



THE ENTRANCE COMMUNITY  
PRECINCT COMMITTEE

**Wyong Shire Council's Landscape Architect, Future Planning, Boyd  
McMillan, presentation on 17 October, 2009 on  
"Draft Picnic Point Plan of Management"**

Boyd began by explaining where the draft Picnic Point Plan of Management is at:

It has been in progress for several years since 2001.

Planning legislation says that if we change the land use we have to re-exhibit the proposal. The Picnic Point Draft Management Plan is not on public exhibition yet, and Boyd advised that he wanted input from TECPC and the North Entrance Progress Association before finalising the draft plan.

There are two competing interests:

- ❖ The massive development of The Entrance Resort where the **Channel Promenade** along the lake is the link to Picnic Point and provides an area of intense recreation, **The Active Recreation Area** at Picnic Point and the **Passive Recreation Area** to the east of the Cycle track:
- ❖ and the section of Tuggerah lake foreshore that is **Environmentally Sensitive**.

**The Channel Promenade** features:

- Trees
- Discoveries for Children
- Active play
- Recognising existing use - fishing
- Link with the bicycle path
- Potential for on street dining

are among the things that will be there. It will visually draw you to Picnic Point,

**The Active Recreation Area** at Picnic Point will reflect existing use:

- Climbing play structure
- Skate board ramps
- Dual boat ramp
- Pontoon for accessing boats

The Passive Recreation Area and The Environmentally Sensitive Area is to the south of The Active Recreation Area at Picnic Point. It consists of three sleeves running north south. The Bicycle track acts as the delineator, with the Passive recreation area to the east of it and a buffer zone to the west of the bicycle track separating it from the Environmentally Sensitive Area.

**The Environmentally Sensitive Area** has had fifteen significant species of birds identified in the area. They are protected by Commonwealth Legislation and this was the reason why the carnival could not be located at Picnic Point as the lights and the noise at night would have disturbed their habitat. Temporary fencing may be needed to protect the habitat. It is reclaimed land that has been declared significant with an Environmental Certificate of Compliance ( ECC ). To ensure ECC the area is being mapped using a Geographic Information System. ( GIS ). The seven point test is being undertaken. One point of difficulty is that to provide the required bird habitat bare sand is needed and this will require the removal of some existing vegetation.

Boyd indicated that he would like to give TECPC time to absorb this draft plan and it was agreed he would return to our 5th of December meeting. Attached is the hand out provided by Boyd.

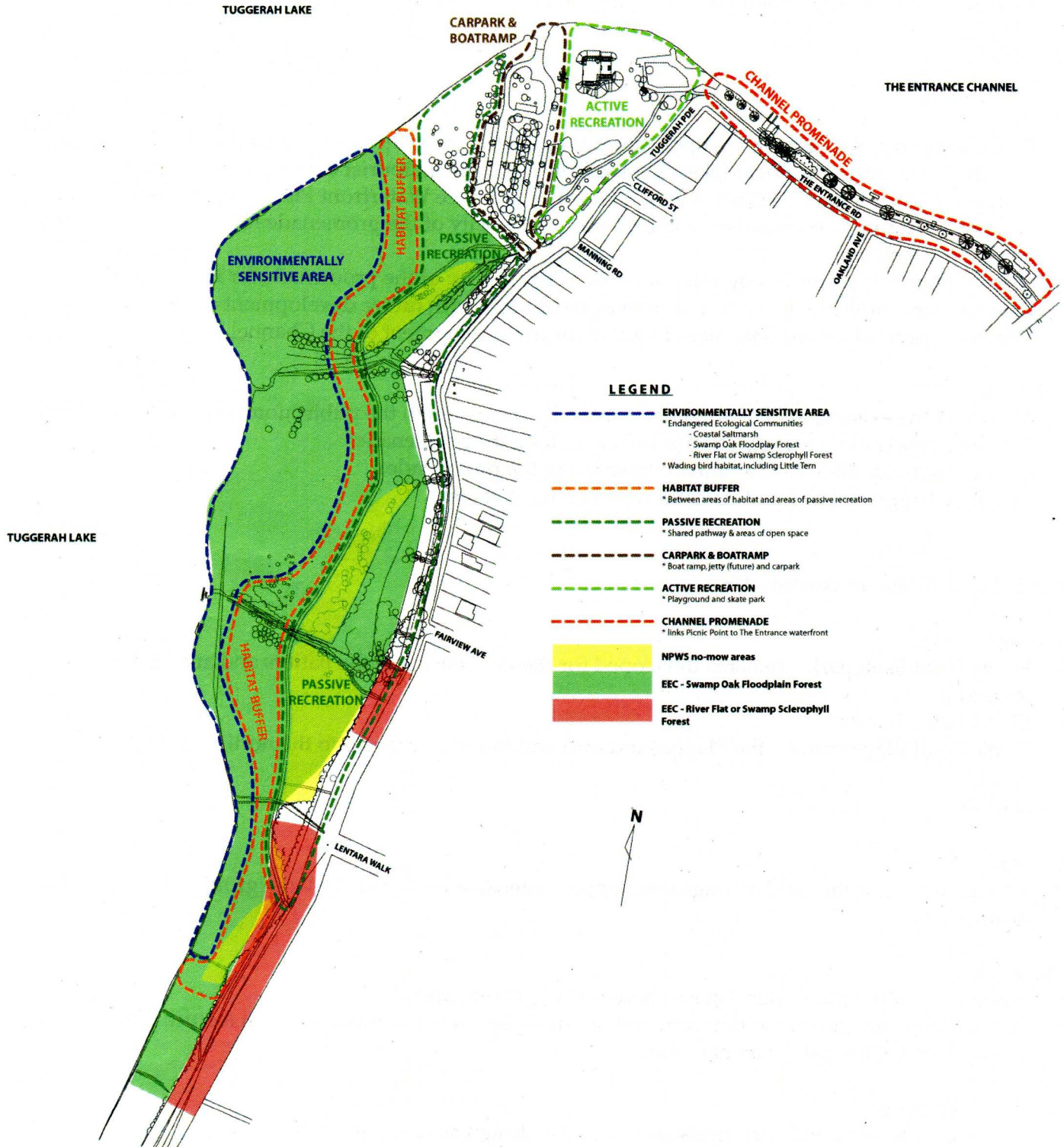
Doug Darlington note taker.

# PICNIC POINT - MANAGEMENT UNITS

## MANAGEMENT UNITS PLAN

The areas shown on the plan below reflect separable Management Units with different objectives of use and between which different Ecological Values and Development Functions apply. The boundaries are based upon site assessment and aerial photographs and do not reflect surveyed information.

### Management Units Plan



## MANAGEMENT UNITS

The major elements and actions of the Management Units Plan are listed and discussed below:

### The Entrance Channel Promenade Unit

#### *Settings:*

- The Entrance Road Seawall.
- The Entrance Road foot path and grassed areas with specimen tree planting.
- Existing buildings and structures to support recreational boating, fishing and boat hire.

#### *Objectives:*

#### Overall

- Provide and develop innovative opportunities and settings to support recreation and commercial activities that reflect the linear lake edge location and adjacent tourist development.
- Redevelop as a regional recreation area to link The Entrance Waterfront Plaza with Picnic Point.
- Maintain existing recreation uses and increase the capacity of the promenade for recreation and non vehicle movement.
- Use robust materials and design that increases the capacity of the promenade for recreation use.
- Provide opportunities for outdoor dining in association with future development of adjacent areas.
- Use the Vision Statement document to guide future development of the Channel Promenade.

#### Public Art

- To extend the existing area of attraction for family recreation in the public domain of The Entrance.
- To create focal points that emphasize linkages along the promenade.
- Create a sense of discovery to draw people along the promenade.
- Interpret Tuggerah Lake and its natural and cultural values.

### Picnic Point Active Recreation Unit

#### *Settings:*

- Picnic Point Skatepark - the area developed for the skatepark and the batters and ancillary areas around it.
- Picnic Point Toilets
- Picnic Point Playground - the Playground area and the open grassed to the north.

#### *Objectives:*

#### Overall

- Provide opportunities and settings that support intensive recreation by large groups of people as a destination.

#### Playgrounds

- Maintain existing playground at southern end of grassed area.
- Provide new playground at northern end of unit to provide a significant visual feature to terminate the vista over the Channel Promenade Unit.

#### Skatepark Facilities

- Maintain skatepark and surrounds and complete design as funding permits.

#### Public Toilet Building and Surrounds

- Maintain existing building and redevelop a safer path system and grassed picnic area to the north.
- Extend shared path to link to playground around the western side of the intensive recreation area for junior cyclists.

## Public Art

- Create a sense of discovery to draw people into Picnic Point.
- Interpret Tuggerah Lakes and its natural and cultural values.

## Picnic Point Car park and Boat ramp Unit

### *Settings:*

- The Boat Ramp, Car and Trailer Parking and Access road and peripheral area.

### *Objectives:*

- Provide a setting that supports safe, accessible, high volume boat launching, parking and fishing activity.
- Implement the Estuary Management Plan Actions to amplify the boat ramp and carpark.
- Maintain the existing infrastructure at a high standard.

## Picnic Point Passive Recreation Unit

### *Settings:*

- Picnic Point North Picnic Area – replanted area west of the Carpark with Picnic tables and seats.
- Shared pathway to south and open areas of grass.
- Unsealed, informal parking areas along Tuggerah Parade.
- Dense Casuarina regrowth around stormwater drainage channels.

### *Objectives:*

- Provide open space to support low key dispersed recreational use managed to protect the habitat values of Picnic Point.
- Provide dispersed facilities such as bike racks, seats, tables and BBQ's to extend the low key recreation area without infringing upon the defined habitat or buffer area.
- Provide signage to interpret the habitat values of Picnic Point and advise of management activities.
- Manage the area in accordance with the specific requirements of the NPWS in regard to mowing as shown on the management units plan.

## Picnic Point Habitat Buffer Unit

### *Settings:*

- Grassed and treed area immediately west of the shared path that separates active uses from the environmentally sensitive reclaimed area.

### *Objectives:*

- Provide an area developed and managed to accommodate dispersed low key recreational use and act as a protective buffer between recreation units and the sensitive habitat unit.
- Provide signage, fencing and management to interpret and protect the values of the Environmentally Sensitive Unit.
- Remove any facilities provided for recreation to reduce its attraction for large groups.

## Picnic Point Environmentally Sensitive Unit

### *Settings:*

Bird Habitat: Sand and grassed habitat area, inter tidal lake fringes and mudflats.

Endangered Ecological Communities present in this Unit:

1. Coastal Saltmarsh,
2. Swamp Oak Floodplain Forest
3. Swamp Schlerophyll Forest on Coastal Floodplains.

### *Objectives:*

Develop and manage the unit to protect and enhance its habitat values according to the requirements of the Species Impact Statement for the Proposed Recreational Development of Picnic Point, The Entrance and to protect the viability of the Endangered Ecological Communities present on Picnic Point.

### *Actions:*

Bird Habitat:

Manage the nesting and roosting area and buffer according to the Species Impact Statement requirements to include:

- Vegetation control to maintain areas of open sand.
- Signage to advise and interpret within habitat buffer.
- Fencing along edge of habitat buffer.
- Management of inappropriate activities such as vehicle access and intensive recreation.

Endangered Ecological Communities:

Coastal Saltmarsh:

- Manage in accordance with the recommendations of the Tuggerah Lakes Estuary Management Plan.
- Remove threatening processes by appropriate management and actions.
- Mow at a height that does not damage salt marsh.
- Manage new growth to maintain bird habitat area and sightlines to lakes.

Swamp Oak Floodplain Forest and Swamp Schlerophyll Forest on Coastal Floodplains:

- Picnic Point Stormwater Wetland - the area of Picnic Point immediately west of Tuggerah Parade developed as a Stormwater drain, replanted with wetland species.
- Remnant forest fringing Tuggerah Parade providing seed stock for a vigorously colonising plant community.
- Manage vegetation to retain solar and maintenance access to stormwater drains to achieve water quality objectives.
- Remove identified threatening processes by appropriate management and actions.