

# Tootgarook Wetland Management Plan (adopted May 2018)

## Implementation Update – November 2019

### Land Use Planning Actions

Table 1: Actions that have been completed in the last 12 months

#	Management Action	Comment
1.01	ESO30 – Wetland extent	These actions were completed following the preparation and subsequent Council adoption of the report, <i>Extent of Tootgarook Wetland, Mornington Peninsula, Victoria</i> (Biosis, May 2019) on 3 June 2019.
1.09	Wetland buffer guidelines	
1.10	Wetland buffer management strategy	

Table 2: Actions that have commenced in the last 12 months

#	Management Action	Comment
1.02	92 Elizabeth Avenue – rezoning	These actions concern the rezoning of several parcels of public land which is currently being undertaken as part of Planning Scheme Amendment C227. The Amendment will also delete ESO30 and parts of ESO14, ESO18 and ESO19, and apply a new ESO31 over the newly defined Wetland extent and buffers. Council approval to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare the Amendment will be sought during the Planning Services Committee Meeting on 16 December 2019.
1.03	Landfill site – rezoning	
1.04	66 Henry Wilson Drive – rezoning	
1.05	Bushland reserves – rezoning	
1.06	40 Colchester Road – rezoning	
1.11	Land management financial incentives	
1.12	Best practice sustainable land management	An information sheet about fox control for landholders within the landscape unit has been developed with three more sheets planned for the 2019/2020 financial year.

### Environmental Management Actions

Table 3: Ongoing actions

#	Management Action	Comment
2.01	Flood mitigation	Environmental considerations will be incorporated when assessing flood mitigation works and undertaking flood response measures as required.
2.04	MPS Smart Water Plan – natural environmental actions	A revised version of the plan has recently concluded community consultation with the final plan going to Council for adoption in the new year. Relevant natural environmental actions will be implemented post-adoption and performance monitored as required.
2.05	MPS Smart Water Plan – water quality actions	A revised version of the plan has recently concluded community consultation with the final plan going to Council for adoption in the new year. Relevant water quality actions will be implemented post-adoption and performance monitored as required.
2.07	Browns Road upgrade	Four fauna underpasses have been installed during the last upgrade and will be monitored for their performance and further upgrades undertaken as required.

Table 4: Actions that have reached or passed the halfway mark in the last 12 months

#	Management Action	Comment
2.12	Trust for Nature (TFN) covenants	A TFN covenant on 92 Elizabeth Avenue, Capel Sound is completed. The next covenants to be developed will be for the Peninsula Gardens and Betty Clift Reserve which lie within the Chinamans Creek catchment.
2.16	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)	The MoU has been drafted. Once the MoU is signed by both parties, updates on Melbourne Water's actions will be provided in the next progress report.

Table 5: Actions that have commenced in the last 12 months

#	Management Action	Comment
2.03	Fire Prevention Notices and Fire Ready Plans	Annual fire prevention officer training will incorporate guidelines on best practice management as per the Biosis report for assessment and issuing of Fire Prevention Notices within the designated buffer zone surrounding the Tootgarook Wetland. Buffer zone layer on GIS has been incorporated into the Fire Management layer so that officers can easily identify properties for inspection that fall within the buffer zone.
2.06	Pollutant management	<p>The Shire completed an education and sampling program in the Rosebud and Mornington industrial estates through Melbourne Water's 'Living Rivers' funding in 2018/2019. Following conclusion of the program, there are still significant environmental risks posed by the industrial premises in Rosebud, that pose a direct threat to Chinamans Creek. While the program was largely successful in achieving better industrial practice leading to improved stormwater quality, further actions are required for the premises that are not meeting their trade waste obligations.</p> <p>To combat this issue, the Shire is participating in the Environment Protection Authority's (EPA's) pilot expansion program after having successfully applied for and secured an EPA Officer for the Protection of the Local Environment (OPLE). The OPLE has recently commenced duties at the Mornington office in late October. Joint inspection programs comprising the OPLE, South East Water and the Shire at industrial sites including the one in Rosebud will be undertaken to reduce waste stockpiling and prevent inappropriate practices that cause industrial waste to enter our waterways.</p>
2.08	Freeway reservation – environmental management	The Shire has an MoU with VicRoads to undertake work within their property which is being carried out adjacent to the Shire's reserves work at 92 Elizabeth Avenue and the sanctuary reserve within the Public Acquisition Overlay.
2.13	Invasive plant and pest animal strategy	Planning on this action has commenced. Implementation details to be finalised as part of the Biodiversity Conservation Plan.
2.14	Wildlife sanctuaries / corridors	Community consultation to help develop a biolink decision-making tool for the Shire as per the recommendations of the Biodiversity Conservation Plan has concluded. The purpose of the tool, which will help inform this action, is to assist with biolink planning by prioritising biolinks that integrates natural landscape links and considers the social, environmental and economic values of different options.
2.18	Revegetation	Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal order for 92 Elizabeth Avenue is proceeding and planning for buffer planting between Truemans Road reserve and 92 Elizabeth Avenue will occur next autumn.

## Recreation and Tourism Actions

Table 6: Actions that have commenced in the last 12 months

#	Management Action	Comment
3.03	Access and facilities for Shire bushland reserves	A map of biodiversity value to guide where facilities could be positioned and what access is appropriate is being developed.
3.05	Walking Trails	This action is dependent on Action 3.03. Preliminary work on determining the appropriate locations for the trails, which is based on the biodiversity value map, has begun.

## Community Awareness, Education and Involvement Actions

Table 7: Ongoing actions

#	Management Action	Comment
4.04	Education sector	Activities undertaken include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walk and talk field sessions with family groups.</li> <li>Having an exhibit on the Wetland at the Science in the Park event organised by PrimeSCI in conjunction with universities, state and local organisations and volunteer groups at the Coolart Wetlands and Homestead Reserve, Somers in August 2019.</li> <li>Planting at Boneo Wetland with kids from Boneo Primary School.</li> </ul>
4.06	Welcome to the Wetland campaign	An article entitled 'The Promise Land' featuring the Wetland was included in the December 2018 issue of Peninsula Wide. The article highlighted the significant values and functions of the Wetland, the community's enjoyment of the Wetland through various activities such as birdwatching, Council's success in securing a threatened land parcel – 92 Elizabeth Avenue, Capel Sound – to integrate into the broader Wetland area, and Council's adoption of the <i>Tootgarook Wetland Management Plan</i> in May 2018.
4.10	Wetland conservation projects promotion	Media release and promotion of the adopted Biodiversity Conservation Plan currently being prepared. The recent completion of the TFN covenant on 92 Elizabeth Avenue (Action 2.12) will also be featured in the coming months.

Table 8: Actions that have commenced in the last 12 months

#	Management Action	Comment
4.03	Catchment vegetation and weed education	Shire officers are providing Landcare and Friends Group with training and support.
4.08	Sustainable practices and incentives	This action will be done in conjunction with the Land Sustainability Rebate review as part of the Biodiversity Conservation Plan.
4.09	Wetland conservation and stewardship	Shire officers are working on developing a World Wetland Day session in conjunction with Trust for Nature, Landcare, Biosphere and BirdLife Australia.

## Research and Monitoring Actions

Table 9: Actions that have been completed in the last 12 months

#	Management Action	Comment
5.11	Climate change assessment	A report that provides the councils in the Association of Bayside Municipalities with a consistent approach to addressing climate change hazards in land use planning around the coastal areas of Port Phillip Bay has been prepared by Hansen Partnership for the Municipal Association of Victoria. It identifies, among other locations, the Tootgarook Wetland and Chinamans Creek surrounds as areas likely to be more significantly impacted by periodic inundation.
5.12	Define potential acid sulphate soil	DELWP has completed a study which mapped potential acid sulphate soils along Victoria's coastline. This data has been added to the Shire's GIS database.

Table 10: Actions that have commenced in the last 12 months

#	Management Action	Comment
5.04	EVC mapping and benchmarks	A report on the mapping of threatened Wetland vegetation communities across the Peninsula which are the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> and the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> listed is currently being finalised. The updated mapping includes many Wetland EVCs previously not mapped by the Shire due to survey resolution.
5.05	EVC destruction identification	Council's Compliance Team is using Council's upgraded GIS aerial photography to establish the locations where loss of vegetation (including Wetland vegetation) is occurring and then investigating whether the loss is due to unauthorised activities. If due to unauthorised activities, compliance actions will be undertaken; the noncompliant locations will be monitored every six months.
5.06	Flora and fauna surveys	Surveys have been completed on underpasses at Browns Road and rakali across Shire land around Tootgarook Wetland. Bird surveys are continuing and a proposal for continuous audio monitoring for birds is currently being examined.