

Greenways

MANAGEMENT PLAN

for

GEARY'S GAP/WAMBOIN
GREENWAYS SYSTEM

June 1995

*Geary's Gap/Wamboin
Greenways Management Committee*

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1) INTRODUCTION

Public requests for riding trails in the Geary's Gap area first arose in the early 1980's, and in 1985 the Yarrawlumla Shire Council (YSC) established a working party to develop a Shire wide approach to a Greenway network which resulted in the YSC adopting "Access to the Countryside" as their Bicentennial theme in 1988. In 1989, the Geary's Gap Community Association (GGCA) provided detailed documentation for a section of Greenway which identified obstacles and the work required to remove them. The GGCA also held a public meeting as part of a public consultation process. As a result of this community action and interest, the YSC was instrumental in providing a grant of \$5,000 in November 1990 from Section 94 funding.

In 1991, the YSC established a Steering Committee to recommend a network of corridors and to advise on general land use, fencing and any other associated costs. Another role of that Committee was to liaise with all adjoining landholders and to advise them of the proposal. It also soon became evident to the Steering Committee established by the YSC that the conservation values of many sections of the Greenways were very high. This added considerable extra impetus to the creation of the Greenway network, as they would provide wildlife corridors that are now recognised as essential to the welfare of flora and fauna

In 1994 the Yarrawlumla Shire Council (YSC) implemented a pilot Greenways project in the Geary's Gap/Wamboin district. The Greenways "corridors" are based primarily on land dedicated as Crown road reserves which in most cases were not going to be used for the provision of roads.

1994 saw YSC advertise for members of the community to apply for positions on a Greenways Management Committee. The Committee was formally appointed in 1995 and their role is to manage the Greenway system in this district.

2) MISSION STATEMENT

The mission statement of the Greenways Management Committee is :

"In co-operation with the community and user groups, manage the Greenways system for the benefit of the conservation of nature and use by the community."

3) OBJECTIVES

In providing for the good management of the Greenways and in carrying out its mission statement the Committee has the following objectives:

- to encourage and otherwise ensure the conservation of natural flora and fauna
- to raise public awareness of the importance of the Greenways and to encourage community participation in:
 - i) any actions required from the Management Plan and
 - ii) use of the Greenways in accordance with the Management Plan.
- to minimise the effect of trampling and soil erosion caused by user groups
- to monitor and control the introduction and spread of feral plants and animals
- to protect all waterways, ephemeral or permanent
- to protect all identified significant areas or sites, whether environmental or cultural
- to provide and maintain the amenity of the Greenways for the enjoyment of the community

4) PRINCIPLES

The Management Committee will be guided by the following principles in the formulation of the Management Plan and its management of the Greenways:

- that environmental protection be observed in relation to the management and administration of the Greenways
- that the Greenways (both the land and its other resources) be used and managed in a sustainable manner
- that multiple use and enjoyment of the Greenways be encouraged in accordance with the Management Plan.

5) CONDITIONS OF USE

For the good management of the Greenways, certain conditions of use are essential. The following conditions are stipulated as a result of general best practice in environmental conservation and also as a consequence of the public consultation process:

- all noise is to be kept to a minimum
- the carriage of firearms or other weapons and hunting activities are not permitted
- all user groups are to remove their own rubbish
- all gates or other exclusion mechanisms should be left as they are found
- no camping is to be permitted on the Greenways except by permission
- no fires are permitted on the Greenways other than in specified fireplaces or as part of a legitimate prescription burning process agreed to by the Management Committee and implemented by the relevant fire authorities. Such burning will be aimed at conserving the ecological integrity of the Greenways
- all user groups shall remain on defined track(s) within the Greenway

- *all users must respect private property and adjacent residents privacy*
- *there is to be no collection and/or removal of any natural or archeological items from the Greenways*
- *all user groups are encouraged to report all problems or concerns to the Management Committee*

6) THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Management Committee consists of 7 members of the local community. The committee is appointed by YSC as a Council Committee.

7) ROLE OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The role of the Management Committee is to manage the Greenways in accordance with this Management Plan and in accordance with the Standing Orders for Management Committees as issued by the General Manager of YSC.

Members are:

Cr S Ridley (Chair), Mr J Thompson (Secretary), Mr G Butler, Mrs J Millet, Mrs L Hart, Mr T Young & Mr P Griffin

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8) FUNCTIONS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The functions of the Management Committee are:

- *to progressively implement any actions required as a result of this Management Plan.*
- *to educate users of the conditions of use of the Greenways by the installation of adequate signage*
- *to provide representation on YSC advisory bodies as requested*
- *to liaise with the Yarrowlumla/Queanbeyan Bushfire Management Committee (Y/QBFMC) to ensure that the Greenways are protected from fire hazard and to*

ensure that all prescription burns are implemented as per the Fuel Management Plan of the Y/QBFMC

- to endeavour to ensure that all user(s) and adjoining residents are aware of the Management Plan and dispute resolution procedures
- to report to Council in July and December of each year on the progress of the Greenways including any recommendations for the management of Greenways in the YSC

9) DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Management Committee is to ensure that:

- all adjoining residents and user(s) have access to a contact number(s) where complaints can be directed
- they act on all complaints, and refer to Council any complaints that they are unable to resolve
- any complaints are responded to in writing with any resolution clearly and unambiguously recorded

10) DESCRIPTION (DEFINITION) OF THE GREENWAYS

For the purposes of the Local Government Act 1993 the Greenways are designated a natural area for community use and the natural area is further designated as bushland.

Categorisation

A five part classification of Greenways has been determined by the YSC (24 November 1992) which establishes the following uses:

Category 1 - area for the preservation of flora and fauna, and access restrictions may apply

Category 2 - area environmentally sensitive and as a consequence usage should be limited

Category 3 - area catering for a variety of uses, excluding motorised vehicles

Category 4 - area for general use, including motorised vehicles

Category 5 - area catering for general use and being verge track adjacent to existing roads

The categorisation applying to the Greenways and the connecting road verge tracks is as shown in the following table.

NB: * indicates that notwithstanding the general categorisation, the Management Committee may place restrictions on the use of any or all of the Greenways if degradation occurs or is likely to occur due to prevailing conditions or environmental concerns, e.g. Category 3 can be made into Category 1.

SECTION	MAP	STATUS	USE
Newington Rd to Harriot Rd.	A-B	Greenway (road reserve transferred to YSC control)	Cat 3*
Harriot Rd extension	B-C	road reserve	Cat 3*
Harriot Rd to Creswell corner	B-D	Greenway (road reserve transferred to YSC control)	Cat 3
Creswell corner to Reardon Reserve	D-E	Greenway (road reserve transferred to YSC control)	Cat 3*
Reardon Reserve to made road	E-F	Greenway (road reserve transferred to YSC control)	Cat 3*
made road	F-G	Greenway (road reserve transferred to YSC control and incorporating a private road)	Cat 4
Creswell corner to Denley Dr	D-H	Greenway (road reserve transferred to YSC control)	Cat 3*
Denley Dr to Weerona Dr	H-I	Council road - verge track	Cat 5

Denley Dr to Norton Rd (no thoroughfare)	H-V	road reserve	Cat 4
Weerona Dr (Denley Dr end) to Young's corner	I-J	Greenway (YSC owned land)	Cat 3*
Young's corner to Weerona Dr	J-K	Greenway (road reserve transferred to YSC control)	Cat 4
Young's corner to Majors Cl	J-L	Greenway (road reserve transferred to YSC control)	Cat 3*
Majors Cl to Hogan Dr	L-M	Greenway (YSC owned)	Cat 3*
Majors Cl to Weerona Dr (near Reedy Creek Pl)	L-N	YSC road - verge track	Cat 5
Majors Cl to Weerona Dr (near Norton Dr)	L-O	Greenway (road reserve transferred to YSC control)	Cat 3*
Weerona Dr to entrance of Clare Valley (adjacent to Reedy Creek Pl)	N-P	Greenway (road reserve transferred to YSC control and one portion of YSC land)	Cat 3*
Clare Valley to Norton Rd	P-Q	Greenway (YSC owned)	Cat 3*
Norton Rd towards Denley Dr (no thoroughfare).	U-V	Greenway (YSC owned)	Cat 3*

Norton Rd to Clare Valley Rd	Q-R1 & R2	YSC road - verge track	Cat 5*
Clare Valley Rd to Clare Lane	R2-T	Greenway (YSC owned)	Cat 3*
Norton Rd to Clare Lane	R1-S	road reserve	Cat 5
Clare Lane		public road reserve incorporating a private road	n/a

Greenways

●●●●● Category Three

- - - - - Category Four

X X X Category Five



