

Environmental Works

<Reserve Name>

Conservation  
Management  
Plan



Date Prepared: <Date>

Date Revised: <Date>



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# 1 Site Overview

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The Site Overview section provides background and introduction to the site. It discusses the environmental and landscape context of the site as well as presenting broad overview/background of the management of the bushland at the site to date.

## 1.1 Site Information

Reserve Name	
Property Address	
Melway Reference	
Physical boundaries	
Catchment	
Area (hectares)	
Surrounding land use	
Land Owner	
Land Manager	

< Insert Map of Reserve including location of Reserve in Landscape, include aerial photo, property boundaries, reserve boundaries, contours, location of waterways/wetlands >

Figure 1: Map of <Reserve Name>



## 1.2 Regional Priority and Level of Service

Provide an overview of the Regional Priority of the reserve and discuss its Level of Service.

## 1.3 Physical environment

### 1.3.1 Topography

Provide a description of the landform and topography of the site, including steepness, aspect, form and elevations.

### 1.3.2 Hydrology

Provide a description of the hydrology of the site. Discuss the presence of waterways or gullies on the site. Discuss the presence of existing or ephemeral wetlands.

### 1.3.3 Soils/geology

If known, provide a brief overview of the soil type and geology of the site

## 1.4 Level of significance

Discuss the level of significance of the site. Is the site listed as a DSE Biosite? Is it listed under NEROC as a site of significance or part of a habitat corridor. .

## 1.5 Landscape context/connectivity

Provide a description of the reserve's location within the landscape and its role in landscape connectivity.

- Is the reserve part of an existing habitat corridor, or is there potential for it to be part of a new habitat corridor?
- What is the proximity of the reserve to other patches of native vegetation?

## 1.6 Relevant local studies, programs and policies

### 1.6.1 Planning overlays

Provide an outline of what Planning Overlays and Zones might affect the reserve. These might include Environmental Significance Overlays, Wildfire Management Overlays or Public Conservation Resource Zone.

### 1.6.2 Past plans and studies

A number of Council's bushland and wetland reserves have previous studies such as flora and fauna reports, fire management plans or net gain assessments. This information will be useful in forming a view of management required.



### 1.6.3 Cultural Heritage and Historical Use

Provide an overview of any sites of Indigenous Cultural Significance either within your reserve or surrounding areas.

Provide an overview of post-European Settlement land use if known.

## 1.7 Community values

Discuss the details of any Friends or Community Groups currently or previously known to work on the site. Is the group active or is activity diminishing? Does the Friends Group have an existing Management Plan? What works have the group been undertaking at the reserve?

Discuss and describe the recreational use of the reserve. Is it currently used for passive or active forms of recreation? Are there recreational trails through the reserve?

## 1.8 Stakeholders

Discuss the involvement of other stakeholders in the management of the site. If there is a waterway is Melbourne Water undertaking works?

Discuss the details of adjoining property owners. Are there any existing relationships or arrangements with the neighbours?

## 1.9 History of Management

Provide a brief description of the historical management of the site





## 2 Values and Assets

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### 2.1 Biodiversity

#### 2.1.1 Vegetation

In this section you should provide a description of the extent quality and significance of the indigenous vegetation at the site, as well as discussing the Ecological Vegetation Classes and providing a summary of the Vegetation Quality Assessment. You will need to complete Appendices A and D of the CMP Template.

##### 2.1.1.1 Ecological Vegetation Classes

Describe the EVCs that are present on the site.

##### 2.1.1.2 Vegetation Quality Assessment

Undertake a habitat hectares assessment of the site. Enter habitat hectares data into Appendix D. Provide habitat scores and bioregional conservation status in the table below.

Table 1: Habitat Zones

Habitat Zone	EVC	BCS	Area (hectares)	Habitat Hectares
Zone A	Text			
Text	Text			

<Insert a map of the Habitat Zones within the reserve>

Figure 2: Map of Habitat Zones within XXX Reserve



### 2.1.1.3 Significant Flora Species

Discuss the presence of any significant flora species recorded within or near the reserve, levels of significance i.e. National, State, Regional, Local of particular species and any management requirements of the species

## 2.2 Fauna

Develop a list of fauna recorded within 2km of the site based on the information from the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas and Council's fauna records (Appendix B). Supplement with local information if appropriate.

Discuss any significant species recorded within or near the reserve, levels of significance i.e. National, State, Regional, Local of particular species and any management requirements of the species. You can use [Nillumbik's Threatened Species Information](#) to assist you in describing the requirements of any threatened species or locate the species Action Plan from the DSE Website.

## 2.3 Habitat values

Discuss the presence or absence of habitat values within the reserve. In this section you may wish to discuss the presence or absence of features such as Large Old Trees (LOTs), hollow-bearing trees, logs or other structures.

Provide details on the importance of these for particular species. Need detail on important species and their requirements.

Note key elements missing for species with their distribution within the site.

## 2.4 Infrastructure

Provide a description of any infrastructure within the reserve, this may include:

- Recreational Trails
- Fences
- Signs
- Seats



## 3 Threatening processes

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Describe and discuss the key threatening processes to the site and recommend management actions for each in relation to native vegetation management for the site. The headings within the CMP are only given as an indication of the types of threats you may encounter, delete or modify to suit your particular needs.

### 3.1 Habitat destruction, modification and fragmentation

Describe and discuss issues relating to habitat destruction, modification or fragmentation within the reserve.

### 3.2 Pest plants

Describe and discuss distribution and density of weed species across the site. Complete Appendix C - Weed List. Discuss the negative or positive impacts of the weeds.

<Insert map showing weed species and distribution across the site>

Figure 3: Location of weed species at XXX Reserve

### 3.3 Pest animals

Describe pest animals known to occur on site including rabbits, foxes, feral pigs, feral cats etc. Describe potential densities and impact of animals on the site.

Using the data you collected during the Site Assessment, prepare and insert a map which shows the location of pest animal burrows, dens or harbour within the reserve.





<Insert map showing pest animal burrows, dens, harbour and their distribution across the site>

Figure 4: Distribution of pest animals at XXX Reserve

### 3.4 Tree decline

Describe and discuss any issues relating to tree decline across the site.

### 3.5 Erosion and sediment control

Describe and discuss any issues relating to erosion and sediment control across the site

### 3.6 Direct human impacts

Describe and discuss any issues relating to direct human impacts on the site. This may include rubbish, recreation, timber cutting, removal of firewood and debris.

If required, you may provide a map showing the locations of any issues that you mapped during the site assessment.

### 3.7 Drainage/stormwater

If applicable, describe and discuss any negative drainage or stormwater impacts the reserve might be experiencing.

### 3.8 Altered fire regime

If applicable, describe and discuss the impacts of altered fire regime's on the reserve. Is the lack of fire affecting the vegetation communities and suitable habitat at the site?

What sort of fire regime would have been expected here? What species/species composition is it affecting?

### 3.9 Altered browsing/grazing regime

If applicable, describe and discuss the impacts of altered browsing and grazing regimes on the reserve. What sort of grazing regime would have been expected here, e.g. small browsing mammals which now aren't present? What species/species composition is it affecting?





### 3.10 Altered water quality and flows

If applicable, describe and discuss the impacts of altered water quality and flows on the reserve. Is this area on the floodplain? What is the expected flood regime? How is drainage affecting the site?





## 4 Management Zones

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### 4.1 Management Zones

Using the Management Zones you mapped during the site inspection, provide detailed descriptions on each of the Management Zones you have mapped. Include the following information:

- Name of the Zone
- Values/assets present in that zone
- Threats to the zone
- Management actions required for the zone

<Insert a map showing each of the Management Zones>

Figure 5: Management zones within XXX Reserve

### 4.2 Fuel Management Zones

Referring back to the Fuel Management Zones that you mapped in Section 4 of this manual, you will need to describe and discuss each FMZ. You may wish to cover topics such as:

- Overall Fuel Hazard Assessment results
- Key fuel management issues i.e. bark, Kunzea etc.
- Assets potentially at risk i.e. nearby houses, LOTs, logs
- Areas to be exempt from burning
- Ecological fire regimes/date of last burn
- Potential areas for ecological/prescribed burning.



<Insert a thematic map of the reserve showing the Overall Fuel Hazard Assessments and the Fuel Management Zones>

Figure 6: Overall Fuel Hazard Assessments and Fuel Management Zones within XXXX Reserve





## 5 Works Planning

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A Works Plan defines your specific goals and actions for reserve management. Use your levels of service, mapping and the history of your site to develop your five-year Works Plan.

Works plans may include:

- Weed / Pest Management
- Fire Prevention Works
- Habitat Enhancements
- Species Conservation
- Infrastructure Works/Maintenance
- Other issues

This method uses the Works Plan excel template, which requires basic knowledge of Excel and spreadsheets.

Works plans are to be prepared using the standard Works Plan template:

[..\..\Administration\Policies Procedures\Environmental Works Toolkit\2\\_Templates\Works\\_Plan\\_Template\\_Government.xlsx](..\..\Administration\Policies Procedures\Environmental Works Toolkit\2_Templates\Works_Plan_Template_Government.xlsx)

<Insert a hyperlink from this page to the Works Plan for the reserve>

Save the Works Plan in the relevant reserve folder using the naming convention specified in the CMP User Manual.



<Reserve Name> Conservation Management Plan



## 6 Photo Points

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Insert images of Photo points taken during site inspections.

If multiple photos are available of a single photo-point include before and after photos with descriptions.





## 7 References

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<Insert Reference List>





## Appendix A - Flora Recorded within <Reserve Name>

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Species	Common Name	Significance
Text	Text	
Text	Text	

\* Denotes introduced or invasive species







# Appendix B - Fauna Recorded within 2km of <Reserve Name>

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Species	Common Name	Significance
Text	Text	
Text	Text	

\*Denotes introduced or exotic species





## Appendix C - Weed List

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Species	Common Name	Significance
Text	Text	
Text	Text	



## Appendix D - Vegetation Quality Assessment (Habitat Hectares Components)

Habitat Zone			A	B
Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC)				
EVC Number				
Total area of Habitat Zone (ha)				
<b>Site Condition</b>	Large Old Trees	/10		
	Canopy Cover	/5		
	Lack of Weeds	/15		
	Understorey	/25		
	Recruitment	/10		
	Organic Matter	/5		
	Logs	/5		
	Total site condition score			
	Possible site condition score			
	Adjusted site condition score			
<b>Landscape Context</b>	Patch Size	/10		
	Neighbourhood	/10		
	Distance to Core	/5		
	Landscape context subtotal			

Note: Add extra columns for each Habitat Zone