



**MORNINGTON
PENINSULA**
Shire

ATTACHMENTS

PLANNING SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, 15 AUGUST 2022

5.30PM

**MUNICIPAL OFFICES
BESGROVE STREET, ROSEBUD**

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Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves:

Ecological and Planning Study

Community and stakeholder

Engagement outcomes report

Prepared for Mornington Peninsula Shire

18 July 2022



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1. Introduction

Biosis has been commissioned by Mornington Peninsula Shire to:

- Identify and assess the ecological values of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves (referred to hereafter as 'Reserves').
- Identify options for balancing the needs of formal recreation uses with ecological values.
- Confirm the extent of land that is suitable for planning protection, based on ecological values.
- Develop appropriate planning provisions to protect identified ecological values and to support appropriate recreational land use.

This report summarises the community and stakeholder's submissions in relation to the Project and responds to matters raised by submitters.

Key matters raised in submissions include:

- Concerns about the balancing of the environment with demands of sport and recreation.
- Addressing sedimentation of the Balcombe Estuary and Balcombe Creek.
- Need for alternative locations for sport and recreational development outside of the Reserves.
- Implications of the revised planning controls on land use and development opportunities within the reserves for sport and recreation.
- Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves is considered a 'High Priority' waterway for Vegetation Extent under the Healthy Waterways Strategy (HWS). The Waterway plan is a shared strategy across Melbourne Water, state and local government, water corporations and the community.
- Exemptions within Clause 36.02 and 36.03 of the Public Land Zones (e.g. PPRZ, PCRZ).

In response to the submissions the following changes have been made:

- Conducted further consultation with Sport and Recreation and Natural Systems to discuss strategic priorities for the study area, consider the proposed planning controls, discuss past planning permits issued, discussed constraints of the proposed Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO), exemptions within the existing planning scheme provisions.
- Reviewed potential exemptions under the ESO including the relevance of general exemptions.
- Reviewed the exemptions under the PCRZ and PPRZ, however these relate to the use of the land and weren't considered necessary to update. The exemption associated with the ESO relate to buildings and works and vegetation removal.
- Prepared a Draft schedule to the ESO for Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves to aid in the protection of the biodiversity values and waterways.



1.1 Community and stakeholder engagement process

Community and stakeholder engagement was undertaken via a range of communication methods including letters to owners and occupiers in close proximity to the Reserves, public notice in local newspaper, social media posts, direct stakeholder engagement, signage at the Reserves, questionnaire (Refer to Appendix 1), frequently asked questions, web content, Flyers (refer to Appendix 2) and online community sessions with a recording available online.

1.1.1 Purpose of the process

The community and stakeholder engagement process aimed to:

- To encourage the community to participate in the consultation process.
- To use simplified language when explaining the purpose and benefits of the draft Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study.
- To keep the community informed on the progress of the project.
- Receive at least 20 responses from varying areas of interest (i.e. Community, Natural Systems, Sports and recreation and relevant government departments/agencies).
- Understand community and stakeholder position on sport and recreational uses and development and the environment of the study area.
- Understand community and stakeholder position on applying an environmental focussed planning control and rezoning some sites.
- Understand community's perceptions of the threats.
- Sought community's position on the best zoning for 499 Nepean Highway (PCRZ or PPRZ).
- Understand how submitters used the area, frequency and proximity to home.
- Use community and stakeholder engagement feedback in considering the development of the proposed overlay and exemptions, sites to be rezoned.



1.1.2 Key stages in the process

The following agencies were contacted for technical information:

Agency	Comments
Melbourne Water	Two responses were received on 16 July 2021. Refer to section 1.4.9 below for a summary of meetings and comments from Melbourne Water.
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)	Two response were received on 7 July 2021 following a stakeholder meeting between Mornington Peninsula Shire (MPS) and DELWP on the 9 June 2021. Refer to section 1.4.9 below for a summary of meetings and comments from DELWP.

Technical information received from the agencies was used to determine the extent of the ESO within the Reserves and has been incorporated into the draft *Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study* (Biosis 2022) (referred to hereafter as 'Study').

The Reserves community and stakeholder engagement was opened for comment from the 17 May 2021 until the 28 June 2021. Responses to the proposed planning controls to better protect the environmental values of the Reserves was open for comment on an online platform. Submissions were also accepted via hard copy forms from the customer service centre/mail.

On 31 May 2021 and 9 June 2021 online (given Covid-19 requirements) public information sessions were held, providing community members and stakeholders an opportunity to ask questions about the project.

Community consultation included an online questionnaire in which 449 submissions were received. Nine written responses were received. The written responses were reviewed and consolidated by Council along with the qualitative data from the online questionnaire.

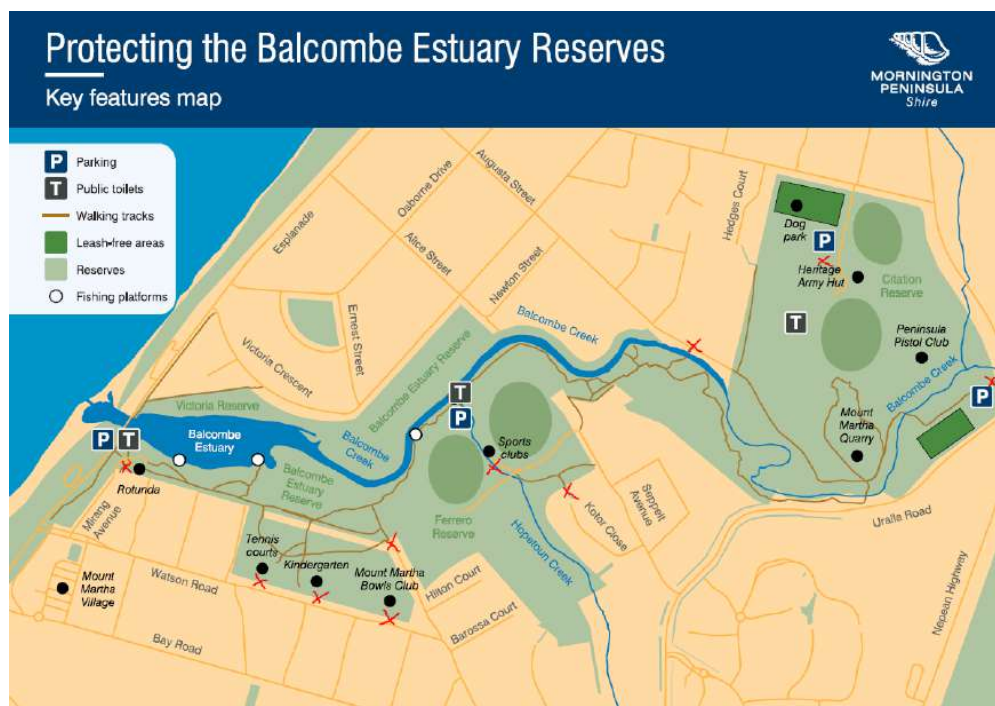
An online engagement session was held with sports clubs on 21 June 2021 and Council met online with Balcombe Estuary Reserves Group (BERG) on 10 June 2021. Letters sent to local groups and sporting clubs, Departments and Statutory bodies and within a radius of the study area, refer to Figure 1 below (letters sent to all owners and occupiers located within the area highlighted orange). Refer to Figure 2 below to reference where the 10 project signs were installed onsite between 25 May 2021 and removed on 29 June 2021.



Figure 1 Orange area outlining residents notified via letter of project and community consultation sessions



Figure 2 Red cross indicating location of signage at Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves





1.2 Summary of issues raised in online questionnaire and written responses

During the engagement process via online community consultation and an online questionnaire several (refer to Appendix 1) concerns and questions were raised by different stakeholders including government agencies, sporting clubs, community groups, and community members. These concerns are grouped into a number of themes and discussed below with a response to each of the issues.

1.3 Online questionnaire

The questionnaire included questions to understand:

- If respondents supported a new environmental planning control.
- If respondents supported vegetation removal to create more sports and recreation infrastructure.
- Opinions on how Council could better balance the needs of sport and recreation whilst protecting the environmental values of the Reserves.
- Preference of zoning 499 Nepean Highway from residential to PCRZ or PPRZ.
- What respondents believed were the key threats within the study area.

Some non-identifying questions were also asked in terms of distance from home to the reserves, how often frequented the Reserves and mode of transport to the Reserves etc. Please refer to Appendix 1 to view the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves fact sheet and questionnaire. Refer to Appendix 6 to view key statistics regarding the questionnaire.

The following key themes emerged for consideration:

1.3.1 Unauthorised BMX tracks

- Some respondents suggested the need to create purpose built BMX trails/jumps or provide an area to help stop people creating their own trails/jumps and disturbing the environment.

Response

- MPS is currently preparing a Strategy for the development of Recreational Facilities for Mountain Bike and BMX, which is in response to the strong demand for dirt jump facilities, especially in the northern planning area for Mount Eliza, Mornington and Mount Martha. Based on recent consultation there was very strong support for allowing young people to build their own jumps. In response the Strategy is exploring how this can be achieved at the local level on areas of high demand.
- The creation of these jumps is more than enforcement /environmental management issue. The activity needs to be recognised and supported.

1.3.2 Balancing the needs of sport and recreation and the environment

- Some respondents valued both sport and recreation and the natural environment and recognised the benefits that both, bring individuals.
- It was noted there is a desire for balancing both i.e. sport and recreation and the natural environment can co-exist within the Reserves.
- Some respondent's requested Council provide further opportunities to educate the community on the biodiversity values of the Reserves.



- Some respondents questioned the need for more sports and recreation facilities within the Reserves, noting there are great facilities elsewhere in Mount Martha and Mornington and equally indicated that some sports appear to be over catered for yet others are under catered for within the Reserves.
- Some respondents noted high recognition for the informal recreation opportunities that the area presents i.e. kayaking, birdwatching, walking, running, cycling, picnics, photography, connecting to nature for mental health reasons etc. The boardwalk within the Reserves is highly valued.

Response

- This submission/ theme has been considered and noted as part of this Study. A balance is required and the ESO has been drafted to reflect the environmental values and known sport and recreation requirements within the Reserves.
- The ESO will provide a level of restriction on the future development of sport and recreation activities. The ESO has been developed in a way that recognises the biodiversity values and considers the sport and recreation requirements through the development of the ESO exemptions for reasonable / expected development that would have minimal impact on the environment.

1.3.3 Native vegetation removal

- There was a strong response from respondents that protecting the environment is important, more so than clearing land and developing further sports and recreation facilities within the Reserves. It was noted that development if any at all, should be within existing cleared areas (i.e. cleared areas at Citation Reserve) and should respect the natural environment, some encouraging for no more vegetation removal / limit vegetation removal.

Response

- The ESO32 requires a permit to remove, destroy or lop most native vegetation (some exemptions included). This would provide greater protection to native vegetation within the Reserves.

1.3.4 Traffic concerns

- Some respondents noted safety / traffic concerns at the Uralla Rd / Nepean Highway intersection.

Response

- There is a \$10,000,000 Federal funding commitment to upgrade the safety of the Forest Drive/Nepean Highway and Uralla Road/Nepean Highway intersections. The Victorian Department of Transport are currently investigating options for the Uralla Road/Nepean Highway intersection.

1.3.5 Value of sport and recreation within the community

- Some respondents noted that organised sport is important for the community and mental health and physical wellbeing. The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted this more so than ever and sport should continue within the Reserves.
- Some respondents noted Council should consider using alternate locations such as; Mace Oval, John Anderson Reserve, nearby school ovals, buy already cleared farmland or use cleared land within the Briars for further sports and recreation facilities if needed. Respondents stated that it appears that the clubs/fields aren't used to full capacity i.e. idle most days/hours of the week, opportunity for better cross-utilisation/more intensive use.
- Some respondents recognise growing population and related pressures on existing facilities.

Response



- This submission/ theme has been considered and noted as part of this Study. The Study doesn't aim to reduce the existing sport and recreational facilities within the Reserves. Council understands the increasing population within the Mount Martha/ Mornington Peninsula area, however a balance is required given the environmental values present in the Reserves. *The Sports Capacity Plan Volume 1* (adopted) and Volume 3 (draft) will address current and future population demand for sporting facilities.

1.3.6 Lack of enforcement

- Some respondents noted issues with dog poo not being picked up and the need for more bins, dog poo bags and greater enforcement.

Response

- This submission/ theme is not considered relevant to the scope of this assessment however Community Safety Officers/Rangers at Council were consulted to provide a response.
- Community Safety Officers/Rangers conduct rostered patrols of beaches and reserves across all Shire managed and most DELWP Committee of Management managed beaches. The main focus of these patrols is on responsible animal management and ensuring dog owners respect the dog controls. When officers observe non-compliant dog owners, the appropriate enforcement action is taken e.g. issuing of a warning or an infringement notice. Officers also educate dog owners on the necessity of carrying poo bags; picking up after their dogs and correctly disposing of the litter. The only way in which officers can enforce the provisions around collection and disposal of dog litter is to observe the offending behaviour.
- Investigations will take place in providing dog waste bags at Council beaches, parks and reserves and to review bin locations and frequency of emptying to determine if additional services are required.

1.3.7 Biodiversity corridors

- Some respondents recognised that the corridor from the Bay to the Briars is important for habitat.

Response

- The area outside of the Reserves was not considered as part of this Study. However, Council is supporting biodiversity links through the implementation of the Biodiversity Conservation Plan. This Study has highlighted the important ecology values within the Reserves section of the corridor. The ESO would provide greater protection to biodiversity within the Reserves. The decision guidelines of the ESO include the need to consider the environment and contain a permit requirements for certain buildings and works and to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation.

1.3.8 Lack of formal car parking

- Some respondents noted dirt roads and carparks within the area need better maintenance / sealing i.e. pothole issues, to reduce dust and sedimentation issues.

Response

- Sedimentation has been identified as a threat within the Study area, the ESO addresses this issue in relation to future development. It is as highly likely that future development within the reserves will require sealed (formal) car parking issues.
- Existing requirements at Clause 52.06 of the Planning Scheme provide requirements for the development of new car parking spaces.
- Unsealed roads outside of the study are outside the scope of the project.



1.3.9 Lack of information relating to the planning process

- Some respondents expressed the desire to see plans to understand vegetation removal and understand potential impacts, to make an informed decision on whether the area is suitable for future development.

Response

- The ESO requires a permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation (some exemptions included). This would provide greater protection to native vegetation within the Reserves.
- No vegetation removal is proposed as part of this project.

1.3.10 Climate change

- Some respondents noted the Reserves natural environment is highly valued and people are attracted to the area because of the natural environment i.e. live and visit. Some requested that Council enact on the Climate Emergency Policy - protect and conserve the Reserves for future generations, once it's gone it's gone. Some respondents suggested that areas for conservation be roped off to limit movement in these areas.

Response

- The Council *Our Climate Emergency Response from 2020 to 2030* (2020) has been considered as part of this Study. Some sections of the strategy align with the objectives of the drafted ESO, including:
 - Page 40, Supplementary targets including each year there will be no new extinctions of indigenous species on the Peninsula and by 2030, increase ecosystem resilience to climate change and other threats on the Peninsula.*
 - Page 57, Provide direct support for community groups to pursue climate action (the BERG made a request to the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council to investigate applying an ESO to the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves).*
 - Page 73, Accelerate the Biodiversity Conservation Plan elements that apply to urban areas.*
 - Page 74, Connect townships and urban environments with essential community services and natural local ecology, so that we can thrive alongside our environment.*

1.3.11 Renewal and upgrade of sport and recreation facilities

- Some respondents raised concerns regarding current Sports and recreation facilities are of a poor standard, better quality standard of facilities were sought.
- Sports Clubs fear that increased protection of the Reserves will limit future redevelopment and their club operations.

Response

- The ESO will not reduce the existing sporting and recreational facilities offered within the Reserves. The Sports Capacity Plan Volume 1 (adopted) and Volume 3 (draft) outlines the recommended works required at each of the Reserves.
- The ESO will limit certain development within the Reserves. However, it will not impact the existing uses and facilities. Some exemptions have been included in the ESO32 to allow for buildings and works and native vegetation removal (for example maintenance of existing sport and recreational facilities).



1.3.12 Indigenous Heritage

- Some respondents respect to the indigenous culture and those who walked the land/called it home. The areas past history in war times was also recognised.

Response

- This submission/ theme is outside the scope of this assessment. Any further development will need to comply with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and *Heritage Act 2017* and any Heritage Overlay included in the local planning scheme and protected under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

1.4 Written responses

Written responses were received from several community members and stakeholders during the consultation period. Key issues raised in the written responses included:

- Contaminates in sediments.
- Master planning for sport and recreational facilities.
- Protecting the natural environment in Reserves.
- Consider future sporting and recreational to be located outside the Reserves.
- Proposed ESO and potential exemptions.
- 499 Nepean Highway, Mount Martha.

Key issues and responses to the concerns are detailed below.

1.4.1 Key issue (Contaminates in sediments and macrophytes of the Reserves)

- Respondent raised concerns about contamination in sediments and macrophytes of the waterways within the Reserves (Balcombe Creek and Balcombe Estuary). The respondent wanted input into the study given their current honours research on this topic in the study area.

Response

- Council replied to respondent. Confirmation that the response is out of scope for this Study, however confirmed it may support the other work that the Council Climate Change, Energy and Water team are undertaking regarding sedimentation within the estuary. The respondent's details were passed onto the Climate Change, Energy and Water team.
- Council understands that the main element contributing to the sediment entering the estuary is from unsealed roads which surround the Reserves. .
- A long-term sediment management plan for Balcombe Estuary is currently being prepared by Council. The plan will identify various locations of sedimentation discharge, their sources and suitable ways to control the sediment transport beyond their immediate vicinity.

1.4.2 Key issue (Master planning for sport and recreational facilities)

- Respondent questioned the status of the Ferrero Masterplan.

Response

- Update of Masterplan was provided by Council to respondent.



- The Sport Capacity Plan – Volume 3 is currently being prepared. In relation to non-field based sports, Council will talk more about the needs for certain sporting facilities in specific areas across the Mornington Peninsula. This will include an investigation into gaps/needs and how Council provide for certain sports, for example, netball facilities for both training and competition levels. This will be a strategic document to provide strategic guidance going forward.
- A draft masterplan was prepared for Ferrero and Citation Reserve, however was not adopted and needs to be revised to respond to Sports Capacity Plan Principles and Standards, which are outlined in Volume 1 Sports Fields.
- The Sport Capacity Plan – Volume 3 (non-field based sports) will further inform the facility requirements for Citation and Ferrero and the extension of Ferrero Reserve (tennis and bowls).

1.4.3 Key issue (Protecting the natural environment in Reserves over clearing vegetation for sport and recreational use)

- Respondent raised concerns regarding further disturbance to sensitive areas within the Reserves. The respondent has suggested relocating further sport and recreational development to less sensitive areas including alternative locations away from the Reserves. This respondent was supportive of implementing controls to better protect the ecological reserves in this location.

Response

- Ferrero and Citation are designated sporting reserves, therefore the core purpose is to provide for sporting and recreational activities. Further maintenance of the already cleared areas is proposed to be permitted within these areas, however any further large scale development or native vegetation removal is expected to be restricted as part of the proposed ESO.

1.4.4 Key issue (Consider future sporting and recreational to be located outside the Reserves)

- Respondent raised the possibility of future sport and recreational facility development occurring outside of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves to preserve the environment and existing ecological system.

Response

- Council are considering alternative location for future sport and recreation development.
- The Sports Capacity Plan Volume 1 (adopted) and Volume 3 (draft) outlines the recommended works required at each of the Reserves.

1.4.5 Key issue (Proposed ESO)

- Concerns were raised regarding the potential implications of the proposed ESO on the existing land uses and future development of sport and recreation facilities.

Response

- Planning permit exemptions have been developed to allow for certain activities (maintenance works, conservation and land management works) to occur within the Reserves by or on behalf of the public land manager. This is documented in the Study. Major development for sport and recreation will require a permit for buildings and works and to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation as proposed by the ESO32. Refer to Appendix 3 to view the proposed ESO.
- The ESO32 will not reduce the existing sporting and recreational uses within the Reserves.



- 77.7% of online survey respondents indicated that they support a new environmental focused planning control being applied to the Reserves. 14.3% indicated that they did not support the application of such controls with the remaining 8% indicating 'not sure' or 'other'.

1.4.6 Key issue (existing uses)

- Potential prohibition of the existing permitted uses following the approval of the proposed ESO.

Response

- The ESO does not prohibit development. The ESO provides some exemptions for buildings and works related to existing development. . The proposed ESO has been developed to protect the Reserves against the ecological threats that were identified in the Draft Study with new development encouraged in areas that would have a low/minimal impact on existing native vegetation and the ecology of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.
- Provisions of the ESO (including permit requirements) aim to prevent future inappropriate developments from causing adverse impacts on the Reserves. This will be implemented through permit requirements for new applications (for buildings, works and native vegetation removal) as well as the decision guidelines in the proposed ESO.

1.4.7 Key issue (Potential need for some exemptions in the ESO)

- Respondents requested that some exemptions were considered for the proposed ESO.

Response

- Certain exemption have been considered in the draft planning provisions (ESO32). Some exemptions proposed, include removing exotic vegetation to allow the management of weeds, removing vegetation for safety reasons or repairs along existing access tracks/roads, and removing native vegetation to the minimum extent necessary to enable the carrying out of conservation works.

1.4.8 Key issue (499 Nepean Highway, Mount Martha – rezoning)

- Feedback received indicated *"This vegetation (Swamp Paperbark) shows that the area (499 Nepean Highway) is swampy and unsuitable for active recreation"*.

Response

- There were further discussions regarding 499 Point Nepean Road not being the most useable area for sport and recreation – as a space doesn't comply with any standards. Good access is required as part of the Australian Standards, development Standards for a facility (i.e. for sustainability).
- Natural Systems team at council highlighted the proximity of the site (499 Point Nepean Road) to the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves / strong emphasis within the [Biodiversity Conservation Plan](#) that waterways as a corridor are important.
- Existing zoning within the study area is included in Appendix 4. Proposed rezoning of the Reserves is detailed in Appendix 5.

1.4.9 DELWP and Melbourne Water – written responses and meeting outcomes

Ongoing discussions have occurred with DELWP and Melbourne Water post community and stakeholder engagement.

DELWP supported the application of a new and unique ESO to the Reserves and the sites proposed to be rezoned, including Crown Land parcels. DELWP made some suggestions in terms of inclusions in the ESO to



be drafted and suggested that the DDO's in their current form would not be applicable. DELWP have requested to be kept engaged.

Melbourne Water responses indicated that they support the application of an ESO and identified that Balcombe Estuary is considered a 'High Priority' waterway pursuant to the Melbourne Water-Healthy Waterway Strategy 2018-28. Melbourne Water noted that they undertake preventative maintenance for vegetation management / weed control along the banks of the Balcombe Creek and support BERG with funding for vegetation management activities and work with Council on other projects too.

Melbourne Water welcomed the Mornington Peninsula Shire's offer to formally refer all planning applications within the ESO, however requested that they be notified of applications for vegetation removal and earthworks via the schedule to Clause 66.06.

In March 2022, the ESO32 and proposed schedule to Clause 66.06 were sent to MW for comment. Melbourne Water in May 2022 had no further comment and supported the efforts to protect the ecological values.



References

Biosis 2022. Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves, Planning and ecology study. Report to Mornington Peninsula Shire, Biosis Pty Ltd, Melbourne.



Appendix 1: Online questionnaire

Help shape our Peninsula

shape.mornpen.vic.gov.au



Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

Background

We are investigating whether further planning controls are needed to better protect the environmental values of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves.

The Balcombe Estuary is one of the Mornington Peninsula's major waterways and a significant natural asset with 164 indigenous plant species recorded including, Swamp Scrub and Grassy Woodland which are bioregionally endangered species. The Dwarf Galaxias fish, Royal Spoonbill and Pacific Gull are also threatened or near threatened species that have been identified in the area.

The Reserves also contain formal sport and recreation facilities such as tennis courts, cricket/football ovals, pistol club and bowls club as well as informal recreation facilities including picnic tables, playgrounds, walking trails and fishing platforms. Mount Martha Preschool and Maternal and Child Health Centre are also located within the Reserves.

Protecting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves

Key features map



Privacy statement

The information on this form is being collected by the Mornington Peninsula Shire and its authorised contractors in accordance with its Privacy Policy and the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 for the purpose of community consultation and engagement.

You may access personal information you have provided to the Shire and make corrections by contacting the Shire's Privacy Officer privacy@mornpen.vic.gov.au. The Shire will only use this information for the purpose it was collected and may use it for a secondary, related purpose that could reasonably be expected.

Help shape our Peninsula

shape.mornpen.vic.gov.au



Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

What are we proposing?

In 2018, when consulting on our Planning Scheme Review, you let us know that the Balcombe Estuary was an important ecological asset that needed further protection.

With increasing population, the environment and the recreational facilities of the Reserves will come under increasing pressure.

We've now put together a draft Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study to find a balance between preserving the ecological values of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves, while supporting appropriate sport and recreation uses of the area.

To ensure future development is compatible with the significant biodiversity values of Reserves we are recommending:

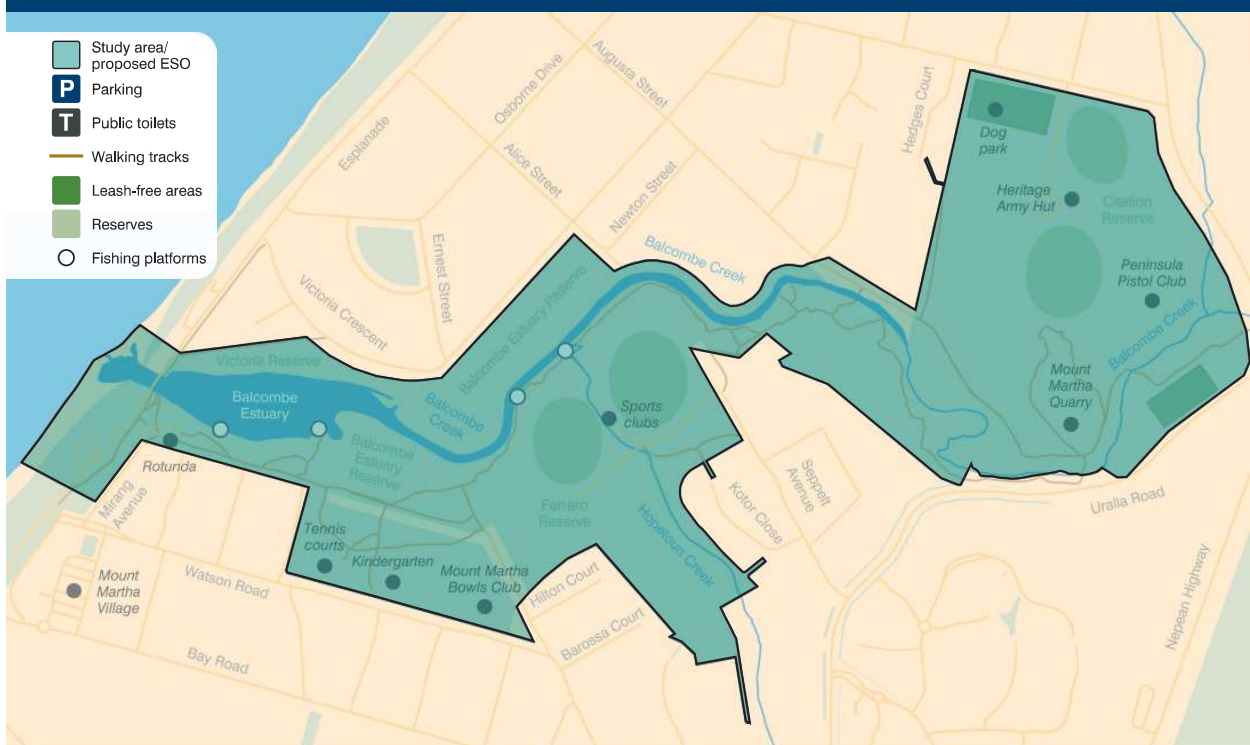
A new planning control be applied to the Reserves to limit the impact of future development and vegetation removal on the environmental significance of the area.

Small pockets of land be rezoned where the current zoning does not match the current or future land use.

The new planning control to protect the environment is called an Environmental Significance Overlay which may restrict certain community facilities and sport and recreational development. This means Council would either need to buy land elsewhere within or nearby to Mount Martha if these facilities needed to expand or decide that in some areas of the Reserves recreational needs take precedence over environmental protection.

Protecting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves

Proposed environmental significance overlay (ESO)



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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

Frequently asked questions

What's an Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO)?

This type of planning control is used to ensure the development of land does not affect identified environmental values and qualities of particular areas within the Shire. In making a decision on an application for development covered by an ESO, Council will take into account the impact of any proposed buildings and works (and any associated vegetation loss) on the natural environment, areas identified as of significance for flora and fauna, and the landscape values of the area.

Will this affect my land?

No, only land owned by the Council or State government is proposed to be affected by the environmental significance overlay.

How will my feedback be used?

The draft Study has been developed by ecological experts (Biosis Consultants) and numerous council departments. Using input from these sources, the study contains a series of recommendations for how we can best protect the natural environment of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves while highlighting conflicting interests and particular threats. We are now looking to the community for their input and guidance.

Your feedback on the draft Study will help Council determine whether the draft study contains the right recommendations, or if there's anything we need to change.

Protecting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves

Existing planning zones



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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

Frequently asked questions

Why is this important now?

The Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme Review No. 4 (2018) (Recommendation 186), recommended that further strategic work be undertaken to determine whether an Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO) should be applied to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves. With the population of Mount Martha growing, there will be increased pressures on community infrastructure. It is therefore important to review the planning controls for the Balcombe Estuary Reserves to find a balance between preserving the ecological values of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves, while supporting appropriate sport and recreation uses of the area.

Will there be changes to the facilities, sporting fields and native bushland?

This project will only affect planning controls within the study area. There is no proposal for physical changes or new developments, however the planning controls may affect future proposals so please let us know what activities and assets you value within the area so that we can ensure the planning controls guide and protect your priorities and values.

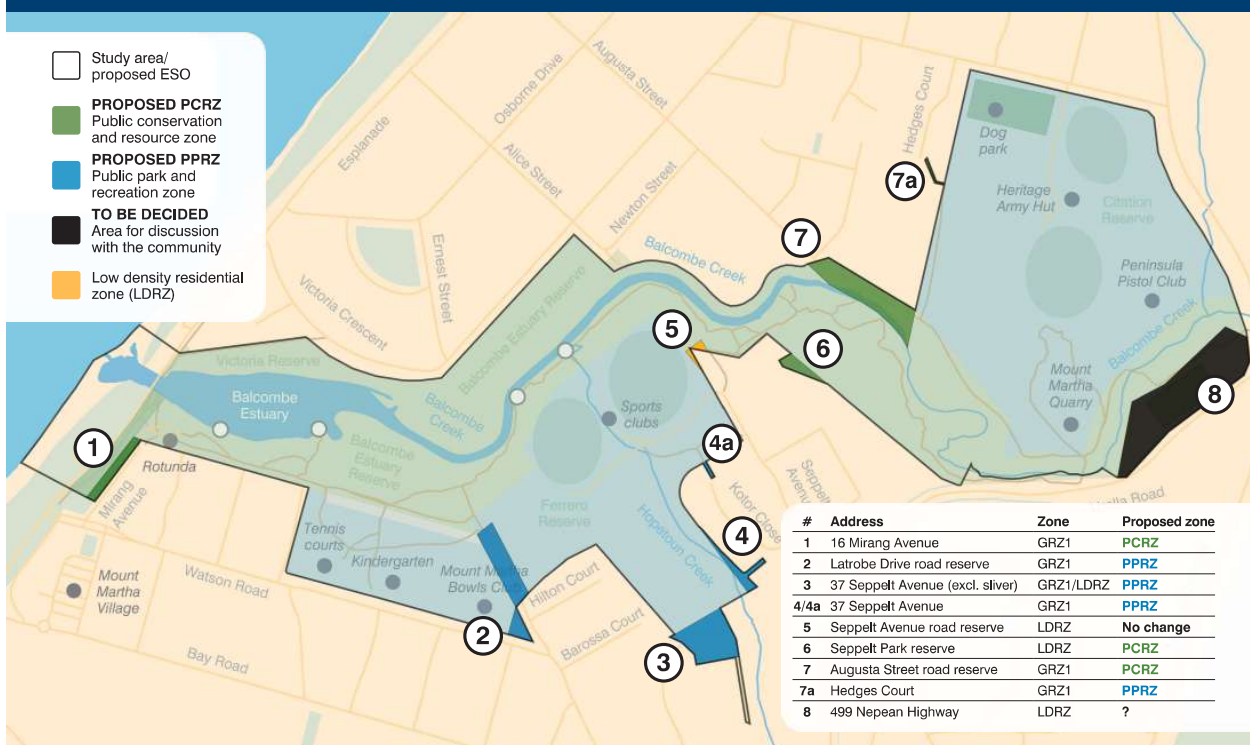
How can I stay up to date with the project?

To receive updates about the Plans, visit the webpage and click on the 'Follow' button at the top of the page.

mornpen.vic.gov.au/balcombeestuary

Protecting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves

Proposed planning zones



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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

Timeline

- **Draft study adopted by Council** 4 May 2021
- **Community consultation open** 17 May 2021
- **Online information session** 31 May 2021
Monday 31 May, 11am via Microsoft Teams.
Register your attendance:
mornpen.vic.gov.au/balcombeestuary
- **In-person drop in session** 9 June 2021
Wednesday 9 June, 5.30-8pm
Mornington Park Pavilion, 9 Flinders Drive, Mornington
Register your attendance:
mornpen.vic.gov.au/balcombeestuary
- **Community consultation closes** 28 June 2021
- **Planning Scheme Amendment started** January 2022

Information Sessions

Join us for an online information session to learn more about the Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study.

We are holding these sessions so you can talk to Council officers about the project. We will provide a 20-30min overview which will be followed by time for your questions. Please RSVP to these drop-in sessions at least 24 hours prior to the event.

RSVP online: mornpen.vic.gov.au/balcombeestuary

Online information session: 31 May 2021, 11am

In-person drop in session: 9 June 2021, 5.30 – 8pm

Share your feedback

We want your views on the proposed planning controls and to help us better understand the priorities and needs of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves and its users.

Please complete the short online survey, drop a pin on our interactive map (also online) or collect a hard copy survey from any of our Customer Service offices by 5pm 28 June 2021.

Submissions open 17 May 2021

Submissions close 5pm 28 June 2021

Submissions can be made:

Online mornpen.vic.gov.au/balcombeestuary

Post:

Re: Protecting Balcombe Estuary Reserves
Mornington Peninsula Shire, Private Bag 1000,
Rosebud, Victoria, 3939

Hard copy consultation forms are available to be posted upon request, by phoning Shire Customer Service

1300 850 600

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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

Contact details

Name (required)

Email address (required)

Address

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For more information on this survey, please visit the website or contact:

mornpen.vic.gov.au/balcombeestuary

strategic.admin@mornpenvic.gov.au

5950 1000

1. Gender

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ Please specify:

2. Age group

- ☐ Under 18 years
- ☐ 18 to 24 years
- ☐ 25 to 34 years
- ☐ 35 to 44 years
- ☐ 45 to 54 years
- ☐ 55 to 64 years
- ☐ 65 to 74 years
- ☐ 75 years +

3. What is most important to you when you think about the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area?
Can you tell us why? (Required)

4. Do you support a new environmental focused planning control being applied to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? (Required)

An environmental focused planning control means a planning permit would be required for most buildings and vegetation removal in the future and would be subject to a thorough assessment to consider its suitability and potential impact on the environment.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Other, please specify:

5. On a scale from 1 – 10, how important is it to you that we protect the environment of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area by applying a new planning control that will trigger the need for a planning permit for most buildings and vegetation removal in the future? (Required)

1 = least important, 5 = somewhat important,
10 = most important.

Write number here:

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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

6. The Mornington Peninsula is experiencing significant population growth. That means existing sport and recreation facilities will need to be expanded to meet current and future demands.

Would you support vegetation removal to create more community and formal sport and recreation facilities in the future at existing recreation reserves within the study area to meet community demands i.e. sporting fields, buildings, car parking etc.? (Required)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Other, please comment:

7. In your opinion what are the five biggest threats to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area?

Please number **five** boxes from 1 to 5 in preferential order (1 being the biggest threat).

- ☐ Need for more facilities to meet growing demand
- ☐ Unauthorised BMX tracks
- ☐ Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc
- ☐ People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs
- ☐ Pests and weeds
- ☐ Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area
- ☐ Poor management
- ☐ Vegetation removal
- ☐ Uncontrolled activities
- ☐ Lack of formal car parking areas
- ☐ Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary
- ☐ Lack of enforcement
- ☐ Other, please specify (specify if listed as a top threat):

8. Do you have any suggestions on how we could better balance the needs of formal sport and recreation uses (i.e. organised sport) whilst protecting the environmental values of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? (Required)

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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

The land at 499 Nepean Highway, Mount Martha is Council-owned and there is no intention to sell or develop the land for residential use (please refer to map below – area 8).

This land has environmental values, as well as both public park and recreation use potential. The following options are for the community to consider:

Option 1: Zone the land for conservation use and development

Benefit – Restricts the number of future uses and development (with or without the need for planning approval) with a main purpose to protect and conserve the natural environment.

The land would generally remain as is if the land is zoned for conservation.

Option 2: Zone the land for formal sport and recreation use and development

Benefit – Permits a greater number of future uses and development of the land (with or without the need for planning approval), prioritises the land for sport and recreation uses and commercial uses where appropriate with a purpose to also conserve areas of significance.

The land could with be developed for soccer/hockey field with a kiosk and carparking for example with vegetation removal likely required.

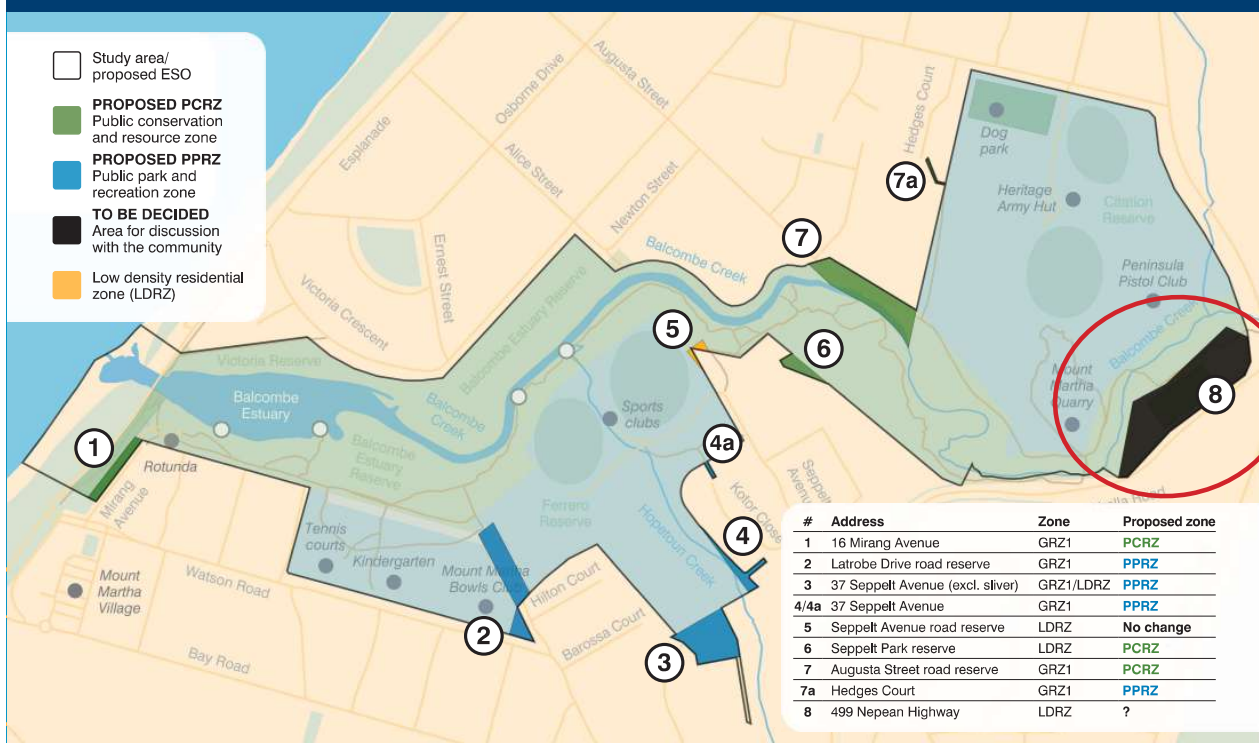
9. Which option would you support? (Required)

☐ Option 1

☐ Option 2

Protecting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves

Proposed planning zones



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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

10. Why did you pick that option?
Is there anything else we should consider? (Required)

13. Is the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area
within a 5km radius from your home? (Required)

☐ Yes

☐ No

14. Do you have any further information that you
would like to tell us?

11. How often do you frequent the area?
Select one. (Required)

☐ Daily

☐ Weekly

☐ Fortnightly

☐ Monthly

☐ Annually

☐ Other, please specify:

12. How do you get to the Balcombe Estuary
Reserves study area? (Required)

☐ Walk/run

☐ Bike ride

☐ Public transport

☐ Drive (solo)

☐ Drive (carpool)

☐ Other, please specify:

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Appendix 2: Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves – flyer

Balcombe Estuary Reserves Mount Martha



Protecting the reserves for the future

Mornington Peninsula Shire is investigating whether further planning controls are needed to better protect the environmental values of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves.

The Balcombe Estuary is one of the Peninsula's major waterways and a significant natural asset.

These reserves are rich in biodiversity and offers picnic tables, playgrounds, fishing platforms and walking tracks and boardwalk alongside Balcombe Creek, extending from the coast through to the Nepean Highway and on to The Briars.

Also located within the reserves are recreation and community facilities, such as: tennis courts, cricket/football ovals, a pistol club, and bowls club, as well as Mount Martha Preschool and Maternal and Child Health Centre.

With increasing population, the environment and the recreational facilities of the reserves will come under increasing pressure.

The Shire, together with local community groups and key stakeholders, works hard to protect and enhance the biodiversity values of the reserves.

As part of this commitment, the Shire has developed a draft Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study (the draft Study).

The project aims to find a balance between preserving the ecological values of the reserves, while supporting appropriate sport and recreation uses of the area.

For further information:

- 📍 mornpen.vic.gov.au/balcombeestuary
- ✉ strategic.admin@mornpen.vic.gov.au
- 📞 5950 1010

Balcombe Estuary Reserves Mount Martha



To achieve this, we are recommending:

- A new planning control be applied to the reserves to limit the impact of future development and vegetation removal on the environmental significance of the area.
- Small pockets of land be rezoned where the current zoning does not match the current or future land use.

Planning controls protecting the environment may restrict certain community facilities and expansion of sport and recreation facilities.

This means the Shire may need to either:

- buy land in or nearby Mount Martha if these facilities needed to expand
- dedicate areas of the reserves to recreational needs over environmental protection.



We are now seeking your feedback on the project.

We want your thoughts on how we can best balance sport and recreation and the environmental significance of the reserves. Your insight will help to inform the draft Study and make a difference to the future of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves.

To provide feedback visit: mornpen.vic.gov.au/balcombeestuary

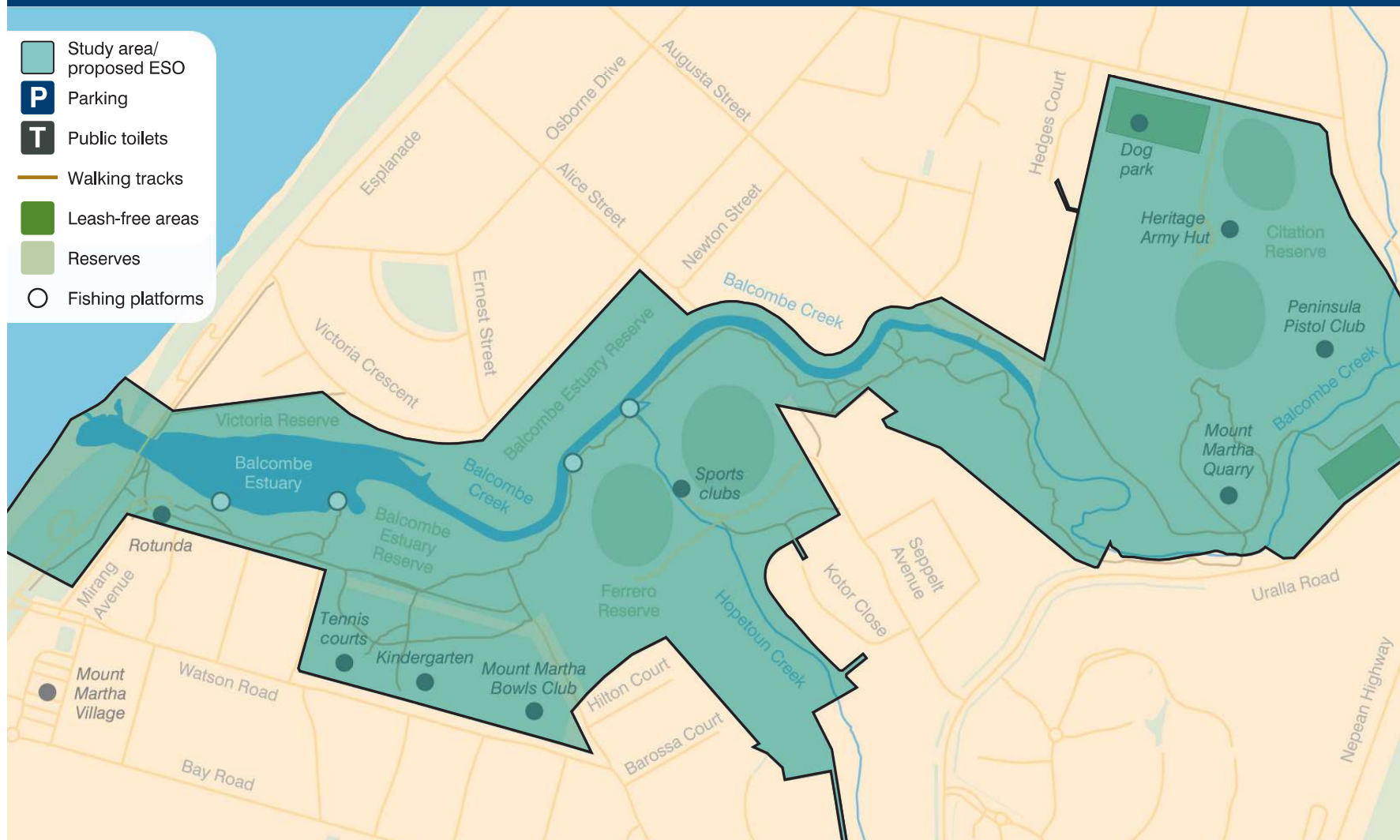




Appendix 3: Proposed Environmental Significance Overlay

Protecting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves

Proposed environmental significance overlay (ESO)





Appendix 4: Existing planning zones

Protecting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves

Existing planning zones





Appendix 5: Proposed planning zones

Protecting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves

Proposed planning zones





Appendix 6: Balcombe estuary and associated reserves - Key Statistics and contributions

Shape our Future

Report Type: Form Results Summary
Date Range: 14-05-2021 - 28-06-2021
Exported: 19-07-2021 11:29:36

Closed

Untitled
Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study

419
Contributors

449
Contributions

Contribution Summary

1. What is most important to you when you think about the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? Can you tell us why?

Required

Long Text | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 449 (100%)

Sentiment



Positive
53.9% (242)



Mixed
2.4% (11)



Negative
2.4% (11)



Neutral
41.2% (185)



Unclassified
0% (0)

Tags

wildlife protect

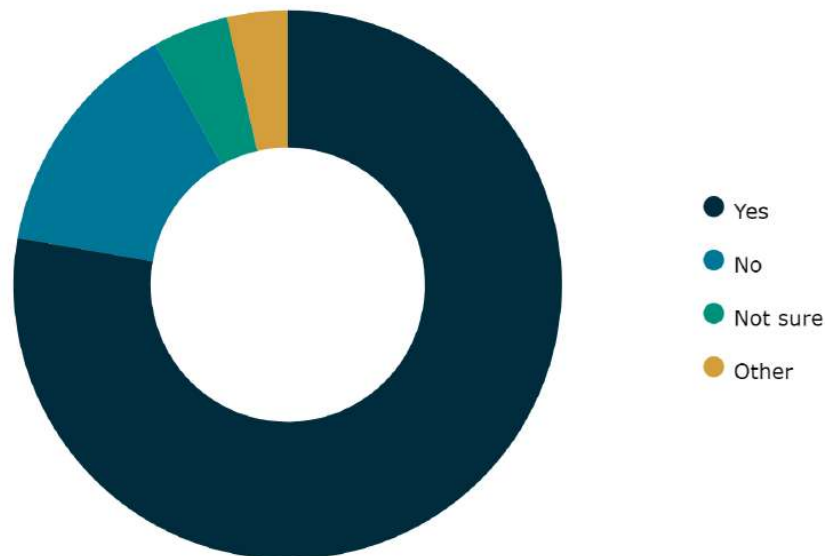
Tag	Percent	Count
protect	0.2%	1
wildlife	0.2%	1

Featured contributions

Protecting the native vegetation and wildlife
Contribution 1 of 1 | 14 May 2021

2. Do you support a new environmental focused planning control being applied to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? An environmental focused planning control means a planning permit would be required for most buildings and vegetation removal in the future and would be subject to a thorough assessment to consider its suitability and potential impact on the environment. Required

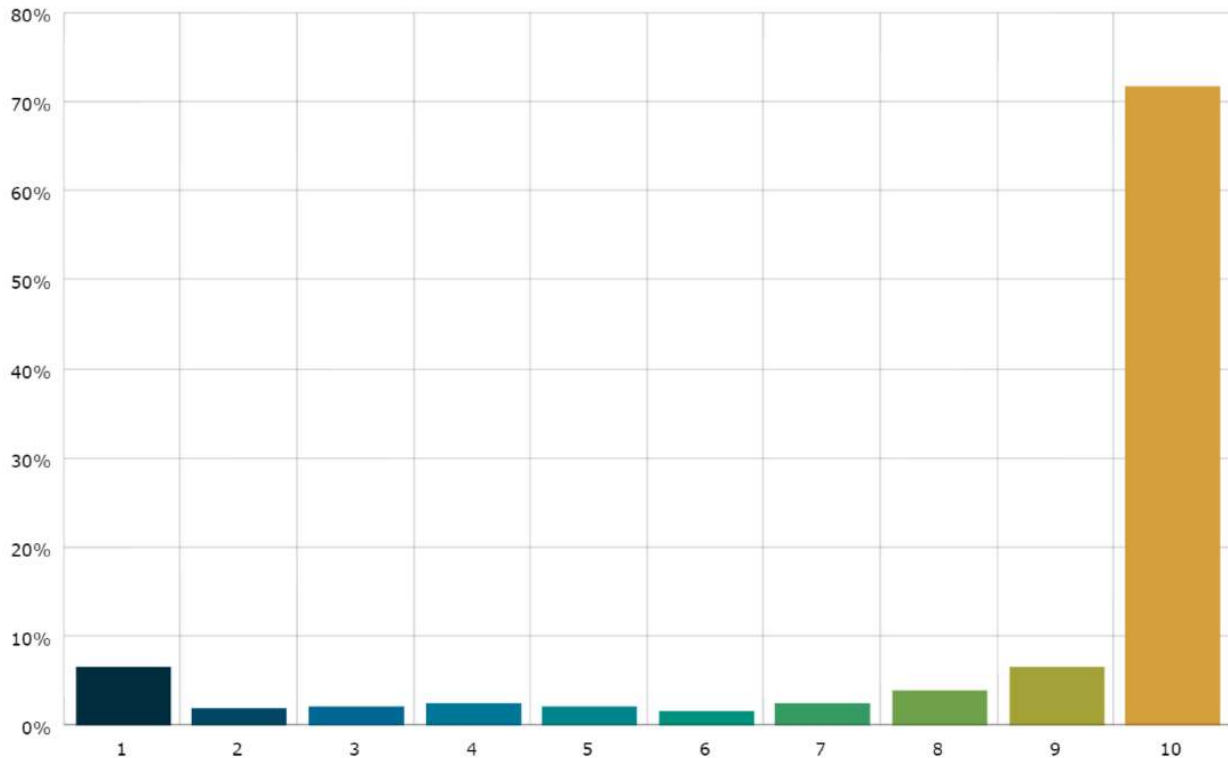
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 449 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	77.73%	349
No	14.25%	64
Not sure	4.45%	20
Other	3.56%	16
Total	100.00%	449

3. On a scale from 1 – 10, how important is it to you that we protect the environment of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area by applying a new planning control that will trigger the need for a planning permit for most buildings and vegetation removal in the future? Required

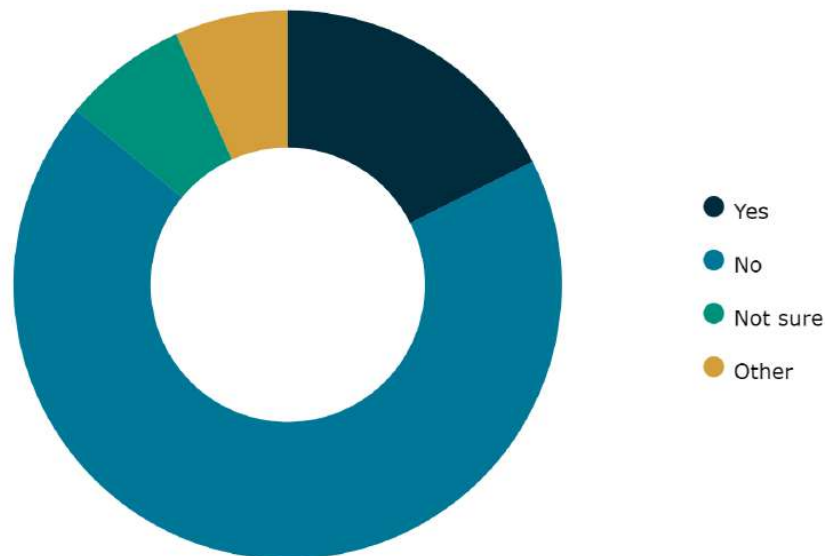
Rating | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 449 (100%)



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Count	Weighted average
6.46%	1.78%	2.00%	2.23%	2.00%	1.34%	2.23%	3.79%	6.46%	71.71%	449	8.64
29	8	9	10	9	6	10	17	29	322		

4. The Mornington Peninsula is experiencing significant population growth. That means existing sport and recreation facilities will need to be expanded to meet current and future demands. Would you support vegetation removal to create more community and formal sport and recreation facilities in the future at existing recreation reserves within the study area to meet community demands i.e. sporting fields, buildings, car parking etc.? Required

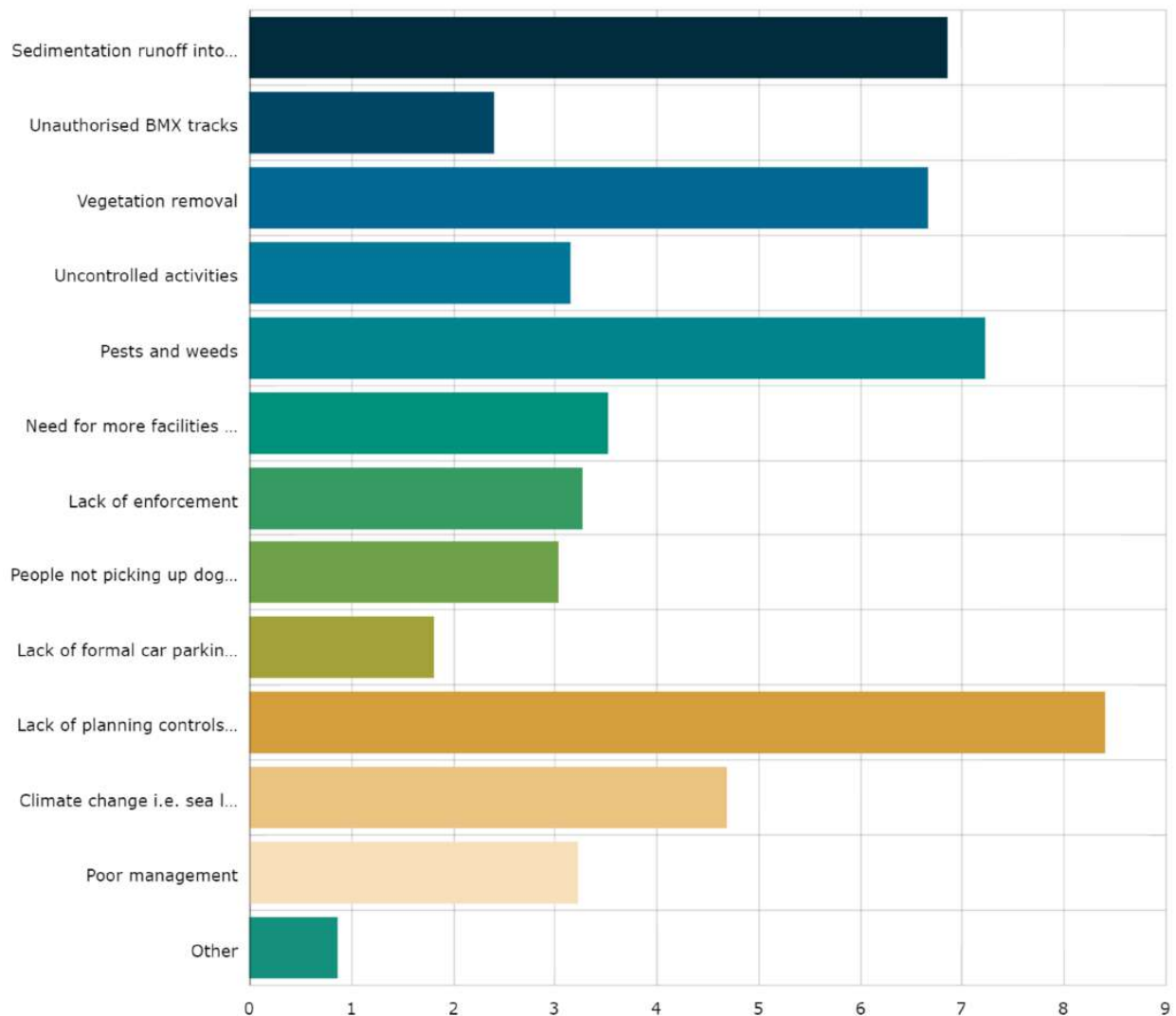
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 449 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	17.59%	79
No	68.37%	307
Not sure	7.35%	33
Other	6.68%	30
Total	100.00%	449

5. In your opinion what are the five biggest threats to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? Required

Ranking | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 449 (100%)



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Cou nt	Sco re	Avg Ran k
Sed ime ntat ion run off into the Est uar y	16. 30 %	28. 99 %	20. 29 %	22. 10 %	12. 32 %	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	276	6.8 5	2.8 5
Una uth	7.8 4%	18. 63	19. 61	27. 45	26. 47	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	102	2.3 9	3.4 6

4.1 (Cont.)

Attachment 1

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	Veg etat ion rem oval	20. 91 % 55	32. 32 % 85	19. 01 % 50	15. 97 % 42	11. 79 % 31	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	263	6.6 5	2.6 5	
	Unc ontr olle d a ctivi ties	9.0 2% 12	15. 79 % 21	28. 57 % 38	18. 80 % 25	27. 82 % 37	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	133	3.1 4	3.4 1	
	Pes ts and wee ds	13. 33 % 40	16. 33 % 49	25. 67 % 77	26. 00 % 78	18. 67 % 56	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	300	7.2 1	3.2 0	
	Nee d for mor e fa ciliti es to me et g rowi ng de ma nd	24. 82 % 35	24. 82 % 35	14. 89 % 21	15. 60 % 22	19. 86 % 28	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	141	3.5 1	2.8 1	
	Lac k of enf orc em ent	5.8 0% 8	21. 01 % 29	24. 64 % 34	24. 64 % 34	23. 91 % 33	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	138	3.2 6	3.4 0	
	Peo ple not pick ing up dog poo or c ontr ollin g thei r dog s	7.5 8% 10	10. 61 % 14	24. 24 % 32	15. 91 % 21	41. 67 % 55	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	132	3.0 2	3.7 3	
	Lac	19.	24.	17.	20.	17.	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	73	1.8	2.9

4.1 (Cont.)

Attachment 1

k of for mal car par king are as	18 % 14	66 % 18	81 % 13	55 % 15	81 % 13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Lac k of pla nni ng con trol s pr ote ctin g the envi ron me ntal valu es of the stu dy are a	46. 89 % 151	12. 73 % 41	15. 53 % 50	14. 91 % 48	9.9 4% 32	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	322	8.4 0	2.2 8
Cli mat e c han ge i.e. sea leve l rise , bu shfi re, larg e w eat her eve nts etc.	23. 32 % 45	13. 99 % 27	17. 62 % 34	18. 13 % 35	26. 94 % 52	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	193	4.6 8	3.1 1
Poo r m ana ge me nt	14. 07 % 19	22. 22 % 30	12. 59 % 17	23. 70 % 32	27. 41 % 37	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	135	3.2 2	3.2 8
Oth er	18. 92 % 7	2.7 0% 1	18. 92 % 7	21. 62 % 8	37. 84 % 14	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	37	0.8 6	3.5 7
Score - Sum of the weight of each ranked position, multiplied by the response count for the position choice, divided by the total contributions. Weights are																

inverse to ranked positions.

Average Rank - Sum of the ranked position of the choice, multiplied by the response count for the position choice, divided by the total 'Count' of the choice.

6. If you rated 'other' as a top threat in the question above, please provide further information.

Short Text | Skipped: 406 | Answered: 43 (9.6%)

Sentiment



Positive
7% (3)

Mixed
2.3% (1)

Negative
39.5% (17)

Neutral
51.2% (22)

Unclassified
0% (0)

Tags

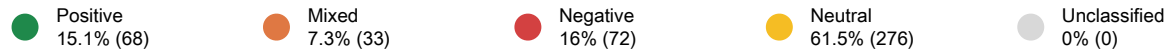
No tags data

Featured contributions

No featured contributions

7. Do you have any suggestions on how we could better balance the needs of formal sport and recreation uses (i.e. organised sport) whilst protecting the environmental values of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? Required
Long Text | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 449 (100%)

Sentiment



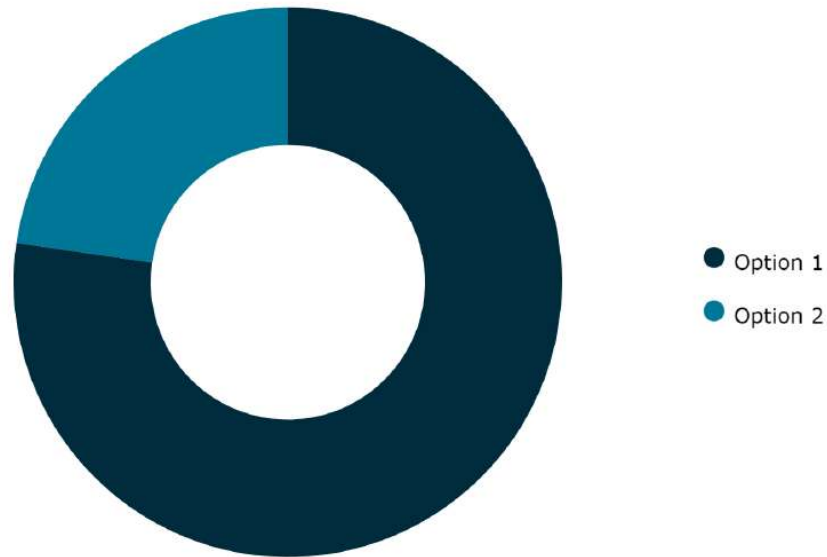
Tags

No tags data

Featured contributions

No featured contributions

8. Which option would you support? Required
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 449 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Option 1	77.28%	347
Option 2	22.72%	102
Total	100.00%	449

9. Why did you pick that option? Is there anything else we should consider? Required

Long Text | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 449 (100%)

Sentiment



Positive
18% (81)



Mixed
9.6% (43)



Negative
19.6% (88)



Neutral
52.8% (237)



Unclassified
0% (0)

Tags

No tags data

Featured contributions

No featured contributions

10. How often do you frequent the area, select one? Required

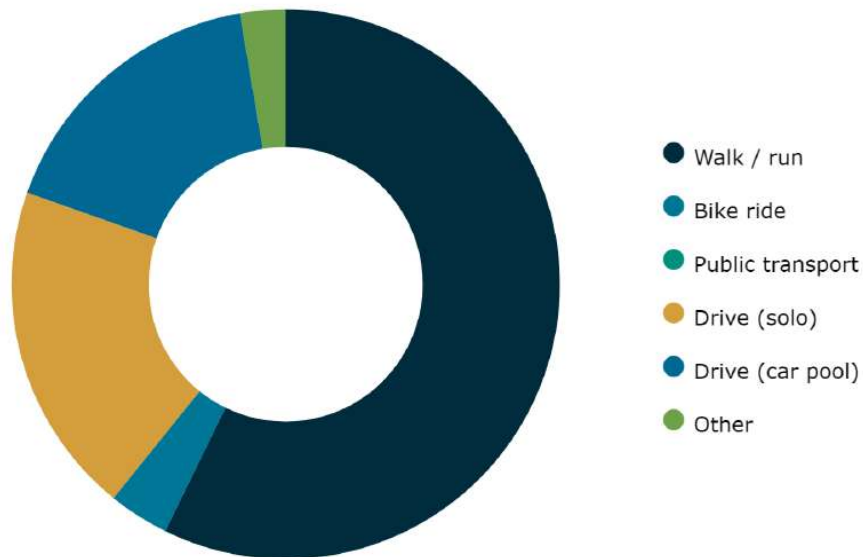
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 449 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Daily	26.28%	118
Weekly	41.65%	187
Fortnightly	8.02%	36
Monthly	15.81%	71
Annually	3.56%	16
Other	4.68%	21
Total	100.00%	449

11. How do you get to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? Required

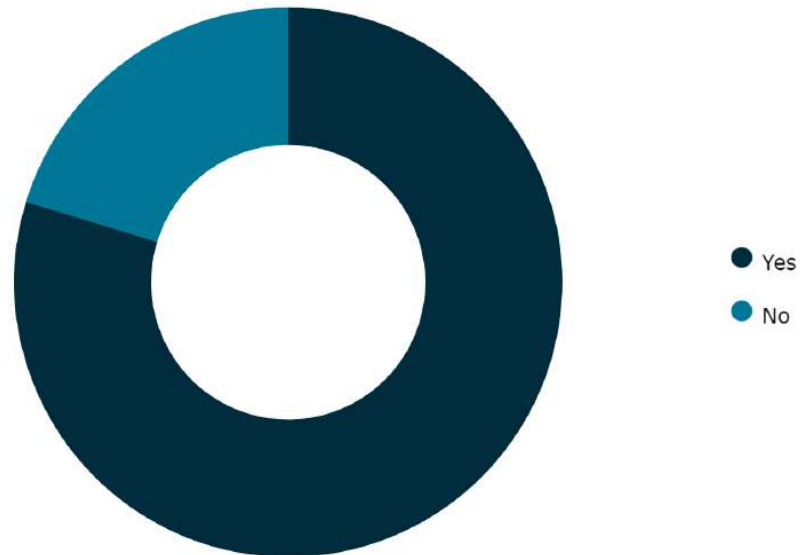
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 449 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Walk / run	57.24%	257
Bike ride	3.56%	16
Public transport	0%	0
Drive (solo)	19.60%	88
Drive (car pool)	16.93%	76
Other	2.67%	12
Total	100.00%	449

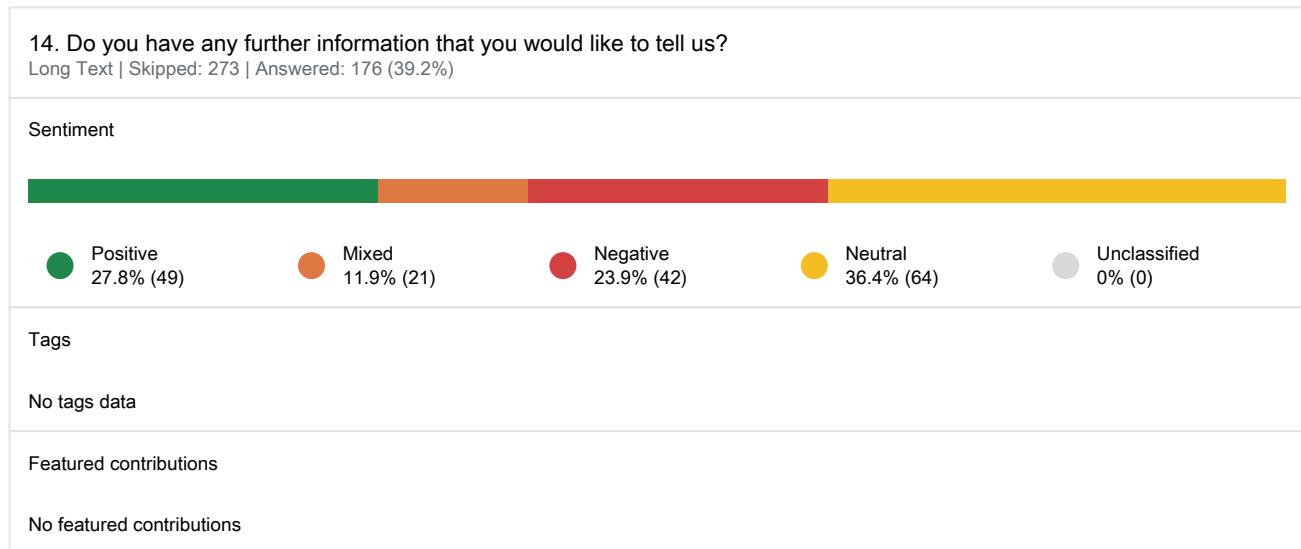
12. Is the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area within 5km radius from your home? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 449 (100%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Yes	79.73%	358
No	20.27%	91
Total	100.00%	449

13. Postcode Required Short Text Skipped: 0 Answered: 449 (100%)
Sentiment No sentiment data
Tags No tags data
Featured contributions No featured contributions



15. Name Required Short Text Skipped: 0 Answered: 449 (100%)
Sentiment No sentiment data
Tags No tags data
Featured contributions No featured contributions

16. Email Required

Email | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 449 (100%)

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Contribution 449 of 449 | 28 June 2021

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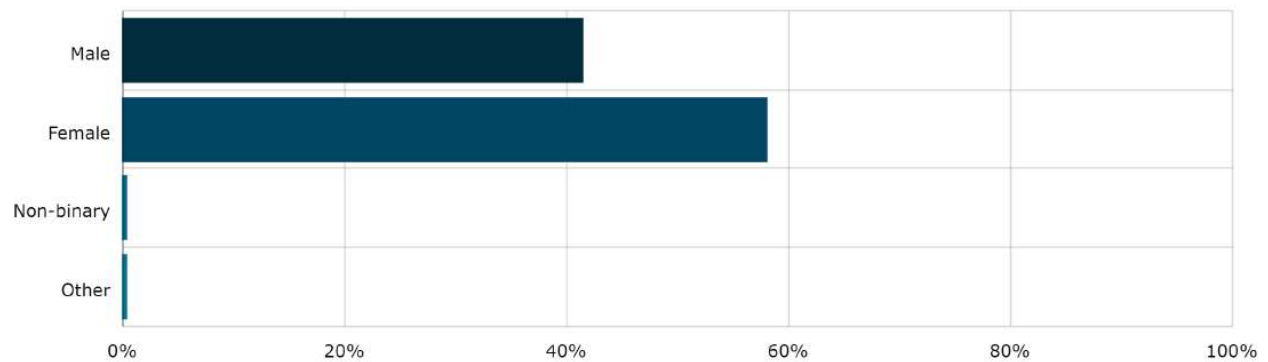
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Contribution 438 of 449 | 28 June 2021

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Showing 20 latest contributions only. Please see the data results for all contributions to this question.

17. Address Short Text Skipped: 88 Answered: 361 (80.4%)
Sentiment No sentiment data
Tags No tags data
Featured contributions No featured contributions

18. Gender

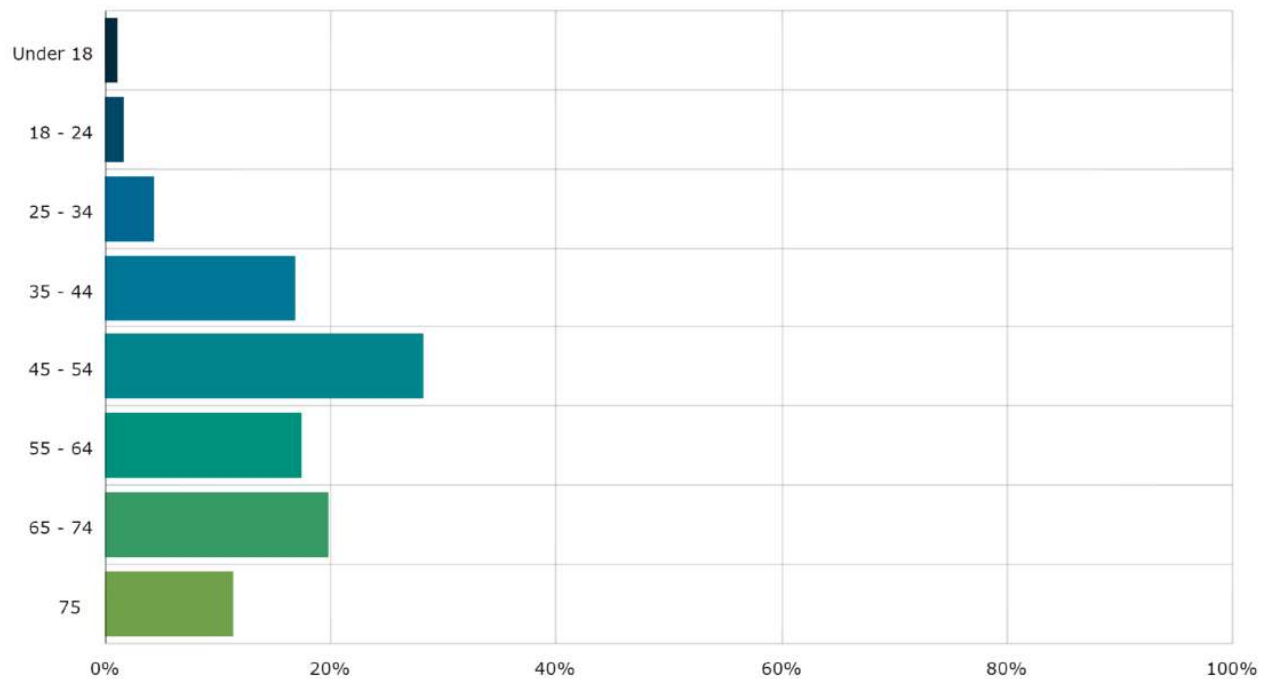
Select Box | Skipped: 68 | Answered: 381 (84.9%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Male	41.47%	158
Female	58.01%	221
Non-binary	0.26%	1
Other	0.26%	1
Total	100.00%	381

19. Age

Select Box | Skipped: 68 | Answered: 381 (84.9%)



Answer choices	Percent	Count
Under 18	1.05%	4
18 - 24	1.57%	6
25 - 34	4.20%	16
35 - 44	16.80%	64
45 - 54	28.08%	107
55 - 64	17.32%	66
65 - 74	19.69%	75
75	11.29%	43
Total	100.00%	381

Report Date: 14 May 2021 - 28 Jun 2021
Range:
Date:
Exported: 29/06/2021 7:34

Submission no.	Date Submitted	1. What is most important to you when you think about the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? Can you tell us why?	2. Do you support a new environmental focused planning control being applied to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? An environmental focused planning control means a planning permit would be required for most buildings and vegetation removal in the future and would be subject to a thorough assessment to consider its suitability and potential impact on the environment.	3. On a scale from 1 - 10, how important is it to you that we protect the environment of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area by applying a new planning control that will trigger the need for most buildings and vegetation removal in the future?	4. The Mornington Peninsula is experiencing significant population growth. That means existing sport and recreation facilities will need to be expanded to meet current and future demands. Would you support vegetation removal to create more community and formal sport and recreation facilities in the future at existing recreation reserves within the study area to meet community demands (i.e. sporting fields, buildings, car parking etc)?	5. In your opinion what are the five biggest threats to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area?	6. If you rated 'other' as a top threat in the question above, please provide further information.	7. Do you have any suggestions on how we could better balance the needs of formal sport and recreation uses (i.e. organised sport) whilst protecting the environmental values of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area?	8. Which option would you support?	9. Why did you pick that option? Is there anything else we should consider?	10. How often do you frequent the area, select one?	11. How do you get to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area?	12. What is your connection to the Mornington Peninsula?
1	Jun 28, 2021, 04:44 PM	I think its main significance is that it is one of the few remaining and relatively in tact coastal waterways on the Bay. To me it is a highly valued peaceful bush reserve that is well used by the local community for recreation, relaxation and observation. It is home to a variety of wildlife and any incursion into its present boundaries would be a significant loss not only to M Martha but to the Melbourne area as a whole and should be avoided at all costs.	Yes	10	Not sure	Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; Pests and weeds; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary		Its not sure that the location of Estuary or Sporting facilities is really a legitimate one. Both are vitally important. Sporting facilities can be located elsewhere, the estuary can't and it can be quickly degraded by the removal of too much vegetation required for sporting facilities. I can only think that the shire should look to acquire land elsewhere for significant developments. There have been recent land sales in the area suitable for the construction of sporting complexes such as the acreage property on the corner of Bentons Rd and the Moorooduc Hwy.	Option 2	For me it is a compromise. The area in question is not overly large and would provide needed sporting facilities for the quickly growing community. Im not sure that I would approve developing any further infrastructure within the Balcombe Estuary Reserves though.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	I know that if you chip away at something for long enough it will eventually collapse. Its vitally important to set and enforce strong guidelines to protect this reserve.
2	Jun 28, 2021, 04:53 PM	The preservation of indigenous flora and fauna and rehabilitation of areas of The Balcombe Estuary Reserve where deemed necessary by the Balcombe Estuary Reserves Group. I delight in the beauty of this area that I have grown up with my entire life (now 74) and appreciate the wonderful work of BERG which has restored so much of the degraded parts over many years. As a member of the Mt Martha Citizens League (which became The Mt Martha Community Association) I was one of the instigators to have the camping area along the creek become public land to be enjoyed by everyone - local residents and visitors alike. I have been a member of BERG for many years.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Uncontrolled activities		There are many other sports areas in the Mt Martha Mornington area that could be used eg Mace Oval on Nepean Highway, Wilson Reserve in Wilsons Bay Rd Mornington, Dallas Brooks Park in Tyabb road. This Balcombe Estuary Reserve is so very important and fragile that absolutely no further encroachment on the reserve should ever be allowed. To my mind, having grown up close by in Osborne Dvd, and lived here permanently for 46 years there is already too much sporting development in this reserve - and the distress of the floodlighting on the ovals at night. I would like to see an area somewhere that young people could muck about, making their own cubbies and take jumps etc but not in this estuary area.	Option 1	That area needs rehabilitation attention and is very close to Balcombe Creek as it goes through, the Bierss needs to be kept as conservation to help protect the water quality and habitat for fauna. Also it is such a dangerous area traffic-wise to even consider other development. I am concerned about the leash free area adjacent too as dogs are a real danger to wildlife.	Daily	Walk / run	I am quite distressed at the thought of any more development in the estuary reserve. Unfortunately many sportspeople do not appear to care for this special area. The presence of dogs and lighting at night for sport are disruptive for the life of the fauna, and feral cats and foxes too. I would like to see it become more for walking, sitting, delighting, painting, photographing, weeding and planting and as an education for schoolchildren and all ages - to learn about the environment, identify plants, animals, insects and birds and the seasons of our bush land here.
3	Jun 28, 2021, 04:55 PM	The ecosystem that supports flora & fauna on my doorstep. I have found it a great comfort during COVID lockdowns to explore the area & get great stress relief from nature. Once gone it will never return. This area requires high levels of planning & protection. I want to know its preserved & protected for future generations. Many threatened & near threatened species have been found in this area.	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Poor management; Lack of formal car parking areas; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand		Look for other sites for any sporting facilities, additional recreational activities & carparks that do not require the destruction of this environmentally significant habitat, biotink & passive recreational reserve which is enjoyed by all Mornington Peninsula residents and visitors. The Mornington Peninsula shire councilors & executive enact without exception the 2019 "Climate Emergency" and "Carbon Neutral" policies endorsed by councilors in considering the significance of our Bushland, Coastal & estuarine reserves when deciding on this proposal.	Option 1	Please make the consideration of environment, ecology, landscape & habitat the priority over land clearing to accommodate the demands of population growth. Ensure the reserve survives for the enjoyment of future generations by enhancing current and ongoing works and activities to protect, preserve & restore the Balcombe Estuary Reserves bushland and estuarine, creek & nearby coastal waterways.	Other (please specify): 3 times a week	Walk / run	
4	Jun 28, 2021, 03:06 PM	Junior sporting clubs.	No	1	Yes	Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Other	Restrictions on sport	Better overall management of the area	Option 2	Cannot under estimate the benefits of community sport, especially for children.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	
5	Jun 28, 2021, 02:44 PM	It provides an amazing space for recreational sports.	No	4	Yes	Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Other	Restrictions on sport	If everyone does their part it should remain a thriving area in more ways than one. The council does however need to ensure it gets the attention it needs without restricting any sporting activity.	Option 2	Sport is an extremely important part of our community for both adults and kids. Without it the area would really suffer. After an almost year long lockdown, it is perhaps more important now than ever before.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	Working with the clubs associated with the area is paramount. Effort needs to be made in order to ensure a good relationship is maintained with the relevant spokespersons.
6	Jun 28, 2021, 02:36 PM	The amount of waste that goes into it and isn't cleaned up. Also cats just wandering through it which are residents cats that don't care if they're in it.	Yes	10	No	Lack of enforcement; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Uncontrolled activities		Providing more rubbish bins for waste disposal.	Option 1	Keep it they way it is now, just keep rubbish bin available and build extra recreation spaces elsewhere.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	
7	Jun 28, 2021, 01:41 PM	Beautiful natural area that should be protected from major development.	Yes	10	No	Poor management; Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area		Priority should always be to safeguard the vegetation and wildlife.	Option 1	Protect and conserve the natural environment.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	
8	Jun 28, 2021, 01:35 PM	This area is great for our kids who play sports on the ovals. The requirement for additional concrete parking and undercover areas for spectators is needed.	No	1	Yes	Lack of formal car parking areas; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Uncontrolled activities; Poor management	Regarding the jumps made by kids, let them be kids and enjoy the outdoors.	Concrete all parking areas would be a start. Also asphalt or concrete the main areas where many cars come and go. Pot holes are everywhere creating a hazard to walkers and cars.	Option 2	With a growing population, the requirement to improve and expand on recreation areas is needed. The Clifton Oval area has great potential to be a sporting precinct for many people on the peninsula.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	
9	Jun 28, 2021, 01:24 PM	Allowing the continued use of the reserve for all community members including formal sporting clubs.	No	3	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds		Create more suitable car parking at the sporting facilities.	Option 2	Ideal location for additional sporting facility ie Netball	Daily	Drive (solo)	
10	Jun 28, 2021, 01:10 PM	An environment for all community members to enjoy - not just nature but community facilities	No	1	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Poor management; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas; Uncontrolled activities		The community is growing and the needs of the younger members of the community and families are not being considered to offer facilities that help kids grow and sense of community. If you invest in kids they grow up to be adults that invest in the community.	Option 2	Because we need to invest in the health and well-being of families	Daily	Drive (car pool)	Live
11	Jun 28, 2021, 12:54 PM	Environmental sustainability. The local indigenous flora, fauna and wildlife.	Yes	10		Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Unauthorised BMX tracks	Update existing facilities	Update existing facilities. The new facilities at Clifton reserve are good but why not also upgrade the old stands and (now closed off) change rooms? There is enough vegetation cleared already for adequate suitable carparks to be provided.	Option 1	Restricting use of these areas ensures that the land, and all that it provides, and what's so great about the Mornington Peninsula is preserved for generations to come.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	My children attend Balcombe Grammar and play football at Stn Mornington
12	Jun 28, 2021, 11:12 AM	Most important that the diversity of the Estuary Reserve is not impacted by more degeneration of the area with housing/ more reserves. Higher impact which will destroy further the flora and fauna of this unique area- which is highly impacted by domestic animals- cats especially- loose at all times of the day and night.	Yes	10	No	Other (please comment): depends on the study- concerned that those wanting to extend the present area may not have an idea as to how the area has changed in the past 40 years plus that we have lived in the area understanding of all the changes that this		What we have in the way of sporting and recreational in immediate area abutting the creek is adequate- further expanding the area will have a huge impact on the estuary area- we no longer see native animals and birds that were plentiful prior to the boardwalk being erected.	Option 1	Does a natural heritage need to be destroyed for sports ?? Can see no cause that this will protect the diminishing natural beauty of the area with more sporting facilities - and the rubbish that finds its way into the Balcombe creek.	Daily	Walk / run	We have a lot of all the native birds that were in this area when we shifted in 42 years ago- it is quite extensive and sadly most slowly disappeared from the area with the growth and clearing of the area.
13	Jun 28, 2021, 10:05 AM	Conservation and habitat	Yes	10	No	People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary		plenty of sport and recreation on the peninsula but habitats threatened all over	Option 1	conservation is the priority.	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	
14	Jun 28, 2021, 09:18 AM	Protection of the existing ecosystem. Remediation of detrimental activity.	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement		Review timetables of existing activity, where are the gaps for further use? Work with schools to use their facilities on weekends.	Option 1	Once we encroach on the area, there's no going back. Prefer to optimise use of current resources.	Weekly	Walk / run	
15	Jun 28, 2021, 05:52 AM	It is a very special place for all, a haven for wildlife, an irreplaceable asset for now and for future generations. We must protect the beauty surrounding us now in order for the natural environment to survive now and into the future. It must be the total preservation of this reserve to ensure that the bushland & waterways that support all the abundant flora, fauna, birds & marine life remains intact and healthy for the enjoyment of my family & for future generations. The Balcombe Estuary Reserve is a magnificent natural asset that my family and friends all enjoy and as such requires the highest possible planning protection. It is a valuable place from many aspects both ecologically, the community it attracts and magnificent scenic value. Pressures of population increases and just such areas at risk of loss of environmental habitat. The Balcombe Estuary Reserve is home to 164 indigenous plant species, including Swamp Scrub and Greasy Woodland which are bio-regionally endangered species. The Dwarf Galaxias fish, Royal Spoonbill and Pacific Gull are also threatened or near threatened species that have been identified in the area. The future of this planet depends deeply on the actions we make right now, in order for future generations to experience this natural environment in its full glory it must be completely protected with no exceptions.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.		The council needs to identify alternate sites to cater for any increased demand for formal sporting facilities, additional recreational activities & carparks that does not require the destruction of this environmentally significant habitat, biotink & passive recreational reserve which is enjoyed by all Mornington Peninsula residents and visitors to our region. Sporting facilities at local schools could be better utilised if demand is required as this reserve once lost is lost forever. The Mornington Peninsula shire councilors & executive need to enact without exception the 2019 "Climate Emergency" and "Carbon Neutral" policies endorsed by councilors in considering the significance of our Bushland, Coastal & estuarine reserves when deciding on this proposal.	Option 1	The time has come to stop the trend of environmental, ecological, landscape(s) & wildlife habitat destruction as a secondary consideration behind land clearing, even within public reserves, to accommodate population growth. It is vitally important we consider this as the utmost priority to protect the natural environment and the Balcombe Estuary Reserve fully and without exception.	Monthly	Walk / run	Ensure the reserve survives for the enjoyment of future generations by enhancing current and ongoing works and activities to protect, preserve & restore the Balcombe Estuary Reserves bushland and estuarine, creek & nearby coastal waterways.
16	Jun 28, 2021, 12:17 AM	It is a non-urban space in an area becoming very urbanised. Also it contains some unique fauna, such as the eels that migrate from there every year. We need to protect it.	Yes	9	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary		The area is not very large, and there is already a sports oval there that does not seem to be used as often as it could be. There should not be any more sport in that area.	Option 1	The area should be kept wild and natural, short of declaration as a state, national or Shire park, Option 1 is the best.	Monthly	Bike ride	
17	Jun 27, 2021, 11:32 PM	It is a beautiful, natural area for residents and visitors to enjoy. It is a haven for wildlife, an irreplaceable asset for now and future generations to enjoy. A natural asset.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Poor management	Identify alternative sites		Option 1	So few areas of natural vegetation remain in this unique setting. Other areas can be designated for sport and recreation. Not this stunning area.	Monthly	Walk / run	Please give the highest priority to the protection of this beautiful piece of natural habitat.

18	Jun 27, 2021, 11:21 PM	The preservation of the existing habitat and ecological values of the area in this reach of the catchment. The estuary is one of the few remaining natural environments in this part of the Peninsula and has great significance in providing habitat for wildlife - all types - of this area. The area has been protected to some degree from development but requires stronger planning zones to ensure it remains a valuable natural resource. There are many introduced weed species in the area and while BERG has done a great job with limited resources more investment needs to be made to ensure the estuary is protected from unsuitable urban development and so can continue to be a significant conservation area. I have lived on the Peninsula for over 40 years now and have seen the significant impact of largely unregulated development in this area. The Shire has not been vigilant in ensuring the vegetation removal policies which should overlay this area - as well as many other parts of the Shire - as urban development continues.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Lack of enforcement. Pests and weeds. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand. Vegetation removal.	The balance has always been to protect the environment to which people have been attracted in the first place. Sporting clubs are an important part of the community and need to be encouraged to ensure that they are educated about the environmental values of the Estuary and the fact that they have a responsibility to encourage their members to be actively involved in the protection of this significant conservation area. This should include more careful use of pesticides and herbicides used to manage grounds, further tree planting on boundaries between the estuary and sporting grounds and to include as part of their constitution an understanding that the facilities and grounds that they are using have significant conservation value.	Option 1	The Balcombe estuary is a significant conservation area and remnant vegetation is contained within its area. The development of both recreational and residential land uses has been largely on an ad hoc basis and has resulted in the area being put under pressure by intensive and at times conflicting uses. Any non development buffer zone to the area would add to the likelihood of improved or at least sustained environmental values of the estuary. Other land uses such as recreational facilities can be located in other less significant areas. We only have one chance at maintaining this area for future generations and should pursue proactive protection.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	I have recently moved to Ryde but previously was a resident of Mt Martha and a frequent visitor to the estuary. Over my time visiting the area for the past 30 years I have been both impressed by the wonderful work of BERG and concerned about the visible degradation of large parts of area. The conflicting land uses which have been allowed to be built alongside the estuaries and largely poorly policed planning policy of the Shire as regards vegetation removal for residential development over the whole shire, not just in this area continues to put at risk the remaining natural habitat. We have a great chance to protect this significant area and must do so. It is irreplaceable.
19	Jun 27, 2021, 10:47 PM	What a wonderful natural asset this is. I love all it has to offer, especially its environmental significance. The highest possible planning protection from inappropriate development must be pursued by the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council to preserve this area (73 hectares) for the present population and generations to come. It supports all forms of activity (structured and unstructured) for people and habitat for wildlife. It is vital to our well being.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Vegetation removal. Pests and weeds. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Formal sporting and recreational facilities are important for a well balanced community, but equally essential is the natural environment for human survival, and protection of the Balcombe Creek, a significant waterway of the Mornington Peninsula and Port Phillip Bay catchment. To balance these conflicting demands for scarce land resources I suggest that vertical expansion of existing formal sporting facilities be researched.	Option 1	Too close to Balcombe Creek for Option 2 use. The creek needs a natural environment buffer. Option 2 could create further traffic congestion onto the Nepean Highway.	Weekly	Walk / run	The Mornington Peninsula is under pressure from current and future population demands. We need to preserve as much of the natural environment as possible to maintain a sustainable balance.
20	Jun 27, 2021, 10:08 PM	The Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area needs to be protected from bad development so it remains as good as it is and the flora and fauna are protected into the future from ignorant vandalism.	Yes	10	No	Uncontrolled activities. Pests and weeds. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Lack of enforcement.	Before destroying precious bush where endangered flora and fauna might be living please make sure all grounds, and current school facilities are being fully utilised. There would be toilets and carpark and good drainage which would lead to less disturbance.	Option 1	I try to consider the little native orchids and other beautiful flowers and shrubs and trees which have no voice. Cool burning aborigine style should be carried out to help prevent hot horrible bush fires. Consider the echidnas, lizards and koalas and many birds, bats who have no voice, and definitely need no more destruction of the bush.	Other (please specify): Time permitting. No house.	Drive (car pool)	I am so glad to have lived near and known it for 20 years.
21	Jun 27, 2021, 09:07 PM	Nature	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Lack of enforcement. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.. Uncontrolled activities.	No	Option 1	No	Monthly	Walk / run	
22	Jun 27, 2021, 08:10 PM	I love that it is a regenerated natural area in the heart of Mt Martha. I often visit with my children to look at the trees, jump in puddles and go for a walk. I love that it provides a link to the Brians, a fantastic peninsula resource.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal. Uncontrolled activities. Pests and weeds.	I can't MT suggest other areas. I just know that there are so few vegetated spaces left on the peninsula, we have to protect what we can.	Option 1	Once this vegetation is removed, we can never get it back. Look to areas on the other side of the highway for sporting fields, where land is already cleared and the damage has already been done.	Fortnightly	Walk / run	
23	Jun 27, 2021, 06:54 PM	Water quality. Because I swim in the bay.	Yes	8	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Vegetation removal. Pests and weeds. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfires, large weather events etc.; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area.	Make better use of existing grounds.	Option 1	BM's'd like to see as much land as possible rewilded	Daily	Drive (solo)	
24	Jun 27, 2021, 05:58 PM	A balanced system of environmental protection mixed with access and use by groups and individuals	Yes	0	Yes	Uncontrolled activities. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Poor management. Other	lack of action allowing for balanced approach	Option 2	you can have sport and recreation zoned area will bring greater numbers of people to the area that should be able to engage them into the environmental care of it	Weekly	Drive (please specify: a combination of drive (group) ride and Run/walk	
25	Jun 27, 2021, 05:50 PM	I have walked the reserve since the mid 1980's and think the boardwalk and defined tracks are fantastic. So what is important to me is keeping human and dog traffic in defined areas.	Yes	10	Yes	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Uncontrolled activities. Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal	That's your job. Define as per boardwalk accessible areas. Produce very good sporting surfaces that can be as much as possible each week rather than say one usage per week.	Option 2	Realistically we all have to compromise. I believe sport and recreation is the best way to assist resident mental health.	Weekly	Walk / run	I am not sure with the current boardwalk that bicycles are appropriate. If they are not clear messages need to be displayed. Not a fan of enforcement. Would prefer education. Dogs and owners want to access Balcombe Creek. A compromise may be to make a number of spots accessible and defined.
26	Jun 27, 2021, 05:18 PM	Preservation and protection of the environmental value for future generations	Yes	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Pests and weeds. Poor management; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Maximise the utilisation of the currently designated spaces by clubs sharing their spaces	Option 1	It seems to strike the right balance between competing needs	Weekly	Walk / run	
27	Jun 27, 2021, 04:48 PM	The abundant biodiversity. BM's purpose as an important biodiv and wildlife corridor. The role as an important ecosystem for Mornington peninsula. BM's role in helping mitigate climate change	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Poor management. Pests and weeds. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand. Vegetation removal	We need to prioritise the environment. Sporting grounds can use already cleared degraded land. We need to educate the community on the importance of the environment rather than their sporting needs.	Option 1	Protect the environment! We already have cleared so much land and created hard surfaces and removed vegetation - by turning this into recreation it will have negative impact on biodiversity from increased human impact, litter, artificial lights, removal of vegetation, pollution into the waterway. Please keep this land as conservation and help protect our vulnerable flora and fauna!!	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	Protect the environment and biodiversity!
28	Jun 27, 2021, 04:46 PM	Balcombe Estuary Reserve is unique and must be preserved at all cost - when it is damaged or surrounded by development - we will lose it - the Shire must look to the future - The Mornington Peninsula has lost so much due to development - \$\$\$ - It is a showpiece for the Shire and an example of what it represents - a corridor of uniqueness - of conservation at its best. We encourage the Shire to encourage vegetation to our watersheds - therefore improving the diversity required to retain this important and now rare wildlife corridor. Koala fodder has become more scarce in the area due to dieback and weed invasion. This end of the reserve (Urralla Rd and Nepean Hwy) has had little revegetation works to date and would be a fantastic addition to a much needed ecosystem supporting our rapidly declining numbers of wildlife and their habitat. The BM Boardwalk through to the Brians offers a fantastic nature experience for locals and tourists whilst improving their mental and physical health. A win win for our community.	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Firstly check how much people who visit the area in question live in Mt Martha or are aware of the sensitivity of the area to the environment and particularly those who want sporting areas expanded - Sporting facilities need to better utilise the facilities they have and perhaps use other sporting facilities in the area that are not so sensitive to development and all its detriments	Option 1	The whole area needs to be protected at any cost - look to the future and future generations - we are sufficiently catered for in sporting facilities - once any part of the area is removed for car parking/playing fields etc etc it is lost forever - the Mornington Peninsula Shire has and is experiencing so much development and losing its uniqueness - this area is a showpiece for conservation and the Shire must step up to protect it further for future generations	Weekly	Walk / run	Berg is an amazing organisation and has through its work contributed to this unique area - the Shire should be supporting it in this survey - an area like this is a showpiece for the Shire and it should stand up and protect it AT ALL COST - they who use the sporting facilities come and go - but the Estuary and its surrounds are to be protected for future generations
29	Jun 27, 2021, 04:43 PM		Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Sporting areas are adequate and should not be extended or enlarged to the detriment of bushland or wildlife habitat. Night lighting, vegetation removal and loss of areas of natural significance should be avoided at all costs if we are to halt our current appalling wildlife extinction rates.	Option 1	Locals have many other options of where to play sport. Wildlife have no other options and will die out.	Monthly	Drive (solo)	I was one of the original members of BERG and worked in bush regeneration for many years. The area of concern has many endangered species within its boundaries and are irreplaceable and should be valued above the wish to extend on unnecessary development. The Mornington Peninsula is a destination to experience nature, not just another suburb of Melbourne such as what Mornington has become.
30	Jun 27, 2021, 03:21 PM	Being able to co exist with both the community sport teams who currently use the facilities at Ferres and Clifton and keeping the existing environment protected for all to enjoy for many years to come.	No	4	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas; Poor management; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Uncontrolled activities	There is a need for clubs to be properly approached with a strategic plan for upgrades and improvements to facilities and venues, with an emphasis on not affecting the environment. The meetings that have been attended for both the community and sporting clubs have been only presented in a way that the environmental element matters without taking into consideration that all clubs effected by the ESO are continuing to grow in size and importance to the local community.	Option 2	There is already a lack of sporting locations for the community to use on the peninsula. This would add an area for locals to use both for sports and general recreation activities without the need to remove major areas of vegetation.	Daily	Walk / run	
31	Jun 27, 2021, 02:41 PM	BM's as an important remnant of the natural vegetation and should be protected at all costs. The existing boardwalk is great as it allows visitors to see and immerse themselves in this little bit of natural landscape. But no more development	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Lack of enforcement; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	These ovals were put there before we understood how important these natural areas were. They can remain to be used as currently but no expansion or concrete car parks etc. If they want to expand there are plenty of open field sites locally and if they have to be moved then so be it. This area is too important to be allowed to be developed.	Option 1	Just add it to the conservation area. If BM's used for sporting grounds it will just put pressure on the area down the track when they want to expand, make a concrete car park etc.	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	
32	Jun 27, 2021, 01:26 PM	The Reserves provides irreplaceable wildlife habitat with communities of our unique local flora and fauna, birds and marine life. This forms a significant biodiv with the foreshore, bay and the Brians. Both Shire and Community have contributed huge amounts of resources time and effort, to maintain reserve so we can ENJOY it and take pride in it.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement.	An SEO offers the best possible protection	Option 1	It is the only option that best protects this extremely valuable asset.	Weekly	Walk / run	Unless it is protected it will ultimately be degraded and lost to the next generation.
33	Jun 27, 2021, 01:17 PM	There are not that many areas of BM's size combining woodland and wetlands. It is a great area to visit and be lost in - completely separate from developed areas.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of enforcement	Look at developing some of the area at the Brians, (if possible)	Option 1	Develop some of the land at the Brians instead (if possible)	Annually	Drive (car pool)	
34	Jun 27, 2021, 11:41 AM	Protection of wildlife habitat to enhance biodiversity	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Poor management. Uncontrolled activities	If people move to the area BM's because they love the area as it is. They can't MT then expect to have the same facilities and amenities you have in the city. That should be the message from council with regards to these types of issues. Yes increased population is going to increase demand for certain services but that demand doesn't MT always have to be met with expansion.	Option 1	Protecting the local environment and habitat is essential to protecting the integrity and character of the Peninsula	Other (please specify): A few times a year	Drive (solo)	No
35	Jun 27, 2021, 10:24 AM	A commitment to a long term plan. Make it a natural feature of mt martha. With local residents to be the primary focus over big car parks for tourists	Yes	9	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Poor management; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds	Existing cleared land and sports infrastructure in clifton reserve could support more sports fields without impacting environment. If council invested in attractive, well managed mountain bike tracks in bush land behind ovals it would remove the desire to build unauthorised tracks. Mountain biking is a popular outdoor sport and should not be treated as a rogue element. Having well designed and built walking tracks and bike tracks within the bush land puts value on this asset to be enjoyed by residents and maintained for wildlife. Not cleared for other sports.	Option 1	Plenty of room for sport fields in existing cleared areas within few kms of this site.	Daily	Walk / run	
36	Jun 27, 2021, 10:16 AM	We need to protect these precious reserve areas especially the flora and fauna.	Yes	10		Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Lack of enforcement. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Reimburse other public or private spaces rather than destroy natural habitat.	Option 1	We need to protect some natural sites completely regardless of sports and rec needs.	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	My husband works in the area and I would so there often with my young children. It is beautiful and should be preserved.
37	Jun 27, 2021, 10:15 AM	Most important is that every effort is made to protect and look after this area.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement. Uncontrolled activities. Pests and weeds	Formal sport and recreation uses should not take precedence over this precious area.	Option 1	Mount Martha is fast losing indigenous flora and fauna at such a fast rate. Protect this precious area at all costs.	Annually	Drive (solo)	I live in Somers now but lived in Martha for almost 25 years.
38	Jun 27, 2021, 10:10 AM	I think it is important to maintain this beautiful land, to ensure it is protected in the future. By slowing things down and making sure things are done that have minimal impact on the flora and fauna, provides an opportunity to do things in a sustainable way.	Yes	10	Not sure	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Lack of formal car parking areas; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Other	People not valuing the beauty. Conserving this area will be better than creating more foot and road traffic.	Option 1	I would hate to see any part of this area turned into a soccer field or something like that.	Monthly	Drive (solo)	

	Jun 27, 2021, 36:10:08 AM	The natural environment, ability to enjoy the boardwalk, preservation and rehabilitation of native indigenous flora and habitat for fauna.	Yes	9	Not sure	Pests and weeds. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Poor management.	Make better use of the areas already used for sports and formal recreation. Also improved playgrounds and perhaps inclusion of community outdoor gym equipment in these areas.	Option 2	The population is growing and we do need space for recreational and sporting activities and other activities.	Forthightly	Other (please specify): Get a fit.	
	Jun 27, 2021, 40:10:03 AM	It is very important to protect the wildlife and vegetation from overdevelopment and expansion. They are under threat and we can't continue to ignore their rights to an existence	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.. Uncontrolled activities. Lack of enforcement. Unauthorised BMX tracks. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area.	I don't believe that formal sporting activities should be allowed in the Reserve study area at all. Uncontrolled activities. Lack of enforcement. If they are, then there needs to be fencing off so that people don't wander further into the reserve area.	Option 1	I think that we need to maintain areas of Mornington Peninsula in its natural state. BM's part of the appeal of the Peninsula. We don't want it becoming just another big suburb of Melbourne	Annually	Drive (car pool)	
	Jun 27, 2021, 41:09:43 AM	Being able to walk through the unique flora and fauna as a place of peace and space	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Pests and weeds. Uncontrolled activities.	Sports needed but so are wetlands which are way more important to the whole environmental needs	Option 1	Wetlands are of huge significant importance. Would love to see a protection of the native flora and fauna in one huge wildlife corridor from Balcombe estuary through to Jewells bend	Daily	Walk / run	As above
	Jun 27, 2021, 42:09:30 AM	The vegetation and the natural beauty.	No	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand. Vegetation removal. Uncontrolled activities. Lack of enforcement. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	Build it in Mornington	Option 1	We need to protect what is unique to our area. More facilities means more people. More people who don't have our local environment.	Daily	Walk / run	
	Jun 27, 2021, 43:08:10 AM	The estuary is very unique and important. The flora, fauna and ecosystem of the estuary needs to be protected. This includes stopping all cars and trucks from the unsealed roads entering the estuary.	Yes	10	No	Other (please comment): To a limited degree. Only directly adjacent to existing facilities, no new areas	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Vegetation removal. Lack of enforcement. Lack of formal car parking areas. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Option 2	BM's a lesser environmentally sensitive area so best spot for future sport and rec.	Daily	Walk / run	
	Jun 27, 2021, 44:07:50 AM	This area is a haven for wildlife, a peaceful beautiful place for all and an irreplaceable environment asset. This place which has such a significant history has provided so many great memories for my family & friends over last 8 years. I believe it is important to protect it for future generations to appreciate and enjoy.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Pests and weeds. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	The "seaside" village of Mt Martha & nearby Mornington already provides excellent access to a wide range of formal sporting facilities, in Mt Martha alone, including: - Ferraro Oval with two (not one) large football fields & recently, shire funded updated facilities still with sufficient cleared open spaces for other activities & includes a large "Tee-shirt" dog park. - Clifton Oval with two (not one) large football fields, cricket nets, open spaces & public facilities. Note: The Shires, Clifton Oval proposed development plan did not require any further vegetation removal to improve these facilities & was generally supported by residents. If the issue is an important why has this not progressed? - Tennis Club - Bowling Club - Pistol Club - Is any consideration being given to the numerous informal recreational opportunities that the Balcombe Estuary Reserves provides for residents & visitors alike (free of charge) or is it only valid membership sporting clubs that are of interest to this Shire.	Option 1	The complete environmental significance, ecology, habitat, character & place needs protection without any further compromise	Weekly	Other (please specify): Shire supported environments - Protection & enhancement - volunteer programs	I would propose that the councillors & shire executive review the current Mornington Peninsula Planning statement & "seaside village" documents which they have adopted (not rescinded to the best of my knowledge) and apply all of the environmental & character value clauses of these documents in this instance, for once. It is time for the shire to unequivocally fully support environmental & ecological values (not just talk about it's importance) over urbanisation to support population growth.
	Jun 27, 2021, 45:07:35 AM	The Estuary is a unique part of a natural ecological system that is delicate and needs to be protected. Its natural state provides animals, birds and humans a safe and peaceful environment to feel connected to the world of nature.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Vegetation removal. Pests and weeds. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	There is plenty of room on the existing facilities to where parking, toilets and cleared area is already there. Correct planning and promotion and development of existing areas would be environmentally appropriate and less expensive. Each time you decide to provide an activity for some people in this protected area you kill off the environment that people live here for.	Option 1	This is an area of prime significance for fauna and flora. This is an area that starts the board walk nature reserve. The impact of development will travel down the creek and damage the environment all the way to the beach. The area is extremely important to all nature lovers who also live here and use this area for their recreation. Why are their needs for the future enjoyment of their lives not being considered. There are already developed sporting facilities that could be correctly extended without interfering with an already endangered natural area.	Weekly	Walk / run	The shire needs to consider all residents for the future. This is an area that once is changed and damaged will never be the same. Process and environmental consideration can work together with care and thought. It has been done else where.
	Jun 26, 2021, 46:11:27 PM	This is a lovely area in so many and diverse ways. We have used this for walks, with grandchildren and Probus, picnics, meetings and simply just sitting and enjoying. An area for the soul which should be kept as it is for so many to enjoy.	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Lack of enforcement. Vegetation removal. Pests and weeds; Unauthorised BMX tracks	The BALCOMBE Estuary Reserves provides sport for the many, many people who walk here. This is something we can do on our own, with family or groups. We need peaceful walking areas. This area is great when windy as you are more sheltered. There is plenty of land around for participation sports without taking and devaluing what we have here.	Option 1	Option 1 makes sense. Why do we have to continually destroy our natural world for what?	Forthightly	Drive (car pool)	
	Jun 26, 2021, 47:09:22 PM	habitat values and ecosystem services	Yes	9	No	Lack of enforcement. Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities. Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	build on pastoral land, as Brians as land already cleared	Option 1	can't rebuild natural environment	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	
	Jun 26, 2021, 46:09:08 PM	Walk through during the changing seasons and we see and hear so many varieties of birds who make their homes or pass through the estuary reserve, it is a haven for them and offers them more protection, food and nesting sites than many other places where habitat is threatened and increasingly bulldozed for new houses. Protecting the native vegetation and waterways is most important for all the native and wild life that lives on and around the reserve. The Estuary is home to endangered and threatened species which need protection and preservation of their habitat	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.. Pests and weeds	Preserve our remaining bushland and natural coastal areas and use areas that have already been cleared. Make use of school oval after hours for community sports training and events.	Option 1	Once the natural bushland is cleared or destroyed, it cannot be replaced and all the life that it sustains goes. The whole ecosystem disappears: plants, birds, animals, reptiles, insects, fungi etc. We must preserve our remaining natural environment for future generations, on the Mornington Peninsula too much has been taken already.	Monthly	Walk / run	This we know the earth does not belong to us, we belong to the earth. Humans did not weave the web of life, we are merely a strand in it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are connected.
	Jun 26, 2021, 49:07:20 PM	Important to me is the fact that we as long time local Mount Martha residents are seeing so much removal of trees and vegetation, all around the local environment just to satisfy this hunger need for more dwellings to be built, and in many instances, not just one dwelling, but two pushed up together, with very little green room on either side boundary, little or nothing on the front areas, in the way of trees and strong planting. The ugliness of it defies logic. Mount Martha is just not the Bay, it should be also the extension of state of native indigenous vegetation fully protected from development, for all local residents and visitors to walk into what is nearly gone now and enjoy the native vegetation that is reserved for the generations that will come to walk in and enjoy what a strong Council Authority had the foresight to protect and preserve now, before it's just too late and something beautiful is lost to all in residence here and to the visitors to Mount Martha who would appreciate a better environment. There would appear to me a very pressing need right now to preserve the unique and green belt of the total Balcombe Estuary with an environmental focused planning control, to us it just seems too important, specially with it's close association connection to the Brians and it's public walkways all the way to the sand and the Bay via the Balcombe Estuary. I feel the protection of Balcombe Creek and it's Estuary Reserves is vital to all of us, especially now, more than ever before! It's the soul of the Mount Martha area and needs as much protective support as there possibly is and to give it right now !!	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Unauthorised BMX tracks. Vegetation removal. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Pests and weeds	Move future organised sport recreation uses out of the Mount Martha area and to flat land close to Peninsula Link access in an area like Safety Beach next to the Highway or just over the Highway closer to the Driven area on the South East side of Peninsula Link!	Option 1	Too close to the Brians and the early Balcombe Creek. See our notes above !!	Monthly	Drive (solo)	Not at this stage - Thank you for the opportunity to have our say on the Balcombe Estuary Reserve protection
	Jun 26, 2021, 50:05:30 PM	Maintaining the native bushland/vegetation is most important - as it is a critical habitat for various forms of wildlife - and an integral factor in protecting the biodiversity of the area. Meddle with this aspect of the environment and it will have flow on detrimental impact other aspects of the environment, including the waterways.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Lack of enforcement. Uncontrolled activities. Unauthorised BMX tracks	1. Allow only sports and recreation uses that would be sympathetic and compatible to the environment. 2. Choose other less environmentally sensitive areas in the municipality for such uses eg rural paddocks that have had all most vegetation removed & would in any event eventually be used approved for development.	Option 1	An Environment Significance Overlay (ESO) is required to ensure future planning controls are in place to protect all environmental aspects of the area. It is not just about protecting vegetation per se - it is about ensuring that due planning consideration is given to ALL potential environmental impacts relating to any planning proposal - specifically the impact on WILDLIFE.	Other (please specify): 23 times weekly	Drive (solo)	My chief concern is to ensure the vegetation, waterways and wildlife are ALL fully protected and that development occurs in other more appropriate areas within the municipality. Please do NOT SPDL what is one of the key inherent features that makes Mount Martha so distinctive on the Mornington Peninsula - and makes the town a highly sought after destination in terms of both permanent lifestyle and tourism. An ESO is the only planning control that can achieve the necessary protection for this area.
	Jun 26, 2021, 51:05:10 PM	The Balcombe Estuary Reserves are a unique natural asset to be shared for now and for future generations. It is important to protect the native species of plant, bird and marine life.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal. Pests and weeds. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Identify alternate sites to cater for recreational activities that do not require the destruction of this significant habitat.	Option 1	Zone this area for conservation	Monthly	Walk / run	I take my grand children here and they love it. Each year as a kayaker at Mt Martha Yacht Club we go up the estuary in our kayaks and remove any rubbish like fishing lines, bottles etc. Last year I was amazed

57	Jun 26, 2021, 09:47 AM	protected space for native plants and animals	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Pests and weeds. Vegetation removal. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	use other space	Option 1	protecting run off in to the estuary	Monthly	Walk / run		
58	Jun 25, 2021, 11:33 PM	Preserving the environment for native flora and fauna. Any development would be counter productive to protecting this important treasure. Why would you destroy an integral part of what makes Inlba here so amazing?	No	10	Other (please comment): Absolutely not. We already have plenty of those things. We do not need any more development.	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Vegetation removal; Poor management; Other	Run off of weeding chemicals into the creek.	More environment untouched. Less sporting and recreational development.	Option 1	Council should consider environment preservation over developing any further revenue raising schemes or unnecessary development.	Daily	Walk / run	Additionally, the shires handling of development of the briars and events held there has been disappointing. It was a gift to the community by the previous land owners. The shire has failed its duty as caretakers to preserve the briars' environment and character.
59	Jun 25, 2021, 10:16 PM	Stunning habitat area	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Poor management; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of enforcement.	Not sure	Option 1	Vegetation leave it	Weekly	Walk / run		
60	Jun 25, 2021, 10:02 PM	My family often walk along the boardwalk from MtMartha to the Briars to our home off Racecourse Rd. We use this on average once per month.	Yes	8	Yes	Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.	The current spaces at Farero and Citation are big enough to utilise space for sport uses. There does not need to expand in to the bush areas.	Option 1	We use this leash free area for our dogs to run when we go on the boardwalk. The area other spaces at Citation do soccer/hockey fields.	Monthly	Walk / run	Leave it alone!	
61	Jun 25, 2021, 09:33 PM	The environment is the most important thing to me. I really enjoy the plant life and seeing animals, such as rabbits and various kinds of birds, in the reserve. I also like to see other people enjoying the reserve in the same way, whether that is exercising, picnicking or just sitting and enjoying the surroundings.	Yes	10	Other (please comment): It depends on where exactly and how much vegetation would be removed.	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal. Uncontrolled activities. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of enforcement.	I think it is important for the above mentioned planning controls to be applied to Balcombe Estuary Reserves, to ensure that any impact on the environment is considered in the possible development of new buildings on the land.	Option 1	I grew up in Mount Martha. I feel that the environment of Balcombe Estuary Reserve is important to the town and its character and history. If it is going to be altered at all, it should only be done after careful consideration of the effect that will be had on the environment and vegetation. I have great memories of the reserve and I would not only like to be reminded of those when I visit the area, but would like others to be able to enjoy the reserve in the same way.	Other (please specify): Occasionally (whenever I am able to get there). It is a favourite place to walk with friends or have a picnic.	Drive (solo)		
62	Jun 25, 2021, 08:01 PM	The area to remain as natural as possible. This attract many visitors, who seem to like it as it is.	Not sure	6	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of enforcement.	Surely there are enough sporting facilities already. Even so why remove more natural bush when they can be built anywhere.	Option 2	Many people seem to enjoy the area as it is. Surely we have enough sporting venues. We need better wildlife refuges. After being here for over 40 years, I would estimate at least 30 percent loss of bird species alone. Cats are not helpful in preventing this loss.	Daily	Walk / run		
63	Jun 25, 2021, 06:31 PM	It is such a beautiful, unique and peaceful environment for both humans and animals, in particular, birds.	Yes	10	Not sure	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand.	I would be asking environmental experts as well as sporting organisations to work together to find a solution.	Option 1	Permits should be developed for sporting facilities.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)		
64	Jun 25, 2021, 06:23 PM	The unique nature and wildlife that is there.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Poor management; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand.	Limit population growth or focus on sport that takes place in nature (e.g. running, swimming, orienteering etc.).	Option 1	Nature is irreplaceable. Sport facilities can be built anywhere.	Monthly	Drive (solo)		
65	Jun 25, 2021, 06:11 PM	Sporting facilities for the kids and adults in the area, keep kids and people involved in community sport. So many benefits.	No	4	Yes	Poor management; Lack of formal car parking areas; Uncontrolled activities; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Put kids first	Option 2	As above kids and community sport so important	Weekly	Drive (car pool)		
66	Jun 25, 2021, 06:02 PM	I am aware that there are very few semi-saline estuaries remaining in Phillip Bay. Balcombe is important because it contains significant vegetation that survives in this environment. We have work to do to maintain/restore water quality - already the silt run-off has destroyed the water grasses that kept the swans here as native inhabitants - a long time ago. The study of a semi-saline environment and its return to robust health is an opportunity to be grasped by the Shire and residents around the Balcombe Estuary.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Uncontrolled activities; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary.	I don't really have particular suggestions however I am against sporting facilities taking over irreplaceable land/water/vegetation assets that can be rehabilitated but never replaced once they are destroyed.	Option 1	I can only add that Mount Martha is being overrun with visiting population so that facilities are strained through the summer months and life for residents is increasingly uncomfortable. I value the conservation areas even more with the pressure on our neighbourhood.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	I am unable to walk to walk the short distance to the Estuary owing to back injury restrictions but the board walk is a delight once there.	
67	Jun 25, 2021, 03:18 PM	It is a place of natural beauty, peaceful and tranquil, and needs to be protected for the generations who follow us.	Yes	9	No	Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of enforcement.	Provision of better facilities at existing recreational areas to allow greater sharing of those facilities.	Option 1	Only Option 1 will enable the area to be protected.	Monthly	Drive (car pool)		
68	Jun 25, 2021, 12:09 PM	The study area is a wonderful recreation environment both for social activity and formal sports events. There can be no better area to enjoy the benefits of living in or visiting Mount Martha.	Yes	9	Yes	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Unauthorised BMX tracks.	More seated car parking around the football grounds	Option 2	The population is growing significantly and we have sports clubs with Mount Martha in their club name but having to play elsewhere.	Daily	Drive (car pool)		
69	Jun 25, 2021, 11:18 AM	The environmental habitat of both land and aquatic species. Obviously option one the environmentally sensitive overlay is the preferred strategy. Yet why is there fine print suggesting the possibility of future development. It is outrageous and highly hypocritical. It would be a struggle to engage passionate volunteers with this end possibility in mind.	Not sure	9	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Poor management; Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; Pests and weeds.	More concrete planning strategies that clearly state the area is protected against future development.	Option 1	Conservation needs to be a higher priority if the area wants to maintain its notoriety as a conservation and protected area for native flora and fauna.	Annually	Drive (solo)		
70	Jun 25, 2021, 10:04 AM	Natural environment, habitat for native plants and animals, native vegetation. It is important to maintain this area for the protection of habitats.	Yes	10	No	Uncontrolled activities; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area.	Yes, Shire representatives to be aware and have read Malcolm Leggett's 46 Fauna Survey of Balcombe Estuary Reserves, Mount Martha, September 28, 2019.	Option 1	Habitat protection. Support, maintain and protect significant indigenous fauna and flora species. Develop and implement an environmental monitoring program in response to changes to variable seasonal conditions, species diversity and threatened, endangered species.	Daily	Walk / run	A recent report to Council found that The Balcombe Estuary is one of the Peninsula's major waterways and a significant natural asset that is rich in biodiversity. Balcombe Estuary Reservations Group volunteers have worked in conjunction with the Shire to protect, rehabilitate and preserve the Estuary to provide an area rich in biodiversity, a place of enjoyment, learning and recreation for the Mornington Peninsula's growing community.	
71	Jun 25, 2021, 09:02 AM	Protection of our estuary. There is an abundance of marine, aerial and terrestrial wildlife that call this place home and we owe it to them to ensure they thrive. The positive impacts that nature have on humans also is a reason to nurture this environment.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Poor management.	Create another oval in a different location.	Option 1	I played 120 games for the Mounties and loved every second of it but junior footy isn't as important as the health of our suburbs environment.	Weekly	Walk / run	The area is subject to flooding.	
72	Jun 25, 2021, 07:49 AM	Natural habitat. Kids love exploring & seeing wildlife.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand.	Better use of existing recreation reserves.	Option 1	The peninsula is beautiful, don't wreck it	Monthly	Drive (car pool)		
73	Jun 25, 2021, 07:27 AM	Nature - iB&E's good for spending time - love the fire place shelter near the playground. Also the sports grounds being surrounded by bush is nice.	Not sure	9	Yes	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Lack of formal car parking areas; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Vegetation removal.	Develop the areas already somewhat cleared, the sports grounds already have large cleared areas for parking - formally markings out and or paving the area will create more spaces. The existing informal parking areas have space for more sports area	Option 2	Careful development can still keep wildlife and nature unaffected. Putting a blanket ban on it now is just trouble for future upgrades to existing infrastructure.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	Balcombe Creek flow heavily reduced by housing stormwater drains over past decade or more - you can walk across the estuary as a result of the build up of sediment which no longer gets naturally flushed. A redirection of stormwater drains to the estuary or a periodic dredging. Nature sloped flanking this area looks good.	
74	Jun 25, 2021, 06:48 AM	It is a special place I love going with my kids to explore and search for plants and animals. It was a go to place when COVID hit to get them de stressed. I love walking there myself with friends aswell.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of formal car parking areas.	I don't think it should be considered, we have many sport and recreation areas in our suburb, this is a natural beautiful well used and loved area that should be preserved for many generations to come.	Option 1	Why can't the oval be dual purpose in this area we do not need more traffic in a quiet area right next to habitats.	Weekly	Walk / run	Preserve our land iB&E's so delicate.	
75	Jun 25, 2021, 06:30 AM	Wildlife their homes and natural habitats.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Poor management; Uncontrolled activities; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary.	Use facilities grounds close by like a school with an oval	Option 1	There is other options once iB&E's gone iB&E's gone	Monthly	Walk / run		
76	Jun 24, 2021, 05:57 PM	This area is so important to Mt Martha and the community. iB&E's a beautiful place to walk and spend time in nature. So much of the Mornington Peninsula is being developed and changed it is so important to keep these natural areas maintained and protected for the wildlife's habitat and for humans to enjoy.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds.	There is plenty of land around Citation oval for parking. There is also plenty of land opposite on the Nepean Highway (near the old hydroponic cafe). We do not need to destroy natural vegetation when so much of the mornington peninsula has been cleared of natural vegetation.	Option 1	I believe there is plenty of already cleared land on the outskirts of Mount Martha that could be purchased for this use. As you mentioned MP is only getting busier. Creating sporting facilities would only add to the congestion on the Nepean Highway around an already incredibly dangerous intersection.	Forthnightly	Other (please specify): Walk, ride and drive		
77	Jun 24, 2021, 04:01 PM	Its the last intact estuary off the peninsula, its at risk because of a range of factors and needs our protection	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal.	The existing uses need to be capped and expansion to occur at other sites. There needs to be better community education on the pressures and risks and about the things that people can do to help, like removing noxious and invasive weeds.	Option 1	The estuary is already under pressure from polluted run off, no more development will assist to address this	Daily	Walk / run	I support the need for more sporting and recreation facilities, but not adjacent to the estuary. There is other land that could be used for this purpose. Also the control of young people using the area for BMX riding is causing increased erosion. There should be better education about this in local schools.	
78	Jun 24, 2021, 08:57 AM	It needs to remain a natural habitat for all the animals that live there.	Yes	10	No	Poor management; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities.	Use existing sport areas, organise these better	Option 1	The land needs to remain in its natural state.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	The land does not need further development, the facilities that use the land already need to take better care for it. If we keep making these areas of natural bush land smaller then we will also be the ones responsible for making our native wildlife extinct, how do you tell your grand children that this is the best outcome for their future.	
79	Jun 24, 2021, 08:39 AM	Preserving it's natural beauty	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary.	Unfortunately I don't have a solution to suggest, but I would not like to see the Estuary affected.	Option 1	Our local beautiful nature areas are becoming fewer and fewer. We need to protect/preserve them for the generations to come to enjoy.	Monthly	Drive (car pool)		
80	Jun 24, 2021, 08:26 AM	The ability to walk and ride a bike along the paths to connect with nature without intruding on it.	Yes	8	Unsatisfactory	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Poor management.	Increased utilisation eh lights for night. Share school oval facilities. Encourage people into walking and riding to organised sport.	Option 1	Need to protect our remaining vegetation	Forthnightly	Bike ride		
81	Jun 24, 2021, 08:11 AM	Its a unique area of land along the peninsula that provides a natural estuary habitat for the native species, but also through its well developed walkways provides a natural recreation for the local population. On any weekend it is well used by family groups for exercise and connect with the natural beauty of the area.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	The council should identify alternate sites to cater for any increased demand for formal sport and recreational activities that does not require the destruction of this environmentally significant habitat, biotik & passive recreational reserve which is enjoyed by local Mornington residents and visitors.	Option 1	To ensure the reserve survives for the enjoyment of future generations by building up a significant contiguous area of protected land.	Other (please specify): About 5-6 times per year, mostly during school hols	Drive (car pool)		

Jun 24, 2021, 02:48 AM	Walking on the boardwalk, seeing and experiencing the wonders of the wildlife , with my grandchildren is so special , would love to think that future generations would have the same enjoyment in the future years . I have lived here all my life and cannot imagine no Balcombe Estuary Reserve for us all to enjoy .	Yes	10	Not sure	Uncontrolled activities; Poor management; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Pests and weeds; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	No	Option 1	Would like to keep the Estuary as a relaxation option, connecting with the wildlife.	Weekly	Walk / run		
Jun 23, 2021, 03:10:10 PM	Importance to flora and fauna. A beautiful Mt martha attraction	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal	There are 4 ovals already in the image supplied .	Option 1	Needs to be protected.	Fortnightly	Drive (car pool)		
Jun 23, 2021, 04:10:08 PM	Protecting our local reserve so our future young people & others can enjoy	Yes	10	Not sure	Lack of formal car parking areas; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Poor management; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	More car parking & better drainage , grading of the local roads etc	Option 2	Whilst I support protecting our local environment, we need more sporting re reaction facilities in shire as there are not enough	Weekly	Walk / run		
Jun 23, 2021, 05:09:41 PM	There is a growing population. Sport facilities are required for adults and children. Spot offers many benefits to the community both physically and mentally.	No	2	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Poor management; Lack of enforcement	Sport and Recreation should be a major focus for the council. The opportunity for the land to be purposed, so it can be used for as many activities as possible is a good thing	Option 2	Permits a greater number of future uses and development of the land (with or without the need for planning approval), prioritises the land for sport and recreation uses and commercial uses where appropriate with a purpose to also conserve areas of significance.	Weekly	Drive (solo)		
Jun 23, 2021, 06:06:30 PM	Keeping a balance between our community and natural environment. Our whole family uses the facilities including enjoying the Estuary walk from Uralla rd to mount Martha shops whilst our children play football on the two reserves. Our dog enjoys the leash free park too.	No	4	No	Poor management; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of formal car parking areas	Current sports venues need proper car parking in designated areas. I don't believe sports reserves need to expand they just need to improve upon existing facilities. Need better fencing off to protect certain areas.	Option 1	I think we have enough existing land for sports and recreational use.	Weekly	Drive (solo)		
Jun 23, 2021, 07:09:16 PM	Natural values	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement; Unauthorised BMX tracks	Build future sport and rec facilities away from areas with high environmental values.	Option 1	Because we have so little native bushland left on the Peninsula	Monthly	Drive (car pool)		
Jun 23, 2021, 08:08:36 PM	My kids are growing up in this area and are both using both citation and Ferraro for sports that's great seeing them start out in the area. I think the grounds facilities for both junior areas is in great needs of upgrades. Citation has no spectator cover or rooms for the junior bottom oval and Ferraro run ups are dangerous whilst the rooms are lacking in room especially compared to surrounding clubs.	No	1	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Uncontrolled activities; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Zone off the areas- Sporting facilities are already low in mvt martha they need space to expand	Option 2	Doesn't get used as a park. Facilities are already minimal in the area. Any chance to get the kids outside we should take.	Weekly	Drive (solo)		
Jun 23, 2021, 08:08:28 PM	The whole environment and the wildlife that lives there.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Unauthorised BMX tracks	Put the formal sport facilities somewhere else.	Option 1	Because it will be zoned for conservation and won't be developed.	Monthly	Drive (solo)		
Jun 23, 2021, 09:08:24 PM	Mult use and access.	Not sure	3	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of formal car parking areas; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds	Develop existing sport and rec areas into top quality spaces. Improve oval drainage, club rooms and spectator areas, improve roadways and parking management. This will ensure correct use of space and support the environment as less off track activities	Option 2	Sport and rec spaces provide for community and can be spaces to educate regarding the environment	Weekly	Drive (car pool)		
Jun 23, 2021, 09:08:23 PM	Keeping it from residential development	Yes	10	Yes	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Uncontrolled activities; Poor management; Lack of enforcement; Vegetation removal	No	Option 1	Don't want to see it developed	Weekly	Drive (solo)		
Jun 23, 2021, 09:08:05 PM	Keeping the sporting facilities up to date and able to grow	No	2	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Poor management	No	Option 2	Better facilities to accommodate growing area	Weekly	Drive (solo)		
Jun 23, 2021, 10:07:58 PM	Sports and recreation. Community gatherings While I love the whole area, I especially love that the old stone buildings of the Rotunda and what was the bandy building from when it was an amazing Caravan Park. As a teenager I camped with my family for many summers and enjoyed walking and investigating the whole Creek area all the way up to what was the Army Land. Since I have painted in the area and will always feel the beach near the mouth of the creek and the vegetation is very special.	No	3	Yes	People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of formal car parking areas; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Poor management; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	Better communication between all parties involved	Option 2	The area will always be a beautiful place & with proper planning the sporting facilities can be amongst the natural environment. The families and general public deserve spaces to exercise, be part of a team and feel a part of the community	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	Oh course I hope The Peninsula is going to be able to adapt to the increased population. The traffic is getting bad	
Jun 23, 2021, 04:07:50 PM		Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of enforcement	Balcombe Estuary needs to become a principle place for Conservation and other demands need to be placed away from the Estuary	Option 1	This is very special and cannot be replaced there are other sites for formal recreation within the Shire	Annually	Drive (solo)	I support the friends group and feel this area needs to be conserved as the Port Phillip Bay areas of the Shire are being over run by the increasing population demands, and this area is actually so far intact.	
Jun 23, 2021, 06:07:22 PM	Wildlife & sustainability	Yes	10	Not sure	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Poor management; Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	Not at this stage	Option 1	Uses in future need to be carefully considered	Fortnightly	Drive (car pool)		
Jun 23, 2021, 06:06:41 PM	The estuary is a haven for wildlife in a shrinking natural world. This then makes Mt Martha unique and increasingly valuable in a world where human impact and noise continue unabated. The proximity to Melbourne also means that this can be a showcase for other LGA's as to how natural spaces can be enhanced and cared for	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement; Unauthorised BMX tracks	Sport and recreation facilities are necessary but should be located where suburban growth occurs such as on Bentside Rd road where housing and young families predominantly live. This may require the Shire purchasing land and will require foresight as facilities may utilize large land area. An excellent example is the Emu Madsen reserve at Mt Eliza where farming land has been purchased and developed with multiple sports pitches etc and planting of local vegetation species and small walking tracks graded. This has huge community value across all ages and increases health and well-being for all	Option 1	This area is small and already supports many bird and small mammal species eg micro bats. Reducing the habitat will destroy the environmental edge this area provides and also the link that this area creates between the greater reserve to west of Nepean Hwy and the boardwalk into the Brians. Enhancing the environment here will provide greater habitat and could also be used to showcase local indigenous planting and creative garden practices with a walkway or picnic tables (minimal)	Weekly	Walk / run		
Jun 23, 2021, 07:06:35 PM	Children's sports	No	1	Yes	Uncontrolled activities; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of enforcement; Poor management; Pests and weeds	No	Option 2	Children need to exercise more and being part of a team is great for there development	Other (please specify): Couple of times a week.	Drive (car pool)		
Jun 23, 2021, 08:06:05 PM	Try to keep it as natural as possible.	Yes	10	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal; Poor management; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	No	Option 2	Best use of the land.	Monthly	Drive (solo)		
Jun 23, 2021, 09:04:26 PM	Preserving this area and its diverse flora & fauna from ANY future development.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Poor management; Uncontrolled activities	Better use of Mace Oval	Option 2	Because option 2 allows Mace oval to be freed up as an additional football ground for junior football on Sundays	Daily	Walk / run	The Balcombe Estuary is one of my favourite things about Mt Martha and it's crucial we keep this area protected.	
Jun 23, 2021, 10:04:22 PM	Nature	No	10	No	Unauthorised BMX tracks; Vegetation removal; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of enforcement	No	Option 1	No	Weekly	Walk / run		
Jun 23, 2021, 10:03:18 PM	It's a great place for kids to explore and learn about our local native environment	Yes	10	Not sure	Lack of formal car parking areas; Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Uncontrolled activities	Not at this stage.	Option 1	I'd like to see it stay as is. It's very close to the creek for more sporting there.	Monthly	Drive (car pool)		

106	Jun 23, 2021, 12:55 PM	The preservation of vegetation and birdlife in a unique beautiful environment accessible to the public to enjoy but not interfere with, change or destroy.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Uncontrolled activities. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Vegetation removal. Lack of enforcement.	The environmental values must be prioritised. There are other locations and options for recreational and sport use. There is only one Balcombe Estuary.	Option 1	The future of this unique area must be protected.	Weekly	Walk / run	
107	Jun 23, 2021, 11:36 AM	The estuary is a beautiful place for wildlife and for the environment and a place that should remain wild for the future. It is an outstanding natural feature of Mount Martha that should be enjoyed for generations. We need to ensure that the bush land and environment remain pristine for the future and sanctuaries for what local wild life remains.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Vegetation removal. Pests and weeds	There are already a number of sporting venues in this area that could be better utilised. A number of local school have a facilities that could be co-shared. Other studies could be done to identify alternative sites for recreation that do not impact this natural area.	Option 1	We need to conserve and preserve our natural environment if we want to have any chance against the ravages for climate change for the health of biodiversity and our own health. We need to take the environment and management of natural places more seriously.	Weekly	Walk / run - Other (please specify): Fly - I visit specifically from interstate	I really feel the council need to place greater emphasis on the natural environment and take it's preservation going forward. These places once lost can't be recovered. We need to keep what we have for future generations to enjoy and as green space in our ever congested suburbs.
108	Jun 23, 2021, 11:20 AM	Such a beautiful and historically significant place Early settlers used the area as a base and we should protect the memory of the area and preserve its beauty.	Yes	10	No	Poor management. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal. Lack of enforcement. Unauthorised BMX tracks	The reserves and facilities we have in place now are sufficient and if we need more, they do not have to interfere with Balcombe.	Option 1	Because it is the right thing to do.	Annually		Thank you - I grew up in the area and fished in Balcombe creek.
109	Jun 23, 2021, 10:59 AM	the estuary is wonderful ecosystem which is an essential part of the Mount Martha area as well as greater Mornington Peninsula. It is a delicate pocket that so many people enjoy, locals as well as tourists. Changes and further urbanisation would totally ruin this very special spot in an area that is fast becoming just another suburb.	Yes	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand. Vegetation removal. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Lack of enforcement. Poor management.	Before further residential development is considered developers should need to include recreation and sporting fields as part of their submissions. People move and visit this area for the wonderful pockets of nature so that should be protected to retain the reasons people enjoy our special area. Sports fields cater to only part of the local population and I can see no benefit to clearing and decimating such a wonderful natural resource for this reason. The Balcombe oval seems to be under utilised and could be upgraded for more use by various groups. Junior football, cricket and soccer could easily use this oval leaving the lower grounds for the more senior games and training.	Option 1	eco systems like our estuary are not replaceable - wildlife, fish and birdlife would be displaced.	Daily	Walk / run	the Mornington Peninsula is struggling to retain it's special pockets of bush and water ways. "Call someplace paradise and kiss it goodbye" seems to be relevant to the Mornington Peninsula. We must retain these special places to avoid becoming one too urban sprawl.
110	Jun 23, 2021, 10:18 AM	Keeping the natural vegetation and nature intact for future generations.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal. Uncontrolled activities. Lack of enforcement. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary.	Finding a balance is key. We need to manage our natural heritage above all else.	Option 1	I think we need to conserve our natural landscape above all else and have limitations on any future buildings for any reason.	Fortnightly	Drive (solo)	
111	Jun 23, 2021, 09:50 AM	Preservation of the creek, indigenous plants and fauna through regular monitoring and working bees, with oversight from Landcare and others. As much as possible, to reduce the human impact on the existing environment. To choose conservation over 'development' wherever possible.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal. Uncontrolled activities. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Ensure that any proposed changes (including 'expansion') to existing sporting venues is highly cognisant of impacts to the environment and if there are changes, they should be balanced with additional, carefully considered planting or 'infrastructure' (eg rocks and other natural elements) to protect the surroundings from degradation.	Option 1	We cannot fully 'retrieve' the environment once it is impacted by development (even when it is careful). I think it is far better to preserve and protect what we have, especially as the existing sporting facilities are already very close to the catchment area for the creek. I understand that this creek is one of (if not the only) those with the least chance (see human impacts) enters our bay.	Fortnightly	Walk / run	We live near the Eco Park in Glenista Drive and have been disillusioned in the process (of 'community consultation') which preceded proposals to develop it to include skating facilities (albeit for 'junior' skaters). Rather than using the opportunity to revegetate and 'link' this little park to the existing creek and pathways behind it (hence improving corridors for animals to move through), the plans include removal of existing trees to make way for hard surfaces. This, and the possible changes to the sporting venues beside Balcombe Estuary seem counter to the Shires previously stated aims of prioritising our precious natural environment.
112	Jun 23, 2021, 09:37 AM	This area is important to me for a variety of reasons: 1. Habitat and food for wildlife (eg. Black Cockatoos visit the pine trees next to Clifton oval most days.) 2. Habitat for plants and trees (many new housing developments in Mount Martha are destroying trees and plants as they build as close to the boundaries as possible) 3. Provides a non-structural use for recreation for humans (eg. when my son was small I would take him into the 'bush' land along the estuary and we would have a 'Huckleberry Finn' adventure some afternoons). 3. Provides an education access for locals and tourists to learn about the flora and fauna that live in the area. 4. This area is a valuable space in the heart of Mount Martha for many diverse reasons and the natural state should be enhanced and protected. 5. People of all ages can benefit from un-developed but environmentally rich land, especially as a green area in Mount Martha.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Poor management; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Lack of enforcement.	I believe that four ovals in the Mount Martha area could be re-arranged so that other sporting facilities could be built on the land that has already been cleared. We belonged to the Mount Martha Football Club a few years ago and that was one thing that surprised me, the two ovals when only one was usually used. On Game day the fixtures could be altered to accommodate the number of games. Other areas could be used eg. the large park on Durns Road which is devoid of trees. Why not develop the land behind Mornington Soccer Club and the East Mornington Football Club (the Club could merge with Mornington Football Club) are on to make a large state of the art sporting complex next to the one you already have. There is land being developed all the time behind Martha Cove Marina which used to be a lovely wetland but has been ruined now, maybe some of that land could be used for a sporting complex. If you develop the Estuary it will be ruined, concrete, cars, rubbish, car parks. Maybe try and control the number of people herding into Mount Martha rather than destroying why they came here in the first place, a few restrictions on tree felling would go a long way.	Option 1	It is very important that we maintain the environment of our area especially as Mount Martha is seen a tourist destination, sleepy village with a beautiful environment. What we have too many of in Mount Martha, is houses. Anyone of those estates built out past Bentons Square would have been perfect to develop for a sporting complex, football is required.	Weekly	Walk / run	Please try and maintain the ever dwindling natural state of Mount Martha. Housing development = pressure groups = re-action rather than pro-action. I have lived in Mount Martha long enough to see 90% of the seal life disappear from our beach, due to the impact of humans. It's the never ending story.
113	Jun 23, 2021, 09:32 AM	Protecting the flora and fauna and developing with care the sporting facilities.	Yes	9	Yes	Uncontrolled activities. Vegetation removal. Lack of enforcement; Poor management. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area.	Look into the use of already open space in Clifton has an open area beside existing front oval that could be further developed for another oval. But areas of vegetation need protection. Kids need an area of bike tracks	Option 2	If this land is flat enough but Also consider the land that is alongside front oval of clifton could be used for a sporting oval. Relocate the dog park to Durns rd with new shade.	Weekly	Walk / run	SH football club have a business plan that included an extra oval on already cleared land affecting no vegetation. We desperately need more sports grounds but this Area also needs protection and should never be zoned for housing.
114	Jun 23, 2021, 09:20 AM	Unspoilt and in a relatively natural state. My family use it frequently and find it a calming place.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	No.	Option 1	This is a unique location- surely council has land available that has already been compromised-as Mini land or industrial area suitable for redevelopment.	Monthly	Drive (solo)	
115	Jun 23, 2021, 08:58 AM	A unique space in a growing busy suburb...a space for families, walkers and community's and others to enjoy.	Yes	10	Not sure	Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal. Uncontrolled activities.	Would like more information.	Option 2	Sports facilities required but needed and there are other sports facilities... It makes a sports precinct but the area can be used more efficiently and effectively work review of the whole precinct.	Weekly	Walk / run	
116	Jun 23, 2021, 08:52 AM	Natural environment. Maintaining diversity. Controlling anything that would cause damage.	Yes	10	No	Poor management. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Uncontrolled activities. Vegetation removal. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand.	Locate formal sports areas away from Balcombe Estuary.	Option 2	It is away from critical natural areas.	Fortnightly	Drive (car pool)	No
117	Jun 23, 2021, 08:51 AM	There is so much new building work in the area to provide housing so it is very important to maintain natural areas not only for us but for wildlife. Some areas must be exempt from building otherwise we and our children and grandchildren will have no quality of life.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Lack of enforcement. Uncontrolled activities. Lack of formal car parking areas; Poor management.	Sports grounds in schools need to be able to be accessed by the community on the weekend and during school holiday. Public transport needs to be improved so that we don't all need a car to get there.	Option 1	Once land is used for car parking then it won't be long before someone wants to build on it. Wildlife doesn't live in car parks - we need a more creative way to sort out car parks.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	
118	Jun 23, 2021, 08:47 AM	It is a special and natural space for people to connect with nature and see local Wildlife. Our family loves this area and our friends do too. We need to protect these natural spaces above all else.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand. Pests and weeds. Unauthorised BMX tracks. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.	I feel there are enough current sites in Mornington and Mt Martha to meet those needs or maximise use of current sites.	Option 1	I feel that we need to protect and keep as much vegetation and wildlife habitat as possible.	Fortnightly	Drive (car pool)	
119	Jun 23, 2021, 08:46 AM	Because my daughter lives close by and visits most days.	No	10	No	Vegetation removal. Pests and weeds; Uncontrolled activities; Unauthorised BMX tracks; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.	I am not qualified in this field.	Option 1	Because field sports have no place in the Balcombe Estuary. It should remain a Sanctuary.	Annually	Walk / run	
120	Jun 23, 2021, 08:36 AM	A place where I can enjoy nature close to my home. A place where others can enjoy the area as families safely.	No	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Unauthorised BMX tracks; Uncontrolled activities. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Vegetation removal.	I believe that you cannot do both and I have no idea what can be done other than better organisation of the facilities that are already there.	Option 1	Need to keep what is a special area for the future generations to have a rural place. Councils have zoned areas in other post codes only then later to change the zoning Mt Martha would then become something totally different to what it is and has been.	Monthly	Bike ride	
121	Jun 23, 2021, 08:35 AM	This is a beautiful untouched nature space and ecosystem vital to our environment.	Yes	10	Not sure	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Poor management. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Vegetation removal. Pests and weeds.	Use the current recreation reserves and farmland, not nature ecosystem. And limit building and expansion of houses etc.	Option 1	Leave a natural corridor. There'd be no need to expand sporting facilities. Again, use current farmland areas that are already cleared.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	I just think there are so little nature conservation reserves left. We need to keep these places available for our ecosystems to thrive. Plus they allow for play in natural environments. If car parks are full you go home and come back another day, or you bike ride in etc. etc: there are so many cleared living zones in the area and so much farmland. These nature corridors need to be protected.
122	Jun 23, 2021, 07:56 AM	Preservation of wildlife, flora and fauna. To keep the parklands as beautiful as they are.	Yes	7	Other (please comment): To some degree, improving existing sporting facilities is different to chopping down trees and building new ones.	Pests and weeds; Lack of formal car parking areas; Vegetation removal. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Poor management.	Better use of the land and facilities that are available at the moment. Example: Underground parking compared to clearing more trees.	Option 1	There are plenty of other areas in Mornington that could be used to add more soccer/hockey fields.	Daily	Walk / run	
123	Jun 23, 2021, 07:50 AM	We regularly walk in the BER study area and enjoy the unspoilt bush. I want this area to be preserved so my children and grandchildren can also enjoy it. I've been a naturalist, natural space to Mount Martha enabling myself and my family to enjoy the walks, views and wildlife. We walk in it everyday which is so important to our health and well-being. The Board walk and Estuary are enjoyed by so many people - of all ages - residents and visitors for picnics, fishing, walking and watching wildlife. The estuary is a home to so many animals and birds and it is vitally important to me that we protect our wildlife. It is a fundamental part of Mount Martha and must be protected for our current and future generations.	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Vegetation removal. Pests and weeds. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.	Stop allocating land for housing developments and start allocating it for sport and recreation facilities. Mt Martha is bursting at the seams but you can't keep building houses. We need to preserve our existing reserves at all costs.	Option 1	As stated before, we need to protect our reserves as they are for future generations.	Weekly	Walk / run	
124	Jun 23, 2021, 07:41 AM		Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Vegetation removal. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Lack of enforcement.	Use the reserves we have more effectively.	Option 1	No.	Daily	Walk / run	
125	Jun 23, 2021, 07:36 AM	The potential of future spaces for our youth. So much room for netball courts, better car parks, football oval or a much needed bmx track for the children on the peninsula.	No	2	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Lack of formal car parks areas.	There is still plenty of room at Clifton Reserve for more facilities (better car park and driveway is much needed as well as a bmx track for the youth) without destroying the balcombe estuary.	Option 2	There is a huge need for more sporting grounds and tracks for the families on the peninsula. Compared to other councils our facilities are very much lacking in regards to bmx tracks, decent playgrounds (that suit kids older than 1-5). The Casey City council and there parks, grounds etc are a great example.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	The Peninsula is screaming out for better facilities. Restrictions that in an area with so much potential would be ridiculous.
126	Jun 23, 2021, 07:33 AM	The reserve and waterway is vital for the health of the water entering our bay plus the survival of water birds, flora, seals, and invertebrates.	Yes	10	No	Poor management. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand. Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Pests and weeds.	Use existing vacant land, or reverse existing sports areas for better access and multi-use.	Option 1	Environmental reserves should be left alone, once damaged or impeded upon there is an incredible risk that they then don't function as they should as bushland corridors, sanctuaries. Reserves are reserves to be left alone and cared for and protected forever.	Monthly	Walk / run	The Balcombe Estuary Reserve is a sanctuary, an incredible link from coast to The Brians wildlife and wetland sanctuary and needs to be protected with a covenant so it remains for future generations to learn from and experience.
127	Jun 23, 2021, 07:24 AM	It is lovely the way it is. Once it is gone you can't get it back.	Yes	10	No	Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of enforcement; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Uncontrolled activities. Pests and weeds.	I	Option 1	Once the land is gone, it is gone. Enough sporting facilities in the area.	Weekly	Walk / run	Rangers need to issue some fines for dogs off leads and people not picking up after their dogs.
128	Jun 23, 2021, 06:49 AM	To maintain & protect its significance.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds. Unauthorised BMX tracks.	Look at other sites to provide for these activities.	Option 1	Natural areas & habitat for wildlife are rapidly shrinking. We need to conserve these areas.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
129	Jun 23, 2021, 06:37 AM	It is important to preserve and revegetate this area to provide habitat for wildlife. With increased urbanisation there is less habitat for wildlife. There will be less biodiversity if this area is not protected.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Poor management; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Create more sports fields on less sensitive land. Use school facilities that often sit idle on weekends.	Option 1	Sporting grounds can be provided on less environmentally sensitive land. School facilities should be utilised more for recreation and community sport.	Weekly	Walk / run	I previously lived adjacent to the reserve and feel very strongly that this natural environment be preserved. My children had the benefit of exploring and gaining an appreciation for natural environments. This should be preserved and protected for future generations.
130	Jun 23, 2021, 05:46 AM	The natural environment	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Uncontrolled activities. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	No.	Option 1	Plenty of other open green areas that can be used for rec.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	

131	Jun 22, 2021, 11:14 PM	The amount of discarded litter! Each year more and more alcohol containers and rubbish line the sides of the boardwalk! It is disgusting!	Yes	10	No	Lack of enforcement; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Vegetation removal.	Yes! We built the sports facilities ELSEWHERE	Option 1	Leave the area alone.	Daily	Walk / run	There needs to be greater enforcement. Youths should not be able to graffi and sit around drinking at the car park tables all day long. Sort it out.
132	Jun 22, 2021, 10:32 PM	The preservation of citation oval and community sport the sea. The biodiversity in the area, from the tea tree swamps, to the changing native vegetation as you move away from the water, must be preserved. The bird life remaining as you wander through pocket of bush such as the Bunyip track. The natural bush that climbs from the fire break up to the Citation reserve needs to be preserved, and replanted, and should not be allowed to be any further degraded by the many mountain bike tracks that have been made, both up near the pistol club, and down closer to Augusta street, especially over the past 2 years. The tracks that go from the fire break up to Citation reserve have not had any maintenance over the past 20 years that we have enjoyed walking them, but note that in recent times, especially in the last 2 years, there is much more degradation of the tracks. This needs to be addressed, as the native flowers and plants in the area are being damaged. There are areas of the estuary reserve that have significant weeds, and vegetation that is not indigenous, and it is important that over time this is replanted with indigenous species. Berg has done and are doing a great job preserving and restoring the estuary. We never want to lose this natural bush. It is very special that we can launch a canoe at the bottom of the estuary and take our grandchildren on an adventure up stream.	No	1	Yes	Lack of formal car parking areas; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Uncontrolled activities	Organised sport	Option 2	Traffic turning into Helena at it is a black spot and dangerous	Weekly	Drive (solo)	The plantings along the bank of the creek in the bushland opposite Ferraro ovals is doing well, and really helping to revegetate this area, though sadly the mountain bike jumps further up the hill should not be allowed. It would be great to have access from the longer path that goes down off Kotor (on the bend, not the end), across the creek, and up through the bush to Village Close, and also to have a path that linked along the creek up to Bay Rd to join the bush area along Hopetoun Creek and up to the Hopetoun/Norfolk Flora and Fauna Reserve. As you are aware, there are areas that really need attention and need to be revegetated, but there has been significant improvement in some parts over the years. The unofficial bike tracks are of major concern, at the bottom of Village Close, near the Watson Rd Kinder, and coming down from Clifton oval near the pistol club and closer to the fire break. The bush has largely been ruined by these being allowed to be developed without any restrictions. It is a long time since I have seen an echidna in this bush, as so much scrub/undergrowth has been removed. It is great that the boardwalk is accessible for people of all abilities. Please consider developing a playground that enables access by children with disabilities who are unable to walk on a tan bark surface. In addition to walking in this beautiful area, we also like to ride our bikes to commute from the Balcombe housing area, to the Mt Martha shops if the 'Frederick' was rideable, and did not have all the large stones on it. This would stop people riding their bikes through the Bunyip track, or along the board walk. If there was a decent path along the other side of the Augusta St Bridge, a formal commuting bike path could be created right through to link to the path along Harrop Creek. Could the whole area of Balcombe creek, linking up to Harrop creek, and to Hopetoun Creek be included in this environmental overlay please? (so that environmental corridors are created)
133	Jun 22, 2021, 10:30 PM		Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Poor management	There are 4 excellent ovals within the area. Their use should be maximised, but there should not be more recreational development, unless it was on the grass area near the dog park off Helena Street. The impressive development of Clifton oval already sets the scene for how this area could be the recreation precinct. Other areas within Mt Martha should also be considered, and should have been planned for when extensive development was allowed on the east side of Nepean Hwy. Is there any capacity to buy the land on the corner of Craigie Rd and Nepean Hwy (at the old chicken farm) for sporting use	Option 1		Daily	Walk / run	
134	Jun 22, 2021, 10:30 PM	The tranquility, the wildlife, the stillness and the calm it brings me every time I walk it or visit the area.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Vegetation removal; Poor management; Lack of enforcement	Move the sports somewhere else	Option 1	If I wanted to live somewhere that could be developed even more BMX'd have stayed here in the city	Daily	Walk / run	
135	Jun 22, 2021, 10:27 PM	Preservation of eco systems for future generations. We need more examples of this commitment to protecting, sustaining and improving environments by all levels of government.	Yes	10	Further	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	Purchase other land got sports. The land site off the freeway near the Mt Martha exit is a good example of a sport for sporting fields.	Option 1	There are other options in MM for this rather than damaging or reducing such a natural wonder. People don't move here for the sport they move here for the environment	Monthly	Walk / run	No
136	Jun 22, 2021, 10:14 PM	This is a beautiful area full of wildlife and plant life. Protected it is important for now and for generations to come to enjoy	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	There is plenty of recreation and formal sport places around this area that are under utilised. I think investing in existing infrastructure and making sure they are working effectively is a better focus than building more	Option 1	Less environmental impact	Weekly	Walk / run	
137	Jun 22, 2021, 09:52 PM	The paperbark swamp along the estuary, the wildlife, bird life and plants indigenous to the area and the wonderful boardwalk. It is such a sanctuary of peace for walking alone.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement; Uncontrolled activities; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Vegetation removal	Find spaces that are already partially cleared of vegetation and/or acquire suitable land already designated for farming.	Option 1	This area is right near the creek. It is important that the area is kept in its natural state to ensure runoff of contaminated rainwater for the creek without the addition of chemicals and fertilisers used for maintaining the sports ovals or other pollutants such as dog faeces. There are enough sports fields and other public facilities in the area. Sports fields bring in cars and members of the public not to mention other public facilities impacting and creating a risk for the natural environment	Weekly	Walk / run	The Balcombe Estuary Reserve with its extensive network of boardwalks is unique in the area in that it offers the public access to a relatively unspoilt natural environment while ensuring its protection from direct contact with people. Introducing more sports ovals along with kiosks, public conveniences and car parking would put greater pressure on the creek system and swamp lands. Razing farmland which has already been cleared and compensating farmers accordingly makes better sense as well as allowing for growth of those facilities in the future.
138	Jun 22, 2021, 09:40 PM	Preservation of flora and fauna and walking tracks	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of enforcement	Find another area of mt Martha to use for sport and recreation uses	Option 1	There are plenty of areas in mornington for recreation and sport. This area needs to be protected, not used for an unnecessary hockey field	Weekly	Walk / run	
139	Jun 22, 2021, 09:32 PM	The Balcombe Estuary is a very special area and is crucial in supporting our unique flora and fauna. We are extremely fortunate to have such a wonderfully natural environment in Mount Martha.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Uncontrolled activities; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds	BMX'm not sure however Sporting areas should be away from natural conservation areas	Option 1	The biodiversity and delicate nature of the estuary needs to be protected and I believe extra sporting areas and car parking put this at great risk	Daily	Walk / run	
140	Jun 22, 2021, 08:36 PM	What is most important to me? Preserving the natural habitat. Why? I believe it is the greatest challenge facing the whole planet and we need to do it we can in our little patch of the world too	Yes	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal	I think a bigger new site could be purchased and developed for formal sport in MM or maybe the current sites bit more carefully monitored and additional sites added. For sure there are creative solutions	Option 1	I do not think this is a good place for recreation.	Monthly	Walk / run	I am concerned about nature degradation and traffic issues in this spot. Is there no space in balcombe grammar that could be used for sport or off the Nepean somewhere further along?
141	Jun 22, 2021, 06:29 PM	The Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area offers an amazing opportunity for the general public, representing all age groups, to not only appreciate and enjoy the beautiful natural environment so well-maintained, but to become informed about the flora and fauna. Those visiting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves can expand their knowledge through the excellent identification of vegetation throughout the area, the attractive information boards in the shelters and the posts giving background details of the birds in the area.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds	Unfortunately I cannot offer any suggestions.	Option 1	The Balcombe Estuary Reserves area is unique as an example of natural environment and should be protected.	Daily	Walk / run	Save and protect all existing native bushland on the Mornington Peninsula by promoting our natural environment and educating people. Guard against the stealthy removal of healthy eucalyptus trees and native plants by owners of large peninsula properties who want to replace them with European pest plants and pine trees. A method of doing this could be aerial photographs of large properties within the green wedge. Update and compare the photographs biannually to identify those individuals who have removed native trees without a permit and take legal action against them. I have been told about an individual who plans to cut down a long driveway of gum trees and replace them with non-native pines when they inherit a very large and well-known Mornington Peninsula property. This is one way to stop this kind of vandalism.
142	Jun 22, 2021, 06:15 PM	Bird life, aquatic life, animals and frogs, clean estuary water and surrounding bushland, human access to the estuary banks for walking and sitting via the boardwalk. Protection from rubbish and pollution.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Educate sports club users that to respect the estuary reserves is to enhance their sport and recreation activities. Both can exist together. Fresh air, clean environment, healthy life.	Option 1	There are plenty of sport and recreation areas on the Mornington Peninsula but land for conservation is being lost to human activities and infrastructure. Leave as natural bush and clear introduced weeds.	Monthly	Drive (solo)	
143	Jun 22, 2021, 03:11 PM	That the space is used in a way that best supports the native area as well as accommodates for the needs of the community.	No	1	Yes	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of formal car parking areas	I would like to see the sporting facilities left out of the proposed green area. A covenance of the type of building materials used to develop sporting facilities could help to protect the environmental values of the area.	Option 2	As there are a number of sporting facilities within this area it is important that they are able to grow and develop over the years to suit the communities needs	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	I would like to see the sporting facilities left out of the proposed green areas.
144	Jun 22, 2021, 02:01 PM	Nature and calm. Our home	Yes	10	Our home a home	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of formal car parking areas; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	Use existing clear land there is some Open fields that can be used. Plant more trees in unhabitated areas. So many trees are being removed and I see nothing new coming in	Option 1	Development needs to be regulated not a free for all and opportunity for development	Daily	Walk / run	
145	Jun 22, 2021, 01:24 PM	Making it useful for everyone including nature	No	5	Yes	Lack of formal car parking areas; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Other	Build a proper bike/bmx track	Option 2	Because most of the community would benefit especially young families	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	
146	Jun 22, 2021, 12:48 PM	Maintenance of wild places for birds, micobats, small mammals, amphibians (frogs) insects and waterlife. With more development these places are more significant and more important to conserve and preserve.	Other (please comment): No development should take place other than maintenance of current facilities.	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of enforcement; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Vegetation removal	The area should be reserved for passive uses. Walking, bird watching etc.	Option 1	I reiterate my previous reasons.	Other (please specify): Often, not regularly	Walk / run	Council needs to preserve areas for passive uses only. Restrict development. Enforce breaches.
147	Jun 22, 2021, 12:28 PM	That the existing area should be retained and expanded as per proposed zones and never reduced. Habitat and trees, scrub, understoreys are important to retain considering the fast development of suburbs down here.	Other (please comment): Answer is Yes, but what do you mean by "most buildings - shouldn't it be all?"	10	No	Other; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	Fireworks should be prohibited - danger to surrounding bushland especially in summer when it is dry	Option 1	I think having an extra sport field is a nice idea but climate change and the retaining of trees that produce oxygen and habitat for wildlife is more important.	Weekly	Walk / run	
148	Jun 22, 2021, 12:24 PM	The notable tree scape and bush setting is a place that should not change. It reminds you of the original bush land that used to exist on the peninsula.	No	10	Yes	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Lack of formal car parking areas; Unauthorised BMX tracks	Future expansion of facilities can still be designed to meet the current landscape	Option 2	Better drainage for the area using modern reclaimed water usage	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	
149	Jun 22, 2021, 11:47 AM	Love the board walk Area and paths leading from the Mt Martha beach to Craigie Road, very suitable	Other (please comment): Only if it applies to areas not within sporting grounds or residential streets.	Other (please comment): Only if buildings are built within already used sporting areas	Other (please comment): Only if buildings are built within already used sporting areas	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Pests and weeds; Lack of formal car parking areas	No, think it's well handled	Option 1	Perfect the way it is	Other (please specify): 3 - 4 times a week	Drive (solo)	Leave the area as is but if the 2 footy clubs wish to develop their buildings on their land that should be allowed
150	Jun 22, 2021, 11:27 AM	The natural beauty of the area. More needs to be done by council as well as the Balcombe group to ensure dirt roads are maintained, nature strips are kept cut back and free from rubbish, dead trees removed, drainage along side dirt roads to be upgraded to stop erosion.	Other (please comment): Within reason, no automatic laws	10	Other (please comment): Depends on area and needs	Poor management; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	Liaise with schools, existing sporting clubs/facilities for constant usage not just weekends and the odd night.	Option 1	All public land should need planning approval.	Daily	Drive (solo)	
151	Jun 22, 2021, 11:20 AM	Utilising the space whilst also protecting this environment. A place for all, a haven for wildlife, an irreplaceable asset for now and for future generations. The total preservation of this reserve to ensure that the bushland & waterways that support all the abundant flora, fauna, birds & marine life remains intact and healthy for the enjoyment of my family & for future generations. A magnificent natural asset such as this requires the highest possible planning protection. It ticks all the boxes ecologically, community value and scenic value. Pressures of population increases put such areas at risk of loss of environmental habitat. 164 indigenous plant species, including Swamp Scrub and Grass Woodland which are bio-regionally endangered species. The Dwarf Galaxias fish, Royal Spoonbill and Pacific Gull are also threatened or near threatened species that have been identified in	Yes	5	Yes	Lack of enforcement; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of formal car parking areas; Poor management; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	I think more car parking is needed. More sports facilities and a specialised bmx track	Option 2	The time has come to stop the trend of environmental, ecological, landscape and wildlife habitat destruction as a secondary consideration behind land clearing, even within public reserves, to accommodate population growth. Consideration Ensure the reserve survives for the enjoyment of future generations by enhancing current and ongoing works and activities to protect, preserve & restore the Balcombe Estuary Reserves bushland and estuarine, creek & nearby coastal, waterways	Weekly	Drive (solo)	The Balcombe Estuary Reserve is unique and priceless. Respect and appreciate what nature has given us at Mount Martha and protect it with all your might. Example - Noosa's National Park, it would not be what it is today if the local community had not demanded it be preserved. It too is priceless.
152	Jun 22, 2021, 11:17 AM		Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Identify alternate sites to cater for any increased demand for formal sporting facilities additional recreational activities & car parks that does not require the destruction of the environmentally significant habitat, blink and passive recreational reserve which is enjoyed by all Mornington Peninsula residents and visitors to our region. Demand that the Mornington Peninsula shire councillors & executive enact without exception the 2019 "Climate Emergency" and "Carbon Neutral" policies endorsed by councillors in considering the significance of our Bushland, Coastal and estuarine reserves when decisions on theerosal.	Option 1		Monthly	Walk / run	
153	Jun 22, 2021, 11:16 AM	BMX'm a unique environment combination of bush and wetlands great bird life Excellent walking track	Yes	10	No	Uncontrolled activities; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Other	More inter active learning boards More education for schools Local environmental walks and talks	Option 1	Enough encroachment on protection areas You can't get it back	Monthly	Walk / run	Most amazing walk and wild life area Please keep up the protection of this unique area and ecosystem for future generations

154	Jun 22, 2021, 10:55 AM	The recreation facilities	No	4	Yes	Lack of formal car parking areas; Uncontrolled activities; Poor management. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Lack of enforcement	Build better facilities and people won't go off the beaten track	Option 1	Sport and recreation is very important for the community. Especially with covid. It is great for mental health and keeps youths entertained. The peninsula has less sport and recreation options than many other shires also and many of our sporting grounds need improvement. If you take away expansion you are hindering the peninsula youths.	Daily	Drive (car pool)	Live
155	Jun 22, 2021, 10:00 AM	The availability of a sporting complex grounds to accommodate a wide range of sports. A better maintained area. With travel and the ability to venture to top end sporting facilities ie. AFL, Netball etc is limited. It is essential vital to facilitate these opportunities in our own backyard.	No	1	Yes	Lack of formal car parking areas; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Poor management	Expand/ develop on areas that are already there and unused within the boundaries you speak of.	Option 2	Because BMX is important in this day and age due to the unforeseen future, and the government limitations put on us in relation to travel and attending other sporting venues that once were a silver for us.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
156	Jun 22, 2021, 09:57 AM	parking and the entrance drive to the ovals	Yes	1	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas; Other: People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Poor management	growing football club needing new around maintenance	Option 2	football for the future kids sports	Daily	Other (please specify) football	
157	Jun 22, 2021, 09:53 AM	Conservation. Because we only have it once.	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of enforcement; Vegetation removal; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	Make better use of the sporting grounds we currently have rather than making them bigger or creating new ones.	Option 1	Sport may be valuable but it can never replace a natural ecosystem.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
158	Jun 22, 2021, 08:31 AM	History. Maintaining the look / feel / core of the MP.	No	1	Yes	Poor management; Vegetation removal; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Uncontrolled activities; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary.	Keep the growth & improvements to the sporting facilities inside the existing recreation reserves. I.e. scoreboards, grandstands, seating, shelters - not expanding but replacing & improving for the growing sporting community	Option 2	Sport & recreation options are critical for our growing children & the future.	Daily	Drive (car pool)	
159	Jun 22, 2021, 08:14 AM	Pure & natural park for the people, no commercialism	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Poor management; Lack of enforcement; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds	no	Option 1	I oppose the granting of developmental permits that lead to the loss of such an eco free park within a suburb.	Annually	Drive (solo)	no
160	Jun 22, 2021, 12:01 AM	The Balcombe Estuary Reserves special environment was a major reason for us to buy our house overlooking this beautiful natural area for healthy living via dog walking on the boardwalk, kayaking up the waterway, a great area for grandchildren to play, and most importantly the natural habitat for native animals, birds, marine life & vegetation. One of the last natural environments on the Peninsula available to be enjoyed by locals & visitors... a tribute to those that fought to prevent destruction of this area to be enjoyed by future generations. It must be protected against the temptation to keep slicing bits off for development when we already have surprisingly generous areas available for sports (football & cricket, tennis, bowls, shooting etc.) & recreation (walks, dog parks) plus car parking. We need substantially more government commitment to recovering the original beauty by managing siltation, weeds, pests & vegetation destruction. Formal planning protection is required to resist irreversible destruction when under pressure from increasing local Mount Martha & Mornington Peninsula population expansion. There are already conveniently close cleared areas of farmland available for expanded sports grounds when required.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	As noted above, there is plenty of cleared land close to Mount Martha (already destroyed as natural environment) that could be developed for sporting facilities with sufficient parking and access via cycle paths for children.	Option 1	We have already seen gradual destruction/removal of natural habitat for sporting facilities development when in fact for a natural balance of flora & fauna an extensive area is required. The indigenous creatures require plenty of room to confidently establish their communities, away from interference from man (observation, noise, contamination & risk). This reserve has already seen gradual clearing and the time has come to stop and reverse this destructive trend.	Daily	Walk / run	We are very pleased to have the opportunity to comment on this protection of the Balcombe Estuary Reserve... an area extremely important to us and our family (our son & family also live adjoining the reserve and value it greatly). We contribute as members of BERG to maintaining this environment with a weekly working group and appreciate the valuable council support of this activity.
161	Jun 21, 2021, 10:24 PM	Fire safety of the sporting facilities within and residential area both North and South of Balcombe Creek. The majority of Mt. Martha residents have not lived or had family living abutting the reserve for over ninety years and therefore are unaware of the fire history in the reserve in 1935, 42 and the 1950s. Many people new to the area fail to understand the strategic importance of fire access in a low lying land area in a high fire risk area that was relatively well maintained.	No	1	Yes	Pests and weeds; Poor management; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Other: Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Bushfire / badly managed fire management burns (lack of weed reduction follow up)	Option 2	It has been a sporting ground for the last seventy years. All somebody planted out the car park and then planted trees on the hockey field. The car park area was filled with trees without any regard for the Shire Fireplan or consultation with the local Fire Brigade. The neglect of this area has been a slowly evolving downgrading of a once functioning hockey / soccer field and gravel car park to an overgrown fire hazard and a seldom mowed field with trees in the middle and mud patches and washouts under trees for car parks. (great management!)	Daily	Walk / run	Hoop
162	Jun 21, 2021, 08:28 PM	Protection of the natural habitat - I often take my kids down there waking and enjoying the area. Maintaining and developing the sporting facilities in the area. All of my kids have played football at clubs based in the area and I think the upkeep of the sporting facilities is paramount.	Yes	7	been considered	Uncontrolled activities; Poor management; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of enforcement; Lack of formal car parking areas	Input from sporting clubs and users needs to be sought before and during development. The funds spent at citation reserve for the finished product is out of balance and the facilities are still not finished properly. The funds spent could have easily been funnelled into other areas to facilitate our kids sporting development.	Option 2	There is not enough room and facilities across the peninsula in general but specifically Mornington/Mt Martha for kids sport. The population growth has been significant, the involvement in sport has increased greatly which has financial benefits for the council as well as health benefits for our kids, but the MPSC has not been able to provide adequate sporting facilities for this to take place.	Daily	Walk / run	
163	Jun 21, 2021, 07:54 PM	An amazing resource for the local community and tourists alike to learn more about estuarine environments, and engage with them.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Poor management; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	We should encourage people to be active in ways that are complementary to natural spaces. In bushwalking, trail running.	Option 1	As for my answer regarding balancing organised sport with conservation. We have to make a choice and shouldn't sacrifice natural areas that are irreplaceable.	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	
164	Jun 21, 2021, 06:36 PM	It's a wonderfully accessible natural corridor with a watercourse and bushland habitat of unique interest to many residents and visitors.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Consider unused public land in other parts of the Shire, so that the precious Reserves area is left intact - it is irreplaceable	Option 1	It is impossible to reconcile such an encroachment with the level of careful conservation I believe is needed throughout the Reserves.	Fortnightly	Walk / run	We have a duty of care to protect the natural habitat which remains to us, and to ensure its preservation for coming generations. The Balcombe Estuary Reserves are a unique and valuable part of this legacy.
165	Jun 21, 2021, 06:08 PM	It is important that open space is retained as much as possible plus the plants along the creek retained in a healthy condition as possible. This will help to maintain a better balance of animals in the area plus a welcoming and relaxing place for local residents to walk, kayak or fish. There are very few natural areas such as this left on the Mornington Peninsula.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Unauthorised BMX tracks; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds	Use other areas in the Mornington Peninsula Shire for sport fields. There are a large number of areas that do not have a relatively clean creek running through them and do not require as great a removal of plants.	Option 1	It is important to retain as many planted areas along the Balcombe Creek area as possible to retain or improve the health of the creek and animals. Sporting fields would exacerbate sediment runoff and watering problems.	Daily	Walk / run	
166	Jun 21, 2021, 04:55 PM	It is a unique environment that we are lucky to have, and it is highly valued by the community.	Yes	10	No	Other: Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds	Urbanisation further encroaching into precious nature corridors	Option 1	A hockey field or similar would cut into the existing reserve and habitat. Car parks could lead to damaging run off. Increased traffic could pose a problem with the nearby intersection already a danger point.	Fortnightly	Walk / run	
167	Jun 21, 2021, 03:38 PM	As residents living above the estuary for the past forty years or more we have witnessed the wholesale takeover of the estuary and its surrounds by sporting facilities and unauthorised activities such as motor biking and BMX biking. These changes have been performed without proper consultation of the residents of the area in the past. We are now faced with a proposal to allow further development as seen fit by planning officers of the Council. We strongly reject the proposal offered. This area should have been designated as a wildlife protected area. Any further development will be strongly opposed.	Other (please comment): There should not be any more facilities built on the estuary full stop.	10	Other (please comment): These facilities should be built in other areas of Mt Martha or elsewhere	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Poor management; Uncontrolled activities; Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement	Council should prove other areas and not the estuary for further planned facilities	Option 1	It is the lesser of two evils in my opinion. YES. NO MORE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ESTUARY.	Weekly	Walk / run	I've said enough to give my opinion
168	Jun 21, 2021, 02:58 PM	Protecting wildlife habitat and promoting clean water ways. Often creek lines are the only habitat left and revegetation activities across the MP need to be scaled up significantly.	Yes	10	last report option	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Uncontrolled activities	Tree canopy should be improved wherever possible, this provides habitat and shade for humans/ cools the environment. The estuary should be connected via wildlife corridors to other patches of vegetation to increase its habitat value.	Option 1	Our environment is precious and needs to be protected at all cost, there is enough land available for recreational purposes.	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	Koalas and other wildlife rely on the few remaining reserves and areas of native vegetation. These need to be protected if we want to continue seeing wildlife at our door steps.
169	Jun 21, 2021, 02:12 PM	Flora and fauna. This place is in abundance of frogs, birds, lizards and all things we need to protect.	No	7	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Unauthorised BMX tracks; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	The sport teams should support environmental volunteers and groups.	Option 1	Conservation over infrastructure!	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
170	Jun 21, 2021, 01:27 PM	The biodiversity and Environment to is the most important is one of the only fairly remnant creeks on the Mornington Peninsula that drains into the bay.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	There is other land in the green wedge that was less biodiversity that could support organised sports	Option 1	We need to keep our streamside biodiversity as intact as possible to mitigate against climate change and rising sea levels this would include buffers.	Monthly	Drive (solo)	
171	Jun 21, 2021, 12:59 PM	very important it gives our young children a chance to learn about what grows and lives in our Estuary Reserve. Many local schools have nature walks and talks here.	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of enforcement; Uncontrolled activities; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	I believe there is plenty of other areas that organised sport can be used. please keep our nature areas for our young ones present and those to come in the future.	Option 1	don't want estuary to be reduced	Monthly	Walk / run	no
172	Jun 21, 2021, 12:31 PM	A valuable and increasingly rare natural asset needs total protection to support local plants and wildlife which are repeatedly been put under pressure due to short sighted development on the Mornington Peninsula.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Recent times have emphasized the value of being able to enjoy our natural environment avoiding large groups of people. An actively open to all. Much land has already been allocated to organised sport, perhaps it's time to slow local development.	Option 1	We have already sacrificed too much of our precious local habitat comprising the majority of our area. We are not a metropolitan area.	Daily	Walk / run	
173	Jun 21, 2021, 12:18 PM	The estuary is a key habitat for Mt Martha's fauna and many species of flora. The estuary and surrounds provides such a beautiful natural feature that is enjoyed by many local residents and tourists.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Unauthorised BMX tracks; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Utilise other less environmentally sensitive land for sport and recreational areas.	Option 1	Further vegetation removal poses the risk of destabilising the ecological balance that exists in the estuary precinct.	Monthly	Walk / run	Live, Work, Own a business, Own a property
174	Jun 21, 2021, 12:17 PM	BMX is beautiful! BMX is family friendly and we love spending time there and walking along the board walk. Could not imagine it not being there and would be extremely disappointed if it wasn't! BMX is one of the many spots that makes Mount Martha beautiful and unique.	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Vegetation removal	We have many ovals in Mount Martha and surrounding suburbs. I can't see why we need any more.	Option 1	We need more protected environmental areas especially for our wildlife. Not more sports facilities.	Fortnightly	Walk / run	
175	Jun 21, 2021, 10:48 AM	Fresh air and forest	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	No	Option 1	Need to retain more natural environment	Weekly	Walk / run	

Jun 20, 2021, 176 08:19 PM	I walk it very regularly and see it as an environmental treasure. However I am not one of the nature lovers that wants to limit kids use of these spaces. With protection of important habitat and vegetation I would be happy for kids to continue with some bike jumps etc (ie like the Watsons Rd ones) but think community education on the significance and value of this asset is required.	Yes	8	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Other: People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.	I think we want kids and families using these spaces - just in an environmentally responsible way and to somehow instill an appreciation for the significance of this precious asset.	Option 1	To protect the creek - I think the two ovals there already are enough - then there's the nearby school oval, the dog park close by - there are a lot of sports facilities here already. BMX's just MTB and skating facilities were missing in mt martha.	Daily	Bike ride	
Jun 20, 2021, 177 04:24 PM	We keep the area around the Estuary as pristine as possible.	Yes	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Uncontrolled activities	Look for alternative areas	Option 1	This is an extremely important environment area and is extremely delicate. all measures must insure this is recognised.	Weekly	Walk / run	I actively assist the cleaning of the area and love to walk and visit
Jun 20, 2021, 178 03:29 PM	Balcombe Estuary Reserve has been, in my living memory (73 years) a pristine and unique environment. Many years ago there was a small camping area which was removed to preserve this area. For there now to be proposals to 'develop' this area, whatever the intended use, would be an unnecessary and avoidable tragedy. Whatever the modelling indicates, there will be negative consequences which would be impossible to reverse and another precious asset lost forever.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Think of another location which is not so sensitive	Option 2	Seems less environmentally sensitive	Monthly	Walk / run	No
Jun 20, 2021, 179 12:15 PM	Rare and endangered vegetation and animals. A place for all, a haven for wildlife, an irreplaceable asset for now and for future generations. 86% The total preservation of this reserve to ensure that the bushland & waterways that support all the abundant flora, fauna, birds & marine life remains intact and healthy for the enjoyment of my family & for future generations. 86% A magnificent natural asset such as this requires the highest possible planning protection. 86% It ticks all the boxes ecologically, community value and scenic value. 86% Pressures of population increases put such areas at risk of loss of environmental habitat. 86% 164 indigenous plant species, including, Swamp Scrub and Grassy Woodland which are bio-regionally endangered species. The Dwarf Galaxias fish, Royal Spoonbill and Pacific Gull are also threatened or near threatened species that have been identified in the	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Identify alternate sites to cater for any increased demand for formal sporting facilities, additional recreational activities & carparks that does not require the destruction of this environmentally significant habitat, biolink & passive recreational reserve which is enjoyed by all Mornington Peninsula residents and visitors to our region. The Mornington Peninsula shire councillors & executive must enact without exception the 2019 "Climate Emergency" and "Carbon Neutral" policies endorsed by councillors in considering the significance of our Bushland, Coastal & estuarine reserves when deciding on this proposal.	Option 1	We need to stop the removal of remnant vegetation, once it's gone that's it.	Weekly	Walk / run	
Jun 20, 2021, 180 11:02 AM	Other (please comment): Natural based solutions in this area only. No major building or concrete car parks. There are PLENTY of other local areas that this could occur in and NOT the estuary.	Yes	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of enforcement; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal	As above make it as natural as possible, no significant structures or concrete parking	Option 1	Other options are not presented for these recreational facilities and this is a big ask of such a unique and already highly utilised community area.	Daily	Drive (solo)	
Jun 20, 2021, 181 10:41 AM	Protection of natural flora, fauna and understanding of local biodiversity. Positive natural landscape and human integration	Yes	8	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal	Have them work creatively to make upgrades within the areas that already exist as open space. You can't get native bush back once it's been ripped out and the Balcombe Estuary is already a narrow stretch of land.	Option 1	Weed and rubbish management would need to be regularly undertaken in this area as well as the rest of estuary.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	The Mornington Peninsula is already guilty of being responsible for mass land clearing and species extinctions over the past 200+ years. Let's save and improve what little we still have left.
Jun 19, 2021, 182 09:47 PM	That is a very rare wildlife corridor for native plants, land animals and aquatic life that should not ever have a loophole to be developed or degraded. It's such a beautiful area to walk in on the designated tracks. The standard of the bathroom facilities definitely need to be upgraded for hygiene, safety and security of use however. The dreadful tobacco weed has also begun infesting the Balcombe Estuary Reserve over the past few years.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement	The Balcombe Estuary Reserves are a recreation area. Walking Strolling Running Cycling. Not all recreation is team orientated or competitive. Bushland recreation is open 365 days a year. Organised sports areas ARE NOT! There are enough sports grounds within the reserves already, sitting idle a greater % of a 24 hr period. Make better use of these spaces. Multi task activities on same grounds. Football, cricket, softball, basketball, soccer, hockey etc. Not just football in winter and cricket in summer. Schedule activities over a wider range of days, times, seasons. Install lights at Clifton Oval Reduced car parking. Increase drop off/pick up zones.	Option 1	Refer previous response. I do not believe we require an increase in sports venues. The Balcombe Estuary Reserves are a recreation area. Walking Strolling Running Cycling. Not all recreation is team orientated or competitive. Bushland recreation is open 365 days a year. Organised sports areas ARE NOT! There are enough sports grounds within the reserves already, sitting idle a greater % of a 24 hr period. Make better use of these spaces. Multi task activities on same grounds. Football, cricket, softball, basketball, soccer, hockey etc. Not just football in winter and cricket in summer. Schedule activities over a wider range of days, times, seasons. Install lights at Clifton Oval Reduced car parking. Increase drop off/pick up zones.	Daily	Walk / run	
Jun 19, 2021, 183 06:21 PM	It is a fantastic area of Bushland open 24 hours, 365 days a year. Can never be replaced. Open to all. During COVID it was a special and wonderful resource.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Poor management; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Formal sport and recreation have no place in this area	Option 1	Development next to reserve is completely unsuitable. Needs to be kept for the indigenous vegetation/plants, animals etc. Natural reserve enhances everyone's lives. Sport for an elite group only, would encroach on natural values.	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	
Jun 19, 2021, 184 06:10 PM	Important habitat for fish, birds etc. Beautiful, natural area. Must be preserved	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of enforcement	Better use of existing sporting facilities, and if at capacity looking elsewhere in the shire for new facilities.	Option 1	There are already sporting facilities in the reserves. Have other areas away from the reserves been considered adequately?	Fortnightly	Walk / run	
Jun 19, 2021, 185 01:46 PM	Unspoilt areas - there should be no more encroachment on the reserve. There are already a number of recreational areas in the reserves and this should not be increased. It remains a haven for wildlife, recreation and is an irreplaceable asset.	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds	Area beside leash free in Helena street is undeveloped. More bike bays encouraging cyclists.	Option 1	Rare area of natural bushland that should be protected for future generations to enjoy.	Weekly	Walk / run	
Jun 19, 2021, 186 10:06 AM	A well restored, natural bushland, environment on our door step. Accessible to all via an extensive system of walking tracks extending from Mount Martha beach to the Brians. Recreational ovals and playgrounds benefit from the ambience of being amongst this natural environment. To preserve the natural bushland from further development for future generations to enjoy is our responsibility.	Yes	9	No	Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Maybe recreational areas could be developed near/within the primary school instead, or elsewhere along the highway, or somewhere else again if the council was willing to purchase private property for public use.	Option 1	There are already recreational areas in Mount Martha and surrounding areas, but the Estuary is a finite and precious area, increasingly being encroached upon by surrounding development and growing population. In order for Mount Martha to retain its beauty, the area needs to be protected, or if risks becoming like any other suburb with endless sprawl and no land for wildlife and native plants.	Weekly	Walk / run	I grew up in Mount Martha and my mum still lives there, within 5km of the estuary. I visit all the time and I love it. I make constant use of the boardwalk, and I love visiting the bird hide. Unauthorised BMX tracks and vegetation removal are devastating to see, and I am worried that if nothing is done about it we will lose what makes the area special.
Jun 19, 2021, 187 08:24 AM	Balcombe Estuary Reserves is the most beautiful part of Mount Martha, and it's what makes Mount Martha desirable and special. There is so much bird life, and so many beautiful native plants, and the estuary needs to be protected for their sake and our enjoyment. I love seeing the eastern yellow robins, whistlers, fitches, and occasional spoonbills, but I worry that their habitats are being increasingly compromised by unauthorised BMX tracks, vegetation removal, and encroaching development. An ESD would help protect this area and these species.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Poor management	We still require a dog park and areas where dogs can socialise and exercise	Option 1	The area is perfect the way it is now and shouldn't be changed	Daily	Walk / run	Where would you move the dog park? Dunns road is not enough for all the dogs in Mount Martha
Jun 19, 2021, 188 07:22 AM	Having a natural area at our doorstep, where local flora and fauna live	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks	The existing sporting ovals, Ferrero and Clifton seem to be actually within the reserves and not just adjacent to them, particularly Ferrero which is surrounded by precious bushland. Carparking is a problem here during big events and clear notices of boundaries should be put out during these events to prevent cars from parking in the bushy areas above the ovals. The recent improvements to facilities at Clifton Oval are excellent but important the bushland below Clifton is not encroached upon any further. This area has a wonderful diversity of plants, but has been extensively damaged by the removal of vegetation and construction of BMX tracks throughout a variety of places. Perhaps more notices below and around the ovals reminding people about remnant and revegetation areas. Most importantly the Shire should allocate areas of land where young people can exercise their creativity and build their tracks in authorised areas to minimize the temptation to do it in a natural resources reserve.	Option 1	It is adjacent to the existing reserve and close to the creek line and the track leading to The Brians and feels part of the reserve. It has a grassy area for dogs off lead and for exercising and is surrounded by swampy paperbarks and woody bushland. It just seems sensible to officially zone it for conservation. There would have to be huge vegetation removal to add a kiosk and car parking and make it suitable for competition sport. The intersection of Uralla Rd and the Nepean Highway is already dangerous and additional cars slowing and turning into an enclosed carpark there would add to the danger.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
Jun 18, 2021, 189 04:55 PM	A public park and conservation co-exist in this excellent reserve. The picnic areas attract families and community groups and there are well maintained tracks throughout for walking and exploring. It is a large natural reserve directly connected to The Brians Park and part of a bio link corridor from Devilbend reserve. The estuary is a precious natural asset and the only intact semi saline estuary on Port Phillip. The reserve has a wide range of indigenous plants, wonderful bird life and native fish in the creek and estuary. The Balcombe Estuary Reserves Group together with the Shire Natural systems team and Melbourne Water have put huge amounts of resources over many years into conserving habitat and improving the health of the reserves.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Zone off certain areas	Option 1	The area is most unsuitable for a large gathering of cars coming and going. Surely soccer/hockey can be played elsewhere.	Weekly	Walk / run	Bike riders go at tremendous speed down Village Close into the walkway to Balcomb park and it would be long before a pedestrian is bowled over.
Jun 18, 2021, 190 03:38 PM	We must maintain the natural beauty of the area to keep our wonderful bird life population to continue breeding and living safely in this park.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Push back against insistence that our population has to grow. The Financial Times and Sustainable Population Australia has credibly critiqued our fast population growth rate.	Option 1	Estuaries are very important ecologically. This area is also terrific for recreation.	Annually	Drive (car pool)	Balcombe Estuary is similar to ours Merrick-Coolart Estuary. (I am in the Landcare Group) Ours however eutrophys and goes belly-up with fish kills frequently. To have a fully-functioning estuary you have to minimize dirty run-off and protect it with a buffer zone of vegetation.
Jun 18, 2021, 191 01:46 PM	I think Balcombe Estuary's vegetation needs to be preserved. I don't think vegetation should be removed for a sporting facility or car park.	Yes	9	No	People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Monitor chemicals used by sporting fields	Option 1	no	Fortnightly	Drive (solo)	is close to my workplace
Jun 18, 2021, 192 01:45 PM	water quality, health of plants, birds and wildlife	Yes	10	No	Poor management; Lack of formal car parking areas; Pests and weeds; Other: Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	Clear out all the dead vegetation and create pavilion like areas for spectators. Build proper car parking facilities - basic asphalt will work. There's an opportunity to build decent club rooms and other facilities for the players, coaches and supporting members.	Option 2	The facilities are not in great shape and need improvement.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
Jun 18, 2021, 193 12:35 PM	The facilities that support our local footy and cricket teams. They need to be updated and maintained. Better car parking, more undercover areas for spectators should be priority.	No	1	Yes	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Unauthorised BMX tracks; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Pests and weeds	Keep council pruning overgrown shrubs on the boardwalk and repair boardwalk when needed	Option 1	We are blessed to have such an area to enjoy so close to houses and shops. It is well used by people of all generations. A haven for wild life as well.	Daily	Drive (solo)	
Jun 18, 2021, 194 11:12 AM	I would like the Balcombe Estuary to remain as it is	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds	There are many areas of land already cleared and degraded across the Peninsula, outside and beyond these reserves, where sporting facilities could be established or expanded. Formal sport is very important, but it should be quite separate from our remaining native bushland and reserves. Any expansion of existing sporting facilities within or adjacent to the reserves risks considerable damage to the bushland.	Option 1	There is high quality vegetation bordering this open area, and established trees within it. Use for sport would inevitably put pressure on the surrounds, with trampling and rubbish (let alone vegetation removal) in this narrow area of the reserves, plus pressure for car parking among the large eucalypts at the corner of Uralla Rd and Highway. This would reduce habitat value, with flow-on effects to the rest of the reserves and The Brians bushland, and it would stress some of our few remaining large trees, which themselves provide invaluable habitat.	Weekly	Walk / run	These reserves are used for recreation by thousands of people every year, not only from Mt Martha, but from across the Peninsula and beyond, for walking (many with dogs), running, picnicking, kayaking, and more. They are used by schools, people with disabilities, and other groups, and school kids learn about the value of bushland, biodiversity and habitat here. People value the quietness of the bushland. Formal sport, bringing cars and noise and crowds - while hugely important - belongs elsewhere. Areas for kids to develop BMX tracks are also needed elsewhere, where kids can enjoy them without damaging our bushland.

196	Jun 18, 2021, 09:45 AM	The ecosystem and environment. Wildlife welfare needs to be considered.	Other (please comment): Only if it considers wildlife and not just vegetation. I find the wording of these questions to have potential to skew results to this survey.	10	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Poor management. Unauthorised BMX tracks	Find areas without the need to remove vegetation. Off-set removal by planting out other areas. Provide nestboxes for wildlife.	Option 1	The environment needs more protection.	Monthly	Walk / run	
197	Jun 18, 2021, 09:16 AM	Preservation of the natural environment for future generations	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Poor management	Formal sport and recreation facilities be developed in vacant land in areas outside of Balcombe reserve (may need to be purchased by council) and in future all land developers compelled to include costs and provision of land for community recreation facilities/areas in overall development	Option 1	Areas of natural environment are gradually decreasing over the years with development and urban spread. We can't go back once land has been forfeited to development so the current leaders and policy makers are responsible for preserving what we have for future generations!!!!	Fortnightly	Walk / run	
198	Jun 18, 2021, 08:14 AM	Conservation. It is a unique environment on the Peninsula and deserves to be preserved to protect the indigenous flora and fauna. It also provides the western end of a corridor between the two bays for migratory birds.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	The current facilities often seem under utilised so maybe more consultation between user groups to timetable more effectively.	Option 1	It is currently an area where groups of smaller birds are often seen. Small birds are under threat for a variety of reasons and to use this area for more formal sport and recreation would almost certainly drive these small birds out of the area. Given the small birds I expect there it is also a healthy environment for many other species like lizards, butterflies and other insects.	Weekly	Walk / run	Please please please protect this area.
199	Jun 18, 2021, 05:48 AM	Recreation- I love walking there, riding bikes, watching and playing sports. IME™s our community space.	No	1	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Other	The balcombe estuary was a camp ground that became housing due to council Subdivision, the board walk was funded and installed by Mount Martha relay and maintained by the community. Council do no weed management, fail to maintain public spaces and don't fix car parking or sporting facilities. Stop pretending that you are protecting the environment when you are the worse offenders with unsealed carparks and spending tenses money destroying kids bike tracks. Focus on supporting the community instead.	Option 2	Community love this area. It will be better protected by encouraging more people to ride bikes, use it for sports and maintenance. Stop turning all green spaces into weed infested, unattended eyesores and stop using environmental protection in sentences when clearly the council never maintain nature strips and roadside reserves.	Daily	Bike ride	Stop destroying all the bike tracks throughout Mount Martha.
200	Jun 17, 2021, 11:44 PM	Natural environment. There are many reasons why Mount Martha locals chose where we live - the bush surrounds are just one of them. Don't turn our beautiful environment into buildings and take animals' homes. Have you ever read the book 'The Secret Garden' by Graeme Base?	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	Turn empty deserted areas into these facility hubs. Do you really want to drive around Mount Martha and see no trees? You may as well move to Melbourne	Option 2	I would support Option 2 but only if very minimal vegetation is removed. There is already enough open space here for a soccer pitch.	Other (please specify): Never	Walk / run	
201	Jun 17, 2021, 08:09 PM	The wildlife. Nature. Trees, bush and nature.	Yes	10	No	Unauthorised BMX tracks; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Uncontrolled activities	There are so many facilities of sports all over the peninsula - we have more than enough. I would like to see more activities for the elderly. Like a bird watching house or a mend's shed. There are too many things for kids - there are play centres everywhere! What about an adult outdoor gym to help with peoples mental health. Also get rid of joshpines and Create a coffee shop that people can easily ride their bikes up to.	Option 1	There are too many soccer fields.	Daily	Walk / run	
202	Jun 17, 2021, 06:47 PM	Providing a thriving natural environment for plants and animals to live and humans to enjoy (respectfully).	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	There is enough urban space for formal sport - such as Dallas Brookes Park - which is under utilised. Environmental areas should be compromised for more sporting groups. Find another spot that's not environmentally sensitive.	Option 1	Because the peninsula is losing all its environmental areas which is a major part of the attraction of living here. If we wanted to live in urban wasteland we could move to Cranbourne.	Weekly	Walk / run	
203	Jun 17, 2021, 05:57 PM	Lovely walks, serenity, lots of nature and just a beautiful place	Yes	10	No	Lack of enforcement; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities.	A new sporting facility was built near the Rose Garden in Main-Tyabb Road. No need for any more sporting facilities and Not required in the Balcombe Estuary area. It will destroy its beauty and tranquillity.	Option 1	Conserve the natural environment IME™s not an area for a sporting facility	Weekly	Drive (solo)	Dog poop bags required and bin or disposal of mess. People are not picking up their dog poo and IME™s very bad on the board walk. This has become an increasingly bad situation as well as many walking paths, parks and must be lazy or inconsiderate people not either bothered or in control of their dogs when out walking.
204	Jun 17, 2021, 05:53 PM	The Peninsula is losing so much of its natural environment. We need to stop development and look after our natural areas.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; Pests and weeds; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	There are many areas that don't have significant bushland on them. There are many paddocks on the peninsula that could be turned into sporting areas without destroying bushland.	Option 1	Need to leave the area and only enhance it by removing weeds. It should be there in its natural state for all to enjoy. It is important habitat for flora and fauna and should be protected.	Annually	Drive (car pool)	As part of a landcare group on the peninsula my heart is in preserving what little native flora we have left on the peninsula. With other developments in the pipelines like the Ross Trust's proposed quarry that will destroy bushland this proposal should be viewed as part of the whole peninsula not just a small section.
205	Jun 17, 2021, 05:32 PM	Leisure activities - walking, cycling, sport	No	1	Yes	Pests and weeds; Poor management; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Unauthorised BMX tracks; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	No	Option 2	Provide adequate sporting facilities for public to use and the they won't ruin the estuary and natural habitat areas.	Daily	Walk / run	
206	Jun 17, 2021, 12:47 PM	The most important thing is that the sporting facilities can be redeveloped and expanded with minimal impact on the environment in the area.	Not sure	6	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Uncontrolled activities; Poor management; Lack of formal car parking areas	-	Option 2	The redevelopment and expansion of the existing sporting facilities in the area is desperately needed. The current facilities are outdated and run down.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
207	Jun 17, 2021, 12:10 PM	Environment- habitat for animals, water filtration, biodiversity Human health- access to nature	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	New facilities have recently been developed (eg Civic Reserve as a home for Mt Martha Soccer Club - of which I am a member) - this should be sufficient for current needs. If needed Mace Oval could be redeveloped / invested in as an alternative site with marginally less direct impact on the Estuary area.	Option 1	Other recent sporting developments on less sensitive sites (eg Civic reserve) have recently been completed. This should adequately service community sport needs for some time without the need to risk the Estuary area with further development / vegetation removal.	Weekly	Walk / run	
208	Jun 17, 2021, 11:09 AM	Protection of the natural asset. As the area gets more built up this slice of nature is even more important.	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Poor management; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal; Other	The council removing facilities like the fire places and putting in ugly signage	Option 1	Sport can be relocated to a more suitable area - the estuary cannot	Daily	Walk / run	
209	Jun 17, 2021, 10:53 AM	It forms a very valuable link for wildlife in the area. We should do all we can to protect natural areas as local development outside reserves are contributing to a lessening of biodiversity and areas like the estuary and surrounds need to be preserved.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Uncontrolled activities; Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement	Seek other areas within the shire for organised sport etc.	Option 1	As stated conservation for wildlife	Annually	Drive (solo)	
210	Jun 17, 2021, 09:39 AM	To maintain indigenous flora and fauna. To reduce invasive species and pollution. Open tidal space Great walking space - both sides (although not complete on Northside) Linkage w Birnie Savely save in lockdown My back yard	Yes	10	No	Other (please comment): I think we should be able to protect the existing environment while encouraging organised sport.	Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Option 1	I think the environment is most important	Fortnightly	Walk / run	
211	Jun 17, 2021, 08:26 AM		Not sure	8	No	People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Pests and weeds; Uncontrolled activities; Poor management	Why do sporting ovals etc have to be in this location?	Option 2	Do it in a controlled way - but no more - protect the rest. But in saying that - is this an impl connection/corridor for wildlife for brary??	Weekly	Walk / run	
212	Jun 17, 2021, 07:47 AM	Protect environment	No	10	No	Vegetation removal; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	Don't do it	Option 1	Don't do it	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	
213	Jun 17, 2021, 07:01 AM	IME™s beauty Community Enjoyment	No	4	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	It should be a shared zone for everyone's enjoyment Respect the environment it is in Safety should be priority for everyone Nevean Hwy Intersection needs to be fixed and prioritised	Option 2	There needs to be a balance between keeping the beauty of the environment and caring for natural habitat alone with serving the needs of the community.	Daily	Walk / run	
214	Jun 16, 2021, 10:12 PM	Ecological sustainability. Balanced with open park lands for recreation and walking tracks.	Other (please comment): Yes within the reserve lands. Thorough consideration should be given to supporting pre existing Ferrero Reserve infrastructure and upgrade support as it is an important community sporting grounds and improving future ground works is stipulated as an exception. Otherwise this will have a direct impact on your community sports and will compromise Mt Martha long term.	5	Yes	Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of enforcement; Lack of formal car parking areas; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Improving support for infrastructure to existing grounds at Ferrero Reserve and Clifton Oval to balance protection around the reserves and ensuring ongoing community recreation and organised sport	Option 2	The area around Clifton Reserve is opportunity to develop for sporting and growth requirements of recreation activities for Mt Martha and Mornington while maintain reserve around current estuary park lands.	Weekly	Walk / run	
215	Jun 16, 2021, 10:02 PM	It should remain as natural as possible for all to enjoy into the future.	Yes	10	No	Other; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc. - Poor management	Rubbish dumping. Why wouldn't you put in gates?	Option 1	People live on the Peninsula because of the vegetation and less density. There is an enormous impact on the ecosystem by removing vegetation this will badly affect the Estuary too. Why would you not develop areas of less significance?	Weekly	Walk / run	I would support the development of bike tracks and playgrounds however, I feel that significant sports facilities which require buildings, car park and grounds could be developed in areas of less significance.
216	Jun 16, 2021, 08:58 PM	Keeping it as a safe place for native wildlife to live, and for people to enjoy the beautiful nature that it offers.	Not sure	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal; Other; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Poor management	The council using dangerous and poisonous weed killer in the bush, which affects not only the native animals and birds who live or gather food from the ground, but also animals and fish in the creek as the chemicals wash into the creek.	Option 1	Please preserve our beautiful reserve. I grew up on Augusta Street, and spent many happy years playing in the bush there. Please consider what I have said about weed management. The current use of spray chemicals is dangerous to the native wild life.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	There also needs to be monitoring of motor cycles on the track. They are dangerous and illegal. I also would like to see more action against domestic cats, as over the years the native bird population has been depleted. There are not as many possums, birds or little native water rats etc as there were even 15 years ago.
217	Jun 16, 2021, 08:53 PM	Preserving and conserving the natural environment	Yes	10	No	Poor management; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	Choose another location without environmental significance at all costs	Option 1	Any development is bad for the environment	Daily	Walk / run	Leave this beautiful place in nature alone and conserve at all costs.
218	Jun 16, 2021, 08:48 PM	I think the sporting grounds at both Ferrero & Clifton are the most important. They provide both kids and adults a chance to interact with the rest of the community while exercising, in a lovely natural environment.	Yes	7	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Lack of formal car parking areas; Uncontrolled activities	I think upgrading the carpark and club rooms at Ferrero reserve could help maximise the space for both recreation activities and environment	Option 2	Because I believe with the right direction we can create a state of the art sport and recreation area that the rest of the peninsula will be drawn to, with the added benefit of the natural surrounds.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	I grew up approx 1km from the balcombe estuary reserve and would visit almost daily. I would hate for the facilities to become dated and run down.

	Jun 16, 2021, 08:12 PM	Retaining as much as possible the natural environment	Yes	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks	There are park areas in Mt Martha that would be suitable for sporting purposes	Option 1	Important to minimise development	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
220	Jun 16, 2021, 08:08 PM	Natural Environment	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Poor management; Lack of enforcement	Locate sport and recreation to other areas ie other side of Nepean highway	Option 1	Soccer hockey field could be located back to Citation reserve dog park and relocate dog park to open area	Weekly	Walk / run	
221	Jun 16, 2021, 08:06 PM	Protecting the natural environment. Well managed public access including walking tracks	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Poor management	Limit new redevelopment to the open / cleared areas of citation Reserve. Even if it mean moving the dog park as there are numerous ones about. (Nepean Hwy community reserve, Dunn86™s road and Crx Uralic/ Nepean)	Option 1	Environmental preservation should be The highest priority of this unique area. any future sports developments need to have minimum vegetation removal and the planting done accordingly under stringent supervision	Weekly	Walk / run	
222	Jun 16, 2021, 07:50 PM	That it is a natural environment for all to enjoy and it is a haven for native fauna	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Uncontrolled activities; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Pests and weeds	The only sports I support within the estuary reserve are those that do not require the destruction of vegetation and therefore wildlife. We are very fortunate to have such an important natural reserve we need to protect it. I feel mountain biking facilities should be provided in Mt martha somewhere such as the briars community forest of the old pine plantation area.	Option 1	Because I don't™ agree with removing vegetation from the area.	Daily	Walk / run	
223	Jun 16, 2021, 07:44 PM	Natural area to enjoy close to our home. A habitat and eco system that needs to be preserved for future generations	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Vegetation removal	The land near the Citation Oval sporting facility next to the fenced dog park I believe would be a better choice.	Option 1	Because I enjoy walking and taking in the natural area with my family. We live in Augusta Street and have large sporting facilities and ovals both sides of the river. I don't™ see a need for more.	Weekly	Walk / run	
224	Jun 16, 2021, 07:18 PM	Ferrero Reserve, because it is an essential and well utilised community facility	No	2	Yes	Other; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Pests and weeds; Poor management; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	The state of the vegetation adjacent to the creek 86" overgrown and poorly managed. Aside from the areas immediately adjacent to the creek, there are vast areas of wasted and overgrown space. Further resources are required at Ferrero Reserve to bring it up to an acceptable community standard. If you have to clear some vegetation to do so, then do it.	Option 2	Such facilities are desperately required, but don't even think of changing anything at this site until the intersection is made safe.	Other (please specify): 2-3 times per week	Drive (solo)	Please listen to the entire community, not just those whose agenda matches that of the council.
225	Jun 16, 2021, 07:18 PM	Protecting wildlife and habitat while still allowing sporting facilities to upgrade and expand where needed	No	7	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Open communication, thoughtful planning and systemised completion of works in parts over time.	Option 2	The current sporting facilities there are already in need of upgrade	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
226	Jun 16, 2021, 06:45 PM	For the natural beauty to remain whilst allowing for community sport	Not sure	4	Yes	Lack of formal car parking areas; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	No	Option 2	No	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	
227	Jun 16, 2021, 06:39 PM	Accessibility and preservation	Yes	8	Other (please comment): It depends if other options have been explored and exhausted	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Better local public transport	Option 2	It abuts the highway and existing sporting fields	Daily	Walk / run	
228	Jun 16, 2021, 06:25 PM	Conservation of the environment	No	1	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of formal car parking areas	Keep maintaining the current formal sport and recreational areas allowing improved facilities if necessary. Do not allow these areas to expand. There are many sporting areas on the peninsula that could expand without affecting the environment in the same way that the Balcombe Estuary would be affected.	Option 1	Sport and recreation uses and commercial uses can be provided for elsewhere. It is very difficult to reclaim a natural area once the land has been cleared for development	Fortnightly	Drive (solo)	There are many recreational and sporting facilities on the peninsula as compared to estuaries. We need to protect the flora and fauna on the estuary.
229	Jun 16, 2021, 06:15 PM	Nature, birds and not impacting the estuary	Yes	8	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Poor management	Do not encroach on anymore of the estuary conservation area. It is sensitive and in need of protection.	Option 1	You cannot get species and birdlife back once you invade its habit. Save it for future generations.	Monthly	Drive (solo)	
230	Jun 16, 2021, 06:07 PM	The sporting facilities. Encourages people to be fit and healthy	No	1	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of formal car parking areas; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Leave the area marked as number 8 as is but allow the buildings at Ferrero Reserve to be extended if need be.	Option 1	It's too small an area to be used well.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
231	Jun 16, 2021, 06:09 PM	Natural wetlands environment for water birds, fauna and other animals	Yes	9	Not sure	Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Poor management; Vegetation removal	Plan more parking and expansion on the road side or another area that doesn't impact the Estuary.	Option 2	It's close to the creek so run off from gravel car parking will affect the Estuary	Monthly	Drive (solo)	
232	Jun 16, 2021, 03:43 PM	Maintaining the natural environment through this area. This is an extremely special and iconic space which is enjoyed by a great many of the Mt Martha residents. It symbolises the natural history of the area and retains a link with the ecology & environment which has been removed elsewhere through over development. No further development of recreation spaces should occur as there are enough of these for organised sport in the immediate area and mornington	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement; Poor management; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds	Citation reserve could be better organised and utilised.	Option 1	This is a part of the overall Estuary Reserve which protects the space from encroachment of development and the spilling of transition from the Estuary to the Brians.	Daily	Walk / run	This is a peaceful and natural environment which should be protected at all cost. The essence of Mt Martha is encompassed in this area and a great many people enjoy and respect the area.
233	Jun 16, 2021, 03:12 PM	I live within a short walk of the Estuary. I live the sporting facilities and dog park and taking walks in the boardwalk. The area is so accessible to us locals and user friendly. The big area and Little park is a great family area too. I also play cricket for Mount Martha. Whole the club facilities are much in need of an upgrade. I really value the sporting areas	No	4	Other (please comment): I agree that sporting facilities require serious upgrades. The citation oval facilities are amazing. I look forward to seeing proposals for a Ferrero reserve	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Other; Poor management; Uncontrolled activities	I don't think our sporting facilities are making any impact on the environment as they stand. If the rain runoff from the buildings are an issue then simply set up catchment tanks to water the fields. It is very important that we keep our sporting facilities they way they are as they are an asset to the community.	Option 2	I want to keep the sports sites but have the ability to improve them.	Daily	Walk / run	I'm a proud Mount Martha local homeowner and wish to protect and conserve they way of life we currently have. The sporting fields and reserves we have now are very good. Some need upgrading due to their age, but they are exactly what I like. Please don't change the sporting facilities because some retired people want to plant more native plants.
234	Jun 16, 2021, 03:01 PM	The board walk and Ferrero reserve	No	3	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Poor management; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Keep as is	Option 2	With expansion of community more facilities need to be built	Daily	Walk / run	
235	Jun 16, 2021, 02:54 PM	Area is a natural waterway which is largely undisturbed. It is peaceful walking board walk and the area needs to be protected so it remains thus.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Pests and weeds	how can I know how to better balance needs when I don't know what is currently being done?	Option 1	Option 2 does not necessarily require planning approval. This could be disastrous.	Monthly	Bike ride	I prefer to ride my bike to local places of interest however to get to this end of Balcombe Estuary is very difficult by bike as this section does not connect with the Balcombe Creek boardwalk.
236	Jun 16, 2021, 01:57 PM	The beautiful environment, the walking tracks to observe the wildlife from, the fishing platforms to spend time with family from, the great ways of linking the village to the briars, the relaxing atmosphere, the changing patterns of water flow in and out of the estuary	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	The sporting precinct at civic reserve mornington should be the designated broader area for further development of sporting facilities. There is no need for further development beyond the existing areas already taken for sport along the reserve.	Option 1	There are enough sporting areas - we desperately need to protect the remaining wildlife / environmental refuges.	Daily	Walk / run	
237	Jun 16, 2021, 01:42 PM	The remnant ecosystems, vegetation classes and habitat values, as well as the passive environment opportunities, such as walks, wildlife and bird observation and photography	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Uncontrolled activities; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Poor management	When seeking a 'balance' in these situations it is always the environment that loses. Innovative solutions should be sought to optimise the existing areas for sport and recreation purposes.	Option 1	As noted above, in Option 2 the environment misses out once again.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	From August 10, 2021, we are moving to Mt Martha, which will mean that we will mostly walk to the Reserves, as well as visit them more frequently.
238	Jun 16, 2021, 01:42 PM	Most important? - It is a wetland area and I would think compared to the wetland systems flowing into PPB reasonably pristine. Everything is relative I also think it provides a great sporting precinct- everything in balance!	Not sure	5	Not sure	Pests and weeds; Lack of formal car parking areas; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Unauthorised BMX tracks	There needs to be a balance struck. If extra sport and recreation facilities are created what planning goes with this to provide additional pockets of indigenous environment for the many creatures that call the riparian and the surrounding areas.	Option 2	We will need such improvement in facilities BUT we need to provide replacement habitat throughout and around.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	I walk there, I fish there, I enjoy the native birdlife, my sons have both played cricket and footy for MMAFC and MMCC. It is a land with mixed usage and should remain so.
239	Jun 16, 2021, 12:21 PM	Maintaining and improving the sports and recreation for the greater benefit of the surrounding community whilst balancing the needs of those who see this area only for its environmental benefits. Those with a vested interest in this area includes a wide area of the Mornington Peninsula, not just Mount Martha residents	No	3	Yes	Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Uncontrolled activities; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	The needs for formal sport and recreation are far greater than the needs for expanding the areas to meet the needs of those environmentalists. This area has had formal sport for many years and these needs continue to grow. Hence the needs for formal sport should outweigh the needs for other uses. There is plenty of room for both.	Option 2	Greater need for formal sport than the need for conservation. I would though support a balanced approach where you meet the needs of all parties. Keep in mind that formal sport meets the needs of many people outside of the immediate area and these persons are not likely to know about this survey.	Weekly	Walk / run	
240	Jun 16, 2021, 12:09 PM	Preserving the whole thing and protecting catchments	Not sure	10	Not sure	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas; Lack of enforcement; Poor management	What is the best practice in the world and copy that	Option 2	Development with care can be done	Weekly	Walk / run	
241	Jun 16, 2021, 12:08 PM	Community sport	No	1	Yes	Unauthorised BMX tracks; Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement; Uncontrolled activities; Poor management	Improve car parking facilities, add more parking	Option 2	Because Mt Martha is a growing area and there is already too big a population to support facilities	Weekly	Drive (solo)	No
242	Jun 16, 2021, 11:38 AM	That the public are able to use the sporting reserves for their prescribed use and purpose without environmental overlay issues	No	2	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Lack of formal car parking areas; Poor management; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Do not include the sporting reserves in the environmental overlay	Option 2	It would allow more people to use the area and help increase the public sporting reserves	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	
243	Jun 16, 2021, 10:41 AM	Getting Bikes of the boardwalk	Other (please comment): The club rooms at Ferrero Reserve are in desperate need of renovations, MP Shire SS is a must!	3	Not sure	Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of formal car parking areas; Poor management	Leave the existing footprint of the sporting precincts and UPGRADE the facilities/catchment	Option 2	The need for a strong local sport precinct must not be under valued. As a resident of Mount Martha with 2 young children, who are members of both the MMAFC & MMCC, it is imperative that the Mornington Peninsula Shire invests in their wellbeing. This has become even more important as we come out of yet another Covid-19 lockdown. In addition, the language that you have used above for "Option 1 & 2" is started to give you the answers that you so obviously want, this is a blatant and disgraceful tactic that you are using!	Other (please specify): Both walk & drive depending on the activity	Allocate money to the MMCC in particular!!! Most other clubs that we play against on the MP have seen recent upgrades, why not the Ferrero Res clubrooms?	
244	Jun 16, 2021, 09:53 AM	Nature on show for all, with cohabitation with the local people and tourist visitors	Not sure	10	No	Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	Parking away from sites with paths to sporting grounds. Even at finals times/ high congestion times/ the use of shuttle buses. There would be a need to advertise them, probably through the football clubs.	Option 1	Once a conservation area is gone MMAFC™s unique values cannot be returned.	Fortnightly	Drive (solo)	

	Jun 16, 2021, 245:08:36 AM	It is a large area in the community that needs to be looked after and future planning put into place to protect the environment.	Yes		7	Yes	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.		Quality and sensitive planning to include sporting facilities while keeping as much vegetation as possible. Managing the existing vegetation areas better. Upgrading the road and carpark into the main sporting area at the end of Sespell Ave.	Option 2	Mt Martha needs more sporting areas for its young people. Particularly a netball facility. The existing Football /Cricket Club could be upgraded to include both.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	If this area is correctly managed, there is no reason why there can't be more public facilities built in this area.
	Jun 16, 2021, 246:08:17 AM	Ecologically the estuary is a most important part of our region. To maintain the species diversity, both flora and fauna, of the area is paramount for future generations, especially as the population of the Peninsula continues to increase.	Yes		10	No	Vegetation removal. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Pests and weeds. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.		Maintain and manage the grounds that are there. Citation and Ferrero reserves, more effectively.	Option 1	Vegetation removal over the years, has already occurred in this region, resulting in habitat depletion. Conserving what remains in a region where humans are increasing would be beneficial for it. A small parcel of "bush" in an increasingly built up area would surely benefit society and our native species.	Weekly	Walk / run	
	Jun 16, 2021, 247:07:42 AM	The sporting facilities that provide the community with a great outlet from everyday life.	No		1	Yes	People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Unauthorised BMX tracks. Pests and weeds.		NA	Option 2	We need more facilities for our sporting interests.	Weekly	Walk / run	
	Jun 16, 2021, 248:12:45 AM	That Mt Martha, including the Balcombe Estuary Reserves continue and grow the current reserves that occur and use the area on a daily and weekly basis.	No		3	Yes	Pests and weeds. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand. Uncontrolled activities. Lack of enforcement. Poor management.		Ensure that sporting clubs and recreational user within Mt Martha are treated with equal rights.	Option 2	The growth of the permanent population has exceeded the infrastructure available for sporting and recreational use.	Daily	Drive (car pool)	
	Jun 15, 2021, 249:11:18 PM	the Balcombe estuary reserve area is important for its vegetation, biodiversity and native animals and birds. It is an important asset to the community (beyond Mt Martha) that is enjoyed by many people of all ages in its natural state. There are an ample number of sporting facilities that bound the area, that are used intermittently depending on seasons. There is no reason to extend sporting facilities when the current are not used to capacity.	Yes		10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Lack of enforcement.		the balcombe estuary walking tracks are used on a daily basis for people of all ages, suggesting that the walking tracks and boardwalk are a valued resource to the community. The current sporting facilities are not used on a daily basis, which suggests that there are ample facilities for the area.	Option 1	natural environment and biodiversity is important and scarce. Sporting facilities are not scarce.	Daily	Walk / run	
	Jun 15, 2021, 250:10:59 PM	Last estuary on the east side of Port Phillip Bay Fish breeding estuary Nature habitats	Yes		10	No	Vegetation removal. Pests and weeds. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.		Improve environmental protection Zone off sport areas	Option 1	Last estuary on the east edge of port Phillip Bay	Monthly	Walk / run	Lived within 300 m for 17 years
	Jun 15, 2021, 251:10:58 PM	Conserving yet enjoying the environment. I think it is a unique area where young and old meet to talk, walk, play sport and admire the lovely environment we live in. It is impossible to educate the young on conservation if you don't let them experience the beauty they need to protect. A balanced approach will ensure that this area is here for many generations to come. It has been the heart and soul of Mt Martha during this Covid period where people have been able to relax and re-charge.	Other (please comment): I think consideration for community sporting groups is also high on the planning agenda not just the environment		9	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Poor management. Lack of formal car parking areas. Pests and weeds. Other.	NOT opening it up so that the local community can enjoy it. If they can enjoy it they will protect it.	Option 1	Car-parking at both Ferrero Reserve and Citation Reserve needs to be addressed. While it is ignored at the moment it is doing more damage to areas that should be better utilised.	Weekly	Walk, Run, Ride and Drive depending on the activity being undertaken		I am a member of both the Mt Martha Football and Cricket Clubs. I also know a lot of the kids that have created bike areas over the past 12 - 18 months. The Sporting Precinct from the Briars to the Estuary is unique to Mt Martha. The Boardwalk and Estuary covering the same area is also unique. Citation oval has recently had its facility upgrade which is fantastic but Car Parking is still an issue. Ferrero Facilities are outdated and somewhat embarrassing in comparison to other facilities along The Peninsula. The cricket nets are verging on dangerous and the clubhouse are depressing and uninviting. For the biggest Junior Football and Cricket Clubs on The Peninsula this is unacceptable. My Family and I are always either walking or riding through the Boardwalk and surrounding areas. It is a beautiful part of the world that needs to be protected. I don't believe we need any major developments rather more upgrading of current ones. Carparking is key to preserve enhance the experience in these areas. A collaboration between young MTB Riders and the Council to develop small tracks and jumps should be welcomed. The areas they have used near Ferrero over the Lockdown period seem to have little effect on the environment although the area near Citation seems to be a little more environmentally sensitive. In closing: I am a lover of sport and a lover of The Environment. I believe that the Council has a unique opportunity to develop an area where both the Community and The Estuary can thrive together. It is a meeting place for the current Community and I dare say was also one for Our First Nation inhabitants. I don't think the area needs more sporting grounds to overcrowd the Precinct just an overhaul of the current facilities across the board. Thanks for listening.
	Jun 15, 2021, 252:10:57 PM	Used by who ever in the community wanted to use it. Eg archery, golf practice, soccer training. Who on earth decided to plant gum trees on a vacant old training area? Yes we don't want more sporting club room buildings, more car parking and developments into a natural place in Mt Martha. As it is already getting to become suburbia I just maintain what we have and resist those gentrifier plants in another area please. Long May We have natural park lands that we can Play On.	No		10	No	Pests and weeds; Poor management. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.		We have enough areas for sports in the local suburbs so no need for more in Mt Martha.	Option 1	I like it left the way it is. No more buildings and formal sports grounds. Just keep it natural.	Weekly	Walk / run	Yes! Tell us what the outcome is at Mt Martha Eco park? When is the car park getting properly constructed? (We don't need a flashy Eco Park / Skate Park) When are we getting a large round about up at Nepean Hwy and Forest Drive, Hopetoun Ave intersection? Shame on all these money wasting planning surveys on new projects. Spend the money on Safety & finishing projects first before thinking of way out not needed projects. When is Hopetoun Ave getting sealed? Oh the list goes on &c.
	Jun 15, 2021, 253:10:41 PM	That we preserve the area by making it accessible for all.	No		1	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Poor management.		I think more effort needs to be put into supporting the growing population and supporting the youth and community with decent recreational facilities as this will then facilitate more community engagement in caring for the estuary as they sit so closely together. Right now the state of the local recreational facilities in Mount Martha is quite poor and I think this also reflects the state of the estuary as well. Everything is tired and needing work. By putting in MORE permits this just creates more work, more barriers to do anything good for the environment and community. Part of looking after these beautiful places like the estuary is engaging with the other parts that sit alongside. This place needs work and by doing this it gives the local community a sense of pride, a sense of pride to protect it, care for it and invest in its future. Since moving to Mount Martha over ten years ago it still seems like the council care more about rules and speaking for a smaller part of the community that may not utilise the area for everything it has to offer. It honestly feels like most locals thoughts and needs are not at all considered. By not investing in proper car parking or facilities that cater for the amount of people utilising the area and facilities it means it just becomes a free for all, people park anywhere and basically use any part of the reserve even the parts that are fragile as the broader community are probably not aware.	Option 2	We use the estuary and recreational facilities almost daily. It is important that the estuary is looked after and allowed to thrive but given the current state of the recreation facilities it really makes you think the council do not care about either. MtMn often shocked at how inadequate the reserve and facilities are here in Mount Martha in comparison to our neighboring local council and wonder why we are not able to have both a flourishing reserve and incredible recreational facilities. It is important to get everyone involved not make more rules so Mount Martha yet again loses out in all ways. It always feels like nothing ever gets started or finished in our town because there are so many rules and hurdles to begin with.	Daily	Walk / run	
	Jun 15, 2021, 254:09:59 PM	The natural setting and the low profile buildings	Yes		10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Unauthorised BMX tracks. Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.		Pop up marquees and food trucks for big events. Environmentally sympathetic and solar powered remodeling of existing structures.	Option 1	There's enough development in Mount Martha	Weekly	Walk / run	
	Jun 15, 2021, 255:09:57 PM	Open park for families to gather near the beach and be able to sit under cover etc. we are all respectful of plant life whilst using.	No		1	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Poor management. Uncontrolled activities. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.		An expansion of the recreation facilities and planned BMX tracks would keep people from creating their own entertainment and you can control the environmental damage by controlling the areas they are allowed to use. They can operate within the reserves and enjoy better facilities whilst still protecting the environment.	Option 2	Sporting facilities are terrible in mount Martha compared to other less affluent suburbs around. Football and cricket club is old and ugly, cricket nets are dangerous.	Weekly	Walk / run	You can replant vegetation that is removed for sporting fields.
	Jun 15, 2021, 256:09:47 PM	The peacefulness, nature and wildlife is very important to me.	Yes		10	Not sure	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary.		Citation oval was recently upgraded. Ferrero oval probably needs another oval but I feel this could be done in an area where there is the least vegetation. Perhaps between the bowlsclub and back oval.	Option 1	Think it is better to add another area to the existing citation oval rather than start a new area. I believe a new sporting area would be detrimental to the environment.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
	Jun 15, 2021, 257:09:44 PM	Keeping the green area a beautiful and safe location.	Not sure		6	Not sure	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of formal car parking areas; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area.		Replanting native vegetation after recreation facilities have been built to support the growing need.	Option 1	I believe that at this location there is a busy and dangerous road that has the potential for more road traffic accidents. Congesting the area with sporting facilities will not improve the dangerous conditions in this area.		Walk / run	Other (please specify): I avoid this area as it is unsafe to travel around the roads.
	Jun 15, 2021, 258:08:45 PM	Ferrero reserve. Myself and many others have spent years playing sport and socializing with friends and family.	Not sure		1	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Pests and weeds. Unauthorised BMX tracks.		Ensuring that the growth of sporting facilities is done PROPERLY, will assist in ensuring the estuary is protected. Greater facilities support and management will ensure less unauthorized and damaging activity takes place.	Option 1	Keeping the area for conservation and dedicating resources to existing sporting centres is the best result.	Annually	Drive (solo)	
	Jun 15, 2021, 259:08:39 PM	Better facilities for local families, balanced with respect for local enviroins. Population growth needs more infrastructure.	No		2	Yes	Lack of formal car parking areas; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Poor management.	Nil	Pave road to ferrero oval. Pave Car park and complete drainage works. Expansion of clubhouse and facilities to accommodate needs of local sporting families.	Option 2	We (local young families) are not well served by current sporting facilities.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	No
	Jun 15, 2021, 260:08:33 PM	The most important thing to me about the Balcombe estuary is that I have grown up around Mt Martha. I always ride around the Balcombe estuary area and absolutely love it. We are lucky to have this amazing place in our community and I find development in the area disappointing.	Yes		10	No	Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of formal car parking areas; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand.	Sporting clubs proposing to expand.	Don't know what to answer because I would like more information on the plans that have been proposed.	Option 1	Because we need to preserve the remaining pristine bush land we have in Mt Martha for future generations and ourselves. Keep development away from the Balcombe estuary reserve.	Daily	Bike ride	That land clearing and development of the study area would compromise the water quality of the estuary and would destroy this gem us locals have the opportunity to. The runoff would also go through to the mouth of the estuary at Mt Martha beach were swimmers and recreational fishermen so. It would be devastating for locals like me who have grown up around the estuary.
	Jun 15, 2021, 261:08:30 PM	Sporting facilities.	No		1	Yes	Lack of formal car parking areas; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Other: Poor management; Pests and weeds.	Un even surface on cricket/ sport field from rabbits.	Surface the car park area to stop soil erosion.	Option 2	Having a young family in the area having a suitable available sports facility is highly important.	Daily	Drive (solo)	
	Jun 15, 2021, 262:08:20 PM	Sporting areas for community.	No		1	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Poor management; Lack of enforcement; Pests and weeds; Lack of formal car parking areas.		Bin dogs from the area and eliminate pest rabbits.	Option 2	The area was developed for sporting activities. Which need development. You have already closed the Soccer pitch for dogs. Do you even care about the environment?	Weekly	Bike ride	Rabbit control has been poor for over 20 yrs.
	Jun 15, 2021, 263:08:20 PM	That there is several places for kids to play sport (ovals) and gain a healthy Community based lifestyle. To gain skills that come from outdoor team sports such as AFL.	No		5	Yes	Lack of formal car parking areas; Poor management; Pests and weeds; Other: Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Parking and roads for Mt Martha cricket and football club are atrocious.	Putting in proper car park areas that cope with the demand. Eg Mt Martha Football and Cricket club. People wouldn't accidentally destroy the vegetation when they park on the side of the road.	Option 2	Kids need room to grow and being part of a sporting club sets the foundation. Still having a leash free area as well as sporting facilities would be ideal.	Other (please specify): 3-4 times a week.	Drive (car pool)	Yes. It is becoming difficult for elderly grandparent to watch there grandchildren play sport due to the lack of safe car parking facilities eg MMAFC and MMCC.
	Jun 15, 2021, 264:08:16 PM	To ensure the current recreational areas are used to their full potential while conserving the natural bushland areas.	Yes		6	Not sure	Other (please comment): Current recreational areas are big enough but the space can be utilised much better. Lack of formal car parking areas; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of enforcement. Unauthorised BMX tracks; Uncontrolled activities.		CCTV needed to stop illegal dumping and 4wd damage. Basketball/netball court needed at citation oval. Old army at citation hut needs to be repurposed for community use.	Option 2	More sporting facilities are needed to deter kids from damaging the bushland with bikes. Basketball/netball courts needed in between the new pavilion and the original army hut at citation oval. 450 Heppen HW is not utilised at present and should be utilised for to support the growing population.	Daily	Walk / run	Citation oval needs improved car parking and CCTV to deter 4wds from damaging the grass area. Basketball court needed in between the new pavilion and the original football rooms at citation to stop kids on bikes from damaging the bushland.
	Jun 15, 2021, 265:08:11 PM	The sporting facilities are paramount to the community - looking after these sporting areas and providing a place for young people to grow is paramount.	No		1	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of formal car parking areas; Pests and weeds. Uncontrolled activities.		Create a second story to the clubhouse at Ferrero Reserve to avoid expanding the footprint of the clubhouse while meeting greater demand. Plant more trees on unused sides of ovals. Provide netting to stop balls going into dense bushland to stop sport participants from bush bashing to relieve balls.	Option 2	I think creating new playing fields may be over the top, but this allows for continued upgrading of facilities at modern standards.	Daily	Drive (solo)	
	Jun 15, 2021, 266:07:59 PM	The mt martha cricket club because it's home to a great community culture.	Other (please comment): I don't think public, community spaces should be interfered with.		5	Yes	People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Poor management; Uncontrolled activities.		I agree that the area needs to be protected but not allowing communities to participate in sporting clubs and cultures is not the way to go.	Option 2	Taking away sporting facilities will not benefit anyone or the environment.	Daily	Bike ride	Sports Clubs are a big part of our community and taking that away from people will not only effect them mentally, but the important issue we do have of private developers tearing down vegetation and building houses on the land is what should be focused more on.

267	Jun 15, 2021, 07:46 PM	It is an important vegetation corridor that links to The Brians. The vegetation is important to an array of flora and fauna. Habitat for wildlife. There are a myriad of bird species that use the vegetation and I&M we seen echidnas use the area. With so much vegetation already cleared on the Peninsula, how can you justify removing any more? Additionally, it is an area that people use for relaxing and/or walking in nature. My children play sport at Ferreo. I&M'm supportive of existing facilities being upgraded. However, I wouldn't want any of the vegetation cleared for larger developments. Surely there are plenty of paddocks on the Peninsula for that.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds	Please communicate with land users in a more effective way. I received an email from one of the sporting clubs encouraging their members not to support protection of the area. They are worried about future upgrades to their facilities. Clear communication with stakeholders is important to prevent these misunderstandings.	Option 1	As mentioned above. It is an unique ecosystem and important habitat for a myriad of species.	Daily	Walk / run		
268	Jun 15, 2021, 07:43 PM	Preservation of the fauna and flora which I think is adequately protected	No	3	Yes	Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of formal car parking areas; Poor management; Uncontrolled activities	In the expanding population sport and rec amongst kids in our community is essential. Fully understand this is difficult to balance in order to protect the environment. Our junior sports facilities in Mount Martha are an embarrassment to say the least on the Peninsula and if this rezoning goes ahead there will never be a much needed upgrade. If you are planning rezoning then I suggest you find a piece of land in Mount Martha to build a much needed new sports complex!!	Option 2	AS ABOVE !!!	Weekly	Walk / run		
269	Jun 15, 2021, 07:36 PM	The access of the entire area by all members of the community. Young, old and in between. The Cricket and Football Clubs make up this area continue to develop the area to support the needs of the local community. To be able to continue to build and improve this area in the future as the area grows and changes is critical. I&M A place for all, a haven for wildlife, an irreplaceable asset for now and for future generations. I&M The total preservation of this reserve to ensure that the bushland & waterways that support all the abundant flora, fauna, birds & marine life remains intact and healthy for the enjoyment of my family & for future generations. I&M A magnificent natural asset such as this requires the highest possible planning protection. I&M It ticks all the boxes ecologically, community value and scenic value. I&M Pressures of population increases put such areas at risk of loss of environmental habitat. I&M 164 indigenous plant species, including Swamp Scrub and Grassy Woodland which are bio-regionally endangered species. The Dwarf Galaxias fish, Royal Spoonbill and Pacific Gull are also threatened or near threatened species that have been identified in the	Other (please comment): My concern would be the impact this has on the Football and Cricket clubs. It is important to plan for the future from an environmental view point but if this is the only focus of future planning than these clubs will suffer.	8	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Lack of formal car parking areas; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Planning together. Transparency in what possible options are.	Option 2	As a local to the area and with a young family, the need for more formalized areas for sport/recreation is needed.	Weekly	Other (please specify): Park at Ferreo Reserve		
270	Jun 15, 2021, 07:34 PM	I agree the environment needs conserving around the area under focus and all that can be done without it impacting the cricket area and club rooms more needs to be invested in advancing the sporting areas like making a proper parking area and toilet facilities etc.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	** Identify alternate sites to cater for any increased demand for formal sporting facilities, additional recreational activities & car parks that does not require the destruction of this environmentally significant habitat, biolink & passive recreational reserve which is enjoyed by all Mornington Peninsula residents and visitors to our region. ** Demand that the Mornington Peninsula shire councillors & executive enact without exception the 2019 "Climate Emergency" and "Carbon Neutral" policies endorsed by councillors in considering the significance of our Bushland, Coastal & estuarine reserves when deciding on this proposal.	Option 1	The time has come to stop the trend of environmental, ecological, landscape(s) & wildlife habitat destruction as a secondary consideration behind land clearing, even within public reserves, to accommodate population growth. **Consideration: Ensure the reserve survives for the enjoyment of future generations by enhancing current and ongoing works and activities to protect, preserve & restore the Balcombe Estuary Reserves bushland and estuarine creek & nearby coastal waterways.	Weekly	Walk / run		
271	Jun 15, 2021, 07:31 PM	I agree the environment needs conserving around the area under focus and all that can be done without it impacting the cricket area and club rooms more needs to be invested in advancing the sporting areas like making a proper parking area and toilet facilities etc.	No	3	Yes	Lack of formal car parking areas; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Poor management	Should be fair for the sporting areas and the environment needs to be balanced	Option 2	I play there and I would not like to see sport and wellbeing affected by ridiculous laws	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	No	
272	Jun 15, 2021, 07:29 PM	The ecological significance of the area	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Uncontrolled activities	Utilize areas that have previously been cleared with very little indigenous recruitment	Option 2	This is such a special and ecological significant area. This area needs to be protected because once we loose it, it will never get it back or never back to the way it used to be.	Weekly	Drive (solo)		
273	Jun 15, 2021, 07:27 PM	Sport	No	1	Yes	Lack of formal car parking areas; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds; Poor management; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	This is a sporting precinct & should be treated as such. Expansion of the facility is required.	Option 2	Growing population, greater need for more sporting facilities	Weekly	Drive (solo)		There is plenty of bush/vegetation in the area that removing some vegetation for expansion of the sporting facilities will have little or no impact. Stop pandering to minority green groups. The MPS have become too focused on not offending minorities instead of catering to the majority. A prime example is providing a \$60000 binary& option under gender - what a joke.
274	Jun 15, 2021, 07:19 PM	Walking tracks	No	2	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas; Poor management; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Building and infrastructure designed to compliment the environment not work against it.	Option 2	We need more sport and recreation for our community. The benefits of being active and involved through participating in sport as a player, volunteer or socially cannot be underestimated, this can all be achieved being sympathetic to the environment	Weekly	Walk / run		
275	Jun 15, 2021, 07:14 PM	A dedicated area for people to enjoy the natural environment	Yes	10	No	Poor management; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Other; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Rubbish and rubbish dumps	Option 1	Make better use of existing facilities. Mt Martha football and cricket grounds and building is under-utilised and could support a range of community activities throughout the week days.	Weekly	Walk / run		
276	Jun 15, 2021, 07:06 PM	unspoiled area for walking close to home	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Uncontrolled activities; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	no	Option 1	I believe it should be used for conservation of the natural environment	Weekly	Walk / run		
277	Jun 15, 2021, 10:31 AM	To protect and preserve as much of the reserve as possible. There are very few areas like this close to residential and beachside areas in the Mornington Peninsula. It is important to preserve this as much as possible for future generations.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement	Other solutions could involve higher density buildings within the already allocated spaces and making existing fields multi purpose.	Option 1	As above I think we should be presenting as much bushland in the region as possible	Daily	Walk / run		
278	Jun 15, 2021, 10:19 AM	The BER is one of a kind in the whole of PPB and with growing usage of the BER needs flora and fauna protection and proper guided management for all users to enjoy.	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Poor management; Uncontrolled activities	Land south of the dog park being flat and minimal vegetation could be used for new sport & recreation facilities.	Option 1	It is the best common sense option leaving the area as is but with on going conservation improvements and the old hockey field used as a leash free area with picnic tables. Option 2 would create increased road congestion with an all ready dangerous T intersection at Uralla & Nepean & if developed large vegetation clearing and storm water run off issues to the nearby creek.	Daily	Walk / run		Keep any approved developments to around the sport & recreation facilities that are already in place. Construct a walking track on the north side of the estuary from the bird hide to Aquista St bridge.
279	Jun 15, 2021, 10:10 AM	The estuary, trees, birds, boardwalk. Because it is beautiful and a hideaway from suburbia.	Yes	Not sure		Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Lack of formal car parking areas	Smarter space saving development. Needs based.	Option 1	There are other spaces for sport why get rid of the trees.	Daily	Walk / run		Do the right thing. Protect the land against over development. Or you will lose something very special.
280	Jun 15, 2021, 09:20 AM	This area contains a wetland and as such is home to a variety of wildlife. At present there is a good balance between using the area for Recreation and protecting the environmental integrity of the area. However, further unrestricted development in this area would impact the flora and fauna in a negative way.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand.	Creating some purpose built bike trails to help prevent these people creating their own. Targeting areas for development which will have the least possible environmental impact. Bush walking trails which have information to educate locals and visitors on the local flora and fauna and its significance.	Option 1	When looking at the above map, There is already a significant amount of land already in use for Sport and Recreation. While there is an argument for more of these facilities we must also protect the integrity of this environmental area of significance.	Monthly	Drive (car pool)		
281	Jun 14, 2021, 09:54 PM	It is a valuable natural resource for people to enjoy and for students to learn from. I&M's a place animals can feel safe and have the space they need. As humans we have taken over a lot of land and so it is important to make sure animals are looked after and have enough space to live safely. This is also a beautiful spot for walks and picnics. I&M's a wonderful thing to be able to take our children to a place where they can not only play but learn through nature.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of formal car parking areas; Uncontrolled activities	Enhance existing facilities but protect the other area	Option 1	Mt Martha should not be overdeveloped.	Weekly	Walk / run		
282	Jun 14, 2021, 09:10 PM	I feel there are enough sporting facilities around the Mount Martha area. If this is not the case I would never consider removing vegetation from the reserve for our own use. We have to stop somewhere and realise our \$60000& are not always the most important thing.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; Poor management; Pests and weeds	I feel there are enough sporting facilities around the Mount Martha area. If this is not the case I would never consider removing vegetation from the reserve for our own use. We have to stop somewhere and realise our \$60000& are not always the most important thing.	Option 1	I would like to see the vegetation left in place. I&M's a beautiful area and to turn that into a sporting ground would be sad to see.	Weekly	Drive (solo)		
283	Jun 14, 2021, 06:00 PM	A community place to exercise & interact with locals. A great place for kids & families to fish & enjoy nature.	No	5	Yes	Pests and weeds; Lack of formal car parking areas; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Other	Out of town people	Option 2	The community needs this	Daily	Walk / run		
284	Jun 14, 2021, 05:08 PM	Land and wildlife conservation and sharing it with the community as well as offering recreation opportunities for the enjoyment of all. The area is a beautiful place with its wetlands, landscapes and estuary. It is something to be cherished, and protected. I wrote this poem about what the creek means to me: Balcombe Creek In its end is its beginning a legacy of rainwater purpose, length, being, and the whole can be held in the mind. Crossing over, riding or diving, it is a remote imagined place of paperbarks and burlashes. In winter, after rain, it fills and I have stopped and listened to the flow and the slow rushing into the bay, watched the larkin brown trundle slow downhill movement. I have heard burlashes in the wind. I have seen the dark cloud spilling into the bay. I celebrate the river itself, not the river as metaphor or symbol nor journey, nor mystical nor fable, but the flowing thing in its brown fluidity. I am not talking post-post river, post the fall of the land. I am talking about this thing that is river and it's whole self integral and true.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Uncontrolled activities	manage existing sport and recreation areas more efficiently.	Option 1	The land needs to be preserved for future generations and fauna and flora.	Monthly	Walk / run		
285	Jun 14, 2021, 04:51 PM	It is important not to overdevelop areas for things that are already well catered for on the Mornington Peninsula. Sport is not everything to everybody & to have an area like Balcombe Estuary is important. Walking on the boardwalk & in the surrounding areas is good for mental health & enjoyed by all ages. We are lucky to have this, especially during the frequent lockdowns we are having.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Uncontrolled activities; Pests and weeds	Between Clifton Oval, Ferreo Reserve, Meara Oval & existing nearby school facilities, surely with correct management there are enough areas to be utilised. Sport isn't&M everything to everybody. We need to protect what we have in these areas.	Option 1	There are soccer & hockey fields in Mornington, a very short drive away.	Daily	Walk / run		
286	Jun 14, 2021, 04:51 PM	It is an important habitat for our wildlife, and for residents and visitors to the area to be able to be amongst our indigenous flora and fauna. It is well respected and utilised and is one of the most beautiful places in the area.	Other (please comment): no planning and building should take place in the reserve	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; Uncontrolled activities; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	at present the land is a dog park, I believe it is more important to serve the youth of the area than to provide a park space for them to use.	Option 2		Weekly	Walk / run		

288	Jun 14, 2021, 02:21 PM	Preservation of biodiversity. So my children can enjoy this beautiful area just as I do.	Yes	8	No	Other (please comment): Really depends. Definitely not for carparking.	Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal.	Ensure that sporting facilities don't apply chemicals to turf.	Option 1	We need more nature. Natural ecosystems/environments are dwindling and if destroyed cannot be replaced ...it is a no brainer!! the area under consideration is a bush corridor through to the board walk area connecting to the Briars. Looking at the map demonstrates that there is already considerable area of land devoted to sports and recreation. sports facilities can be located anywhere. There are already extensive soccer ovals in Mornington as I understand it, and huge financial investment in the sporting facilities in Mornington on Tyabb road. If you protect and maintain the natural environment such as the estuary you will have a much desired and valued cultural and recreational space that Mt Martha will become increasingly known and valued for into the future with more and more development everywhere... vision for the future is realised.	Daily	Walk / run	
290	Jun 14, 2021, 12:13 PM	The protection, management and enjoyment of this natural resource. Care for the larger catchment area for Balcombe Creek for clean water, control of weeds and a healthy habitat for the birds insects fish and animal life. I enjoy walking along the board walks and sitting to enjoy such a beautiful ecological system. I feel very rare and special to have on my door step and gave me great comfort and healing through the cold lockdowns.	Yes	10	No		Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Poor management; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.	Make current sporting facilities multi use by a number of different groups. Most of the time they are sitting empty. The remaining natural environment such as Balcombe estuary should be the first priority in responsible management. You can have several groups using the sport facilities with their own storage areas attached. With the extensive money spent on sport facilities in Mornington where is this NEED for new facilities coming from. sports groups can be built anywhere why do you propose to use dwindling bushland for this purpose??	Option 1	Daily	Drive (solo)	Why don't we use the current sporting facilities in a multi use fashion. The current facilities are only used a few times a week. They could be used by several different groups for different sports or even other cultural activities such as art or craft or social groups with storage added for these groups to use. more sensible use of current facilities and financial investment already made by council in these facilities.	
290	Jun 14, 2021, 12:08 PM	It is a beautiful pocket of nature right here in our back yard, that needs to be preserved for our future generations to be able to enjoy. It is home to a range of local flora and fauna, and we need to ensure that this ecosystem is protected, not only for our own enjoyment but for the health of our local environment also.	Yes	10	No		Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Find alternate sites for recreation infrastructure that will not require further destruction of local natural habitat.	Option 1	Weekly	Walk / run		
291	Jun 14, 2021, 11:58 AM	A place for all, a haven for wildlife, an irreplaceable asset for future generations. Total preservation of this reserve to ensure bushland and waterways. Put this area under population increases. Magnificent ecological and scenic area. Continuity of natural plant and wildlife.	Yes	10	No		Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Poor management.	Identify alternate sites to cater for the increased demand for sporting facilities, and additional activities & car parks that do not require the destruction of this environmentally significant habitat, biotika and passive recreational reserves which are enjoyed by all Mornington Peninsula residents. Shire councillors & executives to enact to the 2019 Climate Emergency and Carbon Neutral policies considering the significance of our Bushland, Coastal & Estuarine reserves.	Option 1	Daily	Walk / run	Ensure this reserve survives so that everybody and future generations can enjoy this magnificent area and enhance it with works and activities to protect, preserve & restore the Balcombe Estuary Reserves, Bushland and Estuarine Creek & nearby coastal waterways.	
292	Jun 14, 2021, 10:57 AM	The health of the estuary and surrounding bush land including protection of native Bona. Safe and inclusive access for community. Communication about the estuary in the community to help build understanding of its environmental significance. Funding for support groups like BERG who work to support and protect it.	Yes	10	No		Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Poor management.	Robust analysis of the environmental impacts of any works. Communication within the community of the importance of the estuary and bush land around it to the well-being of the area. Clearer demarcation of areas needing protection. Designated areas for recreation like bike jumps (BMX), not a lack of space, kids want to do this because of the excitement of building it themselves away from adults. recognise bushland as normal and give designated space for it then enforce penalty for breaches.	Option 1	Daily	Walk / run	I do work with BERG and have learnt so much about estuary health. I moved here because of access to nature and certainly through Covid the green spaces not just the beach have been of immense value. To lose the green areas to development and sports space would be a travesty. We can do better at communicating with community members about the value of these spaces and why we should protect them.	
293	Jun 14, 2021, 07:07 AM	It is important to me as a passive recreation area, to walk (with or without the dog) and appreciate a relatively natural environment.	Yes	9	No		Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Uncontrolled activities.	Institute the better management/ scheduling of existing sport and recreational facilities to ensure they are better utilised for the growing needs of the community.	Option 1	Weekly	Walk / run		
294	Jun 13, 2021, 11:17 PM	The Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area provides a wide range of both passive and active recreation. However, for me it is the bushland areas are the most precious. They provide a unique, tranquil haven for not only people, but the wildlife that use it. I can experience and enjoy a variety of natural experiences and landscapes eg from bird watching, walking through sensing the smells and sounds, participating in the restoration of the Reserves to observing the reflections in the creek and views out to the Bay. I also appreciate that it is so available and accessible to such a diversity of people.	Yes	10	No		Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	At present, there is adequate provision for one formal sport and recreation is football (4 football fields within a couple of kilometres), but I do see that the range of sporting facilities is limited and that this may need to be rectified. However, I see little need to encroach on and destroy the existing, limited natural bushland areas and their environmental values. Already, a disproportionate area of public land has been zoned PRR2 (blue area), as highlighted on the supplied map. On inspection, it can be seen that there is adequate provision for a selected range of formal sporting recreation facilities in the Clifton area is the ample open/cleared area of the Augusta St road reserve eg consider basketball courts, a soccer pitch, a BMX track and skate park. It must be also recognised that there are other open spaces in the local and surrounding areas where formal recreation can be located eg the Briars, John Anderson Reserve and private land that could be purchased for the purpose without threatening the limited natural bushland areas and the waterways. The local school sporting facilities could perhaps also be more creatively used. Our natural bushland Reserves still provide recreation, but of a more informal nature which is equally important to the health and wellbeing of the population and it may be said, offer more to a greater diversity of the population. The Reserves and their facilities are accessible, enjoyed and regularly used by the young, elderly, disabled groups, families, school groups, bird watchers, artists, university environmental students, joggers, bushwalkers etc. It could also be noted that the number of people engaging in informal recreation in the Reserves is far greater than those taking part in the formal recreation. When last surveyed, over 55,000 walkways were undertaken and enjoyed along the tracks and boardwalk of the reserves. The natural environment, its accessibility and informal recreation are the main reasons why most people have chosen live in Mt Martha or on the Peninsula.	Option 2	Weekly	Walk / run	The Balcombe Estuary Reserves - are a natural asset, widely used and highly valued for their ecological status, aesthetic and social benefits by both the local community and visitors. - already over \$700,000 worth of philanthropic, Community, Local, State and Federal grants (CMA, DEWLP, Melbourne Water, Coastcare) has been spent over the last 20 years on environmental projects to preserve, protect and restore this special area because the community, the Shire and the grant bodies have regarded this natural area of vital importance. The MPS itself has contributed this and more to restore and enhance this area. - are an important ecotone of riparian vegetation of regionally significant Swamp Scrub (endangered EVC 153) and Grassy Woodland (EVC 175) which support indigenous fauna species (mammals, birds, reptiles and marine life) which are of local, regional, state and national significance. Mal Lagg, Ecological & Environmental Services Pty Ltd, states in the Fauna Survey of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves Mt Martha in 2019, that "recent surveys have exposed declining populations and diversity" which therefore shows additional certainty of protection is required, not less. - are reliant on the long linear strip of vegetation on either side of the creek to enhance and protect the quality of the water that enters the Bay and that users eg swimmers, fishermen enjoy and expect to be clean and unpolluted. However, the vegetation on either side of the creek is not extensive in width and cannot afford to be reduced or its integrity threatened. If it is to fulfil its role of filtering water runoff from the surrounding land and streets. - like all natural vegetation areas, can suffer from an 'edge effect' as it is can be negatively impacted by the surrounding developed environment eg urbanisation and residential activities. So it is widely recognised that 'buffers' are essential for the necessary protection and preservation of any natural area and 'creeching' encroachment on these must be controlled. - also provide, not only a habitat link, but also a system of tracks and boardwalk that are popular and widely used and extend from the highly valued Briars upstream to the coastal reserves and the beach. - support a wide variety of informal recreational activities - walking, jogging, bird watching, kayaking, participation in environmental projects which are important to the physical as well as mental health of the local population in including the whole Peninsula, as well visitors. - this area is precious and an example of what needs to be protected on the Peninsula. Only 10% of the bushland on the Mornington Peninsula is in Reserves and the remainder is on private land, with questionable protection and so public bushland needs to be secured of more lasting protection, not less. NB. This is important personally, as I was brought up in this area of the Peninsula and have seen an increasing reduction and degradation of the local bushland. The pressures and experiences we enjoyed as children - the freedom, exploration, playing, learning and appreciation of these natural areas, should not still be under threat. It is sad that there can be a lack of understanding and appreciation of the benefits these experiences give to children and that they may not be there in the future for our children and grandchildren.	
295	Jun 13, 2021, 07:12 PM	Ensuring it is protected from development for current and future generations.	Yes	10	No		Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds.	N/A	Option 1	Daily	Walk / run		
296	Jun 13, 2021, 06:02 PM	I see a bushland corridor connecting the hinterland to a coastal lagoon. The Peninsula is becoming heavily overdeveloped particularly in the coastal areas. We should be protecting this remaining reserve, if not looking at extending.	Yes	10	No		Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds.	Consider placement of facilities within new residential developments. Better utilisation of existing facilities.	Option 2	Weekly	Drive (solo)		
297	Jun 13, 2021, 04:38 PM	- A haven for wildlife and an irreplaceable natural asset - Our responsibility, to ensure preservation of this reserve, its bushland & waterways - with its abundant flora, fauna, birds & marine life - An ecological and community treasure unique to Mt Martha and the peninsula	Yes	10	No		Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	** Identify alternate sites to cater for any increased demand for formal sporting facilities, additional recreational activities & car parks that does not require the destruction of this environmentally significant habitat, biotika & passive recreational reserve which is enjoyed by all Mornington Peninsula residents and visitors to our region.	Option 1	Fortnightly	Walk / run		
298	Jun 13, 2021, 02:26 PM	Fascinating diversity of plants and birds - easily accessible.	Yes	9	No		Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Uncontrolled activities.	There are many alternative venues for sport on public land or on land that is already degraded.	Option 1	Weekly	Walk / run		
299	Jun 13, 2021, 02:22 PM	The natural landscape because it is spiritually uplifting, a play space of my childhood, a lifelong family passion and involvement, a haven of peace and close to where I live.	Yes	10	No		Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Pests and weeds; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.	Buy additional land with low conservation values for extra sporting facilities if needed.	Option 1	Daily	Walk / run	I would like to see an ESO over as much of the current Reserve as possible to protect this for future generations.	
300	Jun 13, 2021, 11:47 AM	That our community can continue to share this space in a harmonious and inclusive way for everyone.	Yes	8	Yes		Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area.	Sport and Rec activities in the area have coexisted for a long time and I have not impacted the area. If it does not need to impede and restrict those out enjoying the space.	Option 2	Daily	Walk / run	BMX is a great environmental asset but more importantly BMX is a great shared space. Let BMX ensure the future grows the inclusion of everyone not just the bush walkers of here.	
301	Jun 13, 2021, 11:17 AM	The Balcombe Estuary is one of my favourite areas for walking. The board walk is a fantastic asset for the area and there are many other enjoyable trails. To have a natural environment like the Estuary in the heart of Mt Martha is a tremendous benefit. Many times, I have taken my grandchildren down to observe the water birds, vegetation and other natural features.	Yes	10	No		Uncontrolled activities; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal.	If the council believes Mt Martha is lacking formal sporting facilities, perhaps the redevelopment of areas of land at the Golf Club could be used.	Option 1	Weekly	Walk / run	I walk the Estuary boardwalk at least once a week, often including the Briars woodland walk or the Harrop Creek walk. They are such enjoyable walks and contribute significantly to the area's livability. For older residents, formal sporting facilities do not contribute as much to our wellbeing as the availability of safe and accessible walkway trails.	
302	Jun 13, 2021, 10:50 AM	This is an important bio link that ensures the unique environment to support the indigenous flora and fauna. It is an integral part of Mount Martha and should be viewed as a major conservation area and be protected and conserved for future generations to come.	Yes	10	No		Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of enforcement; Vegetation removal.	Keeping the existing ovals in place provides adequate recreational use. The campground and community bbq and fires should remain in place. But signs explaining that vegetation removal is illegal. No firewood.	Option 1	Weekly	Drive (solo)	The continued benefit in the removal noxious weeds restoration of the various areas linking the land wherever possible. Education based activities help to create better understanding of the benefits and threats in protecting this important biolink.	
303	Jun 13, 2021, 10:21 AM	Preservation first. sports second but the two can find a way to live together in this area. Let BMX make sure that the Balcombe Estuary Reserves remain: A place for all The Balcombe Estuary Reserves are for the enjoyment & benefit of everyone. They are in constant use and accessible to walkers and joggers, families, school groups and preschoolers, people of all abilities, birdwatchers, kayakers, and more, from across the Peninsula and beyond BMX a place for recreation, environmental learning, respite, relaxation and delight. A haven for wildlife The Reserves provide irreplaceable wildlife habitat, with diverse communities of our local flora and fauna, birds and marine life. Any further reduction in area would impact on and threaten this habitat and biodiversity, with flow-on to the linked natural environments (Biotika) of foreshore and Bay, The Briars and beyond. An irreplaceable asset Natural environments are unique to their location. We stand to lose all we value about the indigenous beauty of our estuary reserves if any more of this remnant wildlife refuge is cleared for other purposes.	Yes	10	No		Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of enforcement; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.	Consult with environmental experts who will assess the area. Let wildlife experts also assess to be able to help safely relocate wildlife that will be displaced or displaced.	Option 1	Daily	Walk / run	I would love to be involved in the planning.	
304	Jun 12, 2021, 10:26 PM	If we work together we can protect our estuary into the future.	Yes	10	No		Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Uncontrolled activities; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Poor management; Vegetation removal.		Option 1	Weekly	Drive (solo)	It is the perfect place to educate the general public about the importance of not just connecting with, but contributing to and caring for nature.	
305	Jun 12, 2021, 08:44 PM	Environmental protection is important for vegetation and wildlife. We need to protect it more instead of destroying it. Mornington Peninsula is known for BMX nature and if we start to destroy and remove it for human use, it will become just another suburban area like the inner city. I moved away from that area to be closer to nature.	Yes	9	No		Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Uncontrolled activities; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Poor management; Vegetation removal.		Option 1	Monthly	Drive (solo)		

306	Jun 12, 2021, 08:35 PM	- there are over 160 indigenous plant species in Swamp scrub and grassy woodland which are both endangered EVCA. - it has huge community value as it is very beautiful - it is an amazing natural asset and it requires the highest possible planning protection Recreation - our family loves going for walks (or bike/roller for the little ones) along the boardwalk. We love exploring the wildlife and just being immersed in nature. iBET™s also a route to the village for us. My husband and I also go for runs and dog walks along the boardwalk	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	- find other sites to cater for increased demand for sporting facilities, car parks etc. - the Balcombe estuary is an important bio link and provides environmentally significant habitat, so let's not destroy it!! - seems like common sense, when there are not many areas of indigenous vegetation left on the Peninsula as it is! - maybe have one less golf course instead - I would like to see, that the Mornington Peninsula shire councillors & executives enact without exception on the 2019 "Climate Emergency" and "Carbon Neutral" policies, considering the significance of our Bushland, Coastal & estuarine reserves when deciding on this proposal.	Option 1	- it is time to really start to protect the last remnants of wildlife habitat and indigenous vegetation in our environment. Too much has been destroyed already. It is time to rethink and come up with better ideas, looking at other countries and what they are doing to look after nature and the rising population at the same time! Most other countries have many more people and much less space - and they are managing much better to look after nature as well. Why not reach out and adopt some of those amazing ideas? Australia is still acting in ways other countries have left behind over 20 years ago. It is not hard to look outside the box (Australia) and see what works elsewhere! - make sure to protect, preserve and restore the Estuary for future generations by enhancing current and ongoing works - the health of the estuary has a direct impact on the health of the bay this should be the most important aim of everything we do now, as population increases.	Weekly	Walk / run	
307	Jun 12, 2021, 08:24 PM		Yes	10	Yes	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of enforcement; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Not sure	Option 1	I think iBET™s such a valuable ecosystem, but iBET™s difficult to pick either without knowing details of how iBET™s impact the land and area.	Daily	Walk / run	
308	Jun 12, 2021, 07:48 PM	As a unique habitat for waterbirds, frogs, eels and other fish. Biggest estuarine habitat on the peninsula. Bredline around fr many aquatic species	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal	N	Option 1	I think the environmental values of the area are high and should be augmented - recreational areas could be elsewhere.	Fortnightly	Drive (car pool)	
309	Jun 12, 2021, 05:20 PM	The Balcombe Estuary Reserve is a unique and highly valued asset for Mount Martha and the Mornington Peninsula. The most important thing is to preserve this reserve to ensure that the natural bushland and waterways which support an abundance of life - flora, fauna, bird and marine - remain intact and protected. Other (please comment): Not sure. But MPS has gone ahead and made major changes at Clifton Oval without following the Balcombe Estuary Reserves Management Plan 2013 consultation version which has never been approved. Ferretro facilities need to be improved too. That would be OK provided it is within the existing spaces and does not include new areas.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Find alternative sites for more formal sporting facilities, recreational activities and car parks which would not require the destruction of this environmentally significant habitat, birdlink and passive recreational reserve which is valued by local Mornington Peninsula residents and visitors alike. When considering this proposal, Mornington Peninsula Shire councillors and executive must enact the 2019 Climate Emergency and Carbon Neutral policies endorsed by councillors in considering the significance of our Bushland, Coastal and estuarine reserves and apply them to their decision.	Option 1	The time has come to stop the trend of environmental, ecological, landscape and wildlife habitat destruction rating as a secondary consideration behind land clearing, even within public reserves, to accommodate population growth. Consideration: ensure that the reserve survives intact for the enjoyment of future generations by enhancing current and ongoing works and activities to protect, preserve and restore the Balcombe Estuary Reserve bushland and estuarine, creek and nearby coastal waterways.	Weekly	Walk / run	The Balcombe Estuary Reserve is a direct connection to the natural environment of this section of the Mornington Peninsula. When I walk in it, I feel that I am in a remnant of the lands of the Boonwurrung people. I see what they would have seen when they occupied these lands. Of course I realise that there are many differences but also much has been preserved and must be protected for future generations.
310	Jun 12, 2021, 04:19 PM	The unique indigenous nature of this area, especially so in the middle of what is now a town. The wide variety of flora and fauna including fish and birds particularly that this reserve supports. The links the reserves have to indigenous and European history and culture. The social and economic value of this 'green space', which is of great importance to everyone's mental health in the local community. The potential value the area has for longitudinal research about our history and the history of the area over time, under natural conditions. And much more!	Yes	10	does not include new areas	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of enforcement; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	No suggestion it needs 'better balancing'. The sporting bodies are largely in harmony with BERG Mt Martha in desire to manage the reserves and the community wants the reserves to be well managed. This is what makes Mt Martha unique and special!	Option 1	The ESO should cover the whole area, so no new variations should be allowed. Also this piece of land is very close to the creek, so it is quite important for the creek itself.	Weekly	Walk / run	The work done by BERG Mt Martha should be supported in this ESO application. It is backed by the science, is well researched over long time periods and the organisation and its work is a major asset to the Mt Martha community.
311	Jun 12, 2021, 03:23 PM	The estuary reserves are a great example of an in tact estuary. It's one of the few naturally opening and closing beam estuaries in Port Phillip Bay (most of the others have been converted). Which makes it an important resource for wildlife. It's also frequented by locals walking dogs, fishing, kayaking. The amenity value is significant.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Unauthorised BMX tracks	There are other nearby locations that are already cleared that would be more appropriate e.g. briars	Option 1	We have precious few remnants of wilderness left. We need to protect what we do have. The removal of permits to clear vegetation will have detrimental impacts on our ecosystems, wildlife and ultimately affect what we associate with these reserves.	Daily	Drive (solo)	If I had David Attenboroughs gift for words I would find a fancy way to put it. But this reserve is our legacy in the area. Let's protect it for future generations. Sport grounds can easily be travelled to and from but wildlife cannot drive itself to a new location.
312	Jun 12, 2021, 03:13 PM	Being connected and immersed in the natural wonders of nature. This is a special place, rich in biodiversity, imperative for community physical and mental health, a safe haven and home for many wildlife and an ecosystem that supports many species whose habitats are continuing to be destroyed one tree and shrub at a time by the developments of the blocks being cleared or subdivided.	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; Other: Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	Domestic and feral cats - there are many domestic cats that are left to wander and roam as they like.	N/A	-	Daily	Walk / run	This area needs to be protected. So much of the Mornington Peninsula iBET™ being protected as is should, and we are starting to lose the beautiful and special environmental elements of the region.
313	Jun 12, 2021, 02:39 PM	The biodiversity of flora and fauna. The legacy of this beautiful area, we want it to remain a natural reserve for mental and physical health.	Yes	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Uncontrolled activities	Relocate to more developed open areas that don't have such an impact on environmentally fragile areas	Option 1	Any development would put the delicate biodiversity of the area at risk and would make management more difficult.	Daily	Walk / run	
314	Jun 12, 2021, 02:36 PM	It is a beautiful area and important for preservation of local flora and fauna species. Also a beautiful resource to have access to for Morn Pen residents	Yes	10	No	Unauthorised BMX tracks; Uncontrolled activities; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	Can't see a problem as current areas that I see are only used for a small portion of the week so room for more use in current facilities, (there may be other areas that are different)	Option 1	The area is next to existing recreation areas which are already underutilised	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
315	Jun 12, 2021, 01:55 PM	It's a unique environmental and beautiful area that needs to be protected.	Yes	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Other	Poor planning, council should have put land aside on the other side of the highway in Mount Martha when all that new development went through 10 years ago.	Option 1	Yes, build sporting facilities to meet the growing demand in another area.	Fortnightly	Walk / run	
316	Jun 12, 2021, 01:35 PM	Protecting the area from damage / destruction and any further encroachment from buildings / development. Protection is necessary so the native flora and fauna of the area can flourish and so our future generations can enjoy the area.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Better timelabling and scheduling of organises sport. Better use of the facilities that already exist. No need for more.	Option 1	Our native vegetation spaces keep shrinking, we need to ensure there is green space for ALL, not just humans. We need to think of space and habitats for native plants and animals.	Other (please specify): Twice a week or more	Walk / run	Please prioritise protection of the natural habitat over more sports grounds.
317	Jun 12, 2021, 01:06 PM	iBET™s so important for future generations that it is protected from residential and commercial development. There is definitely a demand for more sporting fields to support the growing community but not at the expense of everything that makes mt martha so special	Yes	10	Not sure	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	No	Option 2	iBET™s very torn on this question I would have to see very comprehensive plans before I was happy to agree with option 2	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	Live
318	Jun 12, 2021, 12:27 PM	The unique natural environment, flora and fauna. Part of the broad attraction of Mount Martha.	Yes	10	No	Uncontrolled activities; Lack of enforcement; Pests and weeds; Unauthorised BMX tracks; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Find alternative sites for expansion of sporting and recreation infrastructure that is less environmentally sensitive.	Option 1	The Balcombe estuary area should be protected public space rather than designated for sport and recreation so that it can be enjoyed by the broadest range of people. If sporting activities are given priority then fewer people get to benefit. Protecting the sensitive natural environment and biodiversity of flora and fauna should be the priority. If expansion of sporting and recreation facilities is required it development should be elsewhere, like the sports grounds in Woolraia road.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
319	Jun 12, 2021, 12:25 PM	The environment, the wildlife and the tranquility of this beautiful area	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Uncontrolled activities	I walk around Mount Martha and Mornington daily with my dogs and I feel that most sporting grounds seem under utilised. Until they are at maximum capacity then expansion could be considered	Option 1	Leave it as it is. That area already does get used for sports practice for young kids. We need to protect the bush land	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	Such a beautiful area that needs to be treasured
320	Jun 12, 2021, 12:10 PM	164 indigenous plant species including, Swamp Scrub and Grassy Woodland which are bio-regionally endangered species. The Dwarf Galaxias fish, Royal Spoonbill and Pacific Gull are also threatened or near threatened species that have been identified in the area.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds	Identify alternate sites to cater for the likely increased demand for formal sporting facilities, additional recreational activities and car parks that does not require the destruction of this environmentally significant habitat and passive recreational reserve which is enjoyed by all Mornington Peninsula residents and visitors to our region.	Option 1	Ensure the reserve survives for the enjoyment of future generations by enhancing current and ongoing works and activities to protect, preserve & restore the Balcombe Estuary Reserves bushland and estuarine, creek & nearby coastal waterways.	Weekly	Walk / run	The Balcombe Estuary Reserves have become part of our lifestyle since moving to Mount Martha 11 years ago. This is reflected in a personal commitment to work with a volunteer group every Friday, weather permitting. It has given us a close understanding of the significance of the BER as a resource for biodiversity and for environmental enjoyment.
321	Jun 12, 2021, 11:35 AM	Preserving & protecting an amazing area of our local environment	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Our local environment has to be made a priority. We are a small suburb & our green areas make us special, not the amount of sporting areas.	Option 1	Preserving a beautiful environmental feature of a small suburb, should be an extremely high priority.	Weekly	Walk / run	It is beyond comprehension, that vegetation removal would even be considered for this area & that a survey has to be completed to decide the fate of our environmental gem.
322	Jun 12, 2021, 11:11 AM	The tranquility of the natural bushland environment providing a refuge for indigenous flora and fauna. A place where people can appreciate the richness of the habitat that supports all forms of life that live in harmony as each makes a contribution to the cycle of life in this special place. There is something for everyone to appreciate on every visit, passing through on a walk or sitting for a while	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	** Identify alternate sites to cater for any increased demand for formal sporting facilities, additional recreational activities & car parks that does not require the destruction of this environmentally significant habitat, birdlink & passive recreational reserve which is enjoyed by all Mornington Peninsula residents and visitors to our region. ** Demand that the Mornington Peninsula shire councillors & executive enact without exception the 2019 "Climate Emergency" and "Carbon Neutral" policies endorsed by councillors in considering the significance of our Bushland, Coastal & estuarine reserves when deciding on this proposal.	Option 1	The time has come to stop the trend of environmental, ecological, landscape(s) & wildlife habitat destruction as a secondary consideration behind land clearing, even within public reserves, to accommodate population growth. **Consideration: Ensure the reserve survives for the enjoyment of future generations by enhancing current and ongoing works and activities to protect, preserve & restore the Balcombe Estuary Reserves bushland and estuarine, creek & nearby coastal waterways.	Fortnightly	Drive (solo)	I feel a very special connection with the Balcombe Estuary Reserves as a resident of the area and appreciate the privilege of the having this unique opportunity. Preservation of the habitat for flora and fauna throughout all the reserves is essential for longterm survival. Caring for Country is our responsibility.
323	Jun 12, 2021, 11:04 AM	Preserving the natural environment & wildlife who live in this area	Yes	10	Not sure	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal	Introducing sports grounds & facilities should not impact or be near this area at all. There are plenty of other areas for sport.	Option 1	Traffic access & other areas could be utilised for these sports like Mace Oval which is underutilised.	Daily	Walk / run	
324	Jun 12, 2021, 10:11 AM	Natural area is valuable to destroy for ever for the sake of short term goals. Once it's gone it's gone. We need to start looking beyond ourselves and need to consider future generations. Let's protect what little we have left to protect.	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Poor management; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Involve community groups like BERG in all planning studies to get the balance rite from the outset of planning, not at the point of reasining obvious bad decisions.	Option 1	As per question ones answer.	Weekly	Walk / run	Please listen to people and organisations that do not necessarily have anything to gain from future developments other than to see what we have is protected.
325	Jun 12, 2021, 09:15 AM	Maintaining bio diversity and keeping the wetlands protected. iBET™s such a beautiful area to walk through and enjoy, seeing the wildlife and also making sure it is preserved for the future.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Unauthorised BMX tracks	I think that we should try to build sports and recreation facilities in areas that aren't so environmentally sensitive. There are lots of ovals and sports grounds already there I want more areas that I can be in nature rather than built up or landscaped. I think sporting facilities should be further out the back towards moorodic highway where there is open land and iBET™s flatter. I would rather my rates went to acquiring that land and maintaining the bush around the reserve to preserve the habitat and what makes Mt Martha so special.	Option 1	I use that land now for the leash free area and enjoy walking on the paths there. I think it would really disrupt the reserve if this could just be razed for sports fields. It also provides a connection up to the briars for the wildlife with the very large citation reserve right next to it. As mentioned above there are many ovals and sporting club buildings empty during the week. I think that is a poor investment of council money if they are only used two out of seven days. I also believe many people moved to Mount Martha because there is no room for commercial development. This is Mount Marthab's point of difference and must be protected.	Weekly	Walk / run	I live right near this land and I love the wildlife we have here. I love the boardwalk and enjoying the beautiful areas and the creek, seeing the birds, fish and other wildlife. I am a very careful dog owner and the leash free area is a great spot for the dogs to burn some energy. I like the way the briars is used for big events, there seems to be enough parking when we have massive concerts etc so I don't think we need to develop this small area (I).
326	Jun 12, 2021, 08:59 AM	The magnificence of being able to witness the annual cycle of a specific ecological system in action. It is a privilege to live near and be able to walk through such a large beautiful area of healthy flora and fauna. BER improves our water, air and soil quality, and very importantly the health of Mount Martha residents and visitors	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Poor management; Vegetation removal	Purchase space in the industrial area or degraded farm land that has no ecological value and build facilities there. Make better use of current facilities which are often empty during the week. Schedule more afternoon and evening games through the week. Whereas Balcombe Estuary Reserves is used seemt have a week.	Option 1		Weekly	Walk / run	No. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
327	Jun 11, 2021, 06:08 PM	Preserve the current quality of a natural area and have focus on iBET™s long term standing	Yes	10	Not sure	Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	Shire looks at a shared facility with the local schools	Option 1	Good balance now futures can explore other options	Daily	Walk / run	

328	Jun 11, 2021, 05:02 PM	Habitat, biodiversity, indigenous history	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of formal car parking areas; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Focus development in less ecologically sensitive areas	Option 1	There are limited conservation opportunities and greater opportunities for sport and recreation space	Monthly	Walk / run	
329	Jun 11, 2021, 04:52 PM	Green space, indigenous plants, native flora/fauna	Yes	10	No	Poor management; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement; Pests and weeds	There are plenty of other spaces	Option 2	Creates breathing space for other areas	Weekly	Walk / run	
330	Jun 11, 2021, 04:30 PM	Wildlife, particularly birds	Yes	10		Other (please comment): So long as these developments are done in an environmentally sensitive manner	Sports grounds and associated facilities can be developed in an environmentally sensitive manner and incorporate plantings of native vegetation, restrict run off etc	Option 1	There are far too few areas of this kind left around Melbourne and it is imperative that retain and strengthen what we have	Weekly	Bike ride	
331	Jun 11, 2021, 04:03 PM	The Balcombe Ck and board walk because we often enjoy walking and running in this area	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	Provide the local schools with better facilities which can then be used by the public in the evenings and on weekends	Option 1	Environment once lost is never regained. Also it can be used for walks which are important for many who don't play formal sport	Weekly	Walk / run	The home in 3934 is our holiday home
332	Jun 11, 2021, 02:44 PM	Having the Estuary maintained, rehabilitated and protected for future generations	Yes	10	Not sure	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds	Build bike tracks etc on unused council land - land in front of tennis courts for example	Option 1	Surely there is enough room for all organisations with the facilities/space available	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	
333	Jun 11, 2021, 12:20 PM	The magnificent setting for the local community to enjoy organised & non organised sport on both of the sporting reserves at Citaton and Fernero. Both of these venues are the hub of the local community young and old and form a vital part of the well being of the local community	No		2	Yes	People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of formal car parking areas; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of enforcement; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Option 2	We need to expand the sporting facilities in the area with an eye on preservation. Not the other way around	Daily	Walk / run	Balancing the needs of the sporting clubs and their local members who absolutely love and enjoy this part of our home is essential with any rezoning
334	Jun 10, 2021, 09:55 PM	It is important that we strive to protect as much nature as we can. The loss of biodiversity and wild places is driving climate change. We are already hitting critical tipping points and need to make every effort to take action	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	There are nearby facilities	Option 1	In the words of David Attenborough we need to re-wild	Daily	Walk / run	
335	Jun 10, 2021, 06:34 PM	The habitat that provides to animals in our area, and the enjoyment of locals using it	Yes	10		Other (please comment): When feasibility studies are carried out with community consultation then of course it should be considered	Enhancing and improving what we already have	Option 1	BMV is a dangerous area of the highway to pull in a car and so I would be concerned about potential run off into the estuary if BMV was developed	Weekly	Bike ride	
336	Jun 10, 2021, 04:29 PM	The beauty of the area, the number of people who enjoy it, the bird life	Yes	9	Yes	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Have consultation between the users of sports facilities and the members of BERG who try to maintain the study area - so that each party understands the needs of the other	Option 1	Because it will remain as if zoned for conservation; there are many formal sports facilities in the area	Other (please specify): two or three times a week	Walk / run	
337	Jun 10, 2021, 12:48 PM	It is a beautiful place to walk, and birdwatch. Protection of these areas in our urban environment is very important to show and teach children about creatures, birds, and the importance of waterways and bushland. Balcombe Creek is the cleanest creek to run into Port Phillip Bay as much of the creek runs through undeveloped land with a good bushland overlay. It is critical that we keep it that way.	Yes	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds	Ensure that sporting facilities at all schools on the peninsula are open for community sport and recreation	Option 1	It is the best option, we have enough sporting facilities	Annually	Drive (solo)	
338	Jun 10, 2021, 10:55 AM	It is a unique part of our local coastal environment & plays a vital role in the ongoing health of our natural landscape here on the Mornington Peninsula	Yes	10		Other (please comment): Provided strict controls are in place - and enforced!	General desire to retain the natural environmental aspect of the area	Option 1	Establishing appropriate infrastructure for such venues - eg proximity to public transport, effective footpaths, public facilities sympathetically structured & serviced	Fortnightly	Walk / run	
339	Jun 10, 2021, 10:26 AM	As an ecologist who regularly works directly with clients on clearance sites (roads and commercial expansions) with the removal of trees and other vegetation, I can say that any disturbance to a catchment area is extremely irresponsible. From an ecosystem perspective, vegetation in catchment areas are much more important than we realise. They help to prevent erosion, protect shoreline houses from weather and house habitat for animals that contribute to the health of the water ways. This list goes on, this all makes an effect on our oceans - which bring us food, recreation and tourism. All in all I we need to think about whether we really need to expand sporting facilities or if the protection of the environment is actually more beneficial to our younger generation both socially and economically	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds	- Create more outdoor activities and hold events outdoors in the reserves - Incorporate the ocean as one of them (kayaking, swimming, rowing, paddle boarding, sailing) - hold larger sporting events at an inland location with existing appropriate venue	Option 1	As explained in question 1	Monthly	Drive (solo)	
340	Jun 10, 2021, 09:55 AM	The almost unspoilt natural beauty and the tranquility. An oasis for native flora and fauna that deserves to be preserved and protected from landish	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Unauthorised BMX tracks	There are other areas of land in Mt Martha that are already degraded and could be used. The open reserve off the Nepean Highway, just before Craigie Road for example, which is under utilised and often used by people to drive vehicles on and carve up the grass	Option 1	Thanks for considering	Daily	Bike ride	
341	Jun 10, 2021, 08:57 AM	It is unique creek, natural opening to the bay. Last remnant creek with pedestrian access. Last remnant vegetation in this area of Morning Peninsula	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Uncontrolled activities; Vegetation removal	Keep the area for conservation not sport	Option 1	Education area	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	
342	Jun 09, 2021, 10:51 PM	BMV is one of the few remaining pockets of natural bush land in the area. It provides a wonderful release from the creeping and urbanisation of Mt Martha. The work of BERG to maintain and restore its environmental integrity is phenomenal and should be supported and indeed undertaken by council itself	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal	Find another place where the environment has already been destroyed. This constitutes the vast majority of the municipality. Acquire it if necessary	Option 1	Refer above. There is a surfeit of land already environmentally destroyed which could be repurposed. There is little and everything dwindling land preserves in the way of the estuary. It must be preserved and enhanced for generations to come	Monthly	Walk / run	Own a property
343	Jun 09, 2021, 08:53 PM	Facilities for organised sport. There is a lack of capacity at both Citaton & Fernero Reserves & for a growing population means the pressure in developing further sporting assets is vital. There is no more recreational land available to purchase. Therefore the Shire's hand is forced - buy land & pay very hefty & unrealistic price, or develop what the Shire already has in place & that has always been zoned for recreational / formally organised sport	Not sure	7	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	As the Sport & Recreation users have always been there (& were there first) & the area has always been zoned for formal sport, then it should be left as an area predominantly for sport & needs to grow & develop new sports facilities in the near future. Therefore the sporting & recreational users should be approached by the protectionists to see what compromises & agreed outcomes can be arranged - it should not be the Sporting & recreational users having to justify their position with the Estuary Protectionists	Option 2	Mt Martha Sporting clubs & recreational users need better tailor made & constructed facilities to cope with ever expanding numbers in participation. There is no more land available to develop for formally organised sport. Both Citaton & Fernero Reserve have always been designated for community sporting activities	Weekly	Drive (solo)	There must be a balanced & fair opportunity to be presented from the existing tenants that the Balcombe Estuary Reserves areas have
344	Jun 09, 2021, 06:09 PM	The combination of fantastic bird-life, and a natural environment that is forever changing and visible because of the varying flows of the Balcombe Creek. It's the nexus of the river, wetlands and estuarine wildlife that makes it quite unique. The final piece to the appeal is that the boardwalk keeps the through traffic relatively confined, allowing the birds and animals places and spaces to retreat and feel secure about sharing the space. Keeping access relatively restricted is vital	Yes	10	No	Other: Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Uncontrolled activities	Development, pressure through increased population and the building of more and bigger houses that increase population and the need for services plus increased waste	Option 1	For the reasons I have mentioned above. There are other places less environmentally precious and sensitive and sports and other recreational facilities should be provided there. (I'm thinking up along Craigie Rd, for example...)	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	Just that we always try to photograph some of the beautiful birdlife there and notice that they are becoming more and more shy, we think because of increased traffic (and people who bring portable loudspeakers and who talk loudly on their phones or to each other while they walk... There are plenty of signs and information boards hinting at the benefits of walking quietly, but they don't seem to sink in...
345	Jun 09, 2021, 05:47 PM	The most important thing is that the estuary stays clean and environmentally friendly. It is also important as it feeds into the bay and at times it has a overpowering stench which I feel is unsatisfactory when swimming in the beautiful beach area at the entrance. The wild life is also important to maintain as it is a beautiful walk through a wildlife sanctuary. In saying all that I would like the vegetation to be maintained/prepared for bushfire safety I live quite close and am always concerned in summer as the estuary would be a barrier of fire if there was a bushfire.	Yes	8	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Unauthorised BMX tracks	no at the moment its a perfect balance of organised sport in the area	Option 1	I selected option 1 due the traffic mayhem at the corner of Uralla and Nepean Hwy, it would be a nightmare to have anymore traffic or cars enter that corner area without a major traffic control implementation. Not just review but something actually done!	Daily	Walk / run	The Balcombe Estuary is a beautiful area and needs protecting environmentally and whilst we need to share this beauty and use it to its full potential, its neighbours (us) need protecting from its growth especially during the summer months, so some vegetation removal is necessary under supervision and control. The population is growing which is fantastic but the infrastructure has to grow with that, and that corner of Uralla Rd and Nepean is such a dangerous traffic spot, so to even think of more traffic without changes being made is horrific. In saying that the area is stunning and rural as it is!
346	Jun 09, 2021, 03:43 PM	A haven for people, flora and fauna in a busy area that is only getting busier. A haven for people particularly with the COVID restrictions and gyms closed, people and families need to be able to get out and exercise. Its so nice walking through the trees, and not breathing in car exhaust fumes when walking on the main road. Flora and fauna both have shelter from the ever expanding urban sprawl heading our way.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of formal car parking areas	Can we not use the current facilities more efficient and effectively? I hardly see people using these facilities (I understand COVID has made an impact in the last year). Can there be better scheduling of events? Can there be greater sharing of all facilities on the Peninsula?	Option 1	We keep chipping away at the current area and there will eventually be nothing worthwhile for the flora and fauna left! Say NO to further erosion today and for the future	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	The council has done a great job on the walking track which is evident by the number of people that use it. Thank you
347	Jun 09, 2021, 03:22 PM	The need to Preserve and Maintain such a wonderful piece of Natural heritage - Whenever we travel we see degradation - without prior thought to the need and for the end result. This Estuary, as we all know is a long distance collector of natural water and supports a large Eco footprint. In many areas this is out of site but therefore a good "dumping ground" for those amongst us who have no appreciation of the importance of such and every small waterway across our city nation.	Other (please comment): This is very broad reaching, there need to be specific rules applying to each zone	9	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Do not further develop existing grounds: there are / will be broad acres available for Council purchase on the East side of Nepean Highway. Even as far as Moorooduc Road in a green belt area. Council must act before the developers!	Option 2	With the understanding that the population of Mt Martha and environs is growing quickly there will be, in a quite short time, the need for more grounds available for relaxation and sport. Environmentally sensitive areas within this area could be protected	Annually	Walk / run	
348	Jun 09, 2021, 02:28 PM	The most important part of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves to me is the maintenance of the existing and natural habitat, including flora & fauna as well as wildlife. The reason for this, as it provides a historic & natural landmark within Mount Martha that is able to be shared with current and future generations in an area which has undergone significant change in the past decade & going forward. It is through these natural reserves that help promote active lifestyles and educate persons on the importance of the environment in the local area	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement; Pests and weeds	I believe the balance could be achieved by looking at surrounding areas with less environmental & social significant for growth zones. The proximity of this zone to residents is a key factor in its success & formalised sport activities are relatively less dependent upon pedestrian proximity and can be located at greater distance from residents	Option 1	I picked that option in context of my responses to my previous comments	Daily	Walk / run	

346	Jun 09, 2021, 02:21 PM	It's one of the last remaining ecosystems of this type around the bay and is a massively important area for focusing on protecting our local environment. As a mother of a young child, the protection and regeneration of our ecosystems is more important to me than any other issue, and the regeneration work and beauty of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves are a wonderful example of what we need to do and what is possible. It is a place of incredible beauty that we share together, walking, exploring, and bird-watching.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.		There are many areas across the Peninsula already cleared that could be used for these activities - areas that don't require removal/destroying of high-quality vegetation and habitat	Option 1	Nothing is more important than protecting the environment! While I understand that people need space for outdoor recreation/sport, these activities can take place in areas that are not environmentally sensitive, and if we do not protect and nurture our environment individually and collectively, the impacts of climate change will increasingly make it difficult to engage in these activities due to storms, fires, excessive heat, etc. There is plenty of room to protect this unique local environment and still have room for sports!	Daily	Walk / run	
350	Jun 09, 2021, 01:34 PM	The natural largely unspoiled environments	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Pests and weeds		There are already a significant number of facilities for organised sport. If further facilities are needed then there is plenty of open space away from such a sensitive area.	Option 1	There are more appropriate areas that could be so used.	Fortnightly	Walk / run	
351	Jun 09, 2021, 01:29 PM	Most important for me is knowing our conservation efforts will endure well into the future and enrich the lives of our children To walk through the Balcombe Estuary Reserves is a sheer delight - one I proudly share with guests and family regularly. I appreciate the opportunity to observe the diverse endemic flora along the way and have often used the reserve as a reference to source planting ideas for residential gardening in my work. The diversity of birdlife is also a joy, particularly from the bird hide which allows observation/photography without interruption to these precious visitors and natives who are in such need of protection.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Other: Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc. Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Expanding sporting facilities into the bush environment along the estuary.		Option 1	Increasing population and residential housing development puts undue pressure on the environment everywhere with our green wedges being either completely developed or whittled down to just mown grass and concrete car parks and footpaths in the name of accessibility for all. Bush Land and native animal corridors are undervalued being reduced to nothing such that this minimisation is destroying water quality and wiping out ecosystems! They need protection and the Balcombe Estuary Reserve is one worth saving. I think Council should consider zoning some of the adjacent farm land as sporting/recreation level playing fields so that it does not get broken up and sold as more houses, more concrete etc.	Weekly	Other (please specify): Drive and walk	
352	Jun 09, 2021, 12:00 PM	I place utmost importance on the environmental and ecological significance of this treasure which is the Balcombe Estuary Reserve. It is quite unique with its diversity of flora and fauna, and as such attracts locals and visitors alike. As such, it needs to be protected at all costs.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.		I think that any further development of formal sport and recreation uses in the study area cited above would be detrimental. I think a balance is impossible given the environmental significance of the area. Surely there must be other areas which could be considered that are not of need of protection. As the demands of population growth put increased pressure on the Mornington Peninsula, it is even more important we preserve our fragile environment.	Option 1	I think I have already addressed this question in my previous comments. It would be a tragedy in my opinion to see such a unique and significant environmental and ecological area devastated by any further development. I am certainly not opposed to sporting organizations, with my family and myself being actively involved in a range of sports. BUT the existing needs to be appropriate, and there must be other available areas with no particular relevance.	Weekly	Walk / run	
353	Jun 09, 2021, 11:42 AM	Indigenous connections to the land. A community space to share and learn how to protect native flora and fauna together and consider habitats and spaces we could extend into our back yards too. Incredible waterway opportunity modelling effects urban living and linking to a clean and healthy bay.	Yes	8	No	Pests and weeds; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Vegetation removal. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.		Utilise already derused spaces like the front paddocks of the Briars or surrounding farmland instead of the minimal green wedges. Really we need to link and expand to corridors.	Option 1	There are so few spaces left for wild life and this cannot be recreated. It is vital to be conserved and even expanded for the future.	Weekly	Walk / run	
354	Jun 09, 2021, 10:53 AM	Preservation of natural habitat is desirable in an environment where concrete and bitumen encroachment is the developmental norm. Sporting fields and buildings are not natural environment. Republican or monarchist it is worth noting that Hyde park and other large parks in the London area would not exist today except for the absolute authority of the monarchs of the day. Central park in New York can only be the result of an authority of the day with long term vision. There is a need to fight for the environment.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement		There are four ovals in the immediate area. I doubt that any are fully utilized each day. The oval could be aggregated into two or three ovals and the fourth used to provide amenity for sports not covered.	Option 2	Already adjacent to large recreational area and an isolated small pocket of natural habitat would be of marginal benefit. Better to protect the larger area more vigorously and sacrifice this area.	Weekly	Walk / run	
355	Jun 09, 2021, 10:04 AM	It is one of the most special places on the peninsula. The boardwalk and surrounds are stunning for strolling alone and the creek and estuary are incredible for kаяaking on.	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of enforcement; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area		I believe there are many other places around the peninsula which are already cleared or degraded land for supporting sporting activities, we must not degrade existing vegetation. If all needs to be conserved, protected and then enhanced and added to.	Option 1	We need to conserve all existing bushland and protect it for wildlife and future generations to enjoy.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	
356	Jun 09, 2021, 09:49 AM	Most important: maximize bush land and walking tracks. Reason why we appreciate what remains of the rural area, and frequently use it.	Yes	8	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	n.a	Build sporting facilities in the less attractive environments.	Option 1	Sporting facilities at Zone 8 would corrupt the ambience of the adjacent board walk.	Weekly	Walk / run	
357	Jun 09, 2021, 09:49 AM	Retaining the natural environment of the Balcombe Estuary. I love birdwatching and the Estuary is great bird watching venue. Its good for my mental well being. I'm concerned this wonderful place may not be here for my grandchildren to enjoy.	No	10	No	Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Unauthorised BMX tracks Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds		Develop organised sport in areas already cleared. We can't get this area back if vegetation is allowed to be cleared	Option 1	Sport can be developed elsewhere. The Balcombe Estuary can't be protected elsewhere. It's a natural beauty.	Fortnightly	Drive (solo)	It seems sedimentation from storm water flowing off unmade roads is the most pressing issue. It's choking the Estuary.
358	Jun 09, 2021, 07:02 AM	That the area retains its natural character as much as possible while being accessible for all to enjoy.	Yes	10	Not sure	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Poor management; Pests and weeds; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area		Make sure all facilities are under strict management and that restrictions are enforced	Option 1	A lot of the area is already developed for sport & recreation. The natural habitat has its own critical mass and you can't keep nibbling away at it and expect it to be maintained	Daily	Walk / run	
359	Jun 08, 2021, 10:15 PM	I love to walk along the boardwalk along the creek. I find the reserves a peaceful place to walk through. I walk 2 kms to walk through the reserve on Saturday and Sunday. It interestingly to see the reserve at different period. I love it when the sand bar block the flow out to the sea and the water floods over the banks into the reserve and under the board walk. I love to see the birdlife that visit Balcombe creek. It is important to me to maintain regular accessible access to the reserve so people from all ages can enjoy the Reserve. It is important to me to have a meeting place with friends and family at the Rotunda. I greatly appreciate the seats and BBQ's. In winter I will regularly go down and use the open fire place.	Yes	10	Yes	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal		No	Option 1	I believe there is adequate space for formal sport activities, there is no need to expand the current sporting use at the expense of further loss of natural vegetation.	Weekly	Walk / run	
360	Jun 08, 2021, 09:08 PM	The flora and fauna The beautiful access to walks to see the birds and the ever changing estuary.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Unauthorised BMX tracks; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal		Members of various sporting groups could be on a committee with other aspects of park management. BERG, EPA, shore planning.	Option 1	We need to protect and preserve this site not develop and expand	Daily	Walk / run	
361	Jun 08, 2021, 08:12 PM	An area that preserves the natural environment and is slowly being returned to its pre-colonial state. It can preserve species, provide a refuge and enable individuals and community to connect with, and value, nature.	Yes	8	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Uncontrolled activities; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs		Ensure that facilities are used across a broader time span rather than increasing facilities. Place sporting facilities in derused farming land.	Option 1	There are very limited locations to provide increased habitat corridors but more locations that can be developed for sport.	Weekly	Walk / run	There is very little original habit on the Mornington Peninsula, particularly associated with an inland waterway. We should value and preserve this for future generations. Aside from environmental values, the estuary provides a significant lifestyle benefit.
362	Jun 08, 2021, 07:51 PM	Protecting this habitat for the protection of plants and animals that live there	Yes	7	No	Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Pests and weeds; Uncontrolled activities		Construct sporting facilities in areas away from the estuary reserve	Option 1	To protect the remaining natural environment incorporate it into the existing nature reserve	Weekly	Walk / run	
363	Jun 08, 2021, 05:40 PM	A natural environment without unnatural human intervention. It is important for our physical and mental health, for promoting our 46 green spaces 46' and supporting our indigenous flora and fauna.	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Uncontrolled activities; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs		The Reserve is too small to support large sporting complexes such as in Mornington. We need green spaces suitable for all age groups to enjoy. Organised sport is only one form of recreation.	Option 1	Because there is such a small amount of natural vegetation in Mount Martha. We live here for the 46 country feel 46' and natural ambience which is rapidly being developed with disregard for the natural environment. Perhaps sporting facilities could be built along the freeway/corridor stations seem to get priority over creek beds.	Weekly	Walk / run	There is a very active volunteer group BERG. The members are actively striving to keep this area true to its origins and to involve the community in its upkeep. The area is a valuable individual and community resource.
364	Jun 08, 2021, 05:20 PM	Preserving as much as is possible the condition of the estuary for future generations to enjoy and understand the unique environment dating thousands of years.	Yes	10	No	Poor management; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area		Base it on independent scientific studies, not just residential demands.	Option 1	The ecological sustainability of the estuary is at stake and further "development" of the land will threaten the unique estuary, which is for all citizens. Given the surrounding land in the region that may be available it does not seem right to increase sporting, commercial and other uses for such a delicate environment. Once gone, it is gone forever.	Fortnightly	Drive (car pool)	Thank you for the opportunity to give my opinion.
365	Jun 08, 2021, 05:00 PM	Protecting the biodiversity of the area What is most important to me is to know there is a beautiful tranquil place, away from the hustle and bustle of the Mt Martha Village and the busyness of life where one can be immersed in nature. Having such peaceful places protected is important. Such places are valuable for nurturing the human spirit, helping people to understand their place on the planet, enabling a sense of place and an appreciation of the values only a quiet natural environment contains.	Yes	9	Not sure	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand.		Meaningful and respectful conversation between the interested parties	Option 1	Due to its significance	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	
366	Jun 08, 2021, 04:55 PM	Living in Mornington, where there is little, or no, remnant bushland. I am drawn to Mt Martha reserves for their wild green spaces, wherever I need to connect with nature. In fact that's why I joined BERG when I moved to the Peninsula 6 years ago. Since moving here I've seen the pace of urban development accelerate to an alarming degree, which makes preservation and protection of what little native vegetation remains, critical to the future health and well-being of this community. For its natural beauty, physical and psychological health-promoting benefits, carbon-sink properties, and provision of habitat for our wildlife.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.		Formal sport and recreation could be developed in clearly defined (and regulated), specifically zoned areas in significantly degraded places or more extreme BMX tracks could be developed in already degraded zones in which pedestrians should not be allowed. However there needs to be stricter controls to disallow BMX riders in non BMX zones	Option 1	Environmental values on the MP are continually being eroded. These values are finite. Once they are lost they cannot be replaced. Therefore, if we want to protect what we have left, any opportunity to preserve environmental values on the MP MUST be wholeheartedly embraced. This option is the best way of adhering to the MP's Biodiversity Conservation Plan.	Annually	Drive (car pool)	It would be wonderful if the Mornington Peninsula's Biodiversity Conservation Plan was the basis for any Council decision made concerning "development versus the natural environment". At present it seems to have little relevance to these decisions. A strengthening of Planning resolve to adopt a default position of first claim, concerning the Conservation Plan would be a profoundly wise far-sighted position and would result in the MP being a place of healthy and enviable environmental diversity for years to come.
367	Jun 08, 2021, 04:32 PM	It is one of the few remaining natural habitats on the Peninsula. Used for other than environmental values will further diminish these gems.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Poor management; Uncontrolled activities		Apply an ESO over the whole Estuary as there are other areas already dedicated to organised sport and recreational uses.	Option 1	Because an ESO will apply the protection needed for the diminishing natural environment values that the Estuary provides	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	
368	Jun 08, 2021, 04:17 PM	Natural environment	Yes	7	Yes	Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Poor management		Defined and clearly marked boundaries Improved maintenance	Option 2	Need sporting facilities so the young people are engaged in activities which avoids them possibly getting involved in less desirable pursuits. The area is large enough to still retain conservation areas of natural habitat and less formal activities than organised sport	Weekly	Walk / run	
369	Jun 08, 2021, 03:30 PM	Living in Mornington, where there is little, or no, remnant bushland. I am drawn to Mt Martha reserves for their wild green spaces, wherever I need to connect with nature. In fact that's why I joined BERG when I moved to the Peninsula 6 years ago. Since moving here I've seen the pace of urban development accelerate to an alarming degree, which makes preservation and protection of what little native vegetation remains, critical to the future health and well-being of this community. For its natural beauty, physical and psychological health-promoting benefits, carbon-sink properties, and provision of habitat for our wildlife.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Unauthorised BMX tracks; Uncontrolled activities		Build sporting facilities on land that has already been cleared	Option 1	Every little remaining piece of undisturbed land in this area is precious, and we owe it to our native wildlife and future generations of residents, to actively protect and preserve it.	Weekly	Drive (solo)	
370	Jun 08, 2021, 02:45 PM	It remains as one of the least developed areas in Mt Martha and beyond. So much land has now been used for development/housing, the area needs to have a reserve like Balcombe Estuary to maintain its appeal and also for environmental needs.	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs		Formal sport and recreation areas should and could be located in other areas where there is little or no impact on environment.	Option 1	Exactly as it states the area has environmental values and is connected to the estuary.	Weekly	Walk / run	
371	Jun 08, 2021, 02:40 PM	Preservation of areas of natural vegetation for the enjoyment of the community.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc. Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Unauthorised BMX tracks		Protecting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves is a top priority. Expansion of sporting facilities into the reserve area should not occur.	Option 1	as above	Weekly	Drive (solo)	

372	Jun 08, 2021, 02:23 PM	The Balcombe Estuary Reserve is one of our most valued local areas (along with the Briars) for enjoyable walks, offering the opportunity to appreciate the local flora and fauna - especially the yellow robins along the boardwalk path. This area can be enjoyed in all seasons, and by all demographics of the community - families, the older members of our community, teenagers, the fit and the not so fit. The tidal estuary brings a multitude of water birds, and the paths are rich with local and indigenous plant species.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Uncontrolled activities. Pests and weeds. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary		The sporting grounds within the Reserve study area are well serviced with amenities and parking. As our population grows and the clubs require larger facilities it would be preferable for them to move to less environmentally precious areas - as the sporting clubs at Civic Reserve, Mornington, have done successfully.	Option 1	Once the land is zoned for redevelopment there will be no going back. There are so few pockets of remnant bush and natural habitat left on the Peninsula and in Mt Martha in particular, that it is vital that the Balcombe Estuary be preserved for its environmental and sustainable worth.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)	Having lived in the Mt Martha area for 45 years the Balcombe Estuary Reserve has been a vital and much-loved area for locals to use and appreciate. The work done by local community groups (Rotary, local schools, BERG) in partnership with the Shire have all contributed to making this area well-maintained, safe, culturally respectful and well-signed. Please don't do anything which might endanger this fine balance in a unique environment.	
373	Jun 08, 2021, 02:04 PM	Estuarine creek and river systems constitute some of the rarest remaining aquatic and salt marsh habitat communities including the endangered EVCS Estuarine Swampy Scrub, Freshwater Swamp Scrub, Swampy Riparian Woodland and patches of Grassly Woodland. They are a key habitat zone for a host of significant species including Dwarf Galaxias, Southern Tassals, White-throated Newellies, Great Egrets, Rose Spoonbills, Lewin's Rail et. al. These critical habitats and species need protection from a host of threats to avoid slipping into an extinction phase.	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc. Lack of enforcement		Find or purchase suitable sites for sporting endeavours. This site is largely intact and of critical importance. All efforts should be made to ensure the long term survival of this unique ecosystem.	Option 1	All efforts must be made to protect & connect the remnant pockets of indigenous vegetation remaining on the Mornington Peninsula. Bunkins must be employed and supported to further efforts to ensure entire ecosystems are protected and not under constant threat.	Fortnightly	Walk / run	In addressing the threats to all plant and animal communities posed by climate change we need to take every opportunity to protect the remaining remnants to ensure ecosystems that our own species relies upon are able to survive.	
374	Jun 08, 2021, 02:00 PM	Most important - maintain it, not lose this lovely, peaceful, vegetated piece of paradise on the edge of the city where there is so much bird life. It would be a travesty of this generation to take more of the natural vegetation and beauty for commercial purposes.	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Other: People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs.	Big events and Littering especially at beach end & slipperiness of boardwalk risk of injury.	Sport is about exercise. Why is it necessary to drive right up to a sporting event - walk a short way to create parking where there is space with paths to the ground.	Option 1	Enough encroachment on and relinquishment of natural assets, let's plan for the future and consider the importance of preserving spaces. We have an attitude of constant advancement and modernisation which ultimately means destroying what we have, and we can never get back.	Daily	Walk / run	Time for local governments to not fall over to developers and @#%&@#% at the expense of the environment.	
375	Jun 08, 2021, 01:44 PM	Keeping the area as undeveloped as possible. The waterway and its catchment is an important ecosystem sustaining a wide variety of native flora and fauna.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds.		Placing sport facilities in already developed or cleared land.	Option 1	I think the Balcombe Estuary needs to be kept as pristinely as possible as a wildlife corridor.	Weekly	Walk / run	I would be devastated if the estuary was harmed in any way by development.	
376	Jun 08, 2021, 01:30 PM	Preserving it for the future because there aren't many natural spaces left on the Peninsula. The Estuary Reserves a special and diverse.	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Lack of enforcement; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Poor management.		There are already two areas for port within the Estuary Reserve. Why not move the sport to local schools where there are already the facilities for it, as well as toilets. We need to conserve the small areas of bushland we have left.	Option 1	There are places on the Peninsula which have already had all of the vegetation cleared and could be used for sport. The Estuary Reserves are precious.	Weekly	Drive (car pool)		
377	Jun 08, 2021, 01:18 PM	The most important aspect of the Balcombe Estuary reserves are the area's tremendous biodiversity. Many studies have shown the value of human connection and access to nature for our mental health and well-being. Having access to the three wild place in my local area is very good for my mental health, particularly during the pandemic. These relatively unspoiled reserves provide important habitat for many species that otherwise have very few places to live. We need natural places like these for our own health and for the protection of wildlife.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc. Lack of enforcement		Exploring the use of school grounds by sporting clubs outside of school hours. Creating any new sporting grounds on areas of land that have already been cleared of natural vegetation. Mandating high density housing to enable more people to live in less area, therefore leaving more area for recreational use and the natural environment.	Option 1	This area is an important extension of existing bushland that also likely helps connect the Briars and the Balcombe Estuary Reserves as habitat for wildlife. It contains several large trees that are important habitat for birds and mammals and is home to abundant birdlife. In just this area I have seen eastern yellow robins, eastern spinebills, spotted pardalines, rufous whistlers, grey fantails (including one redstart), grey shrike-thrushes and many other birds.	Weekly	Walk / run	The Balcombe Estuary Reserves are among Mount Martha's most valuable assets because they are one of the few remaining natural places, they support an abundance of wildlife and provide a place where people can connect with nature and each other. Australia and the world are facing an extinction crisis driven in large part driven by habitat loss. We need to protect every little bit of nature that we can in order to preserve the flora and fauna that call the Mornington Peninsula home.	
378	Jun 08, 2021, 01:17 PM	Remnant vegetation is precious and every effort must be made to protect it, in 1846 it's own right and for future generations. This includes not permitting development in immediately adjacent areas, that have a impact. The Balcombe estuary reserves are well maintained with a strong community spirit from concerned citizens. It does not have the same introduced weed problems that other @#%&@#% have on the Peninsula. It remains an ecological reserve that supports bird, aquatic, and plant species - and one of the few estuary sites on Port Phillip Bay that has not been commercialised and developed.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of enforcement; Pests and weeds.		Sport and other recreational facilities can only be managed within the broader picture of community planning and overall infrastructure. Ultimately, this is a question of density limits that Council seem unable or unwilling to address. Sport and recreational areas do not require decimation of valuable ecological areas. By their very nature, they require well developed single or limited use land management, and there is sufficient areas nearby and elsewhere on the central Peninsula that could be used.	Option 1	The stated benefits of Option 1 totally outweigh those of Option 2. Once lost to development, restoration of sustainable ecologies is impossible to achieve.	Monthly	Walk / run		
379	Jun 08, 2021, 01:16 PM	Since 1997, the Balcombe Estuary Reserves Group@#%&@#%'s dedicated volunteers have worked in conjunction with the shire@#%&@#%'s Natural Systems team and the Naturelinks organisation to protect, preserve and rehabilitate the Bushland, Creek, Estuary and Coast for the enjoyment and benefit of all of the Mornington Peninsula@#%&@#%'s large and expanding community. This beautiful place is in constant use and accessible to walkers and joggers, families, school groups and pre-schoolers, people of all abilities, birdwatchers, kayakers, and more from across the Peninsula and beyond @#%&@#%'s place for recreation, environmental learning, respite, relaxation and delight. I am opposed to any vegetation removal or expansion of sporting facilities and car parking into this area. An ESO is required prevent this happening. While sporting facilities are undoubtedly an important part of our community, they can be developed elsewhere, on land already cleared or degraded. Our irreplaceable Balcombe Estuary Reserves, at 73 hectares, are just 0.0001% of the 72,300 hectare Mornington Peninsula. Surely there are numerous more suitable and environmentally sensitive opportunities to accommodate our expanding population.	Not sure	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Uncontrolled activities; Lack of enforcement; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds.		Recreational sporting facilities should be developed elsewhere, on land already cleared or degraded to meet community demand. An Environmental Significance Overlay is required to protect the Estuary Reserves.	Option 1	The Balcombe Estuary Reserves, at 73 hectares, are just 0.0001% of the 72,300-hectare Mornington Peninsula and are irreplaceable. Surely there are numerous more suitable and environmentally sensitive opportunities to accommodate our expanding population and need for recreational spaces.	Other (please specify): Several times a year	Drive (car pool)		
380	Jun 08, 2021, 01:04 PM	This area is an important nature refuge for remaining flora and fauna in the area. I have personally seen echidna, snakes, blue kowee lizards and eels within the last year.	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Pests and weeds. Other: Unauthorised BMX tracks; Uncontrolled activities; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	sewerage contamination	Renovate and remove existing cleared areas.	Option 1	This area is required as a buffer from the highway. A footpath leading towards Craigie Rd over the creek needs to be added to the bridge for increased pedestrian safety.	Weekly	Walk / run	No	
381	Jun 08, 2021, 01:02 PM	It is available to so many people for mainly passive activities. Casual family and group gatherings have few other venues so suitable to all ages. This has been particularly important during long stretches of lockdown.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Pests and weeds.		More intensive use of current facilities rather than take up additional land.	Option 1	It is a relatively small area that needs to be protected while it still provides a great recreational facility for a wide range of locals and visitors.	Fortnightly	Walk / run	I would like to see more and clearer signs requiring cyclists to dismount along the board walk. It increasing became a problem during lock down and very hazardous as social distancing is not possible between walkers and cyclists.	
382	Jun 08, 2021, 12:58 PM	The study area needs to be protected to preserve the flora and fauna in this unique area.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs. Pests and weeds.		Consult with and support BERG on a regular basis.	Option 1	It protects the environmental values of the area.	Weekly	Walk / run	Would like to attend any community meeting and be made aware or progress on this issue.	
383	Jun 08, 2021, 12:47 PM	Preservation of flora & fauna so the natural environment stays as intact as possible.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Poor management, Uncontrolled activities; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.		There are several areas in Mount Martha that are not so close to such a significant environmental habitat for plants & animals. There is a lot of area near Clifton Oval that could be expanded. Also a huge tract of land on Forest Dve near the water tank.	Option 1	There is so little land zoned for conservation use. By preserving this area we are thinking of future generations, wildlife zones for native species, natural environment for health & well being and keeping a unique landscape undeveloped in Mount Martha.	Daily	Walk / run	The development of the Balcombe Estuary has far reaching consequences for Mount Martha beach & the creek upstream. The interconnectedness of these habitats needs to be a major consideration.	
384	Jun 08, 2021, 12:33 PM	A natural and unique place to enjoy and appreciate the native bush and fauna at a time when developments are reducing our natural places.	Yes	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of enforcement; Pests and weeds.		no organised sport can go elsewhere where it is less destructive	Option 1	Its unique and cannot be replaced in its current form, chipping away and increased activity will over time destroy or degrade what we have	Weekly	Walk / run		
385	Jun 08, 2021, 12:28 PM	Preserving the ecological integrity of the reserves.	Yes	8	No	Poor management; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.		Not at present.	Option 1	Whilst I am a great advocate for community sport, there are already two major sporting facilities within the reserve area. Conservation of remnant habitat corridors should be prioritised where there are alternatives for community facilities.	Other (please specify): Previously daily, three now moved.	Walk / run		
386	Jun 07, 2021, 03:35 PM	It is a very diverse, sensitive and complex environment catering for both active and passive pursuits. Balancing the demands of each presents many challenges for Council and the community now and in the future.	Yes	10	Yes	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc. Uncontrolled activities; Pests and weeds; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand.		Clear (and well maintained) delineation of active and passive environments using such means as signage, fencing and landscaping (soft and hard) to protect the integral values of each.	Option 1	Believe there are adequate opportunities within the existing sport and recreation reserves to cater for future required uses and developments. In addition, 469 Nepean Highway presents as a logical extension of the PCR Zone (by way of its current state and location).	Daily	Walk / run		
387	Jun 07, 2021, 12:37 PM	The thing which is most important when I think about the Balcombe Estuary Reserves is the preservation and growth of local native flora and fauna. This is because native wildlife and plant life need to have a home as well as being guaranteed that no harm will come to their local populations.	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc. Lack of enforcement; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks.		I feel that in order for unauthorised BMX tracks to no longer be built, dedicated areas for their creation and maintained need to be created, as if building said tracks are just stopped through enforcement, they will still continue to be made in locations which could cause further harm to the environment.	Option 1	I picked that option as although it doesn't appear to be quite large on the map, it still would be a large amount of vegetation which would have to be removed. Therefore I believe that it shouldn't be developed on.	Other (please specify): By daily	Walk / run	I appreciate the continued support of the Balcombe Estuary. Although this is unrelated, I believe that a good skate park within Mt Martha could help address the growing amount of skaters within the area while providing them with an area for them, reducing public disturbances. Full disclosure, I'm a skater myself and would love to see some place where I don't have to damage my boards, wheels on the footpaths or risk riding in a car park.	
388	Jun 08, 2021, 05:59 AM	The area has been degraded over the past 40 years from our observations. The birdlife in the estuary is sparse.	No	4	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc. Lack of enforcement; Uncontrolled activities; Pests and weeds.		The area should be prioritised as a sporting precinct.	Option 2	Expand existing sporting facilities.	Monthly	Walk / run		
389	Jun 05, 2021, 09:05 AM	The reserve has essential ecological value to the community as it hosts many fauna and flora unique to the area particularly birds and small mammals. It is a link between the sea and the Briars and beyond that across to Devilbend Natural Features reserve and the Eastern Mornington Peninsula and Westport. This estuary is the only remaining of its kind on the Peninsula which has been relatively unaltered (developed by human intervention) (NS Safety Beach development). The community are increasingly using the reserve for walking on tracks. One less than desirable increase is bike riding and track making by young boys and parents with no heed for the environmental destruction of flora and habitat.	Yes	10	No	Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Unauthorised BMX tracks; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds.		My husband and I walked at the Emil Madsen reserve in Woonulla drive Mt Eliza yesterday and we noted how it had been developed since we were last there many years ago. The facilities are extensive and excellent and sports fields have increased by purchase of adjoining farm land. The Balcombe estuary reserve is a little space and therefore should have developmental caps placed as there is no more room for extended sports facilities. As much of the housing for young families is further @#%&@#% north of the @#%&@#%'s road facilities should be formed in the areas of greater development and natural spaces maintained for environmental habitat and beauty.	Option 1	This land is still an important habitat area for birds and mammals etc., until recently echidnas/koalas have been residential here but not seen by my husband or I for a while. The area links directly with the creek and across to the Briars. The grassed area is an informal sports play area as well as dog walking and many bird species are commonly seen feeding on grasses and surrounding vegetation eg red browed finches which are one woodland bird in decline regionally for example. The area is small and as such not suitable for formal sports development.	Weekly	Walk / run	This area is my backyard and increasingly there are people who do not live close by utilising the reserve. Many people drive from Mornington and beyond eg Frankston (or Melbourne at weekends) and do not understand the fragile nature of the area and often have no specific regard for its preservation. The issue of dogs in the reserve is also a problem as visitors often disobey the rules and allow dogs off lead with harm to native fauna. There is a trend to @#%&@#% get out in nature@#%&@#% but many people do not realise that there is an attendant responsibility when we do and that this environment is not without its stressors. Our increasing visitors and population density in Mt Martha mean that future planning to preserve areas of significance is absolutely paramount.	
390	Jun 04, 2021, 08:06 PM	A reserve that is a sanctuary for native animals and an area to re-vegetate.	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Uncontrolled activities.		Utilise some space at the Mount Martha golf course.	Option 1	Future sporting space could be obtained from using some areas of the golf course.	Monthly	Walk / run		
391	Jun 04, 2021, 03:46 PM	To protect threatened species of plants and animals by maintaining their habitat. Personally important to me as a place I can walk through to watch the birds and observe the natural environment. Preservation of natural vegetation. Eradication of weeds and invasive plants. Preservation of habitat for native animals, fish and birds. Exclusion of any residential "creeper".	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Uncontrolled activities; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand.		I suggest looking into the sharing of public/private school facilities in the area for organised sport and leave the small amount of estuary reserve alone.	Option 2	@#%&@#%'s an acknowledgement of the need to provide for our growing population whilst being mindful of our conservation needs.	Weekly	Walk / run	Live	
392	Jun 04, 2021, 02:14 PM	Exclusion of any residential "creeper". Elimination of water pollution.	Yes	10	No	Lack of enforcement; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary.		Expanding areas other than Balcombe Estuary Reserves to accommodate formal sport and recreation uses.	Option 1	Important to preserve what is left of natural vegetation for animal and bird habitat. Far too much has been destroyed already (Australia wide).	Other (please specify): Six monthly	Drive (car pool)		
393	Jun 03, 2021, 02:45 PM	peaceful natural environment	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary.		use the sporting areas more efficiently.	Option 1	possibly enough formal sporting areas having a look would just promote rubbish.	Monthly	Walk / run		

394	Jun 03, 2021, 02:18 PM	To preserve the flora and fauna in this area is an increasingly popular / busy location. We are so lucky to have the estuary and surrounding bush land at the heart of Mt Martha.	Yes	9	Not sure	Lack of enforcement; Poor management; Other: Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Uncontrolled activities	If the barrier to the access road is open at citation reserve, cars can access the grassed area and tear up the grass doing burnouts. There is also frequent illegal dumping of hard rubbish in these areas.	Unsure	Option 2	Could this be an area for a designated bmx / mountain bike track? This is a hugely popular sport amongst our local youth and there is nowhere for them to ride. You can continue to demolish their jumps but unless they have a designated area they will continue to rebuild them. I feel the council damages more of the vegetation when they try to get into the bush land to demolish the tracks with diggers. We should be encouraging our kids to be active and outdoors. Red hill is great for riding but the kids cannot access these tracks without transport.	Daily	Walk / run		Live
395	Jun 03, 2021, 09:53 AM	Preservation of the natural environment combined with appropriate public use of the estuary reserve.	Not sure			Other (please comment): Minor clearing works to facilitate logical development (eg. reconfiguration and sealing of the car park) on the north side of Watson Road near 5 the Mount Martha shops.	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal; Lack of formal car parking areas				Daily	Walk / run		
396	Jun 02, 2021, 02:54 AM	It is very important that the creek reserve be returned as much as possible to its natural vegetation state, within the restraint that current sporting and recreation zones are important to be retained and well maintained... but not extended. It is very important that the creek be protected from silt and if possible the seagrass be reestablished to attract the return of swans and other attractive sea and estuarine birds. Several adjacent roads, particularly Augusta Street, appear to be major silt contributors and surface seal should be an urgent consideration.	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Unauthorised BMX tracks	I think the current balance of recreational use (football & cricket, tennis, bowls, dog parks, boardwalks, kinder/health center, picnic grounds, fishing jetties, shooting, kayak & swimming at the beach end) are excellent and encompass an important variety of activities for peninsula residents... however these cleared areas are sufficient and should not be extended. These developed areas cater for the very important physical, social and mental health, for a wide range of ages and interests. There is some attractive land in Augusta Street that could possibly be acquired for inclusion as it is classified flood prone and unsuitable for building.	Option 1	We need to retain as much land as possible as natural habitat. Via BERG we are attempting to remove weed infestation to re-establish indigenous vegetation and provide that natural habitat for birds and animals. This is an outstanding natural area, very valuable to the Peninsula. Mount Martha has a very good balance of land use with a contained convenient commercial area, beautiful beaches, sea views & facilities (LSC & YC) schools, extensive and wide variety of recreational areas and very attractive domestic housing development... the gem of the Peninsula!	Daily	Walk / run	The Balcombe Estuary Reserve is very much a reason we bought our home here in Watson Road. We overlook this attractive area, we walk our dog daily for the physical and mental relaxation it affords (and keeps our dog very happy). We have joined BERG to help with the maintenance... a very constructive and social group with shire council support. It is a very valuable facility for all ages of our local community.		
397	Jun 01, 2021, 07:53 PM	Protection and management of a unique environment.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Other: Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	The deliberate opening of the estuary into the bay by the public.	Option 1	To protect the environment, flora and fauna.	Weekly	Walk / run			
398	Jun 01, 2021, 04:39 PM	Preserving this beautiful area for future generations to enjoy, limited or no development, providing a habitat for native animals and plants	Yes	10	No	Poor management; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	Develop land that is non environmentally sensitive	Option 1	So much native vegetation in Mt Martha is already being cleared on residential blocks, we need to protect the little we have remaining and find alternative sites in non environmentally sensitive areas for recreational purposes.	Daily	Walk / run			
399	Jun 01, 2021, 03:19 PM	Protecting and maintaining the natural environment, flora and fauna.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Other: Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	The non natural opening of the estuary to the bay.	Option 1	Option 1 seems to allow a balance to be created between conservation and limited managed development.	Daily	Walk / run			
400	Jun 01, 2021, 12:53 PM	Natural reserve with an abundance of wildlife living there that the larger community is unaware of, for example, bats and seals that rely on the estuary for breeding.	Yes	9	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Uncontrolled activities; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of enforcement	Leave the Balcombe Estuary Reserve alone! We do not need more units/household housing in this area. The Village will lose its quaint appeal like Benwick Village has over the years. We have Mornington nearby with great sporting facilities that can be utilised.	Option 1	Mt Martha would become too busy. There are other facilities here and nearby, Mornington which can be utilised.	Weekly	Walk / run			
401	Jun 01, 2021, 11:15 AM	We love the tranquility of the boardwalk in both directions, to Briars and to Mt Martha village.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Poor management	I think there are enough formal sport areas, with Fenners Reserve and Clifton Oval. There is also bowls and tennis courts.	Option 1	I want less development and less removal of flora.	Fortnightly	Walk / run			
402	May 31, 2021, 07:21 PM	Keeping natural bush land areas for birds and other animals, and keeping the natural beauty and uniqueness of the area. Water quality Good accessible walking areas	Yes	8	Not sure	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks	I think the Ferraro ovals are well used and good areas around for walking (plus with dogs) Could do with new/updated pavilion rooms. ? Is citation ovals area well utilised I would not like much chance for the area.	Option 1	Keep as much bush land vegetation as possible. Quite an open area there now. New car parking etc would make that corner area quite ugly if too much vegetation needed to be removed... plus access for cars coming and going would make the intersection onto Nepean Hwy more congested and even more DANGEROUS than it is already. That intersection needs serious upgrading	Daily	Walk / run			
403	May 31, 2021, 05:20 PM	It is a natural, unspoilt area with a boardwalk which enables you enjoy to it without disturbing the environment.	No	1	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Uncontrolled activities; Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Poor management	Too many resources are allocated to sport. More needs to be done to protect the environment.	Option 1	To protect and conserve the natural environment but I don't support development, which you have deliberately not specified.	Monthly	Drive (solo)			
404	May 31, 2021, 03:38 PM	The natural environment, and protection for flora and bird species.	Yes	9	No	Uncontrolled activities; Poor management; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement	More use of existing facilities -- I often see them empty. Cooperative sharing among groups. Try to locate them in grasslands away from Balcombe Creek.	Option 1	I am generally in favor of protecting the natural environment on Balcombe Creek. However, I realize that this may be a good site for recreation.	Monthly	Drive (solo)	I think the council is doing a good job protecting our natural environment, and I hope that you will continue to do so in my view, the biggest threat is development of residential sites. I am not too concerned with the odd recreational venue.		
405	May 30, 2021, 04:47 PM	Balcombe Creek, short finned eel migration, native wildlife corridor, yellow robins, eastern spine lilia, micro bats, swamp footmouths to name a few.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Poor management; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Other	Pollution run-off upstream from agricultural fertilisers causing high nutrient load in creek.	Option 1	Biodiversity is important and as above there are plenty of sporting facilities already	Daily	Walk / run			
406	May 30, 2021, 01:08 PM	Barbecues stay in use and wildlife is protected.	Yes	8	Not sure	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds	No	Option 1	Zoning the land for conservation to ensure wildlife safety and preservation or the natural environment is important to me.	Fortnightly	Walk / run			
407	May 30, 2021, 10:12 AM	Its a link to the areas original and natural ecology that provides both a great habitat for wildlife and a relaxing place to walk and spend time in nature.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Unauthorised BMX tracks	Use the farmland in the Briars Estate as an area for kids to construct mountain bike / BMX tracks. Encourage neighboring properties to plant natives that are found in the reserve to 'extend' the habitat the wildlife can utilise. When the timber boardwalk is next due for repair / replacement use the non slip plastic grating as used on many hiking trails.	Option 1	Current space allocated for sporting facilities is adequate. I support these being kept available but we could make better use of the space currently available. I don't support clearing more land for car parking / ovals / facilities. We should be encouraging (and making available) public transport / car pooling / walking / riding to these facilities.	Daily	Walk / run			
408	May 29, 2021, 01:54 PM	conservation of flora and fauna	Not sure	10	No	Pests and weeds; Poor management; Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	no	Option 1	no	Other (please specify): live there	no			
409	May 29, 2021, 12:35 PM	That it be rehabilitated and preserved for the quiet enjoyment of future generations of people, and where native species of animals and plants can thrive. That it becomes an example of how bio-diversity can be maintained and thrive in a heavily built up environment for the benefit of all.	Yes	10	Surrounding environment	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of enforcement	Sporting clubs must enter an environmental charter with the Shire as part of their right to operate and utilise the facilities. The charter must detail their responsibilities in maintaining the integrity of the local environment in which they operate and there must be enforceable consequences if they fail to uphold those responsibilities which might include restricting their operations in terms of holding special functions, removal of their right to operate canteen facilities or have food vans, coffee van etc at their matches and in extreme cases removal of their right to access the facilities all together.	Option 1	It's primary focus is on the environment while not necessarily ruling out expansion of some sporting and recreational development	Daily	Walk / run	As a frequent user Clifton reserve I am dismayed by the lack of respect for the environment shown by the sporting clubs that use the facilities. The rubbish in the area after the weekend games is nothing short of disgraceful and I cannot reconcile how those who attend the matches and derive such enjoyment from the facilities seem to care so little about the surrounding environment and the state in which they leave it. The damage to the remnant bushland caused by mountain bike riders is distressing but speaks to the need for an designated area for kids and young adults alike to enjoy this pursuit. I would also strongly support the development of a skate park either at Clifton, near the existing tennis club or at Balcombe Recreation Reserve.	Live: Own a property	
410	May 28, 2021, 05:52 PM	Do not agree with making some area for residential near Uralta Road. Also, there needs to be severe restrictions on dogs which cause significant disruption to walkers on tracks. This is because they are often illegally off-leash or are on long leads that allow the dog to interfere with people walking. There is often dog poo, uncollected. 8 percent of the population has cynophobia - fear of dogs. Many more people are disabled and have trouble with dogs. Other people do not want to be bothered by dogs.	Yes	10	Not sure	People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Poor management	Stop dogs. Enforce your laws on dogs off-leash and disturbing people. Massively increase fines for offending dog owners.	Option 1	Happy with way things are except for dog problem but possible could have a soccer/hockey field for young people. But, this might mean they bring their dogs and let them loose on the soccer/hockey fields and areas. Council never enforces laws on dogs.	Fortnightly	Walk / run	Yes, stop dogs and enforce your laws against offending dog owners.		
411	May 27, 2021, 04:13 PM	The nature reserves, and looking after the indigenous flora and fauna	Yes	10	Not sure	Poor management; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	No	Option 1	We need to think of the long term future of the environment, not just immediate sport/recreation/commercial needs	Monthly	Walk / run	No		
412	May 26, 2021, 03:58 PM	The preservation of an established ecosystem: riparian vegetation, the creek health (plants and animals), and the surrounding vegetation. Consider the impact of encroaching human housing, weed invasion, feral/domestic animal predation on the natural systems.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Do not expand or develop the existing sporting facilities. Manage them more efficiently, or move them to another (degraded) area. My impression now is that the two elements are surviving reasonably harmoniously.	Option 1	I will always opt for preservation of the environment over development which involves clearing, paving, building	Monthly	Drive (solo)	I served on the Committee of BERG for about 30 years, and weeded regularly in that time. I know the vegetation well.		
413	May 25, 2021, 07:43 PM	I am 70 years old and my father came to Mt Martha around 95 years ago. He was brought up with 2 other siblings at 10 Mirang Ave Mt Martha. As they lived only 50m from the public camping area known as Mt Martha Caravan Park, in 1944 that was closed in the late 1970s both him and his siblings had an intimate knowledge of the opening and closing of Balcombe Creek to Port Phillip Bay. This knowledge was passed onto me from a very early age. When the creek backed up to a very high level they would by shovel open the creek up manually and not rely on the idiotic practice that prevails today. This enabled the creek to flush, let fish to either infiltrate or escape and provide exceptional breeding conditions for founder mullet, bream and a multitude of other species no longer seen in the Estuary because of gross infill by the so called BERG group.	No	10	Yes	Other: Poor management; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	Balcombe Creek needs more paddock/care activities. Also fishing is virtually non-existent. I was once a fishing haven when I was a youngster in the 1960s.	Option 2	Grossly under utilised compared to its Camping Ground Days.	Weekly	Walk / run	Balcombe Creek reserve of over 70 hectares is Mt Martha's greatest unknown treasure that costs rate payers a mere pittance to maintain compared to the Briars that is possibly the most extravagant folly currently costing rate payers \$10M's of millions of dollars a year.		
414	May 25, 2021, 02:18 PM	I live walking distance from the reserve and want it to remain unspoiled	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	There are other places to put sports facilities - this is not a suitable place	Option 1	To keep sports facilities away from the estuary	Daily	Walk / run	Police need to patrol reserves late at night because there are unauthorised gatherings		
415	May 24, 2021, 01:04 PM	I love the estuary I like to just go and enjoy the vistas of looking across the water ways and out to the bay. I love walking the boardwalk and enjoying the bird life and the feeling of fresh air and a bush environment. I like to see families enjoying the picnic facilities and playground area it is such a privilege to live nearby	Yes	9	Not sure	Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	I acknowledge the need and value of the current sporting facilities. Would like to see any expansion done sensitively to protect the natural environment	Option 1	I acknowledge the value of the current sporting facilities and their importance to the community. Would prefer any further extension to be done sensitively to protect the natural environment where possible	Daily	Walk / run	Some of the trees in Watlie Ave are dead/diseased. Do they need assessment in terms of care, removal, retaining for wild life?		
416	May 24, 2021, 11:25 AM	I think it is important to make sure the reserve is protected as much as possible especially from damage to vegetation and the dumping of rubbish.	Yes	10	Not sure	Vegetation removal; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Poor management	There needs to be a dedicated bike park in the area. This has been discussed multiple times. Instead there are just lots of unauthorised BMX bike ramps and unfortunately lots of rubbish around them.	Option 2	I think it should be removed and could include a bike park which has been discussed in Mount Martha multiple times but nothing has been done. This would help get rid of some of the unauthorised bike ramps and jumps which are in the reserve area.	Daily	Walk / run	This reserve is a beautiful area which is greatly appreciated by the locals - we would like to keep it this way.		

417	May 23, 2021, 01:42 PM	Access to all, especially children. I used to make "dens" as we called them back in the UK, in the council land adjacent to the "beek" creek in your language, when I was young. This would involve getting branches, tarpaulins etc to make small shelters for us to gather and play raids as our friends gathered in their dens. harmless fun that would entertain us for months during the summer. Under your proposals this would be banned as it would involve removal of vegetation and incorrect use of the area. Do you create an area that is pristine but only available to the few or have a combination of conservation and access to all?	No	1	Yes	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of formal car parking areas; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Pests and weeds; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Create Mountain bike tracks through the area behind and adjacent to the South Mornington football ovals. There is substantial areas of land put aside for environmental issues. Yet an old burnt out car is acceptable to be left in the bush behind the top oval but people complain to the council about mountain bike tracks for cyclists! There is too much land for the volunteers to cover and areas that no one goes to and becomes over run with weeds etc. let the kids have an area to ride, people are always whinging they never get off their scooters and when they do, they get hammered for making bike tracks.	Option 2	The ever increasing need for sporting facilities for the changing demographic in the Mount Martha area. The work done by the Balcombe estuary volunteers is excellent but shouldn't cover everything, compromise is the key. They should focus to areas adjacent to the creeks and walk ways but further a field should be used for other activities as long as run off etc doesn't impact on the areas listed for conservation.	Weekly	Walk / run	
418	May 23, 2021, 09:49 AM	This is a small, valuable piece of land. It is worth protecting and should take precedence over development which includes car parks, more sports grounds and housing. Once these small pockets of land are development, the beauty to the area is lost. The estuary is home to countless native animals, fish, birds and reptiles. I am so sad to see many of our native animals killed on the roads and by cats and dogs. Please ensure that this tiny valuable pocket of land is protected.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of enforcement; Poor management; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds	I strongly oppose that any native areas are removed or damaged. This area is priceless.	Option 1	THIS LAND MUST BE PROTECTED FOR THE ENVIRONMENT. NOT FOR SPORTS, HOUSING OR DEVELOPMENT.	Daily	Walk / run	
419	May 21, 2021, 08:58 PM	Natural environment. Should be protected at all costs for the reasons of ecology, beauty and tranquillity.	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Simple. Keep the areas separated. It would be nice to have better tracks leading to the estuary boardwalk from the MM Cricket Club/Football Club.	Option 1	Keep the area natural as possible and protected. Keep the green wedges.	Weekly	Walk / run	I'm disappointed the amount of weeds particularly the thistles that have unnecessarily become out of control in some areas yet I prefer them to be removed by hand (no chemicals used).
420	May 21, 2021, 03:43 PM	The environmental significance including the rare wetland habitat for bird and fish species. This is a critical site in supporting the local ecosystem	Yes	10	No	Other; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Polluted runoff and the plastic waste that continues to accumulate in the wetland	Option 1	The health of the local ecosystem comes above the need to construct new facilities	Daily	Walk / run	As a long time resident of the area, and owing property along the protected area we see the fragility of this land and its ecosystem. More work needs to be done to further expand and conserve the area.
421	May 21, 2021, 01:00 PM	The image and quality of the water in the estuary. Because this is the immediate physical view of the estuary when using the boardwalk or looking at the estuary from the bridge just before the Mount Martha shopping precinct.	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand.	I think the protection of the area is the starting point, hence any proposal to expand the current areas of formal sport in particular should require a clear justification why it is needed over and above existing sport infrastructure within Mount Martha and the surrounding areas.	Option 1	To protect it for future generations	Fortnightly	Walk / run	No
422	May 20, 2021, 11:17 PM	Love I can go for walk in natural environment, best well maintained	Not sure	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds.	No	Option 1	Plenty of other areas to develop, considering already started to develop	Daily	Walk / run	Keep as pristine as possible.
423	May 20, 2021, 06:39 PM	Protecting its natural beauty and not developing	Yes	10	No	Unauthorised BMX tracks; Lack of enforcement; Uncontrolled activities; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	More car parking	Option 1	The area is quiet and peaceful and we would like it to remain that way	Weekly	Walk / run	
424	May 20, 2021, 05:50 PM	Preserve natural environment	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement; Unauthorised BMX tracks	We believe that there are already enough formal sporting developments within this area.	Option 1	Reasons as above	Weekly	Walk / run	
425	May 20, 2021, 05:39 PM	That the environmental integrity and value are protected today and tomorrow. That it will remain a part of the community as it is with a protective overlay for generations to come. The Estuary requires protection from developers, development, and further situation. It is vital that this wonderful natural asset is protected	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Lack of formal car parking areas; Pests and weeds	Saving and protecting the Estuary and providing sport and recreational facilities is a dilemma that must be resolved by careful prioritization of limited resources and resources that can be adjusted and explored in further depth. Mount Martha is an environment worth standing up for, in terms of its environmental value as a whole. The Balcombe Estuary is a vulnerable space and needs us, and responsible authority to protect it. The assigned space that is "undecided" may be an option for future sport and recreation activities? Or do the two divide off. Do we better define "recreation activities" and assess these in terms of the environmental values of the Estuary? It may be possible there is a point where both can co-exist? Dogs may have to go elsewhere, however, in the interests of a clean hygienic and safe-free space, that may be a good move, but for dog lovers, the issue may be one they cannot depart from.	Option 1	Planning permits are subject to corruption based on big money.	Weekly	Bike ride	
426	May 20, 2021, 05:25 PM	Nature and the natural environment	Not sure	10	No	Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	No, I think the areas as a whole has wonderful facilities.	Option 1	The natural beauty is the areas biggest strength.	Monthly	Walk / run	
427	May 20, 2021, 04:58 PM	Ecological value for current and future generations. The precautionary principle to be applied to protect future generations ability to retain the current ecological values in this area	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of enforcement; Vegetation removal	Undertake arrangements with other sports facilities providers to ensure multiple groups are able to use these facilities. Single use and single user facilities should be discouraged	Option 1	The addition of the land broadens the corridor of protected areas within the Balcombe Estuary area. The land provides a buffer to the adjacent creek to protect its values as a waterway	Daily	Walk / run	
428	May 20, 2021, 04:26 PM	It is a great resource for recreational bushwalking, birdwatching & dog exercise as well as an abundance of plant life & fungi I aim to walk there a couple of times each week. It is usually quite relaxing except when yet another box track & associated vegetation removal is found. Usually an unexpected bird sighting.	Yes	10	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Unauthorised BMX tracks; Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement	Use already open areas eg near Clifton oval more sports activities plus associated parking	Option 1	It is a valuable conservation area. Some areas are degraded vegetation but even in there I have found ground orchids.	Weekly	Walk / run	I consider it a privilege to live close to such an area. It was a consideration when purchasing our home four years ago.
429	May 20, 2021, 02:55 PM	Protection of the unique estuary ecosystem should be the top priority. This wonderful asset is irreplaceable. The flora and fauna of the reserves must be given every opportunity to thrive. Sporting facilities can be located elsewhere.	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Pests and weeds	The current "balance" is already too weighted towards formal sport. Future sporting facilities should be developed in places of little environmental significance.	Option 1	Natural vegetation is rare. We must protect our natural environment wherever possible.	Daily	Walk / run	
430	May 20, 2021, 02:14 PM	We live close by the Balcombe Estuary Reserve. We have established a Native Garden across the entire area of our land. It is our wish that the Balcombe Estuary be maintained in its natural state as much as possible. The Balcombe Estuary Reserve is one of the few remaining natural areas on the Mornington Peninsula	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Poor management; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	The community must be educated to realize that the Balcombe Estuary is an area of unique natural significance. It must be protected from all forms of development and maintained in its natural state. There are other areas close by with good access which can be developed for sporting use.	Option 1	Balcombe Estuary is an area of unique natural significance. It must be protected from all forms of development and maintained in its natural state.	Daily	Walk / run	I hope you are maintaining close liaison with the BERG group as they do excellent work in protecting and improving the environment of the Balcombe Estuary.
431	May 20, 2021, 09:58 AM	keeping our local natural environment preserved with no ability for applications for development or change	Yes	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of enforcement	Find alternative and more appropriate places for sporting clubs without having to degrade and damage our unique environment.	Option 1	I live in Helena Street. We value the pristine balcombe estuary and already have noticed increased and speeding traffic, horns, damage to vegetation. The sporting areas are already over developed and zoning 1 would be a great asset in protecting our unique estuary.	Daily	Walk / run	
432	May 20, 2021, 08:18 AM	Balancing human usage with maintaining the natural environment	Yes	10	No	Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Lack of enforcement; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Find other areas away from the estuary that are less likely to impact.	Option 1	Believe we need to prioritise environmental values over human recreational use.	Monthly	Drive (solo)	
433	May 20, 2021, 07:37 AM	An area for family and activity. A place to exercise, unwind in a natural environment. Rubbish. Users of the football ovals (specifically Clifton) seem to think it is acceptable to leave rubbish when they leave. Single use plastic water bottles make up the greatest volume of this rubbish.	No	1	Yes	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of enforcement; Pests and weeds; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Good design of facilities. Best practise in sustainability, recycling etc. Better use of the opportunity when the community gathers for sport activities to educate the relationship or balance between their facilities and the environment	Option 2		Daily	Walk / run	
434	May 19, 2021, 08:05 PM	Also, there needs to be some way to make people pick up after their dogs in the Dog Parks. This problem gets worse in the summer and other times when the weekends are visiting. I appreciate that their dogs' shit doesn't stink seeing as they are holy holy city dogs but there must be some way to make them pick it up. Cattle grids made...	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Lack of enforcement; Uncontrolled activities; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	More bins, and educate them on how to use them. The users of the ovals at Clifton Reserve seem incapable of understanding that single use water bottles should not just be dropped on the ground and abandoned when they are finished with.	Option 1	There is no place for soccer here. Hockey, possibly but not soccer.	Daily	Walk / run	
435	May 19, 2021, 05:27 PM	We love it the way it is and would like the green zones to be protected from future development.	Yes	10	Yes	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Lack of enforcement; Poor management; Pests and weeds; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	Repair the vegetation at Ferraro reserve	Option 2	No	Daily	Walk / run	
436	May 19, 2021, 04:44 PM	Natural bushland for nature walks. The tracks around this area make you feel like you are not in a suburban area. The Estuary has wonderful bird life. It's a green wedge in a built up area.	Yes	9	Not sure	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal	Don't allow existing blocks to be subdivided any further. Subdivision seem to me to be the main cause of population increase which in turn leads to the need for more facilities. I'm more in favour of keeping the population of Mount Martha from growing too large	Option 1	I'm more in favour of conservation and wilderness areas of which there are fewer and fewer. Mornington has great facilities for sports along Tyabb Rd. Areas like this are better suited to sporting facilities than existing bush land.	Weekly	Walk / run	
437	May 19, 2021, 04:39 PM	Bush fire mitigation as my home in Balcombe Creek Close directly abuts the reserve. I would like to see trials of things such as micro bins, mulching of fallen vegetation, reintroduction of ground dwelling marsupials to fenced off areas to graze grasses. Doing nothing because it may have a negative impact on flora and fauna is only delaying the inevitable. One day there will be a major configuration. Should there be a fire the treated site board walk would leave a nasty residue of toxic ashes.	Not sure	5	No	Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of enforcement; Lack of formal car parking areas	The Ferraro Ovals are too close to the Creek. Reduce this facility to one oval and move the remaining oval back and realign. Clifton Reserve should be like Frankston's Jubilee Park. It has room for 4 ovals and a swimming complex. Get rid of the dog Park as this would be easy to relocate. Sell some of the reserve land for residential development near Kolor Close, Hilton Court and Barossa help pay for it.	Option 1	It's close to the creek and it's really too small to be useful for most sports. Re vegetation of this area would enhance the illusion of being 'in the bush' on walking path that leads into the Biers.	Daily	Walk / run	My house is the closest of any to the board walk. I built here over 25 years ago. The sugar gums (eucalyptus cladocalyx) that were then small here are now 30m plus giants. Many off under story plants have died off as they cannot compete. This species is thought to pose a serious risk to lowland grasslands, grassy woodlands, dry sclerophyll forests, riparian vegetation and rocky outcrop vegetation in this state. I would prefer they were Mana Gums like the beautiful ones that grow along side the creek in the Biers at other endemic species.
438	May 19, 2021, 02:26 PM	Preserving the natural eco systems as they currently are. Why? The more we develop natural eco systems the more we destroy places of natural beauty and restoration for future generations	Yes	10	No	Vegetation removal; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Other; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary	Ensuring no contaminated water flows into the catchment area	Option 1	Existing sporting facilities adjacent to designated area could be further developed whilst preserving the designated area	Weekly	Walk / run	
439	May 19, 2021, 01:42 PM	while crossing the estuary bridge at around noon today. I noticed dirty brown run off water entering the estuary just up from the board walk at the bridge, with a large plume of brown dirty water entering the bay. Your contractor Downer are currently re surfacing the car park at the toilet block, with no controls in place to prevent run off into the estuary! I did approach the foreman who was very brusque. I asked him about the water run off. Gave me the answer I know nothing about it. Well he should have been aware and had controls in place, when using a water cart to help resurface you get run off. Why should the lack of controls be acceptable to a council doing their own work. I ask where is the supervision? The EPA would have a field day. Let alone the harm being done to the estuary environment.	Yes	9	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of enforcement; Poor management; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	control and supervision	Option 1	natural setting	Weekly	Bike ride	

	May 19, 2021, 440 01:34 PM	To preserve and maintain a clean pollution free environment.	Yes	10	Not sure	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of enforcement	More roads to be made, more frequent storm water drainage pit cleaning. Very thorough planning, site selection, and construction of sporting facilities. What needs. There are already great sport facilities here. The area needs tidying up. On weeknights and weekends people are doing donuts in the car parks and on the grass since the gate was removed. I would like more walking tracks through the Bush and more boardwalk on the northern side of the estuary. The picnic ground area could also be updated and further developed. Like a little eco cafe near the water.	Option 1	The key word here is restrict, but not eliminate.	Monthly	Drive (car pool)	No	Live
	May 19, 2021, 441 01:31 PM	Balance between the natural environment and wildlife of the area and making use of the land for people to enjoy.	Yes	9	No	Poor management; Lack of enforcement; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area. Unauthorised BMX tracks; Vegetation removal		Option 1	The council just built soccer infrastructure in Durns road. There is no nearby hockey club so one field would be of little value to the community. Why not start a community garden here of perhaps a business site with an eco / emsco concept. Like council nursery and cafe for public at the end of the board walk. Or dog agility course area with built in obstacles.	Daily	Walk / run	I would like more access to the estuary with more board walk along the full northern side. All old infrastructure not used removed and area tidied up. Develop bike tracks into walking paths through the Bush as we all use them anyway to walk and enjoy the Bush. Get rid of bikes and jumps they run you over when walking. Maybe add some use of the water such as kayak hire business to go up and down the water. Look how other towns have used similar areas.	
	May 17, 2021, 442 08:08 PM	Preservation of Estuary and continued improvements to sporting and recreational facilities	Yes	9	Yes	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Poor management; Lack of formal car parking areas; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand; Pests and weeds	Build a netball court between ground at Citation Reserve. Improve parking at both Citation and Ferrera reserves	Option 2	Improved parking for recreational use	Weekly	Walk / run		Live
	May 17, 2021, 443 11:53 AM	Preserving and regenerating the natural flora, fauna and waterways of the area. The two wonderful coastal sheds that are available for cricket, football and general exercise.	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Lack of formal car parking areas; Poor management	I think the ovals should be used as much as possible (all year round) for kids sport as they are great for community health and wellbeing. The area currently allocated to organised sport should remain as is with the current flow-over parking into the paddock area is absolutely fine as its only occurs on rare occasions. The Oval club/social rooms should be upgraded/replaced asap - they are old, small and not catering well to the community. I believe the current balance is right - that is areas allocated to sport and conservation.	Option 1	Great opportunity to revegetate the land with native flora whilst maintaining enough space for light recreation. Could also fence off and make a dog leash free zone.	Daily	Walk / run		
	May 16, 2021, 444 10:23 AM	We live on it's border and walk in it every day. It is a unique and precious part of our community and should be protected.	Yes	10	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Lack of enforcement; Poor management	Summer tourists - rubbish, unleashed dogs and increased traffic	Option 1	It is the additional human traffic that concerns me and the closeness to the creek.	Daily	Walk / run	Please protect this beautiful area and don't compromise the future environment for our children or the current local community for development. BER is the reason we live where we do.	
	May 15, 2021, 445 08:22 AM	The natural untouched environment. I do not agree with ending it away with infrastructure or removal of vegetation. Bit by bit. Or at all. Preserve what little we have left.	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Vegetation removal; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Poor management; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.	Honestly, We have enough organized sport - Perhaps we could adapt and entertain ourselves enjoying the natural environment. Plenty of beaches. Walking tracks, ovals. Do we really need to remove our remnant natural environment for our own selfish wants?	Option 1	Our natural environment is a huge draw card for tourists. There is little left on the Peninsula.	Daily	Drive (solo)		
	May 14, 2021, 446 08:45 PM	The biodiversity values of this area, it is one of our least disturbed creeks running into the bay.	Yes	10	No	Pests and weeds; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc. Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary.	Appropriate development in appropriate places this includes sporting facilities, unless the current facilities can coexist sustainably within the current environment they should be moved to a location that is better suited.	Option 1	If the land has high biodiversity values it should be kept to help achieve long term biodiversity outcomes, sport and recreation facilities can be moved to lower biodiversity areas.	Monthly	Drive (solo)		
	May 14, 2021, 447 08:44 PM	Great resource very valuable for education of our grand children who love the area	Yes	10	No	Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Vegetation removal; Pests and weeds; Uncontrolled activities; Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area	Sport have other areas to expand if necessary council to purchase additional land	Option 1	Need more conversation for native species	Weekly	Bike ride		
	May 14, 2021, 448 08:59 PM	That we protect the green spaces and the ecology of the estuary. These spaces are what make Mt Martha special, let's keep it that way	Yes	7	No	Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area; Vegetation removal; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Need for more facilities to meet growing demand	Personally I don't see why the current footprint isn't enough. Yes the facilities could do with an update at Ferrera reserve but that can be done within the current footprint. If people want even more sporting facilities then new facilities at Durns Rd road in Mornington is just a short drive away.	Option 1	Mount Martha is a beautiful green area, which is quite unique given the amount of vegetation removal and subdivision that has taken place on either side of it (Mornington and Dromana/Safety Beach). Let's keep its special leafy outlook and protect the ecology of the estuary. We don't need another sporting field. There are enough.	Weekly	Walk / run		
	May 14, 2021, 449 04:15 PM	Protecting the native vegetation and wildlife	Yes	9	No	Uncontrolled activities; Pests and weeds; Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary; Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc.; People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs	Utilise existing grassed areas better.	Option 1	It's too small for sports and is so close to the creek that more activity will cause more damage to the stream. Revegetate it.	Monthly	Drive (solo)		

Submission 1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

To:

Strategic Admin

Subject:

Re: Protecting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for taking the time to make a submission to the above project.

We will consider your submission in progressing the project and developing suitable planning controls for the study area which is expected to be presented to Council late this year.

We'll next be in communications with you following the conclusion of the exhibition period (which is 5:00pm 28 June 2021).

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



Mornington Peninsula Shire acknowledges and pays respect to the Bunurong/Boon Wurrung people, the traditional custodians of these lands and waters.

[We are committed to carbon neutrality.](#)

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Strategic Admin

New contribution received



SUBMISSION 2

New contribution received

A new contribution has been made via the Q&A activity on **Shape our Future:**

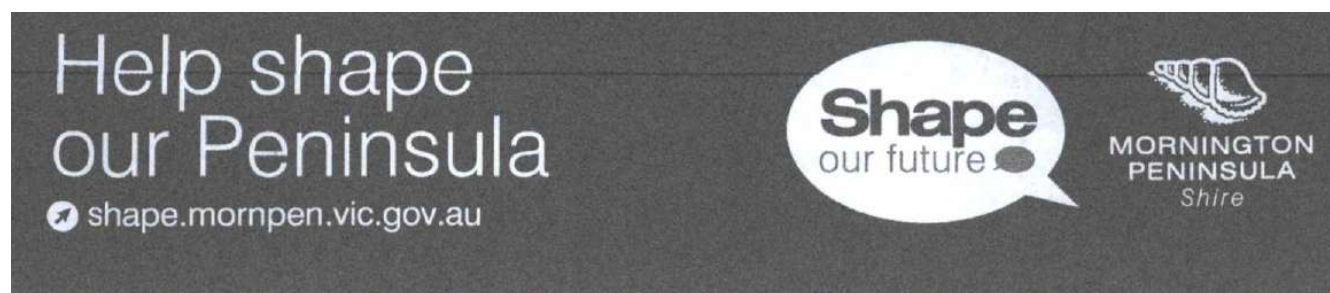
Page Name: Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study



Details: I would like to ask what happened to the Ferraro oval Masterplan this had community input consultants and seems to have evaporated in thin air ?

See all the results for this activity in the [Dashboard](#)

This is not SPAM. You are receiving this message because you have submitted feedback or signed up to Shape our Future.



Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

Submission 3

Contact details

Name (required)

Email address (required)

Address

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① mornpen.vic.gov.au/balcombeestuary
② strategic.admin@mornpen.vic.gov.au
③ 5950 1000

3. What is most important to you when you think about the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? Can you tell us why? (Required)

Ecologically Sensitive
Green space
Buffer Zone
Boardwalk -
use it alot, great to
see many people enjoying
the area. Yet not heavily used

4. Do you support a new environmental focused planning control being applied to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? (Required)

An environmental focused planning control means a planning permit would be required for most buildings and vegetation removal in the future and would be subject to a thorough assessment to consider its suitability and potential impact on the environment.

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ Not sure

☐ Other, please specify:

5. On a scale from 1 – 10, how important is it to you that we protect the environment of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area by applying a new planning control that will trigger the need for a planning permit for most buildings and vegetation removal in the future? (Required)

1 = least important, 5 = somewhat important,
10 = most important.

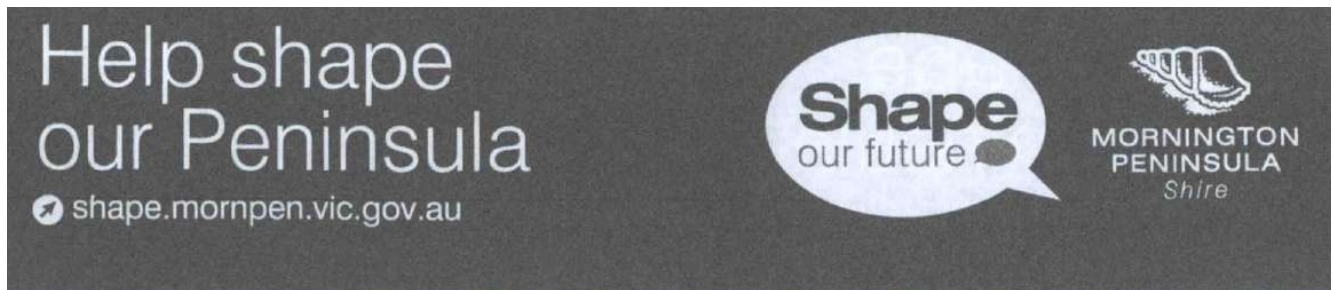
Write number here: 10



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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

6. The Mornington Peninsula is experiencing significant population growth. That means existing sport and recreation facilities will need to be expanded to meet current and future demands.

Would you support vegetation removal to create more community and formal sport and recreation facilities in the future at existing recreation reserves within the study area to meet community demands i.e. sporting fields, buildings, car parking etc.? (Required)

- ☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ Not sure
☐ Other, please comment:

7. In your opinion what are the five biggest threats to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area?
Please number five boxes from 1 to 5 in preferential order (1 being the biggest threat).

- ☐ Need for more facilities to meet growing demand
☐ Unauthorised BMX tracks
☐ Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc
☒ 5 People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs
☐ Pests and weeds
☒ 4 Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area
☒ 3 Poor management
☒ 1 Vegetation removal
☐ Uncontrolled activities
☐ Lack of formal car parking areas
☒ 2 Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary
☐ Lack of enforcement
☐ Other, please specify (specify if listed as a top threat):

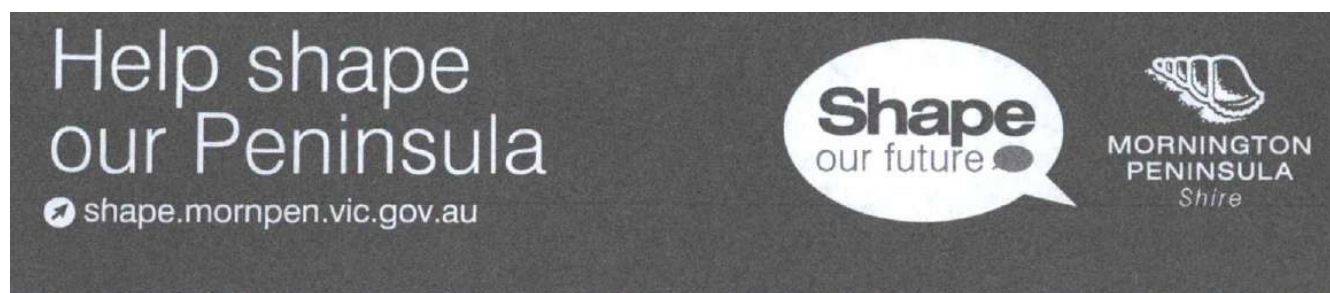
8. Do you have any suggestions on how we could better balance the needs of formal sport and recreation uses (i.e. organised sport) whilst protecting the environmental values of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? (Required)

Yes - our population in this area has increased but this does not mean an automatic increase in development of organized sport facilities within this area. You can find less sensitive areas.
The relocation of Mornington Tennis took place for commercial reasons and has been successful - to land that is not considered sensitive.
[redacted] not permitted to expand partly because of its location in sensitive area. I agree with that. Less sensitive areas can be found to cater for our growing needs

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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

10. Why did you pick that option?
Is there anything else we should consider? (Required)

We must at some point draw a line to protect this area (and many others) Greater thought will surely show up a solution in a less sensitive area. People use their cars to go to recreational (sports) areas anyway. ~~They~~ An extra 10 mins drive to a less sensitive organized sport area makes sense.

11. How often do you frequent the area?
Select one. (Required)

- ☐ Daily
☒ Weekly
☐ Fortnightly
☐ Monthly
☐ Annually
☐ Other, please specify:

12. How do you get to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? (Required)

- ☒ Walk/run
☐ Bike ride
☐ Public transport
☒ Drive (solo)
☐ Drive (carpool)
☐ Other, please specify:

13. Is the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area within a 5km radius from your home? (Required)

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

14. Do you have any further information that you would like to tell us?

We are ~~are~~ well off Shire compared to most. (CEO's etc salary proves that)
Should we be looking outside existing Council (Shire) owned land for future sport + recreational etc activities if all the shire has left is sensitive.
An example would be the Xmas Tree Farm bought by Peninsula School. Missed opportunity ???
Should also look at smarter use of existing facilities -

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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

The land at 499 Nepean Highway, Mount Martha is Council-owned and there is no intention to sell or develop the land for residential use (please refer to map below – area 8).

This land has environmental values, as well as both public park and recreation use potential. The following options are for the community to consider:

Option 1: Zone the land for conservation use and development
Benefit – Restricts the number of future uses and development (with or without the need for planning approval) with a main purpose to protect and conserve the natural environment.

The land would generally remain as is if the land is zoned for conservation.

Option 2: Zone the land for formal sport and recreation use and development

Benefit – Permits a greater number of future uses and development of the land (with or without the need for planning approval), prioritises the land for sport and recreation uses and commercial uses where appropriate with a purpose to also conserve areas of significance.

The land could with be developed for soccer/hockey field with a kiosk and carparking for example with vegetation removal likely required.

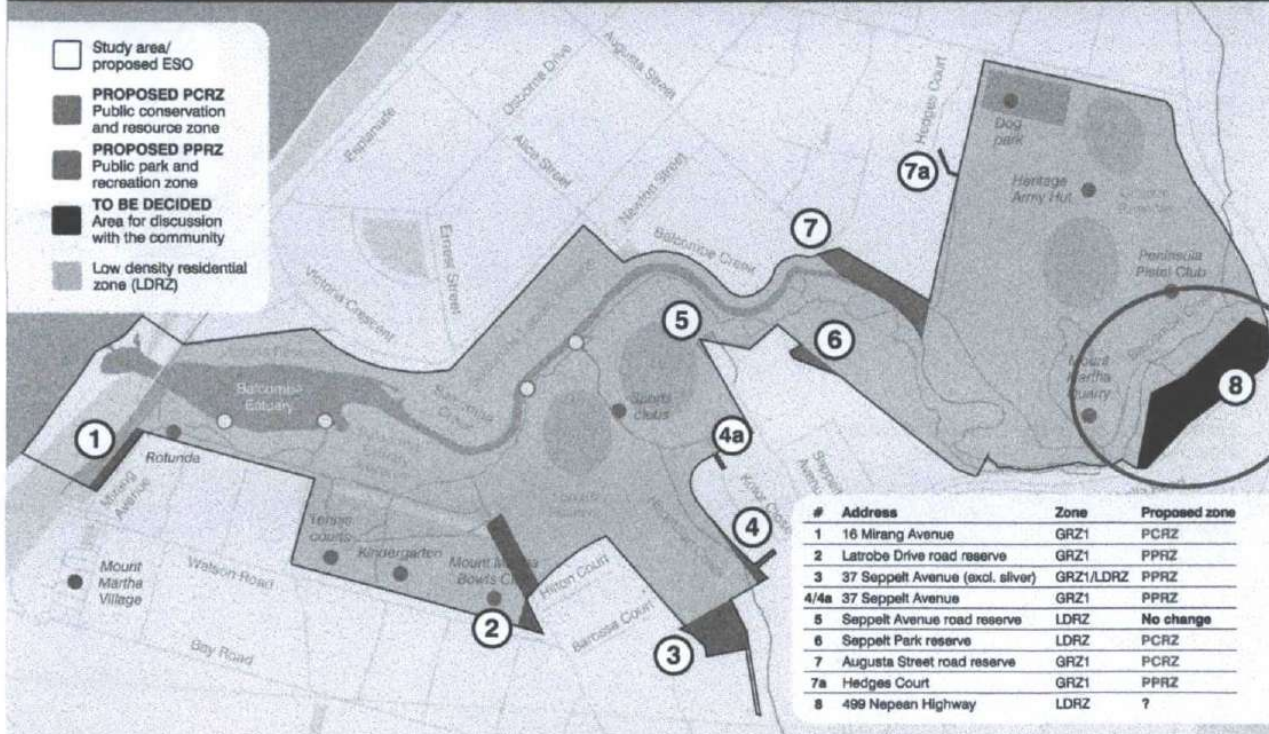
9. Which option would you support? (Required)

☒ Option 1

☐ Option 2

Protecting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves

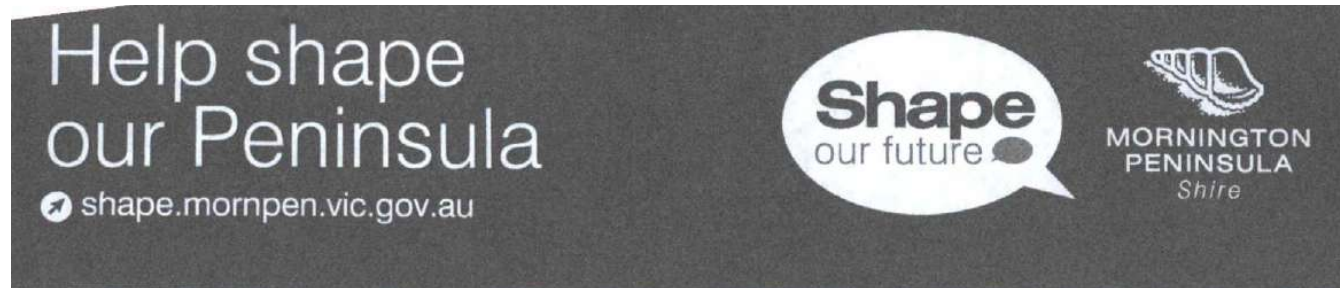
Proposed planning zones



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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

6. The Mornington Peninsula is experiencing significant population growth. That means existing sport and recreation facilities will need to be expanded to meet current and future demands.

Would you support vegetation removal to create more community and formal sport and recreation facilities in the future at existing recreation reserves within the study area to meet community demands i.e. sporting fields, buildings, car parking etc.? (Required)

- ☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ Not sure
☐ Other, please comment:

7. In your opinion what are the five biggest threats to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area?
Please number five boxes from 1 to 5 in preferential order (1 being the biggest threat).

- ☐ Need for more facilities to meet growing demand
☐ Unauthorised BMX tracks
☐ Climate change i.e. sea level rise, bushfire, large weather events etc
☒ 5 People not picking up dog poo or controlling their dogs
☐ Pests and weeds
☒ 3 Lack of planning controls protecting the environmental values of the study area
☒ 4 Poor management
☒ 1 Vegetation removal
☐ Uncontrolled activities
☐ Lack of formal car parking areas
☒ 2 Sedimentation runoff into the Estuary
☐ Lack of enforcement
☐ Other, please specify (specify if listed as a top threat):

8. Do you have any suggestions on how we could better balance the needs of formal sport and recreation uses (i.e. organised sport) whilst protecting the environmental values of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? (Required)

Dunns Rd was developed for this specific purpose - This should be the development Recreation space.

The Mt. Martha House are was refused permission to develop further tennis courts - Yet the Baker Estuary area is of far more environmentally cultural significance. The current usage of Balcombe Estuary be be significantly + negatively effected by the proposed changes.

MORNINGTON PENINSULA Shire

RECEIVED

25 JUN 2021

M

DELIVERED MAIL



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MORNINGTON
PENINSULA
Shire

Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

Submission 4

Contact details

Name (required)

Email address (required)

Address

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For more information on this survey, please visit the website or contact:

- morpen.vic.gov.au/balcombeestuary
- strategic.admin@mornpen.vic.gov.au
- 5950 1000

3. What is most important to you when you think about the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area?
Can you tell us why? (Required)

Preserving environment + the existing ecological system. So we can ensure the continuity of habitat & green spaces + vegetation.

4. Do you support a new environmental focused planning control being applied to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? (Required)

An environmental focused planning control means a planning permit would be required for most buildings and vegetation removal in the future and would be subject to a thorough assessment to consider its suitability and potential impact on the environment.

☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ Not sure
☐ Other, please specify:

5. On a scale from 1 – 10, how important is it to you that we protect the environment of the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area by applying a new planning control that will trigger the need for a planning permit for most buildings and vegetation removal in the future? (Required)

1 = least important, 5 = somewhat important, 10 = most important.

Write number here:



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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

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The land would generally remain as is if the land is zoned for conservation.

Option 2: Zone the land for formal sport and recreation use and development

Benefit – Permits a greater number of future uses and development of the land (with or without the need for planning approval), prioritises the land for sport and recreation uses and commercial uses where appropriate with a purpose to also conserve areas of significance.

The land could with be developed for soccer/hockey field with a kiosk and carparking for example with vegetation removal likely required.


9. Which option would you support? (Required)

☒ Option 1

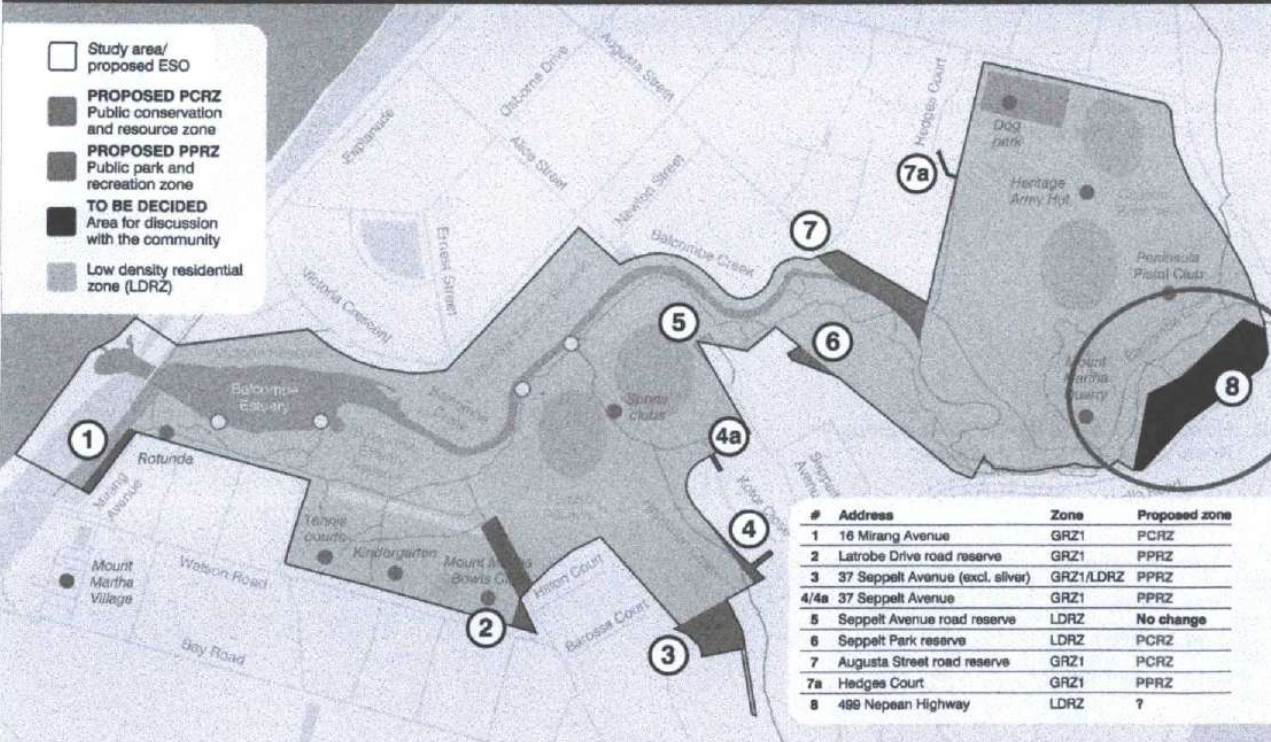
☐ Option 2

Protecting the Balcombe Estuary Reserves

Proposed planning zones



- ☐ Study area/
proposed ESO
- ☒ **PROPOSED PCRZ**
Public conservation
and resource zone
- ☒ **PROPOSED PPRZ**
Public park and
recreation zone
- ☐ **TO BE DECIDED**
Area for discussion
with the community
- ☐ Low density residential
zone (LDRZ)



#	Address	Zone	Proposed zone
1	16 Mirang Avenue	GRZ1	PCRZ
2	Latrobe Drive road reserve	GRZ1	PPRZ
3	37 Seppelt Avenue (excl. sliver)	GRZ1/LDRZ	PPRZ
4/4a	37 Seppelt Avenue	GRZ1	PPRZ
5	Seppelt Avenue road reserve	LDRZ	No change
6	Seppelt Park reserve	LDRZ	PCRZ
7	Augusta Street road reserve	GRZ1	PCRZ
7a	Hedges Court	GRZ1	PPRZ
8	499 Nepean Highway	LDRZ	?



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Balcombe Estuary Reserves Ecological and Planning Study

10. Why did you pick that option?
Is there anything else we should consider? (Required)

I don't want further development here. And any future development in less sensitive areas.

11. How often do you frequent the area?
Select one. (Required)

☐ Daily
☒ Weekly
☐ Fortnightly
☐ Monthly
☐ Annually
☐ Other, please specify:

12. How do you get to the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area? (Required)

☒ Walk/run
☐ Bike ride
☐ Public transport
☐ Drive (solo)
☐ Drive (carpool)
☐ Other, please specify:

13. Is the Balcombe Estuary Reserves study area within a 5km radius from your home? (Required)

☒ Yes
☐ No

14. Do you have any further information that you would like to tell us?

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To whom it may concern,

████████████████████ I write in regard to the Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study. ██████████ operating within the Balcombe Estuary Reserve have recently been given the opportunity of writing their thoughts to the Shire regarding this study.

████████ is concerned on a number of fronts that could affect the future development of our great ██████████. I have attended all the meetings that were made public, for not only the community, but also the Sports and Recreation side of this issue.

████████ do not disagree with the intent of the planning and proposed environmental overlays that has been presented, as it is the very environment surrounding Ferrero Reserve that makes playing sport at this venue such an amazing and unique experience.

████████ believe the communications with the sporting clubs affected within and involved in the Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study leading up to this point in time, has been particularly poor, the engagement that has been sort from the sporting clubs has been minimal, with only one extremely brief online meeting to discuss the plan and proposals from a sports and development viewpoint and with only one weeks' notice for formal submissions to be made official.

The Shire representatives and group of people behind and supporting the Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study have not appropriately engaged clubs with their plans and proposal, nor have clubs been given any proper time or opportunity to digest and respond as to how this will affect the very real and urgently required need for further development of the venues and facilities to meet the sport and recreational capacity demands that fall within the Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study

Up until this point, the presentations have been completely one sided in their approach, with little to no thought of the sporting clubs and regards to the impact these changes may have for the surrounding sporting communities and their future needs and with the population expanding rapidly.

Ferrero Reserve in particular has need of major infrastructure and building works to bring the facilities up to the basic standards with the rest of sporting facilities under the Mornington Peninsula Shire management. ██████████ currently has 22 teams and the ██████████ will have 19 teams, plus a very sizeable ██████████ program of approximately 100 participants for this coming cricket season. The need to upgrade facilities and increased capacity is as vital as it ever has been. Both clubs have been putting up with portable changerooms to service Watson Oval for over several years, as the Ferrero Reserve facilities do not have capacity to service the venue. This is very important especially during covid environment, where space for social distancing is of the utmost importance.

██████████ in partnership with the Shire Sports and Recreational Team are right now currently planning upgrades to Ferrero Reserve's practice net facilities at a very substantial cost to the club. With the proposed overlays, it seems this may hamper or present extensive challenges to work now through. Ferrero Reserve was originally developed by founding members of ██████████ with one member ██████████ taking on a second mortgage against his home in order to assist the Shire fund the development & buildings. When completed, the Ferrero Reserve pavilion was named after ██████████. Ferrero Reserve has always been a recreational space and was always conceived as an area to service and keep meeting the sporting and recreational requirements of the local residents and users. Over the past few years, a 4 stage plan was put in place for an upgrade of all Pavilion facilities. Stages 1 and 2 have been implemented - to bring the changerooms and supporting amenities up to minimum standard and female friendly. Stage 3, adding changerooms rooms to service Watson Oval (and negate the need for the current portable changerooms) and stage 4 of extending the social rooms is still in need of being done. Will these plans still be possible with the new overlay proposed to be put in place?

██████████ totally appreciate and encourage the need for plans to be put in place to protect the environment and vegetation of the Balcombe Estuary. As mentioned above, the bushy and natural surrounds of the Balcombe estuary is what makes playing sport and hosting opposition clubs all the more special.

However, ██████████ wish to see much further and much more detailed consultation and consideration with the sporting clubs affected. There needs to be a study of the sporting & recreational capacity demands presented, the chance for all the sporting clubs to present their future plans and ideas of meeting such capacity demands. It is only when this opportunity has been afforded to present a balanced discussion and consideration of all stakeholder's proposals and future needs, that then all Balcombe estuary & surrounding stakeholders can come together to discuss in partnership as to how environmental protection and the sports and recreational demands can work in partnership for a harmonic and sustainable future.

The ██████████ as founders and developers of Ferrero Reserve and sport in Mt Martha, along with all other sporting and recreational stakeholders involved, insist to be given the courtesy of further consultation in the finer details of the Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study and be heard and given a voice in regards to the sport and recreational needs and plans for further infrastructure and facilities development – rather than have what is perceived to be a quick rush to have proposed environmental protection overlays pushed under the radar and have endorsed before other stakeholders needs are addressed.

Kind regards

██████████
██

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Attachments:

[REDACTED]

Reserve Ecological and Planning Study
Balcombe Estuary - draft.docx

[REDACTED]

This is a submission for Balcombe Estuary Reserves.

[REDACTED]

Thanks,



[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Mornington Peninsula Shire acknowledges and pays respect to the Bunurong/Boon Wurrung people, the traditional custodians of these lands and waters.
[We are committed to carbon neutrality.](#)

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study

[REDACTED]

I was not sure who to send our formal submission in regards to the Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study.

This is a formal submission from [REDACTED]

If you have any issues or wish to discuss my contact details are below

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Submission 6

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Attachments:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thank you for meeting with us earlier this month.

[REDACTED] has looked at the proposal information regarding the proposed rezoning of the Balcombe Estuary Reserve.

[REDACTED] supports the proposed rezoning of the various Crown land parcels identified in your report given the existing zoning does not match their public ownership or future land use.

[REDACTED] also supports the preparation and implementation of a new Environmental Significance Overlay.

Whilst we discussed the potential need to have some exemptions in the Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO), the best place for such exemptions should be within Clause 36.02 of the Public Land Zones (eg PPRZ, PCRC or PUZ).

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL



[Redacted]

**Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme
Balcombe Estuary Reserves Mount Martha**

I refer to our meeting on 9 June 2021 to discuss the Balcombe Estuary Reserves, Mount Martha rezoning and application of an Environmental Significance Overlay.

Proposed Rezoning

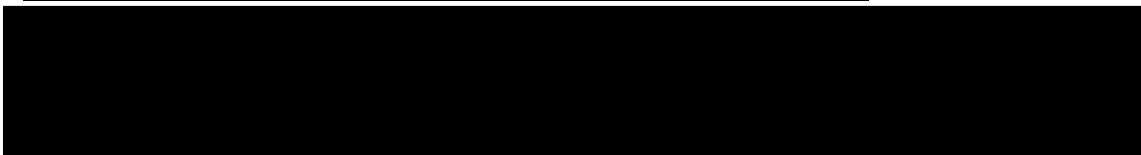
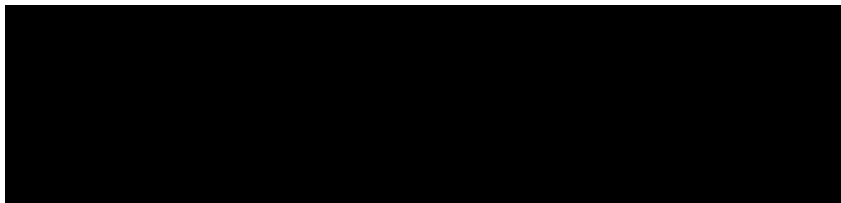
[Redacted] has looked at the information provided regarding the rezoning and provides the following response.

1. [Redacted] supports the proposed rezoning of the various Crown land parcels identified in your report to correct the existing zoning that presently does not match its public ownership or future land use. There will be no need for landowners' consent at this stage of the process.
2. [Redacted] also supports the preparation and implementation of a new environmental Significance Overlay.
3. Whilst we discussed the potential need to have some exemptions in the Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO), the best place for such exemptions should be within Clause 36.02 of the Public Land Zones (eg PPRZ, PCRC or PUZ).
4. [Redacted] has looked at the existing Design and Development overlay (DDO-2) and notes that it relates largely to residential matters:
Eg.
 - To ensure that the design of subdivision and housing is responsive to the environment,
 - To ensure that buildings are designed and sited to avoid being visually obtrusive.

Given this and because the land within the ESO will be publicly owned land, the DDO in its current form is not applicable

If there are any further questions in relation to this matter, please contact the undersigned on

[Redacted]



Submission 7

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

FW: Balcombe Estuary Reserves ESO suggestions

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

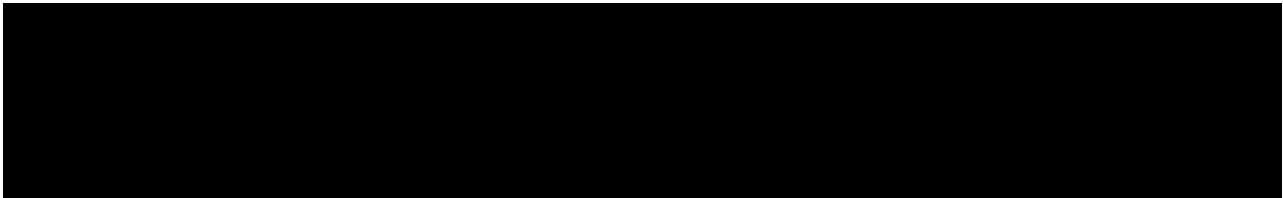
[REDACTED]

Subject: Balcombe Estuary Reserves ESO suggestions

[REDACTED]

Further to our June meeting please find a discussion paper on [REDACTED] additional thoughts for addressing issues raised in the consultants report regarding the proposed application covering the 73 hectare reserves.

[REDACTED]



Mornington Peninsula Shire
Strategic Planning Team – Balcombe Estuary Reserves ESO

Re: Balcombe Estuary Reserves ESO proposal – Mt Martha formal recreational facilities.

[REDACTED],

Further to our “Teams” on-line meeting regarding the progress of the 2017 Balcombe Estuary Reserves Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO) proposal please find a few suggestions prepared by the [REDACTED] committee & members for consideration.

1. Citation Oval(s) Reserve and Playground - ~\$3.7M upgrade completed November 2018

Location references:

- ✓ Mt Martha Shopping precinct – 2.5 km’s
- ✓ Bentons Square Shopping precinct - 3.1 km’s
- ✓ Mornington Civic Recreation Centre - 4.1 km’s

This recently upgraded sporting & informal recreational reserve within the Balcombe Estuary Bushland reserve provides the following facilities and open spaces and was handed by the Mornington Peninsula Shire to community user groups in November 2018.

- Junior Football Club pavilion
- Two ovals
- Grandstand,
- Kitchen / Kiosk
- Toilet and shower facilities including Internal & external disabled toilets
- Social Room
- Office & Storeroom
- Multipurpose change rooms
- First Aid room
- New Children’s Playground
- Leash Free Dog exercise & obedience training grounds
- Substantial carparking spaces

Furthermore, this sporting / recreational facility includes significant unutilised, open space areas which have previously been cleared of bushland to accommodate formal recreational opportunities that are now available for further recreational use with existing available community public facilities.

**Refer Images included

Question: Why the need for further bushland & habitat removal & destruction?

** The Boonwurrung/Bunurong members of the Kulin Nation whom we acknowledge and pay our respects to as the traditional custodians of the reserves lands and waters called the Balcombe Creek area “Tit’tin’garook” the voice of frogs*

2. Ferrero Oval(s) / Mt Martha Cricket Club Reserve and Playground – MPS proposed upgrade 2017

Location references:

- ✓ Mt Martha Shopping precinct – 2.6 km's
- ✓ Bentons Square Shopping precinct – 4.9 km's driving / 4.6 walking
- ✓ Citation Oval(s) Reserve and Playground – 2.4km's

This sporting & informal recreational reserve within the Balcombe Estuary Bushland reserve was subject to a 2017 upgrade proposal (not yet implemented) by the Mornington Peninsula shire and currently provides the following facilities and open spaces.

- Junior sporting club pavilion
- Two ovals
- Cricket training nets
- Kitchen / Kiosk
- Toilet and shower facilities.
- 2 x Container storerooms
- Change rooms
- Children's Playground
- Substantial carparking spaces (gravel)
- Open space(s)
- Access walkway to the Balcombe estuary boardwalk for informal recreational pursuits

This community upgrade initiative was supported by the [REDACTED] following community consultation and feedback was accepted by the Shire. as it offered two significant desirable community access & environmental outcomes.

1. The proposed sealing of Seppelt Avenue and upgraded carparking provided significantly improved access to this sporting facility whilst freeing up more usable already cleared open space for recreational use without further bushland / habitat removal & destruction
2. Seppelt Avenue in it's current state provides access to this reserve however it is unmade with open, scoured and dangerous drains on each side of the road. This unmade access road is a major contributor (refer MPS consultant's reports) to the destructive sedimentation flows into the Balcombe Estuary.

**Refer area map included

Question: Why did this project not proceed when it provided such great community & environmental benefits without the need for further damaging bushland vegetation removal?

3. JR Anderson Reserve

Location references:

- ✓ Mt Martha Shopping precinct – 3.5 km's
- ✓ Bentons Square Shopping precinct – 2.5 km's
- ✓ Mornington Civic Recreation Centre – 3.7 km's
- ✓ Citation Oval(s) Reserve and Playground – <1 km
- ✓ Ferrero Ovals Reserves – 2.2 km's

This reserve is not well signed however it covers a cleared space of ~4000m² and is completely underutilised for recreational activities with access from the Nepean Highway. Currently no public facilities or parking spaces are provided for community use. However, the open space would be highly suitable for community formal sporting use.

A continued lack of community use for this reserve could well leave it open to future inappropriate development applications.

Question: Why the need for further bushland & habitat removal & destruction within the Balcombe Estuary Reserves

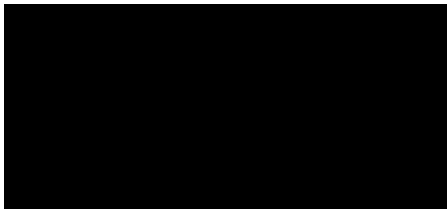
4. The Briars parkland

Location references:

- ✓ Mt Martha Shopping precinct – 3.5 km's
- ✓ Bentons Square Shopping precinct – 2.5 km's
- ✓ Mornington Civic Recreation Centre – 3.7 km's
- ✓ Citation Oval(s) Reserve and Playground – <1 km
- ✓ Ferrero Ovals Reserves – 2.2 km's

The Briars need no introduction and includes significant cleared open space not within the Wildlife Reserve which would be highly suitable for selective community & sporting activities without the need for bushland vegetation removal or disruption to significant bio link corridors

We hope that these suggestions are deemed relevant to the ESO application and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss all opportunities to address all of the issues raised in the Biosis consultants report into the ESO with you and our councillors



Attachments:

1. Citation Oval(s) Reserve and Playground – Cleared Open Spaces



Submission 8

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject:

[REDACTED]

FW: Mt Martha Tennis Club- Balcombe Estuary Reserves Survey Invitation for comment

[REDACTED]

Subject: Balcombe Estuary Reserves Survey Invitation for comment

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Balcombe Estuary Reserves Survey

Dear Mornington Peninsula Council Team,

I am writing on behalf of the [REDACTED] regarding our view of the Balcombe Reserve and the integration of the Watson Road Tennis Courts.

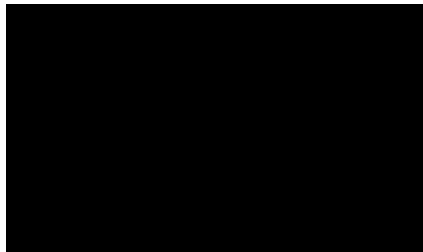
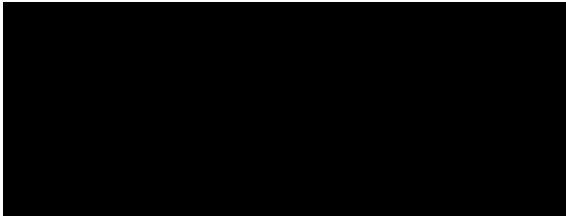
Our club facilities are used by around 500 players and has been ranked in the past within the fifty largest Tennis Clubs in Victoria, recently the club had a total of 40 teams of which 25 teams were made up of juniors. The development of our youth, including coaching, is recognised as one of our primary roles. The club has four permanent adult coaches employed year-round on site. As our club has so many junior teams many cannot play a home game at their own club due to lack of courts. Our club has a unique highly successful on-going adult night competition operating Monday to Friday nights for about 40 weeks a year involving 100 players. This shortage of court availability has been occurring for many decades where many committees have been working with the MPSC to improve the facilities to Mt. Martha.

The MPSC recognised the high need for more courts and rebuilt the Watson Road public courts site with three new courts from the original two courts. The club was handed the responsibility of care and operation of the courts in early 2016 and the venue has been recognised as a huge success and used constantly. All players are extremely grateful for the Shire's help and upgrades.

As the demand for tennis facilities in this area far outstrips availability, maximising the use of this site will significantly help this issue. The Watson Road site could easily accommodate two more courts and we request this area be allocated for future court growth. There is space to the west and east of the courts. Presently to the west there is a heavily grassed area where players of all

ages must venture to retrieve stray balls and in the warmer months presents some risk of snake bite. This facility is visually concealed from the neighbourhood and extending the courts could be achieved while maintaining concealment. The Mt Martha area has experienced a significant shortfall in court availability and use of this area for more courts would greatly enhance the established assets.

Please don't hesitate to call me anytime if you require further information and thank you for your consideration of this matter. We certainly appreciate and are grateful for the collaborative approach MPSC has with us to provide this valuable community service.



Submission 9

Subject: FW: Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Mount Martha - Ref: S-139661

Subject: RE: Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Mount Martha - Ref: S-139661

I have made contact with the Flood Services Team and am awaiting to hear back on if they can provide any information by next Friday 23rd July. I can also confirm that the [REDACTED] do not need to provide any input as there is no [REDACTED] amongst the area in question.

My input from a Regional Services perspective:

- We would be supportive of the proposal for the Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO)
- Balcombe Estuary is considered a 'High Priority' waterway for Vegetation Extent under the Healthy Waterways Strategy (HWS)
- [REDACTED] undertake Preventative Maintenance for vegetation management/weed control along the banks of Balcombe Creek from Geoff Kay Bridge to Harrap Creek
- We also support Balcombe Estuary Reserves Group (BERG) with funding for vegetation management activities including weed control and revegetation along the lower sections of the estuary
- [REDACTED] have been working closely with MPSC to reduce sedimentation entering the waterway. Council have recently submitted an application to [REDACTED] for funding to build a Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) at Henley Avenue, Mt Martha to reduce sediment from entering into the estuary.

Please feel free to contact me should you require any further information. I will let you know once I hear back from the Flood Services Team.

Subject: Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Mount Martha - Ref: S-139661

Good to talk to you yesterday.

As requested, my contact details are below.

I will follow up with the Planning Team and Property Team about this one for any input they may have. When would you require this information back by?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED] - Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Mount Martha

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] it is zero impact. I have no objection to the proposed ESO.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Mount Martha

[REDACTED],

I initially sent this to [REDACTED] but it probably should have gone to you instead.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council are undertaking an Ecological and Planning Study for the Balcombe Estuary Reserves, Mount Martha. As part of this study they are proposing to develop an Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO) to the area. Please see thread below and attached.

From a Regional Services perspective, I would be supportive of this but thought that given it is within a Flood Overlay, your team may also want to check off on it?

The community engagement closed on 28th June so they are after a quick turnaround. I had initially suggested Friday 23rd July when I sent it on last week, but as there has been delays in getting it to you, I am sure a few more days into next week would be fine. It may just be a case of a quick check over from you and a brief email to [REDACTED] stating that you are supportive.

Please get in touch if you have any queries.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] - Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Mount Martha

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]

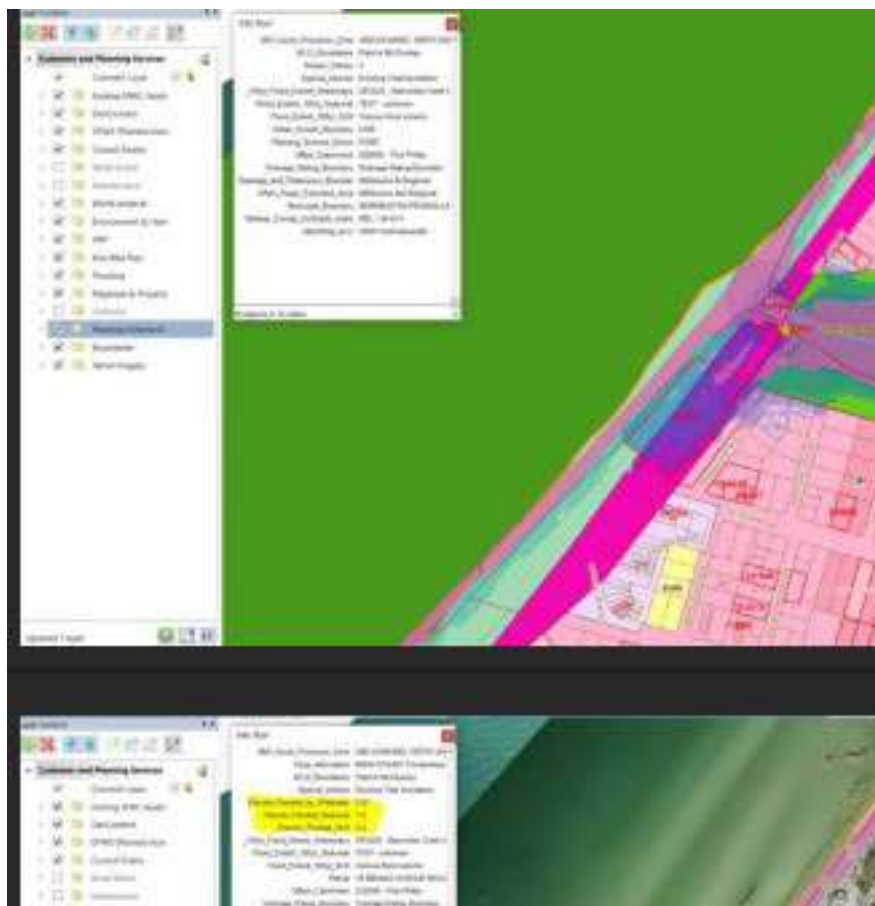
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] - Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Mount Martha

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. As per the attached, she was asking if we might be able to provide any comments back by COB next Monday. I suggested that it might take a bit longer for [REDACTED] to look over it, so is by Friday 24th July possible?

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ow.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Mount Martha

[REDACTED]

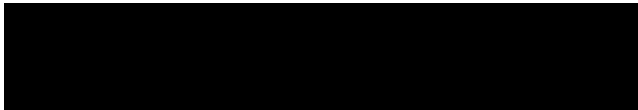
Please see the below email sent through [REDACTED] and the attached. Just wanted to pass this onto you to see if you could provide any comments.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Subject: Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Mount Martha [REDACTED]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning,

The Mornington Peninsula Shire are undertaking an Ecological and Planning Study for the Balcombe Estuary Reserves, Mount Martha. As part of this study we are proposing to develop a bespoke Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO) and apply it to the study area (generally shown as green in the attached map but also encompassing the estuary and mouth to the Port Phillip Bay). Additionally we propose to rezone a few sections of the study area given that they are residential but held in public land ownership and not intended to be developed or sold for residential needs but also contain 6% of the native vegetation mapped within the study area.

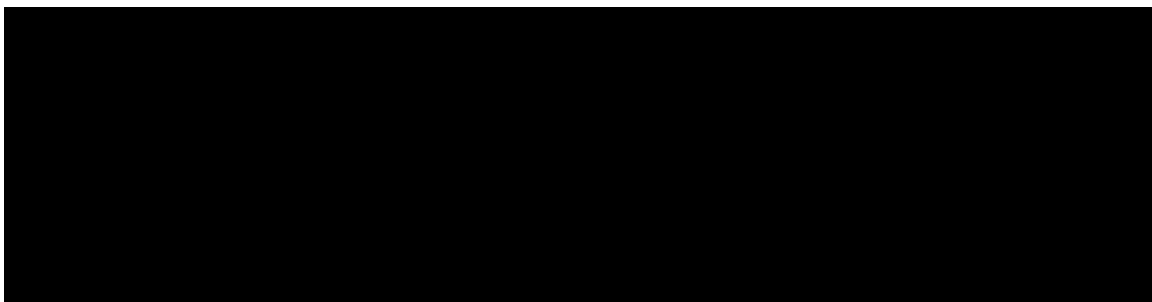
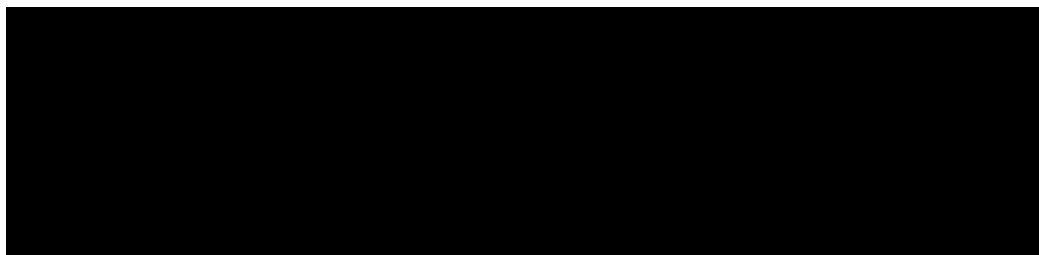
[REDACTED] as I wanted to speak to a representative that may of considered our letter/this study and what is proposed. However, I again spoke to [REDACTED] yesterday and have been advised that our written letter can 'not be located and have been asked to email it instead and quote reference [REDACTED]

I would like to arrange a discussion with someone who can help me answer a few questions in relation to the ownership of the Balcombe Estuary itself and how this study and what is proposed fits in with [REDACTED].

I've included a few extra maps for your reference and a link to our website which has further information: [Balcombe Estuary Reserve Ecological and Planning Study | Shape our Future \(mornpen.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Balcombe-Estuary-Reserve-Ecological-and-Planning-Study-Shape-our-Future)

Please note that this study is out for community engagement currently and closes on 28 June 2021. It would be great if I could chat to someone before then and also get a formal response from [REDACTED]. My contact details are as per the below.







Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study

Final Report

Prepared for Mornington Peninsula Shire

15 July 2022



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- Balcombe Estuary Reserves Group (BERG):
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1. Executive Summary

Biosis was commissioned by Mornington Peninsula Shire Council (Council) to deliver a robust technical and strategic basis for the protection of the ecological values within the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves (Reserves).

This Project (Study) has been initiated as a result of the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme Review, 2018, which recommended a review of the Planning Scheme and the consideration of a potential schedule to the Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO) over the Reserves to better protect the ecological values in the area.

The objectives of the study are to identify and assess the ecological values of the Reserves whilst balancing the needs of sport and recreation uses of the area. Appropriate planning provisions have been considered in order to protect identified ecological values as well as support appropriate recreational land uses.

A detailed literature review was completed to examine available publications and plans on the ecological values of the site, as well as the sport and recreation uses within the Reserves and the surrounding area.

The methodology to examine the objectives of this project involved applying the most current policy including the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) guidelines for Planning for Biodiversity. This involved conducting a detailed ecological assessment, reviewing available information on sport and recreational uses of the land and examining the appropriateness of the planning controls for this site.

A field assessment was conducted to determine the extent of native vegetation within the reserves in relation to existing planning scheme zones to inform the extent of any potential planning controls.

Observations were made on the extent of scattered trees, patch vegetation, flora species as well as revegetation, landscaping and tree canopy health, to determine the extent of native vegetation.

The field assessment identified a total of 52 hectares of native vegetation mapped within the study area. Contiguous native vegetation outside the study area was also mapped to give context.

A gap analysis was completed against planning controls to identify how the current zoning and overlay controls operate to protect the Reserves from the identified threats. The gap analysis also reviewed how the current zones and overlays operate to support recreational land use. Locations were selected on the basis of the current zoning controls, to ensure the entire study area was examined against the current uses within the reserves.

The key findings include:

- There is a need to appropriately balance the significant biodiversity values within the Reserves whilst still managing the increasing demand to use the area for sport and recreational purposes.
- The current zoning suggests the Reserves are capable of future development however the constraints of the land would limit the expansion without it being to the detriment of the values/significance of the area/environment.
- The current Planning Scheme controls address certain threats to the Reserves including native vegetation. VPO1 and Cl. 52.17 require a permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation. Therefore, native vegetation removal is adequately protected within the Reserves.



- The current Planning Scheme controls don't consider specific environmental threats (apart from the removal of native vegetation) to the Reserves associated with buildings and works carried out by or on behalf of the public land manager or by a third party.
- The introduction of an ESO over the Reserves would trigger a permit for buildings and works as well as native vegetation removal.
- There is an opportunity to implement broader management measures through proactive land management plans and guidelines that would sit outside the planning framework.
- Severe disturbance by bike tracks and jumps is an ongoing threat. Technically a permit is required for the construction of trails and enforcement under the P&E Act. However, a more appropriate course of action would be through appropriate governance and environmental management.

The key recommendations include:

- Apply a bespoke schedule to the ESO to the Reserves to ensure greater environmental protection.
- The VPO1 could be removed and replaced by the ESO to provide stronger planning protection against native vegetation removal within the Reserves.
- Certain exemptions within a schedule to the ESO associated with minor sport and recreational development would be appropriate.
- No major alterations to PCRZ and PPRZ are recommended. The PPRZ allows for the option to consider the expansion of sport and recreational facilities (albeit subject to the consideration of an ESO).
- Where the GRZ1 and LDRZ zoning is publicly owned land it is recommended to be rezoned PPRZ or PCRZ. The DDO could be removed in areas publicly owned.
- Appropriate enforcement of the planning scheme is required to see the protection of environmental values.



2. Introduction

2.2.1 Study Area

Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves (Reserves) are located in Mount Martha, approximately 50 km south of the Melbourne CBD within the Mornington Peninsula Shire Local Government Area (refer to Figure 1). The Reserves have mixed land ownership by both Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and Council with Council being the Committee of Management (CoM) for the entire area (Figure 2). The Study Area includes the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves and a small section of the Mount Martha Foreshore Reserve at the estuary mouth.

The 'Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves' is the collective term for a number of adjoining Reserves and recreational facilities in the area including Balcombe Estuary Reserve, Balcombe Estuary Recreation Reserve, Balcombe Reserve, Citation Reserve, Ferrero Reserve, Victoria Reserve, Uralla Reserve and Seppelt Park Reserve. Formal recreational and community facilities located within the Reserves include sporting ovals (Ferrero and Citation Ovals), Gary Watson Oval, a pistol club, tennis courts and a bowling club; and between the latter two, Mount Martha Pre-school and Mount Martha Maternal Child Health Centre which is a shared facility with the Mount Martha Preschool also border the Reserves (Practical Ecology 2019).

2.1 Project Introduction

Biosis was commissioned by Mornington Peninsula Shire Council (Council) to deliver a robust technical and strategic basis for the protection of the ecological values of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.

This Project (Study) has been initiated as a result of the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme Review, 2018, which recommended a review of the current overlays and a comparison with a potential Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO) to better protect the ecological values in the area. Following this request the Council have completed a review of the planning scheme, which recommended:

R186: (Undertake) further strategic work to review submission by BERG in regard to implementation of ESO to Balcombe Estuary Reserves, and subject to the outcomes of this, an amendment to the planning scheme to facilitate the ESO.

The objectives of the study are to:

- Identify and assess the ecological values of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.
- Identify options for balancing the needs of formal recreation uses with ecological values.
- Confirm the extent of land that is suitable for planning protection, based on ecological values.
- Develop appropriate planning provisions to protect identified ecological values and to support appropriate recreational land use.

2.2 Municipal context

2.2.2 Site Context

The Shire's settlement pattern which includes Mount Martha consists of 40 townships with most residents living along the coast within the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). Land outside the UGB, i.e. the Green Wedge,



occupies around 70 per cent of the municipality and supports a wide range of activities that include recreation, tourism, agriculture and viticulture. The Shire's estimated population is over 160,000 people, and over 20,022 reside in Mount Martha (*Australian Bureau of Statistics*, 2019).

The Mornington Peninsula area has a diversity of scenic landscapes and coastal boundaries of which cover 192 kilometres – approximately 10 per cent of Victoria's coastline. The Shire is characterised by a mixture of bushland, townships, rural land and holiday destinations. The magnificent landscapes of coast line and bushland attract millions of visitors every year (Urbis 2018). Conservation areas in the Shire with significant environmental and biodiversity values include Point Nepean National Park, Mornington Peninsula National Park, Arthurs Seat State Park, Warrigine Park/ Bittern Coastal wetlands, Yaringa Foreshore Reserve and The Briars. The latter three parks and Reserves are the largest and most significant conservation areas managed by the Shire.

The Mornington Peninsula area is a uniquely biodiverse region, with species and areas of regional, state, national and international significance. The Shire's natural assets include over 22,000 ha of native vegetation, 65 ecological vegetation classes over a varied geology and topography; 698 indigenous plant taxa, 402 native fauna, 18 creek catchments with 440 km of waterways, significant wetland habitats, including the internationally significant Western Port Ramsar site, and Tootgarook Wetland which is one of the largest groundwater-dependent wetland systems in the region. The major threats to biodiversity include ongoing land clearance, environmental weeds and pest animals (Ecology Australia 2019).

Mount Martha holds significant value for a number of reasons including aesthetic, social and scientific reasons. Within Port Phillip Bay the Mount Martha surrounds have a high ecological interest. The area is recognised for its high scenic and biodiversity value, having significant native vegetation together with high visual quality associated with diversity of landform (Urbis 2018).

The Reserves sit directly adjacent to The Briars. They include significant areas for conservation as well as accommodate important sporting Reserves and facilities including recreational infrastructure, community facilities and sporting grounds. The Reserves cover 76 hectares of land between the Nepean Highway and the Mt Martha coastline. The Reserves are located on the eastern side of Port Phillip Bay and include the lower reaches and estuary of Balcombe Creek which drains one of the larger water catchments on the Mornington Peninsula.

The Balcombe Estuary mouth forms at the most western point of the Reserves and turns into Balcombe Creek, which flows through the Reserves, beginning in Moorooduc. It flows through Baxter and the Moorooduc plain, before it is joined by Devilbend Creek and turns westwards towards Port Phillip Bay. In its lower reaches, it flows through The Briars historic park, then the Reserves, entering the bay at Mt Martha (BERG 2019).

The Reserves support diverse vegetation comprising several ecological vegetation classes (EVCs) including Coast Banksia Woodland, Estuarine Wetland, Estuarine Scrub, Swamp Scrub, Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland and Grassy Woodland (Practical Ecology 2019). Factors such as geology, coastal influences and levels of inundation govern where these communities occur.

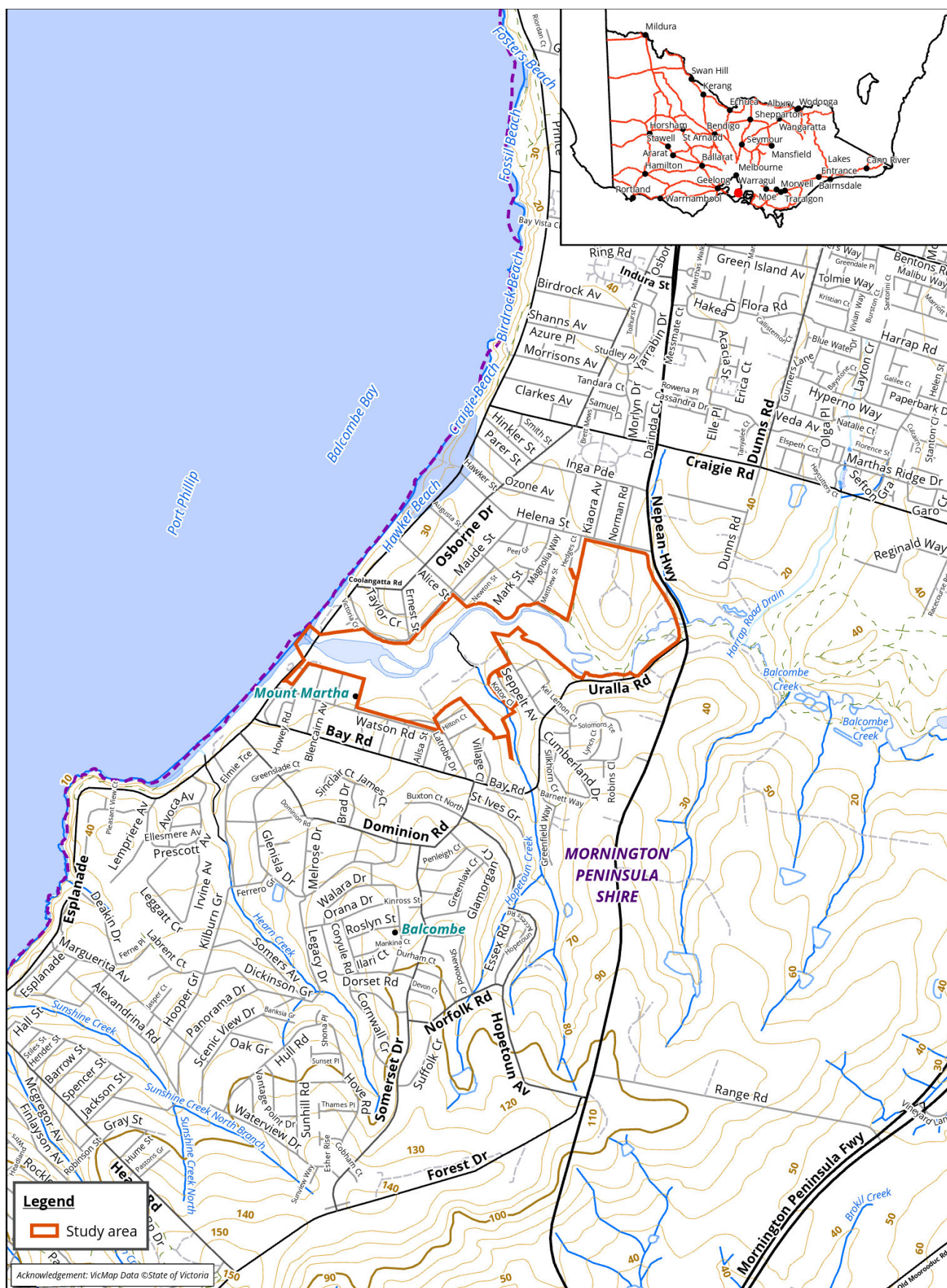
A range of fauna inhabit the area including wetland birds, echidnas, sugar gliders, swamp rats, several microbat species and possums. The waterways are populated by a range of aquatic species including the nationally threatened Dwarf Galaxias (MEES 2019).

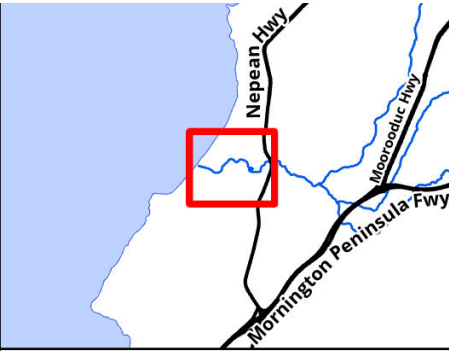
The Reserves contain significant areas of bushland important for both biodiversity conservation and recreational use. A network of walking trails and boardwalks winding through these areas used for informal recreational activities. These trails provide a pedestrian link that passes under the Nepean Highway into The Briars, along a walking track that follows Balcombe Creek. The Reserves are connected to the Mt Martha



Foreshore Reserve and they link the foreshore reserve with the bushland at The Briars (Practical Ecology 2019).

Population growth continues to expand in Mornington Peninsula and recreational activities are crucial for resident health and wellbeing within Mount Martha. There is a need to balance the significant natural bushland and connecting waterways whilst still maintaining recreational facilities within the Reserves to manage a sustainable, vibrant and viable future for Mount Martha and the Reserves.





Legend

- Study area
- Council ownership
- Crown Land

Figure 2 Land Ownership, Balcombe Estuary Reserves

N

0 100 200 300

Metres

Scale 1:6,638 @A3

Coordinate system: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55



Layout: 31549_F1.2_Ownership
Matter: [Matter] Date: 30/07/2020 7:56 AM
Checked by: [Consultant], Drawn by: [GIS], Last edited by: skumar



2.3 Traditional owners

The Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves area was occupied by the Bunurong / Boon Wurrung Aboriginal people for many thousands of years. In 1802 Port Phillip Bay was discovered by Europeans and the area was settled following the establishment of Melbourne in 1835.

2.4 Ecology

From the mid-1800s the Mornington Peninsula was largely cleared of indigenous vegetation from the ridges down to the coast, and extensive pastures were created in many areas. Indigenous vegetation now occupies approximately 30% of the Peninsula. Ecosystems are relatively modified in many but not all areas (Ecology Australia 2016, 2019).

Much of the Peninsula's woodland was devastated by wattle-stripping and tree felling through the 1860s and 1870s. The eucalypts, casuarinas and banksias were culled for firewood for Melbourne and fuel for the local lime kilns, and clearing by graziers hastened the process. This process affected the Reserves.

The Reserves were described by early white settlers as a creek lined by Melaleuca scrub (Swamp Scrub). Banksia woodland occurred near the coast while eucalypt woodland occurred intermittently with Swamp Scrub on the valley slopes on all sides of the Balcombe Creek and Hopetoun Creek shared floodplain (BERG, 2019).

All of the ten original ecological vegetation classes (EVCs) within the Reserves remain today interspersed with non-native vegetation in some areas. The valley slope eucalypt EVCs and the freshwater creek floodplain EVCs including Swamp Scrub, while still supporting many flora and fauna species, are in generally modified condition, while the saline wetland EVCs on the creek floodplain (the estuary) are relatively intact.

The creek itself is unnaturally turbid with brown, discoloured water due to suspended sediment originating from ongoing erosion in the catchment. This is largely related to bare surfaces on unmade roads particularly in the Mount Martha local area. This is causing shallowing (infilling) of the estuarine lagoon and consequent loss of waterbird feeding habitat.



2.5 Sport and recreation

In the early years of the 20th century, camping became popular amongst the trees on the foreshore by the creek mouth, and along its banks. But development was sparse, fern-banked Balcombe Creek was unpolluted and you could row a flat-bottomed boat almost to Dromana Road (now the Nepean Highway).

Allotments along the creek were intended for small farmsteads, but there were few takers. A small hamlet of professional fishermen grew up to the south of the estuary, taking advantage of the rich fishing off Mt Martha.. There was a market garden, and orchards further upstream (BERG 2019).

The Second World War brought drastic change. Most of the lands around the Creek, from the highway to the sea, became Army territory – particularly the area along the south side. It is estimated about 30,000 men resided in the Mt Martha area at its busiest, though others suggest this may be an overestimation. The creek became something of an open sewer until the camp area had a sewerage system established. After the war, the Army Apprentice School was established in 1947 at the Balcombe Camp, and remained on the hill south of Uralla Road until 1982.

From about 1944, public camping was allowed back along the creek, power was connected to the camp ground, and fireplaces and camp tables were built. Post-war building in the area, mostly holiday houses, started slowly and steadily gained pace. In 1966, the locals successfully resisted plans for a dredged boat harbour and marina in the estuary (BERG 2019).

2.5.1 Sport and recreational facilities within the Reserves

Historically, sport and recreation have formed an important component of the lifestyle of many Mornington Peninsula residents. The historical and current use of sport and recreational facilities within the Reserves is detailed below.

Citation Reserve

South Mornington Senior Football Club

The South Mornington Senior Football Club was established in 2005 and share the facilities at Citation Reserve with the South Mornington Junior Football Club. In 2019, the South Mornington Senior Football Club had 60 members consisting of 2 male teams. During the winter season (April to the end of September) they use the reserve on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings for training and compete on Saturdays from 11am to 6pm.

South Mornington Junior Football Club

The South Mornington Junior Football Club was established when the junior football league commenced in 1970. The club home is Citation Reserve and in 2019 the club had 345 members which consisted of 15 male teams and 70 Auskick participants. From April to the end of September each year the club utilise the grounds each evening from 4pm to 8pm and all-day Sunday.

Mornington Cricket Club

The Mornington Cricket Club was established in 1863 and is the oldest cricket club on the Mornington Peninsula. In 2019 they had 185 members consisting of 10 junior male teams, 6 senior male teams, 35 milo cricket participants. The club is based at Alexandra Park in Mornington, however use Citation Reserve on the weekends of competition during the summer cricket season (October to end of March).



John F Ferrero Reserve

Mount Martha Junior Football Club

The Mount Martha Junior Football Club was established in 1970 when the Mornington Peninsula Junior Football League commenced. The club is based at Ferrero Reserve and in 2019 had 450 members, which consisted of 15 male and 7 female teams. From April to the end of September each year the club utilise the grounds each evening from 4pm to 8pm and all-day Saturday and Sunday.

Mount Martha Cricket Club

The Mount Martha Cricket Club commenced with the Mornington Peninsula Cricket Association in 1978. The club currently has 160 members consisting of junior male, senior male and senior female teams as well as 60 milo cricket participants. From October to the end of March the club accesses the grounds each evening from 4pm to 8pm and all-day Saturday and Sunday.

Mount Martha Tennis Club

The Mount Martha Tennis Club was established in 1975 and operates across two sites. The club's home is on the Esplanade with four courts, but they also have three courts at Watson Road to assist with demand. In 2019, the club had 360 members, making it one of our largest tennis clubs on the Mornington Peninsula.

The Mount Martha Tennis Club commenced use and responsibility of the Watson Road Tennis Facility in early 2016. The surface type, drainage, fencing and location have made these courts the club's best and their usage has reflected that with an estimated all year-round weekly participant use of approximately 154 hours.

The club plans to seek approval to install lighting together with the Book a Court system so both members and the general public can easily hire and use the facility.

Mount Martha Bowls

The club officially opened in 1980 and the clubs bowling greens are currently leased privately and used as Bowling Club.

Peninsula Pistol Club

The Peninsula Pistol Club was established in 1959 and they are one of the oldest pistol shooting clubs in Victoria. They currently have 126 members, 116 adults and ten junior members. The Peninsula Pistol Club hold a lease with the Mornington Peninsula Shire as the Committee of Management of the Crown Land Establishment of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.

The Reserves were declared an 'environmental park' in 1987. The Rotary Club of Mount Martha put forward a proposal that an environmental park be established. The Council agreed and four separate but adjacent Reserves were declared (BERG 2019).

For several years, the Rotarians planted trees, constructed fencing, picnic tables and a jetty, and established a 3.5 km system of paths and boardwalk. Completed in 2001, the paths and boardwalk connect the foreshore to the Nepean Highway, passing under the highway and linking with the network of walking tracks within The Briars Park.

Their work paved the way for the formation in 1997 of the Balcombe Estuary Rehabilitation Group, which became, in 2013, the Balcombe Estuary Reserves Group Mt Martha and is widely known across the community as BERG Mt Martha (BERG 2019). Council is the land manager for the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves, and works in partnership with BERG to protect and enhance the biodiversity values



within the reserves, through the implementation of the Shire's long term biodiversity management programs and supporting the work of BERG.

In 2017, BERG requested that Council pursues the application of an ESO to protect the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.

The Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme Review conducted by council recommended to undertake further strategic work to review the submission by BERG in regard to implementation of ESO to Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves, and subject to the outcomes of this, an amendment to the planning scheme to facilitate the ESO.

Preliminary review by Council suggested that an ESO is likely to be warranted and identified the need for a study to support a potential ESO. Internal consultation indicated that consideration of recreational uses is also important in this context given the existing uses within the reserves.

This Study will assess ecological values in the Reserves whilst examining options to balance the needs of formal and informal recreational uses in the Reserves. The Study aims to confirm the extent of land that is suitable for planning protection by a schedule to a potential ESO, examine the effectiveness of the current VPO1 and recommend appropriate planning provisions including potential changes to zoning boundaries to protect identified ecological values whilst balancing appropriate recreational land use.



3. Relevant Local, State, and Commonwealth legislation

This section of the report provides a summary of the key legislation and policy that are relevant to protection and management of the Reserves at Commonwealth, State and local levels.

3.1 Commonwealth

3.1.1 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) aims to protect and manage matters of national environmental significance (MNES) (i.e. nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places).

MNES occur within the Reserves area. Pursuant to the EPBC Act, an activity that may result in a significant impact on a MNES will require an assessment and approval under the Act.

3.2 State

3.2.1 Planning and Environment Act 1987

The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (PE Act) controls the use and development of land across Victoria.

The Reserves are subject to the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme (Planning Scheme). Relevant provisions and policies in Planning Scheme are summarised below.

3.2.2 Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme

Planning Policy Framework

The Planning Policy Framework (PPF) includes a number of policies at the state and regional levels. Those of particular relevance to the Reserves are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1 Relevant Planning Policy Framework (PPF) Policies

Relevant clause	Description
Clause 12.01-1S Protection of biodiversity	Aims to assist the protection and conservation of Victoria's biodiversity. The strategies of this Clause are to ensure that the biodiversity values are identified, the impacts of any change in land use or development on those values have been considered and the impacts on important areas of biodiversity are avoided.
Clause 12.01-2S Native vegetation management	This state policy is to ensure that there is no net loss to biodiversity as a result of the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation. To implement this policy, decisions that involve, or will lead to, the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation, apply the three-step approach (i.e. avoid and minimise impacts on native vegetation and provide an offset to compensate for the biodiversity impacts) in accordance with the <i>Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation</i> ('Guidelines') (DELWP 2017a).
Clause 12.02-1S	The objective of this policy is to recognise the value of coastal areas to the community,



Relevant clause	Description
Protection of coastal areas	conserve and enhance coastal areas and ensure sustainable use of natural coastal resources. Under this Clause, land use and planning need to comply with the requirements of <i>Coastal Management Act 1995</i> which as a priority requires the protection of significant environmental and cultural values.
Clause 12.03-11S River corridors, waterways, lakes and wetlands	Protecting and enhancing river corridors, waterways, lakes and wetlands is the objective of this Clause. In relation to the estuary, this objective will be achieved through protection of the environmental, cultural and landscape values of the estuary and ensuring that developments (and their design and sitting) respect those identified values which will be explored through a potential ESO.
Clause 12.05-1S Environmentally sensitive areas	This is a policy for protection and conservation of environmentally sensitive areas. Under this policy, there is a strategy to protect environmentally sensitive areas with significant environmental value (including Mornington Peninsula) from development that would diminish their environmental, conservation or recreational values.
Clause 12.05-2S Landscape	The objective is to protect and enhance significant landscapes and open spaces that contribute to character, identity and sustainable environments. Under this policy, significant landscape areas are to be protected and developments are required to not detract from the natural qualities of those areas.
Clause 14.02-1S Catchment planning and management	The objective of this state policy is to assist the protection and restoration of catchments, water bodies, groundwater, and the marine environment. This objective is achieved through a number of strategies such as ensuring that works at or near waterways provide for the protection and enhancement of the environmental qualities of waterways and their instream uses.
Clause 17.04-2S Coastal and maritime tourism and recreation	The objective of this state policy is to encourage suitably located and designed coastal, marine and maritime tourism and recreational opportunities. This objective is achieved through a number of strategies including ensuring sites and facilities are accessible to all and provide public access to recreational facilities and activities on land and water.
Clause 19.02-6S Open space	The objective of this state policy is to establish, manage and improve a diverse and integrated network of public open space that meets the needs of the community. This objective is achieved through a number of strategies including ensuring that urban open space provides for nature conservation, recreation and play, formal and informal sport, social interaction, opportunities to connect with nature and peace and solitude and ensuring that land use and development adjoining regional open space networks, national parks and conservation Reserves complements the open space in terms of visual and noise impacts, preservation of vegetation and treatment of waste water to reduce turbidity and pollution.

Municipal Planning Strategy

The strategic directions of the planning scheme contains policies that apply within the municipality. Relevant policies are listed below.

Clause 02.03-2 Environmental and landscape values

This policy has identifies Mornington Peninsula is an area of great environmental and landscape diversity that owes its special conservation value to the following features, including:



- natural areas of regional, state, national and international significance located on the Peninsula and adjoining marine areas.
- Strategically important habitat linkages along streamlines, road reserves and the coastal fringe.
- Landscapes that include a combination of natural and cultural elements and support both local native vegetation and introduced species.

The policy acknowledges that the environmental and landscape values are important, considering the Peninsula is a key recreation area that meets both local and metropolitan needs. The potential ESO aligns with Council's strategic directions for 'Environmental and landscape values' as it would seek to protect and conserve habitat areas and linking corridors to encourage wildlife survival and support outdoor and unstructured recreation that are associated with rural pursuits of the land or coastal environments in their natural state.

Clause 02.03 -3 Environmental risks and amenity

The policy highlights the Peninsula faces a number of environmental issues, such as the loss and degradation of native vegetation, pest plant and animal infestation, lowered habitat capacity, pollution of streams and aquifers, erosion and mass wastage of slopes and damage to scientific and historic sites. The potential ESO would seek to manage some of these risks and impacts and align with Council's strategic directions for 'Environmental risks and amenity' relating to:

- Protecting the unique environmental and landscape values of the Peninsula within the Reserves.
- Preserving the stability of land by avoiding development in areas prone to erosion.

Zone controls

Several zoning controls apply to the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves and surrounding area (Refer to Figure 3).

A summary of the most relevant zone controls and their permit requirements is included in Table 2.

Table 2 Summary of zone controls

Zone	Description
Public Park and Recreation (PPRZ)	<p>The purpose of the PPRZ is generally to recognise areas for open space, protect areas of significance and provide for commercial uses when appropriate.</p> <p>PPRZ applies to land typically used for the sports fields and recreation areas (including Citation and Ferrero Reserves) within the Reserves boundary.</p> <p>A summary of permit requirements under the PPRZ is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permit is required for land specified uses, buildings and works and subdivision. • Under the application requirements of the PPRZ, an application for a permit by a person other than the relevant public land manager must be accompanied by the written consent from the public land manager.
Public Conservation and Resource Zone (PCRZ)	<p>The purpose of the PCRZ is to conserve the natural environment and natural processes and provide facilities which assist in public education and interpretation of the natural environment.</p> <p>PCRZ covers highly vegetated areas within the Reserves and runs parallel to the Balcombe Estuary/Creek.</p>



Zone	Description
	<p>A summary of permit requirements under the PCRZ is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permit is required for specified land uses, buildings and works and subdivision. • If permit is not required for a certain use or buildings and works, they have to be either undertaken by or on behalf of the public land manager in accordance with some certain pieces of legislation or be specified in an incorporated document.
General Residential Zone – Schedule 1 (GRZ1)	<p>The purpose of GRZ is generally to respect the neighborhood character of the area, encourage diversity of housing type and housing growth and allow for a range of different uses such as educational and recreational.</p> <p>The GRZ applies to small sections of land within the Study area on Augusta St and Latrobe Drive.</p> <p>A summary of permit requirements under the GRZ1 is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permit is required for some uses and buildings and works. • A permit is required to subdivide land.
Low Density Residential Zone (LDRZ)	<p>The purpose of LDRZ is generally to provide for low-density residential development on lots which, in the absence of reticulated sewerage, can treat and retain all wastewater. The LDRZ applies to small sections of land within the Study area including the sports ground off Uralla Road and a small parcel near Village Close.</p> <p>A summary of permit requirements under the LDRZ is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A permit is required to Subdivide land • A permit is required to construct or carry out any of the following: • A building or works associated with a use in Section 2 of Clause 32.03-1. An outbuilding which has dimensions greater than those specified in a schedule to this zone.
Road Zone – Category 1 (RDZ1)	<p>The purpose of RDZ1 is generally to identify significant existing roads and to identify land which has been acquired for a significant proposed road.</p> <p>The RDZ1 applies to small sections of land within the Study area.</p> <p>A permit is required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct a building or construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 36.04-1 • Subdivide land





Overlay controls

Several planning overlays apply to the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves and surrounding area (Refer to Figure 4.1-4.4).

Overlays which apply to the current area are as follows:

Vegetation Protection Overlay

The Site is currently covered by Vegetation Protection Overlay schedule 1 (VPO1) which seeks to:

- To recognise areas where substantial vegetation cover is the dominant visual and environmental feature.
- To ensure that subdivision and development proposals have proper regard to the landscape character of township areas.
- To ensure that new development has proper regard for the established landscape, streetscape and development pattern in terms of being consistent with the existing balance between vegetation and building form in the local area and contributing to the landscape character of the area.
- To ensure that any removal of natural vegetation and works associated with development in environmentally sensitive areas, including streamline areas, is carried out with proper regard to the physical characteristics of each site and the local area.
- To ensure that any removal of natural vegetation in proximity to the Point Nepean National Park or other public land has proper regard to the impact on these areas.
- To protect and conserve native vegetation, including grasses and ground flora.
- To protect and conserve the habitat value of vegetation within township areas.
- To encourage strategic replanting to provide for the long term maintenance of landscape and environmental values within townships.
- To ensure that the proposed relocation of dwellings, or other buildings, includes measures to minimise the removal of vegetation on site and from road Reserves.
- To prevent the premature removal of vegetation from a site prior to consideration of design options for a proposed development.

Bushfire Management Overlay

The Site is currently covered by Bushfire Management Overlay and Bushfire Management Overlay schedule 2 (BMO & BMO2) which seeks to:

- To ensure that the development of land prioritises the protection of human life and strengthens community resilience to bushfire.
- To identify areas where the bushfire hazard warrants bushfire protection measures to be implemented.
- To ensure development is only permitted where the risk to life and property from bushfire can be reduced to an acceptable level.



Design and Development Overlay

The Site is currently covered by Design and Development Overlay schedule 2, 4, 6 and 7 (DDO2, DDO4, DDO6 and DDO7) which seeks to achieve a number of objectives including:

- To ensure that the design of low density subdivision and housing is responsive to the environment, landform, site conditions and character of areas. These are areas, generally on the periphery of townships, where more intensive settlement would adversely affect environmental features including streamlines, wetlands and bushland habitat areas or where other land use factors, including proximity to extractive industry sites, require a limited population density.
- To prevent the overdevelopment of sensitive areas resulting in environmental and landscape degradation.
- To recognise areas where substantial vegetation cover is a dominant environmental and landscape feature, by ensuring site areas are large enough to accommodate development while retaining natural or established vegetation cover and to provide substantial areas for new landscaping and open space.

Heritage Overlay

The Site is currently covered by Heritage Overlay including HO372 (*Former Mount Martha Campground*) and HO363 (*Citation Reserve, Oval, Memorial Stone and former Army Hut, Cypress avenue*) which seeks to:

- To conserve and enhance heritage places of natural or cultural significance.
- To conserve and enhance those elements which contribute to the significance of heritage places.
- To ensure that development does not adversely affect the significance of heritage places.
- To conserve specified heritage places by allowing a use that would otherwise be prohibited if this will demonstrably assist with the conservation of the significance of the heritage place.

Overlays which apply to the surrounding area and are relevant to this Study include:

- Environment Significance Overlays (ESOs)
 - ESO3 – Central Peninsula
 - ESO17 – Streamlines
 - ESO 25 – Port Phillip Coastal Area
 - ESO 28 – Mornington Peninsula Bushland
- Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO, SLO3) (Scenic Roads).

Table 3 below summarises the Planning Overlays covering the Reserves.

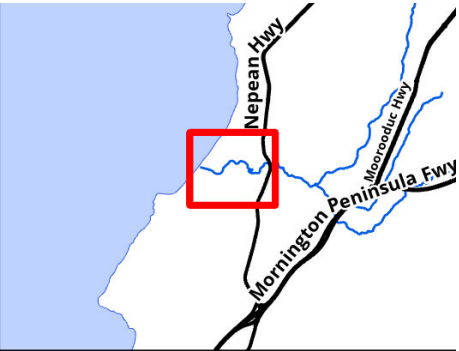


Table 3 Summary of Overlay controls

Overlay	Description
Vegetation Protection Overlay- Schedule 1 (VPO1)	<p>The purpose of the VPO is generally to recognise areas of significant vegetation and ensure that development minimises loss of vegetation. It aims to preserve existing trees and other vegetation, recognise vegetation protection areas as locations of special significance, natural beauty, interest and importance and to maintain and enhance habitat and habitat corridors for indigenous fauna.</p> <p>A summary of permit requirements under the VPO are as follows.</p> <p>A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation, except for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The removal of vegetation which is to be carried out in conjunction with a development approved under a planning permit and in accordance with an endorsed plan. • The removal of vegetation necessary for the construction of a dwelling, dwelling extension or outbuilding where no planning permit is required and provided that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a building permit has been granted for the proposed development - vegetation is only removed from the building footprint or within 2 metres of the proposed building - no tree with a trunk circumference greater than 0.35 metres is removed within 6 metres of a road frontage • The removal of vegetation, not within a road reserve, to enable the formation of a single crossing and access driveway with a maximum width of 3.7 metres. • The removal of vegetation which presents an immediate risk of personal injury or damage to property including the culling of single trees located within 3 metres of a dwelling or outbuilding, or which overhangs a boundary line. • The removal of any dead timber or branch which has occurred through natural circumstances, fire or the spread of noxious weeds. • The removal of any tree or branch of a tree which impairs the access of motor vehicles along any existing or approved access track, provided that such access track has a width no greater than 3.7 metres. • The maintenance of landscaping, including pruning, which does not affect the stability, general form and viability of the vegetation. • The removal of vegetation that has been established for less than 10 years and which is not required as landscaping under a planning approval. • The removal of vegetation specified in the schedule to Clause 52.17. • An application for permit must be accompanied by a vegetation management plan clearly indicating: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - all existing vegetation on the site, the extent and purpose of proposed vegetation removal and the species, density and location of trees and other vegetation to be planted - the location of any watercourse on the property, and, if relevant, the location of areas where the ground slope exceeds 20 percent - where it is proposed to relocate a building, the application must specify the intended access route and provide an assessment of the vegetation impact, both on the site and on road Reserves, including any proposed replanting

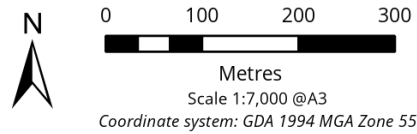


Overlay	Description
Bushfire Management Overlay – Schedule 2 (BMO, BMO2)	<p>The purpose of BMO and BMO2 is to ensure that the development of land prioritises the protection of human life and strengthens community resilience to bushfire.</p> <p>A summary of permit requirements under the BMO are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A permit is required for subdivision. • A permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works associated some uses including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - accommodation (including a Dependent person's unit) - education centre - leisure and recreation office - place of assembly
Design and Development Overlay – Schedule 2,4,6,7 (DDO2, DDO4, DDO6, DDO7)	<p>The purpose of DDO is to ensure that the design of low density subdivision and housing is responsive to the environment. DDO2 covers the entire Reserves area. Small sections of the Reserves are covered by the other mentioned schedules.</p> <p>A summary of permit requirements under the DDO are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct a building or construct or carry out works. • Subdivide land.
Heritage Overlay (HO363 and HO372)	<p>The purpose of HO is to conserve and enhance heritage places of natural or cultural significance. There are to Heritage places in the Study area including HO372, and HO363.</p> <p>A summary of permit requirements under the HO include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subdivide land. • Demolish or remove a building. • Construct a building or construct or carry out works.

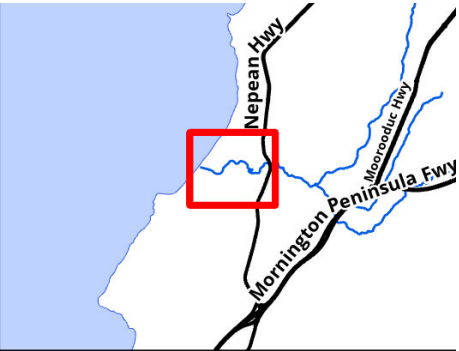


- Legend**
- Study area
 - Planning overlays**
 - Vegetation Protection Overlay - Schedule 1

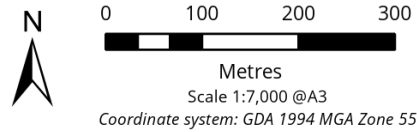
Figure 4.1 Planning overlays



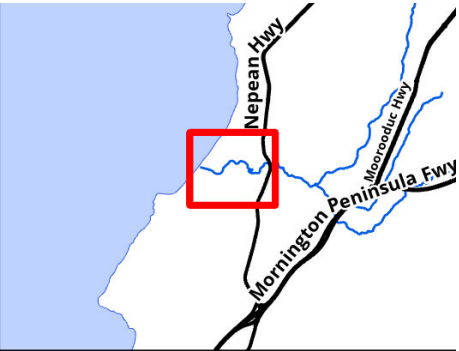
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- Study area
 - Planning overlays**
 - Bushfire Management Overlay
 - Bushfire Management Overlay - Schedule 2

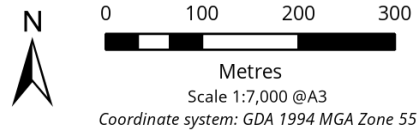


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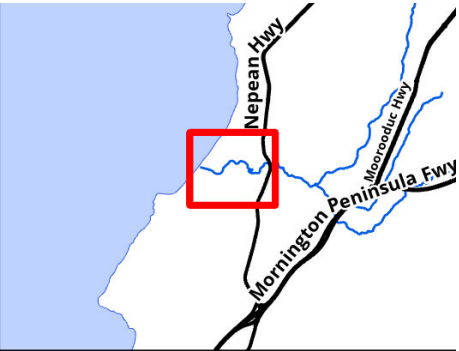


- Legend**
- Study area
 - Design and Development Overlay - Schedule 2
 - Design and Development Overlay - Schedule 4
 - Design and Development Overlay - Schedule 6
 - Design and Development Overlay - Schedule 7

Figure 4.3 Planning overlays

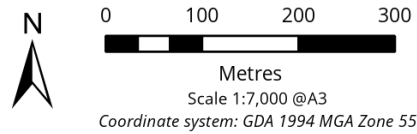


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- Legend**
- Study area
 - Planning overlays**
 - Heritage Overlay (HO363)
 - Heritage Overlay (HO372)
 - Heritage Overlay (HO378)

Figure 4.4 Planning overlays



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Particular provisions

Clause 52.12 (Bushfire protection: exemptions)

Clause 52.12 contains a number of exemptions which allow vegetation to be removed for the purpose of creating defensible space for properties within the BMO. Given part of the wetland and surrounding area is within the BMO these exemptions affect the extent of vegetation which can be removed without a permit, subject to the requirements of this provision being met.

Clause 52.17 (Native vegetation)

A planning permit is required to remove native vegetation pursuant to Clause 52.17 of the Planning Scheme. Several exemptions (subject to conditions) apply including the following:

- Conservation work
- Crown land
- Dead native vegetation
- Emergency works
- Existing buildings
- Existing buildings and works in the Farming Zone and Rural Activity Zone
- Fences
- Fire protection
- Geothermal energy exploration and extraction
- Grasses
- Grazing (on freehold land or Crown land)
- Greenhouse gas sequestration and exploration
- Harvesting for timber production – naturally established native vegetation
- Land management or directions notice
- Land use conditions
- Lopping and pruning for maintenance
- Mineral exploration and extraction
- New buildings and works in the Farming Zone and Rural Activity Zone
- New dwellings in the Farming Zone and Rural Activity Zone
- Personal use
- Pest animal burrows
- Planted vegetation
- Railways
- Regrowth
- Road safety



- Site area
- Stock movements on roads
- Stone exploration
- Stone extraction
- Surveying
- Traditional owners
- Utility installations
- Vehicle access from public roads
- Weeds

Applications are assessed using the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (DELWP 2017) (Native Vegetation Guidelines).

3.2.3 Water Act 1989

The *Water Act 1989* (Water Act) provides the legal framework for managing Victoria's water resources. The Water Act sets out a number of licences for works on waterways for managing actions on freehold land.

Under the Water Act, 'waterway' includes 'a river, creek, stream or watercourse' and therefore the estuary and creek is considered as a waterway. The Water Act also outlines specific requirements for water managers, in this case Melbourne Water, to manage Designated Waterways and their adjacent 20 metres.

The Water Act is also of relevance as it also gives Melbourne Water powers and obligations related to Improving health and amenity of waterways, conserving and improving biodiversity and ecosystems, protecting water quality and meeting State environment protection targets, and identifying and managing existing regional flood problems.

3.2.4 Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994

The *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* (CaLP Act) establishes a framework for integrated and co-ordinated management of catchments across Victoria which aims to achieve a number of objectives including maintaining and enhancing the land productivity and ensuring the quality of the State's land and water resources.

The Mornington Peninsula municipality is within the Port Philip and Western Port Catchment Management Authority area. In the Port Philip and Western Port region, Melbourne Water acts as the waterway manager and the Port Philip and Western Port Catchment Management Authority acts as the land manager.

The CaLP Act sets out duties for land owners and the Secretary (the body corporate established under Part 2 of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987*) including but not limited to avoiding land degradation, soil conservation, protecting water resources and preventing the growth and spread of regionally controlled weeds.



3.2.5 Environment Protection Act 1970

The *Environment Protection Act 1970* (EP Act) establishes a legislative framework for the protection of the environment in Victoria having regard to the principles of environment protection. The EP Act has established the Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA Victoria) and set out Authority's powers, duties and functions related to improving the air, land and water environments by managing waters, control of noise and control of pollution. The EP Act also regulates industrial development and activities through a permit and licensing framework with associated enforceable offences.

The EP Act also requires the establishment of State Environment Protection Policies (SEPPs). SEPPs are subordinate legislation developed to provide more detailed requirements and guidance for the application of the Act to Victoria. The most relevant SEPPs to the wetland is the Waters SEPP.

Waters State Environment Protection policy

The purpose of this SEPP is to provide a framework to protect and improve the quality of Victoria's waters having regard to the principles of environment protection set out in the EPA Act.

3.2.6 Environment Effects Act 1978

The *Environment Effects Act 1978* (EE Act) establishes a framework for the assessment of environmental impacts of state significance. If a proposal that could have a significant effect on the environment, it should be referred to the Minister for Planning for a decision as to whether an Environment Effects Statement (EES) needs to be prepared before other statutory authorisations are granted.

3.2.7 Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988

The *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act) is a key piece of Victorian legislation for the conservation of threatened species and communities and for the management of potentially threatening processes. Under the FFG Act a permit is required to 'take' protected flora species from public land. A permit is generally not required for removal of protected flora from private land. Authorisation under the FFG Act is required to collect, kill, injure or disturb listed fish.

3.2.8 Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006

The *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (AH Act) and Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018 (AH Regulations) provides for the protection and management of Victoria's aboriginal heritage through processes linked to the planning system. The AH Act established the framework for the preparation of Cultural Heritage Management Plans (CHMP) and Cultural Heritage Permits.

Given parts of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves are identified as an area of cultural heritage sensitivity aboriginal heritage value, the provisions of the AH Act must be taken into consideration during the planning process.

3.2.9 Road Management Act 2004

The purpose of the *Road Management Act 2004* is to establish a coordinated management system for public roads that will promote safe and efficient state and local public road networks and the responsible use of our roads.



4. Literature Review

Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves has been subject to numerous ecological and land management studies.

Detail on the estuary and its environment can be found in numerous reports, publications and plans, including key documents listed in the References and Bibliography of this report.

The Draft Mount Martha Coastal Management Plan (Urbis 2018) relates to the adjacent Mount Martha Foreshore Reserve which is separated from the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves by The Esplanade road reserve. This study extends to the estuary entrance on the foreshore reserve.

4.1 Ecology

Balcombe Creek is one of the Mornington Peninsula's major waterways making it a significant natural asset as recognised in Council's State of Biodiversity Report and Biodiversity Conservation Plan (Ecology Australia 2016, 2019).

As part of Melbourne Water's Healthy Waterways Strategy (Melbourne Water 2018), the Co-designed catchment program for the Westernport and Mornington Peninsula region contains the following information on Balcombe Estuary:

Flow regime relates to the degree of change from 'natural conditions'.

The current state is moderate and the target is low.

Tidal exchange is associated the ability of sea water and freshwater to mix in the estuarine environment.

The current state is very high and the target is very high.

Longitudinal extent is associated with barriers that interfere with the movement of water.

The current state is very high and the target is very high.

Water quality incorporates compliance with the EPA Victoria's water quality guidelines for estuaries.

The current state is moderate and the target is moderate.

Estuarine wetland connectivity relates to the proportion of the estuary that is connected to its fringing wetlands.

The current state is very low and the target is low.

The Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (DELWP 2020d) is a source of historical records of flora and fauna. However, the most recent and comprehensive survey data (Practical Ecology 2020, MEES 2019) are not yet in the Atlas. These recent surveys provide reliable data on current biodiversity and are the basis of this review.

4.1.1 Flora

A total of 153 indigenous and 157 introduced vascular plant species was recently recorded from the Reserves (Practical Ecology 2020) (Appendix 1). Two species are endangered in Victoria (DELWP 2022): Dune Wood-sorrel *Oxalis rubens* occurs in Coast Banksia Woodland and Coast Twin-leaf *Roepora billardierei* is planted from propagated material obtained from the adjacent foreshore reserve (Table 4). Many species are considered significant at regional (Gippsland Plain bioregion) and local (Mount Martha) levels (Practical Ecology 2020).



Table 4 Listed significant flora

FFG Act status	Species	Common name	Status within Reserves
State significance			
Endangered	Dune Wood-sorrel	<i>Oxalis rubens</i>	Rare
Endangered	Coast Twin-leaf	<i>Roepera billardierei</i>	Rare

4.1.2 Fauna

As part of Melbourne Water's Healthy Waterways Strategy (Melbourne Water 2018), the Co-designed catchment program for the Westernport and Mornington Peninsula region contains the following information on Balcombe Estuary:

The bird value score at Balcombe Creek estuary is currently very low. Although significant bird species have been recorded the estuary, the estuary is not formally recognised as bird habitat. Predicted improvements to estuarine vegetation and estuarine wetland connectivity are predicted to improve the bird value score to moderate.

The fish value score for Balcombe Creek estuary is high and is predicted to remain high in the long-term. A good diversity of estuarine dependent species inhabits the estuaries and are likely to remain.

A total of 108 indigenous and 10 introduced vertebrate animal species was recently recorded from the Reserves (MEES 2019) (Appendix 2). One species is nationally threatened (Dwarf Galaxias *Galaxiella pusilla*), five species are threatened at the state level (Table 5), and many are considered significant at regional (Gippsland Plain bioregion) and local (Mount Martha) levels (MEES 2019).

Table 5 Listed significant fauna

Status (see Appendix 2)	Species	Common name	Status within Reserves
National significance			
VUeP	<i>Galaxiella pusilla</i>	Dwarf Galaxias	Rare
State significance			
e	<i>Pseudemoia rawlinsoni</i>	Glossy Grass Skink	Uncommon
e	<i>Pseudophryne semimarmorata</i>	Southern Toadlet	Uncommon
v	<i>Lewinia pectoralis</i>	Lewin's Rail	Rare
v	<i>Ardea modesta</i>	Eastern Great Egret	Rare
v	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail	Rare

The native vertebrate fauna consists of 12 mammal (7 bat), 66 bird, 11 reptile, 6 frog and 13 fish species. Some mammals, several birds, and all reptiles and frogs are sedentary, with home ranges occupied throughout the year within the Reserves with some straddling the boundary. The remainder of these fauna, which includes all waterbirds and fish, are transient, visiting the Reserves often as a stepping stone in the broader landscape. The Balcombe Estuary is an important stepping stone for many native fauna.



4.1.3 Ecosystems

Vegetation

As part of Melbourne Water's Healthy Waterways Strategy (Melbourne Water 2018), the Co-designed catchment program for the Westernport and Mornington Peninsula region contains the following information on Balcombe Estuary:

The vegetation value score at Balcombe Creek estuary is currently moderate with a current trajectory of decline to very low. The predicted impacts of climate change, along with the ongoing pressure from urbanisation will be somewhat offset through maintenance of estuarine water quality and estuarine vegetation condition

Estuarine vegetation is associated with the extent to which estuarine vegetation extent and condition is modified. The current state is moderate and the target is moderate.

Ecological vegetation classes

Numerous ecological vegetation classes are recorded for the Reserves, although the various sources are not consistent (Table 6). Two sources map the extent of EVCs: DELWP NatureKit (2020) which is not correct and ARI (2006) which is small scale and lacks detail (Figure 5).

Table 6 Ecological vegetation classes

Ecological vegetation class	Bioregional conservation status (DELWP 2020a)	NatureKit (DELWP 2020c)	ARI (2006)	MEES (2019)	Practical Ecology (2020)
Coastal Saltmarsh EVC 9	Least concern				✓
Estuarine Wetland EVC 10	Least concern		✓		✓
Estuarine Reedbed EVC 952	Unstated		✓		✓
Reed Swamp EVC 300	Endangered			✓	✓
Estuarine Scrub EVC 953	Least concern		✓	✓	✓
Swamp Scrub EVC 53	Endangered		✓	✓	✓
Swampy Woodland EVC 937	Endangered			✓	
Swampy Riparian Woodland EVC 83	Endangered	✓		✓	
Coastal Dune Scrub EVC 160	Depleted				✓
Coastal Banksia Woodland EVC 2	Vulnerable			✓	✓
Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland EVC 3	Vulnerable		✓		✓
Grassy Woodland EVC 175	Endangered	✓	✓	✓	✓
Heathy Woodland EVC 48	least concern			✓	✓

The small approximately 0.3 ha area(s) of Coastal Saltmarsh and Estuarine Wetland qualify as the EPBC Act listed Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh (Ecology Australia 2020).



4.1.4 Ecological health

Biodiversity

Flora

Practical Ecology (2020) note a decline in indigenous flora species numbers from 176 to 153 between 2002 and 2019 and attribute this to low rainfall in 2019. With only five orchid species the Reserves appear to have lost species since European settlement. Note: Although six additional orchid species recorded during this study, an area of this size and vegetation diversity is likely to have once had over 20 orchid species.

Practical Ecology note 'very substantial improvements in vegetation quality' between 2002 and 2019 and attribute this to vegetation restoration works undertaken by BERG in cooperation with Council and its bushland management contractors.

Tree decline is a major problem within the Reserves: 'the majority of the indigenous gum trees within the Reserves have died or are in the process of dying'...The woodlands within the reserve retain some old-growth trees with important breeding and roosting hollows. However many of the eucalypt species have died or are senescing which will cause a decline of essential breeding hollows over the next decades.' (MEES 2019).

Possible reasons for the massive tree decline, which severely impacts on fauna, are not identified.

Seagrass decline within the estuary has been recorded (MEES 2019). 'This has led to a loss of sea grass eating bird species such as Black Swan and some duck species. Sea grass decline has been associated with sedimentation.' No seagrass or aquatic angiosperms were recorded by Practical Ecology (2020).

Fauna

The Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves has experienced a recent fauna mass extinction, with over 50 site-extinctions since the 1990s (MEES 2019). There was a decline in indigenous fauna species numbers from 112 to 108 between 2008 and 2019 suggesting the situation may be stabilising. Eucalypt tree planting is recommended.

The ground mammal fauna appears to be in decline with three extant species and seven probable site-extinctions, while the arboreal possum and aerial (bat) mammal fauna appears to be relatively healthy. The wetland and surviving woodland bird fauna are diverse with relatively healthy populations. However large old trees with breeding hollows that are required by some woodland birds are becoming scarce.

The reptile fauna appears to be moderately healthy, with eleven extant species and three recent site-extinctions. The frog fauna also appears to be moderately healthy, with six species and three probable site-extinctions (MEES 2019). The fish fauna in both the creek and estuary is relatively diverse and healthy, with only one introduced species, Eastern Gambusia *Gambusia holbrooki*, present in the creek (MEES 2019).



Sedimentation

Accelerated sedimentation is impacting on the ecology of Balcombe Estuary by reducing the water depth which negatively affects aquatic species and birdlife. The sedimentation results from increased human activities such as urbanisation, agriculture and roadworks within the catchment of Balcombe Creek.

We understand from Council that the main element contributing to the sediment is unsealed roads, the main runoff generation is from private properties, and the Mount Martha residential area with most properties serviced by unsealed roads is the key source of sediment entering the estuary.

A long-term sediment management plan for Balcombe Estuary is currently being prepared by Council. The plan will identify various locations of sedimentation discharge, their sources and suitable ways to control the sediment transport beyond their immediate vicinity.

4.1.5 Buffer zones

Buffer zones are:

Areas peripheral to a specific protected area, where restrictions on resource use and special development measures are undertaken in order to enhance the conservation value of the protected area... The term buffer zone gained international prominence through UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme in 1971. (UNEP-WCMC 2014)

Buffer zones, where they exist, protect geophysical and ecological core natural areas by absorbing or moderating human impacts along the edges. Edge pressures include physical disturbance, hydrological disturbance, invasive species particularly weeds, visitor pressure, visual disturbance, noise and light disturbance, toxic contamination and landscape intrusion.

Wetlands in particular benefit from buffer zones as they are receiving basins for runoff from surrounding land (Price et al. 2005). Wetland buffer zones recommended by various Australian studies are reviewed in a planning study of Tootgarook Wetland undertaken for Council (Biosis 2019).

The core area of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves is the extensive wetland on the Balcombe Creek floodplain. Most of the wetland is effectively buffered either by formed roads or by dryland vegetation on the adjacent slopes. Much of the wetland and dryland vegetation is hard up against private land on which there is no scope to designate buffer zones. These areas will permanently lack a buffer zone. Where the edge of the native vegetation is within the Reserves, such as around the sports fields and associated buildings, there is some potential for designating buffer zones. However these opportunities are limited in geographic extent.

While there is general agreement that any buffer zone is better than none, the limited knowledge base and differing scientific recommendations on buffer widths tend to make the determination of optimal or useful buffer zone widths imprecise. This is especially the case with dryland vegetation for which there is less research than wetland vegetation. The lack of existing recommendations and precedents relating to dryland buffer zones, and the fact that buffer zones either already exist in the forms of roads or are impractical in terms of land tenure, appear to make the delineation of buffer zones impractical in this study.





4.2 Sport and recreation

As a result of rapid population growth in the Shire in recent years, the Reserves have become a popular location for a range of sporting and recreational activities within its diverse seaside and bushland environments including within the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.

The Shire has been subject to a number of plans and reports on recreational uses in the area (see *References* and *Bibliography*). This literature has been reviewed in various reports, in particular:

- Sports Capacity Plan Volume 1 - Sports Fields, June 2019
- Citation and Ferrero Draft Masterplan V5 draft
- Open Space Strategy – Volume 1 (circa 2003)
- Open Space Strategy – Volume 3 (circa 2003)

4.2.1 Sporting capacity

The projected population growth of the Mornington Peninsula Shire is an estimated 38,830 people between 2016 and 2036. Within the active age cohort of 5-39 years, there is projected to be an estimated increase of 8,176 people by 2036, or an increase of 14.5% from 2016. This is significant for sport and active recreation as research shows that most people who participate in active organised sport fall within this age cohort (Simon Leisure Consulting 2019).

Included in these reports, the Sports Capacity Plan examines the current pressure faced by the Shire due to an increase in demand for sporting facilities. The Shire's current sporting Reserves are used for a range of field based sports including Australian rules football, athletics (track and field), baseball, cricket, soccer, and the potential to support (with increasing demand) softball, rugby and hockey. The sporting reserves within the Shire also support a range of sporting facilities including netball courts, tennis courts, bowling greens, and indoor stadiums. However, it is the growth and demand of the field-based sports which is providing the greatest challenge for Council. The Shire is directly responsible for the planning, development and management of 34 sports Reserves, and the 52 sports fields and supporting infrastructure located on them. However, sports clubs also utilise other sports fields controlled by other land managers (schools and private) which hold great importance for council. Council are currently reviewing a framework to optimise the shared use of sports fields across the Shire, guide their maintenance and upgrade, and where appropriate inform the renewal of existing sports facilities and the development of new ones (Simon Leisure Consulting 2019).

Sporting facilities are integrated within reserves to optimise the community's access to and usage of sporting facilities and surrounding areas when not in use by tenants clubs for organised sporting usage. This includes minimal fencing and removing/ mitigating other access barriers. In support of this it is suggested reserves incorporate non-sporting infrastructure, such as BBQs, playground and walking paths to encourage informal recreational use.

The Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves are key to supporting some of these sporting uses, accommodating Citation and Ferrero Reserve, Peninsula Pistol Club, Tennis Courts, and the Mount Martha Bowls Club (Refer to Figure 6).



Citation Reserve and Ferrero Reserve

Citation Reserve and Ferrero Reserve are both used for formal and informal recreational activities (Mornington Peninsula Shire n.d.) and occupy large sections of the Balcombe Reserves.

Citation Reserve consists of a number of facilities and use areas including:

- To the south, east and west, a perimeter zone with the Balcombe Estuary Reserve bushland.
- A cleared area at the entry including one oval, dog walking area, passive open space, as well as support facilities including club rooms, car parking and road ways.
- A higher cleared zone to the south including one oval and support facilities such as a grandstand, canteen and car parking.
- A cleared zone between the ovals.
- A playground.
- Public toilet block.
- Telecommunications leased area.
- Memorial Stone and former Army Hut (HO363).

Ferrero Reserve consists of:

- A border with Balcombe Estuary Reserve bushland to the north, east and west.
- To the south, elevated and steep vegetated areas including the corridor of Hopetoun Creek.
- A central largely cleared area including two ovals and support facilities (building, parking, playgrounds, cricket nets).
- Gravel access road with car parking.
- Toilet blocks.

Peninsula Pistol Club

The Peninsula Pistol Club hold a lease under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*. This is a leased facility and locked, therefore not accessible for public use.

The Peninsula Pistol Club includes:

- A large clubroom.
- An indoor pistol range.
- Four outdoor shooting ranges with roofing over the shooting bays.
- A large car park.
- Two portable buildings for use as clubrooms.
- Toilet block.



Mount Martha Bowls Club

The Mount Martha Bowls Club is located on the corner Watson Road and Latrobe Drive. It is directly adjacent to Mount Martha preschool. This is a privately leased and locked facility, therefore not accessible for public use.

Bowling commenced at Mount Martha in November 1980. Membership has grown to approximately 250 over the years. Until recently the club had 3 grass greens, but has converted two of them to all weather, environmentally friendly synthetic playing surfaces. Both greens are floodlit.

The Club plays in the Mornington Peninsula Bowls Division with five sides in both Tuesday Mid-Week and Saturday Pennant Competitions. Members can also play social bowls on Wednesday and Thursday.

During the summer months the community enjoy barefoot bowls on Friday nights. With no longer the need to rotate greens for routine maintenance the west green became superfluous to requirements.

A newly formed Petanque Club were looking for a permanent home and after discussions with the Shire the west green was converted to a 24 piste international standard Petanque Terrain. Funding was entirely from committed club members. The facility is one of only two in Victoria.

The Bowls and Petanque Clubs merged in January 2021 to become the Mt. Martha Bowls, Petanque and Social Club. There are already 60 Petanque Members playing on Wednesdays and Fridays. Future plans include the installation of floodlights for community twilight events.

Mount Martha Tennis Club

This is a privately leased and locked facility, therefore not accessible for public use.

Tennis Courts located on Watsons Road and include:

- Three refurbished tennis courts which are used by Mount Martha Tennis Club.

Maternal Child Health and Kindergarten Facility

The Universal Maternal and Child Health Program delivers a free, universally accessible, state wide service for all families with children from birth to school age. The program supports children, mothers, fathers, carers and families with an emphasis on health promotion, prevention, parenting, developmental assessment, early detection and referral and social support. The UMCH program consists of 10 KAS consultations with a maternal and child health nurse. The Key Age and Stage (KAS) consultations are a schedule of contacts for all children and their families from birth to school age. They include an initial home visit, and consultations at two, four and eight weeks, and four, eight, 12 and 18 months, and at two and three and a half years of age. Additional consultations are available for children and families experiencing vulnerability and/or who have identified additional needs that cannot be fully met through the KAS consultations.

The Mount Martha MCH service is staffed by 1 permanent Maternal and Child Health Nurse, working 3-4 days a week from the MCH office. The hours of operation are: 8.30am to 4.30pm. There are currently 647 children enrolled in the Mount Martha MCH centre aged between birth and six years of age.

Purpose built walking tracks and fishing platforms

A network of walking trails up to 3.5km long, including a boardwalk and fishing platforms along the Creek, exist within the Reserves. The walking trails also link under the Nepean Highway to The Briars historical park, which has its own network of walkways. The park can be accessed by car from the western end at the Campground car park, from the Augusta St Bridge, the Uralla Drive Bridge and from the corner of Nepean Highway and Uralla Drive.



Table 7 Sporting and recreational uses of the Reserves

Recreational use	Use Type (formal or informal)	User	Location
Cricket	Formal	Mount Martha Cricket Club	Ferrero and Citation Reserve
Football	Formal	Sth Mornington Football Club, Sth Mornington/ Mt Martha Junior Football Club, Mt Martha/Sth Mornington Auskick	Ferrero and Citation Reserve
Netball	Formal	Mount Martha netball Club	Mount Martha netball Club
Shooting	Formal	Peninsula Pistol Club	Peninsula Pistol Club
Soccer	Formal	Mount Martha Soccer Clubs	Ferrero and Citation Reserve
Bowls	Formal	Mount Martha Bowls Club	Mount Martha Bowls Club
Tennis	Formal	Mount Martha Tennis Club	Tennis Courts (Watsons Road)
Walking	Informal	Residents/ tourists	Balcombe Estuary Boardwalk Circuit
Running	Informal	Residents/ tourists	Balcombe Estuary Boardwalk Circuit
Bike riding	Informal	Residents/ tourists	Balcombe Estuary Boardwalk Circuit
Dog walking	Informal	Mornington Peninsula Dog Club, residents and tourists	Leash free area (Citation Reserve) and walking tracks within the Reserves
Kite flying	Informal	Residents/ tourists	Open space in Reserves
Water sports (inc. kayaking, boating)	Informal	Residents/ tourists	Balcombe Estuary
Recreational fishing	Informal	Residents/ tourists	Balcombe Estuary/ creek
Mountain bike riding/ BMX	Informal	Residents/ tourists	Balcombe Estuary Walking Tracks

4.2.2 Recommendations Citation and Ferrero Ovals

The Sports Capacity Plan Volume 1 (Simon Leisure Consulting 2019) included a number of general recommendations for sport and recreational facilities which are relevant to Citation and Ferrero Reserves located in the study area. These recommendations will seek to increase the overall capacity of its sports fields in a timely manner. Most relevant to the sporting facilities in the Reserves is:



- Ferrero reserve – replace player benches, remove former cricket practice nets.
- Citation reserve – renew irrigation system, replace player benches.
- Sporting facilities more generally - upgrade existing sporting facilities, e.g. installing irrigation, drainage and floodlights.
- Currently Mount Martha does not provide any rectangle sports fields, therefore the highly vegetated/undeveloped land at Citation remains a possibility for future development of these sports. This includes sports fields' standard for soccer, rugby and hockey. The size of rectangle sports fields and their associated infrastructure are Australian rules football (165 metres by 135 metres, with a preferred run off area of 5 metres) and associated pavilions for these sports ranging in size between (243 metres squared for local ground and 556 metres squared for district/township).

Sports field surface upgrades

The sports field condition assessments undertaken as part of the Sports Capacity Plan Volume 1 (Simon Leisure Consulting 2019) identified deficiencies in the quality of the surface of a number of sports fields. The condition assessments undertaken also concluded that the surface of some sports fields would be improved with new drainage and irrigation, and the conversion of the surface grass to warm season grasses.

Turf type is an important consideration for sustainable sports grounds. Over the past decade most councils have been converting their sports surfaces to warm season grasses, such as couch grass. The primary reason for this is to achieve improved surface quality and durability, to reduce maintenance costs, and to reduce water usage.

Council's 'Smart Water Plan' specifically identifies the need to establish warm season grasses and such other grasses as appropriate having regard to the use of the sporting amenity and availability and use of mains, harvested, bore, recycled class A and other water and upgrade water efficient irrigation systems across sporting amenities.

The Sports Capacity Plan recommended that Council continue its program to upgrade to sports surfaces by upgrading or installing new drainage and irrigation systems, and converting turf to warm season grasses due to their wear and drought tolerance qualities.

It was also recommended that Council undertake biennial inspections of sports grounds to determine individual annual maintenance regimes, and to also identify any specific issues that may require tailored responses or repair.

Floodlights

The Sports Capacity Plan recommended that Council continue with its annual funding program for the installation of floodlights, with a priority being to complete the installation of all floodlighting systems that have been only half completed, except where a new or upgraded installation is assessed as more urgent. It is further recommended that Council only install floodlights to training standard:

- Floodlights accommodating senior sports training to be installed to 100 lux; and
- Floodlights only accommodating junior training be installed to 50 lux.

Synthetic Surfaces

Synthetic sports fields provide a high standard surface irrespective of weather, and can sustain usage up to three times that of turf fields. This provides capability to absorb future growth and additional training needs from across the Shire and beyond, particularly by winter sports clubs.



Pavilions

The directions of Council's Pavilion Strategy 2012 have been incorporated into the Sports Fields Plan, with some updates and new directions relating to the planning, design, and function of sporting pavilions. It was necessary to include updated information concerning pavilion provision, due to the evolving function of pavilions as places for changing, social interaction, administration and equipment storage, and the changing profile of clubs utilising pavilions (i.e. more females). In addition since 2012, some State Sporting Associations have prepared guidelines for pavilions used for their respective sports. The updated information will enable Council to have clear rationale for investing in these high-cost items of infrastructure.

Community use of education facilities

Unlocking sporting facilities

Unlocking formal access to sporting facilities located on and controlled by schools is a strategy used by many councils to not only increase the number of sporting facilities available for use by community clubs but to also reduce the cost to council to supply and manage facilities.

In some instances, local sports clubs sometimes organise and negotiate directly with schools for access to school facilities, e.g. a cricket club negotiating the use of a primary school oval for junior matches. These arrangements are generally in response to an immediate need by a club seeking access to additional facilities to meet a spike in the number of teams.

4.2.3 Future planning Sports Capacity Plan Volume 2 and 3

Council is currently preparing volumes 2 and 3 of the Plan, which looks at Indoor Sports and non-field based sports. In relation to this study area the sports being considered are tennis, bowls and shooting. The Plan will identify the need to provide for any of these sports in the Mount Martha area.

The document will outline the standard for each of these sports and for tennis one of the basic requirements is lighting to ensure maximum use of a sporting facility, Council has advised that lighting at Watson Road will be a recommendation.

4.2.4 Open Space

To ensure the potential planning controls meet the broader objective of the Shire, it's important to highlight the overarching plans for councils allocated areas of 'open space' which broadly make up the Reserves. The Open Space Strategy was developed by Council and aims to minimise impacts on areas of environmental sensitivity, particularly those areas of high significance (Mornington Peninsula Shire n.d.).

This strategy anticipates moving forward open space areas within the Shire will be required to be larger, have a greater demand for built infrastructure, will attract a greater number of users, as well as have a greater diversity of environments (flora, fauna, recreation), and have greater maintenance requirements.

This Strategy defines 'open spaces' within the Shire into different categories including:

- **Bushland areas** are described as areas that have a primary function and priority of preserving the natural environment and enhancing the quality of native bushland. These areas have a secondary priority relating to recreation use and access. These include natural areas such as waterways, wetlands and natural areas within parks and Reserves. Development demands that may relate to these sites may include interpretive facilities, trails, shelter structures etc. This is consistent with the Management and Development Framework for Bushland Areas.



- **Parks** as areas that cater for less structured recreation activities and include such amenities as playgrounds, picnic areas/facilities, seating, shade structures or treed shade areas, pathways/trails etc.
- **Roadside Reserves** as areas that cater for less structured recreation activities and include such amenities as playgrounds, picnic areas/facilities, seating, shade structures or treed shade areas, pathways/trails etc.
- **Trails** Linear or 'loop' linkages that connect, sites of social, cultural or recreational significance, or they can exist on a smaller scale within parks. They play a significant role in providing recreation opportunities, community access to facilities, and in the provision of vegetation and habitat corridors.
- **Sporting Reserves** as Reserves that provide for the needs of a range of outdoor sporting and recreation needs in the community. Reserves may be multi-purpose and cater for a range of activities including playing fields, courts, bowling greens, hockey pitches etc.
- **Multi-use Areas** as areas which have a number of primary functions, or are areas that- abut Bushland Areas and that may have development pressures placed on them (e.g. the extension of a sporting pavilion into bushland area). In general, multi-use areas were not established for the primary purpose of bushland preservation. Council recognises that these multi-use areas are significant environmental assets and need to be managed appropriately. In addition, Council recognises the need to put in place a process that determines whether activities in these areas needs to be reduced.

The Strategy seeks to prioritise 'Bushland areas' for conservation, prioritise 'Trails' for recreational use 'Parks' for less structured recreational activities and 'Sporting Reserves' for a range of recreational activities including playing fields and courts. Ferrero and Citation Reserve are classified as sporting Reserves and make up approximately 30 hectares of the study area. Collectively, all these forms of open space occur within the Reserves and the importance of the purpose of each space will be considered in this Study.

The Open Space Strategy recommends as high priority for a review of the Management and Development Plan for the Balcombe Estuary, to ensure a review process for all Management/ Development Plans is in place. This could play an important role in prioritising the sustainable management of the Reserves.





4.3 Benefits and issues to note while undertaking such work

4.3.1 Balancing the environment for conservation and recreational use

Planning for Biodiversity (DELWP 2017b) discusses the importance of biodiversity as well as the benefit of nature for many Victorians. People are enriched by the process of taking care of it, including environmental management workers and others who work in natural outdoor environments. Victorians spend much of their recreation time in the outdoors – playing sport, walking, hiking, climbing, sailing, fishing or relaxing in the natural surrounds of the bush, the coast or urban parks and gardens (DELWP 2017b).

In recent years, there has been an emergence of concepts such as 'environmental equity' and 'environmental justice'. These concepts hold that all people should have equitable access to nature for enjoyment, recreation, cultural and spiritual reasons, and as a way to enhance their mental and physical health. But there are many reasons why people cannot, or choose not to have daily contact with nature – for example, distance from green spaces, difficulties of access, discomfort, cultural issues and disability (DELWP 2017b).

Providing and improving natural spaces, facilities and programs in the right places will give people from multiple cultures and socio-economic background more opportunities to experience nature. To achieve this, there needs to be a better understanding of barriers to connection to ensure key open spaces including the Reserves can be appropriately balanced for conservation and recreational activities alike.

The Reserves are currently protected by a VPO which recognises areas of significant vegetation and ensures that development minimises loss of vegetation. It aims to preserve existing trees and other vegetation, recognises vegetation protection areas as locations of special significance, natural beauty, interest and importance and to maintain and enhance habitat and habitat corridors for indigenous fauna. This will be considered when analysing the benefit of additional environmental planning protection for the Reserves such as a potential ESO.

4.3.2 Potential constraints on ecological values

Following preliminary consultation with BERG, it was identified some of the potential impacts to biodiversity values in the Reserves may include:

- **Parking:** Informal car parking along the road edges and within bushland may impact on high value ecological vegetation.
- **Increased development within the Reserves:** Expansion of facilities including upgrade requirements within the Reserves may see potential encroachments into high value ecological communities.
- **Boundary management issues:** As part of managing recreational facilities, slashing, mowing and weed spraying is often required. This has the potential to impact on indigenous ground-storey species and allow weeds to develop.
- **Expansion of building facilities and impacts on surrounding vegetation:** Exemptions under the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO) for native vegetation removal may apply which could result in increased removal of native vegetation.
- **Unauthorised bike and walking trails:** Has the potential to cause increased erosion if used inappropriately.
- **Dogs off the lead in undesignated areas:** Has the potential to impact native wildlife.
- **Noise:** The sports ovals and Pistol Club produce considerable noise, including repeated pistol shots and night sport at the ovals, which are potentially disruptive to wildlife. There is no research to



indicate what impacts noise has on wildlife in this area although some impact is likely. Baseline data may be required to quantify impacts as noise levels are currently unmeasured.

- **Night lighting/floodlighting:** Upgrades to Floodlighting were recommended as part of the Sports Capacity Plan at Ferrero Oval. This could potentially be disruptive to certain species present in the Reserves. It is noted that light spill can be managed to a certain extent through the use of baffles etc.
- **Nutrient run-off:** Increased development and regular application of fertiliser to the sports grounds could potentially lead to harmful nutrient loads in the creek and flowing into the Bay.
- **Litter:** Increased visitation to the Reserves could result in increased litter left behind.
- **Irrigation and drainage:** Plans to install sub-surface automated irrigation systems in sports fields was recommended as part of the Sports Capacity Plan. This could cause impacts to vegetation and waterways by digging up and installing irrigation systems if not planned for correctly. This may also include the consideration of connections to water mains and any associated sediment runoff.
- **Sedimentation:** unsealed roads which currently exist within the Reserves can cause increased sedimentation runoff into the nearby waterways.

Ensuring people have access to be able to enjoy the Reserves whilst protecting bushland with high ecological value will form the basis of this Study. It is noted that not all these threats could be controlled by permit restrictions associated with the implementation of Planning Controls. Strict environmental management may be required to address some of the discussed issues and minimise the human impact on this area.

4.3.3 Current constraints on sports and recreation

Sport and recreation are important components of the lifestyle for many residents of the Shire. Sporting participation across the Shire has grown rapidly in recent years, particularly female and junior involvement in Soccer and Australian Rules football. The result of this increased participation has led to many sporting facilities being used in excess of their current capacities in winter, or nearing their usage capacity year round. Compounding this problem is the fact that most sports fields are also accommodating summer sports, such as cricket, which is placing year round stress on many fields and has led to the need to assess and upgrade certain facilities (Simon Leisure Consulting 2019). The increasing demand for Sport and Recreational facilities within the Reserves and the wider Mornington Peninsula Shire will be considered as part of this Study.

4.4 Benefits and restrictions of potential planning controls

A potential change in the planning controls of the area would seek to ensure that development is compatible with identified environmental values. This would ensure greater protection for the environment, however may also restrict land management and development practices due to permit requirements. Subject to the implementation of a potential ESO a permit may be required to construct a building or construct or carry out works, construct a fence, construct bicycle pathways and trails and to subdivide land.

There are however a number of exemptions within Clause 62.02 Buildings and Works for Buildings and works not requiring a permit which could be associated with council planned works including sport and recreational facilities and will be considered as part of this Study.



4.5 Councils Climate Emergency Response from 2020 to 2030

In August 2019, Council declared a climate emergency.

As part of the *Our Climate Emergency Response from 2020 to 2030* (2020) council have committed to:

- Run on clean, renewable energy.
- Connect via a sophisticated transport system incorporating new technologies and flexible modes of transport.
- Contribute to a zero waste circular economy where every item is valued and reused.
- Cultivate more green spaces and corridors across the peninsula, nurturing abundant indigenous vegetation and healthy wildlife.
- Be an active, educated and inclusive community whose people consider climate change in their daily activities and business decisions.
- Galvanise a thriving and diverse local economy where businesses actively contribute to climate change solutions.
- Support vulnerable populations, ensuring inclusion to solutions and equitable access to opportunities.
- Grow and distribute food locally, enabled by sustainable land management, regenerative farming practices and smart logistics.
- Facilitate resilient and adaptive actions to adjust to the unavoidable impacts of climate change.
- Showcase a sustainable, supportive and connected community that is a living exemplar of a better future.

The majority of these goals are intrinsically linked to the Reserves and will be considered as part of this Study.

In this Plan council commit to making the best possible transition by ensuring that the Shires community, buildings, infrastructure and landscape are prepared for any unavoidable impacts of climate change.



5. Methodology

This study has been undertaken using the most current methodologies. The field surveys and findings reporting was conducted by Dr Jeff Yugovic, Senior Ecologist (BSc(Hons), PhD).

5.1 Mapping

The extent of native vegetation in relation to existing planning scheme zones informs the extent of any potential planning controls. Mapping of native vegetation was undertaken a Samsung tablet with GPS and Collector software between 26 May and 8 June 2020.

The standard definition of native vegetation in Victoria (DELWP 2017) was applied, as follows.

Native vegetation

Native vegetation is defined in Clause 73.01 of the Victoria Planning Provisions and all local planning schemes as 'plants that are indigenous to Victoria, including trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses'.

This includes several species that are not site-indigenous but are indigenous to Victoria: Coast Tea-tree *Leptospermum laevigatum* (indigenous near the coast but not the hinterland within the Reserves), Moonah *Melaleuca lanceolata* (indigenous to Mount Martha but not the reserve), Southern Mahogany *Eucalyptus botryoides*, Southern Blue Gum *Eucalyptus globulus*, Spotted Gum *Corymbia maculata*, Giant Honey-myrtle *Melaleuca armillaris* and Sweet Pittosporum *Pittosporum undulatum*. These species contribute to native vegetation extent in several areas with Coast Tea-tree being the most extensive.

Patch

A patch of native vegetation is:

- an area of vegetation where ≥ 25 per cent of the total perennial understorey plant cover is native, or
- any area with three or more native canopy trees where the drip line of each tree touches the drip line of at least one other tree, forming a continuous canopy, or
- any mapped wetland included in the Current wetlands map, available in DELWP systems and tools.

A native canopy tree is a mature tree (i.e. able to flower) that is >3 metres in height and is normally found in the upper layer of the relevant vegetation type.

Scattered tree

A scattered tree is a native canopy tree that does not form part of a patch.

Native vegetation patches and scattered trees are composed of ecological vegetation classes (EVCs). The distribution of EVCs was mapped in detail. Areas of revegetation and areas of landscaping, where technically forming native vegetation as above, were also mapped.

Other native vegetation

Scattered native vegetation outside patches (where <25 per cent of the total perennial understorey plant cover is native) and not scattered trees (as above) was not mapped.



5.2 Observations

Observations were made on the flora, natural vegetation, revegetation, landscaping and tree canopy health, as these determine the extent of native vegetation.

5.3 Balancing ecological values with sport and recreational use

To identify options for balancing the needs of formal recreation uses with ecological values we have analysed and considered the information gathered in Section 4.2. This review identified community sport and recreational interests and highlighted potential plans for future development within the Reserves.

This information along with the ecological field assessment has been used to determine the most appropriate extent of a potential ESO or other relevant planning controls.

5.3.1 Planning considerations

The following methodology was used to undertake this planning assessment.

1. The threats to the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves were reviewed and expressed in planning terms, with references to the land use definitions at clause 73 of the Planning Scheme and the definition of buildings and works.
2. A gap analysis was undertaken against planning controls (as detailed below) to identify how the current zoning and overlay controls operated to protect the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves from the identified threats associated with development of the land as well as balancing the needs for sport and recreational use within the Reserves. Locations were selected on the basis of the current zoning controls, to ensure the entire study area was examined against the current use.
3. Gap and duplication of planning controls were identified and recommendations were made regarding changes to the planning scheme and broader management requirements. The recommendations focussed on the controls as they apply to the Reserves, and do not represent a holistic review of the overlay controls outside of this area. It is likely that further rationalisation and review of the planning controls will be required.



6. Results

6.1 Native flora

Fourteen indigenous species additional to Practical Ecology (2020) were recorded, bringing the recorded total to 164 indigenous plant taxa (species, subspecies and varieties) (Appendix 1).

6.2 Native vegetation

A total of 52 hectares of native vegetation was mapped within the study area. Contiguous native vegetation outside the study area was also mapped to give context.

6.2.1 Patches

Native patch vegetation comprises ten ecological vegetation classes (EVCs), revegetation and landscaping (Table 8). Native vegetation extent is shown in Figures 7 and 8.

There is no mapped wetland included in the DELWP Current wetlands map.

Certain EVCs in previous studies, Heathy Woodland EVC 48 (MEES 2019, Practical Ecology 2020), Swampy Woodland EVC 937 (MEES 2019) and Swampy Riparian Woodland EVC 83 (DELWP 2020c), are not present.

Most of the native vegetation within the study area includes varying levels of not site-indigenous (introduced) plant cover while the wet coastal EVCs are remarkably intact and almost weed-free as salt is a weed killer.

Descriptions of patch native vegetation follow the vegetation mapping (Figures 7 and 8). In these descriptions 'nearest relative' is the most similar EVC in terms of species composition (floristics) and 'nearest neighbours' are the EVCs found immediately adjacent to the EVC on the ground.

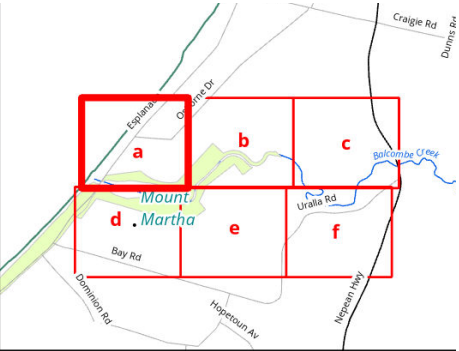
Table 8 Patch native vegetation

Type	Bioregional conservation status (DELWP 2020a)	Area (ha)
Dry coastal vegetation - Coastal sand dunes		
• Coastal Dune Grassland EVC 879	Depleted	0.002
• Coast Banksia Woodland EVC 2	Vulnerable	1.931
Wet coastal (estuary wetland) vegetation - Estuary (zone of mixing of salt and fresh water)		
• Coastal Saltmarsh EVC 9	Least concern	0.103
• Estuarine Wetland EVC 10	Least concern	0.281
• Estuarine Reedbed EVC 952	no status	0.430
• Estuarine Scrub EVC 953	no status	4.827
Inland (prone to waterlogging) vegetation - Balcombe Creek floodplain and valley seepage zones		
• Reed Swamp EVC 300	Endangered	0.138
• Swamp Scrub EVC 53	Endangered	19.929



Type	Bioregional conservation status (DELWP 2020a)	Area (ha)
Inland (dryland) vegetation - Valley slopes		
• Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland EVC 3	Vulnerable	11.940
• Grassy Woodland EVC 175	Endangered	10.889
Other		
Revegetation - Two areas	N/A	0.324
Landscaping - Around sport facilities (ovals, bowling club)	N/A	0.909
Total		51.703

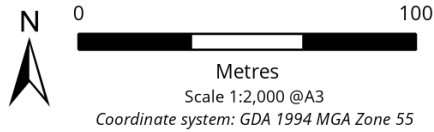




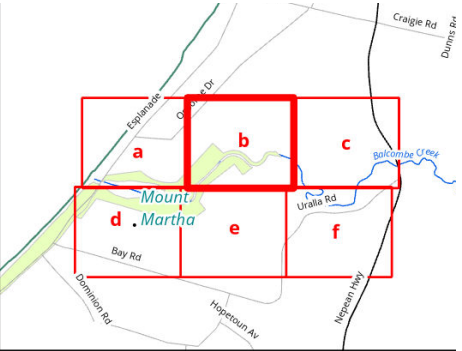
Legend

- Study area
- Native vegetation**
 - Coastal Dune Grassland (EVC 879)
 - Coast Banksia Woodland (EVC 2)
 - Estuarine Wetland (EVC 10)
 - Estuarine Reedbed (EVC 952)
 - Estuarine Scrub (EVC 953)
 - Swamp Scrub (EVC 53)
 - Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland (EVC 3)

Figure 7.1 Native vegetation, Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Detail

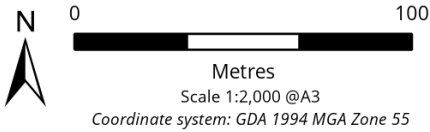


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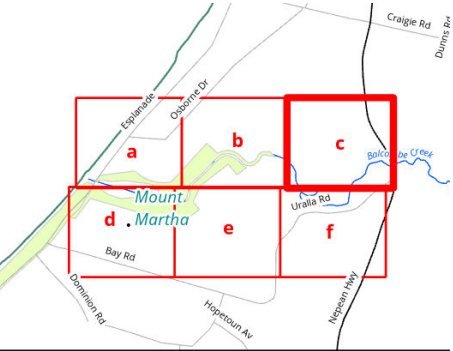


- Legend**
- Study area
 - Native vegetation**
 - Estuarine Reedbed (EVC 952)
 - Estuarine Scrub (EVC 953)
 - Swamp Scrub (EVC 53)
 - Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland (EVC 3)
 - Landscaping

Figure 7.2 Native vegetation, Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Detail



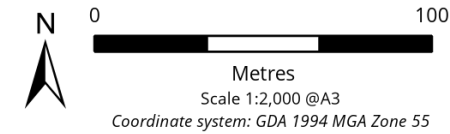
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Legend

- Study area
- Native vegetation**
 - Swamp Scrub (EVC 53)
 - Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland (EVC 3)
 - Grassy Woodland (EVC 175)
 - Landscaping

Figure 7.3 Native vegetation, Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Detail



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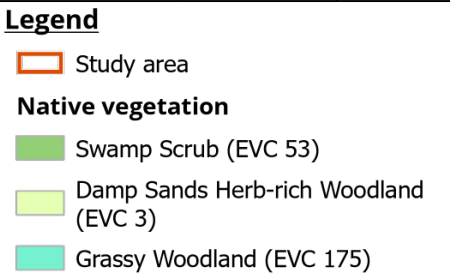
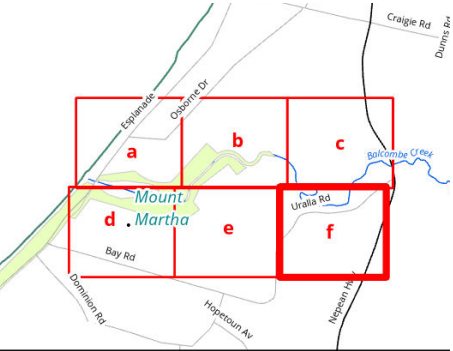
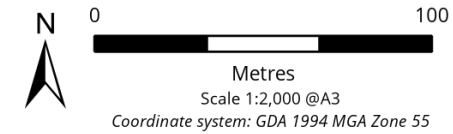


Figure 7.6 Native vegetation, Balcombe Estuary Reserves - Detail



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Dry coastal

Coastal Dune Grassland EVC 879



Floristics:	Dominated by Hairy Spinifex <i>Spinifex sericeus</i>
Structure:	Open grassland to 30 cm
Distribution:	Localised, one occurrence beside the beach, north of creek
Area:	0.002 ha
Habitat:	Beach sand
Nearest relative:	No near relative
Nearest neighbour:	Coast Banksia Woodland
Comments:	Important sand binder; this EVC occurs only on the Mount Martha Foreshore Reserve (inside the study area)



Coast Banksia Woodland EVC 2



Floristics:	Dominated by Coast Banksia <i>Banksia integrifolia</i>
Structure:	Woodland to 20 m
Distribution:	Scattered, on foreshore and adjacent to lower estuary, both sides
Area:	1.931 ha
Habitat:	Deep sand
Nearest relative:	Coastal Dune Scrub (does not occur in study area)
Nearest neighbours:	Swamp Scrub, Coastal Dune Grassland
Comments:	Seaberry Saltbush <i>Rhagodia candolleana</i> and Bower Spinach <i>Tetragonia implexicoma</i> succulent understorey and Coast Banksia tree overhang generally drive patch delineation; this EVC occurs within both the Mount Martha Foreshore Reserve (inside the study area) and the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves



Wet coastal (estuary wetland)

Coastal Saltmarsh EVC 9



Floristics:	Dominated by Beaded Glasswort <i>Salicornia quinqueflora</i> , with Creeping Brookweed <i>Samolus repens</i>
Structure:	Succulent herbland to 30 cm
Distribution:	Localised; south side of creek near Esplanade bridge, larger occurrence in middle estuary
Area:	0.103 ha
Habitat:	Lower and middle estuary
Nearest relative:	Estuarine Scrub
Nearest neighbour:	Estuarine Wetland, Estuarine Scrub
Comments:	Intact condition; stumps of Swamp Paperbark <i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i> indicate at least part of the smaller stand was formerly Estuarine Scrub



Estuarine Wetland EVC 10



Floristics:	Dominated by Sea Rush <i>Juncus kraussii</i>
Structure:	Rushland to 1 m
Distribution:	Fringes of the lagoon
Area:	0.281 ha
Habitat:	Lower estuary
Nearest relative:	Estuarine Reedbed
Nearest neighbours:	Estuarine Reedbed, Estuarine Scrub
Comments:	Intact condition



Estuarine Reedbed EVC 952



Floristics:	Dominated by Common Reed <i>Phragmites australis</i> , salt-tolerant (halophytic) ground layer
Structure:	Grassland to 2 m
Distribution:	Scattered, mostly developed in higher estuary where salinity is less, sometimes near drains bringing in freshwater urban runoff, much occupies the beds of two former channels of Balcombe Creek, one on each side of the current channel
Area:	0.430 ha
Habitat:	Brackish estuary with salinity less than sea water
Nearest relative:	Estuarine Wetland
Nearest neighbours:	Estuarine Wetland, Estuarine Scrub
Comments:	Intact condition



Estuarine Scrub EVC 953



Floristics:	Dominated by Swamp Paperbark <i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i> , salt-tolerant (halophytic) ground layer, especially Creeping Brooklime <i>Samolus repens</i> , Shiny Swamp-mat <i>Selliera radicans</i> and Coast Cotula <i>Leptinella longipes</i>
Structure:	Closed scrub to 5 m
Distribution:	Widespread and locally extensive, edges of estuary from lower estuary to upper estuary, some occupies the beds of former channels of Balcombe Creek
Area:	4.827 ha
Habitat:	Brackish estuary, receives both tidal inundation and freshwater flooding
Nearest relative:	Swamp Scrub, which differs in having freshwater-requiring (glycophytic) ground layer
Nearest neighbours:	Swamp Scrub, Estuarine Reedbed, Estuarine Wetland
Comments:	Remarkably intact condition



Inland (prone to waterlogging)

Reed Swamp EVC 300



Floristics:	Dominated by Common Reed <i>Phragmites australis</i> , freshwater-requiring (glycophytic) ground layer
Structure:	Tall grassland 2–4 m
Distribution:	Localised, occurrences along former bed of Balcombe Creek, also bed of Hopetoun Creek
Area:	0.138 ha
Habitat:	Sites too wet for Swamp Scrub
Nearest relative:	Swamp Scrub
Nearest neighbours:	Swamp Scrub
Comments:	Relatively intact condition, this EVC is synonymous with Tall Marsh EVC 821



Swamp Scrub EVC 53



Floristics:	Dominated by Swamp Paperbark <i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i> , freshwater-requiring (glycophytic) ground-layer
Structure:	Closed scrub to 5 metres
Distribution:	Widespread and extensive on Balcombe Creek floodplain and seepages on valley slopes, upstream or upslope of the estuary
Area:	19.929 ha
Habitat:	Sites subject to flooding from Balcombe Creek or waterlogging (seepage zones)
Nearest relative:	Estuarine Scrub, which differs in having a salt-tolerant (halophytic) ground layer
Nearest neighbours:	Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland, Estuarine Swamp Scrub
Comments:	Swamp Paperbark canopy is generally healthy and self-replacing by vegetative growth (suckering), ground layer is often weedy, exotic Panic Veldt-grass <i>Ehrharta erecta</i> is an indicator of this EVC in relation to saline Estuarine Scrub



Inland (dry land)

Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland EVC 3



Floristics:	Naturally dominated by Manna Gum <i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> , little original canopy remains and some replanting has occurred, distinguished by abundance of sand-requiring Sandhill Sword-sedge <i>Lepidosperma sieberi</i> and/or Austral Bracken <i>Pteridium esculentum</i> , now often Coast Tea-tree scrub with scattered dead eucalypt stags, or mown native grassland dominated by Kneed Wallaby-grass <i>Rytidosperma geniculatum</i>
Structure:	Open woodland to 20 m, closed scrub to 5 m, grassland to 10 cm
Distribution:	Extensive, both sides of valley
Area:	11.940 ha
Habitat:	Sites with a sandy surface layer over heavier geology
Nearest relative:	Grassy Woodland
Nearest neighbour:	Swamp Scrub
Comments:	<p>Moderately dense undisturbed Coast Tea-tree scrub provides good conditions for large colonies of Nodding Greenhood orchid which are a feature of the Reserves beside Watson Road</p> <p>Coast Tea-tree is a picturesque tree with spreading sculptural forms at maturity, not strictly site-indigenous on inland sites but only hundreds of metres or just over 1 km from its original coastal boundary which was likely maintained by Aboriginal burning, consideration should be given to protecting mature trees apart from their value as orchid habitat</p>



Grassy Woodland EVC 175



Floristics:	Naturally dominated by Manna Gum <i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> ± Swamp Gum <i>E. ovata</i> , scattered dead tree stags and little natural canopy remain, distinguished by abundance of Thatch Saw-sedge <i>Gahnia radula</i> and lack of Sandhill Sword-sedge <i>Lepidosperma sieberi</i> , much is now Coast Tea-tree scrub with large gaps in the scrub towards the creek (photo above)
Structure:	Open to closed scrub to 5 m, sedgeland to 1 m
Distribution:	One large area around Citation Reserve, north of Balcombe Creek only
Area:	10.889 ha
Habitat:	Sites with geology lacking sandy surface layer, includes an isolated inlier of Ordovician sandstone, slate and chert
Nearest relative:	Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland
Nearest neighbour:	Swamp Scrub
Comments:	Considerable potential for restoration



Revegetation



Floristics:	Various, either site-indigenous or Mount Martha locally indigenous, depending on site
Structure:	Various, developing
Distribution:	Two moderately large sites (Figure 7)
Area:	0.324 ha
Habitat:	Various
Nearest relative:	Not applicable
Nearest neighbour:	Not applicable
Comments:	<p>Supplementary planting of individual plants within native vegetation is widespread within the Reserves. Two areas are revegetation zones of attempted site-indigenous plantings.</p> <p>The circular shaped revegetation area east of the picnic area is planted with Manna Gum and other Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland (DSHrW) species. The ARI (2006) map shows this as DSHrW. However the current vegetation appears to be a succession towards Swamp Scrub. Swamp Paperbark surrounds most of the site, and this species and Tree Everlasting are regenerating and extending among the plantings. It is possible the pyric climax vegetation (with regular burning under the Aboriginal fire regime) is DSHrW and the climatic climax vegetation is Swamp Scrub (without regular fire).</p> <p>The revegetation with Swamp Gums <i>Eucalyptus ovata</i> (photo above) is an attempt to create Swampy Woodland, an EVC that does not occur in the Reserves. On or near this site it is likely there was a boundary between Swamp Scrub and DSHrW as elsewhere in the Reserves.</p>



Landscaping



Floristics:	Various, either locally indigenous or native to Victoria (hence still 'native vegetation')
Structure:	Various, woodland or scrub
Distribution:	Widespread
Area:	0.909 ha
Habitat:	Various
Nearest relative:	Not applicable
Nearest neighbour:	Not applicable
Comments:	<p>Many areas, particularly around the sport facilities, have landscaping composed of trees and shrubs that are not indigenous to the site, either Victorian native species or Mount Martha locally indigenous species.</p> <p>An example is the woodland and scrub planted on the artificial slope at the edge of the landfill for the Balcombe Estuary Recreation Reserve ovals. The site was originally Swamp Scrub but the plateau and slope are now too dry (well drained) for Swamp Paperbark and the planted Manna Gums and Drooping Sheoaks are more appropriate.</p> <p>Another example is the planted Moonah <i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i> (indigenous to Mount Martha but not the Reserves) and Giant Honey-myrtle <i>Melaleuca armillaris</i> (indigenous to East Gippsland) around the bowling club.</p> <p>Various large planted eucalypts such as the Blue Gums <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> at the park entrance on the Nepean Highway are conspicuous but do not form 'patch' native vegetation as the understorey is >75% introduced and they are not 'normally found in the upper layer of the relevant vegetation type'.</p>



6.2.2 Scattered trees

Two scattered trees were recorded, two small Manna Gums near the edge of the study area (Figure 7). Small trees are defined by the relevant EVC benchmark: <70 centimetre diameter at breast height in Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland (DELWP 2020b). Both trees are severely defoliated by ringtail possums. Several Manna Gums in the immediate vicinity are dead and these trees will also die unless banded.

The full extent of a small scattered tree is the area of a circle with a 10 metre radius (i.e. 0.031 hectares) with the trunk at the centre (DELWP 2017). Sections of the circles within the study area and not overlapping the adjacent circle or patch are added to patch area to obtain total native vegetation extent. Scattered trees comprise 0.038 hectares.

Two scattered Coast Banksias were recorded immediately outside the study area, on the Esplanade road reserve (Figure 7).

6.3 Tree canopy health

Tree canopy cover contributes to native vegetation extent by definition (see Methodology). The natural eucalypt canopy within the Reserves has been lost on many sites and the remaining trees are mostly in severe decline (MEES 2019). The extent of native vegetation is contracting except for revegetation. Accordingly, observations on tree canopy health were made during mapping.

Canopy eucalypt decline is extensive. Dead tree stags are widespread, few natural original eucalypts survive and most of those are in critical or terminal condition due to overbrowsing by Eastern Ringtail Possum *Pseudocheirus peregrinus*. This is ringtail possum associated decline or RPAD (Yugovic 2015). Many of the planted eucalypts are also overbrowsed or have been killed. RPAD is widespread but is limited to areas within or near dense mid-storeys. These mid-storeys are unnaturally dense and usually composed of Coast Tea-tree *Leptospermum laevigatum*, which possums require for shelter and in which to build their dreys.

Even though the tree canopy has gone, the understorey, typically dominated by Coast Tea-tree and on some sites Sweet Pittosporum (both are not site-indigenous), remains so patches do not significantly change outline. If it were not for these trees some current patches would map as stands of scattered (eucalypt) trees only or not even as native vegetation. Loss of current scattered trees (eucalypts outside current patches) is occurring and does decrease native vegetation extent however. Where the eucalypts have been killed the possums have switched to Coast Tea-tree and Sweet Bursaria *Bursaria spinosa* which they can also kill.

The Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves has experienced a recent fauna mass extinction, with over 50 site-extinctions since the 1990s (MEES 2019). The extensive loss of tree canopy may be related to this extinction.

Diagnostic symptoms of the syndrome of ringtail possum associated decline (Yugovic 2019) are evident throughout dryland areas of the Reserves, north and south of Balcombe Creek (Photos 1-2):

- Defoliated tree crowns.
- Characteristic possum bite and tear marks on leaves.
- Healthy foliage on pendant branches as possums don't climb down branches (ruling out drought and insect attack).
- Ringtail possum scats under affected trees.

This widespread problem has required Council to band approximately 400 eucalypts in the Mount Martha and Mount Eliza areas since 2014, in both bushland reserves and urban landscapes.



This includes recent banding works to help protect the Mount Martha Bundy (Clayton Fenech, Land Protection Officer, MPS, pers. comm.). However, only one banded tree was seen, a large natural Manna Gum with bands in need of maintenance, beside the path 60 metres north of the eastern footbridge.



Photo 1. Planted Manna Gums recently killed by possums, picnic ground



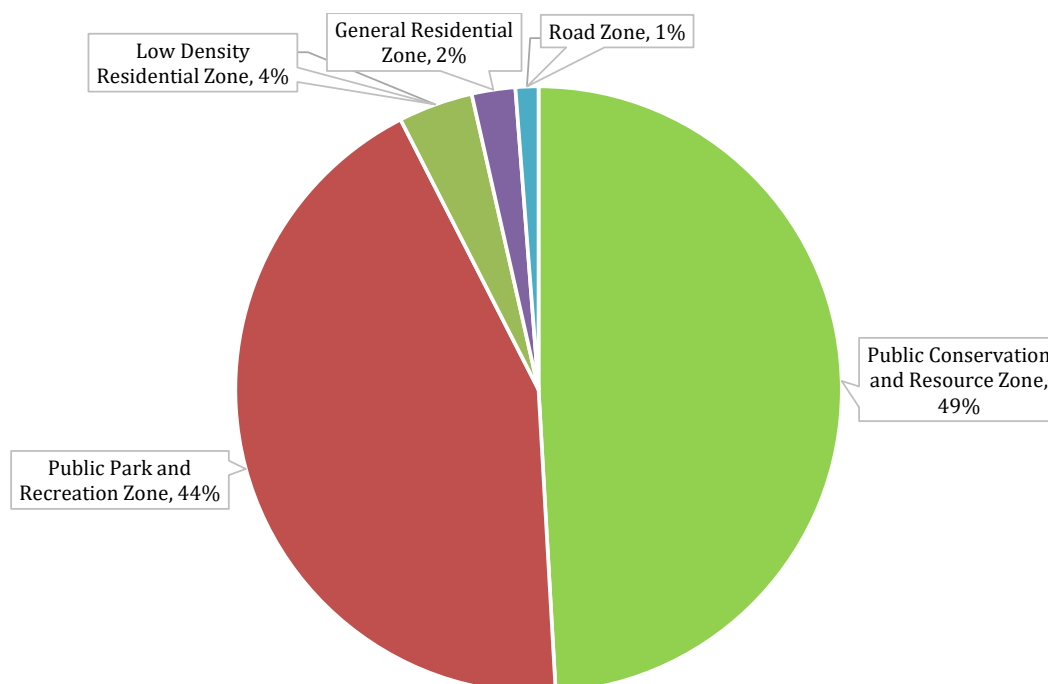
Photo 2. Stand of natural Manna Gums killed by possums, some in the Reserves and some on adjacent private land, Hopetoun Creek area



7. Native vegetation in relation to planning zones

A total of 51.741 hectares of native vegetation is mapped within the 76.916 hectare study area.

The distribution of this native vegetation within the planning schemes zones is shown below.



The amounts of native vegetation in relation to planning zones within the study area is shown in Table 9.

The distribution of native vegetation is shown in Figures 7 and 8.



7.1 Public Conservation and Resource Zone

- A considerable proportion (25,404 hectares, 49.1%) of the mapped native vegetation is within this zone.
- Native vegetation comprises 82.3% of this 30,849 hectare zone.
- Most (67.2%) of the bioregionally endangered Swamp Scrub is within this zone.

Graph 1: Percentage of native vegetation cover versus areas not covered by native vegetation within PCRZ



7.2 Public Park and Recreation Zone

- A considerable proportion (22,446 hectares, 43.4%) of the mapped native vegetation is within this zone.
- Native vegetation comprises 55.4% of this 40,542 hectare zone.
- Most (94.6%) of the bioregionally endangered Grassy Woodland is within this zone.
- Most (53.8%) of the bioregionally vulnerable Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland is within this zone.
- Significant orchid colonies are within the John F Ferrero Reserve beside Watson Road.
- Most (83.6%) of the two revegetation areas are within this zone.
- Severe disturbance by unauthorised mountain bike tracks and jumps is ongoing.

Graph 2: Percentage of native vegetation cover versus areas not covered by native vegetation within PPRZ





7.3 Low Density Residential Zone

- Some (2.057 hectares, 4.0%) of the mapped native vegetation is within this zone.
- Native vegetation comprises 72.8% of this 2.824 hectare zone.

Graph 3: Percentage of native vegetation cover versus areas not covered by native vegetation within LDRZ



7.4 General Residential Zone

- Some (1.202 hectares, 2.3%) of the mapped native vegetation is within this zone.
- Native vegetation comprises 68.2% of this 1.763 hectare zone.

Graph 4: Percentage of native vegetation cover versus areas not covered by native vegetation within GRZ



7.5 Road Zone

- Some (0.632 hectares, 1.2%) of the mapped native vegetation is within this zone.
- Native vegetation comprises 67.4% of this 0.937 hectare zone.



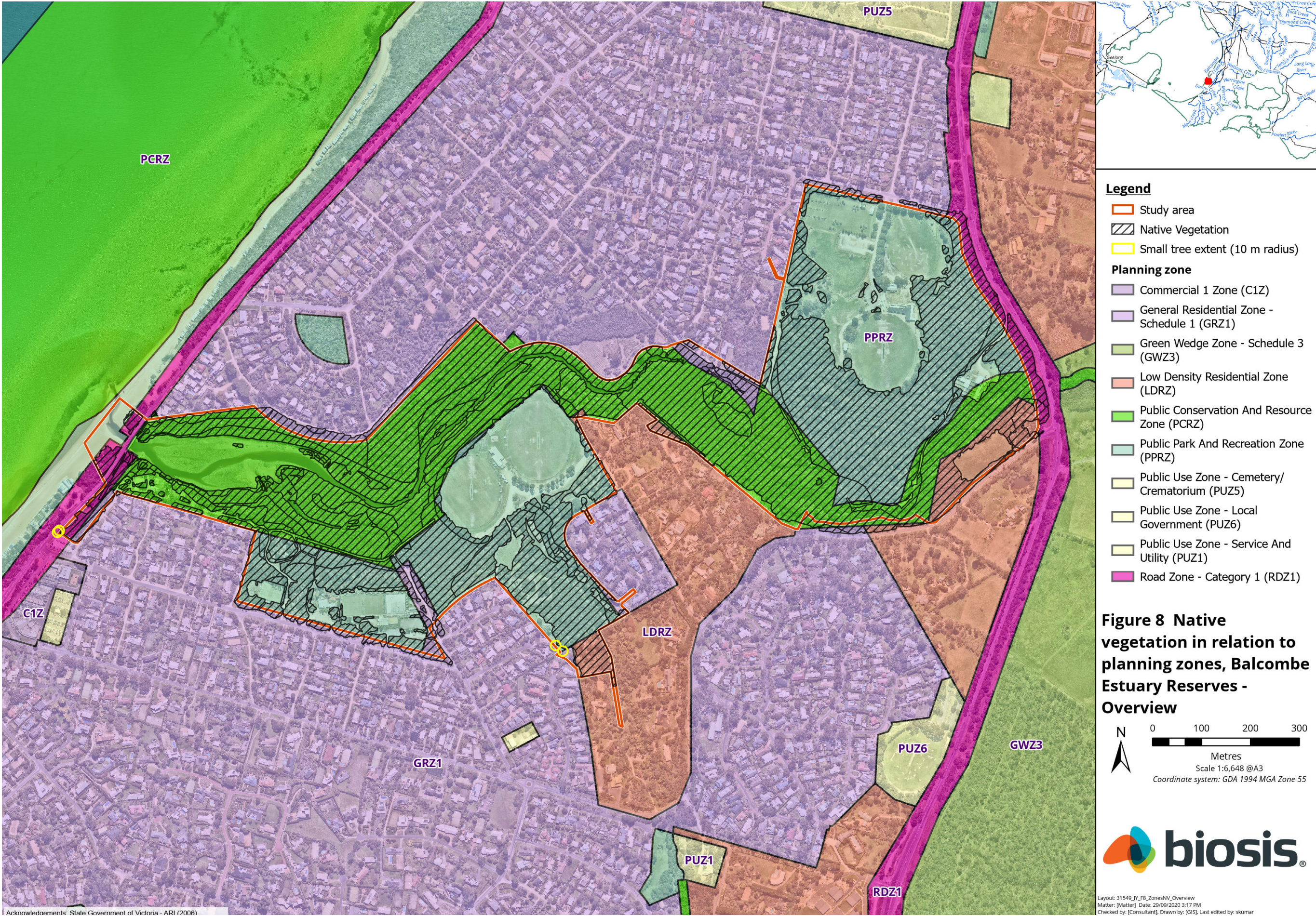
Graph 5: Percentage of native vegetation cover versus areas not covered by native vegetation within RDZ



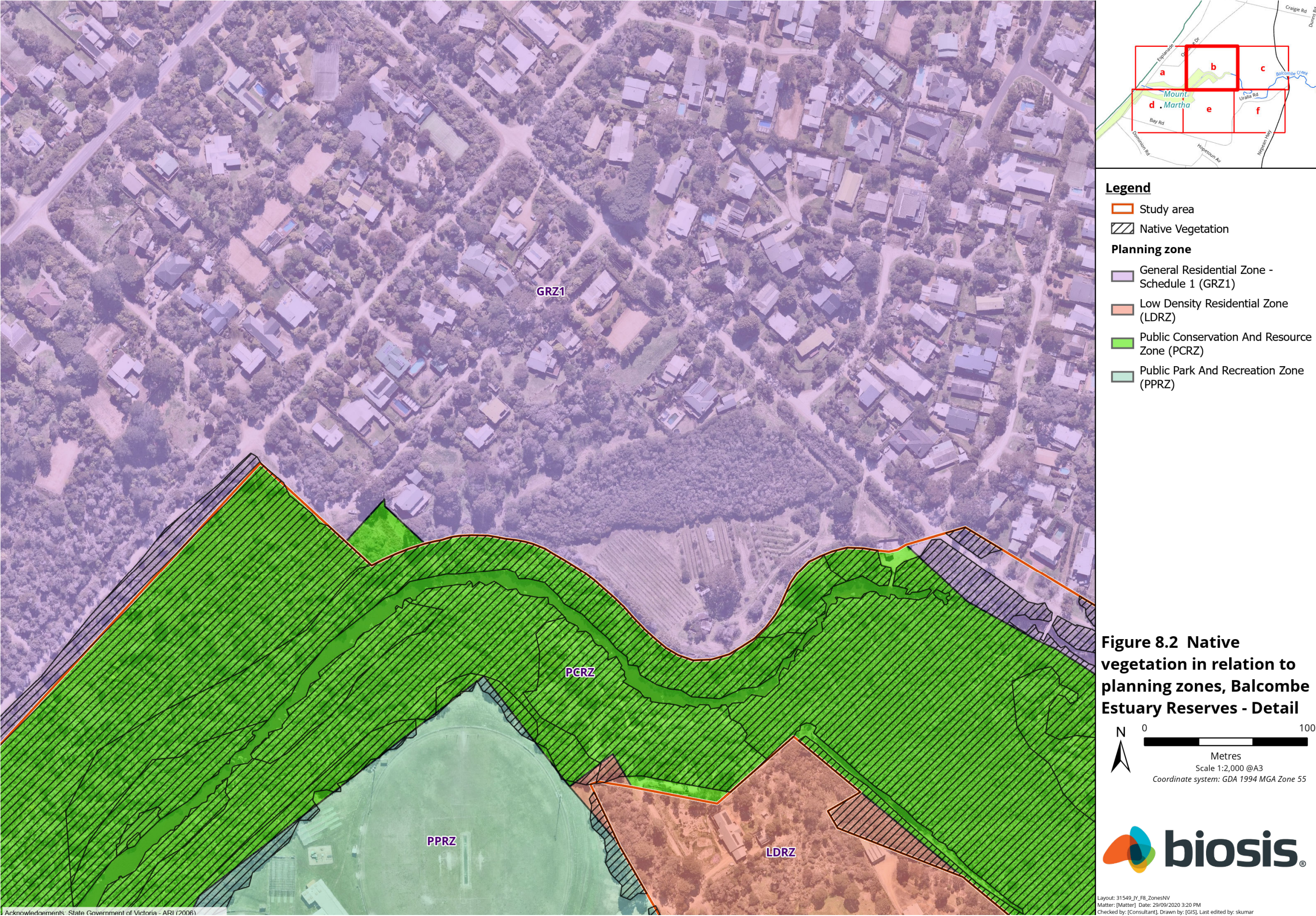


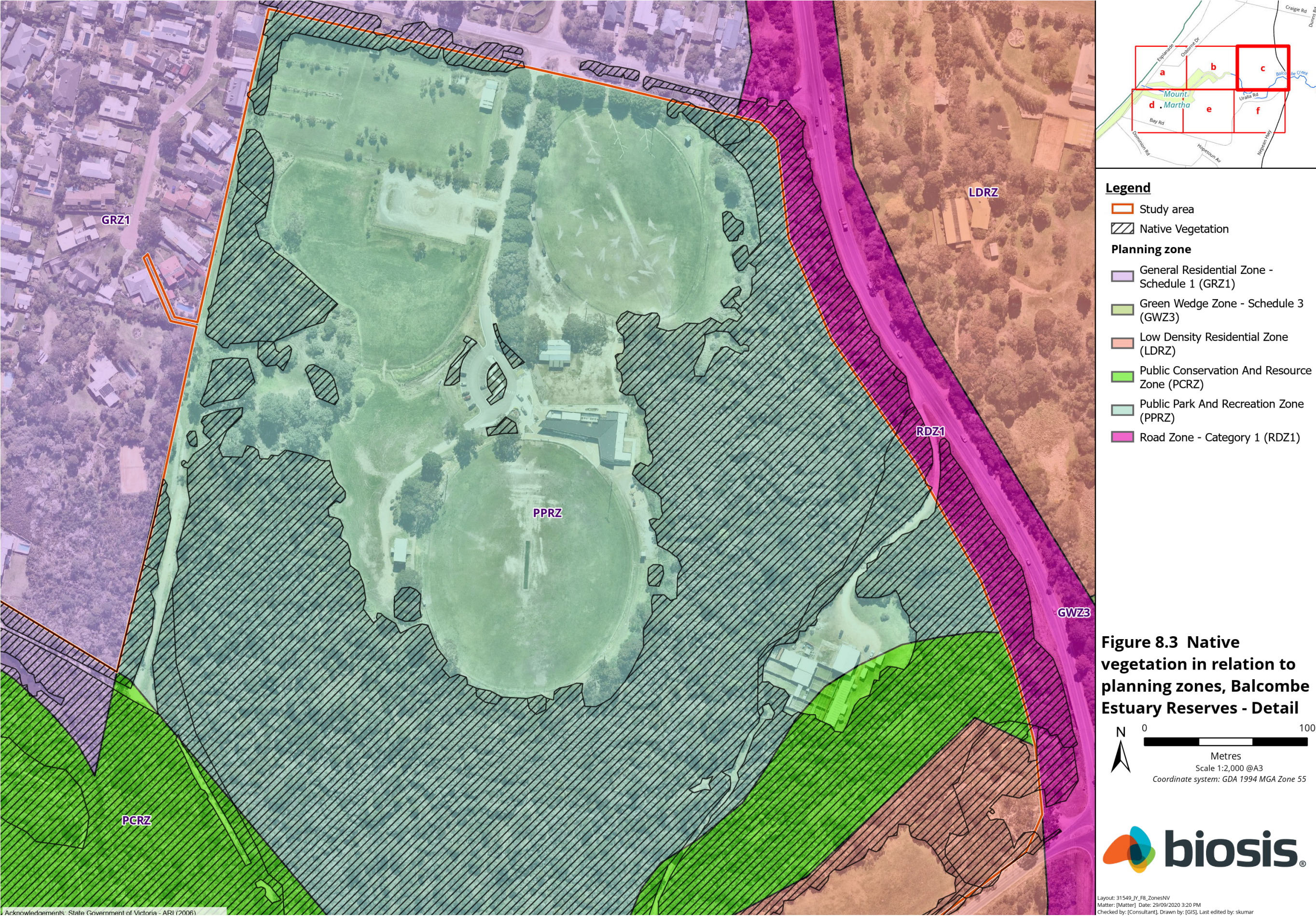
Table 9 Extent of native vegetation within planning zones

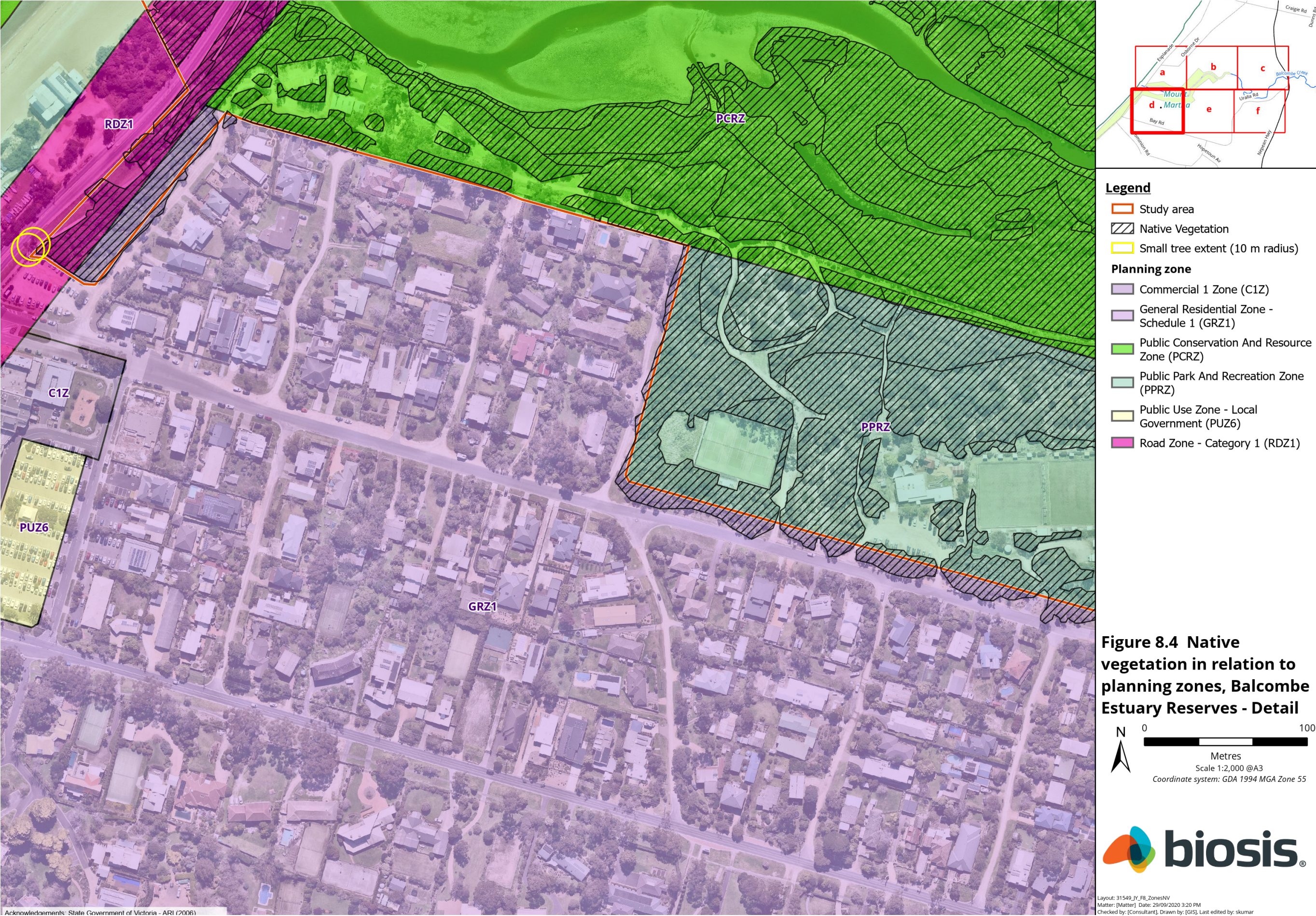
	Public Conservation and Resource Zone (ha)	Public Park and Recreation Zone (ha)	Low Density Residential Zone (ha)	General Residential Zone (ha)	Road Zone (ha)	Total (ha)
Coastal Dune Grassland EVC 879		0.002				0.002
Coast Banksia Woodland EVC 2	1.148	0.090		0.179	0.514	1.931
Coastal Saltmarsh EVC 9	0.103					0.103
Estuarine Wetland EVC 10	0.273				0.008	0.281
Estuarine Reedbed EVC 952	0.430					0.430
Estuarine Scrub EVC 953	4.798	0.015			0.015	4.827
Reed Swamp EVC 300	0.006	0.132				0.138
Swamp Scrub EVC 53	13.402	4.673	1.154	0.606	0.094	19.929
Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland EVC 3	4.229	6.429	0.889	0.392		11.940
Grassy Woodland EVC 175	0.589	10.299				10.889
Revegetation	0.053	0.271				0.324
Landscaping	0.375	0.518	0.014	0.003		0.909
Scattered trees		0.016		0.022		0.038
Native vegetation	25.404	22.446	2.057	1.202	0.632	51.741
Non native vegetation	5.445	18.096	0.767	0.561	0.305	25.175
Total	30.849	40.542	2.824	1.763	0.937	76.916

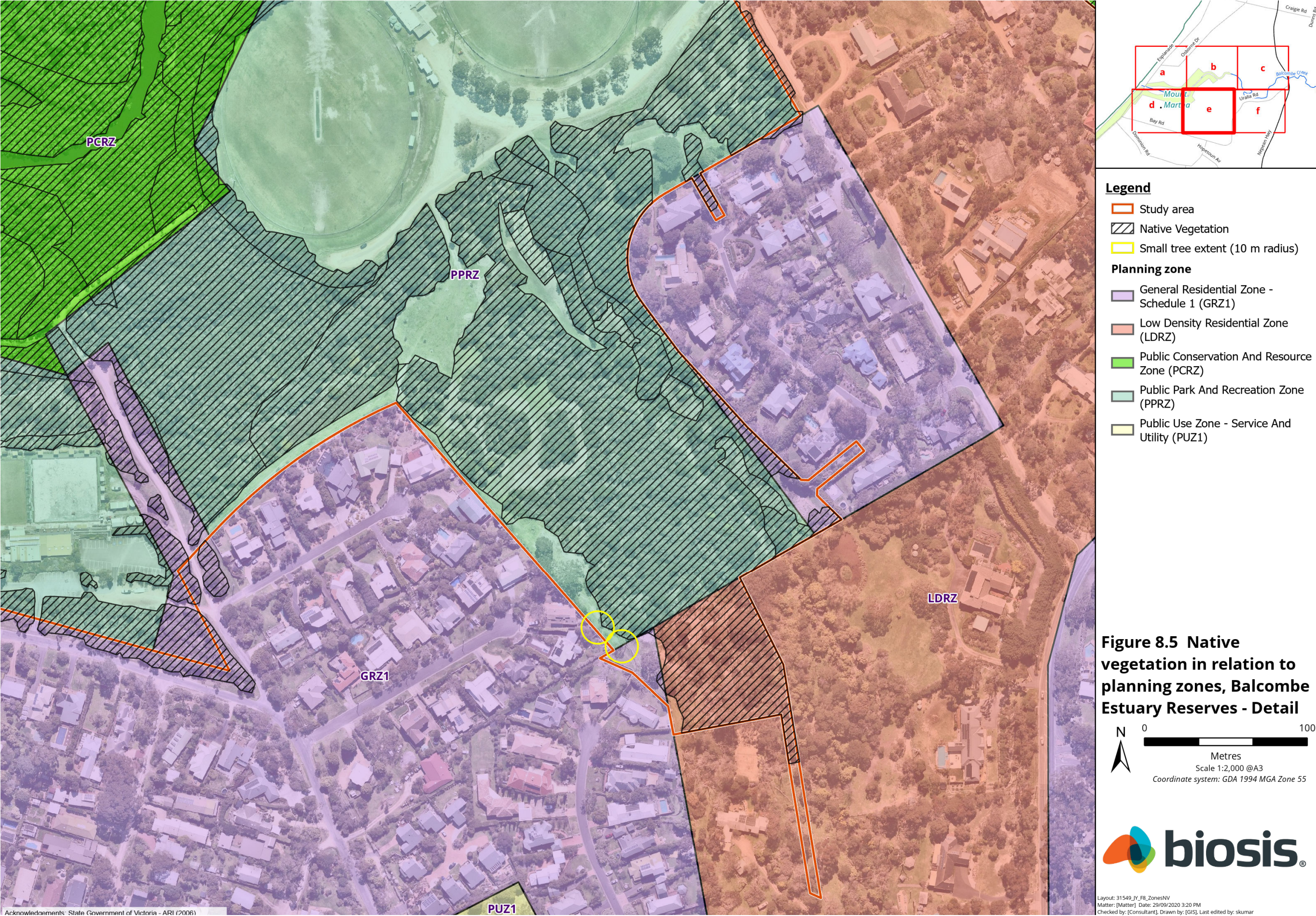


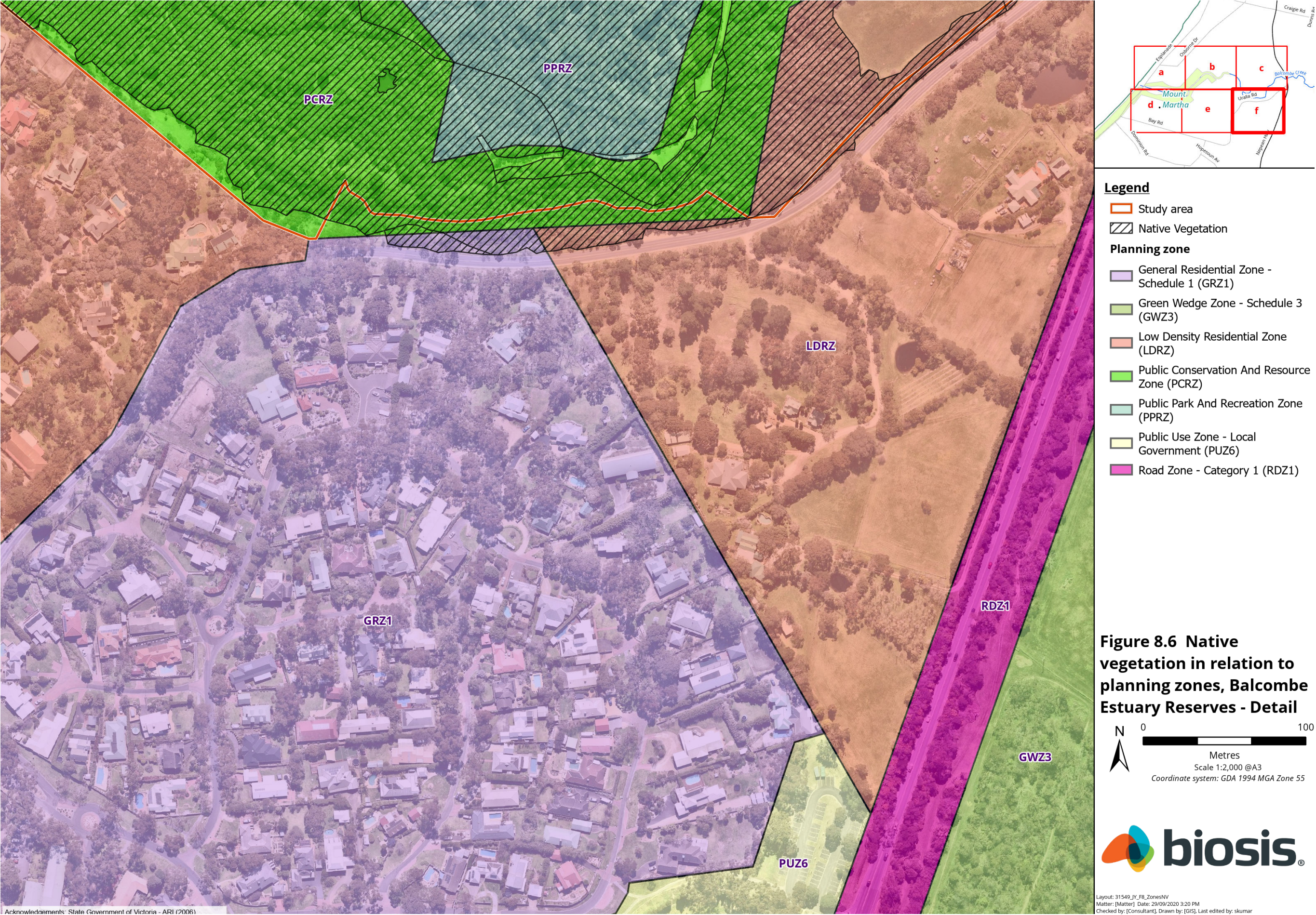














8. Sport and recreation in relation to planning zones

8.1 Public Conservation and Resource Zone

A considerable proportion of the area is used for nature conservation with large sections of bushland. Walking trails currently exist throughout the area and are used for informal recreational use. There are toilets, playground, picnic structures, fishing platforms, part of the pistol club and car parking within the PCRZ. 17.65% of the PCRZ is not covered by native vegetation (30.85 hectares).

8.2 Public Park and Recreation Zone

The PPRZ contains the majority of the formal sport and recreational facilities including Citation Reserve Football Pavilions, off leash dog areas, sports buildings, ovals, car parking walking trails, playgrounds, cricket nets, cricket pitch and bowling greens. The PPRZ also contains other facilities including Kindergarten facility, and Heritage Army Hut. The PPRZ also contains considerable sections of bushland which include walking trails. 44.66% of the PPRZ is not covered by native vegetation (40.54 hectares).

8.3 Low Density Residential Zone

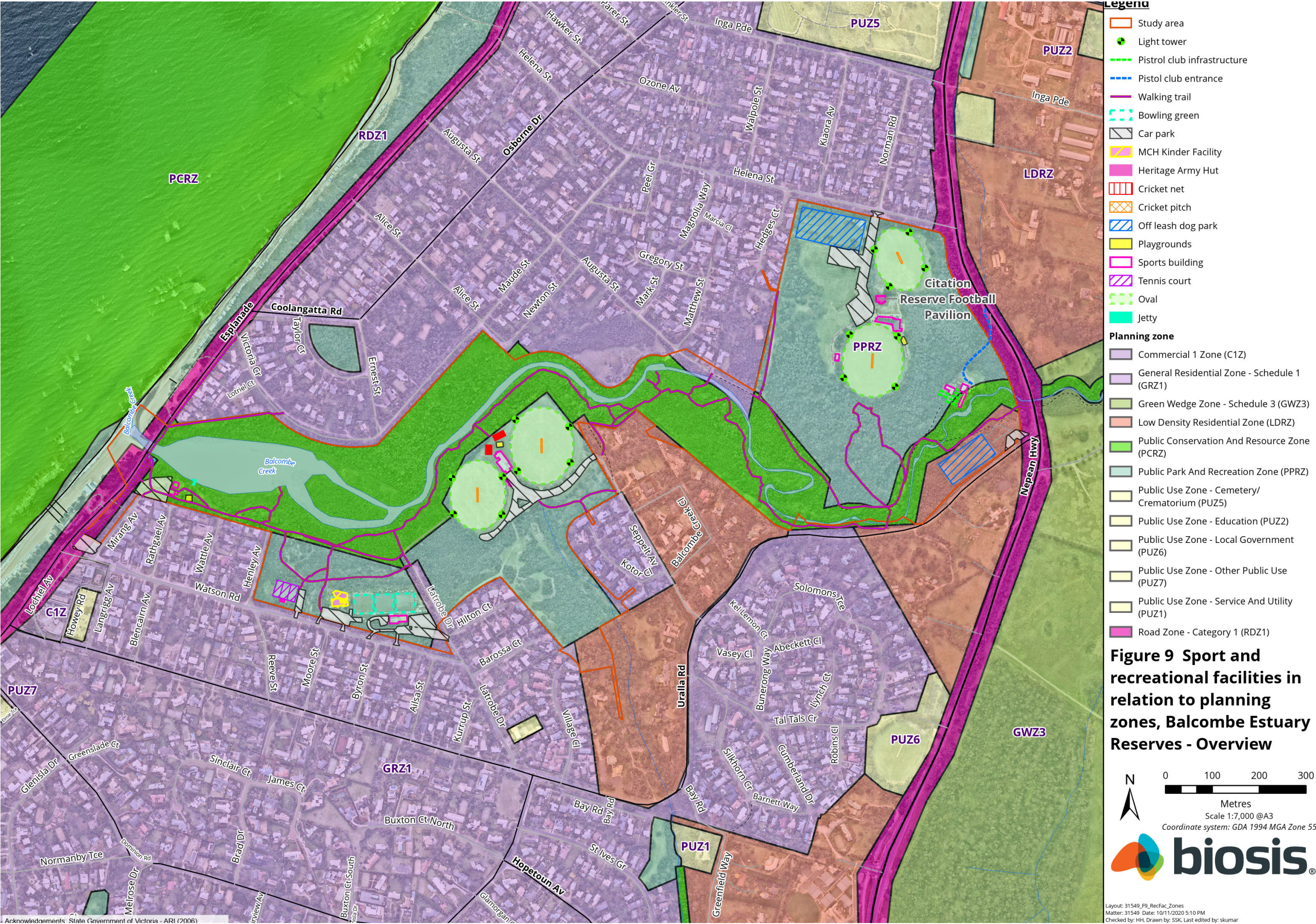
Small sections of LDRZ have been included in the study area, however these areas are largely privately owned and do not support sport and recreational facilities. Council owns 499 Nepean Highway and 37 Seppelt Ave. Council also own a section of LDRZ on Ferrero Reserve, Village Close, Seppelt Park Reserve and road reserves i.e. Seppelt Avenue. 27.17% of the LDRZ is not covered by native vegetation (2.82 hectares).

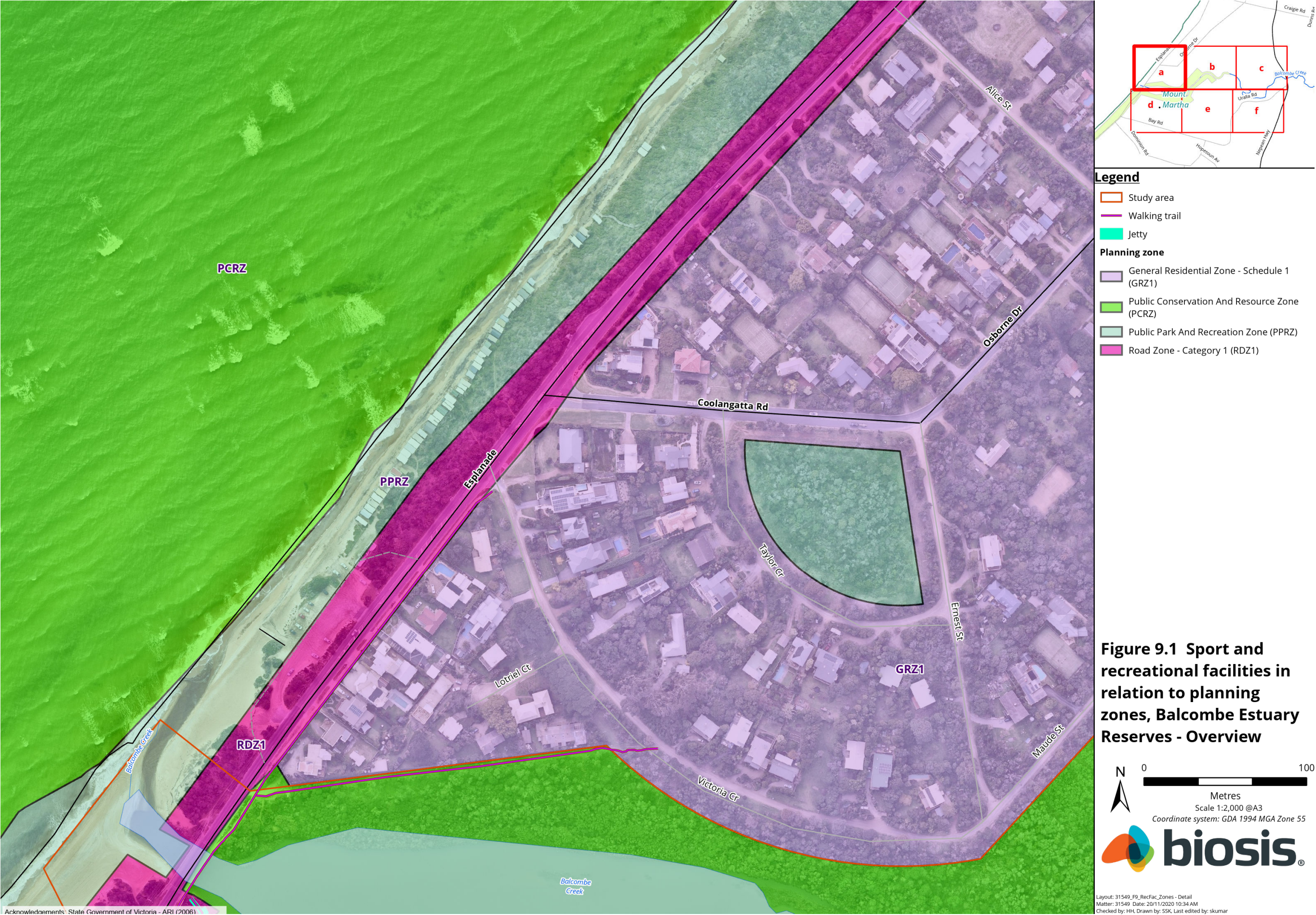
8.4 General Residential Zone

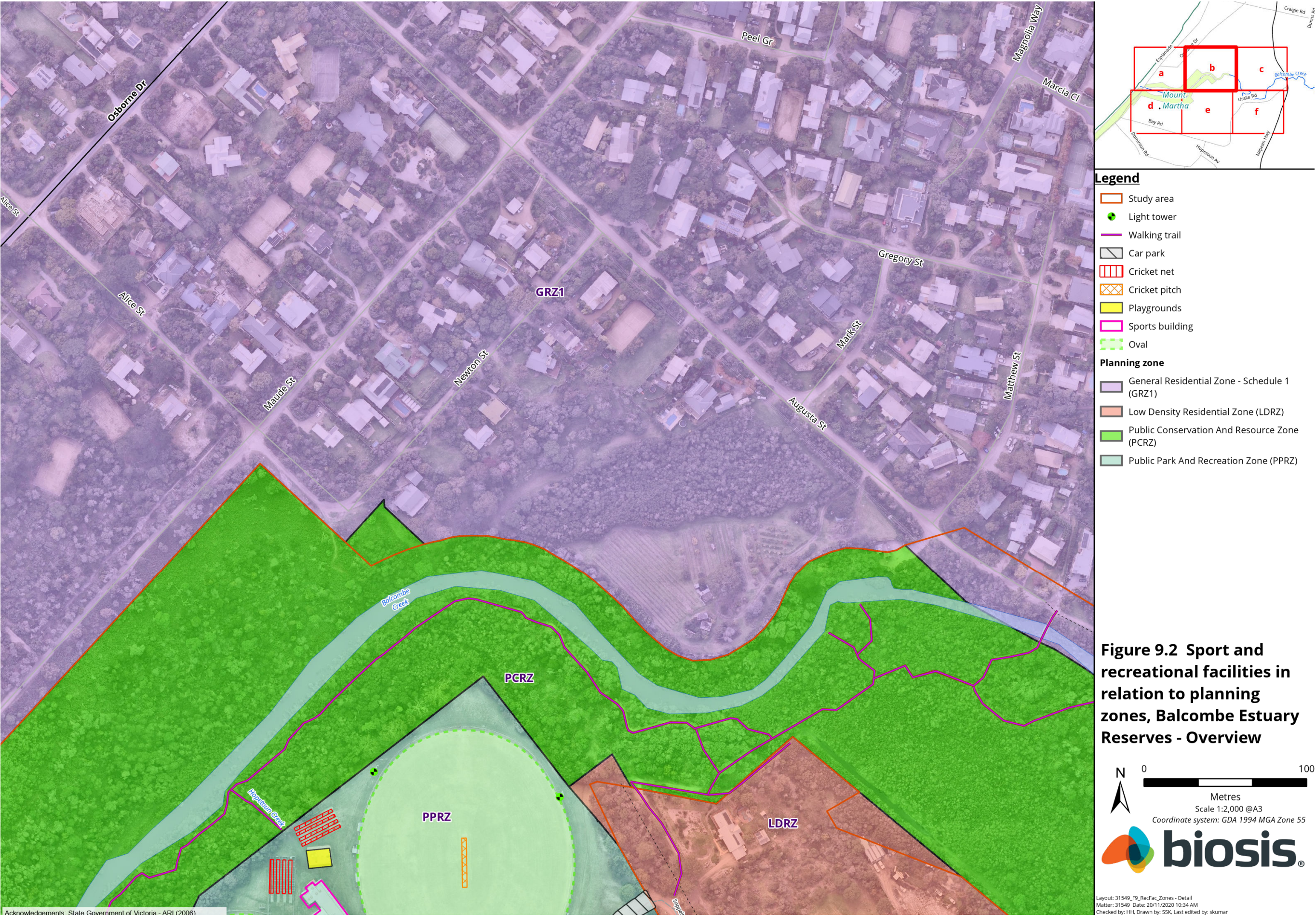
Small sections of GRZ have been included in the study area, however, these areas are largely privately owned and do not support sport and recreational facilities. GRZ1 at 16 Mirang Avenue (section parallel to Mirang and Esplanade) is public owned land, 33.05% of the GRZ is not covered by native vegetation (1.76 hectares).

8.5 Road Zone

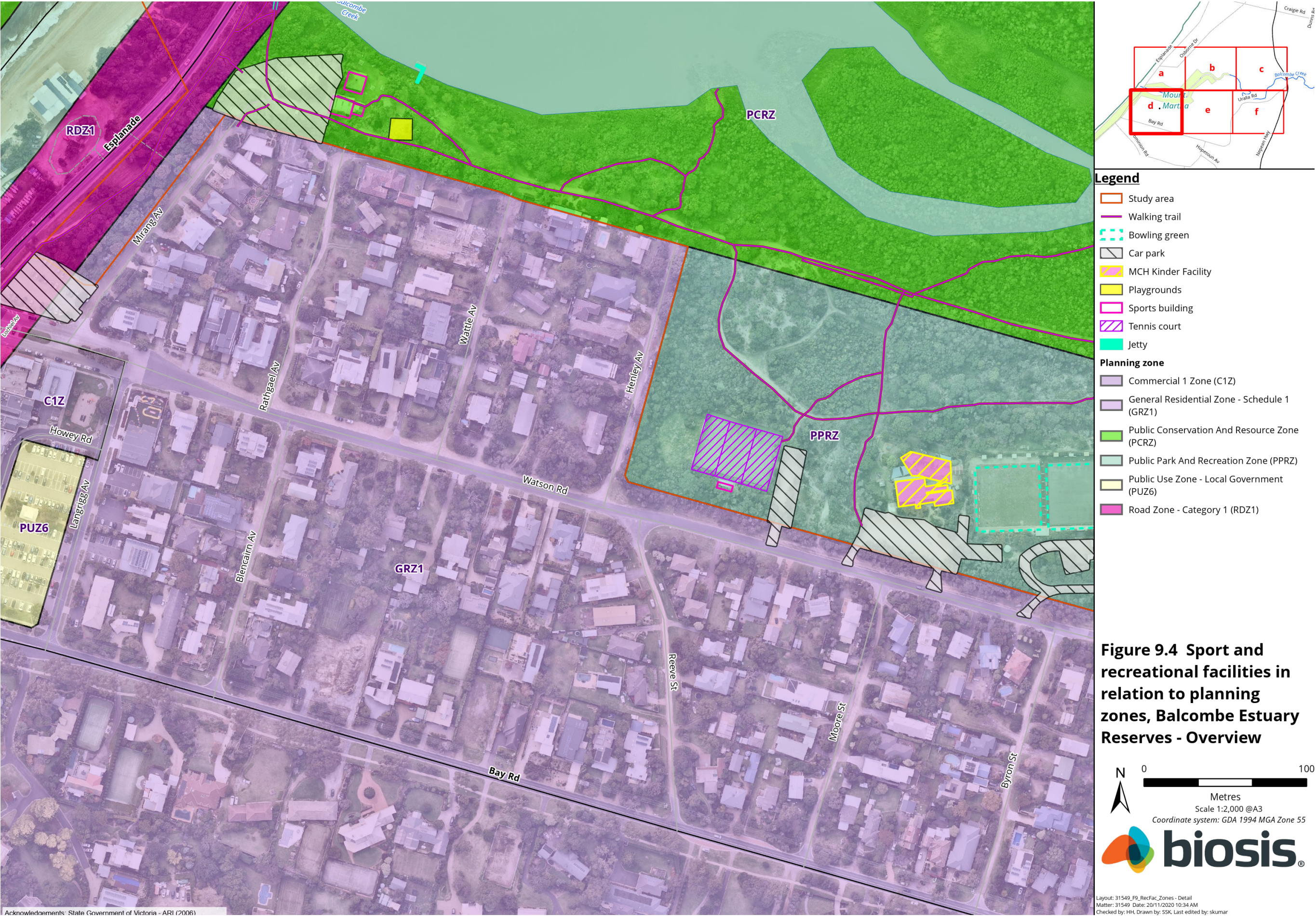
The RDZ1 does not support sport and recreational facilities. 32.54% of the RDZ is not covered by native vegetation (0.94 hectares).

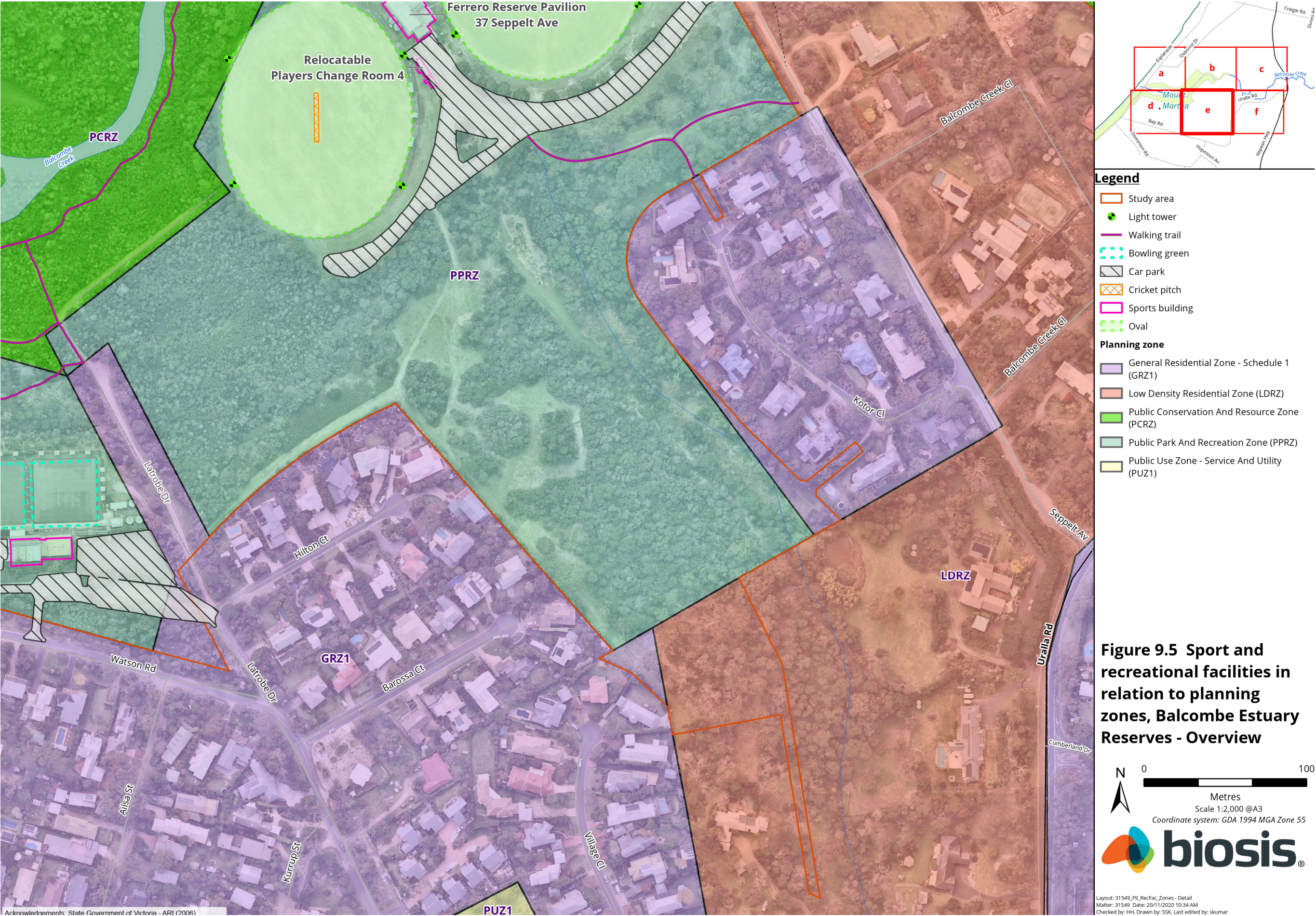
















9. Gap Analysis

9.1 Planning considerations

As detailed in the *Planning for Biodiversity* (DELWP 2017c) planning plays a significant role in achieving positive biodiversity outcomes in Victoria. DELWP have developed a planning scheme tool, when considering changes to planning controls in order to appropriately protect biodiversity, whilst considering the use of the land, in this case, balancing conservation with sport and recreation. The planning scheme tool requires the following to be assessed including land tenure (as detailed in Section 2), predominant or preferred land use (as detailed in section 4), biodiversity value and characteristics of the area (as detailed in section 7), and types of threats (detailed below).

9.1.1 Type of threats

The potential role of additional planning controls for Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves was examined by both a desktop and field investigation. This was in order to determine the current use of the land, whilst also examining the key ecological values of the area. It was identified during these assessments that while a large portion of the area has high biodiversity values, as evident by the large portion of native vegetation in all zones, competing pressures and uses within the Reserves can produce incremental reductions in some areas of high value vegetation and modifications in the remaining areas of vegetation may reduce biodiversity. It was identified that potential and/or evident pressures on the Balcombe Estuary associated reserves include:

- Impacts to environmental values including land degradation and increased sediment runoff associated with buildings and works conducted by the Public Land Manager.
- New or enlarged drains or earthworks impacting environmental values.
- Native vegetation removal including impacts to the endangered native vegetation.
- Inappropriate planting (ecological impacts).
- Human disturbance of wildlife (intensification of land use, subdivision, night lighting, dogs off the lead, litter and noise).
- Inappropriate structures such as fences (Buildings and works).
- Importation of foreign geological or biological material leading to potential weed invasions. (Buildings and works and roadworks) (General biological contamination – poor environmental management / cross contamination).
- Inappropriate use of the land for unauthorised trails or expansion of unsealed roads within the Reserves leading to increased sediment runoff into waterways.
- Expansion of car parking impacting surrounding environmental values and impacts to native vegetation.
- Land management (including mowing and slashing) to maintain recreational facilities and minimise risk of bushfire impacting on indigenous ground-storey species such as significant orchid colonies exist within the John F Ferrero Reserve beside Watson Road.

The following section will:



- Assess whether it is necessary to amend the Planning Scheme to give effect to the potential threats set out above.
- Assess the form of any control that could be applied to address identified threats to the Balcombe Estuary associated reserves .
- Identify broader management requirements (e.g. including proactive management) that sit outside of the planning system.

9.1.2 Gap analysis

Table 10-Table 14 analyses the manner in which the current Planning Scheme addresses the threats to the Balcombe Estuary associated reserves and identifies potential gaps.

The following zones were categorised into locations and reviewed in the gap analysis:

- Area A - Public Conservation and Resource Zone
- Area B - Public Park and Recreation Zone
- Area C - Low Density Residential Zone
- Area D - General Residential Zone – Schedule 1
- Area E - Road Zone – Category 1



Table 10 Gap analysis of planning controls- PCRZ

Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non- planning measures	Recommendation
Zone: Public Conservation and Resource Zone (PCRZ) Overlays: Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO1), Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO), Design and Development Overlay (DDO2), Heritage Overlay (HO372).						
A1	Impacts to environmental values including land degradation and increased sediment runoff associated with buildings and works conducted by the Public Land Manager.	<p>Under the PCRZ, a permit is not required for building or works carried out by or on behalf of a public land manager or Parks Victoria.</p> <p>Permit not required for native vegetation removal under the PCRZ.</p>	<p>A permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO and DDO2 for certain uses.</p> <p>Under the DDO2 a permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works however doesn't require a permit for vegetation removal.</p> <p>The decision guidelines for the DDO2 require the consideration of the impact to the environment, however doesn't appropriately protect impacts to environmental values.</p> <p>The VPO1 requires a permit to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation.</p>	<p>A permit for buildings and works is required under the BMO and DDO2. However neither adequately require the consideration of protecting the environmental systems including impacts of land degradation and sediment runoff. A permit is required to remove native vegetation under the VPO1 and cl. 52.17.</p> <p>Broader environmental values are not currently protected.</p>	EP Act (including SEPP)	<p>A potential ESO would trigger a permit for buildings and works for Public Land Manager for certain activities. A potential ESO may be able to be tailored to protect specific environmental threats associated with buildings and works. For example, protect and conserve the environmental systems, biodiversity, native vegetation, habitat areas, land and soil stability.</p> <p>These factors are not considered outside of protecting native vegetation (under the VPO1 and Cl. 52.17).</p>



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non- planning measures	Recommendation
A2	New or enlarged drains or earthworks impacting environmental values.	As above.	As above.	Permit required under BMO and DDO2. Environmental values are a consideration under the DDO2 however sediment discharge is not explicitly considered.	Water Act / Statutory authority requirements	<p>A potential ESO may provide further protection in terms of the considerations in the decision guidelines for specific environmental threats such as sediment discharge.</p> <p>VPO 1 being replaced by an ESO would ensure consideration of a wider range of environmental variables.</p>
A3	Native vegetation removal	Permit not required for native vegetation removal under the PCRZ.	<p>Under the VPO1, a permit is required <i>to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation</i>. However, there are a number of exemptions for native vegetation removal including for maintenance of landscaping, including pruning, which not affect the stability, general forms and viability of the vegetation.</p> <p>Permit required under Cl 52.17 (a number of</p>	Permit required under the VPO1 and Cl. 52.17.	FFG Act EPBC Act	<p>A potential ESO may include the consideration of native vegetation in protecting other values including water quality, riparian environments in greater detail.</p> <p>Replacing the VPO1 with a bespoke ESO would ensure consideration of Native vegetation specifically (not just in relation to Township</p>



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non- planning measures	Recommendation
			exemptions apply) BMO includes a number of exemptions for native vegetation removal (CI 52.12). Exemptions do affect the scope of permit requirements.			vegetation).
A4	Inappropriate planting (ecological impacts)	Permit not required.	Permit not required. The VPO1 currently allows for the removal of native vegetation for maintenance of landscaping.	Permit not required to plant new vegetation.	N/A	Detailed Operational Environmental Management Plans (OEMP) for the site detailing specific Management guidance may assist with encouraging more appropriate landscaping treatments.
A5	Human disturbance of wildlife (intensification of land use, subdivision, night lighting, dogs off the lead, litter and noise)	Under PCRZ, a permit is not required for building or works carried out by or on behalf of a public land manager or Parks Victoria for certain uses. However, a permit is required to subdivide land.	Permit is required to subdivide land, under the BMO and DDO2. The DDO2 considers sensitive areas resulting in environmental and landscape degradation.	Permit required for increased human disturbance associated with subdivision or buildings and works. However, currently there is no protection against buildings and works which requires the consideration of	<i>Wildlife Act 1975</i>	The current planning controls do not specifically protect wildlife. A potential ESO may consider specifically disturbance to native wildlife. Planning controls will not be able to protect the informal use of the



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non- planning measures	Recommendation
				environmental values including native vegetation removal.		Reserves. An EMP or a more formal management from the land manager/committee of management is required to reduce/ control these impacts.
A6	Inappropriate structures such as fences (Buildings and works).	Permit required for a range of uses associated with building and works. An application for a permit by a person other than the relevant public land manager must be accompanied by the written consent of the public land manager.	Permit required for building and works associated with certain uses.	Permit required.	N/A	No additional control required. Planning controls will not be able to protect the informal use of the Reserves. An EMP or a more formal management from the land manager/committee of management is required to reduce/ control these impacts.
A7	Importation of foreign geological or biological material leading to potential weed invasions. (Buildings and works and roadworks) (General biological	Permit required for building and works associated with certain uses. Permit not required for roadworks.	Permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO, DDO2. Permit not required in most instances for roadworks (cl 62.02-2). BMO exemptions may apply (cl. 52.12)	Permit required for buildings and works. Permit not required for roadworks in most instances.	N/A	More of an environmental management issue (rather than a planning issue). Planning controls will not be able to protect



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non- planning measures	Recommendation
	contamination – poor environmental management / cross contamination).					the informal use of the Reserves and the associated potential of importation of geological or biological material. An EMP or more formal management from the land manager/committee of management is required to reduce/ control these impacts.
A8	Inappropriate use of the land for unauthorised trails or expansion of unsealed roads leading to increased sediment runoff into waterways.	Permit required for buildings and works including for the construction of trails carried out by anyone other than a public land manager. Public land manager consent required for the application of a planning permit carried out by any other party.	Permit required for buildings and works associated with the construction of trails. However the decision guidelines do not largely address potential environmental degradation. A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation under the VPO and Cl. 52.17.	Permit required.	N/A	A permit is required for the construction of trails, however, more of an environmental management issue (rather than a planning issue) when they are being built without a permit. Can be dealt with via good environmental management systems.



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non- planning measures	Recommendation
A9	Expansion of car parking impacting surrounding environmental values and impacts to native vegetation.	Permit required for buildings and works including for the expansion of car parking unless carried out by a public land manager. As per above, a permit is required for the removal of native vegetation. Certain exemptions may apply.	Permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO, DDO2, A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation under the VPO1 and Cl. 52.17.	Permit required for buildings and works, however doesn't require the consideration of environmental systems.	N/A	A potential ESO would trigger a permit for buildings and works for certain activities. A potential ESO may be able to be tailored to protect specific environmental threats associated with buildings and works. For example, environmental values and impacts to native vegetation.



Table 11 Gap analysis of planning controls- PPRZ

Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
Zone: Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) Overlays: Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO1), Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO), Design and Development Overlay (DDO2)						
B1	Impacts to environmental values including land degradation and increased sediment runoff associated with buildings and works conducted by the Public Land Manager.	Under the PPRZ, a permit is required for land specified uses, buildings and works and subdivision. Under the application requirements of the PPRZ, an application for a permit by a person other than the relevant public land manager must be accompanied by the written consent from the public land manager. There are a number of exemptions associated with this including pathways, trails, seating, picnic tables, drinking taps, shelters, barbeques,	A permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO and DDO2 Permit not required in some instances for roadworks (cl 62.02-2). Under the DDO2 a permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works however doesn't require a permit for vegetation removal. The decision guidelines for the DDO2 require the consideration of the impact to the environment, however doesn't appropriately protect impacts to environmental values The VPO requires a permit to remove, destroy or lop any	A permit for buildings and works is required under the BMO and DDO2. However neither adequately require the consideration of protecting the environmental systems. A permit is required to remove native vegetation under the VPO1 and Cl. 52.17. Broader environmental values are not currently protected.	EP Act (including SEPP)	A potential ESO would trigger a permit for buildings and works for Public Land Manager for certain activities. A potential ESO may be able to be tailored to protect specific environmental threats associated with buildings and works. For example protect and conserve the environmental systems, bio diversity, native vegetation, habitat areas, land and soil stability. These factors are not considered outside of protecting native vegetation (under the VPO and Cl. 52.17).



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
		rubbish bins, security lighting, irrigation, drainage or underground infrastructure.	vegetation.			
B2	New or enlarged drains or earthworks impacting environmental values.	As above.	As above.	Permit required under BMO and DDO2. Environmental values are a consideration under the DDO2 however sediment discharge is not explicitly considered.	Water Act / Statutory authority requirements	A potential ESO may provide further protection in terms of the considerations in the decision guidelines for specific environmental threats such as sediment discharge. It could also reference the requirement for an OEMP to manage these potential threats.
B3	Native vegetation removal	Permit not required for native vegetation removal under the PPRZ.	Under the VPO1, a permit is required to <i>remove, destroy or lop any vegetation</i> . However, there are a number of exemptions for native vegetation removal including for maintenance of landscaping, including pruning, which does not affect the stability, general form and	Permit required under the VPO1. Permit required under cl 52.17 (a number of exemptions apply) BMO includes a number of exemptions for native vegetation removal. Exemptions do affect the scope of permit requirements.	FFG Act EPBC Act	A potential ESO may include the consideration of native vegetation in protecting other values including water quality, riparian environments in greater detail. Replacing the VPO1 with a bespoke ESO would ensure consideration of Native vegetation specifically (not just in relation to Township vegetation).



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
			viability of the vegetation.			
B4	Inappropriate planting (ecological impacts)	Permit not required for planting or landscaping.	Permit not required. The VPO currently allows for the removal of native vegetation to allow for the maintenance of landscaping.	Permit not required to plant new vegetation.	N/A	Detailed OEMP for the site detailing specific Management guidance may assist with encouraging more appropriate landscaping treatments.
B5	Human disturbance of wildlife (intensification of land use, subdivision, night lighting, dogs off the lead, litter and noise)	Under PPRZ, a permit is required for buildings and works and subdivision.	Permit is required to subdivide land, under the BMO and DDO2. The DDO2 considers sensitive areas resulting in environmental and landscape degradation.	Permit required for increased human disturbance associated with subdivision or buildings and works.	<i>Wildlife Act 1975</i>	The current planning controls protect the degradation of environmental values however don't specifically mention wildlife or control impacts to wildlife. A potential ESO may consider specifically disturbance to native wildlife by way of impacts to habitat.
B6	Inappropriate structures such as fences (Buildings and works).	A permit is required for the construction of certain structures, however the application for a permit must be accompanied by the written consent of the public land	Permit required for building and works associated with certain uses.	Permit required.	N/A	No additional control required. Planning controls will not be able to protect the informal use of the Reserves. An OEMP or a more formal management from the land manager/committee of management is required to reduce/ control these



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
		manager, indicating that the public land manager consents generally or conditionally.				impacts.
B7	Importation of foreign geological or biological material leading to potential weed invasions. (Buildings and works and roadworks) (General biological contamination – poor environmental management / cross contamination).	Permit required for building and works associated with certain uses. Permit not required for roadworks.	Permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO, DDO2. Permit not required in most instances for roadworks (cl 62.02-2).	Permit required for buildings and works. Permit not required for roadworks in most instances.	N/A	More of an environmental management issue (rather than a planning issue). Can be dealt with via good environmental management systems.
B8	Inappropriate use of the land for unauthorised trails or expansion of unsealed roads leading to increased sediment runoff into waterways.	A permit is not required for the construction of trails, however the application for a permit must be accompanied by the written consent of the public land manager, indicating that the public land manager consents generally or	Permit required for buildings and works associated with the construction of trails	Permit required.	N/A	A permit is required for the construction of trails, however, more of an environmental management issue (rather than a planning issue) when they are being built without a permit. Can be dealt with via good environmental management systems.



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
		conditionally.				
B9	Expansion of car parking impacting surrounding environmental values and impacts to native vegetation.	Permit required for building and works associated with certain uses. Permit not required for roadworks.	Permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO, DDO2, A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation under the VPO1 and Cl. 52.17.	Permit required for buildings and works, however doesn't require the consideration of environmental systems.	N/A	A potential ESO would trigger a permit for buildings and works for certain activities. A potential ESO may be able to be tailored to protect specific environmental threats associated with buildings and works. For example, environmental values and impacts to native vegetation.
B10	Land management (including mowing and slashing) to maintain recreational facilities and minimise risk of bushfire impacting on indigenous ground-storey species	As per above, a permit is required for the removal of native vegetation. Certain exemptions may apply.	As per above, a permit is required for the removal of native vegetation. Certain exemptions may apply.	This is, more of an environmental management issue (rather than a planning issue).	N/A	This is, more of an environmental management issue (rather than a planning issue). Can be dealt with via good environmental management systems.



Table 12 Gap analysis of planning controls- LDRZ

Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
Zone: Low Density Residential Zone (LDRZ) Overlays: Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO1), Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO), Design and Development Overlay (DDO4, DDO6, DDO7).						
C1	Impacts to environmental values including land degradation and increased sediment runoff associated with buildings and works conducted by the Public Land Manager.	A permit is required for certain land uses (leisure and recreation), buildings and works and subdivision.	A permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO. The VPO requires a permit to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation.	A permit for buildings and works is required under the BMO and DDO. However neither adequately require the consideration of protecting the environmental systems. A permit is required to remove native vegetation under the VPO and cl. 52.17. Broader environmental values are not currently protected.	EP Act (including SEPP)	A potential ESO would trigger a permit for buildings and works for Public Land Manager for certain activities. A potential ESO may be able to be tailored to protect specific environmental threats associated with buildings and works. For example, protect and conserve the environmental systems, biodiversity, native vegetation, habitat areas, land and soil stability. These factors are not considered outside of protecting native vegetation (under the VPO1 and Cl. 52.17).
C2	New or enlarged drains or earthworks impacting environmental values.	As above.	As above.	Permit required under BMO and DDO. Environmental values are a consideration under the DDO2 however sediment	Water Act / Statutory authority requirements	A potential ESO may provide further protection in terms of the considerations in the decision guidelines for specific environmental



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
				discharge is not explicitly considered.		threats such as sediment discharge. It could also reference the requirement for an OEMP to manage these potential threats.
C3	Native vegetation removal	Permit not required for native vegetation removal under the LDRZ.	Under the VPO1, a permit is required to <i>remove, destroy or lop any vegetation</i> . However, there are a number of exemptions for native vegetation removal including for maintenance of landscaping, including pruning, which does not affect the stability, general form and viability of the vegetation.	Permit required under the VPO1. Permit required under cl 52.17 (a number of exemptions apply) BMO includes a number of exemptions for native vegetation removal. Exemptions do affect the scope of permit requirements.	FFG Act EPBC Act	A potential ESO may include the consideration of role of vegetation in protecting other values including water quality, riparian environments in greater detail. The considerations of the VPO1 more specifically covers the native vegetation itself.
C4	Inappropriate planting (ecological impacts)	Permit not required.	Permit not required. The VPO currently allows for the removal of native vegetation to allow for the maintenance of landscaping.	Permit not required to plant new vegetation.	N/A	Detailed OEMP for the site detailing specific Management guidance may assist with encouraging more appropriate landscaping treatments.



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
C5	Human disturbance of wildlife (intensification of land use, subdivision, night lighting, dogs off the lead, litter and noise)	A permit is required for certain land uses (leisure and recreation), buildings and works and subdivision.	Permit is required to subdivide land, under the BMO and DDO. The DDO considers sensitive areas resulting in environmental and landscape degradation.	Permit required for increased human disturbance associated with subdivision or buildings and works.	<i>Wildlife Act 1975</i>	The current planning controls protect the degradation of environmental values however don't specifically mention wildlife or control impacts to wildlife. A potential ESO may consider specifically disturbance to native wildlife by way of impacts to habitat.
C6	Inappropriate structures such as fences (Buildings and works).	Permit required for building and works, which requires the consideration of the protection and enhancement of the natural environment.	Permit required for building and works.	Permit required.	N/A	No additional control required. Planning controls will not be able to protect the informal use of the Reserves. An OEMP or a more formal management from the land manager/committee of management is required to reduce/ control these impacts.
C7	Importation of foreign geological or biological material leading to potential weed invasions. (Buildings and works and roadworks) (General biological contamination – poor environmental	Permit required for building and works associated with certain uses. Permit not required for roadworks.	Permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO, DDO. Permit not required in most instances for roadworks (cl 62.02-2).	Permit required for buildings and works. Permit not required for roadworks in most instances.	N/A	More of an environmental management issue (rather than a planning issue). Can be dealt with via good environmental management systems.



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
	management / cross contamination).					
C8	Expansion of car parking impacting surrounding environmental values and impacts to native vegetation.	Permit required for building and works associated with certain uses. Permit not required for roadworks.	Permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO, DDO2, A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation under the VPO1 and Cl. 52.17.	Permit required for buildings and works, however doesn't require the consideration of environmental systems.	N/A	A potential ESO would trigger a permit for buildings and works for certain activities. A potential ESO may be able to be tailored to protect specific environmental threats associated with buildings and works. For example, environmental values and impacts to native vegetation.



Table 13 Gap analysis of planning controls- GRZ1

Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
Zone: General Residential Zone – Schedule 1 (GRZ1) Overlays: Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO1), Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO), Design and Development Overlay (DDO2).						
D1	Impacts to environmental values including land degradation and increased sediment runoff associated with buildings and works conducted by the Public Land Manager.	A permit is required for the construction or extension of one dwelling on a lot, however this does not consider the environmental values in the decision guidelines. A permit is required for the use of the land for Leisure and recreation (other than Informal outdoor recreation and Motor racing track).	A permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO and DDO2. Under the DDO2 a permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works however doesn't require a permit for vegetation removal. The decision guidelines for the DDO2 require the consideration of the impact to the environment, however doesn't appropriately protect impacts to environmental values. The VPO and Cl. 52.17 requires a permit to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation.	A permit for buildings and works is required under the BMO and DDO2. However neither adequately require the consideration of protecting the environmental systems. A permit is required to remove native vegetation under the VPO and cl. 52.17. Broader environmental values are not currently protected.	EP Act (including SEPP)	A potential ESO would trigger a permit for buildings and works for Public Land Manager for certain activities. A potential ESO may be able to be tailored to protect specific environmental threats associated with buildings and works. For example protect and conserve the environmental systems, bio diversity, native vegetation, habitat areas, land and soil stability. These factors are not considered outside of protecting native vegetation (under the VPO and Cl. 52.17)



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
D2	New or enlarged drains or earthworks impacting environmental values.	As above.	As above.	Permit required under BMO and DDO2. Environmental values are a consideration under the DDO2 however sediment discharge is not explicitly considered.	Water Act / Statutory authority requirements	A potential ESO may provide further protection in terms of the considerations in the decision guidelines for specific environmental threats such as sediment discharge. It could also reference the requirement for an OEMP to manage these threats.
D3	Native vegetation removal.	Permit not required for native vegetation removal under the GRZ1.	Under the VPO1, a permit is required <i>to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation</i> . However, there are a number of exemptions for native vegetation removal including for maintenance of landscaping, including pruning, which does not affect the stability, general form and viability of the vegetation.	Permit required under the VPO1. Permit required under cl 52.17 (a number of exemptions apply) BMO includes a number of exemptions for native vegetation removal. Exemptions do affect the scope of permit requirements.	FFG Act EPBC Act	A potential ESO may include the consideration of role of vegetation in protecting other values including water quality, riparian environments in greater detail. The considerations of the VPO more specifically covers the native vegetation itself.
D4	Inappropriate planting (ecological impacts)	Permit not required.	Permit not required. The VPO currently allows for the removal of native vegetation to allow for the maintenance of landscaping.	Permit not required to plant new vegetation.	N/A	Detailed OEMP for the site detailing specific Management guidance may assist with encouraging more appropriate landscaping treatments.



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
D5	Human disturbance of wildlife (intensification of land use, subdivision, night lighting, dogs off the lead, litter and noise)	Under GRZ1, a permit is required for buildings and works and subdivision however this does not consider the impact to wildlife.	Permit is required to subdivide land, under the BMO and DDO2. The DDO2 considers sensitive areas resulting in environmental and landscape degradation.	Permit required for increased human disturbance associated with subdivision or buildings and works.	Wildlife Act 1975	The current planning controls protect the degradation of environmental values however don't specifically mention wildlife or control impacts to wildlife. A potential ESO may consider specifically disturbance to native wildlife by way of impacts to habitat.
D6	Inappropriate structures such as fences (Buildings and works).	Permit required for building and works, however this does not consider the ecological impacts in the decision guidelines.	Permit required for many buildings and works.	Permit required.	N/A	No additional control required. Planning controls will not be able to protect the informal use of the Reserves. An EMP or a more formal management from the land manager/committee of management is required to reduce/ control these impacts.
D7	Importation of foreign geological or biological material leading to potential weed invasions. (Buildings and works and roadworks) (General biological	Permit required for building and works associated with certain uses. Permit not required for roadworks.	Permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO, DDO2. Permit not required in most instances for roadworks (cl 62.02-2).	Permit required for buildings and works. Permit not required for roadworks in most instances.	N/A	More of an environmental management issue (rather than a planning issue). Can be dealt with via good environmental management systems.



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
	contamination – poor environmental management / cross contamination).					
D8	Expansion of car parking impacting surrounding environmental values and impacts to native vegetation.	Permit required for building and works associated with certain uses. Permit not required for roadworks.	Permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO, DDO2, A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation under the VPO1 and Cl. 52.17.	Permit required for buildings and works, however doesn't require the consideration of environmental systems.	N/A	A potential ESO would trigger a permit for buildings and works for certain activities. A potential ESO may be able to be tailored to protect specific environmental threats associated with buildings and works. For example, environmental values and impacts to native vegetation.



Table 14 Gap analysis of planning controls- RDZ1

Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
Zone: Road Zone – Category 1 (RDZ1) Overlays: Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO).						
E1	Impacts to environmental values including land degradation and increased sediment runoff associated with buildings and works conducted by the Public Land Manager.	Under RDZ1, a permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 36.04-1. A permit is required for any use (except for railway, tramway and uses listed in cl 62.01). The use of a road does not require a permit (Cl. 62.01).	A permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO. A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation pursuant to cl. 52.17, however a permit is not required in most instances for roadworks (cl 62.02-2).	A permit for buildings and works is required under the BMO. However, the BMO does not adequately require the consideration of protecting the environmental systems. A permit is required to remove native vegetation under cl. 52.17. Broader environmental values are not currently protected.	EP Act (including SEPP) Road Management Act 2004'	A potential ESO would trigger a permit for buildings and works for Public Land Manager for certain activities. A potential ESO may be able to be tailored to protect specific environmental threats associated with buildings and works. For example, protect and conserve the environmental systems, bio diversity, native vegetation, habitat areas, land and soil stability.
E2	New or enlarged drains or earthworks impacting environmental values.	As above.	As above.	Permit required under BMO.	Water Act / Statutory authority requirements	A potential ESO may provide further protection in terms of the considerations in the decision guidelines for specific environmental threats such as sediment discharge. It could also reference the requirement for an OEMP to manage



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
						these potential threats.
E3	Native vegetation removal	Permit not required for native vegetation removal under the RDZ1.	Under Cl. 52.17 a permit is required <i>to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation</i> . However, there are a number of exemptions for native vegetation removal including for maintenance of landscaping, including pruning, which does not affect the stability, general form and viability of the vegetation.	Permit required under cl 52.17 (a number of exemptions apply) BMO includes a number of exemptions for native vegetation removal. Exemptions do affect the scope of permit requirements.	FFG Act EPBC Act	A potential ESO may include the consideration of role of vegetation in protecting other values including water quality, riparian environments in greater detail.
E4	Inappropriate planting (ecological impacts)	Permit not required.	Permit not required.	Permit not required to plant new vegetation.	N/A	Detailed OEMP for the site detailing specific Management guidance may assist with encouraging more appropriate landscaping treatments.



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
E5	Human disturbance of wildlife (intensification of land use, subdivision, night lighting, dogs off the lead, litter and noise)	Under RDZ1, a permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 36.04-1. A permit is required for any use (except for railway, tramway and uses listed in cl 62.01).	Permit is required to subdivide land, under the BMO. Permit required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation (cl. 52.17).	Permit required for increased human disturbance associated with subdivision or buildings and works.	Wildlife Act 1975	The current planning controls protect the degradation of environmental values however don't specifically mention wildlife or control impacts to wildlife. A potential ESO may consider specifically disturbance to native wildlife by way of impacts to habitat.
E6	Inappropriate structures such as fences (Buildings and works).	Under RDZ1, a permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 36.04-1. A permit is required for any use (except for railway, tramway and uses listed in cl 62.01).	Permit required for building and works.	Permit required.	N/A	No additional control required. Planning controls will not be able to protect the informal use of the Reserves. An EMP or a more formal management from the land manager/committee of management is required to reduce/ control these impacts.
E7	Importation of foreign geological or biological material leading to potential weed invasions.	Under RDZ1, a permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry	Permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO. Permit not required in	Permit required for buildings and works. Permit not required for roadworks in most	N/A	More of an environmental management issue (rather than a planning issue). Can be dealt with via good



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
	(Buildings and works and roadworks) (General biological contamination – poor environmental management / cross contamination).	out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 36.04-1. A permit is required for any use (except for railway, tramway and uses listed in cl 62.01).	most instances for roadworks (cl 62.02-2).	instances.		environmental management systems. Department of Transport (VicRoads) and Council to investigate materials used for road construction in the Reserves and whether there is a threat to biological contamination based on materials used.
E8	Inappropriate use of the land for unauthorised trails or expansion of unsealed roads leading to increased sediment runoff into waterways.	Under RDZ1, a permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 36.04-1. A permit is required for any use (except for railway, tramway and uses listed in cl 62.01).	A permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO. Cl 52.17 requires a permit to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation.	A permit for buildings and works is required under the BMO. A permit is required to remove native vegetation under cl. 52.17.	EP Act (including SEPP)	A potential ESO may be able to be tailored to protect specific environmental threats associated with buildings and works. For example protect and conserve the environmental systems, bio diversity, native vegetation, habitat areas, land and soil stability. These factors are not considered outside of protecting native vegetation (Cl. 52.17).



Item	Threats	Current zone response	Current overlay response / particular provisions	Capacity of current planning scheme to address threat	Other non-planning measures	Recommendation
E9	Expansion of car parking impacting surrounding environmental values and impacts to native vegetation.	Permit required for building and works associated with certain uses. Permit not required for roadworks.	Permit is required for buildings and works under the BMO, DDO2, A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation under the VPO1 and Cl. 52.17.	Permit required for buildings and works, however doesn't require the consideration of environmental systems.	N/A	A potential ESO would trigger a permit for buildings and works for certain activities. A potential ESO may be able to be tailored to protect specific environmental threats associated with buildings and works. For example, environmental values and impacts to native vegetation.



10. Findings

The findings for this Study have been determined by a detailed review of the available literature and data for ecology and sports and recreational requirements, ecological field assessment, and the analysis of threats versus planning controls in a gap analysis.

The gap analysis indicates that:

- There is a need to appropriately balance the significant biodiversity values within the Reserves whilst still managing the increasing demand to use the area for sport and recreational purposes.
- The current zoning suggests the Reserves are capable of future development however the constraints of the land would limit the expansion without it being to the detriment of the values/significance of the area/environment.
- The current Planning Scheme controls address certain threats to the Reserves including native vegetation. VPO1 and Cl. 52.17 require a permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation. Therefore, native vegetation removal is adequately protected within the Reserves.
- The PPRZ and PCRZ currently contains the largest portion of native vegetation (43.4% and 49.1% respectively) which aligns with the zones objective to protect and conserve the natural environment and natural processes for their historic, scientific, landscape, habitat or cultural values.
- The current Planning Scheme controls don't consider specific environmental threats (apart from the removal of native vegetation) to the Reserves associated with buildings and works carried out by or on behalf of the public land manager or by a third party.
- The introduction of an ESO over the Reserves would trigger a permit for buildings and works as well as native vegetation removal.
- The PCRZ prioritises nature conservation and is therefore appropriately zoned for the large portion of significant vegetation and biodiversity values found within it.
- The PPRZ contains significant areas of native vegetation as well as provides the potential areas for future expansion of sport and recreational facilities (albeit being subject to a suite of current planning controls protecting native vegetation).
- DDO2, DDO4, DDO6 and DDO7 requires the consideration of environmental values in the decision guidelines for a permit for buildings and works. However, it doesn't provide any significant protection to the environmental values within the Reserves against development.
- The BMO covers the entire study area and has a number of exemptions applicable (subject to specific requirements being met) for native vegetation removal.
- There is an opportunity to implement broader management measures through proactive land management plans and guidelines that would sit outside the planning framework.
- Severe disturbance by bike tracks and jumps is an ongoing threat. Technically a permit is required for the construction of trails and enforcement under the P&E Act. However, a more appropriate course of action would be through appropriate governance and environmental management.



11. Discussion

The below section details the significance and recommendations based on the key findings.

11.1 Recommended changes to zoning boundaries.

11.1.1 Zoning

Zoning can be an effective planning tool for the protection and conservation of biodiversity as it sets out expectation about what use and development can occur on the land (DELWP 2017c). Zoning can be used to direct development away from areas of high value biodiversity. However, there are certain exemptions under a number of zones (for example PPRZ) where public authorities and land managers can proceed with undertaking works without the need for a planning permit.

Public Conservation and Resource Zone

The Planning for Biodiversity planning scheme tool specifies that the PCRZ should be used for conservation reserves managed by local government. The zone only applies to:

- Land in public ownership, which includes land owned by the local government. The Reserves have mixed land ownership by both DELWP and Council with Council being the CoM for the entire area.

The PCRZ has the following purposes:

- To protect and conserve the natural environment.
- To provide facilities which assist in public education and interpretation of the natural environment with minimal degradation of the natural environment or natural processes
- To provide for appropriate resource based uses.

A key purpose of the zone within the Reserves is to 'protect and conserve the natural environment and natural processes for their historic, scientific, landscape, habitat or cultural values.' As required the PCRZ zoning across sections of the Reserves provides important protection for conservation including the Balcombe Estuary mouth, the Balcombe creek and large areas of native vegetation (refer to Figure 3). PCRZ protects a considerable proportion 49.1% of the mapped native vegetation and comprises 30,849 hectares of native vegetation. This includes the bioregionally endangered Swamp Scrub (Refer to Figure 3). The PCRZ is also intended for use by recreational and land management activities. The PCRZ is suitable for informal/passive recreation. The current uses within the Reserves align with this objective. Most of the permitted uses in this zone aid informal uses of such spaces for example the existing jetty aids swimming and kayaking. Sport and recreational facilities for active/ formal sport and recreation should not occur in these areas because of the high biodiversity value.

The area is generally appropriately zoned as PCRZ as it currently used for conservation and informal recreational purposes including walking tracks.

Public Park and Recreation Zone

The PPRZ is intended to be applied to land where the land is publicly owned and there is a CoM. A key purpose of the zone is to 'recognise areas for public recreation and open space'. This zone currently includes the main sporting precincts (refer to Figure 9). These being John F Ferro Reserve, Gary Watson Oval, Mount Martha Cricket Club, Citation Reserve and a section of the Peninsula Pistol Club.



Due to the increased demand for sport and recreational activities within Mornington Peninsula there may be a requirement for an expansion of these facilities in the future. The areas nominated as PPRZ would be the most appropriate area to consider development of any future sporting facilities. This includes future rectangle sports fields on the undeveloped land at Citation reserve. It is expected such a sporting field and associated infrastructure to be of a standard size would require between (243 metres squared for local ground and 556 metres squared for district/township).

The PPRZ contains a considerable proportion (22.451 hectares, 43.4%) of mapped native vegetation within the Reserves. The PPRZs purpose is also to 'protect and conserve areas of significance where appropriate'. The expansion of any sporting facilities will need to consider the biodiversity values within the PPRZ and demonstrate how environmental impacts have been avoided or minimised as appropriate. The current planning controls (including VPO1, and cl. 52.17) require a permit for native vegetation removal in this area.

The PPRZ is suitably zoned for public recreation and open space. It is currently used for sporting facilities as well as conservation of key biodiversity values. Any future sport and recreational development is recommended to be proposed in areas with low/minimal ecological value (in areas not mapped as native vegetation). Any future masterplan for expansion of sporting facilities should consider the detailed ecological mapping conducted as part of this study.

Low Density Residential Zone

The LDRZ purpose is to provide for low-density residential development on lots which, in the absence of reticulated sewerage, can treat and retain all wastewater. The LDRZ currently comprises 72.8% Native Vegetation of this 2.824 hectare zone. The decision guidelines include the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and character of the area including the retention of vegetation and faunal habitat and the need to plant vegetation along waterways, gullies, ridgelines and property boundaries. LDRZ therefore considers the retention of native vegetation.

The land within the study area affected by the LDRZ is appropriately zoned for low-density residential development where it is privately owned. In these locations, it will not be considered for rezoning for this Study. It has been identified that 37 Seppelt Avenue, Seppelt Ave road reserve, Seppelt Park Reserve and 499 Nepean Highway Mount Martha is Council owned land. The larger sections of bushland currently zoned LDRZ abutting the Reserves should be considered for rezoning to PPRZ or PCRZ subject to Councils preferred future use of this land.

General Residential Zone- Schedule 1

The GRZ1 comprises a large portion of native vegetation within the Reserves. This zone comprises 67.8% Native Vegetation of the 1.763 hectare zone. The GRZ1 doesn't currently consider the protection of the native vegetation as part of the objectives or decision guidelines. Other planning controls (including VPO, and cl. 52.17) covering the entire zone within the study area require a permit for native vegetation removal in this area. That being said there are potential exemptions for the removal of native vegetation under the BMO to reduce fire risk. This GRZ1 is appropriately zoned for general residential development where it is privately owned. In these locations, it will not be considered for rezoning for this Study. Latrobe Drive road reserve, 16 Mirang Avenue, 37 Seppelt Avenue, Augusta Street road reserve, and Hedges Court Mount Martha have been identified as publicly owned land. The larger sections of bushland currently zoned GRZ abutting the Reserves should be considered for rezoning to PPRZ or PCRZ subject to Councils preferred future use of this land.

Road Zone – Category 1

The RDZ1 comprises 67.4% Native vegetation of this 0.937 hectare zone. The RDZ1 doesn't currently consider the protection of the native vegetation as part of the objectives or decision guidelines. However, other



planning controls (including VPO, and cl. 52.17) covering the entire zone within the study area require a permit for native vegetation removal in this area. The RDZ1 is not Council owned land therefore will not be considered for rezoning for this study.

Summary

Due to increased demand for sport and recreational facilities and the potential need to increase capacity of the sporting precincts in the future, no changes to the boundaries of the existing PPRZ or the PCRZ are recommended. The purpose of both the PCRZ and PPRZ is to protect and conserve the natural environment and natural processes and to protect and conserve areas of significance where appropriate. There are currently permit requirements for vegetation removal within these zones due to the particular provisions/overlays (VPO1 and Cl. 52.17). GRZ1, LDRZ and RDZ1 are appropriately zoned for their use where they are privately owned. Where publicly owned (by Council or DELWP) it is recommended they are rezoned to PPRZ or PCRZ. The PPRZ and PCRZ, GRZ1, RDZ1 and LDRZ are all covered by the VPO1 and Cl. 52.17 and therefore require a permit to remove vegetation. There are particular exemptions under the BMO and 52.12 which may permit the removal of native vegetation, however, changing the zoning of the land will not change the applicability of these exemptions.

11.2 The appropriate extent of an ESO or other controls.

11.2.1 Overlays

As detailed in the *Planning for Biodiversity* (DELWP 2017c) guidance note, overlays impose additional requirements for permits, and additional decision making guidelines in designated areas (DELWP 2017c). Overlays can be used where there are areas of important biodiversity value which may not be addressed through zoning and would benefit from additional protection. Overlays are supported by schedules which can be tailored to identify and respond to the local characteristics of an area. For example, an ESO could protect and conserve the environmental systems, biodiversity, habitat areas, land and soil stability as well as native vegetation. Schedules to a potential ESO could relate to a particular area or issue and can describe the context for how the potential ESO is applied. Schedules to a potential ESO also include the objectives, permit requirements and decision guidelines for the potential ESO. Schedules to environmental overlays can be used to either schedule out vegetation which does not require a permit for removal, or to schedule in vegetation which does require a permit for removal. This may be for example for sport and recreational development inside areas zoned for PCRZ or PPRZ. Councils can use this mechanism to distinguish between the vegetation removal that it wants to control and that which it doesn't.

The following principles apply when developing overlays for biodiversity objectives (DELWP 2017c) :

- Overlays must link back to an objective in the PPF or LPPF
- Overlays cannot change the intent of a zone, and therefore they usually control development but not uses
- The reason for applying an overlay must align with its purposes and reflect the roles of any schedules to the overlay
- Application of an overlay should be supported by a schedule that has a clear statement of environmental objectives and strategies to achieve these objectives in their schedule. These must be able to justify the application of planning permit conditions or the refusal of a planning permit
- Overlays should be informed by up to date information and data



- Overlays must not duplicate other controls and should not be applied where, in most cases, they would not change the outcome for permit applicants
- Overlays should be developed in consultation with effected parties and with clear justification that the costs they impose are outweighed by the benefit they provide.
- The key purposes of developing overlays to meet biodiversity objectives include:
 - to control impacts on biodiversity from development activities, other than the removal of native vegetation
 - to impose additional controls over an of area of biodiversity value
 - to meet local biodiversity objectives set out in the LPPF. Note that DELWP will generally not be a referral authority for overlays designed to meet local objectives.

Environmental Significance Overlay

The Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO) can be used to achieve specific biodiversity objectives for a designated area by identifying areas where development may be affected by environmental constraints and to ensure development is compatible with identified environmental values. The schedule to the ESO specifies the biodiversity outcome that the overlay is seeking to achieve and how decision making when applying the overlay delivers on this objective.

The schedule should give clear guidance of the outcomes sought to assist in decision making for a permit application including a statement of environmental significance, objectives and decision guidelines. The ESO contains additional controls over the construction of buildings, works, fence construction, subdivision and the removal of vegetation. It can be used to control impacts on biodiversity from development activities other than the removal of native vegetation. The ESO has broader applicability than the VPO and is the preferred overlay when seeking to achieve biodiversity outcomes rather than just protecting vegetation from removal. The ESO could be used to control impacts on biodiversity in the following contexts:

- Along Balcombe estuary mouth, Balcombe estuary/creek due to high value native vegetation along the creek line.
- To protect the bioregionally endangered Grassy Woodland, bioregionally vulnerable Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland and the significant orchid colonies identified in the PPRZ.
- Where development or works other than the removal of native vegetation may have a significant impact on high value biodiversity, for example earthworks or the construction of buildings, tracks and trails and the like.

Vegetation Protection Overlay

The Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO) can be used to provide additional controls on the removal of native vegetation. Unlike the ESO, the VPO is limited to regulation of the removal of vegetation and does not require permits for buildings and works or subdivision. The VPO is focussed on vegetation protection and conservation for habitat, land management, amenity or cultural purposes (DELWP 2017c). It is not specifically designed to meet biodiversity objectives, but does relate to habitat values provided by vegetation. The VPO1 covering the Reserves specifically relates to Township Vegetation. Whilst it does cover the need for a permit to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation, it is not specific to the native vegetation found within the Reserves. In this sense a schedule to an ESO could provide stronger protection for the biodiversity values and native vegetation found within the Reserves.

Design and Development Overlay (DDO)



The DDO2, DDO4, DDO6 and DDO7 seeks to identify areas which are affected by specific requirements relating to the design and built form of new development. The DDO requires consideration of some environmental factors, however doesn't solely protect the environment values, it is largely designed for residential areas. On review of the areas covered by the DDO within the study area it was determined to rezone those from residential to either PPRZ or PCRZ to bring them in line with their relevant use as these areas are publicly owned land.

The DDO is therefore redundant in these locations within the study area. The schedule to the ESO should cover these areas and be developed to ensure that development is compatible with identified environmental values.

11.3 Analysis of compatibility with existing planning controls, including the VPO1 and zones.

The current VPO1 covers the entire Reserves and all the native vegetation within it. This includes the 164 indigenous plant taxa (species, subspecies and varieties) located in the data collection and analysis component of this Study. The survey results have revealed there are many areas of significant native vegetation.

A large portion of the identified native vegetation is within areas zoned PPRZ and PCRZ and thus land designated for community assets. These public use areas allow for some types of uses and building and works as of right, which could have adverse effects on the significant vegetation. The native vegetation within the reserves is largely protected from removal by the VPO1 and under Clause 52.17. However, there are certain scenarios in which exemptions may apply allowing the removal of vegetation as listed in section 3.2.2. The VPO1s main objectives is also primarily to protect 'township vegetation' and therefore would not have as a strong focus on the wider biodiversity conservation value as would a schedule to the ESO.

The objectives and decision guidelines of the VPO1 do not protect the area from broader environmental degradation which could be considered in a potential ESO. An ESO can contain additional controls over the construction of buildings, works, fence construction, subdivision as well as the removal of vegetation. It can be used to control impacts on biodiversity from development activities other than the removal of native vegetation. Whilst the current VPO1 requires a planning permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation within the Reserves, replacing the VPO with an ESO would achieve stronger protection for the environmental values within the Reserves.

11.4 Analysis of appropriate permit triggers and exemptions.

Currently, Clause 52.12 and 52.17 provide appropriate exemptions for roadside safety and bushfire protection measures, however there are other exemptions within Clause 52.17 listed in section 3.2.2.

Under the VPO1 there are currently also exclusions for requiring a permit for example:

- The removal of vegetation which is to be carried out in conjunction with a development approved under a planning permit and in accordance with an endorsed plan.
- The removal of vegetation necessary for the construction of a dwelling, dwelling extension or outbuilding where no planning permit is required and provided that:
 - A building permit has been granted for the proposed development.
 - Vegetation is only removed from the building footprint or within 2 metres of the proposed building.



- No tree with a trunk circumference greater than 0.35 metres is removed within 6 metres of a road frontage.
- The removal of vegetation, not within a road reserve, to enable the formation of a single crossing and access driveway with a maximum width of 3.7 metres.
- The removal of vegetation which presents an immediate risk of personal injury or damage to property including the culling of single trees located within 3 metres of a dwelling or outbuilding, or which overhangs a boundary line.
- The removal of any dead timber or branch which has occurred through natural circumstances, fire or the spread of noxious weeds.
- The removal of any tree or branch of a tree which impairs the access of motor vehicles along any existing or approved access track, provided that such access track has a width no greater than 3.7 metres.
- The maintenance of landscaping, including pruning, which does not affect the stability, general form and viability of the vegetation.
- The removal of vegetation that has been established for less than 10 years and which is not required as landscaping under a planning approval.
- The removal of vegetation specified in the schedule to Clause 52.17.

If the VPO1 was replaced with an ESO in order to provide greater protection to the broader environmental values of the Reserves, exemptions within the Schedule could be applied to all for certain activities associated with sport and recreational development as well as environmental management. Council will need to balance what the permit exemptions allow for and the biodiversity outcomes they are trying to achieve in the Reserves.

Permit exemptions which may be appropriate include:

- Remove, destroy or lop vegetation that is not native vegetation.
- Remove, destroy or lop native vegetation specified in the schedule to Clause 52.17.
- Remove, destroy or lop native vegetation for the reasonable maintenance of any existing minor sport and recreation facility, education centre or office in the Public Park and Recreation Zone.
- Undertake works for shared pathways and trails undertaken by or on behalf of the public land manager provided they do not occupy more than 10 square metres.
- Remove any tree or branch of a tree which impairs the access of motor vehicles along any existing or approved access track or road.
- Maintain landscaping, including pruning, which not affect the stability, general form and viability of the vegetation. This exemption does not apply to:
 - The pruning or lopping of the trunk of a native tree; or
 - Native vegetation on a roadside.
- Remove, destroy or lop native vegetation to the minimum extent necessary to enable the carrying out of conservation works undertaken by or on behalf of the public land manager.
- A fence that is used for conservation purposes.



- The replacement of an existing fence associated with an existing minor sports and recreation facility, education centre or office so long as it is contained to the footprint of the existing fence.

11.5 Analysis of options for 'extending' existing ESOs or creating bespoke overlay schedules.

If the existing VPO1 covering the entirety of the Reserves was replaced with an existing schedule to the ESO there are a number of ESOs currently bordering the Reserves which would provide appropriate protection. This includes ESO3 which already currently protects the Balcombe Creek and the waterways that discharge to Dromana Bay and the historic Briars property and would seek to:

- To protect and conserve the environmental systems, biodiversity, native vegetation, habitat areas, land and soil stability, drainage patterns, and stream quality of this area.
- To promote the sustainable development of rural land and integrated land and catchment management, including the retention and enhancement of habitat corridors and wetlands.
- To ensure that subdivision and development density is compatible with maintaining the long term natural, agricultural and landscape values of this area.
- To promote siting and design of buildings and works that is responsive to the open rural landscape character and vistas of the area and that maintains the scenic value of roads and recreation routes.

With minor adjustments and additional exemptions to align with the sport and recreational use of the Reserves, ESO3 could be a potential consideration for expansion over the area. If this was the preferred option, consideration would be required into how any additional exemptions may impact the remainder of the area in ESO3/ allow more vegetation to be removed in those other areas than is currently permitted.

The Reserves are used for a number of purposes including sport and recreation as well as nature conservation compared to surrounding areas which are covered by existing ESO. Therefore, it could be appropriate to create a bespoke ESO for the Reserves. This would ensure the appropriate exemptions specific to this area could be integrated into the schedule, whilst still introducing greater protection for the vegetation and environmental systems.

11.6 Implications of recommended planning provisions on existing land uses.

Currently the Reserves contain significant biodiversity values. The VPO1 requires permits for native and non-native vegetation removal. The use of an ESO would strengthen the biodiversity protection and also require a permit for buildings and works. Suitable exemptions can be provided for (in the ESO) that balance Council's biodiversity outcomes and sport and recreational development requirements for the reserves. An ESO would ensure the native vegetation as well as the environmental systems, biodiversity, habitat areas, land and soil stability, drainage patterns, and stream quality is a consideration for future development within the Reserves.

In order to ensure continuation of the current land uses in existing footprints, exemptions should be considered for minor works and maintenance activities of existing infrastructure.

The introduction of an ESO schedule may restrict major sport and recreational development from extending beyond the footprints they currently exist in, depending on the extent of the development and the impact on the environmental values which would need to be considered in the ESO decision guidelines.

The introduction of an ESO for the Reserves would align with Council's commitment in the *Our Climate Emergency Response from 2020 to 2030* (2020) to cultivate more green spaces and corridors across the



peninsula, nurturing abundant indigenous vegetation and healthy wildlife by protecting the current native vegetation as it would provide greater protection for the biodiversity values.

11.7 Operational Environmental Management Plan

An Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) is a consideration to manage threats to the Reserves. An OEMP could seek to manage environmental factors (noise, dust, erosion and sediment control, waste and chemical management, weed control and flora/ fauna protection) on an ongoing basis. In doing so, the OEMP could aim to protect ecological values, ensure that no polluted water and/or sediment laden runoff is discharged directly or indirectly into waterways from current activities, and indicates options for site restoration where necessary. An OEMP could include monitoring, reporting and enforcement measures that are to be conducted on an ongoing basis. It could also include a risk assessment matrix based on the current management activities performed within the Reserves and their potential impacts. The OEMP could also include an Environmental Management Map to detail focus areas for environmental management.





12. Conclusion

This Study delivered a robust and technical strategic basis for the protection of ecological values within the Reserves. It investigates ways to balance the need of formal recreational uses with ecological values by confirming the extent of the Reserves suitable for planning protection whilst examining the appropriate land use of the site. In conclusion this study has indicated:

- Based on the significant native vegetation (52 hectares of native vegetation), documented within this Study, a bespoke ESO could be applied to the Reserves.
- The Reserves including the native vegetation and waterways contain habitat for significant fauna. A total of 108 indigenous and 10 introduced vertebrate animal species was recently recorded from the Reserves (MEES 2019) (Appendix 2). One aquatic species is nationally threatened (Dwarf Galaxias *Galaxiella pusilla*).
- The ESO should cover the whole study area due to the mapped native vegetation and significant biodiversity values within the entire area.
- Any future sport and recreational development is recommended to be proposed in areas with low/minimal ecological value (in areas not mapped as native vegetation). Any future masterplan for expansion of sporting facilities should consider the detailed ecological mapping conducted as part of this study.
- The VPO1 could be removed and replaced by the ESO to provide stronger planning protection against native vegetation removal within the Reserves.
- Certain exemptions within a schedule to the ESO associated with minor sport and recreational development would be appropriate.
- No major alterations to existing PCRZ and PPRZ are recommended. The PPRZ allows for the option to consider the expansion of sport and recreational facilities (albeit subject to the consideration of an ESO).
- Where the GRZ1 and LDRZ zoning is publicly owned land it is recommended to be rezoned PPRZ or PCRZ.
- DDO2, DDO4, DDO6 and DDO7 are redundant within the study area where land is publicly owned and not zoned for residential development. This could be covered by the ESO to protect the environmental values within these areas.
- Appropriate enforcement of the planning scheme is required to see the protection of environmental values.

Currently the Reserves contain significant biodiversity values. The VPO1 requires permits for native and non-native vegetation removal. The use of an ESO would strengthen the biodiversity protection and also require a permit for buildings and works. Suitable exemptions can be provided for (in the ESO) that balance Council's biodiversity outcomes and sport and recreational development requirements for the reserves. An ESO would ensure the native vegetation as well as the environmental systems, biodiversity, habitat areas, land and soil stability, drainage patterns, and stream quality is a consideration for future development within the Reserves.

Other recommendations



Not all impacts within the Reserves can be controlled by the planning system. In some instances, enforcement of the planning system is required. In other instances, appropriate land management practices need to be undertaken, reviewed and maintained. The following recommendations consider more land management actions then controllable through the planning system.

- Prepare an OEMP to manage certain environmental threats to the Reserves.
- Prepare a communication strategy for managing human disturbance to the Reserves.
- Develop relevant landscape guidelines in consultation with Melbourne Water and local public land managers as a reference that can be used in future developments and as part of an OEMP.
- Finalise the long-term sediment management plan for Reserves currently being prepared by Council. The plan will identify various locations of sedimentation discharge, their sources and suitable ways to control the sediment transport beyond their immediate vicinity.



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Appendix 1. Flora

A1.1 Flora

Sources: Practical Ecology (2020), 2 = additional records (this study)

Table A1.1 Indigenous flora

There are 164 records of indigenous flora.

Species	Common name
<i>Acacia longifolia</i> subsp. <i>sophorae</i>	Coast Wattle
<i>Acacia mearnsii</i>	Black Wattle
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood
<i>Acacia paradoxa</i>	Hedge Wattle
<i>Acacia verticillata</i>	Prickly Moses
<i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>	Bidgee-widgee
<i>Acrotriche serrulata</i>	Honey-pots
<i>Adiantum aethiopicum</i>	Common Maidenhair
<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	Black Sheoak
<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	Drooping Sheoak
<i>Alyxia buxifolia</i>	Sea Box
<i>Amperea xiphoclada</i> var. <i>xiphoclada</i>	Broom Spurge
<i>Amyema pendulum</i>	Drooping Mistletoe
<i>Apium prostratum</i> subsp. <i>prostratum</i>	Sea Celery
<i>Arthropodium</i> spp. (s.s.)	Vanilla Lily
<i>Arthropodium strictum</i> s.l.	Chocolate Lily
<i>Astroloma humifusum</i>	Cranberry Heath
<i>Atriplex cinerea</i>	Coast Saltbush
<i>Austrostipa flavescens</i>	Coast Spear-grass
<i>Austrostipa mollis</i>	Supple Spear-grass
<i>Austrostipa rudis</i> ²	Veined Spear-grass
<i>Austrostipa stipoides</i> (planted)	Prickly Spear-grass
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i> subsp. <i>integrifolia</i>	Coast Banksia
<i>Banksia marginata</i>	Silver Banksia
<i>Baumea juncea</i>	Bare Twig-sedge
<i>Billardiera mirabilis</i>	Common Apple-berry



Species	Common name
<i>Bolboschoenus caldwellii</i>	Salt Club-sedge
<i>Bossiaea prostrata</i>	Creeping Bossiaea
<i>Burchardia umbellata</i>	Milkmaids
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Sweet Bursaria
<i>Caesia parviflora</i>	Pale Grass Lily
<i>Caladenia carnea</i> (V. Stryder pers. comm.) ²	Pink Fingers
<i>Caladenia</i> sp.	Spider Orchid
<i>Calystegia sepium</i> subsp. <i>roseata</i>	Large Bindweed
<i>Carex appressa</i>	Tall Sedge
<i>Carex breviculmis</i>	Common Grass-sedge
<i>Carex fascicularis</i>	Tassel Sedge
<i>Cassinia aculeata</i>	Common Cassinia
<i>Cassytha pubescens</i> s.s.	Downy Dodder-laurel
<i>Chiloglottis reflexa</i> (V. Stryder pers. comm.) ²	Autumn Wasp-orchid
<i>Chiloglottis valida</i> (V. Stryder pers. comm.) ²	Common Bird-orchid
<i>Clematis microphylla</i>	Small-leaved Clematis
<i>Comesperma volubile</i>	Love Creeper
<i>Correa alba</i> var. <i>alba</i>	White Correa
<i>Correa reflexa</i>	Common Correa
<i>Corybas</i> sp. (V. Stryder pers. comm.) ²	Helmet-orchid
<i>Cotula australis</i>	Common Cotula
<i>Crassula</i> spp.	Crassula
<i>Daviesia latifolia</i>	Hop Bitter-pea
<i>Deyeuxia</i> spp.	Bent-grass
<i>Dianella brevicaulis</i>	Small-flower Flax-lily
<i>Dianella longifolia</i> var. <i>longifolia</i> s.l.	Pale Flax-lily
<i>Dianella</i> sp. ? <i>revoluta</i> (2 forms)	Coast Flax-lily
<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney-weed
<i>Dipodium</i> sp.	Hyacinth Orchid
<i>Disphyma crassifolium</i> subsp. <i>clavellatum</i>	Rounded Noon-flower
<i>Distichlis distichophylla</i>	Australian Salt-grass
<i>Diuris ?orientis</i> ²	Wallflower Orchid
<i>Drosera ?pygmaea</i>	Tiny Sundew
<i>Drosera whittakeri</i> subsp. <i>aberrans</i>	Scented Sundew



Species	Common name
<i>Enteromorpha ?intestinalis</i>	Gutweed
<i>Eucalyptus ovata</i>	Swamp Gum
<i>Eucalyptus radiata</i> s.l.	Narrow-leaf Peppermint
<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> subsp. <i>pyroriana</i>	Coast Manna-gum
<i>Euchiton japonicus</i> .	Father-and-child Plant
<i>Exocarpos cupressiformis</i>	Cherry Ballart
<i>Ficinia nodosa</i>	Knobby Club-sedge
<i>Gahnia filum</i> ²	Chaffy Saw-sedge
<i>Gahnia radula</i>	Thatch Saw-sedge
<i>Galium</i> spp.	Bedstraw
<i>Geranium</i> spp.	Crane's Bill
<i>Gonocarpus tetragynus</i>	Common Raspwort
<i>Goodenia ovata</i>	Hop Goodenia
<i>Haloragis heterophylla</i> ²	Varied Raspwort
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i> (?planted)	Purple Coral-pea
<i>Hibbertia sericea</i> s.l.	Silky Guinea-flower
<i>Hypericum gramineum</i>	Small St John's Wort
<i>Hypolepis rugosula</i> ²	Ruddy Ground-fern
<i>Juncus kraussii</i> subsp. <i>australiensis</i>	Sea Rush
<i>Juncus pallidus</i>	Pale Rush
<i>Juncus pauciflorus</i>	Loose-flower Rush
<i>Juncus subsecundus</i> ²	Finger Rush
<i>Kennedia prostrata</i>	Running Postman
<i>Kunzea leptospermoides</i> (upright form)	Burgan
<i>Lachnagrostis filiformis</i>	Common Blown-grass
<i>Lagenophora stipitata</i>	Common Bottle-daisy
<i>Lepidosperma sieberi</i>	Sandhill Sword-sedge
<i>Lepidosperma gladiatum</i>	Coast Sword-sedge
<i>Lepidosperma gunnii</i>	Slender Sword-sedge
<i>Lepidosperma laeve</i> ²	Clustered Sword-sedge
<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i> var. <i>laterale</i>	Variable Sword-sedge
<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i> var. <i>majus</i>	Variable Sword-sedge
<i>Lepidosperma</i> spp.	Sword Sedge
<i>Leptinella</i> sp. ? <i>reptans</i> = <i>longipes</i>	Coast Cotula



Species	Common name
<i>Leptospermum continentale</i>	Prickly Tea-tree
<i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i>	Coast Tea-tree
<i>Leucopogon parviflorus</i>	Coast Beard-heath
<i>Lobelia anceps</i>	Angled Lobelia
<i>Lomandra filiformis</i> subsp. <i>coriacea</i>	Wattle Mat-rush
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat-rush
<i>Lomandra ?longifolia</i> subsp. <i>exilis</i>	Cluster-headed Mat-rush
<i>Lomandra micrantha</i> s.l.	Small-flower Mat-rush
<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	Swamp Paperbark
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i> var. <i>stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass
<i>Muehlenbeckia adpressa</i>	Climbing Lignum
<i>Muellerina eucalyptoides</i>	Creeping Mistletoe
<i>Myoporum insulare</i>	Common Boobialla
<i>Myoporum viscosum</i>	Sticky Boobialla
<i>Olearia axillaris</i> (?planted)	Coast Daisy-Bush
<i>Olearia lirata</i>	Snowy Daisy-bush
<i>Olearia ramulosa</i>	Twiggy Daisy-bush
<i>Oxalis exilis</i>	Shady Wood-sorrel
<i>Oxalis rubens</i>	Dune Wood-sorrel
<i>Ozothamnus ferrugineus</i>	Tree Everlasting
<i>Ozothamnus turbinatus</i> (?planted)	Coast Everlasting
<i>Pelargonium australe</i>	Austral Stork's-bill
<i>Pelargonium inodorum</i>	Kopata
<i>Persicaria</i> spp.	Knotweed
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed
<i>Pimelea humilis</i>	Common Rice-flower
<i>Poa labillardierei</i>	Common Tussock-grass
<i>Poa ?morrissii</i> (mown)	Soft Tussock-grass
<i>Poa poiformis</i> (2 forms blue & green)	Coast Tussock-grass
<i>Poa sieberiana</i>	Grey Tussock-grass
<i>Polystichum proliferum</i>	Mother Shield-fern
<i>Pomaderris paniculosa</i> subsp. <i>paralia</i>	Coast Pomaderris
<i>Poranthera microphylla</i>	Small Poranthera
<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Common Purslane



Species	Common name
<i>Pseudognaphalium luteoalbum</i>	Jersey Cudweed
<i>Pteris tremula</i>	Tender Brake
<i>Pterostylis concinna</i> (V. Stryder pers. comm.) ²	Trim Greenhood
<i>Pterostylis nutans</i>	Nodding Greenhood
<i>Pterostylis</i> spp.	Greenhood
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.	Buttercup
<i>Rubus parvifolius</i>	Small-leaf Bramble
<i>Roepera billardiarei</i> (planted)	Coast Twin-leaf
<i>Rumex brownii</i>	Slender Dock
<i>Rytidosperma caespitosum</i>	Common Wallaby-grass
<i>Rytidosperma geniculatum</i> ²	Knead Wallaby-grass
<i>Rytidosperma racemosum</i> ²	Slender Wallaby-grass
<i>Rytidosperma setaceum</i>	Bristly Wallaby-grass
<i>Rytidosperma</i> spp.	Wallaby Grass
<i>Samolus repens</i>	Creeping Brookweed
<i>Salicornia quinqueflora</i> subsp. <i>quinqueflora</i>	Beaded Glasswort
<i>Schoenus apogon</i>	Common Bog-sedge
<i>Selliera radicans</i>	Shiny Swamp-mat
<i>Senecio biserratus</i>	Jagged Fireweed
<i>Senecio glomeratus</i>	Annual Fireweed
<i>Senecio minimus</i>	Shrubby Fireweed
<i>Senecio odoratus</i> var. <i>odoratus</i>	Scented Groundsel
<i>Senecio quadridentatus</i>	Cotton Fireweed
<i>Solanum laciniatum</i>	Large Kangaroo Apple
<i>Solanum</i> spp.	Nightshade
<i>Sonchus hydrophilus</i>	Native Sow-thistle
<i>Sporobolus virginicus</i>	Salt Couch
<i>Suaeda australis</i>	Austral Seablite
<i>Tetragonia implexicoma</i>	Bower Spinach
<i>Thelymitra</i> spp.	Sun Orchid
<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo Grass
<i>Thysanotus patersonii</i>	Twining Fringe Lily
<i>Tricoryne elatior</i>	Yellow Grass Lily
<i>Viminaria juncea</i> (?planted)	Golden Spray



Species	Common name
<i>Viola hederacea</i> sensu Thiele & Prober	Ivy-leaf Violet
<i>Xanthorrhoea minor</i> subsp. <i>lutea</i>	Small Grass-tree



Appendix 2. Fauna

A2.1 Fauna

Abbreviations:

Code	Meaning	Reference
National listings (EPBC Act)		
EX	Extinct	Commonwealth <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act)
CR	Critically endangered	
EN	Endangered	
VU	Vulnerable	
NT	Near threatened	
CD	Conservation dependent	
PMST	Protected Matters Search Tool	
State listings (FFG Act)		
x	Extinct	Victorian <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> (FFG Act)
cr	Critically endangered	
e	Endangered	
v	Vulnerable	
t	Threatened	
P	Protected (fish only)	

Table A2.1 Vertebrate fauna (MEES 2019)

Significance	Status	Species	Common name	Status in Reserves
National				
Fish	VUeP	<i>Galaxiella pusilla</i>	Dwarf Galaxias	Rare
State				
Reptile	e	<i>Pseudemoia rawlinsoni</i>	Glossy Grass Skink	Uncommon
Frog	e	<i>Pseudophryne semimarmorata</i>	Southern Toadlet	Uncommon
Bird	v	<i>Lewinia pectoralis</i>	Lewin's Rail	Rare
Bird	v	<i>Ardea modesta</i>	Eastern Great Egret	Rare
Bird	v	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	White-throated Needletail	Rare
Non-listed species				



Significance	Status	Species	Common name	Status in Reserves
Marsupial		<i>Tachyglossus aculeatus</i>	Short-beaked Echidna	Rare
Marsupial		<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	Common Brushtail Possum	Uncommon
Marsupial		<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	Common Ringtail Possum	Common
Marsupial		<i>Petaurus breviceps</i>	Sugar Glider	Uncommon
Marsupial		<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	Koala	Rare
Marsupial		<i>Wallabia bicolor</i>	Black Wallaby	Rare
Rodent		<i>Rattus lutreolus ssp. lutreolus</i>	Swamp Rat	Common
Bat		<i>Tadarida australis</i>	White-striped Freetail Bat	Uncommon
Bat		<i>Chalinolobus gouldii</i>	Gould's Wattled Bat	Common
Bat		<i>Nyctophilus geoffreyi</i>	Lesser Long-eared Bat	Rare
Bat		<i>Vespadelus darlingtoni</i>	Large Forest Bat	Uncommon
Bat		<i>Vespadelus vulturinus</i>	Little Forest Bat	Common
Int. mammal		* <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	European Rabbit	Rare
Int. mammal		* <i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Red Fox	Common
Int. mammal		* <i>Felis catus</i>	Feral Cat	Common
Int. mammal		* <i>Rattus rattus</i>	Black Rat	Common
Int. mammal		* <i>Mus musculus</i>	House Mouse	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Aquila audax</i>	Wedge-tailed Eagle	Rare
Bird		<i>Calyptorhynchus funereus</i>	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Glossopsitta concinna</i>	Musk Lorikeet	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Alisterus scapularis</i>	Australian King Parrot	Rare
Bird		<i>Melithreptus lunatus</i>	White-napped Honeyeater	Rare
Bird		<i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i>	Rufous Whistler	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos</i>	Little Pied Cormorant	Common at times
Bird		<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Great Cormorant	Rare
Bird		<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	Little Black Cormorant	Common at times
Bird		<i>Phalacrocorax varius</i>	Pied Cormorant	Rare
Bird		<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>	Nankeen Night Heron	Rare
Bird		<i>Poliocephalus poliocephalus</i>	Hoary-headed Grebe	Rare
Bird		<i>Anas superciliosa</i>	Pacific Black Duck	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Anas castanea</i>	Chestnut Teal	Common at times
Bird		<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	Australian Wood Duck	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i>	Dusky Moorhen	Common
Bird		<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	Purple Swamphen	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Fulica atra</i>	Eurasian Coot	Uncommon



Significance	Status	Species	Common name	Status in Reserves
Bird		<i>Platalea regia</i>	Royal Spoonbill	Rare
Bird		<i>Egretta novaehollandiae</i>	White-faced Heron	Rare
Bird		<i>Threskiornis molucca</i>	Australian White Ibis	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Threskiornis spinicollis</i>	Straw-necked Ibis	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Vanellus miles</i>	Masked Lapwing	Rare
Bird		<i>Larus pacificus</i>	Pacific Gull	Rare
Bird		<i>Larus novaehollandiae</i>	Silver Gull	Common to abundant
Bird		<i>Accipiter fasciatus</i>	Brown Goshawk	Rare
Bird		<i>Eolophus roseicapillus</i>	Galah	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Cacatua sanguinea</i>	Little Corella	Common
Bird		<i>Cacatua galerita</i>	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>	Rainbow Lorikeet	Common
Bird		<i>Platycercus elegans</i>	Crimson Rosella	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Platycercus eximius</i>	Eastern Rosella	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Cacomantis flabelliformis</i>	Fantail Cuckoo	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Chalcites lucidus</i>	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Podargus strigoides</i>	Tawny Frogmouth	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Dacelo novaehollandiae</i>	Laughing Kookaburra	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Malurus cyaneus</i>	Superb Fairy-wren	Common
Bird		<i>Pardalotus punctatus</i>	Spotted Pardalote	Common
Bird		<i>Sericornis frontalis</i>	White-browed Scrubwren	Common
Bird		<i>Acanthiza pusilla</i>	Brown Thornbill	Common
Bird		<i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>	Red Wattlebird	Common
Bird		<i>Anthochaera chrysoptera</i>	Little Wattlebird	Common
Bird		<i>Manorina melanocephala</i>	Noisy Miner	Common
Bird		<i>Lichenostomus chrysops</i>	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Lichenostomus penicillatus</i>	White-plumed Honeyeater	Rare
Bird		<i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i>	New Holland Honeyeater	Common
Bird		<i>Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris</i>	Eastern Spinebill	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Colluricincla harmonica</i>	Grey Shrike Thrush	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Pachycephala pectoralis</i>	Golden Whistler	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa</i>	Grey Fantail	Common
Bird		<i>Grallina cyanoleura</i>	Magpie-lark	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Rare
Bird		<i>Cracticus torquatus</i>	Grey Butcherbird	Uncommon

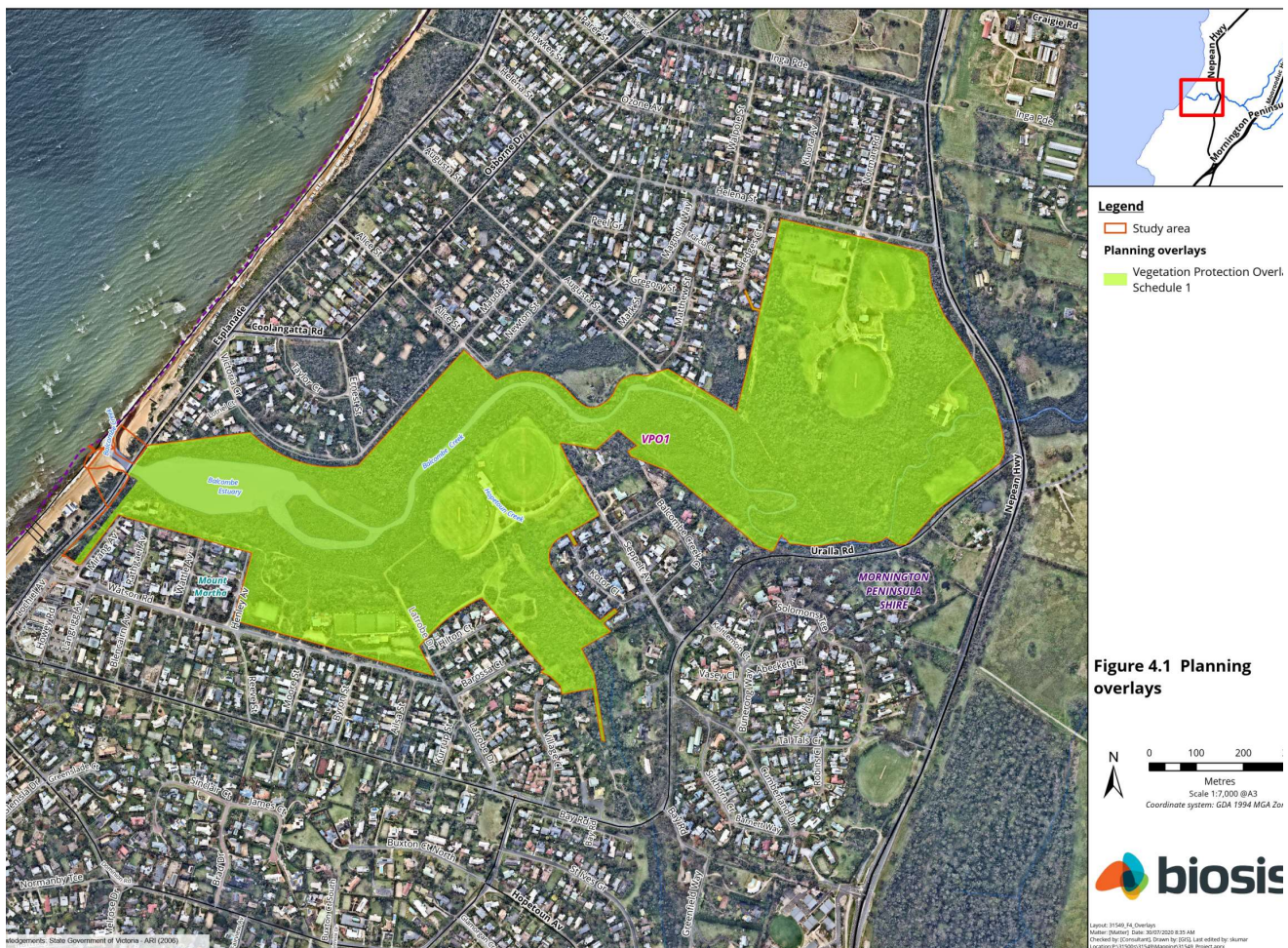


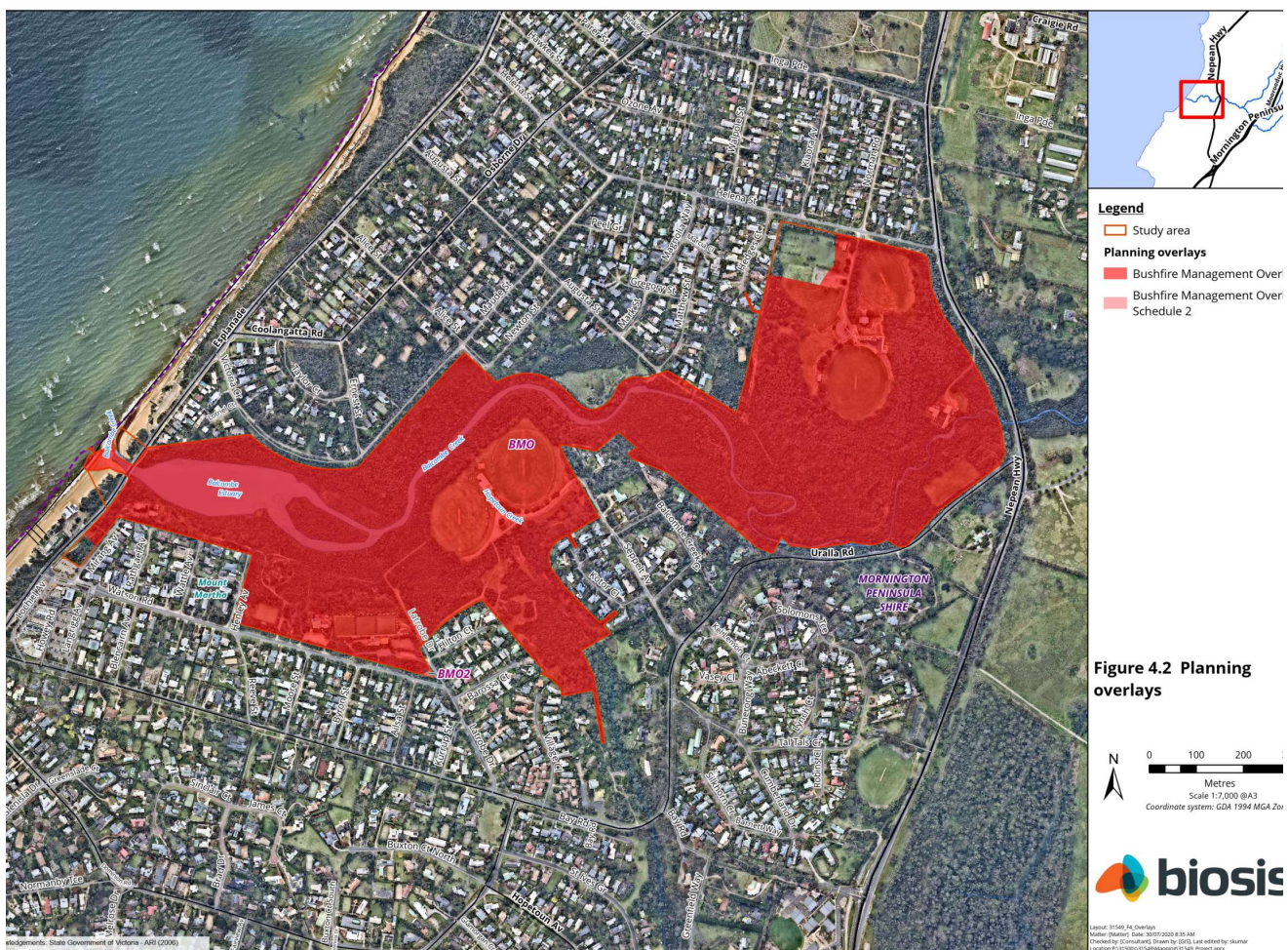
Significance	Status	Species	Common name	Status in Reserves
Bird		<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	Australian Magpie	Common
Bird		<i>Strepera graculina</i>	Pied Currawong	Rare vagrant
Bird		<i>Corvus coronoides</i>	Australian Raven	Common
Bird		<i>Corvus mellori</i>	Little Raven	Uncommon
Bird		<i>Hirundo neoxena</i>	Welcome Swallow	Common
Bird		<i>Zosterops lateralis</i>	Silvereye	Common
Bird		<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	Darter	Rare
Bird		<i>Acanthiza lineata</i>	Striated Thornbill	Rare
Bird		<i>Melithreptus brevirostris</i>	Brown-headed Honeyeater	Rare
Bird		<i>Eopsaltria australis</i>	Eastern Yellow Robin	Uncommon
Int. bird		* <i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	Spotted Turtle-Dove	Common
Int. bird		* <i>Turdus merula</i>	Common Blackbird	Common
Int. bird		* <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Common Starling	Common
Int. bird		* <i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Common Myna	Common
Reptile		<i>Chelodina longicollis</i>	Eastern Snake-necked Turtle	Rare
Reptile		<i>Austrelaps superbus</i>	Lowland Copperhead	Uncommon
Reptile		<i>Acritoscincus duperreyi</i>	Eastern Three-lined Skink	Uncommon
Reptile		<i>Lampropholis guichenoti</i>	Garden Skink	Uncommon
Reptile		<i>Saproscincus mustelinus</i>	Weasel Skink	Common
Reptile		<i>Tiliqua nigrolutea</i>	Blotched Blue-tongue	Uncommon
Reptile		<i>Drysdalia coronoides</i>	White-lipped Snake	Uncommon
Reptile		<i>Eulamprus tympanum</i>	Southern Water Skink	Rare
Reptile		<i>Lampropholis delicata</i>	Delicate Skink	Rare
Reptile		<i>Carinascincus metallicus</i>	Metallic Skink	Uncommon
Frog		<i>Crinia signifera</i>	Common Froglet	Common
Frog		<i>Limnodynastes dumerilii</i>	Southern Bullfrog	Uncommon
Frog		<i>Limnodynastes tasmaniensis</i>	Spotted Marsh Frog	Uncommon
Frog		<i>Litoria ewingii</i>	Southern Brown Tree Frog	Common
Frog		<i>Litoria verreauxii</i>	Verreaux's Tree Frog	Uncommon
Fish		<i>Philypnodon grandiceps</i>	Flat-headed Gudgeon	Uncommon
Fish		<i>Pseudogobius olorum</i>	Blue-spot Goby	Rare
Fish		<i>Arenigobius bifrenatus</i>	Bridled Goby	Rare
Fish		<i>Rhombosolea tapirina</i>	Greenback	Uncommon
Fish		<i>Favonigobius lateralis</i>	Long-finned Goby	Uncommon
Fish		<i>Anguilla australis</i>	Short-fined Eel	Common

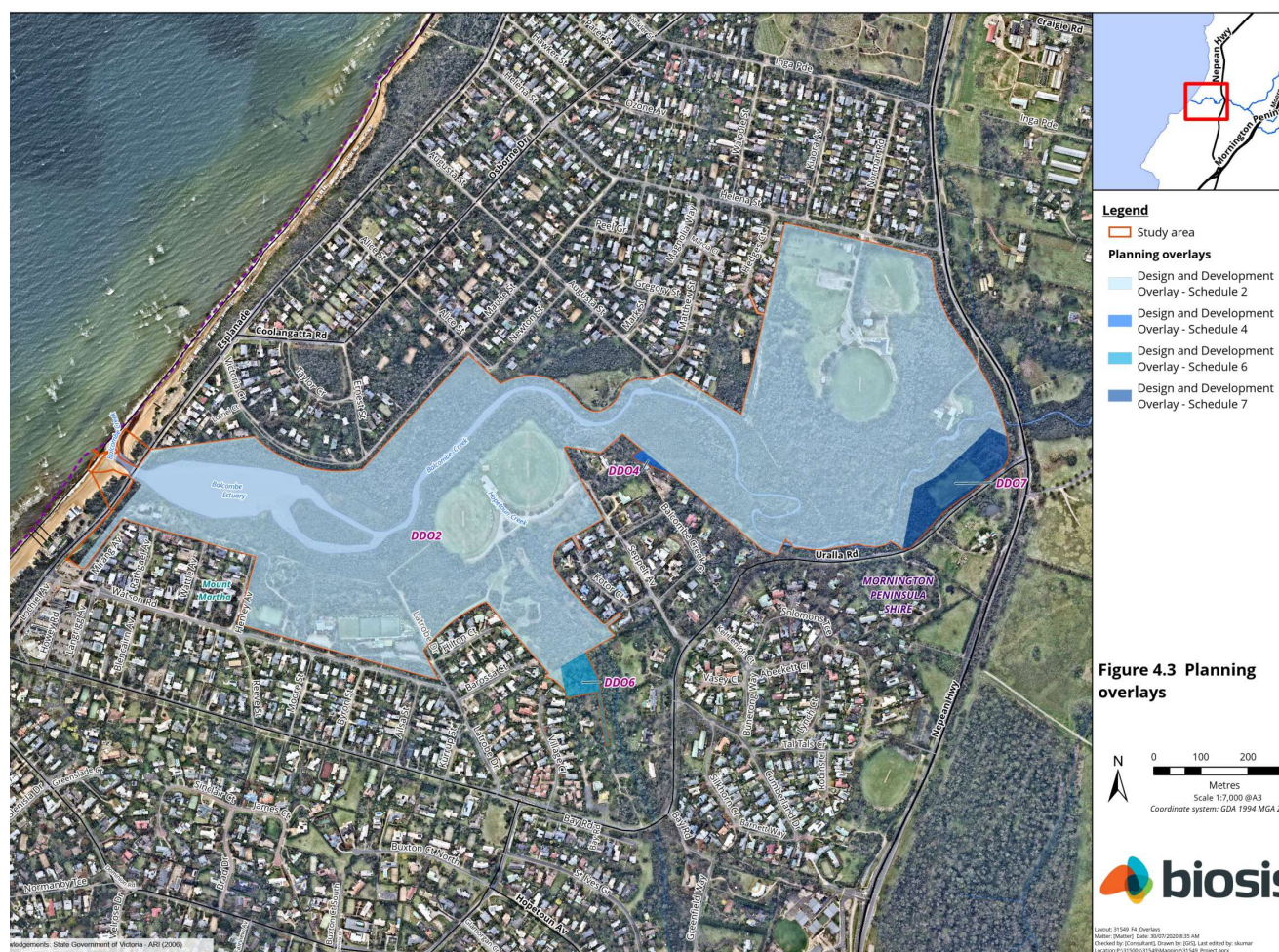


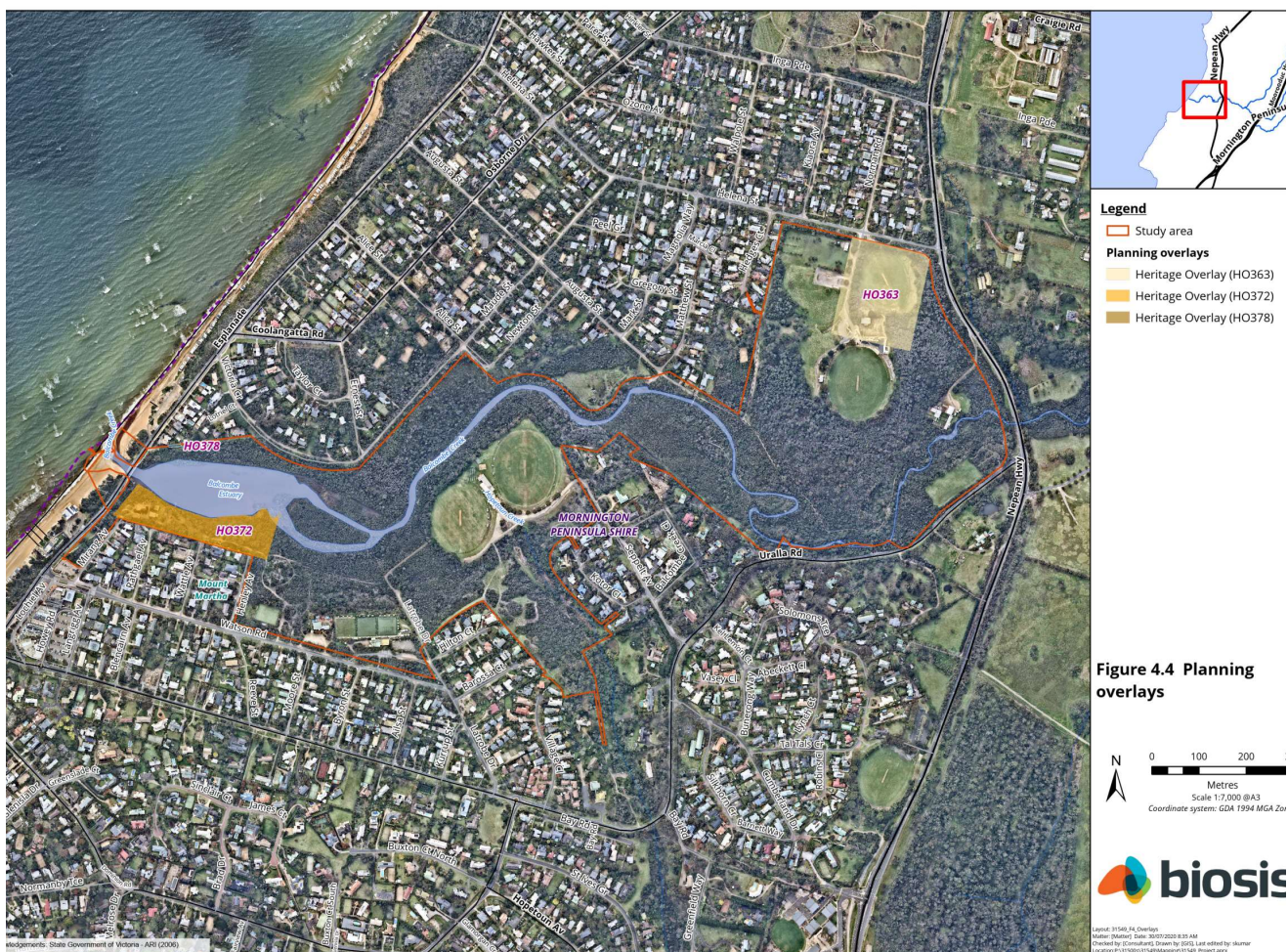
Significance	Status	Species	Common name	Status in Reserves
Fish		<i>Galaxias maculatus</i>	Common Galaxias	Common
Fish		<i>Aldrichetta forsteri</i>	Yellow-eyed Mullet	Common
Fish		<i>Acanthopagrus butcheri</i>	Black Bream	Common
Fish		<i>Tetractenos glaber</i>	Smooth Toadfish	Common
Fish		<i>Galaxias truttaceus</i>	Spotted Galaxias	Uncommon
Fish		<i>Nannoperca australis</i>	Southern Pygmy perch	Rare
Int. fish		* <i>Gambusia affinis</i>	*Eastern Gambusia	Rare











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SCHEDULE 32 TO CLAUSE 42.01 ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **ESO32**

BALCOMBE ESTUARY AND ASSOCIATED RESERVES

1.0 Statement of environmental significance

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Balcombe Estuary and associated Reserves (Reserves) are located in Mount Martha on the Mornington Peninsula. Balcombe Creek flows through the Reserves and forms an estuary which intermittently opens to the Port Phillip Bay. The Balcombe Creek Estuary is a major waterway for the Westernport and Mornington Peninsula Region.

The Reserves support a range of critically important ecological values including indigenous flora and fauna. The Reserves contain 51.7 hectares of native vegetation and a recorded total of 164 indigenous plant taxa (species, subspecies and varieties). Many of these communities and species are protected under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (Victoria) and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Commonwealth). The protection of ecological communities and species recorded is important in conserving the Reserves.

The significant identified ecological values of the Reserves include patch native vegetation communities and mammals, reptiles, amphibians and birds that are variously listed. These patch native ecological vegetation classes notably include:

- Coast Banksia Woodland EVC 2
- Coastal Dune Grassland EVC 879
- Coastal Saltmarsh EVC 9
- Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland EVC 3
- Estuarine Reedbed EVC 952
- Estuarine Scrub EVC 953
- Estuarine Wetland EVC 10
- Grassy Woodland EVC 175
- Reed Swamp EVC 300
- Swamp Scrub EVC 53

The Reserves comprise public open space areas that serve as minor sports and recreation uses (formal and informal), community uses and areas of conservation.

Regulation of development and works within the Reserves is necessary to protect and maintain its ecological values and environmental systems whilst still allowing reasonable use of the area for formal and informal sports and recreation uses and community facilities.

Particular threats to the Balcombe Creek Estuary and Reserves include decline in native vegetation and habitat areas, water quality, land and soil stability, and accelerated sedimentation discharge.

2.0 Environmental objective to be achieved

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To protect and enhance the ecological values, systems and character of the Reserves.

3.0 Permit requirement

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A permit is not required to:

- Remove, destroy or lop vegetation that is not native vegetation.
- Remove, destroy or lop native vegetation specified in the schedule to Clause 52.17.

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- Remove, destroy or lop native vegetation for the reasonable maintenance of any existing minor sport and recreation facility, education centre or office in the Public Park and Recreation Zone.
- Undertake works for shared pathways and trails undertaken by or on behalf of the public land manager provided they do not occupy more than 10 square metres.
- Remove any tree or branch of a tree which impairs the access of motor vehicles along any existing or approved access track or road.
- Maintain landscaping, including pruning, which does not affect the stability, general form and viability of the vegetation. This exemption does not apply to:
 - The pruning or lopping of the trunk of a native tree; or
 - Native vegetation on a roadside.
- Remove, destroy or lop native vegetation to the minimum extent necessary to enable the carrying out of conservation works undertaken by or on behalf of the public land manager.

A permit is required to construct a fence. This does not apply to:

- A fence that is used for conservation purposes.
- The replacement of an existing fence associated with an existing minor sports and recreation facility, education centre or office so long as it is contained to the footprint of the existing fence.

4.0 Application requirements

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The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- A Flora and Fauna Assessment which considers the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act* 1988 and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, and includes but is not limited to:
 - The ecological values in relation to the proposal.
 - The significance of the identified ecological values.
 - The impacts of the proposal against the identified ecological values.
 - How the proposal has avoided and minimised impacts to these values to the maximum extent that is reasonable and practical including the mitigation of lighting impacts on flora and fauna particularly in respect to aquatic ecology.
- A Site Environmental Management Plan that describes measures to avoid or mitigate impacts to the ecological values of the Reserves during construction or carrying out works in relation to the proposal.
- A Land Management Plan which identifies appropriate ongoing measures for the continued protection of the ecological values of the Balcombe Reserves effected by the proposal, including:
 - Maintaining water quality in accordance with any best practice environmental management guidelines for stormwater adopted by the Environment Protection Authority (specific objectives relate to total nitrogen; total phosphorous; suspended solids; gross pollutants and flow) with further consideration for other contaminants, hydrocarbons, heavy metals, and other toxicants as required.
 - Specifying measures to protect and improve the condition of native habitat, including proposals for revegetation, indicating proposed species, methods of ground stabilisation and measures to prevent or manage invasion by environmental weeds.
 - Specifying a monitoring and maintenance schedule.
 - Mitigating lighting impacts on flora and fauna particularly in respect to aquatic ecology provided relevant lighting standards for the minor sports and recreation facility are adhered to.

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- Notice must be given for every application relating to earthworks and native vegetation removal in accordance with Section 52(1)(c) of the Act to the person or body specified in Clause 66.06 or a schedule to that Clause.

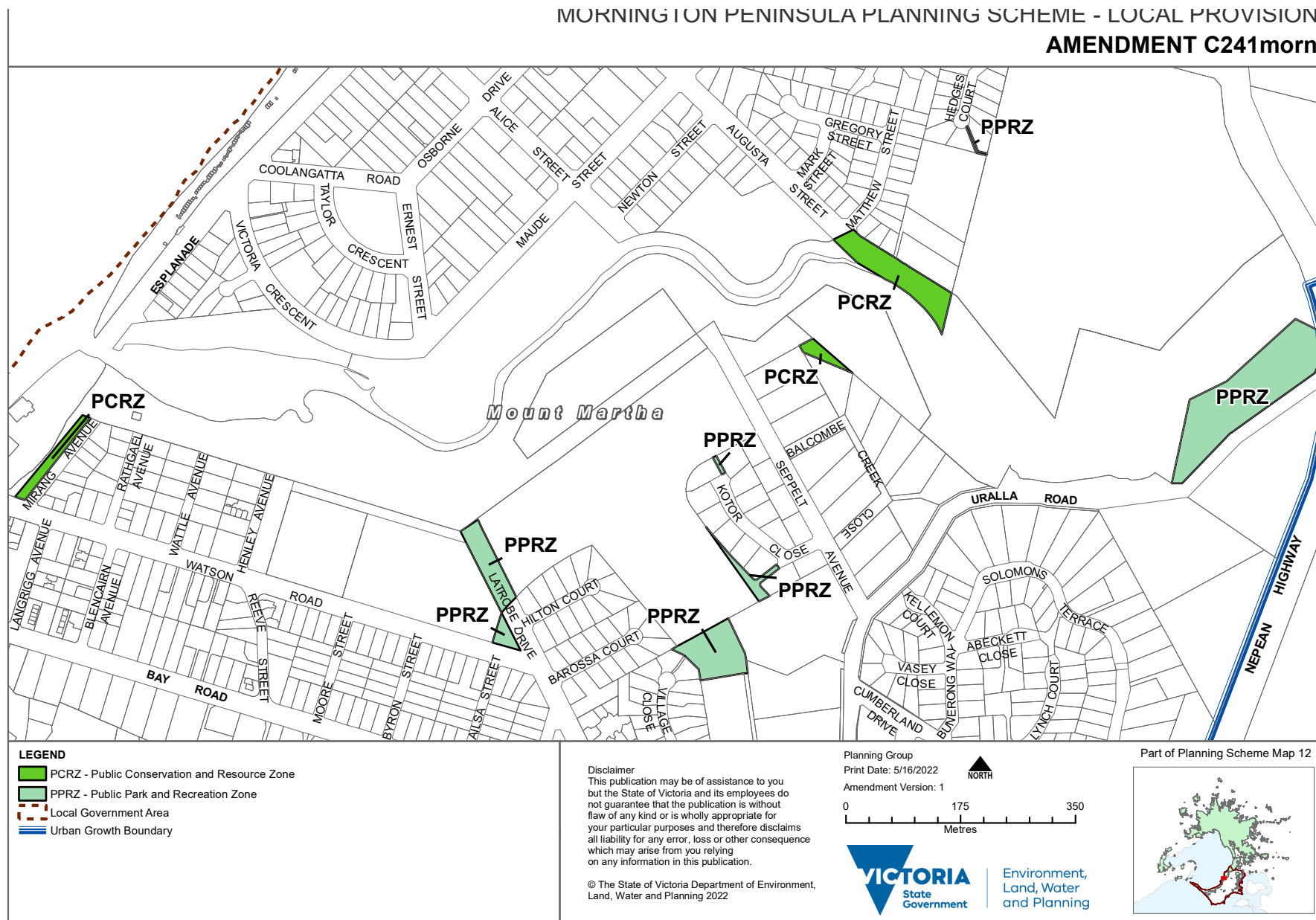
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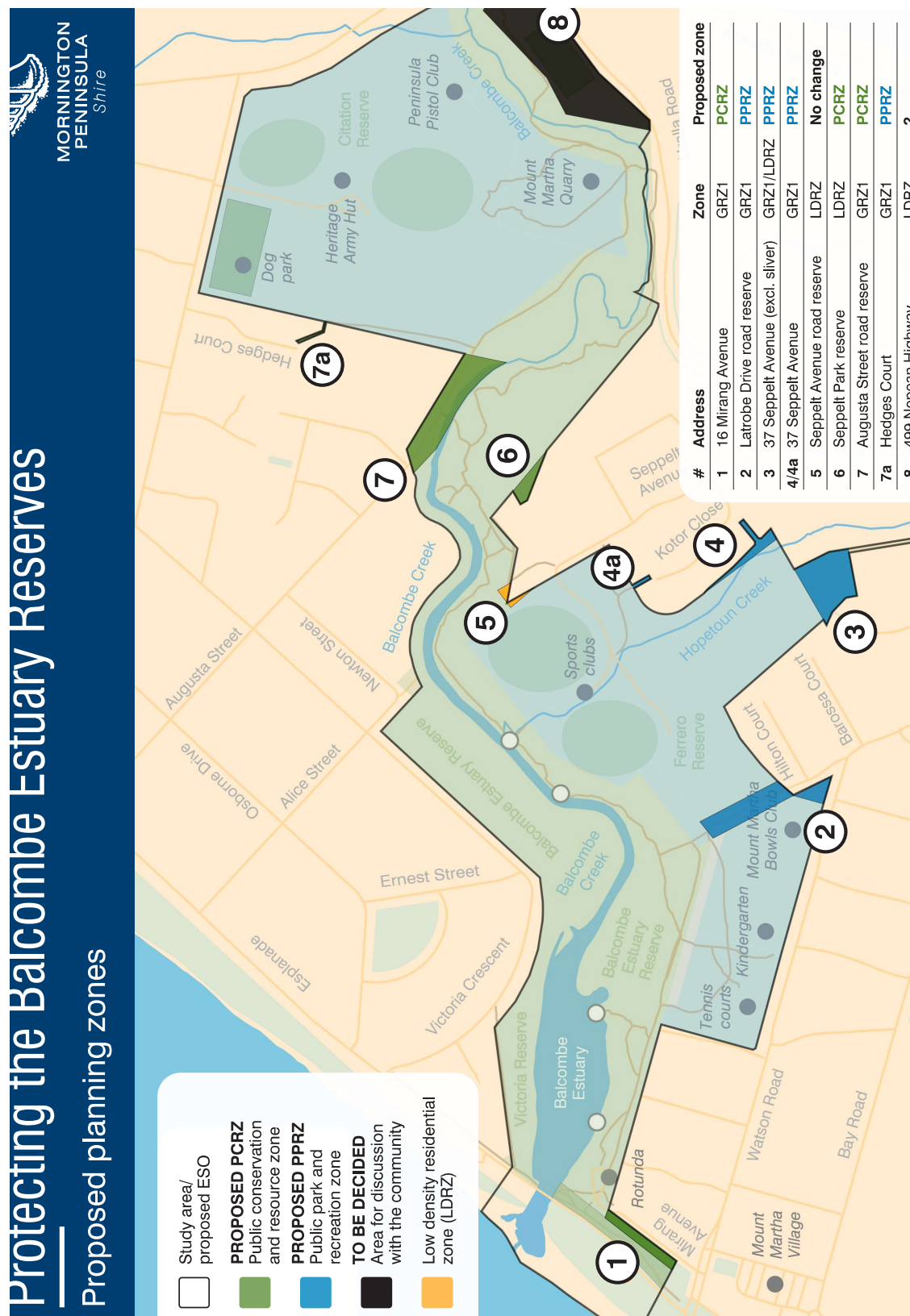
Decision guidelines

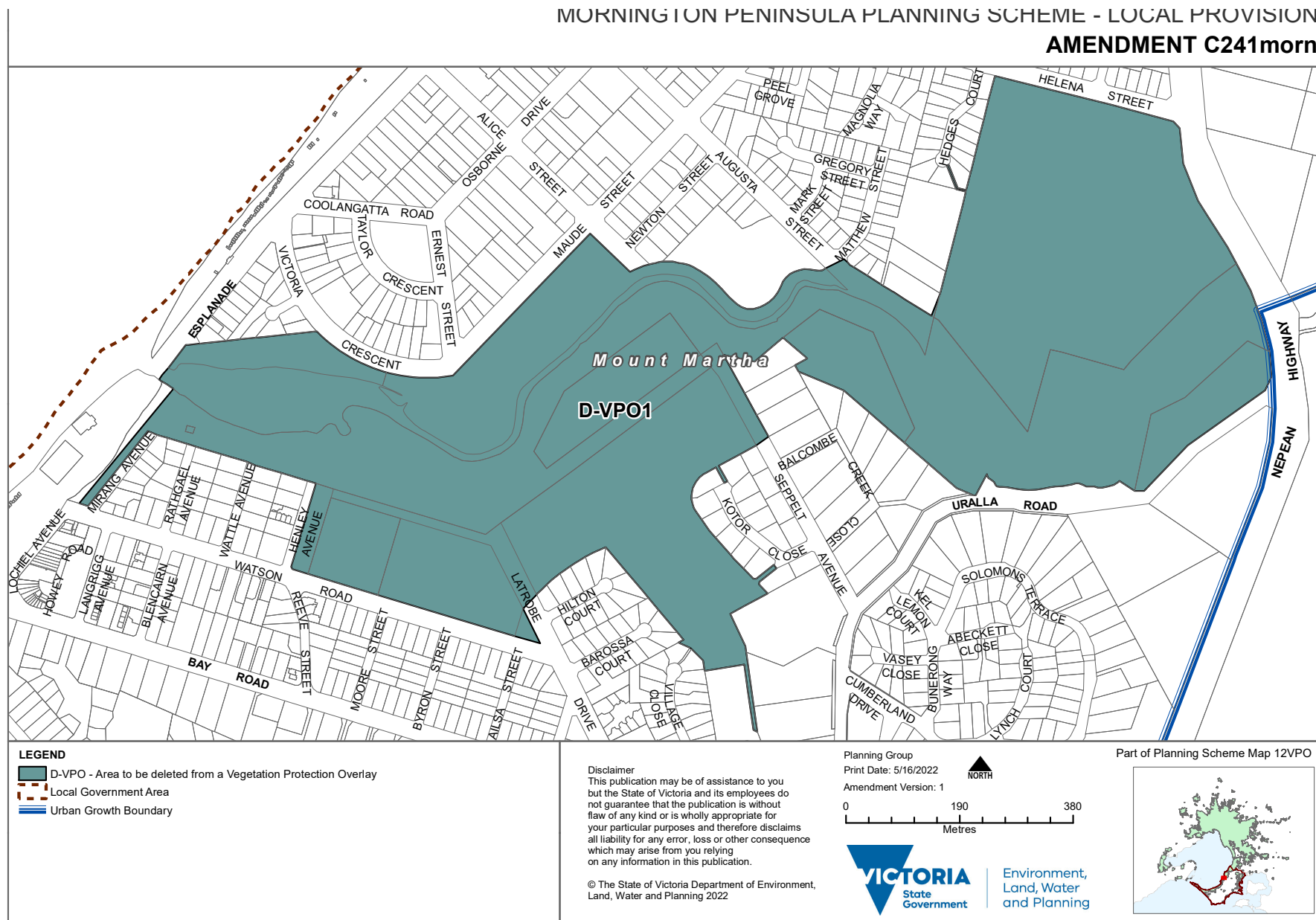
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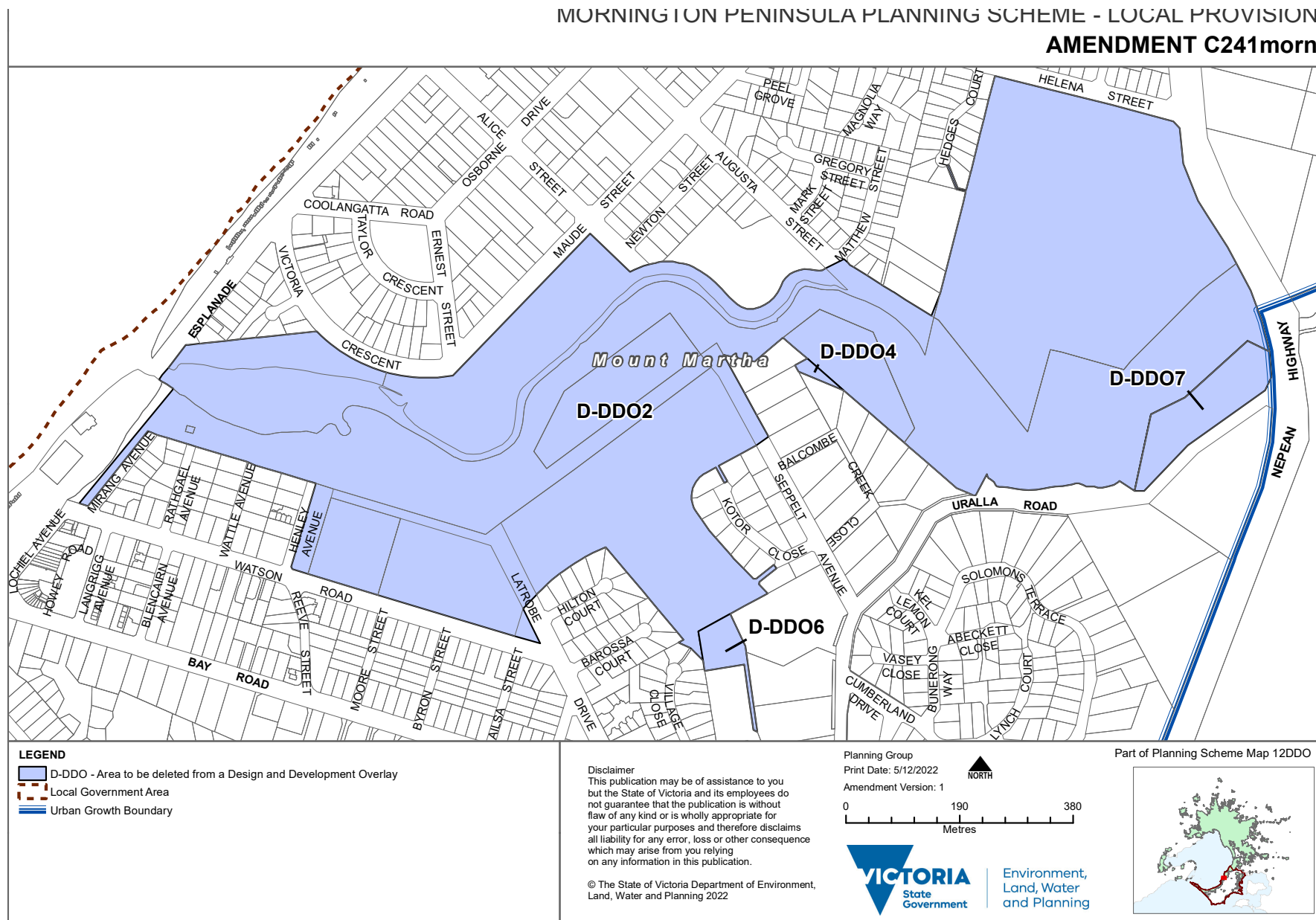
The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.01, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.01 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- Whether the environmental objectives of this schedule have been met.
- Whether the proposal impacts the ecological values including vegetation, water quality, habitat and the waterway.
- Whether the botanical and habitat value of the native vegetation to be removed in terms of physical condition, rarity or diversity has been considered. This includes recognition of the role of dead vegetation and tree hollows in providing habitat.
- Whether the extent to which the removal of vegetation is necessary to achieve proper fire management and manage environmental weeds.
- Whether there is any likely effect of any clearing on the habitat value and long term viability of remnant bushland areas.
- Whether there is benefit of requiring conditions for planting or replanting or other treatment of any part of the land, including the opportunity to achieve a net increase in the area of native vegetation.
- Whether appropriate species are selected for landscaping, having regard to the environmental value of the Reserves.
- Whether any relevant regional catchment strategy or regional vegetation plan applies to the Reserves.
- Whether the development is reasonably required to support the ongoing viability of existing formal and informal sports and recreation uses or community uses within the Reserves.
- Whether the development balances the ecological values of the Reserves and the reasonable use of formal and informal sports and recreation uses and community facilities.
- Whether the siting and design of buildings and works, is responsiveness to:
 - the ecological values of the Reserves; and
 - avoiding the removal of remnant native vegetation, including the disturbance of root zones
- Whether the lighting impacts the ecological values of the Reserves.









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31/07/2018
VC148

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 72.08 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

1.0

Background documents

48/03/2022 --/--/----
G224morn Proposed C241morn

Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
<i>A Landscape Assessment of the Southern Mornington Peninsula</i> (Centre for Environmental Studies, University of Melbourne, 1974)	NPS1 Clauses 02.03-3, 42.01s01 to s16 and 42.03s05
<i>A Natural Systems Study of the Southern Mornington Peninsula, Victoria</i> (Environment Resources Australia, 1974)	NPS1 Clause 02.03-3 and 42.01s01 to s16
<i>Balcombe Estuary Reserves: Ecological and Planning Study</i> (Biosis, 2022)	C241morn Clauses 42.01s32 and 66.06s
<i>Beleura Hill Design Guidelines</i> (Tract Consultants, 2015)	C189morn Clause 43.02s24
<i>Beleura Hill Neighbourhood Character Study</i> (Tract Consultants, 2014)	C189morn Clause43.02s24
<i>Citation for 818 The Esplanade, Mornington for Panel Hearing Amendment C90</i> (Heritage Intelligence, 2008)	C174morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>City of Frankston Heritage Study, Volume One: Recommendations and Guidelines</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, C. McConville, F. Gilfedder & D. Morrison, 1995)	C006morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>City of Frankston Heritage Study, Volume Two: Environmental History</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, C. McConville, F. Gilfedder & D. Morrison, 1995)	C006morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>City of Frankston Heritage Study, Volume Three: Significant Sites</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, C. McConville, F. Gilfedder & D. Morrison, 1995)	C006morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Conservation Plan Mornington Peninsula</i> (Western Port Regional Planning Authority, 1975)	NPS1 Clauses 02.03-3, 14.01-2L, 42.01s01 to s16 and 42.01s24.
<i>Draft Chinamans Creek Catchment Study</i> (Pat Condina & Associates, 1997)	C150morn Clause 02.03-3
<i>Dromana Township Project Report</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2021)	C224morn Schedule 29 to Clause 43.02
<i>Flinders Village Centre: Design Guidelines for New Development</i> (Mornington Peninsula Shire, 2010)	C101morn Clause 43.02s14

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Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
<i>Former Mornington King George V Memorial Bush Nursing Hospital & Infant Welfare Centre Heritage Assessment, 262-268 Main Street, Mornington, Victoria (Lovell Chen, 2015)</i>	C174morn(Part 1) Clause 43.01s
<i>Geotechnical Assessment of Landslip Susceptibility and Investigation Zoning, Flinders Foreshore, Mornington Peninsula (LanePiper, 2008)</i>	C105morn Clause 13.04-2L
<i>Geotechnical Assessment of Slope Stability, Tanti Creek, Mornington (LanePiper, 2010)</i>	C105morn Clause 13.04-2L
<i>'Guideline for Landslide Susceptibility, Hazard and Risk Zoning for Land Use Management', Australian Geomechanics Journal, Vol. 42, No. 1 (Australian Geomechanics Society Landslide Zoning Working Group, 2007)</i>	C105morn Clause 13.04-2L
<i>Hastings District Heritage Study, Volume 1: Heritage Place Reports, Project Methods, Recommendations (Graeme Butler & Associates, 2002)</i>	C035morn Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Hastings District Heritage Study, Volume 2: Environmental History (Graeme Butler & Associates, 2002)</i>	C035morn Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Hastings Town Centre Structure Plan (Planisphere, 2017)</i>	C190morn Clause 11.03-1L
<i>Hastings Urban Industrial Zones Review (Western Port Development Council, 1990)</i>	C004morn Clauses 17.03-1L and 17.03-2L
<i>Heritage Assessment: 187 Mount Eliza Way, Mount Eliza (Heritage Intelligence, 2009)</i>	C174morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Citation: 118 Salmon Street, Hastings (Context, 2017)</i>	C214morn Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Citation: 4-6 Rannoch Avenue, Mount Eliza (Mornington Peninsula Shire, 2013)</i>	C170morn Clause 43.01s
<i>Heritage Citation: 95 Salmon Street, Hastings (Context, 2017)</i>	C214morn Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Impact Statement: Former Carrington Park Club House, 40-52 Elizabeth Drive, Rosebud, Appendix A (Lovell Chen, 2014)</i>	C197morn Clause 43.04s22
<i>Heritage Report: Hastings Uniting Church Chapel, 121 Marine Parade, Hastings (Context, 2017)</i>	C214morn Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Report: Pentecost House, Now Mornington Toy Library, 8 Albert Street, Mornington (Graeme Butler & Associates, 2003)</i>	C174morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Report: St Macartan's Former School and Convent Site, 17-31 Tanti Avenue, Mornington (Heritage Intelligence, 2009)</i>	C109morn

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Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
	Clause 43.01s
<i>Landscape Issues Report: Tower Road, Mount Eliza</i> (Wallbrink Consulting, 2004)	C042morn Clause 43.02s11
<i>Landslide Zoning, Ballar Creek, Mount Eliza, Victoria</i> (Coffey Geosciences, 2000)	C017morn Clauses 02.03-3 and 13.04-2L
<i>Mornington Activity Centre Structure Plan: A Plan for a Coastal Town</i> (Ratio Consultants, 2007)	C095morn Clauses 11.03-1L and 43.01s13
<i>Mornington Commercial Heritage Precinct and Individual Places</i> (Heritage Intelligence, 2011)	C135morn(Part 2) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Mornington North Outline Development Plan</i> (Mornington Peninsula Shire, 2013)	C135morn(Part 2) Clauses 11.03-6L, 43.02s22 and 43.04s19
<i>Mornington Peninsula Activity Centres Strategy</i> (Ratio Consultants, 2005)	C084morn Clauses 02.03-1 and 11.03-1L
<i>Mornington Peninsula Investigation Areas Study: Mount Martha Discussion Paper</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2015)	C189morn Clause 43.02s02
<i>Mornington Peninsula Major Activity Centres: Hastings Major Activity Centre Parking Precinct Plan</i> (GTA Consultants now Stantec, 2021)	C281morn Clause 45.09s01
<i>Mornington Peninsula Major Activity Centres: Mornington Major Activity Centre Parking Precinct Plan</i> (GTA Consultants now Stantec, 2021)	C281morn Clause 45.09s01
<i>Mornington Peninsula Major Activity Centres: Rosebud Major Activity Centre Parking Precinct Plan</i> (GTA Consultants now Stantec, 2021)	C281morn Clause 45.09s01
<i>Mornington Peninsula Shire Heritage Review, Area 1: Mount Eliza, Mornington and Mount Martha – Background Report</i> (Mornington Peninsula Shire, 2013)	C174morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Mornington Peninsula Shire Heritage Review, Area 1: Mount Eliza, Mornington and Mount Martha – Significant Place Citations</i> (Mornington Peninsula Shire, 2014)	C174morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Mornington Peninsula Shire Heritage Review, Area 2: Volume 2 – Place and Precinct Citations</i> (Context, 2017)	C214morn Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Mornington Peninsula Shire Heritage Review, Area 3: Volume 1 - Key Findings and Recommendations</i> (Heritage Alliance, July 2019, revised July 2021)	C262mornPt1 Clause 72.04s
<i>Mornington Peninsula Shire Heritage Review, Area 3: Volume 2 - Citations</i> (Heritage Alliance, July 2019, revised July 2021)	C262mornPt1 Clause 72.04s

MORNINGTON PENINSULA PLANNING SCHEME

Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
<i>Mornington Peninsula Shire Thematic History</i> by (Context, 2013)	C174morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Planning for Sea Level Rise – Guidelines: Port Phillip and Westernport Region</i> (Melbourne Water, 2017)	C216morn Clause 44.04s01
'Practice Note Guidelines for Landslide Risk Management', <i>Australian Geomechanics Journal</i> , Vol. 42, No. 1 (B. Walker, W. Davies & F. Wilson, 2007).	C105morn Clauses 13.04-2L, 44.01s04 and 44.01s05
<i>Recognising the Heritage of Ranelagh: Conservation Management Plan for the Ranelagh Estate, Mount Eliza</i> (Context, 2009)	C135morn(Part 2) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Red Hill South Commercial Centres Strategy</i> (Ratio Consultants, 1991)	C004morn Clause 11.03-1L
<i>Responsible Electronic Gaming (EGM) Policy</i> (Mornington Peninsula Shire, 2016)	C200morn Clause 52.28s
<i>Rosebud Activity Centre Structure Plan</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2017)	C206morn Clause 11.03-1L
<i>Shire of Flinders Heritage Study: Caring for Our Heritage</i> (Context, C. Kellaway & H. Lardner, 1992)	C006morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Shire of Flinders Heritage Study: History and Heritage</i> (Context, C. Kellaway & H. Lardner, 1992)	C006morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Shire of Flinders Heritage Study: Inventory of Significant Places</i> (Context, C. Kellaway & H. Lardner, 1997)	C006morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Shire of Hastings Commercial Centres Strategy</i> (Ratio Consultants, 1991)	NPS1 Clause 43.04s03
<i>Shire of Mornington Heritage Study, Volume 1: Recommendations and Guidelines</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, 1994)	C006morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Shire of Mornington Heritage Study, Volume 2: Environmental History</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, 1994)	C006morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Shire of Mornington Heritage Study, Volume 3: Significant Sites and Areas</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, 1994)	C006morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Shoreham Design Guidelines</i> (Hansen Partnership, 2007)	C103morn Clause 43.02s15
<i>Sorrento Streetscape Guidelines</i> (Jacobs Lewis Vines, 1981)	C023morn Clause 72.04s

MORNINGTON PENINSULA PLANNING SCHEME

Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
<i>Sorrento Townscape Study</i> (Centre for Environmental Studies, University of Melbourne, 1979)	C023morn Clause 72.04s
<i>South East Region Gaming Policy Framework</i> (Coomes Consulting, 2007)	C200morn Clause 52.28s
<i>'Spring Farm' Moorooduc Heritage Assessment: 245 Mornington-Tyabb Road, Moorooduc</i> (Heritage Intelligence, 2009)	C174morn(Part 1) Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Statement of Significance – 15 Finlayson Avenue, Mount Martha, October 2011</i>	C174morn(Part 1) Clauses 15.03-1L and 43.01s
<i>Statement of Significance – 2456 Point Nepean Road, Rye, 2011</i>	C109morn Clause 43.01s
<i>Statement of Significance – Finders Village Centre, November 2009</i>	C188morn(Part 1) Clause 43.01s
<i>The Preservation of the Mornington Peninsula and Western Port</i> (National Trust of Australia (Victoria), 1974)	C004morn Clauses 02.03-2, 02.03-3 and 12.01-1L
<i>Westernport Bay Environmental Study 1973-1974</i> (Ministry for Conservation, 1975)	NPS1 Clause 02.03-8
<i>Westernport Region Conservation Survey</i> (Conservation Council of Victoria, 1974)	NPS1 Clauses 02.03-3 and 42.01s01 to s16

MORNINGTON PENINSULA PLANNING SCHEME

22/07/2021
C255morn

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 66.06 NOTICE OF PERMIT APPLICATIONS UNDER LOCAL PROVISIONS

1.0

Notice of permit applications under local provisions

22/07/2021
C255morn
Proposed C241morn

Clause	Kind of application	Person or body to be notified
None specified 42.01s32 Section 4.0	An application relating to earthworks and native vegetation removal.	Melbourne Water Corporation.

MORNINGTON PENINSULA PLANNING SCHEME

21/03/2019
C216

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 72.03 WHAT DOES THIS PLANNING SCHEME CONSIST OF?

1.0

Maps comprising part of this planning scheme:

24/02/2022--/--/---
G284mornProposed C241morn

- 241, 1DDO, 1ESO1_16, 1ESO17_19, 1ESO24_27, 1HO, 1EMO, 1VPO, 1SCO
- 2, 2DDO, 2PAO, 2DPO, 2ESO1_16, 2ESO17_19, 2ESO24_27, 2HO, 2VPO, 2BMO, 2EAO
- 3, 3DPO, 3PAO, 3ESO1_16, 3HO, 3BMO, 3SCO
- 4, 4PAO, 4ESO1_16, 4BMO
- 5, 5DDO, 5PAO, 5DPO, 5LSIO-FO, 5ESO17_19, 5ESO24_27, 5EMO, 5HO, 5VPO, 5EAO, 5PO
- 6, 6DDO, 6PAO, 6DPO, 6LSIO-FO, 6ESO1_16, 6ESO17_19, 6ESO24_27, 6EMO, 6HO, 6VPO, 6BMO, 6SCO
- 7, 7DDO, 7PAO, 7ESO1_16, 7ESO17_19, 7HO, 7VPO, 7EAO, 7BMO, 7SCO
- 8, 8DDO, 8PAO, 8ESO1_16, 8ESO17_19, 8HO, 8VPO, 8EAO, 8BMO, 8SCO
- 9, 9DDO, 9PAO, 9RO, 9ESO1_16, 9ESO17_19, 9ESO28, 9HO, 9VPO, 9BMO, 9SCO
- 10, 10LSIO-FO, 10ESO1_16, 10ESO17_19, 10ESO28, 10EAO, 10BMO
- 11, 11DDO, 11DPO, 11ESO24_27, 11HO, 11VPO, 11BMO
- 12, 12DDO, 12DPO, 12ESO1_16, 12ESO17_19, 12ESO24_27, 12ESO28, 12ESO32, 12EMO, 12SLO1_2, 12SLO3_5, 12HO, 12VPO, 12BMO
- 13, 13DDO, 13PAO, 13ESO1_16, 13ESO17_19, 13ESO24_27, 13ESO28, 13EMO, 13SLO1_2, 13SLO3_5, 13HO, 13VPO, 13BMO
- 14, 14DDO, 14PAO, 14ESO1_16, 14ESO17_19, 14ESO28, 14SLO3_5, 14HO, 14VPO, 14BMO
- 15, 15DDO, 15PAO, 15LSIO-FO, 15ESO1_16, 15ESO17_19, 15ESO28, 15HO, 15VPO, 15BMO
- 16, 16DDO, 16DPO, 16ESO1_16, 16ESO17_19, 16ESO24_27, 16ESO28, 16SLO1_2, 16SLO3_5, 16HO, 16VPO, 16BMO, 16SCO
- 17, 17DDO, 17ESO1_16, 17ESO17_19, 17ESO24_27, 17ESO28, 17EMO, 17SLO1_2, 17SLO3_5, 17HO, 17VPO, 17BMO, 17SCO
- 18, 18DDO, 18PAO, 18LSIO-FO, 18DPO, 18RO, 18ESO1_16, 18ESO17_19, 18ESO28, 18SLO3_5, 18HO, 18VPO, 18BMO, 18PO
- 19, 19DDO, 19PAO, 19LSIO-FO, 19DPO, 19RO, 19ESO1_16, 19HO, 19VPO, 19BMO, 19PO
- 20, 20ESO24_27, 20HO, 20BMO, 20LSIO-FO
- 21, 21DDO, 21ESO17_19, 21ESO24_27, 21HO, 21VPO, 21BMO, 21LSIO-FO
- 22, 22DDO, 22DPO, 22ESO17_19, 22ESO24_27, 22HO, 22VPO, 22BMO, 22LSIO-FO
- 23, 23DDO, 23ESO24_27, 23HO, 23VPO, 23BMO, 23LSIO-FO
- 24, 24DDO, 24PAO, 24ESO24_27, 24HO, 24VPO, 24BMO
- 25, 25DDO, 25DPO, 25LSIO-FO, 25ESO17_19, 25ESO24_27, 25ESO30, 25HO, 25VPO, 25EAO
- 26, 26DDO, 26PAO, 26DPO, 26LSIO-FO, 26ESO17_19, 26ESO24_27, 26ESO28, 26ESO30, 26SLO3_5, 26HO, 26VPO, 26EAO, 26BMO, 26PO
- 27, 27DDO, 27EMO, 27RO, 27ESO1_16, 27ESO17_19, 27ESO24_27, 27ESO28, 27SLO1_2, 27SLO3_5, 27SLO6, 27HO, 27VPO, 27DPO, 27EAO, 27BMO

MORNINGTON PENINSULA PLANNING SCHEME

- 28, 28DDO, 28RO, 28ESO1_16, 28ESO17_19, 28ESO24_27, 28ESO28, 28EMO, 28SLO1_2, 28SLO3_5, 28SLO6, 28HO, 28VPO, 28BMO
- 29, 29DDO, 29ESO1_16, 29ESO17_19, 29ESO24_27, 29ESO28, 29EMO, 29SLO1_2, 29SLO3_5, 29SLO6, 29HO, 29VPO, 29BMO
- 30, 30DDO, 30LSIO-FO, 30RO, 30ESO1_16, 30ESO17_19, 30ESO20_23, 30ESO24_27, 30ESO28, 30EMO, 30SLO1_2, 30SLO3_5, 30SLO6, 30HO, 30VPO, 30BMO
- 31, 31DDO, 31LSIO-FO, 31DPO, 31ESO1_16, 31ESO17_19, 31ESO20_23, 31ESO24_27, 31ESO28, 31EMO, 31SLO1_2, 31SLO3_5, 31SLO6, 31HO, 31VPO, 31BMO
- 32, 32DDO, 32LSIO-FO, 32RO, 32ESO1_16, 32ESO17_19, 32ESO24_27, 32ESO28, 32SLO3_5, 32SLO6, 32HO, 32VPO, 32EAO, 32BMO
- 33, 33DDO, 33EAO, 33PAO, 33RO, 33ESO28, 33HO, 33VPO, 33BMO, 33LSIO-FO, 33DCPO
- 34, 34DDO, 34PAO, 34ESO1_16, 34ESO20_23, 34ESO24_27, 34ESO28, 34SLO3_5, 34HO, 34VPO, 34BMO, 34LSIO-FO
- 35, 35DDO, 35PAO, 35RO, 35ESO1_16, 35ESO17_19, 35ESO20_23, 35ESO24_27, 35ESO28, 35ESO30, 35SLO3_5, 35HO, 35VPO, 35EAO, 35BMO, 35LSIO-FO
- 36, 36DDO, 36PAO, 36LSIO-FO, 36ESO1_16, 36ESO17_19, 36ESO20_23, 36ESO24_27, 36ESO28, 36ESO30, 36SLO3_5, 36HO, 36VPO, 36EAO, 36BMO
- 37, 37DDO, 37ESO1_16, 37ESO17_19, 37ESO24_27, 37ESO28, 37EMO, 37SLO1_2, 37SLO3_5, 37SLO6, 37VPO, 37BMO
- 38, 38DDO, 38LSIO-FO, 38ESO1_16, 38ESO17_19, 38ESO20_23, 38ESO24_27, 38ESO28, 38EMO, 38SLO1_2, 38SLO3_5, 38SLO6, 38HO, 38VPO, 38BMO
- 39, 39DDO, 39LSIO-FO, 39ESO1_16, 39ESO17_19, 39ESO20_23, 39ESO24_27, 39ESO28, 39EMO, 39SLO1_2, 39SLO3_5, 39HO, 39VPO, 39BMO
- 40, 40ESO1_16, 40ESO20_23, 40ESO24_27, 40ESO28, 40SLO1_2, 40SLO3_5, 40HO, 40VPO, 40BMO, 40LSIO-FO
- 41, 41DDO, 41RO, 41ESO1_16, 41ESO20_23, 41ESO24_27, 41ESO28, 41SLO1_2, 41SLO3_5, 41VPO, 41BMO, 41LSIO-FO
- 42, 42ESO1_16, 42ESO17_19, 42ESO20_23, 42ESO24_27, 42ESO28, 42EMO, 42SLO1_2, 42SLO3_5, 42SLO6, 42HO, 42VPO, 42BMO, 42LSIO-FO
- 43, 43ESO1_16, 43ESO17_19, 43ESO20_23, 43ESO24_27, 43ESO28, 43SLO1_2, 43SLO3_5, 43SLO6, 43HO, 43VPO, 43BMO, 43LSIO-FO, 43SCO
- 44, 44ESO1_16, 44ESO17_19, 44ESO20_23, 44ESO24_27, 44ESO28, 44EMO, 44SLO1_2, 44SLO3_5, 44SLO6, 44HO, 44VPO, 44BMO, 44LSIO-FO
- 45, 45DDO, 45ESO1_16, 45ESO17_19, 45ESO20_23, 45ESO24_27, 45ESO28, 45EMO, 45SLO1_2, 45SLO3_5, 45SLO6, 45HO, 45VPO, 45LSIO-FO

Planning and Environment Act 1987

MORNINGTON PENINSULA PLANNING SCHEME

AMENDMENT C241morn

EXPLANATORY REPORT

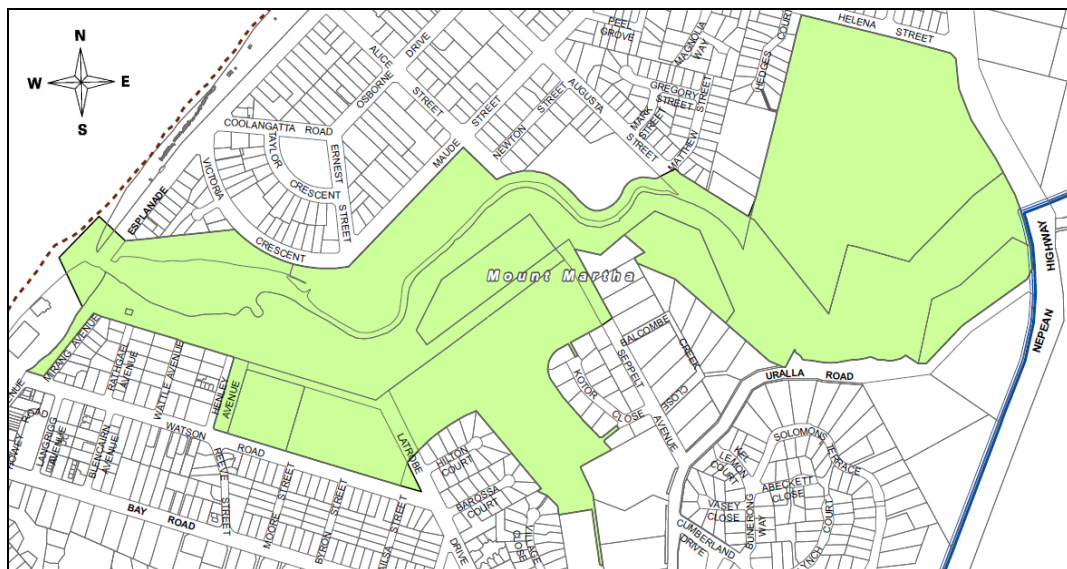
Who is the planning authority?

This amendment has been prepared by the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, which is the planning authority for this amendment.

The amendment has been made at the request of the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council.

Land affected by the amendment

The amendment applies to approximately 76.9 hectares of land within the area known as Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves in Mount Martha (as shaded green in figure 1 below).



Balcombe Creek flows through the reserves and forms an estuary which intermittently opens to the Port Phillip Bay. The associated reserves comprise several adjoining public open space areas which contain minor sports and recreation uses (both formal and informal), community uses (including the Mount Martha Preschool and Maternal Child Health Centre) and areas of environmental conservation. The reserves include:

- Balcombe Estuary Reserve
- Balcombe Estuary Recreation Reserve
- Balcombe Reserve
- Citation Reserve
- Ferrero Reserve
- Victoria Reserve
- Uralla Reserve
- Seppelt Park Reserve

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Land affected by the amendment includes a combination of Crown Land and land owned by Mornington Peninsula Shire Council. Council is the Committee of Management for all Crown Land within the amendment area.

What the amendment does

The amendment proposes to implement the recommendations of the *Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)* ('the Study') to protect and enhance the ecological values, systems and character of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves whilst supporting existing minor sports and recreation uses and community uses in the area. Specifically, the amendment seeks to:

Ordinance

- Inserts a new Schedule 32 'Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves' at Clause 42.01 (Environmental Significance Overlay) (ESO32).
- Amends the Schedule to Clause 66.06 (Notice of permit applications under local provisions) to require Notice to be given to Melbourne Water Corporation for planning permit applications under section 4.0 of the ESO32 that relate to earthworks and native vegetation removal.
- Amends the Schedule to Clause 72.03 (What does this planning scheme consist of?) to include reference of the new ESO32.
- Amends the Schedule to Clause 72.08 (Background documents) to include the *Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)*.

Mapping

Rezones the following publicly owned land parcels:

- 16 Mirang Avenue, Mount Martha (also known as Balcombe Estuary Reserve) from part Schedule 1 to General Residential Zone (GRZ1) to part Public Conservation and Resource Zone (PCRZ).
- Latrobe Drive, Mount Martha (road reserve) from part GRZ1 to part Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ).
- 37 Seppelt Avenue, Mount Martha (also known as Ferrero Reserve) from part Low Density Residential Zone (LDRZ) to part PPRZ.
- 37 Seppelt Avenue, Mount Martha (also known as Ferrero Reserve) from part GRZ1 to part PPRZ.
- Seppelt Avenue, Mount Martha (also known as Seppelt Park Reserve) from part LDRZ to PCRZ.
- Augusta Street, Mount Martha (road reserve) from part GRZ1 to part PCRZ.
- 499 Nepean Highway, Mount Martha (also known as Balcombe Estuary Reserve) from LDRZ to PPRZ.
- Hedges Court, Mount Martha (reserve) from GRZ1 to PPRZ.

Amends the application of overlays in the following manner:

- Apply the new ESO32 over the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.
- Deletes the part Schedule 1 to the Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO1) from the land where the new ESO32 will apply.
- Deletes the Schedules 2, 4, 6 and 7 to the Design and Development Overlay (DDO2, DDO4, DDO6 and DDO7) from land where the new ESO32 will apply.

Strategic assessment of the amendment

Why is the amendment required?

The amendment intends to give statutory effect to the *Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)* which provides the strategic basis for protecting and enhancing the identified ecological values, environmental systems and character of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves whilst supporting existing minor sports and recreation uses and community uses in the area.

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The Balcombe Creek Estuary is recognised as a major waterway within the Mornington Peninsula Western Creeks Sub-Catchment (as identified by the *Westernport - Healthy Waterways Strategy* (a sub-strategy of the *Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018-28*)). This strategy provides a regional vision for the health of rivers, estuaries and wetlands in the Port Phillip and Westernport region to be shared by Melbourne Water Corporation, state and local government, water corporations, and the community.

The Study identifies the following ecological values within the 76.9 hectare amendment area:

- A total of 51.7 hectares of native vegetation, with 164 indigenous plant taxa (species, subspecies and varieties)
- Native patch vegetation comprising ten ecological vegetation classes, five of which have a bioregional conservation status of 'endangered' (Reed Swamp (EVC 300), Swamp Scrub (EVC53), Swampy Woodland (EVC 937), Swampy Riparian Woodland (EVC 83) and Grassy Woodland (EVC 175)).
- A total of 108 indigenous and 10 introduced vertebrate animal species, including the nationally threatened (Dwarf Galaxias), 5 species threatened at the state level, and many species considered significant at regional (i.e. Gippsland Plain bioregion) and local (Mount Martha) levels identified in previous studies conducted within the area.

The Study identifies that ecological values within the area are under threat from impacts on native vegetation, water quality, land and soil stability, accelerated sedimentation discharge, fauna (including aquatic species and birdlife) and native habitat. Indeed, the Study notes that previous studies indicate a trending decline in flora and fauna species, highlighting the need for greater protection of ecological values within the area. The Study specifically identifies that existing planning controls do not provide sufficient environmental protection, apart from the removal of native vegetation.

In addition to ecological values, the Study recognises the legitimacy and importance of existing sporting, recreation and community facilities and uses and the associated growing demand for such infrastructure. In balancing potentially competing interests, the Study recommends that:

- future development of sporting, recreation and community facilities should have proper regard for identified ecological values,
- new development should be confined within areas of identified low/minimal ecological value,
- development and works reasonably required to support existing sporting, recreation and community facilities that would have low/minimal impact on the ecological values and environmental systems of the area should be allowed, subject to appropriate planning permit exemptions

To provide better protection for ecological values whilst balancing the needs of existing community infrastructure and facilities, the amendment:

- Introduces a bespoke ESO32 to the area (to replace the existing VPO1) to strengthen biodiversity protection beyond minimising native vegetation removal (as the VPO1 does) to identify and protect native vegetation specific to the area and require planning approval for buildings and works having regard to environmental systems, native fauna, habitat areas, land and soil stability, drainage patterns, and water quality
- Provides appropriate exemptions within the ESO32 for minor works and maintenance activities to support the continuation of existing sporting, recreation and community uses within existing footprints and areas for low/minimal ecological value
- Rezones land currently within the GRZ1 and LDRZ to PPRZ or PCRZ to reflect its public ownership, conservation and recreational values, including protecting 3.3 hectares of mapped native vegetation from being lost to residential development and corresponding vegetation clearing permitted under the defensible space requirements of the applicable Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO) and Bushfire Prone Area (BPA) mapping
- Deletes existing DDO2, DDO4, DDO6 and DDO7 from the above residentially zoned land as these overlays relate to residential development which would not be supported under the proposed PPRZ or PCRZ.

How does the amendment implement the objectives of planning in Victoria?

The amendment implements the following objectives of planning in Victoria (as stipulated by section 4(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*):

- To provide for the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use, and development of land.
- To provide for the protection of natural and man-made resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity.
- To secure a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Victorians and visitors to Victoria.
- To balance the present and future interests of all Victorians and its visitors.

The amendment implements the above objectives by:

- applying a bespoke environmental planning control (ESO32) to protect identified ecological values, systems and character of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves in accordance with the recommendations of the *Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)*
- providing for appropriate planning permit exemptions within the ESO32 to allow for development and works reasonably required to support the ongoing viability of existing and highly valued sporting, recreation and community facilities
- exempting the need for a planning permit to remove, destroy or lop non-native vegetation to allow for the management of weeds and other exotic vegetation
- rezoning land within the area to reflect its public ownership and associated recreation and conservation values
- Deleting redundant provisions to avoid unnecessary duplication of controls and improve the overall efficiency of the planning scheme.

How does the amendment address any environmental, social and economic effects?

Environmental effects:

The amendment is expected to have positive environmental effects, providing for the strengthened protection of identified ecological values, systems and character of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves in accordance with the recommendations of the *Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)* by:

- applying a bespoke environmental planning control (ESO32) that addresses particular threats to the ecological values of the area which include but are not limited to; loss of locally significant native vegetation, damage to environmental systems, declining native fauna, loss of habitat areas, degradation to land and soil stability, disruptions to drainage patterns, and impacts on water quality, including sedimentation.
- including a requirement in the ESO32 for planning permit applications to be accompanied by environmental assessments and associated plans (as appropriate and to the satisfaction of the responsible authority) including:
 - a Flora and Fauna Assessment which considers the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*,
 - a Site Environmental Management Plan that describes measures to avoid or mitigate impacts to the ecological values of the Reserves during construction or carrying out works in relation to the proposal, and
 - a Land Management Plan which identifies appropriate ongoing measures for the continued protection of the ecological values of the Balcombe Reserves effected by the proposal
- exempting the need for a planning permit to remove, destroy or lop non-native vegetation to allow for the management of weeds and other exotic vegetation
- rezoning land within the area to reflect its public ownership and associated conservation values.

Ministerial Direction No. 1 Potentially Contaminated Land – potentially contaminated land means land used to store waste (amongst other definitions). EPA Victoria publication 788.3: *Siting, design, operation and rehabilitation of landfills*, indicates a 500m buffer should be applied from the previous sensitive land use.

J R Anderson Reserve (located at 626 Nepean Highway, Mount Martha) was used as a landfill for approximately 1 year, was closed in 1966 with the age of waste being approximately 54 years old. J R Anderson Reserve is within 500m of the most north-eastern corner of the study area.

The former landfill site is currently subject to ongoing investigation, including a Landfill Gas Risk Assessment. It is not expected that the findings of the investigations will have any significant implications for the amendment as:

- it's not proposing or allowing any use or development;
- it's seeking to protect and enhance the ecological values, systems and character of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves by applying a new ESO32; and
- Preliminary gas monitoring results for the former landfill, indicate very low levels of landfill gas.

The Landfill Gas Risk Assessment findings are yet to be finalised; these may however have implications for the future development potential of land within the 500m buffer should the more onerous buffer be required to be retained.

Social effects

The amendment is expected to have positive social effects by protecting environmental assets commensurate with the Victorian Government's *Planning for Biodiversity: Guidance (DELWP, December 2017)* which recognises that there is a long and compelling list of values and benefits provided by Victoria's biodiversity including:

- community health and wellbeing benefits
- recreation, aesthetic and other social or cultural uses
- Traditional Owner and Aboriginal values/cultural significance
- Non-use values that the community derives from knowing that biodiversity exists and that it will be maintained for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations.

The amendment has been prepared with the express goal of ensuring that the identified range of ecological values present within the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves are protected and enhanced whilst ensuring that community continues to have access to the area for the enjoyment of the natural environment, and that existing sport, recreation and community facilities are supported.

The ESO32 identifies the existing formal and informal sport and recreation uses, community uses and areas of conservation and requires consideration of the purpose of the development in relation to the existing use of the land to allow the continued use of such community sports and services.

The amendment may constrain future development of formal and informal sports and recreation uses and community facility development by requiring development to be contained in areas with low/minimal ecological values. However, to allow reasonable formal and informal sports and recreation uses and community facility development the ESO32 contains some exemptions which are considered to have low/minimal impact on the ecological values and environmental systems of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.

Economic effects:

The amendment is expected to have the following positive economic effects:

- Protection of environmental and landscape values which are important for supporting tourism, recognising that the Peninsula is a key recreation area that meets both local and metropolitan needs. As identified at Clause 02.03-2 (Environmental and landscape values) of the planning scheme, 'the significant number of informal recreational visitors, which the Peninsula attracts each year, is a major contributor to the local economy and the basis of a sustainable tourism industry'.
- Ensuring the ongoing viability of existing sporting, recreation and community uses within the reserves, noting that the area supports various competitive sporting clubs with paying membership.

It is recognised that the amendment may constrain future development of sporting, recreation and community facilities to within existing footprints and areas with low/minimal ecological values, and that the extent of permissible development will be contingent upon proper environmental assessment and management.

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Whilst the proposed ESO32 requires future development proposals to be supported by environmental assessments and land management plans (as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority), on balance, the costs of these requirements are outweighed by the benefits of ensuring that the ecological values of the Balcombe Estuary and reserves are protected.

Finally, whilst the amendment provides for the rezoning of residential land, this is not expected to have any negative economic impacts as the land is not currently developed for residential purposes, comprises environmental values worthy of protection and is publicly owned by the Mornington Peninsula Shire and State Government. The Department Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) has indicated its support for the rezoning of Crown Land as proposed.

Does the amendment address relevant bushfire risk?

The amendment is consistent with the objectives of Clause 13.02-1S (Bushfire planning) to strengthen the resilience of settlements and communities to bushfire through risk-based planning that prioritises the protection of human life.

The amendment does not propose any changes that would have the effect of changing existing fire management practices for affected land, nor does it propose controls that would result in the use or development of the land in a way that may create a bushfire hazard to existing and future residents, property and community infrastructure within the area.

Clause 13.02-1S indicates that the policy must be applied to all planning and decision making under the Act relating to land that is:

- *Within a designated bushfire prone area;*
- *Subject to a Bushfire Management Overlay; or*
- *Proposed to be used or developed in a way that may create a bushfire hazard.*

Majority of land affected by the amendment is affected by the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO) with all land being a Bushfire Prone Area (BPA). As such, the bushfire protection provisions contained within these instruments prevail over all other considerations as they are being retained.

It is noted that the land affected by the amendment is entirely within public ownership, including a combination of Crown Land and land owned by Mornington Peninsula Shire Council. Council is the Committee of Management for all Crown Land within the amendment area and manages the land in accordance with the Mornington Peninsula Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP).

As per the MFMP, fire management works within public land aims to reduce fuel hazard and risk to neighbouring properties from potential bushfire and typically consist of slashing, removing or trimming vegetation to reduce connectivity between shrubs and trees, and removing fallen, dead branches.

Such works are carried out in designated Fire Management Zones (FMZs), which are generally located around reserve boundaries adjacent to assets and in high bushfire risk areas. Land affected by the amendment includes the following two FMZs and associated fire protection measures:

- Asset Protection Zone (intensive fuel management, including slashing, to reduce the risk of flames or radiant heat from potential bushfire on houses); and
- Bushfire Moderation Zone (vegetation modification to reduce fuel hazard, spread and intensity of potential bushfire.

These FMZs are inspected annually to identify works required to reduce the overall fuel hazard to acceptable limits. Identified works are then prioritised and implemented over the year. Grass slashing occurs regularly throughout the year.

There is no known intention to remove any of the land from public ownership or management nor does the amendment propose to alter the designated FMZs and associated fire protection measures.

The existing VPO1 (which is proposed to be removed from the land subject to the amendment) requires a planning permit to remove, destroy or lop native and non-native vegetation whilst the proposed ESO32 only requires a planning permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation.

The parent provision of the ESO provides a Table of exemptions (at Clause 42.01-3) which provide exemptions for Fire protection and would override the ESO32, should it be approved.

The Study mapped 25.2 hectares of non-native vegetation which under the proposed provisions wouldn't require the need for a planning permit to be removed, destroyed or lopped. The amendment does not propose any revegetation. The Mornington Peninsula Shire currently manage majority of the area subject to the amendment as a bushland reserve and will continue to do so.

Does the amendment comply with the requirements of any Minister's Direction applicable to the amendment?

Ministerial Direction – The Form and Content of Planning Schemes:

The amendment is consistent with *Ministerial Direction – the Form and Content of Planning Schemes* and has been prepared via the State Government's Amendment Tracking System and Objective Keystone authoring platform. It is noted that the amendment ensures that the proposed ESO32 contains the correct number of objectives as specified by the Ministerial Direction.

The land which is to be rezoned from GRZ1 and LDRZ to PPRZ and PCRZ is owned and / or controlled by the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council. The Mornington Peninsula Shire Council are the Committee of Management for all Crown Land within the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.

Ministerial Direction No. 1 Potentially Contaminated Land:

According to *Ministerial Direction No. 1 Potentially Contaminated Land* – potentially contaminated land means land used to store waste (amongst other definitions). EPA Victoria publication 788.3: *Siting, design, operation and rehabilitation of landfills*, indicates a 500m buffer should be applied from the previous sensitive land use.

J R Anderson Reserve (located at 626 Nepean Highway, Mount Martha) was used as a landfill and is within 500m of the most north-eastern corner of the study area subject to the amendment.

The former landfill site is currently subject to ongoing investigations, including a Landfill Gas Risk Assessment. It is not expected that the findings of the investigations will have any significant implications for Amendment C241morn as:

- It's not proposing or allowing any use or development; and
- It's seeking to protect and enhance the ecological values, systems and character of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves by applying a new ESO32;
- Preliminary gas monitoring results for the former landfill, indicate very low levels of landfill gas.

The Landfill Gas Risk Assessment findings are yet to be finalised; these may however have implications for the future development potential of land within the 500m buffer should the more onerous buffer be required to be retained.

Ministerial Direction No.9 Metropolitan Strategy (Plan Melbourne):

The amendment complies with this Ministerial Direction as it supports or gives effect to the following directions/policies within *Plan Melbourne 2017-2050*:

- Policy 4.1.4 – Protect and enhance the metropolitan water's edge parklands:
"Stronger planning controls will also be put in place to protect water's edge parklands from intrusion and encroachment of development that impacts on open space and diminishes their natural landscape setting".
- Direction 4.2 – Build on Melbourne's cultural leadership and sporting legacy:
"Sport and culture also thrive at a community level. The city's suburban sporting venues and community arts facilities give residents opportunities to participate in a wide range of sporting and cultural activities".
- Direction 5.3 – Deliver social infrastructure to support strong communities:
 - "The economic and social benefits of providing social infrastructure can outweigh the costs of provision and result in a positive net return on investment.³⁵ Social infrastructure encompasses all the facilities, services and networks that help families, groups and communities to meet their social, health, education, cultural and community needs".
 - "Early provision of active open space and sports fields in neighbourhoods supports healthy communities".
- Direction 6.4 – Make Melbourne cooler and greener

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“To mitigate the impacts of increased average temperatures, Melbourne needs to maintain and enhance its urban forest of trees and vegetation on properties, lining transport corridors, on public lands”.

- Policy 6.4.2 – Strengthen the integrated metropolitan open space network

“Open space provision must also be fair and equitable with the aim of providing access that meets the needs of all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, ability or a person’s location”.

- Direction 6.5 – Protect and restore natural habitats
 - “As Melbourne grows, habitat loss and waterway degradation can pose a significant threat to native flora and fauna populations”.
 - “There is a critical need to maintain and improve the overall extent and condition of natural habitats, including waterways. Natural habitats need to better protect native flora and fauna, enhance the community’s knowledge and acceptance of wildlife in areas they live, enhance access to nature and recreational opportunities across urban areas and make Melbourne an attractive place to live and visit”.

Ministerial Direction No.11 Strategic Assessment of Amendments:

The amendment complies with the requirements of this Ministerial Direction as the Strategic Assessment Guidelines Checklist has been applied during its preparation.

Ministerial Direction No.17 Localised Planning Statements:

The Localised Planning Statement bases future planning for the settlements on the Peninsula on principles of good design, integrated local area planning and environmentally sustainable development, all in accordance with the character, scale, role and functions of each settlement. Some Strategies of the Localised Planning Statement include:

- Conservation and enhancement of natural systems and biodiversity.
- Providing for recreational demand based primarily on the experience and enjoyment of the natural and cultural values of the Mornington Peninsula.
- The natural systems of the Mornington Peninsula, on both public and privately owned land, will be conserved and managed for their habitat and biodiversity values and to maintain and enhance the experience of natural environment. This will include the conservation of areas of significant flora and fauna value and sites of geological significance.
- Planning for the Mornington Peninsula will be directed towards maintaining and increasing biodiversity and increasing the resilience of natural systems. Where the development of land requires environmental offsets these will be provided on the Mornington Peninsula and in the local area where appropriate.
- Planning for the area will take into account information from scientific studies and other research into the area and adjacent bays and catchments.

How does the amendment support or implement the Planning Policy Framework and any adopted State policy?

The amendment is consistent with the following clauses of the PPF:

Clause 12.01-1S Protection of biodiversity: To assist the protection and conservation of Victoria’s biodiversity, including using biodiversity information to identify important areas of biodiversity, including key habitat for rare or threatened species and communities, and strategically valuable biodiversity sites, and avoiding impacts of land use and development on important areas of biodiversity.

Clause 12.01-1L Protection of Biodiversity – Mornington Peninsula: To avoid the spread of environmental weeds and encourage the re-establishment of indigenous vegetation.

Clause 12.01-2s Native vegetation management: To ensure that there is no net loss to biodiversity as a result of the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation, including implementing the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation* (Department of

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Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2017) to avoid native vegetation destruction and loss, minimise impacts on native vegetation that cannot be avoided, and provide appropriate offsets to compensate for any associated biodiversity impacts.

Clause 12.03-1S River corridors, waterways, lakes and wetlands: To protect and enhance river corridors, waterways, lakes and wetlands, including:

- protecting the environmental, cultural and landscape values of all water bodies and wetlands
- ensuring development responds to and respects the significant environmental, conservation, cultural, aesthetic, open space, recreation and tourism assets of water bodies and wetlands
- ensuring development is sensitively designed and sited to maintain and enhance environmental assets, significant views and landscapes along river corridors and waterways and adjacent to lakes and wetlands
- ensuring development does not compromise bank stability, increase erosion or impact on a water body or wetland's natural capacity to manage flood flow

Clause 12.05 (Significant Environments and landscapes): To protect and conserve environmentally sensitive areas on the Mornington Peninsula, including those with significant recreational value, from development that would diminish their environmental conservation or recreational values.

Clause 12.05-2S Landscapes: To protect and enhance significant landscapes and open spaces that contribute to character, identity and sustainable environments, including:

- ensuring development does not detract from the natural qualities of significant landscape areas
- improving the landscape qualities, open space linkages and environmental performance in significant landscapes and open spaces
- recognising the natural landscape for its aesthetic value and as a fully functioning system
- ensuring important natural features are protected and enhanced.

Clause 19.02-1S Health facilities: To assist the integration of health facilities with local and regional communities, including supporting community facilities (such as maternal child health centres) in appropriate locations based on demographic trends, existing and future demand requirements and the integration of services into communities.

Clause 19.02-2S Education facilities: To assist the integration of education and early childhood facilities (such as preschools) with local and regional communities.

Clause 19.02-6S (Open space): To establish, manage, improve and protect a diverse and integrated network of local and regional public open spaces that meet the recreation needs of the community whilst conserving natural and cultural environments, including:

- accommodating community sports facilities in a way that is not detrimental to other park activities
- ensuring that open space provision is fair and equitable with the aim of providing access that meets the needs of all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, ability or a person's location
- ensuring public land immediately adjoining waterways and coastlines remains in public ownership.

How does the amendment support or implement the Municipal Planning Strategy?

The amendment implements the Strategic objective of Clause 02.02 (Vision) 'to protect and enhance the Mornington Peninsula's biodiversity and coastal experience' by applying a bespoke environmental planning control (ESO32) to protect the unique ecological values and biodiversity of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.

The amendment is consistent with Clause 02.03-2 (Environmental and landscape values) which recognises the need to protect environmental and landscape values that accommodate recreation areas for local and metropolitan needs and are a major contributor to the local economy, forming the basis of a sustainable tourism industry.

The amendment is also consistent with Clause 02.03-3 (Environmental risks and amenity) which recognises the need to address environmental issues facing the Peninsula, such as the loss and

degradation of native vegetation, pest plant and animal infestation, lowered habitat capacity and pollution of streams and aquifers.

Does the amendment make proper use of the Victoria Planning Provisions?

The amendment makes appropriate use of the Victorian Planning Provisions by:

- Introducing and applying a bespoke Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO32) to an area of identified environmental significance (Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves) in accordance with the recommendations of an expert environmental study (*Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)*)
- Providing for appropriate exemptions within the ESO32 for minor works and maintenance activities to support the continuation of existing sporting, recreation and community uses
- Removing VPO1 given the proposed ESO32 provides stronger planning protection for native vegetation, ecological values and environmental systems and to avoid the unnecessary duplication of planning controls
- Rezoning land currently within the GRZ1 and LDRZ to PPRZ or PCRZ to reflect its public ownership and identified ecological values whilst allowing for the reasonable provision of formal and informal sports and recreation uses and community facility development where appropriate
- Deleting DDO2, DDO4, DDO6 and DDO7 which are made redundant by the above proposed rezoning's.

The drafting and application of proposed ESO32 is consistent with *Planning Practice Note 07: Vegetation Protection in Urban Areas* (PPN07) which states that an ESO should be applied where there are environmental constraints on development or other important ecological values are identified, such as in coastal or riparian habitat, and vegetation protection is part of a wider objective to protect the environmental significance of the area.

How does the amendment address the views of any relevant agency?

The amendment addresses the views of relevant agencies as follows:

- Melbourne Water Corporation ('Melbourne Water'):

Melbourne Water is the designated waterway Manager for the Balcombe Creek Estuary and co-author of the *Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018-28* and *Westernport - Healthy Waterways Strategy*.

Melbourne Water have provided support for the proposed ESO32 and requested that they be notified of applications under the provisions of the Schedule to Clause 66.06 (Clause 66.06s), rather than receiving a formal referral under the schedule to Clause 66.04. As provided for in the proposed changes to Clause 66.06s, Melbourne Water will receive notice of applications related to earthworks and/or native vegetation removal within the amendment area.

- Department Environment, Land, Water and Planning ('DELWP'):

DELWP's Planning Approvals team provided support for the proposed rezoning of various parcels of Crown Land, drafting and application of the proposed ESO32, and proposed removal of redundant DDOs.

- Country Fire Authority ('CFA'):

The CFA suggested that when satisfying Clause 13.02-1S (Bushfire planning) policy, Council considers the following:

- "The level of change in revegetation being sought as a result of this amendment and any factors that may affect bushfire behaviour.
- How any change in vegetation will be monitored to ensure the bushfire risk will be managed and avoid increasing the bushfire risk over time.
- Whether there may be a conflict with existing settlement policy principles set out by Council as the proposed amendment has a focus primarily on retention and enhancement of biodiversity. The amendment should also explore the consequences, outcomes and potential change this may have on existing development and their fire risk".

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A response to these matters is addressed above in the 'does the amendment address relevant bushfire risk?' section.

The views of any other relevant agency will be considered through the exhibition process.

Does the amendment address relevant requirements of the Transport Integration Act 2010?

Council, as an interface body under the provisions of the *Transport Integration Act 2010*, has an obligation to have regard to specified matters under that Act. The amendment will not have any significant impact on the transport system, nor does it conflict with the transport system objectives or decision-making principles of the *Transport Integration Act 2010*.

Resource and administrative costs

What impact will the new planning provisions have on the resource and administrative costs of the responsible authority?

The amendment is not expected to have an unreasonable impact on the resource and administrative costs of the responsible authority, noting that the amendment provides for the removal of redundant and / or duplicated provisions and the overall simplification of environmental controls into one bespoke ESO32 comprising appropriate permit exemptions commensurate with identified ecological values.

Where you may inspect this amendment

The amendment is available for public inspection, free of charge, during office hours at the following places:

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council www.mornpen.vic.gov.au

Hastings office – 21 Marine Parade, Hastings

Mornington office – 2 Queen Street, Mornington

Rosebud office – 90 Besgrove Street, Rosebud

The amendment can also be inspected free of charge at the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning website at www.planning.vic.gov.au/public-inspection.

Submissions

Any person who may be affected by the amendment may make a submission to the planning authority. Submissions about the amendment must be received by [\[insert submissions due date\]](#).

A submission must be sent to the Mornington Peninsula Shire by:

- **Online form (preferred):**

Visit <https://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au/Building-Planning/Strategic-Planning/Planning-Scheme-Amendments>

- **Email:**

strategic.admin@mornpen.vic.gov.au

Please use 'Amendment C241morn – submission' in the email subject line

- **Mail:**

Team Leader Strategic Planning – Mornington Peninsula Shire

Private Bag 1000, Rosebud VIC 3939

Panel hearing dates

In accordance with clause 4(2) of Ministerial Direction No.15 the following panel hearing dates have been set for this amendment:

- directions hearing: [\[insert directions hearing date\]](#)

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- panel hearing: [\[insert panel hearing date\]](#)

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Strategic Assessment Guidelines Checklist

This checklist is a tool that provides a quick snapshot of the abovementioned information. It may be useful to use while preparing an amendment assessment.

Strategic Consideration		Yes	No	N/A	Comment
Why is an amendment required?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What does the amendment intend to do and what is its desired outcome? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Amendment C241morn intends to give statutory effect to the <i>Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)</i> which provides a strategic basis for protecting and enhancing the identified ecological values, environmental systems and character of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.</p> <p>The <i>Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)</i> also recognises the need to reasonably allow formal and informal sports and recreation uses and community facility development in areas with low/minimal ecological values.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does it intend to do it? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Amendment C241morn deletes redundant provisions to avoid unnecessary duplication of controls and improve the overall efficiency of the planning scheme. This is achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing a bespoke Schedule 32 to the Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO32) which outlines the identified ecological values and environmental systems found within the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves. To allow reasonable formal and informal sports and recreation uses and community facility development the ESO32 contains some exemptions which are considered to have low/minimal impact on the ecological values and environmental systems of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves. The amendment also rezones some GRZ1 and LDRZ land to either PPRZ or PCRZ given the land is publicly owned and is not intended for residential use and development. The VPO1 is proposed to be deleted from the study area given the proposed ESO32 provides stronger planning protection for native vegetation, ecological values and environmental systems. The DDO2, DDO4, DDO6 and DDO7 are proposed to be removed from properties within the study area given that the DDO's are more targeted at guiding residential development and subdivision. Given that GRZ1 and LDRZ is proposed to be rezoned to PPRZ or PCRZ it is considered that the DDO's will become redundant.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is it supported by or is it a result of any strategic study or report? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Amendment C241morn proposes the statutory implementation of the <i>Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)</i> by including it as in the schedule to background documents (Clause 72.08) to the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the planning policy, provision or control result in the desired planning outcome? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Amendment C241morn will result in the desired outcome of ensuring greater consideration to the identified ecological values and environmental systems through the application of the ESO32.</p> <p>The ESO32 provides suitable application requirements that will allow greater consideration of the potential impacts future use and development may have on the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.</p> <p>Amendment C241morn also deletes redundant provisions to avoid unnecessary duplication of controls and improve the overall efficiency of the planning scheme.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the amendment have a net community benefit? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Amendment C241morn will have a net community benefit by introducing planning controls that protect and enhance the identified ecological values, environmental systems and character of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.</p> <p>Amendment C241morn may constrain future development of formal and informal sports and recreation uses and community facility development by requiring development to be contained in areas with low/minimal ecological values.</p> <p>The application requirements provided in the ESO32 ensure that future proposals are supported by a flora and fauna assessment, site environmental management plan and land management plan, as appropriate which have considered the potential impacts in greater detail. The statement of environmental significance and decision guidelines recognise the existing formal and informal sports and recreation uses and community facilities with some reasonable permit exemptions provided to support continued use.</p> <p>Deleting duplication of controls ensures that future planning applications don't have to address additional and unnecessary planning controls and improves the overall efficiency of the planning scheme.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the community benefit outweigh the cost of the new control? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The community benefit is outweighed by ensuring future development addresses and suitably manages the identified threats and guides development in areas of lower/minimal ecological values, ensuring the protection of the natural environment.</p> <p>Majority of the study area is currently encompassed by a VPO1. The VPO1 requires a planning permit for the removal of native and non-native vegetation (some exemptions included).</p> <p>Amendment C241morn removes the VPO1 and replaces it with the ESO32 which strengthens the biodiversity protection to just native vegetation and ties the permit requirements back to the environmental objective trying to be achieved.</p> <p>Removing the need for a planning permit to remove, destroy or lop non-native vegetation allows for the management of weeds and other exotic vegetation. This also allows also a balance between informal and formal sport and recreation opportunities and community uses and conserving the ecological of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment repeat provisions already in the scheme? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Amendment C241morn deletes redundant provisions (DDO2, DDO4, DDO6, DDO7 and VPO1) to avoid unnecessary duplication of controls and improve the overall efficiency of the planning scheme.</p> <p>The proposed ESO32 is a bespoke ESO which is specific to the unique ecological values of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the planning scheme the most appropriate means of controlling the issue or can other existing regulatory or process mechanisms deal with the issue? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The <i>Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifies that not all threats within the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves can be controlled by the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme. makes other recommendations to address enforcement and other land management practices for example. however, justifies that an ESO be developed as it is the most appropriate planning control "due to the mapped native vegetation and significant biodiversity values". <p>Planning Practice Note - PPN07: Vegetation Protection in Urban Areas identifies that; where there are environmental constraints on development or other important ecological values are identified, the use of an ESO may be appropriate. The ESO is applied if vegetation protection is part of a wider objective to protect the environmental significance of the area.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the matter already dealt with under other regulations? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>No, the matter is not currently dealt with under other regulations.</p> <p>Amendment C241morn includes the <i>Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)</i> as a Background Document to assist with the assessment of permit applications.</p>
Does the amendment implement the objectives of planning and any environmental, social and economic effects?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment implement the objectives of planning in Victoria? (Refer to section 4 of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>) 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>It is considered that Amendment C241morn protects the natural environment and aims to ensure that future development does not degrade the ecology of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.</p> <p>Existing informal and formal sport and recreation opportunities and community uses will be allowed to be maintained under Amendment C241morn for ongoing community enjoyment, however potential impacts of future development will be considered on a case-by-case basis against the proposed planning provisions.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment adequately address any environmental effects? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Amendment C241morn will particularly have positive environmental effects by applying a bespoke ESO to protect and enhance the ecological values, systems and character of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.</p> <p>The ESO32 aims to address particular threats identified by the <i>Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)</i>.</p> <p><i>Ministerial Direction No. 1 Potentially Contaminated Land</i> – potentially contaminated land means land used to store waste (amongst other definitions). EPA Victoria publication 788.3: <i>Siting, design, operation and rehabilitation of landfills</i>, indicates a 500m buffer should be applied from the previous sensitive land use.</p> <p>J R Anderson Reserve (located at 626 Nepean Highway, Mount Martha) was used as a landfill for approximately 1 year, was closed in 1966 with the age of waste being approximately 54 years old. J R Anderson Reserve is within 500m of the most north-eastern corner of the study area.</p> <p>In considering a planning scheme amendment in accordance with the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>, Council must have regard to the effects of the environment, including landfill gas.</p> <p>The former landfill site is currently subject to ongoing investigation, including a Landfill Gas Risk Assessment. It is not expected that the findings of the investigations will have any significant implications for Amendment C241morn as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It's not proposing or allowing any use or development; It's seeking to protect and enhance the ecological values, systems and character of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves by applying a new ESO32; and Preliminary gas monitoring results for the former landfill, indicate very low levels of landfill gas. <p>The Landfill Gas Risk Assessment findings are yet to be finalised; these may however have implications for the future development potential of land within the 500m buffer should the more onerous buffer be required to be retained.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment adequately address any social effects? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The ESO32 identifies the existing formal and informal sport and recreation uses, community uses and areas of conservation and requires consideration of the purpose of the development in relation to the existing use of the land to allow the continued use of such community sports and services.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment adequately address any economic effects? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>LDRZ and GRZ1 land proposed to be rezoned to PPRZ or PCRZ is publicly owned and is not proposed to be sold off and developed for residential use. Discussions have been had with the Department Environment, Land, Water and Planning in relation to rezoning Crown Land, which the Planning and Approvals team have supported the rezoning.</p> <p>Additionally, as stated in Clause 02.03-2 (Environmental and landscape values); "environmental and landscape values are important, considering the Peninsula is a key recreation area that meets both local and metropolitan needs. The significant number of informal recreational visitors, which the Peninsula attracts each year, is a major contributor to the local economy and the basis of a sustainable tourism industry".</p> <p>The Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves are known for supporting informal recreation tourism.</p>
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<p>Does the amendment address relevant bushfire risk?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment meet the objective and give effect to the strategies to address the risk to life as a priority, property, community infrastructure and the natural environment from bushfire in the Planning Policy Framework (Clause 13.02 of the planning scheme)? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The amendment is consistent with the objective of Clause 13.02-1S (Bushfire planning) to strengthen the resilience of settlements and communities to bushfire through risk-based planning that prioritises the protection of human life. The amendment does not propose any changes that would have the effect of changing existing fire management practices for affected land, nor does it propose controls that would result in the use or development of the land in a way that may create a bushfire hazard to existing and future residents, property and community infrastructure within the area.</p> <p>Majority of land affected by the amendment is affected by the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO) with all land being a Bushfire Prone Area (BPA). As such, the bushfire protection provisions contained within these instruments prevail over all other considerations as they are being retained.</p> <p>It is noted that the land affected by the amendment is entirely within public ownership, including a combination of Crown Land and land owned by Mornington Peninsula Shire Council. Council is the Committee of Management for all Crown Land within the amendment area and manages the land in accordance with the Mornington Peninsula Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP).</p> <p>As per the MFMP, fire management works within public land aims to reduce fuel hazard and risk to neighbouring properties from potential bushfire and typically consist of slashing, removing or trimming vegetation to reduce connectivity between shrubs and trees, and removing fallen, dead branches.</p> <p>Such works are carried out in designated Fire Management Zones (FMZs), which are generally located around reserve boundaries adjacent to assets and in high bushfire risk areas. Land affected by the amendment includes the following two FMZs and associated fire protection measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asset Protection Zone (intensive fuel management, including slashing, to reduce the risk of flames or radiant heat from potential bushfire on houses); and Bushfire Moderation Zone (vegetation modification to reduce fuel hazard, spread and intensity of potential bushfire. <p>These FMZs are inspected annually to identify works required to reduce the overall fuel hazard to acceptable limits. Identified works are then prioritised and implemented over the year. Grass slashing occurs regularly throughout the year.</p>
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				<p>There is no known intention to remove any of the land from public ownership or management nor does the amendment propose to alter the designated FMZs and associated fire protection measures.</p> <p>The existing VPO1 (which is proposed to be removed from the land subject to the amendment) requires a planning permit to remove, destroy or lop native and non-native vegetation whilst the proposed ESO32 only requires a planning permit to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation.</p> <p>The parent provision of the ESO provides a Table of exemptions (at Clause 42.01-3) which provide exemptions for Fire protection and would override the ESO32, should it be approved.</p> <p>The Study mapped 25.2 hectares of non-native vegetation which under the proposed provisions wouldn't require the need for a planning permit to be removed, destroyed or lopped. The amendment does not propose any revegetation. The Mornington Peninsula Shire currently manage majority of the area subject to the amendment as a bushland reserve and will continue to do so.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Has the view of the relevant fire authority been sought in formulating the amendment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The project was referred to the CFA on 13 April 2022, a response was received on 26 May 2022. The Country Fire Authority have suggested that when satisfying Clause 13.02-1S (Bushfire planning) policy, Council considers the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">“The level of change in revegetation being sought as a result of this amendment and any factors that may affect bushfire behaviour.How any change in vegetation will be monitored to ensure the bushfire risk will be managed and avoid increasing the bushfire risk over time.Whether there may be a conflict with existing settlement policy principles set out by Council as the proposed amendment has a focus primarily on retention and enhancement of biodiversity. The amendment should also explore the consequences, outcomes and potential change this may have on existing development and their fire risk”.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">If the planning scheme includes a Local Planning Policy Framework at Clause 20, is the amendment consistent with the Local Planning Policy Framework objectives and strategies that apply to bushfire risk?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme no longer contains a Local Planning Policy Framework as at Clause 20.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Is local policy for bushfire risk management required to support the amendment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>N/A</p>

Does the amendment comply with all the relevant Minister's Directions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment comply with the requirements of the Ministerial Direction - The Form and Content of Planning Schemes? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The amendment is consistent with the <i>Ministerial Direction – the Form and Content of Planning Schemes</i> under section 7(5) of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>.</p> <p>Note: The land which is to be rezoned from GRZ1 and LDRZ to PPRZ and PCRZ is owned and / or controlled by the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council. The Mornington Peninsula Shire Council are the Committee of Management for all Crown Land within the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do any other Minister's Directions apply to the amendment? If so, have they been complied with? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The amendment is consistent with the applicable Ministerial Directions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Ministerial Direction No. 1 Potentially Contaminated Land</i> <i>Ministerial Direction No.9 Metropolitan Strategy (Plan Melbourne)</i>. <i>Ministerial Direction No.11 Strategic Assessment of Amendments</i>. <i>Ministerial Direction No.17 Localised Planning Statements</i>. <p>The Localised Planning Statement bases future planning for the settlements on the Peninsula on principles of good design, Integrated local area planning and environmentally sustainable development, all in accordance with the character, scale, role and functions of each settlement. Some Strategies of the Localised Planning Statement include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation and enhancement of natural systems and biodiversity. Providing for recreational demand based primarily on the experience and enjoyment of the natural and cultural values of the Mornington Peninsula. The natural systems of the Mornington Peninsula, on both public and privately owned land, will be conserved and managed for their habitat and biodiversity values and to maintain and enhance the experience of natural environment. This will include the conservation of areas of significant flora and fauna value and sites of geological significance. Planning for the Mornington Peninsula will be directed towards maintaining and increasing biodiversity and increasing the resilience of natural systems. Where the development of land requires environmental offsets these will be provided on the Mornington Peninsula and in the local area where appropriate. Planning for the area will take into account information from scientific studies and other research into the area and adjacent bays and catchments.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the amendment accompanied by all of the information required by a Minister's Direction? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Does the amendment support or implement the PPF?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment support or give effect to the PPF? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The amendment supports and implements the State Planning Policy Framework. In particular Clauses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12.01 (Biodiversity) by using biodiversity information to identify important areas if biodiversity and strategically planning for the protection and conservation of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves. 12.03 (Water bodies and wetlands) by ensuring development responds to and respects the significant environmental, conservation, open space, recreation and tourism assets of water bodies and ensuring development is sensitively designed and sited to maintain and enhance environmental assets. 12.05 (Significant Environments and landscapes) by protecting and conserving environmentally sensitive areas. 19.02 (Community Infrastructure) by incorporating links between major parks and activity areas, along waterways and connecting places of natural and cultural interest and retaining the integration of early childhood facilities with the local community.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there any competing PPF objectives and how are they balanced? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Applying the ESO32 has the potential to constrain the expansion of sport and recreation and community use and development within land zoned PPRZ. To meet community needs and particularly growing participation numbers in formal recreation given future development should be limited to areas with low/minimal ecological values. Clause 19.02-6S (Open space) aims to improve the quality and distribution of open space and ensure long-term protection.</p> <p>The ESO32 has been developed to recognise the existing uses within the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves. Consideration is to be given to the purpose of the development in relation to the existing use of the land, to provide a level of balance given the competing interests of the study area.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment support or give effect to any relevant adopted state policy? <p>If the planning scheme includes a Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) at Clause 02 and the amendment seeks to introduce or amend a local planning policy in the PPF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the new or amended local planning policy: 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The <i>Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018-28</i> is a shared strategy across Melbourne Water Corporation, state and local government, water corporations and the community providing strategic direction towards a regional vision for the health of rivers, estuaries and wetlands in the Port Phillip and Westernport region.</p> <p>The <i>Westernport - Healthy Waterways Strategy</i> identifies that Balcombe Creek Estuary is a major waterway within the Mornington Peninsula Western Creeks Sub-Catchment. The Strategy provides performance objectives, current state / current trajectories and target trajectories for a number of waterway conditions / key values for the Balcombe Creek Estuary.</p> <p>Melbourne Water Corporation has been consulted with and have provided their support for the proposed ESO32 and requested that they be notified of applications under the provisions of the Schedule to Clause 66.06 (as drafted) rather than receiving a formal referral under the schedule to Clause 66.04. Notice will be provided to Melbourne Water Corporation for applications related to earthworks and / or native vegetation removal.</p> <p>Amendment C241morn does not propose any new content to be included in the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) at Clause 02.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> respond to a demonstrated need? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> implement a strategic direction in the MPS? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> relate to a specific discretion or group of discretions in the planning scheme? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> assist the responsible authority to make a decision? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (assist any other person to understand whether a proposal is likely to be supported?) 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment affect any existing local planning policy or tool? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is a local planning policy necessary OR is the issue adequately covered by another planning tool or decision guideline? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Amendment C241morn proposes to introduce a bespoke ESO32 which outlines the identified ecological values and environmental systems found only within the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves whilst recognising the challenges of the competing existing uses.</p> <p>The <i>Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)</i> strategically justifies that an ESO be developed as it is the most appropriate planning control “due to the mapped native vegetation and significant biodiversity values”.</p> <p>Planning Practice Note - PPN07: Vegetation Protection in Urban Areas identifies that; where there are environmental constraints on development or other important ecological values are identified, the use of an ESO may be appropriate. The ESO is applied if vegetation protection is part of a wider objective to protect the environmental significance of the area.</p> <p>Accordingly, the VPO1 is proposed to be deleted from the study area given the proposed ESO32 provides stronger planning protection.</p>
<p>Does the amendment support or implement the LPPF?</p> <p>*This strategic consideration only applies if the planning scheme includes an LPPF at Clause 20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment implement or support the MSS? Does the amendment seek to change the objectives or strategies of the MSS? If so, what is the change? What effect will any change to the MSS have on the rest of the MSS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the amendment consistent/inconsistent with strategic directions elsewhere in the MSS? Has the cumulative effect of this amendment on the strategic directions in the MSS been considered? Does the new or amended local planning policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> respond to a demonstrated need? implement an objective or strategy in the MSS? relate to a specific discretion or group of discretions in the scheme? assist the responsible authority to make a decision? assist any other person to understand whether a proposal is likely to be supported? 	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme no longer contains a Local Planning Policy Framework as at Clause 20.</p>

4.1 (Cont.)

Attachment 14

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment affect any existing local planning policy or tool? Is a local planning policy necessary OR is the issue covered by another planning tool or decision guideline? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<p>Does the amendment support or implement the MPS?</p> <p>*This strategic consideration only applies if the planning scheme includes an MPS at Clause 02</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does the amendment seek to implement or support the MPS? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>A Strategic objective of Clause 02.02 (Vision) related to land use and development is "to protect and enhance the Mornington Peninsula's biodiversity and coastal experience".</p> <p>By applying the ESO32 the threats to the unique ecological values and biodiversity will be considered in future planning applications.</p> <p>Clause 02.03-2 (Environmental and landscape values) recognises that; "environmental and landscape values are important, considering the Peninsula is a key recreation area that meets both local and metropolitan needs. The significant number of informal recreational visitors, which the Peninsula attracts each year, is a major contributor to the local economy and the basis of a sustainable tourism industry".</p> <p>The proposed ESO32 recognises the informal recreation opportunities that the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves provide.</p> <p>The proposed ESO32 recognises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the Balcombe Creek Estuary is a major waterway for the region that the study area supports a range of indigenous flora and fauna some of which are protected under the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> (Victoria) and the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Commonwealth) the particular threats including, decline in native vegetation and habitat areas, water quality, land and soil stability, and accelerated sedimentation discharge <p>all of which are to be considered in future decision-making processes thereby addressing Clause 02.03-3 (Environmental risks and amenity).</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment seek to change the strategic directions of the MPS? If so, what is the change? What effect will any change to the MPS have on the rest of the MPS? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the amendment consistent/inconsistent with strategic directions elsewhere in the MPS? Is the amendment consistent/inconsistent with strategic directions elsewhere in the MPS? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Amendment C241morn does not seek to change the strategic directions of the Municipal Planning Statement.</p>

	– What is the cumulative effect of this amendment on the other directions in the MPS?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Does the amendment make proper use of the VPP?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the amendment use the most appropriate VPP tool to achieve the strategic objective of the scheme? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Amendment C241morn makes appropriate use of the Victorian Planning Provisions.</p> <p>Amendment C241morn deletes redundant provisions to avoid unnecessary duplication of controls and improve the overall efficiency of the planning scheme. This is achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing a bespoke ESO32 which outlines the identified ecological values and environmental systems found within the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves. <p>To allow reasonable formal and informal sports and recreation uses and community facility development the ESO32 contains some exemptions which are considered to have low/minimal impact on the ecological values and environmental systems of the Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The amendment also rezones some GRZ1 and LDRZ land to either PPRZ or PCRZ given the land is publicly owned and is not intended for residential use and development. <p>The purpose of the PPRZ identifies the need to both:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recognise areas for public recreation and open space; and - protect and conserve areas of significance where appropriate. <p>Rezoning land from GRZ1 and LDRZ to PPRZ will ensure that the zone recognises the ecological values and allows provision for reasonable formal and informal sports and recreation uses and community facility development where appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The VPO1 is proposed to be deleted from the study area given the proposed ESO32 provides stronger planning protection for native vegetation, ecological values and environmental systems. The DDO2, DDO4, DDO6 and DDO7 are proposed to be removed from properties within the study area given that the DDO's are more targeted at guiding residential development and subdivision. Given that GRZ1 and LDRZ is proposed to be rezoned to PPRZ or PCRZ it is considered that the DDO's will become redundant.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the amendment consistent with any relevant planning practice note? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Amendment C241morn is considered to be consistent with the following Planning Practices Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>PPN07: Vegetation Protection in Urban Areas</i> <i>PPN13: Incorporated and background documents</i> <i>PPN46: Strategic Assessment Guidelines</i> <i>PPN54: Managing Referrals and Notice Requirements</i>
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<p>How does the amendment address the views of any relevant agency?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have the views of any relevant agency been addressed? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>During the preparation of <i>Balcombe Estuary and associated reserves: Ecological and Planning Study (Biosis, 2022)</i>, the specific views of the following agencies were sought by direct engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Melbourne Water Corporation – as the waterway Manager for the Balcombe Creek Estuary and co-author/responsible for the <i>Healthy Waterways Strategy 2018-28</i> and <i>Westernport - Healthy Waterways Strategy</i>. <p>Melbourne Water Corporation have provided their support for the proposed ESO32 and requested that they be notified of applications under the provisions of the Schedule to Clause 66.06 (as drafted) rather than receiving a formal referral under the schedule to Clause 66.04.</p> <p>Notice will be provided to Melbourne Water Corporation for applications related to earthworks and native vegetation removal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country Fire Authority - given majority of the study area is affected by a BMO, with all land being a bushfire prone area. The Country Fire Authority have suggested that when satisfying Clause 13.02-1S (Bushfire planning) policy, Council considers the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “The level of change in revegetation being sought as a result of this amendment and any factors that may affect bushfire behaviour. How any change in vegetation will be monitored to ensure the bushfire risk will be managed and avoid increasing the bushfire risk over time. Whether there may be a conflict with existing settlement policy principles set out by Council as the proposed amendment has a focus primarily on retention and enhancement of biodiversity. The amendment should also explore the consequences, outcomes and potential change this may have on existing development and their fire risk”. <p>A response to these matters is addressed above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department Environment, Land, Water and Planning – Planning Approvals team in relation to rezoning Crown Land. <p>Advice received indicated support to rezone various Crown Land parcels, supported the preparation and implementation of a new ESO and agreed that the DDO's in their current</p>
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form are not applicable. The drafted planning provisions have since been provided again to which we were advised that “everything we discussed and submitted to you during the consultation process has been included and in turn DELWP Port Phillip Region has no comment to make”.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – planning staff resources 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Consideration has also been given towards internal resources that can review the Flora and Fauna Assessment, Site Environmental Management Plan and Land Management Plan as required by the Application requirements (as appropriate).</p> <p>Melbourne Water Corporation has been consulted with and have provided their support for the proposed ESO32 and requested that they be notified of applications under the provisions of the Schedule to Clause 66.06 (as drafted) rather than receiving a formal referral under the schedule to Clause 66.04. Notice will be provided to Melbourne Water Corporation for applications related to earthworks and / or native vegetation removal.</p> <p>Notice rather than a formal referral allows Melbourne Water Corporation to opt-in / opt-out of providing a response to a planning permit application provided to them.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – other miscellaneous costs including legal or other professional advice, for example, heritage advisers 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – capacity to consider the new application within the prescribed time? 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Planning and Environment Act 1987

MORNINGTON PENINSULA PLANNING SCHEME

AMENDMENT C241MORN

INSTRUCTION SHEET

The planning authority for this amendment is the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council.

The Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme is amended as follows:

Planning Scheme Maps

The Planning Scheme Maps are amended by a total of 4 attached maps sheets.

Zoning Maps

1. Amend Planning Scheme Map No. 12 in the manner shown on the 1 attached map marked "Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme, Amendment C241morn".

Overlay Maps

2. Amend Planning Scheme Map No. 12 in the manner shown on the 2 attached maps marked "Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme, Amendment C241morn".
3. Insert new Planning Scheme Map No. 12 in the manner shown on the 1 attached map marked "Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme, Amendment C241morn".

Planning Scheme Ordinance

The Planning Scheme Ordinance is amended as follows:

4. In **Overlays** – Clause 42.01, insert a new Schedule 32 in the form of the attached document.
5. In **General Provisions**– Clause 66.06, replace the Schedule with a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.
6. In **Operational Provisions** – Clause 72.03, replace the Schedule with a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.
7. In **Operational Provisions** – Clause 72.08, replace the Schedule with a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.

End of document

