

Minutes

MANLY WARRINGAH WAR MEMORIAL STATE PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on-line via Microsoft Teams on

MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2020

Minutes of the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday 9 November 2020 online, commencing at 5:00pm.

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members

Cr Stuart Sprott	Northern Beaches Council
David Beharrell	Environment Representative (Community member)
Geraldine Hall	Recreational Representative (Community member)
Ann Collins	Community Representative (Community member)
Peter Bergman	Ranger Team Leader, Sydney North Area, Greater Sydney Branch, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Council Officers

Steven Lawler (Chair)	Executive Manager Parks and Recreation
Damian Ham	Manager Open Space and Recreation Planning
Chris Buckley	Coordinator Manly Dam
Chris Munro	Manager Bushland and Biodiversity
Jessica Currie	Coordinator, Recreation Planning

Guest Speakers – Council Officers

Jodie Crawford	Acting Manager, Coast & Catchments
Jade Vasic	Team Leader Environmental Health
Sonia Roberts	Environmental Health Officer
Jeremy Smith	Manager, Park Assets - Planning Design & Delivery

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2. APOLOGIES

- Mayor Cr Michael Regan - Northern Beaches Council
- Mel Hall - Senior Conservation Planning Officer, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service Office of Environment and Heritage
- Paul Harper - Natural Resource Management Project Officer, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Crown Lands

3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

- There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary conflicts of interest.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- Updates requested by Ann Collins, David Beharrell and Geraldine reviewed and accepted.
- Ann Collins' comments via email on 9/11/2020:
 - 6.3. *Heritage Applications*
*Could there be an additional dot point please? The feedback letter from the Australian Heritage Council also suggested ways to improve the submission. (*see below for relevant content of letter)*
 - 6.6 *Management of the Lake and Water-skiing:*
Please remove from dot point 1 - "Personal views were clearly articulated separate from views on behalf of the community".
Please modify dot point 4 - Geraldine expressed that the club should be made aware that this was the intent of the Annual Review. This review needs to be done in consultation with the Club.
 - 6.8 *MWWMP POM 2014*
Please add an action:
Mel Hall to follow up regarding engagement of local indigenous groups.
 - 7. *General Business:*
DA 2020/0552 Please change the 1st dot point to:
David and Ann provided information to the Committee as to why they objected to this Development Application. It was agreed an objection and comments could be submitted from the Advisory Committee about developments in the catchment area.
Please add an Action:
David and Ann to write a submission on behalf of the Advisory Committee.
- David Beharrell's comments via email on 9/11/2020:
 - *Agreed with Ann's comments*
 - 6.6 *Management of the Lake and Water-skiing - Point 2:*
David Beharrell noted that as per the Plan of Management 2014 the water-skiing times can be reviewed annually. Furthermore, he identified that current arrangements for water skiing (e.g. times of use) contradict the principles of the PoM, that being, equity of use of lands over which the PoM operates and that it was area set aside for peaceful reflection.

It was also noted that there was a need for transparency in relation to club membership, bookings and fees.

- Geraldine Hall's comments via email on 9/11/2020:
 - *Under the lake management discussion. I agree with the points made by Ann.*
 - *Management of the Lake and Water-skiing point 4:
Can you please add the point below that I made during the meeting?
Geraldine stated that the Water-ski Club had been attempting to liaise with Council since the POM was adopted to arrange the license. The Club should not be penalised that this license hasn't yet been adopted and the original agreement agreed to by the Councillors at the time of the POM should remain.*
- Minutes of the meeting held on 24 August 2020 were adopted with the changes as noted above.

5. UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- The Actions of the meeting held on 24 August 2020 were reviewed and discussed.
- The Meeting Actions spreadsheet will be updated with the details of this discussion.

6. AGENDA ITEMS

6.1 Manly Dam Catchment

- Manly Dam Catchment presentation was delivered by Jodie Crawford - Acting Manager, Coast & Catchments, Jade Vasic - Team Leader Environmental Health & Sonia Roberts – Environmental Health Officer. Presentation attached.
- David Beharrell asked if there is an annual inspection of the golf course to ensure they are following the rules and there is consistency of practice. Sonia said it is currently a joint program and the record of process work is with the EPA. Chris Buckley asked if he can be advised when an audit takes place.
- Cr Sprott congratulated them on the work being carried out and suggested a plan for replacements of collection tanks.
- Cr Sprott asked if the fertiliser being used on the grass at the golf course is safe for animals. Sonia said that there is a guideline that has been taken over by EPA and could not confirm as they would need to know what was used and where.
- Ann requested more details on the \$1.5m funding received in 2006/2007 referred to in the presentation.

The funds were spent on education, water quality monitoring, regeneration and work within the golf course.
- It was suggested that an annual environmental plan/report be provided by the golf club as part of a prevention plan. Sonia said that she could assist with this.
- It was agreed that the findings of the monitoring of water quality by

the Environment Compliance team would be provided to Chris Buckley.

- Cr Sprott raised the idea of drones being used on fairways to identify weeds and spray directly onto weeds instead of blanket spraying. This was noted.
- Geraldine said that the Waterski Club had been attempting to liaise with Council since the POM was adopted to arrange the licence and requested that the Club not be penalised for the licence not yet being adopted and that the original agreement approved by the Councillors at the time of the POM should remain.
- Geraldine said the lake is a closed waterbody and the concern is that it will become un-swimmable. David supported this saying that monitoring the water quality of this iconic freshwater water body is vital as it could potentially become unusable. Jodie said the aim is to bring a holistic water monitoring program for a bigger picture.

ACTION

- That Chris Buckley and the Advisory Committee be provided with an annual update on work carried out by the Environmental Compliance team that impacts the State Park.
- That the Advisory Committee is provided with an annual report regarding the Wakehurst Golf Club's compliance with the environmental management plan for the Wakehurst Golf Course.
- That a plan for replacement of collection tanks be developed by the Environmental Compliance Team.
- Parks and Recreation to liaise with the water ski club in respect to the licence agreement.
- That the current lake monitoring program be reviewed and the outcomes of the review be reported to the Advisory Committee.
- That the current status of the lake be reported to the Advisory Committee.
- That a detailed catchment management plan be developed for the amelioration of current and future threats to the State Park.

6.2 COVID-19 Response for the State Park

- Damian Ham provided an overview of the steps in place to ensure that all COVID-19 safety guidelines are followed including a detailed approach on all activities at the State Park. No major events will be held until restrictions are eased. Council is taking a cautious approach.
- Geraldine questioned the 5'er ride event to be held in March 2021 as advertised on the website <https://garigalgorillas.com.au/blogs/events-coming-up> in reference to COVID-19 restrictions. Damian confirmed that a booking application had been received for this event and is currently being assessed.
- David Beharrell asked what the plans are for Australia Day at the State Park and Damian confirmed that any approved bookings will be in line with current NSW government COVID-19 restrictions. Steve also said that thresholds have been set up and enforced.

6.3 Grants

- Jeremy Smith provided an update on grants submitted for the State Park.

Presentation Capital Works Update attached pages 6 - 7.

- David Beharrell questioned if these grant applications are unsuccessful, could the board-walk project funding be arranged internally through Council as this project would resolve the current and significant safety risk of pedestrians walking on the road. Jeremy responded that it would be a slower implementation process arranging funding internally and if a grant is received the works will progress faster. The Council's contribution to the boardwalk projects has been budgeted for Year 3 and 4 of the current Capital Works program.
- Jeremy said that project planning needs to be balanced and must work in with overall planning across Council however he confirmed that the boardwalk project planning is quite well progressed and if the grant is successful, we can 'press go'.

ACTION

- That the Advisory Committee is kept informed of any grant applications submitted for the State Park and the outcomes.

6.4 Capital Works

- Jeremy Smith provided an update on the current capital works projects including trail upgrades and an overview of the 4-year delivery program process outlining how projects feed into Council's budget once the strategies have been adopted by Council and prioritised across the board.

Presentation Capital Works Update attached pages 2 - 5

- Jeremy said that the State Park capital budget is \$90,000 annually
- Geraldine Hall and Jessica Currie noted that they recently met with some mountain bike riders and this community is eager to be heard and engaged with and it was agreed by the Advisory Committee that this is a high priority.
- Realignment of signage at Manning Street, Manly Vale was briefly discussed but it was agreed that this would be discussed at another time.
- Steve Lawler informed the committee that he recently attended a walk through the bike trails with Stephen Hancock and other riders. The biker riders expressed a desire to work closely with Council.
- Peter Bergman offered his advice following the recent inspections of mountain bike tracks in both the Garigal and Ku-ring-gai Chase National Parks to locate illegal tracks. The review found that there were 3km to 4km of sanctioned tracks and over 90km of unsanctioned/illegal tracks.
- Peter emphasised that linkage between National Parks and Council land is a significant factor to consider during assessment of trails to ensure neighbouring land links together and whilst the intention is not to reward illegal behaviour it is a delicate process. Peter said that

Deep Creek is a good example of National Parks and Council working well together it is consistently managed by both parties.

- Jeremy suggested a walkthrough of the State Park with the Advisory Committee in February 2021 to review the proposed boardwalk alignment which was agreed.

ACTION

- That a walk through is arranged with the Advisory Committee in February 2021 to review the plan for the proposed boardwalk project on-site at the State Park.
- The Advisory Committee to engage with the mountain biking community.
- The realignment of signage at Manning Street, Manly Vale to be discussed at a future meeting.
- That Council note the Advisory Committee view that the capital budget for the State Park is comparatively low and inadequate.
- That a business case is developed for more funds for the State Park.

6.5 State Heritage Register Nomination Update

- Steve Lawler confirmed that he has followed up with the Strategic Planning Team regarding the State Heritage Register Nomination submission and this is still in progress. The Advisory Committee will be given an opportunity to review the Application when it becomes available.

ACTION

- That the Advisory Committee are provided with updates on the Heritage Applications and Strategic Planning to be requested to share the applications with the Advisory Committee before submitting.

6.6 Crown Land Reserve Categorisation for the State Park Update

- Jessica Currie provided an update on the Crown Land Reserve Categorisation project and a summary of the submissions received for the State Park.
- A report is planned to be presented to the December 2020 Council Meeting.

ACTION

- That the Advisory Committee are provided with a report on the Council's decisions related to the State Park and the Crown Land Reserve Categorisation project.

6.7 Open Space and Recreation Strategy Update

- Jessica Currie provided an overview of the progress made on the Open Space and Recreation Strategy including comments received from the Save Manly Dam Catchment Committee and the Remembrance Trust.
- Jessica confirmed a mountain bike trail audit is underway in 3

locations to assess authorised and unauthorised trails. This audit will feed into the next budget bid including for maintenance. Steve referred to the matter of The Grove Bike Park at Seaforth that was addressed at the Council meeting held 27 October 2020. Council considered a report about the unauthorised trails here and agreed to remove the unauthorised trails and to upgrade the Grove Bike Park in 2020/2021 in consultation with riders and residents. The Council Report (Item 13.5) can be viewed by clicking this [LINK](#) and the minutes from the Council meeting by clicking [HERE](#).

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Ann noted she had accepted her invitation to the Remembrance Day celebrations to be held at the State Park on 11 November 2020.
- David Beharrell suggested installing track counters on Mountain Bike and Walking trails to track numbers to support Grant Applications and Budgets. Chris Buckley agreed and said there are currently 12 counters in use at the State Park but would be interested in looking for a better system.
- Save Manly Dam Catchment Committee has started the State Park Citizen Science project, they along with the Coastal Environment Centre are looking at how to engage more citizen science involvement. Ann to provide an update on this project to the Advisory Committee at a future meeting.
- Workshop to discuss water-skiing and presentation by Mr Stephen Hancock on mountain biking in the State Park is to be held Monday 7 December 2020 from 5pm to 6.30pm
- Draft Meeting Schedule 2021

Monday, 1 February 2021 5pm - 7pm

Monday, 17 May 2021 5pm - 7pm

Monday, 9 August 2021 5pm - 7pm

Monday, 8 November 2021 5pm - 7pm

- Next Meeting to be held Monday 1 February 2021 on-line at 5:00pm

ACTION

- Chris Buckley to investigate upgrading the track counting systems at the State Park and report back to the Advisory Committee.
- Ann Collins to provide an update on the State Park Citizen Science project to the Advisory Committee. * Details were provided by Ann via email to the Advisory Committee the morning after the meeting:

This is part of the Citizen Science component of the Manly Dam Biodiversity Study being undertaken by the Save Manly Dam

Catchment Committee. <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/manly-dam-biodiversity-project>

Please feel free to circulate and encourage people to upload their photographs to help identify as many species as possible across the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park.

- Ann Collins to report back to the Advisory Committee at 17 May 2021 meeting on how the State Park Save Manly Dam Catchment Committee project is progressing
- Invitations to the 2021 meetings to be issued.

The meeting concluded at 7.23pm

This is the final page of the Minutes comprising 9 pages numbered 1 to 9 of the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday 9 November 2020.

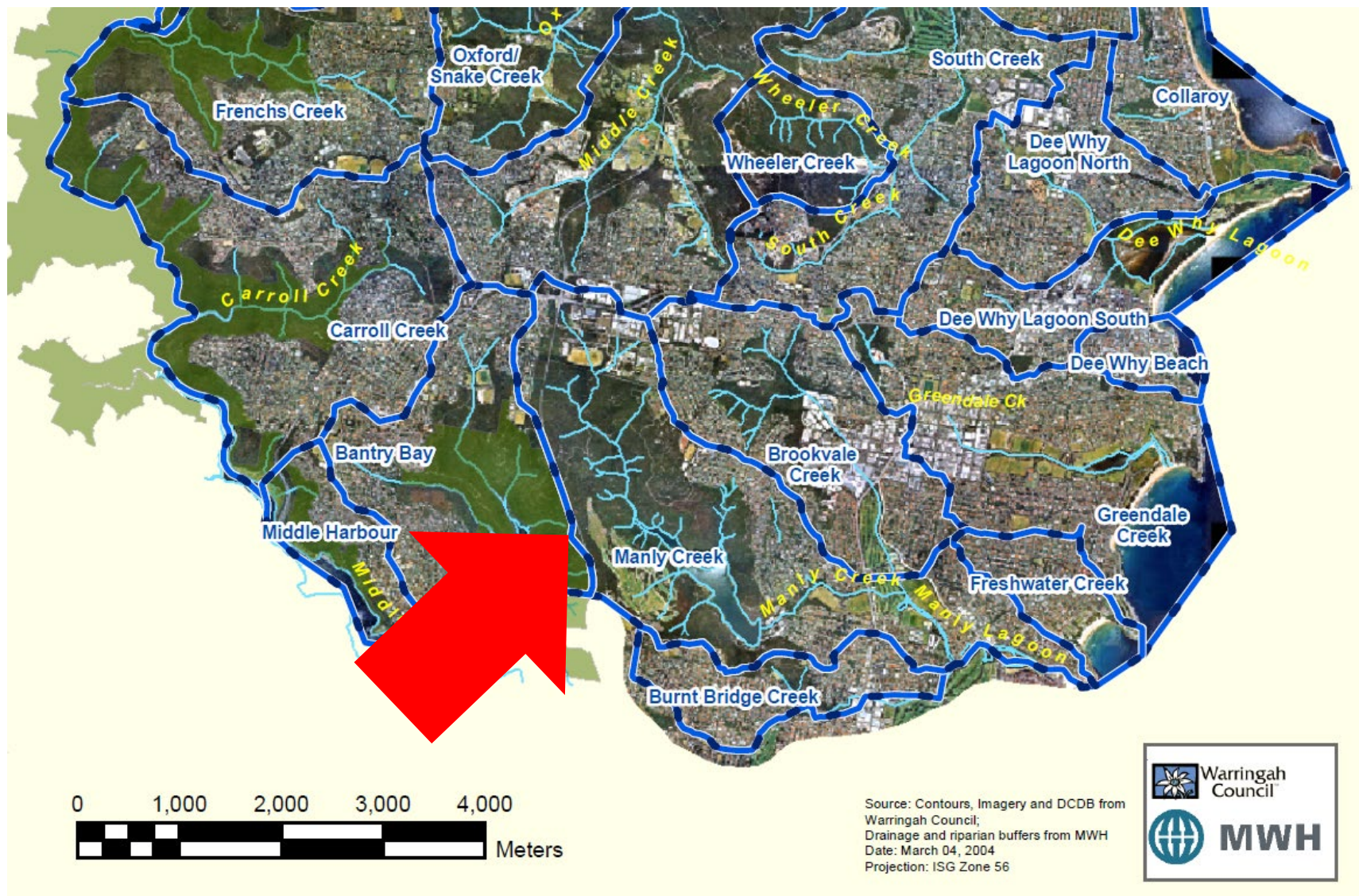


Manly Dam Catchment

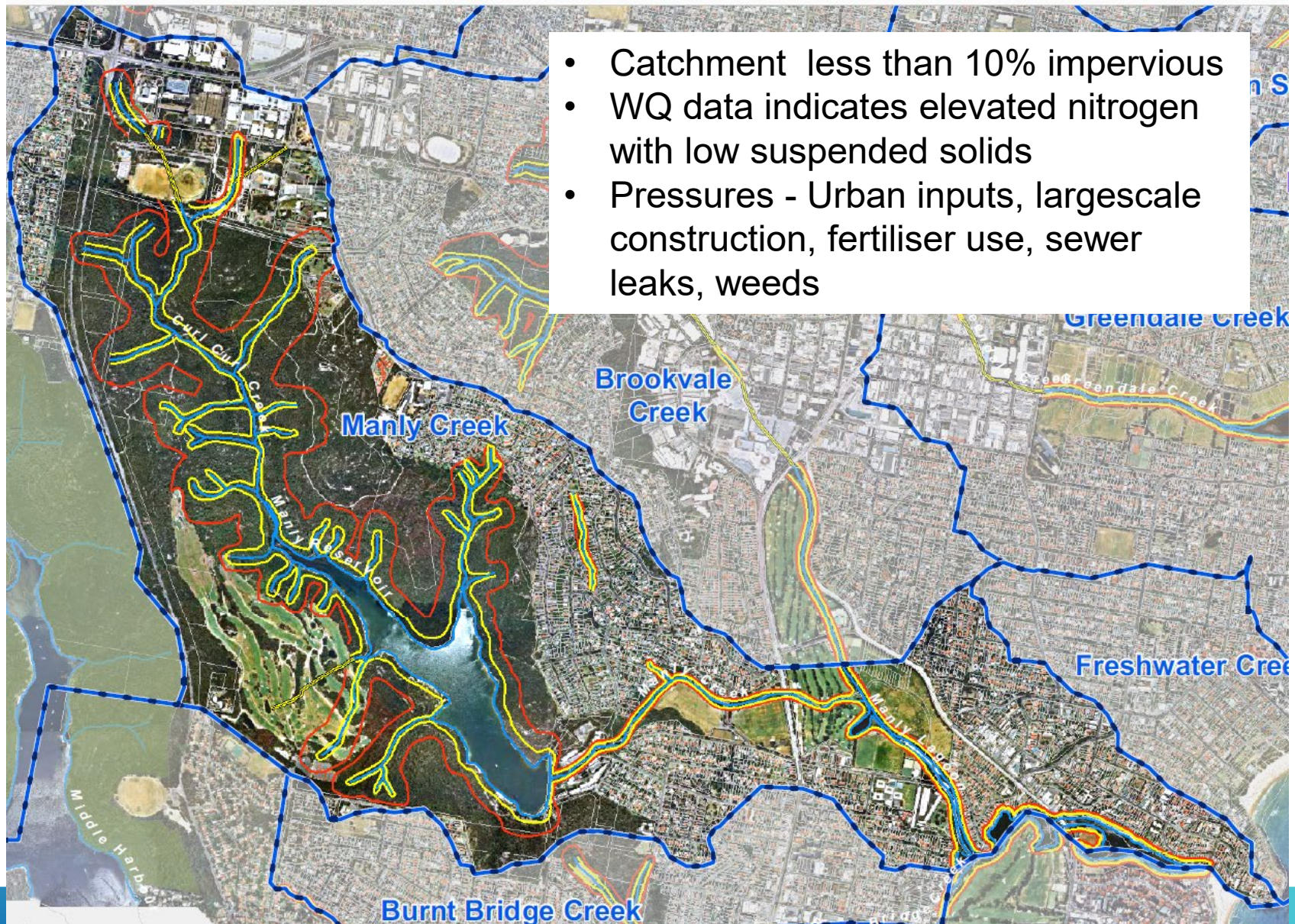
Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park
Advisory Committee 9 November 2020



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- Catchment less than 10% impervious
- WQ data indicates elevated nitrogen with low suspended solids
- Pressures - Urban inputs, largescale construction, fertiliser use, sewer leaks, weeds



Strategies & Plans

- Manly Lagoon Integrated Catchment Management Strategy
- Creek Management Strategy
- Manly Lagoon Plan of Management
- Coastal Management Program

Catchment Management Actions

- Street sweeping
- Water quality control device cleaning
- Wetland construction
- Sustainability education
- Water quality monitoring
- Bush regeneration
- Manly Dam catchment funding – Keeping our Dam Alive project
- Audits and compliance

Opportunities

- Relationships
 - golf course
 - Industry
 - NSW government contracts
- Weed removal
- WSUD

Environmental Compliance

- Joint communication and action approach with the NSW EPA
- Council Pollution Working Group - Liaison with appropriate teams to review current processes, identify gaps and create a coordinated approach when responding to pollution incidents in waterways
- Pollution incident - contact list /New pollution signage
- Proactive inspections -Get the site right/Blitz Day, Environmental Audits – Audit/education of pollution controls in industrial areas
- Improved communication with Sydney Water emergency response team/notification process
- Improved dewatering and S&E DA conditions
- Updated natural and urban hazards info and map for Local Strategic Planning Statement eg. lands with risk of stormwater contamination like Brookvale industrial area

Get the Site Right – Joint Program

- Parramatta River Catchment Group
 - Cooks River Alliance
 - Georges River Combined Councils Committee
 - Sydney Coastal Councils Group
 - Lake Macquarie Council
 - NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
 - Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
 - Local councils.
-
- Environmental Health – regular participant for several years.
 - October 2020 Blitz Day – inspected 55 sites, issued numerous warnings, prevention notices and several penalty infringement notices to come.



"Sediment is not a small problem – up to four truckloads of soil from a building site can be washed away in a single storm if the proper containment measures are not in place," EPA Regional Metropolitan Director Giselle Howard .



Capital Works Update

Park Assets – Planning, Design and Delivery



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20/21 Program

Job	Current Status	Notes
Boardwalk replacement eastern shore	Complete	
Waterfall to fire trail	In progress – completion by end of November	Two sections of boardwalk to be completed below the waterfall, two handrails to install.
Roosevelt to Nyrang	Planning phase	Scheduled for April 2021

Eastern boardwalk replacement



New work – waterfall to fire trail



Roosevelt to Nyrang

- Site access, particularly Roosevelt side, very difficult
- Currently scoping appropriate helicopter drop points for materials
- RFQ is currently being prepared
- Work scheduled to commence April 2020

Update on Grant Applications

Grant Program	What was applied for	Grant Amount
Crown Land Management Fund	Pedestrian trail renewal – Nyrang to Roosevelt	\$120,000
Public Space Legacy Fund	Boardwalk connection between Picnic Area 2 and 3 + general pedestrian and MTB trail upgrades	No specified amount projects are funded based on merit.
Metropolitan Greenspace Program	Boardwalk connection between Picnic Area 2 and 3	\$860,000

Proposed boardwalk alignment



- Alignment allows minimum 1:14 grades – so it is accessible
- Alignment has also been developed to minimise vegetation loss, only one tree will require removal
- A walk through for the Committee of the alignment with the project team will be scheduled for February



Questions?