



MAHOGANY CREEK BUSHCARE GROUP ACTION PLAN

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RESERVE INFORMATION

Reserves:	Mahogany Creek Reserve
Reserve Number(s):	NNN074, NNN081 & NNN085
Land Tenure:	Shoalhaven City Council
Community Land Type:	Natural Area - Watercourse

1. BUSHCARE GROUP GOALS

The goals of the Mahogany Creek Bushcare group are to:

- Conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function in respect of the land using environmentally and culturally sensitive bush regeneration techniques.
- Increase community awareness of the Mahogany Creek bushland with on-ground Bushcare participation and communication with local residents and visitors to the site.
- Participate in information days about Mahogany Creek Bushcare to encourage new volunteer recruitment.
- Incorporate the aims of the Mahogany Creek Plan of Management 1999 into their activities.

2. SITE ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

Actions	Lessons Learnt
<p>After several years of not being an active Bushcare site, the Mahogany Creek Bushcare group reformed in 2021, with a new coordinator, to tackle the increasing number of weeds being observed in the reserve by residents.</p>	<p>Mahogany Creek requires ongoing and continuous weed control activities to ensure that priority and environmental weeds are sustainably controlled.</p>
<p>Arum Lily control and eradication.</p>	<p>Manual removal (by hand) of Arum Lily has the potential to increase turbidity in the creek and disturb cultural heritage items. Accordingly, there has been a change of control method from manual removal to the utilisation of an approved herbicide (cut and paint).</p>

3. GROUP ACTION PLAN MAPS



Figure 1. The Mahogany Creek Bushcare site.

4. BUSHCARE GROUP ACTIVITIES TABLE

H = High (started within 12 months); M = Medium (started 1-3 years); L = Low

GROUP ACTION	PRIORITY	METHOD	TIME
<p>Area 1 – West of Illaroo Road <i>Engineering works to redefine sections of the creek are being planned following an appropriate level of due diligence being exercised.</i></p>			
<p>1. Weed Control</p> <p>Working south from the Judith Drive detention basin (southern side of creek), in Swamp Mahogany Woodland and Turpentine/Blackbutt Forest, target weeds include Common Elder, Arum Lily, Honeysuckle, Blackberry, Camphor laurel, Small and Large Leaf Privet and Lantana. Prioritise work in areas of greater resilience, with a focus on canopy protection from exotic vines. Undertake compensatory planting as required.</p> <p>It is proposed to undertake such weed control activities in a sustainable way. This will involve progressive removal of priority and environmental weed species at a rate commensurate with natural native vegetation recruitment and revegetation.</p>	<p>H</p>	<p>Manual weed control or herbicide use as per product labels or Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) permits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand remove, scrape and paint Honeysuckle • Cut and paint Blackberry • Hand remove woody weed seedlings, cut and paint with herbicide when diameter of stem/trunk is adequate. • Cut and paint Arum Lily to minimise ground disturbance. 	<p>Ongoing</p>

GROUP ACTION	PRIORITY	METHOD	TIME
2. Replacement planting as required.		Use recommended revegetation list within this plan.	Following weed removal
3. Judith Drive Detention Basin. Hand weeding maintenance around plantings and periodically spot spray exotic grasses and other annual weeds.	H	Manual weed control or herbicide use as per product labels or APVMA permits. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand remove exotic grasses or spot spray • Hand remove, scrape and paint Honeysuckle and other vines, including Blackberry. • Hand remove woody weed seedlings, cut and paint with herbicide when diameter of stem/trunk is adequate. • Cut and paint Arum Lily and minimise ground disturbance. 	Ongoing
4. Madeira Vine inspections and control on the northern side of Mahogany Creek, off Maybern Close.	H	Only a small amount of this priority weed species has been sighted on the urban interface. It is important to control this highly invasive weed, bagging all propagules to prevent further spread.	Ongoing

GROUP ACTION	PRIORITY	METHOD	TIME
		Manual weed control or herbicide use as per product labels or APVMA permits. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand remove, ensure bagging all underground rhizomes and aerial tubers. 	
5. Walking Track maintenance Assist Council with risk management, pruning of vegetation along track to allow a clear walkway. Collect rubbish throughout site.	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prune track clear using secateurs. • Separation and bagging of rubbish. Disposal to appropriate waste receptacles. 	Ongoing

GROUP ACTION	PRIORITY	METHOD	TIME
Site: Area 2 (east of Illaroo Road)			
<p>1. Weed Control</p> <p>Gradually reduce biomass of weeds within the area starting with exotic vines and lantana working from good areas towards more infested areas.</p>	M	<p>Manual weed control or herbicide use as per product labels or APVMA permits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand remove, scrape and paint vines. • Cut and paint Blackberry. • Hand remove woody weed seedlings, cut and paint with herbicide when diameter of stem/trunk is adequate. • Cut and paint Arum Lily to minimise ground disturbance. 	Ongoing
<p>2. Walking Track</p> <p>Assist council with risk management, pruning of vegetation along track to allow a clear walkway. Collect rubbish throughout site.</p>	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prune track clear using secateurs. • Separation and bagging of rubbish. Disposal to appropriate waste receptacles. 	Ongoing

GROUP ACTION	PRIORITY	METHOD	TIME
<i>Community Engagement, Citizen Science</i>			
<p>1. Communication – Community Education</p> <p>Communicate and promote to local residents the importance of the local bushland area and the impact of environmental weeds, stray domestic animals and feral animals on the natural values of the reserve.</p>	H	<p>By conducting/use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Day/s • Weed Walk/s • Distribution of Council brochures • iNaturalist • Bioblitz workshops with school groups and community • Reserve educational signage • Articles in local media • Domestic rubbish audit 	Opportunistically
<p>2. Explanation of Bushcare group activities and goals, and recruitment of new members.</p>	H	Engage with passers-by and provide information.	Ongoing

GROUP ACTION	PRIORITY	METHOD	TIME
3. Interact with other Bushcare Groups to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seek to maintain and build wildlife corridors. • exchange information and share knowledge about work practices, and • build relationships. 	M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared working bees • Morning teas • Group facilitation and counselling by Bushcare Field Officer • Cooperative involvement in community education events 	As opportunities arise or are facilitated
4. Record/Map local biodiversity	M	Log information in iNaturalist Budawang Coast Atlas of Life and other appropriate citizen science apps or websites.	Ongoing
5. Domestic rubbish audit co-ordination with Tread Lightly Inc.	M	Collect, record and report rubbish to Tread Lightly Inc.	As opportunities arise

5. BUSHCARE GROUP WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY

Shoalhaven City Council must induct new volunteers. Volunteers must comply with the Volunteer Induction Handbook.

Based on the activities included in this action plan, a new site hazard and risk assessment template will be completed by Council. Volunteers are to be inducted on this revised risk assessment with the adoption of this plan. The 'site hazard and risk assessment' is to be revised by volunteers on site, for example, upon the identification of a new hazard, or of a new control measure for an existing hazard.

6. COUNCIL SUPPORT

- Supply tools, herbicide, and materials within the constraints of budget.
- Training and technical advice.
- Administration support.
- Assistance with grant applications, administration, and management.
- Assistance with events.
- Assistance from Council's Bush Regenerator staff as resources allow.
- Weed bag and large rubbish removal.
- Recognition of the group's contribution to the stewardship of the areas under this plan and undertaking from Council to communicate with Group and seek the groups' participation in any works planned by Council, where appropriate.

7. POSSIBLE FUTURE FUNDING

The following projects will be considered by Council as funding opportunities become available:

Project
The site is currently under investigation by Council engineers for stream remediation works to re-create the creek channel to mitigate flooding events to residents on the northern side of Mahogany Creek. Potential works could involve significant disturbance to the area and will require rehabilitation as part of the project. This provides an opportunity to have weeds removed and areas replanted.

8. REVIEW

This plan will be reviewed six years from its adoption but can be reviewed sooner if agreed.

9. REGIONAL MANAGEMENT PLANS OR STRATEGIES

Name of document	Year	Produced by
Bushcare/Parkcare Policy	2023	Shoalhaven City Council
Local Strategic Plan 2016-2021	2016	South East Local Land Services
Generic Community Land Plan of Management - Natural Areas	Revised 2016	Shoalhaven City Council
Plan of Management Mahogany Creek Reserve Judith Drive, North Nowra	1999	Shoalhaven City Council

10. RECOMMENDED REVEGETATION SPECIES

MID-STOREY (small trees, shrubs, etc)	
Botanical	Common
<i>Acacia ulicifolia</i>	Prickly Moses, Juniper Wattle
<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	Black She Oak
<i>Banksia serrata</i>	Old Man Banksia, Saw Toothed Banksia
<i>Banksia spinulosa</i>	Hairpin Banksia
<i>Kunzea ambigua</i>	Tick Bush
<i>Pittosporum revolutum</i>	Rough-fruited Pittosporum
<i>Pultenaea daphnoides</i>	Large-leaf Bush Pea
UNDERSTOREY (grasses, herbs, climbers)	
Botanical	Common
<i>Gonocarpus micranthus</i>	Creeping Raspwort
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	False Sarsaparilla, Purple Twining-pea
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>	Blady Grass
<i>Juncus sp.</i>	Native Rush
<i>Kennedia rubicunda</i>	Dusky Coral Pea
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat Rush

11. BUSHCARE SITE SPECIES LIST

The following endemic species have been recorded on the site.

OVERSTOREY TREES	
Botanical	Common
<i>Acmena smithii</i>	Lilly Pilly
<i>Eucalyptus globoidea</i>	White Stringy Bark
<i>Eucalyptus imitans</i>	Illawarra Stringy Bark
<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i>	Blackbutt
<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i>	Grey Gum
<i>Eucalyptus robusta</i>	Swamp Mahogany
<i>Eucalyptus sclerophylla</i>	Scribbly Gum
<i>Syncarpia glomulifera</i>	Turpentine
SMALL TREES & SHRUBS	
Botanical	Common
<i>Acacia ulicifolia</i>	Prickly Moses
<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	Black She Oak
<i>Banksia serrata</i>	Old Man Banksia, Saw Toothed Banksia
<i>Banksia spinulosa</i>	Hairpin Banksia
<i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i>	Blueberry Ash
<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>	Cheese Tree
<i>Kunzea ambigua</i>	Tick Bush
<i>Leptospermum juniperinum</i>	Prickly Tea Tree
<i>Leptospermum polygalifolium</i>	Yellow Tea Tree
<i>Leptospermum trinervium</i>	Flaky-barked Tea Tree
<i>Pittosporum revolutum</i>	Rough-fruited Pittosporum
<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>	Sweet Pittosporum
<i>Pultenaea daphnoides</i>	Large-leaf Bush Pea, Egg and Bacon Pea
UNDERSTOREY (grasses, herbs, orchids)	
Botanical	Common
<i>Centella asiatica</i>	Swamp Pennywort
<i>Cyathochaeta diandra</i>	Rush
<i>Entolasia stricta</i>	Wiry Panic Grass
<i>Eriostemon australasius</i>	Pink Wax Flower
<i>Gleichenia dicarpa</i>	Pouched Coral Fern
<i>Gonocarpus micranthus</i>	Creeping Raspwort
<i>Hydrocotyle peduncularis</i>	Forest Pennywort
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>	Blady Grass
<i>Juncus sp.</i>	Sedge, Native Rush
<i>Sporadanthus gracilis</i>	Slender Scale-rush
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat Rush
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass
<i>Oplismenus imbecillis</i>	Basket Grass
<i>Schoenus melanostachys</i>	Black Bog-rush
<i>Thelymitra ixioides</i>	Dotted Sun Orchid

<i>Thelymitra nuda</i>	Plain Sun Orchid
UNDERSTOREY (vines & climbers)	
Botanical	Common
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	False Sarsaparilla
<i>Kennedia prostrata</i>	Running Postman
<i>Kennedia rubicunda</i>	Dusky Coral Pea
<i>Smilax glycyphylla</i>	Sweet Sarsaparilla

12. BUSHCARE SITE THREATENED FAUNA LIST

The following threatened native fauna species have been recorded on the site. The site does not contain any listed Threatened Ecological Communities.

THREATENED FAUNA LIST	
Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	Gang-gang Cockatoo
<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami</i>	Glossy Black Cockatoo
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox
<i>Petaurus australis</i>	Yellow-bellied Glider
<i>Nyctophilus gouldi</i>	Gould's Long-eared Bat
<i>Heleioporus australiacus</i>	Giant Burrowing Frog

A range of flora and fauna species have been identified and recorded on this site and new records are continually collected using the iNaturalist Budawang Coast Nature Map (BCNM). Bushcare volunteers and community members are encouraged to record their flora and fauna observations.

To see an up-to-date record of sightings, register with BCNM and follow the following link: [Budawang Coast Atlas of Life iNaturalist](#)

Records of other taxa can also be viewed using the BCNM platform.

13. BUSHCARE SITE WEED LIST

The following weeds have been recorded on the site.

Botanical	Common
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear thistle
<i>Conyza albida</i>	Tall fleabane
<i>Phytolacca octandra</i>	Inkweed
<i>Solanum mauritianum</i>	Wild tobacco bush
<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>	Arum lily
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	Broad-leaf privet
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Small-leaf privet
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese honeysuckle
<i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>	Fishbone fern
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Camphor laurel

<i>Delairea odorata</i>	Cape ivy
<i>Bidens pilosa</i>	Cobbler's pegs, Farmer's friends
<i>Lantana camara</i>	Lantana
<i>Ageratina adenophora</i>	Crofton weed
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Blackberry
<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	Madeira vine
<i>Araujia sericifera</i>	Moth vine
<i>Jasminum polyanthum</i>	Jasmine
<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	Wandering Trad
<i>Paspalum dilatatum</i>	Paspalum
<i>Passiflora sp.</i>	Passionfruit
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elderberry, European elder, Common elder
<i>Murraya paniculata</i>	Murraya
<i>Thunbergia alata</i>	<i>Black-eyed Susan</i>
<i>Senna pendula glabrata</i>	<i>Senna</i>
<i>Hedera helix</i>	<i>English Ivy</i>
<i>Asparagus densiflorus</i>	Ground Asparagus, Asparagus Fern