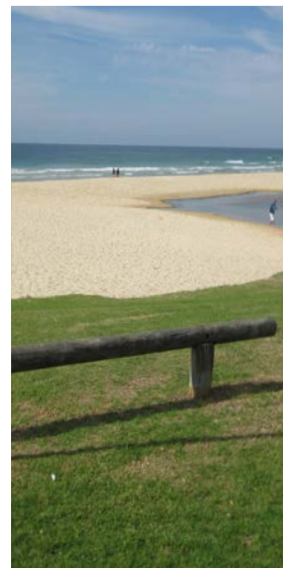




# Draft Recreation and Open Space Strategy 2017



ross  
planning





recreation  
open space  
and sport  
specialists

This report has been  
prepared by:

ROSS Planning Pty Ltd  
ABN 32 508 029 959  
Upper floor, 63 Bay Terrace  
Wynnum QLD 4178

PO Box 5660  
Manly QLD 4179

Telephone: (07) 3901 0730  
Fax: (07) 3893 0593

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# Executive summary

Eurobodalla Shire Council commissioned ROSS Planning to develop a Recreation and Open Space Strategy for adoption by late 2017.

The project included review of the 2010 Strategy and development of a new updated Strategy and will assist Council to:

- » understand
  - how to meet the community’s recreation needs acknowledging limited future population growth
  - information the community needs to encourage participation in recreation opportunities
- » ensure
  - Council’s public open spaces are well managed, well maintained and accessible
  - barriers to access, connection and participation are identified and practical solutions implemented
- » protect
  - open space of high value and use by the community
  - access to and scenic values of the ocean, foreshores and rural areas.

The Strategy will set the direction for recreation and open space planning and provision for the Shire.

Open space in the Eurobodalla Shire includes outstanding natural areas including beaches, bushland reserves, wetlands, estuaries and rivers as well as sport facilities, aquatic centres, community halls and an extensive network of walking and cycling paths. Open space is fundamental to people being able to participate in recreation and sporting activities. It also creates desirable neighbourhoods that lead to healthy and attractive places to live and visit.

Quality open space is also integral to environmental protection and can provide notable opportunities for economic development particularly nature-based tourism opportunities, especially in an area such as Eurobodalla that is so attractive to visitors.

Open space plays a major role in improving community health, both physical and mental, reducing crime, stimulating economic growth and even boosting property value. It can also establish a sense of ownership and belonging to local communities, with these attributes being known to improve the wellbeing of individuals and communities alike.

Development of the Strategy has required analysis of Eurobodalla’s existing open space land and assets to create a framework for community comment and input. The community’s needs and desires have been gathered using a range of engagement methods and analysed within the context of known trends and population forecasts.

This Strategy has been developed giving thought to what we know about the Eurobodalla’s open space, our understanding of the local community’s preferences to different open space types and functions and Council’s (and the community’s) capacity to deliver the required infrastructure to meet community needs and future demand.

Industry recognised methods were utilised to benchmark and analyse the provision of open space across the Eurobodalla Shire and these were balanced by applying a practical approach to meeting the current and future needs of the community.

In recognition of the distinct communities that contribute to the Eurobodalla Shire, planning areas were identified and ensure the Strategy recognises the unique attributes of these communities of interest. Comprehensive recommendations to implement the Strategy are included throughout the document and summarised in an Action Plan at the rear of the document for ease of reference.

The Strategy is proposed to have a fifteen-year implementation period to achieve its vision:

**Eurobodalla has an open space network that provides safe and connected places and spaces that build on our sense of community and ensure a great quality of life for all ages.**

As noted above, a range of future directions and actions are presented to lead Council decision-making with regard to recreation and open space planning and provision. Key issues addressed include:

- » Appoint a Council Officer to lead overseeing the implementation and review of the Strategy
- » Undertake master plans for key sports facilities
- » Review resource allocations in future years’ budgets to ensure implementation of capital works recommendations.





Narooma Aquatic Centre



Hockey action at Gundary Oval





# Introduction



## Strategy purpose

Eurobodalla Shire Council sought to undertake a review and update of the existing Recreation and Open Space Strategy (2010) to further develop the strategic framework for the management, provision and development of recreation and open space in Eurobodalla. Additionally, this review will ensure the Strategy maintains currency with recent trends and reflects changing community needs and demographics. Additionally, it is commonplace for strategies such as this to be reviewed every five years.

A successful open space network and quality recreation facilities are the result of considerable planning and an understanding of local influences (climate, geography, recreation preferences and demographics). This Recreation and Open Space Strategy (the Strategy) is based on the foundations that consider and embrace these matters. It has been developed giving thought to what we know about Eurobodalla's open space, our understanding of local people's preferences to different open space types and functions and Council's (and the community's) capacity to deliver the infrastructure.

## Scope

The Strategy focuses on Council owned and/or managed public open space (community land, Crown land under Council control and road reserve), including community halls and centres. Natural areas, including state-owned bushland reserves, have been considered for their role in providing for nature-based recreation.

This Strategy does not provide detailed analysis of each individual Council reserve or detailed operational actions, however, it acts to provide strategic guidance on key identified issues from the open space network and recreation facilities.

Information contained within this Strategy is based on an audit and assessment of Eurobodalla's open space network and recreation facilities, and is a snapshot in time only. This information is accurate as at July 2017. Any open space and/or recreation facility developments or data updates since this time have not been taken into account.

Wide-ranging engagement was undertaken to ensure community and Council perception and preference assisted to identify demand. A summary of the engagement strategy and key outcomes is included in a separate section.

# Defining recreation and open space

The definition and value of open space can be as varied as the communities it serves. At its most basic, Healthy Spaces and Places ([www.healthyplaces.org.au](http://www.healthyplaces.org.au)) defines open space as follows:

“Open space refers to land that has been reserved for the purpose of formal and informal sport and recreation, preservation of natural environments, provision of green space and/or urban stormwater management.”

For the purpose of this Strategy, only open space that is under Council ownership or control has been assessed in detail. (State forests and national parks have been considered where they play a supplementary role). School grounds and private land and facilities can play a role in the open space network. However, community use is generally secondary and/or a fee-for-use is required, and thus they are not a key focus of this Strategy.

In order to determine the current recreation and open space network function and capacity, a classification framework has been developed based on land (open space) and activity use (recreation). These two assessment areas are described below.

## Open space

The open space network has been classified into six typologies. The various open space typologies possess different values, functions and settings. Additionally, the different typologies will be delivered through different mechanisms. For example, the development and/or upgrades to recreation and sports parks may be delivered as contributed assets as part of a development. They may also require contribution to be made by developers towards their delivery.

Open space needs to be assessed in terms of its existing and likely future function (classification) and its role (hierarchy) within that function.

## Recreation

In order to analyse recreation broadly across the Eurobodalla Shire, requirements have been assessed via community needs and preference analysis. The recreation component of the Strategy has been developed using three activity themes:

- » informal physical activity
- » sport
- » outdoor recreation.

Community and Council engagement and physical activity participation trends have been used to develop the recreation component of this Strategy.



# Strategy inputs and outputs



Figure 1. Identifying Strategy inputs and outputs

# Benefits of open space

## Benefits to personal health

- » improved health is available to individuals through participation in sport and recreation. Research has shown that quality access to open space (specifically parks, sporting fields and their connectivity) increases physical activity frequency
- » opportunities to develop physical, social and decision-making skills through participation in sport and recreation
- » participation in sport and physical activity can help individuals explore strategies for conflict resolution and reduce stress.

## Benefits to communities

- » open space provision is essential for strengthening and maintaining a healthy community. Open space can provide a focal point for community gathering, promote interaction and combat social isolation
- » participation in sport and recreation can improve social cohesion, build cultural tolerance and support for seniors and people with a disability
- » open space can provide areas of high visual amenity and attractiveness
- » open space areas can be used to record and retain history through place names, commemorative buildings and memorials and preserved areas of cultural significance.

## Benefits to the environment

- » help to maintain a sustainable environment by reducing water run-off and flooding-related problems, offsetting carbon emissions and filtering pollutants (trees)
- » where open space provides for quality active transport opportunities and walking and cycling replace car trips, additional environmental benefits include reduced traffic congestion, reduced air pollution, reduced greenhouse emissions and reduced noise pollution
- » daytime temperatures have been found to be up to 3°C cooler in large urban parks than the surrounding streets as a result of moisture released from trees
- » provide habitats that support ecosystems
- » can have high environmental values and support species and ecosystems not reserved in national parks or other conservation reserves and may act as corridor linkages between larger areas of environmental value.

## Benefits to the economy

- » quality open space can increase the value of nearby properties
- » participation can reduce obesity and health care costs. Improved physical health and the building of stronger families and communities helps lower these costs
- » quality open space and leisure services can attract commercial opportunities that support economic development, jobs and tourism. In fact, research has shown that recreation, parks and open space are some of the most important factors when new business locations are considered
- » many events are hosted in open space areas - from small local community-based events, through to those of national and international importance.

# Recreation and open space in Eurobodalla

## Council's role in recreation and open space planning

Council has an in-depth knowledge of their individual communities and can influence open space outcomes through their role as a strategic and land-use planning authority; a provider and manager of facilities and services and a community leader.

## Council achievements

Open space plays a vital role in enhancing one's quality of life. Appropriately planned, developed and managed open space provides numerous opportunities to improve the health and wellbeing of individuals and the community, as well as bringing people together to develop social networks and friendships. With 42% of residents rating the quality of life in Eurobodalla as excellent, and 35% rating it as good<sup>1</sup>, Council is proud of its previous and current achievements in recreation and open space planning and development.

Council has created an environment where<sup>1</sup>:

- » 80% of respondents visit the open space network at least twice a week
- » 72% of respondent participate in physical activity 30 minutes or more at least three times a week
- » 70% are satisfied with what is available.

During the development of this Strategy, residents were asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and open space opportunities/facilities in Eurobodalla. All but four of the facilities had a combined satisfaction rating of *great* and *good* of at least 70% (see figure below). Residents were unhappy with Eurobodalla's aquatic facilities, indoor sport and recreation centres, activities for youth and low cost/free physical activities/programs.

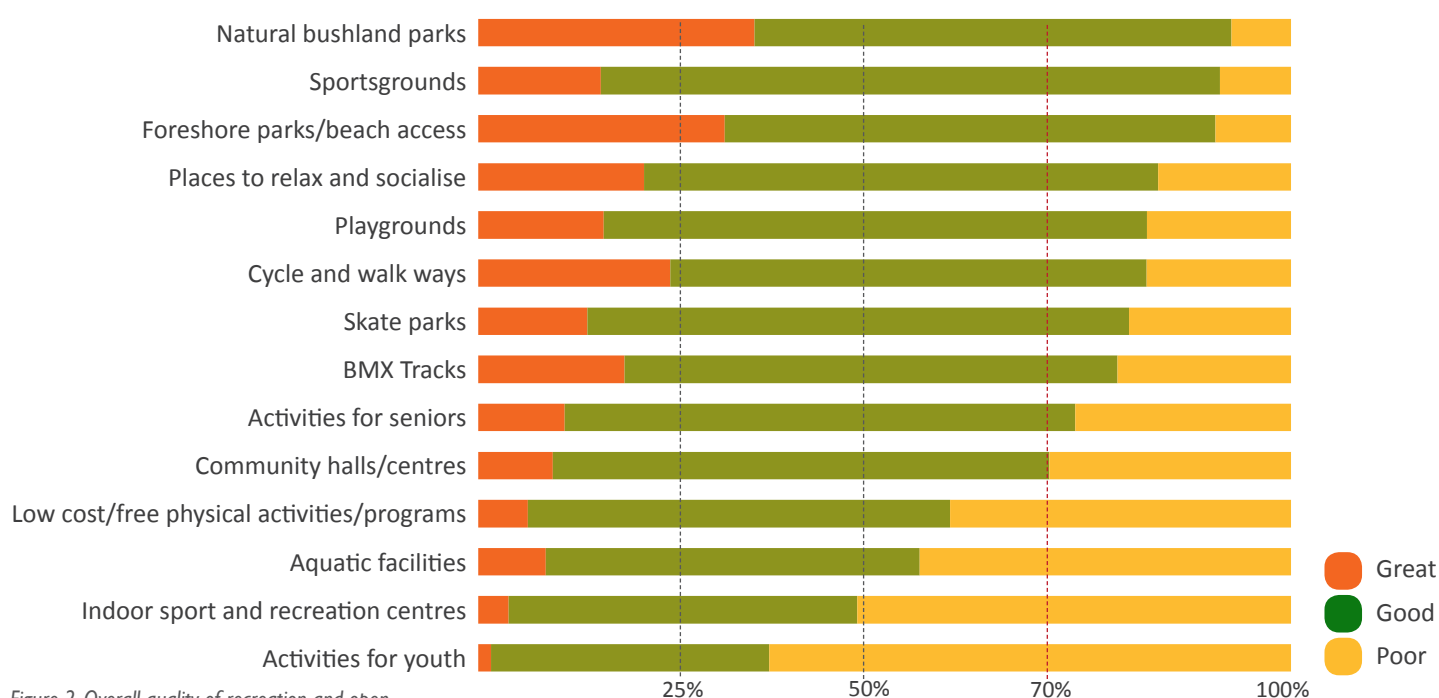


Figure 2. Overall quality of recreation and open space opportunities/facilities

<sup>1</sup> Source: Micromex Research 2016, Eurobodalla Council Community Wellbeing Research (survey)



# Strategic direction

Open space plays an important role in achieving the community's aspirations and priorities for the future. It is important that the community's current and future values (balanced against resource realities) guide the provision and management of Eurobodalla's open space network.

The community's open space values will guide the strategic direction of open space. The six key values, as identified throughout the Strategy, include:

- » appreciation of the natural setting
- » a place that appeals to all ages - where you can visit with family and friends
- » a place where one can participate in a variety of activities and experiences
- » users feel safe when visiting open space
- » offers a range of sporting opportunities
- » a place to take one's dog.

## Fundamental directions

The following directions are seen as fundamental in responding to the key values and guiding the overall open space network at a strategic level:

- » Open space and play
  - provide high quality recreation parks with a variety of play experiences that cater for all ages
  - play experiences should complement and embrace the surrounding natural environment
  - each planning area is within a short drive (15 minutes or less) to a high quality recreation park
  - shared pathways connect the high quality recreation parks with residential areas and key destinations (e.g. shops, schools)
  - appreciate that not all residents and visitors enjoy interacting with dogs in open space
- » Informal recreation and physical activity
  - maintain and upgrade skate parks in designated locations
  - continue to facilitate physical activity programs, community programs, events and performing arts across the open space network
- » Sport
  - sports parks are developed to a standard where players, officials and spectators can enjoy quality experiences at the facility
  - close liaison between Council and sporting organisations is maintained
- » Outdoor recreation
  - maintain landscape and scenic views such as headland lookouts, beaches and vast rural areas for the benefit of the wider community
  - recreation services provided by bushland reserves and waterways are recognised as a fundamental component of Eurobodalla's infrastructure network
  - access to appropriate water-based recreation opportunities are promoted
- » Community halls
  - activate community halls to ensure sustainable use. Where rates remain low (despite promotion) consider rationalisation opportunities.

# Engagement summary

## Community engagement

A wide community engagement strategy was adopted during the development of the Strategy to gain an understanding of the role open space and recreation facilities play in the social fabric of the Eurobodalla community.

A range of tools and techniques were used to engage target groups and the general community, ensuring all interested people had multiple opportunities to comment during the development of the Strategy.

Engagement with the general community and sporting groups involved four key methods:

1. community workshops
  - Batemans Bay
  - Moruya
  - Narooma

» The number of attendees at the community workshops varied depending on location, attracting between five and twenty people to each workshop.
2. community survey online and hard copy surveys

» Council received 419 community surveys. Two thirds of the total respondents were females, while 75% of respondents were aged over forty

» Council-wide results from this survey are included in the Appendix.
3. sports and community groups online surveys

» Council received twenty-one surveys from the local sporting and/or community groups. Unfortunately, they did not represent a wide cross section of sporting codes - with rugby union, tennis and football dominating the responses. However, it is important to note, other sporting codes and clubs were engaged throughout the process via community workshops and through engagement associated with the development of master plans for Gundry Oval, Captain Oldrey Park and the Moruya Showgrounds.
4. school visits (primary and secondary schools)
  - Batemans Bay Public School
  - Batemans Bay High School
  - Moruya Public School
  - Moruya High School
  - Narooma Public School
  - Narooma High School.

Additional community engagement activities included intercept surveys, school principal surveys and discussions with the Youth Committee.

## Council engagement

Council engagement activities included small group and individual interviews with Council officers, and scoping, early findings and strategic directions presentations with the Recreation Matrix Group.

## Key issues

Below is a summary of the key issues that arose from the community engagement process. Council-wide results of the community survey are contained in the Appendix. The key issues raised below are addressed throughout the Strategy.

### Popular places and activities

Overall, the community were generally happy with the open space and recreation opportunities available across Eurobodalla. The areas such as the beach, coastal foreshores and the local footpaths were the most popular places to recreate, many also valuing the interaction with nature that they provided.

Walking, swimming and recreation cycling were some of the most popular activities to participate in. While a number of attendees at the Batemans Bay community meeting noted the need for more playgrounds away from the foreshores, community survey respondents preferred to visit foreshore parks and suggested that the existing facilities at the foreshore parks be enhanced to increase usage demand and capacity.

### Dogs in the open space network

Interestingly, places to take one's dog was consistently mentioned throughout the community engagement process. One in three respondents liked that they could take their dog with them when visiting open space, while a quarter said that there were limited places to take their dog. This trend remained consistent across most planning areas. Attendees at the workshops believed that there should be more dog-friendly places, however, many were in disagreement if they should be fenced, unfenced, off-leash and/or on-leash. Support for Council's timeshare was also divided.

### Lack of variety

Despite there being an abundance of open space around Eurobodalla, the youth felt that there was a lack of variety of play opportunities, with many of the parks only catering for toddlers. The community survey and workshops attendees also highlighted the lack of activities for youth.

It was suggested that Council embrace the growing trend in outdoor performing arts and focus programs for the youth in that regard.

### Access to open space

Just under two thirds of community survey respondents valued that the open space network was close to their home. Importantly, however, two thirds also noted that they used their car to travel to the network. Over the peak holiday season, parking and congestion is often an issue, especially at popular beach access parks such as Heath Street Reserve, Broulee and Denhams Beach Reserve, Denhams Beach. Despite the extensive cycleway network, many residents felt it lacked connectivity and was unsafe in areas, particularly along sections near the highways.

### Communication

Communication between Council and the community and sporting groups was also raised. Residents appear to find it difficult to access information about events, community information sessions and development applications/proposals. Sporting clubs and community groups also found it difficult to know how to request infrastructure and/or maintenance upgrades.

### Lack of supporting infrastructure

With an ageing community, increasing participation numbers in walking and great views and natural scenery, the open space network is significantly lacking infrastructure that allows users to relax and enjoy the serenity. The addition of bench seats and water bubblers along the cycleways<sup>1</sup> and more shade at parks, particularly over the play areas, creates a more comfortable environment for users.

The lack of ancillary facilities was also identified as an ongoing issue at sports parks. Many clubs noting that simple upgrades such as a spectator areas, shade covers and bench seats would improve their facility.

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<sup>1</sup> Council has recently adopted the Eurobodalla Pathways Strategy 2017 as the over-arching plan for cycleway and path infrastructure development

# Open space classification framework



Eurobodalla's open spaces have been classified according to their function (classification) and role (hierarchy) within that function. A summary of the hierarchy is included in the adjoining table and discussed in detail on the following pages.


## Recreation parks

Recreation parks are open space that has been modified to create an informal space to support community recreation, development and wellbeing through a variety of informal/unorganised recreation activities. Recreation parks provide a range of embellishments such as play equipment, kick-about areas, picnic facilities, toilets, access to water bodies and car parking. In addition, it can support urban bushland as well as contain formalised walks, gardens and landscaped areas. There are six hierarchies in the recreation parks classification. Detailed park typologies are described in the Appendix.

Table 1. Open space classification framework

Classification	Hierarchy
Recreation park	Regional, District, Local, Linear, Beach Access, Formal
Sports park	Regional, District, Local
Specialised sports parks	Indoor sports, Aquatic facility, Tennis
Other open space	Undeveloped, Utility
Bushland reserves	Conserve and connect, Enhance, Rehabilitate, Maintain, Monitor
Community halls and centres	Not applicable

1	Regional recreation park	<p>They have unique values that differentiate them from other types of recreation parks. They are usually associated with attractive natural landscapes that make them very popular with residents and visitors.</p> <p>Typically the park will offer high order play experiences for toddlers through to teenagers. The park should also contain a sufficient number of picnic facilities such as barbecues and shelters, and clean, contemporary public amenities to keep visitors entertained and comfortable for several hours.</p> <p>Depending on location, these parks may also include boat ramps, canoe launch facilities and fishing infrastructure and may also host major events.</p>	
2	District recreation park	<p>Spread throughout Eurobodalla, some may experience high levels of visitation for short periods of time, such as an event or over the holiday season, while others tend to have a more consistent level of visitation over the year. The park will offer a variety of experiences such as youth play, natural area play and/or community gardening.</p> <p>Events that require a park-based setting such as markets, musical events and film nights can usually be accommodated in a district recreation park.</p> <p>These parks may also include boat ramps, canoe launch facilities and fishing infrastructure.</p>	

3	Local recreation park	Located within a residential setting these parks cater for the surrounding residents. They are often smaller in size and usually accessed by walking or cycling. The level of embellishment varies among parks and caters for short visits by very small groups.	
4	Linear recreation park	Linear open space provides opportunities for formal walking/cycling pathways and connectivity between residential streets, places of interest and the open space network.  The primary function of the land supporting the linear recreation open space does not necessarily have to be community open space (e.g. could be utility land).	
5	Beach access park	Parks provide pedestrian access to the beach. Access through the dunes is often unstructured and supporting embellishments provide basic infrastructure for passive recreation, such as bench seats and viewing platforms. Depending on the location, some parks may contain formal car parking and public amenities.	
6	Formal recreation park	Formal parks have different functions and values depending on their individual background. Generally, they provide quiet places for the community to enjoy the immediate surrounds, reminisce and/or spend quality time with friends and family. Formal parks may function as, or provide historical information which educates users of the park.	

## Sports parks

Open space that is designed to primarily support a variety of formal sporting activities through the provision of a range of training and competition infrastructure. These include facilities for undertaking competitive organised activities and training and ancillary infrastructure to support these activities.

Free, unrestricted access to the community is provided at times when formal sporting activities are not being conducted.

There are three hierarchies within the sports parks classification. Detailed park typologies are included in the Appendix.



1	Regional sports park	<p>Regional sports parks are more than a sports park, rather a precinct. They have formally maintained sports field/ovals and courts for a mixture of winter and/or summer sports. The fields/ovals comply and are maintained to state regulations for the sporting codes using the facility and infrastructure reflects the potential for hosting events and carnivals.</p> <p>Regional sports parks generally include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» spectator seating</li> <li>» canteen buildings and multiple amenities buildings</li> <li>» large central 'club house' building</li> <li>» storage facilities</li> <li>» formalised car parking and internal road</li> <li>» floodlights that enable evening training</li> <li>» floodlights that enable evening competition games on at least one field/oval.</li> <li>» informal recreation opportunities (e.g. playground or skate park).</li> </ul>	
2	District sports park	<p>District sports parks generally contain one or two formally maintained sports fields/ovals/courts that cater for a mixture of winter and/or summer sporting codes. The fields/ovals/courts are of a high standard but may not comply to, or be maintained to, state regulations for the sporting codes using the park.</p> <p>District sports parks generally include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» basic spectator seating</li> <li>» amenities and canteen building</li> <li>» storage facilities</li> <li>» formalised car parking</li> <li>» floodlights that enable evening training</li> <li>» floodlights that enable evening competition games on at least one field/oval/court.</li> </ul> <p>Playground equipment may be provided at some district sports parks.</p>	
3	Local sports park	<p>Local sports parks generally cater to one sporting code per season (summer and winter) and have one semi-formal to formal maintained sports field/oval. Playing surfaces and/or ancillary infrastructure may not comply with the state regulations for the sport/s.</p> <p>Infrastructure at local sports parks is basic and may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» amenity block with no club facilities (e.g. change rooms/canteen)</li> <li>» informal car parking.</li> </ul>	



## Specialised sport parks



Specialised sports parks are specific in nature, requiring particular infrastructure to make them usable, or require a fee for usage.

There are three categories in the specialised sports parks classification. Detailed park typologies are in the Appendix.

1	Indoor sports centre	Council owned/managed indoor sport and recreation centres primarily provide space and ancillary facilities for playing indoor sports. Centres can also host a range of events.	
2	Aquatic facility	Council owned facilities (regardless of management structure) that offer outdoor (uncovered), indoor or a mix of both aquatic facilities.	
3	Tennis facility	The nature of the sport precludes the easy transfer of use to an alternative sport, and the management arrangements generally preclude free, unrestricted access to members of the public.	

## Other open space

Land that contributes to the aesthetics of the open space network, but does not contribute towards the recreation value of the network. Where recreation values do exist, they are usually the secondary function of the land.

1	Undeveloped	Land acquired or zoned for open space purposes to protect its assets, or to be embellished in the future to meet community demand.  The land may be a vacant (mown) or covered with vegetation, not of ecological significance.	
2	Utility	Typically constrained open space with limited formal recreation value and can include telecommunication and electrical infrastructure easements, drainage corridors and water bodies.	

## Bushland reserves

Council owned and/or managed bushland reserves with ecological significance. The reserves vary in size and are home to native plants and animals, and can provide the last remaining refuges for threatened and endangered species.

The bushland reserves are assigned one of five conservation priorities that determine work plans, actions and the levels of service undertaken by Council and Landcare groups:

1. conserve and connect
2. enhance
3. rehabilitate
4. maintain
5. monitor.

Mapping of bushland under these priority areas (hierarchy) has been undertaken by Council as a separate exercise.



## Community halls and centres

Council-managed buildings that provide the community, clubs and service providers with a facility to conduct their activities, meetings, gatherings and/or provide free or low-cost social, educational and community support activities or programs to a broad range of the community. Programs and activities vary from centre to centre, and may include family support, adult education, employment skills, support groups, physical activity classes and more.






# Classifying open space parcels

An open space element can be comprised of one or multiple land parcels. Additionally, an open space element can have either one singular function, or multiple functions (such as a primary function of district sport, with a secondary function of local recreation).

The overall/final classification of the land parcel is determined by its primary function (depicted by the largest portion of the pie graphs below). The table below provides some examples:

Table 2. Examples of open space parcel composition

Name	Composition		Classification
Captain Oldrey Park (Broulee)	80% District sports park 20% Local recreation park		Primary function: district sports park Secondary function: local recreation park
Hanging Rock Sporting Complex (Batemans Bay)	40% Regional sports park 20% Specialised sports 20% Local recreation park 20% Community facility		Primary function: regional sports park Secondary functions: » specialised sports (tennis and indoor sport) » local recreation park (skate park) » community facility (library and university)
Guerilla Bay Beach Parade Reserve (Guerilla Bay)	60% Beach access park 40% Bushland reserve		Primary function: beach access park Secondary function: conservation

# Current supply of open space

A snap shot of the current open space network is provided below. Description of the open space available and future opportunities is presented in each planning area assessment later in the document.

These provision rates will change based on the recommendations that include alterations to open space hierarchies (e.g. parks upgraded from local to district) and rationalisations. A table summarising these changes is included at the end of the precinct analyses.

Table 3. Current provision of open space

Open space classification	Current provision (ha)
<b>Total open space network</b>	<b>2,589.18</b>
<b><i>Recreation parks</i></b>	<b><i>237.44</i></b>
Local recreation parks	57.50
District recreation parks	56.37
Regional recreation parks	37.20
Linear recreation parks	57.41
Beach access parks	10.97
Formal recreation parks	17.98
<b><i>Sports parks</i></b>	<b><i>93.66</i></b>
Local sports parks	12.38
District sports parks	64.81
Regional sports parks	16.48
<b><i>Specialised sport</i></b>	<b><i>5.51</i></b>
Tennis	2.90
Indoor sports facility	0.56
Aquatic facility	2.05
<b><i>Other</i></b>	<b><i>2,252.56</i></b>
Community halls	4.64
Bushland reserves	2,211.38
Undeveloped open space	17.74
Utility open space	18.80



*Gundry Oval, Heath Street Reserve and Corrigan's Beach Reserve represent different open space classifications and have each been recommended for hierarchy changes*



# Emerging trends

Participation patterns in recreation are changing at a community level. Factors such as a move toward non-organised structured sport, increased use of technology, and increased time pressures have all had a significant impact on how people recreate. Understanding these trends (and their impacts) is important as Council looks to develop strategies, programs and facilities to encourage people to engage in recreation activities.

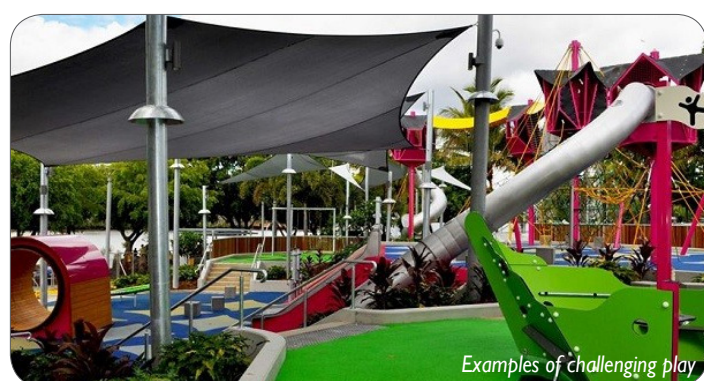
## Open space/play trends

Open space planning is beginning to take a new direction. While people still value their local recreation park and the green escape they provide, many contain the 'kit playground', often described as boring, lacking in creativity and too safe. There is a growing trend towards more challenging and imaginative play for all age groups at the one location.

### Mega parks

Mega parks are a new type of park being developed more frequently. They generally feature multiple play areas to cater for different ages, gardens, water play areas and lagoons, large open grassy spaces, shady picnic spots with quality facilities, duck ponds and water features, areas of natural woodland and vegetation, and kilometres of shared paths and boardwalks to explore. High tree house structures, sky walks and natural elements are introducing risk back into play, enabling children to develop an awareness of limits and boundaries.

Currently in Eurobodalla, the Regional Botanic Gardens and Corrigans Beach Reserve offer a wide variety of play elements for people of all ages without offering the most challenging elements of a mega park.



### Nature play

In just one generation, there has been a dramatic shift in childhood activity from outdoors to indoors. This has been driven by factors such as computer technology, a significant reduction in the size of backyards and an increasingly risk-averse culture.

Nature play is an emerging trend particularly in urban environments, where access to nature is not as readily available as it is in Eurobodalla. Eurobodalla Shire is fortunate that a large proportion of land within its boundaries has strong environmental and cultural values. People living and visiting Eurobodalla should be encouraged to engage with their natural environment. Awareness of the benefits of children's contact with nature is also growing, and many councils are embracing the concept of developing nature play spaces within their parks and bushland reserves.

The playground in Eurobodalla's Regional Botanic Gardens is a great example of incorporating play and nature. More of these elements are being incorporated into traditional play spaces across Eurobodalla.

*Example of nature play*





# Informal recreation/physical activity trends

## Ageing community

The Eurobodalla Shire is an older community, with a median age of 54 years in 2016. This is much higher than the State with a median age of 38 years. Currently, only a quarter of the population is aged 65 years and over, however by 2036, it will increase to a third<sup>1</sup>.

An ageing community requires:

- » greater emphasis on low impact physical activity
- » access to community infrastructure will require wider pathways, improved wheelchair/disabled access/parking, more lighting, shaded seats for resting along pathways and wider hallways
- » increased use of mobility scooters as a favourable method of transportation.

## Lack of time

Lack of time (31%) was the second most common reason residents chose not to participate in physical activities around Eurobodalla<sup>2</sup>. (Not interested was the highest at 44%). Extended trading hours, shift work, increasing numbers in part-time and casual employment and family commitments influences participation as:

- » people do not have the time to commit to organised sport and social clubs as a regular member and/or volunteer
- » participants are seeking facilities with flexible hours.

## Impacts of technology

Technology remains one of the main contributors towards decreased physical activity and increased sedentary behaviour. However, active gaming is becoming a contemporary approach to exercise. In technology-based games, participants are engaged in physical movement by using their bodies as the controllers (while increasing their heart rate and burning calories).

There are also increasing expectations of technology within recreation areas including WiFi access in key parks, promoting existing geocaching and by using QR codes (Quick Response Code) on tracks and signage.

## Move towards informal recreation

National participation rates in organised sport have been declining for a number of years as participants move toward more social (drop-in drop-out) sport and informal recreation.

With outstanding natural areas for informal recreation (beaches, bushland, wetlands, estuaries and rivers), Eurobodalla Shire is well-placed to take advantage of this emerging trend.

## Edible landscapes

The development of community gardens is becoming more commonplace for councils. Recognition of the benefits of the social interaction resulting from community gardening and the importance of edible landscapes is particularly important in urban settings where backyards are becoming smaller (not necessarily an issue in Eurobodalla). In Eurobodalla, three quality community gardens (Moruya, Tuross Head and Narooma) provide a recreation outlet for residents who may not necessarily be able to maintain their own gardens full-time.



Concept drawing of the Sustainable Agriculture and Gardening Eurobodalla (SAGE) project in Moruya

1 forecast.id. Eurobodalla Shire - population and age structure  
2 Micromex Research 2016, Eurobodalla Shire Council Community Wellbeing Research (survey)

# Sporting trends

## Field sharing

With many sports extending the lengths of pre-season and season fixtures, sharing of field space is becoming more difficult. While providers strive to maximise the use of community resources (and State Governments espouse field sharing), the reality is that shared use of ancillary facilities rather than fields (e.g. clubhouses, carparks) may be a more appropriate goal.

However, only a third of Eurobodalla sport and recreation clubs perceive that the number of fields available cannot accommodate their current and future usage needs (generally due to sharing with other codes).

## Field and court quality

Facility providers face an increasing trend to develop and re-develop sporting fields and courts to a higher level in order to increase carrying capacity. Upgrades, such as lighting and field irrigation, allow training and competition times to be extended and increases the ability of turf playing fields to cope with the resulting wear and tear. Further, to achieve ongoing field quality, fields need 'rest periods' (of up to four weeks) where necessary maintenance can be undertaken.

This trend appears evident in Eurobodalla, with 57.1% of clubs indicating that the existing facilities do not meet current and future needs with a range of facility upgrades requested. However, it is important to note that many of these facility upgrade requests relate to ancillary facilities such as spectator facilities, change rooms and amenities (rather than playing facilities).

## Facility provision

With a greater range of sporting activities available year-round, there is a increased emphasis on a flexible approach to field usage and sharing between codes.

## Volunteer sport organisations

The national rate of volunteering in sport and recreation clubs has been declining for many years. Often, the responsibility for running clubs falls to one or two key personnel. To address this issue, there is a move toward amalgamations, with multi-sport clubs becoming more common. In other cases, organisations may become aligned to larger licensed clubs that take over some or all of the volunteers' roles as well as asset management responsibilities.

One fifth of sport and recreation club survey respondents, indicated that the declining numbers of volunteers was a high issue for their club. An additional two thirds noted this trend as being a medium issue. Compared with many other areas across the Country, this is actually an encouraging result suggesting overall stability in volunteer bases.

## Participation trends

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) conducted a nation-wide Children's (5 to 14 years) Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities Survey every three years between 2000 and 2012. Further, in 2016 the Australian Sports Commission conducted a Participation in the Sport Sector Survey. Overall, participation in organised sport has not changed significantly across these years with rates of between 59% and 64%, identified across the six surveys (2000, 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012 and 2016).

At a national-level, the reduction in available leisure time has resulted in a trend for adults to move away from organised sport toward physical activity and non-organised (social) sport. The ABS has conducted a nation-wide Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation Survey for adults over 15 years of age in 2005/06, 2009/10 and 2011/12 and as noted above, the Australian Sports Commission conducted a Participation in the Sport Sector Survey in 2016. Together, the surveys show that organised sport participation reduced whilst non-organised sport reported increases.

Participation in organised sport in Eurobodalla is consistent with national trends. Engagement with local sporting clubs and schools (primary and high)<sup>3</sup> showed that junior participation in organised sport is strong, with most clubs experiencing growth in their junior competition. However, as children grew older, participation numbers started to decline markedly. Differences in participation between primary school and high school students was significant, with less than a quarter of high school students participating in organised sport, yet, the majority of primary school students participated in one or more organised sports. The most popular sports participated in by the students were:

- » netball, football and nippers for girls
- » football, rugby league and nippers for boys.

The table below shows a summary of the national, state and local participation trends (across the last 3-5 years where data was available) in Eurobodalla's most popular organised sports.

Table 4. Formal sport participation trends

Sport	National participation trends		State participation trends		Eurobodalla participation trends*	
	Children	Adults	Children	Adults	Children	Adults
AFL	steady	decreasing	increasing	steady	increasing	steady
Athletics	increasing	increasing	steady	steady	decreasing	no comp.
Cricket	decreasing	decreasing	decreasing	decreasing	decreasing	decreasing
Football (soccer)	increasing	increasing	increasing	increasing	increasing	decreasing
Hockey	steady	steady	steady	steady	decreasing	decreasing
Netball	steady	steady	increasing	increasing	increasing	increasing
Rugby league	decreasing	steady	decreasing	increasing	steady	decreasing
Rugby union	steady	increasing	steady	steady	increasing	increasing
Tennis	decreasing	decreasing	steady	steady	unknown	steady
Touch football	increasing	increasing	increasing	increasing	no comp.	increasing
* trends are taken from sports club surveys and engagement with clubs undertaken throughout the development of the Strategy and recent master plans						

Whilst local participation data for surf life saving were not obtained during the development of the Strategy, Surf Life Saving NSW report steady participation rates for U18 activities over the past four years for the Far South Coast region.

3 Schools include: Batemans Bay High School, Batemans Bay Public School, Moruya Public School, Moruya High School, Narooma Public School and Narooma High School

# Outdoor recreation trends

## Increasing health and environmental awareness

People are becoming increasingly concerned about their health, with conditions such as obesity and stress on the rise. With the future trend of small residential blocks and higher density living, people are having less contact with the outdoors (including backyards). Surveys conducted in Melbourne and Sydney indicated that residents having good access to the natural environment reported a higher quality of life (regardless of public or private housing)<sup>4</sup>. The surveys showed steady increases in people's preference for large, managed and accessible natural areas similar to Mogo State Forest and Cullendulla Creek Nature Reserve. This, combined with a growing awareness of the environment and the challenges it's facing (global warming, pollution and urbanisation), has facilitated a growth in visitation to various natural areas. A term referred to as 'returning to nature', has emerged where people feel the desire to become reconnected to their natural environments - an escape from modern lifestyles.

Eurobodalla Shire enjoys vast amounts of undeveloped bushland and natural areas, unspoilt beaches and foreshores. As a result, it is well positioned to continue its role as a natural 'home-away-from-home' for those living in cities.

## Technology advances (apps)

Changes in technology for recreation are also bringing about an increasing divergence of outdoor recreation activities. Participants are able to map their route, record their times and upload digital images of their experience. This allows them to compete and compare results with past and/or future users (Strava, Map My Ride etc). Growth in these activities has encouraged research into more refined technologies to encourage wider participation, such as geo-caching and mountain biking.

From a Council perspective, a disadvantage of the growing trend in the use of technology for outdoor recreation is that they cannot easily monitor the information users share. It is through the means of social media, blogs and forums that users can promote areas as sites for inappropriate activities (despite them being considered unsafe or not preferred by authorities).

## Willingness to travel

Individual outdoor recreation activities require specific natural settings. 94% of residents within Eurobodalla have access to a motor vehicle, making it easier to travel (and are often prepared to travel) to an appropriate location for their preferred activity.

The willingness to travel trend is further supported by the fact that 60.3% of community survey respondents used their car to access open space, with almost 50% of respondents indicating that they were prepared to travel over 15 minutes to quality open space.

## Increasing affluence and expectations of recreation

As individuals become more affluent, the proportion of income spent on recreation goods and leisure increases. Between 2006 and 2016, the percentage of low individual income earners (less than \$400 per week) in Eurobodalla Shire decreased from 43.8% to 31.3%. Approximately 5.1% of the population earn a high income. It is important to note that 38% of the population are non-resident rate payers.

Whilst outdoor recreation equipment such as kayaks, mountain bikes and camping goods may have previously been considered too expensive for many in the community, discount department stores (such as Kmart and Target) are increasing access to affordable options.

As people spend more money on outdoor recreation and associated equipment, an increase in outdoor recreation activities by individuals, previously offered by commercial operators, has been observed. As such, a diversification for natural areas offering unique experiences and higher levels of infrastructure are often in demand.

This increasing affluence is also influenced by the 'convenience culture' and the rise of outdoor recreation participants who want more choice. People are also more flexible with their recreation time due to changing work patterns, such as shift and weekend work.

## Tourism – cultural and nature appreciation

It is estimated that the market for nature-based tourism is increasing at six times the rate of tourism overall<sup>5</sup>. Some of the factors that have contributed to this growing trend in nature-based tourism are that people are looking for new experiences, adding diversity to their experiences, combining business travel with holidays, and looking to “get back to nature”.

The number of nature-based visitors to NSW increased between 2012 and 2013 by 13.4% to 22.6 million (international and domestic)<sup>6</sup>.

Excitingly, all of the top five most popular nature-based experiences that visitors seek<sup>6</sup> are readily available in Eurobodalla -

1. going to the beach
2. visit national parks/state forests
3. visit botanic gardens
4. visit wildlife parks/zoos
5. bushwalking/rainforest walks.

Additionally, being a recognised holiday destination (and needing to accommodate high visiting populations) Eurobodalla requires the development of appropriate recreation infrastructure (e.g. beach access points and public toilets). Much of this development has been undertaken and not only assists in meeting the needs of locals and visitors but can also continue to position Eurobodalla as an area with the facilities capable of hosting events (and driving economic development).

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5 Tourism Australia, 2015

6 Destination NSW 2013, *Nature Based Tourism to NSW*

## Community hall trends

The planning and provision of community infrastructure (and community 'halls' more specifically) is changing:

### Multi-purpose

- » there is a clear move away from single-purpose or dedicated buildings towards a more cost and land-use efficient model of multi-purpose buildings

### Flexible and modern

- » flexible design is essential to cater for a variety of potential user groups. Councils (and community groups) have moved on from the stereotypical community hall with its single large room with timber floor, kitchenette, servery and fold-away plastic tables and chairs. Expectation is now for modern conveniences, multi-use breakout rooms and commercial-style kitchen and food preparation areas

### Centralised

- » community halls are becoming more centralised - being built in shopping centres, as part of a leisure/aquatic centre or attached to education institutions.

Reflecting these trends, Council's recent analysis of booking data shows that the vast majority of community halls were rarely used - sitting idle for much of the time. Interestingly, in a number of councils where use of community halls is low but community attachment is high, some halls are being turned over to community groups under trust (with the community groups responsible for all maintenance and management).

## Emerging trends - what this means for Eurobodalla Shire

- » Open space and play
  - need for more creative, challenging and natural play elements
- » Informal recreation and physical activity
  - continue to develop recreation facilities attractive to all ages and abilities
  - recognise a move away from traditional sport
- » Sport
  - consider the need to develop specialist playing facilities where ancillary facilities are the focus for sharing
  - work with peak sporting bodies to address decreasing participation rates (particularly amongst children)
- » Outdoor recreation
  - in addition to traditional sport planning and development, investigate opportunities to assist residents and visitors seeking outdoor recreation experiences (even where these may be on land outside Council's direct control)
- » Community halls
  - based on Council's recent booking review, look to reactivate community halls by promoting them as key venues for community groups seeking meeting spaces, social areas and facilities for passive recreation (indoor bowls, card games, yoga, martial arts etc). Where this approach fails to achieve increased usage rates (and disposal is deemed as not palatable by the local community), consider transferring management and maintenance of the facility to a community group under trust





# Recreation and open space analysis

## Shire wide

open space

sport

outdoor recreation

recreation and physical activity

## Planning areas

northern precinct

central precinct

southern precinct

# Shire wide analysis

## Open space analysis

### Desired standards of service

It is important to develop open spaces that meet the needs of the community. It can also important to have desired standards of service (DSS) for open space. These standards articulate the preferred 'minimum' that Council strives to provide. DSS can, generally, be categorised under three broad measures:

- » quantity of land for open space
- » access to open space
- » level of embellishment.

The access and quantity standards are, traditionally, the two primary measures used to assess and plan for open space land demands. However, given the dispersed nature of Eurobodalla the accessibility standard is not considered appropriate. Additionally, the 2010 Strategy noted the preference for a smaller number of quality facilities spread across the Council area (and that direction continues to be supported by this Strategy). Finally, the Strategy notes community willingness to drive to access quality sport and recreation facilities.

The level of embellishment provides additional information that should be used as a guide in developing the open space. Recognising that it is equally important to provide a diverse range of open space opportunities must also be considered in this process.

Unfortunately, it is not always possible to apply these standards for each different classification of open space as many of them are opportunistic, dependant on site-specific attributes (e.g. topographical or geographical) and/or are intrinsically linked to social or environmental descriptors. As such, it is commonplace that DSS are only set for recreation and sport parks.

#### Quantity standard

The quantity standard identifies the recommended minimum standards for the provision of land for open space. Standards are generally presented as hectares/1,000 (population).

It is important to note that while there is a provision rate for recreation parks at a regional level, demand for land for these purposes should be based on the presence of significant physical features, or unique opportunities.

#### Embellishment standard

Embellishment standards are very important in defining open spaces and are also important in making them attractive for a variety of people to use. Embellishments include consideration of:

- » activity options - play/recreation opportunities irrespective of age and ability
- » furniture (e.g. tables, seats and bins), picnicking infrastructure, public amenities (toilets and showers), sports infrastructure
- » buildings, signage, landscaping, car parking, fencing and lighting.

A detailed account of potential embellishment for each open space typology is included in the Appendix.

## Proposed DSS

The DSS has been developed given an understanding of existing provision rates, identified need, future population change and industry experience. It helps to inform the future upgrades of existing open space and the planning and delivery of future open space. Further influencing development considerations, is the need to provide a range of different recreation opportunities in smaller individual catchments (e.g. villages and planning areas). A more detailed description of all open space typologies is provided in the Appendix.

Open space type	Quantity standard
Recreation	3.9ha/1,000
Local	0.5ha/1,000
District	1.5ha/1,000
Regional	0.4ha/1,000
Linear	1.5ha/1,000
Sport	2.5ha/1,000
Local	no future local sport parks are proposed
District	1.5ha/1,000
Regional	1.0ha/1,000
TOTAL	6.4ha/1,000

Table 5. Desired standards of service

Table 6. Embellishment standards

Embellishment standard	Recreation parks				Sports parks	
	Local	District	Regional	Linear	District	Regional
Playground (activity node)	●	●	●		●	●
Skate park (activity node)		●	●		●	●
Shade trees clustered near activity node	●	●	●		●	●
Lighting	●	●	●	●	●	●
Internal pathways and paving	●	●	●	●	●	●
Bicycle racks		●	●	●	●	●
Shade structures	●	●	●	●	●	●
Tap/bubbler	●	●	●	●	●	●
Bench seating	●	●	●	●	●	●
Electric barbecue		●	●			
Picnic shelters		●	●			
Bins	●	●	●	●	●	●
Toilets		●	●		●	●
Internal road and car parking			●		●	●
Clubhouse					●	●
Spectator facilities (grandstand)					●	●
Sports fields					●	●
Sports courts					●	●

## Needs-based approach

The standards-based approach (DSS) to open space planning is most effectively used in greenfield situations where significant population growth is forecast. However, in a number of instances, this approach is not necessarily the only approach for consideration. Alternate approaches may be appropriate when:

- » infill development (rather than greenfield development) is planned
- » limited population growth is expected
- » planning areas exist of a number of separate smaller towns and villages.

Eurobodalla Shire is typified by (eurobodalla Shire Council Delivery Program 2017-2021)

- » an estimated resident population of 38,118 and a projection to reach more than 44,000 by 2036
- » a demographic profile and rate base that are not aligned, with 38% of property owners having their principal address outside Eurobodalla and 31% of dwellings not permanently occupied
- » approximately 1.2 million visitors annually (with higher visitation during the holiday peak seasons)
- » an expected average daily population of 55,000 and a peak population of more than 100,000 by 2031
- » small villages and towns distributed from the northern to the southern boundaries of Eurobodalla, with additional villages located throughout the hinterland
- » beach and natural areas as the most common places to recreate (for both residents and visitors)
- » increasing visitor numbers expected.

Given these aspects of Eurobodalla, this analysis has taken more of a needs-based approach to open space planning. While the standards-based approach outcomes are still listed for each planning area (e.g. the supply analysis in hectares is provided), more weight is given to the planning area needs as it considers the social, demographic and environmental characteristics of an area for which open space is needed or the type of embellishment required in an open space. Not only does the needs-based approach consider the number of people living in the area (more akin to standards-based planning), but importantly it also takes into account recreation preferences, demographic changes and existing facilities.

## Future direction for open space in Eurobodalla

Our vision for open space in Eurobodalla is:

*“Eurobodalla has an open space network that provides safe and connected places and spaces that build on our sense of community and ensure a great quality of life for all ages.”*

The vision sets the desired direction for open space across the Eurobodalla Shire. It reflects the community’s aspirations and Council’s objective to continue to be a community that respects and values the natural environment, and understands the need to balance recreation and conservation values to ensure sustainability.

The following guiding principles have been developed to lead the future provision and planning of open space across Eurobodalla:

- » provision and increased access to a range of recreation settings in order to meet the changing recreation needs and aspirations of the community
- » fair and equitable access to open space and activities for all members of the community
- » variety of play opportunities (including challenging play and natural play elements)
- » natural environments are enhanced and any development complements traditional open space recreation development
- » maintenance of open space meets desired standards of service.



# Sport analysis

Council currently manages 14 sports parks (approximately 100ha) that provide a variety of traditional and non-traditional sporting opportunities to Eurobodalla's residents (and visitors). These sites also host event opportunities such as caravan and camping shows and circuses.

## Membership

Two relevant surveys (community and sports club) were available to the community during the project's engagement phase. (The results of both surveys are included in the Appendix). Just over one third of community survey respondents participated in organised sport. Participation trends identified by Eurobodalla's recreation and sports clubs were consistent with the national and state participation trends with junior participation increasing slightly since 2013, while senior participation declined slightly.

Despite the declining numbers in senior memberships, two thirds of clubs are confident that memberships would increase over the next three years. This is further supported by the fact that only 14.3% of the clubs rated falling membership as an issue of high concern. In regards to membership, the main areas of concern for some clubs were lack of female participation and competition from other sports.

## Quality sports parks

Three quarters of community survey respondents rate the quality of sport facilities as either *good* or *great*. However, this appreciation for sports parks is not necessarily shared by the sporting clubs using them. Clubs were provided with a list of facilities most commonly found at Eurobodalla's sports parks and asked to indicate whether the facilities that they used were suitable for their requirements. The vast majority of clubs indicated that their facilities were not suitable. In Council-wide type analyses (such as the ROSS) it is common for clubs to report their primary issue to be a lack of fields/ovals available for use. However, only a third of Eurobodalla's clubs noted that the number of playing fields/ovals did not meet their needs. The main concerns for clubs were themed around ancillary facilities such:

- » shade and seating
- » spectator areas
- » park facilities
- » clubhouses
- » storage areas.

Current and future desired facility improvements (provided in survey responses) were also themed around ancillary facilities. Simple improvements and/or new infrastructure requests included:

- » shaded spectator seating
- » better quality change rooms and toilets
- » lighting
- » storage facilities
- » basic clubhouse upgrades.

Table 7. Quality of ancillary facilities

	Exceeds needs	Suitable	Not suitable	Not required
Seating/shade/water	-	14.3%	85.7%	-
Spectator area	-	28.6%	61.9%	9.5%
Facilities provided (chairs/tables/stage)	-	33.3%	57.1%	9.5%
Clubhouse	-	42.1%	52.6%	5.3%
Storage areas	-	47.6%	52.4%	-
Change rooms	-	47.6%	47.6%	4.8%
Public toilets	-	52.4%	42.9%	4.8%
Lighting standards	-	57.1%	42.9%	0.0%
Canteen facilities	-	47.6%	38.1%	14.3%
Maintenance of buildings	-	57.1%	38.1%	4.8%
Number of playing fields/ovals/courts	4.8%	61.9%	33.3%	-
Access and circulation	-	71.4%	28.6%	-
Car parking	-	71.4%	28.6%	-

## New/upgraded infrastructure requests

Sporting clubs raised concerns about the lack of knowledge about who to contact regarding new/upgrading infrastructure and/or maintenance issues. This was of particular concern (and somewhat perplexing) given that Council's Community Infrastructure Guidelines have been established to streamline request processes (and appear to be promoted widely).

The Community Infrastructure Guidelines are designed to ensure that all requests (for facility renewal and improvements of existing and/or new facilities) are considered with regard to demand, access, ensuring health and safety, decreasing maintenance burdens (etc). However, it is evident (via engagement and site audits) that not all recreation and open space infrastructure projects are considered in this manner.

A Club Development Plan (or Business Plan) is a key tool to guide future planning for clubs. Any club that is serious about sustainability and future development should have a blueprint that shows the direction that it wishes to take. The plan should also justify why new and/or upgraded infrastructure is required and how the club plans to contribute financially to the development. Just over a third (38.1%) of Eurobodalla's sports clubs have a development plan, with a third intending to develop one in the next twelve months. This level of planning is disappointing. Without a Club Development Plan (or similar) the organisation is likely to lurch in different directions as volunteers change over time. The Club Development Plan gives direction to the organisation and membership and is a key point of 'evidence' when requesting moderate to large infrastructure upgrades.

To prevent future ad-hoc development, Council can assist clubs in preparation of development plans. Club Development Plans can then become requirements within the Community Infrastructure Guidelines.

## Specialised sports

### Indoor aquatic facilities

The community survey results show strong support for the development of an indoor aquatic facility in the Batemans Bay area. 67.5% of respondents from the northern planning precinct indicated that the overall quality of aquatic facilities was *poor*. When responding to *what would be your top three open space priorities* more than one third of the written responses related to this indoor aquatic facility.

It is important to note that the limited length of opening season for the Moruya pool was also highlighted. Interestingly, more than 62% of respondents from the Moruya planning area were prepared to travel more than 15 minutes to attend a quality sporting facility (suggesting that travel to the Narooma swimming centre should be achievable when the Moruya pool is closed).

Council has recently commenced a planning (and future redevelopment) exercise for the Mackay Park precinct (including the adjoining aquatic facility, mini golf site and former bowls club). Potential opportunities for the precinct may include sporting fields, aquatic centre, arts and culture facilities, conference and event space, visitor accommodation, restaurants/cafes and senior living. The ultimate outcome of this planning work will likely impact on future need for aquatic (and other sport and recreation facilities) for the northern end of Eurobodalla.

### Tennis

While tennis in Australia is considered a ‘traditional sport’, the facility requirements give it a specialised nature. Tennis membership across Eurobodalla appears to be stable across recent years. It is important to note though, that most clubs have memberships of 50 or less.

There were no requests for tennis facility changes received through the community survey process. However, via the club survey, tennis clubs highlighted the need for court surface upgrades at Batemans Bay, lighting upgrades at Narooma and amenities upgrades at Dalmeny.

Tennis facilities are one of the only self-funding sport facility types in Eurobodalla, with a number managed via committees. Business plans direct the allocation of hire fees back into facility development.

### Indoor sport

The need for additional indoor court space was noted through the community survey and discussions with zone school sport providers. Ideally, Eurobodalla requires a facility with two or three courts. Depending on the outcomes of the Mackay Park precinct planning exercise (and potential necessity to review the Hanging Rock Precinct master plan), opportunity may exist to develop an additional court at the indoor facility at the Hanging Rock Precinct. Such a facility would provide for existing club demand and would also provide a suitable venue for conducting district and regional school sport trials. Currently, all indoor sport regional trials are held outside Eurobodalla, whilst district trials are difficult to schedule in one court facilities.

## Additional considerations

### Athletics

The sport of athletics does not currently have a high profile in Eurobodalla. There is no senior club in Eurobodalla - nor are there any close by. Little athletics has waxed and waned in recent years. There have previously been three centres (clubs) located in Narooma, Moruya and Batemans Bay. None of the centres enjoyed quality facilities and memberships decreased. Little Athletics ACT would prefer the three 'existing' centres fold and to establish one strong centre located centrally within Eurobodalla.

Interestingly, there is no 400m track within Eurobodalla. Zone school sport trials are conducted each year in Cooma given the lack of facilities in Eurobodalla. This deficiency is considered the key school sport issue for Eurobodalla.

There are very few existing sporting facilities large enough to accommodate an 8-lane 400m grass track. A preferred location is Kyla Park. It is relatively central, of suitable size, currently has capacity for increased use, has some existing facilities and areas for car parking.

### Master plans

Master plans are important tools to guide facility decision-making. They are particularly important for sports facilities where changes in club officials can alter former preferred directions.

The master plan for Hanging Rock Precinct was completed in 2013 and, as noted previously, should be reviewed pending the outcome of the Mackay Park precinct planning exercise. Potential items for consideration include tennis court upgrades, expansion of the indoor sports facility, reconstruction of the football field and ancillary facilities, car park upgrades and spectator facility enhancement.

Master plans for Captain Oldrey Park, Gundry Oval and Moruya Showgrounds have been developed alongside this Strategy and will lead future development at these sites.

Additional sites that should be considered for master plans include:

- » Bill Smyth Oval - field allocation continues to be problematic with AFL and rugby league sharing the same field. Potential federal funding support also further highlights the need for a clear direction for this site. Finally, cultural and environmental constraints at this site require consideration.
- » Kyla Park - the wide range of existing users, potential development of little athletics and cricket, and field capacity opportunities indicate the need for a master plan.

## Open space considerations

From a land standards perspective (using the DSS) Eurobodalla has a 6ha under-supply of land for sports parks. However, when the sports hierarchy is applied, there is a surplus of district sports parks and a notable deficit (25ha) of land for regional sports parks.

By 2036, there is projected to be an overall sports park deficiency (across all sports park types) of approximately 20ha (without additional development).

Council currently has fourteen sports parks and eight tennis facilities. Of the sports parks, three are not currently being used for sporting purposes while others appear to be under-utilised (e.g. areas within Gundry Oval, Captain Oldrey Park and Kyla Park). Additionally, it is important to note that with surf lifesaving, surf sports and attending beaches all key recreation activities in the summer months, there is limited use of the sporting facilities during the summer sporting season (exacerbated by decreasing membership in cricket). It is recommended that Council retain 7.629ha at Blairs Road Long Beach (DP 871237 Lot 1) for future recreation and open space uses while continuing with upgrades at existing facilities to meet current demands.

Landscape master plans should be developed for Bill Smyth Oval, Moruya Riverside Park, Corrigans Reserve, Kyla Park and Hanging Rock Sporting Complex recognising the current and expected future demand for additional sporting and recreation land.

It is recommended that Council upgrade an existing district sports park to a regional sport park. Gundry Oval in Moruya is the preferred venue to upgrade as it is already functioning as a part-district, part-regional facility (and has field capacity opportunities). The master plan for the Oval includes the upgrades necessary to facilitate this raised classification.



## Future direction of sport in Eurobodalla

Our vision for sport in Eurobodalla is:

*“Eurobodalla is a Shire of sporting opportunity, with diverse and quality facilities for an active and healthy community”*

The vision sets the desired direction for sport within the Eurobodalla Shire. It reflects the community’s aspirations and Council’s objective to be a healthy and active community that has access to a diverse range of places, spaces and activities that encourage and enable healthy lifestyle choices.

The following guiding principles have been developed to guide the future provision and management of sport within Eurobodalla:

- » ensure maximisation of facilities (formal and informal activities)
- » base decision-making on sound data and demand
- » master planning of all major sports parks to ensure there is a demonstrated need for infrastructure upgrades
- » provide communication and networking opportunities to sport and recreation clubs
- » ensure ancillary facilities reflect the needs of participants, officials and spectators.

### Priority actions<sup>7</sup>

#### Working with sporting clubs

A number of clubs have noted concern with regard to facility access, management and maintenance

C2 - Develop a communication package from Council to inform club office bearers of key Council contacts, responsibilities and processes. Distribute the package annually.

#### Indoor sport and recreation facility

Based on demand from sporting groups, school sport and the general community, there is a need for the development of an additional multi-purpose indoor court (or facility) within Eurobodalla. This would cater for the existing demand, as well as future populations

N2 - Undertake a feasibility study into the provision of an indoor multi-court sport and recreation facility to cater for a number of sports including gymnastics, basketball, netball, dancing, archery and martial arts (amongst others). Opportunity may exist to develop such a facility in-line with proposed Mackay Park precinct changes or through expansion of the existing Hanging Rock facility.

C20 - Encourage the continuation of effective communication channels with schools, particularly regarding continued community use of school facilities. The Department of Education’s asset portfolio includes a range of facilities that can potentially be of benefit to the community (and Council previously part-funded the construction of the indoor sports facility at Batemans Bay High School).

While many of the indoor sports halls that were developed under the Australian Government’s Building the Education Revolution program will not be of particular benefit for club sport (given inadequate run-offs and storage issues), they can play a role in provision of unstructured recreation opportunities.

<sup>7</sup> Site-specific recommendations have, generally, been included in planning area assessments

<b>Indoor aquatic facility</b>
Community engagement has raised a desire for access to a year-round indoor aquatic centre in Batemans Bay
N3 - Investigate carefully the feasibility of potential development of a year-round access indoor aquatic facility in conjunction with the Mackay Park precinct planning exercise.
<b>Key facility changes</b>
Avoid ad hoc development and upgrades
C15 - Council should assist clubs to develop Club Development Plans. Club Development Plans can then become requirements within the Community Infrastructure Guidelines.
M1-M4 - Undertake master plans for key sports facilities including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Hanging Rock precinct (review)</li> <li>» Bill Smyth Oval</li> <li>» Kyla Park</li> <li>» Narooma Swimming Centre.</li> </ul>
<b>Eurobodalla requires an additional regional-level sports park</b>
M37 - Undertake staged facility development and upgrades at Gundry Oval in-line with the 2017 master plan to ensure the facility can function at a regional-level.
<b>A number of tennis facilities are under-utilised and/or in poor condition</b>
C9 - Where the self-management and self-funding model for tennis clubs does not result in increased rates of usage and facility upgrades, investigate rationalising the facility.
<b>Ancillary facilities</b>
The design and development of sports parks needs to consider officials and spectators (as well as participants). Simple ancillary facilities such as spectator seating, natural and artificial shade should be mandatory at all outdoor sports venues
C3 - Council to develop a minimum standard of ancillary facility provision. Items for consideration include player and officials dugouts/benches, spectator seating and mounds and opportunities for cover from the elements.
C4 - With a number of existing amenities requiring upgrade, renewal or reconfiguration (e.g. Captain Oldrey Park, Gundry Oval and Bill Smyth Oval), opportunity exists to reconsider the minimum inclusions in these style of buildings. It is recommended that facilities such as two change rooms (preferably with an ability to be converted to four smaller change rooms), officials change area, public amenities, first aid area, canteen and significant storage all become considered as base development. If clubs want additional or alternate facilities, a partnership funding approach should be examined (as addressed in the Community Infrastructure Guidelines).
C14 - A sports field lighting policy should be developed to guide future provision. Preferably, each sporting facility should have at least one sports field lit to the relevant training standard. Additionally, winter season outdoor sports should have access to at least one (but preferably three - north, central and south) fields with competition standard lighting.

# Outdoor recreation analysis

Council is responsible for the management of approximately 2,000 hectares of bushland reserves. With assistance from twenty-seven Landcare Groups, the reserves are home to many native plants and animals, and are the last remaining refuge for a number of threatened and endangered species. Fronting popular lakes, rivers, beaches and estuaries, many of Council's bushland reserves also support low-impact recreation.

The natural setting of Eurobodalla's open space network and the opportunities it provides for interaction with the natural environment is highly valued by the majority of residents that completed the community survey. With the beaches, coastal reserves, bushland and bushwalking tracks being some of the most popular places to recreate, it is no surprise that the top seven most popular activities that residents participate in while visiting Eurobodalla's open space network can be categorised as outdoor recreation. The top activities were:

- » walking
- » swimming
- » gardening
- » bushwalking
- » fishing
- » canoe/kayaking
- » recreation cycling.

Council's tourism and events team uses a variety of resources to promote Eurobodalla's outdoor recreation activities. While the maps and pamphlets are great at promoting the activity, at the actual reserve/location there is often little or no information provided about trails, distances, safe snorkelling area etc. A clear example is Burri Point Reserve, Guerilla Bay. There is no information to identify the numerous scenic walks within the Reserve.

Council also needs to ensure that they manage and balance people's growing trend to become reconnected with nature (the tree change) through recreation, with the primary purpose of the bushland reserves - conservation.

## Level of impact

Each outdoor recreation activity has a potential level of impact on the bushland reserve. The level of impact of each activity has been determined through industry research and by assessing the level of infrastructure required for each, as well as the likely ongoing impact of the activity on a site. This categorisation should be used as a guide only, and should not be considered in isolation to a bushland reserve's values.

Table 8. Open space impacts

Level of impact	Description
Low	When undertaken on a designated facility (i.e. bushwalking on a designated track) these activities have a relatively low level of impact on the bushland reserve and typically require a low level of landscape modification
Medium	Medium impact activities may have a relatively low impact, however, may require vegetation clearing or low level infrastructure to support its use (e.g. camping)
High	High impact activities are those that affect a large area and are intensive in nature. These activities often cause environmental impact including erosion. They often require vegetation clearing or extensive infrastructure to support its use (e.g. four wheel driving)

The table below summaries the level of impact of the outdoor recreation activities available throughout the Eurobodalla Shire. It also summarises the ‘providers’ of each form of outdoor recreation.

Table 9. Activities, levels of impact and providers

Activity	Level of impact	Currently provided in the Eurobodalla Shire		
		Council	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service	Forestry Corporation of NSW
bushwalking	low	●	●	●
picnicking	low	●	●	●
nature study	low	●	●	●
bird watching	low	●	●	●
photography	low	●	●	●
sight seeing	low	●	●	●
long distance/overnight trekking	low			
trail running	low*	●	●	●
canoeing and kayaking	low^	●	●	
fishing	low^	●	●	●
sailing and sailboarding	low^	●		
rogaining	medium	●	●	
formal and primitive camping	medium	●	●	●
orienteering	medium	●	●	●
horse riding (endurance and trail)	medium	●	●	●
recreational cycling (mountain bike touring)	medium	●	●	●
downhill mountain biking	medium	●		
geocaching	medium*	●		
boating, waterskiing and jet skiing	medium to high	●		
motor/trail bike riding	high		●	●
four-wheel-driving	high		●	●
outdoor recreation events	low to high	●	●	●

\* when undertaken as individuals or small groups i.e. not events

^ when access to the water body is by formal ramp or launch point



# Carrying capacity of the bushland reserve

The carrying capacity of a bushland reserve is dependent on a number of factors:

- » the ecological characteristics of the bushland reserve and its sensitivity to impact
- » the likely level of impact from any proposed activities and facilities
- » the level of project design and funding resources available
- » the level of ongoing management of the completed project.

Design can be utilised in the protection of sensitive bushland reserves through the dedication of alternative routes, as well as the provision of new, well designed facilities that could also minimise impact. Alternatively, improved management and maintenance regimes can result in reduced on-going impact and degradation.

Generally, the higher the conservation priority, the lower the activity impact should be. Subsequently, a higher level of design, funding and management resources would be required to attain an environmentally sustainable outcome.

A bushland reserve with a lower conservation priority would allow a higher activity impact - thus, the lower the design, funding and management resources required to achieve an environmentally sustainable result.

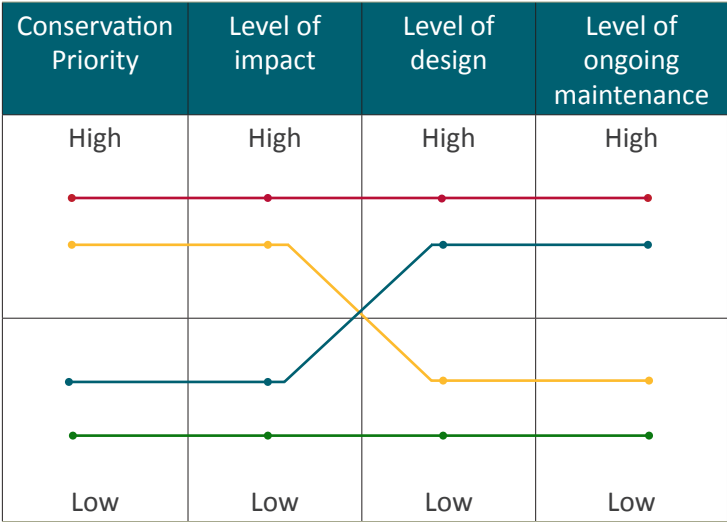


Figure 3. Carrying capacity (adapted from River Murray Site Planning and implementation Guide, 2003 (River Murray Catchment Water Management Board))

- Low carrying capacity, moderate fit
- High carrying capacity, excellent fit
- Low carrying capacity, poor fit
- Medium to high carrying capacity, moderate fit

# Future direction of outdoor recreation in Eurobodalla

Our vision for outdoor recreation in Eurobodalla is:

*“The bushland reserves in the Eurobodalla Shire provide an integrated network of sustainable outdoor recreation experiences where our community, visitors and environment are in harmony”*

The vision sets the desired direction for outdoor recreation within the Eurobodalla Shire. It reflects the community’s aspirations and Council’s objective to become a community that respects and values the natural environment. It also acknowledges the need to balance recreation and conservation values to ensure the sustainability of the natural environment.

The following guiding principles have been developed to guide the future provision and management of outdoor recreation within Eurobodalla:

- » the conservation prioritisation of bushland reserves also be used to determine the appropriate level of activity within a bushland reserve
- » use of bushland reserves with high conservation values for outdoor recreation is secondary to ecological values and should be determined on a site-by-site basis
- » determine the carrying capacity of each bushland reserve to host sustainable outdoor recreation activities prior to permitting the activity (including the identification of restricted sensitive areas)
- » outdoor recreation activities are managed to take account for seasonal conditions and sensitivities
- » facilitated environmental education/interpretation/awareness be recognised as a legitimate sustainable outdoor recreation activity
- » recognise the importance of Traditional Owner’s engagement in raising the community’s environmental awareness regarding the bushland reserves network
- » outdoor recreation activities that attract large user groups or events to a given area are to have a controlled number of users or events resulting in no net-loss of ecological values
- » outdoor recreation activities are to include only low maintenance infrastructure
- » outdoor recreation should utilise previously disturbed areas/bushland reserves where possible to prevent further impact.



Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens



Paddling the Moruya River

## Priority actions

<b>Recognition that outdoor recreation is a legitimate land-use (similar to sport and recreation)</b>
Outdoor recreation users are often not as vocal with their needs as sporting clubs can be and it can be difficult to fully understand demand or need
M7 - Undertake user satisfaction surveys at key sites to determine participation rates, user satisfaction and supply gaps. Potential exists to use QR codes at key facilities (such as trailheads) to access the survey.
<b>Resourcing</b>
Outdoor recreation is currently under-resourced
M6 - Develop a capital works program for recreation infrastructure within bushland reserves. Key projects identified by Council to-date include the Batemans Bay coastal headlands walking and cycling trail, Batemans Bay 100km mountain bike track, Deua Valley wilderness trail, multi-discipline mountain bike park and expanding the existing kayak trails.
<b>Partnerships</b>
Build upon relationships with existing user groups and relevant state agencies
C5 - Continue to partner with (and support) a range of external providers (e.g. scouts/girl guides, mountain bike and bushwalking clubs, canoe/kayak hire providers) to facilitate and promote outdoor recreation opportunities using existing facilities and human resources.
C6 - Partner with NSW National Park and Wildlife Services and Forestry Corporation of NSW to investigate physical linkage between sites and/or the open space network. Also investigate opportunities for joint hosting of events such as mountain bike races.
<b>Promotion</b>
Enhance promotional activities to further activate bushland reserves for outdoor recreation
C7 - Ensure the promotion of bushland reserves and waterways provides visitors (and residents) with an understanding of the focus for conservation management, traditional owner requirements, facilities and services offered.
C18 - Develop a suite of outdoor recreation and environmental interpretive programs within key bushland reserves (e.g. activate the existing outdoor classrooms at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens and at unused clubhouses such as South Durras Sporting Oval).
C19 - Review Strava data (user mapping and heat maps) to understand popular routes and routes in inappropriate locations.

# Recreation and physical activity analysis

## Informal recreation and physical activity Community halls

With participation rates in organised sport declining for adults and teenagers across the Eurobodalla Shire, participation in informal recreation activities is increasing. Consistent with national and state sporting trends, walking is the most popular activity that residents enjoy. Council has, and is being proactive at providing, quality infrastructure to support this growing trend. The existing footpath and shared path network will be expanded to provide greater connectivity and opportunities for safe active transport via the Eurobodalla Pathways Strategy (2017). With Eurobodalla's ageing population and regular influx of visitors, it is important that the network includes complementing infrastructure, such as bench seats, water bubblers, bike racks and wayfinding/directional signage, to allow users to rest. These facilities will also promote areas of recreation, scenic and/or cultural importance.

Signage should have a consistent visual theme, size, style and palette in line with Council's signage policy. 'Multi message' signage (including reference to no-smoking) at key locations may be appropriate. Council also needs to consider potential visual impact and resourcing for installation and maintenance.

### Play

Despite the abundance of natural play opportunities around Eurobodalla, the area lacks quality playgrounds. Children at school visits expressed that the existing play was 'boring' and only catered for younger children and toddlers. Many wanted to see larger, more risky play activities such as flying foxes, climbing nets and giant slides. Water play was also consistently mentioned as a preferred opportunity.

With the beach being the most frequented open space (and largely functioning as a local recreation park for many), it is not recommended that Council start adding challenging play equipment to all their recreation parks. Instead, a number of popular recreation parks could be upgraded to become destination parks for the area. Elements such as outdoor table tennis and chess may also be considered in appropriate parks.

It is recommended, however, that one facility be upgraded to include high quality challenging play equipment that caters for all ages and abilities. There is potential to develop it as a small scale mega park and include areas of natural play (and potentially water play). The preferred site should be in the north of the local government area, given the existing population base and holiday period influx. The site should be identified after the Mackay Park planning exercise has been completed.

As previously noted, the community halls throughout Eurobodalla are under utilised. It is acknowledged that community halls have the potential to be a financial and maintenance burden on councils, however, many also have strong community ties.

Traditionally, community halls are viewed as facilities for older adults - a similar perception exists in Eurobodalla. Council needs to investigate ways to change this stereotype. Engagement with Council's Youth Committee and advertising in school newsletters may identify potential users.

It is important that all sectors of the community understand the local community halls that are available for hire.

### Wheeled action sport precincts

Wheeled action sport precinct (WASP) is the modern term for 'skateparks'. It more accurately reflects the fact that skateboards are generally a more infrequent use of the facility behind scooters and bmx.

As noted throughout the Strategy, lack of activities for youth is a concern. WASPs are considered quality facilities to develop for youth - they are hard-wearing and require limited maintenance. Additionally, they not only provide an activity space for users but also an area for youth to socialise (particularly when suitable ancillary facilities such as covered seating, bubblers and power are provided).

The need for a WASP in Tuross Head was identified in the 2010 Strategy and survey results identified in this 2017 Strategy reflect this ongoing demand.

In the landscape master plan for Captain Oldrey Park, land has been set aside for future sporting needs that may include a new Wheeled Action Sport Precinct (skate, scooter and BMX facility).

With Council overseeing youth programs such as the Skate, scooter and BMX Tri-series, these new facilities will be well-received by both users and event organisers.



## Programming

### Community gardens

Gardening was identified as the third most popular recreation activity in Eurobodalla. There are currently three community gardens in Eurobodalla:

- » SAGE, Moruya
- » Narooma Community Gardens Group, Narooma Public School
- » Tuross Head Community Gardens Group, Kyla Park Reserve.

It was identified through community engagement, that there are limited programs or activities for youth. Community gardens are a great way to educate people about sustainable gardening and healthy eating. Additionally, they can encourage inter-generational relationships that can provide social and mental benefits to both youth and older adults.

Council has provisionally retained land for multipurpose use that may include a northern community garden along with sporting facilities at Blairs Road (Long Beach).

### Physical activity programs

Council formerly conducted Live Life Eurobodalla, a program that allowed residents to participate in low cost and/or free physical activities to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Despite the variety of activities available, community members felt that the times were not appropriate for those that worked as many occurred between 9am and 5pm. Others also noted that the programs was limited as it primarily targeted older adults.

Programs like Live Life Eurobodalla are a great incentive to get people active. The range of activities available should accommodate all ages and also target specific demographics. For example, programs specifically aimed at new mothers can not only provide physical benefits, but mental and social benefits. They are also a way of sharing advice on parenting, nutrition and health.



## Performing arts/events in open space

Eurobodalla's residents clearly enjoy being outdoors and are enthusiastic supporters of outdoor markets and events.

Council recognises the importance of open space as an event space and supports the delivery of a range of activities and events including:

- » SAGE Farmers Markets
- » Eurobodalla River of Art
- » Moruya Town to Surf Fun Run
- » Red Hot Summer Tour.

Observations during site inspections and discussions with Council's Youth Committee and students, identified that Eurobodalla has a large number of young musicians and artists and that the community enjoy relaxing with live music in the background (e.g. buskers at the SAGE Farmers Market, Moruya). There is opportunity to further activate a number of popular recreation parks by informally embracing the performing arts. An area of a busy park could be designated as a 'busking area' on certain days, particularly on weekends. Musicians would have to register with Council and bookings would be required.

To further activate parks through performance, school or social theatre groups could conduct informal readings/scenes. These could be quite simplistic events to promote and facilitate such as first Sunday of the month 'open mic' style performances at Riverside Park or any of the



# Future direction for recreation and physical activity in Eurobodalla

Our vision for recreation and physical activity in Eurobodalla is:

*“Residents of Eurobodalla are aware of and have access to a diverse range of affordable recreation and physical activity opportunities for all ages and abilities”*

The vision sets the desired direction for recreation and physical activity within the Eurobodalla Shire. It reflects the community’s and Council’s desires to have residents and visitors engaged in recreation opportunities by providing facilities that activate parks. From simple playgrounds for toddlers, to more challenging nature play for children, to WASPs and bike tracks, to community gardens and performances spaces - exciting opportunities will be provided to participants of all ages.

The following guiding principles have been developed to guide the future planning and promotion of recreation and physical activity within Eurobodalla:

- » appropriate facilities are provided in line with the needs of the community and identified target groups
- » there is a diversity in the function, type and setting of recreation facilities
- » appropriate embellishments are provided within open space to encourage physical activity
- » recreation and physical activity opportunities are accessible to the whole community
- » recreation nodes are collocated with sports, community buildings and other public spaces where possible
- » regular activation of open space is encouraged and facilitated.

## Priority actions

### Well-distributed opportunities

Provide a diversity of activity choices across each planning area

N4-N5 - Continue to develop (and to upgrade) wheeled action sport precincts across Eurobodalla. Identified priorities include the development of a small facility in Tuross Head (likely in Evans Road Reserve) and establishment of a new facility within Broulee (Captain Oldrey Park). Continued upgrade and expansion of existing facilities (such as Moruya, Narooma and Batemans Bay) is also encouraged to provide continued challenge and stimulation for regular users.

### Continued activation

Programs, events and performances draw people into parks

C10 - Continue to facilitate physical activity programs (e.g. consider a program similar to Live Life Eurobodalla but note feedback received during post-program review), community programs (e.g. community garden projects), events (e.g. Batemans Bay Paddle Challenge) and performing arts (e.g. buskers) within the open space network. This will require ongoing close liaison between Council’s teams to ensure a structure that balances activation with sustainable use.

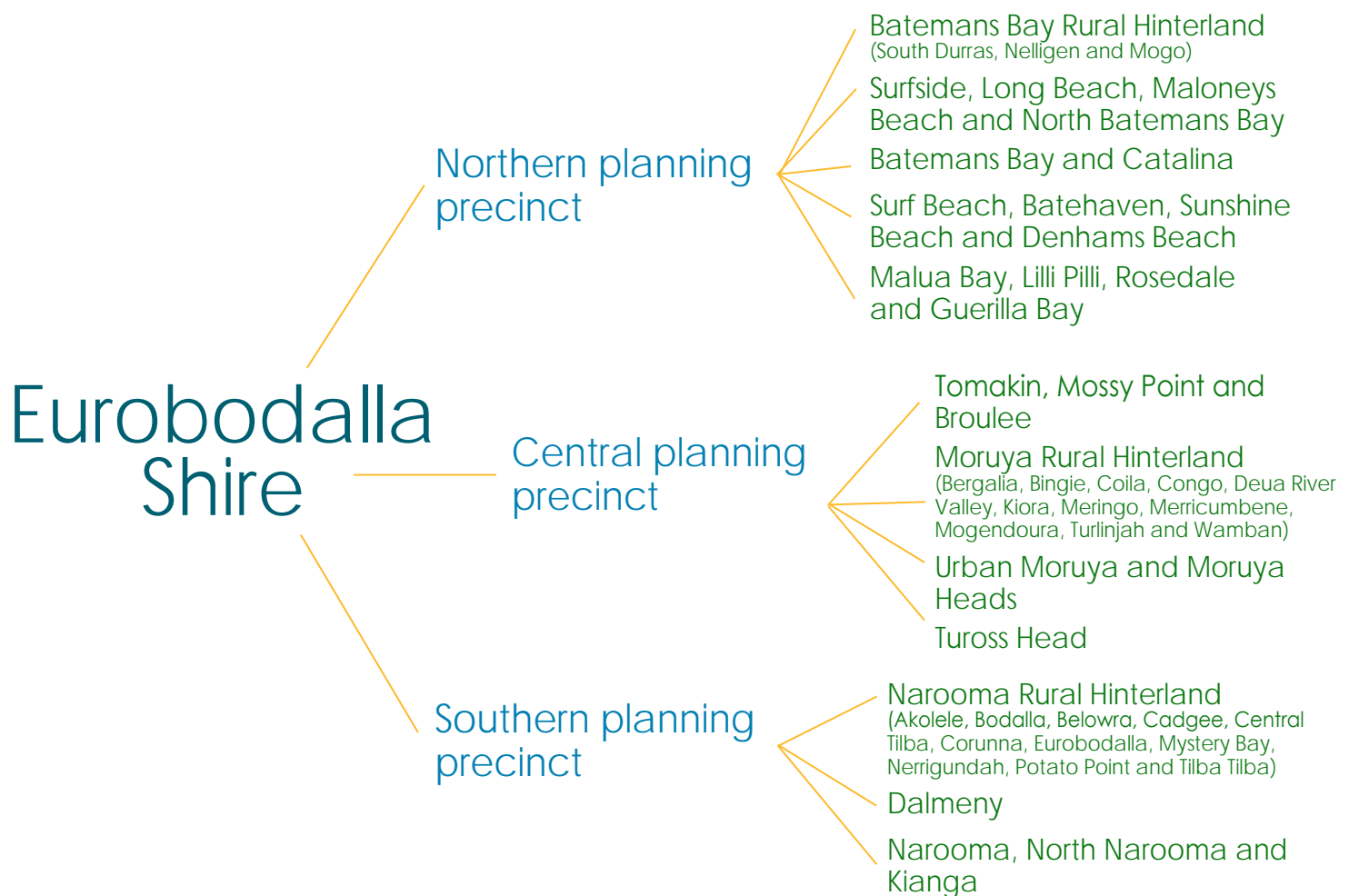
# Planning precinct analysis

Demographics, surrounding natural environment and land uses, influence that way in which one recreates and uses open space. As such, Eurobodalla has been divided into three planning precincts:

- » Northern planning precinct
- » Central planning precinct
- » Southern planning precinct.

To provide a more accurate representation, each planning precinct has been divided further into planning areas to gain a greater understanding of local pressures and to appreciate the individual nuances of each area (and village).

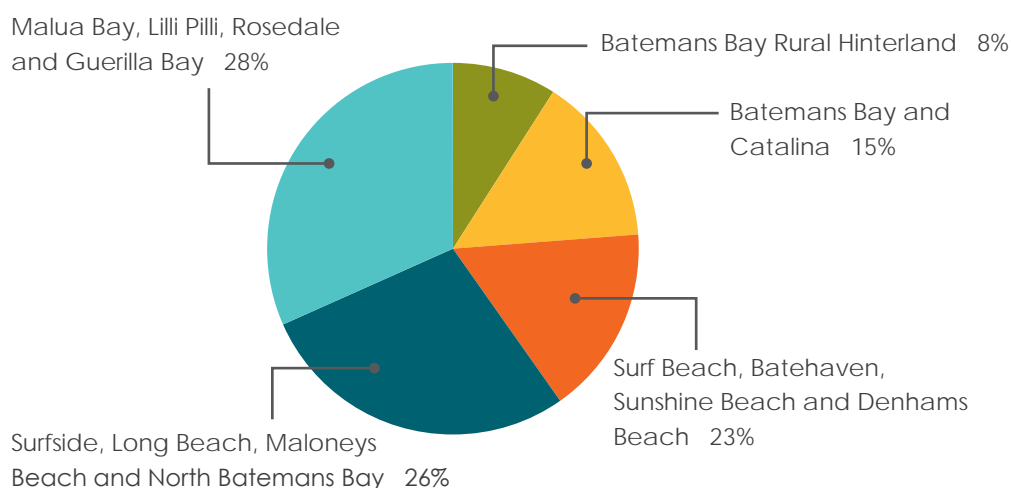
The planning areas are aligned with those used for population forecasts and analysis (id consultants, 2016).



# Northern Planning Precinct

17,956 — current population & 2036 population — 21,682

## Distribution of total precinct growth



## Key open space

- » Corrigans Beach Reserve
- » Hanging Rock Precinct
- » Batemans Bay Foreshore Reserve and Cycleway
- » Mackay Park

## Top 5<sup>1</sup>...

### recreation activities

1. walking
2. swimming
3. gardening
4. bushwalking
5. canoe/kayaking

### open spaces to visit

1. beach
2. local footpaths
3. at home
4. coastal reserves and foreshores
5. park

### open space values

1. the natural setting
2. the views they provide to the ocean/river/lake
3. they are close to my home
4. a place to take visitors
5. the interaction with the natural environment

### barriers to open space

1. no barriers
2. there is a lack of toilets
3. they are poorly maintained
4. I can't take my dog
5. there is a limited range of sporting fields/courts/facilities provided

<sup>1</sup> From the community survey results undertaken as part of the Strategy



# Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland



Unlike many of the other districts/areas<sup>1</sup> in the Eurobodalla Shire, the villages that make-up the Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland area are all separate entities (as opposed to being linked or nearby one another). The three main villages in the Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland are:

- » South Durras (north)
- » Nelligen (west)
- » Mogo (south).

Currently 2,667 people live in the Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland, with half of the population aged under 44 years of age. However, between 2011 and 2036, the Hinterland will experience an 86% increase in population of retirement age (65 years and above).

## South Durras

The most northern village in the Eurobodalla Shire, South Durras is a beach village enclosed by Murramarang National Park. Approximately 275 people currently reside in South Durras. However, with 68% of the private homes unoccupied, the generally quiet village can become quite busy over weekends and holiday periods. In addition, with three accommodation parks in the area the population has the potential to triple over busy periods.

Despite an ageing population and a median age of 50, a third of the families in South Durras have children under 15 years of age. Access to informal recreation activities for all ages will be important for the current and future residents of South Durras.

## Nelligen

Set along the banks of the Clyde River, Nelligen is a peaceful historic town with a population of 253 people. With a demographic profile similar to South Durras, though slightly older (median age 52), the population is more of a 'true representation' of the total population, with only 33 (or 24.8%) private dwellings unoccupied.

The Clyde River and nearby National Parks and State Forests make Nelligen a favoured destination for houseboats, bushwalking, fishing and water sports enthusiasts. It is important that the open space network continues to support these types of activities with the appropriate infrastructure, such as jetties, floating pontoons, fishing cleaning tables, wayfinding signage, trail heads and picnic facilities.

### Snapshot *(.id the population experts, 2017)*

Current population (2016)	2,667
0 - 14 years	16.5%
15 - 24 years	9.5%
25 - 34 years	7.2%
35 - 44 years	10.3%
45 - 54 years	16.2%
55 - 64 years	18.6%
65 years and over	21.6%
Median age (2016)	49
Future population (2036)	2,950
Households with children	33.1%
Unoccupied private dwellings	28.6%
Do not have a motor vehicle	1.2%

<sup>1</sup> The Eurobodalla Shire 'Districts' were developed by profile.id

## Mogo

Located south of Batemans Bay, Mogo is a picturesque village, surrounded by Mogo State Forest. With a median age of 41, Mogo is a relatively young population compared to the rest of the Eurobodalla Shire (median age 47). Predominately residential (only 15.5% of private dwellings unoccupied), Mogo has a population of 263 people. In addition to having a young population, a high proportion of residents are identified as Indigenous Australian (32.7%, compared with Eurobodalla Shire at 5%).

The main street in Mogo is lined with galleries, boutique shops and cafes, making it a popular destination for day trips. With pedestrians strolling up and down the street, it is important to make the footpath a pedestrian friendly environment by creating more of a 'park street'. Supporting infrastructure such as bench seating, shade, water bubblers and plantings would also complement the street.

The Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens is also located in the Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland, just north of Mogo. In addition to the wide variety of flora and fauna throughout the Gardens, there are also numerous walking tracks, picnic and barbecue facilities, a cafe and a large nature-based playground.



Nelligen Riverside Park, Nelligen



Murramarang Beach Reserve, South Durras



Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens, Mogo



John Street Reserve, Mogo

# Open space in the Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland

## Current supply

Of the 512.634ha of open space in the Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland, 36.32ha is considered recreation and sport open space. 23.2ha of this open space land is the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens.

Type of open space	ha	% of current network
» Recreation parks	32.54	6.21
– local recreation park	6.22	1.19
– district recreation park	0.63	0.12
– regional recreation park	23.2	4.45
– linear recreation park	2.12	0.41
– formal recreation park	0.22	0.04
» Sports park (local)	3.78	0.723
» Bushland reserves	485.19	93.01
» Community facility	0.14	0.03
» Undeveloped open space	0.13	0.02

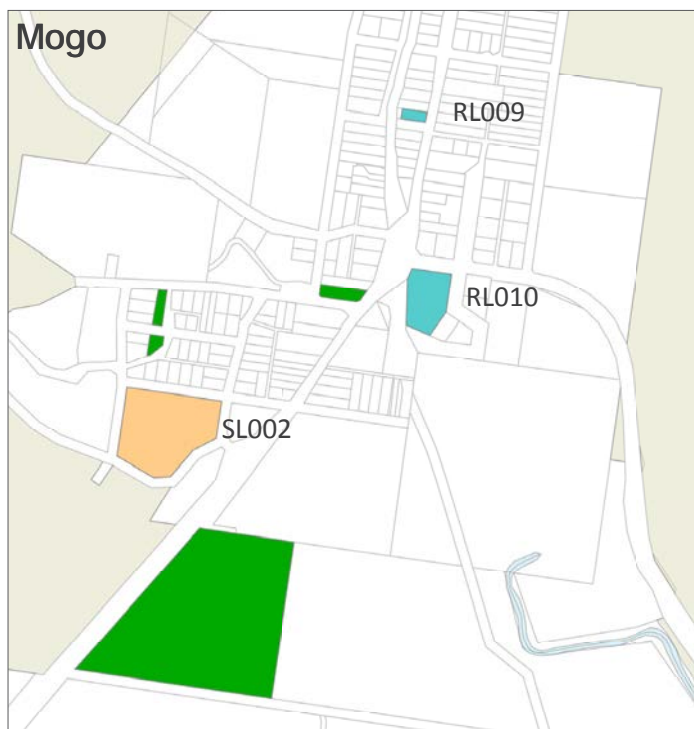
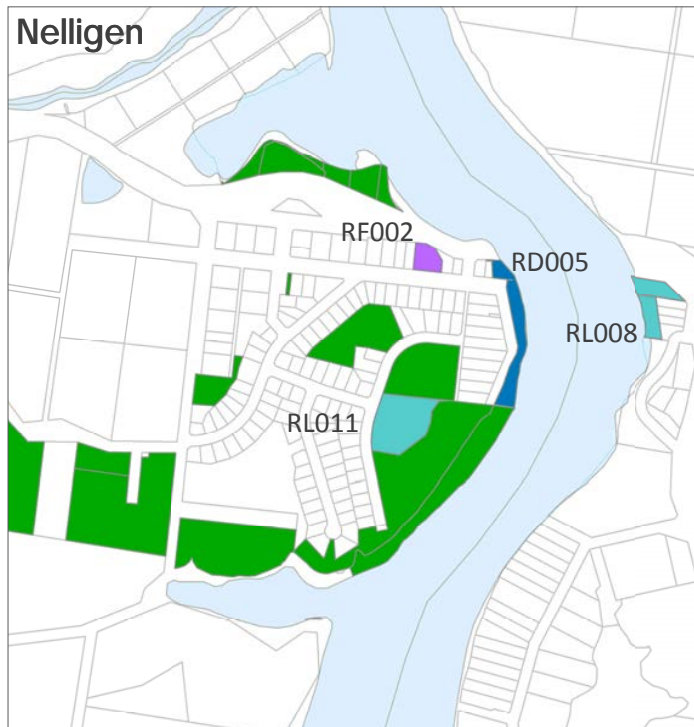
Table 10. Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland open space supply

Table 11. Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland open space type

ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Ownership
Recreation parks			
RL004	South Durras Lakeside Drive Boat ramp Reserve, South Durras	Local	Community
RL006	Durras Headland Reserve, South Durras	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RL005b	Durras Skate Park, South Durras	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RL005a	Durras South Playground, South Durras	Local	Community
RL007	Murramarang Beach Reserve and Boatramp, South Durras	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RL008	Nelligen West Boatramp, Nelligen	Local	Community
RL009	John Street Reserve, Mogo	Local	Road Reserve
RL010	Rural Fire Service Reserve, Mogo	Local	Community
RL011	Nelligen Recreation Reserve, Nelligen	Local	Community
RD005	Nelligen Foreshore Park, Nelligen	District	Community
RIn002	Durras Cycleway, South Durras	Linear	Crown Reserve under Council control
RF002	Old School Site Reserve, Nelligen	Formal	Crown Reserve under Council control
Sports parks			
SL001	South Durras Sporting Oval, South Durras	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
SL002	Mogo Sporting Oval, Mogo	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
Other			
CF004	Durras Progress Hall, South Durras	Community Hall	Community



## Current open space network



### Legend

#### Recreation parks

- Regional recreation park
- District recreation park
- Local recreation park
- Linear recreation park
- Beach access park
- Formal park

#### Sports park

- Regional sports park
- District sports park
- Local sports park

#### Specialised sport

- Tennis
- Aquatic
- Indoor

#### Natural areas

- Bushland reserve
- National Park (not Council)
- State Forest (not Council)

#### Other open space

- Utility
- Undeveloped
- Community facilities

## Access to experiences<sup>1</sup>

The open space network in the Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland offers a large variety of experiences and activities, especially outdoor recreation activities, for residents and visitors. Creating supportive environments for these activities and experiences is also an important ingredient to facilitating increased use and value of the open space network.

The following experiences are provided in the Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland area, mainly South Durras, Nelligen and Mogo.

Table 12. Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland experiences

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	Sth Durras	Nelligen	Mogo*
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps	●	●	
	Beach access points	●		
	Jetties	●	●	
	Floating pontoon (canoe/ kayak launching facility)			
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●	●	●
	Natural areas	●	●	●
	Waterways	●	●	
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookouts	●		
	Shaded seating areas	●	●	●
	Formal/structured gardens			
Comfort	Public toilets	●	●	●
	Outdoor showers	●		
Dog-friendly areas	Off-leash	●		
	On-leash			
	Time share			
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire	●		
	Cafes	●	●	●
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community hall	●	●	

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	Sth Durras	Nelligen	Mogo*
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails	●	●	●
	Mountain biking	●	●	●
	Fishing facilities	●	●	
	Snorkelling area			
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	●	●	
	Table, seats and shade	●	●	●
	BBQ facilities (gas)		●	●
Playgrounds	Toddler	●	●	
	Young children		●	
	Youth	●		
Sport	Fields/ovals (Council)	●	●	●
	Fields/ovals (schools)			●
Activities	Community garden			
	Skate park	●		
	BMX track			
	Outdoor fitness equipment			
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●	●	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	●	●	
	Bicycle parking	●	●	●
Community or major events	Open space for markets			
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/ stage			

\* Excludes facilities in Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens as this would be a false representation of the opportunities available in Mogo village

1 This section is included for all twelve planning areas. It provides a summary of experiences available within each planning area and is not necessarily confined to Council-owned or-managed facilities

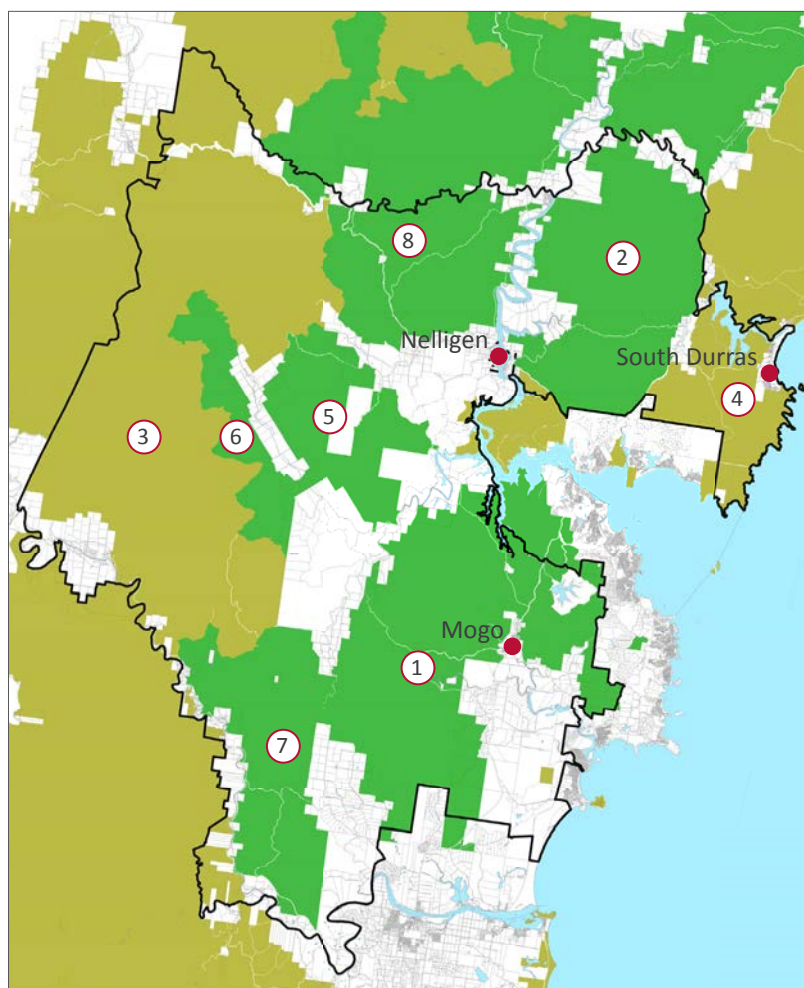


The Hinterland allows residents and visitors to interact and experience nature. Informal parks have been provided at picturesque locations for nature appreciation and, where possible, access to sheltered beaches (South Durras) has also been formalised. However, there appears to be an overall lack of activities and quality playgrounds for the villages' children and youth (with the exception of Nelligen Riverside Park).

Although each village has public toilets, they are not in the most suitable location, particularly those at Mogo. Despite the main street being the main attraction of the village, public toilets are located at the southern entrance to Mogo, just off Tomakin Road.

As mentioned above, the Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland has an abundance of natural environments. Although the majority is not Council-owned or -managed, they provide the residents and visitors with a variety of outdoor recreation/ nature based experiences. Below is a list of outdoor recreation activities and their corresponding nature area:

- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| ① Mogo State Forest         | » bushwalking tracks<br>» mountain biking<br>» 4 wheel driving<br>» picnic facilities<br>» hunting              |
| ② Boyne State Forest        | » mountain biking<br>» 4 wheel driving<br>» horse riding tracks   |
| ③ Monga National Park       | » 4 wheel driving<br>» bushwalking tracks<br>» horse riding tracks  |
| ④ Murramarang National Park | » bushwalking tracks<br>» mountain biking<br>» camping<br>» kayak/canoeing<br>» picnic facilities<br>» swimming |
| ⑤ Bolaro State Forest       | closed to the public  |
| ⑥ Buckenbowra State Forest  | closed to the public  |
| ⑦ Wandera State Forest      | closed to the public  |
| ⑧ Currowan State Forest     | closed to the public  |



- National Park
- State Forest
- Water body

## Use and values

All the residents that completed the survey visited the open spaces in the area at least once a week, half visiting most days. The most popular open spaces to visit were:

1. the beach 75.0%
2. bushland and sports grounds/courts 66.7%
3. private property 58.3%
4. along the river and at home 50.0%
5. parks 41.7%.

The top five activities that respondents participated in while visiting the open space include:

1. organised sport 75.0%
2. swimming 66.7%
3. bushwalking 58.3%
4. canoe/kayaking and gardening 50.0%
5. cycling 41.7%.

Consistent with the most popular activities and open space to visit, the residents valued the following attributes of the open space network (all at 54.5%):

- » the range of sporting fields/courts/facilities provided
- » the natural setting
- » they can take their dog
- » they provide a place to exercise
- » the views they provide to the ocean/river/lake.

Despite all respondents visiting the open space in the Hinterland, some experienced a number of barriers to using the open space. The most common barriers were:

- » lack of public toilets
- » maintenance of facilities
- » lack of car parking.

Importantly, half of the respondents indicated no barriers to open space access.

It is important to note, that the lack of car parking may relate to the whole of Eurobodalla Shire and not just the Hinterland. Three quarters of respondents indicated that they drove to open space, with a third driving more than 30 minutes to a sporting facility. However, only a quarter said they would drive more than 30 minutes to a recreation park.

Residents were also asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and sporting opportunities in Eurobodalla<sup>2</sup>.

Table 13. Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland quality of recreation and sport opportunities

	Great	Good	Poor
Aquatic facilities	8.3%	50.0%	41.7%
Cycle and walkways	25.0%	58.3%	16.7%
Sportsfields	41.7%	41.7%	16.7%
Playgrounds	27.3%	45.5%	27.3%
Skate parks	28.6%	71.4%	0.0%
BMX Tracks	14.3%	85.7%	0.0%
Foreshore parks / beach access	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%
Natural bushland parks	25.0%	58.3%	16.7%
Indoor sport and recreation centres	10.0%	40.0%	50.0%
Places to relax and socialise	33.3%	41.7%	25.0%
Community halls/centres	18.2%	45.5%	36.4%
Activities for youth	14.3%	28.6%	57.1%
Activities for seniors	16.7%	50.0%	33.3%
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	12.5%	50.0%	37.5%

When residents were asked their opinion on what the top three open space priorities should be over the next ten years, an indoor sport and recreation facility was consistently mentioned. Other top priorities include:

- » new/upgraded horse and equestrian facilities
- » improved quality of sports grounds/ovals/courts
- » provision of places/facilities for young people
- » improved facilities along the river, creek or lake
- » new/upgraded playgrounds.

<sup>2</sup> However, it is assumed that survey respondents were, generally, considering provision and quality in their local area rather than the Shire more widely

# Analysis of open space

## Land for recreation open space

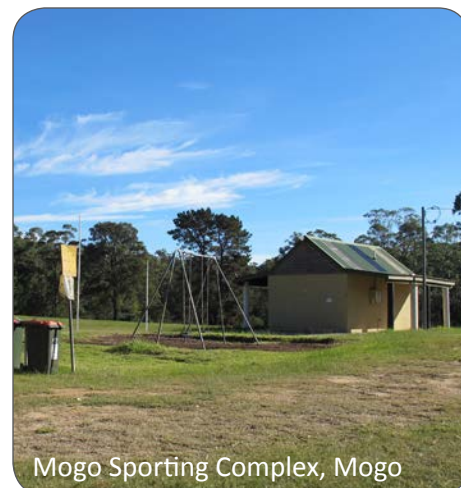
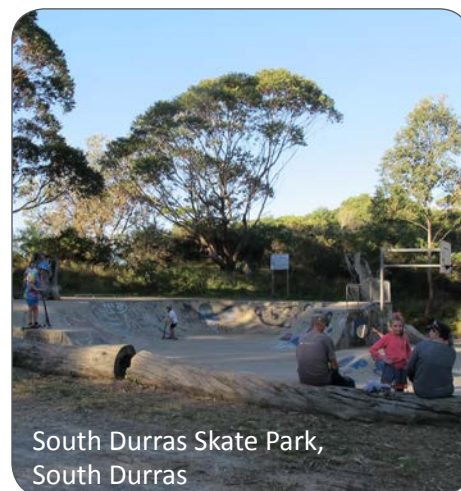
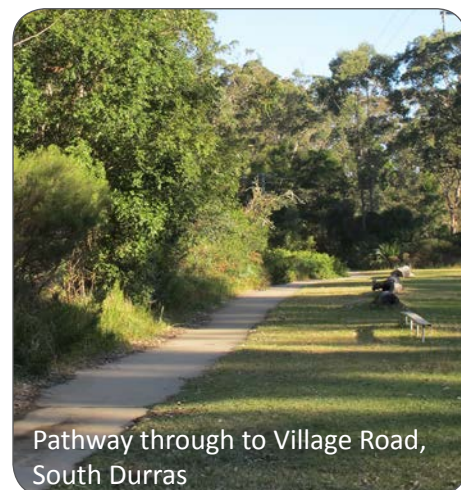
From a land perspective, the Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland is slightly under supplied with land for recreation open space. Using the desired standards of service and population data, 8.8ha of recreation open space land is required to meet current community needs. With approximately 7ha existing<sup>3</sup>, the Hinterland has a deficiency of 1ha. This is expected to increase to approximately 5.0ha by 2036 (due to population growth).

Nelligen Riverside Park is a quality recreation space, located on the Clyde River. It has a themed playground, picnic and BBQ facilities, walking path and boat ramp. Its proximity to the Mechanics Institute of Nelligen 1903 Hall, and the cafe across the road, creates a community hub that services residents and visitors. Mogo and South Durras are lacking this experience.

South Durras Sporting Oval is no longer used for formal sports. During engagement and site inspections, it became evident that the Oval is regularly used by the local community for informal recreation due to the half court basketball area, skate park and thoroughfare to Village Road. The addition of a playground to the Oval would not only benefit the residents to the south, but the visitors to the north that can access the Oval via the South Durras Cycleway.

Similar to South Durras, Mogo is also lacking a quality recreation park. Residents do have access to the nature-based playground at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens, however, it is located approximately 5km away.

Located along the main street, John Street Reserve is the only recreation park in Mogo. The Reserve includes uncovered picnic tables and a gas BBQ, but lacks play facilities. The Reserve is too small to add suitable play facilities to it. With the impressive playground at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens, it is recommended that Council better promote the presence of the playground as a place to stop and relax (e.g. “after shopping in Mogo, take the children to the nature-based playground at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens, just five minutes up the road”). Alternatively, it is recommended that the existing play (currently only swings) at Mogo Sporting Oval be upgraded and the Oval can become the main recreation park for Mogo residents. There is potential to involve the local Indigenous community in the design of the playground and establish a cultural theme.



3 Regional-level open space has been excluded from the analysis given its catchment



## Land for sporting facilities

From a standards perspective, the Hinterland is well supplied with land for sporting facilities. Despite the two facilities no longer being used for competition (Nelligen Sporting Complex is no longer maintained by Council), it is recommended that they remain as an asset within the open space network and be maintained as large informal recreation parks. If there is substantial growth in one or two sporting codes over the next 20 years, the ovals could be used as training facilities to relieve pressure on district and regional sports parks.

Council has provisionally retained land for multi-purpose use that may include sporting facilities at Blairs Road (Long Beach).

## Community facilities

The existing clubhouse at South Durras Sporting Oval is in a good condition, but currently not in use. There are a number of options to potentially activate the building, however, community engagement would be required for the best outcome for South Durras. Options include:

- » a community garden
- » leasing the building out to a community group (men's shed, playgroup etc.)
- » leasing the building as a storage facility for a community group
- » discussions with nearby accommodation providers to use the building during holiday periods as an activity centre (ensuring locals are also welcome).

The community hall in Durras is used sparingly - attracting approximately one and a half bookings each month. Clearly, opportunity exists to activate this facility to ensure ongoing sustainability.

There is currently no community hall/centre in Mogo and the amenities building at the sporting oval is no longer being used. Council could put out an expression of interest out to local community groups and/or individuals for casual (men's sheds, local playgroups/parent groups etc.) or private use (e.g. artist's storage facility and/or workshop).

The proposed upgrade of both ovals as recreation venues may assist to increase the use of the buildings.

## Activities and experiences

Interestingly, the two most popular activities that respondents participate in are *organised sport* and *swimming*, both provided outside of the Hinterland.

Bushwalking and canoe/kayaking were also identified as popular activities. The recent upgrades to Nelligen Riverside Park provide safe and easy access to the Clyde River for water activities. Additionally, the abundance of National Parks and State Forests providing numerous opportunities for outdoor recreation means that the infrastructure to support these activities is already available to Hinterland residents and visitors. As such, it is recommended that Council continue to work with NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services and NSW Forestry Corporation to promote these activities.

The Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens is a key asset for the Hinterland and Eurobodalla Shire (more widely). It is important that Council continues to reinforce to residents that the outdoor recreation and nature experiences available there are a local asset as much as it is a visitor asset.

Dog agility is a growing activity in Eurobodalla. Narooma is currently the only area with a fenced dog off-leash park with additional areas being considered by Council and the community.

The addition of the playground at Mogo Sporting Oval will create a community hub - a place for families to recreate.

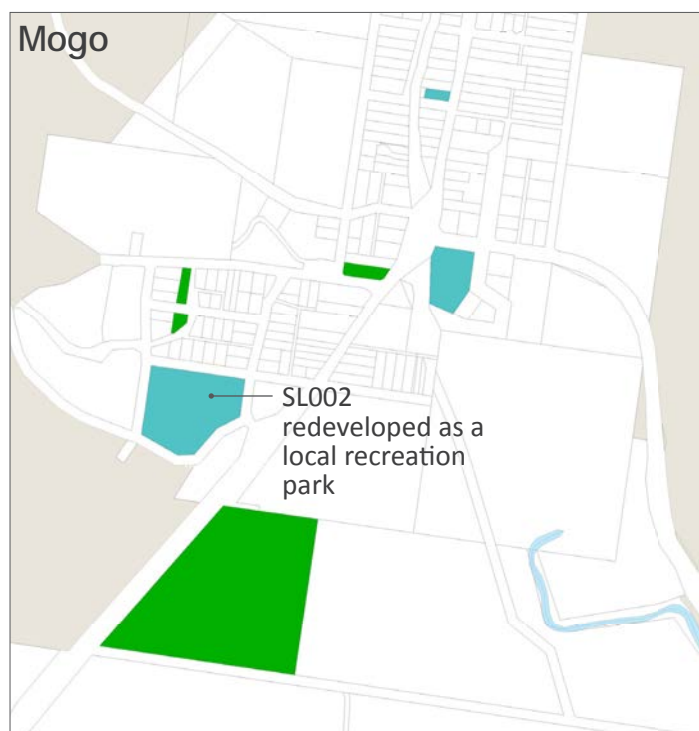
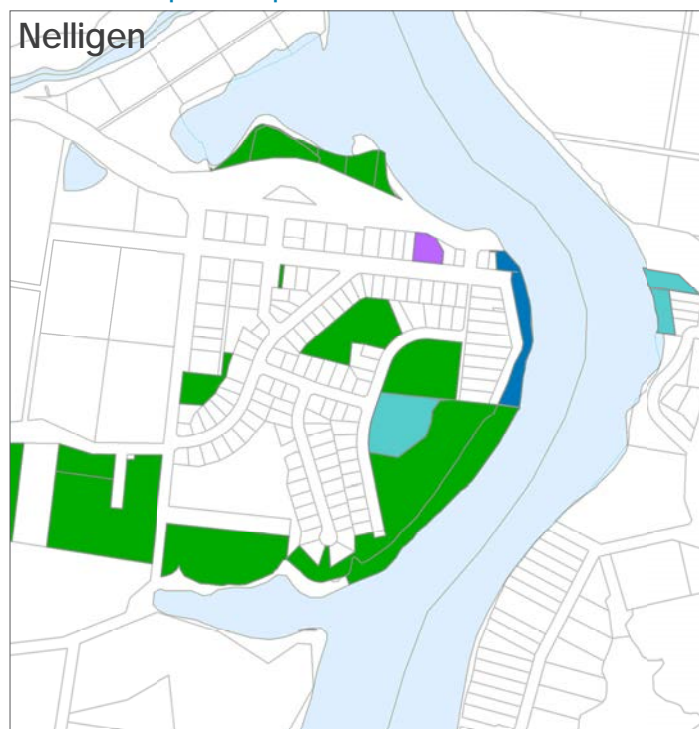


## Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland priority actions

<b>Priority action: create a community hub</b>	<b>Priority action: redistribution of assets</b>
South Durras and Mogo each currently lack a recreation park with good quality play experiences	Sections of the open space network have no recreation or conservation value. Funds from the rationalisation of these assets can be reinvested back into the open space network
M13 - Convert <a href="#">South Durras Sporting Oval (SL001 to RL005)</a> into an informal recreation park and build a playground near the South Durras Skate Park. The Oval will no longer be classified as a 'sports park'.	M11 - <a href="#">Lot 84, DP259212</a> is currently undeveloped open space. Divide the land into two lots (approximately 600m <sup>2</sup> each) and investigate the sale of the two lots for residential purposes.
M14 - Investigate potential future uses for the clubhouse building at <a href="#">South Durras Sporting Oval</a> .	<b>Priority action: improved wayfinding network</b>
M15 - Convert <a href="#">Mogo Sporting Oval</a> into an informal recreation park and upgrade the existing play opportunities. The Oval will no longer be classified as a 'sports park'.  Council could invite the local Indigenous people to theme the play experiences around culture. This would create a sense of community ownership over the park.	There is a lack of informative and directional signage around the area
<b>Priority action: improve capacity of existing facilities</b> A number of facilities in the area are under utilised and/or not being used to their full potential	M12 - Promote (especially in Mogo) the presence of the natural playground in the <a href="#">Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens</a> .
M14 - Investigate potential uses for the clubhouse building at <a href="#">South Durras Sporting Oval</a> . Uses could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» men's shed</li> <li>» community garden</li> <li>» playgroup/local parents club</li> <li>» rented out for private uses (e.g. storage)</li> <li>» partnership with local/nearby accommodation providers.</li> </ul>	M17 - Install directional and information signage around the Hinterland. The information signage is to include information such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» key fishing areas</li> <li>» beach access points</li> <li>» distances</li> <li>» public toilets</li> <li>» canoe/kayak launching spots</li> <li>» playgrounds.</li> </ul>
M18 - Investigate potential future uses for the clubhouse building at <a href="#">Mogo Sporting Oval</a> . Uses could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» men's shed</li> <li>» playgroup/local parents club</li> <li>» rented out for private uses (e.g. storage, local artist studio).</li> </ul>	
M16 - Investigate ways to promote and activate the <a href="#">Durras Progress Hall</a> as a location for low impact recreation activities for seniors and social interaction.	



## Future open space network



### Legend

#### Recreation parks

- Regional recreation park
- District recreation park
- Local recreation park
- Linear recreation park
- Beach access park
- Formal park

#### Sports park

- Regional sports park
- District sports park
- Local sports park

#### Specialised sport

- Tennis
- Aquatic
- Indoor

#### Natural areas

- Bushland reserve
- National Park (not Council)
- State Forest (not Council)

#### Other open space

- Utility
- Undeveloped
- Community facilities

# Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay



Located along the northern foreshore of Batemans Bay, the area is made up of four villages; Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay.

The villages are surrounded by a variety of natural environments including:

- » Cullendulla Creek Nature Reserve
- » Murramarang National Park
- » beaches
- » Clyde River
- » Council bushland reserves.

The natural environment, open space and complementing infrastructure (boat ramps, boardwalks and cycleways) around the area, create numerous opportunities for formal and informal recreation experiences and activities for residents and visitors.

With a current population of 3,094, the majority of people (75%) reside in Surfside and Long Beach, while Maloneys Beach remains a quiet coastal village. North Batemans Bay, separated from the other villages by the Princes Highway, is an extension of Batemans Bay (urban area) offering visitor services such as houseboat rentals, fishing charters and fresh seafood outlets. A small number of people currently reside in the village, however, population is expected to increase with future residential development occurring off Kings Highway.

The area's proximity to Batemans Bay, new housing developments and Batemans Bay Public School has made it a popular location for families (particularly in Surfside). In the 2016 Census, the area had the highest proportion of children aged under 14 years of age compared to the other eleven planning areas in Eurobodalla.

Despite this, the Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay area is ageing. By 2036, the area's population is expected to increase to 4,077 people and approximately a third (1,307 people) will be aged 65 years and over.

Current and future open space planning will need to ensure that there is safe, off-road access to Batemans Bay (urban area) and the Batemans Bay Public School. Access to the natural areas and the infrastructure to support these activities will also be important for current and future residents.

Planning will also need to balance the residents' desire for retaining the natural, 'sleepy' feel of the villages (Maloneys Beach and areas of Long Beach) and the desires and expectations of new residents relocating to the area for its proximity to local schools and services.

## Snapshot

Current population (2016)	3,094
0 - 14 years	17.3%
15 - 24 years	8.3%
25 - 34 years	9.4%
35 - 44 years	9.3%
45 - 54 years	10.2%
55 - 64 years	17.9%
65 years and over	27.5%
Median age (2016)	50
Future population (2036)	4,077
Households with children	28.1%
Unoccupied private dwellings	34.7%
Do not have a motor vehicle	3.6%

# Open space in the Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay area

## Current supply

There is currently 189.93ha of open space in the Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay area. Just over 6.5% of the network is considered recreation and sport open space with the majority being bushland reserve (86.7%).

Type of open space	ha	% of current network
» Recreation parks	10.52	5.54
– local recreation park	9.00	4.74
– district recreation park	0.98	0.51
– beach access park	0.54	0.29
» Sports park (district)	2.96	1.56
» Bushland reserves	164.65	86.69
» Undeveloped open space	10.86	5.72
» Utility open space	0.94	0.49

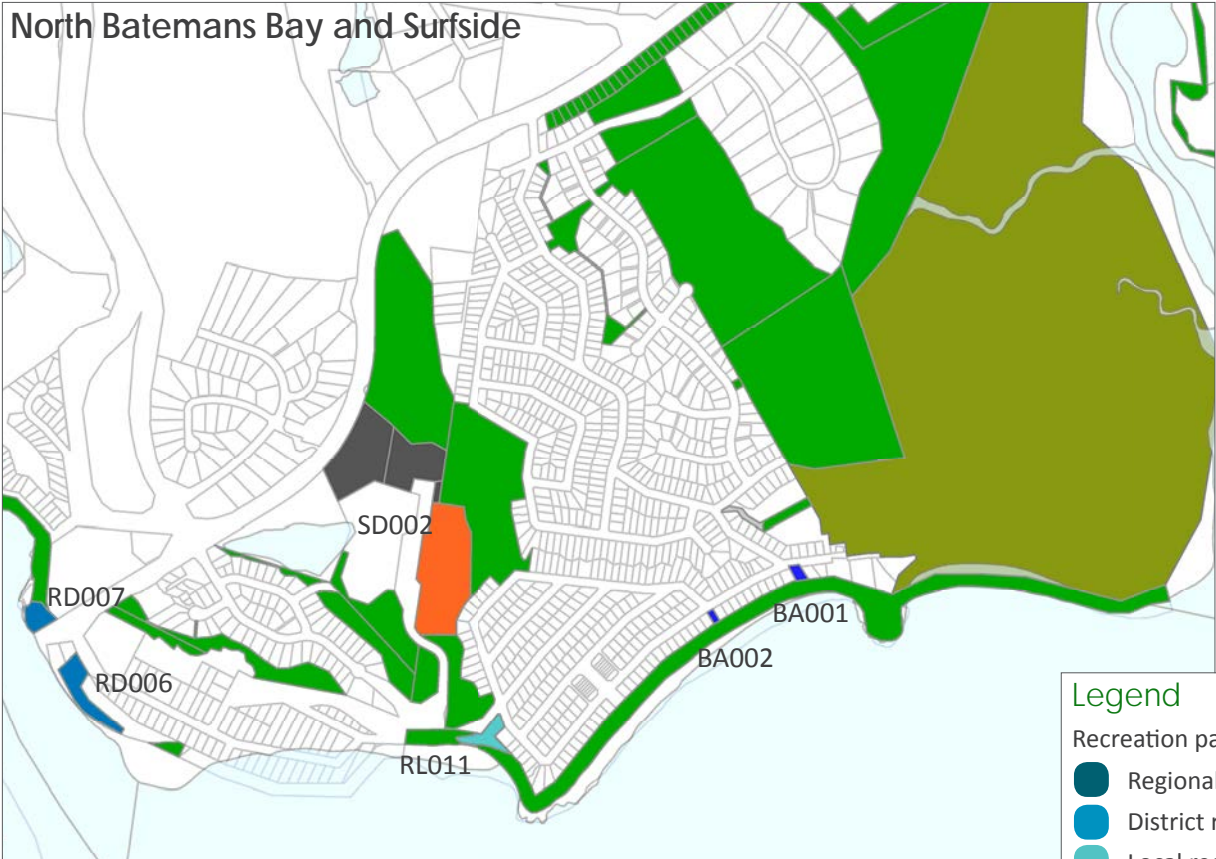
Table 14. Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay open space supply

Table 15. Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay open space type

ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Ownership
Recreation parks			
RL011	Timbara Crescent Reserve	Local	Community
RL012	Higgins Park	Local	Community
RL013	Sandy Place Reserve	Local	Community
RL014	Long Beach Foreshore Reserve	Local	Community
RL015	Hibiscus Close Reserve	Local	Community
RD006	Korners Park	District	Community
RD007	Old Punt Road Reserve and Boat ramp	District	Crown Reserve under Council control
BA001	Myamba Parade Reserve	Beach access	Community
BA002	Myamba Beach Reserve	Beach access	Community
Sports parks			
SD002	Surfside Sporting Fields	District	Community

# Current open space network

North Batemans Bay and Surfside



Legend

Recreation parks

Regional recreation park

District recreation park

Local recreation park

Linear recreation park

Beach access park

Formal park

Sports park

Regional sports park

District sports park

Local sports park

Specialised sport

Tennis

Aquatic

Indoor

Natural areas

Bushland reserve

National Park (not Council)

State Forest (not Council)

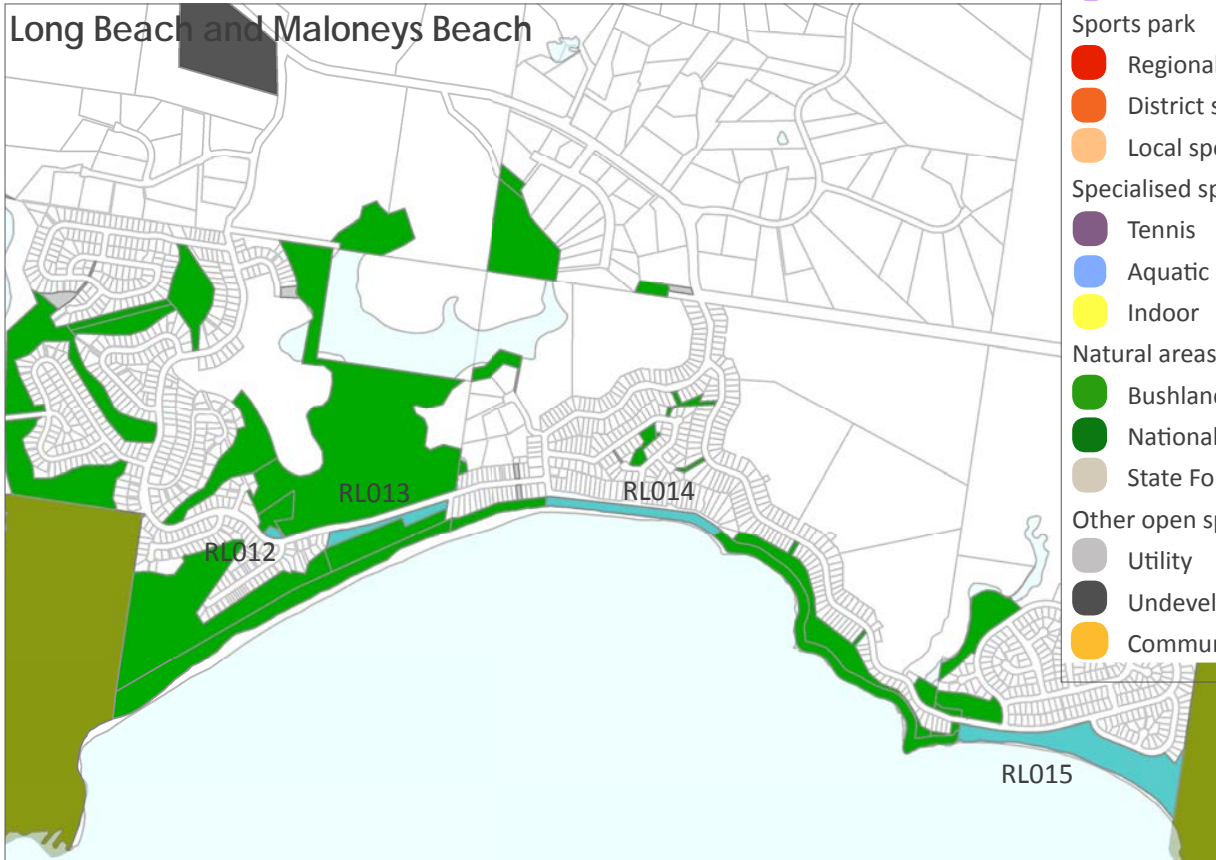
Other open space

Utility

Undeveloped

Community facilities

Long Beach and Maloney's Beach





## Access to experiences

The open space network in the Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay area offers a variety of experiences and activities for residents and visitors. Creating supportive environments for these activities and experiences is also an important ingredient to facilitating increased use and value of the open space network.

The following experiences are provided in the Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay area.

Table 16. Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay experiences

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps	●
	Beach access points	●
	Jetties	●
	Floating pontoon (canoe/ kayak launching facility)	
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Natural areas	●
	Waterways	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookouts	●
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	
Comfort	Public toilets	●
	Outdoor showers	●
Dog friendly areas	Off-leash	
	On-leash	
	Time share	●
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire	●
	Cafes	●
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community hall	

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails	●
	Mountain biking	
	Fishing facilities	●
	Snorkelling area	●
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	●
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (gas)	●
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	
Sport	Fields/ovals (Council)	●
	Fields/ovals (schools)	●
Activities	Community garden	
	Skate park	
	BMX track	
	Outdoor fitness equipment	
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	●
	Bicycle parking	●
Community or major events	Open space for markets	
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	





The majority of experiences and activities available in the Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay area are nature-based activities, of which, Council is not the primary provider (apart from water-based activities). The elevated boardwalk as part of the Mangrove Walk in Cullendulla Creek Nature Reserve is a key asset and popular experience for visitors and locals.

With only two playgrounds in the area, there is an overall lack of play-based experiences. Despite the majority of the youth population residing in Surfside, there are no playgrounds, half basketball courts and/or skate parks to entertain them. There is also a lack of places with play experiences for families to meet and socialise for extended periods of time.

The Batemans Bay Cycleway provides a safe, off-road pathway from the Batemans Bay Public School to Batemans Bay (urban area), however, there are no safe, off-road connections to Long Beach and Maloneys Beach.

Interestingly, Maloneys Beach has the smallest population of the four villages, yet, Hibiscus Close Reserve has the best picnic facilities to cater for large and small groups due to the covered gazebo with four picnic tables, gas barbecues and toilet block. Basic picnic facilities and a toilet block are also provided along the foreshore at Sandy Place Reserve, Long Beach.

The new sporting facility at Surfside, opposite Batemans Bay Public School, is regularly used by local sporting clubs and the school. The facility is also a popular place for informal recreation and dog walking.

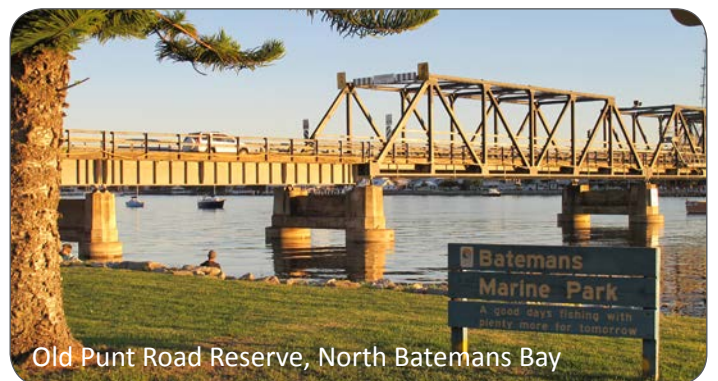
Unlike many areas in the Eurobodalla Shire, there is no community hall/building in the Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay area.



Surfside Sporting Fields, Surfside



Cullendulla Beach boardwalk, Surfside



Old Punt Road Reserve, North Batemans Bay



Long Beach Foreshore, Long Beach

## Use and values

All the residents that completed the survey visited the open spaces in the area, with approximately 80% visiting on most days.

The most popular open spaces to visit were:

1. the beach 89.4%
2. coastal reserves/foreshores 59.6%
3. at home 57.5%
4. bushwalking tracks 53.2%
5. local footpaths, cycle paths and swimming pool (all scored equally) 49.0%.

The top activities that respondents participated in while visiting the open space include:

1. walking 78.7%
2. swimming 70.2%
3. gardening 61.7%
4. fishing and canoe/kayaking 48.9%
5. cycling (recreation) 44.7%.

Consistent with the most popular activities and open space to visit, the residents valued the natural setting of the open space the most (72.3%). Other popular attributes included:

- » the views they provide to the ocean/river/lake
- » a place to take visitors
- » they are close to my home
- » the interaction with nature.

Despite all respondents visiting the open space in the area, some experienced a number of barriers to using the open space. The most common barriers were:

- » lack of public toilets
- » maintenance of facilities
- » limited range of sporting fields/courts/facilities provided
- » limited places to take their dog.

Importantly, 20% of respondents indicated no barriers to open space access.

Residents were also asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and sporting opportunities in Eurobodalla.

Table 17. Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay quality of recreation and sport opportunities

	Great	Good	Poor
Aquatic facilities	2.5%	30.0%	67.5%
Cycle and walkways	9.1%	61.4%	29.5%
Sportsfields	12.1%	61.8%	6.1%
Playgrounds	10.8%	70.3%	18.9%
Skate parks	11.1%	77.8%	11.1%
BMX Tracks	21.1%	57.0%	21.1%
Foreshore parks / beach access	28.3%	58.7%	13.0%
Natural bushland parks	38.6%	52.3%	9.1%
Indoor sport and recreation centres	0.0%	35.7%	64.3%
Places to relax and socialise	4.8%	76.3%	19.0%
Community halls/centres	0.0%	61.1%	38.9%
Activities for youth	0.0%	12.9%	87.1%
Activities for seniors	3.6%	64.3%	32.1%
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	0.0%	38.7%	61.3%

Reflecting the lack of play opportunities in the area, respondents were highly critical of activities for youth and opportunities for *low cost/free physical activities/programs*.

When residents were asked their opinion on what the top three open space priorities should be over the next ten years, an indoor sport and recreation facility was consistently mentioned. Other top priorities include:

- » improved facilities at beach and foreshore areas
- » new/upgraded cycle and walking paths
- » improved pedestrian /cyclist connections between open space
- » increasing supporting facilities including car parking and amenities.

A number of residents indicated that they would like a community facility/hall in the area for community gatherings.

# Analysis of open space

## Land for recreation open space

The open space analysis indicates that the area is under supplied with land for recreation open space. A current deficiency of 1 hectare exists and is predicted to increase to 6.5 hectares by 2036 (using the DSS). However, on-ground considerations suggest that the area has a large number of local recreation parks yet few district recreation parks.

Most of the local recreation parks in the area have maintained a 'natural' feel being relatively undeveloped, cleared parcels of land along the waterways with minimal embellishments. With residents valuing the natural setting of the area (most popular attribute) and the beach, coastal reserves/foreshores being the most popular places to recreate, it is recommended that Council continue to manage and maintain the surplus of local recreation parks and not rationalise the excess.

There are two playgrounds in the area, at the recently upgraded Korner's Park and Higgins Park. As more families relocate to the area, demand for play will increase. Instead of acquiring new land to meet this demand (and reduce the deficiency in district recreation parks), it is recommended that Council upgrade a local recreation park to a district standard. Sandy Place Reserve would be the preferred park.

### 1. Sandy Place Reserve, Long Beach

Located in the middle of the two villages, Long Beach and Maloney's Beach, the Reserve already has a relatively new amenity block, beach access and basic picnic facilities. Community engagement identified that the Reserve is already well used but was lacking play and barbecue facilities for extended stays. However, if the Reserve is to be upgraded, it is recommended that the playground at Higgins Park be removed. Some of the Higgins Park elements could potentially be relocated to the Reserve. A proposed off-road shared path will link the Reserve to residents in Long Beach and Maloney's Beach. Students at Batemans Bay Public School noted that they would like to see a themed playground developed. Council could involve the school children in the design of the park.

Rationalise infrastructure at parks in Long Beach by:

- » decommissioning the play equipment at Higgins Park at the end of its serviceable life
- » installing a nature-based adventure playground with street skate elements on Sandy Place Reserve Long Beach adjacent to the existing amenities.

Construct a set of swings at Maloney's Beach near the toilet block. (Include consultation in advance with Maloney's Beach Residents Association and local tai chi group regarding location and configuration).

Despite these upgrades, the area will still have an open space deficiency of approximately 6ha in 2036. If demand warrants the need for an extra play facility, it is recommended that the eastern section of Hibiscus Close Reserve, be upgraded to a district standard. However, play should be nature-based to make it a point of difference from the proposed playground at Sandy Place Reserve.



Example of a nature-based playground



## Land for sport open space

The amount of sports open space in the Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay area appears to meet the community's needs now and into the future.

Simple upgrades to the Surfside Sporting Fields are required to reduce the amount of vandalism currently occurring at the facility. In addition to formal soccer and cricket club use, the fields are also regularly used by Batemans Bay Public School for soccer, softball, cricket and athletics.

Council has provisionally retained land for multi-purpose use that may include sporting facilities at Blairs Road (Long Beach).

## Community facilities

There are currently no community facilities (Council owned/managed) in the area. However, with a large proportion of the community facilities around Eurobodalla attracting usage rates less than 50% capacity, it is not recommended that Council develop a community facility in this area.

## Activities and experiences

As mentioned previously, there are limited play opportunities in the Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay area.

Walking was identified as the most popular activity in the area with 44.7% of survey respondents also indicating that they walked to open space. There is currently a limited amount of pedestrian/shared paths around the area. The Eurobodalla Pathway Strategy has proposed a number of new footpaths and shared paths around the area to create a safer and more connected pedestrian and cycle network. Council needs to ensure that complementing infrastructure, such as bench seats and wayfinding signage, are included in the design.

There are only two designated dog areas in the Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay area. 80.6% of survey respondents indicate that they take their dog with them while visiting open space (some illegally). Investigation is occurring to identify a location for a new dog park in the Batemans Bay area which, along with established dog areas, will provide sufficient open space to cater for demand for this activity.

Cullendulla Creek Nature Reserve, particularly the Cullendulla Beach Boardwalk is a popular place for residents and visitors to recreate. However, many noted that there was no connection to the Reserve from Long Beach and suggested a boardwalk across Cullendulla Creek. It is recommended that Council, in partnership with NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services, investigate the feasibility of a raised boardwalk/pedestrian bridge across the Cullendulla Creek.



Cullendulla Creek Nature Reserve, Surfside

# Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay Priority Actions

## Priority action: create a community hub

The area currently lacks quality play experiences

M21 - Upgrade [Sandy Place Reserve](#) to a district recreation park. Upgrades to include:

- » playground
- » picnic facilities (barbecue, extra picnic tables, water bubbler)
- » formalise access from the carpark to the toilet to make it accessible for all.

M23 - Construct a set of swings at [Maloneys Beach](#) near the toilet block.

M24 - If population growth and demand warrants, upgrade [Hibiscus Close Reserve](#) to a district recreation park. Upgrades to include:

- » playground
- » formalise the Reserve by placing timber bollards around the perimeter
- » formalise access from the carpark to the toilet to make it accessible for all.

## Priority action: redistribution of assets

Sections of the open space network have no recreation or conservation value. Funds from the rationalisation of these assets can be reinvested back into the open space network

M19 - Retain [Lot 1, DP871237](#) potentially for future multi-purpose use that may include a northern community garden along with sporting facilities at Blairs Road (Long Beach).

M18 - Retain land adjacent to Surfside Sporting Fields and Batemans Bay Public School [Lot 2, DP1044536](#) as a vegetation buffer.

## Priority action: improved wayfinding network

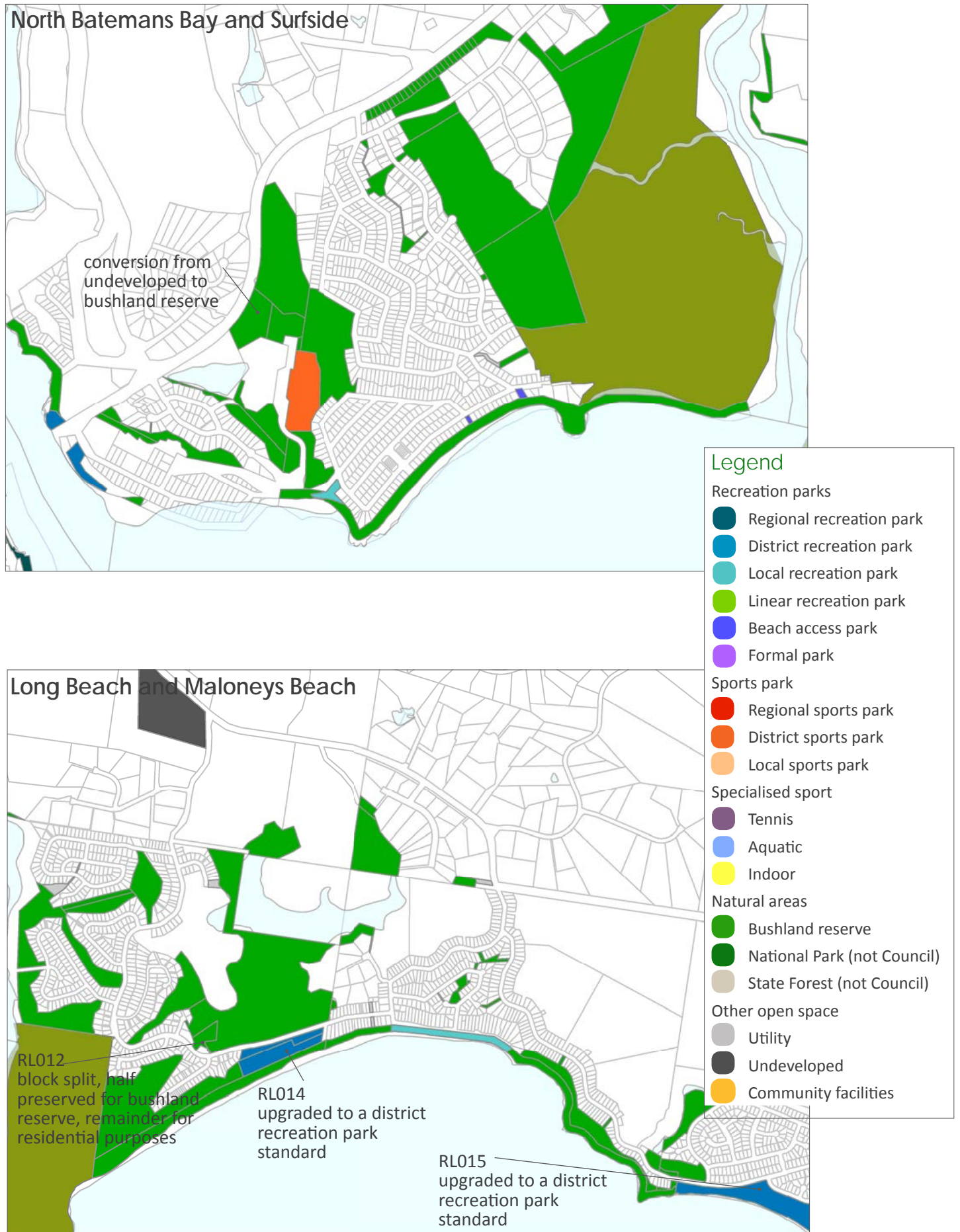
There is a lack of informative and directional signage around the area.

M22 - Install directional and information signage around the area. The information signage is to include information such as:

- » key fishing areas
- » beach access points
- » distances
- » public toilets
- » nature reserves
- » playgrounds.



## Future open space network



# Batemans Bay and Catalina area



Located along the Clyde River, Batemans Bay and Catalina is the Regional Centre of Eurobodalla, providing many of Eurobodalla's commercial, retail and health services.

Approximately 3,947 people currently reside in Batemans Bay and Catalina. Due to the area's easy access to Canberra and the main shopping precinct of Eurobodalla, Batemans Bay and Catalina can become very busy over the weekends, especially along the boardwalk - a popular place for people to have lunch, relax, fish, walk and cycle.

The area is popular among retirees with more than a third (34%) of the population aged 65 years or over. Over the next 20 years, the area will continue to attract retirees due to the surrounding natural environment and centralised services. By 2036, those aged 65 years and over will account for more than a third of the area's population.

An ageing population generally seeks low impact recreation activities. Residents within the area are well supported with infrastructure that supports this and encourages active transport. This is important considering that 10.8% of the population in the area do not own a motor vehicle.

An ageing population and an associated increase in mobility scooters and aids will require that picnic facilities and street furniture be wheelchair accessible. Ensuring park entrances are wheelchair accessible also assists people with prams and cyclists.

As the main retail precinct in Eurobodalla, youth will naturally meet-up and 'hang-out' in the area. As such, the open space needs to provide a safe place for them to meet and socialise.

## Snapshot

Current population (2016)	3,947
0 - 14 years	14.8%
15 - 24 years	8.2%
25 - 34 years	8.5%
35 - 44 years	9.5%
45 - 54 years	11.5%
55 - 64 years	13.6%
65 years and over	34.0%
Median age (2016)	53
Future population (2036)	4,524
Households with children	26.3%
Unoccupied private dwellings	22.5%
Do not have a motor vehicle	10.8%

# Open space in Batemans Bay and Catalina

## Current supply

There is currently 120.29ha of open space in Batemans Bay and Catalina. Recreation and sports parks account for just under a quarter (23.4%) of the total network. Bushland reserves make up the majority of the remaining open space land area.

Type of open space	ha	% of current network
» Recreation parks	11.52	9.58
– local recreation park	3.86	3.23
– district recreation park	2.09	1.74
– regional recreation park	4.85	4.03
– formal recreation park	0.67	0.56
– linear recreation park	0.05	0.04
» Sports park	16.57	13.85
– district sports park	4.85	4.04
– regional sports park	11.72	9.74
» Specialised sport	2.25	1.87
– tennis	0.77	0.64
– aquatic	1.39	1.15
– indoor	0.09	0.08
» Bushland reserves	87.18	72.47
» Community hall	0.40	0.34
» Undeveloped open space	1.48	1.23
» Utility open space	0.89	0.74

Table 18. Batemans Bay and Catalina open space supply

ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Ownership
Recreation parks			
RL001	Rotary Park	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RL002	Albert Ryan Park	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RL003	Melaleuca Reserve	Local	Community
RD001	Lions Park	District	Crown Reserve under Council control
RD003	Hanging Rock skate park	District	Crown Reserve under Council control
RD004	BMX track	District	Community
RR001	Batemans Bay Foreshore Reserve	Regional	Crown Reserve under Council control
RD002	Hanging Rock Sporting Complex and boat ramp,	Regional	Crown Reserve under Council control
RF001	Batemans Bay Visitor Centre	Formal	Crown Reserve under Council control

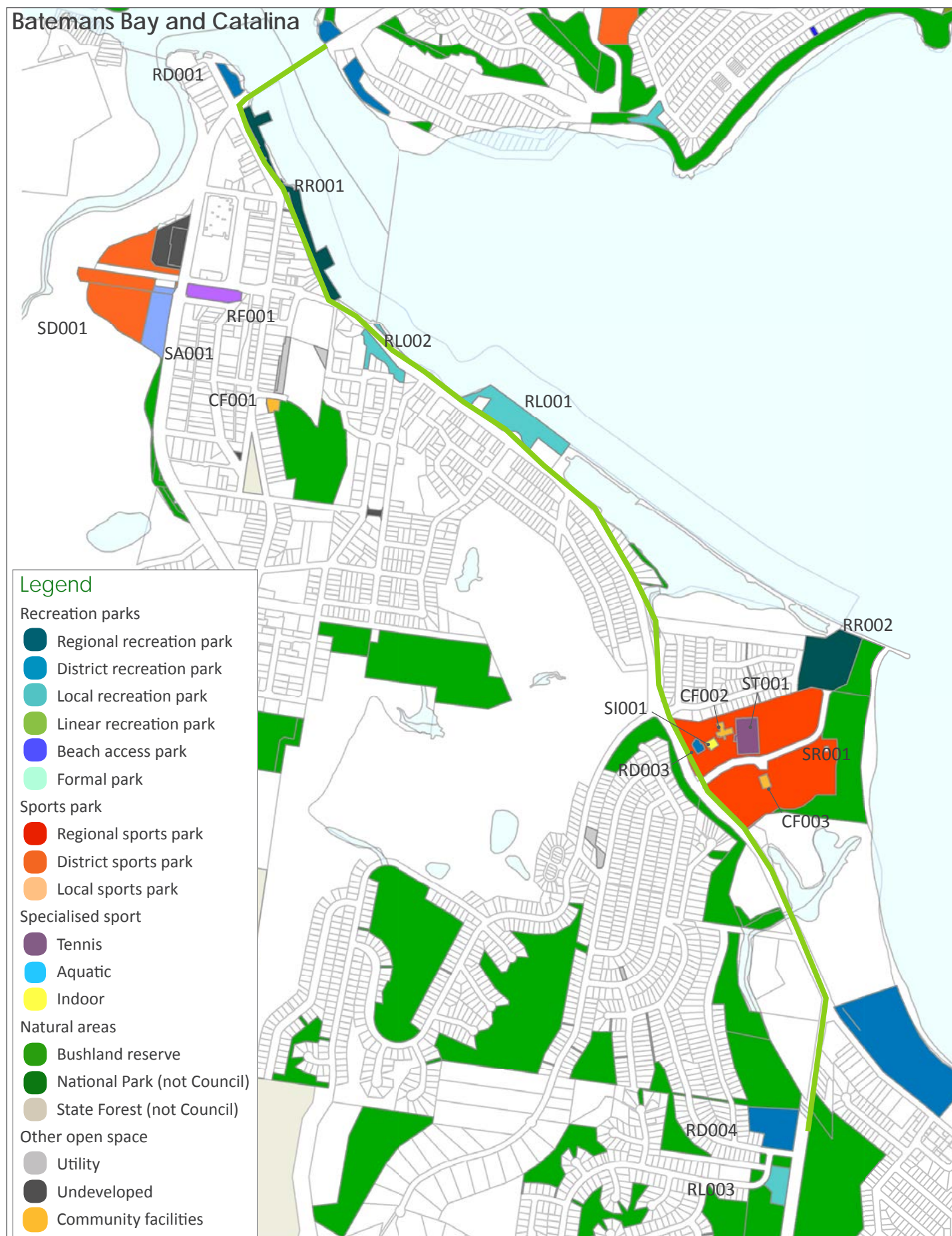
Table 19. Batemans Bay and Catalina open space type

Sports parks			
SD001	Mackay Park	District	Crown Reserve under Council control
SR001	Hanging Rock Sporting Complex	Regional	Crown Reserve under Council control
Other			
CF001	Batemans Bay Community Centre	Community hall	Crown Reserve under Council control
CF002	Batemans Bay Library	Community hall	Crown Reserve under Council control
CF003	Hanging Rock Sports Club Function Centre	Community hall	Crown Reserve under Council control
ST001	Batemans Bay Tennis Club	Specialised Tennis	Crown Reserve under Council control
SA001	Batemans Bay Aquatic Centre	Specialised Aquatic	Crown Reserve under Council control
SI001	Hanging Rock Basketball Facility	Specialised Indoor	Crown Reserve under Council control





## Current open space network





## Access to experiences

The open space network in Batemans Bay and Catalina offers a number of experiences and activities for residents and visitors. Creating supportive environments for these activities and experiences is also an important ingredient to facilitating increased use and value of the open space network.

The following experiences are provided in Batemans Bay and Catalina.

Table 20. Batemans Bay and Catalina experiences

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps	●
	Beach access points	●
	Jetties	●
	Floating pontoon (canoe/ kayak launching facility)	●
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Natural areas	●
	Waterways	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookouts	
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	●
Comfort	Public toilets	●
	Outdoor showers	●
Dog friendly areas	Off-leash	
	On-leash	
	Time share	●
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire	●
	Cafes	●
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community hall	●

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails	
	Mountain biking	
	Fishing facilities	●
	Snorkelling area	
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	●
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (gas)	●
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	●
Sport	Fields/ovals (Council)	●
	Fields/ovals (schools)	●
Activities	Community garden	
	Skate park	●
	BMX track	●
	Outdoor fitness equipment	●
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	●
	Bicycle parking	●
Community or major events	Open space for markets	●
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	

The experiences available in Batemans Bay and Catalina are more traditional sport and recreation opportunities. Those wanting outdoor recreation activities such as bushwalking and mountain biking, have to find those experiences outside the planning area. However, as the main planning area for the northern planning precinct, indoor and aquatic facilities are both available to the community. The beaches and Clyde River continue to offer a variety of water based recreation activities, especially fishing and boating.

The boardwalk and outdoor dining opportunities down Clyde Street create a 'park street' environment. The mixture of formal and informal dining areas, combined with walking, cycling and fishing opportunities, makes the area a popular meeting place throughout the day.

## Use and values

All the residents that completed the survey visited open space at least once a fortnight. Just under three quarters visited more than twice a week.

Interestingly, more than half of the respondents noted that they preferred to play and exercise in the park when visiting open space. Walking was also a popular activity. Other activities that respondents participated in include:

» canoe/kayaking	34.5%
» swimming	34.5%
» recreation cycling	31.0%
» gardening	31.0%
» organised sport	31.0%.

With the Clyde River to the north and the ocean to the east, it is no surprise that respondents in Batemans Bay and Catalina like to recreate at the beach (highest response) and along the river (second). The local footpaths and cycle paths are also regularly used (third). Parks were identified as the fourth most popular place to visit.

Respondents highly valued the natural setting of the open space network and its close proximity to their home. Other common values included:

- » the views they provide to the ocean/river/lake
- » they provide me with a place to unwind/rest/relax
- » they provide me with a place to exercise
- » I can take my dog.

Despite all respondents visiting the open space in the area, some experienced a number of barriers to using the open space. The most common barriers were:

- » lack of public toilets
- » I can't take my dog
- » maintenance of facilities
- » limited range of sporting fields/courts/facilities provided
- » there is a lack of variety.

Residents were also asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and sporting opportunities in Eurobodalla.

Table 21. Batemans Bay and Catalina quality of recreation and sport opportunities

	Great	Good	Poor
Aquatic facilities	3.8%	38.5%	57.7%
Cycle and walkways	19.2%	63.2%	11.5%
Sportsfields	15.4%	71.1%	11.5%
Playgrounds	19.2%	69.2%	11.5%
Skate parks	23.8%	76.2%	0.0%
BMX Tracks	31.8%	63.6%	4.5%
Foreshore parks / beach access	28.6%	60.7%	10.7%
Natural bushland parks	24.0%	64.0%	12.0%
Indoor sport and recreation centres	0%	54.2%	45.8%
Places to relax and socialise	11.5%	65.4%	23.1%
Community halls/centres	0%	76.0%	24%
Activities for youth	0%	38.9%	61.1%
Activities for seniors	0%	47.1%	52.9%
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	0%	38.1%	61.9%

Five of the recreation opportunities did not receive any "great" rankings. Many respondents were concerned with the lack of programming in the area aimed at the youth and seniors. Others were critical of the opportunity to participate in low cost/free physical activities/programs. Provision of aquatic facilities was also considered poor.

When residents were asked their opinion on what the top three open space priorities should be over the next ten years, a year-round indoor aquatic facility was consistently mentioned. Other top priorities include:

- » provision of places/facilities for young people
- » new/upgraded cycle and walking paths
- » new/upgraded playgrounds.

# Analysis of open space

## Land for recreation open space

The Batemans Bay and Catalina area has a wide range of recreation parks available to the public. From a desired standards perspective, the area has a current 4ha deficiency in land for recreation open space, specifically district and linear recreation parks.

However, community engagement did not identify the lack of recreation parks. Rather, residents were more concerned about the lack of variety within the recreation network. Seemingly in contrast though, unlike other areas in the northern planning precinct and Eurobodalla (more widely), the recreation parks in Batemans Bay and Catalina offer unique experiences, such as a BMX track, skate park, and a boardwalk that acts as an informal plaza.

Discussions with the youth in the area identified the desire for adventure style play, which caters for all ages. Corrigans Beach Reserve, approximately 5 minutes south, has been marked as a key recreation reserve in the northern planning precinct. Further, this Strategy recommends that an additional quality regional play facility be developed in the northern planning precinct pending the outcome of the Mackay Park planning exercise.

Play opportunity upgrades are, however, required for Rotary Park. A swing set is the only play equipment currently available there. Being located approximately 700m from a section of Batemans Bay residential area (near Pacific Street), Rotary Park acts as a local recreation park for those residents. Simple upgrades are required to raise the play to a local recreation standard.

The Batemans Bay skate park at Hanging Rock Sporting Complex is a popular activity and hang-out space for youth and young adults. Usage often continues into the evening, but the lack of lighting means users bringing their own or use their car headlights. Community surveys and school engagement consistently noted that there was limited recreation opportunities for youth. Lighting the skate park, an already popular space for youth, would create a safe and visible space for them to hang-out in the evening. Basic picnic facilities and extra bins are also required for users and spectators. As the area is also a popular holiday destination, extensions could be made to the skate park to cater for a younger age group. There are often concerns about mixing age cohorts together. However, experience suggests that older users tend to look-out for the younger ones and teach them new tricks, while the younger users admire (and aspire to) the technical skills of the more experienced riders.

*Hanging Rock skate park*



## Land for sport open space

Batemans Bay and Catalina are well supplied with sporting opportunities, from a land perspective. The area currently has two sports parks: Eurobodalla's only regional sports park Hanging Rock Sporting Complex and Mackay Park, a district sport park.

Mackay Park has received recent upgrades and now functions as a district sports park, with a quality clubhouse overlooking the two fields. The Park is currently fenced, and often locked by the club using the Park. However, as it is dedicated as community open space, it is important that the public are able to access the Park when the club is not using the facility for formal activities. Concerns about the public using the facility as a fenced dog off-leash park were raised by the club. Signs reminding people to clean up after their dog or providing dog litter bags will encourage dog owners to take more care. If this continues, dogs can be prohibited from the Park, with fines applied.

At the time of developing this Strategy, expressions of interest were called for the future development of the Mackay Park precinct, which includes the Batemans Bay Aquatic Centre, mini golf facility and former bowls facility. While Mackay Park (sports park) will remain open space, the future of the other surrounding uses remains unknown.

Hanging Rock Sporting Complex is Eurobodalla's premier sporting facility and is the home for a large range of sporting codes and hobby groups. However, there is a growing concern by clubs, that the level of field maintenance and supporting infrastructure, such as clubhouses and amenity buildings, is not equal among sporting codes (nor reflective of the Complex's regional status). The north-east fields, currently used by football, are run down and need resurfacing. The club currently fills holes with sand before each game to minimise potential injuries. The amenity blocks at the fields are in very poor condition and need significant upgrading or replacement.

The Batemans Bay Tennis Club hosts an annual Tennis Open and has twelve courts that meet current and predicted demand for public hire and competition. The oval and fields in the southern section of the Hanging Rock Sporting Complex are in good condition and well-maintained. Consistent with many other sports parks around Eurobodalla, a main concern for all clubs at the Complex was the lack of storage and ancillary facilities, particularly spectator seating.

The far eastern side of the Complex is currently used by a local remote control car club. With growing membership numbers, particularly families, the site is significantly lacking an amenity building. Engagement with the club would ensure that any new building could also act as a 'driver's deck' for racing. There is potential for Council to investigate modular structures, that are easy to design, cost effective and can be relocated if/when the club moves.

Further highlighting the importance of this regional-level facility, the Complex includes a marine rescue facility, quality boat ramp (and significant car and trailer parking) and a sailing club.

The 2013 Hanging Rock Sporting Complex master plan will need to be reviewed pending the outcome of the Mackay Park precinct planning exercise.



Rugby action at Hanging Rock Sporting Complex



## Activities and experiences

The Batemans Bay Cycleway is well used by people of all ages. Throughout the day, people and families can be seen walking, cycling, running or riding mobility scooters along the cycleway. Stretching from Corrigans Beach Reserve to Surfside, the cycleway acts as a linear recreation park, connecting other parcels of open space and land uses along the way. With older adults and families regularly using the cycleway, it is important that rest stops are provided. The lack of lighting along the cycleway is also a concern.

As the majority of recreation parks and the cycleway are located along the foreshore, improved access from residential areas will be met by a footpath network proposed in the Eurobodalla Pathway Strategy.

Many of the residents in Batemans Bay and Catalina were concerned about the lack of low cost/free activities available for youth. The popularity of the BMX park and skate park in Batemans Bay and Catalina creates an opportunity for Council to conduct additional programs/activities specifically targeted at youth. Local competitions/events and come and try days are great ways to draw talented youth and introduce the sports/activities to new people. Running programs at these locations that encourage inter generation social cohesion can eliminate the stereotype the elderly and youth can perceive of each other. An example could be a morning at the skate park for children under 6 years old, followed by morning tea and reading with seniors at the Batemans Bay Library.

Like other areas around Eurobodalla, the community halls in Batemans Bay and Catalina are not being used to their full capacity. As mentioned previously, Council needs to change the perception that community halls are for older adults. Many of the sporting clubs state that they do not have clubhouses sufficient enough to hold meetings. Council could encourage these groups to use community buildings as an alternative. The facility at Hanging Rock Sporting Complex is another building under used. There is a perception that the facility is owned by the resident clubs. Many community members are unaware that it can be hired out for functions and events.

Opportunity exists to expand the basketball stadium at the Hanging Rock Sports Complex to provide a venue suitable for hosting multi-sport activities and events.

Batemans Bay Cycleway



## Batemans Bay and Catalina priority actions

### Priority action: create recreation parks with quality supporting infrastructure

There is a current deficiency of recreation parks in the area. However, residents would prefer to see the existing parks upgraded to a higher standard

M26 - Upgrade the play at [Rotary Park, Batemans Bay](#) to a local recreation standard.

M8 - Extend the skate park at [Hanging Rock Sporting Complex, Batemans Bay](#) to include an area for younger and less experienced riders.

M8 - Increase the usage capacity of the skate park at [Hanging Rock Sporting Complex, Batemans Bay](#) by:

- » lighting the skate park
- » adding more picnic tables, seats and water bubbler
- » erecting shade structures.

### Priority action: connecting cycleways and footpaths

Walking is the one of the most popular activities for residents. New footpaths and shared paths are proposed for the area

C21 - Ensure new and/or upgrades to footpaths and shared paths include supporting infrastructure such as seating, water bubblers, shade and lighting.

### Priority action: improve usage capacity and user satisfaction of sports parks

The level of satisfaction and maintenance of the sports parks varies between users. Upgrades range from minor to major, however, the once completed will increase the usage capacity of the facility and sustainability of clubs

C11 - Ensure [Mackay Park, Batemans Bay](#) remains open to the public when not in use by sporting clubs.

M1 - Review the [Hanging Rock Sports Complex](#) master plan once the [Mackay Park precinct](#) planning exercise has been completed.

M25 - Depending on master plan outcomes, upgrade various facilities at the [Hanging Rock Sporting Complex, Batemans Bay](#), these may include:

- » the north-east fields to a regional quality
- » amenity block adjacent to the north east fields
- » install a power supply to the existing remote control car club viewing platform
- » install bench seats, spectator facilities and shade structures around the site
- » investigating expansion of the basketball stadium.

### Priority action: activation of open space

There are limited activities available for the youth and seniors in the area

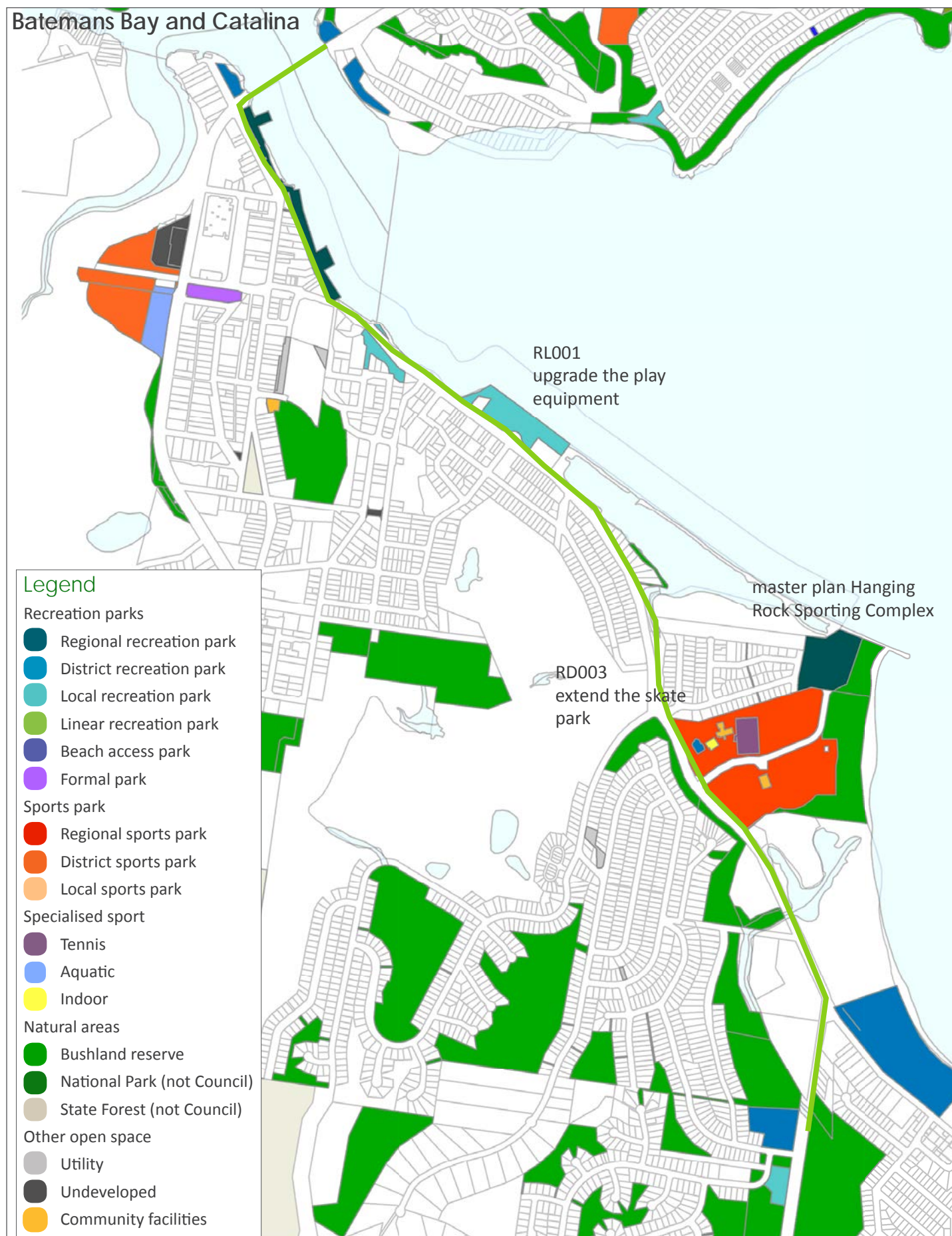
C12 - Continue to conduct come and try days for the youth and families to try BMX riding at the [BMX Park, Catalina](#).

C16 - Investigate the feasibility of running additional skateboard/scooter events at the [Hanging Rock Sports Complex skate park](#).

C17 - Investigate inter-generation activities within the [Hanging Rock Sporting Complex](#). The close proximity of the Batemans Bay library and sporting ovals and skate park create opportunities for mixed age activities.



# Future open space network



# Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach



Located directly south of the Batemans Bay and Catalina planning area the Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach area is the most populated district in Eurobodalla. This area has a current population of 5,661 people.

Consistent with other districts in Eurobodalla, the residents in the Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach area are ageing. Almost half of the population was aged of 55 years and above at the last census (2016). This is expected to increase to just under 50% by 2036.

As the population ages, the community will be looking for further informal, low impact recreation activities to participate in and the appropriate infrastructure that support this, such as more bench seating, shade, water bubblers, smooth wide pathways and all access beaches. However, access to formalised sport and informal play opportunities in the area will continue to be important given the stable number of youth and the growing trend of grandparents becoming part-time carers.

Like many other districts in Eurobodalla, the Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach area is a popular holiday destination. During weekends and peak holiday periods, the population can significantly increase due to the large number of holiday parks, tourist villages and unoccupied private dwellings (32.6%) in the area.

Council has developed and promoted Batehaven as the 'all access' holiday destination. Corrigans Beach Reserve is the only inclusive playground in Eurobodalla. Picnic facilities, amenities and traffic signals at nearby lights, have also been retrofitted for all abilities.

## Snapshot

Current population (2016)	5,661
0 - 14 years	13.3%
15 - 24 years	8.7%
25 - 34 years	7.0%
35 - 44 years	8.8%
45 - 54 years	11.9%
55 - 64 years	15.6%
65 years and over	34.3%
Median age (2016)	51
Future population (2036)	6,506
Households with children	26.8%
Unoccupied private dwellings	32.6%
Do not have a motor vehicle	5.2%



# Open space in Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach

## Current supply

Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach has 80.74ha of open space. Recreation and sport parks account for 23% of the total network. The majority of open space is bushland reserves (75.9%).

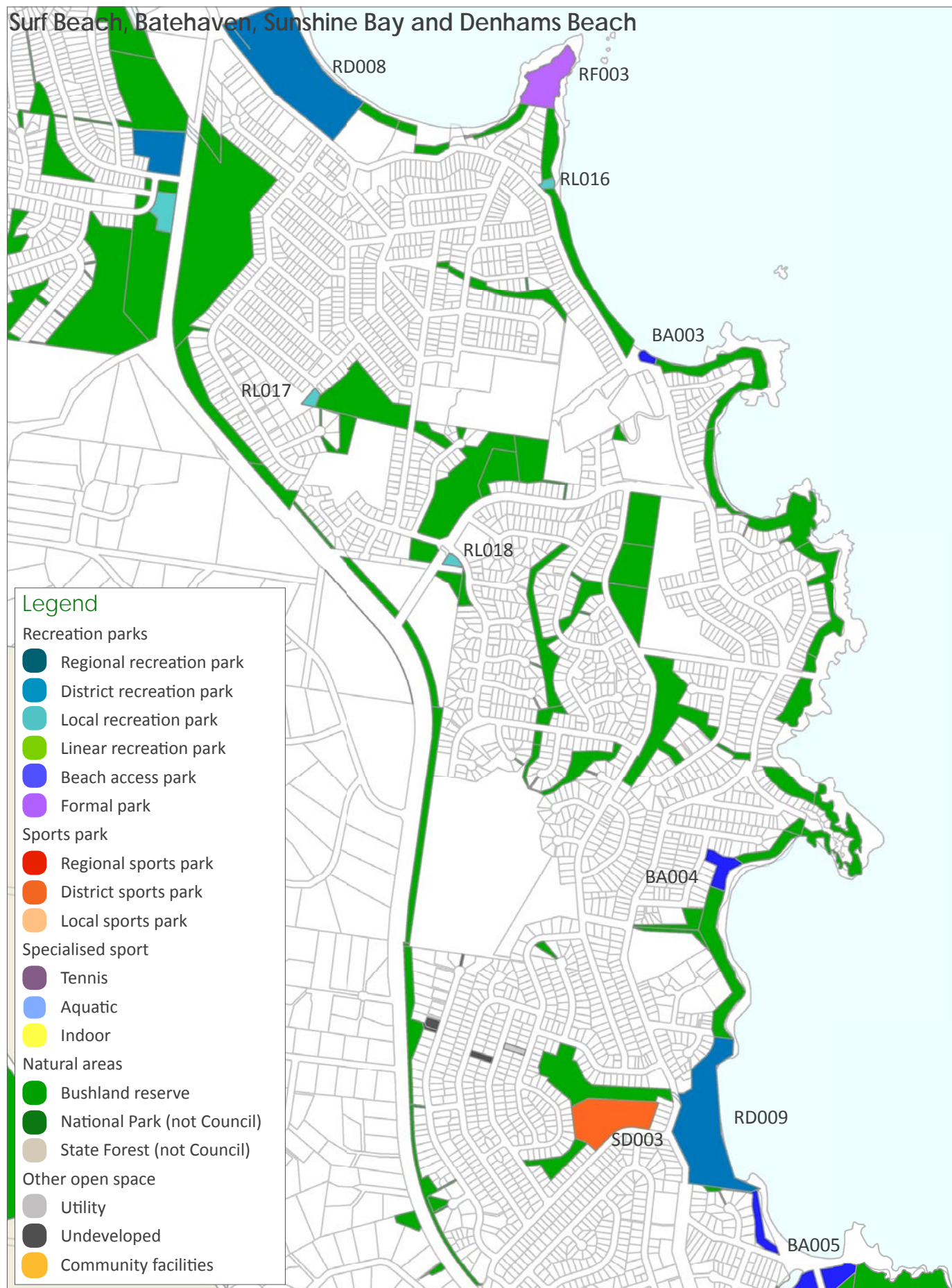
Type of open space	ha	% of current network
» Recreation parks	16.14	19.98
— local recreation park	0.54	0.67
— district recreation park	11.82	14.63
— beach access park	2.26	2.80
— formal recreation park	1.51	1.88
» Sports park (district)	2.47	3.06
» Bushland reserves	63.49	78.63
» Undeveloped open space	0.44	0.54
» Utility open space	0.11	0.14

Table 22. Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach open space supply

Table 23. Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach open space type

ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Ownership
Recreation parks			
RL016	Caseys Beach North Reserve	Local	Community
RL017	Paul Place Reserve	Local	Community
RL018	James Dean Reserve	Local	Community
RD008	Corrigans Beach Reserve	District	Community
RD009	Surf Beach Reserve	District	Community
RF003	Batehaven Observation Point Reserve	Formal	Crown Reserve under Council control
BA003	Caseys Beach Park and boat ramp	Beach access	Community
BA004	Denhams Beach Reserve	Beach access	Community
BA005	Wimbie Beach Reserve	Beach access	Community
Sports parks			
SD003	Pony Club Reserve	District	Community

## Current open space network



## Access to experiences

The open space network in the Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach area offers a number of experiences and activities for residents and visitors. Creating supportive environments for these activities and experiences is also an important ingredient to facilitating increased use and value of the open space network.

The following experiences are provided in the Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach area.

Table 24. Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach experiences

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities		Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps	●	Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails	
	Beach access points	●		Mountain biking	
	Jetties			Fishing facilities	●
	Floating pontoon (canoe/kayak launching facility)			Snorkelling area	●
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●	Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	●
	Natural areas	●		Table, seats and shade	●
	Waterways	●		BBQ facilities (gas)	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookouts	●	Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Shaded seating areas	●		Young children	●
	Formal/structured gardens			Youth	
Comfort	Public toilets	●	Sport	Fields/ovals (Council)	
	Outdoor showers	●		Fields/ovals (schools)	●
Dog friendly areas	Off-leash	●	Activities	Community garden	
	On-leash			Skate park	
	Time share	●		BMX track	
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire	●		Outdoor fitness equipment	
	Cafes	●	Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
Indoor recreation/community meetings	Community hall			Shared paths/cycleways	●
				Bicycle parking	●
			Community or major events	Open space for markets	●
				Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	

Despite being the most populated area in Eurobodalla, the variety of experiences offered in the Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach area are limited, especially compared to other areas in Eurobodalla. Residents, however, do have access to a number of beaches that offer informal play and leisure and water-based experiences/activities.

Although the area has no amphitheatre/gazebo/stage, Corrigans Beach Reserve is the location for the annual carnival, markets, triathlon, circuses and other community events throughout the year.

## Use and values

Just over a third of residents that completed the community survey visited the open space network more than twice a week.

Located along the coast, the most popular type of open space to visit was the beach (88.9%). Other popular open space included:

- » local footpaths 58.3%
- » swimming pool and park 55.6%
- » at home and coastal reserves/foreshore 52.8%
- » along the river 50.0%
- » bushwalking tracks 47.2%.

The top five activities that respondents participated in while visiting the open space include:

1. walking 75.0%
2. swimming 66.7%
3. bushwalking 50.0%
4. gardening 41.7%
5. playing in the park 38.9%.

Many respondents valued the views that the open space provided over the ocean/river/lake and the natural setting. Interestingly, many stated that they valued that they were close to their home, yet 73% of respondents drive to open space. Other valued attributes included:

- » they provide a place to exercise
- » they provide a place to unwind/rest and relax
- » the interaction with nature.

A quarter of respondents indicated that there were no barriers to using open space. Those that did experience barriers, noted that maintenance and cleanliness was a concern. The limited range of sporting and play experiences was also a concern for a third of respondents.

Other barriers were:

- » lack of public toilets
- » limited places to take their dog
- » over crowding.

Residents were also asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and sporting opportunities in Eurobodalla.

Table 25. Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach quality of recreation and sport opportunities

	Great	Good	Poor
Aquatic facilities	5.4%	13.5%	75.7%
Cycle and walkways	11.1%	55.7%	19.4%
Sportsfields	14.3%	53.6%	5.7%
Playgrounds	14.3%	71.4%	11.4%
Skate parks	11.8%	55.3%	8.8%
BMX Tracks	11.8%	53.5%	0.0%
Foreshore parks / beach access	22.2%	53.4%	8.3%
Natural bushland parks	31.4%	54.3%	5.7%
Indoor sport and recreation centres	2.9%	26.5%	41.2%
Places to relax and socialise	20.6%	50.0%	26.5%
Community halls/centres	8.6%	37.1%	31.4%
Activities for youth	2.9%	17.6%	55.9%
Activities for seniors	8.8%	35.3%	17.6%
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	8.3%	30.6%	38.9%

When residents were asked their opinion on what the top three open space priorities should be over the next ten years, an indoor aquatic facility was consistently mentioned. Other top priorities include:

- » improved facilities at beach and foreshore areas
- » new/upgraded cycle and walking paths
- » improved pedestrian /cyclist connections between open space
- » increasing supporting facilities including car parking and amenities.



# Analysis of recreation and open space

## Land for recreation open space

From a standards perspective, the Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach area is well supplied with recreation open space. However, with approximately 600 people relocating to the area by 2036, the DSS suggests that an additional 2ha of recreation open space will be required.

It is important to note that the area is a popular holiday destination and community engagement identified that a number of parks, particularly beach access parks, can become very over crowded in peak holiday periods. The area lacks a variety of play experiences and supporting infrastructure at key/popular parks. The master plan and impending play developments at Corrigans Beach Reserve will assist to meet this demand.

Corrigans Beach Reserve is easily accessible from the north by bicycle along the Batemans Bay Cycleway. While the cycleway does not currently extend south of Corrigans Beach Reserve, a network of footpaths (existing and new) are proposed linking Batehaven with Observation Point, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach.

## Land for sporting facilities

The Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach area only has one sports park. However, the park is used for equestrian purposes and is developed more as a recreation park than a sports park. Even when the Pony Club Reserve is considered in the open space analysis, the area is under supplied in land for sports parks, approximately 4ha.

Within a 15 minutes drive, north and south, residents have access to three quality sports parks:

- » Hanging Rock Sporting Complex, Batemans Bay
- » Mackay Park, Batemans Bay
- » Captain Oldrey Oval, Broulee.

With 72.9% of survey respondents already using the car as the main mode of transport to an open space and two thirds willing to drive 15 minutes or more to a quality sporting facility, it is not recommend that Council develop or purchase land to meet this (standard indicated) demand. Upgrades such as the extra field and netball courts at Captain Oldrey Oval and enhanced field maintenance at Hanging Rock Sporting Complex will accommodate the needs of Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach residents.



## Activities and experiences

Popular activities like swimming and walking are well supported with numerous access points to the beach through the foreshore bushland reserves. However, compared to other areas in Eurobodalla, the supporting facilities such as amenity blocks, outdoor showers, viewing platforms, seating, picnic shelters and car parking are not as prevalent. The beaches in the area often experience overcrowding and a lack of car parking during peak holiday periods and weekends during the warmer months.

With limited areas for expansion, simply improvements to the supporting infrastructure (tables, bench seats, showers) is required to meet demand. Formalising the car parks at some of the beach access parks will create a more organised parking arrangement, and in some cases, improve parking capacity.

Connectivity around the area was identified as an issue during community engagement. While the northern section of the area has a quality shared pathway to Corrigans Beach Reserve, footpaths service the remaining area. With walking and recreation cycling being two popular activities in the area, the footpaths can become overcrowded and dangerous, especially during peak holiday periods. It is recommended that the existing footpath along Beach Road is widened to accommodate high pedestrian and cyclist traffic.

There are snorkelling opportunities off Sunshine Bay, ideal for families. Corrigans Beach is also a popular canoe/kayak launching site for those keen to explore the Batemans Bay Marine Park. Although Council's tourism unit produces an information pamphlet available that highlights the best snorkelling areas and canoe/kayak launching sites around Eurobodalla, there is limited signage to indicate where these locations actually are. As a popular holiday destination, it is important visitors (and residents) feel comfortable and informed when exploring the area.

## Community Halls

There is currently no Council owned and/or managed community halls/buildings in the Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach area. With a number of community halls within a 15 minutes drive, north and south, of the area not being used to capacity, there is no demand to develop one in the area.

To ensure residents have access to the surrounding community halls/buildings, Council could work in partnership with the local public transport providers to ensure buses from the Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach area provide connections to the community halls/buildings in Malua Bay, Batemans Bay and, potentially, Tomakin and Broulee.



Denhams Beach Reserve, Denhams Beach



Existing shared path at Corrigans Beach Reserve, Batehaven

## Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach priority actions

### Priority action: create recreation parks with quality supporting infrastructure

There is a current deficiency of recreation parks in the area. However, residents would prefer to see the existing parks upgraded to a better standard

M27 - Upgrade [Corrigans Beach Reserve, Batehaven](#) in line with the master plan.

M28 - Upgrade ancillary facilities at [Wimbie Beach Reserve, Surf Beach](#) to include:

- » formalised car park
- » bench seats
- » picnic tables
- » outdoor showers.

There is no need for an amenity building as toilets are located at Surf Beach Reserve, 650m to the north.

M29 - Improve the picnic facilities at [Batehaven Observation Point Reserve, Batehaven](#). Formalise a section of the Reserve as a dedicated picnic area by adding:

- » picnic tables
- » bench seats at key viewing points.

### Priority action: connecting cycleways and footpaths

Walking is the most popular activity for residents. New footpaths and shared paths are proposed for the area

C21 - Ensure new and/or upgrades to footpaths and shared paths include supporting infrastructure such as seating, water bubblers, shade and lighting.

### Priority action: improved wayfinding network

There is a lack of informative and directional signage around the area

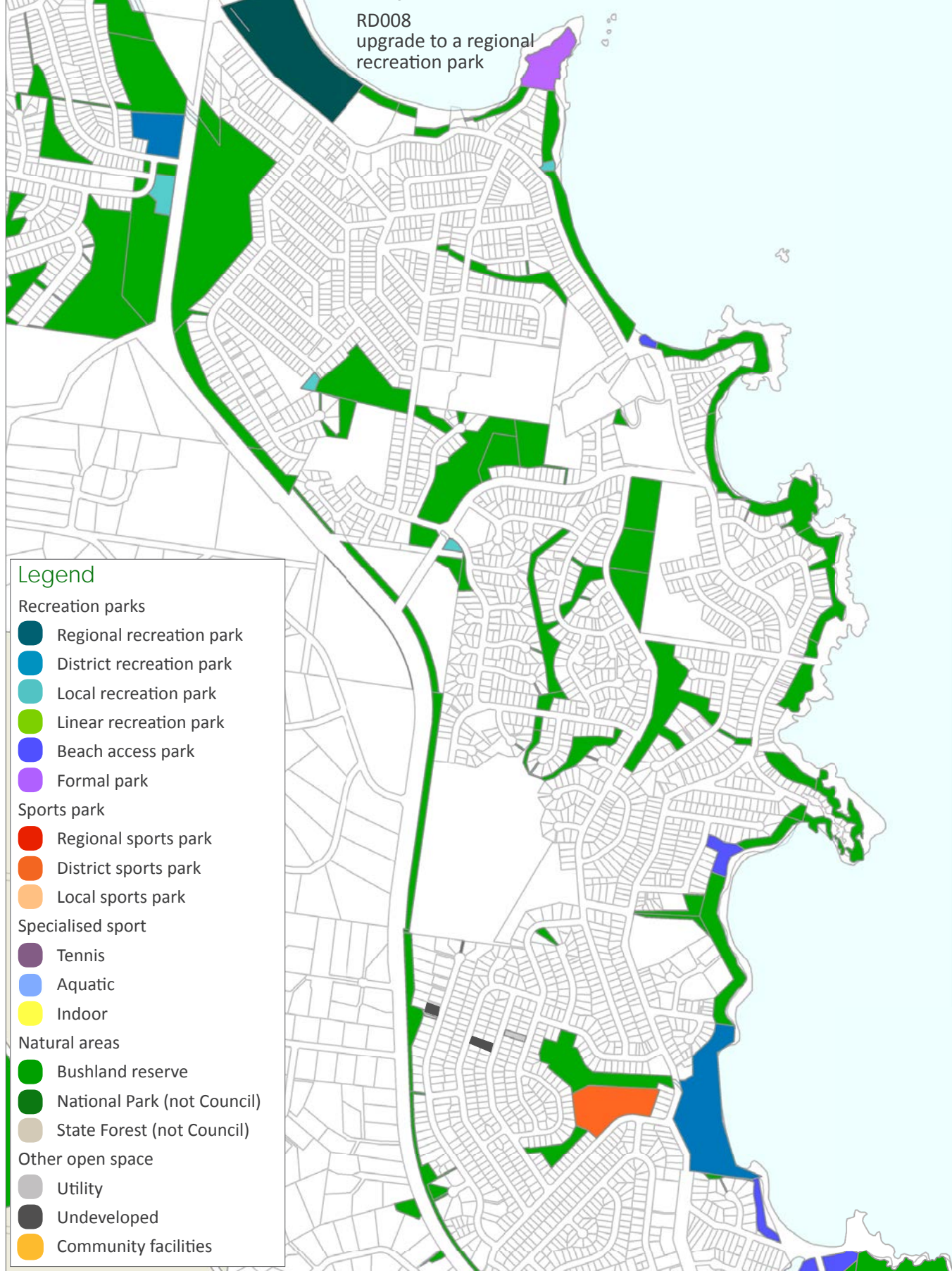
C22 - Install directional and information signage along Beach Road and at key points of interest, such as snorkelling at Sunshine Bay. The information signage is to include:

- » key fishing areas
- » beach access points
- » public toilets
- » lookouts
- » canoe/kayak launching spots
- » sporting facilities.



## Future open space network

### Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach





# Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay



The Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay area is comprised of four coastal villages. With a current population of 2,587, 85% live in the two main villages of Lilli Pilli and Malua Bay. Rosedale is a small coastal village with a population of approximately 200 people. With 50% of the homes in the village unoccupied, Rosedale's population increases markedly in peak holiday periods. The patrolled beach at Malua Bay is also a popular destination for day trippers and visitors.

Guerilla Bay is a sheltered and picturesque bay, well known for its unique rock formations dating back more than 500 million years. Residents are surrounded by bushland reserves and within walking distance of Burri Point Reserve.

With a median age of 52, the dominant household makeup of the area is couples without dependants (62.7%). This is expected to increase between 2016 and 2036.

The area is expected to accommodate 28% of the northern planning precinct's growth over the next 20 years with an additional 1,038 people predicted to reside in the area by 2036. More than one third will be aged 65 years and over. Although the proportion of youth in the area is decreasing, there will be an additional 844 people aged under 14 years in the area. The majority of growth will occur in Rosedale, Malua Bay and Lilli Pilli and a new local park (with amenities, car parking and utilities) is likely to be required in this growth area. Once development is underway, community consultation should be undertaken as part of the planning process.

The recreation opportunities in the area will vary depending on locality. Facilities in the northern section of the area, particularly, Malua Bay, need to be aimed more towards young families and be more play focused. While those in Rosedale and Guerilla Bay will be orientated around low impact.

## Snapshot

Current population (2016)	2,587
0 - 14 years	15.3%
15 - 24 years	8.4%
25 - 34 years	6.5%
35 - 44 years	10.3%
45 - 54 years	12.5%
55 - 64 years	16.7%
65 years and over	30.4%
Median age (2016)	52
Future population (2036)	3,625
Households with children	27.8%
Unoccupied private dwellings	48.0%
Do not have a motor vehicle	2.0%

# Open space in Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay

## Current open space supply

Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay area has 168.74ha of open space. Recreation parks account for 6% of the total network. There are no sports parks in the area (although there is a tennis facility (specialised sport) at Malua Bay). The majority of open space is bushland reserves (87.14%).

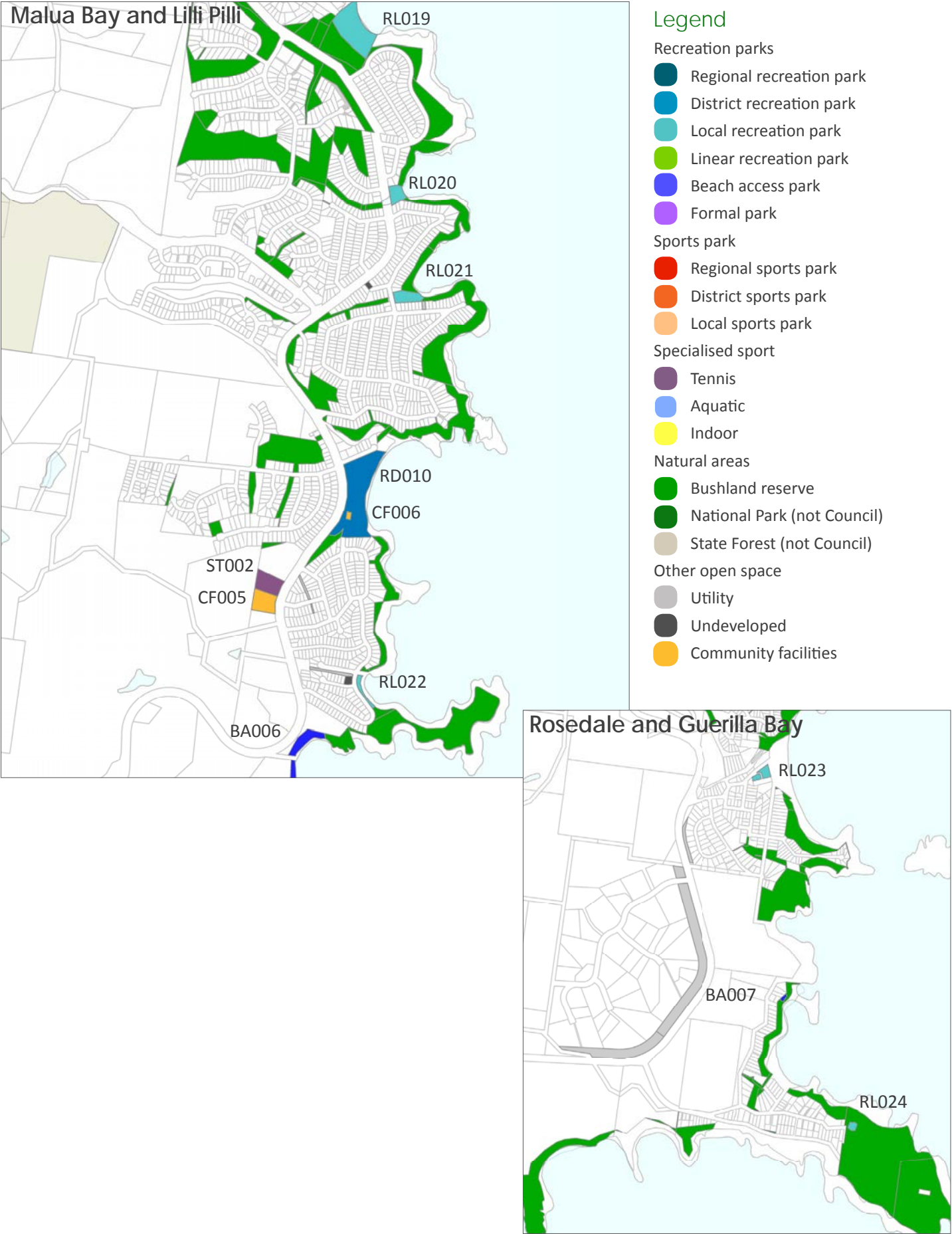
Type of open space	ha	% of current network
» Recreation parks	10.28	6.09
– local recreation park	4.39	2.60
– district recreation park	4.27	2.53
– beach access park	1.62	0.96
» Bushland reserves	148.53	88.02
» Specialised sport (tennis)	0.94	0.56
» Community hall	0.93	0.55
» Undeveloped open space	0.19	0.11
» Utility open space	7.78	4.66

Table 26. Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay open space supply

Table 27. Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay open space type

ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Ownership
Recreation parks			
RL019	Lilli Pilli Beach Reserve	Local	Community
RL020	Mosquito Bay Reserve	Local	Community
RL021	Garden Bay Reserve	Local	Community
RL022	Pretty Point Headland Reserve	Local	Community
RL023	Rosedale Parade Reserve	Local	Community
RL024	Burri Point Reserve	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RD010	Malua Bay Main Beach Reserve	District	Community
BA006	McKenzies Beach Reserve	Beach access	Community
BA007	Beach Parade Reserve	Beach access	Community
Other			
ST002	Malua Bay Tennis Courts	Tennis	Operational
CF005	Malua Bay Community Centre	Community hall	Community
CF006	Batemans Bay Surf Life Saving Club	Community hall	Community

# Current and future open space network



## Access to experiences

The open space network in the Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay area offers a number of experiences and activities for residents and visitors. Creating supportive environments for these activities and experiences is also an important ingredient to facilitating increased use and value of the open space network.

The following experiences are provided in the Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay area.

Table 28. Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay experiences

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps	●
	Beach access points	●
	Jetties	
	Floating pontoon (canoe/ kayak launching facility)	
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Natural areas	●
	Waterways	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookouts	●
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	
Comfort	Public toilets	●
	Outdoor showers	●
Dog friendly areas	Off-leash	●
	On-leash	●
	Time share	●
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire	●
	Cafes	●
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community hall	●

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails	●
	Mountain biking	
	Fishing facilities	●
	Snorkelling area	●
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	●
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (gas)	●
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	
Sport	Fields/ovals (Council)	
	Fields/ovals (schools)	
Activities	Community garden	
	Skate park	
	BMX track	
	Outdoor fitness equipment	
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	●
	Bicycle parking	●
Community or major events	Open space for markets	
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	

There are a number of activities and experiences available in Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay. The beaches are a main attraction and function as the area's recreation parks. Many are embellished simply and include a simple swing set and picnic tables. Malua Bay Community Reserve is the main playground in the area, but often becomes overcrowded on weekends and during holiday periods.

There are no Council owned/managed sports parks in the area. A tennis facility is available in Malua Bay and forms part of a community precinct with the Malua Bay Community Centre.

Outdoor recreation activities such as bushwalking, canoe/kayaking and snorkelling are available in Guerilla Bay. A Burri Point headland walk along the coastline is being formalised and signposted.



## Use and values

With Coastal villages entwined with bushland reserves, it is no surprise residents that completed the community survey valued the natural setting of the open space network, the views they provide to the ocean and how it allowed them to interact with the natural environment. Others valued that the network was close to their homes or were proud to show/take visitors.

With approximately 98% of respondents visiting the open space at least once a fortnight, many preferred to visit and recreate at the beach or along local footpaths. Other popular locations included:

- » bushland
- » bushwalking tracks
- » at home.

Interestingly, walking was identified as the most popular recreation activity participated in by survey respondents, however, 68.8% used their car as the mode of transport to the open space. Apart from walking, the other popular activities include:

- » bushwalking
- » swimming
- » gardening.

With 98% of respondents visiting the open space network regularly, only 32.6% of respondents indicated no barriers to open space access. Similar to other areas in Eurobodalla, poorly maintained facilities was a concern. Others felt the network lacked variety, while the limited places to take one's dog was noted as an additional barrier.



Residents were also asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and sporting opportunities in Eurobodalla.

Table 29. Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay quality of recreation and sport opportunities

	Great	Good	Poor
Aquatic facilities	2.4%	26.8%	70.7%
Cycle and walkways	4.8%	73.8%	21.4%
Sportsfields	9.1%	81.8%	9.1%
Playgrounds	15.0%	75.0%	10.0%
Skate parks	13.3%	80.0%	6.7%
BMX Tracks	26.9%	69.2%	3.8%
Foreshore parks / beach access	21.3%	70.2%	8.5%
Natural bushland parks	31.1%	61.2%	6.7%
Indoor sport and recreation centres	3.0%	27.3%	69.7%
Places to relax and socialise	10.6%	72.3%	17.0%
Community halls/centres	6.9%	58.6%	34.5%
Activities for youth	0.0%	37.0%	63.0%
Activities for seniors	10.0%	65.0%	25.0%
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	3.6%	60.7%	35.7%

Residents living in the Malua Bay area are disappointed with the range of activities for youth. Consistent with much of Eurobodalla, the lack of an indoor recreation facility and aquatic centre is a concern among locals.

When residents were asked their opinion on what the top three open space priorities should be over the next ten years, a year-round indoor aquatic facility was consistently mentioned. Other top priorities include:

- » provision of places/facilities for young people
- » improved facilities as the beach and foreshore areas
- » new/upgraded walking and cycle paths
- » improved pedestrian cyclist connections between open spaces.

# Analysis of recreation and open space

## Land for recreation open space

Currently, the Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay villages are meeting demand for recreation open space. Due to population growth, by 2036 the area will have a deficiency of 5ha (using the DSS).

With many residents preferring to visit the beaches or recreating along the footpaths, it is not recommended that Council try to minimise this future deficiency by purchasing additional land.

With bushwalking, swimming and walking identified as the most popular activities participated in, it is recommended that Council focus its resources around upgrading the facilities that support these activities Council will allocate resources for utilities, public amenities and car parking to address the impacts of future development in this area..

### 1. Burri Point Reserve, Guerilla Bay

A popular location for bushwalking, the Burri Point headland walk along the coastline is being formalised and signposted. The installation of picnic tables will further activate the Reserve as a popular outdoor recreation location. The addition of a lookout (and suitable interpretive signage) that provides views back to the ancient cliffs would further educate residents and visitors about the natural history of Guerilla Bay. With these additions, the Reserve can be classified as a district recreation park. Any developments within the Reserve should involve Council's Sustainability team.

With 50% of the future growth over 65 years of age, the existing play opportunities will continue to meet demand. However, simple upgrades are required at Malua Bay Community Reserve. Upgrades to include:

- » shade over the play elements
- » covered gazebo for social gatherings
- » extra barbecues near the new gazebo.

## Land for sport open space

There is currently no formalised sports parks in the Malula Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay village. As such, the area is under supplied in sports land (4ha based on the DSS). However, with the majority of people moving to the area over the next 20 years aged 65 years or older, there will be little demand for formalised sports parks.

Captain Oldrey Oval (Broulee) is located approximately 10 minutes drive south of the planning area, and with half of the community survey respondents from the area indicating that they are prepared to travel 15 to 30 minutes to a sporting facility, there is no need to develop an additional sports park.

## Activities and experiences

Residents living in the area are well catered for, particularly those that like to participate in outdoor recreation activities.

The lack of signage, however, does not identify the natural assets or natural history of the area, especially at Guerilla Bay.

## Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay priority actions

### Priority action: upgrade existing recreation parks to meet future recreation needs

Population growth and tourism will place additional pressure on the existing facilities in the future

M31 - Upgrade the picnic facilities and provide shade structures and an outdoor gym at [Malua Bay Community Reserve, Malua Bay](#).

M32 - Upgrade [Burri Point Reserve, Guerilla Bay](#) to a district recreation park, with a focus on outdoor recreation activities. Additions to include:

- » trail heads
- » picnic facilities
- » lookout and interpretive signage.

### Priority action: connecting cycleways and footpaths

Walking is the most popular activity residents participate in. New footpaths and shared paths are proposed for the area

C21 - Ensure new and/or upgrades to footpaths and shared paths include supporting infrastructure such as seating, water bubblers, shade and lighting.

### Priority action: redistribution of assets

Sections of the open space network have no recreation or conservation value. Funds from the rationalisation of these assets can be reinvested back into the open space network

M30 - Rationalise [Lot 1110, DP236653](#), currently undeveloped open space. Investigate the sale of the land for residential purposes. Ensure funds from the sale are invested back into the open space network.

### Priority action: improved wayfinding network

There is a lack of informative and directional signage around the area.

C22 - Install directional and information signage along the coastal roads. Many of the recreation parks are 'hidden' off the road. The information signage is to include information such as:

- » key fishing areas
- » beach access points
- » public toilets
- » lookouts
- » canoe/kayak launching spots
- » sporting facilities.

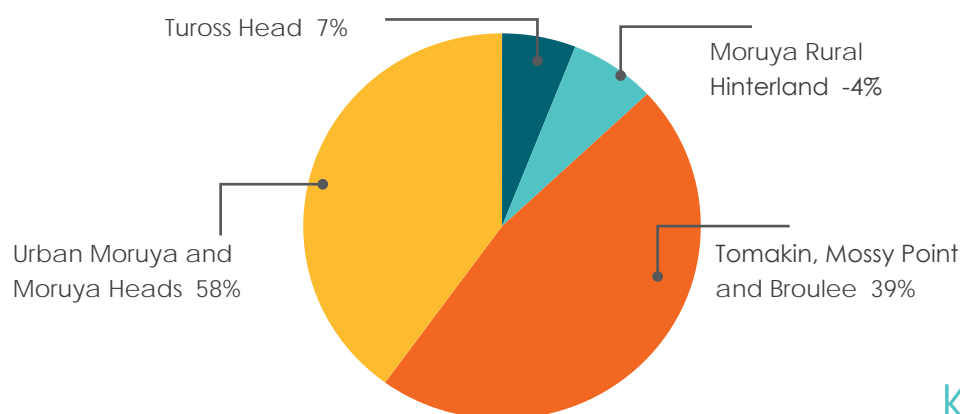
Beach Parade Reserve, Guerilla Bay



# Central Planning Precinct

11,974 — current population & 2036 population — 14,238

## Distribution of total precinct growth



## Key open space

- » Broulee Cycleway/Beach Reserve
- » Captain Oldrey Park
- » Gundry Oval
- » Riverside Park
- » Moruya Showgrounds

## Top 5<sup>1</sup>...

### recreation activities

1. walking
2. swimming
3. bushwalking
4. fishing
5. recreation cycling

### open spaces to visit

1. beach
2. along the river
3. local footpaths
4. cycle paths
5. coastal reserves and foreshores

### open space values

1. the natural setting
2. they are close to my home
3. the views they provide to the ocean/river/lake
4. the interaction with the natural environment
5. the provide me with a place to exercise

### barriers to open space

1. no barriers
2. they are poorly maintained
3. there is a lack of toilets
4. I can't take my dog
5. lack of public transport

<sup>1</sup> From the community survey results undertaken as part of the Strategy



# Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee area



Located at the northern end of the Central Precinct, coastal villages Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee are surrounded by a variety of natural environments, including:

- » Tomaga River
- » Candlagan Creek
- » Broulee Island Nature Reserve
- » beaches.

The natural environment, open space and complementing infrastructure (boat ramps and cycleways) around the area, create numerous opportunities for formal and informal recreation experiences and activities for residents and visitors. The community hall at Tomakin also offers an indoor venue for recreation activities and social meetings/functions.

Currently, 3,250 people live in the Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee area, over half (57.1%) are aged 45 years and older. Despite less than a quarter of the population being under 18 years of age, there is a large presence of youth due to the three schools. Carroll College and St Peter's Anglican College attract students from across Eurobodalla.

## Snapshot

Current population (2016)	3,250
0 - 14 years	15.9%
15 - 24 years	8.6%
25 - 34 years	6.3%
35 - 44 years	10.0%
45 - 54 years	12.5%
55 - 64 years	16.6%
65 years and over	30.2%
Median age (2016)	52
Future population (2036)	4,140
Households with children	29.5%
Unoccupied private dwellings	39.1%
Do not have a motor vehicle	3.5%

The area is a popular holiday and/or day trip destination (particularly Broulee). With approximately 45% of the area's private dwellings unoccupied (potentially being used as holiday rentals and/or weekend homes) and various types of holiday accommodation available, the population peaks during holiday periods and long weekends. This places significant pressure on the existing open space network and facilities.

By 2036, the population of Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee is expected to increase to 4,140. A third (1,517 people) will be aged 65 years and over. As the population ages, the community will be looking for further informal, low impact recreation activities to participate in and the appropriate infrastructure that supports this, such as more bench seating, shade, water bubblers, smooth and wide pathways, and all-access beach and jetty areas.

There are limited increases in youth population projected. However, access to formalised sport and informal play opportunities in the area will continue to be important, especially due to the growing trend of grandparents becoming part-time carers and the impact from the three nearby schools.

# Open space in Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee

## Current open space supply

The area has 124.75ha of open space, of which, 19.67ha is considered recreation and sport open space.

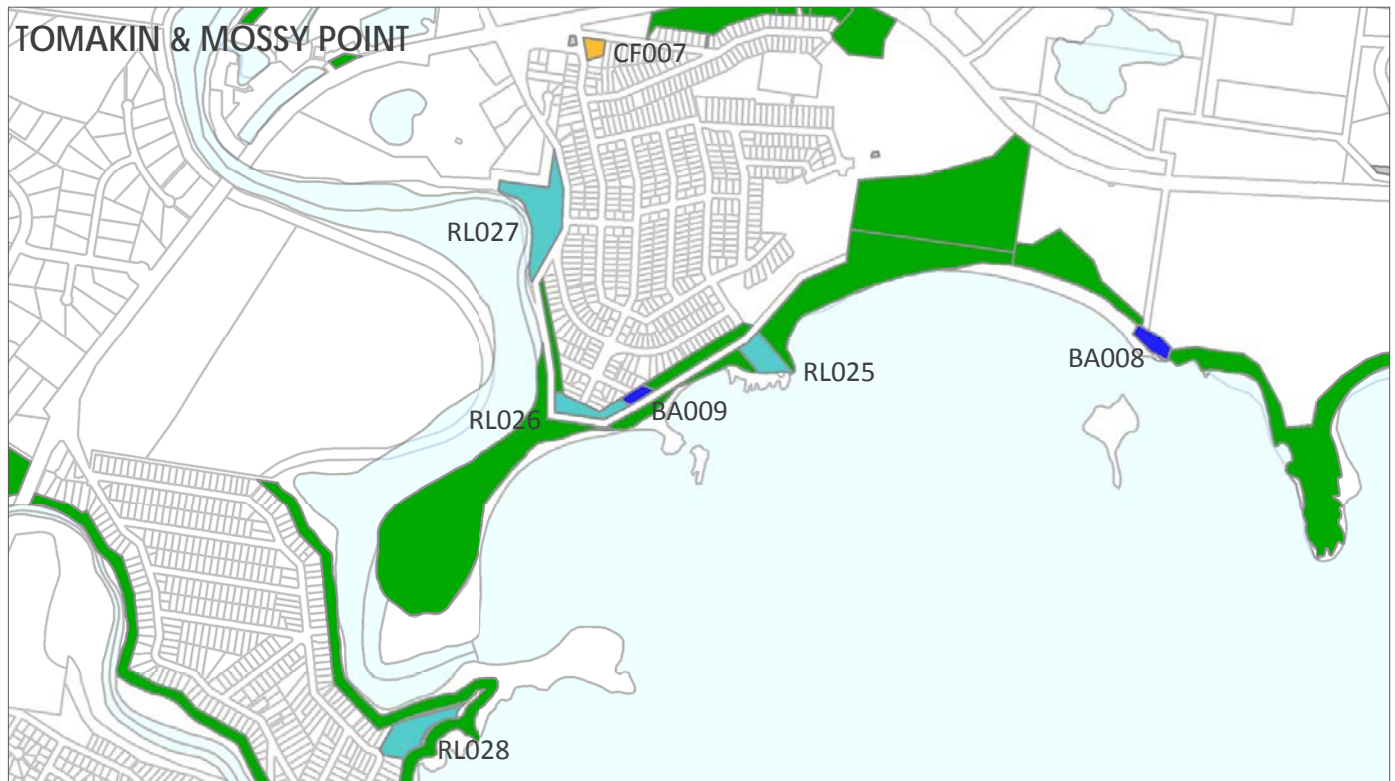
Type of open space	ha	% of current network
» Recreation parks	12.67	10.16
– local recreation parks	7.66	6.14
– linear recreation park	4.64	3.72
– beach access	0.37	0.29
» Sports park (district)	7.37	5.90
» Specialised sport	0.14	0.11
» Bushland reserves	103.99	83.36
» Community facility	0.30	0.24
» Undeveloped open space	0.11	0.09
» Utility open space	0.18	0.14

Table 30. Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee open space supply

Table 31. Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee open space type

ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Ownership
Recreation parks			
RL027	Jack Buckley Park	Local	Council
RL025	Melville Point Reserve	Local	Council
RL026	Kingston Place Reserve and Boat ramp	Local	Council
RL028	Mossy Point Anchor Reserve	Local	Council
RL029	Candlagan Creek Reserve	Local	Council
RL030	Heath Street Reserve and viewing platform	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
Rln003	Broulee Cycleway/Beach Reserve	Linear	Crown Reserve under Council control
BA008	Barlings Beach Reserve	Beach access	Crown Reserve under Council control
BA009	Kingston Place Reserve	Beach access	Crown Reserve under Council control
BA010	North Broulee Beach Access	Beach access	Crown Reserve under Council control
BA011	Harbour Drive Reserve	Beach access	Crown Reserve under Council control
Sports parks			
SD004	Captain Oldrey Park	District	Council
Other			
ST003	Broulee Tennis Courts	Tennis	Crown Reserve under Council control
CF007	Tomakin Community Hall	Community Hall	Council
CF018	Broulee Surf Life Saving Club	Community Hall	Crown Reserve under Council control

## Current open space network



### Legend

#### Recreation parks

- Regional recreation park
- District recreation park
- Local recreation park
- Linear recreation park
- Beach access park
- Formal park

#### Sports park

- Regional sports park
- District sports park
- Local sports park

#### Specialised sport

- Tennis
- Aquatic
- Indoor

#### Natural areas

- Bushland reserve
- National Park (not Council)
- State Forest (not Council)

#### Other open space

- Utility
- Undeveloped
- Community facilities

## Access to experiences

The open space network in the Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee area offers a large variety of experiences and activities for residents and visitors.

The following experiences are provided in the Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee area.

Table 32. Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee experiences

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps	●
	Beach access points	●
	Jetties	●
	Floating pontoon (canoe/ kayak launching facility)	
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Natural areas	●
	Waterways	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookouts	●
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	
Comfort	Public toilets	●
	Outdoor showers	●
Dog friendly areas	Off-leash	●
	On-leash	●
	Time share	●
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire	●
	Cafes	●
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community hall	●

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails	●
	Mountain biking	
	Fishing facilities	●
	Snorkelling area	●
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (gas)	
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	
Sport	Fields/ovals (Council)	●
	Fields/ovals (schools)	●
Activities	Community garden	
	Skate park	●
	BMX track	
	Outdoor fitness equipment	
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	●
	Bicycle parking	●
Community or major events	Open space for markets	●
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	

Despite the vast number of experiences offered in the area, there is a lack of picnic facilities that support an extended stay and/or group gathering. Located on the Tomaga River, Jack Buckley Park currently has a number of covered picnic tables, an ageing amenity block and basic playground. Its natural environment offers numerous opportunities for water-based recreation, access to nature and informal play experiences. Simple upgrades to the Park's play equipment and picnic facilities would make it an ideal and comfortable location for family and social gatherings and community events. Pedestrian and cycling connections to the Park would need to be investigated, as the Tomaga River separates Tomakin from Mossy Point and Broulee.

Inspections identified limited play opportunities for youth in the area, however, the experiences and activities available in the surrounding natural environment potentially counter-balance this deficiency.



## Use and values

Residents living in the Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee area are surrounded by 124.87ha of (Council-managed) open space, of which 96.8% is bushland reserves. In addition to the surrounding waterways, it is no surprise that residents in the area value the natural setting of the open space network and its proximity to their home the most (75.9%).

Other popular responses included:

- » they provide a place to exercise 63.8%
- » interaction with the natural environment 62.1%
- » they are a place to take visitors 53.4%.

All the residents that completed the survey visited the open spaces in the area at least once a fortnight - the majority visiting most days or more (81.7%). The five most popular open spaces to visit were:

1. the beach 88.3%
2. local footpaths and cycle paths 60.0%
3. along the rivers 58.3%
4. coastal reserves/foreshore 53.3%
5. bushwalking tracks 46.7%.

The top five activities that respondents participated in while visiting the open space include:

1. swimming 71.7%
2. walking and recreation cycling 68.3%
3. bushwalking 48.3%
4. canoe/kayaking 46.7%
5. surf sports 45.0%.

Despite all respondents visiting the open space locally, some experienced barriers to use. The most common barriers were:

- » lack of toilets
- » limited range of sporting facilities (majority of these comments are referring to the lack of an indoor aquatic centre)
- » maintenance of facilities
- » visitors can not take their dogs.

Importantly, one in three respondents indicated no barriers to open space access.

Residents were also asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and sporting opportunities in Eurobodalla.

Table 33. Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee quality of recreation and sport opportunities

	Great	Good	Poor
Aquatic facilities	12.5%	50.0%	37.5%
Cycle and walkways	15.3%	64.4%	20.3%
Sportsfields	19.6%	76.1%	4.3%
Playgrounds	21.2%	65.4%	13.5%
Skate parks	13.2%	71.1%	15.8%
BMX Tracks	20.0%	50.0%	30.0%
Foreshore parks / beach access	34.5%	56.9%	8.6%
Natural bushland parks	36.8%	52.6%	10.5%
Indoor sport and recreation centres	5.4%	32.4%	62.2%
Places to relax and socialise	25.9%	63.0%	11.1%
Community halls/centres	11.1%	71.1%	17.8%
Activities for youth	2.9%	47.1%	50.0%
Activities for seniors	17.6%	50.0%	32.4%
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	4.3%	53.2%	43.5%

It is important to note that there is no indoor sport and recreation centre in the Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee area. Therefore, it is difficult to establish whether the rating of 'poor' reflects that lack of a local facility (e.g. accessibility issue) or signifies limited quality of existing facilities across Eurobodalla.

When residents were asked their opinion on what the top three open space priorities should be over the next ten years, an indoor sport and recreation facility was consistently mentioned. Other top priorities include:

- » improved pedestrian/cyclist connections between open spaces
- » new/upgraded cycle and walking paths
- » improved facilities at beach and foreshore areas
- » new/upgraded playgrounds.

# Analysis of recreation and open space

## Land for recreation open space

The Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee area has approximately 12ha of recreation open space, a minimal surplus of 1ha (using the DSS). However, further analysis identifies that the area has a significant surplus of local recreation parks and a deficiency of district recreation parks (currently and through until 2036).

A popular holiday destination (particularly Broulee), it is acknowledged that the area's population has the potential to increase markedly in peak holiday periods.

Most of the local recreation parks in the area have maintained a 'natural' feel being relatively undeveloped, cleared parcels of land along the waterway with minimal embellishments. With residents valuing the natural setting of the area and the coastal reserves and foreshores (ranked 4th) being popular places to recreate, it is recommended that Council continue to manage and maintain the surplus of local recreation parks and not rationalise the excess.

It was identified throughout engagement and site inspections, that the area lacks a key destination park with picnic facilities to support large groups and extended stays. To meet the deficiency in district recreation parks, it is recommended that Council upgrade two existing local recreation parks to a district standard, creating two key destination parks. The two preferred local recreation parks are:

### 1. Heath Street Reserve, Broulee

Already a destination of sorts, the park lacks the supporting infrastructure for comfortable extended stays. Upgrades to include high quality picnic facilities (electric barbecues, covered picnic tables (grouped)) and a quality playground. This will improve casual surveillance of the existing skate bowl and half basketball court reducing inappropriate behaviour, vandalism and littering. Some of the natural vegetation will need to be cleared to accommodate this and necessary extra parking.

### 2. Jack Buckley Park, Tomakin

The Park currently has a number of covered picnic tables, an ageing amenity block and basic playground. Its natural environment offers numerous opportunities for water-based recreation, access to nature and informal play experiences. Simple upgrades to the Park's play equipment and picnic facilities would make it an ideal and comfortable location for family and social gatherings and community events. Pedestrian and cycling connections to the Park would need to be investigated, as the Tomaga River separates Tomakin from Mossy Point and Broulee.

### 3. Captain Oldrey Park, Broulee

Despite being a sports park, Captain Oldrey Park, also currently functions as a recreation park because of the shaded playground and netball courts that are used for riding bikes and scooters. In the master plan being developed for Captain Oldrey Park, there is land set aside to cater for sports that are new or growing in popularity or to aggregate a range of activities that maximise community use and long term viability of the facility. For example, the establishment of an enhanced wheeled action sport precinct (skate, scooter and BMX facility) could be discussed with the Broulee community. This may also help relieve some of the pressure on existing recreation parks during busy periods and meet future recreation open space needs. A popular location for junior sport and the Park's close proximity to Broulee Public School further supports the rationale to upgrade the Park to function as both a district sports and recreation park.

## Land for sporting facilities

The Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee area is well supplied with sporting facilities now and into the future. However, engagement with the sporting clubs that use Captain Oldrey Park identified that the facility was at capacity on game days (mainly Saturdays) and key training times (throughout the winter sporting season).

Vacant land (approximately 2.9ha) adjacent to Captain Oldrey Park is being considered for a variety of uses, including additional recreation space, as part of a master planning process and (subsequent) development process.

The clubhouse needs to be upgraded (reconfigured) to include more private change rooms and a separate toilet section that can be used by the local schools (during school hours) and casual/recreation users.

Home to the Eurobodalla Netball Association, additional courts are required to accommodate increasing netball memberships.

It is recommended that the following developments be included as part of a master plan:

- » develop a third field
- » upgrade the existing clubhouse
- » add spectator seating across the Park
- » add at least two extra netball courts
- » include a wheeled action sports precinct within the Park (ensure the location provides suitable passive surveillance).



Captain Oldrey Park, Broulee

## Activities and experiences

Popular activities such as swimming (ranked 1st) and surf sports (ranked 5th) are well supported with numerous access points to the beach through the foreshore bushland reserves. Additionally, facilities such as amenity blocks, outdoor showers, viewing platforms, seating, picnic shelters and car parking are provided. However, it is important to note that South Broulee Beach is the only patrolled beach in the area and often experiences overcrowding and lack of car parking during peak holiday periods and weekends during the warmer months.

The natural areas provide a significant opportunity to expand on the publicly accessible, informal and nature-based recreation opportunities for residents and visitors. As the population ages, access to these facilities will need to be 'all-access'.

Connectivity around the area was identified as an issue during engagement. Broulee has a quality shared pathway - the Broulee Cycleway stretching from the corner of Grant and McNee Streets (South Broulee) to North Broulee Beach Reserve along the foreshore. A footpath proposed in the Eurobodalla Pathway Strategy will link Broulee with Mossy Point.

Snorkelling at Tomakin, bushwalking tracks on Broulee Island and many other experiences and activities are available in the area. However, there is an overall lack of wayfinding signage to indicate where these activities are and/or how far to the next destination along the cycleway. As a popular holiday destination, it is important visitors (and residents) feel comfortable and informed when exploring the area. Signage to the Broulee tennis courts can also be improved.

## Community hall

Tomakin Hall is largely under utilised. It is used at approximately 5% of potential capacity for community activities such as craft, yoga, photography and support groups. The hall should continue to be promoted as a key activity centre - particularly for senior activities.

Captain Oldrey Community Hall is very rarely used other than by a local playgroup and incidental use by the existing sports clubs. The proposed upgrade at Captain Oldrey Park will see the substitution of under-utilised hall space for much needed sporting amenities.

## Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee priority actions

### Priority action: create a key destination park

There is a current district recreation park deficiency in the area and the open space network lacks a key destination park with picnic facilities to support large groups and extended stays

M36 - Upgrade [Jack Buckley Park, Tomakin](#) to a district recreation park (key destination park). Potential upgrades to include:

- » covered shelters with numerous tables (to cater for large groups in the one area)
- » barbecue facilities
- » amenity building (upgrade)
- » lighting
- » larger, more challenging play opportunities
- » natural shade.

M34 - Upgrade [Heath Street Reserve, Broulee](#) to a district recreation park (key destination park). Potential upgrades to include:

- » covered shelters with numerous tables (to cater for large groups in the one area)
- » barbecue facilities
- » amenity building
- » lighting
- » larger, more challenging play opportunities.

Investigate a partnership with Big4 Broulee Beach Holiday Park to assist with funding.

M37 - Add embellishments to [Captain Oldrey Park](#) to enable it to function both as a district sports park and a district recreation park. Embellishments to include:

- » include a wheeled action sports precinct within the Park (ensure the location enhances casual surveillance)
- » basic picnic facilities and bench seats.

### Priority action: improve capacity of existing facilities

A number of facilities in the area are under utilised and/or not being used to their full potential due to lack of space or design issues.

M37 - Develop a master plan for [Captain Oldrey Park](#). To ensure usage capacity is increased, the following developments should be included as part of the master plan:

- » develop a third field
- » add at least two extra netball courts
- » upgrade the existing clubhouse
- » add spectator seating across the Park
- » consider wheeled action sports elements.

M35 - Investigate ways to promote and activate the [Tomakin Community Hall](#) as a location for low impact recreation activities for seniors and social interaction.



Captain Oldrey Park, Broulee



**Priority action: connecting cycleways and footpaths**

Walking and recreation cycling are the second most popular activities residents participate in.

C21 - [Lot 37, DP718667](#) currently undeveloped open space. Formalise the existing desired line of travel with a footpath to connect through to Broulee Public School

M33 - [Lot 74, DP776541](#) currently utility open space. Divide the land and keep the section with utility infrastructure and investigate the sale of remaining land for residential purposes. Ensure funds from the sale are invested back into the open space network

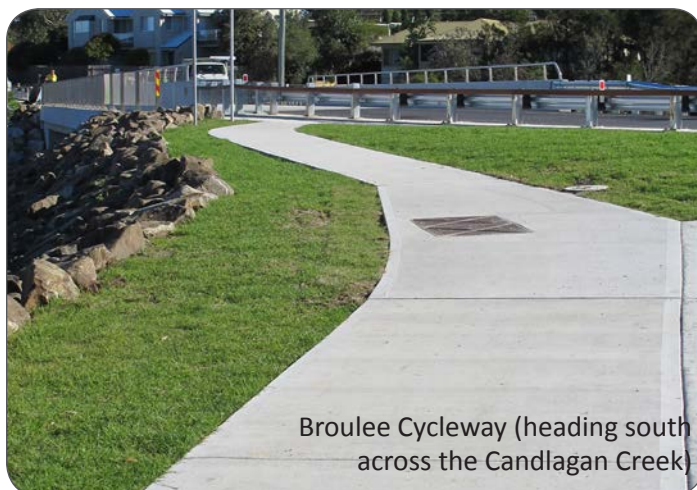
**Priority action: improved wayfinding network**

There is a lack of informative and directional signage around the area

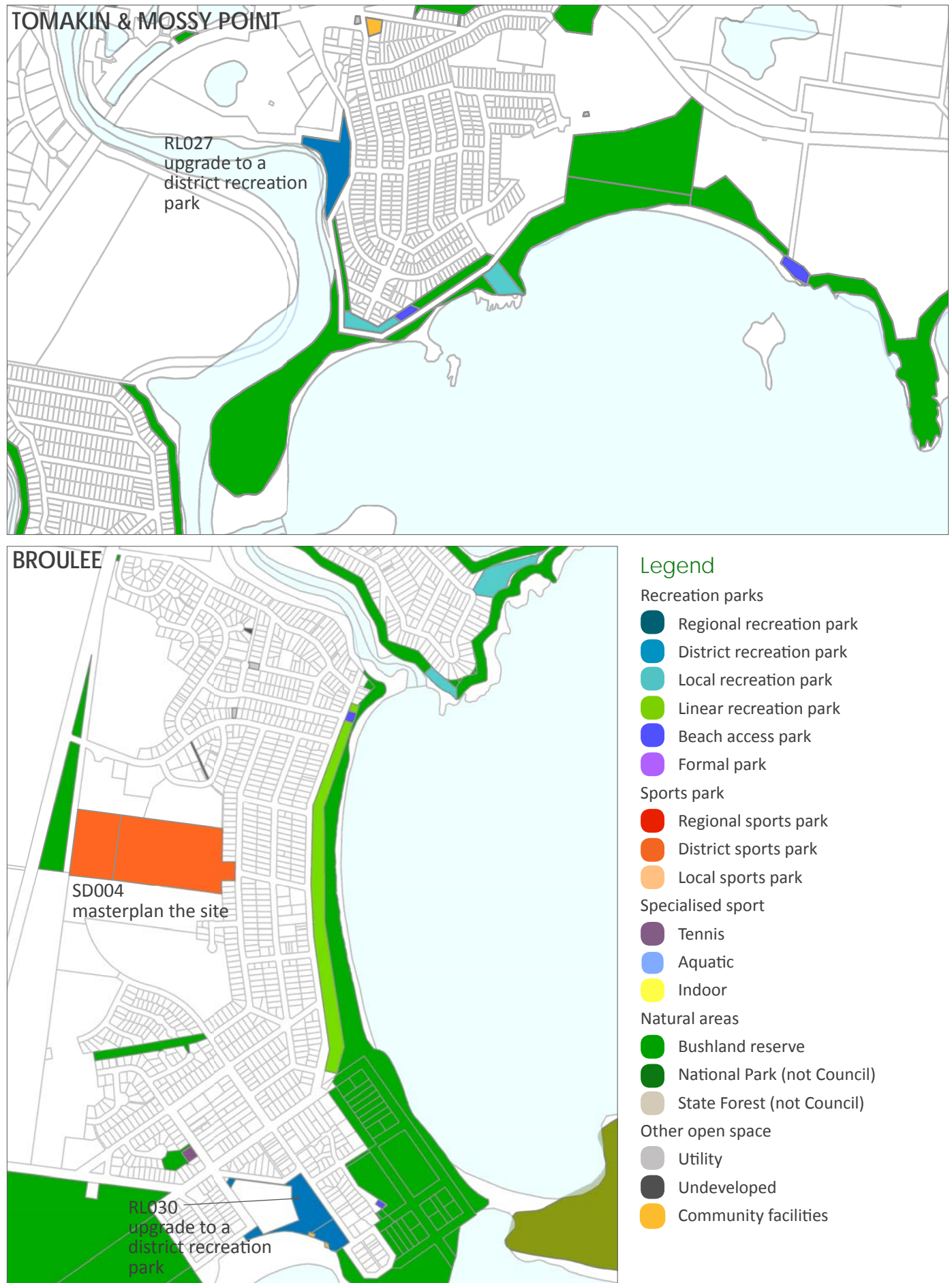
C22 - Install directional and information signage along the Broulee Cycleway and at key points of interest, such as Tomakin Cove (snorkelling). The information signage is to include information such as:

- » key fishing areas
- » beach access points
- » public toilets
- » canoe/kayak launching spots
- » sporting facilities.

Melville Point Reserve, Tomakin



## Future open space network



# Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads



Moruya is the main residential and service centre for the central precinct. Moruya Heads is a small village located at the mouth of the Moruya River approximately 8km to the east of the main Moruya township.

The Moruya River and surrounding bushland reserves provide a quality natural setting, while a mix of formal sport and recreation facilities ensure a wide range of opportunities for residents and visitors.

There are currently 3,505 people living in the Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads area. More than half of the residents are aged over 45 years of age - reflecting a median age of 49.

By 2036, the population is expected to increase to 4,807. At this time, almost a third of residents will be aged 65 years and over. Despite the projected proportion of young people under the age of 24 years decreasing from 27.0% to 25.0%, almost 200 additional young people are expected in the planning area.

The projected population changes highlight the continued need for a wide range of both formal active sport and recreation opportunities and more informal passive options. The existing facility network in the area is well-established to meet these demands.

## Snapshot

Current population (2016)	3,505
0 - 14 years	15.9%
15 - 24 years	9.6%
25 - 34 years	8.0%
35 - 44 years	10.5%
45 - 54 years	12.8%
55 - 64 years	17.7%
65 years and over	25.6%
Median age (2016)	49
Future population (2036)	4,807
Households with children	27.8%
Unoccupied private dwellings	13.5%
Do not have a motor vehicle	6.0%

# Open space in Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads

## Current open space supply

Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads area has a current open space supply of 138.99ha. Recreation and sport parks account for a third of the open space network (37%).

Type of open space	ha	% of current network
» Recreation parks	25.77	18.54
– local recreation park	0.50	0.36
– district recreation park	7.05	5.07
– regional recreation park	9.15	6.58
– linear recreation park	7.10	5.11
– formal recreation park	1.97	1.42
» Sports park	25.83	18.58
– district sports park	21.07	15.16
– regional sports park	4.76	3.42
» Bushland reserves	83.26	60.61
» Specialised sport	5.26	3.83
– aquatic	0.36	0.26
– indoor	0.15	0.11
» Community hall	1.60	1.15
» Undeveloped open space	1.43	1.03
» Utility open space	0.60	0.43

Table 34. Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads open space supply

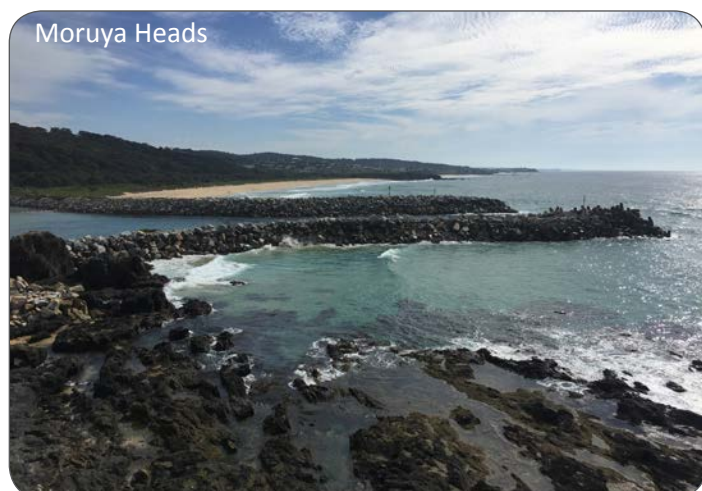
ID	Reserve name	Current Classification	Ownership
Recreation parks			
RL031	Lions Park	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RL032	Undeveloped land behind the Bowling and Recreation Club	Local	Community
RL033	Preddy's Wharf and Boat ramp	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RD011	SAGE Community Garden	District	Community
RD012	Russ Martin Park	District	Community
RD013	Moruya Town Wharf and Boat ramp	District	Crown Reserve under Council control
RD014	Moruya Beach Reserve	District	Crown Reserve under Council control
RR003	Riverside Park	Regional	Crown Reserve under Council control
Rln004	Moruya Cycleway Reserve	Linear	Community
RF004	Apex Park	Formal	Community
RF005	Albert Stewart Park	Formal	Community
RF006	Chesher Park	Formal	Crown Reserve under Council control

Table 35. Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads open space type

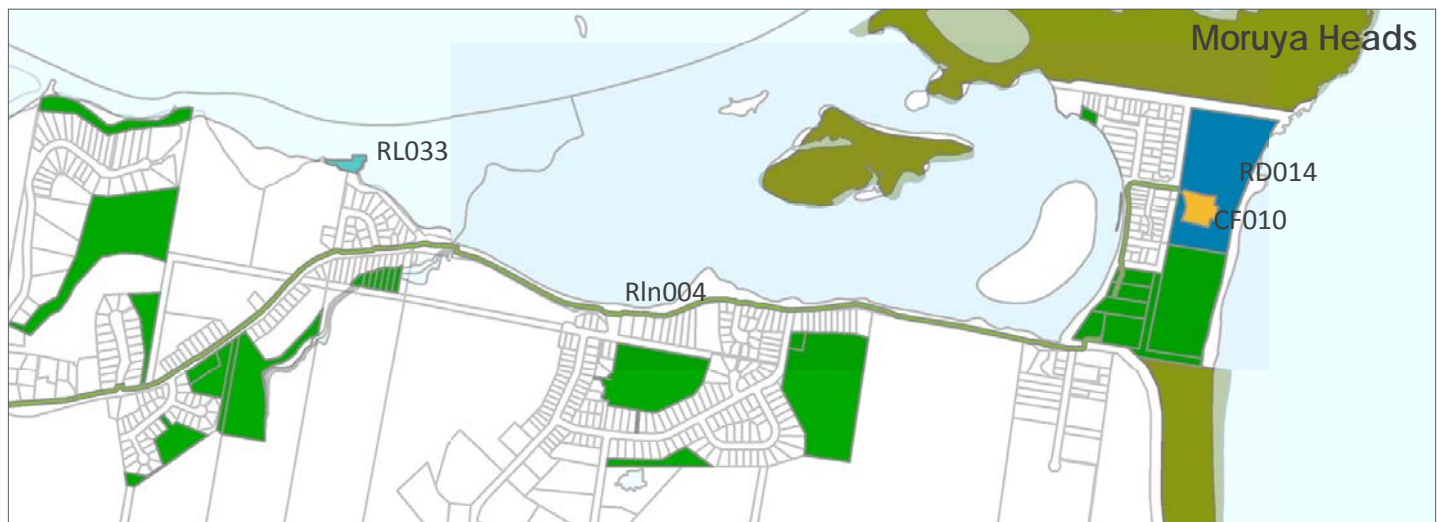
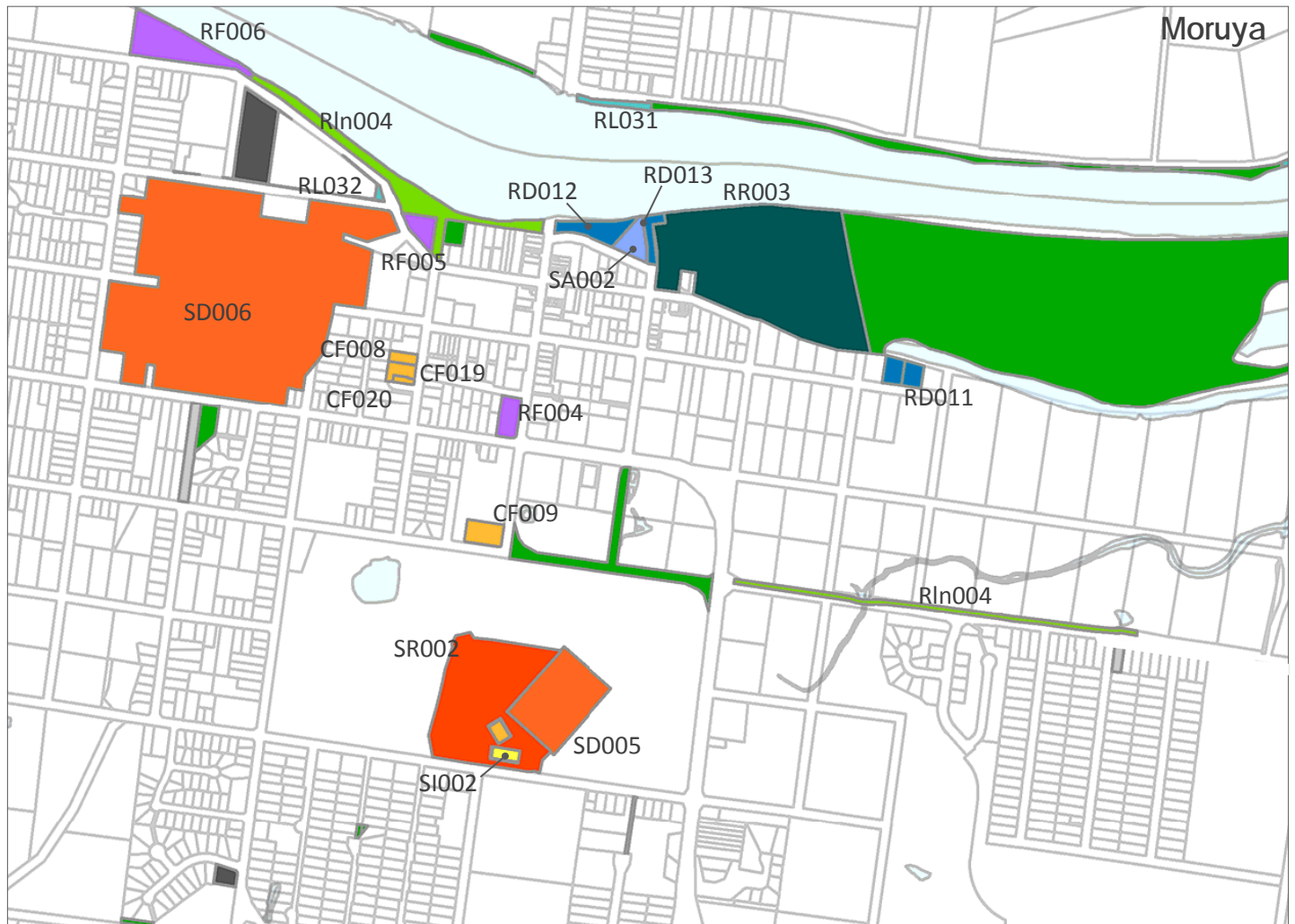


Sport			
SD005	Ack Weyman Oval	District	Crown Reserve under Council control
SD006	Gundry Oval	District	Community
SR002*	Showground Reserve	Regional	Crown Reserve under Council control
Other			
SA002	Moruya War Memorial Swimming Pool	Aquatic sport	Community
SI002	Moruya Basketball Facility	Indoor sport	Crown Reserve under Council control
CF008	Dr Mackay Community Centre	Community hall	Community
CF009	Moruya Library	Community hall	Community
CF010	Moruya Surf Life Saving Club	Community hall	Crown Reserve under Council control
CF019	Moruya RSL Hall	Community Hall	Crown Reserve under Council control
CF020	Mechanics Institute	Community hall	Crown Reserve under Council control

\* Whilst not a traditional regional sports facility, the range of facilities available at the Showgrounds have lead to this classification



## Current open space network



### Legend

#### Recreation parks

- Regional recreation park
- District recreation park
- Local recreation park
- Linear recreation park
- Beach access park
- Formal park

#### Sports park

- Regional sports park
- District sports park
- Local sports park

#### Specialised sport

- Tennis
- Aquatic
- Indoor

#### Natural areas

- Bushland reserve
- National Park (not Council)
- State Forest (not Council)

#### Other open space

- Utility
- Undeveloped
- Community facilities

## Access to experiences

The open space network in the Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads area offers a variety of experiences and activities for residents and visitors.

The following experiences are provided in the area.

Table 36. Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads experiences

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps	●
	Beach access points	●
	Jetties	●
	Floating pontoon (canoe/ kayak launching facility)	●
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Natural areas	●
	Waterways	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookouts	●
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	●
Comfort	Public toilets	●
	Outdoor showers	●
Dog friendly areas	Off-leash	●
	On-leash	●
	Time share	●
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire	●
	Cafes	●
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community hall	●

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails	●
	Mountain biking	
	Fishing facilities	●
	Snorkelling area	
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	●
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (gas)	●
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	●
Sport	Fields/ovals (Council)	●
	Fields/ovals (schools)	●
Activities	Community garden	●
	Skate park	●
	BMX track	
	Outdoor fitness equipment	●
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	●
	Bicycle parking	●
Community or major events	Open space for markets	●
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	●

Together, Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads offer a wide range of experiences and activities - from farmers markets in Riverside Park to Surf Life Saving (nippers) at Moruya Heads. The youth are well accommodated with playgrounds, cycling paths, skate park, swimming pool and formal sports parks. While older residents and visitors have access to a quality path network and low impact activities.

Nature enthusiasts can explore Ryans Creek Reserve in Moruya and Eurobodalla National Park in Moruya Heads.



## Uses and values

Residents living in the area are surrounded by a variety of open space typologies.

All the residents that completed the survey visited the open spaces in the area at least weekly, two thirds visited daily or most days. The most popular open spaces to visit were:

- » along the river
- » the beach
- » local footpaths and cycle paths
- » coastal reserves and foreshore
- » sportsground and ovals.

The top five activities that respondents participated in while visiting the open space include:

- » walking and swimming
- » organised sport
- » bushwalking
- » canoe/kayaking
- » group exercise/bootcamp.

With easy access to the beach, Moruya River and National Parks, it is no surprise that residents in the area value the natural setting of the open space network (67.8%) and its proximity to their home (53.6%) the most.

Other popular responses included:

- » they provide me with a place to exercise
- » the views they provide to the ocean/river/lake
- » a place to spend time with friends.

Despite all respondents visiting the open space regularly, some experienced barriers to using the open space. The most common barriers were:

- » lack of variety
- » maintenance of facilities
- » visitors can not take their dogs.

Importantly, one in four respondents indicated no barriers to open space access.

Residents were also asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and sporting opportunities in Eurobodalla.

Table 37. Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads quality of recreation and sport opportunities

	Great	Good	Poor
Aquatic facilities	7.7%	53.8%	38.5%
Cycle and walkways	32.1%	50.0%	17.9%
Sportsfields	20.0%	76.0%	4.0%
Playgrounds	15.4%	69.2%	15.4%
Skate parks	5.0%	75.0%	20.0%
BMX Tracks	18.2%	54.5%	27.3%
Foreshore parks / beach access	29.6%	59.3%	11.1%
Natural bushland parks	28.0%	68.0%	4.0%
Indoor sport and recreation centres	4.3%	34.8%	60.9%
Places to relax and socialise	18.5%	48.1%	33.3%
Community halls/centres	13.6%	45.5%	40.9%
Activities for youth	5.0%	40.0%	55.0%
Activities for seniors	21.4%	57.1%	21.4%
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	13.0%	52.2%	34.8%

Survey results suggest that respondents are overall pleased with the sport and recreation opportunities other than activities for youth and indoor sport facilities.

When residents were asked their opinion on what the top three open space priorities should be over the next ten years, an indoor sport and recreation facility was consistently mentioned. Other top priorities include:

- » new/upgraded cycle and walking paths
- » improved pedestrian/cyclist connections between open spaces
- » provision of places/facilities for young people
- » improved quality of sports/grounds/ovals.



# Analysis of recreation and open space

## Land for recreation open space

From a standards perspective, Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads has an abundance of land for recreation open space (surplus of 10ha at 2036). Community engagement and observation also highlighted that it is a well used network, with people regularly participating in some form of activity. Despite the 10ha surplus, it is not recommended that Council attempt to reduce this.

The section of the Moruya Cycleway along Moruya River is a popular location for walking and cycling. At night, especially in winter, the path can become very dark. It is recommended that Council place solar lighting along the path for increased safety. The simple addition of signage along the Cycleway will direct users to key destinations and provide warnings at key pinch points.

The boat ramp and jetty located within Riverside Park provide quality access to the Moruya River.

## Land for sport open space

The area is significantly over supplied with district sports park land. However, at a Shire-wide level there is a deficiency in regional quality sporting facilities. It is, therefore, recommended that Gundry Oval be upgraded to become Eurobodalla's second regional sporting facility.

The following improvements need to be made to Gundry Oval for it to become a regional sports facility and should be included in the Gundry Oval master plan.

- » additional lighting at an appropriate standard (must comply to the regulations of the sporting codes using the facility)
- » new clubhouse
- » additional car parking
- » improved drainage.

Part of the Moruya Showgrounds, Ack Weyman Oval is the second district sports park in Moruya. While the club has been proactive in upgrading the facility to meet their needs, further improvements such as ancillary facilities are required. The following should be considered for Ack Weyman Oval:

- » a covered player, officials and spectator area on the north-western side of the field
- » a more formalised parking system.

A range of key upgrades have been proposed for the Showgrounds, including:

- » drainage, access and parking improvements
- » development of a new bar area and amenities, covered arena viewing area, secretary's office, new multi-purpose pavilion, fenced animal enclosure, poultry pavilion floor upgrade and grass terracing.

## Activities and experiences

Just under two thirds of residents that completed the community survey ranked the indoor recreation facilities as 'poor'. There is currently a one-court indoor sports facility in Moruya (located at the Showgrounds).

As the future of Mackay Park is unknown (and planned development there may impact the provision of indoor sport in Eurobodalla), it is recommended that the facility receives no major upgrades pending the outcomes of the Mackay Park precinct planning.

Survey respondents indicated the need for a fenced dog-off leash park. A fenced dog-off leash area will be established at Moruya Showgrounds.

Facilities on the Moruya River



## Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads priority actions

### Priority action: improve capacity of existing facilities

A number of facilities in the area are under utilised and/or not being used to their full potential due to lack of space or design issues.

M38 - In line with the master plan for [Gundry Oval](#) (that will be exhibited with this Strategy), upgrade the sports park to a regional quality facility. To make the facility a regional sports park, the following developments should be included as part of the master plan:

- » additional lighting at an appropriate standard (must comply to the regulations of the sporting codes using the facility)
- » new amenities
- » additional car parking.

M39 - In line with the master plan for the [Moruya Showgrounds](#) a range of potential developments are proposed:

- » roadworks, drainage upgrades and parking
- » covered all-access spectator area, new bar and amenities, new secretary's office, new cattle loading ramp
- » relocation of the old secretary's office (building with heritage value)
- » fenced dog activity yard
- » Ack Weyman Oval upgrades
  - covered player and spectator area on the north-west side of the field
  - more formalised parking.

### Priority action: improved wayfinding network

There is a lack of informative and directional signage around the area

M40 - Install directional and information signage along the [Moruya Cycleway](#) and at key points of interest. The information signage is to include information such as:

- » key fishing areas
- » public toilets
- » canoe/kayak launching spots
- » sporting facilities.



Moruya Cycleway, Moruya



Riverside Park, Moruya

## Future open space network



### Legend

#### Recreation parks

- Regional recreation park
- District recreation park
- Local recreation park
- Linear recreation park
- Beach access park
- Formal park

#### Sports park

- Regional sports park
- District sports park
- Local sports park

#### Specialised sport

- Tennis
- Aquatic
- Indoor

#### Natural areas

- Bushland reserve
- National Park (not Council)
- State Forest (not Council)

#### Other open space

- Utility
- Undeveloped
- Community facilities



# Moruya Rural Hinterland



Spanning over 49,710ha, the Moruya Rural Hinterland stretches from the coastal towns of Congo and Bingie to Merricumbene in the hinterland. With a total population of 2,684 the area is predominately rural land. It includes significant areas of national park, state forest and farming.

The Moruya Rural Hinterland surrounds the Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads planning areas and includes the northern bank of the Moruya River and the Moruya airport area.

The area has an existing population of 2,684. Like the majority of planning areas across Eurobodalla, this is an older community with a median age of 53 years. By 2036, the population is expected to increase marginally (an additional 175 residents). However, the area will age markedly across this time with more than 400 additional residents over the age of 55. Indeed, a projected loss of almost 100 young people (under the age of 25 years) is forecast.

An ageing population is likely to seek informal, low impact recreation activities to participate in. However, with easy access to nearby Moruya, additional facility development is not recommended for the Moruya Rural Hinterland.

## Snapshot

Current population (2016)	2,684
0 - 14 years	12.9%
15 - 24 years	10.2%
25 - 34 years	5.3%
35 - 44 years	9.4%
45 - 54 years	16.3%
55 - 64 years	22.1%
65 years and over	23.9%
Median age (2016)	53
Future population (2036)	2,859
Households with children	30.7%
Unoccupied private dwellings	15.9%
Do not have a motor vehicle	1.6%



# Open space in Moruya Rural Hinterland

## Current open space supply

Moruya Rural Hinterland area has a current open space supply of 295.61ha. Bushland reserves account for 94% of the open space network, while recreation parks make up 6%.

Type of open space	ha	% of current network
» Recreation parks	18.92	6.41
– local recreation parks	6.10	2.06
– district recreation park	10.98	3.72
– linear recreation park	1.84	0.62
» Bushland reserves	276.67	93.43

Table 38. Moruya Rural Hinterland open space supply

Table 39. Moruya Rural Hinterland open space type

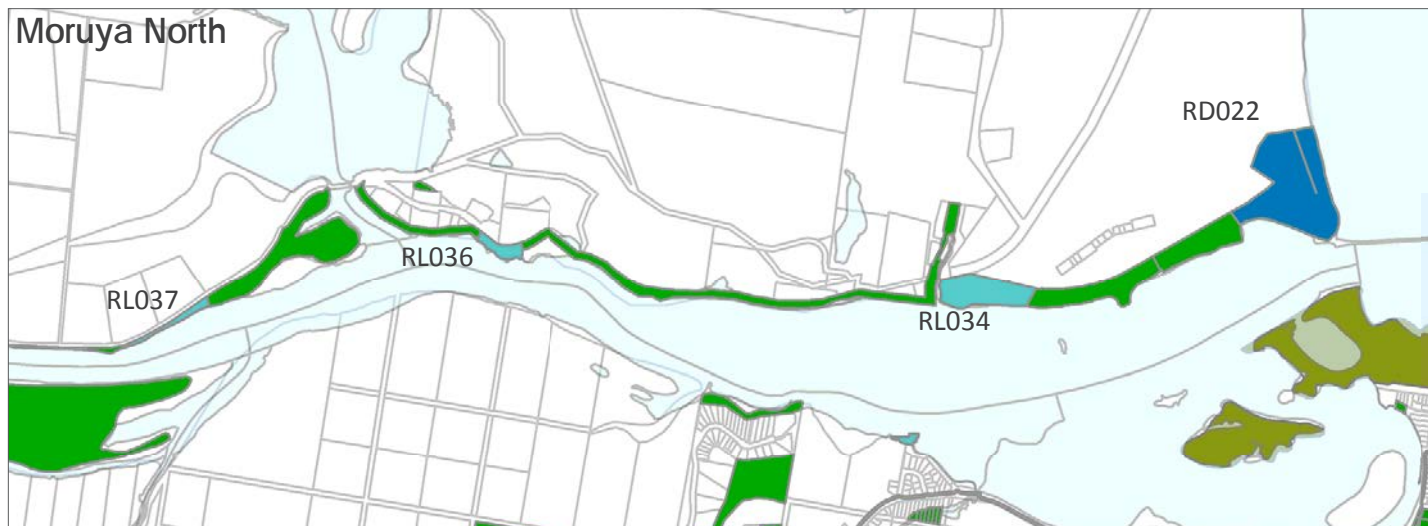
ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Ownership
Recreation parks			
RL034	Brierleys Reserve and boat ramp	Local	Community
RL036	Quarry Park Reserve	Local	Community
RL037	North Head Road Reserve	Local	Community
RL042	Congo Reserve	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RD022	Brierleys Reserve (North Head Moruya campground)	District	Community

Congo Campground, Congo (NSW National Parks camp site)



## Current and Future open space network

(where no changes have been proposed to the hierarchy or classification, the single map refers to current and future open space)



### Legend

#### Recreation parks

- Regional recreation park
- District recreation park
- Local recreation park
- Linear recreation park
- Beach access park
- Formal park

#### Sports park

- Regional sports park
- District sports park
- Local sports park

#### Specialised sport

- Tennis
- Aquatic
- Indoor

#### Natural areas

- Bushland reserve
- National Park (not Council)
- State Forest (not Council)

#### Other open space

- Utility
- Undeveloped
- Community facilities

## Access to experiences

The open space network in the Moruya Rural Hinterland area offers a limited range of experiences and activities for residents and visitors. The following experiences are provided in the area.

Table 40. Moruya Rural Hinterland experiences

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps	●
	Beach access points	●
	Jetties	
	Floating pontoon (canoe/kayak launching facility)	
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Natural areas	●
	Waterways	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookouts	
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	
Comfort	Public toilets	●
	Outdoor showers	●
Dog friendly areas	Off-leash	●
	On-leash	●
	Time share	●
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire	
	Cafes	
Indoor recreation/community meetings	Community hall	

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails	●
	Mountain biking	
	Fishing facilities	●
	Snorkelling area	●
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (gas)	
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	
Sport	Fields/ovals (Council)	
	Fields/ovals (schools)	
Activities	Community garden	
	Skate park	
	BMX track	
	Outdoor fitness equipment	
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	
	Bicycle parking	●
Community or major events	Open space for markets	
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	

The limited range of facilities and opportunities in the area reflects its dispersed, rural (and in some cases somewhat remote) settlement nature.

## Values and uses

Despite limited formal sport and recreation opportunities in the area, 93% of community survey respondents visit open space at least weekly. Indeed, more than 71% attend daily or most days. The most popular open spaces to visit were:

» along the river	71.8%
» the beach	71.8%
» at home	69.2%
» bushland	51.3%
» national parks	46.2%.

The top six activities that respondents participated in while visiting the open space include:

» swimming	59.0%
» walking	59.0%
» bushwalking	53.9%
» gardening	48.7%
» canoe/kayaking	41.0%
» surf coast	41.0%.

With easy access to the beach, Moruya River and National Parks, it is no surprise that residents in the area highly value the natural setting of the open space network (89.7%) and interaction with the natural environment (76.9%).

Other popular responses included:

- » the views they provide to the ocean/river/lake
- » they provide me with a place to unwind/rest/relax
- » a place to take visitors.

Despite all respondents visiting the open space regularly, almost three quarters had experienced barriers to using the open space. The most common barriers were:

- » I can't take my dog
- » lack of public transport
- » poor maintenance
- » lack of toilets.

Residents were also asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and sporting opportunities in Eurobodalla.

Table 41. Moruya Rural Hinterland quality of recreation and sport opportunities

	Great	Good	Poor
Aquatic facilities	5.3%	60.3%	21.1%
Cycle and walkways	10.5%	68.4%	15.8%
Sportsfields	10.3%	71.8%	5.1%
Playgrounds	7.9%	65.8%	10.5%
Skate parks	10.8%	29.7%	21.6%
BMX Tracks	2.7%	18.9%	8.1%
Foreshore parks / beach access	21.1%	71.1%	7.9%
Natural bushland parks	23.7%	65.8%	7.9%
Indoor sport and recreation centres	0%	26.3%	26.3%
Places to relax and socialise	16.2%	67.6%	5.4%
Community halls/centres	10.3%	58.4%	15.4%
Activities for youth	0%	26.3%	39.5%
Activities for seniors	8.1%	24.3%	13.5%
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	2.6%	21.0%	23.7%

Survey results suggest that respondents are overall pleased with the sport and recreation opportunities other than activities for youth and indoor sport facilities.

When residents were asked their opinion on what the top three open space priorities should be over the next ten years the top responses included:

- » provision of places/facilities for young people
- » improved bushland maintenance/management/ improved pedestrian/cyclist connections between open spaces.



# Analysis of recreation and open space

## Land for recreation open space

The Moruya Rural Hinterland area has approximately 17.1ha of recreation open space. This represents a significant over-supply through until 2036. However, there are no higher-level district recreation parks provided.

Almost 60% of community survey respondents noted that they were prepared to travel at least 15 minutes to a quality recreation facility. With most sections of this planning area within a relatively short drive of Moruya with its district- and/or regional-level facilities, it is not considered necessary to upgrade any of the existing facilities.

## Land for sporting facilities

There are no sports parks provided in the area. However, with 77% of respondents prepared to travel more than 15 minutes to a quality sports facility, there appears no demand for any future sport development.

Furthermore, almost 77% of respondents noted that they visit open spaces by car.

## Activities and experiences

Respondents indicated a preference for unstructured activities - swimming, walking, bushwalking, gardening, canoe/kayaking and surf sports. These results further highlight that no additional formal sport and recreation infrastructure needs to be targeted for development.

# Moruya Rural Hinterland area priority actions

Priority action: improve capacity of existing facilities

Congo Reserve requires upgrade

Upgrade the play opportunities and seating at [Congo Reserve](#) given the site's popularity.



# Tuross Head



Tuross Head is a (geographically) small planning area located to the south of Moruya. The area is unique in that it is a finger of land bordered by the ocean to the east, Coila Lake to the north and Tuross River to the south. Additionally, the area has a high proportion of undeveloped bushland reserves. As a result, it is a very natural environment.

There are currently 2,271 people living in Tuross Head. There is no school within the planning area and this reflects that the area is an older community - median age of 60.

With a range of fishing, boating, water sports and beach options, the area is a popular holiday destination. 37.9% of the area's private dwellings are unoccupied (potentially being used as holiday rentals and/or weekend homes) and with a range of holiday accommodation options available, the population increases markedly during peak holiday periods and long weekends.

By 2036, the population is expected to have increased only slightly to 2,432. Much of this population is a result of an ageing population - with almost 180 additional residents over the age of 65 years forecast.

The existing range of outdoor recreation activities and informal recreation opportunities will be popular for an older population.

While the population is ageing, there are more than 50 additional young people (under the age of 20 years) projected for the area by 2036. This highlights an ongoing need for quality formal sport and recreation facilities (in addition to the outdoor recreation and informal options mentioned above).

## Snapshot

Current population (2016)	2,271
0 - 14 years	10.2%
15 - 24 years	6.9%
25 - 34 years	5.9%
35 - 44 years	6.0%
45 - 54 years	11.7%
55 - 64 years	20.9%
65 years and over	38.5%
Median age (2016)	60
Future population (2036)	2,432
Households with children	20.2%
Unoccupied private dwellings	37.9%
Do not have a motor vehicle	2.1%

# Open space in Tuross Head

## Current open space supply

Tuross Head area has a current open space supply of 315.93ha. Bushland reserve accounts for 90% of the open space network, while recreation and open space makes up 10.8%.

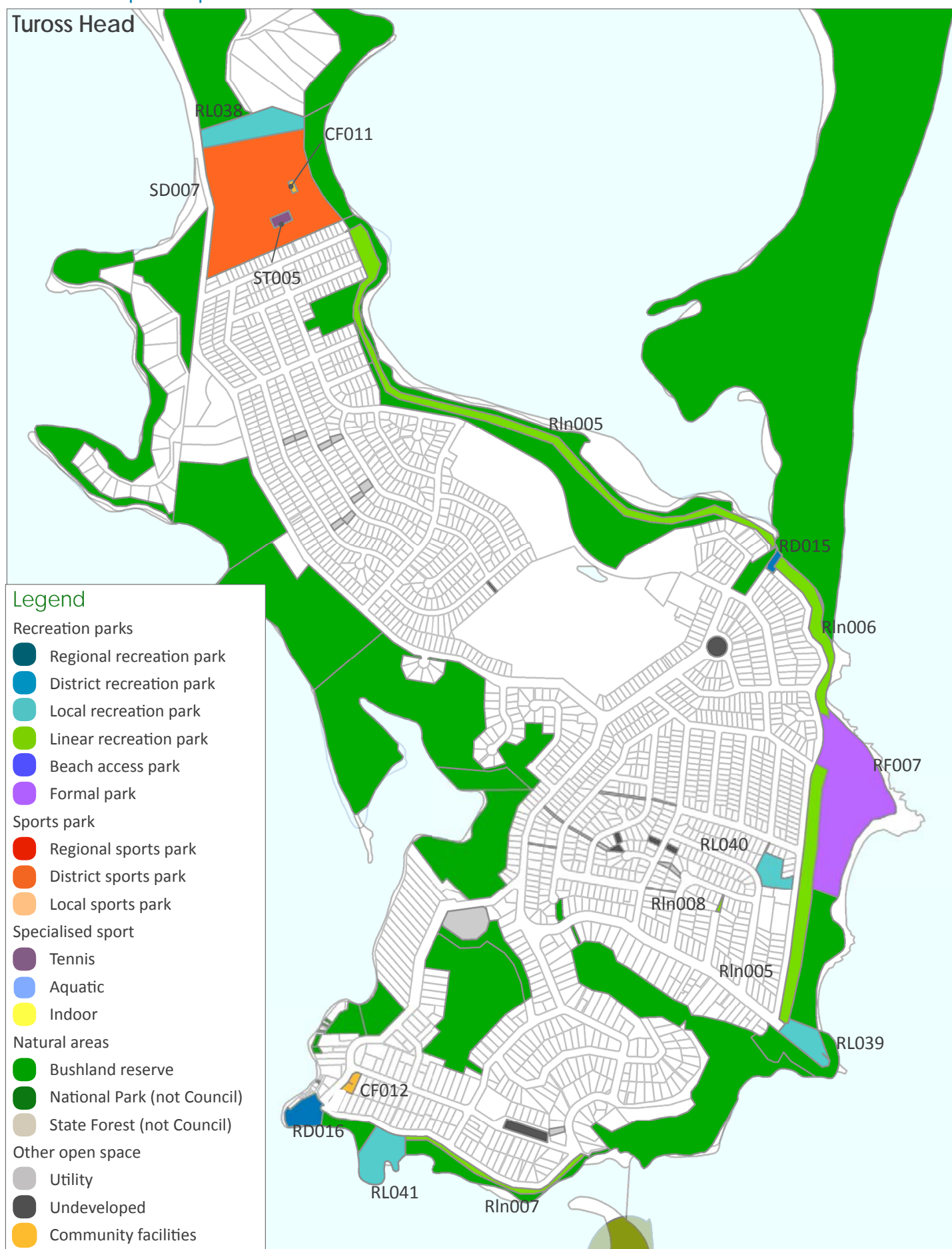
Type of open space	ha	% of current network
» Recreation parks	23.2	7.35
– local recreation park	5.41	1.71
– district recreation park	1.09	0.34
– linear recreation park	9.64	3.05
– formal recreation park	7.09	2.24
» Sports park (district)	11.02	3.49
» Bushland reserves	278.19	88.06
» Specialised sport (tennis)	0.18	0.06
» Community hall	0.24	0.08
» Undeveloped open space	0.98	0.31
» Utility open space	2.08	0.66

Table 42. Tuross Head open space supply

Table 43. Tuross Head open space type

ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Ownership
Recreation parks			
RL038	Kyla Park Reserve	Local	Community
RL039	One Tree Point Reserve	Local	Community
RL040	Evans Road Reserve	Local	Community
RL041	Lavendar Point Reserve	Local	Community
RD015	Coila Beach Reserve	District	Community
RD016	Sandy Point Reserve	District	Operational
Rln005	Tuross Head Cycle Path	Linear	Community
Rln006	McWilliam Park	Linear	Community
Rln007	Lavendar Reserve (and Nelson Parade Viewing Platform and Boardwalk)	Linear	Community
Rln008	St Vincent Road Reserve	Linear	Community
RF007	Plantation Point Reserve	Formal	Community
Sport			
SD007	Kyla Park	District	Community
Other			
ST005	Tuross Head Tennis Club	Tennis	Community
CF011	Kyla Park Hall	Community hall	Community
CF012	Tuross Head Progress Hall	Community hall	Community

## Current open space network





## Access to experiences

The open space network in the Tuross Head area offers a wide range of experiences and activities for residents and visitors. The following experiences are provided in the area.

Table 44. Tuross Head experiences

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps	●
	Beach access points	●
	Jetties	●
	Floating pontoon (canoe/kayak launching facility)	●
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Natural areas	●
	Waterways	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookouts	●
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	●
Comfort	Public toilets	●
	Outdoor showers	●
Dog friendly areas	Off-leash	●
	On-leash	●
	Time share	●
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire	●
	Cafes	●
Indoor recreation/community meetings	Community hall	●

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails	●
	Mountain biking	
	Fishing facilities	●
	Snorkelling area	
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	●
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (gas)	●
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	
Sport	Fields/ovals (Council)	●
	Fields/ovals (schools)	
Activities	Community garden	●
	Skate park	
	BMX track	
	Outdoor fitness equipment	
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	●
	Bicycle parking	●
Community or major events	Open space for markets	●
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	

## Uses and values

The majority of respondents that completed the survey (81%) visited the open spaces at least once each week. The most popular (and by a notable margin) open space to visit was the beach (85%). Other popular sites included:

- » cycle paths 59.0%
- » local footpaths 55.7%
- » along the river 54.1%.

The top five activities that respondents participated in while visiting the open space include:

1. fishing 71.7%
2. walking 71.7%
3. swimming 56.7%
4. playing in the park 45.0%
5. canoe/kayaking 41.7%.

Aligned with the most popular activities and open space to visit, respondents value the natural setting and the views they provide to the ocean/river/lake.

Interestingly, the Tuross Head community also value open space being close to home. This is further highlighted by a high proportion of respondents accessing open space by walking. Additionally, few are prepared to drive more than 15 minutes to attend sport or recreation facilities.

The two most frequent barriers identified were poor maintenance and lack of toilets.



Kyla Park

Residents were also asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and sporting opportunities in Eurobodalla.

Table 45. Tuross Head overall quality of recreation and sporting opportunities

	Great	Good	Poor
Aquatic facilities	7.1%	45.4%	33.9%
Cycle and walkways	43.9%	47.4%	8.8%
Sportsfields	12.3%	61.4%	10.5%
Playgrounds	7.3%	45.3%	36.4%
Skate parks	3.9%	19.2%	44.2%
BMX Tracks	2.0%	14.0%	30.0%
Foreshore parks / beach access	30.4%	51.6%	14.3%
Natural bushland parks	37.8%	49.0%	3.8%
Indoor sport and recreation centres	3.8%	32.1%	26.4%
Places to relax and socialise	28.3%	47.2%	17.0%
Community halls/centres	11.5%	61.1%	15.4%
Activities for youth	0%	23.1%	53.4%
Activities for seniors	5.7%	54.7%	7.6%
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	5.8%	42.3%	23.1%

Clearly, respondents are not satisfied with the range of opportunities available for young people in the area. This result was further highlighted as when residents were asked their opinion on what the top three open space priorities should be over the next ten years, provision of places/facilities for young people achieved the highest response. Other top priorities include:

- » new/upgraded playgrounds
- » improved facilities at beach and foreshore areas.

A number of respondents also indicated a need for a skate facility and additional path connections.

# Analysis of recreation and open space

## Land for recreation open space

Tuross Head has an appropriate overall supply of recreation open space to meet current and future (2036) demand. However, further interrogation of these results highlights an over-supply of local recreation parks yet an under-supply of district-level recreation parks.

It is suggested that one of the existing local-level facilities be upgraded to district-level.

### 1. Evans Road Reserve

This popular park includes a modern amenities block, quality play and uncovered picnic tables. The park provides access to the foreshore area and is located adjoining the shopping area. Given each of these factors, this Reserve is ideally situated to be upgraded to a district-level recreation park. Proposed future embellishment includes covered shelters and barbecues, wheeled action sports precinct and formal path links.

## Land for sport open space

Kyla Park is a quality district-level sport facility. While the playing field is currently under-utilised (playing host to cricket training and matches, and AFL matches) opportunity exists to attract additional formal sport use. Interest has been raised by a new cricket club seeking a home base. Additionally, potential exists to establish a new little athletics centre (Eurobodalla's only centre) at the facility.

To facilitate these new sports, field event facilities would be required for athletics (shot put and discus circles and long/triple jump pits) and both cricket and athletics would require a storage facility (preferably a shared venue).

## Activities and experiences

As previously noted, there are a wide range of recreation activities available for residents and visitors. The area includes access to a variety of outdoor recreation pursuits (many water-based), formal sports facilities, formal gardens, lookouts, playgrounds and walk/cycle paths.

Kyla Park hosts field sports, tennis, sailing, play facilities, community garden and community hall. As a key facility, it is essential that a suitable path links it with the commercial precinct at the eastern end of the area. Further, the Eurobodalla Pathway Strategy proposes a range of looped walk and cycle opportunities that link the foreshore areas, residential areas and the commercial precinct.

## Community Hall

The Kyla Park Hall attracts ten hours use each week (on average). There is clearly availability for additional use. Key users include:

- » fitness groups
- » drumming group
- » dance groups
- » family support
- » music group
- » progress society.

Nelson Parade Boardwalk,  
Tuross Head



## Tuross Head priority actions

### Priority action: improve capacity of existing facilities

A number of facilities are under utilised and/or not being used to their full potential

M42 - Upgrade [Evans Road Reserve](#) to a district level.

Potential facility upgrades include:

- » covered shelters and barbecues
- » wheeled action sports precinct
- » formal path links.

M43 - Investigate ways to promote and activate the [Kyla Park Hall](#) as a location for low impact recreation activities for seniors, social interaction, community events functions and weddings.

### Priority action: improved connectivity

There is a lack of suitable walk/cycle paths across the area

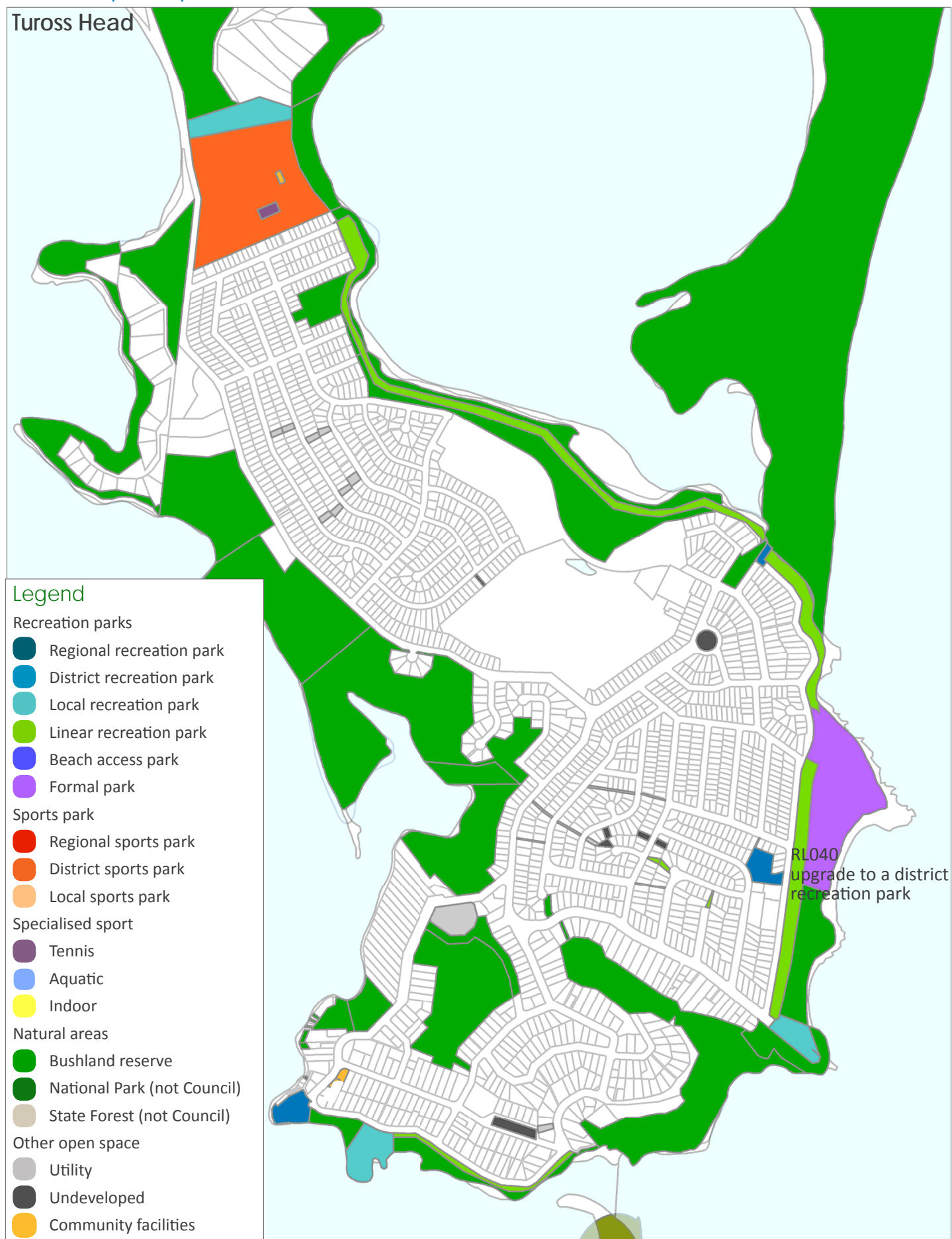
C21 - Undertake a range of path developments in line with the Eurobodalla Pathway Strategy. Key developments include:

- » linking Kyla Park with the east of the area
- » providing looped opportunities that link residential areas, open spaces along the foreshore and the commercial precinct.





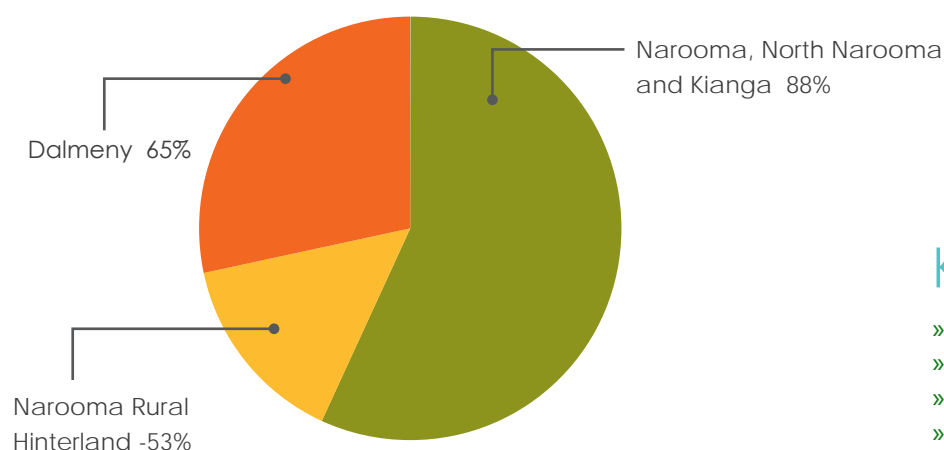
## Future open space network



# Southern Planning Precinct

8,311 — current population & 2036 population — 8,855

## Distribution of total precinct growth



## Key open space

- » Rotary Park (Dalmeny)
- » Rotary Park (Narooma)
- » Apex Park
- » Bill Smyth Oval
- » Narooma Swimming Centre

## Top 5<sup>1</sup>...

### recreation activities

1. walking
2. gardening
3. swimming
4. exercise in the park
5. fishing

### open spaces to visit

1. beach
2. cycle paths
3. local footpaths
4. coastal reserves and foreshores
5. bushland

### open space values

1. the natural setting
2. the views they provide to the ocean/river/lake
3. the interaction with the natural environment
4. a place to take visitors
5. they are close to my home

### barriers to open space

1. no barriers
2. I can't take my dog
3. there is a lack of toilets
4. lack of public transport
5. there is a limited range of sporting fields/courts/facilities provided

<sup>1</sup> From the community survey results undertaken as part of the Strategy

# Narooma Rural Hinterland area



The Narooma Rural Hinterland area covers a vast amount of land area and includes a number of villages - Akolele, Belowra, Bodalla, Cadgee, Central Tilba, Corunna, Eurobodalla, Mystery Bay, Nerrigundah, Potato Point and Tilba Tilba.

This planning area encapsulates almost all of the bottom half of Eurobodalla (excluding the residential areas of Narooma, North Narooma, Kianga and Dalmeny). It stretches from the ocean in east to the western boundary of Eurobodalla. As a largely rural area, there is very little Council-managed formal open space provided.

The Narooma Rural Hinterland area has a current population of 2,635. Almost two thirds of residents are aged 45 years and older - with only 318 children (approximately) under the age of 15.

A number of the villages within the planning area (Mystery Bay, Potato Point etc) are popular holiday destinations with almost 1 in 4 houses being unoccupied private dwellings.

By 2036, the population is expected to have increased only slightly to 2,660. This increase (of approximately 25) will result from significant ageing (an increase of more than 300 for residents 45 years and over) and be offset by a loss of approximately 100 younger people (under 20 years of age).

## Snapshot

Current population (2016)	2,635
0 - 14 years	12.5%
15 - 24 years	7.6%
25 - 34 years	5.3%
35 - 44 years	8.7%
45 - 54 years	14.8%
55 - 64 years	24.0%
65 years and over	27.1%
Median age (2016)	55
Future population (2036)	2,660
Households with children	24.7%
Unoccupied private dwellings	22.2%
Do not have a motor vehicle	1.9%



Bodalla Oval, Bodalla

# Open space in Narooma Rural Hinterland

## Current supply

The Narooma Rural Hinterland, is predominately bushland reserves. With a total open space network of 365.42ha, recreation and sport parks only make up a small proportion of the total provision (just over 7%).

Type of open space	ha	% of current network
» Recreation parks	18.85	5.16
– local recreation park	1.12	0.31
– linear recreation park	13.75	3.76
– beach access park	3.80	1.04
– formal recreation park	0.18	0.05
» Sports park	6.99	1.91
– local sports park	3.59	0.93
– district sports park	3.40	0.98
» Specialised sport (tennis)	0.14	0.04
» Bushland reserves	323.56	92.87
» Community halls	0.07	0.02

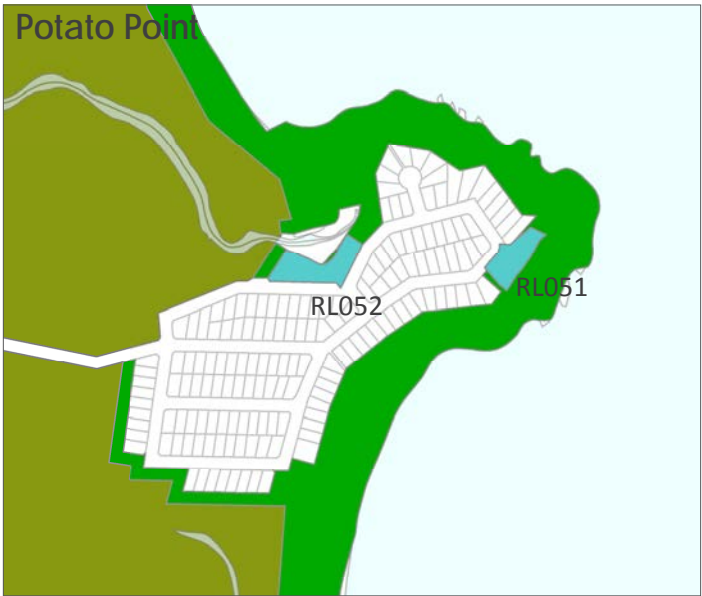
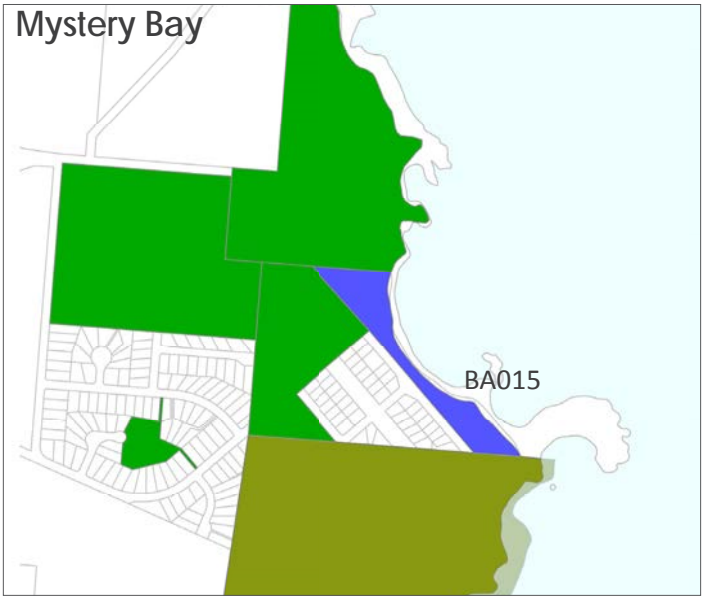
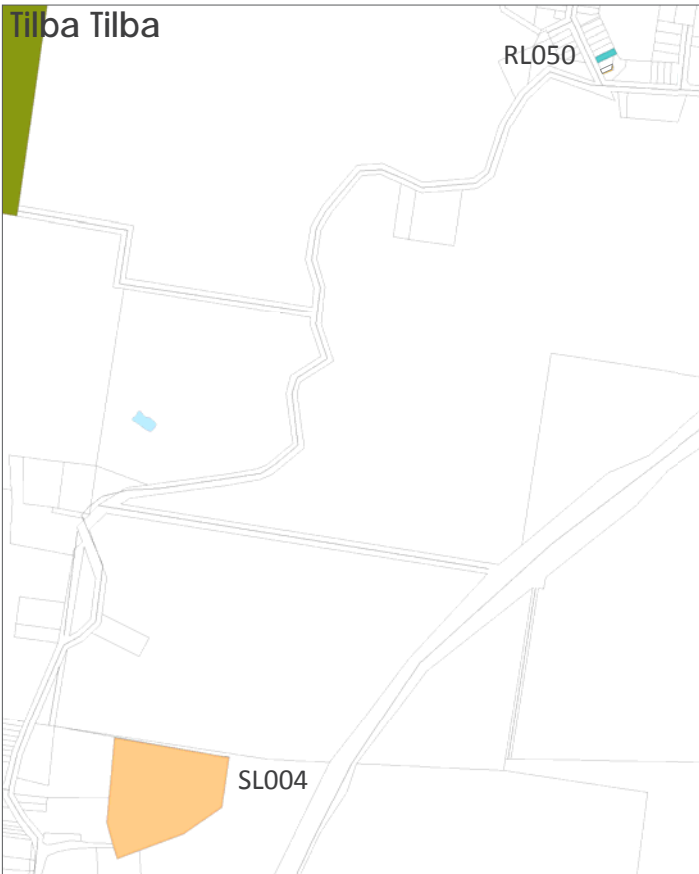
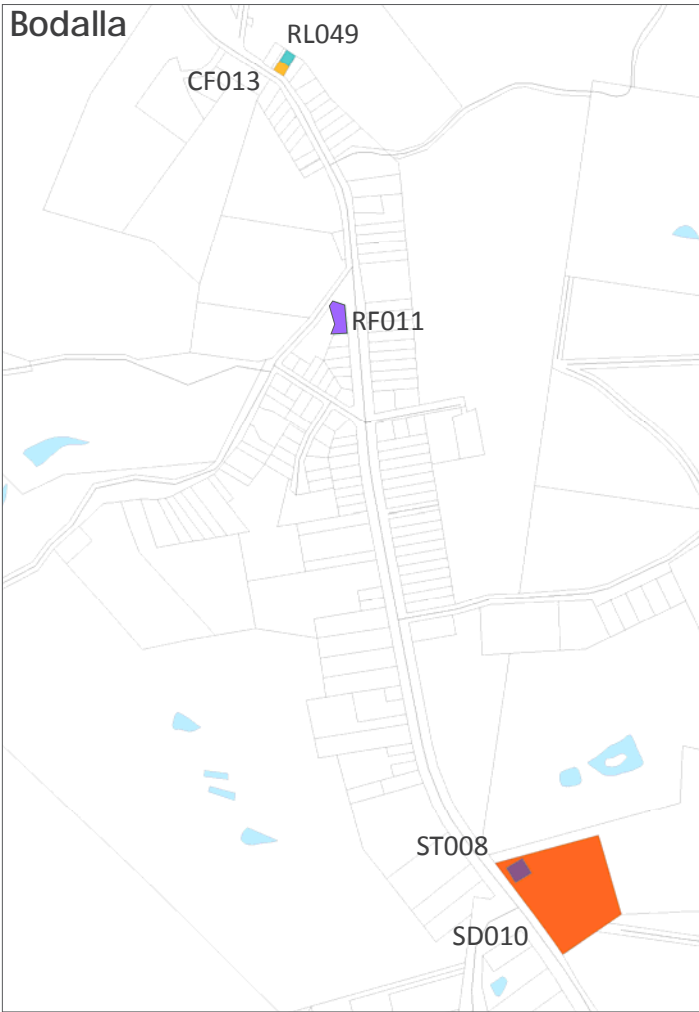
Table 46. Narooma Rural Hinterland open space supply

Table 47. Narooma Rural Hinterland open space type

ID	Reserve name	Current classification	Ownership
Recreation parks			
RL049	Bodalla Memorial Hall Park	Local	Community
RL050	Harold Spindler Reserve	Local	Community
RL051	Long Point Street Reserve	Local	Community
RL052	Riverview Street Reserve	Local	Community
RL053	Lions Park	Local	Community
Rln011	Bridge Headland Reserve (includes cycleway)	Linear	Community
RF011	Bruce Motbey Reserve	Formal	Community
BA015	Mystery Bay Foreshore Reserve	Beach access	Crown Reserve under Council control
BA017	Amhurst Beach Reserve (Kianga)	Beach access	Crown Reserve under Council control
Sports parks			
SL004	Tilba Tilba Sporting Complex	Local	Community
SD010	Bodalla Oval	District	Community
Other			
ST008	Bodalla Tennis Courts	Tennis	Community
CF013	Bodalla Memorial Hall	Community hall	Community



# Current and Future open space network



- Legend**
- |                          |                             |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Recreation parks</b>  | <b>Specialised sport</b>    |
| Regional recreation park | Tennis                      |
| District recreation park | Aquatic                     |
| Local recreation park    | Indoor                      |
| Linear recreation park   | <b>Natural areas</b>        |
| Beach access park        | Bushland reserve            |
| Formal park              | National Park (not Council) |
| <b>Sports park</b>       | State Forest (not Council)  |
| Regional sports park     | <b>Other open space</b>     |
| District sports park     | Utility                     |
| Local sports park        | Undeveloped                 |
|                          | Community facilities        |



## Access to experiences

As a largely rural and sparsely populated area, the open space network for the Narooma Rural Hinterland area provides more limited opportunities than in other sections of Eurobodalla.

Table 48. Narooma Rural Hinterland experiences

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps	●
	Beach access points	●
	Jetties	
	Floating pontoon (canoe/ kayak launching facility)	
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Natural areas	●
	Waterways	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookouts	
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	
Comfort	Public toilets	●
	Outdoor showers	●
Dog friendly areas	Off-leash	●
	On-leash	●
	Time share	●
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire	
	Cafes	●
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community hall	●

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails	●
	Mountain biking	●
	Fishing facilities	●
	Snorkelling area	●
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (gas)	
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	●
Sport	Fields/ovals (Council)	●
	Fields/ovals (schools)	
Activities	Community garden	
	Skate park	
	BMX track	
	Outdoor fitness equipment	
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	●
	Bicycle parking	
Community or major events	Open space for markets	
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	

As highlighted in the table above, the Narooma Rural Hinterland area provides a limited range of formal sport and recreation opportunities. However, this is not to say that the area is under-supplied necessarily. Indeed, community survey respondents indicated overall quality ratings of *good* or *great* for every recreation facility other than community halls<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> an interesting response given that Central Tilba and Bodalla both include community halls

## Uses and values

Survey respondents value highly the natural setting, whole family appeal, views to the ocean/lake/river and interaction with the natural environment presented by open space. Aligned to this, the most popular open spaces to visit include:

» the beach	84.2%
» at home	63.2%
» local footpaths	57.9%
» along the river	52.6%
» cycle paths	52.6%

The top five activities that respondents participated in while visiting the open space include:

1. walking	60.0%
2. gardening	50.0%
3. swimming	50.0%
4. fishing	45.0%

Reflecting the dispersed nature of the area, respondents generally visited open space by car. Additionally, more than 80% of respondents are willing to travel more than 15 minutes (with 50% prepared to travel more than 30 minutes) to access quality sport and recreation facilities.

Almost half of respondents have not encountered barriers to accessing open space. However, the two most frequent barriers identified were lack of public transport (27.8%) and lack of toilets (22.2%).



Tilba Tilba Sporting Complex

Residents were also asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and sporting opportunities in Eurobodalla.

Table 49. Narooma Rural Hinterland overall quality of recreation and sport opportunities

	Great	Good	Poor
Aquatic facilities	0%	89.5%	5.3%
Cycle and walkways	26.3%	52.6%	21.1%
Sportsfields	0%	79.0%	10.5%
Playgrounds	0%	73.7%	15.8%
Skate parks	0%	61.1%	16.7%
BMX Tracks	0%	33.3%	16.7%
Foreshore parks / beach access	47.4%	52.6%	0%
Natural bushland parks	36.8%	42.1%	5.3%
Indoor sport and recreation centres	0%	44.4%	33.3%
Places to relax and socialise	31.6%	57.0%	5.3%
Community halls/centres	5.3%	42.1%	47.4%
Activities for youth	0%	44.4%	27.8%
Activities for seniors	0%	50.0%	11.1%
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	5.3%	35.0%	15.8%

With very few open space facilities available within the area, the high rate of nil responses for *great* is to be expected. However, the fact that the majority of facility types are considered appropriate (other than community halls) reflects the willingness of locals to drive to visit facilities.

There were no clear priorities identified for future open spaces. The highest response was improved connections between open spaces (at only 30%).

# Analysis of recreation and open space

## Land for recreation open space

The Narooma Rural Hinterland area has approximately 18ha of recreation open space. Significantly over the desired standard of provision for recreation open space.

80% of community survey respondents noted that they were prepared to travel at least 15 minutes to a quality sport or recreation facility (in fact 50% were prepared to travel more than 30 minutes). With most sections of this planning area within a relatively short drive of more developed areas with district- and or regional-level facilities (e.g. Narooma, Dalmeny, Tuross Head and Moruya), it is not considered necessary to upgrade any of the existing facilities.

## Land for sporting facilities

The standards-based approach has identified a slight under-supply of land for sport. However, with a district-level facility offering opportunities for tennis and field sports in Bodalla and a largely under-utilised field sports and netball facility in Tilba, there appear no demand for any future sport development.

Furthermore, as noted above, residents living in this area accept the need to drive some distance to attend quality sports facilities.

## Activities and experiences

Respondents indicated that they generally drive to visit open spaces - with beaches by far the most popular venues. Despite a lack of formal walk/cycle paths, walking remains the most popular form of recreation (presumably along beach and foreshore areas).

Connectivity across the planning area is limited. In line with the Eurobodalla Pathway Strategy, two key future links are required:

- » an off-road shared pathway between the Bodalla Public School and Bodalla Oval
- » an off-road shared pathway between Central Tilba village and Central Tilba Public School.

## Community halls

The Bodalla Memorial Hall is vastly under-utilised attracting less than 3 hours use each week. The local embroidery group and play group are the key users of the facility.

# Narooma Rural Hinterland area priority actions

### Priority action: improve capacity of existing facilities

A number of facilities are under utilised and/or not being used to their full potential

M44 - Investigate ways to activate the [Bodalla Memorial Hall](#) as a location for low impact recreation activities for seniors, social interaction and community events.



# Dalmeny area



The Dalmeny area is a (geographically) small planning area located on the coast to the north of Narooma. Given the small footprint of the area, it is to be expected that there is limited open space available. In essence, the open space opportunities largely encircle the area following the foreshore.

The area has one of the smaller populations of the planning areas across Eurobodalla. Additionally, this is a younger community than many others - with a median age of 57. Of the 1,972 residents, more than 20% are under the age of 24 years. Furthermore, over a quarter of households have children.

It is also important to note that over a quarter of houses are unoccupied private dwellings. With a quality campground, additional holiday accommodation options, attractive beaches and inlet, Dalmeny is a popular holiday destination.

Despite the attractive nature of the area, limited growth is projected - with only approximately 355 new residents expected. Unlike other areas across Eurobodalla, Dalmeny is not expected to age between 2016 and 2036. This indicates that the current suite of recreation opportunities are likely to remain appropriate into the future.

## Snapshot

Current population (2016)	1,972
0 - 14 years	15.4%
15 - 24 years	6.2%
25 - 34 years	6.3%
35 - 44 years	8.2%
45 - 54 years	9.5%
55 - 64 years	17.9%
65 years and over	36.6%
Median age (2016)	57
Future population (2036)	2,327
Households with children	25.8%
Unoccupied private dwellings	25.2%
Do not have a motor vehicle	2.5%



Rotary Park, Dalmeny

# Open space in Dalmeny

## Current supply

Dalmeny has 88.30ha of open space. Just under a quarter of the network is classified as recreation and sports parks.

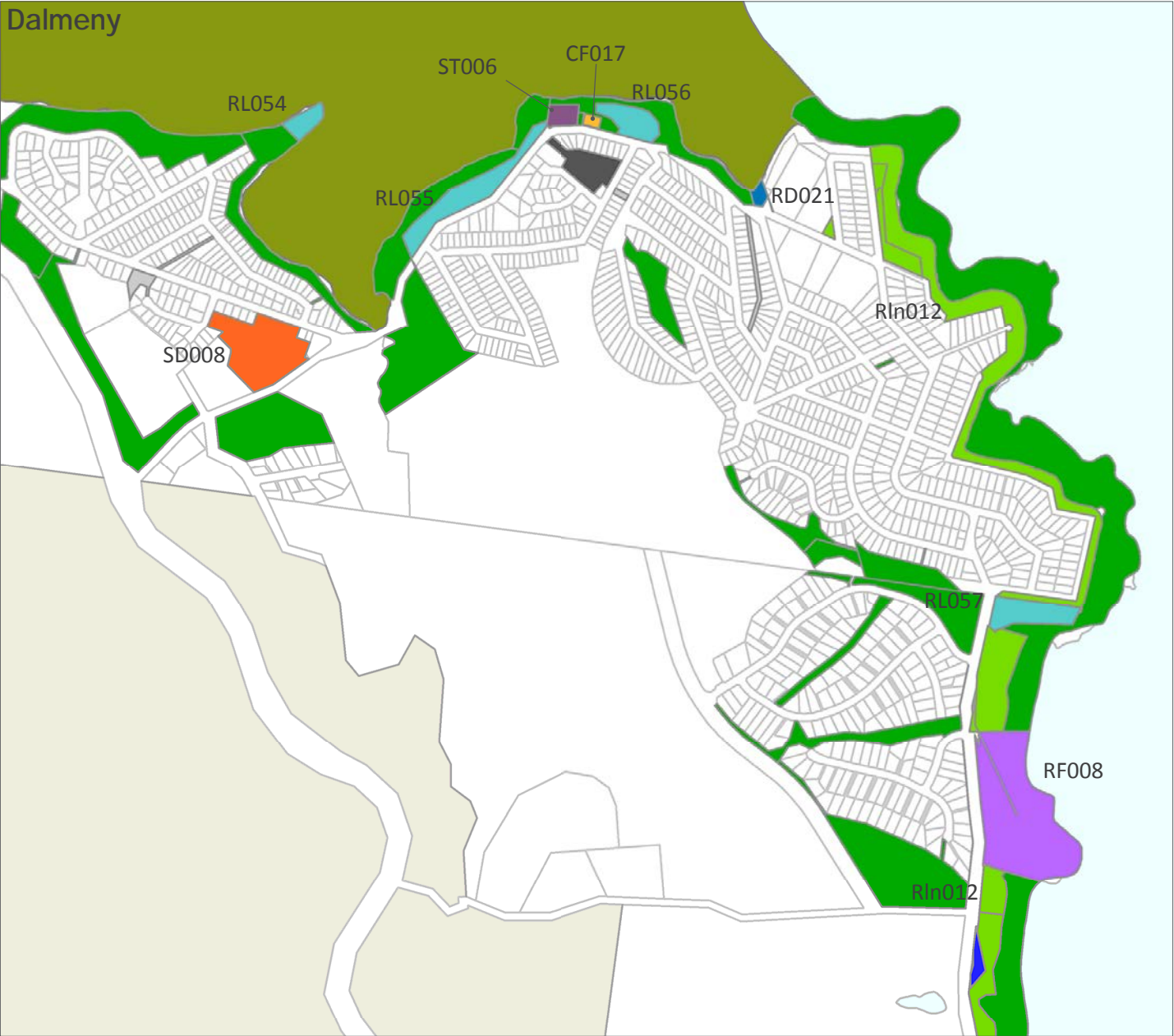
Type of open space	ha	% of current network
» Recreation parks	18.13	20.54
– local recreation park	4.53	5.12
– district recreation park	0.70	0.80
– linear recreation park	6.70	7.58
– formal recreation park	6.21	7.03
» Sports park (district)	3.00	3.40
» Specialised sport (tennis)	0.41	0.47
» Bushland reserves	64.86	73.45
» Community halls	0.11	0.12
» Undeveloped open space	1.09	1.23
» Utility open space	0.69	0.78

Table 50. Dalmeny open space supply

Table 51. Dalmeny open space type

ID	Reserve name	Classification	Ownership
Recreation parks			
RL054	Mummaga Lake Park and Boat ramp	Local	Community
RL055	George Noble Park	Local	Community
RL056	Mort Avenue Reserve	Local	Part Operational, Part Community
RL057	Yabbarra Beach Reserve	Local	Community
RD021	Rotary Park	District	Crown Reserve under Council control
Rln012	Dalmeny Cycleway Reserve	Linear	Crown Reserve under Council control
RF008	Duesbury Point Reserve	Formal	Community
Sports parks			
SD008	Dalmeny Oval	District	Community
Other			
ST006	Dalmeny Tennis Courts	Tennis	Crown Reserve under Council control
CF017	Dalmeny Community Hall	Community hall	Crown Reserve under Council control

# Current and future open space network



## Legend

Recreation parks

Regional recreation park

District recreation park

Local recreation park

Linear recreation park

Beach access park

Formal park

Sports park

Regional sports park

District sports park

Local sports park

Specialised sport

Tennis

Aquatic

Indoor

Natural areas

Bushland reserve

National Park (not Council)

State Forest (not Council)

Other open space

Utility

Undeveloped

Community facilities

## Access to experiences

Despite a limited amount of open space, a range of activities and opportunities exist in the Dalmeny area.

Table 52. Dalmeny experiences

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps	●
	Beach access points	●
	Jetties	●
	Floating pontoon (canoe/ kayak launching facility)	●
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Natural areas	●
	Waterways	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookouts	●
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	
Comfort	Public toilets	●
	Outdoor showers	●
Dog friendly areas	Off-leash	●
	On-leash	●
	Time share	●
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire	●
	Cafes	●
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community hall	●

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails	
	Mountain biking	
	Fishing facilities	●
	Snorkelling area	
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	●
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (gas)	●
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	
Sport	Fields/ovals (Council)	●
	Fields/ovals (schools)	●
Activities	Community garden	
	Skate park	
	BMX track	
	Outdoor fitness equipment	
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	●
	Bicycle parking	●
Community or major events	Open space for markets	
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	

The table above indicates that residents and visitors have access to a range of sport and recreation activities. Not only does the Dalmeny area provide access to quality beaches and foreshores, it also includes a quality district-level field sport facility, tennis courts, community hall, formal recreation parks, picnic facilities and walking and cycling opportunities.



## Uses and values

Open space is clearly important to locals. Every community survey respondent visited open space at least twice each week.

The most popular open space areas (each for more than 90% of respondents) were:

- » beach
- » cycle paths
- » local footpaths.

Other popular locations included homes, coastal reserves/foreshores and bushland.

Reflecting the preferred open space types visited, the top six activities that respondents participated in while visiting open space include:

- |                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1. walking              | 91.7% |
| 2. swimming             | 75.0% |
| 3. gardening            | 66.7% |
| 4. bushwalking          | 58.3% |
| 5. canoe/kayaking       | 58.3% |
| 6. cycling (recreation) | 58.3% |

While there were no stand-out barriers to accessing open space identified, key issues appear to include:

- » lack of toilets
- » don't cater for my mobility needs
- » i can't take my dog.

Residents were also asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and sporting opportunities in Eurobodalla.

Table 53. Dalmeny overall quality of recreation and sport opportunities

	Great	Good	Poor
Aquatic facilities	9.1%	72.8%	9.1%
Cycle and walkways	54.6%	27.3%	18.2%
Sportsfields	10.0%	70.0%	0%
Playgrounds	33.3%	55.6%	11.1%
Skate parks	11.1%	55.6%	0%
BMX Tracks	0%	42.0%	0%
Foreshore parks / beach access	30.0%	70.0%	0%
Natural bushland parks	20.0%	60.0%	0%
Indoor sport and recreation centres	0%	40.0%	30.0%
Places to relax and socialise	27.3%	63.6%	9.1%
Community halls/centres	11.1%	22.2%	44.4%
Activities for youth	0%	11.1%	55.6%
Activities for seniors	0%	54.5%	27.3%
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	9.1%	45.5%	36.4%

Clearly, respondents are not satisfied with the range of opportunities available for young people in the area. As a somewhat younger population, it is essential that facilities and activities exist for all ages.



Dalmeny tennis courts

# Analysis of recreation and open space

## Land for recreation open space

From a standards perspective, Dalmeny area has an adequate supply of recreation open space. With only one small district recreation park, the under-supply of this form of open space is not surprising. However, from a provision perspective this is largely balanced by a significant proportion of quality linear open space.

With a clear demand for additional opportunities for youth, it is recommended that Rotary Park (the existing district recreation park) is further embellished with recreation elements attractive to older youths. Potential embellishments include half court basketball facility and/or dual-sided ball wall.

## Land for sport open space

Dalmeny Oval is the only field sport open space in the area. As a result, there is a projected shortfall in this form of open space by 2036.

However, Dalmeny residents and visitors also have access to tennis and bowls facilities. Additionally, the sports facilities in Narooma and Bodalla are also within a short drive.

## Activities and experiences

While survey respondents noted a preference for outdoor recreation activities, the provision of formal recreation options will remain important. As noted above, youth-focussed embellishments are proposed for Rotary Park. Additionally, ancillary facilities such as player and official dugouts and spectator bench seating would enhance the experiences available at the Dalmeny Oval.

The existing walk/cycle opportunities are extensive. The Eurobodalla Pathway Strategy highlights the need for an off-road shared path linking the foreshore paths with Dalmeny Oval and additional footpaths connecting residential areas and the foreshore.

## Community Hall

The Dalmeny Community Hall (has been recently upgraded to include accessible facilities) is currently significantly under utilised - attracting only five hours use each week. Key users include the Rural Fire Service, bridge club, pilates group, quilters and choir. Each group uses the facility one hour each week (on average).

# Dalmeny area priority actions

### Priority action: improve capacity of existing facilities

A number of facilities are under utilised and/or not being used to their full potential

M45 - Develop youth-focussed activities within [Rotary Park](#). Facilities such as basketball half court and dual-sided ball wall should be considered.

M46 - Provide further ancillary facilities at [Dalmeny Oval](#). Consider development of player and official dugouts and spectator benches.

# Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga area



The town of Narooma is the primary service centre for the Southern Precinct and is supported by residential settlements in North Narooma and Kianga.

The area is well-regarded for the stunning coastline, direct ocean boat access and estuary system. Additionally, the area offers a range of informal and formal sport and recreation opportunities (including Eurobodalla's only year-round aquatic facility). The Sport and Leisure Centre in Narooma is also an important community recreation asset.

Currently, 3,391 people live in the Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga area. Almost 70% of residents are aged 45 years and older. Despite being a popular area for families (and with a number of school options), only 16.1% of the population are under 20 years of age. With a median age of 59, this is an older population.

With a range of fishing, boating, water sports and beach options, the area is a popular holiday destination. Approximately 22.5% of the area's private dwellings are unoccupied (potentially being used as holiday rentals and/or weekend homes) and with a wide range of holiday accommodation options available, the population increases significantly during peak holiday periods and long weekends.

By 2036, the population is expected to have increased only slightly to 3,868. At this time, over one third of the population will be aged 65 years and over.

An ageing population will be looking for informal, low impact recreation activities to participate in. Fortunately, the area is already well established in this regard with quality walk and cycle opportunities, boardwalks and jetties and suitable programs at the Sport and Leisure Centre and Swimming Centre.

Approximately 60 additional young people are projected for the area by 2036. Access to sport and informal play opportunities in the area will continue to be important.

## Snapshot

Current population (2016)	3,391
0 - 14 years	11.3%
15 - 24 years	6.3%
25 - 34 years	6.6%
35 - 44 years	7.8%
45 - 54 years	12.5%
55 - 64 years	21.1%
65 years and over	36.3%
Median age (2016)	59
Future population (2036)	3,868
Households with children	19.1%
Unoccupied private dwellings	22.5%
Do not have a motor vehicle	6.2%

# Open space in Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga

## Current supply

The Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga area has 178.84ha of open space. Recreation and sports parks make up a third of the open space network.

Type of open space	ha	% of current network
» Recreation parks	39.0	21.81
– local recreation park	8.17	4.57
– district recreation park	16.76	9.37
– linear recreation park	11.57	6.47
– beach access park	2.38	1.33
– formal recreation park	0.12	0.07
» Sports park	13.68	7.65
– local sports park	5.01	2.80
– district sports park	8.67	4.85
» Specialised sport	0.95	0.53
– aquatic	0.31	0.17
– indoor sport	0.32	0.18
– tennis	0.32	0.18
» Bushland reserves	117.91	65.93
» Community halls	0.84	0.47
» Undeveloped open space	1.04	0.58
» Utility open space	5.44	3.04

Table 54. Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga open space supply

ID	Reserve name	Classification	Ownership
Recreation parks			
RL043	Kianga Point Lookout	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RL044	Mill Bay Boardwalk Park	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RL045	Quota Park	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RL046	Narooma Skatepark	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
RL047	Walker Park	Local	Community
RL048	Bill Robinson Park	Local	Community
RD017	Apex Park Boat ramp and Pontoon	District	Crown Reserve under Council control
RD019	Ken Rose Park	District	Crown Reserve under Council control
RD020	Rotary Park (Narooma)	District	Crown Reserve under Council control
Rln009	Narooma Cycleway	Linear	Crown Reserve under Council control
Rln010	Dalmeny/Kianga Cyclway Reserve	Linear	Crown Reserve under Council control
BA013	Narooma Beach Reserve	Beach access	Crown Reserve under Council control
BA014	Dalmeny Cycleway Reserve	Beach access	Crown Reserve under Council control

Table 55. Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga open space type



BA018	Wagonga Lookout Reserve	Formal	Crown Reserve under Council control
RF010	Thomson Park	Formal	Community
Sports parks			
SL005	NATA Oval	Local	Crown Reserve under Council control
SD009	Narooma Sporting Complex	District	Crown Reserve under Council control
Other			
SA003	Narooma Aquatic Centre	Aquatic centre	Crown Reserve under Council control
SI003	Indoor Leisure Centre	Indoor sport	Crown Reserve under Council control
ST007	Narooma Tennis Courts	Tennis	Crown Reserve under Council control
CF014	Narooma Library	Community hall	Operational
CF015	Narooma Surf Life Saving Club	Community hall	Crown Reserve under Council control

Narooma tennis courts, Narooma



Quota Park, Narooma



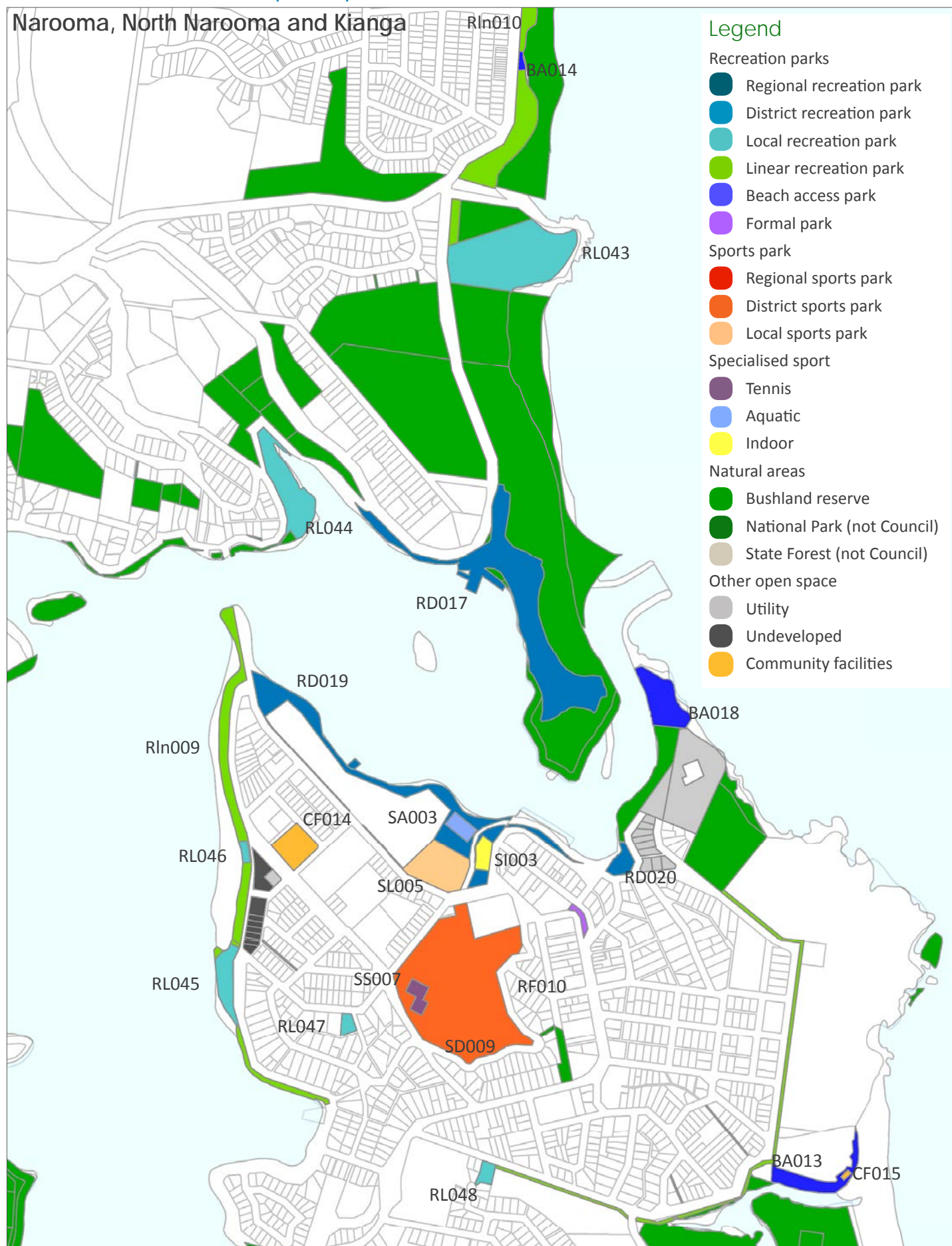
Ken Rose Park, Narooma



Bill Smyth Oval, Narooma



## Current and Future open space network



## Access to experiences

As a more densely populated area within Eurobodalla, the open space network in the Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga area offers a wide variety of experiences and activities for residents and visitors. Experiences include:

Table 56. Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga experiences

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Water-based recreation	Boat ramps	●
	Beach access points	●
	Jetties	●
	Floating pontoon (canoe/ kayak launching facility)	●
Access to nature	Undeveloped green space	●
	Natural areas	●
	Waterways	●
Escape, break-out and recreation areas	Lookouts	●
	Shaded seating areas	●
	Formal/structured gardens	
Comfort	Public toilets	●
	Outdoor showers	●
Dog friendly areas	Off-leash	●
	On-leash	●
	Time share	●
Economic opportunities	Equipment/activity hire	●
	Cafes	●
Indoor recreation/ community meetings	Community hall	●

Activity/ Experience	Supporting embellishments/facilities	
Outdoor recreation	Bushwalking trails	●
	Mountain biking	●
	Fishing facilities	●
	Snorkelling area	●
Picnics	Covered gazebos to cater for large groups	●
	Table, seats and shade	●
	BBQ facilities (gas)	●
Playgrounds	Toddler	●
	Young children	●
	Youth	●
Sport	Fields/ovals (Council)	●
	Fields/ovals (schools)	●
Activities	Community garden	●
	Skate park	●
	BMX track	
	Outdoor fitness equipment	●
Walking and cycling	Footpaths	●
	Shared paths/cycleways	●
	Bicycle parking	●
Community or major events	Open space for markets	●
	Amphitheatre/gazebo/stage	

As highlighted in the table above, the Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga area provides an array of recreation opportunities. These results were reflected in the community survey where the quality of almost all sport and recreation opportunities was rated as *good* and *great*. Interestingly, the one area noted as poor was *activities for youth*. This finding was echoed in local school visits where desire was for more adventure-based play and areas for motorbikes and mountain bikes.

It should be noted that this is the only planning area within Eurobodalla to include indoor sport, a year-round covered aquatic facility, formal fields and courts, a range of play and picnic opportunities and a walk/cycle path system.



## Use and values

Unlike many of the planning areas across Eurobodalla, residents living in Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga have limited direct access to bushland. However, being surrounded by quality beaches and an estuary system, it is understandable that community survey respondents highly value the natural setting of the open space network (87%) and the interaction with the natural environment (73.9%).

Other popular responses included:

- » they are close to my home 69.6%
- » views they provide to the ocean/river/lake 65.2%.

All the residents that completed the survey visited the open spaces in the area at least once a fortnight, the majority visiting most days or more (69.5%). The five most popular open spaces to visit were:

1. the beach 82.6%
2. cycle paths 60.9%
3. local footpaths 47.8%
4. sports ground or court 47.8%
5. at home 43.5%.

The top five activities that respondents participated in while visiting the open space include:

1. walking 78.3%
2. gardening 60.9%
3. swimming 39.1%
4. organised sport 39.1%
5. exercise in the park 39.1%.

Importantly, survey respondents noted limited barriers to open space use in this area, with more than half indicating no barriers at all.

Residents were also asked to rate the overall quality of the recreation and sporting opportunities in Eurobodalla.

Table 57. Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga overall quality of recreation and sport opportunities

	Great	Good	Poor
Aquatic facilities	38.1%	23.8%	4.7%
Cycle and walkways	73.9%	21.7%	4.4%
Sportsfields	13.6%	50.0%	18.2%
Playgrounds	28.6%	42.9%	0%
Skate parks	20.0%	45.0%	0%
BMX Tracks	5.3%	5.3%	10.5%
Foreshore parks / beach access	45.5%	54.5%	0%
Natural bushland parks	31.8%	50.0%	0%
Indoor sport and recreation centres	9.5%	47.6%	19.1%
Places to relax and socialise	22.7%	72.7%	0%
Community halls/centres	9.5%	42.9%	23.8%
Activities for youth	0%	15.0%	35.0%
Activities for seniors	9.1%	40.9%	4.6%
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	5.0%	50.0%	10.0%

These results highlight, generally, outstanding results for the Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga area. For instance, results such as 100% of respondents noting foreshore parks/beach access as *good* or *great* are a testament to Council's achievements.

Interestingly, *activities for youth* rated quite poorly. Engagement with local school students highlighted a desire for outdoor recreation activities such as fishing, boating, mountain bike riding and motorcross (rather than traditional play elements). Use of formal playgrounds was not high.

When residents were asked their opinion on what the top three open space priorities should be over the next ten years, the top responses were:

- » improved quality of sportsgrounds
- » provision of places/facilities for young people.



# Analysis of recreation and open space

## Land for recreation open space

The Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga area has approximately 39ha of recreation open space. This represents a significant over-supply of recreation land (approximately 34ha) (using the desired standards of service and population data).

Importantly, much of the open space network is located along the foreshores, facilitating the quality views and natural setting that are so important to residents. A number of the local recreation parks in the area are themed to reflect the waterside nature of the area.

The standards-based analysis has indicated suitable open space supply, however, facility inspections and community engagement have highlighted the need for additional large covered shelters that can accommodate group gatherings.

### 1. Apex Park, North Narooma

Apex Park is a district-level recreation park with existing barbecues, picnic settings, quality play opportunities and access to both the beach and estuary. It has significant car parking and quality boat ramp. As such, it is well-suited to the development of a large covered gathering area (shelter).

### 2. Rotary Park, Narooma

Like Apex Park, Rotary Park is a popular district-level recreation park. It is well-located near to the boardwalk (and boat moorings) and the headland lookouts. The Park also offers stunning water views. Recent play upgrades have seen this facility attract additional patronage and opportunity exists to develop a larger shelter suitable for group gatherings.



Example of a themed play node in Narooma

## Land for sporting facilities

While the standards-based approach has identified an over-supply of sport land well into the future, this does not necessarily reflect the existing sport demand.

Bill Smyth Oval is the only field-based sports facility in the area. It is home to strong rugby league and AFL clubs (and also netball and tennis). It is difficult for rugby league and AFL teams to share this single-field facility and with more than 400 members between the clubs. Additional field space is required.

Rather than look to develop a new facility elsewhere within the area, the development of an additional lit field at the southern end of Bill Smyth Oval is preferred. These changes will require significant earthworks. Further, the rugby league clubs (given the smaller field size requirements) and Council will need to determine whether this new field would only be used for training or whether it would also become a home for matches. If relocation of both training and matches is preferred, player facilities (dugouts) and spectator facilities (mounding, portable grandstands and benches) are likely to be required.

In conjunction with these investigations, facility-wide requirements for storage, additional change rooms and covered social area should be investigated.

The Narooma Tennis Club reports that the lighting on the three older courts is particularly low. If this can be rectified easily (e.g. through bulb maintenance) this should be undertaken. However, if significant resources are required, these works should be held off until the club achieves growth and attracts additional participation.

## Activities and experiences

Walking along the beach and path network is by far the most popular recreation activity. This is well supported by a quality series of walk/cycle paths along the foreshores and numerous access points to the beach. Facilities such as lookouts, boardwalks, viewing platforms, amenities and car parks further enhance the quality of the walking experience.

Connectivity across the planning area is appropriate with most open spaces, community facilities and shopping precincts well linked.

Information signage is located at key points of interest such as the lookouts across the Narooma ocean bar crossing.

## Community hall

Access to community 'hall' space is provided at the Sport and Leisure Centre, within the Swimming Centre and in the HACC Room at the library. None of these facilities are particularly heavily used (and it is important to note that a number of breakout rooms and spaces are available for hire at the Narooma Golf Club).

The Sport and Leisure Centre is used for PCYC activities, boxing, martial arts and exercise classes. Community meetings are also conducted at the Centre.



The clubroom within the swimming centre is used for exercise classes, yoga and swimming club activities

## Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga priority actions

### Priority action: enhance existing destination parks

There is a current lack of picnic facilities for large groups

M50 - Install covered shelters with numerous tables (to cater for large groups in the one area) at [Apex Park, North Narooma](#).

M51 - Install covered shelters with numerous tables (to cater for large groups in the one area) at [Rotary Park, Narooma](#).

### Priority action: improve capacity of existing facilities

A number of facilities in the area are under utilised and/or not being used to their full potential due

M47 - Develop a master plan for [Bill Smyth Oval](#). The following developments should be considered as part of the master plan:

- » opportunities to develop a lit rugby league field at the southern end of the facility
- » opportunities to enhance the functionality of the existing clubhouse
- » demand for increased tennis court lighting.

M4 - Develop a master plan for [Narooma Swimming Centre](#) after the Mackay Park planning exercise is complete. Potential opportunities to consider include:

- » additional signage (increasing facility presence)
- » heater pump and air treatment processes upgrade
- » potential development of leisure water.

M10 - Expand and upgrade the [skate park](#). Ensure ancillary facilities such as covered seating and water bubblers are considered.

M48 - Investigate ways to promote and activate the [Sport and Leisure Centre](#) as a potential location for a wide range of sport and recreation activities.

M49 - Investigate ways to promote and activate the [Swimming Centre clubroom](#) and [HACC Room at the library](#) as locations for low impact recreation activities for seniors and social interaction.

### Priority action: redistribution of assets

Sections of the open space network have no recreation or conservation value

M52 - Investigate options for reclassification, subdivision and sale of Lot 558, DP 752155 for residential purposes.

# Future open space supply

The Strategy includes a range of recommendations including facility upgrades (and hierarchy changes) and rationalisations. This table represents a summary of the changes from the current to the proposed future open space network.

Table 58. Future open space supply

Open space classification	Current provision (ha)	Proposed provision (ha)	Change (ha)
<b>Total open space network</b>	<b>2,589.18</b>	<b>2,581.65</b>	<b>-7.52</b>
<b>Recreation parks</b>	<b>237.44</b>	<b>247.86</b>	<b>+10.41</b>
Local recreation parks	57.50	48.83	-8.67
District recreation parks	56.37	68.47	+12.10
Regional recreation parks	37.20	44.09	+6.89
Linear recreation parks	57.41	57.51	+0.10
Beach access parks	10.97	10.97	no change
Formal recreation parks	17.98	17.98	no change
<b>Sports parks</b>	<b>93.66</b>	<b>84.87</b>	<b>-8.79</b>
Local sports parks	12.38	3.59	-8.79
District sports parks	64.81	46.09	-18.72
Regional sports parks	16.48	35.19	+18.72
<b>Specialised sport</b>	<b>5.51</b>	<b>5.51</b>	<b>no change</b>
Tennis	2.90	2.90	no change
Indoor sports facility	0.56	0.56	no change
Aquatic facility	2.05	2.05	no change
<b>Other</b>	<b>2,252.56</b>	<b>2,243.41</b>	<b>-9.15</b>
Community halls	4.64	4.64	no change
Bushland reserves	2,211.38	2,205.76	-5.61
Undeveloped open space	17.74	14.22	-3.52
Utility open space	18.80	18.79	-0.01



# Action Plan

The Recreation and Open Space Strategy represents an opportunity for Council to maintain and build upon the diversity of sporting facilities and recreation parks for locals and visitors.

Implementation of the recommendations outlined in this Strategy will require strong leadership, appropriate resources from Council and a commitment to making some difficult decisions.

The dominant theme that came through the range of engagement processes and analysis is a direction to maintain and upgrade the existing network without necessarily focussing on building more facilities. There is limited population growth across Eurobodalla. As a result, population-related demand for additional facilities is very limited. In essence, the focus of the Strategy is to embrace the quality open space facilities that Council (and the community) has achieved - to further activate existing open spaces through programming and tailored facility upgrades and embellishment.

One of Council's key requests in the development of this Strategy was the need to ensure it was realistic and achievable for the community and Council. As a result, a number of unactioned recommendations that were included in the 2010 Strategy have not been included in this Strategy as they would have created a long list of unrealistic community expectations. Similarly, the Strategy includes a number of facility requests from the community and sporting clubs.

While this Strategy presents a key guiding vision for Council (and the community), the overlaying issue will be the capacity to fund it. Exact individual project timing will be dependant on the availability of necessary funding (be it from local clubs, Council, State or Australian Governments).

The recommendations of this study are detailed below and are grouped into three strategic areas:

- » Council policies, coordination and management arrangements
- » maintenance and improvement of existing facilities and programs
- » new facilities, programs and initiatives.

Priorities are assigned for each action. A high recommendation should be undertaken as soon as resources allow while medium (in the next 5 years) and low priorities (in the next 5-20 years) are not as urgent. Indicative costs are provided for the total project cost (not necessarily Council's financial burden). More detailed costing should be undertaken for each project as its nears commencement.

## Abbreviations for responsibility groups

CARS	Community, Arts and Recreation
CCS	Corporate and Commercial Services
C&E	Communication and Engagement
IS	Infrastructure Services
PSS	Planning and Sustainability Services



## Council policies, coordination and management arrangements

Action No.	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Indicative cost
C1	Appoint an officer to take the lead role on overseeing implementation and review of the Recreation and Open Space Strategy	High	CARS	
C2	Develop a communication package from Council to inform club office bearers of key Council contacts, responsibilities and processes. Distribute the package annually	High	CARS	
C3	Council to develop a minimum standard of ancillary facility provision. Items for consideration include player and officials benches, spectator seating and mounds and opportunities for cover from the elements	High	CARS IS PSS	
C4	With a number of existing clubhouses requiring upgrade, renewal or reconfiguration (e.g. Captain Oldrey Park, Gundry Oval and Bill Smyth Oval), opportunity exists to reconsider the minimum inclusions in these style of buildings. It is recommended that facilities such as two change rooms (preferably with an ability to be converted to four smaller change rooms), officials change area, public amenities, first aid area, canteen, significant storage and social area all become considered as base development. If clubs want additional or alternate facilities, a partnership funding approach should be examined (as addressed in the Community Infrastructure Guidelines)	High	CARS IS PSS	
C5	Continue to partner with (and support) a range of external providers (e.g. scouts/girl guides, mountain bike and bushwalking clubs, canoe/kayak hire providers) to facilitate and promote outdoor recreation opportunities using existing facilities and human resources	High	CARS PSS	
C6	Partner with NSW National Park and Wildlife Services and Forestry Corporation of NSW to investigate physical linkage between sites and/or the open space network. Also investigate opportunities for joint hosting of events such as mountain bike races	High	CARS PSS	
C7	Ensure the promotion of bushland reserves and waterways provides visitors (and residents) with an understanding of the focus for conservation management, traditional owner requirements, facilities and services offered	High	CARS PSS	
C8	Enhance the use of community halls by promoting them as key venues for community groups seeking meeting spaces, social areas and facilities for passive recreation. Where this approach fails to achieve increased usage rates (and disposal is deemed as not palatable by the local community), consider transferring management and maintenance of the facility to a community group under trust	High	CARS PSS	
C9	Where the self-management and self-funding model for tennis clubs does not result in increased rates of usage and facility upgrades, investigate rationalising the facility	High	CARS	
C10	Continue to facilitate physical activity programs (e.g. similar to Live Life Eurobodalla), community programs (e.g. community garden projects), events (e.g. Batemans Bay Paddle Challenge) and performing arts (e.g. buskers) within the open space network	High	CARS PSS	\$60,000

Action No.	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Indicative cost
C11	Ensure Mackay Park remains open to the public when not in use by sporting clubs	High	CARS	
C12	Continue to conduct come and try days for the youth and families to try BMX riding at the BMX Park, Catalina	High	CARS	\$3,000
C13	Install 'Smoking Prohibited' notices as per legislation and as part of 'grouped' signage at priority playgrounds and sportsground spectator areas	High	CARS	
C14	A sports field lighting policy should be developed to guide future provision. Preferably, each sporting facility should have at least one sports field lit to the relevant training standard. Additionally, winter season outdoor sports should have access to at least one (but preferably three - north, central and south) fields with competition standard lighting	High	CARS C&E	
C15	Council should assist clubs to develop Club Development Plans. Club Development Plans can then become requirements within the Community Infrastructure Guidelines	High	CARS	
C16	Investigate the feasibility of running additional skateboard/scooter events at the Hanging Rock Sports Complex skate park	Medium	CARS	\$5,000
C17	Investigate inter-generation activities within the Hanging Rock Sporting Complex. The close proximity of the Batemans Bay library and sporting ovals and skate park create opportunities for mixed age activities	Medium	CARS	
C18	Develop a suite of outdoor recreation and environmental interpretive programs within key bushland reserves (e.g. outdoor classrooms at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens and at unused clubhouses such as South Durras Sporting Oval)	Medium	CARS IS PSS	
C19	Review Strava data (and heat maps) to understand popular routes and routes in inappropriate locations	Medium	CARS IS PSS	
C20	Encourage the continuation of effective communication channels with schools regarding continued community use of school facilities  While many of the indoor sports halls that were developed under the Federal Government's Building the Education Revolution program will not be of particular benefit for club sport (given inadequate run-offs and storage issues), they can play a role in provision of unstructured recreation opportunities	Medium	CARS	
C21	Ensure new and/or upgrades to footpaths and shared paths include supporting infrastructure such as seating, water bubblers, shade and lighting	Various	IS	
C22	Install directional and information signage at key points of interest, community facilities and service locations.	Various	IS	

## Maintenance and improvement of existing facilities and programs

Action No.	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Indicative cost
M1 M2 M3 M4	Undertake master plans for key sports facilities: » Hanging Rock precinct (review) » Bill Smyth Oval » Kyla Park » Narooma Swimming Centre.	High	CARS PSS	\$25,000 (each)
M5	Develop athletics facilities and additional storage centrally within the Shire	High	CARS	
M6	Develop a capital works program for recreation infrastructure within bushland reserves. Key projects identified by Council to-date include the Batemans Bay coastal headlands walking and cycling trail, Batemans Bay 100km mountain bike track, Deua Valley wilderness trail, multi-discipline mountain bike park and expanding the existing kayak trails.	High	PSS IS	
M7	Undertake user satisfaction surveys at key sites to determine participation rates, user satisfaction and supply gaps. Potential exists to use QR codes at key facilities (such as trailheads) to access the survey.	Medium	PSS CARS	
M8 M9 M10	Upgrade existing wheeled action sport precincts » Batemans Bay » Moruya » Narooma	Medium Low Low	CARS PSS	\$130,000 \$60,000 \$60,000
M11 M12 M13 M14 M15 M16 M17	Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland » Rationalise Lot 84, DP259212 currently undeveloped open space. Divide the land into two lots (approximately 600m <sup>2</sup> each) and investigate the sale of the two lots for residential purposes. » Promote (especially in Mogo) the presence of the natural playground in the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens » Convert South Durras Sporting Oval into an informal recreation park and build a playground near the South Durras Skate Park » Investigate potential future uses for the clubhouse building at South Durras Sporting Oval » Convert Mogo Sporting Oval into an informal recreation park and upgrade the existing play opportunities » Investigate ways to promote and activate the Durras Progress Hall » Install directional and information signage around the Hinterland	High High Medium Medium Medium Medium Medium	CARS PSS IS CCS	\$125,000 \$125,000 \$25,000

Action No.	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Indicative cost
M18	Investigate potential future uses for the clubhouse building at Mogo Sporting Oval. Uses could include: » men's shed » playgroup/local mothers club » rented out for private uses (e.g. storage, local artist studio).	High	CARS	
M19	Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay » Retain land adjacent to Surfside Sporting Fields and Batemans Bay Public School Lot 2, DP1044536 as a vegetation buffer close to wetland	High		
M20	» Retain Lot 1, DP871237 potentially for future multipurpose use that may include a northern community garden along with sporting facilities at Blairs Road Long Beach	High		
M21	» Upgrade Sandy Place Reserve to a district recreation park	Medium		\$350,000
M22	» Install directional and information signage around the area	Medium		\$25,000
M23	» Construct a set of swings at Maloneys Beach reserve near the toilet block. (Include consultation in advance with Maloneys Beach Residents Association and local tai chi group regarding location and configuration)	Medium		\$20,000
M24	» If population growth and demand warrants, upgrade Hibiscus Close Reserve to a district recreation park	Low		\$200,000



Action No.	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Indicative cost
M25	Batemans Bay and Catalina » Upgrade various facilities at the Hanging Rock Sporting Complex including: – the north-east fields to a regional quality – amenity block adjacent to the north east fields – install bench seats, spectator facilities and shade structures around the site	High High Medium	CARS	\$180,000 \$250,000 \$190,000
M26	» Upgrade the play at Rotary Park (Batemans Bay) to a local recreation standard	Medium		\$30,000
M27	Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Beach and Denhams Beach » Upgrade Corrigans Beach Reserve according to the master plan directions	High	CARS IS PSS	
M28	» Upgrade ancillary facilities at Wimbie Beach Reserve	Medium		
M29	» Improve the picnic facilities at Batehaven Observation Point Reserve	Medium		\$310,000 \$20,000
M30	Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay » Rationalise Lot 1110, DP236653, currently undeveloped open space	High	CARS IS PSS	
M31	» Upgrade the picnic facilities and provide shade structures at Malua Bay Community Reserve	High		
M32	» Upgrade Burri Point Reserve to a district recreation park, with a focus on outdoor recreation activities	High Medium		\$110,000 \$140,000
M33	Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee » Lot 74, DP776541 currently utility open space. Divide the land and keep the section with utility infrastructure and investigate sale of the remaining land	High	CARS IS	
M34	» Upgrade Heath Street Reserve, Broulee to a district recreation park	High		\$700,000
M35	» Investigate ways to promote and activate the Tomakin and Captain Oldrey Community Halls	High		
M36	» Upgrade Jack Buckley Park to a district recreation park	Medium		\$340,000
M37	» Captain Oldrey master plan – Short-term projects – Medium-term project – Long-term projects	High Medium Low		\$1,293,000 \$789,000 \$765,000

Action No.	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Indicative cost
M38	Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads		CARS IS	
	» Gundry Oval master plan	High		\$750,000
	– Short-term projects	Medium		\$630,000
	– Medium-term project	Low		\$4,637,000
M39	» Moruya Showgrounds master plan	High		\$426,000
	– Short-term projects	Medium		\$1,416,000
	– Medium-term project	Low		\$584,000
	– Long-term projects	Medium		\$55,000
M40	» Install directional and information signage along the Moruya Cycleway and at key points of interest			
M41	Moruya Rural Hinterland		CARS IS	
	» Upgrade the play opportunities and seating at Congo Reserve given the site's popularity	High		\$50,000
M42	Tuross Head		CARS IS	
	» Upgrade Evans Road Reserve to a district level	High		\$275,000
M43	» Investigate ways to promote and activate the Kyla Park Hall	High		
M44	Narooma Rural Hinterland		CARS	
	» Investigate ways to activate the Bodalla Memorial Hall	High		
M45	Dalmeny		CARS IS	
	» Develop youth-focussed activities within Rotary Park	High		\$17,000
M46	» Provide further ancillary facilities at Dalmeny Oval	Medium		\$28,000
M47	Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga		CARS IS	
	» Investigate the development of an additional rugby league field at Bill Smyth Oval	High		
M48	» Investigate ways to promote and activate the Sport and Leisure Centre	High		
M49	» Investigate ways to promote and activate the Swimming Centre clubroom and HACC Room at the library	High		
M50	» Install covered shelters with numerous tables (to cater for large groups in the one area) at Apex Park, North Narooma	Medium		\$70,000
M51	» Install covered shelters with numerous tables (to cater for large groups in the one area) at Rotary Park, Narooma	Medium		\$70,000
M52	» Investigate options for reclassification, subdivision and sale of Lot 558, DP 752155 for residential purposes	Medium		

## New facilities, programs and initiatives

Action No.	Action	Priority	Responsibility	Indicative cost
N1	Undertake walk/cycle path development with consideration of Council's Pathway Strategy	Various	PSS CARS IS	as listed in the Pathway Strategy
N2	Undertake a feasibility study into the provision of an indoor multi-court sport and recreation facility to cater for a number of sports including gymnastics, basketball, netball, dancing, archery and martial arts (amongst others). Opportunity may exist to develop such a facility in-line with proposed Mackay Park precinct changes or through expansion of the existing Hanging Rock facility.	High	PSS CARS IS	\$30,000 (study) \$3,000,000 (depending on ultimate design)
N3	Investigate carefully the feasibility of potential development of a year-round access indoor aquatic facility in conjunction with the Mackay Park precinct planning exercise	High	PSS CARS IS	
N4 N5	Construct new wheeled action sport precincts: » Tuross Head » Broulee	High Low	CARS	\$160,000 \$290,000

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# Appendix

Appendix 1 - Open space typologies and estimated costs

Appendix 2 - Embellishment costs (indicative)

Appendix 3 - Engagement outcomes

Appendix 4 - Planning area population data

# Appendix 1

## Open space typologies and estimated costs

### Local recreation park

#### Description and intent

Local recreation open space (parks) provide a range of recreation opportunities for local residents. These parks contain limited infrastructure, yet offer local community benefits.

Local recreation parks are intended to offer residents a complementary open space to their backyards and the beaches. They are likely to attract users from a small catchment area (about 400m radius) and generally cater for short visits by individuals or small groups.

Local recreation parks will be centrally located to the catchment or as hubs along recreation corridors (where such corridors exist). There are many cost and land efficiencies (such as from dual use of land and consolidation of embellishments) that can be gained by developing hubs along pathways that connect key community areas such as: residents to schools, retail hubs etc.

Where a number of parks are to be provided, or are to receive embellishment upgrades within an area or community, community recreation master plans may be developed. These plans will ensure that the park embellishment suitably and collectively meets the needs and demands of the community. Furthermore, each park should complement nearby open space and be relevant to the local area, its character and demographic.

#### Design considerations

The following elements should be considered when designing and developing a local recreation open space:

- » park to be located in a residential area and easy for residents to walk and ride to
- » facilities to be clustered in an activity area, ideally located under natural shade where possible
- » mix of 3 activity options, such as:
  - basic toddler play (spring toy, slide and swing)
  - rebound wall
  - path circuit
  - flat kick-about area
  - multi-generational equipment to service a range of age groups
  - multi-functional equipment which can be used for both play and exercise (e.g. parkour equipment, monkey bars)
- » picnic table and seats to be located where they can oversee and access the activity area (preferably under a shade tree), along the internal path
- » surveillance of the majority of the park should be available from adjacent properties and from the road
- » internal paths to connect to on-road pathway system and connect to the key activity area in the park. If the park can act as a short cut for pedestrians it may also encourage them to stop and utilise the facilities
- » embellishments in the parks complement those in nearby parks (increasing the range of facilities available to nearby residents) and be relevant to the local area's character and demographic
- » design and embellishment of parks reflect the demographic desires of the local catchment .

## Estimated cost<sup>1</sup>

Item	Rate	Measure	Quantity	Total
TOTAL				\$126,800
Recreation activity areas				
– basic play (per item) such as swing, spring toy etc	7,700	item	2	\$15,400
– multi-purpose half court with either backboard and hoop or rebound wall	14,000	item	1	\$14,000
Fencing				
– bollard	160	item	150	\$24,000
Landscaping				
– park trees	250	item	5	\$1,250
Park lighting	8,000	item	2	\$16,000
Pathways (concrete)	120	m <sup>2</sup>	300	\$36,000
Park furniture				
– small park sign	1,000	item	1	\$1,000
– shade structures (soft)	150	m <sup>2</sup>	100	\$15,000
– water bubbler (including connection)	3,000	item	1	\$3,000
– bench seating (over concrete slab)	2,900	item	2	\$5,800
– park table and seats (over concrete slab)	5,200	item	1	\$5,200
– bins	2,100	item	1	\$2,100

<sup>1</sup> All costs have been developed by considering Council's existing rates and industry standard (where Council rates were not available)

# District recreation park

## Description and intent

District recreation open space parcels are larger sized parks providing a range of opportunities and activity spaces for recreation. These parks have facilities to cater for large groups and are appealing to a wide range of users. District recreation parks can service several suburbs depending on population density, and are well known destinations for those people living within their catchment. Ideally, district recreation parks are located near social infrastructure such as schools, community centres and halls.

## Design considerations

The following elements should be considered when designing and developing a district recreation open space:

- » design should reflect a broad range of needs (i.e. something for all ages and abilities)
- » one main activity node which has clusters of activities for different age groups (i.e. park equipment designed for teenagers to be together, and near to the activity node for younger age groups). This helps separate the age cohorts but keeps all activities in one larger area to assist carers monitoring activities
- » the activity area could include (in addition to those listed in the local recreation park type):
  - skate park, climbing structure, outdoor table tennis
  - bike activity track/learn-to-cycle facility
  - outdoor exercise stations
  - all-abilities play (design and layout should seek to integrate all of the play facilities together to provide social inclusion and integration of all abilities)
  - gazebos for larger groups
  - unisex toilets
  - grouped picnic facilities
- » activity area to be ideally located under natural shade, however, may be supplemented by artificial shade
- » there should be clear sight-lines into the park from nearby road and other land uses, especially the main activity area
- » picnic areas located where they oversee the activity area
- » embellishments in the parks could be themed
- » if there are multiple district recreation parks in the same suburb/s each should have a range of (preferably different) recreation opportunities
- » amenities to be near road and activity area for surveillance
- » pathways link areas within the park and externally
- » off-street car parking is required.



## Estimated cost

Item	Rate	Measure	Quantity	Total
TOTAL				\$775,020
Recreation activity areas				
– basic play (per item) such as swing, spring toy etc	7,700	item	1	\$7,700
– advanced play (modular kit-style play of moderate size (10 activities)	70,500	item	1	\$70,500
– medium climbing structure	35,000	item	1	\$35,000
– softfall	50	m <sup>2</sup>	1,000	\$50,000
Fencing				
– bollard	160	item	300	\$48,000
Landscaping				
– park trees	250	item	30	\$7,500
– turf	8	m <sup>2</sup>	4,000	\$33,600
Park lighting	8,000	item	5	\$40,000
Pathways	120	m <sup>2</sup>	1000	\$120,000
Toilet block	180,000	item	1	\$180,000
Park furniture				
– bike racks	1,600	item	1	\$1,600
– small park sign	1,000	item	2	\$2,000
– shade structures (soft)	150	m <sup>2</sup>	200	\$30,000
– water bubbler (including connection)	3,000	item	2	\$6,000
– bench seating (over concrete slab)	2,900	item	3	\$8,700
– barbecue(s)	14,000	item	1	\$14,000
– picnic shelters, including table and seats (over concrete slab)	16,000	item	2	\$32,000
– bins	2,100	item	4	\$8,400

# Regional recreation park

## Description and intent

These open spaces are major recreation parks that offer a wide variety of opportunities to a broad cross-section of Eurobodalla's population and visitors. They are large, embellished for recreation, are well-known amongst residents and are major destinations.

People are usually content spending several hours in these parks. Regional recreation parks offer unique experiences. They are often used to host large community events such as carols in the park, Australia Day celebrations and other festivals. Regional parks offer exciting and no cost activities for residents and visitors.

## Design considerations

The following elements should be considered when designing and developing a regional recreation open space:

- » undertake a master plan of the park. This is likely to include a long-term vision that can take many years to activate (potentially 10-15 years). The master plan should be staged so that it can be rolled out as demand is generated (and as resources allow)
- » community input into the design of the park should occur (at master plan stage and as changes occur). This is important as the community will have specific thoughts and concerns regarding this level of park
- » design must consider all age groups, people of all abilities and different cultural backgrounds
- » detailed design is often required for specific elements
- » multiple activity nodes may exist. However, these nodes will be unique, not replicated within the park and will add to the overall quality and attractiveness of the park
- » potential to have some low key commercial activity such as kiosks, cafes, museums
- » potential to have an array of buildings that offer some community service such as a nursery offering free street trees, environmental education centres, community training rooms, libraries etc.
- » park to be located where people can access easily
- » park should preferably have a variety of settings, from natural areas to highly-embellished activity areas.

## Estimated cost

Item	Rate	Measure	Quantity	Total
TOTAL				\$3,003,020
Recreation activity areas				
– basic play (per item) such as swing, spring toy etc	7,700	item	3	\$23,100
– advanced play (modular kit-style play of moderate size (10 activities)	70,560	item	1	\$70,560
– large climbing structure	42,000	item	1	\$42,000
– exercise stations (per item)	7,700	item	5	\$38,500
– amphitheatre	150,000	item	1	\$150,000
– softfall	50	m <sup>2</sup>	2,500	\$125,000
Fencing				
– bollard	160	item	500	\$80,000
Landscaping				
– garden beds and plants	75	m <sup>2</sup>	2,000	\$150,000
– park trees	250	item	100	\$25,000
– turf	8	m <sup>2</sup>	6,000	\$48,000
Park lighting	8,000	item	12	\$96,000
Pathways (concrete)	120	m <sup>2</sup>	2,500	\$300,000
Toilet block	180,000	item	2	\$360,000
Vehicular movement				
– off-road car parking	3,750	car park	20	\$75,000
– internal road (includes kerb and channel)	250	m <sup>2</sup>	1,000	\$250,000
Park furniture				
– bike racks	1,600	item	2	\$3,200
– large park sign	80,000	item	1	\$80,000
– small park sign	1,000	item	4	\$4,000
– shade structures (soft)	150	m <sup>2</sup>	1,000	\$150,000
– water bubbler (including connection)	3,000	item	6	\$18,000
– bench seating (over concrete slab)	2,900	item	12	\$34,800
– park table and seats (over concrete slab)	5,200	item	2	\$10,400
– picnic shelters, including table and seats (over concrete slab)	16,000	item	2	\$32,000
– picnic node includes 2 barbeques, picnic tables, seats and hard shade structure (over concrete slab)	40,000	item	2	\$80,000
– bins	2,100	item	8	\$16,800

# Linear recreation corridors

## Description and Park Intent

These linear recreation corridors provide embellished pedestrian linkages that connect recreation facilities or open spaces, residences, community infrastructure, commercial areas or could form a circuit. The land contains infrastructure to facilitate recreation use, including a formed path and offers an attractive recreation setting. Linear recreation corridors are a key asset along beach foreshores and waterways such as rivers, estuaries and lakes.

Linear recreation corridors create a green web across communities. The purpose of this typology is to concentrate on the land-based components of the web, the parts that offer off-road walking/cycling experiences. Much of this component of the network is located along drainage corridors and other easements (rail, telecommunications) and therefore the land usually has dual-functionality as utility land.

Walking and cycling continue to be the most preferred physical activity options for all areas of Australia, with no trend to support a shift in this fact. Linear corridors can encourage more (off-road and tree-lined) walking, cycling and other wheel-based movement opportunities and experiences, should the facilities be well-designed, well-located and promoted.

## Design Considerations

Below is a list of elements that should be considered when designing/developing a linear, recreation corridor:

- » ensure the corridor is suitable for people of all abilities
- » pathways should follow contour lines, to provide as little grade as possible. Grades should preferably not be more than 1:20 at any section
- » appropriate vehicle access for maintenance is required
- » create pathways and routes that connect to destinations directly (linking residential areas to retail nodes and social hubs)
- » create circuits within the network, where possible and appropriate
- » ensure the corridors are safe for people to use and provide adequate visibility throughout the park (e.g. clear sightlines through the park, including selecting clear trunk trees and low ground covers that allow visibility). Areas should be lit where appropriate
- » encourage different settings and experiences for the recreation corridor, including taking advantage of views and vistas
- » create a legible network by
  - establishing clear and obvious path connections
  - use of continuous path materials (so you know you are on the right route)
  - signage, where appropriate
  - use of trees and avenues and tall elements to aid in wayfinding and navigation etc
  - entry statements (can be minimal embellishment such as a totem pole), so you know when you are at the route entry or at an exit point. These statements should be of a consistent theme and typology throughout the linear park
- » create park areas that provide green webs by creating green treelined corridors, thereby creating a natural green off-road alternative route, as well as providing shade and green visual relief
- » where linear paths are located along road verges, create park streets through green planting and appropriate park embellishments
- » unsightly utility or functional elements such as concrete channels or rear fencing should be softened or screened as much as possible to create an aesthetically pleasing experience
- » park embellishments should be robust and vandal resistant
- » park design should provide minimal operational maintenance.



# District sports park

## Description and intent

District sports parks and courts provide the vast majority of the venues for the Shire's training and club fixtures. A range of sports are catered for in these multi-use buildings including both field and court sports. Supporting buildings provided at district sports parks and courts allow clubs to effectively operate and include amenities, pavilion, storage, lighting and car parking.

## Design considerations

The following elements should be considered when designing and developing district recreation open space:

- » undertake a site master plan to set the direction for the facility
- » where possible, aim for sports facilities to meet state sporting organisation preferred standards
- » internal path network to allow for connections within and to land adjacent to the facility
- » maximise trees and natural shade around fields and courts (although careful tree selection for court areas is important to avoid issues associated with root invasion and limb, leaf or seed fall)
- » long benches and spectator areas should be placed under shade trees where possible. Shaded spectator grass mounds can also provide good viewing areas
- » hard surfaces should be minimised by developing the minimum number of sealed parking bays, and providing turf/unsealed overflow parking (for bigger spectator games, if required)
- » consideration to be made regarding noise and light spillage with regards to its impact on surrounding land uses
- » all field and court orientation to be north-south (or as close to as possible)
- » facility to include clubhouse with basic infrastructure that is suitable for a variety of uses. Clubhouse to be centrally located where possible. Internal spaces to include:
  - amenities, change rooms and public toilets
  - kitchen/kiosk
  - first aid, massage/strapping areas
  - office and storage
  - social area
- » flexible design to allow for multiple current (e.g. summer and winter sporting season) and future uses of the open space
- » design consideration to allow for potential alternative events and temporary uses (circus, festivals, event registration area)
- » consider collocating with local/district passive open space - especially in smaller communities to maximise land efficiencies.

Item	Indicative cost
Landscaping (varies based on size, location and purpose of the sports park)	\$45,000
Sportsfield development (based on 2 rectangular fields/1 oval) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– levelling</li> <li>– top surface</li> <li>– irrigation (3ha)</li> <li>– field lighting</li> <li>– line marking</li> <li>– goal posts</li> </ul>	\$1,560,000
Clubhouse	\$400,000
Car parking (125 car parks)	\$469,000
Toilets	\$180,000
Spectator facilities - grandstands, mounding and benches	\$110,000

# Regional sports park

## Description and intent

Regional open space (sports parks and courts) are larger parks providing a greater number of fields/ovals and multi-purpose courts for formal sporting purposes. These parks include a range of training and competition infrastructure as well as supporting infrastructure such as clubhouses, amenities, car parking, lighting and passive recreation nodes.

The level and quality of facilities at regional open space buildings enable clubs (or associations) to host higher-level competitions and/or multi-day carnivals.

Sports parks and courts provide free, unrestricted access to the public when formal sport is not being undertaken. Public access may also include special and community events being hosted at these larger facilities including exhibitions, shows and festivals.

## Design considerations

The following elements should be considered when designing and developing regional open space:

- » undertake a master plan for the site to ensure appropriate development in line with the established direction
- » ensure an internal path network to allow for connections within and to the wider network
- » maximise trees and natural shade around fields and courts (although careful tree selection is important to avoid issues associated with limb, leaf or seed fall)
- » benches and spectator areas should be placed under shade trees where possible. Shaded spectator grass mounds can also provide good viewing areas in addition to built grandstands
- » hard surfaces should be minimised by developing the minimum number of sealed parking bays, and providing turf/unsealed overflow parking (for bigger games and events)
- » internal road and parking layout to accommodate bus drop-off and turn around
- » consideration to be made regarding noise and light spillage and impact on surrounding uses
- » field and court orientation to be north-south (or as close to as possible)
- » provision of ample storage. Should be located near the clubhouse(s) and form one single large shed (or preferably be combined into clubhouse design to reduce built structures)
- » clubhouse to be of significant size and offer flexibility in design to cater for a range of uses (consider beyond those sports anticipated to use the site at opening). Clubhouses to be centrally located to service fields. Internal spaces to include storage, kitchen/kiosk, multiple change rooms and amenities, public toilets, offices, versatile function/activity space and medical rooms
- » recreation/activity area to consider the users of sports when designing nodes (e.g. play for spectators/children). These should ideally be clustered together and located under natural shade (where possible)
- » complementary commercial opportunities could be considered at the facility (physiotherapy, personal trainers etc.)
- » provision of adequate signage especially within large, multiple use regional sports parks (e.g. directional and information signs)
- » create additional landscape amenities such as entry planting, feature landscaping, or earth mounds to increase visual amenity.

Item	Indicative cost
Landscaping (varies based on size, location and purpose of the sports park)	\$60,000
Sportsfield development (based on 6 fields or 3 ovals) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– levelling</li> <li>– top surface</li> <li>– irrigation (10ha)</li> <li>– field lighting</li> <li>– line marking</li> <li>– goal posts</li> </ul>	\$4,340,000
Clubhouse	\$1,200,000
Car parking (200 car parks)	\$775,000
Toilets	\$360,000
Spectator facilities - grandstands, mounding and bench seats	\$320,000



# Appendix 2

## Embellishment costs (indicative)

Item	Rate	Measure
<b>Recreation activity areas</b>		
– basic play (per item) such as swing, spring toy etc	\$7,700	item
– advanced play (modular kit-style play of moderate size (10 activities)	\$70,500	item
– medium climbing structure	\$35,000	item
– large climbing structure	\$60,000	item
– dog off-leash area	\$30	m <sup>2</sup>
– multi-purpose court with either backboard and hoop or rebound wall	\$14,000	item
– skate park (medium)	\$160,000	item
– skate park (large)	\$290,000	item
– exercise stations (per item)	\$7,700	item
– water play	\$130,000	item
– amphitheatre	\$150,000	item
– play fencing (pool style)	\$290	linear m
– softfall	\$50	m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Sports facilities</b>		
– clubhouse	\$400,000	item
– toilet block	\$180,000	item
– field development (minor earthworks, drainage, ground treatment, top dressing and irrigation)	\$12	m <sup>2</sup>
– field lighting (rectangular field to training standard)	\$45,000	item
– 400m, 8 lane running track, high jump, dual double ended long jump/triple jump runway and pits, double ended pole vault, steeple chase, discus/hammer and shot put circles	\$1,790,000 (synthetic track) \$90,000 (turf)	facility
– basic three tier aluminium grandstand	\$4,000	item
– cricket nets (2-wicket facility)	\$30,000	item
– cricket pitch (synthetic turf overlay and concrete pitch)	\$10,000	item
– turf block incorporating four pitches	\$40,000	item
– sight screens	\$20,000	item
– goal posts	\$10,000	pair
– player shelters (6mx6m with concrete floor)	\$17,000	item
– storage shed with lights	\$500	m <sup>2</sup>

Item	Rate	Measure
<b>Fencing</b>		
– post and rail	\$300	linear m
– bollard (recycled plastic)	\$55	item
– bollard (timber)	\$160	item
<b>Landscaping</b>		
– irrigation (landscaped areas)	\$5	m <sup>2</sup>
– garden beds and plants	\$75	m <sup>2</sup>
– park trees	\$250	item
– turf (laid, rolled and watered for 2 weeks)	\$8	m <sup>2</sup>
Park lighting	\$8,000	item
Pathways (concrete)	\$120	m <sup>2</sup>
Toilet block	\$180,000	item
<b>Vehicular movement</b>		
– off-road car parking	\$3,750	car park
– internal road (includes kerb and channel)	\$250	m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Park furniture</b>		
– bike racks	\$1,600	item
– large park sign	\$80,000	item
– small park sign	\$1,000	item
– shade structures (soft)	\$150	m <sup>2</sup>
– water bubbler (including connection)	\$3,000	item
– bench seating (over concrete slab)	\$2,900	item
– park table and seats (over concrete slab)	\$5,200	item
– barbecue(s)	\$14,000	item
– picnic shelters, including table and seats (over concrete slab)	\$16,000	item
– picnic node includes 2 barbeques, picnic tables, seats and hard structure (over concrete slab)	\$40,000	item
– bins	\$2,100	item
– outdoor amphitheatre	\$100	m <sup>2</sup>

# Appendix 3

## Engagement outcomes

### Community survey

The community survey was the primary source of data used for this analysis as it achieved both the greatest number of responses (419) and the widest coverage. Collated results from the survey are included in the table below (planning area results are included in each relevant section of the Strategy).

#### Which area of the Eurobodalla Shire do you live in?

Planning area	Response proportion	Response count
Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland (South Durras, Nelligen & Mogo)	2.9%	12
Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay	11.2%	47
Batemans Bay & Catalina	6.9%	29
Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay & Denhams Beach	8.8%	37
Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale & Guerilla Bay	11.5%	48
Tomakin, Broulee & Mossy Point	14.6%	61
Urban Moruya & Moruya Heads	6.9%	29
Moruya Rural Hinterland (Bergalia, Bingie, Coila, Congo, Deua River Valley, Kiora, Meringo, Merricumbene, Mogendoura, Turlinjah & Wamban)	9.3%	39
Tuross Head	14.6%	61
Narooma Rural Hinterland (Akolele, Bodalla, Belowra, Cadgee, Central Tilba, Corunna, Eurobodalla, Mystery Bay, Nerrigundah, Potatoe Point & Tilba Tilba)	4.8%	20
Dalmeny	2.9%	12
Narooma, North Narooma & Kianga	5.7%	24

## Do you participate in any recreation activities within Eurobodalla Shire?

Activity type	Response proportion	Response count
Walking	67.1%	280
Swimming	59.2%	247
Gardening	45.8%	191
Bushwalking	44.6%	186
Fishing	41.7%	174
Canoe/kayaking	41.0%	171
Cycling (recreation)	38.6%	161
Playing in the park	36.2%	151
Organised sport (soccer, rugby league/union, AFL, tennis, cricket, surf life saving, etc.)	35.3%	147
Exercise in the park	31.7%	132
Surf sports	27.6%	115
Running	27.1%	113
Group exercise / bootcamp	18.2%	76
Yoga / pilates	17.3%	72
Mountain biking / BMX	16.8%	70
Bird watching	16.1%	67
Skateboarding / scootering	15.6%	65
Cycling (road)	12.7%	53
Physical activity as transport	11.0%	46
Sailing	3.4%	14



## At which open spaces or facilities do you recreate or play sport?

Activity type	Response proportion	Response count
Beach	83.4%	347
Local footpaths	55.8%	232
Along the river	54.3%	226
At home	52.9%	220
Cycle paths	51.4%	214
Coastal reserves/foreshore (land)	49.3%	205
Park	44.5%	185
Bushland	43.5%	181
Bushwalking tracks	43.5%	181
Swimming pool	39.4%	164
National Park	38.0%	158
Sports ground or court	35.1%	146
Playground	32.2%	134
On the street	31.0%	129
Private property	23.1%	96
Indoor (e.g. hall/community centre)	18.8%	78
Gym or fitness centre	17.8%	74
Lake/dam	17.8%	74
School grounds	14.2%	59
Skate/BMX park	12.5%	52
Golf course	12.3%	51
Community garden	10.8%	45

## Thinking about open space, on average, how often do you visit?

Frequency	Response proportion	Response count
Daily	34.1%	141
Most days	34.3%	142
Twice a week	11.4%	47
Weekly	13.8%	57
Fortnightly	1.9%	8
Monthly	3.6%	15
Rarely	1.0%	4
Never	0.0%	0

## Most often, how do you get to open space within the Eurobodalla Shire?

Mode	Response proportion	Response count
Car	60.4%	252
Walk	32.4%	135
Cycle	5.3%	22
Skate/BMX/Scooter	1.4%	6
Public transport	0.5%	2

## Most often, who do you visit open space with?

Answer option	Response proportion	Response count
With my family	25.8%	107
With my partner/spouse	23.9%	99
Alone	18.1%	75
With my children	14.9%	62
With friends	9.2%	38
Sports club/group	5.5%	23
Fitness club/group	2.7%	11

## If you own a dog, do they visit open space with you?

Answer option	Response proportion	Response count
Yes	42.8%	172
No	19.7%	79
I don't own a dog	37.6%	151

## How far are you willing to drive to get to a quality recreation park?

Answer option	Response proportion	Response count
Less than 5 minutes	14.1%	59
Less than 15 minutes	40.0%	167
Less than 30 minutes	30.4%	127
More than 30 minutes	15.6%	65

## How far are you willing to drive to get to a quality sporting facility?

Answer option	Response proportion	Response count
Less than 5 minutes	4.2%	17
Less than 15 minutes	36.1%	146
Less than 30 minutes	37.9%	153
More than 30 minutes	21.8%	88

## What do you value about open space within the Eurobodalla Shire?

Answer option	Response proportion	Response count
The natural setting	74.2%	307
The views they provide to the ocean/river/lake	62.1%	257
They are close to my home	60.1%	249
The interaction with the natural environment	55.6%	230
A place to take visitors	51.7%	214
They provide me with a place to unwind/rest/relax	51.2%	212
They provide me with a place to exercise	50.7%	210
They allow me to spend quality time with my family	44.0%	182
I feel safe when I visit	43.7%	181
The cleanliness and high level of maintenance	40.6%	168
A place to spend time with friends	39.4%	163
Their appeal to the whole family	39.1%	162
They encourage social interaction with the community	38.9%	161
I can take my dog	35.7%	148
The range of sporting fields/courts/facilities provided	26.1%	108
The high quality facilities provided	23.4%	97
I can meet new people there	23.2%	96
The diversity of playgrounds and equipment	22.7%	94
They are close to where I work	11.8%	49
They provide accessibility features that I require	6.5%	27

## Have you experienced any barriers to using open space within the Eurobodalla Shire?

Barriers	Response proportion	Response count
No, I have not experienced any barriers	30.9%	119
There is a lack of toilets	24.2%	93
They are poorly maintained	23.9%	92
I can't take my dog	21.8%	84
There is a limited range of sporting fields/courts/facilities provided	18.2%	70
Lack of public transport	15.6%	60
There is a lack of variety	14.8%	57
They are unclean	13.5%	52
There is a lack of car parking	10.4%	40
They are too crowded	4.4%	17
They don't cater for my mobility needs	4.4%	17
They don't appeal to me	3.6%	14
I don't feel safe there	2.9%	11

## How would you rate the overall quality of recreation and sporting opportunities in the Eurobodalla Shire?

Opportunities	Great (count)	Good (count)	Poor (count)	Don't know (count)
Natural bushland parks	125	218	27	30
Foreshore parks / beach access	121	243	37	3
Cycle and walk ways	93	232	70	9
Places to relax and socialise	76	237	62	18
Playgrounds	54	235	62	44
Sportsfields	50	254	30	65
Skate parks	35	174	53	122
BMX Tracks	32	109	38	200
Aquatic facilities	30	167	166	39
Community halls/centres	29	193	96	75
Activities for seniors	24	143	61	167
Low cost/free physical activities/programs	17	146	118	113
Indoor sport and recreation centres	10	116	144	121
Activities for youth	4	89	166	128

If you were in charge of the Eurobodalla Shire Council, what would be your TOP THREE open space priorities that you would fund over the next 10 years?

Open space priorities	Response proportion	Response count
Provision of places/facilities for young people	31.1%	130
Improved pedestrian/cyclist connections between open spaces	27.0%	113
New/upgraded cycle and walking paths	26.6%	111
Improved facilities at beach and foreshore areas	24.4%	102
New/upgraded playgrounds	18.7%	78
Improved quality of sports grounds/ovals/courts	18.2%	76
Improved picnicking facilities	17.5%	73
Increased supporting facilities including car parking and amenities	15.6%	65
Improved bushland maintenance/management/conservation	14.8%	62
Development of green belts/green corridors	14.8%	62
Improved facilities along the river, creek or lake	14.1%	59
Improved access to the beach and foreshore areas	12.9%	54
Improved parks maintenance	11.5%	48
Improved access to the river, creek or lake	11.0%	46
Provision of places/facilities for seniors	10.0%	42
More sports grounds/ovals/courts	6.5%	27
New/upgraded horse and equestrian facilities	5.0%	21
Don't know/no response	1.0%	4



## What is your age group?

Age	Response proportion	Response count
Under 19 years	6.9%	29
20 - 24 years	3.8%	16
25 - 29 years	1.9%	8
30 - 34 years	5.5%	23
35 - 39 years	9.3%	39
40 - 44 years	13.1%	55
45 - 49 years	11.7%	49
50 - 54 years	13.4%	56
55 - 59 years	8.1%	34
60 - 64 years	10.5%	44
65 years and older	15.8%	66

## Are you male or female?

Answer options	Response proportion	Response count
Female	64.5%	269
Male	35.5%	148

## Sport and Recreation Club survey

The sport and recreation club survey attracted 21 responses. Collated results are included in the table below.

### Membership trends?

Answer options	Membership changes over last 3 years (% of respondents)		
	Increase	Decrease	Steady
Senior male membership	20%	53%	27%
Senior female membership	26%	36%	36%
Junior male membership	33%	47%	20%
Junior female membership	22%	33%	45%

### Future membership expectations

Answer options	Expected over the next 3 years
Increase	66.7%
Decrease	-
Remain the same	33.3%

### Club Development and/or Business Development Plan

Clubs were asked if they had a club development or business plan?

Answer options	Response
Yes	38.1%
No	28.6%
We intend to develop one in the next 12 months	33.3%

### Risk Management Plan

Clubs were asked if they had a risk management plan?

Answer options	Response
Yes	52.4%
No	33.3%
We intend to develop one in the next 12 months	14.3%

## Facility management type?

Answer options	Response
Council licence/ lease	95.2%
State government lease	0.0%
Private ownership	4.8%

## Suitability of facilities for club usage

Please indicate whether the current facilities provided to your club are suitable to your usage requirement?

Answer options	Exceeds needs	Suitable	Not suitable	Not required
Number of playing fields / ovals / courts	4.8%	61.9%	33.3%	0.0%
Clubhouse	0.0%	42.1%	52.6%	5.3%
Lighting standards	0.0%	57.1%	42.9%	0.0%
Public toilets	0.0%	52.4%	42.9%	4.8%
Change rooms	0.0%	47.6%	47.6%	4.8%
Canteen facilities	0.0%	47.6%	38.1%	14.3%
Storage areas	0.0%	47.6%	52.4%	0.0%
Access and circulation	0.0%	71.4%	28.6%	0.0%
Car parking	0.0%	71.4%	28.6%	0.0%
Spectator area	0.0%	28.6%	61.9%	9.5%
Maintenance of buildings	0.0%	57.1%	38.1%	4.8%
Seating/shade/water	0.0%	14.3%	85.7%	0.0%
Facilities provided (e.g. chairs/tables/ stage)	0.0%	33.3%	57.1%	9.5%

## Top 3 priorities

Clubs were asked to indicate the top 3 priorities for facility improvement. Responses have been grouped into categories.

Facility issue	Response
Change rooms, clubhouse, toilets	76%
Spectator facilities	48%
Field upgrades	29%
Playing field light upgrades	19%

## Issues impacting on the organisation

Please indicate the extent that the following issues are having on your organisation.

Answer options	High	Medium	Low	NA
Lack of facilities to accommodate the needs of the club	57.1%	14.3%	23.8%	4.8%
Competition from other sports	38.1%	28.6%	23.8%	9.5%
Lack of female participation	33.3%	33.3%	19.0%	14.3%
Difficulty in accessing grant funding	33.3%	28.6%	23.8%	14.3%
Cost of playing or participating is increasing	23.8%	42.9%	28.6%	4.8%
Increasing insurance costs	23.8%	28.6%	28.6%	19.0%
Disability access to facilities	23.8%	4.8%	47.6%	23.8%
Declining number of volunteers	19.0%	61.9%	4.8%	14.3%
Poor parent support of club and/or competition	19.0%	33.3%	33.3%	14.3%
Lack of youth participation	19.0%	33.3%	33.3%	14.3%
Cost of maintaining the venue for your activity	19.0%	28.6%	33.3%	19.0%
Falling membership	14.3%	33.3%	42.9%	9.5%
Lack of qualified coaches or officials	14.3%	23.8%	52.4%	9.5%
Cannot accommodate growing demand (too many people wanting to play)	14.3%	19.0%	38.1%	28.6%
Unable to attract new members	9.5%	66.7%	19.0%	4.8%
Lack of training and development opportunities for coaches/officials	9.5%	38.1%	42.9%	9.5%
Lack of access to training opportunities for volunteers and committee members	9.5%	28.6%	52.4%	9.5%
No knowledge of/access to technological advancements for club administration (e.g. developing internet sites)	9.5%	0.0%	71.4%	19.0%
Lack of risk management knowledge/processes	4.8%	14.3%	57.1%	23.8%
Constant changes in committee	4.8%	4.8%	57.1%	33.3%

## Social competition

Does your club currently offer any social/casual competitions/activities?

Answer options	Response
Yes	71.4%
No	14.3%
Are considering it	14.3%

## Relationship with peak sporting body

How would you describe the Club's relationship with your peak sporting body?

Answer options	Response
Very good	33.3%
Good	33.3%
Unsure	9.5%
Poor	19.0%
Very poor	0.0%
Not applicable	4.8%

## Support from peak sporting body

Does your Club receive any financial and/or training/education support from your peak sporting body?

Answer options	Response
Yes	47.6%
No	38.1%
Unsure	14.3%



# Appendix 4

## Planning area population data

### Northern precinct

#### Batemans Bay Rural Hinterland

Age group	2016		2036	
	Pop'n 2,573		Pop'n 2,882	
	Proportion	Count	Proportion	Count
0 - 14 years	17.0%	436	15.6%	451
15 - 24 years	8.9%	230	7.1%	205
25 - 34 years	6.1%	158	6.0%	173
35 - 44 years	11.8%	303	11.4%	329
45 - 54 years	15.8%	407	14.1%	405
55 - 64 years	18.0%	462	16.0%	462
65 years and over	22.4%	576	29.8%	857

#### Surfside, Long Beach, Maloneys Beach and North Batemans Bay

Age group	2016		2036	
	Pop'n 3,109		Pop'n 4,013	
	Proportion	Count	Proportion	Count
0 - 14 years	18.0%	560	16.5%	663
15 - 24 years	7.5%	236	7.0%	280
25 - 34 years	9.3%	289	8.7%	350
35 - 44 years	10.7%	334	10.8%	434
45 - 54 years	10.8%	336	10.4%	416
55 - 64 years	16.7%	521	14.7%	592
65 years and over	26.8%	835	31.8%	1278

## Batemans Bay and Catalina

Age group	2016		2036	
	Pop'n 4,016		Pop'n 4,485	
	Proportion	Count	Proportion	Count
0 - 14 years	16.3%	655	16.0%	719
15 - 24 years	9.3%	372	8.5%	383
25 - 34 years	9.0%	360	8.4%	377
35 - 44 years	9.8%	394	9.9%	444
45 - 54 years	10.1%	406	9.3%	419
55 - 64 years	14.5%	581	12.8%	575
65 years and over	31.1%	1,250	34.9%	1568

## Surf Beach, Batehaven, Sunshine Bay and Denhams Beach

Age group	2016		2036	
	Pop'n 5,855		Pop'n 6,412	
	Proportion	Count	Proportion	Count
0 - 14 years	16.8%	983	16.0%	1024
15 - 24 years	9.3%	542	8.7%	559
25 - 34 years	7.4%	434	7.2%	457
35 - 44 years	8.7%	509	8.4%	539
45 - 54 years	11.6%	679	10.3%	661
55 - 64 years	14.9%	872	13.5%	868
65 years and over	31.3%	1,835	35.9%	2,304

## Malua Bay, Lilli Pilli, Rosedale and Guerilla Bay

Age group	2016		2036	
	Pop'n 2,501		Pop'n 3,580	
	Proportion	Count	Proportion	Count
0 - 14 years	16.4%	410	15.6%	557
15 - 24 years	9.1%	228	8.4%	302
25 - 34 years	5.7%	141	6.0%	215
35 - 44 years	9.7%	242	9.6%	342
45 - 54 years	12.1%	303	11.5%	411
55 - 64 years	16.7%	419	15.8%	565
65 years and over	30.3%	756	33.2%	1,188

## Central precinct

### Tomakin, Mossy Point and Broulee

Age group	2016		2036	
	Pop'n 3,048		Pop'n 4,066	
	Proportion	Count	Proportion	Count
0 - 14 years	16.4%	499	16.2%	660
15 - 24 years	8.8%	269	7.6%	308
25 - 34 years	6.4%	195	6.3%	256
35 - 44 years	9.7%	295	10.1%	410
45 - 54 years	13.9%	423	12.3%	501
55 - 64 years	16.1%	492	14.8%	603
65 years and over	28.7%	875	32.7%	1,329

### Urban Moruya and Moruya Heads

Age group	2016		2036	
	Pop'n 3,580		Pop'n 4,783	
	Proportion	Count	Proportion	Count
0 - 14 years	17.9%	640	17.5%	836
15 - 24 years	9.1%	327	7.6%	362
25 - 34 years	7.9%	284	7.7%	368
35 - 44 years	11.1%	397	11.1%	532
45 - 54 years	12.8%	458	11.7%	559
55 - 64 years	16.0%	572	13.1%	625
65 years and over	25.2%	901	31.4%	1,501

## Moruya Rural Hinterland

Age group	2016		2036	
	Pop'n 2,674		Pop'n 2,842	
	Proportion	Count	Proportion	Count
0 - 14 years	14.6%	389	14.1%	399
15 - 24 years	10.2%	273	7.8%	224
25 - 34 years	4.8%	130	4.5%	128
35 - 44 years	9.7%	261	9.9%	281
45 - 54 years	15.2%	406	13.3%	379
55 - 64 years	20.4%	547	16.7%	473
65 years and over	25.0%	667	33.8%	958

## Tuross Head

Age group	2016		2036	
	Pop'n 2,266		Pop'n 2,412	
	Proportion	Count	Proportion	Count
0 - 14 years	12.9%	292	13.9%	336
15 - 24 years	7.8%	175	7.3%	177
25 - 34 years	5.0%	114	4.8%	117
35 - 44 years	8.9%	202	8.6%	206
45 - 54 years	11.3%	258	10.9%	264
55 - 64 years	19.1%	433	16.9%	408
65 years and over	35.0%	792	37.5%	904

## Central precinct

### Narooma Rural Hinterland

Age group	2016		2036	
	Pop'n 2,570		Pop'n 2,739	
	Proportion	Count	Proportion	Count
0 - 14 years	14.6%	375	13.3%	364
15 - 24 years	8.1%	209	6.7%	184
25 - 34 years	4.1%	106	4.1%	112
35 - 44 years	9.2%	237	8.7%	239
45 - 54 years	14.7%	379	11.5%	315
55 - 64 years	21.8%	562	18.2%	497
65 years and over	27.3%	700	37.5%	1,028

## Dalmeny

Age group	2016		2036	
	Pop'n 2,057		Pop'n 2,314	
	Proportion	Count	Proportion	Count
0 - 14 years	14.3%	294	13.8%	320
15 - 24 years	6.4%	132	5.9%	136
25 - 34 years	8.2%	169	8.1%	188
35 - 44 years	8.9%	184	9.5%	219
45 - 54 years	12.1%	250	11.3%	262
55 - 64 years	16.6%	341	16.3%	377
65 years and over	33.3%	685	35.1%	812

## Narooma, North Narooma and Kianga

Age group	2016		2036	
	Pop'n 3,450		Pop'n 3,920	
	Proportion	Count	Proportion	Count
0 - 14 years	14.8%	512	15.3%	598
15 - 24 years	7.1%	246	7.3%	286
25 - 34 years	6.6%	229	6.3%	246
35 - 44 years	9.1%	316	9.3%	363
45 - 54 years	12.2%	420	11.9%	468
55 - 64 years	19.9%	687	17.1%	669
65 years and over	30.2%	1,042	32.9%	1,290





**ROSS Planning Pty Ltd**

ABN 32 508 029 959

Upper floor, 63 Bay Terrace  
Wynnum QLD 4178

PO Box 5660  
Manly QLD 4179

Telephone: (07) 3901 0730  
Fax: (07) 3893 0593