



**REPORT TITLE:** UMINA COASTAL SANDLPLAIN WOODLAND  
**REPORT TO ADVISORY GROUP:** PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT TRUST  
**DATE OF MEETING:** 1 JULY 2021  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** SHARYN STYMAN

---

### **Report Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide a proposal for the Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland (UCSW) as requested in Action Item 98.

### **Background**

At its meeting held 20 April 2021 the Committee requested staff provide proposals at the next meeting addressing the amounts in the financial report for UCSW, in particular the intent of funds for Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland.

### **Context**

The former Department of Environment and Climate Change prepared the 'Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland Endangered Ecological Community Restoration and Rehabilitation Management Plan' ('the Management Plan') that identified and prioritised management actions for the rehabilitation and regeneration of Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland (UCSW) across its extent.

In accordance with development consent 30219/2006 condition 83, a total sum of \$225,000 was transferred by the developer to the Trust for the rehabilitation and management of other remnant parcels of the Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland (UCSW) within the locality of 45 Hillview Street, Woy Woy. This work is to be conducted in consultation with NSW Government and the management recommendations in the Management Plan.

Of the twelve sites containing UCSW identified in the Management Plan, the three sites with the largest fragment size are:

1. Burrawang Reserve (Woy Woy),
2. McEvoy Oval (Umina), and
3. Umina Oval and adjoining Drainage Reserve (Umina) (see Figure 1).

These sites are considered the highest priority for restoration and rehabilitation and are all Council owned or managed land. As land manager, Council has a legal obligation to ensure any works are performed in accordance with the Management Plan and relevant legislation.

Council staff have prepared a 10 year plan for the rehabilitation and management of UCSW at three priority sites to the value of \$226,270 (see Attachment 1). This equates to the value for the 'Umina Coastal Sandplain Woodland' fund shown in the third quarter (March 21)

financial report. Note the values are in present value and subject to annual review following site inspection and monitoring.

### Option 1

Council staff have prepared a work program and budget (see Attachment 2) for the 2021-22 financial year for the rehabilitation and management of the three priority UCSW sites. The Committee is requested to endorse the work program and budget. The Committee is requested to approve release of a total of \$41,730 from the Protection of the Environment Trust fund to Central Coast Council to implement the endorsed work program in financial year 21-22.

Recommendations to Committee:

1. Endorse 'Attachment 2 - 21-22 Work Program and Budget – UCSW Priority Sites'.
2. Approve release of \$41,730 from funds held in the Trust to Central Coast Council for implementation of endorsed work program in financial year 21-22.

### Option 2

The Protection of the Environment Trust Management Committee could directly engage a contractor to project manage implementation of the Management Plan. This would require the contractor or Trust to apply for a licence from Central Coast Council to undertake the rehabilitation works on the priority sites in accordance with the Management Plan. Any licence granted is likely to require submission of copies to Council of the following: relevant qualifications for the person/s undertaking the work, environmental approvals and licences required to undertake the work, certificates of currency for relevant insurances and health and safety procedures.

### Option 3

The Committee could postpone release of funds.

### **Staff Recommendation**

1. Endorse 'Attachment 2 - 21-22 Work Program and Budget - UCSW Priority Sites'.
2. Approve release of \$41,730 from funds held in the Trust to Central Coast Council for the approved works in financial year 21-22.



**Figure 1:** Location of priority UCSW sites owned or managed by Central Coast Council.

**ATTACHMENT 1: 10 Year Plan - UCSW Rehabilitation**

ID	Action	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	Total
1	Control and Formalise Access	\$10,700	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$2,100	\$29,600
2	Protect from development	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
3	Rubbish removal	\$875	\$875	\$875	\$875	\$875	\$875	\$875	\$875	\$875	\$875	\$8,750
4	Weed control and regeneration	\$28,000	\$23,600	\$23,600	\$23,600	\$6,600	\$10,600	\$6,600	\$10,600	\$6,600	\$10,600	\$150,400
5	Community awareness and education	\$1,630	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$8,130
6	Fire management (incl APZs)	\$0	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$17,000
7	Drainage maintenance	\$525	\$0	\$525	\$0	\$525	\$0	\$525	\$0	\$525	\$0	\$2,625
8	Management plans	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,000	\$8,000
9	Umina Campus environment committee	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
10	Revegetation and strategic replanting	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500
11	Appropriate landscaping	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$965	\$300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,265
12	Erosion control	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
13	Start a bushcare group	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
14	Protect from mowing and slashing	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
15	Undertake appropriate environmental assessment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Total	\$41,730	\$33,075	\$32,600	\$31,540	\$20,400	\$13,575	\$11,100	\$13,575	\$11,100	\$17,575	\$226,270

**ATTACHMENT 2: 21-22 Work Program and Budget - UCSW Priority Sites**

ID	Action	Proposed work	Site	Rates (ex. GST)	POET Fund
1	Control and Formalise Access	Complete track and fence audit, prepare map showing fencing and tracks to be retained / closed in consultation with key stakeholders (including DPIE, asset manager, Landcare, adjoining neighbours etc).	All priority sites	25 hours staff time @\$75/hr (track audit, stakeholder consultation and map revision, environmental assessment)	\$1,875
		Replant tracks to be closed.	Burrawang Reserve	8 hours bush regenerator @\$50/hr 250 tubestock @\$2.50 ea	\$1,025
		Install natural barriers (e.g. logs) to deter access.	McEvoy Oval	32 hours Council crew @\$50/hr Hire Council flat bed truck and driver @\$1000/day	\$2,600
		Install natural barriers (e.g. logs) or repair existing fencing to delineate restoration areas and prevent access.	Umina Oval	64 hours Council crew @\$50/hr Materials \$1000 Hire Council flat bed truck and driver @\$1000/day	\$5,200
2	Protect from development	Categorise UCSW fragments at priority sites as Natural Area-Bushland in generic Plan of Management.	All priority sites	In conjunction with POM Project	\$0
3	Rubbish removal	Conduct one annual inspection to monitor any littering or dumping.	All priority sites	5 hours staff time @\$75/hr (inspection)	\$875
		Arrange removal of any dumped rubbish and either reuse, recycling or disposal at an approved waste facility.		\$500 disposal fees	
4	Weed control and regeneration	Continue to support Landcare group and supervise replanting. Slash boundary of reserve to control exotic grass species. Control weeds in drainage line. Establish monitoring program.	Burrawang Reserve	In conjunction with Environmental Volunteering Program. 3 hours staff time @\$75/hr (contract preparation and management, consultation) \$100/slash 8 times per year 144 hours @\$50/hr bush regenerator (field work, monitoring and report preparation) 5 hours ecologist @\$100/hr (min. 2 person team plus report prep)	\$8,725
		Prepare site management plan (including vegetation community and weed density mapping, native and weed species lists, baseline flora plots and action plan) in consultation with asset managers.	McEvoy Oval	6 hours staff time @\$75/hr (contract preparation and management, consultation) 30 hours @\$100/hr ecologist (field work and report preparation)	\$3,450
		Implement Bushland Management Plan (Gecko Environmental Management 2009) including establishing monitoring program and reporting. Conduct rabbit control if impacting regeneration.	Umina Oval	11 hours staff time @\$75/hr (environmental assessment, contract preparation and management) 300 hours @ \$50/hr bush regenerator/ecologist (field work and report preparation)	\$15,825
5.0	Community awareness and education	Install interpretive signs at major access points.	All priority sites	10 hours staff time @\$75/hr (update sign content, graphic design and project management) 8 signs @\$60/sign 8 hours Council crew @\$50/hr (installation)	\$1,630
6	Fire management (incl APZs)	Complete bush fire assessment including ecological burn plan, frequency and scheduling that specifically considers the presence of the UCSW EEC. Assess requirements for asset protection zones (APZs) required in line with changes in legislation. Establish and maintain required APZs.	All priority sites	Postponed to FY 22-23 following recruitment of Bushfire Planning Officer	\$0
7	Drainage maintenance	Review adequacy of maintenance of drainage easement.	Burrawang Reserve	7 hours staff time @\$75/hr (inspection and consultation)	\$525
8	Management plans	Update and finalise draft management plan for UCSW on Council Parks and Reserves.	All priority sites	Postponed to FY 22-23 to incorporate weed density mapping and trail plan	\$0
9	Umina Campus environment committee	Not applicable to priority sites.			\$0
10	Revegetation and strategic replanting	Investigate replanting areas not regenerating following weed control or landscaping.	All priority sites	Postponed to FY 22-23 following baseline monitoring	\$0
11	Appropriate landscaping	Plant native species to encourage natural regeneration. Plant native species around Nambucca Drive playground.	All priority sites	Postponed to FY 22-23 following consultation with asset owners	\$0
12	Erosion control	Monitor soil erosion.	All priority sites	In conjunction with inspection for rubbish dumping (ID 3), no additional cost	\$0
13	Start a bushcare group	Promote establishment of a bushcare group for McEvoy Oval.	McEvoy Oval	Postpone until site management plan prepared and staff resources available to engage community and supervise group	\$0
14	Protect from mowing and slashing	Monitor interface of remnants for any encroachment or damage from mowing and slashing.	All priority sites	In conjunction with inspection for rubbish dumping (ID 3), no additional cost	\$0
15	Undertake appropriate environmental assessment	Ensure proposal that may impact on UCSW have undergone appropriate environmental assessment e.g. extraction of groundwater.	All priority sites	In conjunction with planning proposal and development assessment and preparation of environmental assessments for Council work	\$0
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$41,730</b>