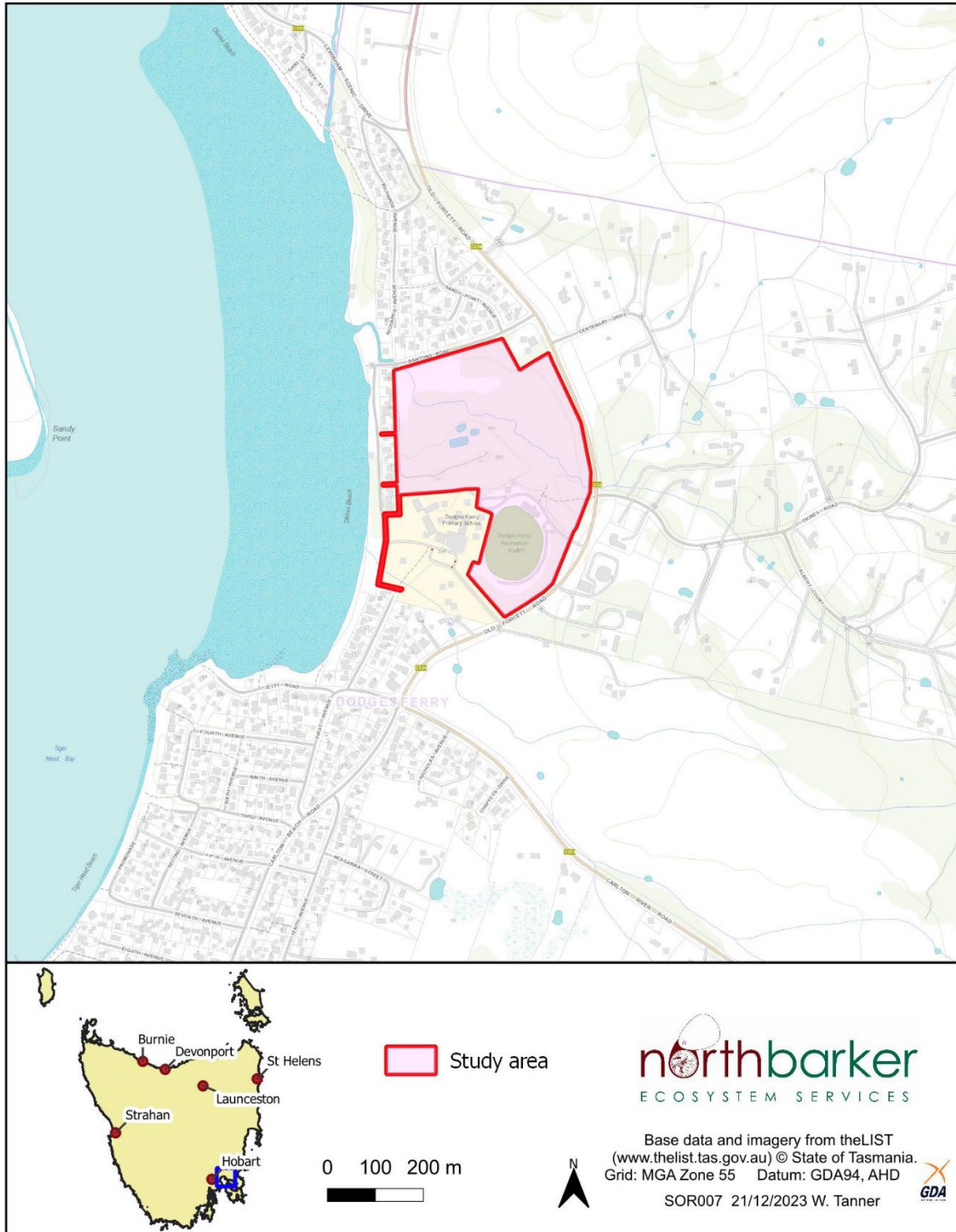


Summary of the Dodges Ferry Recreational Reserve Management plan



| Reserve Name | Location | Size |
|--|---|--|
| Dodges Ferry Recreational Reserve | 530 Old Forcett Road, Dodges Ferry | 15.09 ha |
| Zone | Natural Asset Code (C7.0) Provision/s | Other TPS Code Overlays |
| Environmental Management (zone 23) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority Vegetation area • Waterway and coastal protection area | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bushfire-prone • Safeguarding of airports • Attenuation for sewage treatment plant |
| Reserve Description | | |
| <p>Three areas of Priority vegetation are mapped within the Reserve and adjacent areas, one within the school grounds, a second across the slope above the school and a third around the Dodges Ferry Fire Station. The overlay excludes the majority of vegetation within the Reserve which seems like a significant oversight considering it is the largest area of remnant native bushland within Dodges Ferry. Bushland areas of the site are zoned Environmental Management (zone 23) under the Sorell Local Provisions Schedule (LPS) of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme (TPS). The football oval, clubhouse and vegetation surrounding the oval are zoned Recreation (zone 28) under the LPS. The primary school and Okines Community House and associated grounds are zoned Community Purpose (zone 27).</p> | | |
| Council Infrastructure and Assets | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reserve name boards and signage • Skate park • Football oval • Sewage treatment plant • Timber shelter seating area | | |
| Hazard Management Areas | | |
| <p>VMU6 to be maintained as HMA in low fuel condition as marked in the management plan and VMU8 to be maintained as 10m wide HMA in low fuel condition. One designated fire trail to be maintained within VMU6, 7 and 8 as marked in the management plan to meet the class 5 fire trail category standard. Whenever possible, use brush cutter to minimize the impact of heavy machinery in the reserve to maintain the fuel load. Adjacent residents to be advised on the HMA and strict action on rubbish dumping and slashing by the residents. The felling of trees and/or limbs should be undertaken without the use of heavy machinery where possible. All such equipment including vehicles should utilise the designated fire trail where possible and avoid the TPZs of mature eucalypts.</p> | | |
| Natural Values | | |
| Vegetation | <p>Six TASVEG (4.0) vegetation mapping units occur within the site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DVC – <i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> – <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> coastal forest and woodland • ARS/ASS - Saline sedgeland/rushland and Succulent saline herbland • FRG – Regenerating cleared land • FWU – Weed infestation • FUM – Extra-urban miscellaneous <p>DVC is listed as a threatened vegetation community under the Tasmanian <i>Nature Conservation Act 2002</i> (NCA). ARS and ASS are not included in the Wetlands threatened vegetation community under the NCA. Also, the mapped area of ASS/ARS does not qualify as the threatened community Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh under the EPBC Act due to the small size and lack of tidal connection.</p> | |

| DVC is a listed as Threatened community under NC Act | |
|---|---|
| Threatened flora, fauna and/or fauna habitat | <p>One of the reserve with highest diversity of flora. Over 100 flora species were recorded across the Reserve. No threatened flora species were recorded during the surveys undertaken by North Barker Ecosystem Services or Fiona Walsh of Enviro-Dynamics. In addition, the SBLC have not noted any threatened flora species within the areas they work.</p> <p>Suitable habitat for following threatened species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Caladenia caudata</i> (tailed spider orchid) • <i>Caladenia saggicola</i> (sagg spider-orchid) • <i>Vittadinia gracilis</i> (woolly new-holland daisy) • <i>Vittadinia muelleri</i> (narrowleaf new-holland daisy) <p>Excellent habitat for EB Bandicoot, Tasmanian pademelons, Bennetts wallabies, Tasmanian bettongs, Bats, amphibians and reptiles. Provides foraging and nesting habitat for wide range of birds.</p> |
| Orchids | <p>No threatened orchids present. Refer to reserve plan. Other flora of local significance is present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cynoglossum australe</i> (coast houndstongue) • <i>Diuris pardina</i> (leopard orchid) • <i>Diuris sulphurea</i> (tiger orchid) • <i>Pterostylis concinna</i> (trim greenhood) • <i>Thelymitra pauciflora</i> (slender sun-orchid) • <i>Thelymitra arenaria</i> (forest sun-orchid) |
| Weeds (Declared, WoNS & Environmental) | <p>Boneseed infestation is widespread, likewise Blackberry and others. Significant investment from Council and follow up work is required to keep the reserves biodiversity. Strategic investment for weed management and restocking of plants is required. Other common environmental weeds present include Mirror bush, Tree Lucerne, cotoneaster, Gazania, Freesia, African daisy, cocksfoot, panic veldt grass and <i>Bromus</i> sp.</p> |
| Community values | Cultural values |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active recreation • Community volunteering/revegetation • Appreciation and connection to nature | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No known cultural values (no published data and/or lack of previous surveys in reserve) |

| Summary of Management Actions (refer to Section 4 for more details) | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Responsibility | Key Actions | Timing | Comment |
| Sorell Council | <p><u>Tree/vegetation management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to implement procedures to ensure any hazardous trees and/or limbs which represent a public safety risk and require removal are not chipped and are placed in bushland areas as valuable habitat. This excludes Vegetation Management Units¹ 6 and 8 which are to be managed in a low fuel state. All fallen logs in VMU 6 and 8 are to be relocated outside these areas. The removal of hazardous trees/limbs should always be considered in the context of the habitat provided. • The felling of trees and/or limbs should be undertaken without the use of heavy machinery where possible. All such equipment including vehicles should utilise the designated fire trail where possible and avoid the TPZs of mature eucalypts. • Council should investigate any reports of tree vandalism and illegal firewood collection within the reserve. • Information regarding council’s obligations to manage this HMA in a low fuel state should be communicated to residents along with the extent of the HMA (10m wide) and state that residents are not to undertake mowing or brush cutting in the reserve. Those residents with invasive or declared weeds encroaching into the reserve should be informed of their presence and their obligations to prevent the spread of weeds to reserved land. If such engagement fails to get a positive outcome then land holders should a notice under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2019</i> is warranted. Council to continue education around responsible waste management and Council’s green waste collection. <p>Protect hollow logs, dead trees and hollow bearing trees from fire by using wet lines or brush cutting/raking fine fuels away from logs and the base of trees prior to undertaking controlled burns.</p> | Annually (August-September) | Coordination with SBLC. |
| | <p><u>Fire management</u></p> | Appendix A of the Bushfire Mitigation Plan outlines a | Consultation regarding the firebreak and utilising the |

¹ Refer to Section 6 for the location and extent of VMUs



Summary of Management Actions (refer to Section 4 for more details)

| Responsibility | Key Actions | Timing | Comment |
|----------------|---|--|---|
| | <p>VMUs 2 and 5 were burnt in the Spring of 2021. This planned burn was of moderate to high intensity resulting in significant canopy scorch and a density reduction of overstorey species. This area is dominated by bracken in the understory with limited floristic diversity in some areas.</p> <p>It should be noted that vegetation around the football oval was identified as being of tolerable fire risk and is not included as a VMU in the Bushfire Mitigation Plan. This area should be reassessed as part of the next review in 5 years time.</p> <p>VMU 6 is to be maintained as a HMA in low fuel condition. Its extent is defined by the fire trail DF1 and covers a 1.2 ha area. The following vegetation management is required within this unit.</p> <p>The BMP notes that the minimum tolerable fire interval for DVC is 10 years (low intensity fire) and 20 years (high intensity fire) with a maximum tolerable fire interval of 40 years. Ideally the interval between a series of planned burns applied to areas of DVC should vary within this minimum-maximum tolerable fire interval. However, shorter fire intervals may be required on occasion to reduce bushfire hazards and/or to achieve desired conservation outcomes.</p> | <p>Treatment Plan with regards to the proposed planned burning schedule for 2024-2028</p> | <p>Dodges Ferry Primary School is identified as a nearby safer place by the Tasmanian State Government within the Community Bushfire Protection Plan for Dodges Ferry.</p> <p>One designated vehicle fire trail (DF1) is required in the reserve and is outlined in Figure 7 of the management plan. The alignment mostly follows the existing track although a small section needs to be realigned to meet an existing locked gate opposite the football club.</p> |
| | <p><u>Infrastructure management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to investigate upgrading the existing shelter to improve aesthetics and provide an inviting outdoor classroom space for school groups and other community groups to utilise. An example could be a circular style structure made with natural materials. Alternatively, the existing structure could be updated with mosaics or a mural/artwork, potential to collaborate with primary school. • The diversity within the Flora Park and the broader reserve should be promoted with the installation of interpretative signs. This could also extend to plant species tags along a formalised circular track within the Flora Park area. • Council to investigate installing some picnic tables/seating within the broader Flora Park area in consultation with SBLC. • Council to upgrade existing signs and install additional signs to inform people of prohibited activities/animals e.g. dogs, motorbikes, horses, | <p>Seek input from the community on how best to improve/manage the facility, for example: the installation of dog play equipment (such as ramps), the need for shade trees or more seating etc</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to consider the design, location and investigate funding for a suitable culvert creek crossing for pedestrians. • Council will work with volunteers to regularly assess trails for risks and hazards. • Remove hazardous building rubble and reo along track just east of the WTPs. |



| Summary of Management Actions (refer to Section 4 for more details) | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Responsibility | Key Actions | Timing | Comment |
| | <p>camping etc at all reserve entrances, including pedestrian access at both ends of the fire trail.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council and the community to investigate funding to prepare a reserve map showing the tracks and recreation zones. • Install interpretative signage in the Flora Park area around the entrance to inform and educate locals and visitors about the environmental values of the reserve. • Council to consider installing a larger or more visible sign along Old Forcett Road on the way into Dodges Ferry to highlight the location of the reserve and increase community/visitor awareness of the reserve. • The existing ponds should be rehabilitated, that is works should involve, removal of all weed material, pumping out the wastewater, removing any contaminated soil, grading the area back to its original slope and revegetating the area with local native species indicative of the DVC community. | | |
| SBLC (with support from Council) | <p><u>Vegetation management and weed control</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Control isolated occurrences of declared weeds in areas of native bushland. Start with smaller infestations in good areas of bushland and slowly expand scope as resources dictate. Target as a priority: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mature boneseed plants in areas of mapped DVC. ○ The area of Montpellier broom in burnt DVC. Approx. 10m x 5m area of mature saplings. ○ African boxthorn locations. • Follow-up maintenance at these locations every 6 months. • Control isolated occurrences of invasive environmental weeds in areas of native bushland. Start with smaller infestations in good areas of bushland and slowly expand scope as resources dictate. • Follow-up maintenance at worked locations every 6 months. • Follow-up hand weeding of post burn site every 6-12 months. • Undertake walk through of Flora Park, HMA and burnt DVC to control declared and invasive environmental weeds every 6-12 months. • Once isolated boneseed infestations have been controlled, start to work on mapped polygons in a staged manner, working from top of slope downwards and from upper catchment downstream. | <p>Annual working bee (Aug/Sept) or more frequently if resources are available. Council to post working bee dates on social media.</p> | <p>In order to monitor the success of the weed control program, follow-up GPS weed mapping should be undertaken after five years to assess progress and facilitate planning of future weed control activities.</p> |



| Summary of Management Actions (refer to Section 4 for more details) | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|---|
| Responsibility | Key Actions | Timing | Comment |
| SBLC and Sorell Council | <p><u>Partnership and community engagement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to work with volunteers, community groups and schools in organising activities and events, attending when possible and ensuring all OH&S requirements are met, e.g. Weed Buster Week, National Tree Planting Day etc. • SBLC is to advise council on proposed activities and works within the reserve on an annual basis in winter prior to works commencing in spring. • Council is to advise SBLC on any scheduled works in the reserve beyond the general maintenance/management activities outlined in this plan. • Council to continue to maintain and supply, when necessary, the equipment in its Landcare trailer and offer it for Community Group's use. • Continue to undertake working bees within Flora park area. • All planned burns to be undertaken in consultation with SBLC and key stakeholders. Pre and post burn weed control as well as fauna habitat measures outlined in the management plan are to be incorporated into these operations. <p><u>Collaboration with Aboriginal communities:</u> Investigate opportunities to incorporate cultural burning practices within the reserve. This should include consultation and engagement with the Aboriginal community to facilitate cultural burns and training workshops, particularly in areas of native grassland. Cultural burning identified as a key management tool to maintain and enhance species richness in native grasslands and woodlands.</p> | As required. | See opportunity to install wildlife cameras and use them for education and management purposes. |
| Opportunities | | | |
| Education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install educational sign about threatened vegetation, Dogs/Cats restriction and wildlife habitat. • Seek input from the community on how best to improve/manage the facility, for example: the installation of dog play equipment (such as ramps), the need for shade trees or more seating etc. | As resources become available. | Improve connectivity with eastern and south eastern side of the reserve to improve the diversity and access for the wildlife. |
| Recreation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider installing some walls along the back of the skate park area to be used as legalised graffiti walls for street art and murals. This would serve to deter illegal acts of graffiti on council infrastructure in the area and also act as an informal barrier to prevent trampling/vandalism of vegetation beyond this area. | | |



| Summary of Management Actions (refer to Section 4 for more details) | | | |
|---|---|--------|---------|
| Responsibility | Key Actions | Timing | Comment |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to consider the design, location and investigate funding for a suitable culvert creek crossing for pedestrians. • The number of existing tracks should be audited and consolidated with those not required revegetated. Tracks should be kept as natural as possible, particularly through bushland areas. | | |



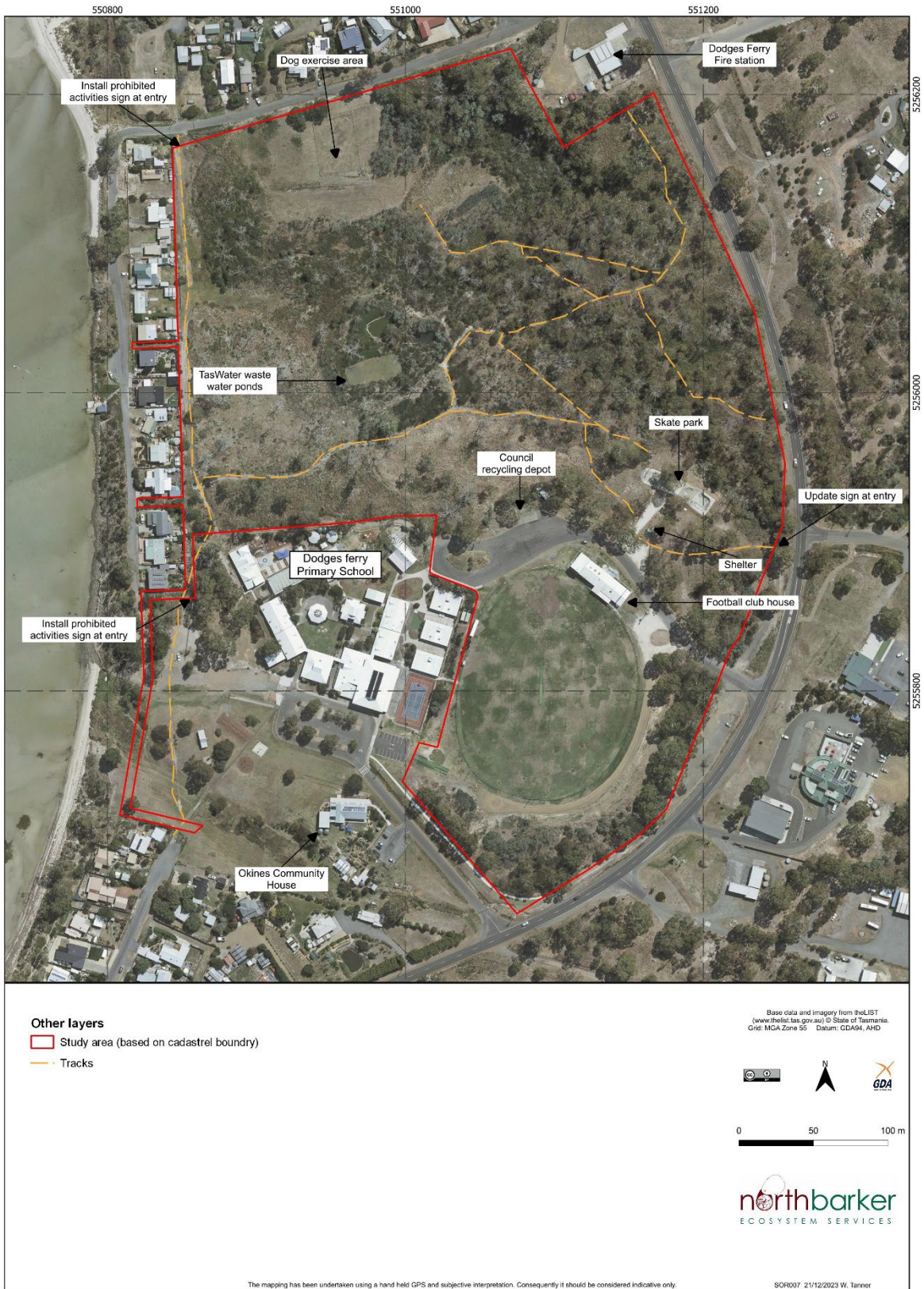


Figure 1: Dodges Ferry Recreation Reserve Plan