



PORT STEPHENS
COUNCIL

Littoral Rainforest Action Plan Soldiers Point

What is Littoral Rainforest?

Littoral Rainforest is a unique ecological community found close to the ocean.

Features include:

- a closed canopy with 70% of the sky obscured by tree leaves and limbs
- mainly rainforest species and a range of hard-leaved plants may also be found including species of banksia and eucalyptus trees
- found on exposed and sheltered coastal headlands, beach sand dunes, soils derived from bedrock behind beach deposited sands and sheltered areas around coastal estuaries (usually areas protected by fire).

An endangered community

Littoral Rainforests are recognised as facing a high threat of extinction. They are listed as:

- Critically Endangered under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
- Endangered Ecological Communities under the *NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

We must follow legislation when managing the Soldiers Point Littoral Rainforest ecosystem to protect the area for future generations.

Why do we need the Action plan?

You've told us protecting the existing rainforest and improving our management of the site is important to you.

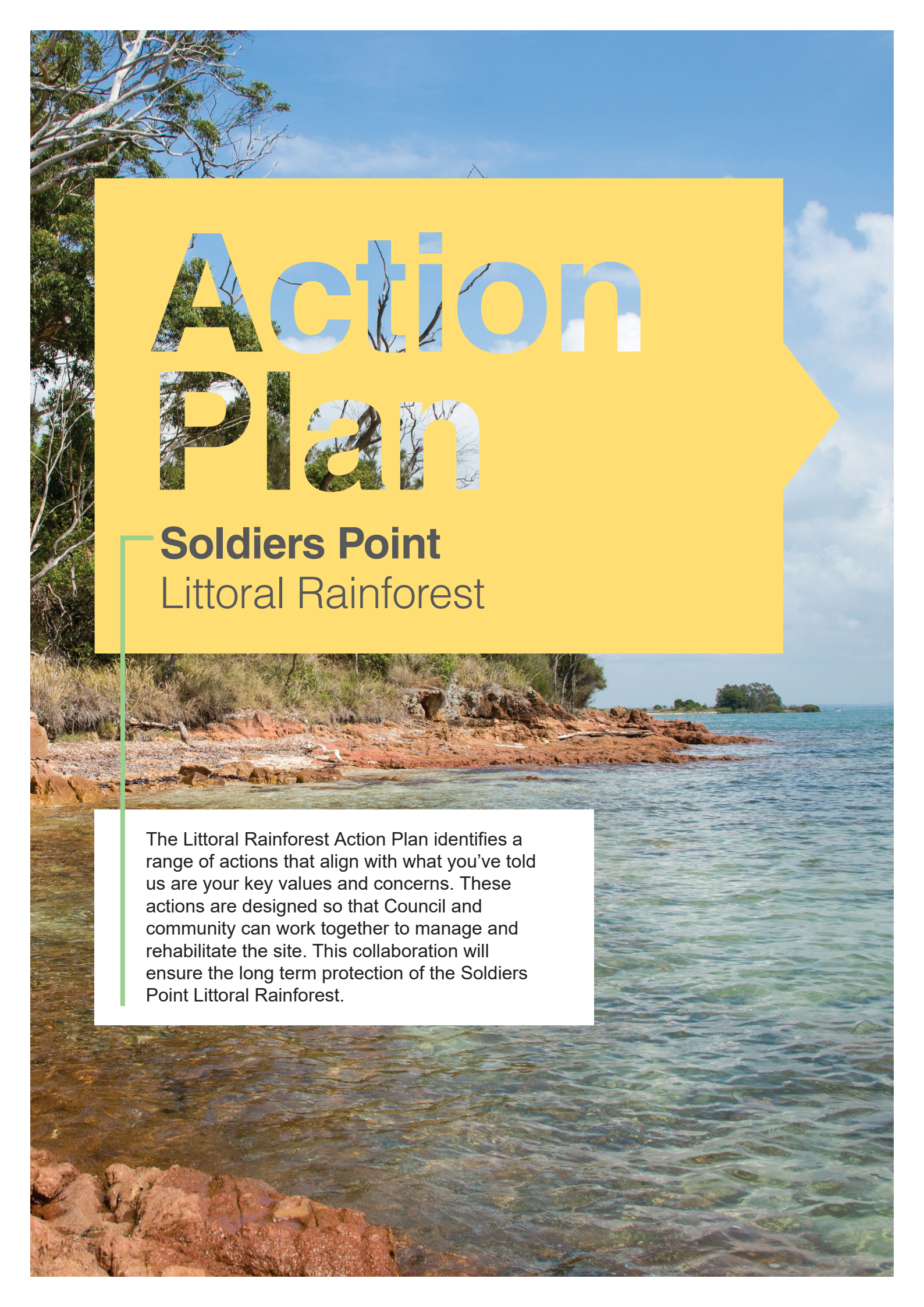
This plan aims to enhance the Littoral Rainforest at Soldiers Point in a way that manages key risks including weeds and pests, encourages rehabilitation of degraded rainforest areas and respects community values of public access and enjoyment.

The plan will allow us to work alongside the community with clear guidelines to manage and protect the Littoral Rainforest.

What is included in the Action plan?

The Plan has identified key actions for Council and community to work through together to maintain community values and increase our management of the site (see the table overleaf). The Action Plan also includes:

Revised mapping that accurately shows the extent of the Littoral Rainforest at Green Play Point Reserve, Kent Gardens Reserve and Yachett Point Reserve, and the other bushland areas. It outlines clearly where volunteers can, and can not undertake maintenance activities.



Action Plan

Soldiers Point Littoral Rainforest

The Littoral Rainforest Action Plan identifies a range of actions that align with what you've told us are your key values and concerns. These actions are designed so that Council and community can work together to manage and rehabilitate the site. This collaboration will ensure the long term protection of the Soldiers Point Littoral Rainforest.

Action plan

 Port Stephens Council's action	 Issues and values	 Timeline	 Community commitments	 Management zone (see map)
We monitor and undertake works according to PSC Bushland Assessment Tool	- manage and protect existing vegetation - natural beauty - control weeds	Ongoing	We work with Council to protect and enhance the area	All areas
We will control weeds by spot spraying and removing invasive species	- weeds and pests - natural beauty - public access	Ongoing	We don't plant invasive species	Passive Restoration areas 1, 3 and 4
We will plant local, endemic rainforest species in suitable locations	- wildlife - trees and plants - public spaces - natural beauty	October 2021	We don't remove plants	Active Restoration areas 2, 5 and 6
We provide guidance on approved community maintenance activities	- fire hazards - Council management	Ongoing	We will mow and maintain open space	Un-forested areas only
We will target weed control of priority species in areas identified outside of passive restoration sites	- Council management - weeds and pests - public access	Ongoing	We don't mow, weed or plant in rainforest regeneration areas	Hot spots in areas 1 to 7 where weed density is more than 30%
We will provide education about Littoral Rainforests including fire risk	- clear debris - fire hazards - natural beauty - education and awareness	Presentation at workshops	We don't clear debris in rainforest regeneration areas	All areas
We will formalise walking tracks	- Council management - public spaces - public access	Ongoing	We keep to tracks We don't make new tracks	All areas
We will host working bees to plant trees and identify weeds	- education and awareness - public spaces	Ongoing	Participation and event organisation if desired	All areas

Council Works Plan.

This map outlines where we will work, and what we will do.

For further information on what Active and Passive Restoration works involve, please see page 14 of the full Littoral Rainforest Management Plan

Legend

-  Reserve Boundaries
-  Littoral Rainforest

Restoration Areas

-  Active Restoration (Area 2, 5, 6)
-  Passive Restoration (Area 1, 3, 4)

Map 1. Passive and active management zones suggested for each area.



Littoral Rainforest Action Plan Council Works



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Vegetated areas & Community Maintained areas

Community Works Plan.

This map outlines where community can work.

Community may volunteer their time to maintain the Reserves. Mowing and clean up can be undertaken in all un-vegetated areas shown on this map.

Work must be undertaken in accordance with Council Policies & Procedures as outlined in the Volunteer section of our website



Littoral Rainforest Action Plan Community Works



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