Cobbler Creek Recreation Park Management Plan

North Metropolitan Adelaide

April 2003

Government of South Australia

DEPARTMENT FOR environment and heritage

Our Parks, Our Heritage, Our Legacy

Cultural richness and diversity are the marks of a great society. It is these qualities that are basic to our humanity. They are the foundation of our value systems and drive our quest for purpose and contentment.

Cultural richness embodies morality, spiritual well-being, the rule of law, reverence for life, human achievement, creativity and talent, options for choice, a sense of belonging, personal worth and an acceptance of responsibility for the future.

Biological richness and diversity are, in turn, important to cultural richness and communities of people. When a community ceases to value and protect its natural landscapes, it erodes the richness and wholeness of its cultural foundation.

In South Australia, we are privileged to have a network of parks, reserves and protected areas that continue to serve as benchmarks against which we can measure progress and change brought about by our society. They are storehouses of nature's rich diversity, standing as precious biological and cultural treasures. It is important to realise that survival of species in 'island' reserves surrounded by agriculture or urban areas is uncertain, and that habitat links between reserves are essential for their long-term value as storehouses.

As a result of more than a century of conserving nature and cultural items, we possess a "legacy" which is worth passing on to future generations.

There are twelve essentials for the protection of our park environments:

- Recognition that a primary purpose of our national parks system is to conserve the wide diversity of South Australia's native plants and animals and to improve their chances of survival through active wildlife management.
- Recognition that all our parks also protect cultural legacy of relevance to both Indigenous and Non-indigenous people, and that Indigenous people have had cultural association with this land over many thousands of years.
- Freedom to improve our legacy by making additions to the park system -- enhancing existing protected areas and including landscapes and environments containing native plant and animal communities not already protected.
- Realisation that the continuance of our native species cannot be dependent upon island reserves alone but should be provided for in a regional landscape with linkages between natural areas to enhance the prospect of long-term survival.
- Recognition that there is potential for new and useful substances or genetic material to be found in native plant and animals.
- Recognition of economic and social benefits for local communities, which arise from the presence of national parks in their region and the consequent opportunities to offer service for visitors.
- Development of close relationships with the community, so that there is an understanding of the role of parks in conserving native wildlife, cultural items and in providing recreational opportunities.
- Promotion of community participation in making decisions on the management of parks, so that a sense of community ownership of the reserve system may be fostered, and so that parks and surrounding landscapes are managed in harmony.
- Appreciation that those qualities presented to visitors for their use and enjoyment in parks, should be the diversity of plants, animals and landscapes for which the parks were set aside.
- Understanding that development in a park should proceed where it :
  - contributes to the conservation of the environment;
  - provides for better appreciation of the need to conserve the diversity of plants and animals;
  - protects wildlife habitats and landscape (especially Vulnerable and threatened species or communities); and
  - is necessary for management of the park.
- Reassurance, in support of our cultural character, that natural areas can survive even though those who care deeply for their survival may never visit them.
- Provision of valued natural areas for people to be at one with nature and for personal and spiritual refreshment.

COBBLER CREEK RECREATION PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

North Metropolitan Adelaide **South Australia**

April 2003

Department for Environment and Heritage

This plan of management has been prepared
and adopted in pursuance of Section 38 of the
National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972.

Government of South Australia

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FOREWORD

It is difficult to overestimate the value of a natural area like Cobbler Creek Recreation Park, surrounded as it is by urban development. The park preserves open space and provides a haven for the tranquil appreciation of nature, readily accessible to residents of the northeast suburbs of Adelaide.

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park retains the largest remnant of Mallee Box (*Eucalyptus porosa*) grassy woodland left on the Adelaide Plains. As such, it is a valuable reminder of a vegetation type that once dominated the land now occupied by the city and suburbs of Adelaide.

This plan of management is the second to be adopted for the park. It outlines a series of objectives and actions for the future use and management of what, I believe, is a significant community asset. The actions in the plan are intended to facilitate the implementation of high quality conservation programs and ecologically sustainable improvements to visitor facilities.

Revegetation programs on land previously cleared for farming and grazing, undertaken with the assistance of many committed volunteers, have begun to bear fruit and this plan encourages ongoing work to restore valuable wildlife habitat.

There is much interest in the future of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park and numerous people have contributed to the development of this plan of management, including the enthusiastic Friends of Cobbler Creek and officers from the City Councils of Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully. That strong commitment, many helpful suggestions and ongoing interest are gratefully acknowledged.

I now formally adopt the plan of management for Cobbler Creek Recreation Park under the provisions of section 38 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*. I would encourage you to read the plan and visit and enjoy this special park.

JOHN HILL
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

SYNOPSIS

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park, 19 km north of Adelaide, was set aside in the 1970s as part of the metropolitan open space (MOSS) network between the urban areas of Salisbury and Golden Grove. In 1989 it was proclaimed a recreation park under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*, and control passed to DEH. Management of the park is dictated by the Cobbler Creek Recreation Park Management Plan, adopted in 1990.

Since 1990, a number of key developments have occurred in the park and surrounding region. These include the construction of The Grove Way, the Cobbler Creek Flood Control Dam, increasing urban development at Golden Grove, erection of a telecommunications tower and relocation of the Lofty/Barossa District Headquarters from Cobbler Creek to Black Hill.

In 1998, the City of Salisbury met with representatives of the Department of Environment and Heritage concerned over the realisation of the 1990 Management Plan. The City of Salisbury considered that insufficient resourcing was being directed towards effective realisation of the park's dual role of biodiversity conservation and public recreation, particularly with the rapid expansion of urban development surrounding the reserve. Council was of the opinion that opportunities existed for partnership arrangements between Department for Environment and Heritage and Local Government with an aim to improve the standard of park maintenance and visitor facilities.

Subsequently the Department held discussions with representatives of both adjacent local governments (Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully City Councils) and with the Friends of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park. A coordinated program of community consultation was developed to explore options for future management.

Consultants (Woodhead International and QED Pty Ltd) were engaged to summarise community and stakeholder aspirations for the park and prepare a 'Master Plan', involving the collective input of the State Government (DEH and Planning SA) and the City Councils of Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully. Whilst the Master Planning process identified important management issues and explored diverse initiatives, it was determined, in consultation with key stakeholders, to redirect planning emphasis into a revised plan of management as prescribed under section 38 of the Act. This provides the legislative framework to facilitate future management of the park. Issues raised and discussed in the Master Plan were considered and proposals, where appropriate, have been incorporated into this plan.

The key outcomes of this management plan are as follows:

- Improved biodiversity conservation in the park, particularly the eastern block.
- A vegetation management plan that integrates pest plant and animal control programs, and is considered during development and review of the fire management plan.
- A program for the development of self-guided, interpretive trails throughout the park to cater for increased passive recreational use, ensuring that interpretive infrastructure is sited and designed to take into account the impact of being located within a high density urban environment, including the high potential for vandalism.
- Development of partnerships between state and local governments and the community in the management of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park to optimise resource use and to provide a mechanism for considering opportunities for income-generating activities in the lower 1/3rd of the park.
- The development of a Visitor Facilities Plan to identify and determine the scope and type of facilities for future visitor use and demands.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND GLOSSARY OF TERMS

APCC:	Animal and Plant Control Commission
CFS:	Country Fire Service
DEH:	Department for Environment and Heritage
DENR:	(the former) Department of Environment and Natural Resources
GIS:	Geographic Information System (computer-based mapping)
ILUA:	Indigenous Land Use Agreement
IUCN:	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
MOSS:	Metropolitan Open Space System
NABCWMB:	Northern Adelaide/Barossa Catchment Water Management Board
NHT:	Natural Heritage Trust
PIRSA:	Primary Industries and Resources South Australia
WWF:	World Wildlife Fund (Worldwide Fund for Nature Conservation)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This plan has been prepared with the participation of Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council and Friends of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park. Their ongoing interest provides valuable input to the effective management and apposite development of the park. The contribution of Woodhead International, for coordinating public opinion on potential developments and use of the park is acknowledged.

A particular thank you for the strong support and participation by members of the Cobbler Creek Management Steering Group, all of whom have attended many meetings and contributed a number of hours to develop this Draft Plan of Management.

They are:

Mr David Plumridge	Chairperson
Mr David Mitchell	Friends of Cobbler Creek
Mr Harry Pitrans	Salisbury City Council
Mr Mark Band	Salisbury City Council
Mr Peter Nicholls	Tea Tree Gully City Council
Mr Graham Brooks	Tea Tree Gully City Council

The staff of the Adelaide Region and Reserve Planning Section, DEH.

1 INTRODUCTION

This management plan has been prepared in accordance with the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*. The draft plan outlines proposals to effectively conserve the natural and cultural values of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park, while providing for public use and enjoyment.

Section 38 of the Act states that a management plan is required for each reserve. A management plan should set forth proposals in relation to the management and improvement of the reserve and the methods by which it is intended to accomplish the objectives of the Act in relation to that reserve.

Upon completion of a draft plan an announcement is made in the Government *Gazette* and the plan is placed on public exhibition for three months. During this period, any interested person may make submissions which are then referred, with the plan, to the South Australian National Parks and Wildlife Council for their comments and suggestions. Submissions must be in writing. E-mail submissions are acceptable.

Having formal community input into public land management is a requirement of the legislation and supported by park managers. The draft plan Cobbler Creek Recreation Park was released for public exhibition in November 2001. At the close of the comment period, 87 submissions had been received. Issues raised in submissions included the use of the park by mountain bikes and horses, expressing both support for and objection to such use. All these concerns were considered by the Lofty/Barossa Consultative Committee and the Cobbler Creek Management Steering Group before going to the SA National Parks and Wildlife Council for their consideration and comments.

The Minister, after considering all representations, may then adopt the management plan with or without alterations. In the case of the management plan for Cobbler Creek Recreation Park, a number of alterations have been incorporated as a result of the community consultation process. Notice of such official adoption is published in the Government *Gazette* and copies of the final plan are made available for sale to the public. They may also be viewed on the departmental website http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/management_plans.html.

Once a plan of management is adopted, its provisions must be carried out in relation to the reserve in question and no actions undertaken unless they are in accordance with the plan. However, the Act does make provision for amending adopted plans and this process is similar to the one described above.

This document is the management plan for Cobbler Creek Recreation Park. The reserve is located in Northern Metropolitan Adelaide, and falls within the Adelaide Region of the Department for Environment and Heritage. The plan outlines proposals to effectively conserve the natural and cultural values of the park, while providing for public use and enjoyment.

Intermediate to the preparation of this plan of management for Cobbler Creek Recreation Park, consultants (Woodhead International and QED Pty Ltd) were engaged to undertake research and public consultation to ascertain current visitor use and to explore potential future use of the park. A comprehensive stakeholder consultation program was undertaken, including four main components:

1. Stakeholder survey by questionnaire, sent to a wide range of local, regional and State stakeholders, inviting comments and ideas (too few responses were submitted to be useful);
2. Intensive workshop with stakeholders to consider key issues and opportunities;
3. Community Information Day to generate broader input and to present draft plans, ideas and options; and
4. Call for Expressions of Interest to establish appropriate self-funding recreation activities in the park.

Useful responses given in answer to the survey, together with constructive suggestions made in the community workshop and at the community information day have largely been incorporated into the descriptive and prescriptive sections of this plan. Further, responses to a call for expressions of interest regarding self funded recreation ventures have also been addressed.

2 MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Management planning is a statutory requirement for all reserves prescribed in S38 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* and S31 of the *Wilderness Protection Act 1992*. The management planning process is but a small part of a much larger, state-wide hierarchy of management. This is directed from the highest level by state government policies and departmental priorities and implemented, on a day to day basis, at a regional and district level.

Management plans provide a ministerially endorsed and legally binding framework for the use and management of *National Parks and Wildlife Act* reserves. They are intended to accommodate anticipated trends and community aspirations over a five to ten year time frame. The legislation anticipates that management plans will be formally reviewed from time to time, but there are no prescribed time limits for this to occur.

DEH regional staff have been assigned primary responsibility for preparing management plans and undertaking the associated community consultation process. A standard management planning process is mandated, to ensure that all statutory obligations are met.

Management plans define what is considered acceptable activity in a reserve while still allowing park managers some flexibility in day to day decision-making. They should be proscriptive enough to prevent deleterious activities, or inappropriate developments, taking place. They are not intended to be comprehensive compendiums of resource information, nor are they heavily prescriptive action statements; other documentation covers those aspects. They do however, identify the key values of reserves, the appropriate utilisation and the major issues of concern requiring action, thereby providing the community (and park managers) with a blue-print of how public land is going to be used and managed.

Management plans often foreshadow the preparation of 'delegate' plans to achieve the proposed objectives. Delegate plans are detailed, non-statutory action plans that provide additional details on how the actions, listed in the management plan, are to be progressed. With regard to Cobbler Creek Recreation Park, the development of a Vegetation Management Plan, Fire Management Action Plan, Visitor Facilities and Services Plan, and a Volunteer and Community Works Plan are proposed. Although such in-house action plans are not subject to the same statutory processes as are formal management plans, DEH will continue to involve relevant stakeholders, other agencies and community groups in their preparation and implementation as part of the on-going management of the park.

Each year park managers, taking regional and district priorities into account, draw up work programs to implement some of the actions proposed in management plans. Whether these projects are actually undertaken is determined by, and subject to, the availability of resources (eg staffing and funding) and to any requirements of the Minister for Environment and Conservation and the department's Chief Executive, who take a state-wide overview in setting departmental priorities and allocating resources.

2.1 Park Classification

Parks are established for the conservation of biodiversity and cultural heritage and the environmentally responsible use of our natural resources. The classification of parks provides a general statement of purpose for which the area was acquired.

Classifications under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*, the *Crown Lands Act 1929* or the *Wilderness Protection Act 1992* are as follows:

Recreation Parks (RP) - areas of significance under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act*, managed for public recreation and enjoyment in a natural setting;

National Parks (NP) - areas proclaimed under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* considered to be of national significance due to wildlife, natural features of the land or cultural heritage;

Conservation Parks (CP) - areas under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* that are protected for the purpose of conserving wildlife or the natural or historic features of the land, where the development of visitor facilities tends to be kept to a minimum;

Game Reserves (GR) - areas set aside under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* for the conservation of wildlife and the management of game at prescribed times for controlled seasonal hunting;

Regional Reserves (RR) - areas proclaimed under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* for the purpose of conserving wildlife or natural or historical features while allowing responsible use of the area's natural resources (ie. mining);

Conservation Reserves (CR) - land currently set aside for conservation of natural and cultural features under the *Crown Lands Act 1929* and held under the care, control and management of the Minister for Environment, that for various reasons were not proclaimed under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972*;

Wilderness Protection Areas (WPA) - land set aside under the *Wilderness Protection Act 1992* to protect natural and remote areas.

2.2 Government Policy and Legislation

When managing reserves, DEH is required under section 37 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* to have regard to, and provide actions that are consistent with the following objectives stated in the Act:

- preservation and management of wildlife;
- preservation of historic sites, objects and structures of historic or scientific interest within reserves;
- preservation of features of geological, natural or scenic interest;
- destruction of dangerous weeds and the eradication or control of noxious weeds and exotic plants;
- control of vermin and exotic animals;
- control and eradication of disease of animals and vegetation;
- prevention and suppression of bush fires and other hazards;
- encouragement of public use and enjoyment of reserves and education in, and a proper understanding and recognition of, their purpose and significance; and
- generally, the promotion of the public interest.

Additional legislation, conventions and agreements, DEH is obliged to comply with are listed in Appendix A.

2.3 Native Title

Native Title is used to describe the interests Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People have in land and waters according to their traditional laws and customs. Federal legislation, in the form of the *Native Title Act 1993*, was enacted to:

- provide for the recognition and protection of native title;
- establish ways in which future dealings affecting native title may proceed and to set standards for those dealings;
- establish a mechanism for determining claims to native title; and
- provide for, or permit, the validation of past acts, and intermediate period acts, invalidated because of the existence of native title.

Any development proposed for a reserve must be valid in terms of the *Native Title Act 1993*.

This reserve is subject to a claim for a determination of native title by the Kaurna People. A 'determination' is a decision made by the courts as to who holds native title for an area.

This management plan is released and will be adopted subject to any native title rights and interests that may continue in relation to the land and/or waters. Nothing in the management plan is intended to affect native title. Before undertaking any future acts that might affect native title, DEH will follow the relevant provisions of the *Native Title Act 1993*.

However, in addition to the requirements of native title legislation, DEH is committed to developing partnerships with Aboriginal people. This may include a number of native title and Aboriginal heritage groups.

Consistent with South Australian Government policy, DEH is also keen to pursue Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) where appropriate. ILUAs are voluntary agreements between a native title group and other people about the use and management of land and/or waters.

2.4 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) represents a fundamental reform of former Commonwealth environment laws. The Act establishes a new Commonwealth approval process for assessment of proposed actions that are likely to have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance and provides an integrated system for biodiversity conservation and management of important protected areas.

Matters that require assessment and approval of proposed actions under the EPBC Act are:

- any action that has, will have or is likely to have a significant impact on the following identified matters of national environmental significance:
  - World Heritage properties
  - Ramsar wetlands of international significance
  - Nationally listed threatened species and ecological communities
  - Listed migratory species
  - Commonwealth marine areas
  - Nuclear actions (including uranium mining)
- any activity involving Commonwealth land that has, will have, or is likely to have a significant impact on the environment.

With regard to Cobbler Creek Recreation Park, there are no actions proposed by this plan known to initiate concern on matters of national environmental significance.

3 MANAGEMENT CONTEXT

3.1 Purpose of Reserve

The State Government purchased the land in the early 1970's through State Planning Authority funding as part of the planned metropolitan open space (MOSS) network. Much of the land was a farming property known as Kelway Park, the western, cleared portion of which had been cropped. A homestead in the south west quarter of the park still bears the name of the farm. Wooded hills in the eastern portion had been extensively grazed by sheep with clearing and cropping of broader ridges.

The objectives for reserving the land included the provision of:

- biodiversity conservation and community recreation in a semi-natural setting; and
- an open buffer on the foothills between Salisbury and Golden Grove.

Control of Cobbler Creek passed to National Parks and Wildlife in 1982 when the land was designated a Recreation Park under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*. Recreation parks are proclaimed to allow land to be "conserved and managed for public recreation and enjoyment" (NP&W Act, section 34(1)(a)). These areas protect natural values, landscape and historic sites, but may also provide facilities for public recreation in a natural setting.

<u>IUCN Category</u>

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park is managed as a Category III reserve, in accordance with IUCN classification. Under this international classification, Category III reserves are called Natural Monuments, managed mainly for the conservation of specific natural features. They are designed to protect land "containing one or more specific natural or natural/cultural feature[s] which is of outstanding value because of its inherent rarity, representative or aesthetic qualities or cultural significance". Such reserves are managed:

- "To protect or preserve in perpetuity specific outstanding natural features because of their natural significance, unique or representational quality, and/or spiritual connotations.
- To an extent consistent with the foregoing objective, to provide opportunities for research, education, interpretation and public appreciation.
- To eliminate and thereafter prevent exploitation or occupation inimical to the purpose of designation.
- To deliver to any resident population such benefits as are consistent with the other objectives of management." (IUCN, 1994).

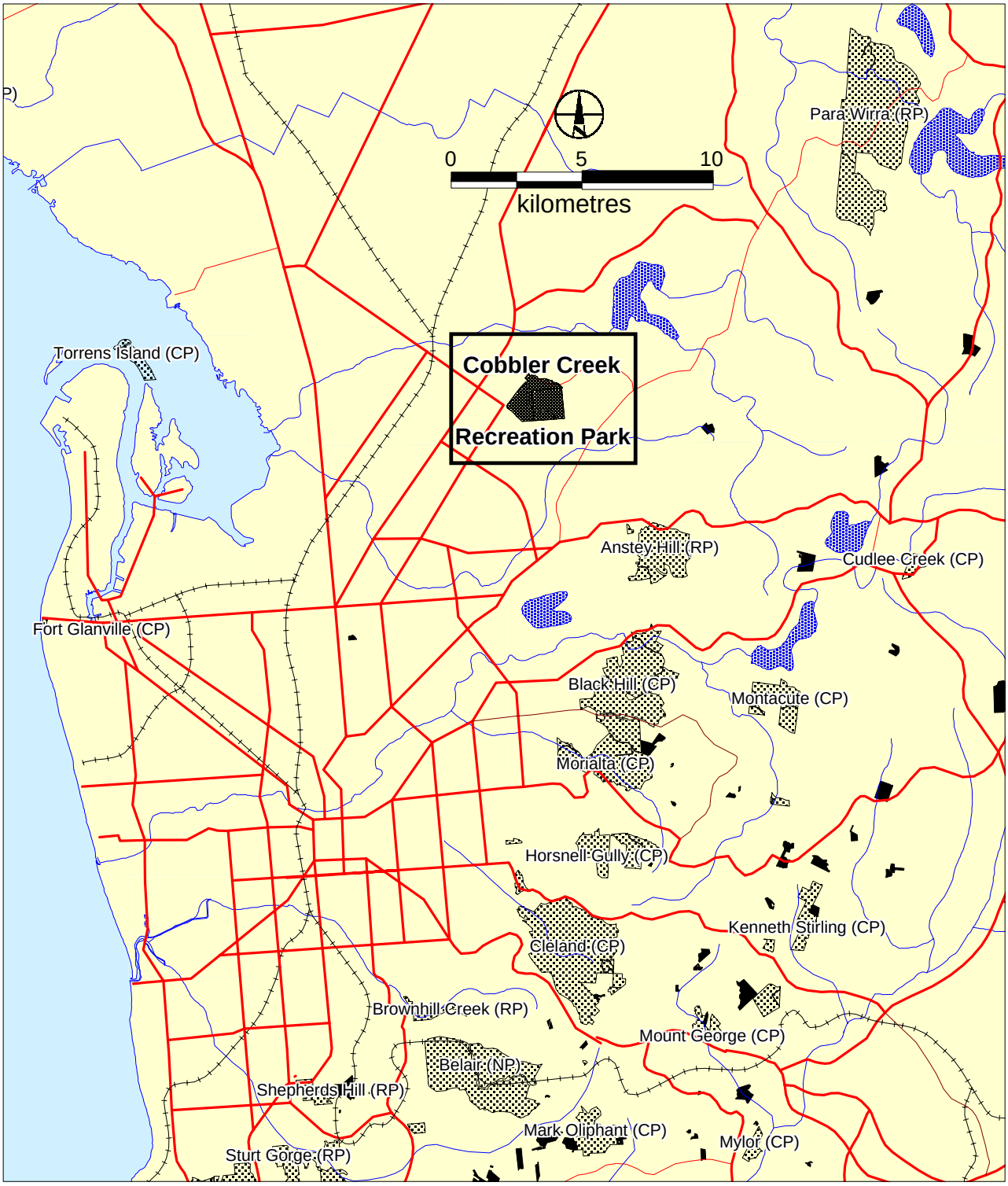
3.2 Location and Features

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park consists of approximately 290 hectares of foothills and hills-face land between the urban areas of Salisbury and Golden Grove, 19 km north of Adelaide. It is adjacent to Bridge Road, and The Grove Way crosses the park, dividing it into two more or less equal parts. The park contains low hills and footslopes of the Mount Lofty Ranges.

General elevation rises from approximately 70 metres on the north-western boundary to approximately 215 metres at a trigonometric point near the south eastern boundary. Cobbler Creek, after which the park is named, dominates the north and east of the park and two lesser, parallel gullies cut deeply into the general upslope.

3.2.1 Climate

The nearest meteorological records are from Parafield Aerodrome, approximately 5 kilometres to the south-west. At this location, average annual rainfall is 465 mm. Rainfall increases with elevation and is expected to be over 500 mm in the north and east of the park. The approximate mean maximum temperatures are 15.6°C in winter and 29.7°C in summer, while approximate mean minimum temperatures are 6.2°C in winter and 16.5°C in summer.



LEGEND

Drainage

Main road

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park

NPWSA reserve

Heritage Agreement

Map designed and created
by Reserve Planning using PAMS
Date: 2003

Figure 1

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park
Location

DEPARTMENT FOR environment and heritage

3.3 Regional Setting

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park is within the Lofty/Barossa District of the Adelaide Region of the DEH. The administrative office is located at Black Hill Conservation Park and operational staff based at Para Wirra Recreation Park attend to day to day business. There are no permanent rangers in the park.

The park is a middle-sized member of a group of eleven parks in the northern and central metropolitan and near-metropolitan area of Adelaide. Its nearest neighbours include Anstey Hill Recreation Park, Angove Conservation Park, St Kilda Mangroves, Para Wirra Recreation Park, Black Hill Conservation Park and Morialta Conservation Park.

The role of Cobbler Creek and other *National Parks and Wildlife Act* reserves within the region is recognised by the current State Government planning initiative, the Greater Mount Lofty Parklands, Yurrebilla. The aim of this initiative is to establish a common management framework for all *National Parks and Wildlife Act* reserves, Forestry SA reserves and SA Water reserves throughout the Mount Lofty Ranges. The initiative will identify common issues such as pest plants and recreation management and other opportunities to develop regional level policies which will enable a consistent management approach to be adopted throughout the region.

The aim of the National Reserve System is to establish a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative Reserve System (CARRS) for the protection of Australia's biodiversity according to the following principles:

- Comprehensiveness; inclusion of the full range of ecosystems recognised at an appropriate scale within and across each bioregion.
- Adequacy; ability to maintain the ecological viability and integrity of populations, species and communities.
- Representativeness; those areas that are selected for inclusion in reserves reasonably reflect the biotic diversity of the ecosystems from which they derive.

The contribution of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park to the National Reserves System is important due to the fragmented distribution of protected areas and the poor representation of many environmental associations within Government reserves and protected areas.

<u>Biogeographic Regionalisation and Environmental Associations</u>

The Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) provides a bioregional planning framework within which to identify the gaps and to set priorities for developing the National Reserve System. IBRA regions represent a landscape-based approach to classifying the land surface from a range of continental data on environmental attributes. In 1999, IBRA version 5.1 was developed with 85 bioregions delineated, each reflecting a unifying set of major environmental influences which shape the occurrence of flora and fauna and their interaction with the physical environment.

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park lies within the Flinders Lofty Block IBRA region , which can be described as "temperate to arid Proterozoic ranges, alluvial fans and plains, and some outcropping volcanics, with the semi arid to arid north supporting native cypress, black oak and mallee open woodlands, Eremophila and Acacia shrublands, and bluebush/saltbush chenopod shrublands on shallow, well-drained loams and moderately-deep, well-drained red duplex soils. The increase in rainfall to the south corresponds with an increase in low open woodlands of Messmate Stringybark (*Eucalyptus obliqua*) and Brown Stringybark (*E. baxteri*) on deep lateritic soils, Pink Gum (*E. fasciculosa*) and Cup Gum (*E. cosmophylla*) on shallower or sandy soils." (Environment Australia 2000).

The Flinders Lofty Block IBRA region totals 7,131,816 ha and has been extensively cleared of native vegetation for agriculture and urban development. Remaining native vegetation is highly fragmented and only 5.5% of the Flinders Lofty Block's area is conserved in protected areas.

Within the region, Laut *et al* (1977) recognised a series of Environmental Associations. The park falls within the western edge of the Rosedale Environmental Association of Laut *et al* (1977). This is described as an "undulating to rolling plain on shale with broad floodplains. The cover is predominantly open parkland with an understorey of sown pastures and some vines." Native vegetation in the association has been extensively cleared or modified by agriculture and horticulture. Cobbler Creek Recreation Park and Sandy Creek Conservation Park together represent 1.2% of the association and conserve some of the only remaining native vegetation.

DEH is preparing a *Biodiversity Plan for the Mount Lofty Ranges* which aims to help coordinate biodiversity conservation in the region by identifying flora and fauna resources and establishing strategies to enhance conservation through coordinated threat abatement programs, rehabilitation and the establishment of wildlife corridors between strongholds. Biodiversity conservation and rehabilitation programs in Cobbler Creek will aim to contribute significantly to that plan.

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park has particular significance in the northeast suburban region of Adelaide, in that it conserves one of the largest remnants of Mallee Box (*Eucalyptus porosa*) woodland, a vegetation type that once dominated the Adelaide Plain. Because of this, the park is a very important refuge for wildlife of the Adelaide Plains.

Local Council

The park straddles the boundary between the Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully local government areas, with the majority of the park and its designated recreation zone lying within the City of Salisbury. Vacant land to the east of the park is managed as an informal reserve by the City of Tea Tree Gully. Given these links with local government, it is important that a management framework is established to facilitate strong partnerships with Councils and other relevant local community organisations such as the Cobbler Creek Friends Group.

The majority of park visitors are from the local urban area, undertaking passive recreational pursuits such as walking, nature study, bird watching and exercising dogs.

3.4 History of Reserve Management

Since dedication as a recreation park in 1982, DEH has undertaken pest plant and animal control and maintained fuel-reduced zones in strategic locations in the park to minimise the risk of any potential fire escaping into the surrounding urban developments.

Following the adoption of a management plan for the park in 1990, Kelway Park farmhouse was adapted as offices to accommodate the Lofty/Barossa District staff and an adjacent precinct was fenced for sheds, workshops and a small plant nursery.

A number of significant events have occurred since the adoption of the 1990 Plan of Management. These include:

- construction of The Grove Way through the park, effectively bisecting it into northern and southern sections;
- construction of the Cobbler Creek Flood Mitigation Dam on the western section of Cobbler Creek, to control flooding of the urban areas downstream;
- construction of a telecommunications tower in the upper section of the park near The Grove Way.
- an unsuccessful attempt to establish a golf course in the western section of the park, foreshadowed in the 1990 Management Plan and based on an open tendering process;
- extensive urban development around the park edges, including the growth of Golden Grove which abuts the eastern and southern boundaries of the park;
- extensive revegetation initiatives throughout the park undertaken by a number of stakeholders using a variety of revegetation techniques; and
- relocation of District staff (Lofty/Barossa District Office) from the existing office/workshop complex in the park to the Black Hill Conservation Park and Para Wirra Recreation Park.

3.5 Existing Management Arrangements

Before the adoption of this plan, the park was subject to the provisions of *Cobbler Creek Recreation Park Management Plan* (DENR, 1990), which identified joint conservation and recreation objectives, including the definition of a Western General Recreation Zone and an Eastern Landscape Conservation Zone. At that time, the Lofty/Barossa District Office was located in the park. Rangers administering the park are now based at Para Wirra Recreation Park.

3.6 Management Philosophy & Strategic Directions

The role of reserves is predicated by the twin aims of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act*; to provide for public benefit and enjoyment and to conserve wildlife in a natural environment. Recreation parks are proclaimed under the Act to be conserved and managed "for public recreation and enjoyment."

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park is unique in that it offers a 'natural' experience in an urban environment. The mix of conservation and recreation is complex. Broadly speaking, recreation values tend to relate to matters of self-expression, free choice, self-worth and other aspects of achieving personal fulfillment in life. These aims can be achieved through any of the full spectrum of leisure activities, ranging from the most passive, such as nature study and walking, through to more strenuous physical activities. For example, membership of a Friends group can offer significant recreational values as well as provide an opportunity to conserve the natural environment.

The Management Plan needs to provide a balance between conservation and recreation in such a way as to maintain and protect the very resource that provides the attraction for recreation. Leisure trends and changing perceptions of the nature and role of a Recreation Park need also to be noted and considered in any decisions regarding the acceptability or otherwise of a recreational activity in the park. Managers of natural areas, including DEH, are facing pressures from a growing public interest in unstructured outdoor experiences in natural areas, particularly those offering challenge and excitement.

There are adequate conventional sporting facilities such as ovals and tennis courts surrounding the park. Developed facilities in Cobbler Creek Recreation Park will include walking and bicycle trails, picnic facilities and educational interpretation, but may also include more alternative passive recreation opportunities, especially in the western cleared portion.

The type and extent of any development will depend on:

- how well it accommodates or enhances biodiversity conservation;
- how the activity complements existing regional facilities; and
- the ability of the activity to be independently self-sustaining in terms of ongoing management and maintenance.

Increasingly, the importance of biodiversity conservation is being recognised and the future use and management of all reserves must address this issue. Proposed actions will need to be assessed with the ability to meet the primary objective of biodiversity conservation, which at times may result in the regulation of public use.

Both Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully City Councils have an interest in the management of the park and there is an active Friends of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park who meet regularly and voluntarily contribute to revegetation and other projects in the park. Representatives of these bodies have contributed to the development of this plan through the formation of an advisory management steering group. DEH is committed to retain community interest, and will develop more formal partnership arrangements to enhance management of the park.

4 MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

4.1 Zoning

Section 39 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* provides for the designation of zones in a reserve and determines the use of land in those zones to the conditions specified in an adopted management plan. Zoning aims to ensure that public use and management actions remain compatible with the protection of park values.

Zones are based on a combination of landform and landscape character, and the potential recreational and conservation value or use. Specific aims and proposals apply to each zone.

The park can be divided into two broad zones (Western Zone and Eastern Zone) based on landform, vegetation and recreational potential. Each of these zones is divided into policy areas. These are:

Western Zone

Policy: Higher intensity active and passive recreation, to enhance park patronage and use, but still compatible with the unique character and conservation values of the park.

A1 Bridge Road Entry

- Upgrade as main park entry with suitable carparking

A2 Office/Workshop Complex

- Investigate lease and partnership arrangements that are consistent with plan objectives

A3 Western Paddock 1 (substantially modified by previous farming)

- Potential site for active recreational uses, which might include purpose built trails and activity tracks
- Potential development of this zone is discussed more completely in the Visitor Use section of this plan, under Recreation and Tourism.

A4 Western Paddock 2 (previously farmed but with some native grass regeneration)

- Recreational uses in this area should be compatible with the conservation of native grasses and the riparian vegetation of Cobbler Creek.

A5 Western Paddock 3 and Dam Site

- Use as a passive recreation space in conjunction with Dam
- Possible site for the development of a community activity area, car parking and picnic area (see Recreation and Tourism, Visitor Use).
- Opportunity for the development of recreation and interpretive facilities based on the existing dam infrastructure and the exposed geological features.

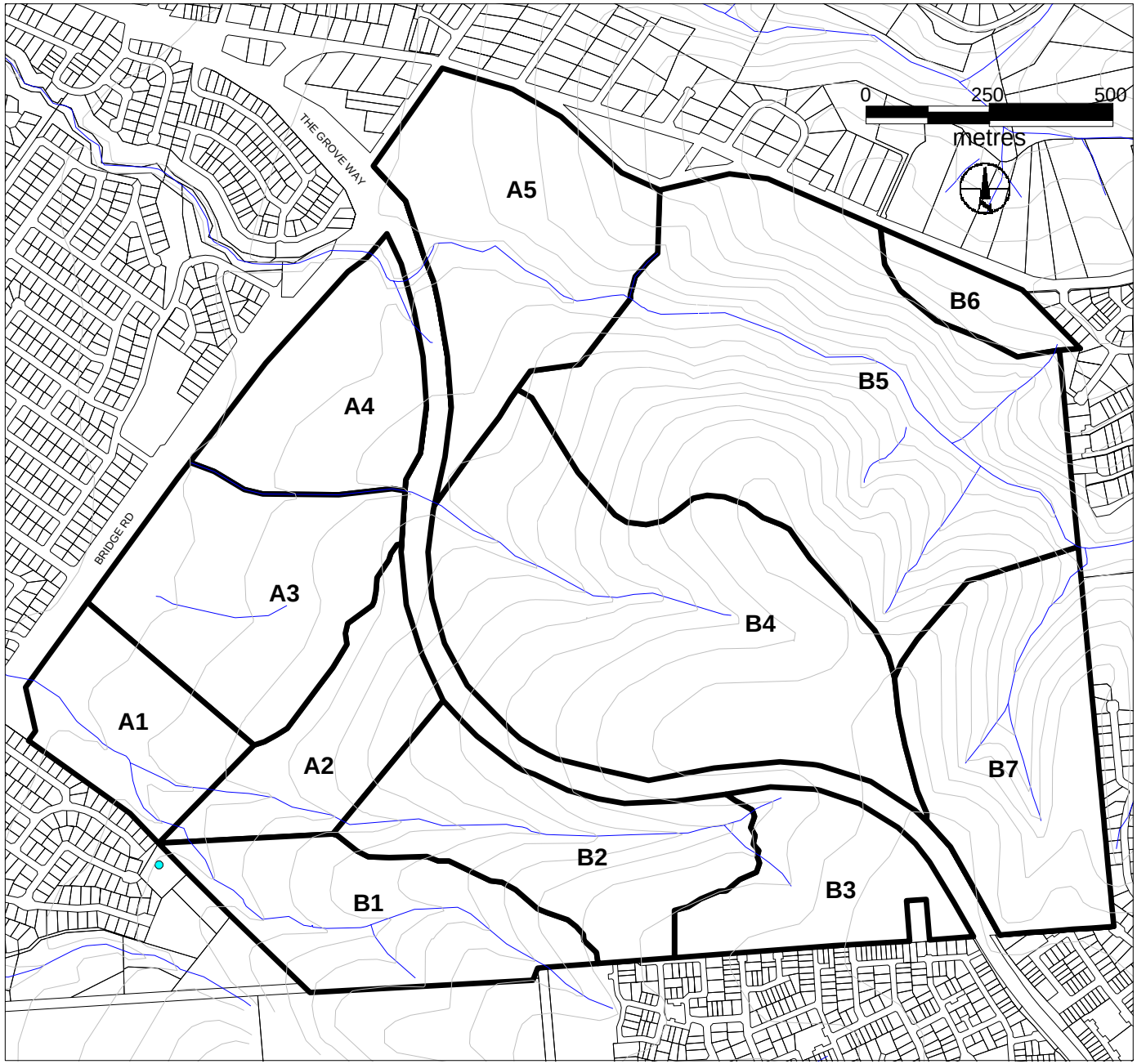


Figure 2

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park
Zoning

Western Zone

A1 Bridge Road Entry
A2 Office/Workshop Complex
A3 Western Paddock 1
A4 Western Paddock 2
A5 Western Paddock 3

Eastern Zone

B1 John Road
B2 "Babbler Creek"
B3 "Trig Point"
B4 Cobbler Hill
B5 Cobbler Creek
B6 Green Valley Drive
B7 Clonolan Creek

Map created by Reserve Planning using PAMS 2003

DEPARTMENT FOR environment and heritage

Eastern Zone

Policy: Primarily low key passive recreation compatible with conservation and landscape values and with primary park users.

B1 John Road

- Important conservation and revegetation resource, with access confined to walking via a specialised interpretive trail.

B2 "Babbler" Creek

- Conservation and revegetation to enhance the Babbler Loop Trail and the area's value due to its easy accessibility to the proposed recreation focus in area A1.

B3 "Trig Point"

- Continued revegetation, with retention of key panoramic views.

B4 Cobbler Hill

- Conservation and revegetation appropriate to the Porosa Trail walk, with enhanced interpretive experience along the trail and the potential provision of a shared pedestrian/cycle track off The Grove Way.

B5 Cobbler Creek

- Retention of the landscape and character of Cobbler Creek and its valley as a significant conservation area and for passive nature study.

B6 Green Valley Drive

- Development of a walking trail with access down to Cobbler Creek.

B7 Clonalan Creek

- Conservation in the wooded areas. Provide a small BMX riding area and associated car park located within the southern degraded cleared area currently used informally for this purpose.

It is also noted that The Grove Way effectively divides the park into two further broad zones.

Objectives

Zone the park to define the level and scope of recreational and conservation development.

Strategies

Potential development and use of areas of the park will be based on conserving and enhancing natural values and building on recreational opportunities.

Conservation initiatives and potential recreational developments are discussed more fully under the Natural Resources and Recreation and Tourism sections of this plan.

Actions

- Zone the park in accordance with Figure 2.

4.2 Natural Resources

4.2.1 Geology and Landform

Background

In the construction of the spillway for the flood mitigation dam, a significant geological feature has been exposed, revealing patterns of folding and faulting. The spillway cutting exposes unconformable contact between Adelaidean rocks of Proterozoic age below younger sediments of Tertiary-Pleistocene to Holocene and recent age. The site is being considered as a Geological Monument and could provide the basis for a significant interpretive initiative.

The exposed rock face is subject to graffiti attacks.

Objectives

Conserve geological features and interpret them for visitors.

Strategies

Interpret the geological exposures for visitors in order to discourage their defacement.

Actions

- Erect an interpretive sign at the flood mitigation dam site that explains the geology evident in the exposed rock face of the cutting.

4.2.2 Soils

Background

Red Brown Earths of the Munno Para Association occur on the flatter land in the west of the park. The remainder of the park comprises Terra Rossas and Rendzinas of the Brownhill Association and fine textures Mallee Soils of the Beaumont Association.

All are subject to water erosion if vegetation cover is removed. Unauthorised activities such as off-road mountain bike or horse riding may cause severe damage to soils, particularly in the eastern uplands of the park.

Objectives

Conserve soils and limit erosion to natural levels.

Strategies

The trail network and other visitor facilities are maintained and/or developed to comply with sustainable soil stability management principles and practices.

Actions

- Undertake soil erosion inventory and undertake works to stabilise and restore areas.
- Redirect or consolidate trails where soil erosion is evident.
- Ensure that management actions and recreational use do not cause undue soil erosion.

4.2.3 Hydrology

Background

Urbanisation of the Cobbler Creek catchment, combined with increased activity in the extraction area upstream of both the park and the new suburbs has caused dramatic changes in hydrology. Small water flows continually enter the park and persist for some distance downstream even in the driest weather due to urban runoff. Sudden rainfall events result in huge amounts of water entering the park, which scour banks and undermine trees. The silt load carried by these events, which has been particularly high during the development of Golden Grove, is deposited behind the flood mitigation dam along with a considerable load of litter and garden refuse.

The creek profile has been substantially modified on the upstream side of the dam by silt deposition and colonisation by both indigenous and weedy semi aquatic species. It is likely that there has been an increase in biodiversity because of the new environmental conditions resulting from these changes. There are opportunities to manage the deposition area to encourage desirable indigenous species through the vegetation management plan.

Erosion of banks due to high flows, both in the steeper eastern section and also downstream of the dam remain a management issue without any obvious solution since the high flows now experienced have little opportunity for mitigation in the now built up catchment. The network of minor mitigation dams apparently are not designed to intercept flows that result in destructive volumes of water entering the park, while the major mitigation dam, having been designed to smooth 1 in 100 year flood peaks, allows flows that are still sufficiently high to cause major erosion to occur.

Objectives

Seek to minimise excessive erosion, siltation and pollution from the catchment upstream.

Strategies

Investigate cooperative management arrangements in order to:

- minimise upstream impacts; and
- ensure compatibility with Northern Adelaide and Barossa Catchment Water Management Board requirements.

Actions

- Liaise with Tea Tree Gully Council to encourage upstream management of Cobbler Creek that minimises negative impacts on the riparian zone (ie erosion, silt, poor water quality, rubbish, inappropriate recreational use, etc).
- Seek advice and assistance from Tea Tree Gully and Salisbury City Councils and Northern Adelaide and Barossa Catchment Water Management Board in implementing threat abatement and stream rehabilitation works.

4.2.4 Native Vegetation

Background

Vegetation on the upper slopes of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park is low, open, Mallee Box (*Eucalyptus porosa*) grassy woodland (Davies, R 1997) while the lower, western zone is classified by Kraehenbuehl (1996) as Spear Grass (*Stipa* spp) and Wallaby Grass (*Danthonia* spp) grassland. Despite modification by extensive farming practices and altered fire regimes, the park retains the most significant stand of Mallee Box grassy woodland left in the vicinity of the Adelaide plains.

Throughout Australia, grassy woodlands have been cleared extensively for agriculture. Leading Australian ecologists consider this clearing to be the most significant vegetation change in Australian history, responsible for a massive loss of biological diversity and widespread land degradation. This fact has been recognised by the Federal Government and is demonstrated by the collaboration between the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in providing grant funding specifically for grassy ecosystems.

In the Mount Lofty Ranges, less than 5% of box grassy woodlands remain with most of them being heavily degraded by weed invasion. These are some of the most threatened plant communities in SA. Neagle (1995) listed Mallee Box (*Eucalyptus porosa*) woodlands as a priority 5 vegetation community. This means it is very poorly conserved in this state and certainly makes Cobbler Creek unique in metropolitan Adelaide. This has critical implications for native wildlife. Neagle recommended that plant communities listed in the first 8 (out of 14) priority categories be protected by Heritage Agreement or acquired by DEH as a matter of urgency.

The conservation significance is very great and its "island" position makes Cobbler Creek an important but vulnerable natural asset.

Natural regeneration of the understorey plants and ground layer has occurred since the removal of sheep and is most evident on the steeper slopes where weed invasion is minimal. Grazing by hares and rabbits may be limiting the rate and extent of further regeneration and has affected the establishment of planted vegetation.

Vegetation varies within the park according to aspect. The north and west facing slopes generally favour the majority of native grass species as well as denser understorey growth, although higher parts of south facing slopes also support diverse native grasslands. The more shady and cooler south facing slopes usually have fewer, different native species and are more likely to be colonised by exotic annual grasses and soursobs. Different species again are found in the creeklines, some favouring the northern banks such as Christmas Bush *(Bursaria spinosa)* and others favouring southern banks (eg *Dodonaea viscosa, Senna artemisioides*). The open flat area adjoining Bridge Road was cleared and cropped but has since been recolonised by a range of native grass species. It also supports significant infestations of prescribed pest plants and the environmental weed Coolatai Grass (*Hyparrenia hirta*)

Future revegetation attempts should bear these environmental factors in mind in order to ensure the appropriateness of species utilised to and enhance establishment rates.

Kraehenbuehl (1996, p161) gives a checklist of 47 species of plants of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park that he derived from the 1990 Draft Management Plan for the park. Earl and Gilbert (1994, p1) include more species, bringing the list to 60. Kurylowicz (1998) found seven aquatic species along the riparian zone of Cobbler Creek that were not previously recorded. Subsequent excursions by Kurylowicz and others have led to further discoveries of previously unrecorded species.

Kurylowicz found that some species are represented by very few, or in some cases solitary, specimens, for example, Native Lilac (*Hardenbergia violacea*), Eutaxia (*Eutaxia microphylla* var *diffusa*) and Austral Trefoil (*Lotus australis*). Subsequent searches by DEH staff and FOCC have yielded over 35 species with a classified conservation rating which further illustrates the need for effective conservation management of the remnant Mallee Box community reserved in the park. A vegetation management plan proposed for the park should include a survey of density and distribution of both indigenous plants and introduced species. Priority ratings will be assigned to management units of the park so that resources can be focussed on areas of best vegetation or habitat where threats are critical and likelihood of success is high.

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park spans a transition zone between the higher rainfall climate of the uplands of Golden Grove to the east (approximately 600 mm per annum) and the drier plains climate of Salisbury to the west (approximately 350 mm per annum).

It is likely that vegetation usually palatable to introduced stock may have been depleted by past land use. This may have included Saltbush *(Atriplex)*, Bluebush *(Maireana)* and related species, a few specimens of which remain on lower slopes, and perhaps Grass Tree (*Xanthorrhoea quadrangulata*), which might once have occupied the better watered upper drainage gullies in the park and which are still abundant alongside nearby Little Para River.

Considerable efforts have been made by a number of organisations, including volunteer groups, to revegetate the park. Some plantings were undertaken in response to the perceived threat to parts of the park from urban development. Some earlier plantings, however, were of inappropriate, non-indigenous native species.

Revegetation efforts have included:

- Tubestock plantings – early work
- Arbor Day plantings of the 1970s
- Tubestock plantings by Friends Group and Trees for Life (including memorial plantings by funeral directors)
- Woodland species mixed plantings by Salisbury Council
- DEH Direct seeding (1987-1998)
- Environment Day / Arbor Day mass planting by local schoolchildren, under DEH and the Urban Forest Biodiversity Program (1996-2001).

More recent revegetation attempts using direct seeding and tubestock planting have been very successful and have laid the foundation of a new ecosystem mostly in previously cleared and degraded areas of the park. However, some concerns have been raised regarding large scale revegetation which will be addressed in the vegetation management plan. These include:

- the range of species used being biased towards larger shrubs and trees (rather than groundcovers, herbs and grasses;
- the placement of shrubs in patches of native grasses and on sites where natural regeneration could occur if left ungrazed for long enough;
- homogenous or random mixing of various species rather than mimicking natural patchiness of vegetation; and
- in-filling of open grassy areas which provide hunting opportunities for birds of prey.

These criticisms were addressed to some extent in the 1999 and 2000 Environment Day planting with planting areas selected to result in biodiversity gains on the badly degraded sites and considerable efforts made to obtain groundcover species and create appropriate patchiness of vegetation. The future of similar mass plantings will depend on recommendations of the vegetation management plan. However, it is likely that there are still opportunities for mass planting in the lower paddocks, provided that sufficient open grassy areas are left and revegetation is compatible with recreation activities proposed for the western zone.

Natural regeneration of remnant grassy woodland is occurring and its integrity should be facilitated by appropriate pest plant control with additional planting aimed at buffering the large remnant areas rather than filling in small spaces between existing clumps of trees. Thus any reintroduction of uncommon species that may have grown in the area should be undertaken in the buffer zones, not in remnant grassy woodland or in dense stands of native grasses.

Table 1 suggests species for future revegetation attempts and provides their current status. The list was compiled by Frank Kurylowicz and is based on personal knowledge, lists supplied in Kraehenbuehl (1996 and 1997) and an incomplete 1998 census of park vegetation. It has been updated by DEH in 2002.

Table 1: Recommended Revegetation Species and their Current Status

Species	Common Name	Conservation Status		Presence unknown*	Present in revegetation	Few natural individuals	Recommended
		*SA	*SL				
Trees							
Allocasuarina verticillata	Drooping Sheoak				✓	✓	✓
Callitris preissii	Southern Cypress Pine		U		✓	✓	✓
Eucalyptus camaldulensis var. *camaldulensis*	River Red Gum						
Eucalyptus leucoxylon	South Australian Blue Gum			✓	✓		✓
Eucalyptus socialis	Beaked Red Mallee		U		✓		
Pittosporum phylliraeoides var. *microcarpa*	Native Apricot		R		✓		
Santalum acuminatum	Quandong		V			✓	✓
Shrubs							
Acacia acinacea	Wreath Wattle				✓		✓
Acacia hakeoides	Hakea Wattle		K	✓			✓
Acacia ligulata	Umbrella Bush		K		✓		✓
Acacia notabilis	Notable Wattle		K		✓		
Acacia paradoxa	Kangaroo Thorn				✓		
Acacia salicina	Willow Wattle		V	✓			✓
Acacia victoriae ssp. *victoriae*	Elegant Wattle		V	✓	✓		
Bursaria spinosa	Sweet Bursaria				✓		✓
Cassinia arcuata	Drooping Cassinia		V	✓		✓	✓
Dodonaea viscosa ssp. *spatulata*	Sticky Hop-bush				✓		
Einadia nutans ssp. *nutans*	Climbing Saltbush					✓	✓
Enchylaena tomentosa var. *tomentosa*	Ruby Saltbush					✓	✓
Eremophila deserti	Turkey-bush		E			✓	
Eremophila glabra ssp. *glabra*	Tar Bush		K	✓			✓
Eremophila longifolia	Weeping Emubush		V	✓	✓		✓
Eutaxia diffusa	Large-leaf Eutaxia		V			✓	
Exocarpos sparteus	Slender Cherry		R			✓	✓
Geranium solanderi var. *solanderi*	Austral Geranium			✓			✓
Goodenia albiflora	White Goodenia		U				
Hardenbergia violacea	Native Lilac				✓	✓	

Hibbertia riparia	Guinea-flower			✓			✓
Hibbertia sericea var. *sericea*	Silky Guinea-flower			✓			✓
Lavatera plebeia	Australian Hollyhock		U	✓			✓
Maireana brevifolia	Short-leaf Bluebush					✓	✓
Myoporum montanum	Native Myrtle		K	✓			✓
Myoporum platycarpum ssp. *platycarpum*	False Sandalwood		K	✓	✓		
Myoporum viscosum	Sticky Boobialla		U	✓			✓
Olearia ramulosa	Twiggy Daisy-bush			✓			✓
Pomaderris paniculosa ssp. *paniculosa*	Mallee Pomaderris		U	✓			✓
Cullen australasicum	Tall Scurf-pea					✓	✓
Senna artemisioides nothossp. coriacea	Broad-leaf Desert Senna				✓		✓
Sida petrophila	Rock Sida		K			✓	✓
Xanthorrhoea quadrangulata	Rock Grass-tree						✓
Grasses							
Aristida behriana	Brush Wire-grass		U				✓
Chloris truncata	Windmill Grass						✓
Cymbopogon ambiguus	Lemon-grass		V	✓			✓
Danthonia caespitosa	Common Wallaby-grass						✓
Enneapogon nigricans	Black-head Grass						✓
Panicum effusum var. *effusum*	Hairy Panic		K				
Stipa elegantissima	Feather Spear-grass		U				✓
Stipa platychaeta	Flat-awn Spear-grass		T				✓
Stipa drummondii	Cottony Spear-grass					✓	✓
Themeda triandra	Kangaroo Grass						✓
Ground Layer Plants							
Arthropodium strictum	Common Vanilla-lily						
Atriplex semibaccata	Berry Saltbush			✓			✓
Brachycome perpusilla	Tiny Daisy			✓			✓
Calostemma purpureum	Pink Garland-lily				✓		
Carex bichenoviana	Notched Sedge		U				
Cheilanthes lasiophylla	Woolly Cloak-fern		E			✓	✓
Chrysocephalum apiculatum	Common Everlasting			✓			
Clematis microphylla	Old Man’s Beard						
Dianella longifolia var. *grandis*	Pale Flax-lily	R	V	✓			
Dianella revoluta var. *revoluta*	Black-anther Flax-lily						
Glycine clandestina var. *sericea*	Twining Glycine						
Kennedia prostrata	Scarlet Runner						
Lomandra densiflora	Soft Tussock Mat-rush					✓	

Lomandra multiflora ssp. *dura*	Hard Mat-rush						✓
Pimelea curviflora	Curved Riceflower	R	R				✓
Rhagodia parabolica	Mealy Saltbush		V	✓			✓
Scaevola albida	Pale Fanflower						✓
Thysanotus patersonii	Twining Fringe-lily			✓			✓
Velleia paradoxa	Spur Velleia		U	✓			✓
Vittadinia cuneata	Fuzzy New Holland Daisy						✓
Wahlenbergia stricta ssp. *stricta*	Tall Bluebell						

*Note: See Appendix C for Definitions and Conservation Status Codes

Objectives

Conserve and increase the diversity of the park flora.

Strategies

Develop a vegetation management plan that takes into account differing requirements of regenerating areas of Mallee Box grassy woodland and the artificial ecosystems resulting from revegetation efforts.

DEH has developed a *Model for Vegetation Management of the Mount lofty Ranges* (Paul 1997). In applying the model, populations of plants of conservation significance should be monitored and management programs modified as required for their conservation.

Actions

- Conduct a systematic vegetation survey and record distribution and density of vegetation (including pest species and species of conservation significance) on a database with GIS capability.
- Prepare vegetation management plan based on these data that will:
  - ensure that the allocation of resources for protection and restoration actions are prioritised to protect plant species and associations of conservation significance;
  - develop and implement management prescriptions to conserve and increase native plant diversity;
  - record information on populations of plants of conservation significance, monitor populations and undertake species management programs if necessary;
  - include a revegetation program to guide and facilitate community and volunteer involvement.

4.2.5 Native Fauna

Background

Despite the dense urban development of adjacent land and changes from past farming practice, Cobbler Creek Recreation Park supports a reasonably rich bird and reptile fauna. Surveys collated by the University of SA (Mitchell 1992) list 20 reptile species including the now uncommon Common Scalyfoot (*Pygopus lepidopodus*) as well as the often encountered Bearded Dragon (*Pogona barbata*) Common Blue Tongue (*Tiliqua scincoides*) and the Brown Snake (*Pseudonaja textilis*).

A bird list compiled for the previous management plan lists 110 species including the White-browed Babbler (*Pomatostomus superciliosus*) after which a walking trail was named. Several of the birds of prey may still be observed hunting in the park and the babblers are still resident but many of the woodland species listed are now rarely seen.

There is little information regarding native mammals, however park staff have observed Brush-tailed Possums (*Trichosurus vulpecula*) and mature Mallee Box (*Eucalyptus porosa*) tree hollows provide good refuge for both possums and bats. Competition from introduced Rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) and Sheep (*Ovis aries*) combined with predation by Foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) and Cats (*Felis catus*) is likely have caused regional extinction of small native mammals. The Western Grey Kangaroo (*Macropus fuliginosus*) probably occurred in the area in the early years of Colonial settlement and is now common in the Little Para catchment less than 3km away. Western Grey Kangaroos have occasionally been recorded in the park, although there are limited opportunities for the species to disperse to the park (despite increasing numbers regionally) because of the adjacent urban development.

The common frogs, Common Froglet (*Crinia signifera*), Bull Frog (*Limnodynastes dumerili*) and Spotted Grass Frog (*Limnodynastes tasmaniensis*) have been observed in Cobbler Creek, it is likely that other species also occur but no records have been reported to DEH staff.

Objectives

Conserve and enhance the natural assets of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park to provide a range of suitable habitats that support the park's native fauna.

Strategies

Improve knowledge of native fauna populations as basis for appropriate conservation management.

Facilitate and encourage research by tertiary institutions and SA Museum.

Undertake threat abatement programs as necessary to protect native fauna populations.

Participate in regional pest animal control programs, particularly of foxes and introduced herbivores.

Rehabilitate degraded wildlife habitat, expanding opportunities for known populations and creating additional habitat by regeneration and revegetation.

Actions

- Monitor populations of native fauna and implement species management plans if necessary.
- Protect animal habitat and, where feasible, rehabilitate degraded habitat.
- Facilitate regeneration of natural vegetation and continue revegetation where considered appropriate in the vegetation management plan.

4.2.6 Introduced Plants

Background

Introduced plants are widespread in the park, reflecting the level of disturbance to the Mallee Box vegetation of the hills face generally and also the history of land use locally. Grazing activities, including pasture grass introduction, cropping, quarrying, urbanisation, the division of the park by The Grove Way and the construction of a large dam have all contributed either directly or indirectly to the introduced flora of the reserve. Further disturbance from frequent fires and large historic populations of rabbits has facilitated the spread and establishment of weeds, which continues today.

Introduced plant control programs have in the past been largely driven by legislative obligations under the *Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural Protection and Other Purposes) Act 1986*, although in recent years there has been increasing recognition of the need to control environmental weeds (eg Earl and Gilbert 1994).

There is a pressing need to review pest plant management practices in the park, developing strategies to minimise emerging environmental threats such as Coolatai grass invasion while continuing to address statuary obligations. The vegetation management plan will provide a mechanism to balance these responsibilities by establishing appropriate priorities for using available resources.

Table 2: Significant Pest Plants

Environmental weeds, some also proclaimed under the *Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural Protection and Other Purposes) Act 1986*.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Proclaimed
Olive	*Olea europaea*	*
Coolatai (tambookie) Grass	*Hyparrhenia hirta*	
Wild Artichoke	*Cynara cardunculus*	*
African Boxthorn	*Lycium ferocissimum*	*
Canary Grass	*Phalaris* spp	
Horehound	*Marrubium vulgare*	*
Silver Leaf Nightshade	*Solanum elaeagnifolium*	*
Rice Millet	*Piptatherum miliaceum*	
Johnson Grass	*Sorghum halepense*	
Kikuyu Grass	*Pennisetum clandestinum*	
Golden Wreath Wattle	*Acacia saligna*	
Galenia	*Galenia* sp	

* denotes proclaimed pest plant

Objectives

Protect and enhance the integrity of the park's natural vegetation by controlling pest plant threats.

Strategies

Control pest plants proclaimed under the *Animal and Plant Control Act*.

Control and, where feasible, eradicate introduced plants from native vegetation.

Pest plant control methodology may vary depending on the zone of the park and conservation values ascribed to it. Control programs will be prioritised to comply with legal obligations and to target weeds of environmental concern, utilising methods least likely to inhibit biodiversity conservation.

Liaise with neighbouring land managers to develop regional priorities and control programs for key pest plant species.

Establish monitoring system to evaluate the effectiveness of control programs.

Actions

- Continue to control pest plants, aiming to eradicate proclaimed plants and weeds of environmental concern, using prescriptions developed from the vegetation management plan.
- Work with local councils and neighbouring property owners to control key pest plant species that occur across park boundaries.
- Monitor effectiveness of pest plant control and modify methods as required.

4.2.7 Introduced Animals

Background

Grazing of the Mallee Box woodland along the Adelaide hills face has caused significant changes to habitat. In Cobbler Creek Recreation Park, sheep grazing continued in certain areas for fire fuel reduction until 1996 with a few feral sheep continuing to exert some pressure on regeneration and revegetation until 2000. Rabbits and hares have caused significant losses in revegetation areas and have probably affected regeneration by their selective grazing habits (eg of *Allocasuarina* seedlings). There is a fox population in the park and surrounding district. Domestic cats and unrestrained domestic dogs are encountered in the park. As a result of increased urbanisation the number of domestic animals, particularly stray cats, is becoming an issue. It is important that our park neighbours are informed of the negative impacts on the local native fauna. The effects of predation by these animals have not been studied. The proximity and density of adjacent housing will always result in a difficult management situation regarding wandering pets.

Feral Bees are also present, and are a threat to animals through their occupation of hollow tree nesting sites, their potential impact on nectar resources and through pollination disruption.

Objectives

Minimise the impact of introduced animals on the park's native fauna.

Strategies

Control and, where possible, eradicate introduced animals from the park.

Liaise with APCC officers and adjacent land managers to design and implement an integrated control program for rabbits and hares.

Contribute to the regional control of foxes.

Actions

- Control rabbits and hares, monitor results and adjust program to keep numbers below an acceptable damage threshold.
- Control feral bee colonies.
- Educate the neighbouring community about the impacts of domestic animals on the park's fauna and outline practices for responsible pet ownership.

4.3 Cultural Heritage

4.3.1 Aboriginal Heritage

Dreaming

For Aboriginal people, land and waters have many interconnected complex meanings and values. The significance of land and waters is central to Aboriginal people's lives: at birth, death, ceremonies and socially, whilst hunting, gathering camping, and travelling. The term "Dreaming" is the term used to describe the combination of these aspects of life, religion, mythology, law and history which includes the past, the present and the future.

The land or waters that an Aboriginal person has a traditional or contemporary association with is commonly referred to as "Country." Both "Country" and "Dreaming" are complex concepts that are difficult for Non-Indigenous people to understand. For example "Dreaming" can be a site located in song, in physical space or embodied in an object. Its physical, social or psychological importance can vary according to the speaker's traditional country, gender, age and personal experience. For these reasons the "Dreaming" is rarely mapped in the western sense but the significance of a site is integral for Aboriginal people.

Furthermore, mythological sites associated with these stories are known only to the Aboriginal people with cultural knowledge of the area. These sites are often landscape features which can be one or many trees, rocky outcrops, riverbeds or water holes. These sites physically represent the ancestors and their activities in the story with the knowledge and "Dreamings" associated with these sites passed down through stories of travellers, ancestors and mythological beings. Many "Dreaming Stories" travel throughout an area and may be known as a "Dreaming Trail" or "Track". Some stories focus on specific "sacred sites". These stories and traditions exclusively belong to Aboriginal people. Who tells them, where they are told, to whom they are told and when, are all a part of their culture and must be respected.

Aboriginal Occupation

The Kaurna people are the traditional owners of the land now conserved by Cobbler Creek Recreation Park (Tindale 1974).

Prior to colonial settlement in 1836, the Kaurna people managed and preserved the coastal and inland environment, which provided important seasonal food resources. One aspect of Aboriginal use of this area was apparently seasonal migration. Tindale (1974) suggests that the Kaurna's "most consistent movements were towards the seashore in summer and inland at the beginning of winter to find better shelter and better sources of firewood", although the Kaurna lived as "separate small groups" there could have been variation on this pattern.

Probably the most significant influence of Aboriginal occupation was their use of fire to encourage regrowth, as a hunting aid to flush game and to facilitate easier movement through the scrub. Descriptions at the time (1847) by settlers like Angas, noted the blackened trunks in the forest and the huge summer fires visible from the plains. Unfortunately, we can only guess at the frequency, intensity and timing of Aboriginal fire management in the Adelaide Hills, as this vital ecological information was never properly recorded.

Along with white settlement came diseases, dispersal, the occupation of land and water supplies, which often resulted in violent conflict. The Kaurna were progressively dispossessed and their ability to maintain a traditional lifestyle diminished, which lead to segregation and the loss of language, traditional stories, ceremonies, significant and sacred sites, hunting and gathering techniques, and many other important cultural and heritage issues. These issues had a huge impact on the Kaurna population which dwindled significantly.

Today, Kaurna people live on their country and practice their culture and language. Some of the language and traditional stories have been recorded, however, to date the full extent of Aboriginal heritage at Cobbler Creek has not been comprehensively researched. However, due to historical or cultural reasons, any knowledge of the of the cultural heritage of the region may be privileged to selected Kaurna people and therefore unable to be recorded.

The Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988

The *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* defines a site as 'An area of land that is of significance to Aboriginal tradition, Aboriginal archaeology, anthropology or history.' Site types include:

Archaeological sites, campsites, middens, artefact manufacturing sites. These may occur in isolation or in conjunction with other sites. These may contain scattered pieces of stone leftover from the manufacture of tools, stone or clay hearths, and food remains such as shellfish or animal bone. Middens are characterised by large deposits of shells. They may also contain animal bone, charcoal, stone tools and possibly skeletal remains.

Burial sites. Can be historic or pre Contact. In some areas burials are marked with stones, logs or brushwood at the head or sides of the grave, however most burial sites are only recognisable when they become exposed by erosion or by disturbance. Many are found in sandy areas where they are readily exposed through erosion.

Quarry sites - stone tool, grindstone and ochre quarries. Quarries can be identified from signs of chipping or hammering on suitable rock outcrops and from associated surface scatters of flaked stone.

Stone arrangements- ceremonial, hunting hides, and fish traps. Arrangements can be made out of stone timber or earth. They are distinguished by large or small arrangements of stones laid out in patterns on relatively clear ground, but can also be found across watercourses as fish traps.

Mythological sites. Mythological sites are dreaming sites. These may include natural features in the landscape, such as single trees, rock formations and waterholes to mountain ranges.

Historic sites. Historic sites can include missions; ration depots, birthplaces and fringe camps.

Paintings and engravings. Painting and engraving sites are widely distributed and are found in a range of environments where suitable rock surfaces, shelters and overhangs are found.

Scar trees. Scar trees exhibit scars on the trunk or limbs where bark has been removed for various purposes to make canoes, shields, dishes or shelters. These are also termed Culturally Modified Trees.

Land, developed or undeveloped can contain sites. Sites relate to living patterns and use of environmental resources such as water, animal and vegetable foods and stone by Aboriginal people. They also relate to spiritual beliefs, and ceremonial activities.

Certain landforms at Cobbler Creek likely to contain evidence of Aboriginal pre-historic occupation include:

- *Claypans, lakes and estuaries* (stone artefact scatters, shell middens, rock art, stone arrangements, campsites or ovens)
- *Rocky outcrops* (quarries, rock art, rock holes, stone arrangements, ceremonial religious sites, stone artefact scatters)
- *Bush or forested areas* (stone artefact scatters, campsites or ovens)

Under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988*, the South Australian Government is responsible for the protection and preservation of sites, objects and remains of significance to Aboriginal people. The Department of State Aboriginal Affairs maintains a Central Archive of some 6000 site recordings of Aboriginal sites.

Currently one site is listed on the DOSAA Central Archive for Cobbler Creek Recreation Park. This recording does not reflect a comprehensive survey of the park. To promote better cultural heritage management at Cobbler Creek Recreation Park further research needs to be undertaken to identify and record sites of significance on the park.

To ensure the protection of sites and to avoid inadvertent damage, DEH shall consult with DOSAA and other relevant Aboriginal authorities before commencement of any development works.

Management of Aboriginal sites is largely at the direction of authorised Aboriginal Heritage Committees, constituted under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988*. DEH has, and will continue to, liaise with Aboriginal people with an interest in the area.

4.3.2 Colonial Heritage

The reserve was named from the watercourse 'Cobbler Creek' that crosses the northern part of the reserve. The watercourse gained its name after William Pedler III, a shoemaker by trade, and one of the first colonists to farm the area. His property, located on the flatter western part of the park, was called Trevalsa Farm, and the original homestead still remains, along with several other homesteads and stone ruins associated with the areas early agricultural history (see Figure 3).

Features and sites of Colonial heritage to be retained and interpreted for park users include:

- Trevalsa**,** the original homestead of William Pedlar (The "Cobbler" of Cobbler Creek);
- Braeside Homestead, built by descendants of William Pedlar and the nearby orchard;
- ruins of Teakles House on Cobbler Hill;
- old quarry sites and a mine shaft on Cobbler Creek; and
- the old gauging station on Cobbler Creek (removed during construction of the flood control dam).

Original place names should also be retained in the interpretation of the park. These include:

- Trevalsa Farm
- Cobbler Hill
- Copper Hill
- Bullmouth Hill
- Cobbler Creek
- Clonalan Creek

Objectives

Conserve and protect significant cultural heritage sites and provide appropriate interpretive material to promote the values of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park.

Strategies

Record historical information on sites and features of heritage significance and undertake measures for their conservation and interpretation to visitors.

Conservation programs should have regard to the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988* and *The Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter)* (Australia International Council of Monuments and Sites 1988).

The advice of the Heritage branch of DEH, Native Title Claimants and the representative Kaurna Heritage Committee, as nominated by the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee, will be sought with regard to any conservation programs or decisions regarding the management of cultural heritage.

Actions

- Consult Kaurna people who have a traditional association with the land, Native Title Claimants and relevant State and Federal Aboriginal heritage authorities, in decisions regarding the management of Kaurna cultural heritage.
- Before proceeding with any development works within the reserve, obtain an assessment and clearance from the appropriate authority, under the provisions of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act*.
- Ensure management of the park complies with any requirements resulting from State Native Title agreements.
- Identify, record, protect, restore and monitor known or relocated sites and items of archaeological, anthropological, cultural and historical significance located in the park, in cooperation with the Department of State Aboriginal Affairs, the Heritage branch of DEH and other relevant authorities and organisations. Indigenous and Non-Indigenous cultural heritage sites require conservation plans to facilitate appropriate management.
- In consultation with the Kaurna community, the Heritage branch of DEH and other relevant authorities, research and inventory, cultural and historic sites and stories that relate to the park and where appropriate, develop interpretive material for visitors. Interpretive material may include brochures, site signage and displays.
- Encourage and support archaeological, anthropological and historic studies within the park. All sites located should during these surveys should be recorded to the standards set by the Heritage branch of DEH and/or DOSAA and submitted for inclusion on the DOSAA Central Archive and/or State Heritage Register.

4.4 Fire Management

Background

In the past decade the number of fire events has increased to an average of two per annum from 1 every 5 to 7 years, during the 1970's and 1980's. The increase of fire frequency is attributed to the major residential expansion that today bounds the reserve and the increased traffic flow throughout the park since the construction of The Grove Way Highway during the early 1990's. Although many of the fire reports show fire ignition cause as unknown, it is suspected that a majority are started by arson. Other ignition sources include fireworks, vehicle exhausts, cigarette butts and children/teenagers playing with matches and having campfires. Most fires start along park boundaries and are contained within park boundaries within the first hour of ignition.

Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully CFS Brigades normally provide the first fire response along with MFS followed by DEH and other CFS Para Group Brigades if the event is not contained within a short time frame.

A number of cyclical fire management activities are undertaken by DEH to minimise the fire risk and hazards in order to protect life and property and the park's natural and cultural assets. They include fuel reduction, slashing, prescribed burning and track maintenance, fire training, planning, provision of suppression infrastructure and liaison with relevant CFS Groups and District Fire Prevention Committees.

As the reserve is bounded by high value residential development and limited opportunity exists for fauna refuge or migration outside the reserve, all bushfires will be extinguished as soon as possible.

Since 1995, DEH have staged the establishment of indigenous perennial native grasses adjacent to fire access tracks along park boundaries. These grasses contain higher moisture content during summer months, which reduces fire intensity and rate of spread and provides fire fighters with improved suppression capabilities.

Objectives

Implement fire management practices to maximise the protection of human life and property on and off reserve.

Provide for the protection of cultural and natural assets from the negative impacts of unplanned fire.

Maintain an operational capacity to manage planned or unplanned fires in conjunction with other fire management authorities.

Strategies

A Fire Management Statement will be prepared in consultation with the local District Bushfire Committee, Country Fire Service Para Group and Metropolitan Fire Service.

The Fire Management Statement will include:

- Fire management zones and pre-planned fire suppression strategies.
- Emergency contact information and bushfire response information.
- Description of internal and external access.
- A description of fire risk, hazard and threat.
- An outline of fire prevention or suppression strategies to maximise the protection of natural and cultural values.
- A cyclical fire management action plan.
- Fire Management suppression strategies will be consistent with the maintenance of biological diversity.

- Fire prevention activities will be applied based on minimising risk of a fire starting or being ignited and is considered critical to fire season preparedness. In preparing for the fire season hazard reduction and the maintenance of suppression facilities (vehicle access, water storage's and equipment maintenance etc), will be regarded as essential.
- DEH will ensure that staff involved in fire management are adequately trained to fulfil their fire management responsibilities.
- DEH will participate in public awareness programs, complimentary or in conjunction with CFS programs to advise park neighbours and visitors about fire safety, prevention and suppression measures and seasonal fire bans and restrictions.
- DEH will encourage park neighbours to participate in approved fire prevention activities on and off park to minimise risks to adjoining properties, visitors and biodiversity.

Actions

- Maintain cooperative and consultative relationships with local communities through liaison with the Country Fire Service Region 2, Operations Para Group, local brigades and District Bushfire Prevention Committees.
- Prepare a Fire Management Statement, incorporating historic, current and planned fire activities, that aims to provide for the protection of natural, cultural and built assets.
- Maintain the existing level of fire management activities and implement the cyclical fire preparedness and prevention work that includes staff training, fuel reduction, slashing and planned burning, fire access maintenance and the establishment of native grass buffer zones.
- Encourage park neighbours to undertake approved fire prevention activities on and off park and promote community and inter-agency cooperation for effective land use planning in relation to fire protection.
- Respond immediately to all bushfires and conduct a de-brief with relevant authorities following a major fire.
- Review the effectiveness of the Fire Management Statement following any major bushfire event in the reserve.

4.5 Infrastructure and Built Assets

Background

Between 1992 and 1998, Cobbler Creek Recreation Park was the site for the operational headquarters of the Lofty and Barossa Districts of DEH. A residence, which was once the homestead for Trevalsa Farm, was adapted for office accommodation workshop and nursery facilities were constructed nearby to house machinery and implements and to provide working space for a plant propagation operation. The house is currently rented on an annual lease arrangement but the now vacant workshop facilities remain inside a lockable compound within the reserve.

Elsewhere, visitor facilities within the park include walking trails, routed entrance, directional and regulation signage, information shelters, pedestrian entrance styles, some minor bench seating and a formal carpark off Bridge Road. Other infrastructure includes boundary and revegetation fencing, a network of fire access tracks, and the telecommunications tower and flood mitigation dams managed through lease arrangements.

Over the past decade the Friends group has significantly contributed to walking trail development and park furniture installation.

Objectives

Develop and maintain infrastructure and built assets necessary for the provision of quality recreational use of the park that are compatible with the conservation objectives of the park's natural and cultural values.

Strategies

Encourage opportunities to enter into a partnership agreement with local government to address local community recreational needs.

Maintain existing and develop new infrastructure suitable for appropriate use of the park.

Actions

- Prepare a "Visitor Facilities and Services Plan" with design guidelines for future recreation facilities and public amenities to ensure that a consistent high quality theme is evident across the park.
- Continue the preparation of and maintain a detailed review and inventory of all the park's assets, noting condition, location and maintenance issues.
- Initiate a program to upgrade, maintain, consolidate and install new facilities based on the results of the inventory and the facilities plan.

4.6 Recreation and Tourism

4.6.1 Visitor Use

Background

Currently the park experiences relatively low levels of use. The present use of the park is for low-key unstructured active and passive recreation and the main user groups comprise:

- local residents of Salisbury East, Salisbury Heights, Greenwith, Gulview Heights and Golden Grove, entering at all points around the park to walk and exercise their dogs;
- local children, especially entering down Cobbler Creek; and
- special interest groups, including walking groups, schools and revegetation groups.

Illegal use of the park includes uncontrolled mountain bike use. Mountain bikes mainly enter the park through the more elevated Golden Grove section of Cobbler Creek. Mountain bike use in parks has recently been reviewed by DEH in accordance with the Office of Recreation and Sport's *State Mountain Bike Plan for South Australia* (2001).

Recent trends in recreational participation nationally and in South Australia, indicate an increasing interest in informal, outdoor recreation in semi-natural and natural settings with an emphasis on individual based recreational activities.

Opportunities for enhanced recreational use emphasise "value adding" to the existing walking and recreation experience with improved visitor and interpretive facilities. There are opportunities to link the park, through a network of walking or cycling trails and roads, to other cultural and tourism attractions found in the northern metropolitan region. These include:

- Little Para River Linear Park
- St Kilda mangroves
- Dry Creek wetlands
- Bolivar salt pans
- Walkely Heights – R M Williams's house

Due to the steep slopes and high conservation value of the hill-faces and valleys, opportunities for larger scale and more active, formalised recreation are limited to the lower paddocks in the western area adjacent to Bridge Road. Additional opportunities in the cleared areas of land at the top of The Grove Way are limited by the proximity of residential properties; problems of safe vehicle access from The Grove Way; and previous revegetation initiatives.

Over recent years the environmental values of the park have gained a stronger focus amongst the community and park managers. With this in mind, it is clear that park management must regard the protection and enhancement of the park's environmental values as a major priority. As well, some stakeholders are concerned about the alienation of public lands by an intrusion of commercial activities.

However, it is also important that the park continues to allow a range of formal and informal recreation activities. While the very nature of these recreation activities means that they will, to varying degrees impact on the environmental values of the park, the careful management of these activities will minimise the impact. Clearly particular recreation activities have different levels of impact on the natural environment. This has been recognised in the plan through the identification of zones of higher conservation significance within the eastern area of the park.

Consultation undertaken in the preparation of this plan evoked several suggestions for potentially self-funding recreational developments aimed at encouraging community enjoyment and involvement in the park's ongoing management. These included the development of a golf course, a Horse Riding for the Disabled facility, a field archery facility, a youth park incorporating skateboard ramps, a community event venue, an off-leash dog exercise area, a conference centre with a restaurant, an outdoor education centre and a regional horse riding trail.

Due to evolving community opinion regarding appropriateness of activities within *National Parks and Wildlife Act* reserves and the alienation of land through activities such as a golf course, horse stabling facilities and skateboard ramps, these activities are not currently considered appropriate for the park.

The Trophy and Bow Hunting Club have expressed an interest in utilising a section of a wooded valley for their activities. While this plan does not support such activities within the conservation zones, an area within the western "cleared" sector may be considered as part of a lease arrangement.

Community Activities, Events and Outdoor Education Facilities

Although not considered core business for DEH, the plan recognises the importance and need of such facilities in the area. While this plan does not support such activities within the conservation zones, an area within the western "cleared" sector may be considered as part of a partnership agreement with state and local government and community organisations.

The proximity of the park to urban development dictates the need for proactive management of recreational interests to minimise adverse impacts on the park's natural values.

Walking of Dogs

Dogs are only permitted on designated walking trails if restrained on a lead and directly under the control of a responsible person. Dog owners are also responsible for the removal of any dog waste.

While this plan does not support the establishment of a secure area to exercise dogs off leash, an area within the western "cleared" sector may be considered as part of a partnership agreement with local government.

Conference Centre and Restaurant

This proposal is not consistent with the provisions of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* or DEH planning and development policies. DEH will, however, consider the use of the Kelway Precinct as a community service facility through a lease or partnership arrangement where proposed use is in accordance with the provisions of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act*.

Regional Horse Trail

The Mike Green Trail extends to the park boundary. If a horse trail is required to link the Mike Green Trail with regional trails, a specific horse trail will be considered and, subject to feasibility, developed, provided it is compatible with the conservation objectives of this plan.

Objectives

Support a range of recreational activities within Cobbler Creek Recreation Park that complement the natural and heritage values of the park.

Strategies

Ensure only trails and supporting infrastructure such as trail heads, interpretation signs, carparks and picnic areas occur within the higher conservation areas in the eastern portion of the park as shown on zone map, Figure 2.

Implement an effective monitoring program to ensure visitor use is sustainable and in compliance with the provisions of this management plan.

Ensure the development of visitor facilities is based on demonstrated demand.

Actions

- Develop partnership agreements with local government to assist with the provision of community services, events and activity areas.
- Use lease and licence provisions of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* to assist with the management of recreational activities within the reserve.
- Consider lease agreements for community service organisations that do not exclude public use within the western "cleared" sector of the park.
- Provide visitor information on appropriate recreational use of the park.

4.6.2 Vehicle Access

Background

The main visitor vehicle access to the park is via the entry at the intersection of Bridge Road and Smith Road. Parking is provided in an area outside these main gates. Several other vehicle access points around the park boundary have locked gates and are used by DEH staff for management purposes only.

Objectives

Construct and maintain safe, functional, public, management and emergency access

Strategies

In partnership with Transport SA and local government, provide public vehicle access to the boundary of the reserve with the provision of adequate, well designed car parks.

Provide and maintain management and emergency service access to the reserve consistent with government standards and the requirements of emergency services.

Actions

- Upgrade the main park entry at Bridge Road, including:
  - significant park entry statement; and
  - upgraded experience of the drive into the park, including best practice land management and revegetation along the creek line.
- Provide car parking:
  - outside the entry gate; and
  - adjacent to the proposed recreational focus.
- Investigate the feasibility of alternative vehicle access and car parking off The Grove Way adjacent to the dam, to serve a new recreational focus and provide easy access to the Cobbler Creek and Porosa walking trails.
- Investigate alternative vehicle access from the western end of Green Valley Drive/Taronga Court Walking Trails and off Bridge Road to any new leased facility.

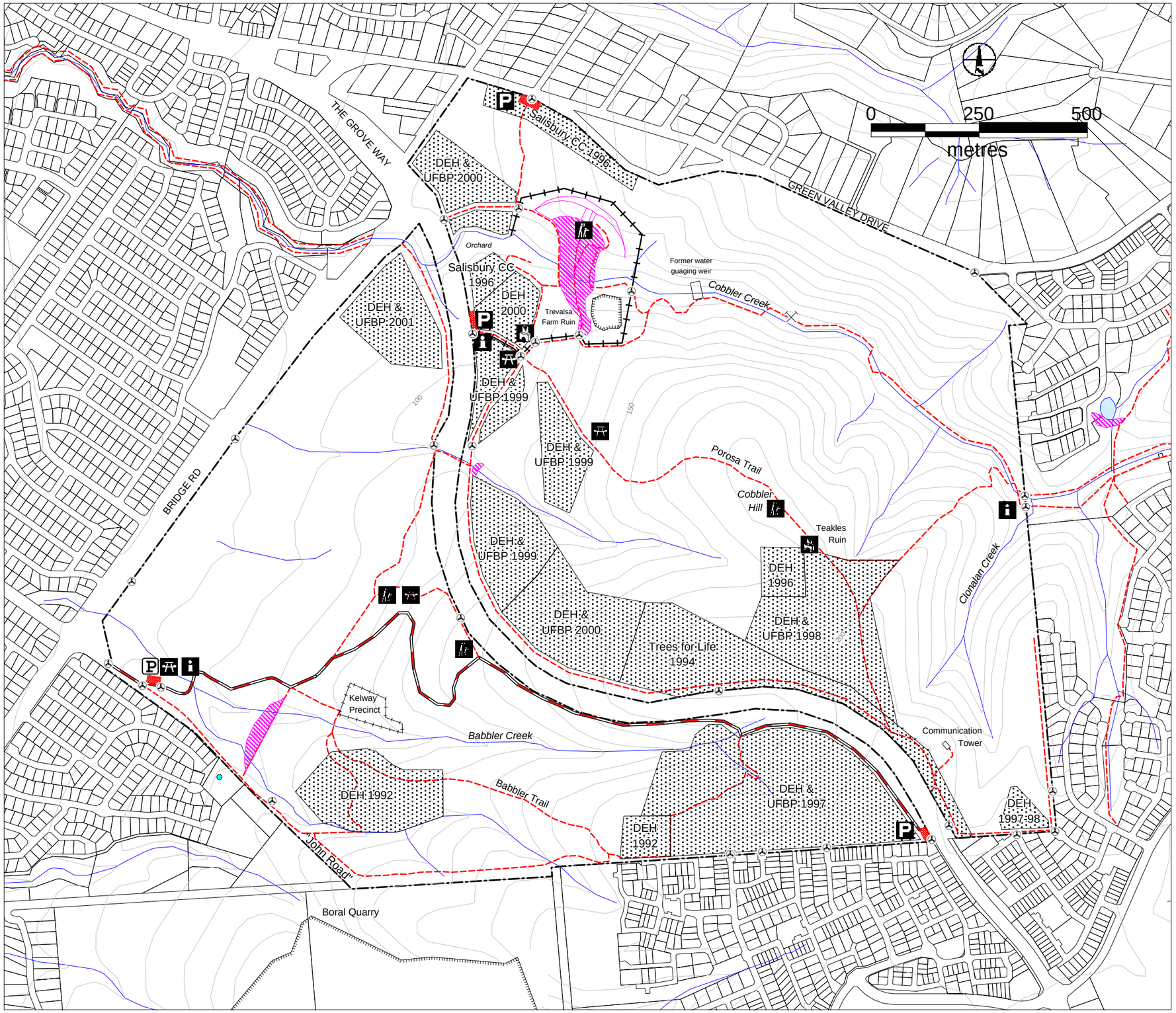


Figure 3

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park
Features

LEGEND

- Reserve boundary
- Revegetation program
- Carpark
- Earth dam
- Disused quarry
- Track / Walking trail
- Proposed commuter cycle/walk trail
- Fence
- Gate / Pedestrian access
- Mine (abandoned)
- Ruin
- Proposed picnic facilities
- Lookout and reststop
- Information
- Proposed carpark
- Existing carpark

NPWSA National Parks & Wildlife SA

UFBP Urban Forest Biodiversity Program

Map created by Reserve Planning using PAMS 2003

DEPARTMENT FOR environment and heritage

4.6.3 Walking Trails

Background

Pedestrian access is available along most of the park boundary, formalised with entry "stiles" at a number of points. Public access to the flood control dam site is unrestricted.

Two formal walking trails have been established in the park, marked with totem signs and following existing slashed fire access tracks (see Figure 3):

- The shorter Babbler Loop Trail circles the valley on the southern side of The Grove Way, provides panoramic views to the west and approaches the John Road conservation area. There is opportunity to extend a loop trail through the revegetation area in the south-east of the park and for minor additions to take advantage of areas that have been improved by rehabilitation; while
- the longer, Porosa Trail, accessed via the single underpass under The Grove Way, climbs steeply through *E porosa* woodland to the top of Cobbler Hill and Teakles ruins, with panoramic views in all directions. The trail then follows Cobbler Creek back to the flood control dam.

Existing trail surfaces and grades are reasonable but some have loose surface material and there is erosion on the steeper slopes. Access off these tracks is often limited by tall grass growth.

In addition to these two trails, the perimeter of the park is slashed as a firebreak, providing an informal route for walkers.

The walking trail along Cobbler Creek is narrow and informal and can be accessed from the east via the Cobbler Creek extension into the Golden Grove development. Outside the park, the trail is subject to a different set of management policies that allow bicycle and horse riding access. Steep slopes north of Cobbler Creek limit access to Green Valley Drive.

Safe pedestrian access across The Grove Way is confined to the western area of the park where an underpass is provided. The absence of safe pedestrian access that links the southern and northern sections at the eastern end of the park severely restricts walking opportunities, particularly for extended return-loop walks accessible to the Golden Grove community.

Objectives

Provide walking trails that are integrated with regional trails and which provide opportunities for visitors to explore the natural and cultural assets of the park.

Strategies

Provide upgraded rest/lookout points (eg with directional signage indicating landmarks and panoramic views).

Site trails with consideration to biological sensitivity and migration paths for wildlife.

Establish a long-term weed control program along any walking trails prior to construction.

Actions

- Upgrade the existing Babbler Loop and Porosa Trails (currently slashed fire access tracks) with:
  - better defined tracks and surfaces;
  - erosion stabilisation where required;
  - upgraded interpretive signage;
  - evenly graded trails for wheelchair access where appropriate;
  - strategically located rest points and lookouts with 'natural' seating and interpretive signage; and
  - investigate the potential for improved disability access and the creation of a sensory trail for sight-disabled visitors.

- Develop new formalised walking trails (or slashed access tracks) as follows:
  - new loop track around the dam site (including all-weather track above the quarry);
  - along Green Valley Drive (following the existing fire track) to link with the dam loop and a connection outside the park through the upstream section of Cobbler Creek; and
  - review the alignment of the Porosa Trail up Cobbler Hill and down to Cobbler Creek.
- In conjunction with Transport SA promote further consideration to which meets the long term development of a safe pedestrian crossing across The Grove Way that links the southern and eastern sections of the park.
- Investigate the potential for further walking trails if visitor demand is indicated and the trail may be constructed and maintained sustainably.

4.6.4 Cycling

Background

Illegal use of the park includes uncontrolled mountain bike use and low level vandalism. Mountain bikes mainly enter the park through the Golden Grove section of Cobbler Creek. The compatibility of mountain bike use in parks is currently under review by DEH, but most likely will result in the provision of facilities for downhill mountain bike riding (the most damaging style of cycle use) elsewhere, at least not in Cobbler Creek Recreation Park.

The gully at the head of Clonalan Creek in the south-eastern section of the park has been used by BMX cyclists for the construction and use of dirt mound jumps. This activity is relatively informal and although impacts include some local soil disturbance and weed establishment, the activity is relatively confined and provides a local recreational opportunity that is not readily substitutable elsewhere in the neighbourhood. However, a more formal approach to the activity could be undertaken, conferring responsibility for managing the impacts on the users themselves.

Opportunities exist, however, for the provision of commuting and recreational cycling trails within the park, especially parallel to The Grove Way and Bridge Road.

Objectives

Where practical, accommodate cycle use within the park by providing suitable trails.

Strategies

Investigate the practicality of providing commuting cycle trails through the park, which link with regional trails.

Actions

- Provide a shared pedestrian/cycle commuter track along the southern boundary of the park linking The Grove Way and Bridge Road, and diverging around the John Road priority conservation area.
- Provide a shared pedestrian/cycle track from the commuter track to the dam area (with secure bicycle parking at the start of the walking trail up Cobbler Creek).
- Provide a cycle track following the alignment of the existing track in the northern side of The Grove Way, to connect and form a loop with the other proposed cycle tracks at The Grove Way underpass.
- Shared pedestrian cycle tracks should be designed in accordance with standards specified in *Guide to Traffic Engineering Practice Part 14 – Bicycles* (Austroads 1999) and be designed, constructed and maintained so that they so not detract from the environmental amenity of the park.

4.6.5 Interpretive Information

Background

Interpretive information has been limited to the provision of relatively low key signs identifying the park at the main entrance off Bridge Road and at the points where The Grove Way enters the park.

Objectives

Provide interpretive information that identifies the park and provides information on natural and cultural assets.

Interpretive infrastructure requires taking into account the impact of being located within a high density urban environment (eg the high potential for vandalism).

Strategies

Clear signs need to be sited at entry points so that the park is immediately identified, especially at both ends of The Grove Way.

Walking and cycling trails should be clearly signposted and described on a brochure with a map.

An information brochure should be published that informs visitors of walking and cycling trails and recreational opportunities available, and which provides information on the natural and cultural assets of the park.

Actions

- Resite signs identifying the park at both ends of The Grove Way to make them more visible to passing vehicles.
- Provide directional signs for trails and features in the park.
- Develop and publish a brochure that provides information on the geological, natural, cultural and recreational features of the park.
- Erect signage at appropriate Friends and Community Service project sites to provide the visiting public with information and awareness of group projects and activities.

4.7 Alien Tenures and Other Landuse

4.7.1 Leases and Licences

Background

Leases and licences may be granted to private enterprise, local government and community organisations where the facility or activity provides a greater community benefit or enhances visitor experience. Leased operations can play a key role in providing visitor services and in contributing to resources for park management.

Cobbler Creek lease establishment has been confined to infrastructure that effectively has been imposed on the park through overriding Commonwealth planning and development legislation. DEH and key stakeholders are concerned about the level of infrastructure that has been developed on this park over the past ten years which has not been compatible with conservation objectives and the protection of landscape values. For example the highway development, the flood mitigation dams and the telecommunications tower. Further infrastructure development will not be supported if it is not consistent with plan objectives.

Objectives

Grant leases or licences to community groups or organisations to operate recreational pursuits that enhance visitor opportunities and are compatible with the conservation of the park's natural assets.

Foster and develop park enterprises where the private sector can provide services to enhance visitor experience and support park management.

Strategies

Ensure that leases or licences that confer rights or privileges to organisations include clear responsibilities with regard to benefits that might accrue to the park and the wider community.

Ensure that income generated from leases and licences is directed to management of the park.

Actions

- Encourage private sector, local government and community organisation involvement in park management where operators can deliver quality visitor services that will improve visitor experience. Approval will only be granted to a commercial operation proposal that is consistent with plan objectives.
- Conduct audits as required to ensure operators comply with licence terms and conditions.

4.7.2 Communications Tower

Background

A 15 metre telecommunications tower was constructed in late 1997 on the top of a ridge in the south-eastern corner of the park. The local community expressed concern over the visual obtrusion and the inappropriateness of this form of infrastructure in a park. The tower and associated infrastructure is housed within a small, fenced compound approximately 10m x 16m in size. Vodafone leased the site initially and have subsequently sub-let some of their infrastructure to Optus and Telstra, who also have lease agreements with DEH.

The lease sets out a series of conditions to ensure the facility is maintained to a high standard and environmental requirements are addressed. Any infrastructure additions must be approved by the Minister for Environment and Conservation.

Objectives

Manage the lease effectively and ensure provisions are in accordance with the plan of management.

Direct telecommunications tower lease income funds into recreation and conservation management initiatives.

Strategies

Ensure lessees are fully aware of their obligations to comply with lease provisions.

Actions

- Conduct inspections of telecommunications tower site to monitor condition of maintenance standards and inform the lessee of any issues associated with site.

4.7.3 Transport SA and The Grove Way

Background

The Grove Way is a four-lane road that effectively bisects the park, linking Salisbury with Golden Grove. The road reserve has been managed by Transport SA since its excision from the park. Compensation for the land excised and for disturbance to the park was made by Department of Transport and the funds were expended for park management at that time.

Since the road was constructed, several management issues have arisen concerning the continuing impact of the road on the park. These include litter, weeds and, most significantly, erosion that has resulted from road run-off at several points across the park.

Furthermore there is limited access to the park at the present time (see *4.6.2 Vehicle Access*), and although there are 6 vehicle gates and 4 pedestrian access points along The Grove Way, the opportunities for vehicles to leave and enter the road safely are extremely limited. This management plan proposes an increased recreation focus in the western part of the park near The Grove Way and there may be an increased risk to public safety in that area unless the road shoulder is modified.

Objectives

Repair erosion damage resulting from water running off The Grove Way and prevent further damage occurring.

Provide means for park visitors to safely enter and exit The Grove Way.

Strategies

Liaise with Transport SA to ensure their responsibilities with regard to erosion control at The Grove Way are met.

Investigate with Transport SA, risk management, engineering and funding options for improved safe public access to the park from The Grove Way.

Actions

- Liaise with Transport SA Environment Officers to address erosion problems at The Grove Way.
- Investigate with Transport SA suitable areas for constructing slip roads to upgraded access points along The Grove Way.

4.7.4 Flood Mitigation Dams

Background

Flood mitigation dams have been constructed on Cobbler Creek and "Babbler" Creek in the park to cope with an estimated 1 in 100 year flood level. These entailed extensive earthworks and the dam on Cobbler Creek has a large concrete spillway with a holding capacity of 420 million litres of water. Rapid urban development in the 12 square kilometre catchment of Cobbler Creek, particularly at Golden Grove, has significantly increased the threat of flooding, especially in the residential and industrial areas along the Little Para River and on the Salisbury Plain.

A long term lease has been established between the Little Para Drainage Authority and the (then) Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources for the purposes of maintaining the dam and associated infrastructure. Lease conditions include that the Authority is responsible for litter and its removal, pest plant and animal control, dam structural repair and maintenance and public liability and safety.

Objectives

Ensure that management of the flood mitigation dams is compatible with the conservation of natural values and is in accordance with the objectives of this plan.

Ensure the conditions and terms of the Little Para Drainage Authority Lease are complied with as required.

Strategies

Maintain communication with the Little Para Drainage Authority managers to ensure that dam maintenance works are undertaken in a manner compatible with the objectives of this plan, and the provisions of leases.

Actions

- Liaise with the Little Para Drainage Authority with regard to ongoing maintenance works associated with the flood mitigation dams and ensure that maintenance programs are in accordance with this plan.
- Conduct an annual inspection and report any issues or actions to the Little Para Drainage Authority.

4.8 Management Arrangements

4.8.1 Partnerships and Cooperative Management

Background

The Department for Environment and Heritage supports and promotes partnerships and cooperative management arrangements to establish integrated natural resource management. This requires the development of substantial working relationships with government agencies, local authorities and local communities.

With regard to Cobbler Creek Recreation Park, this requires ongoing management links to the City of Salisbury, City of Tea Tree Gully, NABCWMB, Native Title Claimants, the representative Kaurna Heritage Committee as nominated by the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee and key community stake-holders.

Partnership arrangements should be developed to provide a positive direction for the shared development, maintenance and management of the park and to improve the resourcing and funding capability to manage the park in accordance with the objectives of this plan.

Local Government

The Cobbler Creek Recreation Park was originally acquired by the Government for purposes of providing open space for communities. The land's constitution as a Recreation Park reflects this purpose and formally sets the direction for management for both biodiversity conservation and community recreation.

Primarily, the recreation focus is local, that is, within the Council areas of Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully. This has been recognised by Salisbury Council who have an interest in the management and provision of facilities in the park. Furthermore, Salisbury City Council maintains many of its own reserves in the area and is well placed to assist in the day to day maintenance of the park.

Aboriginal Partnerships

DEH is committed to reconciliation and to the development of partnerships with the Kaurna Community to cooperatively manage parks and wildlife in a way that respects contemporary and traditional culture, knowledge and skills. Partnerships involve the delivery of programs that promote reconciliation, cultural awareness, indigenous employment and training, cooperative management and Indigenous cultural heritage management on parks.

Furthermore, the South Australian Government is keen to pursue Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs), which are voluntary agreements between native title groups and other people about the use and management of country. For Cobbler Creek Recreation Park such agreements would be between the representative Kaurna Heritage Committee, as nominated by the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee, for the land comprising the park and the South Australian Government.

Objectives

Develop and maintain partnerships and/or working relationships with organisations, statutory bodies and others to assist with the management of the park and help fulfil the reserve's potential without compromising its natural values.

Strategies

Undertake discussions with Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully City Councils and any other organisation that has an interest in the sustainable management of the park and its appropriate development to fulfil its recreational and conservational role.

Encourage Native Title Claimants and the representative Kaurna Heritage Committee, as nominated by the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee, to be involved in partnership arrangements to assist with management of the park.

Actions

- Develop a management framework, such as a heads of agreement (see Appendix D), that will enable partnership between DEH, the City of Salisbury, the City of Tea Tree Gully and key community stake-holders that can provide a positive direction for the shared development, maintenance and management of the park and improve the resourcing and funding capability to manage the park in accordance with the Management Plan.
- Involve Native Title Claimants and the Kaurna Heritage Committee as nominated by the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee, in the cooperative management of the reserve and their Indigenous cultural heritage.
- Encourage and contribute to the development of partnership arrangements to integrate biodiversity and recreation management in the region, with organisations that have an interest in contributing to the sustainable management of the park.

4.8.2 Community and Volunteer Involvement

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park has an active and committed Friends Group who are engaged in a number of conservation and recreation projects. The Group has provided a significant level of support for park management. A number of other community groups contribute to park management. They include local school and scout groups and Trees for Life. A majority of the restoration and revegetation projects in the reserve have been undertaken by these groups, for example: the Arbor Day and World Environment Day mass plantings coordinated through Department for Environment and Heritage and Urban Forest Biodiversity Program.

A number of educational institutions also use the reserve for nature and park management studies that provides resource information of the park's natural and cultural assets.

The local CFS Tea Tree Gully and Salisbury brigades also volunteer their time for fire suppression and prevention activities. In recent times Government employment initiatives have also provided an opportunistic source of labour to undertake park management programs ie: Australian Conservation Trust for Volunteers and Greencorps.

This activity requires liaison and sometimes the provision of materials, equipment and supervision by park's staff. It is very important that the volunteer input is integrated with park management objectives and work programs. DEH recommend the establishment of a Volunteer and Community Works Plan that will provide volunteers with clear direction and objectives and facilitate identified programs to be sufficiently resourced.

Objectives

To provide an efficient and integrated planning, approval, support and liaison service to volunteers.

Strategies

To actively promote and encourage volunteers working in parks.

Actions

- Maintain existing commitments to volunteer groups engaged in land rehabilitation, revegetation and resource protection works.
- In consultation with the Friends of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park and other major volunteer groups, undertake an audit of existing activities and review the direction of work activities based on the initiatives outlined in this plan of management.
- Develop a Community Works Plan that is consistent with the actions outlined in the proposed Vegetation Management Plan and which supports the effective use of staff and volunteer resources.
- Continue to provide liaison and support to emergency service volunteers, particularly the local CFS Brigades and Group.

4.9 Future Directions

4.9.1 Additional Land

Background

Land adjacent to the park in the east, along Cobbler Creek, and in the south, currently in the care of Tea Tree Gully City Council, possesses natural values. The land in the east is particularly important for a specimen of Native Cypress Pine (*Callitris preissii*) that is rare in the park.

Additionally, there is a small parcel of land within the park (approximately 22m X 40m, Allotment 74 in Filed Plan 114290, Hundred of Yatala) in the care of SA Water. The land once housed flow-gauging equipment that was removed several years ago. If the site is no longer required for its original purpose, it should be acquired and added to the park.

Land to the south of the park is currently being utilised by Boral Pty Ltd for the extraction of rubble and building material. The quarry has an expected life of at least twenty years and a report prepared by the Kinhill Group for Boral in 1979 suggested that, once abandoned as a quarry, the land would be suitable for land-fill only. However, a buffer zone surrounding the quarry contains a mixture of inappropriate amenity plantings, some weed infestations but also a considerable stand of native vegetation.

Objectives

Assess the suitability of land adjacent to the park and investigate the feasibility of acquisition for inclusion when it becomes available.

If purchase and proclamation is not feasible, ensure that natural values are managed in partnership with DEH to extend biodiversity conservation aims in the region.

Strategies

Liaison should be maintained with managers of land with natural values adjacent to the park to ensure that those natural values are managed in a way that complements biodiversity conservation in the park and enhances the recreational experience of visitors.

If the land becomes available for acquisition, it should be assessed with regard to biodiversity conservation enhancement and recreational opportunities for addition to the park.

Actions

- Maintain liaison with managers of land adjacent to the park that has natural values and encourage the management of those natural values in partnership with DEH.
- If adjacent land becomes available for acquisition, assess the biodiversity and recreational values of the land and take steps to add it to the park if suitable.

5 SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

***** DEH is the lead agency in all management actions. Additional stakeholders are listed where appropriate.

ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS*
Zoning			
Zone the park in accordance with Figure 2.	Very High	Immediate	
Natural Resources			
Geology and Landform			
Erect an interpretive sign at the flood mitigation dam site that explains the geology evident in the exposed rock face of the cutting.	Medium	Within 3 years	PIRSA, Geological Association
Soils			
Undertake soil erosion inventory and undertake works to stabilise and restore areas.	High	Ongoing	
Redirect or consolidate trails where soil erosion is evident.	High	Ongoing	
Ensure that management actions and recreational use do not cause undue soil erosion.	High	Ongoing	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council, Friends of Cobbler Creek
Hydrology			
Liaise with Tea Tree Gully Council to encourage upstream management of Cobbler Creek that minimises negative impacts on the riparian zone (ie erosion, silt, poor water quality, rubbish, inappropriate recreational use, etc).	Very High	Ongoing	Tea Tree Gully City Council, Northern Adelaide and Barossa Catchment Water Management Board
Seek advice and assistance from Tea Tree Gully and Salisbury City Councils and Northern Adelaide and Barossa Catchment Water Management Board in implementing threat abatement and stream rehabilitation works.	Very High	Ongoing	Northern Adelaide and Barossa Catchment Water Management Board, Salisbury City Council

ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS*
Native Vegetation			
Conduct a systematic vegetation survey and record distribution and density of vegetation (including pest species and species of conservation significance) on a database with GIS capability.	Very High	Within 2 years	Friends of Cobbler Creek
Prepare vegetation management plan based on these data that will: • ensure that the allocation of resources for protection and restoration actions are prioritised to protect plant species and associations of conservation significance; • develop and implement management prescriptions to conserve and increase native plant diversity; • record information on populations of plants of conservation significance, monitor populations and undertake species management programs if necessary; • include a revegetation program to be implemented with community and volunteer involvement.	Very high	Within 2 years	Urban Forest Biodiversity Program, Trees for Life, Friends of Cobbler Creek
Native Fauna			
Monitor populations of native fauna and implement species management plans if necessary.	High	Ongoing	Friends of Cobbler Creek, SA Mammal Club
Protect animal habitat and, where feasible, rehabilitate degraded habitat.	High	Ongoing	Urban Forest Biodiversity Program, Trees for Life, Friends of Cobbler Creek
Facilitate regeneration of natural vegetation and continue revegetation where considered appropriate in the vegetation management plan.	Medium	Ongoing	Urban Forest Biodiversity Program, Trees for Life, Friends of Cobbler Creek

ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS*
Introduced Plants			
Continue to control pest plants, aiming to eradicate proclaimed plants and weeds of environmental concern, using prescriptions developed from the vegetation management plan.	High	Ongoing	Local Pest Plant and Animal Control Officer, Friends of Cobbler Creek
Work with local councils and neighbouring property owners to control key pest plant species that occur across park boundaries.	High	Ongoing	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council Local Pest Plant and Animal Control Officer, Friends of Cobbler Creek
Monitor effectiveness of pest plant control and modify methods as required.	Medium	Ongoing	Local Pest Plant and Animal Control Officer, Friends of Cobbler Creek
Introduced Animals			
Control rabbits and hares. Monitor results and adjust program to keep numbers below an acceptable damage threshold.	High	Ongoing	Local Pest Plant and Animal Control Officer, Friends of Cobbler Creek
Control feral bee colonies.	Medium	Ongoing	
Educate the neighbouring community about the impacts of domestic animals on the park's fauna and outline practices for responsible pet ownership.	Medium	Ongoing	
Cultural Heritage			
Consult Kaurna people who have a traditional association with the land, Native Title Claimants and relevant State and Federal Aboriginal heritage authorities, in decisions regarding the management of Kaurna cultural heritage.	Very high	Ongoing	Native Title Claimants, representative Kaurna Heritage Committee, relevant State and Federal Aboriginal Heritage authorities and Dept for Aboriginal Affairs.
Before proceeding with any development works within the reserve, obtain an assessment and clearance from the appropriate authority, under the provisions of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988.*	High	Within 1 year	Native Title Claimants, representative Kaurna Heritage Committee, relevant State and Federal Aboriginal Heritage authorities and Dept for Aboriginal Affairs.

ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS*
Ensure management of the park complies with any requirements resulting from State Native Title agreements.	Very High	Ongoing	Native Title Claimants, representative Kaurna Heritage Committee, relevant State and Federal Aboriginal Heritage authorities and Dept for Aboriginal Affairs.
Identify, record, protect, restore and monitor known or relocated sites and items of archaeological, anthropological, cultural and historical significance located in the park, in cooperation with the Department of State Aboriginal Affairs, The Heritage branch of DEH and other relevant authorities and organisations. Indigenous and Non-Indigenous cultural heritage sites require conservation plans to facilitate appropriate management.	Very high	Within 2 year	The Heritage branch of DEH, Native Title Claimants, representative Kaurna Heritage Committee, relevant State and Federal Aboriginal Heritage authorities and Dept for Aboriginal Affairs.
In consultation with the Kaurna community, the Heritage branch of DEH and other relevant authorities, research and inventory, cultural and historic sites and stories that relate to the park and where appropriate, develop interpretive material for visitors. Interpretive material may include brochures, site signage and displays.	High	Within 3 years	the Heritage branch of DEH, Native Title Claimants, representative Kaurna Heritage Committee, relevant State and Federal Aboriginal Heritage authorities and Dept for Aboriginal Affairs.
Encourage and support archaeological, anthropological and historic studies within the park. All sites located should during these surveys should be recorded to the standards set by the Heritage branch of DEH and/or DOSAA and submitted for inclusion on the DOSAA Central Archive and/or State Heritage Register.	Medium	Ongoing	the Heritage branch of DEH, Native Title Claimants, representative Kaurna Heritage Committee, relevant State and Federal Aboriginal Heritage authorities and Dept for Aboriginal Affairs.
Fire Management			
Maintain cooperative and consultative relationships with local communities through liaison with the Country Fire Service Region 2, Operations Para Group, local brigades and District Bushfire Prevention Committees	Very high	Ongoing	Local CFS, MFS, and Fire Prevention Officers
Prepare a Fire Management Statement, incorporating historic, current and planned fire activities, that aims to provide for the protection of natural, cultural and built assets.	High	Within 2 years	CFS, MFS, , and Fire Prevention Officers

ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS*
Maintain the existing level of fire management activities and implement the cyclical fire preparedness and prevention work that includes staff training, fuel reduction, slashing and planned burning, fire access maintenance and the establishment of native grass buffer zones.	Very high	Ongoing	CFS, MFS, , and Fire Prevention Officers
Encourage park neighbours to undertake approved fire prevention activities on and off park and promote community and inter-agency cooperation for effective land use planning in relation to fire protection.	Medium	Ongoing	CFS, MFS, Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council Fire Prevention Officers
Respond immediately to all bushfires and conduct a de-brief with relevant authorities following a major fire.	Very high	As required	CFS, and MFS,
Review the effectiveness of the Fire Management Statement following any major bushfire event in the reserve.	Medium	Ongoing	CFS, MFS, , and Fire Prevention Officers
Infrastructure and Built Assets			
Prepare a “Visitor Facilities and Services Plan” with design guidelines for future recreation facilities and public amenities to ensure that a consistent high quality theme is evident across the park.	Very High	Within 18 months	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council
Continue the preparation of and maintain a detailed review and inventory of all the park’s assets, noting condition, location and maintenance issues.	High	Within 1 year	
Initiate a program to upgrade, maintain, consolidate and install new facilities based on the results of the review, inventory and the facilities plan.	Very High	Within 18 months	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council

ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS*
Recreation and Tourism			
Visitor use			
Develop partnership agreements with local government to realise community services, events and activity areas.	Very High	Within 1 year	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council
Use lease and licence provisions of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* to assist with the management of recreational activities within the reserve.	High	Ongoing	
Consider applications for lease agreements for appropriate community clubs within the western "cleared" sector of the park.	High	Ongoing	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council, Cobbler Creek Friends
Provide visitor information on appropriate recreational use of the park.	High	Ongoing	
Vehicle Access			
Upgrade the main park entry at Bridge Road, including: - Significant park entry statement - Upgraded experience of the drive into the park, including best practice land management and revegetation along the creek line.	High	Within 3 years	Transport SA, Urban Forest Biodiversity Program
Provide car parking: - outside the entry gate; and - adjacent to the proposed recreational focus.	High	Within 3 years	Salisbury City Council, Transport SA
Investigate the feasibility of alternative vehicle access and car parking off The Grove Way adjacent to the dam, to serve a new recreational focus and provide easy access to the Cobbler Creek and Porosa walking trails.	High	Within 3 years	Salisbury City Council, Transport SA
Investigate alternative vehicle access from the western end of Green Valley Drive/Taronga Court Walking Trails and off Bridge Road to any new leased facility.	Medium,	Within 4 years	Salisbury City Council, Transport SA

ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS*
Walking Trails			
Upgrade the existing Babbler Loop and Porosa Trails (currently slashed fire access tracks) with: - Better defined tracks and surfaces - Erosion stabilisation where required - Upgraded interpretive signage - Evenly graded trails - Strategically located rest points and lookouts with 'natural' seating and interpretive signage - investigate the potential for improved disability access and the creation of a sensory trail for sight-disabled visitors.	High	Within 2 years	Friends of Cobbler Creek, Bushwalking SA
Develop new formalised walking trails (or slashed access tracks) as follows: - New loop track around the dam site (including all-weather track above the quarry). - Along Green Valley Drive (following the existing fire track) to link with the dam loop and a connection outside the park through the upstream section of Cobbler Creek. - Review the alignment of the Porosa Trail up Cobbler Hill and down to Cobbler Creek.	High	Within 2 years	Friends of Cobbler Creek, Bushwalking SA. Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing
In conjunction with Transport SA promote further consideration to which meets the long term development of a safe pedestrian crossing across The Grove Way that links the southern and eastern sections of the park.	High	Within 2 years	Transport SA
Investigate the potential for further walking trails if visitor demand is indicated and the trail may be constructed and maintained sustainably.	Low	Within 8 years	Friends of Cobbler Creek, Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing

ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS*
Cycling			
Provide a shared pedestrian/cycle commuter track along the southern boundary of the park linking The Grove Way and Bridge Road, and diverging around the John Road priority conservation area.	High	Within 4 years	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council, Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, Bicycle SA
Provide a shared pedestrian/cycle track from the commuter track to the dam area (with secure bicycle parking at the start of the walking trail up Cobbler Creek).	Medium	Within 6 years	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council, Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, Bicycle SA
Provide a cycle track following the alignment of the existing track in the northern side of The Grove Way, to connect and form a loop with the other proposed cycle tracks at The Grove Way underpass.	Medium	Within 6 years	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council, Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, Bicycle SA
Shared pedestrian cycle tracks should be designed in accordance with standards specified in *Guide to Traffic Engineering Practice Part 14 – Bicycles* (Austroads 1999) and be designed, constructed and maintained so that they so not detract from the environmental amenity of the park.	Medium	Within 6 years	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council, Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, Bicycle SA
Interpretive Information			
Resite signs identifying the park at both ends of The Grove Way to make them more visible to passing vehicles.	High	Within 1 year	
Provide directional signs for trails and features in the park.	High	Within 2 years	
Develop and publish a brochure that provides information on the geological, natural, cultural and recreational features of the park.	High	Within 2 years	
Erect signage at appropriate Friends and Community Service project sites to provide the visiting public with information and awareness of group projects and activities.	High	Within 2 years	Friends of Cobbler Creek

ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS*
Alien Tenures and Other Landuses			
Leases and Licences			
Encourage private sector, local government and community organisation involvement in park management where operators can deliver quality visitor services that will improve visitor experience. Approval will only be granted to a commercial operation proposal that is consistent with plan objectives.	High	Ongoing	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council, Friends of Cobbler Creek
Conduct audits as required to ensure operators comply with licence terms and conditions.	High	Ongoing	
Telecommunications Tower			
Conduct inspections of telecommunications tower site to monitor condition of maintenance standards and inform the lessee of any issues associated with site.	Medium	Ongoing	
Department of Transport and The Grove Way			
Liaise with Transport SA Environment Officers to address erosion problems at The Grove Way.	Very High	Within 1 year	Transport SA
Investigate with Transport SA suitable areas for constructing slip roads to upgraded access points along The Grove Way.	High	Within 2 years	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council,, Transport SA
Flood Mitigation Dams			
Liaise with the Little Para Drainage Authority with regard to ongoing maintenance works associated with the flood mitigation dams and ensure that maintenance programs are in accordance with this plan.	Medium	Ongoing	Little Para Drainage Authority, Salisbury City Council
Conduct an annual inspection and report any issues or actions to the Little Para Drainage Authority.	Medium	Ongoing	

ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS*
Management Arrangements			
Partnerships and Cooperative Management			
Develop a management framework, such as a memorandum of understanding, that will enable partnership between DEH, the City of Salisbury, the City of Tea Tree Gully and key community stake-holders that can provide a positive direction for the shared development, maintenance and management of the park and improve the resourcing and funding capability to manage the park in accordance with the Management Plan.	Very High	Within 1 year	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council, Friends of Cobbler Creek
Involve Native Title Claimants and the Kaurna Heritage Committee as nominated by the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee, in the cooperative management of the reserve and their Indigenous cultural heritage.	High	Within 1 year	Native Title Claimants and the representative Kaurna Heritage Committee as nominated by the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee
Encourage and contribute to the development of partnership arrangements to integrate biodiversity and recreation management in the region, with organisations that have an interest in contributing to the sustainable management of the park.	High	Ongoing	
Community and Volunteer Involvement			
Maintain existing commitments to volunteer groups engaged in land rehabilitation, revegetation and resource protection works.	High	ongoing	Friends of Cobbler Creek
In consultation with the Friends of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park and other major volunteer groups, undertake an audit of existing activities and review the direction of work activities based on the initiatives outlined in this plan of management.	Very High	Within 1 year	Friends of Cobbler Creek
Develop a Community Works Plan that is consistent with the actions outlined in the proposed Vegetation Management Plan and which supports the effective use of staff and volunteer resources.	High	Within 2 years	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council, Friends of Cobbler Creek
Continue to provide liaison and support to emergency service volunteers, particularly the local CFS Brigades and Group.	Very High	Ongoing	CFS, MFS

ACTION	PRIORITY	TIMEFRAME	STAKEHOLDERS*
Future Directions			
Additional Land			
Maintain liaison with managers of land adjacent to the park that has natural values and encourage the management of those natural values in partnership with DEH.	High	Ongoing	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council, Friends of Cobbler Creek, Park Neighbors
If adjacent land becomes available for acquisition, assess the biodiversity and recreational values of the land and take steps to add it to the park if suitable.	Medium	ongoing	Salisbury City Council, Tea Tree Gully City Council, Friends of Cobbler Creek

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APPENDIX A : LEGISLATION, CONVENTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

South Australia
Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988
Animal and Plant Control Act (Agricultural Protection and Other Purposes) 1986
Biological Control Act 1986
Catchment Water Management Act 1995
Coast Protection Act 1972
Country Fires Act 1989
Equal Opportunity Act 1984
Environment Protection Act 1993
Development Act 1993
Harbors and Navigation Act 1993
Heritage Act 1993
Historic Shipwrecks Act 1981
Mining Act 1971
National Trust of South Australia Act 1955
Native Title (South Australia) Act 1994
Native Vegetation Act 1991
Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act 1986
Petroleum Act 1940
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1985
Roads (Opening and Closing) Act 1991
Recreational Greenways Act 2000
Soil Conservation and Land Care Act 1989
Water Resources Act 1997
Wilderness Protection Act 1992

Commonwealth
Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984
Disability Discrimination Act 1992
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999
Native Title Act 1993
Natural Heritage Trust Act 1996

International
Japan / China Australia Migratory Bird Agreements (JAMBA, CAMBA)
Ramsar Convention
World Heritage Convention

APPENDIX B : LAND TENURE HISTORY

COBBLER CREEK RECREATION PARK

A proclamation was published on the 26th October 1989 under the provisions of Section 34(1) of the National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972 that constituted all the land in the Certificates of Title listed below as Cobbler Creek Recreation Park.

Volume 2163 Folio 33
Volume 2269 Folio 13
Volume 2270 Folio 188
Volume 2270 Folio 189
Volume 2483 Folio 88
Volume 3867 Folio 181
Volume 4075 Folio 689
Volume 4152 Folio 751
Volume 4234 Folio 843

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The tenure histories of the land parcels in the above Certificates of Title leading up to the creation of the Cobbler Creek Recreation Park and the current designations of the land parcels in the Park are set out on the attached schedule.

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Cobbler Creek Recreation Park is within The Kaurna People Native Title Claim SG 6001/00.

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P A Smith
Tenure History Search Unit
03/05/2001

Enclosures

Certificates of Title 2163/33, 2269/13, 2270/188, 2270/189, 2483/88, 2483/89, 3606/6, 3867/181, 4075/688, 4075/689, 4075/690, 4152/751, 4168/587, 4234/843, 5144/323, 5144/324, 5144/325, 5144/326, 5463/410, 5683/40, 5766/484 & 5774/139.

Government Gazette Notices 22/06/1978 & 26/10/1989

Deposited Plan 30455

(Report prepared for B Moore Senior Planner Reserve Planning DEH)

COBBLER CREEK RECREATION PARK

Proclaimed 26th October 1989 under Section 34 (1) of the National Parks & Wildlife Act (Act 56 of 1972)

Tenure history of the land parcels contained in the Park as at 1st April 2001

DATE	TITLE REF		PARCEL	PLAN		REGISTERED PROPRIETOR	REMARKS	ACT
31/08/1951	2163	33	Pt.Blk. 2108	H	Yatala	J. H. Tilley		
23/11/1970	2163	33	Pt.Blk .2108	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority		
GG 22/06/1978	2163	33	Pt.Blk. 2108	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority	Declared to be Open Space	P&D
GG 26/10/1989	***2163***	***33***	Pt.Blk. 2108	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority	***constituted as Cobbler Creek Recreation Park***	NP&W
4/05/2000	2163	33	Lot 73	F	114289	State Planning Authority		
16/05/2000	5774	139	Lot 73	F	114289	Minister for Environment & Planning	current parcel	
4/06/1953	2269	13	2115 & Pt.2116	H	Yatala	J. H. Tilley		
3/09/1970	2269	13	2115 & Pt.2116	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority		
GG 22/06/1978	2269	13	2115 & Pt.2116	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority	Declared to be Open Space	P&D
GG 26/10/1989	***2269***	***13***	2115 & Pt.2116	F	114287	State Planning Authority	***constituted as Cobbler Creek Recreation Park***	NP&W
5/08/1999			Lot 71	F	114287	State Planning Authority	current parcel - New Title to issue to Min. E & P	
17/06/1953	2270	188	Sec. 2114	H	Yatala	F.E. Wakelin & J.T.Tilley		
3/09/1970	2270	188	Sec. 2114	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority		
GG 22/06/1978	2270	188	Sec. 2114	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority	Declared to be Open Space	P&D
GG 26/10/1989	***2270***	***188***	Sec. 2114	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority	***constituted as Cobbler Creek Recreation Park***	NP&W
26/02/1993	2270	188	Q509 & Q510	D	30455	State Planning Authority	Part 2114 taken for Road (The Grove Way)	
20/09/1993	5144	326	Q509 & Q510	D	30455	Minister for Environment & Planning	current parcel	
17/06/1953	2270	189	Pt. Sec. 2116	H	Yatala	F.E. Wakelin & J.T.Tilley		
3/09/1970	2270	189	Pt. Sec. 2116	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority		
GG 22/06/1978	2270	189	Pt. Sec. 2116	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority	Declared to be Open Space	P & D
GG 26/10/1989	***2270***	***189***	Pt. Sec. 2116	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority	***constituted as Cobbler Creek Recreation Park***	NP&W
27/07/1999	2270	189	Lot 72	F	114288	State Planning Authority		

DATE	TITLE REF		PARCEL	PLAN		REGISTERED PROPRIETOR	REMARKS	ACT
18/08/1999	5683	40	Lot 72	F	114288	Minister for Environment & Planning	current parcel	
26/10/1956	2483	88	Sec. 2110	H	Yatala	J. T. Tilley		
3/09/1970	2483	88	Sec. 2110	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority		
GG 22/06/1978	2483	88	Sec. 2110	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority	Declared to be Open Space	P & D
GG 26/10/1989	***2483***	***88***	Sec. 2110	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority	***constituted as Cobbler Creek Recreation Park***	NP&W
26/02/1993	2483	88	Q507 & Q508	D	30455	State Planning Authority	Part 2110 taken for Road (The Grove Way)	
20/09/1993	5144	325	Q507 & Q508	D	30455	Minister for Environment & Planning	current parcel	
25/07/1958	2598	41	Pt. Blk. 486	H	Yatala	D A Tilley		
23/11/1970	2598	41	Pt. Blk. 486	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority		
3/09/1970	2483	88	Pt. Blk. 486	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority		
31/08/1972	3867	181	Pt. Blk. 486	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority		
GG 22/06/1978	3867	181	Pt. Sec. 2116	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority	Declared to be Open Space	
GG 26/10/1989	***3867***	***181***	Pt. Sec. 2116	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority	***constituted as Cobbler Creek Recreation Park***	NP&W
26/02/1993	3867	181	Q505 & Q511	D	30455	State Planning Authority		
20/09/1993	5144	324	Q505 & Q511	D	30455	Minister for Environment & Planning	current parcel	
26/10/1956	2483	89	Pt. Sec. 2108	H	Yatala	H. E. Judd		
2/03/1972	2483	89	Pt. Sec. 2108	H	Yatala	Commissioner of Highways		
28/10/1976	4075	689	Pt. Sec. 2108	H	Yatala	Commissioner of Highways		
20/08/1984	4075	689	Pt. Sec. 2108	H	Yatala	Minister of Environment and Planning		
GG 26/10/1989	***4075***	***689***	Pt. Sec. 2108	H	Yatala	Minister of Environment and Planning	***constituted as Cobbler Creek Recreation Park***	NP&W
17/04/2000	4075	689	Lot 70	F	114286	Minister of Environment and Planning		
3/05/2000	5766	484	Lot 70	F	114286	Minister for Environment and Planning	current parcel	
26/10/1956	2483	89	Pt. Sec. 2108	H	Yatala	H. E. Judd		
2/03/1972	2483	89	Pt. Sec. 2108	H	Yatala	Commissioner of Highways		
1/07/1975	2483	89	Pt. Sec. 2108	H	Yatala	S.A. Land Commission	New CT 4075/688 issued to S.A.L.C.	

DATE	TITLE REF		PARCEL	PLAN		REGISTERED PROPRIETOR	REMARKS	ACT
5/02/1969	3606	6	Sec. 904 & 2109	H	Yatala	Brewarrana Pty. Ltd		
2/03/1972	3606	6	Sec. 904 & 2109	H	Yatala	Commissioner of Highways		
1/07/1975	3606	6	Sec. 904 & 2109	H	Yatala	S.A. Land Commission	New CT 4075/688 issued to S.A.L.C.	
28/10/1976	4075	688	904,2108 & 2109	H	Yatala	S.A. Land Commission	formerly parts CT 2483/89 & 3606/6	
GG 22/06/1978	4075	688	904,2108 & 2109	H	Yatala	S.A. Land Commission	Declared to be Open Space	P & D
6/12/1976	4075	688	904,2108 & 2109	H	Yatala	State Planning Authority		
4/09/1979	4075	688	Lot 51	F	8904	State Planning Authority		
12/12/1979	4152	751	Lot 51	F	8904	State Planning Authority		
GG 26/10/1989	***4152***	***751***	Lot 51	F	8904	State Planning Authority	***constituted as Cobbler Creek Recreation Park***	NP&W
26/02/1993	4152	751	Q502, 503 & 504	D	30455	State Planning Authority	Part Lot 51 taken for road (The Grove Way)	
20/09/1993	5144	323	Q502, 503 & 504	D	30455	Minister for Environment & Planning	current parcel	
5/02/1969	3606	6	Sec. 904 & 2109	H	Yatala	Brewarrana Pty. Ltd		
2/03/1972	3606	6	Sec. 904 & 2109	H	Yatala	Commissioner of Highways		
1/07/1975	3606	6	Sec. 904 & 2109	H	Yatala	S A Land Commission		
28/10/1976	4075	690	Pts. 904 & 2109	H	Yatala	Commissioner of Highways		
22/09/1980	4075	690	Part of Lot 351	F	11850	Commissioner of Highways		
3/12/1980	4168	587	Part of Lot 351	F	11850	Commissioner of Highways		
18/03/1982	4168	587	Lot 353	F	11850	Commissioner of Highways	Lot 351 redesignated as Lot 353 & 354	
20/08/1984	4168	587	Lot 351*	F	11850	Minister of Environment and Planning		
21/10/1984	4234	843	Lot 353	F	11850	Minister of Environment and Planning		
GG 26/10/1989	***4234***	***843***	Lot 353	F	11850	Minister of Environment and Planning	***constituted as Cobbler Creek Recreation Park***	NP&W
27/10/1997	5463	410	Lot 353	F	11850	Minister for Environment and Planning	current parcel	

NP&W = National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (Act 56 of 1972)

P & D = Planning and Development Act 1966-1978

*** An error of description. Should have been Allotment 353**

APPENDIX C : CONSERVATION STATUS CODES

Australian Conservation Status Codes

The following codes are based on the current listing of species under Section 179 of the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

EX **Extinct**: there is no reasonable doubt that the last member of the species has died.

EW **Extinct in the Wild**: known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalised population well outside its past range; or it has not been recorded in its known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate seasons, anywhere in its past range, despite exhaustive surveys over a time frame appropriate to its life cycle and form.

CE **Critically Endangered**: facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.

E **Endangered**: facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.

V **Vulnerable**: facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium-term future, as determined in accordance with the prescribed criteria.

CD **Conservation Dependent**: the species is the focus of a specific conservation program, the cessation of which would result in the species becoming vulnerable, endangered or critically endangered within a period of 5 years.

Note: Prescribed criteria as defined under the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

South Australian Conservation Status Codes

The following codes are based on the current listing of species under Schedules of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*, as amended in 2000.

E **Endangered**: (Schedule 7) in danger of becoming extinct in the wild.

V **Vulnerable**: (Schedule 8) at risk from potential or long term threats which could cause the species to become endangered in the future.

R **Rare**: (Schedule 9) low overall frequency of occurrence (may be locally common with a very restricted distribution or may be scattered sparsely over a wider area). Not currently exposed to significant threats, but warrants monitoring and protective measures to prevent reduction of population sizes.

Regional Status Codes

The categories below apply to the species distribution at a regional level.

Mammals, Reptiles & Amphibians

There are no regional conservation status categories developed for mammals, reptiles or amphibians to date (2002).

Birds

Regional conservation status for birds follow Carpenter and Reid (1998) The Status of Native Birds in the Agricultural Areas of South Australia;

The regions are defined as follows;

ML Mount Lofty	**MN** Mid-North	**SE** South-Eastern	**KI** Kangaroo Island
MM Murray Mallee	**EP** Eyre Peninsula	**YP** Yorke Peninsula	

Plants

Regional conservation ratings for plants follow:

Lang, P.J. & Kraehenbuehl, D.N. (2001). Plants of Particular Conservation Significance in South Australia's Agricultural Regions.

January (2001) update of unpublished database: Florlist. Department for Environment and Heritage.

The regions are as defined by the State Herbarium (Plant Biodiversity Centre), illustrated in the back cover of 'A List of the Vascular Plants of South Australia (Edition IV)' (Ed. Jessop, 1993).

NW	North-Western	**FR**	Flinders Ranges	**NL**	Northern Lofty	**SL**	Southern Lofty
LE	Lake Eyre	**EA**	Eastern	**MU**	Murray	**KI**	Kangaroo Island
NU	Nullarbor	**EP**	Eyre Peninsula	**YP**	Yorke Peninsula	**SE**	South-Eastern
GT	Gairdner-Torrens						

In order of decreasing conservation significance:

X **Extinct/Presumed extinct**: not located despite thorough searching of all known and likely habitats; known to have been eliminated by the loss of localised population(s); or not recorded for more than 50 years from an area where substantial habitat modification has occurred.

E **Endangered**: rare and in danger of becoming extinct in the wild.

T **Threatened**: (*Plants only*) likely to be either Endangered or Vulnerable but insufficient data available for more precise assessment.

V **Vulnerable**: rare and at risk from potential threats or long term threats that could cause the species to become endangered in the future.

K **Uncertain**: likely to be either Threatened or Rare but insufficient data available for a more precise assessment.

R **Rare**: has a low overall frequency of occurrence (may be locally common with a very restricted distribution or may be scattered sparsely over a wider area). Not currently exposed to significant or widespread threats, but warrants monitoring and protective measures to prevent reduction of population sizes.

U **Uncommon**: less common species of interest but not rare enough to warrant special protective measures.

Q **Not yet assessed**: but flagged as being of possible significance.

N **Not of particular significance** (*Plants only*) Also indicated by a blank entry.

C **Common** (*Birds only*) Also indicated by a blank entry.

O **Occasional Visitor Only** (*Birds only*) Not considered of conservational status.

APPENDIX D : HEADS OF AGREEMENT

HEADS OF AGREEMENT
COBBLER CREEK RECREATION PARK

PARTIES TO THIS HEADS OF AGREEMENT:

- Department for Environment and Heritage
- Salisbury Council
- Tea Tree Gully Council
- Friends of Cobbler Creek

INTRODUCTION

This Heads of Agreement aims to facilitate proactive consultation between the Department for Environment and Heritage, Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully Councils and the Friends of Cobbler Creek regarding the future management, and at the discretion of each party, contribution to the future management of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park.

BACKGROUND

Cobbler Creek Recreation Park is a 290 hectare park dedicated under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* as a reserve for public benefit and enjoyment and for the conservation of wildlife in a natural environment.

The park falls within both the Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully Council boundaries, most of which lies in the Salisbury Council area.

The land comprises of Mallee Box woodland and open space grasslands used previously for cropping and grazing.

In recent years extensive urban development has extended to the boundaries of the park and The Grove Way has split the park into two sections with only one formal access point via a tunnel. A flood mitigation dam has been developed in the north western area of the reserve, with construction exposing a significant geological feature.

Various community groups have supported revegetation programs which has resulted in substantial areas of the park being progressively revegetated. The park is subject to increasing interest from the local communities for recreational use and improved facility provision and maintenance.

The Department for Environment and Heritage in conjunction with Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully Councils and the Friends of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park, have cooperated to rewrite the Park's Management Plan which was initially adopted in 1990.

SUMMARY OF THE PARTIES' INTERESTS

Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH)

DEH is the lead agency for management of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park.

DEH is required to manage the park in accordance with objectives of *the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (administrative responsibility currently with the Minister for Environment and Conservation) and the Park's Management Plan.

Staffing is provided from the Lofty/Barossa District, additional labour resources may be provided through a range of community employment programs. The management plan makes a commitment to prepare a Visitor Facilities Plan which will establish the foundation for park facility design, location and standards. A Vegetation Management Plan will be prepared to prioritise biodiversity protection and enhancement activities with a particular focus on strategic pest plant control and revegetation programs and management actions to manage existing native vegetation and introduced pest plants.

City Of Salisbury

The City of Salisbury recognises the regional significance of the Cobbler Creek Recreation Park in the network of open space of the northern Adelaide metropolitan area. The Park has significant biodiversity value and the potential to provide a range of recreational opportunities to meet the needs of the residents of the region.

The City of Salisbury will, to the extent of available resources, seek to ensure that the Cobbler Creek Recreation Park serves the needs of the residents of the City of Salisbury. The City will also in conjunction with the other parties of this agreement, use its best endeavors to apply for government grants or grants available to civic organisations, in order to develop the Park in accordance with the Management Plan agreed to by the parties of this agreement.

City Of Tea Tree Gully

The City of Tea Tree Gully agrees to participate in a Stakeholders Management Group to assist Department for Environment and Heritage in the management of the Cobbler Creek Recreation Park. This participation is to help ensure that the interests of the City's residents are considered in the preparation and implementation of the Park's Management Plan.

Friends Of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park

Friends of Cobbler Creek (FOCC) are a community based group of volunteers actively working for the conservation of our environment and in particular the protection of the natural features of the Cobbler Creek Recreation Park. The group aims to promote the area as a passive recreational facility for the community whilst preserving its unique vegetation and biodiversity. The Friends membership is drawn from the local community and a range of interests.

FOCC is committed as a key stakeholder to work co-operatively in facilitating the implementation of the Management Plan and to providing input into resource allocation and prioritising process. Where possible FOCC will contribute voluntary support to DEH in the management of the Park. This support will in some instances be physical in nature and in others of a technical and a local knowledge kind.

STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT GROUP

A Stakeholder Management Group, comprising of representatives from both Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully Councils and the Friends of Cobbler Creek will be established to oversee the implementation of the Management Plan and discuss any issues of interest which impact on management of the park.

RESOURCING

Funding will be allocated from DEH recurrent and capital programs, additional resources may be sought through revenue initiatives (e.g. leases or licences), grant applications or alternatively through voluntary contribution from members affiliated to the Stakeholder Management Group.

Outside sponsorship to gain funding and support from other Government departments and agencies will be actively encouraged.

Any invitation to Councils to contribute resources will be in accordance with Councils' budget planning cycles and will follow consultation with Council delegates through the Stakeholder Management Group.

PRINCIPLES OF THE AGREEMENT

The parties will participate in a Stakeholder Management Group to provide advice on the management of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park in accordance with the objectives of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* and the Cobbler Creek Recreation Park Management Plan.

Each party agrees to respect the others' roles and responsibilities and to share information on matters relating to the management of the park, including the interests of the community in management of the park and any other matter which may impact upon the management of the park.

The parties will work cooperatively and promote harmony in the management of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park.

Any dissension will be raised by the dissenting party in writing in the first instance through the Stakeholder Management Group.

MEETING PROTOCOLS

The Stakeholder Management Group (SMG) will meet at least quarterly.

The SMG may co-opt other interested parties onto the SMG on a needs basis.

Administrative support will be provided by DEH.

Any member of the Stakeholder Management Group may call an extraordinary meeting.

……. Title……...……

SIGNED FOR ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

Dated ……day of …….. ……..2002

……. Title……...……

SIGNED FOR ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY

Dated ……day of …….. ……..2002

……. Title……...……

SIGNED FOR ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF TEA TREE GULLY

Dated ……day of …….. ……..2002

……. Title……...……

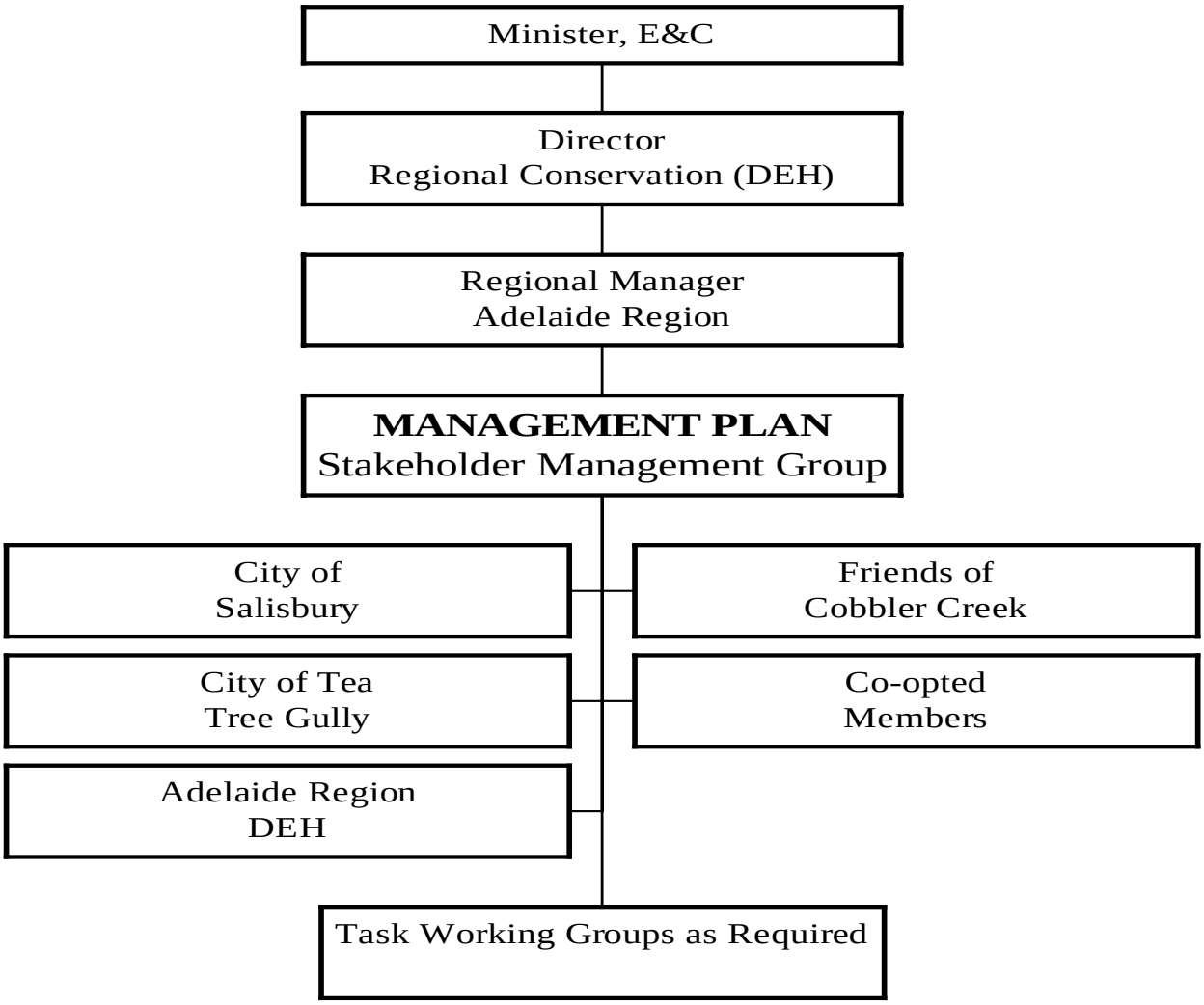
SIGNED FOR ON BEHALF OF THE FRIENDS OF COBBLER CREEK

Dated ……day of …….. ……..2002

APPENDIX 1 : MEMBERSHIP OF STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT GROUP

- Department for Environment and Heritage
- City of Salisbury
- City of Tea Tree Gully
- Friends of Cobbler Creek Recreation Park

APPENDIX 2 : ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



APPENDIX 3 : ANNUAL SCHEDULE OF WORKS

To Be Determined