WODONGA HILLS ADVISORY GROUP

INTERIM REPORT (DRAFT)
APRIL 2019

PREPARED FOR WODONGA CITY COUNCIL
This report has been prepared by the Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG)

Acknowledgements and Recognition

Mr Adam Dyed WHAG Member (Community representative)
Mr Colin Elliott WHAG Member (Chair)
Mr Isuru Garnage WHAG Member (Community representative)
Ms Joy Sloan WHAG Member (Community representative)
Ms Lucy Widdup WHAG Member (Community representative)
Mr Allan Murray WHAG Member (Indigenous Community Elder)
Ms Gini Harris WHAG Member (DELWP Representative post Dec 2018)
Mr James Stewart WHAG Member (DELWP representative pre Dec 2018)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is a summary of the interim findings and recommendations from the Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG). The Terms of Reference for the WHAG were ratified in February 2018 and the members were appointed in June 2018. The first WHAG meeting was in August 2018. Refer to Section 1.1 and Appendix A for details about the Terms of Reference for the Group.

The Group has met on 11 occasions, generally on a fortnightly basis. The first few meetings were dominated by familiarisation discussions. This included briefings from key council staff and a formal site tour. Later meetings focused on detailed discussions around the specific actions in the strategy and ultimately the discussions evolved to priority setting. Minutes from the meetings are included in Appendix B.

During the course of their deliberations, the WHAG identified a number of common themes which cut across a number of actions and the Group took the opportunity to review the action priorities collectively across these themes to ensure consistency. The identified themes were Governance, Wayfinding, Communications, and Operations.

When applying priorities to actions the Group adopted the following general approach:

- Those actions that are being (or will be) implemented as part of ordinary council business were assumed to be either underway or planned.
- Those actions that are administrative in nature or related to Governance of the Hills would generally have a higher priority.
- Actions which would bring about improvements to safety of users and/or council staff were generally given a higher priority.
- Actions which were common across a particular Hill or across all Hills would be aggregated together and reviewed collectively to ensure implementation occurred in the correct sequence, to provide consistency and capture any potential savings due to increase of scale.

A full listing of Actions in priority order are included in the table in Appendix C.

The Group has made a number of Recommendations related to the implementation of the Strategy. These are detailed in Section 4.

The group intends to keep meeting on a quarterly basis to continue monitoring of implementation of the plan and ultimately to take part in a review of the WHAG in March 2020.
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1. BACKGROUND

The Planning for the Wodonga Hills report (the strategy) was formally adopted by Wodonga Council on 16 October 2017. At that meeting it was further proposed that an Advisory Group should be established to assist with the implementation of the Strategy. This group would be known as the Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG).

Over the ensuing months the Terms of Reference for the WHAG were developed and Expressions of Interest were called for membership of the group. The group membership was ratified at the ordinary council meeting on 25 June 2018 and the inaugural WHAG meeting was held on 13 August 2018.

This report is a summary of the interim findings of the WHAG group.

1.1 TERMS OF REFERENCE

It was important to acknowledge that, at the time of establishment of the WHAG, the Strategy had been accepted and approved by Council and also had tacit support from a range of stakeholders including DELWP. On this basis the purpose of the group was not to re-set the Strategy, but to focus on prioritising the stated actions.

The original Terms of Reference of the Group were ratified by council at their ordinary meeting on 19 February 2018. These were subsequently amended to vary the number of group members required to achieve a quorum. The Terms of Reference are included as Appendix A.

The Terms of Reference specify that the principal objective of the WHAG was to advise on the implementation of the Strategy, and in particular to:

- act as an Advisory Group to the Council
- reflect on the work done to date and to develop and enhance current strategies and actions
- reflect the views of key stakeholder groups in relation to the Wodonga Hills Strategy
- request and consider expert advice on aspects of the Wodonga Hills Strategy, and
- contribute to the review and development of an (independent) review of the Wodonga Hills Strategy commencing March 2020 and completed by November 2020

1.2 REFERENCE MATERIAL

The following reference material was presented to the Group as relevant documentation which should be considered:

- Planning for Wodonga Hills strategy (incorporating Bears Hill Master Plan; Federation Hill Masterplan; Huon Hill Masterplan; Kings Hill Masterplan; Maher’s Hill Master Plan (Gondwana, 2017)
- Signage Plan 2017/18 – 2021 (CoW 2017)
- Interpretive signage guide and template (Calvert and Co 2017)
Letter from Brian Thompson, Acting Regional Director, Hume to Patience Harrington, CEO, regarding response to the planning for the Wodonga Hills draft strategy (DELWP 2017)

1.3 GROUP MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the group was ratified by council at their meeting on 25 June 2018. The five appointed community representative members were:

- Adam Dyer (Community Member)
- Colin Elliott (Community Member) (Chair)
- Joy Sloan (Community Member)
- Isuru Gamage (Community Member)
- Lucy Widdup (Community Member)

Figure 1: Wodonga Hills Advisory Group – inaugural meeting (L-R Lucy Widdup, Joy Sloan, Colin Elliott (Chair), James Stewart, Isuru Gamage (Absent: Adam Dyer, Alan Murray).

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) was represented by Mr James Stewart up until his retirement in December 2018. Beyond that the DELWP representative was Ms Virginia (Gini) Harris.

The indigenous community was represented in the group by Mr (Uncle) Alan Murray.

The CFA did not send a representative.
2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 MEETINGS
The first meeting of the group was held on 13 August 2018. Since then the group has met regularly, generally on a fortnightly basis. Activities at each meeting were formally recorded in the minutes which are included as Appendix B. Meeting have been held on the following dates:

- 13 August 2018 (Introductions, review Terms of Reference)
- 29 August 2018 (Briefings from Council staff)
- 12 September 2018 (Briefings from Council staff)
- 20 September 2018 (Briefings – themes identified)
- 24 October 2018 (Site visit preparation, initial discussion on priorities)
- 4 November 2018 (Site Visit)
- 21 November 2018 (Site Visit da-brief)
- 5 December 2018 (Allocation of Actions to themes)
- 30 January 2019 (Priority setting & Governance recommendations)
- 13 February 2019 (Priority setting & Wayfinding and Communications recommendations)
- 20 February 2019 (Priority Setting - Operations).

The group initially spent some time reflecting on the work done to date, including the Engagement Report. Three of the first four meetings were dominated by briefings from key Wodonga Staff members. The Group was extremely appreciative of the support received from these staff members and the professionalism in their briefing.

2.2 PRIORITY SETTING
Initially, the task of assessing priority to the 137 Actions in the strategy was considered to be quite daunting, particularly given the diversity of views across the group.

Priorities were based on the current frequency of use with an understanding as developments occur usage would increase. No particular user group was identified as having a higher priority above other user groups.

Ultimately the Group came to a consensus on a number of guiding principles which would be used to assist in setting priorities. These were as follows:

- Those actions that are being (or will be) implemented as part of ordinary council business (within annual capital works and/or maintenance budgets) would be assumed to be either underway or planned and therefore not considered in priority discussions
- Those actions that are administrative in nature, or related to governance of the Hills would generally have a higher priority as they are important to be established early on in the
implementation phase, but generally do not have a high associated capital cost (i.e. they can be implemented within operational budgets)

- Actions which would bring about improvements to safety of users and/or council staff were generally given a higher priority

- Actions which were common across a particular Hill would be aggregated together and reviewed collectively to:
  - ensure implementation occurred in the correct sequence
  - provide a consistency of approach and
  - to capture any potential capital cost savings due to increase of scale

- Actions which were common across all Hills would be considered in aggregate to ensure consistency of approach and to capture any potential capital cost savings. The following common themes were identified for a large portion of the Actions:
  - Governance
  - Wayfinding
  - Communications
  - Operational

The Group then analysed all Actions to allocate priority. Initially, the actions were grouped into common themes (Governance, Wayfinding, Communications, Operations) and sorted in priority order within those themes. The Action priorities were then aggregated together. Results from this process are included in Appendix C.

Figure 2: Priority Setting Session
3. CONCLUSION

The Wodonga Hills Advisory Group has met on 11 occasions (including a comprehensive 1-day tour of all five sites).

Meetings included briefings from key council staff; a formal site tour and detailed discussions around the specified Actions in the strategy. Minutes from meetings are included in Appendix B.

The Actions have been prioritised in accordance with the Terms of Reference for the Group (Appendix A). A full listing of Actions in priority order are included in the table in Appendix C.

The Group has made a number of Recommendations related to the implementation of the Strategy. These are detailed in Section 4.
4. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Wodonga Hills Advisory Group have agreed on a number of recommendations. These are detailed in this section.

4.1 GOVERNANCE

In regard to governance issues, the WHAG make the following recommendations:

1. At the meeting of 21 November 2018, the WHAG members agreed that it would recommend to Council that Clause 4.15 of the Terms of Reference should be amended to read:

   4.15 (4) members of the Advisory Group shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Advisory Group and no business shall be transacted at any such meeting unless a quorum is present.

2. The WHAG members recognise and acknowledge that implementation of a significant portion of the Actions will involve collaboration across numerous stakeholders. It is important to ensure a seamless outcome where the Actions are implemented across land operated and controlled by different entities. The WHAG recommends that, where possible, Council seek to take over management of available Crown Land parcels within the Hills precincts, to allow a seamless approach to action implementation.

3. Now that an initial priority setting phase has been completed, the WHAG committee believes it should transition into a monitoring phase; which would include review of progress on implementation, on a quarterly basis. This might include re-setting of priorities as, and if, required. The Group would also be available to contribute to the review and development of an (independent) review of the Wodonga Hills Strategy commencing March 2020 and to be completed by November 2020.

4.2 WAYFINDING

In regard to wayfinding aspects of the strategy, the WHAG make the following recommendations:

4. All signage should be in accordance with existing council guidelines for brand and signage (CoW 2017) and (CoW 2018)

5. Colour themes adopted within the Wodonga Hills Strategic Plan should be carried through into interpretive signage on each Hill

6. The trail difficulty rating system should be in accordance with International standards for both mountain bikes (IMBA, 2012) and bushwalking (DSE)

7. Wayfinding should be available on multiple platforms, including print and electronic media, (e.g. Apps, QR codes) suitable (and appropriate) for all user abilities

4.3 COMMUNICATIONS

In regard to communications issues, the WHAG make the following recommendations:

8. A Communication Plan should be developed to ensure that the community is regularly updated on progress with implementation of the Strategy including:
a. Specific updates to affected residents in accordance with Council Standard Operating Procedure

b. Development of a specific website or webpage dedicated to the Planning for Wodonga Hills strategy and its implementation

c. Regular updates and promotion of implemented actions (e.g. website, council meeting, city life, media release) to emphasise and celebrate progress

4.4 PRIORITIES

The WHAG members have formally reviewed each of the Actions listed in the strategy and have allocated priority to each action. These are included as Appendix C. The WHAG recommend that:

9. As far as practicable, the priority table in Appendix C be used as a basis for implementing the actions of the Planning for Wodonga Hills Strategy.
5. REFERENCES

Calvert & Co 2018 *Interpretive signage guide and template*, prepared in conjunction with City of Wodonga, Calvert & Co, October 2018.


DELWP 2017 Response to Planning for the Wodonga Hills Draft Strategy, letter from Acting Regional Director (Brian Thompson) to CEO Wodonga (Patience Harrington), 3 October 2017.


APPENDIX A – TERMS OF REFERENCE
WODONGA HILLS ADVISORY GROUP

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

19 February 2018
SCHEDULE

1. DEFINITIONS

In this Schedule unless contrary intention appears:

**Wodonga Hill Advisory Group** will advise Council on aspects of Wodonga Hills Strategy comprising:

- *Planning for the Wodonga Hills – Engagement Report*
- *Planning for the Wodonga Hills Strategy*
- *Bears Hill Master plan*
- *Federation Hill Master plan*
- *Huon Hill Master plan*
- *Klings Hill Master plan*
- *Maher’s Hill Master plan*

**Financial Year** means the period from 1st day of July to 30th day of June following.

**Advisory Group** means the persons who are appointed to the Special Advisory Group in the manner hereinafter provided.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE ADVISORY GROUP

The objectives of the **Wodonga Hills Advisory Group** shall be to act as an advisory Group for the implementation of the Wodonga Hills strategy, and in particular to:

2.1 Act as an advisory group to the Council.

2.2 To reflect on the work done to date and to develop and enhance current strategies and actions.

2.3 To reflect the views of key stakeholder groups in relation to the Wodonga Hills strategy.

2.4 To request and consider expert advice on aspects of the Wodonga Hills strategy.

2.5 Contribute to the review and development of:
3. Council’s Responsibilities to the Advisory Group

3.1 Council will provide the Advisory Group with the necessary expert advice to enable it to reach its recommendations commencing with the provision of a Reference Group manual, which includes background information on the Hills Strategy.

Council will support participation of Officers as required to inform the meeting, support meeting processes and other meeting requirements.

3.2 Council may use the information provided from the Advisory Group and consult further with the wider Wodonga community.

3.3 Council may use this information that has been obtained from the Advisory Group and the wider Wodonga community as part of its decision making process. Council may amend the recommendations of the Advisory Group based on the information obtained during any subsequent consultations with community and/or stakeholders.

3.4 The Chief Executive Officer of Wodonga City Council shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Advisory Group. The Chief Executive Officer may delegate this membership to other officers.

3.5 Council will provide secretarial support to the Advisory group inclusive of minute taking and distribution and coordinating members and / or group requests.

4. COMPOSITION AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL ADVISORY GROUP

4.1 The Advisory Group shall comprise of 9 members appointed by resolution of Council as follows:

- Representative of Department of Water Environment, Land and Planning
- Representative of the local indigenous community
- (4) Members from the Wodonga Community;
- Representative of Country Fire Authority
• Representative of Wodonga Urban Landcare Network

• Temporary specialist representation as requested by Council and/or advisory group (both Council officers and specialists from other sectors)

4.2 All persons nominated to serve on the Advisory Group shall be subject to the initial and continued approval of Council for the term set out in 4.3.

4.3 Subject to Clause 4.4 all Advisory Group members remain in office for a period of two (2) years and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

4.4 On the resignation of, or in the case of a representative being incapable of acting as a representative body, the Council will advertise for a replacement Advisory Group person. The term of office of persons appointed to fill such a vacancy shall expire on the date at which the previous member would have gone out of office. Members of the Advisory Group so appointed shall be eligible for re-appointment.

4.5 The Council is empowered to declare an Advisory Group member’s office vacant if he/she fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings without leave of the Reference Group by resolution duly passed or on the recommendation of the Advisory Group.

4.6 The position of Chairperson for the reference group will be approved by Council.

4.8 If a member of the Advisory Group has a conflict of interest in any matter in which the Advisory Group is concerned, the member must disclose the nature of that interest at the meeting at which the matter is discussed. Members with a conflict of interest must abstain from the proceedings, including removing themselves from the meeting while the item is under discussion.

Meetings of the Advisory Group

4.10 Meetings of the Advisory Group shall be held as determined by the advisory Group and approved by Council.

4.11 A meeting of the Advisory Group must be held at a time and place determined by the Advisory Group.

4.12 A motion before a meeting of the Advisory Group is to be determined by consensus on the following basis:

(a) Each member of the Advisory Group who is entitled to vote is entitled to one vote;
(b) Unless the procedures of the Advisory Group otherwise provide, voting must be by show of hands;

(c) If there is an equality of votes the motion is lost.

4.13 The Advisory Group shall keep a record of each of its meetings and the Chairperson shall ensure that the minutes of the meeting are submitted to the next meeting for confirmation.

4.14 When the minutes are confirmed the Chairperson at the meeting must sign the minutes and certify that they have been confirmed.

4.15 (6?) members of the Advisory Group shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Advisory Group and no business shall be transacted at any such meeting unless a quorum is present.

4.16 The Advisory Group may form Sub-Advisory Groups from amongst its members for the purpose of recommending on matters pertaining to the provisions of this Instrument, provided that no decision may be acted upon until adopted by the full Advisory Group.

4.17 The Chairperson shall be an ex-officio member of all Sub-Advisory Groups.

4.18 Such Sub-Advisory Groups shall only be established by resolution of the Advisory Group and shall only carry out those functions stated in such resolution, as determined by the Advisory group.

5. INDEMNITY

5.1 The Council will indemnify members of the Advisory Group against any action liability claim or demand on account of any matter or thing done by them on behalf of the Advisory Group when they are acting in accordance with this Terms of Reference by that member of the Advisory Group in the honest and reasonable belief or under a mistake of law that the member was properly exercising any function or power of the Advisory Group.

5.2 All Advisory Group meetings will be deemed confidential unless approved by Council as not being confidential.

6. TERM OF APPOINTMENT

6.1 The Advisory Group shall cease in November 2020 unless otherwise extended in writing by the Council.
7. REVOCATION

7.1 These terms of reference may be revoked if the Advisory Group is not managing the process in the best interests of the community and the Council. The Council shall not exercise this power of revocation unless all reasonable attempts at negotiation have been exhausted between Council and the Advisory Group member(s).

8. ADVISORY GROUP REPRESENTATION

8.1 It will be the responsibility of the Advisory Group to notify Council of the resignation and/or appointment of members from the Advisory Group.
APPENDIX B – MINUTES FROM MEETINGS
Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG) Meeting

Minutes of meeting held 15/8/2018

Attendees:

- Mr Colin Elliott (Chair)
- Mr James Stewart (DELWP)
- Ms Lucy Widdup (Community Rep)
- Mr Isuru Garnage (Community Rep)
- Ms Joy Sloan (Community Rep)
- Mr Adam Dyde (Community Rep) (via teleconference)
- Ms Patience Harrington (CEO ex officio (non-voting) member)

Invited guests:

- Ms Kellie Davies – Marketing and Communications Manager

Apologies:

- Mr Darren Viney - CFA Representative
- Mr (Uncle) Alan Murray – Local Indigenous Representative (Elder)

Discussion Items

1. Communications protocol: Mr Elliott (chair) introduced Kellie Davies (Council Marketing and Communications Manager). Ms Davies outlined the ways in which the Chair and the Group as a whole can liaise with the community and with media. The Make Wodonga Yours site will become the channel by which community can refer to and/or submit ideas to the Hills Advisory Group. Media enquiries will be managed/addressed by the Chair and or the Mayor.

Ms Harrington outlined the need to identify and acknowledge conflicts of interest as they arise.

2. Introductions: The Chair invited each WHAG member to introduce themselves in terms of their personal and professional background/skills and their respective interest in the Wodonga Hills precincts.

3. Role of Chair and Advisory Panel Members. Ms Harrington outlined the expectations of Council in regard to the Group and referred the group to the Terms of Reference. Ms Harrington outlined the details of the Terms of Reference, specifically the Objectives and Councils expectations and the respective responsibilities of both Council and the Group.

4. Role of Council Officers: Ms Harrington advised the Group that various expertise exists within the ranks of Council and that the Group can request any relevant briefings from appropriate Council Officers (staff). Also, Council will provide secretarial support including recording of minutes of each meeting.

5. Review and agree on meeting times and bus tour: Mr Elliott led a discussion to identify the availability of group members to attend ongoing meetings and an important bus tour of each of
the Hill sites. It was agreed that regular dates will be set and that meetings will occur after hours (6.00 – 8.00 PM), generally on Wednesdays; initially on a fortnightly basis.

On this basis, the dates of the next few meetings were agreed to be:

- 29 August 2018
- 12 September 2018
- 26 September 2018
- 10 October 2018

Initial tour of Hills was scheduled for Sunday 4 November, 2018. It was anticipated that the tour of the Hills may take more than 1 day, to be confirmed.

6. **Terms of Reference:** The WHAG Terms of Reference were collectively discussed and reviewed by the Group.

Mr Elliott expressed a desire that the Terms of Reference should have specific Milestones and deliverables that the Group would strive to achieve over its tenure. During the ongoing discussion, Ms Sloan suggested that the group agree on a formal Work Plan which would then be endorsed by Council. The Work Plan could include Milestones and Deliverables, so the expectations of the Group are clear.

A number of clarifications on the Terms were discussed by the Group and some possible minor amendments and updates were discussed. It was agreed that some changes should be recommended to Council. Most of these changes were not significant. Significant changes included to Section 4.1 (Advisory Group Composition), and Section 4.15 (Group Quorum). It was agreed that a quorum should consist of a minimum of 5 members and at least three of those shall be community members. See attached document with changes included.

Further, it was agreed that the Group also needed to understand where/how resources for the Hills are reflected in current and future budgets.

Ms Harrington summarised the 7 documents that the members will be working from as follows:

i. Planning for Wodonga Hills – Engagement Report
ii. Planning for Wodonga Hills strategy
iii. Bears Hill Master Plan
iv. Federation Hill Masterplan
v. Huon Hill Master Plan
vi. Kings Hill Masterplan
vii. Maher’s Hill Master Plan

7. **Reporting requirements and deliverables to Council:** Ms Harrington led a discussion regarding the likely reporting protocols for the Group. The Advisory Group is expected to advise Council on the implementation of objectives and actions detailed in the Hills Strategy documents. It is expected that the Chair will meet with Councillors on a regular basis to update the Council on the progress of the Group and to submit the Group’s recommendations for consideration.

It was agreed that the first three months will likely be spent ensuring that the Hills Advisory Group is fully informed about the work that has already been done to date inclusive of the
community feedback. Over this initial period, a Work Plan will be completed by the Group to guide their next 12 months of activities.

A detailed review of all Hills Strategy documents will occur over the next two meetings which will be attended by relevant Council Officers to brief the Group and workshop and answer any questions.

This Work Plan will be submitted to Council for consideration.

Examples of approaches to be considered are:

- Level of awareness of value of the Hill Tops by the community
- Availability of information
- Constraints and opportunities
- Which habitat should be conserved?
- Determining what is non-negotiable in these reports
- Understanding land tenure
- Identification and consideration of user groups / stakeholders / partnerships

Short term goals could include:

- Awareness
- Signage information

Mid-term Goals could include:

- Safety
- Recreational uses

8. Meeting closed 7.45 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 29 August 2018 @ 6.00PM at Council Chambers. The agenda for the next meeting will be circulated prior to the next meeting.

Chair: Colin Elliott
Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG) Meeting

Minutes of meeting held 29/8/2018

Attendees:
- Mr Colin Elliott (Chair)
- Mr James Stewart (DELWP)
- Ms Lucy Widdup (Community Rep)
- Mr Isuru Garnage (Community Rep)
- Ms Joy Sloan (Community Rep)
- Mr Adam Dyde (Community Rep)
- Ms Patience Harrington (CEO ex officio (non-voting) member)

Invited guests:
- Ms Kellie Davies – Marketing and Communications Manager
- Mr Andrew Griffiths – Natural Resource Coordinator
- Ms Claire Coulson – Natural Resource Planner
- Ms Leona Edwards - Manager – Recreation

Apologies:
- Mr Darren Viney - CFA Representative
- Mr (Uncle) Allan Murray – Local Indigenous Representative (Elder)

Discussion Items

1. Briefing from Council Officers:
   It was agreed at the previous meeting that the next few meetings should be dedicated to ensuring that the Hills Advisory Group Members are fully informed about the work that has already been done to date inclusive of the community feedback.
   
   A detailed review of all Hills Strategy documents was undertaken with the assistance of relevant Council Officers. This took the form of an informal and open discussion about the Intricacies and background of each individual Strategy.
   
   Mahers Hill and Bears Hill were the focus of this meeting.

   Items discussed included:
   - Level of awareness of value of the Hill Tops by the community
   - Availability of information
   - Constraints and opportunities
   - Which habitat should be conserved?
   - Determining what is non-negotiable in these reports
   - Understanding land tenure
   - Identification and consideration of user groups / stakeholders / partnerships

Meeting closed 6.00 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday 12 September 2018** @ 6.00PM at Council Chambers.
The agenda for the next meeting will be circulated prior to the next meeting.

Chair: Colin Elliott
Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG) Meeting

Minutes of meeting held 12/9/2018

Attendees:

- Mr Colin Elliott (Chair)
- Mr James Stewart (DELWP)
- Ms Lucy Widdup (Community Rep)
- Mr Isuru Garnage (Community Rep)
- Ms Joy Sloan (Community Rep)
- Ms Patience Harrington (CEO ex officio (non-voting) member)

Invited guests:

- Ms Kellie Davies – Marketing and Communications Manager
- Mr Andrew Griffiths – Natural Resource Coordinator
- Ms Claire Coulson – Natural Resource Planner
- Ms Leona Edwards - Manager – Recreation

Apologies:

- Mr Adam Dyde (Community Rep)
- Mr Darren Viney - CFA Representative
- Mr (Uncle) Allan Murray – Local Indigenous Representative (Elder)

Discussion Items

1. Briefing from Council Officers:
   This was the second meeting dedicated to ensuring that the Hills Advisory Group Members are fully informed about the work that has already been done to date inclusive of the community feedback.

A detailed review of all Hills Strategy documents was undertaken with the assistance of relevant Council Officers. This took the form of an informal and open discussion about the Intricacies of each Individual Strategy.

Klings Hill was the focus of this meeting.

Items discussed included:

- Level of awareness of value of the Hill Tops by the community
- Availability of information
- Constraints and opportunities
- Which habitat should be conserved?
- Determining what is non-negotiable in these reports
- Understanding land tenure
- Identification and consideration of user groups / stakeholders / partnerships

Meeting closed 6.00 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 26 September 2018 @ 6.00PM at Council Chambers.
The agenda for the next meeting will be circulated prior to the next meeting.

Chair: Colin Elliott
Ordinary meeting – April 15, 2019

8 - Officers reports for determination

Item 8.7 - Document A

Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG) Meeting

Minutes of meeting held 26/9/2018

Attendees:

- Mr Colin Elliott (Chair)
- Mr James Stewart (DELWP)
- Ms Lucy Widdup (Community Rep)
- Mr Isuru Garnage (Community Rep)
- Mr Adam Dyde (Community Rep)
- Ms Patience Harrington (CEO ex officio (non-voting) member)

Invited guests:

- Ms Kellie Davies – Marketing and Communications Manager
- Mr Andrew Griffiths – Natural Resource Coordinator
- Ms Claire Coulson – Natural Resource Planner
- Ms Leona Edwards - Manager – Recreation

Apologies:

- Ms Joy Sloan (Community Rep)
- Mr Darren Viney - CFA Representative
- Mr (Uncle) Allan Murray – Local Indigenous Representative(Elder)

Discussion Items

1. Briefing from Council Officers:
   This was the third meeting dedicated to ensuring that the Hills Advisory Group Members are fully informed about the work that has already been done to date inclusive of the community feedback.

   A detailed review of all Hills Strategy documents was undertaken with the assistance of relevant Council Officers. This took the form of an informal and open discussion about the Intricacies of each Individual Strategy.

   Federation and Huon Hill were the focus of this meeting.

   Items discussed included:

   - Level of awareness of value of the Hill Tops by the community
   - Availability of information
   - Constraints and opportunities
   - Which habitat should be conserved?
   - Determining what is non-negotiable in these reports
   - Understanding land tenure
   - Identification and consideration of user groups / stakeholders / partnerships

Meeting closed 6.00 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 24 October 2018 @ 6.00PM at Council Chambers.
The agenda for the next meeting will be circulated prior to the next meeting.

Chair: Colin Elliott
Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG) Meeting

Minutes of meeting held 24/10/2018

Attendees:
- Mr Colin Elliott (Chair)
- Ms Lucy Widdup (Community Rep)
- Mr Isuru Garnage (Community Rep)
- Ms Joy Sloan (Community Rep)
- Mr (Uncle) Allan Murray – Local Indigenous Representative (Elder)
- Ms Patience Harrington (CEO ex officio (non-voting) member)

Invited guests:
- Ms Kellie Davies – Marketing and Communications Manager
- Mr Andrew Griffiths – Natural Resource Coordinator
- Ms Claire Coulson – Natural Resource Planner
- Ms Leona Edwards - Manager – Recreation

Apologies:
- Mr Adam Dyde (Community Rep)
- Mr James Stewart (DELWP)
- Mr Darren Viney - CFA Representative

Discussion Items

1. **Briefing from Council Officers**
   Mr Elliott led a discussion around the Council Officer’s briefings which have occurred over the past three meetings.

   The Group collectively identified that there were a number of common themes emerging in both the discussion itself and the listed action items. These were:
   - Governance issues
   - Planning requirements
   - Communications
   - Wayfinding/Signage
   - Operational activities

2. **Upcoming Site Visit**
   Details of the upcoming bus tour were discussed.
   The tour is scheduled for Sunday 4 November.
   We will be travelling in 4WD utility vehicles, rather than in one bus.
   Meeting at Junction Square at 8.15 for an 8.30 sharp departure

   Itinerary:
   - Huon Hill
   - Mahers Hill
   - Bears Hill
• Lunch – Willow Park
• Federation Hill
• Klings Hill

Meeting closed 8.00 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 4 November 2018, which will be a site tour beginning at 8.30 am.

The next formal meeting after the tour is scheduled for 21 November 2018 @ 6.00PM at Council Chambers. The agenda for that meeting will be circulated prior.

Chair: Colin Elliott
Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG) Meeting

Minutes of meeting held 21/11/2018, 6.00pm Council Chambers.

Attendees:

- Mr Colin Elliott (Chair)
- Ms Lucy Widdup (Community Rep)
- Mr Isuru Gamage (Community Rep)
- Ms Joy Sloan (Community Rep)
- Mr Adam Dyde (Community Rep)
- Mr Alan Murray (Indigenous Community Rep)
- Ms Patience Harrington (CEO ex officio (non-voting) member) - minutes

Invited guests:

Nil

Apologies:

- Mr James Stewart (DELWP)

Discussion Items

1. **Welcome:** Mr Elliott welcomed all of those in attendance and advised that he had received an apology from Mr Stewart for his absence from this meeting.

2. **Terms of reference:** The formal Terms of Reference for the WHAG have been the subject of discussion for a number of meetings. At our first meeting on 15 August 2018, it was agreed that some changes should be recommended to Council. Most of these changes were not significant. Significant changes included to Section 4.1 (Advisory Group Composition), and Section 4.15 (Group Quorum). It was agreed that a quorum should consist of a minimum of 5 members and at least three of those shall be community members. Since that meeting the need for 5 members to be present to achieve a quorum has been problematic. It was unanimously agreed that the WHAG would make a further recommendation to Council that they should amend the existing Terms of Reference such that only 4 committee members would be required to reach a quorum for a meeting.

3. **Learnings and feedback from bus tour held on 4 November 2018:** Mr Elliott (chair) invited each committee member in turn to articulate their reflections from the recent bus tour:

   a. **Mr Elliott:**

      i. Thankful for the presence of Council Officers on the day and asked that thanks should be formally issued to those that participated, for their valuable insights.
      
      ii. There are some spectacular views on the Hills; some of which are world class. These are relatively undiscovered gems.
      
      iii. There are some themes emerging in our action plans. A number of actions fall into the categories of Safety prevention, Wayfinding and Access Control.
iv. Is it possible to consolidate land to be managed by one body? Council has
vested interest in securing land ownership to establish a high level of
control.

b. Mr Dyde:
   i. Bus tour was very valuable. Staff knowledge unbelievable / positive strategy
quite good. Not a lot to disagree with.
   ii. Key issue from tour and from reading of the Strategy is that we need to
ensure that the land covered by the strategy(s) are protected in perpetuity.
The subject of land ownership is critical and this is something we should
consider as a group.
   iii. It is necessary to agree on governance and accountability for the Hills.
   iv. We would benefit from getting all of the key custodians of the land (DELWP,
Defence, Parklands AW, Council etc. around a table to agree on an approach
or shared vision.

c. Ms Sloan:
   i. Bus Tour was fantastic and very enlightening. Best views were probably
Maher’s Hill and Kling’s hill.
   ii. Important to acknowledge the need for connectivity - link them and make
them accessible to passive recreation.
   iii. Important to “sell the message” highlighting values and characteristics.
   Highlights how the usual aspects of environment can be “sold”. Untapped
potential.
   iv. Important to get all of the various owner stakeholders in a room together to
agree on a shared vision.
   v. Important to build longevity of strategy into 2050 – 2100 strategic
development plan. Recognise the values of the Hills in development. Some
blocks of land are “encroaching” on the Hills and impacting on their intrinsic
environmental values.
   vi. Important to protect hills in a planning control sense. Possibly and external
consultant should be commissioned to audit the level of protection that our
current planning scheme gives to the hills. (Perhaps run this past an
environmental lawyer)

d. Mr Gamage:
   i. Agrees with everything else that has been said.
   ii. Impressed by how well utilized the hills are at the moment.
   iii. Important that immediate actions are prioritised to meet needs of existing
users.

e. Ms Widdup:
   i. Agrees with all that has been put forward already
   ii. Huon / Hunchback complex getting most amount of traffic and needs most
immediate attention. Federation Hill would be next priority in her view.
   iii. What on the ground works need to be done. What do we believe is the next
direction? What is the next priority? How do we spread the budget across
the Hills?
4. **Priority Setting**: Discussed the need to set some priorities for the group and some key recommendations for the Council consideration. Key priorities are:

   a. **Governance**: workshop with stakeholders to identify a common vision for the Hills across all sector and land owners

   b. **Planning Controls**: ensure protection of precincts

   c. **Wayfinding Strategy**: Develop consultancy brief which addresses: track naming convention: Emergency meet points and evacuation signage; differences across each hill (look and feel/Indigenous values; Grading of tracks (easy > hard etc.), Priorities, signage, access control issues.

   d. **Develop a Communiqué** as an update:

      i. The WHAG is extremely happy with the Hills Strategy and the Actions proposed

      ii. Research has been completed including briefings from Council Staff and a Site Tour of each hill

      iii. We have reviewed all documentation and we are happy with depth. The plan is thorough and relatively well balanced

      iv. It is clear to the group that it is an important issue

      v. Implementation will be a long-term process

      vi. Some work is already underway as it falls into the category of Operational tasks focused on Safety, Environment protection, Low hanging fruit

   vii. Key recommendations include:

      1. **Governance**: Define and consolidate ownership if possible to ensure custodians have a shared vision

      2. **Planning Controls**: need to shore up ownership to protect Hills legacy

      3. **Wayfinding Plan**: Consultancy Brief to be developed

      4. **Communication plan**: A vehicle for the WHAG to communicate messages. Use strategic networking. Council needs to keep doing what it’s doing.

      5. Identify and encourage Indigenous Employment opportunities

      6. **Key themes emerging** include Safety Management and Access Control

5. **Proposed Key messages for Councillors**: The Chair has been invited to present a brief summary of progress for the WHAG at a briefing session which is scheduled for Monday 10 December at 11.45am. All are invited to attend if they wish. Mr Elliott sought the views from the group on what key messages should be presented to Councillors at this point in time. Key messages are:

   a. WHAG is grateful for the support and hard work of the Council Officers that have been involved up to this point.
b. It is clear that the Hills are important to the community and that implementation of the plan will be a long term process.

c. There is an obvious and intrinsic value in the Hills which will benefit greatly from implementation of the respective Action Plans. Council support is critical. There is great untapped potential.

d. Significant Cultural Heritage (language, bush tucker), Flora & Fauna and Aesthetic values exist.

e. Long term benefits are huge and this is an opportunity to leave a legacy.

f. The Hills have significant tourism potential.

g. There are significant cultural values which need to be considered and embraced.

h. The Hills represent a massive untapped potential which can only bring great benefit to Wodonga.

i. Key Issues are Governance, Planning Controls, Wayfinding (including Access Control) and development of appropriate communications across all levels of the community. is a key issue.

6. Meeting closed 8.00 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 5 December 2018 @ 6.00PM at Council Chambers. The agenda for the next meeting will be circulated prior to the next meeting. This will be the last meeting for the 2018 calendar year as we head into the Christmas break. Additional meetings will be scheduled for late January 2019.

Chair: Colin Elliott
Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG) Meeting

Minutes of meeting held 5/12/2018

Attendees:

- Mr Colin Elliott (Chair)
- Mr James Stewart (DELWP)
- Ms Lucy Widdup (Community Rep)
- Mr Isuru Garnage (Community Rep)
- Ms Joy Sloan (Community Rep)
- Mr Adam Dyde (Community Rep)
- Ms Patience Harrington (CEO ex officio (non-voting) member)

Apologies:

- Mr Darren Viney - CFA Representative
- Mr (Uncle) Allan Murray – Local Indigenous Representative (Elder)

Discussion Items

1. Allocation of Action items to Themes

   The group had previously identified that there are a number of consistent themes which cut across a number of the action items.

   The group spent the entire meeting going through each of the 137 Action Items individually – to allocate each of the actions to relevant themes. This process included updating of the master action spreadsheet.

   The group identified that there are a number of Actions related to improved safety of the Hills precinct, for both users and council staff. This should be given a high priority in allocating priority to individual actions.

2. Meeting Closed

   Mr Elliott summarized the findings from the theme identification process and advised that he will formally update the spreadsheet and distribute to each of the WHAG members via email in MS Excell format.

   He requested that each member thoroughly review the spreadsheet over the summer break and come back to the group in the New Year, ready to start to allocate priorities to the individual actions.

Meeting closed 8.00 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 30 January 2019 @ 6.00PM at Council Chambers. The agenda for that meeting will be circulated prior.

Chair: Colin Elliott
Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG) Meeting

Minutes of meeting held 30/01/2019, 6.00pm Council Chambers.

Attenees:

- Mr Colin Elliott (Chair)
- Ms Lucy Widdup (Community Rep)
- Mr Isuru Gamage (Community Rep)
- Ms Joy Sloan (Community Rep)
- Mr Adam Dyde (Community Rep)
- Mr Leon Schultz (Acting CEO ex officio (non-voting) member)
- Ms Stacey Wagner (minutes secretary)

Invited guests:

Nil

Apologies:

- Mr Alan Murray (Indigenous Community Representative)
- Ms Gini Harris (DELWP Representative)

Discussion Items

1. Welcome: Mr Elliott welcomed all of those in attendance and advised that he had received an apology from Mr Murray for his absence from this meeting. He also welcomed all those in attendance.

2. DELWP Reference Group (McFarlands Hill) Mr Schultz explained that the DELWP Reference Group for McFarland's Hill has been formed and that they have had their first meeting. These meetings will be chaired by Ms Virginia (Gini) Harris (Regional Manager Lands and Built Environment Programs) for DELWP and she will also be replacing James Stewart as representative of DELWP on this (WHAG) committee. The McFarlands Hill Reference Group meeting will also be attended by Mr Schultz. The WHAG committee recognised the importance of maintaining a linkage between the McFarlands Reference Group and the WHAG: Mr Schultz and Ms Harris will provide this linkage.

3. Priority themes: Since there has been a reasonable break since our last meeting, the Chair quickly re-capped on where the discussion on priority setting had got to. Key priorities at this stage have been categorized into themes of Governance, Planning Controls, Wayfinding, Communication and other.

4. Report to Council: The chair pointed out that we are heading in to budget season and that we will need to provide some succinct recommendations about priorities for implementation, so that the council officers can cost these items and provide for this expenditure in the 2019/20 Council Budget. By the end of February we need to provide a deliverable to Council, which details our recommendations and our priorities in terms of the listed actions. It was agreed the structure of the document would refer to the themes above and to separate each of the actions
into groups based on those themes. The chair will develop a draft document over the next couple of weeks.

5. **Governance Discussion:** The group decided to spend the available time at this meeting focusing on developing definitive recommendations, beginning with the concept of a proposed Governance Workshop. There was detailed discussion about the objectives of this workshop and the likely participants and stakeholders. Ultimately it was determined that the scope of a workshop is difficult to define and that a workshop of this type would be difficult to facilitate and wouldn’t necessarily achieve anything that hasn’t already been agreed. The key driver for this workshop was a desire to make sure that all stakeholders were “on the same page” in regard to the Hills Strategy. Mr Schultz assured the group that this agreement and endorsement was already in place (specifically with DELWP and CFA who have both endorsed the strategy in writing). A secondary objective of the proposed workshop was to ensure a seamless implementation of actions. Where there are different landowners associated with one action, there may be problems in implementing actions seamlessly across boundaries. The group resolved that, where possible, the council should consolidate ownership, by taking over management of land that they do not already control (eg crown land in the centre of Huon Hill).

**Actions:** Mr Schultz to provide background reading and DELWP letter of endorsement.

*Recommendation 1 (Draft):* The WHAG members recognise and acknowledge that implementation of a significant portion of the actions will involve collaboration across numerous stakeholders. It is important to ensure a seamless outcome where the actions are implemented across land operated and controlled by different entities. The WHAG recommends that, where possible, Council seek to take over management of available crown land parcels within the Hills precincts, to allow a seamless approach to action implementation.

6. **Meeting closed 8.00 pm.**

Next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday 13 February 2019 @ 6.00PM** at Council Chambers. The agenda for the next meeting will be circulated prior to the next meeting. Everyone to consider ‘communication’ and ‘way finding’ outcomes for next meeting.

Chair: Colin Elliott
Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG) Meeting

Minutes of meeting held 13/02/2019, 6.00pm Council Chambers.

Attendees:
- Mr Colin Elliott (Chair)
- Ms Lucy Widdup (Community Rep)
- Mr Isuru Gamage (Community Rep)
- Ms Joy Sloan (Community Rep)
- Mr Adam Dyde (Community Rep)
- Mr Leon Schultz (Acting CEO ex officio (non-voting) member)
- Ms Stacey Wagner (minutes secretary)

Apologies:
- Mr Alan Murray (Indigenous Community Representative)
- Ms Gini Harris (DELWP Representative)

Discussion Items

1. Welcome:
- Mr Elliott welcomed all of those in attendance and advised that he had received an apology from Mr Murray and Ms Harris for their absence from this meeting

2. Review minutes:
- Minutes agreed upon and recommendations accepted

3. Background reading
- Mr Elliott spoke briefly about the reference documents that were distributed to members last week. The documents were:
  - Calvert & Co 2018 Interpretive signage guide and template, prepared in conjunction with City of Wodonga, Calvert & Co, October 2018.
  - DELWP 2017 Response to Planning for the Wodonga Hills Draft Strategy, letter from Acting Regional Director (Brian Thompson) to CEO Wodonga (Patience Harrington), 3 October 2017.
- It was agreed that this background information was very useful particularly way finding information
- Ms Widdup noted that the Style guide was great information and will be a great help for those implementing the strategy. It was evident that different groups had worked together to put this doc together.
- Mr Schultz indicated he would make other documents available if the need arises.

4. Actions matrix
- Mr Elliott advised that he had done some work on the priorities table since the last meeting and had reconstructed the worksheet so that the actions were separated into the agreed themes.
- There was some discussion around whether or not to prioritise by Hill or by action first
- It was identified that council may take funding or operational realities into consideration when interpreting our priority listing
• The Group then spent considerable time going through the Actions individually to allocate priorities across each theme.

5. **Interim report draft**
   • Mr Elliott indicated he has begun the first draft of the proposed Interim Report. He will send out the draft in coming weeks; for comment and input.

6. **Wayfinding strategy**
   • Mr Elliott - suggest Hills Strategic documents have different colour schemes and it would be ideal if these colours were carried through into the signage style for each Hill.
   • Ms Widdup flagged that we must ensure colours used are not confused with trail difficulty rating system colours
   • Recommendations:
     o Signage in accordance to with existing signage plan 2017/2018-2021 and interpretable signage guide and template
     o Colours adopted within the strategy WH strategy should be carried through into signage
     o Trail difficulty rating system should be in accordance with mountain bike and bushwalking standard.
     o Way finding should include be available on multiple platforms including print and electronic media, for example apps, QR codes, suitable and appropriate for all user abilities.

7. **Communication plan**
   The group discussed the need to ensure that progress and activities associated with the implementation of the plan are being communicated appropriately.

   • Recommendations:
     o Specific updates to effected residents in accordance with council SOP
     o Specific website dedicated to the Wodonga hills strategy and its implementation
     o Regular updates and promotion of action implemented (e.g website, council meeting, city life, media release) to emphasise progress

8. **Interim report**
   The group discussed and agreed on the important sections which should be included in the draft interim report
   • Interim report skeleton
     o background / briefing
     o Thorough discussion and analysis
     o site tour
     o theme identification
     o priority setting
     o reporting/ recommendations
     o appendices - meeting minutes
     o acknowledge endorsement
     o not revisiting strategy
     o prioritise actions WHAG future - quarterly catch up to review progress and reset direction as required

9. **Meeting closed 8.00 pm.**

Next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday 20th February 2019 @ 6.00PM** at Council Chambers.
The agenda will be circulated prior to the next meeting.
Item 8.7 - Document A

Chair: Colin Elliott
Wodonga Hills Advisory Group (WHAG) Meeting

Minutes of meeting held 20/02/2019, 6.00pm Council Chambers.

Attendees:
- Mr Colin Elliott (Chair)
- Ms Lucy Widdup (Community Rep)
- Mr Isuru Gamage (Community Rep)
- Mr Leon Schultz (Director Planning and Infrastructure ex officio (non-voting) member)
- Ms Stacey Wagner (minutes secretary)

Invited guests:
N/A

Apologies:
- Mr Alan Murray (Indigenous Community Rep)
- Ms Joy Sloan (Community Rep)
- Mr Adam Dyde (Community Rep)

Discussion Items

1. Welcome:
   - Mr Elliott welcomed all of those in attendance. He advised that the priorities set at the previous meeting (in the categories of Governance, Planning, Wayfinding and Communications), have been put into the spreadsheet and aggregated onto one sheet.

2. Review minutes:
   - Minutes agreed upon and recommendations accepted provisionally, noting that a quorum was not present.

3. Priorities from ‘Operational’ action category
   - Those present agreed to work on setting the priorities for the ‘Operational’ actions. Given that not all members were present, it was agreed that the draft outcome of this meeting would be distributed to the committee members for their review and input. This would then be approved at the next meeting.

4. Interim report
   - Mr Elliott advised he has done further work on the skeleton for the interim report, which he will continue to refine and distribute to all members shortly.

5. Meeting closed 8.00 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 6 March 2019 @ 6.00PM at Council Chambers. The priority settings table needs to be finalized at this meeting. The agenda will be circulated prior to the next meeting.

Chair: Colin Elliott
APPENDIX C – PRIORITY TABLE
Ordinary meeting – April 15, 2019

8 - Officers reports for determination

Item 8.7 - Document A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Precinct</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>ACTION NAME</th>
<th>DETAILS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 1</td>
<td>Collaborative Land Management</td>
<td>Work collaboratively with Parklands Albury Wodonga and the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning (DELWP) to co-operatively plan for and collaboratively manage the Hunchback Hill Complex as an integrated whole, maximising biodiversity, user and fire management outcomes under a consistent and co-ordinated approach as well as to provide a high quality &quot;tenure blind&quot; experience for users.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 4</td>
<td>Intersection Safety Improvements – Felltimber Creek and the Central Management Track</td>
<td>Relocate/rationalise and upgrade the junction of Felltimber Creek Rd and the Central Management Track. Formalise an intersection to provide for safer access for vehicles turning off or on to Felltimber Creek Rd – both for users of Klings Hill (and the wider Hunchback Hill Complex) and access for management or emergency vehicles. Although mostly within council-managed road reserves, formalising and improving this vehicle access is likely to require co-operation with Parklands Albury Wodonga and DELWP regarding possible use of adjacent Crown land areas. Reconfiguring this intersection would also offer the opportunity to improve the provision of parking at this site. A cleared and grassed flatter area here could also provide a space for temporary event staging, on a permit/approval basis with appropriate conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.24</td>
<td>Track and Trail Wayfinding</td>
<td>Ensure all tracks and trails are adequately signposted with distance and direction and other wayfinding information en-route (in addition to trailhead signage). For walking tracks this will be at all junctions, as a minimum, as well as reassurance wayfinding en-route and at major activity nodes or attractions. Mountain bike routes could be more selectively signposted, however, difficulty ratings will be important information to provide. Wayfinding should predominantly be internalised to each hill as a contained track and trail experience (and not reference remote and off-hill sites).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.29</td>
<td>Walking Track Clearance Standards</td>
<td>All walking tracks, and especially those in high tourist use locations, must be cleared of grass and other obscuring vegetation and offer a safe, visible and well-defined stable walking surface.</td>
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<td>Priority</td>
<td>Precinct</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.31</td>
<td>Resourcing Track and Trail Management</td>
<td>Dedicate adequate resources and on-ground effort to track and trial management to ensure intended track standards are maintained, the identified user experiences and safety standards are achieved, and emerging usage and environmental issues (such as track braiding or short-cutting, erosion, the creation of unauthorised tracks, weed spread, etc.) are quickly addressed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.33</td>
<td>All-abilities access</td>
<td>Undertake an investigation of suitable locations to provide all abilities access beyond the margins of the hills. This will need to consider barriers to access (such as kissing gates), access to and from sites (either via urban paths or vehicles) and trail standards (such as maximum gradients and surface materials).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.38</td>
<td>Implement Wodonga Hills Interpretation Plan</td>
<td>Implement the Wodonga Hills Interpretation Plan to improve the provision of information to users and the wider community about the hills’ values, management and sustainable use. Regularly update this document as additional destinations, opportunities and activities become available across the hills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.39</td>
<td>User Code of Conduct</td>
<td>Promote a code of conduct for all users of the hills regarding the use of management tracks and shared paths, as well as environmentally responsible and safe activity within the hills. Include the code of conduct in any on-site information shelters at major activity areas or entry points.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 5</td>
<td>Wattle Park Activity and Entry Node</td>
<td>Provide a formal entrance point and activity node in the eastern end of Wattle Park off McCulloch Crescent. This location would provide a leisure and recreation space on the hill’s margin and the main access point to and from the hill and its wider track and trail network and attractions. Provide shelters, picnic tables, barbecues, seating, water, and toilets (set among screening trees) including all-abilities facilities. Provide a trailhead(s) and orientation information and detailed information for those tracks/trails radiating from this location. Enhance amenity and shade, and soften views onto proposed facilities through landscaping and plantings. Expand the</td>
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<td>Priority</td>
<td>Precinct</td>
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<td>existing parking along the south side of McCulloch Crescent to offer additional capacity, up to 20 vehicles depending on demand analysis. The potential of this site to be occasionally used (by approval) for events will be limited in type, size and frequency in recognition of its residential setting.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 10</td>
<td>Formalise Summit Parking Area</td>
<td>Define and upgrade the existing informal summit parking area - initially as a compacted gravel carpark (possibly sealed as usage and maintenance requires). Define separate entry and exit points to the access road and ensure suitability for all-abilities access. Establish a trailhead to the realigned Bundy Walking Track - with platform tables or seating and orientation - under existing mature trees to the north-east. Improve shade and amenity plantings around the car park perimeter but ensuring retention of a sufficient fuel-free area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 4</td>
<td>New All-abilities Loop Path to Eastern Lookouts</td>
<td>Provide a short sealed path - to all-abilities standard - from the parking bays (and all-abilities accessible parking bays) on the proposed one-way access road (action 2), linking to the existing lookout platforms. Preferably as a loop path. Upgrade the existing lookout platforms to allow for all-abilities access as required (and to increase capacity and accommodate interpretation if warranted). Concurrent with provision of one-way access road and all-abilities parking. (Collaborative action, located on Crown land.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 5</td>
<td>Safer Route (Shared Path) from Wodonga Western Outskirts</td>
<td>Provide a safer shared path route from the western outskirts of Wodonga towards Klings Hill (and the wider Hinchinbrook Hill Complex) to avoid parts of Felltimber Creek Road. Establish a shared path (compacted gravel or concrete) from the existing southside Felltimber Creek Road shared path (east of the Felltimber Creek bridge) along the drainage reserve to the end of Lambourn Drive, then along Lambourn Drive (as a low-traffic and low-speed route) to Felltimber Creek Road. A shared path may be required at the western end of Lambourn Drive (and a short bridge, possible high cost item) approaching the</td>
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## Item 8.7 - Document A

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Precinct</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>ACTION NAME</th>
<th>DETAILS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 6</td>
<td>Shared Path Along Felltimber Creek Road</td>
<td>To provide safe access for walkers and cyclists to the western-most entrance to the site, establish a shared path connection between LAMBORN Drive and the Central Management Track entry point. Due to the constraints of the narrow road reserve and the adjoining creek this link may be along the southern shoulder of Felltimber Creek Rd and could include the upgrading of parts of an existing track or sections of new path within the Crown land along the road’s northside, or a combination of both. This path should be separated from the Felltimber Creek Rd carriageway and provide direct and easy access to the site from the urban area. Pedestrian and cyclist warning signs would be required at any Felltimber Creek Rd crossing point. (See action 5 for a possible eastward continuation of this route.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.21</td>
<td>Access Signposting</td>
<td>Access routes and links to each hill will be signposted in the surrounding areas to assist intending users to locate and access designated entry points. The type and extent or coverage of this access signposting, beyond the boundary of each hill, will vary with the scale and nature of the access or entry points in question - from connections to the arterial road network and existing public vehicle access (such as Huon Hill), major links from the surrounding open space links, larger trailheads, low-key entry points off adjoining residential streets or shared driveway access.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 11</td>
<td>Upgrade Reserve Entrance, Including New Vehicle Gate and Locking Regime</td>
<td>Reconfigure and improve the existing vehicle entrance to Huon Hill - to offer an attractive welcome with defined and safer vehicle parking/layby areas, orientation information, and trailhead node. Install a lockable entry gate, and implement an opening and closing regime to restrict vehicle access to daylight hours only (except for approved uses/events or times) - to deter vandalism and anti-social behaviours.</td>
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## Appendix C: Priority Table

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<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Precinct</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>ACTION NAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 11</td>
<td>Restrict Public Access Along Northern McMartins Track</td>
<td>Discourage visitor access along the northern sections of McMartins Track, due to proximity of the adjacent Wodonga Rifle Range.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.22</td>
<td>Access and Entry Point Identification and Orientation Signage</td>
<td>Identification and orientation signage should be provided inside all hill access and entry points to provide essential site identification, location and safety information for users. A hierarchy of identification and orientation sign types is warranted, matched to the type or standard of entry point. As a minimum this will provide the hill name, management agency, access and entry name or location, and track and trail name or orientation to the nearest major feature (such as a facility site, major track, attraction, etc.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.23</td>
<td>Trailhead Orientation Signage and Information</td>
<td>Trailhead signage (and previsit track and trail information) will include key information for intending users such as track name and type (single purpose, shared, management track, etc.), distances and suggested times, loop or one-way route, track junctions, grades and steepness (including steps), facilities en-route, highlights, etc. Information should be sufficient to encourage safe use by people unfamiliar with the hills. Track identification and orientation information will principally be internalised to each hill (addressing each hill as a contained track/trail experience and not referencing remote and off-hill sites).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.32</td>
<td>Linking Urban Pathways to the Hills</td>
<td>Ensure the concrete or hardened pathways providing access to perimeter fire trials (for existing and proposed links and trails) are more completely and effectively linked with the perimeter fire trial's surface, allowing for a continuous and unimpeded connection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.33</td>
<td>All-abilities access</td>
<td>Undertake an investigation of suitable locations to provide all abilities access beyond the margins of the hills. This will need to consider barriers to access (such as kissing gates), access to and from sites (either via urban paths or vehicles) and trail standards (such as maximum gradients and surface materials).</td>
</tr>
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</table>
## 8 - Officers reports for determination

### Item 8.7 - Document A

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.35</td>
<td>Linking Kilgour, Federation, Bears and Huon Hills</td>
<td>Undertake a feasibility study and route and corridor identification (including elements of the urban path network), and if supported by these investigations prepare a subsequent action plan, for possible establishment of an extended walking route linking Kilgour, Federation, Bears and Huon Hills (and possibly connecting to the Kiewa River shared path). (Refer to Section 3.3 for further discussion.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.44</td>
<td>Manage Community Events</td>
<td>Prepare and apply guidelines for the assessment, approval and management of community events within the hills such as community or fun runs, &quot;challenge&quot; hill climbing events, mountain bike endurance events or competitions, charity walks, triathlons or duathlons, tree-planting days, fundraising and promotions or similar - with a focus on those hills where a designated major event space has been identified as a venue or &quot;hub&quot; for larger community events. Identify other locations within the hills that may be suitable for community events, preferably for smaller events, on a more ad hoc or on application basis, as well as assessment criteria to employ in the evaluation of any applications.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.45</td>
<td>Manage Community Arts and Culture Events</td>
<td>Cater for community arts and culture events at suitable locations within the hills. These more structured events could potentially range from landscape painting weekends with invited local (and other) artists, through to temporary sculpture installations or art, light and sound walks, to major performances (such as jazz on the hilltop). Only a few locations in the hills would be suited to these uses which would generally require vehicle access, facilities (or space for temporary facilities) and sufficient usable area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 1</td>
<td>Tourism Promotion</td>
<td>Continue to promote Huon Hill as Wodonga’s leading hills tourism destination. Promotion should continue to focus on the hill’s scenic viewing appeal, picnic opportunities, short stay activities and attraction as a walking destination (as additional tracks are provided).</td>
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</tbody>
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### APPENDIX C: PRIORITY TABLE

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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 8</td>
<td>Progressive Upgrading/Sealing of Entry Road</td>
<td>Improvements and upgrading of the entry road, focused on problem locations chiefly on the unsealed section - such as poor visibility/blind corners, heavy corrugations, problem maintenance sections, or widening narrow sections/shoulders (especially to more safely accommodate cyclists). Progressively extend sealed sections of the entry road as required as traffic volumes increase (such as with development of the adjacent residential estates). Undertake additional roadside plantings, to screen the more visible/intrusive sections of the entry road or for amenity reasons (such as to highlight or frame views). (Collaborative action, services both council land and Crown land.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 14</td>
<td>Complete Mountain Bike Track Loop</td>
<td>Establish a new section of single mountain bike track, from the upper saddle on the Central Management Track to the Klings Hill summit, to complete a loop with the downhill single track. This will be an ascent only route, separating riders and walkers currently sharing the Coyles Track (see action 12). The proposed alignment is via an area supporting little native vegetation or habitat, allowing the final alignment selection to avoid impacts on biodiversity values. The route will also be chosen to minimise visual impacts. Provision of this track should be accompanied by targeted plantings to assist in slope stabilisation and to partially screen the track from other parts of the hill. Safety signage and active implementation of a code of conduct will be required to avoid conflict between users.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 14</td>
<td>Complete Mountain Bike Track Loop</td>
<td>Establish a new section of single mountain bike track, from the upper saddle on the Central Management Track to the Klings Hill summit, to complete a loop with the downhill single track. This will be an ascent only route, separating riders and walkers currently sharing the Coyles Track (see action 12). The proposed alignment is via an area supporting little native vegetation or habitat, allowing the final alignment selection to avoid impacts on biodiversity values. The route will also be chosen to minimise visual impacts. Provision of this track should be accompanied by targeted plantings to assist in slope stabilisation and to partially screen the track from other parts of the hill. Safety signage and active implementation of a code of conduct will be required to avoid conflict between users.</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.7</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Action 19</td>
<td>Special-event Public Vehicle Access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Action 9</td>
<td>Landscape Protection Zone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Priority</td>
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8 - Officers reports for determination

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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mahers</td>
<td>Action 1</td>
<td>Blackberry and other weed/pest control program</td>
<td>Continue targeted control efforts for pest plants and animals, particularly blackberry, across Mahers Hill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.25</td>
<td>Aboriginal cultural heritage interpretive signage</td>
<td>Interpretive signage provides the opportunity to recognise, promote and share Aboriginal cultural heritage. Signs interpreting Aboriginal sites, artefacts, stories, historical events and/or special cultural features should be developed in consultation with the Aboriginal community. However, it is important that signage does not reveal locations of places, sites or artefacts that might be culturally sensitive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.40</td>
<td>Adjust Fencing and Paddock Arrangements in High Use Zones</td>
<td>Progressively adjust the fencing and paddock arrangements across the Wodonga hills to enable stock to be excluded from larger facility sites and activity zones (as/when/where developed) as well as those tracks and trails subject to high levels of use (especially those regularly used by people from outside the Wodonga-Albury area). Prior to the implementation of such changes alternative measures to manage fire risks across these areas will be developed in accordance with applicable Fire Management Plans and/or in consultation with the Country Fire Authority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 3</td>
<td>North side Urban Pathway Connections</td>
<td>Extend and complete the urban pathway network (as shared paths, for use by both walkers and cyclists) through two existing drainage reserves - at the east end of Barton St (In the east) and between Bambri and Kliner courts (In the west) - to connect to the northern Perimeter Fire Trail.</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 19</td>
<td>New Bundy Management Track Connection and Shared Use Link</td>
<td>Establish a new management track (unsealed) on the hill’s northern face, to fill in the missing section of the Bundy Track and improve connectivity of the hill’s management track network (as well as to link to the proposed picnic/rest stop and lower vantage point – see action 24). This connection will be an important management link (and assist in fire management) as well as providing a shared route for both walkers and mountain bikers. Carefully select the alignment to allow safe use by walkers and cyclists (travelling downhill), for effective drainage and to avoid protected offset areas. The hill’s northern face is sparsely vegetated, so clumped plantings are warranted to reduce any potential adverse visual impacts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 6</td>
<td>Update Mistletoe Loop Walk</td>
<td>Upgrade the Mistletoe Walk (loop track) – to offer better definition and legibility, track surface improvements, upgraded wayfinding and signposting, and provision of interpretation. Provide a new link at the north-eastern end to resolve route confusion at the creek crossing (upstream of an attractive small rocky gorge) and lack of a return connection to the trailhead off the main access road. Realign and clarify the alignment around the small dam and west and north-west in Hidden Valley – to provide a clearly defined route for walkers and separate walking and management tracks. Signpost connections to the wider track and trail network (see action 21).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 18</td>
<td>Erosion Remediation and Revegetation - North-west Klings Hill</td>
<td>Fencing and revegetation of an eroded section of creekline, and surrounding major gully erosion and minor land slumps (including erosion of a section of the McMartins Track), in the perched valley in the north-west of Klings Hill. Revegetate using endangered Grassy Woodland community species. Revegetation will be undertaken in consultation with the Country Fire Authority and consistent with relevant fire management plans.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 7</td>
<td>Shared Path Link to Ridge Walking Track (Eastern Trailhead)</td>
<td>To improve access to the Hunchback Hill Complex generally, including to Klings Hill, from West Wodonga extend the existing shared path on the southside of Felltimber Creek Rd along the road’s southern side to a crossing point opposite the start of the Ridge Walking Track. Pedestrian and cyclist warning signs would be required on Felltimber Creek Rd on the approaches to this crossing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.26</td>
<td>Shared Use of Management Tracks</td>
<td>Unless otherwise indicated (such as for user safety, environmental impact or management reasons), all management tracks across the Wodonga hills will be managed and available as shared routes for both walkers and cyclists. Cyclists are to be restricted from routes intended, managed/maintained and signposted as walking tracks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 8</td>
<td>New Walking Track and Trailhead, North-west Slope and White Box Rise Estate</td>
<td>Establish a walking track on the hill’s north-west slope - contouring up/down and across a gently, moderately sloped spur with scattered trees, to link a new trailhead from the White Box Rise Estate to the proposed western crest walking track (see action 4) and low-elevation northern vantage point (see action 7). Clumped tree and vegetation plantings - using endangered Grassy Woodland community species - are warranted to supplement existing tree and vegetation cover and assist in screening possibly more exposed sections of this route. Ensure convenient connection into open space and urban pathway network of the White Box Rise Estate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 16</td>
<td>Revegetate Unstable Section of Southern Slope</td>
<td>Revegetation of the western end of the steeper south slope of Huon Hill, including a large section of unstable slope with existing land slips and slumps. Species selected to extend coverage of the depleted Dry Forest community on the upper slopes and the endangered Grassy Woodland community on the lower slopes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 18</td>
<td>Hidden Valley Secondary Activity Node, Trailhead and Car park</td>
<td>To facilitate increased use of the hill’s wider trail network and to avoid concentrating all activity at the summit, expand and formalise the existing informal parking area on the access road.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**APPENDIX C: PRIORITY TABLE**

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<td>east of Hidden Valley. Initially formalise as a small compacted gravel car park, and define safe entry and exit points to the main access road. Provide supporting facilities - such as platform tables, seating, shelter and orientation and information - to establish this site as a secondary and supporting activity or usage node and key track junction and trailhead. Provide shade and amenity plantings around the car park and trailhead facilities. Liaise with orienteering club in design to support their use of Hidden Valley as a course. Sealing the car park and a toilet facility may be warranted as usage and maintenance demands require. This node must be located outside the vegetation offset area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 7</td>
<td>Upgrade Sheoak Walking Track</td>
<td>Upgrade the Sheoak Walking Track, with better track definition and signposting and provide seating midway with views north-east over Hidden Valley and east to Lake Hume. Establish a connection south to the Stringybark Walking Track, with a safe crossing point on the main access road. Extend existing revegetation plantings to assist in screening, or “breaking up”, the track as viewed from the main access road and Hidden Valley. (Collaborative action, connects the council land and Crown land.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 9</td>
<td>Upgrade Summit Picnic Area and Access Road</td>
<td>Seal the access road to and through the existing picnic area to the existing summit car park. Upgrade the summit picnic area with: • A sealed, all-abilities standard, path to the existing accessible toilets; • Additional picnic tables (sheltered and open design) and furniture as demand dictates (but with sufficient separation to avoid any user perception of crowding), including some all-abilities accessible furniture; • Working barbecues, preferably gas (to deter fireplace establishment); • Additional shade and amenity plantings (but ensuring retention of a sufficient fuel-free area of open and mown grass); and,</td>
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<td>• Trailhead shelter and orientation facilities for track and trails, both for adjacent routes and those elsewhere across the hill.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mahers</td>
<td>Action 4</td>
<td>Borrow Pit or Quarry Rehabilitation</td>
<td>Liaise with the neighbouring landholder to undertake rehabilitation of a large borrow pit (or quarry) excavated on/inside the north-eastern boundary of Mahers Hill - mostly within council land.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.17</td>
<td>Hazard and Emergency Management Warning and Advisory Signage</td>
<td>Improve hazard and emergency management warning and advisory signage - especially fire hazard warnings signs (as consistent with the requirements of Fire Management Plans) - across the hills. Prioritise hazard and emergency management signage at the major entry points to each hill and at strategic locations along perimeter fire trails (where these are in place or as developed) in order to capture users who may have entered via minor access points.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Bears</td>
<td>Action 10</td>
<td>Short Shared Path Entry, from Peregrine Place</td>
<td>Establish a short section of unsealed shared path, for both walkers and cyclists, from the end of Peregrine Place (eastern cul-de-sac) to access the track and trail and management track network as well as the proposed low-key entry node (see action 9). This formalised access is for local users only and should not provide or encourage car parking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 14</td>
<td>Bush Setting Activity Area</td>
<td>A potential location for a &quot;bush setting activity area&quot; on a gentler lower slope with scattered trees, adjoining Wattle Park. Activities here would have an emphasis on those requiring or benefiting from a bushland or natural setting – such as a nature-based adventure playground or bush fitness course. Such an area could function in conjunction with the nearby Wattle Park site, making use of the facilities provided there. To be sited outside existing offset area.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Item 8.7 - Document A

#### Priority | Precinct | ACTION | ACTION NAME | DETAILS
---|---|---|---|---
8 | Huon | Action 10 | Formalise Summit Parking Area | Define and upgrade the existing informal summit parking area - initially as a compacted gravel carpark (possibly sealed as usage and maintenance requires). Define separate entry and exit points to the access road and ensure suitability for all-abilities access. Establish a trailhead to the realigned Bundy Walking Track - with platform tables or seating and orientation - under existing mature trees to the north-east. Improve shade and amenity plantings around the car park perimeter but ensuring retention of a sufficient fuel-free area.
8 | Huon | Action 20 | New Low-key Picnic/Rest Site - Top of Summit Track | Provide limited low-key picnic and rest facilities (platform tables and/or seating and orientation information) among a scenic cope of trees on the high point at the top of the Summit Track, with filtered views in all directions. Locate facilities to take advantage of existing large shady trees. Walker and mountain bike access only.
8 | Klings | Action 2 | Threatened Species Habitat Enhancement | Develop and implement a program of conservation works specifically designed to identify, protect and enhance habitat for threatened species known, or likely, to occur within the Hunchback Hill area. Provide for involvement of the local community in conservation surveys, monitoring and works.
8 | Klings | Action 20 | Small Low-key Entry Node Coyles Road North End | Improve existing small low-key entry node with a better defined and contained parking area and orientation information within the existing road reserve and current informal entrance at the northern entry to Klings Hill (just beyond the reserve’s margins, at the current "road closed" point at the south end of Coyles Rd). This low-key entrance would offer pedestrian and bicycle access only. Retain unobstructed management and emergency vehicle access to the reserve, with a lockable gate to prevent unauthorised access.
8 | Overall | Action 0.37 | Advise Users regarding Potential Hazards | Previsit and entry and orientation information for users will include advice regarding potential hazards that may be encountered across the hills such as the presence of stock, shared tracks, snakes, bushfire risks, heat, limb fall in high...
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<td>winds, and so on as well as advising toilet locations (on the hills and/or in the surrounding areas) and the need to carry water.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Bears</td>
<td>Action 7</td>
<td>New Low-key Lookout and Rest Stop, North</td>
<td>Provide limited low-key lookout and rest facilities (platform table(s) and/or seating) and wayfinding and orientation information at an easily accessed lookout point at the north-west corner of Bears Hill – providing attractive low-elevation views north over the White Box Rise Estate and Wodonga urban area to the Murray River and Albury. Locate to avoid intruding on the skyline and retain existing mature trees as well as undertaking supplementary amenity plantings if required. Walker access only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Bears</td>
<td>Action 9</td>
<td>New Small Low-Key Entry Node, from Donnington Drive</td>
<td>Establish a small low-key entry node on the low rounded spur east of the existing Donnington Drive entry, accessed off the existing management track from where local users can radiate out into other parts of Bears Hill. Provide seating, shelter and orientation information. This site is not obvious from wider residential areas but screen plantings (to residences to the north) would be warranted and amenity and shelter plantings required, using endangered Grassland woodland community species. Realign fencing and entry gates as necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 12</td>
<td>Revegetation and Creekline Stabilisation – North-western Creek</td>
<td>Revegetation to stabilise an eroded and erodible section of a minor north-west flowing creekline and build on earlier revegetation measures. Altered grading management may also be warranted. These works are in addition and complementary to existing offset management requirements and are to occur in consultation with the Country Fire Authority and in accordance with relevant fire management plans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 11</td>
<td>Upgrade Reserve Entrance, Including New Vehicle Gate and Locking Regime</td>
<td>Reconfigure and improve the existing vehicle entrance to Huon Hill - to offer an attractive welcome with defined and safer vehicle parking/layby areas, orientation information, and trailhead node. Install a lockable entry gate, and implement an opening and closing regime to restrict vehicle access to</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 13</td>
<td>Low-Key Lookout - Klings Hill Summit</td>
<td>Reinforce the north-western summit of Klings Hill - now the site of an existing ad hoc tin-roofed shelter and fireplace - as a low-key but spectacular vantage point. Accessible to walkers and riders but not users’ vehicles. Provide seating, shelter and orientation and interpretive information, remove fireplace and ad-hoc and informal structures and locate built elements to avoid intrusions on the skyline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 15</td>
<td>Lily Valley Walking Track</td>
<td>A new, longer walking track possibly running along the southern slope of the Lily Valley - from the Carex Track in the north-west, to link into existing perimeter fire trail and the WREN lands or anticipated residential development adjoining the hill’s south-east. Such a route could, ultimately, form an entry-point to Federation Hill - for walkers only - for residents of future subdivisions along the hill’s south-east margin (Cambourne Park and Huon Creek Rd.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 8</td>
<td>Additional Revegetation Measures - Lily Valley</td>
<td>Expansion and re-establishment of the endangered Grassy Woodland community and other native vegetation along the Lily Valley - via promoting regeneration (through grazing management, weed control, fire regime, etc.) supported by revegetation targeted to increase diversity, boost wildlife habitat, and reinforce existing revegetation. Connect to the Wodonga Retained Environment Network (WREN) lands and protected private bushland towards Huon Creek Rd. To occur in consultation with the Country Fire Authority and in accordance with relevant fire management plans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 9</td>
<td>Small Low-Key Entry Node - Western End of Perimeter Fire Trail</td>
<td>To disperse the concentration of users and provide access to the hill’s western trails, improve the existing entry with seating and orientation - at the western end of the Perimeter Fire Trail, just inside the Junction of McGaffin and Drewett roads.</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 25</td>
<td>Ensure Future Direct and Legible Vehicle Route to Huon Hill</td>
<td>Ensure planning for future development of the adjacent Riverside Estate includes a road hierarchy and layout that provides for a legible and direct route through this new suburb to Huon Hill's main eastern vehicle entry point.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 10</td>
<td>Revegetation and Creekline Stabilisation - Upper Felltimber Creek</td>
<td>Continue fencing and revegetation of the eroded sections of creekline and extensive land slip and slump areas (mainly on the southern slope) along the western drainage line and valley (a northern tributary of Felltimber Creek). Undertake weed control along the creek corridor, targeting willows and woody weeds. Revegetation will be undertaken in consultation with the Country Fire Authority and consistent with relevant fire management plans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 8</td>
<td>Priority Conversation Zone - North-East Klings Hill</td>
<td>Prioritise conservation management and protection of the existing remnant vegetation on the more rugged north-eastern slopes of Klings Hill, an area of high biodiversity and scenic value. Prioritise continued control measures for blackberry and other noxious or environmental weeds on the margins of this area, especially in locations accessed by visitors or vehicles. Close and rehabilitate existing unauthorised or informal tracks and trails within this bushland zone, and monitor for the creation of new unauthorised tracks and trails. Preventing fragmentation of this zone is a high priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 1</td>
<td>Improved Directional Signage</td>
<td>Improve directional signage to Federation Hill - especially to the major entry points - from the surrounding open space and pathway network along the hill's northern and eastern edge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 13</td>
<td>New Western Lookout - All-abilities Access, Sealed Road and Small Car park</td>
<td>Expand and diversify accessible vistas on the hill’s summit by sealing the existing access road’s far western end, to extend public vehicle access upslope of the existing summit parking area. Provide a small terminal car park, including all-abilities parking bays. Establish a short, sealed, all-abilities standard path from the parking area west to a hilltop vantage point offering views over the Wodonga urban area and other hills, and provide shade shelter and seating. Carefully locate</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Huon</td>
<td>Action 22</td>
<td>Targeted Revegetation Areas - Mid-west Scenic Valley</td>
<td>Targeted revegetation of areas within the large scenic valley located approximately centrally on Huon Hill’s western slopes, and especially along the valley’s more open southern hillslope. Endangered Grassland community species should dominate these revegetation efforts. Support revegetation with measures for the control of blackberry and other noxious or environmental weeds, as required.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Huon</td>
<td>Action 23</td>
<td>New Walking Track Connection to Kiewa River Shared Trail</td>
<td>Upgrade the indistinct and discontinuous track through the revegetation area along the lower reaches of “Bundy Creek” (out to Huon Hill’s north-eastern boundary) to be a clearly established, defined and signposted new walking track. Beyond the hill’s boundary this track (signposted as the “Bundy Track”) already connects to the existing Kiewa River shared trail. Ensure this trail connection is maintained during development of Riverside Estate. These works are within an offset and priority vegetation management area (see action 28) and as such the track alignment will be selected to avoid impacting existing vegetation, and upgrading works should incorporate revegetation measures.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Huon</td>
<td>Action 26</td>
<td>Revegetation and Erosion Remediation/Control Measures - Eroded South-eastern Creek</td>
<td>Revegetation plantings, and erosion remediation and control works where required, along the deeply eroded creekline running towards the Kiewa River on Huon Hill’s south-eastern side, in addition and accordance with offset management requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Bears</td>
<td>Action 3</td>
<td>Plan for Suitable Recreation/Leisure Access</td>
<td>Ensure the planning of future adjacent residential estates and open space or pathway networks, provides for suitable pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle access to the hill’s margins (at regular intervals or to suitable locations) and to potential trailheads.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 2</td>
<td>Signpost minor access/entry points</td>
<td>Signpost minor access and entry points to the northern and eastern edge of Federation Hill within the surrounding residential street network – especially those that may be mistaken for (or presented as) private land.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 12</td>
<td>New Shared Path Link to Kiewa Wetlands</td>
<td>Negotiate the continuation of a shared path link from Riverside Estate, along the margin of the Kiewa Wetlands, to the vehicle entrance to Huon Hill and start of the Stringybark Walking Track. (Collaborative action with adjacent developer.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 21</td>
<td>Central Track Junction</td>
<td>Upgrade the existing track junction on the saddle at the head of Hidden Valley as a key track hub. Provide orientation and wayfinding information, for the existing (and possible future) tracks and trails radiating through this hub as well as for the hill as a whole. Provide low-key seating (possibly as large placed rocks) suited to this site’s natural setting. (Collaborative action, located on Crown land.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 15</td>
<td>Rest Stop and Picnic Area</td>
<td>Provide low-key picnic and rest facilities on the flat area west of the Central Management Track at the southern entrance to Klings Hill reserve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 16</td>
<td>New low-key rest and picnic site - Central/Coyles Track Junction</td>
<td>Provide limited low-key rest/picnic facilities (platform tables or seating, and orientation information if required) near the management track junction on the saddle between McFarlanes Hill and Klings Hill. At the top of a very steep climb this site should incorporate existing mature trees and additional screen and shelter plantings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Bears</td>
<td>Action 5</td>
<td>New Low-key Lookout and Rest Stop, West</td>
<td>Formalise the existing informal vantage point near the Defence lands entrance, directly accessed from the existing management track past the water tanks (walker and cyclist access only). Provide platform table(s) and/or seating and wayfinding and orientation information (with low-key shade if required) at this low-elevation vantage point offering attractive views westwards over West Wodonga to Federation Hill and the Hunchback Hill Complex. Design around existing trees and locate to avoid adverse impacts on landscape/scenic values.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 17</td>
<td>New/Upgraded Shared Path – Hidden Valley to Existing Vehicle Entry Point</td>
<td>Provide a new shared path (initially unsealed) for walkers and cyclists from the eastern side of Hidden Valley (at the proposed secondary activity node – see action 21), running across slope largely “along contour” to join the Stringybark Walking Track. Upgrade the lower (eastern) end of the Stringybark Walking Track to a shared path standard (initially unsealed) - requiring the realignment of some steeper/switchback sections of the existing walking track (to be easily and safely passable for cyclists, with adequate safety for walkers) as well as drainage works and surface hardening in places. Undertake screen plantings. Upgrading to a sealed surface (overall or in sections) may be required if usage levels or maintenance needs demand. New parts of track must be aligned to avoid impacts on the offset site in this location.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 28</td>
<td>Additional Revegetation Along Bundy Creek</td>
<td>Reinforce and extend the existing revegetation plantings along “Bundy Creek” - including infilling the central gap between past revegetation plots (linking to the Klewa River Wetlands) and extending revegetated areas southwards to better connect to Hidden Valley. Revegetate and stabilise an eroded section of the lower creekline.</td>
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### Item 8.7 - Document A

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<th>Priority</th>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 17</td>
<td>Upgraded Low-Key Entry Node - Ridge Walking Track (Eastern Trailhead)</td>
<td>Collaborate with DELWP and Parklands Albury Wodonga to provide an identifiable and easily accessed entry point to the Hunchback Hill Complex generally, including to Klings Hill, from the urban edge. Provide a small roadside parking area on the northside of Felltimber Creek Rd (within the road reserve) at the start of the Ridge Walking Track. Provide orientation information for the Hunchback Hill Complex generally, including Klings Hill. Liaise with Parklands Albury Wodonga to investigate whether the adjacent Crown land area, under their management, will provide a superior design for this low-key entry node (including the possible provision of a shade shelter and additional seating or improved orientation information). Implementation of this action is contingent on Parklands Albury Wodonga upgrading and managing the Ridge Walking Track as a safe, well-maintained and clearly marked route free from encounters or conflicts with mountain bikers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 21</td>
<td>Exploring future mountain biking opportunities</td>
<td>If there is demonstrable demand for mountain biking experiences that cannot be met elsewhere across the wider Hunchback Hill Complex, or if other council-managed mountain bike tracks reach safe capacity, there is potential to extend mountain bike tracks into the north-west sector of Klings Hill. It may be a location in which to offer further cross-country or downhill riding opportunities. This perched valley offers a diversity of terrain in close proximity, is mostly cleared or sparsely vegetated, is generally well-drained, and does not have an established usage profile. Providing mountain bike tracks in this area would be subject to the site assessment, planning, design and approval requirements set out in overall actions applicable to all the Wodonga hills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 10</td>
<td>Upgrade Existing Low-Key Lookouts – Carex Track</td>
<td>Minor upgrading of the existing informal lookouts – just east of the junction of the Carex and Tussock Tracks and north east of Bluebell and Carex Tracks junction – with additional seating and possibly a low-key shade shelter, with orientation and interpretation information. Retain the low-key character of these locations, with facilities sited to avoid detracting from the</td>
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### APPENDIX C: PRIORITY TABLE

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<th>Priority</th>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 13</td>
<td>Revegetation and Creekline Stabilisation - Southern Creek</td>
<td>Revegetation to stabilise an eroded and erodible section of a minor south-flowing drainage line on the southern face of Federation Hill. Altered grazing management may also be warranted. To occur in consultation with the Country Fire Authority and in accordance with relevant fire management plans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 29</td>
<td>Revegetation Measures - Northern Creek</td>
<td>Revegetation plantings along a north-flowing creekline on Huon Hill's northern face (towards the Murray River corridor), including the stabilisation and revegetation of an eroded upper section of creekline and tributaries at the base of this slope.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 6</td>
<td>Update Mistletoe Loop Walk</td>
<td>Upgrade the Mistletoe Walk (loop track) - to offer better definition and legibility, track surface improvements, upgraded wayfinding and signposting, and provision of interpretation. Provide a new link at the north-eastern end to resolve route confusion at the creek crossing (upstream of an attractive small rocky gorge) and lack of a return connection to the trailhead off the main access road. Realign and clarify the alignment around the small dam and west and north-west in Hidden Valley - to provide a clearly defined route for walkers and separate walking and management tracks. Signpost connections to the wider track and trail network (see action 21).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.9</td>
<td>Native Vegetation Offset Scheme</td>
<td>The feasibility of reinstating the native vegetation offsetting scheme should be considered. Such a scheme, if carefully designed, could be a way of externally funding land management activities and securing local biodiversity outcomes. Should the scheme be reinstated, appropriate resources must be made available to identify suitable sites, establish a funding model that is cost-neutral and to meet the additional administrative requirements associated with offset management.</td>
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### Appendix C: Priority Table

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<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Precinct</th>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 7</td>
<td>New Low-key Picnic Site - Carex Track (EAST)</td>
<td>Provide limited low-key rest/picnic facilities (platform tables or seating) at the top of the Carex Track's eastern descent, to take advantage of the attractive low-level views over the Wodonga urban area. Pedestrian and cyclists access only. Include Screening tree and shrub plantings – selected and sited and designed to limit fire hazard – flanking the Carex Track (descending from the ridgeline to Ballara Drive).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Mahers</td>
<td>Action 6</td>
<td>Low-key Lookout and Picnic/Rest Site – Mahers Hill Summit</td>
<td>Provide limited low-key picnic and rest facilities (platform tables or seating and interpretive signage) at the summit of Mahers Hill, in the attractive copse of trees with western views located on the small bench just below (west of) the summit. Provide a clear and stable walking route to, and at, the summit and trig lookout point (now situated on a knob of loose rocks and tall grass).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.15</td>
<td>Fire Management Plans</td>
<td>Develop and implement detailed fire management plans for all hills (or sites) identified as high priority in the Wodonga Environmental Lands Bushfire Management Strategy. All plans should be reviewed in response to changes in reserve/site usage and/or condition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Bears</td>
<td>Action 12</td>
<td>New Shared Path and Loop Route, South-western Slope</td>
<td>Establish a new shared path (unsealed) for both walkers and cyclists – from the proposed low-key entry node (see action 9) and existing management track, passing downslope of the water tanks, then contouring up and across the hill's south-western slope to rejoin the management track at the proposed low-key vantage point and rest stop (see action 5). Combined with the existing management track, this new path would offer a small shared use (walkers and cyclists) loop route in the hill's south-west. Align to avoid impacts to existing vegetation, with screening plantings at places across the more exposed hillslope below the water tanks. (Dependent on council ownership of WREN lands at the western end of Bears Hill.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Priority</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 6</td>
<td>Shared Path, Wattle Park to Sundew Track</td>
<td>Provide a shared path (for both walkers and cyclists), through the proposed Wattle Park Activity and Entry Node (action 5) - initially as a sealed path, and then linking to the Sundew Track (and the tracks/trails beyond) as an unsealed path.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 15</td>
<td>Upgraded Low-key Lookout and Picnic/Rest Site - &quot;Watsons Lookout&quot;</td>
<td>Reinstate the existing derelict picnic/ and rest stop at the outstanding vantage point known as &quot;Watsons Lookout&quot; - walker and mountain bike access only. Provide platform tables and/or seating, and orientation and interpretive information (with low-key shade if required) at this vantage point offering superb views - to the Hunchback Hill Complex and parts of the Wodonga CBD and urban area, the Murray River and Albury, and Lake Hume. Carefully locate facilities to avoid adverse impacts on landscape/scenic values (due to this site's very prominent and visible location). Additional screen and amenity and shelter plantings may be necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.28</td>
<td>Management of Unauthorised Tracks and Trails</td>
<td>Regularly monitor for the creation of unauthorised tracks, short-cuts, &quot;trample trails&quot; and other unplanned tracks and trails. Close and rehabilitate these unauthorised tracks and trails as they are developed and found. Alignments persistently targeted by the creation of tracks may indicate a strong &quot;desire line&quot; and may warrant assessment (using the considerations set out in Action 0.26 above).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Bears</td>
<td>Action 13</td>
<td>New Walking Track and Stock Route Connection, Northern Slope</td>
<td>Establish mid-slope walking track along the northern to northwestern face of Bears Hill. From the proposed low-elevation northern vantage point (see action 7), and connecting to the proposed western crest and White Box Rise Estate link tracks (see actions 4, 8), running eastwards and gradually descending the slope, to connect with stock route midway along northern toe of Bears Hill (see opportunity A). Clumped plantings will be required to screen sections across more exposed slopes using endangered Grassy Woodland community species. (Final link would preferably be across Parks Victoria block which would require this agency's agreement.)</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Bears</td>
<td>Action 2</td>
<td>Periodic Liaison with Department of Defence</td>
<td>Periodically liaise with the Department of Defence regarding their policy on public access to the Defence lands on Bears Hill - for transit access only, or for access and on-site uses. Also pursue the possibility of the Department of Defence divesting these lands to the council.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 11</td>
<td>Revegetation and Erosion Remediation/Control Measures - South-west</td>
<td>Expansion and re-establishment of endangered native vegetation communities via promoting regeneration (through grazing management, weed control, fire regime, etc.) and supported by targeted revegetation to increase diversity and boost wildlife habitat. Revegetation priority to eroded creeklines and the existing fenced-out revegetation and remnant patch. These works are in addition and complementary to existing offset management requirements and are to occur in consultation with the Country Fire Authority and in accordance with relevant fire management plans.</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 27</td>
<td>Targeted Revegetation Areas - North-west of Butt Butt Track</td>
<td>Targeted revegetation areas on the north-facing slope and spur, downslope of the lower section of Butt Butt Track, linking to an existing better timbered area to the north-east. Endangered Grassy Woodland community species that complement and boost existing habitat should dominate these revegetation efforts. Ensure appropriate setbacks from the management track, particularly downslope, to maintain safety of firefighting access, in addition and accordance with offset management requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Mahers</td>
<td>Action 3</td>
<td>Regeneration/Revegetation of Endangered Grassy Woodland, North-west Slopes</td>
<td>Increase the extent, continuity and condition of the endangered Grassy Woodland community along the higher sections of the northern half of the hill's west facing slopes - via promoting regeneration (through grazing management, weed control, fire regime, etc.) supported by targeted revegetation and habitat restoration. Revegetation priority to steeper slopes. Additional fencing will be required across this areas to exclude stock and manage controlled grazing as and when required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Mahers</td>
<td>Action 8</td>
<td>Revegetation and Creekline Stabilisation – Eroded Central Western Creek</td>
<td>Stabilise and revegetate an eroded section of drainage line (and eroded crossing by the north-south management track) in centre of the hill's flatter western boundary. Revegetate using Grassy Woodland community species.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.43</td>
<td>Proactively Manage Events and Tourism</td>
<td>Proactively manage commercial recreation and tourism use of the hills through the preparation of assessment criteria to employ in the evaluation of any applications for possible commercial activities, and by identifying potential locations across the hills and possible suitable commercial activities (as a guideline and/or prospectus for potential applicants). Commercial recreation and tourism activities that preclude access and use by other users, or impact neighbours will be strictly limited in both location and duration. Commercial use will only occur with the council's prior approval and a permit system, with appropriate fees and conditions, will be developed and applied (as and when required) in regulating commercial recreation and tourism use of the hills. Preference will be given to commercial uses that are founded on or relate to the hills’ values and activities that degrade the hills’ environment will not be permitted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Bears</td>
<td>Action 1</td>
<td>Signpost Minor Access and Entry Points</td>
<td>Signpost minor access and entry points around the western end of Bears Hill (and the future WREN lands, when council owned) within the residential street, pathway and open space network - especially those that may be mistaken for (or presented as) private land.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Federation</td>
<td>Action 4</td>
<td>Northern-Eastern “Mid-Slope” Walking Track</td>
<td>Establish a &quot;mid-slope&quot; walking track along the better timbered north-east and eastern face of Federation Hill – from the Kangaroo Track to the end of the Perimeter Fire Trail. The alignment between the Kangaroo and Tussock tracks must be carefully chosen to avoid impacts on vegetation in accordance with the relevant offset management plan.</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 14</td>
<td>New Low-key Picnic/Rest Site - Top of Butt Butt Track</td>
<td>Provide limited low-key picnic and rest facilities (platform tables or seating) among an attractive copse of trees on a knoll offering filtered views to the north-east, beside the Butt Butt Track north of the telecommunications inholding.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Mahers</td>
<td>Action 10</td>
<td>Small Entry Node and Facility Site - Lees Lane (When use and demand warrants)</td>
<td>When usage levels and/or demand warrants, establish a small entry node and facility site - with a defined and contained parking area, shelter, seating and orientation information - just inside the hill’s north-western boundary off the end of Lees Lane, to serve as the hill’s main vehicle access point for users and a hub from where people can radiate out across Mahers Hill. Provide screening and amenity plantings, and realign fencing and entry gates as necessary. Locate to allow sufficient room for possible future expansion, if and when warranted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.34</td>
<td>Liaise with Developers regarding Open Space and Pathway Connections</td>
<td>Collaborate and negotiate with the developers of adjacent residential estates to connect major hill access and entry points (especially those with user facilities) with a future estate's open space and urban pathway network to provide “feeder” routes for walking or cycling access to a hill, as well as the potential for shared open spaces and facilities (including car parking, on and off street) on a hill’s perimeter. Estate road layouts should allow for legible and reasonably direct routes to major hill vehicle access and entry points.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Bears</td>
<td>Action 4</td>
<td>New Short Walking Track Along Western Crest</td>
<td>Establish a new short walking track along the western crest of Bears Hill - connecting the existing informal and undeveloped vantage point viewing westward (see action 5) and a potential lookout offering low elevation views northwards (see action 7). Care will be required to route this walking track without impacting existing native vegetation in accordance with the offset management plan, and supplementary plantings may be warranted.</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 24</td>
<td>New Low-key Picnic/Rest Site – North-west Timberline Track</td>
<td>Provide limited low-key picnic and rest facilities (platform tables and/or seating and orientation information) at a scenic rocky knoll and vantage point, north of a small saddle on the Timberline Track. Walker and mountain bike access only. This lower elevation lookout offers very good views of the Murray River (and is the closest vantage point to the river in all five Wodonga hills) and the northern areas of Wodonga and Albury. Facilities should be sited to take advantage of existing large shady trees, and carefully positioned to avoid adverse impacts on landscape and scenic values (recognising this site’s very visible location). Additional screen and amenity/shelter plantings may be necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 3</td>
<td>New Footpath Link Between Existing Summit Picnic Area and Eastern Lookouts</td>
<td>Provide a sealed footpath connecting the picnic area and the eastern lookouts, with bollard separation if and where adjacent to the proposed single lane one-way road. Undertake screening plantings as required. (Collaborative action, connects council land and PAW managed land.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.27</td>
<td>New Track and Trail Planning and Assessment</td>
<td>All proposed new, or upgraded, recreational tracks and trails will undergo a thorough planning, assessment and approval process. This process should include consideration of all relevant factors including demand and justification, site and alignment assessments, identification and mitigation of potential impacts, application of accepted track and trail design standards, user safety issues, potential for conflicts with other users or impacts on neighbours, and management capabilities and resourcing. Current industry standards or &quot;best practice&quot; guidelines such as the Users’ Guide to the Australian Walking Track Grading System (DSE) or the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) Australia Trail Difficulty Rating System should be referenced during track and trail assessment, planning, design and construction.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.27</td>
<td>New Track and Trail Planning and Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>Action 5</td>
<td>Realign and Upgrade Southern End of Bundy Walking Track</td>
<td>In order to improve walker safety and centralise the summit’s trailheads, close and rehabilitate southernmost section of the Bundy Track (now a walking track only) downslope from the existing informal parking area on the main access road. Realign this section of the Bundy Track to provide a new walking track link heading west/south-west across slope to a new trailhead at the existing summit car park (see action 10). Upgrade – as a walking track only – the poorly defined section of the Bundy Track north to the Sheoak Walking Track and beyond (see action 21). (Collaborative action, connects council land and Crown land.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Mahers</td>
<td>Action 11</td>
<td>New Walking Track to Mahers Hill Summit (When use/demand warrants)</td>
<td>Investigate a possible route for a walking track to the Mahers Hill summit from the proposed Lees Lane entry node and facility site (see action 10). Leading off the existing management track (east from the proposed Lees Lane entry node and facility site) upslope of the large dam, then heading south-east up a gentle to moderately sloped spur with open timber (through the Grassy Woodland community regeneration zone - see action 3) to re-join the management track network just north of the summit and lookout point. This track would provide an alternative, walkers only, route most of the way to</td>
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<td>Horse riding and Mountain Biking on Management Tracks</td>
<td>and from the summit and lookout. Establishment of this track, with signposting and supplementary amenity and screening plantings, would only progress when usage levels and/or demand warrants (and preferably in conjunction with, or following, provision of the proposed Lees Lane entry node and facility site).</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Mahers</td>
<td>Action 2</td>
<td>Horse riding and Mountain Biking on Management Tracks</td>
<td>Management tracks on Mahers Hill will be available for shared use – for horse riding and mountain biking (or cycling) as well as for visitors on foot (walkers, joggers, etc.). Equestrian and mountain bike use of the management track network will be periodically reviewed - in terms of safety issues, conflicts with other users, environmental impacts (especially weed spread), and impacts on track surfaces and maintenance requirements, incidence of off-track riding and informal track creation, and demands on the council’s management resources. Management tracks may be identified as unsuitable, or not recommended, for mountain biking or horse-riding due to steep terrain, surface conditions, or other hazards. Provision for horse trailers will need to be made.</td>
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</table>
| 20       | Overall  | Action 0.1 | Field Services Support | Support the on-ground management of the hills with suitable co-ordination, planning, "fieldservices" and administrative actions and resources. These support services would assist across a range of requirements or tasks as the overall Wodonga strategy is implemented. Priority tasks in the short term would include:  
• Determining a single set of official place names to apply to each hill, and to any key areas/locations or features within individual hills;  
• Establishing, and maintaining, an up-to-date data base (preferably GIS linked) of the hills’ values and assets to support and inform management directions and decisions;  
• Ensuring all tracks and trails data and the associated infrastructure (such as signage, seats and shelters) is collected, collated, mapped and maintained in formats accessible to management staff as well as, potentially, to |
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</table>
| 20       | Overall  | Action 0.6 | Assessment and Approval Process | Intending users and the public; and,  
- Applying accepted standards for the definition, description and difficulty classification of tracks and trails such as the Australian Walking Track Grading System or the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) Australia Trail Difficulty Rating System in both track provision and maintenance as well as in all promotional material and on-site information/orientation.  
Implement an assessment and approvals process for proposed projects within the hills that exceed a specified size or impact threshold (including visual impacts), or may significantly affect other users or neighbours, have emergency management implications or exceed other triggers. This would typically apply to actions involving construction or works to create significant new features (such as a new car park or lookout platform, or larger user facilities). It would generally not apply to routine management actions, the maintenance or minor upgrade of existing features, or the installation of minor new features (such as seating or a low-key picnic site). Where required, this process will include third party concurrence or approval from other agencies (such as the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning), consultation with neighbours, public exhibition of proposed designs, and other steps. |
| 21       | Bears    | Action 6  | Additional Revegetation Measures; Lower Western Slopes | Reinforce and extend the existing revegetation plantings downslope (west and north-west) of the water tanks, predominantly using endangered Grassey Woodland community species. To occur in consultation with the Country Fire Authority and in accordance with relevant fire management and vegetation offset management plans. |
| 21       | Federation | Action 16 | Low-Key Entry Node - Wilsons Rd | To provide a point of access to the hill from the south, the existing management access should be formalised for public use. Measures to limit impacts on management and residential access should be implemented along with amenity and |
## APPENDIX C: PRIORITY TABLE

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<th>Priority</th>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Bears</td>
<td>Action 11</td>
<td>Targeted Revegetation of North-western Crest and Slopes</td>
<td>Targeted revegetation (patch, infill or connectivity plantings) across the more open vegetated areas on the north-western crest and slopes of Bears Hill - using endangered Grassy Woodland community species. To occur in consultation with the Country Fire Authority and in accordance with relevant fire management and vegetation offset management plans.</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 12</td>
<td>Shared Access to Summit Lookout via Coyles Track</td>
<td>Promote, signpost and manage the Coyles Track (to the north-western summit and vantage point on Klings Hill) as a shared route available to both walkers and mountain bikers. For walker safety this track will be managed as an “up” route only for mountain bikers (forming an anti-clockwise circuit for riders in conjunction with the completed section of downhill single track between Yearings Track and the Central Management Track). Should a separate “up” route for mountain bikes be established along this spur (see action 14) this track will be restricted to walkers only and signposted and managed accordingly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Mahers</td>
<td>Action 7</td>
<td>Revegetation and Creekline Stabilisation - Eroded North-western Creek</td>
<td>Stabilise and revegetate an eroded section of drainage line downstream of the large dams on the hill’s flatter north-western boundary. Revegetate using Grassy Woodland and Valley Grassy Forest community species.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Mahers</td>
<td>Action 9</td>
<td>Revegetation and Creekline Stabilisation - Eroded South-western Creek</td>
<td>Stabilise and revegetate a long section of eroded drainage line on the hill’s flatter south-western boundary. Revegetate using Grassy Woodland community species.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.18</td>
<td>Fire Danger and After-hours Closures</td>
<td>Close the hills to public access on total fire ban days or other periods of extreme fire danger (as consistent with the requirements of Fire Management Plans). Given the permeability of the hills’ edges, physically preventing access will not be practical – other than where lockable vehicle gates can be installed on existing and proposed publicly accessible</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.3</td>
<td>Liaison and Collaboration with other Land Managers</td>
<td>Establish a structured and scheduled process for regular liaison between the council, DELWP, Parklands Albury Wodonga and other public land managers, to discuss visitor use planning and management across the Wodonga hills. If appropriate, formalise the collaborative management of “dual-tenure” hills (especially Huon Hill and the Hunchback Hill Complex).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.10</td>
<td>Monitor and Manage Grazing Regimes</td>
<td>Regularly evaluate and, as necessary, revise the current grazing management regimes in force across the hills to better protect and enhance identified environmental values while adequately managing bushfire risks to users, neighbours, and infrastructure. Alternative measures to manage fire risks if grazing is removed or reduced will be developed in accordance with applicable Fire Management Plans and/or in consultation with the Country Fire Authority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.14</td>
<td>Involving Community or Volunteer Organisations</td>
<td>The council will continue to work with the community to extend the existing very strong network of community or volunteer organisations and user groups that are actively involved in the management of public land across the hills. These community programs and volunteer involvement will be guided by the directions, actions and priorities as set out in this strategy to ensure project outcomes are consistent with the overall directions for the hill or area in question, and the Wodonga hills more widely.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.19</td>
<td>Restricting the Use of Fire</td>
<td>Users will not be permitted to have open fires anywhere on the hills except where specifically approved by the council (such as under an approved event, commercial activity or other permit) or potentially at larger facility nodes in more landscaped and managed open space setting on a hill's margin (where solid</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.19</td>
<td>Restricting the Use of Fire</td>
<td>Users will not be permitted to have open fires anywhere on the hills except where specifically approved by the council (such as under an approved event, commercial activity or other permit) or potentially at larger facility nodes in more landscaped and managed open space setting on a hill’s margin (where solid fuel barbecues may be permitted). Any barbecues provided within the hills will be gas (or electric) only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.42</td>
<td>Resourcing Management for Community Use</td>
<td>Dedicate adequate resources and on-ground effort to the planned provision and ongoing maintenance of user infrastructure (in addition to track and trail maintenance, see Action 0.30 above) as well as for supporting and managing users, monitoring, managing and remediating the impacts of use, and ensuring a regular on-site management presence (for user contact, patrols, closures, enforcement, etc.). The degree of management presence at a site can be a large determinant of users’ experience/satisfaction, and so should be tailored to the role and character of each hill or location and the intended experiences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.41</td>
<td>Survey and Monitoring of Community Use</td>
<td>Undertake the ongoing survey and monitoring of leisure, recreation, tourism and other use of the hills collecting both quantitative data (such as user numbers, locations, timing and duration of use, etc.) as well as qualitative data (such as user origins and characteristics, experiences sought, motivations, degree of satisfaction, etc.). A range of survey and monitoring techniques will be required (traffic counters, track and trail monitoring, intercept surveys, etc.).</td>
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<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.41</td>
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<td>Undertake the ongoing survey and monitoring of leisure, recreation, tourism and other use of the hills collecting both quantitative data (such as user numbers, locations, timing and duration of use, etc.) as well as qualitative data (such as user origins and characteristics, experiences sought, motivations, degree of satisfaction, etc.). A range of survey and monitoring techniques will be required (traffic counters, track and trail monitoring, intercept surveys, etc.).</td>
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<td>Document A</td>
<td>degree of satisfaction, etc.). A range of survey and monitoring techniques will be required (traffic counters, track and trail monitoring, intercept surveys, etc.).</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>Differentiate the Hills as Distinct Attractions</td>
<td>Promotional and previst information for the Wodonga hills should differentiate the character, attractions, facilities and experiences offered by each hill to present each hill as a distinct or individual attraction and assist intending leisure, recreation or tourism visitors in selecting the destination and activity that best meets their needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>Biodiversity Knowledge and Monitoring</td>
<td>Continue to build a more detailed understanding of the biodiversity values of the Wodonga hills overall, and of each hill or specific sites as required. Establish monitoring programs (which include specific targets or indicators) to track the progress of habitat restoration, revegetation, pest/weed control or other environmental management programs to inform management directions and decisions. This may include targeted survey to better understand the presence of abundance of key native or pest species.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Huon</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>New/Upgraded Shared Path - Hidden Valley to Existing Vehicle Entry Point</td>
<td>Provide a new shared path (initially unsealed) for walkers and cyclists from the eastern side of Hidden Valley (at the proposed secondary activity node - see action 21), running across slope largely “along contour” to join the Stringybark Walking Track. Upgrade the lower (eastern) end of the Stringybark Walking Track to a shared path standard (initially unsealed) - requiring the realignment of some steeper/switchback sections of the existing walking track (to be easily and safely passable for cyclists, with adequate safety for walkers) as well as drainage works and surface hardening in places. Undertake screen plantings. Upgrading to a sealed surface (overall or in sections) may be required if usage levels or maintenance needs demand. New parts of track must be aligned to avoid impacts on the offset site in this location.</td>
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### Appendix C: Priority Table

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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.8</td>
<td>Continue and Expand Current Land Management Program</td>
<td>Continue annual environmental works program, including targeted revegetation and restoration works, pest plant and animal control, and implementation of offset and WREN management plans. This should include proactive measures to limit the damage from emerging threats, such as goats, deer and cats. Community participation in this program should be encouraged. This program will need to adapt and expand as use of the hills changes, as adjoining residents increase in number and as additional biodiversity information becomes available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Action 0.12</td>
<td>Manage Residential-Bushland Interface Impacts</td>
<td>Monitor and manage the suite of typical residential-bushland interface impacts on the biodiversity and aesthetic values, fire hazard and management, and user safety within the hills. Priority will be given to managing these activities and incursions located in high conservation value locations. Some activities may be tolerated - especially those that foster children’s appreciation of nature – where, outside priority conservation zones, do not cause unacceptable impacts to a location, or compromise user safety. Awareness raising and education should generally be favoured over regulatory or enforcement actions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Klings</td>
<td>Action 16</td>
<td>New low-key rest and picnic site - Central/Coyles Track Junction</td>
<td>Provide limited low-key rest/picnic facilities (platform tables or seating, and orientation information if required) near the management track junction on the saddle between McFarlane’s Hill and Klings Hill. At the top of a very steep climb this site should incorporate existing mature trees and additional screen and shelter plantings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Mahers</td>
<td>Action 5</td>
<td>Loop Route, High Country Rail Trail and Mahers Hill Summit</td>
<td>Establish and signpost a loop walking route from the High Country Rail Trail to and from the Mahers Hill summit. This route would access the hill at the north-east and south-east corners, and use former vehicle tracks to ascend and descend at each end of the central ridge. Small sections of new track may be warranted at each ascent/and descent to make these routes more direct. This route would then use the management</td>
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<td>track(s) along the narrow steep-sided central ridge to and from the summit and main vantage point. An access corridor between the Murray Valley Highway (and High Country Rail Trail along the highway’s eastern side) and the base of the hill already exists in the south-east corner. However, the north-eastern access point would need to be established, using an unmade road reserve (at present “fenced-in” by the adjacent landholder). Warning signs would be required on the Murray Valley Highway on the approaches to both crossing points. Investigate the suitability of this loop also being available for use by horse riders - if gradients, track surface and other safety or impact considerations allow. Due to probable speeds on downhill sections and the potential for conflict with walkers (and horse riders), the ascent and descent sections of this track will not be open for mountain biking.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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