

UPPER KEDUMBA RIVER VALLEY

Plans of Management

Covering the Community Lands within

"The Gully" Aboriginal Place



Incorporating the Plans of Management for:

- *Walford Park (Frank Walford Park) 2003*
- *Katoomba Falls Reserve - McRae's Paddock section 2004*
- *Katoomba Falls Reserve – Cascades section (Selby Street) 2003*

Upper Kedumba River Valley Precinct, Katoomba

Incorporating the Plans of Management for:

- Frank Walford Park (20 May 2003)
- McRae's Paddock (revised 27 April 2004)
- Selby Street Reserve (20 May 2003)

Written by The Blue Mountains City Council 2003, revised 2004.

Note: at the time of printing an archaeological study is being undertaken for the Gully. The resulting document (anticipated for June 2005) will provide extra management direction. Please check the availability of this document prior to any works and read in conjunction with the Plan of Management.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preamble

Executive Summary

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Generally
- 1.2 Format of the Plan of Management
- 1.3 Method
- 1.4 Relationship with other documents

2 The Resource

- 2.1 Context
- 2.2 Heritage
- 2.3 Natural Environment
- 2.4 Water
- 2.5 Recreation
- 2.6 Access
- 2.7 Management and Maintenance
- 2.8 Summary

3 Basis for Management

- 3.1 Strategic documents
- 3.2 Legal framework
- 3.3 Consultation
- 3.4 Values and Roles
- 3.5 Issues
- 3.6 Opportunities
- 3.7 Desired Outcomes
- 3.8 Summary

4 Management Policies

- 4.1 Management Approach
- 4.2 Heritage
- 4.3 Natural Environment
- 4.4 Water
- 4.5 Recreation and Access
- 4.6 Education
- 4.7 Management and Maintenance
- 4.8 Masterplanning principles
- 4.9 Summary

5 Frank Walford Park Plan of Management

- 5.1 Reserve at a glance
- 5.2 Categorisation
- 5.3 Management policies
- 5.4 Masterplan
- 5.5 Action plan

6 McRae's Paddock Plan of Management

- 6.1 Reserve at a glance
- 6.2 Categorisation
- 6.3 Management policies
- 6.4 Masterplan
- 6.5 Action plan

7 Selby Street Reserve Plan of Management Reserve

- 7.1 Reserve at a glance
- 7.2 Categorisation
- 7.3 Management policies
- 7.4 Masterplan
- 7.5 Action plan

8 Action and Implementation

- 8.1 Staging
- 8.2 Works Action Plan
- 8.3 Funding

9 Public Exhibition

10 Bibliography

Appendix

- A Background Information to Aboriginal Place declaration
- B Management Strategy Framework
- C Summary of Relevant Strategies / Policies
- D Contact information for Aboriginal community

PREAMBLE

This document consists of three Plans of Management, sharing common objectives in managing the **UPPER KEDUMBA RIVER VALLEY** as an integrated natural ecological valley system, as a cultural entity, and as an important water catchment.

The three Plans of Management, one for the Frank Walford Park portion, another for the McRae's Paddock portion, and another for the Selby Street Reserve portion, *collectively comprise the **UPPER KEDUMBA RIVER VALLEY Plan of Management***.

We acknowledge here that in post-contact times the integrity of the Valley as a natural system has been significantly impacted by human land uses, and by private and public land development. While collectively the three Plans of Management focus on the public lands, the common objectives also speak of how private lands are to be managed to maintain the identified natural, cultural and catchment values of the Valley,

We acknowledge here that the three Plans of Management, collectively making up the **UPPER KEDUMBA RIVER VALLEY Plan of Management**, directly derive from and are consistent with the Katoomba Falls Creek Valley Environmental Study: Draft Report and Management Plan, 1993, and the Upper Kedumba River Valley Management Plan, 1996.

The single set of objectives held collectively by the three Plans are:

- Continuation of the Upper Kedumba River Valley as a natural ecological system, as a water catchment system, and as open space;
- Honouring Aboriginal occupation and custodianship of the Valley, also known as the **GULLY**, in pre-contact and post-contact times, and now as an **ABORIGINAL PLACE**;
- Honouring of the ways in which, in post-contact times, the people of the Blue Mountains have used the Valley;
- Provision of recreational and educational opportunities that are consistent with the preceding objectives; and
- Active involvement of Blue Mountains people, especially Aboriginal people, in the on-going management of the Valley / Gully.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 1 Introduction

The Upper Kedumba River Valley Precinct Plans of Management study was commissioned by Blue Mountains City Council in March 2002 and was undertaken by Landscape Architectural consultants Environmental Partnership with input from Council officers over March - September 2002. It is a document addressing the Upper Kedumba River Valley Precinct generally and contains within it three specific plans of management for the separate reserves of Frank Walford Park, McRae's Paddock and Selby Street Reserve (see map overleaf). The document is aimed at providing Council with a planning and management tool that meets the requirements of the *Local Government Amendment (Community Land Management) Act, 1998* and that will guide decision making and open space enhancement of the Upper Kedumba Valley over the next five to ten years.

The plan must also recognise and incorporate the declaration of the study area as an **Aboriginal Place of Significance** which occurred in early 2002. An Aboriginal Place may be declared on any land in NSW if, in the opinion of the Government, the area 'is or was of special significance to Aboriginal culture', under Section 84 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974* (NP&W Act). The declaration of an Aboriginal Place provides a formal means for the NSW State Government to recognise the significance of an area to Aboriginal culture, and to provide appropriate protection to ensure that the significance is not damaged or destroyed. These cultural heritage values, and related legislative requirements provide significant direction to the plan of management and the finalisation of community land categorisations, ongoing usage recommendations, and environmental management requirements for the corridor.

Section 2 Consultation

At the core of the plan of management process was consultation with relevant professionals within Council, a Management advisory group comprised of representatives from selected stakeholder groups / associations, and the Community Working Group derived through direct contact with organised groups, local letterbox drops and advertisements in the Gazette (local press). The consultation program included one separate Management advisory group meeting and two Community Workshops held at key phases during the course of the study.

During the preparation of this plan of management separate meetings were held with an Aboriginal Stakeholder Group related to the Declaration of the Valley as an Aboriginal Place. The concerns of this group were highlighted at the Community Workshops and through meetings between Council Officers and the Study Team. Aims and objectives for this group have been incorporated into this plan of management. Further consultation occurred during the public exhibition phase.

Section 3 Basis of Management

To develop the management policies the following sources were drawn upon:

- Previous strategic documents relating to the Upper Kedumba River Valley;
- Values, issues, opportunities and desired outcomes identified through the public consultation process;
- The land categorisation process and the core objectives for those categorisations that arise from the Local Government Act - as shown on the plan overleaf; and
- The legal requirements arising in relation to the Aboriginal significance in the National Parks and Wildlife Act.

The information from these sources has been collated into the Management Strategy Framework which forms Appendix B. The direction from that framework is encapsulated in the management policies. The policies pertaining to the whole corridor are contained in **Section 4**. The policies that relate only to specific reserves are contained in the separate plans of management. The plan overleaf identifies the recommended community land categorisations for the Upper Kedumba Valley Plans of Management arising from the guidelines in the Local Government Act. They give substantial direction to the management and masterplanning of the reserves.

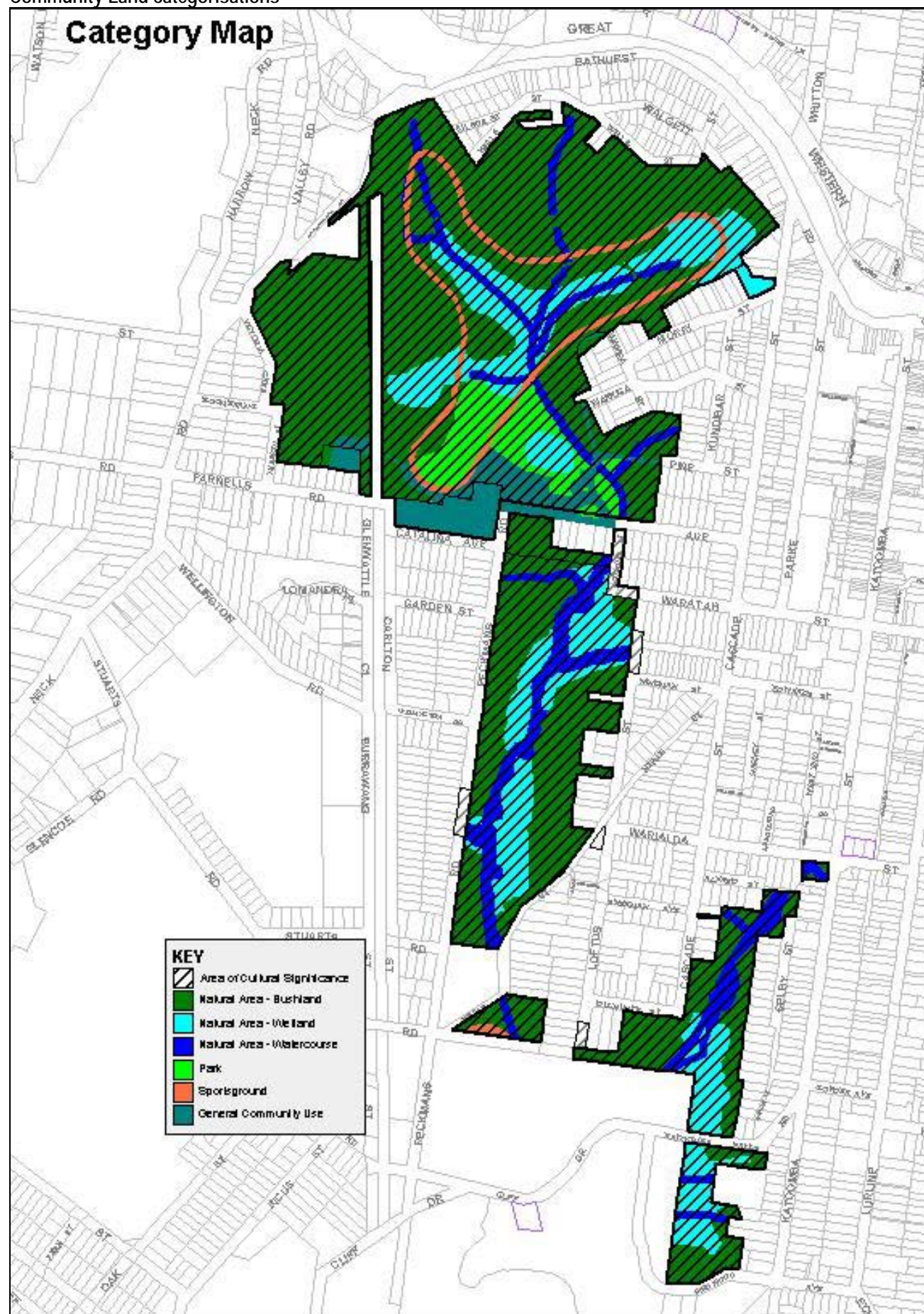
Subject Lands - aerial view showing Community Lands covered by this Plan of Management



Walford
Park
2-010

Katoomba
Falls
Reserve
2-034
McRaes
Paddock
section

Katoomba
Falls
Reserve
2-045
Cascades
section



Section 4 Management Policies

Listed below are the management policies for the Upper Kedumba River Valley. The major policies relating to individual reserves are also included.

Heritage

- Identify, protect and interpret features and areas of cultural significance
- Consult the Aboriginal community prior to any digging, unusual use or development (see appendix D)
- Express racing circuit heritage - using only static displays

Natural Environment

- Protect and improve the ecological integrity of in the Valley
- Reduce pressures on natural areas from surrounding properties
- Identify and protect rare and endangered species
- Improve corridor integrity by the incorporation of unformed road reserves as community open space and where feasible, acquisition of selected properties

Water

- Effectively manage stormwater in the Valley including the restoration of the natural drainage system as a natural and cultural element

Social / Cultural

- Recognise significance as a place of Aboriginal and European heritage
- Optimise community involvement in the ongoing management process
- Facilitate ongoing role as a community meeting place

Recreation and Access

- Upgrade Frank Walford Park (using Catalina Lake as a focus) to provide a picnic facility
- Improve walking, wheelchair and cycling connections between Katoomba Town Centre, Echo Point and Scenic World and neighbouring residential areas including provision of clear inviting entry points
- Rationalise existing path system
- Provide interpretation of racing history of site
- Raise public profile
- Increase space available for passive recreation in Frank Walford Park through rationalisation of parking and through roads
- Retain Catalina track for recreational purposes excluding motorised use
- Provide opportunity for public transport to Frank Walford Park

Educational

- Interpret the natural and cultural heritage of the Valley through a coordinated interpretation strategy
- Provide facilities for school group use of site
- Investigate potential for Interpretive Centre at Frank Walford Park

Intrinsic and Visual

- Ensure that all future works on site recognise and strengthen the cultural and natural landscape
- Provide a long-term identity for the open space that recognises its heritage significance

Management and Maintenance

- Provide coordinated management group representing all interests
- Define maintenance areas to prevent encroachment on environmentally sensitive areas
- Use slashed fire breaks and planned burns to reduce fire hazards and enhance ecological integrity
- Provide appropriate opportunities for leases / licences to contribute to park maintenance and interpretation
- Seek external funding to accomplish desired outcomes of the plans of management

- Demolish non functional or derelict buildings not of heritage value / unable to be adaptively reused
- Weed control to be part of continual maintenance regime undertaken by Council with support from Community Groups (Bushcare)

Section 4 also contains the corridor masterplans that articulate what actions can happen on the ground. This is shown overleaf. They provide for the conceptual planning of proposed works.

Detailed plans will be developed through a process that will include:

- Archaeological survey and conservation management planning;
- Detailed flora and fauna assessment;
- Consultation with Aboriginal community; and
- Consultation with the broader community.

Masterplanning Principles

Based on previous studies, outcomes of the Community Workshops and input from relevant stakeholders, the following general principles have been established to guide the development of masterplanning for the Upper Kedumba Valley:

- A Recognise Aboriginal Significance through continued conservation and interpretive strategy based on Archaeological Survey and Conservation Management Plan and implementation of planning and management strategies that reflect and develop conservation objectives as outlined in the Statement of Significance.
- B Consolidate and extend natural vegetation communities to enhance natural values.
- C Undertake coordinated stream restoration and stormwater management to improve function and aesthetic quality of the Upper Kedumba River.
- D Review opportunities to close existing road links, unformed roads, and rationalise car parking areas (subject to traffic assessment) to achieve environmental and recreational improvements.
- E Formalise access network to provide continuous north south corridor access for pedestrians and cyclists, in addition to strategic east west links across corridor to link adjoining residential areas and Katoomba CBD.
- F Develop sustainable level of bush paths to enhance recreational and environmental experiences and facilitate natural and cultural heritage interpretation.
- G Use path alignments where possible to define edges between natural areas and maintained grassland.
- H Enhance the relationship of existing recreational facilities to existing open space through visual, functional, and recreational linkages.
- I Recognise specific sense of place and intrinsic qualities of the Valley Corridor (including landform, significance of water, and particular cultural heritage) in planning and management proposals.
- J Integrate Catalina racetrack into ongoing recreational use of site for general community benefit in a manner compatible with Aboriginal Heritage Objectives and requirements.
- K Integrate Catalina Lake as cultural heritage feature of aesthetic and recreational value.
- L Remove dilapidated or disused buildings without heritage value to improve visual quality and safety of site and improve environmental and recreational opportunities.

Refer to Section 4 Masterplanning for detailed descriptions of the proposals.

Sections 5, 6 and 7

These sections contain the individual Plans of Management for the three separate areas.

Section 8 Action and Implementation

Section 8 of the plan of management describes a recommended works action plan for the implementation of planning and management recommendations.

The works action plan identifies:

- Priority of works items;
- Detailed activities required for implementation;
- Action type (e.g. planning and design, capital works, etc); and
- Indicative implementation costs and potential sources of funding.

Several of the actions proposed are identified as being of a high priority:

- Archaeological Survey;
- Heritage Management Plan;
- Bush Regeneration;
- Interpretive Strategy;
- Stormwater Management Plan; and
- Frank Walford Park name change to the Gully.

The actions listed each involve a series of more detailed activities as outlined in the works action plan. The high priority works are supplemented in the works action plan by a range of medium and low priority actions that are recommended to be implemented as part of a long-term program.

The ability of Council to secure external grant funding to supplement its capital works funding and the initial park establishment funding will ultimately determine the program timeframe of improvement works. Funding secured for specific grant types may also require the adjustment of priorities during the course of implementation.

Important Note

All actions including:

- Any form of digging;
- Any use not clearly identified as acceptable in the Plans of Management;
- Any construction; and
- Any other matter that the Aboriginal community raises,

Must be subject to appropriate consultation with the Department of Environment and Conservation (National Parks and Wildlife Service) and the Aboriginal community (refer Appendix D).

Masterplan



1 Introduction

The introduction identifies the objectives of the plans of management, outlines the format of the plans of management document and describes the method used to develop the plans.

1.1 Generally

The Upper Kedumba River Valley Corridor in Katoomba (also known as 'the Gully') provides an important community resource for the residents of the town and surrounding settlements. This document seeks to provide management direction to balance open space and recreational needs with conservation of the inherent natural and cultural heritage qualities of the community lands within the corridor. The community lands fall into three reserves known as Frank Walford Park, McRae's Paddock and Selby Street Reserve.

Specific objectives for this document, as identified in Council's brief, include the following:

- Develop a new strategic summary that reflects the catchment and corridor management objectives from The Upper Kedumba River Valley Plan of Management 1996, so that there is a consistent framework for future management of the corridor, in keeping with this document. This summary will provide a common context and describe the relationship between the Upper Kedumba River Valley Plan of Management and each of the site specific plans of managements prepared under this brief.
- Review and amend the plan of management for Frank Walford Park, and prepare a plan of management for McRae's Paddock and Selby Street Reserves, so that each plan of management meets the statutory requirements for site specific plans of management.
- Prepare a draft master plan for the study area. The masterplan philosophy shall be one for conservation, adaptive reuse and sensitive development of parklands and sportsgrounds.

The Masterplan will outline:

- Pedestrian systems throughout the open space corridor from the boundary of Frank Walford Park at the north of the site to the picnic areas in Katoomba Falls Reserve; and
- Detailed layout for the more intensive recreation facilities within the appropriate categories, in a manner that is consistent with the objectives of the categories under the *Local Government Act*.

The declaration of the valley as an **Aboriginal Place of Significance** in early 2002 generates fundamental requirements for the plan of management to provide for the conservation and protection of the physical and spiritual values of the valley. A Statement of Significance prepared in late 2001 (refer 2.2 Heritage) identifies a range of factors contributing to the significance of the valley, along with key management requirements including preparation of an archaeological survey and Conservation Plan of Management.

These plans of management have been prepared incorporating these management recommendations into planning and management strategies. Upon completion of the recommended survey and conservation plan, staged implementation of plan of management recommendations can commence incorporating any detailed recommendations of the survey and plan.

It should be noted that the plans of management do not seek to resolve all design issues, rather they provide long term strategies and a framework for decision making. Implementation of actions will require design development arrived at through negotiation with the community and in continuous collaboration with the management advisory group.

1.2 Format of the plan of management

This document comprises three plans of management, one each for Frank Walford Park, McRae's Paddock and Selby Street Reserve. As the plans are linked within the Upper Kedumba River Valley they share common history, community values and issues. The background information and the management direction for all three reserves are presented collectively in Sections 2, 3 and 4.

Section 2 The Resource Review of the existing physical and cultural character of the community lands of the Kedumba Valley as a basis for identification of values, desired outcomes and issues, and subsequent development of planning and management strategies.

Section 3 Basis for Management Identification of values, desired outcomes and issues to be considered in the development of planning and management strategies.

Section 4 Management Policies Management policies presented in practical categorisations relevant to open space management.

The essence of the plan of management for each reserve and their masterplans are then presented individually in Sections 5, 6 and 7.

Section 5 Frank Walford Park Plan of Management Gives some site specific information on the reserve, the land categorisations, the site specific management policies and the masterplan for the site.

Section 6 McRae's Paddock Park Plan of Management Gives some site specific information on the reserve, the land categorisations, the site specific management policies and the masterplan for the site.

Section 7 Selby street Reserve Park Plan of Management Gives some site specific information on the reserve, the land categorisations, the site specific management policies and the masterplan for the site.

The arising actions for implementation of the plans of management and supporting information are presented collectively in Section 8.

Section 8 Action and Implementation Prioritisation of detailed actions required for the implementation of strategies including indicative costs and funding / management responsibilities.

Section 9 Appendix Changes to the document made after the public exhibition.

Section 10 Bibliography.

Section 11 Appendix Supporting documentation and related information.

1.3 Method

In accordance with the guidelines established in "Succeeding with Plans of Management" (DLWC / Manidis Roberts 1996), the Upper Kedumba Valley Plans of Management document has been prepared based on a "values based approach". Using values as the foundation of the plan of management process ensures the plan will remain valid for longer.

Alternatively an issues based approach (as often followed in plan preparation) whilst dealing effectively with the issues of the day has no flexibility to deal with new issues that arise over time, and may quickly become out of date. This is "based on the assumption that community values change at a much slower rate than issues" (DLWC / Manidis Roberts 1996).

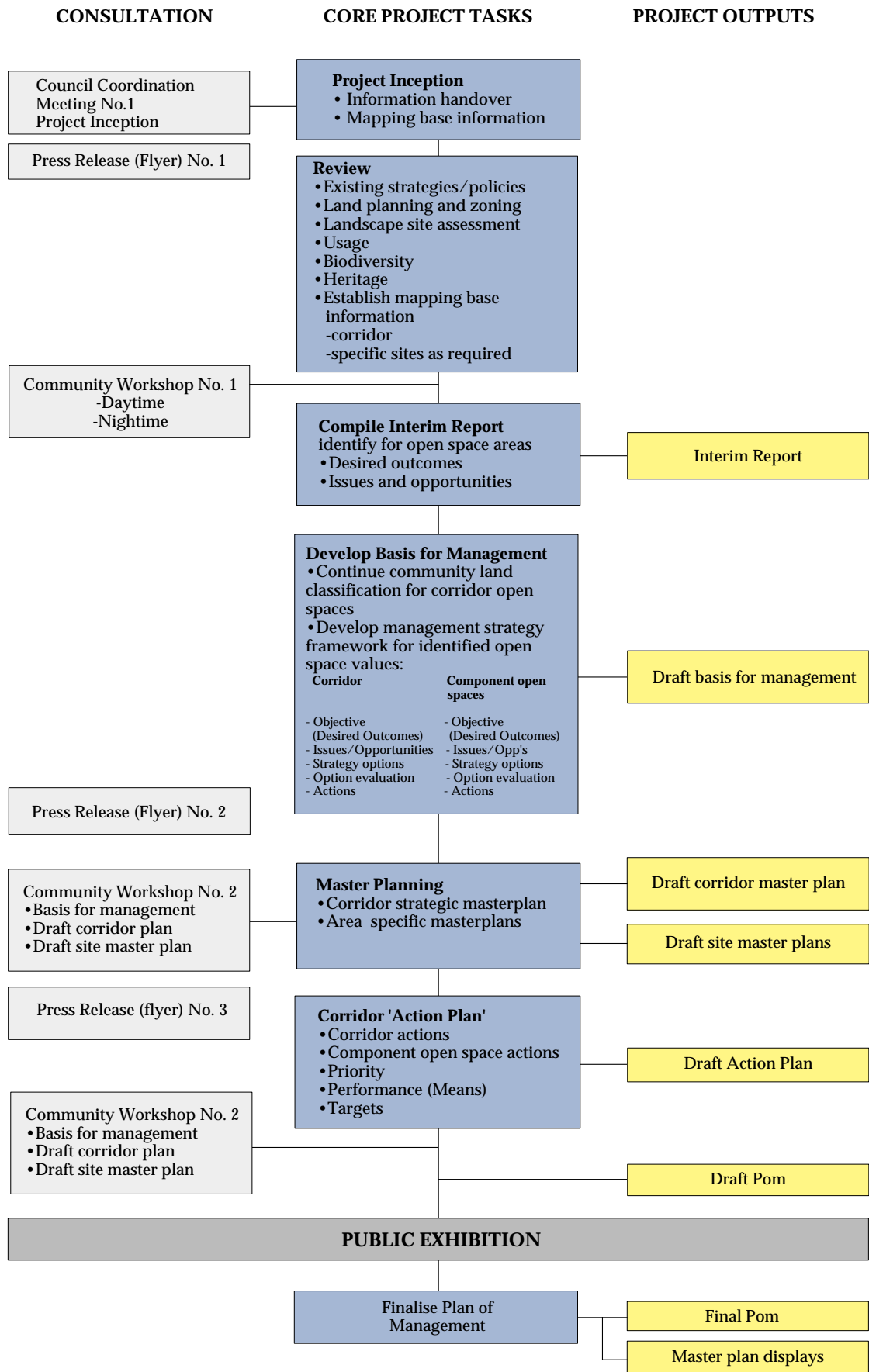
The identification of the values of the Upper Kedumba Valley site at the outset of the study through a combination of community workshops and study team investigations have enabled each step in plan preparation to relate and cross reference back to the established values. The flowchart overleaf outlines the broad study process incorporating the relationship of site values to plan development, and the integration of consultation with the key study phases.

1.4 Relationship with other documents

- This document is subject to the requirements of all planning instruments - most notably the Draft Local Environmental Plan.
- This document provides additional detail to a portion of the study area of the Katoomba Falls Creek Valley Study.
- This document, supersedes the Plan of Management for Frank Walford Park prepared by Blue Mountains City Council Strategic Planning Group in 1998.
- This document supersedes the 2003 Upper Kedumba River Valley Precinct Plans of Management only in the component relating to McRaes Paddock. For an outline of the changes to the document see Section 9. Although minor changes have been made to clarify points or amend errors in the first document, no change in management direction has occurred for the Frank Walford Park component or the Selby Street component between the original and the revised document.

An additional document is anticipated – the outcome of an archaeological study underway at the time of printing. That document will provide an additional layer of information on the management of the cultural values of The Gully and should be read in conjunction with this one.

Study Process



2 The Resource

This section provides a review of the open space corridors' existing and past physical and cultural character as a means of understanding its key values to the community and major issues for management. The plan covers community lands owned by Blue Mountains City Council, which excludes Katoomba Falls Reserve (Crown lands).

2.1 Context

The Upper Kedumba River Valley forms part of a natural drainage corridor located west of the Katoomba township in the Upper Blue Mountains, New South Wales. The catchment covers the western part of Katoomba and is bordered by the Katoomba township (to approximately Lurline Street in the east), The Great Western Highway / Rail Corridor in the north, Narrow Neck Road in the West and Katoomba Falls in the south. Property in the Valley includes commercial and residential areas as well as a large area of open space which runs approximately north to south from the obvious ridgeline marked by the Great Western Highway through a corridor of community and Crown land to Katoomba Falls Reserve and is also characterised by a number of east west connecting creeks and drainage lines that feed into the Katoomba Creek. Runoff from this catchment flows into Sydney's potable water supply. Katoomba Falls is a site of natural and cultural significance to the Blue Mountains, and it depends on the condition of the wetland system in the upstream reserves for its quality of water and ongoing flow through dry periods. The Katoomba Falls site is Crown Land and so its management can not be addressed in this document.

The Plan of Managements' land is mostly co-incident with "The Gully" Upper Kedumba River Valley Aboriginal Place, although this includes Crown Land, and some Road Reserves not covered by this Plan of Management. The areas are shown in the map overleaf.

Community land subject to this plan of management include Frank Walford Reserve, McRae's Paddock and Selby Street Reserve. The land comprising these sites is owned by Blue Mountains City Council and is classified as "community" land under the provisions of the *Local Government Act*. Along with Katoomba Falls Reserve, this forms a significant tract of open space of high environmental value extending through the centre of the catchment. The open space corridor is a valuable open space resource due to its cultural and environmental significance, proximity to the town centre and residential developments, and the biophysical link it provides from Katoomba to the Blue Mountains National Park to the south.

Frank Walford Park The park covers an area of 43 hectares. Under Blue Mountains City Councils' Draft Local Environment Plan 2002, the parkland and aquatic centre are zoned Recreation Open Space and the remaining bushland areas are zoned Environmental Protection Open Space. It is located at the head of the river valley and is characterised by the following:

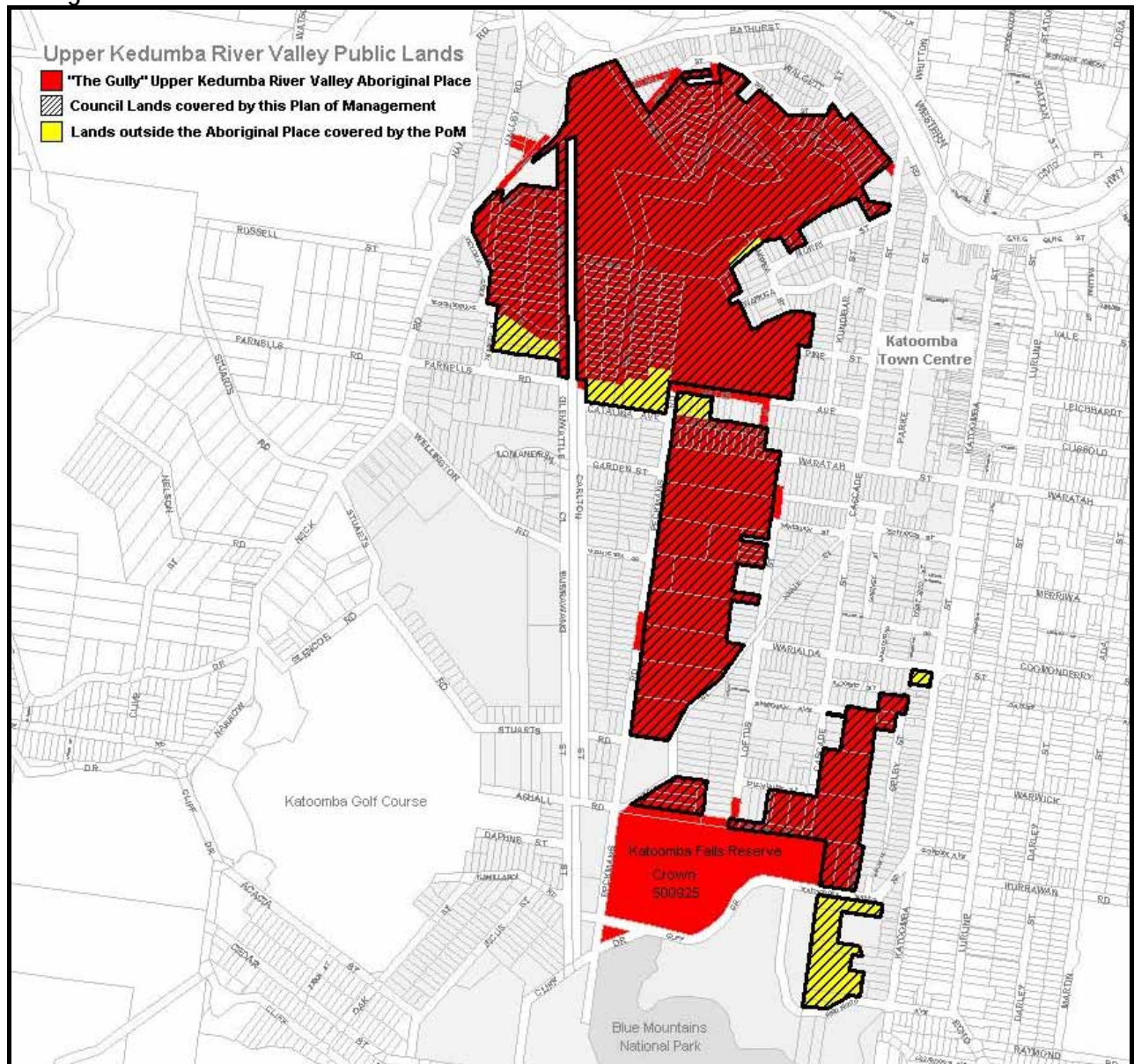
- A range of recreational facilities;
- Significant Aboriginal cultural sites;
- Remnants of early mining industry;
- The site of Katoomba's first settlement;
- Sewage and stormwater utilities;
- Bushland reserves and perched swamps; and
- Is dissected by a corridor of privately owned land along the old coal haulage.

Katoomba Falls Reserve – McRae's Paddock Section This area, generally known as McRae's Paddock, is located downstream of Frank Walford Park and is dissected by Katoomba Falls Creek which runs north south through the area. Associated wetlands, remnant bushland and undulating pastoral cleared areas also typify the open space. The slopes enclosing the north south running valley are relatively steep and subject to severe erosion in places. The open space area is 14 hectares and is zoned Environmental Protection Open Space. The McRae's Paddock section of Katoomba Falls Reserve forms an integral and significant part of "The Gully" Upper Kedumba River Valley Aboriginal Place. The area has pre-colonisation significance (Johnson 2002) as well as post-colonisation Aboriginal significance in association with the west Katoomba Mission and

“The Gully” community (Johnson 2002). Non-Aboriginal cultural significance includes the use of “McRae’s paddocks” for dairying and mixed farming for the Carrington Hotel (Rotary 1982).

Katoomba Falls Reserve – Cascades Section (Selby Street Reserve) This area, generally known as Selby Street, is located to the north and east of Katoomba Falls Reserve and is characterised by dense remnant bushland and conservation of the creek corridor. Its total area is 8 hectares and is zoned Environment Protection Open Space.

Lands covered by this plan of Management in relation to “The Gully” Upper Kedumba River Valley Aboriginal Place



2.2 Heritage

A report on the cultural significance of Upper Kedumba Valley for declaration as an Aboriginal Place has recently been prepared for the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service by Dianne Johnson and Dawn Colles (2002). The Katoomba Falls Creek Valley Environmental Study – BMCC (“Bell Report” 1993) also examined the cultural heritage of the Valley. The following summary of cultural and heritage significance is based on these two reports.

Pre-Contact History According to Gundungurra oral tradition, the Upper Kedumba Valley was a pre-contact summer camp site and would have been well known to many aboriginal people from various nations who travelled along the major trading route (now the Great Western Highway)

which ran directly along the top of the northern edge of the natural amphitheatre that forms the headwaters of the Katoomba Falls Creek (Johnson and Colless 2002). The Gully was likely to have been visited on a regular basis by Gundungurra-speaking people who travelled along pathways from the Burragorang, Kanimbla, Megalong and Hartley valleys up to the higher plateau areas of the Blue Mountains where they inhabited the cooler rainforest valley of The Gully as a summer campsite. Gundungurra-speaking peoples occupied the country through the southern Blue Mountains and Southern Highlands, centred on the Coxs, Nattai and Wollondilly Rivers (Johnson 2002). Darug oral tradition also records the site as a place of residence for Darug-speaking people, and it is possible that Wiradjuri people also travelled across the plateau to the coast and may have also camped at sites such as The Gully.

Post-Contact History The exact date that the Gundungurra people began to settle permanently in the Gully is unknown but it was probably during the early 1800s when pressures and conflict from the white settlers in the Burragorang area led to some Gundungurra families retreating to the Gully to live year round (Johnson 2002).

Although present in other accounts, Aboriginal people are not recorded as being present in Katoomba by the Aborigines Protection Board annual census until 1897 when twenty-one Aboriginal people were identified as being resident. This was principally because the Aboriginal community chose the West Katoomba Camp of their own initiative, the area being free of the restrictions of the Aborigines Protection Board policies imposed on other managed reserves.

Earliest permanent settlement of the Gully was by both Gundungurra and Darug people. Members of the Darug people, having traditionally intermarried with the Gundungurra, were also experiencing pressure on their lands as settler agriculture and grazing extended further into their traditional lands around the Hawkesbury River and Cumberland Plain.

The West Katoomba Mission Church purchased land on Farnell Road at the southern end of the Gully in 1894. The church formed an important cultural focus for the residents of the Gully and surrounding areas.

Early colonial settlement in the valley largely arose due to mining activities. John Britty North purchased land to the west of Cascade Street and opened his Katoomba Coal Mine in 1878. The coal mine was serviced by a double tracked haulage tramway from the Jamison Valley floor through the Gully to North's Siding. John Britty North's two storeyed home ('Essendene') was located to the west of the siding and a mining settlement of cottages and a hotel quickly appeared in South Katoomba. The discovery of kerosene shale in the valleys on either side of Narrow Neck (Ruined Castle and Glen Shale Mine) saw settlements occurring in these areas including a general store, bakery, butchery, public hall and a hotel. An Aboriginal camp developed associated with the Glen Village.

By 1889 Katoomba had achieved municipal status and tourism was proving as popular as coal and shale production. Shale mining activities at both the Ruined Castle and Glen Shale Mines had wound down by 1895 as the seams became less productive and the market decreased. In 1903, the shale industry at West Katoomba was finally abandoned. "The mining settlement at Nellie's Glen dispersed with many families, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, moving up to Katoomba, some to the Gully" (Johnson and Colless 2002).

The Carrington Hotel, which opened as the Great Western Hotel in 1880, established its own mixed farm of a dairy and market garden in the part of The Gully which became known as McRae's paddocks (Rotary 1982). The farm became an integral part of the lives of the residents of The Gully, with the dairy supplying milk, cream and butter, and the garden supplying produce that supplemented locally caught game such as snakes and ducks (Cooper pers.com. 1988). As a result of pre and post colonisation Aboriginal inhabitation of The Gully, there are a number of sites of significance to the local Aboriginal community in McRae's Paddock (Johnson 2002). Some of these sites are regarded as very special places and some are regarded as sites that should remain off-limits to males, and others to females (Cooper pers.com. 2003, Hardie pers.com. 2003).

The West Katoomba Mission Church purchased land on Farnell Road at the southern end of the Gully in 1894. The church formed an important cultural focus for the residents of The Gully and surrounding areas.

Development of Katoomba for tourism had a significant effect on the Gully with the development of an amusement park and the Catalina Race Circuit. In the late 1940s Horrace Gates purchased land and excavated a large hole creating a lake, which he planned to make the centrepiece of an amusement park. Gates purchased an RAAF Catalina Flying Boat, which he floated on the lake and charged people admission to be taken out to the aeroplane to watch a movie. By 1948 the amusement park became known as Catalina Park, other amusements included a ferris wheel and a 'giggle house' featuring Charlie Chaplin films.

The development of a racing circuit in the valley aimed at attracting wider use and tourism was realised with the decision taken by Blue Mountains City Council in 1949 to support members of the local Chamber of Commerce who had proposed the concept. Council bought and resumed land in and around the Gully including Catalina Park and by the end of 1954 had acquired all the available land in the Gully including the land on which the houses of the Gully residents had stood, and renamed the park after the then mayor Frank Walford.

Using equipment owned by Council, construction of the racing circuit began in 1957 with the bulldozing of residences, and vegetation including trees, shrubs and swamps. The building of the circuit took place between 1958-61 and involved the use of voluntary labour of members and their families of the Blue Mountains Sporting Drivers Club Limited.

A great deal of controversy surrounded the development as Council made the decision about the race track in a closed meeting despite the fact that development would displace the gully residents and that noise from the races would disturb nearby residents.

The Gully has continued to be respected by local Aboriginal people as a place with which they have a deep connection and an on-going spiritual relationship. The connection with ancestors as well as immediate family, the joy of life in The Gully, the trauma of displacement and grief for the place, along with the cultural beliefs about the spirit life of The Gully and stories about Aboriginal experience of colonisation, imbue The Gully with sacredness for the local Aboriginal community.

General public attitudes to the environmental qualities of the Gully gradually changed by the end of the 1970s as the role of hanging swamps in feeding Katoomba falls was recognised and people began to appreciate the Gully as an open space system rather than an economic resource. Public awareness of environmental issues was increased though community organisations such as The Friends of Katoomba Creek Falls Valley which was formed in the late 1980s. A parallel group that supported car-racing usage of the site split off and became known as the Friends of Catalina Park. In recognition of the significance of The Gully to Aboriginal people, on 18 May 2002 the public lands of The Gully were gazetted as an Aboriginal Place. This declaration, under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act*, provides legislative protection for the physical and spiritual heritage of the value and thus also provides fundamental direction for Council's planning and management strategies.

2.3 Natural Environment

The Bell Report and South Katoomba Vegetation Management Plan provide a full description of the study areas biophysical resources, see map overleaf. The following summary lists those that have relevance to this study.

Vegetation The natural vegetation of the Valley comprises two main communities, Blue Mountains sandstone forest and sedge / shrub swamps. The remaining areas of this natural vegetation are confined largely to the public lands in the Valley although there remain good stands of open forest on some private lands. Community land that is not inhabited by natural vegetation is typically cleared bushland which is now grassland. This includes the modified area of the former McRae's paddocks (Douglas 2001), areas that were formally woodland or open forest and swamp. There

are also significant plantings of introduced species such as *Pinus radiata*, which although classified as a weed are argued by some people to have considerable cultural heritage value.

The following natural vegetation types are mapped on the distribution map on the following page:

- Open Forest / Woodland (*Eucalyptus piperita*, *E. sieberi*)
- Open Forest / Tall Open Forest (*Eucalyptus oreades*, *E. piperita*)
- Open Forest (*Eucalyptus oreades*)
- Blue Mountains Sedge Swamp
- Shrub Swamp (to be confirmed in Vegetation Mapping Review)

The following threatened species have been recorded in the corridor:

- *Acacia ptychoclada* (ROTAP) A rare shrub listed as regionally significant. Grows on the margins of hanging swamps.
- *Amaleea incurvata* (ROTAP)
- Dwarf Mountain Pine (*Microstrobos fitzgeraldii*)
- Mossy Geebung (*Persoonia acerosa*)
- *Pultanaea glabra*
- *Xanthosia dissecta* A tufted subshrub to 15cm high with short woody rootstock. Grows in wet heathland swamps occasionally beside creeks in damp soil.

The following threatened species could potentially inhabit the corridor:

- *Blandfordia cunninghamii* (ROTAP)
- *Blechnum gregsonii*
- *Burnettia cuneata* (ROTAP)
- *Carex klaphakei*
- *Notochloe microndon* (ROTAP)
- *Olearia quercifolia* (ROTAP)
- Greenhood Orchid (*Pterostylis pulchella*)
- Slaty Leek Orchid (*Prasphyllum fuscum*) Grows in moist heath and along seepage lines.

Soils The soils of the study area are generally poor and highly erodible. The slopes enclosing the north south running river valley are relatively steep and subject to severe erosion in places. Disturbance of these soils has led to erosion and sedimentation of the creek, which in turn impacts on water quality. A number of soil erosion sites were identified, which warrant remedial action.

Fauna Native fauna is common through the valley public lands with the open forest and swamps providing important habitat functions. A wide variety of birdlife have been observed, many of which have been confirmed to be breeding in the area.

Based on the Bell Report and the South Katoomba Vegetation Management Plan, the following animals are known to inhabit the corridor, some of which are considered Endangered (E) or Vulnerable (V) under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act, 1995*.

Mammals

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Antechinus swainsonii</i> | Dusky Antechinus |
| <i>Dasyurus maculatus</i> (V) | Tiger Quoll |
| <i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i> | Common Ringtail Possum |
| <i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> | Common Brushtail Possum |
| <i>Tachyglossus aculeatus</i> | Echidna |

Reptiles

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <i>Austrelaps superbus</i> | Copperhead |
| <i>Eulamprus leuraensis</i> (E) | Blue Mountains Water Skink (illustrated) |
| <i>Pseudechis prophyriacus</i> | Red-bellied Black Snake |
| <i>Saproscincus mustelina</i> | Weasel Skink |



Tiliqua nigrolutea Blotched
Blue-tongued Lizard

Birds

Calyptorhynchus lathamii Glossy Black Cockatoo
Tyto tenebricosa (V) Sooty Owl

The Blue Mountains Water Skink has recently been positively identified as existing in the study area. A threatened species management plan has been prepared for the skink that recommends:

- Address conflicts including weed infestation, pollution, sedimentation and predation by cats;
- Determine required locations for restriction of access;
- Discourage firewood collection; and
- Minimise fire impacts.

The following threatened species could potentially inhabit the corridor (from the South Katoomba Vegetation Management Plan):

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| – Barking Owl (<i>Ninox maculatus</i>) | – Eastern False Pipistrelle (<i>Falsistrellus tasmaniensis</i>) |
| – Powerful Owl (<i>Ninox strenua</i>) | – Giant Dragonfly (<i>Petalura gigantea</i>) |
| – Masked Owl (<i>Tyto novaehollandiae</i>) | – Littlejohn's Tree Frog (<i>Littoria littlejohni</i>) |
| – Sooty Owl (<i>Tyto tenebricosa</i>) | – Giant Burrowing Frog (<i>Heleioporus australiacus</i>) |
| – Yellow-Bellied Glider (<i>Petaurus australis</i>) | – Red-Crowned Toadlet (<i>Pseudophryne australis</i>) |
| – Squirrel Glider (<i>Petaurus norfolcensis</i>) | – Southern Emu-Wren (<i>Stipiturus malachurus</i>) |
| – Large Eared Pied Bat (<i>Chalinobius dwyeri</i>) | – Lewin's Rail (<i>Dryolimnas pectoralis</i>) |
| – Common Bentwing Bat (<i>Miniopterus schreibersii</i>) | – Buff-banded Rail (<i>Gallirallus philippensis</i>) |

2.4 Water

The importance of swamps and other native vegetation to maintaining stream flows and water quality was highlighted. Further removal or damage to this vegetation will result in further soil erosion, water quality and visual impacts, and undesirable reduction in dry weather flows over Katoomba Falls.

Water quality was identified as low with elevated levels of nitrogen, phosphorus and faecal coliform. These latter results were most likely due to surcharging of sewer mains, which have now at least been partially rectified. Wet retention basins or macrophyte ponds may assist in maintaining water quality. The protection of existing swamps is essential in maintaining water quality and stream flow.

Water management remains one of the major management issues for the Upper Kedumba Valley due to:

- Legal obligation under EPA to facilitate clean water – current standards could be improved;
- Its heritage significance – in particular natural springs;
- Waters role in the natural environment and weed management; and
- Requirements to protect endangered and threatened species on site and down stream – particularly *microstobus* and the water skink.

Drainage and water quality issues include poor water quality due to:

- Unacceptable sediment load – some entering site from upstream and some being generated on site by the concentration of stormwater flow from urban run-off;
- Gross pollutants (rubbish) mostly being carried onto site in stormwater; and
- Dissolved nutrients.

A number of stormwater structures are in place to function as gross pollutant traps or energy dissipators. Most of these do not adequately perform the task they are required to do and do not

address other requirements such as sediment trapping. The existing swamps and wetlands are being prevented from providing the water cleaning actions they can by alterations to their flow caused by past construction (in particular the race track) and stormwater outlets.

2.5 Recreation

Usage in the corridor has been focused in Frank Walford Park with regard to active and passive recreational pursuits since the development of the racing circuit and displacement of residents in the 1950s. Passive recreational use for walking etc. has also occurred through McRaes Paddock (north south and east west), and north south through Selby Street Reserve. Katoomba Falls Reserve receives a high volume of visitation for tourism and passive recreational use.

The community identifies the importance of the Upper Kedumba Valley corridor for local open space and recreational usage to benefit residents of the district.

Listed below is a summary of the current uses applicable to the individual open space areas:

Frank Walford Park

- Bush walking
- Walking / jogging on car circuit
- Passive recreation in “Catalina Park” area (picnics, informal play, dog walking)
- Occasional use of Catalina Circuit for vintage car events
- Hired for events such as cross country racing by schools and dog shows
- Formal recreational activities such as swimming, basketball associated within the recently constructed Sports and Recreation Centre (incorporating pre-existing Olympic Pool)

McRae’s Paddock

- Bush walking through vegetated areas
- Walking / jogging through central cleared valley area

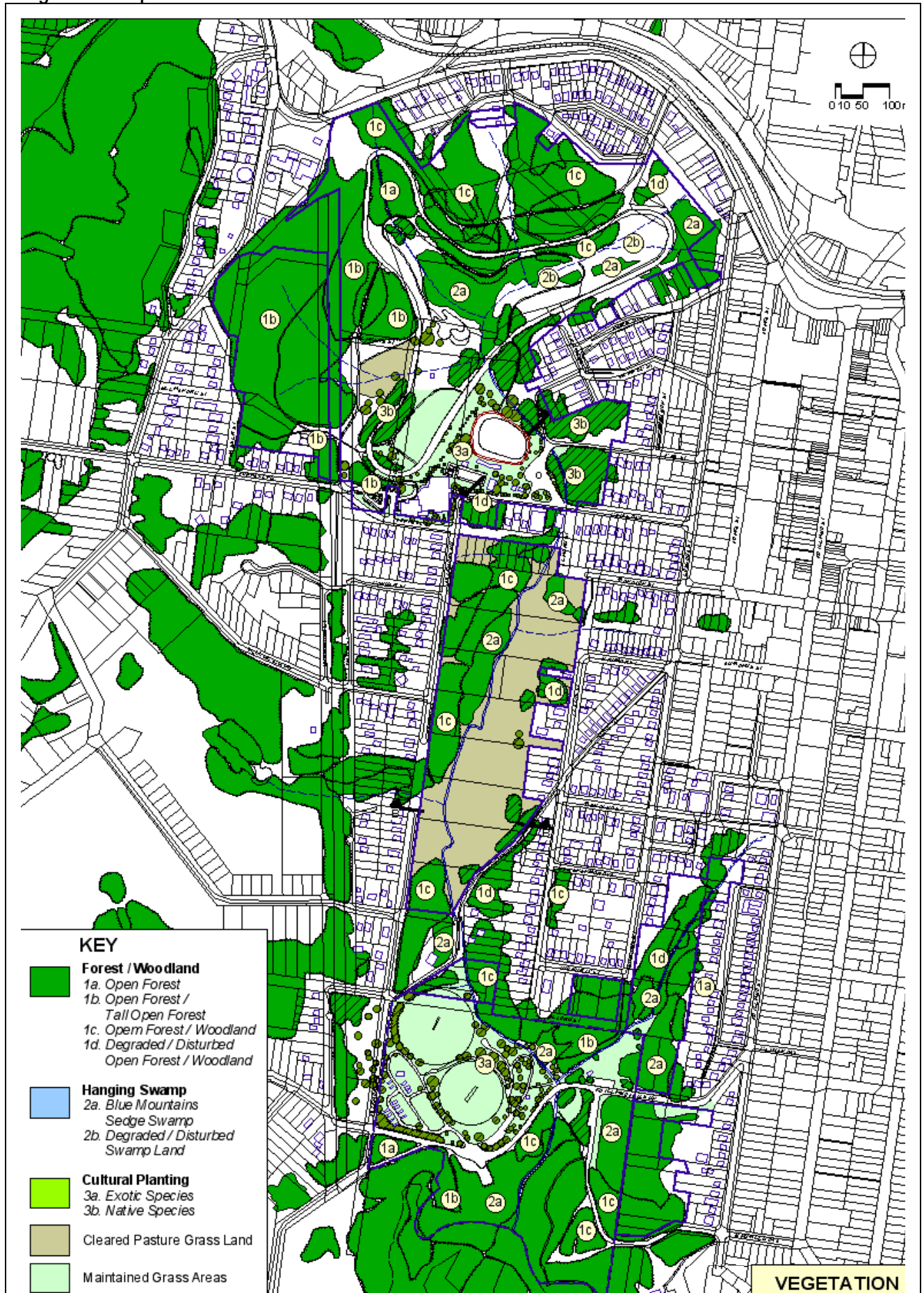
Selby Street Reserve

- Bush walking by restricted access opportunities

Other potential uses identified during the course of the project by Community Groups include:

- Linking of Frank Walford Park with potential interpretive bush tucker tracks
- Botanic gardens
- District level family picnic / playground facility
- Local level passive area within McRae’s Paddock

Vegetation Map



2.6 Access

There currently exist a series of formal and informal pedestrian routes through each of the open space areas, and along the river corridor. The map overleaf summarises these links as:

- Major unformed paths
- Minor unformed paths
- Formed paths
- Sealed paths
- Carparks

Unformed paths generate a range of issues relating to erosion, inappropriate use, access to sensitive areas and should be rationalised and upgraded through the masterplanning process. The corridor is adjoined on most sides by road access, and is thus subject to edge impacts including runoff and erosion from parked vehicles.

Formalised parking areas are provided at several locations as indicated on the access map, however none are provided related to McRae's Paddock and upper areas of Selby Street Reserve.

The proximity of the corridor to the historic mine haulage tramway is also noted as a potential factor for access enhancement / interpretation.

The link between Frank Walford Park and McRae's Paddock across Gates Avenue is non-existent.

The corridor is typified by poorly defined entry points and public identity which limits the profile and usage of the open space. There is potential for strong links.

2.7 Management and Maintenance

All of the land parcels in the study area are owned by Blue Mountains City Council and they are responsible for the management of that land. Council acknowledges that the Aboriginal community has a different type of ownership of the Gully, which also carries some responsibility for management, and that close liaison with the Aboriginal Community is essential for appropriate management of the Gully.

Council receives assistance in their management of the Gully through two Bushcare Groups and by a Management Advisory Group. No current leases apply to the area.

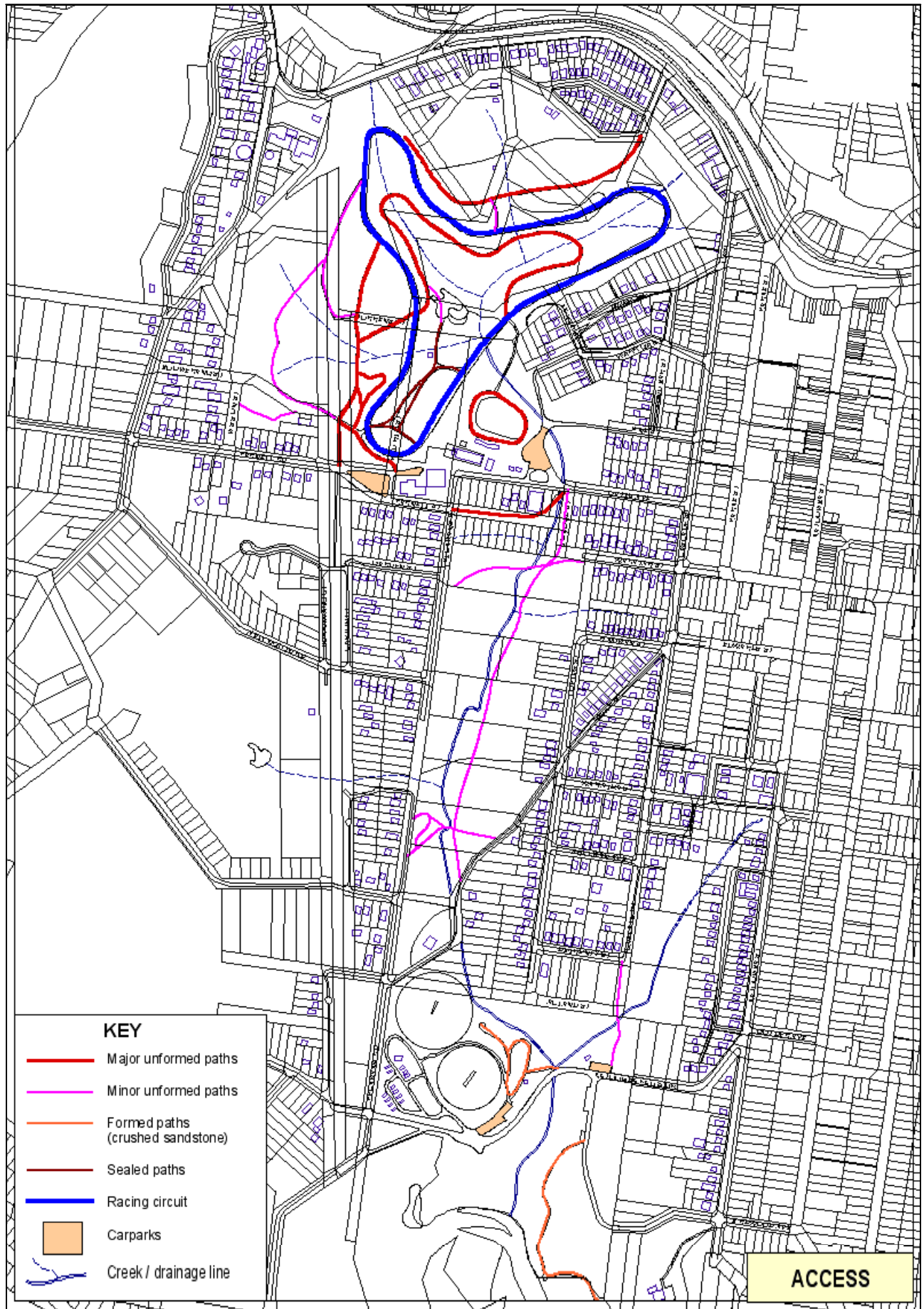
Impacts from surrounding landuses, and from use of the reserves, are causing ongoing degradation. Bushcare groups and contractors paid under grant programs are undertaking works to address the degradation to the natural values particularly related to catchment issues.

Council staff, from different sections, are responsible for different aspects of maintenance. There are a number of derelict buildings on site and the race track surface has degraded to a standard unsuitable for motoring use.

2.8 Summary

The preceding review identifies some of the key physical and cultural characteristics of the corridor as a basis for the development of planning and management strategies for the site.

Pedestrian routes – informal and formal



3 Basis for Management

This section summarises the basis from which the plan of management strategies and actions have been developed. It has drawn on:

- *Previous strategic documents relating to the Upper Kedumba River Valley;*
- *Values, issues and opportunities identified through the public consultation process;*
- *Desired outcomes for the Masterplan and Plan of Management;*
- *The land categorisation process and the core objectives for those categorisations that arise from the Local Government Act; and*
- *The legal requirements arising in relation to the Aboriginal significance in the National Parks and Wildlife Act.*

These are outlined below and lead to the broad management policies outlined in the next section.

3.1 Strategic documents

The principle strategic planning documents, affecting planning and management of the Upper Kedumba River Valley, were reviewed by the study team. Summaries of the relevant strategies are listed in Appendix C. Key points are listed below.

Report on the cultural significance of the Upper Kedumba Valley for declaration as an Aboriginal Place 2002

It is recommended in the report that:

- All of the public lands in the Upper Kedumba Valley become an Aboriginal Place;
- A management plan be developed for specific sites and their on-the-ground management in consultation with major stakeholders;
- A historical archaeological survey be carried out in the Gully (otherwise known as Frank Walford Park);
- The Valley be placed on the Register of the National Estate;
- Interpretation of the Upper Kedumba Valley be undertaken and displayed, at a high standard;
- All Plans of Management of the areas and the Masterplan of the Valley take account of and incorporate conditions that will protect the Aboriginal pre-contact and post-contact heritage sites;
- The management of Upper Kedumba Valley be conducted in accordance with the proposals referred to in Management Issues (refer to Section 8) identified in this report; and
- Further archaeological and anthropological investigation be undertaken in unsurveyed sections of the Upper Kedumba Valley and in particular, on the more recently found archaeological sites identified in this report.

Area 2 Community Plan 2001

- Katoomba accommodates relatively high proportions of single parents, high unemployment, more rented accommodation than other villages and a higher incidence of people on low incomes and / or income support.
- Around 800 people were involved in the community consultation process in Area 2. Key concerns identified were:
 - The protection of the natural environment and the need to control development;
 - Roads, transport and access issues;
 - Youth issues and activities;
 - Poverty and quality of life issues;
 - Crime and community safety concerns;
 - Public facilities – lack of and improvements to public facilities and basic amenities including footpaths, toilets, seating, parks, streetscape; and
 - Environment – disappearing wetlands / bushland, impact of urban runoff, weed infestations, noise impacts, enforcing environmental regulations.

Area 2 Sport and Recreation Plan 2001

- Area 2 is well supported with sporting facilities, used by a diverse range of clubs. Council provided facilities include eight tennis courts, ten ovals and an indoor sports and aquatic centre

which are being used by 14 clubs. Other facilities include 3 golf courses, pistol club, rifle shooting range and a trotting club.

- Recreation provision in Area 2 is dominated by nature based recreation opportunities, provided by Council and the National Parks and Wildlife Service.
- Community members in Area 2 think that there is a lack of recreational facilities for local users such as parks with play equipment.

Plan of Management for Frank Walford Park, December 1998

- The following facilities were proposed and constructed:
 - Indoor 25m swimming pool;
 - Basketball / multi use courts;
 - Gymnasium; and
 - Coffee lounge.
- The following facilities were proposed, however they have not been constructed:
 - Range of “wheels based” recreational facilities such as cycling, skateboarding, and inline skating; and
 - Enhanced and coordinated passive recreational facilities and improved carparking, public transport and other supporting facilities.
- Key strategies were defined for:
 - Aboriginal and European History;
 - Storm Water Management;
 - Vegetation management;
 - Access;
 - Future use of Catalina Racetrack; and
 - Buildings.

Katoomba Falls Creek Valley, Draft Plan of Management, 1996

- Defined management zones:
 - Public focus areas;
 - High value gullies;
 - High value swamps;
 - Disturbed and boundary areas;
 - Bushland areas; and
 - Developed areas.

3.2 Legal Framework

National Parks and Wildlife Act The declaration of an Aboriginal place provides a formal means for the NSW state Government to recognise the significance of an area to Aboriginal culture and to provide appropriate protection to ensure that the significance is not damaged or destroyed.

Section 90 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* provides that an Aboriginal Place cannot be knowingly damaged, defaced or destroyed without the consent of the Director-General of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). Recent amendments to the Act, to commence on 1 January 2003 will expand this provision to include the offence of “desecration” of an Aboriginal Place. That is, from that date, it will not be possible to desecrate, damage, deface, or destroy an Aboriginal Place without the consent of the Director General.

Local Government Act – categorisations of land in Plans of Management The *Local Government Act* provides guidelines for categorisation of land for the purposes of Plans of Management with objectives set for each category. The guidelines for categorisations are shown in the table on the following pages and the resultant categorisations and their objectives appear in the individual Plans of Management.

3.3 Consultation

The plan of management process has incorporated several consultation components aimed to both assist in the sourcing of information and development of planning and management strategies, and to inform relevant stakeholders and the local community of the study outcomes as they have developed.

Press Releases/Publicity Flyers containing information about the plan of management and community workshops were distributed by a letter box drop to local residents that lived in streets adjacent to the corridor and were also included in the Gazette (local newspaper). Direct contact was made through the following groups / associations including Blue Mountains Conservation Society, The Australian Historic Motor Club, Friends of Catalina Park, Friends of Katoomba Falls Creek Valley, Aboriginal Stakeholder Groups, Katoomba Falls Creek Valley Bushcare Group, Katoomba Swimming Club, and the NSW National Parks and Wildlife.

Management advisory group A management advisory group was formed with representatives from the selected groups / associations, the idea being to provide continuity to the plan of management process which could build on the knowledge of previous studies. The Management Advisory Group initially met with a meeting preceding Community Workshop No.1, but following this it was agreed that the Management Advisory Group meeting should be combined with the community workshop so that community members present could benefit from their high level of understanding of the study area.

Community Working Groups Respondents to the press release and stakeholders sourced through organised groups participated in community workshops. The evenings involved varying degrees of technical input by the consultants to initiate discussion of topics and issues on the agenda, however the emphasis was on involvement and input by community representatives.

Management of the Gully Aboriginal Place During the preparation of this plan of management separate meetings were held by an Aboriginal Stakeholder Group (co-ordinated by the National Parks and Wildlife Service) related to the Declaration of the Valley as an Aboriginal Place. The concerns of this group were highlighted at the Community Workshops and through meetings between Council Officers and the Study Team. Aims and objectives for this group have been incorporated into this plan of management.

Public Exhibition Public exhibition of the Draft Plan of Management invited broader public review and comment on the draft planning and management recommendations. Following the public exhibition, comments received were considered and some minor changes were made. These appear in Section 9.

Revision of McRae's The amendments made following public exhibition the original Upper Kedumba River Valley Precinct Plans of Management were not sufficient to address concerns about the parkland categorisation in the McRaes Paddock Plan component. This Plan was re-written and re exhibited. The revised McRaes Paddock Plan of Management was adopted by Council and the original plan has been revised to incorporate this document. The changes are outlined in Section 9.

3.4 Values and Roles

Values are the qualities of the park / corridor as identified in the community working group and previous studies that are significant, special or important and that should be protected or enhanced. Roles are the functions of the park / corridor within the local and regional open space system. Values / roles for both the corridor and individual open spaces are described in the generic topics below.

3.4.1 Heritage Values and Roles

Valley Corridor

- Aboriginal Heritage significance
- European Heritage significance

Frank Walford Park

- Aboriginal pre and post contact and European History
- Catalina Race Circuit's motor racing history
- Cultural landscape and plantings around Catalina lake
- Catalina Lake's history as a swimming place
- Shale railway association

McRae's Paddock

- Aboriginal pre contact and European History
- Market gardening history

Selby Street Reserve

- Aboriginal pre contact

3.4.2 Natural Environment Values and Roles

Valley Corridor

- Presence of natural corridor ecosystem
- Natural hydrology (Creeks / Drainage) and their storm water treatment
- System of Hanging Swamps / wetland environments
- Continuity of Woodland environments
- Flora and Fauna habitat corridor

Frank Walford Park

- Continuity of natural corridor
- Presence of natural drainage (creek) system and its storm water treatment
- Presence of Hanging Swamp environments
- Presence of Woodland environments

McRae's Paddock

- Continuity of natural corridor
- Presence of natural drainage (creek) system and its stormwater treatment
- Flora and Fauna habitat

Selby Street Reserve

- Continuity of natural corridor
- Presence of natural drainage (creek) system and its stormwater treatment
- Flora and Fauna habitat

3.4.3 Social / Cultural Values and Roles

Valley Corridor

- Community interest in valley
- Aboriginal traditional meeting place and story telling sites
- Potential to meet community needs

Frank Walford Park

- Past role as home and meeting place for Aboriginal and European cultures

3.4.4 Recreation Values and Roles

Valley Corridor

- Provision of recreational facilities
- Provision of trail network
- Role of open space in district cycle networks
- Tourism values
- Venue for social interaction

Frank Walford Park

- Provision of Recreational Facilities
- Children's recreational appreciation of natural environment
- Catalina Race Circuit
- Catalina Lake

McRae's Paddock

- Access links to Katoomba Falls Reserve
- Passive recreational focus

Selby Street Reserve

- Access links to Katoomba Falls Reserve
- Passive recreational facilities adjoining Katoomba Falls Reserve

3.4.5 Educational Values and Roles

Valley Corridor

- Potential Heritage and environmental interpretation
- Existing and potential opportunities for raising community awareness of environmental issues

Frank Walford Park

- Potential Interpretive Centre/interpretive walks/ site for ranger guided walks/bush tucker garden

McRae's Paddock

- Potential heritage and environmental interpretation

Selby Street Reserve

- Potential heritage and environmental interpretation

3.4.6 Intrinsic Values and Roles

Valley Corridor

- Cultural identity and Sense of place
- plant and animal communities
- Continuous open space corridor

Frank Walford Park

- Existing cultural landscape

McRae's Paddock

- Valley landform

3.4.7 Visual Values and Roles

Valley Corridor

- Natural visual qualities/backdrop to residential area

Frank Walford Park

- Combination of natural / cultural landscape values

McRae's Paddock

- Natural landscape character

Selby Street Reserve

- Natural landscape character

Land categorisation guidelines

| Category | Local Government Act criteria for categorisation | Applicable |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Area of Cultural Significance | <p>Land should be categorised as an area of cultural significance under section 36 (4) of the Act if the land is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) an area of Aboriginal significance, because the land:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) has been declared an Aboriginal place under section 84 of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>, or(ii) whether or not in an undisturbed state, is significant to Aboriginal people in terms of their traditional or contemporary cultures, or(iii) is of significance or interest because of Aboriginal associations, or(iv) displays physical evidence of Aboriginal occupation (for example, items or artifacts such as stone tools, weapons, engraving sites, sacred trees, sharpening grooves or other deposits, and objects or materials that relate to the settlement of the land or place), or(v) is associated with Aboriginal stories, or(vi) contains heritage items dating after European settlement that help to explain the relationship between Aboriginal people and later settlers, or(b) an area of aesthetic significance, by virtue of:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) having strong visual or sensory appeal or cohesion, or(ii) including a significant landmark, or(iii) having creative or technical qualities, such as architectural excellence, or(c) an area of archaeological significance, because the area contains:<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) evidence of past human activity (for example, below-ground features such as building foundations, occupation deposits, features or artifacts or above-ground features such as buildings, works, industrial structures, and relics, whether intact or ruined), or(ii) any other deposit, object or material that relates to the settlement of the land, or(d) an area of historical significance, because of the importance of an association or position of the land in the evolving pattern of Australian cultural history, or(e) an area of technical or research significance, because of the area's contribution to an understanding of Australia's cultural history or | All Areas |

| Category | Local Government Act criteria for categorisation | Applicable |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | environment, or (f) an area of social significance, because of the area's association with Aboriginal life after 1788 or the area's association with a contemporary community for social, spiritual or other reasons. | |
| Park | Land should be categorised as a park under section 36 (4) of the Act if the land is, or is proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, for use mainly for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that do not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others. | Frank Walford Park McRae's Paddock |
| Sportsground | Land should be categorised as a sportsground under section 36 (4) of the Act if the land is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games. | Frank Walford Park |
| Natural Area | Land should be categorised as a natural area under section 36 (4) of the Act if the land, whether or not in an undisturbed state, possesses a significant geological feature, geomorphological feature, landform, representative system or other natural feature or attribute that would be sufficient to further categorise the land as bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse or foreshore under section 36 (5) of the Act. | All |
| Natural (Bushland) | (1) Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as bushland under section 36 (5) of the Act if the land contains primarily native vegetation and that vegetation: (a) is the natural vegetation or a remainder of the natural vegetation of the land, or (b) although not the natural vegetation of the land, is still representative of the structure or floristics, or structure and floristics, of the natural vegetation in the locality. (2) Such land includes: (a) bushland that is mostly undisturbed with a good mix of tree ages, and natural regeneration, where the understorey is comprised of native grasses and herbs or native shrubs, and which contains a range of habitats for native fauna (such as logs, shrubs, tree hollows and leaf litter), or (b) moderately disturbed bushland with some regeneration of trees and shrubs, where there may be a regrowth area with trees of even age, where native shrubs and grasses are present in the understorey even though there may be some weed invasion, or (c) highly disturbed bushland where the native understorey has been removed, where there may be significant weed invasion and where dead and dying trees are present, where there is no natural regeneration of trees or shrubs, but where the land is still capable of being rehabilitated. | All |
| Natural (Wetland) | Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as wetland under section 36 (5) of the Act if the land includes marshes, mangroves, backwaters, billabongs, swamps, sedgeland, wet meadows or wet heathlands that form a waterbody that is inundated cyclically, intermittently or permanently with fresh, brackish or salt water, whether slow moving or stationary. | All |
| Natural (Watercourse) | Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as a watercourse under section 36 (5) of the Act if the land includes: (a) any stream of water, whether perennial or intermittent, flowing in a natural channel, or in a natural channel that has been artificially improved, or in an artificial channel that has changed the course of the stream of water, and any other stream of water into or from which the stream of water flows, and (b) associated riparian land or vegetation, including land that is protected land for the purposes of the <i>Rivers and Foreshores Improvement Act 1948</i> or State protected land identified in an order under section 7 of the <i>Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997</i> . | All |
| Natural (Escarpment) | Land that is categorised as a natural area should be further categorised as an escarpment under section 36 (5) of the Act if: | No |

| Category | Local Government Act criteria for categorisation | Applicable |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| | (a) the land includes such features as a long cliff-like ridge or rock, and (b) the land includes significant or unusual geological, geomorphological or scenic qualities. | |

3.5 Issues

Issues may include impacts on the land or environment, and potential conflicts between users or usage and other qualities of the site. Opportunities are the qualities of the site which make it suitable for community or recreational uses or activities, and which may not be fully realised at present.

The following items incorporate the discussions of the community working-group, the findings of the study team and the findings of previous studies.

3.5.1 Heritage issues

Valley Corridor

- Limited information on sites of significance
- Desire for input into management by local Aboriginal community
- Historical significance of the Valley occurs in three distinct periods:
 - Pre contact Aboriginal use
 - Post contact Aboriginal / European use
 - Recent modification to the Valley environment

Frank Walford Park

- Varied potential to provide access to heritage sites based on sensitivity to access and potential vandalism etc.
- Catalina racetrack has conflicting community desires for its use

Catalina racetrack

- Continued use of track for motorised vehicles is seen to conflict with Aboriginal cultural values
- Continued use of track for motorised vehicles is seen to conflict ecological values and residential amenity
- Catalina racetrack has high heritage value to the motor racing community

3.5.2 Natural Environment and Water issues

Valley Corridor

- The Valley Corridor is comprised of separate land parcels which are divided by roads and residential developments
- Corridor ecosystem is vulnerable from a range of pressure brought on by surrounding land uses including weeds, dumping, fire and sedimentation
- Impact of maintained / exotic grasslands on creek and vegetation systems
- Rare and endangered species within corridor require targeted management
- Water in creek is polluted from sewer and storm water runoff from adjacent urban areas
- Erosion hazard of soils is high, creeklines are degraded and streambank scour and erosion continue to occur
- The extent and quality of hanging swamps has been severely reduced by development over the last 50 years and reduced water flow in downstream creeks has resulted
- Altered hydrology of the Valley by piping high volumes of stormwater into the catchment during heavy rain periods
- Inconsistent extent of recurrent maintenance
- Ecosystem integrity is compromised by inappropriate burning
- Bushland health is effected by weed encroachment, informal access tracks, and edge impacts-regeneration and revegetation required
- Some extensive areas of bushland are located on privately owned gully areas adjacent to the corridor
- Pedestrian access throughout the Valley is often informal and poorly defined resulting in environment impacts

Frank Walford Park

- Uncertain traffic requirements and operation of street system
- Roads often compromise natural values
- Former tramline in private ownership divides park into two sections
- Two primary parking areas split entry and cross usage of passive / active facilities
- Existing carpark at Frank Walford Park is larger than required and impacts on usable park space
- Impact of illegal parking / uncontrolled parking
- Imminent upgrade works to the Great Western Highway at Shell corner could have a permanent impact on the hydrology of the site
- Impacts of recreation and access
- Rubbish dumping
- Existing track/trail system is extensive and impacts the natural environment

McRae's Paddock

- The addition of key properties to the corridor could benefit the natural environment and the public using the corridor
- Impact of illegal parking
- A creek valley located adjacent to Hindman Street is currently in a poor environmental condition and should be targeted for restoration / regeneration
- Soil erosion on steep unformed roads required for access
- Vegetation extensively cleared
- Exotic plantings

3.5.3 Social / Cultural issues

Valley Corridor

- Area has poor public profile and is under used as a resource
- Need for an organised process for focusing community inputs into management

3.5.4 Recreation and Access issues

Valley Corridor

- The BMCC Area 2 Community Plan (2001) highlighted the lack of recreational facilities for residents such as parks with playgrounds and bbq facilities
- Potential and need for a bicycle / pedestrian link through valley from town centre to major tourist locations
- Impacts of access through sensitive habitats
- Obligation regarding equal access under *Disability Discrimination Act*
- Existing park entries are poorly defined and tracks poor quality

Catalina race track

- Liability issues regarding the race circuit are unclear
- Degrading condition of the track limits long term use by racing cars

3.6 Opportunities

3.6.1 Heritage Opportunities

Valley Corridor

- Recognise significance through National Heritage process and naming
- Potential integrated approach to all phases and layers of heritage significance

Frank Walford Park

- Retain and interpret Car Track and Catalina Lake as park features, compatible with other heritage items and environmental objectives
- Significance of Norths Siding and Coal Haulage Route could be interpreted, other sites available and more appropriate for this
- Potential Cultural Heritage Centre

Catalina race track

- Break track to provide symbolic release from historic angst
- Provide a place for interpretation of racing heritage

3.6.2 Natural Environment Opportunities

Valley Corridor

- Enhance storm water treatment and retention by natural system
- Community places high value on bushland areas in the Valley corridor, retain and enhance
- Use fire in a controlled manner to enhance ecological values
- Protect and enhance corridor role as a valuable habitat to a wide range of native flora and fauna

Frank Walford Park

- Potential for macrophyte planting around Catalina Lake

3.6.3 Social / Cultural Opportunities

Valley Corridor

- Place to tell story of valley as early scene of reconciliation and cohabitation
- BMCC Area 2 residents are comprised of a range of social and cultural groups

Frank Walford Park

- Potential for enhancement of community use of site

3.6.4 Recreation and access Opportunities

Valley Corridor

- Hanging swamps maintain water flows in the Upper Kedumba Creek during periods of low rainfall, contributing to water flow over Katoomba Falls
- Optimise interpretation and recreational value of heritage significance

Frank Walford Park

- Improvement of the track surface to enable wheels based recreational uses such as recreational cycling, criterium cycling, rollerblading and triathlon (in conjunction with Aquatic Centre)
- Additional open space could be gained by closure of through roads and rationalisation of Madge Walford Carpark
- Potential for high quality picnic area to service district need

McRae's Paddock

- Potential for a small grassed area to service local passive recreation need

Selby Street Reserve

- Potential for additional walking track links

3.6.5 Educational Opportunities

Frank Walford Park

- Potential Interpretive Centre location within existing carpark precinct (Madge Walford) to minimise impact
- Potential for the interpretation of the history of the Gully and the lives of its former residents
- Opportunity for bush tucker garden
- Potential for NPWS to conduct ranger guided tours
- School groups could use interpretive elements

McRae's Paddock

- Potential interpretation of natural and cultural values

Selby Street Reserve

- Potential interpretation of natural and cultural values

3.6.6 Management and Maintenance Opportunities

Valley corridor

- Increase use of park so that the services are being more effectively delivered for the management costs
- Put infrastructure and practice in place that will reduce the current rate of degradation

3.7 Desired Outcomes

Desired outcomes are expectations and objectives for making decisions (also known as goals and aims).

3.7.1 Heritage Desired Outcomes

Valley Corridor

- Identify and protect features and areas of cultural significance, archaeological study to proceed all works
- Recognise heritage significance through appropriate interpretation, including different periods within the Valley
- Acknowledge Aboriginal connections through ongoing role in management

Frank Walford Park

- Optimise heritage significance as park feature and experience
- Ongoing role as meeting place and story telling place

Catalina race track

- Track broken, track fences removed
- Tracks heritage values interpreted

3.7.2 Natural Environment Desired Outcomes

Valley Corridor

- Preserve and improve extent and quality of existing natural areas, consolidating corridor values and enhancing habitat value
- Reduce pressures from surrounding urban areas
- Development of a fire management plan which is in accordance with Council's "Bushfire Risk Management Plan"
- Define extent of maintained grass areas by formal pathways / edging
- Protect and improve bushland on privately owned land
- Identify and protect rare and endangered species
- Rationalise existing path system

Frank Walford Park

- Rationalise roads to consolidate open space area and environmental values
- Acquire former tram line and rezone to reflect the land categories which occur on either side of the corridor
- Provide functional parking provision - minimising visual and environmental impacts

3.7.3 Water Desired Outcomes

Valley Corridor

- Stormwater Management Plan (refer overleaf) for the catchment that addresses:
 - Pre contact Aboriginal use
 - Issues as outlined in the stormwater recommendations plan overleaf
 - Point source control of sediment
 - Point source and interception control of litter / rubbish
 - Off site detention
 - Point source water quality control of urban runoff (settlement / filtration ponds / artificial wetlands)
 - On site detention and maximisation of infiltration
- Review each point where water enters the site and possible control measures
- Review existing stormwater structures
- Make provision on adjacent main drainage lines and at main urban stormwater runoff inputs to filter quality of stormwater prior to entering the river system
- Review aquatic centre failsafe strategy
- Conserve the natural condition of creeks and enhance their role in provision of educational and environmental experiences to park users
- Plan and undertake stream restoration to Upper Kedumba River and feeder creeklines to provide:
 - Weed management
 - Bank stabilisation
 - Natural revegetation

Note: a major creek restoration project is currently being undertaken for the McRaes Paddock area.

3.7.4 Social / Cultural Desired Outcomes

Valley Corridor

- Optimise community involvement in the management process
- Significance of site for Aboriginal and European heritage to add to community experience and benefits of open space
- Ensure that facilities cater for the requirements of various ethnic and age groups in spatial and physical terms

Frank Walford Park

- Planning and management of site to enhance community understanding of past role
- Planning and management of site to enhance ongoing role as community meeting place / focus of activity

3.7.5 Recreation Desired Outcomes

Valley Corridor

- Improve open space connections between Katoomba Town Centre and the National Park for use by residents and tourists for walking, jogging and recreational cycling
- Raise public profile to ensure an appropriate and appreciative use of the reserves

Frank Walford Park

- Keep Catalina racetrack for use but not for motorised vehicles
- Improve the relationship between the Sports and Aquatic Centre with the remainder of Frank Walford Park
- Enhance recreation facilities for Area 2 residents including compatible facilities which cater to 'all family activities' such as bbq's, playgrounds, and passive open space within the parkland category
- Do not satisfy demand for BMX Facility and for skateboard facilities at this location as it is not suitable
- Investigate suitability of adaptive reuse of track for wheels based recreational uses
- Upgrade Catalina Lake as visual focus and recreational feature based on its heritage significance

McRae's Paddock

- Enhance role of open space for passive use in compatibility with environmental values

Selby Street Reserve

- Improve access provision compatible with environmental values
- Provide appropriate level of quality facilities to complement passive use and active use

3.7.6 Educational Desired Outcomes

Valley Corridor

- Interpret the natural environmental and cultural heritage of the Valley through a coordinated interpretation strategy
- Increase community awareness of environmental issues
- Provision for leases to NPWS for ranger guided tours
- Valley used as case study in management

Frank Walford Park

- Investigate potential for Interpretive Centre at Frank Walford Park
- Provision of bus parking, shelter and toilet facilities for school groups

3.7.7 Intrinsic Desired Outcomes

Valley Corridor

- Protect / interpret water as a feature of the site reinforcing its cultural identity
- Recognise and strengthen distinct character
- Strengthening of relationship between individual sites and adjacent parcels

Frank Walford Park

- Demolish non functional or derelict buildings not of heritage value / unable to be adaptively reused
- Maximise public transport access to site
- Conserve significant cultural tree planting

- Conserve character of circuit as heritage feature whilst optimising recreational and environmental values
- Review the name 'Frank Walford Park' - Provide a name and identity for the open space that recognises its full heritage significance

McRae's Paddock

- Enhance appreciation of valley landform

3.7.8 Visual Desired Outcomes

Valley Corridor

- Improve the visual qualities of the Valley environment
- Provide clearly named and defined entry points

Frank Walford Park

- Upgrade to counteract the run-down look while conserving appropriate balance of natural / cultural values
- Mitigate impacts of access and usage

McRae's Paddock

- Restore natural landscape character to valley landform

Selby Street Reserve

- Enhance environmental and recreational visual character

3.7.9 Management and Maintenance Desired Outcomes

Valley Corridor

- Provide coordinated management group representing all interests
- Define maintenance areas to prevent encroachment on environmentally sensitive areas
- Slashed fire breaks and planned burns to reduce fire hazards and enhance natural values.

Frank Walford Park

- Provide appropriate opportunities for leases / licences to contribute to park maintenance
- Investigate potential for acquisition or management partnership of Haulage corridor lands in Frank Walford Park to consolidate heritage and environmental conservation area.
- Include in new management plans environmentally suitable and financially suitable and financially viable programs
- Weed control to be part of continual maintenance regime undertaken by Council with support from Community Groups (Bushcare)

Existing buildings Existing buildings through Frank Walford Park that are not identified by archaeological investigations to be of heritage significance or of no adaptive reuse potential for shelters / interpretive points should be demolished and areas revegetated. The existing cottage residence adjoining Gates Avenue may have potential for temporary housing of the Heritage Centre but preferably would be demolished to facilitate a purpose built structure (refer to Section 6.4).

Leases and licences Desired Outcomes The passive recreational usage character of the majority of the open space corridor dictates that there is limited need / potential to establish leases or licenses on the site other than in future management of the Sports and Aquatic Centre and of the proposed Heritage Centre.

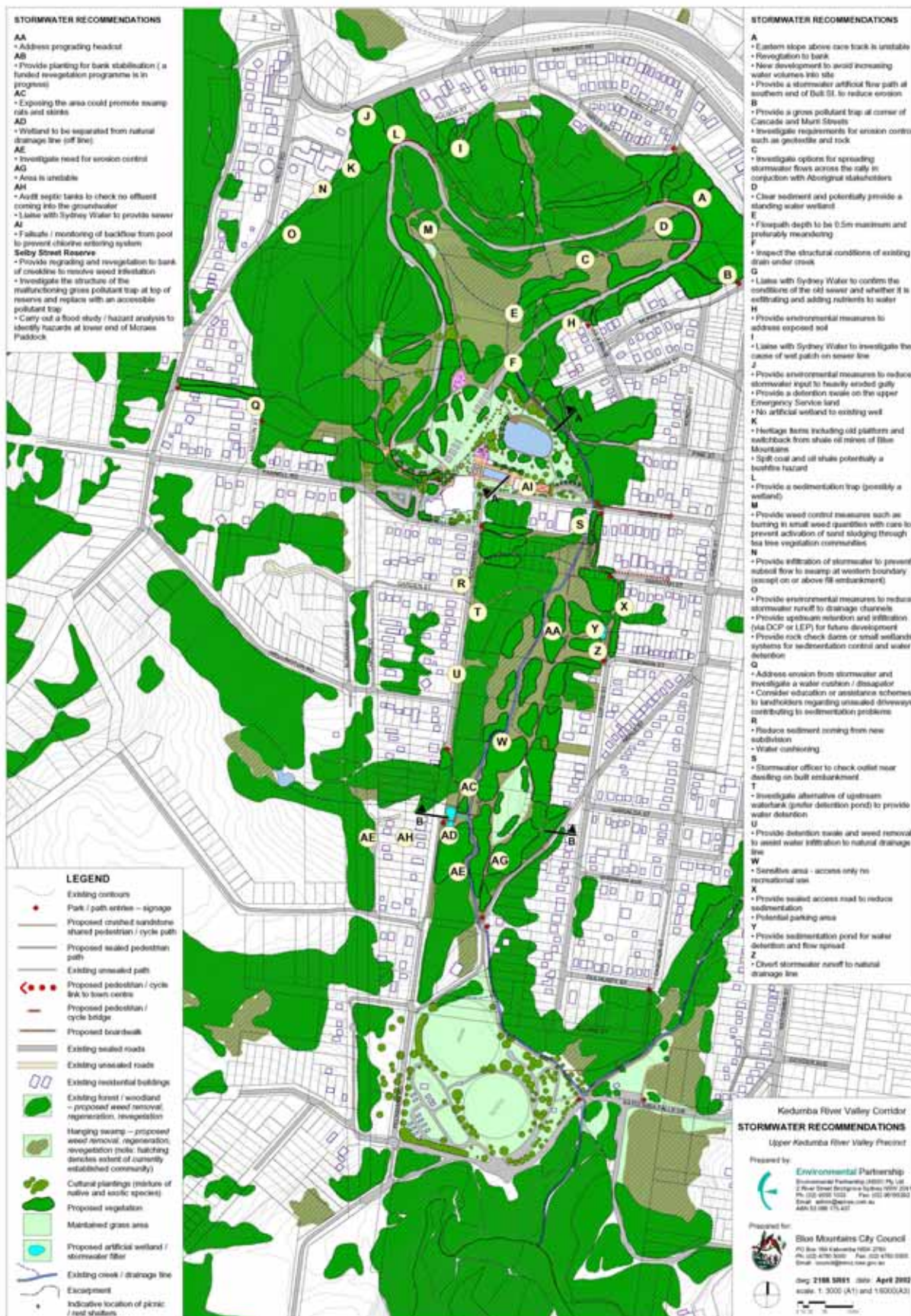
Sports and Aquatic Centre Desired Outcomes Whilst the centre is currently managed by Council, there is potential for the centre in the future to be subject to a Licence for management and operation should Council's corporate direction make operation of such facilities impractical or inappropriate. Such a change should be allowable under this plan of management, subject to management and operation being compatible with the strategies and policies of the plan (refer to Section 8.4).

Heritage Centre Desired Outcomes The establishment of a Heritage Centre on the site would be most practically operated under licence to the appropriate Aboriginal Land Council Authority, or Aboriginal Community committee subject to management and operation being compatible with the strategies and policies of the plan. The Aboriginal community has not indicated that it is ready or willing to manage a Heritage centre; only giving approval in principle for the concept.

3.8 Summary

Section 3 has outlined the information that was drawn upon to develop the management policies for the Upper Kedumba River Valley Corridor and the information has been collated into the Management Strategy Framework, which forms Appendix B. The direction from that framework is encapsulated in the management policies. The policies pertaining to the whole corridor are contained in Section 4. Any policies that relate only to specific reserves are contained in the separate plans of management.

Stormwater plan



4 Management Policies

Management policies will provide Council and those involved in management and maintenance of the open space corridor with guidelines for decision making and further research / design development of improvement actions. This section outlines management policies for all the reserves in the Upper Kedumba River Valley Precinct. This section also presents the masterplan for the Valley - giving a conceptual shape to the works to occur on the ground.

4.1 Management Approach

The Management strategies incorporated in this Plans of Management document reflect a value based approach as outlined earlier. This means that the policies do not address issues but are aimed at protecting values. The policies give direction to addressing any issue that arises. Issues are addressed in this Plans of Management document through the masterplans and the actions proposed and the priorities given to the actions.

All the strategies and direction that arose in Section 3 - Basis for Management were compiled into the Management Strategy Framework. This establishes a series of responses and required actions to the site's identified values and desired outcomes for the future management of Kedumba Valley Corridor. As the strategies were generated from a range of sources they overlap considerably and often address different aspects of one larger issue. This makes the Management Strategy informative but bulky, it is therefore placed in Appendix B for reference. The management direction is distilled into the Management Policies outlined below. They have been placed into the broad categories of Heritage, Natural, Water, Recreation, Access, Educational and Management and Maintenance. They relate to the whole of the Upper Kedumba Valley. Where policies have arisen that relate to one reserve only, these are recorded in the individual Plan of Management.

From the basis of management a masterplan direction has been developed for ongoing enhancement of the site. The Master plan strategies and the overall masterplan for the Valley are presented after the Management Policies.

4.2 Heritage

Discussion The cultural significance of the Upper Kedumba Valley for pre contact Aboriginal heritage and post contact Aboriginal and European Heritage demands that the area be conserved and managed with a high level of care. Much direction on this area comes from the strategic documents outlined in section three. The lack of data and direction for management for the heritage components requires that any works are proceeded by archaeological investigations resulting in management direction. Any archaeological survey must seek both oral and physical evidence. See also the policies on education, natural and recreation.

Policies

- Identify, protect and interpret features and areas of cultural significance
- Consult the Aboriginal community prior to any digging, development, or use for which no direction is provided in this plan of management (see appendix D)
- All workers involved in the Upper Kedumba Valley should be made familiar with the culturally sensitivity of the site.
- No private development in the reserves of the Upper Kedumba Valley
- Encourage Aboriginal employment for projects within the gully

4.3 Natural Environment

Discussion The approach for the rehabilitation and management of the native vegetation cover and the floristic diversity in the Upper Kedumba Valley corridor is for "assisted natural regeneration". This method exploits the existing factors that result in natural regeneration. The education component of protecting the environment is addressed in the education policy.

Policies

- Protect and improve the ecological integrity of in the Valley
- Reduce pressures on natural areas from surrounding properties

- Identify and protect rare and endangered species
- Improve corridor integrity by the incorporation of unformed road reserves as community open space and where feasible, acquisition of selected properties

4.4 Water

Discussion The plan of management identifies that water and the relationship of the river to the adjoining lands is a highly significant aspect of the corridor's Aboriginal cultural significance. Council is obligated to meet requirements related to water quality as defined by the *Clean Water Act*. The Valley acts to ameliorate stormwater and urban runoff problems but currently does not do so to a sustainable level. At another level the popular tourist destination of Katoomba Falls is fed by the Kedumba River, and influenced by the quality of water entering that system.

The key aspects of water management relate to water quality (in particular urban stormwater runoff) and river / creek condition. Refer to the Stormwater Management Recommendations Plan in Section 3.

Policy

- Effectively manage stormwater in the Valley including the restoration of the natural drainage system as a natural and cultural element

4.5 Recreation and Access

Discussion The recreational potential of the corridor for passive activities has been previously well documented in this study. Increasing the appropriate use through a raised public profile will ensure more efficient use of Council's recreational dollars. Appropriate recreational uses should be facilitated and managed in a manner fully compatible with environmental and heritage values and with regard for local resident amenity.

Policies

- Upgrade Frank Walford Park (using Catalina Lake as a focus) to provide a picnic facility
- Improve walking, wheelchair and cycling connections between Katoomba Town Centre, Echo Point and Scenic World and neighbouring residential areas including provision of clear inviting entry points
- Rationalise existing path system
- Provide interpretation of racing history of site
- Raise public profile
- Increase space available for passive recreation in Frank Walford Park through rationalisation of parking and through roads
- Retain Catalina track for recreational purposes excluding motorised use
- Provide opportunity for public transport to Frank Walford Park

4.6 Education

Discussion The open space corridor provides the opportunity to conserve significant educational resources for interpretation by informal users, school and educational groups. These include: cultural heritage, flora / fauna ecology, and water cycle management. There are additional educational needs to reduce the edge impact on all bushland areas in the Valley.

Policies

- Interpret the natural and cultural heritage of the Valley through a coordinated interpretation strategy
- Provide facilities for school group use of site
- Investigate potential for Interpretive Centre at Frank Walford Park
- Undertake ongoing community education to raise awareness of living with the bush

4.7 Management and Maintenance

Discussion The declaration as an Aboriginal Place, facilitates an important opportunity and need for Aboriginal peoples to have a significant input into decision making and ongoing management of

the open space corridor. Whilst Council will remain best equipped to provide the day to day management of facilities such as the Sports centre, in enhancement of the Catalina Lake passive recreational area, and maintenance of weed and stormwater issues, the Gully Aboriginal Place Management should be perpetuated in some form to input into ongoing management and implementation of the plan recommendations.

Policies

- Provide for a coordinated management group representing all interests
- Define maintenance areas to prevent encroachment on environmentally sensitive areas
- Develop annual fire mitigation programs as per Council's *Bush Fire Risk Management Plan* for the community lands within Upper Kedumba Valley and provide opportunity for the management group to comment on the plans.
- Provide appropriate opportunities for leases and licences and rights of way to contribute to park management and or park interpretation, however no lease or licence shall be finalised without opportunity for public comment.
- Provide opportunities for leases, licences and rights of way to formalise the current existing use rights of the Fire Service and private residences
- Seek external funding to accomplish desired outcomes of the plans of management
- Weed control to be part of continual maintenance regime undertaken by Council with support from Community Groups (Bushcare)

4.8 Masterplanning Principles

A corridor masterplan is provided overleaf. The masterplans provide for the conceptual planning of proposed works. Detailed plans will be developed through a process that will include:

- Archaeological survey and conservation management planning;
- Detailed flora and fauna assessment;
- Consultation with Aboriginal community; and
- Consultation with the broader community.

The overall masterplan focuses on natural area protection and restoration, along with action to enhance public profile and passive recreational opportunities.

The Frank Walford Park Masterplan provides for a more intensive usage area related to the existing Catalina Park, whilst other areas emphasise environmental and cultural heritage conservation.

Based on previous studies, outcomes of the Community Workshops and input from relevant stakeholders, the following general principles have been established to guide the development of a masterplan for the Upper Kedumba Valley:

- A Recognise Aboriginal Significance through continued conservation and interpretive strategy based on Archaeological Survey and Conservation Management Plan and implementation of planning and management strategies that reflect and develop conservation objectives as outlined in the Statement of Significance.
- B Consolidate and extend natural vegetation communities to enhance natural values.
- C Undertake coordinated stream restoration and stormwater management to improve function and aesthetic quality of Katoomba Falls Creek system.
- D Review opportunities to close existing road links, unformed roads, and rationalise car parking areas (subject to traffic assessment) to achieve environmental and recreational improvements.
- E Formalise access network and define park entries to provide continuous north south corridor access for pedestrians and cyclists, in addition to strategic east west links across corridor to link adjoining residential areas and Katoomba CBD.
- F Develop sustainable level of bush paths to enhance recreational and environmental experiences and facilitate natural and cultural heritage interpretation.
- G Use path alignments where possible to define edges between natural areas and maintained grassland.
- H Enhance the relationship of existing recreational facilities to existing open space through visual, functional, and recreational linkages.

- I Recognise specific sense of place and intrinsic qualities of the Valley Corridor (including landform, significance of water, and particular cultural heritage) in planning and management proposals.
- J Integrate Catalina race-track into ongoing recreational use of site for general community benefit in a manner compatible with Aboriginal Heritage Objectives and requirements.
- K Integrate Catalina Lake as cultural heritage feature of aesthetic and recreational value.
- L Remove dilapidated or disused buildings without heritage value to improve visual quality and safety of site and improve environmental and recreational opportunities.

4.9 Summary

Management policies are defined for ongoing Council decision making and action including investigation, design, and maintenance activities. The masterplan and masterplan strategies give a concept for the spatial form of implementing the actions arising from the action plan.

5 Plan of Management

Frank Walford Park

Section five contains the plan of management for Walford Park, better known as Frank Walford Park. It contains information on the existing and proposed uses of the park, the categories for management and their objectives, management policies relating specifically to this reserve and a masterplan. The plan should be read in conjunction with the management policies for the whole valley corridor presented in Section 4.

5.1 Reserve at a Glance

The following table provides a summary of Walford Park; its existing and proposed uses and condition of facilities.

Table: Land to which this plan of management applies

| | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Reserve Name | Walford Park (Official name - GNB assigned 03/04/1970) | | | |
| Alternative Names | Also known as Frank Walford Park (including Council signposting) | | | |
| Reserve Number | 2-010 | | | |
| Area (hectares) | 43.92 (35 ha Community Land) | | | |
| Owner/ Manager | Blue Mountains City Council/ Blue Mountains City Council | | | |
| Address | Community Land | Property Key | Parcels | Area (ha) |
| | 21-27 Gates Avenue, Katoomba NSW 2780 | 219431 | 67 parcels | 10.73 ha |
| | 4-24 Walgett Avenue, Katoomba NSW 2780 | 219436 | 28 parcels | 16.06 ha |
| | 8-18 Gunnedah Street, Katoomba NSW 2780 | 176816 | 24 parcels | 1.87 ha |
| | 2-22 Cardiff Street, Katoomba NSW 2780 | 175814 | 25 parcels | 1.93 ha |
| | 33 Cascade Street, Katoomba NSW 2780 | 175944 | Lot 1 DP 314287 | 0.81 ha |
| | 40-64 Glenwattle Close, Katoomba NSW 2780 | 175810 | 25 parcels | 3.85 ha |
| | 24-26 Valley Road, Katoomba NSW 2780 | 178292 | Lot 101 DP 2517 | 0.33 ha |
| Classification | Community Land | | | 35 ha |
| Address | Operational Land | Property Key | Parcels | Area (ha) |
| | 41 Burrawang Street, Katoomba NSW 2780 | 175809 | 5 parcels | 0.85 ha |
| | 25-31 Catalina Avenue, Katoomba NSW 2780 | 219430 | L 1 DP 1008636 | 1.13 ha |
| Classification | Operational Land | | | 2 ha |
| Zoning | EP-OS Environmental Protection – Open Space (DLEP 2002) | | 78% | 35.29 ha |
| | REC-OS Recreation – Open Space (DLEP 2002) | | 19.7% | 8.91 ha |
| Key Components | <div> <div> Lots 67-93, 98-101. DP 2517 Lot PTL 66. DP 751675 Lots 1-7, 9, 11-26. Sec A1. DP 2059 Lots 1-3, 6-27. Sec B1. DP 2059 Lots 1-8. Sec C1. DP 2059 Lots 1-11, 17, 18. Sec D1. DP 2059 Lots 1,2. Sec F1. DP 2059 Lots 1-4. Sec L1. DP 2059 Lots 1-17, 22-38. Sec N1. DP 2059 </div> <div> Lots 1-16, 27-40. Sec T1. DP 2059 Lot 1. DP 1008636 Lot 1. DP 112956 Lots 1-4. DP 109635 Unformed Streets: Hill St, Glen Wattle Cl, Boomerang St, Valley Rd, Carlton St, Torrens St, Cardiff St, Gundar St, Gunnedah St, Buti St, Rec Hill St, Katoa St </div> </div> | | | |

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Conditions of Park | Satisfactory for general recreational use - upgrade of facilities desirable Some areas require weed management, regeneration and revegetation | | | |
| Council Maintenance | Mowing and general gardening – every 2-3 weeks Grass slashing – on request before events (approx. 2-5 times per year) Weed removal, planting and storm mitigation works – monthly by Friends of Katoomba Falls Bush Group (Community volunteers led by Council Bushcare Officer) Noxious weeds sprayed – every 1-2 years by Noxious Weeds Team Manual weeding – by Environmental weeds team Bush regeneration contracts Stream corridor restoration works | | | |
| Assets | 2 park seats 6 Picnic Settings (no shelter) | | | |
| Condition of Buildings | Building | Description | Current Use | Proposed Use |
| | Toilet block near pool cottage | Stone walls, block infills to windows, imitation tile roof Poor condition | Building has been closed to use since 1990 | Review for heritage value. If no heritage value and no potential use - demolish |
| | Pool cottage – next door to pool | Walls, timber and fibro cladding, corrugated iron and fibro roof, sub-floor brick work. 2 bedrooms lounge, kitchen/dining room, bathroom, W/C and laundry attached at rear. Poor condition | Not in current use. | Possible temporary cultural center. Review costs of making useable running costs and available funding. If not financial viable – demolish. |
| | Garage for pool cottage | Timber and stone walls corrugated iron roof, rock floor. Poor condition | Not in current use | If cultural center is to go ahead, review for temporary adaptive reuse – otherwise demolish |
| | Lakeside grotto | Concrete imitation stone – concrete walls and floor Poor condition | Seldom used – very damp | Review structural integrity, if structurally sound and can be incorporated into future design retain as historic element – otherwise demolish |
| | Toilet below Wells street | Concrete walls and roof and floor Derelect Condition | Not useable | Demolish building, without disturbing site and revegetate |
| | Toilet below Buti street | Concrete walls and roof and floor Derelect Condition | Not useable | Demolish building, without disturbing site and revegetate |
| | Competitors toilet (in pits) | Brick walls imitation tile roof, Ladies: 5 W/C's, Male: 3 W/C's urinal – location makes subject to vandalism Poor condition | Occasionally opened for events | Consider upgrading as ongoing toilet facility subject to archaeological survey – ideally relocate public toilet function to sports complex |
| | Sports and Recreation Centre/Band hall | Rec center – concrete block and plaster board walls, metal roof. Rooms; men and ladies change rooms and toilets, indoor basketball court, meeting room, store room/office, cleaners room, canteen and 2 offices. Band hall concrete block walls, concrete floors, metal roof. Rooms; practice auditorium, store rooms male and female toilet, canteen Good condition | Still to come | As per current use with any other related uses appropriate to the building and categorisation |
| | Old pool amenities block | Brick and sandstone walls, concrete floor, concrete walls, Ladies and gents, W/C's and showers Fair to poor condition | Still to come | Review potential demolition to enable consolidation of park open space – use change facilities in main pool complex |
| | Clubhouse/canteen/Office (old entrance to pool) | Concrete block walls, concrete floors, metal roof. Rooms: office, canteen, canteen store, canteen kitchen, 2 club rooms, toilet and kitchen for club rooms. Fair condition | Still to come | As per current use with any other related uses appropriate to the building and categorisation |
| | Plant building | Brick walls, metal roof, concrete floor. Rooms: main pump room, chemical room testing area, store room, electrical room Fair condition | Still to come | As per current use with any other related uses appropriate to the building |

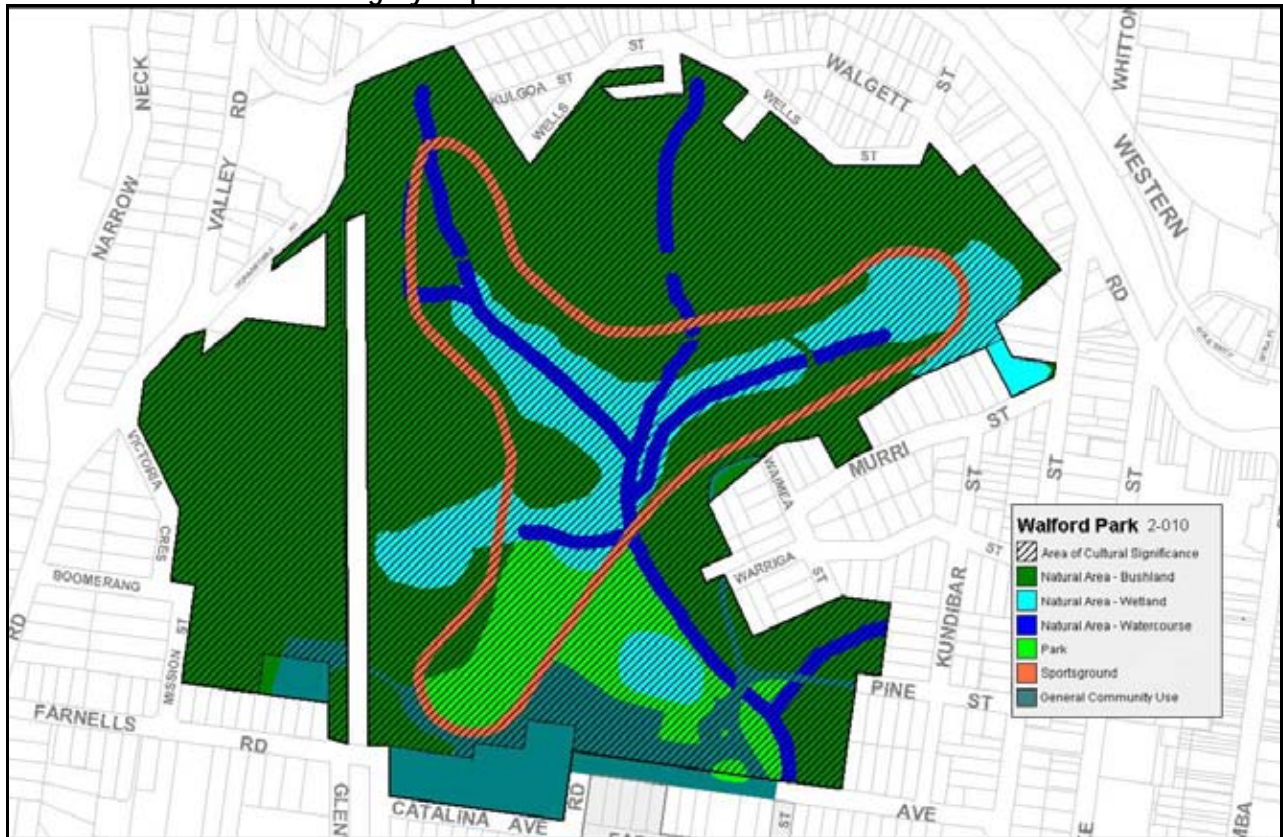
| The Plan of Management also applies to the following lands: | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Road Reserves | Unformed section of Red Hill Street zoned REC-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.52 ha |
| | Unformed Torrens Street zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 1.72 ha |
| | Unformed section of Carlton Street, part zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.54 ha |
| | Unformed section of Glenwattle Close zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 1.03 ha |
| | Unformed section of Boomerang Street zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.32 ha |
| | Unformed section of Valley Road zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.32 ha |
| | Unformed section of Hill Street zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.29 ha |
| | Unformed Corraworra Road zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.24 ha |
| | Unformed Gunnedah Street zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.65 ha |
| | Unformed section of Gundah Street zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.46 ha |
| | Unformed Cardiff Street zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.39 ha |
| | Unformed section of Buti Street zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.38 ha |
| | Unformed section of Walgett Street | 0.32 ha |
| | Unformed Katoa Street zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.12 ha |
| | Unformed Road Reserves | 7 ha |
| Leases/ Licences | No leases are currently held/ No licenses are currently issued | |
| Other estates | No caveats or easements currently apply to the land | |

5.2 Categorisation

The Categorisation of Walford Park is shown in the figure overleaf. The core objectives for these categories are set by the Local Government Act and are listed in the table below.

| Category | Core Objectives |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Natural Area (Bushland) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat, flora and fauna and other ecological values of the land. - Protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land. - Promote management in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and implement measures directed to minimizing or mitigating any disturbance caused by human intrusion. - Restore degraded bushland. - Protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores. - Retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term. <p>Protect bushland as a natural stabilizer of the soil surface.</p> |
| Natural Area (Creekline/ watercourse) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Manage watercourse so as to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the in-stream environment particularly in relation to water quality and water flows. - Manage watercourse so as to protect the riparian environment, particularly in relation to riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability. - Restore degraded watercourses. <p>Promote community education and community access to and use of the watercourse, without compromising the other core objectives of the category.</p> |
| Natural Area (Wetlands) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protect the biodiversity and ecological values of wetlands with particular reference to their hydrological environment (including water quality and water flow), and to flora, fauna and habitat values of the wetlands. - Restore and regenerate degraded wetlands. <p>Facilitate community education in relation to wetlands and their use by the community, without compromising the ecological values of the wetlands.</p> |
| Sportsground | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage, promote and facilitate recreational pursuit in the community involving organized and informal sporting activities and games. <p>Ensure such activities are managed having regard to any adverse impact on nearby residences.</p> |
| Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage, promote and facilitate recreational, cultural, social and educational pastimes and activities. - Provide for passive recreational activities and pastimes and for the casual playing of games. <p>Improve the land in such a way as to promote and facilitate its use to achieve the other core objectives for its management.</p> |
| Area of Cultural Significance | <p>Retain and enhance the cultural significance of the area (namely its Aboriginal, aesthetic, archaeological, historical, technical, research, or social significance) for past, present and future generations by the active use of conservative methods.</p> |

Frank Walford Park land category map



5.3 Management policies

The management approach and general management policies for the Upper Kedumba Valley are outlined in section 4 and apply to this reserve. The site-specific management policies for Frank Walford Park are outlined below.

Two key points are re-iterated here:

- A key management policy is **Consult the Aboriginal community prior to any digging, development, or use for which no direction is provided in this plan of management** (see appendix D).
- An archaeological study is expected to be complete in June 2005 and will provide additional management direction, this should be read in conjunction with this Plan of Management.

5.3.1 Catalina Racing Circuit

Discussion

The Catalina Racing Circuit generates strong but conflicting community desires that make it difficult to define a management approach satisfactory to all stakeholders. Its ongoing use as a racetrack is seen as desecrating Aboriginal cultural values, which makes it in breach of the National Parks and Wildlife Act. The track's role in Australian racing history is very significant. There are also issues of the track standard and maintenance costs. The option favoured to preserve both Aboriginal and racing values is to break the track in one place, remove the barriers and deny motorised use, but to keep the rest of the track intact and accessible to pedestrians and to have a static display interpreting the racing heritage.

Policies

- No motorised use of Catalina racetrack
- Maintain track and facilitate pedestrian and non-motorised wheeled use
- Allow static displays and events related to the motor sport heritage of the site

5.3.2 Recreation and Access

Detailed Policies

- Improve visual and functional relationship of Aquatic Centre and Park
- Seek to expand passive recreation area within park without encroaching on natural areas
- Seek to provide a picnic facility including toilets
- Retain cultural landscape values in any future works
- Continue to provide off leash dog area in Frank Walford Park (Park Category area) but investigate alternative locations due to potential conflicts with passive recreation
- Allow for public transport access to park
- Seek opportunities for funding of the construction and management of a heritage centre
- Provide sheltered meeting places within the park

5.3.3 Management and Maintenance

Policies

- Demolish non functional or derelict buildings not of heritage value / unable to be adaptively reused

5.4 Masterplan (see plan overleaf)

The masterplan provides for the conceptual planning of proposed works. Detailed plans will be developed after the PoM is adopted through a process that will include:

- Archaeological survey and conservation management planning;
- Detailed flora and fauna assessment;
- Consultation with Aboriginal community (see appendix D); and
- Consultation with the broader community.

The plan focuses on natural area protection and restoration, along with action to enhance public profile and passive recreational opportunities.

The summary following describes the design features to be considered for inclusion in the preferred masterplan. Numbered items correspond with the circled numbers on the masterplan (refer following pages).

Natural Environment

1. Path Network

Following archaeological survey, formalise key access routes provided by existing bush trails with a permeable (e.g. crushed sandstone) surface to reduce erosion and environmental impact on surrounding natural areas. Works undertaken should generally provide 1.5m wide pedestrian and cycle trails and minimum width maintenance access, with revegetation / regeneration of natural vegetation of areas to either side of path.

Trails recommended for improvement should provide a connection to surrounding residential areas, link to heritage sites of interest or provide an internal path loop, and result in minimal environmental or cultural heritage impact.

2. Path Closure

Close and revegetate those existing trails where the alignment is considered unsuitable due to environmental impact or proximity to an Aboriginal archaeological site.

3. Boardwalks

Elevated boardwalks are proposed to provide equal access connections through environmentally sensitive areas.

4. Stormwater treatment

Subject to direction from the proposed Stormwater Management Plan, stormwater treatment areas are proposed to provide a range of benefits to the natural system. In addition to improved water quality some forms of stormwater treatment can provide an ephemeral water body and improve the existing wildlife habitat for native fauna.

Storm water treatment can take the form of detention areas for periods of high rainfall, and allow the stored water to be discharged into the stormwater system at a more natural rate. The water

released can be partially filtered by Macrophytic vegetation and discharged into the subsoil system (dependant on soil characteristics – not suitable on unstable filled land).

5. Stream Restoration

Stream areas in the Upper Kedumba Valley are typically prone to weed invasion and bank scouring. Proposed works to these areas should improve the natural system through weed removal and regeneration / revegetation of the stream banks and surrounding areas. Proposed path network is to define extent of maintained grass areas (where applicable) to prevent impacts on natural vegetative buffer along creek line.

6. Natural Areas

Existing forest and swamp areas should be conserved and improved in physical extent and diversity of species. Strategies to mitigate environmental impacts such as erosion, and weed infestation and encourage both natural regeneration and staged revegetation should be implemented.

Degraded and cleared areas should be targeted for full strata revegetation / regeneration aimed at returning the area to a natural ecological community.

7. Edge Impacts

Control / manage edge impacts through natural areas through a combination of strategies including public education and the fining of offenders. Include in the proposed interpretive strategy an allowance to erect signs informing residents of the environmental impacts caused by dumping and weed invasion from nearby road sides and residential areas.

8. Road Closures

Proposed through traffic closure of south western sections of Pine and Warriga Streets (subject to a future traffic study) would enable environmental improvement by removing the roadway over the creek and undertaking revegetation works in the area. This option would also allow a linking pathway along the previous road alignments to retain pedestrian / cycle connections between the park and adjacent residential areas. Retain access to Catalina lake for fire service vehicles to obtain water.

Any traffic adjustments / closures are subject to detailed traffic assessment.

Recreation

9. Play facility

A district play facility is proposed to cater to a range of age groups and also to mobility impaired children. Purpose built play equipment could potentially interpret natural environment and heritage themes of the Gully such as pre / post Aboriginal occupation, Catalina Park, and Catalina Race Circuit.

10. Landscape improvements for passive recreation

Park areas around Catalina Lake to be improved by extending the maintained grass area for passive recreation, providing cultural and natural plantings, and improved park furniture items such as seats and rubbish bins.

Off leash dog use is to be maintained in the short term until a suitable alternative local area is defined. It is envisaged that dog use may conflict with enhanced passive recreational activity in the area in the long term.

11. Catalina Circuit Road Surface Improvement

If deemed appropriate by stakeholder groups, minimal improvements to the track surface would enable a range of recreational activities to take place including:

- Walking / jogging
- Recreational cycling
- Rollerblading
- Competition cycling / triathlon
- Low impact motor vehicle use (display only – no circulation of track)

Heritage

12. Archaeological Survey

An Archaeological survey of the Gully is of high importance and should be undertaken prior to any park improvement works. The survey should be undertaken by an Archaeologist who is sensitive to Aboriginal issues and able to work closely with the local Aboriginal community.

13. Gully Heritage Centre

A Gully Heritage Centre could potentially be located on Gates Avenue in an area which is currently occupied by a Council owned cottage. The heritage centre could provide a focus for the interpretation of the site and include photo's and stories about the pre / post contact inhabitants of the Gully and the Valley.

In the short term it may be possible to carry out minor upgrading of the existing cottage to provide the function until funds are raised to construct a permanent structure.

14. Interpretive Strategy

An Interpretive Strategy should be prepared following the Archaeological Survey of the valley and in consultation with Aboriginal Stakeholders to provide a framework for the presentation of the natural and cultural heritage of the Gully. The study should take into account the heritage of the area and prepare a coordinated means of conveying these values to the public. Sites and themes for public artwork should also be covered in the study.

15. Meeting / Gathering Clearings

Aboriginal stakeholder groups have highlighted the desirability of clearings to enable the general gatherings. Indicative locations have been shown on the plan but are subject to further investigation and input from Aboriginal stakeholder groups.

General

16. Car Park Rationalisation

Madge Walford Carpark needs to be redeveloped to clearly articulate parking areas and through roads and to improve the landscape character. If possible additional park space shall be gained to allow regeneration of a natural buffer to the creekline. Sufficient parking area should be maintained to service increased use and large events.

The carpark for the Sports and Aquatic Centre should also be reviewed for the possibility of additional spaces along its northern boundary.

Opportunities to access the site via alternative means (pedestrian / cycle) should be maximised.

Capacity for a bus stop and bus parking should be provided.

When large events occur, overflow parking between the Aquatic Centre and Madge Walford Carpark could be indicated.

17. Sports and Aquatic Centre Boundary

The proposed realignment of the pool boundary fence would allow for increased park space to the north and west of the pool boundary and an improved relationship between the Sports and Aquatic Centre and a proposed location adjacent to the Heritage Centre should be used for this purpose.

18. BM Sports and Aquatic Centre

Landscape improvements to the area between the Sports and Aquatic Centre entrance and Frank Walford Park are proposed to improve the visual and physical relationship between the two facilities. Potential improvement works should include formalisation of the link with paving, tree planting and signage.

Design should include potential provision of publicly accessible toilets as part of sports complex building to serve general park use.

19. Off Site Links

Formalise trail connections with adjoining residential areas, McRae's Paddock, Catalina Race track, The Sports and Aquatic Centre and Katoomba Town Centre.

20. Derelict Buildings

Dilapidated structures are subject to vandalism and anti social behaviour due to their age and location in an isolated position. These derelict buildings impact on park safety and quality and should be demolished subject to a heritage study.

21. Picnic facilities

The provision of picnic facilities in the areas adjacent to Catalina Pond would cater to a demand for these facilities from district residents. The park like surrounds and gently sloping landform make this area suitable for all ages activities, and are well located to access the extensive trail network in the natural area of the site.

22. Track Wall Removal

The proposed removal of track wall between the maintained grass areas adjacent to Catalina Pond would improve the area for passive recreation by unifying the two areas. (Refer also item 26)

23. Natural Edge to Catalina Pond

Proposed provision of a naturally sloping pond edge to provide a variation in pond character should be complemented by macrophyte (aquatic plant i.e. reeds) planting providing a contrast with the existing formed concrete edge that currently exists around the pond.

24. Edge Path Promenade

A proposed edge path promenade to Catalina Pond would incorporate a level seating pavement area to create a separate character and experience for park users. The construction of this area would require local grading to create the level area and incorporate a low seating wall to the rear of the promenade. Gravel paving, additional tree planting and bench seating should also be included.

25. Remove Racing Barriers

The removal of racing barriers from all track edges (other than at three nominated corners where barriers provide an access control / interpretive function) would enable improvements to freedom of access throughout the site.

26. Removal of Track Section

It is proposed to remove a section of track as desired by former Gully residents to provide a symbolic release from past upheavals in the Valley. The most suitable location for this to occur is between Catalina Pond and the maintained grass area in the centre of the track, as this would enable the extension of parkland through the joining of the two separate grassed areas.

Proposed artworks would interpret the former extent of track including the start / finish line.

A path route is proposed around the back of the maintained grass area providing an alternative means of completing the circuit for walkers, joggers and cyclists.

27. Racing Track Interpretation

A section of track to the south of the start / finish line could potentially be modified to create permanent interpretive artwork commemorating the racing history of the site. This area could also be used for setting up temporary displays during car display events.

28. Vehicle Barriers

There are currently no vehicle barriers between Frank Walford Park and the Blue Mountains Sports and Aquatic Centre, which allows authorised vehicle access to the Bush Fire Brigade for access the fire station and unauthorised vehicle access to the public who use the adjacent park area as overflow parking from the Sports and Aquatic Centre carpark when it is full at peak times, in particular by cyclists.

Following the proposed removal of steel and timber barriers (refer point 26 on Masterplan) from the racing track edge, the erection of vehicle barriers to the park edge will be required to restrict public vehicle access to the track. Proposed barriers should be constructed with a combination of fences and bollards in a way that creates minimal visual impact and allows "pedestrian permeability".

5.5 Action plan, performance targets and performance assessment

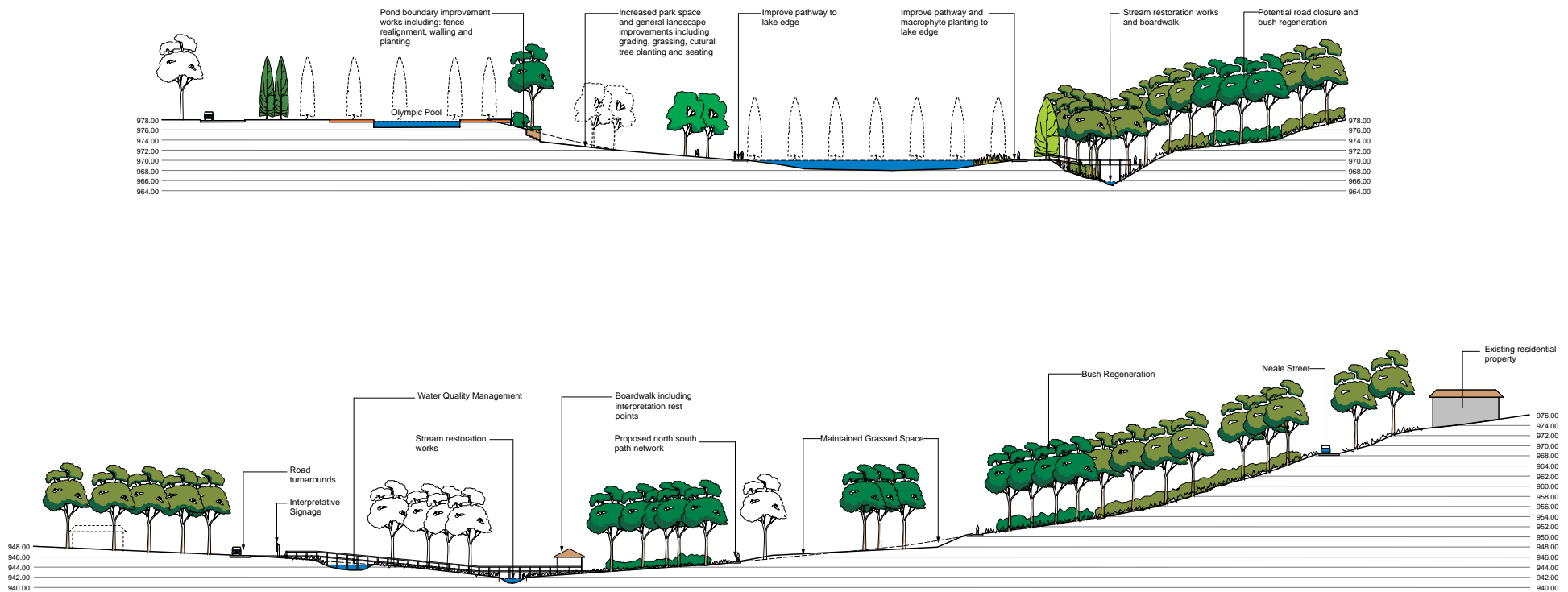
The action plans and performance targets and performance assessment for this plan of management is linked with those of the other Plans of Management within the Upper Kedumba Valley. They are therefore all presented together in Section 8.

THIS PAGE IS LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK



THIS PAGE IS LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

Landscape sections through proposed landscape Masterplan for Frank Walford Park



Track closure option Frank Walford Park



6 Plan of Management

McRaes Paddock

Section six contains the plan of management for the section of Katoomba Falls Reserve known as McRae's Paddock. It contains information on the existing and proposed uses of the park, the categories for management and their objectives, management policies relating specifically to this reserve and a masterplan. The plan should be read in conjunction with the management policies for the whole valley corridor presented in Section 4.

6.1 Reserve at a Glance

The following table provides a summary of McRae's Paddock, its existing and proposed uses and condition of facilities.

Land to which this plan of management applies

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Reserve Name | Katoomba Falls Reserve (McRaes Paddock section) | |
| Reserve Number | 2-034 | |
| Address | Katoomba Falls Reserve 2- 82 Peckmans Road, Katoomba NSW 2780 | |
| Parcels | Lots 52, 53, 58, 60 DP 673 | * DP 328093 |
| | PTL 56 DP 673 | Lot 1 DP 174611 |
| | Lots A, B DP 337731 | Lot A DP 374594 |
| | Lots 1, 3-5 DP 301760 | Lots 1-12 Sec M1 DP 2059 |
| Classification | Community Land | |
| Zoning | Recreation (LEP 1991), Environmental Protection - Open Space (DLEP 2002) Under Local Environmental Plan 1991 (LEP 1991), McRaes Paddock is zoned Recreation Existing (6A). Under Draft Local Environmental Plan 2002, McRaes Paddock is zoned Environmental Protection - Open Space (EP-OS), with the exception of Lot 3 DP 301760, which is zoned Recreation - Open Space (REC-OS). | |
| West Katoomba Mission Site | 38-46 Gates Avenue, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Lots 1-5 Section L1 DP 2059 |
| Classification | Operational Land | |
| Zoning | Environmental Protection - Open Space (DLEP 2002); Living - Bushland Conservation (DLEP 2002) | |
| Owner | Blue Mountains City Council | |
| Manager | Blue Mountains City Council | |
| Area | 13.74 hectares Community Land; 0.39 hectares Operational Land | |
| The Plan of Management also applies to the following lands: | | |
| Road Reserves | Unformed section of Farnell Street, part zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.40 ha |
| | Unformed section of Lomond Street zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.24 ha |
| | Unformed section of Peckmans Road zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | 0.13 ha |
| Current Use | Walking, Passive Recreation Visual amenity as bushland Habitat and threatened species management Urban run-off amelioration | |
| Leases and Licenses | Leases for the purposes of management and/or maintenance of the site, or any element of the site in accordance with this plan are permissible. | Licenses for the purposes of management and/or maintenance of the site, or any element of the site in accordance with this plan are permissible. Licenses for the National Parks and Wildlife Service to conduct Ranger Guided Tours are permissible. |
| Caveats/Easements | N/A | |
| Current Condition of Reserve | Limited for general recreational use. Environment and water in fair condition but need work to prevent deterioration. | |

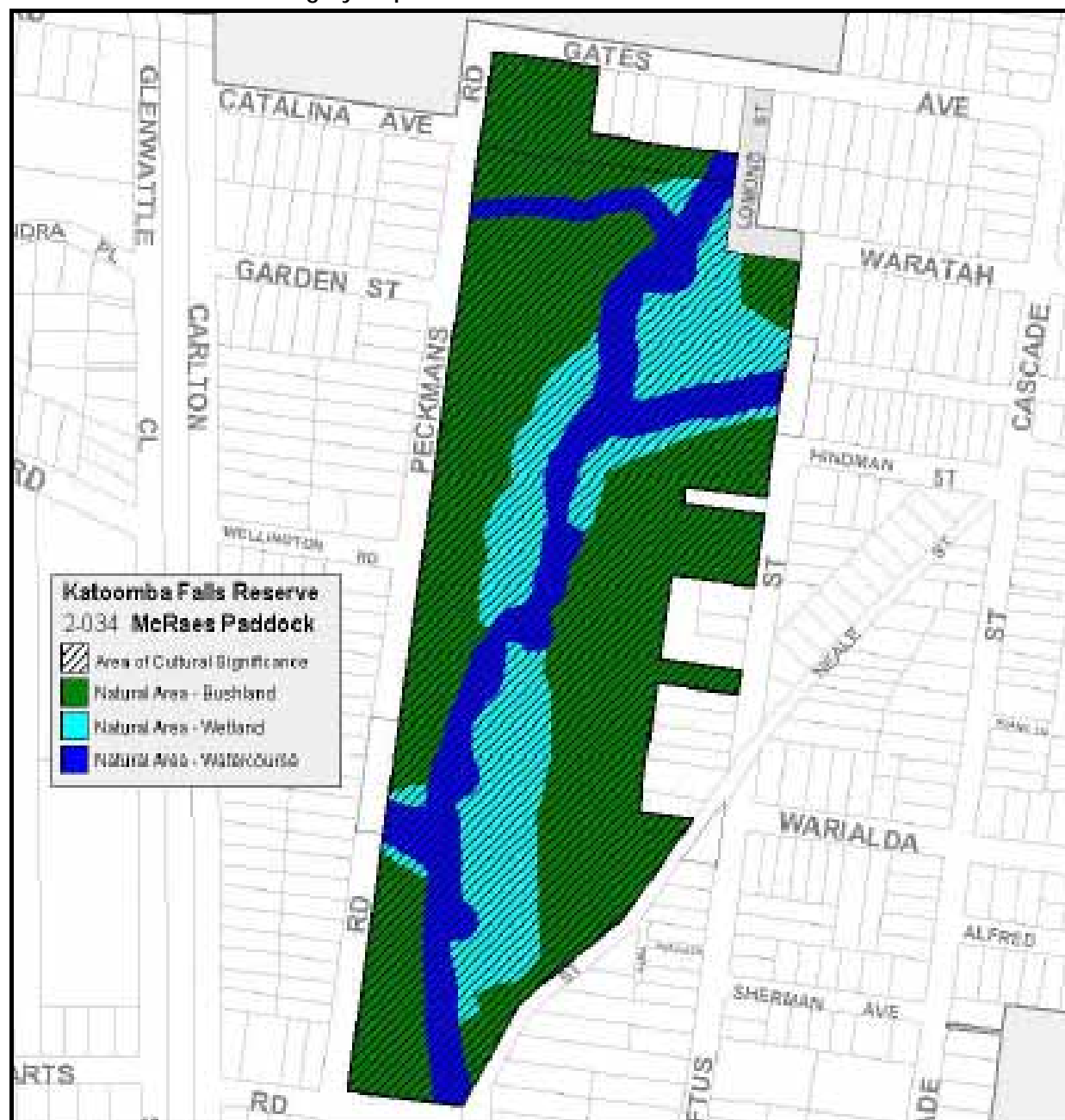
| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Current Council Maintenance | Bush regeneration - weed removal, planting and storm mitigation works - monthly by Kedumba Creek Bushcare Group (community volunteers with a Council Bushcare Officer) Noxious weeds sprayed - every 1-2 years by Noxious Weeds Team Manual weeding - by Environmental Weeds Team Bush regeneration contracts Stream corridor restoration works |
| Assets | Aboriginal cultural heritage relics There are no buildings or other post-colonisation constructed assets in the reserve |

6.2 Categorisation

McRae's Paddock is categorised as an Area of Cultural Significance and a Natural Area. The Natural Area is further categorised as Bushland, Wetland and Watercourse.

| Categories | Area of Cultural Significance | | 13.74 ha | 100.0% |
|------------|-------------------------------|--|----------|--------|
| | Natural Area | | 13.74 ha | 100.0% |
| | Bushland | | 8.313 ha | 60.5% |
| | Wetland | | 2.751 ha | 20.0% |
| | Watercourse | | 2.675 ha | 19.5% |

McRae's Paddock land category map



The **Natural Area - Watercourse** is larger than the actual creek. It is comprised of a combination of the cadastral creek – the line of the creek as it appears on topographic maps – with a 15-metre buffer, in accord with the use of the watercourse buffer in Council’s Local Environmental Plans, with desktop mapping from aerial imagery and field mapping of the actual creekline and any remnant riparian vegetation.

The **Natural Area - Wetland** is a reconstruction of the likely former distribution of Blue Mountains Swamp in McRae’s Paddock. The boundaries of the Wetland were determined by a desktop review of various vegetation maps followed by field mapping of the occurrence of native sedges and standing water, taking into account drainage lines and damp ground (particularly the distribution of *Ranunculus* sp and *Rumex* sp). Those parts of the Wetland occurring on upper slopes are likely to have been taller shrub swamps rather than low-growing sedge swamps.

Some of the Natural Area is cleared paddock at present, but is being revegetated in consultation with the local Aboriginal community.

The whole reserve has been categorised as an **Area of Cultural Significance**, in line with the reserve being part of the “**The Gully**” **Upper Kedumba River Valley Aboriginal Place**.

| Category | Core Objectives |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Natural Area (bushland) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat, flora and fauna and other ecological values of the land. - Protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land. - Promote management in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and implement measures directed to minimizing or mitigating any disturbance caused by human intrusion. - Restore degraded bushland. - Protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores. - Retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term. - Protect bushland as a natural stabilizer of the soil surface. |
| Natural Area (Creekline/ Watercourse) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Manage watercourse so as to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the instream environment particularly in relation to water quality and water flows. - Manage watercourse so as to protect the riparian environment, particularly in relation to riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability. - Restore degraded watercourses. - Promote community education and community access to and use of the watercourse, without compromising the other core objectives of the category. |
| Natural Area (Wetlands) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protect the biodiversity and ecological values of wetlands with particular reference to their hydrological environment (including water quality and water flow), and to flora, fauna and habitat values of the wetlands. - Restore and regenerate degraded wetlands. - Facilitate community education in relation to wetlands and their use by the community, without compromising the ecological values of the wetlands. |
| Area of Cultural Significance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Retain and enhance the cultural significance of the area (namely its Aboriginal, aesthetic, archaeological, historical, technical, research, or social significance) for past, present and future generations by the active use of conservative methods. <p>Those conservation methods may include any or all of the following methods:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the continuous protective care and maintenance of the physical material of the land or of the context and setting of the area of cultural significance, (b) the restoration of the land, that is, the returning of the existing physical material of the land to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material, (c) the reconstruction of the land, that is, the returning of the land as nearly as possible to a known earlier state, (d) the adaptive reuse of the land, that is, the enhancement or reinforcement of the cultural significance of the land by the introduction of sympathetic alterations or additions to allow compatible uses (that is, uses that involve no changes to the cultural significance of the physical material of the area, or uses that involve changes that are substantially reversible or changes that require a minimum impact), (e) the preservation of the land, that is, the maintenance of the physical material of the land in its |

| Category | Core Objectives |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | <p>existing state and the retardation of deterioration of the land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reference in subsection (2) to land includes a reference to any buildings erected on the land. |

6.3 Management Policies

The management approach and general management policies for the Upper Kedumba Valley are outlined in Section 4. These all apply to McRaes Paddock.

Two key points are re-iterated here:

- A key management policy is **Consult the Aboriginal community prior to any digging, development, or use for which no direction is provided in this plan of management** (see appendix D).
- An archaeological study is expected to be complete in June 2005 and will provide additional management direction, this should be read in conjunction with this Plan of Management.

6.4 Masterplan

The corridor masterplan (see section 4.8) provides for the conceptual planning of any proposed works. Detailed plans will be developed after the PoM is adopted through a process that will include:

- Archaeological survey and conservation management planning;
- Detailed flora and fauna assessment;
- Consultation with Aboriginal community (see appendix D); and
- Consultation with the broader community.

The plan focuses on natural area protection and restoration, along with action to enhance public profile and passive recreational opportunities.

The summary following describes the design features and masterplanning principles to be considered in development plans.

Natural Environment / Access

1. Path Network

Following confirmation of archaeological and environmental site conditions / issues, the proposed formalisation and improvement of path routes through the site should occur to reduce environmental impacts on the site by:

- reducing erosion caused by an informal pathway without hard wearing path surface;
- guiding path users away from environmentally / culturally sensitive sites; and
- providing access to environmentally sensitive areas via elevated boardwalk

The formalised path system would provide an off road path connection between Frank Walford Park and the Blue Mountains National Park via McRae's Paddock and Katoomba Falls Reserve, and cater to through site access needs by surrounding residents by providing practical east west links through the site.

All paths should be paved in a permeable surface. The north south link may justify further improvements with an asphalt surface if it is warranted by a high level of use.

2. Path Rationalisation

Close and revegetate some existing trails, moving them further upslope away from the sensitive damp soil or where their alignment is considered unsuitable due to environmental impact or proximity to an Aboriginal heritage site. Provide additional links to connect with residential neighbours and to provide access to suitable points along the creekline.

3. Boardwalks

Elevated boardwalks are proposed to provide equal accessible (DDA compliant links) through environmentally sensitive areas.

4. Stormwater treatment points

Subject to approval in a subsequent Stormwater Management Plan, stormwater treatment points are proposed to be constructed at major outfalls where stormwater enters the site and could provide a range of benefits to the natural system.

A water detention role during periods of high rainfall would allow the stored water to be discharged into the stormwater system at a more natural rate. The water released could be partially filtered by Macrophyte plants and discharged into the subsoil system (dependant on soil characteristics – not suitable on unstable filled land).

5. Stream Restoration

Stream areas in the Upper Kedumba Creek are typically prone to weed invasion and bank scouring. Proposed works to these areas should improve the natural system through weed removal and regeneration / revegetation of the stream banks and surrounding areas. Proposed path network is to define extent of maintained grass areas to prevent impacts on natural vegetative buffer along creek line.

6. Hindman Street

Re-establish natural drainage sedge land adjoining Hindman Street with required stormwater controls to dissipate water at the edge of the road.

7. Natural Areas

Existing forest and swamp areas should be conserved and improved in physical extent and diversity of species through strategies to mitigate environmental impacts such as erosion, and weed infestation and encourage both natural regeneration and staged revegetation.

Degraded and cleared areas should be targeted for full strata revegetation / regeneration aimed at returning the area to a natural ecological community.

8. Road Turnarounds

Proposed road turnarounds to Peckmans Road would define the extent of public roadway and therefore reduce the impact of vehicles on natural areas.

The road turnarounds could potentially incorporate stormwater detention principles to manage stormwater runoff by controlling the rate of water discharge during peak rain periods.

9. Unformed Road Reserves

The incorporation of unformed road reserves (i.e. Lomond Street, part of Farnell Road and part of Waratah Street) to park area would increase usable park space to make linking trail connections with Katoomba Town Centre, nearby residential areas and park corridor possible.

Heritage

10. Archaeological Survey

An Archaeological survey should be undertaken of the site prior to any proposed works. The survey should be undertaken by an Archaeologist who is sensitive to Aboriginal issues and able to work closely with the local Aboriginal community.

11. Interpretive Elements

Interpretive elements to be incorporated into McRae's Paddock. These should be a result of an Interpretive Strategy prepared to provide a framework for the presentation of the natural and cultural heritage of the Valley. The study should take into account the heritage of the area and prepare a coordinated means of conveying these values to the public. Sites and themes for public artwork should also be covered in the study.

12. Interpretive / Rest Points

Potential to provide rest points and educational areas by incorporation of seating and interpretive information.

General

13. Link to CBD

The potential direct route to the CBD makes Waratah Street the most suitable connection between the Valley Corridor and Katoomba Town Centre.

Additional signage and lane marking would be required to notify residents and visitors that this is the main pedestrian and cycle link.

6.5 Action plan, performance targets and performance assessment

The action plans and performance targets and performance assessment for this plan of management are linked with those of the other Plans of Management within the Upper Kedumba Valley. They are therefore all presented together in Section 8.

7 Plan of Management

Katoomba Falls Reserve Cascades Section

(Selby Street Reserve)

Section seven contains the plan of management for Katoomba Falls Reserve Cascades Section, referred to in this document as Selby Street Reserve. It contains information on the existing and proposed uses of the park, the categories for management and their objectives, management policies relating specifically to this reserve. The plan should be read in conjunction with the management policies for the whole valley corridor presented in Section 4.

7.1 Reserve at a Glance

The following table provides a summary of Katoomba Falls Reserve – Cascade Section, which is also referred to as Selby Street Reserve. The table shows the existing and proposed uses and condition of facilities.

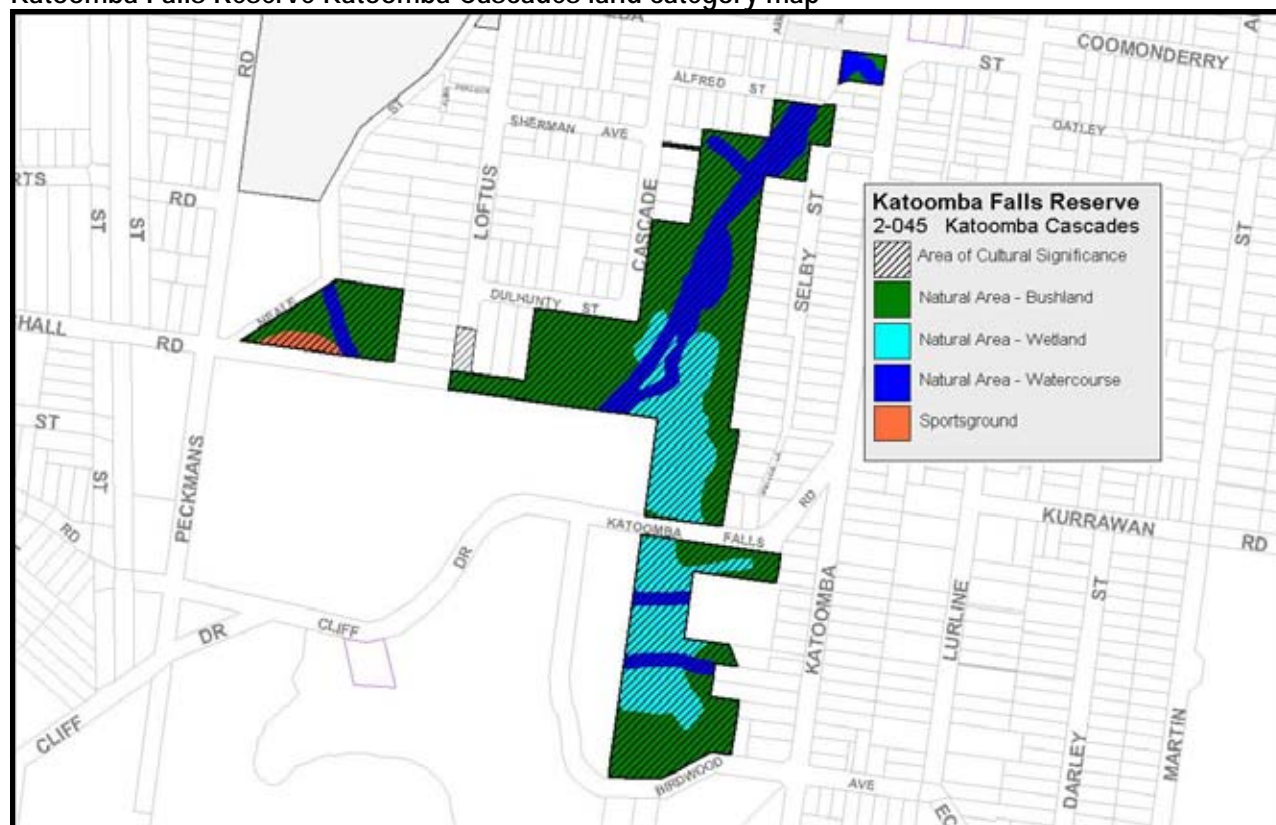
The categorisation of Selby Street Reserve is shown in the following map. The core objectives for these categories are set by the Local Government Act and are listed in table overleaf.

Land to which this plan of management applies

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Reserve Name | Katoomba Falls Reserve (Katoomba Cascades section) | | |
| Name Status | Official Name - GNB assigned | | |
| Also referred to as | Selby Street Lands / Selby Street Reserve / Cascade Street Reserve | | |
| Reserve Number | 2-045 | | |
| Address | Address | Parcel | Hectares |
| | 233A Katoomba Street, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Part Lot 3 DP 7635 | 0.1421 |
| | 3 Selby Street, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Lot 9 DP 7635 | 0.2595 |
| | 5 Selby Street, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Lot 24 DP 2182 | 0.0995 |
| | | Lot 23 DP 2182 | 0.0729 |
| | 94 Cascade Street, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Lot 35 DP 701965 | 0.7137 |
| | 104 – 114 Cascade Street, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Lot 95 DP 673 | 1.1037 |
| | Note: Crown Land This lot is Crown Land and is not covered by this plan of management. It is included because it links the Community Lands and has been categorised for the sake of consistent management. | | |
| | 17-23 Katoomba Falls Road, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Lot 97 DP 673 | 1.1358 |
| | | Lot 1 DP 131798 | 0.3386 |
| | | Lot 1 DP 972480 | 0.3102 |
| | 2 Dulhunty Street, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Lot 10 DP 2212 | 0.2805 |
| | | Lot 9 DP 2212 | 0.2757 |
| | | Part Lot 8 DP 2212 | 0.0706 |
| | | Lot 1 DP 724921 | 0.0458 |
| | 8 Katoomba Falls Road, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Lot 6 DP 7887 | 0.0926 |
| | 10 Katoomba Falls Road, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Lot 7 DP 7887 | 0.1738 |
| | 14-20 Katoomba Falls Road, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Lot 8 DP 7887 | 0.1799 |
| | | Lot 1B DP 416103 | 0.4117 |
| | | Lot 6B DP 416103 | 0.1262 |
| | | Lot 61 DP 582938 | 0.1153 |
| | 10 Birdwood Avenue, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Lot 4 DP 520070 | 1.0325 |
| | 12 Birdwood Avenue, Katoomba NSW 2780 | Lot 1 DP 659835 | 0.1862 |
| | | Lot 5 DP 347417 | 0.1084 |
| Owner | Blue Mountains City Council (Manager: Blue Mountains City Council) | | |
| Classification | Community Land | | |
| Categorisation | Area of Cultural Significance | 7.86 ha | 98% |
| | Natural Area | 8.01 ha | 100% |
| | Bushland | 4.27 ha | 53% |
| | Wetland | 2.16 ha | 27% |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| | | Watercourse | 1.58 ha | 20% |
| Area | 8.01 hectares | | | |
| Zoning | Environmental Protection – Open Space (DLEP 2002) | | 7.84 ha | 98% |
| | Recreation - Open Space (DLEP 2002) | | 0.17 ha | 2% |
| The Plan of Management also applies to the following lands: | | | | |
| Road Reserves | Unformed section of Warialda Street zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | | | 0.22 ha |
| | Unformed section of Cascade Street zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | | | 0.19 ha |
| | Unformed section of Acland Road zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | | | 0.29 ha |
| | Unformed section of Loftus Street zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | | | 0.09 ha |
| | Closed section of Acland Road zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | | | 0.12 ha |
| | Unformed Craig-Lea Avenue zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | | | 0.20 ha |
| Drainage Reserves | 15A Alfred Street, zoned EP-OS (DLEP 2002) | | | 0.03 ha |
| Uses | Current Uses | | Proposed Uses | |
| | Visual amenity as a natural area Habitat and threatened species management Urban run-off amelioration | | All current passive recreational uses Interpretation of site values Walking access | |
| Leases/licenses | Leases and licenses for the purposes of management and/or maintenance of the site, or any element of the site in accordance with this plan are permissible. Licenses for the Department of Environment and Conservation to conduct Ranger guided tours are permissible. | | | |
| Caveats/Easements | N/A Easements are permissible for public services but not for private purposes. | | | |
| Conditions of Park | Satisfactory for general recreational use. Environmental restoration works required include weed management, regeneration and revegetation. | | | |
| Council Maintenance | Weed removal, planting and storm mitigation works – every few months by community volunteers led by a Council Bushcare Officer Noxious weeds sprayed – every 1 – 2 years by Noxious Weeds Team Manual weeding – by Environmental Weeds Team | | | |
| Assets | N/A | | | |
| Conditions of Buildings | N/A | | | |

Katoomba Falls Reserve Katoomba Cascades land category map



| Category | Core Objectives |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Natural Area (bushland) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure the ongoing ecological viability of the land by protecting the ecological biodiversity and habitat, flora and fauna and other ecological values of the land. - Protect the aesthetic, heritage, recreational, educational and scientific values of the land. - Promote management in a manner that protects and enhances the values and quality of the land and facilitates public enjoyment of the land, and implement measures directed to minimizing or mitigating any disturbance caused by human intrusion. - Restore degraded bushland. - Protect existing landforms such as natural drainage lines, watercourses and foreshores. - Retain bushland in parcels of a size and configuration that will enable the existing plant and animal communities to survive in the long term. - Protect bushland as a natural stabilizer of the soil surface. |
| Natural Area (Creekline/ Watercourse) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Manage watercourse so as to protect the biodiversity and ecological values of the instream environment particularly in relation to water quality and water flows. - Manage watercourse so as to protect the riparian environment, particularly in relation to riparian vegetation and habitats and bank stability. - Restore degraded watercourses. - Promote community education and community access to and use of the watercourse, without compromising the other core objectives of the category. |
| Area of Cultural Significance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Retain and enhance the cultural significance of the area (namely its Aboriginal, aesthetic, archaeological, historical, technical, research, or social significance) for past, present and future generations by the active use of conservative methods. |

7.2 Management policies

The management approach and general management policies for the Upper Kedumba Valley are outlined in Section 4. The general policies all apply to Selby Street Reserve, there are no site specific management policies.

Two key points are re-iterated here:

- A key management policy is **Consult the Aboriginal community prior to any digging, development, or use for which no direction is provided in this plan of management** (see appendix D).
- An archaeological study is expected to be complete in June 2005 and will provide additional management direction, this should be read in conjunction with this Plan of Management.

7.3 Masterplan

The masterplan provides for the conceptual planning of proposed works which must be confirmed and detailed as necessary following archaeological survey, conservation management planning, and detailed flora and fauna assessment / planning. The masterplan for Selby Street Reserve is shown as part of the overall masterplan for the Upper Kedumba Valley shown at the end of Section 5. The plan focuses on natural area protection and restoration, along with action to enhance public profile and passive recreational opportunities.

Masterplanning proposals for Selby Street Reserve are indicated on the Corridor Masterplan and include:

Stormwater Management Replace grass pollutant trap with device to inhibit waste and sediment movement with adequate maintenance access provision.

Stream Restoration Stabilise incised banks and revegetate.

Pedestrian Access Investigate provision of appropriate level of pedestrian access compatible with environmental management objectives. Consider an entry point along Selby Street with access through to the picnic area north of Katoomba Falls road, and a connection across the creek from the picnic area to the existing path that follows the unformed portion of Cascade Street.

Interpretive Strategy Selby Street Reserve should be considered for placement of interpretive material in the overall interpretive strategy.

7.4 Action plan, performance targets and performance assessment

The action plans and performance targets and performance assessment for this plan of management are linked with those of the other Plans of Management within the Upper Kedumba Valley. They are therefore all presented together in Section 8.

8 Action and Implementation

Whilst the preceding management and masterplanning sections describe the full range of required actions, existing resources will dictate the program over which these can be achieved. This section describes the recommended priority of required actions and lists the detailed actions required for implementation.

8.1 Staging

The Preliminary proposals as described in the Concept Masterplan comprise a range of potential improvements with varying community and environmental priority. The following works action plan assigns priority to the proposals based on those, which are of most community benefit, with lower priority items to be implemented as budgetary and funding opportunities allow. All works will be preceded by the Aboriginal Archaeological Survey (which includes heritage management plans) and consultation with relevant stakeholders. The available resources will affect the timing of all actions. See Section 8.3 Funding.

8.2 Works Action Plan

The Works Action Plan overleaf identifies tasks and areas of work that need to be addressed in order to implement the park enhancement works and management requirements.

It is essential that the Works Action Plans involve the active participation of all relevant departments of Blue Mountains City Council and community groups.

The Works Action Plans are in the form of a schedule that:

- Establishes recommended priorities for worked items;
- Describes the detailed activities required including pre-construction elements for capital works items;
- Describes the nature of actions required (capital works, policy review, management action, liaison action); and
- Recommends possible sources of funding for the works.

The assessment of performance in all areas of government operations is a fundamental component of Council Corporate Strategies. For the Upper Kedumba Valley it is important that regular reviews are carried out to ensure that:

- Capital works construction items meet design and quality objectives;
- Stakeholders are meeting individual commitments for operational, management, and maintenance responsibilities;
- Recurrent maintenance is of an acceptable standard and regularity; and
- Park facilities are progressively evolving to meet the needs of local and regional recreational users.

Increasingly, park managers are giving attention not just to quantitative measures of performance but also to qualitative measures, based on the satisfaction derived from the public, their use of the park and the short term and the long term benefits they accrue from the park experience. The performance indicators identified in this chapter are of no practical value unless data is available to measure them. This is relatively straightforward in the case of some indicators such as incoming revenue, expenditure and comments from users. However, in a number of other areas such as total use figures and qualitative measures such as levels of satisfaction and benefits, appropriate data is not available. It is recommended that as part of Blue Mountains City Council's data base, information is collated from requests for action, and from ongoing use surveys (in particular of active recreation use) which may take the form of resident questionnaires on an annual basis across the district area, if funding is available.

For all actions involving works on ground a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) will be required along with consultation with the Local Community and Gully Aboriginal Place Management Committee. The indicative costs indicate that the total work suggested is beyond the resources available in Council's annual capital works program. Many actions will have to be adapted to

limited resources or delayed until funding is available. A table of possible grants or funding bodies follows the action plan table.

8.2 Action Table

| No. | Item | Priority | Indicative Cost Estimate | Action Type | Activities Required | Performance criteria | Monitoring technique | Evaluation |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Archaeological Survey | High | \$50,000.00 | Investigation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write brief, appoint Archaeologist that is sensitive to Aboriginal values to undertake Archaeological Survey for the Valley in close liaison with the local Aboriginal community • survey to include location of pre and post contact heritage sites in the Valley including Gully residents homes and Norths Siding | Archaeological values known and documented | Steering Committee minutes | Archaeological values known and documented |
| 2 | Heritage Management Plan; (Can be packaged with the archaeological survey) | High | \$25,000.00 | Policy Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake Heritage Study for the Valley in close liaison with the local Aboriginal community • Heritage Study should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – provide management recommendations for pre contact Aboriginal heritage sites, and post contact heritage including Gully residents homes and Norths Siding – determine Aboriginal sites which are considered sensitive and not to be made known to the general public – the Valley be placed on the Register of the National Estate | Values are recognised and addressed in management | Steering Committee minutes | Management guidelines for Aboriginal values available |
| 3 | Bush Regeneration Plan | High | \$20,000.00 | Investigation / Planning & Design | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prepare a Bush Regeneration Plan for the Upper Kedumba Valley Precinct including site assessment, identification of problem areas, typical treatments for revegetation / regeneration and preparation of a Management Plan • apply for government grant to supplement cost of revegetation program • update South Katoomba Vegetation Management Plan | Able to plan future works | Appropriate work is ongoing | Priorities for regeneration known and documented |
| 4 | Aboriginal employment | High | | Policy Management | Develop clause for inclusion in all tenders for work in the Gully that encourages employment of Aboriginal people. | Standard clause available and in use | HR records | Aboriginal people employed in Gully projects |
| 5 | Gully Awareness | High | | Policy Management | Council to program talks regarding the Aboriginal significance of the Gully for all staff likely to work on the site. | Briefing program available and in use | Records of Briefing program being run | No problems arise due to Council staff ignorance of Gully values |
| 6 | Stormwater Management Plan | High | N/A | Investigation / Planning & Design | •undertake Stormwater Management Plan of Upper Kedumba Valley Precinct as outlined in section 4.4 | Actions being generated from stormwater plan | Funding bids occurring for planned works | Priorities for storm water management known and documented |

8.2 Action Table continued

| No. | Item | Priority | Indicative Cost Estimate | Action Type | Activities Required | Performance criteria | Monitoring technique | Evaluation |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7 | National estate registration | High | | Planning / Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare nomination for the registering "The Gully" UKRV Aboriginal Place on the National Estate • Submit and follow through | Nomination in progress | Nomination prepared | The Gully registered on the National Estate |
| 8 | Frank Walford Park – Bush Regeneration | High | \$250,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write brief, appoint contractor to carry out bush regeneration works as detailed in proposed Bush Regeneration Plan (note bush regeneration has been undertaken in some areas by "A & S Bushcare Services" and Katoomba Falls Bushcare Group with some funding from Blue Mountains Urban Runoff Control Program) | Degree of weed cover | Bush regeneration occurring | Extent and degree of weed infestation reduced |
| 9 | Frank Walford Park – Name Change | High | N/A | Planning / Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare submission for the changing of park name from Frank Walford Park to the Gully • Submit and follow through | Name changed to one acceptable to the community | Council report on name change prepared Submission to GNB | New official name for Walford Park |
| 10 | Selby Street Reserve – Bush Regeneration | Low | \$40,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write brief, appoint contractor to carry out bush regeneration works as detailed in proposed Bush Regeneration Plan | Degree of weed cover | Bush regeneration occurring | Extent and degree of weed infestation reduced |
| 11 | McRaes Paddock – Trail Network Stg 1 (north-south path and east-west connections in northern part of park) | Medium | \$210,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake detailed design works for path rationalisation, design should be subject to findings from Archaeological Survey and Heritage Management Plan • rezone road reserves for Lomond St, and parts of Farnell St, and Waratah St and incorporate them as parkland • confirm path alignment on site • undertake construction works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – crushed sandstone path construction including steps – boardwalk / bridge – staircase – bush revegetation along path edge – interpretive signage along path's – maintained grass area | Degree of erosion on tracks Amount of usage | Works underway or complete | North south link provided No inappropriate paths through environmentally or culturally sensitive sites Way finding signage adequate Identifiable entry points |
| 12 | McRaes Paddock – Stormwater Stg1 | Medium | Artificial Wetland \$150,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write brief, appoint consultant to undertake detailed design works (refer Stormwater Management Plan) • undertake construction works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – stream restoration (note stream restoration works undertaken by "The Bush Doctor" under grant from Sydney Catchment Authority) – artificial wetland adjacent to Hindman St | Water quality Degree of impact downstream | Stream watch results Degree of visible erosion and sedimentation | Stormwater flow and quality entering Gully is addressed Creeks restored appropriately |

8.2 Action Table continued

| No. | Item | Priority | Indicative Cost Estimate | Action Type | Activities Required | Performance criteria | Monitoring technique | Evaluation |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 13 | McRaes Paddock – Bush Regeneration | Medium | \$85,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • carry out bush regeneration works as detailed in proposed Bush Regeneration Plan (note bush regeneration has been undertaken in some areas of McRaes Paddock by Katoomba Falls Bushcare Group and Kedumba Creek Bushcare Group with some funding from Sydney Catchment Authority) | Degree of continuous native vegetation cover | Bush regeneration occurring | Provision of continuous native vegetation |
| 14 | Interpretive Strategy | Medium | Strategy \$15,000.00 Signage \$80,000.00 | Planning & Design | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake Interpretive Strategy for the Gulley and the Upper Kedumba River Valley Corridor • Interpretive Consultant to undertake consultation with former Gully residents, Aboriginal stakeholder groups (including the Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation) and other local stakeholder groups • Interpretive Strategy output to include exhibitions for proposed Heritage Centre, interpretive signage panels for distribution through the corridor and develop coordinated community information program on environmental impacts including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – information leaflets – seminars – hotline for dumping reporting | Level of community awareness | Consultation has occurred Strategy available | Cultural values are recognised and in interpretive elements |
| 15 | Frank Walford Park – Path Network Stg1 | Medium | \$270,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake detailed design works subject to findings from Archaeological Survey and Heritage Management Plan • investigate rezoning road reserves for Red Hill St, Torrens St, Hill St, Gunnedah St, Cardiff St, Boomerang St and parts of Buti St, Walget St, and Burrawang St and incorporate them as parkland. • confirm path alignment on site • undertake construction works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – path construction – boardwalk / bridge – bush revegetation along path edge – interpretive signage along path's and interpretive installations (refer item 4.0) | Degree of erosion on tracks Amount of usage | Works underway or complete | Town centre link provided No inappropriate paths through environmentally or culturally sensitive sites |
| 16 | Frank Walford Park – Gathering Clearings | Medium | \$15,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake detailed design works, design should be subject to findings from Archaeological Survey and Heritage Management Plan • confirm sites with Aboriginal stakeholders • undertake joint construction works with Aboriginal stakeholders and NSW National Parks and Wildlife | | Feed back from Aboriginal Community | Gathering clearings available |
| 17 | Frank Walford Park – Stormwater 1 (Stream Restoration) | Medium | \$100,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write brief, appoint consultant to undertake detailed design works (refer Stormwater Management Plan) • undertake stream restoration works (note Katoomba Falls Bushcare Group have undertaken some stream restoration works adjacent to the track start / finish line) | Water quality | Stream watch results Degree of visible erosion and sedimentation | Stormwater flow and quality entering Gully is addressed Creeks restored appropriately |

8.2 Action Table continued

| No. | Item | Priority | Indicative Cost Estimate | Action Type | Activities Required | Performance criteria | Monitoring technique | Evaluation |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 18 | Frank Walford Park – Derelict Buildings | Medium | \$7,500.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake heritage and structural assessment of existing amenities blocks and cottage • undertake demolition works subject to findings of assessment • undertake remediation of demolished area's including revegetation | Number of derelict buildings on site | Heritage report on buildings Demolition carried out Remediation carried out | No derelict buildings on site |
| 19 | Frank Walford Park – Catalina Park Stg1 (car park) | Medium | \$310,000.00 | Planning & Design / Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake detailed design works for Catalina Park landscape surrounds incorporating staged landscape works • undertake traffic study to determine feasibility of closure of car park to through traffic from Warriga St and Pine St and closure of part of the streets (refer Masterplan) • undertake demolition works of existing car park and roadway over creek • undertake construction works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – car park – sealed pathway – local stream restoration – regrading of park area – grassing, planting and furniture to park area | Works progressing with community support | Minutes of consultation meetings Funding bids | Frank Walford park has more recreation area and less car dominated areas |
| 20 | Frank Walford Park – Catalina Park Stg3 (lake edge) | Medium | \$275,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake proposed landscape construction works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – lake edge pathway – timber deck – promenade area – macrophyte planting | Level of use | User feedback | Catalina Lake has a user friendly edge with water plants |
| 21 | Frank Walford Park – Catalina Park Stg4 (Park / Sports & Aquatic Centre interface) | Medium | \$145,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demolish Sports and Aquatic centre outdoor change rooms and existing boundary fence • undertake earth works to regrade area between pool and lake • undertake construction works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – asphalt pathways – wall and seating areas – improved fence type along proposed re-alignment • undertake softworks including tree and shrub planting and grassing | Level of use | User feedback | Improved Park / Sports & Aquatic Centre interface |
| 22 | Frank Walford Park – Catalina Park Stg5 (District Playspace Facility) | Medium | \$50,000.00– \$100,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake construction works including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – custom built equal access interpretive playground – softfall material | Level of use | Design undertaken Funding being sought | Play equipment available |

8.2 Action Table continued

| No. | Item | Priority | Indicative Cost Estimate | Action Type | Activities Required | Performance criteria | Monitoring technique | Evaluation |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 23 | Katoomba Falls Reserve | Medium | \$175,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write brief, appoint consultant to undertake detailed design works • confirm path alignment on site • undertake construction works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – perimeter pathway – bridge link between existing bush trail and grass / picnic area – bridge over drainage swale – bush revegetation along path edge – interpretive signage along path's (refer item 4.0) – corridor path connections between creek and oval (including bridge over drainage line adjacent to oval) – Formalisation of car park with sealed surface | Crown land – outside scope of Plan of Management | | |
| 24 | Frank Walford Park – Path Network Stg2 (Murri St and Kulgoa St) | Medium | \$45,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake investigation and detailed design works subject to findings from Archaeological Survey and Heritage Management Plan • confirm path alignment on site • undertake construction works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – path construction including steps – bush revegetation along path edge – interpretive signage along path's (refer item 4.0) | Degree of erosion on tracks Level of usage | Direction of works determined Works underway or complete | Connection between Murri Street and Park available |
| 25 | Selby Street Reserve – Stream Restoration | Medium | \$100,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write brief, appoint consultant to undertake detailed design works | Water quality | Stream watch results Degree of visible erosion and sedimentation | Natural creekline, with normal levels of erosion |
| 26 | McRaes Paddock – Stormwater Stg2 | Low | \$400,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write brief, appoint consultant to undertake detailed design works (refer Stormwater Management Plan) • undertake construction works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – sealed road surface to Peckmans Road South – turning circle to Peckmans Road South – artificial wetland (subject to stormwater management plan) – path link / steps to Peckmans Rd north – boardwalk including interpretive / rest area | Water quality | Stream watch results Degree of visible erosion and sedimentation | Stormwater flow and quality entering Gully is addressed |
| 27 | Frank Walford Park – Removal of Track Section | Low | \$75,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • write brief, appoint consultant to undertake detailed design works • undertake construction works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – remove fencing to starting grid zone – regrade banks – break track – develop and implement interpretive design | Works progressing with community support | Minutes of consultation meetings Funding bids | Removal of track section and barriers |

8.2 Action Table continued

| No. | Item | Priority | Indicative Cost Estimate | Action Type | Activities Required | Performance criteria | Monitoring technique | Evaluation |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 28 | Frank Walford Park – Stormwater 2 (Artificial Wetlands) | Low | \$650,000.00 (4 wetlands) | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake detailed design works (refer Stormwater Management Plan) • undertake construction of artificial wetlands (4No) | Water quality | Stream watch results Degree of visible erosion and sedimentation | Stormwater flow and quality entering Gully is addressed |
| 29 | Frank Walford Park – Catalina Park Stg2 (road closure) | Low | \$110,000.00 | Planning & Design / Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate - demolish Warriga Street / Pine Street loop • rezone road reserves and incorporate them as parkland • confirm path alignment on site • undertake construction works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – path construction – boardwalk – bush revegetation along path edge – interpretive signage along path's (refer item 4.0) | Works progressing with community support | Minutes of consultation meetings Funding bids | Increased natural area |
| 30 | Frank Walford Park – Catalina Park Stg4 (Park / Sports & Aquatic Centre interface ii.) | Low | \$75,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demolish disabled parking spaces (disabled parking spaces are to be relocated in existing car park) • undertake construction for paved entry area and signage • undertake softworks including tree and shrub planting and grassing | Works progressing with community support | Minutes of consultation meetings Funding bids | Improved Park / Sports & Aquatic Centre interface |
| 31 | Frank Walford Park – Catalina Park Stg6 (BBQ / Picnic Facilities) | Low | \$75,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake construction works including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – picnic shelter's (5No) – general park seats (5No) | Works progressing with community support | Minutes of consultation meetings Funding bids | Improved family picnic setting |
| 32 | Frank Walford Park – Heritage centre | Low | \$1,500,000.00 | Capital Works | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • undertake detailed design works, in close liaison with community stakeholder groups • undertake construction works including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – heritage centre – landscaped surrounds | Building potentially available. Management method identified | Minutes of meetings re establishment | Aboriginal run Heritage Centre in place |

8.3 Funding

The funding for works is not adopted as part of the Plan of Management process. Funding must be sought through Council's Capital Works Program and Maintenance budget in a separate process. The priority actions from the Plans of Management are assessed against other bids for Council's available funds. In addition to funds available from Council's capital works program and maintenance budgets, there are opportunities for grants and corporate sponsorship that could contribute to the completion of development works to the Upper Kedumba Valley.

The review at the bottom of the page, outlines applicable sources of external funding that should be pursued by both Council and the park's active stakeholders, to hasten the progress of park improvements. The most applicable sources of funding are listed in the following table, summarising these funding bodies and relevant application criteria.

| NAME OF GRANT | PURPOSE | ADMINISTRATING AGENCY | SCOPE AND LIMITS OF ASSISTANCE |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Public Reserves Management Fund Program – Local Parks And Reserves Public Reserves Management fund program – Showgrounds Assistance Scheme | Improvements to Crown Reserves | NSW Dept of Conservations and Land Management | Dollar for dollar funding but level of assistance is limited. |
| Job Skills | Over 21 year old trained labour for revegetation work | Dept of Employment, Education and Training | Labour to assist in documented revegetation work. Grant covers funding for a co-ordinator and approx. 20 trainee staff for 12 months. |
| Heritage 2001 | Funding for physical conservation works on heritage sites and structures | NSW Heritage Office | Additional funding for items being directly from State Treasury. Capital works/project specific funding only, with expectation that Council or other authority will manage and maintain. |
| Metropolitan Greenspace (DUAP) | Funding for development and enhancement of open space | Department of Urban Affairs and Planning | 1 million total per year – average funding \$50 – 100 000 dollar for dollar basis with Council |
| Urban Runoff Control Program | Stormwater control | Environmental Protection Authority | |
| Natural Heritage Trust | Environmental Works: - bushland management - creek line improvements | Natural Heritage Trust | |
| Threatened Species Network | | | |
| | | Department Tourism Aboriginal Liaison Officer | |
| | | NSW Ministry for the Arts | |
| | | Australia Council for the Arts | |
| | | ATSIC | |
| | | Reconciliation NSW | |

9 Public Exhibition

This section describes the alterations that were made to the draft Plan of Managements as outcomes of the public exhibition periods and prior to its adoption by Council.

The table below describes the changes made to the draft document prior to its adoption in 2003. The second table describes the changes made to the document after the McRae's Paddock component was revised and exhibited, and adopted in 2004.

Changes to the Draft Plan of Management between exhibition and adoption

| Location in document | Before | After |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| New Preamble | No preamble | Preamble as provided by the Management advisory Group. Too long to reproduce here |
| Follows 1.3 in the introduction | | 1.4 Relationship with other documents This document is subject to the requirements of all planning instruments - most notably the Draft Local Environmental Plan. This document provides additional detail to a portion of the study area of the Katoomba Falls Creek Valley Study. This document, when adopted, supersedes the Plan of Management for Frank Walford Park prepared by Blue Mountains City Council Strategic Planning Group in 1998. |
| 2.1 the Resource, context Frank Walford Park | Under Blue Mountains City Councils Local Environmental Plan 1991, the park is zoned Recreation, except the North western boundary of steep bushland which is zoned Environmental Protection | Under Blue Mountains City Councils Draft Local Environment Plan 2002, the parkland and aquatic centre are zoned Recreation Open Space and the remaining bushland areas are zoned Environmental Protection Open Space. |
| 2.1 the Resource, context McRaes Paddock | The open space area is 14 hectares and is zoned Recreation Existing and Local Open Space Reservation. | The open space area is 14 hectares and is zoned Environmental Protection Open Space. |
| 2.1 the Resource, context Selby street Reserve | Its total area is 8 hectares and is zoned Recreation Existing, Recreation Proposed and Local Open Space Reservation. | Its total area is 8 hectares and is zoned Environment Protection Open Space. |
| 2.2 Heritage | According to Gundungurra oral tradition, the Upper Kedumba Valley was a pre-contact summer camp site and would have been well known to many aboriginal people from various nations who travelled along the major trading route (now the Great Western Highway) which ran directly along the top of the northern edge of the natural amphitheatre that forms the headwaters of the Katoomba Falls Creek. (Johnson and Colless 2002) | According to Gundungurra oral tradition, the Upper Kedumba Valley was a pre-contact summer camp site and would have been well known to many aboriginal people from various nations who travelled along the major trading route (now the Great Western Highway) which ran directly along the top of the northern edge of the natural amphitheatre that forms the headwaters of the Katoomba Falls Creek. (Johnson and Colless 2002). Darug oral tradition also records the site as a place of residence for the Darug people. |
| 4.2 Management Policies - Heritage | The lack of data and direction for management of the heritage components requires that any works be preceded by investigations with management direction. | The lack of data and direction for management for the heritage components requires that any works be preceded by archaeological investigations resulting in management direction. Any archaeological survey must seek both oral and physical evidence. |
| 4.2 Management policies - Heritage | | Encourage Aboriginal employment for projects within the gully |

| Location in document | Before | After |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| additional policy | | |
| 4.5 Management Policies - recreation and access | Raise public profile as recreational facility | Raise public profile |
| 4.7 Management Policies – Management and Maintenance | Use slashed fire breaks and planned burns to reduce fire hazards and enhance ecological integrity | Develop annual fire mitigation programs as per Council's <i>Bush Fire Risk Management Plan</i> for the community lands within Upper Kedumba Valley and provide opportunity for the management group to comment on the plans. |
| 4.7 Management Policies – Management and Maintenance | – Provide appropriate opportunities for leases / licences to contribute to park maintenance and interpretation | Provide appropriate opportunities for leases and licences and rights of way to contribute to park management and or park interpretation, however no lease of licence shall be finalised without opportunity for public comment. Provide opportunities for leases, licences and rights of way to formalise the current existing use rights of the Fire Service and private residences. |
| Masterplanning principles – 4.8 and Frank Walford 5.4 Masterplan | The masterplan provides for the conceptual planning of proposed works which must be confirmed and detailed as necessary following archaeological survey, conservation management planning, and detailed flora and fauna assessment / planning. | The masterplan provides for the conceptual planning of proposed works. Detailed designs will be developed through a process which will include; *archaeological survey and conservation management *detailed flora and fauna assessment / planning *consultation with the Aboriginal community *consultation with the broader community. |
| 5.4 Frank Walford Park Masterplan | Works undertaken should generally provide 1.5m wide pedestrian trails and 2.5m wide cycle / maintenance paths. | Works undertaken should generally provide 1.5m wide pedestrian and cycle trails and minimum width maintenance access. |
| 5.4 Frank Walford Reserve Masterplan, Natural areas, road closures – new point | | Retain access to Catalina lake for fire service vehicles to obtain water. |
| 6.4 McRaes Paddock masterplan | A proposed maintained grassed space would provide for passive recreational use by local residents. | A proposed maintained grassed space of not more than 2000 square metres would provided for passive recreational use by local residents. |
| 6.2 McRaes Paddock Categorisation Additional objective for the categorisation of park | | To comply with the requirements of its zoning as Environmental Protection - Open Space Zone, in particular (c) to restrict development on land that is inappropriate by reason of physical characteristics or high bushfire hazard (d) to provide for nature based recreational opportunities that are compatible with the land's natural, cultural and aesthetic values and to foster an appreciation of those values |
| 8 Action Plan - High priority actions – additional action | | Develop clause for inclusion in all tenders for work in the Gully that encourages employment of Local Aboriginals. Human Resources to program talks regarding the Aboriginal Significance of the Gully for all staff likely to work on site. |
| 8 Action Plan | Interpretive Strategy – high priority | Interpretive Strategy – medium priority |

| Location in document | Before | After |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Appendix D | Management Committee Minutes | Removed |
| Appendix E | Community Workshop Minutes | Removed |
| Appendix F | Community workshop Flyers | Removed |
| Appendix G | Gully Aboriginal Place Management committee Minutes | Removed |
| Appendix H | Press articles | Removed |
| New Appendix D | | Aboriginal consultation |

The McRaes Paddock component of the Upper Kedumba River Valley Precinct Plans of Management was revised in 2004. The revision was primarily to remove an area categorised as parkland from the category map and the masterplan, and all associated actions and policies. Minor other changes were also made. Many were amendments to better, or more accurately, describe the resource and do not alter the management direction. The complete document has now been amended to incorporate the changes arising from the revised McRae's Plan of Management. The changes are outlined in the table following.

Changes to the PoMs since McRaes Paddock Plan of Management exhibition

| Section | Change |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| McRaes Category map | Parkland category removed |
| Masterplan | Maintained grassed area, with local passive recreation function, removed |
| 2.1 Map | Map of study area amended to show relationship with area of Aboriginal Place |
| 2.2 | Additional detail on the heritage of the Gully |
| 2.7 | Acknowledgement of Management Advisory Group and Bushcare Groups contribution to management of the Gully. |
| 5.3, 6.3, 7.3 | Re-iteration and strengthening of the policy to consult with Aboriginal people |
| Corridor category map | Parkland category removed from McRaes Paddock, Errors in boundary corrected |
| Frank Walford Park Category Map | Drainage line mapping errors corrected. |
| Place names | Names as per Council's data base used as well as the name in general use. |
| Action Plan | Tables simplified; monitoring and action tables combined. Amended priorities incorporated. |

10 Bibliography

Bell, F. and J. (1993),
Katoomba Falls Creek Valley Environmental Study: Report and Management Plan ('The Bell Report'),
Blue Mountains City Council.

Blue Mountains City Council (2001),
Area 2 Community Plan: Medlow Bath, Katoomba, Leura, Wentworth Falls.

Blue Mountains City Council (2001),
Area 2 Sport and Recreation Plan: Medlow Bath, Katoomba, Leura, Wentworth Falls.

Blue Mountains City Council (2000),
Draft South Katoomba Vegetation Management Plan
Blue Mountains City Council, December 2000

Connell Wagner Pty Ltd (1996),
Upper Kedumba River Draft Plan of Management,
Blue Mountains City Council.

Department of Land and Water Conservation and Manidis Roberts Consultants (1996),
Succeeding with Plans of Management
Department of Land and Water Conservation, Sydney

Douglas S. (2001),
Native vegetation mapping of Areas 1 to 5 in Blue Mountains Local Government Area, 2001
Consultant report to Blue Mountains City Council

Johnson, Dianne with Colless, Dawn (2002),
Report on the cultural significance of Upper Kedumba River Valley for declaration as an Aboriginal Place
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Strategic Planning Group (1998),
Plan of Management for the Frank Walford Park,
Blue Mountains City Council.

Rotary (1982),
Old Leura and Katoomba
Rotary Club of Katoomba

Smith, J. (1981),
What is Happening to the Blue Mountains?
Second Back Row Press, Katoomba, pp.4-17.

Appendix A

Background Information to Aboriginal Place Declaration



ABORIGINAL PLACE DECLARATIONS

What are Aboriginal Place declarations?

An Aboriginal Place is an area that the Minister for the Environment recognizes as being of special significance to Aboriginal culture. Under Section 84 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974* (NP & W Act) an Aboriginal Place may be declared on any land in NSW if, in the opinion of the Minister, the area *'is or was of special significance to Aboriginal culture'*. The declaration of an Aboriginal Place provides a formal means for the NSW State Government to recognize the significance of an area to Aboriginal culture, and to provide appropriate protection to ensure that the significance is not damaged or destroyed.

Aboriginal Place declarations are a way of formally recognizing the cultural attachment Aboriginal people attribute to land. Landholders throughout NSW acknowledge and respect Aboriginal people's attachment to particular areas. Aboriginal people and landholders throughout NSW are working collaboratively to protect places which are of significance to local Aboriginal people and which may be of educational value for current and future generations of Aboriginal and non Aboriginal people.

What type of Aboriginal places can an Aboriginal Place declaration protect?

The only requirement for a declaration is that the place is or was of special significance to Aboriginal culture. Such places may include:

- Land containing Aboriginal burials.
- Places that are identified by Aboriginal stories or celebrated by ceremony.
- Land which was once Aboriginal Reserve, Mission or other post-settlement living areas.
- Land, known from archival or historical records where important historical events took place, such as massacre sites.
- Areas which contain one or more Aboriginal 'relic' or a combination of cultural landscape features including culturally important plant and animal species.
- Archaeological sites where the importance of Aboriginal people requires special recognition and/or which are regarded by Aboriginal people as being of importance to Aboriginal culture.
- Land, buildings or places significant to Aboriginal Culture after 1788.

What protection does an Aboriginal place offer?

Under the *National Parks and wildlife Act*, the declaration of an Aboriginal Place affords that place the same protection as an Aboriginal relic. A 'relic' is defined by any deposit, object or material evidence, not being a handicraft made for sale, that relates to occupation by Aboriginal people in NSW both prior to and concurrent with the occupation of NSW by Europeans, this may include Aboriginal ancestral remains. Relics are accorded automatic protection under the *NP&W Act*. Many places of significance to Aboriginal culture do not fit under this definition and require other means of protection. This protection may be obtained through the declaration of an Aboriginal Place. Under Section 90 of the Act, an Aboriginal Place is provided the same protection as a relic and cannot be knowingly destroyed, defaced or damaged without the consent of the Director-General of the National parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS).

What is the process for the declaration of an Aboriginal Place?

The Minister may, acting alone or on the advise of the Director-General of the NPWS declare an area to be an Aboriginal Place. Anyone may recommend to the NPWS or the minister that an area be declared as an Aboriginal Place. Aboriginal Place Nomination forms are available from the NPWS.

After the nomination for an Aboriginal Place has been received, the NPWS co-ordinates an investigation into the significance of the nominated place to Aboriginal culture. This will involve specialist investigations (historical, anthropological, archaeological), extensive consultations with

the relevant Aboriginal people, the opportunity for landholders to review findings and provide comment, and, if required, an independent review process.

If the investigation shows that the place *is or was of significance to Aboriginal culture* and warrants declaration as an Aboriginal Place a submission is prepared for the Minister. The submission consists of a report documenting the claim for special significance, a summary of any contentious issues and a recommendation for the Minister to consider.

What is special significance?

The Minister must be of the opinion that the place *is or was of significance to Aboriginal culture*. The definition of what *is or was of special significance to Aboriginal culture* is most appropriately determined by Aboriginal people themselves. As the Minister must be satisfied of the significance of an area, sufficient supporting evidence must be presented before declaration can proceed.

In the decision as to whether to declare an Aboriginal Place the significance of the area must be carefully documented. The issue of evidence of significance becomes critical if an application is made for consent to destroy, deface or damage the area under the NP&W Act and/or if a landholder is trying to establish what sorts of activities or landuse are possible without requiring a consent. Boundary definition is also important in Aboriginal Place declarations because an area must be described in a gazettal notice.

What happens once an Aboriginal Place has been declared?

In most cases, the NPWS, in consultation with the relevant Aboriginal people, landholders and other interested parties, will facilitate the preparation of a management plan during the investigation of the 'Place'. This will set out future uses for the Aboriginal Place and how it will be managed. This plan will identify what sorts of activities can be conducted in the area without requiring a section 90 consent.

What if an Aboriginal Place has existing uses?

Nothing in the declaration of an Aboriginal Place necessarily prevents existing uses from continuing. The only circumstance in which an existing use would be of concern is if that use involves the destruction of the cultural significance of, or causes damage to, the Aboriginal Place. The gazettal notice will list activities likely to cause damage to the place, and for which a consent would be needed. In general, and where possible, the declaration of an Aboriginal Place would be declared so as to prevent any unnecessary disruption to existing compatible land uses.

What about future changes to land use?

The declaration of an *Aboriginal Place* does not in itself prevent future changes to land use. However, it may place an obligation on any person or company proposing a change in land use to obtain a consent for that land-use from the Director-General of the National Parks and Wildlife Service before proceeding if the change in use could destroy or damage an Aboriginal Place.

Does the declaration of an Aboriginal Place prevent development of the area which is declared?

The declaration of an Aboriginal Place does not prevent future development of the area covered by the declaration. However, it does set in place a process of assessment and review to ensure that any development that occurs is compatible with the conservation of the cultural significance of the Place, and does not significantly detract from that significance. This may mean that there may be some extra conditions or restrictions placed on developments to ensure that the significance of the Aboriginal Place is maintained. Of course, any proposed development which is likely to result in the destruction or significant damage to the Aboriginal Place is unlikely to be approved or may be approved with conditions. This is appropriate and in keeping with reason for the declaration of an Aboriginal Place.

How may Landholders benefit from an Aboriginal Place Declaration?

For landholders an Aboriginal Place declaration provides:

- A worthwhile contribution to conserving the unique cultural heritage of NSW for future generations.

- A gesture of Reconciliation.
- Sharing knowledge about their land and a way to learn more about the values of their land.
- Protection in perpetuity of the Aboriginal Place under the NP & W Act.
- Access to NPWS specialist advice on the management of the Aboriginal Place.
- Access to external funding grants for conservation and protection works.
- Signage which may deter shooters and trespassers from the property.
- Aboriginal Places provide an alternative to acquisition where the landholder is not willing to sell, but is willing to manage the conservation values [which may include guaranteeing some access by certain people] and where management by the NPWS is impractical.

How may Aboriginal people benefit from an Aboriginal Place declaration?

- Protection under the NP&W Act for areas which may otherwise not already have legislative protection
- Formal acknowledgement that the declared Place is of significance to Aboriginal culture
- Documentation of the Place and its significance for the benefit of current and future generations of Aboriginal people.
- Encourage a working relationship between the local Aboriginal community and the landholder.

What Aboriginal Place declarations are not

- Aboriginal Place declarations do not provide or create rights of public access and do not preclude the landholders' normal statutory land management responsibilities.
- Aboriginal Place declarations do not change the status of land and do not have any bearing upon Native Title or other land rights claims.
- Aboriginal Places should not be considered in the same way as areas dedicated or reserved (national parks, reserves or Aboriginal Areas).
- Aboriginal Places are not a mechanism to replace acquisition where the area is worthy of reservation or dedication under the *NP & W Act*.
- Aboriginal Place declarations do not compel the landholder to protect the conservation values of an Aboriginal Place, (except in so far as the landholders must ensure that they do not destroy, deface or damage the place or permit others to destroy, deface or damage the Place with out the consent of the Director General). This means that the landholder does not have to protect the Place against natural deterioration.
- Aboriginal Place declarations are not a method for the landholder to seek compensation for unproductive land or to automatically obtain funds for the management of their land.
- Aboriginal Place declarations apply to the land into the future, however they are not noted on the title. As such, there is no guaranteed way of ensuring future landholders will be aware of them.

If you have further questions on issues regarding Aboriginal Places, please call 902) 9585 6669 during office hours, or write a letter stating your query to the manager, of Policy and Programs unit, Cultural Heritage Division, National parks and Wildlife Service, PO Box 1967, Hurstville, NSW 2220.

Appendix B

Management Strategy Framework

In collecting information for the writing of this plan of management many sources were used and many issues raised and opportunities noted. The information is collated into the Management Strategy Framework, which is shown below. The information is broad, overlapping and sometimes repetitious. Many issues raised or opportunities identified were outside the scope of the Plans of Management to address. For this reason the framework is not used in the body of the Plans of Management, but it is reproduced here for reference.

| ITEM | VALUES | DESIRED OUTCOME | ISSUE OPPORTUNITY | | STRATEGIES | ACTIONS |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| UKPM = Upper Kedumba Valley Plan of Management 2002, FWP = Plan of Management for Frank Walford Park 1998, KFCV = Katoomba Falls Creek Valley, Draft Plan of Management 1996, CS = Draft Report on the cultural significance of Upper Kedumba Valley for declaration as an Aboriginal Place, VMP = South Katoomba Vegetation Management Plan | | | | | | |
| 1.0 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT | | | | | | |
| Natural Environment - Valley Corridor | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | Presence of natural corridor ecosystem | Consolidate the natural corridors along streams to conserve and enhance habitat values through the length of the Valley | The Valley Corridor is comprised of separate land parcels which are divided by roads and residential developments | UKPM | Optimise linkages between vegetation stands by consolidation at edges and through development areas | i. Write brief, appoint consultant to prepare a Bush Regeneration Plan for the Upper Kedumba Valley Precinct including site assessment, identification of problem areas, typical treatments for revegetation / regeneration and preparation of a Management Plan ii. Apply for government grant to supplement cost of revegetation program iii. Update South Katoomba Vegetation Management Plan iv. Coordinate staged planting and maintenance works by Bush Regeneration Contractors and Council led Community Bush Care Groups |
| | | Reduce pressures from surrounding urban areas | Corridor ecosystem is vulnerable from a range of pressure brought on by surrounding land uses | UKPM | Improve stormwater management at source | vi. Write brief, appoint consultant to undertake Stormwater Management Plan of Upper Kedumba Valley Precinct including site assessment, identification of problem areas and preparation of a Management Plan including construction and maintenance vii. Apply for government grant to supplement cost of staged works program including: – Water quality, monitoring and assessment – Weed and erosion mapping – Weed and erosion control – Construction of detention basins and gross pollutant traps viii. Litter removal from gross pollutant traps, wetland areas and bushland areas Carry out scheduled works |
| | | Improve degraded state of areas to be of equal quality with the rest of the corridor | Boundary areas (as well as some internal areas) are subject to ongoing degradation from weeds and dumping | UKPM | Improve education and policing of community regarding garden escape and dumping | ix. Undertake education program aimed at raising awareness of boundary impacts issues x. Erect signage warning of fines for dumping |
| | | | | KFCV | Monitor boundary areas for rubbish dumping and disturbance | xi. Identify areas where dumping and weed invasion occur xii. Fine offenders xiii. Coordinate weed removal by Council's Environmental Weeds Team and/or Noxious Weeds Team |
| | | | | KFCV | Undertake weed removal and rehabilitation where required | |
| 1.2 | Natural hydrology (Creeks / drainage) | Improved water quality through the reduction of pollutants entering the creek system from adjoining urban areas | Water in creek is polluted from sewer and storm water runoff from adjacent urban areas | VMP | Carry out further investigations into stormwater control options for all outlets entering the Reserve (as part of Councils sub catchment Stormwater Management Plan) | i. Incorporate strategies in proposed Stormwater Management Plan and Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| | | | | KFCV | Provide water quality controls upstream of swamps | |
| | | | | KFCV | Install water quality control measures to take first flush from surrounding streets | |
| | | | | KFCV | Implement water quality controls throughout the catchment to improve water quality in the catchment and flows to the National Park | |
| | | | | KFCV | Request Sydney Water to investigate possible surcharges in the sewerage system in the upper parts of the Valley | |
| | | | Impact of maintained / exotic grasslands on creek and vegetation systems | UKPM | Delinate natural areas from maintained grass areas through alignment of paths or other edges as required | xiv. Identify areas where maintenance impinges on creek and natural vegetation xv. Clearly define extent of maintained grass areas with formalisation of pathways |

| ITEM | VALUES | DESIRED OUTCOME | ISSUE OPPORTUNITY | | STRATEGIES | | ACTIONS |
|------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | | | KFCV | Continue water quality testing after implementation of water quality control measures | | |
| | | | | KFCV | Ensure development of private lands includes implementation of mandatory water control measures including on site detention | | |
| | | | | FWP | Manage waste and water quality through appropriate land use within the catchment | | |
| | | | | UKPM | Continue educational strategy including blue signs on gutters in Katoomba | | |
| | | | | UKPM | Encourage sub surface water movement in the Valley for all hydrological improvement works | | |
| | | Reduce soil erosion and sedimentation | Erosion hazard of soils is high where they are disturbed on steep lands or where stormwater runoff occurs | UKPM | Revegetate Valley floor and creek bank areas | | |
| | | | | UKPM | Re-establish natural drainage pattern at outfalls to creek lines from urban areas | | |
| | | | | UKPM | Formalise access paths with hard wearing surface which is not susceptible to erosion | | |
| | | | | UKPM | Minimise erosion by scheduling maintenance / improvement / construction works during times when low rainfall can be expected (i.e. May - October) | | |
| | | Stabilise and revegetate creek bank and adjacent areas | Continued streambank scour and erosion | KFCV | Implement soil and drainage works along drainage lines and in identified priority areas | | |
| 1.3 | System of hanging swamps / wetland environments | Improved swamp extent and condition | Water flow in creeks has been reduced due to impacts on swamps and reduction of swamp area | UKPM | Re-establish and improve natural character of swamp areas through remediation of degraded swamp lands | i. | Incorporate strategies in proposed Stormwater Management Plan and Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| | | | | UKPM | Expand extent of existing swamp areas | | |
| | | Improved water quality | Hanging swamps filter water in the Upper Kedumba River | | refer above | | |
| | | Maintain / improve the storage capacities and natural vegetation of existing swamps to maintain a healthy hydrological system and maintain water flows downstream to Katoomba Falls | Water storage capacities of hanging swamps have been reduced through siltation and general degradation | | refer above | | |
| | | | | FWP | Minimise pollutant loading of stormwater to prevent deterioration of vegetation in swamps | | |
| | | | | FWP | Install gross pollution traps closer to Great Western Hwy | | |
| | | | The extent of hanging swamps has been severely reduced by development over the last 50 years | FWP | Remove the existing BMX facility and associated fill and rehabilitate to swamp along with other degraded swamp areas | | |
| | | | | FWP | Remove litter after flood rain and remove sediment and dense macrophyte growth in small portions when storage capacity significantly reduced | | |
| | | Reduce volume of water in the creeks during heavy rain periods and allow for the controlled discharge of stormwater over longer time periods | Urban development in surrounding areas has impacted the hydrology of the Valley by piping high volumes of stormwater into the catchment during heavy rain periods | FWP | Limit the area of impervious surfaces by limiting new development in the park and by limiting erosion | | |
| | | | | UKPM | Improve on site detention in surrounding residential areas | | |
| | | Create and manage buffers comprising natural vegetation for natural watercourses | Damage of swamp vegetation through being mown or burned | FWP | Planning and management to incorporate extension of vegetated buffers to creek lines | | |
| | | Define extent of maintained grass areas by formal pathways / edging | Inconsistent extent of recurrent maintenance through lack of definition | UKPM | Planning to incorporate use of path alignments to define maintained areas | ii. | Refer 3.2 Provision of trail network |

| ITEM | VALUES | DESIRED OUTCOME | ISSUE OPPORTUNITY | | STRATEGIES | | ACTIONS |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.4 | Continuity of Woodland environments | Preserve and improve extent and quality of existing bushland | Bushland health is effected by weed encroachment, informal access tracks, and edge impacts | KFCV | Undertake weed removal and regeneration program particularly for edge areas | i. | Incorporated strategies in proposed Stormwater Management Plan and Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| | | | | KFCV | Regenerate bushland and eroded areas with assistance from Bushcare groups as appropriate. Provide raw materials and administrative assistance to these groups as required. | | |
| | | | | FWP | Conserve and rehabilitate sites | | |
| | | | | KFCV | Ensure maximum retention of tree canopy cover in all public lands | | |
| | | | | KFCV | Rationalise existing paths through bushland area and improve surface to reduce erosion | ii. | |
| | | | | KFCV | Minimise earthworks and clearing particularly in public lands. Any works to be in accordance with Soil Conservation Service and Council Guidelines | | |
| | | Protect and improve bushland on privately owned land | Some extensive areas of bushland are located on privately owned gully areas adjacent to the corridor | UKPM | Continue community involvement in bushland management / regeneration / revegetation (Bushcare) | | Refer 3.2 Provision of trail network |
| 1.5 | Flora and Fauna habitat corridor | Recognise and improve existing flora and fauna habitat | The corridor is a valuable habitat to a wide range of native flora and fauna | | refer previous items | | |
| | | Identify and protect rare and endangered species | Many of the flora and fauna species are rare and endangered | FWP | Identify wildlife communities in the Valley and provide for habitat protection, incorporating survey extent of rare and endangered fauna | i. ii. | Collect information on the habitat of rare and endangered Flora and Fauna species listed in this POM Undertake works to preserve species, communities and habitat |
| 1.6 | Recreational and interpretive trail network | Rationalise existing path system with a network of trails that respond to user/environmental requirements | Pedestrian access throughout the Valley is often informal and poorly defined resulting in environment impacts | | refer 1.10, | | |
| Natural Environment - Frank Walford Park | | | | | | | |
| 1.7 | Continuity of natural corridor | Rationalise roads to consolidate open space area and environmental values | Uncertain traffic requirements and operation of street system | FWP | Prepare access and on site traffic strategy to facilitate closure of unnecessary streets, design of streets in character with their environmental capacity, and Control of speed, driver behavior and enhancement of residential amenity | i. ii. iii. | Closure of some streets recommended in masterplan. Undertake traffic study / assessment to determine feasibility Write brief, appoint consultant to undertake detailed design works Undertake road closure |
| | | | | FWP | Close Lake Esplanade and use as informal pedestrian link | iv. | |
| | | | | KFCV/FWP | Closure of section of Famells Road and Lomond Street, rezone to open space and use as pedestrian links | v. | |
| | | | | FWP | Close off road tracks leading in a northerly direction from the Bush Fire Building and rehabilitate | vii. | |
| | | Acquire former tram line and rezone to reflect the land categories which occur on either side of the corridor | Former tramline in private ownership divides park into two sections | FWP/KFCV | Acquire former tram line in park and rezone to recreation | ix. | Council to purchase property and add to Frank Walford Park as Community Land |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | Provide functional parking provision - minimising visual and environmental impacts | Two primary parking areas split entry and cross usage of passive / active facilities | FWP | Maximise opportunity for drop off and set down. Minimise impact of service vehicles. Provide service routes for vehicles and maintenance operators | x. | Drop off and set down area provided at BM Sports and Aquatic Centre and proposed in Masterplan for area adjacent to proposed Heritage Centre |
| | | | | UKPM | Redesign Madge Walford car park to consolidate open space | xi. | |
| | | | | FWP | Minimise stormwater runoff from parking areas | xii. | |
| | | | Existing car park at Frank Walford Park is larger than required and impacts on usable park space | | | | Madge Walford car park redesigned in Masterplan (Refer 2.4i,ii.) |
| | | | | | | | Incorporate infiltration of Stormwater to subsoil in proposed Stormwater Management Plan. Refer 1.1 |

| ITEM | VALUES | DESIRED OUTCOME | ISSUE OPPORTUNITY | | STRATEGIES | | ACTIONS | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.8 | Presence of natural drainage (creek) system | Improve water quality in Kedumba Creek system | Impact of illegal parking / uncontrolled parking | FWP | Prevent parking in sensitive areas | xiii. | Erect barriers to sensitive natural areas to prevent illegal parking Develop overflow parking areas | |
| | | | Impacts of adjoining urban areas | KFCV /FWP | Select stormwater management techniques to maximise infiltration, balance water cycle and minimise erosion | i. | | Incorporate strategies in proposed Stormwater Management Plan and Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| | | | | UKPM | Install water quality control upstream of Catalina Pool to take first flush | | | |
| | | | Soil erosion | FWP | Incorporate erosion control measures with all works | ii. iii. | | Incorporate erosion control measures with all works Undertake works during periods when rainfall occurrence and intensity are lowest (Refer 1.1, 1.2) |
| | | KFCV | | Rehabilitate erosion sites in identified areas including former BMX track and access tracks | | | | |
| | | | Minimise impact of nearby roadwork's on the hydrology of Frank Walford Park | Imminent upgrade works to the Great Western Highway at Shell corner could have a permanent impact on the hydrology of the site | UKPM | Monitor project to identify potential conflicts with natural / recreational values | v. | Site to be investigated in proposed Stormwater Management Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| 1.9 | Presence of Hanging Swamp environments | Improve natural character and restore extent of hanging swamps | Impacts of recreational uses | KFCV | Provide track / boardwalk access in swamp areas to reduce environmental impact | i. | Boardwalk's recommended in Masterplan. Refer 3.2 Provision of trail network | |
| | | | | KFCV | Erect signs to inform residents and visitors of hanging swamp and its sensitivity | ii. | Signage works to be incorporated into proposed interpretive strategy (Refer 4.1) | |
| | | | | FWP | Conserve and rehabilitate sites | iii. | Incorporate strategies in proposed Stormwater Management Plan and Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) | |
| | | | | Impacts of nutrients in stormwater | FWP | Select plants to suit low nutrient soil and / or design non impact system to manage nutrients | | |
| 1.10 | Presence of Woodland environments | Improve extent and quality of woodland areas | Regeneration and revegetation required | FWP | Prepare a detailed professional plan for bush regeneration | | | |
| | | | | FWP | Apply for government and community funding | | | |
| | | | | FWP | Rehabilitate existing degraded areas | | | |
| | | | | FWP | Practice and implement site remediation and hardening techniques | | | |
| | | | Impacts of recreation and access | FWP | Place barriers to prevent carparking in areas detrimental to native trees | iv. | Refer 1.7iv | |
| | | | | FWP | Adopt erosion and planting techniques including hardening and rotation of sites to minimise and manage impact | | | |
| | | | Weed encroachment | FWP | Controlled program of eliminating weeds at source by removal and rehabilitation of sites | | | |
| | | | Rubbish dumping | FWP | Monitor boundary areas for rubbish dumping | | | |
| 1.11 | Recreational and interpretive trail network | Rationalise existing track network by closing tracks with high environmental impact and formalise selected tracks with permeable pavement to minimise erosion | Existing track/trail system is extensive and impacts the natural environment | FWP | Close and rehabilitate tracks and access points no longer required particularly on the northern side of Catalina Circuit as part of bush regeneration contract | i. | Refer 3.2 Provision of trail network | |
| | | | | VMP | Existing areas of soil erosion be stabilised and revegetated as directed in the works table as a matter of priority | ii. | Refer 1.7 | |
| Natural Environment - McRaes Paddock | | | | | | | | |
| 1.12 | Continuity of natural corridor | Consolidate and extend corridor continuity where possible | The addition of key properties to the corridor could benefit the natural environment and the public using the corridor | KFCV | Acquire property at southern end of McRaes Paddock and rehabilitate | i. | Council to purchase property and add to McRaes Paddock as Community Land | |
| | | | Impact of illegal parking | KFCV /FWP | Stop spill over parking in McRaes Paddock and bushland | ii. | Restrict off street parking along northern sections of Peckmans Street and erect log barriers (Refer 1.7iv) | |
| | | | Impact of unformed road corridors on continuity | KFCV | Close Lomond Street and extension of Farnells Road and consolidate with reserve | iii. | Refer 1.7v | |

| ITEM | VALUES | DESIRED OUTCOME | ISSUE OPPORTUNITY | | STRATEGIES | | ACTIONS |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.13 | Presence of natural drainage (creek) system | Enhance quality and function of natural drainage system | | KFCV | Formally close unconstructed section of Peckmans street in location of gully and ensure tree canopy retained | i. | Incorporate strategies in proposed Stormwater Management Plan and Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| | | | Degraded quality of creekline environment | VMP | Restore vegetation buffer along the section of Katoomba Falls Creek that runs through McRaes Paddock | | |
| | | | Urban stormwater impacts on swamp / wetland environments | VMP | Investigate design options for stormwater control devices to be constructed above hanging swamp on western boundary the site | | |
| | | | | KVMP | Investigate design options for stormwater control / filtration measures to manage inputs from Peckmans Road | | |
| | | | Impact of sewer overflows on water quality | VMP | BMCC approach Australian Water Technologies / Sydney Water Corporation to assess current sewer overflows and identify priority areas for remediation works with assisted funding by Sydney Water Corporation. | | |
| | | | A creek valley located adjacent to Hindman Street is currently in a poor environmental condition and should be targeted for restoration / regeneration | KVPM | Manage urban stormwater inputs at end of Hindman Street | | |
| | | | | KVPM | Investigate potential for re-establishment of natural drainage system from stormwater outfall | | |
| | KFCV | Seal Burrowang Street | | | | | |
| 1.14 | Presence of High Value Gullies | Conserve and re-establish natural gully environments where possible | Gully continuity affected by road and development incursions | KFCV | Ensure link to high value gully to west is recognised in future development decisions and require minimum 30m buffer to creek / drainage line to be dedicated in upstream properties | i. | Incorporate strategies in proposed Stormwater Management Plan and Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| | | | | KFCV | Revegetate degraded areas along Peckmans Road and south of unconstructed section of Farnell Road | | |
| | | | Weed encroachment impacts | VMP | Revegetation of western boundary of the reserve to improve habitat and assist in long term weed management of the site along Peckmans Road | | |
| | | | Boundary impacts | VMP | BMCC to promote and support resident involvement in weed control on private properties | | |
| 1.15 | Presence of Forest / Woodland | Conserve and re-establish natural woodland environments where possible | Woodland continuity affected by road and development incursions, and exotic plantings to residential allotments | KFCV | Encourage retention of canopy on properties between Peckmans Street and Burrawang Street | | |
| | | | | KFCV | Protect canopy along all major gullies | | |
| Natural Environment - Selby Street Reserve | | | | | | | |
| 1.16 | Continuity of natural corridor | Consolidate and extend corridor continuity where possible | Natural vegetation qualities of lands under private ownership | KFCV | Recognise properties at the southern end of Loftus Street and Dulhunty Street as having significant environmental constraints through zoning measures | i. | Incorporate strategies in proposed Stormwater Management Plan and Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| | | | Impact of unformed road corridors of continuity | KFCV | Close Essendene Street, part of Cascade Street and part of Loftus Street and consolidate with adjacent open space areas | ii. | Refer 1.7v |
| 1.17 | Presence of natural drainage (creek) system | Enhance quality and function of natural drainage system | Impacts of road and property development | KFCV | Ensure future development of properties in southern end of Neale Street provide sympathetic creek treatment and do not allow creek to become a concrete channel | | |
| | | | Scouring of creek banks | KFCV | Provide scour protection along creek line adjacent to ovals | | |
| | | | | KFCV | Monitor scour protection recently provided in northern arm of gully adjacent to Katoomba Street | | |
| | | | | VMP | Stabilise and revegetate creek banks in parkland area north of Cliff Drive | | |

| ITEM | VALUES | DESIRED OUTCOME | ISSUE OPPORTUNITY | | STRATEGIES | | ACTIONS |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.18 | Presence of High Value Gullies / Forest / Woodland | | | KFCV | Implement bushland regeneration program | i. | Incorporate strategies in proposed Stormwater Management Plan and Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| | | | | KFCV | Ensure canopy and RES-BC area in eastern end of Warialda Street is retained in any future development and allow only low key access to be provided to these properties rather than a formal road | | |
| | | | | VMP | Commence weed control works on border of shrub / swamp vegetation within the reserve and include adjacent land owner involvement | | |
| 2.0 SOCIAL / CULTURAL | | | | | | | |
| Social / cultural - Valley Corridor | | | | | | | |
| 2.1 | Community interest in valley | Optimise community involvement in the plan of management process | Previous plans of management highlighted the communities opinion that there should be more meaningful community involvement in the process rather than the plan being produced in isolation from the community | KFCV | POM process to integrate effective community consultation with tangible outcomes | i. | Ensure community involvement in the POM process by creating a mailing list and posting those listed regular updates on the progress of the POM |
| | | Optimise community involvement in the plan of management process | Need for an organised process for focussing inputs | UKPM | Provide forum for ongoing community involvement through management committee | ii. | Provide opportunities for community involvement at Workshops and Public exhibition |
| 2.2 | Cultural significance of valley | Significance of site for Aboriginal and European heritage to add to community experience and benefits of open space | Example of valley as early scene of reconciliation and co-habitation | | refer 5.0 Heritage | | |
| 2.3 | Potential to meet community needs | Ensure that facilities cater for the requirements of various ethnic and age groups in spatial and physical terms | BMCC Area 2 residents are comprised of a range of social and cultural groups | FWP | refer 3.0 Recreation | | |
| Social / cultural - Frank Walford Park | | | | | | | |
| 2.4 | Past role as home and meeting place for Aboriginal and European cultures | Planning and management of site to enhance community understanding of past role | Interpretation | | refer 5.0 Heritage | | |
| | | Planning and management of site to enhance ongoing role as community meeting place / focus of activity | Potential for enhancement of community use of site | UKPM | Site planning and management to incorporate provision for enhanced community use compatible with environmental values | i. ii. | Masterplan incorporates enhanced community uses including proposed Heritage Centre Write brief, appoint consultant to undertake detailed design of Frank Walford Park |
| 3.0 RECREATION | | | | | | | |
| Recreation - Valley Corridor | | | | | | | |
| 3.1 | Provision of recreational facilities | Enhance recreation facilities for Area 2 residents including compatible facilities which cater to 'all family activities' such as bbq's, playgrounds, and passive open space | The BMCC Area 2 Community Plan (2001) highlighted the lack of recreational facilities for residents such as parks with playgrounds and bbq facilities | UKPM | Site planning and management to incorporate provision for enhanced community use compatible with environmental values | i. | Refer 2.4,ii |
| 3.2 | Provision of trail network | Improve open space connections between Katoomba Town Centre and the National Park for use by residents and tourists for walking, jogging and recreational cycling | The linking corridor that the Valley provides between the town centre and National Park is under utilised as an area for recreation | UKPM | Consolidate key access routes within an integrated path network linking usage facilities | i. ii. iii. iv. v. | Undertake Archaeological Study to determine Aboriginal Heritage Sites (Refer 5.1) Proposed Trail Network to avoid sensitive natural and Aboriginal areas Confirm extent of trails to be retained and improved and extent of trails to be returned to natural vegetation Determine construction staging Carry out staged construction works Path connections provided in proposed Masterplan |
| | | | | KFCV | Improve pedestrian paths and walkways | | |
| | | | | FWP | Maximise generous functional and aesthetically pleasing all weather connections | | |
| | | | | FWP | Construct well lit and protected pedestrian / cycle connection from the town centre to the park | | |
| | | | Impacts of access through sensitive habitats | KFCV | Minimise access tracks through swamp areas - where required provide low impact treatment | | |
| | | | Obligation regarding equal access under DDA | FWP | Where possible provide access for all potential users including those with limited mobility | | |
| | | | Community awareness of path system | KFCV | Provide directional signage for pedestrian using walkway system | | |

| ITEM | VALUES | DESIRED OUTCOME | ISSUE OPPORTUNITY | | STRATEGIES | | ACTIONS |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3.3 | Role of open space in district cycle networks | | | UKPM | Develop path and facilities information brochure | i. | Corridor pathways to be integrated with proposed BM Bike Plan |
| | | | Existing park entries are poorly defined | UKPM | Formalise park entries with a consistent treatment aimed at reinforcing park / corridor identity and identifying entries | | |
| | | | | FWP | Integrate with Blue Mountains Bike Plan | | |
| | | | | FWP | Provide safer network of on and off road cycle routes | | |
| | | | | FWP | Provide adequate bicycle racks at appropriate facilities | | |
| 3.4 | Tourism values | Tourism value of Katoomba Falls and the swamps within the lower parts of the catchment | Hanging swamps maintain water flows in the Upper Kedumba Creek during periods of low rainfall, contributing to water flow over Katoomba Falls | FWP | refer 1.2 | i. | Refer 2.4i,ii |
| | | Tourism value of cultural heritage significance | Optimise interpretation and recreational value of heritage significance | FWP | refer 5.0 | | |
| | | Potential Cultural Heritage Centre | UKPM | Investigate potential establishment of Heritage Centre in low impact location (e.g. Madge Walford Car park) | | | |
| Recreation - Frank Walford Park | | | | | | | |
| 3.5 | Provision of Recreational Facilities | Improve the relationship between the Sports and Aquatic Centre with the remainder of Frank Walford Park | Katoomba Sports and Aquatic Centre has a weak physical relationship with the remainder of Frank Walford Park | UKPM | Encourage shared facilities (e.g. car park, playground, passive picnic areas) and provision of connecting pathways | i. | Undertake design development of works around Catalina Park and the BM Sports and Recreation Centre based on the Masterplan included in this report |
| | | Enhance provision of passive recreational amenity | Poor quality and definition of passive recreation areas | UKPM | Provide for passive recreational use in areas that will minimise impact on environmental values | iii. | Passive recreational uses proposed, refer masterplan |
| | | | Lack of playspace to compliment passive use | UKPM | Integrate formal playspace to compliment passive use and serve Recreation Centre / Pool | iv. | Playground proposed in Masterplan |
| | | Provision of combined BMX Skateboard Facility in alternative location | BMX Facility recently removed due to its impact on the natural environment | FWP | Review potential locations in areas better accessible to CBD and where impacts are minimised | v. | Investigate alternative location for combined BMX and skateboard facility in high profile area closer to town centre |
| | | | Demand for BMX Facility in Area 2 | | | | |
| | | | Demand for skateboard facilities in area | | | | |
| | | | Noise impacts in valley landform Limited access Natural setting and existing use conflict with bmx / skateboard use | UKPM | | | |
| 3.6 | Children's recreational appreciation of natural environment | Encourage / facilitate children's games utilising the natural environment as an informal playground | Gully residents used the natural environment as their playground | UKPM | Open space planning to optimise the use of access and interpretation for provision of nature based experiences | i. | Refer 3.5 |
| 3.7 | Catalina Race Circuit | Provide for ongoing limited use for low speed events as identified in Cultural Heritage Significance Statement | Degrading condition of the track limits long term use by racing cars | UKPM | Provide for limited low speed car use (up to 4 events per year) | i. | Continue to allow track use for low key vintage car club events in the short term |
| | | | High impact motor sports have been considered unacceptable by the surrounding community for several years | | Prevent hiring of track for high impact motor sport use | iii. | Ban use by car clubs for speed events |

| ITEM | VALUES | DESIRED OUTCOME | ISSUE OPPORTUNITY | | STRATEGIES | | ACTIONS |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | Investigate suitability of adaptive re-use of track for wheels based recreational uses | Improvement of the track surface would enable wheels based recreational uses such as recreational cycling, criterium cycling, rollerblading and triathlon (in conjunction with Aquatic Centre) | FWP | Masterplan to investigate potential for a wheels park facility for multi purpose use | iv. | Investigate possibility of resurfacing part of track for wheels based recreational use |
| 3.8 | Catalina Lake | Upgrade Catalina Lake as visual focus and recreational feature based on it's heritage significance | Poor condition of pond | UKPM | Develop plan for enhancement of environmental, recreational and visual function | i. | Refer 3.5 |
| Recreation - McRaes Paddock | | | | | | | |
| 3.9 | Passive recreational focus | Enhance role of open space for passive use with paths and interpretation, in compatibility with environmental values | Impact of uncontrolled recreational and commuter access | UKPM | Formalise functional path links, and restore impractical routes | i. | Refer 3.2 |
| | | | Extensive cleared areas - detract from environmental quality | UKPM | Provide limited maintained grass areas for passive recreational use adjoining path junction to meet local residential needs | ii. | Provide maintained grass area following construction of pathways (refer 3.2) |
| Recreation - Selby Street Reserve | | | | | | | |
| 3.10 | Access links to Katoomba Falls Reserve | Improve access provision compatible with environmental values | Path link is located on north side of creekline | KFCV | Maintain and improve existing low key pedestrian walkway system | i. | Refer 3.2 |
| | | | | UKPM | Provide bridge link access to existing maintained grass passive recreation area | | |
| 3.11 | Passive recreational facilities adjoining Katoomba Falls Reserve | Provide appropriate level of quality facilities to compliment passive use and active use | Poor quality and location of existing facilities | KFCV | Continue to provide and improve tourist picnic facilities | i. | Picnic facilities proposed to be retained in Masterplan |
| | | | Visual and usage implications of Caravan Park adjoining ovals in Katoomba Falls Reserve | UKPM | Environmental and management implications to be reviewed in separate Plan of Management for Katoomba Falls Reserve | ii. | Liase with Department of Land and Water (DLWC) Conservation regarding the preparation for a plan of management for Katoomba Falls Reserve which is Crown owned land |
| | | | Visual and environmental impacts of unsealed carparks | KFCV | Improve entrance and seal car parks around ovals | iii. | Car park improvements proposed in masterplan |
| 4. EDUCATIONAL | | | | | | | |
| Educational - Valley Corridor | | | | | | | |
| 4.1 | Natural Environment and Cultural Heritage Interpretation | Interpret the natural environmental and cultural heritage of the Valley through a coordinated interpretation strategy | There currently exists a range of cultural and natural environmental features that are in need of interpretation | CS | Interpretation of the Upper Kedumba Valley be undertaken and displayed, at a high standard, in consultation with Aboriginal residents of the Blue Mountains community and the Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation (this interpretation should be done with minimum disturbance to the landscape) | i. ii. iii. | Write brief, appoint Interpretative Consultant to undertake Interpretive Strategy for the Gully and the Upper Kedumba River Valley Corridor Consultant to undertake consultation with former Gully residents, Aboriginal stakeholder groups (including the Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation) and other local stakeholder groups Prepare Interpretive Strategy for the Gully/Valley including exhibitions for Heritage Centre, interpretive signage panels for distribution through the corridor Develop coordinated community information program including: – information leaflets – seminars – hotline for dumping reporting |
| 4.2 | Community awareness of environmental issues | Increase community awareness of environmental issues | Lack of community awareness reflected through edge impacts and issues including dumping and weed invasion | UKPM | Develop coordinated community information program | iv. v. | |
| Educational - Frank Walford Park | | | | | | | |
| 4.3 | Potential Heritage Centre | Investigate potential for Interpretive Centre at Frank Walford Park | Community expectations for the provision of an Interpretive Centre | FWP | Plan for future on site facility, possibly as and adjunct to a town centre facility | i. ii. | Aboriginal Stakeholder Groups and NPWS to investigate potential for Heritage Centre at Frank Walford Park Determine activities to be undertaken at Heritage Centre and requirements for general and special facilities including outdoor facilities such as meeting / education areas and bush tucker gardens |
| | | | Potential development of heritage trail to provide educational focus for the interpretation of the history of the Gully and the lives of its former residents | UKPM | Investigate potential for provision of sequential interpretive experience to recreational path link within Frank Walford Reserve | iii. iv. v. | Apply for government grants/funding Consider adaptive reuse of existing cottage (Short term) Consider construction of purpose built Heritage Centre (Long Term) Investigate possibility of heritage trail (provision of sequential interpretive experience to recreational path link) as part of interpretive study |
| Educational - McRaes Paddock | | | | | | | |
| 4.4 | Natural Environment and Cultural Heritage Interpretation | Integrate interpretation elements adjoining path links through McRaes Paddock | Variety of cultural and natural environmental features | UKPM | Design and implement interpretive elements to McRaes Paddock based on Valley interpretive strategy | | Refer 4.1 |
| Educational - Selby Street Reserve | | | | | | | |
| 4.5 | Natural Environment Interpretation | Integrate interpretation elements adjoining path links through Selby Street Reserve | Variety of natural environmental features | UKPM | Design and implement interpretive elements to Selby Street Reserve based on Valley interpretive strategy | | Refer 4.1 |

| ITEM | VALUES | DESIRED OUTCOME | ISSUE OPPORTUNITY | | STRATEGIES | | ACTIONS |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HERITAGE | | | | | | | |
| Heritage - Valley Corridor | | | | | | | |
| 5.1 | Aboriginal Heritage significance | Protect features and areas of cultural significance | Some cultural features of the parks are yet to be identified | UKPM | Undertake detailed archaeological survey through whole Valley to determine location of cultural heritage items and carry out works to ensure their protection | i. ii. iii. | Write brief, appoint Archaeological Consultant that is sensitive to Aboriginal values to undertake Heritage Study for the Valley in conjunction with the local Aboriginal community Study should include: – location of pre and post contact heritage sites on the Valley including Gully residents homes and Norths Siding – determine location of Aboriginal Sites which are considered sensitive and not to be made known to the general public – management plan for ongoing protection and management of sites List all public lands in the Valley as well as individual sites on the National Heritage Register |
| | | Provide coordinated management of archeological elements integrated with interpretation | Limited information on sites of significance including camp sites, former house sites and artefacts | UKPM | Based on outcomes of Survey develop Management Plan for Aboriginal & European Heritage Items in the valley integrated with a Valley Interpretive Strategy | | |
| | | Reconise Aboriginal heritage significance through appropriate conservation management | Formalise significance through National Heritage process | CS | All of the public lands in the Upper Kedumba Valley become an Aboriginal Place | | |
| | | | | CS | A management plan be developed that outlines specific sites and their on-the-ground management in consultation with major stakeholders | | |
| | | | | CS | The Valley be placed on to the Register of the National Estate | | |
| | | | | CS | All Plans of Management of the areas and the Masterplan of the Valley take account of and incorporate conditions that will protect the Aboriginal pre-contact and post-contact heritage sites | | |
| 5.2 | European Heritage significance | Recognise the historical significance of the different periods within the Valley | Historical significance of the Valley occurs in three distinct periods: – pre contact Aboriginal use – post contact Aboriginal / European use – recent modification to the Valley environment | UKPM | Undertake Archaeological study to determine post contact European heritage sites including North's Siding | | Refer 5.1 |
| | | Recognise the role of recent history (e.g. Car Circuit and Catalina Lake) in heritage interpretation | Potential integrated approach to all phases and layers of heritage significance | UKPM | Based on outcomes of Survey develop Management Plan for Aboriginal & European Heritage Items in the valley integrated with a Valley Interpretive Strategy | | |
| | | | Retain Car Track and Catalina Lake as park features, compatible with other heritage items and environmental objectives | UKPM | Planning and management strategies to retain track and lake as park features: -track: as multi use pathway surface -lake: as visual and passive recreational focus | | |
| | | | | | Integrate interpretation of phases of history into potential Cultural centre and Interpretive Walk, in addition to general interpretation | | |
| Heritage - Frank Walford Park | | | | | | | |
| 5.3 | Aboriginal and European History | Optimise heritage significance as park feature and experience | Limited information and interpretation currently available | CS | An historical archaeological survey be carried out in the Gully (otherwise known as Frank Walford Park) in order that the remains of the house sites and artefacts associated with the post-contact settlement period (at least 1894 until 1957) be precisely located and mapped | | refer 5.1 and 5.2 |
| | | | Significance of North's Siding as settlement adjacent Coal Haulage Route | KFCV | Undertake heritage assessment of North's Siding and former tram line | | |
| | | | | KFCV | Include North's Siding and former tram line in BMCC heritage register | | |
| | | | | UKPM | Planning and management strategies to incorporate connections to North Siding along with interpretative elements | | |
| | | | Varied potential to provide access to heritage sites based on sensitivity to access and potential vandalism etc. | KFCV | Provide public access to heritage areas where appropriate | | |
| ITEM | VALUES | DESIRED OUTCOME | ISSUE OPPORTUNITY | | STRATEGIES | | ACTIONS |
| | | | | KFCV | Provide protection to known aboriginal sites | | |

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Heritage - McRaes Paddock | | | | | | |
| 5.4 | Aboriginal and European History | Identification of heritage relics | Limited information currently available | UKPM | Confirm existence of artefacts | refer 5.1 and 5.2 |
| 6. INTRINSIC | | | | | | |
| Intrinsic - Valley Corridor | | | | | | |
| 6.1 | Cultural identity | Protect / interpret water as a feature of the site reinforcing its cultural identity | Hydrology is the dominant site feature through pre/post contact history of the Valley | UKPM | Planning and management strategies to recognise the importance of the creek system and hydrological processes: -restore where possible natural hydrological processes -incorporate water system in detailed design | i. To be incorporated in the proposed Stormwater Management Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| 6.2 | Sense of place | Recognise and strengthen distinct character | Potential erosion of values through environmental and development impacts | UKPM | Planning and management strategies to recognise the sense of place of the valley: -co-habitation of valley -valley landform -European recreational development | i. To be incorporated into proposed Interpretive Strategy (Refer 4.1) |
| 6.3 | Continuous open space corridor | Strengthening of relationship between individual sites and adjacent parcels | Existing open space corridor is experienced as a series of individual sites rather than one whole corridor | KFCV | Enhance relationships with adjacent open space areas through replanting | i. To be incorporated into proposed Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| Intrinsic - Frank Walford Park | | | | | | |
| 6.4 | Building facilities | Demolish non functional or derelict buildings not of heritage value / unable to be adaptively re-used | Existing toilet blocks are subject to vandalism and anti-social behavior | KFCV | Demolish identified buildings and rehabilitate sites | i. Write brief, appoint Heritage Consultant to undertake heritage assessment of amenities blocks ii. Demolish derelict buildings which do not have heritage value iii. Undertake works to ameliorate former building site including soil works and revegetation |
| | | | | UKPM | Consider demolition of outdoor pool change rooms and toilets to enable open space enhancement adjacent lake | |
| 6.5 | Public Transport | Maximise public transport access to site | Proposed increase in park use requires improvements to public transport service | FWP | Plan for on site facilities (bus stops and drop off area) in consultation with operators and site users | i. Incorporate/refine alternative transport facilities as shown on masterplan (including coach, town bus, pedestrian & cycle) in detailed design works for Frank Walford Park |
| 6.6 | Existing cultural tree plantings | Conserve significant cultural tree plantings | Variety of existing plant species of varied quality | FWP | Survey importance and condition of trees. Adopt measures to conserve and protect trees through design and construction and use | i. Undertake survey of cultural plantings to determine plant species, health and cultural significance. ii. Determine trees to be actively maintained and preserved for cultural reasons |
| 6.7 | Catalina Race Circuit | Conserve character of circuit as heritage feature whilst optimising recreational and environmental values | Timber / steel barriers around racing circuit divide open space areas | UKPM | Remove majority of track barriers to enable perceived improvements to freedom of access throughout the site | i. Undertake works to remove track barriers from all edges except for at the northeastern and northwestern corners where they should be retained for interpretive purposes |
| 6.8 | Park Name | Provide a long term name and identity for the open space that recognises its full heritage significance | Former residents of Frank Walford Park resent that the park is named after the Mayor of Katoomba who was responsible for their forced removal from their homes | UKPM | Review the potential for changing the name of Frank Walford Park to 'the Gully' which is the name still used by former residents of the area | i. Prepare submission for the changing of park name from Frank Walford Park to the Gully ii. Submit and follow through |
| Intrinsic - McRaes Paddock | | | | | | |
| 6.9 | Valley Landform | Enhance appreciation of valley landform | Potential impacts of development adjoining open space | UKPM | Recreational / commuter path alignment to retain north south alignment parallel to creek to enable view lines up and down valley | i. Refer 3.2 Provision of path network |
| 7. VISUAL | | | | | | |
| Visual - Valley Corridor | | | | | | |
| 7.1 | Natural Visual Qualities | Improve the visual qualities of the Valley environment | The Upper Kedumba Valley is effectively a large amphitheatre from which there are many points with views inwards | KFCV | Preserve / increase existing bushland character of the Valley through further plantings improvements to the resource | i. Incorporate strategies in the proposed Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| | | | | KFCV | Avoid development of buildings and complexes that are highly visible | ii. Further building development in the Valley not encouraged |
| | | | | KFCV | Remediate existing areas of degradation such as soil erosion which is visible from surrounding areas | |
| | | Educate community on the values of existing natural environment | Existing natural areas have high value for their visual qualities | UKPM | refer 4.0 Education | |
| ITEM | VALUES | DESIRED OUTCOME | ISSUE OPPORTUNITY | | STRATEGIES | ACTIONS |
| Visual - Frank Walford Park | | | | | | |
| 7.2 | Combination of natural / cultural landscape values | Conserve appropriate balance of natural / cultural values | Poor quality of some structures and cultural plantings | FWP | Balanced planning and landscape architectural design to be provided retaining important cultural landscape features in natural framework | i. Remove dilapidated buildings (Refer 6.4) ii. Undertake assessment of cultural plantings (Refer 6.6) |
| | | | | UKPM | Consider removal of outdoor pool change rooms | iii. Liase with BM Sports & Aquatic Centre to consider removal of outdoor change rooms based on requirements of toilets/showers for facility vi. Demolish existing structure |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | | Poor quality of Madge Walford Fountain | UKPM | Integrate recognition of Madge Walford (e.g. Public art feature / plaque) into reconfigured parking (to consolidate open space) | iv. vi. | Write brief, appoint Landscape Architect to undertake detailed design works based on the Masterplan Incorporate memorial to Madge Walford in rationalised car park |
| | | Mitigate impacts of access and usage | Informal / uncontrolled access affects visual quality | FWP | Provide barriers to avoid unauthorised access to Bush Fire Station, Wells Street, Lake Esplanade to prevent deterioration by motor vehicles | vii. | Undertake works to restrict vehicle access (Refer 1.7v,vi) |
| Visual - McRaes Paddock | | | | | | | |
| 7.3 | Natural landscape character | Restore natural landscape character to valley landform | Extensive cleared area, degraded creekline and weed encroachment | UKPM | Planning and management strategies to facilitate restoration of natural vegetation through majority of valley incorporating access path | i. | To be incorporated in Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| Visual - Selby Street Reserve | | | | | | | |
| 7.4 | Quality environmental and recreational character | Enhance environmental and recreational visual character | Visual impacts of unsealed car park in Katoomba Falls Reserve | UKPM | Redesign and formalise car park to reduce visual impact | i. | Car park improvements proposed in masterplan |
| | | | Visual impacts of caravan park | UKPM | Future plan of management for Katoomba Falls Reserve to consider removal of caravan park | ii. | Refer 3.11ii |
| 8.0 MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE | | | | | | | |
| Management & Maintenance - Valley Corridor | | | | | | | |
| 8.1 | Coordinated management of future development (enhancement) | Provide coordinated management group representing all interests | The NPWS Report on the Cultural Significance of the Upper Kedumba Valley recommends that no further development be undertaken in the Valley | UKPM | The management committee comprised of representatives from Aboriginal groups and Council to oversee / approve proposed works and activities in the Valley | i. | Formalise approvals process and role of management committee in overseeing proposed works and activities in the Valley |
| | | | The Draft Report on the cultural significance of Upper Kedumba Valley for declaration as an Aboriginal Place recommended that the management of the Valley be conducted in accordance with Management Issues identified in the report: | CS | Archaeological Sites – As the archaeological sites identified in the three public lands within the Valley are culturally significant, any Plans of Management and/or Masterplans for the areas should include specific plans of management for the adequate protection of these sites. All workers involved in endeavours in the Upper Kedumba Valley should be made familiar with the sites in conjunction with National Parks and Wildlife Service staff and shown how to work with and around these sites in a culturally sensitive way | ii. | Plans of management prepared (i.e. this document) |
| | | | | CS | The Racing Circuit – It is noted that the Vintage Car Club of New South Wales holds meetings at the circuit a number of times a year. If the racing circuit is deemed safe enough to use in its current condition, its use should be restricted to activities involving low noise, low speed and low impact and any other conditions imposed by the Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation. No developments of any kind should be considered in relation to the racing circuit | iii. | Continue low key car club events under strict controls until the track becomes impracticable for use due to degraded surface (Refer 3.7) |
| | | | | CS | No Further Development – The view of all the Aboriginal people interviewed is that no development should take place in the Valley. By development, they mean invasion or disturbance of the surface landscape. Many of them consider there has been enough trauma caused to the land. This view should be taken account of in all future planning in the Valley | iv. | This point was clarified at Management Committee Meeting as meaning "no private development". No private development recommended |
| ITEM | VALUES | DESIRED OUTCOME | ISSUE OPPORTUNITY | | STRATEGIES | | ACTIONS |
| 8.2 | Maintenance Areas | Define maintenance areas to prevent encroachment on environmentally sensitive areas | Encroachment of maintenance staff on hanging swamp and other sensitive areas (grass slashing) | UKPM | Delinate natural areas from maintained grass areas through alignment of paths or other edges as required | i. | To be incorporated in Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| 8.3 | Fire Management | Undertake a full bushfire analysis | Bushfires may be a threaten natural areas and property in the Valley | UKPM | Develop bushfire management strategy for the valley | i. | Write brief, appoint consultant to prepare Bushfire Management Strategy for the Valley |
| | | | Bushfires may improve health of natural areas including hanging swamps | FWP | Undertake controlled burns, thinning and weed removal | ii. | Undertake controlled burning as recommended in the strategy |
| Management & Maintenance - Frank Walford Park | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8.4 | Leaseholds and concessions | Provide appropriate opportunities for leases / licences to contribute to park maintenance | Existing plan of management does not allow for the operation by licence of the sports and recreation centre | FWP | Plan of Management to identify appropriate lease / licence opportunities and general controls that should apply: -licensed operation of Sports Complex / Pool incorporating bike hire -licensed operation of Cultural Centre | i. | |
| 8.5 | Catalina Race Circuit | Provide for sustainable ongoing use of the circuit for low speed events | Liability issues regarding the race circuit are unclear | KFCV | Investigate public liability with regard to use of Circuit for motor sports | i. | |
| | | | There have been instances where members of the public have gained access to the track with their cars | UKPM | Review of management strategy to prevent vehicle access to track | i. | A combination of fence and bollards is recommended to manage vehicle access to the site Concept to be developed further in design development proposals Refer 3.2 Provision of Trail Network |
| | | | | UKPM | Manage cross country running events by providing temporary controlled access to walking tracks in bushland and wetland areas | iii. | |
| 8.6 | Program of Activities | Include in new management plans environmentally suitable and financially viable programs | | FWP | Develop coordinated program of events related to track and potential cultural centre | ii. | |
| 8.7 | Maintenance | Provide sustainable ongoing maintenance program | Reduce recurrent maintenance demands through reduction of maintained grass areas | FWP | Establish sustainable maintenance programs to minimise impact. Implement a quality assurance system to check compliance of activities do not impact adversely on state of the environment | i. | Maintenance programs to be developed in Storm Water Management Plan, and Bush Regeneration Plan (Refer 1.1) |
| | | Weed control to be part of continual maintenance regime undertaken by Council with support from Community Groups (Bushcare) | Weed infestation effects natural bush areas by competing with native species | VMP | Weed control works be prioritised on areas of bushland with low to medium levels of weed infestation where natural regeneration will occur following weed control | | |
| | | | | VMP | Target weeding only of high priority weeds carried out in highly degraded areas not capable of natural regeneration | | |
| | | | | VMP | Promote and support resident involvement in weed control on private properties surrounding the reserve | | |

Appendix C

Summary of Relevant Strategies / Policies

Area 2 Community Plan 2001

The preparation of the Area 2 community Plan completed a process of Area Community Planning that was initiated by the Blue Mountains City Council in 1995. It involved the division of the Local Government Area into five planning areas each with an identified service centre for the purpose of better matching needs and expectations with resources and services. Area 2 is part of the 'upper mountains' and stretches from Wentworth falls in the east to Medlow Bath in the west, including the study area.

At the time to the 1996 Census, Area 2 contained 18,148 residents, almost a quarter of the total Blue Mountains population. The area comprises some of the most culturally diverse communities in the mountains as well as some of the most disadvantaged residents. There are significant social and economic differences across the area and some indications of a growing disparity between Katoomba and the other villages. Katoomba accommodates relatively high proportions of single parents, high unemployment, more rented accommodation than other villages and a higher incidence of people on low incomes and / or income support.

Around 800 people were involved in the community consultation process in Area 2. Key concerns identified were:

- The protection of the natural environment and the need to control development;
- Lack of local employment opportunities;
- Roads, transport and access issues;
- Youth issues and activities;
- Need for more affordable housing / accommodation options;
- Poverty and quality of life issues; and
- Crime and community safety concerns.

There were also a range of issues regarding the individual townships such as:

- Village character - tired and rundown village centres in need of a 'lift' and improved maintenance regimes;
- Public facilities - lack of and improvements to public facilities and basic amenities including footpaths, toilets, seating, parks, streetscape
- Environment - disappearing wetlands / bushland, impact of urban runoff, weed infestations, noise impacts, enforcing environmental regulations
- Roads and transport - safety and speeding on the Great Western Highway, congested local roads due to tourism, availability and frequency of bus services
- Community services / facilities - lack of family / individual support services, youth activities, increasing homelessness and drug abuse.

A detailed Action Plan has been prepared in response to these priority needs and concerns.

Area 2 Sport and Recreation Plan 2001

Assesses the sport and recreation facilities Council manages in Wentworth Falls, Leura, Katoomba and Medlow Bath (Area 2) and evaluates these in relation to community demand. Community recreation demand was measured using:

- public meetings;
- surveys with sporting clubs, residents and park users;
- review of past research;
- discussion with Council staff; and
- analysis of population data.

In the Community Planning exercise Council spoke with 800 individuals, some of these representing clubs, government and community agencies.

The report makes the distinction between sport and recreation, and studies each activity individually.

Sports

Sporting activities are those that:

- are competitive;
- have formal rules;
- require physical effort and skills; and
- are organised within institutional structures.

Findings

Area 2 is well supported with sporting facilities, used by a diverse range of clubs. Council provided facilities include eight tennis courts, ten ovals and an indoor sports and aquatic centre which are being used by 14 clubs. Other facilities include 3 golf courses, pistol club, rifle shooting range and a trotting club.

Recreation

Recreation activities can be physically strenuous or sedentary while actively engaging the person and are those that:

- people undertake for enjoyment in their own free time;
- are not based on formal competition and / or organised administration; and
- do not have a formal set of rules

Findings

Recreation provision in Area 2 is dominated by nature based recreation opportunities, provided by Council and the National Parks and Wildlife Service. There are 20 Council managed sites that could be considered nature based recreation areas (e.g. walking tracks, lookouts and natural picnic areas). There are 10 general parks (e.g. accessible play equipment, open grassland, less emphasis on natural areas with less tourism use), this includes one skate park. There is one regional style park in Wentworth Falls, containing BBQ's and shelters and extensive play equipment.

Based on the findings in the report community members in Area 2 think that there is a lack of recreational facilities for local users such as parks with play equipment.

The following recommendations are made in the report:

The Area 2 Sports and Recreation Action, Item 4 (Priority 1)

Ensure that Findings from Area 2 Community Planning are integrated with other planning projects in Katoomba, including Frank Walford Park, Kingsford Smith Park and the Katoomba Revitalisation Project, to ensure the needs of families, young people and the indigenous community are included.

Table 3.3 Recreation Facilities in South Katoomba – Frank Walford (parkland)

Facilities include:

- 4 amenities blocks
shelter shed
- 2 park benches
- Lighting
- 4 picnic setting (no shelter)
- 1 public art
- car park (sealed)

This park offers the opportunities to meet some of the community expectations, including the development of an adventure playground, facilities for young people (bikes, skates), and a all-of-family location (including walking tracks, BBQ, play equipment and swimming). The park also provides opportunities to meet some of the needs of the local indigenous communities.

Plan of Management for Frank Walford Park, December 1998

This plan of management was prepared by Strategic Planning Group and included specific proposals for the development of facilities to satisfy recreational needs of the local community.

The proposed the following facilities were proposed and constructed:

- indoor 25m swimming pool;
- basketball / multi use courts;
- gymnasium
- coffee lounge

The following facilities were proposed, however they have not been constructed:

- range of “wheels based” recreational facilities such as cycling, skateboarding, and inline skating;
- enhanced and coordinated passive recreational facilities; and improved carparking, public transport and other supporting facilities

Goals

The broad goals applicable to Frank Walford Park are based on those contained in the Upper Kedumba River plan of management defined as:

- Recognise the contribution the Upper Kedumba River Valley makes to meeting the recreation needs of the Blue Mountains community which encapsulates Frank Walford Park
- Provide a planning framework to identify and support the coordinated use of resources in the promotion of positive and enriching development, recreational and community opportunities through the park
- Protect and conserve the values and integrity of the environmental and cultural heritage of the valley through sound management practices
- Ensure management practices are consistent with the corporate goals of the Blue Mountains City Council
- To ensure sound catchment management practices are implemented to protect the environment of the valley
- To preserve the natural European and Aboriginal Heritage of the Valley
- To encourage education of the public on the value of the environment and the impact of human use
- To provide for appropriate use for the park

Primary Objectives

The objectives of the plan of management contribute to achieving the above goals and were formulated to reinforce Council's desire to plan, design, manage, use and conserve community land in Frank Walford Park in an environmentally sustainable manner which minimises impact and is compatible with existing uses:

1. to ensure the protection of the natural and cultural environments
2. to maintain or enhance existing visual qualities and values
3. to promote the quality of life of the local and regional communities
4. maintain waterflow and quality to Katoomba Falls
5. protect Aboriginal and European heritage
6. recognise the value of green space near town
7. protect and enhance the amenity for adjacent residential areas
8. provide opportunities for use for recreational, cultural and educational purposes and for local tourist use
9. provide for implementation of community perceptions and priorities
10. to ensure sound management practices are implemented to protect the environment of the Valley.

Management Strategies

The primary objectives have been used as a basis of preparation of management strategies which are a policy or direction that assists in guiding actions to address issues.

Many of the strategies outlined in the plan of management relate to Frank Walford Park as well as the Upper Kedumba River Valley corridor which is closely related to the park as a system for water catchment and open space connections.

The following is a summary of management issues and means of achieving the desired objectives which were outlined in the management strategies:

Upper Kedumba Valley

Aboriginal and European History

- Identify and take into account of any identified items, referred to by the local aboriginal community. Liaise with local aboriginal community to determine appropriate measures of protection. Protect items with matting, brush coverings or similar means and rehabilitate adjacent areas.

Storm Water Management

- Preparation of Storm Water Management Plan

Road Closure

- Closure of section of Farnells Road and Lomond Street, rezone to open space and use as pedestrian links

Frank Walford Park

Geomorphology and Topography

- Design of works to take account of landform

Geology / Soils Erosion Control

- Select stormwater management techniques to maximise infiltration, balance water cycle and minimise erosion. Select plants to suit low nutrient soil or design non impact system to manage nutrients. Select colours to blend with soil profiles. Incorporate erosion control measures with all works address soil erosion

Vegetation

- Integrate formal gardens and natural areas with new development. Conserve and rehabilitate sites. Prepare a detailed professional plan for bush regeneration. Apply for government and community funding. Identify and protect rare and endangered species. Place barriers to prevent carparking in areas detrimental to native trees

Wildlife

- Identify wildlife communities in the Valley and provide for habitat protection. Survey extent of rare and endangered fauna

Degraded sites

- Adopt erosion and planting techniques including hardening and rotation of sites to minimise and manage impact

Fire Management

- Undertake a full bushfire analysis where required in the circumstances. Undertake controlled burns, thinning and weed removal

Weeds

- Controlled program of eliminating weeds at source by removal and rehabilitation of sites

Visual Factors

- Judicious planning and landscape architectural design to be provided. Construct barriers to avoid unauthorised access to Bush Fire Station, Wells Street, Lake Esplanade to prevent deterioration by motor vehicles. Demolish and remove derelict vehicles. Maintain existing recreation centre buildings and fences and coordinate finishes and colours. Restore and reconstruct Madge Walford Fountain to a functional state with the assistance of community groups

Pedestrians

- Construct well lit and protected footways for school children, tourists, the elderly and people with limited mobility from the town to the park

Cyclists

- Integrate with Blue Mountains Bike Plan. Provide safer network of on and off road cycle routes. Construct well lit and protected cycleways from the town centre to the park. Provide adequate bicycle racks at appropriate facilities.

Limited Mobility Access

- Maximise generous functional and aesthetically pleasing all weather connections

Utilities and Services

- Liaise with service authorities to identify utility corridors which minimise clearing and disturbance

Tourism

- To preserve the tourist value of Katoomba Falls and the swamps within the lower parts of the catchment while providing appropriate facilities

Program of Activities

- Include in new management plans environmentally suitable and financially suitable and financially viable programs

Noise Amelioration

- Mitigate and ameliorate noise resulting from traffic access and on site activities

Community Consultation

- Undertake consultation with stakeholders where appropriate

Use and Site Remediation

- Match appropriate use with site suitability for each land category. Practice and implement site remediation and hardening techniques. Rehabilitate existing degraded areas. Monitor boundary areas for rubbish dumping

Road Rationalisation and Closure

- Close Lake Esplanade and use as informal pedestrian link. Rationalise road and pedestrian access within the park. Close off road tracks leading in a northerly direction from the Bush Fire Building and rehabilitate

European Heritage

- Write brief, appoint consultant. Determine provision of levels of access as part of heritage study

Aboriginal sites of significance in Frank Walford Park

- Provide protection to known aboriginal sites in consultation with the local aboriginal communities. Liaise with the local aboriginal community to define appropriate recognition of previous occupation of Frank Walford Park by aboriginal communities

Former tramline in private ownership divides park into two sections

- Acquire former tram line and rezone to reflect the land categories which occur on either side of the corridor

Maintenance

- Establish sustainable maintenance programs to minimise impact. Implement a quality assurance system to check compliance of activities do not impact adversely on state of the environment

Natural Area Watercourse

Pollution and Water Quality

- Create and manage appropriate buffers compromising natural vegetation for natural watercourses and hardened surfaces for artificial areas. Manage waste and water quality through appropriate land use within the catchment

Natural Area Wetland

Water Regime

- Maintain the storage capacities and natural vegetation of existing swamps and restore some of the lost storage capacity of degraded swamps in the park by removing the existing BMX facility and associated fill and rehabilitating to swamp along with rehabilitation other degraded swamp areas shown on Figure 9. Limit the area of impervious surfaces by limiting new development in the park and by limiting erosion. Minimise pollutants to prevent deterioration of vegetation in swamps by installation of traps closer to Great Western Highway nearer to source of run off. Ensure that the new extensions to the Sports and Aquatic Centre, associated car park and gardens design of stormwater management system and pool filtration and pool maintenance do not increase flow or deteriorate ecological bio diversity of wetland down stream of the development site.

Maintenance in Wetland Areas

- Prevent swamp vegetation from being mown or burned. Remove litter after flood rain and remove sediment and dense macrophyte growth in small portions when storage capacity significantly reduced

Tracks and Board Walks

- Provide track / boardwalk over existing swamp crossing in location of former BMX track but do not remove track as this would drain swamp and reduce flood capacity

Natural Area Bushland

Preservation of as much bushland as possible should be encouraged

- Conserve and rehabilitate sites. Prepare a detailed professional plan for bush regeneration. Apply for government and community funding. Identify and protect rare and endangered species. Place barriers to prevent carparking in areas detrimental to native trees. Provide a continual natural corridor along streams, across roadways and in between development areas to conserve a continuous habitat within the length of the Valley. Close and rehabilitate tracks and access points no longer required particularly on the northern side of Catalina Circuit as

part of bush regeneration contract. Create and implement a system of hardened tracks through natural areas which minimise erosion

Park

Interpretive Centre

- Consider, as part of the Masterplan, inclusion of an interpretive centre and possibly a field studies centre as an adjunct to a town centre facility

BMX Facility

- Relocate BMX facility from Natural Area - Wetland to Park area in accordance with future Masterplan

Skate Park Facility

- Prepare designs in conjunction with Masterplan. Liaise with skateboarder community. Implement have operational within 5 year period

Carparking and roads

- Redesign car park area in the vicinity of Madge Walford car park and the Sports and Aquatic Centre to rationalise access to both pools and accommodate Skateboard Park. Close temporary car park area in Gates Avenue and adjacent bushland to the south of the Olympic Pool. Consider future of Gates Avenue by either gazettal as road or relocating existing road pavement

Caretakers residence

- As part of the Masterplan process investigate future use of dwelling located to the east of the Olympic Pool. In the interim dwelling to be managed as a rental property

Sportsground

Public Liability

- As part of the Masterplan process obtain advice and prepare report on public liability issues.

Motor sports use and policies

- Masterplan to identify treatments to implement a wheels park facility for multi purpose use. Motor sports activities to be limited to low impact activities such as Vintage Car exhibition

Wheels Park

- Conduct maintenance work to repair sections of circuit to make it suitable for use by wheeled vehicles. Define individual use zones and provide an appropriate surface. Restrict works and use of circuit to within the existing wooden barriers. Provide appropriate pedestrian and vehicle access to the circuit and adjacent park areas. Provide a physical connection between the circuit and the adjacent BMX and Skateboard Park facilities. Manage special events by providing temporary controlled access to walking tracks in bushland and wetland areas for cross country running events.

Sports Ground / General Community Use

Regional Context

- Character of development to reinforce identity and regional relationships through design and material selection

Climate

- Facilities need to be planned to minimise long term microclimatic impact and maximise user comfort.

Land Use Activities

- Survey community values, assess needs, incorporate a range of activities and provide flexibility for integrating passive and active recreational activities both indoor and outdoor

Recreation

- Implement and integrate additional recreation facilities such as the proposed Sports and Aquatic Centre with existing facilities in the southern part of Frank Walford Park. Investigate the potential for a skateboard park in a prime area of high visibility.

Social Factors

- Ensure that facilities cater for the requirements of various ethnic and age groups in spatial and physical terms

Access and Parking

- Prepare access and on site traffic strategy. Close unnecessary streets, design streets in character with their environmental capacity. Control speed, modify driver behaviour, increase residential amenity
- Design in accord with any adopted DCP, provide shaded and comfortable parking protected from climate, in close proximity to all facilities. Minimise visual impact and environmental impact
- Minimise stormwater runoff
- Maximise opportunity for drop off and set down. Minimise impact of service vehicles. Provide service routes for vehicles and maintenance operators
- Stop spill over parking in McRaes Paddock and bushland

Public Transport Provisions

- Plan for on site facilities and consult with operators and site users

Building Design

- Provide cost effective creative innovative solutions for building design which is compatible with site characteristics, community values, and integrates existing facilities
- Building forms, character, etc. to utilise where appropriate change in levels to diminish bulk and maximise integration with existing facilities

Safety

- Design and minimise slip hazards, jumping or falling. Design to minimise hard objects in play areas

Indoor / Outdoor Relationships

- Maximise opportunities for functional and structural connections between indoor and outdoor facilities

Solar Access

- Orientation and design to maximise opportunities for sun, shade and wind protections and enjoyment throughout the year

Retention of Existing Trees

- Survey importance and condition of trees. Adopt measures to conserve and protect trees through design and construction and use

Leaseholds and Concessions

- Provide facilities and opportunities to supplement services and income

Access to existing facilities

- Relocate turnstiles and entry facilities for Olympic Pool and improve parking area around fountain

Derelict Buildings

- Buildings demolished and sites rehabilitated

Improvements to existing facilities

- Progress refurbishment / expansion of indoor recreation centre

Pool maintenance

- Swimming pool water and filter back wash water from existing and proposed swimming pools to be treated and appropriately discharged into sewer upon construction of Sports and Aquatic Centre

Construction

- Plan construction to have minimum affect on environment

Review of the plan of management

It was the intention of the authors that the progress of implementation should be assessed by Council on an annual basis in terms of the performance measures described in Table 7 and updated or reviewed as appropriate. It was also outlined in the plan of management that a more comprehensive review should be made after five years to assess the effectiveness of the plan and need for review.

At this stage it appears that many of the actions summarised above have been implemented, in particular ones that relate to the construction of the Sports and Aquatic Centre. Many of the environmentally based actions that relate to the Upper Kedumba Valley System including Frank Walford Park are yet to be realised and should be incorporated into this study where appropriate.

Study Goals

The goals of the plan of management were defined by the study brief as:

- Recognise the contribution the Katoomba Falls Creek Valley makes to meeting the recreation needs of the Blue Mountains Community.
- Provide a planning framework to identify and support the coordinated use of resources in the promotion of positive and enriching recreational and community opportunities through the Valley.
- Protect and conserve the values and integrity of the environmental heritage of the Valley and escarpment areas through sound environmental and recreational management practices.
- Ensure management practices are consistent with the corporate goals of the Blue Mountains City Council.

During the community consultation, a number of other goals were suggested including:

- To ensure sound catchment management practices are implemented to protect the environment of the Valley.
- To preserve the natural and human heritage of the Valley.
- To encourage education of the public on the value of the environment and the impact of human use.
- To provide for appropriate recreational use of the Valley.

Issues, Threats and Management Options

Issues relating to the future values of the Valley resource have been identified as:

- Community attitudes
- Environmental impacts and weeds
- Land use issues
- Recreation resources
- Interpretation and education
- Acquisition and statutory planning
- Administrative arrangements

Management Goals

The following goals have been developed to respond to the issues and recommended actions:

Catchment management

- To ensure sound catchment practices are implemented to protect the environment of the Valley

Environmental impacts

- Protect and conserve the values and integrity of the environmental heritage of the Valley catchment and escarpment areas through sound environmental and recreational management practices

Land use and recreational resources

- Provide a planning framework to identify and support the coordinated use of resources in the promotion of positive and enriching recreational and community opportunities through the Valley

Interpretation and education

- Encourage public awareness of the value of the environment and the impact of human use through public education and provision

Cultural resources

- Protect and conserve the values and integrity of the environmental heritage of the Valley catchment and escarpment areas through sound environmental and recreational management practices

Administration and finance

- Ensure that the use and management practices of community lands are managed in accordance with the corporate and financial goals of Blue Mountains City Council

Management Zones

To enable policies and strategies to be implemented, broad management zones at the catchment level have been identified based on the values and issues identified in earlier sections.

Six management zones are proposed:

Public focus areas

Management focus:

- Development of structured recreation opportunities and facilities
- Additional interpretation and education
- High priority maintenance and weed control
- Development for low key tourist facilities

High value gullies

Management focus:

- Protection of canopy integrity
- Protection of species integrity through weed control and alternate maintenance strategies
- Restrict access

High value swamps

Management focus:

- Protection of canopy integrity
- Systematic control of weeds through rehabilitation and regeneration
- Involve the public in the rehabilitation and regeneration process
- Water quality control

Disturbed and boundary areas

Management focus:

- Systematically return public areas subject of disturbance to self-sustaining state through restoration and regeneration
- Raise community awareness of their impacts on boundary areas
- Minimise vegetation removal in existing controls where necessary
- Implement sedimentation and erosion controls where necessary

Bushland areas

Management focus:

- Protection of canopy and integrity
- Weed control through prevention of disturbance and canopy removal
- Control access tracks and points
- Implementation sedimentation controls to minimise water quality impacts
- Protection of scenic integrity

Developed areas

Management focus:

- Increase public awareness of impacts on Valley ecosystems
- Maximum canopy preservation
- Ensure maintenance of sewerage system does not lead to overflows into creek system
- Appropriate erosion and stormwater controls
- Encourage additional tree planting in all developed areas

Together with the management actions for each of the pieces of community land, they are designed to provide management strategies for day to day decisions and identify priority actions for inclusion in longer terms management programs.

Community Land Strategies

Detailed strategies for community land parcels respond to the management goals outlined in the main report and the management focus for each management unit. These land parcels include:

- Frank Walford Park
- McRaes Paddock
- Katoomba Park
- Katoomba Golf Course

Report on the cultural significance of the Upper Kedumba Valley for declaration as an Aboriginal Place 2002

The Upper Kedumba Valley was nominated as 'an Aboriginal Place' by Dawn Colless (Public Officer of the Gundungurra Tribal Council) on August 1 2001.

This report prepared by Dianne Johnson and Dawn Colless for the New South Wales National Park and Wildlife Service documents the cultural significance the Upper Kedumba Valley.

The Valley has pre-contact significance for Aboriginal people who periodically inhabited the Valley, and post-contact significance for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents of the Gully.

It is recommended in the report that:

- all of the public lands in the Upper Kedumba Valley become an Aboriginal Place;
- a management plan be developed that outlines specific sites and their on-the-ground management in consultation with major stakeholders;
- an historical archaeological survey be carried out in the Gully (otherwise known as Frank Walford Park) in order that the remains of the house sites and artefacts associated with the post-contact settlement period (at least 1894 until 1957) be precisely located and mapped;
- the Valley be placed on the Register of the National Estate;
- interpretation of the Upper Kedumba Valley be undertaken and displayed, at a high standard, in consultation with Aboriginal residents of the Blue Mountains community and the Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation (this interpretation should be done with minimum disturbance to the landscape);
- all Plans of Management of the areas and the Masterplan of the Valley take account of and incorporate conditions that will protect the Aboriginal pre-contact and post-contact heritage sites;
- the management of Upper Kedumba Valley be conducted in accordance with the proposals referred to in Management Issues (see 8) identified in this report;
- further archaeological and anthropological investigation be undertaken in unsurveyed sections of the Upper Kedumba Valley and in particular, on the more recently found archaeological sites identified in this report.

The following Management Issues are outlined in the report:

Archaeological Sites

As the archaeological sites identified in the three areas of public lands within the Valley are culturally significant, any Management Plans and/or Masterplan for the areas should include specific plans of management for the adequate protection of these sites. All workers involved in the Upper Kedumba Valley should be made familiar with the sites in conjunction with National Parks and Wildlife Service staff and shown how to work with and around these sites in a culturally sensitive way.

The Racing Circuit

It is noted that the Vintage Car Club of New South Wales holds meetings at the circuit a number of times a year. If the racing circuit is deemed safe enough to use in its current condition, its use should be restricted to activities involving low noise, low speed and low impact and any other conditions imposed by the Gundungurra Tribal Council Aboriginal Corporation. No developments of any kind should be considered in relation to the racing circuit.

No Further Development

The view of all the Aboriginal people interviewed is that no development should take place in the Valley. Development refers to invasion or disturbance of the surface landscape for private development. Many of them consider there has been enough trauma caused to the land. This view should be taken into account in all future planning in the Valley.

Appendix D

Contact Information for Aboriginal Community

The Aboriginal community needs to be consulted on all matters in the Gully that may impact on the Aboriginal values.

Matters for consultation may include;

- any form of digging
- any use not clearly identified as acceptable in the Plans of Management;
- any construction; and
- any other matter that the Aboriginal community raises.

Two levels of consultation are required; broader consultation for general matters and specific consultation related to spiritually significant locations.

Broad consultation

Broad consultation is for people who have lived in the Gully and their relatives, plus any other person the Aboriginal community agrees is appropriate.

Specific consultation

Specific consultation is for the nominated elders from the Gundungurra and Darug peoples.

Lists for each level are included in **Council file H01333**. The Aboriginal community may update them at any time. It is not the role of council to determine who is appropriate to be in the lists.