



4.7 Local Area Plan: Southern LGA

Overview	
Area Coverage	<p>The LAP for the Southern zone of the Shoalhaven LGA covers the area of coastline from Rennies Beach in the north to North Durras Beach in the south, includes the following beaches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Rennies Beach ■ Racecourse Beach ■ Burrill Beach ■ Wairo Beach ■ Bawley Beach ■ Cormorant Beach ■ Gannet Beach ■ Kioloa Beach ■ Merry Beach ■ Depot Beach ■ North Durras Beach <p>These areas include a collection of longer, more exposed beaches in the north, that transitions into a series of smaller pocket beaches in the south that are punctuated by discrete headland features and coastal bluffs. Notable headlands include Dolphin Point, Bawley Point, Murramarang Point, O'Hara Head and Snapper Point.</p>
Key Environmental Features	<p>The coastline in the LAP is intersected by the estuaries of Burrill Lake, Lake Tabourie, Meroo Lake, Willinga Lake, Termeil Creek, and Cormorant Lagoon.</p> <p>Much of the coastline in this area is comprised of undeveloped coastal reserve, including NPWS managed coastline of Meroo National Park, and Murramarang National Park.</p> <p>The 5 km stretch of coastline between Gannet Beach and Bull Pup Point contains the Murramarang Aboriginal Area, which is located on NPWS land tenure. The Murramarang Aboriginal Area includes 3 beaches – Murramarang Beach, Cat and Kitten Beach, Bull Pup Beach</p> <p>The Batemans Bay Marine Park extends across the coastal waters of the area, and commences at the southern headland of Gannet Beach.</p>
Local Population Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dolphin Point ■ Lake Tabourie ■ Bawley Point ■ Kioloa ■ Depot Beach ■ Durras North
Mapping References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ An overview of this area is provided in Appendix A ■ Mapping provided in Figure 4-39 to Figure 4-41 indicates the location of those actions that apply to a singular, discrete location. ■ Actions that are generic in nature or apply to an area more broadly have not been mapped. ■ Actions that related to repair, upgrade or closure of beach access tracks are mapped in Appendix E. The works identified for the beach access tracks represent an assessment based on present day conditions. The works and beach access tracks requiring works may be subject to change and Council will continue to reassess track condition into the future to scope, plan and prioritise the required works.
LAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ There are 18 Actions in the Southern LGA LAP ■ These actions are detailed in Table 4-8.



Quick Reference Image Gallery



Figure 4-33 Rennies Beach in 2023. Source: CoastSnap



Figure 4-34 Racecourse Beach in 2023. Source: CoastSnap



Figure 4-35 Wairo Beach in 2018. Source: SCC



Figure 4-36 Cormorant Beach in 2021



Figure 4-37 Kioloa Beach in 2021



Figure 4-38 Depot Beach in 2021



Table 4-8 Southern LGA LAP

ID	Location	Action Name	Action Description	Risk Being Addressed	Lead Agency	Support Partners	Priority	Timing	Performance Measures
RN.01	Rennies Beach	Maintain, repair, upgrade, and rationalise beach access tracks	Maintain, repair, upgrade, and rationalise beach access tracks at this location, as detailed in the findings of the Shoalhaven Beaches Asset Management Strategy (Advisian, 2021), and based on contemporary monitoring and inspections by Council (2023).	SER.19.1	SCC	N/A	Low (7)	Year 1 and ongoing	Assets maintain appropriate engineering and safety standards. Works reflect best practice dune management.
RA.01	Racecourse Beach	Investigate land use planning options to provide enhanced protection to the local dune system	Investigate land use planning options for improved coastal and environmental management - including potential rezoning Lot 2 DP 1265528 and Lot 7041 DP 1059893 from a RE1 (Public Recreation) to a C2 (Environmental Conservation), in order to provide enhanced protection to the local dune system.	Opportunity for improved environmental management	SCC	N/A	Low (6)	Opportunistic, within 8-10 Years	Investigation undertaken, and recommendations implemented.
BU.01	Burrill Beach	Maintain, repair, upgrade, and rationalise beach access tracks	Maintain, repair, upgrade, and rationalise beach access tracks at this location, as detailed in the findings of the Shoalhaven Beaches Asset Management Strategy (Advisian, 2021), and based on contemporary monitoring and inspections by Council (2023).	SER.19.1	SCC	N/A	Low (7)	Year 1 and ongoing	Assets maintain appropriate engineering and safety standards. Works reflect best practice dune management.
BU.02	Burrill Beach	Investigate land use planning options to provide enhanced protection to the local dune system	Investigate land use planning options for improved coastal and environmental management - including potential rezoning Lot 7002 DP 1050294 from a RE1 (Public Recreation) to a C2 (Environmental Conservation), in order to provide enhanced protection to the local dune system.	Opportunity for improved environmental management	SCC	N/A	Low (6)	Opportunistic, within 8-10 Years	Investigation undertaken, and recommendations implemented.
WR.01	Wairo Beach	Maintain, repair, upgrade, and rationalise beach access tracks	Maintain, repair, upgrade, and rationalise beach access tracks at this location, as detailed in the findings of the Shoalhaven Beaches Asset Management Strategy (Advisian, 2021), and based on contemporary monitoring and inspections by Council (2023).	SER.19.1	SCC	N/A	Low (7)	Year 1 and ongoing	Assets maintain appropriate engineering and safety standards. Works reflect best practice dune management.
WR.02	Wairo Beach	Investigate land use planning options to provide enhanced protection to the local dune system	Investigate land use planning options for improved coastal and environmental management - including potential rezoning Lot 2 DP 1134134 from a RE1 (Public Recreation) to a C2 (Environmental Conservation), in order to provide enhanced protection to the local dune system.	Opportunity for improved environmental management	SCC	N/A	Low (6)	Opportunistic, within 8-10 Years	Investigation undertaken, and recommendations implemented.
WR.03	Lake Tabourie	Maintain, repair, upgrade, and rationalise beach access tracks	Maintain, repair, upgrade, and rationalise beach access tracks at this location, as detailed in the findings of the Shoalhaven Beaches Asset Management Strategy (Advisian, 2021), and based on contemporary monitoring and inspections by Council (2023).	SER.19.1	SCC	N/A	Low (7)	Year 1 and ongoing	Assets maintain appropriate engineering and safety standards. Works reflect best practice dune management.
BW.01	Bawley Beach	Dune building and restoration	Provide increased protection for the Bawley Beach car park and boat ramp by undertaking a localised dune building and restoration program across the 35 m stretch of foreshore in front of the car park. This could include scraping sand from lower on the beach profile (from the salient behind the local nearshore reef) to create a wider and more densely vegetated dune system. Dune revegetation works should focus on removal of weeds and replanting of native primary and secondary dune vegetation.	CHR.71 CHR.72	SCC	N/A	Medium (10)	Within 4-7 years	Works completed. Increased native dune vegetation cover.
BW.02	Bawley Point Headland	Upgrade and formalise parking facilities and pedestrian access to the Bawley Point Headland and the Gantry	Upgrade the existing parking and access facilities in order to provide safer access and increased capacity. These works should also include adequate vehicle restrictions (through fencing and sandstone blockwork) to prevent unauthorised vehicle access beyond the parking section.	SER.20.2 SER.20.3	SCC	N/A	Medium (21)	Within 4-7 years	Works completed.



ID	Location	Action Name	Action Description	Risk Being Addressed	Lead Agency	Support Partners	Priority	Timing	Performance Measures
CM.01	Cormorant Beach	Develop an entrance management policy for the Cormorant Beach Lagoon	<p>This action involves the preparation of a Council policy for the opening of the estuary. It would involve an investigation into whether there is a substantial need to artificially open the estuary entrance for flood mitigation purposes, particularly for the surrounding properties along Terragong Ave, Lurnea Ave, Murramarang Rd, and Tingira Dr. Council is currently preparing the Willinga Lake Flood Study which includes the Bawley Point catchments, and this action would be triggered following its completion.</p> <p>It should be noted that the NSW State Government supports minimal interference with estuary entrance barriers and advocates natural processes being allowed to operate to the greatest extent possible. It does not support the artificial opening of an estuary unless it can be demonstrated that the social, environmental and economic benefits greatly outweigh any potential adverse environmental impacts to the Cormorant Beach Wetlands (which are mapped as state significant coastal wetlands under the Resilience and Hazards State Environmental Planning Policy).</p>	CHR.67	SCC	N/A	Medium (14)	Completion of Willinga Lake Flood Study	Policy developed and implemented.
CM.02	Cormorant Beach	Install a water level gauge in the Cormorant Beach Lagoon	<p>This will involve installation of a water level gauge within the lagoon/wetlands. The purpose of this will be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve management of flood risk for local residents by monitoring & publishing water levels in real time. To provide a dataset to improve the understanding of physical processes working in the wetlands (including water levels, hydrodynamics and entrance opening / closing regime). 	CHR.67	SCC	N/A	High (24)	Within 1-3 years	Gauge implemented and maintained, and data considered to be of tangible benefit for coastal management by Council.
CM.03	Cormorant Beach	Cormorant beach pedestrian access management	Provide stabilisation to the erosion pinch point between the estuary entrance and Tingara Drive by using fencing to direct all pedestrian access through the existing formal beach access track. The fenced off area should become a localised point of restoration, with additional revegetation work to provide stability - including the planting of deep rooted vegetation.	CHR.72	SCC	N/A	Low (6)	Opportunistic, within 8-10 Years	Works completed. Access formalised. Increased native dune vegetation cover.
KI.01A	Kioloa Beach	Kioloa Coastal Protection Works - Stage 1: Condition assessment and maintenance recommendations report	<p>A formal coastal engineering condition assessment should be undertaken of the existing coastal protection works that extend from in front of car park up around to the Marine Rescue building. This assessment should also include a geotechnical investigation in order to determine the subsurface conditions around the Marine Rescue building and its exposure to coastal erosion.</p> <p>The outcome of this assessment should be a clear understanding of the nature and extent of maintenance works required to maintain the intended level of protection and function over future timeframes.</p>	CHR.70 CHR.71 CHR.72 SER.20.4 SER.20.5	SCC	N/A	High (24)	Within 1-3 years	Assessment completed, and clear direction for future management provided.
KI.01B	Kioloa Beach	Kioloa Coastal Protection Works - Stage 2: Maintenance works	Based on the information provided in the condition assessment (Action KI.01A), undertake the required maintenance and make-safe works for the existing coastal protection works - in order to provide ongoing protection for the access road, car park, and Marine Rescue building.	As above.	SCC	N/A	Medium (16)	Triggered by Action KI.01A	Works completed.
KI.02	Kioloa Beach	Stormwater formalisation along seaward end of Scerri Drive	Install kerb and guttering along seaward end of Scerri Drive to prevent overland flow from exacerbating local beach erosion and dune instability in front of the road. This Action could be included as part of any future coastal protection upgrade works.	SER.20.7	SCC	N/A	Medium (14)	Triggered by Action KI.01B	Works completed.
ME.01	Merry Beach	Formalise access and increase foreshore resilience	Use dune fencing to formalise access to the beach (at both the north and central access points) and provide protection for the local foredunes vegetation. This could be accompanied by strategic planting of native dune vegetation.	SER.20.8	SCC	N/A	Low (6)	Opportunistic, within 8-10 Years	Works completed. Access formalised. Increased native dune vegetation cover.
DP.01	Depot Beach	Long term adaptation pathway for the Depot Beach vehicle access track	Engage with the National Parks and Wildlife Service to discuss long term future management of the Depot Gutter Road vehicle access track. Options include realignment of the road to a more landwards location, and eventual abandonment of the road.	CHR.72	SCC	NPWS	Low (4)	Opportunistic, within 8-10 Years	Long term adaptation pathway established.
DP.02	Depot Beach	Dune building and restoration	Engage with the National Parks and Wildlife Service to discuss restoration of the foredune along the length of the Depot Gutter Road vehicle access track, in order to provide increased stability of the foreshore in the short term.	CHR.72	NPWS	SCC	Low (7)	Opportunistic, within 8-10 Years	Works completed. Access formalised. Increased native dune vegetation cover.



ID	Location	Action Name	Action Description	Risk Being Addressed	Lead Agency	Support Partners	Priority	Timing	Performance Measures
DU.01	North Durras Beach	Foreshore management works at the North Durras Creek entrance	<p>Engage with the National Parks and Wildlife Service to undertake technical investigations to determine the optimised foreshore management works at the North Durras Creek Entrance. This could include assessment of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foreshore stabilisation works to protect the access road. Works would need to be confined to areas outside of the Habitat Protection Zone within Batemans Marine Park (that is, above the above Mean High Water level). • Formalisation of local stormwater to prevent overland flows exacerbating erosion of the foreshore. <p>Once the potential works are identified - this action will be updated to include the implementation of the works. This will require the CMP to be amended and re-submitted for certification.</p>	CHR.71 CHR.72	SCC	NPWS	Medium (14)	Within 4-7 years	Works completed.

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Figure 4-39 LAP Action locations for Bawley Point and Cormorant Beach



Figure 4-40 LAP Action locations for Merry Beach (left) and Kioloa Beach (right)

