of native species has resulted in the banks of the lagoon being highly susceptible to erosion during times of intense rain/flood events. As such, this area has required riparian stabilisation and revegetation works to help the long-term stability and health of this system. Works are now complete and long-term site management has been handed back to the Parks Section.

Key objectives for this site were as follows:

- Stabilise upper and mid banks;
- Revegetation with local native species;
- Increase site resilience and width of riparian buffer;
- Increase shade and biodiversity within the system;
- Encourage nature-based recreation in our parks and open spaces;
- Encourage community groups and volunteers to help protect key local assets.

Work activities:

- Revegetation and bank stabilisation (weed control, mulching, jute matting and planting); and
- Routine maintenance (watering, weeding and litter control) throughout the establishment phase.

Work progress:

Year	New plantings	Species planted	Mulch/groundcover
FY2019-20	140	8	2000m ²
FY2020-21	Site maintenance	Site maintenance	Site maintenance

Key achievements:

- Increased width of vegetated riparian zone by 6m and associated bank stabilisation across the work area;
- Reduced bare areas, grass and weed occurrence;
- Targeted weed management undertaken for rubbervine and guinea grass;
- Increased species diversity;
- Activation of the site for local passive recreation.



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Key project facts

Delivery: August 2019 to June 2021

Project status: Completed June 2021

With thanks to project partners:
Native Plants Capricornia, Birdlife Capricornia and Multicultural Australia

Plover Street - Nature reserve

Located in North Rockhampton, the Plover Street reserve is significant as one of the only local areas of semi-evergreen vine thicket (SEVT) on a limestone substrate. Local groups, such as Native Plants Capricornia and CQUniversity students, regularly visit and study this area. It has a drainage line and small creek that runs through the site, which feeds directly into the Fitzroy River.

Key objectives for this site are as follows:

- Increase buffer zones as a form of protection for this site;
- Increase biodiversity;
- Increase site resilience;
- Encourage native bush regeneration; and
- Encourage community groups and volunteers to help protect key local assets.

Work activities:

- Bush regeneration and revegetation (weed control, mulching and planting); and
- Routine maintenance (watering, weeding and litter control) throughout the establishment phase.

Work progress:

Year	New plantings	Species planted	Mulch/groundcover
FY2020-21	180	8	10m ²

Key achievements:

- Reduced mowing area by more than 80m²;
- Reduced occurrence of invasive weeds including cat's claw creeper and rubbervine; and
- Increased species diversity.



Key project facts

Delivery: August 2020 to June 2021

Project status: On hold pending new works

With thanks to project partners:

Native Plants Capricornia,
CQUniversity and Multicultural
Australia

Council's Nursery - Plant propagation

As part of Council's Natural Resource Management activities, a number of local organisations provide volunteers to support plant propagation activities at Council's Nursery.

Key objectives for this site are as follows:

- Collect and propagate local provenance materials where appropriate;
- Provide local plant stock for Council's horticultural planting projects;
- Provide local plant stock for Council's Native Plant Program giveaways;
- Provide local plant stock for Council's National Tree Day activities;
- Provide local plant stock for Council's Natural Resource Management activities;
- Assist with salvage and management of local species of significance where associated with Council projects; and
- Partner with local community groups to provide training and upskilling opportunities where appropriate.

Work activities:

- Plant identification;
- Plant establishment (collect seed, propagate plant materials); and
- Routine maintenance (watering, weeding and repotting).

Key achievements:

- Supply of over 5,000 plants per annum for Council's Native Plant Program giveaways for local residents;
- Involvement with National Tree Day community tree planting sites; and
- Salvage, management and reinstatement of grass trees and cycads for Mount Archer redevelopment works.



Key project facts

Delivery: 2019 to current

Project partners: Rockhampton Regional Council and Native Plants Capricornia

Project status: Active

With thanks to past partners:
Multicultural Australia

7.3 DRAFT BIOSECURITY PLAN 2022 - 2026

File No:	7099
Attachments:	1. Draft Biosecurity Plan 2022 - 2026 ↓
Authorising Officer:	Doug Scott - Manager Planning and Regulatory Services Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services
Author:	Karen Moody - Coordinator Health and Environment

SUMMARY

This report presents the draft 2022 – 2026 Biosecurity Plan to Council for endorsement for internal and external consultation.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council endorses the draft 2022 – 2026 Biosecurity Plan for internal and external consultation focusing on the action plans and priority species lists.

COMMENTARY

Council's Biosecurity plan 2017 - 2021 expired in December 2021 and Council must make a new plan in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. The pest management team have been working preparing a draft 2022 - 2026 Biosecurity Plan for consideration.

This document is currently in initial draft stage, whilst the content has been updated the formatting and photographs will be updated prior to final approval.

Whilst some wording changes were made to the main document, the pest management team have been focusing on finding appropriate action items and conducting risk assessments of all invasive species to ensure that they are categorised appropriately.

BACKGROUND

The draft Biosecurity Plan 2022 - 2026 has been developed to align with a number of national, state and regional invasive species management strategies. As part of drafting this plan, risk assessments on all invasive species were conducted. The risk assessment used the risk prioritisation tool developed specifically for Queensland Local Governments with the assistance of Biosecurity Queensland and Local Government Association of Queensland. Using this tool allows for a consistent approach to assessments across the state. It requires an assessment of the risk of the invasive species in our region and the feasibility of control.

Table 10 shows the risk matrix.

Table 10 Risk matrix identifying corresponding management objective

RISK	FEASIBILITY OF CONTROL				
	Negligible (>23)	Low (>15)	Medium (>9)	High (>5)	Very high (<5)
Negligible (<5)	No/limited action	No/limited action	No/limited action	No/limited action	No/limited action
Low (>5)	No/limited action	No/limited action?	Asset Protection	Asset Protection	Asset Protection
Medium (>9)	Asset Protection	Asset Protection	Asset Protection	Containment	Containment
High (>15)	Asset Protection	Asset Protection	Containment	Containment	Eradication
Very high (>23)	Asset Protection	Asset Protection	Containment	Eradication	Eradication

This assessment categorises the invasive species into five categories that follows the invasion curve which are:

- Prevention – for species not present in the area. The aim is to prevent the species arriving and establishing in the region.
- Eradication – aims to completely remove the species from the management area. Long term management and surveillance is usually required to exhaust the seed bank and demonstrate the area free from the species.
- Containment – aims to prevent the ongoing spread in the management region. This includes reducing the density of infestation within the management zone.
- Asset Protection – Aims to reduce the overall economic, environmental and social impacts of the invasive species. Includes targeting key sites and location for control of invasive species.
- No/limited Action.

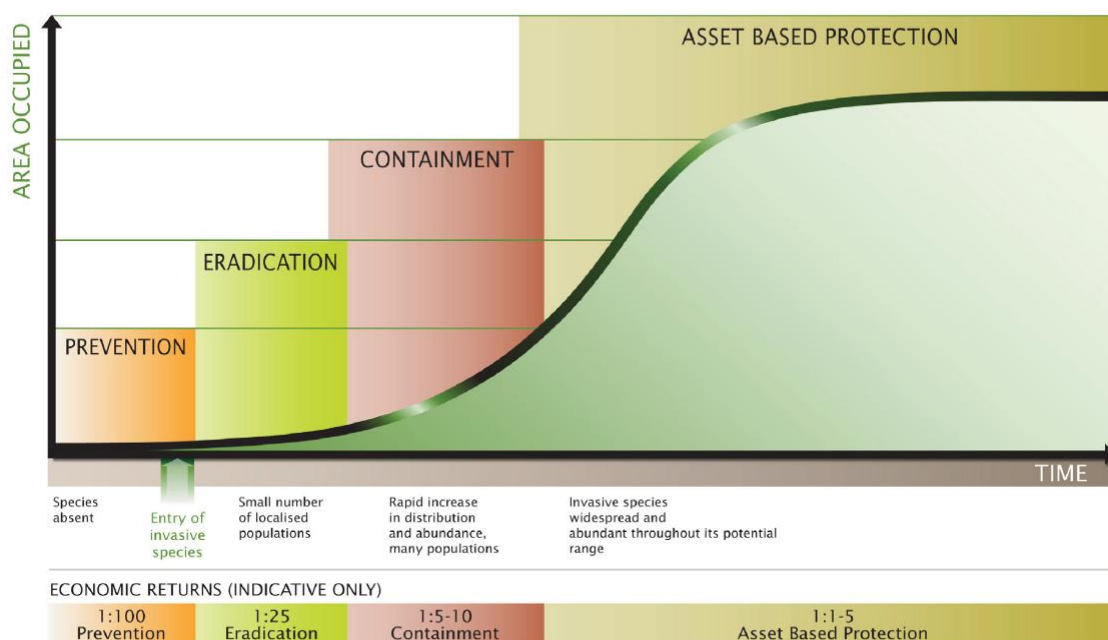


Figure 2 The invasion curve describes the four stages of invasive species invasion and the most appropriate management objective for each stage (Agriculture Victoria 2020)

As a result of the adoption of this assessment process, the categories in the new biosecurity plan have changed slightly from the approved plan with the category of destroy infestations removed. This assessment has resulted in some changes to the categories specific invasive species have been classified into.

Council officers have also been working on a revised action plan that will be enacted to meet the objectives of the plan. The vision, principals, objectives and outcomes of the action plan remain the same as the previous plan.

The action plan and species categorisation lists can be found in the attached draft Biosecurity Plan 2022 - 2026.

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Rockhampton Regional Council’s 2017 - 2021 Biosecurity Plan was approved by Council on the 12 December 2017.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The current budget was taken into account when deciding on action items. Additional action items may require further budget considerations.

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

The *Biosecurity Act 2014* is the principal piece of legislation that manages invasive plants and animals in Queensland. It provides a strategic approach to managing invasive species by setting out a number of actions to be undertaken by all stakeholders.

It is a requirement of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* for Councils to have a Biosecurity Plan for invasive biosecurity matter in its area. The plan may include provisions outlined in Section 53 of the Act. This includes:

- a) Achievable objectives under the plan,
- b) Strategies, activities and responsibilities for achieving these objectives,
- c) Strategies to inform the local community about the content of the plan and achievement of objectives,
- d) Monitoring implementation of the plan and evaluating its effectiveness,
- e) Other matters the local government considers appropriate for management of invasive biosecurity matter for its local government area.

Council must keep a copy of the plan and make it available for inspection free of charge by members of the public at our public offices, either written or electronically.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Council is not complying with the requirements of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* if a new Biosecurity Plan is not developed.

STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

Current staffing levels have been taken into account when determining action items in relation to the new plan. It is acknowledged that significant additional resources would have to be added to manage all biosecurity risks on Council land.

RISK ASSESSMENT

A risk assessment using the statewide developed tool was used to prioritise invasive species in the plan.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The implementation of the objectives of the Biosecurity Plan link to objective 3.1 of the current Corporate Plan by contributing to healthy, natural ecosystems.

CONCLUSION

The draft Biosecurity Plan 2022 - 2026 is ready for community and internal consultation with a view of approving the Plan by mid 2022. Consultation will focus on priority areas such as action plans and species categorisation.

DRAFT BIOSECURITY PLAN 2022 - 2026

Draft Biosecurity Plan 2022 - 2026

Meeting Date: 15 March 2022

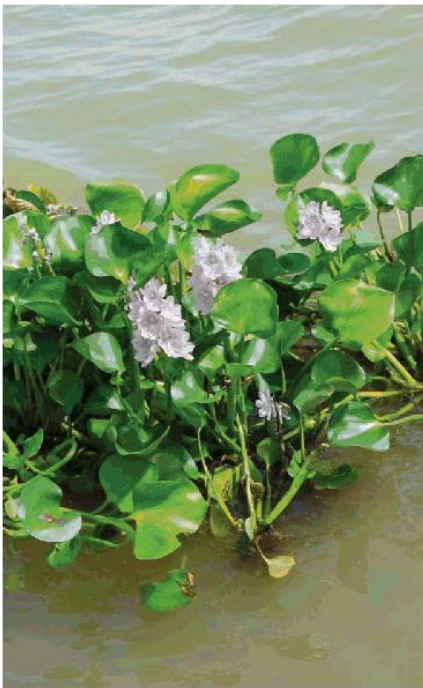
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Biosecurity Plan

2022-2026





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To be inserted

Background

Queensland has many plants and animals that have been introduced, either deliberately or accidentally, many of which are found in the Rockhampton Region. Some species have spread and multiplied to the point where they can cause damage to the environment, the economy and the community and are considered invasive.

The *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act), is the governing legislation that regulates invasive species including plants and animals.

Under the Act everyone has an obligation to take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise a biosecurity risk from invasive plants, animals and other biosecurity matter. This is called the General Biosecurity Obligation.

The management of invasive biosecurity matter (invasive plants and animals) is the shared responsibility of land managers, industry, the community and all levels of government. Whilst the primary responsibility rests with the land manager, collective actions using a nil-tenure approach is best practice, particularly for mobile species.

The Act requires Council have a biosecurity plan to address invasive biosecurity matter for its local government area.

The plan addresses the management of invasive biosecurity matter identified by the Act and other species identified as having significant local impacts within the Rockhampton Region.

Rockhampton Region

The Rockhampton Region consists of approximately 657,549 hectares and supports a population of approximately 82 000 people.

Recognised nationally as the beef capital of Australia, beef produced in Rockhampton is exported across the world. A meatworks with the Rockhampton Region services the cattle industry. Another meatworks is located just outside the Rockhampton Region.

In addition to beef, there are a range of emerging agricultural and aquaculture opportunities in the region. There are also a number of cottage industries providing supplementary income including miniature horses and alpacas.

Rockhampton is situated along major north, south and west transport and freight infrastructure routes. The routes are used by tourists, transport industries and locals.

To the South of Rockhampton is the Port of Rockhampton (formerly known as Port Alma Shipping Terminal), a shipping port that handles cargo.

The Fitzroy Basin in Central Queensland is 142, 665 square kilometres in size, making it the largest river catchment flowing to the eastern coast of Australia. All water that falls in the landscapes within the Fitzroy Basin eventually reaches the Fitzroy River which flows past Rockhampton and into the iconic Great Barrier Reef lagoon.

Invasive aquatic plants currently exist on the river. When conditions suit they have covered significant areas of water causing environmental, infrastructure and community impacts. Their presence in the river means that during major flood events, weeds have the ability to move into bodies of water on the lower Fitzroy Floodplain wetlands (a Directory of Important Wetlands Area) replenishing their supply and flows into the sea.

Impacts

Invasive biosecurity matter has the potential to adversely alter ecosystem function, reduce primary industry productivity and profitability and threaten human and animal health and social amenity.

Environmental impacts

Introduced invasive species place considerable pressure on native biodiversity, either directly or by affecting vegetation structure and/or ecological and physical processes. This can lead to the reduction or extinction of native species.

The negative impacts of invasive animals on biodiversity include:

- Direct predation,
- Loss of food and shelter for native species,
- Degradation of habitats,
- Reduction and possible extinction of native animals,
- Spread of disease,
- Competition for shelter and food,
- Loss of genetic purity (hybridisation).

The negative impacts of invasive biosecurity matter on biodiversity include:

- Ability to drastically out compete native species, transforming ecosystems.
- Degradation of native vegetation,
- Loss of food and shelter for native species,
- Reduction and possible extinction of native species.

Economic impacts

The Rockhampton Region is considered the Beef Capital of Australia and supports a range of agricultural enterprises supplying domestic and international



markets.

According to the CSIRO in the last 60 years alone deliberately or accidentally introduced invasive species have cost the Australian economy \$389.59 billion, a number that is likely to rise unless better investments, reporting and coordinated interventions are introduced). (CSIRO Media Release July 2021, Flinders University). The impacts of some animals in Queensland are well documented however, the true cost of invasive animals to Queensland's economy is unknown and difficult to quantify. Based on the above report, it is conservatively estimated that invasive animals cost Queensland \$215 million a year by preying on livestock, causing crop losses, competing for pasture and spreading disease.

The negative economic impacts of invasive animals include:

- Direct control and management costs,
- Predation of livestock (by wild dogs, foxes and feral pigs),
- Competition for resources,
- Destruction of natural resources through soil disturbance and removal of vegetation,
- Destruction of pastures and crops,
- Toxic to livestock
- Reduction of nature-based tourism due to destruction of natural resources.

Invasive plants are also a significant problem for agricultural land users. The CRC for Australian Weed Management estimated that impacts of invasive terrestrial weeds on agriculture cost the Australian economy approximately \$4 billion per year (Sinden et al. 2004). As Queensland is Australia's second largest state and has the highest proportion of land area in any state dedicated to agriculture, the costs associated with lost production and weed control in Queensland are considerable.

The negative economic impacts of invasive plants include:

- Competition with pastures leading to reduced stocking capacity and erosion,
- Toxicity to stock,
- Competition with crops for water and nutrients,
- Increased stock mustering costs,
- Loss of ecotourism values,
- Impacts (of aquatic weeds) on water quality and irrigation,
- Management costs arising from the use of physical, mechanical and chemical control methods,
- Increased cost of fire preparedness and response due to spread of high biomass grasses.
- Increase in habitat for feral animals.

Social and human health impacts

Invasive biosecurity matter can affect liveability in urban, peri-urban and rural residential areas. They can cause general nuisance and disturbance and reduce the community's enjoyment of natural areas.

The negative impacts of invasive animals on social and human health include:

- Predation of livestock and pets,
- Potential for injury to people,



- Increased risk of motor vehicle accidents,
- Damage to structures,
- Spread of disease.

Wild dogs and foxes prey on family pets and poultry. Feral deer and horses have been implicated in motor vehicle accidents.

Feral animals can carry zoonotic diseases such as hydatids (wild dogs, foxes), Q fever (feral pigs), brucellosis (feral pigs) and leptospirosis (feral pigs, feral deer).

The negative impacts of invasive plants on social and human health include:

- Allergic reactions,
- Increased risks and reduced aesthetic value in recreational areas,
- Increased risk of fire.

Many aquatic invasive plants, such as salvinia, cause safety hazards. Small children have drowned when they thought the floating 'carpet' of salvinia was solid.

Aquatic invasive plants, including water lettuce, salvinia and water hyacinth, interfere with recreational activities undertaken on the Fitzroy River.

Aquatic weeds reduce the aesthetic value of rivers, lakes and streams and impact on water quality which can result in lower animal growth/production.

Invasive Species Pathways

It is recognised that there are many avenues for invasive species to spread (both new species to our region or existing species to a new location within the region) including

- Livestock transport
- Contaminated fodder
- Contaminated crop and pasture seeds
- Contaminated vehicles commercial and recreational (including water vehicles)
- Storm water flows/ waterway flooding
- People movements; and
- Wind.

Rockhampton is a major gateway between the east coast and Western Queensland as the junction of the Bruce Highway and Capricorn Highway. Livestock movements are increased due to the location of a sale yard and meat works within our region.

Rockhampton Regional Council does not have a wash bay to allow for individuals to wash their contaminated vehicles, though all our neighbouring Councils do close to our boundary.

CQLX have a commercially operated used by public for trucks and other standard car washes are available in urban areas of the region.

Challenges to effective pest management

The predominant challenges for managing invasive biosecurity matter in the Rockhampton Region include:

- Cost and effort required to deliver effective long-term control activities,
- Proximity of urban and peri-urban areas to protected areas (National Parks),
- Mobility of pest animals over a number of tenures,
- The distribution of pest species,
- The distribution of individuals across the large, less populated rural areas limits the ability of individuals to control and manage invasive biosecurity matter.
- Concerns over non-target impacts of control methods,
- Difficulties of control in urban and peri-urban areas,
- Changing land use and social demographics,
- Absentee landholders,
- Animal welfare obligations which may limit the use of some control methods,
- Stakeholder knowledge.



Purpose

The purpose of the Rockhampton Regional Council Biosecurity Plan (the Plan) is to provide a strategic direction for the management of invasive biosecurity matter (plants and animals) in the Rockhampton Region.

The plan establishes local priorities and sets out actions that aim to minimise the environmental, economic, social and human health impacts of invasive biosecurity matter and brings all sectors of a local community together to manage invasive biosecurity matter in the region.

The plan is supported by the subsequent development of underlying associated documents.



Scope

To manage risks associated with invasive biosecurity matter on all land and waterways within the boundaries of the Rockhampton Regional Council. This includes all land owned or controlled by the State, Council, utilities, private companies and individuals.

Links to Council's Corporate Plan 2017-2022

Rockhampton Regional Council's Corporate Plan 2017-2022 sets the strategic direction and priorities for our organisation for the next five financial years.

Theme - Environment

Goal - An environmentally balanced and aware community, which preserves and maintains our natural environment and incorporates contemporary and proven sustainability principles, as part of all activities for current and future generations

Outcome - Contribute to healthy natural ecosystems

Key issues

The Plan details the key issues of invasive biosecurity matter management and outlines the objectives to achieve Council's Corporate Plan objectives. The key issues are:

- 1 Awareness and education,
- 2 Informed decision making,
- 3 Prevention, early detection, containment and eradication,
- 4 Strategic planning framework and management,
- 5 Effective integrated management systems,
- 6 Commitment and partnership.



Biosecurity Plan for Pest Management | 2017-2021

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Vision					
The impact of invasive biosecurity matter on the environment, the economy, human safety and social amenity is reduced.					
Principals					
Awareness and education	Informed decision making	Prevention, early detection, containment and eradication	Strategic planning framework and management	Effective integrated management systems	Commitment and Partnership
Objectives					
<p>To provide accurate, accessible and timely information on invasive biosecurity matter.</p> <p>To increase stakeholders awareness of invasive biosecurity matter and their impacts and individuals capacity to identify and manage them.</p> <p>To have appropriately skilled and knowledgeable officers able to respond effectively to invasive biosecurity matter.</p>	<p>To collect, use and make available reliable data relevant to invasive biosecurity matter management.</p> <p>To further the understanding of the biology, ecology and impacts of invasive biosecurity matter.</p>	<p>To prevent the introduction of new invasive biosecurity matter.</p> <p>To minimise the spread of invasive biosecurity matter to new areas.</p> <p>To contain invasive biosecurity matter within containment areas.</p> <p>To detect and eradicate new and specific invasive biosecurity matter.</p>	<p>To maintain and enhance a planning framework for invasive biosecurity matter management.</p> <p>To implement, evaluate and review integrated invasive biosecurity matter management programs.</p> <p>To efficiently and adequately resource invasive biosecurity matter management programs.</p>	<p>To adopt and develop new, and improve existing, invasive biosecurity matter management practices.</p> <p>To reduce populations and impacts of invasive biosecurity matter.</p> <p>To protect environmental significant areas from invasive biosecurity matter management activities.</p>	<p>To establish and maintain long-term stakeholder commitment to invasive biosecurity matter management.</p> <p>To establish roles and responsibilities for invasive biosecurity matter management.</p> <p>To ensure compliance with the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i>.</p>
Outcomes					
Stakeholders are informed, knowledgeable and have ownership of invasive biosecurity matter management.	Reliable information is the basis for decision making.	Introduction, spread and establishment of invasive biosecurity matter is prevented.	Strategic directions are developed and maintained.	Effective and integrated management systems are developed and widely implemented.	All stakeholders are committed to and undertake Coordinated Management of invasive biosecurity matter.



Legislative framework

Council is responsible for the administration and enforcement of a range of State legislation and local laws within the Region. The legal framework includes:

- *Biosecurity Act 2014*,
- *Biosecurity Regulation 2016*,
- *Local Government Act 2009*,
- *Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011*,
- *Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2011*,
- *Subordinate Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2011*.

Biosecurity Act 2014

The purpose of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* is to:

- Provide a framework for an effective biosecurity system for Queensland that helps to minimise biosecurity risks and facilitates responding to impacts on a biosecurity consideration, including responding to biosecurity events, in a timely and effective way, and
- Ensure the safety and quality of animal feed, fertilisers and other agricultural inputs, and
- Help align responses to biosecurity risks in the State with national and international obligations and requirements for accessing markets for animal and plant produce, including live animal and plants, and
 - Manage risks associated with emerging, endemic and exotic pests and diseases that impact on plant and animal industries, the built environment, companion or leisure animals, biodiversity and the natural environment, tourism, lifestyle and pleasure industries or infrastructure and service industries, the transfer of diseases from animals to humans and from humans to animals, biological, chemical and physical contaminants in carriers.

The Act provides a consistent regulatory approach for the management of invasive biosecurity matter across Queensland. The Act specifically requires the local governments to have a biosecurity plan for invasive biosecurity matter for its local government area and to pay an amount each financial year to the Land Protection Fund when requested.

Key Concepts of Act

General Biosecurity Obligation

Under the Act everyone has a 'general biosecurity obligation'. This means everyone is responsible for managing biosecurity risks that are under their control and that they know about, or should reasonably be expected to know about.

Under the general biosecurity obligation, individuals and organisations whose activities pose a biosecurity risk must:

- Take all reasonable and practical steps to prevent or minimise each biosecurity risk,
- Minimise the likelihood of causing a 'biosecurity event' and limit the consequences if such an event is caused,
- Prevent or minimise the harmful effects a risk could have, and not do anything that might make any harmful effects worse.

Steps that are considered 'reasonable and practical' will vary depending on your unique situation and the risk involved. Key factors in our decision making include:

- The risk posed by the matter – the higher the risk the more action to be taken
- How harmful an activity could be – the more harmful the more action that will be expected to be undertaken.
- How widespread or dense the infestations are – there may be different requirements depending on the scale of the infestation.
- What control methods are required and available to minimise the risk – the more methods of control available, the more work expected
- Mitigating factors such as weather – you may be given extended periods for compliance during unfavourable weather conditions such as drought
- How much the person managing the activity knows or should reasonably be expected to know about the risk.

Local Government Act 2009

Although not specifically relating to invasive matter management, the *Local Government Act 2009* provides the framework on which Council operates and includes the requirement to develop local laws.

Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2011

The purpose of *Local Law No. 3* and its subordinate local law is to protect the environment and public health, safety and amenity within the Rockhampton Region. The purpose is in part achieved by providing for the elimination or reduction of risks and threats from inadequate protection against animal and plant pests, and allows for the declaration of an animal or plant of a specified species to be declared a local pest.

Strategic links to other legislation

Local governments must ensure that the plan does not



breach the requirements of other legislation including:

- *Vegetation Management Act 1999,*
- *Nature Conservation Act 1992,*
- *Water Act 2000,*
- *Environmental Protection Act 1994,*
- *Wild Rivers Act 2005,*
- *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994,*
- *Land Title Act 1994,*
- *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001,*
- *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Queensland) Act 1994.*

Other documents local governments need to consider include:

- Queensland Government, Queensland invasive plants and animals strategy 2019-2024
- Queensland Government, Biosecurity Strategy 2018-2023
- Queensland Government, Queensland Wild dog management strategy 2021-2026,
- Queensland Government, Feral deer management strategy 2013-2018.
- Federal Government - Australian pest animal strategy 2017-2027
- Federal Government - Australian weeds strategy 2017-2027

Note: This list is not exhaustive.

The Department coordinate State responses to invasive biosecurity matter and guide, encourage and assist local governments, regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) groups, land holders and land managers in invasive plant and animal management.

Other Queensland Government agencies

Other Queensland Government are responsible for managing invasive biosecurity matter on state-managed land and waterways in accordance with agreed local/ regional priorities.

Stakeholders

A number of stakeholders have interest in pest management in the region. Effective engagement of all relevant parties is critical to the success of invasive biosecurity matter management programs.

Australian Government

The Australian Government provides the framework for weeds and pest animal management in Australia and coordinates, facilitates and promotes national weeds and pest animal management policies and programs.

The Australian Government also provides leadership and coordination for emergency responses to invasive biosecurity matter of national significance.

Queensland Government

Biosecurity Queensland

Biosecurity Queensland is responsible for the development and implementation of invasive biosecurity matter management policy through legislation, research and extension education programs:



Local Government

Act.

Local government has the responsibility to:

- Administer and enforce the *Biosecurity Act 2014*,
- Develop and enforce local government area biosecurity plans,
- Guide, encourage and assist regional NRM groups, community groups, land holders and land managers in invasive biosecurity matter management,
- Coordinate community invasive plant and animal management programs.

Local governments are also required to manage invasive biosecurity matter on land controlled by local government.

Council implements revegetation programs based on priority work to ensure that invasive species are controlled on Council land. Recent activities include

- Annual Parthenium control on road reserve
- Feral pig trapping in peri-urban areas
- Conduct surveillance programs

Industry organisations

Promote and facilitate invasive plant and animal management on agreed local/regional priorities and identify and fund research priorities to enable continued improvement in the management of invasive plants and animals.

Tertiary and other education research facilities

Undertake research on invasive biosecurity matter and train and educate people in best practice in the management of invasive plants and animals.

NRM groups

Promote and facilitate invasive plant and animal management on agreed local/regional priorities. Examples of local NRM groups include Fitzroy Basin Association and Capricornia Catchments Inc.

Community groups

Promote awareness of invasive plant and animal issues within the wider community.

Land managers (public and private)

Follow best practice for invasive plant and animal management on land they have responsibility for in line with relevant legislation, policy, guidelines, management plans and codes of practice.

Residents

Residents have a general biosecurity obligation under the [Biosecurity Plan for Pest Management | 2017-2021](#)



Principles of Pest Management

This plan is based on the management principles for invasive biosecurity matter as shown below. The principles align with those in the draft Australian strategies.

Integration

Invasive plant and animal management is an integral part of managing natural resources and agricultural systems.

Public awareness

Public awareness and knowledge of invasive plants and animals must be raised to increase the capacity and willingness of individuals to participate in their control.

**Small
Landholders Day**
Saturday 16 Sept 2017
8am - 4pm | FREE entry
Rockhampton Showgronds Robert
Schwarten Outdoor Pavilion

**Head along for a day of interactive activities,
demonstrations and vendor displays!**

**See the program at www.rrc.qld.gov.au to decide
what sessions to attend. Topics include:**

• Home grown poultry	• River health
• Bee keeping	• Equine landcare
• Farm & firearm safety	• Feral animal control
• Growing fruit trees	• Cattle health
• Permaculture Q&A	• Horticulture
• Soil demonstration	• Rural fire awareness
• Grazing land management	• Small cattle breeds
• Weed ID & control	• Pumps & watering points
• Herbicide use	• Dairy goat farming
• Living with wildlife	• Frogs & toads





Commitment

Effective invasive plant and animal management requires shared responsibility, capability, capacity and a long-term commitment by land owners/managers, the community, industry groups and government. Those that create the risks associated with invasive species introduction or spread and those that benefit from the invasive plant and animal management should help to minimise the impacts of invasive biosecurity matter and contribute to the costs of management.

Consultation and partnership

Consultation and partnership arrangements between land managers, local communities, industry groups, state government agencies and local governments must be established to achieve a collaborative and coordinated approach to management.

Planning

Planning for invasive plant and animal management should be based on risk management to ensure that resources target the priorities identified at local, regional, state and national levels.

Prevention and early intervention

Preventive invasive plant and animal management is generally more cost-effective than other strategies and is achieved by:

- Preventing the spread of invasive species and viable parts of these species, especially by human activity,
- Early detection and intervention.

Best practice

Invasive plant and animal management must be based on ecologically and socially responsible practices that protect the environment and the productive capacity of natural resources while minimising impacts on the community. It should balance feasibility, cost-effectiveness, sustainability, humaneness, community perceptions, emergency needs and public safety.

Improvement

Research about invasive plants and animals and regular monitoring and evaluation of control activities is needed to make evidence-based decisions and improve management practices.



Key issue 1 - Awareness and education

Effective management of invasive biosecurity matter relies on broad stakeholder knowledge of the problem and management issues. Often people are not aware of the impacts that invasive biosecurity matter has on the natural environment or primary production, or that their own actions may be contributing to the problem. Many invasive plant and animal problems are increased through lack of community knowledge and awareness.

The level of education on invasive biosecurity matter is increasing, but more targeted public education and a higher public profile are needed. Different stakeholders require different information and support to raise their awareness and their willingness to help manage invasive biosecurity matter.

Council's website contains a significant amount of information on invasive plant and animal management and provides promotional material in several formats. Council also undertakes invasive plant and animal awareness programs at relevant events.

Council will:

- Maintain and review the Pest Management Community Education Plan
- Provide accurate, accessible and timely information material and undertake awareness programs including adding factsheets to letters issued to land managers
- Encourage land managers to use a nil-tenure approach to invasive plant and animal management
- Provide warnings where human activities create favourable conditions for invasive plants and animals including signage at boat ramps
- Alert the public on any incursion of exotic invasive plants and animals
- Establish an awareness campaign aimed at preventing the human assisted spread of invasive plant and animal
- Investigate invasive plant and animal awareness program for schools
- Provide training to Council officers working in rural areas and Council land on invasive plant awareness
- Promote GBO to landholders through participation in shows, field days and other events.

Key issue 2 – Informed decision making

Informed decision making is required to ensure that invasive biosecurity matter is managed holistically and for the long term. Invasive plant and animal control requires an appropriate balance between prevention, surveillance and preparedness. An increasing amount of information is available on the distribution, abundance and impacts of invasive plants and animals and Council needs to keep abreast of this information so informed decisions are made.

Management practices are regularly reassessed and updated, based on the best information available, to enable the most effective and efficient application of the control options.

Council currently researches and utilises information and updates from legislation, State Government, research groups, invasive plant and animal management groups and industry to inform the program.

Council will:

- Collect, utilise and make available relevant data on invasive plant and animal management
- Consider invasive plant and animal behaviour (biology and ecology), impacts (social, economic and environmental) and control costs in the prioritisation of invasive plant and animal species
- Investigate and acquire remote GIS hardware and software for data collection
- Enhance spatial data relating to pest distribution and management activities
- Expand the use of spray intelligence software

Key issue 3 – Prevention, early detection, containment and eradication

Prevention and early intervention is generally the most cost-effective management strategy. Once an invasive species is introduced and becomes established, it is often very difficult or even impossible to eradicate and costly to control. Everyone has a role in preventing the introduction and spread of invasive plants and animals into and around our region.

Invasive plants and animals present different levels of risk and hazard in different areas within the region. Determining risk and hazard is essential in defining priorities for prevention and management. Preventing the expansion of current invasive plant and animal distributions and populations will greatly reduce the risk of further negative impacts.



Council's aquatic invasive plant biocontrol facility is breeding biocontrol for water lettuce, salvinia and water hyacinth.

Council will:

- Develop and implement a management plan for Council land
- Develop and implement an invasive plant hygiene plan for Council's equipment to prevent and reduce the movement of invasive plants along road corridors by Council operations
- Provide Council's biocontrols to landholders
- Maintain the 1080 program
- Investigate funding opportunities for the construction and maintenance of wash-down facilities at strategic locations within the region
- Work with local nurseries to raise awareness of potential invasive plants and suitable alternatives
- Develop a rapid response procedure for handling and reporting new infestations of high priority invasive plant and animals
- Eradicate new incursions of identified high-risk species on Council land
- Enforce legislative provisions including establishing Biosecurity programs in high priority areas
- Investigate incentive programs

Key issue 4 – Strategic planning framework and management

A system of setting priorities for the management of invasive plants and animals is critical to ensuring that resources are used as efficiently as possible.

A strategic approach can only achieve common goals and priorities if there is effective communication and cooperation between land managers, NRM groups, industry, local governments and State government departments. The plan offers a 'partnership' mechanism to achieve this level of coordination and efficiency, and the Act facilitates a risk-based approach to invasive plant and animal management.

Council has undertaken a risk assessment to determine the level of risk from invasive biosecurity matter to assist in setting priorities. The prioritisation is critical to ensuring resources are used as efficiently as possible.

Council will:

- Develop and implement Exotic Incursion Response Plan
- Develop and implement a Deer Management Plan
- Review and update the Pig Management Plan
- Work with other organisations or internal units to implement a coordinated replanting program in environmentally sensitive areas following significant pest control works.
- Integrate pest management planning with other processes
- Ensure plans are consistent with nationally recognised codes of practice
- Investigate funding opportunities and apply for funding to support Councils programs



Key issue 5 - Effective integrated management systems

It is widely accepted that integrated pest management systems are the most effective. That is, best practice for effective control of invasive species often involves multiple control methods. Successful long-term management of invasive biosecurity matter relies on cooperation with neighbours and the coordination of control activities.

To ensure the best possible outcomes, Council advocates and adopts best practice management for all invasive plant and animal management activities.

Council will:

- Develop new and improve existing management practices reflecting best practice
- Develop and review work instructions
- Investigate additional, improved and alternative methods of control including fire
- Discourage actions that contribute to or maintain invasive plant and animal impacts in and around urban areas
- Schedule management activities to coincide with natural population fluctuations and seasonal conditions

Key issue 6 – Commitment and partnership

Management of invasive biosecurity matter is the shared responsibility of everyone, land managers, owners and occupiers, industry and all levels of government. Clearly defined and accepted roles and responsibilities are crucial to the success of long-term management. There is often a degree of confusion within the community about the exact responsibilities of stakeholders in invasive plant and animal management which will be addressed.

The broad scope and nature of invasive plant and animal problems demands a long-term commitment by all stakeholders. Council's Biosecurity Plan is crucial to the success of invasive plant and animal management and provides an opportunity to foster community commitment to roles and responsibilities.

Council partners with NRM and community groups, industry, local governments and State government, when appropriate, to undertake coordinated invasive plant and animal management and educational activities. Council is a member of the Capricorn Pest Management Group.

Under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* everyone has an obligation to take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise a biosecurity risk. The legislation is backed by suitable enforcement measures which are only used when other approaches have failed.

Council will:

- Maintain working partnerships between stakeholders to generate a holistic approach to invasive plant and animal management and a sense of community ownership of the problem
- Communicate roles and responsibilities for invasive plant and animal management
- Identify common objectives and opportunities for sharing resources
- Liaise with neighbouring Local Governments to work collaboratively on common issues eg deer
- Liaise with state government land owners to work collaboratively on common issues eg feral pigs in Mt Archer with QPWS
- Support research where appropriate
- Participate in regional and State forums
- Commit to resourcing invasive plant and animal management actions on a priority basis including funding, staff and equipment
- Investigate incentive programs
- Continue wild dog advisory group



Strategy implementation review and performance reporting

To monitor and measure the effectiveness of the implementation of this plan, Council will prepare and maintain an Action Plan incorporating operational requirements aimed at successfully progressing the responses.

The operational actions will be assigned appropriate indicators so that performance against the outcomes can be regularly assessed.

Appropriate reporting frameworks will be put in place to ensure management can monitor performance and adjust operational effort according to circumstances.

The Plan will be reviewed midterm to ensure that it identifies and reflects changing priorities, operational capacity and the legislative framework and has been afforded adequate financial and staffing resources.

Invasive species program

Invasive species categories

In the preparation of this plan, a categorisation process for the management of invasive plants and animals has been completed. This has followed the process outlined in the Risk Prioritisation Tool.

This followed the following three stage process

Stage 1: Prioritisation of invasive plants and animals

Stage 2: Select reasonable and practicable measures

Stage 3: Select best compliance tools.

As part of stage one each invasive species listed in this document was assessed against the following categories

- Economic Impact
- Social Amenity Impact
- Human Health Impact
- Environmental Impact
- Invasiveness
- Potential distribution in our region

Those considered medium risk or higher then were assessed against

- Current distribution
- Cost of control
- Effectiveness of control.

Once assessed the species are categorised as

- Prevention
- Eradication
- Containment
- Asset Protection.

Insert figure with curve from assessment sheets



Strategic management categories

For each strategic management category objectives and broad strategic actions have been established in addition to the actions associated with the key issues.

Prevention

Species that are not yet present in the region.

Management objective – Maintain Rockhampton Region pest-free status by monitoring and detecting any new incursions before they become established.

Actions:

- Monitor and detect any new incursions before they become established,
- Training and awareness activities for the community to enable early detection.

Eradication

Species with a restricted distribution and low abundance that have the potential to be eradicated (removal of all individual invasive plant or animal species) from the region.

Management objective – Return the Rockhampton Region to pest-free status by eradicating all known infestations.

Actions:

- Detailed surveillance and mapping to locate all infestations/populations,
- Destruction of all infestations/populations including seedbanks and juveniles,
- Prevention of entry to the region and keeping, movement and sale within the region,
- Removal and prohibition of all cultivated plants,
- Increase stakeholder awareness and encourage reporting.

Containment

Species that are abundant throughout the region and must be prevented from spreading beyond predefined areas.

Management objective – Prevent spread to pest-free areas and minimise the impact on particular assets by containing, reducing and managing impacts on, and risk to, surrounding land uses.

Actions:

- Surveillance and mapping to locate all infested properties,
- Control of all infestations, aiming for a significant reduction in density,
- Prevention of entry to new areas ,
- Enforce control of all species, aiming for a significant reduction in density through high level initial control and sustained management,
- Preventing spread from cultivated plants,
- Monitor change in current distribution,
- Increase landholders capacity to identify and manage.

Asset Based Protection

Species that are widespread throughout the region.

Management objective – To detect any significant changes in the species through surveillance. To protect high value areas of the region.

Actions:

- Monitor the spread of the species and review any perceived changes,
- Provide advice to stakeholder when requested,
- Increase landholders capacity to identify and manage.
- Control species in where assets - physical and environmental are impacted significantly eg infrastructure and environmentally sensitive areas.

No/ Limited Action

Species that have low impact on the environment or it is ineffective to manage the species



Prevention

Management objective - Maintain Rockhampton Regions pest-free status by monitoring and detecting any new incursions before they become established.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Biosecurity Act 2014 Category Numbers	WoNS	Distribution
Plants				
African Boxthorn	<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	3*	✓	Present in State
Alligator Weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	3		Borders region
Annual Ragweed	<i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i>	3		Borders region
Balloon Vine	<i>Cardiospermum grandiflorum</i>	3		Present in State
Bitou Bush	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> spp. <i>rotundifolia</i>	2*, 3, 4*, 5*		Present in State
Blackberry	<i>Rubus anglocandicans</i> , <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> aggregate	3		Present in State
Boneseed	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> ssp. <i>monilifera</i>)	2, 3, 4, 5		Present in State
Bridal Creeper	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	2, 3, 4, 5	✓	Present in State
Bridal Veil	<i>Asparagus declinatus</i>	3		Not in State
Brooms including with the following names				
▪ Flax-leaf broom	<i>Genista linifolia</i>	3		Not in State
▪ Montpellie broom	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	3		Not in State
▪ Scotch broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	3	✓	Not in State
Cabomba	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	3		Present in State
Candyleaf	<i>Stevia ovata</i>	3		Present in State
Cane Cactus	<i>Austrocylindropuntia cylindrica</i>	3		Present in State
Chilean Needle Grass	<i>Nassella neesiana</i>	3	✓	Present in State
Chinese Celtis	<i>Celtis sinensis</i>	3		Present in State
Cholla Cacti with the following names:				
▪ Coral Cactus	<i>Cylindropuntia fulgida</i>	3	✓	Borders region
▪ Devil's Rope Pear	<i>C. imbricata</i>	3	✓	No mapping
▪ Hudson Pear	<i>Cylindropuntia rosea</i> and <i>C. tunicata</i>	2,3,4,5	✓	Borders region
▪ Jumping Cholla	<i>C. prolifera</i>	2,3,4,5	✓	No mapping
▪ Snake Cactus	<i>C. spinosior</i>	3	✓	Present in State
Elephant Ear Vine	<i>Argyrea nervosa</i>	3		Present in State
Eve's Pin Cactus	<i>Austrocylindropuntia subulata</i>	3		Present in State
Fireweed	<i>Senecio madagascariensis</i>	3		Present in State
Gamba Grass	<i>Andropogon gayanus</i>	3		Present in State
Giant Sensitive Plant	<i>Mimosa diplotricha</i> var. <i>diplotricha</i>	3		Present in State
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	3	✓	Not in State
Groundsel Bush	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	3		Borders region
Harungana	<i>Harungana madagascariensis</i>	3		Present in State
Honey Loctus	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> including cultivars and varieties	3		Present in State
Hygrophilia	<i>Hygrophila costata</i>	3		Present in State
Karoo Thorn	<i>Vachellia karroo</i>			Not in state
Koster's Curse	<i>Clidemia hirta</i>	2, 3, 4, 5		Present in State
Kudzu	<i>Pueraria montana</i> var. <i>lobata</i> syn. <i>P. lobata</i> , <i>P. triloba</i> other than in the Torres Strait Islands	3		Present in State



Common Name	Scientific Name	Biosecurity Act 2014 Category Numbers	WoNS	Distribution
Limncharis, yellow burrhead	<i>Limncharis flava</i>	2,3, 4, 5		Present in State
Madras Thorn	<i>Pithecellobium duke</i>	2, 3, 4, 5		Present in State
Mexican Bean Tree	<i>Cecropia pachystachya, C. palmata and C. peltata</i>	2, 3, 4, 5		Present in State
Mexican Feather Grass	<i>Nassella tenuissima</i>	2, 3, 4, 5		Present in State
Miconia	<i>Miconia calvescens, M. cionotricha, M. nervosa, M. racemosa</i>	2, 3, 4, 5		Present in State
Mikania Vine	<i>Mikania micrantha</i>	2, 3, 4, 5		Present in State
Mimosa Pigra	<i>Mimosa pigra</i>	2, 3, 4, 5	✓	Present in State
Ornamental Ginger (Kahili ginger, white ginger, yellow ginger)	<i>Hedychium gardnerianum, H. coronarium, H. flavescens</i>	3		Present in State
Pond Apple	<i>Annona glabra</i>	3	✓	Present in State
Prickly Pears:				
▪ Bunny Ears	<i>Opuntia microdasys</i>	2,3,4,5	✓	Present in State
▪ Drooping Tree Pear	<i>O. monacantha syn. O. vulgaris</i>	3	✓	No mapping
▪ Prickly Pear	<i>O. elata</i>	2,3,4,5	✓	No mapping
▪ Tiger Pear	<i>O. aurantiaca</i>	3	✓	No mapping
Privets (broad-leaf privet, tree privet, small-leaf privet, Chinese privet)	<i>Ligustrum lucidum, L. sinense</i>	3	✓	Borders region
Sengal Tea	<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i>	3		Present in State
Siam Weed	<i>Chromolaena odorata, C. squalida</i>	3		Present in State
Sicklepods (foetid cassia, hairy cassia, sicklepod)	<i>Senna tora, S. hirsute, S. obtusifolia</i>	3		Borders region
Silver-leaf Nightshade	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	3	✓	Borders Region
Telegraph Weed	<i>Heterotheca grandiflora</i>	3		Present in State
Thunbergias (Blue Thunbergia)	<i>Thunbergia grandiflora syn. T. laurifolia</i>	3		Borders Region
Tobacco Weed	<i>Elephantopus mollis</i>	3		Present in State
Tropical Soda Apple	<i>Solanum viarum</i>	1		Present in State
Water Mimosa	<i>Neptunia oleracea and N. Plena</i>	2,3,4,5		Present in State
Willows	all <i>Salix</i> spp. other than <i>S. babylonica, S. x calodendron</i> and <i>S. x reichardtii</i>	3		Present in State
Animals				
Asian Honey Bee	<i>Apis dorsata, A. florea, A. cerana other than A. cerana javana</i>	1*		Present in State
Barbary Sheep	<i>Ammotragus lervia</i>	2, 3, 4, 5, 6'	-	Present in State
Blackbuck Antelope	<i>Antilope cervicapra</i>	2, 3, 4, 5, 6	-	Present in State
Electric Ant or Little Fire Ant	<i>Wasmannia auropunctata</i>	1		Present in State
Feral Chital Deer	<i>Axis axis</i>	3, 4, 6	-	Present in State
Feral Fallow Deer	<i>Dama dama</i>	3, 4, 6	-	Present in State
Feral Goat	<i>Capra hircus</i>	3, 4, 6	-	Escapees
Feral Red deer	<i>Cervus elaphus</i>	3, 4, 6	-	Present in State
Hog Deer	<i>Axis Porcinus</i>	2, 3, 4, 5, 6	-	Present in State



Red Eared Slider Turtle	<i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i>	2, 3, 4, 5, 6	-	Present in State
Red Imported Fire Ant	<i>Solenopsis invicta</i>	1		Present in State
Sambar Deer	<i>Rusa unicolor, syn. Cervus unicolor</i>	2, 3, 4, 5, 6	-	Present in State
Yellow Crazy Ant	<i>Anoplolepis gracilipes</i>	3	-	Present in State

*Category

- 1 - Must report the presence of category 1 matter to an DAF inspector within 24 hours
- 2 - Must report the presence/sightings of category 2 matter to Biosecurity Queensland within 24 hours
- 3 - Must not distribute or dispose of unless under a regulation, restricted matter permit or by an authorised officer
- 4 - Must not move or cause or allow to be moved
- 5 - Must not keep in the person's possession or under the persons control
- 6 - Must not give food to



Eradicate

Management objective - Return the Rockhampton Region to pest-free status by eradicating all known infestations.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Biosecurity Act 2014 Category Numbers	WoNS	Distribution
Plants				
Badhara Bush	<i>Gmelina elliptica</i>	3		Isolated
Belly-ache Bush	<i>Jatropha gossypifolia</i> and hybrids	3		Isolated
Camphor Laurel	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	-		Isolated
Dutchmans Pipe	<i>Aristolochia</i> spp. other than native species	3		Isolated
Log Wood	<i>Haematoxylon campechianum</i>	-		Isolated
Mesquites (honey mesquite, mesquite or algarroba, Quilpie mesquite)	<i>Prosopis flandulosa</i> , <i>P. pallida</i> , <i>P. velutina</i>	3	✓	Isolated



Containment

Management objective - Prevent spread to pest-free areas and minimise the impact on particular assets by containing and managing impacts on, and risk to, surrounding land uses.*

Common Name	Scientific Name	Biosecurity Act 2014 Category Numbers	WoNS	Distribution
Plants				
African Fountain Grass	<i>Cenchrus setaceum</i>	3		Isolated
African Love Grass	<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>	NA		Isolated
African Tulip Tree	<i>Spathodea campanulata</i>	3		Isolated
Asparagus Fern	<i>Asparagus scandens</i>	3	✓	Scattered
Athel Pine	<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>	3		Isolated
Broad Leaved Pepper Tree	<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>			Isolated
Cats Claw Creeper	<i>Dolichandra unguis-cati</i>	3		Scattered
Devil's Apple	<i>Solanum aculeatissimum</i>	Locally declared		Widespread
Karoo Thorn	<i>Vachellia karroo</i>			Single area
Lion Tail	<i>Leonotis nepetifolia</i>	Locally declared		Widespread
Maderia Vine	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	3		Isolated
Mexican Poppy	<i>Argemone ochroleuca</i> Sweet subsp. <i>Ochroleuca</i>	Not declared		Widespread
Parkinsonia	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	3	✓	Scattered
Prickly Acacia	<i>Vachellia nilotica</i>	3	✓	Widespread
Prickly Pears				
▪ Common Pest Pear	<i>Opuntia stricta</i> syn. <i>O. inermis</i>	3	✓	Widespread
▪ Velvety Tree Pear	<i>Opuntia tomentosa</i>	3	✓	Scattered
▪ Westwood Pear	<i>Opuntia streptacantha</i>	3	✓	Isolated
Rats Tail Grasses (American RTG, Giant Parramatta Grass, Giant RTG)	<i>Sporobolus jacquemontii</i> <i>S. fertilis</i> <i>S. pyramidalis</i> and <i>S. natalensis</i>	3		Scattered
Singapore Daisy	<i>Sphagneticola trilobata</i> syn. <i>Wedelia trilobata</i>	3		Isolated
Sisal	<i>Agave vivipara</i> (var. <i>vivipara</i> and cv. <i>Marginate (sisal)</i>), <i>Agave sisalana</i> (<i>sisal/sisal hemp</i>)	Locally declared		Scattered
Wild Sisal	<i>Furcraea selloa</i>	Locally declared		Scattered
Yellow Bells	<i>Tecoma stans</i>	3		Scattered
Yellow Oleander, Captain Cook tree	<i>Cascabela thevetia</i> syn. <i>Thevetia peruviana</i>	3		Scattered
Animals				
Feral Rusa deer	<i>Rusa timorensis</i> , syn. <i>Cervus timorensis</i>	3, 4, 6	-	Isolated



Common Name	Scientific Name	Biosecurity Act 2014 Category Numbers	WoNS	Distribution
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*single/small number of plants at a site will require eradication or infestations destroyed

Asset Protection

Common Name	Scientific Name	Biosecurity Act 2014 Category Numbers	WoNS	Distribution
Castor Oil Plant	<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Locally declared		Widespread
Chinee Apple	<i>Ziziphus mauritiana</i>	3		Scattered
Devil's Fig	<i>Solanum torvum</i>	Locally declared		Widespread
Elephant Grass	<i>Penisetum purpurem</i>	Locally declared		Isolated
Feral Leucaena	<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>	Locally declared		Widespread
Grey Leaved Cordia	<i>Cordia sinensis</i>	Locally declared		Isolated
Harrisa cactus	<i>Harrisia martinii, H. tortuosa and H. pomanensissyn. Cereus pomanensis</i>	3		Widespread
Hymenachne	<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis and hybrids</i>	3	✓	Scattered
Lantana creeping lantana and lantana, common lantana	<i>Lantana montevidensis and Lantana camara</i>	3		Widespread
Lion Tail	<i>Leonotis nepetifloia</i>	Locally declared		Widespread
Mother of Millons	<i>Bryophyllum delagoense syn. B. tubiflorum, Kalanchoe delagoensis</i>	3		Scattered
Parthenium	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	3	✓	Widespread
Rubber Vine (ornamental rubber vine, rubber vine)	<i>Cryptostegia madagascariensis, C. grandiflora</i>	3	✓	Widespread
Salvinia	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	3	✓	Scattered
Snakeweed	<i>Stachytarphets spp</i>	Locally Declared		Widespread
Water Hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	3		Widespread
Water Lettuce	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	3		Widespread
Dingo	<i>Canis lupus dingo</i>	3, 4, 5, 6	-	Widespread
Dog	<i>Canis lupus familiaris – other than a domestic dog</i>	3, 4, 6	-	Widespread
Animals				
Dingo	<i>Canis lupus dingo</i>	3, 4, 5, 6	-	Widespread
European fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	3, 4, 5, 6	-	Widespread
European rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	3, 4, 5, 6	-	Widespread
Feral pig	<i>Sus scrofa</i>	3, 4, 6	-	Widespread
Tilapia	<i>Tilapia, Oreochromis and Sarotherodon spp.</i>	3, 5, 6, 7	-	Widespread

No/ Limited Action

Common Name	Scientific Name	Biosecurity Act 2014 Category Numbers	WoNS	Distribution
Animals				
Cat	<i>Felis catus and Prionailurus bengalensis x Felis catus – other than a domestic cat</i>	3, 4, 6	-	Widespread
Indian Mynah	<i>Acridothera fuscus</i>	Not declared		Scattered



Glossary

asset something with environmental, social or economic value, whether publicly or privately owned, that invasive plants and animals may directly or indirectly affect.

biosecurity consideration can be human health, social amenity, the economy or the environment.

biosecurity event an event that is, was or may become a significant problem for human health, social amenity, the economy or the environment, and is was or may be caused by an invasive plant and animal, disease or contaminant.

biosecurity matter

- a living thing other than a human or part of a human, or
- a pathogen that can cause disease in a living thing other than a human or in a human by transmission from an animal to a human, or
- a disease, or
- a contaminant.

biosecurity risk is a risk of any adverse effect on a biosecurity consideration. A risk is or may be caused by or likely to be caused by biosecurity matter, dealing with biosecurity matter or a carrier or carrying out an activity relating to biosecurity matter or a carrier.

carrier anything, dead or alive, biological or inanimate, that is carrying or has the potential to carry biosecurity matter.

incursion an isolated population of an invasive plant and animal recently detected in an area, not known to be established, but expected to survive for the immediate future.

invasive biosecurity matter includes only invasive plant and animals such as those listed as prohibited and restricted matter in Schedules 1 and 2 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

invasive animal an animal having, or with potential to have, an adverse environmental, economic, or social impact.

invasive plant a plant that requires some form of action to reduce its negative effects on the environment, the economy and human health and amenity.

land manager an individual, company, organisation or government that owns, leases or manages private, commercial or government land.

nil-tenure approach an approach in which a range of control methods are applied across all tenures by all stakeholders at a 'landscape' (rather than 'property') level in a cooperative and coordinated manner.

peri-urban - landscape that combines urban and rural activities. These areas commonly contain a mixture of land usages including suburban pockets, rural residential lots and small-to-medium agricultural holdings.

predation the killing of one animal (prey) by another animal (predator) for food.

risk management the process of identifying risks and selecting and implementing measures to reduce levels of risk.

Weeds of National Significance (WONS) weeds that have been identified as among Australia's worst weeds and for which a nationally coordinated management strategy has been developed and implemented, see <https://weeds.org.au/weeds-profiles/> for more details.





Pest Management Unit
1300 22 55 77 | enquiries@rrc.qld.gov.au | www.rrc.qld.gov.au

7.4 DOG OFF LEASH AREAS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

File No:	13762
Attachments:	1. Dog Off Leash Area Consultation and Implementation Plan ↓
Authorising Officer:	Steven Ellis - Coordinator Community Master Planning Aaron Pont - Manager Parks
Author:	Amy Johnson - Planning Assistant

SUMMARY

This summary report outlines the next steps in the dog off leash areas community engagement and implementation plan.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report on the Dog off Leash Areas Community Engagement Plan be 'received'.

COMMENTARY

Council have identified four (4) potential sites to be upgraded to a Dog Friendly Park within the Rockhampton Region. The Dog Friendly parks concept are open space areas with an unfenced dog off leash areas which allows dogs to be unleashed so long as users follow the off leash code of conduct, which is outlined on the new signage. The proposed dog friendly parks will begin with a trial period of 12 months to ensure the concept is suitable for the identified area.

Prior to implementation some of the unfenced dog friendly parks will require targeted community consultation due to their nearby location to residential properties, the proposed consultation is detailed in attachment 1.

The following sites have been identified for either upgrading or are a new potential dog friendly area and their consultation requirements are listed in the table below:

Proposed Location	Proposed upgrade	Method
Eddie Baker Park	Existing site expanded to Dog Friendly	Letter / Door knock surrounding properties
Georgeson Oval	Existing site upgrade	No engagement required during stage 1 - signage only
Ergon Park	Dog Friendly	No engagement required during stage 1 - signage only
Kershaw Gardens Southern precinct	New Location - Dog Friendly	Letter / Door knock surrounding properties
Remembrance Park	Dog Friendly	Letter / Door knock surrounding properties
John Hegvold Park	Dog Friendly	Letter / Door knock surrounding properties

The attached plan also outlines upgrades to existing dog off leash areas and the estimated cost associated with both signage and park upgrades.

ATTACHMENTS

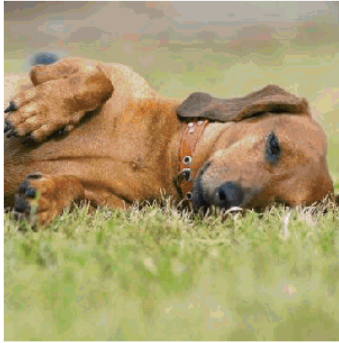
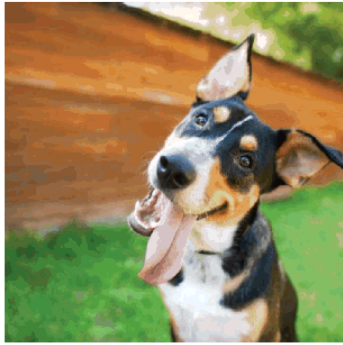
Dog off Leash Areas Consultation and Implementation Plan.

DOG OFF LEASH AREAS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Dog Off Leash Area Consultation and Implementation Plan

Meeting Date: 15 March 2022

Attachment No: 1



Dog off Leash Parks Consultation & Implementation Plan



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1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this plan is to provide the following information for the proposed creation of Dog Friendly Parks and upgrades to the existing Dog off Leash Areas:

- Community consultation requirements per site and applicable stakeholders;
- Proposed capital upgrades and signage requirements;
- Initial implementation costs and potential additional ongoing maintenance costs for each identified site.

Council have identified four (4) potential sites to be upgraded to a Dog Friendly Parks within the Rockhampton Region. The Dog Friendly Park concept allows dogs to be off leash within the designated, unfenced area of a Council park or open space, so long as users follow the off leash code of conduct outlined on the new signage shown below.

Further to this, the plan also identifies upgrades to existing dog off leash parks and proposed new sites over a 2 year program, which were identified from recent community consultation.

2.0 Signage

Signage has been designed to capture the park user's attention using clear and concise wording and graphics.

Signage requirements for the code of conduct signs will differ depending on the park type, the images below are examples of the differing design templates.



Main Entry Sign without map



Main Entry Sign with map of dog friendly area

Further to the code of conduct signage above, boundary signage has been developed for Dog Friendly Parks to help dog owners and park users identify the boundaries of the dog friendly areas.



Boundary signs to be placed in unfenced Dog Friendly Parks

3.0 Consultation Plan

3.1 Consultation Overview

The DOLA implementation will require a staged approach to engagement. The aim will be to firstly engage with the proposed dog friendly parks surrounding property owners and park users (if applicable), collate the feedback and communicate the final planned implementation with the wider community.

3.2 Engagement summary

Stage 1

- Draft brief Engagement HQ feedback survey – link to signage QR code
- Draft customised letters, signage and material for each DOLA as required
- Conduct consultation as outlined below:

Proposed Location	Proposed upgrade	Method
Eddie Baker Park	Existing site expanded to Dog Friendly	Letter / Door knock surrounding properties - Park User engagement - signage only
Georgeson Oval	Existing site upgrade	Park User engagement - signage only
Ergon Park	Dog Friendly	Park User engagement - signage only
Kershaw Gardens Southern precinct	New Location - Dog Friendly	Letter / Door knock surrounding properties - Park User engagement - signage only
Remembrance Park	Dog Friendly	Letter / Door knock surrounding properties
John Hegvold Park	Dog Friendly	Letter / Door knock surrounding properties

Stage 2

- Review feedback from the consultation
- Report feedback to confirm approval for proposed DOLA implementations

Stage 3 (Post implementation)

- Media Release, Facebook, Councillor video
- Signage with QR Code link to Engagement HQ on all dog off leash areas

3.3 Responsibilities

Planning	
Engagement Plan	Skye Michaels
Draft Signage	Skye Michaels
Draft customised letters	Skye Michaels / Amy Johnson
Draft Survey	Skye Michaels
Draft Media Release	Skye Michaels
Survey and material approved	Aaron Pont
Film video	Skye Michaels
Reporting	
Monthly Report Engage HQ statistics	Amy Johnson

3.4 Key Messages

- 12 month trial period for new Dog Friendly Parks if implemented
- Collate any feedback received via signage or customer requests
- Close the loop with survey results after 12 month trial period

4.0 Existing Dog off Leash Areas

4.1 Signage Upgrades

To ensure consistency across the region at dog off leash areas and dog friendly parks, the following existing dog off leash areas will require signage upgrades and will be placed at entry gates to the dog parks.

Park Name	Scope
All Blacks Park	2 x entry signs
Duthie Park	4 x entry signs
No 7 dam	2 x entry signs
Ted Price Park	2 x entry sign
Victoria Park	2 x entry sign
Estimated Total Cost \$6,000	

4.2 Additional Upgrades to Existing Areas

4.2.1 Eddie Baker Park (Currawong Street, Norman Gardens)

Description

Designate the remainder of Eddie Baker Park as a Dog Friendly Park. This option will retain the existing fenced area, giving local dog owners more options for exercising their dogs and while making use of all the existing infrastructure.

Signage

The signage requirements for Eddie Baker Park include:

- 3 x main entrance signs
- 5 x boundary sign



Scope

Proposed scope for the additional upgrades to the amenities at Eddie Baker Park are detailed below.

- Signage
- Bag dispenser stand and bags
- Aluminium seat installed concrete slab
- Bin stand

Consultation

Although the site already contains a fenced dog off leash area it is recommended consultation with neighbouring properties be undertaken prior to development to ensure any potential concerns are addressed.

The highlighted properties in the image to the right have been identified for consultation.

Park users will be consulted using a signage that will scan to a survey.



4.2.2 Georgeson Oval (Pennycuick Street, The Range)

Description

The community already see Georgeson Oval as a dog off leash area therefore this plan proposes to designate the area within Council's local laws and upgrade the existing infrastructure. Design will commence in the 2021/22 financial year and upgrades to the facilities at the site are proposed to occur during year 2 (2022 – 2023).

Signage

As Georgeson Oval is a fenced area signs will only be required at the gated entry points.

Signage includes:

- 2 x main entry sign at entrance gate



Scope

The proposed scope for the upgrades to the amenities at Georgeson Park dog Friendly Park are presented below.

- Signage
- Bag dispenser stand and bags
- Dual dog/human water drinking fountain
- shade and seating
- Bin stand
- Monaco Tables and Bench Seats on concrete slab
- Dog Agility Equipment
- Bubbler (suitable for dogs)

Consultation

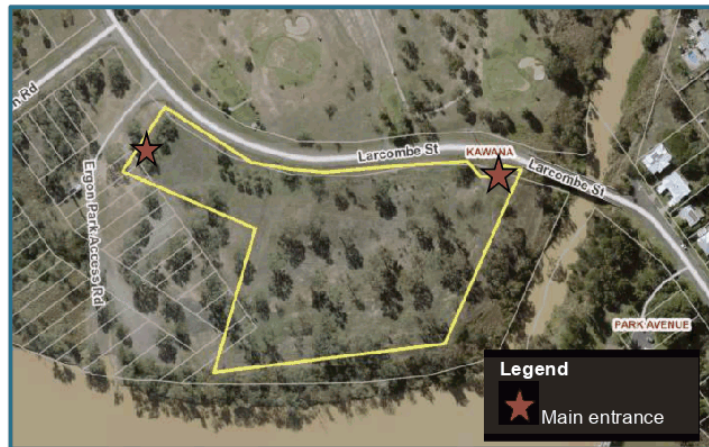
The community have already embraced this site as a dog off leash area therefore consultation with nearby residents would not be essential prior to upgrading. Capricorn helicopter rescue have also confirmed that the site is not a designated emergency helicopter landing and that Council is free to upgrade without any disruption to CHR.

4.3 New Dog Friendly Park Options

4.3.1 Ergon Park (Larcombe Street, Kawana)

Description

Ergon Park is a large open space with a livestock style fence around the perimeter. The park requires a pedestrian entry, seating, bag dispenser, bin as well as signage to help create more awareness and attract users to the site. Design will commence in the 2021/22 financial year and upgrades to the facilities at the site are proposed to occur during year 2 (2022 – 2023).



Signage

The signage requirements for Ergon Park include:

- 2 x main entrance sign

Scope

The proposed scope for the upgrades to the amenities at Ergon Park dog Friendly Park are presented below.

- Signage
- Bag dispenser stand and bags
- Aluminium seat installed concrete slab
- Bin stand
- Pedestrian Gate

Consultation

As the site does not adjoin any neighbouring residential properties it is not considered essential to individually engage the community regarding this site prior to development.

4.3.2 Kershaw Gardens (Southern Precinct - Fraser Street, Park Avenue)



Description

Designate the southern precinct as a dog friendly park utilising the variety of embellishments already on site including picnic tables and amenities.

Signage

The site will require a number of signs due to the open multi-use nature of the park.

Signage includes:

- 3 x main entrance signs (with map)
- 3 x boundary signs

Scope

The proposed scope for the amenities to the Southern precinct of Kershaw Gardens to create a dog friendly park are presented below.

- Signage
- Bag dispenser stand and bags x 2
- Fence along walkway (approx. 100m)
- Pedestrian gate
- Dog Agility Equipment

Consultation

The site is separated from nearby houses by the retaining wall and boundary fence providing an adequate barrier for the site. Consultation will be carried out on the proposal for the Dog friendly area with the neighbouring properties along Dowling Street and with the users of the Gardens.

4.3.3 Remembrance Park (35 Arthur Street, Gracemere)

Description

Designate the northern end of Remembrance Park as a Dog Friendly Park. Provide minimum embellishments such as bag dispensers, rubbish bins and seating.

Signage

The signage requirements for Remembrance Park include:

- 2 x main entrance signs
- 3 x boundary signs

Scope

The proposed scope for to the amenities to Remembrance Park required to create a dog friendly park at the site are presented below.

- Signage
- Bag dispenser stand and bags
- Monaco Table and Bench Seats on concrete slab (inc. installation)
- Bin Stand

Consultation

It is recommended consultation with neighbouring properties be undertaken prior to development to ensure any potential concerns are addressed.

The highlighted properties in the image to the right have been identified for consultation.



4.3.4 John Hegvold Park (Rachel Drive, 6A Percy Street and 30 Bondeson Drive, Parkhurst)

Description

Designate John Hegvold Park as a Dog Friendly Park. Provide minimum embellishments such as bag dispensers, rubbish bins and seating.

Signage

The signage requirements for John Hegvold Park include:

- 4 x main entrance signs

Scope

The proposed scope for to the amenities to John Hegvold Park required to create a dog friendly park at the site are presented below.

- Signage
- Bag dispenser stand and bags x2
- Aluminium seat installed concrete slab x 2
- Bin stand

Consultation

Due to the close proximity of a large number of residential properties, it is recommended that consultation with neighbouring properties be undertaken prior to any development as it is quite likely that this site may raise concerns.

The highlighted properties in the image to the right have been identified for consultation.



5.0 Potential Future options for fenced new dog off leash areas

5.1 Curtis Park - Tourist Information Centre (176 Gladstone Road, Allenstown)



Description

Establishing a new fenced dog off leash area at the northern end of Curtis Park. This will provide a service to tourists coming through the city who travel with their dogs.

Scope

The proposed scope for the amenities to create a dog friendly park at Curtis Park - Tourist Information Centre are presented below:

- Fencing approx. 85m
- Airlock gate
- Concrete slab at entrance
- Service Gates
- Dual dog/human water drinking fountain
- Signage
- Bag dispenser stand and bags x1
- Aluminium seat installed concrete slab x
- Bin stand

Consultation

As the park is situated away from residential properties and will predominately used by tourists, direct consultation will not be required.

5.2 Norman Road, Parkhurst (981-987 Norman Road, Parkhurst)



Description

This site has been identified as an additional Parkhurst option should the establishment of a dog friendly park at John Hegvold Park not go ahead. Due to the location of this site it is suggested a fully fenced dog off leash area be established. The area consists of existing vegetation which can provide adequate shade for an off leash dog park however further landscaping and possibly water connection may be required for long term use.

Scope

The proposed scope for the amenities to create a dog friendly park at Norman Road, Parkhurst (981-987 Norman Road, Parkhurst) are presented below:

- Fencing (223m)
- Airlock gate
- Signage
- Concrete slab at entrance
- Service Gates
- Aluminium seat installed on concrete slab
- Bag dispenser stand and bags

6.0 Summary for Year 1 and Year 2 Upgrades

The current allocated budget for the Dog off leash areas upgrades program is \$240,000 over two financial years (2021/22 and 2022/23). Below is a summary of the estimated cost associated for each park upgrade for the 2021/22 financial year. Please note that these costs do not include ongoing maintenance costs.

Year 1 - 2021/2022

Park Name	Estimated Cost
Eddie Baker Park	\$5,500
Kershaw Park	\$32,000
Remembrance Park	\$10,000
John Hegvold Park	\$5,500
Design for Dog off leash areas	\$20,000
TOTAL COST OF UPGRADES	\$71,000
TOTAL COST OF SIGNAGE UPGRADE	\$6,000
TOTAL COST OF 1ST YEAR UPGRADES	\$77,000

Year 2 - 2022/2023

On completion of the installation of the Dog friendly Areas and designs work being carried out in year 1, there will be approximately of \$163,000 remaining in the budget. The below table outlines the high level scope of works and cost estimates for the year 2 (2022/23) Dog off leash area upgrades.

Proposed project	Scope	Estimated cost
Georgeson Oval design and upgrades to amenities	Landscape upgrades improving shade and amenity to the site	\$55,000
Curtis Park - Tourist Information Centre	Development of a fenced dog off leash area focused on Travel with pets coming into Rockhampton	\$23,000
Norman Road, Parkhurst (981-987 Norman Road, Parkhurst)	Development of a fenced Dog off Leash area to service the growth area or Parkhurst	\$45,000
Ergon Park (Larcombe Street, Kawana)	Landscape upgrades improving shade and amenity to the site	\$35,000
Total		\$163,000

7.5 ROCKHAMPTON BOTANIC GARDENS & ZOO REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

File No:	14700
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Botanic Gardens Playground Renewal Concept Design & Shade Diagrams↓2. Visitor Hub & Animal Operations Centre Detail Design Layout Plans↓3. Botanic Gardens Car Park Concept Layout - Stage 1↓
Authorising Officer:	Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services
Author:	Jacob Weir - Project Manager Art Gallery - Technical Aaron Pont - Manager Parks

SUMMARY

This report provides an update on three critical areas of the Rockhampton Botanic Gardens & Zoo Redevelopment Program, including:

- 1. Botanic Gardens Playground Renewal Revised Concept Design.*
- 2. Visitor Hub and Animal Operations Centre Detail Design Progress Update.*
- 3. Enclosure Program Progress Update.*

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the revised concept design for the Botanic Gardens Playground Renewal is **received** and **endorsed**, enabling the project to proceed into detail design and construction.

THAT the progress update for the Visitor Hub and Animal Operations Centre is **received**.

THAT the progress update for the Enclosure Program is **received** and **endorsed**, enabling the program to proceed into releasing design and construct tender documentation; and securing recommendation new animal species.

COMMENTARY

The Botanic Gardens and Zoo are one of the major tourism contributors to the region with over 300,000 visitors (local and non-local) visiting the variety of native and exotic flora and fauna.

A redevelopment program for the Rockhampton Botanic Gardens & Zoo was established to reinvigorate the site as a memorable destination of regional prominence by providing new, exciting and unique experiences in the heart of Central Queensland.

The vision for the redevelopment is to *revitalise, develop and integrate the facilities, infrastructure and operational across the Botanic Gardens and Zoo to support its future growth, while focusing on the preservation of its history.*

The endorsed redevelopment program outlined the following priority projects:

1. Botanic Gardens Playground Renewal.
2. Visitor Hub and Animal Operations Centre.
3. Enclosure Program.

Botanic Gardens Playground Renewal

A revised concept design for the Botanic Gardens Playground Renewal has been prepared and is attached to this report (Attachment 1).

The revised concept design has been prepared based upon feedback received at the 15 February 2022 Briefing Session. This feedback included:

- Repositioning of key play experience elements.
- Incorporation of additional shade elements throughout the playground area.
- Consideration of visual and proximity impact of the play equipment within the natural surroundings.

Endorsement is now sought on the revised concept design to enable the project to proceed into detail design then construction.

A detailed shade analysis is underway to ensure open areas of the playground have sufficient shade cover. The current analysis has highlighted three potential shade sails to be incorporated into the playground to provide sufficient shade cover. This will be refined as the project progresses into detail design.

Visitor Hub and Animal Operations Centre

The detail design for the Visitor Hub and Animal Operations Centre has been underway since November 2021. A series of detailed technical investigations were undertaken to inform decision-making on building footprints and proposed infrastructure. These detail technical investigations included:

- Detailed site survey.
- Detailed utility investigations.
- Geotechnical investigations.
- Arboricultural Impact assessment.

The detailed investigations have gone hand-in-hand with several workshops and discussions on operational workflow procedures to challenge and rationalize the overall layout and size of each of the rooms. This process has resulted in optimizing the overall layout and reducing the building footprint by approximately 10 – 15% compared to the concept design. In addition the public amenities component of the project has results in doubling the number of toilets as originally proposed (up to six toilets).

A '50% Detail Design Submission' was received on 11 March 2022 from the appointed architects. A high-level layout is attached to the report to demonstrate the project is progressing in alignment with the August 2021 endorsed concept design (Attachment 2). A future report will be submitted to Council for formal endorsement towards the end of the detail design process.

This project also includes a staged upgrade to the existing Botanic Gardens car park. A concept design has been completed and is attached to this report (Attachment 3) . Stage 1 of the car park upgrade includes the formalisation and connection of the existing gravel area adjacent the Bowls Club into the existing sealed car park. This will provide approximately 60 additional formal car parking spaces.

Enclosure Program

The August 2021 endorsed redevelopment program outlined a program of works to renew and refurbish a number of existing enclosures; as well as constructing a series of new enclosures. The refurbishment of existing enclosures was prioritized over the construction of any new animal enclosures to ensure that Council maintains current assets before looking to take on additional assets.

The scope of works for the enclosure program has been developed over the past few months. The program will provide several significant upgrades and refurbishments to existing enclosures at the Zoo to ensure the long-term viability of the enclosures, supporting animal welfare and ensuring the safety of the staff.

The current program initially prioritized the refurbishment of the Dome/Aviary and the Macaque/Otter enclosure.

To inform the refurbishment scope of works, detailed planning and coordination needed to occur to confirm new animal species that will be located within the refurbished enclosure as some species have specific requirements that need to be met. The Zoo Curator/Director has investigated the suitability of the above-mentioned prioritized refurbishments for new animal species and provided a recommendation on a preferred species. This recommendation is based on alignment with the benefits and objectives of the Rockhampton Zoo within the community; the importance of participating in breeding programs and conservation efforts of endangered species; and direct feedback obtained by visitors. These recommendations are provided for endorsement to enable the scope of works to be finalized, which will initiate a design and construction process to complete the works and further coordination to secure the identified species.

The recommendation on the preferred animal species and proposed scope of works is provided below for the initial projects.

Dome/Aviary:

Recommended new species: Small primate - Ring-railed lemurs.

Proposed scope of works: Detailed investigations to determine mesh and structural condition of the aviary; and upgrades/refurbishments to accommodate for a walk-through display with 8 to 12 male ring-railed lemurs in the tree canopy, including appropriate night house and keeper facilities. Minor renovation of the existing boardwalk to cater for flow-through visitor traffic and to ensure animal containment with double air-lock door entry.

Justification: Ring-tailed lemurs are an endangered species with only an estimated 2,200 left in the wild. As typically a breeding group consists of one male and some females, holding a bachelor male single sex group is much needed in the region to help support active breeding programs at other zoos. It is also the safest group composition for a walk through exhibit and guest encounters, due to aggression in breeding groups.

Availability is not confirmed due to us not being able to commit a solid timeline and will depend on when zoos need to move mature males on. We may need to start with a few, then introduce more as they are available. Night houses being built need to be able to facilitate introductions. Availability can be sourced either nationally across Australia or internationally.

Ring-tailed lemurs are one of the most popular species in zoos thanks to the animated Madagascar movies. Being primates, they are active so will engage visitors longer lengthening their stay at the Zoo. They are also a popular species for paid animal encounters. This brings direct and indirect financial benefits such as revenue through paid encounters and extended visitor stays in Rockhampton; as well as non-financial benefits such as contribution to conservation.

The dome aviary and boardwalk is a beautiful environment and for the public to be able to work through the enclosure and be immersed in the animals' environment will be an experience people will remember and return to.

In summary, the proposed new ring-tailed lemurs will bring:

- Housing endangered species.

- Supporting SMP (ZAA Species Management Program) by housing excess males.

- Highly popular with guests.

- Active, engaging animals contributing to extended visitor stays in the region.

- Direct and indirect financial benefits through animal encounters.

Macaque/Otter:

Recommended new species: Arboreal primate – White-cheeked gibbons; along with retaining existing otters.

Proposed scope of works: Separation of the existing enclosure into Gibbons and Otters exclusively. Renovation of the previous lion-tailed macaque display suitable for arboreal primates. Introduce climbing structures for the new animals to use.

Justification: White-cheeked gibbons are critically endangered (one step away from extinction in the wild) with some estimates of their wild population as low as 150-160 individuals and approximately 200 in captivity worldwide. Their captive breeding programs are critical to the survival of the species. There is an active breeding program within the Australasian region managed through ZAA (Zoo and Aquarium Association) currently with 20 gibbons. Rockhampton Zoo has had the privilege of being accepted into this program with the species coordinator committing a male from Perth Zoo and a Female from Adelaide Zoo with the intention to breed.

The local and visiting community have all seen the delight, popularity and publicity chimpanzee babies bring to the zoo and the region, baby animals are always a big hit. Gibbons are also known for their beautiful morning song bringing a further auditory experience to the zoo. Many examples of this can be found online.

Gibbons are one of the most agile species of the primate family, fast and busy. Their antics keep guests engaged for long periods.

Depending on the nature of the gibbons, there is also the potential for encounters either in the enclosure or from outside the enclosure. This will provide similar direct and indirect financial and conversation benefits as outlined with lemurs.

Otters: Due to separation of the existing enclosure to house the gibbons, a minor extension to the otter enclosure is required to ensure compliance with current animal welfare standards and legislation as the current otter enclosure on its own is too small and does not meet minimum standards. This will be an open-air area extension include water and land elements.

Expanding the otter enclosure would also provide the opportunity for the Rockhampton Zoo to breed otters down the track should Council wish to. The current otters are brother and sister and would require sourcing a new otter, however breeding not only will attract further guests and publicity to the zoo, but would provide a much more engaging enclosure with a “family” of otters. A larger otter group would also provide the ideal stimulation of a family group for the otters.

In summary, the proposed new white-cheeked gibbons will bring;

- Housing endangered species.

- Supporting SMP (ZAA Species Management Program) by housing excess males.

- Highly popular with guests, plus opportunity for baby gibbons.

- Active, engaging animals contributing to extended visitor stays in the region.

- Direct and indirect financial benefits through animal encounters.

- Auditory experience for zoo guests

In summary, expansion of the otter enclosure will bring;

- Allows Council to keep current otters meeting minimum standards

- Unlocks significant opportunity to potentially breed otters

- Highly popular with guests, plus opportunity for baby otters.

- Active, engaging animals contributing to extended visitor stays in the region.

Wedge-Tailed Eagle/Macaws

In addition to the above, the construction of the Visitor Hub and Animal Operations Centre is in proximity to the existing macaw and eagle enclosure. The macaw enclosure is required to be demolished as part of the Visitor Hub to facilitate the creation of a gathering space. Noise created during construction will cause severe stress to the eagle and will subsequently require temporary relocation regardless. Macaws are typically more resilient to disruptions and noise.

It is proposed to construct a new long 'flight' enclosure for the existing wedge-tailed eagle near the emu/kangaroos to move her away from the construction to prevent this stress. This will also provide an appropriate enclosure for the eagle to demonstrate her flying abilities and move her "down the hill" into the Australian section. This then provides the opportunity to relocate the macaws to the previous eagle enclosure with minimal works required to accommodate this relocation.

In summary, the new eagle enclosure and macaw relocation:

Allows the creation of a central gathering space as part of the Visitor Hub project, without causing unnecessary disruption to the animals. Noting the macaw enclosure was only designed to be viewed from the front, not from the sides or rear.

Relocates the eagle into the Australian section of the zoo in a new purpose-built flight display that allows her to showcase her capabilities and meets animal welfare requirements.

Opportunity for keeper talks, engaging customers longer at Rockhampton Zoo.

It is important to note that the three projects mentioned (dome/aviary, macaque/otter and eagle/macaw) are the initial projects defined under the enclosure program. There are a series of additional future renewals that will need to be scoped and costed in a similar manner and included in future capital budget submissions.

Upon endorsement of the above project items, a design and construct tender will be released to market and a future report to Council will be submitted seeking a resolution to proceed with the works based upon the tendered prices.

BACKGROUND

The Botanic Gardens are significant as a Rockhampton landmark and for its visual amenity. The grounds, comprising of formal and informal landscaped areas with early and substantial plantings, slope down towards the Murray Lagoon and offer striking vistas from the western slopes of the Athelstane Range.

The Botanic Gardens is held in high regard by the community and has been a popular place for events and recreation, and for visitors to Rockhampton since the late 19th century. The Rockhampton Zoo, situated within the Botanic Gardens has been operational since 1925 and boasts over 60 species of native and exotic animals. The Zoo is one of two remaining Zoo's in botanical gardens in Australia, and is a favourite destination for both the Community and visitors to Rockhampton.

In January 2021, Council initiated the Botanic Gardens & Zoo Redevelopment with the commencement of a precinct concept design. The concept design was based on a robust optioneering process that validated and defined future uses and functions of visitor experiences across the site; and provided sufficient information to enable effective prioritisation of project works and funding.

The precinct concept design also included the development of a new brand and identity for the Rockhampton Botanic Gardens & Zoo, as one joint offering. From this, a detailed brand guideline document has been developed. A future report will be presented to Council to discuss the roll out of the new brand.

The Implementation Plan is the key mechanism to support the advancement of the redevelopment through the definition of the delivery strategy, prioritisation and staging, deliverables, and timeframes.

The Implementation Plan outlines a series of design and construction activities against a ten year timeframe, in alignment with allocated capital funding.

As a summary, the initial priorities for the first three years, as outlined in the Implementation Plan, are:

The Implementation Plan provides further details on the project scope.

Upon adoption of the revised Implementation Plan, Officers will proceed to detail design for the Rockhampton Botanic Gardens & Zoo Visitor Hub and the Zoo Operations and Administration Upgrade; along with commencing design activities for the Botanic Gardens Playground Renewal.

The remainder of the projects will be commenced in alignment with the indicative timeframes nominated on the Implementation Plan. The Implementation Plan is an active and flexible document that is reviewed periodically and as opportunities arise/priorities shift.

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Several workshops and previous decisions have been made in relation to the redevelopment program, in chronological order this includes:

27 January 2021: Endorsement of Implementation Plan.

30 March 2021: Precinct concept design workshop

24 May 2021: Brand and identity workshop

14 July 2021: Brand identity and staging strategy workshop.

24 August 2021: Endorsement of revised Implementation Plan.

6 October 2021: Playground renewal delivery model workshop.

11 November 2021: Playground project update.

24 November 2021: Redevelopment program update.

15 February 2022: Shortlisted tenderer presentation on Playground options.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The Redevelopment Program has a tentative capital allocation of \$2 million per year for the next ten financial years, subject to the annual budget adoption process.

Council have currently adopted \$7.025 million across the 21-22 to 23-24 financial years for the Rockhampton Botanic Gardens & Zoo Redevelopment Program. The capital allocation for these financial years was prioritized towards the design and construction of the Visitor Hub, Animal Operations Centre and the Playground Renewal.

This adopted budget includes secured grant revenue of:

\$1.4 million from Works for Queensland (Playground Renewal).

\$1.5 million from Building Better Regions (Visitor Hub).

In addition to the above secured funding grants, a \$2.0 million application was submitted in February 2022 under the latest Building Better Regions Round for the Animal Operations Centre. If successful with this grant, it will increase the program budget to \$9.025 million for the 21-22 to 23-24 financial years.

Additional grant funding opportunities continue to be investigated throughout the redevelopment to supplement Council's allocation.

Separate to the \$7.025 million allocated to the redevelopment program, \$512,000 is currently allocated for the enclosure program. This capital allocation is believed to be insufficient to deliver the three projects outlined in this report; and the remainder of the enclosure refurbishments required throughout the zoo.

This introduces the need for a staged program to ensure the successful delivery of the works rather than undertaking at one time.

To confirm the exact financial position, after endorsement of the recommended new animal species and project scope, a design and construct tender document will be finalized and released to market. A budget revision will then be undertaken based upon the market rates provided as part of the tender process. This will inform how and when the three projects are able to be delivered. This process is necessary given the unique and custom nature of the work (refurbishment of existing enclosures) to gain an accurate understanding of true costs. This also enables a future discussion and decision by Council on a priority order for the projects. This cannot occur until true and accurate costs are obtained.

Additional funding opportunities and grants specific for the enclosure program will continue to be investigated and submitted to supplement Council's existing capital allocation.

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

The land tenure of the Botanical Gardens is identified as State Reserve and therefore the land and uses are managed by both a Land Management plan and Heritage Management plan.

All capital works need to consider both the Land Management plan and Heritage Management plan and any adjustments to the plans made through future design processes.

A Conservation Management Plan (CMP) was prepared as part of the precinct concept design process to ensure that all works proposed as part of the redevelopment are in alignment with Heritage uses and applications.

All development works proposed under the redevelopment program are subject to several legislative and regulatory approvals.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Council has entered into the following contracts as part of the redevelopment program:

- Detail Design for Visitor Hub and Animal Operations Centre (main consultant).

- Detail Design for Visitor Hub and Animal Operations Centre (peer reviewer).

- Design & Construction for Botanic Gardens Playground Renewal.

Council will enter into a future construction contract(s) for the Visitor Hub and Animal Operations Centre upon completion of the detail design phase.

All future projects will also require Council entering into contracts with successful tenderer/s for design and/or construction works, in the order identified in the endorsed Implementation Plan.

STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

The teams that are directly involved in redevelopment program (including the enclosure program) are:

- Parks – Project Owner and Sponsor.

- Project Delivery – Design and Construction Management.

- Community Assets & Facilities – Asset Maintenance and Servicing.

- Media and Communication – Consultation, Marketing, Stakeholder Engagement.

- Advance Rockhampton – Wayfinding, Signage, Marketing and Branding.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The Rockhampton Botanic Gardens & Zoo is one of Council's premier attractions for local and non-locals. Council receives continual complaints and requests from the community to improve facilities, infrastructure and services across the site.

The redevelopment is addressing feedback received from the community. By delaying or not undertaking this program Council will continue to receive complaints from the community, damaging its reputation; along with indirectly supporting the continual degradation of Council's botanical and zoological collection and infrastructure.

Consideration of planned construction works within and around the zoo is going to generate noise, dust, and likely to require temporary closure of some areas within the zoo, making it unpleasant for a temporary period of time for both visitors, staff and the animals. Timing of all construction work is critical to manage and minimize disruption as much as possible.

The enclosure program is critical in upholding and maintaining compliance with animal welfare standards and legislation. Timing of refurbishment works depends upon successfully securing animal species to go into the refurbished enclosure. Failure or delay to secure the new animals prior to commencing design and construction works may result in extensive delays waiting for availability – or undertaking refurbishment works and having an empty enclosure awaiting for the desired animal. For example, when asking a zoo to breed gibbons for Council, not only do they have to have a successful breeding season, but the offspring stay with their parents for 6-8 years prior to venturing out on their own (i.e. to Rockhampton Zoo). When animals are available, Council need to act and commit decisively. At the end of 2022 / to end 2023 there will be two gibbons ready to move on for Council. If this opportunity is missed, a different animal species would have to be considered due to this long-lead time and availability.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The Rockhampton Botanic Gardens & Zoo Redevelopment supports the following Operational Plan action:

1.2.4 Review and update the Botanic Gardens and Zoo Implementation Plan based upon outcomes from the concept design and complete initial works.

CONCLUSION

This report is seeking Council to:

Endorse the revised concept design submitted for the Playground Renewal to enable the project to proceed into detail design and construction.

Receive a status update on the progress of the detail design for the Visitor Hub and Animal Operations Centre.

Endorse the proposed new animal species and scope of works for the three enclosures to enable a design and construct tender package to be released to market.

ROCKHAMPTON BOTANIC GARDENS & ZOO REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

Botanic Gardens Playground Renewal Concept Design & Shade Diagrams

Meeting Date: 15 March 2022

Attachment No: 1



CLIENT: ROCKHAMPTON REGIONAL COUNCIL
 SITE: ROCKHAMPTON BOTANICAL GARDENS ZOO
 DWG NO: KOM1493-2-A
 SO NO:
 SCALE & PAPER SIZE: 1:250@A3
 DRAWN BY: ZD | KOMPAN
 CHECKED BY: SH | KOMPAN
 KOMPAN AGENT: BU | UrbanPlay
 DATE DRAWN: 08.12.2021

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B				
C				

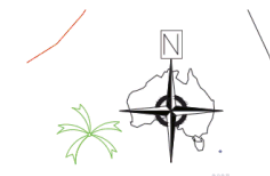
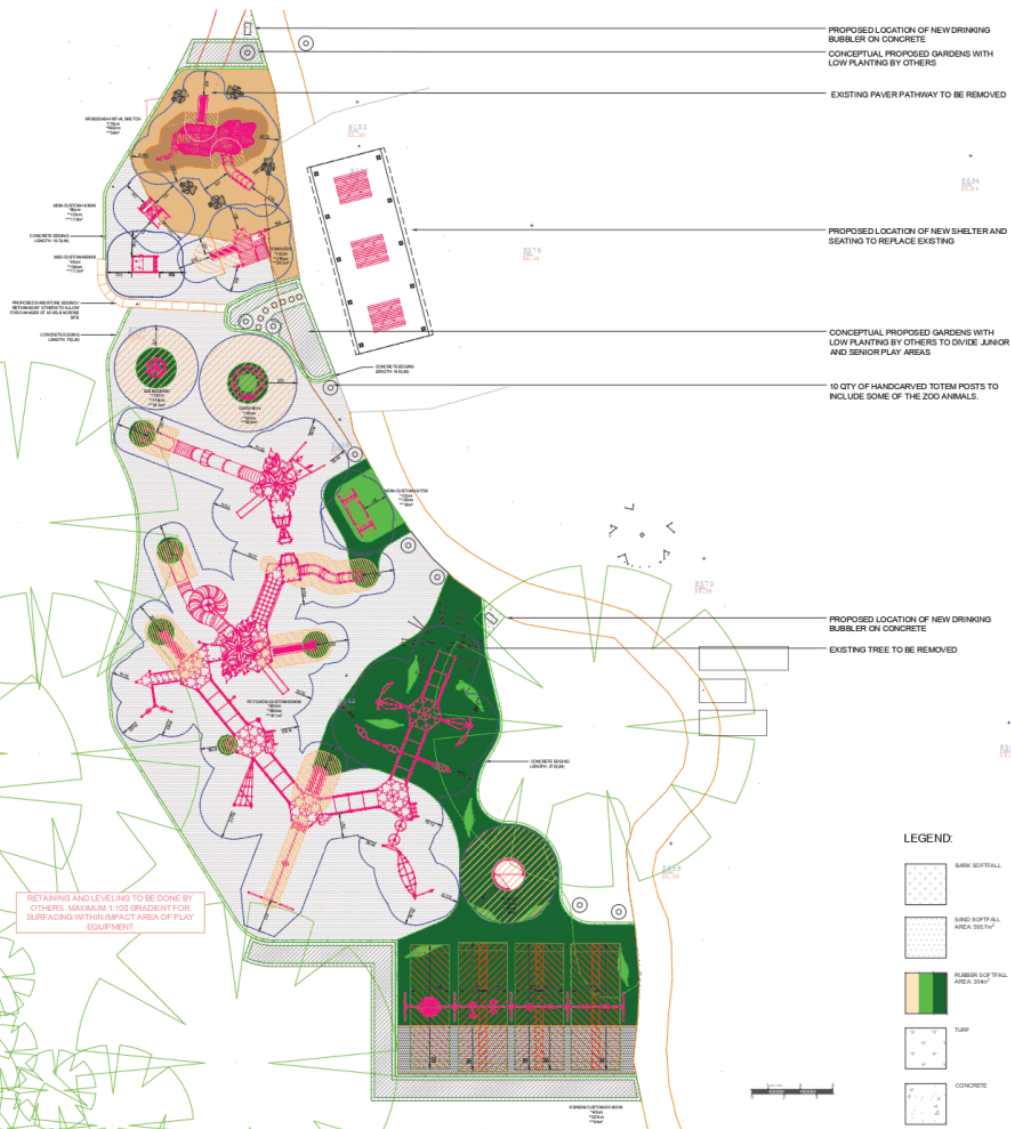
KOMPAN LEGEND	PRODUCT INFO
AS1683 IMPACT FREE	MAX FREE HEIGHT OF FALL
AS4685 FREE SPACE	PRODUCT HEIGHT
AS1683 MOVEMENT ZONE	FALL ZONE AREA
AS1683 TRAINING SPACE	

IMPORTANT:
 KOMPAN EQUIPMENT & LAYOUT PLANS COMPLY WITH STANDARDS AS/NZS4422, AS4685:2011, AS1683:2011.
 KOMPAN EQUIPMENT IS MANUFACTURED IN CENTRAL AUSTRALIA & RECOMMENDED FOR USE IN AUSTRALIA.
 FALL ZONES & EDGING TO ALLOW FOR FOUNDATIONS.
 THIS DRAWING IS TO GUIDE THE CLIENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SAFETY OF THE EQUIPMENT. KOMPAN DOES NOT COVER UNDESIRABLE LAYOUTS OR UNCONSTRUCTED DRAWINGS.
 KOMPAN'S COMPLIANCE RESPONSIBILITIES EXTEND ONLY TO THE MANUFACTURE OF EQUIPMENT. KOMPAN DOES NOT COVER UNDESIRABLE EQUIPMENT, SHEDS OR FURNITURE BY OTHERS (IF APPLICABLE).
 ANY THIRD PARTY EQUIPMENT SHOWN IS BASED ON INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY OTHERS & MAY NOT BE CORRECT. OWNERS, PLAYGROUND DESIGNERS, INCLUDING SITE SURVEYORS, SPECIFIC TO THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SALES PARTNER'S CLIENT.
 SAFETY ZONES MUST HAVE SURFACING TO AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS & CLEAR OF ANY OBSTACLES.
 KOMPAN RECOMMENDS ALL SLIDES FACE SOUTH-EAST TO SOUTH-EAST AND BE COVERED WITH SUITABLE SHADE STRUCTURES.
 DO NOT MODIFY KOMPAN CAD BLOCKS.
 IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS/NZS 2011 Pt 6.1.1 IT REMAINS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SALES PARTNER'S CLIENT TO ENSURE THIS PLAYGROUND LAYOUT WILL COMPLY WITH AS/NZS 2011.
 USUALLY, IT WILL BE ASSUMED, AS/NZS PART 6 HAS BEEN READ AND DISCUSSED WITH THE CLIENT.

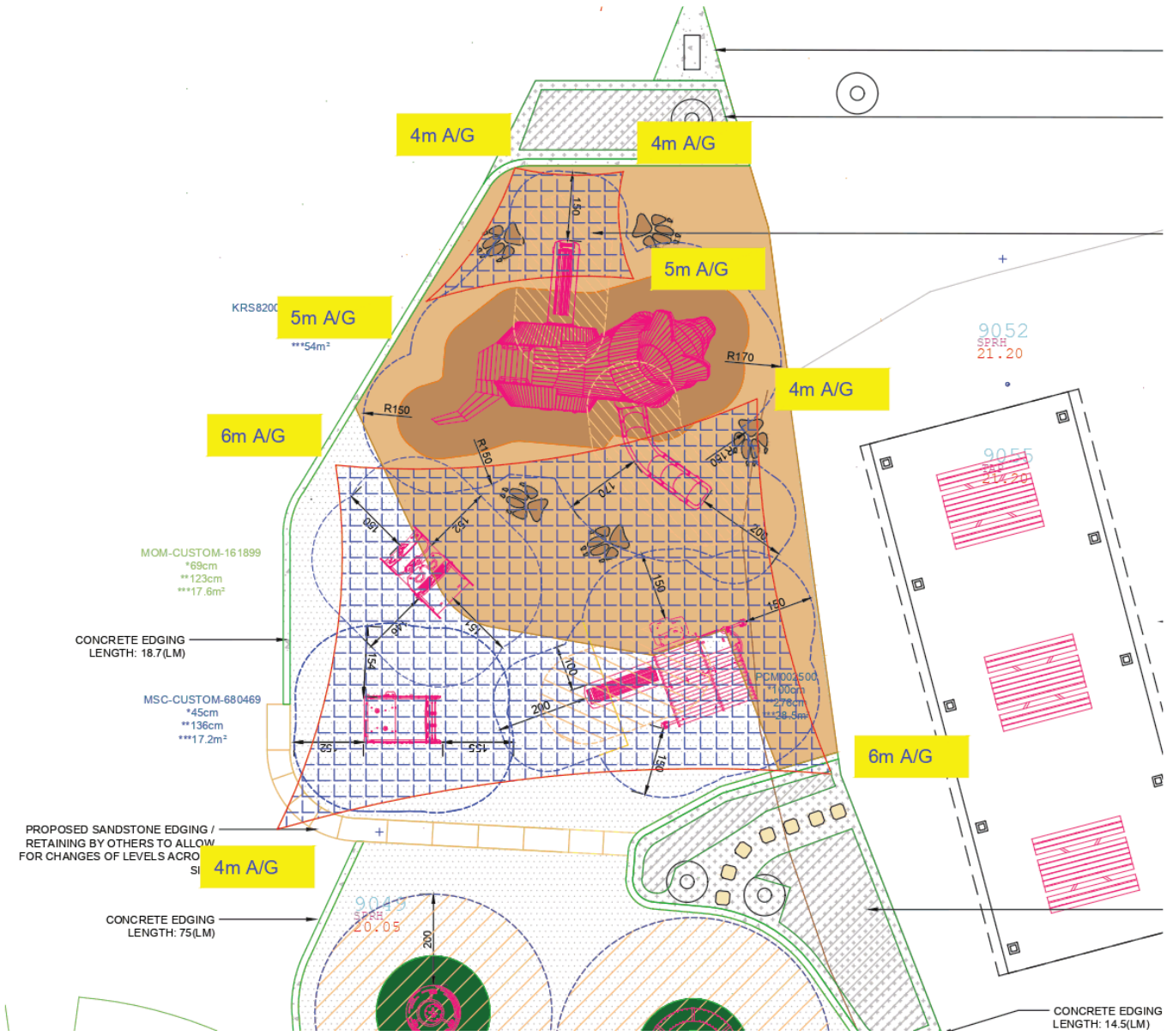
PLAY EQUIPMENT			
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MULTI DECK PLAYHOUSE W/ROOF BROWN WOOD & WOOD POSTS	PCM002500-0601	1	
EMU - FOREST	MSC-CUSTOM -85409	1	
CUSTOM GIANTS TOWER	PCTG-KGS -CUSTOM-200498	1	
PORT. BAY(H) BROWN STUBS BABY(1) DUO (1), YOUNG(1) BN-R (1), INGR	KSW228-CUSTOM -20149318	1	
ANIMAL SEESAW	MOM-CUSTOM -161756	1	
CAROUSEL ANTRACT - HPL DECK PLATE - In-ground	PCM197-0203	1	
SUPERNOVA - SAND-GREY	GXY916014-3717	1	
TIPICAROUSEL WITH TOP BRACE	EL4400066 -371750	1	
DINGO SCULPTURE	KRS-8200424	1	
		1	

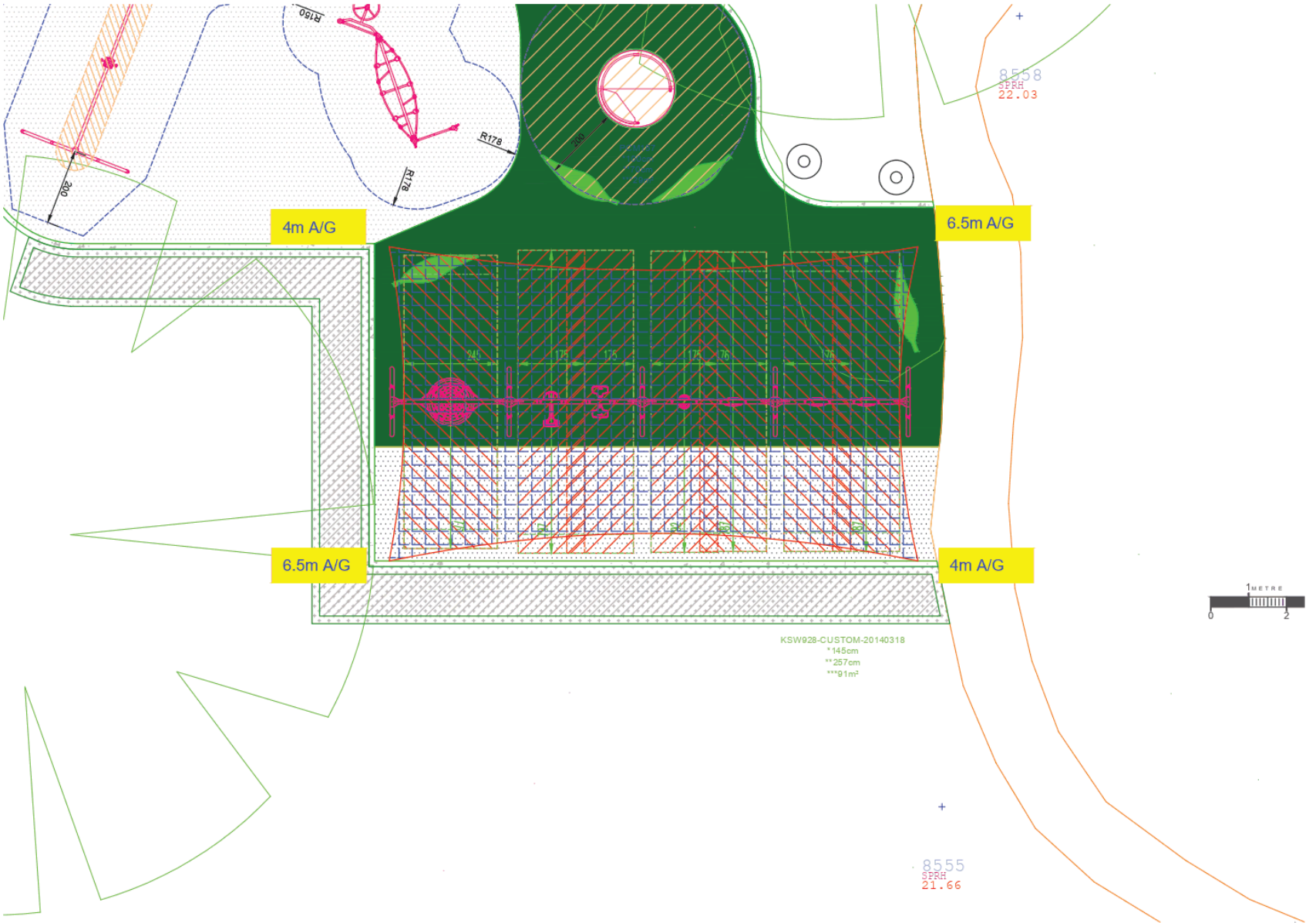
LEGEND:

	BARK SOFTFALL
	SAND SOFTFALL AREA 055247
	RUBBER SOFTFALL AREA 055247
	TURF
	CONCRETE



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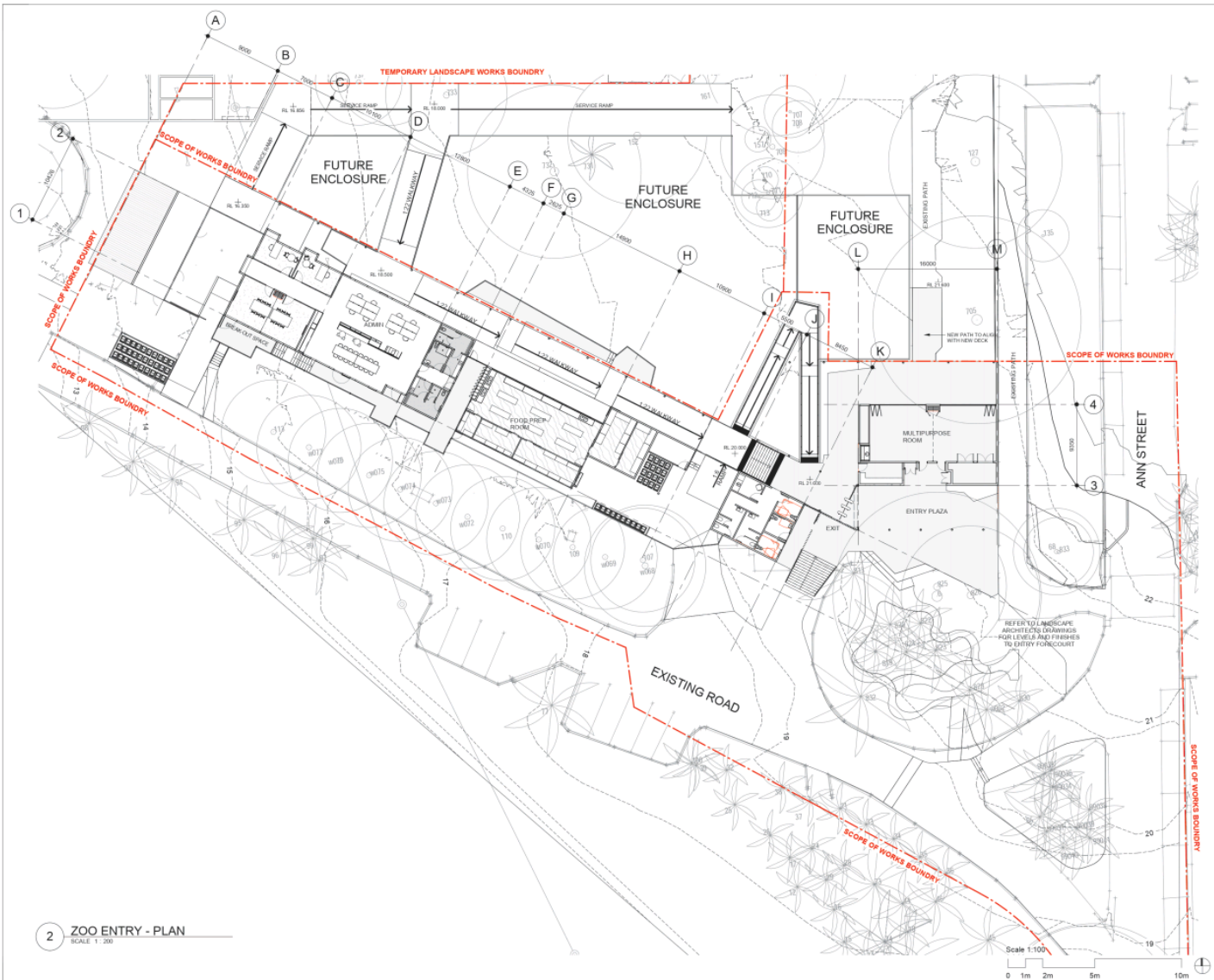


ROCKHAMPTON BOTANIC GARDENS & ZOO REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

Visitor Hub & Animal Operations Centre Detail Design Layout Plans

Meeting Date: 15 March 2022

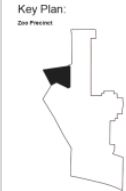
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2 ZOO ENTRY - PLAN
SCALE 1:200

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No.	Description	By	Date
1	POC FOR CONSULTATION	MLP	10/02/2022
2	POC FOR CONSULTATION	MLP	14/02/2022
3	POC FOR CONSULTATION	MLP	22/02/2022
4	RENDERING DEVELOPMENT	ML	04/03/22



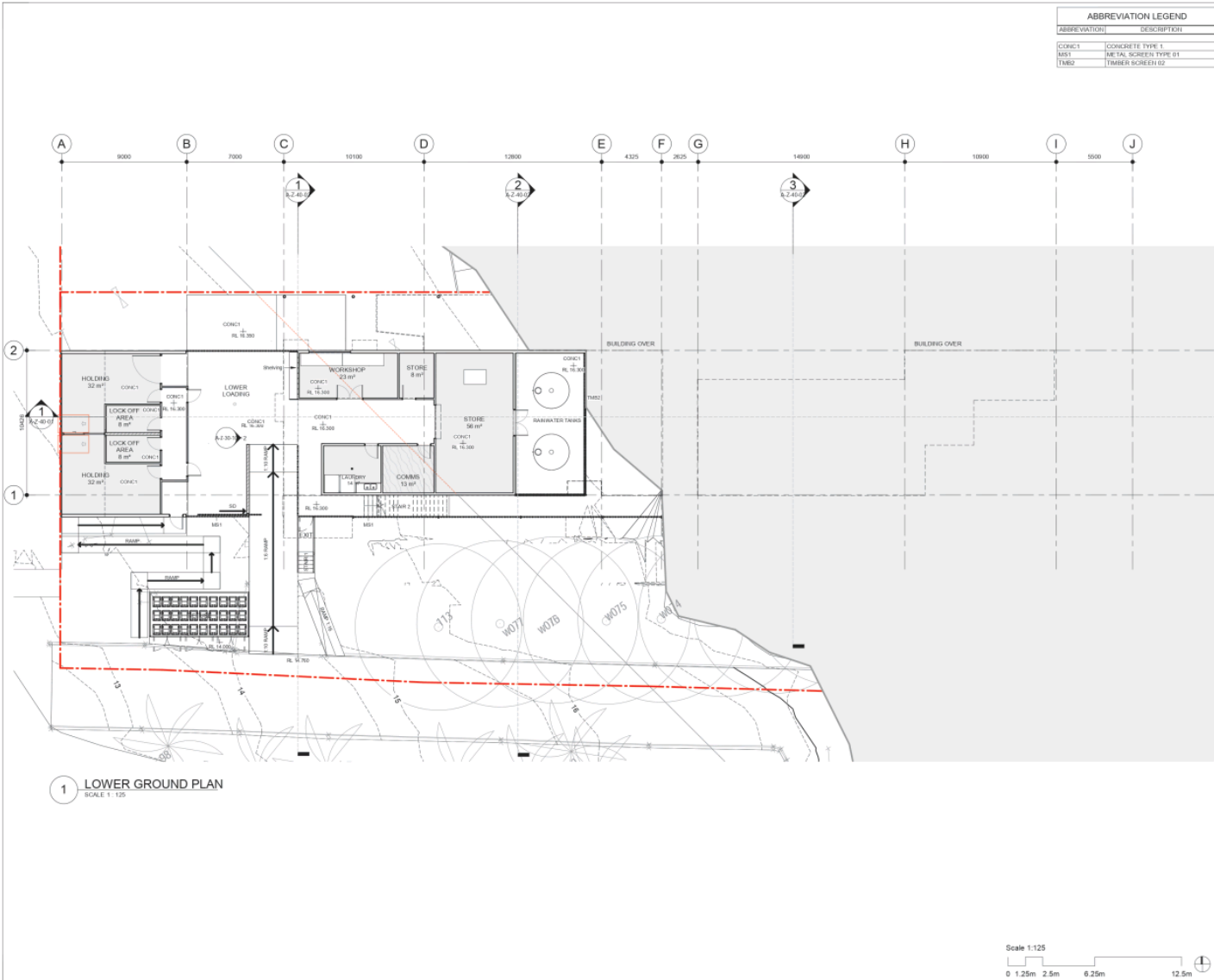
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Client: Rockhampton Regional Council
 Project No.: 421122
 Project: Rockhampton Botanic Gardens & Zoo Redevelopment
 Spencer Street, Rockhampton
 Drawing Title: Hub Ground Floor
 Document Control Status:

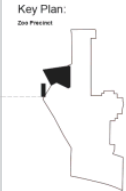
Co-ordinated:	Checked:	Drawn:	Author:
Project Architect:	Designer:	Scale:	1:200 @ A1
Project Director:	Approver:	Date:	05/11/22
Drawing Number:	Revision:		

A-Z-21-11 4



ABBREVIATION LEGEND	
ABBREVIATION	DESCRIPTION
CONC1	CONCRETE TYPE 1
MS1	METAL SCREEN TYPE 01
TMB2	TIMBER SCREEN 02

No.	Description	By	Date
1	CONCEPT DESIGN SHEET	SM	11/08/2021
2	POOR INFORMATION	SM	14/02/2022
3	POOR INFORMATION	SM	22/02/2022
4	POOR INFORMATION	SM	28/02/2022
5	RENDERING DEVELOPMENT	SM	24/03/22



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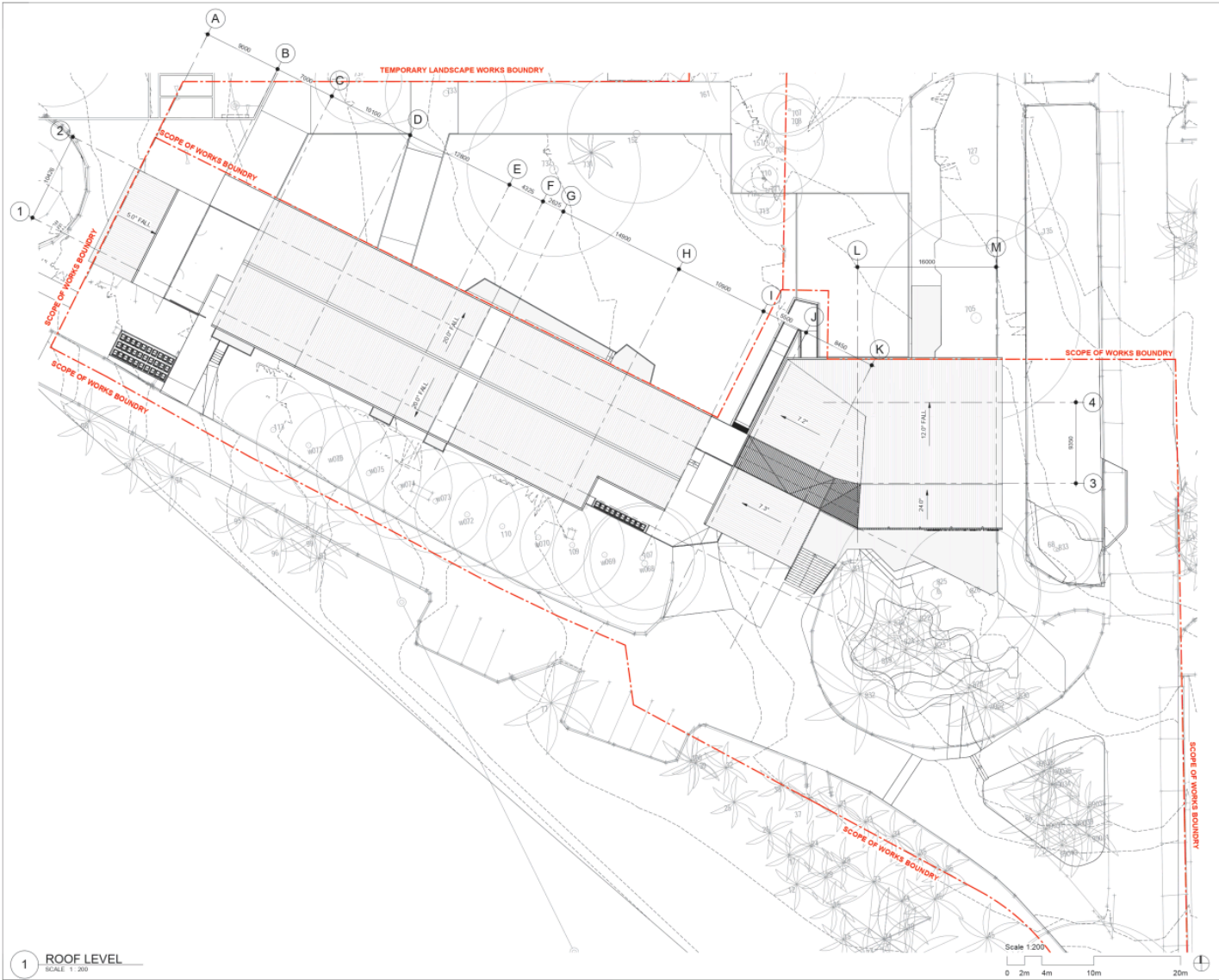


Client: Rockhampton Regional Council
Project No.: 421122
Project: Rockhampton Botanic Gardens & Zoo Redevelopment
 Spencer Street, Rockhampton
Drawing Title: Zoo Admin & Operations Building - Lower Ground Floor Plan

Document Control Status:

Co-ordinator: S HARTH	Drawn: C MCKEITH
Project Architect: S HARTH	Scale: 1:125 @ A1
Project Director: R COLLISON	Date: 06/11/21
Drawing Number: A-Z-21-20	Revision: 5





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No.	Description	By	Date
1	PROJ. INFORMATION	SMF	11.12.2020
2	PROJ. INFORMATION	SMF	22.02.2021
3	PROJ. INFORMATION	SMF	04.03.21



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Client: Rockhampton Regional Council
 Project No.: 421122
 Project: Rockhampton Botanic Gardens & Zoo Redevelopment
 Spencer Street, Rockhampton
 Drawing Title: Hub Roof Plan
 Document Control Status:

Co-ordinated:	Checked:	Drawn:	Author:
Project Architect:	Designer:	Scale:	1:200 @ A1
Project Director:	Approver:	Date:	01/10/22
Drawing Number:	Revision:		

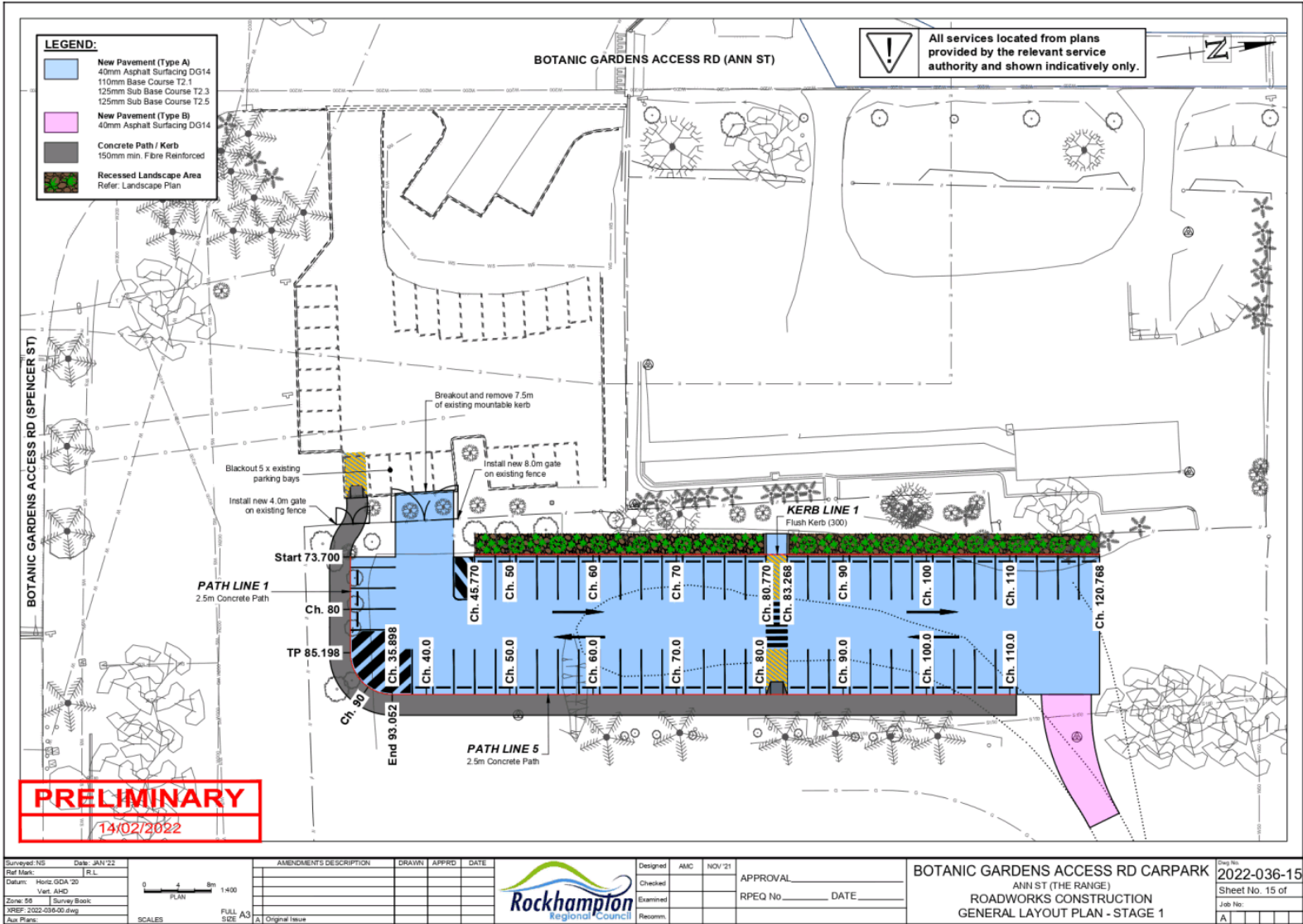
A-Z-21-12 3

ROCKHAMPTON BOTANIC GARDENS & ZOO REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

Botanic Gardens Car Park Concept Layout - Stage 1

Meeting Date: 15 March 2022

Attachment No: 3



PRELIMINARY
13/02/2022

Surveyed: NS Date: JAN '22 Ref Mark: R.L. Datum: Horiz. GDA '20 Vert. AHD Zone: 58 Survey Block XREF: 2022-036-00.dwg Aux Plans:	Scale: 1:400 PLAN FULL SIZE A3	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>AMENDMENTS DESCRIPTION</th> <th>DRAWN</th> <th>APPRD</th> <th>DATE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Original Issue</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	AMENDMENTS DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	APPRD	DATE	Original Issue					Designed: AMC NOV '21 Checked: Examined: Reconn:	APPROVAL: _____ RPEQ No. _____ DATE: _____	BOTANIC GARDENS ACCESS RD CARPARK ANN ST (THE RANGE) ROADWORKS CONSTRUCTION GENERAL LAYOUT PLAN - STAGE 1	Draw No: 2022-036-15 Sheet No. 15 of Job No: A
AMENDMENTS DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	APPRD	DATE												
Original Issue															

O:\Regional\Eng\Design\Office Projects\2022\036 - Botanic Gardens & Zoo Carpark\CAD Dwg\2022-036-15.dwg, 14/02/2022 10:43:17 AM, cxxa

7.6 MOUNT MORGAN POOL REDEVELOPMENT

File No:	12534
Attachments:	Nil
Authorising Officer:	Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services
Author:	Kerri Dorman - Administration Supervisor

SUMMARY

Confirming the timing of the Mount Morgan Pool Redevelopment prior to the funding agreement is executed.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received and the funding agreement be executed based upon the scale and timing outlined in the report.

COMMENTARY

With the success of Council's grant application, this report confirms the proposed timing of the construction of the pool.

The objective of this project is to deliver a fully redeveloped Aquatic Recreation Centre in line with contemporary facility practices and planning requirements.

The following elements are considered essential in meeting this scope.

- Demolition of existing structures on site including the unused Squash Court structure;
- Site upgrade – power, sewer, water;
- Construction of:
 - New pool – 25m x 8 lane, 900mm to 1350mm depth, wet deck and tiled concourse, entry ladders, starting blocks and all accessibility ramp.
 - New plant shed and installation of filtration and sanitation plant equipment including water harvesting,
 - Shade structures (half pool)
 - Splash pad/wet play and shade structures
 - Change rooms, amenities and entry kiosk of sufficient size for the complex
- Installation of portable grandstands;
- Landscaping, lighting and fencing; and
- Car park resurfacing

It is envisaged that the new Aquatic Recreation Centre will interact with the greater Boyd Park. To allow this to happen it is planned to demolish the existing Squash Courts so a community accessible wet play area can be constructed in this vicinity.

The project does not include any work on the heritage listed caretakers cottage on the site or the other existing 25m pool and shade structure.

It is proposed to execute the funding agreement during March 2022 and then proceed to Concept design. The concept design will be presented to Council for approval prior to going to a design and construct contract. It is considered prudent to proceed with the project as soon as possible so as to limit the water losses through the existing facility. This would mean that the pool is closed for the 22/23 Summer and be ready to re-open for the 23/24 Summer. This fits with the timing proposed in the original grant application.

Once Council has agreed on a concept design and specifications, it is proposed to undertake community engagement and communication with the Mount Morgan Community.

There has been some discussion around whether the project could be optimised to reduce Council's contribution toward the facility, however it should be pointed out that any changes in scope will be required to go back to the funding body and put at risk the funds available for the project.

BACKGROUND

Council submitted a grant application under the Resources Community Infrastructure Fund for the replacement of the Mount Morgan Pool. Notification has been received that Council was successful with its application and therefore is nearing the stage of executing the funding agreement.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Funding of \$4,500,000 has been approved which will add to Council's \$2,000,000 that was provided in the 2021/22 Budget.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council execute the funding agreement in line with the scale and timing as outlined in the report.

8 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

9 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

10 URGENT BUSINESS/QUESTIONS

Urgent Business is a provision in the Agenda for members to raise questions or matters of a genuinely urgent or emergent nature, that are not a change to Council Policy and can not be delayed until the next scheduled Council or Committee Meeting.

11 CLOSURE OF MEETING