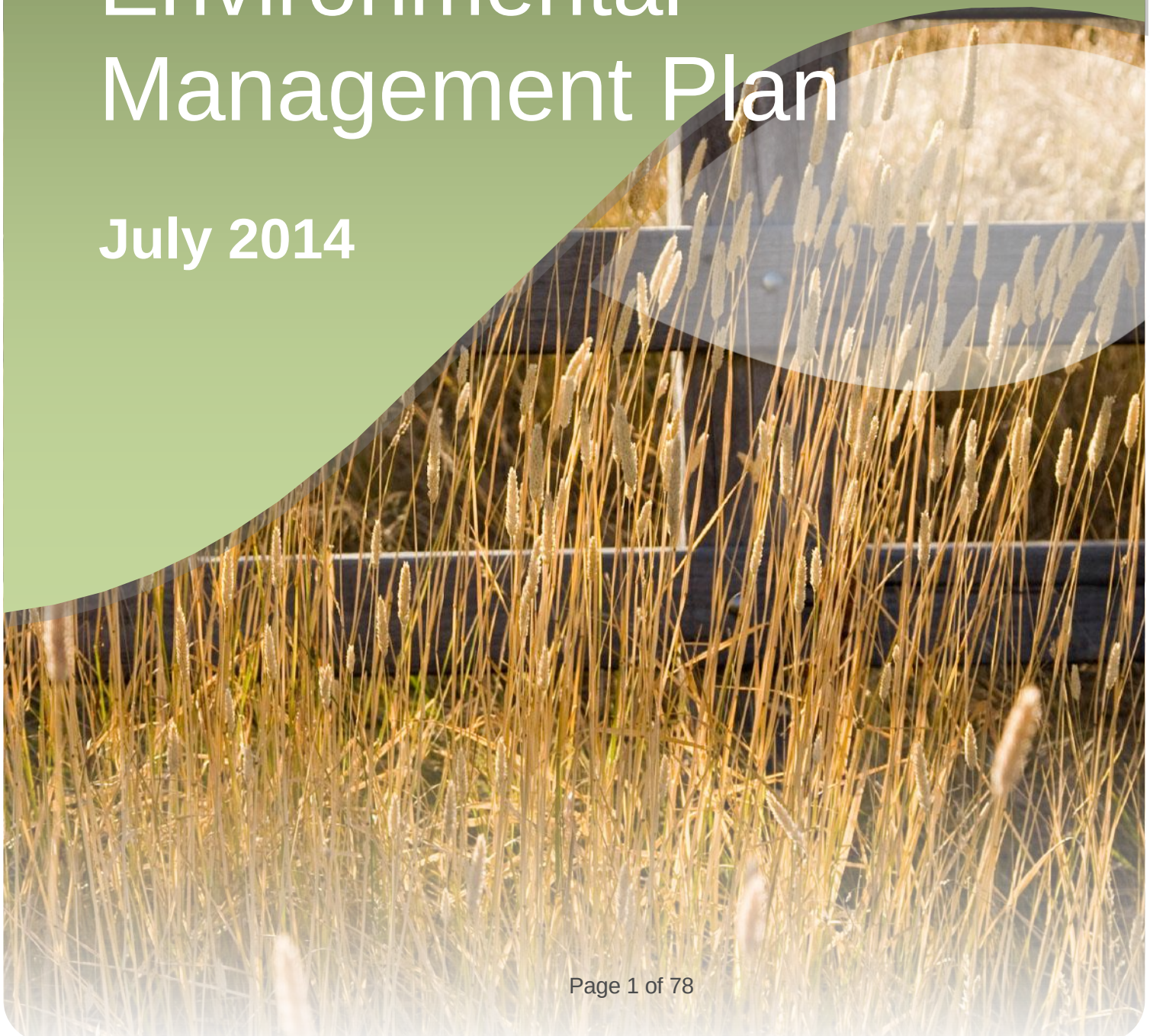
Macedon Ranges Shire Council

UL Daly Nature Reserve

Environmental Management Plan

July 2014



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Acknowledgement of Country

Macedon Ranges Shire Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which UL Daly Nature Reserve is located

Acknowledgements

Council acknowledges the following contributors to this report:

- Jeff Yugovic, Sally Mitchell, Tapasya Arya and Gary Vines, Biosis Pty Ltd
- Robin Crocker
- Bianca Aquilina, Atlas Ecology Pty Ltd

Background documents:

- *UL Daly Nature Reserve, Gisborne – Background Report for Environmental Management Plan and Analysis of Early Years Hub Footprint*, Biosis Pty Ltd, February 2014
- *UL Daly Nature Reserve, Gisborne: Preliminary Cultural Heritage Assessment,* Biosis Pty Ltd, January 2014

Vision

UL Daly Nature Reserve is highly valued by the community of Gisborne as an ecologically rich location that supports a diversity of fauna and regionally significant flora species.

The reserve is the only remaining bushland reserve within the town boundary, providing passive recreational and education opportunities to local residents and community groups.

Through careful management and conservation, the reserve provides an opportunity to understand, appreciate and engage with local flora and fauna.

All aspects of the reserve, including its remnant Grassy Forest bushland, open grasslands and cultural heritage features are valued as important contributors to the neighbourhood character of the township.

Into the future, UL Daly Nature Reserve will continue to enrich the lives of the local community, contributing to a greater understanding of the area's natural and cultural heritage.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Environmental Management Plan is to:

- Identify the reserve's natural, cultural heritage and recreation values
- Establish a vision for the reserve's future use and management
- Identify threats to achieving this vision
- Identify a series of prioritised management actions aimed at mitigating any threats and achieving the vision for the reserve
- Establish a monitoring and evaluation program to assess changes in the reserve's biodiversity values and the success of the impact of this Management Plan

2. Context

2.1 Location and description

UL Daly Nature Reserve is a four hectare reserve located in Gisborne, a few blocks south of the town's retail centre. A plan showing the location of the reserve is provided at **Figure 1**.

The reserve is amongst traditional residential houses typical of small towns and is opposite Gisborne Cemetery (south of the reserve) and close to two primary schools. The property adjoins Eblana house which is the site's original historic homestead. The grounds of Eblana have recently been subdivided into six allotments fronting Howey Street.

The reserve is surrounded by roads and is disconnected from other parks or areas of native vegetation.

The reserve contains remnant Grassy Forest vegetation with informal walking tracks as well as an area of modified open grassland which rises towards the south of the site, providing panoramic views to Gisborne and Mount Macedon. An aging bitumen pathway is the site's only formal pedestrian route, extending from south-west to north-east through the open grassland.

The only building on the site is a community hall currently used primarily by the Gisborne Scouts and Guides. An unsealed car park is located north of the hall, accessed from Howey Street.

The site also contains the formal garden / orchard associated with the original Eblana homestead. This garden / orchard is currently fenced off from the rest of the reserve.

Visitor facilities and signage are limited to two park benches, two vertical timber signs with the name of the reserve and two small, aging steel signs identifying that the site is a "nature reserve".

A plan showing the site's existing features and uses is provided at **Figure 2**.

View from south end of reserve looking north east to Mount Macedon

View looking north west

2.2 Regional Context

UL Daly Nature Reserve is isolated from extensive forest areas in the nearby Western Highlands. It is approximately 2.5 km from the Rosslynne Reservoir forest area to the north-west and approximately 2.5 km from the Pyrete forest area to the south-west.

2.3 Bioregion

The site is within the Central Victorian Uplands bioregion.

2.4 Geology

The geology of the reserve is Victorian bedrock: Castlemaine Group (Oc) consisting of Ordovician sandstone, siltstone and black shale (Vandenberg 2005 cited in Biosis 2014).

2.5 Land tenure and management

The site is freehold land, owned and managed by Macedon Ranges Shire Council. No covenants are currently registered on the Certificate of Title for the land. The site is not subject to any lease or license.

The Friends of Daly Nature Reserve are active on the site and have conducted several successful weed control activities, particularly within the remnant patch of Grassy Forest on the west side of the site.

2.6 Legislative Context

2.6.1 Planning Zones and Overlays

The site is currently zoned Public Use Zone 6 - Local Government (PUZ6) and is affected by Development Contributions Plan Overlay 2 (DPO2). The southern portion of the site within the road reserve is also within Vegetation Protection Overlay 2 - Roadside Vegetation (VPO2).

A plan showing the zoning of the site and surrounding area is provided at **Figure 3**. A plan showing the extent of VPO2 is provided at **Figure 4**.

Zoning

The site is currently zoned Public Use Zone 6 – Local Government (PUZ6). Under this zone no planning permit is required for the use or development of the site for a purpose related to local government, provided the use or development is carried out by or on behalf of the public land manager (Macedon Ranges Shire Council in this instance). A permit is required for all other uses and development (buildings and works). No use or development is prohibited under the Public Use Zone 6.

Given that the reserve primarily functions as a passive recreation reserve, containing valuable native vegetation assets, consideration should be given to rezoning the reserve to a Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ), as it would be more consistent with the reserve's function and how it is used.

The purpose of the PPRZ is:

- *To recognise areas for public recreation and open space.*
- *To protect and conserve areas of significance where appropriate.*
- *To provide for commercial uses where appropriate.*

The PUZ6 and PPRZ are very similar in that both zones provide for local government activities and their permit requirements and decision guidelines are substantially the same. As such, rezoning the site is not considered an urgent matter in need of immediate attention. This change could occur as a part of a separate process, potentially when the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme is due for general review.

It is considered that a combination of the PPRZ and an adopted EMP is adequate to guide the use and management of the reserve in order to protect its important natural assets.

Recommended actions:

- *Consider rezoning the site to Public Park and Recreation (PPRZ) as a part of a separate process in the future (Rec II)*

Development Contributions Plan Overlay 2

Development Contributions Plan Overlay 2 requires applicants proposing new residential, commercial and industrial developments to make a financial contribution to Council for community infrastructure and facilities. This overlay has been applied across a large part of Gisborne, however, as UL Daly Nature Reserve is owned by Council, the provisions of this overlay are not applicable.

Vegetation Protection Overlay 2 (Roadside Vegetation)

The roadside vegetation along the south boundary of the reserve is within Vegetation Protection Overlay 2 (VPO2). A map showing the location and extent of the overlay is provided at **Figure 3**.

VPO2 applies to remnant native vegetation on many roadsides throughout the Shire.

Within VPO2 a planning permit is required to remove, lop or destroy any vegetation covered by the overlay. Exemptions apply to vegetation management, fire management or environmental improvements conducted by a public authority.

2.6.2 Native Vegetation Planning Provisions

The Background Report prepared by Biosis provides the following explanation of the current planning regulations relating to native vegetation:

> *"Native vegetation is defined as 'plants that are indigenous to Victoria, including trees, shrubs, herbs and grasses' in the Victoria Planning Provisions contained in the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme.*
>
> *According to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) Biodiversity assessment guidelines (DEPI 2013), native vegetation is classified into two categories, as outlined below.*
>
> *A remnant patch of native vegetation (measured in hectares) is either:*
>
> - *an area of native vegetation, with or without trees, where at least 25 per cent of the total perennial understory plant cover is native plants*
> - *an area with three or more indigenous canopy trees where the tree canopy cover is at least 20 per cent.*
>
> *Scattered tree (measured in number of trees):*
>
> - *an indigenous canopy tree that does not form part of a remnant patch of native vegetation.*
>
> ***Patch vegetation***
>
> *Native vegetation in Victoria is further classified into ecological vegetation classes (EVCs) by the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI).*

DEPI's modelled 1750 and 2005 EVC mapping (online Biodiversity Interactive Map) shows the reserve supporting Grassy Forest EVC 128. This is supported by site observations.

The DEPI map of 2005 vegetation overestimates the amount of Grassy Forest on the site….

Furthermore, current planning regulations require consideration of the site's "strategic biodiversity score", "native vegetation condition score" and "location risk" when implementing planning provisions relating to native vegetation removal.

According to DEPI's Native Vegetation Information Management Tool, UL Daly Nature Reserve:

- is in local risk area "A" except for a small area close to the south west corner of the site which is location risk area "B"
- has a native vegetation condition score of between 0.0 and 0.2 across most of the site except for the southern boundary and south west corner which has a score of between 0.41 to 0.8 (out of a maximum score of 1.0)
- has a strategic biodiversity score of between 0.0 and 0.2 (out of a maximum score of 1.0).

Figures 5, 6 and 7 show the location of the above mentioned mapped scores from DEPI's Biodiversity Interactive Map (v3.2).

2.6.3 Local Law No 10

Council adopted the *General Purposes and Amenity Local Law No 10* in 2013. The following clauses are relevant to the management of UL Daly Nature Reserve include:

7(2)(c) – a person must not destroy, deface, remove or interfere with anything in or on any building, sign, improvement or other infrastructure of any kind, including trees, plants and other vegetation, whether belonging to the Council or utility (paraphrased)

7(3)(a) – a person must not remove or add to, interfere with or cause damage to Council land or a road or to anything located on Council land such as fencing, infrastructure or vegetation including dead trees or fallen limbs from trees

43(1) – a person in charge of an animal must not allow any part of that animal's excrement to remain on any road or Council land and must immediately collect and dispose of the excrement

43(2) – a person in charge of an animal on any road or Council land must carry sufficient litter devises to collect and dispose of animal excrement and must produce them on request to an Authorised Officer

2.6.4 Protective covenants

There are a variety of covenants and restrictions that can be placed on land to ensure the ongoing protection of native vegetation. These include:

Section 69 Conservation Covenants (Native Vegetation Offset Sites)

This is a legal agreement between the Secretary of the Victorian Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) and a landowner. The agreement is made under Section 69 of the *Conservation Forests and Land Act 1987*.

Section 69 covenants were established as a part of the State Government's Bush Broker system to secure bushland that is set aside in perpetuity for native vegetation offsets.

In order to meet the State Government's offset requirements, sites generally need to be fenced to minimise threats from stock, pest animals and the general public. Sites also need to be managed according to a highly prescribed 10 year management plan. Given that UL Daly Nature Reserve is a public reserve, the site is not considered to be suitable for a native vegetation offset.

Section 173 Agreement

Section 173 Agreements are agreements made under Section 173 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* between Council and land owners. These agreements commit both parties to specified outcomes and can be used to protect specific trees or areas of native vegetation. As Section 173 Agreements are always between Council and another party, they can not be used for Council owned land.

Trust for Nature Conservation Covenant

Trust for Nature is a not-for-profit organisation that works to protect native vegetation and wildlife in cooperation with private land owners. Trust for Nature conservation covenants are entered into under the *Victorian Conservation Trust Act 1972.* Properties with Trust for Nature conservation covenants are also eligible for funding from the Trust for conservation works.

Generally properties need to demonstrate the following characteristics to be accepted into the Trust for Nature program:

- Larger than 5 hectares in area
- Connected to nearby local or State Government conservation reserves – i.e. sites that are contiguous with existing, large corridors of remnant habitat
- Contain high quality native vegetation including high levels of species diversity and / or threatened species
- Low levels of threats from human activities

Council recently requested that Trust for Nature assess UL Daly Nature Reserve to determine if it is suitable for a conservation covenant. Trust for Nature advised that the site is not suitable due to its size and location.

2.7 Policy Context

2.7.1 Open Space Strategy 2013

Council adopted an *Open Space Strategy* in 2013 which sets out a schedule of key actions for Council's open space areas.

The *Open Space Strategy* identifies UL Daly Nature Reserve as existing public open space and includes the following item as an "aspirational project":

- *G4 - Prepare a masterplan for UL Daly Nature Reserve (p12)*

This Environmental Management Plan satisfies the above action.

2.7.2 Gisborne / New Gisborne Outline Development Plan, September 2009

The *Gisborne / New Gisborne Outline Development Plan (ODP), September 2009* sets out Council's strategic direction for the future growth and development of the Gisborne town centre. The ODP's Community Infrastructure and Open Space Plan (Figure 20) identifies UL Daly Nature Reserve as a public open space reserve.

While the ODP does not provide any policies or objectives specific to UL Daly Nature Reserve, the following design objectives listed at Section 15.5 - Community Infrastructure, Open Space and Natural Environment – are relevant to the subject site:

- *To provide and develop a range of open space types to meet the active and passive needs of the community and protect and restore environmental values and features*
- *To provide for the protection and enhancement of areas of environmental significance and to integrate these areas with open space systems*
- *To provide for the long term conservation management of areas of significant native vegetation and fauna habitat*

2.7.3 Natural Environment Strategy

The *Macedon Ranges Natural Environment Strategy 2009-2012* provides the strategic direction for Council's environmental and conservation activities. The Strategy includes a range of actions including preparation of management plans for bushland reserves and investigation of Trust for Nature covenants for these areas. The Strategy does not include specific direction for UL Daly Nature Reserve.

This existing *Natural Environment Strategy* is currently being reviewed.

3. Themes

This section provides background information about each theme, a discussion of key issues and makes recommendations for appropriate management actions (if relevant).

3.1 Biodiversity Management

3.1.1 Native Flora

A flora survey of the site was undertaken by Biosis in 2013 (Biosis 2014a).

Overall the following native vegetation was identified:

- 66 indigenous flora species
- 25 large old trees
- 2.20 hectares of remnant native vegetation in four habitat zones
- Presence of the Grassy Forest ecological vegetation community which is classified as "vulnerable" in the Central Victorian Uplands bioregion
- 7 scattered canopy trees outside the remnant native vegetation patches
- Presence of Bacchus Marsh Wattle *Acacia rostriformis* which is classified as "vulnerable" in Victoria

In addition, 11 other native flora species have been previously found at the site and are recorded on the NatureShare website – http://natureshare.org.au.

A full list of all native flora found at the site is provided at **Appendix 1.**

Significant flora species

National Significance

No flora species found at the site are of national significance. That is, no species found at the reserve are listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

However, the following flora species found in 5km of the reserve are listed under the EPBC Act:

- Swamp Fireweed, *Senecio psilocarpus* (vulnerable)
- Swamp Everlasting, *Xerochrysum palustre* (vulnerable)
- Matted Flax-lily, *Dianella amoena* (endangered)

State Significance

Bacchus Marsh Wattle, *Acacia rostriformis* is the only state significant flora species found at the reserve. This species is listed as vulnerable by the State Government Department of Environment and Primary Industries.

No flora species listed as threatened under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* were found at the reserve.

However, the following flora species listed as threatened under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* were found within 5km of the reserve:

- Swamp Fireweed, *Senecio psilocarpus*
- Matted Flax-lily, *Dianella amoena*
- Hairy-leaf Triggerplant, *Stylidium armeria subsp. pilosifolium*

Bacchus Marsh Wattle which is found in the reserve was recently nominated for inclusion on the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* list of threatened species.

A list of all native flora species found within a 5km radius of the site, including their ecological significance, is provided at **Appendix 2.**

Habitat zones

A Background Report prepared by Biosis Pty Ltd identified four habitat zones in the reserve (Biosis 2014a).These habitat zones are described below and are shown in **Figure 8.**

The following tables summarise the characteristics of each habitat zone and set out recommended management actions for these areas.

Habitat Zone 1 – Grassy Forest (relatively intact)

Drooping Cassinia

Cherry Ballart

Blackwood

Description and condition	Forest dominated by Messmate Stringybark *Eucalyptus obliqua* and Narrow-leaf Peppermint *Eucalyptus radiata*. Two Large Old Trees (diameter ≥70 cm) are present. Relatively intact. Although somewhat weedy, this habitat zone has the highest quality and has impressive wildflower displays in spring. This is the core area of the reserve in terms of vegetation quality and management priority.
Native species include	• Messmate Stringybark *Eucalyptus obliqua* • Narrow-leaf Peppermint *Eucalyptus radiata* • Blackwood *Acacia melanoxylon* • Cherry Ballart *Exocarpos cupressiformis* • Vanish Wattle *Acacia verniciflua* • Drooping Cassinia *Cassinia arcuata* • Veined Spear-grass *Austrostipa rudis* • Grey Tussock-grass *Poa sieberiana* • Common Wallaby-grass *Rytidosperma caespitosum* • Chocolate Lily *Arthropodium strictum* • Bulbine Lily *Bulbine bulbosa* • Button Everlasting *Coronidium scorpioides* • Black-anther Flax-lily *Dianella revolute*
Weed species include	• Sweet Vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum* • Large Quaking-grass *Briza maxima*.
Area	0.13ha
Habitat Score	0.66
Recommended management	This is a relatively intact patch of remnant forest which can be managed in conjunction with Habitat Zone 2 (see Management Area A on **Figure 9**).

	Future management should prioritise weed control (see **Section 3.1.3** of this report) and natural regeneration. If natural regeneration is not successful, opportunity exists to enhance the biodiversity of the patch by planting native understorey species. Most of the trees in this patch would be less than 100 years old and, therefore, they generally do not contain hollows for native wildlife. Opportunity exists to provide this habitat by installing appropriately designed nest boxes which would provide habitat for local species such as sugar gliders and phascogales. Nest boxes, along with the installation of wildlife cameras would also provide a good monitoring tool to gain a better understanding of the native species currently using the reserve.

Recommended actions:

- *Allow the remnant area of Grassy Forest to the west of the reserve (Habitat Zones 1 and 2) to naturally regenerate. Install information signs if necessary. Consider revegetation if natural regeneration does not succeed (Rec A).*

- *Investigate the installation and monitoring of wildlife cameras in collaboration with local community groups and schools (Rec Z).*

- *Investigate the installation and monitoring of nest boxes in collaboration with local community groups and schools (Rec AA).*

- *Retain the existing informal pathways through the remnant Grassy Forest bushland (Habitat Zones 1 and 2) and do not formalise / construct additional pathways through the reserve (Rec P)*

Habitat Zone 2 – Grassy forest (partially modified)

Radiata Pine and informal pathway at north end of Habitat Zone 2

Grassy understorey with Narrow-leaf Peppermint over-storey in Habitat Zone 2

Description and condition	Forest dominated by Narrow-leaf Peppermint *Eucalyptus radiata* and Messmate Stringybark *Eucalyptus obliqua.* A total of 16 Large Old Trees (diameter ≥70 cm) were observed. Partially modified. Canopy trees only just coping with possum browsing. Weeds generally have high cover, numerous non-indigenous shrubs are present.
Native species include	• Narrow-leaf Peppermint *Eucalyptus radiata* • Messmate Stringybark *Eucalyptus obliqua* • Blackwood *Acacia melanoxylon* • Cherry Ballart *Exocarpos cupressiformis* • Grey Parrot-pea *Dillwynia cinerascens* • Austral Indigo *Indigofera australis* • Veined Spear-grass *Austrostipa rudis* • Weeping Grass *Microlaena stipoides* • Grey Tussock-grass *Poa sieberiana* • Kangaroo Grass *Themeda triandra* • Chocolate Lily *Arthropodium strictum* • Button Everlasting *Coronidium scorpioides* • Black-anther Flax-lily *Dianella revolute* • Stinking Pennywort *Hydrocotyle laxiflora* • Nodding Greenhood *Pterostylis nutans* • Various Acacia species including Bacchus Marsh Wattle *Acacia rostriformis*
Weed species include	• Sallow Wattle *Acacia longifolia* • English Broom *Cytisus scoparius* • Brown-top Bent *Agrostis capillaries* • Sweet Vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum* • Large Quaking-grass *Briza maxima* • Panic Veldt-grass *Ehrharta erecta* • Flatweed *Hypochaeris radicata.* • Non-indigenous shrubs, including at least four *Acacia* and one *Hakea*
Area	1.48ha
Habitat Score	0.56

Recommended management	This is a modified patch of remnant forest which can be managed in conjunction with Habitat Zone 1 (see Management Area A on **Figure 9**). Future management should prioritise weed control (see **Section 3.1.3** of this report) and natural regeneration. Modifications to the existing mowing regime could enable additional native regeneration on the edge of this habitat zone which would enhance the biodiversity value and bushland quality of the reserve. If natural regeneration is not successful, opportunity exists to plant native understorey species. Most of the trees in this patch would be less than 100 years old and, therefore, they generally do not contain hollows for native wildlife. Opportunity exists to provide this habitat by installing appropriately designed nest boxes which would provide habitat for local species such as sugar gliders and phascogales. Nest boxes, along with the installation of wildlife cameras would also provide a good monitoring tool to gain a better understanding of the native species currently using the reserve.

Recommended actions:

- *Allow the remnant area of Grassy Forest to the west of the reserve to naturally regenerate. Install information signs if necessary. Consider revegetation if natural regeneration does not succeed (Rec A).*

- *Investigate the installation and monitoring of wildlife cameras in collaboration with local community groups and schools (Rec Z).*

- *Investigate the installation and monitoring of nest boxes in collaboration with local community groups and schools (Rec AA).*

- *Confine all mowing to the area identified in **Figure 9** and allow for natural regeneration of the un-mown areas (Rec B).*

Habitat Zone 3 – Grassy Forest beside Melton Road

Habitat Zone 3 along south edge of reserve

Description and condition	Forest dominated by Narrow-leaf Peppermint *Eucalyptus radiata*, Messmate Stringybark *Eucalyptus obliqua* and Red Ironbark *Eucalyptus tricarpa*. Five Large Old Trees are present (diameter ≥70 cm). Modified. Weeds generally have high cover, understorey has low diversity.
Native species include	• Narrow-leaf Peppermint *Eucalyptus radiata* • Messmate Stringybark *Eucalyptus obliqua* • Red Ironbark *Eucalyptus tricarpa* • Cherry Ballart *Exocarpos cupressiformis* • Golden Wattle *Acacia pycnantha* • Veined Spear-grass *Austrostipa rudis* • Weeping Grass *Microlaena stipoides* • Chocolate Lily *Arthropodium strictum* • Nodding Saltbush *Einadia nutans* • Black-anther Flax-lily *Dianella revoluta* • Peach Heath *Lissanthe strigose*
Weed species include	• Radiata Pine *Pinus radiata* • Browntop Bent *Agrostis capillaries* • Sweet Vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum* • Large Quaking-grass *Briza maxima* • Panic Veldt-grass *Ehrharta erecta* • Flatweed *Hypochaeris radicata* • Onion Grass *Romulea rosea*
Area	0.17ha
Habitat Score	0.44
Recommended Management	This habitat zone comprises a relatively isolated stretch of canopy trees that extend along the southern boundary with little understorey. This patch could be managed in conjunction with the scattered vegetation along the east boundary of the reserve (see Management Area C on **Figure 9**).

	These stands of trees on the south east corner of the reserve provide a natural barrier / buffer to Melton Road. Opportunity exists to enhance their habitat value by revegetating between the tree stands with native under and overstorey species. In some locations revegetation would need to occur following removal of the Radiata Pine *Pinus radiata* and associated pine needle debris which increase the acidity of the soil. Other management priorities for this area include general weed control (see **Section 3.1.3** of this report).

Recommended actions:

- *Revegetate along the reserve's southern and eastern boundary to improve the understorey and connectivity within this area as shown in **Figure 9**. Utilise locally indigenous species appropriate to the site's Grassy Forest Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) (Rec C).*

- *Remove the established Pine trees and associated Pine needles along the southern boundary of the reserve and rehabilitate the soil as required (Rec D).*

Habitat Zone 4 – Grassy Forest (highly modified, no canopy

Description and condition	Grassland resulting from past clearing of trees and regular mowing over many years. Composed of a low number of indigenous species, mostly native grasses, which thrive or survive in open mown conditions. Highly modified. Lacks tree canopy and species diversity.
Native species include	• Kneed Wallaby-grass *Rytidosperma geniculatum* • Common Wallaby-grass *Rytidosperma caespitosum* • Weeping Grass *Microlaena stipoides* • Spreading Crassula *Crassula decumbens* • Grassland Wood-sorrel *Oxalis perennans*.
Weed species include	• Variety of introduced species including Brown-top Bent *Agrostis capillaris*.
Area	0.42ha
Habitat Score	0.23
Management actions	This habitat zone is in two parts, a small strip to the north which wraps around a stand of large trees, and a larger remnant patch to the south. These habitat zones contain modified vegetation that is likely to have originally supported canopy species and a greater diversity of shrubs and grasses, similar to the remnant bushland on the west side of the reserve. Even so, the larger remnant patch to the south could be managed as a demonstration grassland that showcases locally indigenous grass species and associated herbs and flowers. This would add diversity and interest to the reserve while raising awareness about the ecological values of native grasslands. Management priorities for the southern patch (see Management Area B on **Figure 9**) include implementing a mowing regime that avoids the intact grassland patch and identifying the grassland with non-intrusive signage and edging. Until the signage and edging occurs, it is likely that the un-mown grasses will be perceived as a fire risk. As such, it is recommended that any mowing occur as late as possible in the summer months to enable the grass seeds to fall and spread before they are slashed. It is also recommended that the grassland be slashed with 100mm blades to reduce the risk of erosion, weed invasion and die-back. Other management opportunities for the southern patch include investigating use of small, mosaic or strip burns which would reduce the weed coverage and stimulate species diversity. The northern strip of native grasses could be managed in conjunction with the adjoining Grassy Forest bushland area (see Management Area A on **Figure 9**). Mowing should be avoided in this area to enable natural regeneration to occur.

Recommended objective:

- *Establish a demonstration grassland in southern portion of Habitat Zone 4 (Management Area B on **Figure 9**).*

Recommended actions:

- *Mark the boundaries of the demonstration native grassland (Management Area A on **Figure 9**) with simple temporary signs in the short term and permanent signs in the long term (Rec I).*

- *Investigate installation of non-intrusive edging or fencing to identify the boundaries of the demonstration grassland area (Rec L).*

- *Until the demonstration grassland is signed and fenced, implement a tailored mowing regime for Management Area A on **Figure 9**). This should include using 100mm high blades and timing the slashing in consultation with Council's Environment Unit to ensure the native grasses have dropped their seed. If the grassland is signed and fenced, omit the signed area from Council's mowing regime (Rec K).*

- *Investigate conducting environmental strip or mosaic burns of the demonstration native grassland following a period of natural regeneration (no mowing) to enable sufficient biomass to establish (Rec L).*

- *Manage the northern portion of Habitat Zone 4 in conjunction with management of the adjoining Grassy Forest Bushland (Management Area A on **Figure 9**). Avoid mowing this area of native grasses to enable natural regeneration (Rec M).*

Remaining scattered vegetation

Isolated patch of Gorse south of the pathway

Scattered vegetation looking north. Aging Black Wattle in foreground

Description and condition	Various scattered trees and shrubs exist outside of the above mentioned habitat zones. This vegetation does not contain sufficient coverage of native species to constitute a "remnant patch" of native vegetation as defined by the State Government's native vegetation planning provisions. This scattered vegetation includes native trees that are likely to have self seeded as well as trees which are not indigenous to the immediate area and may be planted. An isolated mature Black Wattle, *Acacia mearnsii*, is located in the middle of the reserve, just south of the bitumen path. While the health of this tree is declining, it retains habitat value. Black Wattle is protected under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* and, therefore, approval would be required from the State Government in order to lop or remove any specimen found in the reserve, including this mature specimen. A small number of isolated patches of weeds occur in some locations, including patches of Gorse and other woody weeds on the east side of the reserve. Areas of blackberry are also present along the southern fence to the garden / orchard. Exotic street trees exist along the northern part of Aitken Street. These trees are currently managed as a part of Council's street tree management program. As discussed at Section 3.7.4 – Invasive Species, rows of Cypress and Radiata Pine exist along the north and west boundary. Isolated specimens of these species are also scattered throughout the reserve.
Native species include	• Narrow-leaf Peppermint, *Eucaluptus radiata* • Cherry Ballart, *Exocarpos cupressiformis* • Blackwood saplings, *Acacia melanoxylon* • Black Wattle, *Acacia mearnsii* • Black-anther Flax-lily, *Dianella revoluta* • Supple Spear-grass, *Austrostipa mollis* • Nodding saltbush, *Einadianutans* • Wallaby-grass, *Rytidosperm spp.* • Fireweed, *Senecio spp.*
Weed species include	• Gorse, *Ulexeuropaeus* • Blackberry, *Rubus fruticosus*

	• Holly, *Ilex aquifolium* • Ribwort Plantain, *Plantago lanceolata* • English Broom, *Cytisusscoparius* • Hawthorn, *Crataegusmonogyna* • Radiata Pine, *Pinus Radiata* • Cypress, *Cupressus spp* • Sheep sorrel, *Acetosella vulgaris* • Panic veldt grass, *Ehrhartaerecta* • Brown-top Bent Grass, *Agrostiscapillaris* • Clover spp • Blackberry nightshade, *Solanum nigrum* • Yorkshire fog, *Holcus lanatus* • Sweet Vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum* • Various garden escapees
Management recommendations	Removal of noxious weeds is the key management action required for the scattered vegetation. It is recommended that the mature Black Wattle in the middle of the reserve be retained in its current location and that mowing be restricted to outside the tree's drip line. This will limit public access to the tree and prevent further compaction around the tree's base. If required, it is recommended that fencing and signage be installed to notify the community about the tree's condition and protect the public from any dangerous elements such as falling limbs. It is recommended that the disconnected stands of native species along the east boundary of the site be managed in conjunction with Habitat Zone 3 (excluding the exotic street trees on Aitken Street). It is recommended that the scattered trees behind the community hall be managed in conjunction with the Grassy Forest bushland area (Management Area A on **Figure 9**)

Recommended actions:

- *Confine all mowing to Management Area D identified in **Figure 9** and allow for natural regeneration of the un-mown areas (Rec B).*

- *Revegetate along the reserve's southern and eastern boundary (Management Area C on **Figure 9**) to improve the understorey and connectivity within this area. Utilise locally indigenous species appropriate to the site's Grassy Forest EVC (Rec C).*

- *Monitor the health of the mature Black Wattle in the middle of the reserve (Management Area I shown on **Figure 9**) and restrict mowing to outside the tree's drip line. Install fencing and signage if required to limit public access to the tree (Rec N).*

3.1.2 Native Fauna

Summary of fauna species found at the reserve

A fauna survey of the site was undertaken by Biosis Pty Ltd in 2013 (Biosis 2014a).

Overall the following native fauna were identified:

- 1 mammal (Common Brush-tail Possum)
- 9 bird species
- 1 reptile (Garden Skink)

In addition, the Eastern Grey Kangaroo and 4 additional bird species have been previously found at the site and are recorded on the NatureShare website – http://natureshare.org.au.

Significant fauna species

National significance

No fauna species found at the site are of national significance. That is, no species found at the reserve are listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

However, the following species listed under the EPBC Act have been found within 5km of the reserve:

- Growling Grass Frog, *Litoria raniformis* (vulnerable)
- Golden Sun Moth, *Synemon plana* (critically endangered)

State Significance

No fauna species listed as threatened under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* were found at the reserve.

However, the following fauna species listed as threatened under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* were found within 5km of the reserve:

- Growling Grass Frog, *Litoria raniformis*
- Golden Sun Moth, *Synemon plana*
- Brush-tailed Phascogale, *Phascogale tapoatafa*
- Australasian Bittern, *Botaurus poiciloptilus*

A list of all native fauna species found within a 5km radius of the site, including their ecological significance, is provided at **Appendix 3.**

Fauna Habitat

UL Daly Nature Reserve contains Grassy Forest vegetation of varying quality and intactness. Few large old trees exist on the site.

The Growling Grass Frog, Golden Sun Moth or Australasian Bittern are threatened species found within 5km of the site. These species are generally found in and around waterways, wetlands or remnant plains grassland vegetation communities (Golden Sun Moth). The modified Grassy Forest conditions at UL Daly Nature Reserve are not

consistent with these characteristics and, therefore, the site is not likely to support these threatened species.

While Bush-tailed Phascogale are often found in Grassy Forest areas, similar to the remnant vegetation on the western side of the site, UL Daly Nature Reserve is not likely to currently support this species due to the small area of remnant vegetation remaining and the lack of good connectivity to other areas of high quality remnant vegetation. This is also the case of small marsupials such as sugar-gliders and feather-tail gliders.

The site is more likely to support populations of Brush-tailed and Ring-tailed possums, native birds and bats.

Opportunity exists to conduct wildlife surveys within the reserve to gain a better understanding of what native species are present and in what densities. Possible survey techniques include installation of nest boxes and remote sensor cameras and coordination of spot light nights.

It is recommended that native fauna sightings be recorded in a consistent manner and reported to Council for inclusion in Council's database. This will ensure all data collected contributes to Council and the community's broader understanding of the Shire's biodiversity values.

Recommended actions:

- *Investigate installation and monitoring of wildlife cameras in collaboration with local community groups and schools (Rec Z)*

- *Investigate installation and monitoring of nest boxes in collaboration with local community groups and schools (Rec AA)*

- *Encourage sightings of native fauna species to be recorded and reported to Council for inclusion in Council's database (Rec BB)*

3.1.3 Invasive Species

Invasive Plants

Invasive plants can be categorised as follows:

- Declared noxious weeds
- High threat environmental and agricultural weeds
- Low threat environmental and agricultural weeds
- Introduced native species

Declared noxious weeds

These are weed species that are declared as such under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994. Declared noxious weeds sighted in UL Daly Nature Reserve include:

- Hemlock, *Conium maculatum* (Regionally Controlled)
- English Broom, *Cytisusscoparius* (Regionally Controlled)
- Montpellier Broom, *Genista monspessulana* (Regionally Controlled)
- Soursob, *Oxalis pes-caprae* (Regionally Restricted)
- Gorse, *Ulexeuropaeus* (Regionally Controlled)

- Sweet briar, *Rosa rubiginosa* (Regionally Controlled)
- Hawthorn, *Crataegusmonogyna* (Regionally Controlled)
- Blackberry, *Rubus fruticosus* (Regionally Controlled)

The Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CaLP Act) requires land owners to manage all Regionally Controlled or Regionally Prohibited weeds.

Treatment of declared noxious weeds is essential in order to comply with Council's legislated obligations under the CaLP Act.

High threat environmental and agricultural weeds

These species are not declared as "noxious" under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*, however they can be highly invasive and detrimental to local environmental and agricultural assets. This is due to their competitive qualities, prolific seed growth / spread, impact on the natural soil composition and / or their ability to adapt to a variety of climatic conditions. High threat environmental and agricultural weeds in UL Daly Nature Reserve include:

- Sweet Vernal Grass*, Anthoxanthumodoratum*
- Agapanthus, *Agapanthus praecox*
- English Ivy, *Hedera helix*
- Brown-top Bent Grass, *Agrostiscapillaris*
- Onion Grass, *Romulearosea*
- Rat's Tail Fescue*, Vulpiamyuros*
- Radiata Pine*, Pinus Radiata*
- Cypress, Cupressus spp.
- Holly, *Ilex aquifolium*
- Oak saplings, *Oak spp.*

<u>Cypress along Howey Street</u>

A row of mature Cypress trees, *Cupressus spp,* exist along the Howey Street frontage of the reserve, adjoining the car park. These trees have dense foliage which shades the car park and northern aspect of the existing community hall. These trees have associations with the original Eblana homestead and could be seen to contribute to the landscape character of Howey Street.

Mature Cypress trees along Howey Street

According to Council's arborist, these Cyress trees are nearing the end of their natural life. Consequently, it is recommended that the health of the trees be monitored as a part of Council's street tree maintenance program and that the trees be removed as required if they present a danger. The hedging properties of Cypress trees means that each tree supports the adjoining one. Therefore, once one tree is removed, this can destabilise the row and result in their rapid decline.

In the long term, it is recommended that the row of Cypress trees be replaced with native species to enhance the biodiversity values of the reserve and locality. It is also noted that an alterative species and planting pattern could increase sunlight access to the community hall and its surrounds, enhancing the amenity of this space. Given this long term aim, it is recommended that any Cypress tree removed not be replaced until a coordinated replacement program is implemented.

Radiata Pine

A number of mature Pine trees are located along Howey Street, Prince Street and throughout the reserve. Pine wildings are also present throughout the site.

Pine needles alter the chemical composition of soil, preventing growth of other species. Therefore, following any removal, the soil may need to be rehabilitated before any revegetation works occur.

Mature Radiata Pine along Howey and Prince streets corner

The row of Pine trees around the north west corner of Howey Street and Prince Street, along with the adjoining Cypress, can be seen to contribute to the landscape value of Howey Street and Prince Street. As with the Cypress, it is recommended that the health of these Pine trees be monitored as a part of Council's street tree maintenance program. If they are deemed to be a danger, it is recommended that the trees be removed. In the long term, replacing the Pine trees with a native species is recommended. As with the adjoining Cypress, it is recommended that no replacement of these mature Pines occur until a coordinated replacement program is implemented. This will enable the needle litter to be removed and the soil rehabilitated prior to replanting.

Mature Pines are also present west of the community hall and along the southern boundary of the reserve. These trees do not have the same cultural or landscape value as those along the Howey Street boundary and should be removed along with any scattered pine needles. The mature Pine trees along the southern boundary of the reserve are a higher priority for removal due to the opportunities this area presents for revegetation.

In addition to the mature Pine trees scattered throughout the reserve, the site also contains a number of small Pine wildings which can be treated using cut and paint, hand pulling or chipping techniques depending on their size.

Low threat environmental and agricultural weeds

These species are not declared as "noxious" under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994. While these are important to control as they will compete with local species, they are less invasive than the high threat weeds listed above. Low threat environmental and agricultural weeds in UL Daly Nature Reserve include:

- Sheep Sorrel, *Acetosella vulgaris*
- English Daisy, *Bellisperennis*
- Large Quaking-grass, *Briza maxima*
- Panic Veldt-grass, *Ehrhartaerecta*

- Flatweed*, Hypochaerisradicata*

Introduced native species

These species, although native to Australia, are not indigenous to the local area and can compete with local trees and shrubs. Introduced natives are scattered throughout UL Daly Nature Reserve, including within the Grassy Forest area to the west of the site. These species do not have any landscape or cultural heritage value in this instance.

Introduced native species in UL Daly Nature Reserve include:

- Cootamundra Wattle, *Acacia baileyana*
- White Sallow-wattle, *Acacia floribunda*
- Sallow Wattle, *Acacia longifolia* subsp. *longifolia*
- Sticky Wattle, *Acacia howittii*
- Ovens Wattle, *Acacia pranissima*
- Willow-leaf Hakea, *Hakea sallicifolia*

Treatment of weeds

For efficiency purposes, weeds are generally treated in groups according to their size and structure which determines the best method of treatment. Treatment methods recommended for UL Daly Reserve include:

- **Cut and paint** – Cutting the plant at the base with a saw or secateurs and applying herbicide to the remaining stems / truck
- **Spraying –** Spot spraying the plants foliage with herbicide
- **Hand pulling –** Removing the plant, including its roots, by hand
- **Chipping –** Removing the plant, including its root, with a spade, hoe or other digging implement

The specific treatment technique and timing can vary for each weed species present at the reserve. Consequently it is recommended that community groups consult Council prior to conducting weed treatment works at the site.

While priority should be given to treating declared noxious weeds, some lower threat weed species can be targeted at the same time as they require the same treatment method.

It is noted that much of the weed control could be undertaken by community groups and volunteers such as the existing Friends of Daly Nature Reserve. Opportunity exists to conduct workshops and information sessions aimed at enhancing the skills and knowledge of these groups, including in plant identification, weed control techniques and occupational health and safety protocols.

For UL Daly Nature Reserve, the treatment methods outlined in **Table 1** are recommended for the various weed species present:

Table 1: Recommended weed control treatments

Weed group	Recommended treatment	Timing of treatment	Treatment priority
Declared noxious woody weeds eg: *Gorse, Hawthorn, Broom, Briar Rose, Blackberry and Pine wildings*	Cut and paint	Any time of year	Essential
	Spraying	Spring / Summer	
	Hand pulling	Any time of year	
	Chipping	Any time of year	
Declared noxious herbaceous weeds eg: *Hemlock, Soursob*	Spot spraying	Late Winter to early Spring	Essential
Introduced native species eg: *Cootamundra, Wattle, White Sallow-wattle, Sallow Wattle, Sticky Wattle, Ovens Wattle, Willow-leaf Hakea*	Cut and paint	Any time of year	Medium, however can be treated at same time as declared noxious woody weeds.
	Spraying	Spring / Summer	
	Hand pulling	Any time of year	
	Chipping	Any time of year	
High threat non-declared environmental and agricultural weeds eg: *Sweet Vernal-grass, Brown-top Bent Grass, Onion Grass, Rat's Tail Fescue*	Spot spraying	Early Spring	Very high
	Hand pulling		
	Chipping		
Agapanthus	Chipping, including entire root system	Any time of year	Very high
English Ivy	Cut and paint	Spring / Summer	Very high
Radiata Pine (wildings), Holly, Oak	Cut and paint	Any time of year	Very high, however can be treated at same time as declared noxious woody weeds.
	Spraying	Spring / Summer	
	Hand pulling	Any time of year	
	Chipping	Any time of year	
Radiata Pine (mature) along south boundary	Removal by arborist	Any time of year. *Subject to funding*	High
Radiata Pine (mature) west of community hall	Removal by arborist	Any time of year *Subject to funding*	Low
Cypress (mature) and Radiata Pine along Howey Street and Prince Street frontages	Removal by arborist if and when they are assessed to be dangerous	Any time of year	Essential if assessed to be dangerous to life or property
Low threat non-declared environmental and agricultural weeds eg: *Sheep Sorrel, English Daisy, Large Quaking-grass, Panic Veldt-grass, Flatweed*	Spot spraying	Spring, prior to flowering	Low
	Hand pulling	Any time of year	
	Chipping	Any time of year	

Recommended actions:

- *Implement a coordinated and integrated weed control program in accordance with the recommended treatment methods and priorities identified in* ***Table 1*** (Rec E)*.*

- *Require community groups to consult Council prior to conducting weed control works at the site to confirm treatment timing and techniques* (Rec F).

- *Monitor the health of the mature Cypress and Radiata Pine trees along the Howey Street and Princes Street frontages as a part of Council's street tree maintenance program and remove trees assessed to be a danger. Implement a coordinated and holistic native species replacement program when appropriate and avoid incremental replacement in the mean time* (Rec G).

- *Hold workshops and information sessions in collaboration with the Friends of Daly Nature Reserve about plant identification, weed control techniques and other topics as relevant (Rec H).*

Invasive Animals

The Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 requires land owners to control declared established pest animals such as rabbits, foxes, wild pigs and deer.

Evidence of these established pest animals, such as warrens or scats, was not observed at the reserve by the Biosis study team or by Council officers. Even so, the reserve could contain rabbits and foxes which were not detected and, therefore, monitoring for these species is important. Given the small size of the reserve, implementing a full monitoring program with the use of spotlighting and remote cameras is not considered necessary. Instead it is recommended that community members report pest animal sightings to Council who can then conduct follow-up surveys if required.

Removing weeds that provide harbour for rabbits and foxes is also an effective way to mitigate against their presence.

Recommended actions:

- *Encourage sightings of pest animals to be recorded and reported to Council for inclusion in Council's database and investigate follow up works if required (Rec DD).*

3.1.4 Environmental burns

Fire can be an effective management tool to enhance the biodiversity value of woodlands and grasslands. These ecological communities have adapted to fire over time. Regular environmental burns can assist to manage introduced species and enhance species diversity. This is especially the case for native grasslands which generally require disturbance every 5 years to enhance species diversity.

The native grasslands in the reserve (Habitat Zone 4) are dominated by Wallaby-grass, *Rytidosperma geniculatum* and R*ytidosperma caespitosum,* and exhibit high levels of introduced species such as Brown-top Bent Grass, *Agrostis capillaris.* Carefully designed and controlled strip or mosaic burns could help to reduce the biomass of the grassland and stimulate germination of seed currently stored in the soil bank. This could be trialled as an alternative treatment method with results reviewed prior to determining whether it should form part of the site's ongoing management.

Any environmental burn would need to be carefully timed to avoid peak fire danger periods. An Autumn or early Spring cool burn is recommended. Areas burnt would need to be removed from Council's slashing regime in order to enable sufficient biomass to accumulate. Burns should also be conducted in consultation with the CFA and DEPI.

Given the proximity of the site to residential areas, a well designed, comprehensive communications strategy would be required prior to and following the environmental burn.

Recommended actions

- *Investigate conducting environmental strip or mosaic burns of the native demonstration grassland (Management Area B on **Figure 9**) following a period of natural regeneration (no mowing) to enable sufficient biomass to establish (Rec L).*

3.1.5 Retention of large trees, logs and woody debris

Woodlands are composed of various types of vegetation and organic material including large trees, bushy understorey vegetation, dead trees and shrubs, logs and woody debris. All of this contributes to the ecological value of woodlands, providing habitat for native fauna and contributing to the organic content of the soil. Consequently removing vegetation, logs and woody debris should be discouraged.

Under Clause 52.17 of the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme, a planning permit is required to remove, lop or destroy native vegetation, including dead vegetation. This permit requirement applies to all land over 0.4 hectares, including UL Daly Nature Reserve. A number of exemptions apply for maintenance or emergency works. Any permit application would be assessed against the decision guidelines in Clause 52.17.

To minimise removal of dead and woody debris by the public, it is recommended that signs be installed at key entrances notifying the public that collection of fire wood and removal of other woody debris is prohibited.

Recommended actions:

- *Install information signs notifying visitors that collection of fire wood and other woody debris is prohibited (contained in Rec T).*

3.2 Climate variability

Managing the impacts of climate change is a challenge for all land managers, impacting species distribution and abundance as well as ecosystem processes.

The Port Phillip and Westernport region, including Gisborne, is projected to experience hotter, drier weather in the future. Depending on the level of green house gas emissions experienced, average temperature increases of 1.3^{o} C to 2.6^{o} C are expected with 6% to 11% reduced rainfall (Victorian State Government, 2014).

This change in climactic conditions is likely to alter the spread and density of flora and fauna species, including weeds and pest animals. While some species will decline or disappear, others with prosper and spread. Changes to rainfall will impact creeks and rivers, as well as associated aquatic life. The hotter, drier conditions are also likely to result in more frequent, high severity fires while changes in rain patterns could result in more intense storm events.

An adaptive management framework will assist Council to respond to the changing conditions. This involves implementing a comprehensive and robust monitoring framework that enables Council to identify changes in biodiversity values and develop management actions that respond to new threats identified.

Recommended objective:

- *Ensure responsive and adaptive management through monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement*

Recommended action:

- *Conduct regular reviews of the ecological condition of the reserve and the Management Plan and adapt management actions in response to new threats identified resulting from changes in climatic conditions (Rec EE)*

3.3 Recreation management

3.3.1 Low impact and passive recreation

UL Daly Nature Reserve currently fulfils a passive recreation function for the local community.

The forested area provides a natural retreat in an otherwise suburban context and is a destination for some visitors and an alternative pedestrian route to Gisborne town centre for others.

The open space area provides opportunities for rest and relaxation, offering impressive views of Gisborne and Mount Macedon. This area can be used for informal activities such as picnics.

It is recommended that future management of the reserve does not aim to intensify use of the site, but instead preserve's the reserve's passive recreation role.

Recommended objective:

- *Provide opportunities for informal passive recreation that enable visitors to enjoy the reserve's natural and scenic values while preserving the reserve's bushland feel.*

3.3.2 Visitor impacts

Visitor impacts at the reserve appear to be minor. The main negative impacts include:

- Vehicles travelling across the south east corner of the reserve to avoid the round-about where Aitken Street meets Gisborne-Melton Road.
- Graffiti of existing signs
- Dogs off lead damaging sensitive vegetation and impacting native fauna
- Dogs droppings detracting from the reserve's amenity and impacting native fauna
- Litter

To prevent unauthorised vehicles from accessing the reserve it is recommended that Council install removable bollards at either end of the north east- south west bitumen pathway preventing vehicle access across this south-west corner.

The other impacts can be addressed by installing appropriate signs at key entrances to the reserve.

It is noted that Council's *General Purposes Amenity Local Law No 10*, Sep 2013 prohibits the destruction, defacing or removal of buildings, signs, infrastructure or vegetation on Council land. Signs that re-enforce this requirement could assist with educating the community

It also requires dog owners to ensure they do not leave droppings on Council land and to always carry sufficient litter devices.

Recommended objective:

- *Minimise the negative impacts of visitors on the amenity and ecological and landscape values of the reserve.*

Recommended actions:

- *Install removable bollards at the ends of the north east-south west bitumen pathway leading from Howey Street to Aitken Street to prevent unauthorised vehicles cutting across the reserve (Rec U).*

- *Install information signs notifying visitors of permitted and prohibited activities including:*
    - *Dogs must be on the lead*
    - *Dog walkers should carry bags for dog droppings*
    - *Rubbish should be taken home with visitors*
    - *Vehicles, including motor cycles are prohibited*
    - *Collection of fire wood and other woody debris is prohibited (Rec T)*

3.3.3 Tracks, facilities and infrastructure

Pathway network

The reserve contains a variety of formal and informal pathways that provide pedestrian access through the site.

In particular, a sealed, bitumen north east-south west pathway passes through the grassed open space area connecting Melton Road to Aitken Street. It is recommended that this pathway be maintained as a sealed path.

Informal pathways traverse the Grassy Forest bushland area to the west of the site. These meandering pathways vary in width and length and provide for intimate bushwalking experiences. Retaining their informal structure is recommended as this would retain the natural feel of this part of the reserve.

Bitumen pathway at south west corner of site

Bitumen pathway through site looking east

Informal pathways through Grassy Forest

Informal pathways through Grassy Forest

Recommended actions:

- *Retain the north east-south west pathway connecting Melton Road to Aitken Street as a sealed path (Rec O).*
- *Retain the existing informal pathways through the remnant Grassy Forest bushland and do not formalise / construct additional pathways through the reserve (Rec P).*

Seating and other facilities

The reserve contains two park bench seats located at the east and west ends of the bitumen pathway which bisects the site. These seats are uninviting as they are in shady locations with no views.

In order to take advantage of the site's views over Gisborne and Mount Macedon, it is recommended that these seats be relocated to the top of the reserve's escarpment, on the edge of the proposed demonstration grassland.

Additional recreation and visitor facilities such as bbqs and play equipment are not considered necessary given the reserve's primary function as a nature reserve.

Park bench at west end of pathway, looking north to Melton Road

Park bench at east end of pathway, looking north at scattered vegetation and Aitken St

Recommended actions:

- *Relocate the existing two park benches to take advantage of the view to Gisborne and Mount Macedon (Rec Q).*
- *Retain the current extent of visitor facilities and do not provide additional facilities such as bbqs or play equipment (Rec R).*

Signs

Steel sign on north boundary

Sign at Howey Street entrance to community hall

Timber sign on south boundary

Timber sign on east boundary

Vertical timber signs identifying the site are located on the east and south boundaries of the site. These signs are in good condition, but require some cleaning.

Other identification signs include a sign for the community hall on the northern entrance to the site and information signs on the north and west boundaries identifying the site as a “nature reserve” and advising “foot traffic only”. These signs are in disrepair. While the “Gisborne Community Hall” sign could be refreshed and updated, the “nature reserve” signs could be replaced with new information signs that provide additional advice about permitted and prohibited uses.

In addition, the site would benefit from carefully placed and well designed interpretive signs that provide information about the natural and cultural values of the site.

It is recommended that all new signs conform to a standard template for all information and interpretive signs in Council managed bushland reserves.

Recommended actions:

- *Regularly clean the vertical timber signs located on the south and east boundary of the site (Rec V).*

- *Install interpretive signs that provide information about the ecological and cultural heritage values of the reserve (Rec FF).*

- *Replace the existing "Gisborne Community Hall" with new, refreshed version (Rec W).*

- *Replace the existing steel "nature reserve" signs with new information signs notifying visitors of permitted and prohibited activities including:*
    - *Dogs must be on the lead*
    - *Dog walkers should carry bags for dog droppings*
    - *Rubbish should be taken home with visitors*
    - *Vehicles, including motor cycles, are prohibited*
    - *Collection of fire wood and woody debris is prohibited (Rec T)*

Community hall

Front of community hall

East side of community hall

West side of community hall, looking south

Rear of community hall

A community hall is located on the north side of the reserve. The hall is accessible from Howey Street and is serviced with gas, electricity, water and sewerage. The hall opened in 1987 and is a simple, utilitarian structure mainly used by the Gisborne Scouts. In the short to medium term opportunity exists to enhance the appearance of the building with simple indigenous landscaping and potentially fresh paintwork. Some of these works may be able to be undertaken by local community groups.

In the long term consideration could be given to replacing the building with an upgraded, more attractive facility should there be a demonstrated community need for shared venues.

Recommended actions:

- *Landscape around the existing community hall with locally indigenous species appropriate to the site's Grassy Forest EVC (Rec X).*

Car park

Car park and entrance from Howey St

Car park and community hall

An informal car park for approximately 20 cars is located on the north side of the reserve, in front of the community hall. The car park is unsealed and contains a number of undulations and pot holes.

The poor condition of the car park negatively impacts the presentation and amenity of the site. It is recommended that Council investigate improving the car park by re-leveling and re-grading the surface. The installation of edge treatment such as, logs, bollards or wheel stops could help define the boundaries of the car park and prevent damage to the adjacent trees and vegetation.

Recommended actions:

- *Upgrade the existing car park to improve the car park surface, definition and general appearance (Rec Y).*

Garden and Orchard

Roses and Blackberry along garden / orchard fence

View of the garden / orchard looking north east

View of the garden / orchard looking north towards Eblana house

Gate at south west corner of garden / orchard

The reserve includes the garden and orchard formally associated with the Eblana house. The garden contains a mix of exotic vegetation, fruit trees and non-indigenous natives.

The northern boundary of this section of the reserve extends to within 3 metres of the southern wall of Eblana house, however no fence is currently in place to mark the reserve boundary or separate the house from the garden. Instead a wire fence covered in rose bushes and Blackberry is located around the south and west boundary of the garden / orchard, separating the garden / orchard from the rest of the reserve. A gate provides public access to the garden, however the current fencing arrangement gives the impression that the garden / orchard forms part of the Eblana house private property.

The current owner of Eblana house (59 Howey Street) maintains the western half of the garden / orchard which immediately adjoins the dwelling. Consequently, this part of the garden and orchard is in good condition. No lease or other agreement is currently in place with the owner of Eblana house.

The interface between Eblana house and the reserve needs to be addressed with fencing along the reserve boundary to separate the public and private land.

Opportunity exists to make the garden and orchard more accessible to the community and explore a range of community based uses such as a community garden. This should occur in consultation with the community to ensure the community supports and is committed to maintaining the facilities developed. It is also recommended that any future

use maintain reference to the garden's formal structure which forms part of the cultural heritage value of the site.

Recommended objective:

- *Maintain the formal structure of the garden / orchard and enhance community access to and use of the space.*

Recommended actions:

- *Address the interface between Eblana house and the garden / orchard through installation of appropriate fencing on this boundary (Rec JJ).*

- *In consultation with the community, investigate use of all or part of the garden / orchard for a community use such as a community garden (Rec KK).*

Tree Health

A number of trees throughout the reserve are declining in health. This is generally due to their age and, in some cases, possible disease.

It is recommended that all trees close to publicly trafficked areas be assessed by an arborist and managed to minimise risk to the public. While some trees may need to be trimmed or removed, others may be able to be fenced to prevent public access.

Recommended actions:

- *Conduct an arborist assessment of all trees close to highly trafficked areas to determine their health and any actions required to minimise risk to the public (Rec S).*

3.4 Cultural heritage

3.4.1 Aboriginal cultural Heritage

The study area is located in the territory of the Woi wurrung, who lived a hunter/gatherer lifestyle, utilising the accessible local and regional resources to ensure a subsistence level of existence. The indigenous population decreased dramatically following European settlement.

Details about the site's Aboriginal cultural heritage are provided in a separate *Preliminary Cultural Heritage Assessment* report (Biosis 2014b).

The following content was extracted from the *Preliminary Assessment* prepared by Biosis:

> *"Eleven Aboriginal stone artefacts were found during the site inspection in two locations, one on an eroded track to the south of the community hall and just inside the remnant vegetation area, and the other near the southern edge of the Reserve under trees. Both were in areas of exposed and eroded soil with little grass cover, so it can be assumed that there is potential for further Aboriginal artefacts in the vegetated areas adjacent.*
>
> *The artefacts comprise silcrete, quartz, quartzite, basalt and tachylite, with most being waste flakes, although a hammerstone, point and possible geometric microlith, were present, indicating a relatively diverse assemblage for the limited number of artefacts.*
>
> *The two locations where artefacts were found were both areas of eroded ground, one along a gully, and the other on a rise. Such locations are typically landscapes where Aboriginal sites may be found. The potential for a spring, or waterhole to have formerly existed in the low area between the ridge lines, might explain the presence of the artefacts in these locations.*
>
> *The site inspection and discussions with council staff have shown that some areas of the reserve have been subject to previous ground disturbance. These are the areas associated with construction of the surrounding roads, the existing community hall, car park and excavations for landforming in the vicinity and are shown in Figure 24. A relatively flat area south west of the existing community hall has been graded and original topsoil removed, while the orchard area to the east, despite being disturbed from past horticulture, still retains its topsoil and so has Aboriginal archaeological potential."*

The Wurundjeri Tribe Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council is the registered Aboriginal party responsible for managing the cultural heritage of the area. The Council is authorised under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 to provide advice about Cultural Heritage Management Plans, applications for Cultural Heritage Permits, decisions about Cultural Heritage Agreements and advice or application for interim or on-going Protection Declarations.

The Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 requires preparation of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan prior to carrying out any development works on previously undisturbed land (with some exceptions as specified in the Act's Regulations). The *Preliminary Cultural Heritage Assessment* report prepared by Biosis (Biosis 2014b) identifies areas of the site that have

been previously disturbed. Development in these areas would not trigger the requirement for a Cultural Heritage Management Plan. However, given that artefacts were found at the site it is recommended that Council take a precautionary approach and prepare a Cultural Heritage Management Plan for the site prior to pursuing any development.

In addition it is recommended that the site's Aboriginal cultural heritage values be recognised in interpretive signs.

Recommended actions:

- *Install interpretive signs that provide information about the ecological and cultural heritage values of the reserve (Rec FF)*

- *Complete a Cultural Heritage Management Plan in accordance with the requirements of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 prior to pursuing any development that may impact the site's aboriginal cultural heritage values (Rec GG).*

3.4.2 European cultural heritage

The following content was extracted from the Background Report prepared by Biosis (Biosis 2014a):

> *"Daly Reserve was once part of a larger property comprising an eleven acre site granted to James Cavanagh who erected a small cottage. Cavanagh sold the property in 1895 to the Gisborne Doctor Ulick A Daly. Daly had a large timber Federation Bungalow style villa built in 1896, which he called 'Eblana'. The property passed to his wife Laura May in the 1930s and later to a son Ulick Lord Daly. Ulick's son, Jack Daly, is thought to have lived there for a long period and improved the garden, growing some plants for sale (TBA Planners 1994, quoted in Biosis 2013).*
>
> *The association with the previous owner, UL Daly, is locally significant, and the orchard/garden previously associated with the Eblana house is of interest. The orchard/garden is now part of UL Daly Reserve.*
>
> *Pines and other exotic trees planted at various times in the reserve are not known to have particular significance, although as part of the larger exotic plantings which give Gisborne its distinctive character, they contribute to the overall cultural landscape of the reserve and local area. A recent arborist's report to Council identified most of these trees as being in fair or poor health, with implications for future management".*

Neither the Eblana house or associated garden and orchard are currently subject to any heritage protection – i.e. they are not on the Victorian Heritage Register and they are not subject to a Heritage Overlay.

In April 2014 Council received confirmation from Heritage Victoria that they had received a nomination for the reserve to be included on the Victorian Heritage Register. No decision on this nomination has been issued to date.

A brick lined drain or well is located on the east side of the site which is likely to be associated with the original Eblana house. A large Peppermint Eucalyptus tree is growing next to the well which is also covered in weeds including Blackberry, Holly, Ivy, Hawthorn

and Broom. It is recommended that the weeds be treated and removed and the brickwork exposed to confirm what the structure was used for and determine an appropriate course of action. If possible, it is recommended that the structure be retained as a remnant of the infrastructure originally constructed on the site for the original homestead.

It is also recommended that the site's European cultural heritage value be recognised and celebrated with interpretive signs.

Trees and weeds growing in and around brick lined well / drain

Recommended actions:

- *Clear the weeds from around the brick lined drain / well to expose the structure and determine an appropriate course of action (Rec HH).*
- *Install interpretive signs that provide information about the ecological and cultural heritage values of the reserve (Rec FF).*

3.5 Monitoring

A robust monitoring and review program is required to ensure this management plan continues to be relevant and responds to climatic changes and emerging issues and opportunities. This includes reviewing the ecological condition of the reserve in terms of weed coverage and native species diversity.

Gaining a better understanding of what native and pest animals inhabit the reserve would also be of benefit to ensure management actions protect and enhance the site's habitat values. This could occur in collaboration with local schools and community groups through the installation of wildlife cameras and nest boxes.

Recommended actions:

- *Investigate installation and monitoring of wildlife cameras in collaboration with local community groups and schools (Rec Z)*
- *Investigate installation and monitoring of nest boxes in collaboration with local community groups and schools (Rec AA)*

- *Encourage sightings of native fauna species to be recorded and reported to Council for inclusion in Council's database (Rec BB)*

- *Encourage sightings of pest animals to be recorded and reported to Council for inclusion in Council's database and follow up works if required (Rec DD)*

- *Conduct regular reviews of the ecological condition of the reserve and the Management Plan and adapt management actions in response to new threats identified resulting from changes in climatic conditions (Rec EE)*

- *Encourage sightings of threatened flora species to be recorded to Council for inclusion in Council's database (Rec CC)*

4. SWOT Analysis

Strengths

- The remnant Grassy Forrest bushland on the west side of the reserve is of a high quality with relative low weed coverage
- The meandering, informal paths through the remnant bushland maintain the reserve's natural feel and provide access to nature for the local community
- The Friends of Daly Nature Reserve are an active, strong group
- Spectacular panoramic views are available from the southern edge of the reserve
- Existence of a historic brick lined drain / well which provides a connection with the site's European history

Weaknesses

- The existing park benches are poorly located, overlooking roads and the edge of the reserve
- The existing community hall is a basic, utilitarian structure which detracts from the reserves natural feel and scenic qualities
- Lack of on-site information about the site's natural or cultural heritage values
- Lack of well presented, comprehensive information about prohibited activities
- Access to the orchard and garden associated with the former homestead is restricted by fencing, preventing community use of this space.
- Limited data and information exists about native fauna species inhabiting the reserve or existing pest animal activity
- Lack of old trees means that limited habitat (i.e. tree hollows) exist for native fauna
- Increased soil acidity where established pine trees have dropped needles, limiting opportunities for natural regeneration or native re-vegetation.
- Lack of public access to the Eblana house garden / orchard, partly due to the existing impractical boundary arrangement
- Poor appearance of the car park in front of the community hall

Opportunities

- Relocation of the existing park benches to the ridge line south of the open grassy area where they would take advantage of the reserve's views of Gisborne and Mount Macedon
- Replacement or upgrade of the existing community hall and car park to better integrate with the reserve's natural and scenic qualities
- Landscaping around the community hall to improve its appearance and integration with the site
- Installation of new information and interpretive signs that advise visitors of permitted and prohibited activities and which provide information about the site's natural and cultural heritage values
- Investigate community uses for all or part of the orchard / garden
- Installation of nest boxes to provide habitat for marsupial species that would otherwise use tree hollows
- Fauna monitoring activities such as use of wildlife cameras and spotlighting nights
- Management of the small area of native grasses (Habitat Zone 4) as a demonstration grassland that promotes the ecological and aesthetic values of this type of vegetation community
- Promotion of the site's Aboriginal and European cultural heritage

Threats

- Encroachment of weeds into areas of remnant native vegetation
- Introduction of weeds and pathogens from outside the site from walkers and vehicles
- The existing Cypress trees on the northern boundary are nearing the end of their life and may present a safety issue in the future
- Vehicle's driving through the reserve to avoid the Aitken Street / Howey Street round-about.
- Inappropriate visitor behaviour such as litter, vandalism / graffiti and collection of fire wood
- Declining health of trees throughout the reserve due to their age and potential diseases

5. Management Plan

5.1 Management Objectives

The key management objectives for the reserve are to:

1. Protect and enhance the biodiversity and cultural heritage values of the reserve
2. Establish a demonstration grassland in the southern portion of Habitat Zone 4 (Management Area B on **Figure 9**)
3. Provide opportunities for informal passive recreation that enable visitors to enjoy the reserve's natural and scenic values while preserving the reserve's bushland feel
4. Minimise the negative impacts of visitors on the amenity and ecological and landscape values of the reserve
5. Enhance the appearance of the reserve's signs and the existing community hall and associated car park
6. Ensure responsive and adaptive management through monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement
7. Protect and enhance the cultural heritage values of the reserve and increase community awareness of these values
8. Maintain the formal structure of the garden / orchard and enhance community access to and use of the space.

6. Action Plan

Key
$ = less than $5000
$$ = $5,000 - $10,000
$$$ = $10,000 - $20,000
$$$$ = $20,000 +

Rec #	Action	Theme	Priority	Who?	Resources
Objective 1	***Protect and enhance the biodiversity and cultural heritage values of the reserve***				
A	Allow the remnant area of Grassy Forest to the west of the reserve (Management Area A on **Figure 9**) to naturally regenerate. Install information signs if necessary. Consider revegetation if natural regeneration does not succeed.	Natural regeneration	Very High	Council and Friends of Daly Nature Reserve	None required
B	Confine all mowing to Management Area D identified in **Figure 9** and allow for natural regeneration of the un-mown areas.	Maintenance	High	Council	Internal resources
C	Revegetate along the reserve's southern and eastern boundary (Management Area C on **Figure 9**) to improve the understorey and connectivity within this area. Utilise locally indigenous species appropriate to the site's Grassy Forest Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC).	Revegetation	Medium	Friends of Daly Nature Reserve with Council support	$$

Rec #	Action	Theme	Priority	Who?	Resources
D	Remove the established pine trees and associated pine needles along the southern boundary of the reserve and rehabilitate the soil as required.	Weed control	Very high	Friends of Daly Nature Reserve with Council support	$$$
E	Implement a coordinated and integrated weed control program in accordance with the recommended treatment methods and priorities identified in **Table 1**.	Weed control	Essential	Friends of Daly Nature Reserve with Council support	$$
F	Require community groups to consult Council prior to conducting weed control works at the site to confirm treatment timing and techniques.	Existing user and adjoining land owner liaison	Essential	Friends of Daly Nature Reserve and other community groups	Internal resources
G	Monitor the health of the mature Cypress and Radiata Pine trees along the Howey Street and Princes Street frontages as a part of Council's street tree maintenance program and remove trees assessed to be a danger. Implement a coordinated and holistic native species replacement program when appropriate and avoid incremental replacement in the mean time	Maintenance	Essential	Council	$$$$ (if tree removal required)
H	Hold workshops and information sessions in collaboration with the Friends of Daly Nature Reserve about plant identification, weed control techniques and other topics as relevant.	Education & promotions	High	Council in collaboration with the Friends of Daly Nature Reserve and the Gisborne Historical Society	$

Rec #	Action	Theme	Priority	Who?	Resources
Objective 2	***Establish a demonstration grassland in the southern portion of Habitat Zone 4 (Management Area B on Figure 9)***				
I	Mark the boundaries of the demonstration native grassland (Management Area B on **Figure 9**) with simple temporary signs in the short term and permanent signs in the long term.	Infrastructure	High	Council	$
J	Investigate installation of non-intrusive edging or fencing to identify the boundaries of the demonstration grassland area	Infrastructure	High	Council	$$$
K	Until the demonstration grassland is signed and fenced, implement a tailored mowing regime to Management Area B on **Figure 9**. This should include using 100mm high blades and timing the slashing in consultation with Council's Environment Unit to ensure the native grasses have dropped their seed. If the grassland is signed and fenced, omit the signed area from Council's mowing regime.	Maintenance	Very high	Council	Internal resources
L	Investigate conducting environmental strip or mosaic burns of the demonstration native grassland following a period of natural regeneration (no mowing) to enable sufficient biomass to establish (Habitat Zone 4).	Environmental burn	Medium	Council in collaboration with CFA	To be determined in consultation with CFA
M	Manage the northern portion of Habitat Zone 4 in conjunction with management of the adjoining Grassy Forest Bushland (Management Area A on **Figure 9**). Avoid mowing this area of native grasses to enable natural regeneration.	N/A	N/A	Council	Internal resources

Rec #	Action	Theme	Priority	Who?	Resources
N	Monitor the health of the mature Black Wattle in the middle of the reserve (Management Area I shown on **Figure 9**) and restrict mowing to outside the tree's drip line. Install fencing and signage if required to limit public access to the tree.	Maintenance	High	Council	Internal resources
Objective 3	***Provide opportunities for informal passive recreation that enable visitors to enjoy the reserve's natural and scenic values while preserving the reserve's bushland feel***				
O	Retain the north east-south west pathway connecting Melton Road to Aitken Street as a sealed path	Infrastructure	High	Council	Non required
P	Retain the existing informal pathways through the remnant Grassy Forest bushland (Management Area A in **Figure 9**) and do not formalise / construct additional pathways through the reserve	Infrastructure	High	Council	Non required
Q	Relocate the existing two park benches to take advantage of the view to Gisborne and Mount Macedon from the top of the reserve's ridgeline.	Infrastructure	High	Council	$
R	Retain the current extent of visitor facilities and do not provide additional facilities such as bbqs or play equipment.	Infrastructure	High	Council	Non required
S	Conduct an arborist assessment of all trees close to highly trafficked areas to determine their health and any actions required to minimise risk to the public.	Maintenance	Very high	Council	Internal resources

Rec #	Action	Theme	Priority	Who?	Resources
Objective 4	***Minimise the negative impacts of visitors on the amenity and ecological and landscape values of the reserve***				
T	Replace the existing steel "nature reserve" signs with new information signs notifying visitors of permitted and prohibited activities including: • Dogs must be on the lead • Dog walkers should carry bags for dog droppings • Rubbish should be taken home with visitors • Vehicles, including motor cycles, are prohibited • Collection of fire wood and other woody debris is prohibited	Signage	Very high	Council	$$
U	Install removable bollards at the ends of the north east-south west bitumen pathway leading from Howey Street to Aitken Street to prevent unauthorised vehicles cutting across the reserve	Infrastructure	Very high	Council	$$
Objective 5	***Enhance the appearance of the reserve's signs and the existing community hall and associated car park***				
V	Regularly clean the vertical timber signs located on the south and east boundary of the site	Maintenance	Very high	Council	Internal resources
W	Replace the existing "Gisborne Community Hall" sign with new, refreshed version.	Signage	Medium	Council	$
X	Landscape around the existing community hall with locally indigenous species appropriate to the site's Grassy Forest EVC.	Revegetation	Medium	Friends of Daly Nature Reserve and other community groups with Council support	$$

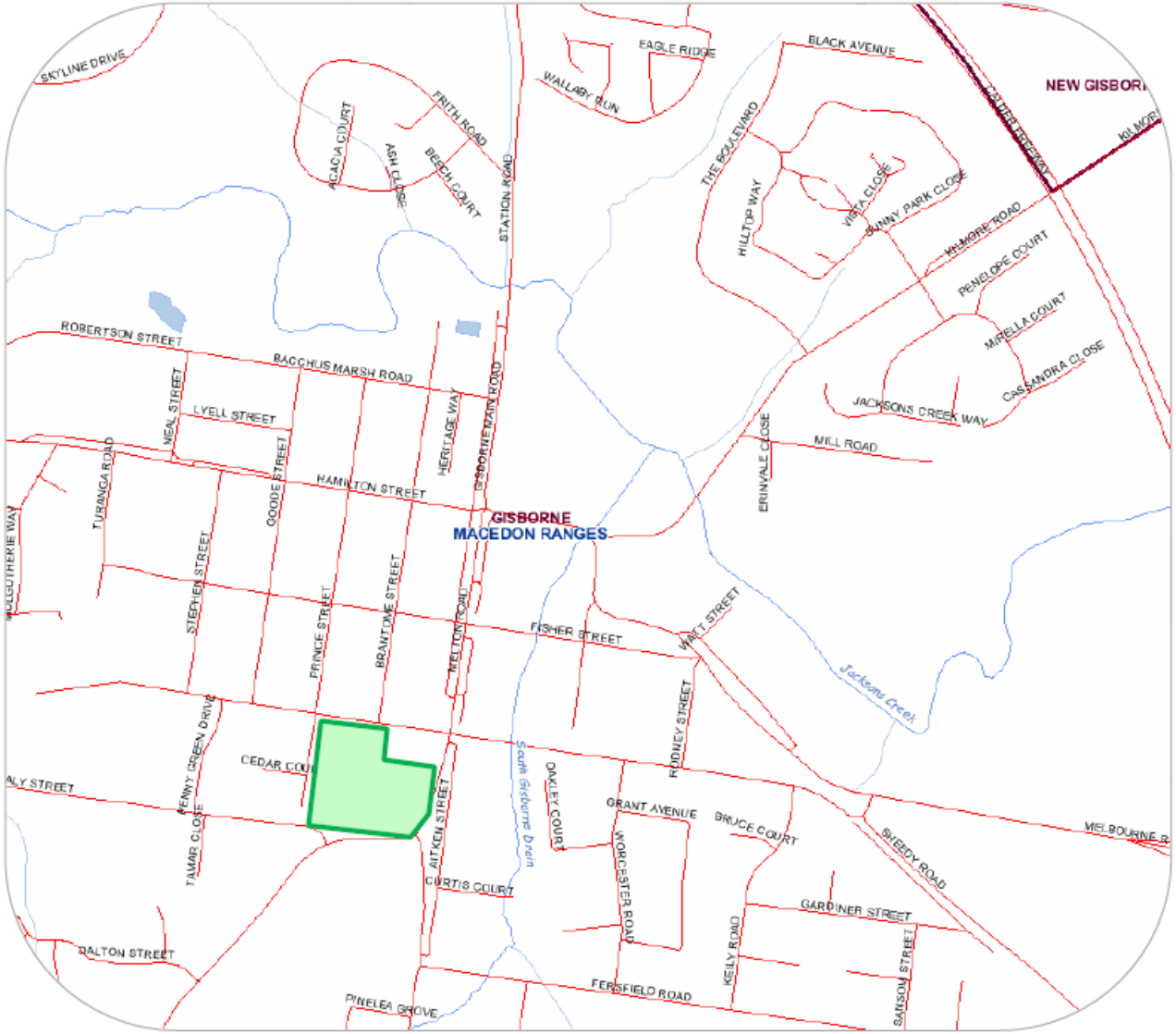
Rec #	Action	Theme	Priority	Who?	Resources
Y	Upgrade the existing car park to improve the car park surface, definition and general appearance	Infrastructure	Low	Council	$$$$
Objective 6	***Ensure responsive and adaptive management through monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement***				
Z	Investigate installation and monitoring of wildlife cameras in collaboration with local community groups and schools	Native fauna monitoring	High	Council in collaboration with the Friends of Daly Nature Reserve and other relevant community groups and schools	Internal resources
AA	Investigate installation and monitoring of nest boxes in collaboration with local community groups and schools	Native fauna monitoring	High	Council in collaboration with the Friends of Daly Nature Reserve and other relevant community groups and schools	$
BB	Encourage sightings of native fauna species to be recorded and reported to Council for inclusion in Council's database	Native fauna monitoring	High	Council	Internal resources
CC	Encourage sightings of threatened flora species to be recorded to Council for inclusion in Council's database	Native flora monitoring	High	Council	Internal resources

Rec #	Action	Theme	Priority	Who?	Resources
DD	Encourage sightings of pest animals to be recorded and reported to Council for inclusion in Council's database and investigate follow up works if required	Pest animal monitoring	High	Council	Internal resources
EE	Conduct regular reviews of the ecological condition of the reserve and the Management Plan and adapt management actions in response to new threats identified resulting from changes in climatic conditions	Review and reporting	Very high	Council	Internal resources
Objective 7	***Protect and enhance the cultural heritage values of the reserve and increase community awareness of these values***				
FF	Install interpretive signs that provide information about the ecological and cultural heritage values of the reserve	Signage	High	Council in collaboration with the Friends of Daly Nature Reserve and the Gisborne Historical Society	$$
GG	Complete a Cultural Heritage Management Plan in accordance with the requirements of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 prior to pursuing any development that may impact the site's aboriginal cultural heritage values.	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage	As required	Council	$$$
HH	Clear the weeds from around the brick lined drain / well to expose the structure and determine an appropriate course of action.	Weed control & Planning	Very high	Council in collaboration with the Friends of Daly Nature Reserve	$
II	Consider rezoning the site to Public Park and Recreation (PPRZ) as a part of a separate process in the future	Planning	Low	Council	$$

Rec #	Action	Theme	Priority	Who?	Resources
Objective 8	***Maintain the formal structure of the garden / orchard and enhance community access to and use of the space.***				
JJ	Address the interface between Eblana house and the garden / orchard through installation of appropriate fencing on this boundary.	Infrastructure	High	Council and the owner of Eblana house	$$$
KK	In consultation with the community, investigate use of all or part of the garden / orchard for a community use such as a community garden	Planning	Medium	Council	$$

Figures and Appendices

Figure 1 – Locality Plan



Legend

U L Daly Reserve

Figure 1 : Locality Plan

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

N

Date: 26 June 2014

Not to scale

Acknowledgement: Base data State of Victoria

Figure 2 – Existing Features and Uses

Legend

- A — Grassy Forest Bushland
- B — Native Grasses
- C — Modified Grassy Forest
- D — Cleared Open Space
- E — Formal Garden & Orchard
- F — Community Hall & Car Park
- G — Exotic Landscaping
- ↔ — Vehicle access points to Community Hall
- Sealed walking trail
- Informal walking trail
- Key Views
- Abandoned well/drain
- Mature Black Wattle

Figure 2 :
Existing Features & Uses

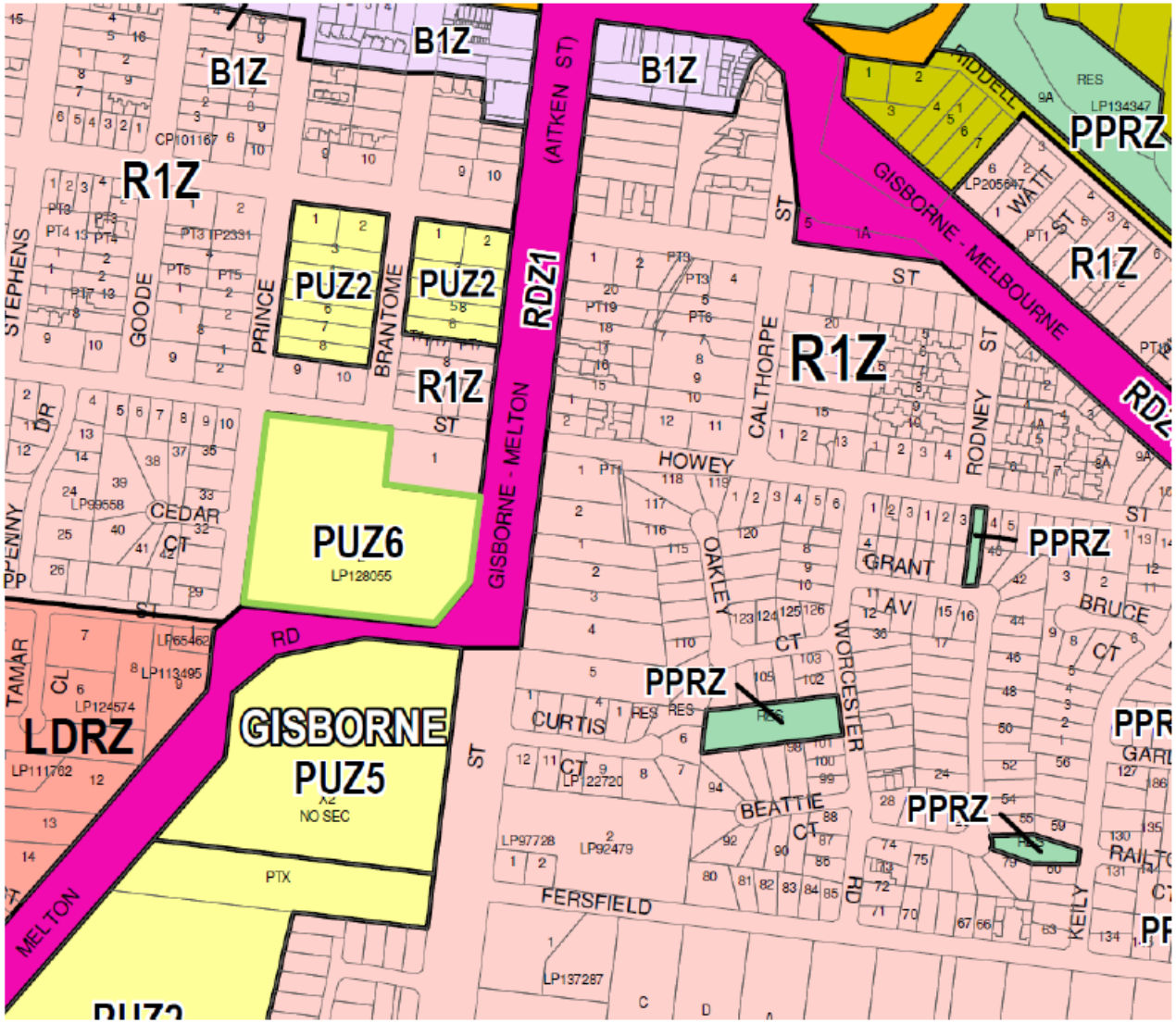
Macedon Ranges Shire Council

N

Date: 26 June 2014

Not to scale
Boundaries shown indicative only

Figure 3 – Zoning Plan



Legend

	Reserve Boundary
R1Z	Residential 1 Zone
LDRZ	Low Residential Zone
B1Z	Business 1 Zone
PUZ2	Public Use Zone (Education)
PUZ5	Public Use Zone (Cemetery)
PUZ6	Public Use Zone (Local Government)
PPRZ	Public Park & Recreation Zone
RDZ1	Road Zone 1 (VicRoads)

Figure 3 : Zoning Plan

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

N

Date: 26 June 2014

Not to scale
Boundaries shown indicative only

Figure 4 – Vegetation Protection Overlay 2 Plan

Legend

Reserve Title Boundary

VPO2 Vegetation Protection Overlay (Schedule 2)

Figure 4 :

Vegetation Protection Overlay – Schedule 2 Plan

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

N

Date: 26 June 2014

Not to scale
Boundaries shown indicative only

Figure 5 – Native Vegetation Location Risk Map

Legend

U L Daly Reserve

Location A

Location C

Areas of location risk categories for the purposes of the native vegetation permitted clearing regulations

Figure 5 : Native Vegetation Location Risk

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

N

Date: 26 June 2014

Not to scale

Acknowledgement: Base data State of Victoria

Figure 6 – Native Vegetation Site Condition Map

Legend

- U L Daly Reserve
- 0.61-0.80
- 0.41-0.60
- 0.21-0.40

Figure 6 : Native Vegetation Site Condition

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

N

Date: 26 June 2014

Not to scale

Acknowledgement: Base data State of Victoria

Legend

Figure 7 – Native Vegetation Strategic Biodiversity Score

U L Daly Reserve

0.1 - 2.0

Figure 7 : Strategic Biodiversity Score

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

N

Date: 26 June 2014

Not to scale

Acknowledgement: Base data State of Victoria

Figure 8 – Habitat Zones

Legend

- Reserve Boundary
- Grassy Forest

Scattered Trees

- Very Large Old tree
- Large Old Tree
- Medium Old Tree
- Small Tree

Significant Flora

- *Acacia rostriformis*

Figure 8 : Habitat Zones

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

N

Date: 26 June 2014

Not to scale
Boundaries shown indicative only

Source: Biosis 2014

Figure 9 – Management Areas

Legend

A Grassy Forest Bushland
- Natural regeneration
- Weed control
- Retain informal trails

B Demonstration Grassland
- Delineate with signs and edging
- Investigate environmental burns
- Implement tailored mowing regime until signed and fenced

C Connecting Bushland
- Remove Pine trees
- Revegetate

D Cleared Open Space
- Regular mowing

E Formal Garden & Orchard
- Install fence on boundary with house
- Investigate use for community garden

F Community Hall
- Landscape with indigenous species

G Exotic Landscaping
- Monitor health of trees and replace with indigenous species in long term

H Car Park
- Upgrade surface, edge treatment & appearance

I Mature Black Wattle
- Monitor Health & prevent public access if necessary

Figure 9 : Management Areas

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

N

Date: 26 June 2014

Not to scale
Boundaries shown indicative only

Appendix 1 – Indigenous and introduced flora species recorded in reserve

EPBC Act:	**DSE 2005:**
CR –critically endangered (Australia)	e – endangered (Victoria)
EN –endangered (Australia)	v – vulnerable (Victoria)
VU –vulnerable (Australia)	r – rare (Victoria)
	FFG Act:
	L – listed as threatened under FFG Act
	P – protected under FFG Act (public land)
	Noxious weed status:
# –Victorian native species outside natural range	SP –state prohibited species
	RP –regionally prohibited species
	RC –regionally controlled species
	RR –regionally restricted species

2 – Record from NatureSharehttp://natureshare.org.au/collection/262/species/
3 – Identified by Friends of Daly Nature Reserve
All other records identified by Biosis Pty Ltd in 2013 or Bianca Aquilina of Atlas Ecology in 2014

Table A1: Vascular flora recorded from UL Daly Nature Reserve, Gisborne.

Status	Scientific name	Common name
Indigenous species		
	Acacia dealbata	Silver Wattle
P	*Acacia mearnsii*	Black Wattle
	Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood
	Acacia paradoxa	Hedge Wattle
P	*Acacia provincialis*	Wirilda
P	*Acacia pycnantha*	Golden Wattle
r, P	*Acacia rostriformis*	Bacchus Marsh Wattle
P	*Acacia verniciflua*	Varnish Wattle
	Acaenaechinata	Sheep's Burr
	Acaena novae-zelandiae	Bidgee-widgee
P	*Acrotriche serrulata*[2]	Honey-pots
	Aphanesaustraliana	Australian Piert
	Arthropodiumstrictum	Chocolate Lily
	Austrostipamollis	Supple Spear-grass
	Austrostiparudis	Veined Spear-grass
	Brunoniaaustralis	Blue Pincushion
	Bulbinebulbosa	Bulbine Lily
	Burchardiaumbellata	Milkmaids
	Bursaria spinosa[2]	Sweet Bursaria
	Brunonia australis[3]	Blue Pincushion
P	*Cassiniaarcuata*	Drooping Cassinia
P	*Cassinialongifolia*	Shiny Cassinia
	*Clematis microphylla*s.l.	Small-leaved Clematis

Status	Scientific name	Common name
P	*Coronidiumscorpioides*	Button Everlasting
	Cotula australis[3]	Common Cotula
	Crassuladecumbens	Spreading Crassula
	Dianella revolutas.l.	Black-anther Flax-lily
	Dianella tasmanica[2]	Tasman Flax-lily
	Dillwynia cinerascens	Grey Parrot-pea
P	*Diuris sulphurea*	Tiger Orchid
	Droseraauriculata	Tall Sundew
	Einadianutans	Nodding Saltbush
	Eucalyptus dives[2]	Broad-leaf Peppermint
	Eucalyptus obliqua	Messmate Stringybark
	Eucalyptus radiata	Narrow-leaf Peppermint
	Eucalyptus rubida	Candlebark
	Eucalyptus tricarpa	Red Ironbark
P	*Euchitonjaponicus*	Creeping Cudweed
	Exocarposcupressiformis	Cherry Ballart
	Geranium sp. 2	Variable Crane's-bill
	Gonocarpustetragynus	Common Raspwort
	Hardenbergiaviolacea	Purple Coral-pea
P	*Helichrysum luteoalbum*[2]	Jersey Cudweed
	Helichrysum scorpioides[3]	Button Everlasting
	Hovea heterophylla[2]	Common Hovea
	Hydrocotylelaxiflora	Stinking Pennywort
	Indigoferaaustralis	Austral Indigo
	Juncussubsecundus	Finger Rush
	Kunzea ericoides[2]	Burgan
P	*Lissanthestrigosa*	Peach Heath
	*Lomandrafiliformis*subsp.*coriacea*	Wattle Mat-rush
	*Lomandrafiliformis*subsp.*filiformis*	Wattle Mat-rush
	Lomandra longifolia[3]	Spiny-headed Mat-rush
	Luzulameridionalis	Common Woodrush
	Melicytusdentatus	Tree Violet
	Microlaenastipoides	Weeping Grass
P	*Microtisparviflora*	Slender Onion-orchid
	Oxalis perennans	Grassland Wood-sorrel
	Pimeleahumilis	Common Rice-flower
	Pimelealinifolia	Slender Rice-flower
	Plantago varia	Variable Plantain
	Poamorrisii	Soft Tussock-grass
	Poasieberiana	Grey Tussock-grass
	Poranthera microphylla[3]	Small Poranthera

Status	Scientific name	Common name
	Pseudognaphalium[3]	Jersey Cudweed
P	*Pterostylisnutans*	Nodding Greenhood
	Rytidospermacaespitosum	Common Wallaby-grass
	Rytidospermageniculatum	Kneed Wallaby-grass
	Rytidospermapallidum	Silvertop Wallaby-grass
	Rytidospermasetaceum	Bristly Wallaby-grass
P	*Senecioglomeratus*	Annual Fireweed
P	*Senecio phelleus*[2]	Stony Fireweed
P	*Senecioquadridentatus*	Cotton Fireweed
	Solanum laciniatum[2]	Large Kangaroo Apple
P	*Solenogynedominii*	Smooth Solenogyne
P	*Thelymitra arenaria*[2]	Forest Sun-orchid
P	*Thelymitra*sp.	Sun-orchid
	Themedatriandra	Kangaroo Grass
P	*Thysanotuspatersonii*	Twining Fringe-lily
	Tricoryneelatior	Yellow Rush-lily
	Veronica gracilis	Slender Speedwell
	Wahlenbergia multicaulis[2]	Branching Bluebell
	Wurmbeadioica	Common Early Nancy
Introduced species		
	Acacia baileyana	Cootamundra Wattle
#	*Acacia floribunda*	White Sallow-wattle
#	*Acacia howittii*	Sticky Wattle
#	*Acacia longifolia*subsp.*longifolia*	Sallow Wattle
#	*Acacia pranissima*	Ovens Wattle
	Acetosella vulgaris	Sheep Sorrel
	Agapanthus praecox	Agapanthus
	Agrostiscapillaris	Brown-top Bent
	Anthoxanthumodoratum	Sweet Vernal-grass
	Bellisperennis	English Daisy
	Briza maxima	Large Quaking-grass
RC	*Conium maculatum*	Hemlock
RC	*Crataegusmonogyna*	Hawthorn
	Cupressus spp	Cypress
RC	*Cytisusscoparius*	English Broom
	Ehrhartaerecta	Panic Veldt-grass
RC	*Genista monspessulana*	Montpellier Broom
	Hakea salicifolia	Willow-leaf Hakea
	Hedera helix	English Ivy
	Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire fog

Status	Scientific name	Common name
	Hypochaerisradicata	Flatweed
	Ilex aquifolium	Holly
	Oak spp	Oak
RR	*Oxalis pes-caprae*	Soursob
	Pinus Radiata	Radiata Pine
	Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain
	Romulearosea	Onion Grass
RC	*Rosa rubiginosa*	Sweet briar
RC	*Rubus fruticosus*	Blackberry
	Solanum nigrum	Blackberry nightshade
	Trifolium spp.	Clover
RC	*Ulexeuropaeus*	Gorse
	Vulpiamyuros	Rat's-tail Fescue

Appendix 2 – Significant native flora found within 5km of UL Daly Nature Reserve

EPBC Act:
CR –critically endangered (Australia)
EN –endangered (Australia)
VU –vulnerable (Australia)

DSE 2005:
e – endangered (Victoria)
v – vulnerable (Victoria)
r – rare (Victoria)

FFG Act:
L – listed as threatened under FFG Act
P – protected under FFG Act (public land)

Table A2: Significant vascular flora recorded within 5km of UL Daly Nature Reserve, Gisborne.

Status	Scientific Name	Common Name	Total # of records	Comments
v	*Acacia rostriformis*	Bacchus Marsh Wattle	2	Present in reserve
v	*Acacia verniciflua (1-nerved variant)*	Seymour Wattle	1	Same umbrella species as the Bacchus Marsh Wattle
v	*Coronidium scorpioides 'aff. rutidolepis (Lowland Swamp*	Pale Swamp Everlasting	4	Presence unlikely, no habitat
v	*Eucalyptus leucoxylon subsp. connata*	Melbourne Yellow-gum	2	Absent
v	*Microseris scapigera s.s.*	Plains Yam-daisy	1	Absent
VU, v	*Senecio psilocarpus*	Swamp Fireweed	2	Presence unlikely, no habitat
VU, v, L	*Xerochrysum palustre*	Swamp Everlasting	6	Presence unlikely, no habitat
r	*Calochilus imberbis*	Naked Beard-orchid	5	Absent
k	*Lachnagrostis perennis spp. agg.*	Perennial Blown-grass	3	Presence unlikely, no habitat
k	*Pleurosorus subglandulosus*	Glandular Blanket-fern	1	Absent
k	*Thelymitra exigua*	Short Sun-orchid	1	Absent
EN, e, L	*Dianella amoena*	Matted Flax-lily	5	Presence unlikely, no habitat
e	*Geranium sp. 1*	Large-flower Crane's-bill	2	Presence unlikely, no habitat
e, L	*Stylidium armeria subsp. pilosifolium*	Hairy-leaf Triggerplant	1	Absent

Appendix 3 – Native fauna found within 5km of UL Daly Nature Reserve

EPBC Act:
CR –critically endangered (Australia)
EN –endangered (Australia)
VU –vulnerable (Australia)

DSE 2005:
e – endangered (Victoria)
v – vulnerable (Victoria)
r – rare (Victoria)

FFG Act:
L – listed as threatened under FFG Act
P – protected under FFG Act (public land)

Table A3: Native fauna recorded within 5km of UL Daly Nature Reserve, Gisborne.

Status	Scientific Name	Common Name	Total # of records	Comments
e, L	Litoria raniformis	Growling Grass Frog	1	Presence unlikely, no habitat
e, L	Synemon plana	Golden Sun Moth	1	Presence unlikely, no habitat
v, L	Phascogale tapoatafa	Brush-tailed Phascogale	1	Presence unlikely. Nearest records within 5 km date from 1966 and 1969 in Riddells Creek
e, L	Botaurus poiciloptilus	Australasian Bittern	1	absent (no habitat)
	Trichosurus vulpecula	Common Brushtail Possum	2	
	Platycercus elegans elegans	Crimson Rosella	20	
	Pardalotus punctatus	Spotted Pardalote	7	
	Lampropholis guichenoti	Garden Skink	4	
	Gymnorhina tibicen	Australian Magpie	20	
	Corvus mellori	Little Raven	11	
	Coracina novaehollandiae	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	4	
	Cacomantis flabelliformis	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	2	
	Cacatua galerita	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	20	
	Aquila audax	Wedge-tailed Eagle	1	
	Anthochaera carunculata	Red Wattlebird	16	
	Strepera versicolor	Grey Currawong2	6	
	Rhipidura albiscarpa	Grey Fantail2	12	
	Macropus giganteus	Eastern Grey Kangaroo2	4	
	Colluricincla harmonica	Grey Shrike-thrush2	9	
	Calyptorhynchus funereus	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo2	3	
	Zosterops lateralis	Silvereye	4	
	Zoothera lunulata	Bassian Thrush	1	
	Wallabia bicolor	Black Wallaby	6	
	Vulpes vulpes	Red Fox	8	
	Vombatus ursinus	Common Wombat	2	

Status	Scientific Name	Common Name	Total # of records	Comments
	Vespadelus regulus	Southern Forest Bat	1	
	Vespadelus darlingtoni	Large Forest Bat	1	
	Vanellus miles	Masked Lapwing	3	
	Turdus merula	Common Blackbird	11	
	Trichosurus sp.	Unidentified brushtail possum	1	
	Trichosurus cunninghami	Mountain Brushtail Possum	1	
	Todiramphus sanctus	Sacred Kingfisher	3	
	Tiliqua nigrolutea	Blotched Blue-tongued Lizard	3	
	Threskiornis spinicollis	Straw-necked Ibis	2	
	Tadorna tadornoides	Australian Shelduck	1	
	Tadarida australis	White-striped Freetail Bat	1	
	Tachyglossus aculeatus	Short-beaked Echidna	1	
	Tachybaptus novaehollandiae	Australasian Grebe	3	
	Suta flagellum	Little Whip Snake	3	
	Sturnus vulgaris	Common Starling	9	
	Streptopelia chinensis	Spotted Turtle-Dove	1	
	Strepera graculina	Pied Currawong	3	
	Sericornis frontalis	White-browed Scrubwren	3	
	Saproscincus mustelinus	Weasel Skink	2	
	Salmo trutta	Brown Trout	2	
	Rhipidura rufifrons	Rufous Fantail	2	
	Rhipidura leucophrys	Willie Wagtail	8	
	Rattus rattus	Black Rat	2	
	Rattus fuscipes	Bush Rat	6	
	Pseudocheirus peregrinus	Common Ringtail Possum	8	
	Pseudemoia entrecasteauxii	Southern Grass Skink	4	
	Porphyrio porphyrio	Purple Swamphen	1	
	Platycercus eximius	Eastern Rosella	7	
	Phylidonyris pyrrhoptera	Crescent Honeyeater	2	
	Phylidonyris novaehollandiae	New Holland Honeyeater	3	
	Phascolarctos cinereus	Koala	11	
	Phaps chalcoptera	Common Bronzewing	2	
	Phalacrocorax carbo	Great Cormorant	2	
	Petroica phoenicea	Flame Robin	1	
	Petroica boodang	Scarlet Robin	6	

Status	Scientific Name	Common Name	Total # of records	Comments
	Petaurus breviceps	Sugar Glider	5	
	Petauroides volans	Greater Glider	2	
	Perca fluviatilis	Redfin Perch	1	
	Passer domesticus	House Sparrow	8	
	Pardalotus striatus	Striated Pardalote	8	
	Pachycephala rufiventris	Rufous Whistler	5	
	Pachycephala pectoralis	Golden Whistler	3	
	Pachycephala inornata	Gilbert's Whistler	1	
	Oryctolagus cuniculus	European Rabbit	4	
	Ocyphaps lophotes	Crested Pigeon	2	
	Nyctophilus gouldi	Gould's Long-eared Bat	1	
	Nyctophilus geoffroyi	Lesser Long-eared Bat	1	
	Niveoscincus coventryi	Coventry's Skink	1	
	Ninox novaeseelandiae	Southern Boobook	1	
	Neochmia temporalis	Red-browed Finch	2	
	Nannoscincus maccoyi	McCoy's Skink	2	
	Myiagra inquieta	Restless Flycatcher	1	
	Myiagra cyanoleuca	Satin Flycatcher	2	
	Mus musculus	House Mouse	1	
	Microcarbo melanoleucos	Little Pied Cormorant	4	
	Melithreptus lunatus	White-naped Honeyeater	7	
	Melithreptus brevirostris	Brown-headed Honeyeater	5	
	Manorina melanocephala	Noisy Miner	3	
	Malurus cyaneus	Superb Fairy-wren	11	
	Litoria verreauxii verreauxii	WhistlingTree Frog	4	
	Litoria ewingii (southern)	Southern Brown Tree Frog (southern)	5	
	Litoria ewingii	Southern Brown Tree Frog	3	
	Limnodynastes tasmaniensis SCR	Spotted Marsh Frog SCR	3	
	Limnodynastes tasmaniensis	Spotted Marsh Frog	1	
	Limnodynastes dumerilii	Southern Bullfrog	2	
	Lichenostomus penicillatus	White-plumed Honeyeater	8	
	Lichenostomus melanops	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	2	
	Lichenostomus leucotis	White-eared Honeyeater	4	
	Lichenostomus chrysops	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	8	
	Lerista bougainvillii	Bougainville's Skink	1	

Status	Scientific Name	Common Name	Total # of records	Comments
	Lepus europeaus	European Hare	2	
	Hirundo nigricans	Tree Martin	4	
	Hirundo neoxena	Welcome Swallow	12	
	Grallina cyanoleuca	Magpie-lark	12	
	Glossopsitta concinna	Musk Lorikeet	3	
	Geocrinia victoriana	Victorian Smooth Froglet	4	
	Gallinula tenebrosa	Dusky Moorhen	3	
	Felis catus	Cat	1	
	Falsistrellus tasmaniensis	Eastern False Pipistrelle	1	
	Falcunculus frontatus	Crested Shrike-tit	2	
	Falco cenchroides	Nankeen Kestrel	2	
	Falco berigora	Brown Falcon	1	
	Eulamprus tympanum tympanum	Southern Water Skink	3	
	Eulamprus sp.	Unidentified water skink	2	
	Eopsaltria australis	Eastern Yellow Robin	7	
	Eolophus roseicapilla	Galah	15	
	Elanus axillaris	Black-shouldered Kite	2	
	Egretta novaehollandiae	White-faced Heron	5	
	Egernia whitii (group)	White's Skink	2	
	Dicaeum hirundinaceum	Mistletoebird	2	
	Daphoenositta chrysoptera	Varied Sittella	2	
	Dacelo novaeguineae	Laughing Kookaburra	13	
	Cygnus atratus	Black Swan	1	
	Cuculus pallidus	Pallid Cuckoo	4	
	Crinia signifera	Common Froglet	13	
	Coturnix pectoralis	Stubble Quail	1	
	Corvus coronoides	Australian Raven	8	
	Cormobates leucophaeus	White-throated Treecreeper	8	
	Corcorax melanorhamphos	White-winged Chough	2	
	Columba livia	Rock Dove	2	
	Climacteris erythrops	Red-browed Treecreeper	1	
	Chrysococcyx lucidus	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	5	
	Chrysococcyx basalis	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	3	
	Chenonetta jubata	Australian Wood Duck	11	
	Chalinolobus morio	Chocolate Wattled Bat	1	

Status	Scientific Name	Common Name	Total # of records	Comments
	Carduelis chloris	European Greenfinch	1	
	Carduelis carduelis	European Goldfinch	8	
	Callocephalon fimbriatum	Gang-gang Cockatoo	1	
	Cacomantis variolosus	Brush Cuckoo	2	
	Cacatua tenuirostris	Long-billed Corella	10	
	Austrelaps superbus	Lowland Copperhead	11	
	Artamus cyanopterus	Dusky Woodswallow	3	
	Anthus novaeseelandiae	Australasian Pipit	4	
	Antechinus swainsonii	Dusky Antechinus	1	
	Antechinus agilis	Agile Antechinus	9	
	Anguilla australis	Short-finned Eel	2	
	Anas superciliosa	Pacific Black Duck	5	
	Anas castanea	Chestnut Teal	2	
	Alauda arvensis	European Skylark	2	
	Aegotheles cristatus	Australian Owlet-nightjar	2	
	Acrocephalus stentoreus	Clamorous Reed Warbler	3	
	Acrobates pygmaeus	Feathertail Glider	2	
	Acridotheres tristis	Common Myna	11	
	Accipiter fasciatus	Brown Goshawk	2	
	Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris	Eastern Spinebill	3	
	Acanthiza reguloides	Buff-rumped Thornbill	1	
	Acanthiza pusilla	Brown Thornbill	8	
	Acanthiza nana	Yellow Thornbill	1	
	Acanthiza lineata	Striated Thornbill	7	
	Acanthiza chrysorrhoa	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	7	

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