



# Little Lagoon Master Plan Report

Shire of Shark Bay

**ecoscape**



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# INTRODUCTION

## BACKGROUND

The Shire of Shark Bay engaged Ecoscape to undertake a master planning process for the Little Lagoon recreation area vested in the Shire, with a focus on the channel day-use area. The master planning project was originally commissioned in 2010 by the Department of Environment and Conservation but only the proposed shelters around the eastern side of Little Lagoon progressed to construction stage due to funding constraints. Ecoscape's role was to review and update the plan to reflect current expectations and site conditions.

The Little Lagoon Master Plan Report was accepted by the Shire on 29 August 2018.

## COMMUNITY SURVEY

Prior to engaging Ecoscape, the Shire of Shark Bay conducted a survey to determine the community's opinion on proposed 4WD track closures at Little Lagoon Creek. The survey received 87 responses, with 65.5% of respondents indicating that they would prefer no track closures. Amongst the responses received were 17 comments, most of which suggested the closure of unnecessary tracks with varying amounts of remaining access. The Council's Little Lagoon survey agenda item is included in **Appendix Four**.

The Shire therefore finds itself in a position where it must balance community desires with its responsibility to manage the natural environment.

## STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

As part of the master planning process, Ecoscape liaised with Shire of Shark Bay staff members, Shark Bay councillors and members of the Friends of Shark Bay. The representatives of these groups are listed below.

### Shire of Shark Bay Officers

- Paul Anderson (Chief Executive Officer)
- Brian Galvin (Works Manager)

### Shire of Shark Bay Council

- Cr Cheryl Cowell (Denham Ward)
- Cr Kevin Laundry (Denham)
- Cr Laurence (Ben) Bellottie (Denham Ward)
- Cr (Ms) Jamie Burton (Denham Ward)
- Cr Keith Capewell (Denham Ward)
- Cr Ed Fenny (Useless Loop / Pastoral Ward)
- Cr Greg Ridgley (Useless Loop / Pastoral Ward)

### Friends of Shark Bay

- Leon Deschamps
- Karen Gidley

Ecoscape thanks these groups for their valuable input into the master planning process.

## STUDY AREA

Little Lagoon is located approximately 2.5km north of the Denham townsite.

The study area of the Little Lagoon Master Plan focused on the channel day-use area, extending south to the access road to the Nicholas Bank lookout, east of Stella Rowley Road. Refer **Figure 1**.



**Figure 1: Study Area**

# SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATIONS

## Summary

The Little Lagoon Master Plan preserves and enhances what is valued about the current area, rationalising access to create a safer and sustainable environment that can be valued by all users.

The preparation of the Master Plan is required to ensure that development at Little Lagoon proceeds in a manner that is beneficial to the area's natural and social environment. The channel day-use area provides opportunities for both conservation through the protection of remnant native flora, and recreation through enhancement of existing facilities, into a resource of regional importance.

A copy of the Little Lagoon Master Plan is included in **Appendix One** and a detailed explanation of the elements included in the plan are provided in **Section 2** Master Plan.

## Recommendations

A total of 26 recommendations were made throughout the report, which are listed in Table 1 below.

**Table 1: Summary of recommendations for Little Lagoon study area**

No.	Recommendation
<b>Vegetation</b>	
1	Rehabilitate tracks nominated to be closed and disturbed areas using local provenance species.
2	Install temporary fencing and signage to alert visitors to rehabilitation works.
<b>Access</b>	
3	Align pedestrian tracks away from vehicles, utilising old vehicle tracks where appropriate.
4	Bollard meeting points between pedestrian and vehicle tracks to prevent unauthorised vehicle access.
5	Formalise connection with Denham townsite trail.
6	Close and rehabilitate eastern half of main car park.
7	Close and rehabilitate all vehicle tracks east of the main car park, up to the beach at Little Lagoon.
8	Realign western vehicle track away from creek edge.
9	Provide additional parking and pull-off areas at high-traffic points.
10	Limit access to beach and spit.
11	Provide formalised parking and turnaround at western end of track.
12	Install bollards at nominal 1.5m intervals across north and south entries to the north-south track, including lockable removable bollards.

<b>Recreation</b>	
13	Establish identified water entry points.
14	Formalise existing lookout on Stella Rowley Drive.
15	Create new lookout, track and signage near existing vehicle turnaround area.
16	Provide a platform area adjacent to the mangrove water entry point.
<b>Signage</b>	
17	Develop interpretive signage related to site's natural and cultural heritage.
18	Install signage of a consistent construction and aesthetic.
19	Replace existing faded/damaged interpretive signage.
20	Provide signage advising the reasons for track closures, the benefits of the changes, and how visitors can access the restricted areas.
21	Provide signage in areas where certain activities are permitted and shared by different user groups.
22	Damaged and irrelevant signage to be removed and replaced where appropriate.
23	Provide directional signage at key access nodes where trails meet.
24	Develop markers to plot out pedestrian routes and link trail networks.
<b>Barriers</b>	
25	Progressively remove existing fencing and bollards, except recycled plastic bollards.
26	Install durable recycled plastic bollards where vehicle access management is required.

# 1 SITE APPRECIATION

Ecoscape undertook an on-site assessment of the existing biophysical and cultural conditions, assisted by Shire officers. This analysis gave Ecoscape a greater understanding of the site and provided a basis for the improvements suggested through the Master Plan.

The following areas were investigated as part of the analysis stage.

## CONTEXT

### Zoning & Responsibility

The Little Lagoon study area is zoned as Parks & Recreation under the Shire of Shark Bay Local Planning Scheme No. 3 (2008)<sup>i</sup>. The site falls within the Shire of Shark Bay boundaries and is managed by the Shire.

### Built Form

The Little Lagoon study area is isolated from the Denham townsite by retained natural vegetation areas. It is accessible by vehicle via Stella Rowley Drive.

The only structure located within the study area is a timber shelter and lookout platform located on the southern bank of Little Lagoon Creek, accessible by 4WD track. The facility includes an access ramp, interpretive signage and picnic seating. Refer **Figure 2**.



**Figure 2: Timber lookout shelter**

## VEGETATION

Vegetation on Peron Peninsula is mainly from the Eremaean botanical province. This province is dominated by desert-adapted species such as Acacia, samphire and spinifex. The dunal areas within the study boundary are populated by Limestone Wattle (*Acacia sclerosperma*), Horse Mulga (*Acacia ramulosa*), Kurara (*Acacia tetragonophylla*) and Umbrella Bush (*Acacia ligulata*).<sup>ii</sup>

The creek edge is characterised by mangroves, which are significant as the southern-most substantial areas of mangrove in Western Australia.<sup>iii</sup> These mangroves are composed of a single species, White Mangrove (*Avicennia marina*).

The western edge of the study area is characterised by flats of Samphire (*Tecticornia and Salicornia spp.*) and Beach Spinifex (*Spinifex longifolius*).

## ACCESS

Ecoscape undertook a comprehensive assessment of the vehicular and pedestrian patterns within and surrounding the Little Lagoon area, assisted by the local knowledge of Shire staff members. This analysis identified key opportunities for rationalising access for all users, thereby preserving the aspects of the site valued by the community.

### Vehicular Access

The main vehicle entry point into the channel day-use area is north off Stella Rowley Drive, and leads to a large gravel parking area surrounded by bollards to manage access. From here, cars can travel east towards Little Lagoon, or west towards the coast.

### Eastern Track

The track east of the main car park is signposted as '4WD only'. This track follows a winding, undulating course through the dunes alongside Little Lagoon Creek, leading to the mouth of the Lagoon. The vegetation in this area is highly degraded from vehicles leaving the track and taking alternative routes. The Shire has also advised that it is not uncommon for vehicles to become bogged in this area.

### Western Track

The track to the west of the main car park provides access to the beach, via the timber shelter and a rocky turnaround area between the shelter and beach. This track can be used by 2WD vehicles as far as the turnaround. Vegetation near the creek edge and the shelter has become degraded through vehicles leaving the track for access and parking.

West of the rocky turnaround the track surface becomes much softer and is suitable for 4WD traffic only. There are many informal tracks through this area made by motorists driving on the beach, which has severely degraded the vegetation condition.

### North – South Track

Another track runs north-south between the western track and the access road to the Nicholas Bank lookout. This track is used by 4WD vehicles and also the licensed ATV tour operator. The track is generally well-defined because it runs alongside an area of Samphire flats, which prevents vehicles from making alternative routes in most areas. There is degradation of the vegetation at the southern end where the landscape becomes sandy, due to vehicles accessing the beach.



Figure 3: Main car park



Figure 4: Rocky turnaround area



Figure 5: North-south track

## Pedestrian Access

Formalised pedestrian access is limited, with most pedestrian traffic making use of vehicle tracks, or informal tracks along the edge of Little Lagoon Creek. Walking along the beach is also popular on the sandy sections of coastline.

Behaviours observed on site, and information received from Shire staff, indicate that the visitors typically drive and park their car as close as possible to their destination. The large car park area off Stella Rowley Drive is located approximately 130m from the closest water entry point and is not well used for this reason.

There is a walking track from the study area to the Denham townsite, but it is not signposted.

## RECREATION

Little Lagoon is a key hub for recreation within the area surrounding the Denham townsite. The channel day-use area and coastline provide a space to undertake a number of activities, including:

- walking
- picnics and sight-seeing
- beach and swimming
- fishing
- bird-watching
- water sports (kayak, canoe, SUP)
- licensed ATV tours.

Additionally, other recreation activities occur in the area that the Shire would like to discourage, including:

- unlicensed ATV and motocross bike riding
- off-road 4WD driving.

The success of the Little Lagoon Master Plan will be driven through recognition and support of desirable recreation activities, while putting in place measures to discourage unwanted activity.

## SIGNAGE

### Interpretive Signage

There are two interpretive signage panels within the study area, installed adjacent to the timber shelter. These signs provide information on the formation of Little Lagoon and the mangrove environment that grows along its banks. These signs appear to have been installed on the site for some time, with some images becoming unreadable through fading and peeling of the sign surface.

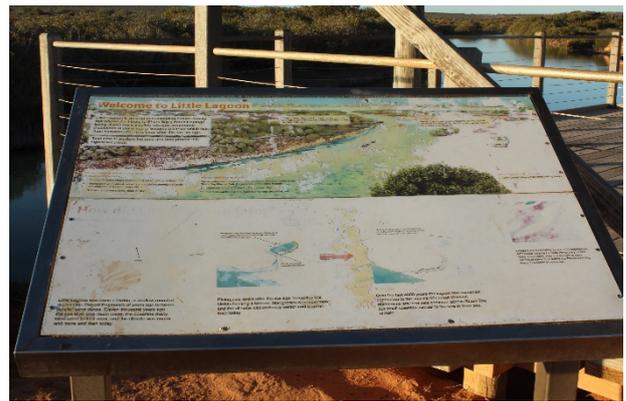


Figure 6: Existing interpretive signage

## Information Signage

Information signage of various types, styles and conditions of installed sporadically throughout the study area. These include:

- 4WD only track markers
- Pedestrian crossing warning signs
- Code of the Coast guidelines
- Stonefish warning information
- Environmental rehabilitation notice
- No camping signs.

## Directional Signage

There is no directional signage within the study area.



Figure 7: Existing information signage

## BARRIERS

### Fencing & Bollards

The Little Lagoon area contains a mix of bollard and fencing types, which have been installed by different parties in an attempt to manage vehicle access. Some of these barriers have been removed or deliberately damaged by visitors to access restricted areas, while others have become degraded over time through the effects of coastal erosion and the saline environment. These damaged barriers, such as the star picket and wire fence, now create a hazard for visitors to the area and are being progressively removed by the Shire.

The recycled plastic bollards used around the car park and shelter at the eastern end of Little Lagoon, outside of the study boundary, appear to be performing best in the local conditions.



Figure 8: Remnant post and wire fence

## HERITAGE

### Aboriginal Heritage Context

Shark Bay is the traditional country of the Malgana Aboriginal language group. The Malgana name for Shark Bay is *Gutharraguda*, which means 'two bays' or 'two waters'. There are about 130 registered Aboriginal heritage sites in the Shark Bay area including quarries, rock shelters, burial sites and large scatters of discarded shells, bone and other food-related artefacts known as middens.<sup>iv</sup>

There are no registered sites of Aboriginal significance within the Little Lagoon Master Plan study boundary.

### Natural Heritage Context

Little Lagoon is located within the Shark Bay World Heritage Area, which encompasses 2.2 million hectares across a range of marine reserves, pastoral leases, conservation reserves, national parks, freehold land and unallocated crown land.

Shark Bay was inscribed on the World Heritage list in 1991, and is one of only 11 sites to satisfy all four of the criteria for natural heritage values<sup>4</sup>:

- Outstanding examples representing the major stages of Earth's evolutionary history
- Outstanding examples representing significant ongoing geological processes, biological evolution and human interaction with the natural environment
- Certain unique, rare or superlative natural phenomena, formations or features of exceptional natural beauty
- The most important and significant habitats where threatened species of plants and animals of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science and conservation still survive.

## 2 MASTER PLAN

The Little Lagoon Master Plan process was developed to identify strategies relevant to the areas natural, cultural and recreational values and to recommend those that can be implemented to improve and protect the amenity of the area. The implementation of the Master Plan will ensure development and access occurs in a way that enhances the area's cultural and natural potential and provides sustainable recreation and education opportunities for local residents and visitors alike.

A copy of the Little Lagoon Master Plan is included in **Appendix One**.

### VEGETATION

All closed tracks and disturbed areas along Little Lagoon Creek and the beach will be rehabilitated using local endemic coastal species. The objective of the rehabilitation is to restore the degraded areas to a stable condition resembling, as close as possible, the natural ecosystem function. It is recommended that all tubestock be grown from provenance seed/cuttings to preserve the genetic profile of the area. A proposed species list is provided in **Appendix Three**.

Management of access is critical during the establishment period of the rehabilitation planting. It may be necessary to install additional access management measures, such as temporary fencing and signage, to make visitors aware of the works and prevent them from moving through the rehabilitated areas. The use of rabbit guards is not recommended due to the windy conditions in Shark Bay, and the risk that they will be blown away and become litter.

**Recommendation 1: Rehabilitate tracks nominated to be closed and disturbed areas using local provenance species.**

**Recommendation 2: Install temporary fencing and signage to alert visitors to rehabilitation works.**

### ACCESS

#### Pedestrian Access

Pedestrian access is prioritised and rationalised across the site as part of the Master Plan. Pedestrian tracks are physically separated from vehicle tracks where possible to provide a safer and more enjoyable experience for walkers. Vehicle tracks nominated for closure due to their proximity to the creek can be repurposed into dedicated pedestrian trails, with the unused track width rehabilitated. New tracks should be monitored for potential erosion, with binding agents such a 'Dirt Glue' or similar applied where stabilisation is required.

Additional pedestrian links will be provided between the new car park areas and site amenities, such as the water entry points and lookouts. The entry to these tracks will be bollarded to prevent vehicle use.

The connection with Denham is strengthened by formalising the track between the townsite trail and Little Lagoon Creek.

**Recommendation 3: Align pedestrian tracks away from vehicles, utilising old vehicle tracks where appropriate.**

**Recommendation 4: Bollard meeting points between pedestrian and vehicle tracks to prevent unauthorised vehicle access.**

**Recommendation 5: Formalise connection with Denham townsite trail.**

## 4WD Vehicle Access

The uncontrolled vehicle access that is currently affecting the site condition is reduced and formalised in the Master Plan.

### **Main Car Park and Eastern Track**

The size of main car park is halved, and all vehicle access east of this point is closed, from the car park to the sandy spit at the mouth of Little Lagoon. This area is to be rehabilitated. Motorists wishing to access Little Lagoon must do so via the entry road off Monkey Mia Road.

### **Western Track**

The western vehicle access is realigned to provide separation from creek edge, where disturbance is highest. Additional formal parking space is provided at the connection to the mangrove water entry point and existing shelter. These areas will be bollarded to limit the space vehicles can use for parking.

Between the timber shelter and the rocky turnaround around area, a pull-off area will be provided to allow cars to pass each other without having to drive on vegetated areas. The rocky turnaround will be formalised with bollards providing parking space for cars, in particular 2WD vehicles that can not go further west. Signage at this point will alert motorists of the 4WD requirement beyond this point.

### **Beach Access**

The beach access track west of the turnaround will be bollarded both sides to prevent ad hoc entry into the dunes and beach. At the western extent of the track, the bollards will be expanded to provide a parking and turnaround space. This will allow people to continue using the sandy spit for recreation, while protecting the delicate dune vegetation and bird nesting sites.

**Recommendation 6: Close and rehabilitate eastern half of main car park.**

**Recommendation 7: Close and rehabilitate all vehicle tracks east of the main car park, up to the beach at Little Lagoon.**

**Recommendation 8: Realign western vehicle track away from creek edge.**

**Recommendation 9: Provide additional parking and pull-off areas at high-traffic points.**

**Recommendation 10: Limit access to beach and spit.**

**Recommendation 11: Provide formalised parking and turnaround at western end of track.**

## ATV Access

Dedicated ATV access is provided on the north-south track that runs along the edge of the Sapphire flats. Bollards are to be installed across the northern and southern entry points of the north-south track. The bollards will be spaced appropriately (approximately 1.5m intervals) to allow an ATV to pass between them but not a 4WD vehicle. Lockable removable bollards will allow access only to authorised vehicles, e.g. Shire maintenance vehicles.

The ATV access route currently used east of the main car park is proposed to be closed. ATV traffic will be directed out onto the shoulder of Stella Rowley Drive, and can access Little Lagoon via an existing track further east, outside of the study area.

**Recommendation 12: Install bollards at nominal 1.5m intervals across north and south entries to the north-south track, including lockable removable bollards.**

## RECREATION

### Water Entry Points

To discourage ad hoc access to the creek edge, two dedicated locations are located along Little Lagoon Creek to provide access to the water; one on the western edge of the existing mangroves near the large car park, and a second further west near the rocky vehicle turnaround area. Both of these locations are already cleared of vegetation, so further clearing won't be required to create these amenities.

**Recommendation 13: Establish identified water entry points.**

### Lookouts

The master plan nominates three locations for signposted lookouts.

A pull-off area on Stella Rowley Drive already functions as an informal lookout but can be formalised through the installation of signage designating it as a viewing point, and potentially information signage about the significant flora and fauna of the area in view.

A second lookout is proposed on a natural high point near the vehicle turnaround. This provides views across the mangroves and spit and is located only a short walk from where 2WD vehicles can access. A formalised track and signage directs visitors to the lookout location.

The third lookout is nominated next to the water entry point at the mangroves. This platform provides views along the creek and could also be used as a gathering area for people entering/exiting the water. This platform provides a different user experience by being close to the water and mangroves, with potential to see fish and birdlife.

**Recommendation 14: Formalise existing lookout on Stella Rowley Drive.**

**Recommendation 15: Create new lookout, track and signage near existing vehicle turnaround area.**

**Recommendation 16: Provide a platform area adjacent to the mangrove water entry point.**

## SIGNAGE

### Interpretive Signage

It is proposed to provide interpretive signage at key nodes and lookouts within the study area. These signs should match the construction and aesthetic style of the signage installed at the shelters east of Little Lagoon.

Interpretation should focus on the natural and cultural history of the site and should be related to the area immediately surrounding the sign for context, e.g. lookout overlooking the Samphire flats should have information about Samphire and related species. Particular emphasis is to be placed on the elements of the area that need protection, such as bird nesting sites and fragile coastal vegetation.



**Figure 9: Interpretive signage at Little Lagoon**

Interpretive signage can also tell stories and create linkages between the different cultural and natural aspects of the site. Creative stories such as this will help visitors to connect with the site on a different level and create lasting associations. Noting traditional uses of local species will also highlight changing usage of the landscapes over time by different cultures.

The damaged interpretive signs located at the timber shelter should also be upgraded/replaced with new signs in a style matching other signage in the area for consistency.

**Recommendation 17: Develop interpretive signage related to site's natural and cultural heritage.**

**Recommendation 18: Install signage of a consistent construction and aesthetic.**

**Recommendation 19: Replace existing faded/damaged interpretive signage.**

### **Information Signage**

Closing vehicle access tracks has the potential to upset members of the community currently using them. Any closure of tracks or restriction of access to areas previously accessible by car, such as the beach and sand spit, must be accompanied by signage explaining the reasons for the closures, the benefits of the changes, and how visitors can access the restricted areas either by foot or by a different route. Providing this information will be vital in garnering community acceptance of the changes.

Signage should also be included where only certain activities are permitted. For example, the north-south track will be open only to pedestrians and licensed ATV operators, so the signage should make these user groups aware of each other.

Additionally, signage may be required to alert visitors of the varying road conditions in the site and indicate where a 4WD vehicle is recommended.

The damaged and irrelevant signage currently erected on the study area should be removed and replaced where appropriate.

**Recommendation 20: Provide signage advising the reasons for track closures, the benefits of the changes, and how visitors can access the restricted areas.**

**Recommendation 21: Provide signage in areas where certain activities are permitted and shared by different user groups.**

**Recommendation 22: Damaged and irrelevant signage to be removed and replaced where appropriate.**

### **Directional Signage**

Directional signage should be installed at key access nodes, particularly where different tracks merge. A map of the different track types (pedestrian, vehicle, ATV) will help visitor orientate themselves and work out how to get to their destination.

It is recommended that the Shire consider developing a suite of trail markers to assist visitors in following the correct route through the area. This would support the revegetation efforts by encouraging people to stay on a prescribed path and could also be used to link the trails to the wider trail network, such as the Denham townsite trail.

**Recommendation 23: Provide directional signage at key access nodes where trails meet.**

**Recommendation 24: Develop markers to plot out pedestrian routes and link trail networks.**

## BARRIERS

### Existing Bollards and Fencing

All existing bollards and fencing are to be progressively removed from the site, except for recycled plastic bollards. Removal should focus first on fencing that is a safety hazard or in areas to be rehabilitated. Barriers that are currently preventing vehicle access should not be removed until other access management measures are in place.

### Recycled Plastic Bollards

It is proposed that durable recycled plastic bollards be installed as access control across the site to create a coherent visual character for Little Lagoon. These bollards have proven to be effective around the shelter on the eastern side of Little Lagoon and using a consistent product will simplify maintenance for the Shire.

Bollards are proposed to be installed wherever the likelihood of unintended vehicle access is highest. This includes:

- parking areas
- along beach 4WD tracks
- across tracks to be closed
- across tracks intended for pedestrian or licensed operators only.

Lockable removable bollards will be installed in areas where the Shire may need access for maintenance activities. Parks and Wildlife have indicated that they have funding available for the supply of bollards to this site.

**Recommendation 25: Progressively remove existing fencing and bollards, except recycled plastic bollards.**

**Recommendation 26: Install durable recycled plastic bollards where vehicle access management is required.**



**Figure 10: Recycled plastic bollard**

# 3 FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The following potential funding opportunities have been identified for implementing the recommendations outlined in the Little Lagoon Master Plan report. Some grants will be available to the Shire of Shark bay, while others may have to be applied for through groups such as the Friends of Shark Bay.

## LOTTERYWEST

### HERITAGE & CONSERVATION <sup>vi</sup>

#### Summary

Heritage and Conservations grants help organisations conserve, protect, explain and share various aspects of our heritage. These grants fall into four areas: conservation of natural heritage, conservation of cultural heritage, interpretation of cultural heritage and community histories.

#### Supported Initiatives

##### Conservation of natural heritage

- Support to conserve natural habitats and maintain the diversity of animal and plant species
- Support planting, fencing, marketing material, conservation equipment and control activities

##### Conservation of cultural heritage

- Support conservation work on places or objects of significant heritage value
- Support conservation plans, 'movable' museum items, and building preservation for broader community use

##### Interpretation of cultural heritage

- To explain and help us to understand more about ourselves and our environment
- Support interpretive signage, publications, an education program and interpretation plans

##### Community histories

- To help people or a community record and share their history
- Support an oral history, Aboriginal language preservation, a community history or significant historical event

#### Eligibility Criteria

- Community benefit and significance
- Community access and support
- Skills and capability to carry out the project
- Planning and project management
- Adherence to conservation practices and standards
- Consultation with stakeholders
- Consent under the Aboriginal Heritage Act (if works may impact on an Aboriginal heritage site)

#### Application Requirements

- A completed Lotterywest grant application
- Two written quotes for items over \$3,000; a written estimate, advertised price, or one written quote for items under \$3,000 (low value, miscellaneous items can be grouped together to \$1,000)
- A project plan and budget
- Additional information about your organisation.

Additional and grant specific documentation is also required for the following:

**Conservation of natural heritage**

- A catchment management plan (if relevant)

**Conservation of cultural heritage**

- Evidence of significance and urgency (such as digital photos)
- Confirmation that a recognised practitioner is involved
- Details of after treatment care and a collection management system

**Interpretation of cultural heritage**

- An interpretation plan (which may include a site plan, floor plans, furniture designs, and how conservation and environmental issues will be addressed)
- Details of a collection management policy (where relevant)
- A consultant's brief (if your application includes the preparation of an interpretation plan)

**Community histories**

- A draft manuscript and plan for the materials preservation and archiving (if relevant)
- Evidence of support from the local government authority (if relevant)

**Suitability**

This grant covers a number of aspects relevant to implementation of the master plan, including conservation of natural heritage and interpretation of cultural heritage.

Should the Shire of Shark Bay choose to pursue this grant application, detailed information and application forms can be obtained at:

<http://www.lotterywest.wa.gov.au/grants/grant-types/heritage-and-conservation>

# WESTERN AUSTRALIAN PLANNING COMMISSION

## COASTWEST GRANTS <sup>vii</sup>

### Summary

Coastwest is an initiative of the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) and is administered by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. Coastwest grants support coastal land managers and community organisations to rehabilitate, restore and enhance the Western Australian coast. The State's coast has unique and diverse values and faces a range of challenges including population growth, competing land uses, climate change, and coastal hazards such as erosion and inundation.

### Supported Initiatives

Coastwest grants focus on publicly owned or managed coastal environments within the jurisdiction of the Western Australian Government with the approval of the relevant coastal manager.

Examples of appropriate land tenure include:

- Crown land, both marine and terrestrial (such as national parks and marine parks)
- leased land for public purposes
- public or other reserves under the care, control or management of local government
- land that is under the care, control or management of Aboriginal people and is held for the use and benefit of Aboriginal people (for example, a pastoral lease)
- land and waters over which native title has been determined to exist under the Australian Government's *Native Title Act 1993*.

### Eligibility Criteria

Projects that clearly demonstrate the implementation of an adopted local or regional coastal plan or strategy will be given a high priority for funding. Relevant plans also include regional natural resource management plans funded by the Australian Government and overseen by regional natural resource management groups.

If no coastal plan or strategy exists for your chosen project area you should clearly identify why and how the site has been selected. Projects in remote locations that include the development of site plans as a component of the project will be given priority.

For information on the status of coastal management plans please refer to the Status of Coastal Planning in Western Australia which is available at [www.planning.wa.gov.au/6701.aspx](http://www.planning.wa.gov.au/6701.aspx)

### Suitability

This grant covers 'On-Ground Actions' such as the protection and rehabilitation of sensitive coastal areas, and enhancement of coastal landscapes and biodiversity including near shore marine habitats. This could assist in the implementation of the master plan recommendations.

Should the Shire of Shark Bay choose to pursue this grant application, detailed information and application forms can be obtained at:

[https://www.planning.wa.gov.au/dop\\_pub\\_pdf/Coastwest\\_Grants\\_Guidelines.pdf](https://www.planning.wa.gov.au/dop_pub_pdf/Coastwest_Grants_Guidelines.pdf)

## LANDCARE AUSTRALIA

### TOAST TO THE COAST<sup>viii</sup>

#### Summary

Groups working on Coastcare activities in Western Australia are invited to apply for the 2018 Toast to the Coast Grants. Grants of up to \$2,000 are available to fund projects that protect and improve the health of local marine and coastal environments.

#### Supported Initiatives

- Improving habitats through litter reduction
- Rehabilitating coastal environments, including weed control, erosion control and planting
- Increasing community awareness of the impacts of litter and pollution on marine plants and animals
- Increasing capacity and profile of local Coastcare and community groups.

#### Eligibility Criteria

Landcare Australia will consider your application if:

- Your volunteer-based community group embraces the Landcare ethos, which includes (but is not limited to) Landcare, Coastcare, Bushcare and 'Friends of' groups.
- Your project site is located along the Western Australian coastline.
- Your project is directly related to one or more of the key priority funding areas, outlined below:
  - Improvements in habitats through a reduction in the amount of litter and pollution entering the marine environment
  - The protection and enhancement of coastal areas through rehabilitation activities, such as litter and debris removal, weed control, erosion control and planting
  - Increased knowledge and awareness of local communities of the impacts of litter and pollution on marine plants and animals
  - Increased capacity and profile of local Coastcare and community groups through increased on-ground activities, knowledge sharing and community education/events.

#### Suitability

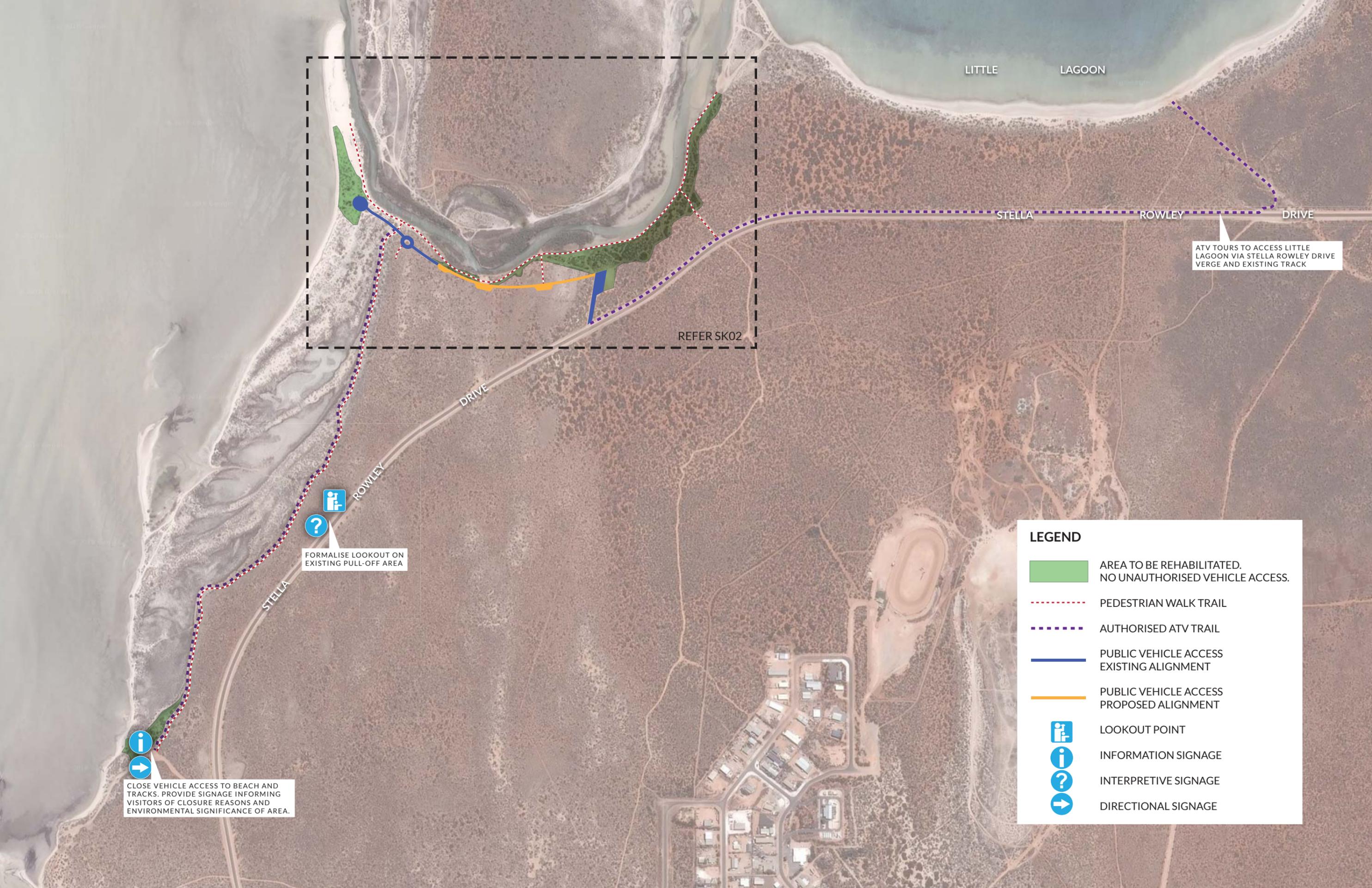
This grant is not available to the Shire of Shark Bay as a Local Government Association but would be available to the Friends of Shark Bay.

Should the Friends of Shark Bay choose to pursue this grant application, detailed information and application forms can be obtained at:

<https://landcareaustralia.org.au/toast-to-the-coast-grants/>

**APPENDIX ONE**

**MASTER PLANS**



LITTLE LAGOON

STELLA ROWLEY DRIVE

REFER SK02

ATV TOURS TO ACCESS LITTLE LAGOON VIA STELLA ROWLEY DRIVE VERGE AND EXISTING TRACK

FORMALISE LOOKOUT ON EXISTING PULL-OFF AREA

CLOSE VEHICLE ACCESS TO BEACH AND TRACKS. PROVIDE SIGNAGE INFORMING VISITORS OF CLOSURE REASONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OF AREA.

### LEGEND

- AREA TO BE REHABILITATED. NO UNAUTHORISED VEHICLE ACCESS.
- PEDESTRIAN WALK TRAIL
- AUTHORISED ATV TRAIL
- PUBLIC VEHICLE ACCESS EXISTING ALIGNMENT
- PUBLIC VEHICLE ACCESS PROPOSED ALIGNMENT
- i LOOKOUT POINT
- i INFORMATION SIGNAGE
- ? INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE
- DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE

**LEGEND**

- AREA TO BE REHABILITATED. NO UNAUTHORISED VEHICLE ACCESS.
- PEDESTRIAN WALK TRAIL
- AUTHORISED ATV TRAIL
- PUBLIC VEHICLE ACCESS EXISTING ALIGNMENT
- PUBLIC VEHICLE ACCESS PROPOSED ALIGNMENT
- RECYCLED PLASTIC BOLLARDS
- i LOOKOUT POINT
- 🚣 CANOE / KAYAK / SUP WATER ENTRY POINT
- P PARKING AREA
- i INFORMATION SIGNAGE
- ? INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE
- ➔ DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE



## APPENDIX TWO

## PRELIMINARY COSTINGS

OPINION OF PROBABLE COSTS				
		AUTHOR: PJ	PROJECT No: 4154-18	
		CHECKED: FK	CLIENT: Shire of Shark Bay	
		REVISION: B	STATUS: FINAL	
DESCRIPTION	UNIT	RATE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
<b>Preliminaries</b>				<b>\$15,893</b>
Preliminaries & establishment	%	5%		\$15,893
<b>Site Works</b>				<b>\$30,463</b>
New vehicle track and parking clearing (3.5m width)	sq m	\$5.00	1,500	\$7,500
New pedestrian track clearing (1.0m width)	sq m	\$5.00	30	\$150
Ripping of compacted areas on tracks to be closed	sq m	\$5.00	4,563	\$22,813
<b>Rehabilitation</b>				<b>\$233,970</b>
Beach rehabilitation planting (near spit and Nicholas Bank lookout) @ 1 plant/sqm	sq m	\$6.00	6,800	\$40,800
Track rehabilitation planting @ 2 plants/sqm	sq m	\$12.00	9,125	\$109,500
Degraded area rehabilitation (adjacent to Little Lagoon Creek) @ 1 plant/sqm	sq m	\$6.00	13,945	\$83,670
<b>Signage, Barriers &amp; Platforms</b>				<b>\$53,400</b>
Information signage - NOT INCLUDED PENDING FURTHER PRICING INFORMATION	ea	\$0.00	4	\$0
Interpretive signage - NOT INCLUDED PENDING FURTHER PRICING INFORMATION	ea	\$0.00	4	\$0
Directional signage - NOT INCLUDED PENDING FURTHER PRICING INFORMATION	ea	\$0.00	6	\$0
Recycled plastic bollards	ea	\$60.00	730	\$43,800
Water entry area platform	sq m	\$600.00	16	\$9,600
<b>Contingency &amp; Loading</b>				<b>\$183,549</b>
Contingency	%	5%		\$16,686
Remote area loading	%	50%		\$166,863
<b>TOTAL (excluding GST)</b>				<b>\$517,274</b>
GST				\$51,727
<b>TOTAL (including GST)</b>				<b>\$569,001</b>

## APPENDIX THREE REHABILITATION SPECIES LIST

BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	HEIGHT (m)	POT SIZE	SPACING
<b>Large Shrubs / Small Trees</b>				
<i>Acacia ligulata</i>	Umbrella Bush	1 - 4	Tubestock	0.5/sqm
<i>Acacia ramulosa</i>	Horse Mulga	1.5 - 6	Tubestock	0.5/sqm
<i>Acacia sclerosperma</i>	Limestone Wattle	1 - 4	Tubestock	0.5/sqm
<i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i>	Kurara	1.4 - 5	Tubestock	0.5/sqm
<i>Banksia ashbyi</i>	Ashby's Banksia	1 - 3	Tubestock	0.5/sqm
<i>Eucalyptus beardiana</i>	Beard's Mallee	3 - 5	Tubestock	0.5/sqm
<i>Exocarpos sparteus</i>	Broom Ballart	1 - 4	Tubestock	0.5/sqm
<i>Kunzea baxteri</i>	Scarlet Kunzea	2.5	Tubestock	0.5/sqm
<i>Lamarchea hakeifolia</i>	False Paperbark	1.5 - 5	Tubestock	0.5/sqm
<i>Santalum spicatum</i>	Sandalwood	1 - 5	Tubestock	0.5/sqm
<b>Low Shrubs &amp; Groundcovers</b>				
<i>Atriplex cinerea</i>	Grey Saltbush	0.2 - 1.5	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Atriplex paludosa</i>	Marsh Saltbush	0.4 - 1.6	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Brachyscome latisquamea</i>	Shark Bay Daisy	0.3	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i>	Buffel Grass	0.2 - 1.5	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Dianella revoluta</i>	Blueberry Lily	0.5	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Enchylaena tomentosa</i>	Barrier Saltbush	0.1 - 0.6	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Eremophila glabra</i>	Tar Bush	0.3 - 0.6	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Frankenia cinerea</i>	Frankenia cinerea	0.3	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Melaleuca cardiophylla</i>	Tangling Melaleuca	2.5	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Olearia sp. Kennedy Range</i>		0.6 - 2	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Pimelea microcephala</i>	Shrubby Riceflower	0.8 - 2	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Ptilotus obovatus</i>	Cotton Bush	0.1 - 1.4	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Rhagodia eremaea</i>	Tall Saltbush	0.6 - 2	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Salicornia quinqueflora</i>	Beaded Samphire	0.2 - 0.5	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Scaevola spinescens</i>	Currant Bush	0.2 - 2	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Spinifex longifolius</i>	Beach Spinifex	0.2 - 1.5	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Tectocornia pelata</i>	Samphire	0.3 - 1.2	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Tectocornia halocnemoides</i>	Shrubby Samphire	0.2 - 1	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Templetonia retusa</i>	Cockie's Tongue	0.3 - 4	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Thryptomene baeckeacea</i>		0.2 - 1.2	Tubestock	2/sqm
<i>Triodia plurinervata</i>		0.4 - 1.5	Tubestock	2/sqm
<b>Mangroves</b>				
<i>Avicennia marina</i>	White Mangrove	1.5 - 6	Tubestock	2/sqm



LITTLE LAGOON SURVEY  
PK00001

AUTHOR  
Works Manager

DISCLOSURE OF ANY INTEREST  
Declaration of Interest:  
Nature of Interest:

Moved           Cr  
Seconded       Cr

**Officer Recommendation**

- 1. That the results from the Little Lagoon Creek Rehabilitation survey be noted.**
- 2. That Council Resolution 1. of the meeting held 30 August 2017 as follows:**

*That Council request the administration to progress the Department of Environment and Conservation 2010 Little Lagoon site master plan rehabilitation and track closures as amended and the inclusion of signage advising of the joint rehabilitation works being undertaken*

**be revoked.**

- 3. That the results of the Little Lagoon Creek Rehabilitation survey be considered in junction with the development of the new master plan, incorporating aspects of the 2010 plan for the Little Lagoon Recreation Reserve in accordance with Council resolution 4 of the ordinary meeting held on 30 August 2017.**
- 4. That funding of \$25,000 allocated to the establishment of walk trails in the 2017/2018 budget be utilised specifically for the development of a Master Plan for the Little Lagoon Reserve, with specific focus on the rehabilitation of the Little Lagoon Creek area.**

BACKGROUND

The Council at the meeting held in August 2017 discussed the impact that motorised vehicles are having upon the fragile environment in the Little Lagoon creek area.

Subsequently the Council resolved the following:

**Council Resolution**  
***That Council***

- 1. Request the administration to progress the Department of Environment and Conservation 2010 Little Lagoon site master plan rehabilitation and track closures as amended and the inclusion of signage advising of the joint rehabilitation works being undertaken.***
- 2. That the Council endorse the concept of the development of a walking trail with interpretive and educational signage in consultation with representatives from the Malgana Working Group from the Denham Townsite to Little Lagoon utilising areas of unallocated crown land and the Little Lagoon Recreation Reserve.***

3. *That the administration liaise with the Department of Lands regarding the dedication or excision of an area of unallocated crown land for the purposes of access to Nicholson Point, including but not limited to a walking trail, carpark and vehicle access track.*
4. *That funding be allocated to develop a new master plan for the Little Lagoon Recreation Reserve and adjoining unallocated crown land (Nicholson Point) incorporating walking trails with interpretative signage and rehabilitation and definition of vehicle tracks.*

**4/0 CARRIED**

Full agenda item attached at the end of this report.

Following the resolution there was discussion regarding the final location of any proposed closures and council at the Ordinary Council meeting held on the 29 November 2017 Council made the following resolution:

**Council Resolution**

*That Councillors have an onsite inspection prior to the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 20 December 2017, to view the location of proposed track closures and areas to be rehabilitated adjacent to the Little Lagoon inlet prior to any further works being undertaken.*

**6/0 CARRIED**

The site visit was undertaken and at the Ordinary Council meeting held 20 December 2017 Council made the following resolution:

**Council Resolution**

*That Council seek community consultation on the proposed closure of the 4wd track at little lagoon at the following locations:*

- A At the fishing / viewing platform; or*
- B From the roundabout; or*
- C No closure of tracks*

**4/3 CARRIED**

**COMMENT**

As requested, administration conducted a survey to determine the community's opinion on Councils proposed track closures at the Little Lagoon Creek. Submissions closed 4:00pm Monday 19 February 2018. A copy of the survey is attached at the end of the report.

The three options listed were:

- A At the fishing / viewing platform; or
- B From the roundabout; or
- C No closure of tracks

The survey returned 87 responses from the local community with the following results. The results have been broken down into 3 categories.

1. All submissions combined
2. Submissions from people on the electoral role and,
3. Submissions from people not on the electoral role.

Total Number of Submissions	87	100%	
Option A	12	13.8%	
Option B	12	13.8%	
Option C	57	65.5%	
No Option	6	6.8%	
Number on Electoral Role	64	100%	
Option A	8	12.5%	
Option B	8	12.5%	
Option C	44	68.9%	
No Option	4	6.2%	
Number Not on Electoral Role	23	100%	
Option A	4	17.4%	
Option B	4	17.4%	
Option C	13	56.5%	
No Option	2	8.7%	

Some of the submissions included comments as per the attached spreadsheet.

There were six submissions received with no options selected although comments were supplied.

There were 17 comments attached with the submissions. This represents 19.5% of total submissions. Most of the comments received suggested the closure of unnecessary tracks with varying amounts of remaining access.

As indicated in the survey, it would appear the majority of the community would not like to see total track closures.

Council finds itself in a position where although the majority of the community do not wish to have track closures there is still Councils responsibility to manage the natural environment.

Leaving some access but closing down unnecessary tracks has some weight and may be a compromise. The level of access will need to be determined.

Council could reconsider the resolution made at the Ordinary Council Meeting 30 August 2017 and amend item one as necessary taking into consideration the position of the track closures and submission comments.

Council could leave some tracks open, close all tracks deemed unnecessary and erect signage prohibiting driving off the tracks. This would be difficult to police but would benefit greatly from an educational program to help enforce track closures.

Resolutions Two, Three and Four from the 30 August 2017 meeting address the Council's desire and the need for increased management planning and controls in the Little Lagoon Recreational Reserve and adjoining Unallocated Crown Land.

#### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

### **In respect revoking or changing a council decision the local government (administration) regulations state as follows**

#### **10. Revoking or changing decisions (Act s. 5.25(1)(e))**

- (1) If a decision has been made at a council or a committee meeting then any motion to revoke or change the decision must be supported —
  - (a) in the case where an attempt to revoke or change the decision had been made within the previous 3 months but had failed, by an absolute majority; or
  - (b) in any other case, by at least  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the number of offices (whether vacant or not) of members of the council or committee, inclusive of the mover.

The Shire of Shark bay Local Government Property Law states the following:

#### **2.8 Activities which may be Prohibited on Specified Local Government Property**

- (1) A determination may provide that a person is prohibited from pursuing all or any of the following activities on specified Local Government property -
  - (a) smoking on premises,
  - (b) riding a bicycle, a skateboard, rollerblades, a sandboard or a similar device,
  - (c) taking, riding or driving a vehicle on the property or a particular class of vehicle,
  - (d) riding or driving a vehicle of a particular class or any vehicle above a specified speed,
  - (e) taking or using a boat, or a particular class of boat,
  - (f) the playing or practice of -
    - (i) golf, archery, pistol shooting or rifle shooting, or
    - (ii) a similar activity, specified in the determination, involving the use of a projectile which, in the opinion of the Local Government may cause injury or damage to a person or property,
  - (g) the playing or practice of any ball game which may cause detriment to the property or any fauna on the property, and
  - (h) the traversing of sand dunes or land which in the opinion of the Local Government has environmental value warranting such protection, either absolutely or except by paths provided for that purpose.

#### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications associated with this report

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial implications have been identified in the Ordinary Council meeting held 30 August 2017

*The 2017/2018 has \$50,000 allocated from the Infrastructure reserve for the purposes of a walking trail.*

*The costs to establish the trail and signage will be dependent upon the level of finish and the degree of interpretive and educational material.*

*There may also be an opportunity to access grant funding once a defined concept proposal has been established.*

#### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

**Objective 2** - Environment - Protecting our precious natural environment and retaining our lifestyle values and community spirit

Outcome 2.4 - Enhance, promote, rehabilitate and leverage the natural environment so it continues to be an asset to the community

Outcome 2.5 - Greater awareness and increased community pride in protecting and enhancing the natural and built environment

**Objective 3** - Social - A safe and welcoming Community where everyone is valued and has the opportunity to contribute and belong

Outcome 3.1 - Existing strong community spirit and pride will be fostered, promoted and encouraged.

**Objective 4** - Civil Leadership - Respect for the rights of citizens, appropriate service delivery and a commitment to openness, transparency, honesty and fairness

Outcome 4.1 - To encourage the community to be unified and positively promote Shark Bay

Outcome 4.2 - Shark Bay Council is efficient and effective in its operations, actively listens to the community and anticipates and responds to the community's needs

Outcome 4.4 - A well informed, engaged community that actively participates

#### Risk Management Implications

There are no risks relevant to this report

#### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority Required

#### Signatures

Author

B Galvin

Chief Executive Officer

P Anderson

Date of Report

21 February 2018



## Little Lagoon Creek Rehabilitation



The Shire of Shark Bay and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions - Parks and Wildlife Service are developing a rehabilitation program in the Little Lagoon Creek area.

Unrestricted vehicle access has contributed to the degradation of the area and the continued access of vehicles to sensitive areas is being considered.

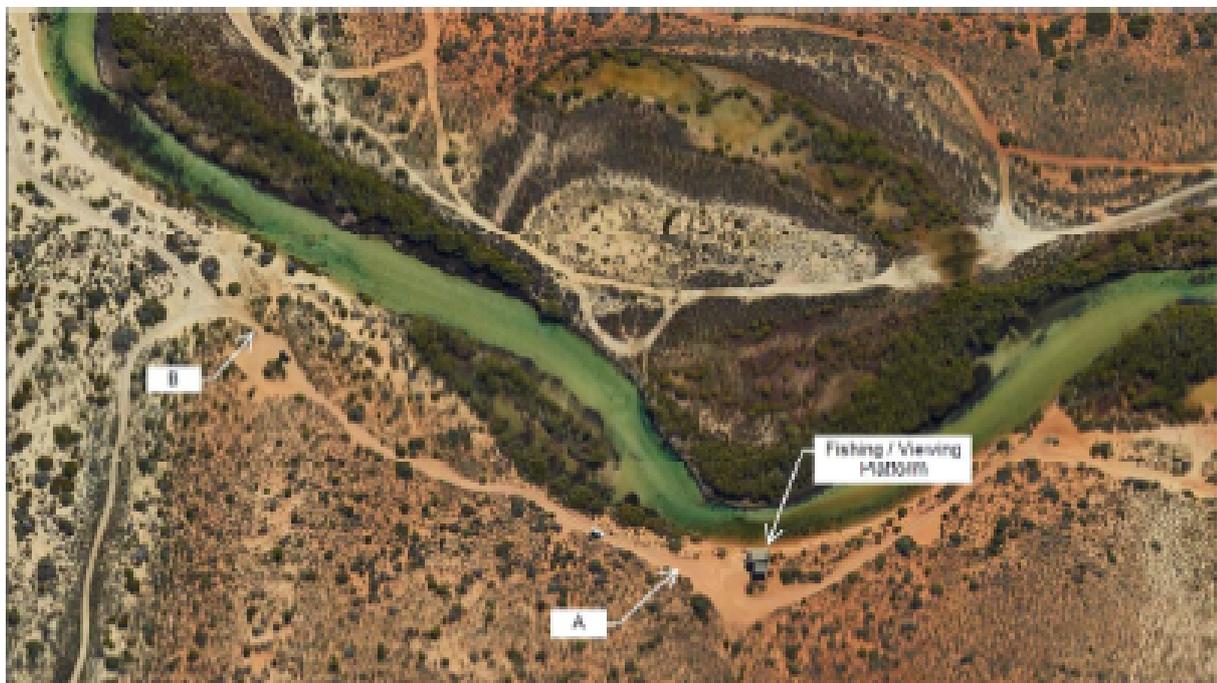
The rehabilitation program may involve restrictions and/or closures as to where vehicles can access and traverse the area.

To assist the Council community input is being sought on the proposal regarding ongoing access by vehicles.

The Council has identified two areas that access may be restricted or closed to vehicles on the map below, Council has also considered that the community may wish that no restrictions or closures should be put in place.

The areas that restrictions may be put are described below

- A) At the fishing/viewing platform;
- B) At the ad hoc roundabout



Please complete the survey on the reverse side and return to the Shire of Shark Bay



As a part of this process, we are asking community members to have their say and contribute towards this decision.

## PLEASE HAVE YOUR SAY

Please fill out the information below and return this form to,

Email: [admin@sharkbay.wa.gov.au](mailto:admin@sharkbay.wa.gov.au)

Mail: PO Box 126, Denham WA 6537

In Person: Shire Office, 65 Knight Terrace, Denham

Please return survey by **4pm Monday 19 February 2018**

We thank you for taking the time and we look forward to your response

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick one option

- A) Restrictions/ Closure to vehicles at point A the fishing/viewing platform; or
- B) Restrictions/ Closure to vehicles at point B the ad hoc roundabout; or
- C) No restriction/ closure of tracks

Electoral						
Name	Address	Option A	Option B	Option C	Roll	Comments
Ms Sherry Baker	39 Brockman Street	A - Restriction / Closure at Point A			No	
Mr George Livesey	39 Brockman Street	A - Restriction / Closure at Point A			Yes	
Ms Jayda Beales	4 Dirk Place			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mrs Rebecca Stanley	80 Durlacher Street	A - Restriction / Closure at Point A			Yes	
Ms Rebecca Cock	2 Mead Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	
Ms Anber Phillipps	4/2 Sunter Place	A - Restriction / Closure at Point A			Yes	
Mr Eric Roulston	Unit3/34 Hughes Street	A - Restriction / Closure at Point A			No	
Mr Michael Anderson	12 Mead Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Health Francis	2/2 Sunter Place			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Ms Laura Tomlinson	1B Cross Street		B - Restrictions / Closure to vehicles at point B the ad hoc roundabout		Yes	Opt for closing the track just after the roundabout and keeping the track to the left heading back to Nicholson point open for general public

Mr Jesse Gray	1B Cross Street		B - Restrictions / Closure to vehicles at point B the ad hoc roundabout		No	Opt for closing the track just after the roundabout and keeping the track to the left heading back to Nicholson point open for general public
Mr Travis Francis	4/2 Sunter Place	A - Restriction / Closure at Point A			Yes	
Mr Michael Stanley	80 Durlacher Street	A - Restriction / Closure at Point A			Yes	
Ms Judy Britza	6 Hartog Crescent			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Joe McLaughlin	6 Hartog Crescent			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks		Would Prefer D: Some side tracks closed but vehicle access to the mouth of little lagoon creek maintained .
Ms Khayla Wordsworth	23 Fry Court		B - Restrictions / Closure to vehicles at point B the ad hoc roundabout		Yes	
Mr Greg Clift	28 Brockman Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mrs Lorraine Clift	28 Brockman Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	

Mr Mathew Cross	11 Capewell Drive	A - Restriction / Closure at Point A			Yes	
Mrs Debbie Bellottie	6 Talbot Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mrs Susan Naldrett	9 Sunter Place		B - Restrictions / Closure to vehicles at point B the ad hoc roundabout		Yes	
Mr Dave Naldrett	9 Sunter Place		B - Restrictions / Closure to vehicles at point B the ad hoc roundabout		Yes	
Mr Henk Van Eeek	6 Denham Road	A - Restriction / Closure at Point A			No	
Ms Emily Ward	26 Hartog Crescent		B - Restrictions / Closure to vehicles at point B the ad hoc roundabout		No	
Mrs Christine Low	6 Mead Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Paul Low	6 Mead Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	

Ms Elizabeth Manning	35A Fry Court		B - Restrictions / Closure to vehicles at point B the ad hoc roundabout		No	Long Letter attached
Mr John Hanscombe	69 Hughes Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Jamie Morgan	60 Monkey Mia Road			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	I took a drive down to Little lagoon and the tracks are in the exact same condition as 23 years ago.
Mrs Helen Morgan	26 Fry Court			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Peter Morgan	26 Fry Court			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Joe Borisoff	141 Knight Terrace	A - Restriction / Closure at Point A			Yes	
Ms Fay Castling	141 Knight Terrace	A - Restriction / Closure at Point A			Yes	
Ms Lois Cope	6/43 Brockman Street		B - Restrictions / Closure to vehicles at point B the ad hoc roundabout		Yes	

Mr Matthew James	1/34 Hughes Street		B - Restrictions / Closure to vehicles at point B the ad hoc roundabout		Yes	
Mrs Stephanie James	1/34 Hughes Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mrs Cheryl Cowell	14 Sunter Place		B - Restrictions / Closure to vehicles at point B the ad hoc roundabout		Yes	
Mr Laurie McKell	28 Vlamingh Crescent			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	Leave the water track as is and join up track to round about. Bolards of access to inlet (Point). Deny all access to beach and put saigns up telling of fines for 4x4 caught on beach. Has attached Plan
Mr Trent Teague	61 Durlacher Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	
Mr Roger Cross	70 Durlacher Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Ms Genni Douglas	70 Durlacher Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	

Ms Flo Cross	70 Durlacher Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Ms Isobell Lockyer	2/28 Hughes Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr John MacDonald	5 Leeds Court			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Geoffrey Howse	13 Terry Deschamps Way			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	D: Control probably needs to be in place beyond ad hoc roundabout"but not to the point of closure.
Mr Rob Pedersen	12 Terry Deschamps Way			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	
Mrs Kellee Pedersen	12 Terry Deschamps Way			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Shaun Burton	16 Hoult Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Brian Galvin	12 Hughes Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Greg Jamieson	13 Edwards Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	Doesn't the Shire want tourism how about upgrading the tracks

Mr Raymond McMillan	5 Capewell Drive			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mrs Eileen McMillan	5 Capewell Drive			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Jim McGiveron	41 Brockman Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mrs Sue McGiveron	41 Brockman Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mrs Dale Wilson	58 Durlacher Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mrs Aiyana Wright	67 Hughes Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Barry Wright	67 Hughes Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	As a rate payer who frequents the point daily with 2 children under six and severe personal injuties. There is no way I or my children could walk the 1.5km (over hot sand) to the river mouth to fish or swim. As is the same for many young families & elder people especialy during busy & tourist times.
Mrs Christine Galvin	53 Brockman Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	

Ms Samantha Murphy	58 Brockman Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	
Ms Jens Mohr	3 Leeds Court		B - Restrictions / Closure to vehicles at point B the ad hoc roundabout		No	
Bill & Jocelyn Ross	35 Hughes Street	A - Restriction / Closure at Point A			No	
Mr John Craig	53 Capewell Drive			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	
Mr Paul Mettam	19 Hoult Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mrs Rhonda Mettam	19 Hoult Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mrs Joan Kovich	Pensioner Units			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	
Mr James K McGiveron	41 Brockman Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	Mr Jim McGiveron's son - not second entry
Mr Gary McGiveron	47 Capewell Drive			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	What about rehabilitation ?????

Mr Joshua Sheehy	61 Vlamingh Crescent				No	D: none of the above
Mr Drew Wassman	16 Sellenger Hieghts				Yes	D: none of the above. A&B are unacceptable as track closures at either of these points would greatly impact & restrict peoples ability to access & enjoy this area. C's unacceptable as it does nothing to address the ongoing damage to this area resulting from unrestricted access to 4wd vehicles. I would like a 1 lane one way access track to allow people to drive to near the creek mouth and back out again. Leave open the back track from near the roundabout to the Nicholson Pt 1st car park but restruict access at that end to 1 track instead of the 4/5 that are there now. Close the foreshore/beach to all vehicles from Nicholson Pt to the existing exit track in line with the roundabout, this will protect bird roosting area. Use this opportunity to enhance the area into a real attraction for Denham. Wlking paths boardwalk over wetland/tidal areas, shaded lookouts/rest pavillions etc. Use a bit of imagination instead of a lazy do nothing approach. Very dissapointed with the A,B,C tick one box nature of this decision making process.
Mrs Francesca Hoult	10 Dirk Place			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	Would like bolards in place to close off some of the side tracks.

Mr Reyce Galvin	12 Hughes Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	
Mr Andrew Harding	33 Fry Court			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	
Mr Bradley Rogers	5/34 Hughes Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Tom Moroney	14 Mead Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	
Mr Luke Mills	2 Mead Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	
Mr Roger Hewitt	53 Vlamingh Crescent			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Greg Hewitt	53 Vlamingh Crescent			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	No	
Mrs Iolanthe Cock	9 Mainland Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mr Howard Cock	9 Mainland Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	
Mrs Charmane Hanscomb	69 Hughes Street			C - No Restriction / Closure of Tracks	Yes	

# 16.1 Walk Trails OCM 30 AUGUST 2017

PK00001

## AUTHOR

Chief Executive Officer

## DISCLOSURE OF ANY INTEREST

Declaration of Interest: Cr Cowell

Nature of Interest: Impartiality Interest as Employee of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions - Parks and Wildlife Section

Declaration of Interest: Cr Bellottie

Nature of Interest: Impartiality Interest as a member of the Malgana Working Group

Moved Cr Fenny

Seconded Cr Cowell

## Council Resolution That Council

5. **Request the administration to progress the Department of Environment and Conservation 2010 Little Lagoon site master plan rehabilitation and track closures as amended and the inclusion of signage advising of the joint rehabilitation works being undertaken.**
6. **That the Council endorse the concept of the development of a walking trail with interpretive and educational signage in consultation with representatives from the Malgana Working Group from the Denham Townsite to Little Lagoon utilising areas of unallocated crown land and the Little Lagoon Recreation Reserve.**
7. **That the administration liaise with the Department of Lands regarding the dedication or excision of an area of unallocated crown land for the purposes of access to Nicholson Point, including but not limited to a walking trail, carpark and vehicle access track.**
8. **That funding be allocated to develop a new master plan for the Little Lagoon Recreation Reserve and adjoining unallocated crown land (Nicholson Point) incorporating walking trails with interpretative signage and rehabilitation and definition of vehicle tracks.**

**4/0 CARRIED**

## BACKGROUND

In preparation for the installation and formalisation of the proposed walk trails from Denham to Little Lagoon along the coastline there are a number of issues relating to access of the areas that would need to be addressed.

The proposed trail traverses across two main areas of land the first being identified as the Nicholson Point area is Lot 330 and is unallocated crown land.

The second area that the proposed trail would traverse is Reserve 30899 which is vested in the Shire of Shark Bay for recreation purposes.

Refer the attached map for the specific delineation of the areas, the water body of Little Lagoon is included as part of the Marine Park Reserve.

The Marine Park Reserve on the coastline extends 40 metres above high water mark, which is identified in blue, however in the case of Little Lagoon and the creek to the ocean the reserve only extends to the high water mark.

At the March 2010 meeting Council adopted a master plan and priority works that was prepared for the then Department of Environment and Conservation by Ecoscapes for the Little Lagoon day use area and channel area. (Attachment A)

The identified priorities on the lagoon day use concept were a toilet, 1 or 2 shade shelters and a barbeque at the southern day use area, a toilet, 1 or 2 shade shelters and a barbeque at the eastern day use area, redefinition of the car park and 4WD access to the southern beach area, paths to shade shelters and toilets and rehabilitation and revegetation works as required.

The toilet and shades shelters have been installed and the carpark and access have been attended to.

It is unclear as if all the rehabilitation and revegetation works as required have been undertaken in accordance with the plan as there are numerous areas indicated that require rehabilitation.

The channel day use area concept (Attachment B) would appear not to have been installed and Council can either revisit this concept or establish a new plan for the area.

There have been some community representation and concern in regard to the impact that motorised vehicles utilising these tracks are having upon the fragile environment in the area.

The administration is now seeking guidance from the Council as to their preferences in either progressing the 2010 concepts in regard to track closures and rehabilitation, with amendments and the establishment and location of a walk trail and interpretive signage or the development of a new concept plan for the trails and rehabilitation.

#### COMMENT

In the event the Council progress the installation of a walk trail one of the issues that would need to be dealt to ensure pedestrian safety and the integrity of any walking trails would be vehicle access to the reserve areas.

At present there are a number of vehicle tracks that traverse the Council recreation reserve and the unallocated crown land that are identified in the 2010 plan as requiring rehabilitation.

There is also the formed road and carparks in the unallocated crown land area that would require liaison and approval from the Lands Department to formalise and ensure any works Council proposed in this area were correctly approved.

The Council can request that an area be excised from the unallocated crown land for the purposes of recreation (road and carpark) and a management order put over a identified area or the road and carpark be declared a dedicated road.

The proposal of a walk trail in the area has previously been put to the Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation who advised that the Malgana people support the proposal to develop a walking route at Nicholson Point.

The Malgana working group also requested that the Shire restrict vehicular access to the area and try to keep pedestrians on the path and out of the bush as much as possible.

The Management Order on Reserve 30899 (Little Lagoon) for recreation enables the Council to develop the area for recreation in the manner it sees fit, while recognising any other legislation that applies ie native title, clearing of vegetation.

This would enable the Council to install trails and where it sees fit either close and rehabilitate vehicle tracks or install new dedicated tracks and close areas to vehicle access.

It may also be beneficial to impose a speed restriction on any remaining tracks and around Little Lagoon itself to ensure the safety of the users of the area.

The recreational use of the area and the location of facilities will see increased conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles that should be addressed.

While enforcement of a speed restriction may be an issue, the posting of speed limits may assist in controlling behaviours and educate users of the possible conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles.

As previously discussed with Council the establishment of a walk trail will also require the placement of interpretive signage to assist and educate individuals that utilise that area.

The new Denham Discovery Walk Trail on the foreshore has been well received and this concept can be adapted to the proposed walk trail to provide informative educational signage on the area and the indigenous use of the environment.

#### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications relative to this report

#### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications relative to this report.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2017/2018 has \$50,000 allocated from the Infrastructure reserve for the purposes of a walking trail.

The costs to establish the trail and signage will be dependent upon the level of finish and the degree of interpretive and educational material.

There may also be an opportunity to access grant funding once a defined concept proposal has been established.

#### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Address Councils Objective 3.2 community infrastructure that meets the needs of families, youth retirees  
Strategy encourage healthy living and social interaction  
3.2.3.2 Develop interpretive trails program.

RISK MANAGEMENT

This is a medium risk item to Council predominantly in regard to the environmental risk associated with the degradation to the area.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority Required

SIGNATURES

Chief Executive Officer

P Anderson

Date of Report

9 August 2017

## REFERENCES

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- <sup>ii</sup> Shark Bay World Heritage, *Aboriginal Heritage*, Retrieved June 2018 from <https://www.sharkbay.org/culture-history/aboriginal-heritage/>
- <sup>iii</sup> Department of Environment and Conservation (2012), *Mangroves of Shark Bay Marine Park (Information Sheet 46/2012)*, Retrieved June 2018 from <https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/images/documents/about/science/pubs/infosheets/sdis046.pdf>
- <sup>iv</sup> Shark Bay World Heritage, *Plants*, Retrieved June 2018 from <https://www.sharkbay.org/nature/plants/>
- <sup>v</sup> CALM (1996), *Shark Bay Marine Reserves Management Plan*, Retrieved from [https://cdn-sharkbay.wa.pressidium.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/shark\\_bay\\_marine\\_reserves-management\\_plan.pdf](https://cdn-sharkbay.wa.pressidium.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/shark_bay_marine_reserves-management_plan.pdf)
- <sup>vi</sup> Lotterywest, *Heritage & Conservation*. Retrieved June 2018 from <http://www.lotterywest.wa.gov.au/grants/grant-types/heritage-and-conservation>
- <sup>vii</sup> Department of Planning, *Coastwest Grants*. Retrieved June 2018 from [https://www.planning.wa.gov.au/dop\\_pub\\_pdf/Coastwest\\_Grants\\_Guidelines.pdf](https://www.planning.wa.gov.au/dop_pub_pdf/Coastwest_Grants_Guidelines.pdf)
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