

NORF'K AILEN RIJENL KAUNSL
PLAN OF MANAGEMENT
WAN PLAEN 'MAENEJMENT



SELWYN RESERVE

SELWEN RESERW

2020 - 2030

Foreword

The Norfolk Island Council of Elders considers it important that any Plans of Management for Public Reserves take into account all of the following points in line with Norfolk Island's Cultural Heritage, both tangible and intangible:

1. The importance of the Public Reserves to Norfolk Islanders for recreational activities (fishing, swimming, walking, picnics etc.).
2. The importance of Public Reserves for cultural activities like picking hihis etc.
3. The importance of the natural environment on Norfolk Island to Norfolk Islanders.
4. The importance of endemic/native plants to Norfolk Islanders for traditional craft and other cultural activities, and the importance of these activities continuing.
5. The importance of native birds, including seabirds, to Norfolk Islanders.
6. The impact of noxious weeds and pest animals like rats, cats, swamp hens and feral chickens, and the importance of controlling these.
7. The use of licensed cattle on roads, commons and other designated grazing areas to assist in the control of grass.

The Pitcairn settlers arrived on Norfolk Island in 1856 as a distinct ethnic group, bringing with them a unique heritage, culture and language. They were the first people to settle Norfolk Island as a permanent homeland.

Norfolk Islanders have a very strong cultural connection with the unique environment on the Island, and they are aware of the impact pest animals and noxious weeds can have on the natural and cultural values of the Island.

Norfolk Islanders have maintained many traditional customs, including weaving of hats, baskets and other items from native flax, Moo-oo and Bulrush ('drain flax'). These plants are not as abundant as they once were due to modified land use, and it is important that the Plans of Management for Public Reserves contain management actions to protect or increase the abundance of these plants to ensure these traditional customs can continue.

Other cultural activities that are still very important to Norfolk Islanders today include picking hihis and collecting crabs and other traditional food from the sea. In the past, Norfolk Islanders have relied upon the fruits from a range of exotic plants (including yellow and red guava, lemon and taro), and it is pleasing to see that the picking of exotic fruits can continue in Norfolk Island Public Reserves.

The Public Reserves on Norfolk Island are important to Norfolk Islanders for recreational activities such as fishing, swimming, walking and picnics. It is important that the Norfolk Island people continue to have access to the Public Reserves on Norfolk Island and that these activities can continue.

The Norfolk Island people recognise the need to protect and conserve Norfolk Island's natural and cultural resources. The natural environment and cultural charm of Norfolk Island are increasingly valuable commodities that must be managed appropriately in the face of increasing tourism and development pressure.

Norfolk Island Council of Elders

Forwad

De Norf'k Ailen Kaunsl 'Eldas thort es importantan fe eni Plaen 'Maenejment fe dem Pablik Reserw tek intu akaunt orlii point in lain lorngfe Norf'k Ailens Kalcharl Heritej, dem yu el sii endem yu kaant:

1. De importens 'dem Pablik Reserw fe Norf'k Ailen salan yuuset (fishen, naawien, werken, haewen 'piknik endem kaina'thing)
2. De importens 'dem Pablik Reserw fe orlem kalcharl thing yuusa duu simmes piken 'hihi endem
3. De importens 'luken orn Norf'ks naetrl said fe Norf'k salan
4. De importens 'orl auwas plaants tu Norf'k salan fe auwas tradishenl werk ena taeda kalcharl thing fe duu, en hau important tu orl aklan fe kiip ii thing gwen
5. De importens 'orl auwas nietew berd, enem siiberd, tu Norf'k salan
6. Wieh 'nokshas wiids ena pest simmes 'raet, keht, taalaberd enem wail faul el efekt ieh ailen, en hau important fe kontroel dem
7. Yuusen em laisens kaetl orna roed, ornaa koeman enem taeda said fe dem griez fe haelp in kontroelen 'graas.

Dem Pitkern salan kam tu Norf'k in 1856 es wan distinct ethnic gruu, fetchen lorngfe dem, dems yuuniik heretij, kalcha ena laengwij. Dem es de fas salan fe yuus Norf'k aes dems hoem fe aewa.

Norf'k salan gata riel strorng kalcharl konekshan tu de yuuniik envairanment 'dems alien en dem noe wathen pest aeneml ena nokshas wiids gwen haew orn de naechrl en kalchrl vaelyu 'dieh alien.

Norf'k salan bin kiipap plenti dems tradishenl kastam, simmes wiiwen 'haet, basket ena taeda thing fromem nietew flaks, mu-uu ena bulrush (drienflaks). Nor gat mach 'dii plaants es bin yuus kos 'chienj in wieh yuusen a laen, en es importantan fe dem Plaen 'Maenejment 'dem Pablik Reserw fe haew ina wieh fe kiipap ala groe de namba 'dii plaants fe miek shua orlii tradishenl kastam el kiip gwen.

Taeda kalchrl thing Norf'k salan duu stil es importantan fe Norf'k salan des dieh simmes piken 'hihi, ketchen 'krarb ena taeda tradishenl wetls auta saf. Lorng taim 'goe Norf'k salan bin el depen orna fruu fram wan rienj 'eksotik plaants (simmes 'yaela ena red gorwa, leman ena taala), enes gudan fe si stil el pik 'eksotik fruu auta dem Pablik Reserw.

Es importantan fe haew 'Pablik Reserw orn Norf'k soe Norf'k salan el kiip duwen dem thing simmes fishen, naawien, werken en haewen 'piknik. Es importantan fe Norf'k salan el kiip yuusen ii Pablik Reserw soe orlii praektes el kiip gwen.

Norf'k salan noe haew 'lukaut for, protect en kiip Norf'ks naechrl ena kalchrl resors. De naechrl ena kalchrl chaam 'Norf'k kamen mor n mor vaelubl en haew 'luk aafta et proepli aes tuares ena dewelapment groe biga.

Norf'k Ailen Kaunsl 'Eldas

Norfolk Language translated by Gaye Evans

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1 Introduction

1.1 Reserve Description

Selwyn Reserve covers 21.21 hectares and adjoins the most southern end of Anson Bay Reserve. The Reserve extends approximately 1,000 metres along the north west coast of Norfolk Island and up to 300 metres inland (Figure 1). The spectacular west-facing cliffs along the west of the Reserve rise to about 80m from sea level.



Figure 1. Selwyn Reserve Location.

1.2 Public Consultation and Planning Framework

The northern portion of the Reserve was proclaimed as “Selwyn Reserve” under the Commons and Public Reserves Act 1936 on 4 February 1937. The Reserve was renamed “Selwyn Recreational Reserve” in 1968, but it was again named Selwyn Reserve in 1999.

Portion 139, formerly part of the Melanesian Mission Station and including the popular Puppys Point picnic area, was added to the Reserve on 21 March 1968. A number of minor boundary adjustments were also made to allow for re-routing of Anson Bay Road. The boundaries of Selwyn Reserve and adjacent portions are shown in Figure 2. On 21 March 1953, the former (Anson Bay) Public School Reserve of “1 acre 1 rood 38 perches” (6,020 m²) was added to the northern end of the Reserve for recreation purposes.

On 27 April 1983, a minor adjustment was made to the western boundary of the Reserve to allow for re-alignment of Anson Bay Road and the impending declaration of the “Captain Cook National Park”. Portion 113d (rem) was declared to be part of Anson Bay Reserve on 4 November 1999, thus joining Anson and Selwyn Reserves by a narrow coastal strip. The seaward boundary of the Reserve extends to the high water mark.



Figure 2. Selwyn Reserve Boundaries.

Selwyn Reserve is located within the Conservation Zone according to the *Norfolk Island Plan 2002*.

The *Norfolk Island Plan 2002* states:

'The intent of the Conservation Zone is to:

- (a) provide a very limited range of low intensity and low impact use or development opportunities in the areas under this zone that are considered to have very high natural and/or heritage conservation values;*
- (b) ensure that the areas within the Conservation Zone that have very high natural conservation values continue to provide the aesthetic backdrop for Norfolk Island and continue to provide the open space and wilderness habitat that is vital to life systems on the Island;*
- (c) include land between the Top of Cliff as shown on the Official Survey of Norfolk Island and the Mean High Water Mark. The areas under this zone are considered to have high natural conservation values; and*
- (d) ensure that the areas within the coastal portion of the Conservation Zone, to which the Coastal Environment Provisions apply in accordance with clause 9A, will be quarantined from built forms of use or development to ensure safety and to maintain cliff and foreshore stability.*

The *Norfolk Island Plan 2002* also states:

The intent of the Open Space Zone is to:

- a) provide a limited range of low intensity and low impact use or development opportunities within areas that have natural, cultural and heritage values that should be maintained;*
- b) provide the open space and wilderness habitat that is vital to life systems on Norfolk Island; and*
- c) provide land that may buffer certain incompatible uses.'*

The Norfolk Island *Public Reserves Act 1997* states that each of the Norfolk Island Public Reserves will have a plan of management. The plans must promote the objects of the Act which are ‘to protect and conserve public reserves so as to:

- (a) promote the conservation of the natural environment and landscape beauty of Norfolk Island;
- (b) promote the conservation of the heritage of Norfolk Island; and
- (c) preserve the way of life and the quality of life of the people of Norfolk Island.’

The first Plan of Management for Selwyn Reserve was prepared in 2003. In 2017, the Plans of Management for all Public Reserves were placed on public exhibition, with an invitation to provide feedback to produce updated plans of management.

No comments specific to the Selwyn Reserve Plan of Management were received, but the following comments were received from multiple respondents with regard to Norfolk Island reserves in general:

- No expansion of cattle grazing in the reserves. Protect current and proposed rehabilitated areas from cattle grazing.
- Native replanting is needed.
- Better management of waterways, including work to desilt the drainage channels in Kingston area to prevent coral deaths.

As part of the 2017 consultation process, the Public Reserves Advisory Committee also undertook a survey on Cats on Norfolk Island. The information gathered from this survey is outlined in the Pest Animals section of this Plan of Management.

The Federal *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)* applies to Norfolk Island and is relevant in a number of ways to the management of the public reserves. In particular however, the Act recognises a number of native and endemic plant and animals as threatened species. These species are afforded protection under the Act, and are the subject of the Norfolk Island Region Threatened Species Recovery Plan. Selwyn Reserve is home to many threatened species recognised under the Act, and the management of the Reserve needs to align with the Norfolk Island Region Threatened Species Recovery Plan.

1.3 Heritage Listing

Selwyn Reserve was listed on the Register of the National Estate (RNE) on 21 October 1980.

The RNE was replaced on 1 January 2004 by a National Heritage List, which recognises and protects places of outstanding heritage to the nation, and the Commonwealth Heritage List, which includes Commonwealth owned or leased places of significant heritage value.¹

Selwyn Reserve was included on the Norfolk Island Heritage List in 2002 and the Commonwealth Heritage list on 22 June 2004.

¹ <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/rne/index.html>

2 Significance of Selwyn Reserve

Selwyn Reserve has significant community, landscape, and conservation values, with opportunities for recreation and habitat for native flora and fauna. Puppys Point picnic area (Figure 3) is noted for its spectacular sunset views and seascapes that epitomise the natural beauty of Norfolk Island and is a major tourist attraction.



Figure 3. Puppys Point picnic area is noted for its spectacular sunset views and seascapes

The Reserve contains a number of vegetation types including parklands, coastal cliff communities, and remnant coastal forest. The patches of remnant forest in the northern part of the Reserve have a diverse range of native plants, some of which are now rare. Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) and eucalypt plantations were established on much of the northern section of the Reserve.

The forest in Selwyn and Anson Bay Reserves, and surrounding private land, represents one of the best quality coastal forests remaining on the island.

2.1 Geology and Landform

During the past 3 million years, the ocean has carved precipitous cliffs into the basalt lava flows that were erupted during Norfolk's active volcanic period. The upper basalt lava flows have been weathered to a depth of 30–50m and deeply profiled ferrosols, or rich clay loams, cap the near-vertical cliffs. The seaward edge of this weathered material has eroded to a relatively uniform 45° slope.

Inland, most of the Reserve is a relatively flat plateau approximately 80m above sea level, rising in the Reserve's northern extremity to 95m above sea level. The northern part of the Reserve is dissected by two small intermittent creeks, Gum Creek and Selwyn Bridge Creek. Another intermittent creek runs along the southern boundary of the Reserve (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Selwyn Reserve Boundaries and main features.

The basalt lava flows underlying the Reserve have been deeply weathered to form highly porous and erodable ferrosols, or rich clay loams. Streams flowing to the bay have deeply incised the slopes in the Reserve; the western-most of these is the largest that flows into the bay. Its catchment is sufficiently large to support an almost permanent water flow in the lower reaches. This stream flows over a waterfall near the foot of the scarp, about 80m from the shore.

2.2 Flora

During the past 170+ years most of the original sub-tropical rainforest that covered the Reserve has been cleared. The southern half of the Reserve (including Puppies Point picnic area – Figure 3) is an open woodland/parkland of Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) and White Oak (*Lagunaria patersonia*) with Kikuyu (*Pennisetum clandestinum*) pasture grazed by cattle. Plantings including some threatened species have been undertaken around the upper part of the most southern gully.

The Reserve is characterised by Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) plantations, open grassy areas and three gullies, along with steep coastal slopes and cliffs. The northern and southern gullies contain stands of modified coastal rainforest with many native species. The central gully is mown and is weed covered. The forest contains species such as Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*), White Oak (*Lagunaria patersonia*), Beech (*Myrsine ralstoniae*), Ironwood (*Nestegis apetala*), Bloodwood (*Baloghia inophylla*), and less commonly Oleander (*Pittosporum bracteolatum*) and Sharkwood (*Dysoxylum bijugum*) (Mills 2017).

Common ferns are Prickly Shieldfern (*Arachniodes aristata*), Rough Maidenhair (*Adiantum hispidulum*) and Coastal Fern (*Asplenium difforme*) near the coast. On the coastal slope in the far north, the forest is dominated by Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) and White Oak (*Lagunaria patersonia*) with a distinctive understorey of Broad-leaved Meryta (*Meryta latifolia*), Coastal Coprosma (*Coprosma baueri*), Evergreen (*Alyxia gynopogon*) and the fern Coastal Fern (*Asplenium difforme*) (Mills 2017).

The near-shore coastal slope supports good quality grassland of Salt Couch *Sporobolus virginicus*, Mile-a-Minute (*Wollastonia uniflora*), Knobby Club-rush (*Fimbrinia nodosa*) and the vulnerable Yellow Daisy (*Senecio australis*) (Mills 2017).

Figure 5 shows some of the features of Selwyn Reserve, including vegetation types, current land use and potential areas for revegetation

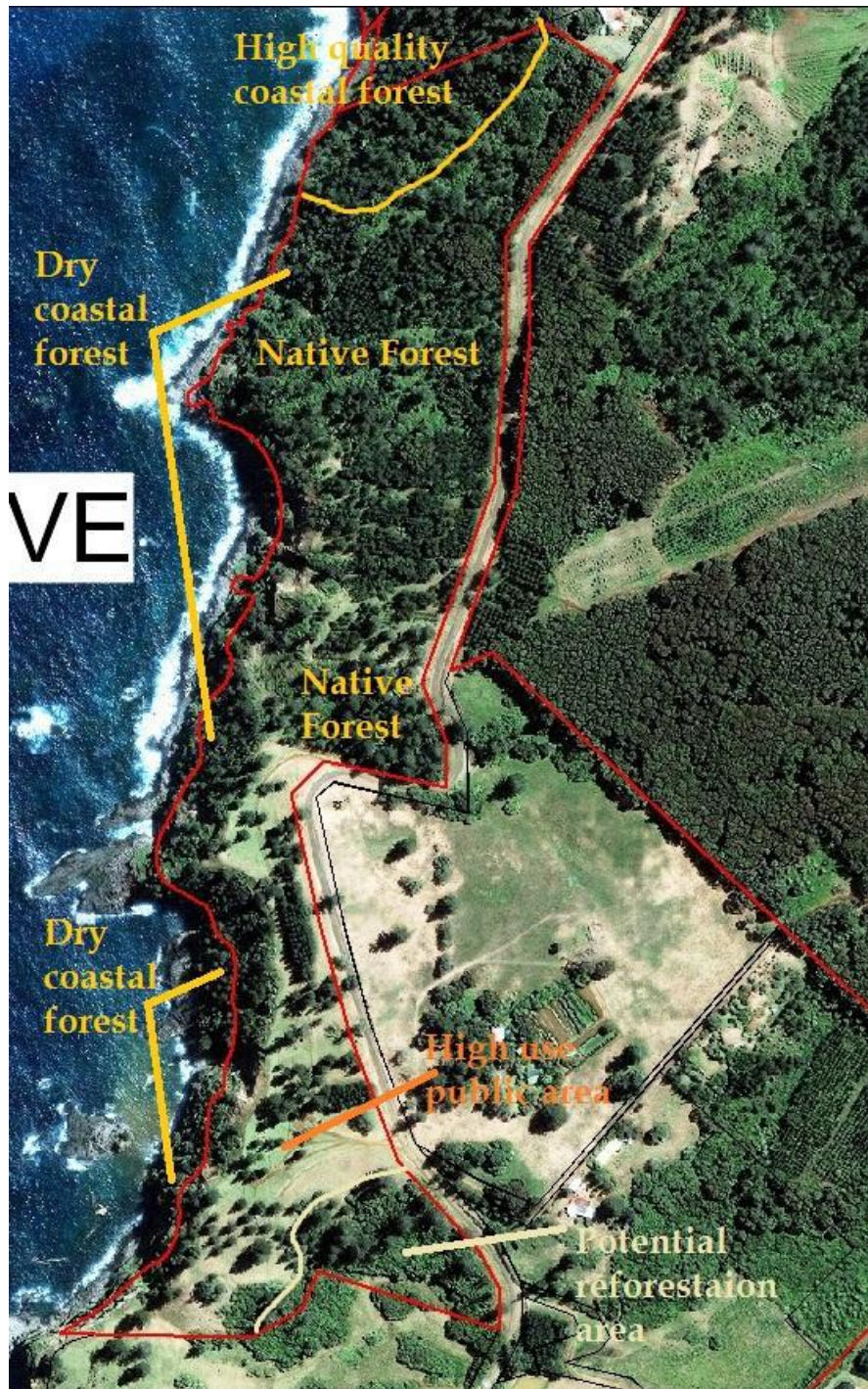


Figure 5. Selwyn Reserve vegetation types, current land use and potential areas for revegetation (Mills 2017).

Thickets of the three ubiquitous woody weeds are common throughout: Olive (*Olea europaea*), Holly (*Schinus terebinthifolius*) and Red Guava (*Psidium cattleianum*). One other species of concern is Thorny Poinciana (*Caesalpinia decapetala*) (Mills 2017).

2.2.1 Significant Plant Species

In his 2017 targeted search of Selwyn Reserve for threatened species, Mills recorded 11 threatened plant species, which are listed in Table 1. Notes on some of the threatened species appear below the table.

Norfolk Island Regional Council has a responsibility under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) to appropriately manage flora and fauna species listed under the EPBC Act within Norfolk Island Public Reserves and other areas of Council managed land.

Table 1. Threatened plant species recorded within Selwyn Reserve by Mills (2017) and their conservation status and abundance.

Name	Habit	Significant due to EPBC ² listing	Number of Plants (counted)
Beech (<i>Myrsine ralstoniae</i>)	Tree	Vulnerable	385 (including 4 planted)
Broad-leaved Meryta (<i>Meryta latifolia</i>)	Tree	Critically Endangered	~207 (including 7 planted)
Coastal Coprosma (<i>Coprosma baueri</i>)	Shrub	Endangered	31
King's Brakefern (<i>Pteris kingiana</i>)	Fern	Endangered	28
Oleander (<i>Pittosporum bracteolatum</i>)	Tree	Vulnerable	8 (planted and wild)
Popwood (<i>Myoporum obscurum</i>)	Tree	Critically Endangered	6
Sharkwood (<i>Dysoxylum bijugum</i>)	Tree	Vulnerable	4
Siah's Backbone (<i>Streblus pendulinus</i>)	Tree	Endangered	1
Soft Wood, Chaff-tree (<i>Achyranthes arborescens</i>)	Tree	Critically Endangered	1
Ti (<i>Cordyline obtecta</i>)	Tree	Vulnerable	32
Yellow daisy (<i>Senecio australis</i>)	Herb	Vulnerable	186

Senecio australis

A herb of coastal cliffs, this species is relatively common along the coast in the vicinity of the boundary between Selwyn Reserve and Anson Bay Reserve.

Coprosma baueri

This species occurs around the boundary of Selwyn and Anson Bay Reserves and is probably the largest population of this endangered shrub on Norfolk Island. The species is more common on Phillip Island.

Meryta latifolia

The large wild population of this small tree in the intact coastal forest around the boundary of the two reserves (Figure 6) is of the highest conservation importance.

² *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth)



Figure 6. The large wild population of *Meryta latifolia* in the intact coastal is of the highest conservation importance.

Pteris kingiana

This fern is quite common in both reserves, occurring in near coastal gullies and slopes as well as beside the track down to Anson Bay beach, where it grows on the road cuttings.

2.3 Fauna

During summer, breeding White Terns (*Gygis alba*) are the most visible fauna in Selwyn Reserve. The Wedge-tailed Shearwater (Ghostbird) (*Ardena pacifica*) nests in burrows along the cliff top, and Red-tailed Tropicbirds (*Phaethon rubricauda roseotincta*) nest on cliff ledges. On summer evenings rafts of Wedge-tailed Shearwaters can be observed offshore as the adults that have been feeding at sea during the day congregate on the water before flying to their burrows at dusk.

The Golden Whistler (Tamey) (*Pachycephala pectoralis xanthoprocta*) is common in the remnant forest and older plantation areas in the northern section of the Reserve, as is the Grey Fantail (*Rhipidura fuliginosa pelzelni*), Grey Warbler (Peurty) (*Gerygone igata*), Grey-breasted Silvereye (Grinnel) (*Zosterops lateralis*), and Pacific (Scarlet) Robin (*Petroica multicolor multicolor*).

Introduced European Blackbird (*Turdus merula*), European Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*), Feral Fowl (*Gallus gallus*), Crimson Rosella (*Platycercus elegans*) and Californian Quail (*Callipepla californica*) are also common.

It is likely that the Norfolk Island Green Parrot (*Cyanoramphus cookii*), Norfolk Island Morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae undulata*), and Long-billed White-eye (*Zosterops tenuirostris*) also occur in the remnant forest, although bird surveys have not been undertaken for some time and there are no recent records of these species occurring in the reserve.

2.4 Cultural Heritage

No evidence of early Polynesian use of the Reserve area has been found however, as with many other parts of the Island, it is likely that Polynesian people visited the area during the long period they

inhabited Norfolk Island. Archaeological excavations at Kingston have shown that Norfolk Island was occupied, perhaps continuously, by Polynesian people for about 500 years and possibly from as early as 1200AD.³

There appear not to have been any grants or leases of land in the Selwyn area during the First Colonial Settlement.⁴

The 1840 'Arrowsmith' map (Figure 7) prepared by Major George Barney⁵ shows a track to Anson's Bay in about the same position as the current road. All of the area between the cliff and the road, including the Reserve, is shown as uncleared forest. Three more gently sloping areas to the east of the road, separated by forested steeper gullies on the western slopes of Mt Pitt, had been cleared for grazing and agriculture.



Figure 7. 1840 Survey Plan of Norfolk Island: Marjoram Farm and Barney Duffy's Gully

The most northern farm, "Sheep Station", appears to have been on the lower slopes of Mt Pitt opposite the northernmost parts of the Reserve, in the vicinity of Bullocks Hut Road. "Marjoram Farm" covered all of the slopes adjacent to the eastern side of Anson Bay Road, from the vicinity of Gum Creek south to the Norfolk Island Reserves and Forestry Depot access road (Bishop Patterson Road), opposite the southern end of the Reserve.

By 1860, the whole of Norfolk Island had been divided into blocks of approximately 50 acres.⁶ Most of the area north of Selwyn Bridge Creek was within vacant Crown Portion 114, which ran northwards

³ Anderson, A., (undated), *Prehistoric Human Colonisation of Norfolk Island*. First Interim Report to Australian Heritage Commission. Unpublished report, Division of Archaeology and Natural History, Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University.

⁴ *Settlers Lots on Norfolk Island 1791-1804*.

⁵ *Plan of Norfolk Island Showing the General Nature of the Ground*. Often referred to as the "Arrowsmith" map, 1840. However John Arrowsmith was the lithographer who copied the map prepared or drawn by Major Barney, Royal Engineers Corp. The map accompanied a letter dated 20 February 1840 from Major Barney to the Colonial Secretary and was printed by James and Luke J. Hansard on an order of the House of Commons dated 15 June 1841.

⁶ *Norfolk Island Diagram of Allotments*. This map was surveyed and drawn by 2nd Corporal Thomas Kennedy, Royal Engineers. Sapper George Jamieson assisted with the survey. Lithographed and printed at the Topographical Department, War Office, 1860.

along both sides of Anson Bay Road from the northern boundary of the Melanesian Mission. That boundary was just to the north of Selwyn Bridge Creek and opposite the western end of an unnamed road⁷ that ran from there to the top of Mt Pitt. The area that later became the southern section of the Reserve was in Portion 139, which was part of the Melanesian Mission Station.⁸

On 24 March 1927,⁹ the northernmost part of Portion 114, on the western side of Anson Bay Road, was declared a Reserve for Public School purposes and a small wooden building was erected to house the Anson Bay Branch School (1928 – 43). Nothing of this building remains today. The 1934 map of Norfolk Island subdivisions shows Selwyn Reserve on that part of Portion 114 west of Anson Bay Road, between the school reserve and Portion 139.

In 1952, the northern part of the School Reserve was excised as Portion 114f and leased to Guildford Adams. The remainder of the School Reserve was included in Selwyn Reserve on 21 March 1953.¹⁰

During the 1930's Eddie Yeaman established and operated a sawmill downstream from Selwyn Creek Bridge.¹¹ The remains of the steam traction engine that powered the mill are the only physical reminders of that once important industry (Figure 8).



Figure 8. The remains of the steam traction engine that powered Eddie Yeaman's mill are the only physical reminders of that once important industry

Most of Selwyn Reserve was grazed by stock from the mid-1800's until 1976, when the northern section was completely fenced. Cattle still graze the southern section of the Reserve, including the Puppys Point picnic area.

⁷ Shown as "Mt Pitt Road" on the 1934 map of Norfolk Island subdivisions.

⁸ Freehold Grant dated 27 August 1867 to Rt. Rev. George Augustus, Bishop of New Zealand, Rev. John Coleridge Patteson, Missionary Bishop, Rev. Robert Henry Codrington and Rev. John Palmer, Missionary, for quit rent of one peppercorn on Trust: General Mission Trust Deed of the Melanesian Bishopric.

⁹ *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* No.30.

¹⁰ *Commonwealth Gazette* No.20. 1 April 1953.

¹¹ Mr Owen Evans OAM, 2001. Personal communication.

3 Management Issues

3.1 Geology and Landform

During the past 3 million years, the ocean has carved precipitous cliffs into the basalt lava flows that were erupted during Norfolk's active volcanic period. The upper basalt lava flows have been weathered to a depth of 30–50m and deeply profiled ferrosols, or rich clay loams, cap the near-vertical cliffs. The seaward edge of this weathered material has eroded to a relatively uniform 45° slope. Inland, most of the Reserve is a relatively flat plateau approximately 80m above sea level, rising in the northern extremity of the Reserve to 95m above sea level.

The northern part of the Reserve is dissected by two small intermittent creeks (Gum Creek and Selwyn Bridge Creek) and another intermittent creek runs along the southern boundary of the Reserve (refer to Figure 3, Page 8).

3.2 Weeds

The steep coastal cliff slopes on the east are heavily infested with woody weeds, primarily mature African Olive (*Olea europea* subsp. *cuspidata*) and within the otherwise generally weed-free forest there are small patches of African Olive (*Olea europea* subsp. *cuspidata*), Cherry Guava (Porpieh) (*Psidium cattleianum* var. *cattleianum*), Hawaiian Holly (*Schinus terebinthefolius*) and Lantana (*Lantana camara*). Wild Tobacco (*Solanum mauritianum*) and Morning Glory (*Ipomoea indica*) occur mainly on the edge of the forest remnants or where there has been canopy disturbance.

An impenetrable thicket of the vigorous introduced Mysore Thorn (locally "Horse Piss") (*Caesalpinia decapetala*) occurs in Gum Creek and near the northern Anson Bay Rd entrance.

A few dense patches of William Taylor (*Ageratina riparia*) occur in the more open, sunny areas, especially along the creek. Sunlit clearings also favour aggressive herbaceous weeds, such as Ink Weed (*Phytolacca octandra*), climbers, such as Morning Glory (*Ipomoea indica*), and grasses, especially Kikuyu (*Pennisetum clandestinum*) and buffalo grass (*Stenotaphrum secundatum*), where they suppress native species.

The Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) plantations are lightly weed infested.

3.3 Pest Animals

Both the Polynesian Rat (*Rattus exulans*) and the Black Rat (*Rattus rattus*) occur in the Reserve. Both species of rat feed on the seeds and fruits of a variety of native and introduced plants and prey on a variety of terrestrial fauna, including snails, land crabs, birds eggs and nestlings.

Eradication of the Black Rat from several New Zealand off-shore islands and other islands around the world, and the recovery of flora and fauna populations following these eradication programs, has demonstrated that this introduced species has a devastating effect on native flora and fauna. The Black Rat has had and is having a significant impact on Norfolk's biota, including the post-war extinction of bird species such as the Long-tailed Triller (Black and White Sparrow) (*Lalage leucopyga*) and Guava Bird (*Turdus poliocephalus poliocephalus*); serious decline in others such as the Pacific Robin (*Petroica multicolor multicolor*) and the White-breasted White-eye (*Zosterops albogularis*); and the extinction of both species of bat (Gould's Wattleed Bat (*Chalinolobus gouldii*) and the Norfolk Island Free-tail Bat (*Mormopterus [Tadarida] norfolkensis*)).

Feral domestic Cats (*Felis domesticus*) are established and breeding in the Reserve. Birds are particularly vulnerable to predation by cats, which can decimate nesting seabirds, with adult and young Ghostbirds (*Ardenna pacifica*), White Terns (*Gygis alba*) and White-capped (Black) Noddies (*Anous minutus*) found killed by cats common during the breeding season.

A voluntary public survey was undertaken on Norfolk Island in 2017 to determine which of the following three options members of the community supported with regard to cats on Norfolk Island: (1) Do nothing; (2) Ban cats from Norfolk Island; or (3) Allow continued cat ownership under controlled conditions. Of the 182 voluntary respondents, 69% supported continued ownership under controlled conditions. The vast majority of respondents also made written comments and one of the most common comments was that private people were actively trapping cats, and that feral cats were a big problem on Norfolk. This shows the high level of community support for feral cat control.

The Argentine Ant (*Linepithema humile*) is one of the world's worst invasive species, having spread from its native habitat in South America to establish populations on six continents and many oceanic islands. The Argentine Ant was first identified on Norfolk Island in 2005, and an eradication program commenced in 2008. This aggressive ant actively displaces other species of ants, and with its need for protein based food sources, it poses a threat to the majority of Norfolk Island's fauna. A large infestation of Argentine Ants occurs within the southern section of Selwyn Reserve in the Puppys Point area. The Norfolk Island Argentine Ant Eradication Program is currently underway, and this infestation will be baited to achieve eradication in the future in line with the CSIRO Norfolk Island Argentine Ant Eradication Strategy.

The Crimson Rosella (Red Parrot) (*Platycercus elegans*) is believed to have been introduced to Norfolk Island as a caged bird in the early 1800s. The Crimson Rosella is now widespread across the island, and competes with native species such as the Norfolk Island Green Parrot (*Cyanoramphus cookii*) and Norfolk Island Morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae undulata*) by aggressively taking over nest hollows in trees. Crimson Rosella's also take over Sacred Kingfisher (Nuffka) (*Todiramphus sanctus norfolkensis*) nests, excavating the narrow entrance to accommodate their larger size and rendering the site useless for the much smaller Kingfisher thereafter for nesting.

Feral chickens (*Gallus gallus*) occur within Selwyn Reserve and are having an impact on the environment by scratching and displacing native seedlings and dispersing noxious weed seeds. Feral chickens also feed upon invertebrates such as endemic land snails and dung beetles, which play a vital role in the Reserve. A feral chicken control program is underway in Norfolk Island Public Reserves and some feral chicken control does occur on private land.

3.4 Stock grazing

Cattle have been excluded from Selwyn Bridge Creek and the northern section of the Reserve for over 40 years. Cattle have grazed the creek gully on the southern boundary of the Reserve for many decades and no native understorey vegetation remains. In this area, a continuous canopy of mature Pines, Oaks, Ironwoods, and Tree Ferns interspersed with large African Olive (*Olea europea subsp. cuspidata*), Lantana (*Lantana camara*), and Hawaiian Holly (*Schinus terebinthifolius*), creates shady conditions preventing grass growth. As cattle eat all of the native tree seedlings and woody weed seeds have poor germination success in low light conditions, the ground under the tree canopy is bare and devoid of small trees and shrubs.

Grazing of common lands is a traditional use that some say adds to Norfolk Island's rural landscape and charm. Grazing maintains grassed areas, but also spreads woody weeds, especially Cherry Guava

(*Psidium cattleianum* var. *cattleianum*) and can result in denudation and erosion of hillsides and damage to creeks. Cattle grazing is not compatible with habitat development and rehabilitation, cliff stabilisation, or forestry plantations. Many people prefer picnic areas that are not grazed and soiled by cattle, and stock exclusion fencing could be considered for the Puppys Point picnic area in the future if funding allows.

In the late 2000's approval was given to cattle owners to erect a single wire electric fence along the cliff top between Puppys Point and Jacob's Rock to prevent stock from falling over the cliff.

3.5 Recreation

The southern section of the Reserve, with its open grassland and large scattered Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) and White Oak (*Lagunaria patersonia* subsp. *Patersonia*), is popular for picnicking and observing sunsets.

The Puppys Point picnic area provides spectacular views of Norfolk Island's west coast and is one of the best locations to watch the sunset. Puppys Point is favored by commercial tour operators who bring their own cooking facilities and seating and provide fish fries to visitors to the Island while they watch the sunset. Many visitors to the Island, local families, and groups, also picnic or barbecue in the Reserve.

Puppys Point and Jacobs Rock are popular rock fishing localities accessed by cables, ropes and in some locations ladders down the cliff. Access to cliffs in this fashion is a cultural activity and is highly valued by local residents, although it can be hazardous. Private persons placed the cable (and any other aids) for descending and ascending the cliff. These climbing aids are not maintained or monitored by Norfolk Island Regional Council, and visitors to Selwyn Reserve use these climbing aids at their own risk.

The northern section of the Reserve contains high quality coastal forest and is suitable for bushwalking and bird watching. Norfolk Island Mountain Biking Group developed a track for mountain bike events and regular training in the northern section of the Reserve in 2011, although the track is no longer used for this purpose.

3.6 Access and facilities

Vehicle access tracks and parking areas in the southern section of the Reserve are unsealed and in dry weather dust from the track can be annoying to picnickers. In wet weather dirt tracks can become muddy and slippery, which results in the formation of numerous tracks around boggy areas. Vehicle traffic close to trees damage roots and increases the likelihood of root rot infestation.

The vehicle track was re-formed and surfaced with hardfill in late 2010/2011 and two rows of Norfolk Island Pines were removed from the small plantation near the Jacob's Rock picnic area to enable the track to be re-aligned. This increased the distance between the track and the cliff, and increased the area available for cliff top picnicking.

Timber vehicle guidance barriers were erected in the past to keep vehicles away from the cliffs, providing a grassy vehicle-free strip along the cliff top and protecting trees and grass at barbecue areas. These timber barriers have not been maintained and now require replacement for safety reasons.

Some warning signs have been placed at intervals along the vehicle barriers and reflectors ensure that the barriers can be seen from vehicles at night. Vehicle parking and maneuvering areas in the busiest parts of the Reserve have been defined with timber barriers and surfaced with hardfill.

There are two barbecues in the southern section of the Reserve: one near the sunset viewing area near Puppys Point (Figure 9) and the other further north, near Jacob's Rock. Both barbecues have been well used, are in disrepair and should be replaced with gas barbecues and appropriate barbecue shelters. If funding allows another identical barbecue and barbecue shelter should be considered for another appropriate location close the central section of the Puppys Point picnic area.

A public toilet is located at the southern end of the Reserve (Figure 10). The Toilet is not suitable for people with a disability and should be replaced with a toilet (or toilets) that are designed for wheelchair access if funding allows.

Increasing use of the Puppys Point picnic area places considerable strain on the facilities within the Reserve, and this is likely to result in demands to provide additional facilities and improve existing facilities, which may include more picnic tables, defined car parking areas and sealed tracks.



Figure 9. The Public Toilet at Puppys Point requires replacement



Figure 10. Both Barbeques have been well used and are in disrepair

For safety reasons, consideration has been given to the erection of a low single rail barrier 2-3 metres back from the cliff top along the south-western boundary of the Reserve to improve safety for visitors to the Reserve. The barrier would be an effective barrier along the cliff top and would prevent cattle from grazing the upper cliff slopes, which would enable Flax (*Phormium tenax*) and Moo-oo (*Cyperus lucidus*) to be established on the cliff slope, and increase habitat for nesting Wedge-tailed Shearwater (Ghostbird) (*Ardenna pacifica*). The erection of the cliff top safety barrier should be carried out as the highest priority if funding allows.

There is no public vehicle access into the northern section of the Reserve, nor are there any public picnic or barbecue facilities. The old mountain biking track may be suitable as a walking track, but would require appropriate signage if this is to occur.

3.7 Breeding seabird Habitat

Wedge-tailed Shearwater (Ghostbird) (*Ardenna pacifica*) burrows along the cliff top in the southern section of the Reserve are subject to disturbance by cattle and visitors. However, grazing by cattle prevents burrows being overgrown by kikuyu, which chokes burrows and entangles birds, and may need to be controlled by other means and replaced by Flax (*Phormium tenax*) if grazing is excluded along the cliff top.

3.8 Cultural Heritage

Although the steam engine used to power the Yeaman's saw mill 80 – 90 years ago (Figure 8) has deteriorated to the extent that conservation is not practical, some interpretive signage near the steam engine should be considered.

4 Management Strategy

Management Vision: To conserve and enhance the scenic quality and biodiversity of Selwyn Reserve for the enjoyment of current and future generations of Norfolk Islanders and visitors, and to ensure the ongoing protection and survival of its flora and fauna.

4.1 Ecological Restoration

Strategic Objective: To protect and improve the condition of the remaining native vegetation communities within Selwyn Reserve and to support the recovery of threatened flora and fauna species within the Reserve.

The northern section of the Reserve contains remnant forest along the creeks and has been fenced to exclude stock. Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) plantations have been established on about 0.5ha of this section of the Reserve. These plantations and remnant forest areas will become increasingly diverse as birds disperse seeds of native species. Woody weed control will be undertaken while native forest cover is still establishing.

The area over-lapping the northern end of Selwyn Reserve, the southern end of Anson Bay Reserve and the intervening private land is the best preserved coastal forest on the island. This area deserves the highest protection for its botanical values, including the presence of eight listed threatened plant species. Weed control will be undertaken in this area as the highest priority.

The most northern and most southern valleys in Selwyn Reserve, which are currently fenced to exclude cattle, contain diverse native forest. Weed control will be undertaken in these areas to increase the density and diversity of native species.

The remnant native vegetation along the lower part of Gum Creek in Selwyn Reserve is separated from important native vegetation remnants in the Forestry Zone of the National Park by 250m of gum forest and introduced woody weeds in the Reserve and Forestry Zone. A report on remnant native vegetation within the Forestry Zone of the Norfolk Island National Park recommended that a corridor of native habitat be established in the Forestry Zone of the National Park to link native vegetation on the western slopes of Mt Pitt with the coastal native vegetation remnant along Gum Creek in Selwyn Reserve. Norfolk Island Regional Council will work with Parks Australia to plan and implement the establishment of this habitat corridor.

The remnant native vegetation along the creek on the southern boundary of the Reserve close to the Puppys Point picnic area is not fenced and thus has little understorey, limited regeneration, and low species diversity. Large African Olive (*Olea europea* subsp. *cuspidata*) and other woody weeds are well established on the slope adjacent to the creek. This area will be fenced and rehabilitated to create a significant and diverse native forest that would be easily accessible to the public. This will require hand clearing of woody weeds, especially in rocky areas and close to native trees. In rocky areas, basal bark spraying will be used, followed by planting of native species.

The infestations of Mysore Thorn (“Horse Piss”) in the northern section of the Reserve threaten to smother native forest and will be removed. Patches of this thorny weed are impenetrable, and will require clearing with machinery and then poisoning of regenerating shoots.

The remnant forest near the southern boundary of the Reserve is infested with woody weeds with much of the canopy dominated by large African Olive (*Olea europea* subsp. *cuspidata*), Hawaiian Holly

(*Schinus terebinthefolius*), Cherry Guava (*Psidium cattleianum* var. *cattleianum*) and Lantana (*Lantana camara*). These infestations will be removed and replaced with native species, including threatened species such as Broad-leaved Meryta (*Meryta latifolia*) and Coastal Coprosma (*Coprosma baueri*) where appropriate.

A combination of weed control and natural regeneration will be used to rehabilitate the areas of remnant forest in the creeks in the northern section of the Reserve and plant diversity will be increased by planting some rarer species, such as Broad-leaved Meryta (*Meryta latifolia*) and Coastal Coprosma (*Coprosma baueri*) where appropriate.

Isolated blocks of remnant native forest and plantations will be linked by removing woody weeds and planting with native species.

The effect of the current single wire electric fence between Puppys Point and Jacob's Rock on the vegetation and Wedge-tailed Shearwater (Ghostbird) (*Ardenna pacifica*) burrows along the cliff top will be evaluated and a single rail pedestrian safety barrier will be installed if funding allows. Permanent fencing will allow Flax (*Phormium tenax*) and Moo-oo (*Cyperus lucidus*) fields to be established, which would provide natural nesting habitat for Wedge-tailed Shearwater (Ghostbird) (*Ardenna pacifica*).

There are a number of species of flora and fauna in the Reserve which are vulnerable or endangered. These species will be protected and their habitat will be enhanced by establishing and maintaining native forest, managing weeds and vertebrate pests and replanting threatened plant species in appropriate areas.

The provision of nest boxes for Norfolk Island Morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae undulata*) will be investigated as the highest priority within Selwyn Reserve.

It is likely that the Norfolk Island Green Parrot (*Cyanoramphus cookii*) frequents the northern section of Selwyn Reserve. The remnant forest adjacent to the Puppys Point picnic area will provide suitable habitat for Green Parrots when sufficient native trees such as Bloodwood and Ironwood mature. The provision of semi-natural Green Parrot nest hollows in the northern section of the Reserve will be considered. This work should be coordinated with the current Parks Australia Green Parrot project and an appropriate monitoring and pest animal control program should be developed as part of the program.

Comprehensive bird surveys have not been undertaken in Selwyn Reserve for some time. Bird surveys should be completed within all Norfolk Island Reserves as a high priority.

4.1.1 Management Actions: Ecological Restoration

- (a) Undertake woody weed control within the northern section of the Reserve that contains some of the best preserved coastal forest on the island and the 0.5 hectare Norfolk Island Pine Plantation (High Priority).
- (b) Undertake weed control in the most northern and most southern valleys of Selwyn Reserve (High Priority).
- (c) Work with Parks Australia to plan and implement the creation of a habitat corridor in the Forestry Zone of the National Park to link native vegetation on the western slopes of Mt Pitt with the coastal native vegetation remnant along Gum Creek in Selwyn Reserve (High Priority).
- (d) Fence and rehabilitate the remnant native vegetation along the creek on the southern boundary of the Reserve close to the Puppys Point picnic area (High Priority).

- (e) Remove infestations of Mysore Thorn (“Horse Piss”) (*Caesalpinia decapetala*) in the northern section of the Reserve (High Priority).
- (f) Remove woody weeds in the remnant forest near the southern boundary of the Reserve and replace with native species, including threatened species such as Broad-leaved Meryta (*Meryta latifolia*) and Coastal Coprosma (*Coprosma baueri*) where appropriate (High Priority).
- (g) Rehabilitate the areas of remnant forest in the creeks in the northern section of the Reserve and increase plant diversity by planting threatened species, such as Broad-leaved Meryta (*Meryta latifolia*) and Coastal Coprosma (*Coprosma baueri*) where appropriate (High Priority).
- (h) Link isolated blocks of remnant native forest and plantations by removing woody weeds and planting with native species (High Priority).
- (i) If funding allows, erect a single rail pedestrian safety barrier 2-3 metres back from the cliff face to replace the current electric fence along the cliff between Puppys Point and Jacob’s Rock, which will allow Flax (*Phormium tenax*) and Moo-oo (*Cyperus lucidus*) fields to be established and improve habitat for the Wedge-tailed Shearwater (Ghostbird) (*Ardenna pacifica*) (High Priority).
- (j) Protect habitat for threatened flora and fauna species by establishing and maintaining native forest, managing weeds and vertebrate pests and replanting threatened plant species in appropriate areas (High Priority).
- (k) Investigate the provision of nest boxes for the Norfolk Island Morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae undulata*) and the Norfolk Island Green Parrot (*Cyanoramphus cookii*) and establish and monitor nest boxes in partnership with Parks Australia if this is determined to be beneficial to the ongoing protection and survival of these species (High Priority).
- (l) Undertake bird surveys within all Norfolk Island Reserves (High Priority).

4.2 Pest Animal Management

Strategic Objective: To reduce the negative impacts of pest animals on flora and fauna species and other Reserve values.

The Argentine Ant Eradication Program is targeting Argentine Ant infestations across Norfolk Island according to the Argentine Ant Eradication Strategy, and Selwyn Reserve (including the Western Cliffs) will be treated along with Headstone Reserve as part of this Strategy.

An ongoing rat-baiting program will be implemented within the Reserve to protect vulnerable flora and fauna species.

Live trapping will be used to control cats in the Reserve when required, particularly during bird breeding seasons.

A feral chicken control program will be implemented within Norfolk Island Public Reserves to reduce the feral chicken population and protect native plants and invertebrates such as endemic land snails and dung beetles.

A Crimson Rosella (Red Parrot) (*Platycercus elegans*) control program will be developed and implemented throughout Norfolk Island Public Reserves to reduce the population of this pest species and improve the breeding success of native bird species.

Coordinated pest animal control programs across public and private land are the most effective way of reducing pest animal populations. Options for external funding for coordinated pest animal control programs will be explored, programs will be developed and applications for funding will be prepared and submitted.

Other pest animal control programs will be developed and implemented as required.

4.2.1 Management Actions: Pest Animal Management

- (a) Undertake Argentine Ant eradication within the Reserve in line with the Argentine Ant Eradication Program and according to the Norfolk Island Argentine Ant Eradication Strategy (High Priority).
- (b) Inspect, clean and if necessary treat all plant and equipment used in the Reserve appropriately prior to leaving the Reserve to ensure it is free of Argentine ants, or any soil or vegetative material that might harbour Argentine ants (High Priority).
- (c) Inspect and spray any timber or other organic material with pesticide prior to its removal from the Reserve (High Priority).
- (d) Establish an ongoing coordinated Rat control program across Norfolk Island Public Reserves with a target of reducing rat numbers in areas with vulnerable flora and fauna, and reducing predation pressure on birds (High Priority).
- (e) Carry out targeted Cat trapping and humane euthanasia, with a focus on reducing Cat numbers prior to and during the seabird breeding season (High priority).
- (f) Carry out feral chicken control within Norfolk Island Public Reserves and encourage neighboring landholders to control feral chickens on their properties (High Priority).
- (g) Develop a Crimson Rosella (Red Parrot) (*Platyercus elegans*) control program and implement throughout Norfolk Island Public Reserves (High Priority).
- (h) Explore options for external funding for coordinated pest animal control programs on public and private land (High Priority).
- (i) Develop and implement other pest animal control programs as required (High Priority).

4.3 Stock Management

Strategic Objective: To manage stock so that grazing is sustainable in Selwyn Reserve and to ensure the ongoing protection of native flora and fauna habitat.

The remnant native vegetation along the creek on the southern boundary of the Reserve close to the Puppys Point picnic area will be fenced to allow the establishment of more native species, promote natural regeneration and increase native species diversity.

A more permanent fence/pedestrian safety barrier will be installed along the cliff top between Puppys Point and Jacob's Rock. More permanent fencing will allow Flax (*Phormium tenax*) and Moo-oo (*Cyperus lucidus*) fields to be established. The current alignment of the electric fencing will be modified to allow a 2-3 metre wide area for revegetation along the cliff face.

Fencing protecting the most northern and most southern valleys in Selwyn Reserve will be maintained to exclude cattle, as these areas contain diverse native forest.

The cattle exclusion fencing in other areas of the Reserve will be maintained so the current grazing regime can be maintained.

4.3.1 Management Actions: Stock Management

- (a) Install fencing to protect and enhance the remnant native vegetation along the creek on the southern boundary of the Reserve close to the Puppys Point picnic area (High Priority).
- (b) If funding allows, erect a single rail pedestrian safety barrier 2-3 metres back from the cliff face to replace the current electric fence along the cliff between Puppys Point and Jacob's Rock, which will

allow Flax (*Phormium tenax*) and Moo-oo (*Cyperus lucidus*) fields to be established and improve safety for Reserve visitors (High Priority).

- (c) Consider the modification of the current alignment of the cliff top fencing to allow a wider area for revegetation along the cliff face, taking into account the need for sufficient funding to control weeds and maintain the extra area created as part of this action (Medium Priority).
- (d) Maintain the current fencing protecting the most northern and most southern valleys in Selwyn Reserve to exclude cattle (High Priority).
- (e) Maintain the current fencing in other areas of the Reserve so the current grazing regime can be maintained (High Priority).

4.4 Recreation Management

Strategic Objective: To facilitate sustainable recreation in Selwyn Reserve while ensuring the ongoing protection of the natural values of the Reserve.

The southern section of the Reserve is popular for picnicking and observing sunsets and this area will be managed and maintained for this purpose.

Current visitor use at Puppys Point appears to be sustainable and commercial tour operators that have permits will continue to operate according to the conditions on their permit.

Access to cliffs within the Reserve is a cultural activity and is highly valued by local residents. The climbing aids on the cliffs are not and will not be maintained or monitored by Norfolk Island Regional Council, and people who use these climbing aids will do so at their own risk.

The northern section of the Reserve contains high quality coastal forest and is suitable for bushwalking and bird watching. Consideration will be given to the development of the old mountain bike track as a walking track.

Safety is an issue in the Reserve, and the installation of safety barriers along the cliff line with a 2-3 metre setback should be undertaken as the highest priority if funding allows.

4.4.1 Management Actions: Recreation Management

- (a) Manage and maintain the southern section of the Reserve to ensure it continues to be used for picnicking and observing sunsets (High Priority).
- (b) Continue to permit commercial tour operators to provide fish fry's and sunset viewing at Puppys Point, providing tour operators operate according to the conditions on their permit (High Priority).
- (c) Do not maintain or monitor the climbing aids on the cliffs, and provide signage to ensure people who use these climbing aids are aware that they are doing so at their own risk (High Priority).
- (d) Consider the development of the old mountain bike track as a walking track (Medium Priority).
- (e) Erect a low single rail permanent post and rail fence 2-3 metres back from the cliff face to replace the current electric fence along the cliff between Puppys Point and Jacob's Rock, which would allow Flax (*Phormium tenax*) and Moo-oo (*Cyperus lucidus*) fields to be established and improve safety for Reserve visitors and protect sea bird breeding habitat (High Priority).
- (f) Remove unsafe trees within the Puppys Point Picnic area and replace with suitable native species to provide future shade for reserve visitors (High Priority).

4.5 Access and facilities

Strategic Objective: To meet the requirements for access and facilities in Selwyn Reserve without compromising the natural values of the Reserve.

The sealing of access tracks and parking areas will be considered if funding allows. If this is not possible, the access tracks and parking areas will be regularly graded and maintained to ensure they are safe and do not become boggy or dry.

Damage to tree roots by vehicles will be monitored, and the improvement or realignment of current access tracks will be considered if damage to tree roots is occurring and this is having an impact on the health of trees within the Reserve.

Timber vehicle guidance barriers that have been erected to keep vehicles away from the cliffs will be maintained with regular painting, and signage warning Reserve visitors about the dangers of walking too close to the cliff top will be erected in appropriate locations.

Timber barriers in vehicle parking areas will be replaced if funding allows, and will be maintained as part of a maintenance schedule for reserve facilities.

The two barbeques within the Reserve are in disrepair and should be replaced by up to 3 gas barbeques as soon as possible, as the picnic area within this Reserve is regularly used by tourists and residents.

The existing public toilet will be replaced if funding allows to take into account appropriate wheel chair friendly/disabled access standards.

Increasing use of the Puppys Point picnic area may place considerable strain on the facilities within the Reserve, and could result in demands to provide additional facilities and improve existing facilities, including more defined car parks, sealed tracks, barbeques, picnic tables, bench seats and bins. Visitor use will be monitored by the Conservator of Public Reserves to ensure current facilities are adequate for the level of use, and funding will be sourced to increase or improve visitor use facilities within the reserve if there is a need.

4.5.1 Management Actions: Access and Facilities

- (a) Consider sealing the access tracks and parking areas if funding allows (Medium Priority).
- (b) Regularly grade and maintain the access tracks and parking areas to ensure they are safe and do not become boggy or dry (High Priority).
- (c) Monitor damage to tree roots by vehicles and consider improving or realigning current access tracks if damage to tree roots is occurring and this is having an impact on the health of trees within the Reserve (High Priority).
- (d) Replace the timber vehicle guidance barriers if funding allows and ensure these are maintained (High Priority).
- (e) Erect signage warning Reserve visitors about the dangers of walking too close to the cliff top in appropriate locations (High Priority).
- (f) Replace the current wood-fired barbeques within the picnic area/s with 2-3 gas barbeques and appropriate barbeque shelters, and ensure that these are well maintained (High Priority).
- (g) If funding allows, replace the existing public toilets taking into account disabled and wheel chair access (High Priority).
- (h) Monitor visitor use to ensure current facilities are adequate for the level of use, and source funding to increase or improve visitor facilities if required (High Priority).

- (i) Replace existing picnic tables and add more picnic tables to high visitor use areas if there is a need and if funding allows (High Priority).

4.6 Cultural Heritage Management

Strategic Objective: To maintain the scenic quality and character of the Reserve and to protect important cultural heritage values.

Although the steam engine used to power the Yeaman's saw mill 80 – 90 years ago has deteriorated to the extent that conservation is not practical, some interpretive signage near the steam engine will be considered if funding allows.

Maintaining and enhancing coastal views is an important component in planting designs and vegetation management, and will be considered when planning revegetation and site rehabilitation.

4.6.1 Management Actions: Cultural Heritage Management

- (a) Consider some interpretive signage near the steam engine if funding allows (High Priority).
- (b) Maintain and enhance coastal views when planning revegetation and site rehabilitation (High Priority).

4.7 Planning for Efficient Reserve Management

Strategic Objective: To deliver the best possible outcomes by efficiently allocating management resources across the Norfolk Island Public Reserves

The Norfolk Island Public Reserves network currently consists of 12 reserves¹², each of which has a Plan of Management. Within each plan there are a many actions, and Council needs a method to determine which actions are funded first. These management actions have been prioritised as high, medium or low (or ongoing), which will help in determining which actions to fund first. However, there are many reserves and Council must determine which actions from which reserves are to be funded in each successive annual budget. To do this, the high, medium and low priority actions for one reserve need to then be compared against the high, medium and low value actions for all other reserves.

To enable management actions to be compared against one another across the entire reserve network, the reserves themselves need to be prioritised. All of the reserves are intrinsically valuable, for many different reasons including conservation, recreation and heritage values. Spatial prioritisation of land for conservation and land management is a well-established science that allows land managers to direct funding to where it is most needed (Moilanen *et. al.* 2009). It is recognised that this is a complex process, and one which is generally performed by computer modelling software. Therefore, a full prioritisation project is recommended. In the interim, a draft prioritisation of the reserves has been prepared during the management planning process, and is presented in Appendix 2.

It is recommended that all actions from all management plans be pooled, and sorted into high, medium, low or ongoing status. This list of actions then needs to be further filtered using the priority assigned to each reserve. High priority actions in high priority reserves would generally be considered for funding before low priority actions in lower priority reserves. The highest priority actions would then be considered for funding in the annual Council operational plan. Obviously, this is only a starting point as Council's annual budget will need to consider a broad range of other factors and other projects competing for funding.

¹² Potentially subject to change, as per Appendix 3

4.7.1 Management Actions: Planning for Efficient Reserve Management

- (a) Determine the priority of each reserve in the Public Reserves network for budget and resource allocation purposes. Amongst other things, this prioritisation should consider the objects of the *Public Reserves Act 1997 (NI)*, the zoning and gazetted purpose of the reserve and on ground observations. Priorities will change over time, so this is a dynamic process. In the interim, draft priorities have been assigned to each reserve in Appendix 2 of this Plan of Management (High priority).
- (b) Combine the management action priority (e.g. high, medium or low) with the reserve priority to determine which actions across the entire reserve network are funded in each successive Council annual Operational Plan (High priority).
- (c) Track the progress of each of the actions in the annual Operational Plan as a measure of the success of the Plan of Management (Medium priority).

SUMMARY TABLE OF MANAGEMENT ACTIONS FOR SELWYN RESERVE 2019 - 2029

Management Vision: To conserve and enhance the scenic quality and biodiversity of Selwyn Reserve for the enjoyment of current and future generations of Norfolk Islanders and visitors, and to ensure the ongoing protection and survival of its flora and fauna.

Theme	Strategic Objectives	Actions (How will we get there?)	Priority
4.1 Ecological Restoration	To conserve and enhance the scenic quality and biodiversity of Selwyn Reserve for the enjoyment of current and future generations of Norfolk Islanders and visitors, and to ensure the ongoing protection and survival of its flora and fauna.	4.1.1 (a) Undertake woody weed control within the northern section of the Reserve that contains some of the best preserved coastal forest on the island and the 0.5 hectare Norfolk Island Pine Plantation	High
		4.1.1 (b) Undertake weed control in the most northern and most southern valleys of Selwyn Reserve	High
		4.1.1 (c) Work with Parks Australia to plan and implement the creation of a habitat corridor in the Forestry Zone of the National Park to link native vegetation on the western slopes of Mt Pitt with the coastal native vegetation remnant along Gum Creek in Selwyn Reserve	High
		4.1.1 (d) Fence and rehabilitate the remnant native vegetation along the creek on the southern boundary of the Reserve close to the Puppys Point picnic area	High
		4.1.1 (e) Remove infestations of Mysore Thorn ("Horse Piss") (<i>Caesalpinia decapetala</i>) in the northern section of the Reserve	High
		4.1.1 (f) Remove woody weeds in the remnant forest near the southern boundary of the Reserve and replace with native species, including threatened species such as Broad-leaved Meryta (<i>Meryta latifolia</i>) and Coastal Coprosma (<i>Coprosma baueri</i>) where appropriate	High
		4.1.1 (g) Rehabilitate the areas of remnant forest in the creeks in the northern section of the Reserve and increase plant diversity by planting threatened species, such as Broad-leaved Meryta (<i>Meryta latifolia</i>) and Coastal Coprosma (<i>Coprosma baueri</i>) where appropriate	High
		4.1.1 (h) Link isolated blocks of remnant native forest and plantations by removing woody weeds and planting with native species	High

Theme	Strategic Objectives	Actions (How will we get there?)	Priority
		4.1.1 (i) If funding allows, erect a single rail pedestrian safety barrier 2-3 metres back from the cliff face to replace the current electric fence along the cliff between Puppys Point and Jacob's Rock, which will allow Flax (<i>Phormium tenax</i>) and Moo-oo (<i>Cyperus lucidus</i>) fields to be established and improve habitat for the Wedge-tailed Shearwater (Ghostbird) (<i>Ardenna pacifica</i>)	High
		4.1.1 (j) Protect habitat for threatened flora and fauna species by establishing and maintaining native forest, managing weeds and vertebrate pests and replanting threatened plant species in appropriate areas	High
		4.1.1 (k) Investigate the provision of nest boxes for the Norfolk Island Morepork (<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae undulata</i>) and the Norfolk Island Green Parrot (<i>Cyanoramphus cookii</i>) and establish and monitor nest boxes in partnership with Parks Australia if this is determined to be beneficial to the ongoing protection and survival of these species	High
		4.1.1 (l) Undertake bird surveys within all Norfolk Island Reserves	High
4.2 Pest Animal Management	To reduce the negative impacts of pest animals on flora and fauna species within the Reserve.	4.2.1 (a) Undertake Argentine Ant eradication within the Reserve in line with the Argentine Ant Eradication Program and according to the Norfolk Island Argentine Ant Eradication Strategy	High
		4.2.1 (b) Inspect, clean and if necessary treat all plant and equipment used in the Reserve appropriately prior to leaving the Reserve to ensure it is free of Argentine ants, or any soil or vegetative material that might harbour Argentine ants	High
		4.2.1 (c) Inspect and spray any timber or other organic material with pesticide prior to its removal from the Reserve	High
		4.2.1 (d) Establish an ongoing coordinated Rat control program across Norfolk Island Public Reserves with a target of reducing rat numbers in areas with vulnerable flora and fauna and reducing predation pressure on birds	High
		4.2.1 (e) Carry out targeted Cat trapping and humane euthanasia, with a focus on reducing Cat numbers prior to and during the seabird breeding season	High
		4.2.1 (f) Carry out feral chicken control within Norfolk Island Public Reserves and encourage neighboring landholders to control feral chickens on their properties	High
		4.2.1 (g) Develop a Crimson Rosella (Red Parrot) (<i>Platycercus elegans</i>) control program and implement throughout Norfolk Island Public Reserves	High
		4.2.1 (h) Explore options for external funding for coordinated pest animal control programs	High

Theme	Strategic Objectives	Actions (How will we get there?)	Priority
		4.2.1 (i) Develop and implement other pest animal control programs as required	High
4.3 Stock Management	To manage stock so that grazing is sustainable in Selwyn Reserve and to ensure the ongoing protection of native flora and fauna habitat.	4.3.1 (a) Install fencing to protect and enhance the remnant native vegetation along the creek on the southern boundary of the Reserve close to the Puppys Point picnic area	High
		4.3.1 (b) If funding allows, erect a single rail pedestrian safety barrier 2-3 metres back from the cliff face to replace the current electric fence along the cliff between Puppys Point and Jacob's Rock, which will allow Flax (<i>Phormium tenax</i>) and Moo-oo (<i>Cyperus lucidus</i>) fields to be established and improve safety for Reserve visitors	High
		4.3.1 (c) Consider the modification of the current alignment of the cliff top fencing to allow a wider area for revegetation along the cliff face, taking into account the need for sufficient funding to control weeds and maintain the extra area created as part of this action.	Medium
		4.3.1 (d) Maintain the current fencing protecting the most northern and most southern valleys in Selwyn Reserve to exclude cattle	High
		4.3.1 (e) Maintain the current fencing in other areas of the Reserve so the current grazing regime can be maintained	High
4.4 Recreation Management	To facilitate sustainable recreation in Selwyn Reserve while ensuring the ongoing protection of the natural values of the Reserve.	4.4.1 (a) Manage and maintain the southern section of the Reserve to ensure it continues to be used for picnicking and observing sunsets	High
		4.4.1 (b) Continue to permit commercial tour operators to provide fish fry's and sunset viewing at Puppys Point, providing tour operators operate according to the conditions on their permit	High
		4.4.1 (c) Do not maintain or monitor the climbing aids on the cliffs, and provide signage to ensure people who use these climbing aids do so at their own risk	High
		4.4.1 (d) Consider the development of the old mountain bike track as a walking track	Medium
		4.4.1 (e) Erect a low single rail permanent post and rail fence 2-3 metres back from the cliff face to replace the current electric fence along the cliff between Puppys Point and Jacob's Rock, which would allow Flax (<i>Phormium tenax</i>) and Moo-oo (<i>Cyperus lucidus</i>) fields to be established and improve safety for Reserve visitors and protect sea bird breeding habitat	High
		4.4.1 (f) Remove unsafe trees within the Puppys Point Picnic area and replace with suitable native species to provide future shade for reserve visitors	High
4.5 Access and facilities	To meet the requirements for access and facilities in	4.5.1 (a) Consider sealing the access tracks and parking areas if funding allows	Medium
		4.5.1 (b) Regularly grade and maintain the access tracks and parking areas to ensure they are safe and do not become boggy or dry	High

Theme	Strategic Objectives	Actions (How will we get there?)	Priority
	Selwyn Reserve without compromising the natural values of the Reserve.	4.5.1 (c) Monitor damage to tree roots by vehicles and consider improving or realigning current access tracks if damage to tree roots is occurring and this is having an impact on the health of trees within the Reserve	High
		4.5.1 (d) Replace the timber vehicle guidance barriers if funding allows and ensure these are maintained	High
		4.5.1 (e) Erect signage warning Reserve visitors about the dangers of walking to close to the cliff top in appropriate locations	High
		4.5.1 (f) Replace the current wood-fired barbeques within the picnic area/s with 2-3 gas barbeques and appropriate barbeque shelters, and ensure that these are well maintained	High
		4.5.1 (g) If funding allows, replace the existing public toilets taking into account disabled and wheel chair access	High
		4.5.1 (h) Monitor visitor use to ensure current facilities are adequate for the level of use, and source funding to increase or improve visitor use facilities if need be	High
		4.5.1 (i) Replace exiting picnic tables and add more picnic tables to high visitor use areas if funding allows	High
4.6 Cultural Heritage Management	To maintain the scenic quality and character of the Reserve and to protect important cultural heritage values.	4.6.1 (a) Consider some interpretive signage near the steam engine if funding allows	High
		4.6.1 (b) Maintain and enhance coastal views when planning revegetation and site rehabilitation	High
4.7 Planning for Efficient Reserve Management	To deliver the best possible outcomes by efficiently allocating management resources across the Norfolk Island Public Reserves	4.7.1 (a) Determine the priority of each reserve in the Public Reserves network for budget and resource allocation purposes. Amongst other things, this prioritisation should consider the objects of the Public Reserves Act 1997 (NI), the zoning and gazetted purpose of the reserve and on ground observations. Priorities will change over time, so this is a dynamic process. In the interim, draft priorities have been assigned to each reserve in Appendix 2 of this Plan of Management	High
		4.7.1 (b) Combine the management action priority (e.g. high, medium or low) with the reserve priority to determine which actions across the entire reserve network are funded in each successive Council annual Operational Plan	High
		4.7.1 (c) Track the progress of each of the actions in the annual Operational Plan as a measure of the success of the Plan of Management	Medium

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Appendix 1: Controlled Activities

Some activities are only permitted in the public reserves by obtaining a permit as per Part V of the *Public Reserves Act 1997*. These activities are known as controlled activities, and the permit must be either:

- specified by a plan of management; or
- by notice published in the Gazette by the Conservator of Public Reserves; or
- by a permit granted to an individual by the Conservator of Public Reserves.

Should a proposed activity be inconsistent with a plan of management, a permit is required. All activities undertaken in a reserve must be consistent with the objects of the *Public Reserves Act 1997*, regardless of whether a permit is required or not. The objects of the *Public Reserves Act 1997* are 'to protect and conserve public reserves so as to –

- (a) promote the conservation of the natural environment and landscape beauty of Norfolk Island;
- (b) promote the conservation of the heritage of Norfolk Island; and
- (c) preserve the way of life and the quality of life of the people of Norfolk Island'

Table 2. Controlled Activities in Norfolk Island Public Reserves

The table below outlines controlled activities in all public reserves on Norfolk Island, outlining what activities do not require formal approval, and providing guidance where a permit is required. Should activities inconsistent with those outlined in Table 2 be undertaken in Selwyn Reserve, (i) they must be consistent with the objects of the *Public Reserves Act 1997*; and (ii) they must be undertaken as per the conditions of a permit from the Conservator of Public Reserves.

Activity Type	Details of Controlled Activity and Permit Requirements for ALL Public reserves
1. Hazardous Activities	<p>No person shall undertake any activity within a Reserve that may reasonably be expected to expose them or any other person to injury or death. Any other activity that may reasonably be expected to pose some hazard or nuisance to any person or to nuisance to the Reserve or adjoining land or sea may not be undertaken in a Reserve without a permit.</p> <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may only grant such a permit if he or she is satisfied that reasonable measures can and will be taken by the person proposing the activity to ensure that the hazard or nuisance is minimised and likely to be reduced to an acceptable level.</p>
2. Firearms, other Weapons, Traps and Snares	<p>No member of the public shall possess, carry or use within a Reserve any form of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • firearm, hunting bow, spear, slingshot, or any other weapon; • any type of trap, net, or snare, other than would reasonably be used and is intended to be used in rock fishing without a permit. <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may only grant such a permit if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve to do so.</p>

Activity Type	Details of Controlled Activity and Permit Requirements for ALL Public reserves
3. Explosive Devices	<p>No person shall possess, carry or use within a Reserve any form of explosive device, including pyrotechnic devices such as fireworks of any kind, without a permit.</p> <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may only grant such a permit if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve to do so. A permit can only be granted if the proposed activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is an integral and important part of a community celebration that has been agreed by the Norfolk Island Regional Council; • is to be conducted by a properly licensed person; and • meets the safety standards for that activity that would have to be met in an Australian State or Territory. <p>Any person proposing to possess, carry or use any explosive device within a Reserve when applying for a permit shall provide the Conservator of Public Reserves with written details and plans of the proposed activity, proof of licenses, a copy of appropriate standards and any other relevant technical details. A permit to conduct these activities shall not be granted unless the applicant holds a valid public risk liability insurance policy for at least \$20 million and meets the requirements in relation to certificates of currency and indemnity forms set out in this table at 20. Commercial Activities.</p>
4. Artefacts	<p>A person shall not interfere with any artefact in a Reserve without a permit. An 'artefact' is any man-made object, thing or item and includes but is not restricted to any object, thing or item that in some way has been protected or that may be capable of being protected under any other legislation. 'Artefact' includes any man-made object, thing or item that can reasonably be construed to be or to have been the property of a person or persons unknown.</p> <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may only grant such a permit if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve to do so.</p>
5. Metal Detecting	<p>No person shall use a metal detecting device in any public Reserve without a permit.</p> <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may only grant such a permit if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve to do so.</p>
6. Native and Other Animals	<p>No member of the public shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have in their possession, interfere with, damage, injure or destroy an animal whether alive or dead in a Reserve; • feed any animal in a Reserve; or • take an animal into, leave an animal in or knowingly permit an animal to enter a Reserve without a permit. <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may only grant such a permit if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve to do so, or essential to the interpretive and education aims of the plan of management.</p>
7. Protection of Individuals of All Species	<p>No member of the public shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take an individual of any species in a Reserve; or • remove an individual of any species from a Reserve

Activity Type	Details of Controlled Activity and Permit Requirements for ALL Public reserves
	<p>without a permit.</p> <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may only grant such a permit if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve to do so, or essential to the interpretive and education aims of the plan of management.</p> <p>Despite anything in this paragraph, plants or parts of plants may be picked or removed in accordance with Sections 10 (Exotic Fruit), 11 (Traditional Craft Materials), 12 (Pine Seed Collection), and 13 (Firewood) of this table.</p>
8. Dogs	<p>Except as otherwise provided here, or provided in the <i>Dogs Registration Act 1936</i> and the <i>Dogs Registration Regulations 1994</i>, a person shall not take a dog into a Reserve unless that dog is under the effective control of and is in the company of that person.</p> <p>A dog must be kept on a leash <u>at all times</u> within Hundred Acres, Bumbora and Point Ross Reserves, and within other areas of Reserves that are not grazed by cattle to avoid death or injury to seabirds and other birds.</p> <p>A dog that is accompanied by and is under the effective control of a person is permitted in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • those areas in public Reserves to which cattle normally have access for grazing; • all of Point Hunter, Kingston Common and Kingston Recreation Reserves except for those parts of those Reserves between the seaward side of Bay Street and high water mark and between the seaward side of the road around Emily Bay and high water mark; and • those parts of Government House Domain Reserve generally to the south of the wall on the south and south east of Government House grounds and driveway to which the public normally have access; <p>A person shall not permit any dog over which they could reasonably be expected to exercise control to go onto a tee, green or bunker that is part of Government House Domain Reserve or Point Hunter Reserve that is maintained and used by the Norfolk Island Golf Club as part of the golf course.</p> <p>A person shall not permit any dog over which they could reasonably be expected to exercise control to enter the graveyard in Cemetery Reserve.</p> <p>A person shall not permit any dog over which they could reasonably be expected to exercise control to interfere with any native animal or the habitat of any native animal.</p> <p>A person who could reasonably be expected to be responsible for exercising control over a dog in a Reserve must carry means for removing and disposing of dog faeces. If a dog over which a person could reasonably be expected to exercise control defecates in a Reserve that person must remove the faeces from the Reserve. A person shall not feed a dog in a Reserve.</p>
9. Plants	<p>No member of the public shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have in their possession, interfere with, damage, injure or destroy any plant whether alive or dead in a Reserve; or

Activity Type	Details of Controlled Activity and Permit Requirements for ALL Public reserves
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> take a plant into or leave a plant in a Reserve without a permit. <p>Despite anything in this paragraph, plants or parts of plants may be picked or removed in accordance with Sections 10 (Exotic Fruit), 11 (Traditional Craft Materials), 12 (Pine Seed Collection), and 13 (Firewood) of this table.</p>
10. Exotic Fruit	Hand picking of fruits from exotic plants, such as peach, guava and lemon, for personal consumption is permitted in all public Reserves.
11. Traditional Craft Materials	Picking and removing by hand of foliage of <i>Typha orientalis</i> (Flags, Drain Flax, Bulrush) within Headstone Reserve, Kingston Recreation Reserve, Kingston Common Reserve and Bumbora Reserve for making traditional handicrafts is permitted. Picking and removing by hand of foliage of <i>Cyperus lucidus</i> (Moo-oo) and <i>Phormium tenax</i> (Flax) within all public Reserves for making traditional handicrafts is permitted. 'Traditional handicrafts' does not include items made for sale. Persons must ensure that they do not cause damage to any other plants when picking and removing the foliage of <i>Typha orientalis</i> (Flags, Drain Flax, Bulrush), <i>Cyperus lucidus</i> (Moo-oo) and <i>Phormium tenax</i> (Flax).
12. Pine Seed Collection	<p>Pine seed collection is not permitted in the Reserves without a permit</p> <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may grant a permit for the collection of pine seed or cones from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> unfenced areas in public Reserves to which cattle normally have access; and picnic areas in public Reserves; <p>only if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of a public Reserve to do so.</p>
13. Firewood Collection	<p>Firewood collection is not permitted in the Reserves without a permit.</p> <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may permit the collection of firewood only if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of a public Reserve to do so.</p>
14. Monuments and Memorials	<p>A person shall not erect or place a monument, memorial or commemorative marker of any kind in a public Reserve without approval from the Conservator of Public Reserves.</p> <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may grant approval for a person to erect or place a monument, memorial or commemorative marker only if the proposed monument, memorial or commemorative marker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is of a style and structure appropriate to the local setting in the Reserve; is a reminder of a person who, or a group or organisation which, made a major contribution to conserving the area or its biodiversity; reflects cultural associations with the area by individuals or groups; and marks a significant event in the history of the Reserve. <p>A proposal to erect or place a monument, memorial or commemorative marker in memory of a deceased person may only be approved if the deceased had a strong, long-standing involvement with conserving the area or its biodiversity. In considering a proposal to erect or place a monument, memorial or commemorative marker, the Conservator of Public Reserves shall also have regard to:</p>

Activity Type	Details of Controlled Activity and Permit Requirements for ALL Public reserves
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • potential impacts on the amenity of the Reserve including but not limited to visual obtrusiveness taking into account materials, size, design and content; and • satisfactory maintenance arrangements or commitments, including costs, by the proponent. <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may only grant such a permit if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve to do so.</p>
15. Research	<p>A person shall not undertake any research for an archaeological, scientific or any other purpose or take, measure or in any other way mark or tag any samples of air, water, soil, rock or take, measure or in any other way mark or tag any biological item, organism or material within a Reserve without a permit.</p> <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may only grant such a permit if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve to do so, or essential to the interpretive and education aims of the plan of management. Unless a formal agreement has been reached that ensures that the Norfolk Island community will share appropriately in any profits or other benefits from the proposed access to biological resources, permits granted for scientific research purposes will not convey to the permit holder or any other person, institution or corporation any rights whatsoever to any benefits that may flow from intellectual property obtained by the permit holder as a result of the permit holder's activities. In such cases, every permit granted for scientific research purposes shall include the following condition: <i>This permit is issued for scientific research and educational purposes only and does not convey to the permit holder or any other person, institution or corporation any rights whatsoever to any benefits that may flow from intellectual property obtained by the permit holder as a result of the permit holder's activities pursuant to this permit, such intellectual property and benefits remaining vested in the Norfolk Island Regional Council and or the Commonwealth of Australia as the case may be.</i></p>
16. Horse-riding	<p>Horses may be ridden without a permit in those areas in public Reserves to which cattle normally have access for grazing.</p> <p>A permit may be granted for occasional horse riding within other Reserves if the Conservator of Public Reserves is satisfied that such activity will not adversely affect the amenity of the Reserve for other users and will not damage the natural and cultural features of the Reserve.</p>
17. Motor Vehicles	<p>A person shall not use or leave a motor vehicle in a Reserve except in or on an area approved for the purpose. Motorised wheelchairs or mobility aids may be used to convey disabled persons in public Reserves. Motor vehicles required for emergency services response purposes, or for conservation and management will be permitted in a Reserve. Conservator of Public Reserves must be informed by the responding emergency service coordinator as soon as practicable of any entry of an emergency service response vehicle to a Reserve.</p> <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may permit commercial plant and equipment in the Reserve only if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve.</p>
18. Lighting Fires	<p>As per the <i>Public Reserves Act 1997</i>, a person shall not light, use or maintain a fire in a Reserve except in –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a fireplace approved for the purpose; or (b) a portable barbeque, or portable stove in which heat is provided by the burning of liquefied petroleum gas

Activity Type	Details of Controlled Activity and Permit Requirements for ALL Public reserves
	<p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may approve the lighting of a fire or fires in a Reserve if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve to do so.</p>
<p>19. Non-commercial Sporting and Other Community Events</p>	<p>Unless otherwise specifically approved in a plan of management, non-commercial sporting and other community events shall not occur in a Reserve without a permit.</p> <p>A permit shall not be granted for any non-commercial sporting or other community events unless the Conservator of Public Reserves is satisfied that such event will not adversely affect the amenity of the Reserve for other users and will not damage the Reserve.</p>
<p>20. Commercial Activities</p>	<p>As per the <i>Public Reserves Act 1997</i>, a person shall not undertake a commercial activity in a Reserve except in accordance with an approval for the activity. A permit to conduct a commercial activity in a Reserve shall not be granted unless the applicant provides a certificate of currency showing that he or she holds a valid public risk liability insurance policy for at least \$20 million. The certificate shall have endorsed upon it the Norfolk Island Regional Council's interest in granting the permit and shall specifically refer to the activities intended to be conducted pursuant to the permit. It will be presumed that in issuing the certificate of currency the insurer has been advised of the activities to be conducted and that those activities are not the subject of any exclusion under the policy held. The permit to conduct these activities will cease to be valid immediately if the permit holder's public risk liability insurance lapses for any reason during the period for which the permit has been issued or if a certificate of currency appears to be defective in any manner.</p> <p>A permit shall not be granted for any commercial activity unless the Conservator of Public Reserves is satisfied that such activity will not adversely affect the amenity of the Reserve for other users and will not damage the Reserve. Filming and photography of any kind other than for private purposes and the use of any part of a public Reserve for promotions of any kind are considered to be commercial activities. Wedding ceremonies are detailed in part 21 of this table. A permit shall not be granted for commercial activities, other than bus tours, off-road vehicle tours, walking tours, horse rides or picnics in a Reserve unless the Conservator of Public Reserves is satisfied that such activities are in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve, or are essential to the interpretive and education aims outlined in a plan of management. Commercial tour operators shall in all cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide sufficient cooking equipment, tables and seating to cater for all of the persons on their tour; and • remove all rubbish and other wastes, including used cooking oil, generated by their activities.
<p>21. Weddings</p>	<p>Weddings are not permitted in Cemetery Reserve, Government House Domain Reserve and War Memorial Reserve without a permit.</p> <p>A wedding ceremony may be conducted, including by a wedding celebrant in the course of a business, trade, profession or calling, without a permit in a public Reserve other than Cemetery Reserve, Government House Domain Reserve and War Memorial Reserve, provided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • confetti or rice is not thrown; • hire equipment of any description is not used; • wedding parties use their own catering supplies: no commercial catering;

Activity Type	Details of Controlled Activity and Permit Requirements for ALL Public reserves
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • catering supplies are limited finger food and to non-alcoholic drinks; • no gazebos, marquees or other structures are erected; • there are no 'lanterns' and/or candles (or similar paraphernalia) with naked flames and no lighting of fires outside of a designated fireplace, or during a fire danger period declared under s21 of the Fire Control Act 2000; • no balloons or other non-biodegradable materials or paraphernalia are released into or left in the environment; • generators, electrical lighting and public broadcast equipment is not used; • the site and any facilities used are left clean and rubbish is removed prior to leaving the site; • the event does not conflict with the use or enjoyment of the Reserve by others; and • if the ceremony is conducted by a wedding celebrant in the course of a business, trade, profession or calling, that celebrant holds a valid public risk liability insurance policy in accordance with section 20 of this table
22. Camping	<p>As per the <i>Public Reserves Act 1997</i>, a person shall not camp overnight in a Reserve except in an area approved for the purpose. Camping will not be permitted in any Reserve except Government House Domain Reserve other than on or in the immediate vicinity of the Polynesian settlement site and Point Hunter Reserve in the pines between Emily Bay and the golf course.</p> <p>Camping shall be permitted in Government House Domain Reserve and Point Hunter Reserve at times between 1 December and 1 March as specified in the Gazette. Camping in Government House Domain Reserve and Point Hunter Reserve at other times may be permitted only if the Conservator of Public Reserves is satisfied that it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve, or essential to the interpretive and education aims of the plan of management to do so.</p>
23. Structures	<p>A person shall not erect, place or leave a structure in a Reserve except in accordance with an approval.</p> <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may only grant such a permit if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve to do so.</p>
24. Chemicals	<p>No chemical pesticide, herbicide or toxic or noxious substance shall be used, left or deposited in a Reserve without a permit from the Conservator of Public Reserves.</p> <p>The Conservator of Public Reserves may only grant such a permit if it is in the interests of the conservation and management of the Reserve to do so.</p>
25. Quarrying and Mining	<p>Quarrying and or mining in any form, other than for sand, shall not be permitted in any Reserve.</p> <p>Sand mining in Cemetery Reserve will be permitted by the Conservator of Public Reserves provided the sand is for an essential building or construction purpose, specifically;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plastering; • block and brick laying; • installation of water storage tanks; and

Activity Type	Details of Controlled Activity and Permit Requirements for ALL Public reserves
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tiling for bathrooms, toilets and kitchens; <p>Each removal of sand must be from within an area specified by the Conservator of Public Reserves, and in accordance with any conditions that the Conservator of Public Reserves may set from time to time; and an appropriate fee must be paid.</p> <p>In granting each permit for the removal of sand, the Conservator of Public Reserves shall have regard to archaeological advice, the advice of the KAVHA Site Manager, the KAVHA Conservation Plan of management and, in the case of requests for significant amounts of sand, any recommendation of the Norfolk Island Regional Council. A permit for the removal of sand for other than an essential building or construction purpose shall only be granted if it is in the overriding public interest to do so. Sand may not be removed elsewhere from within Cemetery Reserve or from within any other public Reserve.</p>
26. Spoil Stockpiles	<p>The dumping and or stockpiling of soil, spoil or fill shall not be permitted in a Reserve unless that stockpile is in accordance with a plan of management, or in the opinion of the Conservator of Public Reserves, is essential to undertaking or completing works in a public Reserve to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure public safety; and or • conserve the environment.

Definitions for Controlled Activities

‘Animal’ means:

- (a) any invertebrate or vertebrate individual, organism or biological specimen alive or dead that is not a member of the plant kingdom or fungi kingdom, other than a domestic female bovine of the genus *Bos* to which a pasturage right¹³ applies or its dependent calf up to 6 months old; or a registered¹⁴ domestic dog of the genus *Canis*; or
- (b) any part of such an individual, organism or biological specimen; or
- (c) embryos, eggs or any other part of the reproductive cycle of such an individual, organism or biological specimen.

‘Commercial activity’ has the same meaning as ‘commercial activity’ in section 46 of the Public Reserves Act 1997, which states:

‘commercial activity’ means –

- (a) supplying, or offering to supply, goods or services; or*
- (b) producing goods;*

in the course of a business, trade, profession or calling.

‘Interfere’ has the same meaning as ‘interfere’ in section 42 of the *Public Reserves Act 1997*, which states ‘interfere’ includes remove, move, damage, deface, obscure and tamper.

¹³ In accordance with the *Pasturage and Enclosure Act 1949*.

¹⁴ In accordance with the *Dogs Registration Act 1936*.

'Nuisance' includes noise, or environmental harm to the Reserve or potentially to adjoining land or sea.

'Plant' means a member of a 'species' as defined here of the plant kingdom or the fungi kingdom.

'Species' means a group of biological entities that:

- (a) interbreed to produce fertile offspring; or
- (b) possess common characteristics derived from a common gene pool; and includes:
- (c) a sub-species.

'Take' means take, catch, capture or keep and includes, in relation to a live individual of any species, kill or injure (whether or not for the purpose of taking)

Permit Application and Standard Indemnity

A person seeking to undertake a controlled activity in a public reserve is required to use the permit application forms available from the Norfolk Island Regional Council. In signing the application form, the applicant is undertaking to indemnify the Commonwealth and the Norfolk Island Regional Council in the terms of the indemnity on the form. Every permit granted for a controlled activity shall include the following condition:

'The permit holder, in accordance with the indemnity provided on the application for the permit, fully and irrevocably indemnifies and saves harmless the Conservator of Public Reserves, all rangers, the Norfolk Island Regional Council together with all employees servants and agents thereof, the Administrator of Norfolk Island, the Crown and the Commonwealth of Australia jointly and severally from any and all liability and claims whatsoever arising in any way out of or in connection with or as a result of any activities carried out or conducted or proposed to be carried out or conducted under the permit or the involvement of any person firm or corporation in any way in regard to any activity carried out or to be carried out under the permit;

and the footnote:

The Norfolk Island Regional Council expressly denies any liability for any injury occurring to any person who may conduct any activity pursuant to this permit.'

The holder of a permit who has contravened a condition to which that permit is subject but who seeks to renew that permit or have a new permit granted will be required by the Conservator of Public Reserves to show cause why such permit should be renewed or granted.

In so showing cause, the permit holder will have to:

- provide evidence that fully explains the circumstances surrounding the contravention of the permit condition; and
- demonstrate the measures that the permit holder will take to ensure that the conditions to which a future permit would be subject will be complied with.

The Conservator of Public Reserves may, by notice in the Gazette, revoke or amend in any manner the approval or other regulation of any activity approved or otherwise controlled in a Plan of Management.

Appendix 2: Preliminary Reserve Prioritisation for Resource Allocation

Table 3 presents the draft prioritisation of the reserves. In prioritising the reserves against one another, the draft prioritisation considered the criteria in Table 3. Note that this is a preliminary prioritisation only one of the high priority management actions from this plan is to formally prioritise the reserves using solid scientific methodology.

Table 3. Criteria for determining the priority of reserves for budget allocation

Criteria	Notes on Assessing the Reserves using Criteria
The objects of the <i>Public Reserves Act 1997 (NI)</i>	The objects of the Public Reserves Act 1997 (NI) are 'to protect and conserve public reserves so as to- a. promote the conservation of the natural environment and landscape beauty of Norfolk Island; b. promote the conservation of the heritage of Norfolk Island; and c. preserve the way of life and the quality of life of the people of Norfolk Island.' The reserves have been compared against the objects of the Act. Those reserves with greater environmental or heritage values have been assigned a higher priority than those with lower values.
On ground observations and survey results	Field values may include the presence of threatened species, amount of remnant vegetation cover, level of weed invasion, habitat for native fauna, presence of pest animals, etc. The reserve may also have heritage values such as evidence of Polynesian use, Pitcairn heritage use or European convict heritage.
Land zoning and overlay maps applicable under the NI Plan 2002; Reserve purpose when originally gazetted	Is the land in the open space, conservation or another zone? The more protected the land zoning, the higher the conservation potential of the land. Consideration should also be given to the Norfolk Island Strategic Plan Map (e.g. is the land in the High Rural/Conservation Value area?) and the Norfolk Island Heritage Overlay Map. The purpose of the reserve when it was first gazetted is also important. For example, was the reserve gazette for the conservation of flora and fauna, forestry, watering stock, common, or some other purpose?
Land use in adjoining allotments	Does the land adjoin areas with high conservation values, such as the National Park, or is it surrounded by small, heavily modified allotments? This will increase or reduce the conservation value of the land respectively.

Table 4. Draft prioritisation of Norfolk Island Public Reserves for allocation of management resources

Reserve Name	Priority (1 =Low to 10 = High priority)
Selwyn Reserve	9
Hundred Acres Reserve	9
Bumbora Reserve	8
Nepean Island Reserve	8
Two Chimneys Reserve	7.5
Anson Bay Reserve	6
Ball Bay Reserve	6
Cascade Reserve	5
Headstone Reserve	5
Point Ross Reserve	4
Middleridge Reserve	3
Stock Reserve	1

Appendix 3: Transitional Reserve Management Arrangements Following Changes to the *Norfolk Island Act 1979* in 2016

The first plans of management were prepared for most of the Reserves in 2003. At this time there were 18 reserves managed by the former Administration of Norfolk Island. Each reserve had a plan of management including the 6 reserves located in KAVHA (i.e. Cemetery Reserve, Government House Domain Reserve, Kingston Common Reserve, Kingston Recreation Reserve, Point Hunter Reserve and War Memorial Reserve). There was also a separate overarching KAVHA Conservation Plan of management, which took precedence over the Public Reserves Plan of managements in the case of any inconsistencies.

Between 1978 and 2016, Norfolk Island had a form of internal self-government under the *Norfolk Island Act 1979 (Cth)*. The Norfolk Island Legislative Assembly was responsible for governing the island and managing the reserves. In 2015 – 2016 however, changes were made under the Act to remove internal self-government and it was determined that many services would be delivered by a newly elected Regional Council, including management of the Public Reserves. There were also changes to the ownership of a number of the public reserves as shown in Table 5.

Table 5. Changes to ownership and management of Norfolk Island Public Reserves

1. Reserves transferred from the Commonwealth to the Norfolk Island Regional Council ¹⁵	2. Interests yet to be transferred from the Commonwealth of Australia to the Norfolk Island Regional Council	3. Interests to be retained by the Commonwealth of Australia ¹⁶
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anson Bay Reserve • Ball Bay Reserve • Bumbora Reserve • The portion of Cascade Reserve previously known as the Quarantine Reserve • Headstone Reserve • Hundred Acres Reserve • Middleridge Reserve • Point Ross Reserve • Stock Reserve • Two Chimneys Reserve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nepean Island • Selwyn Reserve • The remainder of Cascade Reserve not previously known as the Quarantine Reserve (includes Philipsburg Cemetery) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All KAVHA reserves including: Cemetery Reserve • Government House Domain Reserve • Kingston Common Reserve • Kingston Recreation Reserve • Point Hunter Reserve • War Memorial Reserve

During 2017-2018, updated Public Reserve Plans of Management were prepared for the 10 reserves in Column 1 (includes part of Cascade Reserve) plus the reserves in Column 2 (includes the remainder of Cascade Reserve). The KAVHA reserves in Column 3 will be managed under a new arrangement with the KAVHA Heritage Plan of management 2016 still guiding the overall heritage management of the area. Instead of having individual public reserve plans of management for the KAVHA reserves, it is anticipated that a Memorandum of understanding or similar will be used to specify the management of the significant natural values of the reserves. Day to day operational work including mowing, issuing of camping permits and dog restriction enforcement will also need to be captured in this arrangement, as it is assumed that such works will be the responsibility of Council.

¹⁵ As per the *Norfolk Island Land Transfer Ordinance 2016 (Cth)*

¹⁶ As per advice from the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development, 2016