

WILDCARE: FRIENDS OF LUMEAH POINT



2014-2018 Plan

LUMEAH POINT is a promontory on the North-western corner of Pipe Clay Lagoon. A subdivision of about 40 properties sits on the promontory, reached from the South Arm Highway by Honeywood Drive. The foreshore comprises open areas, beach, rocky shoreline, native wetlands and a large, sandy intertidal zone.

Nearly all properties about the foreshore reserve, a peaceful coastal foreshore area with both native wetlands and rare species together with open areas used by both local residents and the wider community to enjoy.

HISTORY

The point has traditionally been used as the water access to Pipeclay Lagoon and, until the launching ramp was formed, boat launching took place on the north eastern tip. A slipway capable of supporting large vessels existed on the point and was used by the majority of the boats moored in the lagoon. The slipway has only recently been removed for insurance/public liability reasons.

Since the establishment of the subdivision on the Point in the late 1960's management of the foreshore has been a source of concern to residents as no government department has wanted to take responsibility for it. For a few years Clarence Council slashed areas of the point infrequently and removed dead trees on request. Apart from that, all fire reduction, maintenance and clean-up has been carried out by the residents for more than 40 years.

WILDCARE FRIENDS OF LUMEAH POINT (WCFLP)

Following notification of the intent to erect bollards to prevent access to the north of the right-of-way at No 12, a questionnaire was distributed to residents to begin discussions. Residents* then came together to discuss the future of Lumeah Point and a working group was established to gather facts and discuss issues and concerns with the appropriate government departments. Those discussions led to the establishment of Wildcare Friends of Lumeah Point to enable a five year rolling maintenance plan to be developed by residents. Establishing a Wildcare group enables formal relationships with relevant community, government and commercial organisations in authorizing and implementing the plans.

The working group envisions that WCFLP planning becomes a working partnership between the residents and the legal proprietors of the foreshore to ensure the best possible outcomes, where right of access is retained, weeds are kept under control, issues such as dust are resolved. This would allow residents and the wider community to live and recreate in harmony with the natural beauty of the area whilst maintaining its native integrity.

THE LONG TERM PICTURE

It is hoped that Lumeah Point would look very much like it is today but without the dust, weed and feral oyster problems. It would have well designed signage to remind residents and visitors of their responsibilities whilst using the area. The residents would be a close knit community who looked out for each other and the environment in which they lived.

WCFLP MISSION

“To preserve Lumeah Point and maintain the lifestyle, environment and integrity of common use of the area for the benefit of the residents and wider community.”

** In this document “residents” includes frequent users of Lumeah Point and environs such as Windsurfing Tasmania and others wishing to engage with planning authorities through WCFLP.*



Care and Maintenance

Access tracks and NE Point Recreation Area

In November 2013 a small section of access track was treated with crushed rock to reinforce the wheel ruts and more clearly define the track boundary. Monitoring of this section has demonstrated a reduction in dust raised by vehicles and less deviation from the defined track.

Proposed outcomes

The Northern and Southern sections of the access tracks will have the present wheel ruts reinforced with crushed rock to remediate dust and reduce traffic braiding the tracks to avoid boggy ground.

A planting program will establish lines of low native shrubs along the track edges to further define the tracks, reduce dust raised by traffic and wind, and improve the aesthetic of the track. Access for water trucks and other service and private vehicles will need to be preserved.

The section of access track from Honeywood Drive to the shoreline requires improved drainage to halt the serious gully erosion occurring. Grading of the track to remediate the deep gullies there at the moment is also needed.

The North-eastern point is utilised by recreational groups as a gathering and social area. This area is subject to occasional tidal and storm water flooding. The vegetation is seriously degraded and further areas of coastal shrubs and ground cover are under threat. A remediation program will involve the delivery of several loads of soil to raise the ground to its original level, the creation of boundaries to define vegetation rehabilitation areas, planting of appropriate plants, and signage to advise users of appropriate behaviour.

WildCare01 – Lumeah Point Wild Care

Establish Lumeah Point Wild Care

Complete 5 year plan

Submit 5 year plan to Crown Land with request for authority and funds for 2014 program

Track01 - Consolidate track wheel ruts.

Get estimate and quote for crushed rock delivery. *Initial est. \$2,200.00*

Organise working bee.

Lay ground rock on access tracks North and South of Honeywood Drive access track.

Track02 – Drainage and gully erosion.

Design adequate drainage system for HWD access track.
Design resurfacing for HWD access track.
Design appropriate water-land interface for HWD access track.
Negotiate with CCC for drainage work for HWD edges.
Negotiate with Crown Land for approval of HWD access track drainage and track work.
Negotiate with Crown Land for approval of HWD access track water-land interface.
Build HWD edges drainage system.
Build HWD resurfacing and drainage drainage system.
Build HWD access track water-land interface.
Initial est. \$2,450.00

Stewardship of Eucalyptus Morrisbyi

Immediate priorities

There is no immediate threat to existing E. Morrisbyi growing on Lumeah Point. These trees are protected flora requiring a planned maintenance and renewal program rather than a passive and unmanaged reserve.

Proposed action

Residents strongly support the ongoing conservation and preservation of E. Morrisbyi. We would like to work with NRM (South) to incorporate the Lumeah Point population into any overarching management plan. The proposed Nature Reserve will not provide similar protection as it does not incorporate the full population of E. Morrisbyi and would exclude any local conservation work. As noted previously the small, isolated reserve proposed is not supported by residents and is unlikely to attract more than cursory if indeed any management by Parks.

Proposed solutions

Many residents would be happy to support the appropriate authority in maintaining and growing these trees if an appropriately designed collaborative model can be implemented. Subject to advice from NRM (South) it is felt that if a register, maintenance and renewal program is developed for the region, Lumeah Point residents would participate.

WildCare02 – Vegetation rehabilitation and wildlife care.

Develop a care and maintenance plan for *E Morrisbyi*.

Other protected flora and fauna, land and marine

Immediate priorities

This is a complex set of issues and the first priority is to identify who has responsibility for the environment, assumed a priori to be Crown Lands.

Proposed action

NRM (South) have indicated they have access to expertise and resources to assist in planning. Residents are keen to maintain an environment that balances domestic living with the natural, native flora and fauna. The three interest groups need to come together to plan how best to develop the area and an ongoing management structure for implementation.

Proposed solutions

These are subject to expert advice and negotiation.

WildCare02 – Vegetation rehabilitation and wildlife care.

Develop a care and maintenance plan for weed removal, native plant revegetation and guidelines for private gardens.

Garden waste dumping and other rubbish collection

Immediate priorities

Clarence City Council has provided green waste bins and collection. This may go some way to reducing the inappropriate disposal of garden waste.

Proposed action

As a low-level issue there is no immediate action proposed

Possible solutions

As the responsible authority it is within Crown Land's remit to enforce the relevant regulations. The residents would strongly support and assist with a public education campaign to promulgate the appropriate regulations and expected behaviours.

Community01 – Human Impact.

Develop a pamphlet for residents outlining the legal constraints on foreshore use, guidelines for activities, best practice for maintaining native flora and fauna, and other advice as appropriate.

Distribute a draft for comment.

Collate responses and develop a final draft for approval by residents, Crown Land and NRM (South)

Publish guidelines online and distribute to residents.

Rabbit, oyster and other feral animal and plant control

Actions in this area are subject to the same planning regime proposed earlier.

WildCare02 – Vegetation rehabilitation and wildlife care.

Develop a care and maintenance plan for native fauna including

- Rabbit control
- Bandicoot environments.
- Native bird environments.

Promulgate guidelines for appropriate trees, grasses, garden layouts and species.
Promulgate guidelines for pet control, exercise and recreation.

WildCare03 – Feral Oyster Control.

Contact PLOGA.

Develop and agree on guidelines for oyster removal

- Residents' preference is for removal rather than simply onsite destruction.
- PLOGA will supply empty bags and collect filled ones
- Need advice on appropriate clothing, safety apparel, tools and methods
- Supervision and advice on process to minimise impact on marine flora and fauna
- Appropriate tide times and consequent dates and times for working bees
- Registration and kit for participants

Develop and agree a schedule of areas for oyster removal

Working bee schedule



Summary

Proposed Works Program

There is a two year program of works proposed.

2014

WildCare01 – Lumeah Point Wild Care

What	How	When	Cost
Establish local Wild Care group	Register with Wild Care, elect office bearers, formalise relationships.	10/02/2014 to 07/03/2014	Nil
Complete 5 year plan	Draft, community consultation, submit to Crown Land	10/02/2014 to 14/03/2014	Nil

Track01 - Consolidate track and repair NE point

What	How	When	Cost
Consolidate access tracks	Compact crushed rock in wheel tracks	10/02/2014 to 24/03/2014	\$2,200.00
Raise and repair NE point	Design and gain approval for earthworks and parking	10/02/2014 to 21/03/2014	Nil
	Conduct earthworks at NE point	24/03/2014 to 18/01/2014	\$2,450.00

WildCare02 – Feral Oyster Control

What	How	When	Cost
Remove feral oysters and maintain a feral oyster-free environment	In collaboration with PLOGA and relevant authorities design a removal program appropriate to local marine habitat and endemic species.	10/02/2014 to 14/03/2014	Nil
	In collaboration with PLOGA and with supervision by Crown Land conduct ongoing working bees to remove feral oysters.	ongoing	unknown

WildCare03 – Vegetation rehabilitation and wildlife care.

What	How	When	Cost
Programs to remediate and sustain the natural environment	Develop care and maintenance programs for flora and fauna	07/04/2014 to 28/05/2014	Nil
	Consult with community	28/05/2014 to 06/10/2014	Nil
	Distribute guidelines	06/10/2014 to 20/10/2014	\$2,000.00
	Develop rolling work plan	06/10/2014 to 20/10/2014	

Community01 - Community Guidelines

What	How	When	Cost
Develop a set of guidelines for residents outlining land management regimes, appropriate usage and constraints	Draft booklet	02/06/2014 to 25/08/2014	Nil
	Consult with community	25/08/2014 to 06/10/2014	Nil
	Collate responses and get approval for final draft	06/10/2014 to 17/11/2014	Nil
	Publish and distribute	17/11/2014 to 29/12/2014	\$2,000.00

2014-2015

Track02 – Drainage and erosion.

What	How	When	Cost
Repair track erosion, build adequate drains for tracks and consolidate track surfaces.	Design drainage systems and remediation for Honeywood Drive access, track to water's edge and shoreline.	03/11/2014 to 12/12/2014	\$2,000.00
	Consult with community	15/12/2014 to 23/01/2015	Nil
	Gain approval from Clarence City Council and Crown Land	26/01/2015 to 06/03/2015	\$500.00
	Build drainage systems and undertake track remediation.	09/03/2015 to 21/08/2015	\$5,000.00

Community02 – Advisory Signage

What	How	When	Cost
Following track remediation place signage for speed limits and general behaviour	Design Consult Construct Instal	24/08/2015 to 11/12/2015	\$1,500

2016-2018

There will be two ongoing programs; *Feral Oyster Control* and *Vegetation rehabilitation and wildlife care*. These will require a regular schedule of work into the foreseeable future. The nature and scale of these programs is not readily calculable until detailed planning is commenced and indeed, the programs are being implemented.