



Plan of Management Natural Area

**within the former
Queanbeyan City Council LGA**

Addendum 1

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Matters Common to all Lands Covered by this Plan of Management – Addendum

Note: This Addendum is to be read in conjunction with the current Plan of Management (PoM) – Natural Area – Amendment No. 3 which was adopted by Council on 26 May 2010.

Introduction

The general purpose of this plan of management addendum is to update the list of Council owned properties. Under clause 25 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, all land owned by a council must be classified either 'community' or 'operational' land. Any land that is subsequently classified as 'community' must also be placed in an appropriate plan of management that sets out how that land will be managed for the benefit of the community into the future.

Accordingly, this plan of management addendum seeks to ensure Council has met its statutory obligations in respect of any 'community' land that is categorised as 'Natural Area' for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

What is a Plan of Management?

A plan of management is a document that provides direction and continuity for the planning, resource management, maintenance, operation and programming of community land. The plan enables management to proceed in an efficient and sustainable manner, helps reconcile competing interests, identifies priorities for the allocation of available resources and facilitates public understanding.

Periodic revision of a plan of management also enables changing social, economic and ecological conditions to be taken into account as they arise and where necessary, the plan can be amended to reflect these changes. This plan of management for natural areas has been developed to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* specifically and to inform the public generally.

Category and Classification of Land

As noted, these lands are categorised as **Natural Area** under section 36E of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a natural area are:

- (a) to conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem function in respect of the land, or the feature or habitat in respect of which the land is categorised as a natural area, and
- (b) to maintain the land, or that feature or habitat, in its natural state and setting, and
- (c) to provide for the restoration and regeneration of the land, and
- (d) to provide for community use of, and access to, the land in such a manner as will minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion.
- (e) to assist in and facilitate the implementation of any provisions restricting the use and management of the land that are set out in any recovery plan or threat abatement plan prepared under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* or the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.

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The subject land that is categorised as a natural area is further categorised as:

- Bushland,
- Escarpment, and
- Watercourse.

Under section 36(5) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, each of these categories also has core objectives for management of community land.

Bushland

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as bushland (36J) are:

- a) to ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat values of the land, the flora and fauna (including invertebrates, fungi and micro-organisms) of the land and other ecological values of the land, and
- b) to protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land, and
- c) to promote the management of the land in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and to implement measures directed to minimising or mitigating any disturbance caused by human intrusion, and
- d) to restore degraded bushland, and
- e) to protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores, and
- f) to retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term, and
- g) to protect bushland as a natural stabiliser of the soil surface.

Escarpment

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as an escarpment (36L) are:

- a) to protect any important geological, geomorphological or scenic features of the escarpment, and
- b) to facilitate safe community use and enjoyment of the escarpment.

Watercourse

The core objectives for management of community land categorised as a watercourse (35M) are:

- a) to managed watercourses so as to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the instream environment, particularly in relation to water quality and water flows, and
- b) to manage watercourses so as to protect the riparian environment, particularly in relation to riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability, and

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- c) to restore degraded watercourses, and
- d) to promote community education, and community access to and use of the watercourse, without comprising the other core objectives of the category.

Guidelines for the Categorisation of Community Land

Clause 102 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* sets out the guidelines for categorisation of land as a **Natural Area** as set out below:

Land should be categorised as a natural area under section 36 (4) of the Act if the land, whether or not in an undisturbed state, possesses a significant geological feature, geomorphological feature, landform, representative system or other natural feature or attribute that would be sufficient to further categorise the land as bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse or foreshore under section 36 (5) of the Act.

Note. *Section 36A of the Act provides that community land that has been declared a critical habitat under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 or the Fisheries Management Act 1994 must be categorised as a natural area.*

Section 36B of the Act provides that community land all or part of which is directly affected by a recovery plan or threat abatement plan under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 or the Fisheries Management Act 1994 must be categorised as a natural area.

Section 36C of the Act provides that community land that is the site of a known natural, geological, geomorphological, scenic or other feature that is considered by the council to warrant protection or special management considerations, or that is the site of a wildlife corridor, must be categorised as a natural area.

Clause 107 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2005* sets out the circumstances where natural area land should further be categorised as bushland:

(1) *Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as bushland under section 36 (5) of the Act if the land contains primarily native vegetation and that vegetation:*

- (a) *Is the natural vegetation or a remainder of the natural vegetation of the land, or*
- (b) *Although not the natural vegetation of the land, is still representative of the structure or floristics, or structure and floristics, of the natural vegetation in the locality.*

(2) *Such land includes:*

- (a) *Bushland that is mostly undisturbed with a good mix of tree ages, and natural regeneration, where the understorey is comprised of native grasses and herbs or native shrubs, and that contains a range of habitats for native fauna (such as logs, shrubs, tree hollows and leaf litter), or*
- (b) *Moderately disturbed bushland with some regeneration of trees and shrubs, where there may be a regrowth area with trees of even age, where native shrubs and grasses are present in the understorey even though there may be some weed invasion, or*

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- (c) *Highly disturbed bushland where the native understorey has been removed, where there may be significant weed invasion and where dead and dying trees are present, where there is no natural regeneration of trees or shrubs, but where the land is still capable of being rehabilitated.*

Clause 109 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2005* provides that natural area land should further be categorised under section 36(5) of the Act as an escarpment if:

- (a) *the land includes such features as a long cliff-like ridge or rock, and*
- (b) *the land includes significant or unusual geological, geomorphological or scenic qualities.*

Clause 110 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2005* provides that natural area land should further be categorised under section 36(5) of the Act as a watercourse if:

- (a) *any stream of water, whether perennial or intermittent, flowing in a natural channel, or in a natural channel that has been artificially improved, or in an artificial channel that has changed the course of the stream of water, and any other stream of water into or from which the stream of water flows, and*
- (b) *associated riparian land or vegetation, including land that is protected land for the purposes of the Rivers and Foreshores Improvement Act 1978 or State protected land identified in an order under section 7 of the Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997.*

Addendum

The addendum to this plan of management adds the following parcels of land for the purposes of natural area:

- Lot 1 DP 1207530, known as 17 Copperfield Place, Jerrabomberra NSW 2619 – 122 Ha – Subcategory – Bushlands – (Property Key: 181054).
- Lot 539 DP 1145772, known as 701 (U) Royalla Drive, Royalla NSW 2620 – 3.07 Ha – Subcategory – Watercourse – (Property Key: 184120).
- Lot 3 DP 1217396, known as 29 Connolly Street, Googong NSW 2620 – (Aprasia Conservation Area) – 23.97 Ha – Subcategory – Bushland – (Property Key: 186870).

As noted, this addendum to the Plan of Management – Natural Area is supplementary to the following plans of management:

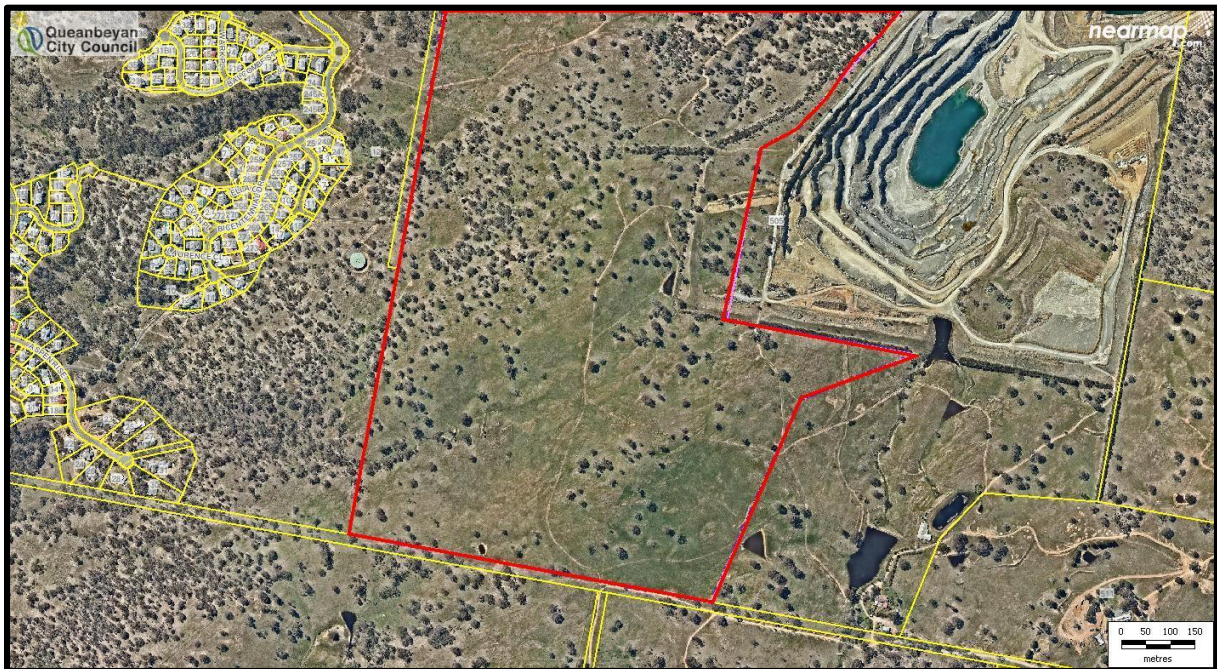
- Plan of Management to the former Queanbeyan City Council – Natural Areas – Amendment No.3.
- Plan of Management to the former Queanbeyan City Council – Jerrabomberra Creek Community Land.
- Plan of Management to the former Queanbeyan City Council – Mount Jerrabomberra.
- Plan of Management to the former Queanbeyan City Council – Queanbeyan River Riparian Corridor Strategy.

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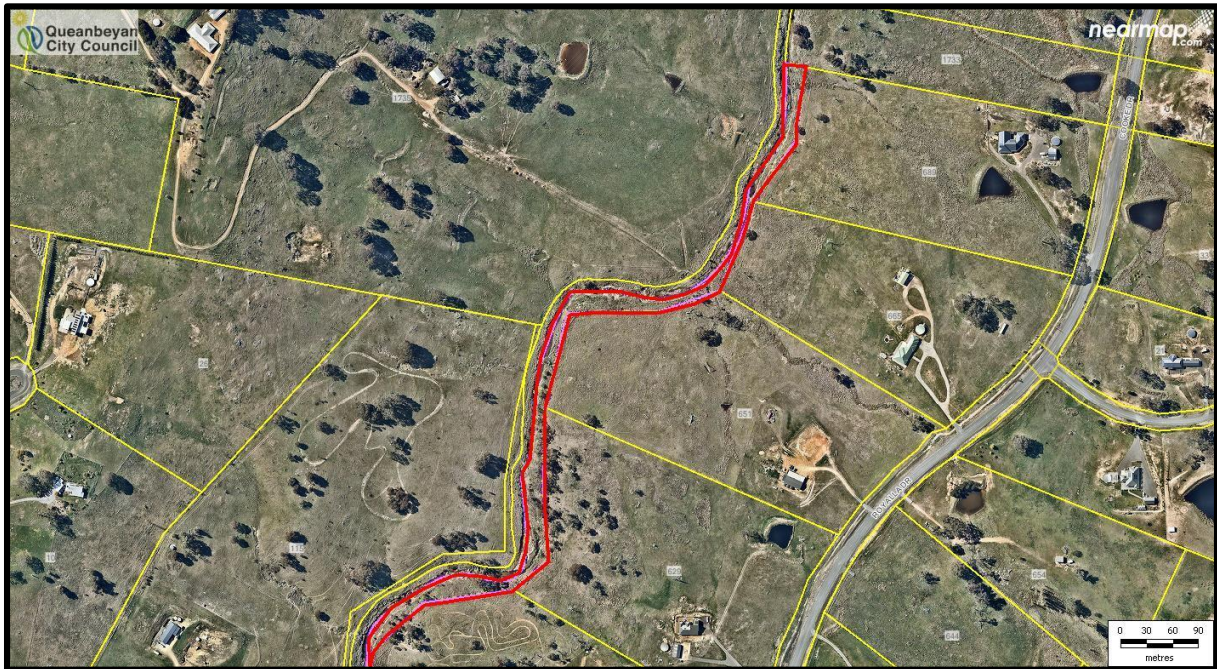
This addendum to Plan of Management – Natural Area applies to Council owned land classified as 'community' and categorised as 'Natural Area' under the *Local Government Act 1993*. This land is shown on Maps 1, 2 & 3.

Map 1: Aerial Plan – Lot 1 DP 1207530, known as 17 Copperfield Place Jerrabomberra NSW 2619 – 122 Ha – Subcategory – Bushlands



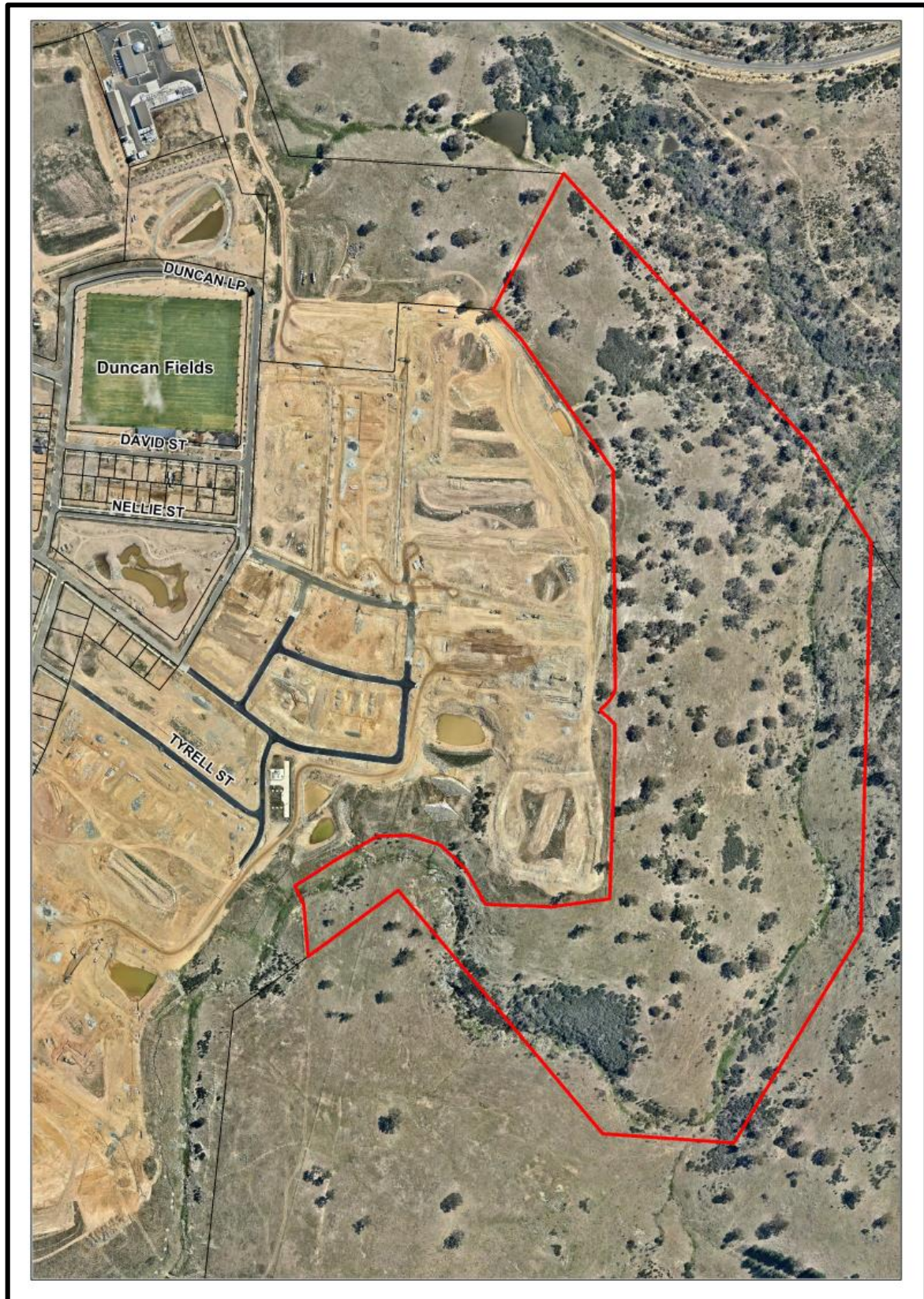
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Map 2: Aerial Map – Lot 539 DP 1145772, known as 701 (U) Royalla Drive Royalla NSW 2620 – 3.07 Ha – Subcategory – Watercourse



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Map 3: Aerial Map – Lot 3 DP 1217396, known as 29 Connolly Street Googong NSW 2620 – (Aprasia Conservation Area) – 23.97 Ha – Subcategory – Bushland



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Community Consultation

Council acknowledges that community consultation is an important component of its business.

As set down in section 38I of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council will give public notice of a draft plan of management, and place the draft plan on public exhibition for no less than 28 days while allowing a minimum of 42 days to comment. Any submissions made to Council in respect of the draft plan will be considered by Council prior to the final adoption of the plan of management.

The Queanbeyan community and other interested parties will be able to have input into this draft plan of management through the public exhibition and submission stage. A public hearing conducted by an independent chairperson, will also need to be conducted after the public exhibition of the documents in respect to the addition of a new lots to this plan of management.