



*Caring for our
riverside parks and
reserves:
A strategy for
managing riverside
recreation and
riparian vegetation*

The Strategy



Acknowledgments

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Cover: Lilydale Reserve, Clarence River
(Photo D. Parkin)

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Document Synopsis

The 'Caring for our riverside parks and reserves: A strategy for managing riverside recreation and riparian vegetation' comprises the following documents:

 <p>Caring for our riverside parks and reserves: A strategy for managing riverside recreation and riparian vegetation The Strategy</p>	<p>This document</p> <p>The Strategy: It is the overarching document that outlines the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Planning and management context▪ Vegetation management and enhancement parameters▪ Recreation provision and site embellishment parameters for each riverside park and reserve
 <p>Caring for our riverside parks and reserves: A strategy for managing riverside recreation and riparian vegetation DRAFT Key Directions</p>	<p>Key Directions: It is the 'works plan' that outlines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Site values and management intent▪ Vegetation management and rehabilitation details▪ Recreational infrastructure development▪ Work schedule priority for each riverside park and reserve
 <p>Caring for our riverside parks and reserves: A strategy for managing riverside recreation and riparian vegetation Recreational use of riverside reserves: Issues Matrix</p>	<p>Issues Matrix: Is a structured review and analysis of the vegetative and physical characteristics of each reserve, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Reserve access and neighbours▪ Predominant user group and recreational activities undertaken▪ Site impacts▪ Other providers
 <p>Caring for our riverside parks and reserves: A strategy for managing riverside recreation and riparian vegetation Technical Report 1: Impact of recreation on riparian vegetation and riverine environs</p>	<p>Technical Report 1: Is a review of recreation impacts to riparian areas and mitigation strategies to conserve and enhance riparian vegetation, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Impacts to riparian communities▪ Mitigation strategies▪ Recreational management considerations
 <p>Caring for our riverside parks and reserves: A strategy for managing riverside recreation and riparian vegetation Technical Report 2: Legislation and policy governing riverside recreation and camping in the Clarence Valley</p>	<p>Technical Report 2: Is a review of the legislative framework that supports the provision of recreation in the Clarence Valley, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Key legislation relating to the provision and management of recreation opportunities on public land in the Clarence Valley▪ A review of specific legislative provisions guiding recreation provision▪ A discussion on proposed policy and legislation improvements

Executive Summary

This *Riverside Recreation and Riparian Vegetation Strategy* was developed by Clarence Valley Council to better provide for the recreational use and protection of natural vegetation on Council managed riverside parks and reserves upstream of Grafton. Specifically, Council has created this strategy to:

- Catalogue site attributes, including the general biophysical characteristics of each reserve;
- Identify the main visitors using each reserve;
- Identify recreational activities that are appropriate for each reserve;
- Catalogue current environmental impacts and management issues at each site; and
- Set the key directions for future management.

This strategy is designed to complement existing, and future plans of management in managing recreation needs and impacts. It is one of many tools to assist Council in preserving the natural and cultural values of riverside parks and reserves. The strategy adopts an integrated land management approach to balance often competing values of conservation, cultural heritage protection and recreation provision.

This strategy strongly supports the *Clarence River Way Masterplan* through better physical access and interpretive stories about the river whilst being mindful of the need to protect and enhance riparian vegetation. It encourages a coordinated approach to planning and management activities associated with the Clarence River and its tributaries. This will be achieved primarily by upgrading reserves so that they are more clearly identifiable as public open space and installing infrastructure to protect native vegetation and support riverside recreational pursuits. Specific key issues are the vegetation management initiatives required to protect and restore riparian vegetation communities and the designation and regulation of reserves available to the public for specific recreational activities such as overnight camping.

This strategy and the *Key Directions* document are also an integral component that will direct on-ground action in support of Clarence Valley Council's 'Sustainability Initiative', helping to create and shape a sustainable future for the Valley. The strategy framework and supporting documentation are also conceptually significant in that they provide the model for similar initiatives that aim to address the competing demands of recreation provision and native vegetation protection in riverine environments across New South Wales and Australia more generally.

The development of this *Strategy*, the *Key Directions* and accompanying documents was achieved with support from Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water and the NSW Land and Property Management Authority.

1.0 Introduction

Rivers and riverside parks and reserves are used by a wide portion of the community for various activities including relaxation, recreation and nature appreciation. They are also important indicators of the health of aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna and bank stability – things which add to the amenity and naturalness of a place. However, riverside parks and reserves in the upper Clarence Valley Council local government area (LGA) are being impacted by a range of recreational uses that are threatening the integrity and viability of riparian vegetation. Consequently, the complex and overlapping nature of these issues provides a management challenge.

The Clarence River and its main tributaries: (the Coldstream, Orara, Mann, Boyd and Nymboida Rivers) make up the single most dominant landscape feature in the Clarence Valley LGA. It holds strong cultural significance for the Traditional people of the area and historical linkages to the development of the many towns and villages that line its banks. Accordingly, the Clarence River system plays a significant role in establishing the character of the Clarence Valley, as well as the towns and villages along its banks, and the lifestyle and recreational pastimes of residents and visitors to the area.

Small parcels of mostly rare remnant native vegetation (endangered ecological communities) occur on the riversides in contrast to the extensively cleared Clarence Valley floodplain. In many areas the riverside vegetation has been similarly cleared of native vegetation leaving a simple native plant structure and a significant number of weed species.

Much of the riverside land is held in private ownership, and public access is limited to a relatively few Crown reserves and Community land located in the townships and villages along the river or major tributaries and at points where roads or ferries cross the river. Consequently, riverside Crown reserves and Community land provide an important link for residents and visitors to access and enjoy the Clarence River and its tributaries.

Riverside Crown reserves and Community lands therefore have the following functions:



Figure 1: Blackbutt Reserve, Kremnos



Figure 2: Eatonsville Reserve, Eatonsville



Figure 3: Mountain View Arboretum, Mountain View

- To contribute to the Clarence Valley's character through public access, appropriate use and enjoyment;
- To provide for a range of recreation opportunities compatible with public use and preservation of riverside environments; and
- To showcase Council's commitment to sustainable riparian management including riverside protection, enhancement and habitat preservation on public lands.

1.1 Purpose of this strategy

The *Riverside Recreation and Riparian Vegetation Strategy* is a ten-year plan that provides a strategic approach to the provision of recreational opportunities and facilities for Council's riverside parks and reserves upstream of Grafton. It provides a management approach that will enable the community to undertake appropriate recreation activities consistent with other requirements to protect important environmental, cultural, and public access values.

This strategy also aims to guide the management actions and on-ground measures on riverside Crown reserves and Community lands to protect and conserve riverbanks and high conservation value riparian areas. Rivers and riverside parks and reserves with remnant native vegetation are important because they:

- Provide high conservation value habitat for terrestrial and aquatic flora and fauna;
- Provide high amenity opportunities for recreation;
- Provide buffers to help sustain healthy water quality; and
- Support sustainable economic activities, such as fishing and eco-tourism.

Inappropriate recreational use of riverside environments inevitably causes some environmental degradation. Some specific impacts include:

- Clearing of vegetation for campsites and river access;
- Scavenging of timber for camp furniture and fires; and
- Loss of ground cover leaving soil exposed to erosional processes and soil compaction.

The scale and significance of these impacts can be complex, interrelated and often has a compounding effect. Impacts within riverside environments can also be attributed to poorly constructed, maintained or located recreation infrastructure.

This strategy identifies appropriate recreation opportunities while protecting and enhancing the environment. It is a management tool that will enable appropriate recreational development in light of a site's environmental and cultural attributes, ensuring the long-term protection of riverside parks and reserves and their values.

1.2 Strategy goals and objectives

- To provide strategic direction for the range of recreational opportunities appropriate on riverside parks and reserves in the Clarence Valley.
- To ensure protection of areas of high natural, or cultural significance from inappropriate use or development.
- To ensure an appropriate balance of recreation opportunities is provided across a range of areas.
- To provide a tool for Council to better provide for recreation use whilst protecting the natural and cultural values of riverside parks and reserves.
- To provide a basis for the development of recreational opportunities and settings appropriate to meeting the needs of the community and visitors.

1.3 Guiding principles: setting the direction

In developing this strategy, the following principles were established:

Conservation of natural and cultural values

Riverside parks and reserves are highly valued community assets that often contain significant natural and cultural values. The need to identify an appropriate balance of recreational opportunities consistent with the primary need to protect environmental, cultural and landscape values must be recognised. The provision of a diverse range of recreation opportunities will be balanced by the need to protect the natural and cultural values of a site.

Integrated planning

In assessing the range of recreation opportunities that can or should be provided on any given riverside park or reserve, consideration will be given to the range of opportunities available or able to be developed in the broader region. Not all activities and expectations will be accommodated on each riverside park or reserve.

Recreation based on identified needs and demand

Recreation opportunity provision will be on the basis of identified community needs and demand. Needs and demand may relate to both the resident population and visitors to the Clarence Valley. Council's 'Sustainability Initiative' will also be used to guide the assessment process.

Consultation with the community and user groups

Facilities and services for recreation will be planned in consultation with the community and user groups to ensure that, wherever possible, they ensure protection of values, meet the needs and expectations of users, minimise risks, and reduce conflict between activities and between neighbours and park/reserve users.

Economic evaluation

Whilst some funding for development and construction may be available in the short to medium term, ongoing capital or operating costs for recreational facilities cannot be assumed. Commercial opportunities, both public and private sector, to provide for recreation need to be grounded in realistic business cases.

1.4 Methodology

This document brings together the elements of a planning and data gathering process that commenced in October 2008, including the establishment of a Project Steering Committee with representatives from:

- Clarence Valley Council;
- Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water; and
- NSW Land and Property Management Authority.

The development of this strategy is the result of three distinct, but connected stages:

1. The collection and collation of site data to determine the condition of and issues to be addressed at each riverside park and reserve as part of this project:
 - This phase resulted in the development of the '*Issues Matrix*';
2. A review of relevant literature to determine the negative affect that recreation in riverside environs has on riparian vegetation and the management options available
 - This phase resulted in the development of two *Technical Reports*:
 - i. Impact of recreation on riparian vegetation and riverine environs; and
 - ii. Legislation and policy governing riverside recreation and camping in the Clarence Valley.
3. A public consultation/engagement phase to determine the range of recreational opportunities and native vegetation protection works to be scheduled for each site:
 - This phase resulted in the development of the '*Key Directions*' document.

This strategy is to be read in conjunction with the *Key Directions* document.

1.5 Monitoring and review

Council has a responsibility through legislation to provide public open space, including the fostering and management of the public use and appreciation of those areas, and the protection of natural and cultural values of parks and reserves. Council also has a legislative and community obligation to ensure that management of its parks and reserves are financially sustainable. Ongoing monitoring of the plan is a responsibility of both Clarence Valley Council

and the local community. Implementation of this plan will be reviewed on an annual basis, with a complete review of the plan every ten (10) years. Any new reserves acquired during this period will be incorporated into this plan.

2.0 Planning and Management Context

2.1 Strategy scope

This *Riverside Recreation and Riparian Vegetation Strategy* has been developed for the parks and reserves listed in Table 1. Full park/reserve property details are provided at Appendix 1.

**Table 1: List of riverside parks and reserves forming part of the
'Caring for our riverside parks and reserves' project**

Park Name	Locality	Tenure	Size (Ha)	Sub Catchment
Mountain View (South) Park	Mountain View	Community	3.5497	Clarence River
Arboretum Mountain View	Mountain View	Crown	1.367	Clarence River
Mountain View Park	Mountain View	Crown	2.199	Clarence River
Mountain View (North) Park	Mountain View	Community	6.1876	Clarence River
Moleville Rocks Public Reserve	Moleville Creek	Crown	3.481	Clarence River
Hogbin Park Public Reserve	Seelands	Community	0.48	Clarence River
Eastland Park	The Whiteman	Crown	0.714	Clarence River
Rogan Bridge Public Reserve (E)	Seelands	Community	0.0755	Clarence River
Rogan Bridge Public Reserve (W)	Seelands	Community	0.06	Clarence River
Solitude Park	Seelands	Community	0.2604	Clarence River
Eatonsville Reserve	Eatonsville	Crown	14.2201	Clarence River
Lilydale Reserve	Winegrove	Crown	19.93	Clarence River
Goolang Creek Recreation Reserve	Blaxlands Flat	Crown	0.2660	Orara River
Coutts Crossing Reserve	Coutts Crossing	Crown	3.946	Orara River
McPhersons Crossing Reserve	McPhersons Crossing	Community	2.675	Orara River
Public Reserve (Lanitza Riverside Reserve)	Lanitza	Community	2.633	Orara River
Blackbutt Reserve	Kremnos	Community	2.6948	Orara River
Boonjaub Public Reserve	Kremnos	Crown	4.1386	Orara River
Shannon Park	Glenreagh	Crown	1.8923	Orara River
Jackadgery Public Reserve	Jackadgery	RTA	15.0867	Mann River
Jackadgery Hall Reserve	Jackadgery	Crown	6.602	Mann River
James Cartmill Memorial Park	Nymboida	Crown	5.752	Nymboida River
Black Mountain Reserve	Nymboida	Community	2.37	Nymboida River
West Camp Resting Place (Hortons Ck)	Clouds Creek	Crown	1.7476	Nymboida River
Dundurrabin Public Recreation Reserve	Dundurrabin	Crown	6.2331	Blicks River
Dalmorton Public Reserve	Dalmorton	Crown	0.7145	Boyd River

Note: Community = Clarence Valley Council freehold land

Crown = State owned land managed in trust by Clarence Valley Council

RTA = Roads and Traffic Authority land managed in trust by Clarence Valley Council

While adjoining rural areas as well as adjacent lands managed by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water and the NSW Land and Property Management Authority are not included within the scope of this strategy, the recreational facilities and use of these areas in terms of the role they serve and their potential for future recreational use has been considered in relation to this strategy.

The role that the Clarence river and its tributaries play in the development of this Strategy is also recognised. In most instances it is the drawcard and the reason why people visit and use Council's network of riverside parks and reserves. It is also the thread that links Council's network of parks and reserves with other sites, providing access to the Clarence river and its tributaries for a diverse range of river-based recreational activities and river journeys. While this strategy lays the foundation for improved access and use of the river there is an identified need for a more comprehensive and holistic planning approach to deal with current and anticipated future recreational use of the Clarence River and its tributaries. This may involve the development of an adaptive multi-agency/regional outdoor recreation management framework for the Clarence river and its tributaries.

2.2 Responsibility for land management

Public access and use of land adjoining the Clarence River and its tributaries for recreation is dependent on the tenure of such lands. For example, the public have a general right of access to lands managed by Council for recreation. In contrast, private freehold and leasehold Crown land such as grazing leases are considered private and as such no right of public access exists over these lands unless they are an approved commercial provider offering recreation / accommodation opportunities on their land or the public are invited onto the land as a guest.

Public lands managed by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water and the NSW Land and Property Management Authority have access provisions prescribed within Acts and Regulations administered by the relevant department or authority. Consequently, access and the range of recreational opportunities permitted on these public lands may range from freely available to totally excluded (Refer *Technical Report 2*). Figure 4 (next page) provides an overview of private and public lands where riverside recreation (and in some locations, camping) opportunities are permitted and their spatial relationship to the network of riverside parks and reserves managed by Clarence Valley Council.

2.2.1 Legislative constraints/requirements

The management of Council's riverside parks and reserves requires consideration and integration of a number of factors. This includes the legislative provisions governing the administration and management of parks and reserves managed by Council, the actions stemming from a range of policy developed at Federal, State and local level and the involvement of stakeholders and the community in general. Defining the appropriate use(s) of

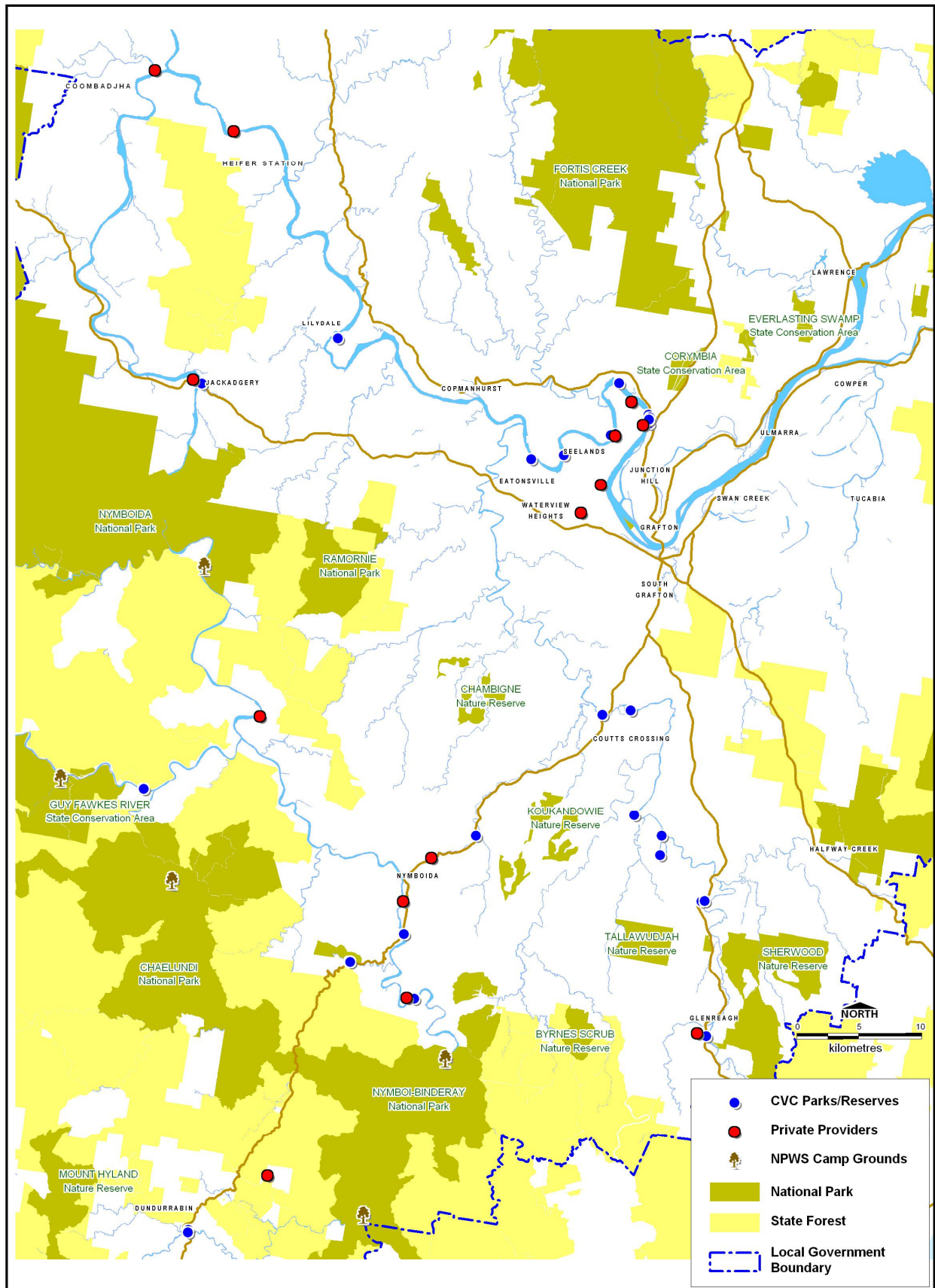


Figure 4: Private and public riverside recreation locations upstream of Grafton

each park and reserve is also an important consideration in the development of plans of management as this will affect resourcing and Council's ability to provide a diverse range of opportunities across its network of parks and reserves.

The two principal pieces of legislation guiding the management of Council's park and reserve network are the *Crown Lands Act 1989* (for Crown reserves) and the *Local Government Act 1993* (for Community land). Each provides the legal requirements, recommendations and guidelines for the management of their respective lands. For example:

Crown Lands Act 1989

Crown land in NSW is administered within the portfolio of the Minister for Lands. Crown land may be reserved or dedicated for a public purpose under the Act. The Minister may appoint a Reserve Trust to care, control and manage a reserve with regard to the purpose for which the land was dedicated or reserved (s92). Council's involvement in the management of Crown land in the Clarence Valley is either as a Trust Manager (s92) or as a manager of a Reserve Trust (s95).

Crown land must be managed in accordance with the principles of Crown land management as set out in Section 11 of the Act. The principles of Crown land management are:

1. Environmental protection principles are observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown land.
2. The natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) are conserved wherever possible.
3. Public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged.
4. Where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land is encouraged.
5. Where appropriate, Crown land is used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity.
6. That Crown land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles (*Crown Lands Act 1989*, s11).

The Crown reserve system is unique because it allows a wide range of community interests and user groups to directly manage reserves through appointed Reserve Trusts.

Local Government Act 1993

The *Local Government Act 1993*, requires Council to classify all public land owned by Council as either:

1. Community land, or
2. Operational land

Community land is defined for the purposes of the Act to be land that is set aside for community use, such as parks, sportsgrounds, beaches and walking tracks. Development and use of this

land is subject to strict controls set out in the Act such as Community land cannot be sold, or leased or licensed for more than 21 years. In addition to these controls, the Act requires Council to have plans of management for all Community lands.

Conversely, Operational land comprises land that serves a commercial or operational function (e.g. a depot, car park, pump station), or land that is being retained for commercial or strategic reasons. The range of controls that apply to Community land do not apply to the use and management of Operational land. However, there are some parcels of Operational land that also contain open space and are utilised for public recreation (e.g. drainage reserves, ends of streets).

(For a more in-depth summary of the key legislation guiding the provision and management of recreation opportunities in riverside environments refer to Technical Report 2 - Legislation and policy governing riverside recreation and camping in the Clarence Valley)

2.2.2 Linkages to other planning documents

This Strategy has been developed in light of a range of documents (listed below) that guide the use, enjoyment and management of Council parks and reserves. This Strategy does not make any recommendation that is in conflict with any of these primary documents.

2.2.2.1 NSW State Plan

There are two priority areas within the Practical Environmental Solutions section of the current *NSW State Plan* that have strong links to the outcomes anticipated from this strategy. They are:

- Priority area E4 which proposes better environmental outcomes for native vegetation, biodiversity, land, rivers and coastal waterways; and
- Priority area E8 which advocates more people using parks, sporting and recreational facilities.

2.2.2.2 Northern Rivers Catchment Action Plan

Local Government are viewed as a key partner with the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority to deliver outcomes that meet the following targets summarised from the *Northern Rivers Catchment Action Plan (2007)*:

- Management Target W1 – Rehabilitate and protect stream health (structure and riparian vegetation) in priority sub-catchments (Upper and Mid Orara River, Blaxlands Creek, Upper Nymboida River and Upper Mann River; and
- Management Targets B2, B3, B5 and B6 – Revegetation of corridor habitats to reduce fragmentation and increase connectivity, reduce weed and disturbance to natural systems, maintain extent and improve condition of multiple use sites and increase the extent and quality of riparian habitats through revegetation and rehabilitation.

Actions to achieve these targets include:

- Development of plans and strategies for poorly managed public lands along streams;
- Implementation of stream bank rehabilitation plans and projects, with emphasis on local community and landholder involvement;
- Encourage projects that prevent erosion and sedimentation;
- Provision of advice, information and extension programs;
- Implementation of habitat restoration works such as encouraging natural regeneration through fencing, weed control, strategic revegetation and mitigation of habitat degradation; and
- Identification and engagement of key stakeholders.

2.2.2.3 Clarence Valley Council's Sustainability Initiative

This *Riverside Recreation and Riparian Vegetation Strategy* is strongly linked to Clarence Valley Council's *Sustainability Initiative*. The outcomes of this strategy will ensure that community involvement and education, ecologically sustainable development and social and intergenerational equity are considered in the planning for our riverside parks and reserves network while ecological processes and biodiversity are protected.

The *Sustainability Initiative* seeks to identify and protect key values of the Clarence Valley's culture and lifestyle. This involves improving our understanding and integrated management of the Valley's ecological, social, cultural and economic assets. The Initiative seeks to ensure potential and likely impacts on present and future generations, and the environment, are well considered in planning, decision making and daily actions. The aim is to continually improve assessment and decision making, with an emphasis on seeking positive outcomes for the natural environment and community.

One of the key aims of the *Sustainability Initiative* is to protect and maintain a robust, healthy natural environment, and visually diverse natural landscape, including the rivers, wetlands, forest, flood plains and coastline are actively protected and cared for by the whole community, supported by effective resources and environmental education.

2.2.2.5 Clarence River Way Masterplan

The *Clarence River Way Masterplan (2009)* is a recent initiative of Clarence Valley Council intended to boost economic development and tourism in the region. The plan's central focus is the Clarence River and related built, natural and cultural attractions. The direction indicated in the Masterplan encourages better physical and visual access to the river and access to interpretative stories about the river and encourages a coordinated approach to planning and management activities associated with the Clarence River.

The Masterplan highlights the value that the Clarence River contributes toward the conservation of natural resources within the catchment and the attractiveness of this asset to the target tourism market of:

- Experience seekers;
- Nature based tourists; and
- Local and regional communities.

It also stresses the need to upgrade reserves so that they are more clearly identifiable as public open space. One of the strategic intents of the *Clarence River Way Masterplan* is to develop the upper reaches of the Clarence River and its tributaries through the provision of greater visitor access and infrastructure. Specific key issues are the availability of identifiable access points on and off the rivers and tributaries as well as legal camping sites.

2.2.2.6 Clarence Valley Council's Riparian Action Strategy (draft)

The *Riparian Action Strategy* has been developed to assist Council, landholders and the community manage riparian areas. This strategy identifies issues and provides a decision support tool to assist Council land managers prioritise riparian areas for protection or rehabilitation. To achieve this, the *Riparian Action Strategy* proposes undertaking a:

- Desktop assessment of riparian condition using existing data; and
- Site assessment of riparian condition.

This information will allow Council to set clear priorities for riparian management. In addition to the planning and assessment tools there are a number of guidelines that provide advice on managing threats likely to affect riparian areas such as:

- Vegetation clearing;
- Livestock;
- Weeds;
- Fire;
- Erosion;
- Urban development;
- Climate change; and
- Recreation.

These provide guidance for maintenance activities on riparian land, including leasing agreements for occupation of land for grazing and other uses. They also outline the planning principles, provision of access and asset protection guidelines for recreation, restoration and rehabilitation.

3.0 Providing for Vegetation Management and Enhancement

Riparian vegetation supports critical functions in riverside ecosystems. Natural vegetation regulates the flow of numerous biogeochemical cycles, most critically those of water, carbon, and nitrogen. It also strongly affects soil characteristics, including soil volume, chemistry and texture, which feed back to affect various vegetation characteristics, including productivity and structure. Natural vegetation also serves as wildlife habitat and the energy source for the vast array of animal species that use these areas as a source for food.

Riverside vegetation is also important to humans; both aesthetically and psychologically as it provides shade, shelter and ambience to a setting.

The highest priority for managing riparian vegetation should be to protect areas currently in good condition from threatening processes, particularly those with high biodiversity values and those in the upper catchments. There are three broad threat categories affecting riparian vegetation:

1. Human-induced impacts including but not limited to trampling, wood/rock scavenging, motorised vehicle use/abuse;
2. Grazing pressure from domestic livestock; and
3. Unmanaged weed invasion.

Weed management and the re-establishment of native plants are not effective without complementary support to manage threatening processes (1) and (2).

Key aspects of vegetation and weed management include:

- Identifying sites where revegetation and/or weed control is needed;
- Prioritising identified sites based on level of threat particularly to threatened species and endangered ecological communities;
- Planning and undertaking weed control activities on a catchment basis;
- Developing and implementing site specific strategies involving the local community and/or community of users as a source of local information, to raise awareness and foster a sense of ownership and if possible as a valuable volunteer labour source;
- Fencing off sites to prevent unwanted access and provide signage to inform and educate users as to the merits of the project and the benefits that will be derived from their support; and
- Working with neighbours to enhance connectivity and extent.

(For a more in-depth discussion of the key aspects of vegetation and weed management refer to Technical Report 1 – Impact of recreation on riparian vegetation and riverine environs).

3.1 Establishing priority vegetation management zones

Two approaches have been taken to prioritise vegetation management. The first layer of priority is the presence or absence of remnant vegetation particularly threatened species or communities and the extent of riparian vegetation remaining within the reserve in conjunction with the presence or absence of declared weeds and weeds of national significance at the park/reserve level (i.e. specific weeds on a discrete parcel of land) (Table 2).

Table 2: Clarence Valley Council's commonly found declared and non-declared weed species.

Aquatic weeds	Grass species	Vines and succulents	Soft weeds	Woody weeds	Tree species
Alligator weed	Giant Parramatta grass	Cat's Claw Creeper	Bathurst burr	Bitou bush	Black Willow
Cabomba	Giant Rat's Tail grass	<i>Glory lily</i>	Crofton Weed	Blackberry	Broadleaf Pepper
Salvinia	Johnson Grass	<i>Morning glory</i>	<i>Fire Weed</i>	Green cestrum	Camphor laurel
Water hyacinth	Serrated tussock	Prickly pear	Nodding thistles	Groundsel bush	Chinese celtis
	Spiny burr grass	Mother of millions	Noogoora burr	Lantana	Chinese tallow
			Parthenium weed	Mysore thorn	Honey Locust
			St. John's Wort		Privet Broadleaf
					Privet Narrowleaf
					Yellow bells

Note: Non-declared weeds are in italics

The second prioritisation layer looks at the potential vectors for re-infestation: wind, water and animals (human induced weed spread is included under animals). Within the Clarence River catchment, water borne seed spread is potentially the most successful contributor to weed distribution and establishment. Consequently the second layer of priority focuses on the upper catchment as a priority zone, followed by the mid-catchment and finally the lower reaches. Section 3.2 in the *Key Directions* document provides a prioritised list of reserves based on the above prioritisation structure where vegetation management actions are required.

The above prioritisation is provided as a guide and if required an adaptive management approach should be adopted where emerging weed issues or other threatening processes have the potential to significantly impact on riparian communities.

3.2 Community engagement and involvement

A holistic approach to weed management that actively involves the community is critical for long term results. Neighbours of riverside parks and reserves in particular have a vested interest in the success or otherwise of Council's weed management programs. This can be achieved through raising community awareness of Council's weed management activities and sharing best practice weed management strategies with the broader community through forums, local workshops and field days.

The development of *Caring for our Riverside Parks and Reserves* brochure, supporting this strategy initiative will assist the community to:

- Better understand the values of riparian vegetation;
- Care and manage riparian communities; and
- Recreate responsibly in these areas.

Information and education materials developed by Landcare, the Catchment Management Authority and other vegetation management action/community groups will also assist the community to take action to manage the threat of weeds and restore degraded areas.

There is evidence of an existing pool of committed neighbours, individuals and groups who are currently actively engaged in weed management on a number of private neighbouring properties and on Council reserves (e.g. Hogbin Park Public Reserve, Shannon Park and Goolang Creek Recreation Reserve). Commitment from the private sector needs to be further augmented where possible, and encouraged and recognised, to maintain and expand the commitment level and expertise.

4.0 Providing for Recreation

Council (among other matters) has the dual responsibility:

- to provide ... adequate, equitable and appropriate services and facilities for the community and to ensure that those services and facilities are managed efficiently and effectively; and
- to properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment of the area for which it is responsible, in a manner that is consistent with and promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development (s8, LG Act 1993).

A combination of previous land use and / or inappropriate or unsupported recreation on Council managed riverside parks and reserves has contributed to negative impacts on the natural vegetation at many sites. Continued unmanaged recreation¹ is a significant contributor to threatening processes affecting the rehabilitation of riparian vegetation on Council's network of

¹ Section 6 in the *Issues Matrix* provides evidence of the impacts of inappropriate recreation and the parks/reserves most at risk.

riverside parks and reserves. By appropriately managing recreation and in conjunction with vegetation management initiatives described in the *Key Direction* document Council aims to protect and enhance riparian vegetation on its riverside parks and reserves.

A wide range of recreational opportunities and facilities exist across Council's network of riverside parks and reserves. Whilst many are well suited to visitor needs, others would benefit from improvements to safety, amenity or visitor comfort. Appendix 3 documents the recreational opportunities proposed for each reserve.

The *Key Directions* component of this strategy package provides an inventory of facilities currently provided on riverside parks and reserves and proposed embellishments to recreational infrastructure included as part of this strategy.

4.1 Recreation management issues

The '*Issues Matrix*' identifies the range of recreation management issues across the riverside parks and reserves included as part of this strategy. Some are a result of the lack of facilities provided, or as a result of the experiences sought by some user groups. In some cases it is apparent that conflicts between some activities/user groups has caused issues through a lack of facilities and in some cases inappropriate use resulting in the loss of amenity and degradation of natural vegetation. For example, informal camping at Lilydale Reserve, Winegrove often results in large amounts of rubbish being left on-site, native vegetation removed to fuel campfires and campers riding trail bikes along the shingle banks.

In the preparation of this strategy, the issues identified at each site have been considered in determining future recreational use and management to ensure optimal visitor experiences consistent with the range of values for each area and the need to protect the natural elements of each site.

(For a more in-depth summary of the impacts of recreation on riverside environments refer to Technical Report 1 – Impact of recreation on riparian vegetation and riverine environs)

4.2 Management zones and reserve categories

The Clarence Valley LGA is divided into five broad (Open Spaces) management zones to provide a framework for identifying and implementing integrated actions and programs of management across the Council's network of Crown reserves and Community lands for public use and enjoyment (Table 3).

Management zones establish the overall management intent for the Council's network of Crown reserves and Community lands under each category. This approach provides for a commonly

agreed vision and well-understood concept of reserve/open space management, helping Council, stakeholders and the wider community to work together effectively and efficiently to achieve the sustainable use, enjoyment and preservation of the Clarence Valley's parks and reserves system.

Table 3: Clarence Valley Council LGA (Open Spaces) Management Zones

Management zone	Description
Coastal	A parcel of land that either adjoins or provides access to the coastal environment.
Riverside	A parcel of land that either adjoins or provides direct access to a river.
Urban Centre	A parcel of land that is located in the township of Grafton, Maclean or Yamba
Rural Village	A parcel of land that is located in a township or village.
Rural land	A parcel of land that is located outside the boundary of a township or rural village and one that is not covered by the other management zones

Management zones also aim to reflect Council corporate goals and initiatives contained in contemporary Clarence Valley strategies and plans relevant to Council's parks and reserves network. For example:

- *Clarence Coast Reserves Management Strategy (2002);*
- *Clarence Estuary Plan of Management (2003);*
- *Clarence Valley Sustainability Initiative (2006);*
- *Clarence River Way Masterplan (2009);*
- *Lifestyle Grafton: An Open Spaces Plan for Grafton City (2003); and*
- *NSW North Coast Crown Reserves Management Strategy (1994).*

Management zones provide a basis for the common management of parks and reserves with similar geographical characteristics. The five management zones are used to determine the spread and allocation of recreation opportunities, and associated facilities and infrastructure for public use and enjoyment. The parks and reserves of the Clarence Valley Council are further categorised as one of the following:

- Area of cultural significance
- General community use
- Park

- Sportsground
- Natural area (Table 4).

Table 4: Clarence Valley Council LGA categories of park and reserve

Category*	Description
Area of cultural significance	Parks and reserves that retain and enhance the cultural significance of the area for past, present or future generations.
General community use	Parks and reserves that may be made available for use for any purpose for which Community or Crown land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public, and is not required to be categorised as a natural area, a sportsground, a park or an area of cultural significance.
Park	Parks and reserves that proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, for use mainly for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that no not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.
Sportsground	Parks and reserves used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.
Natural area	Parks and reserves that protect and enhance nature conservation values and/or protects a significant geological feature, geomorphological feature, landform, representative system or other natural feature or attribute that would be sufficient to further categorise the land as bush land, wetland, escarpment, watercourse or foreshore, and provide opportunities for nature-based recreation.

* Park/reserve categories are based on categories described under the *Local Government Act 1993*

Within the study area the park management zone under investigation is Riverside and the park categories include Park, General Community Use, and Natural Area. The key management prescriptions for each riverside park and reserve are detailed at Appendix 2.

4.3 Permissible recreational use of riverside parks and reserves

4.3.1 Recreational activity range

Council's network of riverside parks and reserves have the capacity to provide for a variety of recreational activities such as picnicking, walking, bird-watching, swimming, canoeing and fishing (Table 5). The *Riverside Recreation and Riparian Vegetation Strategy* aims to facilitate and ensure that opportunities for recreational use can be sustained, while not affecting natural or cultural values to an unacceptable level or in contravention of existing policies.

Some recreational activities have the potential to negatively impact on the environment, or the experience and or safety of recreators themselves or bystanders. Signage and other means (such as bollards, barriers or fencing) will be used to regulate and, if necessary, prohibit recreational activities in locations where there is an unacceptable risk to a person's experience, safety or the environment.

Table 5: Range of recreational activities that are suitable in each park and/or reserve category

Activity	Park	General Community Use	Natural Area
Bicycle riding	✓	✓	☑ on designated trails
Camping	X	?	?
Canoeing, kayaking, rowing	✓	✓	☑
Children's play areas	✓	✓	X
Cultural heritage appreciation	✓	✓	✓
Dog walking / exercise	☑	☑	X
Fishing (recreational)	☑	☑	☑
Fitness training / Exercise	✓	✓	☑
Horse-riding	X	?	?
Motor boat use (incl. water-skiing)	✓ boat ramp	✓ boat ramp	X
Motor vehicle use (pleasure driving, sightseeing)	☑ on roads only	☑ on roads only	☑ on roads only
Nature study	✓	✓	✓
Off-road vehicles, trail bikes, quads	X	?	X
Organised / Formal sports	?	☑	X
Orienteering	☑	☑	☑
Picnicking / BBQ / etc.	✓	✓	✓
Rock-climbing / Abseiling	X	☑	☑
Sailing	✓ boat ramp	✓ boat ramp	?
Swimming	✓	✓	✓
Walking / Hiking	✓	✓	✓

Legend: ✓ - Generally suitable
 ☑ - Generally suitable with restrictions
 ? – Generally not suitable refer to Council for exceptions
 x – Not applicable

In addition, where there is evidence that inappropriate recreational activities, particularly those that persist unchecked have had a detrimental impact on the environment; a proactive approach in managing these negative behavioural traits may require a stronger focus on immediate action. This may include Council Officers undertaking compliance to ensure the 'recreational activity' is permitted and if so, being conducted in a manner which is not detrimental to the environment or other users of the site. It may also include the development of and engaging in more collaborative strategies with other land managers and or neighbours (including honorary rangers) to alert Council of inappropriate recreational activities. Although it is not envisaged that an excessively regulatory approach be adopted, there is evidence that a more proactive stance is overdue.

Some recreational activities can be undertaken alongside one another with no negative impact between the users, other activities are not compatible. The *Key Directions* documents recreational activities permitted on each riverside park and reserve in the Clarence Valley.

4.3.2 Provision of camping opportunities

Camping in the context of this strategy is defined as either an overnight stay of less than 24 hours duration (transient camping); or base camping with a resident duration greater than 24 hours. These activities are currently unregulated and are known to occur at a number of reserves (e.g. Mountain View Park, Eatonsville Reserve, Lilydale Reserve, Goolang Creek Recreation Reserve, James Cartmill Memorial Park and Dalmorton Public Reserve).

Many of the negative issues detailed in the *Issues Matrix* stem from inappropriate unregulated camping, such as human waste disposal, littering and damage or destruction of native vegetation. The site evaluation process reviewed the suitability of each reserve for potential camping opportunities. A number of sites have been determined to support overnight stays particularly when combined with other recreational activities such as canoe/kayak touring, or vehicle-based touring. There is obviously a strong demand for overnight stop opportunities within the canoe / kayak community. A significant number of respondents provided supporting comments for suitable overnight stops associated with river-based travel, particularly for Black Mountain Reserve². For example:

"It is the only site that is public access to the river".

"All other access is through private property".

"You can enjoy an overnight camp there on your way down to the Nymboida bridge".

Appendix 3 details the reserves where overnight stays and/or camping has been deemed to be appropriate with the *Key Directions* document detailing the supporting infrastructure required.

² Survey respondent line 74

Only one site was determined to be capable of supporting base camping at present. Base camping would be appropriate at James Cartmill Memorial Park only if associated with an approved organised event.

Respondents to Council's online survey were generally supportive of camping opportunities providing appropriate facilities were available (e.g. toilets) and that sites left as natural as possible³. Respondents also indicated that many sites were either too small⁴ or suitable only for overnight stops⁵. Sites identified as having potential to be developed as camping areas include Lilydale Reserve at Winegrove and the Jackadgery Hall Reserve at Jackadgery. Council will also investigate the appropriateness of these sites as potential future riverside camping areas.

Respondents were generally supportive of camping fees particularly if they coincided with appropriate facilities and appropriate camping practices. Conversely, respondents saw the merits of commercial campgrounds and where available would prefer to see campers directed to these rather than promote camping on public reserves⁶. For example:

"There is plenty of camping at Nymboida Canoe Centre".

The *Issues Matrix* and *Technical Report 1* both highlight the negative impacts associated with camping for longer than 24 hours at sites without adequate facilities. Previous evidence of long term camping was clearly evident at a number of reserves assessed during the site assessment component of this project. Ideally camping opportunities, particularly longer term camps require as a minimum, appropriate hygiene and rubbish facilities. The NSW Land and Property Management Authority are currently investigating opportunities to develop five public campgrounds in the upper reaches of the Clarence and Mann Rivers. The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water also have a number of established campsites within the vicinity of the study area, these include; Dalmorton (Guy Fawkes River State Conservation Area), Nymboida River (Nymboida National Park), Platypus Flat, The Cod Hole and The Junction (Nymboi-Binderay National Park).

Council accepts that the parks and reserves listed within this strategy do not meet the current requirements for camping, however Council recognises the opportunity and capacity for the development of camping on NSW Land and Property Management Authority reserves and will support and assist where possible to identify appropriate camping opportunities on public reserves.

³ Survey respondent line 50

⁴ Survey respondent lines 55 and 63

⁵ Survey respondent lines 37, 47, 43, 50 and 52

⁶ Survey respondent line 67

4.4 The facilities that may be provided on each park or reserve

The following table provides an indication of the infrastructure that may be provided by Council on its riverside parks and reserves in each park/reserve category.

Table 7: Generally available facilities

Facilities Generally Available	Park/Reserve Category		
	Park	General Community Use	Natural Area
Carparking	✓	✓	☑
High quality pathways/pavements	✓	☑	X
Integrated pathways/cycleways	✓	✓	☑
Informal tracks suitable for walking, cycling and/or horse riding	X	☑	✓
Toilets	✓	✓	☑
Water supply and taps/drinking fountains	✓	✓	☑
Picnic nodes (shelter, table and/or BBQ)	✓	✓	☑
Park benches/seating	✓	✓	☑
Bins	✓	✓	X
Children's play area	✓	✓	X
Fire management trails	X	X	✓

Legend: ✓ - Generally available
 ☑ - Generally available, but low key
 x - Generally not available

To assist in the promotion of areas for the experience they provide, and to enable management to provide a consistent standard of facilities and services, with the resources available, a series of facility level guidelines is proposed. This will provide guidance in relation to the facilities that should be provided within a recreation zone. The *Key Directions* document provides recommended facility level guidelines for the riverside parks and reserves in the Clarence Valley. These provide a guide to ensure that visitor expectations can be met in terms of the facilities and services provided consistent with the range of recreation opportunities whilst maintaining the environmental integrity of each site.

4.5 Use of information, education and interpretation

Information, education and interpretation are particularly important to assist in the management of human impacts on the natural environment, such as dumping of garden waste and rubbish, clearing of vegetation and vehicle use. They are also important tools for managing visitor expectations (Figure 5).

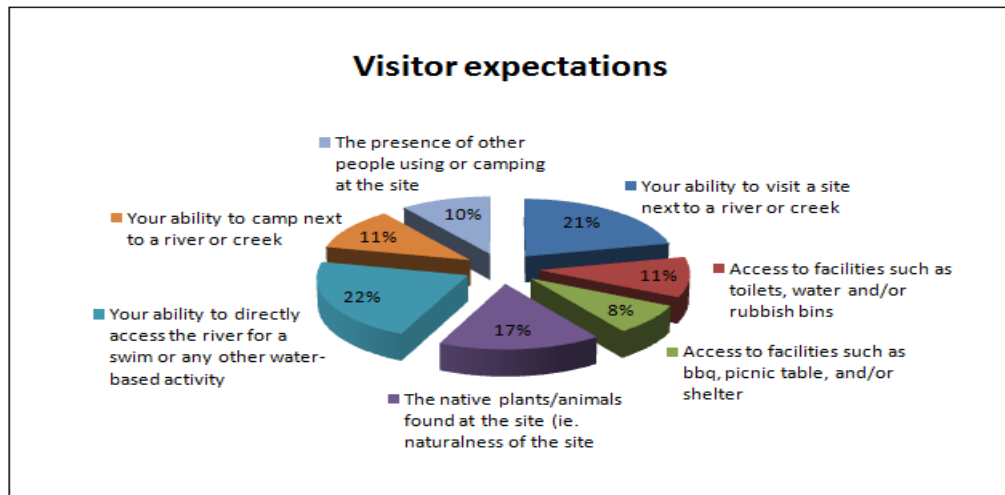


Figure 5: Reserve visitor expectations

Informing the community of appropriate behavioural practices and the values inherent at each riverside park/reserve will greatly assist the community in understanding the importance of these reserves and encourage positive changes to previous depreciative behaviour. Where practical, information, education and interpretation will be used alongside traditional park management techniques such as site hardening, closures, signage and regulation to lessen the likelihood of negative environmental impacts caused by residents and visitors to Council's network of riverside parks and reserves.

5.0 Consultation

Community and stakeholder engagement was a priority for this project to identify specific riverside park/reserve issues and to determine the level of recreational provisioning to be planned for each park/reserve. Council undertook four distinct phases of public engagement:

- Community awareness raising
- Visitor/user survey
- Proposal feedback

- Public exhibition of draft strategy.

Consultation/engagement methods⁷ included feedback forms provided to reserve visitors intercepted during the site evaluation process; online feedback available through Council's web site and direct mail incorporating a site proposal sheet and feedback form provided to each reserve neighbour. Posters encouraging community input were distributed to government offices, camping suppliers and recreation outlets. Public submissions were also received following the release of the *Draft Strategy, Key Directions, Issues Matrix and Technical Reports 1 and 2*. A summary of the number community feedback responses for each park/reserve received during the three phases of community engagement are detailed in Table 8.

Table 8: Community feedback received as part of the public consultation process in developing the 'Riverside Recreation and Riparian Vegetation Strategy' and 'Key Directions' Documents

Park Name	Locality	# Completed Surveys received (1 Feb – 30 Apr)	# Feedback Forms returned (15 – 25 May)	# Submission¹ Comments received (22 Jul – 1 Sept)
Goolang Creek Recreation Reserve	Blaxlands Flat	1	3	
West Camp Resting Place (Hortons Creek)	Clouds Creek	2	2	
Coutts Crossing Reserve	Coutts Crossing		1	
Dalmorton Public Reserve	Dalmorton			
Dundurrabin Public Recreation Reserve	Dundurrabin	1	2	
Eatonsville Reserve	Eatonsville	1	3	
Shannon Park	Glenreagh		1	
Jackadgery Hall Reserve	Jackadgery			
Jackadgery Public Reserve	Jackadgery			
Blackbutt Reserve	Kremnos			
Boonjaub Public Reserve	Kremnos		1	
Public Reserve (Lanitza Riverside Reserve)	Lanitza	4	1	1
McPhersons Crossing Reserve	McPhersons Crossing	7		
Moleville Rocks Public Reserve	Moleville Creek	5	8	
Mountain View (Arboretum)	Mountain View		4	
Mountain View (North) Park	Mountain View			
Mountain View (South) Park	Mountain View			
Mountain View Park	Mountain View	1	5	
Black Mountain Reserve	Nymboida	6	2	2
James Cartmill Memorial Park	Nymboida	5	1	

⁷ For a more detailed analysis of the community consultation/engagement methods employed during this project refer to the *Community Engagement and Public Exhibition Review*

Park Name	Locality	# Completed Surveys received (1 Feb – 30 Apr)	# Feedback Forms returned (15 – 25 May)	# Submission¹ Comments received (22 Jul – 1 Sept)
Hogbin Park Public Reserve	Seelands		1	
Rogan Bridge Public Reserve (E & W)	Seelands		1	
Solitude Park	Seelands		1	
Eastland Park	The Whiteman		1	
Lilydale Reserve	Winegrove	3	2	
Riverside parks and reserves (upstream of Grafton) in general		13	1	4
	TOTALS	49	41	7

The comments and issues raised through this process, coupled with the information gathered through literature reviews documented in *Technical Report 1 and 2* and the site surveys, have contributed to the development of this *Strategy* and the recommendations outlined in the *Key Directions*.

5.1 Summary of stakeholder comments received

In general, comments supported the development of recreation opportunities on Council managed parks and reserves, including:

- Increased or at least maintaining passive recreation opportunities and facilities;
- Protection or enhancement of the natural features of each site;
- Improved education and interpretation opportunities and infrastructure; and
- Increased agency management/policing of reserves and better integration across agencies.

Nonetheless, a few comments made it clear that vehicle access on some riverside parks and reserves was not well managed and provided a significant environmental and social impact⁸. For example:

“Vehicles currently drive all over the reserve. Over the years this has caused damage to the environment”.

In general it would appear that visitor’s value the ability to visit a site next to a river or creek and the recreation opportunities this provides; the naturalness of the site is also important as is the ability to camp nearby; even though only two⁹ of the respondents claimed to have actually camped at a riverside reserve. Not surprisingly access to recreational infrastructure such as

⁸ Survey respondent line 36

⁹ Survey respondent lines 34 and 64.

bins, BBQ, toilets or shelters were not as highly valued as direct access to the river. There was also a strong expectation that the site would be shared with others using the riverside park/reserve.

With respect to development potential or other issues, respondents were asked; what additional development or facilities do you think Council should provide at this site? From the feedback received there is a reasonable argument that no additional public infrastructure development at some locations is commensurate with public expectations (Figure 6). This is reflected in the *Key Directions* document, whereby sites that are not heavily impacted by recreational activities have limited if any development proposals. Where development is supported it appears that toilets and other public infrastructure are supported more so than better pedestrian and vehicle access. Revegetation and weed control were not viewed as favourably by those undertaking the online survey, but were well supported in the neighbour feedback.

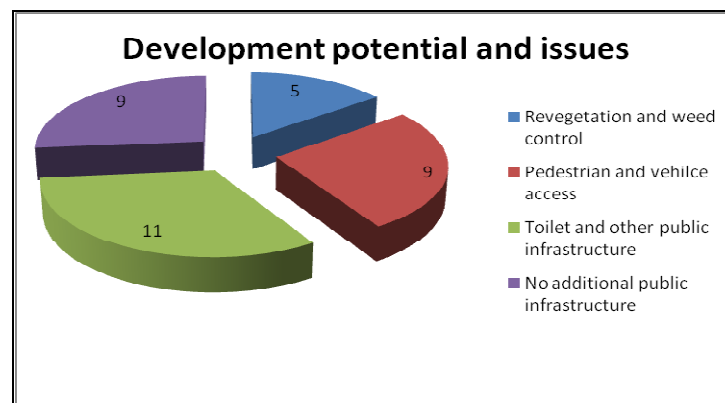


Figure 6: Development potential

The majority of respondents were supportive of a proactive approach to camping provided it was in an appropriate location¹⁰. For example:

“Camping overnight allows one to enjoy the river for longer”.

Furthermore current users recognise the benefits of providing overnight stays at specific locations particularly where it provides an opportunity to undertake longer canoe/kayak trips¹¹. It would fit into the plan to promote the area for tourism by the development of a canoe trail (or a series of canoe trails) on the Clarence and its tributaries.

Specific comments received concerning issues on parks/reserves are provided in Appendix 5. Most of the submissions validate the approach taken in the *Key Directions* document and

¹⁰ Survey respondent line 2

¹¹ Survey respondent line 3

support the range of recreational opportunities suggested, whilst understanding the inherent limitations of some sites. A number of submissions encouraged the 'do nothing' approach particularly for sites where little or no previous recreation was occurring and where the vegetation was predominantly endemic and intact.

6.0 Implementation of this Strategy

Like all plans of management, the implementation of objectives and actions listed in this strategy is conditional on available funds and resourcing. Council's ability to provide appropriate funds and resources will be determined partly by other budgetary demands on the Clarence Valley Council. Accordingly, this strategy recognises that the objectives will be met progressively over a period of time. Council's Annual Management Plan will specify the allocation of funds and timing for particular works. Council will also identify and aim to secure funding from other sources as they arise.

Work currently is underway in several parks and reserves to improve and enhance riparian vegetation and remove weed species (Table 9). These works are currently being undertaken by Council in conjunction with initiatives such as Green Corps and organisations such as the Glenreagh Progress Association.

Table 9: List of riverside parks and reserves and the recreation / vegetation management works currently being undertaken as part of the 'Caring for our riverside parks and reserves' project

Park Name	Locality	Work being undertaken	Organisation undertaking work
Goolang Creek Recreation Reserve	Blaxlands Flat	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Lantana/camphor laurel removal▪ Tree plantings▪ Repairs to steps	CVC Open Spaces Green Corps
Shannon Park	Glenreagh	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Privet / camphor laurel removal▪ Viewing platform and stairs	Glenreagh Progress Assoc
James Cartmill Memorial Park	Nymboida	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Privet / camphor laurel removal▪ Tree plantings	Green Corps
Moleville Rocks Public Reserve	Moleville Rocks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Tree plantings	CVC Open Spaces Bush Regen (SFO)

References

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- Clouston Associates (2009), *Clarence River Way Masterplan*. Leichardt NSW.
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- NRCMA (2005), *Northern Rivers Catchment Action Plan*, Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority, Grafton.
- Premier's Department (2006), *The State Plan – A new direction for NSW*. State Government, Sydney.

Appendix 1

Riverside park and reserve property details

*Caring for our riverside parks and reserves:
A strategy for managing riverside recreation and riparian vegetation
The Strategy*

Park / Reserve Name	Street Address	Locality (Suburb)	RP Description (Lot & DP)	Size (Ha)	Ownership	Tenure	Trust Manager	Gazetted Purpose	Park/Reserve Category
Black Mountain Reserve	Black Mountain Road	Nymboida	Lot 13 DP 264405	2.3700	CVC	Freehold		Community	Natural area (Bushland)
Blackbutt Reserve	Blackbutt Road	Kremnos	Lot 8 DP 710467 & Lot 9 DP 710467	2.6948	CVC	Freehold		Community	Natural area (Bushland)
Boonjaub Public Reserve	Orara Way	Kremnos	Lot 22 DP 752829 & Lot 23 DP 752829 being Reserve 86787	4.1386	Crown	Trstee Gaz	Boonjaub (R86787) Reserve Trust	Public Recreation, Resting Place	Natural area (Bushland)
Coutts Crossing Reserve	Armidale Road	Coutts Crossing	Lot 70 DP 751370 being Reserve 46655	3.9460	Crown	Trstee Gaz	Coutts Crossing (R46655) Reserve Trust	Public Recreation	General Community Use
Dalmorton Public Recreation Reserve	Old Glen Innes Road	Dalmorton	Lot 4 DP 753508 & Lot 10 DP 753508 being Reserve 87966	0.7145	Crown	Devolv S48	Clarence Valley Council	Public Recreation	Park
Dundurrabin Public Recreation Reserve	8198 Armidale Road	Dundurrabin	Lots 39 & 92 DP 752812 & Lot 7004 DP 1057103 being Reserve 89840	6.2331	Crown	Trstee Gaz	Dundurrabin (R89840) Reserve Trust	Public Recreation	Natural area (Bushland)
Eastland Park	Punt Lane	The Whiteman	Lot 7001 DP 92907 being Reserve 91546	0.7140	Crown	Trstee Gaz	Rogans Bridge Eastland Park (R91546) Reserve Trust	Public Recreation	Park
Eatonsville Reserve	Orara Street	Eatonsville	Lot 7007 DP 1055188, Lot 7001 DP 1055187, Lot 7009 & 7010 DP 1029937 being Reserve 86394	14.2201	Crown	Trstee Gaz	Eatonsville (R86394) Public Recreation Reserve Trust	Public Recreation	General Community Use
Goolang Creek Recreation Reserve	Armidale Road	Blaxlands Creek	Lot 7010 DP 1054474 being Reserve 91555	0.2660	Crown	Trstee Gaz	Nymboida (R91555) Public Recreation Reserve Trust	Public Recreation	Park
Hogbin Park	68 Old Punt Road	Seelands	Lot 22 DP 247573	0.4800	CVC	Freehold		Community	Park

*Caring for our riverside parks and reserves:
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The Strategy*

Park / Reserve Name	Street Address	Locality (Suburb)	RP Description (Lot & DP)	Size (Ha)	Ownership	Tenure	Trust Manager	Gazetted Purpose	Park/Reserve Category
Public Reserve									
Jackadgery Hall Reserve	44 School Lane	Jackadgery	Lots 39 & 48 DP 753509 being Reserve 87496	6.2020	Crown	Trstee Gaz	Jackadgery Public Hall & Recreation Reserve Trust	Public Hall, Public Recreation	General Community Use
Jackadgery Public Reserve	1 Talgai Creek Road	Jackadgery	Lot 1 DP 127237 and Lots 1-5 DP 449661	9.3385	RTA	Trstee Gaz		Community	General Community Use
James Cartmill Memorial Park	Armidale Road	Nymboida	Part Lot 116 DP 723024	5.7520	Crown	Trstee Gaz	James Cartmill Memorial Park (R69523) Reserve Trust	Public Recreation	General Community Use
Lilydale Reserve	Winegrove Road	Winegrove	Lot 404 DP 725873 & Lot 1 DP 725877 being Reserve 1001329	19.9300	Crown	Trstee Gaz	Lilydale (R1001329) Reserve Trust	Public Recreation	General Community Use
McPhersons Crossing Reserve	McPhersons Crossing Road	Coutts Crossing	Lot 21 DP 718908	2.6750	CVC	Freehold		Community	Natural area (Bushland)
Moleville Rocks Public Reserve	Moleville Rocks Road	Moleville Creek	Lot 93 DP 751363 & Lot 7004 DP 92943 being Reserve 71841	3.4810	Crown	Devolv S48	Clarence Valley Council	Public Recreation	Park
Mountain View (Arboretum) Park	Clarence Way	Mountain View	Lot 7016 DP 92921 being Reserve 86102	1.3670	Crown	Trstee Gaz	Mountain View Park (R31311) Reserve Trust	Preservation Of Native Flora And Fauna	Natural area (Bushland)
Mountain View (North) Park	Clarence Way	Mountain View	Lot 12 DP 1051166; Lot 1 DP 537779 & Lot 6 DP 249644	6.1876	CVC	Freehold		Community	Natural area (Bushland)
Mountain View (South) Park	(Off) Clarence Way	Mountain View	Lots 4-10 Sec 1 DP 1882 & Lots 1-22 Sec 2 DP 1882	3.5497	CVC	Freehold		Community	Natural area (Bushland)
Mountain View Park	Clarence Way	Mountain View	Lot 7011 DP 92922 being Reserve 31311	2.1990	Crown	Trstee Gaz	Mountain View Park (R31311) Reserve Trust	Public Recreation	Park

*Caring for our riverside parks and reserves:
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Park / Reserve Name	Street Address	Locality (Suburb)	RP Description (Lot & DP)	Size (Ha)	Ownership	Tenure	Trust Manager	Gazetted Purpose	Park/Reserve Category
Public Reserve (Lanitza Riverside Reserve)	458 Orara Road	Lanitza	Lot 19 DP 261379	2.6330	CVC	Freehold		Community	Natural area (Bushland)
Rogan Bridge Public Reserve (East & West)	Rogan Bridge Road	Waterview Heights	Lot 5-6 DP 262767	0.1375	CVC	Freehold		Community	Natural area (Foreshore)
Shannon Park	Coramba Street	Glenreagh	Lot 8 Sec 1 DP 758452; Lot 7003 DP 1052456 & Lot 7004 DP 1052456 being Reserve 56448	1.8923	Crown	Trstee Gaz	Glenreagh (R56448) Reserve Trust	Public Recreation	General Community Use
Solitude Park	74 Whiting Drive	Seelands	Lot 28 DP 711921	0.2604	CVC	Freehold		Community	Park
West Camp Resting Place	Armidale Road	Nymboida	Lot 7004 DP 752839 & Lot 7010 DP 752839 being Reserve 88217	1.7476	Crown	Trstee Gaz	West Camp Resting Place (R88217) Reserve Trust	Resting Place	Natural area (Bushland)

Appendix 2

Riverside parks and reserves key management prescriptions

*Caring for our riverside parks and reserves:
A strategy for managing riverside recreation and riparian vegetation
The Strategy*

Park / Reserve Name	Gazetted Purpose	Park / Reserve Management Category	Prime Management Focus	Key Management Aim	Facility Service Level	Other non-recreational use/mgmt focus
Black Mountain Reserve	Community	Natural area (Bushland)	Recreation - nature-based	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	No improvements - Site to be maintained as an undeveloped site	
Blackbutt Reserve	Community	Natural area (Bushland)	Conservation	To protect and maintain biodiversity	No improvements - Site to be maintained as an undeveloped site	
Boonjaub Public Reserve	Public Recreation, Resting Place	Natural area (Bushland)	Conservation	To protect and maintain biodiversity	No improvements - Site to be maintained as an undeveloped site	
Coutts Crossing Reserve	Public Recreation	General Community Use	Other - Grazing	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	No improvements - Site to be maintained as an undeveloped site	Site leased for grazing
Dalmorton Public Recreation Reserve	Public Recreation	Park	Recreation - nature-based	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	No improvements - Site to be maintained as an undeveloped site	
Dundurrabin Public Recreation Reserve	Public Recreation	Natural area (Bushland)	Recreation - nature-based	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	Site to be maintained as a low-key day use area	
Eastland Park	Public Recreation	Park	Recreation - general leisure	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	Site to be maintained as a day use area	
Eatonsville Reserve	Public Recreation	General Community Use	Recreation - general leisure	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	Site to be maintained as a day use area	Site leased for grazing
Goolang Creek Recreation Reserve	Public Recreation	Park	Recreation - general leisure	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	Site to be maintained as a day use area	
Hogbin Park Public Reserve	Community	Park	Recreation - general leisure	To provide casual recreational opportunities for the local community	Site to be maintained as a neighbourhood park	

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The Strategy*
















Park / Reserve Name	Gazetted Purpose	Park / Reserve Management Category	Prime Management Focus	Key Management Aim	Facility Service Level	Other non-recreational use/mgmt focus
Jackadgery Hall Reserve	Public Hall, Public Recreation	General Community Use	Recreation - general leisure	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	Site to be maintained as a low-key day use area	Site leased for grazing
Jackadgery Public Reserve	Community	General Community Use	Recreation - nature-based	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	No improvements - Site to be maintained as an undeveloped site	Site leased for grazing
James Cartmill Memorial Park	Public Recreation	General Community Use	Recreation - general leisure	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	Site to be maintained as a multi-purpose recreation area	
Lilydale Reserve	Public Recreation	General Community Use	Recreation - nature-based	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	Site to be maintained as a low-key day use area	Site leased for grazing
McPhersons Crossing Reserve	Community	Natural area (Bushland)	Conservation	To protect and preserve biodiversity	Site to be maintained as a low-key day use area	
Moleville Rocks Public Reserve	Public Recreation	Park	Recreation - general leisure	To protect and enhance the site's scenic amenity and cultural values	Site to be maintained as a day use area	
Mountain View (Arboretum) Park	Preservation Of Native Flora And Fauna	Natural area (Bushland)	Conservation	To protect and enhance biodiversity	Site to be maintained as a low-key day use area	
Mountain View (North) Park	Community	Natural area (Bushland)	Recreation - nature-based	To rehabilitate and provide for nature-based recreation opportunities	Site to be maintained as a low-key day use area	
Mountain View (South) Park	Community	Natural area (Bushland)	Conservation	To protect and maintain biodiversity	No improvements - Site to be maintained as an undeveloped site	
Mountain View Park	Public Recreation	Park	Recreation - general leisure	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	Site to be maintained as a day use and overnight stay area	
















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Park / Reserve Name	Gazetted Purpose	Park / Reserve Management Category	Prime Management Focus	Key Management Aim	Facility Service Level	Other non-recreational use/ mgmt focus
Public Reserve (Lanitza Riverside Reserve)	Community	Natural area (Bushland)	Conservation	To protect and maintain biodiversity	Site to be maintained as a low-key day use area	
Rogan Bridge Public Reserve (E & W)	Community	Natural area (Foreshore)	Conservation	To rehabilitate and enhance biodiversity	No improvements - Site to be maintained as an undeveloped site	
Shannon Park	Public Recreation	General Community Use	Recreation - general leisure	To protect and enhance the site's scenic and natural amenity values	Site to be maintained as a multi-purpose recreation area	
Solitude Park	Community	Park	Recreation - general leisure	To rehabilitate and provide for future recreational use	No improvements - Site to be maintained as an undeveloped site	
West Camp Resting Place (Hortons Creek)	Resting Place	Natural area (Bushland)	Conservation	To protect and maintain biodiversity	Site to be maintained as a low-key day use area	

Appendix 3

Range of recreational activities supported on each riverside park and reserve








Park Name	Recreation activities														
															
Mountain View (South) Park	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mountain View Arboretum	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓
Mountain View Park	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X	✓
Mountain View (North) Park	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	X
Moleville Rocks Public Reserve	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓
Hogbin Park Public Reserve	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓
Eastland Park	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X
Rogan Bridge Public Reserve (E & W)	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Solitude Park	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Eatonsville Reserve	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓
Lilydale Reserve	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	✓*	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X
Goolang Creek Recreation Reserve	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	✓	X	✓	X	X
Coutts Crossing Reserve	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
McPhersons Crossing Reserve	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Public Reserve (Lanitza Riverside Reserve)	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X
Blackbutt Reserve	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Boonjaub Public Reserve	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Shannon Park	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓









Park Name	Recreation activities														
															
Jackadgery Public Reserve	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X
Jackadgery Hall Reserve	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	X	X
James Cartmill Memorial Park	☑	X	X	✓	✓	X	✓*	✓	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X
Black Mountain Reserve	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	✓*	X	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X
West Camp Resting Place (Hortons Creek)	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X
Dundurrabin Public Recreation Reserve	X	X	X	✓#	✓	✓	✓*	✓	X	X	✓	✓	X	X	X
Dalmorton Public Reserve	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X

Recreational activities are identified as either being:

- ✓ Permissible
- X Not permissible
- ✓* Only permitted in conjunction with a canoe/kayak trip down river
- ☑ Permissible in conjunction with approved events
- ✓# - Recommended for skilled canoeists/kayakers only

Recreation Activity Icons Key

Symbol	Activity	Description
	Camping (reside +24hrs)	Staying overnight in a bivvy bag, tent, campervan etc, at a site designated or utilised for camping. Includes staying at formal or bush camping sites for more than 24 hours.
	Canoeing/Kayaking	Using a canoe, kayak, or other like craft, propelled by the use of a paddle (either single or double bladed) on rivers.
	General leisure	Informal relaxation/recreation in a natural or semi-natural setting
	Heritage site viewing – European	Observation, identification and/or photography of a site that is recognised as being culturally significant and is utilised for cultural studies/appreciation.
	Heritage site viewing – Indigenous	Observation, identification and/or photography of a site that is recognised as being culturally significant and is utilised for cultural studies/appreciation.
	Lookout – scenery/vista viewing	Observation, identification and/or photography of landscapes or features. The presence of a purpose-built, temporary or permanent structure at such a site is highly likely.
	Mountain biking (cross country)	Use of a bicycle off-track and/or X-country (i.e. rough riding along unmarked trails).

Symbol	Activity	Description
	Nature study	Observation, identification and/or photography of plants or animals.
	Overnight stays (reside - 24 hrs)	Staying overnight in a bivvy bag, tent, campervan etc, at a site designated or utilised for camping. Includes staying at formal or bush camping sites for less than 24 hours.
	Picnic/BBQ	Person(s) bring or prepare, cook and eat a meal and read or relax in a designated outdoor place.
	Recreational fishing	Capture or collection of fish and/or crustaceans for non commercial purposes. Note: Compliant with DPI Fisheries legislation.
	Recreational motor boating	Use of a powerboat on rivers
	Short walks	Walking or hiking on designated tracks and/or trails (i.e. those which are officially designated/managed as such) or off-track and/or X-country
	Sight seeing/scenic drive stop	Vehicle based touring incorporating stops at sites of significance or scenic vistas.
	Swimming	Swimming in inland waters, but excluding the swimming in constructed pools or the use of breathing apparatus.

