



DRAFT Skatepark Action Plan 2020

1. OUR VISION

The Central Coast region will have an accessible network of high quality multi-purpose, inclusive skateparks that contribute to active lifestyles, support social engagement, creativity, are appropriately sited and sustainably managed.

2. IMPORTANCE

The World Health Organisation cites the importance of providing safe environments for children to engage in sport and play-based learning which create opportunities to develop life skills that help combat intolerance, gender discrimination, and peer violence.

Skating is an inclusive activity, which in this document, includes BMX, scooters, in-line skates, longboards, and skateboards. It is also a highly social, physical and mental activity that requires a level of athleticism, fitness and skill which has positive health results.

Participating in skating can improve self-esteem and confidence, provide opportunities for peer support and role models, and helps young adults feel more included.

3. LINK TO CSP

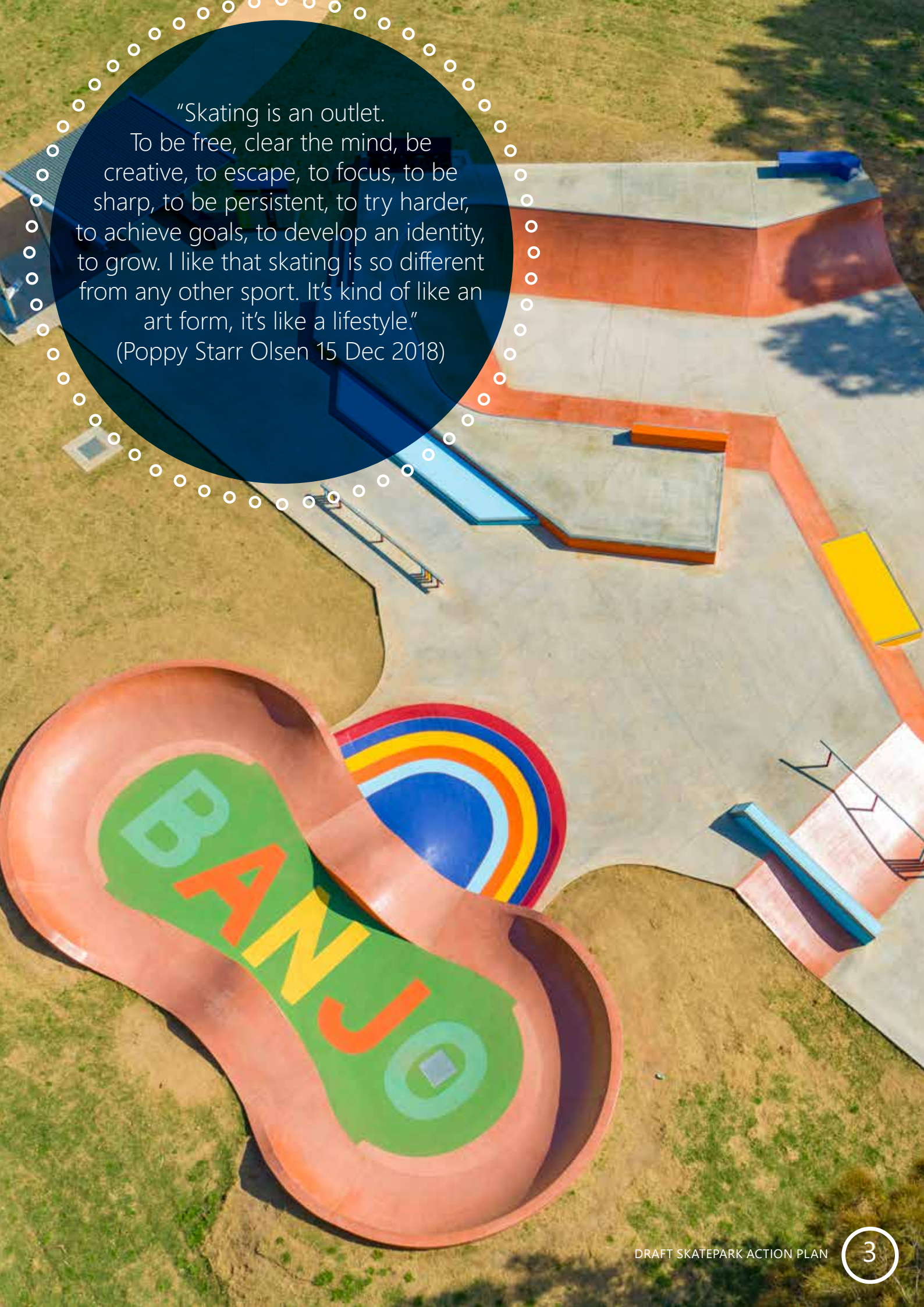
Council's Community Strategic Plan 2018-2028 (CSP), entitled 'One – Central Coast' was developed from extensive community consultation and has five key themes - Belonging, Smart, Green, Responsible, Liveable - which shape future activities, plans, projects and services, including the planning and delivery of skateparks.

Our community have said they value skateparks and the CSP has specific objectives relating to these. Skatepark facilities encourage participation in sport, recreation and community life with social equity.

The key recommended outcomes from the CSP were:

- Outcome 1: Increased Participation
- Outcome 2: Improved Access
- Outcome 3: Integrated Performance Pathways
- Outcome 4: Fit for Purpose Facilities
- Outcome 5: Valued Regional Events
- Outcome 6: Effective Collaboration





"Skating is an outlet.

To be free, clear the mind, be creative, to escape, to focus, to be sharp, to be persistent, to try harder, to achieve goals, to develop an identity, to grow. I like that skating is so different from any other sport. It's kind of like an art form, it's like a lifestyle."

(Poppy Starr Olsen 15 Dec 2018)

4. WHY AN ACTION PLAN

This new action plan has been informed by:

- Gosford Skatepark Strategy 2001
- Wyong Shire Council Sk8 Strategy 2014
- Central Coast Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2018-2023 (Office of Sport NSW)
- Skatepark facilities audit 2019
- Community Engagement 2019

Central Coast Council (CCC) has 26 skateparks distributed across the Local Government Area (LGA). A well-designed action plan articulates a hierarchy of quality skateparks offering diverse opportunities as well as ensuring there is an adopted process for skatepark provision, development, and sustainable management across the LGA.

Changes to legislation, community expectations, new trends, and the increasing urbanisation of the Central Coast will require the review of this action plan every five (5) years.

5. THE ROLE OF OUR SKATEPARKS

Current research shows a decline in participation in organised sport which has led to more participation in alternative activities. Skateparks provide an alternative for people not engaged in organised sport to participate in physical activity and fulfil an important social function in bringing groups together to share spaces.

Riding sports like BMX and scooters that use skateparks are evolving, and demand for skatable infrastructure has also increased.

Skateparks provide opportunity for intergenerational co-operation, tolerance, social interaction and co-existence. This assists with counteracting age stereotypes, developing emotional and social skills and supporting social integration.

Activation of skateparks and BMX facilities is a growing trend that makes these facilities more accessible to the broader community. This, along with the emergence of skateboarding at an Olympic level will offer economic benefits from skate based tourism and further increase demand for this type of facility within the LGA.

6. SCOPE

The action plan applies to skateparks in Council owned or managed public parks and reserves across the LGA and includes those skateparks that are co-located with other recreation facilities such as sports fields and playspaces. It does not include private or indoor skate facilities, but rather complements them.

The action plan also outlines the current status of Council's skatepark facilities and provides a high level action plan that articulates and prioritises their future development to meet the needs of the community.

7. ACTION PLAN OBJECTIVES

- Set the direction for future provision of skateparks over the next ten (10) years considering current and future demographic trends and community/ stakeholder needs
- Outline future planning and provision for successful skateparks and facilities that enable development for entry level through to competition level
- Outline an implementation strategy for short, medium and long term goals with recommendations for skatepark design and construction to align with benchmarks, best practice and universal guidelines over the next 10 years



8. CURRENT STATUS

Council currently has 26 skateparks of varying size and condition across the region. To assist with prioritising future management and maintenance, a condition and function audit was completed.

Key findings of the audit were:

- Some larger skateparks provide little diversity in skater experience
- They currently do not cater for different skill sets and ability level
- More than 80% need improvements
- 52% are local facilities
- Bateau Bay facility (Bato Yard) is the only current regional level facility

The outcome of the audit informs the operational maintenance and long term strategic plan for skate facilities in this action plan, thereby ensuring their longevity and relevance to the community.

9. TRENDS

The Skatepark Action Plan has considered the anticipated population growth, demographics and user trends across the LGA, and applied this to future planning.

Key trends include:

- The population of the CCC area is expected to increase to 414,615 people by 2036 which is an increase of 68,156 (+19.7%) people from 2019
- The age groups that are predicted to account for the largest percentage of the total population in 2036 are 5 to 9 years, 40 to 44 years and 10 to 14 years
- The suburbs with the largest population by 2036 will be Wadalba, Woongarra, Northern Lakes, The Entrance, Gosford, Hamlyn Terrace and Wyong
- The largest % of population growth for age groups 0 to 49 years is Warnervale and Wallarah

Skate styles

In order to meet the needs of the various users, this action plan has analysed the many styles of boarding, scootering and BMX and applied them to future planning. These styles include:

- Plaza or street skateboarding and riding
- "Park" style boarding and riding
- Transition boarding and riding
- Vert skate boarding and BMX

10. DISTRIBUTION

CCC has developed a hierarchy of skatepark categories which serve the different residential catchments. This assists with ensuring equitable distribution and variety of skateparks across the LGA. Distribution is determined by the availability, size and quality of existing open space, demographic data and the category of skatepark facility proposed.

The size and landform of the Central Coast LGA can constrain access and movement across the region. To address this, for the purposes of this action plan and for assessing equity of distribution, the following sub-regions (determined by approx. maximum travel times of 60 minutes by public transport) have been applied.

These are: Central Coast South, Central Coast Mid, Central Coast North and the Mountains District as shown in the tables at the end of the document.



11. SKATEPARK CATEGORIES

Hierarchy

CCC skatepark hierarchy is summarised as follows:

1. Spot

These skateparks are incidental skate spaces or elements integrated into urban spaces and places as opportunities to provide skate function. They 'can increase overall recreational opportunity of an existing space such as a basketball court or existing urban square, or in areas previously considered too small for a skate facility.

- Generally, under 200m²
- Have limited function for multiple activities and events
- Generally single focus, mainly intermediate/beginner as part of broader recreation precinct
- Urban spaces sited adjacent to youth services, major public transport and town centres

2. Local

Skateparks in this category support scooter or skater beginners within local spaces in residential neighbourhoods. These traditional smaller neighbourhood skate facilities are repetitive in design and use, which creates a focused environment to practice as beginners at these spaces before moving onto the larger skate spaces.

- Approx. 200-600m² providing for local communities' training activities and participation programs
- Services a local community or multiple suburbs, approx. 15min travel time to access
- Generally single focus (street elements, ramp), as part of broader recreation precinct
- Focus on intermediate/beginner but still functional for more advanced users

3. District

Skateparks in this category cater to intermediate user styles and levels of proficiency in a central accessible area. Generally sited in recreation reserves or with other sporting infrastructure, they support beginner/entry level use or practice, and skate can occur but may not be the focus of the space.

- Approx. 600-1500m² within 30min travel time to access within the LGA or across regions
- District facilities service a local community to provide a mix of recreational, competitive and program formats of participation
- Either single user focus (bowl, or street components) or mix thereof used by beginner through to intermediate level

4. Regional

Skateparks in this category are large enough to cater to multiple user styles and levels of proficiency in a central accessible area. Generally sited in recreation reserves or with other sporting infrastructure, they can support the major needs of those participants in the sport at one time.

- Over 1500m², or significant location or components
- Attract riders from across and outside the LGA
- Provides for high level competition and training, and/or a broad range of sport and active recreation opportunities for a large number
- Proximity to transport nodes, commercial or community centres, and services
- Caters for multiple user styles (street, park, elite street, vert etc.). Iconic elements of national significance

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

Given the diversity of user styles and the mix of those that skateboard for competition, or for recreation, skatepark provision will aim to focus on key areas rather than cater to all needs at all skateparks.

Council will be proactive in supporting relevant pathways to elite competition for those who want to follow a more specific sporting side of skating.

The following section outlines the ten (10) year implementation plan for new facilities and the redevelopment of existing parks, with maps showing the current skatepark distribution and future long term skatepark implementation plan.

Recommendation summary

The implementation plan has been summarised into short term, medium and long term goals, as follows:

Short term (1-3 years):

- Development of new regional facility at Umina Beach
- Development of new regional facility at Lake Munmorah
- Redevelopment of Narara facility to district level
- Repair existing skatepark facilities to address any safety concerns and extend lifespans until consolidation and redevelopment is implemented

Medium term (4-7 years):

- Consolidation and redevelopment of local facilities in accordance with development of larger facilities. Timeline to ensure larger projects are implemented prior to removal of any existing facilities to maintain consistent level of provision

Long term (8-10 years):

- Development of new district facility in Warnervale/ Wadalba area. Location to consider the Pedestrian Access & Mobility Plan (PAMP), and ensure the facility is in a high profile, accessible space
- Introduction of spot facilities in the Woy Woy/Empire Bay area, Tuggerah/Chittaway Bay area and other locations with limited access to larger facilities. Facility locations to consider the PAMP, and integration into shared pathways and social spaces
- Investigate the potential for developing a regional skatepark facility to the west of the Pacific Hwy including identifying potential sites.

Other considerations

- Develop partnerships with relevant stakeholders and surrounding councils to maximise events, programs and funding opportunities
- Further develop communication and promote future facilities, events and programs
- Monitor, evaluate and report recommendations annually over the life of the action plan
- Review the Skatepark Action Plan every five years for relevance with current trends and standards
- Ongoing maintenance of skatepark provision



CCC SKATEPARK ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Facility Name	Planning Zone	WARD	Facility Rating	Current Category	Actions Short term = 1-3yrs Long term = 10yrs	Future Category
Central Coast South						
Existing Facilities						
Copacabana	EBW	Gosford East	Fair	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, continue ongoing maintenance, replace at end of life Long term: Consideration for additions subject to ongoing use	Local
East Gosford	GC	Gosford East	Poor	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, minor repairs required to minimise safety concerns, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as local facility	Local
Narara (Gosford)	GC	Gosford West	Poor	Local	Short term: Replace with district facility Long term: Monitor condition, minor repairs required to minimise safety concerns, replace at end of life	District
Kincumber	EBW	Gosford East	Poor	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, minor repairs required to minimise safety concerns, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as local facility	Local
Kincumber South	EBW	Gosford East	Fair	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, continue ongoing maintenance, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as local facility	Local
Kariong	WBW	Gosford West	Poor	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, minor repairs required to minimise safety concerns, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as local facility	Local
Umina Beach	WBW	Gosford West	Poor	District	Short term: Regional skate facility redevelopment underway	Regional
Empire Bay	WBW/EBW	Gosford East	N/A	Spot	Short term: Pump Track Long term: Retain as spot facility for local use	Spot
Proposed Facilities						
Woy Woy / Ettalong	WBW/EBW	Gosford West	N/A	Nil	(Location to be decided in accordance with PAMP strategy) Long term: Potential for spot facility for local use	Spot

Facility Name	Planning Zone	WARD	Facility Rating	Current Category	Actions Short term =1-3yrs Long term = 10yrs	Future Category
Central Coast Mid						
Existing Facilities						
Banjo's Skatepark (Terrigal)	EBW	Gosford East	Excellent	District	Monitor condition and continue ongoing maintenance	District
'Bato Yard'	SL	The Entrance	Excellent	Regional	Monitor condition and continue ongoing maintenance	Regional
Berkley Vale	SL	The Entrance	Excellent	Local	Monitor condition and continue ongoing maintenance	Local
The Entrance	SL	The Entrance	Fair	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, continue ongoing maintenance, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as local facility	Local
Ourimbah	NA	Wyong	Fair	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, continue ongoing maintenance, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as local facility	Local
Proposed Facilities						
Tuggerah / Chittaway Bay	SL/WY	The Entrance	N/A	Nil	(Location to be decided in accordance with PAMP strategy) Long term: Potential for spot facility for local use	Spot
Central Coast North						
Existing Facilities						
Blue Haven	NL	Budgewoi	Fair	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, continue ongoing maintenance, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as local facility and seek new location on site	Local
Chain Valley Bay	NL	Budgewoi	Poor	Spot	Long term: Retain as spot facility for local use	spot
Gwandalan	NL	Budgewoi	Poor	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, minor repairs required to minimise safety concerns, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as local facility	Local
Halekulani	NL	Budgewoi	Poor	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, minor repairs required to minimise safety concerns, replace at end of life Long term: Relocate to Colongra Sporting Facility	Local
Lake Haven	WY	Budgewoi	Fair	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, continue ongoing maintenance, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as local facility and seek new location on site	Local
Lake Munmorah	NL	Budgewoi	Poor	Local	Short term: Existing local facility to be removed. Regional facility under development at new location	Regional

Central Coast North (cont)						
Existing Facilities (cont)						
Mannering Park	NL	Budgewoi	Fair	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, continue ongoing maintenance, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as local facility and seek new location on site	Local
San Remo Skatepark	NL	Budgewoi	Poor	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, minor repairs required to minimise safety concerns, replace at end of life Long term: Consideration for additions to district subject to ongoing use	District
San Remo Pad	NL	Budgewoi	Fair	Spot	Short term: Monitor condition, continue ongoing maintenance, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as spot facility for local use	Spot
Toukley	NL	Budgewoi	Fair	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, continue ongoing maintenance, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as local facility	Local
Wadalba	WY	Wyong	Fair	District	Short term: Monitor condition, continue ongoing maintenance, replace at end of life Long term: Consideration for additions subject to ongoing use	District
Watanobbi	WY	Wyong	Poor	Spot	Short term: Monitor condition, minor repairs required to minimise safety concerns, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as spot facility for local use	Spot
Proposed Facilities						
Colongra	NL	Budgewoi	N/A	Nil	Local facility under development	Local
Warnervale	NL	Wyong	N/A	Nil	Future Hilltop Park development- potential district level pump track	District
Mountains & Valleys						
Existing Facilities						
Mangrove Mountain	MV	Gosford West	Poor	Local	Short term: Monitor condition, minor repairs required to minimise safety concerns, replace at end of life Long term: Retain as local facility and seek new location on site	Local
Planning Zone Codes						
NL - Northern Lakes, WY - Wyong, NA - Narara, SL - Southern Lakes, EBW - East Brisbane Water, WBW - West Brisbane Water, MV - Mountains & Valleys, GC - Gosford Central						

Existing Type and Condition Map



Future Implementation Map







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