



COASTAL OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

05 March 2024



COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2028

ONE – CENTRAL COAST IS THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN (CSP) FOR THE CENTRAL COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

ONE – CENTRAL COAST DEFINES THE COMMUNITY'S VISION AND IS OUR ROADMAP FOR THE FUTURE

ONE – CENTRAL COAST BRINGS TOGETHER EXTENSIVE COMMUNITY FEEDBACK TO SET KEY DIRECTIONS AND PRIORITIES

One - Central Coast will shape and inform Council's business activities, future plans, services and expenditure. Where actions are the responsibility of other organisations, sectors and groups to deliver, Council will work with key partners to advocate on behalf of our community.

Ultimately, every one of us who live on the Central Coast has an opportunity and responsibility to create a sustainable future from which we can all benefit. Working together we can make a difference.

RESPONSIBLE

WE'RE A RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY, COMMITTED TO BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS AND DELIVERING A GREAT CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE IN ALL OUR INTERACTIONS.

We value transparent and meaningful communication and use community feedback to drive strategic decision making and expenditure, particularly around the delivery of essential infrastructure projects that increase the safety, liveability and sustainability of our region. We're taking a strategic approach to ensure our planning and development processes are sustainable and accessible and are designed to preserve the unique character of the coast.

 **Good governance and great partnerships**

G2 Engage and communicate openly and honestly with the community to build a relationship based on trust, transparency, respect and use community participation and feedback to inform decision making

There are 5 themes, 12 focus areas and 48 objectives

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2028 FRAMEWORK

All council reports contained within the Business Paper are now aligned to the Community Strategic Plan. Each report will contain a cross reference to a Theme, Focus Area and Objective within the framework of the Plan.

The infographic details the following structure:

- THEME: BELONGING**
 - Focus Area: OUR COMMUNITY (Objectives: G1, G2, G3, G4)
 - Focus Area: COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Objectives: G5, G6)
- THEME: SMART**
 - Focus Area: A GROWING AND COMPETITIVE REGION (Objectives: C1, C2, C3, C4)
 - Focus Area: A PLACE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PEOPLE (Objectives: C5, C6, C7, C8)
- THEME: GREEN**
 - Focus Area: ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING FOR THE FUTURE (Objectives: E1, E2, E3, E4)
 - Focus Area: INCREASED RAIN WATER RESILIENCE (Objectives: E5, E6)
- THEME: RESPONSIBLE**
 - Focus Area: GOOD GOVERNANCE AND GREAT PARTNERSHIPS (Objectives: G1, G2, G3, G4)
 - Focus Area: BELONGING TO OUR INFRASTRUCTURE (Objectives: G5, G6)
 - Focus Area: SAFE AND SOUND DEVELOPMENT (Objectives: G7, G8)
- THEME: LIVEABLE**
 - Focus Area: RELIABLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIONS (Objectives: L1, L2, L3, L4)
 - Focus Area: SAFE AND SOUND INFRASTRUCTURE (Objectives: L5, L6, L7, L8)
 - Focus Area: HEALTHY LIFESTYLES (Objectives: L9, L10, L11, L12)



Meeting Notice

**The Coastal Open Space System
of Central Coast Council
will be held
Remotely – Online,
on Tuesday 5 March 2024 at 2:00pm,
for the transaction of the business listed below:**

Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Receipt of Apologies

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, work and play. We pay our respects to Darkinjung country, and Elders past and present. We recognise the continued connection to these lands and waterways and extend this acknowledgement to the homelands and stories of those who also call this place home. We recognise our future leaders and the shared responsibility to care for and protect our place and people.

1 Procedural Items

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Luke Sulkowski
Chairperson

**1.1 INTRODUCTION: WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY,
APOLOGIES, DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Chairperson

1.2 PREVIOUS BUSINESS: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES, REVIEW ACTION LOG

Chairperson

Attachments

Nil

2.1 COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Presenter: Merindah Overall

Attachments

Nil.



Item No: 2.2
Title: Biodiversity Strategy Actions (Standing Agenda Item)
Department: Environment and Planning

5 March 2024 Coastal Open Space System

Reference: F2018/00099-002 - D16058537
Author: Rochelle Lawson, Senior Ecologist, Natural Assets and Biodiversity
Manager: Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager. Environmental Management
Executive: Alice Howe, Director Environment and Planning

Recommendation

That the COSS Committee note the information in this report.

Report purpose

To provide an update on the Biodiversity Strategy actions to the COSS Committee.

Executive Summary

A brief update on the programs of the Biodiversity Strategy is provided.

Background

An update on the progress of actions in the Biodiversity Strategy is a standing item on the COSS Committee agenda.

Current Status

The Biodiversity Strategy is currently implemented under Council's adopted 2023/24 budget.

Report

The Little Terns at Karagi Point have finished a successful 2023/24 breeding season and have moved from the site with the young fledglings. Fox control activities continue in the vicinity of the site.

The Bush Regeneration program is well underway with most contracts filled. New management plans are being prepared for reserves that currently do not have comprehensive plans or recent bush regeneration activities.

The Environmental Education School Program was very popular with local residents and some tourists attending. A total of 15 workshops were facilitated. 120 children + carers/parents

2.2 Biodiversity Strategy Actions (Standing Agenda Item) (contd)

attended. Over 500 people were engaged through the Roving Ranger workshops in collaboration with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). Environmental Educational Officers are collaborating with local organisations including NPWS for the upcoming Easter School Holiday Program.

A Pets and Protecting Wildlife film is now embedded onto Council's website. This is currently sitting under the following two locations:

- <https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/environment/natural-areas-and-biodiversity/bushland-and-wetland-reserves>
- <https://www.centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/recreation/parks-and-reserves/dog-parks-beaches-and-leash-locations>

This educational tool will help inform our community about the importance of being a responsible pet owner (appropriate places on where to walk your pet and out of COSS and natural areas) and helping to protect our native wildlife.

Negotiations are currently underway for the acquisition of a parcel of proposed COSS land. Details will be provided in future if the acquisition proceeds.

Ecological surveys and other works continue at the Warnervale Floodplain Reserve.

Consultation

An update on progress with implementation of Council's Biodiversity Strategy actions is presented to the COSS Committee for its information.

Financial Considerations

At its meeting held 19 October 2020, Council resolved the following:

- 1108/20 That any motions put before Council for the remainder of this term of Council that have financial implications require the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report on how those additional costs will be met.*

The following statement is provided in response to this resolution of Council.

There are no material financial implications associated with the recommendation.

Link to Community Strategic Plan

Choose Themes

Goal F: Cherished and protected natural beauty

G-F1: Protect our rich environmental heritage by conserving beaches, waterways, bushland, wildlife corridors and inland areas, and the diversity of local native species.

Risk Management

There are no material risks associated with the recommendation.

Options

Nil

Attachments

Nil.



Item No: 2.3
Title: Conservation Agreements (Action Item 168)
Department: Environment and Planning

5 March 2024 Coastal Open Space System

Reference: F2018/00099-002 - D16058532
Author: Rochelle Lawson, Senior Ecologist, Natural Assets and Biodiversity
Manager: Luke Sulkowski, Unit Manager. Environmental Management
Executive: Alice Howe, Director Environment and Planning

Recommendation

That the COSS Committee notes the information in this report.

Report purpose

To provide an update to the COSS Committee in relation to conservation agreements across COSS lands, including information regarding property vegetation plans as per Action Item 168.

Executive Summary

Of the 343 natural areas in the Council conservation network, 26 are formally protected by legal conservation agreements. There are five COSS reserves with conservation agreements.

Background

The three conservation agreement types available in NSW are Property Vegetation Plans, Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements and Conservation Agreements. Under current legislation, only the two latter types are available for entering into new agreements. The agreements are legally-binding protective mechanisms and are registered on title.

Current Status

The Conservation Management Program is currently implemented under Council's 2023/24 budget.

Report

The former Gosford and Wyong councils had both pursued conservation agreements, and since amalgamation, additional agreements have been entered into. Currently, of the 343 natural assets in the conservation network:

2.3 Conservation Agreements (Action Item 168) (contd)

- 225 are bushland (66%)
- 118 are wetland (34%)
- 102 are part of Council's COSS (30%)
- 76 have a reserve management plan (22%)
- 26 are formally protected (23% of these are in fGCC and 77% are in fWSC)

The COSS-designated natural assets with Conservation Agreements are:

- Ferntree Close Reserve R0075
- The Scenic Road Bushland R0152
- Ridgeway/Awabakil Bush Reserve R0206
- Cullens Road Bushland Reserve R0243
- Bradleys Road Bushland R0234

Part of Rumbalara Reserve R0073 has an older BioBanking Scheme agreement, which is still active.

Property Vegetation Plans protect the following non-COSS reserves:

- Mount Alison Bushland
- Southfork Drive Reserve Bushland
- Fountaindale Ridge Reserve
- Mark Foster Reserve
- Beckingham Road Bushland
- Palm Springs Avenue Bushland
- Bangalow Reserve
- Greenbank Road Bushland
- Pleasant Valley Reserve
- Berrys Lane Bushland
- Berkeley Vale Creek Gully Reserve
- Berkeley Vale Wetland Reserve
- Wadalba Wildlife Corridor
- Central Coast Hockey Park Conservation Area

Consultation

An update on Council's conservation agreements is presented to the COSS Committee for its information.

Financial Considerations

At its meeting held 19 October 2020, Council resolved the following:

- 1108/20 That any motions put before Council for the remainder of this term of Council that have financial implications require the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report on how those additional costs will be met.*

2.3 Conservation Agreements (Action Item 168) (contd)

The following statement is provided in response to this resolution of Council.

There is no financial implication of the recommendation.

Link to Community Strategic Plan

Choose Themes

Goal F: Cherished and protected natural beauty

G-F2: Promote greening and the wellbeing of communities through the protection of local bushland, urban trees, and expansion of the Coastal Open Space System (COSS).

Risk Management

Nil

Options

Nil

Attachments

Nil.

2.4 UPDATE FROM COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES (STANDING AGENDA ITEM)

Community Representatives

Attachments

Nil.

2.5 UPDATE FROM EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIVES (STANDING AGENDA ITEM)

External Representatives

Attachments

Nil.

2.6 GENERAL BUSINESS

ALL

Attachments

Nil.

2.7 DRAFT REPORT TO COUNCIL ON COSS TRIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Presenter: Larry Melican

Attachments

Nil.