

Briefing Note

2020/120558

Issue

To discuss proposed land categories for Crown reserve 68892 with the Manly Warringah War Memorial State Park Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee). Crown reserve 68892 includes Manly Dam and Aquatic Reserve.

Background

The Crown Land Management Act NSW 2016 requires Council to allocate land categories for Crown reserves for which Council is Crown Land Manager. The categories include:

- Natural Area
- Sportsground
- Park
- Area of Cultural Significance, and
- General Community Use

The category of Natural Area can be further broken down into five subcategories, however, these do not need to be assigned at this stage. They are:

- Bushland
- Wetland
- Escarpment
- Watercourse, and
- Foreshore

The objectives for each of the categories can be found at Attachment 1. Guidance categories according to the reserve purpose can be found at Attachment 2.

Communications with the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Crown Land Manager Fact Sheet (Attachment 3) explain that proposed land categories should:

- represent current/existing use
- multiple categories are permitted where they best represent current/existing use
- cannot represent desired future use
- relate to the reserve purpose
- relate most closely to the Local Government Act category objectives
- consider the characteristics of the land

Land categories for Crown reserve 68892 have been discussed with the Advisory Committee at meetings on 6.5.2019, 11.11.2019 and 24.02.2020. A meeting was also held on 5.3.2019 with Council staff and representative from the Save Manly Dam Committee - Ann Collins and Ann Sharp.

Proposed land categories are required to be endorsed by Council before notifying the Minister. The Minister can over-ride Council's proposed land categories if they are not consistent with the various guidelines.

In determining proposed land categories for the 269 reserves, consistency across the local government area has been taken into consideration as much as possible. For example, golf courses being 'Sportsground,' car parks being 'General Community Use' and playgrounds being 'Park.'

Discussion

The purpose of Crown reserve 68892 is 'Public Recreation' for which the guidance category is 'Park.' However, the process allows for multiple categories to be assigned where they may better reflect the characteristics of the land as well as current/existing use.

Activities currently occurring at Crown reserve 68892 are consistent with the reserve purpose, including golf, baseball, mountain biking, water skiing and an aquatic centre. These activities are managed sensitively within the context of a significant natural area. Applying the categories of 'Sportsground,' 'General Community Use' or 'Park' would not preclude the need for environmental assessments, approvals or conditions as required and in line with relevant legislation.

The following table describes the proposed land categories and initial justification for each of the features of Crown reserve 68892. The detailed justifications can be discussed with the Advisory Committee. The proposed land categories are mapped at Attachment 4.

Feature	Proposed land category	Justification
Aquatic Centre	General Community Use	Most consistent with the category objectives and guidance category
Aquatic Reserve car park (southern half)	General Community Use	Consistent with the northern half of the car park (reserve 97181) which has a reserve purpose of 'Parking'. The guidance category for 'Parking' is General Community Use. The car park primarily facilitates use of the aquatic centre and sportsgrounds. It would not be recommended to have two halves of the car park with different categories. Consistent with the proposal for many other car parks across the local government area

Feature	Proposed land category	Justification
Baseball fields and associated facilities	Sportsground	Most consistent with the category objectives and guidance category. Consistent with other sportsfields
Golf Course	Sportsground	Most consistent with the category objectives and guidance category. Consistent with other sportsfields.
Bushland	Natural Area	Consistent with the category objectives and the guidance category
Water body	Natural Area	Consistent with the category objectives
Dam wall	Area of Cultural Significance	Consistent with the category objectives
War memorial structures	Area of Cultural Significance	Consistent with the category objectives
Picnic areas and playground	Park	Consistent with the category objectives
Manly Dam car parks	Park	Linked to picnic areas and playground
Manly Dam office	General Community Use	Most consistent with the category objectives and the guidance categories

Recommendation

That proposed land categories for reserve 68892 be discussed in order to inform a recommendation to Council.

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