

22/06/2022



Stakeholder Workshop 2
Community Feedback Report
CHAPMAN RIVER ESTUARY RESERVE
ACTION PLAN 2022 – 2025

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We respectfully acknowledge the Southern Yamatji people, who are the Traditional Owners and original natural resource managers of the lands and waters in the City of Greater Geraldton, and pay our respect to their Elders and leaders, past, present and emerging.

This project is supported by funding from the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program.

1 Agenda

2 hr Workshop – 26 May 2022		
Time	Item	Facilitator
17:30	Acknowledgement of Country	Alanah
17:30 – 17:50	Introductions, aims of the workshop, what was it that interested you about attending this meeting?	Alanah
17:50 – 17:55	Recap of last workshop and update on progress to date	Alanah
17:55 – 18:15	Overview of draft Action Plan	Mic
18:15 – 19:15	Review draft Reserve Action Plan	Mic
19:15 – 19:30	Feedback, next steps, thanks and close	Alanah
19:30	END	

Workshop objectives:

- To provide a progress update and share the draft Plan with stakeholders and community members
- To invite stakeholders and community members to review the draft Plan in order to incorporate their feedback into the final Plan
- To provide stakeholders and community members with information about the process for commenting on an updated version of the Plan before it is finalised

2 Open Meeting

Alanah Campbell opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of country; NACC NRM and the City of Greater Geraldton respectfully acknowledge the Yamatji Nation, specifically the Amangu, Wilinyu, Naaguja and Nhanhagardi People, who are the Traditional Owners and original natural resource managers of the lands and waters in the Geraldton area, and pay our respect to their Elders and leaders, past, present and emerging.

2.1 Attendance and Apologies

IN ATTENDANCE:

Anne Burrow
Tony Ery
Colin Crane
Rob Jefferies
Ross Jefferies
Alice Bishop, Birdlife Midwest
Beth Teale, CRF
Rob Smallwood
Virginie Fuhrmann, CFR
Anne Wilson
Linda Liem
Megan O'Grady, CGG
Shannon Holler, CGG
Kane Watson, NACC NRM
Mic Payne, NACC NRM
Alanah Campbell, NACC NRM

APOLOGIES:

Heather Beswick
Greg Brennan
Marg Pike
Des Pike
Angie Stagg

5 attendees at Workshop 2 not present at Workshop 1

3 Interest in Attending/Expectations of Workshop

Outputs from workshop 1
Property owners concerned with conserving what is there
Assist in creating a meaningful and effective Action Plan
Wildlife preservation
Effective education
Public interest in the future care of the river
Long term resident (40+ years), keen to continue walking in the area and enjoying the river
Understanding of disease in the plant ecosystem
Unallocated Crown Land (UCL) clarification
No fishing on the pontoon on the south side near Nazareth house
Data from the river monitoring (past, present, future – making data accessible to the public)
Water quality monitoring – is data publicly available from the Cities summer monitoring

4 Discussion

4.1 Review of Draft Action Plan

Access and Infrastructure

ACTIONS:

1. Fencing

a. pending heritage agreement

What type of fencing? Ideally climbing proof to actually restrict access
Functional fencing of Nazareth house trail, improve steps in order to protect plant community
Non traversable

2. Trails

a. Trail maintenance/upgrade north of Nazareth house to fishing pontoon

b. Pending heritage agreement

Close vehicle access along west side of Nazareth house (to the fishing pontoon), allowing foot traffic only
Clear management responsibility
Vantage seating and signage
No vehicle access on trails
Consider disability access for trails

3. Develop a signage plan (Year 1)

Currently inconsistent
Avoid vague and unclear signage
Amplify the cultural significance of the area

Ban fishing in the whole area, need clear communication/education on why (to help compliance)
Inclusive design of signage, i.e. Braille, colour elements etc.
Further consultation required for interpretive signage – cultural, environment, compliance, distances of trails (for walkers)
Clarity of signage (look for and remove current contradictions, combine with educational (cultural and environmental) signage)

4. Investigate feasibility of a boardwalk

Concern with antisocial behaviour, access to river banks, fishing, jumping from boardwalk (i.e. improper use of boardwalk)

No support for boardwalk at bridge to Charles St

Explore other “limited” use of boardwalk to enhance educational and environmental experience

5. Install a seat on southern side

a. Pending heritage agreement

Environmental Impacts

Flora and Fauna

ACTIONS:

1. Investigate improved storm water management (Year 2)

Maintenance of storm water ponds on south bank and investigate northern side drainage options

2. Rabbit control (Yearly)

a. Pending heritage agreement (warren destruction)

Broader action – ALL feral animals

3. Weeds – prickly pear and African Boxthorn (Ongoing – community monitoring)

Rigorous community engagement (snap, send, solve – CRF, homeowners, schools)

- plan with commitment beyond just monitoring

4. TEC – condition assessment/threats (Yearly – community monitoring)

User conflict on south bank:

- Broader understanding
- Own monitoring and management plan
- Threatened area

Dogs off lead on beach and northern trail, ideally better signage/enforcement of dogs on leads

Dogs on leads in whole area

Revegetation works from the bridge to Charles Street, where the trail is to be closed, will this area be revegetated or left to do so naturally?

Community engagement, not just “snap and send it”

Boxthorns and rabbit control area required at the foreshore at the end of Swan Drive

Erosion, Drainage and Water Quality

ACTIONS:

1. Investigate storm water action (Year 2)

2. Continue water testing (Yearly)

Query the purpose of only annual testing, what about differences in winter/summer

Confirm water monitoring and definitely happening for the sediment

Vegetation adding multi values

Social Impacts

ACTIONS:

1. Develop a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (within 3 years)
 - a. Develop protocols for on grounds works
 - b. Collaboration etc

2. Develop a communication plan (year 1)
 - a. Increase awareness of issues

Want communication of:

- Weeds and how
- Think more should be a two-way option – community can share stories, report stuff, citizen science links to/for schools

Communication plan linked to importance of Cultural Heritage

Combine CULTURE – NATURE

Aim to BUILD COMMUNITY UNDERSTANDING AND VALUE

3. Investigate reserve status (year 1)

Promote events – and collaborate with City and action groups to run events – parties, bush trail events

Murals in spots to educate/invigorate – artist who completed the silo projects, lady from Mullewa

- local flora and fauna, interpretive signage (for the mural)

Urban/regional rangers (in focus on link to Aboriginal/Cultural Heritage if appropriate)

Rangers presence (as above) also monitory

Engage with West View crew (they may have good ideas or agree with some of this plan)

(*please note: most antisocial behavioural concerns are addressed through infrastructure actions)

Litter

ACTIONS:

1. Investigate fishing line bins – promote as a community initiative

Manage fishing locations to control litter

Communication strategy

Enforcement

*investigate permission re: clean-ups

4.2 General Comments

Communication content – residents would appreciate advice/resources on local, native, recommended plants to add ecological/environmental value to the area on their own private property.

*Potential stakeholder/recommended engagement – West View DCP

5 Next Steps

Draft Action Plan – when the draft report is complete a link will be send out, the report will be available for public comment online through the City website portal, and available in hard copies at the Civic Centre front reception and the City Library. There will be a 2-week window of time for public review.

Incorporation of public comment on Draft Action Plan

Final Report Due end of July 2022