

ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES

Sandringham Foreshore is one of the largest areas of remnant coastal vegetation in Bayside. It contains areas Coastal Dune Grassland (EVC 879), Coastal Dune Scrub (EVC 160) and Coastal Headland Scrub (EVC 161) and provides important habitat and refuge for a range of indigenous native birds, bats, mammals, reptiles and insects in the otherwise built urban environment.

Native vegetation at Sandringham Foreshore is covered by a Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO1) in the Bayside Planning Scheme. The aim of the overlay is to protect and preserve trees and areas of significant vegetation, implementing key requirements of the State Planning Policy Framework and ensuring any new development minimises loss of native vegetation. The overlay and ongoing Council management of the foreshore aim to maintain and enhance habitat and habitat corridors and to encourage the regeneration of native vegetation. A permit is required to remove vegetation other than as part of weed control, fire prevention, public safety and road safety management actions.

There has been extensive historical and ongoing community involvement in protection and enhancement of native vegetation and habitat at Sandringham Foreshore. Black Rock and Sandringham Conservation Association (BRASCA), Friends of Native Wildlife, Friend of Picnic Point and the local community all actively assist Council in rubbish removal, weed control and monitoring of flora and fauna.

Summary of key recommendations include:

- 1 Protect and focus priority specialist weed control and management resources into areas with good quality remnant indigenous vegetation implementing recommendations as identified in the Bayside Native Vegetation Native Works Program.
- 2 Close and revegetate duplicated secondary paths and informal access tracks to offset the impacts of ongoing requirement for vegetation pruning and removal to maintain sightlines for safety along the main Coastal Trail, beach access ramps and at car park entry exits.
- 3 Ensure new cliff and escarpment fencing includes anchor points to improve safety in future weed control and revegetation efforts in these difficult to access areas.
- 4 Continue staged revegetation in consultation with local community groups. Ensure use of indigenous species grown from locally sourced seed consistent with the prevailing Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC). Carefully plan revegetation, modifying the species mix within the EVC if required to maintain and enhance biodiversity values while ensuring establishment of long term sustainable and manageable planting in areas with existing views or where required for ongoing public access or other use.
- 5 Undertake ongoing monitoring of fox, rabbit and feral cat numbers initiating targeted control programs where required.

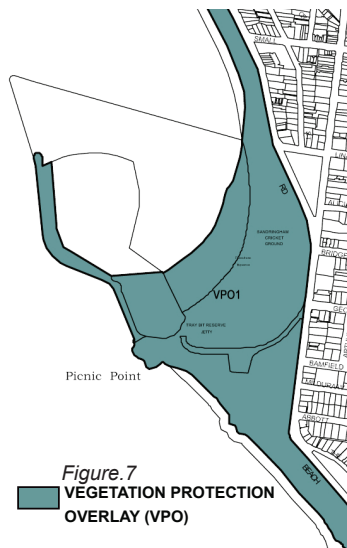


Figure.7
VEGETATION PROTECTION
OVERLAY (VPO)



Figure.8 Existing Vegetation